

Rotary Club of Rotherham Sitwell - District 1220 Club Bulletin



No. 28.08 February 2021
Meetings: Thursday evenings via ZOOM!!

Email: secretary@sitwellrotary.org

Next Bulletin

The next bulletin is scheduled to be published in early March. Any contributions will be most welcome, please email to me by February 25th. Any contributions are welcome, but I can exercise editorial discretion (as some have realised when certain photos don't get published.....)

Apologies Are not currently needed whilst we remain on Zoom If you can't make it for 6pm, just email Paul to watch out for you and he'll let you in.

We are in lockdown and cannot share our personal space with others. If you need help Zooming, speak to Paul.



Officers & Committees 2020-2021

President	Trish Lister
President Elect	Steve Burns
Vice President	Give us a CLUE!!!
Secretary	Paul Daniels
Treasurer	Jackie Saunders
Imd. past President	Gurnam Basran
Assistant Secretary	Ann Ogley
Chairmen of Committees	
Admin/Club Service	Steve Burns
Membership/Social	Roger Green
Publicity/PR	Peter Waudby
Community	Tom Knight
International/Rotary	Chris Croker
Foundation	
Other Officers	
Attendance Officer	Steve Burns
Assistant Treasurer	Alan Holloway
Archivist	Chris Williams
Environmental Officer	Phil Crutchley
Welfare Office	Trevor Johnson
Health & Safety Officer	Tony Eden
Safeguarding Officer	Maggi Clark
Sergeant at Arms	Peter Short
Bulletin Editor	Ann Ogley

Council Meetings

MONDAY 1 February 6.00pm

Plenty of seats available at the table (Ok, on the screen) if non Council members would like to see what happens at a meeting – just contact Paul.

MONDAY 1st March 6.00pm

Club Meetings for February All 6.00pm on Zoom

4 February	Speaker: Phil Blatchford, Vicar of Rotherham The Social Supermarket
11 February	Individual Committees: Business & Fellowship
18 February	The Battle of Britain A brief history from John Turner
23 February	World Rotary Day
25 February	Full Club Business Meeting

Club Meetings for March

4 March	Fellowship – Would I Lie to You?
11 March	Individual Committees: Business & Fellowship
18 March	Speaker: Ken Wyatt, History of industries, transport and social issues in Rotherham
25 March	Full Club Business Meeting

Greetings from President Trish



'It was a real pleasure to witness not only your external benevolence but the internal friendship and camaraderie'

This was a message sent to the Club by a recent guest. How lucky we are to be part of a fellowship that can draw such an observation. Happily, I am aware of a great deal of support going on around the Club. Our Welfare Officer Trevor works tirelessly behind the scenes and to support him other members will now be involved. January and February have never been renowned for their ability to uplift, never more so than this year. Each month there is the opportunity to meet as Committees and once any relevant business has been discussed there is the chance to relax and chat. It's not by accident that it's now called Business & Fellowship.

Our January meetings began with a visit by Carole Foster from Rotherham United Community Sports Trust and 3 students who had taken part in the recent Peace Jam. Al Hasna, Ahmed and Ben gave excellent accounts of their experiences and made thought provoking observations. The remit of the Sports Trust is far reaching and we hope to invite Carole as a Speaker to give us an overview of their work. In direct contrast the evening concluded with tales from the past of questionable legality by the reprobates amongst us. Thank you, gents, for making us feel superior!

On the subject of young people, the Wickersley Virtual Awards Evening has been postponed due to delays caused by the current Lockdown. I am envious of Past Presidents who have had the great pleasure of attending these

occasions in person. I've attended many such events during my career and have never failed to find them life affirming.

Charity Night brought together all the 4 local charities we are currently supporting and had one of the best attendances of the year. All had been affected over the last twelve months either by restrictions on their ability to carry out their regular activities or opportunities to fund raise. However, all were positive in their outlook and determined to continue to make a difference.

There have been further Zoom meetings which Chris C and I have attended for the joint End Polio Now Event. Unsurprisingly the February event has been cancelled but the plans for Polio Day on 24th October are going ahead and will give us an opportunity to further promote Rotherham Sitwell Rotary.

Ever the optimist I have rearranged yet again the date for our Charter Night. Saturday 12th June is the date to get your glad rags on. Time will tell whether restrictions and our confidence to attend will enable this to go ahead. I'm sure that in time we will find a way to celebrate. In case you're wondering, Yes, I am enjoying my year in office but regret the many activities I had in store that have not gone ahead.

We continue to appeal for a Vice President both for this year and 2021 / 2022. Please give this some thought. Maybe a second term or a joint Presidency? Our Club needs continuity in order to survive.

The Club Admin Committee is considering our future when we will have the sheer joy of being together again. Future plans for the Carlton Park are unknown but as a back-up other venues will be considered.

Paul, Steve and I have responded to the RGB&I initiative to overhaul their Governance. There is a move afoot to slim this down and I'm sure we will all welcome this. And finally, you will recall that in 2020 we celebrated Rotary Day with a collection of non-perishable food throughout February. We collected an amazing 253 items and since then we have gone from strength to strength. So this year I am proposing a different challenge which I hope all those who are able will rise to. See the details later in this Bulletin.

I send my warmest greetings to you and your families.
Stay safe, stay strong.

