



The January Diary

- 4th Classification & Membership Committee*
- 6th Rotary Fellowship Meeting*
- 11th Foundation Committee*
- 13th Rotary Meeting*
- 14th Young Musician Heats*
- 17th Sport & Entertainment Committee*
- 18th Youth Services Committee*
- 18th International Committee*
- 20th Rotary Meeting*
- 25th Council Meeting*
- 27th Rotary Frugal Lunch Meeting*

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



President Owen's December round up

Before anything else may I wish all our Club members a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

I hope you all enjoyed a peaceful Christmas and managed to spend time with your families enjoying the festive period and return refreshed to enjoy more fellowship as we work together on our upcoming events.

As I wish you a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year it is a time when we anticipate the unfolding of new horizons and projects, rediscover our strength and gear up for new challenges! It is also a good time of year to remember our Rotary theme for the year.

RI President John F. Germ chose *Rotary Serving Humanity* as his theme for 2016-17. He noted, in particular, Rotary's unique ability to bring together committed professionals to achieve remarkable goals. Germ believes that "now is the time to capitalize on our success: as we complete the eradication of polio, and catapult Rotary forward to be an even greater force for good in the world."

December is a busy month in our Club and I want to thank everyone for the hard work they put in making the many events we were involved with such a success.

Nigel Randall and his team did their normal sterling work supporting the Tour de Trigs on 3/4th December.

Our lunchtime speakers are covered elsewhere, but it was a super month and I would like to mention in particular Nigel Halfpenny who spoke to us on Friday 2nd December. I have said before I always enjoy listening to our own Club members speak and it really was great fun learning about Nigel's past and early life! In addition it was, as ever, a privilege as we welcomed Neil Gadsby to the Club. His ability to turn a personal loss and tragedy into such good is inspirational and it was clear from the emotion generated by his words to us what a contribution he has made to so many people. Finally, it was my very great pleasure to host Bishop James Johnson and his wife Joyce at our Christmas lunch. He was a charming guest and it was fascinating to learn about his life on St Helena.



We made our normal Christmas parcel deliveries on Sunday 11th December and huge thanks to John Hansford and Alan Wolstencroft for their very hard work on this. Also thanks to all those Club members that turned out to help make the deliveries on the day proving once again that "many hands make light work." Particular thanks to Mark Recchia who was under orders from Mrs Recchia to take it easy as he was recuperating following his hospital procedure but turned out nonetheless in contravention of her orders to assist in a supervisory capacity!

I had great pleasure in attending and representing the Club at the Service Club Carol Service on 18th December. It was a very pleasant evening and a great way to start Christmas. Many thanks to all the Club members who attended, to Rtn. Ian Rodrick for his organisational work and all the ladies from Inner Wheel (and others) who pitched in to organise the teas, coffees and mince pies!



This year we managed 4 supermarket collections with the Street Organ. Huge thanks to Rtn. Simon Bion, his committee and everyone else who pitched in to help.

On the evening of Saturday 17th December we had our annual evening excursion on Santa's Float. We were well marshalled by Rtns. Alan Wolstencroft and Paul Shea who managed to ensure we all got back in one piece.

Many thanks for all of your work over what is one of our busiest periods of the year.

So we now have a busy few months ahead of us and I look forward to seeing you all at Club soon and wishing you all a Happy New Year in person.

President Owen Kyffin

Events

International Meal

13th December saw Rtn. Andrew McHugh giving a very entertaining and informative talk entitled 'From the back of beyond to the middle of nowhere' at an evening meal prepared by the students of North Oxfordshire Catering College. His presentation followed a very enjoyable meal, effectively describing his career and experiences in such places as St Helena and Oman whilst in the armed forces, as a mercenary and subsequently as a team with his wife, Nicola.

£390 was raised, 90% of which will go to the Unique Home Charity which Rtn. Surinder Dhesi visited in India. This provides a home and education for baby girls abandoned by their families. The remaining 10% will be distributed to other local or international charities.

