



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

www.rotaryclubofromseytest.org

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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

New Year - New challenges - New opportunities

Editorial

Belatedly we wish all our readers a Happy New Year.

The lead up to Christmas was a busy time for the Club, both socially and in our support within the community. Our new Business Partnership scheme was launched in November when ten businesses were invited to hear about opportunities in which they can get involved in our local community. From this we have been offered support with a number of our activities and one individual is considering applying for membership. The Mayor of Romsey, Cllr. Ian Richards, closed the meeting with a vote of thanks. The feedback from the evening had been very positive with individuals and companies offering to help sponsor or get involved with promoting and supporting our activities.



For our Business Partner evening we produced a short video showing our activities during the year and highlighting opportunities for either hands-on involvement, funding, advertising or specialist support. The video will soon be available on our website. We will be developing Partnerships over the next few months and already in December we worked with Waitrose who wished to provide some Christmas cheer for senior citizens with a special Christmas lunch.

Our membership now stands at 56 but we are keen for new members to join so as to ensure that we have the capacity to continue our many activities. There is a misconception that members have to attend almost every week. We know that work and other commitments no longer make this feasible and in any case our most valuable work is done away from the weekly meeting. The activities described in the following pages give a flavour of the breadth of our work (and play). So, if you have an interest in supporting your community and enjoy the companionship that an organisation like Rotary provides please **make contact** so that we can answer any of your questions.

We ended the year on a positive note at our Christmas dinner. Molina Hatchet, one of our winners from last year's Young Musicians' Festival, sang for us. Molina is now reading music at university. We were also pleased to welcome Steve Irish as a new member.

Many of the activities planned for the coming year are detailed in this issue. Please note the relevant dates and we look forward to enjoying the events with you.

Keith Cameron, President
John Gould, Editor

Walk the Test Way 2013

The outcome

In the last Newsletter (Number 3 - October 2013) we reported on the 2013 walk. Now virtually all the money raised by our 600 walkers, including Gift Aid a staggering £60,000+, has been collected and is being transferred to the charities for whom our walkers raised funds. Listed below are the top 10 charities and some brief information about them. Click on the logos to see their web site and learn more. A complete list of beneficiaries is on the [WTTW](#) web site



£2471

Southampton General Hospital - Piam Brown Unit
Newly-established children's oncology and haematology Unit.



£2313

Rose Road Association.
Working with children, young people and their families from across Hampshire and the surrounding counties since 1952.



£2233

MacMillan Cancer Support
Improving the lives of people affected by cancer.



£2204

Arthritis Research UK
Working to take the pain away from people living with all forms of arthritis and helping them to remain active.



£1329

Cardiac Risk in Young
Founded in 1995 to raise awareness of conditions that can lead to young sudden cardiac death.



£1183

Andover & District Mencap
Offering a range of services to people to provide personalised care, learning and work opportunities.



£1098

Hampshire and IOW Air Ambulance
Providing an exemplary Air Ambulance service to the people of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Conveying patients to the most appropriate hospital for their needs.



£ 966

CAFOD
Catholic Agency For Overseas Development international aid agency.



£ 939

Breakthrough Breast Cancer
To save lives through improving early diagnosis, developing new treatments and preventing all types of breast cancer.



£ 827

Simon Says
Developing a professional service to support Hampshire children following diagnosis of a terminal illness or following the death of a parent, grandparent, sibling or other relative or friend.

The 2014 walk is on Sunday October 12th and the walk committee are already working with charities to ensure they derive maximum benefit from the event. If you want further information please contact **Greg Hall**.

Business Partners underway



Representatives of 10 local companies attended the inaugural event in the Town Hall on November 27th. They were told about the Club's activities and had a chance to discuss them with members. Several are now part of our Rotary Business Partners scheme.

The first event of the partnership was a Christmas lunch for 50 elderly people in the Royal British Legion run jointly with the Romsey branch of Waitrose. Rotary organised the distribution of invitations, through the Dial-a-Ride scheme and supplied the drivers who collected the guests and returned them to their homes after the event. Waitrose funded the cost of the lunch. Guests were waited upon jointly by Waitrose staff and Rotarians. The guests were entertained by talented musicians from Waitrose and by members of the Rotary Club who staged an amusing mini version of Cinderella, followed by some carol singing.



Branch Manager, Steve Corbett commented "We have been swamped by lovely letters and cards from those who attended. This has really made the Christmas of everyone who put their hearts and efforts into making this a special afternoon".



The Rotary "Cinderellas"

Laptops to Africa

Neil Duncan (President-elect 2015-6) and his wife Margaret visited Kenya last autumn. Margaret was part of a team from the charity **Wings of Mercy** providing health care in the Kibera slum area of Nairobi. Neil took with him six laptop to set up a simple IT centre that would help local people develop their computer skills.

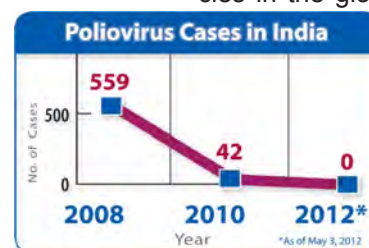


This initial donation has been followed up by a second through **Wings of Mercy** of two laptops to Sierra Leone each bearing the new "Donated by the Rotary Club of Romsey Tes" sticker.

