

DISTRICT

1210

ROTO

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ROTARY IN SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE & WEST MIDLANDS



Efforts from volunteers and teams from local Rotary clubs are underway for this festive period to collect non perishable food for families in crisis.

District Governor Letter

Hello Everyone,

In the hurly-burly of Club activity it is easy to overlook Rotary as an international organisation particularly if our focus is on the provision of service to our immediate area. There are however clubs in the District who are working closely on a wide variety of international projects, many of them supported by our own Charity, The Rotary Foundation. Tempting though it is to concentrate only on our own town or locality we should never forget that across the world there are many less fortunate than ourselves who rely on the support and assistance that we provide. We cannot be truly Rotarians if we turn our backs away from our international roots.

We now know that in the last twelve months there has been further membership loss to the Organisation. Clubs need to look hard at their recruitment strategies and we need to move



recruitment higher up the agenda. Without members we will simply be unable to continue the work that we do.

In the last three months I have seen the Disabled Sports Day, The Last Night of the Proms some 10k runs and a number of fund raising events and Charter Nights. The range of activity that we are involved in is a clear indication that overall we are in good heart. Preparations are well in hand with many Clubs for the Christmas season and once again Rotary will be demonstrating to the people of the District that together we are Engaging Rotary and Changing Lives.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you and your families a Very Merry Christmas and Every Good Wish for the New Year.

Barry Picken
District Governor
Rotary Club of Wednesfield

Rotary Loans Help Overseas Workers

Loans made by a local Rotary club to help overseas workers in poor communities are quickly starting to be paid back.

Lendwithcare, a leading aid and development charity, has forwarded messages of thanks for 'wonderful support' to Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary club.

The club has been informed that the recently handed out loans are already 'changing for the better' the lives of a farmer, production worker and vehicle spares supplier.

Rotary has been praised by the Lendwithcare organisation for its generosity and investing in the future of the trio. The recipients are using the loans to develop their businesses and better

support their families.

The Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire has recently given loans of £600 to help change lives for the better in some of the world's poorest communities.

Lendwithcare say donations will help them expand to even more countries and help more people out of poverty.

Rotarian Mike Mortimer, chairman of the club's international services committee, has received acknowledgements from Lendwithcare.

"Thank you so much for being a part of helping and investing in their future. You will soon start to receive their loan repayments."



Two of the people being supported by Rotary

Which one is the Gormley?

Difficult question I know. . . Joking apart members of Tetterhall Rotary recently enjoyed a weekend away in Liverpool which concluded in a visit to Crosby Beach to see the Gormley Statues.

I would ask you to look closely and see pictured alongside one of the 100 cast iron men are really Martyn Haines, Linda Francis, Margaret Haines, John Francis,

Sandra Finch, Bert Finch, Merle Edwards, Alison Kraushar, Gill Barnwell, Chris Kraushar, Brian Barnwell, Ernie Edwards or have they been cloned by the aliens who arrived in the spaceship which landed in the sand dunes.

This is not trick photography there are 100 cast iron men on the beach and the spaceship in the sand dunes.

It's well worth a visit.



Inner Wheel

by Robyn, District Chairman

Hello Everyone,



Many of you know all about Inner Wheel and what we get up to, and some of you actually join in with events and fund raising. But when I was visiting Rotary Clubs last year with my husband Trevor I found that there were too many Clubs and members who had no connection with Inner Wheel, so were out of touch with what we do and who we are. Let me give you a very brief summary of our organisation: We are celebrating our 90th birthday in January 2014. Founded in Manchester, England (not America) and we follow the same borders as Rotary to form our District.

As of July 2013 there are 730 Clubs with 19,000 members in 29 Districts in Great Britain and Ireland and over 100,000 members in 103 countries worldwide.

Clubs usually meet once per month, some clubs have a meal some just a drink, and like Rotary the day and time varies to suit. Ladies who are related to current or former members of Rotary and Inner Wheel are entitled to join and ladies who have no connection can now be invited by the Club to join.

Yes we do knit and sew, Bring and Buy, make cakes and drink coffee but we also take part in Dragon Boat Racing, Bungee Jumps, Abseiling challenges, the London Marathon as well as

helping young people with activities including organising a football match for young people with learning difficulties.

Talking about numbers: listen to this - items sent overseas last year included over 28,000 knitted garments, 9500 knitted blankets, 3729 Joy and Toy bags and over 6400 shoe boxes. Last year we raised over £1.2 million for charities in Great Britain and Ireland and nearly £700,000 for Overseas Charities.

Our Theme this year is "We are working for Women" showing our support for the campaigns against Violence against Women and Women in Poverty.

You can see why I am proud to be a member of Inner Wheel.

We have come a long way since 1924 and are now catching up with the 21st century. Our Clubs are more open and appealing to ladies of all ages and of course with open membership we can invite ladies to join who do not have the Rotary/Inner Wheel connection.

Inner Wheel does make a difference but Inner Wheel working together with Rotary would make an even bigger difference.

In friendship
Robyn Davies
Chairman, Inner Wheel District 21

Working 'Hand in Hand' with Rotary

HOW STUART BECAME FIRST DISABLED PERSON TO ROW ATLANTIC SOLO

Brave Stuart Boreham, 47, has never let cerebral palsy stop him from leading a very full and active life.

And the greatest achievement so far, for a man who contracted the physical disability in his lower limbs as a child, has been to row solo across the Atlantic and raise £25,000 for Macmillan Cancer Relief.

Scotsman Stuart's epic adventure - he lost a stone and a half in weight - was relayed to members of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary club at a meeting at the Lord Hill Hotel, Shrewsbury.

The magical day, which he will never forget, was March 3 2004 when he saw land after rowing 3,000 miles of ocean. He had set off on November 15 2003 from the Canary Islands and after three and a half long months arrived off Barbados.

He had been on his own for 109 days, and at the age of 38, became the first disabled person to row the Atlantic ocean solo - his greatest achievement so far.

Stuart, who is from Stornoway in the west of Scotland, said he suffered from a lack of oxygen at birth, but time had helped him to stand on his own two feet - with the aid of a stick.

He said the Atlantic ocean was his biggest challenge and was very emotional. But it hadn't been his only challenge in life.

Against the odds, he took up motor racing in 1992 and got his full competition licence. During his first season, he was involved in an accident and hit a crash barrier at 80 mph. This broke his right thigh bone in six places and left him in a critical condition - he lost five pints of blood.

While recovering from his accident, he saw a press article about the 1996/7 BT Global Challenge around the world yacht race - organised by Sir Chay Blyth

- against the prevailing winds and tides. He applied - and secured a place racing on a yacht crewed entirely by disabled people.

"When an opportunity comes along, you have to take it," he told Rotarians.

He needed £18,750 to take part and earlier that year drove a lawnmower from John O Groats to Lands End in 18 days, collected £10,000 in sponsorship which he said 'showed the fantastic generosity of strangers.'

Having discovered the charity entering the yacht in the race was struggling to secure the required funding, he gave them the sponsorship from his lawnmower trip and resigned from his job with a high street bank to help them find the £1m required.

Said Stuart: "I learned service to others before self which is the Rotary slogan."

