



# NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2018

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

### *It has been an eventful past three months or so.*

This will be the last message penned by myself as my year as President draws to a close in late June.

When I took over as President, a year seemed a long time. I had twelve months to achieve my goals, however, time soon passes and with it goals are missed.

I can define my year in three major sections; July to October, November to February and March to the present. The initial third I began to lay out my plans and work at them. The second third I withdrew to a degree and coasted, as I was dealing with Jacky's sudden ill health. The final third has slipped by rapidly as I've been trying to play catch up and pull round a year where I had so many goals but feel that I didn't realise them all. Although, having spoken to Past Presidents Kevin and Ken, I believe that this is often the case.

Looking back I have a tinge of disappointment with my Presidency. I feel that I have fallen short and have not been the President that I wanted to be. That is not to say that I haven't enjoyed my stint, as I have immensely. I can also say that without your support, the middle period would have been a great deal harder to work through. Throughout the early days of Jacky's recovery each and every one of you

kindly asked about her well being and for that we are thankful. I especially would like to thank PP Ray and Nellie Thompson who have been a constant shoulder quietly and from afar.

My Presidency has given me the opportunity to meet so many friendly and interesting people whom I would never had the opportunity to meet or talk to and for that I am grateful.

I look back at the events of the past year and mention a few as stand out dates.

Charterhouse was the venue for the President's Garden Party. We had a great day which was very well supported. I still feel strongly that Charterhouse should play a part in our Centenary celebrations with a lasting legacy homed there.

We held three evening meetings at the Manor Hotel. Speakers included Rotarian Alan Taylor (Phoenix Club), Ian Harrabin MBE and David Jamieson, West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. I do hope that these evening events continue as I feel that they are a means of enjoying a more relaxed get together.

Jacky and I really enjoyed Conference and were touched by some of the speakers, in particular the wheelchair foundation presentation. The fellowship that abounds across the weekend envelopes you and you cannot fail to feel a buzz.



I was very pleased to be asked to take part in the Remembrance Sunday parade and lay the wreath at the War Memorial.

Two things within December stick in my mind; the Festival of Trees and Santa Sleigh. Both were a great success on different scales but in their own way promote Rotary and remind people what we are about.

# FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

(continued)

In February the Rotary Peace Building Conference came to Coventry. The first time the event has been held in England. It was an absolute honour and pleasure to meet and spend time with RI President Ian Riseley. Once again a whole raft of influential speakers and visiting Rotarians who were willing to share their life experiences with others. The weekend rounded off with the Tree Planting at The Memorial Park. PP John Hartley supplied the tree and RI President Ian Riseley planted it.

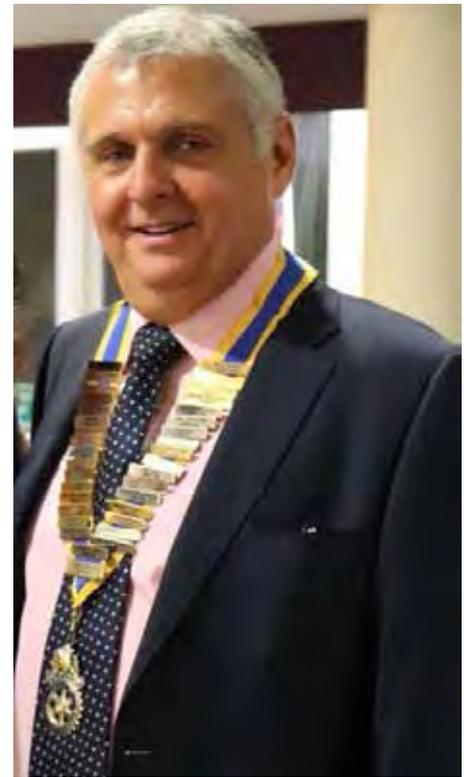
Looking forward, we are on the cusp of initialising a satellite group, Interact continues to grow and we are looking

at a second group with Bluecoat School and Rotaract gets an injection of life via Coventry University.

Rounding off, I would like to thank everyone at the Rotary Club of Coventry and Inner Wheel as well as all others that I have met and spoken with along the way. I can say without hesitation that I would not have missed the opportunity. I thank you all for the nuggets of wisdom that I take away with me.

