

**Father Christmas Faces his Fear of Heights**

**We have all heard about** Father Christmas coming down the chimney. How does he do it? we all ask. Now we know - he abseils, and in this case down the back wall of Princesshay Shopping Centre, Exeter with the help of mountaineering experts and some very strong ropes. This picture shows Brian Drake aka FC on his charity decent looking every bit like he's out for a stroll in the park. Brian says, "Thank you fellow Rotarians who very kindly agreed to sponsor my Advent Abseil on Saturday 6th December. The proceeds will go to Action for Children in Devon and Cornwall. Your generous support is very much appreciated". A sponsor was heard saying - "Take the money just don't ask me to join you. As if abseiling isn't challenging enough without having to do it in fancy dress". Well done Brave Brian - we salute you.



**Simon Says**

**Welcome, to 2015**, to new members and to flexibility and change.

Firstly, it's a New Year with plenty going on. We have the Walk or Ride, Kite Festival, the VE Day Celebration, College Summer Showcase, Last Night of the Proms, 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Charter Night, which the District Governor of District 1175, Brian Stoyel, has agreed to attend, so we are going to be busy, but nicely so. Please enjoy your year, your health and your families. Welcome to our newest members. Alison Greenhalgh who was inducted on January 12<sup>th</sup>, closely followed by Dirk Leonard and Linda Wilson.

I want to wish them every success while members of the club and I ask that all members make them welcome throughout these first few months, when, as we know everything can seem a little strange. Come to think of it, after eight years things are still very strange to me.

Flexibility is the keyword. On February 23<sup>rd</sup> the Membership Development committee will present its findings to the club and seek approval to make changes on how we conduct ourselves internally as well as speeding up the process with regard to making funds available for *(Continued page 3)*

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## Welcome Alison

**Frank reports** that Alison Greenhalgh, our newest member, was inducted into the club on 19th January. Alison has been appointed to the Community Service & Vocational Committee. Alison, was a head teacher and is currently an active town councillor for Littleham Ward. She serves on many committees, working parties and partnerships. For our part she is already representing the Town Council on the Kite Festival Working Party and has been working hard seeking new sponsorship opportunities.

## Christmas is Over - 300 days until Next

**Well done everyone** for a great effort Christmas 2014 - Don't panic but Christmas 2015 is coming in about 300 days time and much less if you count Christmas as defined by our retail masters. Cliff, for the Christmas Fundraising Committee writes: 2015 and Christmas forgotten already! We all know that time accelerates with age, but nobody forewarned me that the acceleration was exponential! Notwithstanding the usual annual struggle to find enough bodies to fill all our collecting slots and problems with the music system, your support has enabled our raising **almost £2,430 after**



**costs.** The Community Service and Vocational Committee have agreed with the club that the majority of these funds will be donated to the Exmouth Food Larder. Diaries out folks - collecting dates have been requested for next year with Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December proposed for Tesco and 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> inclusive for The Magnolia Centre; the 'Sleigh Ride' around Brixington is proposed for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, or maybe Littleham for a change. Next December it would help if the Club reverts to holding Christmas Lunch a week earlier (14<sup>th</sup> December) so our Inner Wheel friends may be able to assist with collecting on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Christmas street collections provide one of the few occasions through the year when our Club is seen in 'high profile' in the town and the provision of our Christmas Tree is recognised and appreciated widely. The music problems were widely blamed (including by me) on our trusty old amplifier - It was innocent! The fault lies with

the horn speakers on the sleigh. The sleigh generally is looking tired' and it is proposed in the Spring or Summer to form a working party to refurbish it. Other comments received include the perceived complexity of the music equipment. The most complex item, by far, is the MP3 Player, but when you know what you are doing with this (I am still learning!) it is more straight forward than using CD's. The amplifier is simplicity itself but with a lot of knobs and buttons 'tempting' the user to turn or press ..... Next year - I propose obscuring all of these behind tape and just leaving the volume control - exposed. Finally, thank you all for your help and support - especially our Santas and the tree erection and 'destruction' crews. A great result for which you should all feel justly proud. The club are indebted to Kings Garden Centre, Roger Ugalde Electrical, Brandon Tool Hire and Vodafone for their generous contributions - please remember this when you are wondering where to make your purchases!

## One Liners

-My mind's made up, don't confuse me with facts.  
-The last thing I want to do is insult you. But it IS on the list.  
-Very funny, Scotty. Now beam down my clothes...  
-All power corrupts.  
Absolute power is pretty neat, though  
- Am I ambivalent? Well, yes and no.

## Men's Shed - An article from The Open Door Centre

**This should jell** with the talk recently given by John Wynne of Exmouth Shed Project.  
So often projects take months to get off the ground and yet Men's Shed was pretty much a success from minute one! Thank you to John Wynne and Peter Chalkley who have worked hard to establish the project and thank you to all the volunteers and 'shedders' who have truly embraced the shed and given it their full support. From building go-karts for local kids to helping sort out local gardens, building benches for the local school, running a workshop in the open door café and making beautiful items to sell at community events, the men's shed has been a hive of activity! It now regularly attracts around 40 men per week and has already made a huge difference in many men's lives...  
"For years I have been on and off antidepressants. Since attending the Men's Shed I have felt better than I have in years."  
"It (Men's Shed) has made a world of difference to me. From only going out once a

week to get my shopping, now I spend all Wednesday at the shed and have started talking to other men there. It has given me hope again when I had lost mine"  
Here's to even bigger and better in 2015, with hopefully a new workshop!!

