



Rotary Club of Farnham

Newsheet May 2024

Events through May

Farnham Town Council Mayor Making Event

President Ann Foster attended the above event at the beginning of May at the Town Council Offices when Councillor Brodie Mauluka was elected as Farnham Town Mayor. The Mayoress is Caroline Mauluka, the deputy mayor is Councillor George Murray and the deputy mayoress Jacoba Murray.



Gin tasting Thursday 16th May

The fundraising team organised a Silent Pool gin tasting hosted in the Thomas's beautiful home with delicious food prepared by Kath Slape and Jacqui Thomas. So many ingredients for a successful event it was no surprise it was just that. All were winners – rotary members and friends, who enjoyed good company and food and were entertained to a very good talk on gin from Silent Pool along with a chance to taste at least 3 of their gins, Silent Pool got some sales and funds were raised – about £1,500 – for the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity.



Ann Foster presenting Kath Slape with our Rotary Community Award and a 'thank-you' bunch of flowers to both Kath and Jacqui Thomas

And at the same time Rotary Member Mike Connolly was presented with a Paul Harris Award.



Festivals & Fayres

Sustainability Festival, Gostrey Meadow, Farnham, Sunday 19th May & Rowledge Fayre, Sunday 26th May

Rotary Friends and members, from both our Club and Weyside, were there at the above events helping residents to understand how they can reduce their use of single use plastics. In the interaction of both children and adults with the games and activities we offered, a great deal of interest was generated at both events.

At The Sustainability Festival, Farnham Town Council and the Community Farm were making efforts to reduce the use of plastic by stall holders and those organising the Rowledge Fayre were doing their best to make the event 'plastic free'.



Sustainability Festival



John Lewis, Weyside Rotary, Maureen Swage, Norma Corkish & Ann Foster

Talks Through April

Thursday 2nd May, History of the Olympics by Joanne Watson, who spent more than 30 years working for BBC Sport. And it was here where she became Major Events Planning Editor. She worked on the London Olympics, Wimbledon, Football, Rugby and Cricket World Cups.



Jo with Rotary member Roy Waight who gave the vote of thanks

Her talk was based on her recently published book on the Olympics.

'My first Olympic memories are watching snippets from Mexico in 1968 and from then on I've become a fan. But for me it's not just the winners or the records, as sometimes it is the

captivating backstories that make it the most compulsive sporting event in the world.

Originating in Ancient Greece in the city of Olympia the games thrived until they were banned in 393 AD by a Roman Emperor. More than 1,400 years later a British Victorian Social reformer Dr William Penny Brookes revived the Olympic spirit with his Much Wenlock Games. Whilst it featured a few eccentric fun events such as blindfold wheelbarrow racing, it led to the National Olympian games at Crystal Palace. His endeavours prompted French aristocrat Baron Pierre de Coubertin to visit and take up the baton and launch the Olympics into the new era.

They began in 1896 in Athens though not everyone was well prepared. The US didn't realise the Greeks went by the Julian calendar and the 12 day difference meant they only just arrived in time. Their discus representative looked at an ancient statue for guidance and practised with a stone version, 5 times heavier than the competition one. The first champion for more than 1500 years was James Connolly who'd stood down from Harvard and paid his

own way to win the hop, skip and jump now known as the triple jump. As for the Greeks they salvaged National pride by appropriately winning the inaugural marathon over the legendary course from Marathon to Athens. There were a handful of Brit privateers and the scene was set for further expansion. Four years later it was the turn of Paris but it was part of an enormous world fair that lasted for months so the sporting element didn't make the impact that Coubertin might have hoped for ...not every event was adopted for future games, the live pigeon shooting and swimming obstacle race in the River Seine were dropped never to return, cricket made its debut and instead of medals there were statuettes. The obstacle race winner took home one called 'farm girl with a rake' which he used as a hat rack. Women made their first appearance but not everyone knew they were competing in an Olympics so all in all it was a bit of a damp squib.

St. Louis was the venue in 1904 and the first appearance of the gold, silver and bronze medals but again the games were part of an extravagant World Fair. The headline act was possibly the one-legged champion gymnast and who would have guessed that strychnine was an appropriate mid-race tonic for the marathon champion. He did survive but certainly suffered.

