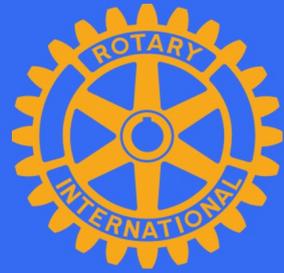




# The ARCH

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hexham



December 2020

## Hexham Rotary Finds a Music Bursary.

As many of you know or will have seen in the Courant, the Rotary Club of Hexham was proud to announce a Bursary scheme in conjunction with Core Music of Hexham. The money will cover courses of music lessons to young people who, through family poverty or distress, are unable to pay the fees themselves. The scheme was welcomed by Mike Coleman, the Director of Core Music.

The objective of the scheme is to advance the musical education of young people who would

benefit from musical tuition but who suffer economic disadvantage; with the aim of maintaining their mental wellbeing and social development, and improving their life chances.

Individuals may be referred for support from the Hexham Rotary Music Bursary by any of Core's network of independent music tutors or by school teachers, social workers, youth leaders or general practitioners. The applications should go directly to Core Music.

Young people referred for support must be 18 years of age or under and considered to be in circumstances in which financial support is needed for them to receive music lessons. If agreed for support, the young person will be awarded funding for courses of six lessons, to be provided by one of the professional music tutors who work at Core Music. At the end of each course of six lessons, if further tuition is recommended by the tutor, the scheme may provide support for a further course. Decisions by the Directors of Core Music to support or not to support any referral is final.

The initial fund will cover 5 years and provide 10 or 11 courses of six lessons each year. The bursaries will be advertised to the music tutors who teach at Core Music and annually to schools and other agencies who work with Young People in Hexham. The Rotary club is delighted to be able to give this support not only to a local Company but also to some of the deprived families in Hexham.



Mike Coleman of Core Music welcomes the idea

# ZOOM ACTIVITIES

Despite the current lockdown—which will end almost as soon as you see this—our club has continued to keep up our activities and communications using Zoom and getting out and about when we can legally do so. This last month, we had three entertaining talks via Zoom. The first by Dave King, the editor of the Rotary Magazine, looked at the way forward for Rotary and had several excellent ideas. The second by Dr Peter Malkin of Newcastle University introduced us to future technologies that might allow us to fly in green aircraft powered perhaps by hydrogen and just emitting water, while the third by Lord Best looked at housing local people in rural areas. We have also started a walking list of those who would like to get out for a walk with a friend while complying with any restrictions. This is run by Peter Jewitt walks @hexhamrotary.co.uk

AS well as this, the Club looked at ways of helping the local youth in these difficult times and, from a £5000 donation have so far been able to help the following good causes

Hexham Youth Initiative - £1,000

Corbridge Youth Initiative - £1,000

Allendale Youth Ambition - £1,000

Hexham Junior Netball Club - £100

Hexham 1st Scout Group - £500

Earlier we had to cancel our environmental project of tree planting due to problems with finding a site and also with the current lockdown. However Andy Rigg has sought other solutions and promises this opportunity in January (subject to any Covid restrictions);

*“As you are aware the County Council cannot accommodate us with sites this year for our planned tree planting. I have however over the last few weeks had protracted discussions with the National Trust and they are willing and very enthusiastic to accommodate two half days tree planting early in the new year. On Wednesday 13th January it is proposed to have a full morning planting at Allen Banks and a second session on the morning of Tuesday 19th January at Staward Gorge (near the Cart’s Bog Inn) replacing the recently felled conifers with our home-grown deciduous trees. The sites will be deer fenced so protection for the trees will be minimal. I plan to meet the Trust in two weeks time to confirm the arrangements.”*

If you would like to help, pass your name to [amrigg@hotmail.com](mailto:amrigg@hotmail.com)

Andy is also helping in the District drive to provide funds for the National Institute for the Blind by collating the collection of used postage stamps—so keep all the stamps off Christmas Cards and send them to Andy.

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## Calendar for 2021

The outline calendar for 2021 is on the back page, please let me know of any planned events you would like added. The shape of the calendar will undoubtedly change as we get more details on the Covid restrictions and, hopefully, by July should return to normal.

## ARCH

is having a rest over the New Year and the next edition will be out on the 1st February 2021.

Any article or photos to me by the 25th January please.

*John Dumbrell* [dumbrelljl@btinternet.com](mailto:dumbrelljl@btinternet.com)

# Stuck for a Christmas Present

This is a campaign to encourage Aquabox friends and supporters to sponsor a family filter as a gift for themselves, a friend or family member this Christmas. Each family filter is capable of meeting all the water needs for a family of 6. Trials in the Gambia have shown that the filters can continue to dispense water for over 7 years which we calculate is over 500,000l of safe drinking water - What a Gift of Life .

