



# Rotary Review

Rotary



District 1220

Rotary in the East Midlands & South Yorkshire  
DECEMBER 2015



**District Governor  
Roger Summers  
gets some help  
with the Poppy  
Appeal. Full story  
on page 5 ...**





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A service provided by District 1220 for Rotary Clubs and individual members.

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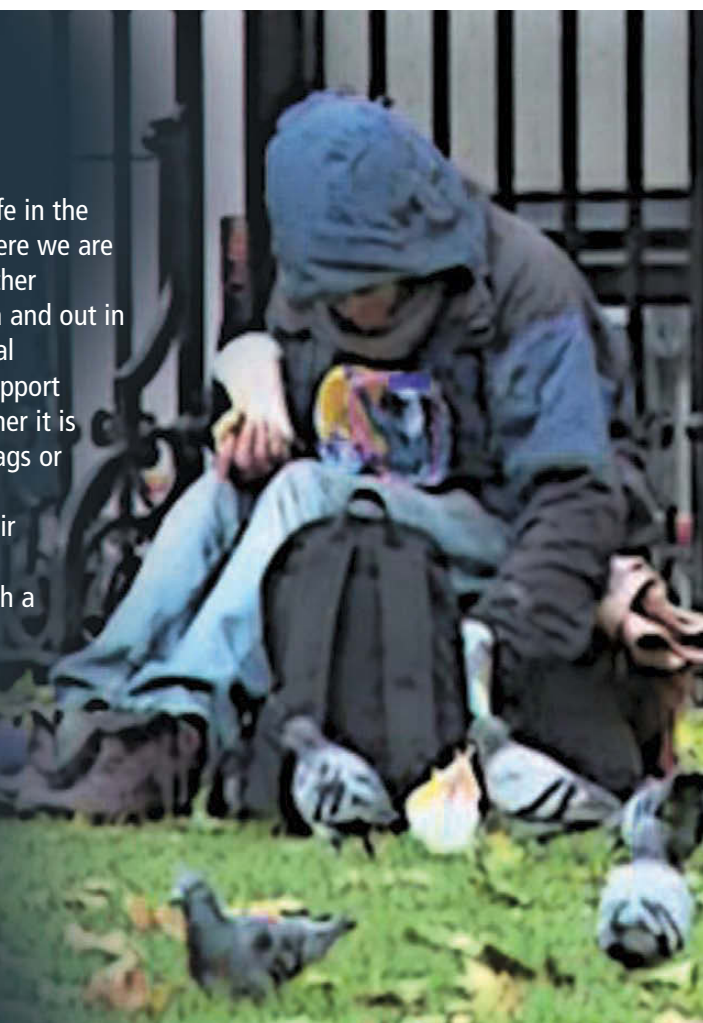
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## Can you help me?

As most of us are looking forward to the festive season, safe in the knowledge of where our next meal is coming from and where we are going to sleep at night, please remember those who are either sleeping rough or who are bedding down on a friend's sofa and out in the cold and wet during the day. There are a number of local organisations who work tirelessly in a variety of ways to support those in need and they will all appreciate your help - whether it is donations of food, warm clothing and footwear, sleeping bags or even your own time. Many of these groups would welcome volunteers who have a couple of hours to spare to help their clients access the internet to look for work or to apply for benefits; maybe you could help in the kitchen or go out with a 'soup kitchen' or sort donated items.

Why not pop down to your local homeless centre and ask in what ways either you, as an individual, or with your club members, can be of help to those in need in your local community. Please contact Rtn Sandra Morrey, District Community Coordinator, on 0115 9231092 or e-mail her at [sandra@morrey.biz](mailto:sandra@morrey.biz) for a list of contact details or for further information.



# Read all about it - Rotary in Action!



Welcome to this new-look Rotary Review, the magazine that publicizes the many activities of the 61 clubs in District 1220, which now covers an area defined as 'East Midlands & South Yorkshire'. In July 2016, another thirteen clubs from to be disbanded District 1270 will join us and in anticipation of the extra material to be published, we have

increased the number of pages from 16 to 20, with the option to go to 24 if necessary.

Our resident print designer, Jon Toft, has made a really good job of freshening up the appearance of the magazine and I am sure that clubs will want to place copies in their local libraries, doctors' waiting rooms and all the other places where members of the public are tempted to dip into any available reading material. The numbers of copies supplied to clubs are based on the membership numbers listed in APAC, the District database. We have also increased the print run from 2200 to 2500 and this will allow an extra five copies per club for distribution around their patch. Do contact the editor if you wish to receive additional copies for any special events you are holding.

As part of the facelift, we asked potential contributors to send more photographs and shorter accompanying texts in an attempt to make the magazine more 'user friendly'. I hope that now clubs have seen the result, they will be encouraged to send me many more reports - it couldn't be easier, just visit the District website [www.rotary1220.org](http://www.rotary1220.org) for details on what to do.

Remember, this is your opportunity to tell everybody that Rotary is a great organisation to allow men and women the opportunity to meet together in fellowship, to support each other in their lives and, more importantly, to help others in so many different ways. Share your copy of **Rotary Review**, pass it on to a friend or colleague or leave it in some public place for others to see that we do really try to "Be a Gift to the World."

**John Scotney - District Editor**

District 1220: [www.rotary1220.org](http://www.rotary1220.org)

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Next issue of Rotary Review will be distributed at the District Council Meeting in June 2016.

Visit the District Website for guidance on submitting material.

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Editorial







## Rotary Business Partnership Initiative



**The latest Newark Castle BPI Project took place at the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Nature Reserve at Besthorpe, Newark on Thursday the 8th October 2015.**

The task was to fund, supply and install a new vehicle and radar access gate suitable for wheelchair use and some additional fencing. Newark Castle Rotary Club used their business contacts to link with Towergate Insurance the UK's leading independently owned Insurance Intermediary to take on the installation and funding of the new gate way .

Towergate's Sales Director Kenny Robinson and a team of five colleagues worked tirelessly to

remove the existing timber posts and install the new metal radar gate system all within the day giving safe and secure access to wheelchair users to the nature reserve for the first time.

The Towergate team were delighted with the positive outcome and the opportunity to contribute to a local community project. All the team went home tired and weary but with the satisfaction that all their hard work will enable many wheelchair users to access and enjoy this wonderful nature reserve. Towergate hope that they will be able to support other Rotary projects in the future and that this will encourage other companies to take part in similar schemes.

