



## The July Diary

5<sup>th</sup> Community & Vocational  
Committee

Classification &  
Membership Committee

7<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting

8<sup>th</sup> A Night at the Musicals

12<sup>th</sup> Foundation Committee

14<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting

18<sup>th</sup> Sports & Entertainment  
Committee

19<sup>th</sup> Youth Services Committee  
International Committee

21<sup>st</sup> Rotary Meeting

26<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

28<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting

31<sup>st</sup> House of Commons Visit

For the full year's diary visit  
[www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk](http://www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk)



## President Owen's June round up

Well where did that year go! Everyone told me it would flash by and it certainly has, especially since Christmas.

My first official duty this month (aside from Friday meetings) was to attend the International committee's hugely successful evening at Tudor Hall where we enjoyed light refreshments and a fascinating talk on his working life in policing from Sir Charles Pollard.

The following weekend I was delighted to welcome those of you who were able to attend to my President's lunch at Banbury Cricket Club on Sunday 11th. I enjoyed the occasion and everyone's company hugely and I do hope people didn't mind the slightly more casual nature of the event! My apologies again to those from Community and Vocational that this event clashed with the Banbury Show but I know you had a successful day and I had the pleasure of not only helping erect our gazebo but also giving Rtn. Mark Recchia a hand with the town council's one, so I am now an expert!

On Saturday 17th Jackie and I joined President Philip Brodey for the Rotary Club of Banbury Cherwell's President's night, which was a splendid evening hosted in the Norbar canteen and both food and entertainment were excellent. I later joined President Philip on 27<sup>th</sup> of June to celebrate Cherwell's official hand over to incoming President Richard Moyle.

The following evening I had the great pleasure of hosting my final Council meeting at home and we had a very pleasant time at which we managed to conduct a small amount of necessary business before enjoying a convivial evening of fellowship

So that's the last you will be hearing from me, well until I'm back on table duty and I promise to do my best not to spill anyone's dinner into their lap!

President Owen Kyffin

## *President's Valedictory Speech*

My fellow Club members and guests, hard luck as I'm afraid you've got me as the speaker this week.

Before I left the house this morning I was discussing my speech with Jackie and she said to me: 'Don't try too hard to be charming, witty or intellectual, just be your normal self which was an encouraging start for me!

So we are in the final straight and you will be delighted to know that this is pretty much the last time you will be compelled to listen to me after a year of having to every Friday! As is tradition this is my Valedictory address which is to look back on our year, to thank you as a Club for all the fellowship and support over the last year and more than anything else to thank you for the honour of letting me serve as the Club's President. We have a Club of hard working folk and I am very proud to call you all my fellow Rotarians.

I am very conscious of some advice I was once given that the only after lunch speech anyone wants to hear is when someone turns to you and says, "You leave the dishes where they are and I'll do the washing up." So I will try to bear that in mind and be as brief as decency and gratitude allow me to be.

For me Rotary is such a broad organisation offering so many opportunities. It isn't simply about raising funds for charities, although we do a great job of that, it is about fellowship. Our weekly meetings are at the heart of Rotary to me and I always enjoy them. It is about making friends because if you have to stand outside a supermarket on a cold December day for three hours, it is much easier to do that if you are stood next to a mate who you can enjoy a laugh with, well maybe unless it's Mr Phillips! But it is also about offering experiences and opportunities to young people to grow and develop which we do with a number of the competitions and other events we run.

As has often been mentioned we are a busy Club and we run a lot of events and we simply couldn't do that without the invaluable work of all of our committees, their Chairmen and members, so thank

you all for your hard work throughout the course of my year. As I am still working I have had to be a little more "hands off." I have tried to get around to one or two of each of the major committee's meetings over the course of the year, but have largely left the Chairmen and their Committees to your own devices. I can honestly say you have done me proud and delivered our normal excellent program so thank you all and I hope you did not feel I was neglecting you!

