



# Rotary Review

Rotary in the East Midlands &  
South Yorkshire  
December 2020

Rotary   
District 1220



There is a  
Christmas in  
2020 after all ...

see page 2



## The Editor writes .....



Despite all the restrictions we have endured over the last six months, the Rotarians of District 1220 have managed to send me so much material for this edition of Rotary Review that we have run to a bumper edition of 24 pages; I am just so pleased that it is in digital format and I will not have to manhandle over 2000 hard copies to distribute them to the clubs via a District Council Meeting at Junction 28!

Although we have been in and out of various levels of lockdown, the clubs and their members have continued to **'Open Opportunities'** to support their local communities. The Rotary4Foodbanks initiative has continued to grow and you can read all about it starting at page 4; there is no doubt that it will be helping to fill an unprecedented need in the next few months. Equally, support is still required for the **EndPolio** campaign to achieve its goal of eradicating the disease – we really are so close.

On a festive note, a number of clubs had their Santa Sleighs out, touring the streets to bring a bit of Christmas magic to young families; unfortunately, covid regulations have considerably reduced the opportunity to use these appearances for charity fund raising. A number of clubs have devised ingenious ways of using the internet to raise money, including a virtual Classic Car Show, a number of quizzes and the opportunity to have a zoom chat with Santa.

As I write this, the covid regulations have been tightened up even further to help to protect us from possible infection due to Christmastide contacts. On the positive side, you now have even more time to read this edition of **Rotary Review** and do feel free to email a copy to a friend or relative!

I wish you a Merry Christmas and the hope that 2021 sees us return to some normality.

**John Scotney – District Editor**

## There is a Christmas in 2020 after all!

It is safe to say that 2020 has been a year to remember but for all the wrong reasons. There was no Carnival, no Well Dressing, the Festival and Remembrance Parade were cancelled, and crowds weren't allowed to gather around the Christmas tree to sing their carols.

That didn't stop Wirksworth Rotary though, from erecting a Christmas tree in the Market Place as usual. At a low-key ceremony town Mayor Andy Pollock switched on the multicoloured lights to truly welcome the Festive season and begin the festivities; a video of the ceremony is available on Wirksworth Rotary Facebook page.

And for those who had begun to give up hope that Santa would ever reach these parts this year, please visit the same Facebook page to see a personal message from the one and only Santa himself.

**Ruth Fantom - Wirksworth**

Editorial

## Contents

Page 3 - DG's Message

Pages 4/5/6/7 – Foodbanks

Pages 8/9/10 – EndPolioNow

Page 11 – Santa Visits

Page 12 – Challenges

Page 13/14 – Rotary of the Future

Page 15 – SRI & SAI Report

Page 16/17/18/19/20/21 – Club Roundabout

Page 22/23/24 – Miscellany

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Rotary Opens Opportunities

Rotary Review Magazine  
of RI District 1220 -  
**December 2020**

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Next issue of Rotary Review will be appear in  
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Visit the District Website for guidance on submitting  
material.

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## District Governor's Message ...

# A Year like No Other!

This must be an understatement but – **Congratulations!** All our Clubs have risen to the Challenge so brilliantly! Our thoughts and sympathy go out to all those who have battled with the severe illness Covid19 can give, and very much so where they have lost family and friends.

This year, I've only visited one club in person, Bolsover and only been to one Club event, Amber Valley Rotary's superb Horse Ride with over 100 taking part. I have been to five enjoyable Charter Celebrations, but all "virtual" ones using zoom.

Last year we had scarcely heard of zoom etc, and now we use them to keep in touch. Few of us realised the importance of regular contact with others till suddenly it wasn't easily possible. Thank you to everyone who has made that extra phone call; a special "thank you" to those who "look after" others – shopping, chatting, e-mailing, contacting long lost friends and family - it will make such a difference for many lonely people.

**"Every Cloud has a silver lining" – so what "silver linings" have we found?**

Clubs have been inviting excellent speakers from all round the world; while next to the fire in my winter woollies, I heard a superb speaker sitting out in the sun in Australia talking about attracting new members.

Clubs have been challenging other Clubs to Quizzes, shared Concerts, acting out Skits and recently Pantomimes. – I was "chosen" to be the 4th Dwarf in Snow White, and suddenly found myself, still as 4th Dwarf, in Cinderella instead!

Very often, attendance at meetings has gone up, with clubs still collecting the "dinner money" and using it to support their chosen charities, as they are inevitably seeing a great drop in income. Thank you, all the Clubs doing this.

Santa's Sleigh has posed an enormous challenge. Some Clubs have decided that it will be enjoyed all the more next year and others are driving slowly round the streets, not stopping anywhere, but with Santa waving to the children.

An enormous "thank you" to those who have kept both Rotary4Foodbanks and Aquabox doing wonderful things for the needy at home and overseas. We will never know how many

families have been fed thanks to Rotary4Foodbanks, and how many in dire situations have avoided contaminated water diseases thanks to Aquabox. We're so proud of both organisations. If you'd like your families to support good causes like these instead of giving you the annual "smellies" for Christmas, do let them know.

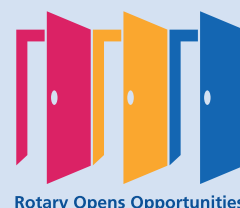
This coming year will see the beginning of changes in the structure of RIBI, but little will significantly affect our Rotarians and our Clubs. Sadly, numbers are dropping in many Clubs so we need to stay attractive and worthwhile to our present members, and to support our local communities with practical worthwhile projects that many may want to join us. If we have a project that needs more "elbow grease" or "get up and go" than we have, do ask younger friends, family members, neighbours or work colleagues to do it on our behalf, giving them a taste of the camaraderie and pleasure that we all find in being part of the Team, and achieving something positive and good.

Have a lovely Christmas, don't let anyone feel alone, have a superb year in 2021, turning all the challenges into advantages. Thank you to everyone for making me so welcome at your zoom meetings – do invite me to both your special events and your "ordinary" meetings – I so enjoy being with you all. I'm promising myself that as soon as COVID19 is behind us, I shall visit you all, so that I've seen more of you than zoom's "head and shoulders".

Thank you so much for all you do in your local community, in Great Britain and across the world – and please, do keep **"Opening those Opportunities"** and do let me know what you're doing.....

Yours in Rotary friendship

Jill  
Dr Jill Bethell MBE,  
District Governor 2020-2021



District Governor's Message



# Rotary 4foodbanks

East Midlands and South Yorkshire



## One hundred thousand thanks – but now the real work begins!

The figures are impressive. Since its launch earlier this year the District's unique charity initiative – **Rotary4foodbanks** – has seen 45 local rotary clubs work together to distribute food worth more than £100,000 to over 50 foodbanks across the East Midlands and South Yorkshire. The scheme has helped to ensure that literally thousands of vulnerable individuals and families have had food on the table throughout the pandemic and in the run up to Christmas.

