



# THE ROTARY CLUB OF LYME REGIS

Chartered 1950

## Bulletin - July 2026



### EXECUTIVE:

President: Rob Harris

Secretary: John Berry

Treasurer: Bill Taylor

President Elect: John Enticott  
(President June '27 - July '28)

### CONTACT:

info.lymeregisrotary@gmail.com

### WEBSITE:

[www.lymeregisrotary.org](http://www.lymeregisrotary.org)

### FACEBOOK

Rotary Club of Lyme Regis

### INSTAGRAM

rotarylymeregis

### MEETINGS:

2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6 pm  
for 6.30pm at Hunter's Lodge,  
Raymonds Hill, Lyme Regis  
(meals ordered by 6.15 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.

It is my great privilege to be writing my first monthly message to you as my year as President commences. When asking John Mac for inspiration, I was given the sound advice of 'Just write something', so as I sit in my hotel room in the Hague I thought that I better 'get to it'.

June has been a busy month as always for the club. On the 4th June, John M, Peter F, Jim M, myself and a selection of plus ones attended an event to mark the 125th anniversary of the Alexandra hotel. Kathryn and her team entertained us to their usual high standards and it was nice to visit on a day other than when I am running around at Soup and Ploughman's. It was a great opportunity to meet other volunteers in the community and we are so lucky that Kathryn and the team continue to host us for Soup and Ploughman's so that we can continue to raise money for Water Survival Box. We have been a regular contributor to WSB and long may that continue.

On the 6th of June, a number of hardy individuals (John M, Chris B, David and Erica S, Alan V and myself) braced the weather at the Uplyme Village Fete. I always feel this event is a great way to bring the community together and it was good to see many others felt the same way and supported the stalls and sellers. 'Trap the Rat' and the Bean Bag game entertained people of all ages and it was good to be present and visible to the local community. We even had a few donations. There were a few logistical challenges, but nothing that can't be sorted out by the Sergeant at Arms at a later meeting! Secretary take note.

On the 12th of June Richard Main, David Wakeling and family represented us at the end of the season event for the skittles. Coming 5th in the local league is something to be proud of and let's see if we can do even better next year. Our prowess in the Lyme Regis League stood us in good stead as we brought back the 'Three Counties Cup' event on 9th June, routing Axminster Rotary Club and Crewkerne Rotary Club at the very hospitable Thorncombe Sports and Social Club.

On the 14th June a few Rotarians helped with the packing up of the fossil festival by marshalling traffic and getting people safely away from the sea front. As the saying goes, no plan survives first contact with the enemy, but thankfully due to the skills of the Rotarians and many students and the guidance of Alan Vian, everything went off with out a hitch. Many thanks to those who helped out.

Chris Buckingham introduced our speaker on the 25th June, Alan Bodkins, who spoke passionately about the Lyme Regis Repair Shop of which he is a leading member, culminating in him showing us a beautiful 19th Century writing desk which he and colleagues had renovated from a box full of pieces. Makes our own DIY efforts pale by comparison.

I hope you are looking forward to the President Handover evening on the 9th July. I know a number of you are away on holiday, but I am hopeful of a good attendance and at least matching Brit Valley who are bringing 13 people. More on that next time.

Right, that's enough from me for now, more next month.

**Rob Harris**  
President

## WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Once again we welcomed **Partners and friends** to our speaker evening on 25th June when we were treated to an interesting talk by **Alan Bodkins** on the local Repair Shop. **Ed**.

Welcome to  
Rotary



## JURASSIC COAST PRIMARY CARE NETWORK

### Carers Week 8-14<sup>th</sup> June 2026

#### Building Carer Friendly Communities

##### A guide for businesses, organisations and communities

Carers Week 2026 focuses on Building Carer Friendly Communities, emphasising that carers should not be left to cope alone and need support for their health, emotional wellbeing, relationships and financial security.

