



District 1175 Newsletter

February 2016



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del Monte some 60 miles NE of Mexico City). Mexico has very strong historical link with the mining areas of Devon and Cornwall resulting from the miners who emigrated from the 1820's.

The English have left an indelible mark in Pachuca and Real del Monte. Today, tourism and the pasty ("paste", they produce more than Cornwall does), are significant contributors to the local economy. We hope to be guests at their International Pasty Festival (eat your heart out Cornwall, they know how to do things!).



But it is not all mines and pastes.

- The Mexico Football museum is in Pachuca and is FIFA's only hall of fame – and recognises that the miners from England brought futbol to Mexico.
- The "Cornish Cemetery" at Real del Monte has about 700 graves, the vast majority of the original travellers or their descendants. Many people with Cornish / English descent. You will meet Rtns Rabling and Ludlow!
- Within a 20-mile radius of RdM is stunning natural scenery and architecture showing the Spanish influence with the later English overprint.
- En route to Pachuca we pass the pyramids at Teotihuacan.



Mechanics of the visit: D1175 participants will arrange their own travel to Mexico City, meeting on a pre-arranged date, probably Monday 3rd October. Then we will be hosted and entertained by our Mexican Rotary friends through to about Tuesday 11th. Transport between overnight stops will probably be by minibus arranged by our hosts. Departure from Mexico will be up to you. You may choose to stay on in Mexico, extend your stay with new friends or return via the USA as did some of the 2013 participants. All travel and accommodation costs from Mexico City and return are likely to be covered by our hosts. During the first half of 2017 a team of Mexican Rotarians will visit D1175 and the RFE team will be responsible for hosting them.

As stated above, this information is circulated to all Clubs to establish likely interest in the Rotary Friendship Exchange. D1175's team will, in all probability, be a maximum of 14 (i.e. 7 couples). If you are interested or require additional information, please contact the below named. Further information will be circulated as plans develop. Team membership will be on a "First come- first served basis"

Barry Kressinger, District International Chair 2016/7



We are pleased to confirm that Rotary has now reached agreement with the organisers of the Devon Youth Games. These will be called the Devon Rotary Youth Games and will be held on Sunday July 3rd 2016 at Simmonds Park in Okehampton.

Clubs that have indicated a willingness to help sponsor these games will have been contacted direct.

We are putting together various Press Releases that club's can tailor to their own requirements and use to both promote their Club and to attract new members. These will be sent out in the weeks leading up to the Games. This is a great opportunity to support and shout about Rotary!

Thank you for your support

Regards

Julian Pratt, The Rotary Club of Crediton

The Greenpower Challenge

After 6 months of design development and testing the Bideford College Technology department unveiled their prototype Rotary Rocket race car before an enthusiastic audience of Rotary members at Bideford College on Wed 16th December. Based on their experience of competing in the Greenpower Trust's electric race car competition over the last three years, Bideford College have researched and developed a low cost "starter Kit" that will be made available for less than £1000 and enable any school or college to build a car for entry in the annual Greenpower electric car race challenge.

The partnership between Bideford Bridge Rotary Club and Bideford College provides the College with financial support and mentoring for the next 2 years as the Rotary Rocket race car is built and raced up and down the country by Bideford students. All of the race car design and build has been done in the College with upwards of 25 students aged between 11 and 16yrs involved. Don Carter, Bideford Bridge Rotary Club's Youth Service Committee Chairman, sees the project going from strength to strength, "The car will race for the first time in Newquay on the 14th May 2016 and then on to Rockingham, Merrifield, Castle Coombe and then back to Rockingham in October for the season's final race".

Commented Don Carter "We are in contact with other Rotary Clubs who will hopefully contact schools and colleges in their own area creating a partnership to develop, build and race their own Rotary Rocket. This is a very exciting project that will show how Rotary can work with a local College and prove that the sciences can be fun. I hope that more Rotary Clubs will join us and we will see the project active throughout North Devon"

Greenpower race day is great fun with 3 drivers, a 4 student backup team and plenty of parental support. Hats off to the Technology Department at Bideford College, without their commitment there wouldn't be a project. The out of work hours, particularly the Wednesday evening club makes it all happen, well done to them.

Greenpower is a charitable trust set up by the Institute of Engineering and Technology to advance the education of young people in science, technology and engineering. Greenpower have recently awarded Bideford College Technology Department the Centre of Excellence status. The College are happy to provide support to any college or school that wants to join the Greenpower challenge and needs some help.

The car will be shown at the District Conference in Torquay.

Exmoor Challenge 2016

The Exmoor Challenge will take place on Sunday, 10th April 2016. Rotarians, their families, and friends from Rotary Districts 1175 and 1200 earn points for their District by completing either a 5 or 10 mile walk. The route will be starting from Morebath, and passing through the beautiful around Haddon Hill. The District with the most points will win the Challenge Shield and keeps it for a year. Walkers over 18 pay an entry fee of £7. Walkers under 18 enter free, but an adult must accompany them. Dogs are welcome, but owners must keep them under control as the Challenge is held in the lambing season. PROPER WALKING SHOES/BOOTS IS ADVISED

The Challenge raises money for The Children's Hospice South West and other local charities by sponsorship and from the entry fees.

