

# ROTARY CLUB OF MANCHESTER

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019



## ***From our President Sarah Withington***

Well Autumn is well and truly upon us, and Bonfire Night is just around the corner, so it was appropriate to have a talk this month from PP Roy Chapman about the success of Operation Florian, a joint club project with Greater Manchester Fire Service. Roy gave an inspiring update on his recent trip to Beirut. I do hope more clubs will take the time to get involved.

As a veteran myself, November is always a poignant month, and it will be my honour to place our club poppy wreath, procured by PP Julie Chapman, on the cenotaph in St Peters Square Manchester on Remembrance Sunday.

Another event this month to look forward to is the Inner Wheel Autumn Fair on 12th November and I am really happy to see how well we are working together to support each other's efforts during my year. Long may it continue!

## **In this issue...**

**F**ellowship Evening

**F**eature Member – Barbara Rosenthal

**H**earing Dogs for the Deaf – Christine Wright

**N**ovember/December Up and Coming

**L**ebanon Trip – Operation Florian - Roy Chapman

**N**otices for Foundation Dinner, Lakeland Fellowship, Inner Wheel

**W**ales Trip



**TAKE ACTION:** [Rotary Club of Manchester](#)

## FELLOWSHIP EVENING – YARA’S RESTAURANT



Lebanese Food at Yara's, Wilmslow Road, Cheadle was the location of our Fellowship evening on Thursday 3rd October. Indra and Hemu Gupta arranged a traditional meal for us.



YARA RESTAURANT  
7, WILMSLOW ROAD, CHEADLE, SK8 1DW

### MENU

BABAGHANOUJ, FATTOUSH, FALAFEL,  
MEAT BOURAK, HOMMUS SHAWARMA

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CHICKEN TAWOOK, MIXED KABAB, LAMB  
CHOP

MUJADARA RICE, GREEK SALAD

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BAKLAVA





**In attendance:**

*Julie Chapman*

*Hemu Gupta*

*Peter Hartley*

*Joan & Ernest Johnstone*

*Dale McAulay & Ian Kane*

*Barbara Rosenthal*

*Jitu Ruia*

*Christine & Roger Walker*

*Alan & Sheila Small*

*Mavis Pittway*

*Margaret Hutchinson & Henry Blowey*

*Gillian Webb*



Thanks to Roger Walker for organising the event.

Please come and join us at our next fellowship event.



In this newsletter, a different member of our club will be featured each issue so that we can get to know each other a little better and see shared interests and skill sets that will help develop the future of our club.

## Our Feature Member

An interview with Barbara Rosenthal MPH

Barbara Rosenthal has been a member of our club since January 2001. She was the first woman to join our club. In this interview, she shares some of his personal pursuits, as well as ideas and causes she finds of interest.



### Tell me a little about yourself:

I was born in Gatley, and we moved to Cheadle when I was 11, and my Nana, who I spent a lot of my childhood with, lived next to Chris Walker's family on Cherington Road!!

I hated school. When I left at the age of 14, people said "You will remember your school days, as the best days of your life" I thought, crikey, it gets worse than this? if Star Wars had been around then, it would have been 'Beam me up now Scotty!!!

However, I was accepted at Hollins College in Fallowfield (known as the 'Toast Rack') to study Fashion Design and Pattern Cutting. Our family had a ladies outerwear company in Manchester which my Dad had taken over before I was born, I absolutely loved college, and took over the design and pattern cutting for the company when I completed my training in 1965, but the building on Hulme Street was subject to a CPO in 1973.



*Barbara, as a baby with her Dad, Robert (Bob) Sharples*





***Barbara's Dad, Bob, with a young Lizzie. Outside his shop in Gatley.***

Sadly, the company closed and as my Dad's health was declining somewhat, he bought a newsagent / sweet shop / tobacconist in Gatley which he really enjoyed running.

I was living in Belgium then with my first husband Geoff, who was a petrochemical engineer, and subsequently moved to Aberdeen when he was working on the oil rigs there. I returned to Manchester and began working with fashion agent JS Levy on Lever Street who represented many high-end companies, including Christian Dior Ready to Wear, I was then catwalk modelling for the company. It all seems so unbelievable now!!

