



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2016

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Rotarians

Call to Account:- "What's it all about (Alfie)!"

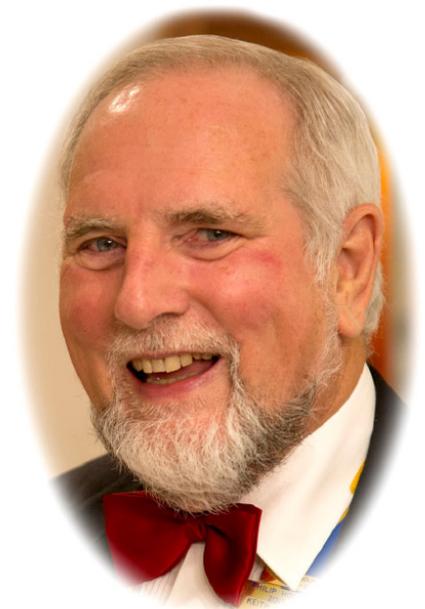
The Club has just had a former Rotarian Sue Tonks from Bolton (along with local dialect) but originally from Bedworth. Sue's talk was vibrant, energetic, engaging, entertaining and passionate. We were reminded of things in common, how the weather is an ice-breaker for us Brits. Many of the attributes above are ones which as Rotarians we aspire to.

Arising from Sue's visit was, for me, a challenge to account for what we do as rotarians. Be surprised and pleasantly proud of our community engagement. Here are just a few of our beneficiaries:-

- Myton Hospice
- Coventry & Warwickshire Air Ambulance
- Kare Adenegan – Para Olympian hopeful
- National Disabled Sports at the Xcel Centre
- Rotary Youth Speaks

- Rotary Young Debaters Competition for Coventry Primary Schools
- Coventry Peace House Night Shelter
- Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal
- International Children's Trust – working with vulnerable and at risk children, Burkina Faso
- Rotary Technology & Innovation Awards
- Coventry & Warwickshire YMCA – Young People's Programmes
- 34th Year of Disabled Outward Bound's Challenge
- Gurkha's Welfare Trust
- Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Chennai Floor Relief with help from Shuthri Charity, India
- Grants for volunteers serving overseas
- Emergency Relief Aid for Vanuatu, Indonesia
- Zoe's Place
- South Sudan – Footwear for Children through to Coventry Boot Fund

...and the ones I've forgotten



"So that's what you get up to when you're not at lunch". When that is put in black and white it makes you realise the wonderful work undertaken by our Club Members and should inspire us to say to others "Come and join us in this".

We are richly blessed to have recently welcomed into the membership Bill Parkinson, Ros Thomas, Donatus Osuji, may you all be blessed in your valued contribution to our work.

Now we are about to step out in faith and hope in welcoming 'Corporate

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

(CONTINUED)

Members' as a new way of promoting Rotary. The organisation/business will become a corporate member with a nomad representative. In their absence they will be able to send a nominee in their stead. Why do this? To enable and engage with a wider group of supporters of Rotary, who might not have time for weekly lunch attendance, but who nevertheless support the aims and ideals of Rotary and wish to identify with the Community Engagement Programme which is the hallmark of our Club.

We have had a Civic Dinner in St Mary's Guildhall where our Guest of Honour was John Germ, President Elect RI, hosted by our own Rotarian Michael Hammon, Lord Mayor of the City of Coventry.

It comes as no surprise to me that the dice rolled in our favour at the 5 Clubs Annual Skittles Challenge and for the first time since 2003 we actually won the "Trophy"! Well done to the team of 2016, keep up the training for next year and not forgetting the Annual Green Bowls Tournament.....might it be our year again?

Finally I return to 'called to account'. I was thrilled and honoured to be granted a 'Coventry Good Citizen Award', the citation of which referenced amongst other things, service to St Andrew's House Care Home, Coventry & Warwickshire YMCA and of course Rotary. The Award included lunch with the Lord Mayor and the presentation in front of the full meeting of the City Council. It is a privilege to receive this honour but how does one line up to being a 'Good Citizen' not just in years past but in the future. A bit like being a 'Good Rotarian'. 'Service before Self' – 'Be a Gift to the World'.

May we all be fulfilled in doing our best and appreciate the value of each of our contributions, that together we will truly make a difference

Every blessing and have a wonderful Easter.

President Ken Holmes GC



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



5 CLUBS SKITTLES

Saturday 20th March 2016

In 22 years of this event I have no recollection of this club having received the Champions' trophy – in fact a ewer of doubtful silver content. So in 2016 we made it!

