



Forward into 2008/9

It must be something about getting older, but I notice these days that the weeks and months seem to be passing by quicker and quicker. And then I realise that my President's year is almost upon me!

Thinking ahead, I suppose the most important thing will be to continue rebuilding the feel-good factor and camaraderie that we have begun to enjoy again this year. There is no doubt that a varied and stimulating speaker's programme and other collective activities, including regular ladies evenings and events involving our wives and partners will help. A repeat of our successful and enjoyable dinner on the Swanage train four years ago (yes, it was that long ago!) is an example of something I hope we can look forward to this summer. Everybody's contribution in coming up with interesting speakers, which Paul will be co-ordinating soon, should ensure a varied programme that will maintain our interest throughout the year.

I wasn't planning to make any major changes to the service committees and, with the exception of Community Service where John has kindly agreed to take over from Paul, existing chairs have said they will carry on for another year. However, I'm concerned that still too much time and too many

people are solely involved in administration. In this respect I'm proposing that administration should be taken out of normal committee evenings allowing officers of the club, if they so wish, to participate in and contribute to service committees. This way the whole club can be involved in some way or other in service projects with the President Elect reporting administrative issues directly to Club Council.

Finally, I'm sure you'll agree, once we're into the new Rotary year we need to think about re-building our membership. At this stage I'm not intending to resurrect the Membership Committee. Nevertheless, I'd like somebody to volunteer as 'Membership Officer' whose role it would be to maintain focus on this important subject and keep tabs on where we are with prospective members. If somebody would be prepared to take on this important role please let me know!

With your help, I look forward to leading the club into the next Rotary year.

John Maddox

SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

Since the January Newsletter, gladly we seem to have got our speaker's programme back on track.

In February, Denis Meadus, District International Chairman, gave us a very interesting talk about the Gravitai River Project in Brazil involving cleaning the river basin and improving the life of many hundreds living along its banks. This is to be funded through a 3H (*Health, Hunger & Humanity*) grant from Rotary Foundation supported by clubs from our District.

We also received an Ambassadorial Scholar, Rosalind Vella, a young lady from Malta studying special learning needs and dyslexia at University of Southampton. Apart from telling us how she was going to return with all the knowledge and experience gained here to help children with learning difficulties in Malta, she gave us an appealing insight into her home country of which she seemed justifiably proud.

The highlight during February, however, must have been the Murder Mystery evening. This was a Ladies Night. Our compère, Graham Hoyle presided masterly over the occasion like a game show host, the six suspects [pictured] gave spirited performances in the witness box and the murder victim convincingly (?) slumped over the table every time his demise was mentioned! In the end the culprit turned out to be the person you'd probably least expect - Phillipa Kettle played by Pat Loveless.



Only one person got it right, and they weren't quite sure why! In retrospect, she was the only suspect that had had the opportunity to poison the victim's food, but her motive was slightly less obvious from

the clues! An event well worth repeating next year perhaps!

In March, Elvia Soria from the Institute of Cancer Research came down from London following the £2,000 donation we sent them from last Rotary year. The Institute is one of the world's leading cancer research organisations covering the whole spectrum of cancer related diseases. Elvi outlined the work they are currently doing particularly in relation to prostate cancer where they're trying to differentiate treatment of the less aggressive cancers from the 'tiger' ones.

The other speaker in March was Jacky Smith talking about her hobby. Accustomed as the club is to prickly subjects, this one was completely different - 'the history of American barbed wire' !! Excellently presented, this was a fascinating talk with plenty of examples of the real thing to prick one's fingers on! It also made one realise how many quirky odd-ball things to be interested in there must be out there!

By the time this Newsletter is published we should be into our next ladies night. Some may remember intrepid explorer and raconteuse Shirley Critchley and her talk a couple of years ago 'From the Andes to the Atlantic, via the Amazon, in traditional reed boats'. Well Shirley is back again and this time she is treating us to a presentation on the 'Quest for the wreck of the Wager' A full report next time!

JRM

SWANAGE RAILWAY TRIP

Don't forget that we have a trip to the Swanage Railway on the 14th of August 2008. We did this a couple of years ago and it was a really enjoyable evening. We have a meal booked on the train and your Wives/Partners are welcome. The cost will be £11.45 for members (subsidised) and £23.95 for Guests. Cheques or more information to Keith Loveless.

We need to be at Swanage by 19.00 and the train leaves at 19.30. There is a car park right by the railway. Please let Keith Loveless have a cheque as soon as possible.

This Years Easter Road Race:

General Review of Race – the Committee considered that the race had been successful. There had been increased numbers (283 runners registered), increased sponsorship and donations, relatively good weather in the circumstances and good publicity from the Echo, Wave 105 FM, Hope FM. The Mayor enjoyed the day and particular thanks are due to David Trenchard, Paul, Terry, Peter, Bill, Geoff, Keith and the announcers, Terry (again), Alan and Graham.

Draft Account – the draft account was considered and Geoff gave a report. £5,088 has been received. Further monies are due from Runners World. Various payments due to St Johns, safety pins, Salvation Army, clock, cups, petrol, leaflet, signs, labels, ties and prizes were identified.



The Mayor, Escort, President Ed and Simon



The Winning Man

Several men are in the locker room of a golf club.

A cell phone on a bench rings and a man engages the hands free speaker function and begins to talk. Everyone else in the room stops to listen.

MAN: "Hello"

WOMAN: "Honey, it's me. Are you at the club?"

