

DISTRICT

1210

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www.rotary1210.org



ROTARY IN SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE & WEST MIDLANDS



**DG Lynne with
Baroness Tanni Gray-Thompson
at the Disability Sports**

Thoughts from The District Governor

Hello Everyone,

It is now October and I can hardly believe that one quarter of the Rotary year is over already. They say time flies when you are having fun and I am definitely having fun, listening to and sharing with you some of the wonderful ideas and projects that you are all involved in. The work that you are all carrying out in the name of Rotary makes me very proud to be District Governor of D1210.

In my message to you in the Autumn edition of ROTO I mentioned about the two Flexible and Innovative Clubs and they have both made significant strides towards attaining their charter. Firstly congratulations to Boscabel Oaks for obtaining Provisional Charter status and secondly congratulations to Six Towns Rotary (Stoke on Trent) for inducting seven more new members.

November is The Rotary Foundation month and high on the agenda is the Eradication of Polio. RI President Gary Huang believes we can eradicate Polio as long as we keep up the momentum, we must get the job finished and I know that in our District we all give generously to

help us achieve this goal. President Gary is asking us all to Light Up Rotary this month by doing whatever we can to shine a spotlight on our efforts to eradicate polio so that we can give our children and grandchildren a gift that will endure forever: a polio free world.

Conference has been and gone and all seems to have gone well, even the weather was kind to us. Ron and I would like to thank all of you who came to Llandudno for your support and tremendous fellowship over the weekend and we shall never forget it.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all and your families a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous and Healthy New Year. May your Rotary in 2015 be as fulfilling as ever.

Enjoy your Rotary

Lynne

Lynne Marshall
District Governor
Rotary Club of Burslem



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Inner Wheel

By Margaret Williams,
Chairman, District 21



Dear All,

I have been making the most of the lovely Indian summer by trying to get my garden cleared and put to bed for the winter. That has meant many hours of raking leaves as they have fallen much earlier than usual this year. The recent heavy rain has brought down most of the remaining leaves so I am looking forward to a rest!

I had a very enjoyable couple of days in Llandudno at The Rotary District Conference entitled 'Viva Rotary - Long Live Rotary'. I offer my congratulations to District Governor Lynne and Ron. I was made most welcome and I was very pleased to be given the opportunity to talk about Inner Wheel. PDG Lynne Deavin and the Conference Committee had organised a programme of interesting speakers and the entertainment on both evenings was very good. I could not have asked for better hosts than PDG Barry and Jenny Picken and I thank them for their exceptional kindness.

My visits to Clubs are gathering pace and I have enjoyed very much the friendship of fellow members. Each Club is different but it is clear to me that members are as enthusiastic as ever about supporting their local communities in addition to national charities and those working overseas. I was privileged to be present at Stafford Castle Club's 25th birthday celebrations when we were well entertained by local magician David Oakley and we all enjoyed great fellowship. The chatter around the room

was quite something. There are plenty more Club visits and Fellowships to attend.

District 21's International Rally was held on 16th October at Lilleshall and what an amazing day it was. More than 230 members and friends gathered to listen to Stephen Drew of the Shropshire based Charity Medic Malawi and the work it supports at St Andrew's Mtunthama, Malawi. We also heard Rev Bernard Cocker speak from the heart about the International Aid Trust and the work it carries out in many countries. Both presentations brought a lump to many throats and I believe I speak for all Inner Wheel members when I say that we are proud to be able to support such charities. There were several stalls and a raffle to tempt us to spend and spend we did. At the end of the afternoon District International Service Committee Chairman Christine Quinlan was able to present Stephen and Bernard with a cheque for £550 each for their charities - this being the proceeds from the raffle and the stalls. We were very pleased that DG Lynne and Ron found time in their busy schedule to join us for the morning session.

By the time you read this Christmas will be almost upon us so may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and offer my good wishes for the New Year.

In Friendship

Margaret

The Family of Rotary

Rotarians from Rotary District 1210 were enjoying themselves in Llandudno at their annual Conference until it came to the Bucket Challenge.

The Challenge which took place on the beach in Llandudno was set by the Six Towns Rotary Club.

District Governor Lynne Marshall delegated the task to District Governor Elect Richard Green from the Rotary Club of

Wolverhampton who just could not say no and he can be seen on the left enjoying every minute of it, together with Richard Jacobs of the rotary Club of Blythe Bridge.

Enjoying inflicting the pain is Peter Small of the new Six Towns Rotary Club and Jan Jacobs of the Rotary Club of Blythe Bridge, Richards Jacobs wife and son in law.



Relief at seeing the relatively small size of the buckets quickly turned to apprehension when there was a large topping up with sea water!

Working 'Hand in Hand' with Rotary

PRAISE POURS IN FOR ROTARY DISABILITY SPORT FUN DAY

Thanks have been pouring in from those who took part in the Rotary Disability Sport Fun Day at Stafford last weekend.

Paralympian Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson stayed the whole day and was fulsome in her praise for the event.

Over 100 disabled people attended and Rotary arranged a whole range of activities including 'Hook a Duck,' indoor croquet, table cricket, penalty shootout and basketball.

Fifty two Rotarians from a large number of clubs across Staffordshire, Shropshire and parts of the West Midlands, which make up Rotary District 1210, also attended.

Visitors were welcomed by Lynne Marshall, Rotary Governor for the District, and Baroness Tanni, after which participants went off to the activities in the

Beaconside Centre sports hall, studio and outdoor playing fields for three hours of continuous fun.

The event concluded with a tug of war and medal presentation ceremony.

Already, participants have asked Rotary to put their names down for next year. One young girl was said to have discovered skills her family didn't know were there and is now planning to join the special Olympic group in Stafford for bowls and golf opportunities.

Said MC Richard Green: "We have received so many words of thanks from many people who had a happy and enjoyable sport fun day.

"Families said they had a wonderful time, a fantastic day out and enjoyed collecting their certificates and medals at the end of the event."



The 'duck' is Rotarian Sylvia Keris, Rotary Club of Eccleshall Mercia, who ran the event 'Hook a Duck.'



Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson and Rotary District Governor Lynne Marshall.

CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S PROJECT

"The Rotary Club of Etruria, Stoke on Trent, has for the last 15 consecutive years hosted a meal at a Toby Carvery for a group of teenagers from Belarus who are still suffering from the after effects of the nuclear explosion at Chernobyl in 1986.

