



NEW MILTON ROTARY



No.19376

District 1110

www.newmiltonrotary.org

Editor John Witt

MONTHLY BULLETIN

2016-2017

NOVEMBER 2016

President's Thoughts

Hi Everyone

Well this year is thundering towards its end – time is rushing by! November started with a bang as some very fortunate Rotarians helped New Milton Round Table with their firework display – this was a spectacular event and I'm looking forward to helping them again next year.

Our Quiz Night was very well supported and there were some good head scratching questions posed by our Quiz Master Ian and thanks go to him and to Pauline and John for marking and scoring. I would like to thank all the ladies who helped prepare the ploughmans and to Chris and his wife for their efforts behind the bar.

I was very honoured to represent the Club by laying a wreath on Remembrance Sunday. Thanks go to Mary for the drinks and nibbles party she held at her home after the service and before some of us went to Barton Golf Club for lunch. On another note it was good to see so many of us supporting British Legion with their collections although one or two of us had to put up with some cold and wet Autumnal weather.

Special thanks go to Jane, Margaret and John Willson for their very hard work in organising the shoe boxes. This has been a bumper year with 567 shoe boxes sent out. All these boxes had to be collected, checked, sorted and packed into packing cases. Thanks also go to Everton Garage for their help and support.

As is usual, November is a very busy month for us and December is equally busy with the run up to Christmas. I'm looking forward to the Senior Citizens Party and the opportunity to have a few delicious sausage rolls and mince pies (not forgetting all the sandwiches and cakes as well!) which are not at all good for the waistline! The Party is swiftly followed the next day by the Christmas Fair where we have a slot for our gazebo and will be serving mulled wine and mince pies also chatting to people about Rotary. We will have a game for the children as well. Preparations are well in hand for the Carol Service, please let me know if you are coming and if you are going to South Lawn for the lunch.

Debbie

District Conference 2017, Cardiff

The mid-October Conference was well attended by the Club, and our esteemed Secretary did a fantastic job on room allocations in the hotel with our important presence recognised by having large, spacious rooms! I believe he, himself, resided in even grander splendour, but this was required to alleviate the great stress of the occasion (or so I believe!).

The Friday afternoon session was opened by District Governor Chris Slocock and we were welcomed to the city by the Lord Mayor, Monica Walsh. There were then various presentations on Rotary-supported Charities, interspersed by talks from the RI President's Representative, Julia Phelps, and a bit on Business and the Community from the DG.

The evening entertainment was an ABBA concert, which proved to be a great success. By the second half there was dancing in the aisles and lots of waving arms! Congratulations have to go to the staying power (and expertise) of the dancers, well represented by NM Rotarians and partners. Sore feet and aching muscles the following day??

The speakers on Saturday included a range of supported Charities, interspersed with short videos global warming, end polio, and the RI president, before Ann Widdicombe came on and gave a wide ranging and open talk on politics, dancing, and her own career since leaving Parliament. No notes in sight and very amusing.

Before the Gala Dinner that evening our group studiously ignored the hotel's directive on alcohol, and met for a pre-dinner tippie in Mary's room. During dinner there was the chance to talk with other Rotarians, and interestingly, Julia Phelps and her husband made a point of getting around the tables. The entertainment was the "Mersey Legends", (who perhaps should have remained legendary!), but the dance floor was a busy place and enjoyed by all.

For those that could make it in the morning, the session opened with the Caerphilly Male Voice Choir who were in great voice. This was followed by talks from Rotaract and Inner Wheel. After the break, the Welsh wonder woman gave a talk on driving yourself beyond endurance, and the morning presentations concluded with a humorous monologue from a farmer's daughter who gave a very funny take on life and love on a hill farm.

Overall, a good mix of presentations, and a great opportunity for socialising and fun.

Next year the Conference will be held at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton, with Mike Sanders the DG for that year.

Mary Pye

REMEMBRANCE 2016



Held at the New Milton War Memorial, wreaths were laid after a parade and later a Service was held in the Memorial Hall. New Milton Rotary had a good presence at both. Mary kindly lent her house for a pre dinner drink and Lunch was held at Barton Golf Club.

[John Witt](#)

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CHARITY QUIZ 2016



On Saturday 12 November we held our annual Charity Quiz at a newly decorated Bashley Village Hall. We had 14 teams consisting of local associations including other Rotary Clubs; The Past Rotarians and Associates; Royal British Legion; New Milton Probus ; local business and Friends of Rotarians. In all there were 109 people. In addition we had Ian Legge as quizmaster, John and Pauline Morgan as adjudicators and Chris Hobby and wife behind the Bar. The Ladies organised the Ploughmans Supper. The winners by a short head were the Past Rotarians.

