



The February Diary

- 1st Club Darts Match
 - 3rd Community & Vocational Service Committee Meeting
 - 3rd Sports and Entertainment Committee Meeting
 - 5th Rotary Meeting
 - 7th District Incoming Presidents' Lunch
 - 10th Foundation Committee Meeting
 - 10th Evening with Rotary International Scholars
 - 12th Rotary Meeting
 - 17th Youth Service Committee Meeting
 - 17th International Committee Meeting
 - 19th Frugal Lunch Meeting
 - 20th Paul Harris' Birthday
 - 22nd Practice Interviews BGN
 - 24th Council Meeting
 - 25th Practice Interviews BGN
 - 26th Rotary Meeting
 - 27th Young Chef District Finals
 - 27th Young Musician Finals
 - 28th Paul Harris Fellows' Lunch
- For the full year's diary visit
www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk

Rotary in Space



The Rotary Club of Locks Heath has helped fly the flag for Rotary recently in a place that truly is out of this world.

Penny Scarbro, a member of the club is also Godmother to European Space Agency (ESA) Astronaut Tim Peake, who is currently undertaking a mission on board the International Space Station (ISS).

Given this connection, the idea of sending the banner to space was that of another of the club's members, John Hopwood. Tim kindly agreed to pack it inside his limited luggage, and even took a picture of the banner, orbiting approximately 250 miles above the Earth's surface.

Tim is now part of a six-man crew on board the ISS, who will perform essential maintenance to the station, which has already included Tim taking part in a historic spacewalk, the first by an official British astronaut, as well as conducting a series of experiments which cannot take place on Earth.

These experiments will assist in broadening our scientific and technological knowledge so that both life here on Earth, and future manned space travel, can be improved.

Tim's father Nigel Peake recently visited the club to explain all about the intense training programme his son has undertaken. Spanning several years, Tim's preparations involved learning to speak Russian, acclimatizing to zero-gravity environments to recreate conditions similar to a spacewalk, and even living in an underwater laboratory for 12 days.

The banner had to undergo its own rigorous testing and irradiation process to ensure it was nontoxic, non-flammable and free from chemicals, so it would not pollute the ISS.

When the mission comes to an end in June, the banner will then be returned to the club, with official authentication that it spent time floating around on the ISS and orbiting our planet.

To see more stunning pictures from Tim's journey, you can follow him on Facebook and Twitter.

Courtesy RIBI

Banbury Young Musician of the Year



On Friday 15th and Saturday 16th January the heats for the Banbury Young Musician of the Year 2016 competition were held at Sibford school.

As in previous years, the standard of the entrants was very high and the adjudicators had an extremely difficult task selecting those to go through to the finals.

This year's finals will be held at Sibford School on Saturday 27th February, commencing with the Junior's competition finals at 4 pm, followed by the Intermediates and Seniors commencing at 6.30 pm.

Please come along and support these very talented young people and have an extremely enjoyable evening of musical entertainment.

AGR

Banbury Young Chef of the Year



Congratulations to Katelyn Robbins from Chenderit School for winning the Rotary Clubs of Banbury Young Chef Competition with her three course meal on Tuesday evening 19th January, and to Ellie Ronaldson from the Banbury and Bicester College for being second as "Runner-up".

The standard of food preparation and presentation at the table by all the competitors was very high and judges and guests were suitably impressed.

Katelyn now goes on to compete in the Rotary District 1090 finals on 27th February and we wish her well in that competition.

Ian Calderbank

RYLA



The Rotary organisation is about building a better society both locally and internationally. The Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) is Rotary's way of giving young adults the opportunity to take part in developing qualities of leadership, team working, initiative, communication and problem solving at the start of their careers. The week long course includes activities such as; abseiling, navigation, canoeing, sailing, high ropes.

Who can take part? The short answer is that there is no particular type of person. Indeed, the success of the course depends on there being a good mix of

different ages between 18 and 25, backgrounds and experience, all with leadership potential. However, this is a very demanding course, so candidates must be both mentally and physically fit.