## Youth Service Team Dictionaries for Life

**The dictionaries are on order.** The future of this project was discussed and a review will be made to consider how appropriate this is locally when most children now have smart phones and computers to access information. The dictionaries may well become a redundant shelf item.

## Young Chef

**Our Young Chef, Jack Shingler**, who, it was reported by the judges, was unfortunate to have "cooker" problems resulting in his main dish being not fully cooked. However, he is young enough to participate next year. Let's hope he does.

## Simon Says

*(Continued from page 1)*  
urgent funding applications. This need for change impacts on everyone in the club, ordinary members, Committee Chairs, Council, and we are not the only ones looking at bringing the club into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. RIBI have sent out a questionnaire to all members asking for their opinions on what RIBI needs to do to bring itself into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Clearly we are not alone in the need to change, so please come along on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, listen, comment and most importantly vote on the proposed changes.

## St Georges Day Cruise

**Graham reports that** he is organising the Club's 'St George's Day Cruise' outing with Stuart Line – 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 2.00pm at the pier – just two hours trip with cream tea for elderly, lonely local folk which includes many who normally wouldn't have the chance to enjoy such a trip. (The Pleasure Boat 'The Pride of Exmouth' which I actually originally named) will be dressed in bunting and flags and even St George might give an appearance. Heated lower deck if weather is not so good. Although I am assured by Age Concern & Social Services there will be plenty who will be keen to come, there may well be others known to Members and Inner Wheel who could also be asked. Max 80 guests. If you should know of anyone who would like to join us please let me know.

## Rotary Youth Leadership Award Course

**Rtn Don Buteux attended** to follow up President Simon's request to the committee to support two Exmouth Community College students to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Award course. The committee wholeheartedly agreed to a contribution of £230 toward the £900 cost based on a District grant of £425. Raleigh will fund the rest.

## Website Honours



**John Wokersien reports** that he was pleased to receive the District 1170 shield for the best District website 2013/14. I have passed on thanks to Tom who provides the template for the website and space on his server to run it at virtually pepper corn rates. It is good to have our website recognised bearing in mind that it is in addition to the standard template. The on line shop continues to make good sales in the UK and occasionally abroad as we sell rotary emblems to other clubs. Our emblems sales this year on line are already over £2,000. We are looking to a record year of on line sales with the way things have been going. Tickets are already on sale on line for the two concerts in May for Joey the Lips and The Wurzels. The website continues to earn its corn.

## District 1175 is Coming

**Districts 1170 and 1290 will combine as one** to form District 1175 from 1st July. Rotary in the South West Peninsula of England will comprise 90 clubs with 2,700 + members under

the leadership of District Governor Brian Stoyel. Our clubs are based in local communities where members meet on a regular basis to enjoy friendship, networking and to plan projects that will benefit the lives of others. Clubs utilise the skills, expertise and dedication of their members to help improve the lives of people in communities both at home and abroad. There are over 50,000 Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland in over 1,800 clubs, helping those in need and working towards world understanding and peace. It's



ROTARY IN THE SOUTH WEST PENINSULA

a fulfilling role, and Rotarians can get involved as much or as little as their time will allow. Rotary is an organisation for businessmen and women. Rotary International is the world's largest service organisation for business and professional people, with some 1,240,000 members operating in 166 countries worldwide.

## Christmas Collections Bonanza

**Cliff Lenn writes** that the result of our Christmas collecting is outstanding and the benefit of 'being seen' out in the community is incalculable. The results of the collections are:

Tesco	£512.34
Brixington	£85.59
Magnolia (Sat)	£553.41
Magnolia(Mon)	£446.55
Magnolia (Tue)	£495.32
<u>Magnolia (Wed)</u>	<u>£557.82</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,651.03</b>

In addition we have received a cheque from MIG Securities for £45.00 in compensation for the License Fee charged by Devon County Council. This is a magnificent outcome which will be put to good use in support of those in need in our area of Devon. All involved should be justly delighted.

## Citizen of the Year 2014



**Clutching the Rose Bowl** presented to her at our Christmas Lunch is Mrs Gillian Laws. The award was in appreciation of the many years leading 'Exmouth Talking Newspapers' and other voluntary work locally including with A La Ronde, local National Trust and the Pheonix Club.

## Stop Press

Welcome to Dirk Leonard and Linda Wilson also inducted as recent new members of the club. More detail to follow in the next edition.