You can access the Campaign on [www.justgiving.com/campaign/cleanwaterforChristmas](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/cleanwaterforChristmas) and in return for the £25 donation on the JustGiving page, the donor will receive a certificate by e-mail which they can forward to their friends / relatives or print off and include in their Christmas cards.



Give a gift of clean water this Christmas

Please donate £25.00 for an Aquafilter on:  
[www.justgiving.com/campaign/cleanwaterforChristmas](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/cleanwaterforChristmas)  
and we will e-mail you a Certificate you can send to your friends or relatives.

#cleanwaterforchristmas



## Other Charity Gifts

Many other charities offer gifts in the same way as Aquabox, just look for the charity of your choice on the internet and pick your gift. Here is another example from Kids4Kids.

**Kids for Kids** is helping people to help themselves, stay in their homes, and give children a chance at a better future. Our sustainable projects lift families out of poverty and transform whole communities long-term. Every donation you make this Holiday Season will help us to continue our life saving work in Darfur. 2020 has been a difficult year in Sudan, and a lot has changed. Despite difficulties, we were able to adopt eight new villages in Darfur. Your support this time of year will make certain we are able to adopt new villages again next year, and help even more families living in horrible poverty.

If you have any questions or need any additional help please email [contact@kidsforkids.org.uk](mailto:contact@kidsforkids.org.uk) or ring **Charlotte Allum** on **07818 062259**. We are more than happy to help!

**Give this Christmas and get a special Personalised Christmas Gift Certificate!**

**Visit our website and choose the gift you would like to give.** This can be absolutely anything from

a [Goat](#), [Donkey](#), [Trees](#), [Mosquito Nets](#), [Farm Tools](#), [Education for a child for the year](#), [100 Club Lottery Tickets](#), or anything else you desire!

A decorative certificate template for Kids for Kids. It features a green border with small tree icons. At the top center is a gold star with a small illustration of children. Below the star, the text reads "Merry Christmas" in a green, cursive font. Underneath is a red ribbon graphic containing the word "(Recipient)". Below the ribbon, the text says "(Donation)" in green, followed by "has been donated in your name by" in black, and "(Donor)" in red. Below this is the phrase "to help transform the lives of children in Darfur" in black. There are two small photographs: one showing a group of children and another showing several blue plastic water containers. At the bottom, it says "Thank you for helping us fight climate change in a region rapidly turning to desert." in black. The footer includes the website [www.kidsforkids.org.uk](http://www.kidsforkids.org.uk), contact email [contact@kidsforkids.org.uk](mailto:contact@kidsforkids.org.uk), phone number 0797206440, and "Christmas 2019". There is also a small disclaimer box at the bottom.

# THAT'S ME UP THERE?

Some time ago, when I worked in Brussels, I found myself one evening with about half a dozen long-term British expatriates living and working in Brussels being softly “Aleckied”. The scene was a theatre in a suburb of Brussels. The occasion was the first night of *I Only Came Here for Six Months*, a new play by Alecky Blythe. This British writer was then pioneering a new approach to writing plays using a mini disc recorder to gather original interview material. This is then cut and spliced into a dramatic narrative and acted out on stage by performers wearing earpieces, listening to and repeating back the edited script. Her work first came to attention in 2003 when *Come Out Eli*, based on a true hostage-taking episode in Hackney was produced. It was followed by *All the Right People Come Here*, a mischievous take on the Wimbledon tennis tournament and subsequently a number of other plays.

When I encountered her, Blythe had been invited to Brussels by the British Council to explore expatriate life in the city through her interviews. Working with a cast of five young actors Blythe had boiled down her material to explore a number of themes; loneliness, the sense (for Belgian locals) of being overwhelmed, the difficulty for expatriates of establishing links, etc.. Some elements were comic – the US businessman who still only possessed “temporary” furniture after 13 years in Brussels, the pompous Eurocrat, the over-sexed graduate trainee as well as some touching moments (the daughter of a Danish high flying Eurocrat who never saw her father, the Liverpoolian housewife painfully alone in a Brussels suburb). And then there was me! Was that really me up there?



