

January 2009



BULLETIN
of the
Rotary Club
Of
Eastbourne
(chartered 1922)

www.eastbournerotary.org.uk

President: Bill Tozer

Secretary: George Collier

Treasurer: Colin Middleton

President's Peregrinations

I hope you had a very happy Christmas and I wish you all a fabulous New Year.



For the Club this Christmas and the New Year has been a very special time

Our Carol Concert at the Congress Theatre on the 13th December was one of the best I have seen. Everyone I spoke to really enjoyed the performances and with special acclaim from our Worshipful Mayor and our MP.

Our Tombola in the Arndale 17th to 20th December was a great success and a great PR event.

And our Alone at Christmas went off very well with almost a hundred guests and many willing helpers – two of which were guests of the Club for lunch on the 12th of January which resulted with one considering Guest membership and the other hoping that we will call on her whenever we need volunteer help in the future.

and offered to help whenever we require it. I'm sure that one of the guests I brought in from Pevensey Bay, aged 93 and with very poor eyesight, had not been out of her house since I picked her up for the 2007 Alone.

Many, many thanks to all who contributed to making our Christmas such a success.

The New Year started with the happiest occasion the club could imagine – the induction of three new members on the 12th January. Jessica Gisby, Simon Seath and Jonathan Porter.

We welcome them and hope that they will have many happy years, as we have, enjoying the fellowship and activity of the Club.



Christmas Hampers



Once again Waitrose has come to our rescue and packed hampers for those people who, having been issued with an invitation to our Alone at Christmas Party and on visiting them we have had to withdraw the invitation because of mobility problems. Always a very painful and upsetting task for us and a distressing time for the invitee.

For the last three years we have alleviated the problem by giving these people Christmas Hampers. The first year we packed ten hampers ourselves, in 2007 Waitrose packed eight and this year seven.

Mr Andrew Bernstein, Customer Service Manager for Waitrose was very helpful – uncertain at first whether Credit Crunch Christmas would allow him sufficient financial space to offer these free hampers - in the end he came up trumps and made seven very nice hampers, which were well received. In the photo Zoe the Waitrose Floor Manager handing over the seven bags of goodies to me.

Past Rotarians – Christmas Coffee Morning

There are some odd traditions around and one of them is that the President of Our Club and his Good Lady judges the Christmas Card Competition at the Past Rotarians Coffee Morning.

Consequently Gwen and I attended the new Willmington Hotel on the 20th Jan to join the 25 or so Past Rotarians and their President, Alan Langridge and his wife Jane (photo above) to enjoy a wonderful morning among friends. The Christmas cards were presented in four classes, the most artistic, the most humorous, the daintiest and the best card representing the 'Spirit of Christmas'.



I'm pleased to report that there were no bribes offered or taken, no dispute over the judges decision and altogether it was a delightful morning.

A warm welcome in London

If you happen to be in London on a Thursday evening you would be most welcome to visit the Westminster East Rotary Club, 6.15 for 6.30 at The Guoman Charing Cross Hotel, 3 Strand, London WC2N 5HX, (tel 020 7839 7282). They are a small friendly club of a dozen or so offering warm conviviality and generally have interesting speakers after our buffet, which costs £15. you can find their programme on www.westminstereast.rotaryweb.org.

Polio Plus

Speaking to 2009-2010 district governors-elect, at Rotary's International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA. Bill Gates, Jr. congratulated Rotarians on the success of the partnership between Rotary International and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to raise funds for polio. To date, Rotarians have already committed more than US\$60 million toward the original US\$100 million Gates challenge grant awarded in November 2007.

In recognizing Rotary's impressive fundraising success and steadfast commitment to polio eradication, Gates announced today that his foundation has decided to increase its challenge grant by US\$255 million – for a total of US\$355 million. By accepting the increase, Rotary also accepts the challenge to raise an additional US\$100 million in matching funds by 30 June 2012 and drives the combined Rotary and Gates Foundation partnership's commitment to a total of US\$555 million.

All of the resulting US\$555 million will be spent in support of immunization activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in polio-affected countries. The initiative is spearheaded by Rotary, the World Health Organization (WHO), the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF.

In another welcomed development today, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) pledged £100 million (US\$150 million) and the German government is giving an additional €100 million (US\$130 million), both to the GPEI. Contributions from the U.K and Germany are separate and will not count toward Rotary's match of the Gates Foundation challenge grant.

