

# Rotary District 1240 Bulletin



June 2023 – District Governor Jed Brooks

“Imagine Rotary”

## From District Governor Jed Brooks



Dear fellow Rotarians, As the saying goes, “Time flies when you are having fun”, and I find it hard to believe how fast the last twelve months have passed.

For me the role of District Governor has been the highlight of my time in Rotary. I have met so many wonderful people, had the pleasure of attending so many events, and helped to put smiles on so many faces. It has confirmed to me why I joined Rotary - to give something back to the communities we serve.

We started the year setting aims and objectives, which on the whole we have achieved. I look forward to working with incoming DG David Willis and the Continuity Team of Anne Moriarty and Mark Williams.

Rotary, both in our District and as a global organisation, has achieved great things both locally and on the international stage. We must continue to grow our membership and review what, where, and how we do “Rotary”.

Our club meetings and formats have changed and will continue to evolve. We must adapt to fit with modern lifestyles in order to attract new members.

Rotary District 1240 is in a good place. We are successful and will continue to be so by working together as members and as clubs. We must continue to show and tell the communities we serve what we do and why we do it. In my opinion “continuity is key to success”. If we stay focussed on our aims and objectives we will help more people, have more fun

and grow our membership numbers.

I would like to personally thank each and every one of you for the support and help you have given me as your District Governor. I also ask you to extend the same to those who follow me in the future.

My best wishes to all incoming Club Presidents and officers for a successful year as leaders of our clubs.

I would like to thank Paul Chambers, and Bob Booker who step down as District Secretary and Treasurer respectively after many years of great service. Graham Reeder and Chris Bushell will be taking over District Secretary and Treasurer roles respectively.

A big thank you to Yvonne Kyndt who has continued to produce this wonderful District Bulletin for the past few years. She has published it on time, every month, and without any cost to our District. Gloria Nichols will be taking over Yvonne’s role as editor.

**Website** <https://www.rotary-ribi.org/districts/homepage.php?DistrictNo=1240>



Rotary District 1240- mainly Essex



Please support them all as you have in the past.  
I shall be part of the Membership and Club  
Development team next year and look forward to  
meeting you again.

Finally, I would like to thank my wife and family for  
the support and patience they have given me.  
Without them the past twelve month as DG would  
have been so much harder!  
Thank you. *DG Jed*

## Leigh on Sea's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Pier Walk



Ron Price -  
Leigh on Sea

Leigh on Sea Rotary held their 19<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Great Pier Walk on  
Sunday, May 14, to raise funds for  
the Southend Hospital Spotlight  
Appeal for the Radiotherapy  
Department.

The start of the walk was  
attended by Southend West MP,  
Anna Firth, the Deputy Mayor and  
Mayoress Cllr Ron Woodley and  
his wife Maureen, and Rotary  
District Governor Jed Brooks and  
his wife, Linda.

Despite early morning cloud, there  
were already queues at the  
registration desk to get the walk  
underway, and as the day went on  
and the sun came out, hundreds  
more walkers arrived.

This year we had a guest team from the Hazardous Area Response Team  
(HART). They are a part of the NHS Ambulance Service in the UK and  
attend hazardous environments such as flooding, chemical, and terrorist  
incidents as well as security observations supporting police during  
dangerous operations. Clad in their dark green uniforms and carrying  
heavy equipment and breathing apparatus, they walked to the end of  
the pier to set up for the day. They proved a very popular attraction and  
have agreed to return next year.

In total, 555 walkers took part proving that our pier still holds an  
attraction for the community.

The day was a great success and, although still awaiting further incoming  
payments, we are hopeful that we will have raised in excess of £4,000.

We thank our sponsors Belfairs Pharmacy, and Printers EC21.



## Mayor unveils 15<sup>th</sup> defibrillator

Leigh on Sea and Thorpe Bay Rotary clubs together with the Carli Lansley Foundation saw the Mayor of Southend, Cllr Stephen Habermel unveil the 15<sup>th</sup> defibrillator of their two year project to donate these life-saving machines to the local community.

These have been installed with eight going on the seafront and to areas such as Leigh and Kent Elms libraries, Shoebury Garrison Heritage Centre, Southend in Sight, Belfairs Pharmacy, Thames Drive, and Thorpe Bay Broadway.

They are all situated on the outside of buildings, giving 24/7 access to the public, and once installed, they are maintained by Rotarians. Suzannah Scott, the Library Operations Group Manager said: "I am thankful to the Rotary clubs of Leigh on Sea and Thorpe Bay, and the Carli Lansley Foundation for this amazing contribution to the local community. Southend Libraries are always keen to support local initiatives and are pleased to have been chosen to help save lives".

Among the many who turned out to see the unveiling were members of Rotary, local councillors, and Sarah, owner of Sarah's Chocolate Kitchen in Rayleigh Road who kindly invited everyone back to her premises for tea/coffee and snacks.



Mayor Cllr Stephen Habermel, Karl Lansley, and project leader, Rotarian John Banks

Karl Lansley summed up when he said: "This morning there was a wonderful community spirit with so many being drawn together in one place in respect of something we hope will benefit all local residents". *Ron Price*

## And all that Jazz!



John Parry –  
Billericay Mayflower

Well, we were really hoping that the forecast of thunderstorms and heavy rain would not come to pass – and it didn't!! Phew!

Sunday, June 11, Mayflower held its annual Jazz in the Garden event in the beautiful gardens of Rotarian Gary Moore and his wife Dr Jane Moore.