Look forward now to the presidency of Michael Hammon and please give him all the support that you have given me.

*Thank you, Robert.*



## KARE ADENEGAN (AGE 16) COVENTRY GODIVA HARRIERS, BABLAKE STUDENT

In the recent London Mini Marathon Kare finished ahead of all the young

athletes including the boys. She now holds the new course record for the under 17 girls in the time of 12.37 seconds which beat the previous record of 12.39 seconds which had been unbeaten for six years and which was attributed to Jade Jones. Jade is a GB athlete now aged 22 who has recently won the Gold Medal in the Triathlon and Bronze in the Marathon at the Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast in Australia.

Kare has now five consecutive wins in the London Mini Marathon (2014-2018) and holds

the course records for both the U14 and U17 girls' competitions.

Significantly Kare is a member of the GB Paralympics team and secured 1 silver and 2 bronze medals at the Paralympics in Brazil 2016.

A quiet and unassuming ambassador for Coventry!

Rotary Club of Coventry has supported Kare in her career and has made an offer to the club to be able to dispose (or sell) some of her sporting kit for onward use. Additionally she will happily hand out prizes or certificates at any Rotary competitions or even sign Rotary merchandise to give to young people. She can be invited to any of our social functions which do not interfere with her competition training commitments.



# DAVID JAMIESON TALK MANOR HOTEL, MERIDEN, MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

The evening meeting at the Manor Hotel, Meriden on Monday 26th March welcomed David Jamieson, the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.

David was a friendly and informative speaker who highlighted a document on the West Midlands Drug Policy published in February 2018 which in its content was aimed at reducing crime and preventing harm to the people of this area.

One of the facets of this report which we learned was related to the estimated value of the drug market as being approximately £188 million taking into account all factors of inflation and population related to the illicit drug market. Indeed the drug trade is not limited to the manufacturing and distribution because other elements become connected, such as firearms trade, organised theft and burglary, sexual offences, human trafficking and money laundering. All these elements fall under the jurisdiction of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

It was encouraging to note that some £17 million has been recovered from offenders in the last five years.

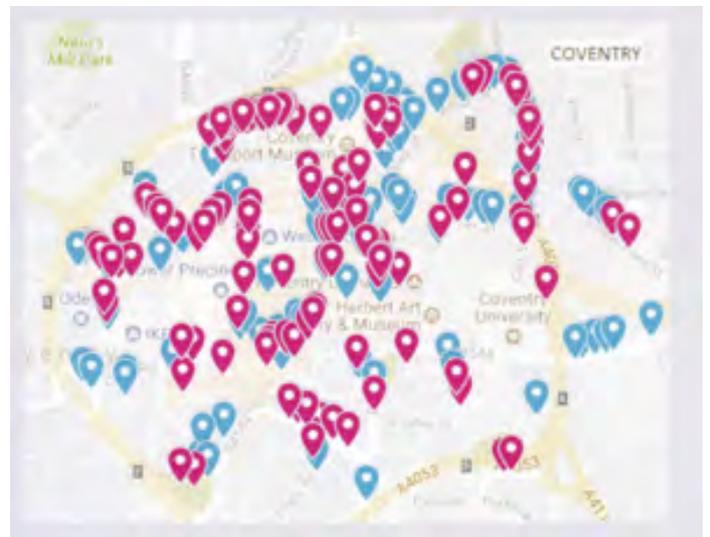
Such crimes are more likely to have an international connection so the area is not the only region in the UK dealing with the problem of drugs. Perhaps as much as 32% of drugs crime in some form have a geographic impact outside Britain.

At the individual level in diverting people away from the Criminal Justice System the report is concerned that drug dependant users shall be treated as health victims rather than be treated as criminals. Drug intervention programmes are in place over the past 15 years with some elements of success. In certain hot spots the provision of Naloxone which can be administered by people who are trained but not medical professionals. This can save lives and is a treatment for addiction. It is, however, not readily available in the country so the use and distribution has become a 'post code lottery'. Due to regional drug intervention programmes which have

contact with offenders at every stage of offending there is evidence that there is a substantial reduction in re-offending in the six months following this programme.

The programme is of course affected by various drugs. Heroin and cannabis are familiar names but there are a number of synthetic versions in circulation which makes medical diagnosis somewhat difficult. For example as little as 3mg of Fentanyl can be fatal to an average sized man.

