



Thank you All!



This is the last article I will write as President – unless I get invited back

to do the job again. On June 29th, I will hand over to Ed Harrison.

I joined the club at the end of 2009, having been invited to a lunch by Ben Clarke. I can't remember what Roger Kettle said at my information meeting, but whatever it was, it was decisive in making me want to join. So, thanks, Roger and Ben. Without you, I would have missed out on so much fellowship.

At the start of my Presidential year, Immediate Past President Keith advised me that the more

Over and Out!

I put into my office, the more I would get out of it. Those were wise words and I feel as if things could scarcely have turned out any better. Not only have I had a great time serving as your President, but Sue has been swept along on the ride and when I asked her this morning she thought she wished she had done more, but she had enjoyed it too.

I have been startled by the support I have had. I don't think it was directed at me personally, but the ethos of the club seems to have embedded in it “we will support our President.” Why else would 29 otherwise sane and rational people join me and Sue on an outing to the Bluebell Railway and a ride from Sheffield Park to East Grinstead and back. (Sue is used

In This Month's Issue

1. President's Message
1. Contents
- 2/8. Something Nasty in the ...
2. Inner Wheel
- 3/4. The Train now standing ..
- 4/5. Indulging a Passion
5. Two War Heroes
- 6/7 Kids Out
8. A Question of Will Power
8. AGM & Club Assembly
9. An Excellent Year
10. RIBI “GO” Seminar
10. A Strong Performance
11. The Big Quiz
12. Brighten your day
12. Club Tit-bits
12. Forthcoming Events

to these things. She once crossed the USA by train with me). I am writing this the day before the event. We'll discover tomorrow how it works out.

So, farewell to the office of President. I have presided over my last club Assembly and Ed is now taking over the reins. I will go back to writing the book I have done so little work on since I was elected. I may also have some time for our garden.

But my main feeling will be one of gratitude to the club members who saw fit to elect me. It has been a wonderful year.

By Michael Ginn, President.



Pain in Spain for Keith and Gill was nothing compared to coming home.....

Something Nasty in the Wood Shed

As I sit in the shade here in Spain in temperatures of 30C, writes Keith Wood, I'm reminded of our last visit. Following our stay, our return to the UK was marred by a voice ahead of us, an officer from Flight handling at Almeria airport stating the she was sorry but our incoming flight had been rerouted to Malaga. This was not going to be a "quick fix" as there is only the one flight a day (by trusty old Ryanair) to and from Almeria!

We were later bussed to Malaga (a journey of some three hours) where we were not greeted at all, no one expected us or knew how to reroute us to Stansted. Enquiries to Ryanair in the terminal fell on deaf ears as we trudged up and down throughout the airport between the terminals.

We eventually navigated security and boarded an unscheduled

flight after waiting for another three hours and arrived home at about 10.30pm instead of the expected 2 pm. in the afternoon.

Apologies ... No, RefreshmentsNo, Food Forget it. None on board, and not even a glass of water. Ryanair, what would we do without it? Love it or hate it, it never fails to surprise...

Only a few drops ...

Nevertheless we were home, not damaged, still in good spirits and we'd enjoyed our holiday!

Before we had set off ten days earlier, as we were packing (last thing, as usual) we lost our power, due to a slight water leak from our central heating trickling from a pipe just above our boiler. It was 11pm at night, not really the time to call a plumber and after all we were leaving for the airport at 4am!! So being the so called

practical guy I am, after consulting with Her that is more so, we made a joint decision to place a shallow plastic container under the pipe to catch the "few drops" that were dripping. And alert my son, Lloyd to empty the container each day, until we got home. We did, he did, and despite day one when he had to replace the shallow container with a meat tin as it had overflowed, we were regularly updated with texts and images showing how well controlled it had all been!

"Can you smell something?"

Fast forward to our arrival home ten days later. Feeling somewhat weary, slightly thirsty and a tad hungry, we entered the house, just grateful to be home.

Only to be met by a strange smell....

"Can you smell something Gill" I asked gingerly. (continued on page 8)

Inner Wheel Report

Tipping the Scales for Mary's Meals

Hello Rotarians,
In the March newsletter I wrote about the charity called Mary's Meals which provides meals to some of the world's poorest children and who also have a project to provide educational materials and backpacks. There was a picture of the backpacks collected by our district. The organisers of the charity in the UK wrote to our district to say we had provided the 1,000,000th backpack which was really good to know. We knew the number had reached nearly 1,000,000, but are thrilled it was our districts donations that tipped



the number over.

