



Maidenhead Rotaract Club Newswire



Presidents Welcome



Welcome to the 8th edition of Maidenhead Rotaract Club's Newswire and the third edition of this Rotary Year.

Reflecting on the last 6 months it is amazing to see the change in our club, from 4 members in June 2008 to 16 members today! And there's still a further 12 people interested in finding out more about what we get up to.

With this in mind I would like to welcome all our new members that have joined the club since our last newsletter in December - Helen, Loong, Katie, Darren, Matt and Bronwen. I hope you have lots of fun and enjoy Rotaract as much as I do.

Onto this newsletter - I do hope you enjoy reading it as it contains lots of photos from our past events such as the OAP Christmas Party, Guess the Balloons in a Limo fundraiser and the Freaky Friday February Feast.

There are also loads of great activities coming up in the near future.. It's going to be a busy spring, but I can't wait! Take a look at the back page for the up-coming events!

Happy reading, Lisa

24 Hour Technology Famine

no lights
no gas
no phones
no computers
no digital clocks
only locally produced food



The fuse box will be turned off at 10am on Saturday 7th March and only put back on at 10am on Sunday

Raising money for End Polio Now—helping to eradicate this terrible disease from our world.

Sponsor the team:

www.smartgive.com/funds/maidenheadrotaract

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Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



O A P C h r i s t m a s P a r t y



The members of Maidenhead Rotaract, with a little help from Santa and his elves, warmly welcomed over 40 local elderly residents to enjoy the festive fun at St Josephs Centre on Saturday afternoon.

Guests enjoyed a seasonal lunch, followed by carol singing from the Maidenhead Choral Society, and a game of bingo.

But of course the highlight of the event was a visit from Santa, who handed out personal gifts to everyone and spent the rest of the afternoon enjoying the fun and fellowship.

The purpose of the event is to get the local population of elderly residents out and about this Christmas, meeting other people in their age group and generally having a good time.

It was great to see everyone having such a good time, smiling and laughing. It's just great to know that the effort we've put in has brought a little Christmas cheer to so many.

We also want to thank all the volunteers who helped to make this annual event possible. With a special thank you to Maidenhead Rotary Club for helping with transport.

D i s t r i c t C h r i s t m a s P a r t y

Adam, Lisa, Tania and Neil joined in the fun with members from other clubs in the District – a total of 34 people from 7 out of the 8 clubs in district. The food was delicious with the cracker jokes and toys providing the traditional festive entertainment...surely the jokes can't get any worse! Lisa particularly enjoyed the fake moustache!

After dinner we all migrated across the road to the Ivory Lounge to enjoy the cocktails and banter with fellow Rotaractors.



C l u b C h r i s t m a s D i n n e r

Lisa, Adam, Tania, Nicola and Robert enjoyed a less-than traditional Christmas meal at Wu Tang's Chinese restaurant—well by the time Christmas comes you're normally so fed up of Turkey because of all the Christmas parties so we thought we'd do something different!

Tania taught us a new way of reading fortune cookies...add the words "in bed" after the fortune and you'll be amazed how rude they become!

www.rotaract.org.uk/maidenhead

Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



Alexander Devine Charity Carol Concert



The event took place at St Mary's Church in Slough and was attended by approximately 100 people.

It was a lovely service with music provided by the Salvation Army, a real-life baby playing Jesus and a little donkey.

Unfortunately the little donkey didn't want to move down the aisle which gave much entertainment to the rest of us!

Thanks to Lisa, Adam, Zara & Christophe, as well as Tim and Luc from Langley & Iwer Rotaract who helped sell refreshments after the service.

We made a profit of £50 from the event for the charity, Alexander Devine Children's Cancer Trust—raising funds to build a child hospice service in the Berkshire area.

Lion's Swimarathon

Adam and Lisa formed part of the Rotary Team, aptly named "The Early Birds", at 7am on a cold, dark Saturday morning to take part in the sponsored swim. It has to be the earliest the pair have got up on a Saturday morning for ages, as they were at the pool for 6.30am!!

The team, consisting of 8 people, swam hard for their full 50 minutes, swimming 49 fifty metre lengths in total. After the swim they all enjoyed a full English Breakfast at the Thames Hotel.



Lisa and Adam alone managed to raise over £200 for Rotary Charities.

