

**ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST**  
**COUNCIL MINUTES - 6.30 WEDNESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2022**

**ATTENDEES**

Nigel Budd - President	Charlie Daniel-Hobbs
Roger Shepherd	Bryan Rickett
Bill Gidley	Ed Holmes
Tony Trowsdale	Nikki Jones
Brian Davies	Clive Collier
Steve George	
+ Jackie Taphouse, Bryan Taphouse, Jon Livingstone - Minutes	
Apologies, Stuart Wineberg, Ron Bowater	

**1. CLUB OFFICERS' REPORTS**

Circulated in advance of the meeting, plus as follows:

**Communications**

Agreed to split proceeds of Concert between Community Pantry and Baby Necessities, £342.50 each.

**Membership + Almoner**

Discussion re Membership Focus Group proposals. See 'Membership Discussion Notes' below. Tony will discuss the feedback with the Focus Group and revert to Council.

Clive queried 'Mentoring' agreed at the last Council. Tony has set this up.

Tony advised Graham Hollier is recovering with his daughter near to Dorchester and is upbeat.

**Community**

Extensive activity as Nikki's report. Nikki also mentioned £100 Kung Fu display donation to Alex from Mayor's Picnic, will be forwarded to Alfie's Wish charity at Alex's request.

**Carols 19 December**

Bryan Taphouse advised all progressing well, Risk Assessment sent to Town Hall. We have two contactless payment machines, Bryan discussing possibly have more with Ron. These could be set to £5?

Bryan will invite Marshalls/ Collectors for the Carols.

Two other dates when Marshalls/ Collectors will be a big help are:

- Saturday 26 November - Christmas Lights/ Lantern Parade/ Winter Carnival
- Friday 9 December - Santa Rescue.

Bryan will circulate Marshalling/ Collectors dates , liaising with Nikki.

**International**

Bill and Tony attended District Showcase and concluded no change to our existing priorities.

**Youth**

Significant activity, as Steve's report. Steve updated re Embley Park. The School wish to engage in Romsey Community events. Steve enquired what to be aware of re this, esp. for school with intake from age 2 to 18.

Jon subsequently suggested Child Protection Policy under Policy Section of RCORT Members website, and Risk Assessment, helpful here.

**Sports & Social/ Regalia**

Clive's proposal for quality badges agreed, ex-General Fund, c.£487. President, SVP and JVP to agree final design, ensuring clear visibility.

## 2. **PRESIDENT**

More time needed for full discussions. Nigel may move Council to 6.00 start.

He will mention Kerry and Clive Daley have resigned to Members and invite volunteer for new Communications Chair.

Nigel sending Card and Flowers to Nick and Jane Bellamy, following Nick changing from 'Active Member' to 'Friend Of' Rotary.

Nigel ensured that Clive Collier and Nikki Jones, respectively candidates for Junior Vice this year and next year, are happy to be nominated. Both agreed and these appointments were confirmed in the SGM in the meeting following.

Congratulations to Clive JVP this year and Nikki, JVP from 1 July 2023!

JRL : 3 November 2022

### **Membership Discussion Notes**

Council feedback for the Membership Forum:

- : Clive has provided specific feedback, also Bryan Rickett
- : Nikki - find out why Members are not coming to meetings. Also get right for new Members
- : Nigel Rickett - who are the non-attenders/ ask them
- : Bryan - attendance is not the be all/ not the same as Rotary values
- : Support to encourage Members to join a Committee. Discuss with and agree with new Members, to aid involvement from Day One
- : General thumbs down for Zoom meetings
- : Agreed need for Committee Chairs to liaise regularly. Query re setting this up monthly? Longer Council meetings (see above) may be part of the approach here
- : Nikki and Bryan Davies - having the three Charities attending format worked well. Nikki will repeat similar quarterly
- : Discussion about mixed seating on these occasions. Different views expressed, conclusion was that it is essential to ensure new members are comfortable at such events. Nikki and Jackie expressed the same view
- : Bryan Taphouse was Community Chair after two months in Rotary. Helps to be involved early, so new members have the opportunity to learn by doing
- : Agreed Dining Club proposal was wrong to refer to specific age. Any merit in considering again for leavers who may wish to, such as Nick Bellamy?
- : Roger specific input on items within the initial suggestions
- : Membership Forum meeting again next week, will review further.

