



# The Banbury Bulletin



SERVICE Above Self

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

President Ron Barnett

MAY 2011



Kalyan Banerjee R.I. President 2011/2012

In 2011-12, I ask Rotarians to Reach Within to Embrace Humanity. I ask you to look within yourselves, to understand that all of humanity has the same dreams, similar hopes, the same aspirations and similar problems.

Whoever we are and wherever we live, each of us yearns for the same peace and contentment and for the same fulfillment in our daily lives. What we work to bring to others, we must first find within ourselves because what we wish for ourselves is what others wish for themselves as well.

Before talking globally about peace, we need first to start with ourselves and then work outward. First, we find our own peace, and then work to establish peace in our homes and our families and our communities. We cannot work to build peace in the world without first building it in our own homes; if we are to create peace, friendship, and tolerance on a global scale, we must first practice it in our own neighbourhoods. When we have peace in ourselves, we have peace in our home; when there is peace in our home, we have peace that

we can share with others. As we find joy and satisfaction in being with the people we love and care about, we are able to care for others as well.

I believe that if you strengthen yourself, you strengthen those who share your life and your home. Once you have a strong family, you have a strong base on which to build. Those who have that inner strength can work together better to serve humanity, and that is what we do in Rotary.

In the year ahead, we will have three emphases in our Rotary service: to strengthen our family, to continue what we do best, and to change whatever needs to be changed.

Our first emphasis in this Rotary year will be the family. The family is where everything begins: All our service, everything we wish to achieve in our world, begins here. The mother and the child are at the core of every family; when we begin there, we can carry our work forward through individual lives and throughout the community.

Our second emphasis will be on continuity, on finding the things that we do well and taking them to the next level. Each of us has found success in Rotary service, and we should build on those successes, expand on them, so that we can help even more people in the future. We must continue our work for cleaner and safer water, mitigating disease and illness, spreading literacy, working with and for the new generation, and striving for peace.

At the same time, we also know that there are things we could be doing better and things which we should be changing. We must have the courage to see these, to identify them, and to work to make the changes we need to make. Mohandas Gandhi said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." In Rotary, we endeavour to live ethically and honestly, to share friendship and goodwill, to see the true worth of every human being. We are not interested in the lowest common denominator,

for Rotary is anything but common and Rotarians are uncommon people. That is why we work to elevate ourselves and, thereby, to elevate the world.

All of us in Rotary are looking to change the world, for why else would we be Rotarians? We believe that our world can be happier, healthier, and more peaceful. We believe that the future can and will be better than the past. We are idealists, and we bring our ideals to life through our Rotary service.

And so, our third emphasis in 2011-12 will be change, and we start by being the change we wish to see in the world. If we wish for peace, we start by living in peace ourselves, in our

homes and in our communities. If we wish for an end to polio or to any other disease in the world, if we wish environmental degradation to stop, if we wish to reduce child mortality, to spread literacy or to prevent hunger, we must be the instrument of that change and recognize that it must start within each of us. Let us Reach Within to Embrace Humanity. And in peace, harmony, and friendship, let us bring change and a more joyful future for us all.

Kalyan Banerjee  
President, Rotary International, 2011-12

**Rotary Youth Leadership Award in District 1090** We as a club have sponsored candidates in the past, but it has been a couple of years since this has happened and we would like to find a suitable applicant this year. See details below and contact Bernard Goodchild for more information.

RYLA is a Rotary International programme for young people fully supported by District 1090. It offers young people an opportunity to develop qualities of leadership, learn team working skills and how to solve problems by lateral thinking. A day is spent team building and two days learning new skills such as orienteering, rock climbing, abseiling, canoeing and slate mine exploration. These skills are applied in a 30 hour group exercise in locations around the Snowdonia National Park, including a night in the open. The course is ideal for young people at the start of their working life. Participating Rotary Clubs nominate candidates, from a wide background of abilities, vocations and social levels, that they consider to have leadership and development potential. The group meet at an 'Induction Day' when they engage in a series of activities designed to encourage group dynamics and getting to know each other.