#### Understanding Carers' Social and Emotional Needs

Over half (57%) of carers feel overwhelmed often or always. Many experience isolation, stress, and little time for self-care or relationships. Carers can benefit from;

- Support for emotional wellbeing and mental health
- Meaningful relationships and social connection
- Time to protect their own health and wellbeing
- Communities that listen and respond

#### What Businesses and Organisations can do

Businesses and organisations can support carers' social and emotional needs. A carer-friendly business or service can:

- Identify carers early and signpost to support
- Listen and respond to lived experience
- Create flexible services that reduce barriers
- Provide welcoming, inclusive spaces
- Work with local carers' organisations

#### Practical Steps for Your Organisation

- Raise staff awareness of carers and challenges
- Implement a process to identify carers
- Offer flexible appointments and communication
- Create opportunities for social connection
- Support working carers with flexible policies
- Signpost to local wellbeing and respite support

#### Useful Resources for Signposting carers to

- Carers UK – [www.carersuk.org](http://www.carersuk.org)
- Help & Care – [www.helpandcare.org.uk](http://www.helpandcare.org.uk) (Dorset residents)
- Citizens Advice – [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)
- Age UK – [www.ageuk.org.uk](http://www.ageuk.org.uk)
- Jurassic Coast Social Prescribing Team –

[www.jurassiccoastpcn.nhs.uk](http://www.jurassiccoastpcn.nhs.uk)

Information based on official Carers Week 2026 materials:  
Carers Week 2026: Building Carer Friendly Communities – [carersweek.org/about-carers-week](http://carersweek.org/about-carers-week)  
• Carer-Friendly Business and Services guidance – [carersweek.org/building-carer-friendly-communities/business-and-services](http://carersweek.org/building-carer-friendly-communities/business-and-services)  
• Carers UK research and statistics – [carersuk.org](http://carersuk.org)

## JURASSIC COAST PRIMARY CARE NETWORK REMINDER

The poster, left, advertises an event which is now past, but it serves as a very comprehensive summary of the services that the Jurassic Coast Primary Care Network Social Prescribers offer to our community. These are accessible to those in need via their GP or directly from the Social Prescribing team by visiting the website [www.jurassiccoastpcn.nhs.uk](http://www.jurassiccoastpcn.nhs.uk).

Print it off and keep it handy, you never know when you might need it for yourself or for a friend or neighbour.

### Lyme Regis Skittles League

### Rotary District 1200 Challenge Trophy 2025-26

*We await with interest to find out who are our opponents in the next round and where we will be playing.*



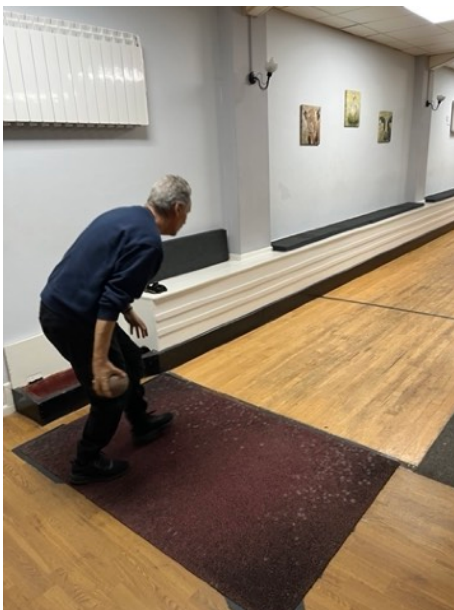
## THE THREE COUNTIES CUP COMES HOME

Under the excellent leadership of Captain Richard we triumphed once again at the Three Counties Skittles evening at Thorncombe Sports Centre on the 9th June. This year three teams battled for the honour of taking home the trophy, with Lyme Regis representing Dorset, Axminster representing Devon and Crewkerne from Somerset. Thanks to Thorncombe Sports Centre for hosting us and for the welcome repast at the end of competition.