I had a real career change in 1976 when I began working as a chef for very popular wine bars in Alderley Edge and Hale, during which time I had my first daughter Lizzie in 1983, I loved this work, but had to give it up in 1991 due to the onset of Osteo Arthritis, but I had my second daughter (then Arabella / Abbey) now Bella and started training as a Counsellor at Manchester University.

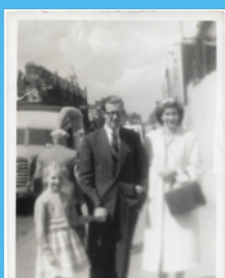


***Barbara at her graduation from the University of Manchester.***

***Lizzie and Bella with their dog, Otis.***



I remember the first time I was walked into the Whitworth Building. I expected a large hand to descend from the sky, and knock my hat off saying "What do you think you are doing here?" but against all the odds, I was successful, and I graduated in 1994, having done my work placement with Cruse Bereavement Care. Interestingly my Diploma was signed by Eddie Newcombe, who was a member of our Club. I went on to do a teaching qualification, and taught Counselling at Stockport College for 10 years.



***Barbara with her parents at age 8.***

## What led you to join the Rotary Club?

My Dad was so important in my life, and he was a founder member of Gatley and District Rotary, I could see how much this meant to him, and it strongly fitted with his values, and community spirit. When Royston Flude, then RCM President, invited me to speak to the club about Cruse Bereavement Care, and invited me to join as the first woman member, I was very excited to accept his invitation. It seems strange now, that this was only 19 years ago, but it was seen as ground-breaking then. The rest as they say, 'is history!'



***Barbara's article in the MEN when she became the first female member of the Rotary Club of Manchester.***



***Barbara's Welcome Letter from the Rotary Club.***

## What kinds of things do you like to do, when you are not working?

I still love to cook for friends and family, and I also enjoy being outside, engaging with nature and the environment, which hopefully, I have passed these passions on to my grandchildren. My main and enduring passion is for live music and theatre. Even at my great age, I still go to live music of all genres. Manchester has such a wealth of venues from the Arena down to Soup Kitchen with a maximum capacity of 200 people.

## What movies do you like to watch? What music do you like? What food do you like?

I don't go to the cinema as much as I used to. Maybe I will start going again. I love all types of food, from Traditional English to Asian Fusion, and everything in between. My taste in music is very broad -from Classical and Opera to modern artists like Muse, Lewis Capaldi, Chemical Brothers, and Amy Winehouse. Too many to mention here!

### **What inspires you or motivates you in life?**

My family, daughters Bella and Lizzie, and grandchildren Dylan, Jude and Belle are by far the most important aspects of my life, I love being part of the Rotary family and the fact that it allows me to contribute back to society.

### **What are some causes you care about?**

My passion is for supporting adults and children who have been bereaved, through my work with Cruse Bereavement Care. This year is our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and 10 years ago, the Queen, who is our royal Patron, held an event at St James Palace. I was invited to meet her to represent the work Cruse does with Children and Young People. Given the fact that this was 10 years ago, and the young princes had not spoken publicly about their bereavement, I was somewhat surprised, but very pleased, when she said to me "My grandsons want me to tell you how much they value the work Cruse does with bereaved children" .



***Barbara meeting with the Queen in 2009.***



***Barbara with her Nana***



**What are some of the things that you would like to do before you die?**

I can't think of anything that I have on a 'Bucket List' apart from maybe going out for dinner with Idris Elba, or Daniel Craig!! Oh yes, dream on Barbara! I take joy in every aspect of my life, from sitting in my garden, watching and listening to the birds, to spending time playing board games with my grandchildren.

**Who is someone you admire, and why?**

David Attenborough, for showing the world the beauties and challenges of the natural world.

*Barbara's father's (Bob Sharples) Rotary Tie*



**Who are your greatest influences or role models?**

I guess I would always say my Dad. He instilled in me the qualities that Rotary stands for; **Service Above Self.**

**What are some things about you that most people do not know?**

My love of live music began at a very early (you didn't have to provide proof of age when you went to gigs then!)

I was at the Free Trade Hall just before my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and saw Bob Dylan at his famous event when he played electric, and caused a storm of arguments on both sides of the Atlantic, and just before my 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, I was having a party at my parent's house, and Jimi Hendrix arrived!!

