

The Banbury Bulletin

The Rotary Club of Banbury Rotary International Club No. 19229 District 1090 President Ian Calderbank

www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk

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November 2015

## The November Diary

- 4<sup>th</sup> Community & Vocational Service Committee Meeting
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sports and Entertainment Committee Meeting
- 4<sup>th</sup> Classification, Membership & PR Committee Meeting
- 6<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> Town Mayor's Christmas Charities Bazaar
- 8<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day Parade
- 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Children Singing for Children Concerts
- 13th Special General Meeting
- 14<sup>th</sup> Curry and Film Night
- 18<sup>th</sup> Youth Services Committee Meeting
- 18<sup>th</sup> International Committee Meeting
- 18<sup>th</sup> Foundation Committee Meeting
- 20<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting
- 21<sup>st</sup> Interact Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> District Council
- 26<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
- 27<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting
- 29<sup>th</sup> Christmas Lights Switch On
- 30<sup>th</sup> Town Mayors Toy Appeal
- For the full year's diary visit
- www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk

## 80 Not Out and Going Strong!



Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October saw over 120 Rotarians, partners, friends and guests celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Club's Charter in Banbury Town Hall, the same venue as the first Charter Dinner was held at in 1935.

In 1934 Banbury was still very much a market town and livestock market, Industries apart from the traditional ones associated with agriculture, were few and were relative newcomers to the town. The population was approximately 14,000.

The first meeting of the provisional club was held at the Wincott's Café in South Bar on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 1935, and the Inaugural Lunch was arranged for Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May at the same venue.

The Club's Charter which was signed and dated on 24<sup>th</sup> September 1935, was presented at a formal dinner that was held at the Banbury Town Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1935. In the past 80 years Banbury's population has grown to nearly 50,000, and the Rotary Club from the 16 founder members to over 70 members today.

Notable events for the Club during the past 80 years are:

1935 12<sup>th</sup> April - group met in Wincott's Café and decided to start a club.

24<sup>th</sup> May - Inaugural Lunch - 16 Founder members.

25<sup>th</sup> October - Charter Dinner - 167 present with 10 clubs represented, 43 column in Banbury Guardian.

First President - Sidney Ewins 1936 - 46 members.

1936 - 1939 Mainly local service e.g., hospital transport, holidays for needy young people.

Bowls a popular sport and Club successful.

1939 - 1945 Evacuees supported - parties, cinema visits.

Indefinite Leave of Absence & Honorary status for members in forces.

Reduced Subs from 2 to 1½ guineas, 1940-1944.

Adopted Minesweeper MMS15.

1945 Banbury Arts and Crafts Festival - 3,000 entrants over 3 weeks - ran for 15 years.

International - clothing to Holland, etc., disabled children brought over for holidays.

- 1946 Inner Wheel Club of Banbury Chartered.
- 1950 1<sup>st</sup> Party for the Blind still continuing today.

Seven nominations for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

Rota for members serving lunch introduced.

1951 Hosted 1951 District Conference in Bexhill - 4 members on Committees.

Christmas Carol Singing + Salvation Army band in Horsefair - 3,000 people present.

- 1952 Started up Round Table in Banbury.
- 1953 Inaugural meeting of the Rotary Club of Bicester.
- 1954 Banbury Old People's Club set up.
- 1959 Christmas Barrel Organ collections started still continuing as Street Organ.

Banbury first hosted the Contact Clubs - 55 visitors.

1962 District Chairman D J Proctor.

- 1967 First meeting of the Rotary Club of Chipping Norton.
- 1968 District Chairman A H Phillips subsequently Zone Chairman & RIBI roles.

Use of Banbury Borough Arms on President's chain of office authorised.

Donkey Derby large event for Horton special beds.

Started Abbeyfield House.

- 1969 District Governor J Pearson Smith.
- 1970 Probus Compton Club started.

Aubrey Phillips Leader of GSE team to Argentina.

Banbury Harriers Athletic Club reformed -Supported by Rotary.

- 1971 First Rotaract Club in the District formed.
- 1973 Schools Debating Competition.
- 1975 Hosted our first Youth exchange student (from New Zealand).

Old People's Club relocated with Rotary help.

Charity Ball, Town & Country Fair, Sponsored Walk.

President's Desk presented for 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

1976 District Governor - J Pearson Smith.

Lord Saye & Sele elected Honorary Member.

