



LOOKS EAST

The Newsletter of The Rotary Club of Ipswich East
Edition 09-2023 : 9th May 2023

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

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

MAY
*Peter Moss
Tony Dodds
Tony Baker
Mark Murphy
Lucy Trenchard
David Knights
Bill Izzard
Catherine Forsdike*

Tuesday 9th May at 12.55pm Lunchtime Fellowship Meeting

Breaded cod fillet served with chunky chips and a drizzled pea puree

The club welcomed David Ellesmere, Leader of Ipswich Borough Council on 2nd May. He talked us through his 18 year career as councillor and then leader of Ipswich Borough Council. He was first elected councillor at 25 in 1995, became leader of the opposition in 2005, and finally leader of the council in 2011. He is about to step down as Council / Labour group leader having served for 18 years in that role.

David's opening observation as a council leader was that money (more specifically the lack of it) via underfunding, has been a constant challenge. His personal estimate was that Ipswich had been denied the equivalent of £10M annually in funding for many years. Whilst the council has worked managing its role within the cash constraints, it has also been able to launch a number of initiatives like, for example, the HEARS alarm and response project, and the long term provision of Priority Area Funding.

He was also pleased that Ipswich Borough Council have continued to build council houses, where others have ceased, and have been able to facilitate the creation of micro homes in Armitage Place, as a first start for rough sleepers.

The pandemic had generated many challenges for council finances when their income streams from parking and sports and facilities effectively dried up. This necessitated the generation of significant efficiencies and speedy redeployment of resources to cope with the new demands.

David was keen to point out that the council is actively assisting new business development in central Ipswich. For example, the recent openings of the *Botanical* bar/ restaurant and *Deichmann* shop on the Cornhill being two examples. The council also has made extensive capital investments designed to attract new business to Ipswich, including ownership / development in the Anglia Retail Park.

Several questions were posed by club members. David said he is unsupportive of the establishment of a Suffolk wide unitary authority.

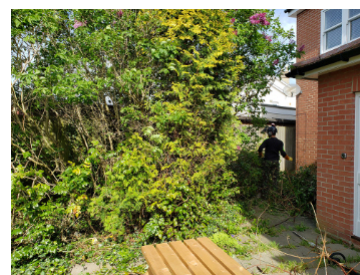
Eva Alcerreca gave a vote of thanks to David for his presentation, and he was presented with a lovely 50 anniversary mug!

Dave Atkins



The Lighthouse Gang!

A good day's work by all - a gargantuan effort by the looks of it. What did Matt do wrong? below)



This line gives an impression of the 'before'

Below left, you could eat off this patio!

Congratulations to this intrepid team for clearing the 'jungle' and cleaning up the sitting and playing areas.

Nice to see the Dodds family firm involved too!





GOLDEN WEDDING

***Happy Anniversary
to this glamorous couple who
celebrated their fifty married
years on
Friday 28th April!***

Karen is back in business...

We are excited to say that Ipswich East Rotarian and esteemed Audiologist, Karen Finch, has launched a brand-new business, All About Hearing.

She sold her previous company back in early 2020 and decided to take a step away from the profession to focus on family life and health matters.

All About Hearing is an independent hearing care company, providing patients with expertise and exceptional care for hearing assessments, hearing systems and ear wax removal. Together with her husband Melvyn Howe and old school friend Teresa Sadler both audiologists and specialist ear care practitioners, the team has over 60 years over professional experience, so patients can rest assured that they are in the very best hands.

Karen and her team run regular clinics from both Gilmour Piper on Fonnereau Road in Ipswich and the Two Rivers Medical Centre, near Ipswich Hospital.

Appointments can be booked online at www.allabouthearing.co.uk. Alternatively, you can call 01473 946444 or email Karen directly at karenfinch@allabouthearing.co.uk

Complimentary full hearing assessment for Rotarians by quoting ROTARY, saving £60. Offer expiry 30th April 2023.



Presidential Piercing



Sometime before his designated successor was due to takeover office, President Pröpke invited, Friend Bolkbrecher, to visit him at home for some private discussion on the finesse of Club leadership, etiquette and the many unwritten rules on how RC Bröckedde really functioned.

They sat in Pröpke's study and his guest was staring at the man-sized tailor's dummy, dressed in a jacket which stood beside the desk. "That's Theodore" said Pröpke said in answer to the questioning look, "and this brings us to the important point of whether you will become a great President in the Club's history. How are your fine motor skills?"

"I beg your pardon - my what?" came the perplexed reply.

"I mean do you play the piano or mend antique clocks in your spare time? Those are the types of fine motor skills indispensable to presenting a Rotary pin to new members, particularly our increasing number of ladies."

"Well, I'm more of a hands-on type" answered a rather uncomfortable Bolkbrecher, "as a student I used to moonlight on building sites and now my favourite form of relaxation is chopping logs in the garden."

"Hmmm..." sighed our President and picked up a Rotary pin as he advanced on Theodore. "We can have a little rehearsal. You need style and flourish, ceremony but absolute precision. There mustn't be any fumbling, just a fluent, accurate movement and our new member also has to survive" yet as he was delivering this lecture on Rotarian protocol, he was also giving a skilful masterclass on poetry in motion.

Bolkbrecher then picked up another pin and advanced determinedly on the dummy, rather like a bull to a matador. With an enormous hand he rammed the Rotary into the jacket's lapel, making Theodore rock backwards.

"A rather lighter touch, perhaps?" came Pröpke's gentle advice.

The second attempt still left the pin stuck firmly in the dummy and the third try actually broke the pin.

Truss-like, Bolkbrecher's era of President came to an end before it had really begun. He gracefully withdrew and the concerned membership pleaded with Pröpke to stay on as President for another year.

On returning to his study, our President gave his dummy a friendly slap on the shoulder and congratulated him on a job well done.

Bröckedde is located in the heart of Germany - where the Rhine and Danube flow into the beautiful Bröckeddesee. This is where RC Bröckedde meets in the Bröckedder Hof - every Wednesday at 1 pm in the Salon Hindenburg.

What's On

16th May
tba

Friday 19th May 7.30pm
Rotary in Ipswich Centenary Dinner
ITFC Suite

23rd May
tba

30th May (Fifth Tuesday)
A Night Out at the Fat Cat PH to
sample 'Orwell Challenge Beer'!

6th June
Club Assembly (I&S Club)

13th June
tba

Duty Rotarians

16th May
Jo Banthorpe & John Barbour

23rd May
Eric Barnett & Graham Bickers

30th May (fifth Tuesday)

6th June
Club Assembly
(Ipswich & Suffolk Club)

13th June
John Button & David Chittick

20th June
Des Cunningham & Ewan Dodds

*If you are unable to be the Duty Rotarian ,
please arrange your own swaps and notify
the Lucy Trenchard who runs WildApricot*

Lunch Menu

16th May
Breaded cod fillet served with chunky chips
and a drizzled pea puree

23rd May
Braised beef and vegetable cobbler
served on a creamy mash

30th May
*is a fifth Tuesday evening meeting
see "What's On"*

6th June
Honey roasted gammon served on
colcannon with braised cabbage, baby carrots
and tender-stem broccoli

13th June
Chunky beef lasagne served with garlic
bread, topped with grated cheese
served with fresh salad

20th June
Roast Turkey served with traditional
accompaniments and seasonal vegetables

27th June
Beyond-meat burger, cheese,
coleslaw and chunky chips

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