It's hard to imagine anyone in the District is not familiar with the scheme. Clubs pool their resources so that the R4FB team can bulk buy quality staple foods at discounted prices. This is then distributed to where it is most needed via foodbanks nominated by the clubs themselves. It is local support on a regional scale and it is now poised to go national. Already, clubs outside our district have joined the programme.

The man behind the project, John Cavey, is full of praise for the work of participating clubs and his core team. But now, he says, the real work begins. "Foodbanks tell us they fear January to March 2021 are going to be really tough months. They are desperate for the lifeline we provide. That's why I have written personally to every club and each individual member, asking for their help."

R4FB 2021 is appealing for a further £100,000 to keep the scheme going. John is also seeking support from local businesses. "But we have to lead by example. Together we really can show the rest of the UK and beyond how Rotary works hardest at the heart of the community when clubs pull together."

**Throughout the year, Rotary4foodbanks has given local Rotary club members the chance to engage with their nominated foodbanks and see the real difference they make in their communities. Here are just some examples...**



Rotary elf Sandra Morrey with just part of the R4FB pre-Christmas delivery.

## 'Your Seasonal good elf' says Rushcliffe RC

Rushcliffe Rotary Club has stepped up to the plate to help the award-winning Cotgrave Community Kitchen. Through Rotary4foodbanks, the Rushcliffe club has made donations totalling £1500 in recent months, to provide food parcels and weekly cooked meals for around 100 people locally.

Santa's elf, Sandra Morrey, is one of eight Rotary Club members helping to pick up food donated by local supermarkets and deliver fresh hot and healthy meals to people in need in the Cotgrave area.

The kitchen was set up in 2019 to help combat loneliness, prevent food waste and ensure no-one went hungry. People came together to eat and share company each Thursday at the local community café.

As the pandemic struck the team had to change the way they worked and they needed extra volunteers to help out. When Sandra Morrey and her Rushcliffe Rotary colleagues heard of the need, they stepped in. "I mentioned it at a club Zoom meeting and immediately eight members volunteered practical help and it has grown from there," says Sandra.

The Rushcliffe Club teamed up with other Rotary Clubs as part of Rotary4foodbanks.

Now, while Sandra's daughter's partner Jon volunteers as a chef in the kitchens, she and her husband Chris deliver 18 meals every Thursday. "The food provides a vital lifeline," she explains, "but so does the company we provide on our rounds. For some people who are shielding, we may be the only human contact they have each week."

Sandra fears that demand for foodbank services will grow as the winter progresses. Rotary is renowned for the work it does in local communities and her club link with Cotgrave Community Kitchen is an excellent example of that commitment.





# Rotary Santa brings new wave of hope to Ravenshead and Blidworth



It was great news for the children of Ravenshead and Blidworth when Santa announced that he would indeed be doing his local rounds this year.

While Santa's reindeer built their strength for their big night on Christmas

Eve, local Ravenshead and Blidworth Rotary Club stepped in to help pull the sleigh so Santa could make his tour.

"Sadly," says Santa (whose day job is being Rotarian Mark Snape), "I won't be able to hand out sweets in the way I normally do, but I will be giving an extra cheery wave as I pass by."

Club President Richard Lord said, "People are always so generous when putting money into the buckets as Santa makes his rounds. This year is different but donations are needed more than ever and we implore people to give their support."

Much of the money raised by Santa will go directly to local foodbanks. In the area, Rotary has long-standing links with two organisations which are desperate for their help.

Between them so far in 2020, Sherwood Community Church and The Social Action Hub have received donations from Rotary totalling over £2600. Money has come directly from the Ravenshead and Blidworth Club and via a regional Rotary4foodbanks programme.

## Sandiacre 'Man with Van'



Man with a van Pete Wearn makes a Rotary4foodbanks delivery to Patrizia Canova, volunteer at St John's Foodbank in Kirkby Woodhouse.

Long Eaton Club member Pete Wearn has found himself behind the wheel in the early days of the R4FB scheme.

Pete explains: "I had bought a van to transport the kit I use to stage physics demonstrations to primary schools but during lockdown it was sitting idle. So when my fellow Rotarians said they needed help distributing food pallets to some of the 50 foodbanks across the region, I was only too happy to get behind the wheel and help out."

Pete who is a sprightly 74, says his work has met with a fantastic response. "There are so many dedicated volunteers in foodbanks working to stave off hunger amongst some of the region's most vulnerable individuals and families. They need and deserve all the help we can give them. The Rotary4foodbanks programme is a brilliant way of doing that."

Since Morrisons stepped in to provide deliveries direct to foodbanks, Pete has stepped back from his front line role, but his support for R4FB remains as strong as ever.



Ruth Longfellow preparing deliveries which included the bonus of surplus fresh flowers from M&S

## Wirksworth RC helps Jigsaw say it with flowers

When the pandemic first hit, Jigsaw Foodbank in Matlock was flooded with offers of help from volunteers and support from supermarkets and local Rotary Clubs. But with six new referrals in one single day during the autumn, the team had real concerns about what this winter and beyond might hold for struggling families in the region.

"Pre-Covid we were supporting around 40 families or households each week. Within three weeks that had increased to 75 households," says former teacher and foodbank co-ordinator Ruth Longfellow.

Ruth says the rural nature of the community they serve brings its own particular problems. When she put out a call for help via the Wirksworth Rotary Club & Town Council, within 24 hours over 80 new volunteers had come forward.

The local Rotary Clubs stepped in, teaming up with a local wholesale supplier to provide fresh fruit and vegetables throughout the summer. The R4FB scheme has delivered pallet-loads of staple items in volume to stock Jigsaw's shelves for the coming months.





## Hat-trick of support

Chesterfield Foodbank feared that food supplies would simply not meet demand this year. But, says project co-ordinator Pat Evans, the generosity of churches, supermarkets and organisations like the Rotary Club is helping to see them through the tough winter ahead.

"Thankfully, as the pandemic struck we started with good stock levels, but they were quickly depleted. It has been the generosity of the general public, supermarkets and Rotary that has seen us through. Morrisons, Asda and Tesco have been brilliant. Then our local Rotary Clubs in Bolsover, Chesterfield and Scarsdale stepped in with big donations to buy vital food supplies to meet demand. Rotary4foodbanks provided our foodbank with a new lifeline. By October, it had made its second bulk delivery – pallets containing over 80 cases of supplies."



We have supported our local Foodbanks, both financially and logistically, organising and storing shipments from Morrison's. This will continue well into 2021.

