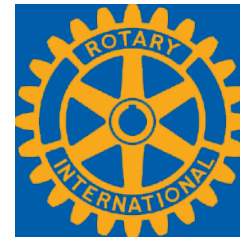




THE ROTARY CLUB OF LYME REGIS

Chartered 1950

Bulletin - May 2026



EXECUTIVE:

President: John Enticott

Secretary: John Berry

Treasurer: Bill Taylor

President Elect: Rob Harris
(President June '26 - July '27)

CONTACT:

info.lymeregisrotary@gmail.com

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.

The sun is shining and I'm not complaining about feeling cold as I normally do, so unless I'm told otherwise, I'm starting this day assuming that spring is in the air!

It was an absolute honour and privilege to formally represent our club at the Town Council's annual Civic Night at the Woodmead Halls on the 18th April and also to see a number of Rotarians there, albeit in a variety of other representative capacities. It was an extremely enjoyable evening. For me it was the end of a busy day, having started out with marshalling duties up at the medical centre and placing myself under the command of a certain Staff Sergeant Banwell.....well done Arthur.

On the topic of things medical, I have decided to attend the Men's Wellness evening* on the 29th April which I guess means that by the time you are reading this, I'll have found out something that I've suspected for some time now, namely I'm not as fit and as healthy as I thought I was. Despite the implications for me personally, I do want to acknowledge the efforts of our very own John Mac "Jock" who was instrumental in publicising the event and generally helping to make it so very well attended. (see notice at foot of this page)

Many of you will remember the difficult time we had last year as the weather forced us to cancel the 2025 Lyme Lunge. Monies raised by supporters and from sponsors were distributed to our chosen charities and just last week we were delighted to be able to send a small party along to Riding for the Disabled Chard Branch to see the hoist that they purchased in operation. See page 8. So good to see at first hand the results of our efforts and the generosity of our supporters.

As you know, I always like to take the opportunity of using the Bulletin to update everyone on the "*Moving Forward Together*" project. The video viewed at our last business meeting was well received and I believe was timely in so far as it helps all of us (yes me included) to understand the emotions that we might experience first in our transition to a new team based operating structure and thereafter progressing the action plan. Ideally the composition of each team should reflect your particular skill, expertise and interest so if you haven't already made these known to me, can I please ask for your help by doing so.

John Enticott
President

*MEN'S WELLNESS EVENING

The event took place on the 29th as scheduled, it was well attended with upwards of 40 men being 'screened', including a number of Rotarians.

Thanks to the Rotarians who came along either to be screened or to help with teas / organisation etc. Particular thanks to John Berry and Peter Fortnam for supporting me in my short talk on "A Patient's Experience".

John McCallum

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

On Thursday 23rd April we welcomed our Partners to our monthly speaker evening where Holly Willis and Kirsty Cambridge talked about care in the community (page 3) while on the 21st April several members of our Club visited the Riding for the Disabled (Chard Branch) at the invitation of Karen Chadwick, to view the new hoist for disabled youngsters (page 8).

Welcome to
Rotary



Ed.

The Tea Dance.

It's the Sunday tea dance and they'll all be there today,
Aches and pains forgotten, to dance the afternoon away.
Foxtrots, quicksteps, waltzes, some are slow but some still nifty,
With memories of how it was way back in 1950.
Norman's in the toilet and he's struggling to pee,
He's got trouble with his prostate, and he'll likely miss his tea.
Eddy's got a new love he met in Thornton Heath,
She does a lovely tango, but hasn't any teeth.
His latest fancy footwork nearly broke his partner's neck,
She mistook his outside swivel for a traveling contra check.
Ida's had her hair done and she's ready for the saunter,
She had a vindaloo last night and it's coming back to haunt her.
Florry's mini-skirt's revealing when she's spinning in a jive,
She really shouldn't wear a thong approaching 85.
They've had their tea and cake and chat and also had a laugh,
And gamely rise with creaking knees to face the second half.
Norman's made it back in time for rumba number one,
His curaracha's very neat, but he's left his flies undone.
Vera's fallen over in a massive crimplene heap,
Bert's got indigestion and Mabel's fast asleep.
It's last waltz time and up they get for Humperdinck's old tune,
And then: 'Goodbye, good luck, take care, God willing see you soon'.



Thank you, Jim, for copying this wee poem for us to enjoy.

Lyme Regis Skittles League

President's Men 363; Flyers 419. What hope when three of their players score 97, 76 and 70 respectively.

President's Men 351; Skittso's 315. PLUS - We won the beer leg!

That concludes the League for this year, our final position will be confirmed next month.

Rotary District 1200 Challenge Trophy 2025-26

Brit Valley 261; Lyme Regis 314 - We await with interest to find out who are our opponents in the next round.