Your continued participation in this effort is crucial to making it a success. The Rotary International Board of Directors and the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation have unanimously agreed to accept this challenge grant to ensure the success of the PolioPlus program.

Success is our only option. Together we can End Polio Now. For more information, please visit www.rotary.org.

Dong-Kurn Lee
Rotary International President 2008-09

International Committee Service

1. **Amreli Project:** As a reminder to members of the situation we hope to improve, I show below the current situation at schools in Chitall:-



The original estimated costs were as follows:-

Item	Agency	Estimates	No.of Units	Amount
Toilet Blocks	Viral Architects	Rs. 75500/00	3	Rs. 2,26,500/00
Water Purifier	Aqua Marketing	Rs. 30,000/00	1	Rs. 30,000/00
		Rs. 20,000/00	2	Rs. 40,000/00
School Benches	Shiv-Shaki Fabrication	Rs. 1350/00	300	Rs. 4,05,000/00
Total =				Rs. 7,01,500/00

1US\$=42Rs

Total US\$16702.38 say \$16700

As will be seen from the above table, the original forecast of costs, by the Amreli club, for this project was based on 42 rupees to the dollar. However, the rate is now about approximately 49 to the dollar. If this rate remains until the project is complete, the cost will reduce to about \$14,166. Assuming matching grants of 50%, the club contributions would drop to \$3,542, which, at an exchange rate of £1 to \$1.50, would result in our contribution of £2,361. These revised figures do not take account of changes to the price of commodities which have been fluctuating and, of course, it is recognized that the foregoing figures might bear no relation to the position when the contract is placed.

The matching grant application is being handled by Chris Smith, Foundation Committee Chair. Apparently, he continues to have difficulties with District, despite a meeting between himself and our President with the District Governor. However, discussions are continuing and an application is expected to be submitted soon.

2. **Fund raising for the Amreli Project:** A total of **£750** has been raised so far. This comprises £500 from an evening dinner and assorted raffles plus a donation of £250 from Eastbourne Sovereign Rotary Club. The following additional fund raising events are in hand:-
 - 2.1 **Jazz Concert:** The event is still scheduled to take place on the **8th April 2009**. Entry to the concert will be £12.50p, as last year. The booking of the Andy Cooper's Top Seven band is at last year's price. The hall will hold 250 but it is usual to print 300 tickets. There will be a raffle and prizes for this will be sought from members and others. Leaflets and posters are being progressed. **These are to be available by 11 March as it is intended to have a poster and tickets in time for a 'chocolate' tombola at the Arndale Centre between the 11th and 14th March.** Sponsors are being sought but this is proving difficult because of the current economic climate.
 - 2.2 **Casino Evening:** There is a temporary booking for the 26th February at the Langham Hotel in connection with an evening event which will comprise a buffet meal, to be followed by 'black jack'. The charge will be £12.50. However, a minimum attendance of 34 will be necessary just to cover costs. Any profits made by the croupiers (the house) will accrue to the club. This event will take place provided there is sufficient support.
 - 2.3 **Mystery/ Murder Evening:** A murder/mystery evening is in the process of being organised. A venue and suitable date will be proposed.
3. **Tripartite/ President's Night:** The previously reported arrangements for the visit of the Lisle and Gent Clubs over the week-end of 8-10 May 2009 stand. President's night is being held on Saturday, 9 May.
4. **RIBI Group Study Exchange:** Discussions within the International Committee have taken place about a proposed visit of a GSE team from New Hampshire, USA in October 2009. A member of our club has expressed a provisional interest in becoming the team leader of the District team due to visit New Hampshire in April/May 2010; District is aware.
5. **Zimbabwe Student's Education:** Payments for the student are being paid term by term through a Jersey address so as to ensure that they are received by the college.

Joe Smedley
Chairman

Did you know?

- There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: abstemious and facetious;
- TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard;
- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear;
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds;
- A jiffy is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second;
- A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes;
- A snail can sleep for three years;
- Almonds are a member of the peach family;
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain;
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age;
- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon;
- In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated;
- If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction;
- Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors;
- Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite!
- Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated;
- The average persons left hand does 56% of the typing;
- The cruise liner, QE2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns;
- The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket;
- The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid;
- There are more chickens than people in the world;
- Winston Churchill was born in a ladies room during a dance;
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

Ken Rawlings

Who said politics is boring?



SPORTS

Golf

For the first time in many years the Knock Out golf competition was completed in the same year that it started!

