



## Issue 148

**Driving the wheel of fellowship**

# July '17 Newsletter

### **July** **Speaker Finder** **Grace & Thanks**

Monday	3rd	Normal Meeting	John Howell	John Roberson
Monday	10th	Normal Meeting	John Turner	Hugh Roberson Smith
Thursday	13th	Council Meeting		
Monday	17th	Business Meeting		
Monday	24th	<b>Joint Meeting</b>	hosted by our Club	
Monday	31st	Normal Meeting	Steve Tallis	Mark Thompson

### **August**

Monday	7th	Normal Meeting	Sally Hollis	Anne Baker
Thursday	10th	Council Meeting		
Monday	14th	Business Meeting		

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

## **Wishing Well**

The Wishing Well at the Greyhound was installed in October 2012 and to date the amount collected is £1,315 up to the end of May '17.

The latest collection taken from the Well being £112 (rounded).

## **District 1070 increase in Clubs**

In last June's Cog I made mention of the District gaining 9 new Clubs without mentioning them by name for which I apologise. Albeit a little late may I list them now.

Alford & Mablethorpe	33 members
Bailgate Lincoln	33 members
Horncastle	20 members
Lincoln	38 members
Lincoln Colonia	39 members
Lindum Lincoln	23 members
Skegness	36 members
Spilsby	19 members
Woodhall Spa	44 members

*All as of 30th June 2016*

**There are now 91 Clubs in the District**



## **Little Faces Schools—Kenya**

*Talk by Sally Harrison 29th May '17*

*For those on Computer John Turner has emailed you a copy of her Power Point presentation which with 55 pages in fine detail I have therefore precised her notes to give you a flavour of her talk.*

*Should you not have received the full blooded "Power Point" notes and wish to read all 55 pages (10 Mb) please contact John Turner.*

## **Summary**

## History

It all started in 2011 when I went to Mombasa in Kenya for a holiday. I met Mary, the head of Little Faces School and was so impressed by her dedication to the children that I decided to support her efforts in any way that I could. The school is in one of the poorest communities in Mombasa and in Africa good education is a privilege.

Schooling is compulsory in Kenya but class sizes of around 100 make it almost impossible to learn anything. At this time there were 35 children in one schoolroom.

## Statistics

2012 – We raised £0	35 pupils
2013 – We raised £5,588	50 pupils
2014 – We raised £19,665	164 pupils
2015 – We raised £20,000	242 pupils
<b>2016 – We raised £23,000</b>	<b>270 pupils</b>
<b>2017 - £16,000 raised so far</b>	<b>300 pupils</b>

Every child has food, a chair, desk and educational equipment.

School Partnership Programme – first 9 schools in programme

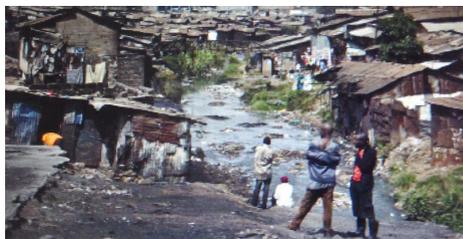
Christmas box appeal – 270 boxes given to all the children

**175 children sponsored – Over £90,000 raised so far**

**Over 412,000 meals provided since adopting the school.**

***We now have almost 300 very happy, well educated and well fed children in Little Faces School***

***We currently have 8 sponsors from the :-  
UK - USA - Belgium - Germany - Saudi Arabia - Kenya -  
Spain and Thailand.***



Sally (our Speaker) said that we had been unbelievably supportive of the children at Little Faces.

Over the past couple of years we had sponsored Briton and Faith in order that they could continue in their education.

As individual members and as a club we had donated towards the new school which is now becoming a reality.

The builders have just been asked to quote for the new building.

Fantastic news! We will build a single storey school but with a staircase for a future second floor. Everyone is very excited about the new school.

She went on to say that we had supported other children at the school individually for which many many thanks.

