



SERVICE Above Self

The Banbury Bulletin

The Rotary Club of Banbury
District 1090 R.I.B.I. Club No. 415

President John Bennett

JULY 2011

21 YEARS OF MUSIC CELEBRATED

An enthusiastic audience were treated to a festival of great music on Sunday 19th June at Sibford School. This special Gala event was organised to celebrate 21 years of the Banbury Rotary Club "Young Musician of the Year" competition.

The event was started when Rotarian Gareth Jeremy aquired the trophies from the defunct Banbury Arts and Crafts festival. Rather than leave them idling in a cupboard Gareth proposed that we use them for a music competition. Since that time the number of trophies and the competition has grown into the prestigious event we hold today.

The Gala evening saw the return of some past winners of the competition. The first winner Marcel Zidani, who went on to be a professional musician and has performed in Europe and received glowing revues in the International press and the Sunday Times for his Piano recitals and a standing ovation at our gala concert.

Other past winners who performed were, last years youngest winner Sam Rees, Bethany Porter, Atar Shafighian, Lucy Downer, Daniel Striver, Umito Choji, Lucy Curtis and Catriona Bourne Swinton-Hunter.

All these past winners are carrying on their musiacal talent either performing or continuing their musical education. It was good to see our latest winner Sam Rees standing by our first Marcel Zidani. The proceeds from the evening are to be given to Katherine House Hospice. The final total for this donation is £2000.00.



Some of the performers take a well deserved bow to an appreciative audience.

ROTARY CONTACT CELEBRATED IN VILLE FRANCHE , France.

A small number of Banbury Rotarians and partners joined with the other nations in our 5 Nation Rotary twinning. We were recieved by the Rotary Club of Ville Franche at the Hotel Plaisance on Thursday and met with our hosts for the weekend. Many friendships were renewed by those participating for a number of years.

The Thursday evening was spent with our hosts and various venues were used from restaurants to Rotarians homes. After this first introduction to the weekend's events it was time for a rest to prepare for the forthcoming daily happenings. Further Details in the Next Bulletin. ED.

FROM THE SOON TO BE PAST PRESIDENTS PAD



JUNE 2011 President's Valedictory Speech

As you're all aware today's meeting is scheduled as the "Retiring Presidents Valedictory Meeting". The first thing I realised when I started to think about this was that I didn't know what the word "valedictory" actually meant. The meaning of "valediction" I found to be:

- A. A speech made when leaving or parting company.
- B. The act of parting company.
- C. A word or phrase (such as adieu or farewell) said upon leaving.
- D. A word or phrase used to end a letter or message.

Now by this time I was getting both very worried and somewhat concerned, as whilst I know that my term of office as President is coming to an end:

- a) I wasn't planning on leaving the Club! and
- b) There was no way that I'd been the President who'd achieved the highest grades or accomplishments.

So with your permission, this President would like to re-title this meeting to the "Retiring Presidents Congratulatory Meeting", as I would like to thank and congratulate all the Club members on the Club's achievements over the past year.

Our Charity Events this year:

Foundation donations with subs, Town Mayor's Sunday Stall, Old Ford Car Rally Gaydon Practice Interviews - Warriner School (200 students), Battle of Britain Day Parade traffic control, Banbury Canal Day display, Party for the Blind and Partially sighted, Children Singing for Children, Fairbairn Fund Raising BBQ, Remembrance Sunday Traffic Control, Planting Crocus Bulbs Family Christmas Festival of Music, Donations in lieu of Christmas Cards, Street Organ Collections, Town Mayor's Toy Appeal, Frugal Lunch, Young Chef Competition, Young Musician of the Year Sponsorship of Primary School Student's violin lessons, Sponsorship of 2 students for overseas community projects, Sponsorship of BGN Tall Ships Experience, Birmingham Chamber Orchestra Concert, Thanks for Life display Castle Quay, Practice Interviews BGN, Disaster Emergency Collection (following Japan disaster), Party for the Blind and Partially sighted, Banbury Show (gate + It's a Knock Out) Young Musician Gala Concert, Stephen's Summer Steaming, BYHP Young Person Interviews, Brodey Bursary Students (5 this year), Sponsorship of a RYLA candidate, 43 ShelterboxiAquaBox presentations andior displays, Setting up AquaBox facilities for the Rotary Club of Easthampstead to provide demonstrations in their locality and supporting it thereafter, Supporting ShelterBox activities by clubs within the White Zone as Zone Coordinator within District 1090, Supporting AquaBox activities by clubs throughout District through the District International Committee. 10 Leonard Cheshire Disability (Schools 4 All in Africa) presentations.32 presentations regarding support for communities in Africa

