



## Saucy Issue

Way back in time, well at least four years ago, Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland were encouraged to eat marmalade and use the jars to collect small change for the End Polio Campaign.

In March 2011 Ray Burman, the current President of Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland, instigator of the project, visited Loughborough and informed us that he had persuaded Wilkins and Tomlins of Tiptree, Essex, that since they produced delicious tomato sauce that a mere fifty five thousand bottles could be filled and provided to each Rotarian to use them to raise more money.

It must be admitted that tomato sauce is not as nutritious as marmalade but more of a challenge. Transportation can be even more fun, with a recorded two thousand, six hundred and eighty two eager members a bottle for each is no small load and distribution was able to test the springs of even a Mercedes or Jaguar and the odd transit van.

Have you got the bottle and what have you done with it? There are those who will undoubtedly keep in the fridge and in years to come sell as rare antiques on Ebay, hoping that the post does not destroy the delicacy in transit. Having field tested the contents it was clear that not all coins of the realm would fit through the narrow top but enough to make a significant contribution once the bottle was filled, one report from deepest darkest Wellingborough confirmed that a steady drip feed of ten and twenty pence coins produced the grand total of thirty four pounds. If all Rotarians only did this we might have £91,188.00 in the East Midlands alone and £1.87 million in Great Britain and Ireland. I am told that one club even held a photographic competition portraying the bottle.

What else? Clearly the barbeque season has ended and tomato sauce did not go down too well with the turkey but perhaps a full bottle can be auctioned at a club function or empty one left out on the counter of local shops or on the bar to publicise the work that Rotary does. Have you taken part in a contest to guess the amount of money stored in a bottle?

So here is the challenge. Who can raise the most money from one bottle of tomato sauce? A bottle of the best wine (I did think about sauce) will go to the person who has made the most of the bottle with a closing date of 24th April 2012 (no cheques).

Rotary Foundation Chairman John Dehnel really does want all contributions by 30th April 2012.



Devishly patriotic... P2



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From the DG...



DG Linda, with Immediate Past RI Director David Lyddiatt and RI President Elect Sakuji Tanaka

Happy New Year to all.

Prior to the Christmas break, I was able to complete all my club visits. Thank you all for making both my drivers and I most welcome at your meetings. They have been most enjoyable and informative. The Club is where Rotary really happens, as I have seen while visiting all parts of the District, and many of you have had very successful Christmas events which have shown Rotary in a caring light.



Now we have completed half of the current Rotary Year and had a good break over the Christmas period, we face the last half of the Rotary Year with recharged batteries.

The RIBI General Council, made up of all the District Governors in RIBI, have decided that it is time to look at the way RIBI is organised. As a consequence we have given ourselves a massive job to try to put forward changes which will make RIBI more up to date and slicker in their delivery of support to the Clubs. You will have seen the initial proposals on the RIBI web-site, and at present we are in a consultation period, where you have chance to make your own comments on the issues. However, don't think too long about them as our next General Council Meeting is at the beginning of February, so email comments must be in by the end of January. There will then

be more detailed proposals produced after the General Council Meeting, when you will again be able to email in your comments, before the issues go to vote at the Annual Business Meeting at RIBI Conference which, this year, is at Bournemouth 13-15 April 2012. Why not go along and join in with the many Conference events as well as attending the Business Session on Saturday afternoon? There are full details on the RIBI web site.

The bottles of Rotary Tomato Ketchup are gradually being used to produce funds for "End Polio Now". I am looking forward to hearing more about the novel way you have used them to raise funds and awareness of the campaign – I have already seen some interesting photos – please let our editor know of your events.

As we look forward to spring we should be seeing lots of purple crocus blooming all over the District. Please remember to include a plaque when they are in flower, so that the public understand that we are promoting our efforts to rid the world of the scourge of Polio. Don't forget, "We are almost there". Also in the spring months we will be having a Rotary Spring Clean, coordinated by our Community/ Vocational committee. Rotary Clubs will be taking part all round RIBI, make sure yours is one of them.

But what I most enjoy about this time of year are the district rounds or our youth competitions. Working with youth is how I bring my vocation to our great service organisation. I am always inspired by our young competitors – our New Generations, which should give us all faith in the future.

Linda

E-Ranger bike initiative



One of the district initiatives this year is to purchase a series of ambulance motorcycles.

This has been helped by the Lutterworth club who held a mega sale realising in excess of a staggering £1,200 in just eight days for a range of Rotary Charities.

The E-Ranger Ambulance Bike is for use in rural Africa where the road conditions are less than perfect. As ambulances go, the E-Ranger Ambulance Bike looks a little strange when you first set eyes on it. Look more closely and it starts to make good sense. At a fraction of the cost to buy and run than a more conventional 4x4 the E-Ranger is just as good, if not better at handling the rough road conditions so often found in Africa. The other bonus being that it is easier to maintain. The ambulance has been developed to provide transport to and from local health-centres providing communities with the means to take advantage of distant and widespread care resources.

Out of the need to provide medical help in these rural areas it can comfortably carry one patient and an outreach medical worker, plus emergency supplies for on site treatment.

Has your club contributed?

Loyal support at the Fens Prom





### A variety of bulbs and causes

Ashby members, assisted by wives, grandchildren and Rosie the dog, planted 3,000 wild daffodil bulbs recently in the Marie Curie Field of Hope at Rotarian Robert Pope's Chestnut Farm.



*Ashby Rotary members and their families ready to plant daffodils in the Marie Curie Field of Hope.*

The planting raised £230 for the Marie Curie Cancer Care charity plus £20 from a raffle, which will go to the Club's children's fund. It is hoped that next spring will see the new bulbs flowering in concert with those planted by members in earlier years.

Continuing last year's Focus on the Crocus where every bulb planted represents a life saved, Deepings members linked with Baston Primary School to prepare the ground for another flowering burst of life in the continuing fight against Polio. Enthusiastic Gardening Club pupils enjoyed the experience.

A dozen Oadby members found that many hands make light work on November 5. They met at 10am at Ellis Park in the town armed with forks, dibbers, a spade and 3,000 crocus bulbs.

They watched as their leader, Peter Bliss, scattered the bulbs onto the grassy area just inside the park gate by Oadby Swimming Pool and then, (mostly) followed his advice on the best method, set-to.

Most found that using a garden fork produced four holes of

the right depth and spacing into which they then prodded the bulbs worked well enough. One member used a 5ft-long metal spike. Another used a traditional wooden garden dibber.

Within 20 minutes, half the bulbs had been planted, so the team moved further along the A6 to its junction with New Street where the rest were planted facing

Stoughton House, the home of RSM Tenon and around the corner facing across the A6 to Launde Primary School.

Less than an hour later, all the bulbs had been planted. Now the Rotarians are waiting until spring, hoping that mowers, geese and squirrels don't prevent them blooming.

Soar Valley Rotary Club members spent a day planting 2,000 crocuses. The bulbs were planted at the Great Central Station in Rothley. Richard Patching, Operations Manager, at the Great Central Railway said 'We look forward to seeing the results and hope everything will flower at Rothley. We wish the whole campaign every success.'



