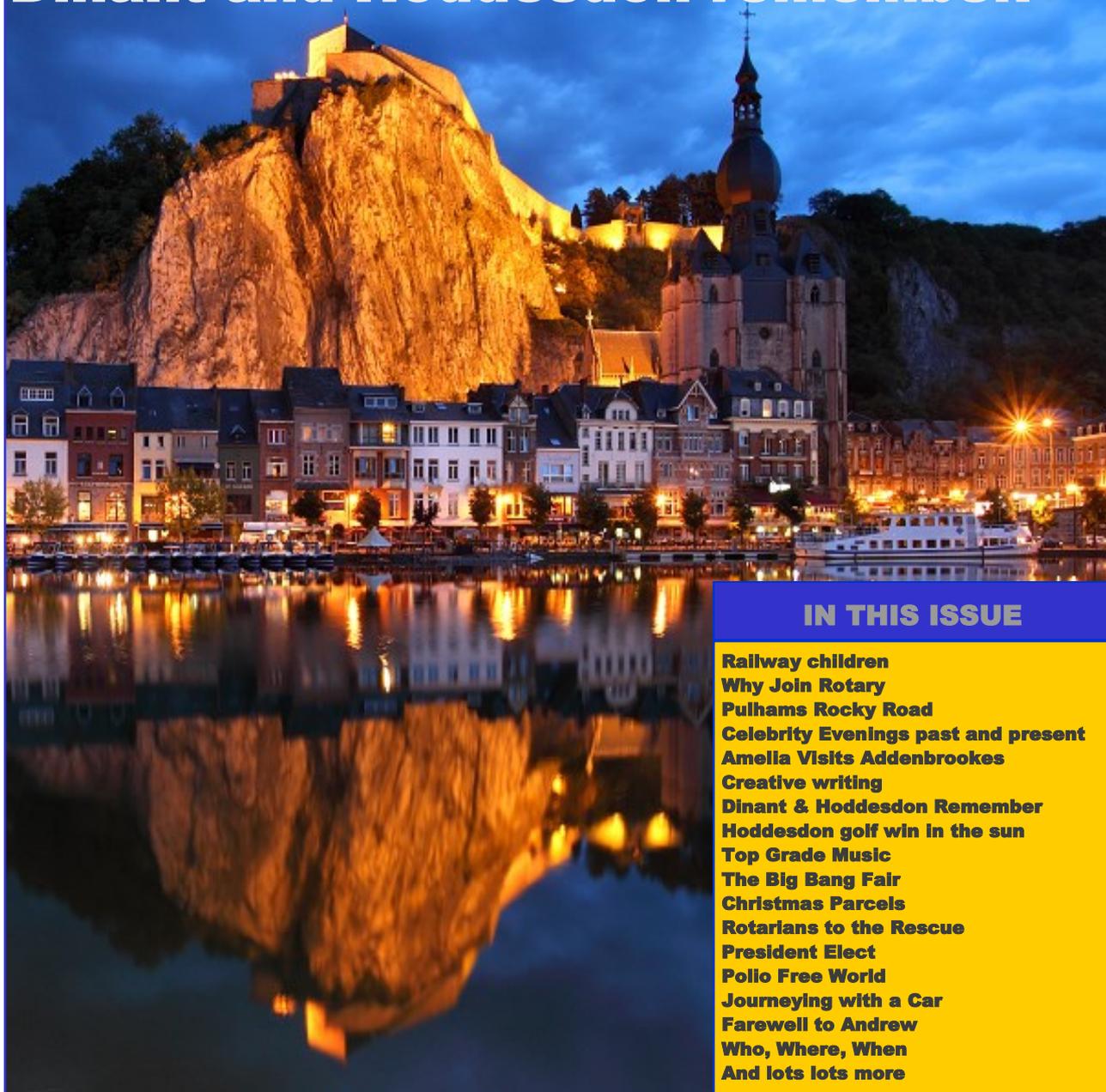


ROTARY NEWS

ISSUE NO. 7 THE ROTARY CLUB OF HODDESODN OCTOBER 2014

1914. 100 years on Dinant and Hoddesdon remember.

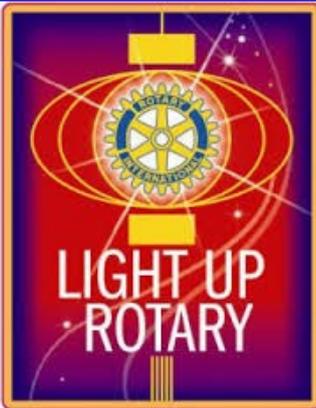


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District 1260 - Chartered 1947 - Club No: 19256 - Charity Number 270925

A few words from our President



I find it hard to believe I have been in "The Chair" now for over three months – a quarter of my Presidential Year. It has certainly been an enjoyable start and I trust my efforts so far to "Light up Rotary" will continue without losing sight of the Club's dedication to its community and International and other commitments. The first highlight of my year was the visit to Dinant Rotary Club in August to share with them their remembrance of the tragedies which their town suffered in 1914 but also to renew our friendship with our Belgian twins. It was a memorable weekend during which we were overwhelmed by their hospitality. In particular my thanks go to Jean-Marc

for his part in organising the visits to the preserved Steam Railway at Mariembourg, the Castle at Freyr and the Citadel all of which proved both educational and enjoyable. Two of our members actually shook hands with King Phillippe of Belgium who was at Dinant to attend the Cathedral Service. We are hoping to arrange for the Belgians to pay us a return visit as soon as this can be organised.



Returning home I was pleased to induct Bob Cornish as the first new member in my year and I look forward with Howard Connor's guidance to bringing more new blood into the club during my term of office. On a sad note however we lost one of our truly great members with the passing of Andrew Hambling in August. Together with many of my fellow Rotarians I attended an unforgettable service at Haileybury Chapel in his memory.

In addition to some excellent life stories from our newest (and oldest) members we have enjoyed some very interesting speakers recently. In particular I thought David Maidment OBE gave us a moving talk on "The Railway Children" following which I was proud to present him with a cheque for £500 towards this worthy charity which he jointly founded.

