



The Rotary Club of Banstead

February 2025

PRESIDENT'S PIECE



The Banstead Rotarians raised a brilliant £13,800 for local charities over Christmas with the help and support of our Friends of Rotary and charity partners.

We are busy planning upcoming events such as the Quiz Night 11th of April, the Charity Walk 11th of May and the Village Fair on the 5th of July.

Please share this newsletter and join us: all welcome!

Friends Of Banstead Rotary

We would welcome the opportunity to share our fellowship and community service with like-minded people who for the time being are unable to offer the time and commitment required of members.

Becoming a Friend of Rotary allows you to share our ideals and objectives without the responsibility or commitment required from a full member. It does allow you to be part of Banstead Rotary to contribute to the community and to assist in projects and events when you are

available to do so.

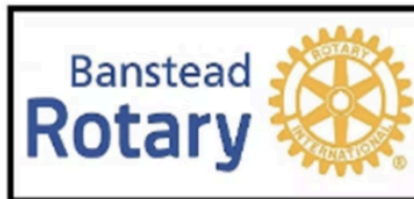
Being a Friend allows you to participate in fundraising events and projects, or, to simply make donations to Banstead Rotary. However, some activities are not specifically designed to raise funds. They can be to assist in a hands-on working way, or they can be just to socialise. It is an opportunity to enjoy activities and each other's company, catch up with old friends and make or develop new ones.

To join, volunteer or donate please see <https://www.bansteadrotary.com/>

MURDER!

ENJOY A MEAL

WHILE YOU SOLVE THE PUZZLE



SAN FRANCISCO, 1993

You are invited to dine on authentic Chinese fare and join Mrs Emily Boggs in celebrating the return of her long -lost daughter.



Cuddington Golf Club

Date: Tuesday 18th March

Time: 6.30 for 7.00p.m. £24 pp

Reserve your place by email to janeillingworth@talktalk.net
Payment by bank transfer to Rotary Club of Banstead
30-98-45 17998160 (ref your surname)

RAFFLE in aid of *Maggies at the Marsden and Surrey Crossroads Care*



**Banstead Rotary Chinese Murder
Mystery Menu**



**Slow Cooked Sweet & Sour Pork with
Pineapple & Jasmine Sticky Rice & Prawn Crackers
Clementine Cheesecake
Coffee & Fortune Cookies**

Murder Mystery host: Clive Richardson

Banstead
Rotary



Exercise those grey cells and come along to

BANSTEAD ROTARY'S
QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 11th April 2025

7.15 pm for 7.30 pm start



Quizmaster - Simon Edmands

VENUE: The Beacon School, Picquets Way,
Banstead SM7 1AG *(Parking available)*

In aid of Crossroads Care Surrey

Nibbles and bottled water on the table

BRING YOUR OWN DRINK - Glasses provided

Supper provided

Ticket: £15

Teams up to 8 or let us
know and we will allocate
you a team on the night.



To book: visit
bansteadrotary.com
Or Email:
rogerdlp06@gmail.com

Charity Walk25

Banstead
Rotary



Rotary Club of Banstead Sponsored Charity Walk25 Sunday 11th May 2025



A fully marshalled walk of approximately 8.5 miles through some of the most attractive scenery of the North Downs starting and finishing at Epsom Downs.

Walk to raise money for your preferred charity.
A great family day out – dogs welcome!
Entry and sponsor forms available online
<https://www.bansteadrotary.com/charitywalk25>

Further information available from:-

Roger de la Perrelle 07817 210691
David Martin 07989 405938

E-mail: rogerdlp06@gmail.com or
davidmartin331@outlook.com

Rotary Club of Banstead Trust Fund
Reg. Charity No. 1029532

Broadleaf Tree Services

**and Friends of the Banstead Wildlife Field
invite you to**

Join us for our Woodland makeover

**See Tree Surgeons at work as
they transform a felled tree
into a beautiful teaching area.**

**Where: Banstead Wildlife Field
Basing Road, Off Bolters Lane,
Banstead SM7 2AH**

When: Wednesday 12th March

**Time: 1000 hours onwards
Free entry**



Banstead Wildlife Field update February 2025 and special event ahead

Basing Road, Off Bolter's Lane, Banstead SM7 2AH

Imbolc is the Druid celebration of Spring and took place on the 2nd February: it is halfway between the shortest day and the equinox. Still, some winter to come, but not so much!!!



