

# Rotary Club of Epping

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NEWSLETTER Issue 201 March 2008

## FOR YOUR DIARY

**29 March** – Quiz organised by Roding Club , 7.00 for 7.30 , in aid of a local Childrens Hospice; tickets £12 ; contact Trevor Johnson.

**22 April** – evening meeting at Theydon Bois Golf Club with Chigwell and Chingford Clubs to hear a presentation by GSE team returned from Australia. Details about time and cost to follow from Alan Kerr. **NOTE ! *Holding lunchtime meeting only at Prezzo.***

**25 May** – River boat trip from Harlow (Burnt Mill Lane, behind Town Station) , about 4.00 – 8.00pm, ; information from Len Stace; follows presentation about Canal Boat Project for disabled/community use, to which the club has made a donation.

**31 May/1 June** – Sinsheim visit, to Edinburgh. Information from Chris Hudson.

**3 June** – District Sports Dinner, 7.00 for 7.30pm at Radisson Hotel. Date arranged to avoid conflict with our Charity Golf Day, so strong Club support expected ! Contact Graham Hancock. **NOTE ! *Presentation to Students evening meeting rearranged to 10 June.***

**5 June** – Charity Golf Day.

**10 June** – **NOTE !** Presentation to Students evening meeting rearranged from 3 June in the Handbook.

**27 June** – **NOTE !** Presidential dinner at Bishops Stortford Golf Club rearranged from 21 June in the Handbook, and not a dinner and dance.

**17 July** – visit to Spencers Gardens (ex Rab Butler, noted for wisteria and herbs, not normally open to public) and Coggeshall Abbey (12<sup>th</sup> century foundation, noted for medieval brickwork) ; contact Len Stace .

**28 September** – next Copped Hall Fun Run.

**16- 19 October** – District Conference, Eastbourne.

## **RESULTS IN BRIEF.....**

The various Christmas collections 2007 realised just over £5,800, a very worthwhile sum (and Santa ever popular with the young and young at heart), similar to 2005 but less than 2006. We were not helped by the Tesco decision not to allow collections outside their stores.

Carols on the Green on Christmas Eve attracted a large number of people, and the collections – aided by kind sponsorship by Lathams - enabled a sum of £1,000 to be given to St Johns School. However, there were a number of hiccups in the preparation and some one-off expenses, and lessons to be learned for next year.

The Burns Night dinner in January was very well attended and much enjoyed by those present. The auction of promises raised £2,200 for Club charity funds.

At the evening meeting on 4 March President Alan was able to present the Carols on the Green cheque to representatives of St Johns School, and also to make this year's Service above Self award to Tony Ellis, a now semi-retired police officer who had invested great effort and initiative over very many years in community policing in the District.

The Club heard on 11 March that President Alan, together with John Eaton and John Padfield, had met the new headteacher at St Johns School who was enthusiastic about continuing joint ventures with the Club. There has been something of a hiatus recently , so we hope to see more activities in the future!

Trevor Johnson reminded us on the same day that the Gates Foundation had pledged a grant of 100 million dollars to Rotary International over three years towards the Polio Plus campaign, on a matched funding basis. There are a few places in the world where polio is not yet eradicated. Trevor suggested that if every Rotarian pledged say £5 per month, then the matched funding would be achieved.

## **FINALLY .....**

One of our foreign correspondents sends this story:

Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right, and the other is usually the husband.

When the lawnmower broke , my wife kept hinting that I should fix it. But somehow I always had something else to take care of first : the car, fishing, e-mail. Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point. When I arrived home one day, I found her in the tall grass, snipping away with a pair of sewing scissors.

I watched for a while, then went into the house and came out with a toothbrush. I handed it to her. "When you finish cutting the grass", I said, "you might as well sweep the driveway."

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.

