

The Rotary Club of Yeovil

Anniversary Celebration and Fund Raising Dinner

The Wardroom RNAS Yeovilton Friday 20th July 2012







Based on extracts from an article in the Western Gazette published 26th May, 1922

ROTARY CLUB'S INAUGURATION

SIR HARRY HATT EXPLAINS THE MOVEMENT

HIGHER PRINCIPLES IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE

The Yeovil Rotary Club held its inaugural gathering in the Masonic Hall on Wednesday, when Mr. R. A. Bruce presided at a luncheon attended by a full gathering of local members and a number of visitors from the Bath Rotary Club, including the President, Sir Harry Hatt.

The Chairman, at the conclusion of the meal, introduced Sir Harry Hatt, and said they had a great advantage in inaugurating their meetings with such a gathering. They much appreciated the assistance they had had from their Bath friends, realising the difficulties of forming an organisation, the abstract merits of which were generally understood, but the constitution and so on of which were entirely unknown. Their Bath friends had been splendid in giving them the assistance required.

Sir Harry Hatt, who was given a very cordial reception, expressed his pleasure in welcoming their club to the movement and in bringing to them most cordial greetings. They were not only that day starting a Rotary Club, but they were embarking on a great adventure, and they would, in the course of time, become affiliated to the British Association and later become part of the great Rotary International spread over the world. It was an association in which the spirit of friendship, mutual confidence, service and sympathy and consideration for others was the guiding spirit, in all their relations, whether in commerce, private life or international affairs.

Going on to speak of its objects and aims, Sir Harry said that Rotary was an ideal - and an association of ideals - and success would largely depend on the personality of members who formed Rotary Clubs. He suggested they would be exceedingly careful how they added to their membership: they wanted to see that they got the best. When he said best, he did not mean men in the largest way of business; they wanted them to have the Rotary spirit. One thing they must impress was that there was nothing (by way of business) to be got out of Rotary.

Emphasising the growth of the movement since before the war to its present level of 80000, he said it was reasonable to suppose before long there might be a million men meeting round 30000 or 40000 tables, and they would realise, he said, what an enormous force this might be, composed as it was by men travelling all over the world. The cultivation of friendship was the first duty of the Rotary and on that friendship the whole remaining structure was built.

There was no business man so poor who could not afford some time for more work outside his business and no man had a right to a free ride on the car of progress someone else was running.

Mr J. C. Medcalf proposed the thanks of the Yeovil Club to their Bath Club visitors and the proceedings terminated.





From the President of the Rotary Club of Yeovil

It is a great privilege and honour to welcome you all to our 90th Anniversary Celebration and Fund Raising Dinner.

I am very pleased that so many Rotarians have joined us, especially those from our 'Mother' clubs, Bath and Weston-super-Mare. It is a pleasure to welcome members from the Rotary Club of Bielefeld in Germany, rekindling our clubs' associations of the past. I am also delighted that so many members of our link club, The Rotary Club of Apeldoorn, have travelled from The Netherlands to be here tonight and I hope that our long-standing association and friendship will continue for many years to come.

Grateful thanks go to Commodore Paul Chivers OBE RN, Station Commander and Captain of Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton, for granting us permission to celebrate tonight's occasion in the beautiful and prestigious surroundings of the Ward Room. We are also appreciative of the services of the HMS Heron Volunteer Band, who have so kindly waived their fees to play for us during the meal.

Given the setting for this evening, the air station's involvement in recent and ongoing conflicts and the close association that I and other club members have had with the Services, I found the choice of charity to benefit from this evening an easy one. Help for Heroes is a most worthwhile cause, where all money donated goes to help the wounded Servicemen and women returning from Afghanistan and Iraq. Please join us in supporting them, either by bidding for items or promises in the auction - which will follow the dinner - or by making a donation in the envelopes provided. Events such as this take a great deal of organising and I wish to place on record my sincere thanks to all those involved, especially to members of the Rotary Club of Yeovil for their encouragement and support.

Finally, I would like to thank our advertisers, other supporters and sponsors for their generous contributions and, of course, even more importantly, to thank you for your attendance this evening and for helping to celebrate The Rotary Club of Yeovil's 90 years of service to communities locally and around the world. I hope you enjoy the evening.