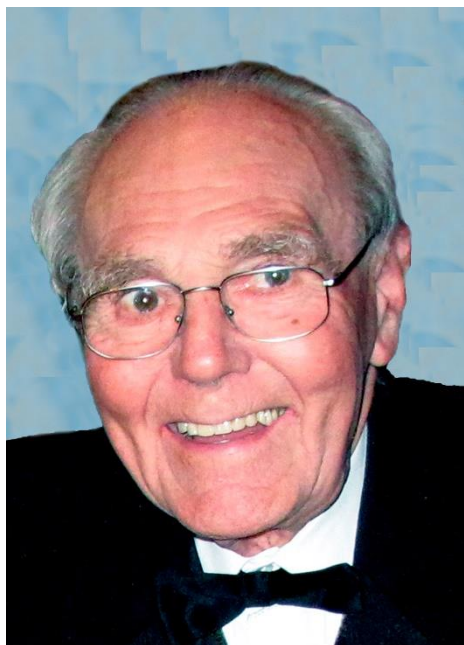
The course takes place at a specially adapted centre in the Snowdonia National Park, North Wales. There is no attendance cost to candidates, as these are met by the Rotary Club of Banbury.

A team of local Rotarians will interview candidates who apply before the successful individual is selected. This participant must be prepared to contribute to as well as benefit from the RYLA course, and will be expected to give a short presentation of their experiences during a later meeting at the Rotary Club.

The next programme takes place from 16th to 23rd July 2016. If you would like to know more or apply for a place please contact: Nigel Randall on 01295-810233, or e-mail ryla@banburyrotaryclub.org.uk

Nigel Randall

Tom Taylor



It is with much sadness we report the death of Tom Taylor on 18th January.

Tom was a stalwart member of Rotary, joining our Club in 2003. However, he had been a Founder Member of the Rotary Club of Didcot in 1974 and was President of that Club in 1976/77.

He supported our events and attended Friday meetings whenever he could despite his progressively failing health. Tom could be relied upon always to contribute, for example by saying Grace even when asked at the last minute. We shall miss him, his booming voice and his cheery greetings.

Our sympathies and thoughts now go out to Emma and their family.

Ian Calderbank

Frugal Lunch



It has been a long standing tradition of the Club that on the Friday nearest the birthday of Paul Harris, the founding father of Rotary, we have a Frugal Lunch.

The Frugal Lunch is as it implies a much simpler, lighter meal than our normal Friday repast, which as well as assisting those trying to shed some of the Christmas extra weight it is also a means of raising funds for Foundation.

On a normal Friday the money we pay for our meal goes in total to the caterer, but with the Frugal Lunch being a smaller meal our caterer charges us a lesser sum than normal.

However, we pay the normal amount to the cash desk, the difference being a gift aided donation to Foundation.

AGR

Ian's Items



8 January

After a couple of weeks break over Christmas and the New Year, the Club activities started this year with a Fellowship meeting where we had a relaxed lunch with plenty of opportunity for chat and banter. A good start to the year where the meeting lived up to its name.

14 January

I attended the Inner Wheel Coffee Morning with funds being raised for Parkinsons. The event was well attended, so much so that I had to display my Presidential prowess by carrying in extra tables and chairs before I could enjoy my coffee and biscuits.

15 January

We enjoyed an amusing talk from our member Peter Wilkins describing how he came to be a dentist and how his career developed. Read more about this elsewhere in this Bulletin!

The same evening, I attended the Heats for our Young Musician Competition at Sibford School. Gareth and Nig' were well organised and coping with the inevitable last minute changes of contestants. As in previous years it was a pleasure to hear the performances and the careful assessment and advice from the adjudicators.

16 January

The Young Musician Heats continued all day Saturday with Gareth and Nig' again showing patience and flexibility. We really do have some good musical talent in the Banbury area and it must have been disappointing for those who did not make it through to the finals. These will take place on 27 February, again at Sibford School, and should be an excellent experience once again - something else to enjoy.

That evening Andrew McHugh organised a pleasant Italian meal at Bellinis followed by an amusing flip back to the past watching that well known film "The

Italian Job". We enjoyed a relaxing and entertaining time of fellowship together.

