

Founded  
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# HUB

Centre of Club Communications  
Rotary Club of Wolverhampton

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[www.rotaryclubwolverhampton.co.uk](http://www.rotaryclubwolverhampton.co.uk)



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

District 1210  
RIBI No. 77

January 2018

## Darts and Dominoes



Sixteen Rotarians turned out on 6th December to contest the event at The Old Wulfrunians Club at Castlecroft. We were pleased that Derek Morgan was able to join us and soon made his presence heard. Home advantage certainly seemed to play a big part on the evening's results. Old Wulf, Stewart Ross won the darts, beating Mike Boyce in the final, with another Old Wulf, Geoff finishing third. Stewart also finished third in the dommies behind Paul, with Old Wulf Peter Wright winning his first Rotathlon event after over 25 years trying! (We won't mention that both events were won by the organisers.) His previous nearest win was also in the dommies in the early 90's, when having taught Gabbi how to play to Black Country rules at his first rotathlon, was promptly pipped by Gabbi and had to settle for runner up despite in the final end reversing a domino and trying to play it as the double blank and might have got away with it except Gabbi happened to have the double blank! Additional entertainment was provided by Liverpool scoring seven goals on the televised game, drawing favourable comparisons with the current Wolves squad. The evening concluded with the customary Fish and Chip supper collected from Compton for us, by Johnny Bloxham. A good night of fellowship was had by all. Peter The Great. (Ed. No comment either on girth or attempted jiggery pokery!)

## Shoeboxes

The Club thanks everyone who filled the magnificent total of 163 boxes which Mike Boyce took to the international Aid warehouse in Preston for onward shipment. With a mixture of household items and toys for babies, youngsters and teenagers the gifts will bring much happiness to many vulnerable families in Eastern Europe at Christmas and through the winter. See picture - after unloading they are sorted into categories and taken on the next vehicle to be distributed by Rotary International and its partners. (Ed. And a big thank you to Mike for driving his van load up the M6.)



## Tree of Remembrance



In the early days, I understand, there had to be a Rotarian on duty by the Tree at all times. Nowadays we attend some of the time and speak to a very occasional visitor—who will usually thank us for what we are doing—and we thank them for their gift to charity. This year a lot of development work has been done and we hope that the amount given may rise. (It may be about £5K again with extra from refunded tax, but more was hoped for.) The new Mander Centre manager may not be able to fit us in next year—fingers crossed. Thanks to all the team.

## Stuart's Stories



The end for my extension period as President is nigh. SGM passed off well with Richard Horrell having agreed to become President after Paul Lockley. (I suggest Paul's Pearls for his column in the next Hub.) Our being joined by Inner Wheel and the Hospice Choir as well as a Zone 6 meeting and the Satellite breakfast meeting were cancelled because of the snowy weather. By Sunday we were good to go...to the Carol Service with little angels from St Chad's School followed by a very well attended and appetising lunch at the Shrewsbury Arms in Albrighton. My last GC as chair tended to be a discussion among accountants; should we realise some investments before Brexit hits the market (sort of thing). Doh! My last meeting (in the chair) featured Reverend Pippa Thorneycroft, whose great uncle Sir Charles Mander was our President in 1923-25. Although her talk was about people she has buried in various parishes it was full of humanity and humour. She reported her husband John as saying: 'I married a tycoon's daughter and ended up with a blooming vicar!'

### An Item from New Zealand

Robin Tyler Morris received a copy of the weekly (sponsored) newsletter from Howick RC, NZ. Sent by an old friend David Percival who joined Wolverhampton RC in 1982 and emigrated later. David has received a Paul Harris Fellowship for his years of enthusiastic and supportive service. From the newsletter it appears that their activities are very similar to ours. (If you want a read I or Robin could email you a copy. Ed.)



### Inner Wheel Notes

It was a pity that we had to cancel our Christmas lunch and visit by the Hospice Choir because of the snow. We now look forward to our customary soup lunch at Jean Hand's on the 9th January. Following the delightful Carol Service and lunch at The Shrewsbury Arms this will lead us nicely into a hopefully healthy New Year. Wendy Sutcliffe

### Seaside Golf by John Betjeman

How straight it flew, how long it flew,  
It cleared the rutty track  
And soaring, disappeared from view  
Beyond the bunker's back—  
A glorious, sailing bounding drive  
That made me glad I was alive.

And down the fairway, far along  
It glowed a lonely white;  
I played an iron sure and strong  
And clipped it out of sight,  
And spite of grassy banks between  
I knew I'd find it on the green.

And so I did. It lay content  
Two paces from the pin;  
A steady putt and then it went  
Oh, most securely in,  
The very turf rejoiced to see  
That quite unprecedented three.

Ah! Seaweed smells from sandy caves  
And thyme and mist in whiffs,  
In-coming tide, Atlantic waves  
Slapping the sunny cliffs,  
Lark song and sea sounds in the air  
And splendour, splendour everywhere.

(Ed. : I hope that readers will forgive me for introducing an entirely non-Rotarian bit of poetry (though I cannot prove that JB was not a Rotarian). The reason for departure from the usual process is, as you will have guessed, my concern to deliver the magazine on time but lacking quite enough copy, despite valiant efforts by several people, to fill my intended four pages.)