**Rotary Club of Romsey Test**  
**Trustees Meeting 2 November 2022**

At the meeting it was unanimously agreed that if desired by the club the following expenditure would be approved.

£342 each to Baby Necessities and the Community Pantry

£100 for Kung Fu Display

Nigel Budd

Chair of trustees

Stuart Wineberg

Secretary

## **Minutes of a Business Meeting of the Rotary Club of Romsey Test**

**2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022**

The President welcomed all members to the meeting.

### **Secretary**

Nothing to report

### **Club Treasurer**

Report attached

### **Trust Fund**

Report attached

Club members all agreed that they had received a copy of the Club and Trust Fund accounts for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 by email. There were no objections to the accounts.

### **Club Service**

Ed wished to record his thanks to Jon Livingstone who had taken over Club Service while he, Ed, was away.

Ed reported that there was a slight glitch on the web site with regard to booking in guests for meals which resulted in some double booking. Would members use the guest section only when booking in guests for meetings.

He reported that Youth in Romsey had, reluctantly, to raise the cost of breakfast to £11 for the monthly breakfast meeting.

Ed asked that if anyone had any complaints about the meals at RBL to please contact him in the first instance.

## **Communications**

Kerry has resigned as Communications Chair so there is a need for a new head of communications.

## **Membership**

Report attached

Tony reported that three new members will be joining soon.

He stated that his membership focus group consisting of Sue Bakewell, Keith Cameron, Nikki Jones, Graham Lee, Roger Shepherd and Peter Stuckey had met and would meet again and report back to Club on their findings.

He was also seeking to know why people are leaving Rotary.

## **Fund Raising**

Report attached regarding the first meeting of the Relay Marathon committee which will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023

## **Community Service**

Report attached.

Nikki reiterated the thanks of the four charities who had attended the last meeting which they found very helpful.

The three ladies who had expressed interest in joining Rotary would be processing their applications shortly.

Carols in the Market Place was going ahead under the auspices of the Community Service committee and the guidance of Bryan and Jackie Taphouse. More marshals are needed and Bryan explained that in addition to the Town Marshals who would man the road closures Rotarians were needed to help the Town Marshals and rattle buckets for the collection. Help was also needed for the Winter Carnival and the Santa Rescue on 10<sup>th</sup> December. Help was also needed for refreshments after the Carols in the Town Hall. Bryan would send out an email to members detailing help needed.

Nikki is organising two visits to Baby Necessities coffee morning where there are a few spaces left and a visit soon to Romsey Junior School Wellbeing Garden.

Kerry had asked that the money raised at the concert should be divided between Baby Necessities and the Pantry. The Club agreed to this.

Nikki also reported that Alex, who had done the Tae Kwondo demonstration at the Mayor's Picnic, had received a fee of £100. He had returned this to the Club with the wish that it should be donated to Alfie's Wish.

## **Foundation**

Brian reminded the Club of the Stop Polio event which will take place at Hilliers in February 2023. He would send out details nearer the time.

## **International**

Report attached

Bill was not impressed by the Mountbatten District Showcase and felt that we could do no better than continue with our International charities.

## **Youth**

Report attached.

Steve further reported that the presentation of Dictionaries for Life had begun and was so worthwhile. Also a need for help with Ukrainian children in schools had been identified. It would be ascertained how many dictionaries we have spare.

The Young Photographer competition had been launched via social media with the help of Sean.

Six schools had expressed an interest in Young Technician.

Steve reported on his visit to Embley who are very keen to get involved with us on our charitable efforts. Nikki will help with this and report back to the Club.

Stuart has compiled a comprehensive list of our contacts with local schools.

## **Sports and Social**

Clive reported that Council had agreed an expenditure of £500 for well designed badges for all Club members which should be ready by Christmas.