The week long course takes place at Rhos-y-Gwaliau, a small hamlet near Lake Bala in the Snowdonia National Park, North Wales. One Rotarian works with each group to assist the staff instructor. Originally the village school, the Centre was adapted to become an outdoor educational base for Berkshire schools but is now privately owned and is the ideal site for this Rotary inspired course. The Centre is staffed by a small group of dedicated and talented course leaders, professionally qualified in the specialised field of outdoor leisure pursuits.

This course develops a more complete personality and the new found confidence and skills are brought back into the community and demonstrated to their sponsoring clubs, by way of a short presentation on their experiences as a precursor to receiving a certificate. It will also develop the latent talents of anyone held back by lack of confidence. As with so many things in life the candidate who will gain most is the one who prepared to contribute most!!! It cost the candidate nothing. Candidates are sponsored by a Rotary club or possibly an employer. Many clubs sponsor more than one candidate, and some involve local business who pay for members of staff as part of his/her development training programme. Some clubs even sponsor young people from abroad. What can be guaranteed is that candidates will return different, more confident, better equipped for the future in work and human relationships.

Candidates must be 18 years old by the first day of the course and preferably no older than 25. It will be an alcohol free week.

The next course will be from 24th to 30th July 2011 inclusive

Contact: Rotarian Bernard Goodchild with possible candidates.

The Induction day will be Saturday the 2nd July 2011 at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall  
Applications must be received by 31 May 2011



## FROM THE PRESIDENTS PAD

April 2011

The New Rotary Year is rapidly approaching and plans are coming together to ensure that John has an excellent year as the incoming President. April seems to have been a month full of Bank Holidays resulting in missed meetings and changed meeting days, but as usual the Club's adaptable and flexible approach guaranteed things kept moving forward.

1<sup>st</sup> April meeting - it becomes more difficult each week to think of new ways to say what a friendly, good humoured meeting we had as each and everyone is a sheer delight to be at. An excellent and thought provoking talk by Charlie Homer about "Goodwill and Growth for Africa" and the work being done to support young people communities in South Africa. Many thanks to Owen Kyffin for hosting Charlie.

7<sup>th</sup> April Night & Recruitment Evening - An excellent joint social evening with the Banbury Cherwell Club with specially invited guests to give them a flavour of the fun and great work that is done by Rotary and Rotarians. Congratulations to Malcolm Douglas and Helen Morris for organising the evening and Alan Wolstencroft and Andrew Fairbairn for running the horse racing and so expertly taking all our betting money from us.

8<sup>th</sup> April Meeting - Yet again we had an excellent meeting full of humour and good fellowship. Our speaker, Geoff Todd, gave us an interesting insight into the origins and success of the Deddington Farmer's Market. Many thanks Maurice Humphris for hosting Geoff.

15<sup>th</sup> April Meeting - another brilliant meeting, and it's always extremely interesting to have one of our own members talk to us. Bernard Goodchild gave us all a fascinating insight into his diving experiences wonderfully illustrated by some superb photographs of underwater life. Many thanks Keith Manning for hosting Bernard.

27<sup>th</sup> April Meeting - Our ninth Council meeting and Committees are starting to look much more into next Rotary year with many event dates already penciled in the diary. Again some excellent Committee reports and some great team working by everyone.

Once again very many thanks to every Council member for their invaluable contribution towards ensuring the continued success of the Club.

28<sup>th</sup> April Friday evening meeting - a somewhat confusing month as due to the royal wedding we had our fifth Friday meeting on a Thursday, which was nonetheless a most enjoyable evening at the Banbury House Hotel

Many thanks for such good organisation Stephen. Jakeman.

Our guest speaker Ann Bonner gave us a thoroughly interesting talk about her year as Town Mayor and the 400th Anniversary of the Town Charter celebrations and the visit to Banbury of Her Majesty the Queen. Many thanks for hosting her Graham Anker.

President Ron

**CONGRATULATIONS:-** Our President Ron Barnett, has been presented with a High Sheriff's Award for his voluntary work in our local community for the past 30 years.. His work for the Twinning Association, Rotary, BYHP and many other charities has been recognised.. We as a Club would like to add our congratulations to Ron.

## Speaker Reports.

8th April, 2011, Deddington Farmers' and Community Market, Speaker Geoff Todd.

In opening Geoff expressed his pleasure at seeing so many old Rotary friends and commented on how little seems to have changed in the 4/5 years since he left.

