

Roundabout

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Colchester



President: David Burrage

Editor: Maureen Cosgrave

April 2014

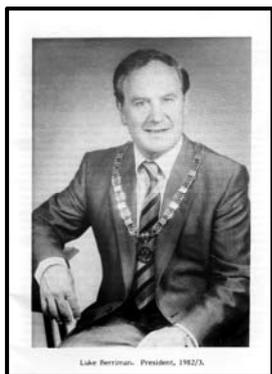


Georgina Richardson from Action for Family Carers is delighted to receive a cheque from President David Burrage

INDEX to CONTENTS

Page 2	Rotarian Luke Berriman
Page 2-4	Tuesday Meetings; Induction of Stuart Elson
Page 5	Club Visioning Meeting; Meet our Visioning Team
Page 6	Fellowship Friday Meeting
Page 7	Visit to Zwolle; Marks Hall Garden and Country Show
Page 8	Diary Dates

Rotarian Luke Berriman



His many friends in Rotary and locally will have been saddened at the news of the death of Luke Berriman on 6 March, at the age of 89. Luke had a varied career, serving as a Bevin Boy during the Second World War, and on returning he worked with H. E. Williams for some time, before he and his dear wife Pat opened their own china shop on Culver Street. He joined Rotary in 1968 and was thus one of our most senior members.

Luke and Pat were very strong supporters of Rotary and Inner Wheel and faithfully attended most events over the years, always enjoying their respective conferences. Luke's Presidency of the Rotary Club of Colchester 1982/83 was not only a high spot for him, but also for the Club, as he presided over the 60th Anniversary celebrations in great style.

Up until recently he was an assiduous attender at our meetings, but latterly his decline saw his attendance falter. Luke was a good, kind man, a good Rotarian and a friend to many. He will be sadly missed by all who share with us in extending our condolences to Pat.

Our condolences also to Inner Wheel on the loss of Ann Lee and to Forum who have lost Philip Hills; Jill Nugent has also died recently. Ann was a member of the Wheeler family and very active in many charitable, political and social organisations in Colchester. Philip was a respected Rotarian, a modern polymath and always good company. Jill had moved south to be near her daughter. **Ian McMeekan**

Tuesday 4th March

President David gave a warm welcome to our visitors, Stuart Elson and Elizabeth Shepard-Hogg, guest of Sarah Hamilton. Thanks were extended to Michael Siggs for organising a very successful Fellowship Friday where members and friends were entertained by auctioneer Michael Logan Wood. There followed a brief feedback from the Club Visioning Meeting, as members have already received written feedback. David felt that this had been a challenging, thought provoking exercise and that the three hours had passed very quickly. Ours is the first Club to undertake this exercise. We were advised that a Club Visioning Team has been formed – see Page 5.

During the meeting it was agreed to sanction £2,000 to support the work of Action for Young Adult Carers. Ian McMeekan was delighted to advise us that £256 was raised for Purple Pinkie by St James Primary School. Peter Herring thanked everyone for their contributions towards the monthly collection for Hargood Close which is proving to be very successful. Robert Macaulay was overjoyed to announce that Eugene Kraft has agreed to be his Vice President and that he and Roger Sharman are through to the final of the Cribbage Competition. Everyone was relieved when Good News Kitty appeared and, once again, Roy Chapman had woken up. Sonia Lewis was sorry that she had not been with us for four weeks but was so happy to be back. Pat Prestney, now being referred to as 'Patricia' by our President, was very happy to announce that she had had a wonderful holiday in India and did not get 'Delhi Belly', to which David Burrage added '**and** you didn't bump into John Powell'. Much laughter ensued!



It is always a joy to listen to someone who clearly loves their work. This was the case when Anthony Roberts spoke to us about his role as Director of the Colchester Arts Centre, which is housed in the old St Mary in the Walls Church. Anthony has a great affection for this building which has significance and great history in the community, as people have gathered there for 2000 years. The Arts Centre has a very diverse programme, including a Folk Club, Poetry, Rock and Roll and Jazz. However, some of us began to doubt Anthony when he revealed that Roy Chapman was a regular attender at the Rock and Roll sessions. Anthony confessed that he had been rather nervous about speaking to us, knowing that David Forder, who is ROYALTY in the history of the Arts in Colchester, would be here. David, in return gave a most affirming vote of thanks.