I was initially a bit disappointed, because we were expecting the Walker Brothers, as they were on the same tour, unbelievably, with Engelbert Humperdinck! Jimi and the Experience were not well known then, but we stayed friends with the band, as my chum Janis, worked for their Manager, Michael Jeffery (not a nice man) and she had long standing relationship with Mitch Mitchell (drummer).

**Anything else you would like to add?**

Oh no, I think I have said enough!!



***Photos of Barbara – as she says, in her younger days!***

## Hearing Dogs for the Deaf - Christine Wright and Jessie



***Christine Wright and her dog Jessie with President Sarah***

President Sarah will also be donating monies from the sale of her handmade Christmas wreaths to Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.

The club was delighted to welcome Christine Wright and her hearing dog, Jessie, to the club on 10th October.

Christine gave us an informative talk on her personal journey with deafness, how hearing dogs support their owners and the real difference they make every day to their lives, especially as deafness can lead to terrible feelings of loneliness and isolation.

This was followed by a full demonstration of some of the commands and situations that Jessie supports Christine with. Jessie was a true superstar and the club presented Christine with a small cheque for £50 to show their appreciation.

***-Sarah Withington-***





## COMING UP IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

**November 11** – Sarah will be placing our club poppy wreath, procured by PP Julie Chapman, on the cenotaph in St Peters Square Manchester on Remembrance Sunday.



### **CHRISTMAS WREATHS –** *By popular demand...*

Christmas door wreaths available to order now - minimum donation of £10, all profits to President Sarah's nominated charity Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.

Hand made by the President, with a recyclable base and made with 100% fresh foliage from the Arley estate. The is the perfect door wreath to be the envy of your neighbours! Will last approximately 6 weeks with minimal watering required.

Please email [sarahw2012@me.com](mailto:sarahw2012@me.com) to place your order by **30th November**. Delivery to your club or directly by arrangement with Sarah.



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## **CHRISTMAS DINNER**

### ***Rotary Club of Manchester Christmas Meal***

This year's Christmas meal will take place on Thursday 5th December at Hough End the same venue as last year. The meal, also as per last year, will be a hot buffet followed by a delicious choice of desserts. Cost remains at £20.

Rotarians, Rotaractors, ladies of the Inner Wheel, family, and guests are invited to join us. Please email club officers to confirm your attendance. The closing date for reservations is 30th November.



### ***Rotary Club of Manchester Christmas Break***

#### **Last Club Meeting**

December 12, 2019

#### **First meeting after the New Year**

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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## **200 CLUB DRAW WINNERS**

Dale Anne McAulay - £150 – will be donated to the Ghana Fund

Michael Metcalfe - £50

## Roy Chapman PHF

### An update on Rotary and Operation Florian



**President Sarah Withington with Roy Chapman**

**The Goal**  
Fire Equipment for Every Firefighter

Our October 24th meeting, featured, club member Roy Chapman PHF, who gave a talk on his recent trip to Lebanon, as part of the Operation Florian, and our club's involvement in the project.

#### **Rotary and Operation Florian - by Roy Chapman -**

Operation Florian, led by Steve Jordan, a Station Manager with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS), first visited Lebanon working with the Lebanese Civil Defence (LCD) and Save the Children in 2016.

At just 10,452 km<sup>2</sup> (4,036 sq. mi.), Lebanon is the smallest recognised sovereign state on the mainland of the Asian continent. The population is some 6 million. The largest city, and capital is Beirut, with a population of around 2.2 million in the metropolitan area.

During that first visit Steve, met many Lebanese firefighters and was inspired by their commitment to their communities and country and how many give up their own time for the protection of others. Lebanon has some 5,000 firefighters, all volunteers. They face many challenges on a daily basis. Critically what struck Steve most was the very distinct lack of personal protective equipment ('PPE' – comprising fire tunic, leggings, boots, gloves, fire hoods, helmets etc.) and also specialist equipment for such things as water rescue and road traffic collisions, compared to what is the norm in the UK.





Obviously, funding and resourcing a national fire service is a challenge whatever the size of the country.