*John Newman, John Calow, Graham Cooper and John Tyers look ready to take on a major project at Soar Valley.*

### Ashby Aquabox record

During the last 18 months, the members of Rotary Club of Ashby de la Zouch have packed and dispatched 63 Aqua boxes – a record for the Club in such a short time. Since the



*Members of Ashby's international committee loading filled Aqua boxes*

Aquabox charity was established in 1992, nearly 98,000 boxes have been sent overseas, with the Club contributing several hundred of them.

The Club has collaborated with several Ashby schools in collecting items for the boxes and packing them, and a new initiative with Ivanhoe College is underway. The month of December saw pupils of Ivanhoe High School and Specialist College collecting items for inclusion in Aquaboxes. On the Tuesday prior to Christmas a team of Rotarians met with a group of youngsters to sort through the donated items and fill the boxes.

During the event Karl Cooper of Radio Leicester paid a visit interviewing a number of the young people. Club President, John Baker commented "This has been a remarkable joint project between the club and school".

Ashby Rotary Club has received help in the past from several schools in the area but this effort was a record with seventeen boxes completed.

### Hard graft has rewards at Low Locks

Over many years the Rotary Club of the Deepings has put in a lot of physical hard work and funds to improve a potential beauty spot set on the River Welland in Deeping St James, known as Low Locks.

Milton Estates, the owners of Scout Island at Low Locks, gave the Club permission to clear the site with the aim of improving access but retaining as much natural habitat and wildlife as possible.

Since starting the project in 2007, the group has kept the area litter free, cleared weeds, planted wild flowers and trees, placed bat boxes and nest boxes, erected information boards, constructed footpaths and installed rustic benches.

During 2010/11, with a matching Rotary District grant, the Club planned to continue to revitalise the area by installing three additional seats, tree planting, continuation and cutting of paths. The most recent activity has been the planting of a number of new trees provided by the Woodland Trust via the Deeping St James Parish Council.

In order to speed up the clearing of some of the remaining heavily tangled undergrowth, the club needed assistance in lifting a small mechanical digger across the narrow river and on to the island. With the coming spring more hands will be necessary to continue the rejuvenation.





### Brief encounter



*The mayor offers a few words of encouragement before the interviews*

standing of how employers think. To see and hear what companies value in potential recruits.

The scene was set. The Mayor of Peterborough in the official chains of office turned out to launch the proceedings. Pupils were put in no doubt that this was a serious event.

Each of the students had chosen a career, researched the appropriate company sector, completed an application form and explained in a covering letter why they would be more suited than any other for employment.

The headquarters of Fisherprint are kindly given over each year to process these interviews using their offices. A real business setting far removed from the comfortable surrounds of school. And it showed.

The reception area as pupils waited to be called one at a time to interview seemed strangely quiet. Year 11 pupils should surely be a noisier crowd.

Smartly knotted ties and jackets on the boys, stylish dresses on the girls. Teachers might have struggled to recognise them.

A phalanx of human experts clicked into action: human resources specialists from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, accountants, lawyers, architects, JPs, engineers, mathematicians, an RAF careers officer and a range of business people.

One by one the group of pupils shrank as interviewers collected them. Thirty minutes later, the same group emerged. Mostly smiling. As the next batch of interviewees passed them on their way to their meetings.

Shortly the school will receive the reports and feedback. Who 'got the job'? Which students did well enough to be shortlisted? Did any get refused outright?

All the students got the message. School is all about learning. And at the end of the journey up the education hill there is an employer to be impressed. A job to be won.

Why would 151 King's School pupils all be attending job interviews in the same week? Why would parents ferry them to Fisherprint in the Peterborough's Fengate over four consecutive nights? The answer is practical and simple.

An opportunity for most to experience their first ever 'mock interview' for a job. A trial interrogation made to be as real as it can get. To pull apart the mysterious curtains surrounding the recruitment process in order to gain an under-

### Off their trolley



*Sandra Holden receiving her prize from President Tarak Ghosh and Waitrose manager Andy Shewrv*

The Rotary Club of Huntingdon recently held their annual Waitrose Christmas Charity Trolley Event when members of the public tried to guess the value of the contents of a shopping trolley which had been filled with Waitrose products.

Brampton resident, Mrs Sandra Holden's guess was the closest to the full value of the goods which was in the region of £170.00p.



**5,000 watch Ashby Rotary fireworks**

### A lifeline for Anne

Everyone, they say, has a book within them if they put their mind to it, and Anne Roberts of Oundle can't wait to get started on hers!

Anne, who is registered blind, has been longing to embark on her life story. And now, thanks to the Rotary Club of Oundle, she has just what she needs in order to do so — as well as a much-needed lifeline to a more independent future.

When Rotary heard from Northamptonshire Association for the Blind about Anne's frustrated ambition and her growing dependence on

*John Mumford is the one with the chain round his neck – President of Oundle Rotary Club. In the middle is Anne Roberts and the other gentleman is John Linford.*



others as her sight, health and mobility have deteriorated, they agreed to provide her with a laptop which is installed with specialist software for the visually impaired, it will enable Anne to write her book, email her family and friends, shop on line and do her banking.

The last eight years have been a difficult time for Anne, a former psychiatric nurse. Despite several debilitating health conditions and only a little remaining central vision in one eye, she is intent on remaining as active as possible.

"I want to do as much as I can for myself," she explained. "With a laptop of my own I can be more independent and creative too. I am so grateful to Rotary for making my life so much easier."

John Mumford, President of the Rotary Club of Oundle said: "We are delighted to be able to make a difference for someone in our local community."



**On a mission, what a fry up?**

Early on Sunday morning 16th October a party of Huntingdon Rotarians travelled to the Whitechapel Mission in the East End of London and cooked 230 breakfasts for some of the poor and homeless people of the capital. Whilst there are homeless closer to home London has an even greater need that cannot be fulfilled.

In recognition, the Mission sent a letter...

May I thank you most sincerely for the splendid response that the members of the Huntingdon Rotary Club gave to the homeless and those caught in a cycle of poverty or dependency of many kinds and who look to The Whitechapel Mission for help and support each and every day.

To those who endured the early start and the diversion due to the closure of the M11 there must go a special "thank you" – your enthusiasm when you were there was felt by those you served, well epitomised by Tarak Ghosh, frying eggs for all he was worth. In addition we had Geoff and Barbara buttering loaves of bread and toasting many more, Ken cooking the sausages and bacon, Mary frying beef burgers and Mike on the till (did I really hear him say he was in charge of credit control?) and everyone serving teas, coffees and giving out soap, flannels, toothbrushes, razors etc. Then at the end there was everything to clean down and leave ready for the Monday morning team to come in and start the process again.

To those who collected items of clothing and toiletries a "thank you". The amount of clothing needed on an average every day would fill a normal sized garden shed, such are the numbers coming to The Whitechapel Mission in need of a change of clothing what you brought was most timely.

*Philip Bell, PRO  
Rotary Club of Huntingdon*



**Flight for life**



Members of Peterborough Ortons Rotary Club certainly are not stuck in the mud! Recently the sky was the limit when they staged the club's 'Flight for Life'. Hundreds of pigeons flew home to Peterborough from Dunbar in Scotland, the birds unaware their efforts were helping save the lives of children across the world. Club members, friends and family had pledged £10 to sponsor each pigeon, every one providing enough money to vaccinate 50 children against polio. Other clubs in District 1070 were invited to join in and retain half of the money for their own charity account. Kettering Rotary Club came out top as they found the most sponsors. President Dave Pennell called a scatter week and eight members of Peterborough Ortons visited the Kettering Club where he presented a pigeon trophy in recognition of their efforts. Peterborough Ortons raised almost £500 representing 2,500 vaccinations, with additional money being raised by participating clubs.

