



Mildmay Matters

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Chelmsford Mildmay

November 2007

No. 266

A Special Welcome !

The 16th October was a special day for Mildmay and our latest recruit into membership – Lieonorah Chinduta. Lieonorah is from Zimbabwe and is currently working at Essex County Council as a Social Worker. At the same time she has embarked on a Ph.D. at Essex University so as you will gather she has lots of energy. Just add in a little marathon running and it is clear that we will have difficulty keeping pace with her.

Lieonorah who was sponsored by Pat Gauden and seconded by Andrew Britter has been assigned to the Youth Services Committee.

We wish her success and fulfillment in what we hope will be a long and happy time in Rotary.



Lieonorah is welcomed into Rotary by President John and supported by Vice President Pat.



Robin Hood.... Robin Hood.... shoots again shoots again

Mike Bennett wants Mildmay to know that his transfer to Nottinghamshire has meant that he has had to learn new skills or - to put it another way - to go native.

As he prepares to sharpen his bow he might just have heard Maid Marion (her indoors) reminding him he should be giving the fence a coat of stain before he sets off on his latest mercy mission!

1240 District Conference

- Slough/Windsor- Part 2



.....from Tony Bugden

Conference recommenced on Friday at The Marriott Hotel, Langley with messages from various representatives from R.I., R.I.B.I., the local District Inner Wheel and **Claire Pavitt** Interact.

The afternoon was concluded with a talk from **Graham Keel** who related his experiences interviewing many celebrities.

The Evening Dinner was originally to be Teddy Boy/Girl era. It appeared to be usurped by the Rock and Roll era, most of whom had an "Elvis" hairstyle. We did have our own "Teddy Boy." A picture has been obtained at great expense –see below left.



Saturday morning and we are on early breakfast.

After a welcome from the Mayor of Slough it was on with the rest of the morning's speakers. **John Bird** representing R.I. President Wilfred Wilkinson stressed first the need for new members. He followed this with pleas to support Polio Plus and support for Rotary's own charity Foundation. He emphasised "Service above Self" the motto of Rotary. He picked up the point of the Rotary wheel. The wheel is probably the most important discovery ever. It allows items to move or to be moved. No point on the wheel is more important than another. The teeth on the Rotary wheel are for engaging with others.

Peter King representing R.I.B.I. President Alan Jagger followed him. His main point was to urge every Club to fulfil Alan Jagger's wish all Clubs should receive a Presidential Citation.

A breath of fresh air blew through the Conference Hall when **Claire Pavitt** took the platform. Her enthusiasm for Rotary was effervescent. A past product of RYLA she set up a Rotaract Club that was chartered in March this year. She has spent three months in Kenya on a "Water Relief Project," damming streams to gather water for use by the locals. It was marvellous just to be there. Africans know of Rotary and appreciate everything they do. She is due to return in January 2008 with teaching in Primary Schools.

After coffee **Louise Gloyne** from Little Haven Hospice. As most of us are fully aware of its activities she gave us more of an update. Little Haven was opened nine years ago. One thousand children have benefited from their care but will not reach adulthood. In 2006 150 families required their support. This year one hundred and fifty children between the ages of naught and nineteen will die. Little haven is not a sad place but a place full of fun and laughter. Besides Little Haven there is also E.P.I.C. who give care and support to cancer suffering children and their families in the community. This year it has lost it's funding from the National Lottery. The Independent Care trust would not support them. However Little Haven have promised to raise two hundred thousand pounds in support and have been back to the I.C.T. and got them to find the remaining one hundred thousand. At Little haven they are very appreciative of the support from Rotary in the maintenance of their grounds. They are looking into the possibilities of having an allotment and growing their own vegetables but they need guidance and help.

Louise concluded her talk by reading from a very sad article written by a mother in need of help. Both her children are now at the Hospice one eight years old and the other five. They both have Batten's Disease for which there is no cure. She has watched her children gradually deteriorate and now they are both blind and in wheelchairs. No she said she had not come for money but they are looking for support with their lottery at £1 per week, preferably paid by standing order. **The secretary does have a number of forms if you would like to support Little Haven.**

John Benjamin took us through the jewellery of the twentieth century. He began with pearls, explaining the differences. Look out because there are those who might ask to have a nibble at your pearls, next time you are wearing them. He gave us an illustrated talk that brought a frown to many of the women who had given some of their "cheap jewellery" to the charity shops. It appears that much of cheaper jewellery of the 1930's is now quite valuable.

What do you know about Bowel Cancer? Well our final speaker for the morning was **Lynn Faulds Wood**; her passion was bowel cancer or rather the prevention of it. She related her own experience of this disease she was diagnosed, treated and is now clear. She stressed the need to be checked out for it. We wish her well. Again she was not asking

for money but making those present aware of the symptoms. Her words, "she will go anywhere to get her message over to an audience, the bigger the better". The big problem with this illness is those with it do not look ill. We have Spotted Dog and Spotted Skirt campaigns.