### **Club Almoner**

Graham Hillier is in good spirits and is benefiting from his stay in hospital.

### **President's remarks**

The President thanked all those who had put their names forward for the various positions within the Club, without them the Club could not function.

### **AOB**

Bryan Taphouse reported that he had performed one final act on behalf of the Rotary Club of Romsey by distributing Rotary prizes at the Minstead Trust

Next meeting - Breakfast at Youth in Romsey - 7.45 for 8am. This would be a membership meeting.

## **Consolidated Committee Reports**

### **Club Account**

As of today (Friday 28th Oct) The Club 'General Fund' account balance stands at **£5,818.38**.

Members' dinner accounts stands at a negative **£216** i.e on average members have spent **£216** more on dinners than they have paid in standing orders.

I am awaiting one invoice from RBL for **£610.50** and taking both factors into account, the club has effectively **£5423.88** available to spend in the club account.

Underpayments/overpayments will be sorted with the usual refunds/payments process in December.

### **Walk Account**

As of today, the Walk account stands at **£48,060.65**. Sponsorship money coming in via Just Giving and cash/cheque is still arriving but at a much lower rate than the weeks immediately after the walk.

Money raised by walker for **73** charities currently stands at **£42,388.59**. At the end of November, we will disburse 80% to charities, leaving 20% to be eventually transferred to the Trust Fund.

It is worth noting that 30 walkers (of 313) walked for our own Trust Fund raising **£1553.81** (of which we retain 100%).

We started the year with a 'float' in the Walk account of just over **£7000** having transferred **£8000** to the Trust Fund from our 'profit' on the 2021 walk.

I estimate that after money has been sent to charities, we will end up with around **£16000** in the Walk account meaning that that the 2022 Walk has just over **£9000**, this being consistent with a 10% increase in the number of walkers over 2021.

How much the club wishes to transfer to the Trust Fund and how much should be left as a float in the Walk Account is a subject for future discussion.

Ron

## **Trust Fund Report**

### **SGM Report sent out on 07/10/22**

This was sent early as explained in the email to which the audited report was attached on 7th October and it's evident that this was missed by a few members. I sent it out early because of my current personal situation but If you would like an additional report, I will send a copy upon request. The final paragraph read " If you have any queries, be helpful if you raise them before the meeting to obtain a qualified response. If I can't answer, I know a man who can". In the absence of any such communications from those of you that have avidly studied the report, I trust that you are happy with the document to which all credit must go to John Jones for compiling.

### **FMR Report updated to 30/10/22 - attached**

The current position of the Trust Fund Account shows amongst other things:-

- Cash Available at the bank is £21,412.
- Out of a total budget of £19,780, we are showing a budget variance of £14,812 of which £6,335 is for unspecified purposes as requested by committees.
- In addition to the above, we have £2,100 available in unrestricted funds if we spent the whole of our budget
- Therefore, as of now, we have £6,335 in unspecified committee budgets plus £2,100 unrestricted funds available meaning that we have £8,445 available for unspecified causes.

Whilst I will not be at the meeting, would be glad to answer any queries/questions that you may have by email beforehand.

Apologies if I have broken any protocols in sending this information to all members.

Graham H



## **Membership Report, November 2022**

We will have 3 new members joining us later this month.

Expect details from Secretary Stuart soon.

The Membership Focus Group has met; invited by me, the members are:

Sue Bakewell, Keith Cameron, Nikki Jones, Graham Lee, Roger Shepherd and Peter Stuckey.

Another meeting is planned for later this month and I hope to have a consensus report to present to the club by January.

I am told that some members are thinking of leaving, but not given any names.

I hope these members will consider what knowledge, skills and time they can contribute to this club and the wider Rotary movement, which is presumably why they joined in the first place and that they will contact me direct to share what they feel they are no longer getting out of membership.

Tony Trowsdale / 28.10.2022.



## **Fund Raising Report**

Minutes of a Relay Marathon meeting held at Birchlands on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm

**Present:** Charlie Daniel-Hobbs, Ron Bowater, Bill Gidley, Ieuan Wathen, Melanie Wathen, Charles Forward, Rosemary Forward, Tristan Pattison.

