



Issue No: 186

Driving the wheel of fellowship

August '20 Newsletter

Programme for the next two months.

August			Speaker Finder	Grace & Thanks
Monday	3rd	Normal Meeting	John Turner	Sally Parkinson
Monday	10th	Normal Meeting	Sue Postlewaite	Graham Johnson
Thursday	13th	Council Meeting	7-30 p.m.	
Monday	17th	Business Meeting		Grace DA
Monday	24th	Normal Meeting	John Roberson	Steve Tallis
Monday	31st	Summer Bank Holiday		

September

Monday	7th	Normal Meeting	Steve Tallis	John Turner
Thursday	10th	Council	7-30 p.m.	
Monday	14th	Business Meeting		Grace DA
Monday	21st	Normal Meeting	Ted Wilson	Susan Sharp
Monday	28th	Normal Meeting	TBA	Brenda Burton

If you are unable to carry out your 'duty' please find a substitute and tell
John Howell Tel: 01455 553209

News from South Africa

Good day Mary and Peter,

The sudden onslaught of the COVID-19 virus has left us all in a state of shell shock, but slowly I think many of us are adapting to a new way of living.

In South Africa we are currently at "Level 3" of the lock-down restrictions.

Level 5 was a complete cessation of everything except essential services. Level 4 gave a little more freedom of movement and limited businesses were allowed to sell limited goods - for example clothing stores could sell winter clothes and shoes, but not flip flops or tee shirts!!!

Stationery shops could sell school and exercise books, but not board games, jigsaw puzzles and reading matter.

We could buy hairbrushes and combs, but not colourants or hair clips and alic bands.

Some decisions seemed a bit bizarre.

And of course we could not purchase any alcohol - no beer wine or spirits etc - until we got to Level 3, so people started trying to make their own drinks pineapple beer, and the price of pineapples rocketed like toilet paper, crazy times.

The sale of tobacco is still banned, no cigarettes, pipe tobacco or cigars can be bought unless you 'know someone' - even then if stopped and questioned with a cigarette you have to show a valid receipt.

We are currently at Level 3 and about 80% of business are now allowed to open their doors under strict social distancing, and with everyone wearing face masks.

Schools are open only for learners who need to take important exams this year.

There are still many other restrictions, but life is generally a bit easier.

It is difficult to give numbers of people tested, recovered or sadly died as I know this changes daily, but South Africa is beginning to show more and more positive cases each day. Especially in hot spots in Cape Town and Johannesburg, locally there are very few cases. South Africa is a very big country and we are far from any large city centre although of course no one is immune and this virus is extremely contagious.

It looks as though we are following the global trend but no-

where near the downhill curve.

There are still many thousands of people who are unable to work and need food parcels. Government agencies, individuals and charity organisations like Rotary are all involved in this and trying to make sure no family goes to bed hungry.

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Change of President

The handover to our New President David Ayres took place on Zoom on Monday 29th June. Our current President Sally Hollis who has had a very successful but difficult year brought about by the covid 19 pandemic virus which hit the whole world in mid term of her presidency.

May I say on behalf of the Club how proud we are in weathering the unprecedented extra challenges she faced in her term of office.

Sally's chosen charities were Cancer Research - MIND and Twenty -Twenty which gained considerable funds during the year despite the fact that she was not able to run the number of events she would have liked.

However Sally has left David in a very strong position to face his set of challenges during the coming year. David's chosen charities will be—LOROS, Rainbows Children's Hospice and The Hope Foundation.



Inner Wheel News

President Sue Staples said goodbye to her unusual year but had benefitted from successful events held before March 2020, supporting her charities the Migraine Trust and jointly with Rotary, Macmillan Cancer Support. The handover meeting, using Zoom, was to joint Presidents Mary Blott and Diana Osborn who look forward to sharing events during their year. Concerned that young people have had a difficult four months with no school or friendship groups they are supporting the Children's and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS). To help fund a sensory room and provide exercise/sports equipment for the Beacon Project, a new build at Glenfield Hospital and the charity MIND.

"Getting Together Again" our July meeting, a one off—suitably distanced—**actual** meeting at the Wycliffe Rooms.

Mercy Ships News on Covid-19

Eliphaz Essah is one of our dedicated crew members who has recently used his skills to help his community in Benin.

Essah, who speaks ten languages (Ewe, Krio, Lingala, Fon, Mahi, Kotafon, Yoruba, Goun, Mina, English and French), usually leads the Mercy Ships Food for Life programme, which teaches the importance of good nutrition and efficient farming techniques. However, due to the current situation, he returned to Benin and started a new project.

