



The December Diary

- 1st Rotary Meeting
- 2nd/3rd Tour de Trigs
- 6th Community & Vocational
Committee
Classification &
Membership Committee
- 8th Rotary Meeting
Xmas Food Parcels
Collection
- 10th Xmas Food Parcels Delivery
- 13th Foundation Committee
- 14th Street Organ Collection
- 15th Rotary Xmas Lunch
- 19th Sports & Entertainment
Committee
Street Organ Collection
- 20th Youth Services Committee
- 22nd Street Organ Collection
- 24th Street Organ Collection

For the full year's diary visit
www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk



President's Pen for November

We have had a busy month of fun, fellowship and fundraising within the community and the coming month will also give us the opportunity to serve the Banbury community with the Christmas Parcel Appeal, an evening out on the Christmas Float and the Street Organ collections.

Unfortunately due to work commitments I have had to miss two lunchtime meetings and I would like to thank Paul Gardiner for deputising for me - I have really missed not attending the meetings but am sure you did not miss me.

It is always difficult to say too much about our events without stealing the thunder of the person who submits a report but I would like to say a few words about the events.

Children Singing For Children is, for me, one of the highlights of our year - 26 participating schools, over 500 children taking part and the project fits into 3 categories of Rotary - Youth Opportunities, Fund Raising & Community Service. Once again four superb evenings and I must thank all the members who stewarded and a very special thank you to Jonathan, Fred, Nigel Deakin, Ron Barnett and Andrew Fairbairn for their contributions and hard work which helped this event once again showcase what Rotary is all about.

I, and Paul Gardiner, represented the Club at the Remembrance Parade and service and several other members were in attendance representing other organisations within the town.

Last week a number of us attended the Ten Pin bowling event and had an enjoyable evening of fellowship - many thanks to Nigel Yeadon for organising the evening.

The Rotary's Got Talent event was well supported and was a great evening of fun, fellowship and fundraising and I would like to thank the International Committee for organising the evening, all the members who were brave enough to perform and our MC for the evening John Smith.



December is a busy month with Tour De Trigs, Service Clubs Carol Service, Christmas Parcels, Christmas Float and Street Organ Collections and I would like to thank all the members who will devote time during the coming weeks to ensure that once again we, as a Club, contribute to our local community.

It may seem early but I would like to wish you all a great Festive Season and thank you for your support during the first half of my year as President

President Alan Wolstencroft

Speaker Reports

Sue Riches – Piece Together



Sue Riches (wife of Fred) gave a very interesting talk on National Jigsaw Day. Sue is "Minister of Jigsaws" and we were privileged to have such a speaker. She highlighted the therapeutic advantages of Jigsaws and the various styles. Mention was made of the Banbury Jigsaw library run by herself with the aid of Fred, Harry and friends. This is held on the 4th Tuesday of every month at St Hugh's Church from 1pm to 3pm. With the exception of early leavers, the club were enthralled and enlightened.

Rtn. Harry Matthews

Events

Vanessa's Big Day

Martin and Annie Phillips had the pleasure and honour to go to Vanessa Picker's graduation at The Sheldonian Theatre and afterwards to a reception at Vanessa's College Kellogg. Vanessa is a Rotary Scholar hosted by our Club.



Vanessa really enjoyed all the pomp and ceremony of an Oxford graduation, in fact she wore her gown for two full days around the city.

Rtn. Martin Phillips

High Wycombe Technology Tournament



The benefits of aquafilters being explained to a future generation of engineers. Judging by the lateral thinking and design ability of the students, there is a plethora of talent out there ready to bring forward new inventions.

Children Singing for Children

A resounding success! The four concerts once again surpassed our expectations. That annual spine-tingling finale was matched this year by the individual school performances, which get better every year and - a record amount was raised.

This year 26 schools took part and in total, there were around 650 children in the choirs. The total raised for the chosen charities was £7,500. 30% will go to the Helen House unit at Helen & Douglas

House, a hospice providing palliative, respite and end of life care for young children, a further 30% to Banbury Rotary Club's Sierra Leone Schools Projects and 30% to Rotary's End Polio Now campaign. The remaining 10% will go to other Rotary Children's Charities in the period up to June 30th 2018.



