



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

www.rotaryclubofromseytest.org

E- Newsletter Number 3 October 2013

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*The aim of these quarterly Newsletters is to keep people and organisations informed about our club. It tells them what we have done recently, alerts them to what we are planning and, where appropriate, highlights opportunities to become involved in our activities. We would welcome **feedback** from readers. John Gould - Editor*

Busy summer - Busy autumn

Editorial

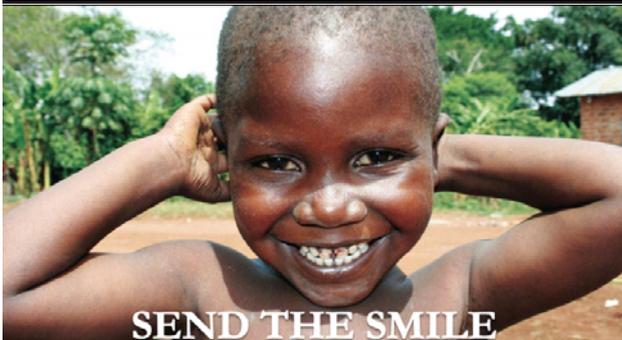
Though we have many activities throughout the year the summer/autumn period seems to be one of the busiest and this is borne out by the articles that follow.

They will speak for themselves but I would like to use this front page to introduce a new activity in our Club - Friends and Business Partners. The activities carried out by our 50 or so members are enhanced by considerable support from businesses and individuals who are partners in what the Club seeks to do. The new scheme seeks both to give formal recognition to our present helpers and to expand the list of local companies that wish to be linked to our activities. In this newsletter we give examples how these linkages work already. On the evening of Wednesday November 27th a meeting in the Town Hall will be a chance for local businesses to learn more about what we do and to explore ways in which they might become partners with us. If you think you might like to work with us please contact business@rotaryclubofromseytest.org for further information.



Our largest effort each year is devoted to 'Walk the Test Way' - a charity walk along the Test Way long distance footpath that takes almost a full year to organise. The day itself starts at 6am when the first walkers who will attempt the full marathon register in Romsey's Crosfield Hall. The walk ends in the Memorial Park when the last entrants return to receive their medals. Businesses and organisations who have helped us this year have included [Wheeler's Travel](#) (transport), [Pebble Graphics](#) (brochure design), [Something Interesting](#) (web design), [Bettavend](#) (water and chocolate bars), [Asante](#) (publicity outlet). The result of all that effort and collaboration is expected to be between £40,000 and 50,000 raised in one day for hundreds of charities. This is just one example of how we can act as a catalyst to link businesses to the local community to the benefit of all.

£3 will provide the essential dental care every child needs to bring a smile to their community



SEND THE SMILE

**Text SMILE to 70020 and donate £3 now.
Please ask your friends and support @sendthesmile**

Texts charged at £3 plus one standard network rate text.

Our Club is part of the worldwide network of Rotary Clubs that are divided into Districts. Ours is in District 1110 that covers Hampshire and the IoW, the Channel Islands and parts of Wiltshire and Dorset. Earlier this month ten of us attended the Annual District Conference in Plymouth where one of our members, Sandy Dunn, made a presentation about the work of [Dentaid](#). This is a local charity that promotes oral health throughout the world. One aspect of this work is the Rotary [Dentaid](#) Box (a simple dental surgery in a wheelie bin). It is very easy to support [Dentaid](#). You can do it from your phone. Just text SMILE to 70020 and you will donate £3.

Keith Cameron, President
John Gould, Editor

Walk the Test Way 2013

On Sunday October 6th the sun shone, the weather was mild and dry and over 600 walkers did their bit to raise money for their chosen charities. This was the event's 10th year. It has grown from modest beginnings (only 70 walkers the first year) to a very successful annual event that is now part of the Romsey calendar and has raised almost £400, 000, a portion of which funds our Club's charitable activities during the year. The pictures below tell their own story of the day. What they do not show is the personal stories behind each walker and their chosen charity, nor do they show the enormous effort throughout the year in planning the route, (marshalled and signposted along the whole 26 miles), registering the walkers, collecting the money (and gift aid) and transferring it to the appropriate charities.



