



# Rotary Club of Billericay

# News

September 2014

“Service Above Self”



## Stunning Double at Home and Abroad



What a month! A fundraising concert in Emmanuel, and a “twinning” visit to Beausoleil.

We are very grateful to Rev. Rotarian Paul Carr for the use of Emmanuel for our Re\_Public concert - a fine auditorium. There is no point being diplomatic and trying to find an “acceptable phrase”, these are top-drawer musicians playing loud music that was not to my taste. But my feelings on the music weren’t universally shared. Many people enjoyed it. They danced. They chatted in the lobby and they ate well - the German hot dogs were special!

Our objective was to raise funds. I hoped that we might break even, so I was stunned and delighted that we raised just under £2,400. We will put proposals to the next club business meeting as to how to distribute the money. A lot of hard work was done and a lot of generosity shown. But the outcome makes it all worthwhile. The concert was one thing, but the visit to Beausoleil was something quite different.

Nine of us with wives flew out from Gatwick to Nice on Thursday, September 18. We were met at Nice and invited to wait till the flight came in from Copenhagen carrying the Swedish contingent. Then our hosts discovered that the Copenhagen flight was late so we were taken to our hotel.

And what a hotel! Superbly comfortable rooms with excellent facilities, a balcony and an “in your face” sea view (the sea was maybe 30 yards away). The weather was fine. The temperature in the high 70s. Just great!

Then started a social round of parties, high quality food and wonderful conviviality. Everything was good, but two events stand out to me. On one evening, Sue and I, the Basildon president and the Swedish president and their wives, were entertained by President Jacques from Beausoleil at his daughter’s home in the mountains overlooking Menton. We sat in a cavern at the end of the garden for dinner. There was a view across a valley which had lots of old terracing on both slopes. A great party.

Sadly the house has a swimming pool. I say “sadly”, because President Jacques’ son-in-law had dived in the pool and very nearly broken his neck. He is a profes-

### In This Month's Issue

- 1-2. President’s Message
- 1. Contents
- 2. What a bonus
- 2. Inner Wheel Report
- 3. Charity Concert - Re-Public
- 3. The Honourable Member
- 4. Speakers Corner
- 5-7. A Riviera Reunion - Beausoleil
- 7-8. A Tall Story
- 8. An Australian Odyssey
- 9. Memories of WW II
- 9. Why Members joined Rotary
- 10. District Citation
- 10. Shelter Box support (Zimbabwe)
- 11. Basildon Night Out
- 11. A Herbert for lunch ..
- 11. ..and a Jacket for Dinner
- 12. Laugh along with Roger
- 12. Members’ Tit-bits
- 12. Forthcoming Events

sional musician. He plays the clarinet for the Monte Carlo Symphony Orchestra and is currently unable to play. A horrid accident.

The other superb event was the Gala dinner. Everybody looked their best. After the most excellent dinner came the speeches from the club presidents. Patrick had kindly warned me that I should give some of my speech in French and I did so. I was mentally shattered at the end, but the speech was well received.

Sadly, still no new members in my presidential year. What will October bring?

**STOP PRESS - First Sand Dam funded by Billericay Rotary Club is already being built!**

## What a Bonus!

In May we supported the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline and their participation in the Billericay Fun Walk. A benefit of participation is that John Baron, our MP, organised a bonus pool funded by local businesses, which



is distributed amongst all charities on the walk, in proportion to the sponsorship money each raised.

On Friday September 12, 2014, John hosted a reception at Anisha Grange at which the bonus cheques were distributed.

110 charities took part in the walk. Each received a bonus - an extra 60% of the money they had raised.



Congratulations to the participants, to all the businesses who funded the bonus, and to our MP and his team for initiating and driving this great success.

## Inner Wheel

### Taffeta and Lace on Founders' Night

Hello Rotarians  
This month we celebrate our "birthday" with a lunch, so this report is a small history of the club. I will report on the birthday next month.

