

District Training Bulletin 1

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”
Benjamin Franklin

First let me introduce myself. I'm the new training officer for 1040, a member of The Adventurers passport club and also their treasurer. I've previously been a member of Wensleydale (where I was PR officer and president) and also the Global Hub for a year while I moved house and considered where to go after the move. My district roles have included being on the PR committee, assistant governor for North Group, facilitator of club "health checks" and I currently run the Young Writer competition. You may also recognise my name as the person who periodically sends out online surveys ... more of later!

My career was in strategic marketing, and after retiring early and then being affected by the cost of living increases, I'm now a gardener, which I absolutely love despite it wrecking my body 😊.

This bulletin is the first of what I intend to become regular training updates.

Training definition: ***“the process of increasing knowledge and skills”*** and this could be in a Rotary, work or personal context.

It's said that you learn something new every day – I do – sometimes several things, and as Socrates said “you don't know what you don't know”. So before you dismiss “training”, please read this and future bulletins with an open mind.

As there hasn't been anyone in this post for a couple of years, I'm planning to treat it as a blank canvass upon which to paint. I am envisaging lots of different types and areas of training and looking to make programmes as accessible and as easy as possible.

Some of the knowledge for example already exists and I'll just point you in the right direction. Over and above this, I currently envisage 3 methods of training:

1. For some subjects a “How To” fact sheet will suffice, that you'll be able to download and read at you leisure.
2. Training by zoom
3. Training face to face.

The starting point will be to have a 3 year strategic training plan, and in order to help me develop this, I'll shortly be sending out a link to an online survey. It's very brief, will take less than 5 minutes to complete, and will hopefully give me the information to move forward and prioritise requirements.

I made the point at District Assembly and the last Council meeting that our motto is “service above self” and that is not just relevant to the communities we serve, but also to each other. There is a huge wealth of experience and talent across many disciplines within our District and I'd like to draw on that and see those with relevant experience stepping forward to help train others. This will not mean running a series of huge workshops, but perhaps running one or two zoom sessions, or writing a “how to” guide, or..... The more we can spread the workload, the better.

The next communication from me will be an email inviting you to participate in the survey. In the meantime, I've always worked on an “open door” policy, so if you want to contact me about anything training related, then please do.

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