Registering - Coffee and bacon roll courtesy of the Venture Scouts - Water and Twix from Bettavend



Room for people and dogs on the bus



Dress however you like



Plenty of tea



Some of the 600 finishers who received their medals from Lady Brabourne, President Keith and Inner Wheel Chair, Christine Burgess. They included a 79-year-old in training for an even longer walk and the fish that follows all the walkers and ensures that no-one is lost.



We look forward to seeing you on October 12th 2014, as a walker for your favourite charity or as a helper (personally or as one of our Business Partners).

Working with young people

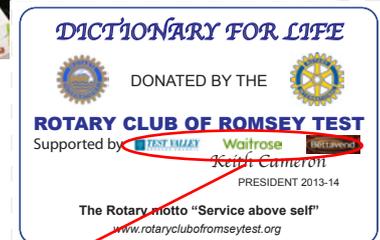
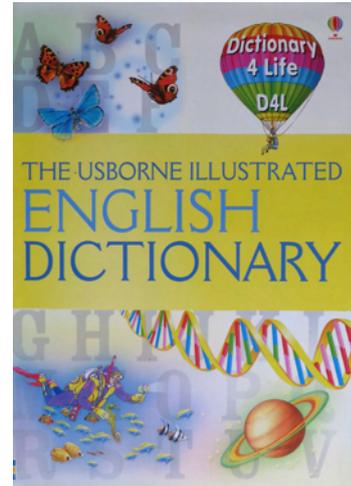
Dictionary4Life

In Autumn 2012 during his year as President, John Gould gave copies of the Usborne Illustrated English Dictionary to all the Year 4 children in the 9 primary schools in the SO51 postcode areas (Ampfield, Awbridge, Braishfield, Cupernham, Halterworth, Lockerley, Romsey, Romsey Abbey and Wellow). The books were purchased at a heavily discounted price through a Rotary project called Dictionary4Life. Each book is inscribed with the child's name and remains their personal property - for life.

Such was the enthusiastic response to last year's project that the Club agreed to run it again. This was done with the help of a grant of £500 from Test Valley Borough Council and £160 from Waitrose's Green Token scheme towards the £1000 total. One of our Business partners, Bettavend based in Chandlers Ford, helped with storage and also printed the labels.

In the late September and early October John, President Keith Cameron and other members have visited each school's assembly to present the books.

The enthusiastic reception that the books received is summed up by these words from Jayne Fahey, Assistant Head at Halterworth Primary. *"The children in year 4 are very proud of their dictionaries - they are even choosing to read them in reading time as they love finding out new words! The high quality of the pictures and layout mean that they are something they really want to engage with. Thank you for helping us continue to make spelling, and the love of words high profile within the children's lives".* The childrens' "Thankyou" letters tell a similar story.



Become a sponsor - your logo could be here next year



Music festival 2014

Following the great success of our first music festival (See newsletter number 1 - April 2013) we are at an advanced stage of planning for the 2014 event on Saturday February 8th in the Lantern theatre of Mountbatten School. Again there will be a wide range of prizes and the winners in the vocal and instrumental categories will go forward to the Wessex district final.

Closing date for entries is January 27th 2014.

++Stop Press++ Youth speaks public speaking competition between intermediate and senior teams from Mountbatten and Romsey Schools to be held in January. Winners will go forward to District final.

Other Rotary youth events



Young technologist

A new initiative next year will be a Young Technologist competition. This aims to test the innovative skills of children working in teams of four. Working against the clock the teams will need to demonstrate good communication skills, be well organised and able to show the development of their task solution in a design portfolio. Over half of the 20 team places re already filled.

The event will be in the Crosfield Hall, Romsey on Wednesday March 12th

These events all present opportunities for business sponsorship and support
Prizes - printing - refreshments
If you are interested please let us know

Romsonians made their wishes known



Romsey Arthritis Hydrotherapy Group received £150 from the "Wish" project.

We have developed a new avenue to provide help those in need. We use a scheme modelled on the project run for some years by the Ringwood Rotary Club. A big wishing well was built and displayed in Romsey's Cornmarket on two Saturdays before the Mayor's Picnic on July 7th. People were asked to make their wish for a person or group known to need financial or practical help and to place it in the well or in mini-wells around the town.

A panel then assessed the wishes and we made grants totalling over £1000. Most importantly, we learned of other needs that we will now investigate to see how they can be met. The new initiative also raised awareness of Rotary within the community.