Our annual Golf competition against 41 Club took place at Whitehills on 10th September when we succeeded in winning back the Cup for Rotary albeit by a single point! It was good to meet Tim Buck again whose cup is played for each year. He sadly lost his wife recently but nevertheless made the journey from Weston Super Mare to be with us thank you Tim. I was delighted that so many members and their partners supported my "Away Weekend" at The Palace Hotel, Buxton and my thanks to Tom Sell for his help in the organisation. Despite the misty conditions and (for some) a tiring journey up, the weekend proved a great success. On Friday together with Ken, Lyn and Sandra we visited Ladybower Reservoir of Dam-busters fame and Hathersage where we found some of the "Last of the Summer Wine" locations including Sid's Café. On the Saturday twelve of us visited Chatsworth House – the impressive house of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. The magnificent collection of fine art and family treasures was most impressive and



the vast landscaped gardens were enjoyed by most of our party.

I look forward to the rest of my Presidential Year with enthusiasm and optimism hoping that it will prove to be as interesting and enjoyable as it has so far.

PETER



Milk (UHT or powdered)
Sugar (500g)
Long life fruit juice
Tins of Soup
Pasta sauces
Sponge pudding (tin)
Tinned Tomatoes
Tinned Vegetables

Breakfast cereals
Tinned Rice pudding
Tea Bags
Jar of instant coffee
Instant mash potato
500gms Rice
500gms Pasta
Tinned meat/fish
Tinned fruit

Jar of Jam
Packets of biscuits
Snacks.

Collections at:
Wormely Free Church,
Slipe Lane,
Broxbourne EN10 6AA
Monday - Friday 4-5pm.



NEW PILOT PROJECT LAUNCHES IN LONDON STATIONS

RAILWAY
children

Fighting for street children

In collaboration with the New Horizon Youth Centre Outreach team and British Transport Police, Railway Children has launched a new project in and around King's Cross & St Pancras station. The three-month pilot project will provide a concourse response and reconnection service to children and young people who have run away or gone missing.

The project is designed to help raise awareness of children and young people who may be at risk on the concourse by developing relationships with retail outlets and non-specialist staff on site, who will be given signposting information that will enable them to help vulnerable children or young people they may encounter.

The project also aims to encourage train managers and on-board crew members to more easily identify a young person who is a run away, and then contact British Transport Police officers as soon as possible so that a concourse response can be prepared ahead of a train's arrival at King's Cross Station.

Andy McCullough, UK Head of Policy at Railway Children and Chair of the English Coalition for Young Runaways, said:

"This pilot project is integral to our Reach programme, a safety net of measures to protect young runaways. Instead of being considered 'troublesome' or a 'drain on resources', these are vulnerable children in need of help, and support from BTP officers will be essential to ensuring the right help and support is in place at the right time.

"Every year, children and young people use the UK's rail network when they run away and are extremely vulnerable. It is easy to become invisible at major travel hubs like King's Cross, making them magnets for a large number of vulnerable young people when they run away from home.

"A significant number will be actively targeted, not just by adults but increasingly by their peers. The reality is that children who go missing can quickly become at risk of sexual exploitation and involvement in abuse rings, criminality and drug abuse. This project will help prevent the most vulnerable from being pushed into London's darkest and most dangerous corners."

WE'VE HELPED OVER

126,000
STREET CHILDREN
IN THE LAST **5** YEARS

www.railwaychildren.org.uk

Saturday 22nd November
7^{PM} 'til late

Party Night!

Drill Hall, Ware

Live Entertainment From The

Souled Out Party Band



ADMIT ONE

1

LICENSED BAR

Hertford Shires Rotary are now organizing their next event which is a live band party night in Ware s at £15 per ticket. Tickets on sale at Cannon Travel in Ware and Hoddesdon. Should be a great night out!

Live Entertainment from The 'Souled Out' Party Band They perform the whole spectrum of dance music from the 50's through to present day chart hits. This has earned them the reputation as one of the most exciting live show bands performing in the UK and around the world! With four powerful vocalists, a superb 4 piece rhythm and sensational three piece brass section.



WHY JOIN ROTARY?

The first I knew of Rotary International was from my father who was a member of the Coulsdon, Surrey, Rotary Club while I was a teenager. He used to tell us about the interesting talks they had and how he enjoyed getting to know people from different walks of life. Throughout my career in book publishing I used to meet people who wore the round badge of Rotary and noticed how many of them showed a friendly spirit, which I have since come to expect to recognise as a universal characteristic of all those who wear the emblem of Rotary International. After my mid-career change, ousted following a take-over from the managing directorship of a publishing company (with a few shekels in compensation) I bought the local bookshop in Hoddesdon. At first there were not enough hours in the day to cope with all the jobs - from unpacking parcels, arranging displays, paying invoices and banking the cash, selling in the shop and visiting potential customers, as well as doing sales promotion in various ways. As the bookshop became better established and by then with the help of my wife, my daughter and son-in-law, on a daily basis, it became practicable to contemplate life beyond bookselling. That was the moment Tommy Knight appeared at my counter and suggested that I might like to come to lunch at the Salisbury Arms next Monday, where Rotary used to meet thirty years ago. His invitation I gratefully accepted and was happy to be introduced. They were, and still are, a fine bunch of people, obviously enjoying their time together and welcoming to this new chap with a funny name whom some of them had seen in the bookshop. It was

not very diplomatic of President David Gifford to introduce me as an Italian - I was born in Cornwall! - but I did not hold that against him. His comments were well meant and he had a great fondness for Italy, but my father was born in Grisons, Switzerland. Perhaps my parentage led to my joining the International Service Com-



mittee when I became a Rotarian and I have continued to belong there ever since. The activities of Rotary towards helping in the local community and good causes in this country have always appealed to me but I warmly appreciate the fact that Rotary International (as its name emphasises) is a worldwide organisation. I continue to enjoy Rotary friendship and being able to participate in various ways, not least during the years while I was responsible for the Bulletin, which I started and had the satisfaction of editing and printing on a quarterly basis for about 25 years.

