

Rotary District 1240 Bulletin

October 2023—District Governor David Willis

“CREATE HOPE in the WORLD”

From District Governor David Willis



Hi All!

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all of you who made it to our first-ever joint district conference in Stratford Upon Avon. I hope you enjoyed it as much as Sandra and I did.

We had an absolutely amazing weekend filled with incredible speakers who inspired and entertained us. And boy, did we party hard into the night with the awesome band, the Zoots!

JJ Chalmers and Paula Craig MBE imparted their extraordinary stories, leaving us feeling truly motivated and inspired. Additionally, we were captivated by Steve Pateman's enthralling account of his journey towards becoming the renowned Kinky Boots man.



This year's showcase surpassed all expectations, featuring a more extensive range of presenters than ever before. It afforded us the valuable opportunity to engage with our esteemed charity presenters and also acquire some exceptional products. I have included a picture of Sandra with Jane Walker on the Purple Community Stand so that you can see what amazing things they turn the ring pulls into that so many of you kindly collected for them.

It was so fantastic to catch up with so many familiar faces and make some new friends as well. Stratford Upon Avon was the perfect choice for our gathering, with some members even getting the chance to see Macbeth at the RSC. And let's not forget about all the shopping opportunities in town!

I want to give a shout out to the remarkable team from both districts who worked tirelessly to make this weekend such a success. And a special thanks to my good friend and District Governor, Barbara Middleton from District 1260.

Once again, thank you all for being a part of this memorable experience and I am certainly looking forward to the next one!

Maintaining and increasing membership remains a significant concern for many clubs, and this has been a key focus for me over the past two years. While we have managed to attract new members, we have also experienced a similar number of departures at the end of each Rotary year.

The members of our club are vital to the success of Rotary, and we must prioritise taking care of one another and respecting each other's viewpoints.

One excellent opportunity for us to foster connections with local businesses and involve their employees in community-based initiatives is through corporate membership.

It is encouraging that some clubs are making progress with this and are seeing the benefits that these relationships bring to the club.

Our district membership team leader, Steve Gale, is interested in learning about any upcoming events where the team can assist in promoting membership. Additionally, if your club has achieved success in recruiting new members, please inform your assistant governor so that we can share these positive stories.

Past District Governor Jed Brooks is excited to visit clubs in his role as club development officer in order to assist clubs in their efforts to attract new members.

We were fortunate to have Rotary International Director, Jeremy Hurst, join us at the conference, where he mentioned the upcoming launch of the North Star Initiative in RGB&I. This initiative aims to increase our membership to 60,000, and we will be sharing more information about it in the near future.

I am grateful for the warm welcome I have received during my 35 club visits so far, and I am looking forward to visiting everyone as soon as possible.

If you have not yet provided me with a date for a visit, please reach out to me. The year is passing quickly, and I would not want to miss the opportunity to hear about the great work you and your club are doing.

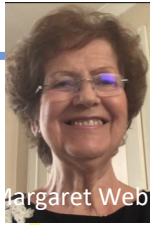
Thank you for all you do in Creating Hope in The World

Yours In Rotary

District 1240 DG David Willis



Paula Craig with
DGs Barbara and David



BISHOPS STORTFORD

It's been a quiet September, but we did send funds to Shelterbox for the Morocco earthquake and also had an interesting speaker on 18th September on Ukraine.

David Royle is co-founder of Homes For Ukraine – Sawbridgeworth – Support Group, and also a former member – and Past President – of our Club. It was good to have him back with us, this time as a welcome guest.

David updated us on the Group's progress and recent work, and said that the town's Ukrainian guests have settled into a routine. Some now have their own flats, and are either working or hoping to do so soon. Some returned to Ukraine, but a number of these now want to return to the UK because of the stress of life there.

David gave us some statistics, saying that the US has estimated that some 500,000 in all from both sides have now been killed in Ukraine. 3,750 schools have been damaged or destroyed. 400,000 children are currently studying online abroad and less than half are studying full-time. There are currently 914 Ukrainian guests in Hertfordshire, and 488 host households, hosting 259 children and 641 adult guests. We were grateful for David's update on his Group and its work.

