



The Orwell Newsletter



The Rotary Club Of Ipswich Orwell, RIBI 1339

December 2003

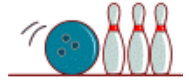
From The President's Desk

The month of December – unlike most of the other months in the Rotary Calendar (Foundation – Membership – Vocational, etc) has no title and one would assume therefore no particular focus. Might I suggest we call it “Stir up Month”? In ecclesiastical circles the prayer or collect for the last Sunday of the Church's Year which looks forward to Advent and Christmas has – as its first line – “Stir up, we beseech thee O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people ...”. So, perhaps, we might stir up our own wills and efforts to look forward to the New Year with renewed vigour.

Enjoy your Rotary is a phrase you will regularly hear when in the company of anyone holding District office (particularly our DG) and we all accept the fact that if we do not enjoy “the work” we soon experience a degree of inertia. Not everything we do as a Club can be hilarious fun but most of it can be both enjoyable and rewarding. One item this month will, undoubtedly, be enjoyable and, at times, a shade on the hilarious side. We return to the Ipswich Golf Club for our annual Christmas Dinner on Saturday, 20th December. Alan, our S.V.P. has made the arrangements, secured an excellent menu, and, as in previous years guests will be made very welcome.

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Kingpin Disaster



By Bob Fox

Friday the 14th Of October saw the annual Ten Pin Bowling competition with Manningtree Club at the usual venue courtesy of Richard Brown and his tolerant staff. We managed to muster a team of some thirteen Rotarians, family and friends to face the promised Manningtree invasion comprising not only family and friends, but also two Rotary Scholars from the University of Essex.

Having introduced Manningtree to this Annual challenge some three years ago, and having beaten them on the two previous occasions, we were feeling pretty confident up until the point that they arrived.

They outnumbered us almost two to one (not a problem as Richard was doing the scoring). However they seemed more confident than before and their team seemed more youthful than the Orwell group.

The competition got under way, and there were successes and failures within both teams, and the chatter got louder and louder signifying a high level of enjoyment and fellowship.

After the Competition we adjourned to the Dining area and a splendid Buffet, and to eagerly await the outcome of Richards statistical wizardry proving beyond all doubt that our Essex friends would go home empty handed yet again..

NOT SO

Firstly our thirteen competitors were beaten by their top thirteen competitors (the number of pins I care not to mention) Thus giving them the Trophy for the first time (to be insured at their expense) for one year.

Then things got worse. All the Wine and Bubbly went over the Essex border to names like Ann Lansdown and her Son. Also Kate Daines, wife of SVP Colin was another winner. Even the wooden spoon went to A Rotary Scholar from the States, pleased to disprove the theory that all Americans can Bowl.

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Seasons Greetings

Michael Nicholas from St. Mary le Tower will assist us in attempting to make a lusty sound for our carol singing which, this year, will be in the capable hands of our Club's little jewel(ler), David Berridge. We have, particularly amongst our recent recruits, the chance to perhaps give them an opportunity to provide a few grace notes if, purely at random, they should find themselves chosen to sing the odd verse or two – be assured, new colleagues, your efforts will be received with great acclaim!

It was a great pleasure to welcome our new recruit in the shape of Paul Griffiths this last month. This means we have now seen a net increase of three members over the first six months of this Rotary Year. It would be quite an achievement to repeat this result in the next six months. If we were able to secure such success our numbers would increase to 40 overall and would allow Committee Chairmen the luxury of having adequate members to promote the various tasks without the onus falling on just one or two Rotarians. This is the time for New Year resolutions – enough said!

Finally, some dates to enter in the diaries that are received at this time of the year: Hanau visit 25th-28th March, Youth Speaks 5th May, Golf Day 10th May, Charter Night 8th October.

I would take this opportunity to wish everyone, members and families and their friends, a very happy Christmas and prosperous and peaceful New Year.

