



The May Diary

- 1st C & V meeting
Classification &
Membership Committee
- 3rd Rotary Lunch
- 4th District Assembly
- 8th Foundation Committee
- 10th Rotary Lunch
- 12th Supporting Kenyan Kids
Concert
- 15th International Committee
Youth Services Committee
- 17th Rotary Lunch
- 21st Sports & Entertainment
Committee
- 22nd Council Meeting
- 30th May to 2nd June 6th Contact
Club Visit
- 31st Rotary Lunch



President's Pen for April

On Tuesday 2nd Andrew Fairbairn, Helen Braisby, Helen Morris and myself went to a training session at Great Marlow School to become a Dementia Friend. It was a very interesting evening and trained everyone to understand how to assist someone who is confused and lost in a positive and constructive way.



On Friday Lunch our Speaker was Chris Hipkiss who gave an interesting talk entitled "Castle Quay and its Future" which resulted in a lot of questions from our members. Also we welcomed two new members to the Club, Lesley Mann and Gillian Coates.

On Monday 8th we had another Contact meeting trying to tie up loose ends and waiting to see the response to our invitation to

the weekend from our European friends. Martin Phillips will talk to the Club on Friday bringing things up to date.

Friday Lunch had Fraser Liversage as our Speaker - his subject was "Medical Detection Dogs" and he brought his two dogs with him. It was an incredibly interesting presentation and a taster for a longer talk he will be giving us on a Fifth Friday evening meeting in August in the next Rotary Year.

On Thursday 18th Martin Phillips organised a Cheese and Wine evening at the Cricket Club to benefit Rotary Foundation and also the Cricket Club who are trying to raise money for a new set of "nets". It was a very enjoyable evening which involved a baby photograph competition where those present secretly provided photographs of themselves as babies and everyone else had to guess the identity of the baby. Many thanks to Martin.

There was no club meeting on Good Friday but on Saturday 20th a group of members went to the Cotswold Distillery for a very enjoyable visit and tour - many thanks to Nigel Yeadon for arranging the trip.



On Easter Tuesday there was another Contact meeting where accommodation for our visitors from France, Italy, Switzerland and Germany was discussed - there is a mixture of people staying in a hotel and staying with Club members at their homes. There are a lot of final arrangements to be

confirmed, many thanks to the Contact Committee for their hard work.

Wednesday brought the Club Council meeting - minutes should be available soon and on the next evening we had an enjoyable Early Bird Supper at the Cricket Club.

On Friday Lunch our Speaker was our own Alan Wolstencroft who gave us an update of his work in Sierra Leone - he had just returned from a recent visit. As usual his update was very impressive and thought provoking.

President Paul Gardiner

Speaker Reports

Fraser Liversage – Medical Detection Dogs

It has been known ever since dogs became "man's best friend" that they live in a world of smells. Canines have at least 60 times the number of olfactory receptors on their noses than we do and it has been shown that the part of the dogs' brain that detects smells is forty times bigger than in a human.



This, of course, has been put to good use over the generations with them being used in hunting, tracking and retrieving.

More recently it has been discovered that dogs can detect volatile organic compounds produced in patients with certain diseases and they can be trained as Assistance Dogs and also in Bio-detection.

The assistance dogs have a role in diabetes management and can detect when a patient's

diabetes may be going out of control and thus prevent a coma happening.

Bio-detection dogs may offer the innovative and exciting possibility of diagnosing diseases before there are clinical signs. Dogs have been shown to be able to detect early cancers, particularly of the bowel and bladder, before symptoms develop and to help in the diagnosis of early Parkinson's disease. They can also pick up symptomless carriers of malaria.

"taster talk" was absolutely fascinating and we are all looking forward to Fraser returning in August, to our evening meeting, when he will give us the full presentation.

Rtn. Ian Rodrick

Alan Wolstencroft – Sierra Leone Update

Alan has recently returned from his 12th trip to Sierra Leone and gave a presentation regarding the work that has been undertaken since his previous trip, last April.

There has been significant progress at the Liverpool

Community School, with the completion of the secondary school library and laboratory and the building of a junior school library room (both have been fitted with basic water harvesting systems). Both libraries have been furnished and over 1,400 text books (the first books the school has ever owned) have been purchased "in country" as a result of Alan's fundraising endeavours with support from Banbury Rotary Club and a District Grant. The first phase of laboratory equipment, the absolute essential items, have been purchased and further equipment will be added as funds permit. The school has also been provided, courtesy of Woodstock & Kidlington Rotary Club and a District Grant, with mains electricity to these 3 new rooms and 6 additional classrooms and some key areas of the school compound.

During his visit Alan officially opened 2 new classrooms at the Banbury International Community School and these have enabled Junior Secondary classes to begin at the School, something which the local community had requested. This project began in January this year and was completed in just 38 days, including all the furniture being made, at a cost of just £6,500. The progress is always amazing

given that EVERYTHING is done manually including making all the concrete blocks on site.

Alan took 6 complete sets of football shirts (4 courtesy of Oxford United & 2 courtesy of Ducklington FC) and he distributed these, along with other football equipment, to various local communities. In addition a couple of shirts courtesy of Martin @ Banbury Cricket Club, a quantity of knitted garments courtesy of a number of Inner Wheel ladies and some school stationery items were donated to local groups.