It is essential that our club continues to attract people with enthusiasm for the objects of Rotary and that future Rotarians continue to find new ways of putting them into practice. If nobody has yet asked you to join Rotary, please accept this as your personal invitation to the Rotary Club of Hoddesdon. Full details are available just by asking one of our members, or you may like to visit our website. We look forward to meeting you!

Peter Lardi

YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE.



ROTARY.ORG

Meanwhile, why not try us out? We are delighted to welcome visitors who wish to find out more about what drives us. Come to a Monday lunchtime meeting and hear first-hand?

CONTACT John Glover - secretary@hoddesdonrotary.org

T: Howard Connor. 01992 468071



Pulhams Rocky Road

Peter and Neil by invitation attended a book-launch at Hoddesdon Library in September, the Author Claude Hitching being a relative of the ancient Haynes Clan of Hoddesdon. Whilst researching his family genealogy 80 year old Claude became diverted when he discovered his grandfather and childhood mentor in Hoddesdon had spent his career working for the Pulhams of Broxbourne. Claude's book "Rock Landscapes" subject will be of great interest to local Historians or those fascinated in garden landscaping locally, nationally and European. The talk given by Claude and the fabulous book he has put together tells the story with superb photography of the history of the Pulhams, their connection to Broxbourne and includes many coincidences from all over the world he has uncovered by starting a dedicated web site during 10-years of research, re-discovering long lost Pulham garden ornaments, whole gardens and landscapes.

If you travel to Broxbourne Station, on your left, just before the walk down to the Station is an 1980's block of flats known as Beech Court and guess who sold them! Behind, preserved is still the original Pulham puddling wheel, the only remnant of the factory works. The Pulhams originated in Woodbridge, Suffolk and there were four generations of James Pulham (1793-1838) referred to James the 1st, 2nd, you can assume the rest.



James Pulham & Son are most remembered today as the eminent firm of Victorian and Edwardian landscape artists who constructed picturesque rock gardens from both natural and more interestingly, their own invention, artificial stone. As master builders specialising in stone modelling and plasterwork, during the early years they were involved with the building and restoration



of churches. Over the years they developed a method of manufacturing a rock like effect (covering a diversity of rubble) creating huge cliff or stone like boulders many feet in dimension. These aged as natural stone would, covering with lichen and moss and would, to most appear as if totally natural.

Their diversification into landscape gardening was fortuitous and they decided to apply their artistic and modelling skills to the design and production of classically-styled garden ornaments, such as vases, tubs, balustrading and fountains. They won several awards at the International Exhibitions of the 1850's and 60's.

Their landscaping work attracted many royal, aristocratic and industrialist patrons at sites including Sandringham, Buckingham Palace, Waddesdon Manor, Derstow and many more. Of local interest is the "secret" grotto at High Leigh. They created grand balustrade terraces, ferneries, grottoes, follies, fountains, Italian, Dutch and Japanese style gardens and water falls were a predominant feature. Unfortunately I'm not on commission and forgetting the family link, I can thoroughly recommend this large hardback tome the contents of which, I have only scratched the surface. Neil Haynes

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PAST CELEBRITY EVENINGS

In 1987 RIBI launched its Polio-Plus campaign, the Club was advised that over the next few years it was hoped that it would contribute £5,000. Bravely the Ways and Means Committee decided to raise it on one event and so honour our commitment in a single year by organising a CELEBRITY DINNER which was held in the Broxbourne Civic Hall on the 23rd November with FREDDIE TRUEMAN the once fiery scourge of all batsmen, then a cricket commentator and our first sporting Speaker. It was hoped that local businessmen would support us as a form of corporate entertainment, with high quality cuisine and the special brand of Rotary Fellowship. It proved a very successful evening, raising £5,340 which was enough to immunise 89,000 against the dreaded polio. The following year BARRY TOOK was invited as the celebrity for an evening which aimed to build on the previous success. This well-known humourist and scrip writer talked about his work in radio and television. In 1989 it was decided the Celebrity Dinner should finance an

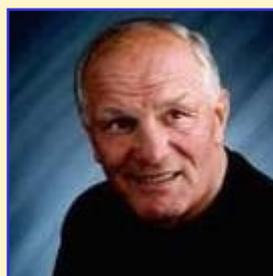


Easter Dinner for elderly and disabled people in the Borough. JIMMY HILL was the invited celebrity but, to our dismay he failed to turn up. With less than an hour to go and with the Civic Hall rapidly filling up Peter Haynes persuaded JOHN CREASEY to stand in and he saved the day. This infamous local character was later invited to be an Honorary Member of the Club and an apologetic Jimmy Hill came to the next Steam Rally in recompense for his forgetfulness. In 1991 CHRISTOPHER MARTIN-JENKINS gave a light-hearted insight into the cricket world supported by a Cabaret and Opus One Band generously sponsored by President Eric Cockman. In 1992 Melron Morris introduced RAY ALLEN with LORD CHARLES, who exploited his "Welshness" in a very amusing presentation which delighted what was by then the customary full house. Peter Haynes met by chance in London MIKE CRAIG and invited him to be our 1993 "Celebrity". Whilst not as famous as some others he was very professional and extremely funny – as you might expect from a Les Dawson and Morecombe & Wise script writer! In 1997 Gerry Butler introduced FRANK BOUGH from the BBC followed a year later by LANCE PERCIVAL who failed to live up to our expectations but nevertheless was well supported. A change in direction took place in 1999 during Peter Lardi's year with the introduction of

the controversial DEREK HATTON. Despite the political overtones and Scouse humour he was well received. Back to comedy in 2000 with ROGER DE COURCY a funny act which was to be followed a year later by the



return of RAY ALAN and LORD CHARLES by popular demand. One of our great stand up comedians TOM O'CONNOR entertained us in 2002 with his



clever wit which went down well with our audience. SIR HENRY COOPER, OBE, KSG, came a year later a very popular speaker. We also invited Ware Brass to play for us that year which also proved a favourite with the majority of diners. 2004 proved to

be an amazing success with DENNIS TAYLOR accompanied by a specially set up snooker table

