

HUNS'TON MARDLE



Hunstanton Rotary Club

March 2010

hunstanton-rotary.org.uk

Welcome from us, David Hall and Roger Hoverd, to the new-style newsletter. We've teamed up to keep the Mike Darlington award-winning newsletter going.

This is very much "for the club, by the club". We want – nay, we need – your contributions.

David has the difficult role – assembling articles, cajoling people to write them and generally organising it all. Roger has the easy tasks – stitching it together, getting the layout and format correct and printing it. A doddle really!

Please send your stories, anecdotes, future activities, etc, etc, etc to David in the first place. Email is the much preferred method since it avoids re-typing. (Please don't submit in PDF format). David's email is :

davidjeanhall@hotmail.com

Roger's email is :-

roger.hoverd@sky.com.

Please bombard us with your submissions and ideas. As a member, it's your newsletter and it certainly needs you.

Oh, if you didn't already know, "mardle" is Norfolk dialect for conversation or chat. That's just what this newsletter is. It's communication between members, for members.

Rather bizarrely, *mardle* is also a pond – but let's not muddy the waters with that. Fellow members, raise your glasses and drink to the success and longevity of the **Hun'ston Mardle**.

From the desk of the President . . .

Welcome to the first edition of our very own club magazine, "Huns'ton Mardle". Many exciting events have happened in my year as President and I know there are many more exciting events to come. To encourage the growth of membership, and share our excitement in our club we have abolished the joining fee and the annual subscription has been reduced.

In the first three months of this year we have welcomed three new members. So our new policy is working and please, dear members, let us continue to flourish.

With your contributions of stories, events and happenings, funny or otherwise, we can make this magazine again the best in District 1080. Last year it was voted the best in the District, and I was able to present the 2009 award to Michael Darlington, the founder and first editor of the magazine. Every success to our new editors David Hall and Roger Hoverd.

Muriel Motley

New Members

A warm welcome to Lisa Powell, a friend of long standing but now a new member. We hope that you enjoy your stay with our club.

A warm welcome also to new member Philip Newell who has transferred from Bakewell in Derbyshire. He comes with a big reputation. The Bakewell club was very sorry to lose a fine member. They say that their loss is very much our gain. We hope you enjoy your stay with us and that you will have many years many happy years with the club.

Finally, welcome back to David Bingham after an absence of two years or so. It will be good to have you back with us.

President's Evening

by David Hall

President Muriel Motley was escorted by her family and friends into the ballroom at the le Strange Arms on Friday 26 February. Also in the party were the President of Hunstanton Inner Wheel, Hazel Evans, and her partner, David. Presidents from the King's Lynn Rotary Club, King's Lynn Priory Club and King's Lynn Trinity Club together with their partners were greeted with acclaim. Some 70 people attended the black tie and evening dress event.



President Muriel, supported by 16 members of her own family, said that she was enjoying her year as President which had been full of ups and downs; however things were looking much brighter. She said 'These are times of great change for the club but we are meeting the challenges and as a result will be stronger and better geared to meet the needs of its members and a changing society.'

After the meal, the participants heard greetings from the district representative Peter Harris and took part in a raffle that raised £210 for 'Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.'

What was the question?

More than 40 members and friends enjoyed their evening together on Saturday 13 March at Hunstanton Town Hall for 10 rounds of questions - some easy - some '*Rudyard*' Congratulations to the winners, "Ken Dodds' Dog's Dead" – AKA David Dobby & Co. The evening, designed to raise club funds, collected £254 from the door and the raffle. This was another joint venture with Inner Wheel and so each Club was able to take home £127. "It was a most enjoyable evening - we must do it again," said Brian Devlin - a view repeated by many of the participants. It was nice to see the mayor enjoying herself and the President from Inner wheel had a good time too.

Entertainment Fit for a President

President's Evening rounded off with entertainment from three Club members disguised as Chelsea pensioners, altogether a very enjoyable evening.

'*Old soldiers never die they only fade away*', or so goes the old song. You can imagine the surprise when John Harris stuck up a series of marches as part of the entertainment for the President's Evening. Little did the audience and the President expect to meet three Chelsea pensioners.

To a warm welcome, they appeared at the door dressed in their bright red dress uniforms and black caps - three boys of the old Brigade.

They greeted Rotarians and friends as they wandered through the packed hall before sitting down for an old fashioned Norfolk mardle.

They shared experiences and stories about their long and interesting lives, much to the amusement of the audience.



It was a delight to listen to their chit chat about old Norfolk and their tales about the monarchy, doctors and growing up.

All too soon it was time to return to barracks and John Hunt, John Nudds and David Hall sadly took their leave and, with a final salute and a wave, they wished everyone 'Goodnight.'

What if?

What if the Hokey Cokey really IS what it's all about?

Planning for action

Britain is a curious place with more oddities to the square mile than Alice's Wonderland and that, if you remember grew "curiouser and curiouser".

