

OUR CALENDAR

We have an interesting speaker at most of our meetings and a full programme of events is published on our website at <http://www.hexhamrotary.co.uk/Future%20Events/>. The programme for the next few months is shown below.

Meetings are held as follows B= Beaumont Hotel, G =Hexham Golf Club (NE46 3RZ). Items in RED are Business or Special Meetings, Items in GREEN are outings or special events. Items in Blue are District events. E is an evening meeting 6pm for 6.30 at the Beaumont or 6.00 pm for 6.45 at the Golf Club unless otherwise stated. Normal meetings are at lunch time at the Beaumont Hotel -12.30 for 12.45pm each Monday. For up to date information check the website at www.hexhamrotary.co.uk or phone the Secretary on 01434 609802. Club Councils are held at the President's House at 5.30pm.

Month	Date	Event	Location	Speaker
Oct	Friday 4-Sun 6	District Conference 2019	The Rendezvous Hotel, Skipton	
	Monday 7	Anne Dale	A privilege to serve for 25 years	Rita Marrison
EB	Monday 14	John Dumbrell	The World Wide Web of Rotary	John Dumbrell
	Tuesday 15	Club Council		
	Monday 21	Business Meeting		
Forum	Wednesday 23	Rob Caskie	The NorthWest Passage-Triumph & Tragedy in the ice	Brian Massey
	Thursday 24	World Polio Day		
		Lord Stevens of Kirkwhelpington	Memories of Policing	Andy Rigg
EG	Monday 28			
Nov	Saturday 2	Hexham Round Table	Bonfire Night - Helpers from Rotary	Roy Dallison
	Monday 4	Kevin Stannard, Prior	A Modern Day Northumberland Knight's Templar	Norman Wicks
EB	Monday 11			Nick Rossiter
	Thursday 14	District Council		
	Saturday 16		Planting Trees & Crocuses	
	Monday 18	Visit to Durham	Visit Cathedral & Treasury am. & organ repairers pm	Andy Rigg
	Friday 22	Film Evening Forum	Organised by International	
EG	Monday 25	Neill Wylie	The Journey to become a Rotary President	Neill Wylie
	Tuesday 26	Club Council		
	Thursday 28	District	Junior Technology Tournament	
Dec	Monday 2	David Houpt	Global Sight Solutions	Richard Nelson
	Saturday 7		Planting Trees & Crocuses	
Lunch	Monday 9	Business Meeting & SGM		
	Saturday 14	Hexham Christmas Market	Abbey - Foundation & Membership	
	Monday 16	Josey George	Jaipur Limbs	Max Hamps
	16-21 Dec	Fore Street Collection	Organised by Community	
EG	Monday 23	Christmas Dinner	6.15 pm for 6.45pm	

Our next issue is due out on the 1st December and the deadline for copy is the 25th November.

Articles and photos should be emailed to John at dumbrelljl@btinternet.com.

Articles with good supporting pictures are preferred but they can be on any interesting subject not necessarily on a Rotary topic.



