



# NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2015

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

### *Dear Fellow Rotarians*

Our Club has been considering ways in which to engage with potential new members and with such a host of wonderful projects we support you can begin to get an impression as to what motivates members to volunteer.

There have been a number of informal gatherings with interested persons, some of which we are hopeful of them engaging with our Rotary Club.

What has been shared in conversations is that not all feel able to commit to weekly luncheon meetings but do hold to the ethos of helping others in service.

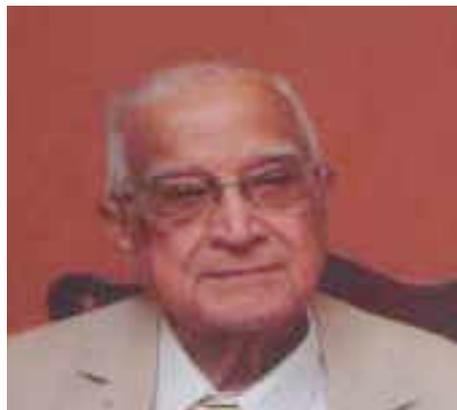
RIBI at District level has seen several satellite groups forming where service takes on a different pattern of giving time to specific projects and meeting informally to plan and progress such activities. These are happening alongside the parent club and in harmony.

We are, however, delighted at new members joining our club and long may that continue, but we do need to embrace alternative ways of service also.

This last week has brought us

into focus of the fragility of life. We are deeply saddened at the passing of Past President Rtn Bob Osborn and we extend our condolences to Gill and family. The funeral will have taken place by the time of this issue and we will have gathered to say farewell to a friend and give thanks for a life well lived. Tales will be told of times we have shared and we must give thanks for such a wonderful person. To Gill and family this time is one of struggle coming to terms with a death which separates loved ones. To Bob, we say rest in peace.

So it is we have also shared in another distinguished life well



*Rtn Damon Sal-Larin*

lived, that of Rtn Damon Sal-Larin. His life was celebrated in a memorial service at the Hindu Mandir Society Temple in Stoney Stanton Road. We were blessed to be able to share this with Damon's daughter Renuka Kapoor and her husband, Amil, and members of the family. Damon truly loved his Rotary and gave much of his time in support of rotary service, including his dentistry trips overseas, in communities without such access to dental healthcare. During the service Damon's turban representing his role as head of the family was

# FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK (CONTINUED)

passed on to Anil and this was appropriately wound around Anil's head who will now be head of the family. For many of us this was a new experience to share in a Hindu celebration and for that it was a privilege. Damon wished his body to be offered for medical research and we trust this will be a blessing to others in the future.

These past weeks has seen young people with disabilities taking on the challenge of another Lake District Outward Bound Course. The letters and testimonies received from the participants and from family members show what life changing this experience can be. The value of our Club providing such opportunities cannot be under estimated and we look forward to the 38th year in 2016.

Jenny and I were delighted to have members share in a service of recognition at the commencement of my year in office led by Rev Mark Rowland at Woodside Avenue Church and afterwards to have a larger gathering to share fellowship and lunch at the Granary. I would like to say thank you for all the good wishes received and I look forward to serving the needs of the Club during this Rotary year. As RI President Ravi Ravindran says,

"Let us be a blessing to the World and to one another".

**Ken, President Elect**



## NAMVIR KAILA

Many members will remember the "Slice of Cake" sales held at Barclays Westwood Heath, together with the face painting team at the Donkey Derby plus the help given to our Santa Sleigh collections – all directly connected to our Rotary friend Namvir Kaila. Through her influence in obtaining matched money from Barclays she, together with her participation, helped this club to raise several thousands of pounds supporting the charitable aims of this club. Namvir's efforts were marked by an award of a Paul Harris Fellowship in June 2014.

Her life took a dramatic change in January 2015 when, as a result of restructuring, her position at Barclays was subject of a redundancy which she accepted.

Many will also know that Namvir was a successful business lady and was not married. Her life in the spring of this year saw a period of dramatic change when romance suddenly entered her life. She met Daljinder Sumal, an East London partner in a builders' supply company, who exceptionally proposed to her beneath Tower Bridge on his yacht. From this point events led to a civil wedding at Stoneleigh Abbey followed by a traditional wedding at the Guru Nanak Parkash Gurdwara Temple in Harnall Lane, Coventry on Sunday, 26th July.

