



The September Diary

- 2nd Rotary Meeting*
- 7th Community & Vocational Committee*
- 7th Classification & Membership Committee*
- 8th District Council*
- 9th Rotary Meeting*
- 11th Battle of Britain Parade Service*
- 14th Foundation Committee*
- 16th Rotary Meeting*
- 20th Sports & Entertainment Committee Meeting*
- 21st Youth Services Committee Meeting*
- 21st International Committee*
- 23rd Rotary Meeting*
- 28th Council Meeting*
- 30th Rotary Meeting*

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



President Owen's August round up

Well August was a surprisingly quiet month, I guess many people were away and therefore things don't get organised as much for the month.

On Wednesday 18th I attended the monthly Early Bird Supper which is run by Annie Phillips on behalf of the Inner Wheel club. For any of you who haven't been it is a very informal evening which provides for a lot of fellowship and an early supper - home by 8.30pm unless you get chatting to Messrs. Rodrick and Phillips as I did!

Sunday 21st was another great chance for fellowship with Stephen's Summer steaming - this was a great day and we even managed, in the main, to dodge the showers!

Earlier in the day I helped marshal the Hands around the Horton demonstration ably assisted by John Webb and Mrs K - we encountered very many other Club Members there with a variety of different hats on!

24th August sadly saw me attending Roger May's funeral on behalf of the club. Roger was important to my time in Rotary in as much as he was a member of the small expansion team which set up our daughter club, Banbury Cherwell, which I initially joined at its charter. It was very sad to say goodbye to Roger on behalf of the club, but he would have loved the order of service which included a picture of him with club in hand on the front and a copy of his score card from a senior cup competition at Tadmarton including a hole in one!

President Owen Kyffin

Purple 4 Polio – The Latest on our Local Plan

- Nationally six million crocus corms are being planted through the Rotary partnership with the Royal Horticultural Society
- In District 1090 we have ordered 340,000 crocus corms! (that's 68 boxes)
- Banbury's order of 80,000 corms dwarfs all others, but it includes 20,000 for Bicester and 20,000 for Kidlington & Woodstock
- CDC is funding 60,000, Banbury Town Council 10,000, Whitley Stimpson 5,000 and our Club 5,000
- Banbury Cherwell Rotary Club is also funding 5,000 and they wish to liaise with us on planting locations
- 85,000 corms are due to arrive at John Bennett's garage in early September
- Our first Media Release will involve Rtn Bennett & others buried amidst 85,000 crocus corms!
- Confirmation will be sought as schools return from the summer holiday from all eight secondary schools, at least ten primary schools and Frank Wise School as to their support for this fourth year of the Crocus Projects
- Public planting locations will be agreed with CDC and Town Council staff
- One sack of 5,000 corms has been allocated to schools for use on their sites
- Ron Barnett has ordered ten primary school packs (match-funded by District 1090 Grant) to repeat last year's successful addition to the projects
- All 28 primary schools involved in "Children Singing for Children" this November will be supporting the End Polio Campaign this year as it is one of the designated charity recipients
- Awareness-raising and Fundraising opportunities will be sought as close as possible to World Polio Day - Monday October 24th

Crocuses in bloom at Warriner last March



- A social event is proposed for Sunday 23rd October starting at 3pm at the kind invitation of the Cricket Club
- A Family Picnic and Big Sing is being considered for Friday 21st or Saturday 22nd
- If this goes ahead we'll need many more crocus badges!!!
- We ask as many Rotarians as possible to have spades at the ready from mid-October!
- We'll be planting at schools, at retirement dwellings and in public spaces throughout the town and environs in partnership with students, CDC and Banbury Town Council staff
- Finally - we're looking at the feasibility of asking the public to sponsor a crocus...
- All ideas/ offers of help to John Bennett, Ron Barnett or Fred...



Staff in Polio T-Shirts support pupils at Orchard Fields on Planting Day last autumn

Changes to Global Grants

The members of the District Foundation team are pleased to announce an important change to the existing Global Grant funding. You will hopefully be aware that a Global Grant project receives funding from both our District and from the Rotary Foundation (TRF) in the USA.

Currently we expect clubs to raise at least \$10,000 either as a single club or with support from other clubs and groups. The District contribution is currently \$10,000 and then we submit the Global Grant application to TRF:

- the club contribution is matched 50% by TRF, so in this case \$5,000

- and the District contribution is matched 100% by TRF, so in this case \$10,000

This is how a club contribution of \$10,000 can result in a project budget of \$35,000.

With immediate effect, new Global Grant applications will require a reduced minimum club contribution of \$6,000 and the District contribution is increased to \$13,000.

The TRF matching would then be

- 50% of the club contribution, in this case \$3,000
- 100% of the District contribution, in this case \$13,000

Hence the total project budget would still be \$35,000 but with a much reduced contribution from the club.

