

WHEEL & WOGGLE

The Newsletter of the RIBI branch of the
International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians

Winter 2008/09

David Astin,
Branch Chairman,
writes

My period as your Chairman comes to an end at the AGM and David Judge has agreed to take on the office for a period of one year only, subject to being elected at the AGM. Colin Jones has also agreed to act as Vice Chairman, no doubt we will be able to persuade him to continue as Chairman when David finishes.

I am concerned about the lack of publicity of the Fellowship but the Editor needs your contributions before he can prepare an edition of Wheel and Woggle, which should come out twice yearly. Has anything been happening Scouting wise in your District. Please let us know so that we can tell others. A photograph with headings or a few words are all that we ask.

continued on page 6

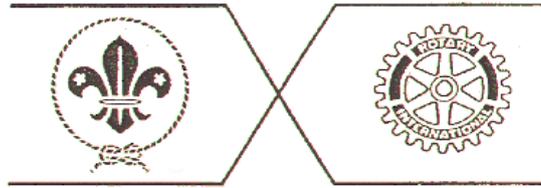


We'll be there on stands
748/750 . Will you?
Let us know, asap.

Inside this edition

- People in the news
- Your help needed for the RI Convention in Birmingham
- Subscription reminder
- Branch officers 2009/10
can you spare some time?
- Shelterbox appeal
- Jam Roll and Eccles update
- What's going on in your neck of the woods?

The International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting Scouting as an opportunity for fellowship and service. The Fellowship operates in accordance with the policy of Rotary International but is not an agency of, nor controlled by, Rotary International.



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People in the news



PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Mary Francis, wife of our Hon. Secretary Michael, was recently named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Colchester Trinity.

The photo shows her receiving the award from President John Bennett.

Mary has been in Scouting for nearly 50 years, with various roles, ranging from Cub Scout Leader, Adult Leader Trainer, District Commissioner and now Chairman of the local district campsite, Thorrington Training Ground . She has also served the local community as a Magistrate for over 25 years. Well done, Mary, for always doing your best!



Waving the flag at the February 2009 branch committee meeting
l-r Colin Jones, Michael Francis and David Judge

YOUR FELLOWSHIP NEEDS YOU!

at the 2009 RI Convention in Birmingham

If you are going to this event, can you spare some time to help us in the Hall of Friendship and / or to offer home hospitality in the few days before and after the event?

If so, before 4th May please contact any committee member
After 4th may please contact our Secretary, Michael Francis,
evenings / weekends on 01206 330286

Have you thought to ask whether committee members would be willing to join you to take a display stand at your own district conference? To get our message across, we need to be seen as at many conferences as is possible.

Have display, will travel. All we need is your invitation.

Whilst we have your attention
is your sub still outstanding for the current year?

Did you leave the reminder behind the clock waiting to find a few minutes to deal with this? The renewal sub is just £14.

Well, the moment is now. We have some ambitious plans for the next few years and we need to have you on board. Hon. Treasurer, Ken Scott, will be pleased to hear from you. Address on page 2

Chairman and vice-chairman 2009/10

At the RIBI Branch committee meeting on 22 February 2009, it was proposed that these roles be filled by David Judge MBE and Colin Jones, respectively.

To be formally proposed at the 2009 AGM on 16 June 2009

Other nominations are invited, particularly for the Executive Committee which usually meets four times a year

How can IFSR help Shelterbox?

Received by IFSR member Adrian Faiers
from David Glover, Liaison Officer UK,
ShelterBox Trust

Dear Rotarians

ShelterBox's Big Green Box Week

Monday 18th May to Monday 25th May 2009

ShelterBox's Big Green Box Week offers a great opportunity to raise awareness of the work that ShelterBox (a Global Rotary Club Project) does around the world. This year sees the launch of the partnership between ShelterBox International and The Scout Association worldwide.

Join the Scouts on Saturday 23rd by putting up a tent for ShelterBox and helping to raise funds for disaster relief. To find out about local events and fundraising initiatives contact the Fundraising Team on fundraising@shelterbox.org

Consider the most unusual place to erect a tent, we have a team erecting a tent on the Wolf Rock Lighthouse another under water on the Great Barrier Reef. This is a great opportunity for the whole of the UK to see Rotary working as one.

For more information contact

e: David Glover <<mailto:davidg@shelterbox.org>>
t: + 44 (0)1326 569 782
m: 07962 685 769
w: www.shelterbox.org



*Editor's note. Have you ever pitched a tent in an unusual place?
Tell us your story*

Update on Jam Roll at RI Convention

Since the last edition of Wheel & Wobble, David Judge has been working to have B-Ps 1929 Rolls Royce on display at the Birmingham 2009 House of Friendship.

Despite many challenges and a few setbacks, he is hopeful that Jam Roll will take part in the Convention opening parade, on Saturday morning 20th June, then be on display in the H o F. If we are to meet the terms of the Jam Roll Trustees, we will need shifts for each of the five days of 3-4 Scouting Rotarian volunteers to oversee (and protect) Jam Roll.

The Jam Roll Trustees are most grateful for the IFSR financial contribution to date towards this project, however, to achieve it, we need to raise at least another £500. If you are able to assist as a volunteer or with a donation, please contact David at david.a.judge@virgin.net

Chairman's remarks (contd.)

Are you going to the Convention in Birmingham in June? We are hoping to have Jam Roll (B-P's original Rolls Royce) there on one stand and another stand for IFSR, so we do need help. Any offers can be made to Michael Francis the Secretary or David Judge.

The location of Committee Meetings seems a draw back to some members, particularly those on the extremities with a 3-4 hour drive to and from a meeting. How about dividing the country up into areas with a coordinator in each, say Scotland, the North of England, the Midlands, the South West and the South East. The Executive Committee could then meet in turn in each area to discuss projects between Scouting and IFSR and other matters, thus publicizing the work of the Fellowship. Please write to me with your comments as it's always nice to hear from you.

