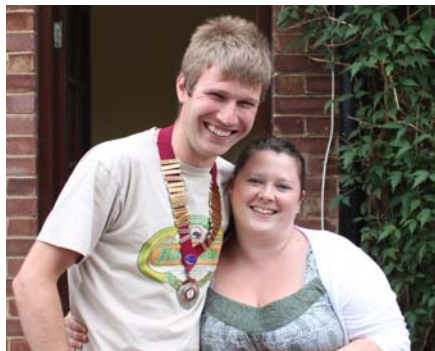




Maidenhead Rotaract Club Newswire



PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



Hello and welcome to my first article!

It's been a hectic start to the year with all manner of social and charitable events already, as you'll read in this newsletter. The almost entirely new committee, many of whom had been involved with Rotaract less than a year when starting in their positions, have done a great job in picking up their roles. I'm sure you'll agree that they are fantastic group, so to all of those who voted for them, thank you for making my life easy!

Over the coming months I hope you will see a step change in the club's activity as we come out of the summer holidays and everyone settles into their new roles. I'm very excited about being involved in such an active and rapidly growing club and I know there is a fantastic year to come.

The fantastic position the club is currently in is of course due to all the hard work by last year's committee. Lisa's article details some the highlights from the year, but no doubt disguises the huge amount of time and effort that she and the team have put into the club. So a very big thank you to all involved! It is now up to us to build on these strengths and meet the challenges of being involved in such a large and active club.

With such a full calendar, there will undoubtedly be too many things going on for anyone to attend every activity, but I would encourage all members to get to a good variety of events. It is the fact that we do community work and personal development events as well as the vast range of social activities that makes Rotaract such a great opportunity. The club also benefits from district support and that of both Maidenhead Rotary clubs. Being such a strong club we can also help other Rotaract clubs enormously by supporting their district events.

Finally, don't be shy! As the club grows I know it may get harder to make your voice heard, at least for some of us! All events, be they club, district or Rotary, take a lot of organising, and just because you are not a committee member does not mean that you cannot be involved. I can assure you any help and ideas will be much appreciated. So if you do have any ideas or concerns please let us know, whether during the 'Any other business' section of club meetings or just by having a chat to any member of the committee – the aim is to ensure that everyone is involved, making friends and having fun.

Here's to another successful year, Alex

In this issue:

- Round up of the year
- Joie de vivre
- Your Club Council
- Community Focus
- President's Celebrations
- Socialising at its best
- Future Events

Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



CELEBRATIONS, FUN AND FUNDRAISING - A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF MAIDENHEAD ROTARACT

63 events, £4,093 raised for charity and 20 new members... my what a year it's been for our club!



2009-10 has been a year of much celebration, we started the year strong by being recognised as the Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland Club of the Year and receiving a Rotary International Presidential Citation for the second year in a row.

November also saw our club reach a magical milestone, 30 years of service and friendship, which we marked with a Charity Bond Ball, welcoming over 60 guests including current and past members of the club. To me it seems somewhat fitting that the year in which we mark such an impressive milestone that we also celebrate the most successful year to date.

We have seen the return of our unusual fundraising event, the Horsey Hopper Race Night, which raised over £350 and provided much entertainment for everyone who supported us, as well as organising the cheese and wine quiz that raised over £450. We also had a record number of attendees at our annual OAP Christmas party, just one of the events during the year where our club brings happiness and friendliness to those who need it most.

But it's not all been about volunteering and fundraising, it's also been great to meet new people and make new friends. You might even say we've been one of the busiest clubs around, with a very active social calendar and a whole variety of low-cost events being organised during 2009-10 such as cinema trips, nights on the town, dragon boat racing and meals out!

One thing we can all be very proud of this year is the amount of money we have raised for charity, donating over £3,000 to our charity of the year, Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service.



This year really has been magical and has captured the enthusiasm of our club in the array of extraordinary events and accomplishments of one of the most successful Rotaract Club in Great Britain & Ireland.

Our antics of the year demonstrates' that Rotaract, like no other organisation, provides members with a unique mix of high quality and innovative events and signature service projects. This combination continues to fuel the growth and community impact of our club and I wish Alex all the best for his term as President, I know he will do an amazing job.

Lisa Hunter
President 2008-10

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Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



JOIE DE VIVRE



Over 250 Rotaractors from all over the world congregated in Montreal, Canada, to take part in the Rotaract Preconvention in June 2010, including two members of our very own club, Adam and Lisa.

