

Founded
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HUB



SERVICE ABOVE SELF
District 1210
RIBI No. 77



Centre of Club Communications
Rotary Club of Wolverhampton

Registered Charity No: 220492

www.rotaryclubwolverhampton.co.uk

February 2018

Rotathlon Skittles



On 11th January, 26 turned out for this popular event at The Swan in Brewood. The usual skills (or perhaps failings..!) were soon in evidence when putting a 4 inch ball through a 4 1/4 inch gap defied all logic....and scores of 2's and 4's with 3 balls featured fairly frequently....(at least it saved the valiant workers in "the pits" much effort in re-setting the skittles).The ladies, once again, proved that a "gentle trundle" had as much (if not more) effect than the "macho system" of hurling the ball at 90 miles an hour (and threatening structural damage to the rear wall of the skittle alley.We enjoyed a decent buffet (to soak up liquid from the in-

house bar) and after four rounds of highly competitive bowling (in that Rotarians weren't bothered about anything so long as they scored more than their wives.....which was NOT always the case!!) the eventual winners were, for the ladies, Jen Jones (again !!) with a score of 21 closely followed by Sylvia Morgan and Barbara Lockley with 19 and, for the men, Stewart Ross with 26 (is there no end to a Treasurer's talents ??) and he was chased home by Derek Morgan with 23 (it was a pleasure to have Derek and Sylvia with us on the evening) followed by Derrick ("evenin' all") on 21 and John Bloxham and Pres.Paul ("Scoop Retired") on 20. A special mention must be made of our Senior Member,Fraser, who came next with 19 and put many of the "youngsters" to shame. See you all again next year (I hope !) P.P.Brian W.

Tree campaign raises thousands



Alan Jacques, chairman of the Tree Committee and Paul Lockley, Wolverhampton Rotary Club president, with charity representatives

People's goodwill helps charities

Thousands of pounds raised through an annual memorial tree has been handed over to three grateful charities. Hundreds of people left messages on Wolverhampton Rotary Club's annual Tree of Remembrance in the run up to Christmas. The giant gold-baubled tree took pride of place in the Mander Centre throughout the festive period after it was lit up by the mayoress of Wolverhampton Asha Mattu and deputy mayor Phil Page in November. The names of loved ones who had died were posted up around the tree for a minimum donation of £5. There were around 800 names, often accompanied by poignant messages written in memory of those no longer with us. **Report by Heather Large** heather.large@wolverhamptonrotary.co.uk Rotarians have now presented cheques of £2,500 each to Compton Hospice, the Alzheimer's Society and the MS Therapy Centre. A presentation ceremony took place at Linden House on Tetterhall Road on Tuesday with representatives from each of the charities invited to attend and receive their cheques from Rotary president Paul Lockley. Susan Husband, centre manager for the MS Therapy Centre, which offers support and treatments to patients with Multiple Sclerosis and other neurological conditions, said she was grateful for the donation, adding: "Thank you to everyone - this will enable people to have so much more." Suzanne Davies, from Compton Hospice's fundraising office, said: "I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their hard work. Your support means a wonderful amount to us. It's really appreciated." Emma Butler, the Alzheimer's Society's community fundraiser for Shropshire, Worcestershire, Hereford and the Black Country, said: "It's going to make an amazing difference to people living with dementia." "In the Black Country, there are 15,000 people with dementia but that's just the tip of the iceberg as we believe there are many more who have not been diagnosed. "With this money we are going to help these people to have a positive life."



On the 21st January 2018 President Paul was delighted to meet our RIBI President Denis Spiller, at **Wolverhampton St. Georges' 25th Charter Lunch** at the Mount Hotel. He was joined by 9 Rotarians and their wives from our club to commemorate and support the event with over 100 attending.

At the lunch, President Denis gave a most informative account of Wolverhampton St. Georges' 25 year history highlighting their many achievements, especially their efforts to eradicate polio and specific praise given to our Fraser Dukes for his efforts in leading the district in this worldwide project. Wolverhampton St.Georges have raised over £285,000 over the past 25 years and helped many good causes locally, nationally and internationally.After a very warm welcome from President Peter Hall of Wolverhampton St.Georges, he was pleased to award 4 Paul Harris Fellowships to worthy Rotarians. A convivial and enjoyable afternoon was had by all. PP Kewal Krishan

Inner Wheel

President Wendy reports that the party at Jean Hand's raised a creditable £100 for charity. In March Inner Wheel celebrates its 88th birthday and an afternoon tea is proposed.

Pauls Pearls



It is quite a role change between editor of Hub and President so it was particularly embarrassing to have missed the January deadline!!

I would like (belatedly now!) to express the thanks of the members to Stuart for stepping into the breach for 3 months. He had no sooner handed the chain over than he found it round

his neck again! We didn't think it necessary to make a fuss on the hand-over- just got on with it. Well it has been a busy start to 2018. We are trying out a new format to make meetings more interesting and better attended. We have included in the diary of speakers / business meetings the occasional presentation to members by the committee chairs. There have been suggestions that members are not kept informed enough as to the activities of the club. JVP Richard Horrel gave an excellent presentation of the current and past projects of the International/ Foundation Committee.

