



Rotary Opens Opportunities

LOOKS EAST

The Newsletter of The Rotary Club of Ipswich East
Edition 28-2020 : 22nd December 2020

CLUB OFFICERS—2020/21
President: David Chittick
Sen V. President: Jo Banthorpe
Jun V. President: Steve Runnacles
Secretary: Tony Baker
Asst Secretary: Bill Robinson
Treasurer: Neil Hewitt

Club Zoom Meeting
Tuesday 22nd December starting at 6.30pm

Guest Speaker Jack Earwaker
telling us about his experiences as an Air Cadet in the 1940s
followed by a



Duty Rotarians: Karen Finch & Steve Flory



December
Juliette Adams
Peter Leveridge

January
John Goodship
Bill Pipe
Ray Walters
Andy Lewis
Dick Jeffery
Eva Alcerreca
Ian Lord



Chris Banham

Allan Gosling

Andy Lewis

Bill Pipe

Bill Robinson

David Chittick

Eric Barnett

George Woodward

Ian Lord

John Button

John Clements

John Goodship

John Riches

Lewis Tyler

Neil Hewitt

Norman Haines

Ray Walters

Richard Porter

Ross Lunney

Russell Wiles

Tony Baker

Tony Dodds

These members have made donations to the Benevolent Fund in lieu of sending cards.

Forward Programme of Meetings

Monday 4th January Club Council Meeting

Tuesday 5th January 7.30pm Zoom Business Meeting (no duty Rotarians required)

Tuesday 19th January 6.30pm Zoom Club Meeting: Deb Johnson (of *Lighthouse Women's Aid*) on "Domestic Abuse : The Hidden Pandemic"

Duty Rotarians: John Goodship (VoT), Allan Gosling (notes)

Tuesday 2nd February 6.30pm Zoom Club Meeting: Norman Lloyd, "A Disc Jockey's Lament"

Norman Lloyd tells the story of becoming a radio presenter, the radio stations he worked on and what the future of local radio will look like in his opinion. Norman shares some of the highs and lows of over 30 years working in commercial radio and the BBC. And the \$64,000 question, how did he end with a multi-coloured suit?

Duty Rotarians: Norman Haines (VoT), Liz Harsant (notes)

Tuesday 16th February Zoom Club Meeting: Richard Hems "Long in the Tooth"

Duty Rotarians: David Knights (VoT), Andy Lewis (notes)

If you are not able to fulfil the duty allocated as Vote-of-Thanks or Note-taker, please arrange your own swaps and notify the Hon Sec and Newsletter Editor.

Drive-In Carols

Sunday 13th December at Poplar Farm Tuddenham



There's an old saying that **Necessity is the Mother of Invention.**

Well a big thanks to Monica and Bill Pipe for inventing and organising a drive-in carol service during this period of Covid restrictions.

20 cars with club members from the Inner Wheel and Rotary Clubs of Ipswich East attended Poplar Farm last Sunday for a carol service. The drive-in was organised by Monica and Bill, ably assisted by many including Ray Walters as the car park attendant. The service, which was broadcast

by a public address system, was ably conducted by Lesley Dolphin who interjected with many suitable Christmas jokes. Readings were made by David Chittick, James Pipe and Monica Pipe. Everyone remained in their cars so that we all complied with Covid regulations

On a dark, cold and wet Sunday afternoon, warmth and good cheer prevailed on the barn forecourt of Poplar Farm. Perhaps this will be part of the new normal, whatever the new normal may be!

Tony Baker





A Christmas Message from President David

Happy Christmas to all members of Ipswich East Rotary Club, Ipswich East Inner Wheel Club and your families.

Thank you for your continued support of the club, your fellowship and service. My thanks to all who have worked hard to make things happen during this uniquely challenging year. We have continued to donate to charities in our local community and the wider world. We have been able to respond to those in immediate hardship too. Painters got to work at the Ipswich Night Shelter and the new premises of the Ipswich Furniture Project. Others have been packing food parcels and delivering them on behalf of FIND.