From 19th - 20th June Rotaractors enjoyed their own Preconvention meeting which included workshops where they shared ideas on how to motivate and increase membership, how to plan effective community and international service projects, as well as a range of very interesting speakers.

It was a truly inspiring conference, not only as you got the opportunity to meet fellow Rotaractors from all over the world, but also due to the range of speakers. We heard an emotional speech by Ramesh Ferris, a polio survivor who hand-biked across Canada; heard details of international Rotaract club projects during the Outstanding Rotaract Project awards ceremony; learnt that the Council on Legislation made New Generations Service a fifth Avenue of Service for Rotary; Rotary International President John Kenny reminded us that "we are all here because of Paul Harris and his simple but revolutionary ideas"; and listened to President-elect Ray Klinginsmith state his commitment to the principles of Rotaract and explain his emphasis on youth and young adult programs for his term.

But it wasn't all workshops and speakers, there was plenty of time to take in the sights and sounds of Montreal and enjoy plenty of part events. The Montréal 2010 Preconvention Rotaract Host Committee (RHC) worked hard to bring us not only an international experience, but also introduced us to the "joie de vivre" (loosely translated, the lust for life!), which is the emotion and experience of Montréal, and also the theme they had chosen.



Events included:

- **An international dinner** - to celebrate the global reaches of Rotaract and taste food from around the world. Everyone came dressed to represent, by wearing traditional clothing of their country. This was followed by a scavenger hunt where we were split into different teams and sent off to explore the city at night, having to answer questions along the way.
- **Club night** - This dance club sits at 737 feet above street level, perched atop Place Ville-Marie, with three different floors and two huge patios. There is a 360-degree view of Montréal, perfect for viewing the International Fireworks Festival.
- **A Fancy Dinner at Lion D'Or** - There was no better way to experience Montreal than to get a taste of its delicious culinary flavours. This event included a three-course meal at Le Lion D'Or, a historic art-deco style cabaret restaurant. We sat back with a glass of wine and enjoyed an evening of lively traditional Quebec folk music.
- **Dinner in Chinatown** - Continuing with our tour of multicultural Montréal, we all headed for dinner in Chinatown, where we had at least 10 different dishes to gorge out on!
- **Mont Royal Hike and Picnic** - For our last night in Montreal we hiked up the iconic Mount Royal to the Observatory overlooking the city and enjoyed a good ol' fashioned picnic while watching the sunset.



We also attended the Rotary Convention where speakers included Dolly Parton, Queen Noor of Jordan, an update on the Polio Eradication program and the leaders of Rotary International. It was a truly inspirational convention and Adam and Lisa are already looking forward to New Orleans in 2011!

You can hear more about the international convention from Adam and Lisa at Maidenhead Rotary's evening meeting on 27th September - do come along to hear all about it and to support them!

www.rotaract.org.uk/maidenhead

Maidenhead Rotaract Club Council



On the next couple of pages you'll find all the details for **your** club council - who they are, what they do and how to get hold of them. As a team we are always interested to receive feedback and are here to help you, so if you have any new ideas or would like help with anything to get in touch with someone.

As a team we all look forward to working together to take our club from strength-to-strength.

Name: Alex Park

Position: President



My Role: involves running club and council meetings, representing the club at district meetings and endeavouring to co-ordinate all the hard work that the rest of the committee are doing for the club.

Special interests: I am a competitive sailor, fair weather cyclist, enjoy the odd bit of photography and prepared to give pretty much anything a go at least once!

An unusual fact about me: I built a human powered biomimetic submarine in my 'spare' time at uni, you might have seen it on the gadget show!

Contact Me: alex_r_park [at] msn.com

Name: Craig Baxter

Position: Vice President

My Role: is to support the president in the general running of the club and be an ambassador for the club and the Rotaract community. I have also been tasked with the responsibility of monitoring personal development within the club which is to help and support Rotaractors develop skills which will be of benefit to them in their careers and life.

About me: I joined the Rotaract club of Maidenhead in October 2009 after moving to the UK from Durban, South Africa.

Contact Me: baxter1984 [at] gmail.com



Name: Dani Park

Position: Secretary



My Role: I take the minutes of all club and council meetings and am responsible for the general correspondence within the club, and with our Sponsoring Rotary Club.