Neil is now working with our partner Asante to locate laptops that they can take to the school they support in Uganda. Do you have a redundant laptop? Neil can find a good home for it.



A new milestone was reached in January 2014 - it is over 3 years since India reported any cases of polio. This was announced widely in the press by **Rotary International**, the **Gates Foundation** and the **World Health Organisation** the major agencies in the global campaign to eradicate polio.



Polio is now endemic in only three countries, Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Upcoming youth events

The Young Musicians' Festival will be in the Lantern Theatre at Mountbatten School on Saturday February 8th. Entries closed on January 27th and the programme for the event is now being planned.

Youth Speaks public speaking competition between intermediate and senior teams from Mountbatten and Romsey Schools is to be held on February 12th.

Young Technologist in the Crosfield Hall, Romsey on Wednesday March 12th will test the innovative skills of children working in teams of four against the clock. We have 17 teams from 6 schools already entered. The event will be run with collaboration from the Rotary Club of Southampton West.

December 2013 Philippines disaster relief



The Club was able to make use of a unique opportunity to send relief to victims of cyclone Haiyan. In addition to our donation of 2 **Rotary Shelterboxes** our Club together with Inner Wheel made a donation of £1250 directed towards **Rotary Aquaboxes**. This was then doubled with matching funds from Rotary's own charity, Rotary Foundation. We are pleased to have been able to respond rapidly to the need for both shelter and clean water for the cyclone survivors.



Shelterbox tent providing a home and materials for a family of 10

About our Club and about Rotary

The Rotary Club of Romsey Test was started in 1990 and presently has 56 members. 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 Clubs 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 fund-raising 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 Dentaid to produce the Rotary Dentaid 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 2013 to June 2014)

President	Keith Cameron
Senior Vice President	Gren Lamb-Hughes
Junior Vice President	Neil Duncan
Community Service	Peter Welsh
Membership	Colin Staples
Youth Opportunities	Jon Livingstone
Fundraising	Greg Hall
International	Sandy Dunn
Rotary Foundation	Tony Trowsdale
Sports and Social	Anne Chivers
Publicity	Neill Beasley
Business Partners	John Gould
Hon Secretary	Iain Small
Trust Fund Treasurer	John Jones
Club Treasurer	Paul Grainger

Recent meetings and events

• In the Community

- A group of members led by Mike Thorne sang Christmas carols to (and with) the residents of Marie Louise House nursing home in Romsey.
- Mike Thorne and Peter Stuckey took 25 Romsey Young Carers and 4 helpers to the pantomime at the Salisbury Playhouse. A good time was had by all.
- A cheque was presented to the Romsey Citizen's Advice that will fund a new laptop.
- The Club contributed over 100 shoeboxes filled with gifts for children in Albania, Montenegro, Romania and the Philippines. 50 were donated by the children of Wellow Primary School. Thank you!

• Speakers

Alan Watson, a regular speaker at our Club evenings gave us an fascinating insight into the future of television "It's television Jim but not as we know it"
Flt. Lt. Bertie Green spoke to us about the activities of the Romsey Air Training Corps
Prof John Norman gave us (and 10 visitors) a fascinating insight into the short life and many achievements of R.J. Mitchell, the designer of the spitfire.

• Social events

We celebrated Halloween in a suitably spooky atmosphere and held our Christmas dinner at which President Keith welcomed new member Steve Irish. Steve has lived in the Romsey area all his life and is a past President of Hamble Valley Rotary Club.

Diary

Meetings in Romsey Town Hall 19.00 for 1930			
Other events are highlighted in Yellow . Major events in bold			
Date	Speaker topic or event	Speaker/organiser	Venue
Wed 22Jan	RJ Mitchell and the Spitfire	Prof John Norman	
Wed 09 Jan	An Evening with Maj Gen Patrick Cordingly, DSO, FRGS.	Partners evening	
Wed 05 Feb	Council and Business meeting		
Sat 8 Feb	Young Musician	Jon Livingstone	Mountbatten School
Wed 12 Feb	Youth Speaks - START 7PM	Mike Gratton	
Wed 19 Feb	Medical Students Electives	<i>Martin Radford</i>	
Wed 26 Feb	Speaker TBC		
Wed 05 Mar	Council and Business meeting		
Wed 12 Mar	Young Technologist	Dave Healy	Crosfield Hall
Wed 12 Mar	Romsey School	Jonathan de Sausmarez	
Sat 15 Mar	Reminiscences of Romsey		Crosfield Hall
Wed 19 Mar	Lions in Kent	Mark Edgerley	
Wed 26 Mar	Skittles	Partners evening	
Wed 02 Apr	Council and Business meeting		
Wed 09 Apr	Business Partners Meeting		St Edward's School, Melchet Court
Sat 12 Apr	Know Your Blood Pressure Day	Debs Bower	Cornmarket
Wed 16 Apr	Visit by Southampton Clausentum	<i>Gren Lamb-Hughes</i>	
Wed 23 Apr	Speaker TBC		
Wed 30 Apr	Hilliers: celebrating 150 years	Robert Hillier, OBE	
Wed 24 Jun	Presidential Handover		TBC
Sun 6 Jul	Rotary Mayor's Picnic		Memorial Park
Sun 8 Oct	Walk the Test Way		