



Presidents Ponderings by President Sue

As we officially move into the Autumn and the weather has taken a distinct turn for the worst, so sit down, relax over a cup of tea (or alternate beverage) and read all about what Shepperton Aurora Rotary Club has been up to over the summer months, it's a bumper issue.



We've been lucky enough to have an amazing diverse selection of speakers come to our meetings.

From South Africa a former president and former member, Kathy Hassle and husband Clive gave us an update on the education programme in the townships which Aurora had help fund.

Closer to home we learnt all about the Shepperton Swan sanctuary. Can you believe that the sanctuary has been saving swans for over 100 years?

Gale Flynn-Williams gave us an insight into the work of the Shepperton Jubilee Food-bank 'Bags of food project.' It was sad to hear that there is still a great need for this service so please do help with donations if you can.

We heard that Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance had met their target and have purchased an additional air ambulance and Shepperton Aurora are proud that their name painted on the Air ambulance as a significant donor.

In terms of general interest, Neville Lyons gave us a fascinating talk about the Artwork in the Lyons cafe and to add to our history lesson we had a fabulous river trip arranged by our social secretary, Jenny, from Waterloo to Greenwich. Read Paul's article to learn some fascinating facts.

It's just extraordinary how much Rotary is able to help such a diverse cross-section of amazingly worthwhile projects both at home and overseas. With world polio day coming up on 24th October, we have been busy raising funds to support the national End Polio Now campaign. A delightful afternoon tea was hosted by Gale to raise funds for the End Polio Now national programme. In addition, purple crocuses, the symbol of the campaign (representing the purple dye applied to children who have received the vaccine) have been purchased by members. Whilst the world is almost free of Polio, unless work to vaccinate children continues the job to totally eradicate this devastating disease will not be finished.

Yours in Rotary

Sue

*** See the Shepperton Aurora Newsletter on our Website ***

sheppertonaurora.co.uk

Editor's Agenda

With such changeable weather, I think this year will be remembered for 'did we have a summer?'. We did have good weather for the arrival of the one-manned crewed Shelterboat and latterly, the very well-attended Ashford Rotary Car Show.

With Aurora being so active, this has turned out to be the biggest issue we have ever delivered. Two topics have taken over more than two pages - a new first!. One is a review of our Raffle and Samosa fund-raising; and the second a budding author recounting our trip on the Thames to Greenwich.

I achieved a milestone birthday and celebrated with multiple concerts and art gallery visits. It started with my annual pilgrimage to the We Out Here jazz and electronic festival. A local jazz band played Miles Davis's Kind of Blue, which was released 7 days before my birthday! The exotic Kali Malone played organ drone music as St. Martin's in the Fields, and a visit to the Serpentine was very thought-provoking.

Stay safe, Henry

Nicholas Winton has Prague Street Named After Him

Nicholas Winton was a lifelong Rotarian living in Marlow. A new street in the Czech capital has been named after Nicholas Winton, who relentlessly cajoled and shamed immigration authorities to provide visas for 669 children, sparing them the horrors of the Holocaust. The naming of the street coincides with the 85th anniversary of the last planned Kindertransport from Prague, which was prevented from departing due to the outbreak of the second world war. Among those attending the naming ceremony in Prague on Tuesday were four surviving "Winton children", members of Winton's family, and a delegation from the Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR). (Reporting taken from The Guardian newspaper)

Rushna's Travels and Fundraising



The First Sainsbury's Collection



The very wet West End Fair



Twickenham Fair



The very wet West End Fair



At Ashford Classic Car Show

One Man & His Boat Arrives in Shepperton





Rotary Club of Shepperton Aurora

Please join us for a **BEETLE DRIVE**



On Friday 4th October at 7pm

St John Fisher Hall, Wood Road, Shepperton TW17 0DH

Light refreshments provided, bring your own drinks

Tickets: £10 each

(book by 25th September via email: galefw@yahoo.co.uk,
payment to Rotary Club of Shepperton Aurora 20-90-56,
Acct: 00988774, Ref: *name/BEETLE*)

Community Raffle & Samosa Fundraising (P1)

By Diane Barker and Rushna Master

Having completed our Coronation Community Raffle 2023 (“CCR23”) during Lyn’s Presidential year, meetings were soon arranged in November 2023 for the Community Raffle 2024 (“CR24”). Our first two CR24 meetings were held to establish a CR24 Committee (Jenny, Rushna, Simon, Chris and Diane) and develop a proposal for CR24. The proposal included:

- ⇒ learn lessons from CCR23
- ⇒ improve social media
- ⇒ ask 2/3 businesses in Shepperton to allow Aurora to sell raffle tickets on-premises
- ⇒ add 1 or more Fairs in May, June + July
- ⇒ do neighbour drops
- ⇒ invite more charities and local Rotary Clubs to help sell raffle tickets on Aurora’s behalf
- ⇒ increase awareness of Rotary.

