

The Orwell Newsletter

The Rotary Club Of Ipswich Orwell, RIBI 1339

September 2005

From The President's Desk

So the month of August has passed, whatever happened to those long sunny carefree summers we used to have as children, or where they just a figment of my imagination and a further indication that I am getting a little longer in the tooth!

Harking back to the past was a bit of a theme for our speakers and visit during the month with Bob Feltwell taking us back to the formation of the Ipswich Chamber of Commerce, Paul Bruce doing a fine job on the history of Christchurch Mansion and the excellent tour arranged by Tony Hill of the Ipswich Institute, again, we found out a little more of our local heritage.

Unfortunately, I missed the District Governor visit, but I am reliably informed that he was received with the club usual cordiality and Phil Morgan handled the chair in my absence with suitable alacrity (What-ever that means).

For the future, we have some big events in the club diary coming up, which require us all to make a real effort and provide our individual support if they are to be truly successful, I refer of course to the Alton Water Challenge and Charter Night.

To finish on a sad note Marlene Robinson has decided to transfer her affections to an evening club to enable her to attend more meetings. The transfer fee has yet

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The Treasures Behind No. 15

By Malcolm Reece
As the brochure explained, once we had passed through the door at 15 Tavern Street, it was hard to believe that we were in the centre of Ipswich's bustling town centre.



Those of us from Ipswich Orwell and our guests, who were visiting the Ipswich Institute for the first time, were amazed and delighted by the facilities available. For a few hours on the evening of August 31, we were guided around the reading room, library and other facilities, learning of the Institutes history and later enjoying a glass of wine and excellent buffet.

The Institute's chairman of trustees, Mrs Anne Dunford OBE, and general manager, Mrs Krystyna Smithers, assisted by our own Tony Hill (who once again came up trumps with a fifth Wednesday idea), received the highest praise from all of us for educating and entertaining us so well, and our appreciation was expressed in fine style by President Eddie Marsh.

For the record, Ipswich Institute started life in 1824 as a Mechanics Institute dedicated to making knowledge widely available to the people of Ipswich. Today, it is still a cultural centre. The beautiful library at 15 Tavern Street housing 8000 books and other facilities, leads to Pages Café and the Birkbeck and Gippeswyk meeting rooms, while the Admiral's House opposite St Mary le Tower Church at 13 Tower Street offers meeting rooms, coffee lounge and 40-seat restaurant.

As an educational charity for adults and a place of tranquillity, the Institute has a special place in the hearts and lives of many people. It is continually striving to keep pace with the technology of today's

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to be agreed, but be assured we have inserted clauses in the contract for proper recompense should she be named in the England Squad or appear in the 2012 Olympics – Seriously. We wish her well.

Yours in Rotary,

Eddie ❖

District Governor's Visit

By Malcolm Reece

WITH President Eddie enjoying the sun in Cadiz, it was left to senior vice president Philip to not only "christen" himself into the chair but also greet our new District Governor Bill Redmayne to the Bistro on August 24.

Without exception, we all gave Bill an extra warm welcome as he struggled from the car-park to the Bistro on the quay through torrential rain. According to our weather experts, the deep depression causing the problem was not usually seen over East Anglia until at least mid October. Bill then had to struggle back again to the car-park before driving back to Norfolk for another Rotary appointment. I walked with him back to the car park, and I can assure you that our respective umbrellas were pretty useless in the howling wind.

Bill was more interested in what we had to say than giving us a long speech about district matters, and he listened with interest as our chairpersons and other officers brought us up to date with Rotary activities to come.

However, our DG did touch on one or two matters which could involve us in the months ahead, including an attempt to have a 1080 district presence at the Suffolk Show next spring, and a conscience "jogger" to many Rotarians who never attend District Conference. Bill said the conference attendance was being scrutinised at present and if it was found that it was not what members wanted, then they may decide there was no point continuing.

District Governor Bill also took on board that, following the club's loss of venue at the Town Hall, meetings for the foreseeable future would continue at the Bistro. It was made clear to him that because of the limited space available at the Bistro recruitment in the future might be limited. ■

fast-moving world, including the possibility of enhancing facilities such as the internet and for children,

Annual membership of the Institute is £33.

A final word on behalf of the club to Tony. Many thanks for organising such a rewarding and pleasant evening. What's next? ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.ispwichorwellrotary.fsnet.co.uk/diary

SEPTEMBER 2005

TUESDAY 13TH

Club Service

WEDNESDAY 14TH

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro on the Quay + Speaker: Ray Condon – "The Falkland Isles – A Way of Life"

SUNDAY 18TH

Alton Water Challenge

TUESDAY 20TH

18.30pm. Evening visit to RAF Wattisham. Contact Peter Smith for more information.