On 6th October, a party of seventeen members and wives set off for the Joint District Conference at Stratford upon Avon. We all met for lunch at The Castle at Edgehill, to give a good start to the weekend. We took advantage of the Friday evening to have dinner at the RSC Theatre Restaurant, followed by watching Macbeth. Altogether a splendid day.

We all enjoyed the whole weekend and thought the range and quality of speakers was very good. I was running the Rotary Jaipur Limb stand in the Showcase and was pleased to have new interest from the delegates from District 1260, plus some old friends from District 1240.



Following the close of an excellent Conference on the Sunday, we finished off with Sunday roast back at The Castle at Edgehill.

[Congratulations to David and Barbara for an excellent weekend.](#)

BRENTWOOD A BECKET

Left to right

Hon. Member, Dennis Rensch. Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex Graham Clegg, President Tony Clarke, District Governor David Willis

A very enjoyable club evening with some esteemed guests.



Members enjoyed a Petanque evening .. too many to name. It was a beautiful evening and the climax was a stunning sunset.

Alex Burghart MP for Brentwood & Ongar.

A convivial evening was spent in company with our sitting MP for Brentwood. Alex spoke for 30 minutes and then followed a question and answer session.



Jane Bennett of Bennetts funerals in Brentwood is inducted into the club as the newest Corporate members of Brentwood a Becket.

Jane is a very valued member of the club and her local services to the community are very appreciated. She and her company take part in many charitable and community events.

Rtn. Christine Tuck visiting the Rotary Club of Guernsey on a recent visit to the island. The Club is 100 years old this year.



CANVEY ISLAND

An Evenings Entertainment

On the 21st October our Rotary Foundation team are holding an evening of fellowship with Singing & Dancing to the band " FreeSpirit " .

Tickets are £5 per person and all proceeds are going to Foundation.



CHELMSFORD MILD MAY

Chelmsford Mildmay Rotary Club welcomes new member



Christine Sunderland is Chelmsford Mildmay Rotary Club's latest new member, introduced by Club Secretary, John Tilsley.



Club President, Jean Harper, welcomed Christine to the club at her induction on the 19th September.

CHELMSFORD PHOENIX

WALK A MILE FOR END POLIO

On 24th September, Rotary Club of Chelmsford Phoenix organised an event for Walk A Mile to End Polio. Members of Phoenix and Chelmsford Rotary Clubs together with friends and two dogs met at Central Park in Chelmsford. We walked through Central Park, into Admirals Park and around Tower Gardens, returning via the Central Park Cafe where we enjoyed coffee, snacks and chat.

It was a fine day and the walk was enjoyed by all. Some members who were unable to attend on the day also made donations. In total we raised £271 for End Polio.



We have had a couple of good speakers recently. Aron Lane from Little Havens came to tell us about the excellent work they do. We donated £500 to them with some of the proceeds from our Choir Competition in 2023. We also met Phil Evans, a retired army officer, who told us about his life in the army and the challenges he faced, together with some amusing stories. We also welcomed our District Governor, David Willis, who told us about his aspirations for the year.

CLACTON-ON-SEA & CLACTON JUBILEE

Clacton Air Show 2023

This year, Clacton & Jubilee Rotary Clubs combined their resources to operate the official carpark for the Clacton Airshow, on Thursday. 24th and Friday 25th August. The site was a little smaller than previous years as it was shared with the travelling circus, but they were very helpful by adjusting their performances to our benefit.

Despite the poor weather forecast for the Thursday, the rain held off and the carpark was full on both days. Clearly our planning paid off as the public were very complimentary about the arrangements. The Red Arrows closed the afternoon session with an excellent performance and many of the aircraft enthusiasts said that it was probably the best performance they had seen. Many of the crowd stayed on for the evening performance and were not disappointed with the spectacle.