Before Christmas it was critical to start collecting prizes from our very generous businesses and charities. Once Christmas had been and gone, the Raffle Committee were soon active in January. We were able to advertise most of the prizes on the raffle tickets in mid-February. This year we bought 8,000 raffle tickets. Tickets and raffle books were soon delivered to Aurora members.



March 2024

Members were selling from 1st March, but there was a slow burn in both March and April. By the end of March, members had sold £215 raffle tickets.

Sainsbury’s was our 1st on-premises event. Members sold tickets for an hour, or two. Robin managed to sell a lot of tickets, as he is well known in Shepperton. It was quite cold, and footfall was slow, but we still raised £207 thanks to the generosity of the public.

Rushna and Diane went to District Council, where we successfully handed out raffle books to a number of our rotary clubs, including Guildford Wey and Brighton Soiree. Rushna also went to District Assembly and gave raffle books to several more rotary clubs. Our last Quality Fruit sale was in March. However a new location is, hopefully, due soon.

April 2024

Members sold a further £235 this month. Our 2nd on-premise was Longacres. It was raining on and off and luckily, we could stay inside the exit area. We raised £187. Things were a bit quiet this month, but May and June were going to be busy.

May 2024

More money came into the Benevolent Account. Members raised £270, Guildford Wey sold £100, and Diane took £136 at our favourite Ferry Shop. Meanwhile at Godalming, Rushna, Phil and Cyrus sold Produce with Sylvia and Jan selling £50 of raffle tickets.

The other 3 fairs have been attended for several years, and a lot of money can be raised. However the weather really let us down this year. Typical British weather!!

Community Raffle & Samosa Fundraising (P2)

Chobham Carnival was rain, rain, and more rain most of the day, with sunshine for 10 minutes. Gill and Diane got soaked whilst selling soggy raffle tickets but took £70. Rushna, Phil and Cyrus raised a lot of money for Produce. By 3pm everyone was leaving due to the rain and mud etc.

Esher Fair was next. Rushna, Phil and Cyrus were lucky as the weather was fine. The focus was on the profits from Produce.

Twickenham Fair held its 2nd event, having been taken over by Twickenham Rotary. Rushna, Phil, Cyrus, Diane, Henry, Mark S and Jan all helped to raise money, and we had a very enjoyable day. Weather was mixed with light rain, but the public still came to the Fair. Later in the afternoon, it was dry. Produce was sold out, luckily. The raffle team sold £273 tickets, in addition to £27 donations.



June 2024

June wasn't quite as wet as May, thankfully. Members sold £645 of tickets. Cheam & Sutton, Ewell and Kingston Rotary Clubs raised a total £155. Charities were also selling tickets raising £340.

A 2nd opportunity at Longacres enabled us to raise £200. The weather was dry fortunately. Denise, a friend of Aurora, helped to sell tickets alongside Henry, Jim, Jenny and Diane. The advantage of Longacres is that anyone who went into Longacres had to come out via the exit! Jim stopped customers with a joke, and asked if they would buy raffle tickets. We agreed to reach a target of £200. And we did, indeed, reach £200 thanks to the generosity of customers. Diane was back at the on-premises Ferry Shop on 1st June and 30th June. Unfortunately 1st was very quiet, raising £78, whilst £157 was sold on 30th.

Next came the Shepperton Fair, which was a long day but successful. Unlike the heat wave we had last year, the weather was perfect. Another target was £300, nearing the end of the day. We took £305!!!!

Members who helped with the raffle included Jenny, Diana, Karyn, Lyn, Katie + Diane. Unfortunately Rushna was not able to sell Produce, which was so, so disappointing.

Behind the scenes, the Raffle Committee were making the arrangements for the Charities Together Evening on 12th July at the Greeno Centre, which included the raffle draw. Invitations had been prepared and sent to our charities as well as members. Nessie was responsible for buying and preparing the food.



