

ROTARY NEWS

ISSUE NO. 8 THE ROTARY CLUB OF HODDESDON JANUARY 2015



NEWS UPDATE

Follow up on our Bikes 4 Africa collection last summer

A recipe for success.

Step 1: Take a handful of Rotarians and allow to rest for a short while to allow the idea's to ferment.

Step 2: As the fermentation progresses arrange in suitable groups to allow the ideas to grow

Step 3: Take one of the ideas and blend until a firm consistency

Step 4: Take the local community and blend in the idea until evenly spread.

Step 5: Collect old bikes from members of the community and allow to rest in the open for a few days

Step 6: Place the rested bikes into a warm barn for 2/3 weeks

Step 7: Transfer to a suitable container for cleaning and service

Step 8: Transport the bikes to a very hot area in Africa and allow to acclimatise

Step 9: Once all the bikes are ready for serving distribute evenly amongst the local children.

Step 10: Leave the children to enjoy the new found transport and a much quicker journey to school !!!!!!!



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District 1260 - Chartered 1947 - Club No: 19256 - Charity Number 270925

A few words from our President

PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that I am almost halfway through my Presidential Year and now look forward to 2015 with a renewed enthusiasm after the Christmas and New Year break.

Since my last report we have once again held a very successful Celebrity Evening which despite disappointing attendance figures, nevertheless raised over £7,500 thus enabling us to continue with our Rotary Aims of Service, Community and International projects for which we can be justly proud. Our most recent donation of £4,000 to support Gurkha Welfare Scheme (increased to £5,000 with the District Grant) was reported in the GWS December

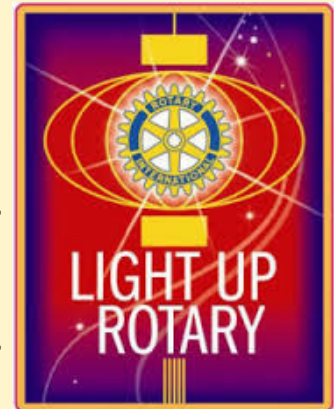
magazine highlighting the Hoddesdon Contribution and also bringing the Rotary name in international projects to the fore.

In November I attended the Remembrance Service at the Hoddesdon Cenotaph together with a number of our members which was particularly special this year commemorating the 1914-1918 war

during which many local young men gave their lives. My thanks also go to the many members of our club who generously gave their time to sell poppies on behalf of the British Legion.

The Five Clubs Carol Service at Haileybury College was a most enjoyable event and our thanks go to PDG Merion Morris for his part in organising the choir and the music. Unfortunately I was unable to read a lesson due to a health problem, but my thanks go to Peter Lardi for kindly standing in for me.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy, prosperous and healthy New Year and trust that like myself you will continue to enjoy the excellent fellowship and good humour that exists within our club.



In the coming months we will be launching our very own ebay online shop to raise funds for our HRC2EBC Everest project. We will be pleased to receive any unwanted items that we can sell on ebay. Further details will follow in due course. Steve Read will be organising the day to day activity and online sales.



Milk (UHT or powdered)
Sugar (500g)
Long life fruit juice
Tins of Soup
Pasta sauces
Sponge pudding (tin)
Tinned Tomatoes
Tinned Vegetables

Breakfast cereals
Tinned Rice pudding
Tea Bags
Jar of instant coffee
Instant mash potato
500gms Rice
500gms Pasta
Tinned meat/fish
Tinned fruit

Jar of Jam
Packets of biscuits
Snacks.

Collections at:
Wormely Free Church,
Slipe Lane,
Broxbourne EN10 6AA
Monday - Friday 4-5pm.



School Readers Scheme Seeks Volunteers

At the November District Council, there was a short presentation by Michael Scott on the School Readers Scheme, which was launched in Bedfordshire in 2013, and has now recruited its first volunteer in Hertfordshire, and is seeking to extend to other areas.



The background is that 1 in 7 children leave primary education with poor literacy, which has an impact on their lives in many ways. It has been shown that just 10 minutes of reading boosts school achievement.

School readers aims to help children improve their literacy by providing volunteers to listen to children read in their primary schools. Volunteers should complete an application, and agree to a code of conduct, as well as having a DBS check carried out

by a school if a current DBS certificate is not available. The commitment is for a number of hours each week through the school year, typically 1-3 hours, to listen to children read. School readers will find an appropriate school, and establish contact usually with the Head Teacher or Deputy Head. The Schoolreaders website is:

www.schoolreaders.org where application forms and further details are available.

George Wallace
District 1260

NO NEW CASES OF POLIO REPORTED WORLDWIDE LAST WEEK

For the second week in a row (21/1/15) there have been no reported cases of polio anywhere in the world, according to figures released by the World Health Organisation. The positive news gives strength to the hard work our Rotarians have carried out to make this a reality in polio stricken countries. Areas that have reported that there are no new cases of polio include Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Syria and Iraq. Polio eradication is a primary aim for Rotarians across the world, and as part of our commitment we organise two trips to India a year to support National Immunisations Days. Mike Yates, District Polio Plus Subcommittee Chair, comments: "This is really encouraging news and surely helps to give us optimism that ending polio can be more than just a dream. We are committed to keeping the disease at bay and it will certainly give the Rotarians visiting India next month a real boost to know what we are doing is helping to make a real difference across the world."



#action2015

**THIS IS THE YEAR WE CAN MAKE REAL CHANGE HAPPEN
PEOPLE HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE EXTRAORDINARY CHANGE WHEN
THEY COME TOGETHER
A MOVEMENT TO END POVERTY, INEQUALITY AND DANGEROUS
CLIMATE CHANGE**

www.action2015.org



WHY JOIN ROTARY?

WHY I JOINED ROTARY

I was first asked if I would like to join Rotary in my early 30s. I regarded this as a great honour, given to the privileged few in the local community to represent their respective professions. There was great camaraderie in my Suffolk Club and many opportunities to hear some very interesting talks over an enjoyable meal. I also had the chance to contribute to the local and international communities through a variety of worthwhile projects. I still have the engraved glass presented to me at the end of my time as Rotaract officer. A change in circumstances meant I had to give up my membership of Rotary altogether.

20 years on, I have re-joined Rotary for a number of reasons. First my circumstances had changed yet again and I remembered how fulfilling my earlier Rotary membership had been so I was asking myself 'Why not?'. Next, the Rotary core value of 'service above self' is a golden rule for life in my opinion and Rotary provides almost unlimited possibilities for serving. Finally, I was now effectively retired from full time paid work and was coming to the end of a time of busy voluntary work. For me, sitting at home putting 'self above service' for more than a



*Start with Rotary
and good things happen.*

few months would be the kiss of death so the time was right to come back to Rotary.

Having been a member of the Hoddesdon Club for over a year, I have not had any regrets. There have been some great trips, excellent talks and I have been able to make some contributions to the life of the Club and help make a difference for our local community as well as internationally. I also feel I have made some new friends, some of whom are very funny at times and have helped balance my more serious side. At times there are different views on how things should be done in the Club but this is normal for any group of people working together and has not stopped me joining in the toast 'Rotary the world over' each week.

Martin Lynas

YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE.



ROTARY.ORG

Meanwhile, why not try us out? We are delighted to welcome visitors who wish to find out more about what drives us. Come to a Monday lunchtime meeting and hear first-hand?

