



**President Richard Watts**

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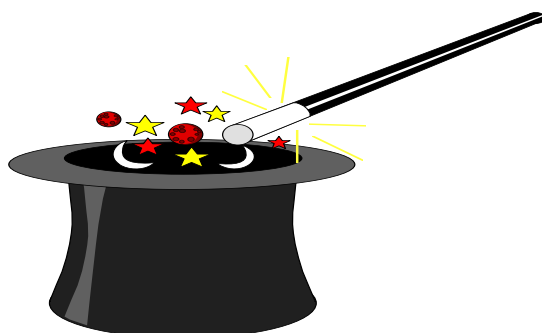
**"The Rotary Logo 2009 - 2010"**



RI President-elect John Kenny announced the 2009-10 RI theme, **The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands**, to incoming district governors at the 2009 International Assembly. The 2009-10 RI theme acknowledges the important role individual Rotary clubs will play in shaping the future of Rotary. RI President-elect John Kenny unveiled the theme, **The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands**, during the opening plenary session of the International Assembly, an annual training event in San Diego, California, USA, for incoming district governors.

"The future of Rotary will not be shaped at RI headquarters – it will be shaped in each and every Rotary club," Kenny said, "because it is for each of us – as Rotarians – to do what is necessary to keep Rotary strong." Kenny acknowledged the foundation established by past Rotary leaders and laid the responsibility for building upon that success on every Rotarian. Each one of us is standing on the shoulders of generations of Rotarians past, and it is our responsibility to determine Rotary's future."

**DON'T FORGET.**



**The Rotary Club of Banbury Joint President's Night and Service Club's Ball.**

This great event is to take place at the General Foods Sports and Social Club, Spiceball Park on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>. April. The entertainment will consist of a "Frank Sinatra" tribute and a quiet Disco.

Dress will be a Black tie with a five course Buffet Dinner costing £27.50 per head.

The Banbury Town Mayor and the Rotary District Governor have also been invited to this our Presidents prestigious Do.

# The Fairbairn Challenge – “to go to ‘the Ends and beyond’”

## Background

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland and Leonard Cheshire Disability are working together to overcome the barriers to education faced by disabled children in Africa. Leonard Cheshire Disability has successfully pioneered access to primary education for disabled children in Kenya. In partnership with Rotary, it has launched 'School 4 All in Africa' to replicate the Kenyan success in Uganda and throughout Africa.

## The Fairbairn Challenge

The Fairbairn Challenge hopes to raise significant sums of money to help make 'School 4 All in Africa' a reality.

Most people with children (or grandchildren) will surely have watched the film Toy Story and will recall Buzz Lightyear's rallying cry 'To infinity and beyond'. The Fairbairn Challenge is just as inspirational and equally demanding.

Walkers and cyclists who travel from Lands End to John O'Groats are known as 'End to Enders'. So, in a modified version of Buzz Lightyear's words, The Challenge aims to go 'To the Ends and beyond' or, in Captain Kirk's immortal words, 'To go where no man (or woman) has gone before' (we believe).

The Challenge is a sponsored trans-British Isles expedition from the Scilly Isles to the Shetland Islands (see itinerary overleaf).

Rotarian, Andrew Fairbairn will undertake this gargantuan 1,183 mile trek, travelling by Kayak, bicycle and on foot. It will start on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009, depending on sea conditions and is expected to take 25 days.

## Your club can join The Fairbairn Challenge

Rtn. Andrew Fairbairn of the Rotary Club of Banbury plans to complete the entire route with back up support from his own Club and Leonard Cheshire Disability. Specifically, Leonard Cheshire Disability will help to promote the event through television, radio and local and national news papers.

Rotarians and their Clubs can help by:

- sponsoring Andrew's Challenge
- promoting The Challenge to their members and to their local community
- joining Andrew on any of the mainland legs from Lands End to John O'Groats
- meeting the team on the day that the expedition passes through their locality and obtaining local press coverage;
- providing help with overnight accommodation (no paid accommodation will be used)
- inviting Rtn. Andrew Fairbairn to come and speak to their Club. Either before or after the event and arranging invitations for presentations to other organisations after it has been completed.