Jane, and Stephanie Chambers, along with helpers, Barry Fagg, Steve "the Shirt" McEvoy, and Martin Roberts, took their turn in barbecuing sausages, chicken, and burgers, which were accompanied by a range of salads and delicious jacket potatoes.

The jazz was provided by the Sid Bolan Big Band – and they were incredible!

The raffle was very successful thanks to the generosity of donors and those who bought tickets. And the great news? Over £2,000 was raised for our charity fund.

Below are some happy memories of this most enjoyable event. (Continued next page) *John Parry*





## 2023 commemorations of the Normandy landings - 79th anniversary of D-Day

Every year, the tourist offices situated along and near the D-Day Landing Beaches come together to coordinate the D-Day Festival, which features commemorative events and festivities on the five D-Day Landing Beaches and in Sainte-Mère-Église, Bayeux, and Arranches-les-Bains (Gold Beach sector) to name a few. Billericay Mayflower and Billericay Town Rotary clubs were proud to have representatives at the recent commemoration, and particularly pleased that they were able to lay a wreath on behalf of Rotary in Billericay. Billericay Town Rotarian Jan Howe, with Mayflower Rotarians L to R: Barry Howe, Stewart Ellis, Keith Dewis were proud to accompany Dennis Donovan, 48 Commando (Royal marines) – (see right).



### THE BRITISH NORMANDY MEMORIAL

British armed forces played a central role in D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, and more than 22,000 made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom. Until recently, there had been no single memorial dedicated to their remembrance. The Normandy Memorial Trust was created in 2016 to realise the dream of Normandy Veterans to have a British Normandy Memorial and, following nearly six years of hard work, it opened on June 6, 2021, to mark the 77th Anniversary of D-Day. This beautiful new memorial is located in the seaside village of Ver-sur-Mer, overlooking Gold Beach. *Barry Howe*



## Rotary Clubs of Colchester 10k Charity Race



Peter Jones  
- Colchester

This event was organised and supported by ALL 4 Rotary Clubs in Colchester

Runners from all over East Anglia were treated to some spectacular racing in ideal weather conditions over the weekend. The annual Colchester 10k Charity Race took place on Sunday 14th May starting at the Garrison Athletics Stadium at 10.30am. This race has always taken place on the second Sunday in May since it first started in 2009. Since then, it has seen many outstanding performances, and this year was no exception.

The men's race was won by Ash Harrell of Highgate Harriers winning in an impressive 31:07, only 25 seconds off the course record that was set by Dean Williamson last year. Ash was followed by Jack Nixon (Saint Edmunds Pacers) and Ramadan Osman (Colchester Harriers) while the leading women produced some outstanding performances Lydia Callan of Colchester Harriers heading up the Women's category with an impressive PB of 37:28, followed closely by Stephanie Migliorini (Leigh on Sea Striders) and Sarah Overington (Springfield Striders). Both male and female team events were won by the very strong Colchester Harriers club members, although they were pushed closely in both competitions.



The Colchester 10k is organised by the four Rotary clubs in Colchester to raise money for worthwhile local causes, and this year, the focus was on raising as much as possible for the Colchester Foodbank. Over 70 volunteers gave up their time over the weekend to set up, greet, register, marshal, and welcome the racers back to the stadium. It was a huge team effort and Rotarians and competitors were rewarded with an excellent day of competition. Volunteers and competitors brought food donations to the event and all surplus funds will go directly to help local people who need support. Nikki from Colchester Foodbank says: "We are very grateful for all the hard work put in by the Rotary clubs of Colchester and for the generosity of all those involved. The donations made on the day combined with the money that has been raised will go a long way to supporting the specific needs of key members of the Colchester community". (Continued next page)



To organise such an event in the present financial climate has not been easy. Colchester City Council's decision not to provide traffic management support and various other inflationary pressures increased the organisational costs by 40% this year. Race Director Peter Jones is grateful to the event sponsors for helping to ensure that Colchester Foodbank will still receive a sizable donation: "We are extremely grateful to our main sponsor, LKA Recruitment, also to Collier and Catchpole, and Colchester Travel Services for their generosity again this year. Colchester Garrison has worked with us to provide outstanding facilities and an exceptionally flat course. Consequently, this outstanding event has the potential to go from strength to strength in years to come".

The date has already been set for next year's race, and the organisers have liaised with other groups to avoid clashes. If you would like to take up the 10k challenge in 2024, put Sunday, May 12, in your diary and enter now by visiting:

[www.colchester10k.com](http://www.colchester10k.com)

*Peter Jones, Race Director*



Winner Ash Harrell (centre), flanked by Jack Nixon (L) and Ramadan Osman (R)



Winner Lydia Callan with Stephanie Migliorini and Sarah Overington

### Canvey's very welcome visitor



Rod Bishop –  
Canvey Island

Canvey Rotarians recently welcomed fellow Rotarian Dr James Kyeyune from Wobulenzi Rotary club in Uganda to our meeting. James told us about his club and the work they do within their local community and elsewhere in Uganda,

constructing piped water schemes in poor, rural, water-stressed areas. He also told us about the Mbabaali Memorial School for Orphans, which has been going for 20 years and was started by his late father Peter. James is the Executive Director and teacher at the school. **(Continued next page) Rod Bishop**



