



President Richard Watts

Published monthly by the Rotary Club of Banbury ,District 1090 R.I.B.I Club
no. 147 November 2008

YOUNG ENGINEERS RECEIVE BURSARY

At a recent meeting the President of The Rotary Club of Banbury, Rotarian Richard Watts, gave three aspiring young engineers awards of £1,200 each, spread over three years for degree courses in engineering. This fund was set up with a sum endowed by the late Rtn. Ian Brodey for the Rotary Club to use for a project of it's choosing. Ian Brodey was an engineer and it was thought appropriate, with the support of his family, that it should be used in this way. The Brodey Engineering Bursary Committee was set up last year and the first bursary was given to Henry Sleight of Middleton Cheney who is now in his second year at Loughborough University studying Mechanical Engineering. This year there are three grants which are being given to Tom Mitson of Middleton Cheney and Dean Howard of Thorpe Mandeville who both attended The Chenderit School and are taking courses in Mechanical Engineering at Loughborough. The third grant was given to Tim Traynar of Banbury who was formerly at Banbury School and then King Edward VI Grammar School at Stratford Upon Avon he is to study Mechanical and Electrical Engineering at Bath University.

The Brodey Bursary is an ongoing fund and each year it looks for young

people who live within ten miles of Banbury and who are seeking to go to University and study any aspect of engineering.

Committee Chairman Mike Budd with this years Bursary recipients.



Past President and Honorary Member Rotarian **Jack Friswell** was recently honoured by Banbury Charities. A special tea party was held at the Whatley Hall hotel to mark his record of having served on Banbury Charities for 50 years.

A remarkable achievement, also mentioned were his other fundraising activities for the benefit of the Local community. Congratulations from your friends in Rotary. Jack's record of service to the town and to Rotary is unsurpassed. He joined Rotary in 1956 and has more than 50 years in our club and truly deserved his Paul Harris award given a few years ago.

NEW MEMBERS.



Lee John Dwyer was inducted into Rotary by District Governor Malcolm Boddington on the 5th September.

Details:-

Lee John Dwyer. Partner Joan,

Address, 25 Chatsworth Drive

Banbury, OX16 9TT

Date of birth, 28/10/1941

Classification, Electrical Engineering

Proposer, Andrew Fairbairn

Telephone, 01295 261509

E.Mail, leeandjoandwyer@hotmail.com

Another new member, Edward Wheatley was inducted by our President Richard Watts



Details:-

Edward Wheatley Partner Judith

Address. Springfield, Milton Road,
Bloxham. OX15 4HD.

Date of Birth. 27/9/1943

Telephone. 722731. Mob. 07976 759889

E.Mail:- ewhealeeds@aol.com

Proposer Tony Illott.

COMMITTEE UPDATES.

Youth Opportunities.

The programme so far:-

Children Singing for Children 11-13th November.

Young Chef of the Year local final 28th. January

Young Musician Heats 23rd. & 24th. January

Final Sibford School 7th. March 2009

Mock Interviews B. G. N. School March 2009

Warriners School Bloxham July 2009

Rotary Youth Leadership Award 19th.- 25th. July

Requested we look for possible candidates.

Phillip Cavill.

Foundation.

Brian Cornley will be organising the Christmas card donations as in previous years.

Christmas Festival of Music has attracted sponsorship from Whitley Stimpson. It is being held at St Mary's Church on 13th.December.

Graham Anker.

Sports and Entertainment.

An Autumn break to Seville is being considered for 2009.

The Club outing is to take place on 28th. April 09.

A trip around the Oxford Colleges with Philip Bobby is being arranged for June 2009.

Darts, The inter Club Quiz and Horse Racing at Towcester are all under consideration for the coming year.

John Bennett.

International.

On Friday 19th September Brackley Rotary Club organised a sponsored bike ride around the Club Circuit at Silverstone. Accompanied by Club President, Richard Watts & Rotarian Andrew Fairbairn. Alan Wolstecroft "pedaled" around the circuit on a Personal Energy Transport System (PETS) – raising funds for the Christian Hope School. When all the money pledged is collected I will have raised approx £800 .

The Christian Hope School.

The builders have completed the zinc roofing.

The next stage is to raise funding for the windows & doors to make the building secure and then we will start to render the exterior & plaster the interior.

