



Coventry Rotary Club

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

# newsletter

APRIL 2013



## a word from our president



### *Dear Fellow Rotarians*

I am constantly reminded of the commitment and voluntary work undertaken by our members as we support a wide variety of community activities. The recently successful Youth Speaks competition and the sponsored swimming at Bablake are two examples, together with the collection for Rotary Charities at the Ricoh Arena stores. On January 29th, Coventry Jubilee hosted the official handover of funds from our hugely successful Santa Sleigh collections over the Christmas period. John Hartley and I represented our club.

As I mentioned at our recent lunchtime meeting Rotary

International has contributed over £30 million to Making Polio History since 2005. This is clearly a tremendous achievement which is gaining national recognition and has world-wide impact on totally eliminating this paralysing disease. As I write this, I readily acknowledge the present and past members of our Club who have made many personal sacrifices in raising considerable sums of money over many years to support this crusade.

On 15th February, it was a privilege to attend Gerald Osborne's funeral at Allesley Parish Church. It was very moving to listen to the tributes from his family, friends and ex-colleagues. More personal tributes and

memories from fellow Rotarians have been made elsewhere. I had a huge affection and regard for Gerald and he typified the Rotary motto of 'Service above Self' throughout his life. He is sadly missed.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to remind you of the District Conference to be held in Southport from 25th – 27th October 2013. Conference can be an enjoyable and informative occasion as Vivien and I have found over the last few years. If you would like to attend this year, please see John Hartley who can give you the necessary booking information.

*David*



## Rotary Bucket Collection Success at West Orchards Shopping Centre

We ventured into the West Orchards Shopping Centre on Saturday, 24 November with the aim of refuelling our depleted charity funds. Our dedicated team of collectors generated

£359.67 which proved to be a useful start to achieve our aim. This was followed up on Saturday, 5 January at the Arena Shopping Park when we collected £655.16.



**Whitley Academy Business & Enterprise College – Blue Team**  
 Left to right: Amrik Bhabra, Amina Hamad, Harvey Gilbert and Daisy Wooliscroft

# Rotary Youth Speaks 8<sup>th</sup> February 2013

The scene was set at the Bablake School Theatre for keen competition between seven teams from five schools in the Coventry and District area.

Subjects chosen were varied and well chosen, also equally well

delivered to the audience which comprised parents, siblings and indeed grandparents. Judges faced a difficult task to resolve the difference between each presentation. Eventually a decision appeared and the Kenilworth

School & Sixth Form Red Team won with their topic "Driven round the bend". They and their Blue team who came second will progress to the District finals on 9th March being held at the Queen Elizabeth School at Atherstone.

## Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs Golf Tournament -Thursday 13th June 2013

In a spirit of support golfing members of this club may wish to enter the WAYC Golf Tournament on Thursday, 13 June. A member of a team of four would have to pay £70 which includes a round of golf,

bacon rolls and coffee plus an evening meal.

Alternatively the club may wish to sponsor a hole for £75, longest drive £50 or nearest to the pin for £50. The event takes place at the Henley Golf

and Country Club, Henley in Arden.

Contact address is WAYC, Jubilee House, Westlea Road, Leamington Spa, CV31 3JE. FAO Becky Salter. Email [info@wayc.org.uk](mailto:info@wayc.org.uk)

# Santa Sleigh Presentation Evening

The various presentations took place on Tuesday, 29th January at the Rotary Club of Jubilee meeting held at the CNWCC Pavilion.

As has been reported the total amount of this collection was £10,638.92 which was a record amount from the seven collections made to date. Considering the general economic situation this was a surprising result.

Past President Warren Offer announced that the renovation of the sleigh and its signage amounting to £2,000 had all been covered by sponsors:

These were: Harris Signs  
Nyanza Auto Parts  
Warnead Electrical

Additional generous help was given by Sainsbury's to cover the cost of diesel fuel.

