



District 1175 Newsletter

July 2016



DG Writes

Contents in this edition	Page
DG Writes	1
District Service Awards	2
Pressure Taken in Newton Abbot	2/3
Zimbili Borehole	3
£500 for Penlee RNLB	3
Launceston Award	3/4
School Twenty/20 Cricket	4
£6,000 for Jeremiah's Journey	5
To Barcelona in 6 Days	5
RYLA Graduate Success	6
Ed's Notes	

Frank Carson, wood and trees

Here we are at the beginning of a Rotary year that could see the last case of polio. When I was DG in 2013 we had 416 cases, so far this calendar year we have seen only 17.

This year is the centenary of Our Rotary Foundation. Over those 100 years and \$3 billion in grants, Rotarians and Foundation have saved lives, changed lives and given hope. That's what Rotary does!

Across this District we have new Presidents, new committees, new district officers and a new annual Rotary Theme: "Rotary Serving Humanity". When I presented this to



the incoming Presidents, one commented: "That's stating the obvious"! But often we cannot see the obvious. An exercise that I asked the President Elects to do during their training was to list everything their club does. Try it! It's not easy. We all take for granted what we do and forget some aspects of our club's service! But, those who benefit from what we do will not forget.

We are told "A Club represents a cross-section of businesses, professionals and people working in their community". We don't now! And how much longer will we be serving humanity?

In District 1175 we have about 2,500 Rotarians across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The average age is 69 (when I reported this to the Presidents Elect it was 68: time marches on, how much longer can we continue to do what we do?). 72% of us are older than the retirement age of 65. Can we still say we represent our business communities? We have 650 Rotarians aged between 70 and 75 (26% of our members) and 325 aged 75 to 80. Is it reasonable to assume that only half of our 70 to 75yo Rotarians will be in Rotary in 5 years?

The membership problem is staring us in the face, but we can't see the wood for the trees. How much longer can we continue to do what we do? Is your club in danger of saying "Rotary Served Humanity"?

On the upside! Rotary is really appealing and sellable, the people I talk to are really interested in what we do. But it's all down to telling the right story.

Frank Carson said "it's the way I tell 'em!". It's clear we are not convincing younger people to join. We need to change the way we tell our stories; our messages need to be personal, emotive and appropriate to the people we are talking to. For example messages to the business community should be different from those to schools, young people and parents. Your club will be hearing regularly from District on what we are doing to help you.

We need to know the big story: I know that last year the average raised per Rotarian in D1175 was about £620; that you gave \$58 per member to Foundation and \$25 to polio. But these are not compelling, they don't tell the Rotary story; they don't "sell" Rotary!

We need to know what you do. Every Rotary story has a happy ending, please share yours by emailing news@rotarysw.info. Over the next few months Carol and I look forward to meeting you all. Have a great year and don't forget the **fundamental** that Rotary Serves Humanity.

Stephen Lay (lay@mineit.co.uk, 01726 70055)

District Service Awards

There were a number of service awards presented at the District Handover on Sunday. These were:-

Bruce Pell PHF – Dawlish Water: For exceptional work in presenting and promoting the Sand-dams project across District 1175 and beyond.

Brian Hodge – Dawlish Water: For exceptional work in presenting and promoting the Sand-dams project across District 1175 and beyond.

Brenda Samuels – Saltash: For an exceptional contribution to all aspects of Club activities.

Ann Doody – Ilfracombe: For exceptional service to Rotary and the local community.

Basil Pidgeon BEM – Bideford: For service to Youth and Community in Bideford and Torridge District.

Paul Floyd – Otter Valley: For supporting the Door of Hope Mission for abandoned, abused and orphaned children in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mike Huxtable – Otter valley: Commendation for co-ordinating the District Skittles Challenge with such aplomb and enthusiasm.

Peter Berry – Falmouth: Stalwart and organiser for many years of the Rotary Youth Leader Awards, showing compassion and enthusiasm where necessary to get the best out of the awardees.

John Lloyd – Hayle: Youth Speaks supreme organiser for many years who successfully brought two Districts together during 2015/16.

Del James – Mounts Bay: Under whose guidance RotaKids has taken off in 1175. Her care and consideration towards school staff, parents and pupils ensures RotaKids will become a part of the school curriculum.

Clare Thomas – Plympton: Has taken the Young Musician competition to heart, fostering much empathy with parents, teachers and performers unfolding extreme talent with such young people in prestigious venues.

John Green – Saltram: Over many years has served our Rotary Youth Leadership Awards in various capacities. Always willing the young people to achieve more physically and within the hidden depths of moral and mental logic.

The Rotary Club of Okehampton: In appreciation for all the years of hard endeavour performed by members of the Club in steering Junior Youth Leadership Awards in becoming such a successful event for young people in all aspects of their development.

Alvine Holmes – Redruth: A willing helper wherever and whatever the event especially with young people. Shows considerable understanding and guidance to get the best out of young people and in doing so endures their support and progress for the future.

