



## The January Diary

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Rotary Meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> Community & Vocational  
Service Committee Meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> Sports and Entertainment  
Committee Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting
- 14<sup>th</sup> Classification, Membership  
& PR Committee Meeting
- 14<sup>th</sup> Foundation Committee  
Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> Young Musician of the Year  
Heats
- 17<sup>th</sup> Young Musician of the Year  
Heats
- 21<sup>st</sup> Youth Service Committee  
Meeting
- 21<sup>st</sup> International Committee  
Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Rotary Meeting Lunch
- 24<sup>th</sup> Inner Wheel Burns Night  
Supper
- 28<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
- 30<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting

For the full year's diary visit  
[www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk](http://www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk)

## Happy New Year



As we start the New Year with hope for a happy and peaceful year, let's for a moment reflect on what we did in 2014.

There is no doubt that we had lots of fun and some really great fellowship, but what did we do for others?

We continued to organise the local:

- Young Musician of the Year Competition
- Young Chef Competition
- School Practice Interviews
- Children Singing for Children Concerts
- supporting Tour de Trigs
- Family Christmas Festival of Music Concert
- Christmas Street Organ Collections
- Party for the Blind and Partially Sighted
- Crocus Concerts
- RYLA

So what donations did we make?

Mencap	£100
Food for homeless	£100
Foreign Travel Support	£100
Party for the Blind	£149
2nd Banbury Scouts	£200
Shelter Box	£200
S Africa School	£200

Handicap Trike	£327
Disability Equipment	£500
RYLA Frank Wise School	£639
Ebola	£741
Leukaemia Lymphoma	£2,148
One-Eighty	£2,800
Student Support	£3,000
Katharine House Hospice	£3,812
Rotary Foundation	£4,391
Polio Plus	£6,500
Sierra Leone Schools	£17,120

That's a magnificent total of £43,027.

We have lots to be proud of in what we achieved during 2014, and there is no doubt that continuing to work together we will do as well if not better in 2015.

## *Samaritan's Dinner*



Both town Rotary Clubs were pleased to support Banbury and District Samaritans 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner and Dance on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at Bo Peep Farm, Adderbury.

The venue was perfect, food really good and the Blue Meanies as fab as ever.

Well done Marilena for the fantastic organisation, a great evening in aid of a very worthy organisation.

## *Club Theatre Trip*



Our Club Outing 30<sup>th</sup> November was to Aylesbury Waterside Theatre, when 37 members and partners saw the 'That'll be the Day Christmas Show'.

This rock 'n' roll spectacular has a fantastic line up of knock-out hits from the 1950's, 60's and 70's, mixed with loads of zany comedy routines, (loved the Mick Jagger sketch), to produce a show with a real feel good party atmosphere.

That'll Be The Day is living proof that Rock 'n' Roll will never die!

Many thanks to Bob Thompson and the Sports and Entertainment Committee for organising the event and transport.

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## *Inter-Club Darts Match*



The two Rotary Clubs in Banbury fought a close team darts competition at the Bell in Adderbury on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

Cherwell Club were the deserved winners and go forward to the next round.

Our team of Helen, Nigel, Brian and Harry enjoyed good fellowship, sandwiches and beer but promised to practice throwing doubles before next year's game.

Helen put our male throwers into the shade by winning two games on double one!!



## *Early Bird Supper*



Last Early Bird Supper in 2014 on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December saw a good attendance and everyone enjoyed a very good meal.

Thanks to Annie Phillips for arranging this relaxed social event, proceeds from the raffle go to Polly Preedy to help feed the homeless over Christmas.

Phil Cavill

## *Tour de Trigs*



Banbury Rotary Club is proud to be associated with this long standing event, start originally by Bodicote Rover Scouts in 1966.

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December the teams set off from Warriner School, Bloxham in beautiful morning sunshine for North Oxfordshire's toughest non-stop cross country navigation exercise.

The Tour de Trigs takes in a number of Ordnance Survey Triangulation, (Trig), Points, and competitors use maps and compasses only, no GPS allowed.

The courses are 50 miles in 24 hours for seniors and 30 miles in 15 hours for juniors.

Banbury Rotarians manned checkpoint 24 at Brailes Sports Pavilion throughout the night, 35.4 miles into the hike. Paul Shea kept spirits up by feeding the team Sausages, Onion Gravy, Mash and Veg in the

evening and a full monty breakfast for those that stayed into the early Sunday hours.

