



Rotary Review

Rotary in the East Midlands &
South Yorkshire
June 2020

Rotary 
District 1220



Church Wilne Rotary Club is giving free bicycle bells to cyclists along Route 6 of the National Cycle Network which runs between Breaston & Borrowash. Some people using the cycle path do not have a working bell so the Club decided to give away 300 bicycle bells as part of a 'Share with Care' campaign during the Corvid lockdown.



www.rotary1220.org

The Editor writes



Welcome to the first digital edition of our District Magazine! It doesn't have the feel and smell of a freshly printed 'glossy' and it doesn't sit well on a coffee table but it does give us a new opportunity to show our members in District 1220 and the public at large what we have been doing.

Understandably, we are all aware of the events of the last three months, and our clubs' responses to those are well documented in the following pages.

However, we have tended to forget that there was a life before lockdown and I am glad that you have shared with us some of the projects and activities which engaged you at the beginning of the year.

As usual, I ask you all to share this showcase of **Rotary in Action** with friends and colleagues; it couldn't be easier – just forward it or attach to an email and click **Send!**

I must thank Jon Toft, our print designer, for producing this digital version of Rotary Review; we have worked together producing the Magazine for over 15 years, which allowed us to turn it around in a couple of days once I had prepared the basic copy.

John Scotney – District Editor

Breaking News ...

Pressure on the UK's food banks is increasing daily and the upturn in unemployment due to the COVID-19 crisis is resulting in many more families turning to local food banks. This comes at a time when our food banks are already stretched to the limit!

So District 1220 has set up a new initiative - Rotary4foodbanks!



Rotary4foodbanks is a scheme that is designed to provide a direct, sustainable supply channel of food items directly from food producers to food banks both now and in the future - for more details, see page 2.

There are also plans to enable food banks to purchase the essential products that they require regularly, at competitive prices, with the cash donations they receive.

Over 40 food banks have been nominated by local Clubs so far and deliveries of food supplies are already underway with the help of teams of Rotary volunteers

Given the growing demand on food banks, it's really important to spread the word about this excellent scheme as quickly as possible and to help achieve this, a dedicated Facebook Page and Group have been set up which the project leaders would like everyone to support and engage with.

Please like the Page to get the latest news and updates

And please join the Group to join the conversation and share your own news, thoughts and ideas

Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/Rotary4foodbanks/>

Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/300386538005892/>

You can also make a donation ... - www.justgiving.com/rotaryclubofderby

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of RI District 1220 -
June 2020

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Next issue of Rotary Review will be distributed at the [District Council Meeting on November 21st 2020](#).
Visit the District Website for guidance on submitting material.

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Why wouldn't you help?

A new foodbank delivery scheme which has seen thousands of food items reach people in need over the last eight weeks is up and running, thanks to Rotarians and the drive and generosity of East Midlands Chamber member - international haulage firm Taylors Transport.

The scheme – Rotary4foodbanks – is being led by the Rotary Clubs of District 1220 and is already delivering much needed supplies to foodbanks in the area, with the help of MD Alan Taylor and his team.

District Foundation Chair John Cavey explains: "We could see a huge and growing need for foodbank provision in our area. As a leading UK charity organisation Rotary is committed to helping meet that need. From our own charity funds we have already allocated £35,000 to buy goods wholesale. Our plan is to extend that with another £60,000 by the end of July. By then we hope many more businesses will see the benefit in what we are doing for some of the country's most needy and become supporters of the scheme."

Foodbank use is on the increase as people lose their jobs because of the virus, and that situation is only going to get worse in the coming months. Year on year foodbanks saw an 81 percent increase in demand for emergency food at the end of March. This comes at a time when food banks are already stretched to the limit - in 2019 they supplied 1,808,949 emergency food supplies, a year on year increase of 20 per cent.

Without warehousing and an effective distribution network, Rotary4foodbanks would not be able to operate on the scale that is needed to meet that growing demand. That's where local businessman and Rotarian, Alan Taylor (Kirkby in Ashfield), stepped in. Despite his own business feeling the strain imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic Alan agreed to set aside around 2000sq ft of warehousing space and allocate existing staff to sort stock for distribution. "Why wouldn't you help when you see people in need?" he says. Now their vehicles are taking Rotary Club food supplies free of charge to foodbanks across the region as far east as Grantham and as far north as Barnsley, Rotherham and Sheffield.

While the Rotary4foodbanks scheme is currently operating only in the East Midlands and South Yorkshire, John and his team are looking to roll it out more broadly. "Our members tell us there is a crying need for a similar service to support foodbanks in the North East, where Rotarians are looking to utilise the Rotary4foodbanks scheme to help meet that demand."

Eventually, Rotary hopes that the government will also give financial backing to grow the scheme nationally. "Until then," says John, "we are relying on the generosity of the public, and businesses like Alan's, to see us through."

Anyone wanting to help in the programme - or foodbanks requiring the support of Rotary4foodbanks - can contact John Cavey at rotaryfoundation1220@gmail.com or Tel: 07855 299443

Hugh Venables

Matching Grants for Foodbanks

The R4FB scheme has been extended to allow a club to donate £750 to be used by an existing local foodbank that they have nominated and District Foundation will match it giving a total credit of £1500 to be used by the foodbank at the R4FB depot.

The launch of this scheme in May resulted in District's allocation of the remaining Foundation funding for 2019/20 being used up immediately.

The submissions of those clubs not successful in the initial round of applications were carried forward to the new Rotary year 2020/21.

Currently, all these applications have now been accepted and there is scope for more clubs to apply.

Clubs participating in this scheme should remember that their partnered foodbank can use their own funds to purchase supplies from the Huthwaite Depot at discounted rates.

Details of this scheme and application forms can be obtained from Neil Swanick:-
neilswanwick@yahoo.co.uk

District PR team



Foodbanks

Local Clubs support YMCA Foodbanks

As part of an East Midlands-wide initiative, the Rotary Club of Derby Mercia has donated £2000 worth of supplies to the two YMCA foodbanks, topping up a regular donation made to Burton YMCA foodbank by Bretby and Burton Rotary clubs.



Paul Laffey, who heads up a large team of volunteers, says that in 2019 YMCA Burton alone supported 3030 people with vital food supplies and toiletries. The YMCA foodbank requires no referral before people can access supplies and many of the people it now serves are in work but reduced hours or furloughed. Rotary4foodbanks uses money donated by clubs, supporters and from the foodbanks themselves to source food at prices they could not achieve.

It was when lockdown stopped Rotarians holding their regular meetings that the 27 members of Mercia Club in Derby took the initiative to help. Alan Mason, secretary of Rotary Club of Derby Mercia, explains:

"When we couldn't meet, members agree to pool the money we would have each spent attending our regular evening meetings and feed it into the Rotary4foodbanks project. Very quickly we raised £2000 and were delighted to see it turned into food and supplies to help local foodbanks in Derby and Burton. Like other clubs in the region we plan to continue working through the Rotary4foodbanks initiative."

While the Rotary4foodbanks scheme is currently operating only in the East Midlands and South Yorkshire, the plan is to roll it out more broadly. "Our members tell us there is a crying need for a similar service to support foodbanks elsewhere in the country. In the North East especially, Rotarians are looking to utilise the scheme to help meet that demand," says the scheme's co-ordinator, John Cavey.