The teenagers have been brought here by the Endon and Stoke Group of the Chernobyl Children's Project for a four week long recuperative holiday, which will boost their immune system for a number of years.

The Rotary Club of Etruria is also pleased to make a donation to CCP funds each year.

The photograph shows this years teenagers, together with a number of their helpers, Rotarians President Eric Whitmore Secretary Tom Lawrence Treasurer Derek Lowe and members John Swindell and Eric Cartlidge and CCP members John & Julie Gater, from the Endon Group at this years event which was held at The Toby Carvery at Trentham." on Monday 18th August 2014



WELCOME TO NEW ROTARIANS

Rotary Club of Ellesmere

Ian William's - Plant Hire Manager

Rotary Club of Newport

Mrs Angela Wood

Mrs Jane Ann Evans

Rotary Club of Stafford Castle

David Charles Daniels

Michael John Collins

Rotary Club of Newcastle under Lyme

Dennis Brammer - Fire and Crime Prevention

Dr Napoleon - Medicine

Rotary Club of Audley

Mrs Helen Chatfield - Education Primary/Adult

Rotary Club of Cannock

Chris Young - Financial Adviser with his own practice

CM Young Financial Services Ltd

Rotary Club of Penkridge

Paul Wright - Builder

Rotary Club of Walsall

David Cutler - Motor Trade

Jill Fellows

Dave Gurdev Gill - Security

Raj (rajnikant) Trivedi - Engineer

Rotary Club of Stoke-on-Trent

Clive J Hillier - Antiques Valuer

Rotary Club of Whitchurch

Peggy Mullock - Retail Shop Manger, retired

Keith Senior - Veterinary Surgeon, retired

Rotary Club of Walsall Saddlers

Ian Johnstone

Georgina Hooper

Sally Insley

UTTOXETER ROTARY FIVE A SIDE FOOTBALL COMPETITION

The Club's annual Five a - side Competition reached new heights this year with over 100 Entries. These were from Junior Football Clubs covering a wide area from Walsall to Stoke, Derby and Ashby. The competition was open to children aged 8 to 14, each team paying an entry fee. The matches were played on the excellent facilities of the JCB Sports grounds in Rocester.

Organisation was the keynote with some 400+ games to be run on eight pitches in seven hours! Games are organised by age group on a league basis. A great

tribute to the Rotarians responsible with numerous compliments from the parents of the children. Fortunately the weather was ideal and over 400 cars arrived during the day, with parking fees and Programme sales contributing to the Fund raising. With the hot weather, the sale of drinks and ice creams also proved a valuable money spinner, and for once we actually ran out of burgers and hot dogs.

The outcome of a very exhausting, but satisfying, day was a net contribution to our Trust Account of over £5,000



AUDLEY ROTARY - HELPING IN THE COMMUNITY

As we have been doing for the last 50 years, the club has been busy helping our local community with various projects.

One more unusual request that we were delighted to help with was a request to assist a local family with a specially trained dog for their daughter who suffers from Asperger's Syndrome.

17 years-old Niamh has been unable to attend school and has difficulty in leaving her home due to the anxiety caused by the condition. It has been shown that autistic children have a special chemistry with dogs as they sense anxiety and have a calming effect.

The club has donated £3,000 towards the funding, and the dog Arc is already starting to make a big difference to Niamh's life.

We were delighted to receive a visit from her parents Dave and Teresa Wright and Arc. They can be seen in the photograph with immediate Past President Robert Edwards.

Also, for a number of years we have been supporting our local First Responders that perform such a marvellous job supporting our local community. We have



sponsored their response vehicle for a number of years now and having heard that the car needed replacing, we were delighted to step in and donate a cheque for £5,000 towards the purchase of a new vehicle. Members of the club are shown in the attached photograph with the dedicated First Responders team and their new car.



Community Responders

WHITCHURCH ROTARY IN THE COMMUNITY

- 18th August - Seven Whitchurch Rotarians helped clear tents and equipment in the aftermath of the 'V' Festival.

- From 21st - 28th August - Whitchurch Rotarian Peter Williams for the tenth time organised the collection and despatch of 53 holiday makers from Whitchurch, Wem and Newport for the now Annual Blackpool Holidays.

- On 26th September, Shropshire councillor Rotarian Peggy Mullock organised a well attended Skills and Jobs Fair in the local Civic centre where a Rotary recruitment stall was manned and again on

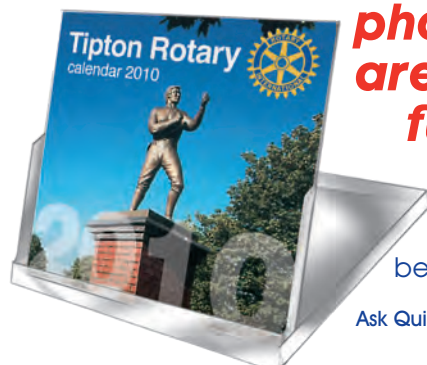
- 4th October at the town's Blackberry Fair and from 6th to 10th of the month stewarded again at the North Shropshire Safety Scene. For Youth Two local students attended the RYLA camp under the direction of Whitchurch rotarian Bob Thompson.

WHITCHURCH ROTARIANS AFLOAT

Whitchurch Rotarians David Pritchard Jones and Chris Smith masterminded, with the help of 23 fellow rotarians, a series of short and long canal trips on the Shropshire Union canal.

Some 150 voyagers from local residential and care homes, pensioners clubs and disadvantaged youngsters were entertained and fed over five days from 1 to 5th September.

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WALSALL RUN

The annual run is one of Walsall Rotary Club's biggest fund raising events and contributes a significant amount to the club's chosen charities. This year we are supporting:

- Teenage Cancer Trust
- Heart Care Walsall
- Midlands Air Ambulance

The runs this year took place on 21st September and featured a 3K walk, and 5 and 10K runs. The weather was excellent and

there was a good turnout of runners and supporters.

Rotary Club of Walsall is very grateful for the practical support received on the day from several of our neighbouring clubs and demonstrated the fellowship of collaborative efforts.

Photos show the team and individual winners as well as some of the younger runners collecting a medal and well earned bottle of water at the finish line.



Walsall RC New Members

Walsall Rotary Club has enjoyed an increase in numbers recently with 5 new members (and a sixth one enquiring) just since the start of this Rotary year.