We were chartered on September 21, 1960 and I have attached a picture of the founder members on that night. The ladies are dressed in elegant ball-gowns of silk, taffeta and lace, the styles of some being in fashion now. I knew fourteen of these ladies, having joined in 1982. One of the founder members, Sylvia Hathaway, is still with the club and helped me with the history and picture and another is a past member who still keeps in touch. Our founder president was Joan Rothon and we first met at the Red Lion, moving through the years to the Reading Rooms, a room above Nix (Lloyds) chemist and then to Rose Hall. The present membership being smaller we now meet in members' homes. From 1974 Ronnie and Horace Iles allowed us to use their barn for events and we used the atmosphere of the barn for carol



concerts, many lunches, barbecues and other events. During the summer we had use of their lovely garden and heated pool as well. Patrick and Carol allow us to use their garden for our visit of the Children from Chernobyl now a yearly event. Through the years of service and friendship we have done Meals on Wheels, tea parties for elderly residents, suppers with beetle drives, pig racing and many other events to support charities at home as well as overseas, also helping Rotary with refreshments for some of their events large and small. Our charity lunches are now smaller but still very popular with other clubs (we have a reputation for good food!),

the last few years being mainly St. George's Day lunches.

We have enjoyed many conferences and international conventions, at which we always have fun. Unable now to stage large events, we still do a variety of smaller events and enjoy the friendship of other clubs with a continuing link to Basildon.



By Maya Gupta, Inner Wheel correspondent

## Charity Concert Report

Wherever you like to listen to music, if you were at Emmanuel on Saturday September 13th, you would have been converted - Music "In The Round" sounds and feels so much better.



That's where top Essex band Re\_Public, played for Rotarians and friends at our Autumn Charity Concert on September 13th. in aid of Little Havens Hospice and other Rotary supported charities.



The event was previewed by Phoenix FM who gave it good coverage - a live session and interviews of the band on the air, and featuring it in its Events Guide - <http://www.phoenixfm.com/local-events/>.

A steady stream of music lovers arrived for the concert at Emmanuel Church Hall.

The band is Paul Barnes (lead vocals), Chris Johnston (guitar

## "Great Music in the Round"

and vocals), Ben Hearn (bass and backing vocals) and Mark Stephens (drums and percussion) and vocalist Amy Langmead. Tickets were only £15 and included free self-service tea and coffee in the Hall. If you fancied



something stronger then there was no shortage of Becks and Peroni Beers, red and white wine, and coca-cola, all on sale together with authentic German-style hot-dogs. And of course, a great raffle with prizes which attracted many sales.



But what about the music? It was a mixture of old favourites, current hits, basically - something for everybody. 1960s hit 'Knock

on Wood', 1970s Abba hit 'Money Money Money' and Rolling Stones hit 'Brown Sugar'. Alexandra Burke's 'All Night Long' and Duffy's remake of 'Mercy Mercy Mercy' were just a few of the night's highlights.



Some of the audience retreated from the volume of the sound, while the younger amongst us were in the hall, dancing or drinking to the music.

And the result, just under £2400 raised for Charity, including over £500 in the Raffle.

Our thanks go to the Malcolm Acors for donating the food and drink. Also to him and his family and friends for all their tireless efforts in giving up their evening to man the bar and the kitchen, organise and arrange the equipment and tables, and tidy it all away "after the ball was over". Their efforts were well rewarded.

*By Peter Greene*

## The Honorary Member

September 8th at the Ivory Rooms and our weekly meeting. What was different this time? Well, instead of a speaker it was a special occasion as we endowed John Bader with honorary membership of the club. Only the second time this has been done. John has been a long term mem-



ber but has moved away and it's

too difficult to get to the meetings. He's still very interested in club activities and wants to be kept apprised of all that we do so that he can join in when he is able. Our solution, in recognition of his past contribution to the club, is this honorary membership. Long may he continue to associate with the club and support our endeavours.

# Speakers' Corner

It's little wonder that Napoleon Bonaparte was exiled to St Helena. As Richard Wallis, our speaker on September 1, described it: "Probably the world's most remote inhabited island".



Richard and wife Helen should know. They exiled themselves to St Helena – roughly half way between South Africa and South America – two years ago.



No airport (although one is being constructed to be ready in 2016),

## Our Life on "Boney's" Island



only access is a five-day boat trip from Cape Town on the last remaining Royal Mail ship (RMS St.Helena) in the world.

Richard gave an insight into the history of the island, its people, topography and countryside. In the 19th century it was the most important staging and "coaling" point on route to the Orient and



*Napoleon's Longwood House*

Formed in 1891, it is the largest dog welfare charity in Europe, and the 19th largest UK charity. There are 19 Dogs Trust Centres



in the UK, and 1 in Eire. The Trust takes in Strays both from 'Dog Pounds' and direct from families. The average stay nationally is 4-6 weeks, but in Essex it's down to about 3 weeks. 17,000 dogs were treated last year and they **never** put a healthy dog down.