CONTACT John Glover - secretary@hoddesdonrotary.org

T: Howard Connor. 01992 468071



At our Rotary club lunchtime meeting of Mon. 5th Jan, I was privileged to be host to Liam De Roe who is the local Macmillan Support volunteer. Liam is very much involved, and covers a wide area to promote their activities, with organised events, and lecturing to various associations about all aspects of the organisation. Our picture shows Rotary club President Peter Haynes congratulating Liam after his talk. Our club recently supported the fund raising event at Brookfield farm, A number of Rotarians took part and it was there that I first met Liam. The charity was founded by Douglas Macmillan in 1911. Its purpose to provide advice and information to people with cancer.

**NO ONE
SHOULD FACE
CANCER
ALONE**

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

With a slogan of "No one should face cancer alone".

The charity is a very friendly organisation providing not only medical help but also emotional support, the Macmillan nurses are well known for their compassion and care in peoples homes, and help patients recover the energy and inspiration to take back control of their lives. A colossal amount of money was raised, £186.9 million in 2013, this from a combination of legacies, fund raising events, and support from corporate partners. Recently Macmillan has funded the new Lister Macmillan Cancer Centre in Stevenage, along with the East & North Herts N.H.S.Trust, which cost approx. £3 million to build and equip, but it has enabled double the amount of space to be provided for the 220 patients that are treated there weekly. 18 people can now receive their chemotherapy treatment at one time. The new centre also offers much more personal and confidential facilities for patient to discuss their illness, concerns and worries. So once again on behalf of our Rotary club I thank Liam for his most interesting talk and wish him and Macmillan Trust all the very best with their future activities. I am sure that a positive response would be forthcoming from our club if in future we can help in any way.



Terry Fisher.

FETE ACCLOMPI

September saw the Scouts Fete held at Deaconsfield in Broxbourne, an event to raise funds and awareness for Scouts and associated clubs in the area. Stalls vary from activity to tombola stalls as well as small fair-ground attractions.

In previous years, our club has sponsored what appears to be the greatest attraction to youngsters at the event which is, the climbing wall and, has operated a "fun putting challenge" with all proceeds being passed to the Scouting Fund of the day.

This time however, we sponsored the climbing frame and were asked if we could help at the climbing frame and agreed to do so. Despite the fact that the President's Weekend Away coincided with the event, there were enough of our club members who volunteered to cover the need. A great response. The Community Services Committee offers its thanks to those who stepped in to cover this project, its members and, of course, other club members (and in particular, a Rotarian's wife). A success?

Hopefully, the local area Scouts Clubs benefited from our support while our members enjoyed their time seeing parents and children thoroughly enjoying the event while bringing Rotary into their knowledge.

So yes, a great success.



MO IN MEMORY OF RTN TONY PHILLIPS

Tony Phillips of Amwell Rotary Club passed away on 31st October following a long battle against prostate cancer. Many of us knew Tony through Round Table and 41 Club. He was a very enthusiastic founder member of Amwell Club and was instrumental in the formation of the Hertfordshires Club. For his services to Rotary he was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship.

Terry and I joined Tony and Tricia on a Rotary Friendship Exchange visit to New Zealand some years ago and built up a great relationship with them.



His passing coincided with the start of the Movember prostate cancer collections and Terry and I decided to grow a MO.

It without doubt caused quite a lot of fun in the club and with the generosity of 41 club we raised £438.05 in his memory. Thank you to everyone who contributed.
John West

Stefan Bogusław Maczka

Born 31-12-1922 Died 05-11-2014

Stefan Maczka, my Uncle "Bogey", was my Mother's brother and he was known within the family as Bogey which was a shortening of his middle name. He talked to Rotary Club of Hoddesdon on Monday 17th February 2014 about his wartime experiences in Siberian Russia, escape to Persia and how he joined the British army in Palestine. You may remember he ran out of time. He joined Rotary Club of Leytonstone in 1967 and I asked his best friend Bob Shepherd to write a few words about his Rotary career which spanned 47 years. Stefan was a very healthy, fit and active, 91 year old who died at home very suddenly of a heart attack.

Ted Gradosielski

In early 1977 I received a telephone call from a strange sounding man inviting me out to lunch at his Rotary Club which led me on a journey with a dear friend for many years. Stefan had joined the then Rotary Club of Leytonstone in October 1967, and he was our President for 1978/79. I can still recall that wonderful evening when Stefan (with the help of Polish Vodka) had all the members of the Club and their ladies in fits of laughter at his Presidents evening

I joined Rotary in May 1977 and went through all the roles of the Club until I was their President – Stefan I had a lot to blame you for! Stefan taught me bridge and this is one game where no prisoners were taken. We played for Rotary and for many years we were always the runners up in London until at last one year we were the winners.

I know Stefan was so proud and he actually commented that I had played 'quite well'. This from my dear friend was a remarkable praise. When we were planning our Ruby Wedding celebrations in Canada, Stefan and Evelyn decided that they would like to come with us so off we went for just under four weeks and I know that we all had a marvelous time. Because we had both moved to the extremes of Essex both Stefan and I resigned from our Club in 2005 and were extremely delighted to be made Honorary Members of the Rotary Club of Leytonstone and Woodford.

Stefan's war experiences were like reading out of a fairy tale when he and some friends escaped from a prison camp in Russia and then walked for thousands of miles until they had gained the safety of this country. He then joined the free Polish Army and went back to continue his efforts and he would proudly tell of his exploits at the battle of Monte Casino. When we visited Poland with Stefan our wives went off as wives do and I was introduced to all his friends who had fought in that war with him. (trouble was they all spoke Polish and Stefan did at times forget to translate)

He became the President of the Italy Star Association and attended many functions on their behalf not only in London and Poland but elsewhere in other countries. He was entertained many times by the President of Poland and treated like royalty. He would proudly march down Whitehall on Remembrance Sunday and was to be interviewed by the BBC on November 9th 2014, four days after he died.

He was always a picture of health and full of vitality proudly boasting on his good health and his ability to take on

many tasks and to succeed in everything that he did.

He was a kind man and he was a person that I was pleased to know and associate with, and respect.

My dear friend with his sudden death was spared suffering and will always be remembered fondly.

Bob Shepherd MBE



Hoddesdon plan to launch a Satellite

On 15th December AG Paul Manning of Amwell spoke of the successful Satellite Club established by Amwell and encouraged Hoddesdon to follow up our preliminary Council discussion which President Peter agreed to do.

For Amwell the impetus came from a Visioning exercise involving all Club members in contributing views on how the Club should go forward, bearing in mind anno domini and the difficulty of engaging younger new members when existing average age is "significant".

They were aware of a group of cyclists who had undertaken progressively greater challenges (starting with a UK to Paris ride) to raise money for local charities. These 30-40 year olds were clearly committed to community service in exactly the same way as Rotarians but had no time for regular meetings because of family and business commitments.

The group responded very positively to the idea of independent but closely linked association with the Amwell Club and the Satellite arrangement developed:

8 cyclists were inducted as members of Amwell Club: other non-cyclists are intended to join the Satellite over time. They pay normal subs (to Club, District and RIBI), can come to Amwell meetings when they have time, their officers are entitled to attend Amwell Council and the satellite is protected by RIBI insurances.