## Medical Mysteries - Answered



- Artery - The Study of Painting
- Benign - What you'll be after eight
- Cauterize - Make eye contact with a lady
- Medical Staff - A doctor's walking stick
- Morbid - A higher offer
- Nitrates - Higher than day rates
- Dilate - To live a long time
- Fibula - A small lie
- Iris-somebody's wife or girlfriend
- Eczma - The cinema in Exmouth
- Herpes - Not his peas
- Pandemic - Chaos in the kitchen

### Message to Martin (Emblem's Shop Executive) on his return from a pre-Christmas Holiday

Hello Martin,

Welcome back. Frank is a shadow of his former self since working in the sweat shop of the emblems warehouse pre-Christmas.



Picture courtesy of Simon Horn, Exmouth Journal

Above are our newest members, the RotaKids of Marpool School with their certificates of pledge. They were also presented with badges. We hope to have plenty of good news to offer as this project develops and lessons are learnt as how to make the most of Rotakids in our area both for the benefit of the children and the club.

Black Friday and Cyber Monday really took it out of him. His exploitation and low wages are a concern for the Trade Union but they say they can't help as their 'Friend' Margaret Thatcher took all their powers away and all they can do now is give sympathy. Frankly, Frank is past sympathy now and with over £2,000 of on line orders this year and a significant amount in the last few weeks he can't even sleep at night for counting out emblems. I think the asylum may be his next stop. Alan from Aberdeen particularly knocked Frank for six with his strident complaints and Hermes the couriers don't look like they are going to carry the world on their shoulders any time soon. With a host of complaints to Watchdog on the Beeb and Frank

recording his conversations with the Delhi Call Centre they are doomed to drop the planet with serious consequences for us all. So, I think your return may be too late, but hopefully not. We sincerely hope you enjoyed your holiday and that you will be able to resolve all of Frank's issues if he has not gone over the precipice completely. Mind you evidence indicates that he has already gone over the edge having taken on the Foundation E-Newsletter for RIBI. This surely indicates the severity of his mental condition. We just hope for Bev's sake that all will be well.

John W



Community Diversity  
 Friendship *socialising* Charity  
 Business Collaboration  
 Leadership Equality Networking  
 Opportunity Educational



# Diary and Stewards

Where we Meet	Date	Event	Stewards
<p><b>The Rotary Club of Exmouth &amp; District</b></p> <p>Meets at the Manor Hotel, The Beacon, Exmouth EX8 2AG Mondays 12.30pm for 1.00pm lunch. On the first Monday of most months at 6.30pm for 7.00pm dinner. Phone: 01395 272549 Email: secretary@exmouth.rotary1170.org</p> 	9th March	Lunch + Business	Malcolm Pressey/Alan Symes
	16th March	Lunch MS Meeting	John Thorogood/Keith Turner
	23rd March	Lunch speaker – Alan Arthur – Exmouth Museum	Eric Watts/Francis Williams
	24th March	Club Council	
	13th April	Lunch + AGM	Ian Winks/Malcolm Wood
	30th March	Lunch + Business	Dick Bishop/David Brunwin
	20th April	Lunch MS Meeting	Martin Clook/George Cowling
	25th April	District 1175 Assembly – College of St Mark & St John, Plymouth 10.00-13.00	
	27th April	Lunch	John Danzelman/Brian Drake
	28th April	Club Council	
	11th May	Lunch + Business	Angie Drummond/Gerald G.

## Sport and Social - Fellowship - Activities

### Skittles Latest

**Martin reports** that we won our last skittles match v Crediton. Several of our key players were away but thanks to George Maddaford and Malcolm Pressey stepping in at the last moment we won by 14 pins. Both Francis and Malcolm picked up two 9s ably supported by 9s from Captain David, George and myself. So far played 5 lost 1. No date yet fixed for our next match.

### Up Coming Events

Antiques Event on the evening of Monday 16th February.

Membership Development presentation on The Way

Forward on Monday 23rd February.

Final discussion/agreement on The Way Forward on Monday 2nd March (evening meeting).

Alan Arthur from Exmouth Museum will be talking to the club about the museum on Monday 23rd March, lunchtime.

Thursday 23rd April there will be a **St George's Day boat trip** on The Pride of Exmouth for elderly people.

Sunday 26th April will be **"The Walk or Ride 2015"** - all hands to the pumps

Saturday 16th May **VE Day Celebration Concert.**

Friday 29th May

**The Wurzels** in concert at The Imperial Recreation Grounds, Exmouth, in conjunction with Exmouth Festival.

**Exmouth Kite Festival** in conjunction with Exmouth Festival Saturday 30th May and 1st June.

**Joey the Lips Concert** at the Imperial Recreation Grounds in conjunction with Exmouth Festival on Saturday 30th May.  
**Summer Showcase** by Exmouth Community College, promoted by the club at The Pavilion on 24th June.

Success of all this depends on all members encouraging attendance and doing everything they can to help.

## Contribute to Club News?

Contact John Wokersien 01395 223182 or email [john@wokersien.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:john@wokersien.eclipse.co.uk)

*Views expressed in this publication may be those of individuals and not necessarily reflect club policy. Thanks to all contributors (you know who you are) and in particular to Exmouth Community College and Allison Heyworth for printing Club News - Thank you for your forbearance..*