Finally the continued generosity of Listers Toyota was applauded by the assembled audience.

The principal recipients gave short PowerPoint presentations and were representing the Myton Hospices (Claire McDowell) and the Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance Service (Sarah Wakeman).

Each received a cheque valued at £3,485. The six participating Rotary Clubs and Rotaract Club were each given cheques value at £525 to be used at their discretion.

Past President Warren pointed out that the updated sleigh now carried the name of Brian Russell, who was one of the prime instigators of the sleigh campaign and until his untimely departure had given much time and effort into each annual campaign.



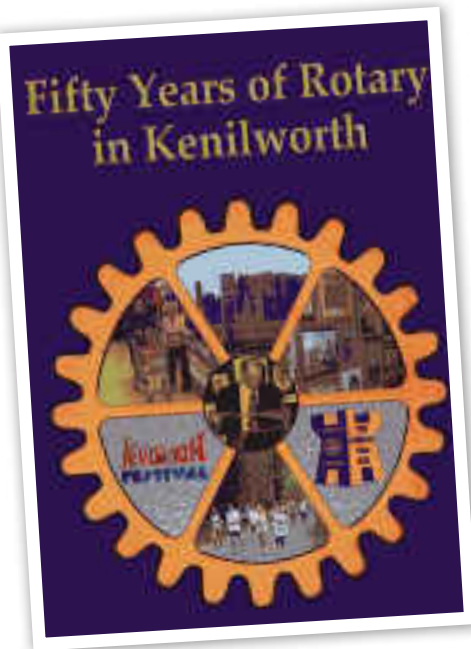
## Rotary Club Collection Arena Park, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2013



Following the success of the Santa Sleigh collections we were really pushing the boat out too far to raise a team of 16 to stand patiently at the Arena Shopping Park at Rowley's Green. Our club needs for charitable funds was a significant reason for us to commit to this event. The final result of £645.96 was a surprise to everyone and clearly proof that the general public approve of the Rotary image and rarely question our objectives. The Arena Park is supported by a

multi-cultural customer base and it is pleasing to report that donations received came from the entire cross section of the North Coventry community. Statistically our donation rate was £1.19 per minute for the eight hours we were collecting. Well over 3,000 coins were received.

The funds will be distributed to the committees. The Community Service Committee has promised a donation, to be agreed, to Zoé's Place, the hospice for young children.



# 50 Years of Rotary in Kenilworth

Graham Tall, the brother of David mentioned above.

Somewhat defenceless and encircled by the members of our first daughter club I suggested that our esteemed President Jeff Rowe had not been invited and no other person had such knowledge. In wider discussion it seemed that the Kenilworth club may not have issued a specific invitation. The criticism began to mellow although David admitted to me that by nature he was rather abrupt and perhaps I assumed this to be a form of apology. Since this time I have attended twice more and I can report if there was a one man rift this has now healed in the form of a gift for our President. He has received a hardback publication of the "Fifty Years of Rotary in Kenilworth" written by none other than brothers David and Graham Tall each of whom have signed the copy.

Commenting on the history as written, the foundation it records

that the prime movers from our club were Rotarians Ray Dolphin and Bill Lawrence. Seemingly Ray's brother Gil was a founder member and gave twenty years' service to Kenilworth.

What is striking throughout the club's history has been its ability to organise fruitful charity events. This has been topped by the Two Castles Run which today attracts around 3,000 entries providing well over £25,000 income to the club plus donations by individual runners to their own selected charity.

Perhaps it was a matter of timing but the published history does not recount the date or time or venue of the anniversary celebration or any details thereof!

The process of healing goes on in that Past President Peter Roberts as the District 1060 Chairman of the Foundation Committee has proved to be helpful to our club in the travails of our issues with the District Simplified Grants. Indeed a friend in court!

