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ROTARY NEWS

ISSUE NO. 10 THE ROTARY CLUB OF HODDESDON AUGUST 2015

Country and Western comes to Hoddesdon

More than 120 people gathered with Hoddesdon Rotary Club members as they shared lunch and listened to Krusty Whiskas, as they played their way through traditional Country and Western songs. A great day was enjoyed by all, with horse riding providing the backdrop and attention for willing riders. Lunch with a barbeque was provided by caterers Lobster Pot and blue skies helped make the occasion a real success with raised £1440 for charitable causes.



IN THIS ISSUE

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Future events & much more

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

TED GRAD, IS THE NEW BUZZ WORD

It was great to finally take on the Presidents' Jewel after the big build-up and anticipation to find that the fifth Monday meeting at Brickendon did not happen due to Peter Haynes (past President) taking a boys train ride with Eric to the South of France. Peter did a great job and will be a hard act to follow after finally handing over the presidents Jewel at our lunchtime meeting on Monday 6th July. Our guest speaker at Brickendon was Keith Wood, a sound technician with the BBC who has travelled the world, met the stars and he showed us a fascinating insight into what happens behind the scenes. I expect a busy year. The Club Service & Council meetings continue on a monthly basis and assist with the decisions and communications within the club. I have attended my first District Council meeting with John Glover and Meirion Morris to see a very enthusiastic group of Rotarians. The Youth Showcase with a debating team of girl guides, and a very accomplished 15 year old opera singer, made the drive well worthwhile. A honey extraction day is planned for Sunday 9th August in my apiary at Chapel Barn and good weather has been promised for that day. One of the highlights of my year will be the Presidents' weekend in Krakow Poland – Thursday 10th to Sunday 13th September 2015 with many of the members and their



partners attending, thank you for your support. We celebrate our Club Charter at the Highland restaurant in Broxbourne on Monday 14th September with a speaker from a beekeeping charity called Bees for Development (see picture). With more food in mind, the International Committee is organising the promised Polish Meal in January. Rotary Club of Dinant, our twin town in Belgium, are planning to visit us in May 2016 and my thanks go to all those members that have offered to help and support their visit. We have all heard about the terrible earthquake in Nepal this year and I am sure we all want to help in any way we can. One way is for us all to support the fund raising that continues for the Everest Base Camp project in 2016/17. I am certainly looking forward to my next twelve months and to fulfilling my duties as President of Hoddesdon Rotary Club. Ted Grad Pictured with wife Jackie and Jeremy Paxman at Bees For Development Garden Party this summer.

Time for Family
Time for Work
Time for Community

Rotary  Time to make
A DIFFERENCE
Time for Rotary



Future Events

LAKENHEATH VISIT 3rd SEPTEMBER

PETANQUE : EVENING VENUES

SEPTEMBER. 9TH HODDESODN ROTARY & 41 CLUB ANNUAL GOLF DAY (WHITEHILL GOLF CLUB) A FRIENDLY GAME OF GOLF FOLLOWED BY AN EVENING MEAL WITH WIVES & GUESTS

CELEBRITY EVENING WITH WILLIE THORNE 13TH NOVEMBER, GENTLEMENS EVENING, BLACK TIE.

DISTRICT QUIZ - 21ST JANUARY HODDESODN TO HOST

VISIT FROM DINANT CLUB MAY 2016

HODDESODN ROTARY CLUB AGM 5th APRIL

RACE NIGHT SPRING 2016

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WHO'S WHO DURING 2015-2016 IN

HODDESODN ROTARY CLUB

President: Ted Gradosielski
President Elect: David Johnston
Vice president: Roger Lee
Immediate Past President: Peter Haynes
Secretary: John Glover
Treasurer: Jeff Ryan
Council Members
Eric Beard, Lawrence Bone
Terry Fisher, Barry Fitzpatrick
John Hiscock, Keith Theobald
Chairman of Service Committees
Club Service - David Johnston
Community Service - Keith Theobald
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: Steve Read
200 Club: Roger Abraham
Club Archivist: Tommy Knight

Unaccustomed as I am.....

