

ROTARY CLUB of MELTON MOWBRAY
Minutes for Annual General Meeting
16th May 2011

Annual Reports

Reports were presented see appendix

Treasurers Report

A budget report for next year was tabled, it was proposed by Richard Haines that the subscriptions should be reduced by £5.00 to £110.00 and the Lunch levy remain at £26.00. this seconded by Pam Wiggins and agreed by members.

Honorary Members

Lady Gretton continues as a Honorary member

Ray Green was proposed by John Horn as a Life Honorary member seconded by Tony Lord and agreed by all present.

Committee Chairs

The following were elected

Club Service	Julia Hinde
Community and Vocational Service	Ian Neale
International Service	Diane Osborne
Foundation	Richard Abbott
Fund Raising	Mike Rowe
Membership	Brian Grommett
Youth Activities	Jenny Foreman

Council Members

In addition to the Club Officers the Committee Chairs were voted onto the Council.

In addition Kate Theobald and David Ward were elected as Council members proposed R Haines seconded John Horn

Accounts inspection

It was agreed to ask Eric Copley to inspect our Trust accounts and James Green our Club accounts

District Representatives

Pam Posnett, Julia Hinde and Richard Haines were elected

AOB

Diana Osborne proposed that we spend an extra £280.00 towards costs of the container which was sent to the Phillipines this seconded by John Dehnel and agreed.

Pam Wiggins proposed that we make donations to Rosie Lott and Nick Musto of £50.00 each to help with a project in Africa. Also that we donate £150.00 to Great Dalby Pre School towards a project to install a pond. seconded by John Horn and agreed.

Pam also proposed that £200.00 of the money raised at the Duck race be donated to The Rotary Club of Grantham Kesteven again seconded by John Horn and agreed.

John Horn proposed that we spend £82.50 on a Presidents chain of office for the Aurora Club seconded David Morris and agreed by members

John Horn proposed that we donate £1000 to the Pyramid project seconded Richard Haines and agreed by members

Appendix, President and Committee Reports

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

11 months ago at Club Assembly I outlined my programme and hopes for the year ahead. My principal and overarching aim was that members would enjoy their Rotary through their participation in projects and events. My impression is that this has been achieved with lively Club meetings, keeping me on my toes, an excellent and varied programme of speakers arranged by Steve Jeal, an exciting range of projects, activities and social events outlined below by Committee Chairmen. An innovation for lunchtime seating, occasionally determined by lot, was welcomed by many, if not by all.

It has been a great pleasure and privilege to represent the Club elsewhere, and to take part in much of our programme. It may seem invidious to pick out some, but highlights for me were last July's Cycle Challenge, the Bournemouth Conference, the Santa Fun Run, the Young Musician Concerts, the Christmas Party, Burns Night, Charter, the inauguration of the Aurora Club, and most recently the Duck Race. Yet to come, Kids Out, the Safari Supper and the President's BBQ.

In organizing projects and events, large and small, the Club has been outstanding. Some 30 such were mentioned a year ago, only 6 have not appeared and others have been added. Most disappointing was the Disabled Sports, despite tremendous efforts by Pam Wiggins and the Com-Voc Committee. The whole programme required maximum support from the whole Club, but it was also a pleasure to recognize Julia Hinde and Kate Theobald as Rotarians of the Year, and for years of committed service, Richard Haines and Pam Wiggins as Paul Harris Fellows. At the same time we showed our appreciation to Michael Cooke for his support of Rotary and other Service Organisations in his role as Editor of the Melton Times.

As to my own identified priorities, close working with the Belvoir Club through the joint Youth Opportunities Committee has continued, both Clubs are raising funds for the Pyramid Project, but most significant was the feasibility study and consequent inauguration of the Melton Aurora Club. I am particularly grateful to Iain Vernon and our own indefatigable David Morris from District for their strenuous efforts, supported by David Ward and Michael Osborne, in bringing an excellent addition to Rotary in Melton to fruition. We have a very lively daughter ! We ourselves have also been delighted to induct 6 new members (2 by transfer) with another transfer to come in June.

Fundraising through events large and small has continued successfully, and enabled significant payments to Foundation and Polio, and supporting Committee projects. I thank Ladies in Rotary and all who have supported Melton's Melting Moments, which will now continue as a long term effort in aid of the Pyramid project and Loros. Some contact has been made with the Polish community, but sadly at the moment with little progress.

Finally now is not the time to express my heartfelt thanks to so many in the Club for all the success that I know will be recorded in the following reports,

John Horn
16th May 2011.

MEMBERSHIP

The committee has comprised Peter Briggs, Martin Burton, Brian Gromett, Peter Knowles and Michael Osborne.