After the race he came up with the idea to row the Atlantic ocean - a project that required sponsorship of £82,000 on top of his charity goal of raising £25,000 for Macmillan Cancer Relief.

At the time he was a project manager with the Halifax Bank of Scotland who gave him a 12 month sabbatical to pursue his dream. He rowed an average of 30 miles a day during the 109 day journey and described to Rotarians how he dealt with the demanding mental and physical tasks.

He described how he was caught in very bad weather and in particular a 'frightening' storm which lasted all day and all night. The wind was 55 knots and the waves were 40ft high.

"I was at the end of my tether. I felt very fragile and very vulnerable. I was crying. The storm lasted three more days. They were very dark moments. I was unassisted and unsupported - I had no outside help."

TOM'S TRAVELS

HUMANITARIAN TRIP TO ZAMBIA

Whitchurch Rotarian Tom Kelly travelled to Zambia in June this year for his second visit. This is his 15th humanitarian trip since 1999 and his third to Africa. In Zambia he furthers a project for the Kaloko Trust on maize production, which he initiated in 2011. This Trust is a small charity situated in a remote area of Zambia which spends 95% of its funds on simple low key aid, building, rudimentary schools and medical centres, promoting small rural industries, providing seeds and caring for many orphans.

Tom's 155 mile 'Chalk Walk' in August 2011 raised over £3,000 for the Kaloko Trust and he anticipates a similar fund raising effort on his return. On his way home he renewed acquaintances with work colleagues from the 1960's in Zimbabwe where he had his first 'proper job'! Tom joined Whitchurch Rotary Club in 1988, president in 2003/4, a current club secretary and created a Paul Harris fellow in 2007 for outstanding services to the Rotary movement.

To support Tom T: (01948) 665330
or email whitchurchrotary@googlemail.com

KALOKO FUND RAISING PROJECT

In early October, Tom embarked on another Kaloko fund raising project - this time to assist the purchase of 'Goats for Grandmothers' through a local Kaloko women's support Group who assist and train the numerous elderly women left to care for the many children left without parents from the scourge of Aids. Initially the income will arise from the sale of goats rather than milk but as the scheme develops with ample grazing available, substantial benefits will accrue to these deprived folk.

SCOTTISH PEAKS CHALLENGE

Tom intends to ascend four peaks over 2,700 feet in the Loch Lomond area before the end of November.

He has to date raised over £45,000 for a variety of humanitarian projects. His sponsorship comes mainly from his fellow WHITCHURCH Rotarians, family, friends and ex colleagues during his working life.

ROTARIANS IN DISTRICT 1210 REMEMBER

On the 8th October 2013 six Rotarians from District 1210 from the Rotary Club of Blythe Bridge and District and the Rotary Club of Tunstall set off to Ypres in Belgium to lay wreaths at the Menin Gate on behalf of the Rotary. It was a moving experience to say the least.

At 8 O'Clock on the dot every night, 3 to 5 buglers from the local fire service play the Last Post and wreaths are laid.

Rotarian Tony Castery laid a wreath on behalf of the Rotary Club of Blythe Bridge and District with escorts Rotarians Vin Gardener and Rotarian Bob Dean.

Rotarian Peter Rhodes laid a wreath on behalf of the Rotary Club of Tunstall with escorts Rotarian John Bullock and Rotarian Martin Ketrick.

During the stay they visited various war graves including Tyne Cot which can only be described as very moving (Essex Farm Cemetery) (where John McCrea wrote 'In Flanders Fields') and the 15yr old is remembered), and also as it was known 'Toc H' that is Talbot House where soldiers went to relax as much as they could, it is now a hostel and museum.

A few good days were spent in true Rotary Style.



Gareth Watkins, president of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, welcomed Stuart to the club.



Laura Brown of Therapies Unite

In 2009, as part of a volunteer project to place skilled professionals and workers around the world, Mid Staffordshire NHS physiotherapist Laura Brown, undertook a 3 month self-funded placement in Mexico. This placement involved treating disabled children and adults with musculoskeletal and neurological problems. Laura returned to Puerto Vallarta in January 2011 for a further 6 month self-funded volunteer project and when she returned to the UK, her hugely successful trip inspired her to set up her own project called "Therapies Unite".

Laura's long term goal is to establish a rehabilitation centre as a permanent volunteer project-providing skilled, qualified and dedicated care to communities who would otherwise have no access to services such as this.

Laura is also setting up training, education and support to enable the continuation of therapeutic

input. She is entirely dependent on the generosity of volunteers, donations from individuals and sponsorship from corporate organisations. The Rotary Club of Cannock is helping to support Laura with her project and furthermore, to help her access Rotary Clubs in Mexico, they have made her an honorary member of the Cannock based Club.

Laura said that thanks to the very generous donations from the Rotary Club of Cannock, she has been able to install essential equipment to help these people access free specialist therapeutic skills and expertise delivered voluntarily by qualified professionals. More information about Laura and "Therapies Unite" can be found on www.therapiesunite.com.

More information about them can be found on - www.cannockrotary.co.uk/about-us



Laura with Usiel - he suffered from Polio

The Bus for Belarus



It was a year ago that I was 'phoned by a lady called Sharon Turner who lives in Stone, Staffordshire. She had heard of the Chernobyl Children's Project and our developing group in Stafford and Stone and offered her help.

After talking to Stafford Knot Rotary, I joined and helped in obtaining a matching grant turning our £4250 into over £14,000 with the help of the Rotary club of Minsk. With this we purchased an adapted mini bus, full of fuel and I had the job of delivering it to Belarus. The bus was not travelling empty but laden with aid including two wheel chairs, blankets, baby clothes and

shoes for children. We took the ferry from Hull to Rotterdam overnight.

A day later we visited the Mayflower Centre, the eventual destination of the bus. The people here had really impressed me last year with their determination and tenacity in their very difficult situations. The bus will make so many opportunities available to them such as visits to medical centres, trips out and transport to school.

The people of the Mayflower Centre thanked us for "our attitude to their disabilities", that we saw what they could do and not what they couldn't do".

SANTA SLEIGH'S BIGGEST-EVER FESTIVE PROGRAMME

More days and evenings out for the Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary Santa Sleigh are scheduled for the forthcoming festive season.

Club president Gareth Watkins announced: "More children and people to see this year; more money to raise and more Rotary and local good causes to benefit.

"It is all very positive and we are looking forward to getting the Rotary Santa Sleigh on its way."

The festive programme is the biggest - and most ambitious -

that Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary Club has undertaken.

Added to its familiar itinerary is the Asda supermarket and the housing areas of Sundorne and Mount Pleasant.

There will be a total of 15 sleigh outings between November 20 when Santa is in the Square for the switching on the town's Christmas lights and December 23 when the sleigh concludes its visits at Tesco.

