



THE ROTARY CLUB OF LYME REGIS

Bulletin - December 2025

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EDITION



EXECUTIVE:

President: David Sarson

Secretary: John Berry

Treasurer: Bill Taylor

President Elect: John Enticott
(President Jan '26-June '26)

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WEBSITE:

www.lymeregisrotary.org

FACEBOOK

Rotary Club of Lyme Regis

INSTAGRAM

rotarylymeregis

MEETINGS:

Alternate Thursdays, 5.45 pm
for 6.15pm at Hunter's Lodge,
Raymonds Hill, Lyme Regis
(meals ordered by 6.00 pm)

(as we have a variable
programme please check with
Secretary first before visiting)

For Lyme Regis Rotarians:
Pls tell Secretary if you will
be absent on any evening.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

- Is it the Truth?
- Is it Fair to All?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



**SERVICE ABOVE
SELF**

Fellow Rotarians

Where has time gone, this will be my last page 1 for the Bulletin, John Enticott will be taking over as Rotary President on the 1st January for 6 months, with Rob Harris taking the reigns at the end of June 2026 for 1 year.

I do regret having to miss the switching on of the Christmas Lights and Remembrance Day but our holiday plans just clashed and our absence was unavoidable.

Great to see we have two new members Kent and Alistair - wishing you both well for the future in our Rotary family.

We look forward to a busy December, with the celebration of our 75th Charter with a meal at the Royal Lion, please help Jim, by inviting your family and friends.

Carols around the Tree in on Dec 23rd at 7pm in The Shambles. This is always a big pull for families. We also have our Annual Christmas Street collections in Lyme and Charmouth with Richard Cridge admirably handling, I have chosen Children's Hospice South West as the beneficiary for this year.

Finally planning is well under way for the Lunge, which I believe we have a full complement of sponsors to fill pages of our Lunge programme, thanks going to John Enticott, please have a thought for John Mc who will be preparing the final details.

John Enticott, Peter Fortnam, Richard Cridge and myself I will shortly be looking at the Health and Satisfaction Surveys, we will be reaching a conclusion on where we consider the path and direction of the Club would benefit; further information to follow.

Erica and I attended the presentation of the Cobb stabilisation programme at the Pavilion on the 27th November, hopefully some of you were also able to attend.

I believe most of the crocuses have now been sold, well done Chris Buckingham. The Dictionaries have now been distributed again to local schools by Chris with the help of John Enticott and myself.

Well, now its the big events of the festive season and with Lyme Regis Christmas Lights looking just **SPLENDID** I think we are off to a great start. What a backdrop to "Carols"!

Finally we wish John Mc a great holiday and Jim Moseley, who will be temporarily taking over from John in producing the Bulletin, please give him your support.

David Sarson

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

Many of us are not sending Christmas Cards to fellow Rotarians this year but instead donating to the Rotary Foundation. Treasurer Bill has reminded us by email of how best to do this. Hopefully we will see everyone at Carols or during our Street Collection in Lyme Regis and Charmouth

Christmas Collecting
Dec 22 / 23 - Lyme Regis; Dec 24 Charmouth
Carols Round the Tree, Broad St - Dec 23 at 7 pm

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS



What a great turnout we had for the talk on Nov20 from **Dr Sue Beckers**. Many of our **Partners** came along to ensure we were on our best behaviour and we also welcomed **Rotarian Dr Victoria Cavendish** of the Rotary Club of Andover who has recently moved to Lyme Regis. We were pleased also to welcome **David Wakeling** and two friends of Peter Fortnam, **Nick and Anne Marks**.

Welcome to Rotary 



ANNUAL SOUP & PLOUGHMAN'S IS COMING - GET READY!

We may not be at the end of 2025 yet, but that shouldn't stop you getting a very important date in your diary for 2026.

Soup and Ploughman's 2026 will be held at the Alexandra hotel on Monday 2nd February at 12 noon.



As with previous years, we will be fundraising for the Rotary Water Survival Box charity: <https://www.watersurvivalbox.org/index.html>. This year we have pledged £1500 to The Big Give so need your support to ensure we can raise that £1500 so that we effectively donate over £3000 to WSB in 2026.



Please can I ask you to start thinking about potential raffle prizes which can be donated in early January and also who you will be selling your tickets to!

Rob Harris

OUR 4 WAY TEST

It seems appropriate in this Anniversary edition to remind ourselves of the 4 Way Test which Rotary holds so dear.

The Four Way Test is one of the world's most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics. It was created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor (who later served as RI president) when he was asked to take charge of a company that was facing bankruptcy.

This 24-word test for employees to follow in their business and professional lives became the guide for sales, production, advertising, and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company is credited to this simple philosophy. Adopted by Rotary in 1943, The Four-Way Test has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways.