Geoff's talk opened with a quote from Rose Prince, a Daily Telegraph food writer from her book, 'The Good Produce Guide 2011'. She writes about the Deddington Farmers' Market, " This market in a delightful village spot is loved by all its customers for the sheer range of produce on offer including artisan bread, fresh vegetables and fruit, wet fish, meat, honey, locally made mustard and preserves and home made soups. The market is held in the square with some stalls inside the church. Villagers report that its arrival has been a great boost to the economy and has sparked other community events such as the village show.

Not bad considering that in September 2001 the market was started with a few trestles borrowed from the parish church and they were completely reliant on the weather being fine. The country was reeling from the 2000-2001 Foot and Mouth Outbreak and the funeral pyres of the four million cattle, sheep and pigs.

There had been an active web-site in Deddington for some time with a facility for discussion and this turned to helping farmers by starting a Farmers' Market. These were very much in their infancy at that time but a number of interested villagers and farmers attended a meeting in the Town Hall in June when it was decided to try to launch a Farmer's and Community Market. Two of the original committee members are still serving, one being Geoff who is currently Chairman.

They may have started small but now they have 60 or so traders registered, but fortunately not all of them want to trade at the same time as some only sell seasonal produce. There is also a satellite market in the Parish Church selling, cards, craft products, Fair Trade goods and other items which do not qualify to trade at a Farmers' Market. The concern always has been to provide as wide a selection of locally raised products as possible for their customers. They are affiliated to the National Farmers' Retail and Market Association (FARMA) and Deddington became the first farmers' market in the country to achieve certification under the FARMA scheme which set high standards to be attained and maintained. In his report made following recent random unannounced visits to the market, the inspector remarked. "May I congratulate you and your team for managing what is a leading light in the world of Farmers' Markets" They jealously guard their reputation and they have twice been runners up in the FARMA ' Farmers' Market of the Year Competition' and have won Country Life's 'Favourite Farmers' Market in the South East'.

The market is organized by a committee of 8 volunteers, none of whom receive a salary or honorarium. The stalls are put out at 7.00am on market day by yet more volunteers who qualify for a special sweat shirt and a farm house breakfast in a local hostelry. Geoff and other committee members visit France regularly to see what is happening in their farmers' markets and from this they have adopted the idea of music and street entertainers at the market. Many thousands of pounds has been raised through the market for charities, including Katharine House Hospice, Thames and Chiltern Air Ambulance, Macmillan Nurses and local village projects. Last spring they presented a defibrillator to the village.

Part of the ethos of the market is to reduce food miles by supplying local fare though some of the food then travels many miles after being purchased. One purchaser sends meat to Scotland every month and occasional shoppers come to the market from as far afield as Nottingham and Lichfield and regularly from Oxford and Northampton.

Geoff said that it has been an interesting and rewarding ten years, certainly a very successful time and I wish them well for the future.

Maurice Humphris.

ONE HUNDRED FEET BELOW 15<sup>th</sup> April Rotarian Bernard Goodchild

We were intrigued to hear from Club member Bernard of his hobby - scuba diving.

Bernard's hobby was started as a present for a series of diving lessons to enable him to explore the depths of the sea, along with his daughter Emma. Lessons and subsequent qualification were completed in English waters under the guidance of the British Sub-Aqua Club.

After qualification, Bernard has headed for the warmer waters of the Red Sea and elsewhere, with diving partner Emma, where advanced qualifications were obtained, entailing navigation, night diving, and open water diving down to a depth of one hundred feet.

Bernard described to us the equipment needed, including the protective and safety waterproof garments, and in particular the details of the air tanks and breathing equipment and air control.

To be comfortable below the surface there is an absolute need to stay calm, to fin slowly, and to breathe deeply. The stress, exercise, shallow quick breathing, low temperatures and the depth all result in reducing air capacity, and time and air are key issues that need to be used effectively, as generally dives are limited to one hour. Important details are the fins (the larger the better), the air mask and snorkel, weight belt, and the essential need of a dive buddy who is needed for a mutual personal cross-check on all of the equipment and installation before the dive can commence.

