



Rotary Club of Billerica

News



July 2015

“Service Above Self”

Best Club Website
in District 1240
2014-15 & 2015-16

Ed takes a second Term in the Hot Seat

A Busy And Blooming Beginning



Our Handover Lunch was on Monday 29th June and I would like to reiterate my thanks to IPP Mike Ginn for his time in office and for agreeing to be Club Secretary in my year as President. A number of wives were able to attend and I was pleased to have Honorary Member John Bader and Maureen as my guests.

On the morning of July 3, I went to Brook Lodge to meet the 12 children from Belarus who were visiting Billerica from June 21



until 19th July. The visit was arranged by the Billerica Chernobyl Children Lifeline, and this year our Club sponsored their visit to Thriftwood Camp.

That evening I attended the Billerica in Bloom 2015 Prizegiving at Canon Roche Social Centre with James on hand to take photographs. Michael Wade (Headteacher) and some of his pupils from Quilters Junior School were present and were successful in two schools competitions. As usual, we sponsored the Best Large Garden Category; Mr & Mrs Walters were our winners and enjoyed success in many other categories.

Talking Heads

On Monday 6th July we were pleased to welcome Rtn Frank

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Rigg from the Rotary Club of Concord, Mass.. Frank was at school with Peter Greene and was formerly the Curator of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston. His talk on "Presidential Libraries" was fascinating and it was good to have him with us again. On the following evening seven of us visited Rotary Club of Stort Valley and because of the high number of Rotarians and non-Rotarians attending, we met in the Water Lane Bar & Restaurant which is just down the road from The Lemon (continued on next Page)

President's Message (continued)

Tree Restaurant (the usual venue). The speaker was Air Commodore Bruce Wynn OBE who worked in Government communications and later became head of information systems for the RAF. Now retired, his speciality is cyber warfare and security, and he participates regularly in conferences on hacking.

On Thursday 9th July Vice President Mike Sinclair presented end of year certificates to the Rotakids at Quilters Junior School; James and Peter Greene also attended.

Festive Fun

On Sunday 12th July Billericay Summerfest was held at Sun

Corner and we ran a balloon race for the first time in many years. Patrick, James and I were there all day and we were assisted for part of the day by Trevor Bond, Keith, Gill and 5 Members of the Interact Club. Although we did not quite cover our costs, it was an excellent PR exercise and packets of sweets (generously donated by Malcolm) were well-received by the children.

On the same day the John Baron Fun Walk took place at Barleylands; Roger was our walker and Peter Greene was a marshal. This event has raised a significant amount in sponsorship.

On the evening of Friday July 17 I attended a farewell party for the 12 "Chernobyl" children from Belarus, as well as volunteers and helpers. The children sang some songs and danced; Alesia Tkachova, their leader/ translator, sang "What a Wonderful World" with a bit of help from the audience. Our District Governor was scheduled to make his Official Visit on 20th July but this has been re-arranged for 10th August as he had a work commitment. We had a fellowship meeting and were pleased to welcome Past District Governor Grahame Rudkins who lives in Billericay.

Inner Wheel Report

Inspiration and Fun - Olympic Style!

Hello Rotarians, July 3 saw us once again welcoming the children who come here through the Chernobyl Children LifeLine. This year they were from the Gomel region in Belarus. Six boys and six girls, still under the care of the local hospital but in remission, came with an interpreter and doctor, and took a full part in the activities organised for them.

Their day with us started at 9.30am with games (some quiet), bike riding and sessions in the hot-tub. The sun was not too hot with Patrick and Carol's lovely garden having large trees providing plenty of shade. As a late breakfast we gave the children sausage and bacon rolls which were very popular, followed by bananas and apples.



After more games, we travelled to the South Essex Gymnastics



Club at Basildon Sports Village. The children did warm-up exercises enthusiastically with a team of coaches including three girls still at school who had been given the day off to help. They rotated through the variety of equipment, showing determination, and really enjoying themselves. This was my first time in this gym and I was impressed with the coaches and the gym. It was set up for use by the disabled with a large impact-absorbing foam floor and with all the equipment surrounded by foam or with foam pits underneath. This let the children try everything without hesitation.