Donations made this year:

Foundation £4,500 (for the first time we have achieved the \$100 per member target)

Polio Plus £2,200 (we are within \$250 of achieving the Gates Foundation matching fund target of \$6,000 per Club) AquaBox £5,250 :: ShelterBox £2,160 :: BeKind £1,200 :: Chernobyl's Children £500

Micro Credits in Malawi £1,000 :: Child's violin lessons £180 :: Frank Wise School £1,200

Individual (Angela Ware) £100 :: Individual (James King) £250 :: BGN Tall Ships £500

Polly Food distribution £100 :: Sequal Trust (Tiago) £2,500 :: Two Individuals (wool) £100 Ridgeway Trust £500 :: Town Mayor's Toy Appeal £100 :: Dogs for the Disabled £4,750 :: C.A.F.E £100

Homestart £100 :: Prostate UK £500 :: Helen & Douglas House £1,200 :: Home Farm Trust £400 ::
Britannia Road Day Centre £500 :: St. Mary's Organ Appeal £500 :: Bereavement Service £500 ::
Calls for Heroes £500 :: Katharine House Hospice £4,000 :: Spurgeons £250 :: PHAB £250 ::
Life Education Centres £50 :: Sierra Leone ACEP (Alan Wolstencroft) £2,950 :: Brodey Bursary Students
(5) £1,800 :: Leonard Cheshire (Andrew Fairbairn) £1,000 :: RYLA Candidate £550
GRAND TOTAL £42,740

Many thanks and congratulations must go to our Committee Chairmen :-

Community & Vocation Committee led by Helen Braisby; Foundation Committee led by Martin Phillips;
International Committee led by Owen Kyffin; Youth Opportunities Committee led by Alan Wolstencroft;
Ian Brodey Bursary Committee led by Mike Budd; and our Emergency Rapid Response Committee (Alan
Wolstencroft, Andrew Fairbairn, Nigel Randall and President Elect John Bennett).

Social Events this year:

New Members Evening, RIBI Club Golf Competition :: Bigwood Golf Competition :: Three 5th Fridays
75th Charter Dinner – Gaydon :: 4 B s Golf Competition :: Autumn Golf Match, Joint Services Club Carol
Service :: Three Fellowship Meetings :: Club Darts Night, District 1090 Conference Birmingham :: Race
Night and Recruitment Evening, Club Members outing to Bristol :: Club Quiz Night :: Spring Golf
Tournament, Contact Club Meeting in Villefranche.

Many thanks and congratulations must therefore also go to:- our Sports & Entertainment Committee led by
Nigel Randall and our Classification, Membership & PR Committee; and our International Committee; and
our Fellowship & House Committee for organising such a great year of social events.

Mentioning our Fellowship & House Committee, I would like to say a special thank you to them under their
leadership of Stephen Jakeman assisted by Malcolm Dibb. We all turn up every week to find the meals
ordered, everything organised, all the equipment in place and members on appropriate duty. We may take
this for granted at times, but it doesn't happen by accident, it is the result of much unseen hard work in the
background by members of that committee. One of the highlights for me as your President has been sitting
next to our guest speaker each week. I think we've had an excellent series of guest speakers this year
covering a wide range of varied and stimulating subjects. I don't know how he does it, but thank you very
much Ian Calderbank for not only ensuring the Club has had some excellent speakers but also for providing
me with some brilliant lunchtime company.

Having mentioned the Classification, Membership & PR Committee led by Malcolm Douglas, I would like
to say a special thank you to them for continuing to be on the lookout for new members and helping bring 5
new members into the Club this year.