We shall now lose Mrs Namvir Sumal and her sphere of influence in our club but surely we all wish her every happiness in her new life in London.



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**

# DID YOU KNOW?

The singing of the Rotary Grace by the Rotary Club of Coventry was first heard in January 1947 when the President was Jim Harris! In September 1957 President Ted Fryer expressed concern that the singing of the Rotary Grace was no longer a feature of club meetings. When addressing club members it was apparent that a majority shared his view and a resumption was agreed. In October of the same year the Club Council confirmed the decision and in addition requested that Rotarian John Fletcher (a signwriter) should supply a large hymn sheet to be displayed in the Central Hall dining room on the stage to remind members of the words!

Past President Dennis Coombe may wish to note that the Lord Mayor of Coventry Councillor Emily Smith visited our club in May 1943 apparently one of a number of her visits over a period of time. The Lord Mayor frequently entered into discussion of club matters on each of the occasions she had made such visits. The Lord Mayor of course is the mother of Margaret Smith who is often seen at our club functions being a guest of PP Dennis.

Few Rotarians will recall Rotarian Arthur Bonham. He was a manager at the Northampton Brewery Depot in Much Park Street. As a Rotarian he was the club coordinator for the "Get You Home" service run by this club from the railway and bus stations. This was for returning servicemen from the 1939/45 War.

From January 1945 to June 1946 Rotary provided free transport home for more than 4500 servicemen. The total mileage was over 22,000 and involved 30 club members and 20 friends of the club. Distance was no problem. Some went as far as Hinckley, Nuneaton and Atherstone at all hours of the day and evenings.

# MEMORIES

I have recollections of the late Peter Harris playing tricks on Past President Dennis Coombe MBE at our luncheon meetings. Apparently Peter had a habit of placing spoons into the pockets of Dennis which were only discovered when he returned home. Good friends apparently do this!

However if we go back much further in history when an item of correspondence was read at a club council meeting on 9th November 1959. Apparently a certain Mr Scott Mactaggart of the Coventry Standard newspaper reported to this club that he had attended one of our luncheon meetings to report on the proceedings and was unable to locate his coat when the meeting finished. He held the club responsible for his loss! President Will Osborne and his Council members decided to compensate Mr Mactaggart in the sum of £5.00 as a contribution to his loss. Peter was never in this league!

In March 1960 President Will Osborne wrote special letters of acknowledgement to those donors who had generously sent money to the club in memory of Arthur Bonham. These letters explained that all bequests would be allocated to the Community Services Committee who had been tasked to organise a party for elderly people which was very close to Arthur's considerable interest. As some of us will remember only too well, even after funds were exhausted, the parties continued for 44 years held at the Central Hall which included entertainment by the Wyken Male Voice Choir and the Coventry Silver Band – originally led by Leonard Pepper.



# ROBERT BRUCE OSBORN

**18th January 1936 - 10th August 2015**

Bob Osborn sadly has departed from our membership and his family and friends leaving behind a legacy of true friendship and in particular a record of outstanding service to the Rotary Club of Coventry.

He often reminded us of his origins in London where he met Gill when they were teenagers. He served his National Service in the Royal Air Force and, as a result of his fitness through being a schoolboy boxing champion, became a physical training instructor. This is where the seeds of leadership must have sprung and on completion of his service and following a casual approach he joined the Police Force. Starting at the foot of the ladder Bob took his exams to qualify for promotion and his progress continued through to Chief Superintendent. In his progress Bob, with Gill, went to the USA to give lectures on British law and policing methods supported by his degree qualification and authority

During his career he moved to Coventry and became the officer in charge of the Stoney Stanton Road station and cooperated with the development of policing in that area and Radford. He was well thought of by the public and was the driving force behind the establishments of a cycle racing track in the notorious Wood End area for young people to release their energies. Bob

became a well respected and caring police officer within and without the service. Eventually Bob was appointed the Commandant of the Ryton Police College where again he transferred his knowledge of the law to the young recruits.

Bob became a Rotarian in 1981 and except for a 4 year absence had been a club member for 30 years. Typically he gave sterling service to the club serving as Club President in 1994/5, Club Secretary and was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship in 1998/9.

