



## E- Newsletter Number 13 May 2016

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**SERVICE ABOVE SELF**

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The aim of these quarterly Newsletters is to keep people and organisations informed about our club. It tells them what we have done recently, alerts them to what we are planning and, where appropriate, highlights opportunities to become involved in our activities. We would welcome **feedback** from readers. John Gould - Editor

### Coming to the end of another Rotary year



I find it difficult to believe that the twelve months of my presidency are nearly over. I am pleased to say that we have increased our membership and maybe even more importantly have attracted younger members.

The highlight of my year was the donation of the sports wheelchair to Oliver Marshall (See NL-12) as it is tangible proof that we are helping to improve the lives of local people. And now we are starting registrations for Walk the Test Way after the record breaking number of participants and money raised last year.

I would like to thank all the people who have supported me and wish Tony Trowsdale and his team a successful year.

*Neil Duncan (President 2015-16)*

### Focus on youth

Each Rotary year, starting at the beginning of July, has it's own cycle of seasonal events and the spring is when most of our youth events occur. The past three months has seen a flurry of youth competitions. Youth Speaks, Young Musician and Young Technologist. (In previous years we ran a competition for Young Chefs). This year we added an extra event for the Queen's 90th birthday. In the following pages you will see what talent there is. We are fortunate to have strong links with local schools and are able to help them take part in nationwide Rotary competitions (and to help them in practical ways).

### Latest news



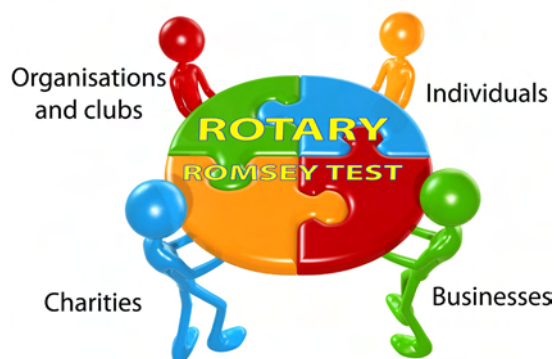
Since 1985 Rotary has worked with the **World Health Organisation** and, more recently, with the **Bill and Linda Gates Foundation** to eradicate polio. When the campaign started 1000 children were paralysed by polio EVERY DAY!

Here are a few recent measures of progress

- There have been only 18 cases worldwide so far in 2016 (10 in Pakistan, 5 in Afghanistan, 3 in Laos). There were 56 cases for same period in 2015.
- A new vaccination campaign started in Pakistan on May 16th and will treat 36 million under 5s using a new, more effective vaccine.

### It's all about partnerships

When you read through this Newsletter we hope you will be struck by the number of people and organisations with whom we work in partnership.



These partnerships are:

- **Local** (with local charities, businesses, schools and individuals who are interested in what we do),
- **Regional** (for instance with other Rotary Clubs in the Wessex area),
- **National** (with large charities and Rotary throughout Britain and Ireland) or
- **International** (again with Rotary to address global problems).

Our Club and the events we run can be the catalyst. Recently we brought together the ten charities that benefitted most from last year's Walk the Test Way and six of our local business partners. New partnerships may develop.

If you want to know more about how you could be involved please **contact us**.

### ++++Stop Press++++

Walk the Test Way "Early Bird" registrations open on June 1st.

Visit the **Walk the Test Way** web site to

take **advantage of this offer** and  
to **learn about this year's walk** on  
**Sunday October 9th**

# Poems for the Queen

The Queen's 90th Birthday has been a cause for many celebrations and Rotary has marked this too. We invited local schools to take part in a "Poem for the Queen" competition. (Actually this was part of the Rotary Young Writer competition). We were amazed by the response. Eight schools took part and we received 193 entries. All showed high regard for the Queen and touched on many aspects of her long life. There were some very funny ones too with corgis and "dorgis" featured. We were allowed to submit two poems to the Wessex district with a chance of one of them being sent to Queen but sadly our two did not win. Each of our winners received a book of poems and a certificate from the Club.



Here are the two winning poems.

## **A day of hope, a layer of brick**

Matthew Crossley Age 15  
(Hampshire Collegiate School)

21st of April 1926,  
A day of hope, a layer of brick,  
The first of many, your life story,  
Full of wisdom and righteous glory.

Your life has touched many,  
With your face on our penny.  
On this special occasion we praise  
Your life accomplishments we raise.

Your caring and long reign,  
Led me and others to gain  
Pride in what we have achieved  
All we have from you received.