The Amwell parent is also protected by RIBI in connection with its offspring: the Directors & Officers Indemnity will comfort Trustees, for instance.

Amwell officers and members have a very light hand on the Satellite tiller: they attend Satellite Council and meetings and offer guidance as mentors not Rules.

The new Club is project-driven, meets monthly not weekly, elects its own key officers (President, Secretary and Treasurer) and reports regularly to Amwell on progress. They leverage business and other skills and experience of their members and their Amwell counterparts, welcome change and happily partner with others to get cycling and other projects under way.

They are members of Amwell but autonomous – they plan and execute their own programme of service and fun, welcoming any parent members who want to join in.

The Satellite Constitution and Rules are being adapted from the RIBI models to reflect the special circumstances of this arrangement which had the approval of D.1260. This is work in progress.

Their needs are said to be

- ~ Support from Rotary (It is one Club at the end of the day)
- ~ Enthusiasm – change is good: it is the only constant!
- ~ Events: parent Club and Satellite must attend each other's events
- ~ Younger members including Rotarian's offspring – attracted by shorter meetings, doing good and fun

Paul spoke with great clarity and enthusiasm about an opportunity to address Rotary for the next generation: it is up to Hoddesdon to decide if this is too good an opportunity to miss. Much detail needs to be worked out but every journey starts with one step. John Hiscock December 2014

Further to this article it has been agreed that the club will investigate and pursue the possibility of forming its own satellite club, if you are or may know anyone who could be interested please contact.

John Glover, secretary@hoddesdonrotary.org

THE 200 CLUB

We are looking for new members to join, and get to the target figure of 200. 2015 saw the start of the 13th year of the Club and over the last 11 years over £37,000 has been paid out in prizes and a similar sum handed over to the club charitable spending arm for expenditure both locally and nationally, but far and above the largest expenditure was on the annual Easter Dinner for the local retired folk which still continues today. The membership has fallen in recent years and this can be accounted for by a combination of economic conditions and a dropping off in the number of non Rotarians remaining in the Club. The cost of joining is £52.00 per annum. Most members pay by Standing Order, with draws being made on a quarterly basis. The continued success of the 200 Club is vital to the continuation and furtherance of the charitable work carried on by the Rotary Club. If you have friends or know of any local people or businesses that would like to join I will be glad to hear from them. Interest in becoming a Member should be made to me Roger Abraham as detailed below. A number is allocated for membership which then goes forward in the Quarterly draws.

ROGER ABRAHAM, Tel: 01992 465667 E: rjaabraham@aol.com



LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF HOWARD CONNOR

A couple of years ago, Peter Haynes produced his autobiography charting the exciting, entertaining and interesting events which had occurred in his lifetime. I thought I would do likewise.

I qualified as a Chartered Accountant in May 1960 and continue to be one.

I joined G.H. Attenborough & Co. in October 1961 and am still there.

- pause for a yawn.

I have been in the Rotary Club of Hoddesdon for 37 years.

I have been married very happily for 54 years to my dear Dorothy (as in expensive).

We have two daughters aged 48 and 50 and four granddaughters.

We purchased 8 The Spinney in 1973 and our Bournemouth apartment in 1980.

I have had 4 cars in the past 44 years.

Well – they're the highlights – who says accountants don't have exciting lives!

Howard



During December Hertford Shires Rotary Club visited Standon, Puckeridge and Stanstead Abbots with Father Christmas and his Sleigh and managed to raise just over £1000

teens:)unite
FIGHTING CANCER

FACT OR FICTION?

Law of Mechanical Repair After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch.

Law of Gravity Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.

Law of Probability The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Law of Random Numbers If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal; someone always answers.

Variation Law If you change traffic lanes, the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

Law of the Bath - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone will ring.

Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know **INCREASES** dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

Law of Biomechanics - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

The Coffee Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

Murphy's Law of Lockers - If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open jam sandwich landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible IF you don't know what you are talking about.

Law of Public Speaking – a closed mouth gathers no feet

Doctors' Law - If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better. Don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.

John Hiscock



Focus on Vocational

Vocational & Youth activities committee. With a club membership of forty, there are four main committees that administer the activities, these are Community service, International service, Vocational service, and Ways & Means.

I am a member of the vocational committee which is involved with many diverse projects throughout the year, some are repeated annually as competitions involving our local schools and have become very popular. We also arrange visits to places of interest for members and their guests, usually including a professional guide. We were privileged to visit Westminster Abbey, and were given access to many of the sacred areas, not normally open to the general public.



Bayfordbury observatory was also very interesting, we were able to see all the telescopes, and learn of future projects for exploration, from a qualified astronomer.

Occasionally we visit the magic circle headquarters in London for an evening of magic, and to view the archives, with some rare historical items, close up magic is also demonstrated and a stage presentation by a number of magicians.

Other visits included the Suffolk Punch heavy horse centre nr. Woodbridge, when a full demonstration was given of all the historical skills of horse drawn farm work.

We have been to manufacturing plants, such as the B.M.W. works at Cowley, Paper mills at Apsley. Newspaper International printing works at Enfield.

Locally we visited U.K. Salads, to see cucumber, and tomato production.

Once we obtained special clearance for a tour of Prince Charles estate at Highgrove, a privilege given to only a few organisations. It was an in depth visit, much enjoyed by all.

Apart from all the vocational visits, as a committee we are very much involved with our local schools.

For twenty years we have run a yearly essay writing competition for primary schools and about ten take part. The essay title is "What I want to be when I grow up and why" The overall winner gets a day out to a place specialising in the chosen occupation featured in the essay.

Another very popular event is our creative writing competition held in conjunction with Books@Hoddesdon, our local bookshop well known childrens author Michelle Paver sets the theme of the competition and gives an in depth lecture for the children usually at Paradise Wildlife Park.

The children then have to write a story based upon this, which we then judge. We reconvene at a later date for us to present prizes and book tokens to the winners and their schools.

Our vocational committee also leads our club in promoting mock interviews for school leavers, whereby we visit by appointment various places under the auspices of "Set Point" the county advisers to schools and work placement opportunities.

We in fact become "Pretend" employers in a fairly formal setting, and the prospective employee has to come in and be interviewed. We then make notes to enable teachers to advise them on interview techniques, etiquette, etc. to prepare them for the real thing.

Quite a few other commitments are undertaken by Vocational but more about those will be forthcoming in a later edition of this magazine.



 newsprinters

Best Wishes for 2015 to all our Sponsors & readers.

Terry Fisher.



International Committee

Quiz. On 14th February, the International Team will be having its usual quiz night in the United Reformed Church Hall, Mill Lane, Broxbourne at 7pm for a 7.30pm prompt start. This year tickets are only £8 per person and you can choose whether to bring your own picnic supper or eat at home before the quiz. Proceeds will go 100% to Rotary Charities including the Ebola appeal, Shelterboxes for use in disaster areas and sanitation projects in Zambia.

As the quiz is on Valentines Day this year, it will be a great opportunity to avoid crowded restaurants and have fun with friends and family. Contact Martin Lynas on 01992 441612 or Peter Lardi on 01992 462292 if you would like more information and to check there are still seats available.



Shoeboxes. In 2014, the Rotary Club of Hoddesdon sent nearly 300 Shoeboxes to families living in poverty in Eastern European countries such as Croatia, Moldova, Romania, Albania and Ukraine. The boxes were filled with household items, toys for children and gifts for teenagers.