*Janet Cooke*

**A surprise for Billy Baxter**

Billy Baxter has been in the army for 21 years when he contracted a rare virus in Bosnia that destroyed his optic nerves. St Dunstan's, a charity set up in the first world war to help blinded service men, helped to turn Billy's life around and he became a public speaker and fundraiser. In 2003 he broke the Land Blind Motorbike record driving at an astonishing 165 mph!



Billy Baxter has visited the Rotary Club of Holbeach on two occasions and after his last visit the club were unanimous in wanting to make him a Paul Harris Fellow. When it proved impossible to get him back to Holbeach before he started a new post with St Dunstan's in Llandudno, a group from the Club set out on a secret mission to Billy's home town of Ely. Billy's wife, Karen helped set up the rendezvous in a local pub. On presenting the certificate and badge Helen told Billy "You have shown that, despite a major handicap, life not only goes on, but can be lived to the full. You are an inspiration to everyone you meet. You have worked to raise the profile of St Dunstan's and other charities, shown that being blind doesn't stop you from riding motorbikes and cars at high speed and you have embodied the Rotary motto "Service Above Self".

Find out more about Billy at [www.blindbaxter.com](http://www.blindbaxter.com)

**Olympic preview**

A party of twenty six Rotarians and friends were invited to visit the Olympic Site by their Health and Safety Advisor working for the Olympic Delivery Authority in November. With the London Olympics taking place between 27th July and 12th August this year followed by the Paralympics 29th August to 9th September all were interested to see the progress being made on the site which is on schedule.

Although it was a pity (for security and safety reasons) they were restricted in what we could see and photograph from the tour bus the guide Ros was excellent.

A fantastic bonus was when Lord Coe joined them for a short while at the official lookout point 'Greenway.' He had been showing the president of Serbia, accompanied by four bodyguards, round the site. Lord Coe was happy to be photographed with our group after the official photographer had finished.

The Olympics will have a significant effect on life in this country including the torch relay, visiting teams in training camps, visitors from all over the world and a chance to promote Rotary even if only helping Bob Parfitt in his clean-up campaign before and after individual events.



*Seb Coe meets Lutterworth Rotary*

*Peter J Osborn, Lutterworth Rotary*



### Passage to India

I met the team in Delhi, then 14 of us travelled on to Bareilly, a regional city south-east of Delhi; 7 hours of bumpy road, which gave us plenty of time to see the crowded and colourful roadside scenes, where people were constantly industrious and inventive about scraping a living.

In Bareilly we split into smaller groups to visit Rotary projects – a travelling dentist’s surgery, an engineering college, and a school for the mentally handicapped. We also visited a prosthetic limb clinic and an eye clinic. The Indian Rotarians do an astonishing amount of important charity work, and deserve our support.

They really appreciated our visit because it drew so much interest from the Indian press. We were constantly photographed for the newspapers, and even appeared on TV interviews. The other major effect of our visit was to draw more people to the booths to have their children immunised.

At last the immunisation day arrived. We faced another hour and a half drive to reach the remote village of Pusgawan, situated on the vast floodplains of the Ganges. This is a high risk area for polio, as the land floods in the rainy season. But the village has new wells and pumps, and we were pleased to see the villagers looked healthy and well fed. We noticed a few mobile phones too! There was less plastic rubbish than we had seen in other areas, and the villagers were very industrious on their farm land, growing sugar cane, rice, potatoes and onions. They were keen to show us their peppermint oil press, although on the whole their farming techniques looked mediaeval. They dry their animal dung in flat cakes to make fuel for cooking, and store it in neat mounds, which they also use to grow pumpkins.

We did not have an English speaker with our group of 4 Rotarians, but this was no hindrance, as our delighted hosts were keen to show us around their village. One schoolboy could speak

some English, and was proud to take us to his home and offer us food and drink, although his family were clearly very poor. This was a constant theme; we were given hot sweet tea and spicy cake in many homes, and greeted with pleasure everywhere. We were followed everywhere by troops of children and stray dogs, while old people stared curiously from their doorsteps.

Our visit was treated as a great honour, and clearly increased the number of children who were brought to the booth for immunisation. It is not customary for newborn babies to leave the home, but a number of babies under 3 weeks old were brought to us, including a one day old child.

Most of the babies were brought by older brothers and sisters, attracted by the small gifts we gave away – toothbrushes, pens, balloons etc. We soon noticed that some babies had very clean fingers; clearly the brothers and sisters were trying to clean the purple pinkies and claim extra gifts! The local health workers were very good at spotting this, and kept a careful record of the number of children immunised. The records showed only 37 children when we arrived, but by the time we left, they had recorded about 400. It was a chaotic scrum of tiny mouths, faces, arms and purple fingers, and we were surrounded by curious, staring villagers. The village elders and holy men kept a wary eye on us.

We visited three villages that day, and a further village the following day where we went from house to house mopping up the youngest children who had not been brought along.

I had an amazing trip and have returned with many wonderful memories of my visit to a vibrant and colourful country. The people may be poor, but they exude such hope and energy, and they are prepared to work so hard to earn a better living. They were poor, but not despairing. The new India is definitely on the move.

*Susan Bird, Rotary Club of Loughborough Beacon*



### Rotary projects support youth in Northampton

A plaque was unveiled at the Northgate School Art College in Kingsthorpe on 5th December 2011 commemorating the completion of a paved access path between the college and the allotment used by pupils as part of their studies.

The path provides an all-weather route for all children and staff attending this special needs school. The work was



carried out by volunteers from the college staff and from the Rotary Club of Northampton West, which also funded the project.

Northgate School Art College provides special education for young people aged between 11 and 18 years and achieved Academy Trust status on 1st September this year.



## We have a dream

Rotary has been committed to the eradication of Polio since 1985, but do you know how this major humanitarian programme began?

Thanks to Rotary's leadership in initiating the mass immunisation of children there are now only four polio endemic countries instead of 125. These are India, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria but on 13th January 2012 the first anniversary since India recorded its last recorded case of Polio will hopefully after all medical tests come back clear of disease over the next 2 years be declared Polio Free.

The programme to eradicate polio called Polio Plus has been Rotary International's primary effort for over 20 years. Rotary's Polio Plus programme has been described as the finest humanitarian project by a non-governmental organisation the world has ever known. Rotary has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for our efforts.

In the 50's, 60's and 70's there were annually over 55,000 cases of Polio in the USA and worldwide there were perhaps 500,000 cases of Polio. Of that number 50,000 a year would die from Polio and thousands more would be crippled, paralysed or suffer life long disabilities.

In 1978 Rotary had a committee to design what was called the Health, Hunger and Humanity Committee.

One proposal was from the Philippines who said that if Rotary could provide the vaccine they would mobilize all Rotarians in the entire Philippines and immunise all the 6 million children. A couple of years passed and another committee was created when the idea of Rotary providing enough vaccine for all the children in the world to celebrate Rotary's 100th Anniversary coming up in 2005. The project was called 2005.