We held our AGM a little early on June 3 with Lilian handing over to

Angela. The club has seen changes in Inner Wheel and has reduced in size but never in enthusiasm. Our events are smaller but we are still able to support a number of charities and are very pleased to have two new members and one returning member joining us. We enjoy freshly cooked lunches on meeting days and will continue at present to meet in the homes of two of our members and if we are lucky enough to grow more in numbers, we've already got a venue sorted!

We look forward to hosting the children from Ukraine next month which always starts our new Inner Wheel year.

By Maya Gupta, Inner Wheel correspondent

The Train Now Standing

President Mike sees a dream come true



In stentorian and true British Rail tone and spirit, the station announcer at Sheffield Park informed us:

“The train now standing at No2 platform is the 12.15 to East Grinstead, stopping at Horsted Keynes and Kingscote. Estimated time of arrival is 1.00pm. Reserved coach and buffet car are towards the front of the train which will be shortly ready to depart. We wish everyone a good journey.”



There it was waiting for us, 29 members and partners looking forward to going back in time when steam prevailed as the great locomotives hurtled gog-eyed passengers all over Britain – a gleaming green and black Southern Railway loco. Pristine.

And as we piled into carriages that reminded all of us of great



train rides, and took seats with friends and colleagues, one man stood and herded his flock like the



good shepherd he is, our retiring president, Michael Ginn, sun hat furrowing a worried brow yet that huge smile on his face. Alongside him his loving and attentive wife Sue. This was Michael's Day – his President's Day as he prepared to stand down after a great year of service to the club. And it was a dream come true. Mike, the railway buff, the man who has endorsed the wonderful world of steam and railways, finally getting us all together for a ride on a steam train.

It may have been only the tourist's Bluebell Line in East Sussex, hardly the Orient Express or the Trans-Canada Rockies but it was a steam train and puffed out smoke, whistled going through a tunnel, went slowly up inclines and speeded up down them, but it was a STEAM TRAIN.

Behind Mike's smiling delight, he

admitted: “I have been worried about today. I just wanted it to be a good day.”

Well, Mike. Rest easy. What a wonderful time we all had. Great ride, great conversation, great fun – one four-seating table, no names, behaving like schoolkids on their first outing – raucous laughter which would have never been smiled on in Victorian times but a measure of just how much we all enjoyed ourselves.

Chance at East Grinstead while the engine turned round for the return trip to take photographs –



not least the “groupie” - with our two “professional” snappers, James and Peter dashing to and fro ensuring everyone was in the album. Then back to Sheffield Park and a wonderful carvery choice and desert meal in the impressive station restaurant and bar. And Michael, still hovering, still determined that we were all having fun, insisted on paying for our drinks..

(continued on next Page)

The Train (continued)

On route to Sheffield Park, he took over the mike -Michael on the Mike – and set the scene with a brief (well, almost brief) history of the Bluebell Line. The only previous time I had travelled on it was back in the 1970's with my family. Then the line went only a few miles. Since then it has been opened up by a host of volunteers - we were told approx. 500 work to maintain it and keep it up to scratch for everyone's enjoyment. I remember my previous visit well. It was the Saturday that Arthur Ash became the first black man to win Wimbledon, beating Jimmy Connors in a five-set final. That dates me!

Back at Sheffield Park and after



the lunch, there was just enough time to visit the locomotive sheds, take "train" pictures and see them restoring "Beachy Head", a former Southern Railway loco. Quite magnificent and will be a wonderful asset for future parties like ours. For railway buffs like Michael and past president Malcolm Acors it was fascinating insight into the past but also into how the age of steam lives on.



Regrettably, for the garden lovers amongst us, it left no time for a visit to the Sheffield Park gardens. One for another time and a future president ?

Thank you Michael. A great President's Day and a wonderful way for us to say thank you and remember your proud and eventful year as our boss!

