

DISTRICT

1210

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www.rotary1210.org



ROTARY IN SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE & WEST MIDLANDS



**RIBI Young Chef
Competition 2015**

Thoughts from The District Governor

Hello Everyone,

As we enter into the last two months of the year I thought that it was the ideal time to reflect upon my year as District Governor. So I asked myself a question. Have I achieved the goals I set myself? Perhaps you can ask yourself that same question. In my case I have achieved some of my goals but not all and I think that is the best you can honestly expect.

So what were my goals? They were simple ones really, as to set yourself goals that are not achievable only leads to disappointment and if you exceed those goals then that is an added bonus.

I started the year by asking you all to Light Up Rotary by increasing our membership in the District and I am pleased to say this has happened. Our District Secretary Brian and the RI membership database both show a growth in our district. However, we cannot sit back on our laurels and become complacent, we need to keep building on what we have achieved this year.

We continue to make progress in the eradication of polio and in the last 9 months I am pleased to say that D1210 has contributed \$45,455.94, albeit with the help of a significant donation from one particular club, so let's keep up the good work and I feel sure that by the end of 2014-15 we will have reached the RIBI target of \$48,276, I know we can do this. Let this be one of those goals that we can achieve.

I also started the year with my own theme Breathe New Life

into Rotary by bringing in New Members, New Projects, New Ideas and New Activities into your clubs and as I have gone around the Clubs in the District I have seen plenty of evidence of all these things happening. It was an absolute delight to give the charter to a new Interact Club the Interact Club of Ellesmere College, what a way to Breathe New Life into Rotary.

I feel I must also mention Inner Wheel District 21 and in particular Chairman Margaret Williams. It has been an absolute delight working with Margaret and I know that our friendship will continue for years to come. I thank Chairman Margaret and all the ladies of District 21 for the warmth of their hospitality and friendship at all the events Ron & I have attended.

The most important thing I wanted us all to do this year as we achieved all the goals we set ourselves was to have fun and our District Conference in Llandudno proved we knew how to have fun.

We still have two more months to go, so please keep telling me about your Rotary Days so I can keep on giving out the award to your clubs and continue to Light Up Rotary and Breathe New Life into Rotary but most of all let's keep having fun.

Enjoy your Rotary!

Lynne

Lynne Marshall
District Governor
Rotary Club of Burslem



PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING EVENT

An indoor evening of bowls plus a hot pot supper was held on 20th February in the civic centre to fund raise for a Prostate Cancer screening event in September at which PSA testing and professional advice will be available. The arrangements were made by Whitchurch Rotarian David Simcock and realised well over £1000 plus further donations.



Inner Wheel

By Margaret Williams,
Chairman, District 21

Dear All,

I find it hard to believe that this will be my fourth article for this magazine – it seems like only yesterday that I took office. I am beginning this whilst looking out over the rolling Lincolnshire Wolds enjoying a week's holiday that I am sure will set me up for the remainder of my year.

As I reflect on my year as District Chairman I can first of all say that it has been an amazing experience and one that I will never forget. To hear at first hand from Club members about all their activities, and the wide range of charities that they support, has just confirmed what I already knew – Inner Wheel members are incredible. I do not think that it would be possible to find a more enthusiastic and dedicated group of ladies.

I was privileged to attend both the District Final of the Rotary Young Musician competition and the Regional Final of the Rotary Youth Speaks Competition. In both cases I went away feeling just a little inadequate in the presence of such talent.

I was delighted that District Governor Lynne and her husband Ron were able to join us when Inner Wheel members and guests welcomed our Association President, Thelma Pacsoo and her husband Chris to my District Rally at Tern Hill Hall Hotel on 16th April. It was an afternoon full of friendship and laughter and one that I will remember for a very long time. As well as bringing greetings from Rotary District 1210 Lynne presented us with a Certificate from the Wheelchair Foundation UK in recognition of the support given by District 21 Inner Wheel members to Rotary by collecting the barcodes from Yorkshire Tea products. There was also a photograph of a young boy who received the wheelchair that had



been purchased and delivered to Namibia as a result of barcodes collected. My members will continue to support this project working together with Rotary.

I have just returned from our National Inner Wheel Conference in Bournemouth. It was a wonderful Conference lead by Association President Thelma and was full of friendship and fun. RIBI President Peter King brought greetings and there were many other excellent speakers including Prue Leith, Dr Paul Whittaker – founder of the Charity 'Music and the Deaf' and The Right Honourable Anne Widdecombe. The Canine Partners presentation left hardly a dry eye in the house. Some 2095 delegates attended, representing 665 Clubs across GB & I.

I am looking forward to my remaining Club visit and a number of Birthday Fellowships as well as the 16th International Inner Wheel Convention that will be held in Copenhagen in May.

I would like to say a personal thank you to DG Lynne and Ron for making me so welcome when I have been able to attend Rotary events – it has been a real pleasure working with Lynne. I wish them both a relaxing year ahead as Lynne and I join Ron in becoming a 'Past' its.

As I hand over my Chain of Office to Terrie Hewitt I wish her good health and safe travelling and I hope for as mild a winter for her as I had in my year. I know that she will have a truly memorable year.

In Friendship
Margaret

Assistant Governor Thanks Zones Six, Five and Two

District Governor Designate Carol Reilly would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the Presidents and Club Members in Zones 6, 5 and 2 for making her extremely welcome as their Assistant Governor over the last three years. It has been an honour and privilege working with you to bring your ideas and projects to fruition. I congratulate you on your hard work.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you GOOD LUCK with all your future endeavours and I look forward to supporting you, enjoying our continued friendship as I move onto other roles within the District.



Article written by
DGD Carol Reilly.

Working 'Hand in Hand' with Rotary

Young Chefs cooking up success



RIBI YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION 2015

With the continued debate about teaching young people the benefits of healthy eating, Rotary Clubs in the area lead the way each year with an exciting cooking competition for 11 to 17 year olds. On Wednesday 25th February twelve young people from the North Staffordshire area took part in the District 1210 final of the RIBI Young Chef competition held at Wolstanton High School in Newcastle-under-Lyme. These finalists had already shown that they have got what it takes as they won through club competitions and the semi-finals. This year twenty three competitors took part in total in the district competition and the competition was as rigorous as ever.

Each competitor has 95 minutes to plan, prepare, cook and serve a main course and dessert for two people costing no more than £10 for the ingredients in total. Having only 1¼ hours for the cooking part of the competition means that the young people need to be well prepared and thoroughly organised in order to succeed.

The atmosphere was competitive, hot and fun as the Young Chefs worked their wonders producing a range of healthy dishes based on fish, chicken and lamb recipes. The desserts were equally tempting including chocolate cheesecake, tiramisu and mini lemon meringue pies. The judges for the final included Roger Kenyon,

sous chef and Amanda Rushton, owner of David's Brasserie in Trentham Gardens Shopping Village. They were joined by Rosita Davenport a Home Economics teacher and Clive Hillier from the Rotary Club of Stoke-on-Trent.

Among those taking part was 12-year old Ruth Watson a pupil at St. Edmund's Church of England Academy who was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Leek. Ruth cooked mushroom risotto served in a squash, with pear and chocolate oat crumble for dessert. She said: "I love cooking and also learning how to prepare meals on your own and present them properly. Even if you don't win it's still a good experience and I'm glad I chose to take part. My mum thought it would be a good idea and I thought it would be fun. I got everything done on time and didn't burn anything which is a bonus."

The eventual winners were Jessica Broom, a pupil at St. Dominic's Brewood, who was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Brewood and who cooked pan fried fillet of sea bass with a fennel and pomegranate salad and a gooey chocolate fondant with fresh raspberries and Hattie Williams, a pupil at Thomas Adams School, who was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Wem and cooked chilli spiced salmon fillet served with Mediterranean cous cous with a dark chocolate and raspberry



Hattie Williams (L) and Jessica Broom (R)

Winners of Young Chef + DG Lynne Marshall

fondant for dessert. They both go forward to the regional final at Builth Wells on Saturday 14th March and hopefully the national final at Wrexham on Saturday 25th April.

The competitors learnt a lot about cooking under the pressures of time and the judging process. All competitors agreed that they enjoyed the competition and the winners will each experience a half day's work experience in the kitchens at David's Brasserie in Trentham Shopping Village. Interestingly a previous participant in the RIBI Young Chef competition was 17 years old Martha Collinson who went on to fame in the latest series of BBC's Great British Bake Off. On a wider view the RIBI Young Chef competition is an excellent opportunity for the Rotarians attending to chat to the parents and teachers about

Rotary, the other youth services activities and the ways that we are involved in the community.

The Young Chef Competition Organiser, Charles Freeman, said: "Cooking is a valuable life skill and the RIBI Young Chef competition is designed to support the development of cookery skills. Contestants learn how to cook a healthy meal, develop food presentation and organisational skills and learn about hygiene. The interest in cooking and baking has never been greater in the country and the local Rotary clubs wanted to challenge young people to show how good they are at producing a two course meal. We saw a lot of highly talented young chefs in the area and they all did themselves justice. Judging was extremely tight and Jessica and Hattie will be tough to beat in the regional competition. We wish them luck."



Ruth Watson with her mushroom risotto served in a squash



Archie Bettany preparing his fish dish



Jessica Broom - Display



Hattie Williams Display



Young Chef Finalists + DG Lynne Marshall + DGN John Saye



Martha Lloyd cooking

Vocational Study Exchange first for District 1210

22nd August 2015 will be an auspicious day for the District as the first Vocational Study Exchange team leaves for Norway. The exchange is for 2 weeks and is with District 2305, which is a large, mainly rural area north of Oslo, a very beautiful area we're told. The Norwegian team come back to our District in May 2016.

A great deal of thought and planning has already gone into the process through the hard work of the District VSE committee, led by District Governor Designate Carol Reilly. The 4 team members have now been selected to join team leader Rotarian Geoff Cooper of the RC Stafford Knot. The Team Members are Anona Potts sponsored by the RC Willenhall; Hywell Benbow hosted by the RC Ellesmere in partnership with the RC Oswestry; Preet Bhachu hosted by the RC Walsall Saddlers and Ashley Lovell hosted by the RC Darlaston. Grateful thanks to these Clubs for their support.