Since 2016 Op Florian has returned twice and formed a good relationship with Nabil Salhani (National Training Officer of the LCD) and the firefighters at Zahle, the Bekaa Valley and elsewhere. There have already been some successes. In January this year (2019) Operation Florian shipped out a container of 450 full sets of PPE and 3 sets of hydraulic rescue equipment (for use in road traffic collisions). These are now providing welcome additional protection and help to firefighters.

In addition, another critical success is that Operation Florian gained additional funding to continue to provide technical assistance to Save the Children. A detailed assessment of fire risks in Informal Tented Settlements (ITSs) has just been completed. Working with specialist fire research departments in UK universities, a detailed technical report, proposing fire risk mitigation interventions, has just been completed.

Another worthwhile achievement was that Operation Florian was able to fund taking two female firefighters – Sabine and Rose - to the UK to attend the national Women in the Fire Service training weekend in June this year. There are a number of female firefighters in the LCD, who are just as hard working and equal to their male colleagues. Seeking opportunities to inspire them more is a further commitment of Operation Florian Both Sabine and Rose gained much out of their visit and it is hoped more can be done for female LCD firefighters.

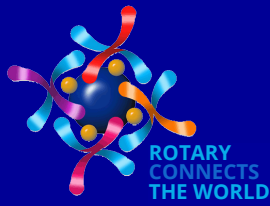
Since 2010, Operation Florian has been supported by Rotary. In that year the Rotary Club of Manchester sponsored a fire engine to go to Kavardaci in Macedonia. Other Rotary Clubs in the UK have also provided additional funding. In 2015 Steve Jordan was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship by the Rotary Club of Manchester.

A wonderful, and very welcome development, is that Operation Florian has established a link with the Rotary Club of Baabta. They are now enthusiastically supporting Operation Florian. It is hoped a firm friendship and international link can be established between the Rotary Clubs of Baabta and Manchester.

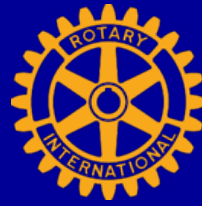
In January 2020 Op Florian is hoping to ship a further 500 sets of PPE to Lebanon for the LCD. Northampton Fire and Rescue has donated a huge amount of equipment. The added good news is that Operation Florian has been offered further PPE -well over 1,000 sets of tunics, trousers and boots. There is potentially much more equipment available in the UK – if the shipping and import costs can be met. One small issue is a shortage of fire helmets, but Operation Florian is trying to source some.



Finally, Operation Florian has just had two Volvo FL6 fire engines released to it by GMFRS. It is hoped both of these can eventually come to Lebanon – again hopefully with further support from Rotary.



The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation in D1285



# Annual Foundation Dinner - Seminar

**Come and enjoy a three-course meal, meet old friends and make new ones. Learn what we do from great speakers who are helping to improve the world through our Rotary Foundation.**

Thursday 28th November 2019, 6.30 for 7.00.p.m

**Statham Lodge Hotel**  
**Warrington Rd, Lymm. WA13 9BP**

Cost £20.00. Booking forms, with cheques payable to District 1285 Foundation Committee, to:

**Stan Bowes, 9 Dorset Avenue,  
Diggle, Saddleworth, Oldham, OL3 5PL**

Showing name, club, and any special food requirements

**Payment must be received by 15th November**

**ROTARY'S AREAS OF FOCUS**





## **Lakeland Fellowship**

**Borrowdale Gates Hotel, Borrowdale, Cumbria**

**Monday/Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

Dear Member,

Seven single rooms have been booked at the Hotel for the above dates on a first come first served basis.

The cost per night will be £100 per person per night and will include dinner, bed and breakfast and VAT.

To enable me to confirm the booking please complete the slip below and return it to me as soon as possible with your cheque for £50 deposit made payable to myself. This deposit is non-refundable.

Derek Evans

Please reserve the following-

Name-----

Please return to Derek Evans together with your cheque for £50

THE INNER WHEEL FOUNDER CLUB of MANCHESTER  
invite members, family and friends to

AN

**AUTUMN FAIR**

**AND HOT BUFFET LUNCH**

ON TUESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup>. NOVEMBER  
FROM 12 NOON

AT THE MANCHESTER HALL, BRIDGE ST. M3 3BT

£16

Browse a range of quality sales tables  
Wonderful gifts - or treat yourselves  
Raffle

A fund-raising event for  
CANCER RESEARCH AT THE CHRISTIE

Parking concession (£8-50) for the NCP, King St. West  
is available from the Manchester Hall reception

Name of Club .....

