

Programme

DATE	SUBJECT/SPEAKER	GRACE/DUTY
April		
1 st	Business Meeting	Grace Object of Rotary Mike Ashton Alan Duchars
8 th	Sarah Fleming	Tony Barker
15 th	Alan Hill	Andrew Britter
22 nd	St George's Day Lunch (John Wolfenden)	Lieonorah Chinduta
29 th	TBC	Adam Copsey
May		
6 th	Business Meeting	Grace Object of Rotary Alan Duchars Jimmy Eaton
13 th	Races Meeting	Pat Gaudin
20 th	Pat Gaudin - South Africa	Vic Gowers
27 th	Laura Grant – also South Africa	Ron Gregory
June		
3 rd	Business Meeting	Grace Object of Rotary David Harper Pat Gaudin

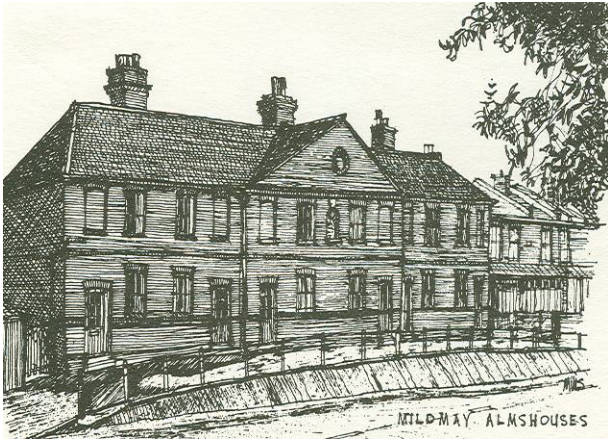
DIARY DATES:

May	
6 th	AGM
7 th	Club Visit to Bardfield Vineyard (Chelmsford Rivermead Quiz Night)
10 th	District Assembly – all incoming Chairmen should attend
18 th	GREAT BADDOW RACES - BE AVAILABLE !!!!!!!
June	
10 th	CLUB ASSEMBLY (Evening Meeting)
11 th	Matchstick Club
22 nd	PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON

PROGRAMME MONTHS

Foundation.....Januaryand July
Membership and Service.....Februaryand August
Youth.....Marchand September
Community and Vocational.....Apriland October
International.....Mayand November
Council.....Juneand December

Copy Date for Articles for the May Edition - Friday 2nd May 2008

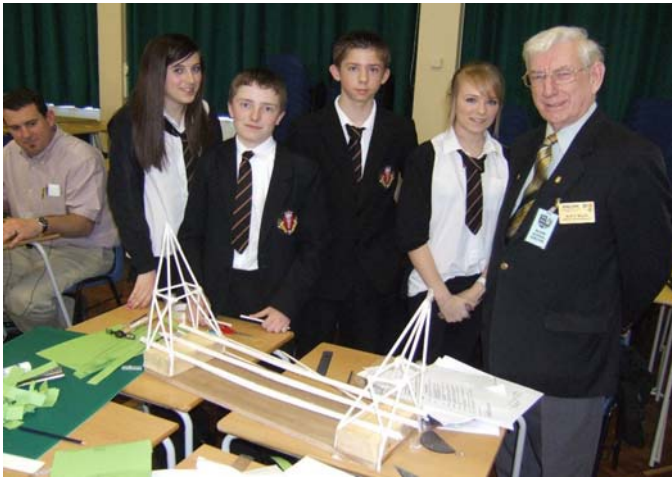


Mildmay Matters

April 2008

No.270

DISTRICT 1240 ...TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT



The Youth Technology Tournament, organised by Chelmsford Mildmay Rotary Club was held on the 7th March at Plume School, Maldon.

The task this year was titled 'The Bridge'. This involved teams of four in the design and build of a bridge to span a river, and upon completion to support a load over a set span without collapsing. The task had different specifications for basic, intermediate and advanced groups. Teams were given a pack of materials from which to construct the bridge after providing a portfolio showing reasons for their design and challenges they had to overcome. After nearly 4hrs of intense activity the completed bridges were demonstrated to our Judges for final assessment and Marks were awarded for:-

Evidence of planning - Design analysis-
Development of the solution - Making skills and accuracy, including the use of tools - Team organisation - Appropriate use of materials -Their portfolio - Final test.

The Schools competing were: Moulsham High School, Chelmsford. Beauchamps High School, Wickford. Plume School, Maldon. Chelmer Valley

High School, Chelmsford. William De Ferrers School, South Woodham. The Notley High School, Braintree. St Peters High School, Burnham. Tabor Science College, Braintree. The winning teams in each section were:- Basic - St Peters High School, Burnham. Intermediate - Tabor Science College. Braintree. Advanced - Chelmer Valley High School. Chelmsford. Our Judges were Mr Malcolm McKay, Mr Colin Eley, Mr Brian Chase and Mr Andy Bennet of e2v Technologies (UK) based in Chelmsford, the main sponsors of the event. We also had the benefit of sponsorship from D & B Scaffolding, Ongar. In his summing up our Chief Judge Malcolm informed all teams of how impressed the Judges were with the effort the teams had put into the task and how interesting it was to see the variety of the final designs. We were delighted that Ken Buck our District Governor Elect was able to attend and present the awards to the winning teams.