Why are we doing this?

We are aware that many clubs are hesitant about applying for a Global Grant for an overseas project under one of the six Areas of Focus. The application process does take time and effort and the funding involved is significant. We want to do all we can to support clubs who are interested in these opportunities: we can help with initial planning, we can help with the online application form, and we can now also help more with the funding. This increased contribution might not be available indefinitely, but we do expect to be able to offer this to quite a few GG projects in this centenary year of the Rotary Foundation.

Any queries about Global Grants can be sent to me or to Peter Ballard, chair of the District Grants Committee distgrants1090@outlook.com

The Grants Committee members also hear about international projects that are seeking support from UK clubs. These projects may also be eligible for the above funding. Contact Peter Ballard to find out more about these opportunities.

For more information on grants, you can also visit the Foundation webpages at www.rotaryfoundation1090.org. You will find examples of international district grant funded projects, and we will shortly add local district grant funded projects and global grant projects. The hope is that clubs can share experiences, best practice and success stories of grant-funded

projects. If you have project stories that you would like to share please get in touch with me.

Karen

District 1090 Rotary Foundation Chair
Rotary Club of Oxford Spires

Events

Stephen's Summer Steaming



Once again this annual event was a great success attracting over around 60 adults plus children for a social, a BBQ, the delights of Stephen and Claire's well-maintained garden and, of course, a trip on Stephen's train.



In addition to a very enjoyable afternoon, a substantial sum was raised for Foundation. Many thanks to Stephen and Clare for their very generous hospitality.

Italian Earthquake

A street collection was held at Castle Quay on 2nd September raising £940 for the Italian Earthquake appeal. This will be forwarded to the Rotary Club of Biella (our contact club in Italy) in order that the funds can be targeted to where aid is needed.

This was a coordinated response with our contact club in France, Villefrance, whose members are also forwarding 500 euros to the Rotary Club of Biella.

Thanks to Cherwell District Council and Castle Quay management for making this possible.

Rotary Club of Banbury Cherwell Cycling Sportive



The Rotary Club of Banbury Cherwell presented our club with a cheque from the proceeds of their very successful Cycling Sportive in recognition of the help provided by our members at the event.

In addition to the above, it is now anticipated that in excess of £2,000 will be raised for the Gambia project from our members entering the event.

Speaker Reports

Nigel Yeaton – My Life – A Moving Experience



In his Life Talk on Friday 29th July, it became evident that Nigel is a mover, (I don't know about a shaker) because every time anything of note happened, he's moved. Twenty times!! Son of a policeman "Up North", whose seemingly regular promotion to the heady heights of Inspector at Pocklington started the habit - of course, promotion meant moving to a different beat.

At the behest of his mother, who had high hopes for her young son, Nigel studied hard and passed his 11 plus, which gained him a scholarship to Pocklington, a Direct Grant Public School. Mother was pleased - and so was Nigel. As time went by, he changed from a rather shy yokel (his words, not mine) to quite a confident yokel (my words, not his), was made Head of Dayboys and started to develop his own ideas of how morning assembly *should* be presented. Signs of his early aspirations to be an actor? To explain - he felt the lesson should be read with expression and not in the usual monotone. When it was his turn to take the reading, his performance brought approval from the staff and disbelief from his fellow students.

Good parental advice suggested he should not follow in his father's footsteps, but go for a degree, which he did, attending London University, graduating in 1971 and completing his professional law exams in 1972. A Guilford law firm took the plunge and gave him a job, where he started doing his articles - which has got nothing to do with writing for the local press. His love of the spoken word and the importance of language raised its head again when he was brave enough to correct a barrister in open court and got away with it. After three years he transferred his talents

to another law firm, Eversheds in Norwich, where he specialised in Wills, Probate and Trusts, but after six years he'd got itchy feet again. Time for another move, and it's Stephen Jakeman's fault that he landed up in Banbury. Stephen's wife Claire, who was probate solicitor at Aplins, had just informed him that she was expecting a baby and after he got over the shock, it was decided that she would tender her resignation, leaving a vacancy in Banbury. Nigel got the job.

After 5 years in Sinclair Avenue another move, this time to Bloxham and Nigel was able to broaden his acting talents by joining the Bloxham Amateur Drama Society and played many leading parts - one of them quite naughty!! But in 1998 he felt he wanted to do something quite different and challenging and came across a book, *Personal Mark* written by RSC actor Alec McCowen. The book related to his experience of putting on a performance of the whole of St Mark's Gospel as a piece of theatre and Nigel had found his challenge.

