



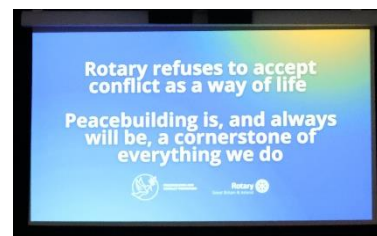
ROTABILIA @12.30

91st Edition

2nd March 2024



Welcome to Rotabilia @12.30. Edition 91 is also a little later than usual as I wanted to include the St David's Day meeting. Special congratulations to Sophie for organising a very successful Film Night - her success has bounced the President from page 1! The occasion was also used to let the audience know about Rotary. One of the slides was particularly apposite in these troubled times. My grand-daughter Natasha noticed it and took this photograph. And then I was sent another story that went straight onto page 1 - you will see why when you read it.



OUR NEWEST MEMBER WRITES ABOUT JOINING ROTARY *[Alina Muts]*

My name is Alina Muts. I am Ukrainian and I worked in marketing.

Almost two years ago, I moved to England with part of my family. I think everyone now understands the reason.

War is a step beyond humanity, a violation of all principles, it is merciless in its «randomness», unpredictable.

Millions of Ukrainians were forced to leave their homes, women were forced to leave their husbands to protect their children.

My family is one of those. In order to protect me and my younger brother Kirill, mum and dad decided that we should move. My dad is still in Ukraine, more than 1.5 thousand miles from us, alone. Thanks to social networks we can stay in touch almost every day.

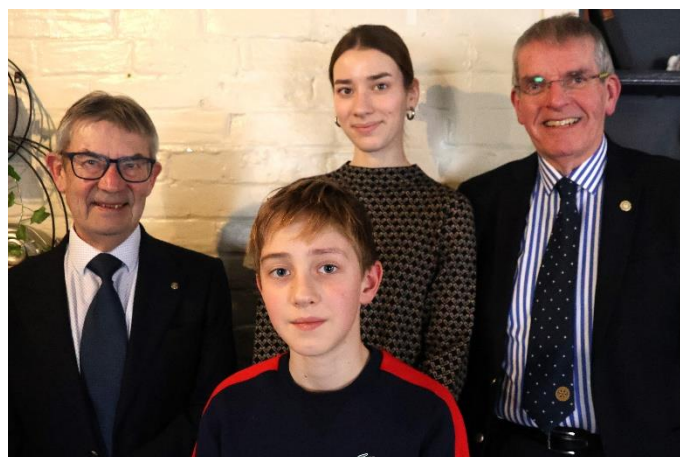
One of the reasons I wanted to join Rotary is that England is constantly helping my country in this terrifying war. You welcomed us into families, became our friends and support during this time. Therefore, I would like to do a lot of good things for England as well.

I always dreamed of being part of something important, creating interesting things and truly friends. And I found it in Rotary.

It's amazing to be with people on the same wavelength.

Rotary is about support, help, friendship, high values and inspiration to do good things.

In our time, this is incredibly important.



President Geoff with Alina, Kirill & John Wardle

FILM NIGHT 2024 [Sophie Price]



Well, what can I say, absolutely thrilled with the success of this year's film night. Sincere thanks to all who took part. Having so much support from ALL members really goes to show just what we can achieve. The money makes such a difference to the charities as we know.

Thanks to each and every one who got involved in some way, from ticket sales to promotion to help actually at the event itself. Even those who gave donations but not attending the event. As promised those winners for ticket sales....well it has cost me 3 bottles!!! Winning sales Rob Evans, Peter Williams and Venn Davies!

Special thanks to all the Film Night sub-committee and our Fellowship committee, special mention to John Wardle for CIO (Chief Information Officer) and all his technical skills, Tom Taylor for organising all the refreshments and Peter Williams for his support. David Lovatt and Peter Seaward together with their grandchildren for superb raffle sales – no-one got away! Final totals raised to be confirmed (awaiting confirmation of licence cost) but in excess of £2,000 which will go to support YMCA and Rotary Charities.



