

## Our Mayor's First Blog, An Aurora Exclusive!



It is a great honour to be representing our Borough as Mayor for the next municipal year after being elected to the role on 18th June. This is my first Mayor's blog as I want to start this regular means of communicating with you by telling you more about myself and the charities I am raising money for during my mayoral year.

I have lived in Shepperton for the last 18 years, becoming a member of the Shepperton Aurora Rotary Club. The River Thames is, in my opinion, one of the best things about life in Spelthorne and I enjoy sailing my boat in local and coastal waters. I was first elected to the Council to represent Shepperton Town in 2015 and have

served on various committees and previously held cabinet positions.

Over the course of my Mayoral year, I will be endeavouring to raise funds for River Ash Girl Guiding, the Spelthorne District Scouts as well as Shooting Star Children's Hospices. My roots are firmly in Scouting and Guiding as my father and mother met through the movement. My father continued his scouting for the whole of his life. When my three brothers and I were of cub age my father took on the role of cub master, ably assisted by my mother who even attended camp, sleeping under canvass. He was eventually district commissioner for cubs.

Shooting Star Children's Hospice are a leading children's hospice charity supporting over 700 children, and their families, throughout Surrey and across 15 boroughs of London, 365 days a year. Both my parents died from cancer, and my youngest granddaughter suffered with Hodgkins lymphoma when she was 13 years old. It is important to my wife, the Mayoress, and myself to support these very worthy causes, as we feel that we have gained so much from our experiences over the years, now we can perhaps give something back to them.

During my Mayoral year, I hope to be having events to help raise money for these fantastic causes. While the Coronavirus pandemic has made holding formal gatherings impossible at this time, I will endeavour to honour the office of the Mayor and support these charities as best I can. I will be updating you the residents, via this page, of what we are doing in our role as Mayor. If you would like to support these causes, please donate via our JustGiving page.

You can find out more about the charities by visiting their websites below:

<https://ggs.w.squarespace.com/?bnc=1&rsn=noOb&fromProt=&lng=>

<http://www.spelthornescouts.org.uk/>

<https://www.shootingstar.org.uk/>

**The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Spelthorne, Councillor Colin Barnard**

# Editor's Agenda



It's been a period of mixed blessings. First of all, we are proud to have the Mayor of Spelthorne as a member of our club and we have paid our due respects to Colin at our Zoom meetings. We wish Colin and Barbara well in representing our borough over the mayoral year.

Secondly, we mourn the passing of Sylvia Catt-Camfield, a great supporter of Shepperton Aurora. Our thoughts and prayers are with David and his family at this time and hope we will be able to join our Zoom meetings soon.

Our club has moved well into the virtual world with our meetings averaging 15 members. We have had visitors, including Past-Presidents Mike and Vivian Gicquel and John Dumbrell. All of us have been able to adapt and many thanks to Chris for his amusing meeting notes and ad-hoc quizzes - it makes us feel he is in the room with us - spooky!

Stay safe everyone. While lockdown is unlocking, it is still not clear what the impact will be, so keep your distance as you think fit!

Best wishes, Henry

## Taking Turns to be President for the Rotary Year 2020 - 2021

Normally near the end of a Rotary year and following District Assembly, we hold our own club assembly, when the President Elect selects his new team for the year, and presents their program to members.

We have a different situation this year for two reasons: firstly, we don't have a President Elect in post with the sad resignation of Ron to select the new team, and secondly we have Covid-19.

So until the situation changes, we are not able to plan for the coming Rotary 2020-21 year in our usual manner. We are glad that our club officers & chairs of committees have very kindly agreed to remain in post.

Regarding the position of club president, 4 of our Past-Presidents have graciously agreed to cover the year 2020-21, between them, something S&S did very successfully in 2018-19.

## Keep Connected with these links - Don't feel alone

Shepperton Aurora Zoom: Every Wednesday, 6:30pm, meeting details issued by Sue Eggleton

Aurora website: <https://www.rotaryaurora.org.uk/>, Please send updates to Bob Noble

Many thanks to Chris Arnot and Lyn Derrington for running the Phone Tree, now ended

District Zoom meetings, Every Thursday 7:30pm

<https://zoom.us/j/525532809?pwd=VnJpT1phK052czU2YzVYL2RZVDV1Zz09>

District Whatsapp group: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/l2EgPx8J7xAK5py8ZNIQMQ>

District Service Seminars, register at

<http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-5408980/district-service-team-seminars>

Shepperton and Sunbury Matters digital copy:

<https://www.villagematters.co.uk/sunbury-matters>

<https://www.villagematters.co.uk/shepperton-matters>

## Remembering Sylvia Catt-Camfield by Jan Matthews



Members of Aurora and the wider Rotary family are sad to hear that Sylvia Catt-Camfield has died after a long, painful illness.

We understand the comforts of a long friendship but we also value a friend who always stands alongside us through both the fun and the challenging times. Indeed, Sylvia was a true Friend of Rotary, one of the group who, whilst not members, support Aurora in so many different ways. She was always one of the major players in our annual events: Race Night, the Prestige Lecture and stewarding school groups during Youth Speaks. Sylvia was always ready to take part in the static Christmas collections. Sylvia's Youth Speak's simply delicious sandwiches and her memorable cheese straws which graced every buffet are lovely memories.