Dr James Kyeyune with club President John Clarke



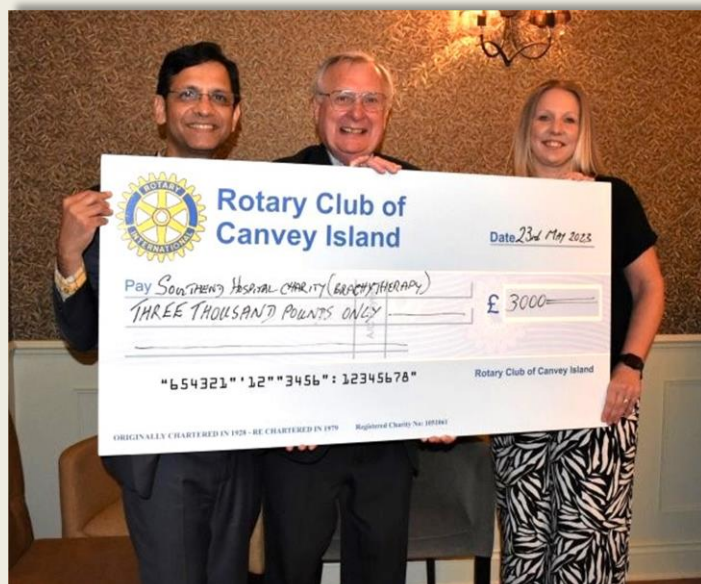
At a recent Club meeting President John Clarke welcomed Dr Imtiaz Ahmed, Clinical Lead Oncologist and lead Cancer Clinician, along with Lead Urology Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist Emma Chappel. They were presented with a £3,000 donation for the Southend Hospital Charity (Brachytherapy).

Brachytherapy uses radiation to destroy cancer cells in the prostate and as our President and a number of other members of our club have all been treated by Dr Ahmed, John chose this as his charity of the year.

Dr Ahmed went on to tell the members and guests present about the treatment for prostate cancer by brachytherapy and its benefits compared with more invasive treatments. Dr Ahmed also stressed the importance of all men having regular prostate checks and how prostate cancer needs to be brought more to the forefront, as it does not get the same support as other cancers. *Rod Bishop*



<https://prostatecanceruk.org/>



Dr Imtiaz Ahmed, President John Clarke and Nurse Emma Chappel



Dr Ahmed with Club members he has treated, John Clarke, James Kellard, Allan Innes and Club founder member David Hook

### South Woodham Ferrers News



David Pepper –  
South Woodham  
Ferrers

Club was pleased to join the Coronation Big Lunch fayre on May 7 at the SWF playing field, organised by the Town Council, SWF Village Hall Committee and SWF Playing Fields Committee.

So many of our town's community visited the event and many were keen to smash crockery at our stall, so much so that we calculate in excess of 2300 balls were thrown during the enjoyable afternoon.

The pictures on the next page show Rotarians together with Mayor Councillor Donna Eley and Council representatives presenting a "Highly Commended" certificate won by our stall, and the King winding up for a corker. **(Continued next page)**



## Benches for Fenn Creek

Club have provided a number of new and replacement benches for use by our community at Fenn Creek, running alongside the River Crouch.

The pictures (right) show one of the two benches that we have recently provided and, with the help of ranger Rob Haworth and his team, installed on the creek.

The club wished to acknowledge on a plaque, a recently passed member, Tony Graham, for whom our motto "Service above Self" was especially applicable.



## RotaKids at Elmwood School learn more about ShelterBox

Peter Dowse, who speaks about ShelterBox on behalf of Rotary, gave a talk to some of the RotaKids at Elmwood School about the worldwide operation of ShelterBox, largely funded by the Rotary family.

By providing emergency shelter and tools; blankets; and solar-charged lighting etc for families robbed of their homes by disasters, the charity seeks to transform despair into hope. The RotaKids were both very interested in the work and knowledgeable about disasters that give rise to need. They have organised Harvest Festival donations; collected for Ukraine; helped planting in our community garden; and taken part in our Young Artist's Competition. Hats off to a caring group. *David Peffer*



(From right: Rtns Peter Dowse, Don Wragg, Geoff Thompson Chair of our Youth & Vocation Committee and Roger Gatford).



## Maldon supports local charity



James Howard  
- Maldon

The photo shows President Judy Smith presenting Barbara, Chair of Maldon Stroke Club with a cheque for £1,000.

Thanking the club, Barbara promised that all of the money would be spent on outings and treats for members of her club, who number around 40, and are cared for by some 20 volunteers. Meetings are bi-monthly at Fullbridge Church.

In previous years, Maldon has paid for the Stroke Club to enjoy Christmas lunches at a local hotel. Donations are financed by monies raised in the local community.



## Maldon checks your blood pressure!

On Saturday June 10, Maldon, with the assistance of two local GPs, organised its annual blood pressure checking service. Taking place in Maldon's Moot Hall, 34 members of the public were tested, 10 being referred to their GP for treatment. Organiser, Rotarian John Williams said this number was higher than on previous occasions and that just one referral makes the exercise worthwhile. Known as the "silent killer", abnormally high blood pressure can lead to stroke and heart attack.

In the photo, club President, Judy Smith presents a cheque for £500 to Sue Powell from Friends of the Moot Hall, a charity that helps to preserve this 15<sup>th</sup> century building.