By Trevor Bond

Indulging a passion

Up North and Down South

June 2 was a cloudy day, but it was the day I had chosen for my three day trip to start, reports President Mike Ginn. This was purely and simply to indulge my love of trains. On that day, it was catch the 10:37 a.m. out of Billericay to go to Dundee. Sue dropped me off at the station. Into Liverpool Street. Then round the Circle Line to Kings Cross. Kings Cross to Edinburgh. Finally, Edinburgh to Dundee. I got to Kings Cross to find I had a diesel Intercity 125 to take me to Edinburgh rather than these new-fangled electrics. Just like old times. It was a diesel because the train was going on to Inverness and the line from Edinburgh to Inverness is not electrified. There is a new flyover to take trains to Cambridge at Hitchin so that they do not have to block the

path of trains heading south when they turn right. But a kind ticket inspector asked to see my ticket at Hitchin and I missed the flyover. Unhappy bunny. But I marvelled again at the power of the train as it soared up Essendine bank as fast as Mallard came down it on July 3, 1938. Stops in my old hunting grounds of York, Newcastle and Berwick. Then Edinburgh.

When I used to commute on this line, the most powerful diesel of its day could do Kings Cross to Edinburgh in six hours with one stop. We had taken four hours 23 minutes with four stops. Little by little over the last 50 years, curves have been straightened but the big difference is that the trains of fifty years back cruised at 100 mph when the line permitted (which was not often). Nowadays much of the journey could be at 125 mph. No wonder the train was pretty full. Then on to Dundee. When you come out of the station at Dundee, there is a sailing ship

on display across the road which has associations with Scott and Shackleton. It is the Discovery. It



is on permanent display there. The next day, June 3, showed what a sad case a train buff could be. I was on the station ready for the 9:32 to Penzance. It had come from Aberdeen, but it left Aberdeen at 8:20 and I didn't fancy being up that early, so I started at a more reasonable hour from Dundee. It took 12 hours 11 minutes to cover nearly 700 miles. Lots of lovely sights and much of the line I had never travelled before. There is no great spectacle like the Discovery when you get to Penzance. (continued on Page 5)

The Bomber Who Shot Down a Fighter

Norman Wilson has regaled us many times about his own exploits as a second world war flying boat pilot. On June 8, he paid tribute to another flying veteran and told the story of Dick Bailey, a personal friend.

Bailey was in the US 9th Air Force. His flying career started when he was young and qualified as a pilot at 17 – after enlisting never having told him that he could fly having had lessons at his local flying club. After training Dick joined 322 squadron 450th bomb group, 9th Air Force flying Martin “Murderers” - sorry “Marauders”, a reputation earned



from the high crash rate caused by Curtiss electric variable pitch propellers going into “fully fine” with runaway engines if the batteries were not fully charged.

(Thank you, Norman, for explaining this highly technical situation to we who've never flown a plane!)

Dick, casual as ever, said simply: “No problem”. His squadron flew in formation across the Atlantic via Florida, the Azores to Andrewsfield from where they carried out daylight raids over Eu-

How two war heroes from across the pond became great friends



rope. At the end of the war he had completed 65 daylight operations and been awarded

two Distinguished Flying Crosses. Norman recounted Dick's memory of the attack on December 23, 1944 by ten aircraft despatched from 450th Squadron in a group formation of 33. Objective - destroy the Euskirchen Bridge to hamper the flow of enemy supplies to the front line. Under constant attack by 12-15 Me-109's coming at them from behind, over and under, they beat them off. Dick recounts: “ My top turret gunner, Jim Milham, who I “borrowed” for the mission was credited for one MEW-109 destroyed. My tail gunner, also “borrowed” was given credit for a “probable”. Of 65 missions, this was the most interesting. As far as Intelligence



knew, I was the only bomber pilot to shoot down a German fighter.” That, of course is barely half of Dick's story - too long to record all in our humble newsletter.

So back to Norman's personal story: “I met Dick as a result of leading a GSE team to the US in 1991. We have been firm friends ever since and met on many occasions including in June last year when he came to Normandy for the VE Day celebrations. It was the time when I was seriously ill. Brenda and I were to join him there. Instead he visited me in hospital and regrettably, I was not fully “compus mentis” at the time.”

In his vote of thanks, Malcom Acors reminded us of Norman's own war exploits in destroying the German submarines and keeping the Baltic convoys moving.

Editor's note: It is impossible in our space to record all of Norman's words. What appears is a brief precis of an historic war episode. Which is why we have decided to record Dick Bailey's full account of that historic bombing of the bridge at Euskirchen on our website. Please read it.

