



The June Diary

3rd Community & Vocational
Service Committee Meeting

3rd Sports and Entertainment
Committee Meeting

4th Shadow Council

5th Rotary Meeting

10th Classification, Membership
& PR Committee Meeting

10th Foundation Committee
Meeting

12th Rotary Meeting

14th Banbury and District Show

17th Clay Pigeon Shooting

17th Youth Service Committee
Meeting

17th International Committee
Meeting

19th Rotary Meeting – Club
Assembly

19th to 22nd RYLA Calvert Trust

21st 25th Anniversary Young
Musician Concert

26th Rotary Meeting – Retiring
President's Valedictory

27th Armed Forces Day

28th Council Meeting

For the full year's diary visit
www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk

President-elect K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran



Rotary International
President-elect 2015-16
Rotarian K. R. Ravindran



Be a gift to the world



Rotary International
2015-16 President's Theme

It is not only a joy but perhaps the most significant moment of my life to be with you here this evening as we prepare together to take on the leadership of our great organization.

There are certain moments in one's life that are so pivotal, so transformative, that they become the temporal milestones by which all of our subsequent experiences are measured.

When we look back at the events that form our lives, we divide them all into "before" and "after." We can point at one moment and say: That is when everything changed.

I believe that for all of us here tonight, this is that moment."

Outside, the world carries on: our homes, our businesses, our families, our clubs. But here in San Diego, our worlds are shifting. Our vision is sharpening. Our understanding, our ambition, our drive – all of these are expanding.

During this week, you and I will begin to understand the breadth and depth of this organization and the complexities and complications that surround it. Perhaps in the past we may even have spoken about things we saw as being wrong with Rotary; now, we have both the privilege, and the awesome responsibility, of trying to make those things right.

Yet as our horizons stretch out before us, we know that they are not without limit, for we have but one year to lead. Three hundred and sixty-six days – each one of them numbered, without price, and never to return.

When we know that our time is limited, it becomes so much more precious. The drive to achieve, to create, to leave behind something that says, "I was here; I mattered," becomes so much stronger. And that is why so many see their year in Rotary office as the chance of a lifetime to make their mark.

But what I say to you is, if you really want to make a difference, then use your year not so much to make your mark on Rotary, but to bring the work of Rotary forward — to make its mark on the world.

We are all mortal. Our time on this earth is finite. And yet, we forget. We spend our days, as the poet Rabindranath Tagore wrote, in stringing and unstringing our guitars, while the song we came to sing remains unsung.

What will it take for us to see every hour, every day, every year that we have been given, as a gift — one that is precious, fleeting, and irreplaceable?

From the moment we are born, we receive gifts. The first gift is life itself. And then we receive gifts of love, of caring, and the nurture of our families; of education; of health; of every talent and ability that we learn and acquire. As we move through our lives, our parents, our friends, our spouses, and our children, our livelihoods and our material wealth — all are gifts to us.

Sometimes, a gift is so tremendous that we are overwhelmed with gratitude — as I felt a few months ago when we were blessed with our first grandchild — and as I feel tonight as I stand here, with all of you.

I know that you are thinking now of how many gifts you all have to be grateful for. And I ask myself and I ask you: What do we do in return?

Will we come to the end of our lives and realize that we have wasted our gifts, achieving nothing that will outlive us? Or will we look back and know that when we pass from this world, the good that we have done will remain?

We have only one chance at our lives. And we will have only one chance at the 2015-16 Rotary year. The time is so short, and there is so much to be done.

Our first challenge, our greatest challenge, is the eradication of polio.

When we made the promise to eradicate polio, more than a quarter of a century ago, we had 125 endemic countries. More than a thousand children were being paralyzed every single day.

Today, we have three countries that are endemic. And in all of last year, we had only 333 cases of polio.

Almost all of them were in one country: Pakistan. There, our fight is not only against the poliovirus but against the forces of ignorance, brutality, and oppression. Our challenges lie not only in getting the vaccine into the mouths of children but in getting the health workers safely past those who want to kill them. The government and people of Pakistan are striving, along with Rotary, to reach a polio-free future — while the Taliban on motorcycles shoot the women who are on their way to immunize babies, and now have resorted to killing innocent children in their classrooms.

No one could have envisioned 25 years ago that it would come to this. But the work of 25 years, the faith and dedication and trust of millions, will not be brought low by so lowly an opponent. We will battle on. We will prevail. Because a future without polio is a gift that we have promised to the children of the world. And indeed, it is a gift that we will give.

We know that Rotary has tremendous potential. But we also know that in so many clubs and districts, the reality of Rotary is not the way it ought to be.

I believe that we have to find a way to bring back the fundamentals that built our organization: the emphasis on high ethical standards in all aspects of our lives, and the classification system that encourages a diversity of expertise in each club.

Too often, these ideas are viewed as little more than inconvenient obstacles to increasing our membership rolls. But they have been essential to Rotary's success, and we ignore them at our own peril. For when you have a club formed of people whose honesty is unimpeachable and whose breadth of expertise allows them to do anything they set their minds to, then you have the kind of club that is truly a gift.

But we are all too aware that we cannot talk about Rotary today the way we did a century ago and still expect it to grow. We live in a new reality now. The new focus on branding is indeed necessary. We need to reposition our image, which we recognize has faded in many parts of the world.

And sometimes, there is a disconnect between how we as leaders see Rotary and how the Rotarians in our clubs see it.

We want to raise more money for our Foundation to do even more good, but we know that if we ask too

insistently, or for too much, we will drive away members.

We want to attract younger members, but we do not want to alienate the older members who now form our backbone, or lose sight of the recently retired who still have so much to give.

We want to encourage club members to participate in activities beyond the club level, to become more involved in the network of Rotary, but we do not want membership to become a burden that demands too much in the way of time and resources.

There are no easy answers to any of these questions. And yet somehow, these answers must be found – and we are the ones who must find them.

You are the eyes and ears of the Rotary world. You know what your clubs need, and what they have to offer. You are the ones who can bring together what Rotary is and what it could be – and help us to chart a course forward, together.

I will ask all of you to give a great deal in the days and months ahead.

I will ask you to give your faith, I will ask you to give your dedication, I will ask you to give your commitment and your compassion.

I will ask you for all these gifts. And I will ask you for more, even more than that. For I will ask you, in this Rotary year, not merely to give these gifts – but to be a gift yourself.

