

# The Orwell Newsletter

The Rotary Club Of Ipswich Orwell, RIBI 1339

February 2005

## From The President's Desk

On December 22nd we saw the end of an era, at least for the time being, when we had our final lunch at the Town Hall, where we also said an emotional farewell to Trudie, and all her young ladies who had looked after us so well over the years. Presentations were made to them which we hope will serve as a reminder to them of the affection felt by the members of the Club.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking Russell and Jane for organising the presentation.

January 5th we moved into our home, yes we know it is different from the library and both we and the staff at the Bistro know we are on a steep learning curve, however we have been made very welcome there.

It was therefore appropriate that our first quest speaker was the Mayor of Ipswich and the following week we heard from James Halsall, both presentations were of considerable interest.

The Christmas period was completely overshadowed by Tsunami Disaster, and like the vast majority of the U.K. public we wanted to help.

Thanks to John Field we organised a collection at the Buttermarket shopping centre, where we raised £1050 in addition we have also made available £1600, giving a total £2600.

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## Chief Constable Joins Orwell In A Toast To 'The Immortal Memory'

By Malcolm Reece

Being a Chief Constable is not just about policing, as Suffolk's Chief, Alistair McWhirter, proved at Orwell's annual Burns Night supper at the Compasses on January 28.

This was a policeman well and truly off duty and enjoying himself – and entertaining us in fine style. We all know him quite well, of course, because he's entertained us in the past, and President Alan (looking ahead like he does) hoped our county chief would like to join us again next year! Nothing to beat forward planning, I say.

Mr McWhirter was toasting "The Immortal Memory", and, being quite a forward-looking club, we lumbered him further by asking him to also toast the lassies. Well, why not; might as well make use of him while he was with us.

Seriously, a sincere thank-you was expressed to him by President Alan for sparing the time and for helping us to keep the Burns memory alive and for ensuring that we all once again had a thoroughly enjoyable evening – which was arranged in fine style by Sandra.



The haggis was piped in and put to the knife with relish by Alastair Campbell, and the laddies got their just desserts in an excellently-composed toast by Carole. And to those Rotarians who didn't make it – you missed a thoroughly enjoyable night out. ■

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With the exception of Martin and myself, I know John was grateful for all the help he received from the membership.

Martin and I visited the District Assembly last Wednesday, where we learnt that in respect of the disaster R.I.B.I. raised £5million of that total District1080 raised £272000.

Communication is important which make our Newsletter very important, but Steve our editor, NEEDS INPUT, so I would ask you, no beseech you, to send articles to Steve for inclusion in the Newsletter, for Example Committee Chairman send a précis of their activities. Thanker to our speakers send in a short resume of the speaker and his or her subject.

It will only take ten minutes of your time, SO PLEASE HELP.

Yours in Rotary,

*Alan* ❖

## Thanks For All Your Help

From Gordon R McNally, RIBI President  
I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in our response, in whatever way, for all that has been achieved over the three weeks since the earthquake struck. You have brought great credit to yourselves, to your club, to your District and to Rotary, but, above all, you have brought hope to the victims of the disaster.

The earthquake and subsequent tsunami is, arguably, the worst natural disaster to strike our planet in the one hundred years of Rotary's existence. I firmly believe that the response from Rotary within RIBI is, arguably, one of the finest moments in our history. Rotary within these islands has raised approaching £5 million towards disaster relief. Much of this has already been spent on the provision of tangible aid in the region through the various box schemes of which you will be familiar. Other aid has been provided though direct Rotary contacts which were in existence prior to the disaster striking.

The public have been incredibly generous in supporting us with monetary donations, but Rotarians and the Family of Rotary have been incredibly generous by donating their time, always a valuable commodity, but perhaps even more so at this time of year. It is only by giving of their time that Rotarians

and the Family of Rotary have enabled the public to be so generous.