Tuesday 11th March

Our meeting began with a minute's silence for Luke Berriman, Past President of our Club in 1982/83 and a fine gentleman, so fondly remembered by all of us.

Peter Herring thanked us for the donations to Family Mosaic. Our last collection enabled Peter to give 125 items of food and essential supplies to the residents of Hargood Close. **Please remember your donation of food or money on the first Tuesday of every month.**



Our guest speakers today were Cyril Liddy and Heather Purdy from Colne Radio. Cyril described their radio as a micro station, as it serves a small local area around the River Colne. It was started with a £500 grant from BT. They have 50 volunteers, all exuberant, confident and committed, aged between 15 to those who are retired. Colne Radio operates from a small room, crammed with sophisticated technology. For around 80% of air time they play music and around 20% is speaking. They also do advertising. 1,700 visitors have logged into their website this month.

Heather, whose background is in radio journalism, explained that their goal is to be able to broadcast to a much wider area, as this is the fastest growing region in the country. The benefits of Colne Radio are that the public are able to talk on the radio and to advertise for a very small fee. One of their recent proposals is to give charities training about making a short radio programme about their work. After Eugene Kraft had given the vote of thanks, Peter Herring and Maureen Cosgrave knocked each other over in the race to reach the two speakers. Peter got there first but has spoken to Cyril and Heather on behalf of the Club about using their services in the near future.

Induction of Stuart Elson

Little did Stuart Elson know when he innocently walked into a Rotary Meeting on 21st January 2014 to present a wonderful demonstration of the Life Saver – an amazing invention that changes filthy, bacteria filled water into pure drinking water – that one of our lady members had plans for him. During lunch she managed, single handed, to persuade Stuart that the Rotary Club of Colchester would be a great place to be every Tuesday lunch time. Happily for the Club, this led to Stuart being inducted just two months later. The Object of Rotary was read by Stuart Mitchell and Elizabeth Ward proposed Stuart Elson to be our newest member. As President David congratulated Stuart, he was given a most enthusiastic welcome by our members.



Rotarian Stuart Elson, welcome to the Rotary Club of Colchester.

Tuesday 18th March



President David Burrage welcomed our guests Mike Vernon and Alistair Hunter and our speaker, Nigel Chapman. We were advised that the visioning team would meet regularly and that David would keep us updated. Robert Macaulay, looking more than a little pleased, proudly announced that his team of Pat Prestney, Eugene Kraft and Ken Leeson had been victorious in the recent Inter Club Quiz.



Most of us have something we feel passionate about and for Nigel Chapman it is Colchester Town Hall and the amazing Moot Hall Organ. For the 50th anniversary of the Town Hall Nigel sang in the choir and 50 years later when he was Mayor, he presided over the 100th anniversary celebrations. At this time Nigel organised a concert to raise funds to restore the organ. In 2008 he started the Friends of Moot Hall Organ and the council donated £200. In 2009 they received Heritage Lottery Funding, leading to many fundraising projects being set up. There will be numerous activities aimed at all age groups, including pre restoration workshops for children, an exhibition at firstsite and presentations to the community. It is expected that the organ will be fully restored by the end of 2015. Ian McMeekan gave the vote of thanks today which is the official opening day of the restored Royal Festival Organ. Quite a coincidence! After the meeting Nigel showed members two badges. If anyone can throw some light on the origins of these, please let us know.



Tuesday 25th March

President David Burrage, after a brief fight with the microphone, introduced our guests Maggie and Trevor Walton and also Sacha Tiller, a visitor to the Club. We heard that David and Ian McMeekan will be at St John's Green Primary School this week to charter the Rotakids Club. Pat Driver is encouraging members to attend the Foundation Seminar on Saturday 26th April, where Len Nieuwenhuis will be explaining everything you need to know about grants.

