

Priory Post

July 2011



So its Goodbye from Doug.....

As we enter a new Rotary year under the leadership of President Bob, I would like to thank all members for their magnificent contribution to our club in 2010/11.

Before I finally sign off from my monthly murmurings, I really do owe you all an apology for my failure at Handover to acknowledge the contribution of our major fundraising event the 10K. I had it in my notes but overlooked it in my speech. I certainly do regard this event as important in our calendar, in fact, it is quite clearly the most important event that we are involved in each year. It involves a lot of hard work by the organising committee, however it provides our major charity income stream and just as important it brings our club together with all our helpers in a display of team spirit and camaraderie for the ultimate benefit of the whole community.

This year this event alone raised some £20,000. Along with our main sponsor, Peter Cooper Volkswagen, we donated £3,000 to St Wilfrids Hospice and as part of the Presidents chosen charity fund we donated £2,000 to The Princess of Wales Royal Regiment Benevolent Fund. Two most worthy causes. The rest of the money has gone to the numerous causes which we have supported throughout the year. Thank you all for making this event such a success.

Finally, I pass on to you the message our DG for 2010/11, Simon Crowther, sent to me. "Thank you all for your support during this year, we have certainly built communities and bridged continents in a spirit of Service above Self. Best wishes for 2011/12".

I now join you all in wishing Bob and his team all the best for 2011/12.

During our handover meeting John Watkins presented Doug with a 'Presidential Citation' on behalf of our District Governor. We were one of only 6 clubs in District to receive this accolade for our achievements in the 2010 2011 Rotary Year and it is our 5th successive year of achieving this award. Congratulations Doug and well done to the club for this great achievement



..... And Hello from Bob

Here we are at the start of another Rotary Year and I feel privileged to be leading our club for the year. I just hope I can do as good a job for the club as have so many of our Past Presidents. The message for the year is simple. Build on the good things we do and continue the evolution of our club to meet the challenges of the future. Its our club and we all want to keep it vibrant and fun to belong to.



I have already had my baptism of fire with a Council meeting, my first Club Meeting and my first major event of the year – The Chichester Challenge. And with so many club activities and events to look forward to I know the year will pass very quickly indeed. Lets all strive to make it as good a year as we can to create the momentum for our Silver jubilee next year.

Twinning

A lucky thirteen of us headed off for Aschaffenburg for the weekend of 3,4,5 June. Absolutely wonderful weather complimented the warmth of the reception of our host club and set the scene for a most enjoyable weekend. For many it was the renewal of long standing friendships and for some of us the start of what I am sure will be lasting friendships



with members of the German and French clubs. The programme was well structured but left us plenty of time for the social things. The highlight for me was a visit to a 'social project' – a shop run by volunteers and stocked by local companies from surplus or old stock and providing food to the needy of the area on a cash basis. The principle is that if people have to pay even a small amount for the food rather than get free handouts, their appreciation is higher but more importantly, their dignity is preserved in what can be very traumatic times. So an important service is provided which also helps the recovery of the individuals involved.



There was also time in the schedule to talk about the future of twinning and we agreed in principle the proposal to jointly support projects with the benefits of our clubs working together as well as the possibility to attract 'matching grant' funding from RI. Watch this space for developments.

The 2 formal social events – dinner on Saturday and a 'White Sausage' brunch on Sunday provided great opportunities for fellowship as well as a great deal of fun – helped along by the local beer and Schnapps. Aschaffenburgs' 'jigsaw puzzle' game certainly got the audience involved and talking to each other.

The Rotary Club of Aschaffenburg have invited us to join them for a weekend journey to Chesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic from 21st to 23rd of October. The village has a number of sites of cultural and historic interest and the weekend programme, albeit in German. Looks very interesting .If any Rotarians are interested to join our Partner Club, just let me know - they will be welcome any time. Graham Jessop.

Christchurch Earthquake relief

Our International committee have sent £1000 to Christchurch Rotary Clubs as a contribution to their efforts in funding important community recovery projects. We are working on ways to achieve matching grants for these contributions to bring even greater benefit in these important projects. Graham Jessop has been in contact with the local Christchurch clubs and received the following from Christchurch Garden City Club with some information on some of the things our donation will be used for.

Their president elect writes

"I can confirm we have approved support for 3 primary schools to fund uniforms and bags for those kids in need. Also sports gear to help with before- and after-school sports programmes. We have also entered an agreement with an organisation called Age Concern to get emergency lights into the homes of the elderly. We have struck a deal with a local retailer to provide a discount and we hope to be able to install the multipurpose lights into some 300 homes. These are immediate tasks and we are now looking to possible longer term projects. We will keep you informed."

Chichester Challenge

The Chichester Challenge took place on Sunday 10 July giving people the opportunity to walk or run a Marathon, Half marathon or 15k course or to Mountain Bike a 55km or 30km Course. The weather was very kind to us with a mostly sunny and warm day and our numbers were up on last year to a total of about 740 entrants in the various classes. District 1250 Governor Duncan Anderson attended and walked the 15km course and President Bob presented the prizes.