**David Nicholson - Newark Castle**

## Sensory delight provided for Sheffield pupils



**A beautiful garden has been recreated for pupils at a Sheffield school to spend time in and enjoy.**

Volunteers from Abbeydale Rotary Club spent Saturday mornings over a year working on the overgrown area used by Mossbrook Special School pupils and have just handed over the completed sensory garden to the school. Initial work involved clearing and tidying the whole area, before painting and planting of bulbs and plants could take place to create the haven.

The garden design represents the sun with its rays against a blue sky background, explained Phil Haywood, chair of Abbeydale Rotary's environmental committee. Plants introduced to the scheme were chosen for their beauty and strong scents, so included lavender, sage, lemon balm and winter pansies; they were paid for by Innerwheel Club members and paint was provided free of charge by Cromadex AkzoNobel.

Deputy headteacher of Mossbrook Special School Jessica Brooks said: "The garden is a place to explore for pupils, to touch and to smell, and a really lovely sensory experience with pathways wending their way between the plants. She added: "We're grateful to the Rotary club who have been involved with the school for some time and helped us previously to create a sensory room, which is now our next project for renovation."

**Ray Mellor - Abbeydale**

**Rotary Business Partnership Initiative**

**Sensory delight provided for Sheffield pupils**







# Rotary Standing Shoulder to Shoulder with the Royal British Legion



In 2010 there was a crisis in the Nottingham City branch of the Royal British Legion when the elderly Poppy Appeal organiser suffered a stroke. The Lord Mayor had a meeting with Val Leivers, who was District Governor at the time, to ask if local Rotarians would help out. The assistance of clubs in Central and Trent groups was sought and they willingly took part with Val as the co-ordinator resulting in a record amount collected in the centre of Nottingham. Most of the Royal British Legion members are now physically unable to collect so the Rotary District 1220 involvement has continued and increased each year. In 2013 Val was successful in having the RBL Poppy Appeal designated as a recognised Rotary project by RGBI and now she receives calls for help from RBL branches all over the UK when they need our help. Their local Rotary District Community Co-ordinator is given the details and they take over from this point.

Initially we just helped in Nottingham but it became apparent that many clubs in District 1220 had been helping their local RBL branch with the Poppy Appeal for some time, something that we did not know as they quietly went about their task. Our clubs in Derbyshire are also very active with the RBL and DG Roger Summers has co-ordinated help in this area in previous years. The profile of Rotary is greatly increased when the public see us in our tabards helping this excellent cause and a number of new members have been recruited as a result. In the centre of Nottingham the collection was less than £5,000 in 2009 before Rotary became involved and by 2013 this had increased to £38,500. Last year it was in excess of an incredible £100,000 and in the last 4 years over £300,000 has been collected in the centre of Nottingham with our help!

At the time of writing we are in full swing with the 2015 Poppy Appeal and we all know how difficult it is organising our Christmas sleigh rota so just imagine trying to fill 480 slots in a two week period! As well as Rotarians and their families Val recruits help from friends, Inner Wheel, groups from various religions, the Ghurkhas, students and other organisations. This has now become a well oiled machine thanks to the support, dedication and good time keeping by everyone involved. District Governor Roger spent an interesting morning walking around the city centre in Nottingham with the Lord Mayor and another with the Sheriff.

The Royal British Legion nationally recognises and values our help very highly and Val and her team, under the leadership of Rotarian Elaine Hopkins the Nottinghamshire RBL Community Fundraiser, are confident of another good collection this year.

As a result the RBL selected Val and another volunteer from Immingham to spend a morning in Buckingham Palace taking the poppies for the Royal family and household. Unfortunately the Queen was occupied with the State visit of the President of China who was staying in the Palace so they were not able to meet!

We were delighted and surprised to be invited as guests to the Royal Albert Hall Festival of Remembrance on 7 November in the presence of the Queen and this is to recognise the part that Rotarians, not only in District 1220 but across RGBI, are playing and giving tremendous community service.

There are amazing stories related to collectors by members of the public and this is a fine example of Rotarians giving service to the community working shoulder to shoulder with the Royal British Legion.

Terry Leivers - Bulwell & Basford







# Rotary helps local Primary Schools with Dictionaries

Pupils at Horsley Primary School start using their new Dictionaries watched by Rotary President, Eileen Murphy.

**President Eileen Murphy and John Scotney of the Rotary Club of Belper and Duffield spent a couple of weeks in July visiting nine local primary schools to hand over sets of illustrated dictionaries to be used by pupils in years 5 and 6.**

These Dictionaries4Life are specially printed each year for Rotary in the UK to be distributed to primary schools for presentation to those pupils in year 6 who are leaving to go to their next school. When the Club approached the heads of the Belper schools last year about donating the dictionaries, the schools were all in agreement that they preferred to keep the books in school for use by successive classes of pupils. This decision has allowed the club to extend the scheme this year to many more local schools.

Next year will be the tenth year of the national project and over that period Rotarians have donated some 700,000 dictionaries to children at home and abroad.

**John Scotney - Belper and Duffield**



**The Rotary Club of Doncaster St Leger has made the club's annual contribution to the Dictionary4Life project, which helps to promote literacy, by donating copies of the Usborne Illustrated Dictionary to local schools.**

One of the schools visited this year by the club's President, Jack Cusworth, was his old school - Pheasant Bank Academy in Rossington - where he presented dictionaries on Friday, 10th July during their Celebration Assembly. Jack (a retired head teacher) spoke to the children about the project and the value/use of dictionaries.

By using dictionaries efficiently children explore spellings, meanings and derivations for example by using alphabetical order, abbreviations and definitions with understanding. One of the most positive aspects of being able to use a dictionary is that it helps to develop autonomy and confidence - one of the core goals of education.

**John Chapman**



As part of the Rotary Literacy Scheme, the Derby South Vocational Committee distributed Usborne Illustrated Dictionaries to Primary School pupils leaving for Secondary Education. The picture shows three pupils from St Peter's C.E (VA) School, Littleover.

**Don Cliffe - Derby South**





# Polio - Crocus

## Crocus Planting at Kirkby Schools!

Ashfield District Council and Kirkby Rotary Club have been working together to highlight Rotary international's 'Eradicate Polio' campaign.