It cannot have gone un-noticed that publicity of our activities has increased significantly during the past
year, and I thank our Publicity Officer, Phil Cavill, for all the hard work he has done to make sure that
Rotary and the Rotary Club of Banbury are kept in the public eye.

In a similar vein, I'm sure that you'll all agree with me that we've had some fantastic Bulletins this year due
to the hard work and dedication of David Hitchcox. David, thank you very much.

Two other members who have done a superb job, not just keeping us informed but ensuring that members
who suffer from health problems are supported and kept within the family and fellowship of Rotary are
Maurice Humphris and Shirley Kershaw. Much of their work is unseen by most of us, but I know that it is
very much appreciated indeed by those that they do keep in contact with on our behalf. Thank you both very
much.

Others who have worked in the background on our behalf are: Tony Wiltshire, keeping our attendance
records and statistics up to date; John Webb, keeping us all on the right side of health and safety, and child
protection requirements; Stephen Jakeman, keeping our archives safe; Keith Manning, looking after the
shop; Roger May and Nigel Halfpenny, keeping our treasurer on his toes by auditing the accounts; and
Jonathan Meredith for his Independent Examination of the Trust Fund Accounts. A big thank you to you all.

A few words about what I've tried to contribute. I remember promising a year ago that I'd do my very best
to live up to your expectations, and I'd do my very best to represent the Club in and around Banbury as you
would wish it to be represented. To this end, as well as supporting virtually all the Club events previously
mentioned, I've attended the following:

49 Club Meetings :: 11 Council Meetings :: Town Mayors' Sunday Parade, BGN Tall Ships Presentation :: New members Evening, Banbury Cherwell Club Meeting :: Dogs for the Disabled Presentation (twice) Rotary Club Banbury Cherwell Beer Festival :: District Council Meeting (2), Town Battle of Britain Parade and Service :: Harvest Songs of Praise St. Mary's Church Rotary Club of Brackley 37th Charter Dinner :: Remembrance Day Parade and Service , Inner Wheel Christmas Party :: The Lions Club of Banbury Charter Anniversary Dinner, Inner Wheel Club of Banbury :: District Conference :: Brodey Cancer Resource Centre Open Evening :: BGN School Prize Giving Evening, Annual Town Council Meeting and Inauguration of the Town Mayor :: District Assembly, The Rotary Club of Chipping Norton President's Night, The Rotary Club of Bicester President's Night :: Contact Club Meeting - Villefranche, Meeting Peter Woolsey on his kayaking through Banbury :: DG's Bike Ride welcome home, The Rotary Club of Kingham and Daylesford President's Night, The Rotary Club of Banbury Cherwell President's Night :: Town Armed Forces Day The Rotary Club of Banbury Cherwell AGM.

Having said that, I could have done none of these things without the tremendous help and support that I've received from so many Club and committee members.

Andrew McHugh took on the daunting task of Club treasurer after only being a member for a short time, Many thanks Andrew for all the time and hard work you've put in to keeping our accounts in order also to our Club Secretary, Ian Rodrick for keeping me in order.

One other thank you I must give is to someone without whom I could not have done half of what I have done, my dear wife Tricia, who has supported me to the maximum she was able.

My final thank you, and it is an extremely big thank you, must go to you all. You honoured me greatly by electing me as your President, you've supported me unreservedly throughout the year, and you've given me the very great pleasure of being the Club President and having many many very happy memories that will stay with me for very many years to come.

I am very much planning on continuing to play whatever active part I can to support the work and fellowship of what has to be the best Rotary Club you can find.

Speaker Reports.

Toybox Revisited - Speaker Alaister Welford (the Chair of trustees) returning to speak to Banbury Rotary Club. Friday 27th May 2011

Street children in Latin America are being robbed of their childhood. But every day, Toybox offers these forgotten children the chance of a brighter future.

Background

These street children include: children living on the street with no home at all, children spending most of their time on the streets, without opportunities for education and care; and child workers who spend most of their time working on the street e.g. shoe-shining in Bolivia or selling tortillas in Guatemala.