This gift was possible using monies raised in the local community. *James Howard*



## A three-club rewilding project



**Peter Herring –  
Colchester Camulos**

In July 2022, three Colchester Rotary clubs (Colchester, Colchester Forum, and Colchester Camulos) initiated a rewilding project on 2/3 acre at Yarra Farm, Stanway Green. The project is for the benefit of four special needs schools - Kingswode Hoe and Lexden Springs (Colchester), Shorefields (Clacton), and Edith Borthwick (Braintree). In early Spring, we installed fencing around the area and also installed a small pond for water-borne insects.

In October, thanks to the Woodland Trust and the Queen's Green Canopy Scheme, we planted over 120 hedge saplings around the field with a further 120 in Spring 2023. To date, it looks as though virtually all the 240 saplings have taken and are already showing signs of healthy growth.

In May we started the last part of Phase 1 of the project, which was the construction of four insect hotels. The picture shows the pupils of Kingswode Hoe school with Rotarians Colin Brodie (Camulos), John Russell (Forum) and Robert Macaulay (Colchester).

We have also produced a wildflower identification chart so the pupils can search out the eight varieties of wildflower already present in the meadow.

Apart from the obvious benefit to the environment, the project has been a great hit with the special needs pupils and based on input from the participating schools, planning and fundraising is now underway for Phase 2 - which will include a shelter and seating, a wheelchair-friendly path, sensory planting, and equipment.

We also have a further 60 hedge saplings coming from the Woodland Trust in November – so that will bring the total planted to 300.

Thanks go to Yarra Services, Colchester Children's Charity, and Ellisons Solicitors for their support of our project.

***Peter Herring, Project Leader***



## Rayleigh Mill offers comfort and support to young people suffering from cancer



**William White –  
Rayleigh Mill**

Tom Bowdidge was a sporty, fun-loving, 18-year-old boy who was just about to leave school and go to university.

During the summer break Tom suddenly became ill. It started with stomach pains, diarrhoea, and he became incredibly tired. His concerned parents, Richard and Nikki, took him to the doctor who initially treated him for irritable bowel syndrome, but his symptoms did not improve. So, his parents took him to hospital where it was suspected that he had appendicitis and Tom was sent for an ultrasound scan which revealed an inflamed appendix but also an unidentified mass. **(Continued next page)**

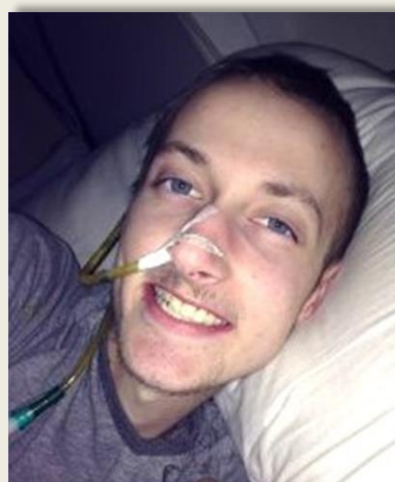


He was then sent for a CT scan. A few hours later Tom and his parents received the devastating news that Tom was suffering from soft tissue sarcoma in his peritoneum and pelvis, an extremely rare and aggressive cancer. The prognosis was not good. They were told that the cancer was incurable and inoperable. No-one could tell them how long Tom had left to live but Tom was immediately sent to the University College Hospital in London, which has a specialist teenage cancer unit, supported by Teenage Cancer Trust where there is a specialist unit that gives teenagers an environment where they would feel more comfortable, alongside other people of their own age.

Tom underwent an intensive course of chemotherapy and, inevitably, after the second dose of chemotherapy his hair started to fall out. This traumatic event prompted the family to ask people to sponsor him and raise a few pounds for Teenage Cancer Trust whilst also raising awareness of the work of the charity. Tom set up an online fundraising page and very quickly broke the £1,000 barrier. People admired his grit and determination and Tom very quickly realised that he could make a real difference. In April 2013, he made the decision that he would like to start his own charity – a charity that would support teenage cancer patients.

Tom was told that there was a surgeon in Milan who might be able to remove as much of the cancer that was possible, but he must be free from chemo for four weeks before the operation could take place.

Unfortunately, during that time the cancer that had shrunk during chemo, suddenly took hold again and spread rapidly. Surgery was now out of the question but Tom, always full of hope, tried several different drugs. **(Continued next page)**



Tom became quite poorly in late September and was quite sick, something that he hadn't suffered from before. He was admitted to UCLH for a few days where he was told the cancer had spread to his liver and given fluids before being discharged. His condition, however, deteriorated rapidly and he had to return urgently to UCLH where he was told that the tumour was so large that it was blocking his bowel. Tom struggled on for two more weeks, but he realised that there was a need for the special requirements of young people with cancer and the good work that his charity was providing for meeting those requirements. Shortly before he died, he told his mother to "crack on" without him. That is exactly what Richard and Nikki have done by setting up the Tom Bowdidge Youth Cancer Foundation.

From their own experiences, they knew that the trauma of a cancer diagnosis is not just about the medical treatment but about the many effects on the patient's and the patient's family's everyday life. The Tom Bowdidge Youth Cancer Foundation addresses these effects in many different ways. It provides emotional support through counselling, provision of phones and laptops to young cancer sufferers so that they can communicate with friends and family and continue their education. They also provide age-appropriate facilities where friends and family can visit freely. It provides financial support to families who are struggling with the expense of living with cancer, the cost of travel, and computer equipment.

