



# The Cog

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Lutterworth



**Issue; 203**

**Driving the wheel of fellowship**

## January '22 Newsletter

**Programme for the next two months.**

**Speaker Finder / Grace & Thanks**

### January

**Monday 3rd Bank Holiday**

Monday 10th Joining Wycliffe 7-30 p.m.

Thursday 13th Council Meeting 7 p.m.

Monday 17th Business Meeting

Monday 24th Normal Meeting Rose Chapman David Haynes

Monday 31st Normal Meeting John Wilson John Roberson

### February

Monday 7th Normal Meeting Sue Sharp David Toone

Thursday 10th Council Meeting 7 p.m.

Monday 14th Business Meeting

Monday 21st Normal Meeting Bernard Johnson Steve Tallis

Monday 28th Normal Meeting David Woolliscroft Roger Rose

If you are unable to carry out your 'duty' please find a substitute and tell **Anne Baker** Tel: 01455 285674 **email** [christinabaker304@btinternet.com](mailto:christinabaker304@btinternet.com)

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

## **The story of Colin Derrick's life History**

### ***That was the life that was, it's over let it go***

*(With apologies to Millicent Martin for adapting and adopting her title song !)*

When I look back...Wow, it certainly was a life...

I left school some 3 months before my 15th birthday, and finally stopped working, (although latterly, only on a part time basis) some 60 years later.

In that time, and for some 45 years or so, I ran my own businesses, but I also worked as an engineer, clerk, chef, catering manager, publican, restaurateur, salesman, property developer, and business adviser. In the middle of that, and before I was twenty, I also managed to earn a living whilst hitchhiking and busking around Europe, and also had a spell picking bananas on a kibbutz in Israel. And, amazingly, despite two huge changes of direction in my life, one personal, and one for health, I'm still standing, and still firing on all cylinders!

But apologies, I'm racing ahead with my CV, so I'll start at the beginning...

My secondary school was pretty hopeless, sadly, I learnt nothing, left with no qualifications, and a report that said I was challenging, too ebullient and euphoric. ( in fact, the only marks I gained were those left by my frequent canings!)

The canings certainly did not work, and never did beat the ebullience and euphoria out of me, and funnily enough, as a student many years later, (I had enrolled full time at University, following a serious health problem, and graduated on my 65th birthday with a First Class Honours degree in History.) my tutors at DMU also described me as 'challenging'

So, back to the beginning...fortified with advice from the careers master at school, who learning that I rode a bike, and

mended punctures when necessary, was convinced that engineering was the career for me...

I left school on the Friday, started work on the Monday, and felt like I'd stepped into the pages of William Blake's 'Dark Satanic Mills... an engineering factory certainly wasn't for me.

It was time for me to find my own way, and I was fortunate, it was the 60s—change was in the air—what an exciting time! Music, fashion, attitudes were changing.

And as I found out—anything was possible!

Whilst at first glance, things seem a bit disjointed, the main themes of my working life have been firstly food, and then sales. I had been cooking since a boy, and so for some time went into the catering trade, beginning as a junior chef, and working my way to becoming a catering manager. By 24 I was running my own pub in West Wales, ( I think at that time the youngest pub proprietor in Wales), then I returned to London, and took over a sandwich bar/Italian restaurant in London's West End, just off Oxford Street.

Having sold the restaurant I moved into sales, and sold food, pickles, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics/toiletries. Also dabbling in property. It was then, with a need for a change in direction, that I moved both myself, and my business, Direct Marketing back to Leicestershire. I also changed focus at this point, and began wholesale supplies to DIY shops and Garden centres across the UK. I think it worked, it was certainly frenetic...busy, very hard work...but great fun...

And then I hung up my spurs!!!!!!

Just ready for the next chapter now!