The sleigh's full itinerary is:

November	20	Town Square	4.30 pm - 8.00 pm
December	6	Sainsbury's	9.00 am - 7.00 pm
December	7	Sainsbury's	9.00 am - 7.00 pm
December	9	Shawbury	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
December	11	Hadnall	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
December	12	High Ercall	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
December	13	Tesco	9.00 am - 7.00 pm
December	14	Football Club	1.30 pm - 3.00 pm
December	14	Asda	9.00 pm - 7.00 pm
December	16	Bomere Heath	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
December	18	Sundorne	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
December	19	Mount Pleasant	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
December	20	Morrisons	9.00 am - 7.00 pm
December	21	Morrisons	9.00 am - 7.00 pm
December	23	Tesco	9.00 am - 7.00 pm

Mammoth 1000 Mile Motorcycle Ride in 24 hours

Dennis Howell of the Ellesmere Rotary Club relived a youthful passion when he recently completed a 1000 mile motorbike trip around Britain within 24 hours for charity. Since his 'figure of eight' round the UK Dennis has managed to raise £1000, and the money is still coming in.

On Wednesday 18th September Dennis was able to present two cheques of £500 each to his chosen causes. The first was accepted by Beth Allen of Ellesmere, the regional representative of Kabuki UK, a charity founded by Beth and husband Tommy in February 2012 to support families afflicted

with the rare Kabuki Syndrome. Kabuki UK has set up a UK network and raised £13,000 in its first eighteen months.

The second was accepted by Nia Williams of Wrexham, previously of Ellesmere College, on behalf of Sparks, the charity that supports children's medical research. Sparks has raised £26 million since 1991 and supported 265 projects in over 80 hospitals and universities across the UK. One of its early successes was the development of a vaccine for poliomyelitis which has virtually eradicated the disease worldwide, a cause long supported by Rotary International.



Taliban is Allowing Conflict - Free Days for Polio Immunisation

A leading Rotarian has told a Shropshire club how the Taliban has recognised the work Rotary is doing to eradicate polio in two of the world's polio-stricken countries.

Rotarian Barry Picken, District Governor of Rotary District 1210 which covers Shropshire, said the Taliban was allowing immunisation programmes to take place in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Speaking at the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, the District Governor told members: "We have been able to negotiate conflict-free days with the terrorists and by early spring of next year we should have completed the immunisation programmes in Afghanistan and Pakistan."

"We recognise it won't be without its difficulties and setbacks but the indications are we can see it through. Hopefully, the Taliban recognise the work we are doing."

He revealed that there were now no more than 260,000 children left to be immunised, but the dilemma is where they are located - Afghanistan, Pakistan and parts of Northern Nigeria.

He said: "These are among the most inhospitable parts of the world. Northern Nigeria will be more difficult because of the circumstances that exist there. But we will persevere."

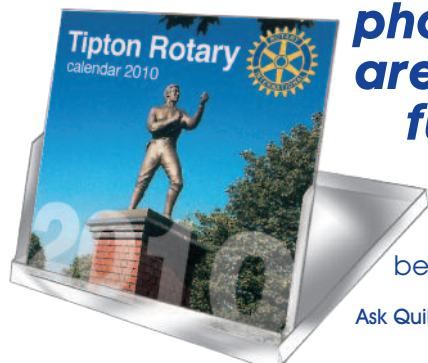
"We are determined to tackle the problem which, if we walk away from, we will reflect on for the rest of our lives. We can't afford to let it go."

"We want to satisfy the world that polio has gone once and for all. There needs to be a three year period without an outbreak. We haven't had an outbreak of polio in India since the beginning of 2012 when we completed the immunisation programme in that country."



District Governor Barry Picken (left) is welcomed to the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire by its president Gareth Watkins

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Quiz Night Aids Community Projects

A fun Quiz and Supper Night will be taking place at the United Services Club, Wem on Wednesday 2nd October.

Entry costs £1 per person for the quiz with the option of fish, or steak pie, chips and mushy peas plus a dessert for another £5.50.

No teams are required as individuals can be grouped

together on the night. A licensed bar is available. There is also a raffle draw. Doors open at 6.45pm for a 7.15pm start.

All proceeds of the evening go towards Interact - Thomas Adams, Wem and Rotary community projects. For further information contact Iain McHardy on 01948 880955.

District 1210 Clubs make a difference in the Philippines

District 1210 Clubs make a difference in the Philippines.

In 2007 Rotarian Bob Cliff of the Burslem club led a GSE Team to District 3820 in the Philippines.

As is usual with GSE, he has maintained close contact with the clubs there, going back twice to carry out eye surgeries, taking teams of specialists and Rotarians. In addition, Bob brought to the notice of the District Foundation Committee, the opportunity to carry out a special project, using a Foundation Matching Grant.

The municipality of Atimonan is situated at the southern end of Lamun Bay with 20kms of coastline. The area had been hopelessly overfished, particularly with methods that are extremely detrimental to the marine environment - dynamite, cyanide and small mesh nets. As a result, the fishermen were destroying their own livelihood and causing damage to the coral reefs - which are under threat anyway as a result of the rising temperature of the world's oceans.

The Rotary Club of Atimonan Sunrise, together with the Coast Guard and other local organisations implemented a plan of education to the fishermen, and has put in place a strict protection programme. The key to the restoration of the fish stock and the coral reefs is the installation of an artificial reef, made of concrete modules, which will promote coral re-growth, provide breeding nurseries for the fish and a scuba diving attraction.

The District Foundation Committee, under the then chairmanship of Richard Green brought the project to the International Committee of the Wolverhampton club and, led by PE Mike Colley they agreed to underwrite the Matching Grant project.

The reef was costed at £16,500 (\$25096.). Using the rather complicated calculations required by a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant, the Rotary Club of Atimonan Sunrise would donate a mandatory \$100 (£66,) District 3820 would chip in a match fund of \$2000 (£1320), District 1210 agreed to provide \$7620 (£5000) and the Wolverhampton club would be required to provide a maximum of £2500. The Rotary Foundation would top up all the contributions with a Matching Grant of £7614.

District 1210 clubs were invited by Richard Green to support the project, and 9 clubs came 'on board,' making a contribution of £200 each, which meant that the Wolverhampton Club's commitment was reduced from a potential £2500 down to £700. The clubs that supported the project were Burslem, Newport, Newcastle under Lyme, Stafford Knot, Stoke, Tettenhall, Walsall, Wellington and Willenhall.

The project has now been completed with great success; despite a delay caused by severe adverse weather. As Bob Cliff and Richard Green are demonstrating at talks to the clubs, the coral is already starting to re-form and the fish stocks are recovering. The area has been designated a marine sanctuary and the fishermen's groups, the Coast Guard and the Rotarians from Atimonan Sunrise carry out regular patrols to ensure that nature will be allowed to take its course.

A highly successful project, that fulfils the Rotary Area of Focus - economic and community development, thanks to the generosity of District 1210 clubs working together, in partnership with the Rotary Foundation.



'The Artificial Reef under construction on the shore.'

Battle of Britain Pilot Tells of His Wartime Experiences



Squadron Leader Allan Scott with Club President Roger Ashton

Former Battle of Britain Spitfire pilot Squadron Leader Allan Scott told a meeting of Wem Rotarians, and their guests, of his experiences flying fighter planes during the Second World War.

Sqd. Ldr. Allan Scott, now aged 93, told how he entered service in the Royal Air Force as a nineteen year old pilot in 1940 and was plunged headlong into the fight to keep Britain safe from the Luftwaffe and enemy invasion.