MAN: "Yes"

WOMAN: "I am at the mall now and found this beautiful leather coat. It's only \$1,000. Is it OK if I buy it?"

MAN: "Sure, go ahead if you like it that much."

WOMAN: "I also stopped by the Mercedes dealership and saw the new 2008 models. I saw one I really liked."

MAN: "How much?"

WOMAN: "\$90,000"

MAN: "OK, but for that price I want it with all the options."

WOMAN: "Great! Oh, and one more thing...the house I wanted last year is back on the market. They're asking \$950,000"

MAN: "Well, then go ahead and give them an offer of \$900,000. They will probably take it. If not, we can go the extra 50 thousand if it's really a pretty good price."

WOMAN: "OK. I'll see you later! I love you so much!"

MAN: "Bye ! I love you, too."

The man hangs up. The other men in the locker room are staring at him in astonishment, mouths agape. He turns and asks: "Anyone know who this phone belongs to?"

Thanks to Simon for that one - Brilliant

Speakers for the next 3 months

Thu 3 April - Committee evening
Thu 10 April (Council) - Georgina, Youth Cancer Trust Cheque presentation
Thu 17 April - Martin Broad, Bournemouth Citizens Advice Bureau
Thu 24 April - Ladies night, Shirley Critchley 'Quest for the wreck of the Wager'
Thu 1 May - Club AGM & committee evening
Thu 8 May (Council) - Sharon Woodhams, RNIB
Thu 15 May - to be arranged
Thu 22 May - Focus interview (Paul Hodgkinson)
Thu 29 May - Committee evening
Thu 5 June (Council) - Business meeting/Open forum
Fri 6 June - Sun 8 June - Jumilage (in France)
Thu 12 June - No meeting
Sat 14 June - President's night
Thu 19 June - Club Assembly
Thu 26 June - Gemma Cornwell, Prostate Cancer Charity
Thu 3 July - Presidential hand-over & inaugural committee evening

Other important dates for your diary in 2008 are:

Jumilage (in France): Friday 6th - Sunday 8th June

President's night: Saturday 14th June

District Conference in Cardiff:
Friday 17th - Sunday 19th October

Christmas party: Saturday 20 December

PRESIDENT'S NIGHT

Saturday, 14 June 2008

at

the newly renovated *Avonmouth Hotel* in Mundeford

Ed & Marianne hope as many members as possible and their wives & friends will join them at Presidents Night this year

Drinks reception in the Harbour Room & on the outdoor terrace overlooking Christchurch harbour 6.30-7.30pm. Three-course dinner followed by coffee & truffles. A live band 'Dave Lewin Trio' will provide background music during the meal & dancing until late

Black tie/evening dress - Guest ticket price £37.50

Please consider inviting friends & relations
We need to try & get numbers up to 50!

John Maddox

RECEPTION DUTY

Wine,Grace,Vote of Thanks and Tosser

APRIL 2008

3rd	Alan Turle	Chris Wood	Paul Hodgkinson
10th	Harry Baines	Chris Brookes	Keith Loveless
17th	John Butcher	Bill Coombes	Geoff Lupton
24th	Mike Crockett	Terry Finnagin	Peter Mylechreest

MAY 2008

1st	Lionel Harley	James Havelock	Henry Olswang
8th	Paul Hodgkinson	Keith Loveless	Simon Outten
15th	Geoff Lupton	Peter Mylechreest	Keith Randall
22nd	Henry Olswang	Simon Outten	Graham Rogers
29th	Keith Randall	Graham Rogers	Brian Richardson

JUNE 2008

5th	David Trenchard	Alan Turle	David Trenchard
12th	NO MEETING	(President's Night 14th)	
19th	Chris Wood	Harry Baines	Alan Turle
26th	Chris Brookes	John Butcher	Chris Wood

July 2008

3rd	Bill Coombes	Mike Crockett	Harry Baines
10th	Terry Finnagin	Lional Harley	Chris Brookes

*IF YOU CAN'T DO IT – PLEASE FIND SOMEONE THAT CAN
AND THEN TELL HON. SEC. David Coombe*

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO :-

April	No-one	
May	Keith Randall on the 7th Twinned with Gabby Hayes	
June	Peter on the 1st	Twinned with Marilyn Monrow
	Harry on the 9th	Twinned with Les Paul
	Alan on the 19th	Twinned with Salman Rushdie

The Back Pages

Did you ever stop and wonder.....

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are flat?

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough?

Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

What is the speed of darkness?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up every two hours?

If the temperature is zero outside today and it's going to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold will it be?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in telescopes to look at things on the ground?

Did you ever stop and wonder.....

Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, 'I think I'll squeeze these pink dangly things here, and drink whatever comes out?'

Who was the first person to say, 'See that chicken there... I'm going to eat the next thing that comes out of it's bum.'

Why do toasters always have a setting so high that could burn the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

Why is there a light in the fridge and not in the freezer?

Why do people point to their wrist when asking for the time, but don't point to their bum when they ask where the bathroom is?

Why does your Obstetrician or Gynaecologist leave the room when you get undressed if they are going to look up there anyway?

If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?

Thanks to Simon for those.

Please send us some news for the next newsletter. Information was very late for this edition.

Please email it to bill@allgraphics.co.uk

It's Goodbye from me and it's Goodbye from him,

Bill & Brian

The cost of producing this edition of the newsletter has been sponsored by All Graphics
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