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1921



HUB

Rotary Club of Wolverhampton

Centre of club communications

Service above self



District 1210
RIBI No. 77
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www.rotaryclubwolverhampton.co.uk

June 2019

Nous souhaitons la bienvenue à Alvine



On 21st May Alvine Yolande Dongmo-Noumey was inducted into our club as our second lady member. She speaks French as well as one or two African languages having left her native Cameroon for the UK in 2007. Google describes her as a Migrant Leader and links her with ALZEC VISION CIC and MEG (Migrant Empowerment Group). Her mission is to help migrants and refugees to feel welcome in the community. We wish her well in her endeavours and intend to make her feel welcome in our club.

Rotathlon Croquet

Thanks to Geoff Lowndes for setting up a modified version of the regular game. 16 of us did battle for a couple of hours to complete the group stage, at which point we stopped for bad light (and fish & chips). The results based on games won and hoop count (I scored minus 3!) seem fair. This new Rotathlon event should be added to the repertory, perhaps with a tweak or two. (I remember playing a German version of the regular game in the back garden of Herr Stüdemann when I was the Englisher Assistent at his Schleswig Holstein school in 1963. We all enjoyed dispatching opponents' balls into the shrubbery whenever we could!) SW



Merton House Holiday Hotel



Stuart Guy from our Mother Club Birmingham presented this establishment 'for the elderly, frail and people with disabilities'. In its brochure it is described as a 'not-for-profit community service project' and fundraising by Birmingham RC has enabled numerous refurbishments to the value of £200 000 in the recent past. It is situated very close to Ross on Wye and Admiral Nelson once walked in its gardens – it is unclear whether he was accompanied by Lady Hamilton. It has a very friendly staff, manager Graham is 'brilliant' and the level of comfort in its 22 rooms is high for the intended clientele. An unusual presentation—see Google for more information. SW



Dragon Boats on Sunday 19th May

While the weather was not quite the scorcher that it was in the previous year, it was nice enough- and it didn't rain. Perfect. We had lost a couple of booked -in teams with just two weeks to go but on the day, almost a record 27 teams took part. It was a marvellous turnout and we at the committee are already wondering how we might top that next year. The winners were

Hawkes Home Improvements—for the 3rd year running!

For the second year, Himley provided the manpower for the car parking (at a cost though) to relieve us of the leg work and remove the responsibility that goes along with organising several hundred cars. We think this is a good and wise new system. They did an excellent job and the new fencing that Himley use to separate the cars from pedestrians helped Rotarians manage the collecting of donations very well. Sadly, the revenue from the car park collecting was a few hundred pounds down on last year but the weather then was so good, we benefitted from the extra visitors to the park. We are very grateful to Clive Baker and all collectors for their efforts in the car park which play a significant part in providing additional income for the day.

Mel Eves had a fantastic prize to raffle- a Wolverhampton Wanderers football shirt signed by the entire team and he did a fantastic job in selling £405 of tickets which, along with the revenue gained from the car park, is a great boost to our fund-raising target. Thanks Mel. It'll be some time before we know how well financially the event has done and with 27 team to contact and keep an eye on, it's a good job that the committee has an extraordinary secretary to do this work.



Once again, Peter Hand excelled himself by ensuring all the teams turned up at the right time, had paid their entry fees and provided us with team names along with chosen charities so that the brochure could be printed on time. Thank you Peter- your input is remarkable. As is that of our concessions Guru, fairground organiser, pitch marker, site security and toilets manager- Les Chambers. Everything in his domain went off without a hitch so thank you Les—another successful year



Once again, I have received several notes of thanks from teams who took part saying how much they enjoyed the day and congratulating the Rotary Club for its efficient organisation of the event. Even the Himley team congratulated us for our managing skills! These are very nice to receive but we all know that it's a huge team effort so I pass those thanks on to everyone who played their part on Saturday, in the set up, and of course on Sunday too. Whether it was collecting donations, keeping the site clear of litter, loading the boats, helping spectators, dealing with registrations – the event wouldn't happen without you. So on behalf of the committee and the Club- I thank you all very much.

As I was driving home after the event feeling somewhat relieved as it had all gone so well, and frankly, that it was all over, I was thinking how much of an achievement it is, that we can look back over 19 years and proudly say that around £400,000 has been raised for good causes through the efforts and support of so many members of the club. Approximately 30 Rotarians turned out on the day, plus some friends of Rotarians, plus quite a few wives too, all playing their part in the success of the day. This picture has been replicated 18 times before too. The club deserves a huge pat on the back for this event and the good work that it has done. It matters not who the chairman is, certainly not now, because this really is a team effort and the event owes everything to the club.

And while thinking about all of this while on the way home, I received a phone call telling me I had become a Granddad for the fourth time. Phoebe Lilian Maggie Boyce arrived just after Dragon Boat finished. All in all- a pretty decent day! And it's on now to Dragon Boat number 20 on Sunday 17th May 2020. I know we are all looking forward to it already!! **Mike Boyce**

Annual General Meeting of the Rotary Club of Wolverhampton. Tuesday 21st May 2019

For those of you who could not make the meeting I have summarised the Important points which were agreed.

Each of the committee chairs have submitted a written report to members. There were no further questions raised.

The **Treasurers Report** had already been submitted to members and there being no further questions, the accounts were approved.

The subscription for 2019/2020 is £125.

Elections.

President 2020/2021 Brian Bailey

President 2021/2022 Richard Green

Hon. Secretary Gerry Peters

Hon. Treasurer Stewart Ross

Assistant Hon Secretary Geoff Lowndes

Assistant Hon Treasurer Robin Tyler-Morris

Attendance Officer Geoff Lowndes

Six Ordinary members of Governing Council. Mike Boyce, Peter Wright, Norman Holmes , Brian Woolley, Kewal Krishan. There is one place on GC still available.

