



# Cuttings



*The newsletter of the Rotary Club of Cheam  
January 2007*

## *From The Editor:*

Sorry to say after a promising start this copy of Cuttings, whilst headlined January is coming to you 5 days too late. *Mea Culpa!* I will not harp on about the problems of producing this sort of Newsletter; suffice it to say material and on-time are the most important issues. Those who are kind enough to respond to the pleas for materials please accept my grateful thanks, to the rest, and you know who you are – maybe next time! Rather than just include club reports I thought we might try something different (lack of material!). Our Christmas collections supported Barnado's and The Sutton and Croydon Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre, so we have an article about Thomas Barnado and a piece written by a friend Sally Melham, who has MS, about what the Centre means for her. February sees two important dates, St Valentine's Day and The Chinese (or Lunar) New Year, so be prepared to learn more about them both in this issue. I had planned to write something about the Chinese New Year myself, but am very grateful for a much better piece on it from Suzan (it seems that willingness to provide material is inversely proportional to the distance away from Cheam).

## *President's Notes:*



November was a very quiet month for our club. No raids, no fund-raising activities and no social interaction. Were we just demotivated or were we preparing for a busy December?

December started with Alan Lewis organising the mulled wine for Cheam Village Evening on 8 December, and Jean and Molly baking numerous mince pies. Many thanks are due to the three of them and also other members who helped. We made approx £270 profit and some good PR was achieved.

The Christmas collections at Tesco Park Farm started the same weekend, with collecting on the Friday and Saturday 8 and 9 December. We found that this venue definitely needs three persons on each shift because the in and out doors are so far apart. We had help from Helen and Kerith Rees, Michael and Pat Godliman, and little Lauren Rees collected more than the rest of us for her two hours. It must have been the pixie hat. We should not of course forget to mention Fred who as usual did sterling work both at Tescos and later in the month at Sainsburys. We collected just over £1500. I think it was a little early in December so perhaps Gordon could ask for a later weekend in 2007.

Fintan arranged a very successful Christmas dinner on 20 December at Cheam Sports Club and thanks to Tom Goodliffe we did not have to pay for the venue. Members enjoyed dancing to Dave

the Rave – thank you Howard for being his roadie.

The final Christmas collections were on 23 and 24 December at Sainsburys North Cheam, raising £1800. Therefore, with donations, our Christmas collection approached £4,000. This will be divided between Barnado's and the Sutton & Croydon Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre. Representatives from the two organisations came and talked to us and received cheques in January.

My thanks to all club members who did a sterling job collecting, particularly Jean for organising it whilst Gordon was unavailable. I wish you and your families a happy, prosperous and healthy new year.

## *Jul Whitlock*

### *International Activities:*



It looks as though we may have some monies left over in the Indian project budget so we are looking at the moment to see whether it can be stretched to provide some Audio-Visual equipment for the school library.

We now have £2500 in the kitty for the Botswana project to build and equip the Olerato Day Care Centre. The project is progressing quite well. Barclays Bank locally have bought the land and existing buildings, so renovation and equipping can go ahead secure in the knowledge that everything is legal. One of the big problems with any project like this is how will the Centre be staffed and who will be responsible for its on-going running. The Botswana Christian AIDS Intervention Programme has agreed to take on both of these tasks, much to the relief of the fund-raisers. Below are a couple of photographs, the first of the centre as it will look and the second of fun during a fund raiser locally.



We continue to purchase and fill Aqua Boxes, and to date Hatim has completed seven.

## *Ron Daniels*

### *Sports Report:*



A Club, if not District, record was set by Mike and Ron when they completed their first round Cribbage game on 15<sup>th</sup> January, only two and a half months after the deadline! Unfortunately their luck ran out, whilst they won the Charity game, they lost the real match 2-0. Wallington were the victors and will go straight through to the 3<sup>rd</sup> round. We wished them well and left them with the wish that their next game would be away to Odiham!

As to the rest who knows? Maybe Alan and Hatim are still in the Bridge?

*Steve Cunningham (pp)*

### *Jersey Jottings:*



Edward is taking a much needed rest until the weather improves, come the Spring I am sure the muse will be upon him again.

### *Pam and Edward.*

### *Member Services:*



### *Speakers:*

We continue to have a high standard of speakers. (Editor many thanks to Peter for fulfilling what is a thankless task admirably). Geoff tells me that the high light of the last two months and possibly the year was a very interesting talk we had about someone's holiday in New Zealand. So great was the interest we have been promised a follow up of greater length. We must be careful though that all the talk of sheep doesn't excite Gerry too much!

### *Membership:*

This is still a contentious and very important issue. The new Sutton Six brochure will help with our recruiting, but that alone will not increase our membership. If we do not bring in new blood then the Club will die. Some exciting targets are being talked about for the future and Peter is getting together a small working party to address this as a matter of extreme urgency.

### *Peter Thomas*

### *Community and Vocational*

Christmas collections supported Barnardo's and the Sutton and Croydon Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre to the tune of £2000 each (Barnardo's also got a significant donation from Mike's Marathon efforts), here is a little more about both of these:

### *Barnardo's*

**Barnardo's** was founded by Doctor Thomas John Barnardo in 1866 to care for vulnerable children and young people. Today, it spends over £100 million each year on a wide variety of projects aimed at helping the same groups.