provided us with some excellent trick shots accompanied by great humour. We actually raised over £14,000 that night thanks mainly to the donation of a snooker table and many autographed cues. BARRY CRYER provided us with some fascinating stories about his life as a comedy scrip writer in 2005. One of the highlights of the 2006 event



was the incredibly funny FRANK CARSON KSG who entertained us non-stop for over 3 hours with his amazing collection of one-liners! He was a great comedian who sadly passed away a few years later. The following year another popular comedian and entertainer ROY WALKER with his



subtle sense of humour was also well received. He was also supported by our newly invited M.C. ROGER DAKIN who was to be a regular with us for the following 4 years. 2008 was the year GYLES BRANDRETH entertained us with his interesting and varied tales of Royalty and Society in general. A different style of speaker, nevertheless much appreciated. A return to the sporting world in 2009 followed with MATT LE TISSIER providing us with stories from his football career and Journalism. The next year whilst we had booked BRENDAN HEALEY as our guest speaker

(Continued on page 7)



THE 200 CLUB

(Continued from page 6)

but he let us down and was replaced at a late stage by a very witty stand in **ROD WOODWARD** a versatile comedian who kept us laughing throughout his performance. In place of the usual "Gentlemens' Evening" we held a Gala Dinner in 2011 in memory of **SIR NORMAN WISDOM** which proved a great success and enabled



us also to entertain our ladies. By 2012 it was time to put on another comedian - **TONY JO** who as a regular on the circuit had recently won the After Dinner Speaker of the

Year Award. He was good! A unique programme followed in 2013 with two football greats - **PAT JENNINGS** and **BOB WILSON** expounding on their sporting experiences followed by another good find in comedian **JOHN MARTIN**.



Thus far we have held 27 Celebrity Evenings raising over £200,000 for numerous Rotary Charities local and international with attendances of over 7,000 who have enjoyed a wide range of speakers and some varied supporting entertainment. Let us hope we can continue to build on past successes and enjoy many more evenings like these.

We are looking for new members to join, and get to the target figure of 200.

2014 saw the start of the 12th year of the Club and over the last 10 years over £36,000 has been paid out in prizes and a similar sum handed over to the club charitable spending arm for expenditure both locally and nationally, but far and above the largest expenditure was on the annual Easter Dinner for the local retired folk which still continues today. The membership has fallen in recent years and this can be accounted for by a combination of economic conditions and a dropping off in the number of non Rotarians remaining in the Club. The cost of joining is £52.00 per annum. Most members pay by Standing Order, with draws being made on a quarterly basis. The continued success of the 200 Club is vital to the continuation and furtherance of the charitable work carried on by the Rotary Club. If you have friends or know of any local people or businesses that would like to join I will be glad to hear from them. Interest in becoming a Member should be made to me Roger Abraham as detailed below. A number is allocated for membership which then goes forward in the Quarterly draws.

ROGER ABRAHAM

Tel: 01992 465667

E: rjaabraham@aol.com

CELEBRITY EVENING 2014

The Ways & Means Committee are pleased to announce details our main fundraising event for the year.

Celebrity Evening

Date: 7th November

Venue: Broxbourne Civic Hall

4 course dinner @ £45 p/p

With Mick Miller & MC Lindsay Jones

Contact Peter Haynes or Roger Merton

01992 446016/01992 441410



Amelia Visits Addenbrookes

On Thursday 28th August 11 year old Amelia Hewitt, winner of this year's essay competition, and her mum Nichola were taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital on the outskirts of Cambridge. Amelia wanted to be a paediatrician so we were off to visit the regional children's unit an hour's drive from Hoddesdon. At the hospital we were met by senior consultant paediatrician Dr Rob Ross Russell and Kirsty Lothian of Active, a group of young people who support the unit, who arranged the visit. Amelia felt very special as we were accompanied throughout the visit by a photographer and journalist from the hospital's PR department.



The tour started at the top of the main hospital building giving an overview of what has become now a vast academic regional hospital site. We had an aerial view of the X chromosome shaped Medical Research Council building which apparently has produced twelve Nobel Prize winners, more than the whole of France! From there we explored the subterranean world of tunnels, offices and ancillary services before emerging eventually through the right door and taking the lift to the special care baby unit.

Despite alarms constantly beeping and numerous incubators with leads and tubes the overwhelming feeling in the unit was of calm. We were very privileged to talk to the mother of a baby born four weeks before, 15 weeks early (normal full term is 40 weeks) who at birth weighed only 750grams! Thanks to the great skill of the nurses and doctors on the unit, despite still being tiny, the baby appeared to be doing well.



Moving on to the teaching unit Amelia saw dummy bodies and a model of the retina of the eye and learned a little of how to take blood and put up drips. The visit finished with a tour of one of the children's wards. On our return to Hoddesdon and during a meal at Nonna's kitchen, Amelia was more convinced than ever that when she grows up she wants to be a paediatrician.

Chris Waddington Chairman of Vocational Committee

Dragon Boat Update.

In the last edition, we published an article by David Bradburn on the Dragon Boat Regatta organised by Hertford Shires Rotary Club last June. Readers may be interested to see how the money raised by the event was put to good use. The final amounts agreed or distributed so far looks like this -

Alzheimer's Society	£2,000
The Living Room	£1,000
St Catherines School	£500
Lister Hospital Playscheme	£800
Leaside Kindergarten	£800
Keech Cottage Hospice (via Target/Endeavour)	£500
Teens Unite (via Vision)	£500
Herts Boat Rescue	£250
Interact	£200

In addition, sponsorship raised by our paddlers meant we could donate a further £400 directly to Teens Unite.