Doug Price's committee organised a great day and it was good to see so many satisfied customers returning at the end of their event. The chip timing system was very popular and successful although it was interesting to see how many of the cyclists and marathon Runners had their own time and distance measuring devices – an indication of how serious many people are who take part in these events. Several contestants Managed to go 'the extra mile' but all seemed to find their way back



to the arena in one way or another. We had 4 cadet groups participating, 2 mountain bike riders under 12 and a father who completed the Marathon in about 6 hours pushing his two young children in their push chair – he did think some of the hills were a bit steep!

As usual we had a good representation of the canine fraternity all of whom behaved themselves very well indeed.

Thanks to all who helped with the set up of the arena and the courses and who manned the various checkpoint and other tasks on the day. In particular, thanks to the non Priory helpers without whom we couldn't run this event. Much of the team was new this year – the 4X4 club which helped set out the route plus many of our most recent new members performing many of the key tasks both in the preparation and on the day. Paula Ball and Steve Gingell even added new skills to their repertoire – 'hunt the checkpoint' and 'find the lost contestant' – although from some of the comments I heard coming over the Radio, I suspect its a skill they may not want to utilise too much in the future.

So thanks to all involved for organising such a great day on the club's behalf. We look forward to the Chichester Challenge Thank You evening in August to get the opportunity for a personal Thank You.



Presenting a Cheque to the St Gerard Youth Boxing project

Kids Out at Paultons Park. Our annual outing with some of the kids from St Anthony's to the Rotary sponsored Kids Out. Its difficult to say who enjoys it most—the St Anthony's kids or the Priory kids!



As at 1st July 2011

July

Mon 4	Council	Bob Syme		6.00pm
Wed 6	Job talk Mike Turner Club Assembly update	The Park	Mike Dennett Steve Gingell	
Sun 10	Chichester Challenge			
Tue 12	District Council	Horsham		6.30pm
Wed 13	Business meeting	The Park	Doug Minto Ritchie Stevenson	
Thurs 14	Interviews	CHSB		9.30 – 12.30am
Tue 19	Club Service	Henry Adams (to confirm)		5.30pm
Wed 20	Fellowship	The Park	Mike Turner Ivan Ansell	
Wed 27	District Governor Duncan Anderson	The Park	Richard Doman James Gardner	

* August

Mon 1	Council			
Wed 3	Golf	Hunston	Tony Davenport Peter Bryan	
Wed 10	Business meeting	The Park	Chris Doman Doug Price	
Wed 17	BBQ	TBA	Don Milton Tim Rose	Inc. Partners
Sat 20/ Sun 21	Hike for Hospices			
Wed 24	RIBI President Ray Burman	The Park	Colin Bryant Lawrence Guest	Clubs in the area
Tue 30	Club Service	Henry Adams		5.30pm
Wed 31	Chichester Challenge "Thank you"	The Park	Jules Moores Nick Rowbotham	

Ladies Night

The next Priory Ladies night will be on Wednesday 28th September and will be Hosted by Lesley Syme assisted by Beryl Minto. The event will be held at Lesley's House in Pine Grove.

More details to follow – but PLEASE ladies – keep the date free.

Denis Polhill Youth Sport Achievement Award and Bursary

We have received the letter below from Isobel Brown, this years winner of the Denis Polhill Award and Rotary Bursary.

"I am writing to say a big thank you to Chichester Priory Rotary Club for their generous bursary as support towards my athletics training costs. It will be a great help towards the cost of my kit and travelling expenses.

It was unexpected and a great surprise, first to win the award, and secondly to receive the cheque on Saturday night. I realise that I am lucky to have so much support and therefore would you please pass on my grateful thanks to your fellow Rotarians.

The award makes me feel all the hard work has been worthwhile and has motivated me to continue to do my best, especially for the rest of this season and in the future.

Thank you again,

Yours in sport,

Isobel Brown

Chichester Runners and A.C."

Editor Peter Fuller.

Peter.fualler@sky.com

[Www.rotary-priory.org.uk](http://www.rotary-priory.org.uk)

E-mailing Rotary Priory Colleagues

We have recently introduced a new e-mailing system for the club. Initial usage of this has been successful.

For e-mailing all club members (except those without e-mail) all you need to do is to put "allmembers@rotarypriory.com" in the "To" box (address box) of your e-mail and it will be sent to all. It is possible to add attachments, which will also be sent. Please only use this address for posts that really need to be sent to everybody. Care is needed in replying to these posts: using the simple "reply" function will send the reply just to the initial author, but using the "reply all" function will send the reply to all members, which will not usually be appropriate.

For e-mailing the president, secretary and treasurer, the e-mail addresses "president@rotarypriory.com", "secretary@rotarypriory.com" and "treasurer@rotarypriory.com" are also available.