Together let's stand  
Arm in arm in your land  
Australia, Great Britain  
In them your name written.

21st of April 2016,  
A day of hope, a layer of brick  
To a wall 90 tall  
Built a nation, a town hall.

For you two words I give,  
Echoed by many who re-live  
A day etched in clay  
Happy Birthday.

## **Strong and Mighty**

Poppy Shorland, Age 11  
(Halterworth Primary)

There once was a Queen as courageous as can be,  
Younger than her we never did see.

On June 2nd 1953,  
She took on her biggest ever responsibility.  
Her love for the country shines like the sun,  
It's extremely clear to everyone.

In 1977 for her silver jubilee,  
The whole country stopped to have a party.  
Bunting was hung from street to street,  
Food everywhere for everyone to eat.

Her Diamond Jubilee marked 50 years,  
Sailing up the Thames to her people's cheers!  
People came out in the pouring rain,  
To catch a glimpse of their Queen again.

In 2016 our Queen turns 90,  
Her love for her people is still strong and mighty.  
Thank you Your Majesty for all you have done,  
To help turn our country into a better one.

## More words

In January we held the local heats of Youth Speaks. Little did we imagine that the **Romsey School** Senior Team would go on to win at District and Regional levels and reach the National final held at Kirkham Grammar School in Preston, Lancs on May 7th.

The team of Anna Robinson, Max James and Elizabeth Hutchinson came 3rd overall with their examination of "Why can't we say what we mean?" Elizabeth was awarded the prize for the Best Vote of Thanks. The prizes were presented by RIBI President Peter Davey. Placed first and second were **Redmaids School** Bristol and **Wycombe Abbey School**, both fee-paying all-girls schools with 6th forms.

So, well done Romsey School. Your achievement was outstanding. We were pleased to be able to give the team some financial support for their travel and accommodation for the final.





## Building Bridges



Young Technologist 2016



Engineers have devised a huge number of bridge designs to span rivers and valleys, roads and railways but very few have been limited to using thin card, pulleys, glue, paper, rubber bands, string and drawing pins!

That was the challenge set by Rotary to 24 teams of 3 or 4 students from **Romsey, Mountbatten, Test Valley, St Anne's, Bitterne Park and Woodlands** Schools and to **Hamble and Regents Park** Colleges. The event was led by Romsey Test with help from the **Southampton Magna and Southampton West** Rotary Clubs.

In 4 hours the contestants had to design, build and test a roadway bridge strong enough to allow a 1kg weight to pass over it but also able to open to allow a model yacht to pass underneath. Marks were awarded, not just for a successful bridge, but for evidence that they had worked as a team to develop and build their design. The judges were all professional engineers.



Overall winners from the seven senior (Keystage 4) teams were Hamble College with Romsey School coming second. The Junior (Keystage 3) was won by St Anne's Catholic School with teams from Bitterne Park and Romsey Schools tied for second place. Mountbatten were third out of the 17 teams.



The Mayors of Test Valley and Romsey and the Rotary District Governor presented the awards. As was said at the end "This gives a glimpse of how a career in engineering can be satisfying, challenging and fun".

## Reminiscences

For the seventeenth year we invited almost 200 of Romsey's oldest citizens to enjoy "Reminiscences of Romsey.". The Crosfield Hall was filled with beautifully decorated tables loaded with food prepared by the members of **Romsey Inner Wheel**.



Town crier Terry Hamer, loudly opened the event and led in the dignitaries including the Mayors of Test Valley, and Romsey and MP Caroline Nokes. President Neil Duncan, welcomed guests and reminded them that the event was originally intended to be a one-off to mark the millennium! The entertainment was started by Charles Burnett, (**LTVAS**) showing photographs and films of events in the Market Place from wartime 1940s scenes to film of Lord Mountbatten opening the Town Hall Council Chamber in 1947 before becoming Viceroy of India. Later was the 1951 pageant for the Festival of Britain and finally the 1977 street party for the Queen's Silver Jubilee. It showed how the Market Place used to be an important point of assembly for the community.

Alison Bailey from **Canine Partners** then introduced Yarna, a Labrador-cross assistance dog who helps people with physical disabilities. Such dogs help with picking up items to return to the 'patient', removing shoes and even helping someone out of bed and calling the emergency services. The musical entertainment followed with Mountbatten School Junior Choir followed by audience participation in song ranging from "When the Saints go marching in" to "Roll out the Barrel" and ending appropriately with "We'll meet again".