The most recent money (£250) we gave them in in October has been reserved and will go toward the bore hole in the new school premises to give them clean water.

### **Shoe Boxes for Little Faces School, Mombasa, Kenya**

Sue Turner has agreed to organise the filling of (hopefully)60 shoe boxes of "goodies" for children at the school. Any donations to help fill the boxes would be appreciated and can either be given to John Turner at Rotary or, even better, delivered to **32, Bitteswell Road, Lutterworth.**

Of particular value would be donations of: pencils, pens, rulers, felt tips, crayons, notepads, soap, flannels, shower gels, combs and toothbrushes. Nearly new packs of cards, dominoes, skipping ropes, yoyos, soft toys, balls and small plastic toys would also be very welcome.

## **Celebrating Rotary Foundation's Centenary Year**

The Rotary Foundation is Rotary's own and only charity and in 2016/17 has been celebrating its centennial anniversary.

Former Rotary International President Arch Klumph's idea for an endowment fund dedicated to **'Doing Good In The World'** planted the seed for The Rotary Foundation in 1917.

**THE ROTARY FOUNDATION**



**YEARS OF DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD**

That one idea and an initial contribution of \$26.50 set in motion a powerful force for good that has transformed millions of lives around the globe over the decades. Over the last 100 years, the Foundation has spent over \$3 billion on humanitarian programmes across the world. This includes spearheading the movement to eradicate polio

across the world, as well as facilitating projects which address Rotary's Six Areas of Focus such as:-

- Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Disease Prevention and Treatment
- Water and Sanitation
- Material and Child Health
- Basic Education and Literacy
- Economic and Community Development

## **Chatsworth Flower Show Visit 8th June**

A wonderful day was organised by Elaine Turner to the first RHS Flower Show held at Chatsworth.

A group of Rotarians and friends had a magnificent day out with everything for the gardener you could imagine. Giant marquees full of stunning floral displays, intricate foliage sculptures to designer gardens with innovative use of both wild and cultivated flowers.

There were plenty of opportunities to purchase plants, and useful expert advice was willingly offered.

This must have been the next best show to the Chelsea Flower Show, for horticultural brilliance on a wonderful scale, both for the professional and the amateur gardener.

Many many thanks to Elaine for all the work that went into the planning of a lovely day out.

### **Mike Toone's Job Talk**

I was born in Swansea June 1944.

My parents settled in Wolvey (my father's home) early in 1946 when my father came out of the army.

My brother was born 1946, and my sister in 1950.

I went to the local village school up to 11 plus, then on to O levels and because of making a complete hash of A level choices, left school in 1961 after one year in 6th form.

Encouraged by a family friend who had a knitwear company in Hinckley, I decided to do a three year diploma in textiles at the Leicester School of Textiles.

Completing the diploma course I entered the world of (proper) work in August 1964 when I took a job, officially entitled Trainee Manager, with Grewcock's in Hinckley. An established former family business which had recently become part of a small private group of companies owned by Sir Peter Roberts.

Inevitably I got itchy feet and decided to work abroad for a time. The first job I saw advertised, with interviews being held in Leicester, was in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Despite my misgivings about the politics of that country, curiosity prompted me to apply. This was mid-April 1967. I left for South Africa on 5th July 1967 and resolved that, even if I hated the place, I would stick it out for a year.

Although I could not help but be aware of the racial politics of South Africa before I emigrated, the way things were done there, the Apartheid system and the harsh National Party government still came as something of a culture shock. H.F.Verwoerd had been assassinated the year before and Sharpsville was a recent event. Apartheid and the attitude of the security forces were at their most draconian.

I enjoyed the job though and the climate was superb, the country beautiful and spacious. After nearly 2 years in South Africa, during which time I had done quite a lot of travelling, it was beginning to feel like home.