I believe we have to look at the performance of Past President Phil Hodgson whose personal score must have made a difference not to take any credit away from our team of 23 of mixed genders and who had an even wider age group from "very young" to "very old". A significant member of our team varied her approach to delivering her bowls down the alley and proved that the bouncing bomb technique was a fruitful source of points until the notices displayed such methods were illegal!!

The evening was exceptionally well attended and thanks to Coventry North for all the arrangements, ie fish & chips, raffle tickets and prizes, gold Belgium chocolate medallions and, of course, the rose presentations for all the ladies.



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John Hartley, Editor



John & Judy Germ & Peter Offer

CIVIC DINNER

Wednesday 17th February 2016

This event hosted by our own Rotarian The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Coventry Councillor Michael Hammon and the Lady Mayoress Mary Maginniss was to welcome to the city Rotarian John Germ of Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA who is President-elect of Rotary International.

The event was organised by the Rotary Club of Coventry Jubilee and great credit is to be afforded to them. The catering staff produced and served an excellent menu to our tables which were well provisioned with bottles of red and white wine.

In the interval the tables were navigated by both Peter Davey, President of Rotary International in GB & I and John Germ the RI President-elect whose paths crossed many times to the degree one often was confused as to whose hand were you shaking – was it Peter or John or the other way round!

Our Lord Mayor expressed words of welcome to John and his wife Judy drawing attention to the 14th century Guildhall and its famous bespoke tapestry.

We settled down to listen to a well crafted speech by John Germ. He reminded us that in his year of presidency it was likely that we would learn of the eradication of polio which would be a major achievement. The 100 year anniversary of the birth of the Rotary Foundation would also be celebrated. This charity had done so much for projects all over the world dealing with health, hunger and disaster issues as well as supporting educational programmes. John was very optimistic for the work to be accomplished during his full year.



ROTARY SCHOLARS AND PEACE FELLOWS LINK WEEKEND 2016

At the February assembly of the District 1060 Foundation attention was drawn to the above event. This will take place Friday, 23rd September to Sunday, 25th September and will be held at the RIBI HQ at Alcester and Warwick. Those in attendance may come from various parts of the world and will be in the UK to study during the 2016/2017 Rotary year.

There are more details see <http://rotarylinkgbi.org.uk>. Our District is appealing for help.

Individual Rotarians could host one or two scholars/fellows in our own homes Friday to Sunday and in conjunction with fellow club members undertake the transportation involved. Alternatively, as a club or individually, an invitation could be offered to several

scholars/fellows to have dinner at home or in a restaurant on Friday evening, 23rd September. We are not sure how many scholars/fellows will assemble at their hotel in Warwick but as many as 40/50 have attended such gatherings in the past.

This is a special year – the 70th anniversary of the Rotary scholarships and the Rotary Foundation's centenary. A good reason to give a special welcome to these scholars.

Should you be able to help in any way contact should be made with Paul Beedham via email paul@beedham.me.uk.

As this is an early announcement it is planned to repeat it again in our June issue of this newsletter.



SAFE WATER IN TROUBLED TIMES

WaterAid to which Rotary is a regular contributor is in effect a Severn Trent initiative. They have a vision to bring clean water to the world by 2030. Since 1992 Severn Trent has donated over £19 million to support WaterAid. This is, it is claimed, brought clean water to nearly 1.3 million people. Currently WaterAid is working to solve a water problem that affects 130,000,000 people in Ethiopia. Some 900 children die every day in this country that does not have access to clean water. This project is to be applauded because ongoing

contributions to the overall cost are derived not only from Rotary but the general public.

To bring this life changing project into being WaterAid is appealing to the public by asking for donations varying from £2 up to £10 per month by direct debit.

In this country we are blessed to have access to safe water and sanitation every day. This is a luxury that these poor communities around the world do not have.



2015-16 MEMBERSHIP BOOK

Will members please note the amended email address for our President:-

kenneth_holmes@tiscali.co.uk



SANTA SLEIGH – CONCLUSION

Thursday 4 February brought a gathering of 80 (or more) supporters, organisers and recipient charities to the Cricket Club to listen to the concluding report of the collections made over 25 areas of this city.

In the 10 years covering this event the Santa Tracker reported in the first week of the 2015 collections that we had passed £100,000 of funds raised since the beginning. Certainly at 25 areas covered since December 1st we are now stretched to our limit. Amazingly the Facebook followers now number 9,000!!

