



'Service Before Self'

# Kirkby-in-Ashfield Rotary Club E-Bulletin: April 2016

Our 69th Charter Anniversary Dinner on March 8th was well up to the traditional high standard, with 100 Rotarians and guests present.

The photos are by Neil Lancashire.

President Paul Riley, far right, and his top table guests



*Clockwise from top left: Paul Richardson of Sutton-in-Ashfield Rotary, responding to greetings; Jacqui Chapman, Kirkby Inner Wheel President; President Paul Riley with polio shirt; President-Elect Philip Hurt; Immediate Past District Governor Steve Lawes; Tim Forman; guest speaker; David Turner, MC; Past DG Roger Pursey with sheep (a Rotary in-joke).*

*More on the next page*

**More on the Charter:  
Kirkby Rotarians sing their congratulations to President Paul,  
unrehearsed, hence their look of concentration!**



**Two Donations and an Award**



**Our weekly meeting on March 1st was a bit special.**

President Paul Riley handed cheques for £1200 each to Trevor and Christine Hipsley from Bluebell Wood Hospice in Sheffield and to Maggie Deere (pictured on the right) of Rainbows in Loughborough. The funds were raised by the Christmas grotto at the Reuben Shaw garden centre in Moor Green. Kirkby Rotary Club provided Santa and his helper elves, with additional volunteer elves from Bluebell Wood and Rainbows. As guest speaker, Maggie Deere gave a slide presentation on the work of the Rainbows Children's Hospice, which covers all the East Midlands, and currently has 367 children, 257 siblings and 240 bereaved families within its care.

At the same meeting, the president awarded President-Elect Philip Hurt a Paul Harris Fellowship, the highest honour that a Rotary club can bestow on an individual. "By his work in attracting new members", he said, "and his tireless efforts in raising funds for our charity account, Philip has shown outstanding dedication to Rotary."

Paul and Philip were wearing the outfits from their recent trip to India where they and their wives took part in a National Immunisation day to eradicate polio. They will give a presentation on their experiences at our meeting on May 3rd. See the article later in this bulletin.

## Our Fun Ferrets Help Fund a Foodbank

Kirkby Rotary Club's Charity Ferret Race Night at St Wilfrid's Church Hall on March 19th raised several hundred pounds for charities. Among the good causes that have benefited is the food bank at Kirkby Woodhouse.

Our president-elect, Rotarian Philip Hurt, said: "It was a brilliant effort that attracted a record number of attendees, almost 100, who told me that they'd had a great night of fun. One of the main aims of Rotary, and especially here in Kirkby, is to do what we can to help the local community, and this is a great example of just that."

The food bank was set up by volunteers at St John's Church, Kirkby Woodhouse in 2013 to offer essential foodstuffs to deprived families and to help them with advice on debt and benefits problems. Over the years the charity has given food to many thousands of local residents.

At the race night, Rotarians staffed the betting "tote"; and the animals and race facilities were provided by the Krazy Ferret Ladies and friends, with all the conditions regulated according to strict animal welfare requirements.

Rotarian Neil Lancashire, the event organiser, commented: "We were delighted with the result, which exceeded our expectation. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening - Rotarians, friends and members of the public, not forgetting the ferrets and their handlers."



**Excitement mounts as the ferrets are encouraged to enter their race tubes.**

### Club Calendar

#### April

5th Speaker –David Turner – Minster Steward.  
6th Club Council.  
12th Visit Mansfield Rotary.  
19th Speaker Meeting – Carol Hallam (ADC).  
23rd District Assembly at Eastwood Hall.  
24th Young Musician Concert.  
26th AGM/Business.

#### May

3rd Speaker – TBA  
4th Club Council  
10th Business/Club Assembly Planning.  
17th Speaker Meeting: Indian Experiences  
24th 'Blether' \*\*  
(30th Spring BH)  
31st No meeting

#### June

1st Club Council.  
4th Know Your Blood Pressure Day  
7th Business  
14th Club Assembly  
21st Speaker -TBA  
28th Changeover Dinner

\*\* Social chat, with no agenda.