Indulging a passion (continued)

St Michael's Mount is a mile or two up the coast.

I felt a bit saddle sore as there had been complimentary service at my seat all the way to Plymouth. But I had comfortable lodgings in the “Longboat Inn”.



The next day was tame by comparison. Back to Paddington, across to Liverpool Street and then home. Sue was there to meet me at the station.

What a wonderful wife!

By President Michael Ginn

Kids Out Day At The Zoo

Parrots, Meerkats and a taste of Jungle magic

A Hollywood star once said: "Never act with kids nor animals. They'll steal all your thunder and you'll end up loving or hating them." And, to paraphrase the song "We're all going to the zoo tomorrow." Well, we did.

On June 10 we stalwart band of six club Rotarians would have to beg to disagree. Annual Rotary KidsOut Day – this year at the



request of Thriftwood School, our chosen charity, we took 31 disadvantaged children to the Tropical Wings zoo at South Woodham Ferrers – some eight or so years since we had been there before.

The sun shone, the animals were unbelievably active and noisy, the butterflies brilliant, Wallabies had their kids in their pouches, the Meerkats funnier than in the TV ads and the kids – just wonderful.



Through its amazing and life-changing work, KidsOut gives disadvantaged children positive experiences to support them becoming future members of our society and workforce. In its 25th Anniversary Year it brings fun and happiness into the lives of these children.

The first Rotary KidsOut Day took place 25 years ago on 13th June 1990 on a much smaller scale compared with today. It was organised by Kingston Rotary Club and Littlewoods organisation as a trial day out. The event proved to be very successful and the rollout

In their smart new-look KidsOut T-shirts with the smiley face logo and their blue caps (all specially designed by Rotary for the event), they were a superb bunch of excited, well-behaved and happy kids – it was a delight to “act” with them. We six were there to enjoy their



soon began across the UK.

Nowadays, KidsOut in partnership with Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI), takes up to 25,000 disadvantaged children on a Day Out to attractions across the UK. It provides the children with an experience that brings both fun and happiness into their lives. The Day Out could be as simple as visiting the seaside, zoo or theme park but for the children who attend, it is often a once in a lifetime experience.

More than 100 venues and 10,000 Rotary volunteers make the Day Out the success that it is.

company and give moral support to the eleven staff and carers whose patience and understanding of the problems never ceases to amaze us. They did the hard work, shepherding and controlling the “crocodiles” - this with something (Continued on next Page)



KidsOut (continued)

like seven or eight other coach parties of children all wanting to see the same things.



We were all impressed with the Tropical Wings organisation.

A meet and greet staff member on every coach on arrival to explain everything (something that we did



not encounter at previous venues), great help with any queries regarding our picnic zone – in the Jungle Room appropriately

-and easy access to toilets and hand-washing, essential since, like all children, the Thriftwood pupils were anxious to stroke as many animals and birds as they could.



Debra Stanley, teacher and leader of the school pack of volunteers, was fulsome in praise. “We cannot thank the Rotary Club of Billericay enough for our lovely day and for the superb picnic provided. We do hope we can come back here next year.”



My thanks to our volunteers, my co-organiser Norman Bishop, Ed Harrison, Peter and Wendy Greene and James Ilesley – and

to Peter and James who ensured that everything and everybody was captured on camera. (Peter has arranged to send a selection of photographs to Thriftwood).



Also to Phillips coaches for their excellent delivery and return (an email has been sent to them) and to Tina and her staff at “Enjoy ..Cakes ~ Cafe” for supplying such a magnificent picnic at low cost (Norman Bishop has written to her personally to thank her.)



End of a long day

I have thanked Tropical Wings for their excellent support.

As the pupils lined up to go back, these were some of the comments to the question:

What did you enjoy most?

“The parrots, especially the one who said “Hello”the butterflies.... the meerkats... the lunch!”

And there was the staff member who weighed in with “the lovebirds”.....Didn't we all! Ah, happy memories!

By Trevor Bond



Speakers' Corner (continued)

A Question of Will Power

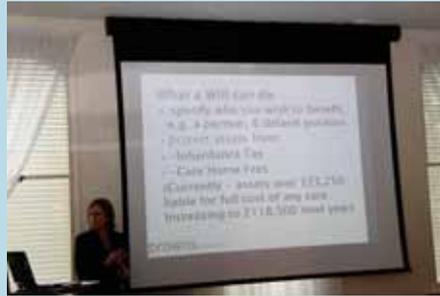
What a tangled web we weave! As it proved when Maria Cordell, a local solicitor gave us a presentation: Making A Will – A Quick Guide, on June 1.