The vocational skills of the team members include a customer engagement officer for a Housing Association, a senior analyst for Ofsted inspecting Children's Social Care, a trainee tree surgeon and a trainee

Primary School teacher, so a varied group! Local Norwegian Rotarians will host the team in their homes. Team members will spend the larger amount of their time in Norway focussed on their vocational area but there will also be time for meeting local Rotarians, for cultural activities, time with the host families, fun and fellowship.

In preparation for their exchange the team will be producing a Presentation to use when in Norway. There will be two opportunities to experience this presentation, firstly on 28th July at the RC Walsall Saddlers and then on 6th August at the RC Stafford Knot.

The whole team are very excited by the prospect of this visit to Norway but also of sharing what they have learned when they return. The first such opportunity to hear this in detail will be on 7th October 2015 at the Home Coming Rally, which is being planned in the Shropshire area of our District. The Team would welcome the opportunity to also present to Clubs on their return. Please arrange your Club visit through Team Leader Geoff Cooper geoffcooper29@gmail.com

Article by DGD Carol Reilly and VSE Team Leader Geoff Cooper.



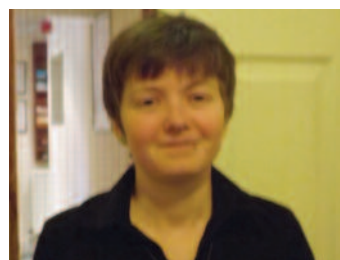
Ashley Lovell



Hywell Benbow



Preet Bhachu



Anona Potts



Geoff Cooper VSE Team Leader

ROTARY CLUB OF STAFFORD KNOT Rotary Young Artist Competition 2015

On Saturday 31st January The Rotary Club of Stafford Knot Youth Committee held an exhibition and prize giving for the 13 to 16 year old Young Artist Competition 2015 at the Young Farmers Building on the Stafford County Showground.

The competition was well supported by local schools with 36 pieces of art being entered, all of which surpassed expectations for artistic and technical merit.

The art work was subjected to serious scrutiny by the competitions three judges, Wayne Tomlinson, Lynne Cook, Craig Sumner who are well known local artists working out of the artist cooperative Gallery@12, High St, Eccleshall, Staffs.

Due to the high quality of the works the judges had a particularly difficult task in deciding the ranking of the best pieces and took some time in coming to their final decision. In all prizes and certificates were awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place with seven Highly Commended certificates being given (see below). In his summing up Mr Tomlinson stated:

"Judging was a difficult task due to the high quality of all the entries, the future for art in the local area looks exceptional. The Judges look forward to up and coming competitions."

Gallery@12 have kindly offered to exhibit the winning entries at their Eccleshall gallery later in the year.

The prizes for the winners were of exceptional quality and value and were kindly sponsored by Bargain Artist Shop, Kenworthy Rd, Stafford, whose support is greatly appreciated as it led to the young winners receiving a worthwhile result for their hard work. Prizes were presented to the winning artists by Rotary District 1210 Governor Lynne Marshall, who along with Simon Simms, Assistant Governor, took time out of their busy schedules to attend the presentations.

The Young Artist Competition

will be an annual event aimed at gaining wide participation of schools in the Stafford area. Its focus is to encourage local young artists to exhibit their art and achieve recognition for outstanding talent.

In March this year the Stafford Knot Club will be running another competition for 16 -19 year old artists and is hoping for the same level of participation from the older age group and local schools.

The Competition Winners

1st Prize - Megan Price
Walton High School
2nd Prize - Olivia Rickett
The Weston Road Academy
3rd Prize - Sofia Pownell
The Weston Road Academy

Highly Commended

Thomas Barker
The Weston Road Academy
Kathryn Birch
The Weston Road Academy
Sarah Horton
Sir Graham Balfour High School
Connor McQueen
The Weston Road Academy
Rebecca Woodward
Walton High School

Tamsin Robinson
Stafford Grammar School
Emma Wright

The Weston Road Academy

The Rotary Club of Stafford Knot would like to express its sincere thanks to the students and organizations that made this year's competition possible and an outstanding success, in particular to: Lynne Marshall, Rotary District 1210 District Governor.

Simon Sims, Rotary District 1210 Assistant Governor

Young Farmers Club
Gallery@12, Eccleshall

Bargain Artists Shop, Stafford
All participating Schools

All the artwork submitted and the winning entries will be available on the club website at www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=1808



Rotary District Governor Lynne Marshall Awarding first Prize To Megan Price

Wem INTERACTORS SAVE SCHOOL from closure

The members of the INTERACT Thomas Adams Wem club have stopped the threatened closure of the Miriu Primary School, in the Masaai Region, by the Kenya Education Ministry by raising the funds to build a brand new toilet facility for its 500 pupils.

During a visit to Kenya in June 2014 Wem Interactors Amy Ahmad and Callum McCarthy were appalled by the toilet facilities provided for pupils at the Miriu Primary School. It had been built on a gravel bank overlooking a river that is used for both drinking water and washing. Not

only was the building collapsing in on itself because of the lack of sound foundations, the sewage beneath it was seeping through the gravel bank down into the river, creating serious health hazards such as cholera and typhus.

After providing some initial help, by planting quick growing eucalyptus trees to stabilise the river bank, Callum investigated the prospect of constructing a new toilet facility on more stable ground, away from the river and at what cost. He returned home, armed with an itemised list of

building materials and labour costs totalling £703, with a proposal that the Interact Club raise the funds to build the school a new toilet block as soon as possible. The Thomas Adams School & 6th Form College Interact Club, together with their sponsors The Rotary Club of Wem & District were already working on a larger project that included the creation of a Carpentry School, an apiary and extend the sewing workshop that was established in the area last year in collaboration with the Small Steps Forward charity. However the toilet block and the threat of school closure were deemed priority. The funds were raised and transferred to Miriu via

a trusted intermediary in time for Christmas. Early in the new year a large pit was dug out on the site that was agreed upon the previous summer – hard rock. Concrete bases and brick walls were constructed and rendered, no corrugated walls, to provide 4 female and 4 male cubicles.

The project was completed just in time for the return visit of the Ministry of Education official who arrived armed with a CLOSURE ORDER for the whole school. But for the reaction of Callum and Amy, their fellow Interactors and their sponsoring Rotarians, 500 Kenyan pupils would have been deprived of their education facilities.



Amy & Callum Kenya: Amy and Callum with a Miriu school pupil.



Sad and decaying the old toilet block sinking into its cess pit.



Cubicles with rendered brick walls not corrugated metal sheets.



The finished school toilet block that persuaded the Kenya Ministry of Education to rescind its Closure Order on the school.



A big hole the cess pit dug out of rocky ground, not gravel.



Village elder Tom Bilo and school head Millicent and some of her pupils after the official opening of the new toilet block.

Young Musician 2015

The Young Musician competition has produced an even larger number of very talented performers.

Preliminary Competitions were held in the District in January and February sending a record number of young people through to the District Final which was held on Sunday 15th March.

Wrekin College in Wellington very generously let Rotary have use of the whole music department including the Centenary Theatre. The annual Shakespeare production was about to take place in the theatre the following week so the stage was set for "Macbeth" but with curtains drawn across and the Youth Service Pull Up Banners in place it was a perfect setting for the competition.

Six vocalists and nine instrumentalists performed. The winners of each section were awarded a place in the Regional Final.

The songs performed ranged from classical arias and lieder to contemporary songs from the shows. The singers showed their ability to perform in different styles. The winner was Amelia

Gilmour, aged 16, who attends Thomas Telford School and was sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Wolverhampton and Wolverhampton St Georges.

The instrumentalists comprised five pianists, two saxophonists, one cellist and a keyboard player. The standard and variety of music was fantastic ranging from classical, through jazz and easy listening pieces. The winner was Lauren Zhang, aged 12, who attends the King Edward VI High School for Girls and was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Dudley.

Amelia and Lauren both made the journey to Bristol Grammar School where the Regional Final took place on 19th April with competitors from Districts 1060, 1100, 1150 and 1210. The competition was extremely high and our young competitors were not successful this year but have the opportunity of entering again next year. Members from the District attended along with District Governor Lynne Marshall.

The National Final is in Lancashire at the Darwen Vale School on Saturday 16th May.



DG Lynne Marshall with the two District Final Winners.
(Amelia Gilmour on the left and Lauren Zhang on the right)

Rotary Club of Blythe Bridge Celebrate Presidents Night

On Friday 20th February 2015 the Rotary Club of Blythe Bridge and District together with guests celebrated its Presidents Night at the Upper House Barlaston.

During the evening President Howard Leese presented three Paul Harris Fellows to Rotarian Peter Nixon, Rotarian Richard Jacobs and Rotarian Brian Whittaker.

A Paul Harris Fellow is in appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for

the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among people of the world.

It was particularly special at this point in time with 23rd February 2015 is World Rotary Day when Rotarians throughout the world were acknowledging 110 years of Rotary International as it was founded by Paul Harris in 1905.

President Howard said "it was an honor to present this Award to such dedicated Rotarians."

PASSING A MILESTONE

As the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury gears up to new projects both locally and internationally it has passed a significant milestone; since the turn of the Millennium it has distributed over £250,000 to good causes.

With the Club President choosing Charities each year numerous good causes around the town have been given grants over these last 15 years.

The Club has been a strong supporter of the Severn Hospice since that was founded and has been a regular contributor to its funding. The local branch of the Red Cross has also featured, with a particular effort being made in 2006 when they were fundraising for an emergency support service vehicle. The Royal Shrewsbury Hospital was supported with a new rectal probe and the local branch of MacMillan Nurses also featured among the charities supported.

The Club recently refurbished and presented a wheelchair to a local ex-serviceman and to support its International effort it collected redundant tools and sewing machines which now have a new and productive life in Africa.