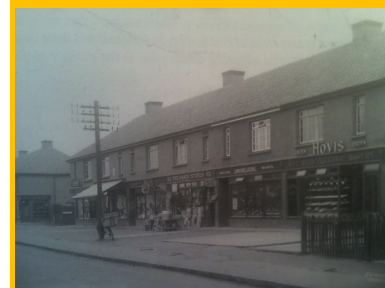
At Hoddesdon Rotary Club we hear from a range of different people and causes with a short talk given at our weekly Monday lunchtime meetings. These vary considerably from personal experiences, fund raising charities, local voluntary groups etc. and the sharing of information is often of mutual benefit. If you have a topic or cause that might be suitable for a lunchtime talk do speak to Rotarian Mike Marsh or email marsh.hama@btinternet.com



Ken Jack's 60 Years on

Anyone who lives or has lived in North Hoddesdon during the last sixty years will know where to find the local hardware shop known as Ken Jacks.

In 1945 Ken returned from the Middle East where he had been with the 7th Army and latterly a prisoner of war, and worked in his father's butchers shop at 101 Rye Road. Having married wife Edith, Ken was determined to continue as anything but a butcher, and bought premises at 81 Rye Road, at that time a shoe shop (full of very old shoes!) but with the aim of starting a DIY business. These post war times were hard, and supplies were difficult to come by with the building trade taking up materials with restoration work, but Ken persevered in building his business, also selling bikes and adding a cycle repair sideline. Ken was skilled and had a very practical nature, and as DIY grew as a national pastime in the early fifties, so too did the business. With time Ken became a point of reference for all DIY matters, and was known for



his patience and willingness to spend time with his customers, whilst puffing on his pipe! Ken and Edith had two sons (and a daughter), and whilst Ken wanted them to go onto better things, the two sons followed their father into the business in the mid sixties. With increasing demand the business expanded further, taking over the back of the premises where there had been living accommodation, and doubling the floor space. Sons Roger and Keith took over the reins when Ken decided to retire in 1982, and additional staff were taken on. The business continued to thrive and the decision was made to open a second shop in Buntingford, to be managed by

Keith's wife Pam. This again was a great success, and benefits were derived from stocking the two shops. Whilst taking no active part, Ken maintained a keen interest in developments and attended the opening day in Buntingford continuing to follow the shop's fortunes. Sadly however, aged 79 he died suddenly in 1997 following a heart attack, but survived by wife Edith – continuing in good health and now aged 97. In 1995 the business was again bursting at the seams, and an opportunity arose with the Coop moving its store to Stanstead Road. The premises were purchased and following internal restructuring the business moved to the much larger site on the 'sunny side of Rye Road'. The Rye House area continued to grow with new residential homes and flats, all helping to secure the DIY trade and footfall at Ken Jack's store. Keith retired in 2006, leaving Roger to manage alone during what proved to be further boom years but also experiencing the impacts of the last recession. Earlier this year and with much regret the Buntingford shop was sold, but with a view to lightening the load and allowing for Roger's increasing years. Roger has no plans to retire completely, and their two sons will not be joining the business, Ben runs his own hairdresser's shop in Bishop Stortford, and Sam is unable to work, having been seriously injured in combat whilst serving in Afghanistan. With sixty Years completed, Ken Jack's will continue to supply the locality with screws, plumbing materials, electrical, decorating and other materials as well as much more. But no bicycles! So if you haven't done so recently, pop in and see Roger and his tremendous team of long standing and extremely knowledgeable staff where a warm welcome will continue to be received.



Cruse National helpline: 0844 477 9400



www.teensunitefightingcancer.org



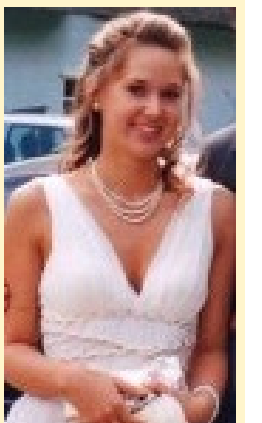
BEE SCENE WITH TED



Club members recently spent a pleasant Sunday afternoon, learning about honey production and the inner working of a Bee Hive, we will DRONE on more about it in the next issue. Thanks to Ted & Jackie for great hospitality and interesting afternoon.

