



A LETTER FROM AMERICA



WANTED: HELP WITH FILLING THIS SLEIGH AND ESCORTING IT AROUND THE STREETS OF CHISLEHURST

THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHISLEHURST NEWSLETTER

A Man Enjoying Rotary In the Chislehurst Area

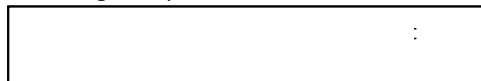
Another of our very important periods is upon us. The Christmas Collections; Three weeks around the streets of Chislehurst, two weekends at Ruxley Manor Garden Centre and the final weekend at Sainsbury's, in the High Street. (Weather permitting) The schedule has been available for a few weeks and more spaces are needed to be filled, please contact Hilary with your commitment. (see her emails and attachments for the schedules)

The Objects of Rotary - Our Version

At each Business meeting the host tells us of The Objects of Rotary. As ours is slightly different to that shown in the Welcome to Rotary handbook, I print below our version for newer members and to remind longer serving members what we are listening to every month.

As Rotarians we commit ourselves to:

- Welcome and value members from a variety of businesses, professions and backgrounds
- Be completely trustworthy in all aspects of our lives
- Develop our friendships through social contact and working together for the benefit of the local community and others in need
- Foster international goodwill, understanding, and peace.



AUDITED ACCOUNTS. In case you missed the email, the end of year, audited accounts, are available. You need to make any comment before December 13th. If you haven't received or seen them please contact John.

WE WELCOME A NEW PAUL HARRIS FELLOW: DAVID PEARSE At a packed meeting on November 29th David was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship award. We first met David when he was a leading light in the Rotaract movement and along with his brother in law Alan, helped our Club form the Chislehurst Rotaract Club. He became a Rotarian along with Alan in 1989, but had to eventually leave due to the high pressure of his job. He has maintained a close contact with the Club being an important cog in the organizing committee wheel of our Fireworks event and was made an Honorary member and also received a Community Service Award. As he quipped afterwards 'It seems every time I come here I get an award!' Well done David. At the same meeting we had a special guest, who had just flown in from Kosovo. Dr Pal Lekaj, a medical doctor and Mayor of Gjakove in Kosovo AND a Rotarian. We had the pleasure of his visit through Clive Doubleday who we know through the Smile International project. He is on a flying visit meeting many organizations and caused some mirth when his Albanian, which was translated by Clive's son in law, Astrit, came out with two words we all recognized. Tony Blair. (We hope that Astrit translated him correctly.)

WHAT IS A PAUL HARRIS AWARD ?

Paul Harris was one of the Founders of Rotary and was very involved in the development of Rotary which grew from a single club in Chicago in 1905 into the global organisation we know today. The Paul Harris Award was set up in memory of his work to recognise outstanding contributions to the ideals of Rotary. It can be awarded by a Rotary Club to any person, whether a Rotarian or not, who is deemed worthy of the honour. A Paul Harris Award is paid for by credits the Club has built up with its Foundation donations. The recipient is known as a Paul Harris Fellow, and receives a medallion on a blue and gold ribbon, a special lapel badge and a citation signed by the President of R.I. and the Chairman of Rotary Foundation Trustees.

POLIO ERADICATION AND THE PURPLE CROCUS . Some facts and figures to help the debate on the huge sums of money involved.

It is what it says. A way to eradicate, (as far as humanly possible,) the polio virus from the world. Only some 2% of those affected become paralysed. It is possible the other 98% do not know they are affected, but they are carriers. Due to mass immunisation the number of severe cases has fallen considerably. The Bill Gates Foundation has contributed over \$300,000,000 and Rotary are now raising \$200,000,000, tremendous sums when treatment only costs 40c. But special immunisation days in India, Africa, Pakistan, Afghanistan etc take place, involving as many as 100,000,000 young people are treated. It is not too long ago when the disease was rampant in this country. The reason we and hundreds of other clubs are planting purple crocus is that is the colour used by dipping the young person's finger in a safe purple dye, so they are known to have received treatment and that they have also received the small toy or gift they usually receive as a thank you. info from Noel Tatt

Following are some items I have sent to Rotary South East and for general press information via the website;

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT SPRING WITH A SPLASH OF COLOUR . THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHISLEHURST IS TURNING THE VILLAGE PURPLE OR AT LEAST ONE SECTION OF IT. THE OPEN SPACE IN THE HIGH STREET OUTSIDE THE CHISLEHURST ACTIVE AGE CENTRE, RUN BY AGE CONCERN BROMLEY, IS FILLED WITH 2,000 BULBS READY FOR A SPECTACULAR DISPLAY NEXT FEBRUARY.

CHISLEHURST CLUB ARE FIRED UP FOR A CRACKER OF A SEASON. NOVEMBER THE 6th TURNED OUT TO BE A DRY AND SUCCESSFUL NIGHT FOR THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHISLEHURST AND LOCAL RESIDENTS. AFTER THE 5th TURNED INTO A DAMP SQUIB A RECORD CROWD FILLED THE RECREATION GROUND IN WILLOW GROVE, CHISLEHURST. DESPITE THE ROCKETING COSTS OF PUTTING ON THE EVENT AND THE DOWNTURN, THE CLUB IS EXPECTING A CRACKER OF A FUND RAISING SEASON WITH THE TRADITIONAL VISIT AROUND THE VILLAGES STREETS WITH FATHER CHRISTMAS AND HIS SLEIGH FOLLOWED BY CHEERY ROTARIAN COLLECTORS IN THE THREE WEEKS BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

Bringing Hope Where there is Despair Chislehurst Club had a full house with many visiting Rotarians including DGE Lynn Mitchell, Presidents and members of local Clubs and guests at the Chislehurst Golf Club on the 15th November to hear an Inspirational presentation by the Director of Whitechapel Mission, Tony Miller. The Mission was founded in 1876, and is known to many Clubs, is dedicated to providing a **lifeline to people** of London who struggle each day against homelessness, hunger, poverty and exclusion. Chislehurst Club and numerous others volunteer in many ways, including help with breakfast

catering and donations of necessary items - clothing, toiletries etc. Tony Miller would appreciate your looking at their website for more information- www.whitechapel.org.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday evening December 11th, Carol Singing at Bromley College. Cost will be around £5 a person to include a glass of something special with mince pies.

Saturday evening December 18th is the Club's Christmas party at The Beaverwood Club, off Perry Street. Cost will be around £34 a head.

Tuesday evening December 28th, the Last Night of the Christmas Proms at The Barbican London. Cost will be around £30 a head.

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8th January, Rotalink in the afternoon, Quiz in the evening.

22nd January, Visit to the Greyhound track at Crayford

30th January meeting Guest Dining

Saturday February 12th *Valentines party @ Ferrari's, Bromley North*

9th March CRISP

11th March Presidents Night : Sundridge Park Golf Club

AS USUAL A CHRISTMAS CARD BOARD WILL BE DISPLAYED AT MEETINGS. If you wish to partake, simply attach a card to the Club members and donate a payment of, say, £15 to our Foundation charity.

FOR NORMAL POSTING:- Final posting dates are.

2nd Class 18th, 1st Class 21st, Standard parcels 15th, Special Delivery 23rd.
International USA Canada & E. Europe 10th, W. Europe 13th. All other zones 6th.