Two or three years went by and finally Dr Carlos Canseco – RI President from Mexico said 'we are going to get the task done by 2005'.

Finally, when Rotary told the World Health Authorities we had over a million volunteers and \$247 million we became full partners in the world World Health Organisation, UNICEF and the US Centers for Disease Control.

With 350,000 cases worldwide each year. Rotary started in Mexico where 13 million children were immunised followed by Central America and South America. One nation after another became "Polio Free".

Where no vaccine was produced in China it was bought in from the West and immunised some 100 million Chinese youngsters in the first two days of launch.

By 2009 there were only 1,000 cases compared with the 350,000 a year when Rotary took on the Project.

During the immunisation programme the World Health Organisation informed Rotary they had arranged for a 4 day cease fire in the civil war in Sudan if sufficient vaccine could be found. Foundation made a grant of \$500,000 – the war stopped and 4 million children were immunised and the war started again after 4 days. In Ethiopia one of the poorest countries of the world immunised nearly 10 million children were given drops of Polio vaccine.

Our Dream has nearly been realised. What seemed at the outset to be impossible has, as they say, taken a little longer.

## Sports for the disabled

The Rotary Club of Lutterworth have set up two new local sports clubs for the disabled.

They are run by professional sports coaches.

Both clubs will be held in the Lutterworth College Youth Centre, Bitteswell Road, Lutterworth LE17 4EW on a Thursday evening.

The "Inclusive Multi Sports Club" runs every Thursday from 5.30pm until 6.30pm.

The "Boccia Club" has run from Thursday starting 8th December from 6-30p.m-7.30p.m.

The cost of each session is only £1.50.

All are welcome and both clubs cater for disabled athletes at any level from the age of 6 up to and over 16 years old. Over the past few years Rotarians in Lutterworth have been very active supporting the National Games at Coventry, their efforts show what can be achieved to help those less fortunate prosper with the correct care and dedication.

Patrick Cox (pictured above) was one seven Leicester athletes chosen to represent Great Britain at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens this summer from England, Scotland and Wales.

Lutterworth Rotary, are proud to have introduced him to Table Tennis as one of the Leicestershire Disabled Sports team just four years ago and seen his enthusiasm for the sport grow to the point that at the weekend he obtained a Gold Medal in Athens at the World Summer Games.

The Great Britain team obtained a staggering 72 Gold, 63 Silver, and 52 Bronze Medals.



For more information contact Mark Beeby  
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**Rushden Higham  
helping Heroes on  
their annual run in  
November**



## Santa comes b

Christmas comes but once a year and many clubs are out in force collecting for charity or taking part in celebrations; here are a few highlights as reported to the magazine.

Christmas celebrations started early on Saturday 10th December at Market Deeping. For the twenty second year running Grimethorpe Colliery Band entertained an audience of about 450 people with a resounding performance. "For us it is the start of Christmas" said Brian Grant, the Band's Musical Director. Carols were performed by The William Hildyard Church of England Primary School, after the interval, followed by audience participation of Good King Wenceslas & In the Bleak Midwinter.

The club was out in force in the evening assisting the Deepings Lions with Santa's Sleigh "It is an exciting time for the children" said Rotary President Joe Piercy, "and a joy to see their happy faces whilst eager to see and waive to Santa in his sleigh".

The Rotary Club of Huntingdon took to the streets with their Rotary Christmas Sleigh both round the streets of Huntingdon and at Tesco's supermarket. Well over £2500 was raised for local charities such as the Huntingdon Gym and the Young Carers to name but two of them.

Why run when you could saunter with Kettering Huxloe who were was delighted with the response to the Santa Saunter organised jointly with Cransley Hospice, Kettering on Sunday 11th December. 157 Santas descended on Wicksteed Park, Kettering and took part in the annual walk round the park's lake in aid of Cransley Hospice. At the end of the walk, the Santa's enjoyed warming coffee and mince pies. Oh yes, most importantly, the walk raised £1,130.

On a bigger scale Santas were seen running, walking or being carried round a new & slightly shorter route through

the streets of Lutterworth. The going was made easier, though less seasonal, as there was no snow on the ground, but the sun shone and the almost 1000 Santa's enjoyed another unforgettable fun morning.

Organisers were delighted with the turnout with community organisations, local firms and individuals supported the event. The Community Church served refreshments at the finish, Inner Wheel provided delicious mince pies, Radio Lutterworth and the Lutterworth Town Band kept all entertained. ASDA IDC & Hinckley & Rugby Building Society gave outstanding support.

There were over fifty marshals on the course plus the St John Ambulance volunteers and South Leicestershire Scouts who helped with the parking. Brilliant promotion made the event has become such a success.

For the record:

- There were 984 Santas (including 750 adults, 400 from Lutterworth and some from as far away as Bolton!)
- Over 1,000 medals were given out (including dogs!)
- 1,000 mince pies consumed.
- £14,000 and more was raised for charities this year giving a figure of £40,000 over the past 3 years.

Entry fees, donations and sponsorship will be used to support, Rainbows Children's Young Persons Hospice, Air Ambulance (for Derbyshire Leicestershire and Rutland), Everyman, PROSTaid (Leics, Rutland, Northants), Rotary Charities, Lutterworth Mayor's Appeal (St Mary's Churchyard Project).

Can you beat Northampton West who were concerned by the loss of sites at Sainsbury and Tesco and fewer slots but managed the magnificent sum of £5,849 collected. Thanks also go to the stores involved where the following money was collected.





## ut once a year

- Morrisons £3,527.33, ASDA £1,460.00, Smiths Farm £447.00 Six Fields £ 415.00
- A grand total of £5,849.00
- One Santa worked so hard he lost his beard!

The Rotarians of Shepshed Charnwood made their annual tour of the area with their Santa Float. Santa visited East Leake, Kegworth, Sutton Bonington, Hathern and Shepshed and collected a total of £3,426 which will be distributed to local and international charities in the near future. This was a slight increase on last year's collection which, in the present austere times, represents remarkable generosity.

Shepshed Rotary Club raised nearly £900 with their second successful Christmas Tree Festival in St Botolph's Parish Church. The 43 trees were entered by local businesses, church groups, cubs, scouts, guides, brownie packs, schools, many local societies, and the general public. Rotary organisations were represented with an entry from Shepshed Hind Leys College Interact Club, Shepshed Inner Wheel, and the Rotary Clubs of Shepshed and Ashby de la Zouch Castle.

The standard of entry this year was higher than ever and the winners were Shepshed WI with their tree decorated with hand knitted "candy". The childrens section was won by the Foundation Class of St Botolph's School .

Nearly 300 adults paid to see the Festival, who were accompanied by even more children with free entry.

A Christmas tree got the polio treatment at Helpston, north west of Peterborough, famed for the home of John Clare, where the parish church invited local charities, companies and clubs to a festival of decorated Christmas Trees including Peterborough Werrington. Shelly Anderson decided that purple baubles and sugar lumps to celebrate the End Polio Campaign were the order of the day, what else to fix to the top of their tree but a Rotary Wheel, a real star of the show.

Elsewhere throughout the East Midlands Rotarians joined forces to bring cheer to all. Oadby just failed to beat Northampton West raising £5,505.20.