South Africa. But it is better known as "Boney's" final exile point and where he died in 1821. (His prison, Longwood House, is now French-maintained.)

A temporary resident, Richard and his wife took a two-year assignment in 2012 – his wife Helen to take up a teaching job and advisor to the Ministry of Education, Richard to "enjoy himself" with fishing and golf. That did not last. He became editor of the local newspaper, The Sentinel, a year ago and now heads the island's media services company.



They admit to enjoying it still and have signed up for one more year before returning to the UK.

*By Peter Greene*

## A Dog is for Life, not just for Christmas.

So said Samantha Davis from its Essex branch at our September 15 meeting. Her most interesting talk covered the work of the national charity, and the Essex Branch in particular.



What is the adoption process?



Once a family is accepted, all family members have to

meet the dog, even the family's existing pets, and if there's a cat, then it's locked up with the dog for a day to identify any issues. The Trust guarantees to take a dog back if problems arise.

It also provides free "chipping" (125,000 dogs in 2013), and gives 3500 school talks and workshops a year.

Membership is £25 pa. Sponsoring a dog costs £1 a week.

*By Peter Greene*

# Crossing Borders - Thank you Beausoleil

## A Riviera Reunion

Starting with Beausoleil in 1965, the Rotary Clubs of Billericay and Basildon have maintained international links with other European Rotary Clubs, including Italy (Alba) and Sweden (Karlshamn) in more recent years. Following the highly successful 2013 visit of Beausoleil, Karlshamn and Alba Rotarians to us, it was Beausoleil's turn to host this year.

### The first day

So, in the (very) early hours of Thursday, September 18, our intrepid band of members gathered at Gatwick for our flights to Nice. We had all arrived at Gatwick well in time for breakfast before our early flight. Some, by early morning taxi from Billericay (having got up before 3 a.m.) while others had a relaxing overnight stay at a nearby hotel, and had managed an extra hour and a half in bed.

The flight left on time with all of us on board, where we were also joined by all our colleagues from Basildon Club, traveling for the same visit. After an uneventful flight we were met at Nice airport



by Jacques Bernard, President of Beausoleil Rotary Club and his team.

We loaded our cases onto the coach and the initial plan was to wait for our colleagues from Karlshamn, so we adjourned for a coffee in an airport restaurant. However, their plane was delayed several hours, so after a short delay we returned to the coach and were taken to

### Hotel Victoria Roquebrune-Cap-Martin

A modern refurbished hotel right on the sea-front separated from



the beach by a single road, and having changed ownership since the club's last stay, members who had been before said it was even better. No restaurant - except for breakfast - but who cares, after the lunches and dinners hosted by Beausoleil, this was the last thing to worry about.

Clean, modern, and airy rooms with a spacious en-suite and balconies overlooking the sea, and with room-service breakfasts eaten out on that balcony to start the day -- what more could you want?

our hotel in Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, close to Menton. There we were greeted with a cold drink, left our luggage in the foyer under the watchful eye of reception and adjourned next door to Fellini, a local Italian restaurant, for a filling lunch. Returning to the hotel, we were swiftly shown to our rooms and had the rest of the afternoon free - some just resting at the hotel, some walking towards Menton and some just taking some light exercise and



perhaps a little libation. In the evening, we were all taken to the St. Louis Club in the same town for an aperitif, a game of pétanque and a meal - our first bonding event. Transfer was in the cars of members of Beausoleil club, so we split into threes and fours for the short journey.

We're not sure exactly what happened but, after the aperitif, everybody was so busy renewing friendships that we went straight to the meal, all seated on long tables to help with the mingling



between groups and old friends. After the food, a huge Paella with more than enough for anybody, there was now time for the pétanque - multiple teams of three competed (with various levels of



skill) and the winners were .... Nobody seemed quite sure!

.... Finally, our exhausted travellers returned to the hotel for a good night's sleep.

**Friday** - Some of our party could have missed the day as the hotel didn't make their wake-up call, but fortunately they awoke in time. On schedule, a meandering file of Rotarians left the hotel with the Beausoleil team to guide them and walked to Carnoles station for the two stops to Monaco. There

# Crossing Borders - Beausoleil (continued)

## Rainier and Grace - Forever Remembered

was time to visit the Sainte-Dévote Church dedicated to Monaco's Patron Saint and appreciate this 700 year old building before a stroll and a bus ride - 2 buses since our party was too big to get on one (Size really can matter!).



