

NORTHAMPTON ROTARY CLUB

Newsletter August 2012



Club Founded 1922

District 1070

President 2012-13: Brian May

The President Writes –

Here we are in the middle of the Olympics and you can see that I have got into the spirit of the thing! The Olympic Torch passed through the County at the beginning of July and, despite the rain, it was very well received and supported. I failed to get any tickets but will be attending the Paralympics in early September – Elspeth will not be competing despite suggestions to the contrary!

There was a rather special start to the month when I welcomed three of the new members from Apollo at the Satellite Group meeting on 3rd July: Stephen Tomlinson, who would have been President this year (he is fully trained so could be sworn in if I were to be assassinated!), and Derek and Janette Hopkins. They immediately joined in with the activities of the Group as though they had always been there! Subsequently, we have also welcomed Dennis Johnson, previously Secretary of Apollo, and Lynda Tomlinson to the Club. I am sure all members will ensure that they are soon fully integrated into our Club.

The meeting on 3rd July was rather more spectacular than I had intended since, on the way out of the Four Pears, I walked into the glass door and smashed it! Although I received several ribald comments from the locals – “you’re supposed to pen the door before walking through it” – the staff seemed unduly concerned and merely taped up the starburst of cracks and the hole where my knee made a not too hard contact. I worry about the strength of glass doors now!

The Dragon Boat Festival on 15th July demonstrated the power of the joint Clubs in Northampton. Many of you will not appreciate the enormous amount of work that goes into putting on this event, not only on the day itself but in the weeks and months leading up to it. Kevin Greatorex (the treasurer) and Lesley Allitt (programme compiler) are the principal members who represent our Club on the committee and I have been a member this year as well so I have seen first hand

what is done. Planning begins immediately after the end of the current festival and continues throughout the winter and spring to ensure that the day is a success. And even that would not be enough if there were not an army of volunteers on the weekend to set the site up and marshal it. On the day, there seems to be a swarm of yellow tabards all around the Midsummer Meadow area as Rotarians ensure everything is orderly and the site is kept clean. We do receive a significant amount into our funds each year and it is disappointing that so few of our members are prepared to lend a hand or even attend the event. My and our thanks must go to those willing volunteers who do make the effort.

I was very disappointed to have to cancel the Silent Auction on 30th July. I have good memories of the similar event we held at the auction rooms many years ago and I thought it would be a popular way to mark the fifth Monday of the month. Sadly, not enough of our members were prepared to support it to make it worthwhile. I shall have to find another way to make use of some interesting artefacts that I hoped to get rid of!

And finally, a reminder about the Duck Race on 19th August at Kislingbury. Please help to sell tickets and to get as many people there as possible so that we can have a successful day.

Brian

A late “and finally”! When we booked Sunley for lunches, the price agreed was on the basis of c40 people each week. Recently we have fallen well short of this figure and we are aware that Sunley is considering its rates. Please make every effort to attend on Mondays otherwise we shall be having to accept an increase in the cost of the lunch. This will affect all Monday members!

Satellite Group

We were pleased to have five former members of Apollo join the Satellite Group on 1st July, taking our numbers to 19 members.

We will be maintaining our policy of one social meeting per month and making our Rotary as much fun as possible.

Forthcoming projects include the Duck Race at Kislingbury (19th August), the Greenoaks School sensory garden (September), and the Northants Youth Film Festival (also September).

It has been proposed and agreed by the Group members to hold a membership evening in the autumn (date to be confirmed), where a number of Rotarians will give brief presentations to the invited audience of the effect and benefits that Rotary has had for them. If you know of anyone who you think might be interested in Rotary and who may wish to attend, please let Rosemary Good or me know.

We welcome Monday-lunching members of the Club to our meetings and look forward to seeing some of those Rotarians who have yet to sample the SG style of Rotary.

Andrew Cowling

AUGUST 2012

- 6 **PETER DUNKLEY** Music Hub Graham Mortimer
7 **SATELLITE GROUP**
13 **BUSINESS MEETING** Peter Newham
14 **SATELLITE GROUP**
19 *Car Boot Sale*
19 **SG Duck Race Kislinburv**
20 **STAN EVANS** Alcohol - Your Poison Lunch Council Barrv Nuttall
21 **SATELLITE GROUP**
23 *Club Walk - PD*
27 **NO ROTARY** August Bank Holiday