**We Didn't Win!** We four hopefuls from Kirkby entered the Rotary District Quiz and though we didn't come top, we finished well within the upper half of the 16 or so clubs taking part. We scored 80 points from a possible 120, with the joint winners, Wirksworth and Buxton, clocking up 98 each. The 'thumbs down' photo was a joke — we had a really enjoyable time. RW

*Rotarians Kate Hurt, Philip Hurt, Neil Lancashire and Ron Walker*



## Seeing Aquabox First Hand

Seven members of Kirkby Rotary Club visited the Aquabox depot near Wirksworth, Derbyshire, on March 22nd for a tour of the facilities where the contents of the water filtration boxes are assembled for shipment. Aquabox was invented by and is administered by Rotarians.



Martin Crittenden and Colin Lloyd, who led the tour, are members of the Wirksworth Rotary Club and among the trustees of the charity that runs the operation. They explained that apart from one part-time secretary, all the workers are volunteers. Their job is to assemble the 40-component filter units and fill the Aquaboxes with the 70-plus purchased items of humanitarian aid that go into each family-sized box. These range across toiletries, cookware, toys, tools, bedding, writing materials, etc.



This smaller water purification unit, the "Gold", costing £125, is capable of filtering a minimum of 18,000 litres of potable water, the amount needed by a family of five for around eighteen months. The £250 "Community" version contains only a larger AquaFilter, based on the same micropore technology. It can produce up to 500,000 litres from local contaminated water sources, enough to provide drinking water for 500 people for well over a year and half.

Rotarians Crittenden and Lloyd said that 500 family Aquaboxes had recently been despatched to relief organisations in Syria, and other large batches had gone to Rotary and Ghurkha distribution set-ups in Nepal.



*Martin Crittenden and Colin Lloyd, with Philip Hurt and other Kirkby Rotarians showing some of the items that go into an Aquabox.*

Kirkby Rotary Club has long supported the Aquabox programme, by directly buying units or by arranging projects for other local organisations to do so. We took the opportunity of the visit to make a further donation. President-Elect Philip Hurt, said: "It's a small contribution to help towards the cost of running this amazing operation, which provides so much relief to disaster-suffering people around the world".

*There's more information on the Aquabox website at <http://www.aquabox.org>*

**Self-Care Hub** In January guest speaker Judith Whistler gave a dynamic presentation on the Hub, which is part of the NHS and located at the Ashfield Health & Wellbeing Centre in Kirkby. The Hub have asked us to include the following information, which we are pleased to do.

Self care is all about empowering you with the confidence and information to look after yourself when you can, and visiting health and care professionals when you need to. This gives you greater control of your own health and encourages healthy behaviours that help prevent ill health in the long-term. The service covers the districts of Mansfield, Ashfield, Newark and Sherwood.

The Hub will provide you with the information you need to better look after yourself. The fully trained advisors can help you set goals, put together an action plan and direct you to the appropriate services. The usual NHS and social care services will still be there when you need them.

You can contact the Hub by: calling 0300 303 2600 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday); or visiting one of the drop-in sessions at Ashfield Health and Wellbeing Centre, Kirkby-in-Ashfield or at a local GP practice; or emailing [selfcarehub@selfhelp.org.uk](mailto:selfcarehub@selfhelp.org.uk)



## Helping to keep India Polio-free

President Paul Riley, his wife Carol, President-Elect Philip Hurt and his wife Rotarian Kate Hurt last month joined a group of 106 volunteers from across Great Britain & Ireland, to take part in a National Immunisation Day in India. It's the largest number ever to have taken part in the campaign to eradicate polio from the world..

They met with other Rotary International



Philip Hurt, Kate Hurt, Carol Riley and Paul Riley, pictured before they left.

members from Belgium, Luxemburg, USA and Japan to help with the immunisation of children across India. Although the country was declared free from the disease in 2014, there is still the real risk of re-infection from the cases in nearby Pakistan.

President Paul's description of the experience was "Awesome!". The team took with them donations from our club and individuals totalling £500 .