WEDNESDAY 21ST

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro On The Quay + Speaker: Dawn Girling, "Wild Life" District Council

WEDNESDAY 28TH

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro on the Quay + Business/Fellowship

OCTOBER 2005

WEDNESDAY 5TH

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro on the Quay + Speaker: Vocational speaker TBA

OCTOBER 6TH

Annual 10 pin bowling match against Manningtree Rotary Club, held at Kingpin, Martlesham Heath.

FRIDAY 7TH - SUNDAY 9TH

District Conference

TUESDAY 11TH

Club Service

WEDNESDAY 12TH

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro on the Quay + Speaker: Vocational speaker TBA

Calendar Of Events, continued on page 3

Inner Wheel Notes

By Pam Hill, Club Correspondent

After the Inner Wheel summer break in August, we look forward to September and the start of a new year with Anne Smith as our President. There is a new photograph and list of Club Officers for 2005/2006 on the Rotary web-site link for Inner Wheel.

The meeting on 21st September will be a business meeting and we'll discuss future plans and the programme. One definite date for November is Tuesday the 22nd when Alan Smith of Flowersmith will talk on "Christmas Creations" at the St Raphael Centre in Highfield Road. Please make a note of this in your diary - more details and tickets will be available at the September meeting.

Hope you have all had a wonderful summer in spite of the changeable weather. Looking forward to seeing you in September if not before. Please give apologies to Elizabeth on 827607 by Sunday the 18th if you are not able to attend. ■

Treasures of the Mansion Await You

By Malcolm Reece

The colourful history alone is enough to tempt most people to visit the museum at Christchurch Mansion in Ipswich, but if you add the paintings, furniture and other treasures, then I suggest that the Mansion pleases all tastes.

Club members, down in number because of the holiday exodus, were taken on a brief historical journey through the ages by Paul Bruce, chairman of the Friends of Ipswich Museum. As well as entertaining us, Paul stressed the importance more than ever these days of raising funds to finance acquisitions and enhance collections.

Christchurch Mansion dates from the 16th century, and its collections trace the lives of the three wealthy families who lived there until 1894 when it was given to the Corporation of Ipswich. Paul told us of "wonderful paintings" domestic English furniture, the kitchen and servants' quarters – all portraying a social history over three hundred years and including the best collection of Constables and Gainsboroughs outside London.

The Friends, he said, had 300 members at the moment, but would like to improve on that. A welcome response awaits anyone who cares to contact Friends of the Ipswich Museums, Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich. ■

Calendar of Events, continued from page 2

TUESDAY 18TH

Club Council

WEDNESDAY 19TH

12.55 pm. Lunch, Bistro on the Quay + Business/Fellowship

WEDNESDAY 26TH

NO LUNCH MEETING

FRIDAY 28TH

Charter Night at the Galleria, Ipswich Town Football Club

DECEMBER 2005

FRIDAY 16TH

A celebration of Christmas, The Church of St Mary & St Botolph, Whitton Church Lane, Ipswich.

SATURDAY 17TH

Evening Christmas Dinner at Ipswich Golf Club, Purdis Heath.

Rotary in Bloom

By Tony Hill



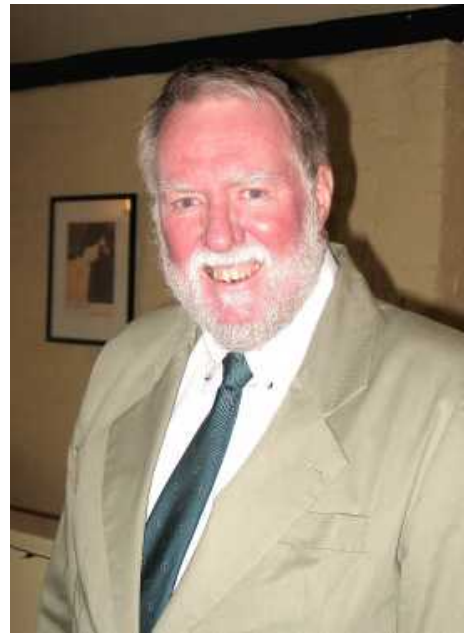
The 'Rotary Centennial' floral display, organised by the four Ipswich clubs and created by Ipswich Borough Council in the Christchurch Park arboretum. ■

Picture Gallery

Words & Pictures By Gordon Kember



On 27th July Mrs Catherine McGuire of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust described the brave and determined efforts of a young child and her family coping with the problems of cystic fibrosis. After her inspiring address Past President Alan Lonsdale presented her with a cheque for £2,800 raised for the trust in his presidential year.