We in Rotary aspire to great deeds. We look up to and admire the towering figures of history who gave such great gifts to humanity: Abraham Lincoln, who gave the gift of human dignity to so many; Mother Teresa, who gave the gift of compassion to the forgotten; Mahatma Gandhi, who gave the gift of peaceful change to the oppressed.

All of them gave their lives to others, and their very lives became gifts to the world.

We know that we are not like them, and we do not aspire to live the lives they led, but we can be inspired by their example. We can be inspired to say, “How can I, in the life that I live – and without neglecting the responsibilities that are so dear to me – how can I, too, become a gift to the world?

We can. And we will.

For, my friends, this will be the challenge that we will embrace together. It will be what I ask of you. And it will be the theme that will guide us: Be a Gift to the World.

In Rotary, we give of our resources, but more importantly, we give of ourselves, because there is such a difference between a handout and an outstretched hand – especially when the outstretched hand is warmed by a caring heart.

As children, we understood that the simplest gift, crafted with care and love, was more precious than the most lavish gift given without thought.

And here in San Diego, we understand that our service is only of value when it carries each of us with it.

And that is why, encouraged as I am, I ask you, I implore you, to Be a Gift to the World.

As I considered my theme, I thought of the lessons I have learned through my Hindu faith. And I want to share with you the story of Sudama.

Sudama was a very poor child and a bosom friend of Krishna, who was born in a royal lineage as an avatar, an incarnation of the divine. As the two boys grew up, they drifted apart, and while Krishna became a military leader and king of great repute, Sudama stayed as a humble and somewhat impoverished villager.

Many years later, Sudama was going through some bad times and found himself without even enough money to feed his children. His wife reminded him of his childhood friendship with Krishna and suggested he go to him for help. Though initially reluctant, Sudama finally agreed. Not wanting to go empty-handed he carried with him some beaten rice tied in a piece of cloth to share with his friend.

Krishna is overjoyed to see Sudama, and receives him graciously and with much love. Overwhelmed by the grandeur around him, Sudama is too embarrassed to bring out his gift, but Krishna asks him,

“What are you hiding?” The cloth unrolls and out comes the rice, which Krishna joyfully consumes. Some hours later, Sudama leaves – having forgotten entirely to ask for help, but full of joy in his friend’s enduring love.

He returns home, realizing slowly along the way that he neglected the task that he set out to achieve, and his children will still be hungry. But in this, he is wrong. For when he stands finally before the hut he left, it has become a beautiful home, and standing before it is his family – well dressed, well fed by the bounty within their gates, and waiting to greet him.

Why? Because Krishna understood what Sudama had brought him as a gift. He had brought everything he had to give. And in return, Krishna gave him everything he needed.

From this we learn that it is not the material value of the gifts we give but how much of ourselves we give with them that will matter to the receiver.

And we all have a choice: whether to keep our gifts to ourselves or to use them, to Be a Gift to the World.

And I say to you: Use your gifts. Use them thoughtfully, use them wisely, use them generously.

Use them so that the girls who now sit at home will walk proudly next year to school.

Use them so that the fields that are now barren for want of irrigation will grow next spring, green with agriculture.

Use them to break the cycle of poverty, lift up the destitute, and give the gift of hope to all those who live in the margins of society.

All of you have been given so many gifts. And you have now been given this great gift of one year to take all your talents, all your gifts, everything that you are and can become — and Be a Gift to the World.

You have one year to take that potential and turn it into reality. You have one year to lead the clubs of your district and transform the lives of others. You have one year to build monuments that will endure forever — carved not in granite or marble but in the lives and hearts of generations to come.

This is our time. It will not come again. Let us grasp it.

Let us Be a Gift to the World.

District Concert



The District 1090 Musical Soiree on 30th April was planned by DG Tim Cowling to showcase local talented young musicians.

Held in the stunning setting of Dorchester Abbey, Pianist Robert Cheung, winner of the Rotary Young Musician of the Year in 2014, gave a stunning performance. As did the 5 Banbury Young Musician of the Year finalists, Rebecca Babbage - violin, Eve Cain - flute, Florence Cain - vocals, Bella Bourne Swinton Hunter - violin and piano, and Tavia Lewis - vocals.

RIBI President Peter King and DG Tim Cowling were both complimentary about the Young Musicians' performances and they made Rtn Gareth Jeremy, organiser of the Rotary Club of Banbury Young Musician of the Year for 25 years, very proud.

Photo by kind permission of District 1090.

Young Chef of the Year



On Friday 8th May President Phil had the pleasure of presenting Christina Welz, our Banbury Rotary Young Chef of the year and Regional Finalist, with her Regional runner up trophy. She lost by one point to Lewis Wilson, the eventual winner of the national competition.

Collecting for Shelter Box

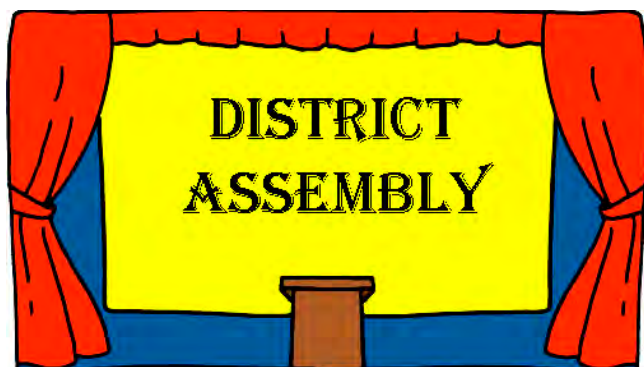


Responding to the disaster in Nepal and the need for more Shelterboxes we joined together with the Rotary Club of Banbury Cherwell to carry out an emergency street collection in aid of Shelterbox.

On the day £1,795 was collected, which with Gift Aid and additional funds from the Club was raised to £2,360, sufficient to purchase four Shelterboxes.

Again the people of Banbury show how generous they are in supporting those in need.

District Assembly



The following is an executive summary of the District 1090 Assembly held on 9th May 2015.