Following the toss of coins Lyme kicked off against Axminster, three ends each. We all soon found out that this alley has rather wider gaps than we are all used to and that the balls were strangely attracted to the gaps. Nevertheless Lyme prevailed 119 to 111 and took a rest while Crewkerne battled Axminster. Axminster fought bravely by increasing their score to 119 but Crewkerne showed their mettle with a score significantly higher than Lyme's first round score. So we really needed to up our game and Captain Richard stirred us up a bit by altering the order of throwing. A bit like Man Utd switching Ronaldo from the right wing to the left to exploit a weak right back in the Arsenal team. And like Ferguson prevailed so often against Wenger it worked as we unsettled Crewkerne and won the match by 123 to 114.

Top scorer Captain Richard was then presented with the gilded trophy and we enjoyed a light meal courtesy of the Sports Centre.

An enjoyable evening of friendly competition and Fellowship, thanks to Crewkerne Rotary Club for organising it and we look forward to the challenge of retaining the trophy next year.



*Above and below - Contrasting styles. Gosh, looking at these photos reminds me what a long alley it was.*



*Captain Richard receives the gilded trophy from last year's Champions and this year's Runners-up, Crewkerne Rotary Club*



*Victorious Three Counties Champions 2026 - Lyme Regis Rotary Club  
L-R John Enticott, Richard Main, John McCallum, Richard Cridge,  
Jim Moseley, David Wakeling, Steve White, Peter Fortnam*

## TRAP THE RAT A HIT AT UPLYME FETE

It promised to be a stormy day, so stormy, in fact, that it was touch and go as to whether the event might be cancelled. But the forecast was consistent - the rain and wind would ease by early afternoon so the organisers put their faith in the Met. Office technology and went ahead on 6th June. Was it going to be 'D' for Drenching Day? Well, a bunch of optimists, David and Erica Sarson, Chris Buckingham, Peter Fortnam, John McCallum, led by President Elect Rob Harris thought not, and set to.

Thanks to Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall we had Trap the Rat again, and Rotarian Alan Vian loaned us his Bean Bag Game, so we tried to set up our Gazebo and banners but a slight technical hitch (which we won't dwell on, John B!) meant we couldn't erect the Rotary Club Gazebo due to a missing part. Friends to the rescue - the Munchkin Miniature Ponies - with a spare gazebo, without sides, so we erected that and set about entertaining the kids - and some of their parents.

We spent much of the afternoon ensuring the wind didn't blow everything away but a bacon sarny and cup of tea helped the mood and an enjoyable day was had by all. And we even got a few pennies donations from happy parents.

It was good to support the Uplyme Fete once again and to be at the heart of this community - plenty of fun stalls including a Human Fruit Machine, Punch and Judy, Fun Dog Show, Coconut Shy, Book and Bear Tombola and many others.

**John McCallum**



Rob looking pleased with himself as we managed to prop up the banners. He wasn't so relaxed 5 mins later when a gust of wind blew them over again.



The Team prepare for the onslaught



A happy punter trying out the Trap the Rat.



Laughter all round at the "Human Fruit Machine" by Uplyme Pre-School ladies

## 125 YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG

On 4th June several Rotarians and Partners were invited to a celebration of the 125th Birthday of the prestigious Lyme Regis Hotel "The Alexandra". Over a glass (or more) of fizz and canapés we joined around 100 other guests from around the town and environs, hosted by the Hotel proprietor Kathryn Haskins.

In 1982 David and Nina Haskins, hoteliers from Somerset bought the Alexandra and it remains in the same family to this day, managed by their daughter Kathryn who is a stalwart supporter of Rotary and is herself an Honorary Rotarian. The hotel has always been somewhat special in the eyes of Lyme Regis residents and visitors and for many years hosted our Rotary meetings when we convened weekly at lunchtime. Kathryn thanked the guests for their continued loyal support and for joining her and staff to celebrate this occasion.