Notably among his many achievements was his organisation of a trip by club members to South Africa in 2005 when we visited the Rotary Club of Scottburgh in KwaZulu-Natal. We were accommodated in the Blue Marlin Hotel the headquarters of the Rotary Club owned by Rotarian Sandie Curtis. This visit inspired "Uncle Bob" as he was affectionately known, to encourage support to orphaned children in day centres and convents. He was especially thanked by Sisters Melanie and Masa of the St Anne's Convent in Umzinto where we cooperated with RC Scottburgh to provide extra security fencing and indeed funds for a party for the girls who lived there.

***Thanks a lot Bob – job well done!***

# HISTORICAL COMMENTS

As a result of some documents discovered in Past President Gerald Osborne's garage papers dated October 1953 reveal the pressure on our club to form a second club in Coventry. A visit by District Extension Officer Evan D B Bowman certainly made out a strong case for this to happen. A special meeting was convened with President Vincent Brailsford in the chair. It was explained that RIBI held the authority to form a second club in Coventry. However he was not surprised to learn that the Rotary Club of Coventry did not approve. An explanation was given how territory might be agreed for a new club giving the mother club the right to draw new members from the whole city.

A new club would need, overtime, to have a nucleus of 25 members with the help of a Rotarian from its mother club. At the point of reaching 25 members an application could then be made to RIBI to form an interim club prior to securing its official charter.

It was proposed that Stoke and Foleshill areas of Coventry Club would be appropriate for recruitment. Rotarian Bowman believed that Coventry with 100 members to be a fair number. The new club would not be able to recruit in Radford, Earlsdon, Cheylesmore and Styvechale. He requested population details of various areas of Coventry. All persuasive points but the Coventry Club responded thus:

"That the question of a second Club in Coventry be shelved for 12 months in order to see if further accommodation can be obtained for our own Club and so enable additional members to be taken in."

What can be deduced from the above is the fact that the Geisha Café accommodation was the limiting factor to membership and that Coventry

had a waiting list for new members. Steps would be taken to resolve this which led to a move into the Methodist Central Hall. Coventry North eventually came into being in 1961 some eight years later!



Members will note that we have just completed the 37th annual Outward Bound course for special needs students at Ullswater, Cumbria.

Few will know that prior to Outward Bound this club 51 years ago sent two boys to the Weston Boys' House in Weston Super Mare. The challenge for these lads was to get there by train which of itself was unique because neither had travelled on a train before and neither had ever seen the sea before! Not that the sea is easy to find at Weston.

The beginning of our connection with Outward Bound in 1976 we sent five boys to Eskdale Cumbria for three weeks at a total cost of £1178.50. The five boys travelled by rail to Eskdale at the cost of the Rotary Club. The boys chosen were young offenders selected at the attendance centre of the Probation Service. This method of selection did not survive for very long due to behavioural issues and it was decided to approach Hereward College who encourage young disabled students to engage with Outward Bound activities. This course remains today with the addition of Exhall Grange students to make up the party of 14 persons.

In 1980 the club contribution was £629 and Outward Bound Coventry supported the balance. This contrasts to our current party of 14 persons of mixed genders at a cost of over £10,600. Compared to 1980 costs Rotary now has to support 60% of the cost in the sum of £6,100.



# PETER HARRIS MEMORIAL TREASURE HUNT

## FRIDAY 31ST JULY 2015

A number of our members with their ladies and friends were invited to an evening of frustration combined with exercise in the village of Knowle.

Considering the discreet ambiguity of some of the 52 clues there is no doubt a participant must be of a certain intellect to be successful. Teamwork is of course a help but the feature of the evening is the food which operated rather like a 'carrot on the end of a stick'. Frankly I felt rather like a donkey when trying to interpret some of the cryptic notes which Past President Ray had developed declaring all clues were visual (except one).

Driven by hunger or was it physical tiredness running up and down, in and out of the High Street, we responded to the 8.30 pm signal that a carvery was now waiting for the party in the Toby Inn.

Good to see Bobby Harris in our company and to present the trophy to our intellectual team "The Bond family" (yet again).

The evening finance, well managed by Past President Ray, produced a charitable surplus of £120.

Our thanks to PP Ray.

*John Hartley*

# HELP FOR COVENTRY 70 YEARS AGO

It is 70 years since the end of the Second World War and it should not be forgotten that the Rotary Club of Coventry was extremely active throughout the six year duration of this conflict.