Ian McMeekan gave an account of the trip to Zwolle (see his report on Page 7). The group visiting Besancon also had a great time and some of the participants gave their personal accounts of the trip, including a memorable impersonation of our esteemed President by Chris Jenkinson and a hilarious poem by Nick Clough, which was read in his absence by Oliver Peacock. We were treated to photos of the visit, courtesy of John Enfield. Peter Luff congratulated our President for doing his best to set the tone of the meeting they attended by exuding confidence and enthusiasm. A great time was had by all. However, you will need to wait until the next edition of Roundabout to find out all about it.



Our speaker today was Adam Wilson, Assistant Director of Barnardos. Adam started by giving a quick quiz about the history of this organisation and was surprised by how much our members knew. Information gleaned by Adam's questions told us that Barnardos will celebrate their 150th Anniversary in 2016 and that the orphanages ceased to exist in the 1960s, with the last children's home closing in the 1980. However, Barnardos continues to work to improve the lives of children and particularly the most vulnerable.

Nine hundred services are run by Barnardos and over 200,000 children and young people accessed these last year. They are still based in Barkingside Village and they hold on to their core values of leaving no child unsupported. Their work is divided into four main areas – Early Years, children leaving foster care, children affected by imprisonment of a parent or carer and children suffering sexual abuse. After Adam's talk, there was a lively question and answer session which continued after the meeting was over.

Club Visioning Meeting – 18th February – a reflection by Ken Leeson, photos courtesy of Peter Herring



After a frugal lunch to keep body and soul together (just!) but not promote postprandial sleep, about 18 members including two of our brainiest and most irrepressible ladies followed the President into the bowels of the earth - the Colne Bistro. There awaiting were the team of imported inquisitors (called themselves facilitators) with their racks and pinions in the shape of myriad questionnaires and well marked off, but at that time blank, scribble pads.

The Chief Inquisitor, Nick Clarke, explained the process by which our brains would be cudgelled into action before dishing out the first 5 sheet ordered list of thought provoking issues. The starting gun gave each of us 20mins to summate own ideas against headings on the initial list.

Nick, with steadfast patience and fortitude, which was sorely needed for overzealous contributors who seemed to think the event was an auction, then set out step by step for each topic area to garner a highlight of aims (max 5 words to describe each) from us as individuals. Essentially these asked us to address where we believed the Club should be in its committed tasks and broader roles by 2019. That essence of ideas was written in summary by Nick's able assistants Adrian Phillips, Ann Holmes and ADG Janice London. Completed sheets were each in turn taped to the wall - a sequence seeming endless.

Resting briefly for a refreshing cuppa, finally each Member was invited to go round the wall of sheets and place a limited number of green stickers against those listed matters he/she saw as becoming a needful part of the Club's future aims.

It was a very challenging task, which could so easily have become a disordered scrum. But Nick, as organising Team Leader, carried the work forward with considerable skill to an acceptable pace that made the time spent worthwhile. All thanks to him and the team, our Club President will have a good deal of practical and meaty ideas to lay before the Club Membership when the follow-up session occurs and the ultimate stage is reached of choosing which can be effectively resourced and pursued with vigour.



David Burrage



Sarah Harrigan



Peter Herring



Eugene Kraft



Robert Needham



Oliver Peacock



Robert Macaulay



Elizabeth Ward

Taking us forward – our newly formed Visioning Team

Fellowship Friday – words by Michael Siggs, photos by John Enfield

"An excellent evening was enjoyed at the Officers' Club for our Fellowship Friday on the 28th February. The President was pleased to welcome visitors from Colchester Inner Wheel and the Centurion Rotary Club.



Our guest of honour and speaker was Michael Logan-Wood, an auctioneer, whose theme was "Going Going, nearly gone!". Michael traced his life and experience as an auctioneer in Essex from early beginnings with dead stock trade building up to live stock and then into national experience in selling property at auction. Many members expressed surprise at some of the "tricks of the trade"! At the end of the evening Michael auctioned a few lots for Club funds which raised £50 for Club Charities. Thanks were expressed to Gill Bober and the Chef and staff of the Officers' Club whose service was much appreciated and added to the enjoyment of the evening."



After an evening of excitement, excellent entertainment and the thrill of the auction there was only one question on everyone's lips Would you buy a second hand car from the two dodgy looking characters in the bottom right hand corner?