**Apologies:** Ed Holmes

The Chairman reported that there had been a change since the Relay Marathon in May of overall responsibility for the event from the Rotary Club of Romsey to the Rotary Club of Romsey Test. He suggested that there would be no difference discernable to outsiders but with the demise of the Rotary Club of Romsey ownership of the event had been transferred to the Rotary Club of Romsey Test. The assets of the Relay Marathon in the container together with a float of £1,500 had been transferred to the Rotary Club of Romsey Test and that Club had agreed to the transfer.

The committee would continue to operate in the same way as before with a mix of Rotarians and non Rotarian members. The Chairman would report monthly to the Council of the Romsey Test Club.

It was suggested that the Relay Marathon was a good model of bringing in outside help to a Rotary event to help with a perceived concern of manpower resources from the Club.

### **Wash up from May 2022**

After the break of two years it was agreed to run a reduced event in 2022 with an initial proposal of 50 teams. In the event 120 teams registered and a very successful event was run.

### **What we did well**

Booking registration and invoicing of teams

Use of Facebook to advertise the event

Business sponsorship to the tune of £14,500

Use of outside organisations for example Men's Shed to build the course and Scouts to marshal

### **What could be improved**

Earlier identification of sponsorship and financial budgeting;  
Earlier planning of site and roles for managing this on the day.

### **Planning for 2023**

The intention is to keep the event much the same as last year with a suggestion of 150 teams and for it to be a Community event as it always has been. Any new ideas will be welcomed and evaluated

Date - 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023 has been agreed with Broadlands. Our contact is Richard Jordan Baker and Broadlands is happy with our organisation. In past years a donation has been made to the Broadlands charity but from this year a fee will be made to the Broadlands Estate to cover use of the designated area over six days (Thursday to Tuesday inclusive) and for any help required from estate staff with building the course.

Sponsorship – We are fortunate to have some committed sponsors but with economic headwinds we have to be realistic about the potential for some sponsors to pull out. As such, all members of the committee were asked to find contacts for new sponsors. The event has always been run on sponsorship so that any other money raised goes to charity. In 2022 £14,500 was raised and in 2019 £20,000. The aim for 2023 is for the higher figure, circa £15,000. A question was asked about the amount raised for charity and although it is difficult to be exact a figure of £100 per runner has been raised for charity in the past

Finance – Ron will produce some preliminary budgets for the next meeting.

Site Construction – we have a plan for this but Ron suggested we need better organisation before the event and site meetings so that people know what they are doing.

We need a better plan for the car park.

The big new marquee needs a lot of people to put it up – could we employ someone to do this or use a specific organisation eg Young Farmers

The marshals should be specifically targeted on organising the site at the beginning of the event.

### **Teams**

Finance – it was agreed to hold the entrance fee for teams at £100.

Entrants – the committee would aim for 150 teams. The event is wholly unviable with less than 50 teams and uncertain with less than 75 teams.

Registration – It was agreed that the web site and social media posts would be ready by 1<sup>st</sup> December and registration would commence in earnest on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. It was also agreed that other social media would be used as well as Facebook. A suggestion was made that use of LinkedIn could encourage corporate interest.

Save the date emails will be sent out soon and more in December.

Suggestions were made to increase awareness of the event by

- Distribution of flyers around the industrial estates
- Correx boards in strategic locations along roads into town.
- Possibly using estate agent boards

### **Committee roles**

Charlie – Chief organiser and responsible for sponsorship following up possible leads from other committee members and contacting existing sponsors

Ron – finance and teams

Bill – site build and contacting services

Rosemary – secretarial and checking emails

Charles – marshals – suggestion that Steve Simmons Jacobs be asked to join the committee to help with this.

Ieuan – social media

Melanie – entertainment

Tristan – without portfolio but aiding with eg sponsorship and social media.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

## **Community service report**

### **Good morning**

I just wanted to say thank you to everyone who came and supported our Community Service presentation evening on Wednesday 19th. The feedback has been very positive and those who attended seemed to have enjoyed the evening.

