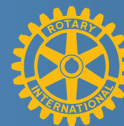




Service above self

HUB



Rotary Club of the City of Wolverhampton

District 1210 RIBI No. 77 RI No. 19999

A Hundred Years of Service

Founded in 1921

May 2022

Registered Charity No. 220492

www.rotaryclubwolverhampton.co.uk



Past President Rod Jones,

A large congregation gathered at the Telford Crematorium to celebrate the life of PP Rod Jones. Supporting the family were many friends and members from The South Staffordshire Sailing Club and our club. There was, as might be expected, a strong nautical theme as "Sailing" was played followed by Rod's granddaughter reading the Masefield poem "Sea Fever."

The Eulogy was read by PP Jerry Hobbs, who had known Rod for 46 years, which was both amusing and emotional in equal measure. We finally said goodbye to Rod to the strains of "leaning on a lamp post" by George Formby. I am sure I speak for most members who knew him that we shall miss him.

Letter of thanks from PP Shu Behari. *"Dear Mr President,*

I write to thank you and the members of The Rotary Club of the City of Wolverhampton for the honour you bestow upon me. This follows another bestowed on me by my Masonic Lodge—The Lodge of Universal Brotherhood where I was made an honorary member.

In the next Rotary year I will have completed 50 years as a member—quite an achievement for someone born and raised in Apartheid ridden South Africa where liberty, equality and freedom was denied me as a non white person and where I was barred from joining any of the above institutions.

In the UK I was given the opportunity and freedom to pursue those ideals which were denied me in South Africa. Once again many thanks to you and the members of the club. Shu Awath - Behari"

District Sports

District sports officer Peter Hand needs players for the club teams in the following sports.

Croquet

This match against Sedgley and Wombourne has been deferred to June.

Crown Green Bowls This match against Tettenhall is slated for 25th /26th May. If you are interested in these games please contact Peter ASAP

National Memorial Arboretum

The list for this visit has now closed.

Fellowship chairman Brian Woollet will now be making final arrangements for what we hope will be a memorable day out.

Look out for the report next month.



Centenary Celebration Dinner - Update

Great news that after quite a fraught time with the uncertainties at Molineux we will welcome 108 guests. Planning is able to go ahead now for the night. It is still possible to book your seat. Let Richard Horrell know as soon as possible.

Tribute to PP Rod Jones

by PP Peter Hand

Rod joined the, then named, Rotary Club of Wolverhampton in 1970 and continued to serve the club with distinction for the rest of his life. It was a privilege, once we were able to meet properly again, to witness him being presented with his 50 year badge last October at South Staffs Golf Club.

Most of us have been members for less than half that time and it is easy for us to underestimate his enormous contribution to our club over more than half a century. He was proud to be a Paul Harris Fellow with the later addition of two sapphire pins in recognition of his remarkable service to his club and to the Rotary ideal.



Rod was President of the club in 1989-90, a year that is remembered for outstanding achievement, during which the spirit of Rotary fellowship was never stronger. Some twenty years ago Rod introduced Dragon Boats as a club annual fundraising event. He was it's mentor in the early days and it was his enthusiasm and tenacity (and bloody mindedness at times!) in getting teams to compete that saw the event go from strength to strength over two decades. He chaired the Dragon Boats Committee for many years, remaining an integral part of the event until the end. Always proud that, since it's inception, Dragon Boats has raised an unprecedented amount of more than £400,000 for good causes.

Rod was Chairman of Sports & Entertainments for many years and responsible for some unforgettable Rotary weekends away. I recall on one of these weekends being the victim of a murder mystery. Rod was the investigating police officer and decided to check the state of the murder victim, not too gently, with the toe of his boot. Hilarious to other participants' maybe, but leaving me with a few bruises!! He was always highly evident at the club's Old People's Christmas Parties every year, getting stuck in to help serve over 100 dinners. An abiding memory is seeing him standing over an enormous vat of custard stirring it vigorously with a wooden spoon.