One boy was very taken by the rings, swinging and twisting before letting go and landing in a pit of large foam chips! All the girls stood on a beam, balancing at a 90 degree angle and catching a ball. No one fell off. They all tried most equipment.

We were joined later by four young men from the gymnastics team, a Commonwealth silver medallist, an Olympic bronze medallist, a European Games bronze medallist and a European junior champion giving inspiration to the children. In fact, all of us there were inspired by the children and all the gym team.

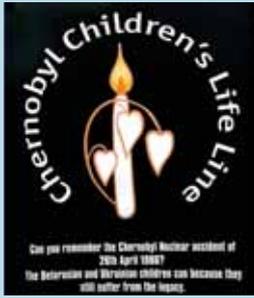


After all their exercise the children had a late light lunch in the cafe before returning to their hosts. A very enjoyable day for everyone.

By Maya Gupta, Inner Wheel correspondent

Chernobyl Children's Life Line

A Visit to Remember



This Charity, supported by the Rotary Club of Billericay, gives a dozen children from Belarus and

the Ukraine (on alternate years) a respite holiday for four weeks in the UK. When the charity was low on funds last year we donated £500 to keep it going. This July we helped at the Barbecue, sponsored the trip to Thriftwood Camp, supported the Games Day - run by Inner Wheel, and attended the "Leaving party".

Matthew Craig-Greene, Joint chairperson for Billericay, writes about the Charity and this visit.

Anniversaries are usually cause for celebration, special occasions marked by flying champagne corks and shots of "congratulations!" – but next year will bring an anniversary of a very different kind: 2016 is the 30th anniversary of the explosion and fire at the Chernobyl nuclear plant in present day Ukraine.

On 26th April, 1986, reactor four experienced a sudden power surge causing the reactor vessel to rip open. A giant plume of radioactive material rose into the atmosphere and came down over a vast area.

Officially, there were 31 casualties as a direct result of the disaster, which (even at this level) marks the incident out as the most



deadly nuclear reactor catastrophe in history. The worst effects of the fallout were suffered in northern Ukraine and south west Belarus. As well as the impact on the health of those too poor to move away from the regions just outside the exclusion zone, the devastation of the local economy has extracted a high social price, from those families living in the affected areas.

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline is a national charity founded in 1991, with a local link in Billericay covering Billericay, Brentwood and South Essex. Every year, with the support of the local community, the Rotary and other organisations and local businesses, we bring 12 children from the

affected areas of either Ukraine or Belarus to South Essex for a four week respite holiday.

Delightful Children

This year we hosted 12 children from the Gomel children's hospital in Belarus, close to the Ukrainian border. My wife and I hosted two delightful girls, Juliya and Katya, and five other families each hosted a pair of children – in total, 6 girls and 6 boys between the ages of 9 and 13, all of whom had suffered with blood illnesses from which they are now in remission.

Whilst they are here, the children experience everything the region has to offer, from trips to see the Lion King in London, to waterskiing near Colchester and, a particular favour- (continued on Page 5)

Belarus received over 70% of the radioactive fallout from the Chernobyl nuclear explosion. Thousands have thyroid cancer, bone cancer and leukaemia. Everybody who could leave, did so, leaving only those unable to move - the poorest and most vulnerable. Children growing up in this environment must contend with unemployment, alcoholism and a host of other issues linked to social deprivation in the area.

Chernobyl Children's LifeLine :

- Has brought over 46,000 children to stay with host families
- Provides multi-vitamins and basic healthcare products to the children on their return (thousands of tons in the last 9 years).
- Acts as a cultural exchange - the children visit 3 secondary schools and many businesses in Billericay and South Essex during their trip

Working With The Local Press

Rotary (in the) News

Our relationship with editor Alan Woods and the Gazette gets stronger by the month.

Here we produce the recent outstanding page in the Gazette highlighting our events in May and June., Kids Out, Bluebell Line and the Big Quiz.

The aim is to keep the Club's profile in the public domain, thereby hoping that someone will read, inwardly digest and respond enough to want to know more about us and become a member.

By the time you read this we will have posted another Gazette report. Meanwhile Alan has kindly invited a party from the Club to visit the Gazette offices, to see how they work, ask questions and have a social day.

