



**Issue No: 114**

**Driving the wheel of fellowship**

## September '14 Newsletter

**Programme for the next two months.**

<u>September</u>			<u>Speaker Finder</u>	<u>Grace &amp; Thanks</u>
Monday	1st	Normal Meeting	Philip Toye	David Perkins
Monday	8th	Normal Meeting	Rose Chapman	Graham Johnson
Thursday	11th	Council		
Monday	15th	Business Meeting		
Monday	22nd	Normal Meeting	David Walton	Bernard Johnson
Monday	29th	Normal Meeting	John Wells	Bridget Hunt
<u>October</u>				
Monday	6th	Normal Meeting	John Wilson	David Ayres
Thursday	9th	Council		
Monday	13th	Business Meeting		
Monday	20th	Normal Meeting	Brenda Parcell	John Howell
Monday	27th	Normal Meeting	Anne Baker	Tony Hirons

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

## Recyclable Sale 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> July

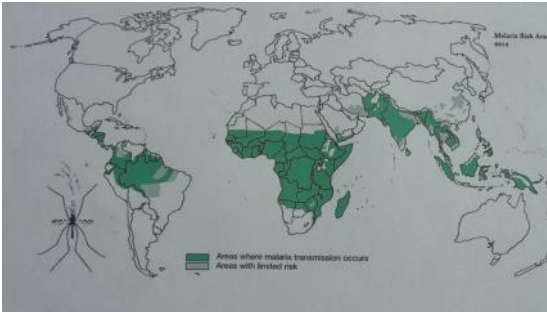
Graham Johnson and his hard working fund raising team of Rotarians had an amazing result in glorious weather raising a staggering **£1,865** for “**Hope against Cancer**” the Club’s chosen charity in just 4 days. Two marquees and a gazebo were erected on Graham’s lawn where the sale took place filled with a large and wide range of items donated to the club. Many customers who had attended these sales in previous years returned to take advantage of the bargains on offer this year. Selected items which were not sold were donated to Leukaemia Research, Emmaus, Lutterworth Age Concern and the British Heart Foundation.

## Joint Meeting - 28th July

Lutterworth and Wycliffe Rotary Clubs joined forces at the Golf Club in order that members from both clubs should get to know each other better. This will be repeated again where those who are able to , will join together at lunch time. The idea of the two Presidents is that we will support each other at events during the year. It proved to be a great success by us being able to put names to members we see around the town and elsewhere.

Our speaker from the Wycliffe Club was Roger May—Past District Governor who spoke on **REMaRAG** (Rotarians Eliminating Malaria a Rotarian Action Group). Their ultimate goal (like the Polio campaign) is to eliminate malaria from the face of the earth.

The intermediate goal is to reduce malaria morbidity and mortality in each country quickly and efficiently through the provision of bed nets costing around £1 each and drinking straws plus an education programme that will lower the chances of catching malaria and research eventually being able to create a vaccine against malaria.



The Charity was founded by Brian Stoyel RIBI President (2003/4) in 2003 to help reduce the loss of one million people in Africa who die each year, one child dying every 3 hours.

It is one of the greatest killers in the world today.

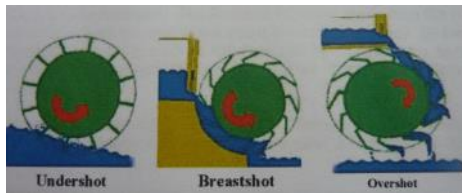
## Watermills—Dr Susan Tebby—4th August

There is no way I can do justice to the talk Dr Susan Tebby gave us on the watermills in the area over the years. Here are a few notes taken on Monday which I hope will trigger your memories for those who were privileged to hear her talk.

She started by giving a global picture of how and why they came into being.

The first documented use of watermills was in the first century BC. Commercial mills were in use in Roman Britain and by the time of the Domesday Book in the late 11th century there were more than 6,000 watermills in England. By the 16th century waterpower was the most important source of motive power in both Britain and Europe. It is said that the number of watermills probably peaked at more than 20,000 mills by the 19th century. The Norman Conquest introduced the feudal system to the country and “soke rights” forced everyone to have their corn milled at the mill owned by their Manorial Lord—a system which stayed in use until the 19th century.