From comments received from those that attended, including most importantly the Students, the event was enjoyed by all. We look forward to next year's event and increasing the number of schools participating.

Mike Ardley – Chairman of Organising Committee

Peter Hesketh on Mentoring.

Peter came to talk to us on 11th March about the mentoring of young persons. The criteria for mentoring are experience to provide fun opportunities, experience to assist a young person to cope with the problems of life. From Peter's background as a policeman he felt capable of handling the requirements of a young person. Doing is more important than talking. He felt they should do this or that but it is the wrong approach. Firstly you need to find out the pressures the young person is under. Each individual is under a great deal of pressure from his or her peers, from home and from society in general. One of the important features in their life is "Street Cred". We have both been to the same University of life but not with the same results.

Peter was assigned a young lad of 13 called Anthony and visited his home to see what home life was about. At home Mum, aged 40, 12 children, 2 fathers, one partner currently in prison, they have moved three times, accommodation is difficult, if you don't get what you want then agitate to the extreme, there are no rules and no respect, it is the closest you can get to anarchy. This was his normal background. Peter was very pleased to return home to his own comforts.

Peter introduced Anthony to new experiences. They visited the theatre and London (he had never been there before). They went on the train and paid the fare, his normal method would be to pinch a car. He took him climbing. and tried to impose some values on him. Anthony could not face the possibility of having a future. They talked about what he had experienced and he responded but if while talking someone else appeared on the scene he clammed up. Anthony pushed the boundaries to the limit at all times.

Peter thought he had some success but he has once again got into trouble, this time he will go to prison. That's alright because he thinks he will be with his mates, of course even if he is in the same institution he probably won't see them, the outcome is very questionable and it is going to be a very hard lesson for one who considers himself a "hard knock". Now 16 years old, no qualifications, no money, no enthusiasm, no future and he is not alone in this world.

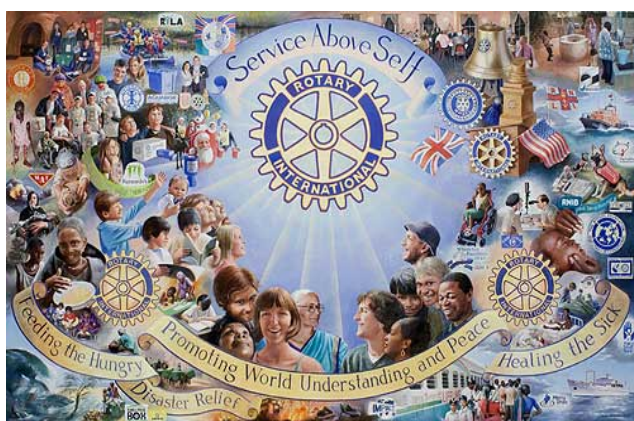
A very sobering tale – but what is even worse is that the Colchester Mentoring Team is no longer able to function because of inadequate funding.

Great Baddow-as was



On March 18th Les Sparrow was at Mildmay talking about his younger days spent in Great Baddow. He described the village as it was when he was a lad - we all know what it is like today. He spoke of the many tricks they used to get up to and quote many of the old names from the village, some I hasten to add, our members recognised. He reminisced about the allotment sites, the waste ground where they used to play. He talked of the shops that were in the village and did mention a few prices. He presented his talk in a very friendly and jovial manner which all present enjoyed. We did stump him on one matter. Someone asked, "What was the "Bringy" and where did the word "Bringy" come from? He did not know.

[Answers to the editor, on a postcard please.](#)



ROSA BRANSON'S ROTARY PAINTING UNVEILED AT HOUSE OF LORDS

A painting by Rosa Branson, one of London's foremost painters, entitled Service above Self, was unveiled today by Baroness Hayman, The Lord Speaker, in the River Room at The House of Lords, in front of an audience of politicians, business people and diplomats. Rosa recently completed this major commission for Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland. The thematic painting depicts the many facets of the humanitarian work carried out by Rotary around the globe.

For more on this go to RIBI website.

WILF EDGELL

The Club was very saddened to learn that Wilf had died on Tuesday 11th March following a long illness.

Wilf first joined Mildmay on 4th February 1986 having already been a Rotarian at his previous base in Surrey. During his early years in the Club he chaired the International Committee and also acted as Rotaract Liaison Officer for several years.