Please stay safe over the holiday period and prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The good news is that the end of this crisis is now in sight.

Through the vaccination programme planned to reach us in early 2021, we can look forward to us celebrating a newfound freedom by Easter!

In America the spread of the coronavirus is thought to have accelerated after Thanksgiving. Our thoughts go out to our friends there.

Stay safe by staying at home. If you do go out keep at least 2 meters apart from others, clean your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or if not possible, use a hand sanitiser. Wear a face mask or covering.

Best wishes,

David

Coronavirus Vaccines:

Some of you will have already had the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine which after a second dose prevents COVID in 95% of people. The vaccine contains messenger RNA (mRNA) which cleverly tells the body to produce the spike protein that studs the surface of the virus. Our immune system can then produce cells that make antibodies to attach to the spike protein. The body is then primed and ready to destroy the virus. The Moderna vaccine also contains mRNA for the spike protein.

In addition to the neutralising antibody response from B cells, the Oxford vaccine stimulates a robust T-cell response. This vaccine has been several years in the making, the spike protein is attached to the adenovirus called ChAdOx1.

'The ChAdOx1 vaccine is a chimpanzee adenovirus vaccine vector. This is a harmless, weakened adenovirus that usually causes the common cold in chimpanzees. ChAdOx1 was chosen as the most suitable vaccine technology for a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine as it has been shown to generate a strong immune response from one dose in other vaccines. It has been genetically changed so that it is impossible for it to grow in humans. This also makes it safer to give to children, the elderly and anyone with a pre-existing condition such as diabetes'.

ref: [About the Oxford COVID-19 vaccine | Research | University of Oxford](#)

Rotary Zoom Speaker Meeting 8th December

We had a double-header at the last Rotary Zoom Meeting. Members Bill Izzard and Ewan Dodds took the virtual floor.

There was no link between the two unless one makes the connection that they were both, in their ways about a change in lifestyle.



Bill was first to talk and told us how he has made the transition from ‘dishing the dirt’ as deputy editor of a national newspaper to ‘digging the dirt’ as a gardener.

Having left the hurly-burly of ‘Fleet Street’ and retired, Bill needed a new direction and occupation. Gardening for other people was his work of choice and that has moved on from simply cutting grass to other more taxing work including laying lawns.

Bill amused us with the story of a client to commissioned him to lay a fresh lawn of 30 square metres. A doddle, he thought! All was well until the client mentioned working around the three existing apple trees.

Accommodating them was alright so Bill said yes only to be given another challenge. ‘Oh, there’s also a pond...’ The amount of turf was reducing rapidly... ‘...and would you mind working around the chicken coop?’

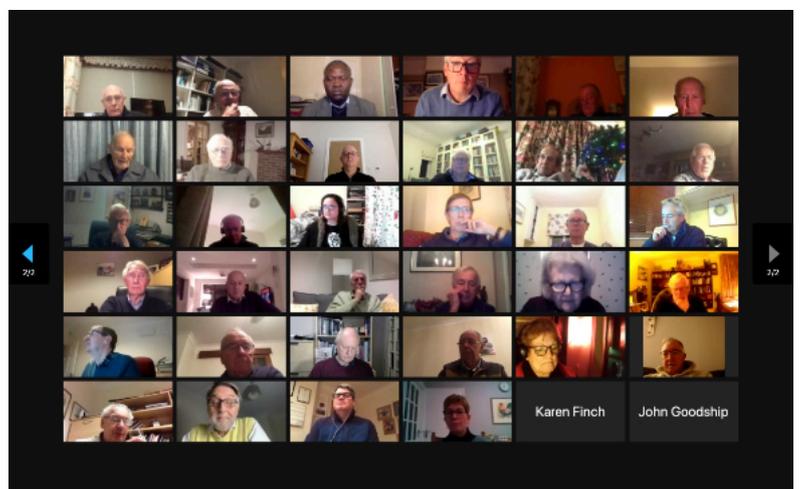
That took the biscuit. Anyone reading this who has kept or known chickens will appreciate that chickens and a lawn are not compatible.