The weather forecast for the Friday was much better and the crowds flocked into Clacton early, with the carpark full on both days just after midday. The “Reds” opened the day’s display with another spectacular performance which was then followed by a variety of aircraft providing more stunning performances.

Over the two days, 1,630 cars were parked at £10 per each. After expenses £15,310 profit was made, all of which will go to charitable organisations.

The Rotary Clubs are extremely grateful to Penny Smith for allowing her fields to again be used for this event.



COLCHESTER CAMULOS

Bikes for Ukrainian Evacuees

We were delighted to receive a further Rotary International Disaster Recovery Grant of £2,000 which is allowing us to purchase bikes for Ukrainian evacuee families based in the Colchester area. Last year we supplied about 50 bikes (again using Rotary International Disaster Recovery grants). When we asked the self-help group (Volya Ukraina) what they needed, the overwhelming response was “more bikes please”. We purchase the bikes from Facebook market place, carefully checking that they are safe and in good condition, we also supply a helmet and high viz vest- all packed in a sport bag supplied by Ellisons Solicitors. The first batch of 20 bikes were handed over to the group on 23rd July. It was so good to see the smiling faces of the happy recipients. The bikes mean so much to them. Apart from providing essential transport it is also a brilliant way of families being able to spend time with each other. We are now searching for the next 20 bikes!



Yarra Farm re-wilding project

Phase 1 of our project is now complete. We have planted around 250 hedgerow saplings around the border of our 2/3 acre project field and created 4 wonderful insect hotels. All this has been done in conjunction with the four special needs schools who are part of the project. We are now raring to go with Phase 2 which will include a wheelchair friendly pathway and a covered shelter for the children to use when they visit the re-wilding project. We are also in the process of restoring two bee-hives to keep the emerging wildflowers well pollinated – and of course to produce some wild honey. The project involves our colleagues from the Rotary Clubs of Colchester, Colchester Forum and we are very pleased that Rotary Club of Halstead have also joined the team. This has become an environmental project which also benefits the pupils of local special needs schools who love coming to the area and having some hands on experience.



COLCHESTER CAMULOS (CONT'D)

Ukraine National Day

It was an absolute pleasure to be able to host a Ukrainian National Day BBQ at Yarra Farm. The self-help group Volya Ukraina asked if we knew anywhere they could hold a BBQ. We spoke to Sue Middleton, the owner at Yarra Farm, and she happily agreed to open up especially for the group. Staff at Yarra were also on hand to show the 30 odd adults plus children around the farm to see all the animals and feed them. It was wonderful to see so many happy faces and the occasional tears of joy for the opportunity to have a wonderful respite day and forget the horrendous situation the members of the group have in their home country. This was Rotary at its best – using our connections and acting as a catalyst to help people. Volya Ukraina presented us with an unexpected Certificate of Appreciation for the help we have provided them.



Clean Water for Mongolia

On Saturday 2nd September we held a fundraiser BBQ at the Shoulder of Mutton. All proceeds were to support our project in Mongolia to provide clean water. It was a very pleasant afternoon and not a burnt burger in sight. Thanks to all those who attended and helped to make this a fun event for all ages. Many thanks to Rtn.Jon Neill (Colchester Forum) for hosting the event at The Shoulder – a superb venue in Ford Street, Aldham – do visit if you like browsing antiques, followed by a lovely lunch or cream tea!

DANBURY AND VILLAGES



Peter Fitch 1941 - 2023

Member Danbury & Villages Rotary

Peter was originally from Deal in Kent and worked as a Bank Manager for Nat West in Dover, previously a member of Rotary Club of Dover.

Following retirement Peter and, his wife, Maureen, moved to Danbury to be close to their two children and grandchildren. Shortly after the formation of Danbury and Villages Rotary, both Peter and Maureen joined the Club. Peter has been an active member taking part and putting his time and energy into events in the community and schools locally.