London made its first appearance in 1908 as a late replacement for Rome. In just 10 months they built the White City Stadium which staged just about everything including swimming, cycling, tug of war, athletics and archery. They are perhaps best remembered for an Italian pastry chef, Dorando Pietri, who repeatedly collapsed over the final few yards of the marathon...officials feared he might drop dead in front of the royal box so helped him over the line which resulted in his disqualification. Queen Alexandra took pity and gave him a cup anyway.

In 1912 a Native American Indian Jim Thorpe won two gold medals in Stockholm. Regarded as the greatest all round sportsman of the 20th century his name soon disappeared from the record books as it was revealed he'd taken money to play semi pro baseball rather naively under his own name. Initially disqualified but after the deadline for protests it took nearly a century to right that wrong.

Thorpe found success in baseball and American football and when he died his body was given to a small town in Pennsylvania on condition they changed its name to his ...so a red granite tomb is now the centre piece of a town called Jim

Thorpe. These games were the last to feature solid gold medals but the first to have a photo finish. It came in the 1500m, won by a Brit Arnold Jackson who took time off from a fishing holiday to compete as a private entry. He was well clear of the field but the photo was needed to split the second and third.

The First World War meant no 1916 edition, but in 1919 the inter-allied games were staged in Paris. Hundreds took part though there was one unusual sport, throwing the hand grenade. This was won by a US army chaplain with an excellent effort of over 74 metres.

War ravaged Antwerp took on the role in 1920 but few locals could afford the tickets. Stone faced but fleet-footed Paavo Nurmi won the first of his of 9 golds.

A woman swimming champ from the United States arrived in Belgium having been charged with nude bathing the year before – it wasn't nudity as we know it - she'd just taken off her stockings, thus baring her lower extremities before going into the sea. The charges were later dropped.

1924 in Paris was the chariots of fire Olympics but whilst Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell became household names another champion Douglas Lowe refused to have his story told in the film. Every year at 7pm on the 7th July, the exact date and time of his gold medal victory, Abrahams marked the anniversary by dining with the bronze medalist.

Liddell died in China in 1945 whilst on missionary duty after being interred by the Japanese. His grave was only rediscovered after another Scot saw the film.

Amongst the war veterans in Paris was Philip Neame who had won the VC and then took gold in the strangely named running deer shooting event....no live deer by the way.

A decorated US combatant who had previously survived the Titanic and resisted medical advice to have his frostbitten legs amputated won the mixed doubles tennis title.

Amongst the other stars was Tarzan in the form of swimming champion Johnny Weissmuller and Gertrude Ederle the first woman to swim the channel.

In 1928 in Amsterdam women took another step forward as they were allowed to run the 800 metres. When a few fell down seemingly

exhausted at the end there were calls to ban them from all athletic events. One expert reckoned women would become "old too soon" by running that far and another thought it psychological and beyond men's understanding. The Indian hockey team won the first of their 8 golds but the 5 ringed Olympic flag disappeared at the end of the games stolen by a US diver for a dare. It was returned 72 years later by its captor at the Sydney Olympics when he was 103.

The Berlin games in 1936 had been awarded to the city in 1931 before the Nazis came to power. Hitler saw it as a great propaganda tool though Jesse Owens didn't fit his Aryan ideal. His magnificent 4 golds underlined his prowess but when he returned home lured by some money - making opportunities he was declared a professional though most of the offers disappeared into thin air. He even resorted to running against horses to try and earn a living and gave away his medals to fund his meagre existence.

UK War veteran Jack Beresford, a schoolboy rugby star, had turned to rowing as part of his rehab and appeared in his fifth Olympics taking home his 3rd gold. Like all the champions he received an oak sapling nicknamed a Hitler oak.

Post war London staged the Austerity Games in 1948 ...rationing was still in force which was a considerable disadvantage to the Brits as some nations flew in their own more appetising and nutritious supplies. The French relied on a train load of wine to bolster their efforts.

Wembley saw the emergence of a new fan-favourite - Czechoslovakia's Emil Zatopek. His star was to shine for years winning long distance races seemingly at will. It also showcased the talent of another brilliant athlete, a Dutch mother of two regarded as over the hill at 30. Nicknamed the flying housewife Fanny Blankers Koen won 4 golds.

Unbelievably a swimming champion nearly lost her life when she fainted mid heat and sank...fellow swimmers jumped into rescue her. The drama was shown live on TV but sadly not recorded, but she recovered quickly from her ordeal.