## More Information

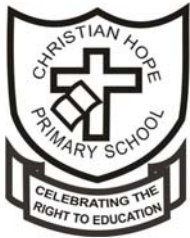
More information can be obtained on the trip on [www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk](http://www.banburyrotaryclub.org.uk) and about the Leonard Cheshire Disability School 4 All in Africa Programme from [www.LCDisability.org/school4allinafrica](http://www.LCDisability.org/school4allinafrica) or by emailing [andrew@fairbairnwild.com](mailto:andrew@fairbairnwild.com)

Donations can be made at [www.justgiving.com/andrewfairbairn](http://www.justgiving.com/andrewfairbairn) or by cheque to the Rotary Club of Banbury c/o Rtn. Andrew Fairbairn, Orchard Clare, Overthorpe, Banbury, Oxon OX17 2AF with a note stating that the donation is for the 'School 4 All in Africa' Project.

## Help Make School 4 All in Africa a Reality

Itinerary (to commence on 1st June 2009 or as soon as possible thereafter depending upon sea conditions)

The route passes through, or close by, the following Rotary Districts: 1290, 1170, 1200, 1100, 1090, 1060, 1210, 1220, 1050, 1040, 1190, 1020, 1230 and 1010.



The Rotary Club of Banbury  
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## ROTARY MISSION CHALLENGE

**Making a real difference in Sierra Leone**

TEL: 01295-250598(H), 01295-266728(W) e-mail: [alanwooly@msn.co](mailto:alanwooly@msn.co)

### February 2009

#### CHRISTIAN HOPE SCHOOL, KISSY, FREETOWN

In January 2007 I agreed to fund the building of a 6 classroom extension at the school, since returning from Freetown in January 2007 I have sent/taken **£35,750** to the school & currently have £415 banked. I estimate that I need to raise a further £2,000 to fund the completion of the building of the 6 classrooms. Some additional funding may well be required for completion of essential landscaping & safety features.

#### EXCHANGE RATE AFFECTS PROJECT

This time last year when I sent a Moneygram I was getting an exchange rate of 5,600 Leones to the £. In April 2008 it peaked at 5,695, by September it had fallen to 5,025. Since then the "credit crunch" has had a dramatic affect and on January 21st it was 4,060!!!

This has seen a drop of **28.5%** in the value of the £ and has had a significant impact on the overall cost of the project **BUT** at the end of the day we need to focus on the end result – 6 new classrooms which will **"make a real difference"** for the school.

STOP PRESS: Latest exchange rate rises to Le 4,195

#### BANBURY ROTARY CLUB UPDATE

In November Banbury Rotary Club pledged **£5,000** towards the Christian Hope classroom project. This funding has all been sent to the project and as a direct result of this the internal ceilings are all completed, 4 of the 6 classrooms are plastered, the front elevation is rendered (and they now have enough funding to finish all the plastering & rendering. This donation has really "fast tracked" the building programme - I am so grateful for the fantastic support given to me and the project by the Club & it's members.

#### EQUIPMENT SPONSORSHIP

When the 6 classrooms are completed I need to equip them with blackboards, desks and benches for the children and tables and chairs for the teachers – I am setting up a sponsorship scheme to undertake this: 3 seater wooden bench £10 , wooden desk for 3 children £15 , teacher's wooden table £20 , teacher's wooden chair £10, Blackboard £30

#### Brackley Athletic Football Club

A huge thank you to Mark & Michelle Croxford and everyone at Brackley Athletic – they have just donated **10 football strips** which will be sent out to Freetown in the near future and distributed to local school and youth teams – **RECYCLING WORKS!!**

#### Thank you to the following for recent donations:

The Snellgrove family, Ryde, Isle of Wight , Strathaven Rotary Club , Whitnash WI & it's members  
Ken Brazier @ Princes Risborough Rotary Club, Ladbroke WI & it's members ,Peggy @ West Street Methodist Church, Banbury

Tredington & Blackwell WI & it's members ,Robert Ward @ Brookmans Park Rotary Club, Jenny Isles & Brackley Inner Wheel Club , Banbury Parkinson's Disease Society & it's members ,Burnham Beeches Rotary Club , Potters Bar Rotary Club

Banbury Print & Design for their continued sponsorship of promotional materials.