Anyone wanting to help in the Rotary4foodbanks programme can contact John Cavey at rotaryfoundation1220@gmail.com or Tel: 07855 299443

John Stamp – District PR

Rotary teams up with local foodbanks to fight hunger in South Yorkshire

A new initiative to supply hard-pressed foodbanks is up and running in Sheffield where Rotary has teamed up with the Trussell Trust team at Sheffield S6 to combat hunger in the city.

Sam Evans of Sheffield S6 (part of the Trussell Trust) said "We are currently distributing £10000 of food and essentials each week to some of the neediest in the community. Last week alone we delivered to 314 households, providing for almost 800 people. That's around four times the volume for the same week last year. And that number is rising".

Local club Abbeydale Rotary is part of the region-wide programme, Rotary4foodbanks, launched last month across the East Midlands and South Yorkshire.

Says Graham Stevens of the Abbeydale Club: "It is a real team effort. Smaller foodbanks can order supplies through Rotary4foodbanks and see their limited funds work harder. In a real spirit of co-operation, Sheffield S6 warehouses the bulk supplies until they can be collected by or delivered to individual foodbanks. Just this week Rotary4foodbanks delivered 3300 units of product – around 350 cases of porridge, tea, coffee and other essentials, on pallets to the Sheffield S6 hub."

While the Rotary4foodbanks scheme is currently operating only in the East Midlands and South Yorkshire, the plan is to roll it out more broadly. "Our members tell us there is a crying need for a similar service to support foodbanks elsewhere in the country. In the North East especially, Rotarians are looking to utilise the scheme to help meet that demand," says the scheme's co-ordinator, John Cavey.

Anyone wanting to help in the Rotary4foodbanks programme - or foodbanks requiring support - can contact John Cavey at rotaryfoundation1220@gmail.com or Tel: 07855 299443

Anyone needing food in Sheffield can contact S6 foodbank on Tel: 0114 321 0733.

District PR Team



Help for local foodbanks

Food supplies from Rotary4Food were unloaded and prepared ready for distribution to Market Rasen and Caistor Food Banks. President Jo Bowman and David Mason of the Rotary Club of Market Rasen stack the collected food in Caistor Town Hall.

David Mason – Market Rasen



Sunrisers herald new dawn for Arnold Foodbank



Sherwood Sunrisers is one of the many Rotary clubs working through Rotary4foodbanks to maintain food stocks at foodbanks across the East Midlands and South Yorkshire. Says Sunrisers' Val Leivers:

"Organisations like Arnold Foodbank do brilliant work at local level in the community. They rely for supplies on the support of supermarkets, businesses and the general public making donations. As local Rotarians we wanted to help in a big way too. Delivering 150 cases of food supplies seemed a good way to do that."

According to Helen Lloyd, who heads a team of volunteers running the Arnold operation, the foodbank is seeing more new users needing food than ever before:

"As the furlough system ends and more people face redundancy, we are expecting to see demand increase still further. We are bracing ourselves for the second wave."

Hugh Venables



Sheffield

Whilst the current COVID-19 crisis is proving to be a struggle for many aspects of life as we know it, Sheffield Rotary has managed to ensure that the community it serves can still be aided by the work of its members. The club has been meeting virtually via the Zoom platform on a weekly basis, and recently made a significant donation to the Jubilee Foodbank in Sheffield. Members held a sweepstake regarding when lockdown restrictions may be lifted, with the proceeds being used to buy food to be donated to those most in need in Sheffield. The Jubilee Food Bank, part of City Church Sheffield, are a team of people who are there to help provide support to families in crisis in the local community, and they are experiencing a spike in demand in the current climate. Sheffield Rotary, working in collaboration with clubs across District 1220 are working hard to ensure vital funds are targeted into areas and people who find themselves most in need at the present time.

Melany Holmes

Precious lifeline for Doncaster foodbank

"In the past year we have provided food for over 5500 people. Without our input they would have gone hungry. There has been a 40% increase in demand in the past four weeks alone."

That is the stark message from Doncaster Foodbank project manager Sandra Edwards who expects demand to increase still further in the coming months.

Through the Rotary4foodbanks scheme, Doncaster St Leger and Doncaster Rotary Clubs have stepped up to the plate. Says Lis Rodgers of St Leger: "We could see that the Covid-19 pandemic was having a devastating effect on some of the most vulnerable people in our community so pledged to help. As part of the bigger Rotary4foodbanks initiative to bulk buy, the money we donate works harder, goes further, to help ensure no-one in the borough goes hungry."

Sandra is understandably delighted: "Having a major charity organisation like Rotary stepping in to help provides us with another precious lifeline."

Hugh Venables



District Governor's Message ...



By the time you received this virtual publication (electronic) the Rotary year will have just a few days to go after enduring nearly 3 months in lock down due to the Covid-19 virus. Rotary in District rose to this new challenge with many clubs and District adopting new strategies including online events such as Car Shows, Plant Sales, Mario Food Collections, Quizzes and Auctions. As you know, at last year's District

Assembly, I asked that we all adopt modern technology which in turn would benefit the environment and, of course ourselves, from the endless travelling to meetings. Lo and behold we are doing it now in a big way! Congratulations all my Rotary friends.

Throughout the year there have been joint club visits, Children of Courage Awards, District and National Conferences, Rotary GB&I Governing Council meetings in Alcester and of course Charter celebrations, some of which had to be cancelled or postponed since March. Having said that most are now on Zoom!

I have had the privilege of being your District Governor and being able to see so much more and I must congratulate all the clubs in District 1220 on the work and service they give in the name of Rotary.

This year has been a modernising year in which we continued the District Strategic Review culminating in a District Council agreed action plan which is being implemented. As a member of the Chamber of Commerce we introduced a Rotary Engaging Chamber partnership which concentrates on developing Corporate Social Responsibility opportunities with both the Chamber and the business community. More recently, and as a result of the devastating Covid-19 virus, we introduced a Rotary GB&I supported District 1220 project, Rotary 4 Food Banks



under the lead of Foundation Chair, John Cavey.

These projects are aimed at developing a project-led mentality which has the additional benefits of attracting volunteers and Rotarians of the future. I also believe that the Rotary brand will be to the fore in our District and long may it continue.

This year we have seen how Rotary in our District responded to the devastating floods. Well done to those clubs in South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire who rose to the challenge. I could go on with many plaudits.

Finally, I would like to thank you for the warm welcome I have received no matter where I visited and wish you and your families well for the future and Corona Virus free!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your District Governor; it is a year I will never forget. Remember our District Conference theme, **THE DIFFERENCE IS YOU**, in whatever you do.

DG David



Gil Earnshaw – remarkable Rotarian



When Gil Earnshaw died in March at the age of 91 he left behind a unique legacy of service as a Rotarian. During his 48 years as a member of Doncaster Rotary Club he devoted himself to a particular project benefitting young disadvantaged or disabled people. This project took shape in two ways.

First an outdoor residential centre was established in Askrigg in Wensleydale. This is Low Mill Outdoor Centre, based in a converted water mill, and providing adventurous outdoor activities for people of all ages and abilities.

