



### POLIO UPDATE

#### BREAKING NEWS...

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

- 19 children paralyzed by polio in Afghanistan (compared to 13 this time last year).

- 53 children paralyzed by polio in Pakistan (compared to 44 this time last year).

A total of 72 cases so far this year.

Meanwhile in Nigeria, no cases have been reported since 2016. This week, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared Nigeria free of wild polio, following the completion of documentation for the free status.

#### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



This year's Rotary International theme for 2019-20 "Rotary Connects the World" was chosen by RI President Mark Daniel Maloney. He asks Rotarians to strengthen the many ways that Rotary Connects the World, building the connections that allow talented, thoughtful, and generous people to unite and take meaningful action through Rotary service.

## Literacy Project, Southmead School

At one of our recent meetings, our Literacy project teacher, Mrs Elaine McIntosh, gave us our first remote presentation via Zoom. She explained in detail how she runs the project in Southmead Primary School, opening the eyes of many of our members as to the amount of work involved in how she delivers the daily sessions over the eight week period. She explained her approach and how she tailors the teaching to each individual pupil's needs. She showed us the statistics from the beginning of her work in the school:

28 children have taken part in the programme so far - 14 boys and 14 girls

19 year 4 pupils (8-9 years), and 9 year 5 pupils (9-10 years)

All pupils were reading significantly below their chronological age at the start of the programme

18.5% made at least one year's progress

55.5% made at least 1½ year's progress

26% made at least 2 year's progress

14.8% did not quite achieve a reading age equal to their chronological age

29.6% achieved a reading age equal to their chronological age

55.6% achieved a reading age beyond their chronological age

100% made significant improvements in their levels of comprehension

100% of pupils re-tested had maintained their level of progress

As well as shared reading, the children enjoy various games, examples of which include a variation of connect 4, noughts & crosses, bingo cards and go fish which is the most popular game. Other activities include word building as multi-sensory as possible, using a whiteboard.

An end of programme presentation takes place, at

which the children are presented with a certificate with the book covers of the ones they have read, and the book they have been presented with.

Teachers' feedback is that general behaviour has improved, with a marked improvement in their concentration levels, behaviour and self confidence.

These demonstrate that this is a very worthwhile project and is our club's main ongoing funded activity.

We appreciate the support with funding from Professor Jean Crabtree of the Ritchie Charitable Trust who has kindly provided funding towards the continuation of the programme for the past four years.

Special thanks to Rotarian Patrick Farrelly for his hard work and commitment without whom this project would not be possible.



## Presidential Handover with a difference!

July the 1st sees every Rotary Club changing their President and Braunton Caen is no different.

This year however, we had to come up with a solution on to how to arrange club handover to our new President with social distancing in place. Luckily our outgoing President Paul lives on top of the world (or it feels like it walking up from his parking area), so we managed to have handover via a makeshift death slide (trust Rotarian Roger to come up with that one).

After an unusual and challenging end to the year, Braunton Caen Rotary thanked our President Paul for steering us safely through the last few months and giving us yet another great year in Rotary. He has

handed over to Paula Byrom, who has been the Club Secretary for a number of years. Paula said when she became a Charter member of the Club 10 years ago, that she never imagined in her wildest dreams that she would ever be President of such a great Rotary Club and she is extremely proud to be leading the Club into its 10th Anniversary year.

Paula handed the President Elect chain over to the club's youngest member, Chelsea Buckingham, who is already planning her year with great enthusiasm.



Braunton Caen is looking forward to two exciting year's ahead with two ladies at the helm.

## Farewell from President Paul



Sadly, at the end of June, my year as President of Braunton Caen Rotary Club comes to an end. It has been a somewhat strange year. It started well with a successful Braunton Wheels event, a most enjoyable summer programme and many interesting speakers at our routine meetings at the Mariners Arms. In December we had our best yet Santa's Sleigh fundraiser to support the young and elderly of the village. However, 2020 has proved to be a very different story, with

our routine face-to-face meetings and fundraising events cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We were sorry to cancel our annual Car Tour, the Village Fair and our President's Night, and real life meetings of the Memory Café amongst other things. We have however continued to meet online using Zoom with speakers and quizzes and other fun and fellowship activities. Hopefully, we will all be able to return to something more like normality later in the year.