The month of March is beginning to look curious already as our Club moves forward to implement the actions approved by members. Some have already started :-

The joining fee has been eliminated - much to the pleasure of new members who are the first to benefit from this important initiative. March will also see the changeover to new dining arrangements - sandwiches and coffee for business meetings, buffet served meals and a two-course meal mainly for evenings and when guests are present.

Please be patient with the introduction of change. We're all working hard to get it right including the hotel staff. Please help us to introduce these new approaches even if at first they appear strange.

You will notice the early start for the evening meetings - 6.00pm for 6.30pm. This is so that we don't eat into your precious evening time.

Ron King has already introduced the first year at a glance with the 2010 Calendar. Yes it appears complex at first but it's the template for future Club meetings, Council events and fundraising for charity and the Club..

James Lowe aims to issue a monthly or bi-monthly programme containing the details for each event.

We have formed a communications committee to co-ordinate the press relations, newsletter, calendar and programme to try and avoid misunderstandings.

Please share the details with your partner, so that they too can be part of our social and fund raising world.

David Hall updates us on the Action Plan and its implementation

We plan by the end of the month to have secured at a lock-up store - a clean dry and orderly place in which to store our growing pile of equipment and it will be local. It will be able to store the tables and umbrella style equipment as well as the existing barbecue equipment,

marquees, signs, banners and other essentials for the success of the Kite Festival. After all this is our new image of quality services that we plan to offer which are within the physical capabilities of our members.

Of course it will cost money to introduce and to maintain - please give your support and approval in order to make it a huge success

We said we would recruit new members. We have recently gained three and there are two more in the pipeline.

If you have the skills to attract new members please share your ideas with us - we need all the help that we can get. (I know one member who was able to recruit 11 members. How did he do that?)

The new calendar already indicates a wide range of new social activities in order to raise funds for the running of the club - it is these events that will provide more social life for folk. It will help us raise the money to replace the half membership fee that comes into effect from June of this year. Already the district governor and other clubs are asking "How did they do that?"

Please come along enjoy and yourselves and encourage friends and relatives to join in with us. It is only by moving in this new direction with your approval and with your support that we will be able to create a club that is modern, attractive and lively enough to draw in and hold younger members and so guarantee our future.

A Bit of Advice

It's better to remain silent and appear to be a fool than to speak and remove any possible doubt.

Education Corner

Lord Reith defined the three roles of the BBC as “*to educate, to inform and to entertain*”. He was ahead of his time; this newsletter has the same roles. So here’s a slice of education – some useful music terms what you should know :-

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|-------------------------|---|
| Allegro | a little motor car |
| Antiphonal | crossed lines |
| Tempo de cafe | coffee time |
| Coda | is served with chips |
| Codetta | child’s portion of the above |
| Cantata | a fizzy drink |
| Colla Voce | shirt so tight, I can't talk |
| Crotchet | knitting |
| Flats | English apartments |
| Perfect Interval | drinks on the house! |
| Largo | German brew, hence 'Handel's Largo |
| Lento | days leading up to Easto |
| Maestro | a big car |
| Melody | an ancient and almost extinct art |
| Metronome | person small enough to sit in a mini |
| Obligato | being forced to practise |
| Opus | remark made when puss has misbehaved |
| Piu Animato | if you don't clean that rabbit's hutch it will have to go |
| Professional | one who can't keep a steady job |
| Rubato | ointment for the soloist's feet |
| Scales | fishy things |
| Subdominant | “can't sing 'till I've asked the wife.” |
| Tonic | a pick me up |
| Trill | bird food |
| Tutti | ice cream |
| Quaver | the feeling before one's first solo |
| Virtuoso | one who can work wonders with easy-play music |

A Stunning Surprise!

by David Hall



It is generally agreed that the club secretary knows everything, well that is not strictly true. I received the shock of my life when President Muriel Motley announced during her

President’s Evening on 26 February that the club had awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship Award to their secretary for services to Rotary at club and district level.

'Surprise' was not the only word 'Stunned' was a better description when, to acclaim by all members and friends, Muriel presented the citation and the lapel badge to me.

In thanks I declared that I will be proud to wear this award and appreciated the support and encouragement provided by my wife, Jean, who also received a presentation of a huge bouquet of flowers.

Surprises all round.

Hunstanton Taxis

Until two years ago, a columnist in a local newspaper kept us informed on the state of taxi ranks in Hunstanton. That columnist no longer columnises, so the Huns'ton Mardle will take on the not too arduous task of updating Rotarians on Hunstanton taxi rank developments.

Okay, here’s a two year update. In a nutshell, nothing has happened! Hunstanton still has a taxi rank in Greevegate. It’s never used but continues to occupy what would be two very useful car parking spaces. Meanwhile a sign at the bottom of Westgate remains forlornly directing would-be taxi users up the hill to a non-existent taxi rank. If we couldn’t see the funny side to all of this we might be depressed by the sheer incompetence behind it.

