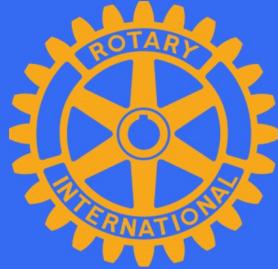




The ARCH



The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hexham

December 2019

HEXHAM ROTARY - TREE PLANTING DAYS



Hexham Rotary are committed to combating the joint effects of the deadly tree disease of Ash Dieback (Ash Chalara) and the increase of atmospheric CO₂ by undertaking to plant many Oak trees in Hexham. To this end, the Club President, Andrew Rigg, arranged two tree planting days. The first on Saturday 16th November to be followed by another on the 7th December.

On Day 1, over 50 Oak trees were planted from acorns grown by Andrew and Elaine Rigg and collected from native Hexham oaks. 12 members of Hexham Rotary took part in the planting, despite the cold and damp conditions, on the hillside overlooking Hexham.

A recent assessment in the Tyne Valley undertaken by Elaine has revealed that nearly half of hedgerow trees are Ash. Their loss over the next thirty years would have a tragic impact on the landscape in Northumberland. Many young ash trees already have the disease.

Planting trees is also the best way to extract Carbon Dioxide from the atmosphere. The increase in the emissions of CO₂ is recognised as the most critical contributory cause of global warming. Rotary Clubs in our local District are also involved in tree planting both locally and in Africa.

Hexham Rotary are grateful for the support of Northumberland County Council for this project. The next tree planting day is on December 7th when the good work will continue.



President Andrew Rigg, Andy Pryor & Roy Dallison

Andrew Rigg, President

STEM Ambassadors



Through Rotary, I have become a STEM Ambassador, part of a network of 30,000 Ambassadors inspiring young people across the UK to become involved in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Several members at our club are also Ambassadors and the numbers are growing. I am a local GP and enjoy talking to young people about my career and the path I have taken to get here. Others are engineers and get very involved in judging at the local Technology Tournaments.

We all help out at the bigger events, like "Bring It On 2019" in Sunderland which welcomed more than 80 engineering businesses from all over the region who showcased real-life engineering to more than 2000 children, getting them actively involved in the activities and encouraging their curiosity and interest. Bring It On aims to inspire, educate and motivate young people aged 9-14 to explore engineering as their future career, by showcasing just how exciting engineering can be!

Our Rotary Club actively supports members to become STEM Ambassadors. If you would like to know more please contact our membership team, membership@hexhamrotary.co.uk. If you're interested in STEM here's a link <https://www.stem.org.uk/about-us>.

Jane Chalmers

A Christmas Gift from InnerWheel

The Inner Wheel Club of Hexham and Tynedale "Tasty Treats" Cookbook

This little book of tried and trusted original recipes is attractively presented, and conveniently bound to make its use easy. It would make an excellent small gift at any time, or a stocking-filler for Christmas. We have laboured long and hard to produce it, and are quietly proud of it. All of the profit will go to The Great Northern Air Ambulance, we have a target of £750. Please help us to achieve this by buying copies to give, or for yourself; you will find good use for it.

You can order them by phoning Aerona on 01434-694472, or by asking Michael Crick who will have copies to hand at Rotary meetings. Copies can also be obtained from the library at Corbridge.

We Need Your Views

To keep our magazine alive and up to date, we need more articles from club members. It is your magazine - articles can be on any subject, local stories, review of a meal out or an interesting visit. Stories, especially with pictures, are most welcome. It is better to email the pictures but actual photos can be accepted and will be returned after being copied.

As you can see in this issue, there are topics ranging from a organs to tree planting and the latest on Polio Eradication but the number of writers can be counted on one hand. We desperately need more articles on a diversity of subjects. Why not write about your favourite charity or your hobby or even suggestions of how the club might improve. We even accept articles from non-Rotarians.