### Ashby sponsor bicycles

Ashby Rotary Club has sponsored the provision of 15 new bicycles for Stella-Louise Hostel in Vijayawada, South India. The Club purchased these bicycles for the children's use with the help of a District Grant. Each bicycle has been decorated with the Ashby de la Zouch Rotary logo.

The children were delighted with these fantastic bicycles since their original machines had outlived their usefulness and desperately needed replacing. Many of the older children stay after school for extra tuition and so this will enable them to travel to and from the Hostel in safety and makes them feel very grown up!

The charity Love and Share (Uist) Ltd, based in the Western Isles of Scotland and formed in 2003, funds the work of Stella-Louise Hostel, run by The Love and Share Charitable Trust in Vijayawada, South India. Their 'One to One' sponsorship programme benefits children from the nearby villages who are predominantly from homes where the mother has been abandoned or widowed, is illiterate and unskilled, and who tries to provide for her family by working as a 'daily labourer' which involves twelve hour days of hard toil in the fields or in road gangs earning 40 Rs/day, considerably less than a living wage.

The children in the hostel, one third of whom are girls, represent only a tiny minority of the needy children in the region. Over the years Love and Share has rescued many children from an environment that initiates children into fieldwork at a young age as rather than attending school to avoid illiteracy they are forced by need to help supplement the family income.

120 children now live at the Hostel in Nidamanuru, which opened in 2004. Mrs. K. Leela, Chairperson and House Manager, leads a staff of 13 who ensure that the current intake are well fed and looked after and, most importantly, taken to school.

*Stella-Louise House Manager, fixing the Ashby Rotary donation stickers to the children's bicycles.*



### Why Telford?

Our survey showed what are the most important considerations to members is cost, distance to travel, rotary fellowship. The International Centre at TELFORD 'Ticks all the Boxes'.

#### Cost

- ◆ Hotel costs the best we have enjoyed in 1070 for 4\* hotels
- ◆ 500 bedrooms are on hold for District 1070 at less than £90 per double room with full English breakfast.
- ◆ Our headquarters hotel will be the on site Holiday Inn and reservation for this hotel via Rtn Bill Hill of the Conference Committee. Reservations at all other hotels in Telford and the surrounding area will be handled by 'Event Links', part of the service given to us by The Telford International Centre.
- ◆ The usual commercial reservation procedure will be in place, credit card to secure the reservation, or £50 per room deposit.

#### Distance to Travel

- ◆ Accessible motorway/dual carriageway all the way from 1070 to the International Centre and on arrival – FREE PARKING.
- ◆ Approx 1.5-2.5 hours from anywhere in the District – and for those Rotarians living in Leicester and Northampton, less than 1 hour.

#### Rotary Fellowship

- ◆ Fellowship and Fun – All 1070 Conferences generate fellowship and fun and Telford will be no exception.
- ◆ There will be a formal Dinner Dance on the Saturday evening
- ◆ There are a range of Hotels and restaurants in Telford for the Friday evening, but you have requested the opportunity to maximise Rotary Fellowship – so we are organising an informal Conference Dinner for everyone followed by a concert "Last Night of the Proms".

TELFORD is an interesting and historical location. The World Heritage site of Ironbridge nearby is the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Coalbrookdale Museum of Iron is where you can view the furnace where the Industrial Revolution was born in 1709 or go to the Blists Hill Victorian Town, a live town with residents and shops of the Victorian era for you to meet and browse.

You could visit the Royal Air force Museum at Cosford, the Severn Valley Steam Railway, if you prefer a challenge, Telford Snowboard and Ski Centre.

For full information and hotel details visit the District website – see you at Telford.

*DGE Chris Chew*

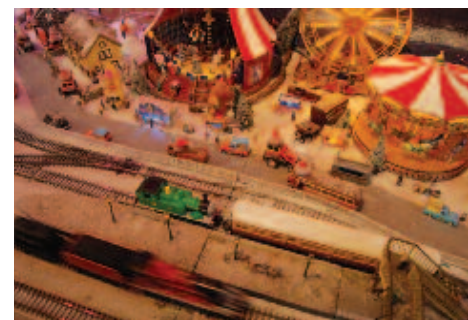


### District 1070 Photographic Competition

Details of the 2012 competition, now in its fourth year can be found on District 1070 web site. Organised by Blaby Meridian this competition supports Foundation.

This year's themes are Seasons and Transport and the closing date for entry is 28th April 2012. These days most have cameras varying from single lens reflex, digital cameras to mobile phones! With more of us taking more photos, the possibility of snapping a number of decent photos has increased. Why not have a go? Photos can be sent in either as a normal printed photo or by email. Three images can be submitted for five pounds. The entry fee can be Gift Aided to enhance the value to Foundation.

Contact: Mike Ward. t.0116 247 8888 e.mikefward@btinternet.com  
Malcolm Riddle t.0116 286 1049 e.malcolmriddle@btinternet.com





### Inter Care Medical Aid for Africa

Since 1974, Inter Care Medical Aid for Africa, a charity based in Syston, Leicestershire, has sent appropriate returned medicines from the NHS that would otherwise be incinerated, to partner health centres in Sub-Saharan Africa following their requests for the medicines they so crucially need free of charge.

Surplus medications received must be 15 months from their expiry and are screened by medical volunteers before consignments are sent to Africa. To date they support 116 health units and are a green and lean charity that is run primarily through volunteers with only a handful of part time staff so ensure maximum aid can be delivered.

Rotary International has been instrumental in enabling the charity to deliver this essential service since 1974 by encouraging GP surgeries to register and organising delivery of these medicines to us. Lutterworth Rotary Club has organised many collections of medicines from Wycliffe Medical Practice alone.

The charity is fortunate enough to be receiving good quality in date medications from over 900 GP Surgeries nationwide. They receive no Government funding. Inter Care need your help to meet the costs of posting this medical aid. If you would like to



make a donation, request information about their fundraising events or organise an event on behalf of Inter Care, please contact 01162 695925 or email [info@intercare.org.uk](mailto:info@intercare.org.uk). They are more than happy to help. For every £1 donated the value of £4 of medical aid is sent to those so gravely in need- so your support can make a big difference. You can also visit [www.intercare.org.uk](http://www.intercare.org.uk) and follow them on Facebook.

A third large box of unwanted prescription medicines with more than 15 months remaining to their expiry date has recently been sent off over the weekend to sub-Saharan countries in Africa where they find it difficult to pay for them. The countries who benefit are Cameroon, Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Zambia.

Lutterworth and Lutterworth Wycliffe Rotary who are part of the team assisting InterCare based in Leicester request that you take your unwanted pills to the Wycliffe Medical Practice in Gilmorton Road, Lutterworth who after sorting send them on to InterCare, rather than to your local pharmacist who by law have to dispose of them by incineration. According to Government figures 10,000 tonnes of medicine are incinerated each year costing a staggering £1,200,000.

### Operation Spring Clean

The "powers that be" have changed The Rotary Spring Clean date, now starting on March 12th (start of Climate week) and finishing on Earth Day, 22nd April but there is no reason why clubs cannot carry on with their Spring Clean indefinitely.

It is The Queen's Jubilee in June and the Olympics in July.

AND AND AND we are hopefully going to get every club on the route of the Olympic Flame which arrives in the UK on May 15th.