Noticeable from our records is the fact that from 1941 up to 1954 this club was remembered by Rotary Clubs not only in this country but from around the world, such as USA, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada. Help came in different forms; financial, clothing and food parcels. Clearly it was believed that Rotary was the ideal vehicle for placing relief in the community where it was most needed.

## ***Some examples are worth noting:-***

- A parcel from the Rotary Club of Toronto, Canada sent 30 layettes for new born babies.
- 700 tins of milk received from the Rotary Club of Hamilton, New Zealand.
- 3 cases tinned food received from the Rotary Club of Freemantle, Australia.
- 6 parcels of food received from the Rotary Club of Alexandria, New Zealand.
- 2 crates of food stuffs from Woodville Rotary Club, New Zealand.
- One barrel of tallow from the Rotary Club of Wairoa, New Zealand. (That was how it was described. In fact it was beef dripping!) This was distributed to Dunchurch Old Ladies' Home, Rose Staner Blind Home, Weston Boys' House, Bond's Hospital and St Faith's Shelter.

In one case it was noted that the Rotary Club Lithgow, New South Wales, Australia sent 25 food parcels all addressed to individual members of our club. President George Marson in November 1949 reminded members who received them that they were not for "home consumption" but for distribution to the needy!

In a note from President Fred Saxelby dated 1st January 1941 (less than 2 months after the first Blitz on Coventry) he had received 44 letters of sympathy and offers of help with many sending money. These were from UK Rotary Clubs.

Two additional letters from Boston USA and Cape Town, South Africa had sent 100 dollars and 10 guineas respectively.

Remarkable that help was still arriving right up to 1953 when ration coupons for clothing and food came to an end.

Some of the financial help was used to solve monetary issues of individuals who frequently wrote for assistance. One such appeal from Miss S Baker of the City of Coventry Probation Service required £1 2s 2d. The background is as follows:

*"Story of a pair of green shoes*

I know a little girl living in this city, she is a pretty little girl and I do not think she had ever had anything new bought for her. Quite recently she was placed on probation to me for stealing in the Market. There is little doubt that she was sent down by her mother, not a very intelligent woman. A neighbour, not very well off, has taken her in, but the clothing problem was serious. When my colleague and I were asked if we knew anyone who needed some shoes my mind immediately went back to this child and so one day this week I collected her from school at lunch time and we went down to the shops.

Her eyes sparkled and she could not speak because she was so excited. Should it be brown shoes or green shoes? Green shoes were really much more exciting, especially when they had added to them a nice scarlet pair of socks. They had to be worn home, of course, but with very strict instructions that they were for best. In the meantime, the little girl would go to school in her old shoes. These she had bought for 1/6d from a second hand shop, the 1/6d was her pocket money she had saved.

Not only did it give the little girl pleasure to have the shoes but I would like you to know it gave me pleasure too, to buy them with her and to see the joy that they brought."

This does not mean, of course, that this child will never be in any trouble again because with her background I think it is unavoidable but at least she now knows that this is the proper way to obtain clothing.

***Shoes 17/-d.***

***Socks 4/2d for 2 pairs. Total: £1 1s 2d.***



# INNER WHEEL COVENTRY

There is a slight conflict between the Inner Wheel Club and the Rotary Club of Coventry about the origin of Inner Wheel. They claim 1936 while our records state 1937. What is agreed is that Inner Wheel began its life when President F J Shotton was in office 1936/37. What else is certain is that 2016 will be the year to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the inauguration of Inner Wheel Club.

To resolve these conflicting issues it was necessary to consult Inner Wheel Secretary (and Historian) Lucy May who kindly delved into the IW archives. I now have a copy of the inauguration certificate dated January 1936 from the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs which confirms the foundation date. The events leading up to this date surround the first No 6 Rotary District Conference which was held in Coventry on 22nd March 1935.

But there is more that should be recorded and was missing in our recorded history that has recently come to light.