STEPH'S WISHES

On Monday 3rd August Steve Knight of the relatively young charity "Steph's Wishes" bravely spoke to the club. Bravely, because not only is he chairman of the charity but Stephanie was his daughter. In 2009 Steph was diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma, a rare and aggressive cancer of the bones and soft tissues. She endured radiotherapy and very aggressive chemotherapy but by October 2010, good news, the disease had gone into remission. Unfortunately, however, in April 2012 the cancer had returned and this time she required an amputation of her leg and part of her pelvis and further unpleasant chemotherapy. The treatment was ultimately unsuccessful and on News Day 2013 she learned her condition was terminal. Undeterred she set about making a "bucket list" and between January and April 2013 she was able to tick off many of the wishes on her list. Sadly her condition deteriorated and she died on May 22nd 2013 at the age of 21. Before her death however she determined to set up a charity to help other young people with recurring cancer have special memory days with their families. She was unable to achieve this in her tragically shortened life but since her death family and friends have set up "Steph's Wishes" as a lasting legacy. The charity recognises that while there is a lot of help and support for young people with newly diagnosed cancer there is much less available for those with recurrent and terminal disease. They aim therefore to provide a special day for young people between 18 and 25 years to make memories for both themselves and for their families in the future. They have a budget of up to £500 per young person currently to enable them to assist as many as possible. They are in touch with other young people cancer charities such as Clic Sargent who often pass on details of those they feel "Steph's Wishes" can help.



Get on Yer Bike and Give Eric Support

Club member Eric Beard is taking part in the Etape d'Amwell on the 6th September and is hoping to raise £1000 towards helping fund future club projects. We have been lucky enough to secure matching grants to any donations between £10 & £20, so a donation of £10 becomes £25 with gift aid and £20 becomes £50. If you would like to support Eric you can donate on the club virgin giving site by searching virgin Giving Hoddesdon Rotary, alternatively please contact a club member or email club secretary John Glover: secretary@hoddesdonrotary.org for further details.

The Satellite of the Rotary Club of Amwell is launching an exciting new sportive cycle event that is ideal for both experienced cyclists and newcomers to the sport. Its called the Etape d'Amwell and it's on the 6th September 2015, leaving from Allenbury's Sports Club in Ware. Entrants can test their legs on one of two courses; our 50km course is well suited to fun riders, while the 100km is far more challenging. Both courses go through the timed section on a private road owned by one of our members giving the riders a chance to test themselves and have a bit of fun doing so. Riders are invited to make the event even more special by raising funds through our dedicated Just Giving pages for Isabel Hospice and the Play Barn Project. There is a £20 entry fee for the 50km and £25 for the 100km, with all profits going to Rotary Charities and The Rotary Foundation. Its the first event on this scale being organized by the Satellite Group and they are aiming for 300 entrants, so please do spread the word amongst fellow Rotarians and any connections, or networks that are interested in sporting events. Places are limited so for further details and to sign up please visit: amwellsports.org.uk



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 £38,000 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



In April Matt Charlton—Community Fundraiser came to talk to our club about Haven House Hospice and the work that they do. Part of a wider organisation they are based locally in Woodford, and look after children and their families with serious illnesses when help is most needed. Fund raising is key to their finances and we were pleased to support them with a donation of £500 (Keith Theobald—Chairman Community Services, seen above with Matt). For more information visit their website .

www.havenhouse.org.uk



A kind, anonymous donor with the initials JG supplied this photo from days gone by.

ANY IDEAS ?



Annual Conference registration is open!

This is a reminder that conference registration for the **2016 Rotary Conference**, April 1st – 3rd April is now open!

Book now to take advantage of the special Early Bird rate by registering before 1st November 2015.

Speakers include...Hear from the inspirational sportsman Steve Brown and be entertained by the highly amusing Geoff Miller. Our very own Past President Allan Jagger will be joining us to tell us his Rotary Story and actress Jenny Agutter pops in to talk to us about her work with the Shakespeare School Festival, amongst many others.