Thanks were also expressed to the local bus and coach company, **Wheeler's Travel**, who generously sponsored the event and to St John Ambulance who were in attendance throughout the day.

## Waving not drowning



No, the Town Hall roof is not leaking badly. This is Stuart Wineberg who leads our work interacting with the local community dressed up in his full scuba gear. He told us all about the technicalities and the amazing underwater life he has seen diving on coral reefs around the world. His talk was one of several during the year in which members tell us about their hobbies or their work.

## About our Club and about Rotary

The Rotary Club of Romsey Test was started in 1990 and presently has 60 members (2 honorary). The Club was an offshoot of the **Rotary Club of Romsey** (the lunchtime club) that meets on Tuesday lunchtimes at the White Horse hotel. We are part of **Rotary International** and **Rotary International of Britain and Ireland**.

Rotary's objectives and principles are :-

- The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- High ethical standards in business and professions;
- Service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace.

Our club is overseen by its Council made up of the Chairs of the Club's committees, Secretary and Treasurers.

The Club's committees are

- Club Service - responsible for running the club.
- Community Service – dealing with service to the local community
- Fund-raising – primarily focussed on our major fundraising event, Walk the Test Way.
- Youth Opportunities - focussed on our work with young people around Romsey
- International – dealing with our international giving and including our partnership with Dentaidd to produce the Rotary Dentaidd Box.
- Foundation - **Rotary Foundation** is Rotary's own charity and deals with such global projects as the eradication of polio
- Membership - covering recruitment and retention.
- Sports and Social

## Who's Who (July 2015 to June 2016)

President	Neil Duncan
Senior Vice President	Tony Trowsdale
Junior Vice President	Jon Livingstone
Community Service	Stuart Wineberg
Membership	Colin Staples
Youth Opportunities	Steve Irish
Fundraising	Greg Hall
International	Philip Kirkland
Rotary Foundation	Tony Trowsdale
Sports and Social	Tony Abbott
Publicity	Neill Beasley
Business Partners	John Gould
Hon Secretary	Roger Shepherd
Trust Fund Treasurer	John Jones
Club Treasurer	Paul Grainger

## How high is yours?

For the fourth year we set up a **Shelterbox** tent in the Cornmarket and set about persuading Romsey Saturday shoppers to have their blood pressure measured. This effort in partnership with the **Stroke Association** aims to highlight the increased risk of strokes associated with high blood pressure. We particularly targeted people of working age since those who are older are usually well aware of whether they have high blood pressure.



To attract people's interest Mike Thorne brought along his KR200 Messerschmidt microcar and it seems to have worked as over 100 volunteered of whom 36 were recommended to see their GP. Five were regarded as urgent. The day would not have been possible without the help of **Abbeywell Surgery** and South Central Ambulance Service.

## Please "Tell us your wish".

The blood pressure day was the start of our 3 month window during which we invite people to tell us their wishes for organisations, individuals or families who would really benefit from a helping hand. This might be practical help, some money for a special need or even a well deserved treat for someone who is having a hard time. Wishes are already coming in so please **tell us yours**.

## Diary

Meetings are normally in Romsey Town Hall 19.00 for 19.30 First Wednesday each month is a Business Meeting. Other events are highlighted in <b>Yellow</b> . Major events in <b>bold</b>			
Date	Speaker topic or event	Speaker/organiser	Venue
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Club Assembly		
Wed 8 June	My working life	Peter O'Hara	
Wed 16 June	The work of Test Valley Community Services	Phil Tavener	
Wed 22 June	<b>Handover meeting</b>		<b>White Horse, Romsey</b>
Wed 29 June	Scout expedition to Tanzania	Kathleen Beaman	
Sun 3 Jul	<b>Mayors Picnic</b>	<b>Peter Stuckey</b>	<b>Romsey Memorial Park</b>
Wed 6 July	Business meeting		
Wed 13 July	Title TBD	Sarah Rowcliffe	
Wed 20 July	Membership recruitment discussion	Sandy Dunn	
Wed 27 July	TBD		
Wed 3 Aug	Business meeting		
Wed 10 Aug	TBD		
Wed 17 Aug	Agronomy reflections	Frank Smiley	
Wed 24 Aug	"Share the orange"	Rebecca Futrall	
Sun 9 Oct	<b>Walk the Test Way</b>	<b>The Walk Team</b>	
Sat 11 Mar	<b>Reminiscences of Romsey</b>		Crosfield Hall