19 January

Our Rotary Clubs of Banbury Young Chef Competition. Congratulations to Katelyn Robbins from Chenderit School for winning with her three course meal and to Ellie Ronaldson from the Banbury and Bicester College for being second as "Runner-up".

20 January

We received the sad news that Tom Taylor had passed away on the previous evening.

22 January

Bernard and I went to Chenderit School and attended their morning Staff Assembly to present Katelyn again with her Young Chef Trophy and give certificates to her and to her fellow competitor Izobel Fuller.

That lunchtime, we then enjoyed a most interesting and informative talk about Cochlear Implants from Mrs. Clare Allen, a Speech & Language Therapist with the Ear Foundation.

Our own member's wife Mavis also spoke briefly, extolling the virtues of the device based on her experience of improved hearing after receiving such an implant. Again, see more about this elsewhere in this Bulletin.

27 January

Our Club Council Meeting took place and again, more notes from this are elsewhere in this Bulletin.

29 January

This was a Fifth Friday evening meeting which was well attended by about 60 people. Sanchia provided us with a fine three course meal with a choice from two each of starter, main and dessert with coffee and mints to follow. We then enjoyed a most interesting talk about Upton House by Victor Ince. Our guests included members of Inner Wheel, the Cherwell Club and the Lions Club.

Ian Calderbank

Speaker Reports

Bruce Duncan – The Loan Soldier



Our speaker on 11th December was Bruce Duncan.

The publication of his book, “The Loan Soldier”, on 31st July 2015 was timed to coincide with the 25th Anniversary of Iraq’s brutal invasion and occupation of Kuwait on 2nd August 1990.

Bruce Duncan’s military career during the second half of the 20th Century (1958 -1995) was at a time when the British Empire was transforming into the Commonwealth.

At the time the British Armed Forces were withdrawing from many of their bases overseas, but some nations still wanted a British military presence to assist them in developing their own armed forces, whilst others remained as British Protectorates and thus had a right to our protection. Britain met these requirements largely by posting individuals or small teams of servicemen on loan to foreign armies. Importantly, these Loan Service personnel were paid by UK and were subject to UK income tax; they were not mercenaries.

Having been born and brought up abroad, Bruce Duncan was used to living and mixing with people of other cultures and was thus ideally suited to this type of employment. As a result, he spent almost a third of his military career on Loan Service, which was highly unusual. All Loan Servicemen were volunteers, as conditions on such postings were usually testing and sometimes dangerous.

The book chronicles six periods of Bruce Duncan’s career and he kindly had time to Talk about two of them.

Brunei 1964 -1966

Brunei was a British Protectorate threatened by Indonesia in a low intensity operation known as Confrontation. Bruce Duncan was one of a handful British Army personnel sent to Brunei at short notice to bolster their fledgling Armed Forces,

which comprised a single infantry regiment that was still in the process of being formed.

As a young Lieutenant aged 23, he was made an Acting Captain and led the first company of Brunei troops into the jungle on active service. In 1965 he also established and trained the first armoured element in the regiment and was appointed the first Military ADC and Bodyguard to HH The Sultan - 50 years ago this year.

Kuwait 1988 - 1990

This was a difficult posting from the outset. The Kuwaitis weren’t as friendly as the other host nations in which the family had served and the desert was flat, uninspiring and largely out of bounds.

The Iraqi invasion on 2nd August 1990, trapped 66 members of the team and their families. This was when the ordinary Kuwaitis came to their assistance, completely changing their opinion of them. Showing the true peaceful spirit of Islam, they risked their lives to protect and feel all expatriates being hunted by the Iraqis. Despite this, eventually most of the team were taken hostage.

In a surprise move, on 4th September 1990 Saddam Hussein ordered the release of the women and Bruce Duncan’s two sons were too old to be classed as children, but eventually Edward Heath secured their release. Tragically, the Iraqis mismanaged their transfer to Baghdad; the car they were travelling in crashed, killing Alex (19 years), and badly injuring Rorie (18 years). Bruce Duncan was ordered out of hiding by MoD to try and look for Rorie. They eventually returned to UK in mid-November 1990, followed by the remainder of the Team a month later.

