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HUB

Centre of Club Communications
Rotary Club of Wolverhampton

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SERVICE ABOVE SELF

District 1210
RIBI No. 77

September 2017

Wolverhampton Young Citizen of the Year Award 2017



Representatives of the sponsoring five Wolverhampton Rotary Clubs (see photo, Stuart Williams, Peter Hall, Roger Webb, Clive Childs and Gerry Brooks) assembled in early July with those of the Partners (Council, Waitrose, Express and Star, The Way and Wolves FC) in the Mayor's Parlour to honour the seven shortlisted young achievers. Roger Timbrell was MC and began with some words about Rotary, including the fact that Wolverhampton's own Tom Warren became President of Rotary International (1945-46) – only the second Brit to occupy that position. Mayor Elias Mattu presented certificates to Kathryn Safrany (17), Megan Harrison (18), Amy Richards (15) and Brandon O'Kelly (14). Two runners-up, Darram Koomer (14) and Amy Nicholas (18) received additionally

cheques for £50. The winner Gareth Rafferty (18) received a cheque for £100 and another for £500 which will go to the Fostering Service. The exploits of the seven are remarkable; they have all 'gone that extra mile to help others'. Gareth has worked to improve the Care system in which he was brought up and he is now accepted for University. Darram is a member of the Youth Council. Amy (Nicholas) has worked with radio programme Kic FM Kicsters to support wayward youngsters.



Crown Green Bowling

The rain looked as though it had stopped so a small but merry band turned up at Penn Fields for the last (first?) Rotathlon event on 26th of July. Most of us knowing our crown and our biases with the possible exception of IPP Stuart! Everybody played against everybody and we were finished before the light failed enabling us to repair to the clubhouse for a not very appetising buffet – though we needed the nourishment and a sitdown, and a pint of Holdens Glow. Geoff Lowndes was the clear winner. We were then able to consider the many ills our club is heir to, the way you do when supping a pint. (In the photograph you can see the shadow of our 6th man, photographer Brian Bailey.)JSW

INNER WHEEL

President Wendy Sutcliffe reports that Inner Wheel had lunch at Sheila Carvers, on another occasion tea at Mary Woolleys and on the 8th August they organised a trip to the garden of Anne and Brian Bailey, which they, with their neighbours, open under the National Garden Scheme. The rain stopped which made the tea and cakes more pleasurable. Anne and Brian much appreciate the support of I.W. and Rotary. IW's first speaker on the 12th September will be Jeremy Walters, reminiscing about teaching.



STANLEY CHARLES LOWETH

14-12-1914 – 27-8-2017

Stan was born just a few months after Archduke Franz Ferdinand was murdered in Sarajevo which presaged the start of the First World War. That is something we have all learned about in history lessons and seems lost in the mists of time but Stan, in his own lifetime, bridged the gap between that and the present day.

When he died he was a few months short of 103. For someone of that age to remain so mentally sharp is remarkable. I have been privileged to get to know him quite well over recent years when his physical abilities deteriorated a little, but I, and several other Rotarians remember him when he was at his peak. He was 60 when I joined and by that time had been a member for 20 years. When he celebrated his centenary he also celebrated 60 years as a Rotarian.



His service to the Club has been considerable. He was Secretary 1960 – 63 and President 1967 - 68 and when a member left a house in Aberdovey to the Club in 1963 on condition that it was used for holidays for the disadvantaged Stan became the West Winds bookings organiser. He did this for many years and his commitment to the Club was recognised by him being made an Honorary Life Member and a Paul Harris Fellow.

The phrase 'a lovely man' is probably overused but in Stan's case it is a perfect description. I have never heard anyone say a bad word about him. He has inspired loyalty and affection in those who have worked for and with him and that still continues.

He joined the Trustees Savings Bank on leaving Wolverhampton Grammar School and rose from a junior counter clerk to General Manager. In recognition of his service to the savings movement he was appointed a Member of the Most Noble Order of the British Empire. He did his time in the army and, in addition to everything else he has served the Masonic movement with great distinction, holding important positions at local, district and national level until quite recently.

Stan was married for many years to the late Dorothy and is survived by two sons. They and his grandchildren have always been important to Stan and have been central to his life.

Suffice it to say our Rotary Club has been fortunate to have had him as a member and I have been privileged to have him as a friend. If anyone ever asks for the definition of a gentleman just think of Stan. He was the perfect example.

David Berriman

Best Foot Forward

On 22nd August the Mayor's Parlour saw the curtain come down on Best Foot Forward 2017.