July 2024

A lot of money was coming in over 12 days. Diane was buried in un-used raffle books, sold tickets, lots of cash and an overheated calculator!!

Last year's draw was a bit of a challenge because nearly 4,000 tickets were squeezed into a drum. Gale came to the rescue making a big red bag to hide the container and a plastic cover, which had a slit. This was so a single ticket could be taken out. This worked better than last year, but those tickets do like to be snuggled up with each other!!!!

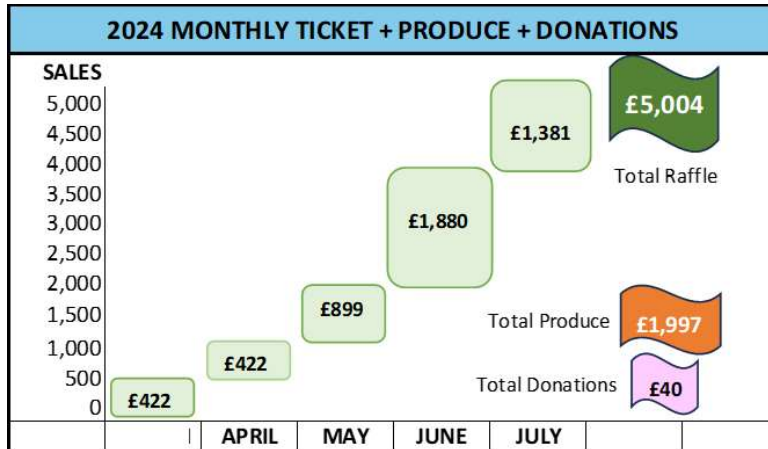
Members sold £526 tickets. Charities raised £235. Ashford, Kew, Teddington & Hamptons, Kingston and Camberley Rotary Clubs raised £475. We sold tickets again at on-premises at Sainsburys taking £146. Football was poor in the afternoon, so we decided to pack up and go home.

Community Raffle & Samosa Fundraising (P3)

The Charities Together evening was enjoyed by charities and members alike. Lots of chatting, yet more money turned up and the meal was delicious. Each charity gave a brief speech explaining what they do and projects which need funding. The Raffle team had 15 minutes to draw 12 prizes. Some attendees in the room were able to collect their prize.

Summary of Proceeds Raised

The first table shows the overall totals (before expenses) for the Raffle, Produce and Donations - £7,041.



Before Expenses		
	2024	2023
Raffle	£5,004	£3,727
Produce	£1,997	£2,137
Donations	£40	£206
Total	£7,041	6,070

The second table compares between 2024 + 2023. This year members sold £330 more than last year. We also had more charities and Rotary Clubs selling tickets, in addition to Longacres and Sainsbury's. However Produce profits and donations were lower this year.

Do's and Don'ts in 2024

The proposals prepared in November 2023 did not all fall into place. However:

- ⇒ The Neighbour Drops were dropped.
- ⇒ Some improvements made for social media. We somehow raised money without A4 posters in shop windows.
- ⇒ On-premises, Sainsbury's + Longacres enabled us to raise more proceeds.
- ⇒ We had more Rotary Clubs and Charities selling our raffle tickets.
- ⇒ We raised awareness of Rotary with our various banners.

THANK YOU ALL!!!!

This is the full list of those members and friends who helped to raise £5,004. If anyone is missed, it's Diane's fault.

- ⇒ Robin, Henry, Jim, Doreen, Jan, Lyn, Sylvia, Sue, Gale, Gill, Ivan, Diana, Peter N, Karyn + Mark S, Denise, Katie, Phil and Cyrus + Raffle Committee – Rushna, Jenny, Simon, Chris and Diane.

A big thank you to Rushna, Phil and Cyrus, who spend so, so much of their time selling Produce, irrespective of the weather. They raised £1,987 from March to June. With Winter ahead, Produce will be sold at the Shepperton Fireworks (2nd Nov) and Big Tree Night (11th Dec).

Finally the Raffle Committee are NOT doing another raffle in 2025. We have spent 2 years raising a total of £13,111 before expenses. Maybe something else will come along to keep us extra busy in Sue's Presidential year in 2025.

Thames Boat Trip to Greenwich By Paul Robigo (P1)



"Shepperton Aurora Rotary" had a boat trip along the River Thames from Westminster Pier all the way to Greenwich Pier where we had lunch in Zizzi Restaurant before heading back to Westminster Pier and the train home.