A year or so after the Battle of Britain he was posted to Malta as part of a detachment of 36 Spitfires being sent by sea to defend the island which was vital to the Allies in stopping valuable supplies reaching the German and Italian forces in North Africa.

Allan said that they and their aircraft were transferred to the aircraft carrier 'Eagle'- commissioned as an early aircraft carrier in 1924 and retained the pointed bow of the battleship, as she was designed to be, and not the long rectangular light deck of more modern carriers.

The Eagle was one of four carriers escorting Force X, which included the tanker Ohio and many merchant ships, loading with fuel and supplies to the beleaguered island. Force X came under tremendous attack from both aircraft and submarines. Because of the ferocity of the attacks Allan and his fellow pilots had to take off from the carrier with their Spitfires at the extreme duration of their fuel tanks. None of them had ever flown off a carrier before, and certainly not one with so short a flightdeck. They landed in the midst of a bombing raid, taxied hurriedly into the dispersal berms, refuelled and flew straight off into action.

The Eagle was sunk by four torpedoes from the Italian submarine Axum on the 11th August 1942. The tanker Ohio was seriously damaged by two torpedoes fired from the U-boat U73, but she was kept afloat by two Royal Navy craft and limped

into dock at Malta on the 14th of August and landing much of her precious cargo of fuel, ammunition and food.

The Battle of Malta saw Allan Scott and his fellow pilots flying as many as four sorties a day, every day of the week for month after month fighting for their lives and the survival of Malta. With Sicily only 50miles flying time away, enemy bombers were over the island every time a ship tried to reach harbour. With bombers flying at 10,000 ft. the Spitfire had only a few short minutes to climb to 15,000 ft and dive down upon them. At the same time Messerschmitt 109's were providing cover for the bombers at 30,000 ft, a height from which they could sweep down and engage the Spitfires in hectic dogfights.

Allan related a time when he was having to return back to base because his guns were out of ammunition. He looked to starboard and saw a 109 flying alongside, a glance to port and there was another. Both enemy pilots gave him a wave and peeled off back to Sicily. He assumes that they too were out of ammunition but they still gave an acknowledging wave - until the next time.

Allan spent two years in the region before being posted back to the UK where he had to give up his beloved Spitfires to fly P51 Mustangs on long - range bomber escort to the heart of Germany, a round trip of just over 6 hours. He later went on to become a test pilot and flew the English Electric Lightning, an all-British Mach 2 (1,520 mph) fighter aircraft and was the first aircraft in the world capable of supercruise and was in service until 1988.

He now lives in Wem where he can converse with fellow WW2 pilots John Trotman and Brian Beattie. He has written a book, on his experiences as an RAF fighter pilot, which is due to be published later this autumn.

A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF THE JAIPUR LIMB CENTRE

Thank you Rotary and District 1210 - a personal experience by DGN Richard Green.

On a recent holiday trip to Southern India, I was hosted by several Rotary clubs whose members showed me great friendship and hospitality, I was taken to see the Jaipur Limb Centre. The centre, at the MS Ramaiah Hospital, Bangalore is enthusiastically supported by the Rotary Club of Sadishavanagar, District 3190, under the leadership of Rotarian A. Suresh.

I was keen to see the centre as it is currently the beneficiary of a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant instigated by the Rotary Club of Ironbridge.

As we were driving towards the hospital, and about a mile from our destination, Suresh spotted a man walking along the side of the road. He had an extremely severe limp and was making progress with great difficulty. Suresh said to me 'I bet I know where he's going,' he stopped the car and spoke to the man. Although I was, of course, unable to understand the conversation that took place in the local language called Kannada, I picked up the word 'polio.'

Our new friend was named Ganga Raju, aged 30. We gave

Ganga a lift to the centre and I asked Suresh to explain to him that I am a Rotarian and a keen supporter of the drive to eliminate polio, having previously taken part in a Rotary National Immunisation Day. The Jaipur Limb Centre not only provides prosthetics to people who have lost limbs, it also supplies corrective callipers for people who have suffered the effects of polio and other diseases. This was the purpose of Ganga's visit - to enquire if he could be a beneficiary. All the treatments are provided free of charge to people who could not otherwise afford them.

There followed an inspiring tour of the centre where I was able to see the wonderful work done by the technicians, creating a wide range of prosthetics from very basic materials.

We were just leaving the Centre when Ganga came across to me and threw his arms around me. It seems he had been told that the Jaipur Limb Centre would measure, make and fit his calliper with the result that his limp would be considerably eased, enabling him to find employment.

He had tears in his eyes - and so did I - after I had a translation of what he was saying - which was 'Thank You Rotary!'



DGN Richard Green with a happy Ganga Raju



The Jaipur Limb Centre, Bangalore

THE WINNING STREAK

The Rotary Club of Blythe Bridge and District will never be any good at "Tic-tac" as a means of communication or even picking the winner but their Race Night held on 28th September was extremely successful and raised

over £1,800 for local and Rotary Charities.

The event was supported by the Blythe Bridge Junior Football Club eight of whom helped with evening and certainly added to the atmosphere during the races.

ROTARY CLUB'S NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER IS OFF TO THE EMIRATES!



Fred McDonogh who has taken up a new job in the United Arab Emirates

Chemical engineer Fred McDonogh was looking forward to the weekly meetings of a local Rotary club.

As part of his introduction he had already attended several meetings and events held by the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire and started to make a number of new friends.

Then Fred, 56, of Porthill Gardens, Shrewsbury, heard he had been successful with an application for a new job in the United Arab Emirates before he could be voted an official member of the Rotary club.

So popular had he become on his visits to the club that members of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire have now unanimously made him an associate member for the term he will be overseas.

He has very recently left Shrewsbury to take up a new post to manage what he describes as an 'exciting new project' in the Emirates, one he describes as 'the latest challenge in my career.'

Prior to leaving he commented: "I know I shall enjoy my new job, but I am disappointed that I shall not be able to attend regular meetings of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary club which has made me most welcome.

"I found the club to be very relaxed and very interactive and to offer a wide variety of tasks to the membership. As well as

having some interesting people, the club has a lot of very worthwhile projects."

He added: "I am delighted to be elected an associate member and will visit the club as regularly as I can during my vacations - the first of which will be very soon."

He is married to Deirdre and the couple have two daughters, Aoife, 25, who is a fund raising manager, and Niamh, 22, who is studying maths at Trinity College, Dublin.

Fred, who originates from County Galway in the west of Ireland, has lived in Shrewsbury for the last 12 years.

Said Gareth Watkins, president of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire: "Fred became such a popular visitor that when one of our Rotarians Alun Humphreys proposed that he should be an associate member everyone was in favour.

"On a recent visit Barry Picken, our Rotary district governor, advocated that we would enhance the club with the addition of associate members.

"If anyone is interested in becoming an associate or full member they can contact membership services chairman David Evans on 01743 350860."

David Evans can also be contacted on email: dce3012@hotmail.co.uk

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

Over the first weekend of September nine members of the Rotary Club of Dudley and partners visited the Rotary Club of Brest - Côtes des Légendes. The party took the Friday overnight ferry from Plymouth to Roscoff. We were met at 8.00am and taken to Château de Kerjean where our French friends provided a 'pic-nic' breakfast before a guided tour of the Château. We visited another Château - at Kergroadez on Sunday evening where we were treated to a sumptuous formal dinner. Our hosts were very generous with their time and hospitality before we caught the Monday afternoon ferry back to Plymouth.