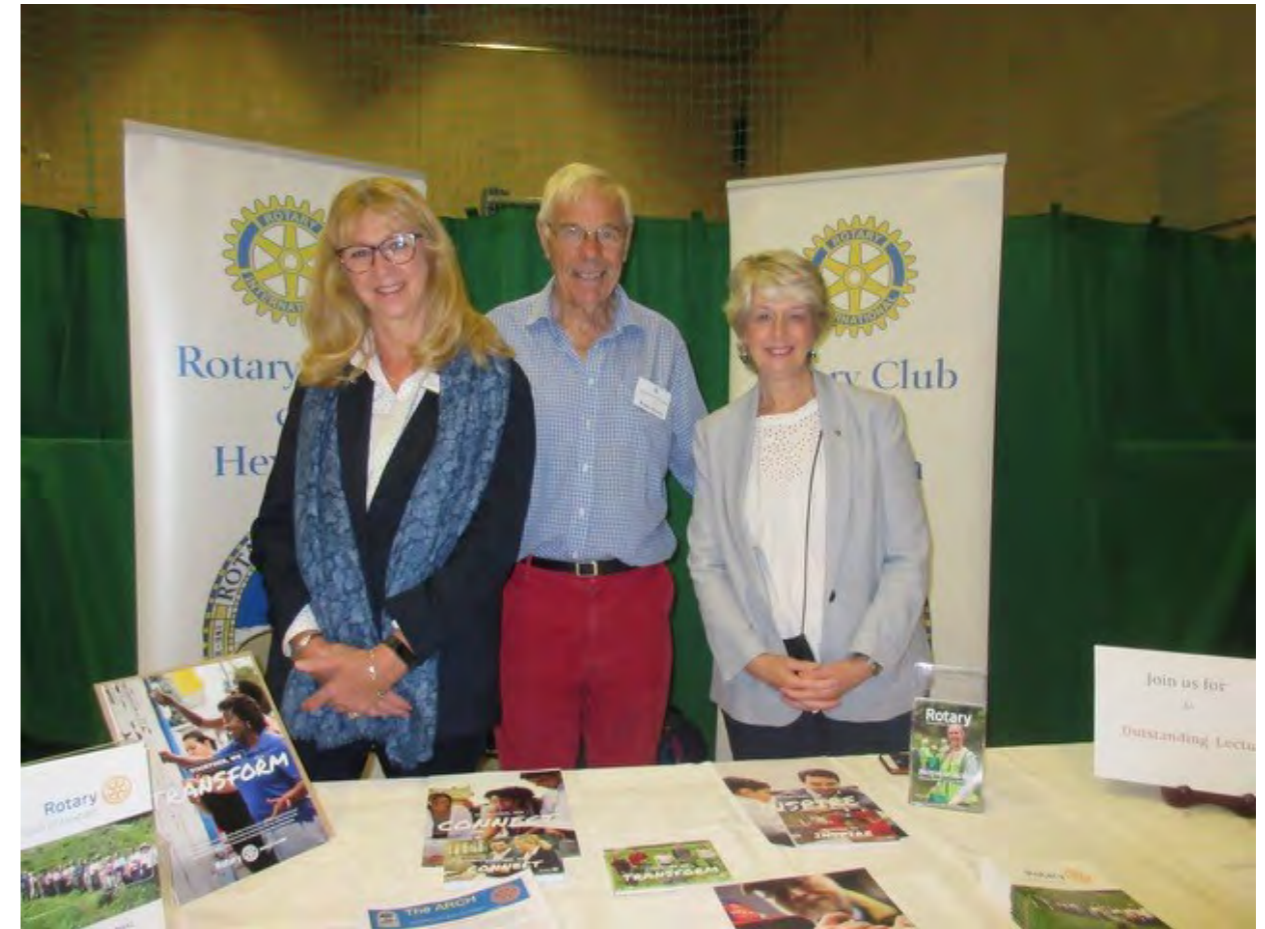
The ARCH

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hexham



October 2019

Why not become a Rotarian



Our Hexham Rotary Club is an organization of ladies and gentlemen who meet together to help make a difference in our communities and abroad.

We welcome men and women of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy the benefits of meeting new friends, hearing inspirational speakers, participating in social projects and events, assisting with fundraising and networking with like-minded people.

The photo shows an opportunity we took recently to promote the Club at a open event at the Wentworth Leisure Centre.

Please e-mail mbmassey@waitrose.com if interested in learning more.

RE-WILDING

At our evening meeting on August 12th, we had a most informative talk by Victoria Lancaster on re-wilding the Ennerdale valley in the Lake District. Victoria is a manager with the National Trust engaged in land management and the talk was so interesting that I asked her to follow it up with an article for our magazine. The views are Victoria's and not necessarily those of the National Trust. The pictures are courtesy of www.wildennerdale.co.uk and show the progress made in Ennerdale.

Re-wilding in the UK doesn't mean wolves and bears roaming the wild woods – at least not yet. The topic itself is a tangled thicket of a subject with some seeing the growing interest in wild nature as a threat to conventional farming and others' feeling that it is the answer to our growing sense of separation from nature and an opportunity to restore our battered biodiversity.



So why do we need to re-wild? It is clear that wildlife in the UK has crashed dramatically since the Second World War. The State of Nature 2016* report showed that 56% of the UK's wild species have declined in the past 50 years and continue to do so. It is a shock to discover that more than one in ten species in the UK faces extinction – we have already lost 492 species since the late 1800's –

24% of our butterflies, 22% of amphibians and 15% of dolphins and whales are lost forever; the Apple Bumblebee will never buzz around our orchards again; and Ivell's sea anemone disappeared from the sensitive brackish lagoons of West Sussex as recently as 1983. The UK government's 2018 biodiversity indicators show that the decline in the abundance of 'priority species' continues.



