



Coventry Rotary Club

[www.coventryrotary.org](http://www.coventryrotary.org)

# newsletter

JUNE 2013



## a word from our president



### *Dear fellow Rotarians*

This year has gone remarkably quickly! It has been an enormous privilege to be able to be your President and I have enjoyed your support and constant enthusiasm for a wide variety of Rotary events. I have particularly enjoyed being able to relax among friends and even engage in the occasional repartee with some of our number!

As President you get a unique view of the power of putting 'service above self'. Rotary provides huge opportunities to give something back to our communities and I have seen, on a week by week basis, Rotarians making a difference to all sections of the community. We all believe, in our different

ways, that societies and indeed individual people are at their best when they work together. We know Coventry has a great tradition for collaborating to overcome economic, social and cultural difficulties and to develop international links. I have seen, particularly this year, many examples of Rotarians, both formally and informally, making Coventry and the wider world a better place. At the Handover Meeting on June 28th we are looking forward to having our 'Twinning Ceremony' with the Rotary Club of Volgograd. We are hoping that three of their members will be with us and also our Lord Mayor as our city is historically linked with Volgograd.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the officers

of the Club for their support and encouragement and for their timely reminders to follow protocol and not my non-conformist inclinations! We are all indebted to the Chairmen of our various committees who do so much work to inspire members to fulfil their wide and varied commitments.

Finally, I would like to thank Vice President Philip for his support and unfailing ability to stand in for me when I have been waylaid by the mysteries of the Education Service! I give him my very best wishes for a happy and successful year as President, who will be supported by Trevor Webb.

**David Kershaw**



Members will have received a Rotary newsletter recently. The idea is that you read it and pass it on to relatives/friends and onwards into the community.

The editorial content is clearly geared to the attention of the general public.

**Thank you!**

# Nuns on Motorbikes

I thought the talk given to the club members on 22nd April by Rotarian Tim Brooke was worthy of mention in this newsletter. Tim, of course, is a familiar face in Coventry having been Vicar of St Barbara's in Earlsdon and in a similar role at St Francis of Assisi Church in Radford. Additionally he is closely connected with the Emmaus community at Binley.

Following a visit by Tim and his wife, Gill to South East Tanzania connecting to the Anglican Diocese of Masasi they became involved in a system of healthcare to residents in villages far out in the bush. By the provision of a robust model of Honda motor bikes trained nurses are able to make regular visits to administer medical treatments and help to reduce people dying from easily preventable diseases. One of the key factors is to keep the motor bikes in good running order and to provide them with petrol to make these visits. By good management since 2003 the project has run

without any breakdowns and only one minor accident.

Tim monitors the use and cost of petrol and sends payments from the UK to Masasi on a controlled, secure monthly basis commensurate service for any Rotarian.

*John Hartley*



## 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  
Coventry University, Riley Restaurant,  
Tel: Jordan Well 024 7641 2520

# Paul Harris Award

Any member of this club consulting our roll of honour for Paul Harris Fellows on page 23 of membership book would notice and believe that the first recognition of such an award from this club was Past President Dr Brian Cole when he was chairman of the Foundation Committee in 1995. In fact our apparent oldest serving PHF is PDG David Rees. However in 1992 which dates his reward he was living in the Newark on Trent area and belonged to the local club.

Brian spearheaded our drive to raise funds for polio eradication commencing in 1988 when Rotary International launched its world wide campaign. The club exceeded its target and it was not too long after its fund raising started in Coventry that Brian received a donation of £1,000 from Mrs Edith Horwood in the expectation that this was to be an anonymous gift. This element of secrecy did not arise because Ernie Newbold, the well known Coventry reporter on the Coventry Citizen, managed to glean some detail and bring a photographer along to our club meeting when the presentation was to be made. Edith came with her daughter Joy and was hosted by our President Allan Dixon. The actual presentation was made by the Bishop of Coventry (an honorary Rotarian) which involved a bound citation and a medallion with a brooch.

Trying to keep this presentation as low key as possible the amount of Edith's gift was never made public nor was the reason for giving made public. After the day of the presentation the whole episode was virtually committed to silence.

A special point to make is that Edith's name should be No 1 on our roll of honour. The date of 1988 has a 7 year advantage over Dr Brian Cole and deserves to be so recorded as such in our next published booklet. The reason for the gift surrounded her daughter Joy who had suffered disablement from polio and had come to terms with the disease, found employment and entered a life of marriage. In fact she has outlived two husbands and now resides in Lincoln.

Sadly Edith Horwood died recently and in her effects was found the Paul Harris Award. The family, including Joy (who is now

77), decided that they did not wish to hold on to this heirloom and felt it would be better in the possession of the Rotary Club of Coventry who presented it in the first place.

As a coincidence Margaret and I were going to visit Lincoln (on cultural grounds) so we offered to meet Joy Stephenson and recover the award. This was a pleasant meeting where we found Joy well established in a comfortable home and managing very well on her own. She runs a modified car to get about but rarely ventures "up town" because the old city is seriously steep. We stayed about two hours and, our duty done, we left to visit the castle on the hill.

Instructions will be given to Assistant Secretary Peter Cooke to place Edith Horwood on top of our role of honour when the next print is due.





# Primary Schools Debating Final

## Coventry City Council Chamber

Tuesday, 12 March 2013

Six teams were lined up to pit their wits against each other for the privilege to be declared a winner. Spectators were treated to a variety of propositions and right from the start we listened intently to some very firmly presented points by the Edgwick School's speaker with good animation and some table thumping expressions. The high standard prevailed throughout the elimination rounds until the judges decided that Richard Lee and Edgwick Primary Schools would battle for first place. The concluding issue was "This house would rather live in a town than in the countryside". With all good reasoning Richard Lee proposed the issue convincingly while being closely followed by Edgwick.