Not to be outdone, Bill laid said lawn, accommodating apple trees, a pond and a chicken coop, accepted his payment and didn’t look back.

Jack Earwaker takes up the story to tell us about Ewan’s talk...

Ewan told us in a few minutes about fifty years of family caravan holidays starting with weekends and school holidays in Tony and Beryl’s caravan near The Maybush at Waldringfield. Dad decided to explore Cornwall for annual family holidays and stayed at several caravan sites before finding a favourite one near Padstowe. Ewan told us of the site priorities like quickly erecting the awning and of emptying the Elsan before journeying home for up to nine hours to cover the 368 miles with the caravan. There were always incidents in meeting a bus or large vehicle in a narrow lane when it was difficult for either to back because of other following cars. The weather could also change from sunny to very wet but still very mild.

Eventually Dad tired of the long journey so Ewan and wife Julie took over with their children to take the caravan to the adopted site, sometimes meeting unexpected road diversions on the way. He told us about missing the chance of a static caravan that his neighbour beat him to it. However his luck changed and he purchased a second home near the sea so now he with family spend long periods throughout the year in Cornwall without the problems of towing the caravan that he lets us use for the Orwell Walk and Ride. An interesting talk with humour.



Happy 80th Birthday, June



Inner Wheel President Monica Pipe led a group of Ipswich East Inner Wheel and Rotary Club members who sang Happy Birthday to June Porter on her doorstep. June has twice been the Inner Wheel president. Again, it was great to see Ipswich East overcome the problems caused by Covid 19.



Catherine Forsdike is swimming the channel 'virtually'.

Fortunately, she has a pool at home and is clocking up the kilometres. At the time of writing she has swum 20km out of her target of 36km

Catherine is raising money for "4YP"

(The exact sum is unknown at this stage because sponsorship is coming in through 'Just Giving' and in cash donations direct to Catherine (thank you those who have) and to IW Ipswich East Treasurer Jenny Clements.



Catherine Forsdike

Catherine's Swimming the channel

Swimming back from France but this time sponsored for 4YP because It is our Inner Wheel clubs chosen charity



4YP

We raise funds for suffolk young people to provide well being services for 12 - 15y

Charity Registration No. 1084286

Donate with **JustGiving**

If you would like to support 4YP by sponsoring Catherine, you can do so by going to the Just Giving website (justgiving.com) and search for "Catherine's Swimming the Channel"

Continuing his series of reminiscences, Tony Baker has moved on again in his career to be Deputy Chief Fire Officer. This is what happens when the chief is away...

Bucks

I was appointed as the Deputy Chief of Buckinghamshire in late 1988. It was at the time of Nigel Lawson's sudden decision to end double mortgage interest tax relief which caused the housing market to crash. We were unable to sell our house in Maidstone so I moved into a flat above High Wycombe fire station for 8 months.

The first week was eventful. During the quiet hours of my first night in the flat, all the lights suddenly flashed on, bells rang and then a ghostly voice said that alarms were sounding at Strike Command and that the entire night shift could not be accounted for. By design or by intent, the station turnout system had not been isolated after the flat had ceased to be used as offices. I had been briefed during the day that a nuclear bunker headquarters was in process of construction for RAF Strike Command beneath the Chilton Hills. I thought what action should I take? I rolled over and went back to sleep to await the phone ringing. All remained quiet. There had been a fault on the alarm system. Next day, I expressed "great displeasure" to the Communications Officer for the disturbance to my sleep.

In the quiet hours of Thursday night, the phone in the flat rang. Major fire in *Dickens & Jones*, Milton Keynes. I set off on a 35 mile journey. On arrival, the store was well alight. An unknown person, who still remains unidentified to this day, with good intentions I hope, had decided to turn off the sprinkler system when it looked as though the fire was coming under control. The intention had been to prevent further damage to stock. However, a fire is not out until it is out. The sprinklers were holding the fire in check throughout the store. However, they were not extinguishing the fire. The fire regained the upper hand and the store was burnt to the ground. The fire investigation proved to be interesting. Animal Liberation activists had visited the store during the day and had planted incendiary devices in the pockets of real fur coats.