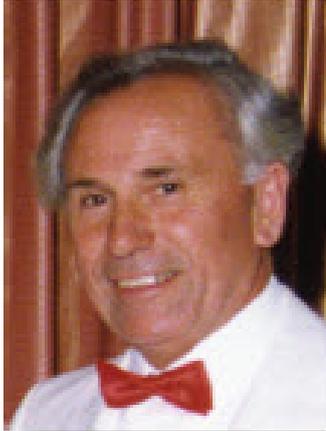
There is also an address for e-mailing all council members: "council@rotarypriory.com" intended primarily for communication within council, but may be of occasional use otherwise.

Members should take care not to publicise the "allmembers" and "council" addresses to non-members, as this could lead to misuse.

For members wishing to address a limited selection of members (without attachments), there is still the possibility of using the e-mail function within the member's area of the website, where it is possible to select, by ticking boxes, the desired recipients. If you've forgotten your login details it is possible to get these e-mailed to you from the member's login, where you only need to enter your current e-mail address and your User ID and password will be e-mailed to you: if you have difficulties, just give me a call

Alan Wells

Rotarian Bryan Dawkins 1936 - 2011



The death of our Rotarian friend Bryan Dawkins, after a long and brave battle against illness, has left a significant gap in many of our lives. Bryan will be remembered for the many contributions he made to his family, Rotary, the accountancy profession and the community, However this tribute focuses on Bryan as a Rotarian.

Bryan hailed from North East London and studied Accountancy at the South West Essex Technical College, and took articles with a London firm of Accountants. He qualified in 1959 and took a Junior Partnership in the local firm of Watling and Hirst. Like many professionals of his generation he spent the rest of his professional life in the same firm, ending up as Senior partner in Chichester. He spent some 35 years practising his profession. A brilliant accountant he was able to make tax seem a simple thing (not an easy task!). He was extremely focused in his work and never mixed business with pleasure. However, his strengths as an accountant – accuracy, meticulous, well organised and shrewd seemed a natural part of his make up.

Bryan was a founder member of the Rotary Club of Chichester Priory and its first Treasurer. His accountancy experience made him one of Chichester Priory's excellent Treasurers, balancing the books and placing the Club on the right financial lines in its formative years. His professional knowledge and expertise have been invaluable to the Club and from this subsequent Treasurers have benefitted immensely. Bryan, as to be expected, became one of the first trustees of the Club's own Charitable Trust.

Bryan was a very loyal, committed and ever-present Rotarian – for many years his Rotary attendance was second to none. He was a staunch supporter of many of the Club's activities and it was very rare for him and Claire not to be present at a joint meeting. He was a very kind and hospitable fellow, although latterly it became a standing joke, particularly at the time of a Safari Supper that neither of them could cook!

Bryan had a very dry sense of humour. He could come out with the most wicked comments, always with a twinkle in his eye. He had many interests and it was always a pleasure to listen to him talking about them, particularly steam trains and especially the train journeys he enjoyed in Australia and across the USSR. Another love in more recent years was cruising all over the world.

Bryan was also a life long supporter of Tottenham Hotspurs F.C. – although not a subject to be discussed with a West Ham supporter because of the way Spurs poached Martin Peters and broke up the West Ham World Cup trio. Bryan was mainly an armchair sports fan, rarely going to matches but he talked knowledgeably about cricket and played as an Essex Colt during his school years.

Priory Post Supplement– July 2011

We did discuss Essex quite frequently although we did not agree which was the best Essex festival week. I always favoured Brentwood as opposed to his Ilford!

It was at the South West Essex Technical College that Bryan met Claire and from then on they were inseparable. You would always meet them together, walking to town, shopping and socially - a true couple. They shared the same interests, particularly a love of walking - 20 to 30 miles posed no problems for them. You could always recognise them out walking, holding hands, walking in step and wearing matching jackets. Their inseparability was never more in evidence than marshalling for the 10km Road Race latterly, although they both represented Chichester Priory Rotary Club from 1977 - 1982 walking 25 miles in the RMP March, and obtaining, to their delight, Gold and Silver medals.

They rarely missed the Twinning walks which were an early feature of our twinning meetings in France and Germany. Indeed at the very first walk in Bar le Duc, Priory was represented by four from Chichester including Bryan and Claire Dawkins. They became regulars at the Twinning meetings and made a number of good friends in the Bar Le Duc and Aschaffenburg Clubs.

Sadly in recent years Bryan's ill health had prevented him from attending Rotary meetings and events but he remained a good friend to many Rotarians in the Club. Whenever Rotarians visited him he was always keen to catch up on the Club's business and activities. He battled against his illness for 8 years - always with a smile, courage and optimism and even in recent weeks he was still good fun to be with, making his usual telling remarks but still not causing any offence, as had always been the case. We will all miss his mischievous humour and wit but we are all much richer for having been part of this very special life.

Henry Adams,
Graham Jessop,
Past Presidents,
March 2011.