Glynnis Jeavons, being welcomed on 10th October by President Adrian Wilcox in the presence of the Lady Mayoress of Walsall

Opportunities for Vocational Service



Preet Bhachu and Carol Reilly

I have been working with the University of Wolverhampton on a Pilot Mentoring Scheme Programme with first generation students in the last nine months of their degree. The following is a reflection of a mentee and mentor relationship. It shows how valuable the scheme is; hopefully you will see the benefit that this offers to Rotary, in order to develop relationships with University Alumni, and opportunities for Membership and Vocational Service within D1210.

Mentee: Preet Bhachu, Undergraduate BSc (Hons), Psychology, 2014

"A friend told me that she was planning on joining the programme and showed me the advertisement on e:Vision. I needed reassurance from someone outside the situation that I was on the right path to achieve my goal of becoming an Educational Psychologist.

"When Carol walked in she looked so professional and prepared, it was like she knew exactly how to help me. I remember saying to my friend that I hoped she'd be my mentor. I was very excited to work with someone who had so much experience. Carol helped me with my confidence, and encouraged me to take up opportunities that were available to me. She was very prepared and organised and worked through a detailed plan with me, to outline my goals and how to achieve them. Looking back, I can now see that whilst Carol started off the process, I developed and started coming to the meetings with a list of things to add and tick off".

"My experience has been a positive one, and I'm so glad I decided to join the programme. I know for a fact that I would not have taken advantage of the resources available if it wasn't for Carol. She encouraged me to register for the University's Employability Award, as well as attending several workshops to improve professional skills like CV

writing, interview skills, and using social media to promote myself. This helped me so much, as I think it was important for me to develop and become more confident professionally".

"I think it's so important for new students to have a positive role-model whilst studying for their degree, and to talk with someone that has been through it all. I would say to any student considering having a mentor - go for it! You have nothing to lose but so much to gain. I have learned so much through my mentor, who has helped me improve both academically and personally."

Mentor: Carol Reilly, MSc Professional Studies in Healthcare, 2013

"I've worked with the University on several projects for a number of years and I've been honoured and privileged to be awarded an Honorary Research Fellow and two Honorary Senior Lectureships during that time. I wanted to give something back and when I met Preet, she came over as a student who wanted to do well and further her career, but needed some confidence building and support".

"We got on from our first meeting. Preet needed help with writing her CV, job descriptions, personal development portfolio completion and interview skills. Identifying tools to help her move forward from finishing her degree to getting a job and moving on to the next stage of her career. "I've gained valuable experience too including teaching skills, integrating with young people, and being updated on systems used within the University. I would like to be a mentor again and I enjoyed the teaching aspect and seeing what young people really want from life. Graduates - go for it, grab every opportunity, you learn together and from each other."

AG, PH.F. Carol Reilly
Rotary Club Walsall Saddlers,
Vocational Services Chair
District 1210

WALSALL'S LAST NIGHT AT THE PROMS

The Mayor of Walsall and District Governor Lynne Marshall were guests of President Adrian Wilcox on 11th October for Walsall's Last Night at the Proms concert in the town hall.

The concert featured a range of work performed or sung by Lisa Byrnes (mezzo soprano), Chris Taylor (piano), the Walsall Symphony Orchestra, and the

Sheffield Male Voice Choir. The conductor was Clive Allsopp.

There was much waving of flags as the audience joined in the spirit of the occasion.

Proceeds from the event will go towards the three nominated charities of Walsall Rotary Club: Teenage Cancer Trust, Heart Care Walsall, and Midlands Air Ambulance.



Performers on stage



President Adrian Wilcox along with District Governor Lynne Marshall, and the Mayor of Walsall.



Audience joining in the singing

Boscobel Oak sponsored 'Dog Walk'

The Provisional Club of Boscobel Oak held a Sunday afternoon sponsored 'Dog Walk' around the stately grounds of Weston Park.

In addition to sponsorship, the club sported a number of fund raising sideshows including

Tombola, Name the Teddy Bear and Home Made Tasty Dog Treats.

Many walkers and their dogs took part and £1000 is expected to be raised for Canine Partners

BBC Midland TV News featured the event



Boscobel member Jo Day being interviewed by the Midlands Today reporter



Walkers enjoying their day in Weston Park

ROTARY CLUB OF WILLENHALL ARE GAMBLING FOR CHARITY

On Friday, November 21 the Rotary Club of Willenhall will be playing host to what has become an annual event, at the Shaftesbury Casino situated at 377, High Street, West Bromwich, B70 9QN to raise money for Polio Plus.

The evening starts at 7p.m. and Willenhall Rotarians, their wives, partners and friends will participate in a 'Poker evening.'

Tickets for the event are £5 which includes a large buffet and which has always been excellent.

Our previous visits to this large and well established casino have always been very successful with great fun and fellowship and in 2013 over £600 was raised for Polio Plus and this year we hope that our friends from other Rotary Clubs in the District with their wives, partners and friends will come and join us for a great evening of fellowship.

Tickets can be obtained from Rotarian Adrian Rowley on 01922 620950.

ROTAKIDS CLUB - WILLENHALL

"The Rotakids Club at Willenhall (featured in the Summer edition (04) of this magazine) continues to go from strength under the astute and enthusiastic guidance of Willenhall Rotarian, Bob Williams.

Bob visits the Pool Hayes Junior School each week keeping the children abreast of all developments and organising many interesting and challenging tasks for them to do.

Working in conjunction with a local Willenhall business, Charity Cars, the Rotary Club has secured finance for the purchase of 6 Vivitar digital cameras which have been given to the Pool

Hayes Junior School for use by their Rotakids. Bob has since organised a photographic competition which involves the Rotakids taking two photos each on the themes of "My School" and "My teacher." Members of the Rotary Club will select the winner of the competition who will receive a voucher from W.H.Smith.

Rotarian Bob Williams enthused, "The Rotary Club has got so much out of starting the Rotakids project and the youngsters at the Pool Hayes School really enjoy it and, because they do, put so much effort into it."



RYLA CANDIDATES GIVE JOINT POWER POINT PRESENTATION TO SPONSORS

A confident double act...

That was how Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary's Vice President Kerry Ferguson described the joint power point presentation by Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) candidates Robert Jackson, 18, and Rosanna Ford, 17.

It was the first time that RYLA candidates, sponsored by Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary, had presented their experiences in a technology form.

"We are most impressed how your confidence has developed," said Kerry, Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary's Chair of Community and Vocational Services.