Sylvia's husband David was a founder member and twice President of Aurora; for over 20 years Sylvia has been at his side, a confidante, social secretary, organiser and welcome presence at countless club breakfasts, evenings, outings and conferences.

Sylvia was an active member of the Village community, a fund raiser (she climbed Box Hill on her 70th birthday) and helper in the Princess Alice Hospice charity shop. She and David were inaugural members and for 30 years, regular Duty Officers for Care in Shepperton.

As we offer David, Paul and Sally our condolences, we remember a longstanding and loyal Rotary Friend.



# Aurora Responds to Lockdown with £7,610 support

Like all charities, the inability to fund-raise in the lockdown, including the cancellation of our ever popular Race Night at the end of March, has meant that resources were less than anticipated at this point in the year.

However, undaunted, Shepperton Aurora set up a COVID-19 community response initiative to look at how best to help the local community and be as innovative as possible.

Since the lockdown at the end of March, we have spent a total of £7,610 supporting our local community

To our local schools we donated £2,520 in Sainsbury E-vouchers to go to the most vulnerable families at this point in time. In addition, we donated hardship funds to the value of £2,500 for schools to utilise to help those families most in need.

For the elderly, we have donated £2,000, working with Spelthorne Borough Councils Support4Spelthorne scheme. Our initiative provided the elderly living alone and their carers with “Boredom Buster” packs. A successfully matched District grant meant that we were able to double our initial 100 packs to 200 and we have been working with the Greeno Centre on distribution.

We donated £590 to help both the Manna and Jubilee Centre Foodbanks and have also been instrumental in providing collection boxes into which local residents have contributed to over 350 bags of food plus donations to the value of £371 to The Jubilee Centre foodbank.

With a further District grant just approved, we expect to be able to continue to support our local community over the next few months but like all charities this will become increasingly difficult until fundraising can re-commence.

***‘When the dust settles we will realise how little we need, how very much we have and the value of human connection’***

***Sue Eggleton, Aurora Treasurer***



**Sally with her food collecting box**



**Doreen's food bags awaiting delivery**

## Aurora, the Boredom Busters!



During the Covid 19 pandemic, we have been in constant communication with Greeno Centre and CAMEO. We have close links with the teams from both and we have listened to how the elderly and their carers are coping. Nessy from Greeno, and Annette from CAMEO, along with their teams, have been just amazing supporting their clients. The strain of caring for the dementia clients, solely by their families, has been so hard, but the support of the CAMEO team has been vital. They are in constant contact with the carers and are often the only faces who arrive on their doorsteps! Nessy and The Greeno team regularly telephone their members and are that cheerful voice on the phone, who offer support, quizzes and in some cases supplying hearing aid batteries to the door!

Lockdown has been long and hard for over 125 elderly clients and we worked with Spelthorne BC to provide craft Boredom Buster packs for them all. Aurora donated £1260.00 and we were supported by The Silver charity, who sourced and packed these, which were delivered by Greeno and CAMEO. We had some lovely messages of thanks for them:

- *'it was a Godsend, thank you so much, and now everyone can enter our Art Competition too, as they contain plenty of art materials!'*
- *Thank you very much for the goody bag I have received from you it was such a surprise how did you know I was down to my last 4ins of pencils. Thanks again.*

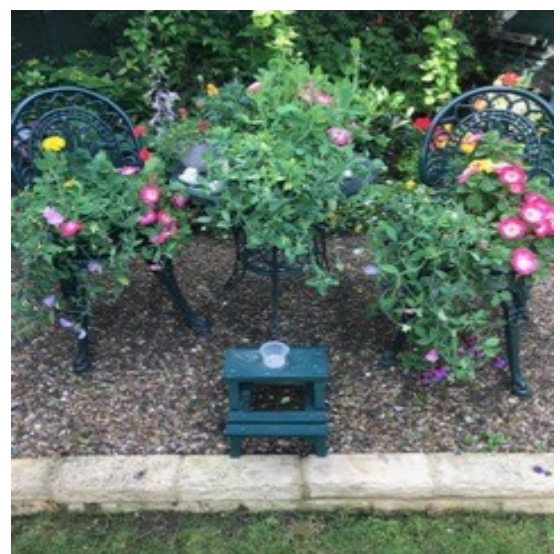
Great news, we have just received a matching District Grant, so we will be repeating the packs again in the next few weeks for another 125 elderly people. In total we will have supported the local elderly with £2520.00 for this Covid 19 project.

Doreen Pipe

## Doreen's Photos!



In Zoom, there is no hiding place



A multi-use picnic table for  
squirrels and birds!



# shepperton aurora rotary

want you to paint or draw us a picture  
on the theme of...

## the new dawn



## how to enter

You can use any art media to produce your picture but it must be no larger than A3 (420mm x 297mm).

