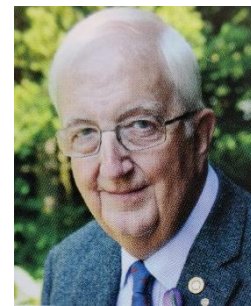


## **John Sayer**

District Governor 2016-17

Rotary Club of Stone & District



John was born and brought up in North London and South Hertfordshire. He studied Chemical Engineering at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and then returned to the Home Counties to develop his career in the Chemical Industry. Ultimately, he became Project Manager for a large multi-national organisation, spending more time than he cares to remember flying into Europe and North America.

After leaving school at 15, I started work for the family company but moved on after two years, trying many different jobs until ending up in Retail Shop Management and now have my own companies which include Tropical Fish, Water Garden and the supply of Reptiles, together with the UK distribution of Animal Grooming Equipment, hence my classification of 'Tropical Fish - Retail'.

In 1985 he moved to the North Midlands and joined a ceramic colour and supplies company. He subsequently, with others, established a successful business advice company, working with Small & Medium Sized Enterprises throughout the UK, and overseas, including a considerable portfolio of clients in the Middle East.

John joined the Rotary Club of Stone & District in 1997, and has held most roles in that Club in the intervening years, including President in 2003/2004. He was invited to join the District 1210 Youth Services Committee shortly after joining Rotary and for many years managed the 'Young Innovator' competition. He was also the 'Young Chef' coordinator for a couple of years.

After a short break from District, he returned to join the District 1210 Group Study Exchange Committee, initially as the Eastern area coordinator and became the GSE Chairman in 2011/2012. He was an Assistant Governor in 2013/14.

Away from Rotary his interests are in the local community. He was invited to join the Stone Festival Committee in 2004 as Secretary and took over as Chairman in 2006, finally retiring from that role in 2013. For many years he volunteered with 'Young Enterprise', both as a Business Advisor to local school YE teams, and as a local Board Member helping to put on events for the programme.

He is also Chairman (and general dogsbody!) of a Community shop which operates in a local sheltered accommodation complex.