There are stories to create and memories to make, **so book online now** and start creating your own Rotary story.



Andrew Hambling as many people will know was a long standing and much loved Rotarian, as well as a master at Haileybury College for over four decades. He died twelve months ago in August 2014 and his eulogy was read at his funeral by his grandson. A transcript of this most interesting speech is available and anybody wanting a copy (email/paper) can obtain one from Lawrence Bone . Lawrencerbone@gmail.com 07803 700919



teens: unite
FIGHTING CANCER



ROTARY BREAKS RECORDS, PUTS POLIO ON NOTICE AT SYDNEY CONVENTION

Polio took a hit at this year's Rotary convention in Sydney, Australia. First there was the record-breaking climb across the Sydney Harbour Bridge that raised enough money to protect 240,000 kids from polio. On 30 May, two days before the official opening of the convention, 340 participants ascended the bridge, eclipsing the record previously held by Oprah Winfrey for most climbers on the bridge. Waving 278 flags, they also broke the Guinness World Record for most flags flown on a bridge. Then it was announced that the World's Biggest Commercial, Rotary's public awareness campaign for polio eradication, set a Guinness World Record for largest photo awareness campaign. More than 100,000 people from 170 countries have uploaded their photos, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Bill Gates, Archie Panjabi, Jackie Chan, and many more. But the biggest news was the \$101 million pledged to polio eradication. Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott opened the convention on 1 June with a commitment from his government of \$100 million to the PolioPlus campaign. Two days later, Sir Emeka Ofor, executive vice chair of Chrome Group, announced a \$1 million gift to The Rotary Foundation to help end polio.

"Scores of my friends and classmates fell victim to this dreaded disease," said Sir

Emeka, who serves as Rotary's PolioPlus ambassador in Nigeria. "As a young man I vowed that I would someday do something significant to end polio in Nigeria."

While Rotary's work to end polio took center stage at the convention, it wasn't the only Rotary initiative getting attention down under. Here are some highlights from the Sydney convention, which ran 1-4 June:

Providing clean water. Collaboration and partnerships were emphasized at this year's World Water Summit, held 30 May. Global experts in clean water and sanitation urged attendees to join with the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, and governments to work more efficiently and effectively.

Empowering youth. Australian cricket star Brett Lee, founder of Mewsic, and Maya Ajmera, founder of the Global Fund for Children and former Rotary Scholar, inspired attendees with their dedication to providing a better life for the world's poorest children.

- **Promoting peace.** Mwila Chigaga, former Rotary Peace Fellow and gender specialist for African Regions at the International Labour Organization, spoke to convention goers about ensuring decent work and equal opportunities for men and women.
- Fighting disease.** Renee Saunders, senior public health adviser for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, stressed the importance of public-private partnerships in helping to achieve an AIDS-free generation. Professor Martin Silink spoke of the challenges he overcame — with Rotary's help — to make diabetes a United Nations resolution.



Paul Harris Fellowship—Terry Fisher

Following our Rotary evening meeting at Brickendon Grange on 29th June, I awoke to find myself a Paul Harris Fellow, a prestigious award and one I am honoured to receive (Paul Harris founded Rotary International in 1905). It is not just the pride of being part of an exceptional group, it is the recollections and associations with so many fellows whom I have admired for their sincerity and commitment in pursuing the ideals of Rotary over many years. Sadly some of my mentors are no longer with us, but I have fond memories and recall many events and activities enjoyed with them, and remember the commitment that they gave. I really do feel privileged. Equally I have always received warm friendship from the Lady partners and enjoyed the events that my wife Pat and I have shared with them, and am grateful for their kindness. President Peter Haynes was away on holiday, but I would like to thank him for allowing the presentation to go ahead in his absence, President elect Ted Grad ably having chaired the meeting. Past President and Paul Harris Fellow John West presented me with the award, and I truly appreciated his warmth and sincerity. I look forward to our future club events, and will endeavour to do justice to the honour that Rotary has bestowed upon me. Thank you all. Terry Fisher