It must be a flat image – no sculptures or models. Entry is free.

There are three age groups – over 60s, over 70s and over 80s. There are separate prizes for both carers and those cared for.

The closing date for entries is Friday 10th July, 2020.

The theme of the competition is 'The New Dawn' – life after lock down.

For full terms and conditions visit our website [www.rotaryaurora.org.uk/competition](http://www.rotaryaurora.org.uk/competition)

**Shepperton Aurora Rotary**



# Supporting the Jubilee Foodbank by Gill Fawcett



A note goes into bags saying donated from the community via Rotary



This is some of the food donated over 5 days, Aurora's Gill- with Heather from the Jubilee Foodbank

## Desert Island Discs, Led by DJ Noble

Bob set the challenge for each of us to select eight musical tracks, a book and a luxury item. As many of you know, music (and art and cars) are the ways I enjoy this mortal coil. But, how to select eight tracks? So, I thought of those that had the biggest impact throughout my life, maybe not technically my favourites!

1973 Focus – Sylvia. My first adult record I purchased was Focus Live at the Rainbow and I still play it from time to time. We had very few concerts in Belfast during The Troubles, fortunately Focus was the first big concert I attended, shortly followed by Dr. Feelgood.

1976 Faure Requiem – In Paradisum. I like early music, such as Monteverdi and believe it or not I helped to form a Madrigal Society at my all-boys school and I even got a rugby player to join! We had fun arranging joint concerts with the local girls school at St. Pats Cathedral in Armagh. In true Irish tradition, we have a Protestant Cathedral called St. Patricks and a Roman Catholic one called St. Patricks.

1979 Joy Division – Love will tear us apart, my favourite song, period. For young people in Northern Ireland the Punk revolution had a positive effect by bringing us together rather than focusing on our differences

1987 New Order – True Faith, dance floor classic, still goes around in my head after all these years. Deep love for this. When it was released, I went to my car every lunchtime to hear it, in pre-iphone days.

1990's Miles Davis – I just don't know where to start, having over 20 Miles LPs. Today, I will select something from Sketches from Spain, the well-known Concierto de Aranjuez, arranged with Gil Evans, his long term collaborator. Tomorrow it could be In a Silent Way.

1990's Keith Jarrett – The Koln Concert (Part One), the first million selling jazz double LP, plays around with your soul.

2015 Kendrick Lamar, King Kunta, from 'To Pimp a Butterfly', the most influential rap record of the 2010s, culturally significant for Afro-Americans. With a Jazz background, this launched some truly great jazz careers including the stellar Kamasi Washington, Thundercat and Miles Mosley, collectively known as the 'West Coast Get Down'

2015 Kamasi Washington, Change of the Guard, truly awestruck when I first heard this, kick-started jazz for young people in 2015 – I now feel the oldest in his audience! Probably the best way to start the day.

Henry



# From box to bag to bank

by Bob Noble, Shepperton Aurora Rotary and Shepperton and Sunbury Rotary Club



If you spotted a cardboard box by someone's front gate, you'd probably think some errant member of the public had carelessly thrown it there rather than putting it in the recycling. There has been a spate of boxes appearing in front gardens all across Shepperton, Sunbury and Chertsey in the last few weeks but not by accident. Local Rotarians have discovered that if you add a handwritten note to the box, you begin to move mountains.

Since the Coronavirus struck, it has not only shortened the lives of thousands it has literally shattered the lives of so many who are still living. Redundancies, closures of whole businesses, income for families dramatically reduced and savings decimated means many of our residents have had to turn to sources of income and food they have never had to consider before.

The food banks of Spelthorne during this time have

literally been a lifeline for hundreds of households and the Rotary Clubs of Shepperton have been one of the important lifelines for the Food Banks – but they could not have done it without the generosity of the hundreds of neighbours constantly filling those boxes in the front gardens. One resident even turned up with a complete wheelbarrow load of goodies.

The contents of all the boxes combined has now filled a unbelievable mountain of over 200 carrier bags of not only food and toiletries, but also considerable financial contributions that have all gone to help the Jubilee Food Bank and St Saviours Community Food Bank carry out their amazing work.

We are use to the generosity of our highly committed Rotarians in the Shepperton area but we are totally astounded and humbled at the unrelenting generosity of so many, many friends and neighbours.



*A simple empty cardboard box and sign has helped put food on many needy resident's tables.*

## Rotary News in Shepperton and Sunbury

The Rotary Clubs in Shepperton have not only supported our schools, our elderly folk, those dealing with domestic abuse and housing issues we have also been working hard to ensure our food banks can offer help and support to many families in these times of hardship. We thank all those who have supported both **Shepperton & Sunbury** and **Shepperton Aurora Rotary Clubs** in the past, allowing us to help our community at this unprecedented time. Come and join us and make a difference.



For more information or if you are interested in joining us, please give us a call.  
**Shepperton Aurora** normally meet on **Wednesdays** for breakfast  
Contact Ken 01932 770580

**Shepperton and Sunbury**  
normally meet on **Monday** evenings  
Contact Chris 01932 231596

