



JANUARY 25, 2017

President Alysson was away this week and **president-elect Tania** chaired the meeting.

Our guest speakers were **Jodi Maroney** and **Hugh Logan** who spoke about the Canadian Association of Gift Planners. They were introduced by **Rotarian Karen Kirkwood-Whyte**.

Hugh is the executive-director of the Chatham Kent Community Foundation and Jodi is executive-director of the Hospice Foundation. Both are good friends of Rotary and have updated us regularly about special projects of their organizations.

The Canadian Association of Gift Planners are leaders in Chatham-Kent's charitable community and provide donors with new and innovative ways of making bequeaths to their favourite charities. Membership ranges from The Canadian Cancer Society, The Y, Children's Treatment Centre Foundation, Community Living and others.

Hugh mentioned that 48% of Canadian adults do not have a will. The benefits of a planned charitable gift are not well understood by most people. About \$165 billion is pledged to charities through wills and approximately 1.2 million Canadians have made a bequest to charities in their wills.

Jodi told us about a program that she thought might be of interest to Rotarians. This program is called "Give As You Go", and is designed to help your favourite charities continue their good work after you've gone. This program recommends life insurance policies with local charities the beneficiaries. Another option is to ask that in lieu of flowers at your funeral, a donation to your charities of choice be considered.

If a designated percentage of your estate is left to a local charity, it can have a lasting impact on the community. You might direct your executor to pay a fixed amount or fixed percentage to a charity, or have your estate match the donations collected at the funeral home.

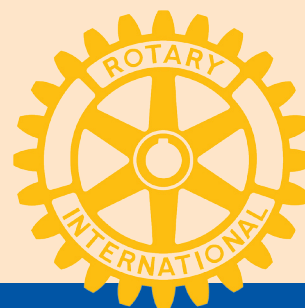
The program today will probably encourage many of us to start thinking about wills and bequeaths. We appreciate the work of our local charities and thank Jodi and Hugh for bringing this matter to our attention. Our thanks were more formally expressed by **Rotarian Brad Langford**.



Hugh Logan



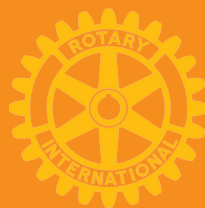
Jodi Maroney



ANNIVERSARIES

Tania Sharpe
6 years
Jan 26 2011

Moir Kerr
18 years
Jan 27, 1999



Happy Notices

BIRTHDAYS

Chris Summerfield on Jan 30

President Alysson received this email from Peter Cook

Hi Alysson,

Just a quick note to let my friends at Rotary know that my final chemo treatment went well and I got to ring the bell at the end of my session, as illustrated in the photo.

As I mentioned at my latest Rotary meeting, the bell ceremony appears to be universal now at most chemo units, and is an opportunity to celebrate an important milestone, for the patient and the staff.

By the way, there is a Rotary connection. If you look at the bell in the photo, it may seem familiar.

In fact, it is a Rotary Bell, donated to the Chatham chemo unit from the Merlin Rotary Club after they closed a few years ago. It made me feel right at home.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Cook



**NEXT WEEK'S
PROGRAM
TO BE ANNOUNCED**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY 8
TBA

Topic: TBA

Brett Smith received this email from exchange student Rachel Bultje.

Hi Brett!

I thought an update is needed, many things have happened!

December 23: I spent the afternoon decorating the christmas tree, and the house of my club president with her daughter, Julie! She did an exchange to Australia 10 years ago, and now she lives in Paris. She's incredibly nice and I got along really well with her! In the evening, my host mom, Tanu, picked me up after she got done work, and we started getting the Christmas dinner ready! I decorated the table all nicely to make it feel really special, since I wouldn't be staying with them for Christmas. We had foie gras, escargots, and this type of chicken that's supposed to be really special. It just tasted like normal chicken hahahaha. And then for dessert, we had a cake, in the shape of a log, a tradition, and it was raspberry which is my favourite! We had champagne and wine with the meal, and it was really delicious! This was my last night with them, and I was supposed to leave after the meal and sleep at my club president's house, but I was so sleepy that they just told me that I can sleep one more night and they'll bring me the next morning before they leave for Mont Blanc.

