



# The Banbury Bulletin

SERVICE Above Self

Volume 44

Published monthly by the Rotary Club of Banbury, District 1090 R.I.B.I Club no. 147

January 2006

## From the V.P's. Jottings

The Rotary meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December had as its speaker our own Rotarian Alan Wolstencroft. He spoke of his experiences in Sierra Leone working for the Mercy Ships Charity. From the enthusiasm in his talk we gathered that it was a very mind blowing experience.

Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> saw many Rotarians gathering with the ladies of Inner Wheel for their annual Christmas Party. With good food and hilarious entertainment, with a number of our members joining with the ladies in a string of very funny monologues and then a nativity play like you have never seen before.

  
**The  
Katharine  
House  
Hospice**

Registered Charity No. 297099

The joint Service Clubs Carol Service took place on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> at Marlborough Road Church, Rotarian Rev. Alan Haine led the service. Our Honorary member Lord Saye and Sele and Lady Saye and Sele, together with the Town Mayor and the Chair of Cherwell District Council attended the service. A total of £450.00 was raised for Katherine House Hospice.

President Stephen attended the District Council Meeting and received a banner to commemorate our donation of over \$9000 to Foundation.

The Rotary Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December had as its speaker Stuart Pascall who talked of the Toy Box Charity, he was hosted by Rotarian Rev. Janet Chapman.

Our annual Christmas lunch took place on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. There were special guests District Governor David Buckland our M.P. Tony Baldry, Neil Gadsby from Katherine House Hospice who is a Paul Harris Fellow, Hester Phillips also a Paul Harris fellow enjoyed an excellent lunch. A great surprise was sprung on Rotarian Maurice Humphris as he was awarded a Paul Harris fellowship for his services to the Rotary club and the community of Banbury. Our speaker was the Reverend David Randell who gave a very thought provoking message.

Saturday was the occasion for the Festival of Christmas music held at St. Mary's Church, performed by the Banbury Symphony Orchestra and the Banbury Choral Society. A large audience enjoyed a selection of seasonal songs and carols. The money raised is to be donated to the Home Farm Trust and a new school in Sri Lanka to replace one destroyed by the Boxing Day Tsunami.

On two weekends during this period our Barrel Organ has been used to raise funds for Katherine House Hospice and other Rotary Charities. A total of £3678.80 was raised and of this £2300.00 will be sent to Katherine House. We also ran the Father Christmas float for one evening and a total of £517.00 was raised of which we keep 60% for our funds.

Our Friday meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December was a fellowship meeting with a buffet lunch. During this meeting it was proposed to send £100 to the Oil Depot disaster fund at Hemel Hempstead and £1000.00 to Mercy Ships this sum will be doubled by an anonymous donor. We were entertained during this meeting by Geoff Cooper playing seasonal music on his keyboard, this was provided courtesy of Joanne our caterer. Our President Stephen concluded the gathering by wishing us all a Happy Christmas and a good New Year!

David Hitchcox.

# ROTARY REBUILDING LIVES AFTER THE TSUNAMI

## PROGRESS REPORT ONE YEAR ON

At the anniversary of the tsunami, it is timely to review the progress being made by Rotary Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland in helping to rebuild lives in India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Indonesia.

Rotary International In Great Britain and Ireland have raised £10 million, made possible by the generous outpouring of the British public.

Rotary Clubs responded quickly and continue to work to assist communities affected by the earthquake and tsunami that devastated south Asia's coastal regions on 26 December 2004.

Excellent progress has been made with many projects planned, funded and/or completed including re-housing, rebuilding schools, providing fishing boats, and provision of shelter, water and essential items through Shelter boxes, Aquaboxes and Emergency boxes.

The major projects and achievements are:

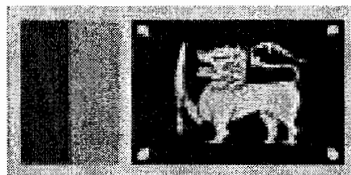
### 10,000 Aquaboxes

sent to the affected area providing clean water for more than 40,000 people for three months.



### 12,000 Shelterboxes and Emergency boxes

providing temporary shelter and basic necessities for 120,000 people.



### Sri Lanka Village Project

This is in partnership with the International Aid Trust, and an allocation of £125,000 has been made for the building of a 50 house village, in the Pandura region some 12 miles from Colombo. The village will house some 50 families, and the buildings will be completed with the necessary infrastructure. The project has commenced, the land surveyed, and purchased, and the 50 families will assist with the building, following receipt of training.



