



SERVICE Above Self

The Banbury Bulletin

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February 2007

From the President's Ponderings.....

At the first meeting in December we welcomed as our speaker Mary Harpley the new Chief Executive of Cherwell District Council she spoke of her role at Cherwell District Council, she was hosted by Rtn. Brian Cornley.

The next day, Saturday the 2nd. was the annual Inner Wheel Christmas Party with the ladies, assisted by a few Rotarians giving their hilarious version of Cinderella (Editor's note – see later in the Bulletin for some disturbing images – no I'll put one in now but don't say I didn't warn you – the two Richards are below.....!)



We then had a fine buffet by "Good Food".

(Editor again..... I have to take my hat off to you if the sight of those two didn't put you off your buffet you're a better man than me!!!!)

The next happening on this busy weekend was the Annual Inter Service Club's Carol Service at Marlborough Road Methodist Church on Sunday 9th. December. The service was led by Rotarian Rev. Alan Haine and was attended by representatives of service clubs in Banbury.

On Friday the 8th December our speaker was Shaun Jardine who was a member of our club, he talked of Litigation & Mediation, a role he is involved with as a way of short cutting some lengthy Court procedures. He was hosted by Rtn. Bernard Goodchild. We were also collecting in Castle Quay with our Barrel Organ, part of the proceeds to go to Katherine House Hospice.

The Family Christmas Festival of Music was held in St Mary's Church on Saturday 9th December. We were entertained by the Oxfordshire Council's Sinfonia, a truly professional performance from young musicians from around Oxfordshire. They were supported by children from Orchard Fields and St John's School's. A great occasion and well attended by Rotarians and the general public. The Chairman of O.C.C., Cllr. Lesley Legge, The Chairman of Cherwell District Council, Cllr. John Harper and the Town Mayor, Cllr. John Donaldson were also in attendance.

Our meeting on the 15th December was our Christmas lunch. We were pleased to welcome our Ladies and guests. A full Christmas Dinner was followed by our speaker Roger Verral Lay minister at St. Mary's Church.

On the Saturday a number of us manned the Round Table Christmas float around the villages of Drayton, Wroxton, North Newington and Broughton a good time was helped by the addition of mulled wine and mince pies. Rtn Richard Watts made an excellent Father Christmas with a lot of Ho, Ho, Ho,.

After the indulgence of the previous week our meeting on 22nd. December consisted of a buffet lunch. The speaker was Tony Watkinson whose subject was "Focus" Banbury Counselling Services. He was hosted by Rtn. Ron Sharpe.

The barrel organ was again in action at Tescos on Saturday and Sunday 23rd and 24th December.

We started the New Year with our meeting on the 5th January, we were pleased to introduce Rotarian Margaret Tilstone to our Club she has transferred from the Rotary Club of Holbeach. Our speaker was Cllr. Eric Heath past Chairman of Cherwell District Council. He talked of his two years as Chairman, he was hosted by Rtn. Nigel Yeadon.

The 12th January Rotary meeting had as its subject "Not For Entertainment". The mysteries of the Knee were explained to us by Hugh Williams a surgeon specializing in knee surgery. He was hosted by Rotarian Rupert Kipping.

On the 19th January meeting our scheduled speaker was unable to attend. So at short notice our own Rotarian Ron Barnett talked of his involvement in the "Banbury Young Homelessness Project". He has a very busy time as Chairman of this project seeing it through a difficult time with the cutting of Council funding. Rtn. Martin Phillips was his host.

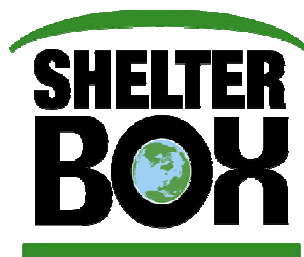
The 26th. January meeting is scheduled as a business meeting but it has been changed to a visit by Neil Gadsby. He will talk of his new book about the Katherine House Hospice and will receive a cheque for £2,500.00 being part of our Christmas Barrel Organ collection.

David Hitchcox

STOP PRESS.....

Rt. D Repton wishes to inform the club that his son-in-law, Dr P C Upson, managing director of Enrichment Technology Company Limited, has been awarded the C.B.E. for services to industry in the New Year's Honour's list.

An update on Alan Wolstencroft's progress.....just to let you know that the Warriner "Smartie" appeal raised £280 thus funding 8 Aquarolls for him to take with him to Sierra Leone.



Typhoon – a survivor's story

Philippines: Jenny Balderana is nine-months pregnant and expecting to give birth to her second child any day. But Jenny's house was destroyed by the recent typhoon and her nearest hospital is in a city with no electricity and clean water.

Jenny, who is 26, husband Alvin and their three-year-old daughter Gina live in the village of Broy Lidong, which was hit last week by a severe typhoon that brought devastating floods and mudslides.

Jenny said: *"We left the house when the third typhoon warning came and ran for the higher ground. We heard strong winds like a jet sound and giant boulders came down from the volcano smashing everything.*

"We stayed away from the house for eight hours - that was how long the typhoon lasted. We were really scared and lots of people were killed here. When we went back to the house it was flattened completely and all our things were wet and crushed under the house.

"We don't know what to do or where to begin: we are jobless and have nothing. If it is windy our makeshift house becomes cold and wet mosquitoes bite my child and I am 9 months pregnant, what if I get malaria? We have no kitchen, no toilet, no dry ground or money."

ShelterBox is currently one of the few international aid agencies working in the area and says much more help is needed. Photographer Mark Pearson is with a four-man ShelterBox Response Team in the Philippines and said many villages have just disappeared beneath a sea of black mud. He added: *"Thousands of people are living in evacuation centres, all the power lines are down, the water is polluted and there are outbreaks of diarrhoea starting. This is as bad as any disaster I've seen, including the tsunami."*

NOW you've had the chance to recover from the picture of the **two** Richards, it's time for the caption competition .. prize a bottle of wine.. which (I'm glad to say only has a picture of one of them.....



WORLD RECORD KITE FLYING ATTEMPT AT ROTARY'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN BOURNEMOUTH

82nd Annual Conference of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland

13-15th April 2007 The BIC, Bournemouth



A world record for kite flying will be attempted in April at the annual conference of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland to be held at the Bournemouth International Centre from April 13-15th.

The kite flying record attempt will be made on Saturday afternoon on the beach front when a thousand school children, local Boy Scouts, Rotaractors, Rotarians and their families will endeavour to fly a thousand kites at the same time.

The current record in the Guinness Book of Records for kite flying is set at 672. The bright blue and yellow

kites with the Rotary logo will make a stunning sight, they have been made specially for Rotary by the world's largest kite manufacturer in Weifang in north east China.

The conference will be attended by more than 2500 delegates and this year the accent is on youth. The winners of the Rotary Young Citizen Awards will be attending the conference.

With the launch of Window's new operating system they have re-vamped their error message offering to improve the level of service - a couple of examples are below:

