

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF GOLDERS GREEN



## BULLETIN

No 77: CONFERENCE EDITION



### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

November is Rotary Foundation month



Fellows,

I am writing this having just returned from our District Conference at Eastbourne where I spent three fabulous days with fellow Rotarians, like minded people, and my wife Caronne. This was my third District Conference and it was certainly better than last year. You will no doubt read all of the reports in the bulletin from IPP Russell, who has written a book on the subject. However critical some of the views may be about the speakers and presentations, I know everyone who went had a good time and the importance of what Rotary does certainly came across. In my youth, the measure of a good time was generally how late we managed to stay up and whether we could physically stay upright. Saturday night started at 7.00pm with the gala dinner dance and ended at gone 2.30am with drinks and dancing with the DG at the Cavendish Hotel - pretty good by all accounts.

I was pleasantly surprised how much Caronne enjoyed the weekend, and how she soon began to realise the much bigger picture that Rotary is and for that reason alone I would encourage as many of you who have not been before to try and go next year, even if it's only for the day.

The past few weeks have not been too easy for me with a sudden and unexpected visit to Barnet General Hospital where I had to undergo a minor operation. I thank you all for your kind words and support during this time even if I've now heard all the bottom jokes I can take for a lifetime. Having spent three days in Barnet General I am currently looking for a publisher for my new book on the NHS.

We have had some great speakers over the past few weeks and I am grateful to Sheila for doing such an excellent job in organising them.

The recent visit by The Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Maureen Braun, was both interesting and enjoyable and I was surprised how many common connections both the club and I have with The Mayor. Her charity this year is the North London Hospice, which is well known to the club and we presented her with a cheque for — her charity.

Our ambassadorial scholar Denise Davis came to talk to us on the Monday after conference. She spoke most eloquently despite my failure to provide a projector for her presentation. We are looking forward to seeing her over the coming year and she has promised to come back towards the end of her year and tell us more.

We presented a cheque for £1,000 to Cherry Lodge Cancer Care, the bulk of which was raised from the splendid car rally organised by Keith and Gerry.

I visited the Matchstick club a few weeks ago, and whilst this means an early start for some people (for me it's a lay-in getting up at 6.30!), the meetings have always been enjoyable and I hope a number of us will go to the next meeting on Wednesday 9th January, 2008.

We still have a variety of events to look forward to. Please do use the web site which usually contains the most up to date information. In particular please don't forget Remembrance Sunday 11th November, where I hope we will have a good turn out at the cenotaph in Golders Green at 11.00am sharp, followed by an open invitation to David and Judith Cohen afterwards.

Finally, although I have said it before, I am overwhelmed by the continued support and encouragement that I receive regularly from you all, for which I thank you most sincerely. In particular, I hope that I will be able to support Howard (assuming he wants it!) in the same way that IPP Russell has supported me this year - so far...

**President David.**

**QUIZ  
?**  
**NIGHT**

*The Rotary Club*  
**of Golders Green**  
District 1130



**I am pleased to report that the quiz is a sell-out, and that the charities will benefit from what promises to be a fun evening, with good fellowship and food.**

**We wish to have a raffle and ask if fellows have any items suitable to entice participants to buy tickets, let me know in good time and bring them along on the evening—anyone contributing but unable to attend, can hand them to me.**

**A friendly reminder that we will cater for people on special diets, but can only accommodate those who give us good notice i.e. by the preceding Sunday. So do check with those you have invited to share your table if they have any special requirements and let me know.**

**PLEASE UNDERSTAND THE MEAL WILL BE PREPARED AS PUBLISHED, AND SPECIAL DISHES WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNLESS PRE-BOOKED, AS REQUESTED BY ABOVE**

## FIRST PLENARY SESSION—THURSDAY EVENING

**A**fter a delightful journey we arrived at the Lansdowne hotel shortly after 3pm. David Papier, Sheila and I then made our way to the House of Friendship in order to collect the envelopes which contained the programme, name badges etc. David Max, however had beaten us to it.

We then decided to indulge in a cup of tea which, unfortunately was not available, so we returned to the hotel where we joined our wives i.e. Sandra and Lorna and enjoyed the company of the ladies over a nice cup of tea.

The first Plenary session began at 9pm. and was presented by DG Colin. He introduced the Mayor of Eastbourne, Councillor Mary Pooley, who welcomed Conference to Eastbourne in the shortest mayoral speech I have heard since I have been attending conference, which is nearly 30 years.

The President of Eastbourne RC was then introduced and he also gave a short but witty speech. He introduced a display by the Eastbourne sea cadets, which followed.

R.I. Presidents representative Michael Colasurdo then addressed Conference bringing greetings from the R.I. President. He was to go on to give THE speech of the Conference, but that will no doubt be reported by someone else.

Finally, DG Colin introduced the RIBI Presidents representative John Hockin who brought greetings from RIBI President Allan Jagger.

The entertainment then followed and was performed by David Copperfield - not THE David Copperfield, the illusionist, but a very energetic and funny all round entertainer. The highlight of his act in my opinion was to entice two Rotarians on to the stage, who happened to be PDGs Sydney Parker and our own Robert Morris. Robert ended up dangling on David's knee like a puppet, draped in a cape ostensibly playing a Guitar which was played of course by DC. The result was quite hilarious and Robert became more famous in that five minutes than he did in his twelve month term as DG!!!

I do believe that a most enjoyable start to the Conference was had by all.



**PP David Freed**



*Robert stringing along*



*The Three Stooges*

## SECOND PLENARY SESSION -FRIDAY AM

**IPP Russell is reporting** on most of the Conference, but as he arrived in time for this session after the break, here are the main points from the start.

The introduction of further Guests was started with D13 Inner Wheel Chairman Sonja Doctor, who gave a full description of the origins and structure of her organisation, that their objective is similar to Rotary's (their own service) and that their membership is reliant on all the females of the families of Rotarians. Their numbers have declined dramatically over the past few years, and they look to Rotarians to help increase their membership.

Two visiting DGs Ray Cosgrove (1160) and Alan Knight (1250) brought greetings from their Districts, and were followed by Rotaract District Chairman, Elaine Hickey, who represents only 5 clubs in the District. It is very difficult for them to repeat the hectic activity of bygone days with such a depleted membership. She too implored Rotary to help restore their numbers, but still very positive.

The principal speaker was Chris Lowe, newsreader from BBC 24 Hours, who quickly reassured us that he did not appear to be one of the many due to be axed by his bosses! His has been an interesting life as correspondent both at home and overseas, as well as fronting various news programmes. He is a member of the MCC and a keen follower of cricket, a man with diverse interests which are very interesting.



*Chris Lowe*

### OVER TO RUSSELL



*DG Colin with RI rep Michael Colarsudo Sr*

**H**aving unfortunately missed the start of the session due to an extra hour sitting on the M25, I managed to turn up just before the refreshment break in time to enjoy the tea and coffee and fellowship. The second half of this session was a presentation from Michael Colarsudo the representative of the President of Rotary International who in fact I had the pleasure of meeting in the tea break. He spoke passionately about Rotary and his experiences of his own club Brick Township and how in order to enlarge the membership and retain those in Rotary that he set up a meeting with eleven past Presidents of the club and told them that the new members would in fact be running the committees. New ideas were proposed and modified and whilst the events were not as successful as the events that the club had held in the past, he felt it was a progressive move.

His actions as President ultimately led to six members of his club leaving! He firmly believes however that the original ideals and aims of Rotary are now being lost and he is passionate in trying to rekindle the original spirit,

whilst waving a modernisation banner. In fact Michael and his wife were invited to the Saturday lunch at the Lansdowne, and a healthy exchange of opinions took place. Whilst his approach may well be more successful in America I am now personally of the opinion that for Rotary to go from strength to strength that the original concept needs to be adjusted to reflect the changing nature of business and communities.

Michael was followed by a presentation from Canine Partners, again showing the way in which the life of disadvantaged people can be significantly enhanced. This was not only due to the help that these animals can provide and of course in the company but in breaking down barriers between the public and the recipient making the recipient "socially acceptable" and accessible and in doing so this also significantly improves the interaction with the public and therefore improves substantially the quality of life.

This aspect was advised from a recipient rather than the first section where the handlers and trainers showed us the use of dogs in a training session and therefore how practical the dogs could be. They learn 108 commands and even though training takes eighteen months, training the dog is only one part for then the recipient has to be trained in how to be able to



utilise the dog's training. The costs in acquiring and training the dog were up to £450.00 together with the ongoing contact with the recipient so that they can check progress and/or problems and resolve these. An amazingly worthwhile project and well worth Rotary's support.

### THIRD PLENARY SESSION

This started off with John Hockin, RIBI President's rep and detailing the reduction of membership over the last four years of 255 members which would be representative of approximately ten clubs in the district. His approach was a little condescending and dictatorial rather than instructive, and overall my impression was that he was not well received by the audience. He further reinforced Michael's view of new clubs not being hampered from baggage of the past, and that the attitude of Rotary should be attractive to new members and to be inclusive of a winning group and that the core values of Rotary should be followed - being fellowship and personal development together with that of Foundation. He spoke about a club leadership plan to involve the above and detail club activities both local and national, and to enhance the public relations aspect telling everyone what Rotary can do.



***The forthright John Hockin in full flow***

He advised that the future of Rotary rested with the membership in the auditorium and that the approach should be one of attractive activities rather than simple recruitment. He advised that evil people succeed because good people do nothing and Rotary could die if we do nothing. All in all, we were being spoken to rather than being included and the experience was more of a teacher telling off a naughty pupil

Following from this, John Hurt was supposed to be presenting the Project Harar. He was however unable to attend, and the video clip prepared also malfunctioned and the presentation was therefore made by Jonathan Crown the founder and director. The lives of those in Ethiopia were explained from those with relatively minor disfigurements to those with tumours, all of which could be helped. The style of living and expectations in Ethiopia, Jonathan explained, are completely different from the Western world, they have a simple lifestyle and in his experience this led to a happier ethos and the main concern was of day to day survival rather than further enhancement. All in all a moving talk, however there was significant disappointment that John Hurt was not presenting this.

Following on from this, Professor Colin Cooper spoke about cancer research and his speciality of prostate cancer and how common this was in the UK and that this was almost certainly dietary affected. There are virtually no cases in Japan whereas in the UK one in three men will suffer from this and one in four will die. The presentation itself was not well thought out; it did not capture the attention within the auditorium and was another opportunity for some to catch up on missed sleep.

The session ended with Ben Hunt-Davis and on reading the notes in the conference book has been a performance coach for the last five years helping people to adapt to a changing environment. His presentation was full of energy, thought provoking and from the second he walked on stage was able to hold the room with his energy. He spoke about his ten year plan in rowing, culminating in the 2000 Olympic Games and started to discuss those things that the team may have done differently. His team, leading up to the Olympics had done relatively well, however had always finished between 6 and 8 in the world and they thought therefore whether there were any aspects of what they had been doing could be different. The whole team had the same goal albeit had different ways in preparing themselves. However, they all had the same burning desire. They knew that they were not the best team in the world and had already exceeded expectations by reaching the final (this being the top 6 teams), and there were no other expectations on the team itself from outside as this was their top position over the last 10 years! However, the team knew they could do better. They adopted the philosophy: 'what can they do today -and will it make the boat go faster'.



***A proud Ben & medal***

They decided to change their race plan which previously had been go fast to start, cruise and then sprint and to change their philosophy to today's a good day because they are going to make it a good day. Their philosophy, therefore, was to start as fast as they possibly could over the first 500 metres and then in the next 500 metres go even faster and in the third 500 metres go even faster and in the fourth and final 500 metres to simply hang on as best they could. Ben brought with him a video of the race which we watched, and even though we all knew the outcome of the race this did not diminish from the excitement and adrenalin that had built up the roars and cheers from the audience when his boat came in first was a spontaneous reaction. He confirmed that how important it was to try to change and develop and that his *raison d'être* was - will it make the boat go faster ? and that this should be your overall philosophy in your own particular circumstances.

This presentation was such a significant contrast to the start of the session everyone left the room on a high with encouragement that if this approach was used in Rotary that Rotary could also take on the world.

#### FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

The session opened with the parade and presentation of this year's Presidents, and proudly we cheered our President, David.

Penny Mallory was the first speaker, and spoke about her childhood which was far from easy, and her goals and significant achievements having started from a poor and disadvantageous family position and life style. She spoke about her world rally adventure, her experiences working on national TV and the personal



*Guess who, well you know who*

challenge of trying to run the marathon, all of which showed her amazing determination and character. She believes that it was possible to achieve these amazing feats by picturing in her mind what she wanted to achieve and she quoted



*Penny Mallory*

the saying of " future history ", this being bold predictions of where she would go and what she could do. She was of the same opinion that she could do something fantastic but knew that the journey would be difficult. She spoke of her personal experiences with her philosophy that "if you think you can, or if you think you can't, you are probably right", and that if you have the right mindset your achievements are without bounds. A sensational, motivational speaker and then, as if this was not enough, she spoke about Barnardos and how its philosophy mapped out her life, and transforms lives, and allows children to fulfil their potential and made her experiences relevant to the actions of Barnardos. A very well received presentation invigorating the room at the start of this session.

This was followed by the winner of Youth Speaks. The presentation of this was from the City of London School for Boys who had won the district final and regional final. The boys were well presented, well spoken and a strong advocate for Youth Speaks and gave a talk on education and how society, schools, businesses and government focus on results. An amazing amount of insight was given from the team, and the crux of the presentation was that proper education in life is not exam orientated and therefore the education process is more about learning how to pass an exam. The students of today are learning more and more about less and less and that the emphasis should be the candidates rather than the process of the exam. The exam results only tell you the level of excellence that the student has achieved in the exam and not about the intellect of the student which is made up of insight, judgement, shrewdness and wisdom, rather than just an ability to memorise answers.

It would appear that the education system is now failing to understand what it is to educate and is concentrating on the competence of exam technique which cannot be to the students' long term advantage.



*Richard Stilgoe & Orpheus Centre people*

After this there was a refreshment break and back into the hall for Richard Stilgoe and the Orpheus Centre. Following on from two wonderful sessions, Richard Stilgoe and representatives from the Orpheus Centre, a school where the students have a three year residence being fully inclusive for able and less able students to study understand and write music. There was a presentation from the students as to the way they develop using

modern techniques to create music and song which clearly would not be possible in other circumstances. Richard Stilgoe hoped that what he could do would be making a difference, and clearly it did. In simple terms, the philosophy of the Chicken Shed has been extended and enhanced and another sensational presentation which invoked a standing ovation and tears to many.

This was followed by the District Governor's address, which after the ovation and adrenalin from the whole day and particularly Richard Stilgoe, came across as a stark contrast, as it was necessarily a serious message often heard before. Possibly this would have been better delivered immediately after the break, or even earlier in the day.



## FOUNDATION SESSION, SATURDAY PM

The afternoon session would need to hopefully re-dress the balance, for whilst there had been many - without overstatement - actually great sessions, this was now the turn of Foundation. In previous years the format for Foundation had changed, and again a new format was adopted. In my mind, and in discussions with those in the room, the session was as close to disastrous as could be, and the only saving grace



*GSE Team from Melbourne*

was in fact that England were playing South Africa in the Rugby Cup Final which more than a few were looking forward to, even though this would clash with the Gala Dinner and Ball. The organisers of the Foundation session believed that they could present this off-stage and this took me back to my youth to a childrens programme where it started off with "this is the voice of the mysterons" not exactly knowing what was going to happen next - would it be sensational or not, and unfortunately the "or not" wins.

The lack of a physical presence meant that the co-ordination was poor, no connection was made with the team or the audience and many, due to this again took the opportunity to snooze, myself included - however hard I fought to resist. The

initial presentation started badly, and continued in the same vein as the ambassadorial scholars were asked to speak in their native tongue (who but a linguist would think that to listen to up to 8 students and not understand a word would go down well - the answer is of course a District Governor ) even though they all spoke English, as half were American - luckily we nearly understood what they meant at least ! So now not only could we not see



*Ambassadorial Scholars, 2007*

who was presenting it, we couldn't understand the majority of the ambassadorial scholars. This in my mind was even a bigger mistake than the Labour Party suggesting that they may call an election until they realised they would lose.