As Low Mill became more popular it was decided to create a more "back to nature" experience. The charity owning Low Mill bought a remote disused stone barn at Marsett, which is near Semerwater, above Bainbridge. The barn was restored and a water supply laid on; it now provides a camping experience available to all, including wheelchair users.

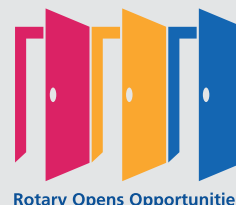
Having persuaded Doncaster Rotary Club to support these two developments, Gil Earnshaw went a stage further. With another member of the club he raised £10,000 at the time of the club's 60th Charter celebrations. This created a bursary enabling special needs children from Doncaster to enjoy activity weekends in the Dales.

Gil's achievements are an object lesson for Rotarians of all ages – find a deserving cause, give it your all, and bring the rest of the community with you.

Adrian Hattrell - Doncaster



2020-2021 - A very different Year!



RI's theme for the year is
"Rotary Opens Opportunities!"
and it has, already!

Well done all our under 70's, who have been able to help your local community in many ways already since Covid-19 Lock Down - shopping, gardening, delivering medicines, bringing friendship; opportunities galore for Rotary Service in your communities.

What about the over 70s - in many Clubs, the majority of us. Well done those Rotarians who have "used" younger neighbours, friends and family to be "Rotarians in Action", helping others on our behalf shopping, assisting with Foodbanks and much more. I hope that one day all who have helped under the umbrella of Rotary will be so impressed by all that Rotary does and stands for, that they will want to join us, becoming Rotarians, increasing our Club numbers, starting New or Satellite Clubs, Family Clubs, E-Clubs - any sort of Club based on Rotary values, with members honouring the Four-Way Test and guaranteeing that Rotary is here in 1220 and in 10, 20, 30 ...years' time.

We've been precipitated into the 21st century with Zoom meetings, no meal costs or long journeys. Don't lose these advantages, going back to our "old fashioned" ways, but embrace these good initiatives, helping Rotary meet the needs and expectations of the 21st Century. So many opportunities opened to us! Our Founder, Paul Harris said "Whatever Rotary means to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves". In the COVID-19 epidemic, these are great!

RI President 2020-21, Holgar Knaack, challenges us to look for every opportunity to grow Rotary, spread Rotary and enjoy Rotary, to open opportunities for all through Rotary. We have opportunities to make new friends and enjoy old ones; opportunities to serve and achieve; opportunities to bring happiness to many. All because we're Rotarians!

Our Rotary Vision Statement states:

"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities & in ourselves." All by Opening Opportunities!

We see Polio nearly eradicated; Children educated in "faraway places"; Safer Child Birth; Clean Water provided; Aid sent to natural disasters and those caused by mankind's folly and selfishness."

Some Clubs are enthusiastic and full of "get up & go" while some are tired. Some have an age profile where many members have served Rotary faithfully for many years ... and are now older. What is our answer? How do we find new, younger members amongst the present generation where both are employed, often travel up and down the country for their work, meet their children's needs, have time for themselves - where can Rotary fit in?

Our many answers:-

Involving families and individuals in our projects, they love helping us with Santa's Sleigh, involve them in our many other projects too....

Start a "Families" Rotary Club, on Saturdays or late afternoons with Children's activities alongside our meeting....

Form a Satellite Club meeting once a month, with projects small and big in the time between....

Discard the meal - a snack; a coffee; a pint is all that's needed....

Start Rotakids, Interact and Rotaract Clubs, showing parents and teachers the benefits of helping locally, nationally and internationally with the many needs and projects.

Our present average age is 70 or older - in 10 years' time it could be 80, another 10 years 90. Will many of us still be here then? If we don't act now, Rotary in 1220 could be gone, be just a memory....

Ask yourself "What would it be like without Rotary in our communities, nationally and globally?" We have a priceless legacy to continue our work helping others wherever they may be. In our local communities we can offer the solution to many problems, showing the way to a better future. Internationally we have already changed lives. Others are waiting for our help. Polio eradication is within our grasp.

Having used the wonderful care given by Chesterfield's Ashgate Hospice and Sheffield's St Luke's as a GP for many of my patients, knowing that with COVID-19 their incomes have shrunk, if you can, please support your local Hospice either by "hands on" help or financially, or both ways. And don't forget our District initiatives - Rotary Hearing Ambassadors, Rotary4Foodbanks, Community Save a Life and Aquabox.

Thank you for being you. Have a wonderful year enjoying Rotary and seeing the opportunities where YOU can make a difference.

Dr Jill Bethell MBE, PHF, District Governor 2020-2021

2020-2021 - A very different year!





District 1220 AMBASSADOR FOR POLIO



I have been member of the Rotary Club of Rotherham for almost 30 years; I contracted polio at the age of two, in August 1948, in Scarborough.

The position of Ambassador was created in early 2018; there is some confusion as to the difference between the role of Ambassador and Champion. Basically, the former is about being "out there" and telling the story about living with polio, so that the listener can gain some appreciation of the consequences of living and existing with that vile disease. The latter is about fund raising and organising events that support the EndPolio Now campaign.

As Ambassador I have developed a talk for Rotary Clubs which can take 15 to 45 minutes. In 2018 I gave presentations in the UK, Gibraltar, Malta, Adeje and Cologne and the Rotary GBI Conference in May 2019.

If Clubs wish me to give presentations, then they just have to ask. I felt so privileged to be invited by Rotary Clubs in Leicester to be present in Leicester Cathedral for their World Polio Day; quite moving.

John Elford Box



Aquabox in Yemen

The terrible situation in Yemen is the greatest humanitarian crisis of our time. People there are trapped in a dreadful cycle of conflict, starvation and sickness. Access to safe drinking water is extremely limited or non-existent.

It is estimated that 17 million are currently at risk with over 85,000 child deaths since the conflict began.

Water supplies and sanitation systems have been deliberately targeted; cholera is at epidemic levels as a result.

We have acted to support and empower the people in this dreadful environment.

Aquabox and a partner charity, JOY (Jubilee Outreach Yorkshire) have successfully distributed three humanitarian aid packages to the country over the past two years.

The consignments contained Aquabox's family water filters, items of humanitarian aid and much needed dried food and medical supplies from JOY. Over 5000 people have been supported by our aid but more is needed.

Please help support this and other work we do to supply safe drinking water and aid to those in need in disaster areas across the world.

www.aquabox.org

Roz Adamson – Aquabox

Aquabox Responds to Cyclone Amphan

AQUABOX, has managed a rapid response to the Amphan storm in the Bay of Bengal. From Saturday May 16 to Thursday May 21, it ripped into the coastal areas on the Bay of Bengal; it was the worst cyclone for the past 20 years, with sustained wind speeds of 150mph and a peak of 160 mph, and it has resulted in massive damage.



Mercifully, the death toll from Amphan is low, but with severely limited access to safe water many more will suffer and possibly die; that's where Aquabox steps in. The first shipment, by air, left the Aquabox depot on June 3 and included 10 community water filters and 60 family filters providing clean water for 4,500 people. Another shipment, by sea, will leave the depot on June 9, and includes 250 Aquabox Gold boxes, each containing a wide range of aid items. This second shipment will provide safe drinking water for a further 1,500 people. Local distribution at Kolkata will be managed through the Eastern Indian Rotary Welfare Trust, a tried and tested partner agency.