In addition to Shoeboxes filled by Hoddesdon Rotary Club, local organisations each filled a large number of boxes. Teacher Bethan Goodwin of John Warner school helped pupils fill a record number of boxes in 2014 and Richard Ham-

mond, year 7 head at Sheredes school coordinated the filling of boxes by pupils in year 7 and year 8. Martin Lynas of Hoddesdon Rotary Club gave a presentation to pupils about the Rotary Shoebox scheme and Club President Peter Haynes thanked pupils for their generous contribution. Photos were taken for the Sheredes School website. Shoeboxes were also filled by Hoddesdon Methodist Church, the Boys Brigade and St Mary's Church in Cheshunt.



Contact Martin Lynas on 01992 441612 for more information and if you or your organisation would like to take part in the Rotary Shoebox scheme in 2015.

Have you heard about the Rotary International Credit Card? As our only official Credit Card, it has been carefully designed to promote Rotary International and provide great value with attractive rates and benefits to cardholders. By choosing to use the Rotary International Credit Card, MBNA, the card issuer, will make contributions to the Rotary Foundation when you use the card for the first time and also every time you use the card at no extra cost to you. The global total from all cards is now just over USD\$ 8 million.

Benefits to cardholders:

- £25 when you use your card within 90 days of the account opening
 - 35p for every £100 you spend on card purchases
 - £2 for each year the account remains open and active
- Representative example 16.9% p.a. variable on card purchases. This is equivalent to 16.9% APR representative variable based on a credit limit of £1200. It all adds up to a great deal for you. call 0800 028 2440 and quote 'Rotary International'**

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A seat donated by the club in 1990 has just had a makeover kindly carried out by club member Steve (steve) Read. The seat was presented to the community in memory of one of our Rotarians, John (CJ) Mortimer who died in 1989. John founded HVSCO in 1971 and over the years he occupied the position of both Secretary and Chair-



man. He was made a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of his work and was a Doyen of Community Service both within Rotary and Hoddesdon Town. He lived at 34 High Street, Hoddesdon which was on the corner of Yewlands and the High Street and his house was demolished to make way for a flat development around 1990.



The Space Race

Ask somebody in the world of advertising about space and they will probably start talking about “column inches” or “right-hand pages” and the merits of classified or display.

Almost every commercial newspaper and magazine relies on advertising revenue, although there are exceptions, such *Which?* whose whole ethos depends on the absence of outside influence colouring its editorial recommendations on products and services.

But the situation of *Which?* is not faced by advertising departments. The aim is normally to fill every available column-inch with paid advertising.

The editorial department, meanwhile strives to make every page so compulsively full of interesting reading matter that the publication thus attracts the reader. The same struggle can be witnessed via the TV screen, programmers are keen to keep advertising slots short and well spaced, while the number-crunchers want as much advertising revenue as can be extracted.

There is a slightly different emphasis when it comes to preparing a fund-raising brochure such as we produced last November for the Rotary Dinner in Broxbourne Civic Hall. The more advertisements, the more pages the publication could be. But at the same time there needs to be interesting reading matter, not just solid adverts; that might deter people from reading.

Balance is a key word, exhibited expertly on the occasion when an offer was made for advertisers in the monthly publication *Family Doctor* some years ago. The General Manager, Brian Edsall had one of his bright ideas when he extended this invitation to suitable advertisers:

“If you take a full page advertisement every month for the whole year we offer free display space on our stand and the opportunity to distribute samples of your product at the Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition”.

There were some unexpected results from this offer. For example, on the third floor of the sedate offices in BMA House, Woburn Place, just off Euston Road, it was not customary for a boiler-suited lorry driver to present himself at Reception asking:

“Where d’ye wan’ it guv’?”

He was faced by a group of puzzled office staff, wondering what he was talking about and asking:

“What have you got on your lorry?”

“I got sugar, a’int I, from Tate an’ Lyle”

“How much sugar do you have for us?”

“Just ‘arf a ton - in ‘arf pahnd bags”

Now this set us a genuine logistical problem, we had to explore hurriedly where to store this and the batches arriving on behalf of other advertisers, as further sample consignments were delivered including substantial quantities of Robertson’s jam, Primula cheese spread, Weetabix, Nutella, Ribena, baby foods and a dozen other items. All these products made a deep impression then, but the remaining names are now lost in the mists of time.

Our 4,000 square-foot stand at the Ideal Home was virtually home for a month. We lived on snacks from the buffet bar, supplemented by the advertisers’ samples, not to mention the drinks cupboard, generously furnished, and patronised, by the management. (No wonder the details are now somewhat hazy).

We had the advantage, even fifty years ago, of full colour in *Family Doctor*. Daily papers would employ solid blocks of black type, with headlines as big as a fist. Colour gives so much more scope for the advertiser to grab attention.

Even the most sombre journal now indulges in some colour pages. This makes it ever more difficult to ensure that plain text is not ignored. Forget the big black headlines in extra bold type which once gained instant attention.

Now, much more subtle methods are required, making the advertisements look like text - and vice versa.

To sell space requires imagination. No sample can be handed to a client, like when selling books or brushes or some household commodity. One has just an idea to present, a concept of how the advertisement will convey a client’s message to the appropriate customer. So the race to fill the space is one that never ends, there is always another issue to follow, another programme.

In the space race there is no finishing tape.

Peter Iardi



Man In Iron Lung discovers Rotary

One might think a man living with polio in an iron lung would know about Rotary. But it wasn't until Paul Alexander had a business meeting with a member in Duncanville, Texas, earlier this year that he learned Rotary fights to eradicate the very disease that left him almost completely paralyzed.

"I was completely blown away by the idea. For all these years, I didn't know the work they were doing," says Alexander, a practicing attorney in Dallas. "It's such a perfect fit for me." Alexander contracted polio during a major U.S. outbreak of the disease in the late 1950s when he was six years old, and almost died in the hospital before a doctor noticed he wasn't breathing and rushed him into an iron lung, an airtight metal tank that encloses all of the body except the head and uses regulated changes in air pressure to force the lungs to inhale and exhale. Alexander is among a small number of people in the world today still using an iron lung to assist his paralytic polio. The need for the 800-pound machines declined dramatically after the polio vaccine became widely available in the early 1960s. In October, Alexander became a member of the Rotary E-Club of District 5810 during an induction ceremony held in his home, attended by Rotary's President Gary C.K. Huang through an online connection. Alexander is writing a book about his experience and wants to be an ambassador for Rotary promoting the benefits of eradicating polio.

FREED FROM THE LUNG For 10 years, Alexander never left the device or his house. But then he had a breakthrough, teaching himself to breathe on his own by forcing air into his lungs. That allowed him to get around in a wheelchair for up to eight hours. "The first day I was outside the house was extraordinary. It was a 100 percent improvement," he recalls. Determined to go to college, he moved onto campus and with the help of a nursing assistant attended classes, earning a degree from the University of Texas. He eventually went on to earn a law degree, passed the bar, and practices civil and criminal law. He has a computer keyboard and a touchtone phone by his head which he can manipulate with a plastic stick held in his mouth. When he goes to court for a case, he has assistants who help him. He's traveled farther from his home on rare occasions. The iron lung, which has wheels, is shipped to meet him at his destination.