Special interests: By day I am a Science teacher, and when I am not busy working I enjoy sailing, cycling, walking and camping with my husband. I also enjoy cooking, so look out for the home-baked snacks at meetings!

An unusual fact about me: I have been known to wield a target rifle – but don't worry, I'm not bad, having toured 6 countries for England and Great Britain!

Contact Me: dani.park [at] hotmail.co.uk

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Maidenhead Rotaract Club Council



Name: Sundeep Kapur

Position: Treasurer

My Role: As Treasurer for the Rotaract Club, I am responsible for the income, expenditure and budget of the Club. It is the responsibility of the Treasurer to ensure that the organisation has enough money to carry out its stated aims and objectives, and that it does not overspend or under spend. I am also the one who collects your membership fees!

Special interests: I enjoy a regular game of 5-a-side football, and frequently build up my practice of other sports, such as table tennis, badminton and cricket. I am an avid film watcher, and am trying to build up my DVD library all the time. I would consider myself a 'foodie' and always like to test my palette.



Contact Me: [sundeepkapur \[at\] hotmail.com](mailto:sundeepkapur@hotmail.com)



Name: Helen Bamburger

Position: International Officer

My Role: involves me to liaise with other UK and international Rotaract clubs regarding our current and future events, and to maintain good relationships with them. I also organise events that may have an international theme, i.e, Chinese meal, Weekends away, etc.

Special interests: I currently work in Maidenhead as a Childcare Recruitment Consultant. I enjoy being with friends, cooking, arts & crafts and meeting new people.

An unusual fact about me: I have walked on the Great Wall of China.

Contact Me: [hels24 \[at\] hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hels24@hotmail.co.uk)

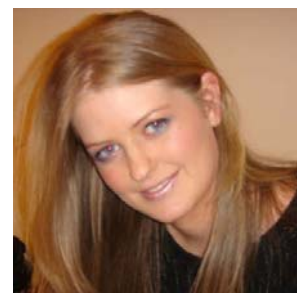
Name: Zara Leete

Position: Community Officer

My Role: One of two, Amy and I are here to organise and co-ordinate charity events and fundraisers including environmental projects and liaising with OAP homes and schools to see how we can help. Ideas always welcome

About Me: I am a Microbiologist by day, and generally by late evening as well with the way work is going

Contact Me: [z.leete \[at\] btinternet.com](mailto:z.leete@btinternet.com)



Name: Amy Jordan

Position: Community Officer

My Role: I am working closely with Zara in this role. Our jobs are to communicate and liaise with local charities and schools to find out how Rotaract can help them.

About Me: Outside of Rotaract I work as a Secondary school Humanities teacher, I have a cat called Bella and enjoy running my local Brownie pack as a way to unwind. I enjoy walking, climbing, kayaking and most outdoor activities, been able to instruct quite a few! I love trying new things, great food/ wine and good nights out with friends.

An unusual fact about me: I'm ambidextrous - I can write with both hands!

Contact Me: [amycj_2 \[at\] hotmail.com](mailto:amycj_2@hotmail.com)

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Maidenhead Rotaract Club Council



Name: Pete Bristow

Position: Social Officer

My Role: I'm one of the 3 social secretaries, along with Devin and Jess. Together we arrange all the events that we can't claim are charitable or directly good for the community but that are plain good fun.

About Me: By day I work in IT running a chunk of the internet making sure that the world gets it's daily dose of YouTube and spam. I have a penchant for a good Islay whisky and invite everyone to join me should it interest them



Contact Me: [pete.bristow \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:pete.bristow@gmail.com)



Name: Jessica Parsons

Position: Social Officer

My Role: along with Devin and Pete, I organise the club social events including bowling, cinema trips, nights out and my favourite...bingo nights!

About me: I am currently an administrator in a courier company but am starting to do an accounts training course and hope to move into this industry. I very much enjoy socialising and meeting new people. My favourite hobbies include Badminton and going to the cinema and pub.

Contact Me: [jessica_woodhead \[at\] hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jessica_woodhead@hotmail.co.uk)

Name: Devin McArthur

Position: Social Officer

My Role: I am one of the three Social committee members, along with Jess and Pete, we try to keep everyone entertained. Its a bit of a tough job but someone's got to do it.