Spring is on its way, and whilst the energy surge underground is only just beginning, it has been human endeavour that has marked this week in the field! The friends had great fun clearing the very prickly and tangled bramble patch in the top field.

Still have a fair few roots to dig out.

Before and after.

The builders came and completed the renovation of the raised beds which are now streamlined, modern and more importantly safe. Hats off to them as the weather was appalling. Next job is to refresh the planting.



Dates for the Diary

19th February, 5th March, 19th March. Friends group meets at 930, cuppa at 1030

12th March Broadleaf Tree Services are making over our teaching area, the crocuses should be out and the raised beds should be showing signs of spring. Do come, enjoy and support this lovely little space.

Diana Beck February 2025



Book a free Safe and Well visit with us today

We visit homes to provide personalised fire safety advice and if necessary, supply and install fire safety equipment free of charge.



To book a free Safe and Well Visit for yourself, or refer a loved one or someone you're worried about, do one of the following:

Visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/safeandwell



Scan the QR code with your phone camera

Call free on 0800 085 0767

Text to 07971 691898 with:

- your name • a contact number
- your postcode • your primary concern - such as smoke alarms, a disability, or safety concern.



We are here to help you stay safe and well in your home.



Make a real difference...

Volunteer with us!

We are a local charity looking for new volunteers to join our small friendly team at our centre in Leatherhead.

We support people with **aphasia**, a communication disability most often acquired through a stroke or brain injury.

Support our members in a weekly conversation group

Full training and ongoing support provided

Make a real difference to people with **aphasia**

Make new friends and have fun
A few hours per week required



If you would like to find out more about volunteering with us, we would love to hear from you. Please contact our **Volunteer Coordinator Liz:**

lgrace@dyscover.org.uk

01737 819419

dyscover.org.uk

Reg. Charity No: 1099432. Company No: 4814618

3RD BANSTEAD SCOUTS: PAST AND PRESENT



At the end of October, Banstead Rotary was entertained by our

Corporate Rotarians to a fabulous supper and drinks at Banstead Manor Hallmark Luxury Care Home. We were also joined by members of Sutton Nonsuch Rotary Club.

James Crouch (current Chairman) and Colin Sutherland (former Group Scout Leader) spoke about “3rd Banstead Scouts: Past and Present”, taking us from their early years to the present day, sharing many evocative photographs and stories from the 1930s onwards.

3rd Banstead are the largest Scout Group in the Banstead District. They are a registered charity which is run entirely by volunteers and have been headquartered at Scout Ridge, by Banstead Station, since 1938. They are a key charity partner for us lending support with a BBQ at the Village Fair and joining us for our collections and rounds during our Christmas Santa Tours.

Their volunteers run sections for local children aged 6-14 and, in an exciting development for 3rd, they will be opening a Squirrels section for younger children, aged 4-6, in the New Year.

Colin and James explained what Scouting means to them and why they believe it is so beneficial for young people (and for the adult volunteers, too) and we heard about the wide breadth of activities that they offer.

The 3rd Banstead Scouts have a long history and need support more than ever! A significantly increased rent for their headquarters and a rise in other expenses mean the Group is more reliant than ever on donations to subsidise the cost of Scouting for Banstead’s young people. If you would like to support the provision of activities for local children and help them to build skills for life, you can donate through the “Donate” button on 3rd Banstead’s website.