Agro-environmental subsidy schemes, though they have inspired some farmers to change their practices, have ultimately failed to halt this decline. Environmentalists, academics, land managers and farmers are now looking for dramatically different, innovative ways to create biodiversity. Re-wilding is the most high profile experiment and the most contentious.

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ROTARY PRESIDENT ANDREW RIGG DONATES CHEQUE TO SARAH RICHARDSON ON BEHALF OF THE STILLBIRTH CHARITY, "SANDS"

Sands is the stillbirth and neonatal death charity founded in 1978 and exists to reduce the number of babies dying and to ensure that anyone affected by the death of a baby receives the best possible care and support for as long as they need it. 15 babies each day are still born in the United Kingdom.

Rotary President Andrew Rigg is pictured presenting a cheque for £200 to Sarah Richardson of the Sands Charity from the Hexham Rotary "President's Fund". The fund allows for an annual donation to a charity of the President's choice. Andrew chose "Sands" after the charity had been so helpful when his daughter Julia and husband James lost their still born son Noah three years ago. Their regular meetings in Newcastle helped to ease the loss.



Sands works to reduce the number of babies dying by better understanding of the causes of baby deaths and by working with governments and other organisations to drive change and raise awareness of the issues relating to baby loss. Sands provides bereavement support services at both a local and national level. These include the Sands Freephone helpline, mobile app, online community, family support packs, memory boxes and over 100 regional support groups run by trained 'befrienders'.

Sands works to improve bereavement care available to parents and families, by offering a range of training programmes and resources and working in partnership with health care professionals, trusts and health boards. The cheque will help the charity continue with providing all of the above services.

Andrew Rigg.

The Four-Way Test

The Four-Way Test is a nonpartisan and nonsectarian ethical guide for Rotarians to use for their personal and professional relationships. The test has been translated into more than 100 languages, and Rotarians recite it at club meetings:

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The North West Passage

Hexham Rotary Club is organising, what will surely be, a fantastic Lecture to be given by the South African, Rob Caskie in the Forum Cinema at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 23rd October. The talk with a sub title of;

Triumph and Tragedy in the Arctic Ice

Traces the history of the search for a route through the Arctic Ocean around the north of Canada to the Pacific Ocean. This had been a quest for decades as Britain, Europe and America all wished to find a route linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and so shorten the great ocean journeys to the East.



Finding a route between Greenland and Canada through the Bering Sea proved well nigh impossible, due to the Arctic Ocean's icecap and sea ice. A number of attempts to find the fabled North-West Passage had failed, many ending in disaster.

It was the Norwegian Roald Amundsen, perhaps the greatest Polar explorer of all, who in 1903-1905, with a small boat and team, finally found a way through. The renowned lecturer, Rob Caskie, will share stories of the North-West Passage, of the daring men and the triumphs and tragedies of the human spirit in the frozen Arctic.

All proceeds will go to charity – Hexham Rotary Club Emergency Disaster Fund and Tyne-dale Hospice at Home. This is sure to be popular and early booking is advised, tickets (£15) can be obtained online from the Forum Cinema at www.forumhexham.com

A VERY SUCCESSFUL YOUTH LEADERSHIP COURSE

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a leadership development programme run by Rotary for young adults. Whether secondary school pupil, university student or young professional, RYLA will help discover potential and develop the skills needed to be a leader in your community, career and everyday life. Each RYLA student is sponsored by a local Rotary club and Hexham Rotary sponsored Jack Feeley on the course at an outdoor adventure training centre.

RYLA programmes run over several days and give participants the opportunity to gain exposure to leadership scenarios and to explore problem-solving strategies as part of a team. Also to discuss and apply creative approaches to leadership and conflict management, build self-confidence and meet new people and make lasting friendships. Students also learn how to arrange youth activities and community service projects locally and internationally.

Teamwork exercises bring the students together from different walks of life in a safe environment where everyone can get to know each other without fear of exclusion or negativity. You don't need to be a high achiever with outstanding academic grades, just be willing to try something new through activity-based learning and discover new talents along the way, as well as having fun. RYLA programmes involve physical challenges so can be demanding. Some degree of fitness is required. The courses are open to people aged 14 to 30.