REPORT OF THE 2026 CLUB A.G.M.**HELD ON THE 9th APRIL 2026****AT THE HUNTERS LODGE INN.**

Received Treasurer's Report and proposed budget for next year.

Set the club dues for next year.

Confirmed President for the year 2026/27 – **Rob Harris.**

Elected a President Elect for the year 2026/27 – **John Enticott**

Confirmed a Secretary for the year 2026/27 – **John Berry**

Confirmed a Treasurer for the year 2026/27 – **Bill Taylor**

Elected Council members for 2026/27 – **President, Pres Elect, Imm' Past Pres, Secretary, Treasurer. Community Activity chairs.**

Elected Honorary members for 2026/27 – **Alan Buckingham, Kathryn Haskins, Rob James.**

Elected voting delegates for 2026/27 – **President & Secretary.**

Elected substitute voting delegates – **President Elect & Treasurer**

Elected two auditors for the year 2026/27. **Peter Noel & Chris Buckingham**

A.O.B. **Nothing notified**

John Berry
Club Secretary.

SPEAKER EVENING - CARING IN THE HOME

On Thursday 23rd April evening we were entertained with a talk by Holly Willis, the Marketing and Digital Creator and her new boss Kirsty Cambridge from a branch of Home Instead based in Exeter, about the work they do in caring for the elderly in East Devon and our area of West Dorset.

In essence they go beyond the care provided by the local community by offering a more personalised service to individuals with a guaranteed one hour visit by carers. There are a wide range of services offered by the company all designed to help people stay at home rather than move to a care home. They also help with giving talks to our local groups including our local **Welcome Cafe** and help with drop-in at the **Waffle House** for Dementia sessions.

They are trying to recruit our Peter Fortnam as a Masseur!!!!

Arthur Banwell



POLIO ERADICATION NEWS UPDATE

I came across this article while on holiday (*Yes, emails do reach Australia, and sometimes I read them!*) but it was too late to alert Editor Jim in time for the April Bulletin, so here it is in case you missed it. I am quite alarmed at the news, are we going to fail at the last hurdle. I know the end game has been tough and with the ongoing crisis in Afghanistan and Pakistan showing no signs of abating it takes more than just a bit of faith to continue the campaign. However, the potential outcome is worth it, I believe, to do nothing is fatal.

Rotary GB&I statement to members on UK government funding for polio eradication

It is with deep concern we have heard that the UK Government has decided to withdraw its financial support for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).

This is difficult news, particularly at a moment when the world is closer than ever to ending polio for good.

Rotary International pioneered the campaign to eradicate polio four decades ago. Our members have given huge amounts of financial, volunteering and advocacy support to this endeavour, and we remain fully committed to the task of eradicating polio as our organisation's number one humanitarian goal.

Alongside our partners, we have helped immunise more than 3 billion children against polio in 122 countries, prevented over 20 million cases of paralysis and reduced the number of polio cases by 99.9%.

That is extraordinary progress.

The GPEI depends on financial support that enables the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNICEF to maintain their actions on the ground around the world. Even prior to the UK's announced budget reduction, the GPEI was forced to reduce its 2026 budget by almost 30% compared to 2025 as a result of reduced global health funding from major donors. The decision by the United Kingdom to stop providing funds to the GPEI after 2026 puts at risk the great efforts that have been made over the last 40 years to improve the health and wellbeing of children across the world.

The UK Government has said it will continue to support WHO and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, while ending direct funding for GPEI. We recognise the importance of those wider health investments but also know that polio eradication remains urgent.

We are at a critical stage in the campaign to eradicate polio, infection numbers in Pakistan and Afghanistan are very low, but this is a result of great efforts on the ground in these last two endemic countries. Pakistan has 400,000 people working in vaccination teams, and in Afghanistan teams are working street by street in cities, towns and villages to ensure that every child is reached.

Conflict between the two countries has put vaccination teams at further risk but still the effort to vaccinate goes on. A recent drive in Pakistan inoculated 45 million children.

Loss of financial support for the eradication campaign could have dire consequences, with direct implications for every country, every community, every family around the world.

Last year, traces of the polio virus were found across Europe. In January this year, traces were found in wastewater in London. Failure to eliminate the polio virus in Pakistan and Afghanistan would open the door to new outbreaks in countries where the virus was eliminated.

We cannot afford to be complacent, and we cannot afford to give up.

This is a moment for renewed resolve and action. Please keep raising awareness, strengthening advocacy and supporting End Polio Now in your club, hub and community.

We have come too far, achieved too much and changed too many lives to stop now. Let us stand together, stay determined and finish the job.

James Carmichael, Rotary GB&I End Polio Now Coordinator; **Amanda Watkin**, Rotary GB&I Chief Executive Officer; **Heather Stuart**, Rotary GB&I Chair of the Board

Continued over

Continued from page 4

You can read the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's statement on their website - well worth a Google!

