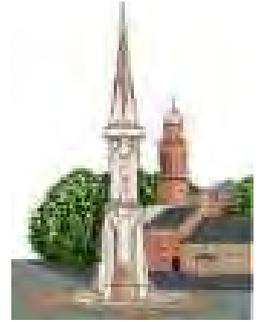


The Banbury Bulletin

The Rotary Club of Banbury
Rotary International
Club No. 19229 District 1090
President John Hansford



November 2013

www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk



President's Lunch
Sunday 20 October 2013
Wroxton House Hotel



A relaxing afternoon
with good food and fellowship
and pleasant music.

And afterwards it was good to see
Rtn Joe McGloin looking so well.

Other photographs courtesy of
Rtn Helen Morris (pictured here with Joe)
are on later pages.



Speaker Reports

27 September 2013

**Anthony Munday and Ellie
Frank Wise School
The Calvert Trust**

Hosted by Rtn Nigel Randall



Anthony Munday from the Frank Wise School attended the meeting on Friday 27th September together with Ellie, who Club had sponsored to attend an activity weekend at the Calvert Trust, Exmoor this May (with James who unfortunately could not attend Club) under the auspices of the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) scheme.

Frank Wise is a special school for children and young adults with learning and/or physical disabilities aged between 2 and 19. Anthony is a teacher at the Griffiths Centre, named after a former Frank Wise head teacher. This centre was specifically formed to prepare children in their last 3 years at Frank Wise to become as independent as possible ready to face the world outside of the structured school environment. Here there is a shift in emphasis away from more linear teaching techniques towards more flexible ways that reinforce a pupil's existing skills and helps them face their future life. This is achieved through such simple things as work experience, independent travel in the local community on shopping trips, tuition on home and personal economics, etc. Smartphones also play a large part in monitoring these early independent excursions as current technology allows pupils to be tracked and individuals can use built-in cameras and other devices to record and so debrief their experiences. In order to achieve this Frank Wise has invested a significant sum in iPhones and Apple multi-media computers.

The normal RYLA course is not designed for disabled participants, so an alternative run by the Calvert Trust had been chosen for Ellie and James. This charity enables people with disabilities to achieve their potential through a wide range of adventurous activities at three locations around Britain. The Exmoor facility was chosen as best suiting this challenge, as it is specifically designed and equipped to enable people with physical, sensory and learning disabilities of all ages and levels of ability, together with their families & friends, to experience exciting, challenging and enjoyable outdoor activity adventures.

Rotarian Randall transported the students to and from Exmoor, accompanied by a mentor from Frank Wise. The immediate challenge for Ellie and James was that, although the course was fully accommodated and catered, they had to be individually independent outside the carefully supervised activities. Neither student had previous experience of living in a single room away from their family or school, nor organising themselves to such an extent. They had both been issued with iPhones to record their experiences and, of course, contact their parents and Anthony if necessary. Ellie described her 6 years at Frank Wise before explaining some of the challenges she had faced at the Calvert Trust, especially in archery, canoeing, zip wire and abseiling.

Anthony described how the confidence Ellie had gained during her weekend away had directly led to her subsequent selection for a two week specialist course on Life Skills at Harewood College. He remarked that both students had returned with a noticeable rise in confidence that had better prepared them to face life outside the Griffiths Centre. Ellie is currently studying for her GCSE exams and hopes to then undertake a foundation course at a local college. Unfortunately, her new found independence have led Birmingham City Council, who fund her education, to question whether she needs to remain at Frank Wise and in Banbury. Anthony and Ellie thanked Club for their generosity and the opportunity that had been given to both students.

Rotarian Randall, in thanking Anthony and Ellie for their presentation, described how satisfying it was to hear direct personal feedback from a project that Club had sponsored. President John then announced that Club had agreed to give similar support to Frank Wise students next year.

4 October 2013

**Chris Rattenbury
WheelPower and the Rotary Wheel Appeal**

Hosted by Rtn Michael Banks



On Friday 4th October we were entertained by Chris Rattenbury on the subject of WheelPower. This is a charity dedicated to providing wheelchairs of all sorts of different specifications for disabled athletes- from speed machines used by the likes of David Weir to tough tank-like machines used by disabled Rugby Players.

David himself has been disabled since childhood. For the last 25 years he has been involved in sport and for the last 17 years he has concentrated on power lifting. He has competed at two world championships and six European championships. He recently attended the European powerlifting championships where he broke the European record of 171kg. He represented England at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in 2010 and hopes to do so again in 2014.