There is a bonus with two of the charities we are supporting. The Sierra Leone project will receive £2,250 which turns into £4,500 as a result of Barclays Bank's matched funding for this project. This money will pay for the cost of building & equipping a new classroom at the Banbury International School.

Rotary's Charity to bring about the eradication of polio, *Purple4Polio*, will also receive £2,250 which becomes £6,750 as a result of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation double-matched funding for this charity. This funding is sufficient to immunise around 12,000 children - close to the total number of children in Banbury area primary, secondary and special schools. We are winning the battle!

This means that the total being received by the three nominated charities and other children's charities will be just over £14,000. This is an incredible amount about which the children and staff involved, our conductors, piano and percussion accompanists, St Mary's volunteers, the event sponsors, our advertisers, the Rotary Working Group and Stewarding Team, and our Club as a whole should be justifiably proud.

The concerts were run in association with the new Arts and Events team at St Mary's Church. They were sponsored by Tudor Hall and Carrdus Schools with additional support from Banbury Charities and Barclays Bank, Banbury.

Rtns. Jonathan Meredith and Fred Riches



Thanks to the good services of our Rotarian Peter Williams, three of us (Geoff Pollard, Harry Matthews and Ian Calderbank), had an excellent day out at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry watching the Group 4 Matches of the Snooker Champion of Champions tournament.

We saw Ronnie O'Sullivan beat Neil Robertson by 4 frames to 1 before John Higgins beat Anthony McGill by 4 frames to nil. There were some fascinating moments when high skills were demonstrated, particularly when a player could not score himself but then placed the white where his opponent would find it almost impossible to play too.

After our sessions were over, we were kindly given a "Behind the Scenes" tour, seeing all the broadcasting and reporting equipment and people working hard to get the latest event news out. We were able to enter both the commentary box and the ITV4 reviewing and interview areas where we also met John Higgins. Harry in wishing him well obviously put the black spot on him since he lost grandly that evening in the next round.

We returned home, Harry putting his Bentley to the test in battling through the Coventry crush hour - not an experience to be recommended. Altogether though a thoroughly good day. If the opportunity to repeat the experience is offered again, members who are able to do so should take advantage. Thank you Peter for going to so much trouble in making the arrangements and checking continually on the day to make sure that it all worked out.

Rtn. Ian Calderbank

A social evening out playing snooker to identify those Rotarians who had a misspent youth?
Ed

Banbury Rotary Club's Efforts to End Polio continue



As members will know, the work of Banbury Rotary Club was acknowledged in a recent Newsletter from Rotary in Britain and Ireland as part of an article on contributions to the End Polio Now campaign.

The Rotary International President had set Clubs across the world a target of donating \$2,650 to the campaign. Not only did Banbury Rotary Club come top of the 60 Clubs in the Thames Valley District, with a total of \$10,168 donated it was listed 4th in the Rotary organisation in Britain & Ireland. With the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation double-matching commitment, this \$10,168 became \$30,504 which went direct to the effort to finally eradicate polio from the planet.

The Club's Purple for Polio working party, which drove the club's programme forward last year, is particularly grateful to the Banbury Guardian for its coverage of crocus corm planting in autumn 2016 and the Crocus Concerts in early March this year. The concerts generated a significant proportion of the funds, at the same time raising the profile of Rotary's involvement with the End Polio Now campaign by involving ALL EIGHT local secondary schools. The planting of over 47,000 crocus corms and the donation of crocus packs to local primary schools also gave a great deal of positive publicity to the campaign which translated itself into the support allowing us to make such a significant contribution.

The Club is certainly not resting on its laurels. We sent £2,000 as our first contribution to End Polio Now for the current Rotary Year 2017/18, following the highly successful "Night at the Musicals" concert with West End Stars appearing and donating their talents free for the cause. In addition, our "Children Singing for Children" Concerts last month raised a further £2500 for the cause.

For the past four years, Cherwell District Council, Banbury Town Council and an increasing number of local community groups, churches and individuals have supported the partnership between Rotary and local secondary schools begun in autumn 2013. The internationally agreed target to eradicate polio by 2018 will not quite be achieved, but there is still hope that the very last case of the wild polio virus may occur in 2018. There have been just 12 new cases in 2017.

