

LOOKS EAST

The Newsletter of The Rotary Club of Ipswich East
Edition 16-2021 : 14th September 2021

CLUB OFFICERS 2021/22
President: Jo Banthorpe
Sen V. President: Steve Runnacles
Jun V President: George Woodward
Secretary: Tony Baker
Asst Secretary: Bill Robinson
Treasurer: Neil Hewitt



September
Mark Harrison
Chris Banham
Clifford Smith
October
Ewan Dodds
Bob Dunnett

**Club Lunchtime Meeting at 'Venue 16'
Tuesday 14th September at 12.55pm**
The first time we have met in person since March 2020
Duty Rotarians : Eva Alcerreca and David Atkins



Kevin Wraight, a historian, (and nephew of our friend in Rotary Robin Wraight) spoke to us about the Battle of Trafalgar at our Zoom meeting on 24th August. Twenty-eight members of our club watched his presentation.



Exeter based, Kevin has been studying military history for over 30 years. His book, "War at Sea", is due to be published in the next few months. Kevin's talk was based on

material from "War at Sea". For every book that is sold to a Rotarian Kevin will be donating £1. to that person's Rotary Club. That sounds a generous offer.

The 21st October 1805 marked a turning point in British history. On that date the British navy successfully defeated the French and Spanish fleets at Cape Trafalgar, just off the coast of Spain. It was Napoleon's plan to invade England by entering the English Channel. Admiral Lord Nelson had 27 ships under his command: there were 33 ships on the opposing side. The victory confirmed the Royal Navy's supremacy which Britain had established during the course of the 18th century. The naval superiority helped to establish the British Empire. The year 1805 was also significant in that Britain joined Austria, Russia and Sweden in a coalition against France and Spain.

The campaign of Trafalgar actually started in the summer of 1805. Nelson went in search of the French fleet at Toulon but it slipped away from him. A very determined Nelson chased Villeneuve to the West Indies! Lord Nelson was unable to corner Villeneuve so Villeneuve made his return journey to Europe followed by Nelson. The battle of Trafalgar ensued. With 27 ships under his command Nelson attacked Villeneuve's line from the west at right angles. Nelson did not engage them broadside to "cut their line". It was an unconventional approach, but Nelson did "cut their line" and the British navy had a magnificent victory. During the battle Nelson was shot and died early in the afternoon on 21st October. His last words were: "Thank God I have done my duty". Lord Nelson was greatly admired and respected by all who served alongside him.

When Kevin's presentation ended there was discussion about the reality of life on ships such as HMS Victory. Kevin told us that sailors were well looked after: each sailor was given a diet of 5000 calories per day. We were also told that only the officers wore uniforms on Navy ships. How times have changed.

George Woodward gave the vote of thanks expressing our warm appreciation for Kevin's informative and interesting talk. We wish Kevin well and hope that he sells many books.

A few words from the President

I am eagerly anticipating our first proper face-to-face club meeting since March 2020!

I realise that this may be a first large gathering for some considerable time for many of you and so, with your safety in mind, staff at Venue 16 will be wearing masks. Please feel free (but not obliged) to don your own face coverings if you so wish, until you are seated at your tables.

The focus at our meeting should be on rekindling friendships and enjoying food, wine and good company.

I will be addressing the club and presenting the Club Council's recommendations for future meetings shortly after the lunch. This will also be sent out via email for the benefit of those who are unable to attend today.

You will have the opportunity to discuss and debate these recommendations in full at the Business Lunch Meeting on the 28th September, when I shall be seeking members' approval.

I would like you to understand the rationale behind these proposals, to then take them away and give them your most careful consideration.

It will be lovely to see you all and I hope this is the first of many more face-to-face meetings to come. Welcome back; *bon appetit!*



Next Meeting (after 14th September) is another face-to-face lunch on Tuesday 28th September at Venue 16 - you must opt out if you cannot attend.

President's Tea Party at Ufford Park Hotel - Sunday 3rd October



Afternoon tea will be served at 3.30pm.

For this event, you need to **OPT IN**.

Please email Dave Atkins using the new email address rcieattendance@gmail.com

When you opt in, please also advise Dave the name(s) of any guest(s) you will be taking and any particular dietary needs.

