



Harriet Wells is the Banbury Young Musician of the Year for 2008

Saturday 1st March saw a capacity audience of over 200 people gather at Sibford School for a spectacular evening of musical entertainment at the Banbury Young Musician of the Year Finals 2008.

The performances given by 53 young people, aged from 8 to 18 who took part in the finals, ranged from good to absolutely fabulous. Each and every one of them should be extremely proud of their performances.

The standard was such that the three adjudicators, Mark Paine, Gerry Howe and John Cullen found it hard to select the winners for the 26 category trophies, and extremely difficult to select the overall winner.

Their final unanimous decision was that the Banbury Young Musician of the Year 2008 is Harriet Wells, pictured below receiving The Alcan Trophy from Rotarian John Phillips.



Rotarian and competition organiser Rotarian Gareth Jeremy said "I am delighted that Harriet has become the 17th Banbury Young Musician of the Year. Every year the standard achieved by competitors seems to get ever higher and this year has proven to be no

exception. Harriet has been a competitor in the competition for several years, she plays the clarinet and has recently been selected to attend two residential courses with the National Youth Wind Orchestra of Great Britain".

Isabelle Bourne Swinton Hunter won the Junior Musician of the Year against some strong competition and was presented with the Humphris Family Trophy by Martin Humphris. Isabelle played a piece by Handel in the Brass section and by Pepusch in the Woodwind section.



The main sponsor of the event for the past 17 years has been Banbury Charities and the Rotary Club of Banbury is extremely indebted to them for their support without which the event would not be possible.

Grateful thanks must also go to our other sponsors the Bluecoat Foundation, Banbury Town Council and Cherwell District Council, Sibford School, The Inner Wheel Club of Banbury, One Man Band and a considerable number of Rotarians, partners and friends too numerous to mention individually.

The finals were attended by Cllr Rose Stratford, Chairman of Cherwell District Council, Cllr Kieron Mallon, Banbury Town Mayor, Cllr Ann Bonner the Deputy Town Mayor, Martin Phillips, our own club President and District Governor Tony Bacon.

On the first day, God created the dog and said.....



'Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years.'

The dog said: 'That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?'

So God agreed.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said:

'Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span.'

The monkey said: 'Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the Dog did?'

And God agreed.

On the third day, God created the cow and said:

'You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years.'

The cow said: 'That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?'

And God agreed again.

On the fourth day, God created man and said:

'Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years.'

But man said: 'Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?'

'Okay,' said God, 'You asked for it.'

So that is why for our first twenty years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years we sit on the sofa and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you.

Rotary Flood Disaster Appeal Tops £1 million and more projects announced

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland announce today that the Rotary Flood Disaster Appeal has raised £1 million including £700,000 raised from Fashion For Relief, a charity fashion show organised by Naomi Campbell, which was a smashing success and grand finale to London Fashion Week.

The fourth batch of projects to be allocated funding from the Rotary Flood Disaster Appeal was announced today. Priority has been given to sustainable community based projects and community recovery activities with a particular focus on helping young people who have been badly affected. In this fourth tranche a further £92,800 has been allocated and includes the following projects:

- To restore Tollbar ARLFC rugby pitch £10,000
- To replace cookers and kitchen equipment Buck Park primary Hull £1,000
- To replace equipment Kingswood College, Hull £3,000
- To provide Play Bus Dorchester Primary, Hull £4,650
- To provide play ground equipment Tillbury Primary, Hull £3,000
- To refurbish school Grounds Stockwell Primary, Hull £10,000
- To replace murals Sutton Park Primary, Hull £3,000
- To replace playground markings Acre Heads Primary, Anlaby £5,000
- To replace storage shed and refurbish grounds Burton Pidsea School, £8,500
- Cottingham Croxby Primary £10,000

- To provide BMX bike track Brampton £7,500
- To restore lines in playground Worsborough Sports £5000
- To replace and repair equipment Evesham Rowing club £16,500
- To replace equipment Athelston Players £400
- To refurbish Malmesbury Victoria Football Club £600
- To refurbish gym Malmesbury Amateur Boxing Club £650
- To replace practice nets Tewkesbury Cricket Club £4,000
- To refurbish St Davids Community Centre, Morteon in the Marsh £5,000

This brings the total allocated to date to more than £700,000 The Rotary Flood Disaster Appeal raised over £300,000 and this has been augmented by a further £ 700,000 of funds raised by the Fashion for Relief fashion show.