Toybox seeks to help all these street children but especially those at highest risk and without any home at all.

Toybox is comprised of an international team of UK-based staff in partnership with local Latin American street children's organisation, Viva, working on the frontline in Guatemala, El Salvador, Peru and Bolivia.

Toybox is a Christian organisation. As such, we see our work as a testimony of God's love for the world and hope that others are attracted to Him through us. In practical terms this means that we seek to be clearly focused on our mission; act with total consistency; have absolute integrity; show unprejudiced compassion; are encouragers; are unwaveringly committed to the task, and seek to live balanced lifestyles.

Alaister talked through a very illuminating Powerpoint slide show outlining the work that the charity is involved in and highlighting several needy children in Latin America. Many examples were shown of youngsters who have been rescued from a life of poverty, sniffing glue and in which they are continuously open to abuse by adults.

The charity website www.toybox.org.co.uk is worth a visit to read about the excellent Christian work that is being undertaken and more details of the very strong management team based here in the UK.

Alaister concluded his presentation by asking for much needed donations to assist the charity continue to support the Street Children of Latin America.

Bernard Goodchild, Speaker Host

Rachel Young (Special & Different Addiction Services) – Speaker Report 3rd June 2011

Our speaker's main theme was alcohol at work. Putting the aside the obvious repost that this is a good idea, in reality it is frequently a hidden issue costing businesses and the economy huge sums each year. Perhaps even more significant is the social cost to families and communities and the possible adverse affects on children brought into contact with this problem and the resultant impact upon their adult lives. For make no mistake, as the younger generation will frequently remind us, alcoholism is an addiction no different to the misuse of drugs. And as with drugs, the danger is that there is a recurring effect with many children faced with this behaviour copying the same mistakes in later life.

Rachel Young gave an insight into the work of her charity (locally based at 69 Oxford Road) made so much more revealing by (a) her brave admission that she was an alcoholic and to this day cannot drink alcohol due to the fear of sliding back into this particular addiction and (b) her appearance which was totally unlike one might expect an alcoholic to look or sound like. Drunks or binge-drinkers coming out of pubs may be easily labelled, but alcoholics can be much more subtle. This emphasises the difficulty for both employers in recognising the problem and frequently the addict in admitting it. Without either, there is unlikely to be a solution or even progress.

Given that there is problem, being able to use her personal experience through the charity in counselling others is something that is not only to be applauded but also to be thankful for.

Andrew Fairbairn.

IT IS WITH MUCH REGRET that we announce the passing away of our Honorary Member Rotarian Derek Repton.

Derek was an active member of our Club, holding the position of Assistant Secretary and Secretary for many years, and always on hand to assist in setting up the weekly meetings. He was previously a member of the Didcot Rotary Club. Our condolences are given to his wife Brenda.

A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St. Mary's Church Banbury on Wednesday 6th. July at 1.00 P.M. This will be preceded by a Private cremation.

Donations in Memory of Derek will be given to "Brooklands 2 Special Bed Fund".

A Thank You Note.

I would like to say how very grateful I am for the overwhelming enquiries, cards and visits following my recent

(seemingly very successful) hip replacement operation. I could never have imagined that so many of you would be concerned for my welfare, I am deeply touched by this example of real Rotary friendship and fellowship. If I take the advice of the consultant and the physiotherapist I will not be back at club until the end of July, but I cannot believe I will be away that long.

Thank you, regards and best wishes, Maurice Humphris.

TWO NEWMEMBERS.

President Ron Barnett recently inducted a two new members.

Tim Roland Brice

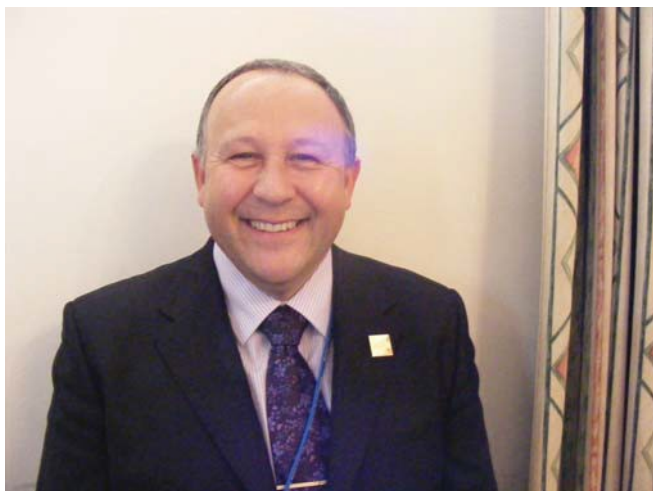
Classification :_ Photography. Proposer Fred Riches