Derek ❖

Charitable Cheer

There has been a huge amount of interest in the states recently, regarding a strange seasonal beverage. The beverage concerned is "Turkey and Gravy Soda", being offered by the Jones Soda Company from Seattle in the run up to Thanksgiving. Proceeds from sales are going to "Toys for Tots", a national charity for children. Don't get too excited though as demand has far exceeded supply and stocks are now completely sold out. However, bottles are being auctioned on eBay and are fetching over \$30 a bottle. ■

Caerphilly Rotarian Is 'Welsh Woman Of The Year'

From RIBI News

Sarah Cornelius has won the prestigious accolade of Welsh Woman of the Year 2003 at a ceremony at the Cardiff International Arena in November.

Early in the evening, Sarah had been awarded the "Woman in the Community" award. She went on to win the overall award from the ten categories recognised that evening.

Sarah set up The Joshua Foundation in 1998 in memory of her son Joshua who died in December 1998 of an aggressive abdominal cancer. Since then the Foundation has helped hundreds of young people and their families, where the child has terminal cancer. The Foundation now works with 14 oncology departments across England & Wales, and has developed strong links with oncology units in Sydney and Melbourne. The Foundation provides holidays and treats for children with terminal cancer. ■

Funny Footnotes

Q: What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?

A: Claustrophobic

Tom: How come you never hear anything about the tenth reindeer, Olive?

Sarah: Olive?

Tom: Yeah, you know, from the song..."Olive the other reindeer, used to laugh and call him names..."

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the supermarket, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a sales assistant, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?"

The sales assistant replied, "No madam, they're dead."

And Another Thing.....

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them ... had to be girls.

For those who can't remember! Santa's reindeer's are: Rudolph; Donner; Blitzen; Vixen; Venus; Prancer; Dancer; Comet; and Cupid; ■

Centennial News

From Rotary International News

Rotary at 100

As the Rotary Centennial approaches, Rotarians around the world are encouraged to focus on three key goals for 2005. Once achieved, Rotary will be more capable of spreading goodwill far into its next century of service.

Eradicating Polio

The final phase of Rotary's more than 18-year effort to eradicate polio is proving the most difficult and renewed efforts are being made to bridge a US\$275 million funding gap. Through Rotary's efforts and those of partner agencies, the world has seen a 99% reduction in the number of polio cases worldwide since 1985. Fewer than 10 countries still harbor the poliovirus. Rotary's polio eradication fundraising campaign asks that each club set its own goal to support the campaign.

Increase Membership to 1.5 Million

In order for Rotary to maintain its status as the premiere service club organisation, it is vital that Rotary's membership continue to grow. With just more than 1.2 million members currently, this goal provides an ambitious challenge to clubs around the world to focus their efforts on inviting new community leaders to join the ranks of Rotary service.

Reaching \$100 Per Capita in Annual Giving

To support Rotary's mission, The Rotary Foundation funds world understanding and peace initiatives through local, national, and international humanitarian, education, and cultural programs. In order to continue and expand the good works of the Foundation into the next century, the organization has committed to try to reach an average of \$100 by the centennial year.

Did You Know?

For Rotary's 50th anniversary, 27 nations commemorated Rotary on postage stamps. Many featured familiar Rotary images, such as the Rotary emblem or a portrait of Rotary founder Paul P. Harris.



Richard did however make sure we got one award by giving Carol Locketts Son, Stuart Green, a prize for being the youngest participant and for daring to spend his Friday night with a group of Oldies. Hopefully none of his friends saw him.

Past President Peter Smith dealt with the pleasantries in the absence of President Derek, and at the end of the evening Richard handed the Treasurer £40-00 for the Charity account.

Thanks Richard for a well-organised and most enjoyable evening

Results

Team (totals for two games):

Ipswich Orwell (13 players) 2254
Manningtree (Best 13 scores) 2500

Highest Overall: Anne Lansdown (277)

Best Single Game - Men: Richard Lansdown

Best Single Game - Ladies: Kate Daines

Wooden Spoon: Penny (Rotary Scholar)

Youngest Competitor: Stuart Green

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.ispwichorwellrotary.fsnet.co.uk/diary

DECEMBER 2003

WEDNESDAY 3RD

12.55 pm. Town Hall Lunch + Business Meeting

FRIDAY 5TH

7.00pm Arthritis Care Club Christmas buffet/entertainment.

