

# LOOKS EAST

The Newsletter of The Rotary Club of Ipswich East

Edition 15-2022 : 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**CLUB OFFICERS 2022/23**  
 President: Steve Runnacles  
 Sen V. President: George Woodward  
 Jun V President: Ewan Dodds  
 Immediate PP: Jo Banthorpe  
 Secretary: Bill Robinson  
 Treasurer: Neil Hewitt



**September**  
 Russell Wiles  
 Richard Porter  
 Chris Banham  
 Clifford Smith

## Lunchtime Meeting Tuesday 9th September 2022 at 12.55pm

*Rev Celia Cook will be talking about the St Mary-le-Tower Top-Up Shop and the Coaching Drop-In initiative for people struggling with mental ill health issues.*

**Duty Rotarians : Ed Nicholls & Bob Parker**

## The Reluctant Vicar

*Rev Sally Letman came to talk to us 2 weeks ago about the change in her life from Dep Hd at Ipswich High School to Vicar. Eric Barnett takes up the story...*

This was an entertaining and lively talk by the Rev. Sally Letman, Curate in Charge at St. Mary's Church, Capel St. Mary and St. John's, Great Wenham.

While describing herself as "a Reluctant Vicar" it was obvious from Sally's references to her strong Christian faith why she would have pursued ordination in the Anglican Church following her retirement from the position of Assistant Head Teacher at Ipswich School for Girls. She reiterated on several occasions that she had always sought to live a life in Christ and as she put it, 'to walk with God'; she was also greatly impressed that the Rotary movement's ethos was encapsulated in its motto - 'Service before Self'.

Following a reading of her favourite Psalm 121, Sally moved on to tell us of her experiences walking the Camino - the Road to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, in October 2021. There are in fact four or five recognised route starting from various locations in Spain, Portugal and France. The one taken by Sally was about 350 miles in length.

She was in a group of fellow Christians who were strangers to each other initially but became mutually supportive as the walk progressed. Averaging about 18 miles per day Sally told us that she found the constant grind arduous and tiring leading to aching hips, knees and feet. Most of the route was tree-lined and for her it gave the impression of walking up the aisle of a church.

The last section of the walk was through Santiago itself and concluded with a final ascent up the steps to the cathedral of St. James on her knees as is the tradition.

Asked whether she would do the walk again, she replied, "Possibly yes, but would take longer to do it and make more of the experience of spirituality and companionship which it offered." In the meantime she did reveal that she had plans to follow the route of St. Cuthbert's Way from Holy Island to Iona, another fantastic long-distance walk.

*Eric Barnett*





## August Fifth Tuesday at Sizewell

In the week that Boris Johnson visited Sizewell to announce government funding for the construction of Sizewell C, it was appropriate that the club had an opportunity to see at first hand how this enormous construction project will impact the peace and tranquility as well as the precious flora and fauna of this part of Suffolk.

Under the expert guidance of Bob Findlay, an RSPB warden and Eastbridge resident with naturally strong views about the wisdom of building a new nuclear reactor on his doorstep, twenty Rotarians and partners set off from 'The Eels Foot' Public House on a beautiful late summer evening to walk the Sandlings path to Sizewell, armed with a map of the area overlaid with details of the construction area.

It was a sobering experience to learn that most of the land between Eastbridge and Sizewell will be used in some form or other for the construction project. We stopped several times along the route to hear Bob's detailed explanation as to how the landscape will change during the 10 to 15 years of the construction phase.

Ninety minutes of gentle rambling brought us to Sizewell Beach where we paused to reflect on how different the view would be in 15 years' time and to thank Bob for his expert guidance. By that stage, the thought of supper at the Eels Foot was obviously a paramount consideration for some of our group as we made the remaining 3 miles back to the pub in one hour flat for an excellent evening of food and fellowship!