25 Gazette, Wednesday, June 24, 2015 **www.brentwoodgazette.co.uk**

ROTARY NEWS

DOING FOR THE KIDS: Rotarians take disadvantaged children on zoo adventure

Billericay

THE Rotary Club of Billericay returned to Tropical Wings Zoo in South Woodford on Tuesday for an eight-year absence for their annual Kids Out charity day on June 23.

Kids Out day is a partnership with Rotary International to give disadvantaged children a wider field for activity and to give some fun and happiness to their lives.

The first such day took place 20 years ago and saw more than 100 visitors across the country are used by Rotary clubs.

So club members joined staff and children, aged seven to 11, from The Woodford Infant in Luddington for a tour of the zoo, which included a visit to the tropical house, children's games, the butterfly house, a hole of prey show and a discovery programme on animal tracks.

The Rotary Club, which sponsored the whole day, also provided Kids Out Rotary T-shirts and caps and a giveaway jersey.

Two club members, Norman Haining and Ed Harrison, who had previous visits to Tropical Wings, were full of praise for the way the zoo has developed.

Norman said: "It was a quarter of this size when I was a child and it has been built up since then. The zoo is essential to the community and it is good to see it growing and expanding."

Ed added: "I have been a member of the Rotary Club since 1970 and it is a pleasure to see it growing and expanding."

He said: "It was a great day for the children and the staff. It was a great day for the children and the staff. It was a great day for the children and the staff."

Club members for their support."

■ The Rotary Club of Billericay and other clubs, with their support, have been invited to join the Big Quiz on Thursday at the Billericay District Centre, from 7.30pm to 10.30pm. It is a great opportunity for all the clubs to raise money for the Billericay District and to raise money for the Billericay District and to raise money for the Billericay District.

Big Day Out Rotary members with Thurston School children at Tropical Wings Zoo

THURSTON staff arranged a special day for the children in marking the Rotary Club's 100th anniversary. The children were taken to Tropical Wings Zoo on Tuesday for a day of fun and activity. The children were taken to Tropical Wings Zoo on Tuesday for a day of fun and activity. The children were taken to Tropical Wings Zoo on Tuesday for a day of fun and activity.

Mayflower

WITH the official end of the Rotary year just over a week away, the Billericay Mayflower Club are celebrating their 10th anniversary. The club has been successful in raising over £2,000 for a children's fund.

If not this month then, perhaps an autumn visit – Peter Greene has already alerted members to the invitation and the response was favourable.

Trevor Bond, Editor

And here is something that appeared earlier....

We share the Page with our daughter club, Rotary Club of Billericay Mayflower, and as in

June, the articles which appeared on April 1, April 29, and May 27 all featured both

clubs. It's all good news for Rotary, and for Rotary in Billericay!

26 Gazette, Wednesday, May 27, 2015 **www.brentwoodgazette.co.uk**

ROTARY NEWS

BILLERICAY CLUBS: Rotarians in Nepal ensure all funds reach those in need

IT was a hectic day for the Billericay Rotary Club as they returned from their fundraising trip to Nepal. The club has been successful in raising over £2,000 for a children's fund.

INTERNATIONAL WORK

THEY say great things come to those who wait. The Billericay Rotary Club has been successful in raising over £2,000 for a children's fund.

LOCAL WORK

ON the 23rd of June, the Billericay Rotary Club held their annual meeting. The club has been successful in raising over £2,000 for a children's fund.

Billericay

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27 Gazette, Wednesday, May 27, 2015 **www.brentwoodgazette.co.uk**

ROTARY NEWS

Billericay Mayflower

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Why and How Watergate Changed Presidential Thinking

Only after 50 years in the UK (under the Information Act) do we learn well-kept secrets of government and spook skull-duggery - even then, not all. It's different in the Oval Office and the West Wing - where successive presidents of the United States have sat in state.

Frank Rigg, from the Rotary Club of Concord Massachusetts and a frequent and welcome visitor to our club, revealed at our lunch on July 6, each president since FDR (copied later by his predecessor Herbert Hoover) through to George W Bush has set up a Presidential Library.