Those who had decided to come to the Foundation presentation had come to see and hear and were let down by an ill-conceived idea that was so clearly not working after the first five minutes it should have been abandoned, rather than persevered with. The farce continued to such an extent that even at the end of the presentation - or so we thought as everyone was leaving the auditorium those 'presenting' the event as they were off-stage and being completely unaware that the majority of the audience had left carried on!

Prior, of course, to everyone getting up and going we were glued to the seats by Jim Moulson who unfortunately was not invigorating enough, and the overall impression was that the session would have been best missed, not only from those who clearly missed it, but those who now had, unfortunately, attended.

Clearly, those organising the District Conference need to see the presentations prior to these being made, for attendance at Conference will only diminish unless one can state categorically that all is improving, for last year was poor, and whereas this year the good and perhaps the great has outweighed the bad, this is not the way to encourage more to attend District or to invigorate those currently in Rotary to develop and enhance both their own involvement and those of others.

### SIXTH AND FINAL SESSION, SUNDAY

**J**oe Cannon, ex Royal Navy, became involved as a volunteer with the Shelter Box Trust immediately after the Boxing Day Tsunami. With a background in survival equipment and training, he was eminently suited to the job.

Shelter boxes contain a 3-room tent and basic tools and cooking utensils. When a disaster occurs, aid ideally must be in place by the third day and certainly before the end of the third week. Shelter boxes can usually be on site to cover that crucial period, mainly because of the distribution network provided by local Rotary Clubs.

The Trust operates from Helston, where a stock of boxes is kept ready for any sudden need. Boxes have been sent to recent disasters in Lebanon, Africa, South America, Jakarta, and many other destinations. Thousands of boxes have been distributed in the short life of the Trust. As each consignment is accompanied by a team, volunteers are always needed, so if you think you can help, contact Joe at the Shelter Box Trust.

The session ended with complimentary summings up by the Reps, followed by adverts for next year's conferences in April (RIBI Blackpool), June (RI, Los Angeles) and October (D1130 Eastbourne). And presentation of a picture of Bob the Builder (remember him) for PDG Don Merritt, Chairman of four Conferences.



*Remember Bob the Builder?*

**Katy**

**The editor regrets that space for Conference reports has run out. There are other, more in depth reports still coming in, and it is promised that they will appear in the Christmas edition of the Bulletin**



**Talking of which, the offer to print seasons greeting is once again made for the next issue -Xmas. You can save the cost of 40 cards and postage by simply giving me a short message together with a £10 note for charity. It is also Chanukah time, and for the same consideration, you can have a greetings slot.**



## 2007-8 AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR



The club's Ambassadorial Scholar this year, hosted by myself, is Denise Davis, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Redlands, California.

Denise is 24 years old (just!) and was born and bred in Las Vegas, Nevada. Her principal hobbies are basketball and travelling and looking after her 12 year old cat, Molly. She studied at the University of Redlands where she majored in Social Psychology of Gender and Multiculturalism for Social Change, a course tailor-made for herself, this university specialising in courses which students choose for themselves. In 2004, Denise studied the Psychology of Inner Personal Relationships at the University of Salzburg and in 2005 undertook a multiculturalism course in London, taking the opportunity to work for the Fair Trade Foundation.

In 2006 she was employed in the Department of Student Affairs in the University of Oregon. On the 1st January 2007 she featured prominently on the Rose Parade float of the University of Redland, which was celebrating its centenary.

Denise was so entranced by London on her first visit that, when she learned of the Ambassadorial Scholarship programme, she was determined to apply with a view to studying here and was accepted by the London School of Economics for its course on Social and Cultural Psychology. Unfortunately, her application, submitted by the Rotary Club of Redlands, either never reached or was mislaid by RI headquarters in Evanston and, after considerable to-ing and fro-ing of correspondence, she was eventually offered a scholarship tenable in China, which she declined. Eventually, however, her application to study at LSE was approved.

Denise's ambition is to achieve a doctorate and to teach at university level. In the meantime, apart from her academic studies, she wishes to be involved in voluntary work and has already established a contact with the Helen Bamber Foundation, which offers therapeutic treatment to those traumatised by violence and abuse, when she attended a rally in Trafalgar Square and had a lengthy conversation with Emma Thompson, a strong supporter of the Foundation. Denise also hopes to help with our own club's charitable and social activities, academic time permitting. She, of course, attended the District Conference in Eastbourne and all who met her there and at the club's meeting on the 22nd October will have been charmed by her outgoing personality and her enthusiasm for Rotary. She has already become firm friends with Sandra and myself and I am sure that ther club will be seeing much more of her during the next twelve months.



**David Max, PP.**

## PROFILE: FORTY YEARS A MEMBER OF GOLDERS GREEN

May I start with a confession ? If I had been asked in 1965, when I was a university teacher in the centre of London, whether I'd be interested in becoming a Rotarian, I would have declined. Rotary's image as a rather elitist organisation could not easily be reconciled with my general outlook on things. Why should I choose to join a dining club, whose members were chosen because of their status, not because of common interests. When I was approached by the Founder President of the recently formed Rotary Club of Golders Green



about possible membership, I was in the second year as principal of a College of Education for intending specialist speech, drama and English teachers. I loved my new job, the bubbly community of staff and students and their enthusiasm for what they were doing, but I was increasingly concerned that the students were somewhat inward-looking, and totally preoccupied with dramatic productions they were involved with. The possibility that association with a Rotary Club concerned with local community service might offer opportunities to broaden stage-struck students' horizons, persuaded me to accept the invitation to join; and soon after I did get students involved with a variety of community activities, entertaining residents of old people's homes and the like.

