



President Richard Watts

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A MOTTLEY CREW COLLECTING AT TESCO'S



The results for the December fund raising

The results of our Barrel Organ and Christmas Float collections are listed below.

This is a wonderful result exceeding other years collections. The generosity of the People of Banbury and the district was truly amazing. The Club's commitment to this fundraising and the use of the Barrel Organ has been truly justified. We must thank Andrew Fairbairn for attending every collection, which must have amounted to over 50 hours, and the Community & Vocational Committee for their effort also to every member who took part in the collections. John Webb (not a member of Rotary) must also be acknowledged for his help in keeping the Barrel Organ going and for rebuilding the base in such a fine finish, a work for which he has refused any payment.

The results for our chosen local charities as listed below are a remarkable achievement.

11th December	High Street Bandstand	£ 260
	M & S (John Webb's licence)	£ 125
(already sent to Katherine House Hospice by John Webb – letter of confirmation received)		
	£ 123	(donated by John Webb to Rotary General Funds)

18th December	Tesco	£990	
20th December	Sainsbury's	£1,215	
21st December	Sainsbury's	£903.20	
24th December	Tesco	£1,480	
			Total £5,096.20

The allocation should be as follows:

Less JW donation to Katherine House	£125	
Less JW donation to Rotary Gen Funds	£123	
Less £10 one contributor required for Brodey Centre only	£10.	
	£ 258.00	
ALLOCATION		£4,838.20
50% to Katherine House Hospice	£2,419.10	
Plus JW donation	£125.00	
		£2,544.10
50% to Brodey Centre	£2,419.10	
Plus £10	£ 10.00	
		£2,429.10
Rotary General Funds		£ 123.00

Total
£5,096.20

The Christmas Float, collection was £424 of which 60% goes to Rotary General Funds (£254.40) and the remainder to Round Table. If you add in the £150 raised by the auction of the hamper on 19th December, £527.40 will have been added to Rotary General Funds in addition to the sums raised for Katherine House Hospice and the Brodey Centre.

DOES ANY ONE KNOW WHO IS STUCK UP THE CHIMNEY? ANSWERS TO THE PRESIDENT



“The Fairbairn Challenge”

This is the year when Rotarian Andrew Fairbairn is attempting his fantastic challenge. He is starting in the Scilly Isles and progressing via Lands End to John O’Groats and then to the Orkneys, Fair Isle, and the Shetlands. He will be completing this venture by Kayak, Bicycle and foot. The distance to be covered is 1,183 miles this great effort must be supported by our Club. The Money raised (which should be substantial) will go to the R.I.B.I. nominated charity, The Leonard Cheshire Disability appeal “ School 4 All in Africa”. Andrews epic journey will start on the 25th May 2009 and depending on sea conditions should take about 25 days. As Andrew says the usual Lands End to John O,Groats has been completed many times therefore he has added another dimension in the sea crossings to the islands. It is hoped that our Members will help and support Andrew in this great adventure.

We can help by Sponsoring Andrews Challenge.

By promoting the Challenge in our local community.

Joining Andrew on some of the legs from Lands End to John O’Groats.

Inviting Andrew to speak at clubs and organisations.

David H.



ANDREW GETTING A BIT OF PRACTICE

It was a Red Letter Day for Rotarian Ken Gibbard at our first meeting of the New Year.

President Richard surprised Ken by awarding him with an “Honorary Membership” of our Club. This award was applauded by all those members present. Ken was a little overwhelmed (if that is possible) but he was able to say a few words saying he had had some “Red Letter Days” in his life such as getting married, Chairing the Oxfordshire N.F.U. and becoming a Justice of the

Peace but this surprise ranked among them. Ken joined Rotary in 1960 and became President in 1974/75. His commitment to Rotary during these years has been total and his ever present advice has been appreciated by many members and Presidents. Ken and Sheila are also celebrating becoming Great Parents to Great Grandson James.

BWENGU PROJECTS NOVEMBER 2008 UPDATE

It is at this time we think about going back again into the bush in 2009, we then think about what problems need fixing and if we can raise the money from our donors. A group of junior schools in Banbury have answered our questions and have made a fantastic donation from a series of "Children for Children singing concerts "in St Mary's church Banbury. They have chosen:

Thumbi Junior Full Primary School Classrooms Renovations Project

Thumbi Village School has 10 classrooms all of which are derelict. There are 831 children who attend this junior school.

