



The Rotary Club of Chichester Priory

# Priory Post December 2010



## A message from our President, Doug

Firstly let me add a Priory Post welcome to ALL our new members this year. The total of 5 in 5 months is something of a record for our club and is a tremendous boost for the future. Thanks and Congratulations also go to those who introduced the new group. We still have some 'potential' for the remainder of the year – lets keep the momentum going.

Welcome back also to James who manned the Bar at Beaujolais for us – great to see you back in harness, James.

Its been a busy period at the club since the last Priory Post at the end of October. We had a very successful Presidents / Charter Night with Alan Thurlow as our speaker. The Park did us proud that night with an excellent 3 course meal. Another successful Beaujolais lunch was put on by John Presdee and his team. John Watkins even made the front page of the Chichester Observer along with the 'Beaujolais Girls' ; the decoration of the Christmas tree followed by 'Lights on' were well supported by Rotarians prepared to give up their time to help get Chichester's Christmas off to a flying start; a very inspiring talk by Ben Polhill about sport in the community was well received by those present; Peter Fuller's job talk showed us a side of Peter we hadn't seen before – the stand up comedian – re emphasising the breadth of skill and background we have here in the club; and of course John Bumfrey's emotive description of his visit to Haiti. We are fortunate indeed to be part of a club with access to such diverse talents and it is not surprising that our attendance numbers are creeping up.

As we move into the festive season, a very **Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year** from Beryl and I to you and your friends and families.



## Haiti Orphanage Project

As one of a team of four John Bumfrey spent time in Haiti in September working in an orphanage. They found the whole experience quite traumatic yet stimulating and were particularly impressed by the commitment of the orphanage organisers and the 'happy smiling faces' of the orphans, many of whom had experienced great trauma in the aftermath of the earthquake.



A lot of improvement work was done by the team and John's labouring skills were put to good use! They found, however, a need to build a sanitary toilet block (like the one in the picture) to improve the general hygiene – the existing facilities being quite unsuitable due to the ever increasing number of orphans since the earthquake. John has taken on the role of raising £3000 to £4000 to build the new unit. The plans are made, a reliable builder is awaiting the 'go' and The Rotary Club of Caphaitia will manage the process thus ensuring all the funds get to the project.



John is visiting various Rotary Clubs in the District to try to raise the funds as soon as possible – he made his presentation to Priory on 1 December. He will also get some help to investigate the possibility of 'Rotary Grants' to help things along.

As a starter, our club agreed to present the proceeds of the Christmas Card donations to this project and Bernard Stoneham's International Committee are looking at awarding at least £500 to this project.



## Don't send cards – donate and help the Haiti Project

Once more we plan to provide you with the opportunity to make a charitable donation instead of 'sending each other' Christmas Cards.



We will make a sign up card available at the Carol Service and the Christmas Party so you can sign and donate. We will then distribute the card to the club before Christmas.

## Christmas Tree 2010

I think you will all agree that the Christmas Tree looks particularly good this year – thanks to Goodwood for a nice tree and to the many worthy Rotarians of all 3 Chichester Clubs who erected and decorated the tree on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Some new decorations and some ‘presents’ made by the Chestnut Sellers give the tree a day time look which is superbe. We were even presented with some decorations by a local lady while we were decorating.



Thanks also to Beaver Tool Hire and Jewsons for tools and help and to Jason Price who worked tirelessly in the Cherry Picker along with Jules reaching the parts other devices wouldn't reach.



## Tree Lighting Ceremony

About 30 Rotarians turned up from the three clubs, a really great turnout on such a cold evening. Oakwood choir sang 10 carols in there truly magical style which was much enjoyed by everyone. The procession from Priory Park lead by TS Unity marching Band and Chichester Festival Street Theatre dancers dressed as an elephant with Ken Holmes (Breakfast Club) dressed as a Giraffe all

marshalled by Rotarians, headed off with the members of the public who joined us. The Dean spoke and then blessed the tree, the Mayor praised Rotary for what we had done and thanked us for putting on this event. He then did a countdown with everyone joining in, when the tree lights where switched on with a load ahhhhhhhh from the crowd to follow. President Howard Bottomley from Chichester club spoke to thank everyone and announced the commencement of the Rotary charity collections, Hilary Riddell and Doug Minto were there in support. A big thank you to all those Rotarians who came along on such a cold night. Nice community event, most welcomed by those who came to see what it was all about.



## Christmas Collections at the Cross and Tesco

Collections are now under way at both Tescos and The Cross. Clive Balaam is in charge of the roster and John Hodge the money. Good luck to everyone collecting – hope the worst of the cold weather is now over.

## POST ITs

***Don't forget TREE DOWN 30<sup>th</sup> December 8.30am to 10.00. Volunteers required – please give your name to Doug Price.***

Due to the number of changes to the Club Directory this year, a new one will be published in January. Please advise Bob Syme of any changes to your committee or address entry from the current printed version.

Contact details for our new members: Ritchie Stevenson: [linda.stevenson@virgin.net](mailto:linda.stevenson@virgin.net) 01243 551882

Steve Gingell: [gsteveanddonna@aol.com](mailto:gsteveanddonna@aol.com) 01243 527024

Tim Rose: [trose@wsgfl.org.uk](mailto:trose@wsgfl.org.uk) 01243 784997

## Another Successful Beaujolais Nouveau Lunch

With 116 attendees, a profit in the region of £2,500, an excellent meal, acceptable (some may say better than usual) wine, gorgeous girls, a superbe band and 'auctioneer' Henry back in top form after his stroke and the welcome return of James Gardner, this year's Beaujolais Nouveau was a great affair and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. The mix of Rotarians from several local clubs, local Business people and friends produced a very friendly, if noisy, environment which helped by the flow of the Nouveau made this an occasion not to be missed. This was our first event back at the Pallant Suite since we moved to the Park and we were very grateful for the warm welcome we received.