Jongleurs Comedy Club



This was another great evening with Adam, Lisa and Zara joining 7 members from High Wycombe Rotaract at Jongleurs Comedy Club in Reading.

The comedians were all very good, although being sat right at the front, central to the stage, it did mean we got picked on a bit...but it was all very harmless!

Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



R o t a r a c t M e e t i n g s

Monday 22nd December – Rotary Christmas meal at the Golf Club Adam & Lisa went along to join in the festivities with Maidenhead Rotary – it was a lovely evening showing the more competitive side of our Rotarian friends with a Christmas Quiz!

26th January - Joint Maidenhead & Maidenhead Thames Rotary Meeting - Zara and Helen joined Adam and Lisa for their first evening Rotary meeting. However, this was no ordinary evening meeting as it was a joint meeting with both the local Rotary Clubs. In total there were 111 guests present, all waiting to hear from the renowned Plastic Surgeon Dr Chris Khoo. He was an amazing speaker but some of the slides were rather graphic, especially as we'd just finished a 3-course meal!!

6th February - Charity Pub Quiz Night hosted by Tim Brooke Taylor - It was a great evening, organised by Maidenhead Thames Rotary, with over 37 teams taking part and challenging each other for the trophy!

The questions were of a good variety, we even managed to get some right! We entered 2 teams and the results were:



- Rotaract B team (Phil, Nina, Ruth, Michael, Eleanor & Gaby) came 16th with 138 points
- Rotaract A team (Adam, Lisa, Darren, Neil, Zara, Will & Helen) came 20th with 133 points
- Maidenhead Rotary came 30th with 119 points!
- The winning team were the White Hart Wanderers with 169 points!

We look forward to the re-match!

Ch a r i t y S p e a k e r : S u e R y d e r C a r e

We were lucky to have a speaker from Sue Ryder Care come and talk to us about the charity and what they do...

which the Government only provide half. Out of every £1 donated only 20p is spent on administration costs.

Sue Ryder Care run hospices providing palliative care for people suffering from cancer, MS, dementia, parkinsons, stroke, brain injury, stroke, motor neurone disease. They have 14 centres in the UK providing residential care, day care and also care in the community.

Our local Sue Ryder Care Hospice is in Nettlebed; it has 18 rooms and helps over 1000 people a year. It costs £3.4 million per year to run, of

What we can do to help...

- Organise fund raising events
- Be marshals, stewards etc. at events
- Run stalls
- Street collections
- Giving out leaflets
- Remember them in our wills
- Use their charity shops

www.rotaract.org.uk/maidenhead

Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



B a l l o o n B u r s t i n g F u n



There was an unusual sight on Maidenhead High Street on 17th January when Maidenhead Rotaract parked a stretch Limousine filled with balloons outside NatWest. Why, you may ask?

Well the answer is simple, the club offered the public the chance to win a 3 hour hire of the limo by simply guessing how many balloons are contained inside it. All this for just £1 a guess!

Not only was this an unusual, but fun event, we donated all proceeds from this stunt to the local branch of The Samaritans.

The Samaritans is a confidential emotional support service for anyone in the UK and Ireland. The service is available 24 hours a day for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide.

They can only provide this much needed support with the help from volunteers and donations from community groups.

There was a total of 483 balloons in the limo and our winner guessed 492 just 9 away from the correct answer!

The good news is we managed to raise a total of £102 for The Samaritans.

Many thanks to High Wycombe Rotaract for their support, 6 of them helped to blow the balloons up in the morning and another member joined us in the afternoon to "sell" guesses.



Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



L A Z e r Q u e s t

Serious fun with a lazer gun! A fun night shooting each other in a safe environment! A total of 13 of us took part in this event and what fun it was! The team ended up playing against a group of 8 year old boys who did not take kindly to being beaten by a group of adults! You could even hear some of them running around saying "I'm only 8 this isn't fair"! Definitely an activity to be repeated!

D i s t r i c t B o w l i n g C h a l l e n g e

This was one of the largest events in district for quite a while – a total of 32 people from 7 different clubs descended on Maidenhead Tenpin Bowl to see which club was best at bowling!