Few speakers in recent memory have, as our president pointed out, been bombarded (no other word for it) with so many questions.



This after Maria, from High Street firm Browns, clarified all the

options, problems and necessities when planning what amounts to one's inheritance – and that for a club membership of an age when



we are all probably into making our umpteenth will. It's an ever-changing scenario.

Facts: 73% of 16-54 year olds do not "make a will". Nor do 64% of the over 55s. She concentrated on the two subjects that might cloud our aged minds – inheritance tax and care home fees. And, cleverly, popularised it with examples from East Enders, using the Mitchell family, mother Peggy, at age 70



and how she might distribute the sum of £850,000 to her children, Phil, Grant and daughter Sam. She explained cash assets and, close to Rotary hearts, how money can be made out to charities and the key question of it all: How to do it without giving it to the taxman.

A 20 minute presentation – a 20 minute Q & A. A first?

Terrible cliché but, as Angela Merkel told David Cameron over EU representation: Where There's A Will, There's A Way." Or a relation! Thank you Maria.

Something Nasty (continued)

"No, not really, shall we unpack tomorrow" was her unusually unemotional reply.

I looked further, something unpleasant was seeping from the bottom of the freezer.

Unsympathetically I opened the freezer door. I wish I hadn't! The worst stench imaginable

ballooned out of the box followed by gungy, sticky, smelly, liquid and dripping boxes, plastic bags and packaging. What a greeting!!

Together we cleaned up, opened the doors to vent the place and placed (it that's the word) the stinking food in five black plastic bags ready for the unsuspecting

bin men the following day.

We briefly contemplated the question of insurance, but went to bed absolutely exhausted and happy the worst was all over. We were looking forward to tomorrow.

All over? Don't you believe it. I will keep you in suspense until our next issue. Don't go away!

AGM and Club Assembly



AGM - held on 18th May. Treasurer Mike's proposal that monthly subscriptions should increase from £49 to £53 with effect from July was ratified. James was congratulated on his



efforts in establishing the Rotakids Club at Quilters Junior School, and his appointment to run the District Young Photographer competition in the coming year.



Club Assembly - held on 15th June, with our Assistant Governor Steve Dempster in attendance; Rev Margaret Fowler also attended as a guest. *By Ed Harrison*

Reflecting on last year's achievements

Making a Speech in a French Sauna

It has been an exciting time for me and one I have learnt a lot in. The absolute top highlight was making a speech in French during the twinning visit to our sister Club of Beausoleil. I had a nicely prepared speech, but it was like a sauna in that restaurant and, inevitably, sweat started running into my eyes and I couldn't see my notes. So I had to make it up as I went along. I pulled it off and had a warm glow of being thankful I could still do it.

I have represented the Club on a number of occasions and been pleased to do so. The most important were probably the Charter nights of our sister Club of Basildon and our daughter Club

Mike's Report to the Club AGM

of Billericay Mayflower. At Basildon I thought I was answering the toast of "Our Guests" and discovered on arrival that I was actually toasting the host Club. That speech was impromptu and I am so grateful for the advice on what I should say from other Members of our Club who were present. At Mayflower, thankfully, others had to make the speeches.

At the beginning of my year I wanted to have able people working beside me. I have been very fortunate in the people who have agreed to serve the Club. Our

award-winning website continues to impress and I find it difficult to imagine a Club Newsletter that is better than ours. Further, we have had the launch of Rotakids at Quilters Junior School and our donation to the same school for radio equipment. The value of this donation came home to me when the girl next door told me that she had made a recording – an opportunity she would never have had without our Club's generosity. Other jobs are less visible, but nonetheless have been done excellently.

I hand over to Ed Harrison at the end of my year. I look forward to Ed's second Presidential year with great confidence.

President Mike is too modest to list all the club achievements in his year of office, so we thought we should remind the club of all we have done during the year, from his first function, for Billericay in Bloom, to his final act taking us on that memorable Bluebell line excursion (see separate report).

