



The New Centurion

The newsletter of The Rotary Club of Aylesbury Hundreds

Issue 8

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Spring 2011

Programme

Forthcoming events

21st March 2011

7.45 pm

At the Waterside Theatre

Presentation by Elizabeth Adlington – Chief Executive, who will tell us all about the new theatre and what's in store. Includes full/partial tour of theatre. (Hot buffet)

11th April

7.30 pm

Ten-pin at Jardines

Club social evening – nothing too serious! (Meals available at venue as required)

Look out for the dates of other important events

Meetings at Foxhills

All meetings Mondays
7.15 for a 7.30 pm start

28th March

Acupuncturist

Dr Tania Duby will be joining us for a talk on this ancient form of medicine (Dinner)

4th April

Climate Change

Fun evening with a serious theme – run by Bob Thurlby (Buffet)

11th April

Annual General Meeting of the Club (Dinner)

Apologies to Jon Mullins

New members Welcome!

As President of the Rotary Club of Aylesbury Hundreds I welcome you to our first **“Find out about Rotary”** event. I hope that you will find the evening interesting and informative. Take your time to look at the displays and chat to our members. Rotary is rewarding and fun helping communities locally and throughout the world. This is the first “New Centurion” of 2011 and it promises to be an exciting year.

On the 28th February we inducted Jenny Bloom into Rotary. As an active local politician and entrepreneur I am certain that she will rapidly become an useful and inspiring Rotarian.

We have already tasted success when Daniela Iannelli who won our Young Chef of the Year Competition in November 2010 won the District 1260 Young Chef of the Year Competition.

Once again we have run an excellent “Technology Tournament” for our local schools at Aylesbury College on the 7th March. This was the 13th consecutive year that we have run this event. 108 pupils with their teachers



New member Jenny Bloom is inducted into the club by President Tony Divers



Members attending the Mayor's Charity Dinner

competed at varying levels. I thank everyone involved with running this event.

It would be easy to be depressed after the atrocious weather conditions played havoc with our major fund raising Santa Float and Tesco

Collections at the end of last year but we will find new fund raising events and we will show how resilient Rotarians can be!

I look forward to working with you all throughout the year and having fun!

Tony Divers
Club President

THIRTEEN - LUCKY FOR SOME

Our thirteenth Technology Tournament took place on Monday 7th March at Aylesbury College. Twenty-seven teams from local schools took part, together with a teachers' teams which we decided to reinstate this year.

The competition was due to start at 9.15, but, unfortunately, this was delayed because an accident on the A418 caused many of the teams to arrive late, the last team arriving at 9.45. This resulted in the 60 minute design only period being reduced from 60 to 45 minutes.

The task this year was to design and build a crane to pick up and remove a canister of hazardous chemicals which had been involved in a traffic accident using an assortment of materials from timber and a battery powered motor, to rubber bands, string and other household items. The crane had to be controlled remotely from a distance of 1 metre from the canister.

A variety of these materials were used to construct the crane and jibs, but some difficulties were encountered when trying to lift the heavy canister out of it's holder and lowering it back down to ground level, and because of these difficulties the teams were allowed an extra 15 minutes to improve the performance of their machines.

Because the task proved to be quite difficult some teams were unsuccessful in their efforts. However, this problem has occurred this year at a number of these competitions throughout our District, and investigations will be carried out to ensure that this situation does not arise in the future.

We have taken on board a comment made by one school that if the challenge is too difficult it could demotivate participants in future competitions, and that it would be better to have a slightly easier task with 30 successful teams than only one or two.

The winners were:

- Basic Task Level (Key Stage 3)
 - 1st The Grange School
 - 2nd Akeley Wood School
 - 3rd Akeley Wood School
- Intermediate Task Level (Key Stage 4)
 - 1st Akeley Wood School
 - 2nd The Mandeville School
 - 3rd Aylesbury High School
- Advanced Task Level (Key stage 5)
 - 1st Akeley Wood School
 - 2nd The Grange School
 - 3rd Aylesbury Grammar School
- Teachers
 - 1st Mrs S Sharp (Mandeville), Ms A Yewers (The Grange) & Mr Nick Stevens (Chiltern Way Fdtn)



Organiser Kim Dixon looks on with good humour as High School girls struggle with their project

Each member of the winning team received vouchers to the value of £25.00, those coming second £15.00 and those coming third £10.00. Each winning school received a cheque for £100.00, and the members of the winning teachers' team two bottles of wine. Certificates for each of the participants were issued after the event.

Prizes were presented by the Mayor of Buckingham, Mike Scott, and the Chairman of Aylesbury Vale District, Council Janet Blake. Also in attendance was the Mayor of Aylesbury, Graham Webster, who had asked to be one of the judges this year.

The cost of the Tournament, shared between the five organising Clubs, was roughly £1250.00. Our contribution is funded from our charity fund, raised mostly by our Christmas collections in and around town.

Brian Billingham



Quiz Mistress Frances King presents Maxine & Keith Robinson with the winners' bottle of Champagne following their success in the 'Lovers' Quiz' held at the club's Valentines Night dinner held at Barkers at the Green Man in Market Square, Aylesbury