Now GB are the only country to have won gold at every summer Olympics but it was a horse who saved that record in Helsinki...Foxhunter and Harry Llewellyn snatched victory in the final showjumping round on the last day. Phew! And how would you celebrate a family victory - when

a French swimmer won his nations first gold in the pool his father jumped in to congratulate him despite being fully clothed complete with beret. Melbourne in 1956, the first games in the Southern Hemisphere, saw blood spilt in the water polo as the Hungarians took their revenge against the Soviets a few months after the invasion of their country. An unheralded Brit won gold - a dentist called Gillian Sheen in the fencing...her modest response "mother and father will be pleased",

1960 in Rome saw the emergence of the first of the great African long distance runners, as Abibi Bikela won the marathon barefooted. Wilma Rudolf crippled by polo in her youth was the sprint queen and her former boyfriend Cassius Clay took boxing gold. An unlikely star was GB's race walker Don Thompson. He'd trained in his cramped bathroom with heaters and warm clothing to acclimatise to the expected conditions.

Anne Packer and Mary Rand brought home gold from Tokyo in 1964 but roommate Mary Peters had to wait another 8 years for her moment of glory. Aussie Swimming star Dawn Fraser celebrated yet another gold by souvenir hunting and pinching the emperor's flag. He was amused but the selectors were not and banned her from future events.

Politics and sport are often in conflict and 1968 in Mexico saw the Black power demonstration with the black fist, shoeless protest on the podium by Tommie Smith and John Carlos of the US. Compatriots Bob Beamon nearly jumped out of the pit and Dick Fosbury defied logic sailing backwards over the high jump bar. As for GB, David Hemery hurdled his way to victory and a lucky few TV viewers could watch events in colour for the first time.

1972 was scarred by the Munich massacre of the Israeli athletes by Palestinian terrorists as the games were halted for a few hours. Mark Spitz won 7 golds in the pool but the US basketballers felt cheated in their final against the Soviets and refused to attend the presentation and their medals remain in the IOC vault. On a brighter note there was one of the most memorable Olympic moments with Olga Korbut and her engaging gymnastic routines. 4 years later in Montreal Nadia Comaneci recorded the first perfect 10 which further confirmed every little girl's desire to take up that sport. These games were overshadowed by an African led boycott after the New Zealand All Blacks rugby team went on tour to SA despite an apartheid ban on the country.

The poor Canadians were left with a 30 year debt mountain and not even a solitary gold as solace. Here too was one of the biggest cheating scandals when a Soviet modern pentathlete, Boris Onischenko, had a switch in the handle of his epee which allowed him to register hits in the fencing without contact. Unmasked by the Brits, Jim Fox and his colleagues went on to take team gold but got just one miserly medal between them - an insult remedied by a London jeweller and a double glazing firm who supplied alternatives.

Moscow saw the US led boycott, but Coe, Ovett, Wells, Thompson and Goodhew were rightly victorious amongst the few Brits who made it to Russia. Nicknamed the chemists games. Doping was endemic led by the experts in that field the East Germans.

Los Angeles in 1984 was hit with a tit-for-tat boycott but that was forgotten as a space man buzzed up high at the opening ceremony and an alien landed in the closing celebrations with music from John Williams. Nothing could have stopped Carl Lewis, and Coe and Thompson repeated their success but our South African import Zola Budd's barefoot battle with Mary Decker ended in tears for both.

My first games was Seoul and the Ben Johnson doping saga, but amongst the champions was a superstar weightlifter Naim Souleymanoglu ...born in Bulgaria of Turkish parents the diminutive champ had defected by climbing out of a toilet window in Australia, but switching nationality wasn't easy. The Turks had to pay a more than a million dollars in cash to the Bulgarians to ransom him. Flo Jo starred on the track but my favourite gold was won by our hockey boys, "where oh were the Germans" Barry Davis asked in the final "but frankly who cared".

An archer's arrow lit the flame in 1992 while everyone sang along to Freddie Mercury's Barcelona theme. The US Dream team basketballers strolled to gold whilst the new Lithuanian team, funded in part by a US rock group, took bronze as the Soviet Union began to splinter. Lindford and his lunchbox and Sally Gunnell won gold but GB were on a slippery slope as poorly funded amateurs in an increasingly professional world.

In 1996 we hit rock bottom - just 1 gold by Messrs Redgrave and Pinsent in Atlanta a few hours after a bomb went off in the city centre. GB finished 35th in the medal table below

Kazakhstan and Algeria. Thankfully along came the national lottery funding to stop the rot.