Clearly the campaign against drugs is a never ending process and demands much police time. They have programmes to help offenders but as our generations progress new offenders arise and the overall cost to the nation is astronomical.



Drugs that are administered by injection can be highlighted by reference to the map of Coventry within the Ring Road. The red represents discarded needles locations in 2017. The blue symbols relate to 2016. It is emphasised that these disclosures refer only to needles found in the city centre.

There is no doubt that David Jamieson has much to occupy his time considering that his drug policy is only one facet of his influence.



# SHELTERBOX NEWS

Across the Rotary year 2017/18 the ShelterBox International Project Partnership has responded to disasters across 16 countries in various parts of the world.

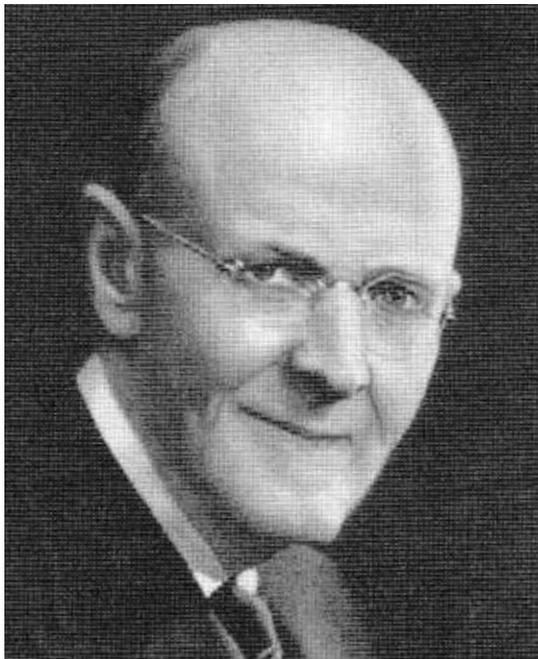
the milestones of supporting 10,000 families across the Lake Chad Basin crisis and over 45,000 families displaced by conflicts in Syria and Iraq since the work of ShelterBox began.

There are seven countries which are being assisted by ShelterBox of which five are areas of conflict in Syria, Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger.

Shelter kits are being provided in Bolivia where flooding and landslides have occurred. In Somaliland some 3 million people are suffering from the effect of drought. Aid has been given to 1,000 households and more assistance is being given to a further 2,000 families which include mosquito nets, ground mats, solar lights and water carriers.

This especially means that families across the Caribbean Ocean were helped when the most powerful storm ever recorded developed in the Atlantic Ocean.

ShelterBox working with in-country partners and with global Rotary support has reached



Paul Percy Harris  
(1868-1947)

## PAUL HARRIS WRITINGS

For those of our membership who did not know – our founder Paul Harris was a prolific writer. He was the author of various volumes some of which were based upon his world wide travels from 1905 – 1937.

He was well documented in 1914 when the Rotary International convention was held in Houston, Texas, USA. Some were “one liners” but the words ring true to this day.



# POLIO NEWS

There are fewer polio cases today than ever before but Rotary cannot stop until we reach zero. We are so close to a polio-free world. Some 400 million children still need immunisation against polio every year as well as surveillance and monitoring systems to detect the wild polio virus. To do this more than 150,000 health workers are needed to go door to door and locate every child. Should we not do this thousands of children could be paralysed and the quality of life will be denied to them.

This is why fund raising must continue.

The fact is that 16 million people are walking today who would have otherwise have been paralysed.

We have to eradicate the disease within 10 years. If we do not achieve this some 200,000 children could be affected.

The answer is vigilance and vaccination campaigns together with dealing with vitamin deficiencies.

It is estimated that over the next 20 years some \$40-50 billion in health costs could be saved.

Polio eradication will be one of the world's greatest public health achievements following smallpox, marking two human diseases eliminated from the world.



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVENTRY THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2018



The heading of this gathering of the great and the good of this city does some justice and exposes those councillors to the eyes of the public in the confines of the Cathedral of St Michael.

It should be reported that Dr Martin Reeves was able to smoothly work through the agenda following a cathedral

welcome by the Very Reverend John Witcombe, the Dean of Coventry Cathedral.