Eliphaz Essah, Agriculture Program Manager, in one of the greenhouses on the agriculture site. *“For a long time, I had been holding a vision to produce an instant infant feeding flour rich in protein that can be used to supplement nutrition. I felt that now was the time for this vision to grow.”*



Essah has donated this new flour to several orphanages, providing meals where resources are dwindling and hope was failing.

“Amongst the unknowns, I decided not to sit at home and do nothing, but to allow all the experiences of the last few years and the many things I have learned as Project Manager for the Food for Life Programme to shape my vision for this season and allow God to transform my circumstances.”



Like many in the Mercy Ships family, Essah didn't stop mercy during these challenging times.

The man who brought Rotary to the East Midlands

I thought our newer members would like to have a precis of an article produced in July 2006 about the birth of Rotary in the East Midlands.

Quote

As is well known in February 1905, Paul Harris and friends founded the first of the world's 32,000 Rotary Clubs. Ten years later a 37 year old sales manager for Roneo Charles Charante, was moved to Leicester from Edinburgh by his company. His wife and three young daughters joined him in Leicester, but they had no relatives, friends or other contacts in the area. Before his move to Leicester Charles Charante had been a member of the pioneering Club of Edinburgh and finding that there was no Club anywhere in the East Midlands or East Anglia he started exploring the possibility of creating a Rotary Club in Leicester.

In March 1916 seven local men accepted an invitation to meet him at the Stag and Pheasant Hotel, and they were joined by the well known Dr Tom Stephenson of the Edinburgh Club, who had come specially to Leicester for the occasion to explain the nature and purpose of Rotary. At the end of the meeting those present decided to try to form a Rotary Club in Leicester and affiliate to the World Rotary movement as soon as 30 members had joined. By 6th June 1916 the Club was established with 32 Founder Members who elected Charante as the first Secretary while the President was G. Crawford Johnson, Managing Director of a leading local firm of drapers and milliners and the Leicester Club was formally Chartered in October 1916.

This was the 13th Club in RIBI and the first Club in the East Midlands or East Anglia and quite soon some of its leading members were actively promoting Rotary extension throughout both regions.

At the time that the report was written Leicester was celebrating its 90th Anniversary.

Recycle your used Aluminium Cans

There are now more than forty ultra-modern helicopters of the Association of Air Ambulances covering the UK, however there are not enough helipads, but you can help build them! We can all work together by collecting cans which will be crushed and smelted to form sections of a helipad for an NHS hospital.

Collecting point in Bitteswell is: G H Johnson, Field House, Ashby Lane, Bitteswell in the **green bins** in his driveway.

Helipads for Hospitals is a UK charity founded by former RAF and Air Ambulance helicopter pilot John Nowell.

It is registered Charity (#1177218) with the Charity Commission, whose relevant page can be visited [The aim is to collect about one million drinks cans and other unwanted aluminium items \(i. e. saucepans\) and to use the raw material to form an alloy strong](#)

enough to build a helipad on site at hospitals. The first priority is Leicester Royal Infirmary, where air ambulance helicopters currently have to land on Nelson Mandela Park so the patients - often critically ill - have to be transferred to road ambulances and driven to the Accident and Emergency Department, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away. So, by recycling aluminium, H4H will reduce the need to mine bauxite for aluminium. It takes 20 times as much energy to make an aluminium can as it does to recycle one, so we will save energy. By picking up litter, including cans, we are helping to save our environment, too.

And who knows how many lives we might save?



Club Donation to LOROS

A donation was made to LOROS for £100 following the death of David Gingell of the Evening Club who spent some days in LOROS prior to his death on 22nd May. David had been a Past President of Wycliffe having been a long term Rotary member.

Captain Tom: Inspiration to a Nation

Coming up on Together Talks on Tuesday 28th July, we have two very special guests!

Hannah Ingram-Moore, daughter of Captain Sir Tom Moore will be joining us live. Plus we will also be sharing a pre-recorded interview with lockdown hero Captain Sir Tom himself! Don't miss out on this incredible, inspirational evening.

 Tuesday 28th July

 19.05

 Put your questions to Hannah Ingram-Moore

 Streamed live on Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland's YouTube channel

 Join the Zoom Room for front row seats

This is not televised but will be live on Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland's YouTube channel –

<https://youtube.com/rotaryinternationalingreatbritainireland>