President Geoff, Sophie and YMCA team



Wine reception



Raffle Sales Team



President Geoff



THE WINE RAFFLE NEWS [Richard Studd]

Just this Friday we distributed four bottles of wine from our weekly raffle. Keith Mainwaring was the first of the winners on 9th February. He has now collected a very popular Spanish red which will go well with rich pasta dishes and red meats. I'm sure Mrs. Mainwaring will enjoy it. On 16th February, two bottles of wine were due to be drawn as there was no meeting scheduled for 23rd February due to our brilliantly successful Film Night. However, the raffle bucket and pegs had gone walkabout, so these draws were delayed until 1st March. A French Malbec from the Cahors region of France was won by Dan Scollard-Kerr and it would be absolutely great with a cassoulet dish. Yes please!! The 23rd February draw then followed and Peter Seaward was pleased to win a South African Reserve Shiraz and that too would go well with a big, meaty dish. And finally, the raffle was brought up to date with another South African red, recently donated by a Friend of Rotary and was won by Geoff Ward. I hope all four wines are enjoyed by the winners. Thank you to all of you who continue to support our Rotary Foundation wine raffle.

PRESIDENT GEOFF'S WORDS



At our first meeting in February, it was good to hear from Ray Hughes on the progress and plans for The Orbit in Wellington. I am sure in the future Ray will keep us further updated. [Photo left – Ray Hughes & President Geoff]

This year the presidents of the four Telford clubs have been meeting informally every 3 months or so at Costa in the Forge Retail Park and on 6th February we met once again this time joined by Peter Seaward. These have been very useful meetings and at the moment we are thinking of a possible new joint project we can all get involved with in the future - any thoughts and ideas would be very welcome.



At the meeting on 9th February Hayley Jay from Furrows gave a very interesting and well received talk on electric cars and their future. As you know this talk was originally planned for October last year but was postponed following Hayley's accident. It was very pleasing to see her well and the talk was certainly worth the wait. [Photo left – Hayley Jay & President Geoff]

The Tree of Light presentations took place on 12th February at Hadley Learning Community [A report appears on page 5]

It is not easy to find words to summarize the meeting on Friday 16th February when Alina Muts was inducted as a member of our club. It was a very special meeting for many reasons and I felt very privileged to be President - **Laskovo prosymo Alina.**



Alina was joined by her mother Lena and brother Kyrilo. Many thanks to John Wardle for introducing Alina and organizing a message from John Hewco a charter member from the Rotary Club of Kyiv AND the General Secretary of Rotary International based in Evanston USA no less! - well done again John.



You do wonder how you are going to follow that meeting and then along comes the film night. It was very well supported, an excellent film, a relaxed and enjoyable evening raising a fantastic amount for the YMCA and local charities - a huge thank you to everyone for their efforts. [See a report on page 2.]

Earlier in the week I was in the team that lost at darts and also in the team that won at the quiz – reports from Rob and Dan appear later in this edition.

On Tuesday I along with other Rotarians attended the funeral of long-time member of the club, Gentleman Jim Udale.

The final meeting of this period took place on March 1st -St David's Day. The Welsh meal was traditional cawl and was very tasty indeed. After the meal we were educated and entertained by Venn and Ish and our thanks goes to them for their hard work. I'm pleased to say a good time was had by all. In the words of Max Boyce – 'I KNOW, I WAS THERE.'

TICKETS GO ON SALE FOR THE EDITH PIAF EVENT NEXT WEEK [Richard Studd]

Tickets go on sale next Friday 8th March. David and I will be distributing them at the meeting and they can be purchased online. Our Treasurer can take card payments too.

DON'T MISS OUT - Only 110 tickets available due to the capacity at High Ercall Village Hall. As I've said before, I've seen the show and it's excellent.

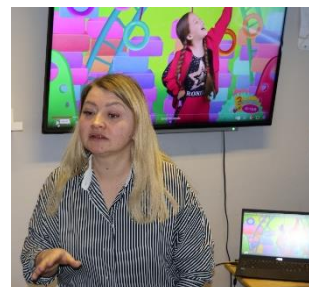
At the end of this edition of Rotabilia our Editor has included the up-to-date flier for the Edith Piaf event on Saturday 4th May which includes all the relevant details.

WELLINGTON'S UKRAINIAN SCHOOL

Along with President Geoff and PP John Wardle I had the privilege to visit the Ukrainian School held every Saturday in the rooms above the Gratitude Café in Duke Street. We were welcomed by Maryna and Tatiana and invited to stay to see how the school operates.

