

Rotary Club of Rotherham Sitwell District 1220

Club Bulletin

No. 32.02

August 2024

Meetings: Thursday evenings
See Club Meetings for more information.

Officers & Committee Chairs 2024-25

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Martin Davis |
| President Elect | Vacant |
| Vice President | Vacant |
| Secretary | Steve Burns |
| Treasurer | Jackie Saunders |
| Immediate past President | Peter Short |

Chairmen of Committees

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Admin/Club Service | Nigel Elmhirst |
| Membership/Social | Steve Burns |
| Publicity/PR | Peter Waudby |
| Community | Trish Lister |
| International/Rotary Foundation | Chris Croker |

Other Officers

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Assistant Secretary | Vacant |
| Assistant Treasurer | Alan Holloway |
| Archivist | Chris Williams |
| Attendance Officer | Phil Crutchley |
| Bulletin Editor | Chris Williams |
| Environmental Officer | Phil Crutchley |
| Health & Safety Officer | John Sparrow |
| Safeguarding Officer | Vacant |
| Sergeant at Arms | Roger Green |
| Welfare Officer | Trevor Johnson |

Council Members

Martin Davis, Steve Burns, Jackie Saunders, Peter Short,
Tom Knight, Nigel Elmhirst, Trish Lister, Chris Croker, Peter
Waudby

Trustees of Benevolent Fund

Alan Holloway, Trevor Johnson, Peter Keary



Club Meetings for August
All 6.30 for 7.00pm at SPGC,
cost £20, unless otherwise
stated.

**Apologies to Phil Crutchley,
unless otherwise stated.**

**Sin bins will be applied for
absence with no apology.**

1 August Fellowship meeting

FRATS: Trish Lister

GRACE: Phil Crutchley

**8 August Trip to the South Yorkshire
Transport Museum with meal
afterwards**

15 August Committee meetings

22 August Business meeting

FRATS: Trevor Johnson

GRACE: Nigel Elmhirst

29 August Fellowship meeting

FRATS: Gurnam Basran

GRACE: Tony Eden

Frats & Grace – **your** responsibility to find
alternates if you cannot attend. *Please advise
Nigel of any changes you have agreed.*

Council Meeting

Thursday 1st August at 5.30pm

Venue: SPGC

Observers welcome

Club Meetings for September
All 6.30 for 7.00pm at SPGC,
cost £20, unless otherwise
stated.

**Apologies to Phil Crutchley,
unless otherwise stated.**

**Sin bins will be applied for
absence with no apology.**

5 September Meeting with partners

7.00 for 7.30 pm

**Speaker – Elissa Burns on Life in
Musical Theatre in London**

FRATS: Chris Croker

GRACE: Trish Lister

12 September Fellowship meeting

FRATS: Gurnam Basran

GRACE: Alan Holloway

19 September Committee meetings

26 September Business meeting

FRATS: John Turner

GRACE: Paul Daniels

Frats & Grace – **your** responsibility to find
alternates if you cannot attend. *Please advise
Nigel of any changes you have agreed.*

Council Meeting

**Thursday 12th September at
5.30pm**

Venue: SPGC

Observers welcome

Men in Sheds at Swinton Lock Activity Centre, Dun Street, Rotherham, S64 8AN.

Men in Sheds at Swinton Lock Activity Centre now has an extended area which was funded by Rotherham Sitwell Rotary and a District Rotary Foundation Grant. The project involved clearing an area of ground, taking down a security fence, moving it and re-erecting it to create a larger working space. The area was then covered with decking. All of the work was undertaken by the men who attend the sessions at the Centre together with support from a group of Rotherham Sitwell Rotarians.

Groups of adult males, aged between 18 and 83 years old, meet here to learn new skills in carpentry and blacksmithing. The learning and social interactions make a significant difference in combating loneliness and isolation.

We succeeded in our key objective of extending an area of ground to give more space for the men to work in.



Area before the project:

Top:

Aerial view of the shed where much of the work undertaken by the Men takes place.

Bottom left:

Previous limit of the fenced off area.

Bottom right:

Area beyond the fence prior to extending the area.

Securing the area:

Left:

Taking down the security fence.

Top right:

Moving the security fence

Bottom right:

Erecting the fence for the extended space.



Prepared area:

Left:

The cleared area

Right:

Base for the new decked area.



The number of men attending the sessions at the shed at the Activity Centre varies week by week due to the men's circumstances, but attendance is consistently between 20 and 30.

The men attending have a range of mental health issues: some have serious illnesses, one has attempted suicide, others have gone through or are going through difficult divorces.

The main value of Men in Sheds is the companionship these men experience: several have already testified to that. The project has increased the size of the working area for the Men in Sheds project which in turn allows an improved working environment which has a positive effect on mindfulness.

Five Rotarians have participated throughout the project, but several attended the opening.

Swinton Lock Activity Centre requested our support for this project. The Centre had overall management of the extended area and provided all the labour.

The project was officially opened by the Mayor of Rotherham and the President of Rotherham Sitwell Rotary Club on 21 June 2024. Ward Councillors, other local dignitaries and Rotarians all attended the ceremony.

Top: the Mayor with some of the men.

Bottom: the Mayor with the Rotherham Sitwell Rotarians who attended the opening.





More images of the official opening by the Mayor of Rotherham on 21st June 2024.

The Rotary Logo (*bottom left image above*) has been made by the men in English Oak and is incorporated into the fencing works: it will remain as a lasting reminder to all who enter the workspace that Rotary were responsible for funding the project.

In addition to the above, the project has been the subject of several reports on the social media of Rotherham Sitwell Rotary Club and Swinton Lock Activity Centre. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the men themselves who have built the project are in no doubt as to who has made it possible.

Up the South Yorkshire Navigation!

Imagine a hot summer's evening in July, sailing along the Sheffield & South Yorkshire Navigation. We certainly did on 11 July especially as it was just about 14 Celsius!

Nevertheless, it was a highly interesting trip and some of us even managed to open the lock (well, press a button for about 25 seconds!).

Many thanks to the Social Committee for organising this - it was a most enjoyable evening followed by a few drinks in Gorilla Brewery.

Thanks also to the crew - Tom Knight, Dave Taylor and Allan Goodliffe who ensured we were safe and well informed of this fascinating part of South Yorkshire which has such a rich history.





Happy Birthday

August 9th

Nigel Elmhirst

Paul Harris Fellow



At the Annual General Meeting held on 2nd May, it was unanimously agreed to award a Paul Harris Fellowship to Paul Daniels. The actual presentation of a certificate, PHF lapel pin and PHF medallion took place during our meeting on 4th July, as pictured above.

Next Bulletin

The next bulletin is scheduled to be published in early September. Any contributions will be most welcome, please email to me by 26th August