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## **ROTARY IN ROMSEY**

### **Look what we've been up to!**

Welcome to our WINTER UPDATE

We hope this email finds you safe and well.

A very Merry Christmas to you and your families. It has been a really difficult year for fundraising this year. Many of our wonderful activities in and around the town have had to be cancelled however, Rotary in Romsey have been able to stay active in other ways.

The impact of Covid has made us all look into the future and, in particular look more closely at the needs within our community.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**


**Rotary**

 Club of Romsey

**Romsey  
Rotary Carols**

**JOIN US either**  
**Live in Romsey Abbey**  
 or  
**Online via YouTube @romseyabbeycofe**  
**or Facebook LIVE**  
[www.facebook.com/events/2812899138970159](http://www.facebook.com/events/2812899138970159)

Tickets available from  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/romseyabbey](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/romseyabbey)

**RAISING MUCH  
NEEDED FUNDS FOR LOCAL  
CHARITIES**

**21ST  
DEC 2020  
7.00 PM**

Donate Here! 


### **Romsey Rotary Carols - 21st December 2020**

Since 1957 the people of Romsey have gathered in The Market Place around the Christmas tree to sing carols on the Monday before Christmas. This festive event raises much needed money for local charities every year.

It looked like in this year of COVID it wouldn't be possible but Romsey Rotary Club and Romsey Abbey have put together a slightly different Romsey Rotary Carols in The Abbey this year on Monday 21st December.

Raymond Trickey who usually conducts will compère the event which will feature a mixture of live and recorded music. With readings and contributions from local charities.

This will be sung and played by The Romsey Youth Choirs , The Romsey Abbey Choir, The Romsey Male Voice Choir, soloist Alice Wratten and also The Michelmersh Silver Band.

Tickets are available from the Abbey Ticket Source site at £5 and £3

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/romseyabbey](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/romseyabbey)

Charity donations can be made through

[JustGiving.com/fundraising/romseyrotarycarols](http://JustGiving.com/fundraising/romseyrotarycarols)

Seating will be socially distanced and so numbers are limited.

The evening is also being live streamed on

YouTube @romseyabbeycofe

Facebook Live [www.facebook.com/events/2812899138970159](http://www.facebook.com/events/2812899138970159)

The organisers hope that the people of Romsey can support and enjoy this event safely as they have done for over 60 years !

## **SAVE THE DATE !!**

Walk the Test Way

**26th September 2021**

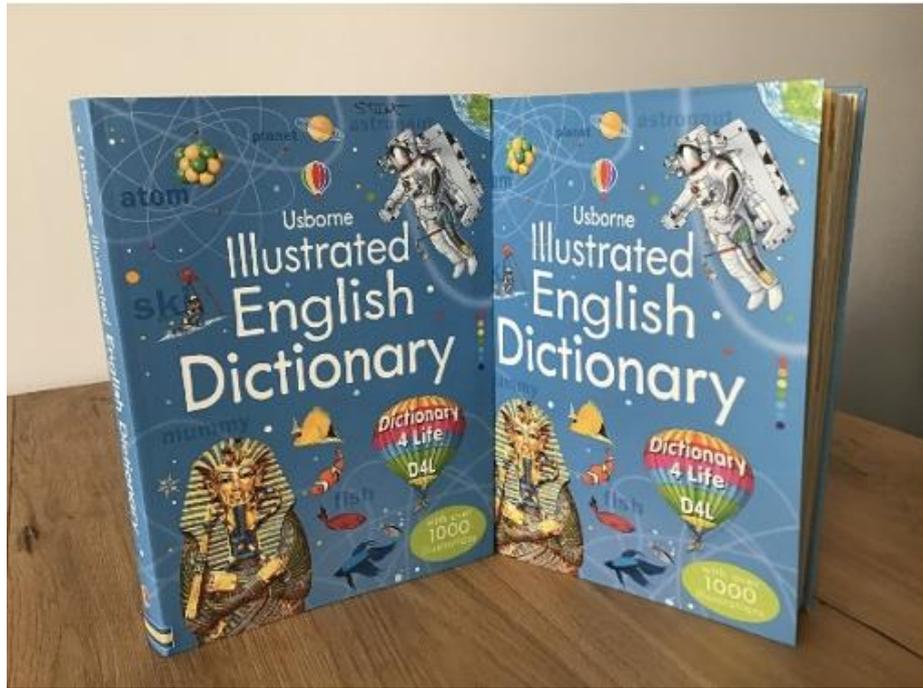
The final total raised for 31 charities from our 2020 event was  
over £26,000

## **LOCAL SUPPORT**

### **Dictionary for Life**

We provided a Dictionary for life to all year 4 children in the Romsey area. A total of 313 dictionaries were delivered to nine schools. It was a very different experience this year. Instead of an individual presentation by Rotarians to each child, a socially distanced masked delivery was made together with a written explanation of the project and the role of the Rotary.