1977 District Conference - Host Club at Eastbourne.

MP Neil Marten elected Honorary Member.

1980 1<sup>st</sup> Frugal Lunch - for Indian Boys charity.

Members on GSE visit to USA included John Colegrave and Chris May.

7-day Notice for Club expenditure approval introduced.

Average Age 57 (71 today).

- 1982 Club awarded its first Paul Harris Fellowship to Aubrey Philips.
- 1985 Golden Jubilee Dinner at Moat House Hotel 25<sup>th</sup> October.

Sponsored walk raised £100 - Guide Dogs for Blind.

Christmas Street Organ collections raised £1,360 for Katharine House Hospice.

1986 Letters for Peace competition - BGN winners.

USAF Band Concert - raised £600 for International.

1988 £13,124 raised for Polio Plus campaign.

1<sup>st</sup> 50 year membership Certificate to Randolph Webb.

Orbit Club formed for ex Rotaractors.

- 1989 Vote on admitting lady members defeated 51 against to 4 in favour.
- 1990 Ten trees planted in People's Park.
- 1991 Katharine House Hospice opened by Princess Diana - Club had donated £9,500 by then.

1<sup>st</sup> Young Musicians Competition by Gareth Jeremy.

1,300 trees planted by children in Spiceball Park.

Water Garden created in Horton Hospital £5,000 in memory of Reg Hunter.

- 1993 Smoking banned at Rotary meals.
- 1995 Diamond Jubilee Book produced and Dinner held at North Oxfordshire College.
- 1997 Firework Concert at Broughton Castle.
- 1998 Inaugural Meeting of the Rotary Club of Banbury Cherwell in April and Club chartered in October.
- 2000 Welfare Officer post created.

Float in the Banbury Carnival and Motor Show.

Maurice Humphris arrested on 1<sup>st</sup> January then, after court appearance, bailed with the bail money going to charity.

Service Clubs Christmas Carol service initiated.

- 2001 Club Website launched.
- 2002 Children Singing for Children concerts start 2 evenings then, now 4.
- 2003 Young Enterprise and Practice Interviews started latter still continues.

PA equipment purchased for Friday meetings.

Our first lady joins the Club, Rev Janet Chapman.

Family Christmas Festival of Music initiated.

2004 Risk Assessments and Club Health and Safety Officer now required. Alan Wolstencroft's first visit to Sierra Leone.

2005 Child Protection Officer required.

- 2006 Brodey Engineering Bursary established with 2 or 3 students annually still.
- 2007 Dragon Boats at Broughton Castle.
- 2008 Andrew Fairbairn's "Everest" abseil £4,000 raised for Leonard Cheshire Disability.

Zulu Warriors concert £6,500 for God's Golden Acre.

First President's Valedictory meeting.

District Assistant Governor David Hitchcox.

- 2009 Andrew Fairbairn's "End to End and Beyond" challenge raised £12,500.
- 2010 Focus on the Crocus starts raising funds for Polio eradication.

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner at Gaydon Heritage Motor Centre - 162 present.

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Certificate from RI President.

- 2011 Rapid Response team for emergencies formed.
- 2012 Alan Wolstencroft receives RI "Service above Self" award for work in Africa.

Started supporting Tour de Trigs.

2013 Interact Club starts at BGN school.

Crocus Concerts start to raise funds for polio eradication.

- 2014 Pack and distribute 300 + Food Parcels before Christmas, previously done by Round Table.
- 2015 Recently retired MP, Sir Tony Baldry elected honorary member.

80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner at Banbury Town Hall.

## **Banbury** Canal Day



On a beautiful warm sunny Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October Banbury Town Council staged this year's Banbury Canal Day event. The quality of the event was a great match for the marvellous weather enabling throng of Banbury folk to have a fantastic day out and many local organisations the opportunity to promote themselves and do a little fundraising.

Among the very numerous stalls it was great to see representations from not only our Rotary Clubs, but the Inner Wheel Club of Banbury and the Banbury Rotaract Club.

A fantastic day for all.

AGR

## Tour de Trigs



Ron Sangster (chairman), Jeremy Wilton and Rtn. Andrew Fairbairn, all from the Tour de Trigs organising committee, visited RAF Benson on 2<sup>nd</sup> September to handover a cheque from Tour de Trigs for the sum of £250 to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance. The operation is funded entirely by voluntary donations and will shortly be extending its remit by acquiring a new helicopter that can undertake night flights. Ron and Andrew are seen here with some of the flight team.