<https://www.3rdbanstead.co.uk>

3rd Banstead’s HQ is a modern building with a large sports hall, two meeting rooms and a kitchen, and is available for hire; details can be found on their website.

PRESIDENT JANE WELCOMES NEW MEMBER DAVID-BARRINGTON WEST

On 3 December David formally joined Banstead Rotary.

David brings with him a wealth of experience. Based in Epsom where he lives with his family and he has a background in volunteering alongside his professional life.

An insightful Project and Programme Manager with 25 years of experience in



Financial Services. Successful leadership of global Technology and Change delivery teams across a broad functional remit, specialising in troubleshooting complex projects that are failing to make traction. Collaborates closely with delivery teams and key stakeholders to get projects back on track, and ensures Regulatory Change commitments can be consistently achieved.

MAKE NEW FRIENDS NIGHT!



On Tuesday 17 September Banstead Rotary and Sutton Nonsuch Rotary held a joint dinner and fundraiser at Cuddington Golf Club. They were joined by friends and partners. The objective was for our two groups to informally meet up and have fun!

President Jane Illingworth welcomed everyone to the event, talked about Rotary and its history and the reason for the evening: to raise money for Crossroads Care Surrey and Maggie's At The Royal Marsden.

52 Guests dined on delicious chicken in mushroom sauce with accompanying vegetables followed by chocolate mousse.

President John Chamberlain ran a short video after dinner to explain the perennial Radio 4 favourite show, 'Just a Minute', to the attendees. Your very own 5 panels of Rotarians and guests was hosted by John in his own inimitable style, so what could possibly go wrong? There was no hesitation, no deviation, and no repetition, I repeat, no repetition... and Jane's table was victorious!



After the fun we completed the raffle with prizes generously donated by attendees raising £250 for charity.

Through joining Rotary we were able to combine our individual expertise and enthusiasm to serve the local community. By working together, we raise funds for local and international charities and causes and help in a practical way when we can. And we made some long standing friends along the way.

Rotary is built on friendship, fellowship, and camaraderie, helping to make a difference to our local community by making use of inspiring opportunities to be of service. Our members find joining Rotary is a great opportunity to put something back for the benefit of others and help shape better opportunities for the future. We welcome and encourage members of the public who are interested in making new friends and who are ready to put their spare time to good use in the name of Rotary.

Why not join us?

BANSTEAD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON



On Thursday 28 November 2024, Banstead lights were switched on by the annual visit by Father Christmas, which signals the start of Banstead Rotary's annual Christmas Collection in support of many well deserving local charities. Banstead Rotary and Banstead Village Residents Association residents joined businesses on Banstead High Street for the Banstead Community Event with street entertainers, shopping offers, kids' games and a very special appearance by Father Christmas and his sleigh! Banstead glowed with fairy lights, rosy cheeked carol singers and a bright red Father Christmas



last Thursday as Banstead Village held a special Christmas Event. Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, Councilor Eddy Humphrey's, opened the event on The Horseshoe which had singers, charity stalls and arts & crafts . Gavin and his Rock & Roll Band provided entertainment. The High Street Lights were illuminated and the Christmas Tree Lights were switched on with the help of Father Christmas who arrived at the event on the Banstead Rotary sleigh! The Stage at the Christmas Tree roundabout entertained everyone with songs by CADA Stars and Show Choir Banstead.



Rotary's Father Christmas tours the area to spread much Christmas cheer and to accept the many valuable donations from local residents, which in the past raised over £12,000 . You can also donate on-line:

<https://app.goodhub.com/rotary-club-of-banstead-trust-fund-9008>

Every single penny that is raised will go to help and support the many local Banstead charities so all donations are gratefully received and will make a huge difference to those in need particularly at this challenging time. Thank you for your support of Banstead Rotary and the many Local Charities to benefit from your generosity, which this year includes:

Family Support

- Home Start Epsom Ewell and Banstead
- Epsom and Ewell Food Bank

Children Support

- The Diamond Centre
- National Autistic Society (Surrey)
- The Beacon School
- Banstead Scouts