The aim of this year's National Immunisation Day was to vaccinate over 172 million children under the age of five, nearly three times the size of the UK population. In order to do so, the Rotary office in Delhi allocated five locations where the International Rotarian volunteers were placed to assist the local Rotary members, namely Delhi, Kolkata, Ludhiana, Bhidawi and Karnal.

The immunisation, which is administered by two simple drops on the tongue, can be carried out easily by someone with no medical experience, and is crucial to keeping polio at bay.

Paul and Carol also spent time at a polio hospital in Delhi, and Philip and Kate went to the Rotary Hope Village in Bhidawi. They will give a presentation on their experiences at the club meeting on May 17th.

**Keep Up to Date**  
This bulletin is issued every 2 or 3 months. You can get the latest news of Kirkby Rotary Club from our website  
[www.kirkbyrotary.org.uk](http://www.kirkbyrotary.org.uk)

## Hope on the Horizon

On February 2<sup>nd</sup> the guest speaker was Bob Russell who showed videos and slides on the amazing work of Mercy Ships.

The charity provides the world's largest charitable floating hospital, bringing free medical care to some of the world's poorest people. The vessel goes to war-torn countries to help people suffering malnutrition, injuries, rickets, childbirth problems, etc. Mercy Ships was started 35 years ago by a Texan couple who bought an old Danish ferry boat, to provide 60 patient places. The latest ship cost £35 m and was converted to have 450 berths. A second ship is being prepared and will be ready in 2019.

Mr Russell is a retired dentist, born in Mansfield and specialising in teaching and facial surgery. He visits the ship twice each year for 4-5 weeks, working in the dentistry clinic that deals with 150 patients per day. The vessel is staffed by people from 30 countries around the world, paying £150 to stay on board. Some of them spend half a year on the ship: one has spent all his life. "It is life-changing surgery", he said. "It gives people a reason to live"



### From a letter from the British Legion:

To Club Secretary Simon Chapman  
Rotary Club of Kirkby-in-Ashfield  
18 February 2016

"Dear Simon, I am writing to thank you for all the support Rotarians from District 1220 have given me whilst I was the community fundraiser for The Royal British Legion. Without such good support the money raised from the Poppy Appeal would have been considerably less.

I hope you will continue to support my successor when they are appointed, in the same fantastic way.  
Yrs, Elaine Hopkins"

THE ROYAL BRITISH  
LEGION





**How to Impress the Saxons** Honorary Rotarian David Turner was the club speaker on April 5th, relating his 20 years' experience as a steward at Southwell Minster. There are 120 members of the Guild of Stewards at the minster, all volunteers. Despite having to rely on a small blackboard as a visual aid (a technical problem made it impossible to show his slides), David gave an erudite and fascinating talk, delivered with many touches of humour.

Work on the building began in 1108, some 42 years after the battle of Hastings, when the Norman William wanted to impress the conquered Saxons. The minster's quire was demolished in 1234 and replaced with a longer construction, and in 1300 the new octagonal Chapter House was completed. Nowadays the site includes the Prebendary houses, Vicars' Court and Archbishop's Palace.

The minster has had an important role in the history of England, David said. In 1530 Cardinal Wolsey worked there; King Charles I used the palace as a base while negotiating with the Parliamentarians in 1646; and Archbishop Edwin Sandys, a founding father of the Church of England,

had it as his headquarters for a time and died there in 1588.

## Young Enterprise Report by Ron Walker

For many years Kirkby Rotary Club has supported YE, funding one of the trophies that are awarded annually.

Young Enterprise is a national and international business education scheme. In the Company Programme, fifth- and sixth-formers form their own company, creating and marketing a product or service, and tackling most of the tasks that a 'real' company does. The annual programme ends in March with the Presentation & Awards Evening.

Having been a volunteer in local YE for some years, I'm especially pleased to have the privilege of presenting the trophy sponsored by Kirkby Rotary Club. This year there were four teams competing for the Sherwood Area Board's 'Best Company' award, with the chance of going forward successively to county, national and international level. 'Our' trophy, one of ten awarded by the board, was for Health & Safety. This was won by a company called 'WYRD' (pronounced 'wired') from All Saints Catholic Academy in Mansfield and was received by their managing director.

