

Kingfisher Chronicle - 2004-2005

June 2005

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PRESIDENT'S

WITTERINGS/REMINISCES

As your President this year comes to an end. There comes a time when you reflect, not only on Rotary, myself as a Rotarian and President of a Rotary Club, but also on me Ray Wilcox, what has 28 years done for me as a Rotarian? One thing for sure, I have a lot of Rotary friends all over the World, I have travelled the World in Rotary, Rotary has given me professional standing and creditability amongst other Rotarian friends and Rotary arranged my marriage to Karen in Thailand, that was 5 years ago.

It has been a difficult year as President and I have felt the gut wrenching guilt when I can't make it to the club. It's an experience of guilt and failure that you don't get as a drone Rotarian when you can't make it. I cannot explain the anger you feel when you get stuck in traffic at 4.00 p.m. on a Tuesday, or a customer asks can he see that again and makes you feel like saying to the buyer 'sod off, I've got my Rotary tonight'.

Well, my Presidency is at an end, whether in your opinion I've been a good, bad President, or just a bloke who you can have a banter with, I have filled an office in Rotary and have done my best.

I can't even make this month's Club Council Meeting due to business pressures, my apologies but it's only the second one I have missed, but I will be there Tuesday come hell or high water.

During my Presidency I have obviously noticed the outstanding performance of certain Rotarians and do wish I could have been more involved in the Club, to influence recognition by the Club of certain individuals. We are all aware of David Tyrell's activity, but have you ever noticed David Saunders' outstanding activity in Rotary? I would certainly like to think that the incoming President will carry on with these thoughts.

I am amalgamating my President's evening with my Birthday which is why there is no

charge and it is only 57 miles from Redditch - I've done it several times just to be at the Club and travelled home to Shropshire - that's how much I love my Rotary.

President Ray

Kids Out

Its Kids Out on Wednesday and 4 volunteers are required to assist in this great day out to Drayton Manor Park. So far John Wall and Don Raines have volunteered. We need 2 more otherwise it will be Kids In rather than Out. Any volunteers please to John Wall as soon as possible.

Aquabox Appeal

Many thanks to Geoff Till, for finding suitable facilities to store and fill all the Aquabox paraphernalia. This has been an absolute Godsend and has enabled a number of us to empty our garages and we can now pack the boxes in an orderly fashion. Any volunteers to assist packing please contact David Tyrrell or David Saunders *(David Saunders)*

Alcester S Nicholas RC

As members will know Alcester St Nicholas, due to low numbers, are sadly in the process of closing their club. When one of our members spoke to their President and asked why the members did not consider joining us instead of leaving Rotary altogether his response was that they hadn't been asked! This being the case then the matter needs to be discussed at our next Business meeting.

This Month in History

On 4th June 1940 the evacuation of Dunkirk which had began on 27th May was completed. Thousands of little ships captained by British Yachtsmen, fishermen and other civilians, under heavy German attack, picked up trapped British Expeditionary Forces soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk and returned to the English south coast with 338,226 men.

(Alan Atkinson)

Meal

No idea, lost track of where we are!!

Thought For The Day

Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.

(Alan King)

Hospital Fete

Saturday July 2nd is Hospital Fete day. As in previous years we will be running the bottle stall. Help will be required the evening before to assemble the stalls and during the day on the Saturday. Most important of all we will need many bottles, preferably of the liquid variety (not soap).

Still Wanted

Second Vice –President for 2005-06. This is your chance to put something back into the Club, applicants in the first place to Neil Wycherley please.

New Member

It is planned to induct Colin Smith as our newest member at the handover meeting. I understand that his Father-in-Law - Rtn. Ken Roberts and Mother-in-Law Muriel will also be attending our meeting on 28th.

Programme

June 7th – Business meeting

June 14th – Treasure hunt, hopefully details will be available at Tuesdays meeting.

June 21st – Cathy Moss from a local organisation called music makers, a charity youth group based at Kingsley College in Redditch promoting music and arts amongst the young .

June 28th – handover.

June 25th – Presidents Bash, jazz musicians, champagne, buffet .

December 24th – Christmas collection at Sainsburys.

ROTARY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATED AT CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

The Notcutts Garden Centres exhibit was the scene of much celebration on Press Day, as life-long Rotarian Charles Notcutt OBE received the Paul Harris Fellowship from the President of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland, Gordon McNally, in recognition of his service to the Rotary organisation.

This was cause for a treble celebration, as Rotary is enjoying its 100th year of service and Notcutts received a coveted Gold medal for the garden exhibit from the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr McNally said 'I am delighted to give this prestigious award to Charles, in Rotary's centennial year, recognizing his outstanding contribution to horticulture.' Mr Notcutt, Chairman of the family-run group said 'It is a great honour to receive the fellowship Award and a huge surprise. I truly believe in the ideals of the Rotary organisation and all that it stands for.'

Previous recipients of the fellowship include Nelson Mandela, HRH Prince Philip, Sir Anthony Hopkins and Luciano Pavarotti. The programme was established in memory of the Founder of Rotary to recognise distinguished service and substantial contributions to Rotary Foundation programmes.

Notcutts' exhibit was awarded a Gold medal by the Royal Horticultural Society. Covering an area 10 metres wide and 18 metres long, the exhibit is based on the concept of the colour wheel, with plants of similar colours displayed together in small garden scenes.

Charles Notcutt is a member of the Rotary Club of Woodbridge in Suffolk. In 1993 Charles received an OBE for Services to Horticulture and the Royal Horticultural Society awarded him the Victoria Medal of Honour in 1997, the Centenary Year of both Notcutts and of the VMH.

Duties this Week

Meal Collection – Alan Atkinson

Grace – Wilf Albutt

Vote of thanks – Neil Wycherley

Raffle - The editors wife won the raffle at our last meeting, this was a great relief to the editor who is a bit short following his sons wedding in Dublin.

All contributions to this newsletter welcome by email to J.lscott@btopenworld.com or even snailmail will do.