For the last three and a half years he has been a volunteer and an ambassador for WheelPower He has spoken to over 40,000 school children and several Rotary Clubs.

The vote of thanks was given by Rtn Michael Banks who reminded us of our own involvement in Wheel Appeal, a district-wide event to raise money for WheelPower; and in particular that it had been fun to participate and that this was one of the few occasions where Rotary makes a concerted effort, like End Polio Now, rather than individual clubs all doing their own very worthwhile but nonetheless usually disjointed things.

11 October 2013

**Rtn Maurice Humphris
Long Serving Member**

Hosted by Rtn David Hitchcox



Our speaker on Friday the 11 October was our own member Maurice Humphris he introduced himself, no introduction really necessary, and then outlined his family history. The family originally came to Banbury from Sulgrave in 1730. They were established in Banbury for many years and became the family business that we now know, originally as builders and now as Funeral Directors. Maurice spoke of his school life and then on leaving school working at the accountants Thorntons. His work at Thorntons was cut short by going into National Service where he initially met up with a group from Glasgow who taught him a few words he had never heard before. He was posted to RAF Gloucester H.Q. staff where after 18 months he was promoted to Corporal. On leaving the RAF he returned to work at Thorntons but this was again cut short by the need to enter the Family business as his brother John became ill.

Maurice soon found that the Funeral directing was challenging and that he enjoyed meeting people and helping them in their time of need. At a point 20 years later Rotarian John Portergill, who was at Thorntons asked if he was returning. The answer was a definite no.

He later became a magistrate and served on the bench for 38 years together with Rotarian Ken Gibbard who invited him to join Rotary, this was in 1973. It is a tribute to Maurice that he has been a member of this club for 40 years.

His work often coincided with our Rotary meetings but to keep up his attendance figures Maurice was a regular attender at the Brackley Rotary club, who because of his attendance there made him an Honorary Member. During this time he kept his contact with our club by attending evening committee meetings and being very active in the various events. He also produced the club bulletin or many years.

Maurice was also very active in the community in various roles, and together with his wife Rita they ran the Methodist youth club for many years. On retirement he could not rest and took on a very active role at the Citizens Advice Bureau until quite recently.

The town of Banbury acknowledged the work he had undertaken in our community by making him an Honorary Burgess which followed on from his appointment as a County Deputy Lieutenant. This culminated in him being presented to the Queen during her visit to Banbury.

The club has acknowledged Maurice's work for Rotary and the community by presenting him with a Paul Harris Fellowship. The club acknowledged this work and his other achievements with a rousing round of applause.

18 October 2013

**Joanna Thorne & Andrea Brereton
An Opportunity to Transform Young Lives**

Hosted by Rtn Ian Calderbank



Our Speakers on 18 October were Joanne Thorne, a Career Academy Coordinator for North Oxfordshire Academy, and Andrea Brereton who is the Chair for the North Oxfordshire Career Academy Local Advisory Board and a Director of Mercer Brereton. They described how the mentoring and training exercises provided by Career Academies UK helps to raise young people's aspirations and bridge the gap between education and work by giving them access to real experience of the world of work. Working with local businesses, Career Academy provide a structured programme of paid internships: mentoring by employer volunteers, motivated lectures, site visits and workshops to give 16-19 year olds the work experience and skills they need to be able to perform more effectively in the wider world. The programme is designed to give students who may have little family background of higher education or experience of social mobility, the confidence and opportunity to engage with employers.

Joanne and Andrea indicated where they need help and support, e.g., with linking more students with more volunteers. Mentors play an important role for students in helping the students to expand their knowledge of business culture and workplace etiquette, practice employability skills and widen their network of contacts. They are also seeking people with inspirational stories that could engage, motivate and excite/challenge/drive the students through guru lectures and workshops. They introduced too the idea of internships where students, over a six week period, undertake independent projects that add real value for the host company: *"Jennifer surpassed our expectations, having completed work during her internship which will remain very useful to office operations for a long while."* Anthony Boutail, Amrop Augmentation

The impact that business volunteers have on students does transform lives: Over 85% of Career Academy student's progress either to university – often the first in their family to do so – or directly into employment or apprenticeships (2011-2012 Career Academies UK graduate survey). One example quoted was a young carer, Adrian Jeacock, who was not always able to put himself first but became North Oxfordshire Academy and Regional Career Academy Student of the Year Winner. Adrian felt that his Career Academy experience gave him the confidence, focus and experience to set higher challenges and that these will put him in good stead for the rest of his life and career. Adrian credited both his Mentor (Andrea Brereton) and Internship Supervisor (Sandra Cunningham, Cherwell District Council) for advising, supporting and giving him the transferable skills necessary to succeed.