Dudley Club's association with Côtes des Légendes goes back nearly 40 years. The idea started to develop in 1975 and the first exchange took place in 1976

when a party of 15 members and partners from Dudley went to France. Since then exchanges have taken place with Dudley Rotarians going to Brest one year and the French Rotarians coming to Dudley the next. However, the friendship extends beyond these annual exchanges. In 1983 a party of French school children stayed for two weeks in Dudley. More recently Dudley were pleased to support the French in erecting a memorial in Brittany to four RAF men who lost their lives when their aeroplane was shot down during WWII. Currently the French club is supporting Dudley with our Pens Meadow School playground project. They are our international partner and made a generous donation towards our successful TRF Matching Grant application. Truly international fellowship at its best.



DGE Lynne and Ron invite you to join them at the Venue Cymru, Llandudno for the District 1210 Conference to have a weekend of fun and fellowship with a variety excellent speakers including Norman Croucher OBE an hilarious and motivational speaker, Gail Stuart daughter of Eric Morecambe, and Edwina Currie to name but three.

Back by popular demand on Friday evening is the themed optional fancy dress "Viva Espana" and you will be entertained by "Rang a Tang". On Saturday there will be the traditional District Governors Ball with entertainment by "Co Stars" again back by popular demand.

Clubs have Registration Forms they are also available on the District 1210 Website from the main menu on www.rotary1210.org.

So fellow Rotarians complete your Registration Form, and join District Governor Elect Lynne and Ron at your District Conference "VIVA ROTARY" in Llandudno on 26th – 28th September 2014.

"WHAT'S UP RON?"



September 16th was not only Rotarian Ron Ashley's Wedding Anniversary but the evening he received his Paul Harris Fellowship Award.

The Rotary Club of Rugeley were able to make it a complete surprise, which for once left Ron

speechless, as he was out of the country when his nomination was approved.

On the same evening Rugeley welcomed District Governor Barry Picken, pictured here with Ron Ashley and Rugeley Rotary Club President Margaret Jones. "

WOLSTANTON £550 CHEQUE PRESENTATION TO ROCK OF JOY SCHOOL, UGANDA

The Rotary Club of Wolstanton had the great pleasure of welcoming to their weekly meeting Pastor Stephen Ssonko, who is the Principal of the Rock of Joy School, situated on the outskirts of Kampala, Uganda, together with Dr. Gordon Thomas, from Trentham, representing The Kabanda Trust.

The purpose of their visit was to receive a cheque for £550 from the Rotary Club to assist in the provision of a new well and water storage system at the school.

The Kabanda Trust was created by Dr. Thomas and his wife Sue in 2006 to support The Rock of Joy School. They have undertaken many personal visits to the school to assist in developing the facilities for the children, identifying projects that require financial support and

establishing schemes that generate income to help finance the school. Their dedication to the school is quite outstanding, and money raised by the trust is allocated to projects that are approved, monitored and audited by Gordon and Sue.

Pastor Stephen explained to club members how the school had developed since his previous visit in 2010 and also provided details of the plans for the new well.

Further support for The Kabanda Trust will be provided from a charity "International Banquet" which has been organised by Wolstanton Rotary at The Arch restaurant, Newcastle on Sunday 17th November. Please contact Vernon Wilson on 07974 690855 for details.



Left to right. Pastor Stephen Ssonko, Wolstanton Rotary President David Morgan and Dr. Gordon Thomas representing the Kabanda Trust.

RUGELEY HOPE “EVERY LITTLE HELPS”

The Rotary Club of Rugeley were represented by their President Margaret Jones, and Youth Service Chairman, Barry Jones, at the launch of Rugeley Tesco on 26th September. The club will be liaising with the Tesco

Community Officer to further their projects within the town. President Margaret Jones is pictured with Ruth Brown, Store Manager, and the Chairman of Cannock Chase Council, Mrs. Grice."



Charity Valuation Day Raises £500

Rob Morrison Chairman of Fundraising at Tettenhall Rotary Club hailed their charity valuation day, which was run in conjunction with a raffle organised by the club, a success as it helped to raise £500 for Compton Hospice, Wolverhampton and Help for Heroes.

The event which was organised by the club in partnership with a local established auction house was hosted by the Royal School Wolverhampton on Sunday 29th September.

Members of the public were asked to bring items in and have them valued in return for a charity donation.

Members of Tettenhall Inner

Wheel and the Interact Club based at the school provided refreshments on the day and raised funds for their chosen charities.

Rob added "this was the first time we'd held an event such as this and we are grateful for everybody who helped us and in particular the public who brought items to be valued and it is hoped that we can build on this success next year with a similar event.

The star find of the day was a piece of Moorcroft pottery which was thought to be of low value by the owner but turned out to be an original and probably worth over a £1,000.



Left to right: President Sammy Chung, President of Inner Wheel Alison Kraushar, Rob Morrison, President of Interact Joanna Kalemba and Local Auctioneer

SPONSORED WALK IN BRIDGNORTH

The Rotary Club of Bridgnorth held its first sponsored Steps Walk on Sunday 6th October.

Starting at Severn Park the walk included ten sets of steps from Low Town to High Town. Maps were provided for everyone so that could remain on the route, in some cases this was not always successful. Twenty nine walkers started and all finished the event.

The first to arrive at the Town Hall was David Allen in 53 minutes and 39 seconds, followed by Wendy Barker who was second in 54 minutes 39 seconds.

The Mayor Councillor Ray Gill was walker number One and walked up Ebenezer Steps twice, presumably a map reading error, but still finished in sixth place in one hour five minutes and 33 seconds.

Also of note was Luke Whitelaw who started behind everyone and carried two year old Ruben around the course. He also remained last throughout which is not surprising as Ruben was not helping at all.

We appreciate the support of League of Friends of Bridgnorth Hospital and other friends who assisted us in marshalling the Event, keeping it safe for everyone

At this stage we have pledges for £1900, 70% of the net proceeds will go to The League of Friends of Bridgnorth Hospital and the remainder to local charities

The walkers were all enthusiastic at the finish and we plan to hold the Steps Walk again next year.



ROTARY CLUB OF WELLINGTON CHARITY FILM NIGHT

More than 200 guests gathered for a wine reception at the Odeon Cinema at Telford Town Centre prior to viewing the film in two of the cinema's screens. This was the tenth year of the Club's Charity Film Night and once again the cinema, with the kind permission of manager Nettie Small, supported our fund raising efforts.

The choice of film was Quartet starring Maggie Smith, Tom Courtenay Billy Connolly and Pauline Collins. The film was a winner, not a word of criticism could be heard as the happy audience dispersed.

The evening yielded a total of £3,100 of which £1,000 will go to the Odeon's charities. Nationally, Odeon Cinemas support NSPPC and the Variety Club. These children's charities help sick, disabled and disadvantaged children and young people.