She posed the question, how good is your local hospital on the subject? Visit www.nbocap.org.uk to find out. Prevention: go easy on red meat – high fat, low fibre – boozing – smoking – sloth; exercise is good for your gut.

The morning concluded with one of the best, comprehensive "vote of thanks" I have heard for a long time, thank you **Margaret Webb**.

Saturday Evening it was the black tie dinner with dancing to a group called Wheelz. This group from Rayleigh Mill R.C. were brought in at the last minute because the intend group over half were ill. As far as I was concerned the dancing was more of a jig-about up and down on the spot. The group did well although a little 'samey'.

Conference recommenced on Sunday morning with environmentalist **Janey Lee Grace**. She demonised over the way her mother had conducted her life. None of these highly toxic chemicals to clean her house. Straightforward vinegar and elbow grease and for the front step a bar of hard green or red soap. She went on to outline some of the dangerous chemicals contained in cosmetics. Body lotion, why pay out a lot of money for chemically based products when coconut milk will do abetter job, (I bags rubbing it on). Instead of diabolical washing powders she advocated eco balls or soap nuts. There is a natural alternative to all chemical products, the problem is finding out about them and where you go to get them.

Her message: **be eco friendly - go old style first.**

Jonathan Gash the author of "Lovejoy" followed. He gave us a resume of his travels through the life of an author and told us of the hazards and pit falls he encounter in the wonderful world of television and films. As you are aware Lovejoy was supposed to be virtually a penniless antique dealer. He presented himself to Jonathan in a very expensive leather jacket saying, "This will be alright for Lovejoy". At that Jonathan was lost for words, "how can a hard up Antique dealer afford a jacket like that, Its all wrong". After relating tales of the bitchiness between the Directors assistants (usually a young bimbo in her twenty's), he went on to relate several of the stories. When in Lavenham, one day. the locals were complaining about the T.V. crews and the extras taking up all the parking in the town. So he said, "I just joined in with them and agreed. The whole talk was a series of laughs. He related the story of the Vicar, the Priest and the Rabbi. They were by the river and decided they would like a swim. There was no one about so they decided to swim in the buff. As they got out of the river following their swim a number of people came by the Vicar and the Priest covered the obvious parts of their anatomies, the Rabbi covered his face. The other two said to him, "Why did you cover your face?" To which the Rabbi reply, "with me it's my face they recognise". He concluded with a letter from a six year old following a visit he made to their school. "Dear Jonathan, you talk to us for just twenty minutes but it seemed like four hours".

Our next speaker was **Shirley Ann Fields**. She gave an insight to her start in life an unwanted child and the troubles she had trying to get reunited with her little brother. She outlined why she was so keen to get on in life and make herself a household name. She related many experiences of other actors and stars. She concluded by running through a number of clips of some of her films.



Ken Buck then gave us a preview of Conference 2008 at Cambridge. It looks to have the makings of a good conference and it seems right that the club should if possible give it maximum support.

It was now the turn of Rotarians **John Bird** and **Peter King** to give us their opinions of Conference. As you would expect they both complimented Brian Piccolo on a good conference. It was a good Conference.

The final vote of thanks to all the Conference speakers came from **Keith Webb**. After explaining how he got "dropped in it" he then got on with it.

<<< and just to prove that Conference is not all talk and no play Here are the Mildmay Mods warming up before the Evening Dinner.

Are You Having a Bad Day? There was a case in one hospital's Intensive Care ward where patients always died in the same bed, on Sunday morning, at about 11 a.m., regardless of their medical condition. This puzzled the doctors and some even thought that it had something to do with the supernatural. No one could solve the mystery... as to why the deaths occurred around 11 a.m. on Sundays.

So a World- Wide team of experts was assembled to investigate the cause of the incidents. The next Sunday morning, a few minutes before 11 a.m., all doctors and nurses nervously wait outside the ward to see for themselves what the terrible phenomenon was all about. Some were holding wooden crosses, prayer books and other holy objects to ward off the evil spirits. Just when the clock struck 11... Daisy Johnson, the part-time Sunday cleaner, entered the ward and unplugged the life support system so that she could use the vacuum cleaner.

Programme

DATE	SUBJECT/SPEAKER	GRACE/DUTY
November		
13 th	Beverley Nice – Essex Probation Service	Ron Gregory
20 th	Andrew Fraser –President of Stevenage R.C. - Ophthalmoscope Initiative	David Harper
27 th	Laura Grant – South Africa Experience	David Hollingworth
December		
4 th	Special General Meeting and Business Meeting	Gordon Neilson
	Object of Rotary	Mike Ashton
11 th	TBA	Richard Oscroft
18 th	Christmas Lunch – Partners invited	Richard Pilbrow
25 th	NO MEETING	
January 2008		
1 st	NO MEETING	
8 th	Business Meeting	David Pond

DIARY DATES

29th November Club Council

New Look Mildmay Matters:

I'm still anxious to have your views on the new format –at the Club Membership and Services Committee it was agreed to leave any changes until the end of the year . So please have your say by letter, E-mail or by mouth! Ed.

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 December Edition - Friday 4nd December