They both spoke about their 6 in the morning wake up and the

various activities in which they had taken part, from coracle and raft building to an assault course and mask making and decorating.

"We all of us on the course bonded so well and we have come friends for life," said Rosanna, who like Robert is a student at Shrewsbury Sixth Form College.

"It was brilliant because we got a lot from RYLA. We all missed each other so much afterwards because we bonded so well that my group of girls met up at my house for a sleep over."

"We are keeping in contact through Facebook," said Robert who added: "We gained confidence in communication skills."



Left to right: Rotarian Donald Thompson (Youth Opportunities), Robert, Rosanna and Rotarian Mervyn Davies (President).

WILLENHALL COUPLE PICK UP THE LOOT!!!

Wednesfield Rotary Club arranged their Annual Trolley Dash Raffle recently; selling tickets for a week in Sainsburys Wednesfield store.

The prize was won by Mrs Nancy Gage of Willenhall who turned up at Sainsburys with husband Jack to collect her prize worth £325.00 of groceries. This was the 15th year the club has arranged this raffle and made a

Net Profit of just under £2000.00. Some of the money has already been distributed to Scouts and Guides who helped sell tickets and the remainder will be put back into local community causes, eg a young lady from Park Village who attends Heath Park Business and Enterprise College will be sent on a Leadership Course at Stone, Staffordshire during August.



Sainsbury Checkout Manager Lynn Ryan, Mrs Nancy Gage, Peter Hurlstone (President of Wednesfield RC) and Jack Gage.

Ironbridge Club Help Celebrate 'Ironbridge Heritage Day'

Ironbridge Club helped celebrate 'Ironbridge Heritage Day', ten years after the town became a World Heritage site.

The event attracted several thousand visitors and the club raised both the club profile and money for charity with a selection of Victorian pastimes.



President Wendy with Doug in the picture booth



President Wendy with Leader of Telford Council Kuldip Sahota; David Wright MP; and Carol Reilly AG

The Story of Telford's Rotary Tree of Light

We started our Tree of Light in 1995. PDG. Bill Hitchen, now a member of Ellesmere Club, was then a member of Telford Centre Club and in 1995 he spoke with a Rev Firman Honorary Rotarian of Shawbury Club, who told him of a Tree of Light in South Africa. Bill was hooked; we often thank him for his perseverance. Telford was a small Club then, and Bill with a couple of other Telford Rotarians started it off and collected £1200 in the first year, all money raised going to Hope House a Children's Hospice. We realised that help was required and all four Clubs in the Telford Conurbation joined in, namely Wellington, Telford Centre, Ironbridge, The Wrekin. District 1210.

We are proud to say that every penny collected is given to our Charities. We have local Corporate donations to meet our expenses, and some monies are given by each of our Clubs, hence all costs are covered.

Fast forward to 2013 and we collected £38000. The approx total to date is £425000 collected and distributed to local Charities. We have around 5200 names around our Tree, and some of those are treasured pets. Half of monies collected go to our local Severn Hospice in Telford, and the remainder is shared equally amongst the four charities chosen by the Presidents of our Clubs, namely Wellington, Telford Centre, Ironbridge and The Wrekin.

How do we do it? This is an over simplification of what we do.

We now have a data base, of 3500 people who donated money last year and they will get an offer letter to support us again this year, £5 a name. At least 95%+ take it up again. If they do not send in a form this year, they will fall off the data base. New applications who partake will be put onto our database. Many applicants send in between £5 to £50 a name. The Local Telford Journal inserts an application form each week, and we distribute them around various places in Telford. The application forms are returned to a local firm of Solicitors. Rotarians then open envelopes, check money to application form. The names are then computerised, and checked again for any mistakes. Computer list of names remembered are e-mailed to our local paper, The Telford Journal and they print the names of the loved one's remembered, weekly for us.

Computerised lists of names are displayed around our Tree in the Telford Shopping Centre, and at 4 other locations in Telford. They are updated weekly, and on Christmas Eve.

We call this our Blue Peter Club; made up of Rotarians from the four Clubs!

We are very fortunate in that Rotarians do all the printing of letters/application forms.

We as Rotarians place the letter, application form, and return envelope into a window envelope and then post out, in mid October. We pay for the postage which is the biggest expense we have, using a Franking machine certainly reduces this cost.

We then send a thank you letter and card out to those who partake.

Each year a Local Celebrity switches on the Lights on our Tree. Last year it was a popular Radio Shropshire presenter Claire Ashford. We have had Shefali Oza, Sarah Faulkner off Midlands Today; Gabrielle Drake, Actress and Mickey Bushell Gold Para Olympian, who both live locally.

We have a website <http://www.telfordtreeoflight.org.uk> this will give you more information. We are on Facebook as well.

We are a registered Charity and received approx £6000 last year in Gift Aid, we use PayPal, which is getting off the ground slowly. All names appear on our website, with a lot more information. Take a look.

Since we started we have helped over 40 local charities, and last year 1/2 of the £38000 went to Severn Hospice remainder split between Alzheimer's Society, Headway, and two sections of Telford and Wrekin young Carers. £4750 each.

We do have a detailed Printed Guide for how we work our Tree, which could be sent to various clubs if required, and to those we have sent it to have given us a donation for the Tree of Light.

We have over the years been able to help a number of Clubs set up their own Tree of Light (ToL)

If we can help please contact us through our website, on the other hand, if you think you can help us to improve please also contact us through the website. We are always ready to see if we can improve.

Shropshire's Deputy Lord Lieutenant David Sear

The members of Telford Centre Rotary Club are very proud of one of our Founder members David Sear as he has been chosen as a Deputy Lord Lieutenant to

Sir Algonon Eustace Heber-Percy, who has been Shropshire's Lord Lieutenant since March 1996

David has been commissioned to represent and support the Lord-Lieutenant Sir Algonon,

who is the Queen's representative in Shropshire, and to promote the well-being of the county. David Sear is also the Chairman of Trustees of the Severn Hospice, here is Shropshire, and is a keen member of the Shropshire MG Car Club.

Telford Rotarians wish him all success in his duties.



President John Morris-Roberts of the Telford Centre Club congratulating David on being chosen as a Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire.

Church Stretton Rotary Helps Send Tools to Africa

Collecting tools in Church Stretton during September.