Meanwhile John and Joy Webb helped with the competitors and organisers catering back at the Warriner.

Well done to all teams that entered Tour de Trigs 2014 and congratulations to those that completed this testing exercise.

Winners of the 50 mile senior's event were the Midland Marauders who completed the course in 16 hrs 36 mins, winners of the 30 mile junior course were Crusaders Winchester.

There was some great feedback about organisation and support from competitors.

The Rotary Clubs in Banbury wish Tour de Trigs every success for 2015.

Phil Cavill

## *Family Christmas Festival of Music*



Saturday afternoon, 13<sup>th</sup> December, was the tenth time we have presented the Family Christmas Festival of Music, featuring the Banbury Symphony Orchestra.

A large proportion of the content in this year's concert was new material and from those I spoke to in the audience, was much enjoyed. The feature item, "Peter and the Wolf" certainly held my attention and I thought that Jonathan Row, the narrator, did an excellent job.

The carols were heartily sung and the children certainly came to life when the orchestra played "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer" - just goes to show you can't beat the old favourites.

Guest soloist, Serena Holbeck, from our 2014 Young Musician of the Year competition, sang "The Holy Boy" by John Ireland and her beautiful voice filled St Mary's - who thought she might need a microphone?

However, despite our best efforts, (members ticket sales this year were 20% higher, for which I thank you), the total audience was down on last year and the retiring collection was much reduced. We will have to wait and see what the final figures are before I can estimate the financial success.

Thanks to Alan for agreeing to run the Box Office from Fashion Fabrics this year and to everyone who helped on the night.

John Bennett

## *Christmas Parcel deliveries*



In late October Rotary we were informed that Round Table were going to struggle to undertake their Christmas Parcel Appeal this year, a project that has been running for 40 years. This was discussed at Council, a sub-committee formed and, with guidance from 2 Round Table Associates, Banbury Rotary Club took on the project.

A lot of work went on behind the scenes to bring everything together which culminated with a group of Rotary volunteers "boxing up" approximately 300 food parcels and with the help of Rotaract members were distributed to the elderly and needy in Banbury over the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> December.

In addition to this donations of food were given to Polly Preedy, Katharine House Hospice, Banbury Foodbank the Salvation Army and the Royal Voluntary Service.

This was a great example of "hands on Rotary" and thanks must go to the sub-committee, the packers and delivery team, as well as Rotaract and ALL the local organisations and Companies that donated and supported this project.

These parcels help make Christmas a little more special for those in need.

Alan Wolstencroft

## *Presentation to One-Eighty*



We were delighted to welcome Susie Besant from "One-Eighty", an Oxford based charity which works with children in Banbury on the fringes of education and society, to our lunch meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

One-Eighty were one of the two main charities supported by the Children Singing for Children Concerts. Seven of Susie's colleagues attended over the four nights and thoroughly enjoyed the Children's performances.

She thanked the club for their support and was presented with a cheque for £2,800.

## *Joint Service Clubs' Carol Service*



As in previous years, members of Banbury and Banbury Cherwell Rotary Clubs, Inner Wheel, Lions, Probus, 41 Club, and Tangent were made very welcome in the Marlborough Methodist Church on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December for the Service Clubs' Carol Service.

We enjoyed some enthusiastic singing of the well-known carols "Joy to the World", "O Little Town of Bethlehem", "Once in Royal David's City", "It came upon a midnight clear", and of course finally "O come all ye Faithful".

After an Introit by the Church Choir and a Welcome and Call to Worship, representatives from various organisations contributed with Michael Banks



leading the opening prayer, Catherine Cunningham, Rita Kimberger and Phil Cavill reading lessons (Luke 1 : vs 26 to 38, Luke 2 : vs 1 to 7, and Luke 2 : vs 8 to 20 respectively), Dorothy Cantrell an appropriate poem ("No Ordinary Man" by Nick Fawcett), all interspersed with the above hymns and further musical contributions from the Church Choir, "Impromptu", and the organist Tony Lawford.

Reverend Victoria Bravette gave an inspiring, meaningful and thought provoking address based on the Christmas message and the importance of the support that Service Clubs give to their local communities.