The service side of Rotary was to me of primary importance, the fellowship aspect was a welcome by-product but not the mainspring of a Rotary club. What also attracted me greatly and has done so ever since, was the international involvement of our Club and of Rotary in general. Getting involved with Foundation projects, with Book Aid International, being counsellor to innumerable Foundation Scholars over the years, keeping in touch with many of them, attending nearly all the reunions with contact clubs, acting as interpreter and making new friendships with French and German fellow-Rotarians, these are amongst the highlights of my years in Rotary.

I probably helped to remove initial doubts on the part of Golders Green members about a possible link with a German club. The suggestion came from the Founder President of the Meudon Club, Georges Mouthon, a very committed European, anxious that conflict with Germany that had resulted in three wars over a hundred years, should never reoccur. For understandable reasons, Jewish members of our Club remembering the horrific events of recent times, had strong reservations. If these were finally overcome, it was due in part to my own stance. If someone with my background having come to England as a refugee, and having close members of his family end up in extermination camps, yet favoured a German link, others began to change their minds. There have been no regrets since and the bond with Celle Schloss has gone from strength to strength. I was particularly touched the way members of the Celle Club having taken Herta, my late wife, to their hearts, extended their friendship to Annie when they came to know her four years after Herta's death.

This finally brings me back to the fellowship aspect of my being a Rotarian. While I continue to believe that service is paramount and that fellowship largely results from shared commitments rather than being the prime objective, I owe a great deal to Rotary fellowship. This was brought home to me particularly at the time of Herta's death in 1986 and my link with Annie in 1990. The concern and warmth conveyed by fellow members of our Club during Herta's illness and after her death when practically every member came to the funeral touched me deeply. As to the very circumstances of Annie and myself coming together, it is entirely thanks to Rotary fellowship. Annie, having herself been left on her own in 1986, friends of hers, Aileen and Golders Green Rotarian Bernie Brandon, took her under their wing, brought her to District Conferences in Eastbourne and to other Rotary functions, in effect turning out to be Rotary matchmakers of my bond with Annie, which has given a new lease to my life.  
Thank you, Rotary !

### PP Klaus

#### INVALIDS REPORT

\* Roy has been making a steady recovery after all the health problems during the summer. It is good to see him back regularly at club, and we hope that soon he will be able to discard his walking stick, as I don't like it making him look like an old man.

\* BK has been having investigations and treatment, which prevented him from attending Matchstick earlier this month. We send him our best wishes, and hope we see more of him at club.

\* Our President David has made a quick recovery from his recent operation—we all know where it was, and he is tired of the schoolboy jokes about that part of his anatomy that seemed to be the source of bum "jokes"

RIBI PRESIDENT Allan Jagger will speak at the London Club Leverton Day lunch on Monday 19th November. He will also be at Bush Hill Park's meeting on the Wednesday 21st, a chance to meet and hear him. If you are going please let their club secretary know



*Chris writes:*

*Two guys are drinking in a bar.*

*One says, "Did you know that lions have sex 10 to 15 times a night?"*

*"Damn" says his friend, "I've just joined Rotary."*

## GSE AT EDGWARE AND STANMORE 24TH SEPTEMBER

Ian, Katy, Surya and I attended the Edgware & Stanmore meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September with the GSE team.

The District was well represented and approximately 10 clubs had sent members to the GSE Inaugural presentation held at the Stanmore Golf Club. As would seem to be more common than I would like, I personally went to the wrong venue, being their normal meeting place, only to find no cars in the nearby vicinity and the hotel locked which was of course unusual if a meeting was taking place! Clearly I had either the date or venue wrong. Fortunately Stanmore Golf Club was not too far away and I believe I was the last to arrive. The golf club offered up a dinner of chicken and vegetables followed by apple crumble and custard and coffee for £16.00 and fortunately this was not the highlight of the event. After the desserts were served, we were advised that there would be a 20 minute break for comfort purposes - when Surya and I queried the length of the break we were advised it would indeed take a number of those in attendance that amount of time to do what had to be done! Spring chickens were not the order of the day!!

The GSE team headed by Merv, a traditional Australian derivative of a perfectly good name, introduced the team comprising of an IT technician (Roger), a lawyer (Suhanya), a policewoman (Kira) and junior teacher (Brett); they all spoke well and not surprisingly advised of the wonderful merits of Melbourne. After their presentation, questions were asked and answered, the hardest question being how many native aborigines are in Rotary? Whilst this could not be answered with any authority, we were advised that there were very few native aborigines in the Melbourne area and that whilst they could of course not speak for the whole of Australia there may not be many!!!

They did emphasise that whilst there may only be, in number, a third of the UK population in Australia, Australia is significantly larger than the UK and therefore they could not confirm the statistics! They were advised that, as we all know, size is not everything! The team were advised not to become sick of the sight of chicken even though this is likely to be the most common meal served to them over their 15 presentations in Rotary!! An informed, albeit a light hearted evening, was well received by all those in attendance and well taken by the GSE team who undoubtedly will be saying g'day to 100's of Rotarians during the course of their stay. They also advised us that they believed that they were the only country in the world who were so proud of their national emblems which included Kangaroo and Emu that they would happily eat them as well!!! I do believe however that the bulldog is safe in this country!