In the last two years I have visited the Rotary Club of Kenilworth four times. On the first occasion in all innocence I sat opposite Past President David Tall, Professor Emeritus from the University of Warwick. Not realising his standing in the club at that time (he had 34 years of service to the club) he proceeded to chastise me as a member of the Rotary Club of Coventry for not having sent a club representative to the Golden Anniversary celebration of the Kenilworth Club which took place during the Presidency of



## Cake Sales

By way of keeping everyone informed we have applied to Barclays for permission to hold a cake sale. We are on a waiting list!! Should we be fortunate we may receive the OK by September. If not a cake then a dress down day which is equally fruitful in money terms. The beneficiary for this event will be the Coventry Schools Boot Fund. Last year they gave away vouchers for new shoes for needy children to the value of £18,000 whereas fund raising brought in only £12,000. This shortfall needs serious attention. The Breakfast Club has donated £2,500 recently.

*While on the subject of cakes you may wish to know that the National Trust keep a record, or more like a league table, of which cakes they sell:*

- No 1 is the Victoria Sandwich @ 171,000 slices per year
- No 2 is Chocolate Sponge @ 108,000 slices
- No 3 is Coffee and Walnut Cake @ 102,000 slices
- No 4 is Carrot Cake @ 96,000 slices
- No 5 is Lemon Drizzle @ 52,000 slices

In our terms these five cakes would have produced over £1 million pounds with matched money from Barclays. Consider what they made for the National Trust!



## GERALD OSBORNE 1929 – 2013

The passing of Gerald who had given 49 years of service to this club and had indeed followed in his father's footsteps, who himself had served the club for 40 years, is a significant loss to Rotary in general and our club in particular.

Through the years Gerald had held many positions of service not the least in 1980/87 when he was President and the club celebrated its Diamond Jubilee anniversary. Both he and his wife Paddy were the hosts for this event held at The Guild Hall of St Mary.

Gerald was well known as the club historian and addressed potted history facts and figures to club members at our luncheon meetings from time to time.

Many Rotarians, both past and present, will recall his love of sailing. He could list competing in the Fastnet yacht races as a serious event in his experience which was developed during his National Service days in the Army.

For many years he and Paddy had a seaside home in Devon which they frequently visited so that Gerald could take to the water with his own boat. His valuable services as a yachtsman to various

Rotary events proved to be an able seaman to assist Harold Smart who organised the charter arrangements. This input proved to be challenging and not without incidents across the English Channel.

Always involved with club programme of events, such as bucket collections, Donkey Derby and social occasions, Gerald was a willing pair of hands.

Gerald and Paddy were significant supporters of the Priory Theatre such that, following the reconstruction of the building after destruction by fire, Gerald became the President of the Theatre. His skills as a quantity surveyor were brought to bear and he personally supervised the reconstruction. For many years he had organised joint support of a number of charity plays with our daughter club Kenilworth. This harmony should continue in his memory.

Gerald expressed his love of music to us all by setting up a keyboard to give us the opening bars of the Rotary grace so this could be sung in key (much to Gerald's torment this was not always so) before all meetings.

## From International Committee – 20th February 2013

PP Gerald joined the club in 1964/65 and held the office of President in 1980/81. He was an active member of the International Service Committee for many of those post Presidential years. Gerald was always energetic and most supportive of the efforts made to foster friendships and develop links with international partners. He was particularly active in arranging regular theatre visits to the Priory Theatre, Kenilworth, of which he was President in recent years. He greatly encouraged others of this committee in the various funding programmes and, as far as time permitted, assisted in collections, carol singing, stewarding at various events, including the cheese and wine evenings and occasional lunch events. Paddy also played her supporting role on many of those occasions.

We pay tribute to Gerald for all his service to this International Committee, the Club and Rotary International. He rightly received recognition for his Service Above Self with the award of a Paul Harris Fellow in 1999.