SEPTEMBER 2012

- 3 **DISTRICT GOVERNOR Chris Chew** Geoff Ottaway
4 **SATELLITE GROUP**
5 *District Council*
10 **PETER VOKE** The Samaritans Joraen Romose
11 **SATELLITE GROUP**
17 **JANE RILEY** Work Life Balance Philip Saunderson
17 *Film Northants Presentation Evenina*
18 **SATELLITE GROUP**
20 *Club Walk - CM*
23 *Car Boot Sale*
24 **KAREN BUCKLEY** Community Mediation 6 pm Council Michael Stead
25 **SATELLITE GROUP**
28-30 *District Conference Telford*

OCTOBER 2012

- 1 **BUSINESS MEETING**
2 **SATELLITE GROUP**
8 **PROFESSOR NICK PETFORD** Vice Chancellor University of Northampton - Volcanoes Ralph Wiggins
9 **SATELLITE GROUP**
15 **DR JEFF OLLERTON** Plants and Pollinators More Than Just Honey Bees Akram Zamaan
16 **SATELLITE GROUP**
18 *Club Walk GM*
21 *Car Boot Sale*
22 **BRUCE CLAYTON** Fine Art Lunch Council
22 *District Council*
23 **SATELLITE GROUP**
29 **7.30 JUDITH ARNATT** John Clare and His Wife

COLOUR CODE:

Sunley Conference Centre LUNCHTIME 12.35 Council 6pm
SATELLITE GROUP MEETINGS 6.15 Four Pears Little Houghton
COMBINED MEETINGS See list above
Lunchtime Duty Host and Grace

Dragon Boat Festival Report

The more of these events we run it seems the better the organisation becomes. That is not to belittle the efforts of previous organisers. Indeed the loss of Hasse Marrum earlier this year showed us just how much he was still organising. His untimely death showed the need for all involvement in the event to be properly documented in order that successors can more easily pick up the baton. Despite his loss the atmosphere on the day was conspicuously positive

Again we had the full complement of crews (after a lot of soul searching and much chasing of potential sources) and the members of the committee came into their own enabling the day to run like a well oiled machine.

Despite all the rain in the build up to the day the site was in good condition thanks to the Borough Council with their mowers and clearing some of the riverbank and in addition some of the committee who spent further time clearing the banks and making viewing of the racing even better. Hasse although he was missed on the day was still using his influence to make sure that the weather was at its best with the only good weather day sandwiched between the miserable wet ones either side. This inspired record crowds and full car parks resulting in all programmes selling out.

There was, however, one impediment that rather upset the organisation. A member of one of the teams had a heart attack the night before the event and the rest of the crew did not feel up to participating without him. However not to let that affect things too badly, Rotary Club members rallied to the cause and made up the missing team. Needless to say they did not win any medals

The hospitality along the riverbank was as generous as ever and most of the teams had lots of support from their firms, WAGS and the general public. At the end of a day of fierce competition, the winners of the racing were for the third consecutive year were the team from the GoDo Ju Jitsu Club, followed by the team from Brixworth Fire Fighters with the team from Phipps Henson and McAllister in third. In the best-dressed team competition the Richmond Rowbots team organised by our own Paul Bundyford were first with the Harry Potter and the Prisoners of Barclaycard close behind. The best name was awarded to Carlsberg's Skol and Crossbones team.

All that remained was the clearing up which as always was completed with much good humour. The experience gained from the organisation in advance is really having an effect. It is absolutely fantastic to see the four local clubs all working together to such a positive cause. But the result is well worth the effort and shows what can be done with mutual goodwill and cooperation. I would urge all our members to get involved in the future to ensure that we deserve our share of the profits.

Kevin Greatorex



July 2012



Rotary Foundation - 1070 Financial Report for 2011-2012

Annual Fund Support

I am pleased to thank clubs across the district for their financial support for our charity, the Rotary Foundation this year.

Total donations to the Annual Fund were \$231,118, averaging \$85.38 per Rotarian across the district. This is the highest for 4 years, a very pleasing result. This will ensure that we are able to support more club projects in the future, as this money partially comes back to us to spend on both District and Global Grants, and also allows us to tap into more of the World Fund as yet more support for Global Grants.

I congratulate and thank especially the top 5 clubs for their generous support:

Holbeach	\$158 per member
Ashby de la Zouch	\$151 pm
Kimbolton Castle	\$128 pm
Oadby Launde	\$126 pm
The Deepings	\$123 pm

86 of the 87 clubs in the district contributed to the Annual Fund. Some clubs have yet to recognise the value of supporting our charity ahead of other non-Rotary charities.

All clubs have been notified of their individual contributions this year to the Annual Fund.