The other areas were: Sudan 1980-1982; Nigeria 1985-1987; Oman 1987-1988; and Jordan 1992-1995, which would be good to hear at another Lunch Meeting.

As Bruce Duncan’s Host I can recommend his book - The Loan Soldier. Some members bought some available books and if anyone would like to buy one I can arrange that with Bruce.

Helen Morris



The speaker at the lunchtime meeting on the 15th January was our own Peter Wilkins, who entitled his talk “The Fickle Finger of Fate”.

Peter explained that the title reflected the fact that many major decisions in his life have happened by chance. The first was that he had the very good fortune to be born in Wales!

His Grandfather Winfield and grandmother Theresa owned the house, in which he was born, in a tiny village Clyne in South Wales. Winfield came from a wealthy mine owning family but when his brother was killed in an accident in their mine he refused to return to the scene of his death which caused a family rift and he left that business to work as a tinplate worker.

Peter had a great childhood, his father Roy was an ex-military man and worked as training manager for Warner Lambert Chemicals. They moved to Cardiff when Peter was one-year-old and left Wales around his eleventh birthday.

Peter was not a great pupil at Grammar school in Chandlers Ford in Hants but managed to scrape 4 A levels. He so nearly had a Fab life as a pop star with his group the Blackcats, who were limited only by the fact they had absolutely no talent.

Being uncertain what to do as a career he took a job on a building site as a labourer, which he really enjoyed and his language skills soon broadened.

During the summer another Student joined the team and they became good friends. It transpired he was a dental student and he said “Hey Pete you should give Dentistry a go. Dead easy course, plenty of parties and great fun”. So Peter applied to 4 London Dental schools in 1966, and they all offered him a place. God was trying to tell him something.

The dilemma which one to choose? so without any research! he chose University College London because he preferred the name.

There he had a marvellous time made many life-long friends and had found his vocation. For once, because the course was so interesting, he did rather well and obtained his Dental Degree in 1971.

Whilst at University College Hospital he met Martyn Amsel, his dental partner for 40 years who was in the year below him, they became very good friends and his first job after qualification was in a terrible practice in Muswell Hill North London where his wife worked as a hygienist. They socialised quite a bit, and when Peter was off sick when one day in early 1972, Martyn phoned to see how Peter was and casually said “We are opening a surgery in Banbury would you like to join us”. Without hesitation Peter said “I would love to”.

Starting in November 1972 with 3 surgeries and expanded over the years to 9, their philosophy was to provide high quality dentistry, great patient service and have lots of fun. They invested in good equipment, found superb staff and Peter really enjoyed every day of his working life right up to his retirement in March 2014. The Practice was taken over by our long term associates in 2008 but they kept the original.

They considered their Staff as their best asset so they spend considerable time on team building exercises, and gained an Investors in People award.

They really enjoyed raising money for charity “Pink” (breast cancer awareness), and they sponsored a concert with Shirley Kershaw for her Romanian charity, and on their 30th anniversary they took all the Practice for Lunch and a tour around Gay Paris

Around 20 years ago Peter was at a meeting in Banbury postgrad centre when David Gebbels, from North Bar Surgery, started chatting about a new embryo faculty being formed at the Royal College in Lincolns Inn London asking if Peter would like to attend an inaugural meeting in Oxford. Peter was elected Director of the Division which led to him being on the Main Board for some 12 years, 6 of which he served as Chair of Finance. Peter found this a most interesting adjunct to his clinical work as the FGDP organised many advanced courses with the aim of improving patient care, and he was awarded a Fellowship in 2013.

Peter said that he had received massive support from his family, his wife Sandra, 3 daughters and one son plus their spouses not forgetting 3 grandchildren.

Peter’s retirement in March 2014 was celebrated with a fantastic party with all the staff and many

friends and co-workers from over the years. The family celebrated by treating Peter and Sandra to a fine dining experience on the Orient Express to Bath.