Finally, a short walk down to the "Little Train" - a sort of "Hop-On, Hop-Off" facility without the "Hop-Off" - for an enjoyable trip around the best sights of Monaco - the Harbour, the Casino, the Palace and the Cathedral, etc..



Then a very pleasant walk through the St. Martin Gardens, enhanced by views of the shore and small harbour, before walking



up to visit the cathedral with the graves of Prince Rainier and Princess Grace. Finally, a wander through the narrow streets of the old town back to

## The Restaurants

### Fellini



A small Italian restaurant next to the Hotel Victoria. Modern decor, good and cheerful servers and tasty food at a reasonable price. A great choice after our early start and delays at Nice.

### Tony's



A small restaurant situated in the lanes just off the Palace Square in Monaco. Seating at 8 tables outside, or inside - a bit cramped in both areas. We took over the whole inside of the restaurant. Good food and wine, and more than enough of each. Service was good and the food tasty so we were well satisfied.

### La Maison de Marie



This smart restaurant with its white walls and clean looks is

the Palace. Lunch was at "Tony's" restaurant, a "stones throw" from the Palace Square, and some of us adjourned there for a quick drink (not cheap at £7 a pint!!) whilst others wandered the lanes. Good food and wine, and more than enough of each awaited us there. Then back by bus and train to the hotel. French free afternoons seem to start at 5 pm!

a cool haven from the heat in Nice. We filled the back room. A Kir and "amuse bouche" to start with, then on to the meal. Delicious food delicious and excellent wine. Our conversations filled the room. The staff were very friendly and efficient and the food was delicious! Hats off to the chef!



### Restaurant Le St. Benoit

It is located on the hill east of the harbour, overlooking the harbour with views of the Palace. Modern decor, white table cloths, brown chairs, beautiful china, and that's just the environment. Service was exceptional - friendly, fast and efficient., and the food .... Outstanding!



### L'Hippocampe

A simpler environment than the St. Benoit, in a great position on rocks overlooking the sea. We had a buffet lunch with myriads of dishes and the option of wine and sangria. Great food.

That evening we were all split up and home hosted (with the Swedish and Basildon clubs) by individual members of Beausoleil club. A chance to renew family links from previous trips for some, or make new friends for others. More about this next month!

**Saturday** - And what do you think happened next? A slightly

# Crossing Borders - Beausoleil (continued)

**... to say nothing about plunging into the sea!**

later departure saw us 'coached' to Nice. After a drive along the "Promenade des Anglais" we were on foot through the old town led by an English speaking guide. She struggled against the hubbub around,



and the 40 person group made it difficult to hear if one couldn't get close. Even so, it was so enjoyable to wander around the old town, drinking in the atmosphere and



the quaint streets. Oh for more hours in the

day to explore the museums, art galleries & shops!

Lunch was in "La Maison de Marie", but by the time we finished we had to go to the sea front for the coach

journey back to the hotel along



the shore. What a delight! Tremendous views, vertiginous

drops, precarious buildings, huge motor yachts and large liners to delight the eyes. Unforgettable!

At the hotel, some retreated inside for a drink and a doze in the cool, while others (Patrick, Roger, Malcolm, James and wives) braved a swim in the Mediterranean.

*(Photo censored!)*

That evening was the Gala Dinner for all the clubs, transport in Beausoleil club members' cars in groups of 2 or 3, to the Restaurant St. Benoit in Monaco.

What a great evening. A fantastic position overlooking Monaco harbour and with views of the Palace lit up at night. Then a massive display of Fireworks, rounded off by the yachts in the harbour all sounding their horns! That was just the "extras", it was so good to



mingle with the other Rotarians, and to sit down for a most delicious meal. Delicious food and



excellent service, great conversation and, of

course, the obligatory speeches



and exchanges of presents between all the six club presidents.

President Mike made a very well received speech in French. What a great evening - everybody dressed up - beautiful restaurant, great food, good service and the best of company.



Sunday dawned only too soon. We packed and checked out ready for our return to England. While the Presidents and club Officers met for a working meeting, most of us had a short swim, a walk along the beach, or rested in the cool before the short walk to "l'Hippocampe" for a great buffet lunch. What a spread! What desserts!

