



Maidenhead Rotaract Club Newswire



Presidents Welcome



Welcome to the 7th edition of Maidenhead Rotaract Club's Newswire and the second edition of this Rotary Year.

It has been an amazing couple of months with so much happening in the club, with lots of new members, enquiries and some great events.

It is a really exciting time in the club with new enthusiasm and vigour spurring us on to come up with more unusual events for the New Year and lots of motivation to increase the number of members.

We have had loads of great PR during the last three months with 7 articles being published in the Maidenhead Advertiser and Midweek Observer.

New Members

I would also like to welcome four new members to our club - Zara, Tania, Robert and Nicola became official members during November - 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. There are also loads of great activities coming up in the near future.. It's going to be a busy 2009, but I can't wait! Take a look at the back page for the up-coming events!

Happy reading, Lisa

Merry Christmas

Lisa would like to wish all Club Members and their families a very merry Christmas.

She hopes you all have a restful and relaxing time over the festive season and hopes you don't eat too much!

Lisa is looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year - enthused and motivated to driving the club forwards.



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



Sno-Tubing



Eight Club Members took to the slopes of Bracknell Dry-Ski Centre on a pleasant autumnal night to enjoy the adventure that was Sno-Tubing!

We all jumped into our tubes and launched ourselves down the artificial snow...

...the only problem with that was having to walk back up the slope to do it all over again!

Horsey Hopper Race Night



On Tuesday 21st October Maidenhead Rotaract threw open their doors to some horsey hoppers to raise money for the Alexander Devine Children's Cancer Care Trust.

Their Horsey Hopper Race Night was a race night with a difference as they did not watch the standard race DVDs but used real-life jockeys riding on space hoppers covered with horse covers!

With 42 people attending, the event was a huge success and great fun too. The brilliant news is that they raised a whopping £258.50 for the clubs chosen charity of the year.

Lisa Burnett, President Maidenhead Rotaract, said "It was a great night and fantastic to see everyone having such a good time. How many other people can say that they bounced their way to success on a Tuesday evening?"

She continued "It's just great to know that the effort we've put in is going to make such a difference to so many people."

Feedback from ADCCT: "I just wanted to say thank you for a lovely evening, it was good fun and I felt very spoilt that I didn't have a job to do! I know that a lot of hard work goes into these evenings and it was great to see such a turn out for the night, please pass on my thanks to Adam and he did a wonderful job of looking after me. Fantastic amount raised, really well done to you all. Best wishes Fiona Devine."

There is a video of the event which can be seen at: <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=OqoKugYfZBO>



Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



T e n p i n B o w l i n g

This had to be the best night of bowling ever! As it was the launch night of the new Laser Quest we were treated to free Bucks Fizz (or Fizz Bucks as the staff member referred to it!) and free games of bowling...not that we took them seriously!

The scores for our first game were something to be proud of with Adam getting 173 and Lisa getting her highest ever score of 162...was it to last...no!! However for our last game we decided to freestyle with backwards bowling, bowling with the opposite hand to normal etc! Ben and Lisa should perhaps think of using this technique normally as they got better scores than in a previous game!

Tania was also lucky on the night, knocking down the red pin and winning a prize...a bottle of sparkling wine, which we all helped to polish off!

H a r r o w i n g H a l l o w e e n

Adam & Lisa went along to High Wycombe Rotaract's Harrowing Halloween Party to scare the members of the other Rotaract Clubs from district.

Adam as a red-faced demon and Lisa as a wicked witch! It was a great night with pin the tail on the pumpkin, donut-on-a-string time trials and the scariest part of the event...karaoke! The photos on the website really need to be seen to believe it.

The event raised £566 for Wycombe Rotaract's Charity of the Year - a massive congratulations to them for such a great event.



L o n g r i d g e F i r e w o r k s



Another great event in what was traditional November weather – meaning the odd shower!

The fireworks were great, as was the beer tent! Adam and Neil tried their luck on the fair ground stalls but neither were able to win Lisa a large cuddly toy!

Not only were there fireworks, the trio also enjoyed a performance by fire throwers and loved the rather large bonfire, complete with Guy!

Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



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



We have been taking the opportunity to join our sponsor Rotary Club at their monthly evening meetings, with several members going to each one to listen to the interesting speakers they have.

In October Adam and Lisa caught up with the Rotarians again and heard the speaker give an entertaining presentation entitled "Memories of a Fire Officer". Frank Knowles joined the Fire Brigade in 1962 and served for 32 years in many different counties and overseas. He told some great stories but two of the best were: a man stuck in a chimney for 2 days that they had to rescue, it turned out he was a burglar trying to rob the bank but got confused and ended up stuck in the chimney in the lingerie shop who had bricked up their fireplace!

Later on in November the pair thoroughly enjoyed another evening with Rotary listening to a very interesting speaker. Gloria Broadbent gave a fascinating presentation about 'Machu Picchu, the great Citadel of the Incas'. She discussed the architecture, the location, how the city was first found and showed us some breathtaking pictures. It is definitely somewhere that needs to be visited.



It would be great for other members to join Adam & Lisa when they visit Maidenhead Rotary - the speakers are always very interesting, the food is fantastic and the company second to none.

T h e S k i t t l e s C h a l l e n g e !



For the first time in a long time we challenged Maidenhead Rotary to a game of skittles, ever hopeful that we might perhaps beat them!

It was a great event with 12 Rotaractors in attendance and 21 Rotarians & partners, all joining for fun and fellowship. There was a variety of bowling styles, none seemed to be better than another, but it was entertaining to watch.

Although Rotary will claim that they won the challenge, based on the team with the highest score, we are actually pleased to report that we beat them (based on the average score per person...picky we know!)

We're looking forward to the next challenge with Rotary - perhaps crazy golf in the Spring!

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Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



Daffodil Planting

Lisa, Adam, Ruth, Robert, Nicola, Charlotte and Helen, along with 40 other volunteers spent a November morning planting 2,500 daffodils in swathes alongside the waterway just above Stafferton Way.



It was a great day and fantastic to see so many other volunteers supporting the event, which was organised by the Maidenhead Waterways Restoration Group and sponsored by the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead.

Look out for the 'splash' of colour in the spring. As the bulbs establish they should make an even better display.

This is not the first event that Maidenhead Rotaract have supported, we have also helped with the York Stream Clean-up and earlier this year Bramble Cutting. We look forward to supporting the Restoration Group again next year.



ADCCT Christmas Fayre

To continue the support of our chosen charity, Alexander Devine Children's Cancer Trust (ADCCT), Adam and Lisa lent a hand at their Christmas Fayre.

It was a lovely event, with two school choirs providing carols at various points throughout the day.

The pair also met the Maidenhead ADCCT fundraising group organiser and caught up with Fiona Devine, the charity founder.



Human Board games Night

When we first heard about this event, being organised by Wallingford Rotaract Club, we were all a bit confused and weren't quite sure what to expect...

Well it turned out to be a very entertaining evening, with games such as "The Rotaract Game", "Snakes & Ladders" and the best one "Hungry Hippos", which saw people kneeling on the floor with oven gloves on trying to catch plastic balls and put them into a bucket! I guess you had to be there to believe it!

Lisa, Adam, Robert and Nicola fought hard to win the title of "Best Human Board Game Participant" but alas it was not to be. The winner was decided on with a grand finale of Human Draughts - yes, people acting as the pieces and having to be physically moved...mind you there wasn't any leap-frogging over each other, just a polite nudge out of the way!

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Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



Wokingham Winter Carnival



It was Pantomime time in Wokingham on a very cold, damp Sunday.

During the Carnival the town centre was closed to traffic and over 80 stalls lined Peach Street, Broad Street, Denmark Street and Market Place.

Goods ranging from Christmas Cards, confectionery, jewellery, toys, books, plants, cakes, preserves, clocks, CD's, craftware and metal art were on sale along with more unusual items such as handcrafted German wooden gifts, silk shawls, miniature bears and fleece goods.

Several local charities and organisations also had stands to raise awareness about the support and services they offer local families.

Alexander Devine were one of these charities, and it is on their stall that you could find Lisa, Adam and Zara. The tremendous trio managed to sell out on the Tombola that they were running and helped to raise £226 for the charity.