Support for other clubs:

- Mayflower Summerfest
- Round Table Fireworks Night
- Mayflower Christmas Market
- Basildon Magic Night
- Wickford Charity dinner
- Fun Walk Marshalling
- Basildon Bike Ride Marshalling
- Ingatestone Quiz Night
- Ongar Heritage trail
- Mayflower Nepal Appeal
- District 1240 Big Quiz at the Southend United ground
- Reading Rooms World War II Exhibition
- Fellowship trips (2) to Stort Valley club

Fundraising:

- Autumn concert at Emmanuel
- Christmas Raffle for the Fight against Ebola (Who can forget that so gracious letter of

thanks from Dr Black of MSF on how we had helped to save lives!)

Community Service:

- Cancer Awareness Day again
- Know Your Own Blood Pressure day at Waitrose
- Big Dinner for "500 Miles" helping them reach their £500,000 target
- KidsOut day at Tropical Wings Zoo for 31 disadvantaged children

International:

- Fellowship visit to Beausoleil - a sixfold assembly with Beausoleil (France) Alba & Ovada (Italy) Billericay & Basildon (UK) and Karlshamn (Sweden)
- Our first Sand Dam is built
- Donations to Masizame Children's Shelter (South Africa) - bus project

- School Uniforms for the year

Youth Activities:

- Rotakids club set up & chartered
- Radio Station QFM goes live
- Mad Hatters Day raises over £500
- Young Photographer - our first competition entry AND we win the District competition
- Interact club completes Bolivia World Challenge
- Our 2014 Young Chef wins Essex Hospitality awards Young Chef competition

Other Activities:

- First three editions of Rotary News appears in the Billericay Gazette
- Charter Lunch
- Visit to Royal Opera House workshops at Purfleet

By Trevor Bond & Peter Greene

Rotary "GO" Seminar

On June 6 Rtn Michael Sinclair and I joined 70 delegates from around the home counties for the one day "GO Seminar in Luton to "Promote Rotary".

District 1240 was proactive as our own PDG John Banks, assisted by his wife Maureen, had efficiently orchestrated the whole Event.

Apart from John's plenary sessions to begin and end the day, enthusiastic Rotarian tutors ran Workshops with the following titles:-

- *Innovative & Flexible Clubs*
- *Associate and Corporate Membership*
- *Satellite Clubs*
- *Traditional New Club Formation and e-Clubs*

These four workshops each ran four times during the Event and delegates rotated to attend each of them in turn. As our club Membership Development Officer I gathered together a set of information sheets at the conclusion of each session. The accumulative information is too diverse to pré-

Worth the effort but worries for the future

cis in this report but of particular interest to our Club was, of course, the subject of Associate Membership which we have recently initiated in Billericay.

I picked out some staggering stats: **This year 75% of RIBI Rotarians are over 60 years of age! In 20 years time, and continuing to recruit at the present rate, this figure will be approaching 90%!! Recruitment is irrevocably declining in RIBI and in the rest of western Europe while the opposite is true in the Indian sub-continent and Far East.**

And here are a few good tips:

- Clubs should consider setting up "Friends of Rotary" or a "Support Group" of volunteers to assist at club events
- All members to be involved in at least one project a year
- "Visioning" is important to

plan a club's pathway for at least the next 5 years with as many members as possible involved in this exercise

- "Youth Activities" are vitally important and should be a priority for the future of Rotary – a matter of SUCCESSION!

We found the day was well planned and well worth attending. I thought meeting and discussing Rotary matters and experiences with fellow delegates during refreshment breaks and over lunch was stimulating and we met some very interesting people (as is so often the case). It all renewed my enthusiasm for our great Movement but I was left with an underlying suspicion that RI and RIBI, in their quest to stem the declining membership, are clutching at straws and turning to desperate measures to recruit at any cost.

In conclusion, the Rotary we have grown to enjoy is inevitably changing in character in the UK, and is remorselessly on the wane.

By Peter Strong

A Strong Performance

Peter reports on some family success



Long-time Billericay Club members might recall that in the early days when Rotarians were "growing families" it was customary for new-born babes to be presented with a Holy Bible. I was reminded of this when recently coming across David's bible in our house – a Collins Illustrated Bible, beautifully inscribed in Rtn. Peter

Murray's flowing script and dated 31-7-1980.

Fast forward thirty-four years and having just returned home from our recent overseas trip we received the news that David has been promoted to technical director of Veterinary Instrumentation, a Sheffield based British company recently acquired by Henry Schein Inc. of the USA and a member of the NASDAQ 100 Index.