All four organisations that attended have messaged to say a huge thank you and express how much they enjoyed the evening and how beneficial they found it. As I said on the evening, as an organisation Rotary have donated to each of the attending groups, and we continue to work on developing a strong partnership with them and many others. These kinds of relationships are crucial in order for us to ensure that our hard earned funds go to the people and organisations in our community that need and will benefit most. The evening gave members an opportunity to talk to each charity and find out how those donated funds are used, the difference they make and what more we can do to help in the future.

I'm organising a visit to Romsey Abbey Primary School to see the Psalm 23 garden progress. This is a fabulous project and I'm sure many of you will have ideas on ways we can help them achieve their goal. I already have ideas for 'Men's Shed'. The sponsoring of plants and organising 'digging and clearing' teams! Any other ideas on ways ( not just financial) we can help greatly appreciated. Please let me know if your interested in coming along on the visit as I will have restricted numbers.

Baby Necessities have invited us along for a coffee morning to have a look at their new premises. These are another vital charity working hard in our community, and this is a great opportunity to see what they do and how it all works. I have a pencilled in a date at the moment of Tuesday 22nd November @ 10 am. Please let me know if you're interested in attending.

North Baddesley Primary School were also present. As a school they have such a diverse range of children. Many of their families are struggling and they have to offer a high level of support. Last year they held their first fundraising firework evening, which was a huge success. We purchased £170 worth of tickets and gave them to The Community Pantry who in turn distributed them to Baddesley families that would other wise not have been able to go. We have done the same this year and purchased a selection of tickets to the value of £175.09 and given them to The Pantry.

Charlotte from Romsey Young Carers gave a great talk and brought everyone up to date on what they do as a charity and what projects they require help with. We've had a meeting since and it has become clear that they need some help!!! So, if any of you are able to assist with fundraising, bid writing or graphic design , as they would like a new logo, could you please contact me. As a club we have a wealth of expertise and experience amongst our members. We can all help these charities by offering up those skill sets and giving the one thing that they don't have which is TIME! Of course, the financial donations we make are crucial and fundamental to what we provide as a club. BUT. By offering a couple of hours of help to these organisations you'll be making a huge difference.

Thank you to those of you who came and introduced yourselves to my three guests. Sharron, Ruth and Nicqui have helped with Mayors picnic and WTTW. We've had a few meetings and I've had time to 'gently' introduce them to what Rotary does and stands for as an organisation. They have all decided to sign up as full members and become officially part of the Community Service team.

Many of you may remember that last year a working group put together a proposal for 'developing the future of the Club' , we put together a pilot scheme to try and introduce people to Rotary in a more informal way

rather than overwhelm them! The majority of you voted in favour of this and I'm happy to report that 'so far so good!' My findings over the last 6-8 months indicate that the majority of people want to get involved with a charity to fundamentally help others and do good within their community. They don't necessarily think about helping on a national or world wide level. Also, the social side of getting involved with an organisation, meeting new people dining out etc, is a wonderful by product but not a sole reason for people wanting to get involved. Many people are now working longer, both hours and years !! We have to be adaptable and inclusive in order to guarantee the future of the Club. I'm thrilled that Sharron, Ruth and Nicqui have agreed to join and have 3-4 other potential members who, at the moment, are happy to be in the background and offer their assistance when they're able. By allowing this process to happen slowly and organically we will encourage new, solid members. Members that will understand what Rotary stands for both locally and nationally, and be committed to it.

Christmas Carols Event. Monday 19th December 7pm start

By working closely with Bryan and Jackie Taphouse we are well underway with the organising of this wonderful event. There is much help needed though!!!!

We need Marshall's and collectors please. Meet at the Town Hall @ 6.15pm on the 19th. As a club we will be carrying on the lovely tradition of providing thank you drinks and refreshments ( held in The Town Hall after the event) to all Marshall's and helpers on the evening. We will need to pull together as a club to provide the refreshments!!!! I'm sure there are a few 'Star Bakers' amongst you?? I'll send out a list nearer the time of items needed. Please let me, Bryan or Jackie know if you're able to help in any way on the evening.

