

The Orwell Newsletter

The Rotary Club Of Ipswich Orwell, RIBI 1339

March 2006

From The President's Desk

At last the day light hours are beginning to extend and the first signs of spring are beginning to show, the worst of our winter should be behind us. It seems to lift everyone's spirits to see Mother Nature once again waking up and taking on the challenge of another year.

It has to be said that our speakers over the past few weeks have also provided some example of people taking on some fairly daunting challenges and making huge personal sacrifices in an effort to improve and change difficult situations.

Andrew Dotchin provided us with a fascinating insiders perspective of life in South Africa when the apartheid legislation was in force.

Ugur Vata spoke from the heart as he recalled moving to England from Turkey and his struggle to rise from humble beginnings to become a well respected restaurateur. Have you explained to your partner yet why you came home with a bag of red onions, what an eye he has for a bit of publicity !!

Miquer Roca also took up the theme of setting up as an established profession in a foreign country and had some amusing anecdotes on how he found life in Suffolk that was so different from his home in Spain.

I think our International committee are to be congratulated on an excellent month of speakers, as if to finish on a high note Peter Smith organised a superb

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Rebirth of the Rotary Club of New Orleans

From Rotary International News

Many in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, will remember Mardi Gras 2006 as a symbol of resilience over natural catastrophe and governmental failure. For many, Mardi Gras showed that New Orleans will stand on her feet again, and Hurricane Katrina could not stop the city from celebrating its world famous carnival. Mardi Gras lit up the French Quarter, which had been dark and deserted for too long.

Like Mardi Gras, the Rotary Club of New Orleans has reason to celebrate its rebirth. "We were knocked down, but not knocked out," said club president Charles Young.

Hurricane Katrina hit on 28 August 2005, and suddenly the club, which had met for 25 years in the Fairmont Hotel on Canal Street, no longer existed. The club's phone number was disconnected, and its members scattered across the country.

Members of the New Orleans club found strength through each other, though. When a core group, organized by former club president Richard McCarthy III, met at a downtown restaurant on 2 November for the first time since Katrina struck. "It was a great experience to see familiar faces," Young said. "Rotary provided a wonderful safe haven."

Club members waived dues for October, November, and December and set the first Wednesday in December as a target date for the first official post-Katrina club meeting.

After only a three-month hiatus, caused by what a club newsletter calls a "not-so-nice lady named Katrina," the Rotary Club of New Orleans resumed its scheduled weekly meetings on 7 December 2005, at 12:12 p.m. — the club's traditional start time as a nod to its history. In 1910, the club was the twelfth club to be chartered.

The club is carrying on, but, for now, with fewer members. Some of the nearly 100 pre-Katrina members may never return to the city. But nearly 50 loyal Rotarian regulars gathered at their new headquarters that Wednesday in December. ■

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evening at Trongs restaurant when young Foo Trong told us of his entry into this country and the development of his families business.

Maybe when we are complaining, as we all tend do, about our country, perhaps we should reflect upon the opportunities that our society provide to others.

Just perhaps..... we are not so bad after all.

Look out for the new plaque by the entrance to The Bistro on the Quay..

Yours in Rotary,

Eddie ❖



Inner Wheel Notes

By Pam Hill, Club Correspondent

At our meeting on the 15th February, Inner Wheel member Jane Leeburn was our speaker on the topic of "Colour Analysis". She told us that people fall into the category of warm or cool skin tones. Those with warm tones look best in spring or autumn shades while cool skin tones suit winter or summer colours. Colour influences how we feel and can project a positive or negative impression. Some colours brighten and rejuvenate but others can make one look dull and tired.

Names were entered into a draw and Rita Marsh was the lucky winner. Jane is shown here preparing to see which colours will be most flattering for Rita's skin tones. We all enjoyed the talk and demonstration very much.



