



## **Meon Tidings No. 47 February 2015.**

### **Future meetings and events.**

**4<sup>th</sup>**. Tomato & feta salad, Lamb hotpot, Profiteroles with chocolate sauce.  
Speaker- Jane Baskerville - "Becoming a Magistrate" Host. Graham Lawrence.

#### **Ladies meet at Vicky Houghton's home.**

**7<sup>th</sup>**. PETS at Mounbatten School Romsey for incoming Presidents.

**11<sup>th</sup>**. Battered cod fillet, chips & peas with tartare sauce.

**18<sup>th</sup>**. Cream of vegetable soup, Chicken and bacon caesar salad, Bread & butter pudding.

Speaker- Alison Ascough-"The Haven Breast Cancer Support Centre"

**23<sup>rd</sup>**. Club Council meets at Jane Lawrence's home

**25<sup>th</sup>**. Honey baked ham with parsley sauce, veg. & potatoes.

Business meeting.

### **Previous meetings and events.**

**17<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Dinner** at Meon Valley Country Club.

This was a very nice venue although some thought the food was disappointing. Never-the-less the company was excellent and a good time was had by all those who were there. Fred Gradidge donated a lovely Christmas cake which was raffled and raised £129 was won by Pauline Kidd. (Lucky Roger she can't eat cakes made with flour!)

#### **7<sup>th</sup> January**

**Speaker. Dennis Boylan-Subject-"The retreat from Mons 1914"**

Dennis began his very interesting talk with a review of the background events which led to the European conflicts. Trouble began when Spain appointed a German King this did not meet with French approval and led to the Prussian invasion of France in 1869. The outcome caused the annexation of Alsace Lorraine but also resulted in the founding of the Entente between England and France. The half English Kaiser Wilhelm was very aggressive and war like and

encouraged his General Schlieffen to formulate a plan which would enable Germany to fight the Low Countries, France and England at the same time.

The trigger for the 1914-1918 war was the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand and his wife in Sarajevo, Serbia. Austria asked the Kaiser for support with the invasion of Serbia in reprisal to which he readily agreed.

Within 6 days all of Europe went to war. Initially the French with the help of the British Expeditionary Force had some success in the battles in the northeast of France and Belgium but not for long. Ground made was quickly lost and the allied armies retreated under very heavy artillery and machine gun fire. The troops were in very poor state with the loss of clothing, boots and armaments. Eventually the Germans were halted and pushed back but there followed 4 years of stalemate trench warfare. A prime example of the stupidity of Field Marshalls and Generals.

Harvey Griffiths Hosted

#### **100 Club draw results for December.**

£100 Bill Lane £50 Jean Lane! £47.50 Ken Grinaway (DAGS)

**21<sup>st</sup>.**

**Speaker. Rtn. Alan Smith M.B.E. R.C. Jersey. Subject "Sand Dams in Africa".**

Alan who was our District International Service Chairman and is now on the R.I.B.I. International Committee spoke about this new initiative to improve water supplies in drought areas in Kenya.

A very disturbing fact highlighted by Alan is that 35% of the global population lives in drought areas and women and children can spend up to 12 hours per day collecting water in remote areas. This obviously is a tremendous waste of time and prevents the women from working and tending their families and deprives children of time in school. In the particular area which Alan has visited several times, at his own expense, the annual rainfall is greater than that of Manchester. However the problem is that the rain falls in short periods and in drenching downpours. Storage of this valuable resource is a major problem. The sand dams are constructed of concrete, usually by women, across river beds and are filled with sand. So when the torrential rains come the water is retained in the sand. The potable water can then be scooped from hollows in the sand and in some cases are also diverted into wells or taps. The scoop holes are protected with brush wood to prevent animals from using them. There are now 390 such dams in operation in Kenya in suitable riverbeds usually within about 30 minutes of villages. The cost of a small dam is £8,000,

£12,000 for a medium dam and £17,500 for the largest. They are designed to last for 50 years with no major maintenance.

Apart from providing clean water for the human inhabitants, water is also available for agriculture enabling food crops and animal fodder to be grown.

District 1110 is working on a global grant application for \$1m. and 20 of our local clubs are promising funds, more are required. Arthur Mathisen hosted.