David E. Astin

Back to Gilwell (Happy Land!)

The Hon. Secretary wishes to give advance notice that the 2009 AGM will be held on Tuesday 16 June at 2.00 p.m. in the White House at Gilwell Park, Bury Road, Chingford.

Please put this in your diary now and commit to attend. Formal notice will be issued later.

A tour of the Gilwell Estate and the Scout Association's archives has been arranged and attendance at the Chingford Rotary Club that evening is also available

We are not alone!

No, not another story about UFOs but we are not the only Rotarians who can support Scouting, other Fellowships can help too.

A recent example was the presentation to 4th Dovercourt Sea Scout Group of a 12ft Firefly dinghy called Butterfly. The dinghy was originally donated to the Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians and was designed by Uffa Fox, a well-known successful yacht designer. It was badly damaged but Rotarian John Negus, a former shipwright, repaired it and the great outcome was that it was offered to the local Sea Scout group.

From the January issue of D1240 newsletter, with acknowledgement and thanks.

What's going on in your neck of the woods?

Rotary President's 60th birthday party promotes Scouting

When current IFSR RIBI Branch Treasurer, Ken Scott, was thinking about celebrating the end of his term of office as President of the Rotary Club of St Albans Priory, which co-incided with his 60th birthday, Club members knew that one thing was for certain - it would have to involve local Scouts somewhere along the line.

Rather than just have a party, the evening was arranged as a fund-raiser for a new HQ for Tenth Harpenden Scouts and the entertainment was provided by the Harpenden Explorer Scout Unit, who produced a version of their very successful Music Hall evening.

In thanking everyone for their contribution for the evening, which raised about £1,000, Ken was able to announce that on that very day work had begun to demolish the current HQ as well as the neighbouring hut used by the HESU.

Just six months later, the new premises were erected with a footprint covering the site of both HQs, decorated, fitted out and ready for use - and what a palace we now have! At a cost of about £400,000, this must be one of the best equipped Scout buildings in the country, with state of the art under-floor heating, eco-friendly woodchip burning stove, commercial stainless steel kitchen fittings, storage space for all Units plus a huge store for the successful Harpenden Gang Show. There's room for the District-wide Explorer Unit, two troops, two cub packs two beaver colonies and even a Montessori play group!

The President's party made a very modest dent in the fund-raising requirement but was a massive boost to the standing of Scouting in our community.



The new premises just before hand-over by the builders



At the formal opening ceremony, District Commissioner, Richard Harrington, applauds the officials - one Explorer, one Scout, one Cub and one Beaver

What's going on in your neck of the woods?

Responding to an appeal for information about what DO our members get up to, Colin Jones of the Rotary Club of St Albans-Verulamium gives just four examples.

1.) Our Community Service Committee recently responded to a request for help by one of our local Cub Scout Leaders for help towards the restoration of the Archery range and equipment at the Phasels Wood Scout Camp site. £250 granted.

2.) One of our big fundraisers every year is the Royal Marine Band Concert held in the City Hall St Albans every January. This has been organised very successfully for many years by three Rotary Clubs working together and sharing the proceeds.

The St Albans Scout Gang Show, now in its 30th year, requested help towards the cost of building an additional and much needed props store to save them from having to burn approx £2000 worth of props after the February Shows each year. They borrowed the money to build this late last year, and using mainly volunteer labour (what else!) managed to get this built in time for Christmas 2008 and in use for the February Gang Shows. St Albans-Verulamium Rotary Club decided to nominate this as our major share of the proceeds of the Band Concert. Six Scouts, and one IFSR member in uniform helped with selling raffle tickets on the night. £2000

3.) Last I presented Ake Larsson of the Hoor Rotary Club in Skona, Southern Sweden, with life membership of IFSR when on our exchange visit. This exchange between the St Albans-Verulamium Club and Hoor is now in its 30th year. Ake was one of the original Founder members at the inception of IFSR, but contact had been subsequently lost. He had asked how to rejoin.

4.) Our major fund raiser of the year is the Rotary Charity Cycle Ride. Now a separate Charity, it is still organised by members of the three St Albans Clubs but with help on the day from a number of other clubs particularly with marshalling the 10, 20, 30, and 40 mile routes up towards Hitchin and back. We raise in excess of £40k for a day's work and a year's planning.

Harpenden Scouts provide hot snacks, sausage and bacon butties etc to the 1600 or so cyclists their supporters and our workers. They also supply tables and benches for the checkpoints, marquees for the musical entertainment and for the first aid team, plus overnight security ready for the organisers' 4 a.m. start!

Thank you Colin for this information. No doubt other members have similar stories, so contact me now and share the good news. Success breeds success and the stories need to be told! Editor

What's going on in your neck of the woods?

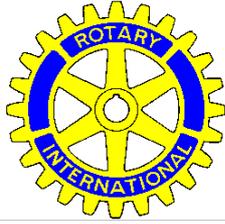


At the Essex International Scout and Guide Jamboree 2008

About 8,000 Scouts, Guides and Leaders descended on Kirby-le-Soken last August whilst the water activities programme was held at Brightlingsea.

The entire programme, including sailing boats, canoes and rescue boats was arranged by the Tsunami Explorer Scout Unit, associated with 17th Colchester Sea Scout Group led by Explorer Leader, Stephen Deighton.

In the picture, David Judge presents an IFSR pennant to Stephen and team



Jam Roll at Gilwell Reunion last September

Pictured with David Judge on the lawn in front of The White House

See details on page five

If you have good news to share, contact the editor at the address below

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