It has been on the front page of all of our Bulletins and it articulates the principles by which we operate.

It's what gives us credibility.

Rotary 		FOUR-WAY TEST FOUR QUESTIONS – 24 WORDS	
THE UNIQUE STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS	PROCESS TO ACHIEVE DESIRED OUTCOMES THAT ARE ETHICAL, FAIR AND BENEFICIAL TO ALL		
IS IT THE TRUTH?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity • Transparency • Fact checking • Ethical behaviour 	That we do our homework to collect information and to apply critical thinking by asking questions to know the difference between facts, beliefs, assumptions, and opinions as well as know what we don't know.
IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion • Empathy • Acceptance • Belonging • Accountability 	That we use empathy to see other points-of-view in the context of the problems to be solved and the goals to be reached.
WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trust • Do good • Feel good • Have fun 	That the process is civil, and there is a feeling of respect and openness to ask the "dumb" question, they can lead to creative and innovative answers. Also, people prefer to work with people they like, respect and trust.
WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What if scenarios • Trade-offs • Being creative and innovative • Better decision making 	That these are the conflict transformative answers and decisions that can lead to mutually satisfying solutions, that are sustainable and scalable. This can be an iterative process as we learn more from doing and continuously improving with time.

Lyme Regis Skittles League

Trappers 330; President's Men 350 PLUS Beer Leg
Rousdon Rascals 349; President's Men 350.

Rotary Challenge Trophy (2024-25 session)

Semi final vs Taunton Vale. 26th Nov at The Squirrel Inn.
Lyme Regis 332; Taunton Vale 310. WHOOPEE!!!
On to the FINAL!!!!



BE AWARE OF SCAMS

One of our Lyme Regis U3A members, Andy Taylor, gave a talk on the subject of scams to the U3A AGM. Andy has spent a career working in this area. I have been given permission to present some of his work here. I'll not try to give a running commentary as I think the two slides are self explanatory but please do read it and take note, its so easy to be a victim if we let our awareness fall.

Scam Awareness Presentation

By Andy Taylor

Take Five to stop fraud

- Stop** Take a moment to stop and think.
- Challenge** Could it be fake? It's OK to reject, ignore, close the door or hangup. Only criminals will try to rush you.
- Protect** Contact bank immediately if you think you've been scammed.

National Cyber Security Centre's online advice

1. Use a strong and separate password (for your email at least)
2. Create strong passwords using 3 random words (Lym3;5and;Gol7?)
3. Save your passwords in your browser or use a password manager
4. Turn on two-factor authentication (2FA) when available
5. Update your devices routinely
6. Back up your data regularly

In General

Banks, police forces, government departments or other official organisations are very unlikely to randomly call you unless you have contacted them first.

No genuine organisation will ask for money up front nor ask for your bank details unless you have initiated the call.

If you feel pressured to act – STOP.

Help to reduce the problem by reporting scam texts by forwarding to 7726 (SPAM). You will then be asked to send the phone number or name of the sender of the text.

Similarly forward scam emails to report@phishing.gov.uk

Report scam web sites and advertisements to:

www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/phishing-scams/report-scam-advert

Warn others through Which? at:

<https://www.which.co.uk/tool/scam-sharer>

To reduce potential damage from mobile phone theft, keep separately (not on the phone) details of the phone (IMEI number), the manufacturer's "Find my phone" website, and your account details. Encrypt the SIM card if possible.

Dorset Digital Champions 01305 221048

Abilitynet 0300 180 0028

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Where to get good advice

National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)

www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home

Friends Against Scams (Trading Standards)

www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk

Action Fraud or local police (if you think you have been scammed)

www.ActionFraud.gov.uk <http://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/>

Anti-fraud measures for business & individuals

www.cifas.org.uk

Citizens Advice

www.CitizensAdvice.org.uk or 0800 144 8848

Get Safe Online (includes website checker)

www.getsafeonline.org

Check if your email address has been exposed in a data breach

<https://haveibeenpwned.com>

UK Finance advice

www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk

HM Land Registry - Property Alert

<https://propertyalert.landregistry.gov.uk>

Which? Scam Alert Service

<https://act.which.co.uk/page/103781/data/1>

Ask Silver on WhatsApp

www.ask-silver.com

All UK banks – Dial 159 to speak directly to the relevant bank's security department

Remember

Never **ASSUME**

Never **BELIEVE**

Always **CONFIRM**

THERE'S BEEN A MURDER.....

American Murder at Lyme Regis WW2

Nestling in a valley along the Dorset and Devon border is Lyme Regis. A small coastal fishing community, which prior to WW2 was an isolated backwater, that came alive for the brief pre-war summer tourist trade. Many of the inhabitants were locally born and few travelled far or left the area. The population in 1943 was about 2704 slightly swelled by evacuees escaping the bombing in the cities. By 1944, one in five residents of the town was an American serviceman.

