



The May Diary

- 2nd Party for the Blind
- 3rd Community & Vocational Committee
- Classification & Membership Committee
- 5th Rotary Meeting
- 10th Foundation Committee
- 12th Rotary Meeting
- 13th District Assembly
- 16th Sports & Entertainment Committee
- 17th Youth Services Committee
- International Committee
- 19th Rotary Meeting
- 24th Council Meeting
- 25th Contact
- 26th Rotary Meeting

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



President Owen's April round up

Our Rotary year spins on and we are approaching June faster than I would have believed possible.

I was delighted that this month we have not only made our target per capita donation to Foundation but we have also sent £7,000 to the End Polio Now campaign and received a recommendation from our Foundation committee that we send another £1,000. This is a fantastic effort and something we as a Club should be very proud of!

In terms of ongoing fund raising the Foundation committee held a very successful barn dance this month in the Jubilee Hall in Bloxham. This was a huge success as a social evening with Club members enjoying a fish and chip supper along with a fantastic evening of dancing. However it also raised in excess of £500 for Polio eradication. Thanks to Ron Barnett and all his team on Foundation for all the work they put into this, it really was a great night!

Again not wishing to steal anyone's thunder with regard speaker reports, but we have enjoyed some excellent speakers this month. As I say I always enjoy hearing our own Club members speaking and this month we have been spoilt! Again thanks to Rtn. Ron Barnett who stepped in at the last minute to talk to us about Banbury's twinning activities over the years and Rtn. John Groves gave us a marvellous talk on his life and work in education.

I was delighted to attend, with Rtn. Martin Phillips and Vanessa Picker, our Foundation scholar, a tri-Club dinner with Thatcham and Hungerford Rotary Clubs and hosted by Newbury Rotary at the

Donnington Valley Hotel, Newbury. All three of our District's scholars spoke and Vanessa acquitted herself superbly. She speaks with great confidence and assurance. I know Martin is keen to have her speak at a Club meeting before she returns to Australia late this autumn and is liaising with Nigel Halfpenny to make this happen. I would urge you to make sure you are here when she does join us as not only is she an excellent speaker, but given we support the District's efforts with its scholars I think it is very important to understand what they are doing and why their studies fit so well with Rotary's aims.

Right I have to go now to attend our party for the blind at Wroxton House Hotel of which more next month.....

President Owen Kyffin

Speaker Reports

Ron Barnett – Twinning



I was delighted to host Rotarian Ron Barnett, who gave a very informative and interesting insight into the Banbury Twinning Association which he has been involved with from its early days.

He told us Banbury is twinned with two towns, Ermont in France and Hennef in Germany.

He very colourfully detailed some of his trips to those towns and their return visits. There have been many local organisation, clubs, schools and societies who have benefited from the cultural exchanges over the years and many friendships have evolved so much so that some members will visit frequently organised events.

Twinning has become much more difficult in recent years due to financial constraints but they continue to do as much as they can.

Ron continued to detail some of the characters and their escapades, much to the amusement of our members and there were quite a few questions at the end of his presentation.

We are all grateful for Ron stepping in at short notice and entertaining us with his colourful and enthusiastic description of Twinning in Banbury. Many thanks Ron.

Rtn. John Donaldson

Rtn. John Groves – My Life Talk



On 21st April, we had the pleasure of hearing about the life of our new member, John Groves. John illustrated his talk with a variety of highly amusing animated slides which resulted in much laughter from his fellow Rotarians.

Despite being born in Wales, John moved to Portsmouth two years later and considers himself to be a true Englishman, although on some occasions, for instance rugby, he would like to think he was Welsh. Life in primary school was difficult as John suffered difficulties of coordination which had a detrimental impact on his progress. He made up for this, however, with plenty of activity outside school, the most significant of which was the purchase of a science book at a church jumble sale which started John's love of Science.

Now living in Coventry, at Secondary Modern School, John's dexterity improved. Within a year he

moved from being bottom to being top of the class. At age 13, he swapped to a new comprehensive school which meant that he was able to take O-levels. Leaving school at 16, he started work, progressing from a Chemical Plant Technician Apprentice to becoming a Chartered Chemist at the age of 21.

After a period in industry, John moved into academia and studied at Coventry Polytechnic, gaining a doctorate before moving to a research and teaching post for two years at the Memorial University in Canada. He moved back to the UK in 1971 and became a Chemistry Teacher at Banbury School where he remained until 2002. John rose through the ranks to become Acting Principal and Senior Vice-Principal. Outside the classroom, he ran the youth club at Cropredy, organised school events including science events for teachers and students across Oxfordshire, worked for Exam Boards and wrote various science textbooks.

After leaving Banbury School, John undertook consultancy work for a while prior to undertaking a web-design course which set him on a new path working in web-design and educational computer simulations both in the UK and USA. One of his web-designs attracted 20 million page views per annum and his Educational Physics software was awarded 'Best in Show' in the annual British Educational Training and Technology Show.