Peter was also a keen golfer and played regularly until his illness. He will be greatly missed by all his Friends and Family

HALSTEAD

Halstead Rotary Club Celebrates 75 years

Halstead Rotary Celebrated their birthday by cutting a cake at their lunchtime meeting. President Keith was delighted to receive a hand made cake from Past President Dennis Hume, Dennis is a master baker. He invited Dennis and Past President, Jim Crayston, to join him in the celebration.



The Club are holding a special dinner on 27th January 2024 at Colne Valley Golf Club. It will be a Scottish night (no surprise there). A piper will greet all guests and pipe in the Haggis. Tickets £45 per person from President Keith.



RAYLEIGH MILL

The Rotary Club of Rayleigh Mill makes a donation to The Yorkshire and Scarborough Hospitals Charity.

It is with much regret that we must report the death of Past-President, Alec Banyard.



Alec was a long serving member of the Rotary Club of Rayleigh Mill and was President in the 2013/2014 Rotary Year.

Alec and his wife Dawn, however, decided to move house to be closer to their son and, shortly after moving to Yorkshire, Alec became ill.

Alec and Dawn maintained contact through their friends in the club who kept the members informed of Alec's health but, after a long illness Alec sadly passed away at Scarborough Hospital on 21st August, aged 81years.

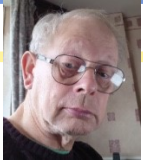
Alec will be sadly missed by his wife Dawn, their four children, Paul, Christopher, Layla and Karen and the many friends who knew him.

The Yorkshire and Scarborough Hospital Charity supports, not just Scarborough Hospital but, a number of hospitals in Yorkshire and helps to fund the extras to improve the healthcare facilities above and beyond the NHS, making patients feel better. They support staff in their hospitals to make the hospital experience the best it can be for all who visit and stay there.

The charity has recently funded non-contact thermometers for Scarborough and Bridlington Hospitals and an end-of-life family room at Scarborough.

In accordance with Dawn's wishes donations in his memory should be made to Scarborough Hospital.

The club were happy to donate £350 towards the charity that provides many of the extras that enhance the hospital stays of the patients which are not provided on the NHS budget.



Bob Manning

ROMFORD

Ramblings from Rotary club of Romford

The club has been busy the last few weeks. I suppose that's common as organisations come back to life after the summer recess. We have enjoyed the company of our neighbours from the Havering Club and Hornchurch and Upminster Clubs on a couple of occasions with joint social evenings. The intent being that as we get to know each other we will be able to work together more efficiently

We were pleased to receive a letter from Titus ,the Director of Kigezi Orphan Children's Charity in Uganda for which we had helped purchase an "Ambulance" transport vehicle.

Here is his letter

"It is a good morning here in Bunyonyi Uganda.

We want to extend our sincere appreciation to Polio and Children in Need Charity and Rotary Club of Romford that made the purchase of an Orphanage Ambulance possible.

Before the ambulance we used to suffer with transport challenges mostly with emergencies like transporting a sick child who has been transferred to a referral or improved healthy centre in Kabale town but now ever since we received an ambulance, it is always on standby.

We have been able to attend all emergencies that happen even after midnight at the orphanage. We have a very smooth transport of our children to town to hospitals and other nearby places e.g. when our children are going for competitions e.g. mathematics contest, debating, TVs and radio shows to debate.

The ambulance has really done great for us and saved us in terms of transport fares which was very costly for us.

Our staff also go for refresher courses and this ambulance has helped us to transport our staff to those places.

ROMFORD

The ambulance still has its original heart, it is in very good condition and is taken good care of. It has helped us to transport 21 emergencies after midnight in two years. It has also helped us to transport 47 emergencies during day time and evening. It has done great for us. This is so helpful. We no longer suffer with transport.

We thank you once again and promise to continue taking good care of it.

Titus"



Titus and the AMBULANCE

Building for the future

We held the first of a planned series of Fellowship meetings to which friends and relatives were invited. It was held in the hope that they may become members

The meeting was a success and will be repeated in the near future. We ran a Rotary promotional stall at a local park "friends day" generally telling the public what Rotary is. One member sold books from the stall which raised additional money for our work. It is likely it will go towards helping rough sleepers over Christmas.