To raise awareness of the continuing fight against the disease that still affects parts of the developing world, purple crocus bulbs have been planted by pupils at

Kirkby's Morven Park School. The planting took place on October 22nd to coincide with the international Eradicate Polio Day from funding provided by the Council. The ADC Corporate Communications Manager issued a news release and photograph to local media.

Rotarian Paul Riley, President of Kirkby-in-Ashfield Rotary Club, said: "Rotary has been involved in the eradication of polio for around thirty years and the end is now in sight. We are delighted that Ashfield District Council has supported us by supplying the bulbs for the children of Morven Park School to plant today."

At the same time, the Council themselves planted several thousand of the purple crocus bulbs in Morven Park next to the school. In November more were being planted by pupils at Kingsway and Orchard Primary Schools in Kirkby, and the Rotary Club were raising funds by selling crocus badges and bags of bulbs.

Ron Walker - Kirkby-in-Ashfield

## Long Eaton Interactors fundraising will benefit almost 3,000 children!



Interactors from The Rotary Club of Long Eaton had a visit from the Rotary Polio Eradication Representative Albert Ripamonti at the Long Eaton

School last week. The Interactors had been fundraising in a bid to help with the Eradicate Polio project, by selling crocus bulbs and a sponsored swim. They raised £835.31p and this money will be

increased threefold in value by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Initiative, this will enable almost 3,000 children to receive the polio vaccine and benefit from this fundraising.

Interact President Katie Breakwell handed over the cheque to RTN Albert Ripamonti who said although recent conflicts have made the task of ridding the world of Polio so much harder with the spread of the disease. There have been no new cases of polio in Africa since last year. He also said he was very impressed with the fundraising the students had undertaken and that by working together we would make a difference and help with the eradication of polio.

Barbara James - Long Eaton

## End Polio - Schools help Rotary Club to fight Polio



The Doncaster St Leger Club has focused for the last few years on the 'Purple Pinkie Power' project - planting thousands of purple crocuses inspired by the dab

of colour on a child's finger indicating that the child has been inoculated against the deadly virus.

This year the four participating schools were Hexthorpe Primary, Pheasant Bank Primary Academy, Town Field Primary and Heatherwood Special School. Staff and school governors participated in the planting days and in addition the Friends of Sandall Park committed to planting crocuses in the park; the crocuses were planted adjacent to new fencing co-funded with the club, sponsored by a District Grant and bearing the Rotary logo.

The schools were shown a PowerPoint presentation on Polio and supplied with posters, brochures, support notes, collecting cans, purple stamp pads - and crocuses. Each school ran an 'End Polio' 'name the End Polio bear' competition. Crocuses were planted in open spaces, raised beds and in pots for class rooms and for sale. One school created a new raised bed for the purpose, another packed crocuses into specially made purple boxes to sell and a third created special posters. A local garden supplier donated compost and a supermarket is to give us space for an End Polio collection.

John Chapman - Doncaster St Leger



Polio - Crocus







### Real conversations between the Conference Registration Officer, Terry Leivers and Rotarians registering for Conference.

(Names and clubs omitted to spare their blushes.)

**"I forgot to register my husband as a guest, what can I do?"** Reply "Leave him at home." "But I have a double hotel room booked" Tongue in cheek reply "Well you could have a great weekend."

**"You are showing me as staying in my motor home in the brochure but I am in xxx hotel!"** "Your application was ticked as private /caravan sir." "But I changed my mind and moved to a small B & B and later a room became vacant at the xxx hotel so I stayed there instead" "I am sorry about this sir, we have many powers on the Conference Committee but as yet we are not psychic!"

**"Why have you rung me with details of the Ten Pin Bowling competition, I have never played in my life!"** "I have checked your registration form and there is payment for you and your wife to play." A long silence followed!

**An irate complainant** - "Why have you spelled my first name with a y instead of an i on my badge? It's not good enough." (After doing over 600 of them, often in the early hours of the morning are we not allowed to make an error?)

**Surprise booking** - "Hello (Rotarian) XXX, what are you doing here in Southport?" "We have come for the Conference and want to book in to the Delegates Lunch today please" "But you are not registered for conference at all." "Oh, do we have to register?"

# The District Conference

## Thoughts of the Conference Director

When I was approached in September 2013 by our present District Governor and asked if I would accept the role of his Conference Director, I thought long and hard before accepting the job (big mistake!!). The remainder of the organising team was agreed and there followed an initial meeting of the full team a couple of weeks later to think about the theme of the conference, the venue, speakers and last but by no means least, setting a budget.

Llandudno was initially the venue for this year's conference, but after a lot of negotiating and soul searching we recommended to District Council that the conference be held in Southport.

With 650 delegates registered for the conference our numbers were substantially lower than in previous years (causing us some financial issues) but still representing one of the best attended District Conferences in RIBI. At the conclusion of the conference, the RI President's representative, Barry Matheson, was extremely complimentary about every aspect of it, taking back to RI some very positive messages.

The speakers represented various aspects of life, from Rotary supported charities, through Karma Nirvana about which Jasvinder Sanghera spoke so eloquently, and of course not forgetting Rosie Swale-Pope and her "little walk around the world." Other speakers with topics relevant to Rotary all spoke with sincerity and passion. The two breakout groups went down very well, with an exceptionally large attendance at the Media Session. The entertainment, from Rtn Paul Hopkins and his Wilburys Tribute Band, through Maxine Molin-Rose on her harp to That'll be the Day all provided excellent value for money.



PDG Dave Ashley

## Comments from the Rotary Club of Abbeydale

"From the moment we arrived to register, we were made most welcome. Everyone was most friendly and we did not feel like newcomers.

We enjoyed the various Speakers and the mix of topics covered, especially the most informative session on dealing with the media, held on the Saturday afternoon. As for the entertainment each evening we were indeed most impressed.

Having attended conferences in other Districts, the 1220 Conference at Southport comes out top. Roll on Scarborough!"

Alex Ritchie - Abbeydale

## Ten pin bowling at Southport Conference

A Ten Pin Bowling Competition held at Laser Bowl was a new venture for the 2015 Conference. Twenty seven delegates registered for the competition, held on the Friday afternoon of Conference. Although there were varied levels of skill, everyone enjoyed an afternoon of fun and laughter. There were some spot prizes given during the afternoon with the main prizes presented at Conference.

Although the potential take-up for this activity was unknown when it was offered as a Conference activity, it turned out to be a real success so I hope it will continue in future years.