They pushed the boat out literally with a cruise around the Galapagos Islands taking over 2000 photos mostly of Darwin's Finches.

Peter reminded us that it was his birthday soon and suggested that if we would all like to club together for a present he had some suggestions as he really liked activity gifts as over the years he had:

Flown in Tiger Moth and driven tanks at RAF Duxford, also white river rafting and enjoyed many skiing holidays

Peter still works as an Advisor to the Dental Protection Society

Peter commented that the fickle finger of fate had struck again in 2014 when Mike Budd asked him to a Rotary lunch.

Peter summed up with how "The Fickle Finger of Fate" had guided his life: firstly, the good fortune to be born in Wales into a tremendous family; secondly, to have been guided to a career, which he loved and enjoyed; and then the crowning glory the chance request to join the practice in Banbury.

Peter Wilkins

Clare Pilkington – Where do Cochlear Implants fit in?



Our speaker on 22nd January was Clare Pilkington.

Before cochlear implants were developed very deaf people were forced to wear a large cumbersome box on the chest in order to be able to hear anything.

In 1989, the first cochlear implant was developed in Nottingham. Clare Pilkington was a speech therapist at that time working in the Hospital with children. The first patient treated, instead of being deaf and dumb, was able to hear, communicate and

develop spoken language. Claire worked with children and families, together with teaching assistants.

The impact of hearing loss lowers self-esteem and self-confidence so that there is a tendency to avoid meeting people. By the year 2031 14 million people in the UK will suffer from hearing loss. These are predominantly elderly people.

She gave an illustrated and very clear description of the anatomy and physiology of hearing explaining how the cochlear fibres resonate at the correct frequency generating nerve impulses which are transmitted to the brain. Hearing aids magnify the sound and are only useful for the damage to the eardrum and middle ear ossicles but cannot correct damage to the cochlear which is common in the elderly.

A cochlear implant is a small sound processor behind the ear sending electrical signals to the auditory nerve. As a result, children who previously could not speak and would have needed special forms of education can now learn to talk and attend a normal school. The cost of a cochlear implant on the NHS is far less than the cost of social care for someone who cannot hear or speak.

After working full-time for 19 years with the Nottingham Auditory Implant Programme, Claire has worked part-time for 14 years with the Ear Foundation. This is a national charity and she is still kept very busy with children and families.

We were fortunate that the wife of one of our Rotarians, Mavis Brace was attending the lunch. She had recently had a cochlear implant and was able to give a very lucid account of her experience in using it. Initially individual tuning was required the first sounds being like Mickey Mouse. She described how it had transformed her life.

A vote of thanks for an excellent talk and presentation was given by Rupert Kipping.

Rupert Kipping

Around the Committees

Matters Arising from other Committee Meeting Minutes

Sponsorship donations to the charity Shelter for our team's efforts on the Tour de Trigs, being processed through the Club's accounts, amount to just under £2,000 so far, including gift aid. Additionally,

donations via the internet on the team's virginmoney fund raising site has raised a further £1,248, also including gift aid.

Foundation Committee were given approval to apply for a District Grant towards set up costs for a Male Voice Choir Concert presently under consideration. Approval also granted to apply for a Global Grant to support the Sierra Leone Schools project.

The International Committee's proposal to support a borehole project in the Gambia via Tonbridge RC was agreed. An evening of light musical entertainment to raise funds for this purpose was also agreed and will be investigated.

Although Crocus Concerts are cancelled, Sanctuary Housing will consider the project completed on receipt of a report. Their sponsorship and other donations which arise from individual school activities will also go to the End Polio Now Campaign as agreed earlier.

Hon Secretary

Completed a survey on Leadership Training.

Colin Clarke appointed Treasurer at the SGM but an Assistant Treasurer still required.

Hon Treasurer

Trust Accounts - Free Funds £2,140.07 at 31/12/15 with £5,000 in Reserve.

Gift aid derived from casual collections at CSFC concerts and via the street organ collections to be apportioned to the relevant beneficiaries as per the individual totals.

It was also agreed to round up to £4,000 the £3,926 raised for KHH via the Street Organ.