For many, Gerald will be remembered and respected for his diligence in collating and writing the history of the Club from its formation, and for his speaking on some of the events and characters over those years. As a Committee I am sure we wish to honour and pay tribute to his life in Rotary, with a sense of gratitude and with sadness at his passing, on the seventh day of February in the year 2013.

### Tribute from PP Bob Osborn

Gerald was a gentleman. He was a good friend to so many of us.

I called him Peter Pan or my dad to people he introduced me to. He always took it in good heart. I expected him to live for a very long time. He achieved so much in his lifetime. It was a great honour to know him.



# Cheque this out!!

An important milestone has been achieved in reaching out to very vulnerable and at risk children, living in poverty. This Club, through the International Service Committee, identified a real need for help in supporting the International Children's Trust and its work in the Tamil Nadu region of India. This work is made possible by a long standing Partnership with the Rotary Club of Madras Boys Town Society and their project with children in Gummidipoondi, helping children out of poverty, supporting them through education and vocational training in a safe and secure environment. Similarly a programme is running with The Inner Wheel of Madras in respect of the Barbara Kelly Girls Homes in Selaiyur. Both of these projects

are a vital life line for children who might otherwise be street working children, vulnerable to criminality, subject to trafficking and sexual abuse which is part of life in the slums.

The State Bank of India hosted a Charity Dinner in support of the International Children's Trust, in Royal Leamington Spa, attended by the President of the SBI (UK), Mr Mrutyunjay Mahapatra and his wife Urmila on Thursday 28 February at which Past Presidents Bob Hall, Amrik Bhabra and Chairman of the International Service Committee, Rtn Ken Holmes, presented a cheque for £2,300 to Alison Sanderson, Executive Officer for The International Children's Trust, to be shared between the Boys and Girls.

Alison in acknowledging this gift said "I am delighted to pay tribute to and thank the Rotary Club of Coventry for this magnificent gift. It will make a great deal of difference to so many children, helping them out of poverty and giving them hope for the future."

Ken also comments on keeping in touch with Rtn Chandrakumar of the Rotary Club of Madras and knows the value this contribution will make. In the photograph, PPs Bob Hall, Amrik Bhabra and Rotarian Ken are handing over the cheque to Alison Sanderson at the Dinner held at The Real Tennis Club, Royal Leamington Spa.

Further fundraising continues to the end of the current Rotary Year. Ken comments on the terrific effort this has been on behalf of the Club and Committee.

# 150 Years of the London Underground

***As a purely feature piece in this newsletter your editor thought that the 150 years anniversary of the London Underground system deserved recognition even here in Coventry.***

Charles Pearson, a solicitor, was the first to promote the idea of a semi-underground railway out of sheer frustration of the tiring experience of negotiating the grid locked streets of London. Such was the character of this man born in the City of London in 1793 he became for a time Member of Parliament for the Borough of Lambeth and adopted a personal role as a reforming campaigner. He proposed the abolition of capital punishment, penal reform, corruption in the selection of jurors and was for universal suffrage.

The first proposals surrounded a railway station in the heart of the city accessed by a tunnel were rejected. He then proposed that the Metropolitan Railway connect the North London termini (Euston, St Pancras, King's Cross, etc) be connected to the city and central London. He published a pamphlet in 1845 calling for an underground line through the Fleet valley to Farringdon. This proposal and others were rejected. Not to be discouraged he used his influence to raise funds and achieved assent for construction in 1854 and funds were available in 1860 when work on the rail was actually started.

Sadly he did not see the opening of the Metropolitan railway on 10th January 1863. He died on 14th September 1862. The day after the opening some 40,000 members of the public caught one of the 20 trains that ran each hour (not much different to the frequency today). The fare was tendered by a three penny bit. Access to the trains was, of course, by stairs. The early trains were powered by steam so passengers had to endure acrid smoke which to some degree was relieved by white tiled ventilation shafts.