When WW2 started, many of the local men were drafted into the services and were away from the area for over four years. Only a few young men were left in the town. Rationing was soon introduced and the beach and harbour was closed to civilians. The fishing boats were pushed up onto the beach and the Cobb was mined. Dorset awaited the expected German invasion.

Lyme Regis was parochial and until the war little had disrupted the local cycle of life. The last event to place Lyme on the historical stage was in 1685 when the Duke of Monmouth (the bastard son of Charles II), raised a rebellion against the Crown, and landed on the beach with his supporters).

In 1943 an engineering battalion of black American servicemen arrived in Lyme Regis. They were part of an advance team sent to prepare camps and facilities for the arrival of the 1st Battalion of the US 16th Infantry Regiment. The entire regiment was to be located in West Dorset prior to the D-Day Landings. All over Dorset and Devon, vast numbers of American troops were billeted and camped around the towns, villagers and fields of the counties. The area of Dorset and Devon came under the military control of the United States Army.

The American army during WW2 was segregated, a practice which continued until the 1950's. Black soldiers were not allowed to fight as front line troops and performed mostly service and support duties. Black and white US Soldiers did not meet socially and many of the recreational facilities were separate and segregated, such as the cinema, dances, pubs and canteens. At Newton Abbot in Devon, the local dance was organised so that one night was for black servicemen and the next white.



Black American soldiers in UK, c. 1943

Lyme Regis changed overnight. Strangers in a small town are always exotic. Black faces were rare and the black soldiers were new, exciting and wealthy (the average pay of the GI during WW2 was three times that of the local Dorset

employed). The new arrivals soon settled and mixed freely with the local population. The black soldiers had the novel experience of dating white girls, there being no black girls in Lyme Regis. It was also reported that a brothel was established in a house on Cobb Road.

For a few months the black GI's were the only American servicemen in Lyme Regis but in spring 1944 a second group of American soldiers arrived in Lyme Regis. The 16th Infantry Regiment of the 1st US Army. The division had fought through North Africa and Italy and many of the soldiers were battle hardened and emotionally scarred from the war.

Lyme Regis was their first break from the battlefield, after many months of fighting. The new arrivals were allocated bunkhouses on the eastern edge of the town, while their senior officers moved to Kent House, St Michael's in the centre of the town. Other large guesthouses and hotels were also requisitioned by the arriving American forces.

Churchill's government had discussed concerns about the stationing of black American troops in the United Kingdom. The American policy, during and after WW2 was to segregate black servicemen from other races. Each group would have their own camp, sleeping and dining facilities. American black and white soldiers did not socialise. Separate arrangements were made for both groups. Although both served in the US army, segregation was the established practice of the period. There was little mixing between the races and on occasions tension spilled over into fighting between the two groups.



American GI's outside the London Inn, Lyme Regis

At Maiden Newton and Evershot fighting and clashes took place between the black and white GI's. In Yeovil the local cinema was divided up into separate black and white seating areas. Joe Louis, the heavyweight champion of the world, sat in the white section by accident and was briskly told to move to the black area. The American army did not consider black soldiers as an effective fighting force.

The tension between the two groups of soldiers at Lyme Regis was soon evident and came to a head one morning in late May 1944. A minor argument erupted at the "PX Store" (the American equivalent of the NAAFI), between black and

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white American soldiers. The PX store was located in the Marine Theatre, off Church Street.

A black soldier wanted to purchase a "Zipper Lighter" although the supply was restricted to white soldiers only. A fierce argument occurred and continued out onto main road near the GuildHall and the public house "The Rock Point", at the bottom of the town.

The row soon deteriorated into a large brawl and fight. During the fracas a bayonet was produced and used by one of the white soldiers to kill a black American GI, who was fatally stabbed through the heart.

News of the murder quickly spread through the town and separate groups of both black and white soldiers rushed back to their camps to obtain weapons. The resident American Military Police were outnumbered and could do little to control the escalating violence.

The mixing of races and inter-marriage were rare. A white woman dancing with a black man would have caused deep resentment to many white US soldiers of this period.

The violence at Lyme was in danger of spiralling out of control. The two groups rushed back into town and met in the narrow road outside the medieval guildhall, in the centre of Lyme Regis. The soldiers were armed with clubs, rifles and machine guns. Shortly before the trouble could start two local Lyme Regis policemen, led by Sergeant Wiscombe and assisted by Constable Williams arrived on the scene. Although unarmed and outnumbered the Lyme Regis police were able to diffuse the situation and both groups returned to their respective camps.



Black American Soldiers in UK, c. 1943

The Americans troops were novelty and attractive to the local population. The American friendliness was in contrast to the normal English reserve. Local girls were invited to American camp dances. The Americans were not restricted to the normal war rations of the English civilians. Chocolate, turkey, cigarettes, cakes and large quantities of food were available. The Americans were also able to obtain make-up and nylon stockings, which had disappeared from the British market in 1939.

