

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

December 2017



With several Rotarians a group of young businessmen met on Friday 3rd November to have a light breakfast

and a chat about the formation of a **SATELLITE CLUB** in association with Wolverhampton RC. Introductions were made in a convivial atmosphere and it was decided to hold a follow-up meeting again at the MS Centre on Wednesday 13th December 7.30 for 8am.



## Remembrance Sunday

The Rotary Clubs of Wolverhampton, Tettenhall and Wolverhampton St Georges and the Inner Wheels of Wollverhampton and Tettenhall were represented at the Drum Head ceremony at the Cenotaph in St Peter's Square and afterwards at the service in St Peters. The Mayor and Mayoress, Elias and Asha Mattu were in attendance and hosted us to refreshments before and after the ceremonies (which were well attended despite the bitterly cold north wind). We will remember them. Paul Lockley.

In their garden, which is part of the **National Open Garden Scheme**, Brian and Anne Bailey have built a Gothic Retreat with stained glass windows and shell mosaics. This not only interested George Clarke (in the picture, TV's Amazing Spaces) but also the Express and Star in connection with its **Black Country Masters** campaign. They are named among the hundred masters selected from Dudley, Sandwell, Stourbridge, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton, whose skill is being celebrated. Congratulations!



## Inner Wheel Notes

We had an interesting and revealing talk from the Black Country Women's Association at our monthly meeting. This was followed by a very enjoyable coffee morning at the home of Carol Lowndes where we chatted and set the world to rights. We also raised some money for our local Children's Hospice. We look forward to our Christmas lunch where we will join Rotary and listen to Compton Hospice Choir singing 'Songs from the Shows'. We wish all our readers a Happy and Healthy Christmas. President Wendy Sutcliffe





## Stuart's Stories 14

Snooker at the turn of the month is good fun if not brilliant. Followed a day or two later by a two-hour compliance seminar to prepare the club against litigation. Followed by a breakfast meeting to greet possible satellite members. I feel I need the week's break in Madeira. (Madeira means wood and Funchal means fennel, more or less.)

District Governor Carol Reilly accords us her fifty-something visit with other District bigwigs in attendance. Carol talks about the mission of the current year but also about 'fun and fellowship' – there is thankfully this work and play aspect to Rotary.

The District Council was another serious two hours of reports with a presentation of the work of Fisher House helping disabled military personnel. The presenter brought along Dave Watson who has lost two legs and an arm but remains amusing and cheerful. We examined his gold and bronze Invictus medals.

There was a short ceremony for the switch-on of the tree lights in the Mander Centre. The new manager Richard Scharenguivel comes along

in support (but we may have to go elsewhere next year). Mayoress Asha Mattu stands in for her husband who is unwell.

As well as upcoming Tree duties we have an opportunity to sell Crocus emblems as punters leave the Lighthouse showing of the film Breathe (about a polio victim). (My stint with Richard Horrell was quite productive but there were not many cinema-goers.)

Our last meeting in November featured a presentation by Angie and Eve from Spurgeons, an old charity that we support and which itself supports young carers. To my surprise we discover that Dudley has three properly assessed 5 year old carers!

As we approach our SGM (on 12th December) we are keen to hear from a volunteer to become President Elect in 2018-19 and then President in 2019-2020. Much more important than the Brexit negotiations.

Jeni and I got to see the film Breathe showing dramatically a true episode in the fight against Polio. The result of the crocus emblem-selling operation is very gratifying : members of all five Wolverhampton clubs collected £145 and Peter Hurlstone of Wednesfield generously added £55. A good cause and a good occasion. Well done organiser Richard Green.



## Past Secretaries

The past secretaries of the Club have been meeting each year with their ladies. The inaugural meeting took place at the Ravensholt Hotel in September 1976 and was organised by President Don Lowe. The wish was expressed that this

be an annual event and it was held this year at South Staffs Golf Club. (But where are the ladies? Ed.)



## The Conservation Centre, RAF Museum, Cosford

As in other years at the Open Week we were able to tell people George Sidebotham's story and listen to theirs. A daughter of a wartime Hampden pilot was able to meet the daughter of the pilot of the machine shot down over Russia which is now being restored by apprentices and volunteer engineers. We sold a number of booklets and DVDs raising £440 which will go towards the annual Apprentice Dinner and the Geo Sidebotham Award which will be held in conjunction with the Vocational Study Exchange Presentation on the

evening of 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Linden House. Please note the date in your diary ; it replaces the normal lunchtime meeting. Peter Wright



## Wolverhampton Rotary Plant Crocuses



The five RC's of Wolverhampton have purchased 50 000 corms and planted them at different venues, Tettenhall Upper Green, West Park, Bantock Park, Wednesfield Community Centre and the Bert Williams Leisure Centre, with the help of local schools, voluntary groups and the City Park Service. The purple crocus is the worldwide symbol of the mass immunisation programme with immunised children having a little finger painted purple. These crocuses will emerge in spring. The picture shows some of the planters in Bantock Park.