**Peter Arnott & Chris Riggot – Amber Valley**

## Foodbanks



## Praise for R4FB – it's Champion

Back in August, Rotherham foodbank project manager Stephen Prosser praised supermarkets, Rotary Clubs and others for how they had pulled together to combat hunger in the town.

Between April and August, Rotherham Sitwell Rotary Club provided over five tonnes of the 19 tonnes of food in stock or distributed by the foodbank. Club members were donating between £500 and £1000 every week to buy supplies, working with the R4FB team.

Local MP Sarah Champion also praised the work of Rotary. She said:

"I am aware of the R4FB scheme and am really impressed by the speed at which this was put together and the generosity of not only Rotary Club members but retailers and distributors. The scale that R4FB has been able to reach is quite incredible. Behind each of those parcels was a family or individual who, without their help may have gone hungry."

The articles above and the two preceding pages were prepared by Hugh Venerables who, while not a Rotarian, has been working with the PR group promoting the work of Rotary4Foodbanks. We are most grateful for the support he has given to the project.



Through the Pandemic, Market Rasen Rotary has been investing in and benefitting from the R4FB deal operated by District, supplying a lot of food to the food bank operators in Market Rasen, Caistor and surrounding villages.

**David Mason – Market Rasen**





Thank you Nick for all your help and support, Rotary Food Bank, FareShare, Melissa Wyer, Pam Jones Venishetty Santhosh, Genna Telford & Thanmay Reddy We had another busy day but Alhamdulillah getting there.

**John Bendall - Nottingham**

As with all Clubs we have had to find different ways of fundraising during the current climate. Last year the Club collected for the local food bank, we wanted to be able to support them again but as we were unable to use the previous collection point we took part in a reverse advent calendar idea. Throughout November, every Club member had a box at home which they added an item to each day. At the end of the month this box was donated. We donated £100 towards the cause, which with the help of the Co-op store in Edwinstowe, was used to purchase selection boxes. With discount and donations from them we were able to provide 104 to be given to those children whose families rely on the food banks. With the help & generosity of the local community who have taken part in the collection, so far we have donated in excess of 30 reverse advent calendar boxes which will be distributed within the local community.

**Laura Dennis – Sherwood Forest**



Food bank items being  
unloaded from the local  
Morrisons Store

A fund has been set up by many of the members re-directing the money normally spent on the meals at Club meetings. Many charities have benefitted from this such a Hope (housing for the homeless), Young Carers, Schools' PPE projects and, with fantastic support from District, the local Food Bank.

**Neil Grayston - Retford**



## Help for Strelley Food Bank

I went along to support Evolve CIC with the distribution of food parcels. Thank you to Karen Swan and Gary Bulmer of Evolve for all your support and keep doing what you are doing.

**Angie Perkins – Wollaton Park**

**Foodbanks**







# Rotary's Gift to the World End Polio Now

In April 2018 I was bestowed with the Ambassador for Polio role. For my part, as a Polio Survivor, and sufferer, I felt that the best approach I could take was to "come out". To that end I produced a brochure that chronicled my life of 72 years living with the effects of this vile disease and how it had impacted on my life. Together with the brochure I gave a talk to a couple of Clubs, and that led to more talks and inevitably to a PowerPoint presentation.

With the PowerPoint on board, thanks to David Pedlar (Wollaton Park), that afforded me a better platform on which to tell the "story", with requests from clubs to speak at Charter Dinners and District Conferences and the opportunity to be a keynote speaker at National Conference held in Nottingham, May 2019.

For very obvious reasons my underlying passion is, of course, the End Polio Now (EPN) project started by Rotary in 1988 with the 'Polio Plus' programme. I will continue to 'spread the word' whenever I can and I am grateful for the full support of our Polio Champion, Tom Hunt, and Chairman of Foundation, John Cavey.

Recently, I was very humbled to receive the Rotary GB&I People of Action Polio Award, and from July next year I look forward to being D1220 Chairman of Foundation.

**John Elford Box - AG Rotherham**



**President Trish Lister (Rotherham Sitwell) writes** - One of the aims for my year as President of Rotherham Sitwell Rotary was to celebrate the significant events in the Rotary Year and in particular World Polio Day on 24th October. The inspiration to illuminate Rotherham Town Hall was the amazing photographs in our District magazine showing many prominent buildings illuminated by other Clubs in previous years.



The resulting photographs appearing in the Rotherham Advertiser were by Dave Poucher, Chief Photographer the Rotherham Advertiser. An excellent Press Release from our Publicity Committee has paved the way for a joint venture with our Mother Club, Rotherham Rotary and District 1220 for a prestigious event to mark World Polio Day on 23rd February 2021. Planning is well underway; HM Lord-Lieutenant for South Yorkshire Andrew Coombe, our local MP, Sarah Champion and Mayor of Rotherham Jenny Andrews will be attending.

At Rotherham Sitwell we have always had a proactive approach to EPN with thousands of crocus corms being planted by students and Rotarians at numerous Rotherham schools and the Polio Plus educational pack has been delivered successfully in some primary schools. The recent news that Wild Polio has been eradicated from the continent of Africa should make us even more determined to finish the job.

**District EPN Champion Tom Hunt (Bretby) writes** - In 1985 there were 350,000 cases of polio in the world in over 150 countries; today there is 135 in just two, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Although the WHO, UNICEF and others, including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, have provided invaluable help it is Rotarians who have been at the heart of getting to where we are today. Without Rotary driving this project it just would not have happened.

This effort starts at the local level with clubs like Rotherham, Rotherham Sitwell, the many other clubs in D1220 and across Rotary GB&I.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to John, Trish and all the members of both clubs in Rotherham for all their help and support, not for just the above two events but their ongoing commitment to help Rotary finish the job started 32 years ago when we promised to rid the world of POLIO.

Polio

**Please remember**

**Polio – If it is not defeated everywhere, it is not defeated anywhere.**







We floodlit the Belper Central Methodist Church on the busy A6 going through the town for World Polio Day in October and there was a poster promoting EndPolio Now in the Chapel grounds.

**John Scotney – Belper & Duffield**



In Ashbourne in recent years crocus bulbs have been planted in the Memorial gardens around the bandstand and on the village green in Hartington. This year with the cooperation of Derbyshire Dales District Council 8000 bulbs have been planted on the roundabout at the bottom of Carnation Way and should give a wonderful display to the entry to the town come Spring.

**Cliff Lewer - Ashbourne**



In October President Elect Philip Staton organised the planting of purple crocus in Mosborough. The ceremony was attended by Sheffield Lord Mayor, Tony Downing.