About Me: I'm an Electrical Technician by trade, but a lover of fun by design. I enjoy doing many different activities, and if you have any suggestions or ideas for things for the club to do, please feel free to shoot them my way



Contact Me: [mcarthur.devin \[at\] hotmail.com](mailto:mcarthur.devin@hotmail.com)



Name: Lisa Hunter

Position: Past President

My Role: is to support Alex and provide advice and guidance based on my previous experience as Club President. I am also responsible for membership, making sure that existing members are happy and encouraging new people to join, whilst supporting the publicity team at the same time.

About Me: Outside of Rotaract I run my own marketing business and enjoy reading, dancing and music!

Contact Me: [lisajayne22000 \[at\] yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lisajayne22000@yahoo.co.uk)

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Maidenhead Rotaract Club Council



Name: Nikky Smart

Position: Publicity Officer

My Role: As Publicity Officer it is my responsibility to manage the publicity team to ensure we're always promoting the club to as wide an audience as possible. I also update several websites and write the clubs press releases.

Special interests: Horse Riding, Snowboarding, Skiing, Cinema, Scuba Diving, Dancing, Racing, Reading and Listening to Music.

Contact Me: nikki_smart [at] hotmail.co.uk



Name: Julia Hill

Position: Publicity Assistant

My Role: My role as 1 of 4 publicity officers is to update web sites with all of our events to ensure our club is constantly seen when people are searching for things to do. This is increasingly a larger job as we have so many events and Lisa keeps finding more web sites!! Hence the need for so many of us.

About Me: I work as a Research Scientist and enjoy photography when I get a chance. I am also currently supposed to be training for a half marathon.

Contact Me: juhill82 [at] aol.com

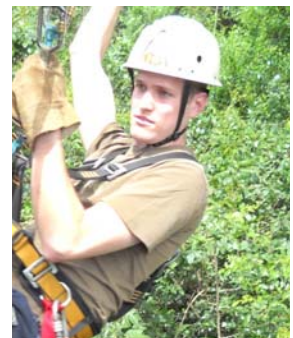
Name: Craig Fuller

Position: Publicity Assistant

My Role: my job involves updating a number of websites to keep everyone out there informed of what we do and hopefully tempt them into joining.

About Me: Real world job is that of an accountant, yawn enough said, moving on... In my spare time I enjoy doing as much Kung Fu as I can, because as we all know it's the answer to all the world's problems.

Contact Me: duel.cf [at] gmail.com



**Do you know anyone aged 18-30?
Are they looking for new things to do?**

**Then tell them about Rotaract!
We're looking for new members**

www.rotaract.org.uk/maidenhead

Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



COMMUNITY FOCUS



Alexander Devine ~ We have some very exciting news about our 'charity of the year' Alexander Devine has a new name: 'Alexander Devine Children Hospice Service' and a new logo. Hoped to put forward the true hope of the charity.

Just to give those of you who don't know what it is a little back ground information on the charity. It was started by the parents of Alexander Devine, a four year old little boy who was diagnosed with a brain tumour. Alexander went through four years of treatment, therapy and operations but sadly died at the age of eight. Berkshire doesn't have its own children hospice, therefore families with ill children needed to travel a long way to be able to access a children's hospice, which is a provides help, support and relief for not only sick children but also their families. Alexander's parents, Fiona and John Devine, therefore aim to create Berkshires own Children's Hospice. "I know from our experience that you cannot go into a children's hospice and not be filled instantly with love, laughter, happiness and tears." (quoting Alexander's parents - taken from the Alexander Devine website)

This is the amazing cause Maidenhead Rotaract are supporting this year, and have done for the past three years.

The community side of Rotaract has got off to a cracking start this year. To date we have undertaken quiet a few events:

Race for Life – The race for life was a great event, a beautiful weekend – great for voluntary marshalling work in the sun. Race for Life is an annual event which is run in aid of Cancer Research. Many thousands of women undertake the race in memory of loved ones. One member Helen B undertook the race, finishing in a very respectable time (and then been lovely enough to help out too). On Saturday Nikki and Robert participated for the full day, marshalling and generally helping out. On Sunday Lisa, Adam, Alex, Danni, Craig B, Craig F, Robert and Amy undertook two split shifts working at the race start and finish line. Our job was to marshal the racers during the set off and give out medals, goodie bags and water bottles to the amazing women and children who had completed the event. It was a great chance to give something back to the local community and be part of such a moving experience.