Xmas Food Parcels

246 parcels were distributed, each parcel having a basic value of £27.80 and containing 33 items.

£490 of food was obtained from the collection at Sainsbury's and this was supplemented by £60 cash collected and a £40 donation from Sainsbury's.

The total food value was £7,250.

Thanks to all who helped with the collection at Sainsbury's and delivery of the parcels and an extra thank you to the working group of Rotarians Hansford, Hitchcox, Gardiner, Bedding and Wolstencroft for all their behind the scenes work.

We received some very positive feedback from recipients, many of whom were very grateful for this help at an expensive time of the year.

Alan Wolstencroft

Xmas Float

On 17th December Santa was warmly welcomed by many children during an early reconnaissance of the villages of Drayton, Wroxton, North Newington and Broughton. Although this is predominantly perceived as a community event, £525 was raised for charities (distribution to be 60% by Rotary and 40% by Round Table). It was good to see some new faces enjoy this brilliant and popular evening.

Street Organ Collections



We experienced tremendous support from the General Public for the musical entertainment provided on 13th and 23rd (at Tesco) and 18th and 24th (at Sainsbury's) raising £6,211.28 (inclusive of Gift Aid). 90% will be donated to Katharine House Hospice with 10% retained for other charities. Many thanks to John Webb for servicing the Rotary equipment and for bringing his own street organ, monkey and teddy bear along to the delight of young and old.

Speaker Reports

Neil Gadsby – Katharine House Hospice



Neil as we all know is a very remarkable person. Following the sad passing of his daughter Katharine from cancer aged only 20, he and a group of friends set out on a five year mission to raise enough funds to build a place that would provide palliative care for people.

Through his own experience Neil realised that Banbury and the surrounding area needed provision for people facing life-limiting illnesses, as well as their friends and family.

Whilst the Hospice does care for people at the end of life, it also provides respite care and support for symptom management and pain relief. The care provided is not just about managing the physical symptoms of disease, it provides emotional and spiritual support, together with help to access the practical support patients need.

Katharine House Hospice care is provided throughout the local community, many of the patients come in to the hospice for respite care for themselves and to give their carers a break.

Some attend the day hospice on a regular basis learning and developing their skills such as painting, taking part in music therapy etc, others having a bath which they no longer are able to do at home. They are collected and taken home by volunteer drivers

The hospice also provides care for others in their own homes, care homes and in the Horton hospital.

For the last 25 years Katharine House Hospice has provided specialist palliative care for over 9,000 adults and their families with life limiting conditions across North Oxfordshire, South Northamptonshire & South Warwickshire.

Last year 775 patients were referred to the Hospice services and of these 569 were new referrals

There are not many people in the Banbury area whose family or friends have not received care from the Hospice.

All of this is down to Neil for which we all will be forever thankful.

Neil finally retired last year. The staff and my fellow Trustees all miss his friendship and guidance.

Rtn. Roger Worrall - KHH Trustee

Around the Committees

Purple4Polio – This month's Update



(planting by pupils from Frank Wise Special School)

We have been involved in the planting of 42,700 corms at almost fifty venues. These include fifteen primary schools, one Special School, eight secondary schools, three residential centres for the elderly, one parents and toddler group at the Sunshine Centre, four groups attached to the Sunrise Multicultural Centre, some 300 family pots via the Market Stall Giveaway (accompanied by an hour's special quarter peal of the bells at St Mary's

Church) on the weekend before World Polio Day, the two major plantings in Spiceball Park and Car Park gardens, and a final effort at the local hospice.



(the Town Mayor and Rtn. Liz Yardley with the corms ready for planting)

On the fundraising side we have already raised £4,120.56 via a concert by Oxford Male Voice Choir at Broughton Church, four 'Children Singing Children Concerts' involving 27 primary school choirs singing at St Mary's Church, sales of crocus badges and the Club's weekly 'Polio Pot', which awaits us on the bar every Friday lunchtime and welcomes additional 'fines' for failure to wear badges or acceptance of second helpings, etc.