### Thailand Village Project

This partnership is in conjunction with the Thai Rotary Centre, representing the 4 Districts in Thailand. The objective is to build a village, comprising 50 Low Cost Shelters, for some £100,000, and a further £50,000 to be used for the provision of infrastructure, to include water services, sanitation, and power. Low Cost Shelters are essentially modest ground, and upper floor buildings.

### Sri Lanka Schools Project

The first new school was opened earlier this month at Randonbe. Rotary Clubs in Sri Lanka have undertaken to build, or rebuild, 25 schools in various affected coastal areas of Sri Lanka, under a project titled Schools Re-Awaken. RIBI have agreed in partnership with the D.3220 Rotary Committee, that the RIBI Disaster Fund will fund one school at a cost of £180,000.

The Schools Re-Awaken project has been supported by Rotary Clubs in Sri Lanka as well as Rotary Clubs all over the world. Rotary Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) have contributed £635,000. Rotary Clubs in Devon, Yorkshire and Essex have been working very closely with local schools in their area and have raised funds, as well as providing computer

suites and solar panelled water filtration plant for these schools. Further to this, North Devon Schools will add their support by sending out staff, technicians and students over the next three years.

The project is run by a Rotary Committee comprising 75% Rotary members, with representation from the Government Education department, and other community, and business representatives. The project is underwritten by the Standard Chartered Bank, and is supported by UNICEF. The schools are being built to minimum Government standards, and upgraded to provide better toilet, library, and computer laboratory accommodation. The Thambaddai School in Batticaloa is also being funded by RIBI and is a Primary and Secondary grade school with classes from Grades 1 – 10 (O Level) catering for ages 5 – 16 years.

### **Indonesia Fishing Project**

In partnership with the Rotary Club of Jakarta Central/D.3400 this project involves the provision of Fishing Craft, with essential equipment including nets, engines, and Fishing Platforms (not unlike Fish Farm cages). The project also provides for the reconstruction of the fish market, and boat landing facilities, in the Aceh region of Sumatra. The boats are constructed locally, and 75% of this donation will be spent locally, giving work not only to the fishing families, but to those building boats, platforms, and other essential work. Four boats and two fishing platforms funded by RIBI were launched in August. These are complete with an engine, fishing nets and ice box and an initial supply of diesel fuel and lubricating oil.

### **Fishing Project in Sri Lanka**

In conjunction with the Rotary Club of Falmouth, and two other Falmouth and Truro based organisations, funds have been provided to purchase 20 Fishing boats equipped with 15hp kerosene engines, and the appropriate nets required for coastal fishing. Each boat provides a livelihood for 3 families directly, and 2 further families on the periphery of the coastal fishing industry, in fish selling and processing.

Each boat will pay a rental, not to Rotary, but to a community fund, to provide ice making and storage facilities. Each boat operates offshore without the need for quays and harbours.

Mike Webb President Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland said “ We have made tremendous progress this year working with local Rotary Clubs in

the affected areas. We have been mindful of the fact that these projects are being funded by monies which, although collected by Rotary Clubs in RIBI, the monies were donated by the British public, and as guardians of these donations, it was our responsibility to identify projects which were feasible, gave value for money, and were managed carefully by responsible partners, and facilitators acting on our behalf. We feel that in every case we have made the right choices, and look forward to reporting further on projects, as these gain momentum.”

### **Award of Paul Harris Fellowship to Maurice Humphris**



At the Friday lunch time meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2005 the Rotary Club of Banbury Past President Rotarian Maurice Humphris a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of his exemplary service to the local community over the last 55 years.

In the 50 years since the award was instigated the Rotary Club of Banbury has only made this award to five Rotarians and two members of the public.

In presenting the award, President Stephen Jakeman explained that Maurice has worked tirelessly for the local community in many varied roles for example he was a magistrate for over 40 years lately as chairman of the bench, a former Chairman and Honorary President of Banbury 379 Round Table, former Treasurer of the Banbury Old Charitable association, is currently Chairman of Banbury Bluecoats Foundation, and has served on virtually all of the local major fund raising committees over the last 40 years.

Maurice is member of Marlborough Road Methodist Church, and at the age of 16 became a Sunday school teacher, he has held many post including Church Steward and Superintendent.

As well as being a member of the Rotary Club of Banbury Maurice is also an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Brackley.

Since retiring as a funeral director Maurice has been an advisor at the local Citizens Advice Bureau, a member of the Home Start Committee, the Committee for Racial Equality together with working for a number of other charitable organisations, he is also a Deputy Lieutenant for Oxfordshire.