Ivan Godfrey – Tiverton: In appreciation of all the effort and guidance given in ensuring Tiverton High School Interact achieved recognisable status not only within their school but through the national educational system with recognition by Ofsted.

Pressure Taken in Newton Abbot

Following on from last year's successful Know Your Blood Pressure, the Rotary Club of Newton Abbot recently staged the event again in the centre of the town. 117 Residents and Visitors took advantage of the free offer of a Blood Pressure test, by Rotary in partnership with the Stroke Association. Diane Opoku of the Stroke Association said "It was a very successful day in raising awareness of a stroke and hopefully helping some people take more care of themselves and get their BP checked regularly"

President Elect Martin Smith delighted with the response as well as being a little alarmed he said, "We had 117 people visit our tent from a wide range of ages, 56 were men and 61 were women, 69 required 'no further action' with normal readings, however 27 with borderline to high BP were advised to contact their GP surgery within one month as a routine follow-up appointment."

Most concerning was the 21 who were advised to contact GP surgery within one week as an urgent follow-up appointment may be required with a very high blood pressure reading. He added, "The day was very worthwhile it might



*Newton Abbot Town Crier
undergoing his test*

just be the case that a stroke has been avoided and a life saved."

This was a great example of Rotary action, serving the local community whilst collecting a small amount of money on behalf of the Stroke Association and Rotarians will be topping it up to send a donation to a worthwhile charity in appreciation of their help.

Picture of Town Crier taken by MDA Photographer Steve

Zimbili Borehole



June 2016 was an exciting time for members of the Rotary Club of Exeter Southernhay. It heralded the fruition of all the effort and money that had been directed into a project to give water to the villagers of Zimbili, a small community 40 miles north of Bulawayo in Zimbabwe.

In 2014 Club President Caroline Colin presented the idea to club members with all the emotion of someone who had fled Zimbabwe with her husband Len several years before, leaving all worldly goods behind them but retaining a huge compassion for the people of that once rich but now poor country.

Many of the local villagers were elderly people who had great difficulty in walking the 8k to fetch and carry their daily water. Their village Chief and community leader Mrs Mathuthu made a plea to the local Rotary Club of Bulawayo South and thus Rotary became involved. With the additional help of Alresford Rotary Club from Winchester and a

District Grant to provide funding from The Rotary Foundation a survey was carried out and boreholes were dug. All were dry and more money and determination was needed to fund additional boreholes. Caroline visited the site and assured the villagers that we would not give up. Finally water was struck and a bush pump installed to the great delight of villagers. Tools were also donated and some community members trained in care and maintenance. A worthwhile project of which we are all proud. The cost of the whole project was over £7500.

£500 for Penlee RNLB

The continued support of the volunteers, donors and customers of the Rotary Shop in Penzance resulted in this donation to the Penlee RNLB of £500. The money will help towards the new crew facilities in Newlyn, where presently cramped conditions need to be replaced.

Rotary Club President Jon Symons presents the cheque to RNLB Coxswain Patch Harvey in the company of Rotarians and shop volunteers (L to R Tony Home, Matt Martens, Jon Symons, Des Hosken, Patch Harvey and Sue Home)

The presentation is the latest of many awards made over recent months. The club is grateful for all the support that it receives and which enables the Rotary Club of Penzance in turn to support many local community groups and charities.



Launceston Award

The following article and photograph appeared in the Cornwall & Devon News on 18th May.

Members from Gateway and Monday Clubs from around Cornwall recently attended Launceston Rotary Club's annual Fun Day. All the competitors had a great day and competed with great eagerness and energy in a series of games that were loosely based on 'It's a Knockout'.

The event was held at Launceston College. College students, alongside Lewannick Girl Guides and Launceston Volunteer First Aiders, helped make the event fun for all who took part.

Following this publication the Launceston Club has been granted the IFSR Youth Service Award.



International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians, is a Rotary Fellowship promoting service to Youth through Scouting and Guiding. As IFSR webmaster, I search for reports of Rotary-Scout interaction and send an email of commendation to the Rotary Club involved. Your publicising your club's relationship with Scouting has served as an example for other Rotary looking for ways to promote the Scouting movement.

We know about you, you should know about us. IFSR is composed of over a thousand Rotarians in 45 countries that work to promote Scouting and Guiding through their membership in Rotary. We have a website: <http://ifsr-net.org> and a [Facebook](#) page. Membership in the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians is open to any Rotarian, in any country, who was formerly or is

presently a member or supporter of any (girl or boy) Scout or Guide group.

On our website, we have [certificates](#) that Rotary Clubs can award Scouts and Guides and an [award](#) that Rotary Clubs can award a Scout or Guide unit that has performed community service. The IFSR Community Service Award may be awarded by any Rotary Club to a Scout or Guide unit of their choice they wish to recognise for performing community service. The award may be given annually to any Scout or Guide unit by any Rotary Club. Recipients are selected by the Rotary Club.

This is not a Scouting award nor a Rotary award, but an IFSR award and is intended to permit Rotary Clubs to recognise Community Service performed by local Scout and/or Guide units.