Club members also discussed arrangements for the

FIND Fun Quiz on Friday March 10th. Tickets are now available from Tony priced £7.00

The March meeting will be a business one. Please let Elizabeth know by Sunday the 12th if you are unable to attend. ■

Forthcoming Events

Racing At The Ferry

Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club and Ipswich Orwell Rotary Club jointly present a night of fun and entertainment



Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club,

Saturday 8th April 2006

7.00pm For First Race At 7 30pm Sharp

Admission & Supper Ticket £10

Race Sponsorship (+ 1 Free Ticket) £30

Horse Ownership (Races 1-7) £5

Local Fish 'n' Chips Supper

Dress: Casual "Racegoer" or "Boaty" Bottle of Bubbly for Best Judged Costumes

Tote Betting - 50p tickets Bottle of Bubbly & Rosette for Winning Horse Owners

Pre-book Your Table and get Free Bottle of House Wine for Tables of 6 or more

Grand Raffle Lots of Prizes Tickets £1 per strip

TICKETS * SPONSORSHIPS * HORSE OWNERSHIPS * TABLE BOOKINGS

FROM: MARY at the bar or Rtn TONY on 01473 420385

Proceeds to Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club and Ipswich Orwell Rotary Charitable Trust

Picture Gallery

Words and Picture By Gordon Kember



Peter Smith, Chairman of International Committee, arranged a visit to Trong's Restaurant on 23rd February. The proprietor Philip (Foo) Trong spoke about his arrival in Ipswich from Vietnam in 1972 at the age of 12, his development of English, business and culinary skills, and the establishment of a popular family restaurant business. The food, as always, was excellent and the evening was enjoyed by all. Here Anne and Peter invite Foo to draw the lucky winner's ticket for a further Chinese meal to be taken at Trong's Restaurant (on another evening)..



President Eddie Marsh presented cheques raised at our visit to Trong's Restaurant designated for Philip Trong's two chosen charities, the Ipswich Children's Hospice and the East Suffolk Association for the Blind children's home at Bealings.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.ipswichorwellrotary.fsnet.co.uk/diary

MARCH 2006

WEDNESDAY 1ST

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker:
Community Service speaker: Annie Porter – "Beira
Healthcare Initiative"

WEDNESDAY 8TH

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker:
Community Service speaker: Jean Lark – "Hearing Dogs for
Deaf People"

FRIDAY 10TH

"F I N D FUN QUIZ" Joint evening meeting and supper with
Inner Wheel & F I N D at St Margarets Church Hall

TUESDAY 14TH

Club Service

WEDNESDAY 15TH

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker:
Community Service speaker: TBA – "Changes in
Ophthalmology"

SATURDAY 18TH

District PETS at Mildenhall

TUESDAY 21ST

Club Council

WEDNESDAY 22ND

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Business /
Fellowship

WEDNESDAY 29TH

Evening "Members' Forum" at Ipswich & Suffolk Club

APRIL 2006 MAGAZINE MONTH

WEDNESDAY 5TH

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

SATURDAY 8TH

Rotary/Felix Ferry SC "Racenight"

TUESDAY 11TH

Club Service

WEDNESDAY 12TH

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

TUESDAY 18TH

Club Council

WEDNESDAY 19TH

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

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Back To School In Sri Lanka

From RIBI News

Rotary Clubs responded quickly and continue to work to assist communities affected by the Tsunami that devastated Asia's coastal regions on 26 December 2004.

Excellent progress has been made with many projects planned, funded and completed including re-housing, rebuilding schools, providing fishing boats and provision of shelter, water and essential items through Shelter Boxes, Aquaboxes and Emergency Boxes. RIBI has raised £10 million provided by the generous British public.

Rotary Clubs in Sri Lanka have undertaken to build, or rebuild, 25 schools in affected coastal areas under a project titled Schools Re-Awaken. RIBI agreed, in partnership with Rotary in Sri Lanka, that the RIBI Disaster Fund would fund one school at a cost of £180,000. The Schools Re-Awaken project has been supported by Rotary Clubs in Sri Lanka as well as Rotary Clubs all over the world. Rotary Clubs in RIBI have contributed £635,000. A year after the disaster, the first new school was opened at Randombe. A second school was opened at Batticaloa in February. Rotary Clubs in Yorkshire have raised £200,000 for a new school at Kaluwanchikudy, Sri Lanka.