A pattern was set. Major incidents occurred with regularity, especially when the Chief was away.

On Friday 21 June 1990, I had left home early in the morning to travel to Birmingham for a meeting. En route, driving through Northamptonshire, the brigade radio sparked up with pumps attending a country mansion in Burnham. A message soon came through that the house was well alight. The Chief was away and as the fire sounded more interesting than my meeting, I turned around and headed for Burnham.

The house was massive with 50 rooms and was owned by one of the wealthiest men in the world. He owned 30 homes, including three houses in London and castles in Kent and Scotland. I was told that this house was full of antiques worth some £50M including ornate French furniture, ornate inlaid ivory cabinets, priceless jade, gold and silver collections and a room containing six solid gold chairs. The owner had owned the house for six years and had stayed there just twice. Two weeks on each occasion, once when a daughter had married and again when he had attended Ascot races.

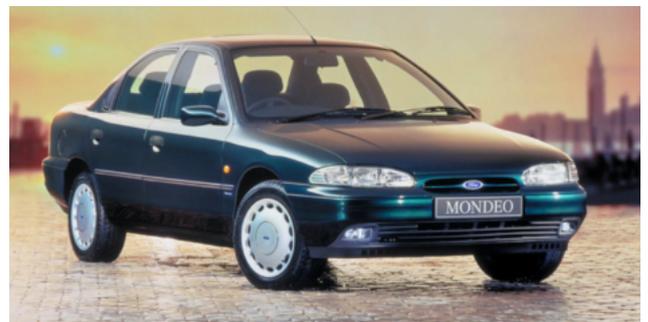


The owner had had had an Olympic sized swimming pool and sports complex built in the grounds complete with massage suites and rest rooms. On an inspection visit, the owner disliked the decor and ordered a full redecoration and instructed that the Olympic sized pool should be emptied, cleaned and refilled with mineral water transported by tanker from Scotland. Water was in short supply to fight the fire, so crews broke into the sports complex and pumped the pool dry. I'm not sure if Scottish mineral water was any more effective at extinguishing the flames.

At the time that the fire started, the premises were unoccupied. The fire was caused by an electric motor used to open curtains at sunrise. The motor overheated and ignited the curtains. Staff ran to the house with fire extinguishers but the fire already had a strong hold. Much was done by firefighters to save the contents of the house. Valuables were retrieved and taken outside. Heavier objects were covered with salvage sheets to protect them from smoke and water. The west wing collapsed but half of the house was saved. A plethora of security officers soon arrived to ensure safe custody of the valuables. I was quite taken by a certain solid silver chair but decided that perhaps it was just a tad too large to fit in the boot of my car.

As the fire was brought under control, I entered the house. It was so sad to see the destruction and the blobs of green on the floor that had once been priceless antique jade. I was shown a very interesting area which was reached by a difficult to find doorway. The main area was a maze of discrete alcoves and recesses with deep shag pile carpet on the floor. At one end was a staircase that lead to two bedrooms, each containing six king size beds.

I spoke to the owner's agent before I left. I asked him if wealth made the owner happy. He said that the owner was the most miserable person that it was possible to meet. I drove home quite happy and content in my little old Ford Mondeo.



On Tuesday 21 August 1990 I was sitting quietly in my office in Aylesbury. The phone rang. The Chief was away again. A petrol tanker had crashed and overturned in the centre of Aylesbury. The tanker had toppled onto its side on the Broadfields roundabout. The roundabout had a particularly high kerb stone which tore through the baffle plates inside the tank. The baffles provided compartments within the tank which were supposed to minimise the escape of petrol escaping in the event of a crash.

