



FINN LENDS A HAND



Three of our current community events are getting a helping hand this month ... from 14-year-old schoolboy Finn Waugh.

Finn approached Whitchurch Rotary to offer his support as part of the volunteering section of his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award programme.

So, as we were approaching three high-profile events, we were more than happy to accept. Finn rolled up to Alderford, at almost the crack of a Sunday dawn, to help at the first of this year's Rotary car boot sales. The following day it was the fundraising 'Gardeners' Question Time' session at the Rugby Club. And, later the same week at the Bredwood Arcade, our health awareness event tests blood pressures in what has become another life-saving Rotary project.

Finn plans to help out on other occasions, too, before the school term ends.

NO ARGY-BARGY

This summer's annual narrow boat canal trips, for local community groups, will take place from 7-11 July – and a new supporter is on board to help make it all happen.

As usual, we are grateful that the Lyneal Trust lowers the charges but the town's Jane Higginson Trust is now stepping in to cover the cost altogether.



The daytime and evening trips will take parties along the Llangollen Canal from the Whitchurch Arm to Grindley Brook Lock and back – with one extended trip as far as Whixall Marina. Passengers include care centres and schools, Shropshire Carers, young people's clubs, people with learning difficulties and youngsters with special needs.

A TOAST TO THE BIRTHDAY GIRLS



It was a pleasure, as always, for Rotary to support our Whitchurch Inner Wheel colleagues at their 86th charter anniversary dinner at Hawkstone Hall.

Our president David Ryder (pictured with Inner Wheel president Linda Danton) paid tribute to "all the women of Inner Wheel past, present and future for their commitment, kindness and ability to make things happen."

alderford Rotary
Whitchurch

CAR BOOT SALE
IN AID OF ROTARY CHARITIES AND CAUSES

FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH
(EXCEPT JULY)

6 APRIL	3 AUGUST
4 MAY	7 SEPTEMBER
1 JUNE	5 OCTOBER

**DATES
FOR
YOUR
DIARY**



It's worth knowing that Whitchurch Rotary is now registered with easyfundraising - which means that online shoppers can track down their bargains and help us at the same time.

If you want to join them simply register with easyfundraising and nominate 'Whitchurch Rotary' and then go shopping to your hearts content. Over 8,000 retailers - including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, Booking.com, eBay and M&S - will then donate to us when you shop with them through this system. And it won't cost you a penny more.

For more information – and to see how it works - see our easyfundraising page at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whitchurch-rotary-club/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=email-3

LENDING WITH CARE

Any guesses what these countries have in common?

Malawi, Zambia, Cambodia, Ecuador, Vietnam, Philippines, Rwanda and Togo.

Well, I would bet that many Rotarians don't know the answer either.

But they are all countries where small businesses have been helped by loans from Whitchurch Rotary over the last nine months.

It's one of the lower profile Rotary projects that often gets overlooked – but Whitchurch has been a part of it since Ray Hatton was our International chair exactly one decade ago.

The principle is to make small but life-changing loans that kick-start emerging businesses and help lift the workers out of poverty ... with dignity. These are usually family-based enterprises and mainly in African, Asian and poor Caribbean countries.

In the past 10 years Whitchurch Rotary has loaned more than £7,000 to 175 small and sometimes even micro, businesses - typically in farming, food, retail, clothing and other essentials. As the loans are repaid the money is then recycled as new loans to other enterprises who need seed capital or funds for expansion.

The result adds up to 292 entrepreneurs being helped, creating 255 jobs and benefitting 1,441 people.

That is what Rotarians call "making a difference".



Rotary support that helped a rice production business off the ground is a typical benefit of Lend with Care.

PROSTATE DAY

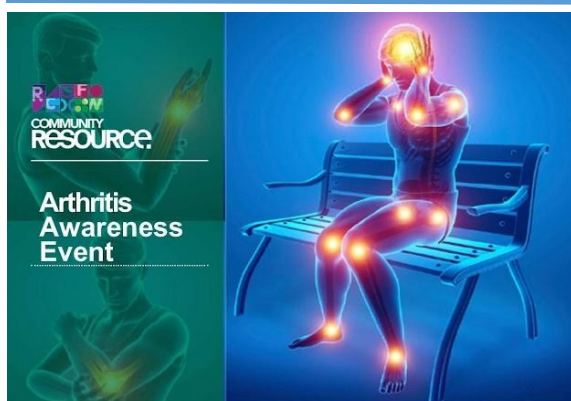
Monday the 6th of October is, provisionally, the next prostate testing day in Whitchurch.

That's when the Rugby Club becomes a free evening clinic for screening men over 45 for prostate cancer.

Last year nearly 1,000 men were tested – which was the highest number since Dave Simcock launched the project a decade ago. Then only a few dozen or so men turned up. Now it's grown into one of Rotary's largest community health projects in the country.

This year there will also be an opportunity to buy our new 'prostate supporter' lapel badges which are on sale for £2 to help cover the five-figure cost of the prostate testing process.

Not only that but there will also be branded car air fresheners too - which have been generously produced and gifted to us by Bev Allman.



ARTHRITIS AWARENESS EVENT

Monday 14 April 2025, 10am-12.30pm

Brownlow Community Centre, Claypit Street, Whitchurch, SY13 1LF

To book your free place for this event

Call 01743 360641 or

Email healthevents@community-resource.org.uk



ARTHRITIS

Health events seem to be gaining an even higher profile in our calendar this year.

We recently donated to help expand services offered by 'Sight Loss Shropshire' which supports 13 visually impaired people in Whitchurch ...

... and to fund an arthritis awareness event in the town organised by Shropshire-based charity 'Community Resource'.

See the poster and if this sounds like something for you then find out **QUICKLY** whether any places are still available.