1. Themes and Emphases for 2015/16

- Membership - see Membership Strategy
- The Rotary Foundation - support for
- Youth Service - develop and champion
- Humanitarian Service - Promote and support
- Public Image - develop

(DGE Fred's Slides included the video of RI President 15/16 K.R. Ravindran introducing the 15/16 Theme 'Be a Gift to the World')

2. The Year Ahead - Priorities of 15/16 Service Committees

- MPRC - Never assume the universal appeal of your own cause; What is your message? Who is your audience; The District Team is multi-skilled and willing to help.
- Membership - See Membership Strategy
- Rotary Foundation - To eradicate polio; to support Rotary's own and only Charity; To ensure progress of the new grants programme by participating in sustainable educational and humanitarian projects
- International - Publicise the wide range of twinning programmes; Coordinating Disaster Relief responses; Encourage clubs to participate in International Projects
- Community/Vocation - Service to our Community; Service to our Environment; Service above Self
- Young Family - Young People matter to Rotary; there are 3 ways you can engage them; Rotakids, Interact & Rotaract
- Youth Service - Competitions (Youth Speaks etc); Rotary Youth Leadership Award;

Youth Exchange; New Generations Service Exchange; Technology Tournaments.

3. Membership Strategy

- Current losses & age profile unsustainable
- New Club Formation - 4 new or satellite clubs in 15/16
- Clubs - audit membership initiatives by 1.9.15 and action plan to achieve net increase of 3 members by 1.7.16
- Consider Club Visioning and, where appropriate, Flexible & Innovative Pilot
- Marketing - Have a PR Strategy; Know what resources are available.
- Rotary Family - Extra 10 Rotakids, 5 Interact and 3 Rotaract Clubs by 1.7.16 and harvest the membership dividend that these provide.

4. Compliance

- Health & Safety; Equality & Diversity; Safeguarding Children; Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
- Critical that we take these seriously, treat people decently; protect your club and comply with the law
- Risk Assessments critical for insurance cover
- Equalities Act 2010 pulls it all together
- Clubs to sign Compliance Certificate confirming adoption of relevant policies (copy of certificate to District Secretary)

5. Rotary Club Central

- A tool for collating & providing extremely useful management information
- Various tiers - club, area, district, national, international
- Access through www.rotary.org members area - take action
- Plea for clubs to use Rotary Club Central and enter goals and achievements

6. District Conference 2016

- 11 & 12 March 2016, Savill Court Hotel, Windsor Great Park
- Friday evening cabaret & Saturday Gala Dinner
- Various packages which include Saturday lunch
- Book early to avoid disappointment

Full set of presentations are available in Dropbox through the link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3fkxpzxgcxybutc/AAC2413kLgchD7GltB98v080a?dl=0>

The folder also contains the Membership Strategy and separate folders for Secretary/Treasurer group slides and another for Social Media presentation, slides and video used in the Presidents' Session.

The Rotary Club of Aalen-Heidenheim Contact Club Meeting



There were 12 in the Banbury party at this year's Contact meeting in Aalen-Heidenheim on 14th to 17th May.

The Hitchcox's drove and added a few days holiday on either side. The rest of us flew from Heathrow to Stuttgart early on Thursday morning and had a pleasant B.A. flight on a half empty plane. We were met by local Rotarians and transferred to our accommodation by mini bus.

Contact Club started in 1953 with the French and German clubs, the Italians and Swiss joined the following year. Banbury Rotarian Bill Trinder had a long term pen friend in the Villefranche Club and it was through this connection that our club was invited to join the group in 1955. This year was the 60th anniversary of the meeting of all five clubs.

The Rotary Club of Aalen-Heidenheim is in Baden Württemberg, Germany's 3rd largest state, the home of Mercedes Benz, Porsche and many successful manufacturing and export businesses. Aalen and Heidenheim are two distinct towns of approximately 50,000 inhabitants each roughly the same size as Banbury. Located in southern Germany, near Bavaria, the towns are set in two valleys and the surrounding tree lined Swabian Alps.

The original purpose of the Contact group in true Rotary traditions of friendship and fellowship was to help reconcile the European nations after the disastrous war. This year we were encouraged by Aalen-Heidenheim President Manfred Grimminger to

stay with fellow Rotarians in their homes. It was the first time Di and I have done this.

Norbert and Elfi Nettenheim were wonderful hosts and we thoroughly enjoyed our time with them as did all of the Banbury party with their respective hosts.

It is traditional on the first evening to dine with your hosts. Norbert and Elfi invited Annie and Martin Phillips, Pat and Ian Calderbank and their hosts for an excellent BBQ. We were blessed with a warm evening to sit outside and enjoyed much chatter about the upcoming programme, the local football club derby, they have a new 15,000 capacity stadium (sponsored by Rotarian businesses Voith & Hartmann), which we visited in the afternoon, the E.U., the recent UK election and the proposed UK in/out referendum.

On day 2 we had a coach drive to the Baroque old town of Schwäbisch Hall with a sparkling wine reception on the terrace of the 'Sudhaus' building. A guided tour through the historic town and lunch at 'Neubausaal', a converted armoury and grain store. In the afternoon a guided tour of the Würth art gallery, and free time to stroll. Then a coach ride to Schloss Fachsenfeld, a restored castle. We were met by a brass band, strolled in the grounds and had a very good dinner.



Daytime morning of day 3 was spent in Aalen with a stroll through the popular farmers market. Followed by a recital from Rotarian Thomas Haller, director of music for the local churches, and a passionate fund raiser for restoring church organs. His recital of pieces by composers from all five countries included Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance.

Then followed a short walk to the 'Limesmuseum', (oldest Roman fortifications in Germany). A further organ recital in a small chapel, lunch in a field kitchen, and a guided tour of the museum, where some people re-enacted their childhood dreams!!



The evening of day 3 was the Gala Dinner at the Hammerschmiede in Königsbronn. A great evening with pre-dinner entertainment, lovely meal and wines, followed by speeches from the Presidents of Aalen-Heidenheim and Villefranche-en-Beaujolais. Both Presidents confirmed the importance of the Contact Club meetings, the 60 years of history and importance in helping build peace and reconciliation between European nations..... and the fun and fellowship enjoyed by those attending.

With dancing to a live band it proved to be a very enjoyable evening.

On day 4, with flights in the early evening to Heathrow, our hosts arranged a visit and talk at a local gallery where Rotarian sculptor Franklin Pühn at 90 years of age is still producing amazing 3D art. We had a relaxing lunch at the Best Western hotel in Heidenheim and then bid Auf Wiedersehen to our hosts, see you next year in Villefranche-en-Beaujolais!!

The message from the President of the Rotary Club of Villefranche-en-Beaujolais was as follows:

"Dear Fellow Rotarians from Aalen-Heidenheim, Banbury, Biella and Olten, dear President and dear friends of the organizing committee.

The years ending with the figure 15 are estimated in France as the best ones and the ones which produce many events. This is reason why we are pleased to meet you all in Aalen-Heidenheim in 2015.