Sydney was a delight in 2000 as Cathy Freeman answered her nations call, Redgrave made it 5 golds but a swimmer from Equatorial Guinea almost stole the headlines....Eric Massabani took an age to swim 100 metres but he captivated the world-wide audience. This surely exemplified the Coubertin mantra that it's not the winning but the taking part. The Brits flourished too as the cyclists showed they were now a force to be reckoned with.

Kelly Holmes' double gold was our heroine in 2004 under the Athenian sun as Sailor Ben Ainslie and cyclist Chris Hoy both opened their gold accounts. Michael Phelps dominated in the pool with 6 golds but the marathon produced a strange incident when the Brazilian leader was mugged a few miles from the end by a defrocked Irish Priest. Sadly most of the new venues were discarded not long after the games.

Beijing had a different feel as the volunteers were almost certainly drawn from the military. I certainly remember an armoured vehicle taking up residence outside the broadcast centre for our own safety. The venue architecture was spectacular, Phelps notched up further golds in the water cube and Usain bolt electrified the crowds in the Birds Nest. As for GB with a home games on the horizon the medal count improved significantly across the board including double gold for swimmer Becky Adlington.

And then there was London.....the army were needed to help out but who can forget the opening ceremony with the Queen jumping out of a helicopter and Mr Bean playing the chariots theme.

Then there was super Saturday - 6 golds culminating with 3 in the stadium in just 45 minutes from Ellis, Rutherford and Farah. Cyclists, triathletes, sailors, rowers, boxers, tennis stars and the horsey fraternity tasted glory as gold post boxes sprang up all over the place.

Rio in 2016 saw the first South American games with Simone Biles and our own super max starring in the gymnastics and Copacabana the beach volleyball. It was Rosey over in the golf, Murray was in ascendant again in the tennis, the women won the hockey and the Kenney's were medal magnets in the velodrome. The Fijians won the inaugural rugby sevens and their national bank issued a special \$7 dollar note.

But it also the end of an era as Phelps, Bolt and Mo bowed out.

Despite covid, Tokyo managed to stage the games albeit a year late. Many Russians were excluded for their doping history and masks and fake noise inhibited everyone. In order to engage the younger generation there were new sports to entice. Skateboarding joined the games and a 13 year Brit, Sky Brown, taught by YouTube videos won bronze becoming our youngest ever medallist. Our cyclists were again productive but more outside the velodrome than within as mountain biking and BMX created a real adrenaline rush and whilst our rowers wilted, the swimmers and divers gained prominence as Tom Daley showed that knitting was key to his success

Thursday 23rd May 'The Belt & Road City' by Dr Simon Curtis, Senior Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Surrey and Honorary Professor of international Relations at the University of East Anglia



Dr Curtis's talk was based on his very recently published latest book 'The Belt & Road City' which is about the Chinese grand strategy over the last 10 years, illustrating how they have been changing the nature of international relations over the last decade.

He started by telling us that his father worked in Hong Kong when seconded from British Gas. They were there for a couple of years at the height of its status as a global city - a key in a network of cities underpinning globalisation, spread of the free market and expansion of free trade - with America at the height of its power. As we know Hong Kong today is very different - It has reverted back to Chinese rule and it is changing its character as it is pulled very much back into the orbit of Chinese power and the Chinese international system that Beijing wants to spread. So this is a vignette in the shift in international affairs in which China is playing a much bigger and assertive role. They are really trying to reshape the world in their own image -

As for Paris who knows what will happen. An opening ceremony on the River Seine is planned, men will appear in the synchronised swimming and one unusual addition to the sporting options is breaking - breakdancing.

Finally watch out for local lad Toby Roberts in the wall climbing but beware it's addictive viewing. So mark up your diary's - the fun starts on Friday July 26th just 85 days away. And if you want to know more about Olympic history and some of the fascinating events and people then I know a good book that fits the bill.'

Her book 'In the Footsteps of Olympia: A concise History of the Summer Games' is available from bookshops.

to project power with their engineers building the power stations etc around the world.

In 1917 the first train appeared in Barking, where his mother grew up, that had come all the way from Yiwu in Zhejiang Province. It took 18 days to make this journey and was a freight train full of goods for the UK market, one of its biggest etc. It travelled 7,500 miles, through 7 countries, mirroring the ancient silk road. And this is what is being reinvigorated again by Chinese investment and power through the belt road initiative.

