

{and finally}

Want to help? Consider the Rotary Club

When Peter Seaward read in *Pensionwide* about Liam DeRoe volunteering for Macmillan Cancer Support he agreed that volunteering for a good cause is very worthwhile. Here Peter tells us how he helps raise funds with his local Rotary Club

I was very interested in the article in the spring issue of *Pensionwide* about how charity work fills the time after retirement. It must be very gratifying to know which charity you would like to support. I was not in such a position but I was invited to join my local Rotary Club.

I had supported some of their fund-raising events so had picked up on some of their objectives. How much I wished I had joined earlier in my life! Through the club a range of charities are supported. Internationally, Rotary has worked on the eradication of polio so that it is now endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Aid for areas affected by natural disasters is given through Rotary-run organisations like Disaster Aid, Shelter Boxes and Aqua Boxes.

Peter worked in the Staffordshire Building Society's IT department. He was also Treasurer of the Staff Association and was a pension Trustee (member) when the Society was integrated into the Portman Building Society. He says he was too settled in Telford to transfer to Bournemouth so retired in 2005.

Wellington Rotary Club supports a local international charity, Medic Malawi, by providing a water pump, and we hope that very soon solar panels will provide power to the school, hospital and orphanage in Mtunthama, rural Malawi.

To raise funds for our charities we hold a golf day, a film evening and a sportsman's evening annually. At Christmas we organise the Telford Tree of Light, which enables the



Peter Seaward of Wellington Rotary Club with Sarah Maythorne from Severn Hospice and Lee Carter of Telford Football Club, who lit the fund-raising Telford Tree of Light in November



public to remember their loved ones while donating to charity. Throughout the year we organise competitions for pupils at local schools, and provide days out for needy families and disabled groups.

All this and having fun together in sporting competition and social events. I urge you to consider giving your talent and skills to help your community through your local Rotary Club.

• Visit the Rotary International Britain and Northern Ireland website at www.rotary.org to find your local club, or look at what my club is doing at www.wellingtonrotary.org.uk.

ANYTHING TO SHARE?

We enjoy receiving your news and views for *Pensionwide* and your feedback is always appreciated. If you have any comments on this issue of *Pensionwide*, or suggestions about what you'd like to read about in future issues, please let us know. We'd welcome letters, news or articles and photos showing what you are doing in your retirement. Email us at pensions.team@nationwide.co.uk or write to us at Employee Pensions, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon SN38 2GN. If you'd prefer not to be sent *Pensionwide*, please contact the Employee Pensions Team. Email us at pensions.team@nationwide.co.uk or call us on 01793 655131.