Rotarian Mike Nethaway President 2012/13 The Rotary Club of Yeovil



The Rotary Club of Yeovil

The Rotary Club of Yeovil received its Charter on 17 July 1922 and was one of 44 other clubs formed in Great Britain that year. It now has 37 members.

During its time, it has sponsored the formation of three other Rotary Clubs in the area: Glastonbury and Street in 1947; Crewkerne in 1953 and more recently; Yeo Vale in 1986 - which also serves the Yeovil area. From these, other clubs have extended: Avalon Club in 1986 and Crewkerne District Club in 2009.

Yeovil Club has close links with the Apeldoorn Club in the Netherlands and, about once every two years, visits take place between the two, with the countries alternating each time.

In 2002 Yeovil became only one of 28 Clubs in Britain to be selected as a 'pilot' club, to propose new ideas on behalf of Rotary International. This project saw the introduction of Associate Rotarians, who support the ideals of Rotary but are not able to participate fully in the Club's activities and changed the way in which the clubs internal committees were structured.

The Club is engaged in many local community activities, not only helping groups and organisations through its fundraising efforts, but also 'getting stuck in' by upholding Rotary's philosophy of 'service' and lending a helping hand with projects in and around the town.

The Club continues to support Rotary Foundation and regularly hosts visitors from other Rotary Districts across the world. It also organises a wide range of service and fund-raising activities to support the aims of Rotary, focusing particularly on senior citizens, young people and all those less fortunate.

However, Yeovil Club members believe Rotary should be 'fun' and work hard trying to achieve this goal – as tonight will no doubt testify!

Current members (37)

(in alphabetical order) and their year of joining

Caroline Ansell - 2011 Tony Ashley - 1973

Mary. Bramwell - 2002

John Buckley - 2010

Peter Burrows - 2002

Reg Coppard - 1975 Brian Cowling - 1994

Alan Cox - 1993

David Crossland - 1984

Robert Fox - 2000

Scott Gibbons - 2009

Rob Guest - 2002

Barrie Hartley - 2006

John Hollis - 2003

Dudley Langley - 2008

Peter Loxston - 2011

lan Martin - 2011

Ken McIver - 1977

Brian Murray - 1982

Michael Nethaway - 2007

Jim Nowell - 1973

Leke Osoba - 2004

Yinka Osoba - 2004

Patrick Palmer - 1978

Michael Phillips – 1994

Debbie Pugh-Jones - 2012

Paul Rogers - 2010

Simon Slade - 1999

Frank Spurr - 1992

Dennis Stevens - 2006

Michael Streatfield - 2002

Jack Sweet - 2004

Bryan Tilzey - 1976

Tony Turner - 1976

Tony Turner 1370

Clive Wakely - 2009 Roger White - 2003

Roger Wille 2003

Debbie Wilkes - 2012

Overseas Links & Associations

Links between Clubs in different countries play an important role in the Rotary aim to foster international understanding and world peace.

Early attempts for the Yeovil Club to follow "officially inspired" links seemed to gain little ground. But an unofficial friendship, starting as it were, out of the blue, has become firmer with passing years. This association is with the Netherland's Rotary Club of Apeldoorn, a town some 17-miles north of Arnhem with a population of around 137,000.

In 1955 an approach was made to the Apeldoorn Club about an exchange of visits by members' children. This was followed in 1956 by a firm invitation for ten children of the Dutch Rotarians to spend a holiday in Yeovil. It was a great success and became the forerunner of a series of regular exchanges between the two Clubs involving not only children but members and their partners also. The link continues today and regular exchanges, mainly now by Club members and their partners, take place – usually on a two-yearly basis.

The Apeldoorn Club also has a long standing 'official' Rotary link with the Rotary Club of Bielefeld in Germany, a city in the Ostwestfalen-Lippe region that has a population of approximately 323,000. The link between the Clubs in the Netherlands and Germany now enables the Yeovil Club to enjoy a close and friendly international relationship, of which it is extremely proud.

Recognising service in Rotary: the Paul Harris Fellowship

The highest and most esteemed award that can be given in Rotary is dedicated to the memory of its founder. A Paul Harris Fellowship can be sponsored by a Rotarian or a Rotary Club and it is not awarded lightly. Only those who have made an outstanding contribution to the service of others, either within Rotary, in the local community or in the wider world, are considered.