Freight costs have risen sharply as a result of the Covid-19 crisis, and these two shipments have cost Aquabox £42,000, making a significant dent in the charity's reserves.

Readers can help to fund Aquabox's vital work by donating at www.aquabox.org.

Roz Adamson - Aquabox



**Ambassador for Polio
Aquabox**



Rotary Engages with the Chamber

The District 1220 Rotary Engages with Chamber (REC) Team made an enthusiastic start to the initiative that we hope will ultimately enable clubs to draw on volunteer resources from the business community to assist with projects in the community and in turn identify potential new members who will experience Rotary in Action.

A lot of effort went into making the necessary arrangements to launch the initiative and in January we were able to announce that we were ready to receive news of potential projects from clubs in the District. All of the information, including a downloadable Project Planning Form, was put onto the District website and this can be found in the Services Committee section under the heading Rotary Engages with Chamber. We were very pleased to receive details of the first project requests from clubs and were in the process of arranging the formal launch with the East Midlands Chamber of Commerce (EMCC) when disaster struck in the form of COVID-19. Needless to say this has halted the plan for now but when the Chamber feels it is a suitable time we will be ready to go again.

COVID-19 has affected all of us all in some way or another and will undoubtedly change the way that people look at life in the future. One good thing to emerge from the crisis is the amazing willingness of the business community and individuals to volunteer to help those in need in our communities. Rotary is aware that the need is always present but it is only at times like this that it becomes very apparent to everyone. We have an opportunity to capitalise on the enthusiasm to volunteer through the REC initiative by offering opportunities to get involved with our community projects.

EMCC Chief Executive Scott Knowles recently advised its members "Getting involved with projects in the community is a great way of achieving personal and professional development. 2020 may be a year of change for many reasons but it is certainly one of great opportunity and committing to helping those in need in the community is one that is of great value to business. The Rotary Engages with the Chamber initiative makes it easy for employers to engage with the local community and offer volunteering opportunities to the employees."

We need clubs to keep on looking for the community projects and send their completed Project Plans to the REC Team.

David Pedlar - REC Team Member

Covid 19 and the District Newsletter



It's been a challenging few months for us all; those who follow my exploits and traumas will also know its been an "interesting" few months for me in many ways on top of Corona !

As you know I try and send a newsletter to all the presidents, secretaries, District Team and PDGs twice a week; I've just sent out the 85th such newsletter in this Rotary year. I did expect this to taper off as clubs wound up their face to face meetings and events; how wrong I was. It quickly became apparent that just the changes and cancellations that were coming in every download would keep me busy; Rotarians were meeting most weeks at most clubs. My own club, as a good example, has members from their 40s up to their 80s, with varying levels of technical abilities. But we got on-line with Zoom for a couple of weeks – with a free 40 minutes of fun, and more importantly, it kept us in touch with the vulnerable, lonely and isolated. We had our AGM, our Assembly and we are planning to do our Handover and go onwards this way for a while yet.

I read every week on my correspondence and on the clubs' social media sites that other clubs are trying to keep on with business as usual. The table of changes I created has been very well received and I've been keeping it up as new information comes in.

Reading of the events being held, a Virtual Car Show, a Fashion Show and the support Clubs are giving each other and various charities is uplifting and very reassuring – Rotary goes on,

and the World still turns. Rotary4Food Banks has been amazing and taken off very quickly and now to be copied in other Rotary districts.

I'm now getting ready for the next Rotary year and what it brings to us all, my last as assistant secretary (we are looking for someone to take it on by the way, let me or John Carr know if you fancy a go, its great fun) and I know I will miss this twice weekly communication with you all.

Stella Herbert – District Assistant Secretary



'Garden' Marathon helps St Johns Ambulance

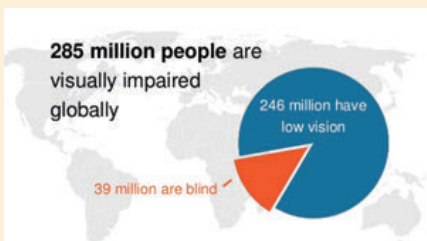
The NHS fight against Covid-19 supported by Derbyshire St Johns Ambulance has received a financial shot in the arm from Past District Governor Dr Cheryle Berry who has run a marathon around her garden accompanied by her three pet sheep.

Doctor Cheryle Berry, a member of Rotary Clay Cross and Past District 1220 Governor is also a lifelong member of St Johns Ambulance. Cheryle ran around her garden and adjoining paddock 210 times in just over six hours to complete the 26.2 miles marathon to the amusement of her three pet sheep: Georgie, Rosie and Violet. A total of £1417 has been raised so far but Cheryle's 'Just Giving' online donation page is still open. Derbyshire St Johns Ambulance need the support as it helps the NHS during the pandemic with volunteer staff and ambulances; for example, 200 St Johns ambulances are working across London.

Cheryle said, "I've been staying at home to help the NHS; I've been a member of St Johns for 50 years and I love running marathons. So, it seemed the thing to do, run a marathon at home and raise money for a charity which is helping the NHS."

Cheryle is an experienced marathon runner having completed fifteen London Marathons and one New York marathon raising nearly £40,000 for charities. Cheryle has a place in the great North Run in the autumn to raise money for an orphanage in India which she has supported and visited over many years.

If you wish to make a donation you can do so by going online:
www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cheryle-berry-marathon



Visual Impairment – an Equality Issue

Eckington and District Rotary have been looking at the issue of improving communications within Rotary for members who have visual impairments.

At District Council on 10th June a proposal from the Club to Rotary International via the Council on Legislation (COL) was passed. The full proposal can be read in the District Council Report; it asked RI to consider ensuring the Website and other communications to Rotarians were made accessible to those with visual impairments and other disabilities. The next stage is the submission of the proposal by the District's representative, Dr Roger Summers, to COL for consideration of its implementation.

Are there any clubs who have members with visual impairments? Do any clubs make arrangements to aid communication to these members? Is anyone interested in forming a small working group to look at this issue and how we might help clubs and District to communicate better with those with visual issues?



Please contact annnorris22@btinternet.com

Ann Norris – Eckington & District

Miscellany

PDG VAL is a Champion!

PDG Val Leivers, Sherwood Sunrisers, has received a 'Champions of Change' award from Rotary International in Great Britain & Ireland. This is in recognition of her tireless humanitarian work to carry out many projects in India over the past 14 years, especially at the Sri Sai Vidyarthi School in the slums of Secunderabad, Telangana. This remarkable school has progressed from being under-resourced and ill-equipped, to a thriving, fit for purpose school with 1,390 children from some of the most disadvantaged families in India.



It is now a beacon of learning which provides pupils with the education they need if they are to gain better employment opportunities and have a way out of poverty.

It operates at a high standard with committed, qualified teachers who are devoted to the children.

Val said, "I am just the catalyst for making things happen and we are all most grateful for the financial support given by Rotary clubs, other organisations and individuals. I do it for the children and they never give up so why should I? The Principal contacts me daily and I know precisely what is happening and where every Rupee is spent."

Donna Wallbank, President of RIBI, commented, "The Champions Awards are about giving those who pioneer, lead and support some amazing volunteering projects the recognition they deserve. Val's work is invaluable in helping those who continue to be affected by the lack of educational facilities and equipment and she is a very worthy recipient of one of this year's awards."