**Jamie Ives - Eckington & District**



The Club were pleased to continue their annual autumn planting of crocus bulbs on The Green, Long Eaton this year despite the pandemic. Rotarians Barbara James, David Kent, Dick Knight and George Mounsey observed social distancing while planting 4,000 purple crocus bulbs to raise funds for Stop Polio and to add even more colour to the wonderful display on The Green next spring.

**Jonathon Toon - Long Eaton**





Members and friends of Nottingham Rotary Club in action on 6th October 2020 at Nottingham City Hospital garden including crocus planting, thank you, well done Diane, Hannah, Paul, Elaine, Emilia and Brian.

**John Bendall - Nottingham**



The Club has been working hard to ensure that they can still have a positive impact on those in the city through their 'crocus corms' planting. A large number of their club's members took the opportunity to plant crocus corms in the gardens of local residential care homes across Sheffield. The crocus corms will bloom into a lovely purple next year, as a reminder of Rotary's End Polio Now campaign.

**Adam Butler - Sheffield**



Worksop was one of 1000's of Rotary clubs across the world taking action on World Polio Day to raise awareness, funds and support to end Polio. Rotarians and school children of Haggonfields School (photo attached), Rhodesia have planted 1000 crocus corms in the school gardens. President Ken Thompson of the Rotary Club of Worksop commented "Only together can we end Polio, a virus that is still potentially just a plane ride away. We have seen how we need to work together when dealing with COVID-19 and we can all play our part.

**M & V Rhodes - Worksop**




### Dates & times to see Santa

28 <sup>th</sup> Nov & 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Collyer's Nursery	10.00am - 4.00pm
29 <sup>th</sup> Nov & 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Collyer's Nursery	11.00am - 3.00pm
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Spondon East	6.30pm - 8.30pm
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Borrowash East	6.30pm - 8.30pm
Thur 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Borrowash South East	6.30pm - 8.30pm
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Borrowash South West	6.30pm - 8.30pm
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Ockbrook	6.30pm - 8.30pm
Thur 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Draycott East	6.30pm - 8.30pm
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Draycott West	6.30pm - 8.30pm

To help with social distancing  
**WE WILL NOT BE KNOCKING ON DOORS**

so visit [churchwilnerotary.org.uk](http://churchwilnerotary.org.uk)

to check out routes & follow our Real Time Santa Tracker

Please SCAN   
to DONATE online



All donations received will be used for LOCAL charities & good causes

## Santa is on his way

The Rotary Club will be following Social Distancing rules so will not be knocking on doors this year and the children will have to stay 2m away from Santa.

Rotarian Adrian Perkins said "We are taking measures to be safe but Santa will be out bringing festive cheer to the families in our communities and have installed a real time Santa Tracker on our website, so everyone will be able to follow the Santa float as it travels around the streets."

Paul Fleming - Church Wilne



The walks through some streets in our area with Santa and his sleigh (no stopping or knocking on doors!) have brought a smile to many people especially the children. The reaction by the public has been fantastic, thanking us for bringing some cheer in these difficult times. The few statics that we have undertaken so far have also been well received. The key to this has been the excellent publicity in the local magazines regarding routes, timings and how to make a donation to the club if members of the public wish to do so.

David Curtis - Mapperley & Arnold



## "Steps for Santa Challenge"

Yes we're making a difference by asking our members to walk to the North Pole and back again, raising funds for the Treetops Hospice Care, Framework in Nottingham and other Rotary local good causes as we go.

Starting on Tuesday 17th November 2020, members will be walking in their own area, home, garden, street or park tracking their steps and adding them to a daily total. We will have to stack up a HUGE 20 Million steps if we are going to get there and back.

We'll be posting updates on our website and social media pages via an 'info-graphic' plotting our progress. Will we get there by Christmas Day? More importantly will we make it back again?!!

The fundraising, at the time of writing (17th), has exceeded £2,000.

David Pedlar - Wollaton Park





Throughout the current Rotary year Club members have taken to two wheels in support of Prostate Cancer UK. The '1220 challenge' was initially a proposal to bike 1220 miles throughout the current Rotary year. Other Rotarians within the Club expressed an interest to be part of this event & before we knew it there were 23 active participants from Clubs throughout District 1220 as well as non-Rotarians with a variety of age & experience. Those taking part are doing sums of 1220 from 122 miles right through to 4880. As of 8pm on December 7th, 5 months since the start of the ride, we have completed 11,701 miles & raised just under £1500.

Thank you to everyone who is taking part & for those who have donated sponsorship so far. If you would like to donate please go to [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/SherwoodForest1220Challenge](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/SherwoodForest1220Challenge). If you would like more details please contact us on [sherwoodforestrotary@yahoo.com](mailto:sherwoodforestrotary@yahoo.com). It's not too late if you would like to join us!

Laura Dennis - Sherwood Forest

Derby Rotary Satellite

Join the fun on zoom

Presents

# Murder Most Fowl

A fun online Murder Mystery  
with all proceeds to local charities  
all from the comfort of your own home

Friday 13th November 2020, 7pm

Tickets £10 per Zoom screen advance booking only  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/derby-rotary-satellite](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/derby-rotary-satellite)

Play as a couple, as a family or on your own

No additional costs  
Donations to our charities encouraged

Supporting SAFE & SOUND Transforming young lives

Storehouse Project

## Online Murder Mystery

Not dissuaded by the strict regulations during the pandemic, the Satellite team decided to perform their Murder Mystery online. This was a great challenge, trying to overcome the limitations of performing on Zoom but their persistence paid off and the event was a great success, raising £848.90 for their charities, Safe and Sound and Storehouse. We hope to perform another Murder Mystery in the spring and we welcome friends, family and Rotarians from around the country.

Simon Keeling - Derby Satellite



When the lockdown was relaxed in the summer we held a fund raising book stall in the Market Place.

David Mason - Market Rasen

## Challenges



# ROTARY OF THE FUTURE –

## Do you want to be part of it?

It is a pretty fundamental question for every member and club. Rotary of the Future – do you want to be part of it? The answer I guess, depends on what your vision of the Rotary of the Future is. While the following is written specifically about District 1220, in truth it applies to the rest of RGBI, though probably not RI.



**I see two visions of Rotary.** One looks pretty much like the Rotary we have now. Clubs meet weekly, generally face to face (when Covid-19 allows), over a meal at which ageing members discuss their various ailments and recent/planned surgical procedures. The members are predominantly white, male and aged 70+. The meal will be a continual source of dissatisfaction for the members.