**Thank you to everyone who has helped me to "make a real difference".**

## Speaker Reports.

**HELEN BOSWELL . JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup> 2009**

Our speaker is the wife of the local Member of Parliament for Daventry Tim Boswell. She chose as her subject "Parliament 20 years of change". Her husband Tim was elected as MP for the constituency of Daventry at the 1987 election following the retirement of Reg Prentice.

He has remained the member for Daventry ever since so Helen has been in the right place to witness the many changes which have taken place over all of those years.

Changes have been rapid in most ways of life during this period and Parliament has undergone much change as well.

In the first 10 years of Tim being an MP there were often all-night sittings in the Commons. Although this had its disadvantages, one advantage was that social life blossomed within the Commons after hours.

There were many formal and informal gatherings among the members which enabled them to know one another better no matter on which side of the house they sat.

In order to largely accommodate changing circumstances to enable working parents to see more of their families the voting on many evenings take place at 10.00 pm.

Members then go home after voting with the result that they can see more of their families but at the expense of being unable to know their fellow members better or to be able to socialise with them.

Security has been tightened much more. There are many barriers which have been erected and more armed police visible. There are barriers outside the Houses of Parliament and barriers within the chambers separating the public gallery from the floor of the house.

There are more lady MP's than there used to be. A new building has been acquired, Portcullis House (cost £234 million) where Parliamentary

business is conducted as well as within the 2 established chambers. It has many committee rooms and the whole building is bomb proof.

When Tim first became an MP Helen was invited by Paddy Ridsdale to join the Conservative Parliamentary wives association. Helen now runs this but they cannot call it a wives organisation. It is for "Other Halves" and Helen stresses that membership is restricted to only one per MP.

There used to be a World War 11 members association but this has now ceased.

The election counts used to take place on the day after the election and the result announced after that. Nowadays the count is overnight in Towcester with the TV cameras present in the council chambers and the result known much quicker.

Public awareness of Parliamentary procedures is much greater. There is also instant reporting 24 hours a day. Interviews are demanded by the media instantly.

E-mails are now the preferred method of communication resulting in mass lobbying by e-mail, all of which demand a reply. Tim cannot reply to all individually so he has to devise some standard responses. As a result of e-mails there are few proper letters written.

For the state opening of Parliament there are now few hats worn and the ladies no longer seem to curtsy to the Queen. It seems a shame that old established courtesies have been eroded.

Helen entertained us very much with her talk and it seemed highly appropriate we were able to invite her to our 5<sup>th</sup> Friday with our wives or should I say other halves with us.

Richard George.

## **Assia Bibi      The Multicultural Play Project.**

Our speaker on 13<sup>th</sup> February was Asia Bibi who gave an inspirational talk about her roll in The Multicultural Play Project.

The MCPP is a voluntary organisation made up of parents from ethnic minority communities in Banbury. It was set up in 2002 as a way of enabling the children to have access to Saturday club activities designed with their particular needs and cultures in mind. At least 120 young people and about 50 families have access to the services on a regular basis.

The project provides Saturday Clubs and Girls swimming sessions during term time and during holidays organises trips and outings to theme parks, museums and other attractions that the children choose to go to. The Saturday clubs are held at The Fairway Family Project, Britannia Road children's centre and the Ruscote Community Hall and these events are all funded for the next three years.

The project celebrates all the festivals throughout the year with the young children and their families, these include Chinese New Year, Easter, Eid, Diwali and Christmas. This enables the children and families to learn about other cultures and meet families from other faith groups.

The project aims to serve Children's unmet needs of social and leisure activities.

- To enrich social and cultural life and improve educational and social skills.;
- To improve health through physical activities;
- To prevent social exclusion. Many of the children and parents do not participate in mainstream leisure activities for financial and cultural reasons;
- To target families of single parents and those on low income;
- To keep children occupied so they don't get involved with anti social activities and can make a positive contribution to the life of the community.