Considerable hours of work which is not always visible to, or remembered by many of us, is put in by our hard working Club Officers. It is common for me to receive a significant number of emails from Mark early on Sunday mornings or late into the evening when he is putting in unseen hours as our hard-working Club Secretary, keeping us informed of events and processing the necessary paper work to keep us functioning as a Club. Mark has been an invaluable support to me, not only in terms of remembering to print additional copies of paperwork to compensate for a feeble-memored President but as a person to listen to my moaning, to have a laugh with, as a right-hand man for my year and mainly as a good friend. So many thanks Mark. Equally David Hitchcox is owed a huge vote of thanks for serving again as our Treasurer writing cheques, recording and handling money, dealing with paying in and out of the bank. David is standing down at the end of my year after many years of stalwart service so he is owed a huge thank you both by me and the Club.

Organising and running a weekly lunchtime meeting to run smoothly is a huge task which we could not do without the good leadership of our Fellowship and House Committee by Stephen Jakeman (when he's not on holiday) and Stuart Maxwell filling in when he is! I should also acknowledge the constant preparedness of Club members to step up at the last minute and fill the breach when there is a last-minute gap in terms of running the cash desk, saying grace, waiting on table, looking after guests etc. Thanks also to Stan for continuing his good work with his rota to make sure we are looked after each week. Thanks also to the many members who help week in and week out with regular jobs which make Club function so well, setting up the room, projection and audio facilities etc. I think the only person I wouldn't thank is whoever accidentally turned on the reverberation unit on the P.A. leading to a longish Council debate about whether we needed to buy a replacement, followed by a

Club member removing the need to do so by turning the Reverb off a couple of weeks later!

We had a few people who were prepared to step up to the mark and take on new roles at the beginning of my year to fill gaps which had arisen for a variety of reasons and to them my heartfelt gratitude. Nigel Halfpenny, more or less willingly, took on the task of being Programme Chairman after I told him it was a doddle (never having done the job myself!) He has done a grand job in providing good speakers and making sure we are all well warned in advance concerning their needs.

Similarly, Andrew Fairbairn took on Bulletin and has done a great job, despite having to nag me almost every month, no make that every month, to get my copy to him. Andrew has done a great job producing comprehensive monthly Bulletins packed with information.

Thanks also to Helen Morris for continuing to provide Club with a comprehensive photographic record of the year and also providing me with material with which to update our Facebook page, although a few less photos of me would have no doubt been welcome to anyone looking at it.

As previously mentioned our Committees do much of the leg work (probably all in fact) in terms of organising our huge range of events. If I went through the detail of each and every one of these we would be here until midnight, so I have had a task singling out just a few highlights to mention and remember fondly. But on a general note I would like to thank all Chairmen and those to whom they delegate.

Foundation is our own Rotary charity and that committee, under Ron's leadership, is charged with raising at least \$100 per member each year. Foundation started the year for me with an amazing event on only my second day. Masterminded by Ron and Alan they organised a concert by the Oxford Male Choir at Broughton Castle Church, who not only entertained us superbly, and in a manner wonderfully suited to my own personal tastes and preferences, but also raised £1,500 for the End Polio Now campaign, but more of that later. This was only the start of an amazing year's work in terms of events raising awareness and funds for Polio Eradication, including a market stall on World Polio awareness day, Fred and Harry masterminding the planting of a total of 80,000 Crocus corms

across North Oxfordshire, the Purple4polio concerts in St Mary's in March (very positive feedback) and the barn dance which was a great event.

Youth Services have been equally busy under the leadership of Geoff Pollard with a wide range of activities. The "Children Singing for Children" concerts, led by Jonathan, Fred and Alan are our flagship event of the year, although it was a difficult call this year given some of the feedback on the P4P concerts! CSFC has raised a total of £60,000 since its inception and with the added pledges etc. this year generated a total of £11,500 to go to various charities. During my year I also had the very great pleasure of presenting Jonathan Meredith with his richly deserved Paul Harris Fellowship for his many years work on both CSFC and Young Musician.