The sum of \$1440 was sent to the Rotary Club of Metn concluded our donation to the Beirut project following the disastrous explosion in the docks area in 2022.

We were able to contributed to Shelterbox in the wake of recent earthquakes

SHENFIELD AND DISTRICT

Joint Conference at Stratford upon Avon—Mary's Meals

I was pleased to man the Mary's Meals stand in the Showcase at the Conference.

We had a bumper delivery of foreign coins from Basildon Inner Wheel and Chelmsford Rotary for the charity and donations amounting to £75. Thank you to everyone for your interest in the stand, particularly members of District 1060. and for all your donations.

They are currently winging their way to the Charity.



We will be collecting further foreign coins at the next District Forum and also any unwanted good clothes for the Mary's Meals Rags to Riches project. During the last month we have raised £200 for this project from all your donations, which has been sent to Mary's Meals.

Blood Pressure Monitors

Shenfield and District Rotary are also collecting used or new home blood pressure monitors for the Renal Unit at Broomfield Hospital which Rotary members and their families no longer have a use for. Many people in the unit can afford them, but some are unable to finance them.

The Club has currently financed two monitors which have been delivered to the unit.

We would be able to collect them at any of the District meetings or you can phone our Vice President to arrange your donation. (07798 687046). Many thanks for reading this request.

SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS

A visit to our Club by the notable “Doug Gee”.

An hilarious evening was guaranteed when Mister Gees- Douglas Green agreed to tell us about his 50 years in “the village” since opening his first newsagent shop in 1972 on Warwick Parade.

He told us that he had always been just a shopkeeper but his jovial and quick wit is evidence of decades of experience in various ventures, including a five year stint running a winery in rural Victoria, Australia, (witnessing the disastrous effects of chronic water shortage) and the purchase in France of a property for renovation which, to this day, he describes as camping under cover.

As with our Club members, Doug wanted to give something back to the SWF Community. Rather than retire (again) he started Mister Gees Foundation, the income for which comes through the Charity Shop in Warwick Parade, staffed by almost fifty volunteers. With no paid directors or employees not less than fifty per cent of the profit is used for good causes in South Woodham (over £160,000 to date) and the balance is focussed on assisting post graduate students, young and old, to read for a Master’s Degree in UK Universities, in sustainable food production and water management, so important to us all.

Our Club hopes that there will be opportunities to work together with the Foundation for the benefit of our SWF Community.



SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS (Cont'd)

Club Meeting.

At a recent meeting we were pleased to be joined by Freddie, Head Boy of William de Ferrers School and by Joni Thompson, Clinical and Business Development Director for the Open Road organisation.

Rotary. Vice Chairman of our Youth Committee, Rtn Roger Gatford, spoke about what we do; how we work differently from other organisations and the evolution of Rotary over more than 110 years into a global network. He focussed on two of the building blocks towards Rotary. "RotaKids" – we have clubs in Elmwood School and in Trinity St Mary's and hope to start a third soon, catering for children in years 2-6. "Interact" for 11-18yr olds. We have the agreement of the Head of William de Ferrers, Mike Applewhite and support of Annette Redfearn, Student Support Worker for Year 7, to help form a club. The school has been praised for providing several extracurricular activities and Interact offers an introduction for young people to discover the benefits of organising and running a club (with the support of Rotary), and creating genuine opportunities to generate social change. It is also an Approved Activity Provider for the Duke of Edinburgh's award.

Open Road.

Joni Thompson, pictured receiving a contribution towards their work from our President Kush Dave, spoke about Open Road, a no -profit, leading drug and alcohol support service based in Essex and Medway Kent. It was founded 32 years ago and has developed into an organisation with 120 employees, 37% of whom are recovered addicts, and 280 volunteers who reflect the different challenges faced. A motto "from harm to hope" underlines the successful completions they have achieved notwithstanding the changes in the level of drug availability, and the market profile including prescribed medications and alcohol. Working with NHS, Public Health, national and local voluntary and corporate organisations and corporations and running an SOS Bus for the night time Economy they provide a magnificent service to the community applauded by our Club.



SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS (Cont'd)

Club dined with friends from the Rotary Clubs of Saarbrücken (Germany) and Meaux (France).

As part of a September weekend of activities with friends from clubs in Germany and Meaux, with whom we are twinned, fifty people dined at the Ivy Hill Hotel in Margarettown on Saturday evening. Hours of fun and fellowship sped by with good food, professionally served by attentive staff.



Following a welcome from our President, Kush Dave, each President from Saarbrücken and from Meaux thanked SWF Club for organising the weekend, particularly a fun trip to Cambridge that day, which included an open top bus tour followed by punting on the River Cam, interspersed with a jar or three. Getting in the punts presented little challenge – less so getting out.



We meet triennially at each club promoting goodwill through our fellowship.

STORT VALLEY

Great Big Walk for Herts raises £66,000 for children's charities

Helping Herts, the official charity of Stort Valley Rotary Club, held its annual Great Big Walk for Herts event on Saturday 30th September 2023. The charity smashed its fundraising target of £50,000, raising an incredible £66,000, which will go to 12 local children's charities.

The beneficiaries are Coram Life Education, Herts Young Homeless, For Baby's Sake, Herts Mind Network, Grove Cottage, Home-Start Herts, Phoenix Group for Deaf Children & Adults, PlaySkill, the Ollie Foundation, the NSPCC, CHEXS and Keech Hospice Care.

Each charity walked a leg of the Hertfordshire Way, covering an impressive 160 miles. 148 people took part including staff from Helping Herts, volunteers from the charities, their customers and many supporters. The Friends of the Hertfordshire Way provided guides for each section and also helped to organise the event, for which we are very grateful.

The routes covered the towns and villages of Royston, Wallington, Little Wymondley, Codicote, St Albans, Markyate, Tring, Kings Langley, Shenley, Cuffley, Hertford, Widford, Bishops Stortford and Hare Street.



Gordon Morrison, Co-founder of Helping Herts, said: "It was wonderful to see the sense of joy and community that was evident on the day, as the walkers all enjoyed a great occasion, thanks to the efforts of so many people. The total of £66,000 will go a long way to ensuring our charities can continue to do vital work in their local communities. There is still time to donate - all donations are being doubled by two major donors, so you can make a really big difference!"

Jim Tatchell, Co-founder of Helping Herts said: "We are extremely grateful to the volunteers who gave their time, to The Friends of Hertfordshire Way, and to everyone who has sponsored us. We are already looking forward to next year's event and hope to be able to raise even more funds to help the charities continue their fantastic work."

Sarah Clancy, Digital Marketing Lead from the Helping Herts Team, said: "It was fantastic to be able to join members of the Helping Herts team and our charity partners on a lovely sunny day walking around some of the most stunning parts of Hertfordshire. To know we were part of a team simultaneously walking the circumference of our county for a wonderful cause felt amazing."

Peter Taylor, Elected Mayor of Watford (Lib Dem), said: "I really enjoyed taking part in the Great Big Walk for Herts. It was such a well organised event and a fantastic opportunity to raise money for lots of good causes. I know that the money raised will make a real difference in Hertfordshire and I was very grateful to the team at Helping Herts for matching the donations we collected."



To donate, visit: <https://fundraising.helpingherts.com/donate>

TAKELEY

Caring for Our Environment

One of Rotary's main themes this year is Care for the Environment. Our District has forged a link with the Wilderness Foundation and will jointly host a Wilderness Open Day there on 14th October. One of the main objectives is to encourage all the Clubs in Essex to do what they can for their environment.