The Club has regularly supported Rotary International's campaign to rid the world of polio, a goal that is tantalisingly close. Previously one of its members had been the UK co-ordinator for a charity based in India, MUKTI and along with another charity in Jaipur providing artificial limbs the Club worked with many others in this country to provide resources. The Club has also supported RedR, a charity that trains engineers to give help and guidance to Governments and their agencies when support is needed after a natural disaster to help rebuild infrastructure and shattered communities.

A regularly supported charity has been Hope and Homes for Children, an international charity working to ensure that all children have the chance to grow up in the love of a family in a world and no longer suffer institutional care.

Its work does not stop; its current projects included collecting backpacks and filling them with educational materials for children in Africa to support an initiative by the Charity Mary's Meal, as well as a forthcoming event which will support the Severn Hospice.

RC Wolstanton Presentation Evening

The Rotary Club of Wolstanton presented cheques totalling £6000 to local charities from the funds they raised from operating their Charity Shop in Merial Street, Newcastle during an 11 weeks period from November 2014 to the end of January 2015.

The recipients were The Peter Pan Nursery for special needs children, The Arch charity who help those suffering domestic violence and abuse, The North Staffs branch of Diabetes UK, the North Staffs branch of the

Alzheimer's Society, the Douglas Macmillan hospice and the Donna Louise Trust.

Rotary Club President, Moriss Jones handed out the cheques to representatives from the charities concerned at the Club's weekly meeting on 12th March.

He thanked all the Rotarians, together with their family and friends, who helped operate the shop. In addition, he especially thanked all the people from the local community who visited the shop and made it such a success.



Wolstanton Rotary Club President, Moriss Jones with L to R:- Pat Bentley from the Alzheimer's Society, Sophie Baker from The Peter Pan Nursery, Christine Bloor from Diabetes UK and Ray Elks from The Arch.

ELLESMERE COLLEGE INTERACT CLUB

On Thursday 12th February Ellesmere College Interact Club hosted their Headmaster, Brendan Wignall, and a number of members of Rotary International to a lunch in celebration of their Year 0 Charter Day. During the lunch the youngsters reported on their plans for charitable work in Africa and the local area for the next twelve months. Members of Rotary International in attendance

included 2010 District Governor Lynne Marshall, District Interact Officer John Bullock, Ellesmere Rotary Club President Elect Reverend Ian Hutchings and Ellesmere Youth Committee Chairman Fred Williams - a former teacher at the College. The youngsters were very keen to draw on the experience and knowledge of those present in order to develop their plans further.



Ellesmere College Interact and Lynne Marshall

The 2014 Telford Tree of Light appeal

Naturally Telford Rotarians thank all our donors, there were over 5,170 names around the Tree from the 2,321 application forms, sent out 22nd October.

The amount donated is £38,200 including gift aid. This is slightly more than in previous years.

Over the 19 years, the four Telford Rotary Clubs have collected just under £500,000, all given to local Telford Charities.

The Telford Tree of Light would not be possible without the support of the four Rotary Clubs of Telford, namely Wellington, Telford Centre, The Wrekin and Ironbridge, and the many corporate sponsors who contribute so that every penny donated in memory of a loved one

can be passed to our nominated charities.

On the 12th February our annual Tree of Light dinner, organized this year by Ironbridge Club, was held and the monies were distributed as follows. 1/2 to our local Severn Hospice, the remainder divided equally amongst the four Club nominated charities.

The charities are:

- Neo-Natal Unit Princess Royal Hospital
- Wellington Cottage Care
- Georgia Williams Trust
- Telford Mind

The committee will now have one more meeting to review the 2014 appeal, and will then meet again in June to start planning for 2015



In the photo, Rtn. Peter Seaward, Rtn. Paul Booth and Sarah Maythorne (Severn Hospice) receiving the Severn Hospice cheque for £19100.

The Rex Bolton Lecture

On March 6th, 46 guests attended Ironbridge Rotary Clubs' 6th Annual Rex Bolton lecture. Rex was a former Group Study Exchange leader and my predecessor as District International Officer and the lecture has traditionally been based on an International charity with local connections. This year was no exception with the retired Wrekin School headmaster Stephen Drew, bringing us up to date on the work of the small Shrewsbury based charity 'Medic Malawi' of which he is now CEO.

After we had all enjoyed a three course meal, Stephen, who had also previously been head of the local school Kamuzu Academy in rural Malawi around 15 years ago, firstly explained how Malawi is the 7th poorest country in the world, with the majority of the people living on less than 'a dollar a day' [about 65p!]. He also pointed out to those worried about the Ebola outbreak, [in West Africa] that Lilongwe, the capital of Malawi, is further from Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, than London is !!

Medic Malawi, which was founded in 1997, supports the work of a school, two orphanages and a small hospital in the small township of Mtunthana. One poignant story concerned the

work of Amos Nyaka, who was a former pupil of Stephen's and having trained in Kenya as a doctor, has now returned to Malawi and visits for 3-4 days every few weeks to carry out eye surgery, in particular cataract removal. It is a sad fact that 75% of all blindness could be cured given additional funding. Amos's cataract operations cost on average a mere £30. Around 40,000 people benefit from Medic Malawi's work in some respect. Pictured is the maternity ward, the orphanage, the school and Amos with a patient.

All the guests were impressed with Stephen's talk, so much so that Ironbridge donated £500 towards the charity on the spot, and Steve Evans, our District International chair agreed to accompany Stephen on his next trip there in June 2016. By the looks of the school classroom it could certainly do with a lick of paint!

Medic Malawi are promoting a set of Breakfast fundraising events, please contact their website for further details or to request a talk by Stephen. There is also a 'wish list' of various equipment that is required that you might be able to help out with. The web site can be found at www.medicmalawi.org



Medic malawi school

Eye surgery at Medic Malawi



INDIAN EVENING PUTS TOM ON THE SPOT!!

A joint evening with Inner Wheelers and partners at a local Indian restaurant proved a suitable background for the surprise presentation of a 'Sapphire Pin' to add to his Paul Harris Fellowship (2007) to Whitchurch Club Secretary Tom Kelly. Tom joined Rotary in 1988, Club President 2003/4 and this award recognises his outstanding achievements in raising over £60,000 for 17 differing humanitarian and charitable

concerns over 16 years – always at his own expense.

Past President David Hewitt fittingly introduced Tom to those present as he himself received a Paul Harris award for sterling contributions to Rotary in March this year, but the actual ceremony was performed by Club President Richard Persson.

THESE AWARDS ARE THE HIGHEST AN INDIVIDUAL ROTARIAN CAN ACHIEVE.

POPULAR 'FORTIES NIGHT'

There was Captain Mainwaring giving orders to Dad's Army.

There was the Angle and Flan duo, and there was Captain Mervyn Davies sounding the Last Post.

It was all part of a 'Forties Night' enjoyed by Rotarians and guests at Eat Well in Milk Street, Shrewsbury, its large front windows facing the town's attractive High Street.

An imaginative 'first' for the club, the popular 'Forties Night' was organised by Squadron Leader Geoff Lloyd and Dad's Army's Private Frank Pike (Willie Strachan).

Congratulations to all those who dressed in 40's outfits for the occasion.

Rotary's thanks to the Eat Well team for a great supper and providing a superb venue for this novel event.



Eccleshall Mercia Go Commercial

Eccleshall Mercia Rotary Club have gone commercial to raise cash for needy - having acquired a varied stock of animal ceramics - mugs and dishes with a wide range of animal designs, from Afghan Hounds, to wrens (the garden bird). Stock has been obtained from a company in The Netherlands with whom one of our members dealt over 10 years ago, - the supplier has discontinued supplying ceramics, and offered clearance stock at favourable wholesale prices. Four members put up cash to buy a range of the mugs and dishes and have already more than covered the outlay. A further message to the company who are based near Rotterdam pleading the case for any other stock they wished to dispose of which we would sell for Rotary charitable funds saw a further delivery in response just before Christmas for which no charge has been made. Since then sales have been made from a stand at two dog shows at Staffordshire County Showground and many items have been sold on Ebay.

It may take a few months to clear all the stock but a cheque for £225 has been handed over to the Club in April from the profit so far.

Do you own a Shar Pei dog? If so you would love one of our Shar

Pei food bowls! - it seems the company in The Netherlands had problems selling them which will be why they sent us a fair number, and somehow we haven't managed to get the message through to Shar Pei owners - the quality of all the dishes and mugs is first class. The dishes also serve very well as plant pot holders.

The animals we have in stock are: Mugs, Cats: Persian, Siamese, Dogs: Afghan Hound, Basset Hound, Bouvier des Flandres, Cocker Spaniel, Dogue de Bordeaux, English Bulldog, French Bulldog, Greyhound, King Charles Spaniel, Newfoundland, Poodle, Pug, Rottweiler, Scottish Collie, Other critters: Wren, Chimpanzee, Chinchilla, Hedgehog, Indian Elephant, Lovebirds, The Lion, Food Bowls, Chihuahua, Dachshund, French Bulldog, Shar Pei, Yorkshire Terrier, Rabbit.

The prices we are selling at, including shipping to UK addresses is £9.99 for any 2 mugs, and £9.99 including shipping for 1 dish/food bowl. Enquiries to Club President Steve Groom email: sjgroom@btinternet.com. If you are looking for Shar Pei dishes a great deal on boxes of 3 are available! Dell Boy would be proud of us.



Les Chalker PHF

Les Chalker PHF "the man who always says 'Yes'" has been a member of the Rotary Club of Ironbridge for 18 years. He has recently retired from the local bench of Magistrates after giving 30 years service.

In his working life he was chief engineer at Ever Ready batteries in Dawley, where he likens the working atmosphere to Corries knicker factory.

Undaunted by redundancy when the factory closed he founded his own company Univesell Batteries

In his youth Les played the cornet in the local brass band and

admits he used to run to the bandroom to win the best cap and jacket.

During his colourful life Les can boast 5 years as a Youth leader, 8 years as a Samaritan and continues as a school governor.

He has been married to Sue for 46 years and despite being struck with Parkinsons in 2000 which has affected his movement his brain is as sharp as ever.