The membership review at 30 June 2010 confirmed that the median age of the 46 members at that date had increased to 62/63. Exactly half our members were members at 30 June 2001. Exactly half of the 46 members recruited since that date remained members. Some 24% of our members were female.

The club has been pleased to induct Alison Blythe, Jane Abbott, Richard Abbott, Penny Hancox, James Wiggins, and Jim Schofield as new members during the year and we are due to induct Bill Hill shortly.

We have been sorry to lose Brian Giller and Martin Burton. Ray Green resigned as a member after 46 years service but has been elected as an honorary member.

Our membership should be 50 at the year end.

Peter Briggs has taken on the role of Almoner for the Club.

The club has actively supported the creation of the Melton Aurora club which held its inaugural meeting on 24 March with 31 members registered. The Charter meeting has been arranged for 3 June.

Michael Osborne

COMMUNITY AND VOCATIONAL

This has been yet another busy year for the Community and Vocational Team.

Our first event was to provide the pots of Flowering Hyacinths for the Blind, and these were delivered to them at their last meeting before Christmas. Sadly, because the weather had been so bad many of the regular attendees had been unable to make the Christmas party. There were many extra pots of hyacinths and these were given to the staff and some of the disabled group who attend Gloucester House

A lot of time and effort was put into the preparation of the Rotary Christmas Tree decorations. We wanted to let the public know how we raised funds and how the funds were spent on the various projects. We were pleased with the results of the committee's handiwork in presenting the completed tree at the St Mary's Church Christmas Tree Event

We had the Christmas Food Parcels for the Elderly project, which is run jointly with The Belvoir Club and Lions. Once again lots of Rotarians rallied round to encourage shoppers to make food donations, others sorted the food collected and Rotarians delivered it.

A Christmas Card was created by the youngsters at St Mary's Church of England School. The Club members agreed not to send Christmas Cards to each other, but instead they would make a donation and sign the Christmas card that had been created. Smaller copies of the Christmas card were made and given to our own members at our Christmas Party

In Case of Emergency cards continue to be a focus. These have now also been put into some of the phone shops in the Town centre.

Sadly, the Sports Event for the Disabled, which was to be held at the end of March, had to be cancelled because of lack of support. We had already received a District Grant towards the cost and this was returned to District for redistribution.

The amount that had been budgeted for the Disabled Sports Event has been re-allocated for the provision of a Defibrillator to be located at Gloucester House. We believe that this benefits the whole Community as well and the needs of the attendees who make regular use of the facilities provided there.

Our Stroke Awareness Day was once again held in April. The problem of finding medics to carry out the testing has again proved a difficult task this year and the lack of skilled volunteers could jeopardise our participation in the event for the future.

Kids Day out is our next project and this will take place on the 8th June. Once again the focus is very much about the children. We will provide them with special Tee-shirts, back packs and baseball caps as well as lunch. We are also investigating the possibility of providing Rain capes. We are funding the cost of two coaches for the Birchwood children as well as a larger coach for the other children. Sadly the Grove school chose not to send their children on the day out this year. We have therefore arranged for 30 children from St Mary's School and 30 children from Swallowdale to go. Some of this years expenses will be covered by the funds raised by the 3 Peaks Challenge and we thank the Team of walkers for making this project one of the beneficiaries..

At the end of May we will be receiving the Dictionaries for Life, which will be given to children at a number of schools. The Committee will make a final decision on the recipients and we hope that President John will be able to make the presentations.

Once again, with the help of Phil Bendall, his Team and customers at Twin Lakes we were able to raise funds from another Duck Race. Over a period of 12 days covering the Easter holidays, Royal Wedding Bank holiday and May Bank holiday, we were able to raise over £3,963. This was only possible with the help from fellow Rotarians. The International and Youth Committee will benefit from funds raised as well as Interact and the newly formed Aurora Club.

This year the Community and Vocational Committee have raised funds to enable us to make a number of donations from individuals and charities, who have requested help. Unfortunately, we are unable to help everyone and the Committee have decided where help can be given.

I would like to end this report by thanking everyone on the Committee for their hard work and support during the past year. I would also like to thank all of those Rotarians for the time and effort that they have put in to make our projects and fundraising so successful.

Pam Wiggins

Chairman

CLUB SERVICE

Our purpose in Club Service is to support our President John, to assist in developing a programme that will develop friendships within the club and encourage fellowship that will be for the benefit of the local community and our international projects.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members and thank them for their guidance, advice and hard work during the past year. Our hope in Club Service is that President John regards his year as a memorable, successful and enjoyable one.