By 1875 ladies only carriages were

installed and quickly withdrawn. Apparently women avoided them preferring the unpredictable thrill of sitting next to a male stranger in the next seat. The Times newspaper warned its male readers not to gaze at women on public transport by saying "Put not an unprotected lass to the blush". However the opposite situation also prevailed for the men who were to be embarrassed by "indecorous starers".

As we now know the tracks grew and grew and more deep tunnels were excavated and the system became electrified. Many stations were constructed and the whole concept became a pattern for other systems in principal cities. The Budapest Metro and the Glasgow Subway came into being in 1896 followed by many others.

In London to facilitate development permission was granted to excavate below public streets and follow the bends in these roads. Such tunnels were formed by excavating deep trenches from the road surfaces and refilling to form a new road surface. Although not initially agreed by the authorities, many deep stations in Central London became air raid shelters in the 1939-1945 war especially when the intensive bombing on the city took place.

Throughout the history of the network of tunnels and stations some 40 stations fell into disuse. Such "ghost" stations became storage centres for top secret archives. Even the War Cabinet rooms of Winston Churchill were established in similar tunnels. At the height of the London Blitz it was said that 177,000 people sheltered in the deepest stations. Eventually official permission was given and stations were equipped with bunk beds and sleeping bags. Refreshments were also provided in the form of tea, pies and buns. Apparently Goodge Street Station on the Northern and Central lines was one of eight underground stations which was a World War II deep level air raid

shelter. From late 1943 until the end of the war this station was the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Forces. In 1944 General Eisenhower, the Supreme Commander of the Allied forces in Europe, broadcast the announcement of the invasion of France. During the invasion preparations Goodge Street Station was used as a signals installation by the US Signal Corps and was one of a number of communication centres around London.

In 1933, after two years of nagging, Henry Beck (a draughtsman aged 29 and working in the signal engineers' office) devised a graphic simplification of the Underground map. His idea was accepted for which he was awarded 10 shillings and sixpence (half a guinea!). As we all know this map with later modifications prevails to this day.

Today as we travel into London and use the Underground Network we should reflect on its history and continuing development. My personal experience of life in the tunnels came in October 1952. As a young 18 year old National serviceman I was on the second leg of a long journey having travelled from Aldershot to London en route to Liverpool by rail. With my colleagues we arrived above ground at Goodge Street tube station. We descended to a great depth into the bowels of the earth and found ourselves in a subterranean transit station for military men awaiting orders to move on to the next stage of a journey. I found accommodation and catering facilities for around 1,000 men. This prospect had to be suffered for two days when we emerged at ground level again into Army transport which took us to Euston station to travel to Liverpool Docks for embarkation on TS Empire Halladale to enjoy my first cruise to the Far East concluding in Japan. Following the War part of the complex was used as a hostel for workers involved in the reconstruction of war damaged London.

# End Polio Now!

Some members of this club may well have missed the annual Richard Dimbleby Lecture transmitted on BBC1 on Tuesday, 29th January. This was given by Bill Gates of Microsoft fame and now an active benefactor of the Polio Eradication Campaign through the "Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation". His talk was entitled "The Impatient Optimist". The Foundation has been in existence for 20 years and over that time has given \$36 billion to a variety of causes which has included large amounts to the Polio campaign.

He applauded the work of Rotary International both through its own fundraising and the volunteer services from many countries who have given their time to the vaccination programme. He pointed out that the vaccine was actually discovered in 1952 although it

was not licensed until 1962. From over 350,000 cases world wide in 1988 the eradication programme has progressed to have eliminated the disease except only three countries, ie Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria, where outbreaks due to migrating populations have proved difficult in holding vaccination clinics to embrace all children.

Bill Gates' interest came into being 14 years ago and he has a good understanding of the issues having been involved with Melinda in clinics in India in particular. His top goal is the elimination of polio by mass vaccination and matches the success of the eradication of smallpox.

The combined efforts of the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, Rotary and other agencies over some 25 years will

surely result in success. At this stage the Foundation will turn its attention to other endemic diseases such as malaria.