## The Carver Cup

This solid silver cup was given to the Club by Roy Carver, past member and MD of Carvers, to be presented annually to our Billiards or Snooker winner.

This year Peter Hand receives it for the 10th time and Dick Dawes persuaded Henry Carver, current MD and son of Roy, to come to lunch and pre-

sent it. (Sorry that the picture is slightly fuzzy, Ed.) Roy is a former Rotarian but too busy to rejoin he says. (He would be very welcome if he changed his mind.)

## The Carol Service and Lunch at The Shrewsbury Arms



It's a pity that we couldn't photograph the 'little angels' of St Chad's Primary choir who were the star attraction of the Carol Service, as ever well organised and well led by Reverend Maureen Hobbs. She could not come to the lunch following the service, which had to change its venue to Albrighton. We were 'eighty and a half' in number and arranged on both sides of a chimney breast (see two photos by MB). The landlord said the loudest grace you could hope to hear and we all tucked in to an appetising three courses, served very efficiently. It was the 17th December and we felt that the conviviality of Christmas had begun. Thanks to the organisers. SW

**A request for funding.** A recent example of the sort of request that Youth and Community Service has to deal with is the approach by Rotarian Alan Cotterell on behalf of the Windmill Community Church\*. It has purchased the disused St Thomas's Church next to Lidl in Finchfield and wishes to refurbish it and use it for worship and 'community purposes'. Y&CS will consider support for an appropriate project emerging from this. (\* Several references via Google.)

# Notes from Governing Council (since we have some space)

For those who periodically claim that the Club management is not as transparent as it could be It may be of interest to read about GC deliberations during its last approx 90 minute meeting. (We always try and fail to make it shorter!) Dealing with Club Accounts takes a while : the accounts were approved by the membership, the trustee bank account has to be approved by the trustees, a Certificate of Compliance has to be signed annually and sent to District. This time we considered a possible larger scale giving programme for the Club's centenary year in 2020-21. (Who will be president after Richard Horrell?) Also GC considers that the current level of our reserves is higher than it needs to be. (And the closure of bank branch offices is inconvenient.) There is a lot of cooperation at this time among the five Wolverhampton RCs , which is welcome. It has been decided that we can better do our business if the Club Administration Committee (CAC) is resuscitated, so it has been. It expressed concern inter alia about the operation of the Apology scheme which had resulted in payment for meals not taken (see note at the bottom of this page.) As ever we keep an eye on our big events, Tree of Remembrance (will the extra investment have paid off?), Dragon Boats (will we have enough boats?), Best Foot Forward (will we get enough sponsors?). The Club's votes in the RIBI president election will be cast, on the advice of RG, in favour of Alan Clark. GC meetings are a chore carried out on behalf of the Club. We have however a couple of spare seats if anyone is interested. SW

## The Wolverhampton Area round of the RIBI Young Musician Competition

will take place at 4pm on Sunday, 4th February at the Wolverhampton Music Hub, Graisleys Hill. It's being supported by all the local clubs, and we have a very strong, talented field of instrumentalists and vocalists. The adjudicators are our own Jerry Hobbs and Simon Platford BA (Hons), LCTL, ABSM, PGCE, the musical director of the Jackfield brass band. Our young people deserve your support. The competition has been arranged to take place on a Sunday in an effort to ensure as many Wolverhampton Rotarians and their families as possible come along. Those who have attended in the past will know that you are in for a very enjoyable, entertaining experience. RG

## The Membership Committee needs your help!

The Committee is planning to send out invitations to companies and organisations inviting them to become 'Corporate Members' of Rotary. Rather than just sending letters to organisations, we want to send letters addressed to named individuals. We are looking for the names of people known to you at Director level or at least the Head of Human Resources at large local companies and organisations. If you know anybody suitable please will you let me have his or her name as soon as possible. If you can't think of anyone, names of companies or organisations on their own would be helpful. Our thanks in advance, Kewal Krishan (Chairman)

## Club Diary

- 11th January Rotathlon Skittles
- 21st January St George's 25th Charter Lunch
- 26th January Wednesfield Burns Night
- 4th February Wolves Round of Young Musicians
- 10th February Visit to Classic Cars of Bridgnorth
- 13th February M.Boyce—International Project

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](mailto:stu-jen108@talktalk.net)

## Meetings

- Tues 9th January International Committee Report
- Tues 16th January Young Citizens Winners
- Tues 23 January Tree Presentations
- Tues 30th January Brian Woolley : National Service
- Tues 6th February John Harrison The Grand Theatre

## Duties

Meeting Steward	Speaker's Host	Money Steward
9th Jan R. Horrell	n/a	R.Jones
16th Jan A.Jacques	S.Williams	M.Eves
23rd Jan R.Jones	n/a	T.Budd
30 Jan G.Lowndes	J.Walters	R.Green

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](mailto:ruth@hollingsworthandco.co.uk) or by telephone to 01952 581014 (ask for 'Rotary apologies') and copy to [geofflowndes@hotmail.com](mailto:geofflowndes@hotmail.com) (or telephone).