Creative Writing Competition

On 22 September The Rotary Club of Hoddesdon and Books @ Hoddesdon held their biannual Creative Writing Competition for primary schools. This was held in the jungle theatre at Paradise Wildlife Park, who kindly provide the venue for the event. There were two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon with approximately 260 children attending each session. The Mayor of Broxbourne and her consort attended the afternoon session. Our speaker was the well known children's author Michelle Paver who spoke to the children about her new series of books Gods and Warriors and then answered questions before signing numerous books for the children. Her talk completely fascinated the audience and for nearly an hour there was complete silence while Michelle was talking and showing them some of the artifacts that she had collected during her travels and research including a cured reindeer skin and reindeer antlers and she explained that primitive people and other people today, such as aborigines and inuits, would waste no part of an animal once they had killed it as it was felt that in a society or climate where so little is available every part of the animal could be put to use but also that it was an insult to the spirit of the animal to not use all of it. The children were clearly fascinated by this concept and Michelle explained in great detail to what use every part could be put so if you want to know what you would do with a hare's pelvis you'll simply have to read her books. Michelle also explained how she had had close encounters with a number of wild animals including dolphins, killer whales, wolves and polar bears so it was clear to everybody that when she described encounters with wild animals she was speaking from first hand experience which meant her talk had an air of added excitement. The children from the 14 schools who attended are now invited to write a short story based on their relationship with a wild animal, hopefully one they have seen during their tour of Paradise Wildlife Park. The schools will each select the best 3 stories and finalists will be selected by a judging team with the prizes being presented to the winners at a ceremony at the park on 25th November.



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Lindsay Jones Vocational Committee



THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



DINANT & HODDESDON R



On Friday 23rd August 23 Rotarians and partners travelled by car to Belgium to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the “Jumelage” with Rotary Club of Dinant and also to commemorate the 100th anniversary of an attack by the German Third Army that devastated the town and left 647 men women and children dead - an event the citizens are determined should not be forgotten. The Dinant Rotarians could not have done more to make their guests welcome, well fed and entertained. After a preliminary reception at which

rusty French and English was lubricated on both sides, the Brits were escorted to the Citadel for a formal gala dinner. In Dinant centre is a saxophone memorial to inventor Adolphe Sax, a resident. Champagne and canapés and dramatic views of Dinant from the open air terrace were followed by a formal Dinner in vaulted chambers and a racket of good and bad French and English (sometimes both from the same side). Introduced by a bilingual Chef de Protocol (Master of Ceremonies), both Presidents made formal speeches and everyone had a great time. On a serious note, the German attack on 23rd August 1914 was recounted (“lest we forget”) and gifts were exchanged – an original painting of a Poppy by a famous local artist will be treasured by the Hoddesdon party. On Saturday morning the Hoddesdon party went by cable-car to the Citadel to view a WW1 exhibition. One disturbing feature was an enclosed chamber through which we had to walk where walls floors and everything was canted at 30 degrees to simulate a bomb-blasted structure. It played havoc with the senses but was very striking. Back at ground level several members shook hands with King Philippe who had attended a special Bells ceremony at the cathedral and was mingling with the crowd. In the afternoon the party enjoyed a steam Train excursion from Mariembourg to Treignes (nostalgic aromas of steam and smoke) then a visit to a local brewery where the beer lake was reduced. An excellent dinner in a panoramic restaurant above the River Meuse polished off a fine day but more was to come. Dinant commemoration of 12 August 1914 was scheduled for 10pm but was anticipated by a “formidable” downpour of rain. Nevertheless the braver



Hoddesdon souls witnessed pageants, orchestral music, dramatic film projected onto the 100ft walls of the Citadel and citizens determined to remember. On Sunday morning there was a visit to Freyr castle, a history of Belgium from Baron Bonaert (the current owner) and specifics about the dynasties, conflicts and stories associated with this significant castle and grounds. After lunch at the Rotary restaurant “La Citadelle”, the Hoddesdon party took a fond farewell of their Dinant colleagues and their partners, having enjoyed a magnificent weekend of impeccable organisation and friendship.



Past President John Hiscock



MEMBER 100 YEARS ON



Win in the Sun, for Hoddesdon Rotary

The sun shone on the Annual Golf Day between Hoddesdon Rotary and 41Club. 20 golfers met up at 12 noon on Wednesday 10th September for a bacon roll, coffee and a small bucket of practice balls prior to competing in a Stapleford competition. The teams were well matched with Rotary winning by a single point 232 - 231.

The Rotary team was very pleased to welcome Rtn Tim Buck a past member of this club who had travelled from his home in Weston-Super-Mare to play. Seven partners joined the teams for an excellent dinner in the clubhouse. Both teams welcomed Denis Olliver who had arranged the competition for a number of years.

The President's lady Sandra won the ladies' competition and Past Tabler Graham Fry won overall with 37 points. He also shot the longest drive on the 5th hole. Pusser Brooks was nearest the pin on the 4th hole with Keith Theobald nearest the pin on the 15th hole. Tim Buck presented his trophy to Robert Lorenzini as the Rotary winner with 36 points (retaining the trophy for a second year). Keith Theobald was runner up with 31 points. Our President Peter presented the Peter Haynes cup to the 41 Club winner John Barney with 32 points (again retaining the trophy for a second year). Runner up was John West with 31 points (after a count back).

President Peter concluded by thanking Robert and John for their organisation and everyone for participating with particular thanks to those visitors who had supported the event.

Date for next year : Rotary V 41 Club Golf Day 9th September 2015.

John West



TOP GRADE MUSIC IN HODDESDON

During the present season of monthly concerts, held in Broxbourne United Reformed Church, Mill Lane, there is the usual high quality of musical ability we have come to expect. These concerts don't happen without careful planning, bringing to Broxbourne artists who have been talent spotted by Felicity Foster, the lady who has for many years been the guiding light inspiring the choice of artists.

Starting this year on September 20th and then on October 18th the next in the series is by a really unusual assortment of instruments with the Tudor touch: Passamezzo on November 29th will play

works by Dowland, Morley and Byrd among others. The versatile performers switch from one to another of their ancient instruments, and sing while playing viols, recorders and guitars.

Then, after Christmas, the next concert is in the afternoon on January 17th 2015 - a group of young people from Purcell Music School will perform at 3.00 pm. And the series continues in March, April and May, concluding with a piano recital of Bach, Beethoven, Ravel and Chopin by the lovely Mishka Rushdie Momen on the club's beautiful concert grand piano.

