



Braunton Caen Rotary



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021

POLIO UPDATE

BREAKING NEWS...

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

- 1 child paralysed by polio in Afghanistan (while the total number of 2020 cases remain 56).

- 1 case of polio reported in Pakistan (while the total number of 2020 cases remain 84).

A new novel oral polio vaccine (nOPV2) developed over 10 years has been trialed and will be used in monitored doses shortly. The original oral vaccine can mutate to cause paralysis in some cases but this new vaccine is more genetically stable and less likely to mutate.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary



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.



Virtual Balloon Race



Braunton Caen Rotary are very proud to be leading a fundraising initiative, with Northern Devon Rotary Clubs, to raise money for North Devon Hospice in the form of an online balloon race.

If you are looking for a bit of fun this Easter that the whole family can enjoy, we are giving you the opportunity to set to the skies by taking part in an eco-friendly and safe Virtual Balloon Race.

North Devon Hospice is much loved and respected doing an incredible job. The Virtual Balloon Race give us an opportunity to raise funds in a safe and fun way. In these particularly challenging times, every balloon purchased really will help the Hospice to continue to offer care and support to local people who are affected by a life-limiting illness.

The race uses real weather conditions to determine the progress of each balloon and each entry can be tracked on Google Maps and Satellites once launched. It has no negative environmental impact on all wildlife, climate change, plastic waste or litter.

You can buy a virtual balloon for £3 and give it a name,

colour, shape and pattern. Also you can select different features of your balloon, such as weight, which will determine its flight performance in order to enhance your chances of winning. It's a fun and easy way to raise funds for a cause, which kids and adults alike love.

Jess Burford, from North Devon Hospice's fundraising team, said: "We love this idea! The balloon race is a great way to have a bit of fun whilst helping local families. Our nurses are doing an amazing job, supporting patients so that they can stay in the comfort of their own homes or on our bedded unit. This kind

of care can only continue because of the North Devon community raising vital funds. We are so grateful to Braunton Caen Rotary and all participating Northern Devon Rotary Clubs for setting up this balloon race and I hope that you will be inspired to buy a balloon today."

The Race starts from Jerusalem on Easter Sunday and will finish seven days later. The first prize for the balloon that travels the farthest is £500, second prize an iPad and 10 book tokens worth £10 each.

Why not buy a team of balloons for your family for a bit of Easter fun?



VIRTUAL EASTER BALLOON RACE

First Prize: £500
Second Prize: Apple Ipad
Third Prize: 10x £10 Book Tokens

The race starts on 4th April 2021 lasts for one week, totally online
£3 per Balloon

Enter at: brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk/balloonrace
You will be able to track your balloon online over the race week
Rotary supporting the North Devon Hospice
For more information please email admin@brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk





Caen Memory Café

Last weekend several of us went out and delivered the February edition of the newsletter, created by Serena. What a joy to read, thank you Serena; also we must not forget Grumpy George who pulled it all together.

The newsletter was based on Valentines day, it featured a poem from one of the cafe members plus so much more information about Valentines Day. We also gave everyone a small gift consisting of a little heart bag handcrafted by Jennie, some heart shaped chocolates and a small packet of Love Hearts. Thank you Jennie for your fabulous efforts. We have over the last few days received several

messages of thanks and appreciation of our support.

We decided this month to deliver the newsletters ourselves and the gifts, adhering to the Covid restrictions, thus not being able to knock and have a short chat. However, some of us were lucky to bump into some of our attendees and we ascertained, they were doing ok, but looking forward to the café resuming.

We have several members who reside in Mariners, and this building is due to be redeveloped (the facilities are way out of date for this type of accommodation). We spoke to a couple of them and it appears several have now been given alternative accommodation and some have already left. Due to this we are planning a meeting to ascertain the best way to ascertain where people are

moving to and how we are going to stay in contact. Obviously due to the building being pulled down, we have sourced a new venue "The Vivian Moon Centre" which we shall operate on the last Wednesday of each month as before.

We are however, regularly maintaining contact with those whom we have telephone numbers, ensuring they are Ok. Everyone seems to really appreciate these calls as it breaks up the monotony of the situation we are currently living in.



The Peter Kingdon Award

NEW

**The Peter Kingdon
Young Persons Community
Achievement Award**

This is a new award designed to recognise the contribution by young people in improving the lives of those living in the Braunton area

Do you know a young person who you feel has gone over and above this year? Why not recognise their achievement by nominating them for this award

The application form and criteria can be found on our website
www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk

Closing date 31st March 2021

**Braunton Caen
Rotary**

NEW

Do you know a young person living in the Braunton area who has gone over and above helping to improve the lives of those in the local community? If you do, why not have a look at this new award that we have created.