The Rotary Club of Hexham plan to regularly send candidates on the course and in 2020 have already agreed to finance two young people. Our pictures shows Jack, his mother Emma and family, with Neill Wylie & President, Andrew Rigg from Hexham Rotary. The award ceremony was held on September 19th.



What is re-wilding? Re-wilding means allowing natural processes to take the lead – loosening the hand of man and trusting nature to take its course. This approach can feel uncomfortable; it requires patience and imagination and it doesn't come naturally to us to stand back and wait. We are used to seeing the land as a canvas for our own needs - for agriculture and food production, access and leisure. Luckily these different demands can all be accommodated within wilding.



By taking a piece of land and letting it go wild, it is surprising how quickly nature returns – 5 to 10 years will make a real difference to the numbers of species present. Who knows where they come from? By letting rivers meander and spread, by allowing fields to scrub up with hawthorn and bramble and by letting woodlands spread outwards, a group of courageous individuals and organisations across the UK are bringing their places back to life. They are creating mosaics of different, rich habitats which are in turn creating an explosion of insects, amphibians, small and larger birds and animal populations.

And re-wilding can include farming. Indeed, if it is to be dynamic and diverse, the vegetation must be grazed by different 'trophic levels' of herbivorous animals. Thousands of years ago,



these animals were great aurochs, tarpan and the omnivorous wild boar. Nowadays we can achieve similar effects with hardy cattle, ponies, deer and pigs and they can go into the food chain as exceptionally high quality, organic meat, creating an additional income.

Can people benefit from re-wilding? The most successful re-wilding schemes are created on a landscape scale, where a vast range of habitats can re-establish, from ponds and wetlands to dense hedges and grasslands. Birds fill the air with song, insects flit and buzz, cattle disappear like ghosts into the woods – perhaps the splash of a beaver's tail echoes through the willow carr. A place for calm reflection, a momentary escape from the chaos of modern life, a sense of belonging to nature - wild places connect us at a deep level. It is a fact that spending time in nature is not only good for our physical wellbeing but very important for our mental health too. Wild places may not be a panacea but I believe that they offer a lifeline for nature and for people. I hope you agree.

Victoria Lancaster

Editor's note—the website www.wildennerdale.co.uk is worth visiting and has much more information about their project and many excellent photographs.

HEXHAM ROTARY VISIT TO CORSTOPITUM IN CORBRIDGE.



On Monday 16th September 23 Rotarians and some partners met at the Corbridge Roman Fort for a guided visit. The weather was favourable. Our English Heritage volunteer guide was Ian Copper, ex – Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Ponteland. Ian started by explaining a few of the exhibits in the museum, including some chest armour, which was remarkable as it is

the only armour that has been yet discovered in the UK which is still linked together, enabling an accurate reconstruction of a full suit.

Although it is a large site only 10% of the fort is visible. The hour long tour was fascinating; Ian's professional background as



a civil engineer was a great help in explaining how the site has changed over the 300+ years it was occupied by the Romans.

Rotarian Tom Jobson who organised the visit gave a vote of thanks before Ian joined us for an excellent lunch at the Rat Inn in Anick where Ian continued to address our questions.

A most enjoyable visit.

Andrew Rigg and Andy Moore.

Bowled Over

Rotarian Shelagh Carter has had a good summer playing bowls. She has reached the final of three Bowls Northumberland competitions, winning the senior singles and the pairs competition. She was runner up in the two wood competition (which she won last year). However, she qualified in all three competitions to represent Northumberland at the Nationals in Leamington Spa in August, where she acquitted herself well, getting to the last 16 in the pairs competition with her partner Jean Allen. They had tough matches against Cornwall and Kent before being knocked out by a strong Bedfordshire team.



Cleaning Up Hexham

The Rotary Club of Hexham contributed to the Community Partnership and Town Council's "Clean and Green" clean up on 17th and 18th September. Pictured (from left to right) are volunteer Wendy Breach, Hexham Rotary President Andrew Rigg and Rotarians Brian Sander-son, Terry Robson, Roy Dallison, Peter Jewitt and Brian Massey.



The team worked hard for two and a half hours and collected many bags of rubbish from the streets and public areas in Hexham. The Community Partnership had organised the two day initiative. Rotary's support was much appreciated by the Partnership and the Town Council and the result was a litter free Hexham.