Since it had been McCowen's personal project, Nigel felt he should ask for his blessing and received a charming letter back saying "go for it". There followed several weeks of correspondence offering advice and encouragement and after weeks of study and rehearsal, found he could read, say, ten verses, cover them up and recite them back straight away, proving what can be done with constant mental practice. The reason for the performance was to prove to himself and to others that old texts like the Bible or Shakespeare are not difficult to understand if delivered with feeling and intonation - a rerun of when he read the lesson in school assembly all those years ago. These days he confines his acting activities to Sonia Blinkhorn's group of thespians "Poetic Licence".

Nigel was in Round Table for 7 years, but when the age limit came into play, he joined Rotary, proposed by the late Colin Crouch.

He has two lovely daughters. Caroline, who lives in Australia with her husband David, son of Rotarian the late Richard George and Vicky, who is well known to us Rotarians and who is getting married next January in Mauritius - Nigel is saving madly. He and Diane have now lived in Balscote for 4 ½ years - and to the best of my knowledge are not planning to move again before this report is published.

John Bennett

Cathy Adams – Work-Shop Warwickshire



On the 5th of August we were given a thorough insight into the educational and training opportunities provided by Work-Shop Warwickshire for persons with learning difficulties. This is one of the Community Interest Companies (known as C.I.C.'s), which is one of the fastest growing community oriented enterprise movements in the country. The main feature of a CIC is that assets owned by the company are held in an 'asset lock' which secures those assets to applications for the good use of the community.

Work-Shop is based near Stratford-on-Avon and has the belief that, purposeful activity is vital to wellbeing, so enabling people to increase their work, life and social skills. This will lead to improved health and wellbeing through increased feeling of self-fulfilment, confidence and satisfaction from achievement. Social events including Discos, skittles and parties are very popular.

Cathy explained the organization started in a small way in a village hall near Kineton but now has modern facilities in dedicated premises. There are at present approximately 30 participants, mostly part-time, working on many projects. These include collection and recycling of aluminium cans, production of handmade greeting cards and composting used teabags. A major success has been an undertaking of outsourced tasks from local factories. Assembling motherboards from supplied components has greatly improved the skills of the participants and raised their confidence levels.

Work-Shop develops the social skills of the group, by working closely together, friendships are built,

and for those who find social situations challenging they can control the pace of their own interaction with others. Cathy has a very personal connection to these issues as her own son has severe learning difficulties and when she researched the huge lack of opportunities when he reached his early 20s she decided to give up her very successful career as a lawyer and started Work-Shop. Cathy and her team provide real work activities that are of value to the wider community and involve the participants by work experience placements and visits to business partners in the wider world.

Peter Wilkins

Leigh Warren – Image processing and finite element modelling for diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis



Leigh is a recipient of our Rotary Bursary Scheme which has been running for about ten years and pays selected engineering students a sum of £1,500 over the three year period of their engineering degree course. This money is to help defray some of their costs and to encourage them to take up engineering as a career.

Leigh told us that he has decided to specialise in Biomedical Engineering with particular reference to the early detection of osteoporosis and the affect it has on weakening the body's skeletal structure. His research involves the use of high tech image processing machines to examine sections of a person's bone density. Low skeletal bone mass directly affects the strength of the bone and gives an early warning to the doctor that the patient probably has osteoporosis and an increased risk of fractures where healthy bone would not normally

break. The risk of osteoporosis and subsequent bone damage becomes much higher as we age and is now very topical as we are generally living so much longer. Current methods of detection are very helpful but fall short of giving an assessment of the quality of the bone which is a key consideration when evaluating the strength and therefore fracture risk.

Leigh's research is aimed at providing this key piece of information and a more accurate prediction of risk.

John Brodey

Bob Thompson – My Job Talk



On 19th August, we had the pleasure of listening to our very own Bob, who had kindly stepped in at short notice to give his Job Talk.

In Bob's own inimitable style we were taken on a journey from Bob selling a bobby calf for £1 to, fifty years later, making a sale for £25 million. In both cases, Bob observed that his clients, who were farmers, both expressed their disappointment by commenting that the sale figures were, "not enough!"

Bob, at age 18, announced to his family that he wanted to go in to some career to do with farming. This caused Bob's father and grandfather, both of whom were metallurgists, to call Bob, "quite mad". In order to go to agricultural college, he needed eighteen months experience on a farm or in a job related to agriculture. The late Rotarian Ken Gibbard provided Bob with three month's work experience on his farm at Crouch Hill before Bob obtained a work experience placement at Midland Marts Ltd., the Cattle Market at Banbury.

After a short while Bob's talents were recognised by one of the Directors who asked if he would like to become a trainee auctioneer. Bob jumped at the chance of being paid £5.10s.6p a week.

In those days there was a sale almost every day in Banbury plus sales in Bicester and Buckingham on Monday's and Tuesday's respectively. Bob's first sales were bobby calves, he then moved to poultry, then calves and then pigs. The art of selling, Bob told us, is not to gabble ones words but to know the value of what is being offered for sale. You have to start the bidding yourself and hope for the best that a buyer will start bidding; Bob could sell 150 cows per hour and a brief demonstration followed. It was no surprise to learn that Bob became the youngest auctioneer in the county to sell valuable stock, the barren cows.