A number of current and former Yeovil Club members have been recognised as Paul Harris Fellows:

1980: Past President John Mitchell, sponsored by the Apeldoorn Club

1985: Derek Rogers, sponsored by a Rotarian from Texas, Clayton Lee

1991: Past District Governor Harvard Sawtell, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

1999: Past District Governor Brian Murray, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

2000: Past District Governor Dennis Taylor, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

2003: Leo Hodgson, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

2008: Past President Reg Coppard, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

2010: Past President Brian Cowling, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

2010: Past President Ken McIver, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

2010: Past President Ivor Hughes, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

2012: Past President Bryan Tilzey, sponsored by the Yeovil Club

Also: Past President Christopher Arrow, sponsored by the Somerset West Club in South Africa

Keith Pearson, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bangkok

Past President of Apeldoorn Rotary Club Marten Lourens, sponsored by the Yeovil Club



Potted Salmon and Crab with Crème Fraiche

Breast of Chicken with Mushrooms and Smoked Bacon Sauce

Selection of Seasonal Vegetables

Framboise Brulee, with Shortbread Biscuit

Coffee and Mints

Rotary House Wines

Red: Telegraph Station Pinot Noir (Australia) White: Telegraph Station Semillon (Australia)



Harpist Carol Arblaster



Carol has lived in the West Country most of her life, first on the West Coast of the U.S.A. and, more recently, the West Country in Somerset. Her Celtic heart has emerged through taking up the harp in 1995, learning in the oral tradition, like the old Irish bards without the aid of written scores

Carol is based at the moated, Medieval Bishop's Palace beside Wells Cathedral where she sometimes plays. In February 2010 she debuted "Celtic Harp Offering", performing for guests at Buckingham Palace.

HMS Heron Royal Naval Volunteer Band



HMS Heron Royal Naval Volunteer Band comprises of Serving Military and Civilian personnel from various locations in Somerset and neighbouring Counties. The band has a primary role of providing music for ceremonial and social occasions around The Royal Naval Air Station. Such functions include a variety of Wardroom Dinners, Ceremonial Divisions, as well as providing music for Air Days and the Annual Christmas Concert in The Fleet Air Arm Museum. The Bandmaster is Band Colour Sergeant Tom Crane.

Programme

Toastmaster Rotarian David Read - Past President, The Rotary Club of Wrington Vale

7.00pm Reception, Lounge Bar

Music by Harpist Carol Arblaster

7.30pm "Dinner is served"

Grace Brother Samuel SSF - Guardian, the Home of St Francis, Hilfield

Welcome to Guests Rotarian Mike Nethaway – President, The Rotary Club of Yeovil

Dinner Served by Ward Room staff.

Music by the Volunteer Band of HMS Heron

The Loyal Toast Proposed by Rotarian Roger White - President-Elect, The Rotary Club of Yeovil

Comfort Break Approximately 15-minutes, during which time the coffee will be served.

Head Chef and Bandmaster to visit the top table.

Address Rotarian Mike Nethaway – President, The Rotary Club of Yeovil

Presentations Rotarian Patrick Palmer - Past President, The Rotary Club of Yeovil

Mrs Marian Murray - President, The Inner Wheel Club of Yeovil

Addresses Commander Neil Thompson OBE RN – Commander, Air RNAS Yeovilton

Mr Richard Lupton - Regional Co-ordinator, Help for Heroes

Vote of Thanks Proposed by Rotarian Brian Murray - Past Governor, Rotary International

District 1200

Auction of Items

and Promises Conducted by Mr. Tim Edmonds - Edmonds Commercial Agents, Yeovil

Finale Please withdraw to the Lounge Bar, which will remain open

01.00am Carriages

The Rotary Club of Yeovil 1922 - 2012

A few moments in our Club's history

1923: In January 1923 the Club's subscription was raised from £1 1s to £1 11s 6d, and in 1929, after a good deal of controversy, it was agreed to hold weekly instead of fortnightly meetings.

