



The Croqueteers

Well done to our formidable croquet team that David Pritchard Jones formed, from scratch, this year and has taken District fixtures by storm. After a past history of undistinguished croquet, the new players have developed into championship contenders with a series of qualifying wins. They are now heading to the District Final at Shrewsbury against the favourites and past champions, Cannock.

Run the hoop, y'all..!



The Kingpins



Oh, and the bowlers are not doing badly either..!

We are through to the final of the District Bowls Challenge Cup competition and will soon be facing Wellington ... again.
The date is yet to be fixed.

DEBORAH'S LAST INTERNATIONAL

Whitchurch Rotary's donation to help Deborah Daniel compete in this year's international Para Driving World Championships in Lahden, Germany, did not take long to decide. This year marks her retirement with a seventh appearance and a last bid to bring home a medal.

Deborah, pictured left, from Whixall, suffered severe injuries 28 years ago as a passenger on a speedboat that exploded, killing four people and leaving her paralysed. It was two days before her wedding and she was just 29 years old. She has since become a prominent member of the British Para Driving Squad in a sport that involves driving a horse-drawn carriage in a range of events.

Latest news: Deborah beat 11 other drivers to win sixth place in the Grade 1 dressage class.



ON THE BALL

The very best of luck to Whitchurch Alport FC in their new away strip.

The team is now wearing Rotary - sponsored shirts.

Away the lads.



ALL ABOUT ROTARY

We've just produced a new 12-page booklet that explains what Rotary is all about and the things we do within the Whitchurch community as well as overseas. If you would like to know more about our work we'll be happy to send you a copy. Please drop a line to secretary@whitchurchrotary.org.uk



A STROLL THROUGH LOCAL HISTORY



Part Two of Dave Simcock's town history walk took a group up and through the High Street and alleyways sharing historical nuggets along the way ... and ending with a Bluewaters meal organised by Maggie Allen.

A TRUE GENT

A big thank you to our newest Honorary Member – this total gent, Lawrence Allen. He has supported Whitchurch Rotary for many years and his recent 80th birthday was no exception. He grabbed yet another opportunity to raise more than £1,000 to share between us and the motor neurone charity MND. Our half is going towards next month's prostate screening event.



NO PROSTATE PROCRASTINATION

It's on the map ... in the diary ... and off we go again.
This year's prostate screening event is on
Monday 6 October from 6pm at Whitchurch Rugby Club.

The media has reported it as Rotary's biggest UK health event. The cover of county glossy 'Shropshire Magazine' has called Dave Simcock a 'health hero'. This feature (left) in the 'Shropshire Star' tells Dave's personal story that lies behind the whole project – which now marks the full decade since it started in 2015. And there is coverage in the current national Rotary magazine too.

This year, Whitchurch-based construction company Pronin and estate agents Dourish & Day have helped us to cover the expenses of the event – which costs around the £10,000 mark. Club supporter Bev Alman has contributed two new pieces of branded merchandise – a measuring tape and a key ring – which are now on sale. And the club continued its round-the-year fundraising by adding proceeds from the latest October car boot sale.

So ... we're ready to go ... are you?



'EXTRA' FROM TESCO

Tesco's recent tombola, in aid of our prostate screening raised a very welcome £200 towards the cost.

Presenting it are store manager Jordan Brown and Community Champion Dawn Healey.

On the receiving end are event organiser Dave Simcock, club president Brian Acty and secretary, Graham King.





A BLOSSOMING FRIENDSHIP

Sometimes saying a simple 'thank you' is just not enough and we need to recognise the support we receive from individuals and businesses who support our community work so consistently.

They are not members but they volunteer their time, talents and energy – even though it may be inconvenient for them at times.

Without them, we would struggle.

That's why our president, Brian Acty, dropped into Gallery Flowers, in the High Street, with a certificate and a badge for Jennifer Mchale.

Like so many of our 'Rotary friends' we couldn't manage alone.

(<https://www.facebook.com/galleryflowers>)

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

There are so many Rotary boxes that are ticked by a new project at Malpas Alport Primary School.

'Pear-Up! Growing Together at Malpas' covers our interests in serving community, youth and environmental objectives – which is why we are supporting their appeal with a donation to help get things off the ground (*yes, pun intended!*).

The school has no green field for growing or outdoor learning. So they are planning to build a vertical garden in the playground - six tall 5-tier planters and several large pots – that will bring hands-on horticulture into the heart of school life.

The planters will burst with seasonal crops, herbs and sensory plants. A games area will be transformed with fruit trees and climbing plants including peas, beans, and flowering vines. And the children will be working with residents from a nearby care home to make it an intergenerational learning project.

But it's going to cost around £12,000 and a fundraising campaign is working flat out to reach the target. So, if you can join us, and help make it happen, take a look at <https://www.spacehive.com/pear-up>



Brian Acty with the headteacher Nic Wetton (centre) and school bursar Terri-ann Reynolds



"GIN GIN"

Most of our speaker meetings are popular. Some of **very** popular.

And few get close to the reception that master distiller Tony Hobbs received when he brought along samples of his award-winning 'Tranquil Still' gins.

Tony is pictured against the garden shed from where he distils his own base spirit and attracts international attention with his unique world-class handcrafted gins, vodkas and rum products. (As a Rotarian, he's also a useful guy to know!)