There is a discount for the keen music lover who wishes to witness several concerts, but if you prefer to pick selected concerts for which tickets are £12; with concession tickets £10, you can bring along children or students who pay only £3 and all are very welcome. A complimentary, full colour brochure describing each of the concerts is available now. For further details please go to the website www.hoddesdonmusic.org.uk or phone 01992 442025



The BIG BANG Regional Fair

On 8th July at Duxford I enjoyed my first Big Bang Fair. The Big Bang brings STEM (STEM = science, technology, engineering and maths).alive for young people through “career-related activities, workshops, experiments, quizzes, networking opportunities and more “, through events across the UK. Setpoint delivers the events but has major sponsors like Johnson Matthey, Roche, Biology &



Chemistry Societies and Engineering UK.

There were over 100 school projects stands with fas-

cinating and diverse subjects from “string theory and Lambda-CDM cosmology” to making rockets: from the Hoddesdon area, Richard Hale had 6 stands and projects including their Space Balloon and whether exercise affects performance of pit-stop crews. Simon Balle had 3 stands and there were many more from Rotary D1260. There was a Vex Robot and a fixed wheel Kevlar bike designed and built by one student. All the projects were judged and prizes awarded - including the Open University Maths Prize, CREST Awards, Science, Engineering, Chemistry, Physics, Innovation and Sustainability and other prizes.

In a programme from 0845 to 1530 visitors were challenged and entertained by presentations from Lord Teverson on keeping planet earth habitable for humans, Steve Allman with Best of Science demos (100 mph ping pong balls etc), Chris Lloyd on inventions and discoveries that changed the world and others. Various non-school exhibitors appeared in the Programme and competed for attention including GSK, IBM, Greenpower, Groundwork, J. Matthey, Lockheed, Open University, academic institutes AND ROTARY. Many hundreds of pupils from dozens of schools sent parties to experience the Big Bang event on the day.

On the Rotary stand we had a very good pull up advertising our Technology Tournament and a couple of 2014 Challenge models – containers with radioactive meteorites in them (aka tennis balls) and grabbers for extracting the dangerous material and landing it in a place of safety. To say we had a steady stream of youngsters and others from 0930 to 1430, all wanting to learn about Rotary, our TT and to have a go at the challenge is probably an understatement. It was non-stop! The vast majority seemed genuinely interested and were sent away with the message for their schools that the responsible teachers should check out the nearest Rotary Club and Technology Tournament.

Sadly, from a personal perspective, Iola and I had our time cut out promoting Rotary and managing the demos. We were the only two manning our stand, so could not easily rotate. Others from D1260 were judging and Iola herself has been a judge in the past so I was the novice and only managed a quick circuit round the main hangar but saw some extraordinary school projects as well as a Concorde, Comet, Vulcan bomber, Richard Bransons Stratospheric Balloon capsule and a Spitfire. I shall have to attend another Big Bang to sample the vast array of fascinating things going on.

However, the most important result was that a great many budding scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians were able to demonstrate their amazing creative abilities, experience presentations and to interact with other of a like mind. They and the visiting schools had a wonderful day. Rotary was but a small part of a major, major event but I believe we acquitted ourselves well. I look forward to the national fair to be held at The NEC on 11-14 March, 2015.



John Hiscock, Vocational Committee



The Big Bang

UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair

The NEC, Birmingham 11 – 14 March, 2015.



Hoddesdon Christmas Parcels Scheme 1970 - 2014



Life can be difficult for people living alone, either because of bereavement or due to other circumstances, and even more so at Christmas when families are enjoying the festive season. In 1970 several Hoddesdon Rotarians got together and decided to form a group with a view to providing gifts for elderly people that might be in this position. Working with local agencies, churches and charitable groups a scheme was started, with funds raised from local businesses.

Forty four years on the scheme is still going strong, now a registered charity and providing a food parcel or small gift to c300 people each year. Names are sought confidentially from a range of local sources including doctors' surgeries, health groups and schools. Funding continues to come from retailers and businesses, with Sainsbury's making a major contribution and supplying the contents for the parcels. Costs are covered by a small local authority grant.

Local youth groups such as Scouts, Boys Brigade, ATC and others can be seen distributing the parcels and gifts in the first week of December following a send off from our collection point at Hoddesdon Methodist Church.

If you know someone of pensionable age that would benefit from a food parcel or small gift, please contact Rotarian Lawrence Bone (07803 700919).

Equally if you would like more information he would be pleased to assist.

ROTARIANS TO THE RESCUE

When Broxbourne resident Jeff Ryan walked into his garden on a bright September morning he was surprised to find a tiny ball of prickles just feet from his back door. The baby hedgehog had been injured but was still alive. Moments later his wife Rosemary discovered three more tiny babies about 10 yards away, their eyes tightly closed but still breathing. Almost certainly a fox was the perpetrator - the nest was found but no sign of the mother. A quick tour round the garden found another baby which had succumbed to its injuries. The tiny hedgehogs clearly needed urgent attention. Knowing that Rotarian Eric Beard's wife Carole is a hedgehog expert, an urgent call was made. Eric and Carole were away from home and unable to help for a couple of hours so they advised keeping them warm in a box until they could be collected, Carole duly collected the box with its prickly contents - the smallest hedgehogs she had ever seen! They drove to the Enfield Wildlife Rescue Centre at Trent Park, where the babies were given immediate attention. All four were strong enough to feed on goat's milk at two hourly intervals up to midnight. Their last sight of them was all four feeding simultaneously. Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service (WRAS), Trent Park Animal Centre, Trent Country Park, Cockfosters Road, Barnet, EN4 0PS (www.wras-enfieldwildlife.org.uk) rescues and rehabilitates ill, injured, orphaned or trapped wild animals and birds, then releases them back into the wild when fully recovered. The service was founded in 1985 and since then has run entirely on voluntary contributions. J Ryan