Website: www.vetinst.com

In this new role David will be responsible for working with global experts in veterinary surgery to develop new technologies and sur-

gical techniques, and will lead on all aspects of patent applications and intellectual property rights. He will also continue to provide technical support and clinical guidance to veterinarians globally related to challenging cases. Simultaneously David is a director of his own busy small animal veterinary practice, ROAR-Surgical Ltd., specialising in complex orthopaedic cases and receiving referrals from vets in the city of Sheffield, South Yorkshire, and Derbyshire.

Website: www.roarsurgical.co.uk

He continues to study for yet further specialised veterinary qualifications.

No Record But A Quizzical Day

When Brawn gave way to Brains at Southend United

This District organised a great event for all its clubs to raise awareness for Rotary in the community, to raise money for Lancaster special needs school in Southend, and if possible, to break the world record for the number of people taking part in a quiz.

Our club was represented by President Mike Ginn and wife Sue, and Peter Greene and wife Wendy, family and friends, all going along to Southend United Football ground on Saturday June 6, 2015.



The weather was beautiful, a classic English summer day, sunny but not too hot – which was great for the event – but not so good for getting into Southend as the traffic was horrendous! In the end, the record wasn't broken, but that made it far easier to park at the ground and enabled it to pass off without significant problems.

Is that Nick over there?

There were eight rounds of questions, each of eight questions each, and each round was sponsored by



a local business such as Waitrose in Southend, Southend Mercedes Benz, Graphic Impressions of Chelmsford, etc. with questions on subjects close to their interests.

Despite the (in)sensitivity of the microphone, with only every third word being audible, the technology and the logistics in the ground worked very well. And the microphone - that was solved by our Question master Nick Sillitoe standing at the East stand, near the base station, while the rest of us were all in the west stand. It looked as if he was afraid to be too



close to his audience (see photo to above)! ... But I'm sure that wasn't the case.

Stan did the welcome and told us of the publicity the event had

already garnered, and then it was on and into the questions!

How did we do?

Well pretty good – coming in with the third highest score thanks not only to the adults present, but also to the three answers contributed by a six year old grandchild! We all had a great time!



But that wasn't as important as the money raised and increasing awareness of Rotary.

“I always said it was a Rotary Awareness Day to raise the profile of Rotary and this was a complete success” said District Governor Stan Keller. “We had articles in several local newspapers, I was on the radio three times talking about Rotary and it was also on many Social Media sites and there were lots of leaflets around”.

“We have also raised money for Lancaster Special Needs School in Southend” he emphasized.

Something to Brighten your Day

They're back - More Jokes from Parish Magazines.

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled.

Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house.

Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Put the donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

We will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hospitality.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5 pm - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Club Tit-Bits

No Birthdays this month! We had to buy our own drinks!

Paul Carr's Gig in the Garden on July 18 at Emmanuel Church.

Anyone for soccer? Youth officer James has challenged Basildon Concord to a RotaKids Soccer match with our Quiltonians. Seven-a-side? Eleven players? Over to you James. Watch this space.

Norman Bishop is our Speaker/ Finder from July. He'll need all your ideas, support. Not least with potential names if you've heard a good speaker who is right for the Club lunch, then please let Norman know. Anything from community causes, charities, unusual, even weird subjects.. We had everything from Little Green Men to The Gold Rush in the past five years. Help Norman to beat that.

Little-known fact: Jan Bond hails from a great railway family. Her grandfather and uncle were chief signal men at Crewe, for over 50 years. No wonder she enjoyed every minute of President Mike's Bluebell Line steam ride with her knowledge of locos, track guages and the great steam trains to remember. She owns a map of every rail line that existed before Beeching.

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

June 29

Handover Meeting

July 6

Frank Rigg - Presidential Libraries

July 6 (18.30 - 20.30)

Council and Joint Services Meetings

July 13

Business Meeting

July 20

DG Alan Clark

July 27

Margaret Mills - Skeletons in their Cupboards

Other dates for your diary:

July 7

Stort Valley Rotary Club - Air Commodore Wynn - Cyber Warfare

July 12

Billericay Mayflower Summerfest Sun Corner

July 12

Billericay Fun Walk - Barleylands

September 3-6

Twinning visit to Karlshamn