We in Rotary have much to thank "The Alex" for, not the least is their generosity in hosting our annual Soup & Ploughman's Lunches which have raised over £10,000 for Water Survival Box and additional substantial sums for other International charities. It was a lovely evening and we were delighted to support Kathryn and her team at this enjoyable anniversary event and wish her and her delightful staff all the very best for many years to come.



**Peter is more intent in looking for a refill as Jenny, Mandy and Rob politely concentrate on John trying to take a selfie.**



**All eyes on Kathryn as she addresses guests, thanking everyone for their support over the years.**



**Always a popular spot for relaxing and a cosy chat towards the end of the evening**

**John McCallum**

## LENDWITHCARE - A SUMMARY OF OUR WORK TO DATE



LEND  
WITH  
CARE

As we approach the end of another Rotary year I thought it would be worthwhile to summarise the progress we have made on the **Lendwithcare\*** Scheme since I started to work on it on behalf of the Rotary Club of Lyme Regis and to look at the wider achievements we have made since the Club first contributed back in 2017.

Lendwithcare is a fantastic scheme that our Club supports through supplying small loans to help entrepreneurs in the most challenging of business environments across all parts of the world. In addition to this, their families, employees and their customers have also felt the benefit of their work and achievements. *(To remind you, we put money into a 'pot', managed by Lendwithcare, from which we loan small amounts, typically around £25, to a large number of entrepreneurs, spreading the risk of default, and they pay us back over a number of months or years, with no to low interest. We are then free to loan that money out again to other budding entrepreneurs. At any time we can request repayment to us of the money in the 'pot', or leave it there and re-cycle.)*

I have put together a summary from my time working with Lendwithcare from when I took over from my good friend and fellow Rotarian John McCallum back in February 2024 to the present, followed by an overall view of what our Club has achieved since we started supporting the Scheme back in 2017.

When I started on the Scheme in 2024, our Club had £224.31 in our lending pot and since then I have made 78 loans to entrepreneurs totalling £1167.45, (together with £45 in voluntary contributions towards the running of the LWC charity) from February 2024 to June 2026.

"Wow, how come? Where does this money come from?" you might ask?

Well, over the same period I received £1257.11 into the pot in loan repayments from entrepreneurs previously funded by us. So, the pot currently stands at **£268.97**. This fluid state of affairs has meant that I have had no need to ask Treasurer Bill for more money for the pot!!

In terms of the bigger picture since 2017, our Club provided 265 loans totalling a staggering £4522.45 (from a total of £1250 originally loaned by our Club) and the impact of this has been very impressive, in helping many peoples lives to be impacted in a positive way. **Put it another way, our LOAN of £1250 to Lendwithcare has so far, to date, generated £4522 in 'sub-loans' to entrepreneurs around the globe, plus £268 still in the 'pot', plus a large sum still remaining to be paid. Monies paid back to Lendwithcare by these entrepreneurs can be refunded to us if we wish, or, as we generally do, loaned out again.**

These loans have supported 608 entrepreneurs and a further 1270 family members, with the additional effect of creating jobs for 686 people. Thus a total of 3172 people have had their lives transformed for the better.

Out of the 265 loans made, we have only had 4 defaults coming to a very low figure of £29.76 (in almost 10 years of activity!!) and 196 loans have been fully completed with repayments for the balance ongoing. Also the currency fluctuation losses over the 9 year period are £160.49, which is quite remarkable considering the economic turbulence of the last decade.

I will be continuing to provide support to entrepreneurs on the Lendwithcare Scheme. I feel our Club can be very proud of what has been achieved to date and we will continue to provide our help going forward, to improve real life prospects of selected people in economically challenging areas of the world.

\* see the *Lendwithcare* website for details of this charity. - [www.lendwithcare.org](http://www.lendwithcare.org)

Steve White

### A LOAN FROM YOU CAN CHANGE SOMEONE'S LIFE

People like Loreta are determined to work themselves out of poverty — and a loan of just £15 from you can help them get their business off the ground.

