

Kingfisher Chronicle - 2007-2008

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President's Ramblings

The month of August saw us unable to use our base at the Moat House Inn due to the flood damage that occurred in July. I have now visited the Moat House and it seems that we shall be unable to use the premises until late October/early November at the earliest. In these circumstances and with a busy programme of speakers organised for September and October, Steps Bar/Restaurant in Evesham Road has now been booked as a temporary alternative venue for the time being.

Our programme of events for August, which were all well attended by members, started on 31st July at the Foxlydiate Arms in Redditch. Our guest speaker for the evening was Phil Sharpe of NSPCC (one of my two proposed charities for 2007/2008). Phil gave us an interesting talk about the work of the charity with the worrying emphasis on the growth of child abuse over recent years. Unfortunately the venue was in a word - FORGETTABLE!

Our meeting on 7th August took place at the Bowling Green Inn, Stoke Prior. This was a fellowship skittles night and pub meal with North Worcs Rotary Club. Good fellowship was enjoyed when they eventually arrived - having visited the Bowling Green at Hadley, Droitwich on their way. (Honestly, I wrote to them twice beforehand about the venue address!). I am hopeful that there will be another get together before the end of 2007/2008 at their invitation.

On 14th August we met at Steps Bar/Restaurant, Redditch for the first time. The food was excellent value but there were problems with the meeting room/external noise. The Steps management have now promised to ensure that these problems will be corrected as best they can for the future. However I am still open to constructive suggestions for alternative temporary venues that fulfill most of the Club's criteria (including price, privacy etc).

Unfortunately our speaker, club sponsored Youth Exchange (Christine McElvoy), for the evening did not manage to make it as she was delayed in Wales. Luckily we had Paul Beedham, President of Leamington Spa Regency Club, who

is also the current District Youth Exchange Officer and he gave us a brief talk about the Youth Exchange system and Christine in particular. Hopefully we will hear about Christine's experiences in Australia when she returns later in the year.

Paul explained to me that his club was a breakfast club that meets at 7.00 for 7.15am, I explained that it was unlikely I would be able to pay him a visit at such an hour! He said, funnily enough, that they didn't get many visitors anyway.

The 21st August meeting involved some of us (with our wives) enjoying a walk around Arrow Valley Country Park which was organised by David B. Although the sky was overcast it remained dry for the evening and the walk of 1.5 miles around the Waymarked Circular Trail which lasted an hour or so seemed to be over so quickly. Afterwards we de-camped to the Barley Mow Inn at Studley where we enjoyed good fellowship and a very filling carvery meal.

No meeting was held on August 28th, being immediately after an bank holiday.

For your information the Club Programme over the next few weeks is as follows:-

September 4th	B Carpenter to arrange
September 11th	District Governor
(John Quinton) visit	
September 15th (Sun)	Severn Valley Railway
Sunday Lunch Trip -	Tickets have now arrived.
September 18th	District Quiz. At home
against Droitwich	
September 25th	Julie Kirkbride MP (with
wives and guests)	
October 2nd	J Cottle to arrange
October 9th	David C Baxter (Surgeon)
Speaker	

The Club meetings shown above have been booked into Steps Bar/Restaurant in Redditch for the time being.

Apologies

Please note meal and attendance apologies to David Saunders from now on.