Information and Sponsorship forms will be available from the Exmoor Rotary web site.

Derek Webster - Rotary Club of Exmoor

Exmouth Flood Appeal Update

The Rotary Club of Hebden Bridge has presented a cheque for £15,000 at the Mytholmroyd Community & Leisure Centre to aid the flood relief work. This sum will be doubled by matching grants.

Shackleton's 'Endurance Expedition'

A highly successful talk by Geoff Selley entitled 'The Greatest Survival Story Ever Told' took place on Friday evening at Penwith College. This 'Shackleton Experience' was organised by the Rotary Club of Penzance for the benefit locally of the National Coastwatch Institution.



Dr Leonard Hussey OBE, MRCS, LRCP was a meteorologist and medical doctor on Ernest Shackleton's ill-fated 1914 – 1917 Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition. Hussey joined the expedition's Weddell Sea party as a meteorologist and kept a leather-bound diary of the entire expedition. On his return, Hussey toured Britain giving lectures and later donated his notes and lantern slides to Ralph Gullet who in turn donated them to Geoff Selley. (see photo)

Geoff, a retired Metropolitan Police Officer has been presenting this lecture for over 20 years now and in doing so has enabled considerable sums of money to be raised for charity.

In the interval, the audience moved into the refectory to receive refreshments and a glass of wine or fruit juice. A collection of Antarctic Expedition artefacts and a very fine 'Magic Lantern' projector was on display along with a broad selection of books on the subject.

Having earlier welcomed the audience and introduced the speaker, Rotary Club President Jon Symons gave a short vote of thanks to Geoff

for a fascinating lecture and for delivering the talk so widely for the benefit of so many good causes over a 20year period.

Over 150 people filled the lecture theatre in the Zennor Building at Penwith College, the event had sold out more than ten days earlier.

Provisional agreement has already been reached with Geoff Selley for him to return to Penzance at the end of the year to provide a repeat lecture for those that were unable to secure tickets this time.

Penzance Rotary Shop

This magnificent all metal pedal car was kindly donated to the Rotary Shop and took pride of place in the shop window when the shop reopened on Tuesday 5 January after the Christmas holidays. Rtns John Underhill and Di Hickman were on counter duty the following morning and early on a customer asked to see it. He was not sure about the purchase but a second customer came in and said he would have it if the first one did not buy it. It nearly came to an auction but the first customer did buy it and took it home to what we all hope was a delighted young person.

Which just shows that quality goods donated to the Rotary Shop (with a Gift Aid Declaration if appropriate), help to raise funds to support local community groups.



Sky Jump

The man below the Hell's Angel is our own Davey Jeffery, soaring through the air. Not content with the progress of fund-raising for the Cove Cancer Support Centre at Treliske, Davey called for his private plane and jumped out at 10,000 feet over north Cornwall, raising well over £1,100 in the process. Top man!



Topsham Fund Raiser

The Rotary Club of Exeter Enterprise promoted a sell out Steve Knightley concert in Topsham on Saturday evening (20/02/16) to raise funds for Estuary League of Friends' new Community Hub. Topsham's own nationally acclaimed contemporary folk singer/songwriter was in chart topping form with his "**All at Sea**" theme. Almost 200 people packed into Matthews Hall, in Topsham, for the event. Steve had the audience in the palm of his hand from the beginning and used them as a giant and tuneful chorus on some of his best known numbers. The concert was part of his marine themed nationwide "All at Sea" tour but is the only event, on this tour, in his home town of Topsham.

The evening raised over £1250 for Estuary League of Friends, towards the Community hub which they plan to build on the Topsham Library site. The Rotary Club of Exeter Enterprise wants to thank Steve for his generous support for this event.