The Takeley Club held a Litter Pick on September 30th around Takeley (see picture). We also plan to advertise our Young Environmentalist competition to



local schools and parents to get our young people engaged in reducing waste. So much of the litter around is from sweet and crisp wrappings and cans and plastic bottles thrown mindlessly into the bushes instead of taking it home to re-cycle in

the relevant bins.

Food Bank

We are also linking with Uttlesford Food Bank. At our last meeting we had a speaker who explained all the statistics around food poverty- most users needing it only once or twice to cover specific difficult times. Some of us have now become volunteers for delivering food and we will be having a Food Bank Collection on 2nd December.

Quiz Night

In the meantime, look out for our Quiz Night on 18th November at Priors Green Community Hall from 6.30 p.m. when we hope to raise much needed funds for local and Rotary charities. Contact rotaryintakeley@gmail.com if you would like to book a table of 6-8.



WICKFORD

Charter Night



The Rotary Club of Wickford received its Charter in 1958 and has been a vibrant and active Club ever since, and recently members of the Club got together recently at the Magic Mushroom to celebrate, at which the current President, Pauline, welcomed the District Governor, David Willis, and his wife Sandra, to join in on the celebrations.

Rotarian Bob Plimmer regaled us with a little of the history of the Club, having recently spent some time curating the Club Archive, starting with the story of founder member, Silva Carter, when he met with a member from Brentwood Rotary Club wearing a Rotary Club badge asking him which cycling club he belonged to, through to more recent events including our achievements around fundraising and community engagement.



DG David spoke about the great reputation Wickford has gained over the years, and how it has contributed to the District during its time, as well as our more esoteric fundraising events, and our achievement of being one of only 17 Clubs in the Country to achieve Gold contributor status with Shelterbox.

Wickford Inner Wheel Chair Jenny Smith brought greetings from her Club and wished Wickford Rotary well for the forthcoming year

President Pauline then read a poem written by ABODE, Wickford resident poet Rotarian Bernie Norton, reflecting on the past year's achievements and successes within the Club.



President Pauline also welcomed our newest Friend Jane Bassom into the Club and introduced her to the members.

Meantime, just a few weeks before we all tried our hand at Crazy Golf at Maldon. Nick got his feet wet, Maureen got another stone in her bag. Chris won. Just the usual stuff...



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KIDSOUT DAY & TOY BOXES

EVERY Refuge, EVERY Child”

Last week at Conference, Steve Cartwright, PDG and Kids Out Coordinator. gave us a very good overview focusing on Kids Out Days, that over 350,000 children in 33 years, benefitted, giving opportunities for children through mental and/or physical disability, family and/or monetary circumstances would not otherwise have enjoyed, including Young Carers. The sort of experiences which most of us take for granted,

In addition to KidsOut days, Rotary aims to support the Toy Box project in partnership with KidsOut charity. To date, already over 9000 ‘Toy Boxes have been supplied .

KIDS OUT DAY 2023 has been really successful with thousands of children around the country, sharing a fun and happiness day, and speaking to members from Districts 1240 and 1260 at conference, heard about a school that instead of a class of children going out, a petting farm went to the school, so the whole school benefitted.

This week 50 children from Treetop school. Grays will be having their Kids Out day at Sea Life adventure and adventure Island Southend. Proving that, although we say the second week in June is preferred, another date is fine when the June date is not possible .



Steve Cartwright speaking at Conference



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KIDSOUT DAY & TOY BOXES (CONT'D)
EVERY Refuge, EVERY Child”

ROTARY 'TOY BOX' - Thank you for your donations over the years, again we ask for Rotary Clubs to make a donation to buy the Toy Boxes. Each £25.00 that a Rotary Club gives to KidsOut will buy and deliver a box filled with £80 worth of NEW toys to a womens' Refuge.

Each individual 'Toy Box' is filled applicable by age and gender and sent to EVERY child residing in a UK 'Domestic Violence' Refuge over the Christmas 2023 period.