We also need write ups of Rotary events, if you are involved in any aspect of Rotary, then let us know what you are doing. It might be helping children in school, giving time to a local charity or tidying up the town. Send any items to me at dumbrelljl@btinternet.com.

John Dumbrell, Editor

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary International is an international service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. It is a secular organization open to all persons regardless of race, colour, creed, religion, gender, or political preference.

There are 34,282 clubs and over 1.2 million members worldwide. The members of Rotary Clubs are known as Rotarians. Members usually meet weekly for breakfast, lunch, or dinner, which is a social event as well as an opportunity to organize work on their service goals.

Rotary's primary motto is "Service Above Self"; its secondary motto is, "One profits most who serves best".

10 Reasons to Join A Rotary Club

The Opportunity to Serve
Leadership Development
Citizenship in the World
Business Development
Continuing Education
Personal Growth
Entertainment
Community
Friendship
Fun

Rotary 

To learn more about Rotary in Hexham, look at our website www.hexhamrotary.co.uk or contact our membership team on membership@hexhamrotary.co.uk.

A Grand Day Out

On Monday 18th November we had a change from our usual lunch time meeting. Andrew, our President, had arranged a day out in Durham.



After a week of gloomy and rainy weather, Monday morning dawned with bright sunshine and a clear sky. By 9.00am we were on the coach setting out for Durham and stopping to pick up more Rotarians from Corbridge and Riding Mill. 21 Rotarians and their partners took part and the coach dropped us off near the Market Place in Durham. A short way from our first stop at the Cathedral.

Arriving at the Cathedral, we were shown to the Prior's Hall where coffee and cakes were provided and at 11o'clock two guides appeared to show us round. The guides were very knowledgeable and took us

through the nave, pointing out the architectural features, to the choir, where we admired the 17th century stalls made in the mediaeval style. Then on to the shrine of St Cuthbert and back through the nave to the west chapel by the entrance. An excellent tour but space forbids a fuller description.

The guides left us at the entrance to the Treasury Exhibition, housed in the former monks dormitory with its magnificent oak beamed roof. This was a special exhibition with exhibits from Pre-Roman times to the



present day with examples of music, mediaeval manuscripts and recent embroidery.

With an overload of new information, we then made our way down to Zizzi's Restaurant where we were well looked after for lunch in a private room overlooking the Wear. After lunch a short walk down and across the Elvet Bridge saw us back in the coach for a drive to Harrison and Harrison – the famous organ builders.



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We were welcomed by the Managing Director, Andrew Reid, and split into three parties for a tour of the works. What a tour – we saw everything from the keyboards – sorry manuals – to the 32 foot organ pipes destined for York Minster. Harrison and Harrison started in Rochdale in 1861 and moved to Durham in 1872. They moved into their current works on the edge of Durham in 1996 and have played a role in the manufacture or restoration of organs across the world from Australia and India to Europe and America. Most recently they have re-

stored the organs in Canterbury Cathedral and Westminster Abbey and are currently renovating the organ from York Minster. Each organ is worked on by an individual team that dismantles it, moves it to Durham, repairs or replaces all the parts and then re-assembles it in its original location.

We saw sound boxes and sliders, intricate valves



Shelagh to have a go.

Harrison and Harrison train their own apprentices and have a highly skilled and clever workforce. The visit was the highlight of the day and most instructive, the company even guarantees its work for 15 years and expects its organs to last for decades with reasonable maintenance.

All too soon, it was back to the coach to return to Hexham, where we arrived just before 6pm after a most enjoyable day out.



operated by small electromagnets, keyboards or manuals and many, many pipes. All the work is hand done, with sheep or goat skins being used on the sound boxes with poplar wood being used for the boxes. Once the pipes are made, they are “voiced” to provide the correct note and sound. Our guide, Andrew, was a “voicer” and he showed us how it was done and even allowed Lesley and



Hexham Rotary Youth Team

The Youth team is having a busy year and is assisting with many initiatives. Both, Hexham Middle School (H.M.S.) and Queen Elizabeth High School (Q.E.H.S.) held major career events aimed at inspiring pupils to focus upon their future careers. The role of the Rotarians in these projects was to share their wide-ranging career experiences and to describe their own career paths

from when they were at school until retirement. Some of these sessions were one to one and others were question and answer sessions for groups of 6. They were well received and enjoyable for participants and tutors alike

Two Rotarians also provided additional reading tuition on a regular basis throughout the year. Rotarians have also assisted with STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) related initiatives such as BringItOn and the Rotary Technology Tournaments.