His father was president of a Dallas Rotary club in the 1960s, but Alexander says he doesn't remember it. His introduction to Rotary began when he met Duncanville member Alexander Peralta. Peralta told the Rotary District 5810 governor, Bill Dendy, who immediately decided Alexander would be the perfect subject of a video his wife was making on polio eradication. Alexander agreed, and a film crew from the district's e-club came out to shoot the interview. "I visited him weekly after that," Dendy says. "One day, I said to him, 'Paul, you could be a contributing member of Rotary.' He asked me how that would be possible. And I told him with an e-club, which meets online, it would be very possible." Since

joining Rotary, he's become a popular speaker in the Dallas Rotary community. He's already addressed two large gatherings and is scheduled to speak at the next district conference. The Waxahachie Rotary Club, which builds wheelchair ramps as a project, built him a new one when they heard he transports his iron lung to the hospital or for longer trips.

"It means so much to me to belong to this organization," Alexander said during a phone call to his home recently. "I'm having a great time and staying awake at night thinking of ideas. So many people have come into my life. I never knew there were so many caring people out there."

Article Courtesy of Linda Elliot & Arnold R Grahl. Rotary e-club member Linda Elliott visits fellow member Paul Alexander in his home.



The cupola of Haileybury Chapel is a notable landmark, and once a year the five Rotary clubs have an opportunity to sit beneath its impressive protection thanks to the permission of the Master. That occasion arose on December 17th 2014 for the annual Carol Service when, as usual, singing was led by a choir of Rotarians, wives and members of Inner Wheel, conducted by Meirion Morris.

The solo singing of Natasha Page was outstanding, as we have come to expect from this fourth year student of oral performance and opera studies at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Trumpet playing by Ellie Lovegrove heightened the impact at salient moments of the carols and at the end of the service an impromptu addition to the proceedings drew a round of enthusiastic applause for her and organist Alex Norris on the mighty Kleis organ.

Chris Briggs the Chaplain at Haileybury led the service and gave a moving address in which he made reference to poppies spread along the cloister representing the 700 Haileybury boys and staff who died in WW1 and referring also to the tragic event in Peshawar the previous day, expressing the hope that the loss of so many young lives will somehow be a catalyst towards bringing peace to that troubled region.

This year Amwell Rotary Club, responsible for organising the event, invited Hearing Dogs for Deaf People to receive the retiring collection. Liz Arendt (and her dog Maple) accepted a cheque for a thousand pounds with sincere gratitude, both audibly and eloquently. As Maple, Liz's second dog, is now more than nine years old the time will soon come when he will have to retire and that is not a happy prospect. Maple is such a very friendly dog that he was found unsuitable as a guide dog for a blind person. His response to a cuddle behind the ears was clearly demonstrated when he repeatedly placed his large paw firmly on the arm of the cuddler until activity resumed.

Peter Lardi



IF WORLD WAR ONE WAS A BAR FIGHT

Germany, Austria and Italy are standing together in the middle of a pub when Serbia bumps into Austria and spills Austria's pint.

Austria demands Serbia buy it a whole new suit because of the new beer stains on its trouser leg.

Germany expresses its support for Austria's point of view.

Britain recommends that everyone calm down a bit.

Serbia points out that it can't afford a whole suit, but offers to pay for the cleaning of Austria's trousers.

Russia and Serbia look at Austria.

Austria asks Serbia who it's looking at.

Russia suggests that Austria should leave its little brother alone.

Austria inquires as to whose army will assist Russia in doing so.

Germany appeals to Britain that France has been looking at it, and that it's sufficiently out of order that Britain not intervene.

Britain replies that France can look at who it wants to, that Britain is looking at Germany too, and what is Germany going to do about it?

Germany tells Russia to stop looking at Austria, or Germany will render Russia incapable of such action anymore.

Britain and France ask Germany whether it's looking at Belgium.

Turkey and Germany go off into a corner and whisper. When they come back, Turkey makes a show of not looking at anyone.

Germany rolls up its sleeves, looks at France, and punches Belgium.

France and Britain punch Germany. Austria punches Russia. Germany punches Britain and France with one hand and Russia with the other.

Russia throws a punch at Germany, but misses and nearly falls over. Japan calls over from the other side of the room that it's on Britain's side, but stays there. Italy surprises everyone by punching Austria.

Australia punches Turkey, and gets punched back. There are no hard feelings because Britain made Australia do it.

France gets thrown through a plate glass window, but gets back up and carries on fighting. Russia gets thrown through another one, gets knocked out, suffers brain damage, and wakes up with a complete personality change.

Italy throws a punch at Austria and misses, but Austria falls over anyway. Italy raises both fists in the air and runs round the room chanting.

America waits till Germany is about to fall over from sustained punching from Britain and France, then walks over and smashes it with a barstool, then pretends it won the fight all by itself.

By now all the chairs are broken and the big mirror over the bar is shattered. Britain, France and America agree that Germany threw the first punch, so the whole thing is Germany's fault. While Germany is still unconscious, they go through its pockets, steal its wallet, and buy drinks for all their friends.

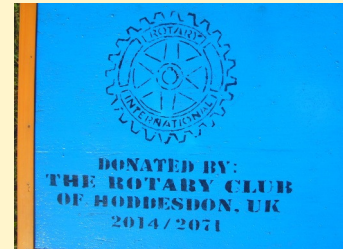


The Nepal Project



Nepal, one of the poorest countries in the world, is sandwiched between India and China. For 200 years their gallant fighting men – the Gurkhas – have helped fight our wars and keep our peace (numbers peaked at 112,000 men in WW2; currently there are around 2800 serving Gurkhas). Their homeland lies in the foothills of the Himalayas, the highest mountain range in the world. Nepal is beautiful, but also rugged and treacherous with steep mountains and valleys. Travelling from one village to another can be extremely challenging. Natural disasters such as landslides and earthquakes are common. Rivers can burst their banks in the monsoon season (June-September) and floods are an ever present danger.

To relieve poverty and distress amongst ex-Gurkha soldiers and their dependants, the Gurkha Welfare Trust was established in 1969. Today its focus is on caring for elderly soldiers and their widows, together with vital community aid to the Gurkha hill villages - installing clean water systems and sanitation, running mobile medical camps and repairing and refurbishing schools. In Nepal this work is carried out by the Gurkha Welfare Scheme (GWS), under the control of its Field Director Lieutenant Colonel Gary, based in Pokhara. Each year a Project Engineer, with the rank of Captain, is posted to Pokhara. In 2014 my son in law, Captain Ben, held this post and as a result I was able to visit Nepal and see at first hand some of the conditions described above. A consequence of this trip was a visit to the Club by Colonel Gary with a very informative presentation. Having seen the need at first hand, I was delighted when members of the Club's International Committee supported a proposal to provide funding for a specific project – a decision subsequently endorsed by Council. It was agreed to seek a Rotary District Foundation Grant of £1000 – the maximum allowed (The Rotary Foundation is Rotary's own charity which members support on an annual basis).



GWS maintain a schedule of projects of interest to potential sponsors. Including the District Grant, a sum of £5000 was available and three school projects were identified as worthy of our support. The main beneficiary was Shree Prem Laxmi Lower Secondary School, located in the village of Kalisthan Road in the district of Morang. Recently upgraded to Lower Secondary School status, there was an urgent need for additional seating for the students.