What China is very much trying to do is to recall this historical memory - a time when China was a key player in the international system, a great power at the core of its own tributary system. Railways are only a part of this huge investment. - there are digital elements, road and maritime routes as well.

He argues in his book that material infrastructure and cities are an essential, if overlooked, part of international order and how we understand international politics. These kind of infrastructures and the cities that they connect are rare moments in history and we are living through one now and it is important to understand what it is that China is trying to achieve and how it is trying to achieve it - literally in many respects building international order, where previously the US has been 'in charge'.

So what is this initiative? It was announced 10 years ago in Sept 2013 in Astana, Kazakhstan by President Xi - a location which was part of the ancient silk road, with reference made in his

speech to these silk roads, making explicit reference to its history and making the point it wants to again be at the heart of international trade. A month later in Jakarta in Indonesia he announced the maritime component. The whole

project is a hugely ambitious infrastructure investment programme - road, railway, ports, energy, digital infrastructure (ie control of information), cities with huge open corridors tying them together - transnational corridors on a huge scale. 160 countries and two-thirds of the world's population, with corridors crossing Eurasia and Africa along with maritime routes linking Sri Lanka, Greece, Africa and more.

He said that a trillion dollars has been invested over the last 10 years. The completion date is 2049 - a key date - a century after the communist party came to power.

As he pointed out, China has strategic advantages as they can plan many years ahead, which we find difficult to do in the West with our democracies and political structures.

Chinese loans, companies and expertise are building these infrastructures. Why are they doing it? It is a branding exercise, with the ultimate aim of trying to rebalance the international system using the accumulation of capital that it has collected over decades. They had capital to spend and so this project provided a way of doing this and a way to decouple itself from US. They did not want to invest any more in the US treasury bonds. It is a developmental model for the global south and they see themselves as a development leader - developing soft power and being at the centre of an international society that is evolving with different values to the west. And it does lead the world in some of these technologies - high speed rail, green energy, 5g and smart city technology - exporting them to different parts of the world.

They are also setting up a parallel diplomatic system that goes along that developed in the west eg the Asian Investment Bank which is being used to fund its projects. In the past, war has been a way of realigning and creating changes - this is an alternative way. In the past they could maybe be seen as lying low. But with

Zi things changed with building of their own infrastructure and a more outward looking approach. 2017 they started talking about great changes not seen in a century - they saw Trump leading to a decline of the West. So they became assertive and more confident with a vision of a new order - a community with a common destiny, with a lot of innovation involved.

One of the things he said is argued in the book is that if you are going to think about international order you are going to have think about material infrastructure, think about the nature of cities - where most of people live with major development in the global south - think about how to assemble political order from the bottom up, ending with urban corridors and increasing connectivity and all connected to the Chinese economic system. The urban system of the world is changing with some cities becoming more influential through Chinese infrastructure development - eg Athens, Astana, cities in Pakistan and Ghana.

He pointed out that China has become increasingly influential in the UN over the last 10 years. They have started taking more leadership roles with the result that increasingly Chinese ideas play a role in UN agendas ie at the international level.

The US and the EU are beginning to wake up to China having a ten year head start and are setting up some counters - G7 global partnership for infrastructure and investment, another is the EU global gateway initiative and in the last year they have begun to develop two big projects - the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor and the Trans-African Lobito Highway - big urban corridors, drawing on the Chinese playbook.

The book is entitled 'The Belt and Road City' by Simon Curtis, and Ian Klaus available from bookshops.

Thursday 30th May 'Life in Baskets from Cradle to Grave' by Rotary Member George Alford



George with 'his' baskets

George gave us a delightful talk on baskets, with many different examples in terms of use and materials used. He told us that his wife's family was involved in Livery companies – his brother-in-law and father-in-law were members of five companies between them and they thought he should join one - the Basketmakers was suggested as it was cheap and open to business. The result was he was stampeded into joining them about 50 years ago and has enjoyed it all immensely. As well as being on committees he also got involved in the basket-making trade. When he first joined it was in old fashioned charity and part of the city network. But in his time they got again involved with the trade which was massive in our childhoods. Then plastic came along and it disappeared and then 20 years later it was restored. If you think of your childhood, there were laundry baskets, mail baskets and more - in the docks everything was in baskets and they were used as measures. He showed us one – probably he said the best of the baskets he'd brought along. It was made in different sizes and that is how you measured stuff – you filled them up and you knew how much was in there. What made it the best one? The quality of the workmanship because the strain on the different bits were even all the way round, the size is perfect, and they stack properly. It was made by Colin Manthorpe – an internationally known basket maker. Though, without George telling us, we would have no way of knowing the maker. However, today, with encouragement from the livery company, some makers mark their work with a 'chop' – so creating a collectors' item, for as he pointed out there is no value in baskets – the material from which they are made is free and the artistry involved is not sufficiently recognised. And so they tend to sell for little more than a few hundred pounds.