Andrew is currently in training with Rotary President Ian Calderbank and David Stevens (a partner at Ellacotts who sponsor the Tour de Trigs) to undertake this challenging 24 hour 50-mile cross country orienteering event over the first weekend of December. The team will be raising funds for Shelter and has an aggregate age in the region of 175 years (with David a mere 40 alongside the two granddads). At the other end of the age spectrum, it is anticipated that teams of teenagers who are in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme will also be entering.

One training afternoon for students to advise on navigation, equipment, planning etc. has already been held at Warriner School and a second is planned for early October.

# Tour de Trigs Trophies



New trophies for Duke of Edinburgh participants in the tough North Oxfordshire endurance/orienteering Tour de Trigs challenge have been sponsored by three of our members, Ron Barnett in memory of his son Andrew, Phil Cavill and Paul Gardiner.

The trophies will be awarded for 15 miles, 30 miles and 50 miles irrespective of which part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award the team is involved in. Indeed, the team could include members at different stages e.g. two silver, one bronze.

This event will take place on the weekend of  $5^{th}/6^{th}$ December with a maximum time allowed of 24 hours for the 50 miles.

AGR

## Poetic Licence Inner Wheel



Well done Inner Wheel and Poetic Licence for delivering such an entertaining and amusing evening on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October.

The excellent readings and music on the theme of "Dot on the Landscape" covering the life story of Dorothy Parker, with James Thurber thrown in for good measure, all helped to raise funds for Bloodwise, the new name for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

A fun evening!

Ian Calderbank

Andrew Fairbairn

# It's Ruby Giant Time again



It's that time of year again and it was John Bennett this year who agreed to organise merry bands of crocus bulb planters.

The first group set to with a will in a most timely fashion at St. Mary's Churchyard on the day before World Polio Day.

Sara Billins, Principal at North Oxfordshire Academy, brought the school's Horticultural Club to join a group of Rotarians under the guidance of Banbury Park Rangers for an hour or two's spadework on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 2pm.

Together they planted the first 3,000 of some 18,700 bulbs that will find homes this autumn in and around Banbury.

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November the second of John's groups will head for Spiceball Park to plant some 8,000 bulbs - again with the support of North Oxfordshire Academy horticulturalists with possibly a few students from other schools. On the following Thursday the venue will be All Saints Church, Middleton Cheney, where students from Chenderit will join the force.

John is also sorting two other dates - one at the Sunshine Centre and one at Sanctuary Housing's Retirement Living Sites in Grimsbury - where a further 2000+ bulbs will nestle for the winter.

Meanwhile Ron Barnett has been designating pairs of Rotarians to take crocus packs to the ten Banbury Town Primary Schools who accepted our offer to supply and plant a pack. These visits will all take place during November.

Ron is also negotiating with a well-known personality who has suffered from Polio to be our special guest at one of the crocus concerts - on either March 8<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> at St Mary's Church, Horsefair, and if possible talk to students at one or two of the schools.

I'm delighted to report that all eight secondary schools have again agreed to perform in celebration

of the blooming crocus swards and to raise further funds to End Polio Now!

In celebration of World Polio Day our raffle raised a magnificent £256 for End Polio Now. Our very grateful thank goes to the Wroxton House Hotel for their donation of the prize of a Sunday Lunch for four people which we are sure our winner, Bob Thompson, will very much enjoy

**Fred Riches** 

# Calling all Young Chefs



The Rotary Club of Banbury is once again searching for young people who want to develop their cookery skills and take part in the Rotary National Young Chef competition.

The competition is open to all students in full time education between ages 11 and 17 on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015, and comprises four stages leading to the National Finals in Leicester on Saturday 23<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

The first local heats will take place at Banbury and Bicester College on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Entry to the competition is free and a full information package, including an application form is available from Rotarian Bernard Goodchild bernardgoodchild@timetalk.co.uk , tel. 01295 279227. Each local finalist is asked to prepare a three course meal for 2 within a cost of £15.

Each finalist receives a free Chef's jacket, hat and apron; can also be given support by Executive Chef, Jim Eaves of the Banbury House Hotel and Chair of the local judging team.

Finalists will be able to use the facilities at the College by prior arrangement to practice in advance. The National Winner receives a trophy, £250, and an opportunity to gain work experience in a London restaurant.