The Americans introduced new music, totally different from the staid "English Tea Dance". The Jitterbug and Swing encouraged physical contact between the sexes.

The incident described above took place and remains in the folklore of the town of Lyme Regis, during the course of my research I can find no evidence that anyone was ever charged with this murder.

On the 6th June at 06.43, units of the 1st Division who had been stationed at Lyme Regis were among the first units to land on Omaha beach, in Normandy. They suffered numerous casualties; over 1638 men were killed or wounded.

The black service corps left Lyme Regis shortly following the frontline troops through France, although their history is less well documented.

The newspapers during the war were censored and police have destroyed their records for this period of the town's history, but the story and friendships established with these black troops is now a dying memory.

American Prisoners

The main American prison was at Shepton Mallet, in Somerset. At the prison, rapists, murderers, and other Americans on criminal charges were held and subject to US military law.

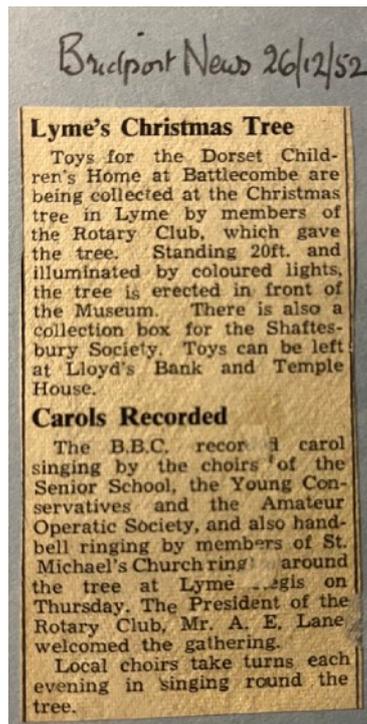
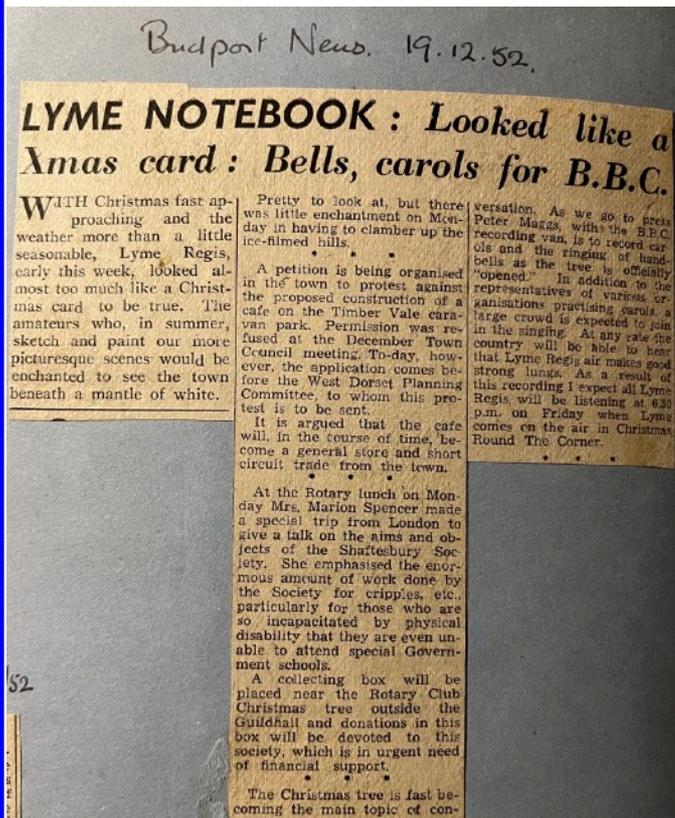
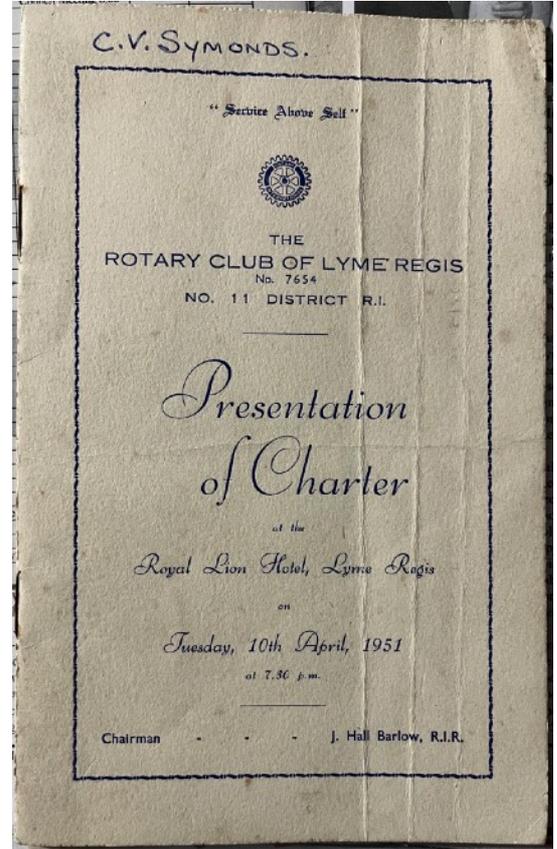
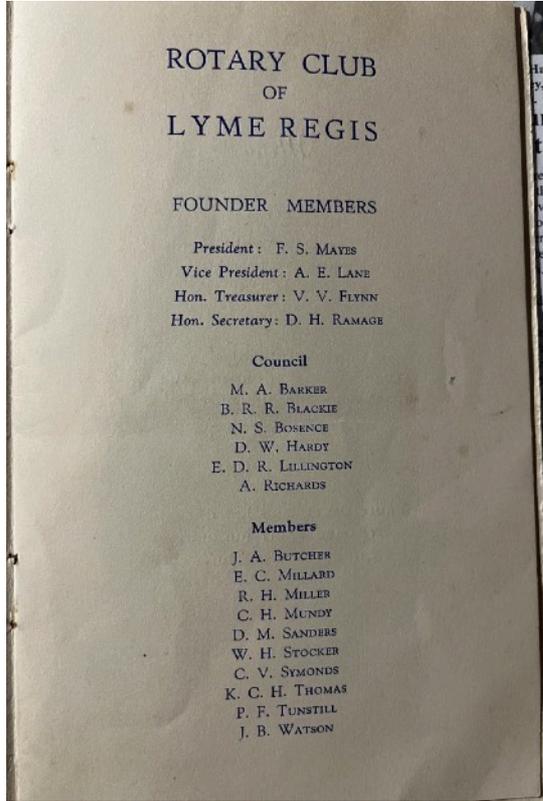
During the brief period the Americans were in the southwest a total of 56 were executed for criminal offences. A disproportionate number were black soldiers. It is said that the plot for the story behind the 1960's film "The Dirty Dozen" was inspired by some of the men who were held at this penal establishment. It was common practice in the Soviet Army of WW2 to use convicted men to lead suicide charges at the German defences or find routes through minefields.