Gordon McGlone





# Music in the Gardens

How fortunate we are in Sheffield to have the wonderful Botanical Gardens situated so near to the city centre - an oasis of tranquillity in a modern vibrant city. Designed and built for the Sheffield Botanical and Horticultural Society in 1836 by the famous Scottish horticulturalist, Robert Marnock, its ownership was taken over by the Sheffield Town Trust at the end of the 19th century, thus giving free entry to everyone.



The Gardens were the subject of a major renovation project in the early years of the current century costing £6.69m., funded in the main by the Heritage Lottery Fund. On completion of the renovation project the Gardens Curator was tasked with bringing added attractions to the Gardens - e.g. open air theatre, art and music.



Thus in 2006 when some Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Sheffield came up with the idea of concerts in the Gardens, the Curator willingly accepted their offer to organise such events. Originally called "Jazz in the Gardens" the first concert held over 2 nights was a great success. It was repeated the following year, and by now the Rotary Club of Sheffield found it had a winner in its hands and in 2008 other Rotary Clubs in the Sheffield area were invited to become involved; the name was changed to "Music in the Gardens"; and it became a 4-day musical extravaganza bringing in well known artistes from different genres of music.

Music in the Gardens certainly adds to the amenities in the Botanical Gardens, but at the same time all the profits made on the event are distributed to charities, most of which have a local connection



2015 was a special year for Music in the Gardens, its 10th Anniversary. The event took place in early July with performances from Paul Carrack, Lindisfarne, The Proclaimers and on the Sunday evening "Last Night in the Gardens" with the Unite the Union Brass Band and the Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, finishing the whole event with a spectacular firework display.



This year around 130 Rotarians were involved in the event one way or another from 13 South Yorkshire/North Derbyshire Clubs and over £50,000 was raised for both local and national charities, with £4,500 being donated to our own Rotary Foundation.

This year's main charities included Edale Mountain Rescue, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Diabetes UK, Sheffield Home-Start Crohn's and Colitis, Stroke Association, Pilgrim Bandits and an environmental charity, Portland Works. Added to this each of the participating Clubs received a donation to their Trust Funds for smaller donations to the charities of their choice.

D.G. Roger attended the Last Night at the Gardens and again at our Presentation Evening and he was so impressed with the whole venture, now probably the largest event run by Rotary in the U.K.

Music in the Gardens has grown in status over 10 years and is now a part of the summer scene in the City. It is a great sight to see people sitting on their seats and rugs eating their picnic, enjoying a glass (or two) of wine whilst listening to music on a nice summer's evening.

Do come and join us next year - 30th June to 3rd July - details to follow.

Alex Ritchie - Abbeydale





# Awards



## Doncaster Book Award

Children's author and comedian, DAVID BADDIEL, launched the twelfth year of the Doncaster Book Award on 1st October 2015, held at the Doncaster Dome. This brilliant event involved 70 local schools and 750 children and was co-funded by the Rotary Club of Doncaster St Leger. The St Leger Rotary Club has enjoyed a very productive working relationship with the Doncaster Book Award (DBA) for some years and this has been particularly successful with the organisation of the local and District (1270) KS2 Story competition. We have worked together on this for 4 years and over the last 3 years Doncaster pupils have won the regional competition each year - a phenomenal achievement given that they were competing against pupils from South Yorkshire, Humberside and Lincolnshire.

The DBA is a volunteer-led, not-for-profit organisation which is committed to improving literacy levels in our town by getting Doncaster children reading for pleasure.

John Chapman - Doncaster St Ledger



## Chesterfield Citizens of the Year 2015

Two local volunteers from Chesterfield have received the ultimate accolade from the Rotary Club of Chesterfield. Mrs Barbara Harrison and Mr David Botham were this year's joint recipients of the club's annual Citizen of the Year Award for their unselfish and unstinting charitable service to the local community.

Past President David Windle, who hosted the award ceremony congratulated them on their sterling efforts in leading a Saturday Singalong for the residents of Harehills Court, Grangewood, every week since the home opened 22 years ago.

Joint President David Dolman presented special certificates to the two Citizens of the Year Award winners at the club meeting on Friday 16 October 2015; also pictured Past President David Windle (right).

Geoff Mitchell - Chesterfield

## Pride of Belper and Duffield Awards

The bravery and perseverance of five pupils from local schools was recognized last month when the members of the Rotary Club of Belper and Duffield were joined by their parents, teachers and guests at a special Presentation Lunch held at Blackbrook House, Belper.



Laurn Jewkes (John Flamsteed), Chris Wilkinson (St Benedict), George Barwick (Ecclesbourne), District Governor Roger Summers, Madeleine Rutherford-Brown (Belper School) and James Walker (Ecclesbourne).

Each pupil was introduced by a teacher who described to the assembled audience how they had coped with some disability, profound deafness, Crohns disease, serious surgery or emotional insecurities and gone on to achieve excellent grades at school or outstanding athletic prowess.

Certificates and trophies were presented by Guest of Honour Simon Elmore who then went on to talk about how his recent kidney transplant had completely changed his life. From a deep and destructive depression, he dedicated his life to achieving sporting success, finally competing in the World Transplant Games in Argentina. He now works with the Voluntary Independent Renal Support Group raising awareness of the importance of organ donation - up to nine people can benefit from the gift from one person.

The main sponsor for the Pride Awards was local business Peveril Homes.

John Scotney - Belper and Duffield



Ken Marshall PHF, organiser of the Sheffield Young Artists Competition

## Sheffield young artists

Back in 2004, the Abbeydale Club realised that if children were good at music or sport there were many opportunities for them to display their talents, but for young artists there was

virtually nothing. It was thus decided to hold an Annual Young Artists' Competition and Exhibition open to all schools within the City of Sheffield and it is now the largest event of its kind in the U.K.

Participation is available to all children in Sheffield with entries submitted through schools and there are 9 categories in the competition relating to age and type of entry. Every child who has entered receives a signed certificate.

The Sheffield Young Artists Competition and Exhibitions are designed to create enjoyment and pride for children and their families, giving young artists self esteem, exposing talent, inspiring young people to make use of their talents and encouraging the development of creativity.

Alex Ritchie - Abbeydale







# District Governor's Message .....

Wow, to quote the old adage "doesn't time fly". It seems only a short time ago that Past District Governor Steve inducted me as your District Governor and at the time of writing I have almost completed all 61 official visits to clubs within the District. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Presidents and members of the clubs visited for their warmth of welcome and hospitality I received during each visit.

