

David Smyth

What's your background?

I am a true Roystonian and during my working life I practiced as a Chartered Accountant with offices in Royston, Cambridge, Letchworth and Huntingdon. I was with the same firm since leaving school at the tender age of 16 before finally retiring fully in 2024.

Why did you join Rotary?

My then father-in-law was a founder member of the Rotary Club of Royston and it was naturally his wish that I should join the Club which I did so in 1984. Although I already knew several of the members it was interesting to see them outside their business environment and it enabled me to integrate even more into the local community.

What do you do in Rotary?

It is probably not surprising that due to my profession I am Treasurer of the Club. Most of the administration is repetitive but it is something that I am happy to deal with, and I know that it is appreciated by the rest of the Club. The only time I am unpopular is when I send round the three-monthly accounts and the membership cannot believe that they owe the Club money!

I was President of the Club in 1995/96 and was awarded a Paul Harris in 2001 for services to the Club. Paul Harris founded the Rotary movement in 1905 and I was privileged to receive the award from the then President of the Club.

What do you enjoy most about being a member of the Rotary Club of Royston?

After having been a member of the Club for over 40 years I still enjoy the weekly meetings which are serious when required but very enjoyable with a varied mix of speakers. In addition, there are many social events that are arranged throughout the year which enables members to meet partners and wives in a social setting. I have always found that if you put effort into the Club, you will always receive benefit in many ways. Being local I am always keen that we help the local community, which we certainly do in various ways both in money terms and by way of personal service commitments.