In any bad situation, it is important to look for good. I believe that good has come out of the past three weeks. The fact that the general public have been prepared to entrust us with the sums of money which they have speaks volumes for the trust they have in us and the credibility we have as an organisation. The knowledge of what we are doing for the victims of the disaster has certainly helped change the public's perception of the image of Rotary. People want to become more involved with Rotary on the strength of the response they have seen us give. Individual clubs have enjoyed the fellowship that comes from working together on a meaningful project - I believe that will bear fruit in the future. Additionally, groups of clubs have realised the value of cooperation by coming together and achieving much more than they could done have working in isolation.

It is a fact of life that we must now begin to think beyond the disaster in South East Asia and remember the other, ongoing disasters affecting our world.

In a perverse way, the children of Rwanda and South Africa have been affected by the terrible disaster in South East Asia. They may not have been bereaved, the tidal wave may not have swept away their homes and villages - they did not even get wet, but they have suffered none the less because of the, quite understandable, shifting of financial aid from Africa to Asia. There is a loss of life equivalent to that caused by the Tsunami every week or month in sub-Saharan Africa and it is vital that we continue to support those affected in this region.

Can I urge you to remember the children we aim to help through the RIBI Preferred Project "Rotary's Africa Hope"? Please try and find a way to support this project, even at a time when your resources are so stretched. We have achieved much already in Rwanda and South Africa, but there is a long way to go. Perhaps another viewing of the Rotary's Africa Hope video may spark an idea for a new fundraising idea or appeal. Do contact Hope and Homes for Children on 01722 790111 if they can send you a copy of the video or any publicity material. They would also welcome the opportunity to come and speak at any meetings on the subject of the project.

Thanks again for all your help - I am proud to belong to the same organisation as you. ■

## INNER WHEEL NOTES

BY PAM HILL, CLUB CORRESPONDENT

January began with a friendship tea to mark International Inner Wheel Day on January 10th. President Elizabeth invited us to her home for a delicious tea on Sunday the 9th.



District Chairman Margaret Barbour attended our business meeting on January 19th and spoke about the ideal recipe for Inner Wheel. Some of the important ingredients were members, friendship, fun and fund-raising. A good mixture of these meant a successful club. Inner Wheel itself was likened to a wedding cake with four tiers; International, National, District and a solid base of individual clubs. At the meeting we were very pleased to officially welcome Christine Mason who has transferred from Wreake Valley, Leicestershire. We now have 23 members.



The month concluded with a social visit to Trongs restaurant on the 25th. We enjoyed a very tasty Chinese meal and there were even a few leftovers to take home to husbands.



Our next meeting is on February 16th. The speaker will be Mrs. Melanie Hunnabal and her topic "A Funny Job for a Woman". Please let me know by Sunday the 13th if you are able to attend. ■

## Spice Reward

The following letter has been received in response to our cheque for £300 to the "Friends of Somersham Ward" – the proceeds from the Spice evening. ■

Dear Mr. Hill,

Thank you so much for your recent generous donation to the Myeloma Charity. There are so many worthy local charities but this one is especially important to myself.

As one of the recently diagnosed patients who are both friends and patrons of Vernon and Vicky, former owners of Spice Bar, it was a huge privilege to know that in some small way I had been instrumental in your decision to select and support this charity.

Over the last eighteen months both as a long stay patient and now recently as a regular out patient I know first hand what a difference to life these donations make. It is those little things not covered by NHS funding that make spells in hospital so much more bearable and pleasant and give much needed support once discharged.

On behalf of all local Myeloma patients who will benefit from the support provided by your generosity may I say thank you so very much.

Yours sincerely,

G Willis.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

[www.ipswichorwellrotary.fsnet.co.uk/diary](http://www.ipswichorwellrotary.fsnet.co.uk/diary)

FEBRUARY 2005

WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: Judge John Devaux, Honorary Recorder of Ipswich, "Romania".

TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>

5.45pm. Club Council meeting

WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: TBA

WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup>

**NO LUNCH MEETING**

Evening. Centenary Dinner at Belstead Brook Hotel, Ipswich

SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup>

Centenary Service at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral

WEDNESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: TBA

MARCH 2005

WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: Martin Minta, "Trees in Ipswich"

WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: TBA

TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>

5.45 pm. Club Council.

WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: TBA

MARCH (CONTINUED)

THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup>

Auction of Promises at Henley Village Hall. Replacing funds sent to the Asia Appeal and for The Cooper Atkinson Trust. Items of value and promises to auction are needed. Get in touch with John Field.

WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: Lynne Eley from the Disabled Advice Bureau in Ipswich.

WEDNESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: TBA

WEDNESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> TO THURSDAY 31<sup>ST</sup>

RIBI President visits District 1080

APRIL 2005

WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, venue to be decided + Speaker: "Wines of Interest"

TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup>

5.45pm. Club Council meeting

WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, venue to be decided + Speaker: William Coe, Coes of Ipswich and beyond

WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, venue to be decided + Speaker: TBA

WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup>

12.55 pm. Lunch, venue to be decided + Speaker: TBA

MAY 2005

SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup>

District Assembly

THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> TO SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>.

Rotary Club of Hanau-Maintal Visit To Ipswich

## Funny Footnote

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are flat?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Whose idea was it to put an "S" in the word "lisp"?

What is the speed of darkness?

If the temperature is zero outside today and it's going to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold will it be?

If it's true that we are here to help others, what are the others doing here?

If someone with a split personality threatens to commit suicide, is it a hostage situation?

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

If money doesn't grow on trees then why do banks have branches?

Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up every two hours?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground? ■

## Power For Arthritis Care

By Malcolm Reece

I hate blowing my own trumpet, but in this case there's no alternative. The powerchair, which the Rotary club agreed to partly purchase, was duly handed over to the Arthritis Care Club at St Mary Stoke Church Hall on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> February – by me!

You will no doubt be delighted to know that President Alan and Steve Canham (who took the pictures) gave me their full support on the night. And if stories and pictures on the presentation have not appeared in the Star and Anglian by the time you read this...it's not my fault!



*Ipswich Orwell Rotary Club's community service chairman, Malcolm Reece (right) presents the new powerchair to Fred Everitt, with Rotary club president Alan Lonsdale, looking on*

Arthritis Care members were pleased as punch with the powerchair, and many of them spent the evening zipping up and down the hall making absolutely sure that it does what it says in the book.

Fred Everitt had a bigger smile on his face than he usually does, and he asked me to make sure I recorded Arthritis Care's grateful thanks to the Club, and also to District Foundation chairman, Brian Baxter, who gave me an easy route to securing 50 per cent of the cost from the Simplified Grants scheme.

We must not forget the assistance Fred and I received from David Waters, proprietor of NHS National

Healthcare at Nacton, who helped to smooth out the paperwork and also made a generous personal donation to the cost. Many thanks David.

As President Alan said on the night, this was a good example of Rotary working in the community for those less fortunate than ourselves.



*First Satisfied Customer*

SPEAKER NOTES FROM 26 JANUARY 2005-02-06 THE HISTORY OF THE EEC - JAMES CARVER

BY EDDIE MARSH

Now this was something new to me, I was subjected to a party political broadcast from which I couldn't walk away switch off or change channels.

There is no doubt that this speaker had a thorough knowledge of his subject and put it across with enthusiasm and vigour, quoting all the various treaties and acts that has brought us to the present parlous state of the nation but balanced view of the development of the EEC it was not.

Well done to the speaker, he certainly raised our awareness to his point of view that we as a nation are drifting inexorably into the United States of Europe and that this is being achieved by a combination of stealth deceit and lies by all the governments involved.

There was a alternative we where told we could join Iceland (or was it Greenland, I had a senior moment and was away with the fairies.)

A controversial talk that we will probably remember for some time to come but we do need the other side of the argument to be presented at some time to even thing up.