I was sitting opposite Maurice on the day he was awarded his fellowship, and so had the opportunity to observe first hand how utterly flabbergasted he was when he realised he was the intended recipient of the fellowship – a pleasure to behold. He is still astonished to have been honoured by the club in this way and has asked me to include the following words of thanks from him to his fellow club members:

*“How to adequately express my thanks for this award presents a daunting task. To say that I was surprised is a massive understatement, indeed the shock when the award was presented was such that it reduced me to an unfamiliar state - I was lost for words and tongue-tied.*

*The policy of our club, that these awards should be made rarely, and then only after careful consideration of the merit of the intended recipient's contributions is one that I have always supported. Hence my amazement when realisation dawned on me that this presentation was being made to me - an error surely as I could, and can think of several worthy of recognition, but not me.*

*I am most grateful to Council members who have seen fit to honour me in this way, and I have been deeply touched by the manner in which so many of you, my fellow Rotarians, have received this, expressing your congratulations in so many different ways - Rotary friendship and fellowship so kindly shown.*

*That the District Governor, David Buckland, should give me my lapel stud following the presentation by President Stephen, was a lovely bonus.*

*I had wondered why my son Martin, and Carole his wife were present, but had never dreamt of the actual reason. It was, however, great that they*

*were there - apparently he was Stephen's researcher-in-chief, and he certainly remembers more of my past than I do!*

*Unworthy though I feel I am, I am so very proud to join the ranks of Banbury Paul Harris fellows, most of whom I was delighted to see present at what proved to be such a special occasion for me.*

*It would be unforgivable of me not to give due credit to Rita for all her unfailing support in my various activities, which would not have been possible without her.*

*Thank you all. ”*

**Maurice Humphris**



## **Tailors of Harrogate Tea Caddies**



**TAYLORS**  
of HARROGATE - EST 1886  
Tea Blenders & Coffee Roasters

On behalf of the Foundation Committee, many thanks to all those of you who responded to our earlier appeal.

Thanks to your generosity, we sold the entire stock of tea caddies, and could indeed have sold more! The end result of this was that as well as enjoying some excellent tea, we raised £140 for Rotary Foundation.

We hope that you enjoyed the tea, and should be extremely grateful if you could make use of the empty Caddies to add to this total.

You may recall the Marmalade jars. In view of their size, we are not asking you to fill the empty Tea Caddies (although, please feel free to do so should you wish to), but would be grateful if you would use them as a receptacle for all those unwanted pennies, tuppences, fivepences, or even larger coins that are wearing out the linings of your pockets, and return them to Geoff Wood or Bob Dix.

A cheerful jingle from each caddy is welcome – and we don't object to the occasional softer note!

A Date for your Diaries – don't forget that the Annual Inter-Club Quiz is being held at Banbury Cricket Club, Bodicote on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2006. 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Admission £3.50

Thanks to Ron Sharpe for the following parable.....

#### **The Tate Family at a Rotary Club near you**

Here is an old man, Dick-Tate, who wants to run everything, whilst Uncle Ro-Tate tries to change everything. There's sister Agi-Tate who stirs up plenty of trouble, with the help of her husband, Irri-Tate.

Whenever new projects are suggested, Hesi-Tate, and his wife Vege-Tate want to wait until next year. Then there is Aunt Imi-Tate who wants our club to be like all the others. Devas-Tate provides to voice of doom, while Poten-Tate wants to be the big shot.

But not all the family members are bad, brother Facili-Tate is quite helpful, and Miss Facili-Tate is a delightful, happy member of the family. Cousins Cogi-Tate and Medi-Tate always think things over, and lend steady, helpful hands.

And of course, there is the black sheep of the family, Ampu-Tate, who has completely cut himself off from the club – Do you know any of the family?

#### **Sports hints from the top!**



#### **Vodka ideal for post-match stress says Russia coach**

Tuesday January 3, 10:57 AM

"Three shots of vodka after every game. It's a must," Krikunov told the Soviety Sport newspaper. "It does the trick for me. Then after three shots if I feel like I want some more, I'll drink more."

Krikunov, 55, guided Belarus to a surprise fourth-place finish at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games. He now hopes to lead Russia to their first Olympic gold since 1992.

#### **FAMOUS QUOTES BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

"The vast majority of our imports come from outside the country."

"If we don't succeed, we run the risk of failure."

"One word sums up probably the responsibility of any Governor, and that one word is 'to be prepared'."

"The trouble with the French is that they have no word for Entrepreneur....."

"The future will be better tomorrow."

"We're going to have the best educated American people in the world."

"I stand by all the misstatements that I've made."

"a firm commitment to NATO, we are a part of NATO. We have a firm commitment to Europe. We are a part of Europe."

"Public speaking is very easy."