Community Support

- Transform Housing & Support
- Epsom and Ewell Talking Newspaper
- Macular Society (Banstead)
- Health & Well-Being Support for Persons of All Ages
- Age Concern Banstead
- Dyscover
- Princess Alice Hospice
- QEF
- Cross Roads Care
- Maggie's At The Marsden

BANSTEAD SCHOOLS RECEIVE THEIR CHRISTMAS TREES



Our busy Christmas schedule continues as our volunteers distribute Christmas Trees to our local schools. This year we visited:

- The Beacon School
- Warren Mead Infant & Junior Schools
- Banstead Infant & Junior Schools
- St Anne's Catholic Primary School

These trees are one of the ways your generous donations at Christmas and other times of the year help our local community.



CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE HIGH STREET



Despite the windy conditions on Sunday November 24th our team of Rotarians was out and about early to erect the Christmas tree in the centre of the roundabout on Banstead High Street with the help of Evergreen Wholesale Nurseries. Lights will be added in the coming days so all is ready for Santa on his sleigh to perform the switch-on at the Banstead Village Residents Association Event on Thursday 28th November between 5:50pm and 6:15pm approx. Don't miss it! Additional details at: <https://www.banstead-bvra.org/what-s-on>



THE DYLAN STRONG FOUNDATION

At our meeting on 19th November, our Rotarians from Banstead and Sutton Nonsuch heard a talk from Caroline, founder of the Dylan Strong Foundation, about the charity dedicated to her young son Dylan, who sadly died of a brain tumour. In Caroline's words:

"The Dylan Strong Foundation was set up to help children with cancer. We support families with nutrition following a child's cancer diagnosis. The charity supports families by advocating for the best quality of life for children facing cancer. We send yummy nutritious frozen meals home to give children all the things that help keep them feeling their best.



DSF works in lots of different hospitals stocking parents' rooms with healthy snacks, drinks and freezer meals. We are also in the process of working with local hospitals to supply vending machines that will be stocked with healthier food choices which will include gluten, dairy and nut free options."

For more information or to make a donation please visit our website: www.dylanstrongfoundation.co.uk.

FOCUS ON THE CROCUS!



Planting purple crocus corms in Banstead Wildlife Field to support the campaign to end polio took place on 8 November.

The event was organised by Banstead Rotarian Diana Beck who engaged a number of local groups and schools to participate. She is also a long-standing member of Banstead Horticultural Society who are wanting to secure ongoing support to preserve the location and who also lent their time and expertise.



President Jane Illingworth welcomed the Mayor and Mayoress Eddy and Sarah Humphreys who toured and spoke to all the Banstead Rotary

helpers and volunteer groups. Later in the morning Rebecca Paul MP joined us plus Councilor Nadine Moses.



Massive thanks to all the following for their hard work: Banstead Manor Hallmark Luxury Care home, The Beacon School Student Council, Banstead Community Infants School, Banstead



Community Junior School, St Anne's Primary School, Banstead Village In Bloom, Sutton Nonsuch Rotary and Surrey Choices.

In recent years Banstead Rotary members have planted crocuses all along the High Street. Of course this brightens up Banstead Village each spring, but it also serves to raise awareness of the Rotary campaign to end polio.

Why purple? When children are immunised, they often dip their little fingers in purple ink so that the medics know who has been vaccinated.



Rotary International has been working tirelessly to eradicate polio. There are only 2 countries left where the virus is an issue. You can learn more at <https://www.endpolio.org/>!

Many thanks to Emma Sears of REEL FEEL PRODUCTIONS for permission to use her excellent photographs of the day. Do not further duplicate or distribute these pictures without express permission from Emma

BANSTEAD REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY



On 10 November President Jane Illingworth attended the Banstead Village Remembrance Parade. She commented “It was a great honour to take part in the Remembrance Ceremony”.