Naomi Campbell said, "I am thrilled with the results of this year's Fashion For Relief, and thank all those who contributed in supporting these communities affected by the floods."

Allan Jagger President Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland said "we launched this appeal to help relieve the hardship of the victims of the recent flooding. Rotary is very grateful for the generosity of the public. I am delighted that we are able to support these projects announced today in response to the needs of the local communities affected by the floods.

District Polio Plus and Foundation

D.G. Tony has sent his sincere thanks to the 37 clubs in District that have contributed a total of £6266 to the RIBI Polio sub-NID in India. It is worth noting that all of these contributions are also getting a 50% RI grant and then the 100% matching grant (and District recognition) from the Bill & Melinda Gates money.

The sub-NID will now definitely be going ahead on April 27th in Bihar which is one of the poorest states and also the one with the most cases of polio at this time.

GSE Team from District 2241 arrive at Terminal 5



Despite all that you may have heard from the media, the arrival of the GSE Team from D2241 Romania and the Republic of Moldova at Heathrow Terminal 5 on Friday 28th March went very smoothly indeed. Their flight was actually early and all of their bags came through in reasonably quick time. They were met by representatives from their first host club Pangbourne and only the weather was a bit of a letdown. We will be hearing from this very talented group of young professionals at our Friday lunchtime meeting on 11th February 2008.

We will also be hosting them along with Banbury Cherwell club from 6th to 12th April. Please remember the skittles evening which we are hosting on Thursday April 10th for them at the Sun Inn Hook Norton. They will then move on to Misbourne Matins from 13th to 18th and Maidenhead from 18th to 24th. Please make sure that you have the date of the Farewell Rally in your diaries. This will be on Tuesday 22nd April at the Holiday Inn, Maidenhead. This is typically a great fun evening and partners are very welcome.

Beer - No idea if this is true but I like it anyway.....



It takes 2000 grains of Barley to make one pint of beer.

More interestingly:- The amount of carbon dioxide liberated during fermentation is about one quarter of that absorbed from the atmosphere by photosynthesis of the growing grain.

SO, drinking beer is saving the planet!

George gets his medal!



Cllr George parish was made a Paul Harris Fellow and was presented with a medallion on a blue and gold ribbon at the club meeting on Friday 26th March 2008.

As you will all be aware, it is a very rare event for the award to be made and an even rarer one when it is made to a non Rotarian.

It is awarded, to quote Rotary International's own words," "in recognition of exceptional service."

The Rotary Club of Banbury unanimously decided some 3 months ago that George Parish had given such "exceptional service" and was therefore worthy of this a prestigious award for his efforts in the Save the Horton Campaign.

The award would have been made regardless of the outcome of the campaign, but in light of the positive decision the timing could not have been better.

President Martin said, "To quote a well worn but on this occasion a very appropriate expression, commeth the hour, commeth the man and George was that man!"

He went on to thank George for all of his hard work and efforts on behalf of all Rotarians and he was confident that he spoke for the rest of Banburyshire as well.

In response George said, "he was extremely proud to join the very small number of people in the Paul Harris Fellowship and he would wear the medallion with pride" he went on to say "that he looked forward to returning to visit the Rotary Club of Banbury in the very near future."

The Computer swallowed Grandma

Many thanks to the Rev. Rtn. Janet Chapman who spotted this.....



The computer swallowed grandma,
Yes, honestly its true,
She pressed 'control' and 'enter'
And disappeared from view

It devoured her completely,
The thought just makes me squirm,
She must have caught a virus
Or been eaten by a worm.

I've searched through the recycle bin
And files of every kind;
I've even used the Internet
But nothing did I find.

In desperation, I asked Jeeves
My searches to refine,
The reply from him was negative,
Not a thing was found 'online'.

So, if inside your 'Inbox',
My grandma you should see
Please 'copy', 'scan' and 'paste' her
And send her back to me.

Membership

D.G. Tony reports that the recruitment effort within District continues to bear fruit and that he has now sent a total of 113 'Welcome to Rotary' letters to new Rotarians. He sends his congratulations to everyone for their hard work to secure a strong and healthy future for our clubs.

Copy for Bulletin

Just another short please for copy for the Bulletin – February was great thanks but this month has been a hard slog again therefore keep it coming electronically if possible!