What's kept there? Frank explained: "Just about everything from their term in office - long,

short or ended abruptly like JFK - archives, documents, gifts from heads of state, gifts of jewellery to First Ladies, artifacts. But not many books!

Dark secrets? "I suspect the CIA and government still keep some security matters out of the public domain but these libraries are open to everyone and some of the material is quite revealing - not least how JFK alone resisted all pressure to invade Cuba, and so avoided starting a holocaust."

The libraries are not in Washington DC but scattered around the principal cities of the President's home state. They are privately built but government operated.

George W Bush's Library alone has about 200 million emails. Largest is the Clinton Library.

Frank, born in the UK has dual nationality and, while working as Curator of the John F Kennedy



Frankly Speaking

Presidential Library in Boston, he gained a first hand understanding of presidential libraries.

"One presidential term changed the thinking - Nixon and Watergate. After Watergate more and more classified information became public - by demand.

It was the first time a US president was almost impeached. And it's all there to see and read."

Frank, a keen cricket fan, is staying for the start of the Ashes series. We look forward to him joining us again.

Chernobyl Children's Life Line (continued)

ite, a day of go-karting, kayaking and tobogganing at Thriftwood Camp. This Thriftwood trip was very generously sponsored by Billericay Rotary - for which we and the children are so very grateful.



Free Medical Care

As well as showing the children that visit a fantastic time, we also look after their physical well-be-

ing. All of the children see Daniel Eriksson, a dentist at Langdon Hills Dental Care, who donates his time to work on their teeth, and Stratton & Stratton Opticians in Queens Park, who provide those that need them with glasses. A clothing bank allows the children to pick up some new clothes for themselves and their siblings

It has been especially gratifying to see the change in these young guests this year, as funding issues last year meant that, without the generosity of donors (Billericay Rotary club amongst them), it might not have been possible for us to host the children this year.

And if you want to understand the

impact your generous support has on the children that visit us each year, just ask your President, Ed. We were delighted he joined us for the farewell party and concert at the Christian Link in Queen's Park on 17th July. I am sure he will bear witness to the joy they shared with us in an enthusiastic ensemble of songs, dances and readings from their homeland.

We are very grateful for your support and we hope that you will continue to work with us in order for us to be able to bring more children to Billericay, where they can experience clean air and uncontaminated food, often for the first time.

'Elf and Safety Wasn't In it!

Our Return From Spain.....continued

Where were we? Oh yes, I told the part of our homecoming nightmare last month. You ain't heard nothing yet...

The day we arrived home, we had to confront the initial problem, the leaking pipe. We had called British Gas, from Spain, as we have a "Homecare Agreement". About 9 am. we had a call from them saying our engineer was on his way and would be with us in 30 minutes. Great, I thought, at least that thing is moving....

Dynarod arrived, (a subsidiary company of BG) nice and cheery, proceeded to look at the leak, and proclaimed.

"I can't do that mate...its not plumbing"

!!?... "It is" I responded.

"No it's not, it's central 'eating!"
"Mmmm" I thought. (Well not quite Mmmm !!!)

After a few exchanges of words between Dynarod, British Gas, his manager and me, another engineer from British Gas was urgently dispatched. Another phone call - Our man would be with us in 30mins. (HERE WE GO AGAIN)

In 10 mins a very young engineer arrived, he looked at the job.

"Mmmm", (I've heard this before)

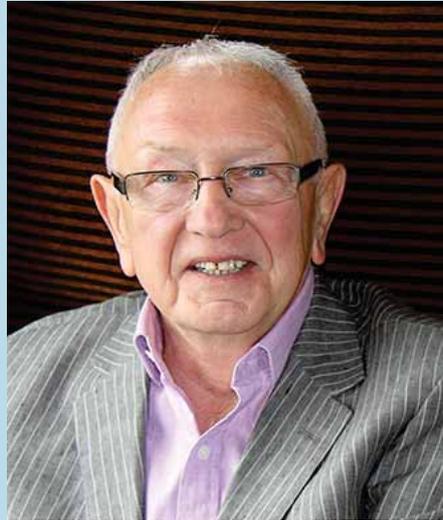
"This is difficult" he said.

"Can't see why" I replied.

