



Issue No: 122

Driving the wheel of fellowship

May '15 Newsletter

May

Speaker Finder Grace & Thanks

Monday **4th Bank Holiday**

Monday 11th Normal Meeting David Toone Mark Thompson

Thursday 14th Council

Monday 18th Business Meeting & AGM

Monday **25th Bank Holiday**

June

Monday **1st Club Assembly**

Monday 8th Normal Meeting David Perkins Sue Ensor

Thursday 11th Council

Monday 15th Business Meeting

Monday 22nd Normal Meeting Hugh Robertson Smith Ted Wilson

Monday 29th **Presidents Changeover** Martin Iliffe John Wilson

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

For English Students and Rotarians only

Now no peeking please

See if you can figure out what these seven words all have in common

Banana Dresser Grammar Potato Revive Uneven Assess

Answer to Quiz is on the back page

A piece of Plastic and piece of String

Frank Drewett (ex P E Teacher at Rugby School) was Graham Johnson's guest speaker who spoke on a most unusual subject (*well away from his school days*) keeping us guessing until the very end.

He was asked with a friend to give a presentation on TV about his device – not being told what they called his device.

They were asked to be in either Manchester or Liverpool for an interview by the programme producer (neither being told for security reasons what it was about).

They were grilled for 2¼ hours at the studio and then having been chosen from those interviewed they were asked to go to Pinewood Studios – Ealing and be there by 7 a.m. and not wear a tie where the pattern would strobe under spot lights. At 5-30 p.m. they were not called to give their presentation (*whatever it was*) and asked to return another day. Eventually they were told that the Programme was "**Dragons Den**" where they could ask for money (£50,000) to promote his device.

His device was a self opening mechanism for Wheely Bins of which there are 21 million in use in the UK.

On the show 3 potential investors offered to support his invention – Peter Jones being the selected one chosen where it was found later that his interest was solely for the patent and not the product. It was interesting to learn that the plastic device to which the string was attached was made in Nuneaton and that it was assembled (*of all places in Oxford Prison*)

Regrettably the market he was first aiming at the Council Waste

Depts. did not take off on account of the string jamming their lorry automatic loading mechanism.

But the retail market did like the product such as B&Q and over the last 12 years he has sold many thousand. As he finished his talk and demonstration he told us that the charity he supports is **"Child abuse in Rugby"**.

An enthusiastic speaker that got us all thinking as to what the **"Device"** was.

Philosophy of "Peanuts" and others

The following was sent to me by Anne Thompson (Rose Chapman's sister from the Rotary Club of Hibiscus Coast South Africa) who has given me copies of their "Rotary Africa" in which DG Andrew Jaeger puts a View Point in their monthly magazine. Anne has sent this to me which I felt was very poignant.

The following is **the philosophy of Charles Schultz, the creator of the "Peanuts" comic strip**. You don't have to actually answer the questions. Just read straight through, and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Wimbledon trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss South Africa.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winner for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of Currie Cup winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their

fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. **They are the ones that care.**

"Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia." (Charles Schultz)

Wishing Well – Water Aid

As we support Water Aid through the Greyhound Wishing Well where to date we have collected £766 - £303 of which has recently been retrieved from the Well by Bernard (see picture).

While writing I thought it might be interesting to give some details on "Clean Drinking Water" available around the

world taken from
"The Observer"
dated 8th March
2015.

Quote

"As reservoirs dry
up across the
world, a billion
people have no
access to safe
drinking water.



Rationing and a

fight for supplies will follow. Water is the driving force of all nature, Leonardo da Vinci claimed." Unfortunately for our planet, supplies are now running dry at an alarming rate. The World's population continues to soar but the accompanying supplies of fresh water do not, leaving one in seven people on the planet with no access to safe drinking water. According to the Paper Crown Prince General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nayhan of the United Arab Emirates said on the news the other day that Water was now more important than oil. It reveals from a US Geological Survey that the amount of Fresh Water on earth comes to about 2½ cubic miles – 99% made up of ground water, much of which is not accessible. The worry in my mind is that the global population experiencing water scarcity is destined to increase throughout this century. There is already an International dispute between countries bordering the Nile particularly where the building of dams are discussed.

Forgive me for using "The COG" to raise the question of "Water Shortage" but I am delighted to know how much Rotary are supporting "Water Aid" on such an important issue – like Polio.

Quote from Rotary Magazine last month "Diarrhoea is the

third biggest killer of children under 5 in Sub Saharan Africa” but by the use of clean water and good sanitation the risk of diarrhoea could be reduced by nearly 50%.

Minor Sports – 15th April.

12 members in The Minor Sports Team once again found form and won the quarter finals last week by 4 games to 1, against Loughborough Beacon Club at The Cherry Tree Catthorpe. A very friendly and enjoyable evening was had by all, Alan Price – Loughborough's Captain commented afterwards “A real Rotary Night!”

The draw for the semi – finals to be played before 15th May is against Peterborough Werrington.

Watch this space !!!

Mad Hatters Tea Party – Sunday 19th April.

A cool wind at Misterton Hall did not deter 56 members and friends from entering the spirit of “The Mad Hatters Tea Party”, all dressed in their wonderful attire for the party!! The gardens looked particularly beautiful at this time of year. All the hard work that Rotary and Inner Wheel Clubs had put into preparing the Rutland Room and making delicious refreshments was much appreciated by all.

Mad Hatters also enjoyed the atmosphere



created by the Ukulele Band from Market Harborough, who performed for most of the afternoon.

This together with: fun bowls, the judging of the Mad Hatters Parade, all made for a memorable occasion.

Over £600 was raised for the Rainbows and Rotary Charities.

Thanks to everyone for their wonderful support.

History of Leicester Trams—20th April

Mark Thompson's speaker Malcolm Riddle gave a detailed and fascinating talk on the history of Leicester Trams and beyond.

The first tramways in Leicester started a horse drawn operation in 1874 by the Leicester Tramways Company.

The first route being from the Clock Tower to

Belgrave which in 1875 and 1878 was extended to Humberstone and Victoria Park. These trams were privately owned and proved to be highly successful in giving the public a relatively smooth ride across Leicester and was proving to be a financial success.

Leicester Corporation were confident it could do a better job and not wanting to miss out on a huge potential profit exercised its right to buy out the private owners of the tramway when their lease ran out. With no room to negotiate the deal was made at £134,110 for 38 trams, 30 buses, 375 horses, 9 miles of track and all associated buildings and equipment.

By 1900 they looked at a different method of propulsion away from the existing horse drawn tram. With the advent of electricity



between 1902—1904 new track was laid to take the heavier tram which was followed by the delivery of 58 tram cars using the overhead trolley system.

The electric tram went into operation in 1904. Due to the increase of traffic over the years and the congestion caused by the tram passing each other on a fixed track the motor bus (*introduced in 1924*) which was less restrictive became the main method of public transport in 1938.

The last tram ran on 9th November 1949 and the removal of all the track around Leicester was completed in 1950 leaving no trace of its existence today.

Who knows where public transport goes in the future.

Visit to Hearing Dogs for the Deaf

A party of 16 (*organised by David Toone*) had a most interesting day at their headquarters at Princes Risborough seeing the dogs being trained followed by a cooked meal given us in their restaurant.



Answers to Quiz

No it's not that they all have at least 2 double letters ...

In all of the words listed, if you take the first letter, place it at the end of the word, and then spell the word backwards, it will be the same word.

Did you figure it out?

Future Events

Sunday 17th May Misterton Food, Plant and Craft Fair

Saturday 18th July – Barn Dance - Details next month

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