### **Rotary Fareham Youth Speaks. 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015.**

Crofton School Senior Winners Wykeham House Intermediate Winners



The pictures show President of R.C. Fareham John Rowland presenting the cups to the worthy winners.

Amongst the 9 entries from 4 schools there were some new faces. As usual the standard was very high with eclectic subjects from all the speakers. This gave the three judges a difficult job and they pontificated for over an hour to reach their conclusions.

The winners of the intermediate section subject was “How to talk text” OMG (oh my gosh) was one of the examples speaker Marcella Lea quoted. She was skilfully introduced by chairman Susannah Sparkes and expertly thanked by voter Natalia Nobes. The talk left the older members of the audience completely baffled!

Runners up in the senior section were also Wykeham House School with the subject “How to be famous in 2015”. All the team were excellent and narrowly missed winning.

New entry Crofton School’s senior team’s subject was “Should the voting age be lowered to 16”. The speaker William Rowland gave a convincing case

against and was introduced by a relaxed chairman Alexander Boston. Conall Murray gave a sincere vote of thanks.

All nine teams are to be congratulated with a special thanks to The Mayor Cllr. David Norris, Head Judge Mrs Christine Curzon-Lewis and President Paul Jones of the Fareham Meon Club. Rotary is most grateful to the Council for the use of the council chamber. The winning teams will now speak again at the District finals to be held at Ferneham Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> February. The winners of this heat will then go to a regional final on 21<sup>st</sup> March in Somerset.

It was a shame that only 3 members of our club were present at an excellent event. The members of the Youth Service Committee were conspicuous by their absence!

### **Polio eradication news as at 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015.**

There were 356 cases world –wide in 2014 compared with 389 in 2013 all type 1. Most of these, 303, were in Pakistan. The first case in 2015 was reported recently in Pakistan.

### **Presentation to “Simon Says” charity at Asda.**



This photograph shows President Paul handing cheque to Sharon Noble Gosport organiser of this Hampshire charity. As a part of the deal for allowing our club to collect outside the store, one day’s collection was presented to Asda’s choice of local Charity. On the day chosen only £411 was collected so it was made up to £500. This amount will provide support for about two months. “Simon Says” was named after the Father of a child who tragically died. There was no available Child Bereavement support, so the widowed Mother started one!

They cater for all ages from 0 to 18 by providing a telephone helpline, monthly support group meetings and advice and training for professionals working with

bereaved children and young people. Meeting young folk in a similar sad situation can provide some relief. 40 children attend the Gosport centre. Approximately every 30 minutes, a child is bereaved in the U.K. Also 4% of school aged children (5 to 16 years) will lose a parent or sibling. Not included in this statistic are those who have lost another relative or close friend. It is hoped that the local chairman Sharon Noble will come to tell us more in May.

### **Highlights from Group 7 meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January at Cams.**

Unlike the previous meeting this one was very well attended with the D.G. and new A.G. Linda Lawson present. In the Chair, John Rowlinson Rotary Fareham.

- 1) Bristol Conference in Marriott City Centre. 100 of the 600 rooms at £100 per night (B & B) have already been taken. Activities are all within the hotel. Bristol is an attract city to spend a weekend and not too far from Fareham.
- 2) Youth Speaks. All 76 clubs are expected to contribute £25 to defray expenses, whether they take part or not.
- 3) R.I.B.I. organised nation-wide cycle ride in aid of Prostate Cancer Charity is on 21<sup>st</sup> June which is Father's day. This being supported by many other organisations including cycling clubs.
- 4) Fareham club are asking for financial support for a T.R.F. Global Grant to provide 70 solar panels for the children's school in Manilla, Philippines. This should generate all the electrical power needs of the school which will save the equivalent of 7 teacher's salaries.
- 5) The Haven at Titchfield, Breast Cancer Support, need to find £880k-£900k for two years running cost. £2m.has already been donated to buy the building and pay for its conversion.
- 6) Cosham Club are looking for folk to help the library service. They only need a commitment of one two hour slot per month.
- 7) Southsea club are holding another weekend of Dragon Boat racing on 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May. This generated over £15k last year. They hope each club will sponsor a team at a cost of £180. The team keep any money raised for their own charity less 10%.

### **Our two business partners.**