## Sports and Entertainment

**District Sporting Events** **Darts** match against Wednesfield . Although we managed to lose the first 3 games of 6 we won the other 3 & the play off to go through to the quarter final. **Snooker** against Dudley RC, success at last. Although we won 3 games each we managed to lose the match on score by a considerable degree. **10 Pin** against Wednesfield Again another success thanks mainly to an outstanding 178 by Mike Boyce. So all to do again in December and January. My thanks to all. **Rotathlon** Darts and Dominoes on 6th Dec won by Stewart Ross and Peter Wright who were of course the organisers! Skittles 11th Jan, The Swan at Brewood, Brian Woolley in charge. 10 Pin Bowling 5th February

### **Entertainment**

**Christmas Carol Service** 17th December 80 attendees so far, arrival drink included. Other proposed events (St Georges, Burns Night, Classic Cars) – please see Club Diary on page 4. P.H.



## **ShelterBox**

We were all shocked by the results of Hurricane Irma across the Caribbean. Matters were made worse by the arrival of Hurricane Maria. We then saw the horrific newsreels of the Rohingya Crisis on the borders of Bangladesh and Myanmar (Burma). The Club resolved that we should respond in a meaningful manner and that we should do this through

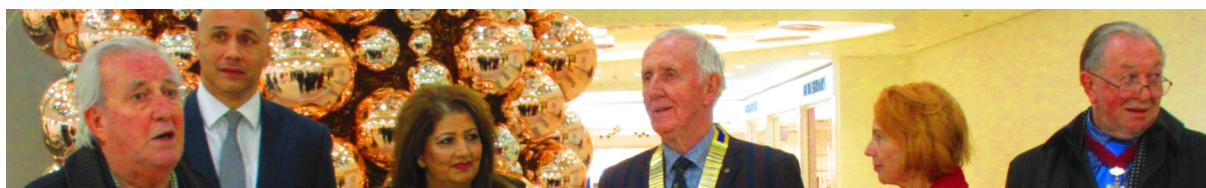
ShelterBox. This charity which is well known to Club Members was quick to respond to both crises. They had teams in both the Caribbean and Bangladesh assessing local needs and arranging for aid to be distributed. For the Caribbean this included tents, ShelterKits, solar lights and water carriers. The Club purchased eight ShelterBoxes for a total of £4720. Rtn Richard Horrell.



## Aconcagua

Mike Boyce asks : How does a more than middle-aged , slightly overweight , non-sporty chap who enjoys a spot of walking find something to do during January which will stop boredom setting in? Somebody said try Aconcagua. Well why not? How hard can it be? (Ed.: This promises to be a much greater feat than Kilimanjaro.)

At some point I clearly lost focus and without really noticing, found myself signed up for a trip to the Andes of Argentina to tackle a great snow-covered lump of rock called Mount Aconcagua, the highest peak in South America and the highest in the World outside of Asia. So I will be spending eighteen days walking, climbing up, (and all being well, down) all 22,837 feet. It's camping all the way just to add to the challenge - extra winter woollies are on order too. It will be cold. It will also be windy. Oh dear me. All of a sudden I feel the need for encouragement! While I dip into my reserves, will you please dip into your wallets so that I can use this adventure to raise funds in aid of these charities? I am paying all my own costs, flights, guides, food etc. All sponsorship goes in total to: **Compton Hospice and Rotary Charitable Trust.** *Mike Boyce*



## Mander Centre

**Switch-on** On 22nd November organiser Alan, manager Richard, Mayoress Asha,

SW and Deputy Mayor and Mayoress Councillor and Mrs Phil Page assembled with a crowd of Rotarians and onlookers to witness the switch –on of the lights on and surrounding the very pretty tree. (Ed. Sorry it's a bit squashed.)

**Rotary Lunch** In fairness to Simon and Chef Adam, we have to be able to give them reliable requirements for catering. In the course of recent weeks, based upon the notifications received, we have over-ordered by 5 meals one week and under-ordered to the same extent on another week. **This has resulted in the club paying out over £100 for meals ordered, but not taken.** It may be necessary to revise the basis of non-apology charges. All apologies, notifications of planned attendance from those on List B, advice of invited guests and speakers **must be lodged with Hollingsworth & Co, no later than 4pm on Monday each week.** Geoff Lowndes, Attendance Officer.

## Club Diary

12 Dec Hospice Choir with Inner Wheel

19th Dec Christmas Message

11th January Rotathlon Skittles

21st January St George's 25th Charter Lunch

23rd January Tree Presentations

26th January Wednesfield Burns Night

4th February Wolves Round of Young Musicians

10th February Visit to Classic Cars of Bridgnorth

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 5th Dec Sports & Entertainment Report

Tues 12th Dec SGM and choir with Inner Wheel

Tues 19th Dec Christmas Message by Pippa Thorneycroft

## Duties

Meeting Steward

Speaker's Host

Money Steward

5 Dec Peter Hand

Colin Cundy

12 Dec Jerry Hobbs

Brian Fellows

19 Dec J.Hollingsworth

Derrick Sanders

Roy Fielding

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).