None of the classrooms have windows or doors, all have termite infestation. The floors and walls will need to be replaced chemicals put into the foundations to kill the termites. To renovate all 10 classrooms will take 8 weeks.

The project cost to do this work on all 10 classrooms is £2600. When finished all 10 will have new walls, floors, windows, doors, locks blackboards. All will be free of termites.

Banbury Rotary Club who in conjunction with some 20 junior schools have made this work possible by their kind donation. In addition Warwick Avon Rotary club also made a generous donation so that the complete school will now be renovated.

Sue & Anthony Melia.

This project is now funded

An update for 2009 will appear in the next bulletin.

THE TOY BOX PROJECT,

Our speaker for the 28TH November appeared with his hair dyed pink and gold, this was a little unusual for a local farmer Alastair Welford. All became clear as Alastair gave his presentation. He is the Chairman of the trustees for the "Toy Box Charity". In his very professional and inspiring presentation he told of the work this charity is doing in South America among deprived children. He had dyed his hair in the Toy Box colours to raise awareness of the issue of street children. He had just returned from Bolivia where he met so many children on the streets in need of care and protection. In his presentation he showed pictures of these children and the desperate need for help. On the 2nd December he was going to Downing Street complete with pink hair to present a petition highlighting the needs of these children in Latin America. We later heard that a representative of the Prime Minister received the petition, Mr Brown being busy on other more pressing matters.

This is a project that the club could perhaps look at more closely.

D.H.

Biella Italy Bulletin I have been nagged for several months by Past President Martin to reproduce the Biella bulletin which he regularly receives. As my Italian is very sparse the odd words like Chianti and Asti are about my limit. I therefore ignored his entreaties but to placate him I have gleaned two items from the current edition which I believe I understand. John Hansford and

the Contact committee will be pleased to learn that the visit is to be discussed by Biella club on the 26th. January. There is also a profile of a new member Dario Deposito who has worked in London as a bar supervisor this would appear to be when he was attaining a M.S.C. degree at London University.

D.H.

DID YOU KNOW???? About Rotary. Episode Two.

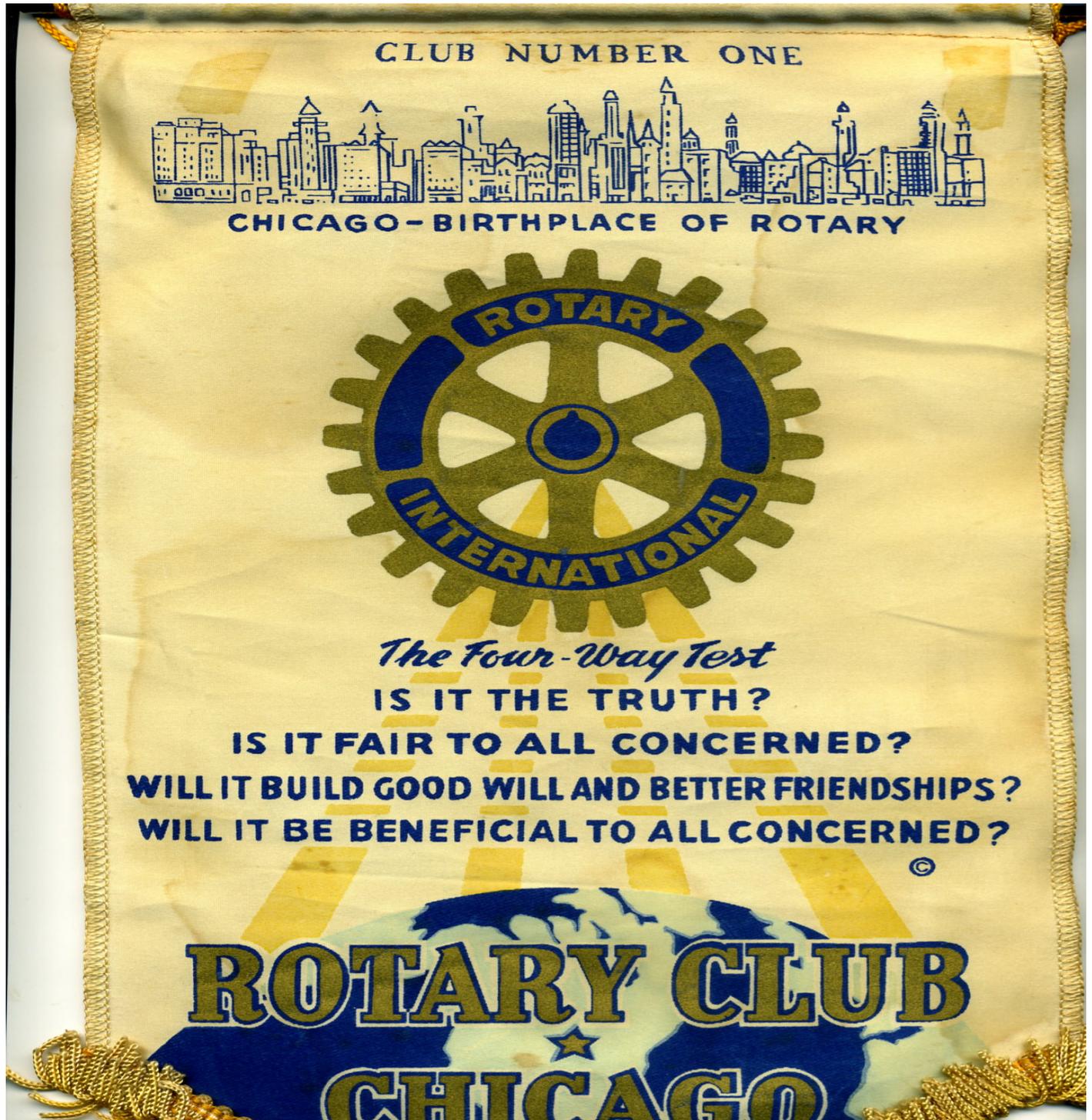
As Rotary grew, its focus shifted to service and civic obligations. Early service projects included building public "comfort stations" near Chicago's City Hall and delivering food to needy families. In 1913, the 50 Rotary clubs then in existence contributed US\$25,000 for flood relief in two Midwestern states.