THE DEADLINE TO OPT IN HAS PASSED BUT IT MIGHT BE WORTH CONTACTING DAVE ATKINS

Notifying non-attendance [or extra meals] at Lunchtime Meetings

You must opt out of lunch (in-person) meetings.
The club will assume you will attend when placing their order for lunch.

If you cannot attend, you must give your apologies via email to Dave Atkins by the Sunday midnight before the physical lunch meeting.

Email: rcieattendance@gmail.com

If you don't opt out, you will be charged the full cost of the meal.
The Club pays for all lunches ordered regardless of the number who attend.

If you need an additional places at lunch (for a guest or a speaker) the same rules apply: you must notify Dave using this email address by midnight of the Sunday ahead of the meeting.

Val Jeffery a tribute from son-in-law Alan

Many of you will know that my mother-in-law Val had been in poor health for some time.

Dick and Val celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary mid August and were overjoyed to become Great Grandparents two days previously.

Thursday before last she was up and about buying a new whizzy chair to make her more comfortable; Friday she retired to bed.

Val met great-granddaughter Matilda last Saturday (4th) and then her health deteriorated rapidly.

We are so grateful to the District Nurses who moved so quickly to ensure that Val was out of pain and distress and enabled her son Chris and daughters Catherine and Liz and devoted husband Dick to be with her in her final hours.

Val died peacefully at home with them by her side on Tuesday 7th September aged 88 years.

It's over 70 years since Dick and Val first met. I've known Val for over 40 years (that's longer than I've known her daughter, my wife Catherine). I could not have wished for a more supportive, loyal, loving, indomitable and inspirational mum-in-law. Family had the highest importance for her along with her faith. She served the church, Inner Wheel, Rotary, Snape Maltings, supported countless charities and was a friend, confidant and strong shoulder to many, many people.

Val leaves a big hole in many lives. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

The photograph was taken by Ruth and John Goodship on Thursday 2nd September when they visited to present flowers on behalf of Ipswich East Inner Wheel - Val was a founder member and past president.

A service of Farewell and Thanksgiving for Val's life will be held at Aldeburgh Parish Church on Wednesday 22nd September at 1pm followed by refreshments and a time of sharing memories in the adjacent Church Hall.



Michael Steward's final resting place

Mike, as he was known to our club loved the wooded area he owned near Station Farm. When he was able, he walked in there daily with his beloved dog Hector.

The ashes of the two of them are now laid to rest in that wood.

Rev Alan Forsdike conducted a brief and moving service Monday 6th September with close family and the place was marked with this simple poignant stone.

Our thanks to Zena for giving permission for this photograph to be published in this newsletter.



From the picture archive - photographs taken by Richard Porter at the German Exchange 2015





SUFFOLK MiND is appealing for people to join their team as trustees. They say...



We want to make Suffolk the best place in the world for talking about and taking care of mental health. To help us do this, we're looking for three new trustees to join our board.

It's an exciting time to join Suffolk Mind. We're diversifying and growing our income and helping as many people as possible, right across the county, to look after themselves and those around them

Our trustees are vital to the charity - they ensure we are having the greatest impact possible. They set our overall strategy, look at our progress and make important decisions.

We need a diverse range of people and skills on our board. We are particularly encouraging applications from anyone who has worked in the sector, has lived experience of mental health problems, those from a minority ethnic background (BAME), young people and those who have digital expertise.

Suffolk Mind is here to support anyone in Suffolk who is facing mental health challenges - can you help us do this?

Interested in becoming a Trustee at Suffolk Mind?

To express your interest in the role, contact our Head of Support Services, Linda Phelan on: Linda.Phelan@suffolkmind.org.uk.

Fancy a Road Trip with a Difference?

For a week from 9th October a team led by our own Steve Flory are doing the next Undy 500 to the North Coast of Scotland.



Steve says he has a space in an available car for a team if anyone in the club wants to come along. Here is some more detail from him...