Vocational Committee

by Bob Wright ,Committee Chairman

On 31 March we will be attending the third day of **Mock Interviews** which means we will have



seen almost all of Year 11 pupils at Smithdon High School. Mock interviews in the new format has been a fantastic success. I would like to thank all Rotarians who have given up their time to

make this event such a success. I know the pupils and the school have found the Mock Interviews very useful, both by increasing the pupil's confidence as well as giving them the experience of an interview.

On Monday 26 April I am hoping to support **Crucial Crew** with up to ten Rotarians from our club. I have found this day to be very helpful to the pupils involved. They are made aware of the safety issues in many aspects of their lives.

Centenary Award will take place in May at Smithdon High School. In January the President and myself stressed to the Sixth Formers the importance of this award and hopefully there will be sufficient candidates so that a short list can be chosen, leading to a worthy recipient.

Letters will be sent in April to local schools asking them to participate in the **Citizenship Awards**. The awards will be presented during July by Rotarians from our club.

Some Club Statistics

- 13% of members; live in Hunstanton
- 6% of members; live in Dersingham
- 4% of members; live north or east of Hunstanton
- 29% of members; have a first name beginning with "J"
- 25% of the men; are called John
- 25% of the ladies; are called Janet
- 57% of members; have 6 letters in their surname

At least one member is an utter anorak. How else would this list have been compiled?

What is a Website and Why Have We Got One?

It's a bit like a newsletter really but it has a much a broader circulation. If someone wants to find out what Hunstanton Club gets up to they can access and search our website from anywhere in the world. It is definitely a cheap and fast way to communicate. For example it has applications forms for Kite Festival that can be completed quickly.

It provides information about the club to potential members or visiting Rotarians who can discover where and when we meet. It is all part of that hidden but huge world of information exchange which, whether we like it or not, is the way information is being moved around. It makes a little newsletter like this one very small indeed.

Many people are fearful of the internet (the World Wide Web). But one must say it is well worth exploring. Why not start by looking at the new website created by Ron King - it is a masterly piece of work and must be one of the best and most up to date websites around. Open up your internet and type the website address :- **www.hunstanton-rotary.org.uk** There you will find a home page that clearly indicates the road to further pages giving full details about our club. It is colourful and easy-to-follow and you may find pictures of people you know.

The individual pages are crammed with information on our club. There are links to other associated organisations such as Rotary International.

Ron King has created a superb piece of technology for our use and for the information of others. Please use it, contribute to it and who knows what you might discover? Happy surfing.

I Can't Believe This is True

by David Hall

Manure: In the 16th and 17th centuries most things had to be transported by ship. It was also before the invention of commercial fertilizers and as a result large shipments of manure were not uncommon.

It was usually shipped dry, because in dry form it weighed a lot less than when wet, but once water (at sea) hit it, it not only became heavier, but the process of fermentation began again, of which a by product is methane gas. As the stuff was stored below decks in bundles you can see what could (and did) happen. Methane began to build up below decks and the first time someone came below at night with a lantern, BOOOOM!

Several ships were destroyed in this manner before it was determined just what was happening.

After that, the bundles of manure were always stamped with the term 'Ship High In Transit' on them, which meant the sailors would stow it high enough off the lower decks so that any water that came into the hold would not touch this volatile cargo and start the production of methane.

Thus evolved the term 'S.H.I.T' (Ship High In Transit) which has come down through the centuries and is in use to this very day. You probably did not know the true history of this word. Neither did I.

I had always thought it was a golf term.

Unanswered Questions

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are flat?

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough?

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?

Club Officers (2009-10)

PRESIDENT :-

Muriel Motley

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT :-

John-Hornsby Bates

JUNIOR VICE PRES :-

James Lowe

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT :-

John Hunt

SECRETARY :-

David Hall

TREASURER :-

David Dobby

COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR :-

Ron King

VOCATION CHAIR :-

Bob Wright

INTERNATIONAL & FOUNDATION CHAIR :-

John Lyle

KITE CHAIR :-

John Hornsby Bates

NORTON HILL CHAIR :-

James Lowe

QUARTERMASTER :-

Allan Rowe

PROGRAMME :-

James Lowe

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES/PROTECTION :-

David Hall

Some Forthcoming Events

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 21 Apr | AGM & Club Assembly |
| 26 Apr | Crucial Crew |
| 19 May | Inner Wheel Charter Lunch |
| 26 May | Community Award |
| 26 May | Ten Pin Bowling |
| 23 Jun | Kids Out |
| 27 Jun | Hunstanton Carnival |
| 30 Jun | Changeover |
| 28 Jul | Treasure Hunt |
| 31 Jul/1 Aug | Norton Hill Railway |
| 11 Aug | Barbecue |
| 22 Aug | Kite |
| | (E & O E) |