"Well, it'll need draining down", he retorted.

"AND?" I responded.

Keith Wood reveals how the saga ended



"Well I have to go to a meeting at 11.30. (IT WAS 10.30)".

So we agreed on a compromise, he'd get his hosepipe, I would show him the drain cock and we would "let it drain" until he returned, after about two hours. HE DIDN'T RETURN.

A Deputy Manager called..

Numerous phone calls later to British Gas helplines (that don't) and ultimately, bosses (that aren't) they despatched two more engineers who would fix it before dark! Dark was about 9.30 pm.

The two guys arrived in two vans with two huge toolboxes and proceeded to look at the job.

"No problem", said one, "I'm the deputy manager".

Impressed? Not really.

Well they banged, twisted, re-

placed a piece of pipework and looked at their masterpiece proudly. The pipe was repaired!

They filled up the system and proceeded to fire up the boiler.

Not a spark!

You've guessed it now haven't you? NOTHING! No spark, no pilot light, no noise, no boiler....

The "deputy manager" tested and tested again. The same drip that knocked out the freezer had knocked out the boiler too.

The water had dripped onto the gas valve, within the boiler and was now US!! It gets worse:

The boiler was 32 years old, a good old girl, had done well for her age, was still raring to go..... but the gas valve, OBSOLETE!

The outcome - the boiler was taped up, declared dangerous and never to be used again. It needed URGENT replacement!

The deputy manager and his sidekick had done their worst, condemned my boiler, left me with no heating, but promised to return tomorrow with a loan 2kw fan heater, which I could keep!

Sweet dreams.. they didn't return.. but I'm pleased to say, the boiler has been replaced by a smart, new, and more efficient one.

All's well that ends well.....

I wonder what adventures await me on our return home, this time??

The 100 Club Draw

The 100 club is a great fundraiser for the club, with draws five times a year. 50% goes to Charity and 50% as prizes. The latest draw was held at our fellowship meeting on July 20th, in the

presence of Past District Governor Grahame Rudkins who lives in Billericay, and was on hand to draw the first prize winner.

Peter Strong won first prize (£100), Roger Kettle (unfortunate-

ly absent travelling on his annual trip down to holiday in France) won second prize (£75), with Mike Joslin winning third prize of £50) and Jo Harris winning the final prize of £25.

Billericay Fun Walk



was able to remove the central cross barrier on the stile before the walkers arrived and thus allowed some of the very young, and very old, participants, to manage to cross it.

The Rotary Club of Billericay participated in the Fun Walk for the first time this year, with Rotarian Roger Kettle leading the charge as our sponsored walker, and club Member Peter Greene helping out as a marshall along the route.

Marshalls had to assemble on site by 11.30 where they received their instructions and were allocated to the various marshalling points along the route. Peter was assigned to a position on Church Lane, Crays Hill, where a stile on a (very) narrow path between the brambles linked the footpath through a field with Church Lane. The day was blessed with cool weather and the rain held off as hundreds of walkers assembled for the start.



Over 125 Charities are taking part

Before the walk started, however, John Baron MP who had initiated the idea in 2002, addressed the walkers and revealed “This year we have 125 charities and organisations taking part in the Fun Walk, and thanks to the generous sponsorship of many local businesses, we have collected a bonus pot of over £40,000”. He listed the

Sponsors to the applause of the walkers and arranged for a photocall with their representatives.

With the credit duly applauded, the runners were soon on their way around the two courses.

A Steady Stream of Walkers

In Crays Hill, over 40 percent of the way round the course out at Point 14, Peter had only just arrived there when he was joined by the first runner, only 10 minutes into the walk. He was then followed by a steady stream of walkers ranging from the very young at three years old, to the old and decrepit who still managed to struggle round. Luckily Peter



The Fun Walk started in 2002 to commemorate the Queen’s Golden Jubilee, when it raised over £6,000 for six charities and projects. Last year, it raised £100,000 for 110 good causes, bringing the total raised since its inception to £636,000.

The event starts at 12pm, with the walk beginning at 1pm. There are two walks - the first is a three mile circular route around Cray’s Hill (including a couple of stiles). The second is much shorter within Barleylands Farm—suitable for toddlers, those with pushchairs,

How did we do?