- Spend £500 on a car to complete a road trip to Scotland and take on the North Coast 500 route.
- Returning cars are sent for scrap and the value along with any other monies raised are donated to the Blossom Appeal for the new breast cancer ward at Ipswich Hospital
- Accommodation will be basic, but we hope clean!
- Set stops every night for everyone to meet and discuss the days events over dinner and a beer.
- Cars can be tinkered with for safety and reliability, but not upgrades!
- Any cars not making the course due to failure will be ethically disposed of and you will continue in another Undy entrant's vehicle.
- I would welcome any donations from club members.

Best regards, Steve Flory

Rotary Clears Up



As President Pröpke returned from his weekend walk around of his much loved Bröckedde-See, he was astonished and disgusted by the amount of litter he had seen. It was a quite simply a complete disgrace. “We’ve got to do something”, he demanded at the next meeting in the Bröckedde Hof’s wonderfully retro Salon Hindenburg, “Clearing up the lake shore is exactly the sort of hands-on project our club should take on”.

“What exactly do you mean by hands-on?” asked the Club’s Investment Banker, Friend Munzinger. “Well, we roll up our sleeves and get stuck in”, replied the normally reticent President, “We all band together, clear up all the banks, plant new trees, then really sort out the petting farm and children’s playground that we’ve sponsored - and we do it ourselves”.

Investment banker Friend Munzinger reached for his credit card but dear old Pröpke demurred, “No, no, let’s do this ourselves”.

Count Wolkenau-Olderbruch offered to send a couple of his gardeners and suggested hopefully, “We could then organise a really chic charity champagne breakfast on the newly tidied-up lake banks”.

“I really don’t want to imagine the potential Press headlines”, replied President Pröpke, now with a bit of an edge.

It wasn’t particularly easy to bring some of the membership round. The most elegant lady member, Friend Mondauge asked, “What on earth does one wear to that kind of event?” The Club’s intellectual, Professor Dr Krümelein, declared that he was completely unsuited for manual labour but would be delighted to give a presentation on the historical and cultural background of rubbish bags. Other members produced doctors’ certificates for slipped discs, flat feet, asthma, rheumatism and advanced osteoarthritis. Only the younger members were enthusiastic and looked forward to the Communal Litter Walk around their lovely Bröckedde-See.

However, that still wasn’t really enough, so the ever-well-connected Treasurer Knödler stepped up. He recruited volunteer firemen, lake lifeguards, some military reservists and a gang of environmental enthusiasts. They all received a Rotary pin made of recycled plastic, were made temporary, “Lay Rotarians” and sworn-in on the Four Questions. The Litter Walk then started. Professor Dr Krümelein eventually picked up three plastic bottles and lovely Friend Mondauge, wearing her most fashionable designer wellies, found a discarded fishing line. Meanwhile, the “Lay-Rotarians” were doing the heavy lifting. They collected many tons of beer cans, pizza cartons and fag ends. They also got five bicycles, umpteen supermarket trolleys, a cot, 23 mobile phones, a Weber BBQ, 8 PCs and a rusty old Lada out of the lake.

The local Press was ecstatic and led with headlines like, “Rotary Really Clears Up”.

Treasurer Knödler was also full of praise but really regretted that the Club would now have to say goodbye to their “Lay-Rotarians”. “Not a bit”, replied our newly invigorated President Pröpke, “They’re worth their weight in gold and they stay. Let’s now see if we can encourage our wealthy shirkers to subsidise their membership fees!”

The Big Hoot Ipswich

Forty decorated models will swoop into Ipswich next summer as part of St Elizabeth Hospice's Big Hoot Ipswich 2022.

Owls were chosen as the charity has taken patients with progressive illnesses, and their families, "under the wing of its care" for 32 years.

The charity's last trail, of elephants in 2019, raised £260,000.

The Ipswich-based charity said the owl sculptures would feature designs celebrating "all things Suffolk" and be on display in the town's centre, waterfront and Christchurch Park from June to September next year.

President Jo throws down the challenge...

Do we have any budding artists amongst our members (and partners/families eg Julie Dodds) who would be willing/able to come up with a bright and cheerful design to celebrate Suffolk and to promote the Club and Rotary in general?

Entries open to submission until 15th October 2021 and it's free to submit a design. Artists whose design is accepted will be given £900 and guidance from the Hospice team during the process of painting and varnishing their owl statue.