*Bob Parfitt  
Ministry of Clean*



### Ghana hospital support

In September 2010 the Rotary Club of Uppingham applied for, and was granted, a District Grant to assist with a project to provide two autoclave sterilising units for Ghanaian hospitals for use in support of cataract eye surgery. The Club raised the remainder of the funds for the units at a variety of events but primarily at the Eyebrook Walk in March 2011 and finally shipped the units to Ghana in June. The final destinations of the units were the Ophthalmology Depts of Ridge Hospital, Accra and the Sekondo/Takoradi Hospital. The photograph shows the units being handed over to the Ghana Ministry of Health by representatives of the Rotary Club of Accra(West) who assisted by clearing the units through customs on import and receiving them on our behalf.



The Rotary Club of Accra(West) is in the process of applying for a Rotary International grant for a major project to fund equipment and training for Ghanaian eye surgeons and hospitals in order to tackle the very high incidence of cataract blindness in the country.

President Phil Marston of the Uppingham Club (pictured right) receives the prize for the most sponsorship raised for the Eyebrook Walk 2011 which was the main fund raiser for the autoclaves.

The next Eyebrook Walk takes place on 4 March 2012 in aid of Shelterbox and other Rotary charities.

Visit: [www.uppinghamrotary.org](http://www.uppinghamrotary.org)





### Try an exchange

The Rotary Friendship Exchange gives Rotarians and their families the opportunity to host and visit Rotarians around the world. This chance to experience other cultures and make lasting friendships may also provide opportunities for other international activities and service projects. Friendship exchanges may evolve from individual Rotarian, club or district initiatives.

District exchanges are arranged members of the District International Committee, and take place with countries all over the world. Visiting teams outbound and inbound normally comprise 6 Rotarian couples or the equivalent, staying in the host district for approximately 2 weeks as the guests of 4 different clubs. Each club involved provides host families for 3 or 4 nights and prepares a varied programme of sightseeing, entertainment and cultural visits. Every effort is made to ensure compatibility of host and guests.

District 1070 is one of the most active participants in within the these islands and in recent years successful exchanges have been completed with USA, Canada, Brazil, India, Australia, Sweden and others, and we will be hosting an inbound team from Australia in June. An

inbound team will not necessarily comprise the same host Rotarians or the same clubs participating in the previous outbound visit, but they will be from the same district if it is a reciprocal visit.

Funded entirely by the participant Rotarians guests are responsible for their own travelling costs and personal spending.

All clubs in the district are notified to seek host families or outbound team members as appropriate.

The Rotary International Exchange Handbook contains much useful information and guidelines and can be downloaded from the website [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org). Our District RFE website contains reports on recent exchanges.

#### RFE Organisers

Malcolm Cockcroft, St. Ives Rotary Club

[j.cockcroft1@ntworld.com](mailto:j.cockcroft1@ntworld.com)

01480 464653

John Lowey, St. Ives Rotary Club

[Clubjohnmarj@waitrose.com](mailto:Clubjohnmarj@waitrose.com)

01487 840547



### Rotary Stars at Shelthorpe Primary

Soar Valley Rotary Club is working closely with Shelthorpe sponsoring a 'Rotary Stars' initiative. This may involve examples such as caring for others or the environment. The scheme basically encourages young people to live by the Rotary code of 'Service above Self'. It is open to all in the school regardless of age, talent and academic ability.

Six times a year the school holds a 'certificate' assembly. In December, Chloe Smith and Tyler Lillie were awarded Rotary Stars.



### When 90 came to tea

8-year-old Will Meredith of Barrow upon Soar is currently undergoing treatment at the children's oncology unit of Leicester Royal Infirmary.

When visiting the unit, Will's grandparents Maureen & Alan Meredith of Rothley learnt about the Ourspace Appeal – to create a purpose built cancer unit for children & young people, with separate facilities for teenagers/young adults.

At present there are no facilities in Leicestershire, Northants, Notts or Rutland for teenagers and young adults with cancer – instead, they are looked after in a children's or adult ward, often with the very young or very old. The Ourspace appeal aims to provide:

Dedicated upgraded space for children up to 13, including a playroom & televisions.

Brand new separate space for young people aged 13-24 years for treatment, recreation & importantly, catering for those who need specialized isolation rooms.

New day case treatment & clinic space for 0-24 year olds within the young people's cancer unit and

Support for patients and their families.

Maureen & Alan decided that to raise funds for Ourspace appeal they'd invite fellow Soar Valley Rotary & Inner Wheel members, friends and neighbours for Sunday Tea & Cake at their home in Sheepcote Rothley.

The response was amazing, with over 90 people turning up on the day and many more sending donations. Fortunately, it was a beautiful October Sunday and guests were able to spill over into the garden and Will and other grandchildren organized competitions to raise even more for the Appeal.

Maureen & Alan expressed thanks to all who attended, assisted, or donated cakes, prizes or funds. In all, the afternoon raised £1130 for the Leicester Hospitals Ourspace Appeal.

For further information contact: Rtn Alastair Wood – 01509 880036.





## Roadshow

Whether you are new to Rotary or have been a member for some years the second series of District Road Shows were really worth a visit.

With such a big District it is always difficult to decide where to hold events. Northampton to Peterborough is 45 miles, so near yet so far apart particularly if you do pronounce Nene correctly!

Held at different hotels than in 2010, the Hilton at Collingtree, Northampton and at the Ramada, Thorpe Meadows in Peterborough on 2nd and 3rd November 2011 all the District Teams were assembled to display the variety of projects being undertaken.

Although there are always displays at District Conference and Assembly the Road Show has been designed not only for Rotarians but also for members to bring "Friends of Rotary" to discover more.



were somewhat palatial with more room to circulate whilst those at Peterborough were restricted and congested with more attendees. Rotarians from Oadby Launde who normally meet on a Thursday travelled across from Leicester to test the waters and others tracked more than a few miles.

You could find out about the E-Ranger bike project, Youth Exchange, Global Swimathon, ways of gaining free publicity on the internet, New Generations and Community Service projects including the link with Children in Need, membership information and of course meet the real people responsible in the District rather than viewing a computer screen or one of the numerous hand outs received by clubs.

Did it get you inspired?

Next year, or rather this year, it may be that east and west venues will be changed to north and south or may it be suggested that four road shows are held to cover the whole district in one year.

There is nothing like personal contact.



Incidentally it is a chance for team members to meet teams for which there is usually no opportunity.

Chris Chew, Margaret Morley, and Ken Billington, District Governors in waiting, provided a large sign ROTARY BLOOD BANK, hoping for an injection of new blood to join District Teams promising they would not bite, but there were many chances for all to get a small transfusion of information and ideas.

Surroundings at Northampton



## 'Soggy' Christmas boxes

It came as a great surprise to the members of the Rotary Club of Rushden when their Chairman of the New Generations Committee David Culwick reported in September that the Head of Denfield Park Junior School, Rushden, advised that they were to sponsor an Aquabox for seven schools in the Rushden/Higham area as part of their support for International Aid and had chosen a Rotary project as a 'thank you' for the work the club had been doing to support the schools in the past. An Aquabox was also chosen because apart from the initial cost of the box, the contents are in the main inexpensive everyday items that the pupils themselves could provide as a whole school initiative.