Once again Rotary Church Stretton Club thanks local people for their tremendous support this time for the tools collection. Tools which have been donated are refurbished by the charity "Tools for Self Reliance". Locally their members meet once a week at a barn in Aston on Clun, refurbish the tools, and send them to deprived African countries where they enable men and women to become more independent, instead of relying on aid. The

quantity collected by Rotary in September this year was considerable and the TFSSR Committee were delighted, particularly with the quality of items, including two lovely old sewing machines. Church Stretton Rotary Club tries to support many good causes, locally and further afield. Our fund-raising events, which are always well-supported by the local community, give us the money to support a range of diverse worthy causes.



CHANGE OF VENUE (CHEADLE)

The Rotary club of Chedale (staffs) have now changed their venue to

No16 Coffee House, 16 Tape Street Chedale, Staffs, ST10 1BD
Tel: 01538 528003

(This is located adjacent to the main car park, opposite the Guild Hall.)

Wolstanton Rotary give £1000 to Macmillan Cancer Support

The Macmillan Cancer Support charity was presented with a cheque for £1000 at last week's meeting of the Rotary Club of Wolstanton.

These funds were raised at the club's annual golf day that took place at Newcastle Golf Club in August.

The event attracted 15 teams of 4 players and the eventual winners were Vinewood Developments Limited, led by Vinny Clarke, a long term supporter of the event. Others to receive prizes were teams from Fifty Digital Media Ltd, Mordev, Scania and Mercedes Stoke.

Prizes were also given for nearest the pin (Rod Smith) and longest drive (John Hopwood).

Wolstanton Rotary Club President, Moriss Jones, presented the cheque to Mike Foulkes, who represented the charity. During the presentation Moriss acknowledged the fantastic work that Macmillan Cancer Support undertakes to help and support people suffering from this disease.

He also thanked all the teams for their support, club members for their hard work arranging the day and wives and partners of Rotarians who organised a raffle.



Wolstanton Rotary raising £1000 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Waste Not - Want Not

As the last of the festival goes left the West Midlands Showground following the excitement of Shrewsbury Fields Forever a small army of Shropshire Rotarians moved in to salvage any tents and other equipment for the charity "International Aid" to refurbish and send overseas for further use.

Alan Copplestone, from the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury said "The organisers of the festival, knowing how well tent collections

worked after the V Festival, asked my Club whether we could help clear the site and in this, our first attempt, Shrewsbury Club members were joined by members of the Rotary Clubs of Wellington and Shawbury & Mid Shropshire. All we recovered was packed into a truck sent down from Lancashire by International Aid during one busy afternoon. We know all that was salvaged will have another life elsewhere to help people who are in need."



Where Books Are Like Sunshine

Books are like sunshine to the children of Uganda.

Omushana, Sunshine for Children, is a charity set up by friends from both Uganda and the UK who share goals to change the lives of children. Similarly they aim to contribute to conservation through education in the areas around the mountain gorilla reserves in Africa.

A talk on this charity was given by co-founder and trustee Gill Castle to members of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary on September 9. She told Rotarians that Omushana means sunshine in Rukiga, the local language in the locality of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, South West Uganda, where the project was founded. Both Rukiga and English appear in the full title of the charity (Omushana, Sunshine for Children) because the project was founded on a partnership between Uganda and the UK.

Gill said the essence of Omushana is to make a positive contribution to children's lives by improving their educational opportunities, welfare, confidence and enjoyment.

"We achieve this by providing and delivering equipment and grants to schools and groups working to support children - particularly orphans - in the Mgahinga and Bwindi areas of Uganda.

"Our focus is to fulfil specific requests, where the benefits will be shared by large numbers of children."

She told how she worked at a school on the edge of the forest and for the children it was the first time they had seen a computer and moving pictures. She left two computers at the school and the charity expanded from that small start. Since then a community library has been built at that school and last week solar power was installed to allow the laptops to run. One of the charity's priority projects this year is providing text books for the local curriculum.

The aim is to provide schools with at least one copy of each essential book so that at least the teacher has a copy to teach the subject. Each school completes a list of which books they are missing and Omushana is working its way through the list!

Gill said a lot of our secondary schools had given their old text books. There is now also a need for more books in the local language.

Gill, who has visited Uganda eight times since 2010, said the children were cheerful and hard working, helping their parents with the growing of crops, child care and many other tasks but also desperate to attend school which is often a great challenge.

Very few go on to secondary education and university is prohibitively expensive. So another of Omushana's priorities is the development of vocational schools which encourage young people to learn a trade and help them become electricians, plumbers and motor mechanics. "Self employment is the way forward."

She showed the group pictures of Uganda's special wildlife with its Three-Horned Chameleon, the endangered mountain Gorillas and the national emblem the Grey-crowned Crane. She said there were over 1,300 species of bird in Uganda - more than any other country in the world.

"Uganda has taken over my life," said Gill. "I came back after my first visit and couldn't get it out of my head. I really didn't know why I loved it so much, but I think it is a combination of the wildlife, scenery and people - especially the kids who stuck in my mind."

She added that many of the community groups supported by Omushana produce their own crafts, making baskets, jewellery and carvings, some of which she showed to Rotarians.

website: www.omushana.org or gill@omushana.org



Gill with Rotarians Iain Gilmour, left (Speaker Secretary) and Mervyn Davies (Club President) and some crafts.

THE NEED TO BUILD MEMBERSHIP – DISTRICT GOVERNOR

The need to spend time 'more productively' building membership has been emphasised to Rotarians by District Governor Lynne Marshall.

Speaking at a Special District Council meeting in Penkridge on September 1, the District Governor stressed that it was vital to halt the membership decline.

"If we do nothing we shall surely die as a district," she told the meeting which was attended by more than 80 club delegates.

She said growth must come not only from existing clubs, but from the formation of new clubs in new locations.

"Some districts are running their own advertising campaign."

The question was raised as to whether District 1210 could run its own advertising campaign as part of 'trying something a bit

different.'

District Governor Elect Richard Green took up the theme: "If you would like us to consider a subvention for an advertising campaign let us hear what you think," he told the meeting.

Said Past District Governor Bill Hitchen: "Ask someone to join your club. That's the way to be effective."

The District Governor added that she was pleased with the progress of the two newest clubs, Boscobel Oaks and Six Towns Stoke on Trent.

The Special District Council meeting was called to clarify issues over re-districting in what District Governor Lynne described as a 'friendly discussion purely to get views.'

Date of the next District Council is November 18.