You may by now have noticed that I am sending a flier to your inbox to let you know more about future meetings. We really need to look at our attendance. As I am sure you are aware it takes some effort to organise speakers and seems to me that the least we can do is extend to them the courtesy of showing up. I shall be returning to this theme in future, hopefully to say how successful it has become. The Skittles night at the Swan at Brewwood was as usual, well attended and good fun. Ladies winner Jen Jones declared her determination to win by saying " I didn't come here to lose!" I am not sure I should have told you that....oh well. Men's champion was Stewart Ross. District competitions I was involved in, was the defeat of Willenhall club in the 10 pin bowls despite losing "Strike Mike" Boyce to a mountain in Argentina. This was followed by a win in the District darts competition over Bilston and Parts West after a playoff. Modesty prevents me telling you my part in this but suffice to say that mine was the last dart played. We now progress to the Semi Final. **St. Georges Club 25th Charter Lunch.** Thank you to the members who responded so well to my call for support for our daughter club. RIBI President was the speaker. After the St. Georges members we were the largest party there so once again thank you.



I am looking forward to the next 18 months and am hoping that together we can face the challenges that the club will have in the coming years. Change is inevitable. Even if we do nothing the club will change due to our ever advancing age and diminishing numbers. As ever the future prosperity of the club depends on you. I will do my part....the rest is down to you!

Tree Presentations.



It was a particular pleasure to be asked to present cheques of £2500 each to the three charities chosen by the Tree of Remembrance committee. Susan Husband from the MS Therapy Centre, Emma Butler from The Alzheimer's Society and Suzanne Davies representing Comp-ton Hospice were pictured in an Express and Star feature. The picture above shows the Tree committee and alongside Jody Stephenson (Mander Centre), Heather Large (Express and Star) and (centre) Laura Jones representing FBC Manby Bowdler.

District Conference



It is with great pleasure that Lynne & I cordially invite all Rotarians and their spouses, friends and family to the District 1210 Annual Conference to be held in Liverpool, a city of culture, from 12th—14th October 2018. The venue will be the

award winning ACC located on the iconic Waterfront ideally situated for superb hotels and the vibrant Albert Dock development with its shops, bars and restaurants.

'Proud to be a Rotarian'



District 1210 Annual Conference
Liverpool

Having listened to feedback from Rotarians, we have tried to integrate some of your ideas and as a result this conference will be very different from those in recent years.

Download details from <http://www.rotary1210.org/category/district-conference/>

SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT.

District Sporting Events: **Darts** match against Bilston. Despite our best efforts in trying to lose, your team again managed to win 3 out of 6 games and won the play off to continue to the semi-final/final which will be held in Stafford on 20th March. **10 Pin** against Willenhall. Regrettably our team did not have a particularly brilliant evening but the opposition were somewhat worse and the team has now progressed to the semi-final to be played by 28th February. I understand that in both cases our opponents will be Cannock in the next round.

Rotathlon : Skittles Competition 11th Jan The Swan at Brewood with Brian Woolley in charge was won by Stewart Ross and was well supported. **10 Pin Bowling** 5th February was won by Mike Boyce with a total of 165. Most of us failed to achieve 100 so he has a good chance of being back on the team for District Comp. (Photo: bowlers



look on in consternation.) The ladies competition was won by Penny H.

Entertainment : St Georges Charter lunch at the Mount on 21st January was well supported by our club. Some 30 will attend the visit on 10th February to see the Classic Cars at Bridgnorth. 43 names are now down for the Weekend Away in April to Llangollen. This promises to be a great weekend.

So that you have plenty of advance notice, both the Church at Pattingham and Lunch at Patshull Park have been booked for 16th December. Peter Hand, Committee Secretary.



Brian Woolley K.S.L.I.

I enlisted in the K.S.L.I. on 1st July 1954 and following two haircuts in 24 hours the most miserable ten weeks of my life got under way. Everyone got hounded from reveille to lights-out. Most days entailed square bashing, rifle drill, route marches and blisters the size of two-bob pieces. Another endurance test was a weekly kit and barrack room inspection when even an invisible speck of dust resulted in a charge of "equipment neglect". We quickly learnt that "if it moved you saluted it or addressed it as Sergeant and if it didn't move, you polished it or blanched it! However, the ten weeks passed and we (now fighting fit and fully trained) soldiers travelled to Goettingen in Germany where the 1st Battalion were based. Goettingen was a quiet, peaceful university town except for Saturday nights when several hundred soldiers descended on it in search of beer and frauleins. After six months the battalion returned to the U.K. in March 1955 in readiness to depart to Kenya in April to "sort out" the nasty Mau Mau. The battalion (900 strong) sailed on a troopship (600 capacity !) so life for the 3 weeks on board was a "bit cosy" and this was followed by a 6 hour train journey from Mombasa to