GWS supported projects require a 10% contribution from the receiving community, usually provided in the form of labour or materials. As seen in the accompanying photos, this scheme has been completed with the locally constructed supply of 110 metal/wooden school benches. Each is marked 'Donated by The Rotary Club of Hoddesdon UK, 2014/2071' (The Nepali calendar is based on lunar months and is approximately 57 years ahead of the Gregorian calendar). The official report sent on completion of the project comments that due to its location, the school has only basic facilities. 320 students are on the roll, of whom just 20 are linked to ex Gurkha soldiers - a true community project.

Jeff Ryan

Bottom picture. The newly constructed school benches in use for the first time. Middle picture. The Rotary Club of Hoddesdon 'branding' on each bench. Top Picture. The GWS representative, Major Limbu, receives a token of appreciation from the school.

Primary School Essay Competition 2015

On Wednesday March 11th at 6pm we will be holding the presentation evening for the 21st essay competition. If all of the schools keep their promise, for the first time ever we will have all ten local schools taking part, from Wormley in the south to Cranbourne in the north. The essay "What I want to be when I grow up" and the prize of a day out in the chosen profession remain a winning formula and the schools enthusiasm is undiminished. Over the years, as the list shows, the children's imagination in choosing careers has no limits and the judges capacity for making the job of setting up the winner's day more and more difficult knows no bounds. Who will win this year and what job will they want to do? To find out please come to the presentation evening in the children's section of Hoddesdon Library. If you can't make that please pop in to the library any time in the week when the essays will be on display.

Contact. vocational@hoddesdonrotary.org

Essay Competition Winners – The First Twenty Years

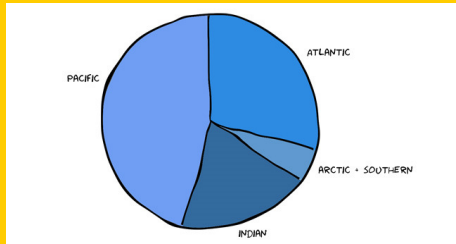
1995	Hannah Grahame	Beautician	Ley Park
1996	Emily Harris	Conservationist	Haslewood
1997	Katherine Ryan	Vet	Broxbourne
1998	Hannah Watson	Vet	Cranbourne
1999	Emma Daly	Illustrator	Wormley
2000	Jonathan Stock	Architect	Cranbourne
2001	John Comer	Astronaut	St Augustines
2002	Amy Gandon	Molecular Biologist	Roselands
2003	Thomas Ley	Cartoonist	Roselands
2004	Haylee Potts	Marine Biologist	Cranbourne
2005	Chelsea Cleveland-Hurley	Entertainer	Roselands
2006	Meghan Hodgson	Special Needs	St Augustines
2007	Molly Green	Fashion Des	Cranbourne
2008	Rayna Saggs	Midwife	Wormley
2009	Ella McElligot	Author	Broxbourne
2010	Harrison Bartlett-Smith	Stand-up Comic	Roselands
2011	Jack Aylott	Forensic Psychologist	Cranbourne
2012	James Hawkes	Lorry Driver	Westfield
2013	Jack Cosgrove	Inshore Fishing	Roselands
2014	Amelia Hewitt	Paediatrician	Sheredes



OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY

I have scratched the surface of ocean studies through a Southampton University home-based course which I have found fascinating. Here is a much-distilled summary of some of the topics:

Basic Facts



Volume of water in all oceans = 1.332 billion cu km (532 Quadrillion Olympic sized swimming pools)

Average depth = 3743m (Mt Fuji = 3776m)

Covers 71% of earth's surface

Why Salty

Most of the ocean's salts came from gradual weathering of the cooled igneous rocks of the Earth's crust, wearing down of mountains, and the dissolving action of rains and streams. Minerals were washed to the sea. Some came from solid and gaseous materials that escaped from the Earth's crust through volcanic sub-sea vents or was captured from the

atmosphere.

Salinity is generally 35g per L but can be affected by fresh water effluent (Ganges/Amazon), icecap melts, rainfall and high evaporation (like the Red Sea). If all of the water was evaporated out of the oceans and the remaining salt was spread evenly over the sea floor, the salt would be about 61 metres thick.

Who Owns what

Under UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on Laws of the Sea) ratified by 164 Nations + EU, recognised by US and policed by the International Seabed Authority:

Each nation with a seaboard has 12 nautical miles of Territorial waters

Beyond that, to 200 miles, is a national EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) giving rights to fishing, mineral and exploration and responsibilities for pollution

Claims are made for further rights to 350 miles where a Continental Shelf extends. There is great controversy (political and otherwise) over territorial waters

Beyond EEZs is International waters owned by all nations (even the landlocked) as the "common heritage of mankind"

Pollution

From clinker produced as waste by steam-powered ships in the 1800s, to modern day soft drink cans and plastics, the ocean floor has been widely affected by human waste and so has the ocean biodiversity.

Much dumped material gets into the great ocean gyres (the massive circulatory currents) and persists for many years at various ocean levels e.g. the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Plastic degrades over time but only to microscopic pieces that are still eaten by zooplankton and upwards through the food web. All sea creatures down to the abyssal depths are affected. Because much pollution is beneath pristine-looking waters the "out-of-sight-out-of-mind" principle applies.

Benefits from the ocean

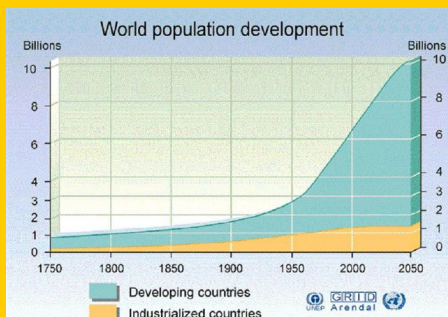
The reasons why so much marine technical, academic and exploration research is going on nowadays include the need for food and minerals to meet the demands of a growing global population:

5 billion 1950

7.2 billion 2013

9.6 billion by 2050

possibly 11 billion by 2100



Some of the benefits our oceans provide to the human race are:

Carbon sequestration - absorption by the sea of CO₂ produced both naturally and by human activity (power plants) and one cause of global warming

Hydrocarbons (oil and gas) from deeper ocean reserves

Container traffic (more travels by sea than air)

Telecommunications/internet traffic - 97% by submarine cable

Fish stocks, vital to food supply but under threats from fishing methods, loss of by-catch and (for some) species extinction - deep sea perch, halibut, eels for jellying, sharks (10m p.a.) and blue fin tuna (one sold at Japanese auction for £1 million).

Medical advances - e.g. possible treatments for MRSA, Cystic Fibrosis, cancer using marine microbes and organic compounds. Deep sea dragon fish may help improve night vision

Technical advances - mantis shrimp claw to help lighter composites for aircraft, better fibre optic cables from skeletons of deep sea sponges

Our oceans are vast beneficial repositories. We have advanced into deeper and deeper regions but there is much to be explored and understood if we are to gain the life support that is vital for future generations. International cooperation will be essential but we can all play a part by becoming more aware of the benefits and of the responsibility NOT to damage vital but finite resources.

John Hiscock



Rotary International Supports

action/2015

Join a global movement
to fight poverty, inequality
& climate change

WE ARE

a movement because we are made up of thousands of organisations, coalitions and partnerships that reflect the diversity of activists fighting injustice, inequalities, poverty and climate change all over the world.