Alecky Blyth

Yes, it undeniably was for I was one of her subjects. My wife thought I'd been well captured. I wasn't so sure. Had I really said that when Alecky had interviewed me as Chair of the Brussels British Community Association? I had only myself to blame. I'd been invited to meet Alecky at a British Council event. We got chatting. Out came her mini-disc recorder. I recognised a lot of the material I had thus provided – Blythe was not just a good editor, she was a good listener. I was fascinated to see how quickly the recorder had been forgotten and just how we had babbled on.

After the performance, the first of five In Brussels, a number of us “Aleckied” subjects gathered in the theatre bar. We'd recognised each other of course, the journalist couple, the British director, the Liverpoolian housewife. We were full of congratulations to Alecky and her cast but, based on my own feelings, I'd say we all felt a little stung. It can't have been easy for the writer either to have had so much of her raw material sitting in the audience and now facing her in the bar.

A few years later, when I did a postgraduate degree in theatre techniques at RADA, I worked with Alecky again exploring her techniques. By this time her approach, also followed by other dramatists and known as “Verbatim Theatre” was blossoming. It was to reach a peak in 2011 when Blythe wrote *London Road* about the reactions of the residents of that street in Ipswich to a series of murders of prostitutes. The play was a major success at the National Theatre and it was later adapted as a very successful film starring Olivia Colman and Tom Hardy.

Alecky continues to write using the verbatim approach so watch out for a sparky blonde lady with a mini-disc recorder. You could be Aleckied. I rather suspect our Covid-19 experiences may provide useful material for a new play in due course.

*Bob Hull*

# Christmas Collections

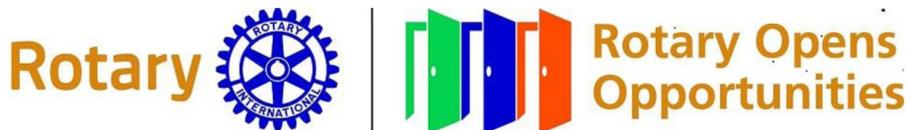
This is our appeal that has gone into the Courant and we hope will be printed on this Thursday. It has also gone out on Twitter and Facebook, but you could also pass it on to your friends.

This time of year it is often cold and wet, but the Christmas shopping still has to be done. Cast your mind back to last year – maybe you saw some chilly Hexham Rotarians collecting money for local charities in Fore Street. Maybe you felt sorry for them and gave them a donation! Maybe you enjoyed the choirs or bands who were playing in Fore Street and this encouraged you to donate for the benefit of local charities. This year everything is totally different and – sadly - there will be no Fore Street collection and no music. Yet the work of our local charities must go on, indeed they are needed more than ever during the pandemic. So please go to the Rotary Club Christmas Appeal JustGiving page and donate digitally. We have chosen to support three local charities: Gateway Into the Community, The Torch Centre and Chrysalis – you will find details of all three in this Christmas Chronicle. Please follow the link :



<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hexhamrotarychristmasappeal>

and give generously. Alternatively you could donate by cheque. Cheques should be payable to "The Rotary Club of Hexham Charity Account" and sent to: The Treasurer, The Rotary Club of Hexham, Shield Foot, Elvaston Grove, Hexham NE46 2HR.



## Rotary Politics

Changes to Rotary's legislative documents such as constitutions and bye-laws etc. is a slow but steady process. Every three years the Council on Legislation (COL) meets to consider proposed Legislation from Districts and Clubs. However the Council on Resolutions (COR) meets on-line every year to consider Resolutions proposed by Districts and Clubs.

Resolutions are a great way to propose ideas that will impact the Rotary world, however, the RI Board and the TRF Trustees will only consider resolutions adopted by the worldwide vote of members of the Council on Resolutions.

### 2020 Council on Resolutions

Resolutions have now been voted upon and here are the results of the more interesting ones. The full list is at <https://my.rotary.org/en/cor/vote>

IF the Resolution is passed then the RI Board have to consider it, but it does not bind them to anything. However, if it then goes to the Council on Legislation and is then passed, it becomes binding. So changes to our constitutions and policies have to be passed by the Council on Legislation. It is worth looking at the list of Resolutions to see the sort of items that come up.

# Donations and Thankyous

During November, we had the opportunity to make several donations to help local Youth and our club voted to give the following;

Firstly to Hexham Youth Initiative - £1,000, Corbridge Youth Initiative - £1,000, Allendale Youth Ambition - £1,000,, Hexham Junior Netball Club - £100., Hexham 1st Scout Group - £500

58% Of the club voted for the above with 24 in favour and 1 against.

Secondly to North Tyne Youth and Prudhoe Youth Project - £700 each .

63% of the club voted with 25 for and 2 against.

Meanwhile we have received the two thank you letters from the Tynedale Hospice for the NTGNR walk and the Scouts for the donation above.