Finally back to the hotel, a coach ride to the airport and a last drink in France before boarding our plane for the trip home.

*By Peter Greene & By Ed Harrison*

## A Tall Story - with Brentwood Rotary Club

It was far too early in the morning when we arrived at Shenfield on September 7th. to join our brother Rotarians for Brentwood Club's trip to London and Greenwich to see the Tall Ships. Three coaches and 120 Rotarians and partners to see the largest concentration of Tall ships for 25 years.

First stop - Millbank and time for a quick coffee in Tate Britain while we waited for the boat to arrive. Then a slow cruise downriver enjoying the sites and sounds of the Thames - even Tower Bridge opened in front of us. On to Greenwich and a view of the Tall Ships moored there,



*(continued on Page 8)*

# An Australian Odyssey

A visit to Australia in July/  
August is in mid winter.

Carol and I were on a family visit



to Geelong in Victoria, our son Mark lives there with his wife Nicki and three children Isabella 14yrs, Matilida 12 yrs and Mitchell 10yrs. We arrived early in Melbourne to rain and high winds



and after a one hour drive arrived at Mark's home in Batesford just outside Geelong.

Many people remember Prince Charles going to school in Geelong, however it is the size of Chelmsford with a university, and was a centre of the wool industry.

Today Ford has its production plant producing cars for Australia,

**But Geelong had its coldest day on record!**

but this will be closing as they will import Ford cars from Europe.



We had some wonderful days out including a drive along the Great Ocean Road which was built by soldiers returning from WW1.

In our second week we flew to Launceston in Tasmania, staying



with a Rotarian who we met many years ago on a Rhine cruise.

Tasmania is furthest south you can go before you hit Antarctica, it is always cooler than the mainland

and is about the size of Ireland with the capitol city of Hobart.

Once again we had high winds(roaring forties) and torrential rain with a power cut, very unusual we were told, we seem to attract bad weather as we also had the coldest recorded day in Geelong since records began.



Our visit went far too quickly and soon we were facing our 24 hour flight home via Dubai. We had a comfortable flight on a Qantas 380 which is the largest passenger plane in service and by chance we were on the same flight as Alan and Liz Campbell's daughter Helen with baby Sophie on a home visit. (Mayflower Rotary Club)

It was nice to come back to light evenings and a warmer climate but very sad to say goodbye to our family. Although our son lives in Australia we see him twice a year as he manages World of Spice.

*By Patrick Rothern*

## A Tall Story (continued)

(continued from Page 5)



accompanied as they were by the Royal Barge and a flotilla of Rowing boats. Downstream passing West India



Docks before turning back to tie up at Greenwich Pier and time for a good look round the festival in Greenwich Park - even time to grab a quick sandwich. Then back to the coaches for a trip across the river via Blackwall

Tunnel to West India Docks, where a further 20 plus ships were moored. We had a good look



round them with the hundreds of other sightseers there before heading home. A great Day Out.

## Bowled Out? No - Blitzed Out!

### Another Page from Norman Wilson's Memory Bank

1940 was a dramatic year for me. I previously highlighted my brother being shot down and killed on Easter Sunday 1940 and the Coventry blitz on November 14, but there was a third major event.

We lived in a semi-detached house in Biggin Hall Crescent, Coventry, which backed on to the Coventry & North Warwickshire cricket ground. We watched many matches from my bedroom window.

On the night of May 25, I was awakened by the sound of an enormous explosion and the flickering light visible through the blackout curtains of my bedroom. Dashing to the window I saw that there was a massive bonfire covering the cricket square only about 200 yards away with minor explosions at intervals. We later learned that an RAF Handley Page twin-engined bomber aircraft had been brought down by colliding with a barrage balloon cable protecting the city. The three members of the crew were killed.

### When Our Cricket Ground Became a Crash Site

One had bailed out too low for his parachute to open and sadly crashed through the roof of the "Bulls Head Inn" in Binley Road, diametrically situated to our house across the cricket ground.

Cynical wartime humour implied that: one "was a perfect length delivery" and the other "just dropped in for a drink"

The city of Coventry suffered 27 air raids between August and October followed by the blitz of November 14. (Coventry built 25% of all aircraft produced in the UK during the war and so it was, in German eyes, a legitimate target). After the war Armstrong Whitworth Company in Coventry was internationally applauded as the most efficient production unit

in the world.