As you will be aware 4 additional clubs joined our District at the beginning of this Rotary year: Abbeydale, Buxton, Doncaster St. Leger and Sheffield, all of whom have proved to be a great asset to the District. At the conclusion of this Rotary year District 1270 will sadly be disbanded. In the company of the District Governor Elect and District Secretary I chaired a cluster meeting comprised of the 13 clubs, each of whom had indicated their wish to join District 1220 at the beginning of the next Rotary year. It has been agreed to accept these clubs into our district at the end of this Rotary year, subject to the approval of Rotary International.

My first social engagement as DG was to visit Music in the Gardens in Sheffield Botanical Gardens. This has now become an annual 3 night musical extravaganza, the event organised and facilitated by Abbeydale, Dronfield, Drone Valley, Eckington, Rotherham, Rotherham Sitwell, Sheffield and Wortley. A magnificent total in excess of £50,000 was raised; the way forward I believe is for clubs to work together on occasions such as these.

The place to have been seen in 2015 was at the 44th District Conference at Southport - theme 'Against the Odds'. There was an impressive line-up of internationally renowned speakers which included Chris Hoon, blown up in a supposedly safe area of a mine-field in East Africa and Rosie Swale-Pope who amongst her amazing achievements had completed 27 marathons in 27 days. Jasvinda Sanghera, OBE, a survivor of a forced marriage and honour-based abuse gave a moving and thought provoking presentation. The entertainment programme was second to none, catering for all tastes. For the first time this year in addition to the long established Golf Tournament, a ten-pin bowling competition took place. I sincerely thank Conference Director Dave Ashley and all the members of the Conference Team for making this year's District Conference such a success.

November is the month when the nation pays tribute to the men and women who lost their lives as a result of the conflict of war. Past District Governor Val Leivers and I attended the Royal British Legion Nottinghamshire County 2015 Poppy Launch at Rufford Abbey Country Park. The Poppy Appeal has now been adopted as an official RIBI project thanks to the lead of this District. Last year we filled over 480 2-hour slots in the City of Nottingham and Arnold alone and a great deal of



publicity was generated for Rotary. I was out with Past District Governor Val and the Lord Mayor of Nottingham selling poppies in the City and later with the Sherriff of Nottingham on a similar venture.

Along with my own club, Amber Valley, we attended a unique charity dinner on the eve of Remembrance Sunday in the shadow of that iconic aircraft the Vulcan which is housed in Vulcan Hangar 3 at Robin Hood airport, Doncaster. This occasion was superbly organised by President Graham Higgins and the members of the Rotary Club of Doncaster. The guest speaker was John Hutchinson, ex Concorde pilot and the evening generated a substantial sum of money which will swell the clubs charity coffers.

The time is fast approaching when many clubs are busy preparing for their Christmas festive season; Santa and his sleigh will be observed in numerous locations throughout the District. I wish you every success in your seasonal endeavours. As we journey through this year, let's remind ourselves of this year's Rotary International theme "Be a Gift to the World" and whenever and wherever try to embrace it in our Rotary thoughts, words and deeds.

In conclusion, Pauline and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

Roger Summers

District Governors Message







## Iron Man Conrad completes the 'Tri' for charity

Conrad Mulhearn had an ambition to raise money for charity thwarted last year, when his training was halted by injury. Once over the injury, Conrad was back in training and this year completed the Iron Man UK in Bolton. Conrad was aware of the work Rotary - Amber Valley does in the community, so he decided to give half the cash he raised through sponsorship to Rotary to use to help local children achieve in sport. The other half will go to the national charity for injured members of the armed forces, 'Help for Heroes'.

The Iron Man is a Triathlon event involving a 2.4 mile open water swim, followed by a 112 mile cycle ride, followed by running a full marathon (26.2 miles) - all in the same day! Conrad completed the whole event in 11hr 36min 31sec, which bettered his personal target of 12 hours. This boosted the amount he raised, as several sponsors promised to give extra if he beat his 12 hour target. Conrad's magnificent effort raised an amazing £3,000. Thank you, Conrad!

Andrew Loades - Amber Valley



## Continental Sponsored Cycle Ride

Around 8 hours a day in the saddle during a week to cycle over 1400 kilometres (900 miles) from Denmark to Paris and raise

money for a children's heart hospital was the challenge for 2015 Church Wilne Rotary Club President Tony Beenham. The mixed group consisted of 36 riders, 35 Danish Rotarians and friends plus one British rider, myself!

We set off on Saturday 4th July through Denmark, Germany, Holland Belgium and France to arrive in Paris on 11th July'15. During the week we endured 35°C hot and humid temperatures, torrential rain, Tour de France routes with a hill climb of le Huy in Belgium, beautiful scenery.

We were greeted into the centre of Paris, Place de Concorde, by family, friends and colleagues where we then enjoyed a satisfying BBQ accompanied by Champagne. After an hour of enjoying food, drink and photos, we cycled along the cobbled Champs d'Elysees up to and twice around the Arc d'Triumph, cycling through all red lights and holding up the centre of Paris .....Magnifique!

The overall ride has so far collected £39k towards Bornehjertefonden - Denmark's Children's Heart Hospital, £25k towards International and local community projects plus Tony has raised £1150 towards local Derby charities Treetops Hospice and Erewash CVS.

Tony Beenham - Church Wilne



## Three Peaks Challenge

In 2014, following treatment for cancer and suddenly faced with my own mortality, I felt the need to live my life more fully whilst also making a difference for others. Being totally blind, I was more than thrilled when I was made aware of a fundraising challenge to climb our nations' three highest peaks - Mount Snowden, Scafell Pike & Ben Nevis. This challenge was to raise funds for medical research into Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP), the cause of my blindness.