Why don't YOU join up now - let us  
know about your experience and we  
will report it in this Bulletin.  
[www.lendwithcare.org](http://www.lendwithcare.org)



## AXMINSTER AND LYME CANCER SUPPORT - PIE & PINT MEETINGS



Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month the Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support Group host a complementary "Pie and a Pint" gathering for anyone who wishes to come along for a bit of casual and light hearted chat. The venue changes each month and their contact, "Mary" (07512 279663), arranges each meeting and then stands back for

"The Blokes" to chat about spanners, Fine Art, central heating valves and other such topics which are generally more interesting to men!!

Of course, there are also just as many activities for Ladies.

The main principle is that the ALCS want to provide non clinical support and motivational help to those who are struggling with life, caused by some form of cancer related issue.

They even offer the free use of a beach chalet on a complementary basis.

They are totally dependent on charitable donations for their continued existence and are managed by an energetic team of volunteers.

Whilst not mandatory, it's best to register yourself with the ALCS Group so that they can keep you informed of their upcoming events. You can do this by using the following link:-

[ALCS New Client registration form – Fill out form](#)

The Rotary Club of Lyme Regis has provided financial donations to ALCS group already realising the benefit they provide to people who are struggling with life following a cancer diagnosis to themselves or a loved one.

**John Berry**

## JURASSIC COAST SOCIAL PROSCRIBERS

On the 28<sup>th</sup> May we enjoyed a presentation from Pauline Chart from the Jurassic Coast Social Prescribers about their work. (see June 2026 Bulletin.

Subsequent to that meeting, Pauline contacted me to enquire whether the Rotary Club could help with funding a suitable venue to host her quarterly meetings. She is trying to co-ordinate all the various groups in the community to promote their objectives. We have been invited to join the group.

I am still trying to tie up a suitable venue and will report back to the club once I have some more information.

**Arthus Banwell**

## THANK YOU FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

As outgoing President I am now free from the monthly task of compiling the front page of the Bulletin, something that was, in actual fact, quite useful in that it forced me to summarise in my mind what we had been doing for the past few weeks and thinking about tasks for the future.

My six - month caretaking role is coming to an end. It has really flown by and in many respects, it's been a sharp learning curve for me and I'm sure I would have struggled had it not been for the help, guidance and support of all of my fellow Rotarians. I say this with all humility for you really have shown the spirit of Rotary, embracing many of the ideas David and I have had for taking the Club forward despite these being new and unfamiliar.

**THANK YOU.**

**John Enticott, President.**

## LYME REGIS REPAIR CAFE

The Lyme Regis Repair Cafe meets on the 3rd Saturday of every month (1000 -1300hrs) at the Boat Building Academy on Monmouth Beach. We were treated to a talk by one of its members, Alan Bodkins, on 25th June.

The concept of "Repair Shops" was started in the Netherlands in 2009, to bring together people with repair skills and to recycle 'stuff'. This has grown to c. 3500 Repair Shops globally, including c. 800 in the UK. The Mission is to reduce waste through community driven repairs.

This is a non-profit organisation with around 20 members, DIY enthusiasts or hobbyists, serving the area of Lyme / Uplyme / Charmouth and environs. Members have a range of skills encompassing electrical, (incl. PAC testing) mechanical, woodwork, sewing, jewellery, musical instruments. It is a free service, excluding any costs involved in executing the repair, although a small donation is welcomed to help keep it going. No booking is required, just turn up but you must be prepared to sit with the repairer and help if you can. After all, the aim is to educate and empower individuals to fix broken items instead of throwing them away and purchasing another cheap replacement.

Alan encouraged us to buy good quality 'stuff' that has been made to last and with regular maintenance would last a lifetime instead of embracing the cheaper throw away culture now so prevalent, thereby fostering a culture of sustainability and resourcefulness.

