



## Cowes Rotary Club – Newsletter, January 2020

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### Best Wishes for 2020

Happy New Year to Cowes Rotarians and Interactors, our business partners and friends of Rotary: best wishes to you all for a peaceful, healthy and prosperous 2020.

### Cowes' Week, July 2019

Cowes' Week weather was unpredictable and difficult for sailors and landlubbers alike, so none of us fared quite as well as we would have liked. The Cowes Rotary presence on the Parade featured games of excitement and skill such as Splat the Rat, Treasure Island and, new this year, our Mickey Mouse Kids Striker (pictured: please note, not for striking kids but for kids to strike! ). Mickey was a great success with the children but those of us over 50 who tried to ring the bell on the quiet soon realised that we needed to get into training if we were to wield the hammer to effect.



### Sailover lunch



Our annual Sailover Lunch took place in September at the Royal Yacht Squadron, where we are kindly hosted by John Power. We had chosen as our charity the Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust, which supports young people aged 8-24 in rebuilding their confidence after cancer. Frank Fletcher CEO (picture, left) gave a moving account of the work of the charity and the positive difference that sailing trips can make to these young people. Cowes Rotary

President, Jamie Busby (picture, centre) was delighted to present a cheque to Trust representatives, Frank Fletcher and Lindsay Nehorai (picture) at the end of the lunch.

## Lanesend Primary School Sensory Garden

Caroline Sice, head of Lanesend School in Cowes (picture), talked to the Club about her plans to create a sensory garden for the children. Lanesend is viewed as a very successful school in the community and was nominated for the Special Educational Needs and Disability Awards 2019 as an establishment which goes “above and beyond” to help children achieve a high learning potential. The garden is much needed as a “quiet” place for children to go when they need some peace and the Club was pleased to make a donation of £550 towards it.



## Other groups supported recently include the following:

- Cowes Rotary sponsored some local young people who had never sailed before to participate in the Association of Sail Training Organisations small ships regatta
- The Club made a donation to the C.O.O.K Project (Creating Opportunities in Our Kitchen). This is a volunteering and work experience programme based in Freshwater for young people, adults with learning or mental health difficulties and those returning to work.
- Age UK, Isle of Wight received some financial support and Cowes Rotary also sponsored a Christmas lunch for local older people at the New Holmwood Hotel.

## Christmas wasn't all party...party....



The Christmas Party was a very jolly affair which included a quiz devised by Rosemary Hamar. President Jamie (pictured, in pensive mood) became quite animated when his team nearly won, but sadly was pipped at the post by some Rotarians from the other side of the Island. We will have to get into training for next year.

But we also needed to raise some funds too and spent a chilly December weekend collecting outside Aldi. Keith Breeze (pictured, right) dressed up as

Father Christmas and “Ho, ho, Ho’ed” lucky customers near the trolley park. Eat your heart out Kevin the Carrot. Thank you Aldi for letting us be there.