TUESDAY 9TH

5.45 pm. Club Service Committee (Prettys).

WEDNESDAY 10TH

12.55 pm Town Hall Lunch + Speaker TBA

TUESDAY 16TH

5.45 pm. Club Council (MLM).

WEDNESDAY 17TH

12.55 pm. Town Hall Christmas Lunch

SATURDAY 20TH

Evening Christmas Dinner at Ipswich Golf Club

WEDNESDAY 24TH - NO MEETING

WEDNESDAY 31ST - NO MEETING

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The Hanau Link

By Bob Fox

It has been particularly pleasing during the last few days to receive many letters from Hanau Friends saying how much they enjoyed their recent visit to Ipswich and how they enjoyed the programme and its content. Our Friends are appreciative of the way we cope as a result of them wishing to arrive in small groups, but are taking steps to try and ensure that this is kept to the minimum in the future.

Wolfgang Neidhard sent a long letter praising London City Airport, which he found more convenient. But those using Stansted and Ryanair found no problems other than the fact that Hahn is many miles from Hanau.

The special edition Orwellian courtesy of Peter Hopper was well received, and some have commented on the fine array of Pictures. I sent a copy to Norbert Franz, who you may recall was unable to attend do to a sudden illness. An e-mail from Beate tells me she has collected him from Hospital after five weeks, and he is now back home being spoilt.

For the future

We have been invited to Germany from Thursday March 25th to Sunday March 28th for a meeting in Baden Baden, a Spa Town in the Black Forest and close to the French Border. This change of area is to coincide with the Hanau trip to The Mercedes Benz factory in Rastatt on the Friday, to see cars being manufactured and to be entertained to Lunch by Mercedes Benz.

It is uncertain if we will be staying in Baden Baden for the whole weekend, but I would imagine it is not practical to go to Hanau some 200kms away, and then return to the south for our flight home. I have asked many questions of our hosts, but for now the following seems likely:

- Thursday Mar 25th
Depart Stansted Ryanair FR9774 19:10 to Karlsruhe-Baden arriving 21:40
- Friday Mar 26th
Visit to Mercedes Benz 11:00 followed by lunch.
- Saturday Mar 27th
To be decided
- Sunday Mar 28th
To be decided
Depart Karlsruhe 22:05 arriving Stansted 22:30

This is an excellent opportunity to develop our Friendships over a three-day period, and also enable us to have Club meetings to develop any common interests. Very vague I know, but Gerhard Grossmann would like to have some idea of the interest and likely numbers by the end of December. For Info the current return air Fare to Karlsruhe is £9-99, but we cannot yet book for March. ■

Happy Christmas

Have a great Christmas everyone. See you again in the New Year. The next edition should be issued around 7th January 2004. Please email me if you have any contributions to be included in the next edition: webmaster@ipswichorwellrotary.fsnet.co.uk

CALENDAR OF EVENTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

JANUARY 2004 ROTARY AWARENESS MONTH

TUESDAY 6TH

5.45 pm. Club Service Committee (Prettys).

WEDNESDAY 7TH

12.55 pm. Town Hall Lunch + Business Meeting

TUESDAY 13TH

5.45 pm. Club Council (MLM).

WEDNESDAY 14TH

12.55 pm. Town Hall Lunch + Speaker TBA

WEDNESDAY 21ST

12.55 pm. Town Hall Lunch + Speaker TBA

THURSDAY 22ND

7.30 pm. District Council Meeting at Mildenhall

WEDNESDAY 28TH

Evening Fifth Wednesday Event

FEBRUARY 2004 WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

TUESDAY 3RD

5.45 pm. Club Service Committee (Prettys).

WEDNESDAY 4TH

12.55 pm. Town Hall Lunch + Business Meeting

TUESDAY 10TH

5.45 pm. Club Council (MLM).

WEDNESDAY 11TH

12.55 pm. Town Hall Lunch + Speaker TBA ("International")

WEDNESDAY 18TH

12.55 pm. Town Hall Lunch + Speaker TBA ("International")

WEDNESDAY 25TH

12.55 pm. Town Hall Lunch + Speaker TBA ("International")