## **Santa Fun Run 28th November**

After some appalling weather, snow and 24 hour freeze Sunday 28th started cold but sunny and stayed that way until around 12 noon when most of our runners had finished. We had 326 in total plus a few dogs and youngsters in pushchairs. During the run a 6 year old girl became very excited and ran off and she was quicker than grandfather and lost touch with him. The radios came into their own and communication successfully tracked her down, she was picked up by one of the First Aid cars on the course, and re-united her with grandfather. Apart from a little girl falling over in the College grounds, who was dealt with by the First Aiders in the H classroom block, I was not aware of any other problems. Any reported will be passed on to the Club when ready. We were all packed up and off the site by 1pm, as in previous years. The committee will be having a closing down meeting in mid December, any constructive comments will be welcome.

*Santa Claus is covid secure  
When he enters your house he'll be a good chap  
He'll check himself in on the NHS App  
Santa Claus is covid secure  
He's not displaying symptoms, you've got nothing to fear  
Coz he isolates at the North Pole 364 days a year  
It's close to midnight the church bells chime  
He's late because he's washed his hands a billion times  
Santa Claus is covid secure  
He's got new rules to follow it's a difficult task  
But he won't go down the chimney without a mask  
Santa Claus is covid secure  
The presents are loaded, the drop offs are mapped  
The mince pies are all individually wrapped  
Santa Claus is covid secure  
His sleigh is ventilated the presents are as well  
And Rudolf's had his red nose rubbed in Antibacterial gel!  
The reindeer have helped, the elves played their part  
They've all placed themselves 2 metres apart  
Santa Claus is covid secure*

**With thanks to the Leicestershire Hotpots**



## Our Spanish Meal 29th November

Although we did not perform a Flamenco in celebration of our Spanish meal, provided by the Greyhound, consisting of Chicken—Chorlzo and Rice followed by an Almond and Lemon Desert with Mulled Wine Sauce. The lunch was much appreciated by all members on a cold and frosty day.

### Flamenco Dancing



Although, by now, flamenco has adopted a global status, the dance originated in the 15th century, with the arrival of the Gitanos (gypsies) to the Iberian Peninsula. This settlement occurred after a certain diaspora, in which the gypsies travelled for centuries across different lands of the globe, most likely India,

Iran and Egypt. Through this time the gypsies started to adopt the various folk dances they encountered on their journey, which they then amalgamated in order to create their own culture, identity, and art of expression.



Colin in his inimitable style with hat!

## Christmas Party 6th December

We had our Christmas Party at the Lutterworth Cricket Club on Monday 6th December starting at 7-30m p.m. Our President Val Cooper together with Sue Postlethwaite and Sally Hollis along with other Rotarians made it a night to remember.

We all had a wonderful meal prepared by Neil Green and staff with Club entertainment after a short break.

The entertainment started with a Cinderella Panto narrated by Sue Postlethwaite introducing a very attractive Cinderella played by David Haynes along with Bernard Johnson as the wicked sister. Val Cooper was a handsome Prince Charming, while Ted Wilson played the fairy queen.

This was quickly followed by a second Panto to which Sally Hollis narrated and this was Snow White, with a most attractive Mark Thompson playing Snow White assisted by Martin Iliffe as the wicked Queen, then Jackie Rose played the mirror on the wall, and Colin Derrick was the Huntsman, along with Anne Baker who was great as the handsome Prince and finally Rose Chapman who played all of the seven dwarfs. What an amazing cast - they should all go to Broadway. This was followed by the two Ronnies, in the form of Roger Rose and Mike Toone who reported the News and a few jokes at the expense of some Rotarians in the Club.



Finally the entertainment for the evening was in the hands of Mike Toone who recited a joke to a rapturous applause. So the Party continued on for the end of the evening when our President wished everyone a careful journey home and a very Merry Christmas .

## Christmas Lunch 13th December

To end the year there was a well attended Christmas lunch. After several contributions by members finally Colin Derrick filling in the hilarious details he had left out of his life story on pages 2 & 3 which brought the house down.



May we thank Val on behalf of the Club to say a very big thank you for being such a good President during the first half of her term of office introducing many new and novel ideas—such as our monthly meals based on different countries.

What has she in store for us in 2022?



*Peter J Osborn Rossett Green Valley Lane Bitteswell LE17 4SA  
Tel: 01455 553178 email: peterosborn@talktalk.net*