I wish to thank the Club Secretary, Paula, for her steadfast and efficient support during the year, Treasurer, Stan, for keeping up with our donations to charities, yet not letting us go bankrupt, the programme leads and all our members for their amazing support and help. It has been a great pleasure and a privilege to serve the club as President. I wish our new President, Paula Byrom, every success for her year in office. I am certain she will do a marvellous job throughout her Rotary year 2020/21. I look forward to supporting her and the club in the future.

President Paul was pleased to make three awards to long serving club members:

Roger Byrom was awarded Rotarian of the Year, as a stalwart of the club, and in many ways helped carry us and our business and our fellowship activities through, despite lockdown.

Stan Westlake has been awarded a Paul Harris Fellow for his long and active service and membership of the club, for his continuing work as Treasurer, organiser of Memory Café and Santa Sleigh over a number of years as well as many other Rotary commitments.

Peter Little has been awarded a Paul Harris Fellow for his long and active service, for tirelessly promoting International projects, including Marys Meals and Shelterbox, for which he has been a speaker for a number of years.



## Supporting the Local Community

Braunton Caen has been very keen to support the local community during these unusual times, when many charities have struggled financially.

We are delighted to have made donations of £500 each to 3 local charities.



NDADA (North Devon Against Domestic Abuse) who has a need to improve internet accessibility to help children do their online

school work at the refuge. They are entering a period of challenging times with an influx of new referrals due to the pandemic.



CALVERT TRUST who needs help through this time as they still have ongoing costs with animal welfare during Covid. Unfortunately at the moment, most staff are furloughed and the centre is closed, as the guests are very vulnerable due to existing health conditions.

CHEMOHERO who need to continue producing their Boxes of Kindness. Many treatments have been delayed over these past 3 months however some have still gone ahead meaning they have taken up over 30 boxes still. Sadly they expect an increase of those needing boxes.



## The Big Village Clean

Lockdown has brought many challenges over the last few months and as we all started to emerge from our homes it became clear how the weeds had taken over the village. So Braunton Caen took up the challenge and within 3 days arranged a 'big village clean' one Sunday morning. We asked residents to look at their little bit of land outside their gates and give it a quick weed and everyone was invited down to the centre of the village to tackle an area from West Cross down to the Square, into Exeter Road, down South Street and into Chalanors Road.



In just this little area, we managed to fill 3 dumpy bags of weeds. Not only did Rotarians get out and clean up, but some business owners joined us and a large number of residents. We would like to say a huge "well done" to everyone who did their little bit or helped in the centre. *Rotarian Roger Byrom said "it was so good to see so many people out cleaning the village. The whole idea of the Big Clean was to make Braunton look inviting and open for business for shoppers to return to".* Braunton Caen are planning another day to have a clear up; please keep an eye on our Facebook page and if you have any suggestions please message us on Facebook.



**Score Farm Garden** is also undergoing a long overdue haircut (well shrub cut). It is now maintained by members of Braunton Caen and head gardener Karl and his team are working hard to get it back to a nice place for friends and families to sit and relax in a beautiful spot beside the river.



# July & August Diary Dates

Braunton Caen  
**Rotary**



Wednesday 1st July 2020	Business Meeting at 7pm
Wednesday 8th July 2020	Speaker Meeting: Sophie Heaton of Live Well in Braunton; 7pm
Wednesday 15th July 2020	The Big Village Clean-2; 6pm
Wednesday 22nd July 2020	Speaker Meeting: Sue & Ivan Godfrey regarding their Lands End to John o'Groats trip; 7pm
Wednesday 29th July 2020	Sam Cross & George Eamer from District re Public Image; 7pm
Wednesday 5th August 2020	Speaker Meeting: Dave Viner & Danny Greeno of The Veterans Charity; 7pm
Wednesday 12th August 2020	Business Meeting at 8pm; Guest: DG William Wells
Wednesday 19th August 2020	Speaker Meeting: Rotarian Patrick Farrelly regarding his military career
Wednesday 26th August 2020	Fun & Friendship/Service tbc

*Although we're not able to meet face to face at the moment, we have embraced modern technology and are currently meeting weekly via Zoom on line video conferencing.*

*We would be delighted to welcome visitors to any of our meetings from the comfort of your homes! If you would like to join us, please contact us at [admin@brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk](mailto:admin@brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk) and we will send you a meeting link.*

## 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 [paulabrom@rpbfunerals.co.uk](mailto:paulabrom@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)

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### Usual Meeting place

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