Rotary has on a number of occasions set target dates and has been thwarted. Currently the next date is 2014. There is to be continued fund raising by Rotary which will continue to be matched by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Any members wishing to read the full transcript of Bill Gates' address should contact the Editor.

25 years ago Rotary identified the problem of polio in children and the progress world wide has achieved 99 per cent complete eradication. Only 213 cases were reported in 2012 so we are nearly there. Much effort and money is required before we can say the world is free from this highly infectious disease.





# The Stranger

A few years after I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around from then on. As I grew up, I never questioned his place in my family. In my young mind, he had a special niche. My parents were complementary instructors: Mum taught me good from evil, and Dad taught me to obey. But the stranger... he was our storyteller. He would keep us spellbound for hours on end with adventures, mysteries and comedies.

If I wanted to know anything about politics, history or science, he always knew the answers about the past, understood the present and even seemed able to predict the future! He took my family to the first major league football game. He made me laugh, and he made me cry. The stranger never stopped talking, but Dad didn't seem to mind.

Sometimes, Mom would get up quietly while the rest of us were shushing each other to listen to what he had to say, and she would go to the kitchen for peace and quiet. (I wonder now if she ever prayed for the stranger to leave.)

Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions, but the stranger never felt obligated to honour them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our home - not from us, our friends or any visitors. Our long time visitor, however, got away with four-letter words that burned my ears and made my dad squirm and my mother blush.

My Dad didn't permit the liberal use of alcohol but the stranger encouraged us to try it on a regular basis. He made cigarettes look cool, cigars manly, and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (much too freely!) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing. I now know that my early concepts about relationships were influenced strongly by the stranger. Time after time, he opposed the values of my parents, yet he was seldom rebuked ... And NEVER asked to leave.

More than fifty years have passed since the stranger moved in with our family: he has blended right in and is not nearly as fascinating as he was at first. Still, if you could walk into my parents' den today, you would still find him sitting over in his corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

## **His name?....**

***We just call him 'TV.***

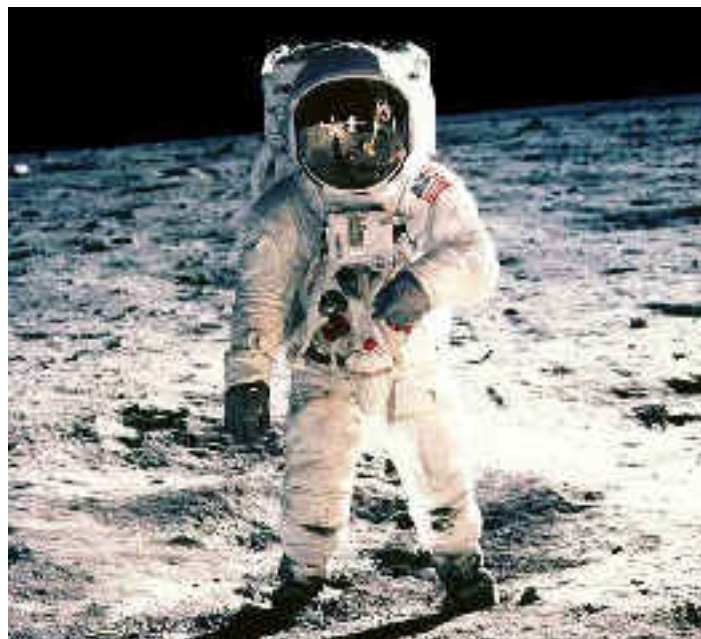
***He has a wife now....we call her 'Computer'***

***Their first child is "Cell Phone."***

***Second child "I Pod." And MOST RECENTLY BORN WAS a Grandchild: "IPAD."***

***OH MY----HOW TRUE THIS IS!!!***

The scary part is how fertile they are and the gestation periods for the next intrusions are getting shorter and shorter!