I joined the main group at Upper Halliford Station along with Henry McNeill and his wife Diane and we walked part way down the platform to be in a position where we would be with the rest of the Rotary Club group who had alighted at Shepperton.

I sat on my own as all the other seats had been filled with the 12 other members of the group. There were supposed to be 15 of us but one couple had not turned up so I was Billy No Mates. I then put my foot in it by taking a photo of everyone and sent it to Sue Eggleton the president with the caption that it was our annual boat trip. All I can say is that I think it would be a good idea to have this every year and I'm sure by the end of the day everyone will be more than happy to go again.

When we arrived at Waterloo it gave me the opportunity to photograph the Empire Windrush monument by Basil Watson and the legend that went alongside it, listing the members of the Windrush Committee who commissioned the sculpture and a poem by Laura Serrant "You Called... and We Came".

Walking down to Westminster Bridge where we crossed over the river past the imposing structure of County Hall the former headquarters of the London County Council and then Greater London Council which was abolished by Margaret Thatcher in 1986 eventually being sold to a Japanese investor, we passed a lone piper busking on the bagpipes for his trip to the next World Championships.

We stopped for a while to take in The Elizabeth Tower – the latest name given in honour of Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee – which is often erroneously referred to as Big Ben which is the name of the largest of the five bells within The Elizabeth Tower.

Going down to the jetty at Westminster Pier, we boarded our boat heading down under the Hungerford Bridge towards Waterloo Bridge past the National Theatre (The Royal National Theatre of Great Britain to give it its official monicker) founded by Laurence Olivier in 1963, attaining its "Royal" prefix in 1988. On the opposite side of the river was Somerset House, partially hidden by trees, formerly the public records office but now the home of the Inland Revenue, on down past one of the eight gateways marking the Western boundary of the City of London.



Thames Boat Trip to Greenwich (P2)



On the other side of the river there was the distinctive OXO Tower which houses several restaurants, shops, flats and a viewing gallery open to the public but no access to the Tower itself. It was originally a power station supplying electricity for the Royal Mail Post Office before being taken over by the manufacturers of the Oxo beef stock cubes, hence the unmistakable design.

The City of London School on the other side of the river stands next to the imposing Neo classical Art Deco Unilever House – previously Bridewell Palace for Henry VIII before becoming a prison and poorhouse – until Lord Leverhulme of the soap manufacturing Lever Brothers acquired it in the 1920s becoming Unilever House in 1930, the corner of which feature large plinths of humans restraining horses and mermaids called Controlled Energy.

Blackfriars Bridge is perhaps the most interesting of the crossings (and not just for the huge red pillars of the original Blackfriars Railway Bridge removed in 1985 when it became too weak to support modern trains) with our amusing guide on the microphone informing us that the upstream side of the bridge has John Birnie Philip's stone carvings of freshwater birds while those on the downstream side are marine and seabirds reflecting the tidal turning point of Blackfriars Bridge. The ends of the bridge are shaped like pulpits alluding to the Black Friars whose Dominican Priory, Blackfriars Monastery was in the precinct. It is also the largest of three solar bridges in the world along with the Australian Kurilpa Bridge and the German Kennedy Bridge, in Bonn.



It's more recent claim to fame is that in 1982, the body of Roberto Calvi was found hanging from one of its arches tied up with bricks and more than £10,000 in three different currencies in his pockets. Calvi was on the run from the Italian Mafia accused of embezzlement but his killers were never actually convicted.

The Tate Modern has been built on the site of the former Bankside Power Station with its 325 ft central chimney being the only remains after it was closed in 1981 and faces St Paul's Cathedral on the north bank of the river. To give it its correct name, the Church of St Paul the Apostle, is the Anglican Cathedral, the seat of the Bishop of London and the mother church of the Diocese of London.

Further along on the south side of the river is the Globe Theatre – more affectionately known as “Shakespeare's Globe” - the third of its kind on the site. The building was the brainchild of American director and actor Sam Wanamaker who founded the Shakespeare Globe Trust and the International Shakespeare Centre in order to create a replica of the original Globe which had been built in 1599, destroyed by fire in 1613, rebuilt within a year before being demolished 30 years later before re-opening to the public with a production of Henry V in 1997.