If they are lucky, they will be “entertained” by somebody talking about some project that needs financial support and at the end of the evening or at the next business meeting the club will decide to give the cause a cheque. The money for that will be raised through Christmas collections and perhaps one or two social events. If the club is really lucky, it will have a few, forward thinking members who actually plan and organise some of the activities and come up with new ideas. They will be frustrated that all the work falls to them, and because their ideas to move the club forward are blocked by the “die hard” members who are quite happy with the club and don’t see the need to change.

The club won’t particularly engage with District because District does nothing to support them, is too far removed from the club and has nothing to offer. I recently sent a questionnaire to all 67 clubs and received 16 replies. Such is the engagement with District.

The problem with this vision of Rotary, is that it is not sustainable and has no future. Last year in District 1220, 176 members left us (and across RGBI that figure was 1902) but we only managed to recruit 109 leaving a deficit of 67. 33 of the 67 clubs in our District have lost more than 20% of their membership since 2013. The

photo above was taken at my club in 2013 (please note that we had already abandoned collar and tie) and is probably typical of how many club meetings look. Sadly, three of the members in that photo are no longer with us and a fourth is no longer able to participate on health grounds. That image is not sustainable going forward and I am happy to say does not represent my own club as it is today!

**Rotary of the future will look very different.** There will be a number of different ways new members can join, and they may not necessarily join a traditional club, they may just join Rotary GBI (like joining the National Trust). Those existing clubs with a forward-looking approach will make more use of on-line members who will tend to be younger and not really interested in meeting for fellowship. They will get their fellowship through working on projects with their fellow members, like those in the photo at Long Bennington Rotary. There will be more women in Rotary. As a District we have around 16% female members whereas they actually account for just over 50% of the population. In District 1220 there are still eight clubs that have no women members so how are you going to reach out to those potential members.



There will be more members from ethnic minority backgrounds. At the last census (2011), the East Midlands populations were as follows:-

Asian 6.5%; Black 1.8%; Mixed 1.9%; White British 85.4%; White other 3.9%; Other 0.6%. How does your club compare? Does the ethnic mix of your club reflect that of the community in which you are based? If it doesn’t, how are you going to reach out to these other groups? >





The traditional response to recruitment difficulties has been (and I paraphrase) – We can't get young members or we can't get women to join. That I am sure is true of some clubs, but the next step is, as a club, to ask yourself why these people don't want to join you and then do something about it. One of the 16 clubs that responded to the recent survey quoted "resistance from older members" as the reason they have not progressed with the formation of a Satellite Group. Well, I'm sorry, but that is simply not an acceptable reason. It is a challenge.

**Clubs must find ways to move forward** while at the same time accommodating the needs of the "older members". In fact, the formation of a Satellite Group (like that at Derby, seen in the photo) would do exactly that. The core membership of the club will grow (by bringing in new younger members to the Satellite Group) and thus allow the club to continue to provide for the older members. It will also provide more "hands" for the club to achieve its goals. In the fullness of time, the club members involved in the Satellite Group may decide to remain with the main club or form a new club (if they have the numbers). Either way, it's a win-win. Satellite Groups are just one approach.

The District 1220 e-club is showing promise. Have a look at their Facebook page and see what they are up to

([facebook.com/d1220eclub](https://facebook.com/d1220eclub)). Better still, tell your family, friends and neighbours about it and get them to have a look, and who knows they may think this is something they can relate to and enjoy. There is already a Rotary e-club of Great Britain and Ireland which does not have any geographic connections apart from RGBI.

**The key for all clubs** is to ask what you need to do to meet the future demands, not of Rotary, but of the community within which you operate. Remember, Rotary's moto is "Service Above Self". What is the service that your community needs and how can your club best provide it?

**For the foreseeable future**, Rotary has a significant part to play in supporting people through the current Covid-19 epidemic. If ever there was a time and opportunity to grow Rotary it is now and if ever there was a time to harness the power of volunteers through project activity it is now.

**Nick Blurton (Belper & Duffield)**  
Membership & Extension Chair – District 1220





# SRI SAI VIDYARTHI HIGH SCHOOL, INDIA

## Thanks for your support, together we make a difference!

When I returned home from Hyderabad at the end of February, none of us could have predicted the catastrophe which was about to wreak havoc all over the world. When I left India, the school was alive and thriving, the building and facilities the best they had ever been, and everyone was happily working extremely hard to provide the best education possible. Dr Prasad, the head teacher, had just been given two national teaching awards to recognise the excellent education the school was providing for these children from the slums.



The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic in the slum area where our school is situated is devastating. Our children's families in Hyderabad receive no help or support at all, everything must be paid for.

All schools are closed, and I was shocked when Dr Prasad spoke about the situation with the school staff; "if the virus doesn't kill us, starvation probably will." Since India was locked down in March, most teachers in private schools in India have not been able to meet the monthly living expenses for their families. Over 6.6 million teachers who work in these private schools have not received any salary since April. Sadly, most of these families are now having severe difficulties after 9 months without an income. Private school teachers in India receive between £50 and £100 a month. Priority ration cards and some Government support is available to those registered as "BPL", (Below Poverty Line) but teachers do not qualify so they cannot join the long daily queue on the road to receive meagre essential supplies

Government run schools in India are dreadful. Parents naturally want the best for their children, and it is important to note that 38 % of students in private schools come from the poorest 60% of the population. The income to run this school comes from student fees which vary from £48 to £110 per year. Dr Prasad deliberately keeps the fees as low as possible to make it affordable for those families who can pay a little. Some children are sponsored by individuals and the children from the poorest families receive a free education.

The school now has 1,500 students and this provides sufficient income to run the school. All schools throughout India are still closed so there is no income to pay the staff.

Online teaching is not possible in this school as the families do not have computers or internet access. On a positive note, the school premises are owned by Dr Prasad but many private schools which have not been able to meet their rent and other financial commitments for the past few months will never reopen. With an inadequate Government education programme this is going to have a disastrous effect on the schooling of countless young people.

The Sri Sai Vidyarthi School 's monthly wage bill is £3,000 for the 45 staff and these teachers, cooks, cleaners, etc are usually the only breadwinner in the family. So far, somehow, since March I have managed to raise funds to pay the £3,000 wages each month. Donations from many individuals, 45 Rotary clubs, and people I have never met, have provided £33,000 which has saved our school and all the wonderful people who work there. It is essential that the children are able school to return to school when it is safe. It is the best place for them, it safeguards their future and education is their way out of poverty.



The development of vaccines has provided light at the end of the tunnel and I plan to return to India when it is safe to be there again. My sincere thanks go to everyone who supports this wonderful project. It is not about me; I am just the catalyst to make it happen, we are all part of a well-oiled team.

Christmas will be different this year for everyone but during lockdown I have learned the true value of things in this world and you know what? It is not things, it is people!

Terry and Dr Prasad join me in wishing you a healthy Festive Season and we all hope for better things in 2021!

