March 2015









Musical Youth!

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

You may notice that this month's newsletter has a Musical theme running through it. Our first event in March saw us joining the Rotary Club of Stoke on Trent South for their highly successful annual Jazz



Brunch held at Keele University. It was a superb event with a lot of non Rotarians attending and I was delighted to be able to present the club with a Rotary Day Award. They made a record profit of over £2,350. Well done!

It was off to the Rotary Club of Ironbridge next for the Rex Bolton Lecture and the speaker for the evening was Stephen Drew from Medic Malawi. A really interesting evening and we were so pleased to have had the opportunity of hearing Stephen speak again.

On the 6th March District 1090 came to District 1210 to hold their conference in Telford and we were delighted to join them. What a superb conference it was, with 650 people attending. On the Friday night they had what they called the Fun Factory and there were all sorts of fun things to do, such as a Golf Simulator, a casino (all with pretend money of course), F1 driving simulator and all sorts of games and prizes for the winners. There was truly something for everyone and I almost forgot to mention the fish, chips and mushy peas supper. The Saturday night was the traditional Governors Ball. I was amazed to find that we have such a brilliant facility right on our doorstep and I am told that nothing was too much trouble for the staff.

On the 9th March we were entertained by the teams in the District Final Intermediate Youth Speaks Competition and the following evening by the Seniors. The standard was truly remarkable and the Intermediate was won by St. Edwards C of E Academy sponsored by RC of Leek and the Seniors was won by Adams Grammar School sponsored by the RC of Wellington. These two teams then proceeded to the Regional Final that was held on the 21st March, but sadly St. Edwards did not win this time around



Adams Grammar School - Youth Speaks

but they did themselves and the district proud.

However, congratulations were in order, as Adams Grammar School did win the Seniors competition and they will now be representing D1210 in the National Finals to be held in Brentwood, Essex on May 10th. We will be there to cheer them on.

The 14th March saw us heading for mid Wales to Builth Wells to support our Young Chefs in the Regional Final. Sadly they did not win, but there is always another time and they have done so well to come so far.

The 15th we were closer to home at Wrekin College for the District Final of the Young Musician Competition (this month's feature picture). From the very first performance it was obvious the standard was going to be very high. The winner from the Instrumental section was Lauren Zhang who played piano and was sponsored by the RC of Dudley and the winner from the Vocal section was Amelia Gilmour sponsored by the RC of Wolverhampton. We wish them every success as they go onto the Regional Final in Bristol on 19th April. Ron and myself and other members of D1210 will be there to cheer them on.

On the 23rd we attended the first local competition known as SASCAL (Stoke Association of Secondary, College and Academy Leaders) Youth Speaking Competition for schools in the Stoke

on Trent area, held at S-O-T Sixth Form College. This was organised by the Stoke on Trent Club and it is planned to hold this earlier next year so that the winners can be entered into the District Youth Speaks competition. Our congratulations go to the winners, St. Joseph's College.

We attended three concerts on consecutive evenings, all of which were very different, excellent, and well attended. The first was with RC of Walsall - a Jazz concert with the Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra and special guest Jacqui Dankworth. The next evening we were with the RC of Stafford and entertained by the Staffordshire Youth Orchestra (Central) and Leasowes Primary School Choir and finally, the following evening we were with RC of Wednesfield for an Evening of Brass with the Phoenix Brass Band.



It's all fingers and thumbs to me!

All three clubs raised money for local causes and demonstrated a fun way to also raise public awareness

regarding Rotary. Thanks to all three clubs for your kind invitation, we enjoyed sharing and supporting these events with you.



Past President Robert Howell and President Pauline Gregory

On Sunday the 29th we arrived at Little Ryton where the RC of Shrewsbury Darwin held a Charity Lunch. The food and the company were excellent in equal measure and we were very happy to be able to support this event which raised money for Severn Hospice and Hope House Children's Hospice. Ron even won a bottle of cognac in the raffle!

Our last event was spent with RC of Dudley which proved to be a wonderful way to end a truly outstanding musical month of March. We were entertained by a Harpist with members of the club participating (or at least trying to) what great sports they were as the rest of us sang along. The evening was made extra special by the award of a Paul Harris Fellow to Past President Robert Howell. Congratulations Robert!

Yours in Rotary, Lynne

Dates for your Diary

Rotary Conferences 2015

- **RIBI Conference**, <u>Waterfront Conference Centre Belfast</u>, **10th 12th April 2015**
- Rotary International Convention Sao Paulo, 6th 9th June 2015
- District Conference Venue Cymru, Llandudno, 25th 27th September 2015

District Meetings & Club Events 2015

April

Rotary Club of Ironbridge - Barbershop Night - RECKLESS - 2nd

Contact for info: doug.bouynton@blueyonder.co.uk

- Rotary Club of Tunstall Evening of Song 17th
 - The Daleian Singers guest soloist Denise Leigh
 - Contact for info 07815 176219 or 07889 026616
- Rotary Club of Wolverhampton St. Georges Film Night 23rd
 - The Lighthouse Cinema The Hundred Foot Journey- Tickets £11
 - Contact for info: jforshaw6@btinternet.com

May

- Rotary Club of The Wrekin Concert 9th
 - Hadley Orpheus Male Voice Choir & Rotary Young Musicians @Ercall Wood Tech. College. 7:30 pm
 - Contact for info robyntrebleclef@blueyonder.co.uk
- Rotary Club of The Wrekin Big Breakfast 30th
 - Salvation Army Corps. Oakengates.
 - Contact for info robyntrebleclef@blueyonder.co.uk

"A person who never made a mistake - Never tried anything new"

-ALBERT EINSTEIN

July

Joint Incoming Presidents Evening - 3rd

Ramada Park Hall Hotel - £25 per head - Meal & Entertainment

Contact for info ken.dolman@talk21.com or rkstolz@hotmail.com

NB: If clubs would like to advertise forthcoming functions as part of my newsletter, please contact me at <u>marshall.lynne@gmail.com</u> before the 25th of the month.