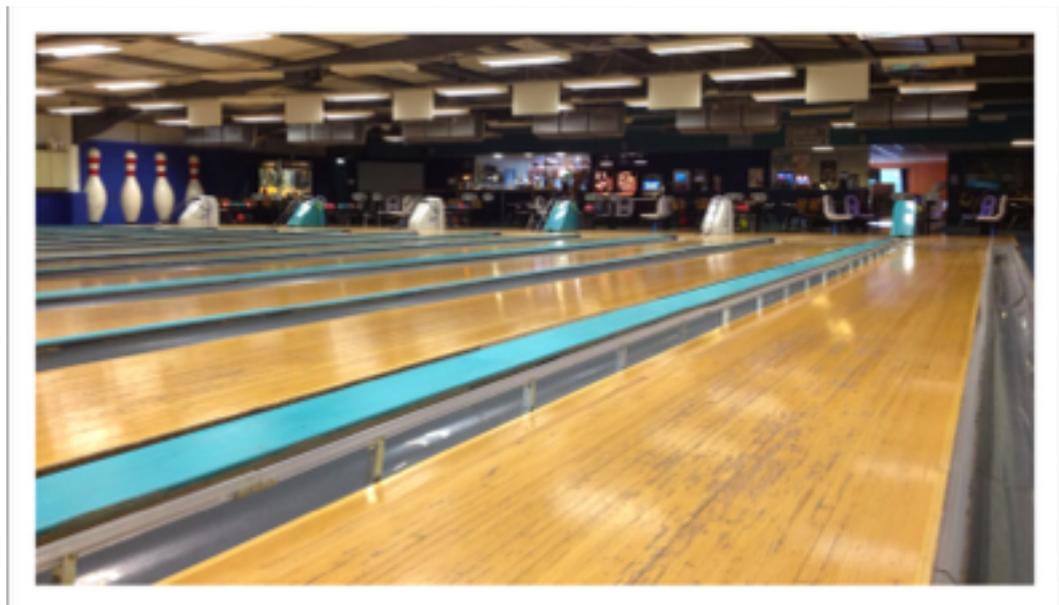
Young Carers Support

We often hear about the many young people who care for their siblings and/or parents, but what is not often explained is the extent of the impact of this responsibility on their lives. The ability to do 'normal' things, such as learning to drive, play a musical instrument, learn to dance are often denied these young carers to their detriment, both emotionally and education-ally which can have a negative impact on their adult lives.

For these reasons the Rotary Club of Falmouth has raised a significant sum of money to provide young carers with the financial assistance to be involved in these 'normal' activities. The requests from the young carers are forwarded by Kernow Young Carers to Rotary who then pay the provider.

To date, in excess of £1,200 has been distributed and more requests will be received in 2016.

Rotary grants go some way to giving these young people a taste of 'normal' life despite their caring responsibilities.



Ocean Bowl - Location for Young Carers Breaks

St Michael's Way Walk

The Rotary club of Mounts Bay presented a cheque to The League of Friends of West Cornwall Hospital for £1,604 this being part of the sponsorship received by participants on the 2015 St Michaels Way Walk. This is the second year that the League of Friends has benefited from this event and the proceeds will be used in a project to equip the new Out-Patients Department.

This was the thirteenth year that the walk has been organised by the Rotary Club and in that time over £100,000 has been raised for local, national and international good causes.

Young Musician

The District Final of the Rotary Young Musician competition and to those present in the audience, an afternoon of musical enjoyment was had by all. Four vocalists fought it out to be named the districts' best young vocalist and four instrumentalists likewise took part in a tough competition.

Judges Simon Ible, the Director of Music of Peninsula Arts, the public arts and cultural organisation of Plymouth University, David Hendry and former member of HM Royal Marine Band, and Dr Tim Watson had the tough task of choosing a winner and runner up in each category who will now go on to represent the district at the Regional Finals in Blandford.

Milly Atkinson, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Plympton was the winner of the vocalist category, singing: Apres un reve - Faure, Music for a while - Purcell, Se to M'ami - Pergolese

She will be joined in the Regional final by Bromley Hurn. Bromley, sponsored by the Rotary Club of St Austell performed Quando Men Vo – La Boheme by Puccini, If I loved you – Carousel by Rogers and Hammerstein Now sleeps the crimson petal - Roger Quilter

The Instrumental category, saw a reversal of fortune for the sponsoring clubs of the vocalist category winners with cellist Cameron Hughes, sponsored by the Rotary Club of St Austell coming out on top. Cameron performed: Cello suite No. 1 Prelude – Bach, Cello Sonata 2nd Movement – Prokofiev

Cameron will be joined in Blandford by Plympton Rotary's sponsored entrant, Lewis Allen-Waldron. Lewis plays the clarinet and performed: A short tribute to Mr Artie Shaw - Geoffrey Bush, Slipped Disc – Benny Goodman Czardas – Vittorio Monti.

The musicianship of all the other participants was also very high with the vocalists, Rebecca Jackson (Rotary Club of Exmouth & District) and Rose Mason (Rotary Club of Torrington), singing confidently with good expression and tonal quality. Rosie Martin (rotary Club of Otter Valley) on her flute and Rees Parkhouse (Rotary Club of Torrington) on drums were the youngest competitors but both showed tremendous potential communicating their music well to an appreciative audience

Thanks must go to the judges for giving their time, the various Rotarians who helped organise the event and ensure it's smooth running, the University of Plymouth for allowing the use of the Sherwell centre, the sponsoring Rotary clubs and of course the youngsters who took part who we are sure will have great futures in the performing arts.

[Darren Hands, Plympton Rotary Club](#)

Ed's Notes

A but one item this month have been taken from various club newsletters. Sometimes this causes a problem in copying a photograph or identifying those involved. Without input from our clubs this newsletter will be rather lacking in content or interest.

Please remember to include the following email address in any press releases, news@rotarysw.info that you issues.