Tom Bowdidge recognised all these needs, but his main concern was into the nature of the rare cancer that he suffered from and to try to find a way to prevent, as much as possible, other young people suffering in the way that he did. The Tom Bowdidge Youth Cancer Foundation, therefore, has pledged to give more than £250,000 to support research into the rare form of cancer called desmoplastic small round cell tumour (DSRCT) – a type of sarcoma that affects soft tissues in the body.

Richard Bowdidge visited our club on the April 24 when he told us Tom's inspiring story, the setting up of the charity, and the success that it's having in alleviating the suffering of young cancer patients and their families. Members were impressed by Richard and his wife, Nikki's, dedication to helping young cancers sufferers and decided, in some small way, to support the work that they are doing by donating £250 to help them continue with this crucial work. *Bill White*



Speaker Richard Bowdidge

## Rotary Four-Way Test



1. Is it the TRUTH?



2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?



3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?



4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



## Colchester Forum go qwackers!



Jo Portway –  
Colchester Forum

On Whitsun Bank Holiday Monday, Forum held its Annual Duck Race in Lower Castle Park as part of the Hospital Radio Fun Day. The attendance at the event was great and we sold nearly 500 ducks on the day, which added to the 1,900 ducks that members had sold in advance of the event. There were also 33 business ducks sold. A massive thank you to all club members who supported the event through the sale of ducks in advance and on the day. A special shout out to Harvey for being “on duty” all day and keeping the card machine (mostly) in check.

The humans attending were very fortunate with the weather. However, it wasn't the perfect weather for ducks as they didn't like the direction of the wind and wanted to travel upstream not downstream. But, with a little coaxing from the Colchester Canoe Club, they got there eventually!

The results for the main race were: Mandi Conway from Highwoods won first place; Nancy of Colchester second place, and Shelley Moules of Colchester, third place. The winner of the Corporate Duck race was Beaumont Seymour, and the £250 donation will be split equally between their two charities.

We need to wait for the Treasurer to get his financial ducks in a row (see what I did there?), but we believe we have made a profit of approximately £2,000, which means £1,000 will go to the Colchester Anti Loo Roll Brigade and £1,000 to the Tom Bowdidge Foundation, with the remaining funds being retained in our Charity Account to fund one-off charity projects.

Thank you again to everyone who supported this event.



## News from Buggingham Palace!!

Forum, as part of our community environmental initiatives and to celebrate the Coronation, started a Bug Hotel build at Yarra Farm on May 9, with young adults from four schools assisting at a later stage. President Jon Neill is providing all the timber from his felled trees, and he wants this community Coronation event to be a lasting legacy at the farm. The logs for Buggingham Palace are now at Yarra Farm ready for the palace to be built. (Continued next page)

Later, Forum's John Russell spent a couple of hours at Yarra Farm with Peter Herring and Colin Brodie from Camulos, and Robert Macauley from Colchester, building the first bug hotel. Six children from Kingswode Hoe School collected all sorts of material from the site and made a start on filling it up. They were fully engaged and obviously enjoyed the experience as much as the adults. The intention is to have four bug hotels, one for each school. Peter will be getting dates from the other schools after half term.

A great joint effort. *Jo Portway*



### Ella wins a Young Citizen Award



Jean  
McGinley –  
Brentwood a  
Becket

It's been a busy month!

Brentwood a Becket took 34 children and 34 parents and carers to Colchester Zoo for the annual trip with SNAP. The day started chilly and despite major roadworks and an unexpected 10K run taking place causing road closures around the zoo, we arrived in good time. It was very crowded and a challenge to marshal everyone into the zoo – but once inside everyone spread out and visited as many animals as time would allow. The sun came out eventually and it was a warm, sunny day. The shop did a roaring trade before we headed back to the coach at 3pm. We had a good journey back to Brentwood with some tired but happy children and parents.



Sarah Clinton of SNAP was presented with a cheque for £3,240 by our President Elect Tony Clark and Chairman of the Charity Committee Rtn Geoff Morgan, which was raised at the Christmas collection in Shenfield

Eloise (Ella) Pennycott, who is profoundly deaf, received her Rotary Young Citizen Award. In his address to the club, Youth Service Chairman Keith Hawkes, said that Ella had made a lasting impression on members when she came to speak to us earlier in the year. Following this, club was moved to nominate Ella for the award for the all the work she had done at a young age, whilst still studying, to champion and raise awareness of deaf children and deafness in general. Ella lost her hearing completely between the ages of 11 and 13 and is now very proud to identify as deaf culturally and well as medically. **(Continued next page)**



Most recently she has been on tour in a play which prevented her receiving the award at the national prize-giving ceremony, hence her Certificate and trophy were presented by District Youth Service Chairman, Rtn Peter Dowse, at a Brentwood a Becket meeting.

Ann Brown and Mary Ann Donovan, from St Francis Hospice, were inducted as corporate members by President Elect Tony Clark. They were warmly welcomed by the club and have already been allocated a committee to serve on.