We welcomed the new Lord Mayor Councillor John Blundell and the Lady Mayoress Mrs Lindsey Blundell.

Strange to note that after our departing Lord Mayor Councillor Tony Skipper and his Lady Mayoress Mrs Karen Skipper they seemed to melt away on the new appointment when they have given so much of their time to civic duties over 2017/18. Our special thanks to them however must be registered.

On a long agenda we arrived at the Extraordinary Council Meeting and perhaps to our surprise (as Rotarians) we saw our next President Councillor Michael Hammon to be conferred with the title of Honorary Alderman proposed by our own David Kershaw CBE JP together with Councillor Keiran Mulhall, both of whom had been former Lord Mayors of this City in 2015 and 2011 respectively. These awards were well deserved and surely gained the respect and appreciation of everyone.

Who could not have noticed the hat worn by Rotarian Pru Porretta and attempt to secure a welcoming kiss beneath its brim!

# PURPLE COMMUNITY FUND

## PURPLE COMMUNITY FUND (PCF), GARY DANCER'S D1060 CHOSEN CHARITY



PCF is a small grass roots charity, registered in the UK in 2002, our beneficiaries live in the worst urban slum in the Philippines, Pier 18 in Tondo, which is literally the dustbin of Metro Manila. Over 100,000 people reside in this slum, with over 60% of the population below the age of 21 years. Life for a young person in Tondo is tough, all the families live in make shift shanties without running water and 56% of the population do not have access to a sanitary toilet.



PCF passionately believes in providing sustainable opportunities so that our beneficiaries can help themselves and their families out of poverty through the acquisition of education, new skills, training and our holistic programmes. We love the children and families we serve, we see their spirit and desire for change, we love their "can do" attitude and willingness to learn. PCF's programmes are run from a building in the heart of the Pier 18 community.

### SCHOOL UNIFORMS

The children from Pier 18 face multiple obstacles, cope with challenges many adults would struggle to overcome but when they are given the support they so desperately need, they achieve the impossible through sheer hard work and dedication. Education is the only opportunity these incredible children have to leave the poverty they have been born into. Their parents cannot afford the school uniforms they need to attend school. The children fully realise the importance of completing their education and are hard working and dedicated to their studies.

The majority of children wear second or third hand clothes; many do not have shoes or wear badly fitting ones. They have no wet weather protection during the long rainy season when the area they live in turns into a quagmire of knee deep mud which contains human waste. The children frequently suffer from infected feet caused by a lack of footwear in their filthy surroundings and infected blisters from badly fitting shoes.

School uniforms not only provide the children with the correct attire to attend school but they also play an important role in building the children's sense of self worth and value. Their uniforms signify to them a sense of belonging, of pride that they have been selected for education and their uniform gives them identity in the community. Each part of their uniform is a prized possession often being the only brand new attire they own and so are well looked after and maintained and often handed down as second hand uniforms to other children in the community. Shoes are well maintained by the men in their community and are often reused for the younger siblings in their families.

There are 1,000 children who need school uniforms, shoes and socks, PE kits, rubber boots and umbrellas.

## BUDGET

Item	Per child	For 1,000 children
School Uniform	£22.00	£22,000
Shoes and Socks	£14.00	£14,000
PE Kit	£8.00	£8,000
Wellington Boots and Umbrellas	£6.00	£6,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£50.00</b>	<b>£50,000</b>

**Can you please partner with us and help these incredible children have a life that they can look forward to living.**

## MULTI PURPOSE VEHICLE

PCF desperately needs a vehicle that can be used to safely transport the children on PCF's Community Education Mentoring Programme (CEMP) to and from school, go on field trips and educational day trips. The Community Education Programme has been designed for children who have had to drop out of school, many in their final three years of education. The majority of the children on the programme do not have any parental support and live in an unstable home environment.

What makes this programme unique is the weekly encouragement, practical and emotional support the children receive from one to one mentoring with volunteers from their community who have been trained by PCF to be parent volunteers.

The vehicle would also be used for medical emergencies, PCF runs a medical clinic for the community, there are so many children and adults who need our help and they literally have nowhere else to go. The vehicle would be used to transport people like Christian to hospital. 18 year old Christian was shot five times when he was caught in cross fire shooting in the community between rival gangs. Christian is not



not a member of a gang and was in the wrong place at the wrong time. The vehicle would also be used to transport patients to hospital for treatment and tests, many deaths and disabilities in the community would not occur if we could respond quickly.