I found myself on a sunny July day travelling to my first climb. Son Wes had kindly offered to act as my sighted guide for the week to come. Mount Snowden was marred by perpetual rain, but, with the promise of a dry cafeteria at the summit, we marched on. However, the weather was so grim that the cafe had abandoned their post to stay dry and warm at home! Scafell Pike, a relatively easy climb until we encountered tricky river crossings - but worse was to come! Boulder fields were dangerous which, along with loose scree at the summit, proved to be the most difficult and exhausting aspect of the whole week. Some eight hours later we collapsed back at our hotel for a hot bath and a cold beer! Our final climb ..... the mighty Ben Nevis. Up the foothills onto a steep zig zag path, we eventually emerged into a snow plateau! At least we were lucky - the previous week it had been minus 5c but now it was only a sub-tropical zero. Snow angels were compulsory before trudging onwards and upwards to the summit where I am told the views were tremendous! The Three Peaks Challenge ..... done! Together we hoped to raise a total of £3,000 for RP. Through the generosity of family, friends, Rotary Clubs and individual Rotarians I am thrilled to report that by September 2015 we had raised almost £7,000! I was honoured with a Paul Harris Fellowship at our Club Charter and subsequently the District Endeavour Shield for 2015 - all this recognition for simply walking 30 miles and elevating myself 10,000ft!

Andy Adams - Bulwell & Basford







## AMBER VALLEY

In 1740 Elizabeth Turner established a Trust and left 48 acres of land and her cottage in Swanwick, to create a school for 'poor' boys and girls of the locality. As education became provided by local authorities, the Trust carried on, but buildings were deteriorating and the land was becoming overgrown.

Local charity, Valley CIDS, now oversees the farm and is investing heavily to bring it back to life. The decay has successfully been stopped and buildings have been brought back from near dereliction and repaired. The project needed some help and over several days, Rotary volunteers worked to clear away overgrown vegetation and with the help of local expert, Angus Sterland and his tractor, drove in gate posts and fence posts, hung gates and stapled in stock resistant wire fencing to make the pens.

The aim is to make Turner's Farm a centre for aspiration, education and recreation; this will carry on Elizabeth Turner's original vision of giving young people the opportunity to get the best start in life.

Andrew Loades



## BELPER AND DUFFIELD

### Herbert Strutt Smart Riders

Volunteers from the Rotary Club of Belper and Duffield, along with helpers from the schools, have been running Cycling Proficiency Training courses during the summer term at Herbert Strutt Primary School, Belper and William Gilbert CE Endowed Primary School, Duffield.

The Smart Rider Scheme is organised by Derbyshire County Council and involves six sessions of instruction, initially in the school grounds and then on local public highways. After a final assessment, all the pupils taking part, usually from years 5 and 6, are presented with a Certificate from the County and a badge from the Rotary Club.

The photograph shows the pupils and the instructors at Herbert Strutt Primary School after the presentation of their certificates by Rotary Club President Eileen Murphy.

John Scotney



## BOLSOVER

### Rotary Club Support the Freedom Project

As a culmination to a week of activity for the local community, the Freedom Project organised a day of fun for all ages. Last year's President, Geoff Davis, became a super hero in the eyes of the younger element of the crowd by pitching in with free rides on bouncy castles and huge slides. Geoff was instrumental in bringing about greater Rotary involvement in the Freedom Project aimed at alleviating the worst effects of poverty and destitution in the community.

Bolsover Rotary Club were also active in putting on a demonstration of how to make mucky water clean enough for drinking and to prove it works, Dr Tom McConnell drank the filtered water and passed it fit for consumption.

The event was a huge success with more people attending than ever before, and shows Rotary can assist wherever there is a need.

Mick Reed





## CARLTON

### Rotary project prepares Sixth Form students for world of work!

Twelve members of the Rotary Club of Carlton delivered a 'mock interview' project for Sixth Formers at the Carlton le Willows Academy. The students firstly honed their CV and letter writing skills by responding to a specially designed recruitment ad for a fictitious worldwide conglomerate. They were then interviewed by the team of Rotarians, all of whom are highly experienced former businessmen. Performance critiques were provided and personalised assistance given to each applicant. The day culminated with a debriefing and formal presentation, offering the benefit of many years of experience of interviewing for staff.

Mr Rod Bond-Taylor, Head of Carlton le Willows Sixth Form, commented, "The students had initially been incredibly nervous at the prospect of being interviewed by experienced professionals. However, they all said how rewarding and invaluable the day had been. We are so grateful for the hard work put in by Carlton Rotary Club".

Tony Mellor



## CHURCH WILNE

### Church Wilne Rotary Give a Dam!

Rotarian Adrian Perkins has just returned from a week long expedition to help build a Sand Dam in Kenya. He also had the opportunity to visit established dams and see how they have transformed lives for the better; with a regular supply of water the community were able to grow and sell crops and even make bricks. A Sand Dam stores water under the sand which accumulates behind it, protecting it from contamination, evaporation and parasites - cleaner water that lasts longer for up to 1,000 people.

Ray Terry

## CHESTERFIELD

### Junior Schools Verse-Speaking Competition 2015

Thirteen youngsters from seven local primary schools in Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire took part in the annual Junior Verse-Speaking Competition, organised for the 28th year by the Rotary Club of Chesterfield.

There was a very high standard from the competitors making it difficult for the three judges who were, President Kath Bradley and past-president Margaret Mitchell from Chesterfield Inner Wheel, and retired local school teacher Mrs Judy Stone.



Once again there were two categories, for schools with less than 200 pupils, and for bigger schools with more than 200 pupils. An award was given to the runner-up and winner of each category. The overall competition winner was Maria Benney. The event was kindly hosted by Calow CE Primary School on Thursday 22 October 2015 and the main organiser and compere was past-president David Windle. The schools taking part were:- Barrow Hill Primary School, Calow Church of England (V.C.) Primary School, Duckmanton Primary School, Hady Primary School, Hasland Junior School, New Whittington Community Primary School, and Walton Holymoorside Primary School.

Geoff Mitchell





## DRONFIELD

With just 8 days to go before the start of the 2015 Poppy Appeal the Royal British Legion made an urgent request for somebody to run the Appeal in Dronfield. The club agreed they would take on the task as an emergency project. Two Rotarians collected numerous boxes of Poppies and collecting cans along with other Poppy Appeal products from the distribution centre. Three supermarkets in Dronfield allowed us to sell the range of Poppy products. Forty additional locations were identified and supplied with Appeal materials. The town's Army Cadet Force and Air Training Core were enlisted to help with weekend collections at the supermarkets with weekdays covered by Rotarians and community volunteers. A grand total of £11,066 was banked into the Poppy Appeal bank account, which we felt was an excellent result.

Andy Ledbetter



## HEANOR

On an evening in the summer, the members of the Rotary Club of Heanor, accompanied by wives and friends, enjoyed a Social Evening in place of the normal weekly meeting.