We very much look forward to returning to our usual and more personal presentation next year and have already organised 12 schools and a total of 438 books - all ordered for 2021.



### **Romsey Foodbank**

During this last lockdown we felt that it was extremely important that we continue to support the Foodbank. It is now more important than ever as they are feeling the squeeze. We were so pleased to be able to contribute to their Christmas Hamper scheme again this year. So far we have donated nearly £11,000.

### **Romsey Young Carers**

Here are a few words from Chris.

*"Romsey Young Carers are very grateful for the support of the Rotary Club in helping us get set up at our new premises. Moving during the Covid 19 lockdown made things even harder for us as a project and meant we had to drastically change how we work. By helping us kit our new office with tables, chairs and office equipment it will mean we will have a safe environment that we can utilise to work with young people and families without having to hire external venues and will mean we can*

*be up and running offering group activities a lot quicker than if we had to wait for public centres to re open. It also means we will have a welcoming secure space to assist with counselling and other therapeutic activities. We look forward to having the space finished in the coming months and look forward to welcoming you all to the new venue soon"*

### **Kids Out**

*"On behalf of us all at KidsOut, I would like to say a huge thank you to you and your Rotary Club for the £100 donation, to go towards the Rotary Christmas Toy Box Initiative '**Every Refuge, Every Child**'. This is a wonderful contribution and I would ask you to pass on our sincere thanks to all involved for their generosity and support. The Toy Boxes will be distributed and delivered to the Refuge by the end of this week. The refuge staff have been asked to give the Toy Boxes to the mothers nearer to Christmas Day".*



### **Romsey Toy Library**

Presented them with £250 to help them relocate to new premises.

### **Romsey Family Support Group**

Donated items for rehoming ie., three TVs, two carpets, an easy chair and a coffee table.

[www.rfsg.org.uk](http://www.rfsg.org.uk)

### **Andover Trees**

Our club became aware of an inspirational young man called Dmitrijs. Dmitrijs Meiksans MYP, is the elected representative for North

West Hampshire in the Youth Parliament, covering 25,000 young people in Test Valley, Basingstoke and Deane and South Newbury. He is involved in so many different initiatives in an around Test Valley. The most recent was in relation to Andover Trees. November saw him walk 175km in a fortnight raising funds to build a cabin on the site at Harmony Woods.

Read more about his fundraising [here](#)  
or visit the Andover Trees website using the link below

[Andover Trees Website](#)  
[Click here](#)

## INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

The Club has continued its international support including **Dentaid**, £700 was given to help provide a portable dental surgery in a wheely bin to Uganda and also the refurbishment of a School in Mulpani Nepal.



**End Polio campaign** has been successful in eradicating polio from Africa.

Our two Clubs run an annual fund-raising event with Sir Harold Hillier Gardens to help focus on supporting the **End Polio Now** campaign displaying crocus each February. The focus now is on final worldwide eradication of the disease in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Many of the advancements made in the treatment of Polio are being used in the

development of Covid 19 vaccinations.

We very much look forward to holding this event in 2021 which we hope will be held in October.

We will keep you updated with the plans.



For more than 10 years, we have supported the work of the charity Pan International UK who provide access to essential services like healthcare, education, clean water and toilets for children in more than 45 countries.

This year we sponsored **Tafara Rugwevera** who is 8 years old boy and comes from Chiredzi in Zimbabwe. Tafara attends the local school which takes 45 minutes to reach. His favourite activities are PE and Sport.

He is pictures below with his grandmother.



## THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR ALL YOUR AMAZING SUPPORT

Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages to be kept up to date with our events.

Or Visit our Website.



## JOIN US - BECOME A MEMBER

We are always looking out for new members to join us. If you would like to become a member of Rotary in Romsey **please use the links above to contact us.**

*Where others see problems, we see solutions, tapping in to our professional skills, expertise and knowledge to make a difference in our local communities as well as internationally.*

We have lots of different members from all different walks of life from business owners, employed to retired. The diversity is what makes Rotary so special.

**Help us spread the word by forwarding this newsletter to anyone who you think might be interested. They can sign up for their own copy using the link button below.**

[Lunchtime Club](#)  
[Sign Up Here](#)

[Evening Club](#)  
[Sign up here](#)

thank you for all your support  
Rotary In Romsey