

Issue No. 200



October '21 Newsletter

Programme for the next 2 months.

Speaker Finder Grace & Thanks

October

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|----------|------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Monday | 4th | Normal Meeting | Mark Thompson | Martin Illiffe |
| Thursday | 7th | Council | 7 p.m. | |
| Monday | 11th | Business Meeting | | |
| Monday | 18th | Normal Meeting | Sally Parkinson | Peter Osborn |
| Monday | 25th | Normal Meeting | David Walton | Sally Hollis |

November

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|----------|------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Monday | 1st | Normal Meeting | Mike Toone | David Woolliscroft |
| Monday | 8th | Normal Meeting | Elaine Turner | Bernard Johnson |
| Thursday | 11th | Council | 7 p.m. | |
| Monday | 15th | Business Meeting | | |
| Monday | 22nd | Normal Meeting | John Howell | Sue Sharp |
| Monday | 29th | Normal Meeting | Graham Johnson | John Wilson |

If you are unable to carry out your duty please find a substitute and tell
Anne Baker Tel 01455 **285674** email christinabaker304@btinternet.com

This is the 200th Edition of The COG

Who would have thought we would be celebrating our 200th Edition of the COG and I'm still, believe it or not, Editor!

When the idea of starting a Club Newsletter back in 2005 I was given the temporary job by President Bryan Cooper and have never been able to pass the job on to another Rotarian. However I have enjoyed producing it along with the help of John Cookson who puts it on our website and my wife Diana who diligently proof reads it before it is published each month—to both many thanks.

Meal (Menus) decided by Countries

The idea of having our monthly menus taken from different countries has really caught on and some members are now dressing up for the occasion.

Graham started the ball rolling dressing as an Italian followed by Colin as a Mexican. Our next country will be



France, Coq au Vin our savoury followed by the desert Peach Melba on Monday 4th October.

Greetings to our two new members

Colin Derrick - colinjerrick@btinternet.com

Derick Berridge - derickberridge@gmail.com

And yet more Knitted Teddies from Elaine's Potting Shed!!

All destined for Orphanages around the world.

Elaine and her girls have produced a staggering **9,195** to date.

I think they are aiming for an entry in the Guinness Book of Records.



Rotary Youth Leadership Award

Luke Tallis told the club that they were all made aware that team work was essential for not only enjoyment but also for safety. Added to which it was expected that with certain tasks he would be the team leader which he rather enjoyed.

The team of 7 were taken to a place in the middle of nowhere and told to make their way back (with compass and map of course) they made back to base by 2.00 am.

Another task was to figuratively set up a wine bar, buy the stock, pay staff and sell the goods. A great plan that unfortunately did not make much profit!

The expedition was great fun and involved paddle boarding across the reservoir to a camp, taking a turn at cooking for all the others and trying not to poison them. There was a rock wall to climb among other physical activities and then after 2 days they paddled back.

After all that a slap up dinner where our hero is dressed in DJ and a red bow tie.

Let's hope we can help another young person get on to RYLA next July.

Well done Luke , we are proud of you.



MERCY NEWS

SUEZ CANAL LETS "GLOBAL MERCY" TRANSIT FOR FREE

Two governments have generously waived the charge for the Global Mercy to pass through Suez Canal meaning thousands of extra lives can be saved in Africa.

The world's largest charity hospital ship and the newest in the Mercy Ships fleet is currently on its way to Antwerp where it will be further equipped before it starts its first service in spring 2022.

The Senegalese and Egyptian governments enabled the Global Mercy to pass free of charge through the Suez Canal passage – connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea. This

unique gesture will enable Mercy Ships, which is funded entirely by charitable donors and volunteers, to provide



provide free surgical care to thousands more people in central and west Africa.

The moment the Global Mercy was granted free passage on 28th August was captured as it made its way to Malta.

President of Senegal, Macky Sall, praised the work of the Mercy Ships, which has been providing surgery free of charge to the world's poorest for more than 40 years.

He said: *"I have seen and experienced with my own eyes that Mercy Ships is a wonderful organisation that brings hope and healing to many African countries.*

We will welcome the Global Mercy with open arms in the spring of 2022 and give our full support at the start of its first mission in Africa."

Bert van Dijk, international board member and president of Mercy Ships Belgium, expressed tremendous gratitude and support of the nations. He said: *"This is a wonderful example of a unique collaboration between two heads of state to support Mercy Ships and contribute to the improvement of healthcare in Africa.*

The ship is in the last leg of the journey to the Port of Antwerp

in Belgium where it will be further outfitted and finished from September 2021 to February 2022,”

STATE-OF-THE-ART

The Port of Antwerp has also made the arrival of the Global Mercy in Antwerp possible by offering a free berth and support. Volunteers will fully equip the ship as a state-of-the-art hospital. As well as supply and crew the ship for its first service in West and Central Africa.

Chairman of the Port of Antwerp said: “This unique project is a highlight in the collaboration between Port of Antwerp and Mercy Ships. The social commitment in the port community is very high, so we are not alone in our support. Dozens of companies in our port already support Mercy Ships structurally and will do the same in the equipping of the Global Mercy and the wonderful work they do are close to the heart of the Port of Antwerp.” Residents in Belgium are being encouraged to line the River Scheldt to welcome the ship as it comes into port. The hospital ship will also make a stop in Rotterdam for two weeks in Spring 2022 where the charity intends to make public visits onboard possible.