Some time has been spent at meetings discussing how we bring our club to the notice of the local community at events we either organise or support. Julia Hinde is to be thanked for all her work in researching an image for our club we are in the process of purchasing Gillet's and Banners so that people will recognise The Rotary Club of Melton Mowbray.

Lunchtimes:

We continue to enjoy an excellent service from Jenny, Gavin and their staff not only at lunchtime but also at evening events. Our grateful thanks are extended to them.

Steve Jeal is to be congratulated in the varied and interesting speakers he organises for us. Our new members must not be forgotten in the insight they give us into their own lives thank you.

Social Events:

The Fund Raising Committee again organised a very successful Burns Night.

Our regular Christmas Party was again enjoyed by family and friends.

The 83rd Charter Evening was again held at Scalford Hall when 110 guests including Roger McDermott DG joined us.

We of course have not finished the year yet we still have the Safari Supper on 11th June and The Presidents Barbeque on June 27th. We look forward to welcoming you all to these events.

Pam Posnett

President Elect.

INTERNATIONAL

Of the projects planned for the year, the majority were successfully concluded.

The remaining funds from the District Simplified Grant were spent on five mounted blood pressure kits for the island of Leyte at a cost of £587. Thanks are due to John Dehnel for his liaison work on the completion of this project. We were also able to conclude the paperwork for two earlier projects on Cebu.

Despite being unsuccessful with an application for a district grant, we have despatched a third container, containing school and medical equipment, to Cebu which is due to arrive on 18 May. The Committee is again indebted to Tony and Sasha Lord for their considerable help with the logistical arrangements in storing the contents and shipping the container. The cost for shipping the container was £1,480 and we have been asked if we can help with the customs costs at Cebu.

The collection of spectacles for reuse has continued through the efforts of Joe Carrington.

A fourth annual contribution of £1,372 towards the Polio Challenge has been sent to District. Part of this was funded by the donation secured by Richard Fisher in 2009, part from the Quiz evening, and part from the evening at The Spice Club. Donations have also been accumulating from collecting tins, principally at Twinlakes Park.

Due to the generosity of members of our Club, the Interact Club and others in the local community who had responded to our appeals for donations, we have been able to send funds to purchase eight shelter boxes.

The Belvoir Club has promoted shoe boxes in conjunction with the Melton Times during the year and we decided that members and others could participate in their arrangements.

We investigated the possibility of visiting India in November 2010 to participate in the National Immunisation Day, but concluded that it may be possible to visit on another occasion.

Thanks are due to the members of the committee for their support during the year.

Diana Osborne

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

If you remember key aims and objectives for the year were to continue to work with the Rotary Club of Melton Mowbray Belvoir and to widen the range of Rotary Youth Opportunities on offer. We also hoped to effectively maintain links with local schools during this period of continuing change.

I'm happy to report that this has been a very good year for sustaining school links and for the competitions at both local and District level. Specifically:-

Young Chef Competition

This popular competition was further developed by the involvement of a professional judge in the local heats. Also relations with Stapleford Park were strengthened and we will hold our local final there next year. Also, after being approached on this issue, District has agreed to acknowledge the achievements of students of intermediate age in this competition in future.

Youths Speaks Competition

We were able to enter strong, confident teams to both the intermediate and Senior stage at District level though, unfortunately neither team progressed further this year.

Young Musician Competition

This has been a successful year for local youngsters. Several of them progressed through local and district heats performing at the District final held in Melton in early April. 2 of our candidates went forward to the Regional Competition in York on 30.04.1, Sara Hall (clarinet) and Hannah Bailey (vocal soloist).

Young Writer

This year has been particularly successful with 71 entrants at Junior level. The winning school was St. Mary's, the runner-up was Asfordby Hill. Grove School was Highly Commended. We are awaiting results for those entered for the District phase.

Young Photographer

This year has seen the successful launch of this competition in collaboration with the new Melton Vale Centre. We have had so much success at District level. Grace Bond's entry took second place, Nichola Eastman's entry took third place and Georgina Smith was awarded the new David Green Trophy for the best individual entry.

FUND RAISING

Young Musician Competition actually generates income from refreshment provision. Costs of the other competition are met by support of the 'Sing Up Melton' competition in collaboration with The Melton Times. Winners will gain entry to District Semi Finals and be invited to support a proposed fund raising concert in the Autumn.

Sweepstakes and other competitions.

Support by committee members of the Duck Race and other club fundraising ventures.

Thanks to the many club members who continue to give staunch support to the work of this committee year on year. Particular thanks to those who serve on the committee who give very generously of their time and energy throughout the year.

Jenny Foreman.