*L to R. Merv, Suhayana, Brett, Pres Jack Lynes, Roger and Kira*



*Pres Jack & Merv exchange banners*

IPP Russell

## CHERRY LODGE BENEFITS

(Tony Archer had only been a member of the club a few years when he was struck down with a terminal illness in 2001. His wife, Liz, has kept in touch since then, and was present because she has become a staunch supporter of Cherry Lodge)



*Sarah describes the set-up at Cherry Lodge*



*The club's first donation*



*Liz Archer*

*Dear President David*

*This is to thank you for organising the wonderful Rally event on 16<sup>th</sup> September in aid of Cherry Lodge. Liz Archer was most enthusiastic about the event and thrilled to help receive the cheque of £1000.*

*It was exceedingly generous of all concerned to make up the amount to £1000 and it goes without saying that we are all thrilled with this generous donation.*

*We hope that the photograph of the handover of the cheque will make it to our website. I would love to have partaken in the rally but was doing the Hydro active Ladies Run in Hyde Park that day and I had promised I would keep an eye on the less able participants.*

*Thank you again. With very best wishes*

*Yours sincerely*

*Margaret M. Clark (Dr).*

*Chairman Trustees Cherry Lodge Cancer Care.*



### REMEMBRANCE DAY

*David Cohen writes:* Please ask members to be at the Clock Tower, Golders Green by 1045hrs on Sunday 11th November. We shall be using a genuine First World War bugle to sound the Last Post and Reveille. Drinks (various) etc at 3 Sheridan Walk, NW11 after the ceremony

## KEITH AND PAT SAY GOODBYE

**W**hilst Pat and I are sad leaving London its sensible financially for us and we are looking forward to a new challenge.

*The most difficult part is leaving many friends who we hope will continue the connections and visit us, as and when. We have enough room to accommodate you but not all at once!!*

*23 years has passed as a member of Golders Green, I know its not all been plain sailing but it's been a privilege for myself and Pat to be associated with such a vibrant, amusing and friendly club. From my induction by PP.David Freed and he is still telling the same stories! And currently yet another David (Graham) who is already showing the right qualities to be extremely successful current President.*

*During that time there are endless stories to tell about incidents, sports, individuals and really successful ventures to improve our local community.*

*I look on those 23 years as an extremely valuable part of my life and it will not be forgotten. I have applied to continue Rotary with what will be my local Club being Kenilworth and our new address as from 18<sup>th</sup> October will be 17 Raglan Grove, Kenilworth. Warks.CV8 2NR. Tel 01926 852642.*

*Look forward to seeing you all at the Quiz.*

*Yours in Rotary. Keith Dixon.*



### **STOP PRESS**

**Just to say Ian, Pat and I are settling in ok and I am being inducted in to Kenilworth Club next Monday (October 29th). Friendly active Club with 32 members by next week. Please say a thank you to Pres David and the Club for my Paul Harris up-grade.**

**Best wishes to all and see you at the quiz. I will post you a cheque in a few days when I find the book. Regards Keith D**

## 2007 CIVIC DINNER



*The top table, making friends*



*The Mayor in full flow*

The annual Civic Dinner was a well attended evening meeting on Monday 15th October. It was a very active and somewhat emotional evening. Read on.

This year's Mayor of Barnet is Maureen Braun, who was escorted by her son. Hers was an interesting address, firstly informing us of her being born in Barking, and being married in the beautiful synagogue in St Petersburg Place, Bayswater.

She has had a busy schedule, some days attending three events. Her main

charity is the North London Hospice, a charity also supported by our club. Her chief object for her year is to achieve a successful Regeneration Project for Mixed Social Housing, targeting Colindale and Cricklewood. Near the Colindale Police Training area she is pushing to create a new community: buildings with underground parking.

Mrs Braun fended a few questions: David Max's one stumped her, and Russell's was considered political, not the sort of subject a mayor should dabble with.

The Vote of thanks was given by President Elect Howard.

The emotional part of the evening was saying farewell to Keith and Pat Dixon, who next day were uprooting themselves to move to near their family; they will live in Kenilworth.

President David indicated the loss to the club of a committed Rotarian, who was a regular attender, supported most club activities and was one of the pillars of our sports achievements—he is adept at most sports, excelling in table tennis and golf. In recognition of his contribution to Rotary, the club and the community, he was deservedly given a sapphire to add to his Paul Harris Fellowship.

We will miss him, and Pat, and we wish both of them a happy retirement, closer to those who mean most to them.

Farewell.



*Farewell Keith, and here's a sapphire*

## ORGANISING THE CAR TREASURE HUNT

The idea of a Car Treasure Hunt for the Rotary Club of Golders Green had been bubbling away for a year or more. We all four had memories of carloads ending up at home having given up on the effort to reach their destination (which was usually kept a secret). This was before the days of Sat Nav and mobile phones. See how lucky you 2007 participants were!



*Pat, Gerry, Liz and Keith*

We thought it would be a doddle. If you google 'Car Treasure Hunts', a wide choice of ready-made sets of questions are up for sale. 'Easy,' we thought. 'Choose a route just north of London, drive around it and find a nice pub for lunch.' What could be simpler? Wrong. After driving in circles for an hour following ridiculous instructions we said, 'Forget this' or some such less polite thing and made a beeline for a possibly suitable pub. Finding the right pub, we decided, would require repeated and prolonged research. Over the vino we made plans to make up our own questions and drive around the route a few times just to make sure no new road blocks had been set up or buildings knocked down. Each recce would have to end with a nice pub lunch. This was just the thing to do on a weekday for a bunch of new retirees. We needed easy questions for encouragement and hard questions to separate the sheep from the goats.