How can you support the Rotary polio initiative?

- 1. Donate and fundraise** – You can DONATE to the **End Polio Now** campaign with £1 becoming £3.75 with Gift Aid and Gates Foundation matching.
- 2. Raise awareness** – Visit the **End Polio Now** website to download videos, graphics and social media messages and share them with friends and family.
- 3. Share our statement on social media** – You can find our public statement on our website, as well as Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and X, (formerly Twitter) - Share it, spread the word.

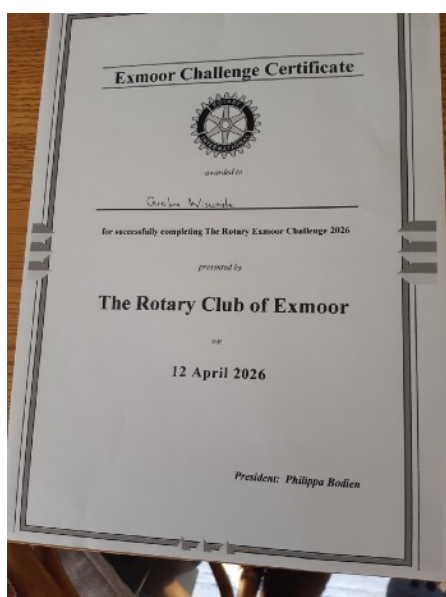
THANKS IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR HELP. THE WITHDRAWAL OF HMG IS A BIG BLOW TO OUR CAMPAIGN, LETS NOT LET IN DERAILED US.

EXMOOR CHALLENGE 2026

This annual event, which started back in 1978 as a Pony Trek across Exmoor and has morphed into a choice of two walks, long or short, took place on Sunday 12th April 2026. The 'long' walk was 7 miles, the 'short' walk was 4 miles. The **Challenge** is between Rotary Districts 1175 and 1200, with participants each representing one or other of the Districts and gaining points for doing the short or long route.

Our Club has supported the Exmoor Challenge at least as long as I have been in Rotary (2002) and has sent a team every year. This year, however, age, infirmity and holidays caught us out but Caroline Wiscombe, wife of former President of our Club, Bill, (2005/6) went along and represented the Club. Well done, Caroline. The following email from Bill:

The dog family in the picture only did the 4 miler. Caroline on the other hand yomped the 7 miler in 2.75 hrs. RIP to Pam Moseley with whom Caroline and Sue Rowe last did this route. Was that really 2022? £50 Sponsorship raised for the charity, SW Children's Hospice.



Thank you, Caroline and Bill for keeping the tradition going, what a champion she is!

John McCallum

LENDWITHCARE CONTINUES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

This has been another busy month for our Rotary Club in supporting small entrepreneurs through the Lendwithcare Scheme. We feature four more people across Asia and Africa who are working hard to achieve their business aims through loans involving our support, to help them achieve their objectives. All the entrepreneurs featuring this month are now fully funded.

Melecia is a 62 year old mother and widow who is based in Cebu province in the Philippines and is supporting her household through livestock farming and transport work. She owns seven head of cattle and works as a habal habal driver, which is a motorcycle taxi. She is also cultivates 2.5 hectares of land for crop production. She required the loan to purchase two female cows and to hire additional labour to strengthen her livestock operation and increase productivity. This will also help her to fund her house improvements to protect her family from the storms in her area and increase her families resilience.



Noeun is also 62 years old and lives in Battambang Province in Cambodia and she has been a farmer for 30 years. She is the main source of income for her family on one hectare of land, producing 2.5 tonnes of wet rice for onward sale in her village and cabbage on two additional hectares. To continue farming in the planting season, she requested the loan to purchase a water pump, piping and diesel to help irrigate her crops and to continue generating income for her family.

Luyando 0703 Group are based in Southern Zambia and represented by four women who trade in dry fish, poultry farming and growing vegetables including maize. Between them they support thirty seven children between the ages of 2 and 25. They started their business to obtain financial independence and stability. They are using the loan to buy more seeds, farming inputs and more food stocks to expand their land and increase production.



Sokha is 38 years old and has been a farmer for 20 years, based in Bovel Cambodia and farming is her main source of income. She cultivated short term rice on six hectares of land, growing two rice production cycles a year. Each 90 day cycle produces around 3.5 tonnes per hectare and she sells her product on to her village. Sokha required the loan to purchase an additional hectare of rice paddy to extend her farm to seven hectares and she expects to generate a further 3.5 tonnes each cycle to boost her sales and improve her families stability, with more reliable income for the household.

More great examples of hardworking entrepreneurs who are changing their own lives and the lives of their family and community, with a part being played by our Club to help make a difference.

