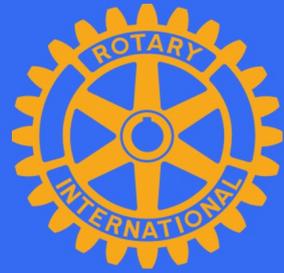




# The ARCH

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hexham



November 2020

## An International Gathering via Zoom

The INSTITUTE MEETING in Holland on the 10 October

Have you heard of the Rotary Institute Meetings ? What are they and when do they meet? Well each year, past, present, and incoming district and senior leaders attend Rotary Institutes to share information, build connections, and exchange ideas about Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation. The institutes usually meet for three to five days, and the program includes:

An update on The Rotary Foundation and its programs

A report on our polio eradication efforts

A five-year forecast presented by a director or other Board representative

An open forum where participants can make recommendations to the Board

Local and international speakers sharing information on relevant topics

A chance to network, reconnect with friends, and find inspiration for continuing your service and leadership in your community

Entertainment and social outings

This year the meeting was due to be held in the Netherlands but, of course, the current pandemic meant it had to be a virtual meeting. The meeting was shortened to a day and even that stretched the stamina in a zoom meeting. The theme was "Rotary without Borders" and was a very well run, in English, with simultaneous translations available in other languages. In the first plenary session we listened to stories from Rotary clubs on the continent and it was interesting that their experiences and activities due to Covid were very much the same as in the UK with the more enterprising clubs providing PPE, food and



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clothing and helping school children with tablet computers. Everyone emphasised the need to change and a straw poll established that, overall, Rotary clubs numbers had remained the same, with the majority of clubs meeting on line but that activities and fund raising were down.

The President of Rotary International, Holgar Knaack, spoke. Again he emphasised the need for change and the need for the



growth and care of members as without members Rotary cannot function. He expected the effects of Covid to carry on for the next 12 to 18 months and we need to keep up the hand washing, social distancing and so on. He described the position in Germany and gave a picture very similar to our own in the UK – notably different from the picture painted by the British media. This was echoed by many of the other speakers.

The President went on to show how Covid has impacted on the polio campaign and the way the NID teams were handling the vaccinations with no touching and social distancing.

Apart from the plenary sessions, I attended two interesting break outs. The first featured a presentation by the Warchild Charity and showed how one Rotary club had used a Global Grant to great effect in Columbia. They started by using the Rotary Convention in Hamburg in 2019 to find other clubs to partner them and to raise the money for the Global Grant. The second covered the environment. The Ocean Clean Up company in San Francisco showed us their latest "Plastic Interceptor" which is eating up the plastic from the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Their CEO, Boyan Slat, also demonstrated what they were doing on rivers. They are just about to launch a material made from the recycled plastic.

Several other subjects were covered in a most interesting day and the whole meeting was recorded and is available at <https://rotary-institute-amsterdam.eventscase.com/EN/rwb/programme>. "The Ocean Clean Up" and the "Rotary Club Sandwich" are both worth watching.

JLD

## More 50 Word Stories

### The Emperor's New Clothes: The True Story.

Tricksters sewed the Emperor clothes, visible, they said, only to the wise.

There were no clothes, but, lest they be deemed foolish, all admired them.

The Emperor, unclothed, paraded with his court, until a child cried "He's naked!"

Aghast, they sent white-coated men to apprehend her, then, reassured, paraded on.

Michael Crick

# Thanks For Our Support

The three Rotary Clubs pledged £100 each towards the cost of the concert , subject to it taking place. We received the thankyou letter below.

Dear John, Guy Galpin and Simon Sherwin,

This is to say a huge thank you to all three Rotary clubs in the district for the pledge of support for the above proposed concert. I am sure that I don't need to say that we keep our fingers very tightly crossed that we can bring the project to fruition and therefore we will only call upon the money immediately after the completion of the concert.

We will be guided by the Abbey authorities with their tried and tested Covid-19 protocols and if it is judged unsafe or impossible because of government/PHE restrictions/surge in cases etc. then the concert will be called off.

Your support at a very difficult time demonstrates a commitment to professional music performance and professional musicians who, I hardly need to say, find themselves with little or no income at the moment. It also supports a local community which is aching to be able to experience live music.