HIDDEN DEPTHS: Global Mercy fact file The Global Mercy will be the ‘partner ship’ of the Africa Mercy and double Mercy Ships capacity. But that’s just the start of her capabilities

- **During its missions, the Global Mercy can accommodate at least 950 people, including 641 crew members, who consist of volunteers from all over the world.**
- **In addition to the hospital, the ship also has first-class training facilities with which Mercy Ships contributes to the sustainable development of local medical care in many countries.**
- **The Global Mercy is a unique ship in the passenger class: 174 meters long, 28.6 meters wide and a gross tonnage of 37,000!**
- **It has six operating rooms, 200 beds, a laboratory, general outpatient clinics and eye and dental clinics.**
- **The total area of the hospital department is 7,000 m².**

The ship was delivered and left the shipyard in China at the end of July, after successfully carrying out mandatory sea trials.

Max Baker Fund Raising Engagement Manager from the “**Young Lives vs Cancer Charity**” spoke on his work for the charity and gave us an insight on its history and what it did.



OUR HISTORY

Young Lives vs Cancer’s foundations is a tale of two halves – and two incredible, pioneering charities brought together under one name for one common cause: to help young people and their families facing cancer.

Let’s take it back to 1968... when the Young Lives vs Cancer story begins.

Sylvia Darley OBE set up Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, in memory of Sir Malcolm Sargent. As chief conductor of the Proms from 1948 to 1967, Sir Malcolm gained his widest fame and was noted for his witty addresses to audiences. Not long after his last appearance at The Last Night of the Proms, Sir Malcolm died of cancer and his long-term manager Sylvia set up Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children in his memory at the behest of the Promenaders

While visiting The Royal Marsden to find out more about what support children in hospital and their families might need she heard about a boy whose father could only afford to visit his son in hospital once a week. Asking a sister in the hospital about this dilemma they suggested a new charity in Sir Malcolm’s name could pay for the father’s railway journey.

The Promenaders met in Sir Malcolm’s flat and they agreed to fund the travel, and any needs a family facing childhood cancer might have. A television appeal was launched on the BBC, and with famous actor Kenneth More alongside a fund-raising ‘Promenaders’ Pilgrimage’ of a 120-mile walk from London to Stamford. The first grant came in for Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children in 1969. This was the first charity in the UK to help and recognise children with cancer. It didn’t exist before.

From then on the charity funded many grants for families.

The first Malcolm Sargent Social Worker was employed in 1976. And in 1982, Diana, Princess of Wales, became a Patron of the charity. Sylvia said the Princess was wonderful and she sat with the parents of children having cancer treatment and gave them support.

It is the vital care and social worker support for children with cancer, and the core values of the charity set up by Sylvia and the Promenaders in Sir Malcolm Sargent's name, that continue to be the very foundations of Young Lives vs Cancer today.

He went on to about another legacy that lives on through the charity, and is at the heart of the history and everything the do today: the incredible work of Bob Woodward and CLIC (Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood).

In 1974, Bob Woodward's son Robert was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, sadly dying three years later in 1977, aged just 11 years old. It was during this time Bob and his wife Judy became increasingly aware of the issues faced by families of children with cancer. Bob, a successful businessman, wanted to do something to help, and he set out to improve the care and support for families facing childhood cancer. It was the strength of his son during his treatment that inspired Bob to 'change the world of the child with cancer'.

While visiting Robert in hospital, Bob learned about the children who were a long way from home while receiving treatment, and the parents who were struggling for somewhere to stay close to their child in hospital – finding themselves sleeping on the hospital floor. And so Bob founded CLIC – Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood – and set up the very first 'Home from Home' in the UK, pioneering free accommodation for the families of young cancer patients and the improved welfare of children with cancer.

To help fund the continuing costs of the Home from Home and other services, Bob had a vision to launch charity shops in Bristol and across the South West. With an ever-growing

group of supporters, CLIC began funding a Paediatric Oncology Unit at the Bristol Children's Hospital, domiciliary care nurses, hospital play therapists, and a CLIC ambulance service to give specialist support to children with cancer. The charity expanded to provide holidays for young cancer patients, and the first Chair of paediatric oncology in the UK and a CLIC Research Unit was set up at the University of Bristol.

Within a few years the charity had a network of Homes from Home – each near the seven major children's cancer centres. Bob once said: "I didn't have a clue how to fundraise in the beginning. I had to learn how to inspire people to donate."

Over his lifetime, Bob was instrumental in raising more than £100 million for charity, and was described by President Mikhail Gorbachev as 'one of the world's great humanitarians'. He received the Freedom of the City of Bristol in 2006, a Pride of Britain Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011, and an OBE from the Queen in 2014. More recently, he was named one of Great Western Railway's 50 'Great Westerners' and had the honour of a train being named after him shortly before he died in 2019.

Bob's caring nature, and his drive to not stop until every child and young person suffering from cancer receives better support, lives on in Young Lives vs Cancer's values today.