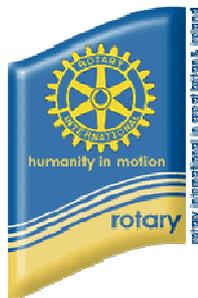




Welcome to a New
Rotary year from
President Martin.....



Firstly, my congratulations to immediate Past President David on his successful year with his many achievements, and my best wishes to him for a well deserved rest after his extremely hard work.

Looking to the forthcoming year, I would like to place an emphasis on our enjoyment of Rotary and our Rotary activities – the more we enjoy what we do, the more we will do and the more we will achieve.

I would also like to focus on involving as many club members in activities as possible – I consider that an event will be a success if those who attend it have a good time whether that is five people or fifty!

In addition, one of the strongest influences on my Rotary life was my father's commitment to Foundation, which is, after all our very own charity, and I would, therefore, like to see this as one of our priorities for the year ahead.

Here's to a successful and enjoyable year – yours in Rotary – Martin.

Rotary Club of Banbury

Health and Safety report on incident May 18th Biella.

In the American bar of the Hotel Agora, at approximately 3.00pm on the above date a member of the Banbury Rotary Club was invited to sit down, due to his making the place untidy whilst standing.



Being an obliging fellow, he bought his own beer and sat down on a plastic chair. Feeling the need to scratch his rear portions, he leaned over to one side. At this point there was a groaning noise and said chair abruptly subsided like a legless lamb. Said Rotarian adopted an undignified pose on the remains of said chair.

There were twelve other Rotarians and partners present at this time

The response of the above fell well below the standards expected of persons who claim to abide by such mottos as "Service above Self; "Sow the Seeds of Love" etc!

Of the 12, 8 fell about laughing, 2 took photographs without permission and two pretended they were with another party. The injured party was forced to regain his equilibrium without assistance and buy another beer at his own expense.

Please scrutinise the attached Risk Assessment Document as it should have been prepared by the Rotary Club before the incident occurred.

Site:

- i Was there adequate access?
- ii Had the Chair been previously tested for safety and weight bearing potential?
- iii Did it have a weight limitation notice attached?
- iv Was the seat between 450 and 470 cm from the floor?
- v Had it been tested for stress fractures prior to the incident?
- vi Was the area suitably padded for unexpected crash landings by amply proportioned Rotarians?
- vii Had the said Rotarian been asked for his statistics (mass, volume, capacity etc. prior to entering American Bar?
- viii Was there an appropriately trained First Aider Available?
- ix Was a certificate of Public Safety duly signed by the proprietors on display? (in English)

The Rotarian concerned is particularly aggrieved because he had, at great personal cost, starved himself prior to the visit and was 11Kg lighter than usual. He is further aggrieved by comments later that he wore two ties. This was entirely due to his confused state of mind following the fall and the fact that he had bought a new Italian tie for €7.50 earlier in the day to add to his collection of quality ties.

This Rotarian is now seeking compensation for his humiliations and injuries and thinks that 3 months off table duties is the least the Club can do!

Yours sincerely

A Rotarian Friend

Club Website

Ron Barnett has recently completed a revamp of the Club website. He has changed the layout, but not the original words, although he has added some logos etc to give the pages a more pictorial appearance.

Ron would be pleased if you would have a look and let him know what you think!

http://www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk/minor_committees/minor_committees.htm

Everest Abseil

Many thanks and congratulations to Andrew Fairburn, all his team, and everyone else who turned out on a wintry June morning to support this excellent event.



Andrew himself kept extremely warm, despite the chill, with his 96 ascents up the stairs of the car park. You editor went up twice (in the lift) and that was enough to finish me off!

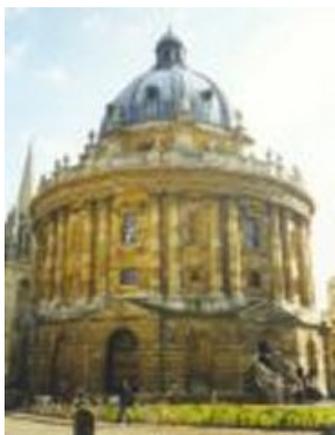
The event was a resounding success, doing much to raise the profile of both Rotary and Cheshire Homes, as well as raising in the region of £4,000 – well done all!

CLUB VISIT TO THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

On Saturday, 2nd June, a party of ten Rotarians and four wives paid a visit to Oxford for a comprehensive tour of this world-famous University facility. Located in the heart of the University area, the beautiful building, together with the adjacent Radcliffe Camera and the New Bodleian, located on the opposite side of Broad Street, make up the library complex.



A library has existed in Oxford since about 1320 at a time when printed books were a rarity and was located in part of what is now St Mary's Church. Later, Duke Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester and brother of Henry V, donated a further 281 manuscripts to be housed in a new building, still bearing his name, over the beautiful Divinity School and this opened in 1444. This area is the oldest part of the Bodleian and the Divinity School ceiling with its 455 ceiling bosses, depicting coats of arms, and figures, religious, political and pagan, is indeed a sight to behold.