The occasion was the presentation of cheques for £4,000 to the MS Therapy Centre, Central Youth Theatre and the club's own Charitable Trust. Certificates were also awarded to BFF Centurions – those Best Footers who had logged 100 laps of the Aldersley Stadium on 1st July.

There was a good representation of the Patrons whose donations provided the "Treasure Chest", which was released for the Charities by the laps logged on the day. Also present were DG Carol Reilly, Cosford Station Commander, Group Captain Tone Baker, the Editor of the Express & Star, the Deputy MD of the Council and Trustees of The James Beattie Charitable Trust.

The occasion was a powerful showcase for what Rotary is and does in our community.

This was the fifth staging of the event and lifted the total sum from which charities, predominantly local, have benefitted to over £98,000. Of this £58,000 has been provided as the Treasure Chest by the Patrons, and the other £40,000 by charities and groups who have hitched a ride on the back of BFF, to raise funds for their own needs.

Win, Win.



The next steps.....Having put Best foot Forward 2017 to bed, there is the briefest of breathers before work starts on Best Foot Forward 2018.

We have reached the stage where the laps covered at Aldersley have outstripped the funds donated by the Patrons. We now need to recruit more Patrons to swell the Treasure Chest, to enable us to soak up the surplus laps, and to provide more support to where it is most needed.

Because of the timing of the event, the committee year runs to September, rather than the normal June year end. This is the time when anyone who would like to be involved in laying the foundations for the future should be thinking of getting on board for next year. We need all the help we can get to identify and sign up Patrons to further grow the event. If you like a challenge I will be pleased to talk through what is involved.

Even if you not feel able to add your weight to the committee, we need help from everyone.

Do you know a company or organisation that regards itself as a part of the community - not apart from the community - that makes a point of becoming involved in local causes, helping to address local needs and to celebrate local achievements - that will be attracted to the prospect of joining others in making a modest outlay, which will bring a massive return? **If you know such a company please give me the details and, preferably, a contact name. We will do the selling.** Geoff Lowndes

Ethos - the best of times



On 15th July the Grand Theatre was full of enthusiastic theatregoers come to see a spectacular show directed by Jerry Hobbs and having as its purpose to raise funds for Compton Hospice. We were presented with a variety of acts – piano, ballet, songs, violin, modern dance, choral singing and trumpet. All threaded together with the story of Compton Hall becoming Compton Hospice 35 years ago and expertly organised by Jerry and his team. The team assembled musical and theatrical experience and talent from the directors via the presenters to the performers. Pianist Luke Faulkner beautifully played a number of pieces from Debussy to Gershwin, combining with Karolina Tomaszewicz for John Williams's Schindlers List. Alison Room and later Colette Forsyth beautifully sang show songs. Tony O'Rourke dressed up to perform 'I am what I am' from La Cage aux Folles – Jerry was on the stage but not allowed to join in! The cast was large with Denise Robinson's dancers, the Compton Hospice Choir and the Forest Arts Choir plus a group of girls from Newbridge Preparatory School with Nick Sullivan. Cameron Chinsee slotted in here and there with his wonderfully clear trumpet and finally Aimee Fisher managed to get to Wolverhampton from the West End in time to partake with Lauren Soley in the finale, singing Carnelia's Flight. The whole affair was a great success!



President Derek suffered a TIA (transient ischaemic attack) on 20th July during the Youth Orchestra pre-tour concert. Subsequent attacks followed. After a period in hospital he is now back at home, receiving almost daily speech therapy and assiduously following prescribed exercises. He is frequently frustrated but very determined to pursue the road to recovery. Sylvia sent a message to the Club thanking everyone for their much appreciated messages and visits and expressing Derek's determination to succeed in his recovery aim.

Club Diary

- 4th Sept District Council Meeting
- 15th-17th Sept District Conference
- 20th Sept Rotathlon Snooker cancelled
- 27th Sept MS Centre Flower Arranging (Linden House)
- 10th Oct Zone 6 Meeting
- 12th Oct ?? Past Presidents' Dinner
- 28th Oct MS Centre Patients Annual Party (at Pavillions)

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

- Tues 5th September Communications and Social Media
- Tues 12th September John Buckels of Medecins sans Frontieres
- Mon 18th September Governing Council
- Tues 19th September Business Meeting
- Tues 26th September R.Green : the two Ronnies

Duties

Meeting Steward	Speaker's Host	Money Steward
5th Sept M.Boyce	N.Homes	J.Walters
12th Sept T. Buddl	R.Horrell	R.Walton
19th Sept L.Chambers		S.Williams
26th Sept D.Cheadle	A.Jacques	P.Williams

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).