Out of the blue, early in 1969 I had a letter from my father saying that my old boss had telephoned to say that he was going to retire in the

Spring of 1970 and wanted to know if I would be interested in taking over from him. So I flew to Britain to discuss the prospects and agreed to start by the end of the year.

I settled into the new job – better than I settled to life in GB, although that came eventually. The job was rewarding and I renewed most of my old friendships. I started to go out with Jennifer Gee from Bruntingthorpe, whom I had known since I was about twelve. A long story cut short.....we were married in July 1971 and lived in Stoney Stanton.

Our first son, Nicholas, born June 1972.

Our second son, Christian, born June 1973.

In 1978 I was asked to take another position at the company's head office in Leicester. It was much more related to sales and marketing than the production-biased job I had been doing and I welcomed the change.

The rag trade was showing signs of entering one of its periodic downturns some time around the beginning of 1980 and the Chairman, Sir Peter Roberts, began to lose confidence in the industry. The omens were that closure was a strong possibility. At the same time Keith Butler, a colleague for 10 years who had become a good friend as well, and I had been talking about starting up together and "doing our own thing". The omens were correct. During the first half of 1980, the factories in Hinckley and Mansfield were closed leaving only the Leicester site open. Later that year all the group directors, Keith and myself included, were given six months' notice.

We both took second mortgages on our houses, borrowed some money and took a 3 year lease on 3000 square feet in a block of flatted factories in the centre of Leicester. By the end of our first year (1981) we had a respectable plant up and running, and about 20 employees.....and a balance sheet like a horror story. With some slightly creative accounting we muddled on. We managed to borrow some more money and by the middle of the second year had just about stopped losing money. We took on another 3000 square feet to tie in with the existing lease. At the end of two years, we still had a hefty loss, but looking at the business we had built it all made some sort of sense.

Our third year - 1983 - we were making a profit!! And the whole thing became fun.and we were sufficiently confident to be thinking about looking for a freehold site. Keith, my partner, had heard of an old family firm in the Aylestone area which had just run out of steam and decided to sell up. We bid for the factory, bought it and were in by the end of 1984. We had by then an excellent work force who all moved with us.The next 10 years passed relatively smoothly but we were outgrowing our premises and looking for an affordable place to move.

In mid 1997 we found a vacant factory in Knighton Powys and were able to double our capacity and by 2000 were producing over 12,000 jumpers per week but by 2004 competition from Asia forced us to close. Keith now 64 decided to retire and stay in Wales I being a little younger returned to the Leicester area to Claybrooke Magna and took on local work until the Government started to pay my pension.

## **The Lutterworth Rotary Big Bike Ride Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August**

Come on dig out your unused bike (tandem) from your garage and join our Big Bike Ride.

We will be running the 5th Big Bike Ride on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August. The event starts and finishes at Misterton Hall [LE17 4JP] and, as with last year, there will be four routes: 11, 23, 39 and 62 miles. The entry fee is £10 for adults and £5 for under 12's which will include a hog roast to be enjoyed at the finish.

Last year the event attracted over 400 riders, well over 100 of whom completed the 62 mile route as this route has the distinction of running through the Naseby battlefield site and many sections follow the National Cycle Network.

The event is organised by the Club with the kind permission of Mrs Heather Craven, owner of Misterton Hall. We look forward to entries from individuals and families and also from teams representing local businesses & clubs.

Entry forms and more information is available on

[www.lutterworthrotary.org.uk](http://www.lutterworthrotary.org.uk)

[and riders can enter on line at www.entrycentral.com](http://www.entrycentral.com)

Enquiries can be made to [lutterworthrotary@hotmail.com](mailto:lutterworthrotary@hotmail.com) or through the club's Facebook page.

In Aid of Epilepsy Action, Rotary Disabled Sports and other Rotary supported charities.

*Peter J Osborn Rossett Green Valley Lane Bitteswell LE17 4SA  
Tel: 01455 553178 email [p.osborn@homecall.co.uk](mailto:p.osborn@homecall.co.uk).*