The Parade was organised by the Royal British Legion Banstead and District Branch. The Service was led by the Vicar of All Saints, Revd Kate Blake. Numerous local groups and schools participated, including the Mayor, Mayoress, MP Rebecca Paul, and, the event was well attended by members of the public.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BANSTEAD ROTARY RACE NIGHT!



Banstead Rotary held another of their Charity Race Nights on 5 November. The event was to raise funds for End Polio Now, and, had a lot of audience participation. Over 50 people gathered at Cuddington Golf Club for a delicious 2 course dinner of stuffed chicken breast with vegetables followed by caramel sponge and custard. Attendees were Banstead Rotarians, our fellow Club Sutton Nonsuch, Banstead Horticultural Society, and friends, family, and visitors from the Rotary Hub and Lymington Rotary. There was a

raffle that raised £295 and a tote for those who generously placed bets during the video races! The amount raised from betting was £180. President Jane gave a short overview of Rotary’s role in organising the global polio immunisation programme. She also introduced our guest Philip who shared his experience as a polio survivor. Big thanks to Roger DLP who ran the racing videos, and also to Barry (Sutton Nonsuch) who managed the betting with help from Adore, President John and David M.



PRESIDENT JANE WELCOMES NEW MEMBER LESLEY



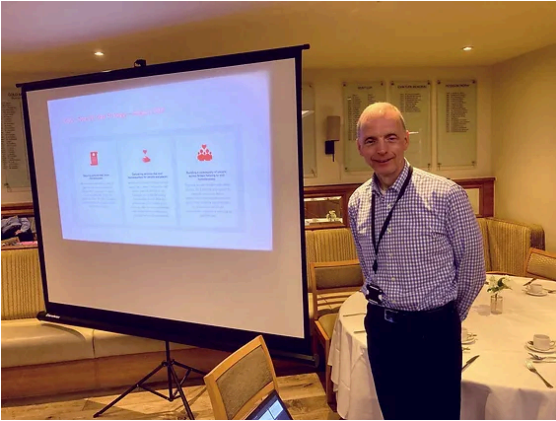
On 15 October Lesley formally joined Banstead Rotary having moved to the area fairly recently.

Lesley has vast experience running a market research business in East Molesey involving many different businesses and products. She also lived and raised her family there.

She also served as a Borough Councilor. Lesley was a charity volunteer delivering ‘meals on wheels’ for over 42 years, driving for Molesey Care, taught adult literacy and helped people with disabilities to ride and, volunteered with the Molesey Churches Night Shelter. Lesley now volunteers at Tattenham Community Library.

We welcome her experience and dedication!

CRISIS UK - TALK BY GRAHAM HUTCHINS



Summary of the talk and what Crisis does:

Crisis is the national charity for people experiencing or at risk of becoming homeless. It works with individuals and families on a one to one basis through its 9 skylight centres located across the UK. For example, it provides assistance with housing, education / training and health / well being.

Homelessness is a growing crisis, primarily driven by the chronic lack of affordable housing across the UK, individual challenges and society structural issues including changes to benefits, zero hours contracts and poor rights for tenants also contribute to the rising number of households facing homelessness which is now circa 300,000.

Crisis uses research and evidence to campaign to change policy in England, Scotland and Wales to end homelessness for good. We are also working to change public and employer perception of homelessness in the UK which currently places the emphasis on individuals rather than society as a whole.

Crisis has three pillars to its new 10 year strategy.

- *Continuing to campaign and secure MP support for the policies needed to end homelessness*
- *To continue to build and operate Crisis centres across the country, we will also build 1,000 new homes in partnership with local organisations*
- *Build a community of people across the country focused on homelessness from landlords and employers to teachers and healthcare workers everyone is welcome play their part*

Crisis strongly believes that homelessness in our county can be ended with the right level of engagement, support and willingness to consider alternative solutions.