14 members entered the competition, which started in June with the final being played in October. The final was a relatively easy win for Ken Dobell beating Neil Markham 5 & 4. However both finalists had very close semi-final matches. Neil beat Peter Nash on the 18th hole whilst Ken had to play on to the 20th hole before he could nudge in front of Paul Honney.



Pictured is President Bill presenting Ken Dobell with the winners trophy which has been revamped this year to include a shortened putter mounted on the original plinth. Neil Markham is shown with the Sven Salver, which has been used as the runner up trophy for several years.

[Frank Eveleigh](#)

CAROL CONCERT

The 44th Rotary Carol Concert took place at the Congress Theatre on Saturday the 13th December 2008. The organisers of the Concert were privileged to have the Eastbourne Choral Society to act as the Concerts' Choir together with the Eastbourne Silver Band. Stella Blond was the producer and compère – a task that she has performed for the last 28 years!

Children taking part were from the West Rise Community Infant School, from Hampden Park Infant School, and others were from The Willingdon School of Dance and The Diana Freedman Dancing School.

As happens each year, the Matinee was more heavily subscribed than the evening performance, but overall we had nearly 1700 in the audiences. A retiring collection was made and it would appear that from this we received nearly £1500 and together with tickets monies should enable us to donate a little in excess of £1000 to each of the four chosen charities, namely: The Citizens Advice Bureau, People Matter, the Oasis Christian Outreach Centre and the Eastbourne and Wealden YMCA.

We received excellent feedback from members of the audience and apart from the prime purpose of raising money for local charities, great pleasure and fine entertainment were given to those who attended.

We are hoping that we shall have Carol Concert line December and a provisional booking of the Theatre has been made for the 5th December.

[Bryan Parker](#)

ALONE AT CHRISTMAS

This was the 30th consecutive year that members of the Eastbourne Club, aided by members of other local Rotary Clubs plus other volunteers, have given up part of their Christmas Day to make it a special day for people who would otherwise spend Christmas at home, alone.

Planning started back in October when Club Members visited nearly 200 people living on their own in Eastbourne to invite them to the party. This is probably the widest involvement of Club Members for any of our events.

This year, 94 guests were collected from their homes in cars and in minibuses loaned by St Andrews and Moira House schools. Following a full Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, cooked by the local DGH, guests enjoyed an afternoon of entertainment and the day was rounded off by afternoon tea including a Christmas cake donated by the Grand Hotel.

Each guest received a small present before they were driven home. At the planning stage we had expected up to 120 but in the event there was a high drop out rate this year, caused by the dreaded flu. Accordingly, we had presents left over and Peter Nash took these to the DGH.

Visiting "Alone at Christmas" to join in the celebrations this year were The Worshipful the Mayor and Mayoress of Eastbourne, Cllr Gregory Santo and Mrs Clare Santo; Eastbourne MP, Nigel Waterson; the Parish Priest of Our Lady of Ransom, Canon Shamus Hester; The Bishop of Lewes, the Right Reverend Wallace Benn and the District Governor and his wife, Rtn John Wilton and Liz.

For the first time we had our new Rotary information boards on display. They received some attention and two volunteers even expressed an interest in finding out more about Rotary.

We were blessed with good weather and a good day was enjoyed by guests and volunteers alike. So that was the event, thank-you letters were sent and received, rubbish was cleared, borrowed items returned, press releases done and a time to reflect.

Did things go smoothly on the day? Mostly, but we did have guests not available for pick-up, always a worry. We had guests ringing in sick on the day. We had a guest who boarded a mini-bus when a car was allocated for her and the confusion that caused. Even after a more vigorous vetting system by Club Members we still had two guests who were very disabled and should probably not have been invited. Taxis needed to be booked to get these guests home. An uninvited guest boarded one of the minibuses. As it was such a lovely morning, several guests walked to the event without notifying us, thereby leaving drivers looking for them. One blind lady had a fall whilst entering the minibus. She was seen by St Johns ambulance and also Peter. She was sent to the DGH, who were terrific, getting her back to the event in time for a slightly late lunch and in time to win at Bingo.

For the first time in many years we had enough minibus drivers. This was mainly due to the generosity of other Rotary Club members plus other volunteers from the general public.

We are always open to possible improvements and if any Club Member wishes to make any suggestions, could they drop me a line or email.

Can I end by thanking the whole Club for their support and especially members of the Committee, many of whom undertook far more than could reasonably have been expected of them.

[Kevan Regan](#)
[Chairman, Alone at Christmas](#)

Pictures from the day – “Alone at Christmas”



Fancy Yourself at Karting?