Rotary clubs in Devon, Yorkshire and Essex have been working very closely with local schools in their areas and have raised funds, as well as providing computer suites and solar powered water filtration plant. Further to this, North Devon Schools will add their support by sending out staff, technicians and students over the next three years. The project is run by a Rotary Committee with representation from the Sri Lankan Government Education Department and other community and business representatives. The project is underwritten by the Standard Chartered Bank and is supported by UNICEF. The schools are being built to Government standards and upgraded to provide better toilet, library and computer laboratory accommodation.

RIBI President Mike Webb said, "We have made tremendous progress this year. We have been mindful that these projects are being funded by monies donated by the British public and, as guardians of these donations, it was our responsibility to identify projects that were feasible, gave value for money and

TUESDAY 25TH

Provisional Dinner at Suffolk College Training Restaurant

WEDNESDAY 26TH

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay +
Business/Fellowship

MAY 2006

MONDAY 8TH

Golf Day

JUNE 2006 ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

THURSDAY 1ST - SUNDAY 4TH

Visit to Hanau-Maintal RC

MONDAY 26TH

"Kids Out"

THURSDAY 8TH

Evening meeting – Club Assembly at Ipswich & Suffolk Club

were managed carefully. We feel that, in every case, we have made the right choices."

Rotary District Governor Andrew Herniman attended the opening of the Randombe School - He said, "I feel very privileged to have witnessed the opening of this, the first new school in the Rotary Schools Re-Awaken project. It is a milestone and offers new hope and the best educational facilities for hundreds of schoolchildren whose lives were shattered by the Tsunami. The air of excitement and joy at the opening marks a new beginning for these children. Our support will continue in the next three years as we send out staff, technicians and students. This project illustrates that Rotary is able to get aid quickly where it is most needed as it works through its volunteer service club network at the grassroots level to provide immediate aid and assistance to those impacted by disaster."

New kindergarten in Indonesia

Rotary clubs in Holyhead and Llangefni joined forces with other charitable groups and are celebrating the completion of a kindergarten in Indonesia which they have helped fund following the devastating effects of the Boxing Day tsunami.

■



20 December 2005

Dear Brian

Thanks once again to you and all your fellow Rotarians for your support of our annual Light Up A Life Service.

The Sponsorship of the service sheets and the practical help at the service are much appreciated by us all. I do hope that you will feel able to continue this support as next year will be the tenth year of the appeal.

You may be interested to know that the Appeal raised over £20,000 this year and there was £427 in the collection buckets at the end of the service.

My thanks again and best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours Sincerely,

Lesley Parkinson

Community Fundraiser

Recycling Mobile Phones For Charity

If you do have an old mobile you wish you dispose of then Sue Goddard is keen to take it off your hands.

The phone should measure no bigger than 4.75" length x 2" breadth and will be sent off as part of the special Rotary Appeal. Alternatively, Sue can supply envelopes for anyone to use to dispatch phones.

We are told that "up to £10 will be donated to the Rotary Club for every recyclable mobile phone received". Whether these funds find themselves directly delivered into our Club's coffers, time will tell, but it will help Rotary funds generally. The National Children's Hospices and Air Ambulances will directly benefit.

Sue will look forward to your phones being received by the sackfull! ■



13 December 2005

Dear Brian

Thank you so much to you and your members for taking part in the collection at Asda on Thursday 1 December 2005. Your boxes contained £240.77 and the total sum collected was £614.43.

Our work depends on people such as you who give their time to help fundraise to provide vital care for our patients and their families. Thank you for your generosity and concern.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Judith Adolphus

Fundraising Team

Funny Footnote

Hymns for her

One Sunday a pastor told the congregation that the church needed some extra money and asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns.

After the offering plates were passed, the pastor glanced down and noticed that someone had placed a \$1,000 bill in offering. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like to personally thank the person who placed the money in the plate.

A very quiet, elderly and saintly lady all the way in the back shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front. Slowly she made her way to the pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and in thanksgiving asked her to pick out three hymns. Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation, pointed to the three handsomest men in the building and said, "I'll take him and him and him".