(the last corm is planted)

For the next initiatives, we look forward to the Crocus Concerts Celebrations on Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th March at St Mary's Church. Also, invitations to support Rotary's efforts across Banbury are being sent to local businesses, churches, faith and community groups. First, we ask our own members if they can support in any of the ways suggested or if they/you have contact with any groups or businesses that may offer support. Please read, digest and respond in

whatever way possible! The invitations begin on page 8.

Fred Riches

Children Singing for Children – Financial Outcomes from November's Concerts

There were around 650 children from 27 primary schools taking part. Each of the three chosen charities receives a share of the funds raised through ticket sales and generous end-of-concert donations.

Dogs for Good has received around £3,600 (50% of proceeds) for their work with autistic children.

£1,440 (20%), which turns into £2,880 as a result of Barclays matched funding for this project, goes to Sierra Leone. This money will pay for the cost of building & equipping one of the two new classrooms at the Banbury International School - recently re-named in recognition of the support from the Banbury Community for the project led by Rotarian Alan Wolstencroft.

Purple4Polio - Rotary's Charity to bring about the eradication of polio, will also receive £1,440 (20%) - which becomes £4,320 as a result of the Bill and Melinda Gates double-matched funding for this charity. This funding is sufficient to immunise around 12,000 children - close to the total number of children in Banbury area primary, secondary and special schools. As agreed, each year, the Rotary Club keeps 10% of the proceeds for other children's charities. This year, that comes to £720.

This means that the total being received by the three nominated charities and other children's charities will be just under £11,500 - a record amount for one year.

A huge thank you to all the staff and children involved at each of the participating schools, to our conductors and accompanists, Lindsey Lea-James, Helen Swift, Jonathan French and Tony Keen, to our main sponsors, Tudor Hall and the Carrdus school, and to Banbury Charities for their financial support - also to the team of volunteers from LiveArts-at-St Mary's, who supported the Rotary Stewards in organising the rehearsals and concerts.

Fred Riches

Tour de Trigs

After a few years of discussions Banbury Rotaract finally planned on taking part in the Tour de Trigs, little did we know what we had let ourselves in for!



After some training sessions and many people telling us we were crazy fools for taking part in such an event, it soon came round. With our bags packed we headed to the start line at The Warriner School where we were met by some warm welcoming faces from the Tour de Trigs' team. Once we had checked in and again getting that certain look from the volunteers when we say it's our first time, we began to get a little nervous and it was only a matter of time until we were allowed into the plotting room where 30 minutes seem to fly past and that was it, operation 'get as far as we can' started.

Everyone that we passed or passed us were high in spirit and had a smile on their face although we had only just covered less than a mile or two where our first incident happened. While looking at the map I heard a voice 'hole', 'hole'..... 'Hole!' and then I was down! Sarah did try to inform me that there was a 'Hole' but I did not put two and two together and my left foot and pretty much my left leg went into a hole and that's where I ended up, sprawled on the floor looking up at Malcolm and Sarah thinking 'what the hell just happened?'. We continued on our way taking a few wrong bearings here and there but arriving at the checkpoints knowing that we were going the right way and not missing any unmanned check points as that would be a disaster having to turn back around to find them.

Everyone we met at check points were all willing to fill our water bottles and get us hot drinks and made sure we were all ok to continue. After taking a wrong turn along with around 3 other groups we

did finally manage to find the checkpoint in a village hall where we knew we were one of the last groups to arrive but were keen to continue and push more. When we set off from this village hall we continued in the village turning right at the cross roads then left up a track coming to a field with one extremely waterlogged gateway, which is where the drama happened.....

Sarah, one of our members, managed to somehow get completely stuck in the thick mud. The team mates that we are, Malcolm and I went back in to the mud to rescue Sarah who was stuck pretty firm. With Malcolm using his hands to drag the mud away from her feet and me trying to pull and support Sarah without knocking everyone in at the same time we finally managed to pull Sarah free but in doing so leaving her walking boots completely submerged in the thick slippery mud. We had to leave Sarah with the sweeper guys who let us catch up to the team in front to make an Ad Hoc team. We managed to catch up and help each other to 25miles where we all retired.