In 2020 a valued member of our club passed away and to honour his memory we have created this award to recognise an innovative young person in the area. Peter was keen to support youth projects in our area and around the world.

Have a look at our website for more details and application form. www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk.

Good luck to all!

Support to schools for home learning

Braunton Caen Rotary has recently benefited from two generous donations, specifically to support education during this difficult time of lockdown.

The four Braunton schools had already identified a need for laptops/tablets and other IT equipment for those pupils whose parents do not have enough devices for all their children or who do not have the resources to purchase them to enable the children to access online teaching. The Braunton Academy identified a need for earphones and webcams to enable pupils to hear the teacher and be seen by the teacher when learning online. We therefore donated £500 with which the school could buy ten sets of each. Two of the primary schools were also each given £500 to purchase laptops/tablets. The third primary school identified the laptops they wished to have, three of which were purchased by the club and presented to the school.

The club had also acquired 5 used laptops which were examined by a local IT specialist. Sadly, only one was deemed suitable for refurbishing for school use. Braunton Caen Rotary therefore had it upgraded to meet needs, fitted with a new hard drive and then presented it to one of the primary schools.

We sincerely hope that these contributions have helped more pupils access the teaching that local schools have been providing during the recent lockdown.



Braunton Caen - Covid Response

Vaccine Stewarding



Braunton Caen has been very proud to help the local community during these challenging times.

For the past six weeks, members have braved all weathers to help with marshalling at the Leisure Centre in Barnstaple, to offer support and be on hand for people attending.



Braunton Academy - Covid Rapid Testing



So from hi-viz jackets to full PPE ... we are also delighted to be able to support Braunton Academy with Covid Rapid Testing to enable the students to return to school. Each student must be tested three times over a period of three weeks, which is a massive logistical exercise with 700 students ie 2,100 tests. All volunteers completed a series of on-line training



modules and visited the test centre in advance so they could see how it functions, before starting the series of sessions this week. Our roles are as Test Assistants, encouraging and reassuring the students as they take their own swabs, and Test Processors.

World Rotary Day - End Polio Now

Have you seen the beautiful display of Purple Crocuses in the entrance to the village car park? Ever wondered why they were there? Braunton Caen Rotary has been planting them in the autumn for the past few years and they are there to represent the work of Rotary and many international health organisations in their quest to eradicate Polio from the world. Since 1985, Rotarians around the world have been raising money to help eradicate Polio and we are nearly there. It is now only prevalent in two countries - Pakistan and Afghanistan - and so far this year there have only been two cases of Polio reported. This is great news! As has been shown at the moment with Covid-19, vaccination works, but it has required a huge worldwide effort. The 23rd February is Rotary Day. Rotary had its first meeting in 1905 and it is still going strong around the world, doing good work in the community and internationally. We are always looking for new members; if you would like to give a little back to your community and have a lot of fun whilst doing so, please check out our website.



Charity Car Tour

It is with regret that we have taken the decision to cancel the Charity Car Tour this year. The event was due to take place on Sunday 18th April. Although we all hope the end of Covid restrictions are in sight there will still be too many for this event to run. Therefore please put this date in your diary, for a bumper event when the sun will shine and we'll more than make up for the disappointments of 2020 & 2021. **Sunday 24th April 2022!!!!**



March Diary Dates

Braunton Caen Rotary



Wednesday 3rd March	Speaker Meeting: Lundy Island - Simon Dell, 19:00 by Zoom, all welcome
Wednesday 10th March	Speaker Meeting: Devon Freewheelers - Mike Scaife, 19:00 by Zoom, all welcome
Thursday 11th March	Village Fair Meeting, 19:00 by Zoom
Tuesday 16th March	Club Council, an Officer Meeting, 19:00 by Zoom
Wednesday 17th March	Speaker Meeting: Patrick & Sarah Farrelly - Carry On Up The Khyber, 19:00 by Zoom, all welcome
Wednesday 24th March	Our Club Matters Meeting, 19:00 by Zoom, all welcome
Wednesday 31st March	Fun & Fellowship/Activity - tbc

Hold the Date - Braunton Wheels

Good News :

The 2021 Braunton Wheels event WILL take place on Sunday 25th July 2021 (subject to the latest Government guidance). Any questions, please contact us at admin@brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk, but also keep an eye on our website as this is where our application form will be live from the 27th June.



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 and we will send you a meeting link.

Club Contact Information

Website: www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk

Facebook: The Rotary Club of Braunton Caen

Club President: Paula Byrom 07772 770850 paulabyrom@rpbfunerals.co.uk

Club Secretary: Jan Lewis 07967 896192 j.lewis175@btinternet.com

Newsletter Editor: Paula Byrom 0777 277 0850 paulabyrom@rpbfunerals.co.uk



find us on

Facebook

Have you looked at our Facebook page?

Why not like and share our items

Meeting place

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