Seven thousand gallons of petrol flowed like a stream down the Broadfields Road into a major shopping area that had a large Tesco store and car dealerships at the far end. Cars drove through the petrol. People walked through the petrol, and somehow it did not ignite. The laws of chemistry were suspended in Aylesbury on that day. There was the potential for multiple deaths and extensive destruction of property by fire and explosion. Other towns in similar circumstances had been ripped apart by explosion and fire. A consideration for me was that Liz was working in the Education Department offices just a hundred yards from the crash site.

The petrol entered drains, ducts and even the culvert that ran under the main railway line. Gas, electricity and telephone lines were cut off. I ordered the stoppage of all trains. People within a quarter of a mile of the crash were evacuated from homes and businesses. Hundreds of shoppers and shop staff were led out through rear exits. Cars had to be abandoned for days until the situation was made safe. A vast amount of foam was used to blanket the petrol, then lorry loads of sand were brought in to soak up the puddles of petrol. Vacuum pumps were used to remove petrol from water courses and drains, then petrol sludge was removed from the beds of gullies and streams.

A second petrol tanker was brought in to pump out the remaining 600 hundred gallons of petrol from the crashed tanker. Traffic in and around Aylesbury was in chaos. A police helicopter broadcasted advice to residents to evacuate the area. Schools and community centres were opened as rest and refreshment centres for local people. Clifford Smith would be pleased that all of the County Council Departments were mobilised that day and swung into action with their emergency plans.

The petrol tanker was righted and filled with foam compound before it was towed away closely followed by an escort of two fire engines. We spent another two days making the area safe and



checking anywhere and everywhere with Explosi-meters (pictured) for any remaining petrol and vapour. As a final action all the drains and water courses were flushed through with clean water.

Two weeks later I was sitting quietly in my office when the phone rang. The Chief was away again.

It was a contact in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office who had helped the brigade to donate redundant fire engines to Liberia. There was a problem fire in Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania. A large oil fire had been

burning for three days and had proved to be impossible to extinguish. I offered to pack a bag. My offer was declined and I was asked to speak to the fire chief in Tanzania by telephone and to advise him. I agreed. I quickly consulted my reference books to refresh my memory. The phone rang. I asked the fire chief for details of the fire. It was frustrating. I could not envisage what he was trying to tell me. I asked him to describe exactly what he was looking at and then it clicked into place.

The fire was in a very large storage tank. The tank had a floating roof. Therefore the roof rose and fell as the level of product in the tank rose and fell. There was a seal between the floating roof and the side of the tank. That seal had deteriorated over time by the action of friction together with weathering and reaction to sunlight. A source of ignition had caused a fire which spread right around the rim of the tank in the space between the edge of the floating roof and the side of the tank. The fire fighters in Tanzania had attacked the fire with a foam jet. They started at a point and moved around the top of the tank extinguishing the flames as they proceeded.

Fire-fighting foam is like glorified Fairy Liquid, bubbles of air encased in a thin layer of soapy material. Foam does not cool the burning material, it smothers the flames with bubbles of air to exclude oxygen. Foam needs to be applied thickly and then reapplied for a sustained period, otherwise, it will break down through contact with flames, hot surfaces and by the natural nature of bubbles to dissipate. The fire fighters in Tanzania sprayed foam onto the gap as they travelled around the perimeter of the tank. By the time they had travelled around half of the circumference of the tank to the side opposite to where they had started, the fire had broken down the bubbles and had started to follow them round, and no matter how quickly they proceeded, the fire was always following them around. The fire had followed them round and round for three days each and every time they started to apply foam.

In the cold light of day it is easy to see the answer. It's not so easy when the problem it is right in front of you. The answer was two foam jets. One to stay put and to stop any re-ignition whilst the other proceeds around the top of the tank as before. The next day there was a short column about the fire on the front page of the Daily Telegraph and I was interviewed by the local radio station.

A few days later on Friday, just as I entered my office after lunch, the phone rang. A fire engine had been in a head-on collision with a heavy goods vehicle and firemen were seriously injured.