The collection taken during the service amounted to £330.38 the majority of which will be given to The Beacon Centre after a contribution to the Church.

Afterwards tea or coffee was taken with mince pies, supplied by various individuals and the Wroxton House Hotel. These were served by the ladies of Inner Wheel and were accompanied by a lot of convivial chatter!

All there had obviously enjoyed the evening and, as has often been said before, this annual service somehow seems to put people attending in the right frame of mind to enjoy the Christmas festivities fully.

At the end there were mince pies still left over and these too were to be given to The Beacon Centre where they would surely be enjoyed.

Thanks are due to all who contributed to and/or organised this most enjoyable evening, particularly to Ian Rodrick who coordinated our efforts.

Ian Calderbank

## *Christmas Float Collecting*



On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December a team of club members wearing their thermal underwear set out collecting with the Round Table Christmas float.

Braving the cold winter evening for no other reason than "Service Above Self", starting and finishing at a local hostelry and being supplied with mulled wine and mince pies en-route, along with good fellowship had no bearing on their attendance!

They managed to collect £509, many thanks to all who contributed.

AGR

## *Street Organ Collections*



Once again this year shoppers at local supermarket were entertained with festive music and encouraged to drop the odd coin or two in our collecting tins.

Many thanks to Tesco for letting us collect on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Sainsburys for letting us do so on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>.

And, of course, a huge thank-you to everyone who contributed to our collection.

## *Cavill's Clippings*



As I write these last Clippings of 2014 it's hard to believe that almost 6 months of the year as President of this great Club have passed. So it's a good time to review progress against the goals agreed at Club Assembly back in June 2014.

We said Enjoyment, Fun and Fellowship were important to our club and we would work to enhance opportunities for including partners.

Helen Morris has done really well to find us interesting speakers at our weekly meetings in the year so far, attendance remains high, 50 to 60 most weeks.

There have been two excellent club outings, thanks to our Sports and Entertainment Committee - Go Karting, and "That'll be the Day" at the Waterside Theatre, Aylesbury.

Our two fifth Friday dinners, the auction at Wroxton House Hotel and the Halloween Night Murder Dinner were good fun and enjoyed by many guests and partners. Remember to book in for the Inner Wheel Burns Night Supper on January 24<sup>th</sup> on the Club Board.

Try to Improve Communications and raise Rotary Club profile in Banbury. - We purchased jointly with Cherwell Club the Rotary branded Gazebo, Table and Cover, Feather Flags and Banners which have been used at many events by both clubs.

The Club Website has been updated and we make more use of Social Media to profile or report on events.

We have agreed with Banbury Cherwell Club to work jointly on Rotary generic events e.g. the recent Ebola collection and Canal Day. We have supported Banbury Rotaract events, and they have helped us, we are working to reinvigorate the Interact Club at BGN and a new club at Banbury Academy. Our P.R. Officer, Bernard Goodchild, is successfully working to improve media coverage.

Charitable Support - We have a full programme of events but said we would keep up the Club's high level of support for Foundation and End Polio Now. Alan Wolstencroft's committee are on target to raise the \$100 per member contribution to Foundation without asking members to make direct monthly donations. Last year we donated more to End Polio Now than any other club in D1090, we hope to be in the top 3 again.

At late notice we agreed to help manage the Christmas Parcels Project with Round Table. The project group organised it well, Club Members and Rotaractors packed and distributed almost 300 parcels to senior citizens and families in need, over 5 days.

Membership and Participation - A 5% increase for us means 4 new members in the year to June 2015. Our Membership Committee do a great job, the club agreed that personal introductions are the way we want to recruit new members. It's the responsibility of all of us to recruit, we asked everyone to bring

along one guest to a weekly meeting or one of our events. We then hope they like us and may become members. Peter Wilkins joined in September and seems to be enjoying Rotary so far!

With such a full calendar of events, it's important to spread the workload across as many active members as possible. If you are fit enough, please make every effort to attend your committee meetings, it's where all good Rotary work is done. If you haven't found anything to spark your enthusiasm yet, please discuss your interests with anyone on Council.

Again this year, our Christmas Lunch on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December was tremendously enjoyable fellowship event for us and our partners, and we were delighted that we had six widows of past Rotarians join us to enjoy the club's special fellowship.