Val Leivers

Sri Sai report





## ASHBOURNE

Each year the Club holds a Christmas Lunch event for the elderly of the town; this year that has not been possible. Not wanting to let the festive season pass without remembering them Rotarian David Archer, with the cooperation of the Coop stores, organised the purchase and distribution of boxes of sweets. The photo shows Eileen Johnson, a resident of Spaldens Almshouses, showing her delight at receiving a box. It is hoped the usual lunch will be possible in 2021.

Cliff Lewer

Ashbourne \* Abbeydale  
Amber Valley



## ABBEYDALE

### Ambassadorial Scholar's two years in the District

In the spring of 2018, the District was informed that the Rotary Club of Hiroshima South in Japan was sponsoring a student at the University of Sheffield. The Abbeydale Club volunteered to act as her host and in late September, Fumika Yoshimoto arrived in Sheffield.

She visited several Clubs, accompanied by A G Alex. Ritchie and their double act went down well at the 2019 District Conference talking about the effects on her home city of Hiroshima of the atomic bomb dropped there in 1945 and the need for lessons to be learned by nations to seek and to encourage world peace.

In recognition of her contribution both to the Rotary Club of Abbeydale and the District as a whole, Club President, Steve Walker, presented her with a commemorative engraved Sheffield made bowl, just prior to her departure from the University.

Mike Cox



## AMBER VALLEY

We held our annual Charity Horse Ride on October 11th, a lovely sunny day, on the farms around Shottle, West of Belper. 123 horses and riders joined us, thoroughly enjoying the scenery and the weather. We raised well over £4000 for local good causes. DG Jill was able to join us and was given a 'royal tour' by Bill Dilks, one of the farmers who helped us in the organisation; she thoroughly enjoyed her day.

Peter Arnott & Chris Riggot





## BAKEWELL

Rotarian awarded British Empire Medal in Queen's birthday honours list



We are delighted to report that Roy Pickles, member of Rotary Bakewell, has been awarded the British Empire Medal in the latest Birthday Honours list. Roy has received this honour in recognition of his tireless voluntary work in Buxton and its surrounding areas.

Roy has volunteered for many years with Buxton Hall Bank Trust, an organisation which works for elderly people, encouraging them to get out of their home environment and help

to conquer loneliness. In addition, Roy has also volunteered at the Buxton Opera House for 40 plus years.

He was a member of Buxton Round Table, 41 Club and last year was president of Buxton Probus Club. A busy man!

As is often the case with such honours, Roy was surprised to have been chosen. Well deserved recognition for his community spirit and hard work.

**Roz Adamson**

## BEESTON

81st Charter celebrates unsung Nottingham hero

The club was the first in the District this year to organise a 'Zoom Charter' when members in 'fancy dress' welcomed DG Jill, AG Tony and Presidents of neighbouring clubs to celebrate with us on 26th October.

Guest speaker was Marcellus Baz BEM, CEO Nottingham School of Boxing and Switch-Up - a charity which supports young people who risk being drawn into crime, through offering practical support and mentoring. Its reputation for pioneering work is spreading globally.

Baz passionately described his life experience and how, through boxing, he found a sense of purpose which led to him to found Switch-Up. In 2016 Baz won the BBC Sports Personality Unsung Hero award in recognition of his outstanding work. You can learn more about his work using the link [www.marcellusbaz.co.uk](http://www.marcellusbaz.co.uk)

**Martin Weir**



## BELPER AND DUFFIELD

Love Belper, an organisation set up by a group of independent traders in the town, holds a Pumpkin Trail at Halloween. The club manned a stall set up in the Market Place for families to collect a leaflet and follow a trail around the town, checking the shop windows to collect missing letters to complete a puzzle. The trail finished at a café on the A6 and the children entered their completed leaflets into a raffle in exchange for a bag of goodies – everybody a winner!

**John Scotney**

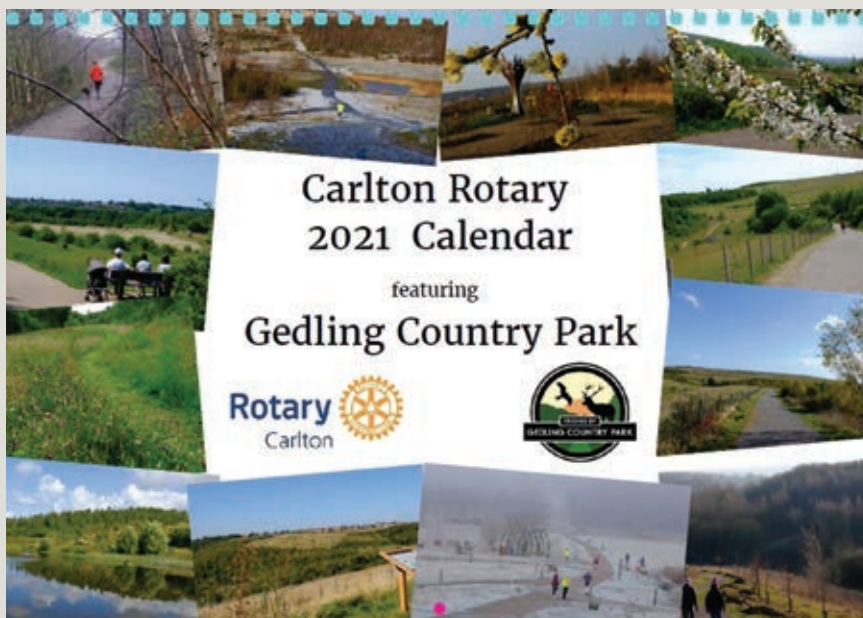


## CARLTON

### 2021 Calendar

With social get-togethers out of bounds this year, Carlton Rotary found a new way of fundraising. We produced a 2021 Calendar in conjunction with Gedling Country Park. The Park is on the site of the former Gedling Colliery and we've all watched it develop over the last few years to become a favourite venue for our daily walks! Local photographer, Philip Orme, was happy to supply us with some splendid photos to illustrate each month. £1 from the sale of each calendar is going to the Friends of Gedling Country Park, with the balance into our charity account. Calendars can be purchased via our website: [www.carltonrotary.co.uk](http://www.carltonrotary.co.uk).

Susan Bye



## CHESTERFIELD

### Charities benefit from £4,000 share-out

Four local charities have benefited from a £4,000 share-out, the proceeds of the recent Eckington VIRTUAL Classic Car & Bike Show 2020 organised by the Rotary Club of Chesterfield. The four charities are:- Ashgate Hospicecare, Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice, The Elm Foundation (supporting domestic abuse victims), and Weston Park Cancer Charity.