Well, Roger was amongst the first to pass Peter and finished the course amongst the first 5 percent. **Then, a well earned rest?** No, it was off to our stall at the Billericay SummerFest where he helped to sell Balloons for our great Balloon race. (See article on Page 11.)

The walk was tremendous success and a privilege to help support.

Thanks to members efforts in tackling their friends and relatives to support Roger’s efforts, between them we were able to raise over £1300.

We look forward to the bonus presentation later in the year.



the elderly and disabled.

There is music, a guest appearance by Gateway 97.8 who broadcast on the day from the Fun Walk field, a BBQ courtesy of “Team Handsome”, plenty of other refreshments and a large field full of stalls - the aim being to raise awareness as well as money.

The unique feature of The Fun Walk is a “bonus pot” donated by generous local businesses and individuals. In 2014, for every £100 raised in sponsorship by the walkers, a further £60 was added by the bonus pot.

Billericay in Bloom

Prizes for Quilters

President Ed Harrison was at the Billericay in Bloom prize-giving on July 3 at the Canon Roche Social Centre, to present the prize for the 'Best Kept Large Garden' on behalf of the club.

Although Ed has been President before, this was his first official engagement as President. "I was pleased to represent the Club and it was good to see such enthusi-



asm from young and old competitors" said Ed., adding "When I arrived, Head Mike Wade and some Quilters Junior schoolkids were there, and it was pleasing that this school, home of our Ro-taKids Club, won two prizes, Best School Garden and Best School Vegetable Plot"

Entrants in the competition chose from 14 categories for domestic, school and commercial gardens, with a special award for the Best First Time Entry new entrants. Children's participation was encouraged with Best School Garden, Best School Vegetable Plot or Best Childrens Freehand Floral Arrangement classes.

Chairman of the Billericay in Bloom committee, Councillor Moira Moore was present and gave tribute to the residents, busi-



nesses, pubs, and sheltered accommodation residents who had all worked so hard to make their gardens look so beautiful.

BBC Essex Gardening presenter Ken Crowther, compered the evening.

Ed presented certificates to the third prize winner Dawn Henning and the second prize winner Mrs Mary Pellatz, but the winners of our cup were Mr and Mrs Walters (see above) who had also won this category last year.

Handing Over ... and Off Around Britain



The Handover Meeting on Monday June 29 went as usual. Well, not quite!

Retiring president Mike Ginn made no secret that one year was long enough but then admitted: "I am now your Hon Sec - what have I let myself in for now?"

Lovely wife Sue quickly reminded us on the QT: "Nothing for the moment. I am making sure we have a good break - two weeks away."

It's a cruise round the British Isles - not a train in sight for our rail buff. Hope Michael does not get seasick!

Michael dutifully handed over the chain of office to incoming pres-

ident, Ed Harrison - Ed's second term in the hot seat (shortage of volunteers, Ed?) and members and wives attending the lunch made it



a delightful social occasion. And applauded Michael's year.

Ed's Team includes the welcome return of Malcolm Acors PHPS to Club Council as Foundation and International chairman, Keith Wood takes on the mantle of Community Services Chairman, Norman Bishop takes over as Speaker Secretary from our Editor Trevor Bond, and James Ilesley adds to his load with the Interact Chairmanship.

Ed's first president's report appears on Page 1. Only eleven more to go, Ed!

Through the Lens with James Ilesley

Taking Photos on the Beach

Summer is finally here, and many of us like to spend our summers at the beach and so naturally, we take our cameras. It will generally be a nice sunny day while you are at the beach, so you'll need to keep your camera protected just as you do yourself. If you have a camera that has a filter ring then I would recommend a UV filter and a polarising filter to help improve your pictures. If you don't have a camera with a filter ring, you can always just use sunglasses for a similar effect. Even if you do have a polarising filter, UV filter and sunglasses over the lens of the camera, DO NOT point it directly at the sun



in any circumstance, as this will damage the camera's sensor, due to the lens focusing the sun's light directly on it, just like a magnifying glass.

