



Issue No: 110

Driving the wheel of fellowship

May '14 Newsletter

May

Speaker Finder Grace & Thanks

Monday 5th May Bank Holiday No Meeting

Thursday 8th Council

Monday 12th Business Meeting and Club Assembly

Monday 19th Normal Meeting Dave Perkins Bryan Cooper

Monday 26th Bank Holiday No Meeting

June

Monday 2nd Normal Meeting Malcolm Richardson Tom Dalby

Monday 9th Normal Meeting John Roberson Philip Duncan

Monday 16th Normal Meeting Hugh Roberson Smith John Ensor

Thursday 19th Council

Monday 23rd Business Meeting & AGM

Monday 30th President change-over day

If you are unable to carry out your 'duty' please find a substitute and tell **David Ayres** Tel: 01455 202224 email ayres4feet@btinternet.com

www.lutterworthrotary.org.uk

Imagine Inflatables - 31st March

Our speaker Louise Proietti Tocca (company secretary) gave us a very full and detailed talk on the Company who made their name at the London Olympics and their “clouds” followed by the Winter Olympics this year in Sochi—Russia which as she told us was a nightmare with both the language and impossible dead lines set. I think their motto must be *“The impossible takes a little longer”*.



The Company started in 2001 and operate from Lutterworth – producing advertising blimps, exhibition spheres and special shapes depicting replicas, mascots or characters which can be used for point of sale purposes.

It was not until they went global tackling major large scale jobs that the general public were aware of what they did.

Their sights are now on the Commonwealth games in Glasgow and the next Olympics in Rio.

May we wish them well in these future ventures.

Welcome to our new members Mark Thompson and Ted Wilson

May we welcome you to our Club. As you have already seen we are a very active club and look forward to you becoming one of our team

running the various events throughout the year. As a word of warning don't tell Elaine that you like gardening because she will involve you in helping her at the Enterprise Centre.



The grass has growd

The grass has ris

I wonder where the mower is!!

Mark Thompson

Ted Wilson

Knitted Teddy Bears in South Africa

Elaine Turner from Lutterworth Rotary instigator of our Teddy Bear Campaign for use where traumatised children benefit from owning a toy of their own was contacted by Christine James from Wales (who had seen an article in Rotary Today) asking for a pattern that could be used by knitters in South Africa.

Since then she has had a letter saying that the project they were involved with is called Thandu Jesu in Wilderness, near George.

All the mums and grans with children up to 2 years old had been invited for a cup of tea and some were very interested to see how the teddies were made. The pattern instructions have now been translated into Affrikaans and they will be helped to make them, then sell them at charity events. The manager there also took some teddies to a local hospital.

The trip was marvellous, they were invited to visit the project, which was an eye opener and also visited the location.

Other teddies have been taken up to Johannesburg to a sexual assault clinic and were most gratefully received.

One man here had knitted her two very small teddies and they particularly liked those to make mobiles for babies to encourage them to reach up etc. So he's now got an order for lots more!!!



She will be going back out in July and people are carrying on knitting, with new people joining in too, so she will be keeping Elaine informed of the numbers going out then. Christine James received the following letter from the “Sexual Assault

Clinic” in Johannesburg.

Quote:- The Sexual Assault Clinic is a non-profit organisation which helps children with a physical, medical examination after sexual molestation, assault or physical injury. We work hand-in-hand with the South African Police

Services to ensure that each child is able to receive prompt medical assistance after a traumatic incident. Not only do we carry out the examination but we collect DNA and trace evidence, photographically record all injuries, complete the necessary police and court documentation, administer preventative medications and give expert testimony in regional courts and refer to further trusted services for psycho-social help.

Can you imagine how a child feels when visiting a strange place and people? Not only are they suffering from a range of tumultuous emotions but are most likely terrified about what is going to happen to them next. We, at the clinic, try to comfort and reassure little ones and what better way to do this than by offering them a teddy bear of their choice to hold close to them during and after the examination. We have nicknamed these knitted

bears “Squeezy Bears” asking a child to squeeze the bear as tight as they can when they feel a little scared. It is absolutely amazing to see the child’s response. The “Squeezy Bears” bring comfort and a sense of peace to the child and we see the change in them almost immediately.

So it is with heartfelt thanks that we write this letter to you,

assuring you that through your kindness and generosity these bears play an active part in the child’s healing

Elaine has both received and sent out some 3,600 Teddy’s to date.

Many congratulations Elaine.

Old weights and measures - David Toone 7th April

David gave us a most interesting talk on *weights and measures* before decimalizations. How many of you can remember –

Length

12 inches make 1 foot – 3 feet make 1 yard

22 yards make 1 chain – 10 chains make 1 furlong

8 furlongs make 1 mile (1,760 yards).

Or even

100 links (each 7.92 inches make 1 chain

5½ yards make 1 rod, pole or perch

A “hand” (used to measure horses is 4 inches) and a “span” equalling 9”.