Northfleet with Ebbsfleet 5th Rotary Charity Kart Challenge

To take place on Sunday 10th May 2009. As in previous years the event will be held at the UK's premier karting circuit, Buckmore Park, and will comprise a 3 hour endurance race using twin engine pro-karts, capable of 70mph, over the circuit's 1200 metre international track.

The entrance fee per team has yet to be set but will be no more than last year (£400.00) and indeed is hoped may well be less.

For more information contact: - David Johncock, 63 Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AN, tel: business01634830111 Home. 01474 564092 e-mail djohncock@blueyonder.co.uk

"No More Land Mines" - Recycling for Charity

Since the Club began recycling used printer cartridges and mobile phones last autumn, we have raised a total of £52.75 over the quarter ending 31 December. The charity issues quarterly cheques for the total value of acceptable items received.

Details of those printer cartridges and mobile phones that are/are not acceptable for re-use are listed on its website at www.recycle4charity.co.uk.

This is a good beginning and hopefully we can maintain a regular flow of re-usables to achieve a steady income for "No More Land Mines" through 2009.

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this worthy cause.

Keep up the good work!

[VP Ron Genty](#)

OBITUARY

Allan Woolley 1935 - 2009

Allan loved his Rotary and it was a very important part of his life over the last 15 years. He loved it because he was a contributor and in return enjoyed the satisfaction of helping others less fortunate than himself whilst at the same time appreciating the fun and fellowship of likeminded people around him.

He could not have devoted the time and effort he did without the help he received from Gill, who Allan appreciated being by his side providing all her love and support.

Allan was inducted into the Rotary Club of Eastbourne in 1993, and introduced by Nigel Greaves. He served on many committees, particularly the International Committee, The Tripartite meetings with Ghent and Lille were so important to him. Also of course he was always an enthusiastic supporter of the jazz concert.

His support of the jazz concert came from being an accomplished jazz musician and many will remember his devastating on stage performance at Bodle Street Green village hall on his 70th birthday bash. However most will not know that in his early musical career he played and was actually paid by no other than the late great Frank Sinatra himself.

Allan's international experience was invaluable to the Club and his knowledge and understanding built up over so many years of travelling around the world helped focus our support in the most constructive way. He was a keen supporter of many African charity projects and because of Allan's perseverance the club is still supporting a student through her education in Zimbabwe, he would say what better way to help struggling countries than through education. I have no doubt that the investment made in that student will act as a lasting and permanent legacy of Allan's desire to help others less fortunate than himself.

In 1999, millennium year, Allan was inducted as our President. It was a busy and productive year with many service projects (one of the less successful projects was the campaign to get drivers to reduce pollution by turning off car engines at level crossings, as Allan latterly said you can't win them all)

It was a year of enormous fun laughter and fellowship. Who will ever forget the fantastic tripartite weekend with Ghent and Lille, the Thames river cruise, tour of Hampton Court, Presidents night with an Opera company singing "A policeman's lot is not a happy one". It finished with brunch at Trumpets Oast with a Belgian 52 seater coach trying to negotiate the drive and finally making a three point turn in Trumpets Lane with Jean Paul Kicks hanging out of the roof of the coach shouting at the top of his voice his farewell as they disappeared down the road.

At the Christmas concert Allan had to go on stage and introduce the show, which he duly did and welcomed everyone and then walked off stage entirely forgetting to introduce the compere. He later said he was terrified of kissing her on the cheek.

In May 1999 the Rotary Gong went missing, while Chris Smith was President, and so when Allan Woolley became President in July there was no way to bring meetings to order. It was spotted at a Boot Sale in Pevensey on June 27th, and after many phone calls and contacts the trail went dead, but Nigel Greaves arranged good publicity in the press, and we had a response from someone in Seaford. However when Allan was contacting this person he became very evasive, and eventually Allan arranged to meet him at his home. There were a lot of cloak and dagger phone calls. Allan went to knock on his door while Chris Smith waited round the corner and the fence was asking for a considerable sum for recompense. When Allan explained that we were a charity the man let us have the gong back, and it was proudly returned to the meeting the following Monday.

It was a great year of service and fun. Allan loved every moment as President and signed off at his last council meeting as President by thanking the members for their support and much appreciated their constructive insults. That was Allan's sense of humour.

A club member wanted to take a party to Berlin at the time of the wall being demolished "who do I contact?" Allan of course; one hour later a jet had been hired and 100 went off to Berlin with I would add Allan and Gill leading the party.