By the end of its first decade, Rotary had grown so large (nearly 200 clubs and more than 20,000 members) that a district structure was required. During Rotary's second decade, clubs were launched in South and Central America, India, Cuba, Europe, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

During World War I, Rotary discovered new areas of service - at home in war relief and peace fund drives as well as in active service and overseas in emergency efforts. After World War II many clubs disbanded during the war were re-established, initiating a new era of service. Forty nine Rotarians participated in the 1945 United Nations Charter Conference in San Francisco.

The Rotary Foundation was established in 1917 as an endowment fund and became The Rotary Foundation in 1928. When Paul Harris died in 1947, Rotarians donated generously to the Foundation as a memorial.

John Cooke recently found this banner in our store cupboard from the No 1. Rotary Club Chicago. Does anyone know how we acquired it?



Committees :-

Youth Opportunities,

Following the great success of “Children Singing for Children”, reported in the last bulletin, Cheques have been presented to Banbury Let’s Play Project £910.00, Skidz £910.00 and the Bwengu Project in Malawi £1800.00. This is an excellent result for the Club and the Youth Opportunities Committee. There was an excellent write up and picture in the Banbury Guardian.

International.

The Old Time Music Hall is confirmed for the 29 – 30th. May 2009 at Bloxham School.

Community and Vocational.

Promotion is now underway for the Scillies to Shetland event. Andrew Fairbairn is undertaking a number of speaking engagements to promote the event.

Rotary Foundation,

The Family Christmas Festival of Music at St Mary’s Church on the 13th December was a resounding success. The Music played by Banbury Symphony Orchestra under their conductor Paul Willett was of a very high standard and was appreciated by a very good audience. The Banbury Choral Society supported the Carol Singing in which the audience joined in. The event was compered by Jonathan Meredith in his own inimitable style. This Annual event which has become part of our calendar was a great success with approximately £1700.00 being raised Rotary for Foundation and the Home Farm Trust. Congratulations to Richard George, Graham Anker and his team of helpers.

Sports and Entertainment,

Two carloads of Rotarians attended the Varsity match at Twickenham they were equally divided between those supporting the Dark Blues and the Light Blues. There was quite a bit of rivalry between the parties during a very exciting match. Michael Banks was supplying a tot whenever Cambridge scored. As a local I was pleased to report that Oxford won. The party was enlivened when Philip Cavill met up with some of his old friends from the Guinness bar and we were persuaded to partake of some free pints of this excellent brew.

D.H.

The club outing ia fixed for the 28th April 2009

Darts and Inter Club Quiz. Venues still being explored for these events.

An overseas break is being considered for Seville in the Autumn 2009.

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