After assembling at Cromford, the members were met by members of the Friends of Cromford Canal prior to enjoying a Boat Trip, fortified by refreshments provided by President John Bilzon.

After the Canal Trip, the members re-located to the Hurt Arms, Ambergate to enjoy a meal and an evening of fellowship.

The photograph was taken at Cromford at the start of the evening.

Trevor Hartshorn

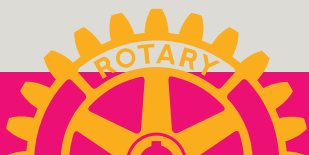
## DONCASTER ST LEGER

### Supporting Kids in Poverty

The Rotary Club of Doncaster St Leger has donated £325 to support mums in a deprived area of Peru. Following their daughter's social work placement at SKIP (Supporting Kids In Poverty) in an area of Peru outside Trujillo, and her subsequent presentation to the club, Rotarians Brian and Lis Rodgers proposed to the club that a donation should be made to the 'Taileres' (tailors). One of the charity's initiatives is to help the mums set up a small business making and selling clothes and jewellery. This helps boost their confidence and self-esteem and supports their parenting skills. The money donated has bought new electric sewing machines - they previously had hand-operated ones - and more materials so that they can grow their business.

Photo shows the very shy but grateful mums and some SKIP volunteers with their purchases.

John Chapman







## WARSOP, SHIREBROOK & DISTRICT Youth Club Project

The Eastwood family have a long standing connection with Warsop, and offered a redundant building and garage to the community to be used to benefit the young people of the Parish. The ownership of the premises was taken over by Warsop Youth Club who soon began to realise what a massive project it would be to convert it to a useable building.

Unfortunately an application for a grant was rejected, and they now have to work within the resources available. However Rotary came to the rescue and agreed to help. It was decided to concentrate on refurbishment to provide a comfortable clubroom area to meet building regulations and enable activities to commence. The larger part will provide a large indoor/outdoor space for youth activities, sports and community events. It is planned to upgrade this when further capital funding is secured. The work required a variation of planning conditions which was finally granted. During this time a tremendous amount of voluntary work has gone into preparing the site. The first phase of the work has now commenced, with fencing outside and a stoned carpark. Currently the building has been rewired, a new heating system & lighting has been installed, a suspended ceiling is in place & additional toilets provided.

The work is ongoing and there is still a long way to go, but from a draughty old industrial workshop, a new centre for youth and community is starting to emerge.

**Glen Foreman - District Vocational Co-ordinator**



## MAPPERLEY & ARNOLD National champion - well done Cameron!

The Rotary club of Mapperley and Arnold hosted a summer meeting at which a promising young athlete came to tell us about his training routines and his desire to become a champion at national level in the sport of Taekwondo. Following the visit of Cameron Booth and his father our club agreed to help sponsor some of his training and travel costs.

We were delighted to learn that shortly after his visit Cameron not only competed at the national event but he was crowned Champion in his class. He now goes on to compete at International level with an event coming up in Latvia.

Well done Cameron and we look forward to seeing his new trophy at some future club meeting.

**Rupert Williams**



## RIPLEY

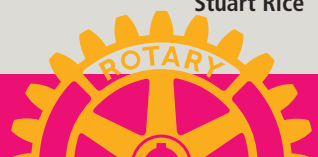
The Rotary Club of Ripley's Annual Bill Barber Concert held at the Palmer-Morewood Alfreton was hailed as a great success with over one hundred and forty guests attending. The concert is so named in memory of Rtn Bill Barber who first suggested the idea.

The concert provides a night out for local people who do not get out as much as they would like. They are picked up from their residence, taken to the concert, entertained by local artists, served refreshments in the interval and taken home afterwards.

Comper for the evening was Rtn Stuart Rice who thanked the artists, the Brian Scott Sound, Dave Grant guitar vocalist, Alice North, saxophonist, the Community Transport Drivers, the Swanwick Scouts, Futures Homescope and the Palmer-Morewood Club for their help in making it a very successful evening with special thanks to the to the Midland Railway Butterley for sponsoring the event. He then introduced President Elaine Richardson who presented gifts to Barbara Rice, Billy Thompson and Cherylyn Upton, thanking them for their help and Rtn Stuart Rice for organising the event.

Pictured with Scouts are left to right Stuart Rice, Brian Rose, Elaine Richardson, Scott Hanbury, Dave Grant.

**Stuart Rice**







## WEST BRIDGFORD

The Rotary Club held a fashion show on Friday 13th November which raised the sum of £800 for the Children's Ward at the QMC. We persuaded some club members, partners and friends to strut their stuff on the catwalk to tempt visitors to buy the clothes at bargain prices. Some went away with great new outfits; others won super raffle prizes, while the rest enjoyed the entertaining show with a glass of wine and a cupcake!

Photo shows Rtn Debbie Chambers modelling one of the outfits.

Sandra Morrey



## WEST ASHFIELD

Ripley Rangers Under 12's would like to thank the Rotary Club of West Ashfield for their kind sponsorship, which allowed the team to invest in a training kit for the players. The Under 12's are looking forward to taking part in the Rotary Club Inter District 5-a-side Football Competition again this year.

Ripley Rangers FC formed 5 years ago with the sole aim to offer a safe, fun, relaxed environment for children to take part in football training and organised matches. In its first year Ripley Rangers FC had 5 teams; now they have 15 teams at various age groups, including a number of girls' teams, an adult ladies team and an academy for the children under 6 years old. Ripley Rangers FC is dedicated to promoting physical activity in young people who can also benefit from learning good life lessons through the promotion of hard work, team spirit and leadership skills.

Michael Longdon



## WOLLATON PARK

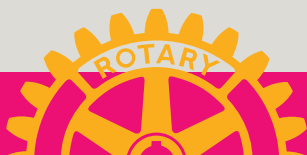
### Robin Hood Marathon and Half Marathon Drinks Station

Once again the Club's Merry Men and Ladies (and one Grandson), 24 in all, were there on Sunday to support the Robin Hood Marathon. This time we all gathered at 0800hrs in the early morning fog to operate the water drinks station at Mile 6, back in our favourite spot in Wollaton Park.

For the first time I can remember the Energy drinks station preceded our own, less than a mile away, so many of the runners declined our tempting offers of free water, buy one get one free, 3 for 2 etc.