Brentwood a Becket supports Daily Bread, which is a volunteer-led, community food hub based in St Peters Church, Hutton. Members of the club support them by collecting surplus food from stores such as Tesco, Greggs, Co-op, and M&S, as well as volunteering in the café which is attended by local people who can pop in for a drink and a bite to eat. Other clubs, such as the WI, hold a knit and natter club there. On Thursdays, up to 90 parents with babies and toddlers attend Little Fishes, which provides play time with stories, singing, and activities. A very happy place. *Jean McGinley*



Ella Pennycott receiving her Rotary Young Citizen Award



Sarah receiving the cheque for £3,240 from Tony and Geoff



Daily Bread



Ann Brown and Mary Ann Donovan, from St Francis Hospice, were inducted as corporate members by President Elect Tony Clark



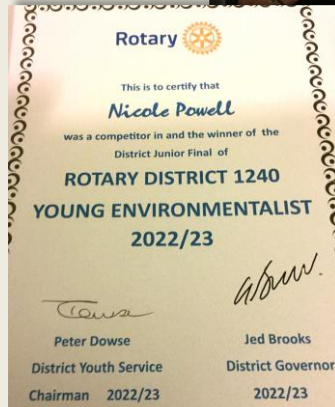
## Young Environmentalist winner



Gloria Nichols  
– Shenfield and  
District

The District Young Environmentalist winner, Nicole Powell with Brian Tranter from Dunmow Rotary and District YE Co-ordinator Gloria Nichols who presented Nicole with a trophy and a Certificate for her entry 'Bee a Bee Crusader'.

Thank you to Dunmow Rotary and Takeley Rotary for enabling the competition in their area, and to the Head and staff of Felsted School for supporting the project. Well done, Nicole! *Gloria Nichols*



## I've just discovered my very own patron saint! Ed.

"I see that you have made 3 spelling mistakes." Last words of Marquis de Favras after reading his death sentence before being hanged (1790).



Please send all future submissions for the 1240 District Bulletin to Gloria Nichols at:

[gloriabn@live.co.uk](mailto:gloriabn@live.co.uk)



Did you know? One of largest Rotary wheels rests underwater in the Philippines and was created as an artificial reef to protect and preserve local marine life. Now that IS impactful branding!!



## Danbury and Villages News



**Eric Cater –  
Danbury and  
Villages**

May was a busy month. We were pleased to help at the Danbury King's Coronation event, which was blessed with good weather and was very busy.

Our games were popular with young and old alike and generated some funds for our charity account. We also helped with car parking. We had long wanted to plant a tree to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, but long delays in obtaining a suitable site and an approved tree to plant meant we were only able to do so in May this year. The tree is now to celebrate the life and reign of Queen Elizabeth II and was planted at Sandon School with the help of some pupils there.

We also attended the Little Baddow Open Gardens event where we were delighted to help. We mainly manned the car park which seemed very busy and were pleased that the event was such a success, a great credit to the organisers and participants. We also attended the Parish Council assembly to advertise our presence in the village and heard John Spence deliver an impressive speech. The joint Danbury and Little Baddow Open Gardens in June will also see us helping.

The collection of blister packs at Boots the Chemist on Eves Corner is proving popular and we are removing sacks at regular intervals. It all helps save landfill and provides a recycling opportunity - another contribution we are making to saving the environment.

We also managed to supply a bicycle for a young Afghan refugee child, much to her delight.

On the social front, a party visited The Swan at Lavenham for Sunday Lunch which was enjoyed by all who went. We welcomed a Maldon member and his wife who joined us there. We continue to meet weekly at the Queen's Head in Maldon.

Preparations for Handover and the new Rotary year are well under way. Incoming President Paul King is planning his "President at Home" event on July 1, getting the year off to a flying start.

This is my last newsletter, as I will become Vice-President on July 1. Soroush Ebrahimi ([finrod@finrod.co.uk](mailto:finrod@finrod.co.uk)) will take my place and send you our news each month. *Eric Cater*

## The wheels on the bus.....



**Martin Sell –  
Clacton Jubilee**

The club continues to be busy as we move towards the end of the Presidential year.

Over the last few weeks, club was delighted to be invited to the official opening of the Rolph School Library Bus in Thorpe Le Soken. The bus was donated by the club a few months ago and has now been superbly fitted out and will be used by pupils for years to come. **(Continued next page)**



We have also recently made a donation to a local animal sanctuary, which is entirely run by volunteers and is always grateful for help with their ever increasing running costs.

In the middle of May, a quiz night, devised and hosted by club members, raised over £400 towards an appeal at a local secondary school to raise funds for a new school piano.

On Thursday, June 1, we held a charity golf day at Clacton Golf Club and raised over £2,500 for the Essex and Herts Air Ambulance. Despite blustery conditions, 72 Golfers took part, and in the evening enjoyed a superb meal and were entertained by a comedian. *Martin Self*



## Out and about with PDG Keith



Photos from Young Farmers show – Keith with Dafydd Helps-Fursee from the Ordinary Buys who will be competing in the Talisker Whiskey Atlantic Challenge, later this year.



A great Rotary presentation to Halstead Rotary recently. All loved Cara the Koala bear from Melbourne, Australia – and a cheque to Foundation will follow.





## Bishop's Stortford's golf day success



Margaret Webb –  
Bishop's Stortford

Because we meet on Mondays, May 2023 has been more than a little complicated. So, our May activities have been fewer than usual.

However, one important event made up for the lack of other activities – our Annual Golf Day, held on May 11 at Bishop's Stortford Golf Club. In spite of threatened rain, the sun shone on our golfers throughout. When play was completed, all returned to the clubhouse, where they were joined by additional guests for dinner. The evening also included a raffle, heads and tails, and a charity auction, led by our auctioneer member, Hugo Richardson. The whole event raised over £7,500 for charity and everyone had a thoroughly good time in the process. We are grateful to all those whose support, whether on the course or behind the scenes, contributed to the event's success.