In the 1950/60's I became the Production Manager with a lot to live up to!!

(Note:-There were 2 later blitzes in April '41 and August '42).

I am often asked why I volunteered for RAF service on my 18th birthday – April 19, 1941 – although in a reserved occupation.



Those three major events were certainly very influential and my decision, I have no doubt, included a very strong element of revenge.

## I joined Rotary because...

**P**resident Mike has made the raising of club membership his year's top target.

**T**he Newsletter recently took a poll of members asking them why they chose to become Rotarians. All had different but genuine reasons.

Here are some of the responses:

### Michael Ginn

I am a Christian. Every friend I had was also Christian. In 2009, I was approached by Ben Clarke to see if I was interested in joining Rotary. It came across to me (and still does) as a secular

organisation that is shot through with Christian values. I joined.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Norman Wilson

New to Billericay, and meeting Felix Rotheron at the Industrial Group. I was invited to join.

I saw it as a means of meeting new friends and "Giving Service"

\*\*\*\*\*

### Roger Kettle

Our generation have been very fortunate with availability and security of employment plus final salary pensions. At retirement I

believed it would be good to put something back into the Community. Rotary has not only more than filled that objective but provided long-standing friendships, much fun and great experiences.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Peter Greene

I used to think I lived "in" Billericay but, when I retired I realised that I had just lived "off" of Billericay and hadn't really contributed to the town. I joined Rotary to be able to give something back to the town and the people in it, and, as a by-product, have some fun.

# Important Message to All in Rotary District 1240

## A Call to Arms from The District Governor

**L**ight Up Rotary is the theme for 2014/15 and it is the call for each Rotarian to take action to make Rotary stronger.

The Presidential Citation recognises clubs that achieve prescribed goals in 3 categories:

- (1) Membership
- (2) Service
- (3) Rotary Day

It works on points and all clubs should try to fulfil the criteria in the form given to all incoming Presidents.

During his official visit to our Club on 21st July, DG Stan Keller highlighted the District 1240 Citation which he is introducing

### District 1240 Citation - 2014/15 DG Stan Keller

Light Up Rotary is the theme for 2014/15 and it is the call for each of us to take action to make Rotary stronger. There is a Presidential Citation that recognises clubs that achieve these prescribed goals in three categories:

- (1) Membership (2) Service (3) Rotary Day

This works on a points system and all clubs are urged to try to fulfil the criteria set out in the form given to all incoming Presidents at PEPS.

In addition to the Presidential Citation I am introducing a District 1240 Citation to recognise the efforts of every club that adds value to the work of Rotary in the community in a variety of different ways.

#### Membership

1. A net gain in membership between 1st July 2014 and 31st March 2015 .....
2. No member leaves the club during this period i.e. retention is a key element .....
3. Clubs organise a meeting for new or potential members or Club Visioning event .....
4. At least two representatives of the club attend a District Membership seminar .....

#### Foundation

5. Clubs give an average of £50 per member during the year .....
6. Every club member donates to Foundation, no matter how small the amount .....
7. Clubs complete the Club Memorandum of Understanding and representatives attend the District Foundation Seminar or the District Assembly Foundation breakout session .....
8. Clubs make a financial contribution to the End Polio Now campaign or organise an End Polio Now event .....

#### PR & Communications

9. Clubs submit at least one article to 1240 News during the year .....
10. Clubs have their activities mentioned in local press or radio on at least one occasion .....
11. The club website is maintained and up to date .....

#### In the Community

12. Clubs organise at least one vocational project for schools, colleges or armed forces .....
13. Clubs enter a candidate in any of the RIBI Youth Competitions .....
14. Clubs organise a Rotary Day .....

#### Areas of Focus

15. Clubs support or organise a project in at least one Area of Focus .....

#### Support for District

16. Clubs have at least two members at each District Council Meeting and District Assembly .....
17. Clubs have at least one member at the District Conference in Stratford upon Avon 12-14 September 2014 .....
18. Clubs support District Rotary Day with at least two members for clubs up to 20 members and three for clubs with over 20 members .....
19. Clubs have a member present at a District Youth Competition final .....

#### New Clubs

20. Sponsor or support any type of new club: Rotary, Rotaract, Interact, Rotakids .....



in addition to the Presidential Citation.

This District Citation recognises the efforts of every club that adds value to the work of Rotary in the community in a variety of different ways.