The District Rotary business meetings of the Conference in 1935 were held in the Methodist Central Hall and the Coventry Council Chamber. At the time they were having their meeting Mrs Ernest Parkes Darby, Founder President of No 6

District Inner Wheel, spoke to the wives of the Coventry Club about 'Inner Wheel'. At the Ball in the Drill Hall, Queen Victoria Road after the meeting, there was much talk amongst the womenfolk and certainly imagination was stirred for in early April and only three weeks after the Conference some of the ladies were invited to tea parties at the homes of Mrs Herbert Barnacle and Mrs Fred Shotton. The decision was made to notify all wives of Coventry Rotarians that a meeting would take place at the Black Cat Café, corner of Market Street and Cross Cheaping, to discuss this new venture. The attendance was small but the decision to form a club was made.

At a Council meeting of the Coventry Rotary Club held on 23rd May 1932 a minute noted that a Mrs Golding approached the club for permission to form an Inner Wheel club. The Council refused this request and suggested that a ladies' committee could be formed but not on the lines of the Inner Wheel movement. The Rotary President at this time was Fred Plumb. Following this approach it would seem that a Ladies' Committee was formed in 1933 when the Rotary President was Ed Coulson. The principal lady involved was a Mrs J Harris.



## 2015-16 MEMBERSHIP BOOK

Will members please note the amended email address for our President:-  
**[kenneth\\_holmes@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kenneth_holmes@tiscali.co.uk)**

# COVENTRY VS NUNEATON BOWLS MATCH 2015-08-08



Some of the confusion on the heritage of this event was solved by the discovery of a newspaper cutting dated November 1965 which reported the presentation of the Oscar Grunau Bowls Trophy by Oscar himself at The Pingles. Oscar was a Past President of the Rotary Club of Coventry with business interests in Nuneaton. I believe one of the early inspirations behind the idea of a bowls match was the desire of Coventry to raise funds to support the running of the Coventry Boys' Club. During the 1950s the active involvement of Rotarian and former Chief Constable of Coventry EWC Pendleton who was the principal instrument at the Boys Club to place it on a financial footing to progress. At this time this did not involve the Nuneaton Rotary Club. However PP Oscar Grunau was the inspiration to have an annual match with Nuneaton when he had a factory in the town and made regular fellowship visits to the club meetings on Monday lunchtimes to keep up his attendance record at Coventry.

The first match was held in 1966 which means that the 2015 competition was the 49th annual event. More importantly 2016 is the 50th golden anniversary; this despite the fact that the trophy went missing for a while only to be rediscovered in 1997. Our records do not show how many years this was missing. The mystery in part solved by Rotarian Robert Hall MBE who brought it back to life.

There have always been elements of confusion in these get togethers none more so than this one held at Morningside on 5th August. On this occasion it

was agreed that Nuneaton wrested the trophy away from Coventry without the final score being agreed. It must be realised that three of the best Coventry players were loaned free of charge to Nuneaton to make up their depleted numbers. Truth to be told this is a perfect example of club fellowship and it is in that spirit the match is played. Of course most of us have much to learn by playing in the excellent conditions of Morningside if only we engaged in training sessions beforehand.

Many thanks to Past President Phil for the organisation and provisioning of the fish 'n chip supper that followed.

The inaugural annual inter club Bowls Match between Rotary Clubs of Coventry and Nuneaton in June 1966 for the Oscar Grunau Trophy proved to be a washed out affair although the match was abandoned fellowship prevailed and has done in our many engagements over the years to present time. This event was organised somewhat differently than our current arrangements where we conclude with a "fish & chip" supper. The match 49 years ago ended with a pleasant retreat to the Hotel Leofric with our ladies to enjoy an à la carte dinner!

Members must realise that as our first daughter club in 1925 this means that the Nuneaton Rotary Club is this year celebrating its 90th anniversary. President Victor Kenyon will be hosting a special dinner at the Chase Hotel, Nuneaton and it behoves our club to be well represented.

# OUTWARD BOUND (NO 37 ) 4-11 JULY 2015 SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF COVENTRY

After initial difficulties a full party of 12 students were assembled at Hereward College to depart for the Outward Bound Centre, Ullswater, Cumbria. (Numerically they were out of balance with our normal selection of participants being 8 girls and 4 boys).

Our Lord Mayor Rotarian and Councillor Michael Hammon and Rotary President Ken Holmes were present to speak to students and parents before they embarked on the bus which would deliver them to the centre some 250 miles away.