And the results were:

- 7th place – Wallingford Rotaract with an average score of 142.5
- 6th place - Caversham & Reading Rotaract with an average score of 143
- 5th place – Langley & Iver Rotaract with an average score of 160
- 4th place – High Wycombe Rotaract with an average score of 164.4
- 3rd place – Burnham Rotaract with an average score of 167
- 2nd place – West Berks Rotaract with an average score of 173
- 1st place – Maidenhead Rotaract with an average score of 194.14



I can also reveal that the person with the highest score was Tania from our club with 260 for both games - well done Tania and thanks for helps us to win the challenge!

We look forward to the next leg of the bowl-off in High Wycombe - date to be confirmed, unless the rest of district are now too scared to challenge us!



N o o d l e N a t i o n

11 of us went along and enjoyed the lovely food at Noodle Nation and the great company.

We would all definitely recommend the food at Noodle Nation, its well prepared, tasty and cheap! The service is also very good.

After filling our bellies we headed next door to the Ivory Lounge to enjoy a chilled drink and carry on the laughter.



Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



F r e a k y F r i d a y 13t h F e b r u a r y F e a s t



Wow what a night we had – 10 of us braved the “unlucky-for-some” night at Adam & Lisa’s – everyone was greeted with cocktails and canapés complete with worms (sweets).

Helen, Zara and Bronwen provided various starters including spring rolls, loaded potato skins and onion bargees – all very nice in deed!



Between the starter and main course we “enjoyed” the molesk side-show...a tinned abalone all the way from Singapore was released from its tin, sliced and then fried in butter and lemon for us all to try. Most people did have a go and apparently it didn’t taste of much...a mushroom at best!

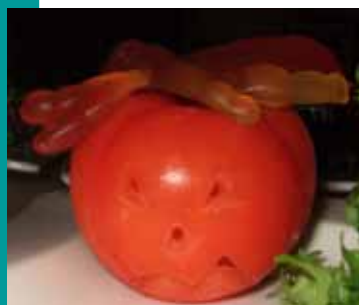
We were then treated to 2 different main courses – the first pepper & lentil mozzarella bake, the second cheesy meatballs complete with Kangaroo Pasta...or as Adam liked to call them Kangaroo Balls! The places were garnished with evil tomatoes and spiders!

The evening finished with a wide selection of desserts – Neil and Loong provided a variety of cheesecakes and mouse, while Alice & Neal (their first event) baked an egg-free berry cake which was lovely.

The winner of the best dish does however go to Tania with her dirt pots...flower pots filled with crushed oreos, chocolate mouse topped with more crushed oreos to look like soil! They came complete with worms sticking out the “soil” and a flower!



It was a great evening – we all had so much fun – and is definitely to be repeated in the not so distant future!



Look at the website for photos from the evening – www.rotaract.org.uk/maidenhead/event_photos.html



Upcoming Events



Below is a list of our upcoming events - if you want to come along to any just let Lisa (07876 341334) or Adam (07971 672790) know by calling/texting or email maidenhead@rotaract.org.uk.

Date	Event	Location
17th February 2009 @ 8pm	Club Meeting Speaker from The Samaritans	Rose Pub, King Street, Maidenhead
21st February 2009 @ 7.30pm	Charity Casino Night In aid of RGBI Conference 2009	Iver Village Hall
22nd February 2009	Snowdrop Walk Marshalling	West Wycombe Park
23rd February 2009	Maidenhead Rotary Evening Meeting	Maidenhead Golf Club
24th February 2009 @ 7.30pm	Pancake Party In aid of Rotaract Charities	Ruth's House Maidenhead
28th February 2009 @ 8pm	The Best Ever Pirate Disco in the World...Ever!	Slough Grammar School
3rd March 2009 @ 8pm	Club Meeting Speaker TBC	Rose Pub, King Street, Maidenhead
5th March 2009	Ice Skating	Slough Ice Arena
7th - 8th March	24 Hour Technology Famine In aid of End Polio Now	Adam & Lisa's House Woodlands Park
10th March 2009	World Culture Party	TBC
11th March 2009	Burnham Rotaract's Beetle Drive	The Pines Hotel
13th March 2009	World Rotaract Day Rotaract turns 41 years old!	
14th March 2009	Moonraker Challenge Overnight charity hike!	Princess Risborough
15th March 2009	Most Unusual Place to Eat Breakfast	TBC
17th March 2009	Club Meeting	Rose Pub, King Street,

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