This innovative online event was organised by the Satellite Group of younger members of the Rotary Club of Chesterfield to replace the usual annual event, which takes place each June at Renishaw Hall, but had to be cancelled this year due to COVID-19.

The date has already been fixed for next year's charity fundraising live event when the 2021 Eckington Classic Car & Bike Show will be held at Renishaw Hall on Wednesday 9 June 2021, and we are also delighted to announce that there will also be the exciting addition of the virtual online show running parallel to the main event - basically the best of both worlds.

Geoff Mitchell



## CHESTERFIELD SATELLITE

### Quiz Night 2020

So, what do you do when your Annual Quiz night gets cancelled due to the pandemic?

Hmm, you could look at running it online, I suppose But EVERYBODY is doing weekly Zoom quizzes – how will you make yours different?

Well, let's recruit Bernie Clifton to add a bit of celebrity and variety to the evening.

And on 14th November over 100 paying guests crowded into our Zoom quiz and had a tremendous evening, singing along to songs in the music round and competing fiercely for the treasured Annual Challenge Trophy. Thanks to the generosity of local business sponsors, donors of raffle prizes and auction lots, Bernie giving us his shirt (literally) and everyone that took part we have been able to donate a brilliant £4,500 to the local charities that we were supporting.

Paul Davies







## CHURCH WILNE

### Rotary Remembers

In the absence of formal Remembrance Day Services in Draycott, Ockbrook and Borrowash, members of the Rotary Club of Church Wilne showed their respect for the fallen in armed conflicts throughout the years.

A single member from the Rotary Club of Church Wilne laid a wreath at the War memorials in the villages, in compliance with the current regulations for acts of Remembrance on Sunday 8th November 2020. Rotary Club President Andy Lord placed the wreath in Draycott, while the Club Secretary David Hewitt attended the Ockbrook and Borrowash War Memorial on Victoria Avenue.

**Paul Fleming**



Derby Rotary Satellite Community Allotment, Mandy Trotman with Satellite Chair Simon Keeling's daughter.

## DERBY SATELLITE

### Community Allotment

In September, Satellite member Mandy Trotman was successful in securing an allotment that Satellite members could use to grow produce that they could then donate to food banks around the city. The allotment, located on Warwick Avenue, opposite Normanton Park is in a great location and has a history of growing a great range of crops.

If Rotary members have anything that they can donate to the allotment such as paving slabs, sleepers, tools etc or if you just want a nice space to chill out, growing vegetables and fruit, we would welcome your support. Please email [derbyrotarysatellite@yahoo.com](mailto:derbyrotarysatellite@yahoo.com)

**Simon Keeling**



## MARKET RASEN

During the summer, Market Rasen Rotarians and their wives and partners, enjoyed a walk in Linwood Warren, close by Market Rasen, followed by a socially distanced fish and chip supper at the Golf Club.

**David Mason**

**Church Wilne \* Market Rasen  
Derby Satellite**







Laura (Take2Adventure), Chairman of the Environmental Committee Paul Withers and President Adrian planting

## RETFORD

Many of the pilgrims who sailed on the Mayflower 400 years ago came from the Retford area. The Environmental Committee are celebrating this by aiming to plant 1620 trees as part of the national scheme to combat global warming. In collaboration with a local Outdoor Education Company, Take2Adventure, local primary schools are getting involved as part of the Club's RotaKids' project.

Neil Grayson

## ROTHERHAM SITWELL



Donations from funds raised by Rotherham Sitwell Rotary last Christmas have contributed to the recent purchase of special equipment to support pupils of Newman School, Rotherham. The equipment offers lights and sounds to create a multi-sensory environment and support the learning of children and young people with physical disabilities, medical needs and complex learning needs.

We knew we could support Newman School but with the help of a matched Foundation grant from Rotary District 1220 we doubled our contribution from £2000 to £4000.

Paul Daniels



It suits me, but will it be a worthwhile purchase?

## NEWARK

Like most of the District, RC Newark has adapted to the extended lockdown. We have been successful with a range of speakers on Zoom, balancing the informative with the inevitable charity updates. Numbers zooming have ranged from a quarter to half the club. Our age profile is such that technophobes abound, although the International Secretary has striven to help the tentative!

One success was the son of a member, who runs the local Main Dealer for Peugeot. He gave us a view of the electric/hybrid/petrol/diesel range, with some good speculation as to the next ten years. It seems we are all going to have to be greener, but there are many pitfalls along the way!

Best wishes to all our District friends

David Shannon







## SHERWOOD SUNRISERS

### Keeping our Memory Café Active

The Rotary Club of Sherwood Sunrisers have been holding a Memory Café for over two years but because of Covid have not been able to meet "Face to Face" so we have held the meetings by ZOOM, every two weeks with generally 10 members attending, together with a similar number of Sunrisers.

The Members and their Carers have been entertained with Quizzes', Bingo, word games, Sticky Fingers Card game and have been able to take part in Relaxation / meditation with a guest "Mindfulness" speaker.

The Club had hoped for Santa to attend the Memory Café Christmas Party but this year obviously not possible.

So, Santa has arranged for each Café Member to receive a Hamper of Christmas Goodies

John Bray



## SWADLINCOTE

The club supported Friends of Newhall Park and recently took part in a litter pick and general tidy up on the park as well as helping to paint the local football club's porta cabin a nice magnolia colour.

Andrew Smart

## WIRKSWORTH

### Wirksworth Rotary Community Award



The time has come, once more, to welcome the Wirksworth Rotary Awards season and this year's Community Champion certainly fits the criteria.

Peter Riddle and his late wife, Maggie set up the children's nursery on Coldwell Street, and Wirksworth Open Garden is another of Peter's projects. In 2009 he became chairman of the Waltham House Trustees and he set up and became chair of the Friends of Waltham House, helping to raise funds for the residents.

Peter is also a talented musician, supporting the Nightingales choir, playing the piano, sometimes leading the choir and he is a great support to Wirksworth Memory Café. Also serving as one of the editors of Community Fayre, Peter is well and truly a hugely active and popular member of our Community.

Peter received his award in a Socially Distanced ceremony in the garden of Rotarian Pam Fraser.

Well Done Peter - and Thank You for your contribution to our lives.

Ruth Fantom

Sherwood Sunrisers • Swadlincote  
Wirksworth





SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH & JOIN US FOR OUR

## *Keeping Up With* **CHRISTMAS**

HELP US TO RAISE MONEY FOR A WORTHWHILE CAUSE WHILE ENJOYING A WONDERFUL EVENING OF SCOTTISH BAGPIPES, CHRISTMAS CAROLS, THE BIG FAT QUIZ OF THE YEAR, WITH TERRIBLE. CHRISTMASY JOKES & PRIZES TO BE WON!