We saw Wren's Steps below Southwark Bridge where the Queen's Walk Embankment, a pedestrian tunnel, notable for the friezes portraying the frost fairs held on the Thames in the past and further along is a full sized, reconstruction of the Golden Hind galleon in which Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the world from 1577-80. The ship had been called The Pelican but Drake renamed it as a tribute to his sponsor Sir Christopher Hatton whose family crest was a female red deer. We were looking at the reconstruction, built in Appledore, Devon in 1973, now berthed at St Mary Overie Dry Dock in Bankside.

Thames Boat Trip to Greenwich (P3)

Another distinctive building on the north bank was “The Walkie Talkie” at 20 Fenchurch Street has the tallest viewing platform with public bars and restaurants on the top three floors.

And then there is The Tower of London – officially His Majesty’s Royal Palace and Fortress – and the imposing historic keep known as The White Tower built by William the Conqueror in 1078 – in which in Tudor times the young sons of Edward IV known as the Princes one of whom became Edward V and the younger one Prince Richard of Shrewsbury, Duke of York are believed to have been murdered by their uncle Richard, Duke of Gloucester who proclaimed himself King Richard III. which famously imprisoned the Kay Twins Ronnie and Reg – and has been the home of the Royal Mint and the Crown Jewels.

Going under Tower Bridge, our boat guide pointed out that it is one of five bridges owned and maintained by the City Barge Foundation charitable trust, opened in 1894 by Edward and Alexandra, The Prince and Princess of Wales before we docked at Butler’s Wharf, once a tea warehouse and now an extensive complex of restaurants and luxury flats where some passengers alighted and we took on more for the trip down to Greenwich.



Thames Boat Trip to Greenwich (P4)



St Mary's Church, Rotherhithe has a proud connection with the Pilgrim Fathers as Christopher Jones the captain of the Mayflower – the ship which took the Pilgrim Fathers to America in 1620 - is buried there. St Mary's also has two bishops' chairs in the Lady Chapel constructed from timbers off the HMS Temeraire immortalised by Turner in "The Fighting Temeraire" to be found in the National Gallery.

The Prospect of Whitby – formerly The Pelican and the Devil's Tavern - is one of the oldest riverside taverns on the north bank and is famous for

being the site where pirates and brigands were hanged "at the low-water mark and there to remain till three tides had overflowed them." It burned to the ground at the turn of the 19th century and was rebuilt, its new name deriving from a Tyne collier which brought coal from Newcastle-upon-Tyne and berthed alongside. It was Grade II listed in 1950 but this was not really a good enough reason for its most famous visitors Princess Margaret and Prince Rainier III of Monaco.

The entrance to Limehouse Marina with the Gordon Ramsey gastro pub is also frequented by Sir Ian McKellen, Steven Berkoff, Lord David Owen, comedian Lee Hurst and film director Sir David Lean. Limehouse is famous as London's first Chinatown, providing the backdrop for many Dr Fu Manchu films. The sight of the Cutty Sark heralded our arrival at Greenwich where we disembarked for lunch at Zizzi before our return to Westminster Pier and eventually home.

Huge thank you to Jenny Steptoe for organising such an enjoyable and fulfilling excursion. Hopefully it will be an annual event!!!!

The Swan Sanctuary - A Talk by Steve Knight

Shepperton Saving Swans for over One Hundred Years.



Steve Knight of The Swan Sanctuary is pictured second left with (from left) Robin Sider, Sue Eggleton and Simon Lovett after giving a talk at the Shepperton Aurora Breakfast Meeting on the work of the Sanctuary in looking after sick and injured swans.

The Swan Sanctuary, Registered Charity 1002582, is a charity dedicated to the care and treatment of swans and waterfowl with an established worldwide reputation.

Dorothy Beeson is The Swan Sanctuary's founder and recipient of the British Empire Medal for her unstinting work in swan welfare which started in her back garden in the early 1980s.

Over the years Dot's work outgrew her garden so she sold her house to help finance the cost of setting up the first national sanctuary on a 2-acre site in Egham, Surrey where she lived in a caravan with her partner, Stephen Knight.

Artwork in Lyons Tea Shops by Neville Lyons



On 31 July 2024, Neville Lyons, a member of the founding family of Lyons Tea Shops, gave a most interesting talk via Zoom about the Artwork in Lyons Tea Shops.

He explained that their Tea Shops had become very popular and by the end of World War II, they had over 200 branches. A view of one of the branches highlighting the classic design adopted is shown left.