Val has also been made an honorary member of The Townswomen's Guilds this year along with Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, and historian and writer Jane Robinson. It is the spirit and dedication to her charity work that led to Val's invitation to speak to The Townswomen's Guilds' International Women's Day Conference about her quest to improve education, particularly for underprivileged girls, in India. Subsequently the membership voted to make Val an honorary member with the following citation. "The Townswomen's Guild members are immensely proud of outstanding women who, through their actions and principles, have had a positive impact in the fight for equality. Val Leivers truly is one of those outstanding women"

Terry Leivers – Sherwood Sunrisers



Making a Difference

For 15 years, the Rotary Club of Wollaton Park has been supporting a Tamang village of subsistence farmers in the remote Dolaka region of eastern Nepal, a day's drive from Kathmandu through the foothills of the Himalayas. Over the years the club, with the support of District and Foundation, has brought water and sanitation to hundreds of families, and has supported a school for 250 pupils to bring a quality education to the area. The school teaches in Nepali - the national language, Tamang – the local language, and English – the passport to a wider range of job opportunities. By insisting that families can only send their sons to the school provided they also send their daughters, the school has a higher percentage of girls than other schools in the area.

Currently, the club is completing a 15-bed community hospital to serve a number of villages in the area. The buildings are complete, situated upon a hillside with breathtaking views over the valley. One of the villagers has been supported through medical school to become the first Tamang in the area to qualify as a doctor and another will shortly complete her course as a pharmacist. A Foundation Global Grant for \$75,000 has been obtained to equip the hospital, as soon as the current Covid-19 lock-down is lifted.

If you would like further details of these projects and how you could help, including volunteering at the school or hospital, please contact Rtn Chris O'Brien at obrien.chris24@btinternet.com.

Chris O'Brien – Wollaton Park



Laligurash Community Hospital nearing completion - Serving the Community



Laligurash Bright Future School Assembly - School table tennis



Membership Opportunities and Threats!

While Covid-19 has undoubtedly made life for clubs more difficult with many projects being put on hold, it has also spurred clubs on to do things differently and has created new opportunities.

Build a bigger on-line presence

Many clubs have adopted facilities like Zoom or Microsoft Teams to hold "virtual" meetings and they can be used to spread the word about the Family of Rotary.

Clubs have reported higher attendance at on-line meetings and clubs are now doing "virtual" scatters – attending other clubs on line. That has enabled them to see how other clubs hold their meetings and to learn from it. On-line media makes it much easier for members of the public to engage with Rotary. If your club has a website, Facebook or similar presence, publish details of your meetings and invite people to join in on line.

Where have all the volunteers gone?

The suggestion that people are not interested in volunteering has been blown out of the water in the last six months. 750,000 people have volunteered to help the NHS and another 250,000 are volunteering in other contexts; that's in excess of 1 million volunteers.

Some of those volunteers will already be Rotarians, but many won't, so what made them volunteer? They found a project that they could identify with, engaged in it and that is how membership is going to grow in Rotary. You get them committed to the project, get them enjoying what they are doing and then give them a membership form!

Be prepared!

Without a doubt, Covid-19 is going to impact on our membership and keeping your existing members engaged is

crucial. On-line meetings are probably the main tool but not every member has access to a computer so it is therefore essential that more traditional means are used to keep them up to speed on what is happening in the club, so a phone call or letter will be needed.

What of those members who have been affected financially? There will be some members who find that their financial situation means they can't continue as members. That must never be the case. Presidents need to make it clear that members who are struggling financially need to talk to them in confidence and the President may need to think "outside the box" in terms of a solution. At the last District Council it was agreed that for the 2020/21 year, capitation will be reduced by £5/member and payment delayed until January 2021.

Update on the end of the Rotary Year

In 2019/20 we have (as of 9th June) recruited 109 new members, slightly up on last year. To date, we have lost 112 members and that number will increase as this Rotary year ends. It shows that recruitment is still positive but we are letting ourselves down by our inability to retain members. The Leaver Questionnaire shows that people have left because of the failure of their clubs to modernise.

It has also been a very positive year with a new club at Long Bennington and a new Satellite Group at Church Wilne, introducing nearly 30 new members to the District. Congratulations to all involved.

Nick Blurton - District Membership & Extension Chair

This is an abridged version of an article to be circulated to clubs in the District Newsletter



Sandra Maycock busy cutting out section of the SCRUBS from patterns



I'm sure many members will have used facilities like this during the last three months! – Editor.

AMBER VALLEY

Rotary help needleworkers make 'scrubs' for NHS

Rotary Amber Valley is helping local women to make scrubs for use by local NHS hospital staff using their sewing skills and domestic sewing machines. Rotarian Geraldine Stamp said, "Rotary didn't hesitate to support this worthwhile project at this difficult time."

In order to start making hospital scrubs to Derby Royal specifications members used their own money or sought donations to buy fabric so Rotary Amber Valley made a donation of £318 to help buy this specialist fabric. Sandra Maycock said, "We started by using our own money but it's great that Rotary is supporting us to buy the fabric in sufficient amounts to keep us going and support our NHS."

John Stamp

ASHBOURNE

Last November, members and friends of the Rotary Club of Ashbourne visited the Amazon Warehouse at Rugeley, one of 13 'fulfilment centres' in the country. This unit is the size of three football pitches and is a hive of activity, each operative in high viz waistcoats picking and assembling orders. Bar Codes are the key to everything and items are identified by location, ready for the very impressive automatic packing and labelling systems.

This facility handles only smaller items (no TV's or White Goods) but has 100,000's of shelf locations serviced by over 1000 employees, all paid above living wage, with training and promotion encouraged; obviously at times like Christmas additional contract staff are drafted in. A truly eye opening experience to see what happens when we just click on an order and await, Post Office, DPD or Amazon delivery to appear the next day.

The visit was organised by Rotarian Paul Archer and lunch was enjoyed at Ye Olde Dun Cow at Colton.

Cliff Lewer



BARNSELY ROCKLEY

The Rotary Club of Barnsley Rockley organised a superb event, in November 2019, involving infant and junior school children in an art competition at the Metrodome in Barnsley where seventeen schools were represented. President Trevor Smith welcomed the Mayor of Barnsley, Pauline Markham, the Mayor of South Yorkshire, Dan Jarvis, the renowned Yorkshire water colour artist Ashley Jackson and many parents and friends.

Congratulations must go to joint Presidents Trevor Smith and Payman Nayeri, along Alan Methley who proposed the project, who all worked exceedingly hard with all the Club members, in producing a model for the future; this was the Club's first event. Very well done to the Rotary Club of Barnsley Rockley!

John Elford Box - AG Rother Group



BELPER AND DUFFIELD

Our last Memory Cafe was in February and since then we had to close the Cafe for the foreseeable future.

We decided that we would keep in contact, approximately once every two weeks by phone and three of us have been taking it in turns to make telephone contact with as many of our Cafe goers as possible. We have thought of Zoom which at least one Memory Cafe is doing, but felt it wouldn't suit our particular group

We have had some lovely conversations but as the time has gone our customers living with Dementia have been finding the situation more difficult. Without the activities to keep using and developing skills and to provide opportunities for social interaction, they have felt lost and disorientated,

We know our group are so looking forward to when we can all get together again, enjoying our games, activities and sing-alongs and especially Cafe time when we have a relaxed social time with fun and conversation.