All donations collected on the evening go to a local Charity. This year it has been decided that this will be divided between Alfie's Make A Wish and Romsey Young Carers. A representative from each charity will come along on the evening and give a brief talk and encourage people to donate. Thank you in advance for your support

Community Pantry, as you may expect are experiencing a high increase in people needing their service. I'll be sending out information on how we can get involved and help their Christmas program in a few weeks. Until then I'd like to take the opportunity to use our Business Meeting as a collection evening. We've done this before and you were all very generous. Your donations make a huge difference. Here is their most recent wish list

Cereals ( any boxed cereal)

Coffee

Rice

Baked beans and chopped tomatoes

Cheese

Sliced meats ( preferably ham)

Yoghurts

Margarine

Mince

Meatballs

Sausages

Please bring along any of these items, if you're able to, on Wednesday evening. I'll deliver them to the pantry.  
Thank you

Finally, as I mentioned in my talk I'm looking for members to come and join our Community Service Committee. With rising food prices and the fuel crisis there are going to be tough times ahead, and whilst I appreciate there are hardships all over the World, I'm still a firm believer that 'charity begins at home'. There are so many ways we can help, sometimes just turning up isn't enough to make a difference, we all need to get involved and go the extra mile. 'Service before self' is one of the main reasons I joined Rotary, and it's one of the reasons I'm still here!!! The next committee meeting will be at my house on Tuesday 15th November @ 5.30pm. Please let me know if you'd like to come along

Thank you

Nikki ( Community Service Chair)

#### **International committee chairman report:**

Little to report this month except that I and Tony Trowsdale attended the International Showcase at Mountbatten School on Sat 22<sup>nd</sup>. Suffice it to say that I was glad that it had only required a 300 yard walk there and back and I concluded that our current support of Life Centre School in Kisumu Kenya, Rainbow School in Kathmandu plus Dentaaid & Shelterbox remains my preferred way forward.

Bill

#### **Youth Opportunities Report - November 2022**

**Dictionaries for Life** - Distribution of Dictionaries now fully planned and presentations started this week. Thanks to Stuart for his organisation here and to those supporting the rota. 12 schools and 430 dictionaries will be presented over the next 3 weeks.

**Young Photographer** - This competition was launched through social media on October 20th.



We have asked for support from our local schools to publicise the competition in poster form but are not asking any more of the teaching staff. The poster has been put up in art rooms and one school has agreed to put it in their monthly newsletter. We have engaged our senior and our D4L primary school connections, YIR and scouts groups.

Shaun will refresh and keep live until the entry end date December 31st.

**Technology Tournament** - Date set for March 8th 2023 and Crosfield Hall booked. SSJ arranging a planning meeting shortly. Southampton schools ( via Rtn Chris Nixon ) and Romsey schools contacted but at present no indication of likely take up. Positive responses tentatively received from Test Valley, Embley, Mountbatten, Hamble, Woodlands and Bittern Park

**Youth Speaks** - Limited interest in this event and no firm commitments. We will be following up our contacts to get firm commitments over the next couple of weeks.

**Embley Park Update** - Charles and I visited Helen Smart and Cliff Canning (head) in response to an approach from them to form a closer, working and mutually beneficial relationship with Rotary activities. This relationship could develop in two streams -:

a) Supporting and entering teams into various Rotary Youth Competitions - Initially they have expressed an interest in the TT and their Photography teacher will include the Young Photographer competition in this terms topics.

b) Embley want to engage more with the local community and support Rotary community activities. This may involve Rotary being able to use Embley facilities for events or Embley supporting Rotary charitable activities in the local community. ( eg marshalling, collecting, transport)

Fund raising, Youth and Community should work together to develop this.

**Peacejam** - Planned event on November 12th has been cancelled. Mountbatten school had recently expressed an interest but a general lack of engagement has forced cancellation this year. A new event is being considered for March 2023.

**School contact points** -Stewart has now assembled a schools data base containing teachers contact details and contact points for various rotary activities. We will be discussing how best to use and manage this going forward.

Steve