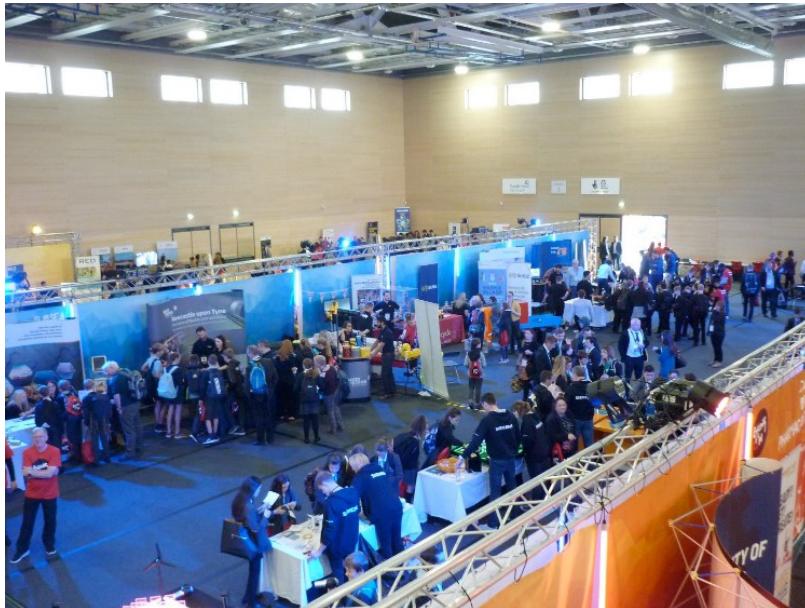
BringItOn is held at the Beacon of Light in Sunderland and is a two-day technology exhibition for pupils of the North

East. About 1,600 pupils attend over its two days. The guest speaker on the second day of the two-day engineering module was Dr Andrew Aldrin, President of the Aldrin Family Foundation. He is the son of Buzz Aldrin, the second man on the moon.

We are also working with HYI (Hexham Youth Initiative) to actively help young people to get employment in the building industry. A preliminary step this year was to promote a training course for "Site Safety Certification" provided in Hexham by Newcastle College. This course and the resulting certification are a crucial first step not only for gaining work opportunities in the construction industry but also getting on further training courses.

Finally, Hexham Rotary sponsored a Q.E.H.S. student to attend the RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) residential course. This takes place over 5 days and is a mixture of outdoor "outward bound" challenges and leadership coaching intended to develop confidence and team leadership. Our selected candidate successfully completed this very stimulating course and in the coming year we expect to sponsor two candidates.

Neill Wylie



Let's Get Growing

Fresh air, Friendship and Fun at Minsteracres Peace Garden

We received a very warm welcome when we spoke at a recent Rotary meeting in Hexham and we hope this article

helps explain a bit more about what we do, as well as providing contact information for anyone who would like to find out more, or who knows someone who might benefit from attending the project.



Let's Get Growing is a registered charity providing therapeutic horticulture for people of all ages with a wide variety of needs. People often attend with anxiety, depression, PTSD and other mental health issues, mild learning difficulties and early-onset dementia. Whilst on the surface people's needs vary enormously, it seems there is a common and core underlying need for feeling a sense of belonging, being respected and valued and being part of a supportive group. Humour, deep sharing, the learning of horticultural skills and building of social confidence, all happen in a very fluid and natural way around a range of activities.

