



# Braunton Caen Rotary



## NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020

### POLIO UPDATE

#### BREAKING NEWS...

At the time of going to print, the latest polio figures are as follows:

- 56 children paralysed by polio in Afghanistan so far this year (compared to 29 in total during 2019).

- 82 children paralysed by polio in Pakistan this year (compared to 147 in total during 2019).

A total of 138 cases so far this year, compared to a 176 in 2019, and 33 in 2018.

After a pause in polio campaigns due to COVID-19, Chad and other African Region countries vaccinated 40 million children during November in order to boost immunity.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



This year's Rotary International theme for 2020-21 "Rotary Opens Opportunities" was chosen by RI President Holger Knaack. "Rotary is not just a club that you join. It is an invitation to endless opportunities. It opens opportunities to serve in a project as big and historic as End Polio Now and also in a small community project, where you just plant a tree. It opens opportunities for you to live a richer, more meaningful life, with friends around the world, based on our core values.

## Santa Sleigh Christmas Tour

Once again, Santa and his elves from Braunton Caen Rotary are starting their annual tour of Braunton, Wrafton and Chivenor.

Due to the unprecedented times in which we find ourselves, we have had to adapt how Santa and his sleigh tour the village this year.

Even though we must comply with government rules we knew how important it was to get Santa on his way.

We will not be able to knock on doors this year and there will be no jangling of buckets, but we will be raising money via a JustGiving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/BrauntonSantaSleigh>



All monies raised will go towards local Rotary supported charities and projects, especially helping young people and the elderly.



So if you see Santa, or wish to support us, please give generously.

Like last year, we will be joining Santa for seven evenings over two weeks commencing Monday 7th

December. For full details of dates, routes and timings, please look at the poster on the back page of this newsletter.

This year, we will also be at Braunton Tesco on the coming two Sundays.

Finally, we will be parked by the Christmas Tree on the two late night shopping Fridays this month—11th & 18th—from 3.15pm in the afternoon. Please come along and say hello!

**FROM EVERYONE AT BRAUNTON CAEN ROTARY WE WISH YOU ALL A SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS!**





Our Memory Café team delivered the latest newsletter last month

to members of our Memory Café, as a way of keeping in touch whilst not able to meet up face to face at the moment. Our theme was Bonfire Night and Remembrance Day, with many local stories of relatives who had fought in the Great Wars. A delightful read.

Our team are also supporting members with regular telephone calls, which are welcomed and enjoyed by everyone.

# Community News

**Braunton Memory Cafe News**

**BONFIRE NIGHT**  
Bonfire Night is celebrated on November 5th. It marks the day in 1605 when Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the House of Commons. In fact, it was a group of thirteen English Catholics, led by Robert Catesby, who plotted to assassinate King James I when he opened Parliament. They filled a cellar at the House of Parliament with gunpowder and Guy Fawkes was put in charge of guarding it. An anonymous letter alerted the authorities and subsequently they searched the cellar and arrested Guy Fawkes.

**HALLOWEEN**  
Remember all those fireworks glowing the pretty gobs the kids were showing back garden bonfires reached the skies Golden Rain delighted cries The evenings they were dark and damp But you could make a candle lamp A jam jar and a lighted candle Tied up with string to make a handle How those savages did sizzle in the darkness and the drizzle Memories and each other now will give our Guy Fawkes night a glow Put on the kettle sing a song With hearts of joy we'll be strong

**11 NOVEMBER Remembrance Day**

Braunton has a Memorial Garden which there is a covered seat and a plaque to honour those who have given "their lives to the cause of peace". There is also a stone memorial outside St Brannock's church which is where Braunton Caen Rotary Club laid a wreath, as seen in the photos on page one. Inside the church you will find memorials to those who lost their lives in the wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45.

Some 12,000 American troops were stationed in North Devon in the build up to D-Day on June 6th, 1944. The Braunton Burrows dunes are similar in landscape to the Normandy beaches, particularly to Utah Beach and were therefore ideal as a training ground for their landings and assaults to secure the land. They built concrete replica landing craft in the southern area of the dunes. Four units of Landing Craft Tanks and two of Landing Craft Mechanised. All six are now Grade II listed having been granted protection by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on the advice of Historic England. The most practical embarkation and disembarkation, as well as what to do once off the craft. There were also several Pillbox built and live ammunition was used during the training.

Here is a snippet of my grandfather Jim Dyer. The big photo has been left after copying his History Cross from the Queen. Jim's father for right he was actually awarded the MC twice, once with one bar. He spoke 6 languages and was in 1916 later worked as a translator till his death. He also kept a diary which is amazing.

From Gary West

## Limericks from Lockdown

**Limericks from the Lockdown**

Penned during the Coronavirus lockdown period 2020  
by Peter Little  
of Braunton Caen Rotary Club  
and Anchors Aweigh!  
£2.50  
All proceeds in aid of  
North Devon District Hospital's  
'Over and Above' Appeal

We are delighted to announce that Rotarian Peter Little raised in total £1,004.50 for the Hospital's Over & Above Charity and, last month, Peter & President Paula met up with Julie Whitton, the Senior Hospital Fundraiser, to hand over the cheque. They also enjoyed an informative tour of the newly built North Devon Cancer and Wellbeing Centre. Well done Peter!



## Youth Update

At half term we launched a number of Rotary youth competitions which do not need school or teacher input or face-to-face contact with other pupils. Keep a look out on the Braunton Community Facebook pages for information on Young Artist, Young Writer, Young Photographer, Young Film Maker and Young Environmentalist.