This represents an excellence personal development opportunity for those young people who have an

interest in cooking and/or a career in hospitality and catering. The aim is to encourage young people to:

- Learn how to cook a healthy meal
- Develop food presentation skills
- Consider food hygiene issues
- Develop organisational and planning skills
- Develop an ability to cope in a demanding situation

Bernard Goodchild

## Brodey Bursary



We are delighted to show how much this Bursary means to our students and as evidence reproduce a letter received from one of this year's beneficiaries.

"Thank you for sending the first cheque from the Rotary Club Bursary. I've settled into life at the University of Bath quickly, as I begin my Civil and Architectural Engineering Degree.

We have already completed out first group design project to create a 1:10 scale model of a sculpture representing 'Equilibria'. Now we have to make it life size using chipboard, softwood, canvas and nylon rope which is proving more challenging than anticipated. Your funding has already gone towards buying materials for extra prototype models as we refine our design.

I've also enjoyed attending lectures on climate change influencing the built environment, the history of architecture around the world and more practical structures lab sessions testing different materials' strength.

Yours sincerely,

Gemma Rowe-Jones"

We wish Gemma every success with her future studies.

#### John Brodey

## Ian's Items



#### 2 October

An interesting talk given by a dedicated and obviously fit lady! Liz Atkins described how she, with friend John and their loyal 4 legged friend Matty the Dog, raised funds for the Teenage Cancer Trust as they "plodded" along the beautiful, rugged Welsh Coast covering 757 miles in 44 days.

She also told us about the good work done by the Trust, which was founded in 1990 to improve the cancer experience of young people aged 13-24.

#### 4 October

Well done Banbury Town Council and the organisers and helpers for Canal Day. It was good to see our Rotary Clubs, Inner Wheel and Rotaract in action too. Good weather, good fun - a Good Day!

#### 9 October

Earlier in the week some of our intrepid drivers had battled it out on the karting track to establish who can show the greatest courtesy while still winning. It was somewhat like the story of the hare and the tortoise!



On this Friday one of those drivers, Malcolm, was sufficiently recovered to give us an interesting and amusing talk about his life and how he came into and built up a family tailoring and menswear business. We were shown the new trophies for Duke of Edinburgh Award participants in the tough North Oxfordshire endurance/orienteering Tour de Trigs challenge that are being sponsored by three of our members.

#### 15 October

It was a pleasure to join Inner Wheel for the evening. Well done to them and Poetic Licence for delivering such an entertaining and amusing time.

#### 16 October

It was good to hear Mike Grocott, Principal of Space Studio Banbury enthusing about this new school and the opportunities it offers to students wishing to study science and engineering.

#### 22 October

Students from North Oxfordshire Academy and Banbury's Park Rangers helped us bring an end to polio worldwide by planting crocuses today outside St. Mary's Church in Banbury. These purple crocus plants will serve as a reminder later of the immunisation campaign and the need to fund it.

#### 23 October

Ken Norman kindly entertained us with his talk "Laughing all the way from the bank".

#### 24 October

We celebrated 80 years of "Service above Self" with a dinner in the Town Hall. As photographs show, the venue looked very good, there was a buzzing atmosphere and those attending appeared to enjoy the evening.

Following the meal, our District Governor, Fred King, presented our President with a certificate from RIBI recognising our Anniversary.



He then described the typical Rotarian and proposed a Toast to "The Rotary Club of Banbury" which was responded to by our President who then went on to welcome our leading guests individually and to propose a Toast to "Our Guests", adding "Absent Friends". This was then responded to by Sir Tony Baldry in his customary amusing style but combined with serious observations on our Club history and contributions to the Community.

#### 26 October

Another long walk in preparation for the Tour de Trigs, this time with both Andrew Fairbairn and the third member of our team, David Stevens, this time only 26 miles were achieved and this took us 9½ hours in perfect walking conditions of good weather and dry underfoot.

#### 28 October

The regular Council meeting took place in Aynho and notes on this will appear elsewhere.

#### 30 October

The speaker on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2015 was Alistair Borland MBE who is Chairman of Service Emergency Rider Volunteers (SERV). He gave a fascinating talk on the service provided entirely voluntarily by SERV which exists to provide the facilities and resources which allows their members to deliver vital rapid response services such as transporting urgently needed medical items to hospitals including blood, blood products, biological samples, vaccines and donor breast milk.