Every young person taking part is called an Achiever, which couldn't be more appropriate!



**Spotlight on Youth** For probably the first time in the history of the Rotary Young Musician concert, Kirkby Rotary Club has an entry in the shape of three students from Ashfield Comprehensive School.

Elliott and Millie Hardy, brother and sister, and Jonathan Clarke (*pictured 1 to 1*) have been selected to appear at the Rotary District 1220 Young Musician Gala Concert. Millie, who is 14 years old, will sing "We Found Love" by Rhianna, accompanied by Elliott, 15, on the guitar. Sixteen-year-old Jonathan will play his own piano composition "Prelude One".

The concert is to be held at the Robert Ludlum Theatre, Derby, on Sunday April 24th at 7 pm. Open to any musician under 18 and in full time education. It's the twenty-first such event to be organised by Rotary District 1220, which covers Notts, Derbys and S Yorks.

The purpose of the event is not a competition, but rather to recognise the talent among budding musicians and give them an opportunity of broadening their experience by playing before a new audience. Credit goes to Ashfield's music teacher Karl Huber for picking up our offer and putting forward these three young people.



# Know Your Blood Pressure Day



From the Stroke Association: "For the 13th year running, Rotarians and representatives from the Stroke Association will be saving lives by hosting blood pressure testing events in their local communities. Members of the public can have their blood pressure checked free of charge at local venues in a bid to raise awareness of the link between high blood pressure and strokes."

Kirkby Rotary Club's KYBP Day is on June 4th when our own Dr Karl White and colleagues will be carrying out the tests in Kirkby Town centre. We're not expecting anyone from the Association but no doubt other Rotarians will be on hand to chat up the shoppers and generally by make themselves useful. From our experience in previous years (example pictured), this is a very well worth operation, usually resulting in at least a dozen or so "customers" showing levels above the norm.



"Last year almost three in every ten people who were tested at a Know Your Blood Pressure event nationally were advised to see their GP for a follow up. It is also estimated that around 16 million people in the UK have high blood pressure and around a third are unaware of this. At least 40% of strokes could be prevented each year if people checked their blood pressure and took steps to control it."

It's one of the various ways in which Kirkby Rotary gets involved with our community.

## More Sleep-Out Funds

Another chapter has been added to the story of our Christmas Sleep-Out for charity.

Kirkby Rotary Club joined with members of Ashwood Church to hold the sleep-out in aid of the Mansfield Winter Shelter Project. Now, at our meeting on February 16th, Immediate Past President Roger Pursey



handed more sponsor donations to Hannah Buck, shelter coordinator, when she gave a talk to the club.

As reported in our last E-bulletin, a group of supporters spent the night sleeping rough in the new Kirkby Town Centre Plaza with only cardboard boxes, plastic sheets and sleeping bags to keep them warm against December weather. The amount raised now exceeds £3000.

Pictured (l to r) with Roger Pursey and Hannah Buck are two of the volunteer sleepers, Rotarian Pam Thompson and Carol Hallam, ADC Community Wellbeing Team Leader. Carol will be our guest speaker on April 19th.

## This is Kirkby Rotary Club

Information for our non-Rotarian readers

- > We meet weekly at 6.30 for 7 pm on Tuesday at Coxmoor Golf Club, Coxmoor Road, NG17 5LF, with a meal and often a speaker.
  - > We welcome new members.
- If you're interested in our Associate Member scheme or full Rotary Membership, please text the word 'membership' and your name to 07874 952245 or e-mail [kate.hurt@sky.com](mailto:kate.hurt@sky.com)
- > Rotary International is a global organisation with 1.2 million members. Our motto is 'Service Above Self'.
  - > For more information about Rotary please ring our Secretary on 07833 902784 or email [smjchapman@gmail.com](mailto:smjchapman@gmail.com), or go to [www.kirkbyrotary.org.uk](http://www.kirkbyrotary.org.uk)

