

## June News from Rotary Club of Kingham and Daylesford

### Chastleton House

Nicola Dyer of the National Trust, who manages Chastleton House and lives in the original family quarters with her own family, gave an interesting talk recently explaining that the house was purchased by funds from the

National Heritage Memorial Fund, who provided an endowment which enables it to be self-funded.

It is one of the very few preserved Jacobean houses of England having been more or less in the same family since the early 17th century. The family were not rich and in fact because of their Catholic sympathies were not in the main stream of wealth and connection. The much vaunted Guy Fawkes connection is that the owner at the time provided the finance to purchase the gunpowder but this inevitably led to ruin bringing the family of Jones as very long term owners right through to 1991.



### It's not Croquet

Its other claim to fame is that the Rules of

Croquet were formalised at Chastleton in 1865 leading to the first 'world' championships being held in Evesham in 1866, before moving to the headquarters of the All England Lawn Tennis and

Croquet Club in Wimbledon.

Chastleton House is now running several events and encouraging local school visits. Open in the afternoons from Wednesday to Saturday (now without pre-booking) it is well worth a visit.

For opening times and admission please see the website

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/chastleton](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/chastleton)  
or call: 01608 674 981.

Kingham and Daylesford Rotary is a new lively club for ladies and gentleman and is welcoming new members.

Call me on: 01608 658 500.

**Paul Jackson**

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