But this committee is about so much more than fundraising, it is also about giving young people in our community the chance to grow and develop their skills, their confidence and their talents so our thanks to them for their continued work in organising the Young Musician and Young Chef competitions, the finals of both of which I was lucky enough to attend this year - thanks Gareth and Bernard for your work on these.

Similarly, the Calvert Trust weekend and school Practice Interviews organised by Nigel Randall are all about giving opportunities and experiences to youngsters. Having been at the practice interviews last Monday and witnessing first-hand the "fluid nature" of the event with pupils being off, school staff changing timings because of forgotten mock exams this is a huge event both in terms of the enormous amount of paper work and rotas to be prepared and the "on the day water juggling" then required of Nig.

Our Community and Vocational Committee are active in showing our support and care for our own local community. As such they play a vital role in our Club both in helping us discharge our local responsibilities and essentially raising our profile in our own immediate community. Under the leadership of Simon Bion they have again been active in a wide number of events. They ran a stall at both Banbury Canal Day and Banbury Show which were not intended primarily as fund raising events, but rather to keep us in the eyes of the local community - they achieved this aim superbly and led me to question is there a single man, woman or

child in Banbury that doesn't know John Webb! Thanks to John, Helen and Pat and everyone else for their work on this.



As always Helen Braisby organised our party for the visually impaired which was hugely enjoyed by our guests and our thanks to John Smith and his team at the Wroxton House Hotel for hosting us for us at this event. This committee organised a Halloween party for residents of sheltered housing to turn their fear of feeling intimidated by trick or treaters into having a good time themselves instead - great work! They also organise our Christmas street organ collections and the time put in by Andrew Fairbairn and John Webb manning the street organs plus Alan dealing with the cash are huge (not to mention the many Club members who turn out to shake a tin.) They also arrange the collection of food from Sainsbury's to make up and distribute parcels to the needy as well as manning the Round Table Christmas Float around some of Banbury's outlying villages, which really marks the start of Christmas for me, even though Mrs Fairbairn pulled rank on me and nabbed the role of Santa!



Our international Committee chaired by Andrew McHugh ran a series of varied and interesting fund-raising talks with Sir Charles Pollard speaking to a good crowd at Tudor Hall on his work in policing during some very tricky periods of our recent history,

Alan Carroll speaking at Banbury Cricket Club on his experiences in Antarctica and Andrew himself giving us an account of his life and work in various far flung parts of the world at a very convivial pre-Christmas dinner.

Nigel Yeadon and his Sports and Entertainment Committee have kept our spare moments throughout the year occupied with a varied range of events including a trip to Ardley recycling centre, an Aunt Sally evening, a visit to the now no longer with us Banbury North Signal box, various theatre trips etc.

Again we had someone new to chairing a committee step up to the plate with Simon Porter taking over the Classification, Membership and PR Committee. As ever Maurice has done an outstanding job as Welfare Officer. Fred Riches has been looking after PR and I know we have plans to develop this area to encompass and make even better use of social media opportunities. Sadly, we lost five members this year, Jack Friswell, John Cooke, Roger May, Eric Watson and David Blakey all of whom are long standing members of the Club and will be sadly missed. On the plus side, I have been lucky enough to welcome two new members to our Club. We managed to snap David Richardson up in the transfer window when he joined us from Beccles Club - a good signing I think you will agree. We also welcomed John Groves who is a new Rotarian and whom I was delighted to induct. Obviously, there is a continued need to recruit new members.

My thanks also go to Ian Anthistle and John Bennett for their continued work in nurturing and encouraging our Interact Club, a number of whom joined us for lunch recently. Also, whilst mentioning students may I also thank Martin and Annie Phillips for taking care of our Rotary Scholar, Vanessa Picker from Australia. We are delighted to have hosted Vanessa who has been a real credit to our Club. Not only has she successfully been awarded her Oxford Blue for cricket (following in the illustrious footsteps of John Phillips, although not for the women's team obviously!) and been part of a successful Oxford team defeating the

Cambridge women, but Martin has told me recently she has been successful in obtaining a very prestigious Clarendon Scholarship which will see her spending another 3 years in Oxford at Jesus College studying for her DPhil.