£26,500 has been sent to the project with another **£610** either in the bank or pledged.

Autumn Golf Competition.

Nine intrepid golfers gathered at Brailes Golf Club on Monday 22nd September to contest the Club's Autumn event. The holder Philip Cavill, had wisely chosen to spend time in sunny Spain, so could not defend his title.

Only 8 played, as unfortunately, John Meeres badly hurt his knee getting his clubs into his car just before setting out from his home. Shows what a dangerous game golf can be!!!!!!

After starting as a lovely sunny afternoon, the heavy showers descended, but we all finished the course. In a single stableford off full handicap, Roger May was 3rd. with 30 points, Ian Rodrick 2nd. with 32 points and Malcolm Nutt the winner with 33 points. John Brodey won the nearest the green competition on the 11th. hole. This is usually nearest the flag, but as none of us actually got on the green we changed the rules!!!! Whilst we were only 8, we all had a pleasant afternoon and an excellent meal – well done John Phillips for sorting this out for us.

The Spring Tournament 2009 will be at Chipping Norton Golf Club and we will be back at Brailes for the Autumn one again. Dates to be decided, but likely to be early/mid May (maybe late April) and mid September, trying not to clash with other events already fixed. As much notice as possible will be given to try to get more players to come.
Malcom Nutt.

Speaker Report - 19 September

Rotarian Ian Calderbank hosted his son, Martin, as Speaker on 19 September. Martin is one of the partners in Stirling Square Capital Partners, a private equity firm, and he talked about the principles behind the application of private equity and described a particular project in 2005 during which Stirling Square backed simultaneously two companies, Permaswage in Paris and Design Metal Connections in California, and then merged them into the new Global Design Technologies.

He explained how the logic behind the purchases and merger was based on their synergy, in that each was a major player in the aerospace industry manufacturing mechanically attached tube, pipe, and cable fittings. The strategic merger enabled the new operation eventually to supply an enormous variety of aerospace programmes around the world.

Martin explained that since private equity firms are investors, not managers, the key to success rests on backing an effective management team, who would themselves become significant shareholders in the business through the management buyout. He then went on to highlight some of the cultural problems associated with merging companies and management teams from different countries but pointed out that these were overcome by clear leadership from the chief executive (who came from one of the companies) and the chairman (who was appointed after the double buyout). Transferring management personnel each way between France and the USA also helped.

There followed some restructuring, including investment in manufacturing facilities, building up the R & D side to encourage development and expansion of the product range into new areas such as Power, and other industrial applications, and patenting some of the new products. The new company had already then become a major global player and its products can be found on nearly every major civil and military aerospace programme world wide and in a growing number of electricity substations throughout the USA. As a result of this investment and growth, employee numbers increased substantially.

In 2007 the decision was taken that sufficient value had been added to the operation that the time was ripe to reap the rewards and Global Design Technologies was sold, interestingly to another private equity firm who presumably felt that there was scope for further improvement to be made. Although in the past private equity has been viewed by some as greedy investors buying companies to make money by asset stripping, in reality if a company can be improved to increase its value this usually leads to greater employment opportunities as well as profits.
Ian Calderbank.

Speaker Report – 10th. October.

Two representatives from SKIDZ gave an excellent presentation outlining the work of this organisation.

Skidz has workshops based in High Wycombe, Banbury, Reading and Hillingdon. They work with young people from the age of 12, offering

practical training in motor mechanics. The project works with all young people, but have particular expertise in working with less advantaged young people and those at risk of not moving onto employment, education or training.

Students participate in a real workshop environment and an adult ethos. The young people are actively involved in decision making within the projects. Students who find school a problem can successfully attend SKIDZ and exceed expectations in achieving their true potential.

The SKIDZ projects are registered charities that support education and training. They work in partnership with different agencies to create a better future for young people.

The vote of thanks was given by Rotarian John Donaldson

Speaker Report – 17th. October.

Then and Now. Dr David Baugh.

Then was over thirty years ago when David was a newly qualified and newly married doctor. He decided that a year working as a flying doctor in Kenya would be a good start to his career. Now was actually a few months ago when he returned to Kenya to advise the staff in hospices on the latest techniques in the administration of morphine. Having recently retired the prospect of returning to Kenya for a few weeks was very appealing and when asked if he was experienced in this he claimed he was, then studied furiously so that he was in fact well versed and fully up to speed when he left for Kenya.

