

Rotary Club of Braunton

Lockdown Newsletter April 2020

Greetings Fellow Rotarians and Friends

Hope you are all Safe and Well, A much reduced newsletter this month, no meetings, no speakers, no lunches, no cheesecake and of course no Stewards. Just a few notes and;

A Message from President Chris and Doreen

I am missing you all, look forward to getting back to our normal weekly get together whenever that might be.

Very little has changed in the farming world, the sheep and cattle don't realise there is any such thing as covid 19!

We have got through lambing and in the process of planting some of the spring crops.

Every cloud has a silver lining in as much as the public have had a reminder that we all need to see food on supermarket shelves, which might lead to an increased appreciation of British Farming.

Whilst driving a tractor on the road this week I met an oncoming cyclist, she pulled in tight to the



hedge and stopped to allow me to pass and as I did so she started to clap. I don't know whether it was because I

had slowed down to pass her or because she thought I was doing my bit for Queen and Country!



Doreen hasn't got her summer job at the moment which means we are together 24/7 but we are coping and still talking.

Kind regards Chris and Doreen

Glenn and Lotte supplied us with news from Tawstock, with their permission a few extracts from their note; (I've added a few bits in italics)

Lotte is still talking to me, and is coping well with the lack of holiday and shopping. She is busy planning our trips for next year and also looking at property in Spain and Portugal, as she thinks that it might be very good value next year, so it keeps us busy!! (Think we will all be following Lotte's example book early but when for!!)

The showing of live recordings and productions of West End shows and plays on YouTube has been wonderful and we have discovered a channel called Marquee for concerts and ballet, from Covent Garden, the Bolshoi, the National Theatre etc. Maybe there is a chance that it may educate us?

(If you have a smart TV you can download the YouTube app to get these performances, usually on a Friday evening, some are for one night only. You can do the same with an Amazon Fire Stick, or if you haven't either use your computer or tablet.)

It's looking like we will not be safe to return to normal for this year, until we have a vaccine or better treatment or both, but if things improve we will have a few parties in the garden, at two metres apart. We could have up to twenty, conversation will be by telephone, shouting, or megaphone, self service only and to avoid risk we will leave the mess for three days before we clear up.

(Looking forward to the invitation and the fellowship, thanks to Glenn and Lotte for their news)

A Little news from Trish Parsons,

What have I been doing during lockdown?

Counselling clients from pavements, giving keep fit lessons from driveways and trying to keep my distance, not easy when some become so agitated, stressed and even self-harming. Certainly not a good time for those with mental health problems. Also, not been easy doing my mums eye drops from 2 metres!! However, her sitting room wall looks very artistic!!

On a lighter note been teaching my dog to use the trampoline....slow start but she has potential.



Thanks for this Trish, keep up the good work, stay safe and well done as an essential worker.



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A missive from President Elect Beryl

Rare "Bird" Seen in The Garden at 1 The Brittons

I thought I would tell you about the sighting of a "rare bird" in the garden -yes it was me. I absolute



hate gardening but after walking around my garden (taking my daily exercise) I spotted weeds

growing especially wild garlic. I was then seen digging them up and giving the roots and ground a good drink of Roundup weed killer. I will get them!!! Dave was impressed but I did stress to him that this was a "one off "and do not expect it to continue. I have also been busy contacting members of the U3A, Caen Bridge club and Rotarians just to find out how everyone is coping. The main consensus is that everyone is missing their social contacts and friends I know I am missing meeting up with my friends and how I miss the Williams Arms carvery and cheesecake!!!! Let's hope it won't be too long before we meet up until then. Take care, stay safe and healthy. Best wishes from Beryl and Dave.

Post Card from Ilfracombe



Hillsborough on a clear day.

No one around.

So quiet, peaceful



The harbour,boats still in the carparks. Car parks empty of cars. No visitors.

News from Raggamuffins.

Helen has had a second operation and is now awaiting confirmation of further treatment, radiotherapy and probably chemotherapy. She's been busy baking cakes for neighbours and delivering when walking the Murray (dog walking

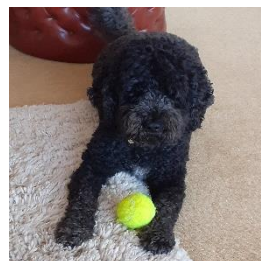
allowed as exercise) I have given her the label of "The Phantom Cake Lady of Old Champernowne Crescent" she leaves the cakes on the doorsteps, rings the doorbell and then does a runner.

We, like many others, are keeping in contact with the family and friends via technology, a virtual meal is held each Sunday evening, different Roasts in different houses, still it makes for fun.

How different things would be if we didn't have all these social medias to keep in touch. How would we manage without the ability to shop on line.

It's been so amazing how local businesses have stepped up to offer home delivery, just hope we all will continue to support our local shops once this crazy situation returns us to normal.

So many activities have been cancelled, we will miss the sporting events, especially our annual trip to Wimbledon.



Murray auditioning for a job at Wimbledon

Lets all hope that life will return to normal as soon as possible in the meantime keep in touch, stay safe, stay home, save lives and protect the NHS

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