Christmas is a time for families, Di and I flew to Sydney on the 20<sup>th</sup> December to enjoy spending time with our children and grandchildren. Many of you will also have been with close family and friends over the festive period and we wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Many thanks to Ian Calderbank for chairing the meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> January, see you on 16<sup>th</sup>!

Phil Cavill

## *Speaker Reports*

### *Stewart Maxwell – Long Serving Member*



Our speaker on 5<sup>th</sup> December was our very own Stewart Maxwell who gave us a fascinating insight into his life.

Born on 5<sup>th</sup> January 1926 in South Shields, Stewart's family shortly afterwards moved to Staffordshire where his sister was born the following year.

Stewart was born into a very musical family, at the age of 7 he started to learn the violin and went on to learn the cornet which he play alongside his father in the Salvation Army Brass Band.

He went on to play many instruments in the band including the trombone, and also sang with his family and played in the school Harmonica Ensemble.

He developed an interest in "How things work" and a strong desire to travel.

Leaving school at 14 he started work in a drawing/design office, working 44 hours per week for 12 shillings and six pence per week (62.5p).

Stewart continued his education doing a full time course in electrical engineering at the Loughborough College of Engineering, and bought his first motor car, a 1932 Austin 7 two seat soft top, for £15.

In 1947 he made his first overseas journey, on his motor cycle, and during the same year met his future wife Mary. They married in 1951 and their daughters were born in 1953 and 1958.

By this time he had owned and ridden 18 motorcycles of various types as well as several cars, but with the growth of the family he acquired his first new car, an Austin A30.

He was then working as Chief Engineer at one of the group companies of The British Motor Corporation, and when the company was breaking up in 1967 joined an American Group who wished to establish a manufacturing facility in the U.K. bought some land in Banbury and built a manufacturing facility.

Moving here with his family in 1969 he spent many happy years with his family later travelling with his wife to many parts of the world.

Following a takeover bid in 1974 for the whole American Group of Companies the new owners decided to sell the Banbury Factory and move its operation to Lytham St. Annes. Stewart left the company and shortly afterwards became a Technical Director of a company in the West Midlands.

Following several years of commuting he formed his own Company and bought the electric motor manufacturing plant from the Company he worked for, initially based in Bicester and later in Banbury.

Both Stewarts daughters married and In 1988 he sold the electric motor business and retired.

Stewart's wife Mary sadly died in 2011, and his eldest daughter the following year.

Tony Brace

### *Jon Cox – Banbury Sea Cadets*



The speaker at the lunchtime meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> December was Lt. Jon Cox, the Commanding Officer of T.S. Harvester the Banbury unit of the Sea Cadet Corps.

Jon began with a potted history of the national Sea Cadet service. It was, he said, the oldest youth organisation in Great Britain, having been founded, as the Naval Boys Brigade, after the Crimean War.

The organisation is a registered charity and, unlike the Army and Air Cadets, is not fully funded by the M.O.D. although the Navy does give good support.

T.S. Harvester has to raise £30,000 a year to keep afloat. The Corps, neither locally nor nationally, is intended to be a recruiting arm for the Navy, but about 15% of cadets do go on to enlist in the Navy.

Jon then gave us a brief history of T.S. Harvester, which started out as T.S. Lion over 60 years ago, apparently by pure chance, and is the most inland of all the Sea Cadet units.

He showed pictures from the unit's history, somewhat to the embarrassment of Rtn. Roger Worrall, who's uniformed past was paraded before us.

Jon spoke of the modern role of the Corps, especially in terms education and training. The aim is to teach the boys and girls social and community responsibility and well as more formal things. Cadets have the opportunity to gain a BTEC, equivalent to 4 GCSE's, simply in the course of their normal activities.

When Jon began his second term as C.O. in 2008, the unit was down to 3 cadets. There are now over 40 cadets and a team of officers and helpers, and the unit is thriving. A great success story, especially given the competition Sea Cadets face in the youth culture of today.

Brian Gardner



## *Club Christmas Dinner*



On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 67 members, partners and guests spent a most enjoyable Christmas lunch together.

The speaker was our very own Brian Gardner.

Brian thanked the President for inviting him to give a second Christmas talk to the Club, and speculated as to why he had.

He spoke about themes which he and the President had thought might link the Christian Christmas story and the Rotary story, and which might have a broad appeal.