#### Ian Calderbank

## Speaker Reports

## Malcolm Douglas – Long serving member



On 9<sup>th</sup> October our very own Malcolm Douglas gave us an insight into 'His Life so far'.

When he was born, the whole country celebrated -May 10<sup>th</sup> 1945 two days after Germany`s bid for world domination came to an end for a 2<sup>nd</sup> time.

His parents were Fred and Connie who came south from Yorkshire in 1930, He was 4<sup>th</sup> of 6 children his mum had over 25 years. Home was Rayners Lane, leafy suburb of North London. His first memories are his pram, playing on bomb sites, bringing a live incendiary bomb home and getting lost in smog.

His father, Fred, had left the police in 1947 and went to manage a shop in Harrow. In 1950 he joined Double 2 as a rep, but he had his eyes open for a shop of his own, and in 1953 settled on a site in Bicester.

On a very wet evening Family Douglas washed up at 42 Sheep Street. The suburban kids took one look and said can we go home.

Attending primary school, then secondary, and after a string of poor reports at 13 he was packed of to boarding school - Clare School Brympton`D Evercy near Yeovil

He loved it and despite a total Maths blockage his English and History were good enough to get him into the 'A' stream.

He traded preparation notes on maths with his friend Cross Major in return for his notes on English.

A wonderful time of his life.

In 1962 he left school with a handful of 'O' levels not including maths. Cross Major passed English but he failed maths!

Cross is now Emeritus Professor of Geomatical Engineering at Imperial College London.

Malcolm then completed London College of Fashion 18-month course during which time he lived in a Flat in Earls Court with three other lads, and Girls upstairs!!

During his weekends at home he met girl who was Rtn. Bryan Doe's secretary and who he was to marry some years later.

1964 saw him leave college with City and Guilds in Tailoring and design, when he went to spend a year at Walters in Oxford, which was just like 'Are you being served', and then back to Henrys, but not Bicester.

1966 He rented 71 High St Banbury in 1966 which was opposite 'Clinkards'. It was tiny but a good training ground.

He bought 52 High Street in 1970 and married Bryan's secretary and they moved into the flat above the shop. His Dad told him that if the shop was not successful they would be bust.

He moved to Chatsworth Drive in 1971, got divorced in 1973 by which time he had paid off the loan on the shop. He then started "Allen and Douglas Commercial Clothing".

In 1974 he met Val in Midland Bank, who was 'the one' and they married in 1975 and bought their house in Royal Oak Lane.

He enjoyed many buying trips abroad to Finland, France and Germany, and in 1981 his son, James, was born. The family bought a villa in Spain in 1983 where they had many happy Holidays.

He sold "Allen and Douglas" in 1984 and bought a shop in Market Harborough, which he sold some 10 years later.

In 1995 he bought 'Alex House' at rear of his current shop which he converted and let as managed offices.

The firm was split up in 2004, Malcolm took on Henrys of Banbury Ltd and his brother Tony Henrys of Bicester Ltd.

His son, James, married in 2011.

His Service Club history started with 10 years in Round Table both in Bicester and Banbury, and in 1987 Maurice introduced him to Rotary.

He recorded the best part of his Club membership had been introducing many new members to the Club and the wonderful fellowship.

The Douglas family have run a successful family business in Banbury for 39 years, Malcolm's son, James, beings the third generation.

Malcolm cares passionately about the health of the town centre, has chaired the Chamber of Commerce and campaigns tirelessly for limited free car parking to help retailers increase trade.

### Phil Cavill

## Mike Grocott - Banbury Space Studio



On 16<sup>th</sup> October we were delighted to receive as our speaker Mike Grocott, Founding Principal the Banbury Space Studio. Mike spoke of his passion for sciences and space exploration and said that although we do not hear a great deal about the contributions made in this country to space exploration, we do in fact make a huge impact.

There is planned shortly a mission to the International Space Centre and the UK's first member of the Human Space Programme, Tim Peakes, will be one of a team of six, the others being American and Russian. They are due to launch at 11.03 am on December 15<sup>th</sup> this year and will spend six months in space. Tim's mission is not only to inspire a new generation of scientists and engineers but also to look at long duration space flight in preparation for future missions.

Mike then spoke about the Space Studio Banbury, which is the first school in the county to deliver the school curriculum through the context of space, science, and engineering. They do not touch on arts and humanities at all.