Nos. attending ..... Cheque £.....

Cheque made payable to The IW Club of Manchester

Send to Angela Parker,  
by the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2019

## TRIP TO WALES – OCTOBER 2019

### North Wales Fellowship The Quay Hotel Deganway 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Oct *By Ernie Metcalfe*

Four of us had two nights at The Quay and President Sarah joined us for the second night. The format was very similar to the Lakeland Fellowship, a little walking and meandering within our capacities, a modicum to drink and a lot of fun enjoying each other's company. So much so we all want to repeat it next year.



The Quay hotel proved a good venue with some interesting walks from the hotel; South to Conway Town with its medieval castle, and North along the Conway estuary. The accommodation was well appointed and the catering, though not as good as The Borrowdale Gates, was nevertheless more than adequate.



I took my car for the four of us (note how environmentally friendly), and after a snack lunch had a stroll along the side of The Great Orme, with some very good views of Llandudno Town. On Monday we went to the top of the Orme (659ft). For the first and steepest part we took the old tramway opened in 1902. From the halfway stage it was an easy stroll to the top. After a good look around and a coffee, it was a walk back to the halfway station, and hence back to the hotel to do our own thing.

On these occasions it is usual to have a pre-dinner drink in someone's room. I was late in arriving and a G&T was almost forced upon me. The insistence was so strong it became suspicious. And rightly so! They had supped all the gin, replaced it with water, and wondered if I would know the difference. That's friends for you!

On the last morning we had a gentle stroll to Conway Town and back and then home.

Enjoying the fellowship were President Sarah, Hugh Barrett, Derek Evans, Peter Hartley and myself.  
Ernie Metcalfe

## Up and Coming Birthdays

October

9<sup>th</sup> Alia Arif

December

1<sup>st</sup> Roger Walker

2<sup>nd</sup> John Gavan

13<sup>th</sup> Lilian Liu

January

5<sup>th</sup> Sarah Withington

February

13<sup>th</sup> Sebastian Moldovan

22<sup>nd</sup> Liz Cowell

March

17<sup>th</sup> Dale McAulay

25<sup>th</sup> Nye Rowlands



## Up and Coming Events

- Fellowship  
Thursday Nov 7  
Tang's Restaurant, Cheadle  
Hulme 18:15
- Inner Wheel Autumn Fair  
Tuesday Nov 12  
See Flyer
- Club Council  
Tuesday Nov 19  
Hough End Centre 17:15
- Rotary Ramble  
Friday Nov 22 – Lymn Circular
- District 1285 Foundation Dinner  
Thursday November 28  
Stratham Lodge Hotel, Lymn
- Rotary In Manchester Christmas  
Dinner  
Thurs Dec 5 19:00  
The Hough End Centre, Chorlton
- Annual Arndale Collection for  
Francis House Children's Hospice  
Sat Dec 7 10:00 – 15:00

- Lunch Meeting  
Thurs December 12  
PP Royston Flude – Rotary  
Wanderings
- Rotary Ramble  
Friday Dec 13
- District 1285 International Rally  
Wed March 18 2020  
19:00 TBA
- Rotary Convention  
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA  
June 6-10 2020

## Club Meeting Info

**Weekly: Every Thursday at 12:30**

**Place: Manchester Hall**

**36 Bridge Street, Manchester,**

**M3 2BT**

## Rotary Club of Manchester Team 2019-2020

### President

Sarah Withington

### President Elect

### Membership

Robin Graham PHF

### Vocational

Julie Chapman

### Executive Secretary

Robin Graham PHF

### Secretary

Peter Hartley PHF

### Community

Julie Chapman

### Rotaract

Roy Chapman PHF

### IT

Peter Hartley PHF

### Treasurer

Peter Hartley PHF

### International

### Youth Service

Roy Chapman PHF

### Fellowship

Barbara Rosenthal MPHF

### Immediate Past President

Julie Chapman

### Rotary Foundation

Bill Laidlaw PHF

### Attendance

Roger Walker PHF

### Primary Webmaster

Peter Hartley PHF

*Newsletter Editor – Dale Anne McAulay*