We decided to award double marks for one hard question but then forgot. Sorry you guys in the four teams who got 33 out of 35 and couldn't find the second wrong answer. It was out of 34. Well done The Dimwits, Team Robert, Team Stephen and Sue and Team Jim and Conrad. They were all brilliant but Team Jim and Conrad finally won on a tie breaker.

We hope everyone enjoyed the fun as we raised money for Cherry Lodge which, after all, was the main aim. Apologies to the lady at the Lodge who may have felt inundated by participants - we were rather disappointed that a policeman didn't come to sort us out. We could have asked him for a donation.

**Keith, Pat, Gerry (and Liz, who wrote this)**

## A PARTICIPANT'S IMPRESSIONS

### Car Treasure Hunt (...or Never on a Sunday)

I am sure many Rotarians would rather not get up at crack of dawn on a Sunday but it was (of course) in a good cause so we all did. Luckily Keith, Gerry and their team had got the first thing right – the weather, it was a lovely day which put us all in a good mood. We arranged to team up with Jim and Raija Newton and were picked up in an interesting Jaguar. (I knew it was interesting as Gerry immediately started asking questions about horse-power or gear ratios or something even less intelligible). We were handed several pages of secret instructions and after setting the trip meter managed to find our way out of the Car Park – a good start. The first few clues were quite straightforward and I could see that part of the fun was guessing the answer so you knew what to look for, eg. “Where might you play on black and white square.” We guessed “a chessboard” and a pub called The Chequers appeared pretty quickly. When we arrived at the church in Northaw we turned into sheep and followed every-



*Winners Team Jim & Conrad with Raija and Kay*



*The Bubleys, Berkovis & Addlesons relax*

one else looking at all the gravestones until one of us realised that the War Memorial would hold the answer. At this stage we set off up the wrong road adding a few miles but luckily the rules of this particular treasure hunt did not include penalties for extra mileage. I did get a little bit worried that we might be annoying the locals as we drove rather slowly along quite a small lane looking for a house name which was a palindrome. Some more intelligent guessing

had us looking for a house or farm with “Beaver” in the name (From “Build a dam here”) and another with “Cucumber” (...dainty sandwiches...”

By the time we reached Little Berkhamstead we were desperate for some “facilities” and the pub was not yet open. Luckily we were rescued by a lovely lady in the village shop who let us use her one “out the back”!

Clue 21 confused us for a bit as we were sure that TARRC would be a local Rugby Club but it turned out to be the rather more obscure Tun Abdul Razak Research Centre. Happily we read the rest of the sign as it gave us the answer to one of the Tie-Breaker questions later on.

*continued on page 15*

## ROTARY FACTS

**RI President** is **Wilfred Wilkinson** (Joan) Rotary Club of Trenton, Ontario (Chartered (Accountant))

**RIBI President** for **Allan Jagger** (Rose) Rotary Club of Elland (Engineer)

**DG** is **Colin Mathews** (Cordelia) Rotary Club of Putney (Stationery Distribution)

**RI President 2008/9** will be **Dong Kurn Lee** (Young Ja) Rotary Club of Seoul Hangang (Company Chairman)

**RIBI President** for 2008/9 is Ian Thompson (Cheltenham North)

**DG Elect 2008/9** is Wally K Daly (Melanie) Rotary Club of Kensington (Playwright)

**DG Nominee** is **Martin Gudde** (Estelle) Rotary Club of Redbridge (Office Repairs)

There are 1,211,627 **Rotarians** in 32,581 Clubs, 532 Districts in 168 Countries

7,269 **Rotaract Clubs** with 167,187 members in 158 countries

10,955 **Interact Clubs** with 251,965 members in 119 countries

6,437 **Rotary Community Corps** with 148,051 in 71 countries *(as of July 2007)*

**District Conference in 2007** will be in Eastbourne October 18-22

**RIBI Conference in 2008** will be in Blackpool April 11-13th

**RI Convention in 2008** will be Los Angeles

**District Conference in 2008** will be Eastbourne

**RI Convention in 2009** will be Birmingham, UK

## SO HOW IS POLIOPLUS DOING?

Hopes were high that when we celebrated Rotary's Centenary we would announce to the world that polio had been eradicated, in no small measure thanks to Rotary's efforts. Sadly this has not happened, in fact there are fresh outbreaks that need attending to, which means more funds are needed.

Countries like India, Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan are still reporting cases. And there have been reports of "flown in" cases, i.e. someone from an infected country having arrived by aeroplane in another country—this has happened in Australia. This project has been going for over twenty years now; it was a very noble idea, a very daunting task, a fight against nature. We have still only nearly won, and it seems the battle is extremely difficult to win outright. We are faced with countries either considering a western, religious plot or with such large populations that they cannot keep control. Whatever the reason, the programme must be on-going, for the huge successes to date must not be negated by dropping our guard. We pray for an eventual universal success.



*A victim*



*The simple treatment—drops*

**“That fellow with the cameras.”**

**F**rom the age of eleven, with his Box Brownie, Clive joined the local “snappers” in Brighton taking photographs of life in the late forties and fifties. His interest flourished and he became a messenger nicknamed “Zinco”, delivering to national newspapers.