Lord Mayor Councillor Tim Sawden presented the winners with the silver challenge cup.

All participants received certificates and medals.



# Wither the Jaipur Limb

Almost 20 years ago in Bangalore, India as a result of cooperation between the local Rotary Club in District 3190 and the Rotary Club of Bookham and Horsley in the UK District 1250 took up the challenge of both managing and jointly sponsoring a project which would be locally organised by the Rotary Club of Bangalore Peenya. The project was based on an idea to set up a camp to manufacture and distribute 250 artificial limbs. A wide net was cast to secure sponsorship. Support came from Rotary Clubs in South Africa, France and two other districts in India. This cooperation enabled a Rotary foundation matching grant to be given which established a firm foundation. Fruition was manifested by having the camp inaugurated by the Governor of Karnataka, His Excellency Shri Kursted Alam Khan in October 1994. In the first month, indeed

in the first 10 days over 1500 handicapped men, women and children were brought to the camp in the hope that they may be helped to walk. Some had never walked. Fourteen doctors from Jaipur fitted 358 artificial limbs, 569 callipers and 296 pairs of crutches at this first camp in Bangalore. Despite the administrative difficulties and language differences the camp grew to six times its expected capacity. Extra funding was sought via the media and more widely in the international movement of Rotary.

Continued success is required because the loss of limbs was, and still is to some extent, due to the polio disease but also natural disasters world wide have caused some horrific injuries as well as the effect of land mines.

These days there are around 20 different camps to be found in Asia, Africa and Central America.

The limbs are produced in polyethylene material (drain pipes) with the artificial foot being carved out of hardwood. They usually last for 3 - 4 years before replacement is necessary. An average cost today is £30 per limb. There are no charges to the recipients.

Today RIBI is much involved in the management of the project and a contribution to the scheme from the UK is said to be around £10,000 per year.



# International Quiz Night

## Baginton Village Hall - 31st May 2013

A gathering of Rotarians with wives, partners, offsprings and friends made this meeting of would be intellectuals an occasion of great hope for a creditable result. Question master President Elect Philip was equally, if not more so, as frustrating as our other well known QM Past President Ray Thompson (who indeed was not with us on this occasion).

Team 8 thought it had a fair chance of success having brought Rotary International Foundation Scholar Kaori from Japan to boost its chances in anticipation of a Japanese question. Yes, we had one and

achieved the credit of a point! PE Philip predictably flavoured his questions from his background of music none of which had anyone dancing in the aisles!

Chairman Ken Holmes added his flavours to the quiz and notably had us studying which cathedral fitted which city. Surely most of us felt that either we had not travelled around the country enough to know more than two of the twelve or that next time we visit cathedral cities we need to stand longer outside the building and take a lingering look upwards and commit the view to our memories. However, after many joint consultations,

it was surprising how well some of us did!! The evening could not go without giving praise for a generous Chinese buffet which well sustained a revisit for seconds by many of us. Members of the International committee provided a fine array of raffle prizes to increase the funds raised in the sum of £340 for the night in support of the International Children's Charity and its work in India.

The sight of Chris Hawthorne with Roma was indeed welcomed by those Rotarians and wives who know him from those days when he was able to be an active member of the club.

## Door Duties 2013 - July - September

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.

Date	Door Steward	Speaker's Host	Visitor's Book
July	1	<b>No meeting in view of Handover dinner on June 28th</b>	
	8	John O'Driscoll	Dhiran Vagdia
	15	David Rees	Terry Bond
	22	Trevor Webb	Jerry Cooke
	29	Margaret Tse	Martin Cooper
.....			
Aug	5	Sid Creed	David Cule
	12	Bob Hall	David Davis
	19	John Hartley	Ken Holmes
	26	<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
.....			
Sept	2	David Kershaw	Bob Kimber
	9	Robert Pargetter	David Rees
	16	Jeff Rowe	Trevor Sharman
	23	Ray Thompson	Margaret Tse
	30	Dhiran Vagdia	Kevin Vaughan

# 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 which 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.***

***PP Harold Smart  
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!!



# News from Inner Wheel

Within the proceedings of their Annual General Meeting held from 2-4 April in Bournemouth was a statement of achievement of the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland. Members had raised £1,251,332 for charities at home and £400,300 for 454 charities overseas. Adding to these fine achievements they provided 58 shelter boxes, 4,888 blankets, 5,000 cardigans, 6,500 hats and gloves, 1,700 baby bags, 4,782 Troop shoe boxes and 300 kg of used stamps (almost 1/3rd of a ton). These are impressive figures.

## 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, Bob Osborn via email: [secretary@coventryrotary.org](mailto:secretary@coventryrotary.org)**

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

## Club Programme

- July 3 District Handover Meeting, Hopwood, Birmingham
- July 8 Steve Raggett. Wonder Years Centre of Excellence.
- July 29 Julie White, Business Woman of the Year, 2011-2012.  
Managing Director D-Drill Ltd.
- July 22 Burt Flannery, What's God got to do with it?.
- July 28 President's Garden Party
- July 29 Emma McDonald. Arthritis UK.
- .....
- Aug 5 Helen Fairhurst. Coventry Cyrennians.
- Aug 12 Jessica Darcy, Senior Community Fundraising Officer,  
Bowel Cancer UK
- Aug 19 Rotarian Brian Kelsey. A year in the life
- .....
- Sept 2 Proposed visit of District Governor (DV)