WE WANT

concrete actions taken and ambitious agreements made in 2015 that reflect local struggles around the world and leave no-one behind.

WE BELIEVE

that all people have the power to create extraordinary change when they come together and take action.

WE USE

large-scale mass-mobilization campaigns to call on our leaders to take ambitious decisions for our future in 2015.

www.action2015.org

action/2015

Dear World Leaders,
Cc: Everyone else

There are moments in history that become turning points. In our view, 2015 will be such a moment. It is the most important year for global decision-making since the start of the new millennium.

We believe it's just possible that we could end 2015 with a new global compact – an agreed pathway to a better, safer future for people and planet that will inspire all the citizens of the world. We can choose the path of sustainable development. Or we might not – and regret it for generations to come. Which side of history will you be on?

There are millions of voices you can't afford to ignore – the voices of the people you represent. They are voices of all ages from every corner of the planet – the voice of a young girl currently deprived an education... of a pregnant mother deprived healthcare... of young people deprived decent work... of a family from a minority group fearful of discrimination from corrupt officials... of farmers forced to migrate to cities as climate refugees... and of billions of other people. Their voices will roar ever louder against the inequality and injustice that keep people poor. They – and all who stand with them – are calling on you to come up with a grand new global contract for our one human family – and then deliver on it together. The great news is that in 2015 you have a historic chance to do just that.

Two critical United Nations summits will take place this year. The first in September, where the world must agree new goals to eradicate extreme poverty, tackle inequality and ensure a more sustainable planet. The second is the climate summit in December where we must ensure the wellbeing of people today doesn't come at the expense of our children's futures.

Together with critical discussions on financing, these opportunities are the biggest of our lifetime. We know from past efforts against AIDS, malaria, preventable diseases and saving the ozone layer that when we come together, so much can be achieved. Yet, with just months to go before these summits, few leaders are playing the leadership roles we need. We see climate progress but not yet of the scale that is needed, and a set of goals that are hugely ambitious but will be meaningless without brave financing and implementation agreements led from the very top.

If this does not change, we fear you and your fellow leaders could be sleep-walking the world towards one of the greatest failures of recent history. It's not too late to rise to the occasion. We're asking you to help lead that change.

Let's be clear: the actions we take in 2015 will decide which way the world turns for decades to come. Please take the right path.

Yours

- | | |
|--|---|
| - Aamir Khan, Actor & campaigner | - Malala Yousafzai, Co-Founder of the Malala Fund & 2014 Nobel Peace Laureate |
| - Angelique Kidjo, Singer songwriter & activist | - Mary Robinson, President, Mary Robinson Foundation - Climate Justice |
| - Annie Lennox, OBE, musician & activist | - Matt Damon, Actor & Founder of Water.org |
| - Ben Affleck, Actor, Filmmaker & Founder of Eastern Congo Initiative | - Melinda Gates, Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation |
| - Bill Gates, Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation | - Mia Farrow, Actor & activist |
| - Bono, Lead singer of U2 & cofounder of ONE and (RED) | - Mo Ibrahim, Philanthropist & campaigner |
| - Dbanj, Musician & activist | - Muhammad Yunus, 2006 Nobel Peace Laureate |
| - Emeritus Archbishop Desmond Tutu | - Queen Rania Al Abdullah |
| - Gro Harlem Brundtland, Former Prime Minister, Norway | - Richard Branson, Founder of the Virgin Group |
| - Hugh Jackman, Actor | - Ricken Patel, President and Executive Director of Aavaaz |
| - Kid President – Brad Montague & Robby Novak | - Shakira, Singer-songwriter, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador |
| - Prof Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute & author of The Age of Sustainable Development | - Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation |
| - Jimmy Wales, Founder of Wikipedia | - Sting, Musician, singer, songwriter, and activist |
| - Jody Williams, 1997 Nobel Peace Laureate & Chair of Nobel Women's Initiative | - Ted Turner, Chairman, United Nations Foundation |
| - José Padilha, Film Director | - Wagner Moura, Actor |
| - Leymah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace Laureate | - Yvonne Chaka Chaka, President of the Princess of Africa Foundation |



STEAM RALLIES

In 1982 Peter Haynes, newly elected President, aimed to initiate some big fund raising events – a Sunday Bubbly Lunch in the Autumn, followed in the Summer by a Traction Engine Rally, both of which reflected his own particular inclinations. There were huge anxieties within the Club who felt that the Rally particularly was far too ambitious but, thanks to the support and enthusiasm of Doug Jest and other steam-loving Rotarians, it was finally approved.



The first Rally was held on the week-end of June 11th-12th 1983 at Hillside Farm, Great Amwell, which proved a perfect venue, strategically placed by the A414 roundabout, with space for events and parking for thousands of cars and easily approachable. It was overwhelmingly successful, raised over £10,000 for Rotary Charities and set the pattern for the next fourteen years!

The 1983 Rally was entirely steam-orientated with 28 traction engines taking the central role. Manning's Fair, trade stands, forty vintage cars and two hot air balloons gave further entertainment to the crowds who attended. During the next four years the Rallies expanded even more with Shire Horses and two separate arenas with events and displays in each – the Bedford Fall Guys, the Red Falconry Team and in 1978 the Firebird Aerobatics display sponsored by Toyota.

In 1988 there was a complete miniature railway from Barmouth with a half-size working steam locomotive. The Army Cadets mounted a Field Gun Display, reflecting the Royal Tournament, and gun dogs demonstrated their skills. The Cumberland Giants were an added children's attraction. By 1991 the number of traction engines had increased to forty-four with over 150 other transport and stationary engines. The Adams Axe-men, the Royal Artillery Flying Gunners Motor Cycle Display and the Wax 'n Wain Trampoline Act gave added entertainment to an event which had by then become the largest in East Hertfordshire. 1992 was the 10th anniversary and President Eric Cockman decided to present a great Carnival Show with the Auto angels Ladies Motorbike Team, The Flying Dragons Parachute Jumpers, a spectacular procession along with the traditional steam, vintage car, and horse events. A large-format full colour Souvenir Programme was introduced to mark this special year which became the norm thereafter. The next two years saw some fresh presentations – sheep-dog displays, The Black Knights, a Medieval Village and the Docklands Honda Imps Motor cycle Team which was extremely well received.

Because 1995 was to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Victory in Europe the Rally was given a very special military theme with displays by each of the three Services, culminating in the march past of veterans which was very moving

and a really spectacular fly-past by Mk9 Spitfire piloted by Carolyn Grace. The Rally was honoured by the presence of DAME VERA LYNN who received a very warm welcome from the crowd as she drove round the arena. Not even the weather could dampen the enthusiasm of the children who flocked to the "Street Party" with free tea and cakes and a special presentation mug commemorating the occasion.

