



TEXT: O. Kovář

EUROPEAN ROTARY CLUBS AND UNESCO

At the end of April, several members of RC Telč took a trip to Urbino in Italy. On 20–21 April the local Rotary Club together with the town hall, university and District 2090 organized the first conference of Rotary Clubs from

European locations recorded in the UNESCO World Heritage List as Historical Cities – Heritage of UNESCO and Peace.

The conference was held in the main hall of the Renaissance Battiferri Palace (now the seat of the university) and focused on the provision of information in the field of conservation and protection of historical urban sites. Naples, Rome, Florence,

Siena, Mantua, Sabbioneta, Pienza, San Gimignano, Verona, Venice, Vicenza, Ferrara, Torun (Poland), Nessebar (Bulgaria), Istanbul (Turkey), La Valetta (Malta) and Telč (Czech Republic) were the cities whose Rotary Clubs staged presentations about their activities in their home towns. The conference was conceived as an invitation to the “city in transformations of time”. Two days of an intensive specialist program and Rotary social undertakings provided club representatives and those interested in this topic with a wealth of ideas and tips on tapping the enormous potential offered by these places in the service to the community. Logically, the potential of, say, Florence or Istanbul dramatically differs from that provided by Telč. But there are countless possibilities for Rotary to be useful even in a small town,

minimally by promoting local cultural and historical attractions. Delegates agreed that coordination and cooperation between the participating cities has one principal common goal – to promote principles set by UNESCO and at the same time to create networks of relationships between Rotary Clubs of the cities participating in the project. The project started up by this splendid get-together will be hosted in future by various clubs throughout Europe and delegates virtually queued up in the lobby for the privilege to organize the next conference. The 2015 venue will be Istanbul.

Will more clubs in our District join this international Rotary undertaking in the next two years? Hopefully, they will, as we have so much to offer...



TEXT: Karol Ambra

20 YEARS OF RC PIEŠŤANY

The atmosphere in the Great Hall of Piešťany's Kursalon on Saturday 27 April 2013 was quite exceptional, but also happy and friendly. RC Piešťany marked the twentieth anniversary of its charter.

Club members and their spouses met with friends from neighbouring RC Trenčín and we also welcomed many former members. Among the well-wishers were PDG Tomáš Lang and PDG František Ryněš with their wives, and Piešťany Mayor Remo Cicutto.

In his keynote speech, the Club's President pointed out events that made history and its founding member and first

President, Viktor Nižňanský, recalled the circumstances and people who helped to charter the club. Through the good offices of our Youth Officer Karol Ambra we boasted all we have achieved in service to the youth—and we were quite amazed by the sheer number of successes scored by our young members.

Our friend Igor Čech spoke about the organization of a series of 21 fundraising concerts and what can be done with the financial proceeds. Pavel Jurkiewicz, member of the District Committee for the Eradication of Poliomyelitis (End Polio Now), amply demonstrated the importance of the PolioPlus program, where our club is one of the leading contributors.

The relaxed atmosphere was nicely underscored by jazz in

the rendition of a trio consisting of father and son Gajlík and our guitarist friend Ondro Botek.

In addition to a beautiful experience and pleasant impressions, the participants took home a brand-new publication – “20 Years of Rotary in Piešťany”, which narrates in text and photography about the achievements and joyful moments at RC Piešťany from its outset to this day.



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