Yours in Rotary

Trish

So many Starfish still to save



Birthdays in February

A very happy birthday to Sitwell Rotarians who celebrate in the shortest month of the year

7TH DAVID TAYLOR

9TH JOHN WOFFENDEN

23RD TRISH LISTER & ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

26TH JOE WALKER



“A pessimist expects the worst in every situation. Consequently they are proven right so often that they start to believe they can predict the future!” Anon.

‘Every one of you is special and remember there are 7 billion other special people in the world’

Bill Bryson

Some January facts

At the January full Club meetings:

Attendance varied between 29 and 30 Rotarians and guests

A total of fifteen guests joined us over the four meetings

Dare I say we’re getting the hang of this Zoom malarkey?

WANTED

Volunteers to join the teams to contribute a true story (or maybe not!) for the March 4th meeting of where we see the return of the popular event

“Would I lie to you?”

Contact Trish if you are willing to contribute to this fun event.



A screenshot of the some of the attendees at the excellent Club meeting in January where we were updated by all our nominated charities for the year on how they were coping with the impact of the pandemic, about projects that they had in hand are still going ahead despite the obstacles thrown in their way, and their hopes for the future. An inspiring evening, it is an honour to be able to support these charities even in the reduced circumstances we find ourselves in. Pictured are representatives from three of the charities – Steve Wiley from Shiloh, Trish Lister from Start-a-Heart 24-7 and Paul Sylvester from Newman School. Currently offscreen was Steve Burns from Rotherham Cancer Care Centre (so glad we have our town back in the name to celebrate the work the centre does!)

ROTARY DAY

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

President's Challenge

FIND YOUR STARFISH – MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**If you are able,
Carry out an Act of Kindness**

**Big or small, with the power of words or deeds, bring a smile to someone's face or
relieve a living creature's dilemma**



**Once done email details to
trishlister@btinternet.com
We hope to have a full page
in the March Bulletin
of
Acts of Kindness
(No names will be disclosed)**

Measures of success

Usually in February, we find out how successful the Christmas Programme has been. One measure of success is of course how much has been collected for our funds to support the charities and good causes.

Of course, because of Covid-19, Christmas 2020 was quite different from previous years. Nevertheless, video technology was used to reach out to our public. Thanks to the ingenuity and commitment of President Trish and Roger Green, a magical grotto was found for Father Christmas from where he could send out messages to individual children and their parents. The learning curve was steep with several technical innovations such as video presenting and recording plus an on-line booking system for families to book their appointments. Thanks to the work of Peter Waudby the system that has been commissioned can be used for future events.

Rather than missing out on seeing Father Christmas, children could be at home and “meet” him personally. The feedback from families has been so positive and – at times – very moving.

One Mum wrote back to say “Thank you so much for the Santa Zoom yesterday. You made my two little boys very happy. Many thanks for all of your hard work especially during this strange year to keep the magic alive!”

Another family took the trouble to send video of their little boy laughing with surprise and delight as he watched and heard for the first time Father Christmas’ special message just to him.

Another way in which Father Christmas reached out was a special message to all the children at Sitwell Infant School. Most years, Father Christmas visits the children at the school but this year he sent a message just to them in their classrooms. Kirsty Peart, the Headteacher, told us ““We are so grateful for the video - it was amazing and the children loved it! It gave us all a lovely end to the term!”. She was delighted to know how the funds we had collected would be used for our charities and good causes.

Not surprisingly despite all the energy spent on new and innovative ways, the amount collected is lower than in previous years BUT (and that’s a big fat but), the secret’s out – it’s not just about money! Measuring how much money has been collected is not easy but it is achievable and allows us to see where and when we raise funds. Quantifying fun, however, is much more problematic.

So let’s think about two challenges:

How can we measure “fun” for us and for our public?

Is there an effective way of re-wording the worn cliché “putting the fun in funding”?

The problem with using a cliché is that what you are trying to convey becomes too diluted so wouldn’t it be good if we could come up with something stronger?

Paul G Daniels
29 January 2021





I had to share this glorious picture of North Yorkshire with you – taken by my friend, Penny Knight

In these long days of lockdown:



Thank you to Round Table Chairman James Fox and Community Service Liaison Officer Ben Chicco for joining our business meeting in January and giving a comprehensive report on the Mobile Christmas Float. Everyone did a fantastic job in very difficult circumstances. Rest assured the donation to our Club of £2,000 from the enterprise will be put to very good use for the people of Rotherham, but most of all, the Club thanks everyone for the joy brought to so many people, young and old alike.

LET YOURSELF REST

If you're exhausted, rest.

If you don't feel like starting a new project, don't.

If you don't feel the urge to make something new,
just rest in the beauty of the old, the familiar, the known.

If you don't feel like talking, stay silent.

If you're fed up with the news, turn it off.

If you want to postpone something until tomorrow, do it.

If you want to do nothing, let yourself do nothing today.

Feel the fullness of the emptiness, the vastness of the
silence, the sheer life in your unproductive moments.

Time does not always need to be filled.

You are enough, simply in your being.

Jeff Foster



DISTRICT CONTINGENCY FUND GRANT – matched funding for COVID projects

Our application for a District Grant to support our work with Shiloh was submitted in good time before the 31 January deadline. Thanks to Paul G Daniels for all his hard work in drawing together the proposal on behalf of the Club.

We will report on the results next month.



*"Until now, I never understood why you got so excited
when someone walked past the house."*