With many thanks and all good wishes,

*Martin H, Chairman, Hexham and District Music Society*

## Crocus Corms 2020



This year's boxes full of Purple Crocus Corms to raise money to assist with the continuing world-wide Rotary programme to eradicate Polio are now ready for distribution and sale. Each decorated box costs £6 and contains on average 40 crocus.

Orders will be distributed safely. Payment should be direct to our charity account please as follows to save cash changing hands, (but cheques are an alternative.) Details available from

Andrew Rigg, Mobile 0(044) 7930 005008 Landline 0(044) 1434 603086

We have 100 boxes and when we sell them all to friends and family etc. that's another valuable £500 to the Polio appeal. Thank you very much. Just let me know how many you want.....

*Kind regards, Andrew.*

# Kelso Conversations

The Kelso Club continues with its monthly Conversations and on Thursday 8th October, we heard Rotary international Past President K.R. 'Ravi' Ravindran, Chairman of the Rotary Foundation Trustees. This took place as part of a meeting of the Kelso Rotary Club and, after the meeting had been opened by their President, Gordon McNally was asked to introduce the speaker. Ravi is the Chairman of the Rotary Foundation Trustees and gave an interesting talk about Covid and the way it has affected the Foundation. He emphasised the changes it had made to the way Rotary works.



He took us through the establishment of the eradicate polio campaign and the way this had affected his own country Sri Lanka. He mentioned how the vaccination teams were able also to help spread the word on Covid 19 and how they emphasised the need for hand washing and social distancing in India and many other countries.

He then went on to give some figures in TRF's support in the fight against Covid 19 which has been amazing. 234 Global Grants with a total of £14m and 310 Disaster Response grants totalling almost £7m. However Covid has also had a devastating effect on the vaccination rates and contributions not only to the fight against polio but to many other organisations like the World Food Programme which are also suffering from a drop in donations.

The way ahead in the campaign against polio is difficult but nevertheless we have moved from 1000 cases of polio each day in over 125 countries to 112 each year in only 2 countries. We have spent \$2.7b and saved 19m lives but we still need to spend \$850m per year to finish the job. The current contributions from clubs is amazing but still 20% of clubs give nothing and we should all encourage our fellow Rotarians to join in the fight.

**Thu 5th November 2020 at 18.00 - 19.00 Kelso Conversation.** We are very privileged to have Rotary International President Holger Knaack as our speaker this evening. All are welcome, registration through Secretary John Lafferty. Please register early as we expect to be busy tonight!

If you are interested in joining in then a link will be available on the Kelso RC website shortly before the date. This allows you to register for the meeting. JLD



2020

# CHRISTMAS CARDS ORDER FORM



NAME: .....

Contact details: eMail or Telephone number .....

Date: .....

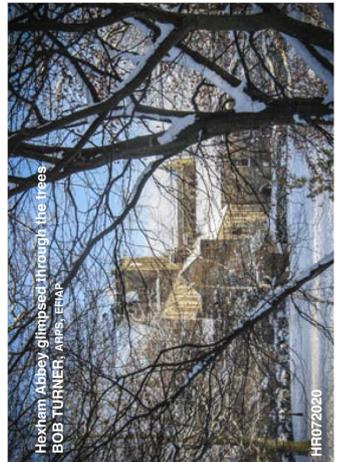


Image	Code	NUMBER OF PACKS (at £5 each)	Card Size A5 (Large) (5 cards per pack)	Card Size A6 (Small) (6 per pack)
1 Above Steel Rigg	HR012020			
2 Looking over Hexham	HR022020			
3 Sycamore Gap	HR032020			
4 Hexham Bandstand	HR042020			
5 Boatacres Cottage	HR052020			
6 Crib at Hexham Abbey	HR062020			
7 Hexham Abbey through the Trees	HR072020			
N We also have a number of the larger cards from previous years featuring the "Snow Grouse" and "Hexham Bandstand at Night" available at £4 per pack. We also have limited numbers of last years cards. If interested please contact me for details.				
O				
T				
E				

The Standard Internal message for all Cards reads;

WITH BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

For larger orders -

Personalised Greetings messages can be printed where orders are placed for 50 or more cards of identical design. Please print the message and or supply artwork you would like in the space below. You can choose between an A5 or A6 size. A proof will be supplied.