Anesu Mande—Vocational Bursary

Anesu (right) with friends



In 2014 The Rotary Club of Hoddesdon were pleased to provide a Vocational Bursary to Anesu Mande (far right) to support her ambition of pursuing charity work in South Africa with Tear Fund, working with Christian agencies. Anesu travelled to South Africa and worked closely with young children who were living in poverty. Tear Fund are supported by a UK government funded development programme – International Citizen Service (ICS), and this programme gives young people in the UK the opportunity to travel and experience life outside of their normal way of living in the UK. Through this opportunity the government hopes to help young people become more aware of life and how other people are living in the world who are living in less desirable conditions. <http://www.tearfund.org/>



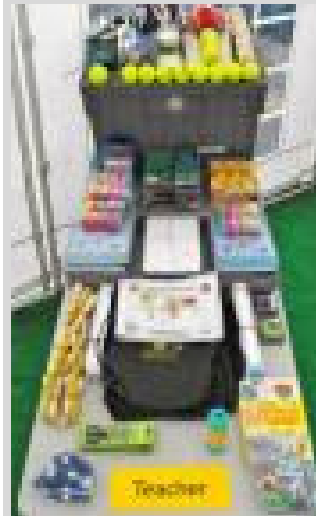
The Playbarn Project aims to build sterile play environments for children with cancers and low immune systems.

<http://www.theplaybarnproject.co.uk/>



Trade Aid

On the 13th July we heard a very comprehensive presentation on Trade Aid by Ken Billington from the Rotary Club of Grantham, ably assisted by Elaine Sefton from the Rotary Club of Huntingdon. Ken explained that Trade Aid is about changing the lives of people and communities by training and education, helping and enriching the lives of vulnerable people and giving them a vision for the future. Each box contains specially selected supplies needed to provide people with a head start in recovering from a disaster, or other adversity, or to start working for themselves for the first time, covering a diversity of trades, currently Builder, Handyman, Carpenter, Blacksmith, Mechanic, Tailor/Seamstress, and Teacher. Ken added that they are looking



to introduce an Electronics Box. The contents of the boxes are all new, except for the Tailor/Seamstress box.

Boxes costs £425 and in the 9 years in which Trade Aid has existed, they have raised £390,000 and sent out 840 boxes to 37 countries. The recipients are carefully chosen for their proven skills to use the contents of the box to ensure that the boxes are put to good use. Trade Aid boxes have been predominantly sent to African countries such as Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Somaliland, Uganda and more recently, the earthquake ravaged area of Nepal.

If you would like a presentation, email speaker@trade-aid.org, otherwise for further information e-mail info@trade-aid.org. Summing up, the aim of Trade Aid is 'Helping Individuals, Help Themselves ... Humanitarian Aid to build Self Respect'



KING HAROLD REIGNS – EVENING DRIVES

Our club runs six evening drives with members taking two passengers each (elderly, disabled or carers) for a drive through the countryside, eventually meeting at a designated pub with suitable access, for drinks and a buffet.



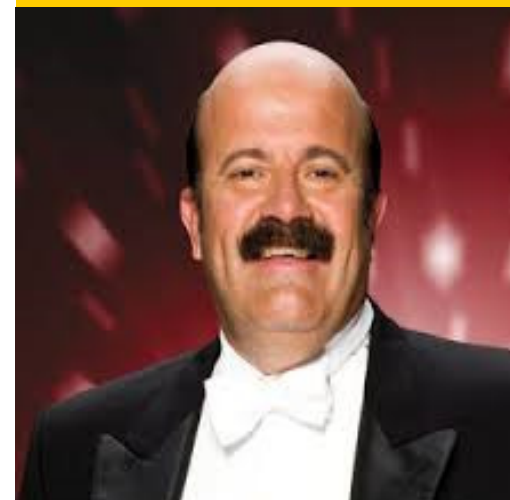
Venues have become less available as the years have passed due to commercial pressures but, this year, a new venue was found - the recently revamped and refurbished, King Harold in Bumbles Green. For the 27+ years since I joined Rotary, it has always been one of my great pleasures to participate in the summer's Evening Drives and have been delighted with the hospitality of the venues. I went on the first Evening Drive this year and can only ex-

press my, my fellow members and, most especially our guests, astonishment at the amount of food laid on and, all for an agreed price per guest. It was akin to a royal banquet There was enough to feed not only the guests but the Rotarians and wives who are not meant to be catered for. There was enough food to probably feed the entire club. In the past, the venues have laid a table with a buffet for the Rotarians to then distribute. Not on this occasion, the Rotarians were actually in the way of the King Harold staff who were intent on serving our guests and making their evening probably the greatest one to remember! So, thank you to everyone at King Harold for an unbelievably generous evening, and as importantly, thank you to Roger Lee who, on behalf of this Club, has arranged these evenings so successfully over so many years.



WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Our Ways and Means Committee have been busy preparing a programme of events for the coming new Presidential year and these include the following :



Gentleman's Celebrity Evening Dinner with Willie Thorne
Friday 13th November £45 pp (black tie)
Tickets For the above
Roger Merton 07860 423977 or
email roselands2004@tiscali.co.uk
Future events information in next editions
Race Night (Spring 2016)
Football tournament
Sponsored cycle event



LEA VALLEY TALKING NEWSPAPER



An easy way to imagine what it's like as a listener to the LVTN - close your eyes and take hold of the local paper. Almost close your eyes until your sight is so poor that you can only discern the pictures with difficulty, while the words are a meaningless jumble. Now take the cassette and slot it in to the tape player - or the newer version of the recordings which is my main subject - and the news can be heard, spoken by a team of volunteers. The regular pattern of activity, every week since 1979, starts when the Editor of the week buys the Mercury. Selecting stories consid-

ered to be of interest to our readers, the Editor clips and pastes them onto convenient sheets to present to the team of Readers. On Monday evening the four Readers of the day meet the Editor at the Studio while a Recording Engineer sits ready, behind the glass screen, to capture their speech, checking clarity and recording level. On Tuesday morning the copying team of the week reproduce the master tapes, about 60 copies are currently required for all our listeners to be supplied. Later each Tuesday, tapes are packed in wallets with each listener's address and handed to the post room at Bishops' College for despatch. That was always the end of the weekly cycle. Now the demise of old technology means we have to be ready to enter the 21st century and use memory sticks, which entail digital copies being created - hence the need for financial outlay. While it is still possible to acquire tape players, the ones with keyboard controls, the much greater convenience of a memory stick is widely appreciated and several requests have reached us from listeners who would like the flexibility a memory stick offers. LVTN has made a clear policy decision to continue to supply cassette tapes for as long as listeners wish to have them. Some other Talking Newspapers which have stopped making tape copies found a sudden drop in listener numbers as a direct result. Stage one of digital recording will be achieved on temporary "make-do" equipment, but with the proposed more professional gear it will make the life of the recording producers a great deal less cumbersome. The total cost of equipment will therefore not be needed at the outset but in



Can you help?

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[Find out more](#)

due course the expense will exceed £3,000 and the generous support of Hoddesdon Rotary Club, Hertford Shires Rotary Club and the additional £500 District Grant will be most helpful. We are looking for additional volunteers as Readers on a Monday evening. Also we need to build a team of recording producers, joining the team on Monday evenings and for the digital copying which is planned to be introduced on a Tuesday afternoon.

You are invited to speak to Peter Lardi

Tel: 01992 462292 or email peterjlardi@gmail.com

YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE.



ROTARY.ORG



WHY I JOINED ROTARY

To be willing to wait on table at Rotary's Easter Dinner serving people who could be younger and fitter than oneself, collecting outside supermarkets in aid of McMillan Nurses and the Nepal Disaster Fund, judging Young Chefs Competitions and arranging 'Foreign Feasts', all of these reasons mean that Rotary must be part of your make up. So in order to answer the question "Why did I join Rotary" I must go back to the days of my youth.