In 2015, John headed up the Bloxham Neighbourhood Plan which, in late 2016, saw 97% of the residents voting in favour of the Plan and in January 2018, it entered into local Planning Law.

Nigel Halfpenny



Not only did John Groves provide an excellent and different presentation, he was also inducted as a new member earlier in the month.

A busy lad!!

Ed.

Notes from Council 26/04/17

From committees' minutes the issue of transporting guests to Rotary functions was raised again. It was recommended Rotarians check with their car insurers that they are covered for these trips. Also investigate the degree of assistance required with the appropriate charity for individual guests.

Following feedback on Young Musicians received from The Trustees of Banbury Charities, Council plan to review this project.

Sainsbury's have agreed dates for Christmas collection. Tesco's have been approached.

Comm & Voc would appreciate more help with Banbury Show on 11th June. Board will be circulated.

International event on 2nd June booked at Tudor Hall talk by Sir Charles Pollard "My Part in Policing: 30 Momentous Years that that changed the UK for ever".

Foundation- Barn dance on 22nd April was big success, well attended and raised £520.

Hon Secretary announced District Assembly will be on Saturday 13th May at Henley on Thames.

Hon Treasurer reported that accounts up to 31st March have been circulated and unrestricted funds stand at £2640. Charity Commissioners have approved our 2015-16 accounts.

The President reported the District Conference in Bournemouth was enjoyable with good support from members of our Club. Thanks to Rtn. Ian Rodrick for organising our attendance. President's Lunch provisional date 18th June.

Council support in principle the RIBI President's Environmental Challenge to plant trees corresponding to our membership number in the coming year but require more information on costs involved before deciding to go ahead with it.

The performance of Club Sound system has been greatly improved by turning off the reverberation unit!

Rtn. Peter Wilkins

Events

Barn Dance



On Saturday 22nd April 50 members and guests gathered at the Jubilee Hall in Bloxham for an evening of fun, food and a flit around the floor.

The evening started with an excellent fish and chip supper which topped up everyone's energy levels for the dancing that was to follow. Under the direction of, and accompanied by, the Riverhead Ceilidh Band everyone soon became a blur as they began to allemande and poussette around the floor.

It was a greatly enjoyed evening and special thanks must go to the Riverhead Ceilidh Band for their excellent music, the organising team for doing such a great job, and all those who attended for making it such a fun evening.

Oh yes, and as well as having fun we raised the fantastic sum of £500 for Foundation.

Rtn. Ron Barnett

Wolf Run



10 kilometres cross country under nets, through tunnels and streams, over obstacles using ropes, 90 metre swim in a lake (a mite on the chilly side). Result - in excess of £700 for international projects supported by the Rotary Club of Banbury.

Ed.

Fundraising Talk by Sir Charles Pollard QPM

in aid of Rotary Charities and Wykeham Benefice



**“MY PART IN POLICING: 40
MOMENTOUS YEARS THAT CHANGED
THE UK”**

7.30 pm on Fri 2 June
Tudor Hall School, Wykeham Park,
Banbury, OX16 9UR,
(with kind permission of the Headmistress, Wendy Griffiths).

Sir Charles Pollard has been an eminent figure in policing, both nationally and internationally, and still works in the Justice system today.

We look forward to welcoming Rotarians, local Parishioners and the General Public.

Tickets - Talk only £10.00

Talk and drinks reception
hosted by Sir Charles £20.00

Tickets available on the website (or via Rtn. Andrew McHugh).

Weekly Meeting Duties for May 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Table Duty</u>	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&H in charge</u>
05-May	M Douglas A Fairbairn B Goodchild N Halfpenny J Hansford T Iles	M Dibb J Donaldson	G Jeremy	A Ilott
12-May	J Meredith A McHugh H Morris R Nurden M Nutt M Phillips	C Hughes K Manning	S Maxwell	R Kipping
19-May	S Porter N Randall P Richardson F Riches I Rodrick J Smith	G Pollard P Shea	J Webb	D Sullivan
26-May	R Worrall P Williams R Thompson A Wolstencroft E Woodruff N Yeadon	A Warren P Thomas	J Bennett	A Wiltshire

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 May & June

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Host</u>
5 May	Emily Fleming	Helen & Douglas House	Helen Braisby
12 May	Ekers	The Adderbury Village Morris Men	Nigel Deakin
19 May	David Richardson	New Member Talk	Ian Calderbank
26 May	Karen Irvani	Parents Talking Asperger's	Surinder Dhesi
2 June	Andrew Tyriania	Beer	Phil Cavill
9 June	Charles Hughes	New Member Talk	Roger Worrall
16 June	Elaine King & Sylvia Thomas	Young Carers	John Webb
23 June	Alan Wolstencroft	Club Assembly	
30 June	Owen Kyffin	Retiring President's Valedictory Speech	