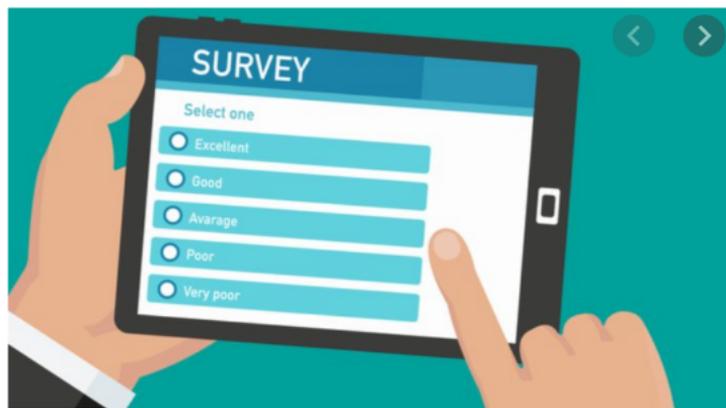
The Chief was away.



Club Survey 2020

At our last meeting, President David announced that Club Council was implementing some changes to the way we meet and operate over the next few months whilst the pandemic means we cannot meet in person.

These changes are as a direct result of analysis the views of members made in the recent on-line survey.



MEETINGS ON ZOOM

We will continue with meeting on Zoom – Half those questioned accept that zoom is better than not meeting and will continue to do so. The club needs to find a way of persuading those who left in the trial days to return and encourage those who have not done so to give it a try.

The number of people who commented adversely on the use of breakout rooms is very small – they should be continued when appropriate. (see fuller recommendation below)

We will continue meeting fortnightly – the survey shows that clear majority feel we should continue fortnightly.

We will trial a start time of 7.30pm and keep meetings within an hour. Amongst those who do engage, almost equal numbers expressed a preference for 6.30pm and 7.30pm. factoring in those who have NOT engaged but think they might if the meeting was at the later time of 7.30pm, (9), that means a total of 20 members who would be happy to meet at 7.30pm after an evening meal. We propose that the later time be trialled before we make a general change to see how that affects numbers attending. We might attract more to join in by changing the time as a good number of those who have not engaged yet have said the change of time could make it easier for them.

We will use breakout groups in a new way – as a means of getting members to discuss topics less formally. The b/o groups could be asked to nominate a spokesperson to report back to the while group. Zoom allows the use of ‘Polls’ for voting – this should also be used as a way of getting interaction between club members and advising Club Council.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We will capitalise on the willingness of members to deliver food parcels for FIND and take part in small scale community projects.

We will capitalise on the willingness of members to engage in covid-secure, small-scale socialising by facilitating way of meeting.

FUND RAISING

We will investigate running covid-secure fund-raising events such as a Golf Day

COMMUNICATIONS

We will encourage members to write articles about themselves and their work past and present for the newsletter.

We will give support and encouragement to those who maintain the Webpage and Social Media to improve the club’s profile

**The survey showed that 48 people wanted to meet socially in small groups
25 offered the use of their homes and gardens to meet up
26 showed a willingness to work on small community projects and
26 offered to deliver FIND parcels this year.**

IPSWICH EAST ROTARY CLUB MEMBER SURVEY 2020

Q1 - Should we meet on Zoom during the pandemic?

(59 responded)

By Zoom weekly	6.78%	4
By Zoom twice a month	88.14%	52
Not at all.	5.08%	3

Analysis:

A clear majority feel we should continue fortnightly.

Q2 – What do members think of virtual meetings?

(60 answered)

I have been engaging with Zoom meetings and will continue to do so	46.67%	28
I engaged with Zoom in the early weeks but have stopped	13.33%	8
It's not ideal but meeting by Zoom is better than nothing	50.00%	30
I have not yet engaged with Zoom meetings (see also Q4)	11.67%	7

Analysis:

47% of those who responded (28) are content to continue to engage with zoom, 50% think it's better than nothing. 8 members have dropped out since the early days and 7 have yet to try.

Comments from respondents:

11 (out of 60) made varied remarks citing wrong time of day (4) or reluctance to sit in front of a computer after working all day (3) – one person thought the meetings they had attended were too serious. Once said too long. We have to remember that these are likely to be people who dropped out early. Just one person expressed a dislike for going into breakout rooms.