Please indicate your preferred Card size: A5  A6

NB This order is VAT-FREE (Reg Charity No: 245701)

Corporate / Personalised card sales must be for orders of 50 or over.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR ORDER FORM TO Rtn. Rita Marrison by hand or via email to [r.marrison@btopenworld.com](mailto:r.marrison@btopenworld.com)

Cheques made payable to Hexham Rotary Club or by BACS payment to Hexham Rotary Club sort code 20-40-09 Account 50765295

Rotary Club of Hexham



# 2020 Christmas Card Collection

Contact : Rita Marrison

email: [r.marrison@btopenworld.com](mailto:r.marrison@btopenworld.com)

## A Few Oddments

Andy Rigg is looking for suitable spaces for **tree planting**—he has a couple of hundred trees and needs to find spaces where they will benefit the community but NCC is unable to offer any land this year. Private land near a footpath might be a solution.

Rita Marrison still has spaces available for volunteers to sell **Christmas Cards** in Corbridge on the 7th November and Hexham on the 14th November.

### Are we in a forgotten area.?

The weather this last week has been a mixture of sun and showers but the forecast for the week on Country File predicted rainstorms and strong winds as did the papers and BBC NE but where was all the rain? It certainly was damp but comparatively little fell in our garden.

This seems to be a general trend—Some parts of Northumberland rarely get a mention and it sometimes seems that those south of here think the Scottish Border runs horizontally across from the Solway.

The ARCH is in danger of fading away unless I get more material from members of Hexham Rotary. In this issue there are only 50 words from club members and, unless I get a sudden spate of new material, I am reverting to an issue every 2 months which means your next issue will arrive in January 2021.

JLD

## Have you heard of DEEP FAKES

[Deepfakes](#), also known as synthetic media, are spreading. Today, deepfake technology is most commonly used to create more realistic fake images or videos, but it can also be used to develop [fake biometric identifiers](#) such as voice and fingerprints. Most of us will have likely watched a film, tv show or advert that uses this technology, and we've probably all come across a 'deepfaked' photo or video – either knowingly or unknowingly – on social media. Some of us may even have played around with creating our own deepfakes using apps that let you superimpose your face onto that of your favourite actors.

“Until recently you needed the sophisticated technology of a Hollywood studio to create convincing deepfakes. Not anymore. The technology has become so advanced and readily available that one guy in his bedroom can create a very realistic deepfake,” says Andrew Bud, ceo and founder of fintech firm iProov. “A lot of people are using it for entertainment content, plus there's legitimate firms whose entire business is creating synthetic video and audio content for advertising or marketing purposes.”

The dark side of deepfakes

But deepfake technology also has a dark side. For some time now it's been used to create photos or videos to spread misinformation and influence public opinion or political discourse, often by attempting to discredit individuals or groups.

# Club and Council Meeting Nov 1<sup>st</sup> onwards – subject to review

Key **Green** are Club Meetings with a speaker **Blue** are Club/District Meetings of a Business nature, **Yellow** are Club Council Meetings

Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>			Arch Published	
Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Monday	18.30	Club Meeting	Dave King – editor Rotary Magazine
Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6.30pm	District Council	
Nov 16 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	Dr Peter Malkin – “Electrical Technologies for Emission-Free Flight”
Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	Saturday		Tree Planting	Andy Rigg
Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Monday	17.30	Club Council	
Nov 30 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	Lord Best – “How can old and young local people in rural areas obtain the homes they need”
Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday		Arch Published	
Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday		Tree Planting	Andy Rigg
Dec 7 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30pm	Club Meeting	Special General Meeting
Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>	Monday	6.30pm	Club Meeting	Xmas Dinner?

## 2021

Date	Day	Time	Event	Topic
January 4 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
February 1 <sup>st</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Business	
March 1 <sup>st</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Easter	Sunday		
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	5.30	Club Council	
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	AGM	
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Monday	Bank	Holiday	
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Monday	Bank	Holiday	
June 14 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Assembly	Agree next Rotary year's programme
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	Presidents' Handover
July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	