Weekend visit to Zwolle – words and picture by Ian McMeekan

NOT QUITE THREE MEN IN A BOAT – MORE FOUR ROTARIANS ON A RAMBLE!

The beautifully balanced party of Sharman, Needham, Macaulay and McMeekan met about a dozen Zwolle Rotarians in The Hague on Friday, 21 March.

Our friends had organised a splendid programme, including a guided tour of the Dutch Parliament, with a fascinating view of the “Ritterzaal” – rather like our Westminster Great Hall. Then, after a fine lunch, off by cab to the stunning Panorama Mesdag, followed by a visit to Museum Beelden aan Zee at Scheveningen – a fine modern gallery, with some VERY modern sculpture!

A little light refreshment at the “Blue Lagoon” [ah, memories!], then a farewell meal in the small Restaurant Sequenza.

Our relationship is as good as ever and we have provisionally arranged the next Three-Club Meeting in Zwolle for Friday to Sunday 24 – 26 October this year, with a “coastal” meeting with Zwolle in London [honestly!] some time in 2015.

Travel arrangements on the night sailings were in the experienced hands of the organiser of “McMeekan’s Technically possible Tours” – and all went well [I think].



MARKS HALL
GARDEN & COUNTRY SHOW

Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th July
10.00 am - 5.00 pm

.....
Gardens & Arboretum Open
Garden & Country Talks
Country Displays and Falconry Demonstrations
Hot & Cold Food all day
Specialist Plant Nurseries
Gift Stalls
Brass Bands
Classic and Vintage Cars
Silent Auction

Tickets - Adults £8 Children U15 - Free
Parking Free
Dogs on Leads

COME ALONG AND SUPPORT THESE LOCAL CHARITIES
Marks Hall, Coggeshall, CO6 1TG signposted off the A120 at Coggeshall
For more information contact: nigel@garden-shows.com or 07602 282193

MARKS HALL Charity Number 25670
THE SOLDIERS CHARITY Charity Number 114620
air ambulance Charity Number 272463
Gazette Charity Number 136989

Plans for the Marks Hall Garden and Country Show are progressing well.

The Gala Evening with wine and canapés will take place on Friday 25th July from 6 – 9pm.

There will be plenty of time to enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Marks Hall, whilst being entertained by a military marching band.

On Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th July there will be lots for the whole family to enjoy. Six local bands will play throughout the weekend, as you enjoy country displays, falconry demonstrations, vintage and classic cars, plant nurseries, as well as a mouth watering array of hot and cold food.

Children will have their own entertainments, including a fun fair and donkey rides. The stunning gardens and arboretum will be open on both days for everyone to enjoy.

This event will aid ABF The Soldiers Charity, Essex Air Ambulance, Marks Hall and Rotary.



Diary Dates



APRIL

- TUE 1: Councillor Colin Sykes – My time as Mayor
- TUE 8: Scatter Week – no meeting
- TUE 15: Report on RIBI Conference
- TUE 22: 'My Job' – John Lochore
- TUE 29: Business Meeting

MAY

- TUE 6: Club AGM
- TUE 13: Dave King
- WED 21: President's Evening – details to follow
- TUE 27: John Moores – We bought a pub

JUNE

- TUE 3: Brian Sinclair – The Wivenhoe One Design
- TUE 10: Club Assembly
- TUE 17: Maurice Page – 150 years of brick making
- TUE 24: President David's Review

JULY

- TUE 1: Club Handover
- TUE 8: Jordan Smith – Disability for Sport
- Fri 11: *Dance Gala*
- Sat 12: *Music Gala*
- TUE 15: Fellowship Lunch
- TUE 23: No meeting
- FRI 25: *Marks Hall Gala Evening*
- 26 – 27: *Marks Hall Garden and Country Show*

100 Club winners this month were 47 – Elizabeth Ward £100; 8 – John Robertson £50; 56 – Keith Adams £30. Congratulations to all!



Club members will be delighted to know that Graham Smith keeps in touch via Roundabout and has sent some contributions entitled Why? Here is just one of them, with more to follow.

Why do we leave cars worth thousands of pounds in our driveways and put all our useless junk in the garage?