Individual Donations

Many Rotarians donated individually to the Annual Fund during the year, and we thank you all for doing so. Your contributions are very important. They add significantly to the total contributions, both from your own clubs and the district total too. They also signify something that in a way is even more important, your personal commitment to our own charity, The Rotary Founda-

tion. So thank you all who have supported us during the year.

Should any individual want their personal giving to be recorded, it is no problem to do so. Just let me or RIBI at Alcester know the details when donations are submitted. Credits can go to the individuals, while the sum can still be credited to the club's annual giving total.

Polio Challenge 2011 - 2012

I am also delighted to say that our district has beaten the target for the Gates Polio Challenge, averaging in 2011-12 £28.13 per member across all clubs, a total of £74,254.

I congratulate and thank especially the top 5 clubs for their generous support this year:

Northampton	£118.79 pm
Shepshed Charnwood	£116.66 pm
Grantham	£100.00 pm
Northampton Apollo	£90.28 pm
Bourne St Peter	£83.33 pm

Our RIBI President, Ray Burman, secured the ketchup bottles for use in promoting the cause of polio eradication. I know of £13,369 raised during the year using the bottles in a variety of imaginative ways. There may have been more, but maybe not all clubs separately notified us of the source of the funds when monies were sent in. It all is going to support the same cause in any case—giving the children of the world a polio-free future.

Polio Challenge 2008 – 2012

The Gates Challenge started in January 2008. As you will know we met the \$200 million target globally in January 2012. Our clubs have continued to con-

tribute, to ensure we achieved our "fair share", and we have done that and more. The Challenge implied a contribution of \$6,000 per club over the 4½ years. We more than achieved that, averaging \$6,869 per club. I expect District 1070 to be the second highest contributing district in RIBI. Well done everyone.

Again I congratulate and thank especially the top 5 clubs for their generous support over the time of the Gates Challenge:

Kibworth & Fleckney	\$716 per member
Grantham	\$574 pm
Ramsey	\$489 pm
Bourne St Peter	\$487 pm
Northampton	\$442 pm

All clubs have been notified of their individual contributions to the Polio Chal-

lenge for both this year and overall.

I repeat my thanks from the last Foundation report:

Well done everyone and a big THANK YOU to all who have contributed money, time and effort to such vital causes.

These numbers are not just statistics. They represent the good that we all can do in future. The Annual Fund donations are matched with further funds from The Rotary Foundation World Fund to pay for grants towards clubs' projects in future years.

The support for the Gates Foundation is making a massive difference to the success of polio eradication world wide, and securing the future lives of so many

children.

Overleaf is a report on the District Designated Fund for 2011-12.

Happy birthday in August to –

Arthur Brown 1st Clare Harwood 18th Peter Swallow 28th

Alan Bowers 30th Gary Shaeffer 30th Viv Church 31st

CLUB ADMINISTRATION & THINGS SECRETARIAL

Meals: - Apologies for absence. Lunch Group only. Our venue has to be informed by 10.00 am on the day of the meeting of the total number of persons attending. Please also note that Rotarians who wish to bring guests must contact the Secretary and inform him, as per the 'Apologies' procedure. When notifying the Secretary of your intention; either to bring a guest or apologise for absence, please ensure it is received in good time by him. Tel. 01604 821560 or email: richardmac@ntlworld.com

Duty hosts: - Hosts please note; when it is your turn and you cannot attend, it is your responsibility to arrange for someone else to swap with you; usually with the next person shown on the duty roster. The Duty Host will also be asked to say Grace. If you have any religious objection to this please inform the Secretary in good time.

Copy: -The Newsletter is a vital means of communication in a club of our size with its diversity of activities. The Editor welcomes contributions from members of all things relating to and/or of interest to our members. Valid comment or suggestions for improvement will also be noted and heeded at his discretion! The majority of members will receive this Newsletter electronically but a few copies will be printed for those members who cannot. These hard copies will be available at the meeting immediately following its circulation.

In order to keep the publication as concise as possible, will contributors please try to confine their submissions to one page only, ideally **using the standard Arial font**. Remember too that the addition of photographs can significantly increase the size of an article. The Editor will attempt to publish, at his discretion, all such articles received in the current or following editions, subject to space being available.

Editor - Roger Morris Email: rjb@morris.demon.co.uk

THE COPY DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS 28th

Data Protection Act 1998

A record is maintained by the club of members' personal details. These details are not divulged to anyone other than fellow Rotarians. If you wish to verify or correct the information held please contact the Secretary.