Protect your camera

When you are not using your camera, you should keep it cool by storing it in a shaded place, or even in a cooler bag (provided there aren't any liquids in there, of course) to help prevent your camera from



When it's OK to flash at your subject



overheating. Don't put it under a towel, it will still get very hot and, to make it worse, you're stopping any breezes cooling it down.

Also if you ever need to change your lens, make sure you do it in a dust and sand free environment (as much as possible) where there is very little wind, while pointing the front of the camera to the ground, as this will help keep out any dust and sand from getting inside of your camera.

Better Technique

On to taking pictures; I would recommend using a low ASA/ISO of 100-200 max in sunny weather, with a fast shutter speed of 1/60th upwards. If your camera does not allow you to change these settings, then it will likely have a 'scene' setting for beach, which should change it to these settings. The aperture should also be reduced, ideally to the three smallest on the camera (i.e. the largest numbers). Try to ensure the sun doesn't shine directly into people's faces or it will make your subjects squint (not very flattering).

Also aim to have the sun to one side or behind you while taking pictures, as this will help keep the subject of the photo bright and clear as well as making sure you don't burn out the sensor as mentioned previously.

Lighten up that shaded area

If your subject is in the shade, such as under a tree or umbrella, I would recommend using the flash. I know it seems odd, considering it's a sunny day, but the flash will help lighten up that shaded area and give you a crisp clear picture. If your camera has the setting, use the rear curtain option to get the perfect exposure of someone in the shade.

Happy snapping!

By James Ilesley



(www.ilesleyphotographic.com)

Young Photographer

We have previously reported that our first Young Photographer competition took place around Christmas, and the winner of the competition out of 15 students from Billericay School,



Mayflower School and St. John's School in Billericay, was 17 year old Joe Neild of Billericay School.

Joe went on to win the senior cate-

What a success!



gory of the District finals this year, and was our District's entrant into

the National Finals in May.

Joe was unfortunately ill when he and his fellow finalists were invited to the club to receive their certificates and prizes, and his were accepted on his behalf by his teacher, Mr Ian Coleman.

Youth Services Chairman James Ilesley visited Billericay school recently to handover a donation from the Rotary Club of Billericay to Billericay School Photographic department, in recognition of Joe's achievement, together with the winner's certificate signed by Rotary of Great Britain President Peter King, for Joe Neild's first place in the District 1240 finals.

And that's not all!



We are now at the end of the school year at Quilters Junior School, and many of our RotaKids are moving to a new Senior School. They will be sorely missed, but we couldn't let the year end without recognising all they have achieved this last year.

Youth Services Chairman James Ilesley was on hand at a spe-

cial Assembly at Quilters Junior School on Thursday July 9, with President Elect Mike Sinclair, and HeadMaster Mike Wade.

Mike Wade started the assembly by celebrating the success of the school's first RotaKids and its major achievements.

Introducing us as representatives

of Rotary, he said "Rotary means Service above Self in helping others, and that is what you have done in your fundraising for Brain Tumour Research this year. You will see that, as you are selfless in helping others, then you'll find others like you, and together you can achieve great things" he added. And a forest of hands rose in the air when he asked "who wants to be a RotaKid next year?"



Each RotaKid was presented with a Certificate of Achievement by Mike Sinclair recognising all they have done in the past year.

Mike Sinclair complimented them all their great work "It is an honour to recognise all that Quiltonians RotaKids have achieved this year" he said, as he handed each of them their Certificates of Achievement.



Billericay Summerfest

Kids will always love balloons - which is why our modest Balloon Race effort at the Mayflower Club's Summerfest at Sun Corner



on July 12 kept everyone happy - not least those club volunteers who, with the

wonderful help of our Interact members from Billericay School, managed to enjoy the occasion. They blew up and labelled the special club balloons, then helped them to send them into the air, trying to avoid the trees in a strong but useful wind. And every kid received a packet of sweets. With 11,000 balloons and a gas canister totalling £500 in all for the effort, we did not expect to make a profit but we did not fall too short - raising a total of

Flying High and Handsome



almost £400 at £2.00 a ticket. As president Ed said: " We never expected to sell them all. But I am pleased we made such a great effort and it was about Rotary fellowship. We had lots of enquiries about Rotary. And we can use



Interact Club Helps Out

the left-over balloons on another occasion - the Christmas Market?"