The remaining £2,100 was donated to the Severn Hospice. The Severn Hospice, which it is not part of the NHS, is an independent charity with two thirds of its revenue coming from public fundraising. Information about Severn Hospice can be found at: <http://severnospice.org.uk/>

RYLA WAS 'ONE OF THE BEST EXPERIENCES OF OUR LIFE' SAY CANDIDATES

A Rotary club's two sponsored candidates for a recent youth leadership award have described the experience as 'one of the best of their lives.'

Christian Cowper, of Baschurch, and Saun Livingstone, of Linley, who are both 17, have returned to the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire to thank members for supporting them.

The two Shrewsbury Sixth Form College students recently attended the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) programme – a week long camp for which all their expenses were paid by the Rotary club.

RYLA is designed to provide young men and women with an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders.

It demonstrates Rotary's respect and concern for youth as well as publicly recognising young people who are rendering service to their communities.

Christian told the club that RYLA was a 'fantastic award.' He said: "It was one of the best experiences I have had and I will certainly never forget it – I enjoyed everything I took part in."

One of the highlights was making a coral out of plastics strips and tarpaulin and he added: "Most of the different aspects of the award were fantastic – it was about building confidence to face challenges."

Christian, who is hoping to go to university, said he intended to take a year out to study product design in Europe.

His father Jonathan, an architect in Shrewsbury, said his son had 'blossomed' since the RYLA experience as well as Duke of Edinburgh and National Citizen Service Awards.

"He has grown immensely and we are very proud of him. My thanks to Rotary for taking such an interest in Christian and he will take this opportunity to go forward."

Said Sean, who hopes to pursue a career in the police: "The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards was one of the best experiences of my life and the fun was amazing. Getting outdoors was great."

He also referred to obtaining his Duke of Edinburgh and National Citizen Service Awards and added that he was considering a year's work experience in America.

Sean's father Colin, a book illustrator, said: "RYLA has given him the chance to recognise his potential. He has come into his own in the last few months and discovered aspects of his personality and nature he didn't realise he had before."

Hopefully, Sean will get a place in a police training college over here and realise his dreams and potential."

His notes from a training scheme were 'very encouraging' and a former sergeant major had referred to his leadership potential.

Said Rotarian Philip Gillings, Chair of District Youth Service: "It is always a thrill to welcome RYLA candidates back again."



Gareth Watkins, president of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire (left) and Rotarian Donald Thompson, the club's Youth Service officer (right), congratulate Christian and Sean.

WHITCHURCH ROTARY DISTRICT TRIUMPH

Rotary District Bowis Finalists since 2009, and winners thrice, Whitchurch Rotarians gained their fourth title in five years on 30th September at Cheswardine. They defeated Rugeley 3-1 (77-53) and the pairings were John Mitchevill, capt./Walker Schafer (21-15), Mike Nimmo/Don Pearce (21-13), Peter Williams/David Walker (21-4) and David Simcock/David Pritchard-Jones (14-21).

A JOURNEY TO AN UNFORGETTABLE PAGEANT

A great honour... That was how Rotarian John Sumner described taking a narrow boat on the River Thames in celebration of the Queens' Golden Jubilee.



John Sumner (left) shares the pennant with Mervyn Davies, vice president of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary.

Speaking at a meeting of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, he said the occasion was really enjoyable - apart from the weather.

There was a champagne toast at the end of the pageant which included 50 canal boats among a total of 1,000 boats that took part in the procession.

John, a member of the Darwin club, spoke of the 'aura' of taking part in 'something that will never happen again... taking part in such a fantastic event of 1,000 boats.'

Shropshire Lass was John's narrow boat, one of two owned by the Lyneal Trust of Ellesmere of which he is a trustee.

He said the 230 mile journey from Ellesmere to the Thames included 250 locks and took 24 days. The event took the Port of London Authority two years to plan.

In an illustrated talk to members of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, he recalled how the 50 narrow boats had to go

through the lock for the 16 miles from West India Dock to Chiswick to wait for the start of the pageant.

Every boat had a pennant to show they were allowed to take part and John brought Shropshire Lass's pennant to the meeting.

One of his purposes of visiting Shawbury and Mid Shropshire was to inform members of the club of the role of the Lyneal Trust.

Said John: "The trust is for people with disabilities as well as for community service. We are based south east of Ellesmere."

"We have two narrow boats, Shropshire Lass, a 75ft 8 berth family boat, and Shropshire Lad, a 45ft day boat. Both boats have a ramp for wheelchair access as well as a steering wheel and tiller and a lift for access into the boats."

"We provide trips - and holidays - for people with disabilities. We also have a cottage and some chalets suitable for people with disabilities," he added.

ROTARY AFLOAT

Whitchurch ROTARY Club continued their community work in early September by staging a series of narrow boat trips along the Shropshire Union Canal with daily department from the Shropshire arm. Rotarian Chris Smith again organised this logistically - challenging, ever popular venture, initiated in 2000 by Rotarians Peter Wagstaffe and Bill Grosset.

This year, over 150 guests, young and old, from 9 local

residential and care homes, 5 senior citizen and youth groups and 2 sets of disadvantaged youngsters - the oldest 103 year old Mrs Molly Trevanion (Greenfields) and the youngest a 14 year old girl from the Shropshire Young Carers. Twenty - two Whitchurch Rotarians relished a variety of differing supporting roles, - but not those with a 5am start on Monday, the 9th!!

THE MARY ROSE

The Rotary Club of Wellington were treated to an excellent talk about Henry VIII's warship the Mary Rose. Trevor Sapey, Community & Outreach Officer of the Mary Rose Trust in Portsmouth, gave a presentation about the ship and its history. The Mary Rose captured the world's imagination when she was raised from the seabed in 1982. She is the only sixteenth century warship

on display anywhere in the world.

Rotarians also had chance to examine a collection of Tudor artefacts recovered from the ship including a stone shot, powder dispenser and pewter tankard.

This event was used as part of a recruitment drive with several potential members being invited to attend. Two of these have subsequently applied for membership of the Club.



President Peter Martin [Left] with Trevor Sapey looking at a model of the Mary Rose



Rotarians Alec Owen [Left] and Jon Towler examining the artefacts.

Rotary Club's Chosen Charity

Six members of the North Shropshire First Responders' team met up with members of the Rotary Club of Wem at the Hawkstone Park Hotel to receive a cheque for £1,238 in appreciation of their work and personal efforts in providing a much valued service to the local residents.

The First Responders rely on public donations to meet their service operational costs and the Rotary Club President, Roger Ashton, has selected them as his chosen charity for his year in office.

1st Responders' Presentation



Members of the North Shropshire team of First Responders receiving their cheque from the Wem Rotary Club - Nicholas Lovett, Kelly Wood, Past President Ron. Steve Hardin, David Ladd, Tony Hobbs, Club President Rtn. Roger Ashton, Lynne Stokes and Gerry Evans.

WHITCHURCH ROTARIANS PROVIDE SPECIAL CHAIR TO HELP WAR HERO RELAX IN COMFORT

A local soldier who was seriously injured while serving in Afghanistan has been helped by Whitchurch Rotary Club to get much needed specialist equipment.