However, by this stage the Tea Shops had become rather shabby and dated. Since wood and paint were still rationed after the War, the Directors of Lyons came up with a novel idea of refreshing the Tea Shops by hanging lithographic pictures on the walls.

So in 1947, they turned to Jack Beddington, Artistic Director of Shell Mex and responsible for the very famous 'You Can be Sure of Shell' Lithographs issued in the 1930s.

Using his contacts, Jack Beddington approached a range of up-and-coming artists, many who had been War Artists during World War II, to prepare the scenes. The artists were given a fairly free hand regarding the subject matter, except that scenes showing alcoholic drinks were not included since the Lyons Tea Shops did not serve alcohol!

In all, 16 Artworks were released in 1947 at the Trocadero Restaurant, London (also owned by Lyons). A special preview was arranged for Queen Mary. 1,500 prints were made of each poster which the public could buy for a £1 each (about £50 in today's money). Further series of prints came out in 1951 and 1955, respectively, giving a total of 40 prints issued. Only one of the artists involved with the scenes is alive today – David Gentleman – and his scene entitled 'Cornish Pilchard Boat' is shown above.

Only two complete sets of the prints exist today - one held in the Archive of the Lyons Tea Shops with the other shown occasionally in exhibitions such as the 'Time of Austerity' Exhibition held in the Towner Gallery, Eastbourne in 2013.

KSS Air Ambulance Update



Rachel Oxberry, the Surrey Community Fund-Raiser for the Kent Surrey Sussex (KSS) Air Ambulance Service gave a most interesting talk via Zoom to Shepperton Aurora Rotary Club on Wednesday 7 May 2024.

During her talk, Rachel described the 'Buy it for Life' appeal which had been set up to raise money to buy an additional Air Ambulance. Thus by owning rather than leasing this additional Air Ambulance, it will save KSS half a million pounds a year and will enable KSS to fly for longer, to reach more patients and save even more lives. Aurora was pleased to make a donation to this

worthy appeal. It also gave us the right to have the Club's name painted on the Air Ambulance as a significant donor!

At the end of July, we received an excited announcement from KSS that 'it has now been able to purchase this additional air ambulance as a lifeline for the people of Kent, Surrey and Sussex, thanks to the thousands of supporters who donated to their 'Buy it for Life' appeal.

We await to receive a photograph taken of Aurora's Club's name painted on the Air Ambulance!

Bags of Food Talk by Gale Flynn

Words by Jan Matthews, Photos by Rushna Master & Gale Flynn



Gale with Ruth Webb-Peploe (runs the Foodbank)

Gale Flynn spoke to members and friends about the latest situation regarding the Jubilee Foodbank known as 'BAGS OF FOOD' where she volunteers weekly and is its representative on the new Spelthorne Food and Welfare network of five foodbanks in Stanwell, Ashford, Staines, Sunbury and Shepperton and Surplus to Supper.

Gale explained that although each Foodbank follows a different weekly timetable all promise that 'No one in Spelthorne goes hungry' After discussions with Spelthorne Council, there is an efficient system of food reaching the point of need because a generic referral form is available in schools, churches, doctors, social workers, Citizens Advice Bureaux and housing agents.

At the Jubilee Foodbank teams of regular packers sort dried, tinned and packet goods every Monday morning and collect surplus bread and cakes from the Cavan bakery in Shepperton High Street. People are warmly welcomed to tea and cake; they also collect their Cavan bread.

Council grants enable the purchase of fresh fruit and vegetables from Tesco each Tuesday which are added to the dried and tinned boxes. Surplus to Supper brings a variety of mostly fresh food including individual frozen meals. Often an element of surprise- what to do with a tin of Cajun Style ALLIGATER for example?!

Aurora has funded a total of 40 large and small crates leading to an even smoother, efficient operation preparing the food for all 5 delivery drivers. Our club will further support Gale and the team of volunteers with donations towards a planned new storage facility. Some members collect and deliver on a regular basis; there is, sadly no decrease in the scale of need.



Bags of Food
Help for families or
individuals in crisis
Jubilee Church working with community links

The Visit of Kathy and Clive Hassle by Doreen Pipe



Kathy Hassle and Clive visited to update us on Life in South Africa, and the support that Aurora has provided. Kathy, a founder member and former President of Aurora, is a member of Port Elizabeth West RC, our twinned club. Aurora, via Chris, is working with Clive, President of Uitenhage South RC, on a Global Grant application, which is moving forward slowly at present.