After their stint on the stall, they went for a wander, browsing the stalls, watching the street entertainers and listening to the music. They also treated themselves to a seasonal glass of mulled wine and a hot mince pie. Delicious!



Personal Development



We are bringing back the Personal/Professional Development aspect of Rotaract by arranging some joint IT training sessions for club members with members of High Wycombe Rotaract.

If you are interested in learning new skills, or are hoping to learn about a different IT package not yet mentioned, please let Lisa know so that we can start making arrangements.

Obviously this is a very good opportunity to develop your skills, perfect for use in your everyday life or giving you an advantage of others in your career.

Topics we are thinking of covering are:

- Advanced Excel: formulas and other hard stuff etc
- Advance Word: mail merge and other hard stuff etc
- Email: advanced email stuff
- Photoshop: how to do professional photo editing
- Adobe Indesign: to make professional leaflets, posters, newsletters etc
- Dreamweaver: to design and build professional websites

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Maidenhead Rotaract Out & About



New Year New You Campaign



If you're anything like me you always make New Years Resolutions that you have all good intentions of keeping for a whole year and then by March you've already given up!

Well with this in mind we're launching a **New Year New You** campaign to attract new people the club immediately after Christmas.

We've created new club posters specifically for the campaign, we have press releases ready to go, have purchased new club t-shirts and hoodies so we can be seen out and about and have also ordered a new pull-up banner that we can use at all our events.

But we're not stopping there! We are planning 2 major events in January to attract the public and get our name out into the public domain.

Guess the Balloons in the Limo!

On 17th January we are parking a limo in the middle of Maidenhead High Street, filling it with balloons and asking the public to guess how many are inside.

The person who guesses the nearest to the correct answer will be treated to a 3 hour trip in the limo, thanks to Lime Light Limos.

All money raised from this event will be donated to the local branch of Samaritans. But remember this is not only a great opportunity to raise money for a great charity, it is also an opportunity to recruit some new members!

Feed the Children @ Sainsbury's

The following weekend we are hoping to be able to collect much needed items for the charity Feed the Children, being positioned in the entrance to the large Sainsbury's in the town centre. We are still waiting for permission from the Manager of Sainsbury's but hope that this will be granted.

So here's to the New Year...its going to be busy, but very rewarding...

Lions Swimathon

Three members of the club are taking part in the Lions Swimathon on 10th January. They will be joining the Maidenhead Rotary team, aptly named "The Early Birds" as they swim at 7am! Mind you they do get rewarded afterwards with a full English Breakfast!

Please sponsor the team, who are raising money for various local charities, contact Lisa for more information.

www.rotaract.org.uk/maidenhead

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
13th December 2008 @ 1pm	Community: Annual OAP Party Help needed for set-up & serving	St Joseph's Church Hall, Cookham Road
13th December 2008 @ 7pm	District 1090 Christmas Party Its party time!	Francesco's, Maidenhead
14th December 2008 @ 5.30pm	Carol Concert Alexander Devine Children's Cancer Trust	St Mary's Church, Slough
16th December 2008 @ 8pm	Club Christmas Meal Not quite so traditional!	Wu Tang, Maidenhead
20th December 2008 @ 8pm	Adam & Lisa's Annual Christmas Party Just bring what you want to drink!	Woodlands Park, Maidenhead
22nd December 2008 @ 7pm	Maidenhead Rotary Christmas Party Fun & fellowship with our Rotary Friends	Maidenhead Golf Club
25th December 2008	MERRY CHRISTMAS	
6th January 2009 @ 8pm	Club Meeting Welcome to 2009!	The Rose Pub, King Street
10th January 2009 @ 7am	Lion's Swimathon Please support the Early Birds!	The Magnet Leisure Centre
13th January 2009 @ 8pm	Social Night: Pub Visit A chance to catch up after Xmas	The Bear, Maidenhead
17th January 2009	Guess the Balloons in a Limo	The High Street
20th January 2009 @ 8pm	Club Meeting—Speakers Night Talk from Sue Ryder Care	The Rose Pub, King Street
23rd January 2009 @ 8pm	Social: Laser Quest Serious fun with a laser gun!	Tenpin, Maidenhead
24th January 2009	Fee the Children Drive	Sainsbury's Maidenhead

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

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