Eventually, Clive joined a photographic agency and then joined a small studio that had been burnt down to repromote it! Clive left the studio after they developed money problems and the owner asked Clive for a loan! In 1963, he went freelance and his first job earned him 31 guineas (£32.55). Clive’s career blossomed and for approximately six years he photo-



*The snapper snapped*

graphed the stars, including those taking part in the TV series “Ready, Steady, Go.”

One of his most famous photographs was that of Joe Meek, an innovative record producer in the 50’s and 60’s, who was the man behind the hits “Telstar” and “Have I the Right?” On February 3, 1967, eight years to the day after the tragic death of Buddy Holly, Joe Meek committed suicide. Clive’s photograph of Meek has earned him a great deal of money over the years. Clive then worked for music magazines and produced a variety of tourist and travel brochures, “Avon Calling” catalogues and many other publications. Then came print design followed by the wonderful innovation of computers and all that came with them. Clive brought along a collection of cameras which he demonstrated to the audience. His talk was very well received and he answered a bountiful number of questions which ended a fascinating glimpse at his career.

**PP David Cohen**

### **RIBI WINS THE VOTE— AGAIN**

In September it was announced that John Kenny of the Rotary Club of Grangemouth Central, Scotland, has been elected to be our Rotary International President for the year 2009/10. John is well known to us, for he attended our District Conference when RIBI President, and has been RIBI representative twice since. He is a good, sound choice, and I have sent him good wishes.





*Julio at the metal workshop where he is apprenticed*

**This is Julio Ube Sol**, the 17 year old Ecuadorean boy the club is sponsoring. He had been roaming the streets instead of doing something useful and purposeful, so he was fortunate to come under our wing. Sadly, we hear that his father has left the family so they are pretty destitute. He seems to prefer doing metal work rather than pursue an academic career. The Authority know as JUCONI are involved in helping him make a future for himself, and they say he is taking the new phase in his life seriously. He is apprenticed to a metal workshop while being encouraged to finish his high school course at the same time. He is also interested in

becoming a mechanic so they are looking into his joining a high school programme for mechanical training. Whatever, we hope he does proceed with the academic side, as this is the main reason for our supporting him.



**MATCHSTICK CLUB**

Meets quarterly  
Is for all members in District 1130, guests also welcome.

Have breakfast with your fellow Rotarians, widen your circle of acquaintances.

*Meet at 7.15 for 7.30—Finish prompt at 8.30 - Cost £8  
Next meeting:*



**Wednesday 9th January, 2008**

at the North Middlesex Golf Club in Friern Barnet Lane, N12



**ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**Months of August /September**

Total Membership	46	46
Changes	0	0
Total to end	46	46
Excused	12	12
Hon Members	1	1
Number of meetings	3	4
Total poss attendances	102	136
Actual attendances	66	103
<b>Average %</b>	<b>64.7%</b>	<b>75.73%</b>

**PP Gerry**, Attendance Officer



**THE EDITOR** is Ian Addleson. All articles are welcome from members, their partners and their family, or other interested readers. Distribution on last Monday of the month, with press date the previous Wednesday. Copy through: **internet to [ianm@addleson.me.uk](mailto:ianm@addleson.me.uk) or on floppy disc in Word or Works or type-written on A5 sheet or fax to 020 8346 2321, or if all else fails, hand-written.**

**PLEASE NOTE: All articles submitted do not necessarily reflect the editor's views.**

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### NOVEMBER

Ian Addleson - Birthday - 1st  
Clive Bublely - Birthday - 7th  
Raolo Jiusti - Birthday - 25th  
Ranjit Mukherjee Anniversary - 29th  
Ian Addleson - Anniversary - 30th

### DECEMBER

Howard Martin - Anniversary - 15th  
Rosalind Crofton - Birthday - 16th  
John Silk - Anniversary - 24th  
Dick Selby - Birthday - 27th

### JANUARY

Conrad Graham - Birthday - 3rd  
Robert Morris - Birthday - 12th  
Surya Varsani - Birthday - 18th  
Stephen Landau - Birthday - 22nd  
Howard Martin - Birthday - 23rd  
BK - Birthday - 31st

### FEBRUARY

Norman Saffer - Birthday - 5th  
Surya Varsani - Anniversary - 14th  
Barry Wright - Birthday - 19th  
Gerald Cane - Anniversary - 20th  
David Cohen - Birthday - 27th

### **Car Treasure Hunt (...or Never on a Sunday) *continued from page 11***

Guessing correctly again we found a Polo Club (...club for mint lovers) and we were not part of the group who annoyed a Car Park attendant by asking her for the name of the Big House. Raija and I had been to a Craft Fair at Hatfield House and remembered the long drive from the car park which makes you end up miles from the entrance.

With only one clue left we found the Lunch Venue and spotted the notice about 24 hour video recording to complete our answer sheet. While enjoying drinks in the lovely sunshine we watched others arriving with varying stories of missed clues.. Eventually even the Raabs arrived and handed in their answer sheets to the checkers. We ate our Buffet Lunch while the checkers did their calculations – the result turned out to be four groups with the same number of correct answers so there was a Tie Breaker. Two fairly straightforward questions which we all got right and then the clincher “When did Elizabeth I come to the throne?” only Conrad , with his vast knowledge of quiz-type answers knew it was 1558. So – we won! Actually, although of course it is always nice to win, in this case it really was the “taking part” which mattered and it was great fun and I am sure everyone enjoyed the day. Another big Vote of Thanks to the organisers, I am sure it was a lot of work to set it all up.



Kay Graham



*The Martins and Spiros relaxing*