Hon. Auditor John Hollingsworth

Honorary Members. Bishop of Wolverhampton Rt. Rev. Clive Gregory, The Commandant of the Defence School of Aeronautical Engineering, Group Captain Tone Baker, Vice Chancellor of the University of Wolverhampton, Professor Geoff Layer. We shall invite in due course the incoming Mayor of Wolverhampton and the Chairman of Wolverhampton Round Table. All the above were duly approved. Mention was made of the involvement of the Honorary members in club activities and it will be the intention, during the next 12 months, to invite the Honorary members to visit club. The future list of Honorary members will be reconsidered prior to next AGM.

Honorary Life Members. Confirmed as PP. Alan Walters, PP. David Nicholls, David Berriman, PP. David King, Dick Dawes.

The voting Delegates to District Council. Richard Green is the only nominee and is returned unopposed. Additional representatives from President/P-E/VP/IPP/Secretary and Treasurer.

There being no other business the meeting closed. **President Paul**



Pauls Pearls

I was sad to have missed Dragon Boats on Sunday 19th May, but I had the opportunity of a couple of weeks in the sun. Once again the event was a great success with almost a record number of boats taking part. We will not know for some time the financial outcome but whatever it is the event itself was once again steered through to its launch by Chairman Mike Boyce, his trusty First Mate Peter Hand and an able crew. Many thanks to them and all the helpers on the day.

There was no respite from duty as I arrived back in the afternoon from Ibiza I had to chair GC at 6 o'clock followed the next day by the club AGM and a return to Wolverhampton in the evening for the Rotathlon Croquet. So much for a holiday!!

The 19th of May was significant for me as it marked the 20th anniversary of my induction to the club. I thanked those present at club and I thank those of you who were not able to be there for your friendship over those 20 years.

Well this is it. My last Pauls Pearls.

This has been quite a journey and I will deal with it more detail at my valedictory. At long last we are now gaining members. I have already inducted Terry and Alvine and welcomed Sylvia from another club. I am hoping to induct Andile at the time you receive this and am able to confirm that David Cheadle will be able to rejoin us. There are others in the pipeline and you will find about these when you see the 7 day letters. Thank you all for your patience with me. I know I can be a little strident at times but it is all in a good cause.

The next presidential duty is the Cosford Air Show to which the President is invited by the Commandant Tone Baker. I was hoping to ask Derek and Sylvia Morgan to take our place as he missed out the previous year but their prior commitments have prevented this. Hey Ho. Somebody has to do it....

So finally thank you all in your many ways for your support in the last couple of years. Tara a bit. Paul



District Croquet

It was lashing with rain last Tuesday as I went towards the front door on my way to The Old Wulfs Club for the second round of the District Croquet competition. Barbara said that I must be crazy to play in such a downpour. Nevertheless by the time I had got the club the rain had stopped and it remained dry for the rest of the evening. We were playing Sedgeley and Wombourne club. Last time we met we lost 5-1. It was a close competition and after the first set of games we were 2-1 up by 1 hoop. The second set however was a different story as they came back and drew level on games at 3-3. We lost unfortunately on a hoop countback. Another lovely evening of interclub fellowship. Pres. Paul

Mthunthama near Kasungu, central Malawi

Our club contributed to building the Wolves Chicken House attached to the Amao ('mother house') orphanage beside St Andrews Hospital. The chickens are doing well, producing 6 300 eggs per month, feeding the 85 orphans, selling eggs, providing wages for the workers and manure for the garden. Mike Boyce has driven there from Lusaka, Zambia 400 miles away (his 'best driving adventure') and Stephen Drew of Medic Malawi helps to keep him (and us) abreast of progress. The latest add-on to which we have contributed £2235 is a toilet block. All good! SW



A contrast in styles from Dragon Boats

Below the anarchic Prosperity Wealth boat.....



A staff team from Prosperity Wealth, based at the W...

.....and above the orderly Peter Posh boat.

Note from Roy Sutcliffe: I have restarted Duty rotas from scratch as they were in a mess following multiple swaps etc. If you are given a duty that you have recently done please accept this as it will even out eventually. RS

Diary

- Wed 12th June Rotathlon Crown Green Bowls
- Mon 24th Governing Council
- Friday 28th June District Handover
- Sunday 30th June Jewel Handover Lunch
- Saturday 6th July Best Foot Forward at Aldersley
- Wed 10th Bradford Annan Golf
- Wed 17th Rotathlon Boules (freestyle meeting)
- Mon 22nd Governing Council
- Tues 30th Visit of DG Brian Reilly
- Sun 18th August Families at Kingswood (freestyle)
- Saturday 14th September Last Night of the Rotary Proms 2019 at Symphony Hall.

Meetings

- Fri 21st Summer Idyll At Wolverhampton Cricket Club (Freestyle)
- Tues 25th Valedictory Meeting
- Tues 2nd July Presidential Induction
- Tues 9th PRG follow-up/Club Forum
- Wed 17th (Freestyle) Rotathlon Boules
- Tues 23rd Civic Day—Induction of the Mayor of Wolverhampton

Duties

Meeting Steward	Speaker's Host	Money Steward
25th June A.Jacques	Valedictory	G.Lowndes
2nd July C.Baker		R.Green
9th July S.Bott		P.Hand
23rd July M.Boyce	B.Bailey	J.Hobbs

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 by telephone).

Hub will be published on the second Tuesday of each month whenever 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: stujen108@talktalk.net