Although Crocus Concerts have been cancelled it was agreed to apply the advertising income from Programmes equally to CSFC, YM and End Polio Now as originally agreed.

Set up costs and other funding requests

The following requests were agreed:

To send £5,000 to District to cover the suggested donation to RI's Foundation Charity of \$100 per member.

To use a £100 donation in support of RYLA or Calvert Trust activities.

To transfer a £100 donation to End Polio Now fund.

To increase donation to KHH from Street Organ collections to £4,000.

To use £70 from the Film evening to support Gambia borehole project via RC of Tonbridge.

It was decided not to recommend any donation from the Club to the various Districts or RIBI Flood Appeal Funds at this time.

Club Representations

President had represented Club in the Tour de Trigs (as a member of our team and at the awards ceremony following), briefly at Inner Wheel for their Christmas Lunch, Santa's Grotto, and January Coffee Morning, and at the Service Club's Carol Service.

He had also enjoyed taking part on the RT Father Christmas Float, the Street Organ collections, and supporting the Young Musician Heats and Young Chef Finals, including making presentations to the winner and another contestant at a Chenderit School Staff Assembly.

Panto Bus

This had visited the Frank Wise School shortly before Christmas and the young people showed their appreciation by sending us a Christmas and "Thank You" card.

Christmas Parcels

The Food Parcels Distribution had gone well and was achieved within budget with a small surplus to carry over to next year. Help from the whole Club had not been sought this time because sufficient had already volunteered. The process has been reviewed and suggestions for improvement are being considered. Sainsburys were very supportive and it is hoped to build on this for next year.

Young Chef Competition

This took place on 19th January with a remarkable winner of only 11 years old from Chenderit School. She now goes on to the District Finals on 27th February. Standards were high and it was gratifying to see a two-page spread on this in the Banbury Guardian on 28th January.

Scholars Evening, 10th February 7.30 pm

Three excellent young speakers scheduled with wine, bread and cheese thrown in for £10 at the Cricket Club.

Martin Phillips is organising this.

Young Musician Competition

Heats had taken place on 15th and 16th January and finalists now selected. Finals at Sibford School 27th February, help from Club members will be required in the afternoon and evening.

District Conference 11th – 13th March

To date 13 have registered for the whole weekend and one for just Saturday only.

Anyone else interested in attending should contact President.

AGM 21st March

It was agreed that food and drink should be provided and cost options will be considered.

Contact Club - France, 5th to 8th May 2016

Some have already booked flights and others are planning to drive there. However, we do not yet have local cost details from the Rotary Club of Villefranche en Beaujolais.

And now for something different



The Month in Pictures



Have you forgotten something Harry!

Weekly Meeting Duties for February 2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Table Duty</u>	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&H in charge</u>
05-Feb	J. Meredith M. Nutt G. Pollard S. Porter N. Randall P. Richardson	R. Nurden H. Morris	J. Phillips	S. Crump
12-Feb	F. Riches I. Rodrick J. Smith J. Webb R. Thompson E. Watson	P. Thomas A. Warren	D. Sullivan	M. Humphris
19-Feb	N. Yeadon Peggy Williams P. Williams A. Wolstencroft E. Woodruff R. Worrall	P. Wilkins H. Braisby	T. Bryce	A. Ilott
26-Feb	I. Anthistle R. Barnett A. Bedding J. Brodey M. Budd C. Clarke	J. Bennett G. Anker	B. Cornley	R. Kipping

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 February & March

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Host</u>
5 Feb	Brigadier Ian Inshaw DL	Conflict and County	Colin Clarke
12 Feb	Rtn Simon Porter	My Life/My Talk	John Smith
19 Feb	Frugal Lunch	TBA	TBA
26 Feb	Hayley Flood Space Studio	25 Years of Hubble Space Telescope	Bernard Goodchild
4 Mar	Tim Pilkington	World Vision	Rupert Kipping
11 Mar	Pearl Watts	Dogs for Good	Harry Matthews
18 Mar		Fellowship Meeting	
25 Mar		GOOD FRIDAY	