



E- Newsletter Number 7 October 2014

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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*

Changing seasons

I commented in the last Newsletter that our major fundraising, and arguably the most important event, **Walk The Test Way** loomed on the horizon and I am now very pleased to record that, due to the outstanding year-round work of the Fundraising Team led by Greg Hall, this year's event was another enormous success with more walkers participating than ever before. While the route has remained virtually unchanged from the Walk's inception as a modest, trial effort in 2002 the Walk itself has evolved to become the major, large scale and efficient operation that we run today. Although the season can be plagued by wet and windy weather, we were again blessed by good weather.....at least until the last couple of hours!!! Through the Club's organisation and the footsteps of our walkers, hundreds of charities will benefit and, it is anticipated, that the total of the all the funds raised, since our very first walk, will be close to £500,000. It is also perhaps worth noting that by organising Walk The Test Way, the Club is able to devote its efforts to charitable activities rather than arranging multiple fundraising events during the year. To all involved, may I just say a very big "Thank You".

My intention is to build on last year's excellent start to our Business Partners' scheme and given the significant financial and "in-kind" support we have received over the past 12 months we have invited our Business Partners to join us on 12th November. This will be an opportunity for them to learn more of what we do and for us to thank them for their support. Our speaker will be Simon Crewe who led the dental team to East Timor on the Rotary project described in our last Newsletter.

Much has happened during the past 3 months with even more to come. We have had a wide range of interesting talks at our weekly meetings ranging from Wendy Herbert who told us about the work of **Youth in Romsey**, through a travelogue of the Beijing to Paris car rally and the Environment Agency's view of last winter's flooding in Romsey to two from our members entitled the "**Jubilee Sailing Trust**" and "Odd-balls, traitors and worse - some of my more interesting colleagues"! I was also one of 9 Club members who handed out **Dictionaries4Life** to the Year 4 children in the Romsey area primary schools, and it was a great pleasure to see the enthusiasm of both teachers and children alike.

Socially, Ruth and I hosted lunch for the Club members and their partners in early August and more recently we also enjoyed a Trafalgar Dinner in the Town Hall Council Chamber bedecked with flags signalling "England expects....". The Battle of Trafalgar, which took place on 21st October 1805, is widely celebrated in the Royal Navy with dinners at which those present toast "The Immortal Memory". The guest speaker, James Luard, who joined the Royal Navy with me just over 50 years ago, drew parallels between the principles of Rotary and the character and deeds of Nelson concluding that he would have been a founder member of Rotary had he been around when Paul Harris formed the organisation in Chicago 100 years after Trafalgar.

And finally, we have welcomed two new members, Mike Koscian and David Upton, bringing our numbers up to 58 which is the highest it has been in the almost 25 year life of the club. We celebrate our 25th Anniversary in April next year, and this will be a chance to reflect on what we have achieved but, more importantly, to ensure that our work (and the fun and fellowship we enjoy) will continue undiminished.

Gren Lamb-Hughes

President



Would Nelson have made a good Rotarian?

Walk the Test Way 2014

Message from Greg Hall Fundraising Chairman

The 2014 Walk is now behind us. Having been personally involved with Walk the Test Way for all of its 11 years, this for me has to have been the best yet. We started with a record number of Registrations just shy of 800. This was matched by a record number of Walkers a fabulous 701, which beat all previous years by a significant amount.

It was one of those days when everything went to plan; the walkers turned up on time, registration went extremely smoothly. Buses turned up on time, the marshals arrived on schedule, **St John Ambulance** had an easy ride, a few blisters and strains and the Walkers arrived back on schedule. We had been lucky with the weather, and the only slight blemish was that it decided to rain quite heavily around 4.30pm, once most Walkers were back in the hutch and ultimately everyone was accounted for.

None of this from A to Z could have happened if it were not for a fabulous committee, who work extremely hard the whole year round. We have a lot of fun in the process and produce a stunning result.

The fun and camaraderie that walkers and Marshals have out on the track is excellent, the organisation out there and throughout from Registration to welcoming the walkers back into the Memorial Park is fantastic. Once again it was a great pleasure to have Lady Brabourne with us presenting medals.