It is clear that there is good synergy between what Career Academies UK are doing in preparing young people for the work place and what we as a Rotary Club attempt in developing young people through our "Practice Interviews", "Young Musician", "Young Chef", and at a younger age "Children Singing for Children" programmes. Some of our members expressed afterwards to Joanne and Andrea their possible individual support and if any other member wishes to do so, Joanne can be contacted on 01295 234210 or via e-mail at joanne.thorne@northoxfordshire-academy.org

25 October 2013

**Rtn Nigel Rock
The Story of a story**

Hosted by Rtn John Smith



Rotarian Nigel Rock came all the way from Southam to describe how he came to write his first novel Sure Strike. Nigel's parents met whilst they were both serving in the RAF Bomber Command during WW2 and much of the events are inspired by events during that period.



The novel's title Sure Strike is derived from Bomber Command motto Strike Hard- Strike Sure

and indeed the book is dedicated to the men and women of Bomber Command.

The book paints a picture of life in the RAF for a small unit setting out to achieve a sure strike on a small target, using recollections in diaries and other documents and photographs.

Nigel's book was snapped up by several Rotarians and his talk was hugely enjoyed by all.

Events

**9 October 2013
4 B's Golf competition
Report by Rtn Malcolm Nutt**

The annual golf match between the Rotary Clubs of Brackley, Bicester, Buckingham and Banbury took place on Wednesday 9th October and was hosted and run by Brackley at Cherwell Edge Golf Club. After a poor weather forecast for the day earlier in that week, the day turned out to be not too bad, with just the later finishers catching a sharp shower of rain.

There were player problems for all Clubs except Brackley who had 6 players, with the others only having 4 in the team. Eventually it was decided that the best 3 scores were to count to winning the event. After a tense finish and a lot of counting and re-counting of the scores, Bicester were 4th with 83 points, Buckingham 3rd with 94

points, Banbury 2nd with 102 points, but the host Club Brackley came out winners with 108 points and retained the trophy they won last year. The winners each received a nice bottle of wine, Banbury as runners up each won a box of 3 balls. In addition, the nearest the flag on the short par 3 13th hole was won by the organiser, Patrick Blair of Brackley and Malcolm Nutt of Banbury won the longest drive on the 9th, both getting a bottle of wine.

A good afternoon was had by all along with a meal at which old acquaintances were re-visited and new ones made. Thanks to the 3 other members of the Banbury team being John Brodey, Keith Manning and Paul Shea for playing and supporting this long running golfing event. Bicester are the host for the 2104 competition and Banbury in 2015.

Rotary stall at Canal Day Saturday 13 October 2013

The Team



Rtn John Smith looking as if he has already sampled Rtn Malcolm Douglas' wine – or perhaps is angling for some!

13 October 2013 World Pooh Sticks Championship Report by Rtn Andrew Fairbairn on behalf of the International Committee

This annual charity and community event is organised by, and through the sterling efforts of, the Rotary Club of Oxford Spires. It is great fun and usually attracts a horde of visitors. Unfortunately this year it was adversely hit by the weather – incessant and heavy rain. Nevertheless, a mix of young families and other intrepid competitors defied the conditions to enjoy racing 'pooh sticks' under the bridge at Day's Lock in the lee of the impressive and beautiful Wittenham Clumps. We anticipate and await Pooh Bear's approval although any favourable endorsement from Eeyore will no doubt be expressed grudgingly. Amongst others, at least three other Rotary Clubs (including Banbury) and two Rotaract Clubs provided support on the day. If you haven't experienced the occasion, it comes highly recommended. Look out for it in 2014.



Winners with their certificates
in front of a ShelterBox

Banbury Rotary Club was also active on the previous day helping the Rotary Club of Henley Bridge promote themselves and their activities at a stall in the Market Place. We understand that they received positive and encouraging interest.

Tour de Trigs Report by Rtn David Sullivan

I managed 25 miles, but the blisters were bad and I was continually lagging behind Andrew. At the rate we were walking the team would never finish the competition in the time.