With agricultural developments at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution people began to move away from agriculture into other industries and with a population doubling in less than 60 years there was a growing demand for flour—the gap being met by increasing imports. These imports were limited due to the unpopular “1815 Corn Laws” in order to protect British Landowners from competition—but that’s another story not covered by her talk.



She explained the various designs of Water Wheels which depended on the flow of water available as shown by the diagram.

Leicestershire had up to 1,000 mills one of more local mills was called Lodge Mill in Cotesbach. Regrettably in the time available she was only able to quickly skim over the local history—far too fast for your scribe to take notes—I’m sorry.

## **Life on the Canal – 11<sup>th</sup> August**

On Monday we had a fascinating talk by Celia Patchett about “Life on the Canal” a self -confessed “gongoozler” (*a person who enjoys watching activity on the canals but not actively partaking*).

Canals were created around 1760 for transporting coal from the mines in the north of the country and played a major part in the development of the Industrial Revolution. The Duke of Bridgewater was one of the first to build a canal over 2 years to transport coal from his mines to where it was used and by so doing reduced the price of coal in Manchester by over 50%. Canals were also extensively used in the transport of fragile objects like Wedgewood pottery. Many of the boats being owned by “Pickfords” who are still involved in transport. Because of the paths alongside the canal were used by horses who towed the boats they are called “towpaths” and not just paths.

Wharfs were created a day’s journey apart which provided both food and stabling for the horses.

In the 1840’s. The railways were born during which time a range of boats were built used for the carrying of gravel – one of which was called the long boat which you see on the canals today. These boats were used for the transport of heavy goods which at the time would have been impossible due to the state of the roads – gravel being a good example for laying the railway tracks. The long or narrow boat was 70’ long and 6’6” wide in order that they could navigate through the narrow locks.

The early boats were operated solely by men but as time went on the family joined them and lived on board making dramatic changes both in the appearance of the boats, which were decorated by the women and had lace added over the port-holes. Dolly’s (*an early washing machine*) were adopted to assist in the washing for the family which could be as many as 6/7 or more. When asked how the wife the coped while doing her daily chores we were informed that they would tether the younger children to the funnel to avoid then falling over the side.

Because the family was for ever on the move Mission Schools were built along the canal in order to give the children a full education. The boys, when old enough, were given the job of feeding the horses when they stopped overnight, while the girls assisted in both the preparation and cooking of the daily meal. Drinking water was collected from town wells as they passed through –and water for the washing of clothes was drawn from the canal.

Families who lived on the canal were renown for attending local fairs and always in their Sunday best.

Celia our speaker was passionate about the history of those who ‘lived on the canal’ and told us much more than space allows here.

One item I forgot to mention earlier was that at its peak over 10,000 worked on the canals – *a city of people for ever on the move.*



### **.History of the Club’s involvement in Disabled Sports**

In the year 2000 the son of one of our present members Bryan Cooper took part as a member of the Great Britain Team in the Paralympics in Sydney. He was awarded two athletic medals.

About two years later Bryan then realised that Rotary Clubs in England sponsored and in fact organised the English Disabled sports team championships held every year in November in Coventry.

Bryan Cooper of Lutterworth Rotary Club decided to attempt to raise and sponsor a team from Leicestershire.

In the first year we entered a team in about 6 events and of course came last. We did however start to learn and understand the rules and to make contacts.

The emphasis is on the team, points are awarded for each position in each event. The winner gets 25 points but the last

to finish also gains points for their team. So therefore everybody is involved all the time and the two days of sports are highly competitive.

We contacted Leics. County Hall for help and advice and was referred to various offices based at Loughborough Univ. We were introduced to various parties for table tennis, boccia, swimming, darts, riflshooting , weightlifting , kurling , triathlon .wheelchair races etc. We also attended the youth games a couple of years. One contact lead to another.