The first prize went to Harrods Aviation Ltd, closely followed by runners up - the Hockey Veterans team. "Nearest the pin" was Sean Mangan from Attwaters, and the Longest Drive award went to Jase Bean from Lever & Co.

On May 29, we had an evening meeting, where we were joined by a number of partners and friends. The speaker was Daniel Burford, Community Engagement Manager at London Stansted Airport.



President Jane  
Mitchell with  
speaker Daniel  
Burford



### BS Golf Day 2023 1st Prize-winners Harrods Aviation

He spoke to us in depth about the community impact on his Company - Manchester Airport Group - in respect of local community support, employment training and education as well as the Socio Economic Impact of the Airport during Covid as well as all the challenges facing them as the Country and Economy come out of Covid.

His talk was most informative as was apparent by the number of questions asked by the audience at the end of his talk.

Although May was a quiet month, we have lots happening in June, and great plans for the new Rotary year. *Margaret Webb*

## The Magnificent 1,000



Bill White –  
Rayleigh Mill

From the time that Rayleigh Mill was first chartered in June 1995, the club has hosted many speakers who have visited to talk on a whole variety of subjects: special interests, hobbies, charities, deserving cases, and personal projects in foreign countries. None of them, however, had quite the impact that a visit by Lindsay Hurrell from the charity Re-Cycle on February 24, 2020, had on the club, and on one member in particular.

On that evening, shortly before the Covid-19 lockdown, Rotarian Jackie Wellman was truly inspired by Lindsay's talk, when he spoke about collecting unused and unwanted bicycles and sending them to Africa to be refurbished, making a huge difference to people's lives there, particularly young girls who would be able to reduce the time they take fetching water and thus spend much more time in education. The bikes also enable adults to transport goods to markets and to seek work further from home when there are no other forms of transport.

Since then, Jackie has been collecting bikes and delivering them to the Re-Cycle warehouse in Colchester where they are dismantled and packed in containers destined for Ghana, Zambia, South Africa, and Gambia.

When the bikes arrive, they are refurbished, re-assembled, and sold for a nominal price to ensure that the new owners maintain them well and retain pride in having them. The new owners are taught how to look after the bikes and how to repair them.



Rotarians Jackie Wellman and Terry Morris deliver Rayleigh Mill's 1,000th bicycle for shipment to Africa

The assembly workshops there create jobs for those employed in re-assembling the bikes, and also provide a repair shop facility and a stock of spares. Despite the pause caused by the Covid-19 lockdown, Jackie buckled down to the task of collecting bikes in the Rayleigh, Hockley, and Southend areas, making her first collection on June 2, 2020, when she collected 40 bikes and another 42 the following day.

Jackie's quest continued from that day forward, and on June 9, 2023, she delivered her 1,000<sup>th</sup> bicycle to the charity. For Jackie, her helpers at Rayleigh Mill, and Rotarian Steve Gale, proprietor of "Steve's Self Drive Hire", who lent his vans, complete with a tank of fuel, cost-free, for all of Jackie's collections, this is a truly astounding achievement.



Jackie and her regular helper, Bob Taylor celebrate the moment back at the club.

Jackie and Rayleigh Mill would like to thank all those who have donated bicycles: their generosity has not just given the bicycles a new lease of life but has transformed the lives of the people who receive them in Africa.

If you have a bike that you would like to donate, please contact:

[bikes@rayleighmillrotary.org.uk](mailto:bikes@rayleighmillrotary.org.uk) *Bill White*



## Rotary District 1240 - functions timetable 2023/24

DISTRICT HANDOVER	1 JUL	Ivy Hill Hotel, Margaretting
SUPPORT TEAMS	7.00PM 5 JUL	WRITTLE COLLEGE
DISTRICT FORUM	6.30PM 19 JUL	WRITTLE COLLEGE
DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP TEAM	7.00PM 14 AUG	Zoom
ROTARY ACTION SUMMIT	15 - 17 SEPT	MIDLAND HOTEL, MANCHESTER
DISTRICT COMMUNITY SERVICE	5.30PM 15 SEPT	Zoom
DISTRICT CONFERENCE (Jointly with D1260)	6 - 8 OCT	CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP TEAM	7.00PM 9 OCT	Zoom
SUPPORT TEAMS	7.00PM 25 OCT	WRITTLE COLLEGE
DISTRICT COMMUNITY SERVICE	5.30PM 17 NOV	Zoom
DISTRICT FORUM	9.00AM 18 NOV	WRITTLE COLLEGE
Pre-PETS	7.00PM 29 NOV	WRITTLE COLLEGE
	<b>2024</b>	
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY	7 - 11 JAN	Orlando, Florida
DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP TEAM	7.00PM 8 JAN	Zoom
DISTRICT COMMUNITY SERVICE	5.30PM 19 JAN	Zoom
PDG's LUNCH	TBC	TBC
SUPPORT TEAMS	7.00PM 31 JAN	Zoom
DISTRICT SECRETARY TRAINING	4.30PM 16 FEB	Zoom
DISTRICT TREASURER TRAINING	4.30PM 16 FEB	Zoom
LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT FORUM	17 - 18 FEB	UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
DISTRICT FORUM	7.00PM 21 FEB	WRITTLE COLLEGE (Continued next page)