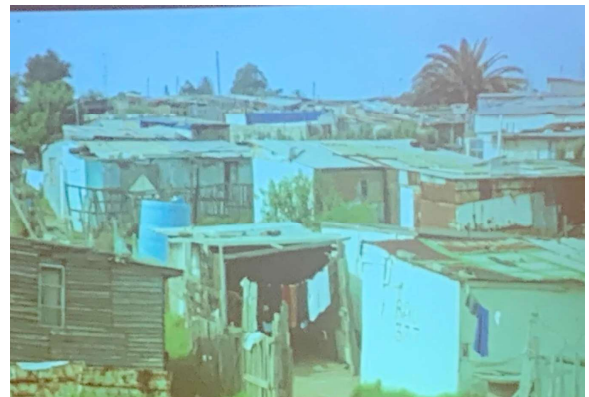
Clive put together a great video presentation for us, it was informative and humbling to see how our donations have benefited the early years education programme, in the townships. Kathy has identified young women who can achieve their certificates in early learning, and with their support help mentor the next candidate. From homes of abject poverty, young children attend nursery basic education and learn how to read and write, giving them a chance with their further education.

The happy smiling faces of these children really highlighted the pleasure they got from learning their alphabet, well done them!

The approach to need in South Africa is much more hands on, than here. Kathy's club is also currently collecting goods for THE TREE OF HOPE, which happens every Christmas in a local shopping mall, and provides gifts to those who wouldn't usually get a single Christmas present. It is different from taking the sleigh around the streets with Santa! Clive's club have had a container of educational books delivered, to provide basic school libraries, some have never had one before! There are 4000 books to be sorted, so it really is hands on all round!



It is always a delight to see our Friends from SA, who were off for a holiday in USA after their quick UK stopover. Thanks to Sally and Douglas, who hosted them the night before, they had the shortest journey across the road to Warren Lodge! Clive is in competition with Douglas with the annual Santa beard race, he has already conceded to Douglas! Congratulations to Kathy for her Sapphire Paul Harris award this summer, well deserved Kathy.



Afternoon Tea in Support of End Polio Now

Words by Gale Flynn, Photos by Diana Hoad & Rushna Master



Polio Ted on board the boat

On 14th August many members of Aurora enjoyed an Afternoon Tea Party at Riverwood. Luckily the weather held and we were able to sit out beside the river and enjoy tea, drinks and a vast array of magnificent sandwiches, scones, cakes and desserts – all provided by several members.

It was a lovely opportunity for club members and partners to relax and chat amongst themselves, with no business to discuss or time limit. Boules could be played on the lawn and a mini crossword was available, revealing the whereabouts of “Polio Ted”, the cuddly bear.

A raffle was held with some beautiful prizes including a cashmere and silk pashmina, some Pierre Cardin handkerchiefs and a bottle of champagne, as well as many others.

As part of the “end Polio Now” campaign Aurora have purchased a box of 4000 crocus corms. As happened last year, Gale sorts the crocuses into batches of 100, makes calico bags tied with purple ribbons and sells for £10 a bag. Orders were taken for the crocuses at the Tea Party, which have almost sold out.

In total the Tea Party took £500 for “End Polio Now”, plus there will be a further £200+ profit from the crocus sales. All in all an excellent result from a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.



we
R
rotary

We Are Rotary
Your District Conference
12 October 2024

District Governor Elect Tim has chosen the theme "We Are Rotary" for our 2024-25 District Conference and will be a one day seminar starting at 09.45 and ending at 17.00 and held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, London Road, East Grinstead RH19 2BH.

We Are Rotary

ROTARY SOUTH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Saturday 12th October 2024

Venue – Crowne Plaza Felbridge, London Road, East Grinstead, RH19 2BH

MICHAEL FLATLEY'S
LORD OF THE DANCE

A LIFETIME OF STANDING OVATIONS



Aurora trip to see Micheal Flatley's "Lord of the Dance" Saturday 19th October 2 30pm Woking Theatre

Ticket price: £44.32 + booking fee. Tickets will be in the Upper Circle.

Open to Aurora members, family and friends.