Nigel Clarke

A BIT OF HISTORY

I'm not going to go into the detailed history of our Club in these pages, but I thought it might be interesting for some of us just to see a few historical bits and bobs from the archives, these recently dug out by the Father of the Club, Past President Jim Moseley.

The Club was Chartered on 11th December 1950 as Rotary Club number 7654 in RI District 11, but did not receive its Charter certificate until a dinner at The Royal Lion Hotel on 10th April 1951 at which a rather spartan menu by today's standards was served.



(Those of us of a certain age will recall that Rationing was still in force after WW2.)

The Club was immediately active in local community affairs, led by founding President Frank Mayes (after whom the annual prize, awarded to a pupil from our local primary school, is named). Although there are some gaps in the record it seems that one of the most loved events in the Lyme Regis Community Calendar, the annual Carols Round the Christmas Tree, was started about that time, the first record we have is press cuttings from 1952, reproduced below, with Rotary providing the tree.

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It was only in relatively recent times that Rotary stopped providing the tree but our management of the Carols has, for many years now, been in The Shambles instead of at the Guildhall and these press cuttings show it has been going on for 73 years.

“Carols” not only featured on the BBC in 1952 but it took over the whole *Spotlight* show on a balmy evening in 2006 when Justin Leigh and Victoria Graham presented the programme from in front of our the tree in the Shambles, Broad Street with the ever present David Braine doing the weather from behind the Museum. As usual our indomitable **Town Band** provided the music which they have done unselfishly for many years, a **Special Thanks** to them. Broad Street was resplendent with its new Christmas lights and the programme took in other aspects of our town, a great advertisement for the town and for Rotary. (I hope they enjoyed their chestnuts!! - see news feature on right).

In the 90’s, 00’s and 10’s it wasn’t just “Carols” - we had a BBQ or two roaring away in the Shambles as we roasted chestnuts for sale at 50p / bag (thanks to PP Bill Wiscombe of the **Pilot Boat** for heating them up in advance), dispensed hot soup from outside the **Royal Lion** (thanks to the Pilot Boat and then later to Rotn. Lesley Stone from the Royal Lion) and distributed hot mince pies courtesy of the Royal Lion. H&S, age and sheer numbers of attendees have pushed us to abandon much of that but the enthusiasm for the event in the town has not waned and you are guaranteed an evening of hundreds of smiles no matter the weather.