1996 indicated the problems of providing new attractions, the risks of committing large sums of money, not least for the use of the fields, and the threats of mindless vandalism. In spite of fine weather and the ever increasing number of attractions, the 40 engines, the magnificent heavy horses, terrier racing and the return of the popular Honda Imps, the attendance figures were down. It was decided after much debate, to discontinue the Rallies and so end 14 years of an event which had drawn together all Rotarians with assistance from many of the voluntary organisations and had raised over £300,000 for local, national and international Charities. The public had enjoyed a huge number of displays and acts and we were privileged to welcome some famous personalities: Jeremy Beadle, Johnny Briggs, Chas and Dave, Jimmy Hill, Suzanne Dando and Dame Vera Lynn, as well as Officers of the world of Rotary, our MP Marion Roe and each of the Mayors of the Borough who attended every Rally and in 1993 the Club was awarded the District Governor's Shield in recognition of the inspiration and effort reflected by the Rally. Certainly the Rotary Club of Hoddesdon became known far beyond the boundaries of East Herts and the Rallies became identified with everything that is best in Rotary Service to the community.



Nail-Biting Quiz Pits Wits Against Whats

St Albans Priory hosted this year's District Quiz on Wednesday 21st January in Wheathampstead Memorial Hall. With a healthy roster of 31 teams from all over the District and an army of helpers and caterers everything was set for a fun and stimulating evening. Questions covered everything from phobias to famous last words and everyone had plenty to keep them amused. The early leaders Amwell seemed set to run away with the prize but in the last of couple of rounds Harpenden and Hoddesdon crept up the outside, with an eventual win for the Hoddesdon team.

President of St Albans Priory, Caroline Ellis was over the moon with the fundraising result with well over £1,000 to add to her nominated

charity fund for the Hertsmere Womens Refuge. District Governor, Jenny Muir, was suitably pleased with the result and wished all District events were as well attended. Congratulations go to Derek Farr and his team for a great evening of fellowship. Meanwhile, as is the custom, we look forward to joining Hoddesdon when they play host next year.

John Hope Rotary Club of St Albans Priory



Ways & Means



The Club held its Annual Celebrity Evening on Friday 7 November at Broxbourne Civic Hall. President Peter Haynes welcomed the guests, numbering nearly 200, and Past President Lindsay Jones acted as Master of Ceremonies. The throng of attendees, having been fully fed by caterer Claire Swinburn and her staff of 'The Lobster Pot', were well entertained by Guest Speaker comedian Mick Miller with amusing anecdotes of his life and life in general. A raffle and auction took place throughout the evening and the end result was that just over £7,500 was

raised for local Charities. All in all, it was a most successful evening both socially and financially, organised by the 'Ways & Means' Committee of the Club.

A jazz lunch will be organised in the summer to kick-start the year of incoming President Ted Gradosielski.

The '2015 Celebrity Evening' will be on Friday 13 November 2015, so please put that date in your diaries now.'



Rotarian Tony Phillips

Tony Phillips died peacefully at home on 31st October. A committed Rotarian and a gentleman Tony was a founder member of Amwell in 1980, President in 1994-5 and was later awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship for his commitment and service to Rotary. He was always involved in all aspects of the Club's activities and particularly helped with Foundation, International and Youth projects. He took a leading role in the setting up of the Interact clubs at John Warner School and acted as mentor for Presdales students in the the Young Business competitions. At District level he was a member of the Foundation committee for 3 years with responsibility for Grants assessment.

Tony was also a key leader for the formation of the Hertford Shires club, helping to establish the links and structures and chairing the meetings during the initial 2 year development of the club. His enthusiasm for this venture was rewarded by the success that Shires has achieved. He will be greatly missed.

Ken Edmonds, Rotary Club of Amwell

HRC2EBC The planning has started !!!



Our Project (Hoddesdon Rotary Club 2 Everest Base Camp) to take local young people from our community to trek to Everest Base Camp and carry out much needed community projects in the area is gathering pace. We have had preliminary meetings with local secondary Schools, two of which are fully committed and on board. We hope to be able to finalise numbers and confirm which Schools are taking part and commence the selection process in the next couple of months. We will bring you further news and information over the coming editions. If you would like any further information please contact David Johnston at djohnston@hoddesdonrotary.org



Future Events

EVENING SNOOKER HODDESOD CONSERVATIVE CLUB. 30/01/2015 @ 7PM

QUIZ NIGHT - UNITED REFORMED CHURCH. 14TH FEBRUARY

DISTRICT CONFERENCE - ST ALBANS. 20TH MARCH

PETANQUE : THREE EVENING VENUES DURING JUNE/ JULY /AUGUST AT BRICKENDON GREEN (6 PM) DATES TBA.

DRAGON BOAT REGATTA ON THE RIVER LEA (WARE) 13TH JUNE. 10 AM

SUMMER EVENING CYCLING SUNDAY 21ST JUNE (LONGEST DAY) WE WILL CYCLE FROM THE CROWN PUB , ON THE PATH ALONG THE RIVER , TOWARDS THE FISH & EELS PUB, DOBBS WEAR, THEN BACK TO THE CROWN PUB FOR POSSIBLE FOOD & DRINKS .

SEPTEMBER. DATE TBA. HODDESOD ROTARY& 41 CLUB ANNUAL GOLF DAY (WHITEHILL GOLF CLUB) A FRIENDLY GAME OF GOLF FOLLOWED BY AN EVENING MEAL WITH WIVES & GUESTS



Find us on:
facebook®

Amwell Rotary are running a school choir competition during this Rotary year. All 66 junior schools in the Hertford, Ware and Broxbourne region were invited to take part in the competition last summer. Registrations were received from ten schools who are presently rehearsing two pieces of their choice in preparation for recorded submission by the end of February. The recordings will be reviewed by our panel of three judges who will decide on the five most worthy. These five finalist choirs will perform live in a concert on 21st May at the Broxbourne Civic Hall where the judges will select the winning choir. The winning school will receive a trophy and cheque for £200 and each child in that choir will receive a small medallion. All participating children will receive a certificate to confirm that they took part. For more info contact Roger Williams. 01992 424131 or 07880 725024 or email secretary@amwellrotary.org.uk

WHO'S WHO DURING 2014-2015 IN HODDESOD ROTARY CLUB

President: Peter Haynes

President Elect: Ted Gradosielski

Vice president: David Johnston

Immediate Past President: Ken Ayling

Secretary: John Glover

Treasurer: Jeff Ryan

Council Members

Eric Beard, Terry Fisher, David Johnston,

Peter Lardi, John Hiscock, Barry Fitzpatrick

Chairman of Service Committees

Club Service - Ted Gradosielski

Community Service - Arnold Granat

Foundation - Meirion Morris

International - Martin Lynas

Membership - Howard Connor

Vocational - Chris Waddington

Ways & Means - Roger Merton

Attendance: Mike Marsh

Auditor: Roger Abraham

Bulletin & Communications: David Johnston

Chase the Ace: Terry Fisher

Code of Practice: David Bradburn

Evening Drives: Roger Lee

Extension: Meirion Morris

Friends of Rotary: Ken Ayling

George Fuller: Arnold Granat

Sergeant at Arms: Barry Fitzpatrick

Sport: Robert Lorenzini

200 Club: Roger Abraham

Club Archivist: Tommy Knight

Speakers/Programme: Lawrence Bone

Unaccustomed as I am.....

At Hoddesdon Rotary Club we hear from a range of different people and causes with a short talk given at our weekly Monday lunchtime meetings. These vary considerably from personal experiences, fund raising charities, local voluntary groups etc. and the sharing of information is often of mutual benefit. If you have a topic or cause that might be suitable for a lunchtime talk do contact Rotarian Lawrence Bone (07803 700919) lawrencerbone@gmail.com

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