**A CELEBRATION OF THE
40TH CHARTER ANNIVERSARY
ROTARY CLUB OF KEW GARDENS**

Wednesday 16th October 2024
The Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club
Old Deer Park, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 2SB
at 6:30pm for 7.15pm

Principal Guest - Lord Darroch of Kew, KCMG
British Ambassador to the United States (2016-19)
UK National Security Advisor (2012-15)
UK Permanent Representative to the European Union (2007-12)

The Rotary Club of Kew Gardens is celebrating its 40th Charter Anniversary on Wednesday 16th October. It will be a memorable evening. We would be delighted to have you celebrate with us. Dress code will be Lounge Suits/Dinner Jacket.

Our speaker will be Life Peer, diplomat and local Kew Resident, Lord Darroch of Kew. It will take the form of an interview – a Fireside Chat. He brings real experience in a range of key diplomatic roles. In order that you can take part we are asking for questions you would like considered to be asked by journalist Carolyn Quinn (BBC R4 – Today programme and PM).

The cost for a three-course meal and coffee will be £60 per person. We would be delighted for you to bring guests.

To book, please complete the booking form attached and email to charter40@kewrotary.org.uk.

James Onions
President of Rotary Club of Kew Gardens
[Rotary Kew Gardens - welcome. \(rotary-ribi.org\)](http://Rotary Kew Gardens - welcome. (rotary-ribi.org))



TRAFALGAR NIGHT DINNER



Wednesday 23rd October 2024
7.00pm for 8.00pm, Effingham Golf Club

Guest speaker: Rear Admiral (Retd) Ian Tibbitt CBE

**£52.50 per person for three-course meal,
including wine and port**
£40.00 per person for non-drinkers

Dress: Service Evening Dress or Black Tie

**For further information or to book places, please
contact Bob Weldon-Gamble on 07968 834471 or
bobwg1@ntlworld.com**

SHEPPERTON AURORA ROTARY-Diary 2024-25 No 3

Month	Date	Meeting	Event	Venue- Speakers
Sept			Basic Education and Literacy Month	
	Wed 4th	Breakfast 7.15	Business Meeting	Warren Lodge
	Fri 6th	Day Trip	Thames River Trip With Lunch at Greenwich	Jenny Steptoe
	Wed 11th	Breakfast 7.15	South Africa- -Shepperton Aurora Update	Kathy & Clive
	Mon 16th	18.30	Club Council	Venue?
	Wed 18th	Breakfast 7.15	Swan Sanctuary	Steve Knight
	Sat 28th	From 09.30	Informal Pop-In Coffee Morning	Ferry Coffee Shop
OCT			Economic and Community Development Month	
	Wed 2nd	Breakfast 7.15	Charlton Scouts & Cub Group	Paul Joseph
	Fri 4th	Evening	Beetle Drive	St John Fisher Hall
	Wed 9th	Zoom 18.30	YPWD Younger People With Dementia CIO	David Fisher
	Sat 12th	One Day	Rotary South (District 1145) Conference "We Are Rotary"	East Grinstead See Sue or Simon
	Wed 16th	Breakfast 7.15	SGM - Business Meeting	Warren Lodge
	Thurs 24th		World Polio Day	
	Sat 26th	10.00 to 12pm	District Council	Reigate
	Sat 26th	From 9.30	Informal Pop-In Coffee Morning	Ferry Coffee Shop
	Wed 30th	Evening	Supporting Families and Ex-Forces Families	Venue TBC Alison Baverstock
Nov			Rotary Foundation Month	
	Wed 6th	Breakfast 7.15	Official Visit of DG District 1145	Tim Vile
	Wed 13th	Zoom 18.30	LEO The Worlds First Business Computer	Neville Lyons
	Wed 20th	Breakfast 7.15	SAMARITANS	Tony Harman
	Sat 30th	From 9.30	Informal Pop-In Coffee Morning	Ferry Coffee Shop
Dec			Rotary Disease Prevention & Treatment Month	
	Wed 4th	Breakfast 7.15	Business Meeting & Christmas Briefing	Warren Lodge
	Mon 9th	Evening	1st Aurora Street Collection--?	
	Wed 11th	Evening	Big Tree Night?	Village Hall
	Sat 14th ?	Morning	Aurora High Street Collection--?	
	Mon 16th	Evening	Aurora Street Collection	
	Wed 18th	Breakfast 7.15	Social Morning	Warren Lodge
	Fri 20th	Evening	Christmas Collection Pubs & Restaurants--?	

01/09/24 Ken

Waiting for possible Tesco collections dates, before able to finalise Aurora's