Maybe you remember the battle of Marignan in Italy in 1515, 500 years ago with Frances I, 1815 our dear friends from Germany and England defeated Napoleon near Waterloo. 50 years ago the Mont-

Blanc Tunnel was opened and American astronaut took the first steps on the moon for 20 minutes, and our dear friends from Switzerland surely remember the election of Hans Schalfner as President.

May 2015 stands for the 70th anniversary of the end of five war years between Germany and Europe.

Today I would like to give special regards to our old friends from Villefranche and Aalen-Heidenheim. They were two of the first clubs to understand that in terms of Rotary the future belongs to reconciliation. We thank those friends that it is still possible after 60 years to meet repeatedly. Later Olten, Biella and Banbury joined the partnership and thus a mixture of different cultures was established which are all rich by history and very educating for all of us.

Our club Villefranche-en-Beaujolais is 67 years old in 2015. We have 50 members, among them five women. Nearly all of our friends are involved in activities of public utility like the chamber of commerce or the city council. The average age is 64 years and our main concern is finding new friends of lower average age.

Our past president Serge Gyurkovics founded a Rotaract club, which supports us in various activities.

Every year we send three high-school pupils as outbounds for an exchange, two of our inbounds are here with us today.

Many thanks to the club Aalen-Heidenheim for accepting spontaneously Oceane. The direct exchange between our clubs should be intensified, especially during the school holidays. Some of our activities were collecting food from supermarkets in favour of charitable organisations like "Les Restos du Coeur" and the performance of a drama of Carlo Goldini in favour of an organisation caring for homeless people. The organisation and responsibility was in the hands of Rotary.

I propose to support together an action in a country in emergency with Euro 500.00 per club every year to strengthen our togetherness.

2016 will be a very good wine year, because you will all come to Villefranche.

Our incoming president Christian Pineau is already preparing a diversified programme together with his team.

Vive le Beaujolais 2016!"

Crocus Concert



The last of this year's crocus concerts was held by the children of Middleton Cheney Primary in their school hall on Tuesday 19th May.

A packed audience of parents, relatives and friends were hugely entertained by various groups of children and soloists for a full hour of musical pot-pourri.

The school orchestra and choir performances were supported by strings, woodwind, recorder and guitar ensembles, and we were treated to a piano solo from one of the pupils.

Peripatetic music tutors worked with school staff to put the evening together, and the whole concert was organised by the school's music co-ordinator, Becca Casey.

Rotary Vice President Ian Calderbank expressed the Club's thanks to Mrs Casey and the children at the close of the concert, which was also attended by Rtms Wolstencroft, Matthews and Riches. (Harry and Fred had visited the school last autumn at Mrs Casey's invitation to assist choir members planting crocus bulbs).

The school had held a whole school "Crocus Assembly" in early March and the whole school community had got behind the project to support the End Polio Now Campaign.

The audience gave generously to the donation boxes so that the concert raised a superb £289.63 - enabling over 2500 children to be immunised once the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has trebled the amount raised.

The school will receive a congratulatory certificate and each child who took part will receive a certificate as a memento of the event. Many thanks to everyone involved.

Fred Riches

Party for the Blind and Partially Sighted



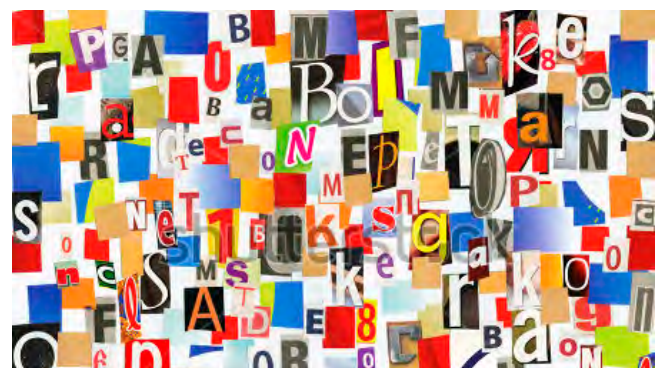
Our annual party for the blind and partially sighted was held at the Methodist Church, Marlborough Road on 27th May. 24 people enjoyed an afternoon tea of sandwiches, pastries, cakes and hot drinks.

This was followed by great performances from Young Musicians Luke Barker and Tavia Lewis. Gareth Jeremy, Jenny Tustain and Fred Riches also entertained those present with songs to singalong to, supported by Wendy Green on piano.

A rousing rendition of Happy Birthday was given to George Haig who will be 100 years old in a few days. George is on his way to Buckingham Palace for a special celebration.

Deputy Mayor Gordon Ross and Rotarian Simon Bion gave the vote of thanks. Well done Rotarian Helen Braisby for her superb organisation and all the other helpers.

Cavill's Clippings



What a great year this has been so far, really enjoyable for Di and I and it continues apace in May and June. Highlights this month included :-

Friday 1st May saw the Emergency Disaster Committee kick into action when they managed to get a street collection licence from CDC at short notice to support the Shelterbox charity following the earthquake in Nepal. Banbury Cherwell Club,

the Inner Wheel Club of Banbury and our own club worked together as the family of Rotary. The collection on the day amounted to £1,860 with additional monies from Inner Wheel Club of Banbury and our club the total was increased to £2,360, enough for 4 shelterboxes. Cherwell club donated £590 from club funds for a further box, making a total of 5 from Rotary in Banbury.

RIBI President Peter King, his partner Di and District Governor Tim Cowling and his wife Linda were guests at our club meeting on 1st May. In our previous 79 years' history we had never had a standing RIBI President visit the club so this was a great honour for us.

District Assembly was held in Henley on Thames on 9th May, Ian Calderbank, Alan Wolstencroft, Ron Barnett and myself attended to hear about D.G. Elect Fred King's plans for the forthcoming year.

Archiving and storage - John Bennett at last has room in his garage after all his Rotary items were put into storage. The Rotary in Banbury gazebo is also now in storage at South Bar House.

Contact Club - was held in Aalen-Heidenheim from 14th to 17th May. A party of 12 represented our club, a great time was had by all. A detailed report is featured elsewhere in this Bulletin.