Hilary Surga



Memory Café helpers recognised at Christmas Party



CARLTON

'Sharewear' - the word says it all.

Last month one of our members suggested helping a local charity, Sharewear. I was soon hooked by the fantastic work that they carry out in helping the community. It all began when second-hand clothes were being asked for at a local foodbank. Founder Louise Cooke realised that there was a demand for clothes and found some local premises for accepting and sorting 'pre-owned' clothes and bedding and so Sharewear was born. Louise now regularly delivers van loads of clothes along with other items to local children's homes, refugees, and hospitals.

The club agreed a donation of £200 would be made to Sharewear but they required clothes rather than money! A member knew Frank Collins, the owner of 'Collins Cash and Carry' Nottingham from where we could purchase some much needed clothes at a discounted price. Another member who is in the transport business volunteered to collect and deliver the goods. To our delight Mr Collins said that he would match our contribution to the charity, making the total donation of jumpers, joggers, socks, tee shirts and underwear to a discounted value of £400!

We thank all the people who contribute to our charity fund, and were so pleased to be able to help vulnerable people of all ages in our area.

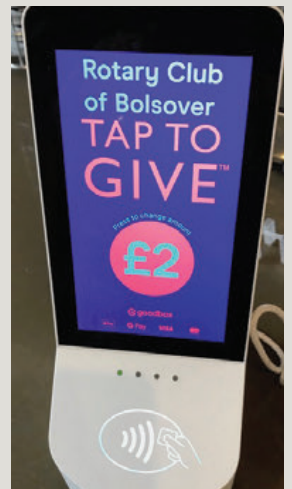
David Falkner

BOLSOVER

Cashless Collections

"I'm sorry I don't carry cash". It's a familiar reply that anyone who has stood in the cold rattling a collection box at Christmas time has heard. This prompted us to look further into the possibilities of including contactless donations in our annual Christmas appeal.

We evaluated several providers of contactless card transaction processing and chose a "Core" card reader from Goodbox.com; there was an initial cost of just over £500 and we were fortunate to find a corporate sponsor to cover that cost.



The machine has a SIM card installed and if available, it can also connect to a wi-fi network. We opted to set the default donation at £2, although the amount can be varied up to £30. The attached picture shows the machine in use.

We learnt very quickly that the card reader had to be very visible and we produced simple but very effective signs drawing attention to the new facility. When it was recognised, it was well received.

The card reader added around 8% to our collection in 2019; Goodbox take a commission of 2.5%+10p for every transaction, so for every £2 donation, £1.85 goes to our Charity account.

We are confident that the use of the Goodbox will grow year on year as cash usage continues to fall, particularly with the precautions taken post-covid. We are also looking at ways to use the equipment outside the period of the Christmas Collection, maybe by locating it on the counter of a friendly retailer.

Frank Hawkins



Belper & Duffield
Bolsover • Carlton



CHURCH WILNE

In November the Club held a Special Presentation Evening when which was attended by 39 Club members and 36 guests. Four very successful events had been held earlier in the year which had raised £17,000; one of these was a sponsored ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro by Rotary President Andy Cartwright and Inner Wheel President Andrea Tew (see photograph). Cheques for approximately £12,000 were presented to Treetops Hospice Care, Air Ambulance, Derby Mountain Rescue and Broxtowe Day Care. Most of the guests at the Presentation Evening, landowners, farmers, business sponsors and helpers, were involved with the 13th Charity Horse Ride, an event which has raised a total of £76,000 since 2006.

In December the Club paid for all the 180 seats in the family pantomime performance of Hansel & Gretel at the Duchess Theatre in Long Eaton. Tickets purchased with money raised from the annual Santa's Christmas Sleigh were distributed to families in the Draycott, Borrowash and Breaston areas.

Club meetings from early April have been "Zoom meetings" with 38-40 members attending; Club Council meetings now have a 100% attendance! These meetings have enabled decisions to be taken to continue to help the local community including donations of £500 each to 4 local food banks.

Roger Graham



DONCASTER

Rotary fights the Floods

There are some dates which live forever in the local consciousness; 7th November 2019 is a day which the people of Doncaster will never forget, when a month's rain fell in 24 hours and the swollen waters of the River Don flooded towns and fields alike. The national papers carried pictures of the rural village of Fishlake surrounded by water and flooded streets in the inner township of Bentley.

It did not take long for the three Rotary clubs in Doncaster to join other volunteers in clearing up the mess and providing support to residents who had been flooded. The effort was co-ordinated by Stuart Smith, who had experience of dealing with the flooding on the Somerset Levels in 2014 (for which he was awarded a PHF).

When the New Year arrived we got to work restoring gardens and rebuilding fences (which are not covered by insurance). Two other projects stand out:

- One was to clear some allotments bordering the River Don, which had been flooded to a depth of 7 ft. Sheds needed putting upright, and debris sorting into plastic, metal, timber and refuse.
- The other was to restore an animal sanctuary, which had historic drainage problems. A digger was hired, aggregate laid, new drainage system installed, and grass sown.

Before the coronavirus brought all work to a standstill we took application forms from affected householders specifying the work that was needed. For business reasons, and anticipating that our services will be needed again in the future, the three clubs are forming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and in the meantime are making use of a limited company with charitable objects. This simplifies our occupation of a warehouse where we are storing our equipment and materials, and the process of opening accounts with suppliers.

None of this would have been possible without the co-operation of the local Rotary clubs, and the generosity of other clubs up and down the country with cash donations.

Adrian Hattrell



DERBY

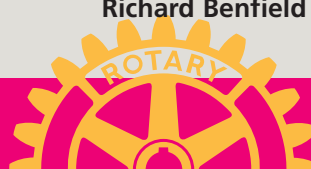
New member inducted, even during lockdown

Derby club has been running their Monday lunchtime meetings throughout the crisis by using Zoom. On 25th May we were pleased to induct a new member, Peter Woolley; we believe this was the second to be inducted in such a way in District 1220.

Born in Ashbourne he has predominantly lived his life in and around Derby. Peter is a qualified Mechanical Engineer and following a career with International Combustion and its subsequent guises he retired from Alstom in 2004. He then spent a few years working part time for a building contractor in the role of Health and Safety and Project Management. However more recently he worked for a company as Technical Manager in the build of three waste to energy power stations in the UK.

He has now fully retired and hoping to devote his time to his family and holidays and obviously now the Rotary Club of Derby.

Richard Benfield





KIRKBY IN ASHFIELD

The Rotary Club of Church Wilne took on the Kirkby Club in the District bowls competition and, not surprisingly, won the match. What is surprising, perhaps, is how happy the Kirkby team (on the left) look at the result. They obviously had a good time.

In January Peter Hammond from Rotary Sherwood Sunrisers gave a fascinating talk on Albert Ball, VC, DSO & Two Bars, MC, an ace pilot in WW1 and Nottingham's own hero. Born 1896, he worked in engineering until the war started, when he enlisted in the army. He then took private flying lessons, joined the Royal Flying Corps and was posted to France in 1916. His career included many air battles, narrow escapes and crashes, gaining him a reputation equal to Von Richthofen, the German's Red Baron. Ball was shot down and killed in May 1917. His grave is in Northern France and there is a memorial to him in Nottingham Castle grounds.