The cost of a multi purpose vehicle is **£20,000**

### REPORTING

PCF will provide detailed reports with photographs showing how your donation has been spent and the number of children and families that have been help through your support.

### THANK YOU FOR READING

Your support could literally be saving lives by protecting young people from the risks of living in one the most notorious and dangerous slums in the Philippines by giving them the wonderful opportunity of a future through education and training. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our Founder and CEO Jane Walker on [jane@p-c-f.org](mailto:jane@p-c-f.org), mobile number **07794 696 213**.

Call us on **01489 790 219** or email [info@p-c-f.org](mailto:info@p-c-f.org)

[www.p-c-f.org](http://www.p-c-f.org)    

PCF, PO Box 294, Hedge End Southampton SO30 2YD, UK  
Company Number 8963655 | UK Charity Number 1158729

Purple Community Fund • Gary Dancer D1060 Funding Proposal • April 2018

**PURPLE  
COMMUNITY  
FUND**

# INFORMATION FOR NEW ROTARIANS (and for old ones if they have forgotten)

The latest 'Duties' list can be viewed weekly on the club notice board. A list will also appear on our club website 'coventryrotary.org' and follow the link. Please make a note when it is your turn if you are unable to make a particular day, swap with another member but please tell the Club Secretary Rosalind Thomas, to keep her records straight, having already written in the alteration on the notice board list.

For new members the listings of the duties of the Door Steward are not very onerous. The first part of the job is to take the money off members for the lunch and make sure they sign the attendance sheet, copies of which will be found in the Steward's box. When there are only two blank sheets left request more from the Club Secretary. She usually carries those in her briefcase. After everyone has signed (President and speakers do not pay) make sure your list of attendances agrees with those sitting at the tables. Balance the cash

and cheques received and pass the list and payments to Treasurer Bob Kemble who completes the payment to the steward of the club.

In tandem with the above duties you must ensure that visitors to the luncheon meeting and the speaker should record their names in the Visitors' Book. At a later point in the meeting the President will invite you to introduce the visitors to the meeting. It is appropriate to include the rank or position held if this is apparent, eg Past or President of a club or Past or Present Chairperson of an organisation.

## **Are you the Speaker's Host?**

This latest list is now on the club notice board so please check which date your name appears. If you cannot make the particular day swap with another but please tell the Club Secretary, Rosalind Thomas, to keep her records straight or even write in the change on the list itself!

The only duty of the Speaker's Host is to entertain the speaker and give the vote of thanks after his talk. Before he arrives collect a card with the club's grace from the Steward's Box ready for him and hover near the entrance to introduce yourself as soon as he appears. Whilst talking to him you can find out anecdotes about him which can be useful during your vote of thanks. It is also desirable to introduce him to the President at this time before leading him to the Top Table just before the President rings the bell.

## **Thank you all for your efforts.**

PLEASE NOTE. There are over 40 Rotarians in the club who are eligible for duties. With 3 duties to fulfil each week your turn will come up once every 13 weeks. If we increase club membership this period will be less so

IT'S UP TO YOU TO DO THIS BY RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS!!

**2nd Vice President Judith Ryan  
Chief Steward**

# ATTENDANCE & ROTARY PRINCIPLES

Members of this club will, of course, be familiar with the object of Rotary since it is stated on page 1 of our club handbook. However, there is another set of principles created by Rotarian Herbert J Taylor in 1932. This was called the Four-Way Test which was devised to serve Rotarians worldwide in their business and professional lives. This has been translated into 100 different languages and is often seen in club newsletters around the entire Rotary community. Some clubs, and RC Scottburgh in Kwa-Zulu, South Africa (our twin club) is one, actually repeat this after grace at their weekly meetings.

## **Of the things we say or do:**

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"

## **HAVING TROUBLE IN KEEPING UP YOUR ATTENDANCE?**

We have four local Rotary Clubs as alternative options for you to consider.