December 24: this day was so long and so busy and I did so many things. I had to wake up at 7, and I didn't get back to bed until 4 am. The morning was relaxing, I got to unpack, take a shower, eat some food. We had a "light lunch" of cheese fondue, and then, me and Julie started running around doing errands, making desserts, preparing the courses of the meal, and cleaning. We had to pick Sylvie's (the president) sister and her daughter up at the train station, and the daughter forgot her one bag on the train. We had to track it down on the internet and then the cleaning lady had to drive to the next station to pick it up. For the dinner, there were 18 people. Sylvie, her husband, her father and his girlfriend, her daughter, Marie and her boyfriend, and Julie. Then there was Sylvie's cousin and her 3 daughters, the sister and her daughter, and then a friend with his wife and son. It was a fancy affair, so I had to dress up, and I wore heels, and I was the tallest person in the room, by a lot. Everything was really good, in between each course, I helped with cleaning dishes and drying, and eventually the other girls started to help too, which usually never happened in past years. I got two French girls to try escargot for the very first time! After everything, there were presents, at 2:30 am. Me, being on a budget, got a small gift for Sylvie, or her husband, and



Rachel has recently made a blog about her exchange year. If you'd like to check it out, it's called myexchangelifeblog.wordpress.com

Me and an American exchange friend, Maya in Bescançon, well technically in her bedroom.

Rachel's letter (continued)

it's a gps tracker than can be put on things that you misplace a lot. She really loved it since she always loses her phone or her keys, but it did feel like it was too small compared to the Berluti and Burberry bags. I got a sweater, a key chain from Dior, a watch, and 50€! I was pretty happy!

Christmas Day, was more laid back. The Christmas tree did fall over though. The lunch was nice! I had lobster for the very first time! It wasn't with all 18 people though, just the immediate family, and me. Then they gave each other the more personal gifts. I even got another! It was very embarrassing to open it though, once I saw what it was. Their tradition, is that every year the mom gives both of her daughters a matching bra and underwear set, and this year, I was included! Definitely not what I was expecting! In the afternoon, everyone fell asleep on the couches and chairs, and I looked through their photo albums. We played games at night and it felt like family. On the 26th, me and Julie, made a lot of Christmas cookies for her work, her dad's work, and for my next host family. And at 7 pm, I got picked up by my new host family!

The 27th, we left for Antibes, in the south of France. 8 hour drive. The weather was really amazing, 15°C almost every day. We walked along the coast and saw ultra rich properties, we toured around, Nice, and Cannes, and went to the perfume museum in Grasse, which is a city known for its perfume. We saw The Passengers in theatres in French and I understood it all. And for New Years, we watched a ballet of sleeping beauty, and then saw the fireworks on the beach, all in Cannes. We often ate lunch outside when it was sunny. And the first day of the year, we went to Monaco! We went to see the private car collection of the Prince, and we had lunch with one of their old friends! And in the afternoon, we went to an aquarium. It was so amazing! Every night, we played games, since there was no wifi.

Now I'm back in school, third week, and it kinda sucks. It's so boring. In Canada, the students at least have a choice of what classes to take, in France, it's either, sciences and maths, literature and philosophy, or economics. I got put in economics, which I really have no interest in. A couple weekends ago, I went to Bescançon to visit my American exchange friend, Maya! It was really nice!. I'm going skiing with Sylvie on Saturday, and I went sled-ding today! In February, I will be going for a week with my last host mom, skiing too! It's going really well with my current host family, it's a different atmosphere with a family who has a child across the world doing their exchange. But it's really good.

I hope that wasn't too too long to read, there's just so many things! Since you and the club gave me this amazing opportunity, I feel it's a necessity for you to know what's going on, it's more fun too :).

Love,
Rachel