Ron Barnett continues to lead the “Crocus Packs for Primary Schools” Project and we are involving eight schools planting the packs this year. A small team of Rotarians led by Harry Matthews gathered to plant 15,000 crocus corms provided by Cherwell District Council on Broughton Road Roundabout and North Oxfordshire Academy’s Horticultural Club students planted 5000 corms provided by Banbury Town Council in St Mary’s Churchyard again under Harry’s guidance, this time with the Park Ranger Team support.

This year’s additional wheeze is our “PickupaPurple4PolioPen4aPound!” Three schools have already committed to purchase 550 of the 1,000 pens we ordered from Chilli Promotions.

The 2018 Purple4Polio Crocus Concerts will take place in St Mary’s Church on Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th March - both starting at 7pm.

Council Notes

The International committee “Rotary’s got Talent” Evening raised £718. The Gur Assra Trust in Mohali in India benefitted by £646.20 after deduction for Free Funds. This money was delivered personally by Rtn. Surinder Dhesi to the orphanage on her recent visit and it was very gratefully received.

More offers of fundraising projects were received to assist the Young Carers visit to CERN.

The proposed Reading Buddies Scheme at Hill View School is being supported by 3 of our members.

In cooperation with St Mary’s & St Hugh’s Churches, the Club has almost finished furnishing 2 bedrooms at the home of the Syrian Refugees arriving in Banbury during early December.

£100 of food vouchers were approved for Polly Preedy’s good works.

Christmas parcels. Good progress with this project, more sponsorship has been received. Tables have

been arranged to facilitate the packing of some 283 required parcels. Boards for volunteers for delivery and packing to be circulated at Club Lunches.

Free Funds stand at £2,083.76.

The Club Christmas Lunch on 15th December is well supported and will be addressed by Sir Tony Baldry.

Plans for Contact 2019 are progressing well with visits to Oxford and Gaydon Motor Museum being investigated.

Rtn. Peter Wilkins

Christmas Wishes

The following members have made a donation to Rotary Foundation in lieu of spending money on Christmas cards. This has become a tradition in our club and raises a useful sum of money to the benefit of those less fortunate than us.

We wish you a joyful Christmas and a happy, healthy 2018

G Anker	I Anthistle	J Bennett
R Barnett	A Bedding	A M Brace
J Brodey	I Calderbank	P Cavill
B Cornley	S Crump	N Deakin
S Dhesi	M Douglas	A Fairbairn
P Gardiner	B Goodchild	J Groves
N Halfpenny	D Hitchcox	M Humphris
T Isles	A Illott	S Jakeman
G Jeremy	O Kyffin	H Morris
H Matthews	K Manning	R McLean
J Meredith	R Nurden	M Nutt
M Phillips	G Pollard	M Recchia
F Riches	I Rodrick	D Richardson
P Richardson	J Smith	D Sullivan
A Warren	J Webb	P Wilkins
A Wiltshire	A Wolstencroft	R Worrall

Weekly Meeting Duties for December 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Table Duty</u>	<u>Cash Desk</u>	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>F&H in charge</u>
01-Dec	M Douglas P Gardiner B Goodchild J Groves N Halfpenny C Hughes	J Donaldson A Fairbairn	G Jeremy	A Wiltshire
08-Dec	T Iles S Kershaw O Kyffin A McHugh J Meredith H Morris	K Manning R McLean	M Nutt	M Humphris
15-Dec	Xmas Lunch	H Matthews J Smith	R Nurden	S Crump
22-Dec	No meeting			
29-Dec	No meeting			

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 December & January

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Host</u>
1 Dec	Ken Brazier	Mercy Ships	John Bennett President Alan Wolstencroft
8 Dec	Gareth Nicholls	Riding for Katharine House	Gareth Jeremy
15 Dec	Sir Tony Baldry	The Wise Men	President Alan Wolstencroft
22 Dec	No meeting		
29 Dec	No meeting		
5 Jan	Fellowship meeting		
12 Jan	David Richardson	Hurricanes	
19 Jan	Ian Calderbank	Longer Serving Member	Ian Rodrick
26 Jan	Rev Philip Cochrane	What St Mary's Church can do for the community	Andrew Fairbairn