Les's story was featured in the Shropshire Star. The article included a photograph of Les proudly holding the plaque which celebrates his 30 years as a magistrate.



BOSCOBEL OAK

The Provisional Rotary Club of Boscobel Oak was featured in a three page article in both the Wolverhampton and Shropshire Magazines.

The article celebrated the clubs first 6 months during which time it raised £3,000

Boscobel Oak President, 25 year old Kelly Davies, was also interviewed on Radio Shropshire.



Kaiser (Jo's Canine Partner) Jo (a founder member), Kelly (Club President) and Malcolm Wells (Director of Canine Partners)

VANUATU COLLECTION

On 21 March eight Whitchurch Rotarians collected nearly £150 to help those stricken by the devastating cyclone which hit the Vanuatu island. This was forwarded along with a further £590 donation from club funds.

Rotary Club of Ellesmere: Nepal Disaster Relief Update

On Saturday 25th April the small nation of Nepal was struck by a severe earthquake, followed by a number of aftershocks. The final death toll is as yet uncertain, but horrendous. In addition, the destruction of infrastructure and homes has left many thousands of people homeless and desperate. Rotary International has made a huge effort, through partnership organisations, to get aid to the country swiftly. One such organisation is ShelterBox, a West Country based charity that has stores of aid positioned around the world for emergencies. Through contacts with Rotary Clubs in Nepal the situation was quickly assessed and a ShelterBox Team arrived in Kathmandu two days later. ShelterBox tents were providing temporary facilities for four hospitals in the city by 30th April, with a further 500 ShelterBox kits arriving by 6th May.

Rotary is also working closely with other organisations, such as DisasterAid and AquaBox, to alleviate suffering as quickly as possible. The Rotary Club of Ellesmere has been raising funds locally to support the efforts of Rotary International. Stan's Shop

in St Martins kindly allowed the Club to carry out bucket collections, whilst a further collection took place at The Mere on Easter Monday. These have gathered approximately £1300 from the people of Ellesmere and Hinterlands. In addition the management, staff and clientele of The Red Lion in Ellesmere donated the £200 proceeds from a Quiz Night to the Rotary effort. Trevor Humphries, Chairman of the Club's International Committee said, "The generosity of our local community is magnificent".



Geoff Corfield and Bill Hitchens Nepal

Bilston and Wolverhampton West Rotary Under 13's Floodlit Cup Final

The Rotary Club of Bilston & W.W. has sponsored this match since its creation 6 years ago. It has grown in stature year on year and is now probably the biggest local event in junior football with a waiting list for entry, due to the limited number of 32 teams being accepted.

From the first round to the final, there were 31 games played. The final being played at Bilston Town Community F.C. on Wednesday 11th March between Kewford Eagles South and Sutton United.

The match was fast and furious with the first goal after 10 minutes to Kewford Eagles, rapturous applause from the supporters and probably 5 minutes before the game could get underway again. The second half was just as exciting with Sutton scoring an equaliser, the oooooohh from the crowd lasted for what seemed an eternity. If it were possible the match seemed to continue at an

even faster pace with the ball threatening the goal at one end of the pitch one minute and the other the next. It seemed inevitable that the game would go to sudden death penalty shoot-out, until 2 minutes before time when Kewford scored their second goal. Anguished cries from one side, whoops of joy from the other.

Kewford carried the game and in all fairness, although it was a close call, I believe that they were the better team. IPP Jon presented the trophy, prize money and medallions and the joy and sadness between the two teams would not have been misplaced at Wembley.

Great tournament, and a huge thank you to Graham Hodson and Denise Frankham (Bilston Town Community F.C. Chairman and Vice Chairman) for their amazing organisation skills that enabled the event to take place.



IPP Jon Crockett seen left of the winning team Kewford Eagles South. with Incoming Pres. Ken Dolman to the right.

Ludlow Rotary Club plans another Major Charity Fund Raising Event

Following on from their first very successful Ludlow Dog Day last July which raised over £16,000 for a number of charities, Ludlow Rotary Club are planning an even bigger and better Second Ludlow Dog Day to take place on 19th July 2015 at Stokesay Court, a few miles north of Ludlow and just off the A49.

Last year the event attracted some 2,500 people, in many cases with their furry friends, from all over Shropshire, Herefordshire and Powis. This year the Club plans to have even more displays, more competitions, more stalls and hopefully more of the public from an even wider catchment area now that the word has gone out what a great event it was last year.

Rotary Club President Michael Symonds commented "Once again we must thank our generous host Caroline Magnus for allowing us to use the beautiful grounds of Stokesay Court as the venue for the event again this year, and to popular TV presenter Jules Hudson, who did such a brilliant job for us last year, for generously agreeing to return both to open the event and to spend the day with us. For any event of this size we are heavily reliant on our sponsors for both financial and active support on the day, and we would like to thank three of last year's main sponsors Shukers, Teme Vets

and Nock Deighton who have generously agreed to sponsor us again, and new sponsor Hobsons Brewery who have come on board this year. We would like to hear from anybody who feels that they could offer to help us on the day as organising this major event requires a lot of people. They can find us on our website: www.ludlowdogday.co.uk."

The main beneficiaries of this year's event will be St Michael's Hospice, the League of Friends of Ludlow Hospital and Canine Partners.

Gates will open on 19 July at 10.00am with competitions for all types of dog and skills ranging from the best rescue dog to the fastest sausage eater, with much in between. In addition there will be a full programme of special events with dog display teams and demonstrations including flyball, dog obedience and dog assistance.

For human consumption during the day there will be tasty fare, tea and of course beer! There will also be stalls offering a wide variety of countryside and doggy accessories.

This will be no ordinary day in the busy doggy diary, but a day to celebrate our furry friends in all their guises. So make a note in your diary for Sunday 19th July and come and enjoy a great day out with your dogs, family and friends.



Anna Photography

Rotary President Hits the Heights

Wolverhampton Rotary Club President Mike Boyce is not a man for having his head in the clouds, but he is just back from a trip which forced him to spend time examining the clouds from very close range.

It all began when a mid-life yen for the outdoors led to exploratory skirmishes with Cadair Idris in Wales, leading on to Sca Fell Pike and Ben Nevis. In the course of these excursions Mike also used the opportunity to raise sponsorship to support a School project in Lusaka, Zambia.

In the course of all this activity the seed was sown for bigger and better heights to be tackled. Out of this emerged the idea of having a go at Kilimanjaro. Mike's researches told him that this could realistically be taken on by someone reasonably fit, with determination and a willingness to rough it for six days and nights. Happily an NVQ in mountaineering was not an essential qualification.

When Mike mentioned this to his father he replied in typical fashion "Well I think you're absolutely barmy Michael - but I would be very proud of you."

Sadly, Mike's Dad died the very next day - so it was always going to happen - and it was always going to be Kilimanjaro.

To get himself fit to spend seven days in January, walking 50 miles, climbing (and unclimbing) 19,340 feet, sleeping under canvas, tackling a great snow-covered lump of rock called Mount Kilimanjaro, the pride of Tanzania and the highest peak in Africa, Mike did many walks up and down the Wrekin and

occasionally Snowdon, averaging 4-5 miles daily. He also included a walk up Snowdon and Scafell Pike in the same day.

Of the climb, Mike says "The effects of altitude sickness can be very disabling. At first I seemed to be lucky and to have escaped, except that for the first two nights I just could not sleep. Because of this I was pretty shattered when altitude did begin to take effect as we made more height. Headaches were pretty common as we continued. On the third night though, I did finally manage to get a few hours sleep.

The final ascent on the fifth night was the longest and hardest six and a half hours of my life. - In the last hour I think I was barely awake, having been up all night, and now at the highest altitude and with the temperature playing its part too. It was all I could do to concentrate and move one foot in front of the other.

The joy felt in summiting at 6.34am was tempered by my exhaustion and also how cold I was with painfully cold hands and feet. It took the help of guide Kamander to operate cameras to record our arrival. I did not hang about - after about 20 minutes on the summit, I headed back.

Mike took the opportunity to get his fellow Rotarians, family and friends to sponsor his climb. As a result Compton Hospice, the Moving Mountains Trust (which - provides relief from hardship and suffering in Kenya, Nepal and Borneo and are currently building a primary school near where Mike was lodged in Moshi) and the Rotary Charitable Trust will all benefit.



DUDLEY CELEBRATES as it receives two Awards in one month...

The aim of the Sportsman's Dinner at the Molineux on a Thursday in March was to boost our charity fund whilst also having an enjoyable evening with people from local businesses. After a welcome, President Pauline explained the types of charities the Club supports and in particular her charities this year.

After the meal, there was bingo and then the auctions, not forgetting the on-going silent auction of sporting memorabilia and the raffle... all of which raised £2,300.

Finally it was time for our guest speaker Jan Molby, a Liverpool and Denmark footballer, who regaled the guests with tales of his rise to fame and of the antics of many well known footballers. Finally comedian Billy Flywheel entertained everyone with his jokes and then magic tricks.... the latter left many wondering how such tricks were achieved!

As a result of this evening, the Club received a Rotary Day Award for "strengthening Rotary's relationship with the community and introducing the public to the enjoyable and rewarding experiences that Rotary offers."

For the RIBI Media, Public Relations & Communications Award for Club Bulletin, the last

three editions of a Club Bulletin, ours being The HUB, had to be submitted and to our surprise the Club received an email saying....

"Congratulations, we are delighted to inform you that your entry has been chosen as the winner of the Club Bulletin Award.

The judges particularly like the easy to read layout, and the information was clear and concise. The prominence of the social media feeds was easy to see and there was a good variety of information."

The Award is kept for a year and is in the shape of an open book made of wood with the names of winners inscribed on the back. DG Lynne collected the Award at the RIBI Conference in Belfast and presented both Awards to the Club at their Ladies Night.

There was yet further celebration at our Partners Evening in March when President Pauline outlined the service given by PP Robert Howell since he joined in February 2002 - as a Committee member and then Chairman, and President in 2010/11, Golf Days, Tesco Sleigh and so on as she presented him with a Paul Harris Fellowship Award for his service to Rotary.