Likewise we could not get the show on the road without the support of husbands, wives, partners, **Inner Wheel**, friends, and Charity supporters. This year we were also indebted to **Help4Heroes** supporters who helped marshal on the day.

To date we have not had a single complaint, but a tremendous amount of praise for the product we seek to deliver.

We are extremely grateful to so many sponsors who give both their time and financial help in so many different ways. Without them it would be difficult to put this annual event on, certainly with the level of professionalism it is delivered.

To date we have no real idea as to what the total monies raised will be, but I do not think we will be disappointed.

A date for your diaries

WALK 2015 is on Sunday 11th October

Do not say we didn't tell you!



*A small selection of
the many photo-
graphs of Walk
2014*

P.S. By October 24th £30,000 of sponsorship had already been collected from the 2014 Walkers.

A maritime evening

On July 30th 30 members and guests visited **HMS Medusa**, a restored WWII Harbour Defence Motor Launch (HDML), at her berth in Gosport. On D-Day 70 years ago **Medusa** played a vital role as a marker vessel for the landings on Omaha Beach. She is now a member of the **Historic Ships Fleet**.

We were treated to a reception on board and were free to explore the vessel - resulting in quite a few bumped heads due to the restricted headroom. Afterwards we crossed the pontoon for a meal aboard a **retired lightship** that had seen service from 1946 to 1991 at stations around the British coast.

On October 29th, Alan Watson who chairs the Medusa Trust talked to the Club about Medusa's role in the 2014 D-Day re-enactment that included hosting on board the Princess Royal, the vessel's last Commanding Officer and the sole survivor of her D-day crew.



Above. Nick Lockyer, Commodore of the Rotary Solent Yacht fleet, President Gren and Peter Stuckey .
Right. Former BP marine engineer, Keith Cameron, at home in a rather cramped engine room.



Rotary Wessex District Conference

Each year the 77 Clubs in the Wessex region hold a conference at which we can exchange ideas. This year it was held in Bournemouth and focussed on the theme of Partnership between Rotary and businesses and the public sector. The conference also featured talks by Falklands veteran Simon Weston and by BBC South's Sally Taylor who described the work of **The Haven** breast cancer project.



16 club members and partners went to Bournemouth and as well as listening to the talks helped on three stands that showcased our Club's activities, our partnership with local charity Dentaid and

one that highlighted a new initiative to raise funds for Prostate Cancer charities. This project is being spearheaded in the Wessex district by Graham Lee, an enthusiastic cyclist who during his year as President of our Club supported **Re-Cycle**, a charity that sends redundant bikes to Africa.

The idea is that on June 21st 2015 Rotary clubs in Britain and Ireland will hold cycling events to raise funds for Prostate Cancer charities. Part of the effort will be directed towards cycling around the coastline of the UK. This will not be a problem for Rotary Wessex- we have lots of clubs and a rather short coastline (even including the IoW and the Channel Is). It will be a bigger challenge in Scotland!

If you would like to learn more please contact **Graham**.

Future Youth events

The next few months will see a flurry of youth related activities. In November we will be holding a trial run of senior and intermediate age-group **Rotary Youth Speaks** competition for teams from Mountbatten School. Our Club event is on Wednesday 11 February. Both Mountbatten and Romsey Schools have confirmed entries for both age categories.

We will be running the **Young Technologist** competition in the Crosfield Hall on March 4th and our **Young Musicians'** Festival on February 15th. We look forward to these events and to the opportunity to give the young people in the Romsey area a chance to demonstrate their talents.

Youth Opportunities

Dictionaries4Life

As noted in Gren's opening remarks, the Dictionaries for 2014 have now been handed out. We were touched by the enthusiasm and the attention that some schools paid to the event. At Cupernham the Head, Jonathan Clay had selected two Year 6 children to tell the year 4s about how their Dictionaries had helped them. At Wellow Beth Larcombe, started the presentation with a slide show of her participation with friends and colleagues in Walk the Test Way the previous day to raise funds for the school.