The Rotary Club of Ellesmere Community Award

The Rotary Club of Ellesmere presented its newly instituted Community Award to Mr Maxwell Bussey at its weekly meeting in the Black Lion Hotel on Wednesday 10th September. Club members have been keen to show their appreciation of the voluntary work done by a member of the Ellesmere and Hinterlands Community that all too often can go unheralded. This annual award is the Club's way of demonstrating the gratitude of all those who live in the locality.

Maxwell, whose working day is spent in the Maxwell Printing Service in the town, was chosen from a number of nominations made by the local public to the Club's Community and Vocational Committee, chaired by Peter Broadbent. Former President of the Club, Geoff Corfield, made the presentation, noting the huge contribution that Maxwell has made (and continues to make) to

the everyday life of the community over many years. If something for the community is happening in Ellesmere, then it is unusual if Maxwell is not involved with the unsung tasks required; such as cutting the grass at the Day Care Centre every week, acting as a marshal for car parking, ticket collecting, doorman etc., plus his membership of a host of organising committees for the Carnival, Youth Club and Comrades Club. On going to West Midlands Shows, Oswestry Shows, Shrewsbury Flower Shows and events in a number of other neighbouring towns an Ellesmerian is never surprised by the fact that Maxwell is helping out there too.

When first approached about the impending presentation Maxwell commented, "People like me don't win awards". The Rotary Club of Ellesmere is happy to disagree.



Left to Right: Peter Broadbent, Maxwell Bussey, Geoff Corfield

Rotary Tombola at Ellesmere Carnival

After disbursing over £15,000 during the last Rotary year the Ellesmere Club is now in the process of replenishing its Charity account in readiness to cope with both foreseeable and unforeseeable events.

An excellent start was made at the Ellesmere Rotary Regatta in early July 2014, which raised another record amount of over £3000. The Ellesmere Community Care Nursing Home will be a major beneficiary from this. Through the summer and early autumn the club has continued its efforts with a 'Teddy Bear' Tombola Stall at a variety of

Ellesmere and Hinterlands events. These have included the Ellesmere Carnival, Crifftons (Dudleston Heath) 'Fun Day', Ellesmere Festival and the MereFest. Variations of the stall will keep popping up at future events, so that we can continue to support local, national and international causes. Dates for the calendar include: Crifftons Christmas Festival at the Parish Hall in the mid November and the Ellesmere Winter Festival on the 28th November. The Club will make a donation to the Ellesmere War Memorial Restoration Fund from some of the proceeds.



Teddy Bear Tombola Stand

Members from Fleetwood visit RC Ironbridge

28 members of the Rotary Club of Fleetwood made a weekend fellowship visit to Ironbridge.

They were welcomed by members of the Rotary Club of Ironbridge led by President Wendy.

Wendy and her team gave the visitors a conducted tour of the Victorian Town.

The party 'enjoyed' a lesson in the Victorian school before they concluded their visit by singing along at the Victorian Music Hall



President Wendy with Fleetwood President Robert studying the medicines on offer in the Victorian chemists shop.

CLUB CONTACTS in District 1210

The information listed below gives the Name and location of Club, the days of the week that they meet, whether (E) Evening, (L) Lunch or (B) Breakfast and their website and telephone number of the Club Honorary Secretary to call for Club Information.

ALBRIGHTON & DISTRICT
Monday (E) 7.15 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 700195
www.d1210.org/albrighton.html

ALDRIDGE
Thursday (E) 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01922 455763
www.aldriderotary.org.uk

AUDLEY
Wednesday (E) 6.30 for 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01270 750668
www.sites.google.com/site/audleyrotaryclub

BILSTON
Monday (E) 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 845524
www.bilstonrotary.org.uk

BLOXWICH PHOENIX
Sunday (E) 7.30 for 7.45pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 631164
www.bloxwichphoenix.net

BLYTHE BRIDGE & DISTRICT
Monday (E) 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 398349
www.d1210.org/blythbridge.html

BREWOD & DISTRICT
Wednesday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 850329
www.brewood-rotary.co.uk

BRIDGNORTH
Wednesday (E) 7.30pm (Not Aug.)
Club Sec. Tel: 01952 510688
www.bridgnorthrotary.org.uk

BROWNHILLS
Thurs. (L) 2nd & 4th 12.45 for 1.00
Club Sec. Tel: 01543 821999
www.d1210.org/brownhills.html

BURNTWOOD & DISTRICT
Wednesday (E) 7.30 for 8.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01543 684628
www.burntwoodrotary.co.uk

BURSLEM
Wednesday (E) 6.15 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 373933
www.d1210.org/burslem.html

CANNOCK
Wednesday (E) 6.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01543 275667
www.cannockrotary.co.uk

CHEADLE
Thursday (E) 7.15pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01538 753192
www.d1210.org/cheadle.html

CHURCH STRETTON
Wednesday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01743 718049
www.rotaryclubofchurchstretton.co.uk

DARLASTON
Tuesday (E) 6.30 for 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01922 623354
www.darlastonrotary.net

DUDLEY
Monday (E) 6.15 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 684938
www.dudleyrotary.org.uk

ECCLESHALL MERCIA
Monday (E) 7.30 pm
Club Sec.: Tel: 01785 748627
www.eccleshallrotary.com

ELLESMERE
Wednesday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01691 777178
www.ellesmererotary.org.uk

ENDON & STOCKTON BROOK
Tuesday (E) 7.15pm
Club Sec.: Tel: 01782 637524
www.d1210.org/endonandstocktonbrook.html

ETRURIA
Tuesday (B) 7.25am
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 398769
www.d1210.org/etruria.html

IRONBRIDGE
Thurs. (E) 6.30pm, 1st 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01952 728185
www.IronbridgeRotary.org.uk

KIDSGROVE
Wednesday (E) 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 785272
www.kidsgrove.rotaryweb.org

LEEK
Monday (E) 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01538 384889
www.rotaryclubleek.org.uk

LUDLOW
Tues. Odd Dates (L) 12.30 for 1.00,
Even Dates (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01584 877520
www.ludlowrotaryclub.org.uk

MARKET DRAYTON
Tuesday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01630 652656
www.marketdraytonrotary.org

NEWCASTLE under LYME
Tuesday (L) 12.50 for 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01630 672714
www.rotary-newcastle-staffs.co.uk

NEWPORT
Wednesday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01952 619307
www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.asp?ClubID=1258

PENKRIDGE
Tuesday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 712192
www.d1210.org/penkridge.html