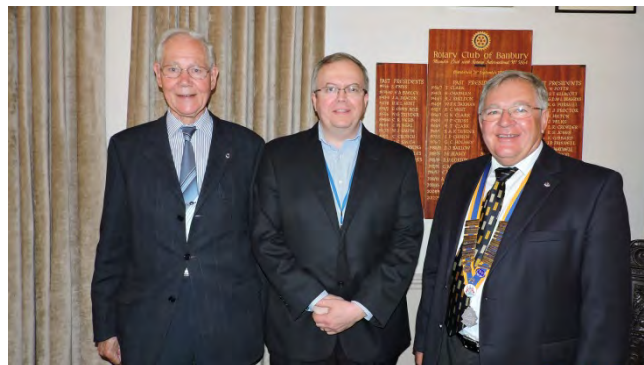
Party for the Blind and Partially Sighted - this annual event was held at the Methodist Church on Marlborough Road on 27th May. 24 people enjoyed delicious sandwiches, pastries, cakes and tea before being entertained by Young Musicians - singer Tavia Lewis and Luke Barker on trumpet, Rotarians Gareth Jeremy, Fred Riches, Jenny Tustain and Wendy Green on Piano. You could hear the audience enjoyed the performances when they were sung along with the performers. Well done Helen Braisby, the Community and Vocational Committee for organising this great event.

Spanish Wine and Tapas Fifth Friday - 28th May. A great evening on our 5th Friday with some excellent wines and great tapas from our caterer Sancha.

Phil Cavill

Speaker Reports

Professor Paul Johnson - Islet Cell Transplantation for Diabetes Mellitus



Our speaker on 17th April was Professor Paul Johnson who is Professor of Paediatric Surgery in the University of Oxford. His Department is one of only two in the UK processing the tissues for Islet Cell Transplants used in Diabetes Mellitus especially the 'brittle' variety in adults, and especially adolescents who can be unreliable with Insulin injections.

Since 1928 it has been possible to treat severe diabetes with Insulin to lower the very high blood sugar which leads to weight loss and death. If too much Insulin is given it causes hypoglycaemia leading to faintness and unconsciousness. Some 'brittle' patients are unaware of this coming on and can die.

The pancreas which is mainly involved in digestion also contains very small clusters of cells call Islets of Langerhans which secrete Insulin. These are obtained from transplant donors who have died, and are isolated from the other tissues using a delicate complex technique in a laboratory with very special controls. The Islet cells are injected into blood vessels going to the liver of the recipient where they stay and secrete Insulin curing the Diabetes. Antirejection drug treatment is needed.

Islet Cell Transplantation is very new but it is hoped that it will prevent the long term complications such as renal failure, peripheral vascular disease leading to gangrene, and diseased retinas causing blindness. Current research is aimed at preventing rejection by putting the individual cells in a semipermeable membrane to isolate them from the rejection antibodies.

Rupert Kipping

Judith Allen - e International Youth Exchange



At our weekly Friday lunchtime meeting on 1st May our speaker was Miss Judith Allen, a University student from Bodicote. In 2014 Judith applied to participate in an International Youth Exchange Programme. Rotary has been organising Youth Exchanges for over 60 years and each year, worldwide, over 7,000 young people enjoy the experience of a lifetime.

Judith spoke brilliantly during her enthusiastic presentation supported by a visual display. She had chosen an amazing, wilderness, canoeing experience of 14 days of adventure offered by Rotary District 5550 and the Sioux Lookout Rotary Club, Ontario, Canada - a long way from home!

The adventure started with a transatlantic flight to Toronto. Ontario she described as a vast beautiful wilderness with hardly any buildings.

Then 2 shorter flights, one in a tiny plane during which her luggage was stuck in the Bear County Airport for a time.

All participants arrived pretty much the same day. They stayed with Rotary families while spending a few days acclimatising and training, followed learning about canoe techniques - practising overturned canoe drill, wilderness camping and getting to know each other. She was amazed by the huge back pack that she would be carrying, and at one stage thought "what have I let myself in for".

Then the real test started. Sunday through Sunday the group and leaders set off to paddle 120 miles through north-western Ontario, boreal forest in two-person, aluminium canoes.

Everyone participated in all aspects of the camping/canoeing trip including cooking, setting up tents, paddling, and of course, carrying equipment, clothes, food and canoes over the seven portages (shallow swamps, the longest being 2.0 km).

The scenery was spectacular; she travelled long in the freezing cold across uninhabited lakes and

forest (apart from moose, beavers and eagles). Evenings were spent around the campfire sharing memorable stories. Sometimes in the night she heard wolves howling. She also spotted eagles feeding.

It was really very hard for her, she was out of her comfort zone and found it especially physically challenging as she is not that big or strong a person. She was covered in black fly bites and sprained both her ankles. She camped in tents with no comforts, washing herself and crockery in the lake water. She had knotted hair!

When she returned back to civilization for the last 2-3 days it was so good. Hot showers, feeling fresh and clean. Time to visit a few sites of interest, at the Rotary Club she had an International Pot Luck dinner, where they each tried to cook something to share. She tried making scones.

What she knows that she got out of this adventure was that if you try hard enough - You can do!

She had made great new friends worldwide and personally achieved more physically than she thought possible.

In conclusion she thanked Rotary for giving this this wonderful life enhancing experience.

Following her presentation, Judith was presented with a Certificate of Commendation for her participation in a previous Exchange visit in 2013, by Di King, District Youth Exchange Officer, Rotary in London 2014-2015, who was accompanying her husband, Peter King President RIBI on his visit to The Rotary Club of Banbury.

Rotarians present showed their appreciation in the usual way.

Geoff Pollard

Meera Murali and Kate Winstanley – Sanctuary Housing



For the last two years, Sanctuary Housing has been the main sponsor of the Crocus Concerts Project.

We thought it would be good to have a clearer picture of the nature and scope of the Housing Association's work.

We were delighted, therefore, when on 8th May Meera Murali and Kate Winstanley, the two members of Sanctuary Group Cherwell Neighbourhoods Partnerships team who have worked most closely with us on the partnership with secondary schools, agreed to come.

They gave a most interesting and comprehensive presentation to the Club covering the many aspects of Sanctuary's work. They managed to cover a huge amount in the twenty minutes allocated and have fortunately for us all (and kindly for me) sent me their notes as a record for our bulletin. A huge thank you to both Meera and Kate for this really enlightening talk.

Sanctuary Group is a non-profit organisation without shareholders. Sanctuary's main aims are to grow in terms of its operations; and to reinvest all surpluses back into maintaining and improving stock and into supporting the communities they work with. Sanctuary owns and manages c.98,000 properties in England and Scotland, and has over 11,000 staff.