President Elect -Ted Grad

Firstly I would like to thank all the members of the Rotary Club of Hoddesdon for electing me to the position of President Elect. It all seems a bit rushed as I only just joined as a member the other day. I have not yet had time to get to grips with all that goes on in the various committees and organised events. I need your help to thoroughly understand the inner workings, so please make sure I know when and where your committees meet, send minutes of meetings to me and most important of all talk to me. The aim is to organise the club



in an efficient and enjoyable way, which means that I need to know when members are not happy in the role they are in and what ambitions they have within Rotary. I can't make any

promises but I can make sure that information gets passed on to the right people at the right time. Plans for the next year are beginning to mould into shape, starting with the District conference on the 21st March 2015. You can register and see more detailed information at: <http://www.rotary1260.org.uk/for-rotarians/district-conference/conference-2015>

President's weekend in Krakow Poland – 10th to 13th September 2015

Krakow was a royal capital for 500 years, and this memorable tour to Poland will show you this wonderful city at its very best. With its magnificent medieval square, more than 6,000 historic buildings and monuments, eighteen museums, 2.5 million works of art, one of Europe's oldest universities, countless churches, famous theatres, forty parks and five nature reserves, the city is a delight to explore. A true cultural gem, it was the first historic centre of its kind to be listed as a UNESCO

World Heritage Site. It was also chosen as the EU European Capital of Culture in the year 2000. Developed over many centuries and miraculously escaping much of the destruction of 20th century wars, Krakow is a rich architectural showcase from Gothic and Renaissance to Baroque and even Stalinist. You can see all this fascinating variety on your tour of Poland - in the 16th century Cloth Hall that still bustles with small traders, in the rich and ornate decorations of the 14th century St Mary's Church, in the exquisite Eclectic-style Slowacki Theatre, and in the immense medieval fortifications of Florian Gate, built to protect the city from Tatar attack. No tour to Poland could miss out either on a visit to the famous Wawel castle district. Dating back to the 11th century, dominating the city from a high hill and named after the evil Wawel Dragon of folklore, its myriad buildings include the sumptuous Royal Palace, centre of ancient trade routes to the Orient and Baltics, and Wawel Cathedral, the final resting place of Polish monarchs. Your Poland tour gives you other options, too. There's the opportunity to visit the famous salt mines, the source of Krakow's huge wealth for 700 years and adorned by dozens of statues, three chapels and an entire cathedral carved out of the rock salt by generations of miners.

You can also choose to visit nearby Auschwitz and Birkenau – poignant and moving monuments to the horrors of war. Please put these dates in your diary and more information will follow in due course. Should my beekeeping and other hobbies allow some time we will organise a talk from a beekeeping charity, a visit to a Polish restaurant, with the help of the International committee, and a make a start on raising money for the Everest Base Camp walk (HRC2EBC) in 2016/17



During our recent trip to the Somme there was a passing glimpse of an apparently new Memorial surmounted by a football. Intrigued, the Memorial was visited by Roger Merton (Chairman of Hoddesdon Town Football Club) and Jeff Ryan. This turned out to be the Memorial to the Footballers' Battalions, provided by the Generosity of the Players, Staff and Supporters of English and Welsh Football League Clubs. It was dedicated on 21st October 2010. Under the crest of the Middlesex Regiment, the following text is recorded:

**The Footballers' Battalions
To the Memory of
The Officers and Men of the 17th and 23rd
Battalions of the Middlesex Regiment
who served their Game and Country during the Great War**

At the foot of the Memorial is a quotation from Private Jack Borthwick of Millwall FC, who was wounded near this spot in July 1916 - "This is worse than a whole season of cup ties." The back of the Memorial is inscribed with a quotation from Colonel H T Fenwick, Commanding Officer of the 17th Middlesex 1915 - 1917 "I knew nothing of professional footballers when I took over their battalion. But I have learnt to value them. I would go any-

where with such men. Their *esprit de corps* was amazing. This feeling was mainly due to football - the link of fellowship which bound them together. Football has a wonderful grip on these men and on the Army generally." *Jeff Ryan*



A Polio Free World



In October 1914, Jonas Salk was born – a man who would change world history by inventing the first effective vaccine against polio. When the vaccine was introduced in the U.S. in the 1950s Polio was one of the nation's greatest fears along with Nuclear War and with good reason.

In the 1952 U.S. Polio epidemic, 58,000 cases were reported and 3,145 died. 21,269 were paralysed. Globally, Polio paralysed or killed more than half a million people every year.

Soon after the Salk vaccine was created, Albert Sabin developed an oral version allowing tremendous numbers of children to be immunised quickly, safely and inexpensively. In 1985 Rotary's Polio Plus programme was born, with a simple goal of immunising every child under the age of five world wide against this crippling disease. In 1988, thanks to the initial success of Polio Plus, the 166 member states of the World Health Assembly unanimously set the goal of global Polio eradication.

At the time, the idea was breathtakingly ambitious and many called it impossible. Each Rotarian world wide was asked to contribute \$100 towards the immense cost of the programme and members of Hoddesdon Rotary Club raised £100 per member in the first year. Since that date the club has donated several thousand pounds and continues to do so. Today we are closer to total eradication than ever before with only a few hundred cases reported each year and just three endemic countries remaining. We are on track to achieve full eradication by 2018 if we can keep up the

momentum that has brought us this far.

October 24th will be the 100th anniversary of Jonas Salk's birth and will be marked as World Polio Day. Gary Huang, Rotary International's World President asks every Rotarian to do whatever he/she can to shine a spotlight on our efforts to eradicate Polio. Go to endpolionow.org for inspiring stories about Rotary's work and share them on social media. If you want to make the best investment you'll ever make donate to Polio eradication on the endpolionow.org website. For every £1.00 you donate the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will contribute a further £2.00 because they believe passionately that together we can win the battle.

Gary Huang recently said – 'When we eradicate Polio and we will, we'll have brought the world into a better future and Rotary into a better future as well. We will have proved ourselves as an organisation, capable of great things and we will have given our children and grandchildren a gift that will endure forever: a Polio free world.'

President Peter was pleased to induct our latest member Bob Cornish. Bob is synonymous with local firm Cornish Signs and was introduced



by Robert Lorenzini. We look forward to getting to know Bob better and welcome him as a valued member of the club.