Logistically the project has a challenge in that the 1/3 ton of books has to be stored from the time of their delivery in May until September. Each of the 3 years of the project Business Partner, **Bettavend**, have stored the books in Chandlers Ford alongside their vending products. Thank you



Congratulations and good luck



To Suzanne Poole, from Romsey School who won the vocal category in our 2014 Music Festival. Suzanne has won through to the Southern Area finals of the **OpenMic UK** singing competition on Nov 29th.

Good luck Suzanne!

Wishes - making a change

For the past 2 years we have run Wish Week, a time when we have asked the people around Romsey to suggest where our effort and/or money might help to make a difference to people's lives. As we reported in the last Newsletter we have had some excellent suggestions and have been able to make some wishes come true. However we have come to realise that we ought to give people more time to send in their suggestions. So, in 2015, we will be open to suggestions for approximately 3 months from **Know Your Blood Pressure Day** in April until the Mayor's Picnic at the beginning of July.

That poses us with a problem since we can't call it Wish Week. So we are considering suggestions for a new title and a logo that we will announce in the New Year. In the meantime please start thinking about how we could help.

About our Club and about Rotary

The Rotary Club of Romsey Test was started in 1990 and presently has 58 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.

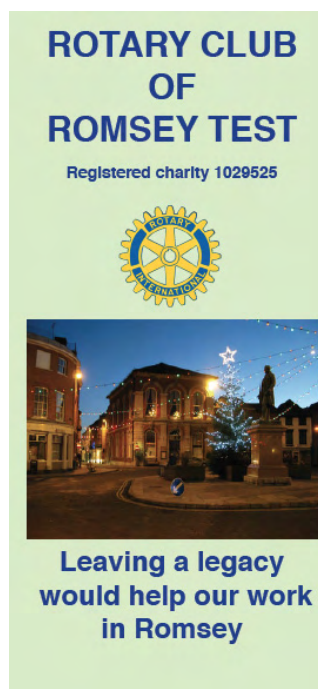
The Club's committees are

- 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 2014 to June 2015)

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

Legacy scheme



Many charities benefit from receiving legacies. Such gifts can provide year-to-year financial stability or can allow organisations to embark on bigger projects than would normally be possible.

There are many people in our local community who know about our activities and who might wish to help to ensure that they continue. After long and careful consideration our Club has decided to initiate a legacy scheme with the production of a tri-fold flyer summarising the Club's activities and the mechanism by which anyone could leave a legacy to the Club. The flyers will be made available at appropriate places around the town and at some of our events.

Colin Staples is to be our legacies contact and can provide appropriate information.

Diary

Meetings are normally in Romsey Town Hall 19.00 for 1930 First Wednesday each month is a Business Meeting. Other events are highlighted in Yellow . Major events in bold			
Date	Speaker topic or event	Speaker/organiser	Venue
Wed 12 Nov	Business Partners event "East Timor Dentaidd project"	Simon Crewe John Gould	
Wed 19 Nov	Mystery topic	Mystery speaker	
Wed 26 Nov	Tools for self-reliance		
Wed 17 Dec	Christmas event	Chris West	Ampfield GC
Wed 24 Dec	No meeting		
Wed 31 Dec	No meeting		
2015			
Wed 14 Jan	To be confirmed		
Wed 21 Jan	The Jaipur Limb Project	Don Short	
Wed 28 Jan	Youth Leadership Awards	Gabriella Brown Rebecca Weare	
Wed 11 Feb	Youth Speaks Romsey vs Mountbatten Schools	Frank Smiley Fred Stanley	Town Hall
Sun 15 Feb	Young Musician's Festival	Jon Livingstone	Mountbatten School
Wed 4 Mar	Young Technologist	Martin Harman	Crosfield Hall
Sat 14 Mar	Reminiscences of Romsey	Norman Oldmeadow	Crosfield Hall
Wed 18 Feb	Chinese New Year event		
Wed 25 Feb	Romsey Sea Cadets		
Wed 1 April	Club's 25th Anniversary Dinner		
Sun 21 Jun	RIBI Round Britain Cycle Relay for Prostate Cancer Charities	Graham Lee	
Sun 11 Oct	Walk the Test Way	Fundraising Committee	