A “pace” 5 feet.

A fathom is 6 feet or 2 yards

A cable is 1 tenth of a nautical mile and a nautical mile is 6,080 feet.

A league is 3 miles

and each industry had its own set of lineal measurements
*when measuring cloth they use the same yard but when sub-
divided*

2¼ inches make 1 nail 3 quarters make 1 Flemish ell
4 nails make 1 quarter 5 quarters make 1 English ell
4 quarters make 1 yard 6 quarters make 1 French ell

and with paper

We had Demy, Large Post, Medium, Royal, Double Cap, Double Crown and Imperial to name but a few used on machine made paper. Casing and Bag Cap in **packaging** and a range of names with **hand made paper** there was no standard it being made to a customer's requirement the largest of which a man could make being Double Elephant (25" x 40")

Weight

The Roman standard of weight was a copper bar known as an "as" or "libra"

Our abbreviation "lb" for a pound comes from the libra and our ounce from the Roman "uncial" a twelfth part of a libra.

From some research done since David's talk in 1303 it was decreed that an English Penny should weigh 32 grains of dry wheat and that 20 pence should make an ounce.

The common factor to the systems (Troy or Avoirdupois pound) used in the UK in the last three or four centuries is the "**grain**".

20 grains made 1 scruple – 3 scruples made 1 dram – 8 drams made 1 oz

480 grains make 1 oz. (ounce)

16 oz. (7000 grains) make a pound

14 pounds make 1 stone

2 stones make 1 quarter

4 quarters make 1 cwt (hundred weight) or 112 lbs

20 cwt make 1 imperial ton of 2,240 lbs.

Again we change again when talking of weights for precious metals nothing is easy.

24 grains make 1 dwt (pennyweight)

20 dwt make 1 oz.

And 12 oz. make 1 lb. or 5,760 grains.

Let me not confuse you more – David's talk made me if no-one else do research and reminded me of how much I had either forgotten or never knew and the confusion today when we measure

timber in metres for length and inches for width although the younger generation are changing and talk metric.

May I finish by quoting **Liquid Measure**

4 gills make a pint 2 pints 1 quart 4 quarts 1 gallon

1 firkin or quarter barrel is 9 gallons 1 Kilderkin or half barrel is 18 gallons

1 barrel is 36 gallons

1 Hogshead of ale is 54 gallons 1 Hogshead of wine is 63 gallons

And finally 1 Pipe is 126 gallons and 1 Tun is 252 gallons.

May I suggest for those of you who were fascinated by David's talk and want to learn more that you turn up "weights and measures" on the Internet where Jim Andrews has written extensively on the subject under "Museum Association"

Bridge Lunch 16th April 2014



Fifty two players arrived at the Wycliffe Rooms, Lutterworth at 12 noon.

A most excellent lunch was provided by Wycliffe Caterers Ltd together with soft drinks and wine.

Twelve Rotarians were involved with helping at the event and many thanks to all who gave their time.

Special thanks to Doreen Haynes, Jill Tallis and Brenda Burton for providing the delicious meringues and eclairs for the dessert.

Sincere thanks must go to Janet Scarrett for organising the Bridge and bringing along at least twenty players.

Thank you to all Rotarians who donated prizes for the Raffle.

The Bridge winners were: 1st Janet Scarrett 2nd Ivan Taylor 3rd Geoff Hancock

The grand total raised was £500 for Rotary Charities

Report from Fundraising Chairman Graham Johnson

Name *one* technique used by farmers to improve crop yield.
Farmers mostly increase crops by irritating the land.

Describe what is meant by “forgetting”. *I can’t remember.*

What does the phrase “case study” mean? *It is a process whereby you sit and stare at your suitcase before you go on holiday but not knowing what to pack.*

Name Labour’s first cabinet minister. *Mr Chippendale.*

Future Events

Sunday 18th May - Misterton Food, Plant and Craft Fair

This will be the eighth year we have been at Misterton Hall raising funds for charity. Access to stall holders will be from 8-30 a.m. when members will be asked to be on hand to assist.

The public will be allowed in at 10a.m. and the Hall grounds stay open until 4 p.m.

One of the new attractions will be “pony and carriage rides” around the delightful grounds at a small additional cost.

**Cost of entry will be Adults £3-00 – children under 16 free.
The car park being free.**

*Please note that stalls are still available at £30
Contact 01455 553425 for further details.*

Saturday 31st May - Barn Dance

This is being held at David Haynes Manor Farm—7 p.m. ‘til Midnight. To the Petronella Band *caller being Tom Tilley*

*A pig Roast will be on sale along with Pancakes, Ice-cream and Coffee/tea.
There will be a Grand Raffle and Side Shows. Tickets £10 - under 15 years
£5 available from Aspect Stationers in Church Street Lutterworth and
Rotary Members*

In aid of Air Ambulance and Rotary.

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