The text is *FIRST WAS THE WORD* and *THE MOST EFFECTIVE CLUB BULLETIN*

ZEST FOR LIFE

The Speaker at Whitchurch's meeting on 27 January was Karen Jones, a trustee of a charity which fund raises to improve education and facilities for young people in remotest areas of Kenya. This small charity has in a short time sponsored 50 plus children and Whitchurch Rotarian International chairman

pledged the club's practical support. The speaker on 7th April was President Richard's son-in-law Mark Sugden who outlined the work of his firm in on-line identity verification. A wealth of questions revealed the interest and bewilderment of many in such an erudite but important subject.

QUIZ QUEST QUASHED

Whitchurch Rotarians fielded three teams in the District Quiz with A and C reaching the semi final, but the A team previous competition winners could only finish 8th and the C's 5th so the final looks unlikely. 'A' - Mike Arnold, Bill Carmichael, Nick and David Williams. 'C' Richard Persson, Tom Kelly, George Brown and David Simcock.

STROKE AWARENESS DAY

Whitchurch Rotarian Keith Senior organised the Whitchurch Club's 13th Stroke Awareness Day on 11th April. Club members stewarded and health professionals tested blood pressure and advised the 80 or so clients.

Santa's Late Deliveries

Following very successful Xmas Collections with their Santa Sleigh around the roads and avenues of Wednesfield and three days of collections at Sainsburys, Wednesfield Rotary Club were pleased to announce that a total sum of £7475.23 was collected, by far the highest amount collected by the club over the Xmas season.

The club held a presentation evening when £5000.00 was presented by President Ray Ward to Kate West of Birmingham Childrens' Hospital to add to their CT Scanner Suite Appeal to make things a bit more comfortable, bright and cheery with interactive features for young patients when they attend hospital for a Scan.

The club received help to make the collections from other

organisations and Mr Ward also presented cheques to Neal Quinton of Fallings Park Scouts, £330.00, Marion Watkins of Fallings Park Brownies, £525.00, and to Norma Jukes of Wednesfield Inner Wheel, £250.00.

Mr Ward also expressed the club's appreciation to Lynn Ryan of Sainsbury's for their help in allowing the club to collect at the store for three days and also to Jane Taylor of Regal Motors for another year when her company both serviced the Sleigh and provided a van to tow it.

Over the Xmas period the club also made presentations of £1000.00 to Brownshore Pre-school Playgroup in Essington and £500.00 to Rev Nick Watson for the St Thomas's Church Clock Renovation Fund.



From left to right:- Jane Taylor (Regal Motors), Lynn Ryan (Sainsburys), Rtn Stan Jukes (Sleigh organiser), Kate West (Birmingham Childrens' Hospital), Marion Watkins (Fallings Park Brownies), President Ray Ward, Neal Quinton (Fallings Park Scouts), Norma Jukes (Wednesfield Inner Wheel).

FIRST ROTARY SPONSORSHIP FOR MINSTERLEY EISTEDDFOD

Young musicians aged six to 18 will benefit from a donation that Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary has given to this year's Minsterley Eisteddfod.

The £250 Rotary sponsorship will cover individual and group vocal and instrumental competitions as well as children's choirs when the Eisteddfod is held on Saturday March 21.

Said Mervyn Davies, President

of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary: "The rationale behind the sponsorship is to encourage aspiring young musicians whether they sing or play an instrument."

Joe Evans, committee chairman said: "We are extremely grateful to Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary for sponsoring 11 of the children's competitions which is very generous of the club."



Left to right: Mary Stott (cup and committee secretary), Mervyn Davies and Joe Evans.

TOP ROTARY AWARD FOR ROTARIAN PHILIP LEASON

Philip Leason was in for a pleasant surprise when he attended Stone Rotary's meeting on the 20th April. He had told members and friends all about his recent trip to India to help out with polio vaccinations - when President Len Bassett presented him with a Paul Harris Fellowship. In this country the Fellowship is awarded to Rotarians and members of the community who really exemplify Rotary's motto of 'Service above Self'.

In making the award Len Bassett drew attention to Philip's significant contribution to the community of Stone, his extensive historical knowledge of the Town and his long service in Rotaract and Rotary. He was President of Stone Rotary in 2001/02. As Rotary Foundation Chair in Stone Philip looks after

the Polio elimination campaign in the area and recently he has 'led from the front' in making two trips to India to participate in their National Immunisation Days - an essential activity if the disease of polio is to be eradicated from the world.

Rotary's District Governor, Lynne Marshall, was on hand to offer Philip her congratulations on receiving this prestigious award.

The previous day Philip had organised a Sunday lunch at Stone Golf Club for members and friends of the Club to support Rotary's Polio elimination campaign, the sum of £250 was raised, which will be double matched by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to make a total £750. That is enough cash to immunise over 2,000 children!



Endoscopy Unit Benefits from Sportsman's Night

Adventurer Steve Harpin recently spoke to the Rotary Club of Wellington about his attempt to break the world record for rowing across the Atlantic. In November/December last year Steve and six team-mates tested their minds and body to the limit, braving huge seas and horrendous weather during their epic 37 day journey from Tenerife to Barbados.

Steve used the adventure to raise money for the Bickerstaff Endoscopy Unit at Telford's Princess Royal Hospital. His trainer, Jim Mostyn, explained to

club members how he had survived bowel cancer after tests at the Unit two years ago.

Following the very successful Rotary Club of Wellington's 2015 Sportsman's Night, with guest speakers ex-Manchester United and England footballer Lee Sharpe and comedian Tony Jo, a cheque for £2500 was presented to Mr Jeff Bateman, the Consultant in Charge of the Unit. In thanking the Club he emphasised the importance of the screening system in the early diagnoses and successful treatment of this type of cancer.



Left, Mr Jeff Bateman, Consultant at the Bickerstaff Unit and President Venn Davies of the Rotary Club of Wellington

RC of Uttoxeter visits the Houses of Parliament

A few days before the Budget over 40 Members and friends visited the Palaces of Westminster. The visit had been arranged by the then local MP Andrew Griffiths, who personally took them on a tour of the buildings.

His detailed knowledge of the history of the many rooms was invaluable, as was his experiences of working in the building. The incredibly ornate decoration by the architect Pugin (who also contributed to our local architecture in Cheadle and Alton Towers) was impressive.

After a walk through the House of Lords the highlight of the tour

was reached with a visit to the House of Commons. Here it was possible to see from the floor just what Members of Parliament faced in their many debates. It was also an opportunity to stand at the Despatch box from where the many speakers addressed the House and to actually place hands on it in the way that they do. To see some 48 hours later George Osborne addressing the House from the very same position was quite salutary. For security reasons the tour had to be completed by 1.30 but there was an opportunity to see a debate from the Visitors Gallery in the afternoon.



Presentation made to The Shrewsbury Ark

The Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin recently presented a cheque for £800 to The Shrewsbury Ark. The Shrewsbury Ark is a drop-in centre helping homeless and vulnerable people.

Their aims are to create:

- A refuge for those in need or distress
- A haven of friendship, warmth, and welcome in which people are listened to
- A source of immediate on the spot advice and support designed to contribute to the relief of need and distress
- A space in which other

agencies can offer expert professional advice, help and support

- A limited menu of affordable food and drink for those in need
- An environment and opportunities which build self-confidence and self-respect enabling all to develop their potential.

Shrewsbury Darwin Rotary Club along with the two other Shrewsbury Rotary Clubs have supported The Shrewsbury Ark since its inception in 2008.



From left to right are:- Tim Compton – Manager of The Shrewsbury Ark, Club Treasurer Jonathan Partridge, Club President Kevin Nester, Rotarian Kathryn Whelan

Robin Huiseman Visits Rotary Club of Uttoxeter

Golf course architect Robin Huiseman visited the Rotary Club of Uttoxeter to talk about the development of a new Golf Course at Woodseat Hall, Rocester for JCB. With his background in designing a number of European courses Robin is the ideal person to create a course which, it is hoped, will ultimately feature on the European Tour.

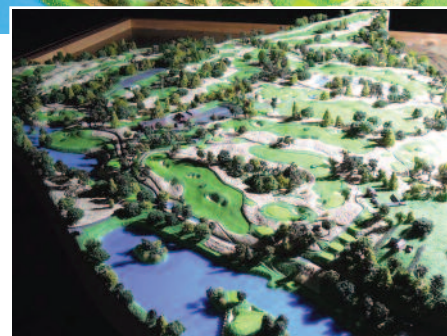
Preparations have been in hand for two years and the Club were shown a number of exploratory drawings that he had prepared to gain experience of the terrain. Some parts of the area were challenging as they had previously been prepared for an aircraft runway, but the most interesting aspect was the availability of water features,

including the old Caudon Canal and one of the JCB Lakes. His final design includes a challenging 17th hole on an island in the middle of the lake.

Currently the ground has been shaped and this year further development will take place in soil preparation, including the hauling of around 70,000 tons of sand to cap the fairways, after which some 50kms of irrigation piping and drainage has then to be installed before the final stages of seeding can take place. Plans are such that the course should be ready for use in 2017. Although this is being constructed for corporate use, golfing members of the Club are living in hope that they may be invited to play the course one day.



Plan of Woodseat Hall Golf Course



Model of Woodseat Hall Golf Course



From Left. Robin Huiseman, Architect; Stephen Dewhirst, JCB Estates Manager; Dave Brown President

Carrying Water to help the poorest communities in the World.

Children from four local schools took part in the recent 'water carry' organised by Rotary in Stone. Everybody who took part was asked to carry water from Westbridge Park to the Whitebridge Estate along the canal tow path, a distance of about a mile.

The event raised funds for Water Aid, the charity that provides the poorest communities in the world with practical and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene projects to meet their local needs. Those taking part included children, parents and teachers from Alleynes Academy, Walton Priory Middle School, Manor Hill First School and St Michaels First School.