With the eye of a headteacher I noted an excellent level of preparation so that everything was ready when the students arrived. Tatiana [right] taught the younger group. She was enthusiastic and very professional. She was in control, the children respected her, as she respected them, and so created a successful and enjoyable learning environment. The children were well behaved and responded well to the tasks they were expected to complete. I called in at the school yesterday with some paper and pencils and paintbrushes – everything was just the same as the previous week when our visit was expected. Supporting the school will make an excellent project for Wellington Rotary.

I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and saw excellent teaching and a commitment to ensuring that the language and culture of Ukraine was being maintained and encouraged in our Shropshire town.



THE A TEAM HAD BETTER B-CAREFUL [Don Fear]

On Thursday 22nd February Wellington Rotary's two quiz teams were in action at separate venues but tackling the same sets of questions. Both teams won their respective contests, with the B team's score of 151 giving them the bragging rights by a whole point. We assume that both teams have made it safely through to the Final on May 22nd.



The A team started very strongly on GK and History (despite a dubious answer to the question on the duration of Prohibition in America!) before scoring consistently strongly, even on traditionally weaker rounds like Food & Drink and Sport.

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT [PDG Trevor]

Weed Tea

Weeds and their roots can be 'drowned' for several weeks in a tub of cold water to render them harmless. The residual fluid contains phosphorus, potassium, nitrogen, magnesium, and other minerals & nutrients the weeds had stored in their roots and leaves. There is a downside, the pong they produce. To overcome this make it in a drainpipe that has a tap at the bottom. Run the liquid off as required.

To use your weed tea dilute one cup of the liquid with about ten cups of water to the consistency of weak tea.

TELFORD TREE OF LIGHT 2023 CAMPAIGN PRESENTATIONS [Peter Seaward]



Representatives of this year's nominated charities were presented with cheques by the Trustees of The Rotary Clubs of Telford and District Trust Fund accompanied by members of the four participating Rotary Clubs and in the presence of the Mayor of Telford Councillor Arnold England.

Chair of The Rotary Clubs of Telford and District Trust Fund, Peter Seaward, said, "Thanks to the generosity of our contributors and sponsors, the 2023 appeal has raised £40,000 for local charities."

The event at the Hadley Learning Community saw presentations of £20,000 to Severn Hospice, £10,000 to Hope House Ty Gobaith Children's Hospices and £10,000 to Telford First Responders.

In expressing their thanks Elodie Home Head of Fundraising at Severn Hospice said, "It is such a fantastic achievement, it is really important to us to thank you all and celebrate your phenomenal success."

"Every single donation we receive means the world to all of us at Hope House and we genuinely couldn't be more thankful for the support of the Rotary clubs that organise the Telford Tree of Light", said Dawn Ball from Hope House.

Nick Freeman representing Telford First Responders said, "Thanks to you all and your members so much for this amazing donation and support - it is actually quite overwhelming."

In conclusion Nicky Green, senior fundraiser at Severn Hospice said: "The Telford Tree of Light shines so brightly during the Christmas period and brings such comfort to so many people in Telford. Through their kindness, it raises thousands of pounds for charity. We are so lucky to be chosen year after year to benefit and the kindness shown to us by the Rotarians is incredible."



First Responders



Hope House



Severn Hospice

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT [PDG Trevor]

Plastic in Garden Soil

I recently attended a Coventry University seminar on reducing the amount of plastic finding its way into the garden. There are no official figures estimating the amount that might currently be there and will stay there for hundreds of years. Even certified organic compost contains a percentage of micro plastics.

Mulching with wool

One of the delegates made an interesting suggestion for a plastic free mulch. She uses sheep's wool. An inexpensive natural fibre. Follow these links for more.

<https://www.sarabackmo.com/mulching-with-wool/>

<https://businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/news-and-events/technical-articles/use-wool-compost-and-other-alternative-applications>

ST DAVID'S DAY AT THE PHEASANT [Islwyn Davies]



Venn and Ish took charge of our celebrations on St David's Day. On tables lined with daffodils, Welsh Cawl was served followed by Welsh Cakes kindly made and donated by Sue. (Thank you). The "Celtic Duo's" double act turned out to be an entertaining afternoon, although jokes were mostly direct towards their "Anglo Saxons" colleagues as expected.

In addition to the history of St David, other informative topics included history of Wales, Welsh Archers, the Red Dragon and the history of the leek as the national emblem.