Q3 – If you have joined meetings – what do you think of them? (those who have never tried were encouraged to move to the next question.)

(50 respondents)

They work for me as they are	16.00%	8
I like the opportunity we have to talk generally before and after the official meeting time	36.00%	18
I would like to have more guest speakers and the opportunity to ask questions	22.00%	11
It would suit me better to meet at 1pm on a Tuesday	20.00%	10
I'm content to continue to meet at 6.30pm on a Tuesday	42.00%	21
It would suit me better to meet at 7.30pm on a Tuesday	38.00%	19

Analysis:

The interesting thing here is the timing of meetings: 10/50 expressed a preference for 1pm, 21/50 are happy with 6.30pm, 19/50 would find 7.30pm a better time. Without going through individual responses, we don't know how many ticked more than one box!

Comments:

14 people made comments: One person expressed a dislike of breakout rooms. Two other persons said they like them.

Two people would prefer a later start time. Other comments were about wanting more entertainment from speakers (1) for the meetings to be no longer than 1 hour (3 – of which two suggested 45mins if no speaker). Another individual's comments are related to not understanding how zoom works and could be explained directly to them.

A good point was made by another respondent: 'could we use the breakout rooms to discuss topics of interest?'

Q4 – reasons people have not engaged with Zoom

(28 responded)

I don't have a computer or tablet so can't access zoom	7.14%	2
I have enough of sitting in front of a computer and being in zoom meetings at work	32.14%	9
I like the opportunity we have to talk generally before and after the official meeting time	17.86%	5
I want to be able to talk to people and zoom is too limiting	21.43%	6
I find it hard to hear and/or see on zoom	7.14%	2
The timing is wrong for me	21.43%	6
It would suit me better to meet at 1pm on a Tuesday	14.29%	4
It would suit me better to meet at 7.30pm on a Tuesday	32.14%	9

Analysis:

Again, the response to timing is interesting. 6 said the time is wrong for them 4 expressed a preference for 1pm, 9 members would prefer 7.30pm.

Comments:

There were 7 comments but only 5 are relevant as those people said 'no comment'. One said they were too old to take part (!) one said lunchtime might help, one was content as things are for them, one is too busy.

Q5 – asked for views on Community Projects

(46 responded)

I am prepared to take part in small scale (Covid-secure) community projects such as painting or gardening	56.52%	26
I am willing to collect and make deliveries of FIND Christmas Parcels in a Covid-secure manner.	63.04%	29
We should not attempt community projects during the pandemic	17.39%	8

Analysis:

Of those who responded, 8 though the club should not attempt community projects during the pandemic.

29 are willing to assist with the delivery of Christmas parcels for FIND

26 are willing to assist with small projects such as painting or gardening.

Comments:

One person suggested a project could be litter picking. Once person suggested this be a topic for discussion at a zoom meeting.

The remaining comments were genuine personal reasons for not taking part because of personal or family isolating and health conditions.

Q6 – we asked members about Fellowship Opportunities

(58 responded)

I am happy to meet socially with other members once we are out of lockdown (and then in a Covid-secure manner)	81.03%	47
I am happy to meet in a member's house or garden once we are out of lockdown (and then in a Covid-secure manner)	62.07%	36
I would like to offer my garden/house for meeting up once we are out of lockdown (and then in a Covid-secure manner)	44.83%	26
I would like to meet outside with other members for activities such as golf, walking, cycling which meet the prevailing government guidance and rules.	55.17%	32

I do not presently have contact with anyone from the club and would like to be contacted	1.72%	1
I do not want to meet socially with other members until the Covid restrictions are completely lifted.	13.79%	8

Analysis:

The question was asked whilst we were in the midst of Lockdown2 and 81% of people were looking forward to being able to meet securely after that time. However, 8 people did not want to meet with anyone until all restrictions are lifted.

36 were happy to meet in a house/garden (as permitted) and 26 of the 58 offered the use of their own house/garden.