## The Moon and Sex

On July 20, 1969, as Commander of the Apollo 11 Lunar Module, Neil Armstrong was the first person to set foot on the Moon.

His first words after stepping on the Moon, "That's one small step for Man, one giant leap for mankind," were televised to Earth and heard by millions.\*

But just before he re-entered the Lander, he made the enigmatic remark "Good luck, Mr. Gorsky."

Many people at NASA thought it was a casual remark concerning some rival Soviet cosmonaut. However, upon checking, there was no Gorsky in either the Russian or American space programs

Over the years, many people questioned Armstrong as to what the - 'Good luck, Mr Gorsky' statement meant, but Armstrong always just smiled. On July 5, 1995, in Tampa Bay, Florida, while answering questions following a speech, a reporter brought up the 26-year-old question about Mr Gorsky to Armstrong.

This time he finally responded because Mr. Gorsky had died, so Neil Armstrong felt he could now answer the question.

Here is the answer to "Who was Mr Gorsky?": In 1938, when he was a kid in a small mid-western town, he was playing baseball with a friend in the backyard. His friend hit the ball, which landed in his neighbour's yard by their bedroom window

His neighbours were Mr and Mrs Gorsky. As he leaned down to pick up the ball, young Armstrong heard Mrs Gorsky shouting at Mr Gorsky, "Sex! you want sex?! You'll get sex when the kid next door walks on the moon!" It broke the place up. Neil Armstrong's family confirmed this is a true story.

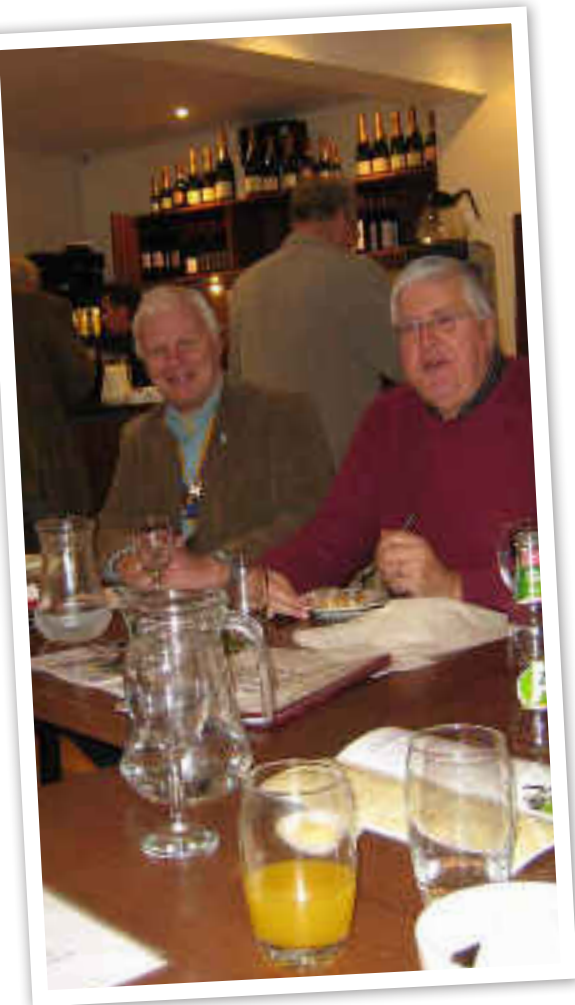
# Lancashire Day "Celebration" 2012

Margaret, being a Lancastrian by birth and myself being a paid up member of the Friends of Real Lancashire, discovered that the Rotary Club of Crosby was to celebrate this day at their meeting on Thursday 29th November. Actually this was two days late!