John Lockley, who organised the event for Rotary in Stone, said that by carrying even a small amount of water for a relatively short distance it helped to bring home to the youngsters the difficulties that people in some of the poorest communities in the world had in providing water, one of the basic requirements for a healthy life.

He went on to say that the total amount of cash raised would not become clear for a few weeks as each school would be collecting the sponsorship money and some would be sending it directly to Water Aid. The event had helped to raise awareness of this most important and worthwhile cause.



James and Sophie Tonge with Will Tonge and Head Teacher of Walton Priory School, Nikki Gilman, just before they set off on their sponsored walk to raise funds for Water Aid

AUDLEY ROTARY CLUB UPDATE

Like most Rotary Clubs, Christmas is our busiest time of the year. Time to dust off Santa's sleigh and wake up Rudolph. Each year the club also erects a Christmas tree in the village and we raise money for our local children's hospice – the Donna Louise Trust – through our 'Tree of Light'.

We raised a marvellous £4,272 from our Santa collections around the villages and were able to donate £400 to the Donna Louise Trust from the 'Tree of Light'. We distributed 1,500 lollypops to the children during our Santa collections which gives a good indication of how popular the event is. None of this would be possible, of course, without the considerable effort and time of Rotarians and friends and the wonderful generosity of the people in our community. Many thanks to all.

In November, a number of Rotarians and friends took part in a series of walks along the Staffordshire Way and raised £767 for the Chernobyl school refurbishment project. This is a project that we have been delighted to be involved with over the last few years.

We also teamed-up with the Rotary Club of Endon & Stockton Brook and made a donation of £766 (£383 each) to help a group of 10

Nepalese students and teachers visit Endon High School. Yet another rewarding project and it is so good to be able to work alongside another club to achieve our objectives.

As part of the 'End Polio Now' campaign, the club collected £327 in 5 pence pieces. This is sufficient to supply about 1000 doses of polio vaccine, rising to 3000 doses thanks to the 2 to 1 matching funds from the 'Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation'. President Jim McCabe and other Rotarians and partners can be seen in the photograph after completing the motif from the 5 pence pieces.



YES Barcodes Can Buy Wheelchairs

Rotarians within Rotary District 1210 with the support of District 21 Inner Wheel have been supporting the Wheelchair Foundation UK and the Yorkshire Tea Bar Code Programme for some time. The Wheelchair Foundation UK goal is to deliver a wheelchair to every child, teenager and adult worldwide who needs one but has no means to acquire one.

By collecting Yorkshire Tea Bar codes we recently achieved the target of 750 credits which has enabled the gift of a wheelchair to provide "hope mobility and freedom to a person in Namibia".

So let us keep collecting the barcodes to enable the provision of a further wheelchair.

Barcodes should be sent to Rotarian Lynne Deavin



The
Wheelchair Foundation
UK

Wishes To Thank;

Rotary District 1210

Because of This Most Generous Gift,
Hope, Mobility And Freedom
Were Given To Persons in Namibia



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 373963
www.d1210.org/albrighton.html

ALDRIDGE

Thursday (E) 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 662335
www.alldridgeclub.org.uk

AUDLEY

Wednesday (E) 6.30 for 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 662335
www.sites.google.com/site/audleyrotaryclub

BILSTON

Monday (E) 7.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 761550
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: 01746 766245
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 684020
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: 0121 502 6001
www.darlastonrotary.net

DUDLEY

Monday (E) 6.15 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 892160
www.dudleyrotary.org.uk

ECCLESHALL MERCIA

Monday (E) 7.30 pm
Club Sec.: Tel: 01785 603367
www.eccleshallrotary.com

ELLESMERE

Wednesday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01691 623470
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 786277
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 878872
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 813108
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.shrewsburyrotary.co.uk

SHREWSBURY

Wednesday (L) 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01743 231059
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) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 253823
www.staffordcastlerotary.co.uk

STAFFORD KNOT

Thursday (B) 7.15 for 7.30am
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 760295
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) 7.15 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01785 760120
www.stonerotary.org

TELFORD CENTRE

Tuesday (E) 6.00 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 07930 397270
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: 0121 556 1065
www.wednesburyrotary.co.uk/

WEDNESFIELD

Wednesday (E) 6.15 for 6.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 333853
www.wednesfieldrotary.org.uk

WELLINGTON

Friday (L) 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01952 541518
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: 01939 250381
www.d1210.org/wem.html

WHITCHURCH

Tuesday 1st, 3rd & 5th (E) 7.00pm,
2nd & 4th (L) 1.00pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01948 665330
www.rotarian.org.uk

WILLENHALL

Thursday (E) 5.30 for 6.00pm
(last Thursday 7.00pm with partners)
Club Sec. Tel: 01922 445031
www.rotarywillenhall.org.uk

WOLSTANTON

Thursday (E) 7.00 for 7.30pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01782 799697
www.d1210.org/wolstanton.html

WOLVERHAMPTON

Tuesday (L) 12.45pm
Club Sec. Tel: 01902 375784
www.rotaryclubwolverhampton.co.uk

WOLVERHAMPTON ST. GEORGES

Tuesday (B) 7.15 for 7.30am
Club Sec. Tel: 01543 304682
www.stgeorges1210.org.uk

THE WREKIN

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

LLANDUDNO CONFERENCE

September 25th - 27th 2015



‘The line up of outstanding speakers continues to grow in strength and stunning quality.’



Actress Jenny Seagrove and Holocaust Survivor Ziggy Shipper will be joined by raconteur Derek Poulson, whose talk ‘It’s Not What You Say, It’s The Way that you Say it’ will have us in fits of laughter; we’ll have a visit from Clive Lewis from Oswestry with a talk entitled ‘Turning Knives Into Angels’ which will give us all much to ponder over.

There’s a section to present the outstanding quality of our young people, and with Geoff Mackey as the compere for this section, a lively presentation is in prospect.

LLANDUDNO 2015 Registration Form			On or before 28.02.15 (per delegate)	01.03.15 onwards (per delegate)
Category				
Rotarian (Inc Honorary Rotarian or Associate Member)	A		£95	£100
Rotarian's Spouse/Partner	B		£95	£100
Rotarian Family Member or Guest or Friend of Rotary*	C		£95	£100

*A non-member who regularly supports Rotary and its activities.

Information	Registration No 1	Registration No 2
Delegate Family Name		
Preferred Badge Name		
Rotary Club (if applicable)		
Club for Saturday Meal Table Plan (if different)		
Category (as above)		
Home Address		
Post Code		
Home Telephone		
Mobile Telephone		
Email Address		
Special dietary needs		
Mobility/Sensory needs		
Conference hotel		

Please send the completed registration form together with your cheque payable to:-
ROTARY DISTRICT 1210 CONFERENCE A/C
to: Rtn Robin Tyler-Morris, Penn Moor Farm, Chamberlains Lane, Upper Penn, Wolverhampton WV4 5HT

I/We enclose cheque in the sum of £..... (insert amount)

Signed..... Date.....

Data Protection: Information collected by Rotary International District 1210 will be used only for the purpose of ensuring efficient and cost effective administration of Conference 2015 and will be shared with third party suppliers for those reasons alone. NO third party circularisation will be permitted.

ROTARIANS TOLD OF HOIST TO ELEVATE DISABLED RIDERS TO A HORSE

Rea Valley is the only Riding for the Disabled group in Shropshire to use a hoist to elevate a rider from a wheelchair to a horse, Rotarians have been told.

Speaking to Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary, which recently gave a cheque for £500 to Rea Valley, Carla Howarth said the speed of transfer of a rider to a horse was critical.

"It is a big juggling act of taking a horse to a disabled rider.

"It is very stressful for the horse if it takes a long time for the disabled rider to get on," said Carla who is county chair of Shropshire Riding for the Disabled.

"It's impossible to get horses that are bomb proof and so that makes risk assessment and following processes and procedures all the more important for our riders.

"The situation of course is different with an able bodied rider - that's the versatility of the horse."

Rotarians heard that children with all sorts of medical problems benefited from riding. One of the

riders at Berriewood, where Rea Valley meets, is totally blind.

"When you have been on a horse you are a different person afterwards. It benefits balance and muscles and enjoyment is of course part of it as well."

Carla explained: "Volunteers get a lot out of it and it's due to donations such as the one we kindly received from Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary.

"We are setting up fundraising at county level allowing all 10 groups to buy hats."

Rea Valley, which has 30 volunteers, meets at Berriewood on a Monday evening for younger people and Tuesday between 10-12. "We are reliant on Berriewood Stables," said Carla.

She explained to Rotarians that riders paid for half an hour, but the difference was made up by the group. Some riders required three volunteers.

Carla added that Riding for the Disabled Association is a worldwide trust with a history going back to the Romans with 500 member groups across the UK.



Left to right Amanda Gamble (volunteer), Carla Howarth, Mervyn Davies (President of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary), Jackie Cordery (volunteer) and Kerry Ferguson (Vice President of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary).

Rotary Club of Willenhall to Celebrate 80 Years of Service

2015 is an important year in the annals of the Rotary club of Willenhall with the celebration of 80 years of service since the Club was first Chartered in 1935.

The main event to celebrate this will be held on Sunday, September 6 with a lunch at the Chase Golf and Health Club, in Pottall Pool Road, Penkridge, Staffordshire, ST19 5RN to start at 12.30 for 1p.m. After a welcoming glass of wine/orange juice a three course meal will be served, followed by coffee at a cost of £25. Dress will be lounge suits.

The guest speakers will be the incoming President of R.I.B.I., Rotarian Peter Davey, Rotary

Club of Monmouth, who will be accompanied by his wife Sandra, and incoming District Governor Richard Green, Rotary club of Wolverhampton.

The Walsall Youth Orchestra will provide music for the occasion.

The President Elect of the Rotary club of Willenhall, Rotarian Jim Green says. "It will be a great honour to be President of the club in its 80th year and we look forward to celebrating our longevity with this lunch in September. We hope to be joined by some of our many friends from Clubs in the District and will circulate details again a little nearer the date.