RUGELEY
Monday (E) 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01889 881400
www.rugeleyrotary.org.uk

SEDGLEY & WOMBOURNE
Thursday (E) 6.30 for 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 845996
www.rotarysedgleyandwombourne.org.uk

SHAWBURY & MID SHROPSHIRE
Tuesday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01743 241368
www.rotaryclubofshawburyandmidshropshire.co.uk

SHREWSBURY
Wednesday (L) 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01939 262654
www.rotaryclubofshrewsbury.org.uk

SHREWSBURY DARWIN
Friday (B) 7.15 for 7.30am
5th Friday Thursday 7.30pm
Club Sec.: Tel: 01948 667588
www.shrewsburydarwinrotary.org.uk

STAFFORD
Wednesday (L) 12.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 850525
www.d1210.org/stafford.html

STAFFORD CASTLE
Tuesday (E) 7.15 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 240925
www.staffordcastlerotary.co.uk

STAFFORD KNOT
Thursday (B) 7.15 for 7.30am
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 227372
www.d1210.org/staffordknot.html

STOKE on TRENT
Monday (E) 6.15pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 814813
www.stokerotary.co.uk

STOKE on TRENT SOUTH
Monday (L) 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 615701
www.stokesouth.rotaryweb.org

STONE & DISTRICT
Monday (E) 6.45 for 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 760120
www.stonerotary.org

TELFORD CENTRE
Tuesday (E) 6.00 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01952 413069
www.telfordcentrerotary.org.uk

TETTENHALL
Monday (E) 7.30 for 7.55pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 764122
www.rotaryinwolverhampton.co.uk

TUNSTALL
Tuesday (E) 6.15 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 658299
www.d1210.org/tunstall.html

UTTOXETER
Tuesday (E) 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01538 703756
www.uttoxeterrotary.org.uk

WALSALL
Friday (L) 12.45 for 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01922 723591
www.rotary.org.uk

WALSALL SADDLERS
Tuesday (E) 6.30 for 6.45pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01213 532086
www.walsallsaddlersrotaryclub.org

WEDNESBURY
Thursday (E) 6.15 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01215 561065
www.wednesburyrotary.co.uk/

WEDNESFIELD
Wednesday (E) 6.15 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01746 763710
www.rotaryinwolverhampton.co.uk

WELLINGTON
Friday (L) 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01952 257064
www.wellingtonrotary.org.uk

WEM & DISTRICT
Monday 1st & 3rd (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm,
2nd & 4th (L) 12.30 for 1.00pm, 5th (B)
7.15 for 7.30am
Club Sec. Tel: 01691 610452
www.wemrotary.wordpress.com

WHITCHURCH
Tuesday 1st, 3rd & 5th (E) 7.00pm,
2nd & 4th (L) 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01948 663143
www.rotarian.org.uk

WILLENHALL
Thursday (E) 5.30 for 6.00pm
(last Thursday 7.00pm with partners)
Club Sec. Tel: 01922 452761
www.rotarywillenhall.org.uk

WOLSTANTON
Thursday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 560051
www.d1210.or/wolstanton.html

WOLVERHAMPTON
Tuesday (L) 12.45pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 842501
www.rotaryclubwolverhampton.co.uk

WOLVERHAMPTON ST. GEORGES
Tuesday (B) 7.15 for 7.30am
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 751067
www.stgeorges1210.org.uk

THE WREKIN
Thursday (E) 7.45pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01952 247844
www.d1210.org/wrekin.html

CARING FOR ATTINGHAM PARK

The cost of maintaining Attingham Park, in addition to new expenditure on the Picture Gallery roof, has been outlined to members of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary.

Speaking at their meeting on Tuesday, Saraid Jones, Engagement and Conservation Officer, said it costs £1m just to 'keep Attingham running' each year and £1.4m was needed to repair the Picture Gallery roof.

Visitors to Attingham Park included 77,000 to the house and 370,000 in the parkland so maintenance of visitor facilities is also important, said Saraid.

Work also needs to take place on the wider estate such as works to Cronhill, the John Nash Italianate villa on the road to Crosshouses. New walks have been opened up such as a picnic site by Tern Bridge which faces the house.

In a history of Attingham Park where she has worked for the last six years, Saraid talked affectionately about her role looking after its antique collections - including its 'fantastic silverware' - and day to day

running of the property which dates back to 1782.

She said the interiors were currently being revived including work as part of the Attingham Rediscovered Project and the focus for next year will be starting to tell the stories of the first floor rooms.

Rotarians were also told how various Lords Berwick from the Hill family had played significant parts in the history of Attingham Park - including a bankruptcy sale.

Local people may still remember Attingham Park being home to Concord College Girls, Edgbaston Girls School and Shropshire Adult Education College, including a period when Sir George Trevelyan was involved.

A research project about the college is currently ongoing, she added, and the team would be keen to receive written memories of the college.

Commenting on the next few months, Saraid added that the winter tour programme would commence in November and the Christmas decorations in the house during December.



Photograph courtesy of Paul Highnam.



Saraid and Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary President Mervyn Davies discuss Attingham Park's winter tour programme.

Rare RI Honour for Aldridge Rotary

The 26 members of Aldridge Rotary are 'thrilled' with a rare honour that has been bestowed upon the club.

For Aldridge is believed to be the first Rotary club in District 1210 to receive the RI Significant Achievement Award.

The award has been made following PDG Barry Picken's recommendation of the club's contribution to community service.

There are fewer than 200 such awards which have been made to 34,000 clubs across the world.

For any club to achieve such an award is indeed an honour and a special award ceremony took place in Aldridge on September 11. There are numerous activities in which Aldridge Rotary is actively engaged in the local community, including responsibility for organising and managing the annual poppy appeal.

A total of £35,000 has been raised for Royal British Legion causes in each of 2012 and 2013. This has been achieved with the active support of local schools, business and voluntary groups.

Press Officer Rotarian Clifford Blakemore said Aldridge had invested in some coin counters and shakers which separate the denominations of coins.

"The final act of this amazing effort by the Club is making sure that each outlet is informed of the amount raised in their particular establishment."

He added that the project complied with all six criteria, in particular that all its 26 members were involved in personal service.

"Rotary's standing in the community has been enhanced and this is reflected in the support we now receive for our community activities which are numerous," he added.