In 2008 Corporal Simon Vaughan, the son of Whitchurch businessman Hugh Vaughan was seriously injured when his Land Rover drove over an improvised explosive device. His injuries included a broken jaw, shattered pelvis, collapsed lungs, broken back and severe brain damage.

After two years in hospital he

returned to a specially adapted bungalow which required specialist equipment to aid his rehabilitation. This need included a riser recliner chair.

In this respect Whitchurch Rotary club were able to support Simon and his family with a £500 donation with the balance funded by Alan Ward of Shrewsbury, who provided the chair, which was installed at the end of September, when PAST President GEORGE Brown of the Whitchurch club was present.

Find Out More About the Work of Rotary

Rotarians from Wem are inviting local residents from the town, and adjoining rural areas, to have coffee with them at the United Services Club in Leek Street, Wem and learn how Rotary International and its members operate.

The Rotarians will be holding a number of regular drop-ins at the USC club for members of the public to call in for an informal chat on the Rotary Club of Wem's role in the community.

The next drop-in session will be on Saturday 21st September

between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Club Member Iain McHardy said: "Many local people want to become involved with their local community and at the same time have some fun. We would be very happy to welcome both men and women to come along and see what local Rotarians contribute to communities both at home and overseas.

The Wem Rotary Club meets at Hawkstone Park on Mondays alternating between lunchtime and evenings.

Young People Speak of Their Recent Experiences

Young people and school teachers had the opportunity to give their views on the District Youth Service activities to members of District Rotary clubs on the evening of 3rd October.

Not only did they each talk about their experiences in the last District youth competitions but the two young people who took part in the Young Musician competition delighted everyone, one by singing and the other by playing the flute, which showed the high standard of music in the Young Musician competition.

Some members of a RotaKids club wanted to know if there was a similar club that they went on to secondary school. Two young speakers, who were from an Interact club, answered their question perfectly with a great power point presentation proving that there was and it was a great club to be a member of.

The Youth Exchange speaker, who had spent his exchange year in Germany, enthused the other young speakers so much that many of them now want their own Youth Exchange experiences.

The evening had a common theme which was expressed by all the young speakers and that was that the activity in which each took part, greatly improved their self confidence. One said: "I could not have stood here this evening and spoken to you before I took part, I now feel a very positive and confident person."

The aim of Youth Service activities is to help prepare young people for the rigors of life after school and during the evening the young speakers all explained how much they had been helped along this path by taking part in these activities.



Rotary for YOUTH: Sally Fisher (The Grove School, Market Drayton) with RYLA Director Rotarian David Roberts



Youth Exchange: Anu-Cathrin (Anni) Micus, Rotary Exchange student from Hoexter, Germany, with Rtn. Ken Rogers and Ciaran Hayes the reciprocal exchange student from Stafford.

ALL GO FOR JEAN!!!!



It is all go for Jean Martyn at the moment. Since performing at the Rotary Conference in Harrogate, she has been kept busy; attending the weekly meetings of Brewood Rotary club but visiting other clubs to meet fellow Rotarians.

Jean's programme in September alone saw travel across the country, from Scotland to Norwich and performance at the prestigious Swiss Jazz festival was a particular highlight. As a member of the Speakers' Agency in London, Jean spoke at a Ladies Luncheon Club in Abersoch on her experiences as a professional musician and the events encountered during her run in Britain's Got Talent.

October saw Jean performing at several fundraising events; including the Sequel Trust event which unites people in Brewood and Coven to raise money for

disabled people to enable them to reach their full potential. To end the month, Jean performed sell out concerts in Zurich, performing on piano, theatre and classical organ.

Through the run in to Christmas, Jean will be performing on both piano and organ at the Fairfield Halls in Croydon, along with Don Reid from the Comedians; as well as at her own recital at the Prince of Wales Theatre in Cannock and switching the Christmas lights on in the town centre.

On December 5th, Jean has again received an invitation to perform on grand piano at St James' Palace, where she is musical director for the other artists, which include Boney M. She is thought of with great fondness by the Not Forgotten Association - which is members of the Armed Forces who have returned from conflicts - and she will be formally introduced to the Association's patron, the Princess Royal. It will be the fourth time Jean has met the Princess!

2014 will also be a busy year with Jean adjudicating the Rotary Young Musician competition, hosted by the Rotary club of Wolverhampton and giving a concert for the Rotary Club of Altringham.

Details of her concerts and new DVD can be found on her website www.jeanmartyn.biz and hrobertware@btinternet.com respectively.

INTERNATIONAL CARAVAN FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS SKIP THE LIGHT FANTASTIC

Karen and I didn't have a clue; we didn't know what to do. We joined the ICFR, bought our first caravan and booked ourselves on to the Autumn Rally. We got to our destination, reversed onto the plot - amazing! Still keeping very calm, we started to set up. What's this for? Where does this go? With just a slight squeak in Karen's voice, I barked back calmly 'I ain't got a clue'. Oh dear me, what do we do? We didn't have to worry at all, as soon to come to our aid was Maureen and Malcolm

Dugworth with beaming welcoming smiles, and then John Bumfrey arrived, followed by others, what a fantastic welcome!

The support from other ICFR Members was overwhelming, Karen and I felt so much a part of the family team, we soon had a skip in our stride.

I would say to anyone, if you have a caravan and you are a Rotarian, join the ICFR and you can skip the light fantastic, Rotary Fellowship at its best.



E-MAIL FROM AUSTRALIA

The Rotary Club of Wellington's President Elect, Rtn Venn Davies, whilst on holiday in Australia e-mailed the Club requesting that two attendances be recorded for the same day - 10th October 2013.

He advised that in the morning he had visited Prickle Farm, Esperance, a 3,000 acre arable and sheep farm run by The Rotary Club of Esperance Bay.

In the afternoon he attended a meeting of Esperance Bay Rotary Club.

Rtn Venn Davies and President David Callow exchanged Club banners while wearing Silly Hats. Members of the Club paid 10A\$



to wear a silly hat with the money raised going to a local charity helping with mental health problems.

WOLSTANTON CHARITY GOLF DAY

The Rotary Club of Wolstanton held their annual charity golf day at Trentham Park Golf Club on Friday 9th August.

19 teams of four players competed in a Stableford competition where the best 2 scores were counted at each hole. Prizes were also given for the longest drive and nearest the pin, at one of the short holes.

Partners and friends of Rotarians organised a raffle and a meal was enjoyed by all competitors after their round.

The victors, with a score of 87 points were a team entered by Potteries Fuels Ltd including Chris Basford, John Urwin and Tony Griffiths.

The event raised £1200, which will be divided equally between two charities. Firstly, Arch North Staffs, the organisation based in Hanley that supports victims of

domestic violence, and secondly, Fresh Hair, who provide a wig service to patients undergoing cancer treatment at the North Staffs University Hospital.

The President of Wolstanton Rotary Club, David Morgan commented, "we sincerely thank all those people who participated in our golf day and helped to support two very worthy local charities".

We are already planning our 2014 Annual Charity Golf Day which we are hoping will be bigger and better to mark the 25th anniversary of the event. If you would like to be kept informed about this, just send your contact details to: wolstantonrotarygolf@gmail.com.