MEDIC MALAWI CHARITY CONCERT RAISES OVER £2,200

A charity concert hosted by Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary has raised over £2,200 which will benefit a poor area of Africa.

The concert, in support of Medic Malawi, took place at Crowmoor Baptist Church, Shrewsbury, and featured more than 70 performers from the Shrewsbury Concert Band and The Mere Singers.

They treated the audience to a varied programme of music from around the world that concluded with a medley of Beatles hits featuring the two groups performing together.

The concert was organized by Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary whose President Mervyn Davies is also treasurer of Medic Malawi. He said: "It was a very enjoyable evening of music and the money raised will soon be put to good use.

"I am so grateful to all who made the event such a success. Whilst the concert took place in

the name of Rotary, the real credit must go to Harriet Harwood who was one of the performers that visited Malawi last summer.

"As a member of the band, she galvanized many supporters into action to attend on the evening and make the concert the success that it was."

Stephen Drew, who runs the charity from his home in Shrewsbury, told the audience of the vital work that Medic Malawi does and how every penny raised reaches Malawi because there are no UK costs.

The sum raised from the concert included over £700 from Barclays Bank who matched the amount from the raffle. The sum raised will be enough to carry out over 70 eye operations or employ a nurse for more than a year.

The charity runs a hospital and eye clinic as well as supporting an orphanage, nutrition centre and two schools in Mtuntanhama serving over 50,000 people in a rural area of Malawi.



Left to right Mervyn Davies, Harriet Harwood, Mary Keith, Ken Lumley and Stephen Drew.

Rotary Club of Cannock donate towards town centre defibrillator

Rotary club of Cannock working in partnership with local businesses have successfully provided a defibrillator for Cannock Town centre

The centre has a footfall of over 80,000 people per week and only last year there were 4 cases of heart attacks in the centre requiring emergency service attendance. Luckily all 4 survived.

Rotary working in partnership to help others is what we are about and to work with like minded people working for the people of Cannock is a bonus

The local shops and

businesses of Cannock rallied to support this initiative and now we have a location to site the unit and trained people to use this much needed equipment.

The cost of a defibrillator at £2750 is cheap compared to the loss of a life. The availability of a defibrillator will help save lives.

Rotary Club of Cannock would like to thank the people of Cannock for donating their hard earned cash at our Santa collections.

This is where the money is spent. Giving it back to the community we serve.



ROTARY DONATES FRUIT TREES TO FUTURES

Fruit trees have been planted at Severndale Academy's new Futures building with money donated by Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary. The planting was highlighted when Severndale Head Chris Davies and Assistant Head Siobhan Williams visited the Rotary Club to talk on the progress of Futures which opened last November.

The development is offering further education opportunities for post 16 students up to the age of 25. Futures currently has 52 students and the building can house 80. Rotarians were told that Futures, which is on the site of Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology, London Road, is offering students a more varied range of qualifications which includes setting up young people for the world of work. And the work related learning which Futures is now offering students is being carried out in close liaison with the college.

In addition to planting fruit trees, with berries and herbs underneath, outside the building at London Road, students grow crops at Tickwood Farm, Much Wenlock. Rotarians heard that students 'love gardening and horticulture' as well as hand made crafts from materials such as ceramics, glass and wood.

Following the talk, Rotarian Mervyn Davies, President of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary, visited Futures to see at first hand the variety of activities, including the new fruit trees in the

grounds. "I was most impressed with the enthusiasm and high volume of activity, including making Easter gifts for selling on a stall in the Square," said Mervyn. During his visit the President was offered a cup of coffee from a sophisticated coffee making machine in the Futures café. He was told by manager Tim Mulloy that students who staff the café are learning the skills of making a variety of coffee which is very popular. Mervyn is photographed with Tim and one of the café students Nathan Lloyd, 17.

In an introduction to Chris and Siobhan at the meeting, Iain Gilmour, chair of governors at the college, said Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary had a long association with Severndale.

This had started with Rotarians and partners taking children from Severndale on outings to Alton Towers and more recently Shrewsbury College had supported Severndale to build the £1.2m Futures at London Road.

He said the site was now the responsibility of Chris who reminded Rotarians it was 1997 when he last spoke to the club.

When Severndale started in 1995 there were 120 students and 60 staff. Today there were 410 students and 310 staff. The budget then was £1m. Now it is running at just over £7m.

Over £20m had been spent on the two sites, Woodcote Way and London Road, in terms of infrastructure.



Fruit trees have been planted in the grounds of Futures. Jack Talbot and Ben Noble, both 18, were among the planters and are seen with Liz Harrison, lead teacher, and Rotary president Mervyn Davies.



Nathan Lloyd, Tim Mulloy and Mervyn Davies.



Siobhan Williams, Mervyn Davies and Chris Davies.

STARTING ROTARIANS YOUNG!



Alan was accompanied by Trevor and Robyn Davies, Kirsty, Kelly and Lauren, partners and babies Jacob (Kirsty's) and Theodore (Kelly's).

For the first time in its 28 year history, Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary has welcomed babies to one of its weekly meetings.

The unusual - and unexpected - appearance of the babies happened at its last meeting when three week old Theodore and six week old Jacob were among the guests on what was another unprecedented first for the club.

For the meeting was presided over by its Junior Vice President Donald Thompson in the absence of President Mervyn Davies and Senior Vice President Kerry Fergusson.

Donald not only officiated over the evening's proceedings, but conducted the club's AGM which was part of the meeting.

He warmly welcomed the record total of 10 visitors - the largest in many of club members' memory. The visitors included three generations of the visiting Davies family of Rotarians amongst whom was Kelly, youngest Rotary Club President in the District, with her son Theodore.

The meeting was addressed by Alan Davies who spoke of his experience in visiting Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, through the charity International Aid Trust (IAT).

He told Rotarians that the charity was set up over 20 years' ago by Bernard Crocker to help children in streets and ghettos. He thought it would make a

difference and as a result IAT has become a major charity.

Said Alan, who lives in Shawbury: "IAT has developed into a major charity with Bernard at the helm though many others are involved as well. IAT send aid all over the world and have enough aid to be a part of any major disaster anywhere in the world, whether it be famine, natural disasters or a pandemic."

"The charity deals with approximately five million pounds worth of aid a year - equivalent to 74,000 tonnes."

"There are 23 shops throughout the north and south as far as Cannock. The shops receive donations from local communities and sell the products through the shops, raising valuable funding for distribution of aid."

"This aid consists of clothing, medical supplies, dried food, vegetable seeds, moderate foods, shoe boxes, bikes and musical instruments."

He spoke passionately of the visit to Ukraine with his wife Julie last November and how they visited an orphanage in Kiev where there are 100,000 children on the streets.

"It was a privilege to visit the orphanage and see the changes at first hand. There is very little welfare in Kiev and the reason for my visit to Ukraine was to see with my own eyes that the aid handed out was fundraising through Rotary. And this exceeded my expectations."

ROTARY CLUB ASKED TO PUT ITS INTERNATIONAL 'THINKING CAP ON'

Members of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary were told they were the first club in the district to achieve a coveted banner whereby every member has contributed to The Rotary Foundation every year. "Hopefully, lots of other clubs can follow suit," District Foundation chair Ashley Gray told the club on his visit last Tuesday. He said the club's total contribution to Foundation over the past three years was one of the best three in the district contributing \$14,000 to The Rotary Foundation which 'is a fabulous amount of money.'

In his talk about the opportunity the club had to make the most of Foundation, he suggested it used Foundation to help with projects.

District has given the club two small grants and both were for international projects on water which is a fantastic achievement.

"A district grant can also be used for a local project which is maybe something to think about," said Ashley.

He described how the club could undertake a \$30,000 Global Grant Project through as he described it as 'free money.'

Shawbury and Mid Shropshire is a net contributor to The Foundation having paid more in, than the value of the grants they have received. What you should be looking to do is making some contacts overseas for next year to see if a Global Grant Project was possible. Global Grant Projects must be done overseas.

Projects have a minimum gross value, \$30,000, so put your thinking caps on. This is a great opportunity for this club.

The District decides on the quality of the project. Money is available from The Rotary Foundation, you think about the project which is the most important thing. Water projects are the most popular throughout the Rotary World.

"Don't forget the biological process and clean water. We must also improve the sanitation. Eighty percent of the world's population don't have a toilet – there are more mobile phones in the world than working toilets."

Ashley also outlined other areas the club could focus on:

- Economic and community projects such as providing cows and goats
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy

"Ask the local people what they want is the best way of doing a project," he told Rotarians.

"You need to have a Rotary club in the area where you are doing the project on the other side, otherwise the project cannot go ahead."

He said there were Rotary Clubs in Malawi that could become a partnership club because the partnership was a



Ashley Gray is welcomed to the club by president Mervyn Davies.

link between two clubs.

For a \$30,000 project all of the money can come from The Rotary Foundation, hence the 'free money' concept.

50% comes from funds allocated to the Districts involved in the project and this is matched \$ for \$ from The Rotary Foundation World Fund.

Of the funds allocated to the Districts 70% would come from our District and 30% from the District where the project is to take place.

He said there were five global grant projects being undertaken in the district at the moment where the accumulative funds are already in place.

"Don't worry about the money," said Ashley, "just concentrate on the project and liaise with the club abroad."

"Doing a project is all about preparation - a well prepared project will go through".

"The district Foundation committee will look at your project. Of all the applications so far received, none has been turned down".

"It's a massive opportunity for the club to look at. Your support for Foundation is second to none and this is something the club can get its teeth into."

"Get your thinking caps on – everyone in the club can have a say."

At question time, Ashley was asked a number of questions.

In response to one, he replied: "The biggest issue is finding partner clubs. A partnership between two clubs and two districts. But there's a way forward".

"The district is where the project takes place, but you could get money from another district anywhere in the world".

"Initially, it's about getting projects off the ground. It's Rotarians knocking on doors quietly and getting things done for long term sustainable projects."

"Where there's a will there's a way...let's sort a project out."

In a vote of thanks, immediate Past President Gareth Watkins said: "Ashley has acknowledged how much this club has donated to Rotary Foundation."