My father was a Rotarian in the Cheshunt and Waltham Cross Club and he was a keen local Councillor, becoming Chairman of the Council in the fifties. He introduced me to Freemasonry as a young man and took me as a guest to Rotary meetings where I met leading members of the local community. On moving to Hoddesdon in the early sixties, I was invited along to a Round Table meeting by my neighbour Maurice Powell. Round Table is an organisation of young business and professional men with aims very similar to Rotary, and I



ROUNDTABLE

enjoyed the comradeship. It took little persuasion for me to join Rotary in 1965 and some little time later Barbara joined the Ladies Circle. I spent twelve happy years as a member of Hoddesdon Round Table making many lasting friendships. In 1977 my Round Table days were coming to an end having reached the magic age of 40. I was delighted when Malcolm Norris invited me along to a Rotary meeting at the Broxbourne Country Club where a number of my Table contemporaries were already members. In those days you were not supposed to know how your name was being put forward for membership until you were invited to attend an 'Information Meeting' which as I recall was fairly formal. I was told amongst other things that if I missed three consecutive Monday meetings without 'leave of absence' approved by Council, that I would forfeit my membership. How things have changed! I was honoured and proud to be inducted as a Rotarian in the same year. It was usual for your partner to be invited to join Inner Wheel which had a strong membership in those days. Two of my daughters joined Rotaract, completing the Rotary Family. Louise is a founder member of the Hertfordshires Club and their second President, completing a third generation of membership. My lasting memories of Rotary include sharing a coach with a party of drunken Rotarians travelling from Malmo to Torsas singing rugby songs led by John Payne and Rodney Hale-Sutton with Father Robert Tollemache sitting in the rear with a rye smile on his face: John Creasey saving the day (thanks to a timely phone call from Peter Haynes) at my Celebrity Dinner when Jimmy Hill failed to show; late night sessions in bar lounges at District Conference playing silly games with Beryl Carter, Irene Cockman and Jasmine couldn't pronounce 'Fluffy Duck' without shocking everyone! The Steam Rally was always a great annual event, raising several hundred thousand pounds from the general public and giving us enough in community funds rather than raising from Rotary members and friends. The most important feature is the lasting friendships both Barbara and I have made through Rotary and Inner Wheel and I hope that our new recruits will get as much pleasure as we have from being members of the Rotary family. Like most things in life you will only get out of Rotary what you put in.

John West (President 1989/90 & 2004/5)

ih Isabel Hospice
Local Care for Local People since 1982



All care provided is free to our patients, their families and carers. The hospice is part-funded by the NHS locally, but the majority of income is from fundraising and trading activity. This year we need to raise about £2.9 million from charitable sources to continue to provide our free services.



HODDESDON TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT 2015

Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know.
Daniel J. Boorstin

On 16th June, at the Spotlight (formerly Civic Hall) Broxbourne, 11 schools sent 116 students in 29 teams to take part in one of the largest tournaments in our 21 year history. It is a joint venture by local Rotary Clubs of Amwell, Hertford, Hertford Shires and Ware led by Hoddesdon and sponsored by local businesses named in the Programme and at the venue.

The Task, announced to competitors only on the day, was entitled "Crossing The River". Teams had to design, build and test a vehicle to cross a crocodile-infested river via a suspended cable carrying a rescue package to the other side. Intermediate teams had to deposit their package safely. Advanced teams had to deposit and retrieve their vehicle. Each team had to produce a portfolio demonstrating their teamwork, design choices and construction obstacles overcome.

A hum of concentration and activity from 0930 and 1400 hours preceded some very ingenious results and demonstrations screened for all to see.

The majority of teams succeeded in completing their tasks, under the watchful eye of Chief Judge Tom Sell and his team, without falling prey to the crocodiles.

All competitors received certificates (and choc bars): winners gained book tokens and medals and their school was awarded an engraved Shield. They were:



Foundation Category - Hailey Hall School: award by Cllr Phyllis Ballam Mayor of Ware
 Intermediate - Richard Hale School: award by Cllr Dr Linda Radford Mayor of Hertford
 Advanced - Richard Hale School: award by Cllr Patricia Moore, Chair of EHDC
 Winning teachers received a bottle of wine each from Rotary District 1260 Governor Jenny Muir
 Hoddesdon Rotary President Peter Haynes thanked everyone for creating such a good atmosphere for this perennial Challenge the feedback on which has been very positive. We all look forward to the next Rotary Technology Tournament on Tuesday 21st June 2016
 Rotarian John Hiscock