<b>NEW DISTRICT SECRETARY &amp; TREASURER TRAINING</b>	<b>4.30PM 23 FEB</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>DISTRICT COMPLIANCE OFFICER - DATA PROTECTION TRAINING</b>	<b>6.30PM 29 FEB</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>DISTRICT COMPLIANCE OFFICER - HEALTH &amp; SAFETY TRAINING</b>	<b>6.30PM 7 MARCH</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP TEAM</b>	<b>7.00PM 11 MARCH</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>DISTRICT COMPLIANCE OFFICER - SAFEGUARDING TRAINING</b>	<b>6.30PM 14 MARCH</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>DISTRICT COMMUNITY SERVICE</b>	<b>5.30PM 15 MARCH</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>FOUNDATION LUNCH</b>	<b>12noon 17 MARCH</b>	<b>Channels Golf Club, Pratts Farm Lane East, Chelmsford. CM3 3PT</b>
<b>CEE MDPETS</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>DISTRICT COMPLIANCE OFFICER TRAINING</b>	<b>6.30PM 21 MARCH</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TRAINING</b>	<b>9.00AM 23 MAR</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>
<b>FOUNDATION SEMINAR</b>	<b>9.00AM 13 APR</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>
<b>SUPPORT TEAMS</b>	<b>7.00PM 23 APR</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>
<b>DISTRICT ASSEMBLY</b>	<b>9.00AM 11 MAY</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>
<b>DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP TEAM</b>	<b>7.00PM 13 MAY</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>DISTRICT COMMUNITY SERVICE</b>	<b>5.30PM 17 MAY</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION</b>	<b>25 - 29 MAY</b>	<b>SINGAPORE</b>
<b>DISTRICT HANDOVER</b>	<b>30-Jun</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>SUPPORT TEAMS</b>	<b>7.00PM 3 JULY</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>
<b>DISTRICT FORUM</b>	<b>7.00PM 17 JULY</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>
<b>DISRICT CONFERENCE</b>	<b>OCTOBER ?</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>SUPPORT TEAMS</b>	<b>7.00PM 23 OCT</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>
<b>DISTRICT FORUM</b>	<b>9.00AM 16 NOV</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>
<b>Pre-PETS</b>	<b>7.00PM 25 NOV</b>	<b>WRITTLE COLLEGE</b>



## Passed to Higher Service

David passed away peacefully in Queens Hospital on Tuesday, May 30.

He was well known by Rotarians in District 1240 and will be sadly missed, especially for his "Beano" style jokes and his infectious, wicked laugh!

He was regional manager for the Woolwich Building Society in the mid-1970s until his retirement. He leaves behind Sheila, his wife of 54 years, and a son and daughter.

David joined Havering North Rotary Club in 1978, and when they closed their doors in 2004, he joined Brentwood a Becket.

He served as Speaker Secretary 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. He was 1st Vice-President 2008-2009 and President 2009-2010. David then became Youth Services Chairman 2013 through to 2017.



*David Alton*  
1936 – 2023

He organized the Youth Speaks evenings for local heats and area finals with great enthusiasm and attended every event, setting up the stopwatch lights and timing the contestants so the judges had accurate information.

He has been described as "Mr Rotary" in as much as he attended most events and projects and was always willing to lend a hand. He always had a quiz night table, he always volunteered to be Santa

in the middle of the road for the Christmas collection. He marshalled the half-marathon in the finish funnel every year and was indeed our "elder statesman". He played pétanque, golf, cribbage in our sporting events, and managed a few wins! He was a very accomplished golfer.

He was a highly committed and hard-working Rotarian, keen to be involved in any activity of the club, often passing on trenchant advice. He possessed an extremely charming and approachable personality combined with a keen sense of wit and humour.

He was a perfect example of Service above Self and One Profits Most Who Serves Best. Rest in Peace, David.

## Publication criteria for submissions to the 1240 District Bulletin

-Please send your articles as a **Word document**, **NOT** as a pdf, or a PowerPoint presentation, or a jpeg. Please include a **title** for the article.

-Please send **good quality** photograph(s), (jpegs please), with captions and/or **full names**.

-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).

-Please include the name of your club in your email.

-Please be aware of date-sensitive items. The DB

will normally be sent out in the middle of each month (15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>).

-Make sure you provide a **full name** for everyone who is mentioned in the article (not just a first name).

-The deadline (**NOT the target!**) for submissions is the **12<sup>th</sup>** of each month, although "as soon as possible" is always preferred.

-And send to: Gloria Nichols at:  
[gloriabn@live.co.uk](mailto:gloriabn@live.co.uk)

Thank you – Editor

## Comedy corner

Saw an incident at me local Indian takeaway t'other day. I had to dahl naan naan naan.

I'm writing a book on hurricanes and tornados. At the minute it's just a draft.

I was born female. I identify as female. But according to Tesco's Sticky Toffee Pudding, I'm a family of four!

I was feeling a bit sad, so I went to the butchers. He gave me a shoulder to cry on.

I saw a man with a trolley full of horseshoes and rabbits' feet earlier, trying to get it up a hill.

I thought, "He's pushing his luck".

It probably took a good year or two to make this table...



Years ago there was an explosion at a Japanese car factory, apparently it rained Datsun cogs!

Apparently, a person is knocked down in London every two days. They're getting pretty fed up with it.

Sign at a music shop: "Gone chopin. Bach in a minuet."

If I ordered an axe from overseas and had it shipped, I'd have a foreign axe sent.

Just booked a reef conservation holiday at the travel agents, it's atoll protected.



Spaghetti Carbanana