The runners appeared to be more stretched out this year and we did not experience the almost overwhelming mass congestion of past years but there were so many of them! They just kept on coming; we thought they would never stop. I shall now concentrate on the (marathon!) task of pursuing the organisers for the contribution to our Charity Funds.

Chris Powell





## Miscellany



### Annual Charity Horse Ride

For the tenth year running The Rotary Club of Church Wilne held its Charity Horse Ride on Sunday 13th September with sunny weather throughout. The course consisted of bridleway, tracks, road and farmland not normally available to the public through beautiful countryside and was approximately 10 miles long. Jumps were also available on the farmland.

The 249 happy riders were supported by over 71 Rotary club members, family & friends who ensured every rider enjoyed this special day safely. At the finish, riders received rosettes and a glass of wine or soft drink. Hot food and soft drinks were also available from 9.00 am onwards.

Many positive and favourable comments have been received from the riders which can be seen on the Club's Facebook site. The main sponsor this year was Manor Pharmacy along with 27 other sponsors which can all be seen on the Club's web site.

Special thanks are due to the Club's farmers for the preparation of the course and also to the Inner Wheel Club of Church Wilne who provided the hot food throughout and who raised £670 for our chosen charities.

A presentation evening took place on Monday 2nd November at the Trent Lock Golf Club, Sawley with club members, and guests including Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire Willy Tucker, a past Church Wilne Rotarian, and his wife Jill, District Governor Dr Roger Summers, sponsors, land owners, farmers, helpers and supporters where we as a very successful club provided a big thank you to all. The Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland Air Ambulance received £6240 and Treetops Hospice £4402.

Tony Beenham - Church Wilne



Picture shows the Carlton team with PDG Gordon in the middle and Mike Storr on the right.

### District Summer Bowls Tournament

On a beautiful early September morning, 10 teams converged on Burton Joyce Bowls Club to enjoy a great day of fellowship. It was particularly satisfying to welcome a team from Doncaster St Leger in its first year in our district.

The matches were played in two pools; the semi-finals were Carlton vs Bakewell A and Long Eaton Dawnbreakers vs Bakewell B, with both semi-finals finishing with the same scores - 14:10. The final between Carlton and Long Eaton Dawnbreakers finished with yet another win for Carlton ..... Carlton's third win on the trot!

The Trophies were presented by PDG Gordon McGlone.

Mike Storr  
(District Competitions Co-ordinator)

## Frustrated with organising street collections?



RotaRota is a brand new, easy to use service that I have developed that allows charities, churches, youth groups, sporting clubs and other organisations to get commitment to help from their volunteers.

As an Organiser you can easily create a **Campaign**, with **Events** and **Activities**, then share a simple link and Passkey with your community and have them self-register to take part. It takes away the endless phone calls, email circulars and double-bookings and allows people to put their name down to help when it is easy and convenient for them to do so

A **Campaign** could be a sequence of events for which you need volunteers such as a weekend collection at a supermarket. You share the details of the Campaign with your Volunteers, and when they access the RotaRota website they see all the events they can sign up for in one screen. Depending on the nature of your **Event**, and its length, it's possible that you will need to break the event down into several periods of time; you may decide that a collector or volunteer should not work for more than 2 hours.

**Activities** are the actual duties that your volunteers will perform. You can create as many activities as required, each with its own name. Later, volunteers will put their names against the individual activities

Once you have the Events in place with Shifts and Activities, you can launch your Campaign. All you need to do is just pass on the link and the Passkey to access your Campaign. Volunteers do not need to create an account, they can just follow the link you give them and enter their names in available Activities.

For more information and to start using the service, visit <https://rotarota.net>

Mark Snape - District Webmaster







## Stop Press

### An Evening with the Vulcan

DG Roger Summers with President Graham Higgins standing in front of the Vulcan bomber on the occasion of the Doncaster Club's Charity Dinner at Robin Hood Airport on Saturday 7th November. The guest speaker was John Hutchinson, ex Concorde pilot and the evening generated a substantial sum of money which will swell the clubs charity coffers.



### Rotary Support for Children in Need 2015

Chesterfield Rotary Past President Stuart Bradley played his part in helping the nation raise a record-breaking £37 million for this year's Children In Need Appeal. He provided personal transport in his classic 1972 Porsche 911 Targa to enable popular mascot Pudsey Bear visit all the various fund-raising activities being reported live throughout the day by BBC Radio Derby.

Geoff Mitchell - Chesterfield

### Viennese Masquerade Ball 14th November 2015

Once again the Retford Club excelled in putting together a fund raising event helped by local businesses and individuals. A terrific team lead by Rotarian Hilary Zaccaria supported by the Club membership made the 2015 Viennese Masquerade Ball a spectacular event.



Major sponsorship came from local solicitors Jones & Co. with generous donations from many other individuals and local organisations. Seated at beautifully arranged tables in an exquisitely decorated marquee at the Club's very own meeting place, Ye Olde Bell Hotel at Barnby Moor, over 230 guests were served an excellent four course dinner.

An auction took place with over £6,000 being politely extracted from willing guests by our very own auctioneer Rotarian Jeremy Baguley. A raffle, silent auction and restaurant tree raised further funds, whilst The Dawn Staples School of Dance, The Decades Band, The Otis Jazz Trio, White Rose Disco and a six table Casino entertained our guests.



There was a fantastic atmosphere and this in turn produced some great results. Once the totting up is complete for this ball and added to the results of the previous 6 consecutive annual balls it is certain that an accumulative total of over £70,000 will have been raised.

Once again the main beneficiary of the Ball is the Bassetlaw Hospice of the Good Shepherd - they will use the funds to replace patients' chairs.

We try to 'Be a Gift to the World', and on this occasion, it's right here, in our own back yard.

Hilary Zaccaria - Retford

Stop Press





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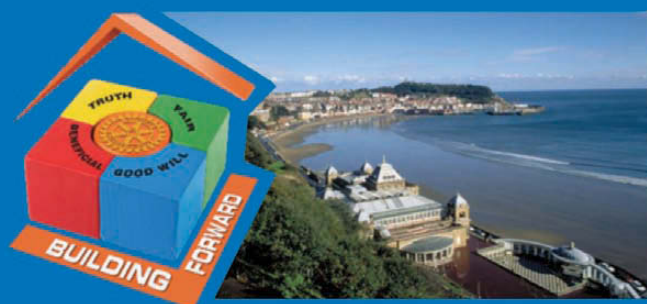
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