Members were delighted to see the friendly smiling face of Past President Derek Marks on one of his all too infrequent visits to the club at the meeting on August 24th. He and his talented artist wife Vonnice now live in Kirriemuir, Angus, but are also enjoying a holiday home in Italy. They send their greetings to all their old friends.



On 27th July we inducted our newest Rotarian, the Rev Andrew Dotchin who is vicar of the Church of St Mary and St Botolph at Whitton. Andrew initially trained as an industrial chemist. He emigrated to South Africa in 1976 and was a Rotarian in Johannesburg. He entered the church whilst in South Africa and on returning to England worked with the church at Halesworth before moving to Whitton with his wife Lesley Anne and his three sons. Eddie Marsh is here saying nice things about Andrew and Andrew replied in kind.



District Governor Bill Redmayne was welcomed to our Business Meeting on August 24th by SVP Philip Morgan. The District Governor hopes that the District might this year achieve a net recruitment target of at least one extra member per club. He stressed the need for efficient communications throughout the District and commended the recently updated District 1080 website (www.1080.ribi.net) as a valuable resource. He looks forward to an entertaining District Conference which this year has a 'Trafalgar' theme and is sited on our doorstep at the Elizabeth Hotel, Copdock, on the 7th, 8th and 9th of October. ■

The Rotary Club of Ipswich Orwell

RIBI 1339

(Twinned with the Rotary Club of Hanau Maintal)

Invite You To Their
Charter Night Dinner

(Dress Code – Black Tie)

On

Friday evening, 28 October 2005

At

The Galleria, Ipswich Town
Football Club

Our Guest Speaker is

Professor Peter Cochrane

(Arguably the UK's best known commentator on the digital world. A man you'll want to listen to but can't afford to ignore!)

Tickets £23.00

Available from Rotarians Phil Morgan and Sue
Goddard



Dear Eddie,

May I take this opportunity to thank you, Alan Lonsdale and all the member of Ipswich Rotary who so kindly and generously contributed to the £2,800, which was presented to Catherine recently.

As you know The CF Trust was founded in 1964, it raises fund for vital medical research into the treatment of and prevention of Cystic Fibrosis. It also provides a network of support and advice for people with Cystic Fibrosis and their families. The Trust depends entirely on voluntary donations from individuals, organisations all working together to raise much-needed funds.

Cystic Fibrosis in the UK's most common, life threatening inherited disease affecting more than 7,500 babies, children and adults. The improvements in treatment have contributed to longer life expectancy and improved quality of life. The treatment is intensive and involves many drugs and frequent physiotherapy and in some cases, transplants surgery is required. At present there is no known cure for Cystic Fibrosis but your £2,800 will help us enormously.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Howarth

Regional Fundraising Manager - East

THOUSANDS SHELTERED BY ROTARIAN EFFORT

FROM RIBI NEWS

Rotarians are diligently working to provide refugees with shelter from the storm, as they have been since Hurricane Katrina made landfall on 29 August. To date, their efforts have provided emergency accommodation for up to 24,000 survivors via 1,200 ShelterBoxes - containing tents and necessary equipment - delivered throughout the U.S. Gulf Coast.

"This is the first time [ShelterBoxes] are needed in the U.S. since there's standing water in a whole city," said Jerry Hearn, a past district governor of District 6960 and active member of Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch, Florida, where ShelterBox is an ongoing community service project. Hearn's district was hit hard by Hurricane Charlie in 2004. "But it was nothing to this scale, we could stay in our homes," he said.

The distribution of ShelterBoxes is one of the main Rotarian relief efforts for Katrina at this time, and it's being coordinated throughout the entire United States. Rotarians are working closely with agencies such as the Red Cross and Salvation Army. "We continue to let them know what we have," Hearn explained. "We don't just drop [the boxes] off."

The Houston Astrodome received 200 boxes, which were later distributed to areas such as Jackson, Mississippi, where there was a greater need for additional shelter. Atlanta, Georgia, is slated to receive 400 units for its evacuees. And Rotarians are working to get determine how to get more ShelterBoxes to areas that remain destitute.

"Today it's the Delta south of New Orleans - there is very much need there," Hearn said. "In their recovery effort, they're where New Orleans was last week. The media was concentrating on New Orleans and no one heard anything about these areas."

The ShelterBox project began in England but has since spread to Australia, Canada, and the U.S. The Rotarian-sponsored groups ships units globally to areas in need.