The main areas of operations include Housing, which is the Group's core business area, as well as Supported Living, Residential and Home Care, Student and Key worker accommodation and Maintenance. As a provider of social housing, Sanctuary is also involved with the development of affordable housing. Having recently successfully completed the construction of properties during the Homes and Communities Agency's 2011-2015 programme, Sanctuary will soon embark on the current HCA development programme.

In Cherwell, the majority of Sanctuary's properties historically belonged to Cherwell District Council. Ownership was transferred to Banbury Homes which became part of Charter Community Housing, which then merged with Sanctuary in 2007. Sanctuary has c. 5,000 properties in Cherwell.

Nationwide, Sanctuary is committed to investing in improving the lives of residents. The Community offer supports ad hoc community projects in all geographical areas, as well as setting aside ring-fenced funding in 7 key areas of Housing stock.

These latter funding pots are managed by local Neighbourhoods Partnerships teams (such as Kate Winstanley and Meera Murali). Community projects and initiatives Sanctuary supports come under five key priorities areas, including: Employment, Education, Skills and Training; Health and

Wellbeing; Financial Inclusion; Community Safety and Infrastructure; and Environment.

In Cherwell the Neighbourhoods team works with a range of partners, from local authorities such as Cherwell Council, to community centres such as The Hill in Bretch Hill, to schools and voluntary groups in order to identify initiatives and projects that will be of benefit to Sanctuary residents and the wider community.

The aim is to provide residents with as many opportunities as possible and to make the most of assets and strengths within communities, regardless of an area's affluence. Some projects are funded, and in other cases, the Neighbourhood team provides its time and support.

Local partnership projects the Cherwell team supports include: the YMCA Foundation Learning project; the OYAP Trust Youth Action Team project; Crocus Focus with the Rotary Club of Banbury; Age UK's IT skills sessions; Banbury CAB's debt and financial advice project; and The Big Tidy-Up. They have formal partnerships with 32 organisations, but work with many others on a less formal basis. They estimate that in 2014/15 over 10,000 people in Cherwell benefitted from their community investment.

New Homes for Local People.

Sanctuary celebrated the completion of its 2011-2015 development programme at the end of March with the delivery of more than 100 new homes in Cherwell. Sanctuary's £13 million investment, supplemented with funding from the Homes and Communities Agency, has demonstrated its continued commitment to build affordable homes for local people as well as help create employment opportunities.

Some of the projects completed by Sanctuary and its development partners during the programme include:

- A £1m development of nine new two and three bedroom family homes at Oak Farm, Milcombe
- A £2m development at Grimsbury providing 15 new homes including seven rental and eight shared ownership properties, giving families a vital first step onto the property ladder
- A £1.4m development of nine traditional homes in Weston-on-the-Green to complement the rural setting
- Four family homes in Bicester built on the site of some derelict garages that had

previously attracted anti-social behaviour. Looking to the future, plans are already underway to build 32 new homes between now and December 2017 at the £3.9 million Springfield Farm development at Ambroseden.

Fred Riches

Neil Stowe – Send a Cow



Sadly on May 15th Neil was caught in traffic and arrived late for his talk and presentation. However we enjoyed a fascinating and shortened version of the presentation from Neil and how his organisation "Send a Cow" works closely with Africa.

Their aim is to help stop poverty and hunger in Africa. Farmers in the UK are working closely with farmers in Africa where 70% of Africans rely on their land to feed their families.

I would recommend that you visit the following website www.sendacow.org.uk in order to get a flavour and greater understanding of the work that they do.

Neil talked about the effects of global warming and showed a map of the world which focussed on light emissions - 10 years ago Beijing and India had little or no lights and these areas have expanded greatly in recent years as their economies have grown.

World population continues to grow and the next areas of growth are likely to be Africa and South America. People are living longer which means that all of the world's resources are under pressure.

Neil talked about the work they do in Uganda where they use locally trained people, farmers, vets even the tea lady in order to help their communities.

Send a Cow have introduced technology which enables farmers to automatically milk their cows where dairy farming has a fundamental role to play in helping struggling families.

The cow produces on average 20 litres of milk per day and families usually consume 50% of the yield

and the balance 50% can help to be exchanged for other services in the community e.g. education.

Milk is extremely important in the health of the community - especially the children. The cows also provide insecticides which are produced from their urine and they also provide compost from cow dung which takes approximately 6 weeks to be ready for use.

Neil demonstrated how a farmer produced 9 bags of maize without the compost and with the help of the compost was producing 46 bags of maize.

We hope to invite Neil back in the future to give a more comprehensive presentation as I know the Rotary Club of Banbury was very interested in the work that Neil is involved with - especially when our own Alan Wolstencroft continues to update our club with the ongoing school project in Sierra Leone

Gilbert Csecs

Bruce Duncan - In the Footsteps of Kipling's Mowgli



Our speaker on Friday 22nd May was Bruce Duncan who was born in South India in November 1940 in the stunningly beautiful tea-planting district called the High Range, in what was then known as the State of Travancore.

His father was manager of an estate called Kadalaar at the time. This was an isolated estate about an hour's drive on an un-surfaced road from the town of Munnar. Apart from 3 years during the war, when his father served in India with the Bombay Grenadiers, the High Range was his childhood home. Life on a tea estate sounds idyllic and to the children it largely was. Beautiful surroundings, crisp clean air, scented with tea and eucalyptus and the thrill of the wilds.

But this was not the India depicted in the recent TV series Indian Summers. Not for them the high life of the Raj. For bachelors and young wives, particularly those wives without children, life could be dreadfully lonely.

Pullivasal, the estate on which he spent most of his childhood, was only 5 miles or so from the town of Munnar and the High Range club, the centre of their social life, but during the monsoon the road would often get washed away, leaving them isolated for weeks at a time. None of them were in walking distance of any of their planter neighbours.

James Finlay and Co of Glasgow was a wonderful company to work for and it treated its Indian workforce really well; providing free housing, education and healthcare, the latter, albeit very limited, pre-dating our NHS by decades.

They, too, had free healthcare. It was adequate, but not state of the art. For example, initially the dentist, Dr. Barbu would catch the bus to the bottom of their drive and walk the last half mile up to the house carrying a suitcase containing all his equipment. He would set up his foot drill just outside their motorshed (the term they used for garage), whilst they would provide the chair to sit on. When you are balancing on one foot and pedalling with the other your hand isn't particularly steady! Eventually he did open his own surgery in Munnar, which was better equipped.