There were a few that might be considered worthy of the Trades Description Act - deflating before take off. We gladly found them others which did the business.

There is always one of course! Danny Lovey (Basildon Concord) bought three - and jokingly threatened to report us under the Trades Description Act. We replaced them and suggested he hung to them and did a Mary Poppins. His reply is not mentionable!

Considering the "opposition" - the Fun Walk (see Page 7), Wimbledon men's final on the box (might have been different if Andy Murray had been involved) and the Test match finishing in four days! Mayflower must be delighted with their day. The weather was dry, the stalls were busy all day and the showground and bandstand staged some brilliant entertainment. We applaud their success. And we played our part..

Quilters Junior School Fete



Quilters held its major fundraising event - the school fete - on Saturday June 26, and Quiltonians RotaKids were on hand to help with the fundraising and with a special broadcast from the QFM Radio Station, sponsored by our Rotary Club. There were the usual school fete



events, with a bouncy castle, big slide, and many other delights including Game Stalls, a Penalty shoot out, a Craft Market, food outlets and many other stalls including a Photo Booth.

But the highspot of the day - none other than Headmaster



Mike Wade, who has been such a supporter of RotaKids in the last year.

Mike dressed up as a .. Well you decide! and, suffered an hour in the "Stocks" bombarded with



water by his students.

Mike took it all in a good spirit, and he finished to very well deserved applause from all the spectators.



Something to Brighten your Day

Mid-Life Crises

You're aging when your actions creak louder than your words.....

Milton Berle

You know you are getting old when everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work -

Bob Hope

There are three signs of old age. One is loss of memory. I forget the other two -

Red Skelton

Middle age is when your wife tells

you to pull your stomach in and you already have -

Jack Barry

If you're old enough to know better, you're too old to do it -

George Burns

If I had my life again I'd make the same mistakes, only sooner -

Tallulah Bankhead

It's so long since I've had sex I've forgotten who gets tied up -

Joan Rivers

Old Age? That's when you buy a see-through nightgown and then cannot remember anyone who can still see through one -

Bette Davis

The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want, drink what you don't like and do what you would rather not -

Mark Twain

Early to rise, early to bed makes a man healthy, wealthy and dead -

James Thurber

Club Tit-Bits

Announced on Monday July 13, Peter and Christabel Strong have their first grandchild - Sophie. Congratulations are in order.

Congratulations to Rotarian Patrick Rotheron who celebrated his birthday this month. Thanks for the drinks, Patrick! James Ilesley's wife Debbie and Keith's wife Gillian both celebrated their birthday at the end of last month.

Dinner at Beauvoir Arms - August Bank Holiday. Private Room, 3-course a la carte menu at £25 per head (members £14). Drinks extra. Deadline - confirm by Aug. 10.

Rotarian Patrick Rotheron and his wife Carol have a son, Mark, living near Melbourne, Australia. Now another son, David, will be moving to Abu Dhabi in the next few months. It's a global village!

A club visit to the Gazette offices in Chelmsford in August, exact date to be confirmed. Gazette Editor, Alan Woods says; "I am delighted that the Rotary Club of Billericay want to come to see how we operate. Although Friday is not a full working day for us, it's a great opportunity for your members to be shown around, see our technology and meet our staff." Members are urged to attend.

Rotary Club of Billericay – Forthcoming Club Meetings and Club Events

Location - Reids Billericay



We meet on Mondays at 12.45 for 13.00

On a month's fifth Monday, please check the

website.

Reids, 66-68 Laindon Road, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9LD Tel: +44 1277 632378

July 27

Margaret Mills - "Skeletons in their ..."

August 3

Karen Lehner – Riding for the disabled

August 10

District Governor Alan Clark Visit

August 10 (18.30 - 20.30)

Council and Joint Services Meetings

August 17

Business Meeting

August 24

Fellowship Meeting

August 31

No Meeting - Bank Holiday

Other dates for your diary:

August 7 or 14

Visit to Gazette Offices

August 31

Social Evening at Beauvoir Arms

September 3-6

Twinning visit to Karlshamn

November TBD

Young Chef Competition

November 1

Charter Lunch