Thus Chairman David acted as an early Santa on the morning of the 7 December when all the seven schools gathered at Denfield Park School to receive their empty Aquabox and the instructions for filling them. Arrangements are being made by the Rushden Club to collect the filled boxes for their return to the Aquabox centre.

The Standard AQUABOX comprises a robust rigid plastic container and includes a filter that will provide sufficient drinking and general washing water for a family of six for well over a year.



Over 18,000 litres of potable water can be provided, meeting the needs of a family of six for well over a year.

Two Survival Bags are included for the family to use to either sleep in or to gather all their belongings into when they first receive the Aquabox.

Humanitarian Aid that will enable the victims of the disaster to begin to rebuild their life and to give them some dignity in their hour of need.

The Aquabox is specifically designed with Rotary Clubs, Inner Wheel Clubs, Individual Supporters, Schools, Churches, Scouts, Guides and other Community Groups in mind. On receipt of the box, the donor group fills the box with a range of humanitarian aid items selected from a published list. Each and every Standard Aquabox is uniquely numbered.

On the return of the boxes they are shipped either by aid agencies or direct by Aquabox to areas of need in the most appropriate way. The box itself can be used by the recipient family for many years to come, for example as a vermin proof rice store.

The insertion of a personal note by senders inviting a personal response is encouraged. On rare occasions a "feedback" reply may be received. Please let us know if this happens.



### Sutton Lower School RotaKids Club

RotaKids is becoming a great hit in Primary Schools across Great Britain and Ireland and a database of Rotakids Clubs has now been set up by RIBI.

The small village school in Sutton, near Biggleswade in Bedfordshire, has a thriving RotaKids Club which was presented with its charter by District 1070 Governor Linda May on 17th November. This is the first club to receive the new RIBI Charter Certificate.

For their first project the club is asking the local community to collect unwanted buttons and zips for a Trade Aid Box for a seamstress/tailor. This is one of 7 different boxes organised by the Rotary Club of Grantham Kesteven. 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.



DG Linda, Tony Sharp of Biggleswade Ivel and the president and team of the Sutton Lower School RotaKids Club



**It did not matter how young or old you were All enjoyed Werrington Rotaryswim.**

### New members

- Tony Rycroft, St. Neots\*
- Richard Manning, St. Neots
- Ted Franke, Oadby Launde
- Roger Gwynne Jones, Bedford
- Alison Porter, Soar Valley
- Geoffrey Ashcroft, Grantham
- Ian Bowler, Oadby Launde
- Richard Green, Wigston
- Sue Bullock, Bourne St. Peter
- Robert Bullock, Bourne St. Peter
- Frank Lofthouse, Bourne
- Laurie Parncutt, Bourne
- Leo Santos, Bourne
- Ashok Singh, Sleaford Kesteven
- Jim Steel, Blaby Meridian
- John Danes, Blaby Meridian
- Jacqueline Summers, Bourne St. Peter
- Bryan Summers, Bourne St. Peter
- John Jacklin, Peterborough Werrington\*
- Malcolm Bulpitt, Brackley
- Collette Parker, Ramsey
- Bill Barber, Ramsey
- Tina Leeland, Loughborough
- Gerry Clare, Boston
- Pam Clare, Boston

- Peter Sapey, Towcester
- Ludie Stafford Jones, Loughborough
- Alec Fitzsimons, Loughborough
- Tony Frankland, Wellingborough Hatton
- Julian Swales, Rushden Chichele
- David Cairns Taylor, Daventry
- Trusha Chauchan, Oadby Launde
- John Morris, Melton Aurora
- Michael Birt, Melton Aurora
- Sandra Bingley, Melton Aurora
- Kimberley Baker, Melton Aurora
- Joyce Archer, Melton Aurora
- Mic Pellicci, St. Ives
- Margaret Pepper, Kimbolton Castle
- Natalie Doughty, Kimbolton Castle\*
- Dale Warren, Ashby Castle
- William Murfett, Spalding
- Joel Weaver, Kimbolton Castle
- Peter Buuckingham, Market Harborough
- Chris Rees, Loughborough
- Steve Coleman, St. Ives
- Keith Slaney, Peterborough Werrington
- Tony Anders, Bourne

*\*Transfer or returning member*

### Letter to the Editor

*Dear Graham*

On reading the report of the District Conference at Southport both on the website and in News & Events, I note that, exactly as predicted, all mention of the Inner Wheel District Chairman's presentation was carefully omitted.

As this, and the Rotaract presentations, are the only items on the conference agenda to be treated, together with cynical and careful avoidance of any photographic record, perhaps some explanation could be attempted, however spurious.

At the conference I took the opportunity of raising the question of the invisibility of the Inner Wheel in the Rotary movement with our District Governor and later with the Rotary International representative. My questions were answered with the usual platitudes of how much Inner Wheel was appreciated etc. etc. This appreciation has now demonstrated... nothing has changed.

I ask if there is any point in the Inner Wheel District Chairman and Rotaract representative being invited to Conference in the future if this shabby and disrespectful treatment is to continue.

*John Sismey, Rotary Club of Bourne*

*Dear John*

The article in News & Events was written by me and was a personal view of the conference as editor and was a précis which highlighted events. I had no intention of covering all presentations. It is not possible in the space available to do so nor is it, in my opinion, necessary. I did not cover a number of other people including Mayor of Southport, District Governor, representatives of Rotary International, RIBI, Change of Scene, Rotaract or even Chris Chew and his presentation on Telford. Photographs taken at conference come from a number of sources, there is no official photographer, I accept all that are provided. Many of these are included on the web site but not all one thousand odd images. The graphic designer who sets up the page uses the best available images to give an overall view of the conference having read the article and being briefed, I give my personal approval. Being editor is mostly enjoyable, I am fortunate in learning about the whole spectrum of the Rotary movement and partners, I always edit and try to provide a balanced view. The omission of the Inner Wheel presentation was not deliberate.



## Obituaries

### John Ashwin Gammon Rotary Club of Ashby de la Zouch

It's the end of an era at the Rotary Club of Ashby de la Zouch: John had been a Rotarian for 52 years, 37 years an NFU Branch Secretary and friend. He will be sorely missed, being described by a fellow Rotarian thus: 'His acerbic wit, sharpness of mind, his eccentricities and cantankerousness were quite endearing qualities for the real character he was'.



He ran an NFU Branch, a hard taskmaster with high standards and expectations but considered the Leicestershire annual dinner when HRH Prince Charles was guest of honour a highlight of his career even though he ran a successful branch for which he received numerous awards.

John joined Ashby Rotary in 1959 and throughout had respected and emulated the codes and ethics. He was President twice and an ambassador for the Organisation for which he constantly sought new members.

He had many other interests including cars, sailing, gliding, trains, loved music of all styles and actively supported the Cheshire Foundation and Newlands House. Latterly he became involved with Calke Abbey, making his mark by introducing musical interludes into the visitors' experience.

'JAG' will be missed but always remembered as Mr. Hat and Gloves and died on 26 November 2011.