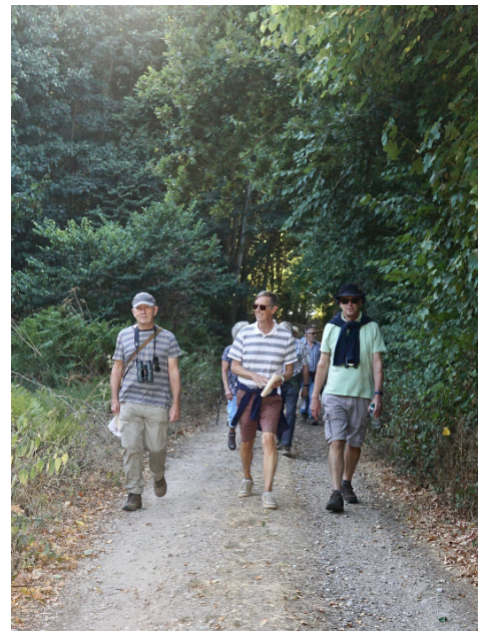
Particular thanks go to Graham Bickers for his excellent organisation and expert knowledge.

*Toby Pound - photographs and graphics Graham Bickers*

*The Sizewell C development site overlay on the rural map to which Toby refers (which includes the Minsmere RSPB Eastbridge and Dunwich Heath) is on the next page.*

*Right: To the right of the walkers is the site of the proposed Spoil Heaps and to the left the Site Campus.*

*Below Left: To the right of the group the Rail Link and Laydown Area*



*Below Right: We are standing on the beach 7 metre lower than the proposed coastal footpath which will form part of the construction of a hard sea defence to protect Sizewell C*









Free  
Admission!

**Rotary**  
Club of Ipswich East



# ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS' CONCERT

*Featuring*



*Ipswich  
Over 50's  
Brass Band*

*Live comedy from  
local comedian Andy Leach*



Wednesday 28th September 2022  
7:00pm - 9:30pm  
Copleston High School, Ipswich  
Free refreshments & raffle!

Free tickets for over 60's. To reserve, please contact:  
David 07734 456380 / [dknights53@sky.com](mailto:dknights53@sky.com) or  
Andy 07739 306516 / [andylewis.1000@hotmail.com](mailto:andylewis.1000@hotmail.com)

Registered charity no. 1088961

# What's On

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Glenn Williamson - Ipswich Round Table**  
***the history of Round Table: how we keep it relevant for today***

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September**  
**TBA**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September**  
***Business Meeting***

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October**  
**TBA**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October**  
***Dave Vincent (St Clements Church to Arts Centre - TBC)***

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October**  
***Paul Stansby (Ipswich Bleed Kits - TBC)***

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## Claire Lunney - RIP

The family-only burial at Westerfield will be followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary and St Peter Church, Church Lane, Barham, Ipswich IP6 0PT on Monday 12th September at 10am.

Those attending are invited to wear something purple (Claire's favourite colour).

Family flowers only, please, but donations would be welcomed for Suffolk Girlguiding, sent to Farthing Funeral Service, 650 Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4PW, or online at [www.farthingfunerals.co.uk](http://www.farthingfunerals.co.uk)

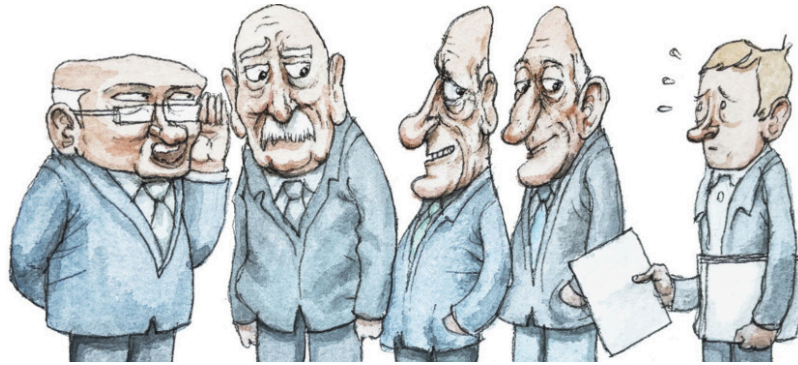
I would like to take this opportunity to say, on behalf of me, and the whole family, how moved and grateful I am for all of the wonderful messages of love and support that we have received from our dear friends. I feel completely humbled, and honoured to have such incredible, supportive, and caring friends, it really does help. Thank you.