We learned that when you start you need to cover as much ground as possible because firstly you want to get as far as you can before you lose the light and secondly if other teams are a lot further ahead you do not have a chance to make an Ad Hoc team if someone needs to drop out.

All the volunteers on the day were great. All very supportive yet at the same time telling us we were mad for trying. However they encouraged us to give it our best shot while still making sure we were having fun.



(the Rotaract team around sunset)

All of us would very much like to try again but need a lot more skills with a compass at night. It was our first attempt but it definitely will not be our last. 25miles was a good achievement for our first attempt but we are hoping to do a lot better next time.

Kyle

(Ed - congratulations to Kyle, Sarah and Malcolm for having the commitment to represent Rotaract and enter into unknown territory [literally]. Hopefully they will have set an example for others to test themselves whilst using the event to raise funds for charity - see www.tourdetrigs.org.uk).

International Committee

CHECK YOUR DIARIES

Tuesday 21st February 2017

Alan Carroll will be a guest speaker at Banbury Cricket Club, White Post Road, Bodicote (the event starts at 7pm).

He spent two and a half years working in Antarctica during the late 1950s and will be describing his experiences - his work, the wildlife, living conditions, interesting anecdotes etc. A fascinating topic given that few people have the opportunity (or the desire) to live in such extreme conditions.

As a result of the knowledge he gained, Alan is a contributor to the book 'Operation Tabarin: Britain's Secret Wartime Expedition to Antarctica 1944-46'.

Tickets are £10 inclusive of a bread and cheese buffet supper.

Proceeds will go to charities supported by the Rotary Club of Banbury (local and international).

If you would like to attend what should be an enjoyable, social and interesting evening, please contact Andrew Fairbairn.

Weekly Meeting Duties for January 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Table Duty</u>	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&H in charge</u>
06-Jan	S. Porter P. Richardson F. Riches P. Thomas P. Shea J. Smith	G. Pollard N. Randall	I. Rodrick	S. Crump
13-Jan	R. Thompson J. Webb P. Williams A. Wolstencroft N. Yeadon R. Worrall	A. Warren P. Wilkins	E. Woodruff	D. Sullivan
20-Jan	G. Anker I. Anthistle R. Barnett S. Bion J. Brodey M. Budd	A. Bedding T. Bryce	J. Bennett	A. Wiltshire
27-Jan	I. Calderbank P. Cavill N. Deakin S. Dhesi J. Donaldson M. Douglas	B. Cornley M. Dibb	P. Gardiner	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 January & February

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Host</u>
6 Jan		Fellowship Meeting	
13 Jan	Greg Smith	Victim Initiative Restorative Justice	Nigel Randall
20 Jan	Martin Phillips	Longer Serving Member	John Bennett
27 Jan	Judith Diment	Rotary Foundation (frugal lunch)	Ron Barnett
3 Feb	Chris Mason	Swift News	Owen Kyffin
10 Feb	Victoria Prentice	Impressions as a new MP	Andrew McHugh
17 Feb	Keith Rhind	MCS/ES	Paul Shea
24 Feb	Nick Irvine	School leaver aged 64 and a half	Nigel Halfpenny

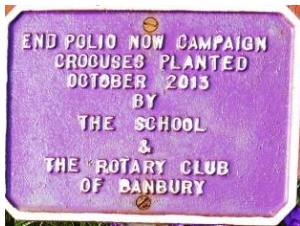


INVITATION



From the Rotary Clubs of Banbury
to All Local Businesses, Churches and Faith Groups

Join Banbury's Crocus Campaign 2013-2018



Our Town is making the World of a Difference!
Banbury goes Purple4Polio for a polio-free world



50,000 new corms hit the ground in the autumn
Adding to 12,000 planted over the past 3 years
Set to carpet our town purple for polio in spring 2017

We are looking for 30-40 sponsors from the business and faith communities to contribute from £25 to £100 each to secure the project for the coming two years. Would you like to be one of them and help eradicate polio for ever – at the same time brightening up Banbury in the Spring?