The first theme was Family. Brian mentioned both the Holy Family at the heart of the Christmas story, and the Rotary family, showing how both were inclusive and welcoming.

Giving is a major theme of both stories and this formed the second theme.

Thirdly, he spoke of Peace both as underpinning Rotary - "Rotary and Peace the world over" and the Christmas story "Peace on Earth to people of goodwill"

To bring these three together Brian brought them under the great virtue of Hope. Both Rotary and Christmas wish to bring hope to the world.

He ended by toasting the company, wishing them a Blessed Christmas and a Hope-filled New Year.

AGH

## *Club 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner*



Please make sure that you have the Club's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner in your diary - Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015, Banbury Town Hall.

There will be excellent company, marvellous food and a fantastic guest speaker.

An event not to be missed.

## *'Elf and Safety at Christmastide*

Please be advised that all persons planning to dash through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh, going over the fields and laughing all the way are required to undergo a Risk Assessment addressing the safety of open sleighs. This assessment must also consider whether it is appropriate to use only one horse for such a venture, particularly where there are multiple passengers. Please note that permission must also be obtained in writing from landowners before their fields may be entered.

To avoid offending those not participating in celebrations, we request that laughter is moderate only and not loud enough to be considered a noise nuisance.

Benches, stools and orthopaedic chairs are now available for collection by any shepherds planning or required to watch their flocks at night. While provision has also been made for remote monitoring of flocks by CCTV cameras from a centrally heated shepherd observation hut, all facility users are reminded that an emergency response plan must be submitted to account for known risks to the flocks.

The angel of the Lord is additionally reminded that prior to shining his/her glory all around s/he must confirm that all shepherds are wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment to account for the harmful effects of UVA, UVB and the overwhelming effects of Glory.



Following last year's well publicised case, everyone is advised that EC legislation prohibits any comment with regard to the redness of any part of Mr. R. Reindeer; further to this, exclusion of Mr. R Reindeer from reindeer games will be considered discriminatory and disciplinary action will be taken against those found guilty of this offence.

While it is acknowledged that gift-bearing is commonly practiced in various parts of the world, particularly the Orient, everyone is reminded that the bearing of gifts is subject to Hospitality Guidelines and all gifts must be registered. This applies regardless of the individual, even royal personages. It is particularly noted that direct gifts of currency or gold are specifically precluded under provisions of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

Further, caution is advised regarding other common gifts, such as aromatic resins which may initiate allergic reactions.

Finally, in the recent case of the infant found tucked up in a manger without any crib for a bed, Social Services have been advised and will be arriving shortly.

### *The Year in Pictures*

























## *Weekly Meeting Duties for January 2015*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Table Duty</u>	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&amp;H in charge</u>
02 Jan	Frugal Meal (Buffet)	H. Braisby B. Cornley	M. Budd	R. Kipping
09 Jan	S. Dhesi B. Doe J. Donaldson M. Douglas A. Fairbairn T. Iles	B. Gardner A. Ilott	D. Blakey	M. Humphris
16 Jan	B. Goodchild J. Hansford G. Jeremy O. Kyffin A. McHugh J. Meredith	K. Manning S. Kershaw	D. Sullivan	S. Maxwell
23 Jan	H. Morris M. Nutt H. Matthews M. Phillips N. Randall M. Recchia	R. McLean R. Nurden	J. Phillips	S. Crump
30 Jan	F. Riches I. Rodrick J. Smith P. Thomas R. Thompson A. Warren	P. Shea Peggy Williams	J. Cooke	E. Woodruff

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 January/February*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Host</u>
2 Jan	Frugal Lunch	No Speaker but Bernard Goodchild's Slide Show	
9 Jan	Antony Wood	"Young People and the World of Work"	Andrew McHugh
16 Jan	Jeremy Burnan	Army Reserves	John Webb
23 Jan	MP Tony Baldry with guest Victoria Prentis	My experiences in Sierra Leone, U.K. International Development Policy and my impressions of Rotary around the World	Fred Riches
30 Jan Lunch Meeting	Martin Shea	Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance	Paul Shea
6 Feb	David Hitchcox	Longer Serving Member	Maurice Humphris
13 Feb	TBA	TBA	TBA
20 Feb	TBA	TBA	TBA
27 Feb	Sophia Stone	Children's Radio Foundation	TBA