

President's report – 12th to 18th March

What stars that shone brightly last Friday morning as we developed our first video for club membership. Elaine Hart was the interviewer and interviewees were John Pearman, Carol Jeffs and Peter Rixon.

Elaine employed an informal approach as the three interviewees sat on the couch and were asked questions regarding their reason for joining Rotary. As expected three people gave three different reasons. Yet the underlying theme was to be of service to those who are in need.

Here are some further examples as to why people join Rotary. See which ones you can align to.

- In an increasingly complex world, Rotary provides one of the most basic human needs: the need for friendship and fellowship. It is one of two reasons why Rotary began in 1905.
- The second original reason for Rotary's beginning is business development. Everyone needs to network. Rotary consists of a cross section of every business community. Its members come from all walks of life. Rotarians help each other.
- Membership in a Rotary club makes one a better community citizen. The average Rotary club consists of the most active citizens of any community.
- Rotary is fun, a lot of fun. Each meeting is fun. The club projects are fun. Social activities are fun. The service is fun.
- Rotary provides one of the world's largest youth exchange programmes; high school and college clubs for future Rotarians; opportunities for spouse involvement; and a host of activities designed to help family members in growth and the development of family values.
- Rotarians above all are nice people the nicest people on the face of the earth. They are important people who follow the policy of "it is nice to be important but it is important to be nice."
- Rotary is a service club. Its business is mankind. Its product is service. Rotarians provide community service to both local and international communities. This is perhaps the best reason for becoming a Rotarian: the chance to do something for somebody else; to sense the self-fulfilment that comes in the process; and the return of that satisfaction to one's own life. It is richly rewarding.

Look forward to next week and hearing the story from Associate Professor John Montagner – Walking the Camino. John was a guest speaker last year and just needed more time to give an effective presentation for his walk along the Camino De Santiago.