And then there was the fun bit. Rotary regularly entered into the Lyme Regis Carnival Parade in the 80’s and 90’s, spurred on by the unbridled enthusiasm and enterprise of one Arthur Banwell. Now I joined RCLR in 2002 and I’ve forever heard the ‘old hands’ tell tales of “*The Red Barrows*” and other Carnival enterprises but never seen proof. Here we are, at last, courtesy of the Cridge family unearthing the photos and Jim copying them. “*Synchronised Swimming*” and “*The Half Monty*”, all taking place in Broad Street and along Marine Parade- I’m told a little glass (or rather, several) of ‘whatever’ helped the evening unfold.

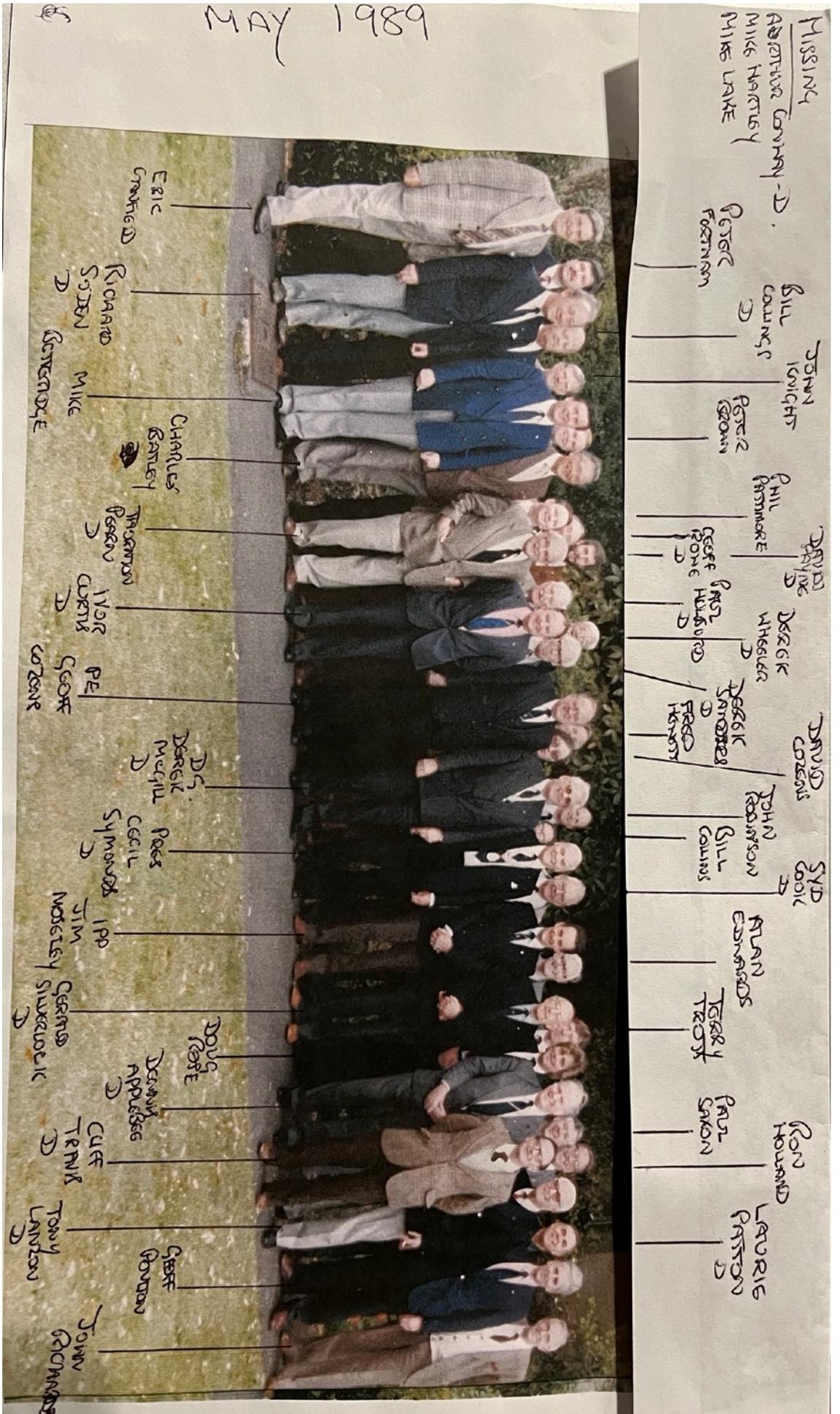


L-R Jim Moseley; unknown; Geoff Rowe, Arthur Banwell; Richard Cridge

Richard Cridge shows his prowess in synchronised swimming. Also taking part were Jim Moseley, Geoff Rowe and Richard Evans.