The library suffered many early ups and downs in its early and chequered career until rescued by Sir Thomas Bodley, a prosperous Fellow of Merton college who devoted his wealth to the creation of the present library and, in 1610, he entered into an agreement with the Stationer's Company by which a copy of each book, magazine newspaper or periodical printed in English is deposited in the Bodleian and currently, some 8 million volumes are kept there together with some one and a quarter million maps on 118 miles of shelving. Thus, if the first edition of the "Banbury Guardian" is required, it is to be found there.

The Library contains 30 reading rooms with 2,482 seats for Readers of which there are 54,000 on any one day. Books cannot be taken from the building: it is

necessary first to become a Reader, which formality includes the reading of an oath to preserve the safety of the library and contents whilst using it. With copious amounts of material arriving each day, shelf space is at a premium: hence the hiring of space in a salt mine in Cheshire. Plans are afoot for an extension to the Bodleian complex and for state of the art storage space on the outskirts of Oxford.

We commenced our tour in the Divinity School; then visited several of the Upper Reading Rooms; Duke Humphrey Library; Convocation House and Chancellor's Court (no longer used as such) then crossing to the magnificent Radcliffe camera, built with a bequest from the word-famous physician, Dr John Radcliffe and finished in 1748. It was a separate library until it became part of the Bodleian in 1860.

From here we descended to the "bowels of the earth" to the several levels of underground book stores with vast areas full of movable book racks (pioneered by the Bodleian) eventually arriving at the tunnel which leads from the Camera, under the Lawns, the main Bodleian building and beneath Broad Street to the new Bodleian. This tunnel contains the conveyor system to transport requested books from the new Bodleian to the Reading Rooms across the road. The new building was opened by King George VI in 1946; an event not without its hitch, for the key broke in the lock and delayed proceedings until the doors were opened from within!

Our tour concluded back in the Divinity School some one and a half hours later after a most interesting morning, following which the party adjourned to the "Kings Arms" across the street for liquid and solid refreshment. One last fact. The rule regarding non-removal of books has never been waved. Charles 1st. tried; his request was firmly refused!

Tom Taylor

District Conference - Bournemouth - Friday 4th to Sunday 6th April 2008

The District Conference 2008 will be held at Bournemouth from 4th to 6th April, and I hope that many of you will join us in Bournemouth to support our President, Martin Phillips, and our District.

It falls to me as First Vice President to organise the accommodation for our club members. I have provisionally reserved accommodation at The Norfolk Royale Hotel, Richmond Hill, Bournemouth, BH6 2EN. The hotel is holding 5 double bedrooms and 5 twin bedrooms with en suite facilities for two nights

(Friday & Saturday) on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis for £77.50 per person per night.

I am told by members who have stayed at the Norfolk Royale before that the accommodation is good, and the hotel is convenient for the Conference venue. Many of you will have stayed there before. I appreciate that most members will want to attend the Ball on the Saturday evening and will not require dinner, but this will still have to be paid for within the agreed rate, as it was the only basis on which I was able to negotiate this very favourable rate.

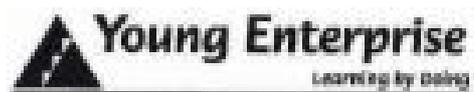
I am confident this still represents good value for money and it means that those not attending the Ball will still be able to have dinner at the hotel at no extra cost.

Further information from District regarding the programme and associated costs is awaited, but in the meantime I would ask you to please give some thought as to whether you are likely to be attending Conference and advise me of provisional numbers by the end of August. I know it seems a long way off, but if I need to reserve further rooms then the sooner this is done the better. I am sure you will agree it will be a far more enjoyable weekend if we are all in the same hotel.

Rtn Richard Watts

Young Enterprise – Sue Priest, Chair of North Oxfordshire Board

Speaker Report for Friday 18th May 2007 - Bernard Goodchild



The Young Enterprise Vision

That all young people will have the opportunity to gain personal experience of how business works, understand the role it plays in providing employment, creating prosperity, and be inspired to improve their own prospects, and the competitiveness of the UK.

Background

Young Enterprise has been running for over 40 years. Last year alone, over 113,000 pupils took part in Young Enterprise. Through its links with the Junior Achievement Award, the scheme touches 35 countries.

How it works

Students in individual schools, who agree to take part, start their own small company, assign roles, obtain investing shareholders, create and sell their products. Young Enterprise provides materials and events forming a structure for the year. A single nominated teacher works alongside one or two business advisors with the students as they manage the company. These are supporting roles, not leadership roles, and the main purpose is to coach the students and facilitate sound working practices.

Regional and National presentation events are organised by Young Enterprise with prizes for innovation, best business plan and others.

Student's benefit from:

Practical Knowledge

- Understanding of how a business works
- Experience of key business functions
- Time management skills

Character Development

- Ability to work in a team
- Improved communication skills
- More enthusiasm & self-confidence
- Willingness to take responsibility & initiative

Anticipated Timescale

September - Company name, roles and advisors assigned

October - Select & reject product / services ideas, perform market research, Develop business plan

November - Marketing seminar & Business plan awards. Business set-up and selling of shares

December – January - Fundraisers, product development, selling activities

February - Trade Fair /selling events

March- May - Trading and production of final report, presentations by selected companies for YE awards

June - Wind-up activities, issue dividends to shareholders, close bank account

The role of the Business Advisor

- To attend weekly management meetings with students
- Offer a wealth of experience to the management team
- Coach and mentor the student team