Lutterworth Volunteer Centre and our club members helped with transport for the practices and the actual events.

Organisers of disabled sports in schools became interested, and Lutterworth College and the local Lutterworth Leisure Centre became very helpful by providing space for practice in the gyms etc.

Our fortunes and results changed very quickly and we won the 2nd year.

The teams come from various areas of England including North West, Avon. Coventry, Gloucester, South Yorks. and Lincs. ,Essex, etc. about 14 teams in all, competing in about 20 events over two days the event the next year and a further 3 out of the next six years.

We are the current champions. However degrees of disability are specified in events, and certain events call for juniors under sixteen years of age .

MOST OF OUR JUNIORS ARE NOW ABOVE AGE, WE DESPERATELY NEED COMPETITORS UNDER SIXTEEN FOR THIS YEARS CHAMPIONSHIPS,TO BE HELD IN COVENTRY THE FIRST WEEK-END IN NOVEMBER

If you know of anyone interested we will be delighted to talk to them and help them practice for the event.

It is lots of fun please get them to contact us.

*John Roberson 01455 202425 or Bryan Cooper 01455 556541*

### **Big Bike Ride 17<sup>th</sup> August**

It is often said that August can be wet and so it proved to be at the start of the day of our Big Bike Ride. However we had blue sky and scattered clouds during the event allowing us

to exceed last year's figure of those who took part giving us 420 cyclists who rode one of the four courses offered – 11, 23, 39 and 62 miles. From the cyclists who took part praise was given to the team from Lutterworth Rotary Club who made it all possible.

As you will imagine hours of hard work went into the success it proved to be, making in excess of £3,000 for the charities the club supported – Epilepsy Action and Rotary Charities including the club's own Disabled Sports initiative.



Favourable mention was made of the good route, signage and marshalling as was the generosity of Mrs Heather Craven for the use of her immaculate grounds at Misterton Hall for both the start and finish of the event. The well earned Hog Roast was provided once again by Neil Green Catering who have sponsored the event since it was first organised. Thank you everybody for making it such a successful day.

### **Wishing Well update**

A further £155.12 has been taken from the Wishing Well at the Greyhound Coaching Inn giving us a **grand total of £463.42** since we started collecting for Water Aid

### **Inner Wheel News**

Sue Wilson welcomed members, Blaby IW and guests for Afternoon Tea on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August to her lovely garden. We enjoyed intermittent sunshine with shelter from the breeze under the Rotarian's small marquee (thanks to Steve and his team). A wonderful array of delicious cakes and scones, with endless refills of tea or coffee, many tempting prizes on the raffle, a chance to buy bargain books/DVDs and view the Rotary Bird Calendar for 2015. A very successful afternoon with much chatter and raising £360 towards Sue's charity for the year RAINBOWS she would like to say a huge thank you to all who helped in any way.

**Future Events.** An Open Day at Rainbow's Hospice on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September starting at 10am, a chance to see the good work and care carried out for children and young people. Our club together with 3 other

Inner Wheels will see the Tactile Train we have bought now mounted on a corridor wall. Complete with bells and whistles this colourful engine and 4 carriages a chance for everyone to touch and enjoy this montage. (One of ex-president Sue Staples's charities for 2013-14) Advance notice of our Coffee Morning on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November in the Town Hall from 9am. A chance to find an early gift for Christmas from one of our stalls.

## **PLEASE NOTE**

**David Ayres will be on holiday from 1st until 16th September.** Those not able to attend our weekly meeting over that period should contact- **David Haynes on 01455 209285 or email him on :- [watsonhaynes@btconnect.com](mailto:watsonhaynes@btconnect.com)**



**Specifically for Dog Lovers!!!**

## **Forthcoming Events**

***Saturday and Sunday 1st - 2nd November - Disabled Sports—  
Coventry***

***Sunday 30 th November - Lutterworth Santa Fun Run starting at  
11 a.m. from Lutterworth College.***

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