We have contributed a large amount.

"Having information about club grants and pursuing one of these projects will stimulate some thought in terms of what we can do."

YOUTH SERVICES

Our Youth Speaks competition, run by Malcolm Hallowell, has a team going forward to the National Final in Brentwood. The team, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Newport, is from Adams Grammar School and their presentation is entitled 'Who will watch the watchers?'. I am pleased to say that with Club and District support there will be at least sixteen Rotarians and partners encouraging them at the Final.

Good Luck Adams Grammar School.

Young Chef has had very good support again this year. Two entrants went forward to the Regional Final in Builth Wells. One entrant from St Dominics school, supported by the Rotary Club of Brewood and District and one from Adams Grammar School, supported by the Rotary Club of Wem. A big thank you to Charles Freeman, the Young Chef co-ordinator for the last three years for making the competition so successful. He has left a sound platform for his successor to work from.

Young Musician, again as usual a very well run competition, so much so that we had record numbers entering. I should put that down to the enthusiasm of co-ordinator Robyn Davies whose attention to the running of the events is second to none. We took two entrants to the Regional Final in Bristol who were sponsored by the Rotary Club of

Dudley and the Rotary Club of Wolverhampton. We look forward to Robyn organising the National Final in our District next year.

Thanks to the efforts and enthusiasm of John Bullock, our Rotakids /Interact co-ordinator, we have, this year, chartered a new Interact Club supported by the Rotary Club of Ellesmere. More Clubs are making progress in encouraging more schools to come on board.

David Roberts and his team again ran a very successful RYLA camp at the very start of our Rotary Year. As always a very well attended event. Places for this year's event in August are already full. Young Photographer competition's presentation, run by Roger Whitaker, is being hosted by the Rotary Club of Ironbridge on the 16th of June. We have ten Clubs participating so the standard should be high.

Our Young Innovator coordinator, Peter Langdon, has worked very hard this year with District 1060 to move this tournament on. We are again in Bromsgrove on July 5th. Peter is keen to host this event in our District next year so we will be looking for support from as many Clubs as possible.

All in all, I think that the District Youth Services team has had a very good year and my thanks go to each and every member for making all the events successful and enjoyable.

ELLESMERE ROTARY BELL BOAT REGATTA BENEFICIARIES ANNOUNCED

The Rotary Club of Ellesmere has recently announced the nominated charities that will benefit from the 2015 Bell Boat Regatta to be held on The Mere on Sunday 5th July. Beneficiaries will be Ellesmere Town Scout Group, Age UK Ellesmere Day Centre and Ellesmere Rotary's Charity Trust Fund (Charity No. 1155735). The Club also announced that the programme of

additional attractions on the adjacent Cremorne Gardens will be ready for publication shortly. Entries from competitors and stallholders are still being accepted, whilst opportunities for sponsorship and publicity by commercial organisations are still available.

Further information is available from Regatta Chairman, Rotarian Geoff Corfield on 01939 270313.

ROTARY DONATION TO VANUATU

Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary Club has donated £1,000 to the Vanuatu disaster appeal as a result of the devastation caused there by Cyclone Pam.

The money is being forwarded via Merseyside and North Wales

Rotary District to a Rotary District in New Zealand. This NZ district will be liaising with Rotary clubs in Vanuatu who will be aware of how the emergency fund should be best spent in the short and longer term.

STROKE AWARENESS DAY

The Rotary Club of Ellesmere organised a Stroke Awareness Day on Saturday 25th April at the Tesco store in the town, as a part of a major drive by Rotary Clubs in the region to promote preventative health measures. A hardworking team of medical volunteers took blood pressure readings and gave out further advice and information to members of the public. Volunteers included Mr Ian Williams of First Responders, Alan Hickman of West Midlands Ambulance Service, Jodie Rogers from the Orthopaedic Hospital at Gobowen, Ashleigh Penrose from the Medical Department at Bangor University plus Vickki Jones and Ashleigh Rowe from Rowlands Pharmacy, along with their mascot, Rowland's Owl (Tracy Jones).



The team took ninety one individual readings, with twenty seven advised to make a routine appointment with their GP; whilst, happily, no one raised any urgent concerns. Ellesmere Rotary Club is very grateful for the support given to this event by our local Tesco's branch and its staff, as well as to all the dedicated volunteers that made the day such a success.

IT WAS AN INTRIGUING EVENING OF 'CALL MY BLUFF!'

Teams were decided by MC Rotarian Geoff Lloyd and Rotarians were subjected to a difficult 'Call My Bluff' challenge.

The questions were expertly put to the five teams by Rotarian Bob Scaiff and ranged from words for meanings like Beguine, Estufa, Myosis, Pipage, Purgery, Li and Bossage.

The result: an honourable draw on the night.

"Who would have thought Rotarians could bullshit so much?" commented President Mervyn (for which he was fined!).



He is photographed centre back flanked by Geoff and Bob. Front Alan Eames, Peter Bone and Alan Peterson who each called 'My Bluff'.

SHAWBURY AND MID SHROPSHIRE ROTARY'S £1,500 TO NEPAL

Shawbury and Mid Shropshire Rotary is to donate a total of £1,500 to the Nepal earthquake disaster.

The decision was made by members at its last meeting.

There will be a donation of £500 now to buy a Shelter Box including a relief tent for a homeless family, thermal

blankets, groundsheets, water storage and purification equipment, and a further £1,000 as more sustainable support.

Said Chris Allsop, chair of International Services: "We feel that a further donation of £1,000 will be most beneficial when the immediate affects of the disaster have been overcome."

ROTARY CLUB OF CANNOCK DONATE £1,850 TO NEPAL DISASTER

Rotary Club of Cannock is to donate a total of £1,850 to the Nepal earthquake disaster.

The decision was made by members at last night (Wednesday) weekly club meeting.

There will be a donation of £590 to buy a Shelter Box including a relief tent for a homeless family, thermal blankets, groundsheets, and £250

to purchase aqua box for provision of clean water, and a further £1,000 as more sustainable support via the DEC.

Said President Allan Rotchell "We feel that the provision of shelter and clean water is the immediate needs and the donation of £1,000 will be most beneficial when the immediate affects of the disaster have been overcome."

The Rotary Club of Wellington Charity Film Night

A great success and raised over £2500 for Charity. The proceeds from the evening will benefit local and national charities nominated by both the Rotary Club of Wellington and the Odeon Cinema. The Odeon Cinema's nominated charities were the NSPCC and the Variety Club. The Rotary Club of Wellington nominated the Midlands Air

Ambulance together with Rotary charities. Organiser of the event, Rotarian Chris Yates, said, 'This year's Charity Film Night was a great success and I would like to thank all those who supported the event. An evening enjoying a good film has enabled us to help those who are less fortunate than ourselves.'



Left to Right: Rotarian Chris Yates giving last minute instructions to some of his team, Rotarians Tom Taylor and Rob Evans.

....and not one frog was injured!

No, not one single frog was injured at the annual charity frog racing event organised by the Rotary Club of Darlaston in April – due, in so small measure, to the fact that the "frogs" are constructed of hardboard and paint.

What did happen, however, is that a lot of local people and visiting Rotarians and friends had a wonderful fun evening and the club managed to raise some vital funds for good causes. The main beneficiary this year will be the local Citizens Advice Bureau.



Overall winner, Steve Antill from the Rotary Club of Bloxwich Phoenix sharing his triumph with daughter Chloe and Darlaston President Catherine Phillips together with the other prize winners

WELCOME TO NEW ROTARIANS

Rotary Club of Brewood and District
Trudi Wakeham

Rotary Club of Blythe Bridge & District
Valerie June Meredith - Physiotherapy (retired)
Nigel John Meredith - Education (retired).

Rotary Club of Cannock
Nigel James Bailey - Sports Development Officer - (retired)

Rotary Club of Ironbridge
Cormac Doyle, Major - Army Nursing
Sheila Hopkinson - Special Needs Teaching, retired.

Rotary Club of Newcastle-under-Lyme
Eddie Boden

Rotary Club of Newport
Mr Jeremy Crabb
Nigel & Helen Beal

Rotary Club of Sedgley & Wombourne
Viqar Qurashi, Orthopaedic Surgeon

Rotary Club of Walsall
Dr Mukunda Murlidhar Chidrawar, FRCS, MRCP -
Medical Doctor, General Practice.

Rotary Club of Willenhall
Lee Whittacker - Web Designer

Rotary Club of Whitchurch
Tony Burch PHF - (retired) Engineer and Property Developer
Jonathan Reid - Estate Agent

Rotary Club of Wolverhampton St. Georges
Bob Pace, BT (retired)

Rotary Club of Uttoxeter
Anita Thomas-Epple - Professional Education

DISTRICT **1210**
ROTARY IN SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE & WEST MIDLANDS

The Quarterly Newspaper for
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& West Midlands)

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NEXT ISSUE

The **AUTUMN** issue of **ROTO** will be published in **SEPTEMBER 2015** and will be available at the District Council meeting on **Monday 7th September 2015**

COPY DEADLINE DATE for the AUTUMN Issue is required by
FRIDAY 7TH AUGUST 2015

For details of ADVERTISING RATES

Contact: Rtn. Keith Law
Tel: 01384 566266
E-mail: quill.design@btconnect.com

Youth Speaks Competition

The winners were both from Barr Beacon School in Streetly, nr. Walsall.



Year 7 team comprising of Leah, Hadeegah and Jasmybe who spoke on the topic of 'Homelessness'. The students researched their topic well and delivered in a structured and thought-provoking way, impressing on the audience the importance of care in the community.



Year 11 team representatives were Olivia, Amy and Megan on the subject of 'Teenage Stress'. Emphasis was placed on the need to support young people to manage youth issues and concerns that society needs to address that are all too common in modern life.

The President, Rtn. Nigel Palmer and organiser Rtn. Roy Mason thanked the participating schools and the teachers who had prepared the students.

In Remembrance

Bren Speed
†

PP Roy Currell PHF

†

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