Thank you, Jim, for pulling out these wee mementoes. It all gives a flavour of who and what we are, and enterprising, caring and fun loving bunch, working in our Community in the spirit of Rotary International.

John McCallum



Do you recognise a few of these 1989 Rotarians? Yes, a few of our current gang are in there, a bit greyer and wrinkled but still going strong, especially in the Skittles team



TO THE VICTOR - THE SPOILS

Not quite, yet, perhaps, but it felt like it on the night. One more big hurdle - the small matter of our opponents in the final.

We struggled a bit in the first half of this Rotary D1200 Skittles Challenge Cup semi final match against Taunton Deane RC but turned it around big style in the second half thanks to a big spare by Peter. The Big Man finished as top scorer with 48, Jim second with 44 just pipping three others on 43. The majority of us were smiling at the end of the beer leg as our opponents, one by one, succumbed to the pressure and had to trudge to the bar, with only one of our number not being so happy. Perhaps the saving grace for him was that he was driving.

What a great feast put on by the Squirrel Inn, fabulous Cottage pie and a mountain of steaming hot chips. Even though we had Jim and Chris amongst us we couldn't finish it.

Well done, all. On to the Final against Bradford and Avon. Pity I will miss it but I know you will bring home the trophy again, lads!

John McCallum

CAN YOU HELP WITH RYLA?

We entered two young people into a RYLA course in South Wales in 2025 and it was a resounding success.

In 2026 we intend to do likewise and have done the preparatory work, but it would be good if we had your help to attract as many applicants as possible.

We have sent out the accompanying flyer to local youth organisations and to Woodroffe School, and posted on social media but there is nothing like the personal touch.

If you have personal contacts in either local Scouts, youth clubs or the school please give them a call, send them the flyer and ask them to ensure that all eligible students are aware of the course and that it really is a fun thing to be involved with.

Email me if you would like a jpeg of the poster. Thanks in anticipation.

John McCallum




ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2026 (RYLA)

RYLA is a Rotary International project with a proven record of personal development and leadership for young people. **The Rotary Club of Lyme Regis is seeking to sponsor a young person on a RYLA course** run by Rotary District 1150 and Cardiff City Council at Storey Arms, an outdoor educational centre in the Brecon Beacons.

INFO - see www.storeyarms.com & also search **Rotary District 1150 RYLA**

The objective is to help students develop team-working skills; explore and practice leadership, and develop greater personal confidence.

This residential course, **VERY HIGHLY RATED** by previous attendees from **Lyme Regis**, is run by fully trained instructors employed by Cardiff City Council. Outdoor activities may include **caving, orienteering, gorge walking and kyaking**. There is a focus on team building activities etc. Accommodation is in 4 - 6 bunk rooms, food is prepared on-site and there is 24 hour male and female supervision. It is a 6 day, 5 night course, which begins at 2:30 on the Sunday and ends about 4pm on the Friday. **ALL STUDENTS MUST BE 16 OR 17 AT THE START OF THE COURSE.** All specialised equipment is provided. A kit list will be provided for all participants.

The 5 day course will start on the following Sundays at 5pm - July 19th; August 2nd; August 9th. The cost of the course will be borne by The Rotary Club of Lyme Regis.

Interested? Speak to your parent / guardian and ask them to contact the Rotary Club at rdaharris@gmail.com to express interest.....

BY LATEST 31 DECEMBER 2025 PLEASE
DON'T LET THIS CHANCE IN A LIFETIME PASS YOU BY!

EAT WELL - FEEL WELL

A talk by Dr Sue Beckers

Dr Sue Beckers, along with her husband, Martin, ran the Charmouth medical practice for many years until retiring recently. In 2000 she took a Nutritional course as her husband had noticed that many of his patients were becoming more sick. This was a general observation which was not specific to Charmouth but probably applied to the country as a whole. Why was this?

She soon became of the view that people's bodies were not able to burn carbohydrates as well as one might expect, we were getting stuck in carbohydrate mode, not able to use our fat reserves efficiently and that this was, in fact, a result of us eating more and more ultra processed foods.

Foods can be categorised into three groups:

A) Basic foods such as meat, fish, eggs, milk, grains, beans etc - things that have not been processed in any way.

sub group A2) culinary ingredients such as salt, sugar, butter etc.

B) Foods made by combining A and A2 without further processing - fresh bread, cheese, canned vegetables, salted or cured meats.

C) Ultra processed foods such as savoury snacks, chocolate, mass produced breads, cereal bars ready meals, most containing lots of insulin, hydrogenated oils, flavours, emulsifiers etc. and are high in calories.

Dr Beckers told us that studies show that people who consume a lot of ultra processed foods are consuming many more calories than unprocessed foods. Over time the body chemistry becomes imbalanced, obesity and diabetes takes over along with other medical issues leading to the situation that Dr Martin Beckers observed - an unhealthy population. Dr Beckers pointed out that there is evidence that brain size in humans is declining, an alarming statistic.