"THE MAGIC OF ROTARY" - A TALK BY TIM VILE, DISTRICT GOVERNOR



On 1 October we welcomed our District Governor, Tim Vile to Cuddington Golf Club for his official visit to a joint meeting of Banstead Rotary and Sutton Nonsuch Rotary Clubs.

In his current role Tim is leading 84 Clubs in our District of Rotary South which covers 6 London Boroughs,

Surrey, Sussex and neighbouring parts of Hampshire.

After a delicious dinner of stuffed chicken and vegetables with caramel tart and ice cream we were ready to hear Tim's talk.

Tim gave us a fascinating insight into the "Magic of Rotary", but also covered a range of Rotary topics. He is an active member of Farnborough Rotary Club too! We wish him all the very best for his term as Governor!



BANSTEAD ROTARY SANTA RAISES OVER £13800!

Massive, massive thanks to the generous people of Banstead.

This has led to another extremely successful series of Christmas Tours and static collections. The Rotary Club of Banstead is delighted to announce a record collection of over £13,800 for the Christmas Santa Sleigh this month.

A big thank you to all the residents who donated so generously! This amazing sum will enable us to support several local charities this year.

“Yet again the generosity of Banstead came to the fore” said Christmas Collection Chair David Martin. “Our Rotarians and charity partners would like to say a heartfelt thank you for the support received on the doorstep and at the supermarkets. We have been amazed by the response.”

Thanks go also to the individual volunteers, Club members and our charity partners who helped Rotarians take Santa’s Sleigh around Banstead Village and the neighbouring areas in the three weeks leading up to Christmas.

We also express our gratitude to both Waitrose Banstead and Asda Burgh Heath supermarkets for their support and for allowing us to make collections there too.



CHRISTMAS GUESTS NIGHT 2024



Once again it was fantastic for the Banstead and Sutton Nonsuch Rotarians to be able to get together to celebrate Christmas this year, have some fun, and appreciate each other’s company during our Banstead’s annual Christmas Guests’ Night at Cuddington Golf Club!

Jane greeted over 70 guests as well as thanking the Club members for all their hard work making the evening such a success. She also drew everyone’s attention to The Anniversary of Banstead Rotary’s founding. The Club was chartered on December 17, 1951 which means the Club has now completed 73 years of service.

She also gave a bit of background: Rotary Clubs across the world execute service projects worth \$2 billion every year in their communities. Rotarians also give 25 million volunteer hours to their communities across the world every year!

The guests enjoyed a delicious two course traditional Christmas dinner followed by a delicious Choux Pastry dessert, mince pies, tea, and coffee. A quiz was set by David Riley , and musical entertainment. There were hats , beautiful table decorations, and Christmas decor to get us into the seasonal spirit during the event.

Roger set the mood when he and fellow Rotarians gave an entertaining spin on the story of Cinderella!



David and Jane also organised the raffle with prizes donated by the club members, as well as auctioning a magnificent hamper, given by our Corporate Rotary partner Banstead Manor Hallmark Care Home, which together raised £390 for Crossroads Care Surrey and Maggies At The Marsden .

After dinner we were treated to a medley of Christmas carols and songs played by Roger, accompanied by volunteers leading the community singing, with all guests taking part to end the evening!

MCR PATHWAYS TALK 7 JANUARY



Liz Grace delivered a talk on MCR Pathways on 7 January at Cuddington Golf Club. Banstead Rotary was joined for the dinner by Sutton Nonsuch Rotary.