Very best wishes, Ross Lunney

*[Newer members may not know that Claire was a highly supportive and active member of Ipswich East Inner Wheel (and a former president) and she was the wife of Rotary Member Canon Henry Lunney himself a former president of our club. Several of us were married by him! I have the honour with Catherine of taking the services. Editor Alan]*



## The Old Boys' Network



Whilst sitting on the sofa at home one evening, one of the younger Bröckedde Rotarians, Friend Wurmnickel, remarked to his wife contentedly “I’ve been a member of RC Bröckedde for ten years now and really feel I belong there at last.”

Indeed, at the next meeting the oldest member and Honorary President, Friend Papke clapped him around the shoulders and asked whether he had settled into the Club. “I’ve been a member for 10 years”, replied Wurmnickel, “and I’ve just turned 40”. Papke waved the comment away breezily saying, “Ten years! That’s only the beginning - almost like a blink of an eye for us”.

The “us” Papke was referring to was the OBN, the Old Boys’ Network, the Club’s powerful “eminence grise” or shadow cabinet. The Old Boys were great traditionalists and any threat of change was met with an almost allergic reaction after which their well-honed professional skills were put to kicking the initiative into the very thickest of long grass.

Treasurer Knödler, guardian of the Club’s funds, and Club Secretary Sauerpfote, scribe of the weekly report, were the mainstays of the OBN. Both had held their positions for 30 years unchallenged, mainly because the rest of the Club was delighted not to have to do the work. “Frankly”, Treasurer Knödler had been heard to say, “I don’t mind who is President under me”.

It was into this rather hostile environment that Friend Wurmnickel presented a paper entitled “New Start”, a tightly argued and passionate thesis on RC Bröckedde’s future. In it Wurmnickel recommended new forms of meetings, a higher profile on all forms of social media, improved PR and much more action to address issues in the town and region.

Rather to Wurmnickel’s surprise, Treasurer Knödler greeted him enthusiastically at the next meeting. “What an excellent paper”, he declared, “we’ll have to consider your points very carefully. It’s complex, so we should form a policy committee which can really go back to basics”.

“And then?” asked Wurmnickel.

“Well, the committee would then produce an interim report, which I reckon would be ready by 2040” replied the wily old Treasurer.

At home a disappointed Wurmnickel complained to his wife that the Old Boys were about to bring his “New Start” to a bitter end. However, he was not about to give up quite so easily. In the following days, and requesting absolute confidentiality, he called all his fellow younger Rotarians with a view to forming a YBN - the Young Boys Network - in order to take the Old Boys on at their own game. As Wurmnickel had expected when putting the “in confidence” seal on the plot, the whole Club knew all about it within 24 hours. However, it did seem to have the Old Boys rattled and they felt they had to calm things down.

Club Secretary Sauerpfote invited Wurmnickel to his ninth grandchild’s christening and Treasurer Knödler asked him to join a rather exclusive golf tournament. As they approached the 10th green, Knödler remarked to his partner Wurmnickel, “You know, I think young and old should work together for the good of the Club, so I’m sure we can get that interim report on your paper finished much earlier; what about by 2035?”



# Lunch Menu

**13<sup>th</sup> September** - Traditional fish pie (salmon, cod and prawns in a creamy white wine sauce) served with green vegetables

**20<sup>th</sup> September** - Honey roasted gammon served on colcannon with braised cabbage, baby carrots & tender stem broccoli

**27<sup>th</sup> September** - Chunky beef lasagne served with garlic bread, topped with grated cheese and served with fresh salad

*Alternatives are available each week but must be notified in advance unless you have a 'standing order'.*

# Duty Rotarians

*If you are unable to be the Duty Rotarian for the week shown, please arrange your own swaps and notify the Hon Secretary and the Newsletter Editor.*

*As a reminder, when you receive your invitation-to-attend email, the information is repeated.*

**13<sup>th</sup> September** - Martin Whitworth & David Knights

**20<sup>th</sup> September** - Steve Flory & Ian Lord

**27<sup>th</sup> September** - Ross Lunney & Steph Mackentyre

**4<sup>th</sup> October** - George McLellan & Peter Moss

**11<sup>th</sup> October** - Mark Murphy & Bill Pipe

**18<sup>th</sup> October** - Toby Pound & Geoff Ramsdale



## The UK/US Twinning - on now!

Members with Facebook accounts will have seen the pictures of our travellers enjoying the great hospitality of our twin Rotary Club of Ipswich Mass.

I look forward to publishing a full report when they return.

Hint: please someone write it up!

