

Founder Members

President

Valerie Povall — Secretarial Services

Senior Vice President

Harold Loasby — Estate Agencies

Junior Vice President

Hayley Owen — Dress Designing

Secretary

Trish Curtis — Tourism

Treasurer

Sheila Allum — Accountancy

Council Members

Stephen Bunting — Architecture

Philip Freeman — Property Management

Alex Gore — Agricultural Secretarial Services

Maralyn Long — Catering Contracting

Adrian Madin — Photography Retailing

Peter Meeks — Financial Planning Consultancy

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David Allsopp — Commercial Vehicle Retailing

Christine Bound — Office Supplies

Sarah Carlton — Catering

Peter Davies — Hairdressing

Ian Evans — Supermarkets

Susan Lewis — Floristry

Martin Lunt — Pharmacy

Wendy Miles — Confectionery

Paul Mott — General Medical Practice

Geriant Morgan — Local Government Health Tourism & Leisure

Michael Murray — Electrical Engineering

William Onions — Building Contracting

Eric Rock — Restaurants

Andrew Scholes — Building Societies

Pam Stephenson — Printing

Alan Tate — Automotive Engineering

Jeremy Taylor — General Law Practice

Muriel Wood — Decorating Supplies

Glenis Young — Ceramics Retailing

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

District 1210



'Service above Self'

Presentation of Charter

To the
Rotary Club of

SHREWSBURY DARWIN

at

THE LORD HILL HOTEL, SHREWSBURY

on

WEDNESDAY, 29th MARCH 1995

Presiding:

ROTARIAN IVOR REES

District Governor

THE ROTARY CLUB OF SHREWSBURY DARWIN

The Saxon town of Scrobbesbyrig later to become Shrewsbury, nestles in the horseshoe bend of the River Severn which is guarded by the Castle founded in 1080 by Roger de Montgomery, a Norman Earl and a powerful kinsman to William the Conqueror. The town was situated on two hills within the loop of the river and formed a very defensive site. The Norman Castle was built on the old Saxon fortifications and the great Benedictine Abbey was founded, Shrewsbury developed through the years and by the 15th and 16th centuries had become a prosperous town with much of its wealth being built on trade in woollen cloth from Wales. The powerful wool traders and Drapers built many of the black and white mansions still to be seen. Over the centuries its population and activities have spilled out across the loop and beyond. Access into the town was across the English Bridge and Welsh Bridge.

Historically, we have three famous men, Clive of India, Lord Hill who graces The Column (of the Penny Black fame) and Charles Darwin from whom we took our name.

Darwin was born here in Shrewsbury and lived in a very imposing red brick Georgian house overlooking the Severn on The Mount. It is now known as Darwin House. His father, Dr Robert Waring Darwin, a Doctor in Shrewsbury, married to Susannah Wedgwood produced six children. The connection was further forged when Charles Darwin married his first cousin on 29th January 1839, and between 1856 produced 10 children. Charles and Susannah Darwin's respective parents and grandparents had been friends for many years, Erasmus Darwin and Josiah Wedgwood both being involved in the pottery business, in fact Erasmus named the Wedgwood factory Etruria because he thought Josiah Wedgwood had rediscovered some special enamelling process known only to the Etruscans.

So we are carrying on the tradition The Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin and Newcastle-under-Lyme Etruria come under the same umbrella of Rotary District 1210 and we can both claim the connection with the Wedgwood family — Rotary cousins no less.

Our weekly breakfast meetings take place at The Lion Hotel, Wyle Cop which dates back to 1618. It has played host to several famous visitors, tradition tells us that Prince Hal lodged there at the time of the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403 but this suggestion is treated cautiously by Historians. Charles Dickens who stayed at this old coaching inn in 1858 described it in a letter to his family as having the strangest little rooms, with ceilings of which he could touch with his hand.

Robert Adam created the Grand Ballroom in the 18th century, later to be known as the Adam Ballroom, in which we held our Inauguration Meeting. Prince William of Gloucester, later to become King William IV stayed in 1803 and attended a Ball in the Ballroom. In 1831 Paganini gave two concerts followed by Jenny Lind who sang in it in 1849 and again in 1856 and Benjamin Disraeli stayed in the Hotel in 1841 prior to the Election which returned him to Parliament.

Valerie M. Povall
President of the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin



Charter Presentation the first Club Members

The Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin

Toastmaster

Past District Governor Rotarian Roy Aslett - Sergeant at Arms
(R.C. Blackfriars)

Dinner

GRACE

District Vice Chairman Rotarian Mike Law (R.C. Shrewsbury)

MENU

Homemade Cream of Celery & Stilton Soup

or

Deep fried Mushrooms served on a Sweet & Sour sauce

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Supreme of Chicken with White Wine & Pepper Sauce
served with fresh vegetables and potatoes

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Lemon Meringue Pie served with cream

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Coffee & Mints

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Loyal Toast

Interval

MEETING

1. INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT
Past D.G. Rotarian Bob Toon (R.C. Shrewsbury), Extension Officer,
District 1210
2. CHARGE TO FOUNDER MEMBERS
District Governor — Rotarian Ivor Rees (R.C. Bloxwich)
3. THE OBJECT OF ROTARY
Past District Governor Rotarian Gerry Powell (R.C. Wellington)
4. PRESENTATION OF CHARTER
District Governor Rotarian Ivor Rees
5. WELCOME TO THE FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
By the Representative of The President of Rotary International in Great
Britain & Ireland, the Immediate Past President of Rotary International in
GB & I Rotarian Hugh Gregory (R.C. Wells)
6. RESPONSE
President of the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin — Rotarian Val Povall
7. GREETINGS FROM VISITING CLUBS
District Secretary — Rotarian John Clayton (R.C. Shrewsbury)
8. PRESENTATIONS
District Vice Chairman — Rotarian John Shaw (R.C. Newcastle under Lyme)
 1. Presidents Jewel — Rotary Club of Shrewsbury
 2. Lectern — Rotary Club of Wem & District
 3. Senior Vice President's Jewel — Rotary Club of Ludlow
 4. Junior Vice President's Jewel — Rotary Club of Market Drayton
 5. Secretary's Jewel — Rotary Club of Newport
 6. Treasurer's Jewel — Rotary Club of Shawbury & Mid Shropshire
 7. Gavel & Block — Rotary Club of Telford Centre
 8. Visitors Book — Rotary Club of Wellington
 9. Rotary Library — District Governor Ivor Rees
 10. Rotary History — Past District Governor Bob Toon
9. RESPONSE
President of the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin — Rotarian Val Povall
10. TOAST 'OUR GUESTS'
Senior Vice President of the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin
Rotarian Harold Loasby
11. RESPONSE
President of the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury — Rotarian John Garrard
12. FINAL TOAST
The District Governor — Rotarian Ivor Rees

President Val and members of the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin wish to record sincere thanks to the District Extension Officer, Rotarian Bob Toon and his able assistants, Past President Rotarian John Simons and Rotarian Roger Hudson and the members of the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury who have made this evening possible.

We thank you all for joining us on this memorable occasion and hope that you have an enjoyable evening and wish you safe journey home afterwards.



Charter Night with Rtns William Onions, Phil Freeman, Peter Davies and Eric Rock