About our Club and about Rotary

The Rotary Club of Romsey Test was started in 1990 and presently has 55 members. The Club was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Romsey (the lunchtime club) that meets on Tuesday lunchtimes at the White Horse hotel. We are part of Rotary International (www.rotary.org) and Rotary International of Britain and Ireland (www.ribi.org).

Rotary's objectives and principles are :-

- The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- High ethical standards in business and professions;
- Service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace.

Our club is overseen by its Council made up of the Chairs of the Club's committees, Secretary and Treasurers.

The Clubs committees are

- Club Service - responsible for running the club.
- Community Service – dealing with service to the local community
- Fund-raising – primarily focussed on our major fund-raising event, Walk the Test Way.
- Youth Opportunities - focussed on our work with young people around Romsey
- International – dealing with our international giving and including our partnership with Dentaid to produce the Rotary Dentaid Box.
- Foundation - Rotary Foundation is Rotary's own charity and deals with such global projects as the eradication of polio
- Membership - covering recruitment and retention.
- Sports and Social

Who's Who (July 2013 to June 2014)

President	Keith Cameron
Senior Vice President	Gren Lamb-Hughes
Junior Vice President	Neil Duncan
Community Service	Peter Welsh
Membership	Colin Staples
Youth Opportunities	Jon Livingstone
Fundraising	Greg Hall
International	Sandy Dunn
Rotary Foundation	Tony Trowsdale
Sports and Social	Anne Chivers
Publicity	Neill Beasley
Business Partners	John Gould
Hon Secretary	Iain Small
Trust Fund Treasurer	John Jones
Club Treasurer	Paul Grainger

Recent meetings and events

- Chris and Debbie Maxey were founders of the **Romsey Youth Choir**. They and the choir had just returned, literally the day before, from a successful tour of Northern Ireland.
- During the summer the Club supported two students, Patrick Begg and Tayla-Jayne Sander from Romsey School to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Award course at the **Avon Tyrrell** activities centre. In October they made a presentation to the Club based on their experience. Both had gained confidence and this was noted both by the Rotary members who had selected them and by their career advisor who accompanied them on their visit to the Club. The two RYLA runners up were given consolation activity days at the **Cobnor Activities Centre** and the Club heard a talk by Gary Palmer on the work of the Centre.
- At Romsey Show, where members undertake marshalling duties, we presented a cheque for £250 to the **Romsey Sea Cadets** to help them purchase uniforms for their younger members. This was matched by a donation from the Hon. Alexandra Knatchbull.



Diary

Meetings in Romsey Town Hall 19.00 for 1930			
Other events are highlighted in Yellow . Major events in bold			
Date	Speaker topic or event	Speaker/organiser	Venue
Wed 30 Oct	Halloween event	Anne Chivers	
Wed 06 Nov	Council and Business meeting		
Wed 13 Nov	'It's TV Jim, but not as we know it'	Alan Watson	
Wed 20 Nov	Leckford Estate and Farm Shop	Andrew Lazenby	
Wed 27 Nov	Business Partners Evening		
Wed 4 Dec	Council and Business meeting		
Wed 11 Dec	Our visit to Kenya	Neil and Margaret Duncan	
Wed 18 Dec	Christmas event		Town Hall
Wed 8 Jan	Council and Business meeting		
Wed 15 Jan	Romsey Air Training Corps	Flt Lt Bertie Green	
Wed 22 Jan	J R Mitchell and the Spitfire	Prof John Norman	
Wed 29 Jan	Partners evening	Patrick Cordingley	
Wed 5 Feb	Council and Business meeting		
Sat 8 Feb	Young Musician	Jon Livingstone	Mountbatten School
Wed 12 Feb	Romsey Coaching & Training Centre	Jonathan de Sausmarez	
Wed 19 Feb	Sports quiz		
Wed 26 Feb	Open		
January	Youth Speaks		
Wed 12 Mar	Young Technologist	Dave Healey	Crosfield Hall
Sat 15 Mar	Reminiscences of Romsey		Crosfield Hall
Sat 19 April	Know your blood pressure day		Cornmarket
Sun 6 July	Rotary Mayor's Picnic		Memorial Park
Sun 8 Oct	Walk the Test Way		