The course embraced canoeing, rowing, hiking, caving, rock climbing, gorge walking, abseiling, trapeze and camping which would provide the opportunity to display self confidence and teamwork. Our group are all special needs students so the course has to be seen as an important part of their education to encourage each student to develop and improve social skills.

The course is almost entirely out of doors whatever the weather which has meant that the group experienced some variation in the elements which did not dampen their spirits.

*Lord Mayor's Bon Voyage*



*Morning Briefing*

*Up and Over*



*What's going on here?*

# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

## 24TH JUNE 2015



This display of GCSE and 'A' Level craftwork by the senior schools in Coventry is a major Rotary event involving all five clubs in the city. With the cooperation of the WMG Academy for Young Engineers and the Westwood Academy the facilities for display and the presentation ceremony were provided by the Rotary clubs and supported by a number of other sponsors. The quality of entries was outstanding and reflected great credit to students and their teachers.

A significant presence at the Awards Ceremony was by Lord Bhattacharyya Kt CBE FEng FRS who addressed the 350 audience at the prize ceremony and presented a cheque in the sum of £100 to runner up Louis Greenway of Coundon Court School for his contemporary speaker system.

The overall winner was Danielle Brooks, also from Coundon Court School, who was presented with a cheque for £200 for her contemporary jewellery exhibit by Jane Coleman representing the WMG Academy.

The Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Lindsley Harvard was also present to view the exhibits and to attend the awards presentations. He was much impressed by the range of designs across so many materials giving rise to a number of good ideas.

Another significant VIP to attend the evening was our own Past President Councillor David Kershaw CBE JP who no doubt with pride was able to congratulate the winners in the use of science Louis Greenway for his speaker system and indeed Danielle Brooks (mentioned above) and with Louis both represented Coundon Court School which is close to PP David's heart.

A disappointment however was that four secondary schools chose not to enter projects. This may reflect in part the present financial position of the Local Authority. Finance is severely limited. The LA advisor Sue Wheeler for this event and a Paul Harris Fellow of this club is no longer available. This has created a greater burden on Rotarians from the five Coventry clubs. A special thank you must go to Niall McChesney of Coventry Phoenix who led his club's organising responsibility.

This year saw a new venue at the WMG Academy who gave their facilities without charge. The neighbouring Westwood Academy offered their sports hall for the awards ceremony.

This report could go on but the finest tribute to this event is to say "to appreciate it you have to be there". The presentation ceremony recognised many other winners by the judges and sponsors amounting to some 36 students in all before an audience of 350.



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

The new Duties list can now be viewed on the club notice board. Please make a note when it is your turn if you cannot make the particular day swap with another but please tell the Club Secretary, Brian Winstanley, to keep his records straight and even write in the change on the list itself.

For new members we are listing the duties of the Steward which are not very onerous. The first job is to take the money off members for the lunch and then make sure they sign the attendance sheet, copies of will be found in the steward's box. If there are only a couple of copies left ask the club secretary for more: he should have some in his brief case. After everyone has signed, this list should be given to the Club Treasurer who will later give this to the Club Secretary.

As soon as the lunch has commenced ensure that the numbers of members having signed in agrees with those sitting at the tables plus any late arrivals. Check that the number equates correctly to the cash and cheques received. Pass the list and payments to Treasurer Bob Kemble who will complete the appropriate payment to the Steward.

## ***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, Brian Winstanley, to keep his 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 Stewards 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.

## ***Are you on the Visitors' Book?***

The latest list is now on the club notice board so please check what date your name appears. If you cannot make the particular day swap with

another but please tell the Club Secretary, Brian Winstanley, to keep his records straight or even write in the change on the list itself! Your duties are to ensure that visitors fill in the Visitors' Book (with intelligible writing please!) with their name and club (if a visiting Rotarian), or the name of the Club member who is introducing them (if not). Give them a Grace Card – these are found in the Steward's Box - and after lunch introduce them when called upon by the President. If the visitor is from far field then welcome him with a visitors leaflet. These contain information about the club on one side and a brief history of the City on the other. They can be found in the Steward's Box.

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

***2nd Vice President  
Kevin Vaughan  
Chief Steward***

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!!

# ATTENDANCE

Although our membership book has given attendance guidelines which are printed on the penultimate page of the handbook there remains a mystery to some degree on how the obligation to maintain attendance can be fulfilled.