Whilst thanking Martin, I would also like to thank him for his work on the Contact trip, getting us all to Italy and more importantly back again despite the best efforts of BA's IT department!

Aside from my committee chairs and all the Club members who I am, as stated above grateful to for all their support, I must say a special word of thanks to two individuals who have been a huge support to me, Immediate Past President Ian Calderbank and First VP Alan Wolstencroft. In my first weeks when I was a bit nervous and not quite sure what I was doing Ian was always the first to speak to me after I had made a speech or carried out another duty, always with encouraging words "well done Owen, you pitched that just right" or similar words of support. This was certainly noticed Ian and greatly appreciated - it really did make life easier. Alan has just been around the whole year being Alan, taking on lots of work and always being there to listen to me and act as a sounding board even though he has been through some very tough times when the last thing he probably wanted was to hear me bleating on the 'phone.

Now having highlighted there is so much more to our Club than fundraising, I think it is worth mentioning here how much we have actually raised over the past 12-month efforts, we have given almost £32,000 to various causes (I have excluded from this the £34,000 which has gone to Sierra Leone as this is largely down to Alan's individual efforts). This includes

- £5,520 to Foundation;
- £8,000 to the End Polio Now Campaign;
- £5,000 to Katherine House
- £2,750 to engineering students via the Brodey Bursary; and
- £3,700 Dogs for Good

Another pleasure I enjoyed in my year was seeing a new RIBI award being presented for the first time, Rotary Outstanding International Man Award. It is awarded for "outstanding humanitarian international service by someone who has led and inspired others.

I was very pleased to present this on behalf of our DG, Joy Arnott, to our very own Alan Wolstencroft for his work in Sierra Leone right at the start of my year!

So, in conclusion have I enjoyed "my year?". If you could see my script "my year" is in quotation marks because although this is a frequently used expression and one which I have used myself it's inaccurate because as ever with Rotary it's been our year and I think we have done OK!

John F. Germ's theme for the year was "Rotary Serving Humanity" and if we can say we have done this then I think we can say we have had a good year. I think we can say this. Our efforts in both raising funds for and awareness of Polio eradication has been exemplary, as evidenced by a video clip from District Conference, which made me so very proud to be the President of such a great Club.

Your other work in our local community whether giving children a chance to grow through Young Chef or Young Musician or removing anxiety for an evening for the residents of sheltered housing clearly meets this brief as does our financial support for Katharine House Hospice and Dogs for Good.

I have heard it said that the best speech is one that has a great beginning, a memorable end, and not much in between. Unfortunately, with a Club as industrious as ours that's simply not realistic, but I hope I haven't gone on too long?

So will I miss it? No not at all because next week I will be back here at Club enjoying fellowship with my friends and looking forwards to another busy year of being a member of this great Club under Alan's leadership.

President Owen Kyffin

### *Message from our Treasurer*

I have received many subscription and Foundation cheques plus there will be bank transfers so thanks to all those paying on time.

I need to forward our capitation before the end of July so if anyone has not arranged to pay our club please do so or contact me if necessary.

Rtn. Malcolm Dibb

## Speaker Reports

### Andrew Tyrntania – Beer



Andrew's main job is as a Consultant on Regulatory matters to the Finance sector. His passion though is beer and he is a qualified Beer Sommelier with the Institute of Beer & Distilling. This recognises his significant depth of knowledge of the brewing process, beer styles and food matching.

Andrew's fascinating talk led us through the history of beer originally brewed by monks as an alternative to the dirty water available at the time, the Reinheitsgebot (German Beer Purity Laws) of 1516 that state only four ingredients are allowed in beer - water, malted barley, hops and yeast. The only two classifications of beer are Ale and Lager - Ales are 'top fermented' using yeasts that float on top of the wort and lagers are 'bottom fermented' and use yeasts that sink to the bottom. Stout and Porter are classed as Ales because they use the top fermenting method. The two distinct types of Ale are keg beers and cask beers of the CAMRA or Craft Beer variety. Most keg beers such as Boddington's, M&B Brew 11, Watney's Red Barrel etc are pasteurised at the brewery effectively killing of any live yeasts or bacteria. These ales are served under gas CO2 pressure, have a foamy head, last longer and are easier to cellar/keep meaning less waste.