Congratulations to John Pressdee and his committee for running another greatly successful event.



## RIBI ready for National Citizen Service

Rotary International in Great Britain & Ireland (RIBI) is delighted to announce that it will be delivering National Citizen Service Green, part of the coalition government's Big Society vision, in partnership with the Field Studies Council (FSC) and Action. Rotary clubs in pilot areas across England will provide 16 year olds with environmental opportunities and experiences which will improve their confidence, self-esteem and leadership. Participants will complete two weeks of residential, one week of non-residential and 30 hours of part time community action including making an action plan. The pilots are expected to start in June 2011. With strong links in schools and local communities and a strong commitment to creating opportunities for youngsters, RIBI has the experience, the knowledge and the drive to deliver NCS Green. Thanks to a great partnership with the FSC, it is hoped that this venture will bring together youngsters of all backgrounds who will enjoy being involved with social action projects in their community. Denis Spiller, Chair of RIBI Youth Opportunities, said: "This is a wonderful boost for all young people across the UK. Although starting in selected pilot areas, I am sure the NCS will be successful and will expand. This will be a challenge for everyone, young people must commit to putting their best foot forward."

### Can You Take The December Challenge?

#### Help The Homeless In Chichester...

We want members to donate items to help Eileen Eydmann in her work looking after approx. 25 homeless in Chichester. Most of them are men... Here's what we are looking to collect:

- Soap
- Tooth Paste
- Tooth Brushes
- Talc
- Disposable Razors
- Socks
- Large T-Shirts
- Warm Casual Clothes
- Pants, Boxers or Briefs
- Ladies Pants
- Deodorants
- Tinned Fruit
- Sweets (For Christmas and Birthdays)
- Sleeping Bags
- Ground Sheets or Pads

Can you donate any of the above?  
Phone Therese on (01243) 777781 or (01243) 585426  
PS This is a December Challenge but we will take items any time.



Rotary Club of Chichester Harbour  
District 1250 RIBI No: 1856

Our youngsters will design a social action project in a week and then make it happen. It is not often that anyone can have such a hands-on opportunity to make a big difference and I am glad that RIBI is working with FSC and Action to make this happen. "Having watched young people progress through the RIBI Youth Opportunities which are on offer, I know the difference these experiences can make. The increased confidence, energy and determination to succeed is evident in all participants and I have every confidence that everyone will benefit from NCS."

### WOMAN'S REFUGE CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

Chichester Harbour Club put together Christmas boxes for residents of the Woman's Refuge. We need:

Gifts for Mums, Gifts for Dads ( a number of single Dads looking after the family),

Gifts for children, Wrapping paper, Sellotape, Gift tags, Decorations, Any food items to make up a Christmas Hamper.

Please call Therese on 01243 777781 or 585426

# Club Diary

## December

Date	Meeting Content		Stewards	
Thurs 2	Mulled Wine	The Cross		Evening
Mon 6	Council			
Wed 8	Carol Service	Lavant		Harbour including Partners
Thurs 9	Mulled Wine	The Cross		Evening
Wed 15	Xmas Party	The Park	Tony Hardwick Mike Harvey	Including Partners
Thurs 16	Mulled Wine	The Cross		Evening
<b>Thurs 30</b>	<b>Tree Down</b>	<b>The Cross</b>	<b>Volunteers Required—names to Doug Price Please</b>	<b>8.30 to 10am</b>

		January		
Wed 5	Fellowship		Nick Rowbotham David Bevan-Thomas	
Wed 12	Business Meeting	The Park	Peter Fuller John Hodge	
Wed 19	Ben Wilkes & Celena Young “Children on the Edge”	The Park	Richard Doman David Hutchings	
Wed 26	Burns night 	The Park	Alan Wells Mike Clark	Including partners

### 3 More new Members



Welcome to Tim Rose, Ritchie Stevenson and Steve Gingell who have all been inducted into our club since the last edition of the ‘Post’. A warm welcome is extended to all three. This brings our total new members to five for this year and we look forward to meeting and working with all of our new members in the clubs future activities.

You will find contact details for Tim, Ritchie and Steve in the ‘Post Its’.

(Apologies to Steve—the Court photographer was absent for your induction!)



## The Rotary Club of Chichester Priory - **The Way Forward**

With the club approaching its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and with the many changes that have taken place in the Rotary environment, the membership committee felt that it would be worthwhile to take a look at the direction in which members would like the club to be led in the next few years, always of course bearing in mind the overall principles of Rotary and the aims and directions of the world wide movement.

We plan a programme to look at the ‘way forward’ as follows:

Ask each member to respond to a questionnaire which will be designed to bring out the things you like and don’t like about our club as well as the things you think can be improved. It will also seek opinion on initiatives being driven by RI and RIBI and afford each the opportunity to make suggestions for the future. This ‘survey’ will take place in early 2011.

An analysis of this survey will be used to host a club discussion on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at our club meeting – currently billed in the club programme as ‘meeting to discuss future of club’.

The time between the 23<sup>rd</sup> March meeting and the Club Assembly on 25<sup>th</sup> May will be used to integrate the outcomes of the meeting into our programme for 2011/12 and beyond.