The principal organiser, Warren Offer of the Rotary Club of Coventry Jubilee, was at pains to publicly thank so many people who had worked to make the project a success. Particular thanks were made to Nyanza who provided a new stereo, Monarch Pharmacies who covered the cost of a new trailer and Harris Signs for the display work on the sleigh. Much appreciation was recorded in favour of Listers Toyota who provided the appropriately decorated 4 x 4 to pull the sleigh. Publicity for the whole period was credited to BBC CWR, Coventry Evening Telegraph and one exposure on the ITV news website.

The collections involved the counting and banking of 94,500 coins including one half sovereign. Thanks were recorded to PP Ian Smedley of Coventry Jubilee.

In presenting a cheque for £7,500 to Myton Hospice we learned that annual costs are now £8 million and that during these past four years Rotary has given almost £23,000 to their cause.

A similar cheque for £7,500 was presented to the Air Ambulance Service who told us that 3,000 missions were made in 2015 covered by £3.4 million costs for the daytime service. A projected night time service by ambulance car is planned and will be launched very soon.

Each of the five other charities received cheques from the five Coventry Rotary Clubs in the sum of £284 each. The Jubilee Rotary Club retained £1,800 and the other four clubs each received £1,420. The grand total after expenses was £22,506.56 – an improvement on 2014 collections..

John Hartley

ROTARY YOUTH SPEAKS 2016 COVENTRY AREA INTERMEDIATE FINALS



President Kennedy Red Team



*Heart of England School -
Grace Morris (in the centre) was voted
Best Speaker*

On the 29 January this club, with the help of Jubilee, Inner Wheel and Methodist Central Hall, played host to five Coventry secondary schools embracing 8 teams. We are grateful to Bablake School for allowing us to use their auditorium which again provided an ideal venue.

There were a total of eight subjects presented by the school teams and who impressed the audience by their research and delivery – well done everyone!

The winning team was President Kennedy Red team who discussed “Blockbuster Books”. They will go on to the District area finals on 12 March also at Bablake School.

The runners up were Heart of England School who considered “A case for Women in Sport”.

Hopefully we can encourage more schools to participate in this popular competition.

PRESIDENT KEN HOLMES GC

Deservingly President Ken has been awarded a "Good Citizen" award marking 32 years of service to our community. His work with the YMCA, including projects overseas, was highlighted as was his position of Chair of the Trustees of St Andrew's Residential Care Home in Earlsdon. Also mentioned is his position as Chair of the Building Advisory Board at the University of Coventry which oversees the degree courses associated with the construction industry. He has been heavily involved in the care and restoration of the 1000 year old church of St Mary Magdalene in Wyken. His association with Rotary and his present position as President, together with the many causes we are pursuing, add much to the accolade that he is a true Good Citizen of Coventry.

Our Lord Mayor Councillor and Rotarian Michael Hammon presented a framed illuminated citation as confirmation of the award. Well done Ken!!



INFORMATION FOR NEW ROTARIANS

(and for old ones if they have forgotten)

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

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

ble who completes the payment to the steward of the club.

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

Are you the Speaker's Host?

This latest list is now on the club notice board so please check which date your name appears. If you cannot make the particular day swap with another but please tell the Club Secretary, 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 Steward's Box ready for him and hover near the entrance to introduce yourself as soon as he appears. Whilst talking to him you can find out anecdotes about him which can be useful during your vote of thanks. It is also desirable to introduce him to the President at this time before leading him to the Top Table just before the President rings the bell.

Thank you all for your efforts.

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

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

***2nd Vice President
Robert Vilette
Chief Steward***

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

We're on the web! www.coventryrotary.org

March 28 EASTER MONDAY

April 1 Five Clubs Games Night at Barnacle 7-7.30 pm

April 4 Finance Meeting

April 7 Charity Coffee Morning @ Mrs Kim Rees' home

April 11 Council Meeting

April 18 AGM

May 2 BANK HOLIDAY

May 14 Club Visioning Presentation

May 30 BANK HOLIDAY

June 29 District Handover at Nailcote Hall

July 11 Handover Meeting

July 12 Arrival of RYLA Student Tatiana Ermachenko from Volgograd

July 25 RYLA Student Tatiana Ermachenko speaks to the Club

July 28 Departure of RYLA Student

Aug 29 BANK HOLIDAY

Sept 23/25 Rotary Scholars/Peace Fellows Link Weekend

Nov 4-6 District Conference – Carden Park Hotel, Cheshire

Nov 12-13 Disabled Sports

Nov 28 SGM

Dec 19 Christmas Lunch