David's very lively presentation plentifully illustrated gave the members present a real flavour of Kenya both shortly after the end of colonial rule and at the present time. He told us something of his work as a flying doctor and the conditions in which he worked. He said that about 94% of the illness was covered by only 10 diseases. He recounted how he rose to almost godlike stature in the eyes of the locals when his wife Nickie was delivered of twin BOYS.

On his return he visited many of twenty-five hospices in the country teaching the most modern methods for using morphine in pain control. One aspect of his visit which I found most pleasing and impressive was the care shown by locals on a voluntary basis to patients of the hospices, many of whom are of necessity out-patients. Another

surprise for me was that George Bush, father of George W. was responsible for the introduction of PEPFAR, which is a fund originated as the President's fund which has poured millions of dollars into medicine in Africa.

Sadly David told us that now about 16% of 15-39 year olds are HIV positive.

After his work was completed David had a few days break before returning home and he visited his old flying doctor HQ and found that of four aircraft that had been in use in his day only his was still there. Though no longer airworthy he was able to sit in the seat which he had used some 30 years previously.

For him a memorable and maybe emotional visit, for our members one of the best after lunch talks that we have enjoyed for a long time.

Maurice Humphris.

The Banbury Canal Day took place on Sunday the 5th. October.

There were many people attending the event although the weather could not have been worse, with rain and high winds predominating.

Inner Wheel manned a stand together with the Samaritans and Rotary had their stand to raise awareness of what we do in our community. Rotarians from the Cherwell Club and our own Rotary Club withstood the rigours of the day. The main problem was that because of the weather people did not linger long so that it was difficult to get the message across.



Andrew Fairbairn sitting pretty at Canal day and President Richard turning his back on the weather.



ROTARY'S FIGHT AGAINST POLIO COMES FULL CIRCLE

An exhibition of thought provoking photographs that depict the worldwide fight against polio will be displayed at the Menier Chocolate Factory in London next month.

The Full Circle exhibition, showing at the ground floor gallery in Southwark Street from Tuesday 14 to Saturday 18 October, is hosted by Rotary International, the humanitarian organisation that has made stamping out polio its number one goal for more than 20 years. London-based BrandRevelation.com serves as the event organiser.

The fight against polio is told through the photographs of London polio survivor and advocate Gautam Lewis who, thanks to Rotary, recently returned to his birthplace of Kolkata, India, to immunize children against the disease. Born in Kolkata in 1977, Gautam was abandoned by his mother at the age of three after he contracted polio. Gautam was taken to Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity where he stayed for three years before having another two years of operations at the Rehabilitation Centre for Children (RCFC). There Gautam met Dr. Patricia Lewis, a dual national (UK/Ireland) nuclear physicist, who adopted him in 1985.

Still dependent on crutches from his battle with polio, Gautam is in a strong position to sympathize and fight the disease. Gautam hopes to inspire those who have been battling polio for years by highlighting with dignity achievements that are possible in the face of adversity. "It is vital that everyone remain committed to ending this disease. I hope to show, through my example, that anything is possible – the sky is the limit."

The massive global undertaking of polio eradication led by Rotary and its partners is further illustrated by the images of photographer Jean-Marc Giboux who has documented the battle against polio in its remaining strongholds of India, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan throughout the past decade.

Ian Thomson, President of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland, said: "Because polio has been wiped out in Great Britain and Ireland, many people believe that it no longer exists but this unfortunately is not the case. Our hope is that through this exhibition we can raise awareness about the devastating effects of the disease and encourage people to support us as we endeavour to eradicate it for good."

Polio mainly affects children under the age of five, invading the nervous system and often causing total paralysis in a matter of hours. There is no cure for polio, but it can be prevented through immunization. Since Rotary began its PolioPlus program in 1985, polio cases have fallen by 99 percent from 350,000 a year to 1,313 in 2007. To date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$700 million and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than 2 billion children in 122 countries.

Rotary and its spearheading partners in Global Polio Eradication Initiative – the World Health Organisation, UNICEF and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – have vowed to end this crippling and potentially fatal disease once and for all.