Taking in account the expenses of food etc and with a very good raffle [by Mary Pye] and good Bar profit we made a total of some £1300 for Rotary Charities.



LESS WE FORGET

POPPY APPEAL 2016



The New Milton Poppy Appeal raised a record breaking £ 20200.

Thanks to all those people who, each year, give their time to stand in sometimes inclement weather, to remind the public of the sacrifice men and women gave over the last one hundred years

In all the volunteers gave a total of 170 hours this year over a two week period outside

Tesco Lidl Morrisons Boots

[John Witt](#)

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Ballard Practice Interviews

Mike Clifford has written to thank the team of volunteers who conducted the practice interviews at Ballard School between Wed 16th and Fri 18th November. Over 60 students were prepared for the "ordeal" and all acquitted themselves well, as expected though some better than others. Nevertheless, all are grateful that the team of volunteers were prepared to give up their time to help and are particularly appreciative of the constructive advice and criticism given.

I would like to endorse the thanks of Mike and his students to the team of willing volunteers: Jean Bell, Chris Buckley, Bill Clarke, Robin Ede, Ian Legge, President Debbie, Dave Nottage, Adrian Stopps and 2 retired Rotarians Stu Jones and Seamus Loftus.

Fireworks at Fawcett's Field

During the late afternoon on Saturday 29th October there was a hive of activity on Fawcett's Field, a number of people in Hi-Vis jackets were scuttling around moving trailers, putting up marquees, erecting barriers and laying down tapes to rope off an area some distance from a huge mass of wood and other combustible materials. Meanwhile, a couple of men in bunny suits were hammering short stakes into the ground on the north side of the field and a fairground operator was setting up a couple of roundabout type rides. Dusk started to fall and the frantic team were joined by some calmer people also wearing Hi-Vis jackets. The team was complete – it was the New Milton Round Table Annual Bonfire and Firework Display.

Just before 6pm the briefing was short and to the point – no sparklers, don't let people over the barriers, through the hedges or over the fences and everyone to keep away from the firework ignition area and most importantly – enjoy the show. Debbie, Dave and Adrian took the eastern boundary, Highcliffe Rotary's 2 ex-Round Tablers took the northern perimeter and John and Pauline teamed up with a Lion called Keith to marshal the western environs. We moved to our positions by 6pm as the gates were opened. At first, it was very quiet, very few people coming to enjoy the small funfair and the burger and drinks stall. The music blared out with hits from yesteryear to get everyone in the mood for enjoying the evening especially as there was very little wind and it wasn't cold, a few clouds scudding across the gradually darkening sky. The crowd was slowly getting larger and there was the animated chatter from the excited youngsters eagerly awaiting the blast-off at that huge bonfire to consume those effigies of Guy Fawkes sitting precariously on the pile of pallets and other burnable material. The sky was quite dark and the MC started the countdown at 7pm and then with slowly moving flames the bonfire progressively burst into a huge conflagration and soon devoured those effigies. The flames leapt into the sky a truly towering inferno; there was a slight south-easterly breeze that fanned the flames ever stronger and higher. The crowd oohed, aahed and cheered as the burning guys toppled into the hungrily licking flames that surrounded the base of the bonfire. Soon it was 8pm and yet another countdown and then with a mighty whoosh a white light soared vertically from the field and as it reached its flight apex it suddenly exploded in a flash of silver light and then there was a cascade of silver shards spreading across the night sky. This was followed by a continuous wave of brightly coloured missiles ascended into the clear sky. Bangs and whistles accompanied the brightly coloured lights whizzing across the night sky as the mortars and other explosive barrages entertained the exhilarated crowd of young (and not so young) viewers of this display of rainbow colours cascading above Fawcett's Field. Sadly all too soon the show came to an end and the multitude started to drift off towards their cars to make their way home.

A great evening, lots of fun for all those attending and hopefully the event made a goodly sum of money so that New Milton Round Table can continue with their good works.



John Morgan

SHOEBOXES 2016



Every year New Milton Rotary contribute and collect Shoeboxes for overseas children who would not receive presents and the shoebox may be their only present at Christmas. They are going to Albania, Montenegro, Moldavia and Romania

Each shoebox received has to be checked as certain items cannot be packed and are also topped up as necessary. This time consuming work was carried out by Rotarian Jane Lawley helped by Margaret Willson. The premises at Everton Garage was the collecting and checking point and John Willson helped pack the showboxes into 50 large boxes and he drove them to the main distribution point just out side Andover. Jane in particular worked very long hours in order to do the work on time.