Beautiful coloured slides were shown to give us an idea of this sub-aqua world, of the coral and the wonderful range of species and vivid colours to be found in this very different world.

Thank you Bernard for a very interesting and informative talk. Keith Manning.

Cllr. Ann Bonner - 5<sup>th</sup> Friday (Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April) Celebrating 400 years of Banbury's History

Those who attended this evening meeting at Banbury House Hotel were privileged to hear a most interesting talk about the town, given with feeling from a lady who is clearly proud of her, and the town's heritage.

Ann was born in Banbury and educated at the Grammar school where she told us her interest in the Classics and History started.

She said some 400 years ago Banbury was a Puritan town and a 'Banbury Man' was considered to be a sober and upright citizen, perhaps this is why Rtn. Graham Anker, like Ann born in the town, had been chosen to give the vote of thanks!

References were made to Broughton Castle, where Ann has in the past been a guide, telling us about the ancestors of Lord Saye and Sele mentioning the start of the Civil war and in particular the battle at Edge Hill.

Landmarks in the town such as the 'Bars' and the four Crosses were talked about, however the bulk of the talk surrounded the very special year when Ann had been Town Mayor.

Ann told us about the many functions she had attended and the involvement of such a wide variety of organisations, all happily coming together to mark the 400<sup>th</sup> Mayoral Charter of the Town, which had taken place in the reign of James I on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1608.

The highlight was of course the visit of Her Majesty the Queen along with Prince Phillip. Although Ann was well aware that an invitation had been sent to the palace she never really expected it to be accepted; because the Queen had visited some 50 years previously and it is apparently rare for revisits to take place.

When the acceptance was received she and a small select group, including our own Rtn. Maurice Humphris, were told that secrecy was imperative; indeed if news should get out the visit would immediately be cancelled.

So the plans had to be conducted in a clandestine way and they mostly took place around Ann's dining table. Tricia Campbell the Mayor's Secretary / P.A. came in for special mention as she excelled in all that she did and seemingly the only last minute problems included: - Buckingham Palace announcing the trip a day earlier than expected. The B.B.C. broke the news before the Banbury Guardian who had been promised exclusivity. The Queen arrived by car, having travelling up the M40, whereas all prior plans had been for her to come by train.

The day could not have been better. Not only the Queen but also Prince Phillip extended their stay as they chose to talk to many more people than had been anticipated, both in the Town Hall and also to members of the waiting crowds.

Ann's infectious enthusiasm came over in the talk which was well received by everyone. Rtn Graham Anker

### International Committee.

It was proposed that £500 should be given to the Children of Chernobyl visit to assist in their

transport costs. Also that £1000.00 should go to End Polio Plus campaign being some of the profit from the Birmingham Chamber Orchestra concert.

### Foundation.



### STEVENS STEAMING!!!!

Steven Jakeman accompanied by the "Fat Controller" invites us all to a Summer Steaming at Marston St Lawrence.

Steven will be in control of his Garden Railway and will be puffing around from Noon onward on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June.

A good social event with proceeds going to Foundation.

### Community and Vocational.

The Party for the Blind is to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> May with "Andrew McHugh" providing the entertainment. This should be something to look forward too.

IT's a Knockout 2011 is to take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> June Andrew Fairbairn is arranging and has a good number of teams taking part. There is also to be a "Frog Racing" event run by us at the show.

A donation of £250 was proposed to assist the Banbury PHAB club for the disabled.

Prior announcement for 2012 Olympics, Andrew Fairbairn is Kayaking to Weymouth to coincide with the Olympic events held there. "Watch this space".

### Foundation.

Our annual Club donation to the Foundation Fund will be an excellent £4000.00 this year.

### Sports & Entertainment.

The trip to Bristol was enjoyed by those few who took part.

The Club Quiz Night is now to be on the 16<sup>th</sup> May, Committees look out for details and rally your teams.

Spring Golf tournament is scheduled for the 23 May., and the Bigwood Trophy is on the 8<sup>th</sup> September.

### Youth Opportunities.

Following the young musician Final the next big event is the GALA CONCERT at Sibford School on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June. This concert will involve Young Musician winners over the past 21 years. We must ensure that we sell tickets to ensure the success of this major event.

HON SECRETARY - Dr. Ian Rodrick

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