We would love to see as many Rotaractor's as possible giving a few hours to help the local community, and there are some great opportunities coming up for you to get involved. We are also looking to work closely with the local women's aid (helping women and men affected by domestic abuse), School aid, and Hospices in the area.

Helping with community work is a fantastic opportunity to give something back to the local community, fundraise and help others. If you would like to get involved, and can spare even an hour it would be gratefully appreciated.

If you have any ideas of fundraising events you would like to do or any other charities we can help. Please get in contact with one of your two new community officers – Amy Jordan and Zara Leete.

www.rotaract.org.uk/maidenhead

Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



PRESIDENT'S CELEBRATION



A number of us journeyed into London for Presidents night. This was to celebrate the past year and say thank you to all the hard work Lisa had done as Club President over the last 3 years. As the club had previously been relatively small this was the first occasion the club had to organise an evening to thank Lisa. It was also the first trip to London we had taken as a group.

Thanks to Harriet we managed to get a group saver for the trains and a reduced rate for Phantom of the Opera tickets. Once we arrived in London and had a bite to eat we headed to the theatre with a lot of help from iphones and good map readers.

The show was brilliant and a hit with everybody, some people having seen the show many times before. We are already thinking of the next one we can see. The seats were very good; the front row got a very good view of the large flames (hopefully none of them lost any eyebrows!!).

Some people did not hear the rules about not using cameras and had to be reminded – hopefully the photo was worth it!

After the Theatre we ventured to Henry's for some cocktails and some of us enjoyed the sites of Covent garden including juggling men, tea shops and people on unicycles (lacking some items of clothing-not a great sight).

We finished the evening off with a meal in a very warm corner of Carluccios and due to the long day decided to head back to Maidenhead rather than soak up the London nightlife. Maybe that's one for next time....

SOCIALISING AT ITS BEST

Curry Night

On this night about 16 people adventured over to the Shire Horse Pub for what turned out to be quite a good Curry Night. We ended up taking up a large chunk of space in the restaurant, and filled it with laughter and delight. I did not know what to expect from the kitchen of a pub, but as it turned out, and everyone agreed, that the curry was excellent! Top up with great surrounding and an even better atmosphere, this night was a huge success. Definitely doing this one again!

Picnic at Hambeldon

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon, a few of us took a trip to Hambeldon, and armed with some food and some games we decided to have a picnic in the field in this beautiful village. The weather turned out to be perfect, the location, even better. Some of us sat in the shade of a nearby tree while others threw a ball around, and only one person ended up getting a little wet in the creek located next to us, someone had to get the ball I guess! After a few hours of enjoying the food and sun, we decided to move locations. So we all packed up, walked back to the car and moved down the road a little ways. We were able to find a new green to sit in, and this time played an exciting game of Cranium! It turned out to be quite a relaxing day and as far as I could tell, we all quite thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. A great way to spend an afternoon!

Upcoming Events



Below is a list of our upcoming events - if you want to come along to any just let Lisa (07876 341334) or Alex (07986 801255) know by calling/texting or email maidenhead@rotaract.org.uk.

Date	Event	Location
14th September 2010	Trip to Coral Reef (swimming)	Coral Reef, Bracknell
18th September 2010	Community: Book bag packing for School Aid	TBC
21st September 2010 @ 7.45pm	Speakers Meeting: The affect of gambling	The Rose Pub, King Street
24th - 26th September 2010	Weekend Away to the New Forest including activities	Avon Tyrell, New Forest
27th September 2010	Maidenhead Rotary Meeting: Lisa & Adam are the speakers!	Maidenhead Golf Club
28th September 2010	Pub Quiz Night	Slug & Lettuce, Marlow
1st October 2010	Sushi Making Night	TBC
3rd October 2010	Maidenhead Boundary Walk	Maidenhead
5th October 2010	Trip to Rebellion Brewery (no club meeting)	Little Marlow
9th October 2010	Jess & Fuller's Birthday adventures	TBC
16th October 2010	Burnham Rotaract's Beetle Drive	Burnham Resource Centre
19th October 2010	Club Meeting	The Rose Pub, King Street
21st October 2010	Club Social: Bingo Night	Gala Bingo, Slough

A complete list of our upcoming events is available on our website www.rotaract.org.uk/maidenhead