



ROUNDTABLE

Bicester 684

Press Officers Report for Business Meeting 21st January 2013

Since the last Business Meeting press coverage has included photos and articles in the Bicester Advertiser, the Bicester Review and the Garth Gazette for the fireworks display, Christmas float and the visit to the Churchill Hospital following the recent donation to SPARKS. Photos and a brief report about the SPARKS donation have also been sent to the Editor of the Tabler magazine.

There are a couple of outstanding press releases that await confirmation of a date and time for a photo opportunity. These are: Bicester Archers for the funding children's archery equipment and Oxford and Cherwell Valley College for the Students Racing Car project. I plan to arrange a photo call at OCVC in conjunction with the next college open day which is on 27th February and await an update as to when a photo can be arranged from the Chairman of Bicester Archers.

A brief press release press release has been sent to the Bicester Advertiser giving the total raised for the Christmas float collection which is a requirement for the Street Collections Licence.

Matt Fincham

Press Officer



Promoting the Bicester Round Table firework display are Robert Douglas, chairman Richard Bartram and press officer Matt Fincham OX 55 219

Bicester firework display is hottest ticket this week

Bicester Round Table's fireworks display is the hottest ticket in town this weekend.

Advance tickets are now on sale around town, including at Spektacle Solutions in Granville Way for the first time this year.

The display will be held in Pingle Field this Saturday, November 3.

Matt Fincham, of Bicester Round Table, said: "People can save a bit of money by buying tickets in advance - it's not rocket science."

Gates open at 6pm, and the bonfire will be lit at 7pm. The display starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £4, and free for under-fives. Parking is available at Bicester Village.

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Sparks to fly from fireworks

TWO successful county fireworks displays have led to a team of bright Sparks getting a cash boost.

Both Bicester and Oxford Round Table groups have donated a total of £4,000 to charity Sparks, which funds research into childhood diseases.

Recently Tablers were invited to the laboratories of some of University of Oxford researchers, who are based at the Churchill and Oxford Children's hospitals, and were given an insight into their work.

They met Helene Daniels, who is

working on the Meningitis B project, and Karen Laler, a paediatric research dietician, working on the Dolphin Project - researching Cerebral Palsy.

Matt Fincham, of Bicester Round Table, said the cash was raised at fireworks displays in Pingle Drive, Bicester, and South Park, Oxford, last month.

He said: "We were able to see the laboratory facilities. Helene explained the potential significance of the vaccine for the disease, which currently affects over 1,500 children under five-

years-old here in the UK every year, and can end in death for around 10 per cent of that number or serious consequences, including the necessity for limb amputation."

Jenny Pearce, the community partnerships manager for Sparks, said: "Without supporters in local communities we aren't able to raise the monies needed to support projects like such as this one at the University of Oxford. "Together, we really can help more babies to be born healthy and stay healthy."

REMEMBER, REMEMBER: Sarah Stone of Spektacle Solutions, centre, with Andy Grose and Richard Bartram of Bicester Round Table. 121025M-C395



Round Tablers set to light the fireworks fuse

BICESTER is hoping for an explosive annual fireworks display.

More than 5,000 people are set to pour into Pingle Field on Saturday for the event, organised by Bicester Round Table.

It is hoped it will raise about £10,000, which will be distributed to local good causes.

Bicester Round Table's Matt Fincham said: "We have been organising this event for over 30 years.

"We're not sure when exactly it started, but some former members think it was around 1976 - or 1977 was the first year. "It is one of our major fundraisers."

As well as a glittering display of bangers, rockets and screechers, there will be a bonfire, fundfair and refreshments.

Organisers are hoping people will take advantage of the opportunity to buy discounted £3 tickets in advance, which can be obtained from Henry's Menswear, the Sun Wah and Wah Hong Chinese takeaways, Spektacle Solutions and Bicester Village Visitor Centre.

Tickets on the door cost £4 each.

Mr Fincham said: "It's something we have done for many years, but even the people who have been in Round Table as long as I have, still look forward to it.

"It's a lot of hard work but at the end of the evening, we hope to be able to look back at it with pride - that we have done a good job." The gates open at 6pm, the bonfire will be lit at 7pm and fireworks begin at 7.30pm.

Car dealership helps spread Christmas cheer



JINGLE BELLS: Bicester Round Table receives the keys from Joblings. From left, Paul Jobling, Richard Bartram, Round Table chairman and Santa. 121124M-A009

Santa will be transported around Bicester in style next month after car dealer Joblings of Bicester loaned Bicester Round Table a Kia vehicle to tow his float.

The Round Table's Santa sleigh was due to be at the town's Christmas light switch yesterday, Thursday, and will be touring the streets of the town in the run up to Christmas to raise money for charity.

Paul Jobling said: "Joblings Kia are very pleased, once again, to be able to help Bicester Round Table with this annual charity event. Their dedication ensures many local people will benefit from the funds they raise and of course, Santa gets a free ride too."

To find out more about Bicester Round Table, visit their website on www.bicester.roundtable.co.uk.

bicesteradvertiser.net/news

Newly-wed duo hitch a ride on Santa's sleigh



CHANCE MEETING: Ian and Lisa Robinson pose for a wedding photograph with Father Christmas on the Round Table float - below, the couple at the reins

Club helps to mark big day

By Samantha McGregor bicester@nqo.com

GETTING hitched took on a new meaning for Ian and Lisa Robinson on their wedding day when they hitched a ride on Santa's sleigh.

The couple had just stepped out of Bicester Methodist Church, Sheep Street, when the town's Round Table was towing the sleigh home for the night.

Wedding guests shouted to club members Matt Fincham and Colin Richardson to stop and the couple jumped aboard for a photo to mark their day on December 1.

Mr Robinson, 22, of Buckingham Crescent, and his new wife, formerly Miss Reeves, 25, are both members of the Elm Church.

He said: "It was lovely being able to have our photo taken in the sleigh and it made our day even more special and a bit different."

The couple was attended by page boy Charlie Robinson and bridesmaids Charlotte Robinson and Amanda Reeves. The best man was Philip Robinson and the bride was given away by her father Gary Reeves.

Mr Fincham said: "We were driving past after we had picked up the float from the Edwardian market and there was a big crowd of people outside the church. They waved us down and said could we have a picture - it was a perfect moment."



BICESTER Garth Gazette

bicesteradvertiser.net/news

Round Table Santa



Bicester Round Table's Santa Sleigh will be at the Christmas Lights Big Switch On and touring the streets of Bicester during the run-up to the festive season hoping to raise a substantial sum along the way to support the needy at Christmas.

The Santa sleigh has become a regular feature, with young and old alike looking forward to it.

Round Table is also known for putting on the biggest fireworks display in the town and surrounding area, manning the bar at the Beer Festival in Garth Park and organising the Old Tyme Music Hall evening for senior citizens every two years.

Round Table is a club for men between the ages of 18 and 45 who meet once a fortnight or sometimes more and in Bicester this has been the case for over 50 years with a varied and interesting programme of meetings and fun events.

Take a look at www.bicester.roundtable.co.uk or talk to them at one of their events.

IN BRIEF

Sleigh to visit

BICESTER'S Round Table will be out and about with Santa and his sleigh from December 2 until December 23. It will visit all of the town's estates, handing out sweets to youngsters and collecting cash for local good causes. In the season of festive goodwill, Paul Jobling, of Joblings Garage, is loaning tablers a vehicle to tow the sleigh. Santa will also pay a visit to the town's Christmas lights switch-on tonight, in Sheep Street.