What's happened so far?

What's planned next?

Please take a look at the attached and get back to us.

Rotarians Jennette Bradbury, Ron Barnett and Fred Riches –

On behalf of the Rotary Clubs of Banbury and Banbury Cherwell



AN INVITATION

from the Rotary Clubs of Banbury

to Community Groups, Local Businesses, Churches and Faith Groups

Help Banbury go Purple4Polio for a polio-free world



CARPET BANBURY WITH CROCUSES!
BRIGHTEN UP OUR TOWN IN EARLY SPRING!
HELP ERADICATE POLIO AND SAVE LIVES!



Would you like to join our 3-year-old local community project in support of the worldwide campaign to eradicate polio and carpet your town purple in the process?

Why purple crocuses?

To match the colour and shape of the dye dabbed onto a child's little finger on mass immunisation days

The project so far

In autumn 2013 Rotary teamed up with local secondary schools to transform public spaces and brighten up the local community by planting purple crocus corms across the town. The "Crocus Concerts Project Partnership" initiated by Rotary, involving Local Schools, Sanctuary Housing, Banbury Charities and both Town and District Councils has so far planted over 12,000 Ruby Giant Crocuses on school sites and in public spaces. Schools have staged "Crocus Concerts" to celebrate the annual arrival of purple blooms and in the first three years the project has raised sufficient funds to immunise over 100,000 children.

This school year

Cherwell District Council, Banbury Town Council, Whitley Stimpson and Banbury's two Rotary Clubs purchased almost 50,000 corms for 2016 November planting. This has more than quadrupled the number planted over the previous three years. Rotary Foundation is celebrating its centenary by supporting the Purple4Polio initiative. Over seven million corms have been planted across the United Kingdom.

How can local businesses, community groups, churches and faith communities support?

- Sponsor school crocus pack (£30), 250 crocuses on school, residential, public spaces (£25)
- Sponsor a single crocus for 10p or multiples of ten for £1 each
- Make an Advanced Booking for our March Crocus Concerts (£5 each or Groups of ten £40)
- Sponsor the Crocus Concerts for this year and next – contact details below)
- Make a donation - it's a brilliant investment, as every £1 is turned into £3 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Where else can you get a return like that?

Cheques can be made out to "Rotary Club of Banbury" (marking "Purple for Polio" on the back) and sent to Hon Treasurer David Hitchcox c/o Crocus Projects Organisers, 22 Church View, Banbury OX16 9NB. Call/email Rotarian Fred Riches on 07887834267/ fredriches@talktalk.net for further details.

What has already happened in this 4th year of the Banbury Crocus Project Community Partnership?

- Banbury Market Stall Crocus Corm Giveaway – 260 packs of corms given to the public
- St Mary's Church Bell Ringers rang a Quarter Peal at 11am on the Saturday closest to World Polio Day to celebrate how close the world is to ending polio worldwide
- 500 crocus corms delivered to each local secondary school
- Special planting packs delivered to ten local primary schools
- Four "Children Singing for Children" Concerts held with 28 primary schools taking part – 20% of proceeds to the End Polio Campaign
- Some of Banbury's youngest and some of its oldest residents - toddlers at the Sunshine Centre and Senior citizens in Sanctuary Housing have planted purple crocus corms in pots
- Banbury citizens from all cultures have helped with planting, including ladies at the Multicultural Sunrise Centre
and after the winter...

SPRING 2017 "Purple4Polio Crocus Concerts"

St Mary's Church Banbury

Tickets £5 – Groups of ten £40 - available February 2017

- Tuesday 7th March: Bloxham, Blessed George Napier, Chenderit and Tudor Hall
- Thursday 9th Banbury: North Oxfordshire Academy, Sibford and The Warriner