DISTRICT
1210
ROTARY IN SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE & WEST MIDLANDS

The Quarterly Newspaper for
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NEXT ISSUE

The **SPRING** issue of **ROTO** will be published in **FEBRUARY 2015** and will be available at the District Council meeting on **Thursday 26th February, 2015**

COPY DEADLINE DATE for the **SPRING** Issue is required by **MONDAY 26TH JANUARY 2015**

For details of ADVERTISING RATES

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In Remembrance

PHF Ken Shuttleworth

†

PP Mr George Highmore

†

PP Norman Potter PHF

*Passed to higher service.
Our thoughts are with their families.*

A NIGHT AT THE CASTLE



Members enjoying a night at the Castle.

Roger de Montgomery has featured twice in a fortnight in talks to members of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary. When a group of Rotarians visited Shrewsbury Castle and Regimental Museum last Tuesday the name Roger de Montgomery was prominent. For Roger de Montgomery built fortifications on the Welsh border to keep the warring Welsh at bay. But he didn't see Shrewsbury Castle completed. He became a monk at the nearby Abbey and three days later he died.

King Edward was the great castle builder who made Shrewsbury Castle, which started in 1096 and was completed in 1150. So it became a fortification for a considerable time.

In a previous recent talk to Rotary the Rev. Paul Firmin, vicar of the Abbey, affectionately spoke of Roger de Montgomery as one of the last great saints. And so Roger de Montgomery was mentioned again by castle guide John Taylor who gave Rotarians a history of the castle through periods when it has been in and out of use. It was once a town house for Lord Pulteney, the local MP who brought in Thomas Telford who raised the roof and put in large windows.

The castle was eventually bought by Shropshire Horticultural Society who gave the castle to the council who reverted it back to what it was like in Norman times. The council retired from the castle in 1978 and for four years it used for large events and weddings.

It became a regimental museum in 1986 and was bombed by the IRA in 1992. The ground floor Shropshire Yeomanry collection was wrecked and a lot of early artefacts were lost. Shrewsbury Castle and Shropshire Regimental Museum attracts an average of 25,000

visitors a year which guide John Taylor revealed was already 1,000 up on last year.

He said the castle was attracting a lot of foreign visitors, including many Germans who were now teaching first and second world war history in their schools. Highlights of the tour were many, including the castle's Onslow roof of 1571.

And guide John gave an interesting account of the IRA bombing which wrecked the Shropshire Yeomanry collection on the ground floor. A lot of early artefacts were among 60% of small exhibits lost.

Rotarians were shown many of the castle's treasures and showcase highlights, including the modern army of today including a complete set of kit from a soldier in Afghanistan. There were weapons aplenty, including an SA80 and Armadite and AK47 which fired in any condition, from ice and snow to dust. A general purpose machine gun and light support weapon, 28lbs in weight and capable of firing 1,000 rounds a minute.

The tour of the museum took the party of Rotarians to the 2nd Afghan war. The 85th The Kings Shropshire Light Infantry were involved in the 1878-80 war.

There were a pair of Chinese silver incense burners; an array of South African medals issued to members of the Shropshire Regiment for the Boer War 1899-1902. Sergeant Harold Whitfield's VC in the first world war collection; a German anti-tank rifle of 1918; a German machine gun which was water cooled and could fire 550 rounds a minute.

The first soldier killed in the 2nd World War was Corp T.W. Priday of the 1st Bn KSLI near Metz on December 9 1939. A display remembers the first British Army fatality of WW2.

ROTARY LAUNCH NEW TAX DISC CAMPAIGN

Rotarians, families and friends are being requested to display a specially designed Rotary wheel in place of the tax disc in holders on their vehicles.

Rotary International of Great Britain and Ireland has taken the opportunity to launch a new tax disc campaign and wants Rotarians to take to the road to promote the good work that Rotary does in local communities.

The distinctive Rotary logo is a perfect fit for the now defunct tax disc holders and through re-using the holders Rotarians hope not only to publicise their activities, but also attract new members.

The idea was the brainchild of a Rotarian, Alan Tickle, President of the Rotary Club of Ormskirk Clock Tower, who believed the abolition of the tax disc from the beginning of this month provided an ideal opportunity for Rotary to re-use the holders.

Lynne Marshall, District Governor of 1210 which covers Staffordshire, Shropshire and parts of the West Midlands, said today: "This is a great idea – sometimes the simple ideas are not only the best, but the most effective."

"I am hoping the 55 Rotary Clubs in our District will be as equally enthusiastic and will take up this exciting opportunity to promote Rotary so that we can continue our work in local and global communities."

As well as the familiar Rotary wheel, the new disc displays information on how members of the public can contact their local Rotary club.

Rotary is hoping that 20,000 of its 50,000 members in Great Britain and Ireland will be displaying the new Rotary disc by Christmas and the rest by International Rotary Day on February 25 2015.

DG Lynne's Visit to Rotary House

On Monday 18th September the new Conservatory was officially opened by Carole Scott-Dow. She said...

"Ladies, Gentlemen and Friends. I was a little surprised to be invited to open this conservatory, as I am neither a member of Rotary, a member of the Board or indeed a tenant. Although the amount of time both Roger and I have spent here during the last two years or so, I am expecting to be charged rent. Don't even think about it David."

The residents of Rotary House have had quite a lot of disruption to put up with but we hope now they can say it has all been worthwhile. This conservatory is, I believe, the icing on the cake of a wide range of refurbishments that hopefully will enhance the tenants' lives.

I expect that like me many of us will have conservatories at home and therefore I speak from experience when I say how much enjoyment they can bring throughout the year. We are able to enjoy our gardens no

matter what the weather's like, even when the garden is not at its best, or when snow is on the ground. To be able to take advantage of such days is a real bonus. For those people less mobile to have a change of scene in what could be called virtual outdoors can give a real lift to their spirit. Dry, warm and comfortable in your own conservatory.

Dear residents, this is your home and we hope you enjoy all the refurbishments. They have only been done to improve your home and life at Rotary House. This it gives me great pleasure to formally declare the Conservatory open."

The yellow ribbon was cut and the chairs were assessed for comfort. Roger was thanked for his hard work in this and then allowed the largest cream cake!

The District Governor, Lynne Marshall and her husband Ron, a Past District Governor, then had a tour and were impressed by all the changes and improvements that had been made since their last visit some twelve years ago.



All admiring the conservatory...



Then residents trying out the chairs for comfort...

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Scenic Railway & Phenomenal Fjords

Departs Southampton



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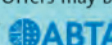
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