1. **Coventry North**  
Tuesday 12.45 pm  
Coventry North Warwicks Cricket Club  
Tel: 024 7631 8945
2. **Coventry Jubilee**  
Tuesday 7.30 pm  
Coventry North Warwicks Cricket Club  
Tel: 01676 542255
3. **Coventry Phoenix**  
Wednesday 7.30 pm  
Hearsall Golf Club Ltd  
33 Beechwood Avenue  
Tel: 024 7667 5809
4. **Coventry Breakfast**  
Friday 7.00 am  
Chapters Café, Frederick Lancaster Building,  
Coventry University, Gosford Street,  
Coventry, CV1 5DD

# SECRETARY'S NOTES

## What is Rotary?

Rotary is short for Rotary International. Service above Self is Rotary's motto. It is a worldwide association of local clubs for business and professional men and women who provide humanitarian services to the community at local, national and international level to encourage high ethical standards in all vocations work for goodwill and peace in the world.

## And what is Coventry Rotary Club?

The Club is one of the five in Coventry. It was founded in 1921. The club has a full range of Rotary activities; community service, vocational training and job development, practical international help and support, young peoples' exchanges between countries.

It meets for lunch every Monday (except bank holidays) at 12.45 pm at Coventry & North Warwickshire Cricket Club, Binley Road, Coventry CV3 1HB. Rotarians and other business and professional men and women are very welcome to come along to one of our meetings.

*Please contact the Secretary, Rosalind Thomas via mail: [secretary@coventryrotary.org](mailto:secretary@coventryrotary.org)*

**We're on the web! [www.coventryrotary.org](http://www.coventryrotary.org)**

16 Jun	Coffee morning at the home of Dr Serena Calder, 10am – 12noon
18 Jun	No speaker- open discussion about centenary projects. Community service meeting 2pm
25 Jun	Handover Meal - PM. <b>NO LUNCH TIME MEETING</b>
25 - 30 Jun	Design & Technology exhibition at the Transport museum
27 Jun	Design & technology awards evening, Methodist central hall - 7pm
.....	
1 Jul	District Handover, Warwickshire Cricket Club, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 9am for 9.30am
2 Jul	Inner Wheel Handover meeting at the Royal Court, 11.00am for 11.30am
2 Jul	Phil Godfrey (TBC)
6 Jul	Treasure Hunt. Louise Walker, Teenage Cancer Trust - "Young people shouldn't face cancer alone"
9 Jul	Council meeting 11.30am
14 Jul	Party in the Park, Baginton Tickets, Ken Holmes to sell tickets, £10 each
16 Jul	Alan Fraser, CEO YMCA Coventry & Warwickshire - "Helping the youth of Coventry, how the YMCA CW is tackling the challenges of the city". Community Meeting 2pm
23 Jul	Sue and Tony Mella - The Bwengu project in Malawi
.....	
5 Aug	Jamie Richards - Coventry Haven
13 Aug	Council meeting 11.30am
.....	
17 Sep	International Meeting 2pm. Community Service Meeting 2pm
.....	
8 Oct	Council meeting 11.30am
13 Oct	Foundation 'Race Night', Baginton Village Hall 7pm
15 Oct	International Meeting 2pm. Community Service Meeting 2pm
21 Oct	District Conference, Southport
.....	
12 Nov	Council meeting 11.30am
19 Nov	SGM, No speaker. International Meeting 2pm. Community Service Meeting 2pm
28 Nov	Disctrict council, Bromsgrove School
.....	
4 Dec	Foundation christmas coffee morning, Newpath Nurseries, 10am - 12 noon
10 Dec	Set up christmas trees in Holy Trinity. Council meeting 11.30am
11 Dec	Set up christmas trees in Holy Trinity. NOT between 1-2pm. PM- Opening event with Lord Mayor nd other invited guests
12-14 Dec	Public access to festival from 10am
14 Dec	Christmas celebration concert - 7pm - 9.30pm
15 Dec	Public access to festival, 10am - 5.00pm PLUS Rotary choir, schools choirs and musicians
17 Dec	Christmas lunch



Some members will have received a hard copy of this club newsletter recently. The idea is that you read it and pass it on to relatives/friends and onwards into the community. Others will have accessed it electronically via our website. Encourage your friends to view this copy.

The editorial content is clearly geared to the attention of the general public otherwise the entire newsletter is the ongoing history of the club.

**John Hartley, Editor**