Journeying with a car

My English teacher at secondary school in the dim distant 1960s had what I later found out to be an SS 100. Bright red, leather upholstery. Soft top. Best car in the staff car park, and the envy of all us schoolboys. I never thought I'd ever be able to own anything like that.

There the thought remained until the mid-1990s when my wife and I saw a car parked in our local garden centre and we went to have a look. "Bet you don't know what it is", said the owner coming across to us. He was right, but we were soon put in the picture.

Hummm Not unlike the teacher's car, but not the same. However, something was stirring within. A friend had a toolmaker's engineering plant and part of the factory was sub-let to a specialist restorer of Jags and Aston Martins and one time national rally champion. A few conversations and surf around the net later and Westfield, NG, Marlin, SS and the like came out of the haze and into view.

SS! Enquiries there looked a bit (a lot) pricey for my pocket. But then there was the Falcon: a car in its own right. Not a replica, not trying to be something it was not. Just looking classically great.

What about a Jag engine? Perhaps the 3.5l



straight 6? That would get me somewhere nearer a Jag than I might have come. But no, the block is 6" longer than the bonnet space. But the guy on the Westfield stand at the NEC motor show said something about a Rover V8 being a very popular kit car engine. V8! In my schooldays a V8 was THE engine to have: a smooth running, fast accelerating engine that out-performed straight blocks.

I phoned and had a chat with the factory that produced the Falcon kit. It was way up north, in Wigan. They put me on to a JBA owner who had put a

V8 into his car and he put me on to RPI, just north of Norwich. I went up to Stoneleigh show where the JBA Owners Club had a stand and I could ogle at completed cars, and test drive one. A few weeks later I visited the factory: another drive and lots of questions. RPI had some ex MOD fully reconditioned 3.5l V8 engines with matching 5 speed gearboxes. Another friend had a garage big enough for me to do the build in, and he didn't want any rent for it! My engineer friend was at hand to help. Everything fell into place. It was now or never: engine and gearbox from RPI, rolling chassis and all three stages of kit from JBA for the build. Learning curve here we come!

I took the engine up to the factory at Wigan and they fitted it for me. As I'm not a professional engineer or car mechanic I thought it best if the basic set-up was done by the factory, so I bought a 'rolling chassis' with the body kit: central 'tub', doors, wings, boot, bonnet, windscreen and surround, radiator grille, hood and frame, and an assortment of nuts and bolts. Everything else I had to source or make. I decided to try to be 'green' and dual-fuel the car. LPG was the way, then (!), so I modified the boot to take the tanks. The wheels I wanted made the car wider than standard as there was no offset in the wheel itself, so the wings had to be modified. All good fun! Built, taken apart, sprayed and then built again with all the finishing work: a mere 10 years of spare time!

If you like to sit back and let the car drive itself, like most modern cars, this is not the car for you. If you like driving and coaxing the best out of the car, putting your foot down and controlling the back slipping away, being thrilled with the growl of the V8 under full throttle... this is it! Have a look at 'JBA drive 1' (and 2), and 'JBA Slides' on YouTube.

David Bradburn



FAREWELL ANDREW

Our Friend Andrew Hambling passed away peacefully on 16th August. Born in 1930 he was 84. Andrew joined the Rotary Club of Hoddesdon in January 1979, was President in 1993-4 and was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship for his commitment and service in July 2005 - the highest honour that Rotary bestows.

He was much associated with the Club International Committee and led a number of historical field trips for members to places like Hastings and the battlefields of WW1 in Europe. He wrote much of The Golden Years in 1997- the second 50 years of our Club, was author of much published material for our newsletters and a speaker for a number of local Rotary Clubs



Andrew's love of history was nurtured during his years as Housemaster, History teacher, archivist and author at Haileybury (e.g. Haileybury In Two World Wars). He made events come to life with his unique enthusiasm and delivery, Andrew was always a man much admired and respected by all he came into contact with and a good friend to every member of the Rotary Club of Hoddesdon.

He will be greatly missed.

John Hiscock – August 2014

**Who
Where
When**

**A photo
from the
past to bring
back some
memories**



HRC2EBC The planning has started !!!



Future Events

**Celebrity Evening - Civic Hall.
7th November**

**District Council - Tilsworth.
12th November**

**Part Night – Ware Drill Hall
22nd November**

**Creative Writing Presentations.
25th November @ PWP**

**41 Club Xmas Dinner.
11th December**

**Carol Service - Halleybury Chapel.
16th December**

**Quiz Night - United Reformed Church.
14th February**

**District Conference - St Albans.
20th March**



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**32 years on and still using the
same Barber !!**



WHO'S WHO DURING 2014-2015 IN HODDESDON ROTARY CLUB

President: Peter Haynes
President Elect: Ted Gradosielski
Vice president: David Johnston
Immediate Past President: Ken Ayling
Secretary: John Glover
Treasurer: Jeff Ryan
Council Members
Eric Beard, Terry Fisher David Johnston,
Peter Lardi, John Hiscock, Barry Fitzpatrick
Chairman of Service Committees
Club Service - Ted Gradosielski
Community Service - Arnold Granat
Foundation - Meirion Morris
International - Martin Lynas
Membership - Howard Connor
Vocational - Chris Waddington
Ways & Means - Roger Merton

Attendance: Mike Marsh
Auditor: Roger Abraham
Bulletin & Communications: David Johnston
Chase the Ace: Terry Fisher
Code of Practice: David Bradburn
Evening Drives: Roger Lee
Extension: Meirion Morris
Friends of Rotary: Ken Ayling
George Fuller: Arnold Granat
Sergeant at Arms: Barry Fitzpatrick
Sport: Robert Lorenzini
200 Club: Roger Abraham
Club Archivist: Tommy Knight
Speakers/Programme: Lawrence Bone

Unaccustomed as I am.....

At Hoddesdon Rotary Club we hear from a range of different people and causes with a short talk given at our weekly Monday lunchtime meetings. These vary considerably from personal experiences, fund raising charities, local voluntary groups etc. and the sharing of information is often of mutual benefit. If you have a topic or cause that might be suitable for a lunchtime talk do contact Rotarian Lawrence Bone (07803 700919) lawrencerbone@gmail.com

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