Cask Beer is not pasteurized, usually served via a hand pump with no gas, it has no lasting foamy head and will vary in taste according to the mix of hops, barley and water used.

Real Ale & Craft Beers have seen huge growth over the last 10/15 years so much so that there are now 1700 breweries and micro breweries in the UK.

Unfortunately, Andrew did not have time to talk us through recommendations for food & beer matching - maybe we should invite him back to a fifth Friday when he can conduct a tasting!!

Rtn. Phil Cavill

### Charles Hughes – My Life Talk

Charles is of Irish and Scottish descent and was brought up in Kirkintilloch a town in East Dunbartonshire, Scotland. His family were originally farmers in Ireland and also involved in education in various parts of the world. The family used to transport their cattle from Ireland to Glasgow to be sold, they were fattened up on their journey on land that they owned near Helensburgh to ensure they achieved best prices.

Charles unofficially started work at the age of 11, when he used to walk the donkeys on Helensburgh beach, he mentioned that he has always had the work ethic to earn money to live. He officially left school at the age of 15 and started work for a company supplying meat to cash & carries from 1956 to 1964.

This was followed by a sales position with H. J. Heinz from 1968 to 1973 when he was given his first new vehicle, a van with H. J. Heinz on the side, which he thought was great considering he was always at the scrap yard sourcing parts to keep his old car on the road. H. J. Heinz often carried out trials with many new products some of which proved un-successful i.e. curried bake beans. Charles was very successful in selling these end of line products so much so that he often earned more commission on these than his salary.

In 1974 Charles joined the Timber and Flooring Trade starting a company called Floormaker sourcing wood from all over the world such as Brazil, China, Hong Kong, Italy, Spain, Taiwan and supplying companies with flooring products such as B&Q, John Lewis, Ikea, Do It All, Tesco & Sainsbury's.

For the last 20 years Charles has been working in the Lighting Industry, sourcing Lighting Products from China, Italy, Turkey and other countries, then supplying companies with these lighting products. He is still working aged 72 acting as a consultant in this business, in the last few months he has visited Turkey on three occasions.

In his vote of thanks Roger mentioned that he first met Charles in 1983 when he joined Banbury Cross Round Table and Charles was Chairman of Community Service and Jonathan Meredith was Club Chairman. Roger was extremely impressed with Charles' community service work in particular his work with a young girl called Jody Loveridge who was suffering from a brain tumor. For a long period every week Tablers took Jody and her mother to St. Barts London for treatment. Charles coordinated this and visits to the family.

Roger also mentioned that years ago Charles took him to his old Round Table's Burns Supper in Scotland twice, unfortunately on the second visit Roger drove his Granada into the back of Charles' Rover. Roger continued to go to the Burns suppers in Scotland for another 20 years, Charles did not go again "must have been Rogers driving".

Rtn. Roger Worrall

### *Elaine King & Sylvia Thomas – Young Carers*

The speakers this week were Elaine King and Sylvia Thomas who brought along with them one of their Young Carers, a lady of tender secondary school years. These ladies gave us an informative talk about young people that were known to Banbury Academy who in some way cared for a member of their family.

These Young Carers had been notified to the school by their Junior School, or had come to the attention of the academy either by referral by a social worker or by the young person seeking help from the teachers who referred them to the officials within the academy. The ones that had been referred by their junior school when they transferred at the age of eleven years had been caring for a sibling or a parent sometimes from the age of six years old, and their tasks became larger within the family as they grew older. Some started at a young age putting their mothers' pills out before they went to school, and this progressed as they got older until some became a major carer for a parent doing duties such as washing them, doing laundry, shopping, cleaning

the house, and sometimes even assisting at putting the parent to bed and giving them food and drink. They were also the "watchful eye" all night so that they summoned emergency help if illness threatened their charge which was a great responsibility for someone at such a young age. Some had kept quiet about their position within the family until they got to secondary school and realised either that the workload was now going to be considerably greater and they needed to "come clean" about their home circumstances, or just that there was help available after they had struggled for years through junior school.

