

WARE ROTARY CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2018

Pictured are some of the members and guests enjoying the entertainment from the Ware Ukulele Band who played a medley of seasonal favourites prior to our excellent festive lunch provided by the staff at Wodson Park.

About 40 members and friends enjoyed a traditional Christmas lunch and we were pleased to welcome, amongst others, our Honorary Members John and Reg, our Paul Harris Fellows Marie and Adam, Liz Ardent and Rufus from Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, DG Dave Ford and his wife Wendy, Inner Wheelers and other halves and several friends of Rotary.

During the course of events Denise Newman was awarded with the Gordon Walker Shield for Rotarian of the Year, a reward which was very richly deserved. We were also pleased to present cheques to Liz Ardent and Rufus on behalf of Hearing Dogs.... and Alan Grant for his Charity 'Nerve Tumours'.

At the conclusion of the festivities we were able to thank the Wodson Staff and to present them with a gratuity cheque for all their hard work over 2018



Host, Grace and Vote of Thanks

Please remember! It is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement if you are unable to fulfil your commitment.

IF IT IS YOUR TURN TO CARRY OUT THIS DUTY

You should additionally write a short article on the speaker and subject for the 'Wheel', with a photo (1 Paragraph will suffice).

Please view the Facebook Page for further details and the circulation of "Flyers" and "Posters".

www.facebook.com/WareRotary/

OTHER ROTARY EVENTS PUT THEM IN YOUR DIARY!!!!

2019		
10-12	MAY	Rotary Showcase
21-23	JUN	District Conference

Please view the new "Diary" on the website:

www.warerotary.co.uk



Ware Wheel

JANUARY 2019

Ware Rotary Club's Monthly Bulletin



Ware Rotary Club meets at Wodson Park, Ware, Herts. (01920 487091) every Wednesday at 12.45pm (except where a fifth Wednesday occurs in the month when the meeting is at 7.30pm and except the first Wednesday, when a Monday evening meeting occurs)

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SOME THOUGHTS ON FIVE CLUBS FUTURE REORGANISATION

It has become clear that over the next two years we must prepare for a new approach to Rotary. Membership in all five clubs has diminished and it is proving difficult to attract new members. Ware has the next two years covered with Nick Evans (President Elect) and Dilip Shukla following Nick. Other Clubs are not so fortunate. At a meeting of the five Clubs Presidents on 15th January a radical look at what we might do was undertaken. The GBI President Debbie Hodge attended to offer examples of other regions who had made changes in different ways and to offer her valuable advice. Ware was represented by myself, Denise Newman and Nick Evans and Debbie is of course one of us. The meeting was a positive one and the outcome was a possible reorganisation which would be taken back to the Clubs for further discussion. It was envisaged that this would be a two year consultation.

So what was it that was proposed as a starting point:

There could be a central club called say the Lea Valley Rotary Club. The Club would have a President and would need two secretaries to deal with internal and external matters and there would be a Lea Rotary Club Council which would be structured in such a way to build in continuity. Each of the existing clubs could become satellites and each would have their internal organisation with a Chair Person at the helm. Future activity would include the important social side of Rotary as fellowship would still be considered very important. With respect to the latter, members from each of the 5 satellites would be able to choose to take breakfast, lunch or dinner at any one of the Satellite groups as they wished. In other words as this would become one club there would be several dining options on different days.

The Lea Rotary Club would have its own website and that website would record all events happening in each of the five satellite groups (at present the five clubs) as well as Lea Rotary Club Council and reports from the two Club Secretaries.

Cont.