Alan also told us about the "Sunny Girl" project which he started last year. Mariamma, an 18 year old orphan that Alan supports, had told him that she is unable to afford to buy sanitary pads and therefore does not attend school during her menstrual cycle. After discussions with teachers it became obvious that this was a real problem for a lot of the girls in this impoverished community and now Alan funds, with the help of several local ladies, the project which supplies sanitary pads to 260 girls on a monthly basis. It costs just £6 a year to support a girl but to put it in perspective a junior school teacher only earns £30 a month.

During this Rotary year Alan has raised £22,000 and distributed over £28,000 for projects in the Freetown area and he continues, with a vast network of supporters to "Make A Real Difference" in Sierra Leone.

Rotary New Disaster Response Fund



When disaster strikes, Rotarians around the world come together as people of action to help those in need. To support communities in their rebuilding efforts, The Rotary Foundation is proud to announce our new Disaster Response Fund. Donations to the Disaster Response Fund help Rotary clubs provide disaster recovery and support

relief efforts where the need is greatest by funding and providing access to disaster response grants.

Information on this new scheme can be found on <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes/disaster-response>. This discusses:

- (a) immediate response;
- (b) short-term assistance; and
- (c) long-term rebuilding.

Supporting Kenyan Kids

Concerts are being organised by Rtn. Sakine Faulkner to raise funds for charitable work in Kenya.

Voice, Cello & Piano Recital



Soprano, Jasmine Faulkner



Supporting Kenyan Kids

Sunday 12th May

6:30pm

St Peter's Church, Hook Norton

Sunday 2nd June

6.30pm

St Mary's Church, Banbury

Adult £10 Student/Children

£5

To book tickets,

please call Sakine Faulkner:

01608 730194 / 07947 630505

Or

Email: bibisakineh@gmail.com



Cello, Rachael Bull



Piano, Siobhain O'Higgins

Update on this year's Crocus Concerts

The first of this year's Secondary School Crocus Concerts took place in March on Tuesday 12th. Bloxham, Sibford and Tudor Hall Schools entertained a small audience and on Thursday 14th

Chenderit, NOA, Warriner and Wykham Park Academies played to a much larger gathering.

Both concerts were extremely well received - the performers offering a wide variety of musical styles with soloists, duettists, ensembles, orchestras and choirs amazing us with their talents. Our thanks go to all staff and students for the time and effort they have given to the preparation of these events in partnership with Rotary.

This year it was decided that 45% of the surplus would go to Polio Eradication and 45% to Helen and Douglas House Hospice with 10% for other Rotary Charities. To date the door takings have amounted to £930 and the retiring collections £175 (eligible for gift aid). Further donations from Chenderit and Tudor Hall gave almost £200 towards the causes.

The third schools' concert, involving BGN and its partner primary schools St John's and St Joseph's, originally scheduled for 21st March, will now be held on June 11th. A new venture by the Crocus/Polio Working Party is a concert involving local adult choirs. This is taking shape and is scheduled for Saturday 28th September.

Many thanks to all Rotarians who have supported this year's activities - including the planting last autumn. This year's crocus season was early - with a superb show of purple crocuses across the town from mid- February.

Rtn. Fred Riches

Council Update

Update on arrangements for the Contact weekend with additional volunteers sought to host.

A quartermaster is needed to oversee the equipment in the storage container. Volunteers please.

Joan Bond will be inducted as a new member in early May, sponsored by Rtn. Surinder Dhesi (1st Vice President).

Club members to vote on funds to purchase crocus corms (relating to Purple for Polio) and to transfer money to The Gambia to continue the construction of the classrooms at the Prospects School, Mariama Kunda Village.

Rtn. P M Wilkins Hon Assistant Secretary

Weekly Meeting Duties for May 2019

<u>Date</u>	<u>Table Duty</u>	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&H in charge</u>
03 May	A Warren	N Yeadon	A Bedding	A Wiltshire
	J Webb	G Anker		
	A Wolstencroft			
	E Woodruff			
	R Worrall			
10 May	I Anthistle	H Braisby	B Cornley	I Calderbank
	J Bennett	T Bryce		
	S Bion			
	J Brodey			
	P Cavill			
17 May	N Deakin	M Budd	J Hansford	S Crump
	M Douglas	N Halfpenny		
	A Fairbairn			
	B Goodchild			
	J Groves			
24 May	C Hughes	G Jeremy	H Morris	D Hitchcox
	T Iles	R McLean		
	K Manning			
	L Mann			
	J Meredith			
31 May	M Nutt	R Nurden	I Rodrick	M Humphris
	G Pollard	P Richardson		
	N Randall			
	D Richardson			
	F Riches			

PLEASE REMEMBER - If you are unable to carry out your duties as shown above, it is your responsibility to arrange a substitute and amend the list. This applies to all duties, including table duties.

Speaker Programme for May & June

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Host</u>
3 May	Rtn. Phil Godfrey	Round Britain Rail Tour 2019	Tony Wiltshire
10 May	Rachel Wignell	Cyclists Fighting Cancer	
17 May	Nig Randall	Longer Serving Member	Eric Woodruff
24 May	Jo Salmons	Springfield Sanctuary	Andrew Fairbairn
31 May	Rod Diaz & Sarah Burrows	Children Heard and Seen	Nigel Deakin
07 June	Victoria Woods	Reducing Poverty through Education	Andrew Fairbairn
14 June	Fred Riches	Longer Serving Member	Gareth Jeremy
21 June	Surinder Dhesi	Club Assembly	
28 June	Paul Gardiner	Retiring President's Valedictory	