



*Life Is What Happens to You while You're Busy Making Other Plans.*  
**John Lennon**

Dear Friends,

In the last year of our lives, we certainly felt the power and truth that permeated this thought.

I felt it not only because of the abnormal situation (compared to our established views) caused by the coronavirus, but also on a quite personal level, because life is a change: both planned and unexpected (if we have not seen it).

The year was unconventional in our Rotarian life as well. We learned to meet without a material presence, somewhere in the 'cloud,' deprived of the warmth of living contact and the opportunity to recognize the one like us nearby.

And just as the insidious disease was gaining momentum in February, a young and energetic Indian, Shekhar Mehta, RI President for 2021/2022, inspired us with his message: "We serve to change lives." He called on us to put our efforts into a few simple cases that have proven effective in expanding our influence, reach and impact. Apparently, with President Mehta, my (our) team and I are looking in the same direction, because the modest of number and simple goals that we had formulated as early as PrePETS were in line with the main goals announced by him.

Let's strengthen our clubs by enriching our club life internally! Let's feel friends and like-minded, and increase our net membership by at least one member. The reporting of the same number of members in D2482 (at the expense of the members of the newly established club in a succession), as well as our reduction, is a symptom of an inflammatory process.

Greater commitment to implementing district and global projects with co-financing from the Rotary Foundation.

Active club international activity.

Perception of satellite clubs and community corps as a serious tool to increase our reach and influence.

And we had commented and accepted all these things in the team. They are connected like the links of a chain and support each other.

But all the links will remain meaningless if we, the leaders (each in his field), don't realize that we must form ourselves as such in Rotary. This is the next stage of giving and dedication in order to preserve and lead Rotary across our time as an environment for meeting like-minded people, a positive environment for improvement and the rise of the communities around us.

I love my native Bulgarian language. It is extremely colorful and rich, and reveals to us unexpected depths of meaning.

**Team** is my word for the coming Rotary year. The relay is the brightest symbol of team effort and carries the meaning of teamwork, unity and the pursuit of success.



My little daughter took part in swimming relays. The relay is a beautiful thing. It is won by the team with the most equal participants, in which their times are the closest. Then the relay is passed stress-free and it's great when each subsequent post is faster than the previous one.

I thought about it and found that each new Rotary year is actually the next post in an endless relay. PDG Arch. Iliyan Nikolov and his team finished after an unusual and unprecedented crossing of the track. He passes on to me, on much more favorable terms, the symbol of responsibility for the new Rotary year. With optimism and calm, I look forward to this challenge, because there is great continuity in our teams, there are many new friends and inspiring examples to follow. I deeply believe that all this will ensure even more successful adaptation to the changing world and Rotary.

The direction is one, the track, the choice of style and speed are in the hands of the new district team, the presidents of the clubs and their teams mounting guard with them.

Even if we use only the established styles for swimming relays: dolphin, back, crawl and breast stroke, we have unlimited opportunities to upgrade where the basics do not yield. Figuratively speaking, to include new professionals, new visions, an innovative approach and quality building materials in this ongoing process to continue to breathe life into Paul Harris' thought: "This is a changing world; we must be ready to change with it. The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again." A thought uttered a century ago. Isn't that why our Rotary is still alive and up-to-date?

And let us not forget in every thought, word, or deed addressed to our Rotarian friends that we are all volunteers for a significant cause, proven professionals, and accomplished people who have sheltered in our hearts and minds the address, 'My Friend.'

*Borislav Kadrekov  
District Governor 2021-22  
District 2482 Bulgaria*