When these young people arrived at secondary education their duties at home had sometimes led to them being behind in many subjects which showed in the year six SATS tests so the secondary school had to put remedial action in place so that these young persons' education did not suffer unduly at this critical stage in their learning.

The school also provided a Breakfast Club on Friday each month so that these young persons could congregate with others in similar circumstances to their own and could discuss their problems and wishes with others who understood their predicament.

The ladies expressed their appreciation of the help the club had given them with both organising and financing the day for the Young Carers at Banbury Canoe Club last year. All participants had thoroughly enjoyed their day, got soaking wet, drunk half the Oxford Canal, but none had drowned and they talked about it for weeks afterwards.

The Young Carer accompanying Elaine and Sylvia spoke of her experiences and aspirations, and whilst the Rotarians present gave the two adults a round of applause they reserved special praise for this young lady who showed maturity beyond her years in her presentation.

Rtn. John Webb

### *Sierra Leone Update*

The rainy season has recently started in Sierra Leone and it lasts for approximately 3 months. It can badly affect day to day life in Freetown but it also offers the benefit of much needed water for everyday tasks and this is the main reason for introducing basic water harvesting at the schools.

## Liverpool Community School

The rainwater harvesting on the 2 new junior classrooms has been installed in just a week.



The school allows community members to fetch water from both the well and tanks, especially those who live in the houses close to the school. The Headteacher says “Pure water is very difficult to access locally so people in our community are very happy for these facilities you have provided”.

The next phase is to install water harvesting and handwash stations on the 2 toilet blocks. This will comprise guttering & downpipes, 2 x 1,000 litre water tanks and a sink at each of the toilet blocks.



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comprise guttering & downpipes, 2 x 1,000 litre water tanks and a sink at each of the toilet blocks.

## Hope School

We have just had to replace the roof & ceilings on the original 5 classroom block, built in 1999, as at the start of the rainy season the corrugated zinc roofing, which was very rusty, leaked severely and all the internal ceilings collapsed leaving 200 children without a classroom space. The work was completed in just over a week and all the children are now back in their refurbished classrooms.

As we approach the end of the Rotary year I am able to announce that during the last 12 months a total of £27,725 (with a pledge of £500 still to come in) has been raised & we have sent £31,630 to support the development at the 4 schools that I support in Freetown. THANK YOU to everyone who has supported me, in so many different ways, this year & during the last 12 years of my journey.



EVERY £ goes directly to the projects and we are “Changing lives and making dreams a reality” and “making a real difference” in Sierra Leone.

Rtn. Alan Wolstencroft



## *Weekly Meeting Duties for July 2017*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Table Duty</u>	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&amp;H in charge</u>
07-July	Handover meeting Waitress Service	R Thompson J Webb	A Wiltshire	S Crump
14-July	P Thomas A Warren P Williams N Yeadon I Anthistle R Barnett	E Woodruff R Worrall	G Anker	M Humphris
21-July	A Bedding J Bennett S Bion J Brodey T Bryce M Budd	P Cavill B Cornley	I Calderbank	A Ilott
28-July	N Deakin J Donaldson M Douglas A Fairbairn P Gardiner B Goodchild			

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 July & August*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Host</u>
7 July	Alan Wolstencroft	President's Handover	
14 July	Vanessa Picker	Foundation Scholar	Martin Phillips
21 July	Pip Dingle	Maggie's Centre	March Recchia
28 July	Sebastian Johnson & Will Haynes	Brodey Trust Formula Students	John Brodey
4 Aug	Surinder Dhési	My Trip to India	Andrew Fairbairn
11 Aug	Anna Tait	Youth Cricket	Martin Phillips
18 Aug	Eunice Harradine	Operation Christmas Child	Maurice Humphris
25 Aug	None	Fellowship Meeting	