MCR Pathways is an award-winning charity dedicated to transforming the lives of young people through a school-based mentoring programme across Surrey. They are in 7 schools across the county with the closest school to Banstead Rotary being The Beacon. The charity addresses the widening gap in educational and employment outcomes between care-experienced young people and their peers. By connecting

young people with caring mentors, MCR Pathways helps bridge the gap between aspiration and achievement. Mentors meet with their mentees for just one hour each week in school. This consistent interaction provides a valuable opportunity for young people to focus on their future, discuss any concerns, and share their thoughts and experiences in a safe and supportive environment. Research shows that even one hour a week with a caring adult can significantly boost a young person's confidence, improve academic performance, and open doors to a brighter [future.To](#) find out more about becoming a mentor: mcrpathways.org/whats-stopping-you or contact: Liz Grace, Surrey Volunteer Recruitment Manager: liz.grace@mcrpathways.org.

AMAZING YOUNG PEOPLE DEBATE CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

On Thursday, January 16th, 2025, four teams from two local schools took part in our annual Rotary Youth Debate competition held at The Beacon School, organised jointly by the Rotary clubs of Banstead and Sutton Nonsuch. Plato, the ancient Greek philosopher, believed that debates are often dangerous and pointless because they are more concerned with winning than finding the truth. He thought that debates are more like a sport, with winners and losers than a genuine pursuit of truth. Well, our competition didn't seek to find any truths, but to give young people the chance to speak in public, a great skill to acquire and something many adults find daunting!



Each team consisted of a chairperson, a proposer and an opposer and, on Thursday, subjects considered were, better conditions for maternity and paternity leave; gender inequality in sport; state schools aligning with private schools for term dates and hair discrimination. Each team made some excellent arguments both for and against and kept the audience engaged and entertained.

Ros, our chair of judges, gave valuable feedback to each team and student. Considering they were all aged

under 13 and were speaking in public for the first time, they all performed very well. Ros made points about voice projection, eye contact, notes and use of humour and dramatic pauses, valuable advice to all speakers.

After careful consideration and praise to all the students for participating, Ros announced that the judges considered the winners were team A from St Philomena's and they will progress to our District semi-final next month. Our congratulations to the winning team and admiration to all who took part.

We would like to thank our judges and The Beacon School for hosting and all their assistance and support. We hope all the students will continue to improve their speaking skill and perhaps we will see them in our senior competition in the future.

John Chamberlain

MAGNIFICENT EFFORT BY ROTARIANS AS £13,800 RAISED AT CHRISTMAS PRESENTED TO CHARITIES!



The Rotary Club of Banstead has raised a magnificent £13,800 for local charities over the Christmas period thanks to the generosity of the residents of Banstead!

The club held a very enjoyable Cheque Presentation Dinner at the Sutton Bowling Club on January 28 with our good friends from Sutton Nonsuch Rotary. The Mayor and Mayoress of Sutton were the guests of Honour. President John Chamberlain welcomed everyone.

Rotarians were joined by friends and charity partners also joined us as our charities good use as soon

Banstead Sleigh which Nork, Tattenhams December for organises were at Waitrose

The Santa Sleigh since the 1950s and is a popular festive feature in the community.

Other Christmas activities this year included participation in the Banstead Village Residents Association Christmas Event with the Club's Santa magically switching on the lights of the tree we had donated.

These activities plus Gift Aid resulted in bringing the total of the raised funds to over £13,800.

Some of the charities to benefit include: Home Start, Dyscover, Age Concern, National Autistic Society Surrey, The Good Company Foodbank, Epsom and Ewell Talking Newspaper, Diamond Riding School, Maggie's at the



joined by friends and charity partners also special guests. The Club presented cheques to which ensures that the money raised is put to as possible.

Rotary's main Christmas activity is the Santa tours around the streets of Banstead Village, and Preston Hall from the beginning of three weeks up until Christmas. The Club also supermarket collections and this season they Banstead and at ASDA in Burgh Heath.

has been running for a great number of years

Marsden, Q.E.F., Princess Alice Hospice, Crossroads Care Surrey, Transform Housing & Support and Banstead Scouts.

A special award was made to Helen Howe from Citizens' Advice Reigate and Banstead for the team raising the most in our Charity Walk24. Our next event will be Walk25 on 11th May. - come and join us. Details can be found [Here](#).