John Dumbrell  
12 Alexandra Crescent  
Hexham  
Northumberland  
NE46 3AA

5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear John,

On behalf of our patients, clients and families, I would like to say thank you to Hexham Rotary for supporting Tynedale Hospice at Home with your recent donation of £2,200, which was sent in by John Robinson (Treasurer).

Your virtual marathon was great fun and it was lovely to meet you and some of the other Rotarians on the day.

Our priority has, and always will be, serving our community and ensuring local people have access to our care services. Your support during this time makes this possible.

It is often difficult to find the words to say how much we appreciate your generosity and support so I thought I would share with you with your words from a family whose relative we provided end of life care for.

"We can't thank you enough for the care and support provided to my dad and family. He wanted to spend the time he had left at home and you made this possible and helped him to feel safe and well looked after. I am sure that without your kindness and help he would not have been able to stay at home throughout. Everyone we came into contact with was always kind, professional and so supportive. Thank you."

After 25 years of hospice care, we are honoured to still be serving our community. We couldn't do this without your support.

With best wishes,

  
Cathy Bates  
Senior Fundraiser

You can update your communication preferences at any time by calling 01434 600388. You can also read our privacy policy at [www.tynedalehospice.com](http://www.tynedalehospice.com) or you can request to see it by calling us. We do not share your personal information for marketing purposes outside of the Hospice and your data is kept secure at all times.

1 Legion House  
Beaufront Park  
Anick Road  
Hexham, Northumberland  
NE46 4TU

Tel: 01434 600 388  
Email: [admin@tynedalehospice.com](mailto:admin@tynedalehospice.com)  
Web: [www.tynedalehospice.com](http://www.tynedalehospice.com)  
Registered Charity No: 1034170

30<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Mr David Hefferin  
24 Beaufront Avenue  
Hexham  
Northumberland  
NE46 1JD

Tel 01434603027  
Mobile 07929 199 626

Dear John

I am writing on behalf of the 1<sup>st</sup> Hexham Scout Group.

We would like to formally thank Hexham Rotary Club for your wonderful donation of £500.00 towards our Outdoor project.

We are working to transform currently unsafe land at the rear of the Scout Centre into an area that can be used by the young people in our Group for a wide variety of outdoor activities.

The main bulk of the funds we need are to install two levels of decking with safety rails onto the steep bankside. Other plans include a fenced off Tandoor Cooking area & the creation of a seated open fire pit area.

This wonderful donation is a great help with our fundraising & on behalf of all the children who will ultimately benefit from the success of the project, we are extremely grateful for the support of Hexham Rotary club.

We will keep the Rotary club up to date with the project as it progresses and we will invite members of the club to have a look around once completed, hopefully with a barbeque if the weather and the current situation is finally resolved.

Yours Sincerely

David Hefferin  
1<sup>st</sup> Hexham Scout Group executive committee

## Opportunity to hear Jennifer Jones

On 2 October, RI President Holger Knaack declared Jennifer Jones to be the official nominee for President of Rotary International for 2022-23. She will be formally elected at the Taipei Convention. You have an opportunity to hear her speak at the Kelso Conversation on the 10th December at 6pm. To do so you need to register before hand.

The meeting with Jennifer Jones is on 10 December at 6pm. This is the registration link,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAlldOCpqz0sHtf0rRZGN1E5kpTObXErGJmy>

## Our Questionnaire

Our thanks to everyone who completed our questionnaire. 26 (60%) of our 43 members have responded and the results are being analysed. It is not too late to send in your response which will be welcome as the more members who reply the better and the more accurate will be the results. Once the analysis is complete and has been discussed by Club Council, a set of results will be circulated to all members.

## Club and Council Meetings 2021 subject to review

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

Date	Day	Time	Event	Topic
January 4 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	Wild Bees – Charlotte & Gordon Port of NNHS
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday		Tree Planting	Andrew Rigg
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday		Tree Planting	Andrew Rigg
February 1 <sup>st</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	Chris Harding - Photography
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Business	
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Monday		District Council	
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 18 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10 - 12	PEPS	For incoming Presidents
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 11 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday		District Council	
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday		District Assembly	
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	
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
August 16 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Monday	12.30	Business	
August 30 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	Bank	Holiday	
September 6 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
October 4 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
November 1 <sup>st</sup>	Monday	6.30	SGM	Elect officers, approve accounts
November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Club Meeting	
November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Monday	5.30	Club Council	
November 29 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	6.30	Club Meeting	
December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	12.30	Xmas Lunch	