One person said they have no contact from members of the club.

Comments:

7 people left comments supporting meeting up in small groups as permitted.

Q7 – We asked opinions on Fund Raising

(57 responded)

We should only engage with on-line fundraising.	22.81%	13
We should investigate running Covid-secure fundraising events (such as the Golf Day).	71.93%	41
We should suspend all fundraising during the pandemic.	10.53%	6

Analysis:

There was a lot of support (41/60 or 72%) in favour of investigating secure events to raise funds. 13 felt that the club should only engage with on-line fundraising. 6 people thought the club should suspend all fundraising for the duration.

Comments:

There were two helpful comments supporting doing what we can within the limits currently set, one person commented on the process used by the Grants Committee. This might need following up in case there is a misunderstanding.

Q8 – This question invited comments on the value and content (and readership) of the newsletter.

(59 responded)

I value receiving the newsletter	81.36%	48
The newsletter should continue to be fortnightly	77.97%	46
The newsletter should revert to being weekly	3.39%	2
The newsletter gives me the information I need	55.93%	33
I'd like to read more articles about members' lives or the work they do now	38.98%	23
I do not read the newsletter	3.39%	2
I do not receive the newsletter (a couple of members were having difficulties which have been addressed: it will be helpful to know if you are not receiving the fortnightly mailing which is sent the week before the zoom meeting)	3.39%	2

Analysis:

Of those who responded, 48/59 said they value receiving the newsletter, 46 thought it should continue to be fortnightly and just 2 suggested it should revert to being weekly. 33/59 said it gives them the information they need. 23/59 would welcome more content about members' current and past lives. 2 people said they don't read the newsletter

Comments:

There were 5: 4 people praised the newsletter and one person said they don't receive it but didn't say who they are!

Q9 – asked for views on the Club’s Website and Facebook

(59 responded)

I sometimes access the club’s website page	45.76%	27
I never access the club’s website	47.46%	28
I sometimes visit the club’s Facebook page	18.64%	11
I have never seen the club’s Facebook page	59.32%	35

Analysis:

Clearly there is room for improvement here. Almost half of members have never accessed the website and the other half said they have occasionally. 60% of members have never seen the Facebook page (we have no way to know if they use FB anyway!) but 11 people (19%) have accessed it.

Comments:

There were 6 out of the 59 respondents who commented. One person was happy to access both website and FB but hasn’t, 2 say they have no interest and two people commented that the website needs a revamp.

Q10 – the final question thanked members for taking part and asked if they would like to be contacted.

(14 responded)

I would like someone to contact me about the comments I have made.	7.14%	1
I would like someone to contact me because I've indicated I'm interested in helping with a project, meeting up outside of lockdown, making my garden available, etc. (Q 5 & 6)	100.00%	14

Comments:

Just one person wanted to be contacted because she has no contact with the club. Peter Leveridge asked to be contacted by club members in some way.

Other General Information gleaned from the survey:

48 people wanted to meet socially in small groups
25 offered the use of their homes and gardens to meet up,
26 showed a willingness to work on small community projects
26 offered to deliver FIND parcels this year.

Photographic Memories of a Rotary Christmas Lunch 2012





The Billy Boys Golf



By great co-incidence Club members Bill Izzard and Bill Robinson came out of a random draw to play together as partners in the Seniors' Christmas Fayre at Ipswich Golf Club.

A recommendation of entry to the competition was to wear festive hats and sweaters and the photograph shows that the two Bills entered into the spirit of the day with the personification of Christmas elegance with their hats and sweaters.

Well fortified with mulled wine and hotdogs at the 10th tee the intrepid pair went on to finish second in the competition . Had it not been for the copious amount of Gluhwein, a victory may have been possible but it was the spirt of taking part and the honour of Rotary that was important.

This space is for you!

If you've anything to share let the Editor know.

The advantage of a digital newsletter is that it can be infinitely expanded to accommodate anything worthy of publication.

(Send to alan.forsdike@gmail.com and he will decide!)