The Citation qualification document is shown here. Any club achieving 14 points or more of the 20 points listed, will be awarded the Citation.

This should be achievable with the commitment of all Members. Returns have to be made to the District Secretary no later than 15th April 2015.

## Response Team Delivers Aid to a family in need

### Billericay's Latest ShelterBox Donations Help Again

**W**hen heavy rains hit Zimbabwe earlier this year, flash floods forced thousands of people from their homes.

The ShelterBox Response Team delivered essential ShelterBox aid to 805 families in desperate

need, including Zvirurami Mahora and her five children.

When the floods hit, Zvirurami's home was damaged and she lost all her belongings. All they had when she met the ShelterBox team was a plastic sheet for the whole family to sleep under.

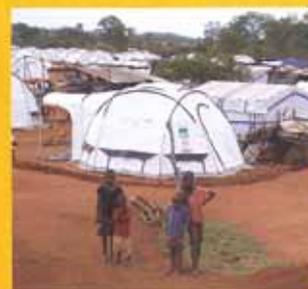
She was overwhelmed when she was given her ShelterBox tent and accessories.

### ZIMBABWE FEARS THAT A DAM MAY BURST

ShelterBox has sent enough tents to shelter 800 families forced from their homes due to flooding in Masvingo Province in the African country of Zimbabwe. They had been living along the river basin near the partially constructed Tokwe Murkosi dam until persistent and unseasonal rains raised fears that the dam was going to overflow.

ShelterBox has worked alongside the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), which is leading the humanitarian response.

ShelterBox sent stock prepositioned in Islamabad to the affected area within hours to be distributed to families. A 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit in the same area a week later.



The next day she said it had rained hard during the night but the tent had protected her, and more importantly her children, just as if they were sleeping in a brick home.

*By Peter Greene*

## Banter and Contrasts in Basildon

### “Hello Club, Thanks for the Grub”

A sunny Thursday evening. Five of us and wives braving the roadworks to meet with Basildon Rotary Club.



A fellowship meeting, 3 weeks before our joint twinning visit to Beausoleil.

A warm welcome from President Peter Townsend, an innovative

“Grace”, and a great buffet dinner.

Then the main spot - Rtn Harry Paine, Secretary of the “Rotarian Action Group against Child Slavery”.

Formed in 2009 it finally gained RI recognition in 2013 and is now in 62 countries with 1200 members worldwide.

Harry horrified us with statistics



on the scale of modern day slavery - 29.8 million slaves worldwide, 80% female, 50% children (*compare this to 12 million ever traded in the history of the British Empire*). Harry demonstrated



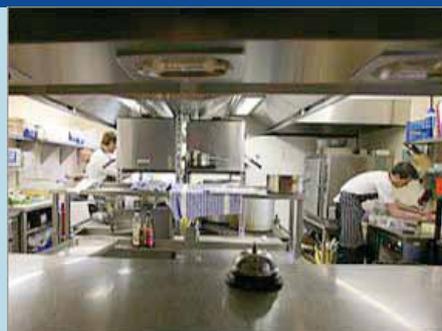
his integrity, his dedication to the cause and his commitment to end this curse of the 21st Century.

**More help is needed.**

*By Peter Greene*

## A Herbert for Lunch ....

We were sitting in a local restaurant, noted for good food (well earned), but variable service. My wife asked the young waitress “what’s fish of the day?” A look of mild panic crossed her face as she struggled to remember. “I do know this” she said, and after a long pause “Ah yes” triumphantly, “I think it’s Herbert!” “It can’t be”, we said, with an element of doubt, thinking of a Fish called Wanda. “Do you mean Halibut? .... or Turbot? .... or ?”



“Oh! I’m sure it is” she said, “but I’ll go and ask the Chef”. Of course she came back and announced “It’s Turbot”. “How is that cooked?” we asked.

The waitress looked flummoxed. “It’s cooked” she said. “But how?” We persisted. “Well it just is - it’s cooked” We asked her to ask the Chef, which she did. “It’s pan-fried” she said on her return, looking relieved. “I thought you were asking if it was rare, medium or well-done”! We enjoyed the entertainment and my wife enjoyed “Herbert”. And, yes, we would go there again!