Steve White

ANNUAL DRIMPTON INDOOR SPORTS EVENING HITS NEW HIGH

The annual indoor sports evening organised by Brit Valley Rotary Club took place at The Royal Oak in Drimpton on 8 April. As usual, this keenly fought event involved teams of three people attempting to excel at darts, bar skittles, shove halfpenny and alley skittles.

Lyme Regis Rotary Club put forward three teams which included the only ladies' team that entered the competition and our opponents included:

3 teams from Brit Valley, 2 teams from Bridport, 1 team from Crewkerne District and, 2 teams representing District 1200.

In addition, we were joined by Iryna Odyntsova from the Rotary Club of Dnipro Novyi.

The games were followed by a splendid buffet that was produced by the pub; and the presentation of the prizes. Very generously, one of the teams from Brit Valley won the prize for being last and, in a similar vein, we were very deferential and passed the cup to the winning team from District 1200 (it will be interesting to see how they will have the cup inscribed!).



D1200 winning team show off their prizes

Sadly nobody from Lyme Regis remembered to record the winning team's score or the name of this D1200 team so readers will have to live without that knowledge.

I should add that had there been a separate ladies' competition, our team of Lyme Ladies clearly would have been the victors.

I didn't get the opportunity to ask Iryna for her views on these quintessentially British pub games but it was clear that she enjoyed the occasion as much as everyone else. Who knows, there could be a request next year for a team from the Ukraine to enter what would then have to be re-titled as the **International** Indoor Sports Evening.

Well done, Brit Valley, for once again putting in the effort to run this event, it can't have been easy shepherding such a disparate and unruly lot of Rotarians, 34 in total, around these four disciplines but it obviously went off very well.

There seemed to have been some confusion amongst the three Lyme Regis teams as to what their team names were. One of this lot, in the following photo, for example, thinks his team name was "Three Wise Gentlemen" but most of us have experiences which would suggest that is just a figment of his imagination. Even the moniker of "The Good Old Boys" as offered by another member seems to be stretching credibility too far - 'Old Lags' seems more appropriate!



The Old Lags.

With a score of 92.2 this group of ne'er do wells came last in the Lyme Regis contingent, although they did brag that they outsourced the President's Men (that's the group in the following photo who clearly like to be in the limelight) at alley skittles.



The President's Men, with a score of 99.2, lead the Lyme contingent

The President's Men, previous winners of this prestigious competition, managed a score of 99.2, but fell short, as we have heard, on alley skittles. You've got to hit wood, lads! Clearly the pressure of maintaining their exalted position as champions was too much.



Only one of the Lite Bites, aka Lyme Ladies, seems to know where the camera is. However they were pretty good at the darts, beating the Old Lags

The Lite Bites, aka Lyme Ladies showed their mettle with a brilliant score of 94.5, beating the much fancied (well, by themselves anyway) Old Lags.

Thanks, Richard Main, for this summary of the evening. (with a little addition by Ed!)

RDA HOIST DEMONSTRATED TO ROTARIANS AND PARTNERS

Members will recall that our Rotary Club made a donation to *Chard and District Riding for the Disabled* from the sponsor monies and donations raised by the cancelled 2025 LYME LUNGE.

The charity's vision is making a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities through the power of horse riding. The donation has helped them to purchase, install and train professionals and volunteers in the use of a specialised hoist to enable severely disabled children to participate in riding. This in turn can have a transformative impact on the physical, emotional and social wellbeing of these children.

Several Rotarians and partners travelled to Chard on Tuesday 21st April to witness the hoist in action and gave enthusiastic and heartfelt praise for this latest addition to the charity's equipment. I think the photographs tell the story adequately, no words needed.



Thank you, Karen Chadwick of Chard RDA for the invitation and making our members so welcome, its really good to see the effect our fund raising efforts actually have.

The following received by our Secretary John Berry from Karen after the event.

John, thank you so much to you & the other Rotarians for coming along to our hoist launch event tonight. I think we all agreed that the riders & ponies were super stars! Your support in our fundraising was critical to the success of the project so we are very grateful .

*Kindest regards,
Karen*

John McCallum

PROGRAMME for May 2026 -July 2026.

Date	Event	Grace
May 8	Council	
May 14	Business Meeting	RC
May 16	District Assembly - Wiltshire Music Centre, Ashley Road, Bradford on Avon BA15 1DZ	
May 28	Pauline Chart - Jurassic Coast PCN	PF
Jun 5	Council	
June 6	Uplyme Village Fete	
Jun 11	Club Assembly and Business meeting	RH
Jun 25	Speaker TBC	
July 2	Handover with Brit Valley RC	
July 9	Business Meeting	CB
July 23	Speaker TBC	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Aug 13

Assist with Carnival Procession

Sept 15

An evening at LR Bowls Club