Space Studio Banbury is, as its name suggests a studio school, which means that it only has four year groups and a maximum capacity of 300. All students that choose to attend the school need to have an interest in mathematics and science, they are also taught business and enterprise. Mike is passionate about the fact that the school is not a hothouse for university, his aim is that one third of the students in fact go to on to higher education, but another third serve apprenticeships and the final third start their own businesses. Before training and moving into teaching Mike served for 12 years in the Royal Navy as an Artificer, so he has a real awareness of the need for more apprentices in the engineering world.

The Space Industry in the UK is rapidly expanding even during the recent recession and it is vital that we produce young people with the skills to enable them to move into this sphere of work.

Mike certainly showed great enthusiasm for his work which must surely rub off on his students.

Maurice Humphris.

Ken Norman – Laughing all the way from the bank



We were delighted on 23<sup>rd</sup> October to welcome Ken Norman as our speaker, when he entertained us with his talk "Laughing all the way from the bank".

Ken was born in Essex and joined NatWest Bank from school as he was not sure that his love for theatre and entertaining would provide a career that would impress his family as "steady" enough. He did however continue to pursue his interest in this area becoming a very active member of his local theatre group and performing in a wide variety of plays after his day job.

Ken's career with the bank progressed well, and eventually he took on a role which allowed him to capitalise on his love of standing in front of an audience becoming a trainer at the bank's college at Heythrop Park. It was here he started to work with his future business partner Tim Lyon.

However, this stage of his life came to an end with the take-over of NatWest by RBS when it became apparent to Ken that NatWest was not going to be the same institution he knew and loved going forwards.

Ken and Tim had both worked for a bank for some years but were both frustrated entertainers. So they took the opportunity offered by voluntary redundancy late in 1999 and left the bank to start the New Millennium with their own training company, "New Tricks Training".

However, before starting work on this enterprise in earnest they took a year's sabbatical, pursuing a very different direction with New Tricks Productions.

They set about writing comedy sketches and learning to sing and tap-dance, with the aim of hiring out a West End theatre and putting on their own show! They sought advice from Ronnie Barker, and despite his expressed views being none too positive they stuck at it and produced the material needed to go ahead.

They hired Her Majesty's Theatre in the heart of the West End, home to Phantom of the Opera.

Unfortunately, they had unwittingly chosen to put on their show in London slap-bang in the middle of the Edinburgh Festival 13<sup>th</sup> August 2000!

They were about the only comedy on in London that night with not a single agent, talent scout, comedy producer still in London. Notwithstanding this they managed to get an audience of 650 in and the show was both a great success and the experience of a lifetime.

This is turn led to them setting up their training business New Tricks Training, providing a variety of training to large national firms such as Grant Thornton and the National Trust.

Ken now works with Brethertons is still involved with organising comedy in his spare time with Dave Arnold via Cotswold Comedy.

As ever Ken was great entertainment value and a pleasure to listen to and we are, as ever, grateful for him taking the time to come and speak to us.

Owen Kyffin

## Around the Committees

## Matters Arising from other Committee Meeting Minutes

C & V Committee confirmed that a food collection will take place at Sainsburys on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

There is a need for a Gazebo inventory to ensure all parts are available when collected and then returned correctly.

No response had been received yet from Frank Wise to the offer of the Pantobus. They will be invited again.

More help may be required for the food parcel distribution and an email will be sent to all members asking for help in this.

Banbury Charities have donated £250 towards the Young Chef competition. A facebook "Ad" inviting participants for this competition has now been posted.

Two International supper/film evenings were confirmed for 14<sup>th</sup> November and 16<sup>th</sup> January. Also a "Singing for Syria" fundraising event is under consideration and a proposal will be brought to Council, if it proceeds further.

Our Foundation Rotary Scholar Zali has spoken at two meetings on 20<sup>th</sup> (Martin, Phil and Ian attending) and 26<sup>th</sup> October (Phil and John B attending). An evening event with 2 or 3 Scholars speaking is being planned and the Banbury Cherwell Club, Inner Wheel and Rotaract will be invited to join us.

## Hon Secretary

Notice of the SGM had been sent to members on  $5^{\text{th}}$  October.

Survey for International activities completed (by DH) showing income received and how spent.

Questionnaire on Social Mobility received with 200 questions!

PG & IC to review costs of providing free drink and food at AGM next March.