1924: During the first twelve years or so in the Club's life there was quite a strong emphasis on the production of stage plays. In November 1924 The Thirteenth Chair, by Bayard Veiller, was staged at the Palace Theatre, Yeovil to aid the new building fund for Yeovil District Hospital. The cast included a number of Yeovil Rotarians, their wives and daughters and, following the performance, all received much praise.

On 14th November 1924, the Western Gazette said "the Club is one of the town's youngest public institutions but in the short period of its existence it has already given expression to its motto of 'service above self'. There were many later stage productions and interest in drama is believed to have continued until about 1935 when – other than in the case of certain current members - it appears to have ceased.

1925: Sadly, many of the early records of the club were lost, either by fire or other causes. We do know however that in 1925 the luncheon meetings moved from the Masonic Hall to Maynard's Borough Restaurant, later to be known as the Cadena Café.

1932: In 1932 the price of the lunch was reduced (yes, reduced!) from 2s 9d to 2s 6d per head.

1937: For 75 of it's 90 year history Yeovil Rotary Club has been privileged to work with an Inner Wheel Club. A suggestion that a branch of Inner Wheel be established in Yeovil was first mooted in December 1931. Nothing resulted immediately however and it was not until 1937 that the Inner Wheel Club of Yeovil was Chartered. There were 23 founder members and meetings were, like Rotary's, held at the Cadena Cafe in Yeovil. Rotarians have every reason to be grateful to the Inner Wheel for the unfailing help and co-operation they provide whenever asked and the two clubs have jointly promoted a number of projects of great benefit to communities, at home and overseas.

1946: The names of the Presidents of the Club from 1922 to 2012 are inscribed on a board presented to the club in 1946 by Past-Presidents R.A.Bruce and R.J.Norton, which is kept permanently at the Club's meeting place. Currently it resides on the wall in the reception area of the Yeovil Court Hotel, where the Club meets every Tuesday at 6.00pm – unless there is a visit or special event taking place.

1967/1971: In September 1967, an ambitious but successful Charity Ball was organised in



conjunction with the Round Table and held at Yeovil Technical College. Music for dancing was provided for by the Cyril Stapleton Orchestra, a band that will be remembered by many as having played regularly on the BBC.

In succeeding years, this fund-raising effort became a joint project for the club, the Round Table and the Yeovil Lions. On a number of occasions the venue was, by kind permission of the Officer Commanding, the Heron Club, Royal Naval Air Station, Yeovilton. In 1971 the Ball was held specifically in aid of the Yeovil Rotary Club charity fund and raised £200. A Joint Charity Ball Committee still exists, although events are organised less frequently. The number of local service clubs involved has expanded and now includes representatives from Yeovil and YeoVale Rotary Clubs, Yeovil Lions, Yeovil Round Table and the Yeovil and Sherborne branch of Soroptimists.

Close Associations

Hilfield Friary

In 1922 Brother Douglas, who created the Home of St Francis at Batcombe, was present at the inaugural meeting of the Rotary Club of Yeovil in May of that year. A link was thus created between the Home and the Club, which continues to this day. Each year since – in particular at the Club's pre-Christmas Dinner - a speaker from the Home of St Francis has provided members with an update on the activities of the Friars both at home and overseas.

Similar to Rotary Clubs internationally, Hilfield Friary – as it is now known - has given help for the homeless and the wellbeing of the community, as well as providing a place for prayer, reflection and renewal. Today at Hilfield there is a particular emphasis on living and promoting Franciscan values of care for creation, working for peace, justice and the environment and seeking respectful dialogue with people of other faiths.





Grovelands Care Centre

Considered at the time as one of the most worthwhile and financially ambitious projects ever launched by Yeovil Rotary Club was the provision of a home for up to 25 elderly people. Grovelands, as it now called, was adopted by members in 1956 even though it was realised that a formidable sum of money would be required – something like £17k to £20k.

Club members established the Yeovil District Housing Association and, thanks to the generosity

of Past President J.C.Corrie, a suitable property was found on extremely favourable terms. The Home was officially opened on 26th November 1962 and is now run by Somerset Care Ltd. Grovelands continues to thrive with the original premises in Grove Avenue having recently been extended and fully refurbished.