In a very busy year 567 shoeboxes in 50 boxes have been delivered to Andover. Among others contributors included New Milton Junior School: Ballard School: Christchurch School: Mudeford Church : and many other local contributors.

New Milton Rotary wishes to thank John and Margaret Willson and Everton Garage for their generous help

We hope to give pleasure to disadvantage children many receiving a Shoebox as their only Christmas present.

[John Witt](#)

Guides Flame Camp – Foxlease Lyndhurst July 2016

On the evening of Wednesday 23rd November President Debbie, Keith and I attended a meeting of the Milford-on-Sea Guide Unit to hear about their exploits and experiences at the Flame Camp held at Foxlease, Lyndhurst in July 2016.

This Camp is held every 4 years and draws Guides from all over the world – Guides are aged between 10 and 14 years of age. Eight girls from the Milford-on-Sea Unit attended the camp together with about 1000 other Guides and took part in a wide range of events, some being new, some being challenges they had already undertaken and some they were unlikely to have undertaken in the normal course of events – there was no pressure to undertake all of the activities. The cost of attending was mainly met by the girls undertaking a series of fund-raising activities, including: supermarket bag packing; cake sales; and, helping at a marathon water station. The club as you know made a donation of £275 which was the cost for 1 attendee at the week. As the Camp is conducted under canvas the girls had a weekend practice camp so that they could come to terms with erecting and striking camp. There were a number of themes for the activities enjoyed by the girls:

Sporting: This included climbing, snowboarding, skiing, cycling, netball and basketball. A visit to the Calshot Activity Centre was made for the more adventurous sports. They also visited the New Forest Water Park and enjoyed water borne activities.

Crafts: Crafts included nail art, sock art, beading, bag making, stamping, card making and embroidery.

Village Fete: The village fete had a produce show, an ice-cream parlour, a sweet shop, stalls and games, a bouncy castle, a photo booth, an opportunity to try circus skills, henna tattooing and they were visited by local Brownie packs.

Camp Activities: They tried drumming (where some people were actually seen to fall asleep), crate stacking, low ropes, monkey climb, big swing, and zip wire. They learnt survival techniques, they made shelters, they slept outside, and they sang songs around a camp fire. There was an exercise called the escape room and there was a Sherlock Lab, both self-explanatory. They were all fed in a huge tent canteen known as the Savoy. Their tents were inspected daily and they undertook the Camp Challenge, a bit like a treasure hunt. One of the many highlights was a Bake-Off, where considerable sympathy was extended to the judges.

Fun Activities: It wasn't all hard work there was fun too: they took part in a talent show, they went to a Glo party, there was a roller disco, and they attended a barn dance and drank mocktails. There was an opening ceremony where the girls met new friends and a closing ceremony where they said farewell to their newly found friends from Trinidad, Northern Ireland and other parts of the United Kingdom. They all found it an exciting week, so packed with activities that they were all very tired at the end of the adventure as were the supervising Guiders and the volunteers who helped to make such a success of the Camp. It was clear from the noise level in the Guide hut that those that had attended had really enjoyed the week and in some cases had overcome fears, had learnt to get on with people they hadn't met before and all had gained in confidence. Their enthusiasm was passed on to younger members of the unit who were clearly looking forward to their opportunity to attend a Flame Week in 2020.

John Morgan

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October 27, 2016

Please use World Toilet Day to promote the importance of global sanitation and hygiene to your club or district.

Why?

Water and Sanitation - WASRAG's raison d'etre. In our early years the focus was often on water. Now however we've come to realize that sanitation is just as important, maybe even more so.

Such a basic human need - everyone visits the toilet several times a day. Yet, the impact of inadequate (or no) sanitation, especially on women, is devastating. One in three women worldwide risk shame, disease, harassment and even attack because they have nowhere safe to go to the toilet. Some 526 million women have no choice but to go to the toilet in the open. Women and girls living without any toilets spend approximately 97 billion hours each year "finding a place to go".



This has to be an irresistible challenge for Rotarians! The very first Rotary public service project instituted in Chicago in 1907 was the construction of public toilets (often coyly referred to as "comfort stations" in those days!).

Help spread the word! There are some great resources to help you at [World Toilet Day](http://WorldToiletDay.org). Is your club interested in getting involved in a sanitation project? Go to www.wasrag.org and click on "projects". There are several WinS (WASH in Schools) projects listed that are in critical need of support.

You will be hearing a lot more about sanitation and hygiene in upcoming newsletters. Please stay tuned!

THE WASRAG TEAM