The Glycemic index helps predict how certain foods might affect blood glucose, important information if you have type 2 diabetes. This shows foods such as cornflakes and coco pops have significantly higher index than Bran Flakes and wholemeal bread made from stoneground flour is so much better than ultra processed white bread.

There was further discussion on the merits of cooking with butter or lard rather than seed oils, many of the latter produced by large American food manufacturers using by products of agriculture and typically fall well into the ultra processed pot.

The consensus of the meeting was that going back to what 'Granny' ate and cooked would lead to a far more healthy population. The war time diet comes to mind.

Thank you, Dr Beckers, I'm sure we will look more closely at what we buy and eat in future after your insightful talk.

John McCallum

DICTIONARY 4 LIFE CONTINUES

We were saddened to hear of the passing of PDG Colin Bryant of the Battersea, Brixton and Clapham Rotary Club who, for 20 years had run the Dictionary4Life project. Usborne Illustrated Dictionaries were made available to UK Rotary Clubs at much reduced cost to present to local primary schools, with over one million dictionaries being presented to mainly Year 6 pupils. What a super legacy, well done Colin.

In November we were delighted to hear that RIBI has taken over this project so it will continue without interruption and I understand it has the wholehearted support of our Club. We have been distributing these Dictionaries to pupils in St Michaels, Mrs Ethelstones, Marshwood and Charmouth Primary Schools since the late PP Peter Mills first persuaded the Club to get involved in 2010. We present them at the beginning of the final year so that teachers can work with the pupils to ensure they take maximum benefit from them. Over 1300 D4L's have been given out in that time. Thanks to Chris Buckingham, supported by President David and PE John Enticott, pupils in all four schools have received their Dictionaries this year, each pupil's name inscribed by Rotn. Alan Vian. The photo shows the children in St Michaels receiving their Dictionaries.

John McCallum & Chris Buckingham



Photo thanks to Nicole at St Michaels

PROGRAMME for December 2025 - February 2026.

Date	Event	Grace
Dec 4	Business Meeting incl. activity assignment for Christmas and Lunge	
Dec 11	75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE RCLR. ROYAL LION HOTEL, LYME REGIS	
Dec 22	Christmas street collection Lyme Regis	
Dec 23	Christmas Street Collection Lyme Regis and CAROLS ROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE	
Dec 24	Christmas Collection Charmouth	
Jan 1	THE LYME LUNGE	
Jan 8	Business Meeting +S&P Preview meeting	
Jan 22	Activity Evening (TBC)	
Feb 02	SOUP AND PLOUGHMANS AT THE ALEXANDRA	
Feb 05	Council (if reqd.)	
Feb 12	Business and Activities review meeting	
Feb 26	Speaker TBA	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**ANNUAL SOUP AND PLOUGHMAN'S****2nd February 2026****ALEXANDRA HOTEL****A SUCCESSFUL INVESTMENT THAT DEMONSTRATES THE HUMANITARIAN VALUE OF LENDWITHCARE**

We have been investing with Lendwithcare for a number of years now and have helped a large number of budding entrepreneurs grow their businesses, support their families, improve their lifestyles. Here is an example of someone who we helped fund, providing a small proportion of his funding request. Many thanks to Steve White who looks after our investment in this charity.

Wilmer Mesias is a small entrepreneur from Ecuador and he has sent an update on the progress of his business to date. Wilmer is a farmer with 10 years experience in farming and specialising in potatoes. He currently works on his 2 hectare garden in the community of La Esperanza in Ecuador.

Every day he checks on his crops, fertilises them and ensures his potatoes are healthy for sale in the city markets. With the help of the fully funded loan he received, Wilmer has been able to continue planting potatoes and had been achieving good harvests. Wilmer has confirmed he has achieved great harvest of his potatoes crop, which has increased his income and allowed him to be able to employ day labourers in his area.

He needed a loan of £1742 for his business to repay over 24 months and he has used the skills inherited from his parents to acquire the knowledge necessary to select high quality seed and the correct fertilisers. He harvests twice a year and his 'garden' yields around 675 quintals of potatoes (74 tons), which he sells for \$11 (£7) per sack to traders who come directly to his garden to transport them via trucks. Wilmer generates a monthly income of \$1180 (£934) from which he deducts his expenses for fertilisers, labour and other cultivation costs, resulting in a net income of \$300 (£237). He also allows his garden to rest for a period by seeking rented plots of land to start a new cultivation cycle and prevent soil micro organism depletion. The loan he requested covered potato feed, organic fertilisers and hired workers in his area.

Our Club has played a part in transforming Wilmer's business and I will be looking to help more entrepreneurs like Wilmer to achieve their goals in 2026.

***Steve White***