*John Sedgley*

### Passed to higher service

John Legg, Bedford  
Jonathan Shapland, Huntingdon  
Ray Elam, Bedford+  
Brian Hepher, St. Ives\*  
John Gammon, Ashby de la Zouch\*  
Ram Kaira, Leicester Novus

Bryan Brittin, Thrapston & Raunds  
Harry Oden, Soar Valley\*  
Michael White\*

*Amended from last issue +  
Obituary included \**

### Vocational award

The Rotary Club of Holbeach were delighted to receive the District Vocational award.

The award was made for a project in Holbeach's local community hospital. Club member, Paul Smith arranged for members of a local photographic society to submit pictures to be judged by the hospital and its residents who chose twelve pictures which were enlarged, framed and are now displayed around the hospital. The second part of the project was for teacher Su Scorthorne to encourage the pupils at her school to display their art work at the hospital.



### Brian William Walter Hepher Rotary Club of St. Ives

Brian founded his electrical business in Swavesey in 1952, he relocated firstly to Willingham, after he married Jennifer in 1959 and then to Station Road in St Ives in 1966 and finally Crown Street which continues to be run by his son, Simon.



Brian and Jenny were seasoned travellers and enjoyed many holidays with Rotarian friends. They were also enthusiastic campers and travelled widely in their motor home.

Brian joined the Rotary Club of St Ives in March 1972 and was President in 1983/84. During this time two families of "Boat people from Vietnam" arrived in St Ives and Brian played a very active part in preparing two homes for them, one family still lives and works in St Ives.

Brian served as Club Secretary and International Chairman over a number of years and in 2005 Brian was honoured with a Paul Harris Fellowship award.

Always immaculately dressed and with the beaming smile he became an honorary member earlier in 2011 and passed away after a short illness on Tuesday 22nd. November leaving his wife, Jenny, and his children, Simon and Sally, and his grandchildren.

### Harry Oden Rotary Club of Soar Valley

Harry Oden left Germany after he got out of Dachau concentration camp. Arriving in the Middle East, Harry found work on the land but soon joined the British Army in Persia, serving with Monty's 8th Army in Egypt fought his way up the Italian peninsula & taking part in the battle of Monte Casino. He subsequently spent time back in Germany working for the Americans before coming to the UK, but was initially not allowed to work here.

The British Legion intervened, allowed to settle in Leicester where he married his childhood sweetheart Edith. He joined Midland Red where he came Manager. Offered the chance to run a bus company in South Africa, Harry stayed until he retired and returned to Leicester.

Harry's Rotary career started over 40 years ago in Johannesburg, where he was very active. One of the club's activities involved building cheap but good quality houses for the black Africans, taking delight in knowing this infuriated the white ruling classes. He subsequently joined the Rotary Club of Blaby and some years later the Soar Valley Club. Three years ago at the age of 90, Harry felt unable to continue and was made an honorary member, which he retained until his death.

Harry had numerous friends and his death will sadden many people.

### Michael White Rotary Club of Oadby

Michael joined Rotary in 2004 and was almost immediately pressed into service as Attendance Officer, a role he made his own and his interaction with members suited him down to the ground.

A retired teacher, with a keen interest in music, Michael was always at hand organising Young Musicians competitions with a special way of encouraging new talent. Handbells particularly were a joy and with fellow musicians from Newparks Handbell Ringers who often played at fundraising concerts.

A gentleman in every way, with a huge love and pride in his family and members, who will be greatly missed.

### Paul Harris Fellows

Lesley Allitt, Northampton  
David George, Northampton  
Mark Collins, Stamford St. Martin's  
Helen Gatehouse,  
Stamford St. Martin's  
Peter Hibbins, The Deepings



District Calendar

JANUARY

- 23 District Council (Mon), Corby
- 28 District Young Chef
- 30th Northampton 90th Charter (RIBI President attending)

FEBRUARY

- 4-5 RIBI General Council, Alcester
- 10-12 RIBI Assembly Planning Seminar 2012/13
- 18 DOTS, Kettering Park Hotel, Kettering
- 25 Young Musician semi finals
- 26 Young Musician semi finals
- 29 District Youth Speaks final Kimbolton School

MARCH

- 1 ComVoc Committee, Garden House, Stamford
- 2 Spalding 75th Charter
- 10 PETS, Kettering
- 11 District Young Musician final
- 15 Team Meeting, Corby
- 24 Regional Young Musician
- 25 Foundation Lunch, Greetham
- 28 Executive, Corby
- 30-1 April RIBI Assembly Birmingham

APRIL

- 2-4 Inner Wheel Conference Bournemouth
- 3 Foundation Team Meeting, Garden House, Stamford
- 4 Communications, Grantham
- 13-15 RIBI Conference, Bournemouth
- 13 RIBI Young Musician Final, Bournemouth
- 17 District Council, Corby
- 21 RIBI Young Chef Final, Abingdon
- 23 Lutterworth Wycliffe 25th Charter
- 28 RIBI Youth Speaks Final, Wrexham

Coming Events

**Saturday 4th February:** Hollywood Hollywood, Satya Banquesting, Oadby. LE2 5BB. Rotary Club of Leicester Novus. Details: Channi Riyait t.07940 499051 e.channi\_r@hotmail.com

**Tuesday 7th February:** Leicester Grammar School Symphonic Wind Band Rotary Club of Blaby. Details: Patricia Pegg 0116 259 1903.

**Monday 13th February:** Laserforce Challenge, Laserforce, Brook Street, Peterborough. Details: t.01733 894549, w.www.rotary-peterborough-werrington.org.uk



**Thursday 23rd February: Rotary Day**

**Saturday 25th February:** Global Swimarathon, Various venues.

**Sunday 4th March:** Brass for Rotary 2. Upper Brown Street (previously the Pheonix) LE1 5TE. £10 per ticket, t.0116 224 4080.

**Sunday 4th March:** Eyebrook Walk. Rotary Club of Uppingham.



**Wednesday 7th March:** NID Reunion, The Flamingo Bar and Grill, Leicester. It is open to anyone with an interest in the NID in India, anyone who has been, or who may like to. Stephen Bath, Secretary, Rotary Club of Sleaford.

**Saturday 28th April: Stroke Awareness Day**

**Sunday 13th May:** Plant and Craft Fair, Misterton Hall, Lutterworth

**Sunday 20th May:** It's a Knockout, Stamford Rugby Club

**May:** It's a Knockout, Rotary Club of Rushden Higham

**28-30th September:** District Conference, Telford. Also see the District web site.



A 'Goat Shed' for Uganda

Will Hack is a student at Loughborough College with a desire to make things better for people less fortunate.

Following a visit to Kitega, on the shores of Lake Victoria in Uganda, he saw an opportunity to improve life for some people, and through 'Messy Church' in Hathern, he helped to raise funds to buy 3 goats for the locals. Since this area of Uganda is fertile, the goats will be productive and this will give the people a chance to improve their lives by providing valuable nutrition and income from the sale of offspring. The aim is eventually for all families to have at least 1 goat. However problems with predators and poachers means that some accommodation is required for the goats and Will is now fundraising to enable the local population to build a 'goat shed'.

He was a guest at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Shephed Charnwood where he talked about this project and received a cheque for £100 towards his objective. Can you help him?

The picture shows Will Hack, left, receiving his cheque from Rotary President Bill Watson, right, with Rotarians Tony Croft and Roger Hutchinson looking on.



**Duke of Edinburgh Award students and Huntingdon Rotary create wildlife garden**