



Pauls Pearls

July was a busy month. Saturday 7th was Best Foot Forward day. The sun shone and we had a good early start to entrants. My duties were to greet the Mayor and Mayoress of Wolverhampton which was a great pleasure. They were very popular with the walkers and gave photo opportunities to the Express and Star. A full report is elsewhere in Hub. The following Monday was the occasion of one of my most rewarding days in Rotary. The Technology Challenge at the Uplands School was a great success. I know there is a more detailed report elsewhere but I was



bowled over by the enthusiastic way the children took to the challenge. Rotary in action. The next day was Civic Day. I told you it was busy! I have mentioned before that I was disappointed with the turnout by members for this important date in our diary. Nevertheless I inducted the Mayor into the club, as is our tradition. I was delighted to be part of our District Crown Green Bowls team who, due to some complicated scheduling meant we had to play



Wednesfield and Willenhall clubs on successive nights. Worth it though - we beat them both. The evening of Friday 20th was the Wolverhampton Youth and Wind Orchestra Pre Tour concert. A wonderful evening of great music and a celebration of the skills of the young people. Cameron Chin-See, a 17 year old trumpet soloist was awesome. We shall hear more of that young man in the years to come I am sure. The next Tuesday was the visit of the District governor, Ashley Gray and his wife Lynn. He gave us the message from the RI President and I believe enjoyed his visit. The pressure didn't relent because we had the next round of the District Croquet competition against Aldridge club. We beat them and now face Jacko Pages Cannock club. Gulp! The next night was the Rotathlon Crown Green Bowls evening. Fantastic fellowship event. The next day I was asked to join Rotarians from the other Wolverhampton clubs at the Mayors parlour to discuss fund raising for the Mayors charities. Not that impressed with how things are done at the

Town Hall—but it is early days. So there we are ,as I said , a very busy month. Roll on September.



Summertime

It rained as we went to board the barge but thankfully stopped as we glided off along the Stourbridge Canal, beside the waterlilies. Pete Boddis's band with Marilyn sang to us – 'Dream', 'Amarillo',



'Summertime' etc. We became more jovial, enjoying our drinks from the well-stocked bar and later our fish and chips which miraculously appeared, singing and even dancing in the narrow space. The band had a good repertoire, easily filling the two plus hours with songs that we all knew and enjoyed. All in all a good convivial occasion. Well done Peter Hand!



Tim...We shall miss you

Tim Rissbrook has decided to call it a day for his club membership after 31 years. I tried hard to change his mind but he felt it was time to go although he will keep in touch. He is already supporting the 200 Club having bought the first

tickets. Good luck Tim and Jane. President Paul

David Cheadle

Sad to report that David has resigned from the club feeling that his business commitments prevent him playing a full part. I have assured him that we will keep in touch, invite him to social events and hope that he may be able to rejoin us. President Paul.

A Rotarian Makes A Difference in Zambia

Last December, I said a few words at our club lunch, and told members about the International Committee's recent donation to the Kanyama Free Baptist Community School feeding programme and the additional funding of 5 lots of wellies and umbrellas for the teachers who work in very difficult conditions in this most impoverished area of Lusaka, Zambia- especially during the rainy season.

At the end of the lunch, a club member approached me and said that he'd just received his winter fuel allowance and gave me £125, on condition that I sent it to the school, to benefit the children, apologising that this sum was all he had on him at the time!!

Well it's taken a while for me to properly acknowledge this very generous donation but here it is.

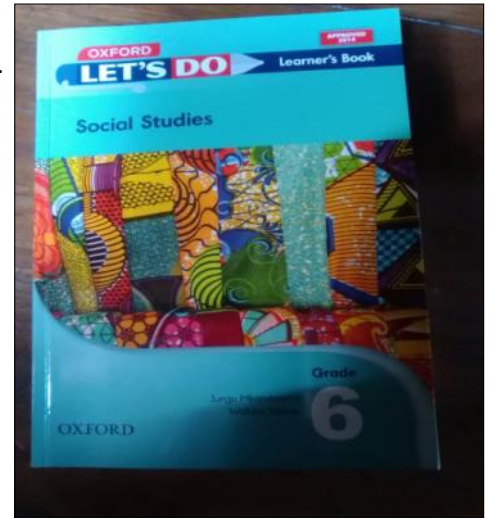
Now I can't properly 'out' this member because he said he did not want his identity to be known so you will all have to guess!

But this act of generosity and thoughtfulness should not go unrecognised. This school is a vital part of everyday life for the children of Kanyama with education being possibly their only chance of ever leaving this extremely poor compound. In Zambia, what we might call townships, or ghettos are known as compounds. My dictionary defines 'compound' as an enclosure. Sadly, in Zambia, there are many

compounds-

Kanyama is about the worst.

The money that I was handed bought text books, paper, chalks, drinking cups, pens, pencils, colouring material and even a few buckets and cleaning items.



The remaining few pounds- or Kwacha, were spent on bread for an extra breakfast one morning.



The May 2018 register shows 219 children attend the school. It is smaller than the Tettenhall Suite at Linden House. Things are often extremely tight in there.



So you can now see where the money went- and the good that this generosity did. It is heartening to

know that while our club, like others, spend quite a bit of its time looking at itself, thinking about our future, the very nature of Rotary is still very much alive, right here and right now. So on behalf of us all at our club, the 219 children with their 5 teachers at the Kanyama Free Baptist Community School in Zambia, I thank the member for his kindness.

Mike Boyce



P.S. On the right the bright white patches are holes in the wall!