Thanks to everyone who was involved in any way in our Christmas activities. The biggest thanks, however, go to the people of Banstead for their generosity which gives vital support to our local charities. If you or your charity would like to be part of this rewarding activity then please contact us.

The photos below show each charity representative receiving their cheque.





STEVE BIRD TALK THE CATHARS AND THE ALBIGENSIAN CRUSADE



After our dinner on 4 February, Steve Bird gave a very informative talk about The Cathars and The Albigensian Crusade. The Cathars were a mediaeval religious sect in Southern France during which time their “heresy” flourished. They were destroyed by an onslaught which included a crusade in Western Europe, the creation of the Inquisition and the Dominicans specifically to deal with them. Crushing them also led

to the beginnings of the church vs state arguments which ultimately led to the Reformation. The talk was also an opportunity to see how beautiful some of the sites of the old Cathar strongholds are.

Steve's talks are in support of the SAS Regimental Association Charity, an organisation dedicated to ensuring the welfare of members and veterans of that august body plus their dependents. Their website can be found at www.marsandminerva.co.uk

GET INVOLVED WITH ROTARY!



Volunteering with Rotary could be the most important thing you ever do. Your skills and experience are invaluable in our drive to help communities at home and around the world through our volunteer work. Whether you become a member of Rotary or volunteer your time and abilities to our local club, you will be helping to make people’s lives better. Just take a look at our list of members and committees [HERE!](#)

Banstead Rotarian Stuart Walker

There are many ways to get involved with Rotary:

- You could join your local Rotary and open up a world of opportunities
- You could donate to a club or Rotary initiative
- You could volunteer to speak at a club about a cause or interest
- If you are a school pupil, you could take part in a Rotary competition
- You could volunteer to help the club in one of its initiatives, without becoming a Rotary member

If Rotary sounds like the organisation for you and you feel like volunteering some of your spare time, **we'd like to hear from you!**

Please contact us [HERE](#) to discuss your interest with a view to meeting up with local Rotarians at the Banstead Club - attending one of our speaker evenings or social events is a great way for you to get the measure of Rotary and for the club to get to know you.

You can learn more about us and membership [HERE](#) and: [Twitter@BansteadRotary](#)
www.facebook.com/bansteadrotaryclub

BANSTEAD ROTARY LEAFLET

End Polio Now

This is an international project for which Rotary is well known and at Banstead we play our part. With the help of The Beacon School and Banstead Village in Bloom we plant purple crocuses across the Banstead area to provide a wonderful purple display and to serve as a reminder of the fight to end Polio.



Supporting Young People

Our support of young people is provided through Rotary competitions such as Youth Debates, Young Chef and an Interact Club (12-18 age).

In addition to these higher profile activities, we are constantly supporting other charitable initiatives under the radar.

BUT we always want to do more, and this is where you could play a part

What Banstead Rotary Does!

Christmas Collections

Christmas is a busy time of the year for Banstead Rotarians. We are proud we still maintain a Santa's sleigh. We brave the winter weather to tour the streets of Banstead with Santa to the delight of the young and young at heart. We are helped by local charity partners.

We also supply Christmas trees to local schools.

Get involved with Rotary!



Volunteering with Rotary could be the most important thing you ever do. Rotary Membership means access to a circle of new friends and a range of social activities.

If Rotary sounds like the organisation for you and you feel like volunteering some of your spare time, we'd like to hear from you!



Meeting over Dinner at Cuddington Golf Club

Charity Walk



Banstead Rotary Club has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for charity over the years. We give back to the community, both local and international - and we'd love to have you come along.



Contact us via our social channels.

Website: www.bansteadrotary.com

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/bansteadrotaryclub

X: [@BansteadRotary](#)

Village Fair



CONTACT DETAILS TO JOIN

To find out more,

visit: <https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/history> and <https://www.rotarygbi.org/>, Or get in touch with us at Banstead Rotary via our contact page.