Ron Walker

HOPE VALLEY

New defibrillator in operation in the Peak District



The Club have been able to secure funding for a new defibrillator based near Longshaw National Trust Estate. This has been achieved with a grant from the British Heart Foundation, collections from members of the public and a donation from Rotary Club.

The defibrillator is situated at the rear of the car park of the Grouse Inn, Longshaw, S11 7TZ, courtesy of the landlords, Mr and Mrs Fletcher and is available for anyone to use. It is really easy to operate with spoken instructions being given by the machine itself, and users cannot inadvertently shock a person who is not in need of defibrillating.

Peta Kingwell, chef at The Grouse said, 'We at The Grouse are pleased to be able to help the British

Heart Foundation, the local Rotary Club, and particularly local people for whom this machine could really be a life saver. We are happy to have the defibrillator outside our pub as it is a popular place for people who are nearby on any of the many footpaths in the area and it may enable those who are taken ill to have sustaining assistance until the emergency services can arrive.'

Pictured are Peta Kingwell, chef at the Grouse, and John Broughton, Club secretary.

John Broughton



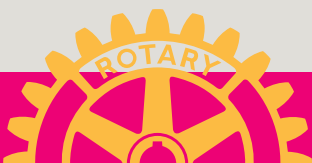
ECKINGTON & DISTRICT

Village planters - a saga

In an effort to enhance the areas in the Eckington Parish we undertook to place planters at the entry point to each of the villages. We needed to get permission from the County Council resulting in many emails over a period of 18 months. We had to submit plans of the proposed planters and identify their locations on a map; seemed straight forward as we had access to Google maps. This was rejected as they needed to be identified on an Ordinance Survey map. Then, one position was rejected as it was considered too near the Highway, even though it was going underneath the existing village sign! We then had to contact all the properties adjacent to each site and get their written permission; the owners were puzzled at this as they did not own the verges. Finally we needed to obtain insurance so we asked the Parish Council to include the planters on their Public Liability insurance; unbelievably, they refused! Rotary Great Britain said not a problem, we would be covered by them. The County Council rejected that arrangement as they could not accept cover from a third party and we needed to use the Parish Council insurance. Finally with their support we got cover, had the planters constructed and completed the job!

Tony Dungworth

**Kirkby in Ashfield
Hope Valley • Eckington & District**





LONG BENNINGTON

Residents of Long Bennington would have spotted Super Mario characters collecting donations around the village.

Members of Long Bennington Rotary Club dressed up in colourful costume as they collected food donations around the village. The food was given to local distribution networks.

The theme of the dress-up was based around the characters from Super Mario, as the charity collected food for those in need on Sunday May 17 and Monday May 18, and the neighbouring village of Foston on Sunday May 24.

Glen Foreman



MAPPERLEY & ARNOLD

We were able to invite Scott Totten, musical director of the Beach Boys and lead guitarist as our zoom charter night guest!

One of our members, Chris Rollinson, has lent his car to Nottingham Blood Bikes; they have put a few thousand miles on the clock delivering many products all over the UK.

We have also been able to carry on working on the Hayward House garden project, painting, planting and cutting the grass.

Graham Holmes



MARKET RASEN

We have been holding Zoom meetings since the Covid 19 lock down, and one of the most interesting points is that we can get a wide range of speakers to talk to our members, with no travel costs. As a result, we have had Volunteer supporter and Rotarian Iain Wilson updating us on Shelterbox, Rotarian Keith Busking from the RC of Norman-Sooner (District 5770) Oklahoma USA, who was the leader of a Group Exchange team visiting our club in 1999 and Andrew Quickfall from the Skegness club explained to us how our £500 donation helped the citizens of Wainfleet, Lincolnshire, cope with the floods when the River Steeping burst its' banks necessitating a Chinook Helicopter filling the breach with some 270 tonnes of ballast.

Finally, the club helped fund a toilet block in Ghana after two retired teachers from Market Rasen, Adrian Rosser and Norman Palmer, told us about their original project which has now grown into a stand alone charity, building toilet blocks in several villages in the area,

David Mason





ROTHERHAM SITWELL

Shiloh Rotherham –
The Courtyard Project (Peace Garden)



Rotherham Sitwell Rotary Club is supporting Shiloh, a charity that offers support to adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in Rotherham. The club's attention was first drawn to Shiloh's desire to create a peace garden in June 2018. The club planned and approved the project and accepted the responsibility of funding it.

The project was very much a joint effort between several organisations. Fortem and Mears, both building contractors, carried out the construction. Fortem, Mears and Rotherham Council paid for the labour and Rotherham Sitwell RC paid for the materials.

To fund the project Rotherham Councillors, Rotherham Round Table and Rotherham Rotary Club all made significant donations. Sitwell Rtn Tom Knight, a member of Rotherham Wheelers Cycling Club (RWCC) was already planning a 1000 mile ride along the full length of the River Rhine along with other club members. Tom asked RWCC to ride for Shiloh and as a result raised approximately £4500.

As a result of the extra money raised it was decided to renew the main doors into the peace garden from the dining room. The surplus of funds raised will be used by Shiloh for the provision of the many services they routinely provide for the homeless in Rotherham.

The peace garden was officially opened by the Mayor of Rotherham on 19 July 2019.

Steve Wylie, the CEO of Shiloh said:

"The new garden area has transformed the way our guests use the outdoor space. It now looks and feels like a garden, a place where guests can find peace, relax and engage in activities should they wish to. The kitchen garden planters provide herbs for cooking and the signage educates guests on how to use them. The new fire doors make the garden more accessible and the glazing helps to bring the outside in. The guests really appreciate the large rain shelter & decking area, which we used recently for an outdoor music group. It's been a wonderful project that will have a lasting impact on Shiloh guests for years to come".

Peter Waudby

(Apologies to Rotherham Sitwell - I overlooked including this item in the Christmas 2019 Rotary Review - The Editor).

MATLOCK

Children in Need
Rickshaw
Challenge

The Club were asked if they could help with collections for the Children in Need Rickshaw Challenge as it came to Matlock Bath in the evening of Tuesday 12th November. We were happy to respond to such a good cause and were lucky with the weather as it remained dry after all the rain.



We have just been informed that the collections taken by the three Matlock Rotarians amounted to £822 which shows the generosity of the people who turned out to watch as we were only part of the people collecting at the event.

Our picture shows Rotarians John Bent, Geoff Stevens and Peter Wigglesworth.

John Bent



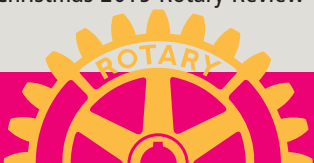
RETFORD

Luckily, the annual Swimathon just made it before lockdown; it was held at Retford Leisure Centre and took place on Saturday 7th March. Some 300 swimmers participated resulting in excess of £14,500 being pledged for local organisations and charities. Teams from primary schools, scout groups, local businesses and others joined the usual teams from the Club and Retford Inner Wheel. This year, the Rotary Club's share of the money raised will support Bassetlaw Talkzone, a counselling service for young people, and Medical Detection Dogs. Medals to those taking part were presented by the then President Elect Adrian Sumner at a ceremony at Ye Olde Bell Hotel on Saturday 14th March.