Rotarians should realise that they must not assume and therefore treat our weekly meetings as a “luncheon club”. With that in mind each Rotarian should review the object of Rotary printed on the first page of the book. Reference also should be made to the General Information pages for further guidance on attendance matters. For the benefit of all a full detail of attendance rules is printed below.

## COVENTRY ROTARY CLUB

The more important provisions governing attendance are summarised as follows:

### Attendance

1. A member shall attend the Club’s regular meetings but attendance only counts if the member is present for at least 60% of the meeting
2. Absence from a meeting can be made up if, within 14 days before or after a regular meeting of the Club, the member attends:
  - 2.1 at least 60% of the regular meeting of another Rotary Club
  - 2.2 a regular meeting of a Rotaract or Interact Club
  - 2.3 a RI convention or a RIBI assembly
  - 2.4 a District conference, assembly, meeting, committee
  - 2.5 and participates in a club service project, club-sponsored community event or council-authorized meeting
  - 2.6 a council meeting,
  - 2.7 a service committee meeting
  - 2.8 participates through the Club’s website in an interactive activity for 30 minutes on average
- 3 Absence from a regular meeting of the Club can also be made up if:
  - 3.1 a member attends a regular club meeting at any time during a period of more than 14 days’ travel abroad
  - 3.2 a member is engaged in council-authorized Rotary business which precludes attendance

### Excused attendance

**A member’s absence is excused if:**

1. council has approved
2. the aggregate of a member’s years of age and years of membership is 85 or more and the council has approved the member’s written application

### Leave of absence

Leave of absence may be granted by council on a member’s written application so as to prevent forfeiture of membership

### Termination

**A member must attend:**

1. or make up at least 60% of the regular meetings of the Club in each half year
2. at least 30% of the Club’s regular meetings in each half year

Failing such attendance, membership is subject to termination by council

Unless excused by council, a member who fails to attend or make-up four consecutive regular meetings may find that such non-attendance is treated as a request for council to terminate membership

**Note:** It is emphasized that this summary omits other provisions that are thought to apply only in circumstances that are exceptional. It also does not repeat in full the wording of the provisions summarised. For further information please refer to the Club Secretary.

When signing in each member should note two side columns – “S” for Service and “F” for Fellowship.

In the event that another club is visited then a mark under column “F” is appropriate. For all other qualifying attendances the “S” column should bear your mark.

# 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 12.45pm 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, Brian Winstanley via mail:  
[secretary@coventryrotary.org](mailto:secretary@coventryrotary.org)**

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

21 SEPT	Visit of District Governor Paul Jaspal
26 SEPT	Collection at Tesco Supermarket, Clifford Bridge Road
28 SEPT	Neil Gordon, Warwick University
.....	
2 OCT	Presentation at the Automata, Coventry Retail Market
4 OCT	Coventry Fun Run – Earlsdon Clock Island
5 OCT	Issue Notice for SGM
23-25 OCT	District Conference at Cardiff
.....	
7-8 NOV	Disabled Team Sports at Excel Centre
16 NOV	SGM
.....	
13 DEC	Send Christmas and New Year's Greetings to Scottsburgh and Volgograd

## **DOOR DUTIES 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER - 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2015**

Members are reminded that it rests with them as individuals to arrange for a substitute and then notify the Secretary. The change should be recorded by deleting the printed name and writing name on the list on the notice board.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Door Steward</b>	<b>Speaker's Host</b>	<b>Visitors' Book</b>
5 OCT	Michael Hammon	Amrik Bhabra	Obi Ugwu
12 OCT	Philip Hodgson	Terry Bond	Robert Villette
19 OCT	David Kershaw	Trevor Sharman	Robert Townsend
26 OCT	Roma Hawthorne	David Cule	John Hartley
.....			
2 NOV	David Rees	Keith Chapman	Dennis Coombe
9 NOV	S Bogahalanda	Martin Cooper	Geoffrey Jackson
16 NOV	Victor Keene	Rod Drew	David Joyce
23 NOV	Ray Thompson	Bob Hall	Ian Talbot
30 NOV	Robert Pargetter	Brian Hammond	
.....			
7 DEC	David Davies		Pru Porretta
14 DEC	Judith Ryan	Michael Pittaway	Kevin Vaughan
21 DEC	Obi Ugwu	Jeffrey Rowe	Amrik Bhabra