But Rod will forever be remembered for his love of a good old singsong. He could keep everyone entertained for hours with all George Formby's convoluted lyrics, on the bus at District Conferences and late into the night wherever we might be. The more we all had to drink, the more acute was Rod's ability to recall the words to hundreds of old songs. It would often require Jen to quietly remind him (in her inimitable manner!) that in the early hours of the morning, most people wanted to sleep, so it would be wise to do the same to avoid being lynched! So many happy times never to be forgotten.

Above all, Rod was a family man. He loved to be with Jen at their home in Wales and enjoying his boat having been a keen sailor for most of his life. Rod and Jen always celebrated New Year with friends in Abersoch. Whatever time they got to bed, the priority on New Year's Day was to be out shaking a can for the RNLI, Rod's favourite charity. Rod was an adored husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather and each generation of the Jones family is very much in the thoughts and minds of those of us who are grateful for having been able to call Rod our friend.

It is not possible for me to adequately find the words to convey how Rod will be missed in the lives of all of us who knew him. PP Peter Hand

Rotary Clubs across Europe working together



Latest report from PDG Daniel Tanase (Rotary Club of Suceava Bucovina, Romania,) on the use the local Rotarians have made of the donations sent by the Rotary clubs of Walsall Saddlers and The City of Wolverhampton which were added to many other donations from Rotary clubs.

"This morning a truck with humanitarian help was loaded in Suceava and sent to RC Chernivtsi.

18 pallets of goods were sent by our Austrian Rotarian friends. RC Vöcklabruck through Gerhard Wagner who took care of it: 350 sleeping bags, 3 pallets of flour in big 25 kg bags, canned food, shelf-stable milk, various drinks, and hygiene products.

Another 8 pallets of food and hygiene products were donated by RC Oradea. President Emil Bradea and his club mates showed impressive solidarity.

We added 2.000 loaves (bread) and 2.000 cakes (sweet bread/cozonac) sent by

RC Botosani as a result of their cooperation with the big-hearted friends of the Humane Foundation.

To reach the maxim capacity of the truck RC Bucovina added 1,540 kg of flour.

Sange pentru Romania" association (#sangepentruromania) outstandingly helped with logistics.

The President of RC Chernivtsi Konstantin & President-Elect Masha received the goods in Chernivtsi. They will take care to send the products to the ones that need them most.

Many thanks and congrats to all!

In progress: together with our friends from the UK, The Rotary District 1070, The Rotary Club of Walsall Saddlers, and The Rotary Club of The City of Wolverhampton we are preparing now a new transport for next week.

Special thanks to:

RC Vöcklabruck, Gerhard Wagner and his Rotary fellows

RC Oradea: Emil Bradea and his club mates

Humane Foundation, Casa Painii, RC Botosani. Aurora Morariu, Club president Doru Barbacaru, Daniel Bucatariu.

Asociatia Sange pentru Romania

RC Chernivtsi: Konstantin Mykytchuk, Masha Sorrem, and their Rotary fellows.

Interact: Rafaela & Rafael Barac Bologa and their amazing team; Rotaract: Florina Putrea

RC Suceava Bucovina: Club President Andrei Puiu, Projects' Chair Dan Ioan Cusnir, Andrei Ghiata, and their fellows.

PDG Richard Green, DRFC D1070 Hugh Holden, ARRFC Ashley Grey, Rtn. Henryk Balkow"



Club Diary

MAY

- 3rd Bank Holiday
- 5th National Arboretum visit
- 10th Lunch meeting
- 17th Zoom Meeting
- 20th Centenary Dinner
- 22nd Dragon Boats
- 24th Lunch Meeting Club Assembly
- 31st Zoom Meeting

JUNE

- 7th
- 9th and 10th Uplands School Workshop
- 14th
- 21st NGS Garden visit Waterdale
- 25th Best Foot Forward
- 27th Governing Council
- 28th Valedictory