They also had to have regular injections-Cholera every 6 months and TABT every year. In the 1940s and 1950s panthers (leopards) and tigers were still numerous and these big cats regularly visited their garden at night, the attractions being their pony, Mary, and their pets that, apart from cats and dogs, included various orphaned wild animals; various types of deer, jackals, wild cats and Malabar squirrels. Sadly they rarely managed to keep a pet for more than a year or so before it was taken by a panther or tiger.

Elephants, too, posed a threat. As a result normal social events centred around lunch or tea rather than dinner, to enable people to get home before dusk. It was hard enough to spot elephants by day, let alone at night. If elephants were around your house you couldn't get home. Some of the bungalows were even ringed by a protective floodlit elephant trench.

The biggest hazard on Pullivasal, however, was posed by cobras. The estate was noted for them and many lived in their garden. These became an even greater problem during the SW monsoon, where it would rain nonstop for days on end. Then there would be a short break of a day or two without rain. They would take advantage by putting their shoes and clothes out to dry a bit to get rid of any mould that had formed on them. But the cobras, too, needed to dry out and would lie hidden in the long

grass on the lawn. So the children could not go out to play.

Once one of their dogs, Kim, got into a fight with a cobra. Bruce was on the veranda and grabbing a dinky toy to throw at the snake, he rushed to the rescue. He was about 7 at the time and thought that snakes always ran away from people. However, this snake was now very angry. Breaking off from the dog it came straight at him and rose up swaying and making a noise like a boiling kettle. He was petrified and stood there unable to move a muscle. This probably saved his life. After what seemed an age, the snake lowered itself to the ground, brushing right down his bare leg, and sought refuge in the wall by the steps up to the veranda.

Snake charmers were invited to come to the house about twice a year to clear the garden of cobras. To Hindus, the cobra is sacred; its name in Tamil is Nulla Parmbu, meaning Good Snake. So they would not kill the cobras they caught, but his parents ensured they released them in the jungle a long way from the house. The cobra is one of 'The Big Four' venomous snakes in India, which are responsible for most of the 46K annual snake bite fatalities in India.

Sometimes the snake charmers would catch a Russell's viper, another member of 'The Big Four'; a truly deadly snake, which they always killed. For interest, the other two members of 'The Big Four' are the Common Krait, which also lived in nearby hills and the Saw Scaled Viper, which was not found in the region.

The birds and butterflies were a joy-veritable jewels flitting through the jungle. Two birds were special favourites: First, the Malabar Thrush, generally known as The Whistling Schoolboy. A dark electric blue bird the size of our song thrush, it had the most beautiful tone to its song as it greeted each morning and evening. It could learn your favourite tune if you sang it often enough and greet you each morning and evening with a truly melodious version of this, which was very endearing. It was a difficult bird to see as it was always skulking in the undergrowth and would emit a very grating screech if surprised.

The other bird was the Yellow Wagtail. Whilst the Pied Wagtail stayed with them all year, when the Yellow Wagtail departed they knew that the SW monsoon was about to break. After months of miserable weather it was a red-letter day when the Yellow Wagtail arrived home; within days of its return the monsoon had blown itself out.

His father was given Home Leave in June 1947, the first trip home for his parents since their wedding in Edinburgh in 1936. On their arrival in Liverpool he was surprised to see the ship being unloaded by white people - he didn't think they were strong enough!

He was also afraid to go on a bus or train as all the drivers were white. Again he didn't think they could drive these things!

They stayed on the Black Isle in the North of Scotland with his grandmother and it was here that he saw snow for the first time in November 1947.

They returned to an Independent India just before Christmas 1947. For them in the south nothing much had changed - they escaped the dreadful carnage that took place between Hindus and Muslims in the North.

Life for his sister, Merrilees, and himself did change, however. They started boarding school at the Presentation Convent in Kodaikanal; another beautiful Hill Station in Madras State, now Tamil Nadu. The school year started in February and lasted 9 months, with breaks of 10 days at Easter and Michaelmas (September).

The school drew children from all over India encompassing all the main religions. The Irish nuns made everyone welcome; made everyone of them feel special. Most of the children lived too far away to go home for the short breaks, so stayed the full 9 months at school - the nuns making their holidays really special. So strong was the bond that they still have an international multi faith annual reunion in London.

One of the priests who said Mass at the school had two pet pythons, Benjamin and Jacob, that he had reared from eggs.

They did experience some rather frightening riots against white planters in 1952, running up to the first general election in India, when the Communist Party challenged the Congress Party. Mobs would surround their house and the factory, chanting and threatening violence. One day his father was dragged from his office and man-handled towards the tea-firing furnaces in the factory. Just as they were about to throw him into a furnace, a young man ordered the mob to let him go. Then he turned to his father and declared that he now had all the power. The workforce would obey him and not my father. It was a telling moment.

Luckily, his father was really popular with his workforce. He had always stood up for them when

needs be. The planters were addressed by their surname followed by the Tamil word Dorrar (effectively, Master). But instead of addressing his father as Duncan Dorrar, he became known as Tungan Dorrar - a play on his name, but meaning Golden Master. This had nothing to do with the colour of his hair, which was jet black.

All good things come to an end. In 1953 his sister, Merrilees, and he had to leave home to go to separate boarding schools in England. It would be over 3yrs before they returned for the summer holidays in 1956. By then his brother, Hedley, had also come to yet another school in England.

Their idyllic childhood life was no more. It took 3 to 4 days to travel by plane out to their home and 3 to 4 days to travel back to school again, giving them barely 5 weeks in their beloved High Range for the school summer holidays, and this during the height of the SW monsoon! They got back once more at the end of his and his sister's schooling in 1958 for a similar period, before entering the world of work.

They now faced making way in the adult world alone - his parents didn't retire until the summer of 1960 - in what was still to them a strange environment.

Andrew Fairbairn

Chris Grimes – Tapas and Spanish Wine



Friday 29th May was a fifth Friday evening meeting with partners and we were treated to an evening of true delight for any gastronome and oenophile.

We were lead through the evening by Chris Grimes who first became interested in wine as a hobby, but took it to a different level when he was awarded the Waitrose scholarship after qualifying for the Wine and Spirit Education Trust Diploma, one level below Master of Wine status.

Chris is a regular judge for the annual International Wine and Spirit Competition and founder of the Bloxham Wine Appreciation Society.