The project is also now receiving funding to run adult classes, there are textile sessions and various English lessons including "improve my English reading and writing", " to listen and understand better", to do the citizenship test, to feel more confident about speaking English.

Assia also gave a brief description of her own upbringing in an ethnic community, she showed great enthusiasm for her work in integrating and helping all people to become part of our community but still able to keep their cultural identity.

The vote of thanks was given by Rotarian Brian Croft.

Our speaker on the 20<sup>th</sup> February was Assistant District Governor, Laurie Cunningham. He explained the detail of the "Club Leadership Plan" and suggested that we look at our own structure to see if we needed to take on any of its suggestions.

The C.L.P. has many ideas intended to improve the forward planning of clubs with Club service projects, to increase and sustain membership, to ensure that we use the skills of our members and to revue a strategic plan annually.

He also outlined a plan to improve the roll of Foundation by R.I. and that a few Districts were to be used as test grounds for these changes. It is being proposed that our District should apply to be one of these areas. After a number of questions our President gave our vote of thanks.

### **Committees :-**

#### **Youth Opportunities,**

Young Chef:- Our local final together with the Cherwell Club has taken place successfully with a winner from Banbury School. The regional final is also taking place at Banbury School.

Young Musician of the Year has attracted about 120 entrants with 56 taking part in the final, this is an increase on previous years.

#### **International.**

The Old Time Music Hall is confirmed for the **29 – 30<sup>th</sup>. May 2009** at Bloxham School.

## Community and Vocational

Promotion is now underway for the Scillies to Shetland "marathon". Andrew Fairbairn is undertaking a number of speaking engagements to promote the event. The Challenge will now begin **1<sup>st</sup> June 2009**. Andrew will require a lot of help from Rotarians when he is going the distance, with driving and carrying his equipment to the various stopping places.

The Stroke Awareness day is to be held in Castle Quay on the **18 April**.  
The date for next years Dragon Boats event is to be Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>.May 2010.

## Rotary Foundation,

Our **Foundation committee** has had an excellent year and it was agreed that a sum of £4,000 should be sent to District for Rotary Foundation.

## Sports and Entertainment,

The Inter Club Quiz is to be held at the Masonic Hall on the **16<sup>th</sup> March**. TEAMS OF FOUR ARE REQUESTED FROM EACH COMMITTEE. The evening will include a mini buffet and cheese and biscuits .

The Club outing is fixed for the **28<sup>th</sup> April 2009** a visit to Brooklands Museum.

There will be an opportunity to visit the Oxford Colleges on the **24<sup>th</sup> June and 8<sup>th</sup> July**.

An overseas break is being considered for Seville in September 2009.

## 75<sup>th</sup>. Charter Celebrations.

A Charter Dinner is being proposed to celebrate this event.

It is also proposed that the Club History's will be updated and reproduced with the last 15 years included. A committee under Roger Worrall's chairmanship is meeting to organise this.

## Treasurer's Talk

### Where the money goes

During February donations have been made to the following:

Henry Sleight (Brodey Bursary) -	£200	Timothy Trayner (Brodey Bursary) -	£200
Tom Mitson (Brodey Bursary) -	£200	Dean Howard (Brodey Bursary) -	£200
Christian Hope School -	£1,750	K J Brazier (A Venture) -	£50
The Beacon Centre -	£100	Home Farm Trust -	£500
School 4 All in Africa -	£400	Toy Box -	£500
Anjali Dance Co. -	£500	Rotary Foundation -	£4,000

And setup costs of various events have been incurred totalling £811

The level of 'free' funds stands at just over £6,700

## ATTENDANCE.

### January

Honorary Members 4

Members 72

Average Attendance 52 - 72%.

Members other activities - 64

10 of our members visited other clubs. Visiting Rotarians Philip Bobby Oxford Isis, Two Rotarians from Brackley, Twino Birhingino Kabale Uganda..

**February**

Honorary Members 4

Members 72

Average Attendance 53 - 74%.

Members other activities 56

10 of our members visited other clubs.

Visiting Rotarians :- Laurie Cunningham ADG, Banbury Cherwell

**HON SECRETARY** – Dr. Ian Rodrick  
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**COPY DATE** is the penultimate Friday of the month.