### Hon Treasurer

Trust Accounts - Free Funds are currently £2963.57 with £5000 in Reserve.

### Set up costs and other funding requests

£250 of Canal Day proceeds to go to Katharine House Hospice.

Request by C & V Committee of £250 to Style Acre for musical instruments approved.

Foundation Raffle proceeds of £356 to go to End Polio Now campaign - submit to Club on 6<sup>th</sup> November for approval.

## Club Representations

President had represented Club at the District Scholars meeting (with Martin & Phil) on 20<sup>th</sup> October, Samaritans AGM on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, and District White Zone Presidents meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October.

## 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 24<sup>th</sup> October - Banbury Town Hall

124 people attended. Feedback received has been favourable with the venue, atmosphere and food generally considered good and those attending appeared to enjoy the evening.

## Crocus Planting

The first exercise took place at St. Mary's Church on  $22^{nd}$  October with North Oxfordshire Academy. A

good report posted on the Banbury Guardian website.

#### District Council Meeting on 25th November

President and Assistant Secretary will attend.

## Contact Club - France, 5th to 8th May 2016

Phil to liaise with Martin and Helen M to arrange an "Interest Meeting" in late November or early December.

## Tour de Trigs – 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> December

Council approved circulating a sponsorship form (to benefit the charity "Shelter") by our team of President, Andrew Fairbairn and David Stevens.

#### Christmas Parcels

Meeting of working party scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

## Club Draw

Traditionally run by International committee to help finance Contact Club when hosting in Banbury. Used for other special events from time to time. Questions raised whether still needed for Contact Club in near future as present reserve for this exceeds £5000. International Committee invited to review future of draw after its present "season".

# And now for something different

### Twenty Silly Jokes

1. Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The Ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.

2. A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."
3. A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named "Ahmal." The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him "Juan." Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."

3. A dyslexic man walks into a bra.

5. A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm and says: "A beer please, and one for the road." 6. Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: "Does this taste funny to you?"

7. "Doc, I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home."

"That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome."

"Is it common?"

Well, "It's Not Unusual."

8. Two cows are standing next to each other in a field. Daisy says to Dolly, "I was artificially

inseminated this morning."

"I don't believe you," says Dolly. "It's true, no bull!" exclaims Daisy.

9. An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.

10. Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bull before.

11. I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any.

12. A man woke up in a hospital after a serious accident. He shouted, doctor, doctor, I can't feel my legs!" The doctor replied, "I know you can't, I've cut off your arms!"

13. I went to a seafood disco last week... and pulled a mussel.

14. What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.15. Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says "Dam!"

16. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

17. A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why", they asked, as they moved off. "Because," he said, "I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer."

18. Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one was a salted.

19. Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him. (Oh, man, this is so bad, it's good...) A super calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.

20. And finally, there was the person who sent twenty different puns to his friends, with the hope that at least ten of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did!!!!!!!!

# The Month in Pictures



















# Weekly Meeting Duties for November

<u>Date</u>	Table Duty	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&amp;H in charge</u>
06-Nov	J. Brodey T. Bryce M. Budd P. Cavill B. Cornley G. Csecs	H. Braisby A. Bedding	A. Fairbairn	S. Crump
13-Nov	N. Deakin S. Dhesi B. Doe J. Donaldson M. Douglas B. Goodchild	P. Cavill C. Clarke	J. Phillips	R. Kipping
20-Nov	J. Hansford T. Iles G. Jeremy O. Kyffin H. Matthews A. McHugh	S. Kershaw K. Manning	H. Morris	A. llott
27-Nov	R. McLean J. Meredith M. Nutt R. Nurden M. Phillips G. Pollard	F. Riches P. Richardson	J. Phillips	S. Maxwell

PLEASE REMEMBER - If you are unable to carry out your duties as shown above, it is your responsibility to arrange a substitute and amend the list. This applies to all duties, including table duties.

# Speaker Programme for November and December

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	Topic	<u>Host</u>
06 Nov	Rtn Peter Richardson	My Life Talk	Rupert Kipping
13 Nov		Special General Meeting	
20 Nov	Bronwen Thompson	Navigating the NHS	Rupert Kipping
27 Nov		Fellowship Meeting	
04 Dec	Rtn Colin Clarke	My Life Talk	Roger Worrell
11 Dec	Tim Pilkington	World Vision	Rupert Kipping
18 Dec		Christmas Lunch	
25 Dec		CHRISTMAS DAY	