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*Upgrade price dependent on value of season ticket

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'Spectacular Charity Ball'

The Rotary Club of Bilston and Wolverhampton West recently held a spectacular 'Grand Charity Gala Ball'.

A hundred and fifty guests were joined by the Mayor and Mayoress of Wolverhampton for a sumptuous three course meal, with entertainment by well know comedian Dougie Parker and dancing to live music from Headband.

The evening raised in excess of £3000 for charities in Bilston and Wolverhampton as well as supporting Rotary's international initiative to eradicate Polio.

President Jon Crockett of The Rotary Club of Bilston and Wolverhampton West, said

"Rotary raises substantial sums for the charities we are always looking for different ways to help us raise money for these good causes, our Grand Charity Ball was a great way to raise money and enjoy a really special evening"

The evening was supported by The Ramada Park Hall Hotel as well as local businesses including Tracy Mason Travel.

Also present for the event was Lord Turner of Bilston and Sir Geoff Hampton. President Jon Crockett and Past President Bob Stolz were awarded Paul Harris Fellowships on the evening in recognition of their contribution to Rotary causes.



Lord Turner of Bilston, Pat Turner, Gerry Crockett, club president Jon Crockett, Mayor of Wolverhampton Milkinder Jaspal, Mayoress Jasbir Jaspal, club secretary Ken Dolman

WELCOME TO NEW ROTARIANS

Rotary Club of Wellington
Graeme Keay -
Heating Engineering

Rotary Club of the Wrekin
Robyn Davies - Musician

David Shelmerdine -
Company Secretary

Rotary Club of Kidsgrove
Tom Unwin -
Construction (Management)

In Remembrance

Past President Richard Blakeway of the Rotary Club of Church Stretton passed away on the 19th August, 2013. He was a Rotarian for forty years and will be solely missed by his family and friends.

ROTARY YORK 2013



It was a first for the District to hold the conference in York.

The wonderful city has had its fair share of "visitors." The Romans founded the city calling it Eboracum. The Vikings called it Yorvig when they conquered the city. In 1068, two years after the Norman Conquest the people of York rebelled. However, upon the arrival of William the Conqueror the rebellion was put down and the city was ravaged. However, in 1080 the Normans began the new Minster.

Throughout the ages York became a rich commercial centre and, by good fortune, the city has managed to retain many examples of its historic past.

And now it was the turn of Rotarians, their families and friends from District 1210 to "invade" the city for a week-end of **FELLOWSHIP; STIMULATION and FUN.**

The conference was held in The Barbican Centre situated in the shadow of the city walls a short walk from many of the city centre hotels.

Conference will look at the uncomfortable, recognize achievement and show success whatever the form.

Amongst the conference speakers already engaged were Sir Keith Porter, the UK's only Professor of Clinical Traumatology, who has been at the forefront of developing world-class treatment for injured military servicemen and women over a decade. Sir Keith outlined the care of injured troops from battleground to hospital in Birmingham and the steps taken to aid their recovery.

Outlined speakers from the NSPCC and Anti-slavery International discussed the difficult subject of child sex exploitation/trafficking and the work being done to tackle abuse in the United Kingdom, but particularly in the West Midlands - now recognized as having the highest levels of such abuse in the country.

The support for former members of our armed forces, who because of mental difficulty struggle in the outside world were also explored and particularly the ways in which it is possible for Rotary to link into this sharp end of vocational work. Added to this mix Rotary Peace Scholars talked about their work in conflict resolution and the challenges we face as we move into the 21st century conference provided you with all of the mental stimulus we wanted in a weekend.

To switch the mood completely Tony Hawks, the man who carried a fridge round Ireland and played tennis with the Moldovan football team, joined us on the Sunday morning. A regular contributor to Radio 4's "Just a Minute" and "I'm sorry I haven't a clue" - Tony kept us entertained.

The Gala Dinner was an unforgettable event. Dinner was served in the world famous National Railway Museum with tables set amongst carriages from Royal trains.

Extra time was given before dinner for guests to enjoy the wonders of the museum. During dinner background music was provided by Real Class who later upped the tempo for dancing.



Charity Golf Day Raises £3,000

A ladies team captained by Sandra Kelly won the ladies prize in a recent charity golf match at Oswestry - in memory of her late husband. It was a day to remember!



Sandra Kelly (third right) with Gina Hart (left), Brenda Wilson and Wendy Pughe. All are members of Oswestry Golf Club. Sandra and Brenda live in Shrewsbury and Gina and Wendy in Oswestry.

Twenty two mixed four ball teams competed in the golf day in memory of past Rotarian Niel Kelly and in aid of Prostate Cancer UK.

The day raised over £3,000. Niel, who was a founder member of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, was a well respected member of Oswestry Golf Club.

He had played golf as an amateur for Ulster and Ireland, was a former captain of Royal St. David's and was twice the Shropshire and Herefordshire County Captain.

Niel was president of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire in 1999-2000 and

passed away in 2012.

His wife Sandra, who is also a member at Oswestry, donated and presented the Niel Kelly trophy and cups for the day.

Said one of the organisers Rotarian Geoff Lloyd: "This was a really special day in memory of one of our most loved and respected Rotarians who was also a great golfer."

"It was most fitting that Sandra and her team of Wendy Pughe, Gina Hatt and Brenda Wilson should win the ladies prize."

The men's prize went to the team of Mike Elder, Tommy Thompson, Dave Wase and Jake Marks.

DISTRICT 1210 DISABLED SPORTS FUN DAY



Burslem Rotary Club represented by President Jeff Lewis, DGE Lynne Marshall, PDG Ron Marshall, Rotarians Jan Newick and Barry Lewis, along with their sponsors A180 Darts owner John Elliott and his partner Pauline, ran the Darts Tournament.

We had a very successful day with plenty of participants. There were some amazing scores and we had four participants that scored a bullseye. Each person had nine darts to get the best score they could. Once everyone had nine darts then they got a

second chance of another nine darts which we then totalled the two scores to find our winners.

We had the normal gold, silver and bronze medals but in addition our sponsors A180 Darts provided ten small silver salvers engraved with Burslem Rotary Club 2013 to present to the participants. An array of prizes were awarded.

Overall it was an excellent well organised even which the participants the Rotarians and their sponsors thoroughly enjoyed. We look forward to next year.

Rotary Supports Young Rugby Players

The Dudley and Kingswinford Rugby Football Club (DKRFC) have a thriving under 14's team.

Their home ground is located at Wallheath a few hundred metres from the Kingfisher Country Club were Sedgley and Wombourne Rotary Club meet every Thursday evening. The S&W club heard that the rapidly growing under 14's were in need of new kit and were looking for sponsors to help them buy it. The Sedgley and Wombourne Rotary Club offered

to buy the new kit as one of its projects of helping young people to extend their abilities.

In return the under 14's agreed to have the Rotary club name and emblem printed on their new shirts.

This has been a win-win situation for the under 14's and Rotary. The S & W Rotary Club now has its name displayed to a prime source of potential new Rotarians at every match.



DKRFC under 14's wearing their new kit and the Sedgley and Wombourne Club President Roy Cleaver.

DISTRICT
1210
ROTARY IN SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE & WEST MIDLANDS

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