

SAM CROWE – ROTARY CLUB OF CARRICKFERGUS

Sam was born in Whitehead, Co. Antrim. He is married to Rita and they have a son Alan, a daughter Caroline and four grandchildren. He qualified as a Civil Engineer and owns a building and property company which is now run by his son, the fourth generation of the family in the business.

Sam joined the Rotary Club of Carrickfergus in 1995. He has served two terms as Club President, firstly in 2004/5 and again ten years later in 2014/15. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member. In his 22 years as a Rotarian Sam has served as Chair and been involved in most of the Club Committees as well as serving on Council and engaging with a wide variety of Carrickfergus Rotary club projects. He is also responsible for initiating and sustaining the annual Tree of Hope which to date has raised over £79,000 for local charities.

In celebration of Rotary's Centennial Year, he initiated a three- year Life Education project bringing together the Rotary Clubs of Carrickfergus, Larne and Newtownabbey and assisted in sourcing the £340,000 funding required to deliver the programme. Over this time the professionally staffed Life Education mobile unit delivered a Healthy Life Style programme impacting on the lives of 16,000 Primary school children across the three Rotary Club areas. The project was used as an example of best practice and was adopted by the Education Board for continued application at the end of the initial period.

Since 2009 Sam has served as Youth Leadership Development officer for District 1160 with responsibility for organising and administering the Youth Leadership Competition. In addition to developing leadership skills, Sam believes the competition gives Rotarians the opportunity of engaging with schools and families resulting in encouraging students to form their own Interact Clubs, hence promoting Rotary in the community.

Sam has been actively involved in serving the local community, as a Councillor for eight years and as Mayor of Carrickfergus in 1994/5. He also chaired the Carrickfergus Chamber of Commerce and was a member of Carrickfergus Enterprise management committee. Currently he is involved as a Social Partner with Mid & East Antrim Borough Council in the delivery of their EU Peace IV programmes. He is also a governor of Downshire School and serves on the YMCA management board.

His major interests are his family, travel, sailing and gardening.

Throughout his years in Rotary, Sam has found that the wider community has high respect for Rotary as an organisation. The motto '**Service above Self**' is still relevant to-day and the work carried out by Clubs in their local areas sustains Rotary's reputation as a valued service organisation. This opens doors providing opportunity for fundraising, developing partnerships and encouraging more business people to join Rotary. The need to increase awareness of Rotary remains a key objective for Sam and this can be achieved through new members recruited from all sectors of our community who will partner existing Rotarians in the delivery of the many humanitarian projects that Rotary International is involved with worldwide