In order to ensure confidentiality is maintained throughout, KidsOut are provided with all the necessary Refuge data, identifying locations nearest to your Rotary Club, the boxes are packed and delivered direct to the Refuge - we do not have to be involved. Every 'Toy Box' will be branded 'ROTARY' To Register your Club's Interest in donating to Toy Box - email pwj02@aol.com & send your Donation by 30th November to insure delivery to a 'Refuge' near your club in time for Christmas. Donations will be accepted up to and including 21st December 2023, but the earlier, the better.

Please send cheques payable 'KidsOut' to:

1240 Kids Out Ambassador - Pam Watson Jones, Upper Whim, Marsh Farm Road, South Woodham Ferrers, CM3 5WP.

Tel: 07974 386077 together with email address to contact of its safe arrival.

If you have questions, or require a Speaker' or if you would like to volunteer help pack the Toy Boxes at Luton, contact your KidsOut Ambassador.

Pam Watson Jones

pwj02@aol.com 07974 386077



YOUTH COMPETITIONS

ALL THESE YOUTH COMPETITION POSTERS CAN BE ACCESSED BY LOGGING IN TO THE ROTARY YOUTH COMPETITIONS WEBSITE. THE GUIDELINES FOR THE COMPETITIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE.

Rotary **YOUNG ARTIST** COMPETITION

AGES 7-17



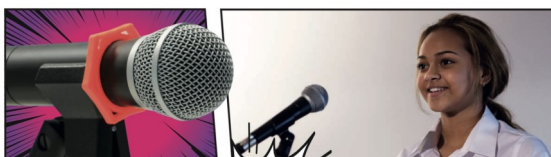
Rotary **YOUNG FILMMAKER** COMPETITION

AGES 7-17



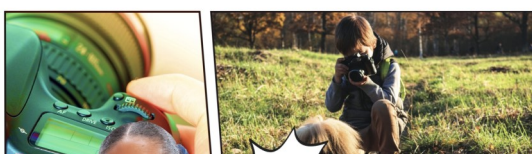
Rotary **YOUTH SPEAKS** A Debate COMPETITION

AGES 11-17



Rotary **YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER** COMPETITION

AGES 7-17



Rotary **YOUNG CHEF** COMPETITION

AGES 11-17



Rotary **YOUNG CITIZEN** AWARDS

UNDER 25s



Rotary **YOUNG MUSICIAN** COMPETITION

AGES 7-17



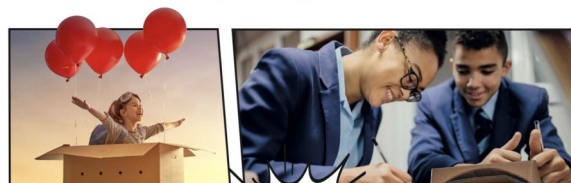
Rotary **YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALIST** COMPETITION

AGES 7-17



Rotary **YOUNG WRITER** COMPETITION

AGES 7-17



WORLD POLIO DAY

24TH OCTOBER 2023



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

from District Secretary, Graham Reeder

District Forum - Writtle College - 8.30 a.m. for 9.00 a.m.

Saturday, 18th November 2023

A sign-up form will go out the first week in November.

Please complete even if nil return.



Publication criteria for submissions to the 1240 District Bulletin -

1. Please send your articles as a Word document, NOT as a pdf, or a PowerPoint presentation, or a jpeg. Do not embed photos in your written article.
2. Please include a title for the article.
3. Include a good quality photograph(s), (jpegs please), with captions and/or full names.
4. If you're submitting for the first time, please include a head shot of the author to accompany the article (or a photo that could be cropped),
5. Please include the name of your club in your email.
6. Links might not work, so please, copy and paste links into your browser.
7. Please be aware of date-sensitive items. The DB will normally be sent out in the middle of each month (15th/16th).
8. Make sure you provide a full name for everyone who is mentioned in the article (not just a first name).
9. The deadline (not the target!) for submissions is the 12th of each month, although "as soon as possible" is always preferred.

Many thanks - Editor (gloriabn@live.co.uk)