There is one abiding memory which came through time and again from so many different sources and it was that one word used to describe Allan "a gentleman" with the emphasis on the word GENTLE. He was truly a gentle man.

Allan was a Rotarian and friend who truly wanted to serve and help others less fortunate than himself. However I think we will all remember him most for his love of life and the fun and laughter he brought to us all.

"Exactly"

Ian Hunt

FUTURE EVENTS

2009: February - July

		Function	Comments	Vote of Thanks
February				
2	Mon	Lunch		Alan Budgett
		Council Meeting at Mayo Wynne Baxter - 5:30pm		
9	Mon	Lunch	Business Meeting	
		Visit of RIBI President Ian Thomson		
10	Tue		RC of Bexhill	
16	Mon	Lunch		Christopher Dean
23	Mon	Lunch		Bob Mundy
March				
2	Mon	Evening Meeting with Partners - Chatsworth Hotel		Ken Rawlings
3	Tue	Council Meeting at Mayo Wynne Baxter - 5:30pm		
9	Mon	Lunch	Business Meeting	
16	Mon	Lunch		Ian Hunt
23	Mon	Lunch		John Coffey
30	Mon	Lunch		Ken Dobell
April				
6	Mon	Lunch		Frank Eveleigh
		Council Meeting at Mayo Wynne Baxter - 5:30pm		
13		Bank Holiday - No Meeting		
20	Mon	Lunch	Business Meeting	
27	Mon	Lunch		Tony Cameron
May				
4	Mon	Bank Holiday - No Meeting		
5	Tue	Council Meeting at Mayo Wynne Baxter - 5:30pm		
9	Sat	District Assembly	Masonic Centre, Maidstone	
11	Mon	Lunch	Business Meeting	
17/19	Sun/Tue	GSE Team from Brazil		
18	Mon	Annual General Meeting	Chatsworth Hotel 5:30 for 6pm	
		followed by dinner		
20	Wed	District Council Meeting	Masonic Centre, Maidstone	
25		Bank Holiday - No Meeting		
June				
1	Mon	Lunch		George Tickle
		Council Meeting at Mayo Wynne Baxter - 5:30pm		
8	Mon	Lunch	Business Meeting	
15	Mon	Lunch		Alan Forster
		Club Assembly followed by		
22	Mon	Dinner	Chatsworth Hotel 5:30 for 6pm	Jeremy Wheeler
29	Mon	Lunch	Club Handover	Colin Luck
July				
6	Mon	Lunch		Ian Coombs
		Council Meeting at Mayo Wynne Baxter - 5:30pm		
13	Mon	Lunch	Business Meeting	
20	Mon	Lunch		Peter Goldsmith
27	Mon	Lunch		John Coffey

Members List 2008 – 2009: Amendments

- Front Page: Website www.eastbournerotary.org.uk
- Past Presidents: 1964 H.J.Seath
- Delete: Adams, M.J.
- Woolley, A. (deceased 17/01/2009)
- Add: Chesson, M.K. (Michael) 2008 (Quantity Surveyor)
2 Milton Crescent, BN21 1SP. Tel 738856 and 731284.
Mobile 07860 135461 (Barbara)
- Gisby, J.G. (Jessica) 2009 (Associate Solicitor)
Meads End, 1 Duke's Drive, BN20 7XL. Tel: 435985 and 730166. Mobile
07969 749665. Email jgg@gabyhardwicke.co.uk (Simon)
- Markham, N.W. (Neil) 2008 (Building Services)
32 Cherry Garden Road, BN20 8HE. Tel 439470.
Mobile 07941 260802. Email neil.markham@virgin.net (Ann)
- Porter, J. (Jonathan) 2009 (Solicitor)
6 North Street, Alfriston, BN26 5UG. Tel: 730543 and 744937.
Email jporter@mayowynnebaxter.co.uk (Lora)
- Seath, S.J. (Simon) 2009 (Airline Pilot, retired)
286A Kings Drive, BN21 2YB Tel: 500858.
Email simonpat@spseath.freeserve.co.uk (Patricia)
- Change: Coombs, I.R. Email icoombs@mayowynnebaxter.co.uk
- Wenham, A.B. 9A Chesterfield Road, BN20 7NU
- Williams, N.M. Email nicolamw@btinternet.com
- Genty, R. Email rongenty@btinternet.com
- Langridge, A. (Honorary Member) 17 Westwood Avenue, BN22 0HA Tel:
505393