At that time, Bob qualified as a Rural Valuer and Surveyor by following a correspondence course. This was despite many at work not exactly encouraging him by telling him that no-one had actually passed the exams whilst working at Midland Marts!

In the mid 1970's, however, Roy Barker who was Chairman and MD of Midland Marts sold the company to Dalgetys who then proceeded to asset strip everything except the 200 acre farm and the market site. Following the sale, there was a management buyout with the aid of a loan of around £2 million from the Midland Bank. Bob, by then, was producing major income for the company by not only selling large numbers of livestock but also undertaking professional work for his farmer clients whom he met by being an auctioneer.

Bob recounted an order which was placed by Idi Amin who wanted 1000 Friesian heifers to improve the milk supply in Uganda. Bob himself made two deliveries flying out with a bull and 77 cattle on each occasion. This order alone halved the company debt. Bob made a swift reference to the potato salad which was served on the second leg of one of the journeys to Uganda but I am too squeamish to recount the details here.

Midland Marts then went public, floating shares at 70p per share following each member paying 3p a share. Bob was, by that time, a Director of Midland Marts Ltd but not a director of the public company. Bob sold his shares to invest in property. On the advice of its accountants, the public

company diversified in to non-agricultural work which, sadly, lost money and wiped out the £500,000 profit it was making from its core cattle market and professional business.

There was, therefore, a need to find a buyer before the shares were taken over and the core business closed. Chairman Jim Watson sold the company to Owen Oyston who went on to sell his business which included Midland Marts for £80 million to Royal Insurance. By that time Bob was in charge of the professional side of the business and development opportunities were opening up around Banbury on clients' land. This was the only

side of the business which Royal Insurance wanted so they gave Midland Marts Ltd a generous buyout deal, including the company pension scheme, in the early 1990's at the start of the recession.

This was when Bob took the decision to move, becoming a partner at Sheldon Bosley, Chartered Surveyors in Stratford on Avon. Bob's fellow partners at Sheldon Bosley were obsessed with raising money to build a new cattle market. Bob advised against this as, by that time, the supermarkets had gained so much influence that their aim was to stop buying livestock for slaughter from an open market.

In 2006, Bob decided the time was right to set up on his own. Whilst at Sheldon Bosley he had gained a Degree in Advanced Valuations and Estate Development from Leeds University. The latter looked at all the legal aspects of development sites and the detailed appraisal of valuing them. The Banking Crisis of 2008 slowed everything down but many of the development projects Bob has been working on during the last 10 years are now coming to fruition, the most recent being the sale at Warwick for £25 million referred to at the beginning of this report.

Nigel Halfpenny

Around the Committees

Sports & Entertainment Committee

Date for the diary - Monday 31st October - a club visit has been arranged to the new Ardley Energy Recovery Facility. A board will soon be going round so you can register your interest.

Weekly Meeting Duties for September 2016

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Table Duty</u> | <u>Cash Desk</u> | <u>Fellowship</u> | <u>F&H in charge</u> |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 nd Sept. | M Budd I Calderbank P Cavill B Cornley J Donaldson M Douglas | S Dhesi B Doe | J Bennett | S Maxwell |
| 9 th Sept. | A Fairbairn B Goodchild J Hansford P Gardiner S Kershaw H Matthews | T Iles N Halfpenny | K Manning | P Shea |
| 16 th Sept. | J Meredith H Morris M Nutt R Nurden M Phillips G Pollard | A McHugh R McLean | J Phillips | D Sullivan |
| 23 rd Sept. | P Richardson N Randall F Riches I Rodrick P Thomas R Thompson | S Porter J Smith | A Warren | A Wiltshire |
| 30 th Sept. | Evening Meeting | R Worrall I Anthistle | | S Jakeman |

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 September & October

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Speaker</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Host</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 2 Sept | Peter Williams | Cricket, golf and bowls on a snooker table | Nigel Yeadon |
| 9 Sept | Lucy Cross | My Rotary Exchange to Japan | Geoff Pollard |
| 16 Sept | Tony Wiltshire | Long Serving Member | Stewart Maxwell |
| 23 Sept | Laurie Cunningham | Council on Legislation | Peter Richardson |
| 30 Sept | Brian Little | Is there still a Banbury Experience? | Helen Morris |
| 7 Oct | Simon Porter | My Life/My Talk | John Smith |
| 14 Oct | Martyn Amsel | Implants/Dynamic Dentistry | Peter Wilkins |
| 21 Oct | Ms Bishop | Our Work with Young Carers | John Webb |
| 28 Oct | Georgia Geary | The Mill Arts Centre. Raising the bar for arts in the community | |