Help for Heroes

Help for Heroes (H4H) was founded by Bryn and Emma Parry after a profoundly moving visit to Selly Oak Hospital in the summer of 2007, where they met some young people who had been badly wounded and wanted to do something to help. The



original idea was to go on a bike ride from Caen to Cannes and raise £10,000. But, following a suggestion from General Sir Richard Dannatt, the idea grew and Emma and Bryn took on the challenge to raise £8million to build a new Rehabilitation Complex at Headley Court.

Emma and Bryn rode 350 miles through France, alongside 300 cyclists from all walks of life, to raise a staggering £1.4m. Within eight months, H4H had achieved its initial aim of raising £8 million, but the money kept pouring in. The charity had touched a nerve with the British public and it fast became a national phenomenon.

Now, Help for Heroes raises money to support members of the Armed Forces who have been wounded in service. It asks supporters to "do their bit" to show the brave young men and women they are cared for. Over one-million people have responded to date and £millions have been raised to buy much needed services that will aid the recovery process. So far almost all the money has been allocated to fund direct projects and support other service charities.

Speaking this evening is Richard Lupton, who has been involved with fundraising for H4H since the start. Previously a regular infantry officer with the Royal Green Jackets and an employee at AugustaWestland, Richard has recently been appointed as the charity's south west regional coordinator. He lives on the Blackdown Hills with his family and – time permitting – serves in the Rifles as a TA officer.

We thank you for your support.

RNAS Yeovilton

Also known as HMS Heron, RNAS Yeovilton is one of the Navy's two principal air bases and one of the busiest military airfields in the UK. It is home to more than 100 aircraft operated by both front-line squadrons and training units - including all Fleet Air Arm Lynx and the Commando Helicopter Force - plus the legendary vintage aircraft of the RN Historic Flight.



The base covers 1,400 acres and is occupied by around 4,300 personnel - both service and civilian. This includes MoD employees and permanent contractors. In addition to the squadrons, the air station is home to the Navy's Fighter Controller School, the School of Aircraft Control and the Helicopter Underwater Escape Trainer.

In addition, the air station hosts a large support staff from the MoD's Defence Equipment and Support organisation. It also hosts the Yeovilton International Air Day, this year's event recently taking place on 23rd June.

However, one of the most recognisable features of the air station is its famous Fleet Air Arm Museum. Now known as the National Museum of the Royal Navy, it comprises four sections, reflecting that the Navy operates on the sea, under the sea, on land and in the air. It has four exhibition halls and, with over ninety aircraft, over two-million records and 30-thousand artifacts, the museum is the second largest naval aviation museum in the world. It houses the first British-built Concorde and features the museum's unique Aircraft Carrier Experience exhibition.

Acknowledgments

The Rotary Club of Yeovil wishes to thank the following for their support and help with the event:

Commodore Paul Chivers OBE RN - Permission to use the venue

Harpist Carol Arblaster – Pre-dinner music

HMS Heron Volunteer Band - Music at dinner

SODEXO RNAS Yeovilton - Catering and service

The Tesco Store of Yeovil - Subsidised drinks

Laceys Yeovil Ltd – Sponsorship of the harpist, printing and postage

Wakely Brothers, Yeovil - Car park shuttle service

Rotarian David Read, Rotary Club of Wrington Vale - Toastmaster

The Late, Past President Maurice Bramwell - History of Yeovil Club, produced for 50th anniversary

Past President David Perkins - History of Yeovil Club, produced for 75th anniversary

Rotarian Jack Sweet - Archival Information

Summer Lodge Hotel and Restaurant - meal voucher for raffle

Rotarian Simon Slade and RPM Promotions, Yeovil - Programme origination and printing

Donations for auction:

Rotarian Peter Burrows

The Tesco Store Yeovil

Wakely Brothers Yeovil

Rotarian Bryan Tilzey

David Laws MP

Rotarian Rob Fox

Mr Ian Lewis

Heron Gliding Club (via Rotarian Derek

Marpole, Rotary Club of Yeo Vale)

Rotarian Mary Bramwell

Event organising team:

Rotarian Caroline Ansell

Rotarian Mary Bramwell

Rotarian Brian Cowling

Rotarian Dudley Langley

Rotarian Peter Loxton

Kotarian Peter Loxton

Rotarian Ken McIver

Rotarian Brian Murray Rotarian Patrick Palmer

Rotarian Paul Rogers

Rotarian Frank Spurr

Rotarian Roger White



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For personal service, contact:
David MacLauchlan BSc (Hons) MRICS
Chartered Surveyor, Director

The Rotary Club of Yeovil

Presidents 1922 to 2012

1922- 1924	R.A.Bruce	1968 - 1969	H.C.Davies
1924 -1925	J.C.Medcalfe	1969 - 1970	N.W.Palmer
1925 - 1926	J.W.Pearson	1970 - 1971	J.F.Booth
1926 - 1927	R.J.Norton	1971 - 1972	T.P.Sandford
1927 - 1928	F.W.Cole	1972 - 1973	J.C.Mitchell
1928 - 1929	W.E.Palmer	1973 - 1974	C.W.R.Snell
1929 - 1930	W.J.Joshua	1974 - 1975	P.J.Marden
1930 - 1931	E.M.Benjamin	1975 - 1976	C.B.Gosling
1931 - 1932	W.E.Burnley	1976 - 1977	P.E.Mitchell
1932 - 1933	R.W.Stevens	1977 - 1978	D.E.Taylor
1933 - 1934	I.Petter	1978 - 1979	F.J. Janes
1934 - 1935	E.J.Davis	1979 - 1980	T.G.A.Chappell
1935 - 1936	F.H.Fowler	1980 - 1981	S.Pinder
1936 - 1937	D.Seaton	1981 - 1982	D.D.Powell
1937 - 1938	F.J.Buffard	1982 - 1983	J.L.Nowell
1938 - 1939	J.Goodchild	A 1983 - 1984	D.W.J.Baggs
1939 - 1940	A.S.Keep	1984 - 1985	P.J.Palmer
1940 - 1941	F.E.Nutt	1985 - 1986	D.J.Pryor
1941 - 1942	L.H.Maynard	1986 - 1987	P.E.L.Reed
1942 - 1943	M.D.Stirling	1987 - 1988	B.J.Murray
1943 - 1944	W.C.Hicks	1988 - 1989	D.K.F.McIver
1944 - 1945	W.P.Brooks	1989 - 1990	S.A.G.Turner
1945 - 1946	S.C.Clothier	1990 - 1991	R.J.Craske
1946 - 1947	C.J.Arrow	1991 - 1992	A.C.Ashley
1947 - 1948	J.Barlow	1992 - 1993	R.C.Coppard
1948 - 1949	J.C.Corrie	1993 - 1994	B.J.Frosdick
1949 - 1950	H.M.Treen	1994 - 1995	D.A.Crossland
1950 - 1951	J.R.Pither	1995 - 1996	P.R.Pulham
1951 - 1952	E.C.Snell	1996 - 1997	F.Rettie
1952 - 1953	J.J.Pryor	1997 - 1998	B.D.Booth
1953 - 1954	J.N.Sedgman	1998 - 1999	D.Perkins
1954 - 1955	H.Battye	1999 - 2000	A.M.Cox
1955 - 1956	W.H.Sawtell	2000 - 2001	T.J.Saunders
1956 - 1957	C.C.Helyar	2001 - 2002	B.Cowling
1957 - 1958	C.N.Porter	2002 - 2003	I.G.Hughes
1958 - 1959	C.H.West	2003 - 2004	J.Collinson
1959 - 1960	E.H.P.Sparrow	2004 - 2005	S.Slade
1960 - 1961	H.M.Boult	2005 - 2006	J.F.Spurr
1961 - 1962	A.M.Cooper	2006 - 2007	Mary Bramwell
1962 - 1963	H.C.Tilzey	2007 - 2008	R.Fox
1963 - 1964	H.A.Chapman	2008 - 2009	B.C.Tilzey
1964 - 1965	C.M.Bramwell	2009 - 2010	P.J.Burrows
1965 - 1966	R.D.Ball	2010 - 2011	D.Stevens
1966 - 1967	F.W.L.Saunders	2011 - 2012	M.Streatfeild
1967 - 1968	K.C.Richmond	2012 - 2013	M.F.J.Nethaway
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