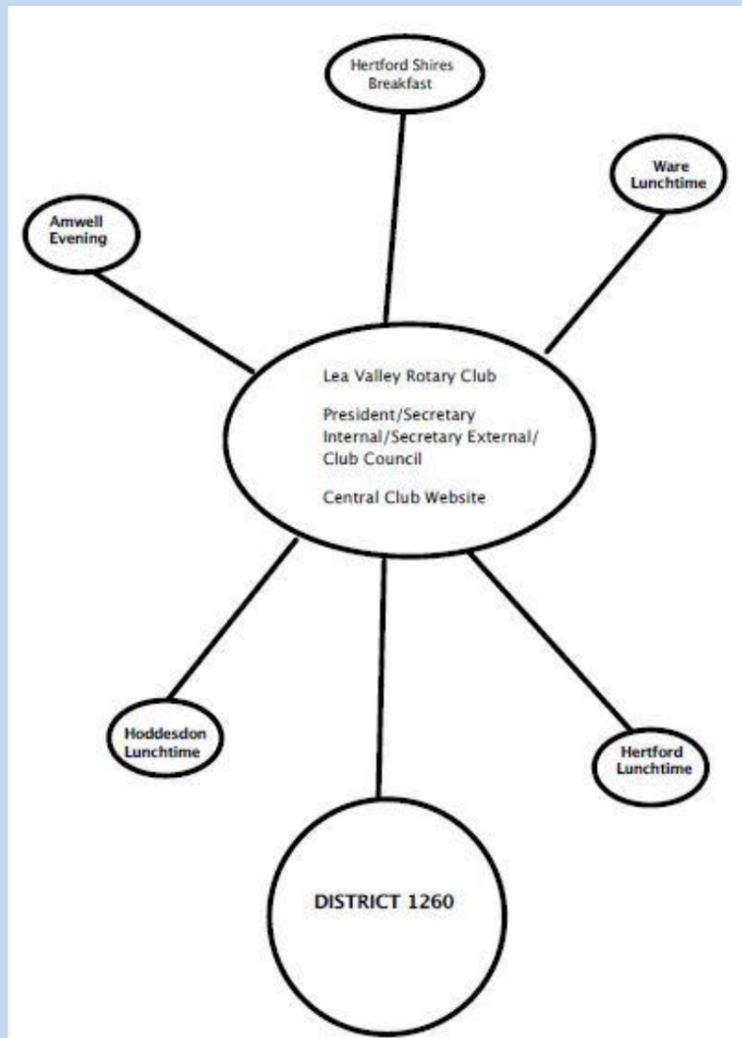
Also Guest Speaker lists could be on the main club website so any member of any satellite group would be able to attend to listen to a speaker of their choice.

Future activity could become entirely "Project based" and those projects clearly defined on the Lea Rotary Club website so that members from each of the satellite groups would be able to take part using their strengths and interests.

All fees could be payable to the Lea Rotary Club. Fees were considered a difficulty in achieving new members, so much thought should be given as to how and where the fees might be collected.

Over the next two years Presidents will discuss with their clubs how they view this draft reorganisation. There would be traditions to overcome and some Rotarians might object if the changes are too dramatic. There is much to do and Clubs will have a couple of opportunities to discuss these draft proposals before each of the five clubs Presidents meet again on 19th February in Hertford. Our Rotary Club has had one informal meeting concerning the reorganisation but our next meeting concerning this matter will be minuted and John Seager has offered to take the minutes. These minutes will be taken to each five clubs meeting as the reorganisation progresses. Fellows please give lots of thought to this matter as we are advocating great change.

Stuart Storey
President- Rotary Club of Ware



Dear Denise

It is not my habit to send important letters by e mail and one is on its way to you by post, but I thought, just in case it gets buried, delayed or just simply disappears in the maelstrom of the Christmas mail, I thought I would e mail you just in case!

"Thank you" hardly seems adequate for the amazing work you have been doing on our behalf: both your own sterling efforts and the inspiration that has brought such splendid support from all the members of the Rotary Club of Ware. In my wildest dreams I never expected such a generous donation of £1200, this in addition to your personal cheque. I know that there are many deaf recipients in the area who have reason to be grateful to you all for your interest and continued support of our Charity and have always regretted that the Charity discontinued the practice of allowing individuals and groups to sponsor a dog, so that they could see for themselves exactly where their donation has gone and they could follow the progress of "their" dog. I will have another go at the CEO about that!!! Congratulations to you on winning the Fellowship Award – richly deserved for all the work you put into supporting us and others. It is good to know that everyone in the Club appreciates how much you do.

As always I was made very welcome by everyone and I thoroughly enjoyed the traditional Christmas meal and the entertainment. I am grateful that, with my cochlear implants, I am able to enjoy the music and conversation.

Thank you too for the beautiful flowers – they are a welcome glow of colour at this rather dreary time of year. Rufus will get to enjoy his present when we are away on holiday – it will be a real treat for him as I intend to ignore his dietary restrictions for the time we are away. He can usually cope OK if we don't give him too much all at once. And another thank you for the delightful raffle prize. Very appropriate and useful as I have recently had a clear out of all my ancient and tatty belongings which I have accumulated over the last 20 years!!

As I said, this letter will reach you via "Snail Mail" for all the wonderful members of the Rotary Club of Ware to read in the New Year:- but to wait until then without contacting you would have been an unacceptable discourtesy.

With very best wishes to all at the Rotary Club of Ware for an enjoyable Christmas and a happy and healthy Year 2019.

Greetings and tail wags,
Liz and Rufus

At our meeting last Wednesday, Emily Winter spoke to us about her proposed visit to Tanzania in March. Emily said she will be staying there for three months with the International Citizen Service and Voluntary Overseas Services. Whilst staying with a Tanzanian family, she will work with a local school to help improve the standards of education. Specifically she will be conducting tasks such as devising creative learning props and materials to help make learning easier, and setting up after-school clubs to encourage learning in different forms such as sport, drama debates and reading. The aim of her volunteering will be to provide support for both parents and students, and to try to make a positive impact with their learning to stand them in better stead for getting jobs when they are older.

We wish her all the best in her venture.

Roger G.