A quiz followed, firstly a session on the meaning of Welsh geographical words and places followed by a picture round that consisted of famous Welsh People. Interestingly Laura Ashley caught most people out however a 100% score was achieved on the last picture. Our very own Rob Evans - a Welshman in denial according to Venn.

No discussion regarding Wales could pass without the mandatory question of naming the village with the long name. Known as Llanfair PG to every native Welsh speaker unless asked to pronounce by request.



LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGOGERYCHWYRNDROBWLILLANTYSILIOGOGOGOCH

Finally In Welsh society "Do the little things in life" is an inspiring well-known phrase which originated from St David's famous speech.

Byddwch llawen, a gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd.

"Be cheerful, keep your faith and do the little things in life."

FELLOWSHIP AND SPORTS [Rob Evans]

On an extremely wet night, we set off by canoe over to Prees cricket club which was an excellent venue. The Bees started sensibly, and all six teams were neck and neck after 2/3 rounds. We mainly got 12/18 over the ten rounds and we were always in a tight battle with Audley, who finished on 149. We just pipped them to get 151. Tom Taylor, Peter Williams and John Bradley were all in great form.

We heard that the A team, with all their stars won by 25, so when we were told they got 150 it was a big surprise!! Not unsurprisingly they demanded a recount and assured us that one answer on USA prohibition was incorrect. Luckily, we put the same answer!! I have been back to the judges and are still awaiting the final outcome and scores.

Very well done to both teams. Hopefully we have 2/3 of our better quizzers back for the final on May 22nd. I am always a better sub, coach, advisor!! We have a dozen we can call on, so very well done to everyone. As a well-known supermarket said, Every little helps.

Sports wise we had a disappointing darts night, narrowly losing to a strong Bilston but we beat Wrekin and now meet Bridgnorth at tenpin bowling.

A Rotarian from East Yorkshire is planning to cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats this April in memory of his late wife and is looking for support from Rotary clubs along the route.

Peter Delaney a member of Beverley Rotary Club, is raising funds for the charity Motor Neurone Disease (MND) after recently losing his wife, Maureen, to this disease. Peter will be passing through Shropshire. Beverley Club is also inviting people to join Peter in the saddle for part of the journey to north Scotland. He will also be carrying Rotary club pennants to exchange with groups along the way.

For more information follow this link:

[Rotary Digital - February 2024 - Land's End to John O'Groats for MND \(rotarygbi.org\)](https://rotarygbi.org/)

WELLINGTON ROTARY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Please note that the Scouts/Young Carers Fun Day has been postponed until the Autumn

Friday 8th March - The Pheasant, Admaston @13.00

Fellowship & Peter Seaward on Restructuring and the North Star Project

Tuesday 12th March - The Pheasant, Admaston @16.00

Club Council

Friday 15th March - The Pheasant, Admaston @13.00

Induction of Oleksandr Serhienko

Friday 22nd March - The Pheasant, Admaston @13.00

Job Talk - Chester Murray

FRIDAY 29TH MARCH - GOOD FRIDAY - NO MEETING

Friday 5th April - The Pheasant, Admaston @16.00

Speaker Meeting - Bethany Stones - African Adventure

FRIDAY 5TH APRIL - GAMES EVENING

Tuesday 9th April - The Pheasant, Admaston @16.00

Club Council

Friday 12th April - The Pheasant, Admaston @16.00

AGM & Business Meeting

SATURDAY 4TH MAY - HIGH ERCALL VILLAGE HALL

PIAF



THE LIFE STORY & SONGS OF EDITH PIAF

A truly uplifting performance - funny, charming, moving, informative and very entertaining.

Piaf's classic songs are in safe hands with acclaimed musical theatre actress Sally Jones - performed with passion and sensitivity and in perfect French. An evening not to be missed.



WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY

Sally Jones

www.sally-jones.com



"A MASTERCLASS IN HOW A TRIBUTE TO A LEGEND SHOULD BE CRAFTED"

London Musical Theatre Review



"MESMERISING
- A HAUNTING PERFORMANCE"

"A LOVELY ROMANTIC EVENING"

West End Wilma

SATURDAY, 4TH MAY, 2024

7.30pm - HIGH ERCALL VILLAGE HALL

TICKETS £16 - AVAILABLE FROM WELLINGTON
ROTARY MEMBERS or from hollcot@gmail.com

Rotary
Wellington



PROCEEDS TO LOCAL
ROTARY CHARITIES