To help Rotary Clubs create and print the award locally, this website has a fillable PDF version of the certificate which is easy to fill out. For more information please visit <http://scouters.us/ifsr/downloads/CommunityServiceAward.pdf>

Cheers, Steve Henning, Co-webmaster IFSR <http://ifsr-net.org>. Hawk Mountain Council, retired, Reading, PA
Kutztown Rotary, secretary, Kutztown, PA

School Twenty/20 Cricket

The Rotary and Devon School Cricket Association Shield under 13 Twenty 20 Competition 2016 was held on a beautiful summers day, June 16th, at Blundell's School, Tiverton. The Final of this year's competition saw Exeter School, South Dartmoor Community College, Plymouth College and Uffculme School each play 2 matches to determine the winning team.



Powerful bowling and accurate batting made for an exciting and entertaining day of talented young men playing Cricket. The winning team, from Uffculme School, were presented with their winning trophies by DG Brian Stoyel.



£6,000 for Jeremiah's Journey

Jeremiah's Journey, the Derriford hospital based charity that supports young people who have lost a close relative, has had its funds boosted by a donation of £6,000 from the Rotary Club of Plymouth. Jeremiah's Journey was President Mike Uglow's chosen charity during his year in office. Various events were held including, a Sea Shanty evening, abseiling and a golf day.

Mike said "I'm delighted to be able to make this donation to Jeremiah's Journey on behalf of our club. The charity gives much needed support to young people in the Plymouth area when someone close to them in their family has passed away. Whilst I was associated with Hele's School we linked the family with the charity when one of our students lost a loved one. The professional & volunteer staff at Jeremiah's Journey were a huge support to those young people, sometimes over an extended period of time."

Mike went on to say that it was a pleasure & an unexpected bonus for him to work alongside Sarah & her colleague, Sherelle Puertas, from Jeremiah's Journey as both of them had been students at Hele's School during the time that he was the School Principal.

Sarah Nuttall-Worsley commented that "she was in shock" at the fantastic amount that the Club had raised. Sarah assured the club members that the money would be well spent as the number of young people requiring their help was continuing to rise. Dealing with their grief is a challenge but one well worth the investment of time & money.



Mike Uglow, President of Plympton Rotary Club presents the cheque to Sarah Nuttall-Worsley of Jeremiah's Journey with Jeremiah the Bear

To Barcelona in 6 Days



Greg Layzell, President of Rotary Club of Otter Valley and his colleague Paul Swingler seen here revving up their scooters for an epic journey from Ottery St Mary to Barcelona. Greg and Paul aim to collect as much money as possible for the charity Headway, Devon which helps those who have suffered from brain injury and require help. There are too many head injuries to motorcyclists, cyclists and scooter riders and Headway does a fantastic job offering support for those affected by head injuries.

The journey starts 2nd September from Ottery St Mary and arrives in Barcelona 6 days later via Roscoff, St Nazaire, La Rochelle, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Font Romeu and finally Barcelona on 8th September. Whilst this is initially a Rotary Club effort, any scooter riders who would like to join in are most welcome to join Greg and Paul. Anyone in France is also welcome to join in for either the whole journey or for a section of

it. The riders will be staying in camp sites and hope to average about 150 miles each day. The scooters are almost as old as the riders.

Everyone, especially all Rotary Clubs are invited to participate in this unusual event by helping to raise funds for the charity. All proceeds will go through the Rotary Club giving webpage. Anyone wishing to follow the trip can do so via Facebook address rotary club of otter valley. Ottery St Mary is famed for its poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge and for its centuries old tar barrel night. Now it can celebrate its intrepid pioneers Greg and Paul who are risking all travelling over the Pyrenees on ancient scooters!

RYLA Graduate Success

Matt Fulford, a graduate from last year's RYLA course has won Apprentice of the Year in Business. Matt from Bodmin works for the Eden Project. During his time at Eden Project, he has injected positive new ideas, while being committed to his study and fitting in a week long residential leadership programme in Dartmoor. "Matt is completely trustworthy and isn't someone who will settle for just 'doing his job' – he wants to learn, take on more responsibility and help his colleagues. Since he joined there has been a greater team spirit within the team and this isn't a coincidence – he has new ideas, energy and a positive can-do attitude that is infectious. He is genuinely liked by everyone across the board at Eden, which is a real bonus in a HR team! Simply put, we wouldn't cope without Matt now and we feel he deserves to be recognised for this!" said Jed Langdon, Learning & Development Specialist at Eden Project.



MATT FULFORD (EDEN PROJECT) WINNER OF APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR IN BUSINESS WITH SPONSOR BETH GARVIN, FROM CORMAC.

Ed's Notes

Do not be concerned that you have missed June edition of this newsletter. DG Stephen has asked that it appears at the beginning of the month. So we have jumped to the start of July.

If you have photographs can you please send them as a separate attachment as jpegs. Occasionally I receive articles with imbedded photos which prove extremely difficult to extract and therefore they are likely not to be used.

Please remember to send articles, press releases to, news@rotarysw.info

Thanks to those who have provided articles for without them it would be a rather brief newsletter.