We duly turned up at an Italian restaurant at 6.30pm looking forward to true hotpot with pickled red cabbage and perhaps some black pudding to be prepared as a starter. Remember "Italian" because the style of presentation was far from typical. Better to say the thought was there in the preparation. No cabbage but pickled beetroot instead. This small Rotary Club is now 74 years old and credit is deserved for paying homage to the

Queen with the correct loyal toast to include The Duke of Lancaster. Even that was not in keeping with the normal protocol because the President Alan did not utter the complete toast. The puddings served were rock hard Eccles cakes drowned in fresh cream while I had a healthy portion of sticky toffee pudding and caramel sauce. No complaints there!

Crosby is a friendly club. We were entertained by an elderly honorary Rotarian whose name was Peter Gerrard. On a flight to Malta he and his wife were upgraded to 1st class seats and were provided with a limousine to their hotel door. They are not related to Steven Gerrard – they merely feed of his slipstream of fame.



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!**

## Door Duties 2013 - April - July

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
April	1 David Rees	Pru Porretta	Trevor Sharman
	8 Philip Townshend	Ian Talbot	Ray Thompson
	15 Margaret Tse	Bob Townsend	Jon Wilby
	22 Kevin Vaughan	Dhiran Vagdia	Dennis Coombe
	29 Trevor Webb	Terry Bond	Bob Hall
May	6 Amrik Bhabra	Jerry Cooke	Brian Hammond
	13 Senarath Bogahalanda	Martin Cooper	John Hartley
	20 Keith Chapman	David Davis	Roma Hawthorne
	27 Syd Creed	Rod Drew	Geoffrey Jackson
June	3 David Cule	Ken Holmes	Bob Osborn
	10 Nick Howes	Dan Howells	Gerald Osborn
	17 David Joyce	Victor Keene	Pru Porretta
	24 Brian Kelsey	Dam Lal-Sarin	Ian Talbot
July	1 Robert Pargetter	Joe Molloy	Bob Townsend
	8 Mike Pittaway	John O'Driscoll	Dhiran Vagdia
	15 Jeff Rowe	David Rees	Terry Bond
	22 Trevor Sharman	Philip Townshend	Jerry Cooke
	29 Ray Thompson	Margaret Tse	Martin Cooper

# 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.***

***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!!

# WANTED: Club/Members who can step up to the mark

On Sunday 12th May we are asked to join the Coventry Leofric Lions Club in the War Memorial Park and walk for a charity of our choosing. Your entry fee will be £5.00 (grandchildren £2.50). One lap of the park is 1.75 miles. You

can do as many as you feel comfortable with. Wheelchairs permitted with the aid of say two to push in turn.

***If you are interested contact John Hartley who will provide an official entry form.***



# 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

- April 1 **BANK HOLIDAY. NO MEETING**
- 8 Ambassadorial Scholar, Kaoru Uehara
- 13 District 1060 Council Meeting
- 15 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - No Speaker Required**
- 22 Tim Brooke, Putting nurses on motorbikes in Tanzania
- 29 Phillippa Jones, Leukaemia and Lymphoma research in the Midlands
- .....
- May 6 **BANK HOLIDAY**
- 13 Dani Freedland, Bowel Cancer UK
- 20 Proposed visit of DG for CLUB ASSEMBLY. No speaker. Sec to liaise with District Sec asap in new Rotary Year to confirm date. Ashley Elaine York, Corus Entertainment PhD Fellow in Television Studies
- 24 Foundation Dinner. Cov & North Wks, 7.00 for 7.30. Dress: Lounge suit
- 27 **SPRING BANK HOLIDAY. NO MEETING**
- .....
- June 3 Adam Mottershead. Coventry Society
- 10 Phil Arkel. Coventry Association for the Blind
- 15 Collection – Morrisons, Holyhead Road
- 20 Design & Technology awards evening at Central Hall
- 24 Michael Satchwell. Progressio Programme, Nicaragua.
- 28 Club Hand-over Meeting. Cov & North Wks CC, 19.00hrs for 19.30hrs
- .....
- July 1 **NO MEETING**