Promotion and its additional responsibilities resulted in Wilf leaving Mildmay in January 1990 but fortunately he was able to rejoin in September 1992. Again he was very involved in Youth activities and became President in 1995/6.

Wilf was a much loved and respected member of Mildmay and the Club's condolences have been extended to Margaret and the family.

At his funeral at Chelmsford Crematorium on the 25th March the following Eulogy was given by Richard Oscroft, a Banking and Rotarian friend and colleague.

Wilf, as he was known throughout his career spanning more than 40 years, entered Lloyds Bank at Ewell in Surrey at the age of 17 years, on his father's death, as there were no funds available to complete his education: his father having been a Clerk in Holy Orders.

Experience was gained and progress made in a number of branches. His keenness and enthusiasm were recognised as he was appointed a Branch Instructor at the Training Centre at Hindhead in 1959. It was there that I first met Wilf in March 1961 as a participant on one of the Entrants Courses. Eight of the young instructors of that time must have had a lot of fun as they became very close friends and still meet every year: some are here this afternoon, but one, who cannot be here, recalls that Wilf - or "Wilfers" as he was known with affection - with his great interest in Hi-Fi and considerable skill at photography played a leading role in the making of a training film "The Story of a Cheque." He still thinks of Wilfers, so full of fire, passion, and enthusiasm for life whenever he hears the backing music from the Karelia Suite. Another Instructor of those days recalls Wilf's Austin known by all as the "Yellow Peril" and his love of driving - the faster the better! Much more recently, I was to enjoy similar experiences travelling to pensioners lunches in Cambridge!!

Later in 1961, Wilf had moved on to Croydon branch where he joined the Young Conservatives. It was there that he met Margaret, who was the local group treasurer. Whilst they did not always see eye to eye on matters financial, romance blossomed and they were married in October 1962 by which time Wilf had moved to 399, Oxford Street branch. Amongst the congratulatory telegrams was one from the Bank advising Wilf that he should attend his Senior Course in January 1963. His first Board Appointment was as Assistant Manager, Bedford Branch. From there he was seconded as an Instructor on Securities Courses at Warnes Hotel in Worthing. After twelve months of difficult commuting from Bedford, Wilf was appointed as Schools Liaison Officer, based in London - here we renewed our friendship as at that time I was Assistant Manager of Cannon Street branch, the Bank's newest branch in the City and, being so close to Head Office ideally placed for school visits!

Wilf went on to manage Hampstead branch for five years, regularly entertaining well known customers at his home in Kew. He also became a Rotarian and for five years was the Club's Treasurer. Before moving to Chelmsford in 1985 to take up his appointment as Senior Manager in the County Town, Wilf spent four years in Charles II Street in the West End. On the re-structuring

of its more senior management in 1989, Wilf's hard work and dedication was rewarded with his appointment as Area Director for North East Essex - here again our paths crossed, as I was by then Regional Manager Retail Banking for the Eastern Region, of which Wilf's Area was a part. A good team player and organiser, who always gave of his very best, Wilf always tackled the considerable challenges of his senior executive role with enthusiasm and a lot of energy: like others, he was nevertheless somewhat relieved when he was offered retirement two years early in 1992 - on yet another reorganisation in the Bank!

It was during what in the Bank we called a handover from his predecessor that Wilf first met the late Mike Stacey and his wife Barbara, farming customers and stalwart members of Rotary and Inner Wheel. Unsurprisingly it was not long before Wilf had rejoined and Margaret had been welcomed into the strong bond of fellowship for which the Inner Wheel of Chelmsford Mildmay is well known. Wilf lost no time, especially in his retirement, in getting thoroughly involved in Rotary again. He really enjoyed putting "Service above Self" in a wide variety of community initiatives and rose to be President of the Club in 1995/96, following Margaret who was President of Inner wheel a year earlier.

It was typical of this good man, who before the onset of his illness, was a shining example to us all, that on receipt of a "crie de coeur" from the widow of a fellow Rotarian, and in the absence of any other volunteers, took on the chairmanship of the Chelmsford Abbeyfield himself - a post he held for five years during which time, using his organisational skills and powers of persuasion, he turned what had been a struggling operation into a fully businesslike venture.

Personally, I shall always be forever thankful to Wilf, for had it not been for him, I may never have become a Rotarian on my own retirement in 1995. He knew that I was looking for another interest, with similar ideals but outside of Scouting! I was pleased that it was Wilf who inducted me into membership.

The gap in our lives that Wilf leaves is big, and may not be possible to fill, but now he is at rest and is spared further suffering. He is at peace, and, I believe, not far from us. On behalf of us all I thank God that Wilf came and lived amongst us. I thank God for Wilf's love, his care and devotion, for his friendship, comradeship and companionship freely given to each one of us.

Farewell, good friend, until we meet again. Rest in peace.

Richard Oscroft