Nairobi. The camp was 95% tented and my home and place of work for the next 15 months was a 12 foot square tent where I decided that punching a typewriter was a much safer bet than fighting the Mau Mau. The infamous cookhouse was also tented with open sides and the fairly frequent dust storms covered everything and everybody including the food with brown dust making it (as someone observed) taste much better. Saturday nights were spent in Nairobi where (even on a soldier's pittance of a wage) with cigarettes at (the equivalent of) 6p for 50 and beer at 4p a pint, one could get paralytic and smoke like a chimney with change out of five bob! News from home depended on 3 week old newspapers and letters (the letter everyone dreaded was from the girlfriend which said "don't bother coming round when you get home 'cos I've fallen in love with the bloke next door") And so, in late June 1956 I flew home on demob and walked into the house as though nothing had happened. 2 weeks later, 23046864 Woolley B.J. returned to Barclays Bank. P.S. A short time before my demob, I was offered a pay rise of £2 a week and two stripes as a full Corporal if I signed on for another 12 months. I thought about it for 20 seconds before telling the Army they could stick their stripes where the sun don't shine.

Wolverhampton Area Round Young Musician Competition



On Sunday 4th February a good crowd turned out at Wolverhampton Music Hub to listen to thirteen highly talented singers and instrumentalists. The event was expertly compered by Richard Green, filling the gaps between 'turns' with masses of information about Rotary youth schemes etc.

Nine Rotary clubs from our area sponsored the event: Jessica Harrison was the winning vocalist ('I don't want to play in your yard' etc) with Ella Morgan as runner-up ('Janes's big umbrella' etc). Angharad Daniel playing the cello (part of Toccata in C major by Bach etc) was the winning instrumentalist with Cameron Chin-See (trumpet, Sonata in D by Guiseppe Torelli etc) as runner-up. We all greatly enjoyed all the performances and our two Adjudicators were full of praise for all, as well as spotting areas of possible improvement. Simon Platford and Pete Edwards are both eminent and expert musicians and teachers with trumpet and cello as their instruments. They combined well and sensitively in their final comments and choices. Finally the very expert accompanists should not be forgotten - Brenda Arnold performed five times! The whole evening was an event not to be missed and we all **know** that the young musicians will prosper in the future.



On Tuesday 6th February John Harrison, fund-raising manager of the **Grand Theatre** came to talk to us. The theatre is as good if not better than many in the West End and was opened in 1894. It has seen many famous names e.g. Charlie Chaplin in Sherlock Holmes in 1903. It has also changed its status periodically and nearly closed down in the 1970s. It now has to survive by its own endeavours but nevertheless has the ambition to produce as well as receive – Brassed Off was a successful start last year. As well as having 'transformative, charitable and educational aims'. John gave an informative talk while saying he was 'not here to rattle my tin'! By the evidence of the current splendiferous production of **Mamma Mia** they are doing alright

Young Citizen of 2018

The Young Citizen of the Year awards for 2018 has been launched at Molyneux. The photo shows Amy Nicholas and Darram Kooner, runners-up this year, with Wolves captain Conor Coady. Wolves, the City Council, Express and Star, Waitrose and The Way are partners in the enterprise with the five Rotary Clubs. Onward now to nominations (by 31 May) and selection. More information on www.wolverhamptonyoungcitizen.org.uk.



Club Diary

26th Feb Governing Council
 1st March Slot Car Racing
 4th March Disability Sports Fun Day at RAF Shawbury
 7th March Satellite Group MS Centre 7.30 am
 11th March District Final of Young Musicians
 22 March Brewood Singers at Linden House (MS Centre)
 14-16 April Llangollen weekend away

Tues 20 March Business incl. Future Giving Programme
 Tues 27 March Ken Wagstaffe—Rotary Foundation
 Tues 3 April Bank Holiday - no meeting
 Tues 10 April Mike Boyce—hitting the heights.

Hub will be published on the second Tuesday of each month wherever possible. The editor accepts no responsibility for comments contained within Hub, seeking to include everything submitted by members where space permits. Please submit articles by e-mail to: stu-jen108@talktalk.net

Meetings & Speakers

Tues 13th February Mike Boyce : Kimbilio Project follow-up
 Tues 20th February Business : Club Admin Committee
 Tues 27th February Geoff Lowndes: Anyone for Bitcoin?
 Tues 6th March Margaret Rowe : Power of Attorney
 Tues 13th March (Evening) Cosford Apprentices and V.S.E.

Duties

Meeting Steward	Speaker's Host	Money Steward
6th Feb B.Oates	R.Walton	P.Hand
13th Feb T.Rissbrook	P.Williams	J.Hobbs
20th Feb D.Sanders	n/a	J.Hollingsworth
27th Feb J.Walters	C.Baker	N.Holmes
6th Mar S.Williams	R.Walton	R.Horrell

Members are reminded that **any member unable to fulfil any duty must swap with someone else, or otherwise find a substitute, and notify the change to the Duty Officer and Secretary.**

Apologies for non-attendance at Rotary lunch must be made no later than 4pm on Monday, to ruth@hollingsworthandco.co.uk or by telephone to 01952 581014 (ask for 'Rotary apologies') and copy to geofflowndes@hotmail.com (or telephone).