But what about the quality of the 'repair'? Alan showed us a photo of a box of bits of wood that had been brought in by a regular customer. This gentleman had very fond memories of his grandfather using an antique portable writing desk but when he inherited it, sadly it was in bits. He had kept those bits for many years, unwilling to throw away such a treasured memory. Alan was able to reconstruct the writing desk, including purchasing a new custom made leather top and making a new locking pin. He was able to date the desk as having been made in around the 1820's. I think all those present at the talk will agree that the result was indeed spectacular, demonstrating high quality workmanship. Photos on their website also demonstrate a high quality of service over a range of disciplines.

Thanks, Alan, an interesting talk, leaving us to ponder and rethink our habits.

**John McCallum**



## SUMMER HOLS IN BRITAIN PAST

Much of June was a "bit warm" down here in Dorset, to say the least, my car showed 36deg at one point, terribly humid to boot. Not what we are used to in the UK. Didn't have to cope with that when we were little. In Scotland the school holidays are already in force and I recall going away every year to South Kintyre for my summer holidays when I was a lad. We always packed raincoats - there is no such thing as bad weather, only the wrong clothing. We had rose tinted spectacles, and memories, and our holidays were great fun, meeting new and old friends and relatives and getting dirty and up to mischief and not getting told off for it. I found these old photos, not mine, which evoke memories of Scottish summer hols. I take pleasure in sharing.

**John McCallum**



**Who needs Playstations?**

**PROGRAMME for July 2026 -September 2026.**

| <b>Date</b>    | <b>Event</b>                                                                  | <b>Grace</b> |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>July 9</b>  | <b>Handover at Beer Caves starting at 17.30. With Brit Valley Rotary Club</b> | <b>CB</b>    |
| <b>July 16</b> | <b>Council Meeting at Peter Fortnam's Home</b>                                |              |
| <b>July 23</b> | <b>Speaker. Nigel Clarke will talk about Mary Anning and her fossils</b>      | <b>DW</b>    |
| <b>Aug 6</b>   | <b>Business meeting</b>                                                       | <b>PF</b>    |
| <b>Aug 13</b>  | <b>Assist with Carnival Procession</b>                                        |              |
| <b>Aug 20</b>  | <b>Speaker Meeting TBA</b>                                                    | <b>DS</b>    |
| <b>Sept 03</b> | <b>Council Meeting</b>                                                        |              |
| <b>Sept 10</b> | <b>Business Meeting</b>                                                       | <b>RC</b>    |
| <b>Sept 15</b> | <b>Activity Meeting at LR Bowls Club (with Fish 'n' Chips)</b>                |              |
| <b>Sept 24</b> | <b>Speaker meeting TBA</b>                                                    | <b>JMcC</b>  |

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Nov 21

Assist with Christmas Lights Switch on

**A NEAR ESCAPE**

In 26 years living in the Lyme / Charmouth area and regularly travelling along the A35 to and from Bridport I reckon I cannot recall any time I have been the only car on the road in either direction on West Chideock Hill at 3.45pm. Normally it is teeming with vehicles as schools empty and workers start the daily journey home from work.

But on Thursday 25th June at that time someone was watching over my fellow travellers in the car in front of me. For as we climbed up the hill, mindful of the 30mph speed limit, instead of taking the gentle bend round to the left just where the 50mph limit starts the car in front continued in a straight line right across the carriageway and collided with the barrier on the east side of the road, bouncing back into the road and slewing across into my path. At that point the driver regained control, pulled onto the grass verge and stopped. I stopped behind, putting on my 'flashers'.

Both he and passenger, his wife, were ok, somewhat shaken, as one would expect, but both had fallen asleep. At that point traffic regained its normal intensity and they realised just how lucky they had been. A massive lorry carrying a large yacht thundered down the hill, followed by an unending stream of cars, they looked at it and realised just what might have happened. White faces!

I directed them to Felicities for a coffee and snooze before continuing their journey which, thankfully, wasn't far.

I put it down to the heat, 36deg showing on my car thermometer, he had no water bottle in his car and was likely quite dehydrated after a day at West Bay. Lesson learned, thankfully not the hard way.

**John McCallum**