When Alison dropped out we asked for volunteers so, as no-one came forward we invited Jeremy Wilton, who is known to many in Club, to be part of the team. Jeremy has done the Tour before and, being a regular climber, is fit.

A little afterwards we were approached by a Rotarian from Banbury Cherwell, Paul Clement. Paul is an experienced walker, interested in doing the Trigs for the fourth time. His fastest time of 16 hours 37 minutes is fast indeed. He also ran 5 marathons in 2008 to celebrate his 50th birthday, raising £7,000 for Clic Sargent. I thought it best if Paul took my place. Paul's youngest daughter has had treatment for T Cell Lymphoma and the team are keen to raise funds for Lymphoma and Leukaemia Research.

Sibford School

Pupils raising awareness for Polio eradication



Sibford School choir members Emily Sloan, Henry Jackson-Wells and Tom Smith are pictured with the 500 crocus bulbs

Pupils at Sibford School are joining forces with the Rotary Club of Banbury and other local schools to raise awareness of the End Polio Now campaign.

To coincide with World Polio Day on 24 October, the school will be planting 500 purple crocus bulbs around its music school.

And in Spring 2014, when the bulbs will (hopefully) be in flower, Sibford pupils will be using their musical talents to perform at one of two special fund raising concerts being held at St Mary's Church in Banbury town centre.

Said Ali Bromhall, community development officer at the Quaker School: "We were approached by the Rotary Club of Banbury asking if we would help them to raise awareness of the incredible work being undertaken internationally to eradicate polio and we were delighted to give our backing to this campaign."

The Crocus Concert, featuring Sibford pupils performing alongside pupils from Banbury Academy, Chenderit School and The Warriner School, will take place on Wednesday 26 February 2014. A second concert, featuring pupils from Blessed George Napier, Bloxham School, Frank Wise School and North Oxfordshire Academy, will take place on Thursday 6 March 2014.

In 1985, polio affected 350,000 people, mostly children, in 125 countries. Since then, cases of the disease have been reduced by more than 99 per cent, and in 2012 the number of people affected by polio was just 223. The aim of the campaign is to eradicate polio completely, making it only the second human disease (after smallpox) to be wiped from the globe.

The purple crocus has been adopted as a symbol of the End Polio Now campaign because it represents the colour of the die dabbed on the little finger of children to show that they have been immunised against Polio.

Rotary International has been contributing to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative since 1988.



Alan Wolstencroft, Banbury Rotarian & Goodwill & Growth for Africa UK Trustee working with & supported by Rotary Clubs in the UK and Africa

"making a real difference in Sierra Leone & Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa"

Registered Charity 1092028

Waterloo School, Freetown, Sierra Leone

This was the start of the toilet block for the school



This is the new toilet block completed this week.



There is no running water so they are “long drop” toilets but at least they have sanitary ware rather than a hole cut in a slab of concrete or just a hole in the ground as they had until a few weeks ago!

A big thank you to Terry Deakin & Colwyn Bay Rotary Club for sponsoring this project. The proprietor, Board, Staff, parents and pupils of the Waterloo school warmly thank you for your support in building the Toilet block for the benefit and development of our school community. May the Lord richly bless and protect you in all your undertakings - Solomon G. Kamara, Principal.

Waterloo School classroom project – latest

Last month I started fundraising for the first 2, of a possible 8 classrooms at the school – I am pleased to announce that the total raised so far stands at £1,150.

Westminster Aviation Security Services FC



As a “thank you” to Westminster Group PLC for all their help with the shipment of goods to Sierra Leone I donated a football kit to the staff team.

The latest sea freight container is being loaded with some furniture & nearly 100 boxes of school uniform, sports kits, corporate clothing, knitted items and books for distribution in 5 communities.

Enable The Children

A BIG thank you to Tony & Gary at GTS Sewing Machines, Banbury for donating several second hand sewing machines.

One of these was donated to Enable The Children (ETC) a physiotherapy charity working with disabled children in Freetown.



Memunatu is 13 and has diplegic cerebral palsy which is as a result of damage to the brain during or shortly after birth that affects the movement of muscles. She became severely weak in her lower limbs causing very limiting use of her legs. She was so happy to get her machine & can't wait to get started. Jaimie from Enable The Children said “Thank you so much, this will really improve her livelihood & to have this skill & develop it at a young age so that one day she can become independent! ETC got her a new wheelchair & made her a table as well! She should be well set up to have a good quality of life!” Thanks.