Our menu consisted of a selection of Spanish Tapas dishes:

- Hors d'Ouvrés - Olivas, almendras, chorizo
- Pescado - Gambas al ajillo, Calimares rebozados, servido con pan crujiente
- Tortilla - Tortilla española
- Carnes - Estofado de pollo picante, Albóndigas en salsa, servido con Patatas Bravas e pan crujiente
- Postres - Crema de Caramelo
- Queso - Manchego servido con pan crujiente

To accompany these six mouth-watering dishes of Spanish Tapas, Chris introduced us with great skill to a selection of excellent Spanish wines.

Starting with a sparkling glass of Reina Maria Cristina Blanc de Noir, we sampled our way through:

- Jerezana Dry Olorosso Lustau;
- Deusa Nai Albarino 2013 Rias Bi Biasas, Marques de Caceres;
- Lamatum Crianza 2011, Ribero del Duero;
- Rioja Reserva 2010, C.V.N.E.; and
- Mas d'en Gil Coma Vella 2009, Priorat, 15% abv.

An excellent evening due to the skill and expertise of Chris and Pink Peppercorns.

Special thanks must also go to President Phil for his organisational and decorating skills, not to mention the excellent choice of wine for the evening.

AGR

Gala Midsummer Concert



We are celebrating the 25th anniversary of The Banbury Young Musician of the Year competition by hosting a Gala Midsummer Concert, which is taking place at Tudor Hall School on Sunday 21st June.

The celebratory Midsummer Concert will see the return of some past competition winners including the very first winner in 1991, Marcel Zidani, who went on to be a professional musician and has

performed in Europe and received glowing reviews for his Piano recitals.

Other past winners who will perform on the night include:

- Bethany Porter 2000
- Kris Reader 2004
- Umito Choji 2007
- Lucy Downer 2003
- Serena Holbech 2012
- William Dibble who came runner up in the Rotary District 1090 competition in 2012.

This unmissable event will take place at 7pm on Sunday 21st June at the main music hall of Tudor Hall School in Banbury.

Monies raised on the night will go to Katharine House Hospice.

Tickets are on sale for £10 at Fashion Fabrics in Parsons Street in Banbury.

Around the Committees

President's Business

Tour de Trigs Trophies - Agreed Rotarians Barnett, Gardiner and Cavill would each fund a trophy for TdT. Andrew Fairbairn to purchase and pass on cost details.

Storage - Reminder that the storage facility at South Bar House is ready for use. Committee chairs, Secretary, President and 1st Vice can access by 24 hour prior booking through Andrew McHugh.

District Officer Roles - Qualification for roles was clarified, Secretary has details.

Disaster Emergency Relief Street Collections - There are often multiple natural disasters in different parts of the world needing support at the same time. Shelterbox and other box charities will not accept donations for specific disasters as they cannot guarantee monies sent will be used to send relief aid to a specific country. For this reason when making street collections as an example for Shelterbox we cannot say 'for Shelterboxes in Nepal'. Alan Wolstencroft to clarify the precise wording that can be used.

Gift Aid - Discussion took place on charities claiming for small public donations, the club can currently claim gift aid on up to £5,000, for small donations without gift aid declarations (due to increase in April 2016). It was recommended the treasurer claims gift aid at Rotary year end and allocates a sum to each charity pro rata to the amount

collected. As the Treasurer was an apology this needs to be confirmed by David Hitchcox.

Hon Secretary

Seven day letter sent out for Ashley Bedding. Discussion on induction date took place as a new member joining between May 1st and June 30th is liable to pay 25% of annual subscription and the joining fee. Ashley to be offered the option of joining in June or waiting until 1st July.

Hon Treasurer

Free Funds are currently £6,406.

House Committees

Fellowship & House - Agreed that F & H member in charge should keep a note of members attending when they had given apologies. Persistent offenders would be requested to ensure they are booked in. Some members with bookings have not had seats or meals recently.

Community & Vocational Committee

Party for the Blind - Successful event held on 27th May.

Panto Bus - awaiting date from Frank Wise School.

Agreed any surplus proceeds from the Banbury Show and Canal day would be split 75% KHH and 25% Rotary Charities.

Agreed donations to Banbury Street Pastors - £250, Polly Preedy £100 and repairs to street organ bellows up to £150 from Club General Account.

Foundation Committee

Middleton Cheney Primary School Crocus Concert very successful event and raised £289.

Amount raised by Crocus Concerts this year to be confirmed by Alan Wolstencroft and David Hitchcox. Foundation Committee to make a recommendation to Council on how much should be sent to End Polio Now before the current year end.

International Committee

Social evenings at Sheesh Mehal on 17th June for the committee members and 27th June for Tour de Triggs.

Youth Services Committee

Event Proposal form for 25th Anniversary Young Musician Concert received.

Donation of £500 agreed to BGN for Tall Ships appeal.

And now for something different

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are flat?

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough?

Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up every two hours?

If the temperature is zero outside today and it's going to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold will it be?

Do married people live longer than single ones or does it only seem longer?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Why do toasters always have a setting so high that could burn the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Why do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Stop singing and read on.....

Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?

The Month in Pictures





Weekly Meeting Duties for May

<u>Date</u>	<u>Table Duty</u>	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&H in charge</u>
05-Jun	B. Cornley C. Clarke S. Dhesi G. Csecs B. Doe J. Donaldson	T. Bryce M. Budd	T. Taylor	R. Kipping
12-Jun	M. Douglas A. Fairbairn B. Goodchild N. Halfpenny A. Ilott T. Iles	B. Gardner J. Hansford	J. Cooke	S. Maxwell
19-Jun	G. Jeremy S. Kershaw O. Kyffin K. Manning H. Matthews A. McHugh	R. McLean H. Morris	D. Blakey	S. Crump
26-Jun	J. Meredith M. Recchia M. Nutt M. Phillips G. Pollard N. Randall	R. Nurden J. Smith	J. Phillips	M. Humphris

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 June and July

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Host</u>
5 June	Dennis Bradley	How to visit 12 countries at no expense through the incompetence of the Air Ministry	Maurice Humphris
12 June	Allan Berry	Rotary - Your National Magazine	Bernard Goodchild
19 June		Club Assembly	
26 June	Philip Cavill	Retiring President's Valedictory	
3 July	Ian Calderbank	President's Handover	Maurice Humphris
10 July	Ian Rodrick	Longer Serving Member	Ian Rodrick
17 July	Philippa Stannard	Style Acre	TBA
24 July	Fred King	District Governor	President
31 July	Graham Anker	Now You See It , Now You Don't	John Bennett