*By Peter Greene*

## ..... and a Jacket for Dinner!

We all like to go back to special holiday haunts. Treasurer Mike Sinclair recalls such an experience: Some 25 years ago plus, Lizzy and I decided to take our three small girls to a hotel in Devon which we had heard about (I don’t know how). Quite a good hotel but, on arrival after a long car journey, we found that the hotel requested male dinner guests to wear a jacket and tie at least. I was not prepared, so had to go out and buy those items. Still a good



time – so good that we decided to go back 25 years later as trip down memory lane for our 40th wedding anniversary. Plus our now three grown-up daughters,

their husbands and two grandsons for a weekend with us. A lot had changed – but not the jacket and tie for evening dinner.

Forewarned is forearmed so we all arrived prepared. And a jolly time was had by all – young grandsons mesmerised by the sweet trolley after a day on the beach and my daughters and sons-in-law in fits of giggles at the after-dinner dance with a live band. And the hotel did not disappoint – as good as a quarter of a century ago.

## Laugh along with Roger

A group of seniors were sitting around talking about all their ailments at Costa Coffee.

"My arms are so weak I can hardly lift this cup of coffee," said one.

"Yes" said another. "My cataracts are so bad; I can't see my coffee."

"I couldn't even mark an 'X' at election time because my hands are so crippled," said a third.

"What? Speak up! What? I can't

hear you, said one elderly lady!"

"I can't turn my head because of my arthritis" said one. Several nodded weakly in agreement.

"My blood pressure pills make me so dizzy!" exclaimed another.

"I forget where I am and where I'm going," said another.

"I guess that's the price we pay for getting old," winced an old man as he slowly shook his head.

The others nodded in agreement.

"Well, count your Blessings," said a woman cheerfully... **"Thank God we can all still drive!!"**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Bob Hope in Heaven -**

On never winning an Oscar: "I have performed for twelve Presidents of the United States, and ..... **entertained Six**"

## Tit-bits from the Club

### DG to attend Charter Lunch

Stan Keller will be our guest at the club's 55th Charter Lunch in the Essex Barn at The Chichester, Rawreth, 12.30 for 1.00pm.

Cost: £25 for 3-course lunch - multi-choice on the day - coffee and service. Cost to members is £14.00, no club meeting Nov. 3rd.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Royal Opera House Workshops Visit

The Club is planning a visit to the in the magnificent setting at West Thurrock (This year they provided for Don Giovanni in London). It will be limited to a party of 20 on a first come - first served basis.

Watch for further details.

\*\*\*\*\*

### A Tale of two ladies

One member recently had two bus-pass experiences. Crowded bus from Chelmsford and standing room only. Lovely young lady gave him her seat. He said: "There was a time when I gave up my seat to lovely young ladies. I must now look very old." She smiled as much to say: "Yes!" Three days later, another lady gave up her bus seat. He thanked her and they chatted. He said: "I am 78". She said: "Beat you, I am 83." He was carrying one bag - she was carrying two. They got off at

the same stop but she insisted on carrying her shopping bags. Age Concern - don't believe it!

\*\*\*\*\*

### District 1240 Golf Day-Friday October 10th. Benton Hall Golf & Country Club, Witham.

Don't forget, last day for your submissions to participate is September 30th.

The aim is fellowship and the hope is that individuals will enter, even if their club cannot raise a team - these will be made up into teams as well.

Cost £45 per person which covers the meals, golf and prizes. Late Entries - cost £50.

### Rotary Club of Billericay - Forthcoming Club Meetings and Club Events

Location - The Ivory Rooms



**We meet on Mondays at 1245 for 1300**

(On the 5th Monday of a month, please check the website)

The Ivory Rooms 66-68 Laindon Road Billericay Essex CM12 9LD tel: +44 1277 632378

Sept 29

Business Meeting

Oct 6

Josh Miller (TBC)

Oct 13

Norman Wilson - My life at Armstrong Whitworth 1939-65

Oct 13

Joint Services & Council Meeting

Oct 20

Business Meeting

Oct 27

Simon Hirst - "Open Door" charity

Nov 3

No Meeting

Nov 10

Speaker TBC

Nov 10

Joint Services & Council Meeting

Nov 17

Speaker TBC

Nov 24

Business Meeting & S.G.M.

### **Other dates for your diary:**

Nov. 2 (12.30 for 1.00 pm)

55<sup>th</sup> Charter Lunch - The Chichester,

Nov. 8

Lake Meadows Firework Display

Dec. 7 (11.00-17.00) Christmas Market