He was a former member of the Rotary Club of Burford and Windrush Valley.



Mark Anthony John Recchia

Classification:- Local Government
Proposer Ron Barnett.



CONGRATULATIONS.

Our Paul Harris Fellow Neil Gadsby has been honoured by the Queen who has granted him a M.B.E. in the Birthday Honours list. Neil was instrumental in creating the Katharine House Hospice which has been such a great asset to our community in giving cancer care to so many people. A truly deserved recognition of his achievements.

Community and Vocational.

Banbury Show unfortunately turned out to be a washout as the only wet and cold day for months occurred on the show day. Rotary manned the gate and a stall with a Nail game. "It's A Knockout" also carried on with a depleted attendance. The results of the events are yet to be assessed, but it will be disappointing because of the weather.

Prior announcement for 2012 Olympics, Andrew Fairbairn is Kayaking from Cornwall to Weymouth to coincide with the Olympic events held there. "Watch this space". Also it is hoped to run "Dragon Boats" again next year at Broughton Castle.

Foundation.

"Stevens Summer Steaming." Was a very successful event with a hot sunny day, and a good attendance enjoying fellowship food and a some liquid refreshment. Stephen had his garden railway chuffing around and most of those attending enjoyed a ride around Stephen and Clare's magnificent garden. Funds raised were over £500.00. But the main benefit from the day was the fun and fellowship enjoyed by all. Sports & Entertainment.

Report on Rotary Spring Golf Tournament 2011

Held at Feldon Valley Golf Club, Monday 13th June 2011

10 Rotarians gathered for the playing of this tournament on a warm afternoon. Some were absent through work, others were not too well. The course was in excellent condition, perhaps the best it has ever been, as many of us who had played as visitors there agreed. John Phillips had booked the course, weather and good food for us to replenish our energy with after the round.

Some had fair scores, some good and one or two not quite so good. Still, I think we all enjoyed each others' company and friendship for the afternoon. The competition was a stableford one and as well as the usual positions, there were two nearest the flag prizes on par 3 short holes. These were won by Brian Croft on the 6th hole and John Donaldson on the 11th hole. These were very accurate shots being only about 4 ft away from the flag. In the main event, Brian Croft was 3rd with 30 points, John Donaldson 2nd with 34 points and the winner was Malcolm Nutt with 37 points to retain the trophy won this time last year at Chipping Norton Golf Club.

The autumn event will be booked in the near future, so if there is anyone who wants to participate please contact Malcolm Nutt, if not already on the email golfers' list. The Keith Bigwood Trophy is being held at Tadmarton Heath Golf Club on Thursday 8th September. Report by Malcolm Nutt.

Youth Opportunities.

Louise is top of the class

Warriner School student Louise Hughes has been chosen as Interviewee of the Year by the Rotary Club of Banbury.

The Rotary Club of Banbury in partnership with Warriner School carries out practice interviews each year with over 200 year 10 students. Prior to the interviews the students prepare a CV and a letter of application which all form part of the interview process.

The best performing students are then invited to attend a second interview from which an overall best Interviewee of the Year is selected.

Alan Wolstencroft, Chairman of the Rotary Club's Youth Opportunities Committee said "The programme is designed to give students an opportunity to practice their interview skills and receive mentoring advice from experienced business people, giving them a flying start on their chosen career path. The standard achieved by the Warriner students was very high and Louise should be extremely proud of herself having beaten over 200 of her colleagues to the top place."

RYLA Bernard Goodchild has found at least possible candidates to go to this year's RYLA there will be a selection process to whittle these down.