Calvary Primary School

Courtesy of Oxford United these 2 pupils at the Calvary Primary School are proudly wearing their Junior Yellow T-shirts. In the left of the picture you can see a Rotary Roller donated to the school and to the right is the blue sea freight container donated Westminster Group PLC.



I am visiting Ithembalihle, the small rural orphanage in Kwa Zulu Natal, to build a pre-school building. To read of my South Africa news go to www.alanwooly.co.uk BLOG or www.gaga-uk.org “about us” “blogspot”.

Editor's piece

Rotary International President Ron Burton has chosen as his theme this year 'Engage Rotary, Change Lives.



But what does this mean? There is, of course, two sides to Rotary; fellowship from being a member and service by helping others. Each is fundamental to being a good Rotarian and it is important that members partake in both to the extent they are able. Fellowship gives us the fun for which Banbury is known and creates lifelong friendships.

Service is where members help the Club deliver charity, here and internationally, and which brings great personal reward to ourselves. It is largely delivered through the committees and the events that committees organise. Many members have worked tirelessly over the years and so, quite reasonably, are excused. Some others though are not as active on service as they perhaps could be. Some do not attend committees and some don't apologise when not coming, leaving chairmen with unfruitful meetings. We may be a large Club but without everyone's contribution our achievements will be limited.

I leave the final word to RI President Ron: 'When we realize just what we can achieve in Rotary — when we really engage Rotary — that's when lives change. And, at the end of the day, no matter how many lives you reach out to change, the life that will change the most will be your own'.

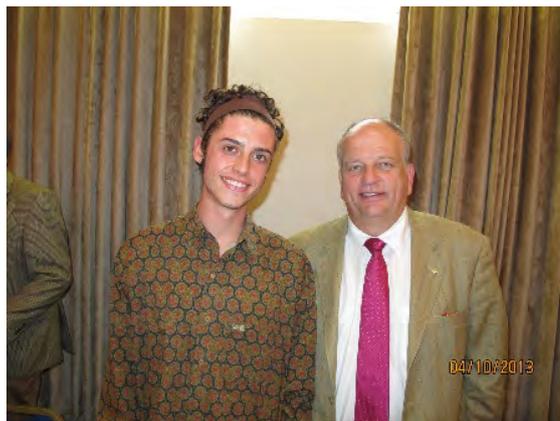
Editor: Rtn David Sullivan
Email: sullyhouse@googlemail.com

Copy date is normally the last Friday of the month but at great expense I'm whisking Mrs Editor off to somewhere exotic - so the deadline for the December Bulletin is Friday 22 November 2013 – give or take a day.

Honorary Secretary: Rtn Paul Gardiner
Email: paul.gardiner@btinternet.com

Fellowship & House: Rtn Malcolm Dibb
Email malcolmrotary@btinternet.com

Ambassadorial Scholar Adonis Marden with Rtn Martin Phillips



Apparently Martin gets confused – Martin you're the one on the right! All those pies are a real giveaway!

Talking of pies – here's the Editor showing he could beat Martin in any pie eating contest!



And on the subject of food but definitely no pies.....Rtn Helen 'Flasher' Morris on the other side of the camera with her choice of menu.



Thank you Helen for all the photographs.

New member

Rtn Peter Williams

Peter's contact details are available
from the Honorary Secretary



Peter's induction 11 October 2013

It's going very well.....



...now where did I put that
badge?



Welcome Peter.



Around the Committees

Committees have largely planned their diary and are now busy working on forthcoming events. The next high profile event is Youth Service's Children Singing For Children over four nights, Monday 11th to Thursday 14th November, at St Mary's Church. Arrangements are well in hand. Membership Committee also plan to have a presence to help promote Rotary. Other major events before Christmas are Foundation's Christmas Family Festival Of Music on 14th December 2013, which will have a slightly different format this year, and Community & Vocation's street organ collections at Tesco's and Sainsbury's Supermarkets on December 14, 21 23 and 24. Rotaract will be assisting with the street organ collections.

Community & Vocation report that our £1,000 has been released to assist in the purchase of a wheelchair, as the target has been achieved, and £100 is to be given to Polly Preedy to help with the feeding of the homeless. International are looking into the viability of an event with a Calendar Girls' speaker. Youth Service report that the Young Chef and Young Musician invites have now been sent out. Council have decided that personal telephone numbers will not be published in any material available to the public.

Photographs from President's lunch



Photographs from President's lunch