DEC. 29 | 6PM  
ZOOM ID: 963 5187 7921

DONATIONS MADE TO [MIND.ORG.UK](https://www.mind.org.uk)

**Rotary**   
District 1220 E-Club



## **RYLA is a course supporting the leadership development of 15 to 17 year olds.**

Dear Rotarians

As we cannot actually run the course at the centre, we are looking to run a virtual RYLA course over

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th February 2021.

We wanted to let you know this now, and will confirm what is happening as soon as we can.

Clubs are invited to send 2 candidates, one boy and one girl, aged between 15 and 17 (they must not be 18

by / on the date of the course). There are places for 12 girls and 12 boys and the cost will be just £25.00 per person. Each participant will need access to a PC/laptop plus

another device (eg. Phone / tablet).

We have run the course for the last 8 years and it has proved to be a great success. It is run by Rotarians, many of whom are teachers, head teachers and Scout leaders.

RYLA is a 'leadership course'. A different participant takes the role of the 'team leader' for each task. After

each task is completed there is a debrief. This considers: - how the team leader performed, leadership skills shown such as communication, delegation, adaptability, and any improvements that could have been made. We feel that Castleton RYLA is similar to the Apprentice

programme on the TV (but nobody gets

fired!) where they take part in tasks after picking a 'team leader'.

Hopefully your club will be able to see what a great opportunity this is for young people to develop leadership skills, and you will then sponsor candidates for the Castleton RYLA course in 2021.

Please find attached the application form that the young person needs to fill in and return by Friday 29th January 2021 – at the very latest!

Yours in Rotary

**Jeremy Holmes**

Rotary Club of Sheffield

**2 Hurlingham Close Sheffield S11 9HD 07703 44 16 13 [jeremypiglet@gmail.com](mailto:jeremypiglet@gmail.com)**





It's one year since Hearing Ambassadors became a Registered Charity and to celebrate our first birthday, we are doing something different. We would like to give back to District 1220 for all the help and support that you have given us.



Since the pandemic, technology has provided new ways to keep in touch, but so many people are put off using tools like Zoom because they find video conferences can be a bit chaotic and difficult to see and hear what is going on.

Whether you just use free versions of software like facetime or WhatsApp for keeping in touch with the family, or your club has invested in a full Zoom or Microsoft Teams License, Hearing Ambassadors have something to help you make your calls better.

We have been talking to District 1220 members about how they run their on-line meetings, and we have been in touch with our network of friends in Rotary and beyond to create our very own team of Video Conferencing experts. The team have produced a video and a number of information leaflets which you can download from the Resources section of our new website

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

Better still come and join one of our workshops on 11th January or 21st January. For more details or to reserve your place, please email us on [info@HearingAmbassadors.org](mailto:info@HearingAmbassadors.org)



## ROTARY CHRISTMAS TOY BOX

District 1220 Rotary Clubs and Clubs from Inner Wheel District 22 have teamed up with the national children's charity KidsOut to provide Christmas presents to survivors of domestic violence. Children who are living in refuges across our area will receive a box of brand-new toys and games to enjoy over the upcoming festive period.

Christmas is always tough for families living in a refuge, with this year set to be harder than usual because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Most children arrive at a refuge with only the clothes on their back, restricted to a single room with their mother and siblings. Mothers struggle to provide basic essentials, let alone toys for their children at Christmas.

Inner Wheel and Rotary Clubs are supporting this new initiative and are part of a nationwide campaign to provide a Rotary Christmas Toy Box to 'Every Refuge, Every Child'.

Thanks to local fundraising efforts, our Clubs will be funding at least 277 boxes of brand-new toys to help support children's mental health and make the world a little kinder. Each box will contain over £80 worth of gender/age appropriate toys designed to promote social and educational development and family bonding.

The Rotary Christmas Toy Box project is taking place with local groups all over the UK. KidsOut aims to ensure that every child in refuge receives a box of brand-new toys this festive season. Members of the public are invited to help with this and take part in KidsOut's Giving Tree, the charity's annual Christmas toy appeal. For more information, please visit [www.kidsout.org.uk](http://www.kidsout.org.uk).

**Contact: PDG Rtn. Michael Longdon 01623 378990**  
**Rotary District 1220 KidsOut Ambassador**





# Derby Rotary's Christmas shoebox appeal comes good despite Covid

As a splendid result of this year's efforts, our club sent 1824 shoeboxes of gifts to children living in poverty in Oradea, Romania. The plan had been to send them to Moldova but, at the last minute, they were prevented from entering because of Covid restrictions.

Ellie Davis, one of the Teams4U helpers who has been to Oradea said "I went round Oradea in 2011. I saw 4 girls sleeping on straw. 13 were living in a 12 ft square house. The children had no shoes, underwear and one garment. I have never seen such joy as when they all got a shoebox; you might have heard them 10 miles away. It made me realise how important the boxes are."

John Worthy, the club's main organizer said "It has been a difficult time to go to the shops, meet friends and even to find an empty shoebox, so congratulations on helping us to collect so many shoeboxes filled with gifts.

Thanks also to our team of 20 volunteer drivers, mostly from the Rotary Clubs of Derby and Belper & Duffield who, with special permits to be out during the lockdown and wearing disposable gloves, masks and ID badges, have collected across the Derby area from schools, churches, guides, the WI and a hospital. Many thanks also to people who brought their own shoeboxes to our warehouse and to Co-op Funeralcare, whose branches acted as shoebox drop-off points."

**John Worthy - Derby**

The Mayor of East Staffordshire with some of the helpers at the Burton depot



## Doncaster floods

It may be over 12 months since Doncaster was devastated by floods but for a group of volunteers their work is only now coming to an end. Those volunteers were brought together by the three Rotary clubs in Doncaster and were led by Stuart Smith who had experience of dealing with similar disasters in Somerset in 2014 and Cumbria in 2015.

Over the past year the volunteers have been busy clearing debris, restoring gardens and carrying out external repairs. They raised money to buy materials and enlisted the support of local businesses. This has enabled them to help over 100 households. Stuart says "We are incredibly grateful for all of the businesses that have supported our project throughout this year. Without the support of these local and national companies we would never have been able to achieve what we have.

"We would like to thank the following companies for their support:



Gravel Master, Crown Decorating Centre, Mountfield Lawnmowers, Spinks, JCT600, Northside Mercedes Benz, Stoneacre Ford, Lookers Ford, Bawtry Forest, Hilti Tools, Tile Giant, Evolution Power Tools, Plevy's, Boxes and Packaging, Ninehundred Communications. "

**Adrian Hattrell - Doncaster**



**Rotarians** Why not use this space to advertise your business?