Two days later, at a very emotional meeting, Adrian Sumner became Club President when Judith Longden bowed out early for unforeseen and very stressful family circumstances. President Adrian's first task was to suspend future meeting because of the Covid-19 crisis! Zoom technology was then adopted for all meetings and many members have agreed to transfer their meal payments into a "Fighting Fund".

Neil Grayston

**Matlock
Rotherham • Retford**





SHERWOOD SUNRISERS

A future Sherwood Sunriser?

Ted Hardstaff, the 11 year old grandson of member John Mirfin, is showing us all how to overcome the problems that life may give us. Ted has a condition called Stickler Syndrome resulting in retinal detachments in both eyes and has been blind since he was two years old.

Since he was a toddler, Ted has been borrowing books from Living Paintings, a charity providing Touch to See books for blind and partially sighted people. The books are available completely free of charge through a postal and online library.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Living Paintings has been carrying on with its usual service and also offering extra support for older and more vulnerable library members to help ease their isolation. This increase in need comes at a time when they are struggling to cope with the loss of income from cancelled fundraising events, and the loss of volunteers who usually help send out books and produce new books.

Having seen Captain Tom raise so much money Ted wondered if he could do something to raise some money for his favourite charity. He decided to run his first marathon with his dog Jay as part of the 2.6 challenge and committed to run 26 miles over 26 days during his daily exercise time guided by his family.

Ted completed his challenge on 21st May and has raised over £20,000.00 smashing his original target of £2,600.

You can still support Ted in his fantastic endeavour by going to:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ted-s-team-2-6-challenge

John Bray



SHEFFIELD

Ton up for Sheffield Club!

Sheffield Rotary has been busy celebrating its centenary over the past year, with the festivities culminating in a dinner at the Crowne Plaza Royal Victoria. Clubs from across the district and beyond were invited to join the Sheffield Rotarians on the evening for a wonderful meal, music, and speakers.

Over the course of the evening, guests were treated to the kind words of Past District Governor Roger Summers, District Governor David Hood, and Rotarian Lyndsay Pitchley, former Mayor of Rotherham, speaking to the room around her achievements close to International Women's Day 2020. Further to this, current President of Sheffield Rotary, Jeremy Holmes, offered his take on the achievements of Rotary in Sheffield, highlighting the positive impact that the club has had on communities, whether they be at a local, national, or international level. This was followed by a surprise for four long-serving Rotarians of the Sheffield club, namely David Dickenson, Julian Rowden, Ruth Screeton and Susan Preston, whose commitment to the mission of Rotary was recognised by the presentation of Paul Harris Fellowship Awards.

The evening was complimented by a slideshow of images from long running projects of Sheffield Rotary: Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and the annual Children's Camps which will enter their 100th year in 2020, making it the longest running Rotary project in the world! There were also delightful musical accompaniments by The Dizzy Club and Jamie Burney.

Rotary Sheffield would like to thank all who joined them on the evening. Here's to the next 100 years!

Melany Holmes





KIRKBY IN ASHFIELD

The current CV19 situation forced the postponement of Kirkby Rotary's popular summer tea party which in the past celebrated the Queen's Silver Jubilee and her Majesty's birthday; this year's VE day styled one had to be cancelled. Undaunted by the lockdown, cancellations and postponement Kirkby Rotary made sure the show did go on and the projects committee took the party to the people with donations of fruit and flowers to Care homes in the town. Rotarian Mark Cawar with the help of Nicola Barnfater of Morrisons team, who generously helped with the donations, called at the Lowmoor Nursing Home, Five Gables and Willis Lodge to make sure the residents had some extra sparkle in their day.

Neil Lancashire



WORTLEY

Since early April we have been working with Shelagh's Sewing Ladies, Dronfield for Face Masks and Seth Lilleker in Rotherham for Face Shields. We have been contacting Care Homes, Doctors Surgeries and other Caring Groups in the North Sheffield, Rotherham and Barnsley areas and starting with 8 Homes, where we have contact through our annual Carol Singing, this has increased to 73 Homes. It is on-going and has resulted in 610 shields and 850 masks being delivered to where they are needed at this critical time. We have yet to contact more Homes over the coming days and weeks. We have also been able to have 8 ladies joining the sewing group. We do thank the Dronfield ladies and Seth for the high quality goods they are producing. The picture is courtesy of Shelagh's Sewing Ladies and Seth Lilleker.

Lewis Atkinson



VALE OF BELVOIR

10th Annual 'Vale's Got Talent' - was it the best yet?

The Vale's Got Talent competition celebrated its Grand Final on Saturday 30th November at The Grange Hall in Radcliffe-on-Trent and showcased possibly the highest quality and variety of performers in its 10-year history. Nineteen acts had made it through the auditions and the semi-final stages.

Recipients of the £300 first prize were Harriet Watkinson & Tilly Belton from Flintham who delivered a compelling performance of "My Heart Will Go On" from the film 'Titanic'.

In second place was Olivia Turki a solo tap dancer who attends Bilborough College. Her very impressive tap-dancing skills were complemented by an expressive and animated delivery. Third prize went to Joe Cheetham, an 18-year old guitarist from Arnold who played a medley of tunes, mixing his own work with some classical Heavy Rock and incorporating a 'tongue in cheek' Christmas tune in the middle.

Denis Bacon

ROTHERHAM SITWELL



Rotherham Sitwell Rotary Club has joined forces with Rotherham Rotary Club and Rotherham Round Table to raise money and supply food to local Foodbanks during

the Pandemic. Money has come from various sources including individual Rotarians in lieu of money normally spent on Club nights. District has also contributed a food donation. The project has been supported by local businesses in the form of transport and warehousing. Local supermarkets have also been very generous in their discounting, particularly Morrisons. Weekly deliveries are being made to Rotherham Foodbank which in turn distributes food to other Foodbanks and charities for the homeless in the local area. It is planned to continue these deliveries as long as is feasibly possible.

Neil Grayston

Kirkby in Ashfield • Rotherham Sitwell • Vale of Belvoir • Wortley





Rotary Club of Derby Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Last Christmas we supported the Teams4U shoebox appeal which saw shoeboxes filled with small gifts sent to homeless, orphaned and foster children in Romania. Six months later and we are now in a World, affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and we are wondering how we can try and make this a success again this year, after all, the pandemic will have brought a greater need for these valuable projects around the world. So please, grab a carrier bag, fill it with items for a shoebox and keep it ready for when we can begin collections, contact your children's schools, Scouts and Brownies groups and generally spread the word.

If you would like to take part in the "Love In A Box" Shoebox Appeal 2020 please contact John Worthy - worthyshoeboxes@gmail.com.

**Would you like to know more about Rotary roles and topics?
Would you like to do this at a time and pace that suits you?**

The RI Learning Centre is the place for you!!

You can access it via the RI website using your My Rotary log in

- There are currently 59 E Learning courses available
- They range from 5 minutes to 45 minutes in duration
- You can also follow a Learning Plan on a particular topic

Why not give it a try?

If you need any support please contact:-

Eric Thompson (Kirkby in Ashfield), District Leadership, Development & Training Team Lead



Rotarians Why not use this space to advertise your business?