We find that people are able to open up and explore the difficulties and challenges they are facing whilst working in the garden or enjoying walks in the surrounding countryside, when perhaps this would feel less possible one-to-one in a more formal setting.

Perhaps the most important aim of the project is for people to enjoy themselves, build self esteem, develop friendships and to feel valued for who they are. It is often the case that when we become ill or have a particular condition, we become defined by it and may be sent to groups where we mix with other people with the same condition. Whilst there can be some value in this, we felt inspired to create a project where people feel their common humanity and a sense of core value, irrespective of their condition or needs.

We meet every Tuesday and Thursday in the Peace Garden at Minsteracres. Whilst we have a close working relationship with the Retreat Centre, we are not a religious organisation and accept people of all faiths or none. We operate all year round and have a beautiful timber-framed building with a wood stove, so have a cosy warm space in the winter. If the weather is bad, we often make preserves or indulge our artistic tendencies in the making of scarecrows, garden signs etc.



At lunchtime the Minsteracres kitchen provides a delicious home-cooked lunch, so participants receive a day of nurturing, whilst carers can benefit from a full day's respite. A minibus service currently collects from Hexham, Corbridge, Riding Mill and Stocksfield.

The project is run by two part time co-ordinators and a team of amazing and very skilled volunteers, allowing us to give participants the support they need. One participant recently summed it up like this: "I have a happy feeling inside when I come here. The peace and contact with nature help a lot and you can free up somehow. Everyone is so kind and no-one judges you. Having a mixed age group helps too – it brings more different things to the group and we have a good laugh"

We always welcome visitors to the Peace Garden, so if you'd like to visit the project at any time or know of someone who could benefit, please do get in touch with Ross Menzies on 07762 244381 or Katrina Padmore on 07748 600498. More information is available on www.letsgetgrowing.co.uk.

Our calendar for the next 3 months

Dec	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	Monday 2	David Houpt	Global Sight Solutions			
	Saturday 7		Planting Trees & Crocuses			Richard Nelson
Lunch	Monday 9	Business Meeting & SGM				
	Monday 16	Josey George	Jaipur Limbs	Max Hamps		
	16-21 Dec	Fore Street Collection	Organised by Community			
EG	Monday 23	Christmas Dinner	6.45 pm for 7.00pm			
	Monday 30	No Meeting				
2020	AAAAAAA	AAAAAAA	AAAAAAA	AAAAAAA	AAAAAAA	AAAAAAA
Jan	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	Monday 6	Nick Rossiter	The Many Shades of Green	Nick Rossiter		
EB	Monday 13	John Dumbrell	East meets West – The DDR Border Fence	John Dumbrell		
	19-25 January	International Assembly	San Diego, California, USA			
	Monday 20	Catherine (Kate) Thick	The Northumberland Log Bank - Tackling the problems of fuel poverty. (projector & screen needed)	Chris Metcalf		
	Tuesday 21	Club Council				
EG	Monday 27	John Dowling	Diocesan Justice & Peace Refugee Project	Andy Moore		
Feb	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	Monday 3	Bernard Herdan	Medical Tribunals	B & J Herdan		
EB	Monday 10	Mel Wall	The Korean War	Terry Robson		
	Monday 17	Business Meeting				
	Sunday 23	Rotary International	Rotary Day			
EG	Monday 24	Gordon McInally	Celebrate Rotary Day	John Dumbrell		
March	-----	-----	-----	Peter Wood		
	Monday 2					
	Tuesday 3	Club Council				
EB	Monday 9	Business Meeting				
E	Saturday 14	Presidents Night				
	Monday 16	No Meeting				
	Friday 20	District TBC	Senior Technology Tournament	Stephen Middleton		
	Monday 23					
	Sunday 29	PEPS	Sunderland Grand Hotel			
EG	Monday 30	Ben & Jan Herdan	SEDCU an update on the Ugandan work	B & J Herdan		