Baskets are now used quite frequently as a crib and increasingly for funerals – the reason for calling his talk 'Life in Baskets from cradle to grave'. The one below belongs to George and was made for his grandchild from bark willow by a lady who had made cribs for Princess Royal.



The Royal family, he told us, have a tradition of giving the same present to each other at Xmas and one year Charles chose baskets and used a lady called Olivia Elton Barrett (he showed us a frog of hers) to make them. Olivia followed him in the Livery Company as the first female Prime Warden in over 500 years of the Company's history. But what was more interesting was that she was a real basket maker, so when they did their press release they pointed out that what was much more interesting than her being the first female Prime Warden was the fact that she the first real basket maker in the role for about 100 years. Her most famous piece is in the George Washington Museum in America – in the reconstruction of his house she is responsible for the rush matting. It was found that the weave was rather unusual and they could not find an American basket weaver who could reproduce it, so Olivia came to the rescue.

He showed us a photograph of himself showing his handiwork to the Duchess of Gloucester – admitting that it was not of the highest quality! He referred to the use of basket-making in mental hospitals, in particular Broadmoor and Rampton where basket-making plays a significant part in their therapy, through the making of laundry baskets. They need enormous strength to make and therefore are seen as a way of using the energy of not very well men – for unless each thing you do has the same degree of pressure it will begin to warp – therefore considerable strength and concentration is needed. And it is really hard work.

He pointed out that the basket is the form or design - it can be made of anything and referred to one of the most dramatic ones he had ever seen which was made of barbed wire with seashells on all the joints. He said it was really, really beautiful. He showed us a basket he had made of recycled cardboard which he used as a waste paper basket until his border terrier got to it. He referred to willow outdoor classrooms, where the willow is grown in situ and woven into a hut with the leaves forming a cover from rain and sun.

He drew our attention to the eco-theme in basket making as it uses natural materials and you are recycling. The Museum of Rural Life in Tilford suggested it might be a good place to have the national centre for basket making but this has not happened.

Then showed us some basket collecting plates made for St Paul's Cathedral and which stack and therefore do not take much space and then three beautifully made and decorated Zulu baskets – one of which was for beer, expanding with the beer and so becoming waterproof - also keeping the beer cool.

The biggest baskets we have got publicly are Gog and Maygog which appear towards the head of the procession in the Lord Mayors show, with their height based on need for them to avoid BBC cables. These figures go back hundreds of years but there are no drawings of them, so the ones they have are made up. It

was suggested that they be on display in the Guildhall when not in use. He was pleased to say that an objection on the basis that they would be a fire risk was overruled.

Livery Companies are often regulators of their trade and this was true of the Basketmakers Company - controlling trade in the City of London.

Willow is classically used a lot used for baskets which hold food and a few years ago the EU attempted to ban the use of such baskets. They prepared some legislation to say it was unhealthy and a safety risk. The Livery Company just happened to have a biochemist and a member of the European Parliament as members. They sat down and wrote a letter pointing out that in the skin of the willow there is a natural aspirin (salic acid) and therefore a substance better for you than a plastic bag. They received no acknowledgement of the letter but there was no legislation!

He mentioned some other old uses of baskets – before the use of flags on golf courses there were upturned baskets with number of the hole on them. But then it is said that a golfer recognised that an advantage could be gained from the wind direction indicated by a flag, and so the baskets disappeared. Another use was in making in-trays.

He suggested that it is a good idea to put baskets outside in the rain to get wet as it means they will last longer.

Lunchtime Talks in June

Thursday 13 th June	Space2Grow
Thursday 20 th June	Look at website
Tuesday 25 th June	Golf Day & evening supper

If, as a Friend, you are interested in coming along to any of the talks and for lunch (£22) please email lunches@rotaryfarnham.co.uk on the Monday before, saying whether you would like fish, meat or vegetarian, pudding or fresh fruit. We start gathering at The Bush, Farnham from 12.30pm for lunch at 1.00 pm with the talk at 2.00pm, finishing at 2.30pm.