Children Singing for Children will be held on the 8th,9th,10th of November at St. Mary's Church.

Fellowship and House.

Welcome to the Fellowship & House Committee. It is not a high profile committee but it is vital for the smooth running of our weekly meetings. I expect that you have a pretty good idea of how we work but in order that all of you have a point of reference I have decided to set out the duties in full as I see them. If you have any questions please have a word with me.

I believe that fellowship lies right at the heart of Rotary so our service to our fellow members is important if the club is to be enjoyed by all. Please note the various duties outlined below.

Fellowship and House Committee Member in Charge:

The Member in Charge is responsible for ensuring that all equipment is set up and that all duties are carried out.

- a) Endeavour to arrive by 12.00 noon.
- b) Place on appropriate tables the following items, to be found in the "Rotary Cupboard" (key on board behind the bar).

President's and Speaker's reading desks.

The bell.

Unveil the Rotary wheel and banners and open the Past Presidents Board.

- c) Set up the loudspeaker system, which is kept in the Rotary cupboard. Please see me if you are in doubt and I will explain the system to you.
- d) Ensure that the Fellowship officer is present and the cash desk is manned, or appoint someone to cover.
- e) Check arrival of Rotarians on table duty and allocate duties including tables to those on Table Duty, it is important that the top table is well covered and that the President and guest speaker and any other top table guests are served quickly. When a member is absent, appoint a replacement from those Rotarians present.
- f) Sit near to the door, so as to be available for late arrivals, and ensure that the front lobby door is locked before the meeting and after "early leavers" have left for security reasons.
- g) When meeting closes, draw curtains over Rotary wheel and banners, all equipment, and replace tidily in the Rotary cupboard. Lock cupboard and return the key to the bar.
- h) Any problems to be referred to me.

Fellowship

- a) Endeavour to arrive no later than 12.15 pm.
- b) Ensure that ALL visitors are welcomed by the President or one of the Vice Presidents, and give visiting Rotarians attendance cards if requested. See that all visitors sign the Visitors Book.
- c) Complete agenda form in block letters giving details of ALL visitors present and hand to the Hon. Secretary by 1.00 pm.
- d) Say Grace

Cash Desk (This and the following included because of your supervisory role).

Arrive no later than 12-15 pm, earlier if possible.

- E. The current meal charge being £10 a few £10 notes may be helpful as a float. Cheques are to be made payable to Pink Peppercorn.
- F. Tick off names of members on list provided as they pay, adding names of visiting Rotarians and any other visitors and of any who are being paid for by the Club, e.g. the Speaker. Record the number of people present and number of members who have paid.
- G. At one o'clock, balance total cash against number present, give cash to the caterers and pass the list to me or if I am not there I will deputise somebody to take it.

Table Duty

- c) Arrive no later than 12.45 pm
- d) Service the table allocated to you by the Fellowship and House Members in charge.

Once again the rota is being prepared by Stan Crump, for which I am most grateful. He prepares this rota two months in advance to give everyone good warning of their duties, if you know well in advance that you will not be available at a given date it would be helpful if you could notify Stan. Otherwise short notice unavailability needs to be dealt with in the usual way by swapping with another Club member.

Rotarian Tony Wiltshire will continue to monitor the attendance records and I will be passing the weekly figures on to him, however, he will be looking after the book showing attendance at committee meetings etc together with the guest book. I will take the apologies book to start the following week's list.

Malcolm Dibb. Chairman Fellowship and House.

From the pens of children.

In wartime children who lived in big cities had to be evacuated because it was safer in the country.

Joan of Arc met her end. She was burned as a witch. Sir Walter Raleigh circumnavigated the world with a big clipper. Maths - The total is when you add up all the numbers, and a remainder is an animal that pulls Santa on his sleigh. Religion - A mosque is a sort of church. The main difference is that its roof is domed.

If you marry two people you are a pigamist, but morons are allowed to do this.

The Arts - In last year's Christmas concert, Linza played the main part. I played one of the smaller parts and I would like to be a bigger part this year. Geography - In geography we learnt that countries with sea round them are islands and ones without sea are continents.

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