Further information will also appear in the January edition of the local EX33 magazine.

**YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALIST COMPETITION**  
**YOUNG WRITER COMPETITION**  
**YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION**  
**YOUNG FILMMAKER COMPETITION**  
**YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION**

**PARENTS! ARE YOU LOOKING TO KEEP THE KIDS BUSY?**

Braunton Caen Rotary are running five youth competitions! Please visit our website or social media pages to find out more and to get an entry form.

admin@brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk  
www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk

**AGES 7 - 17 YEARS OLD!**

Braunton Caen Rotary

## Devon Air Ambulance

### Donation

Fundraising this year has been tricky for every charity and organisation.

None more so than those who have continued to operate, but with additional costs. The Devon Air Ambulance being one such charity where every mission is costing around an additional £150, just in the provision of PPE for the crew.

Our annual Charity Car Tour and Braunton Wheels had nominated the Devon Air Ambulance as a benefactor from these events in 2020. As we were not able to hold either event we felt that we should still support the charity.

We were delighted to send a donation of £1,000 to help with the costs of PPE and were pleased to receive a certificate of thanks.

Additionally we will still support the Devon Air Ambulance during 2021 at both the Charity Car Tour on Sunday 18th April, and Braunton Wheels on Sunday 25th July 2021.

**Devon Air Ambulance**  
Registered Charity No. 1077998  
[www.daat.org](http://www.daat.org)

**Devon Air Ambulance**  
**2020 Certificate of Thanks**

**Braunton Caen Rotary Club**  
**£1000**

**Real people saving real lives**

Follow us on [www.daat.org](http://www.daat.org) 01392 466666

## Foundation Update

### Holsworthy RC - District Grant for North Devon Hospice

We have answered a request from Holsworthy Rotary to pledge support for the North Devon Hospice who need to refurbish their "stop over" accommodation and joint use/dining facilities which are available for relatives and friends visiting from much further afield at times that may be critical for patients and their families. That accommodation is now the subject of a phased refurbishment programme with a projected cost of approximately £8,500, exclusive of funds raised by the Hospice. Works are planned to begin in March 2021.

Our commitment of £250 will go towards other donations to enable a District Grant to be made to progress the refurbishment.



### Remembrance Service

The coronavirus pandemic meant that the usual well attended commemorative parade in the village was pared down to a simple service with limited numbers.

On Sunday 8th November, President Paula, President-Elect Chelsea and Vice-President Geoff represented Braunton Caen Rotary at the small remembrance service outside St Brannock's Church to honour those who have fallen in the wars.

The service was led by the Royal British Legion and President Paula laid a wreath on behalf of the club.



### Village Christmas Trees - Braunton in Lights



Christmas nearly bypassed Braunton this year, but was saved by some generous "JustGiving" donations which were enough to invest in 35 Christmas trees and lights.

A few hardy volunteers in the guise of James Benning, Roger Byrom, Jason Little, Darrin Pimlott, Phil Powell and Karl Richardson, helped to get these trees up into the tree brackets over shops around the village last Sunday morning.

It's not for the faint hearted! Climbing ladders, avoiding traffic and getting attacked by the pine needles is all in a morning's work for this merry band. And 2½ hours later they were back at home glowing in their efforts. Job well done!

This is our 6<sup>th</sup> year of helping to make the village a festive place and particularly so this year for obvious reasons.

So wander round the village and enjoy the lights!!

### Braunton Caen Rotary's Birthday: 14th December 2020

How time flies! The 10th anniversary of when Braunton Caen was officially chartered as a Rotary Club is fast approaching.

This year, we will be celebrating slightly differently with a Zoom on line party with family and friends, in our usual relaxed style.



# December Diary

# Braunton Caen Rotary



## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

### SANTA IS COMING TO BRAUNTON!

**Monday 7th- Saunton Park**  
**Wednesday 9th- Chivenor**  
**Thursday 10th-Williams Arms**  
**Monday 14th- Tesco to Barton Lane**  
**Tuesday 15th- Acland Park to Limetree Grove**  
**Thursday 17th- Lower Park Road**  
**Friday 18th- Field Lane to Kingsacre**

JustGiving

Subject to change and weather. All proceeds will be donated to local Rotary supported charities and projects

Braunton Caen Rotary

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Braunton Caen Rotary is working hard to keep everyone safe over this festive season. Due to the latest Covid restrictions we feel unable to knock on your doors so to help us with our fundraising we have set up a JustGiving page.

Please find the link on our Christmas Gift Box below or you can find us at [www.justgiving.com/campaign/BrauntonSantaSleigh](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/BrauntonSantaSleigh) or look on our website [www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk](http://www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk)

If you wish to donate, please scan our Virtual Present and go to our JustGiving page

JustGiving Braunton Caen Rotary

## Club Contact Information

Website: [www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk](http://www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk)  
Facebook: The Rotary Club of Braunton Caen  
Club President: Paula Byrom 07772 770850 [paulabyrom@rpbfunerals.co.uk](mailto:paulabyrom@rpbfunerals.co.uk)  
Club Secretary: Jan Lewis 07967 896192 [j.lewis175@btinternet.com](mailto:j.lewis175@btinternet.com)  
Newsletter Editor: Paula Byrom 0777 277 0850 [paulabyrom@rpbfunerals.co.uk](mailto:paulabyrom@rpbfunerals.co.uk)

find us on  
**Facebook**  
Have you looked at our Facebook page?  
Why not like and share our items

Usual meeting place  
The Mariner's Arms in South Street, Braunton.  
Wednesday Nights at 7.00pm—8.00pm