**Barnardo's**  
GIVING CHILDREN  
BACK THEIR FUTURE



The charity was established when its founder Thomas Barnardo opened a school in the East End of London to care for and educate children of the area left orphaned and destitute by the recent cholera outbreak. In 1870 he founded an orphanage in Stepney Causeway with the same goals. By the time of his death in 1905, Barnardo's institutions cared for over 8,500 children in 96 locations. His work was carried on by his many supporters under the name *Dr Barnardo's Homes*.

Following societal changes in the mid 20th century, the charity changed its focus from the direct care of children to fostering and adoption, renaming itself *Dr Barnardo's*. Following the closure of its last traditional orphanage in 1989 it took the still simpler name of *Barnardo's*.

Today, the charity also works with disabled children, victims of sexual abuse, mental health problems, homeless children, and children and young people affected by HIV and AIDS.

### *Sutton and Croydon Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre*

Hello my name is Sally and 12 years ago I was told that I had multiple sclerosis. Such devastating news and I had a million questions in my head and no-one to answer them for me. Then I was told by a friend, who was told by a friend, about the Sutton and Croydon MS Therapy Centre. I thought well, let's give it a try. From the minute I walked through the door, I knew that this was the help I had been looking for. Everyone there has MS from mild to severe, but what a happy place. We are all there for the same reason to keep mobile as long as we can. We have marvellous management and physiotherapists who each give 7 days a week 52 weeks of the year. I go one day a week to the centre. We exercise each week for an hour on floor mats and wall bars. It is so very important to keep one's muscles stretched. After this there is half an hour's rest. I then go to another room and do table work, learning to balance without falling over and to throw a ball and catch it. These are such simple things for healthy people, but so hard for people with neurological problems. The Centre has given me back a life that I thought might be over. The encouragement shown to us all, the laughs, the telling of something that has been worrying one for the past week, the physiotherapists listen, massage and give advice on what to do to help. It is tanks to kind generous people like you that our centre is able to continue its work. From each and every one of us.....THANK YOU!!

### *Youth Opportunities*

This year will hopefully be quite busy with a number of events being planned so I would just like to remind everybody of the following dates to put into their diaries:

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Youth Speaks at 7.00 pm at the Children's Trust in Tadworth**

This entertaining evening was organised with a slightly different format this year. There were 2 separate events taking place

concurrently with 6 Intermediate teams and 5 Senior teams. The Intermediate competition was won by Wilsons Grammar School and the winner of the Senior competition was won by Wallington Grammar School for Boys. The ever improving standard of speakers this year performed well to an audience of Rotarians, Guests, Parents and Judges and the questions asked from the floor were skilfully and adeptly answered.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Surrey Schools Concert at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon**

This ever-increasing popular event will be held for the second year running at the Fairfield Halls, where last year we sold over 850 (out of a possible 1200) tickets. Last year our club flew the Rotary flag, together with 3 members of Croydon Whitgift by helping to man the Rotary stand, selling tombola tickets & programmes and assist in guiding the children back stage.

Groups of young musicians from local schools will be performing a variety of different acts ranging from choral to jazz to classical. If last year's concert was anything to go by this special evening is not to be missed.

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – RYLA week-end at Avon Tyrrell, New Forest**

This is a chance for young people to take part in a residential training week-end to test their interactive confidence building by taking part in various activities such as communication games and adventure activities such as archery, canoeing and rope challenges.

Cheam Rotary Club traditionally sponsors 2 teenagers for this ongoing annual event so If there is anybody out there who knows of a suitable candidate(s) please contact either myself or Mike Hurlay

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Kids Out at Chessington World of Adventures**

This wonderful day is organised by Rotary Clubs in the south east of England and is a chance to give numerous children who need special care a memorable day out. The excitement and pleasure these children get from this day is one they not only look forward to but get an immense amount of joy from and hope that we can once again help by taking them to Chessington World of Adventures.

I will again be representing the Sutton 6 (Cheam, Carshalton, Carshalton Beeches, Wallington, Sutton and Sutton Nonsuch) and the first area meeting will be during February where the initial planning will start.

I hope that I can count on your invaluable support for these events and will keep you all posted

*Julian Bridge*

*Some thoughts from the Orient*

LUNAR NEW YEAR – The year of the Golden Pig is coming!



Koreans celebrate the Lunar New Year (known elsewhere as Chinese New Year) – in fact it is one of the two most important holidays in the year alongside “Chuseok”, the harvest moon festival (which is a celebration which can be compared to the American’s Thanksgiving).

Most important to Koreans over the holiday is a visit to their family hometown and this results in jam packed roads,

railways and airports at this time, with flights selling out months in advance. Traditionally the holiday focussed on ancestral remembrance and worship, like Chuseok, however this tradition is rooted in Confucianism and is gradually fading. Many Koreans still pay visits to their older relatives at this time and often hold a gathering at the oldest male member of the family’s home. Special foods, such as rice dumplings, may be prepared and gifts of money to family members may be presented. Traditional game playing and kite flying is also popular.

Koreans also quote their ages, according to the Lunar New Year. Someone born in November, can suddenly become 1 year old in February, because of the change of the year.

In Korea New Year gifts given to other families and friends consist mainly of food and consumer items. The shops are now full of attractively packed gift sets, which can be anything from cleaning items like soap, shampoo and toothpaste to packs of oil, dried fruits, even meat and fish. All gifts therefore get used and fill a gap in the receivers’ lives.

Last year, when we were new in Seoul, in the days running up to one of the holidays, the door bell rang. I opened the door to a cargo delivery service. Having verified our name (just showed me the label on the package), before I could say “yes that’s us” I was left with a big cooler bag. And the Korean cargo deliverer politely said his greetings and closed the door. You can probably picture my amazement when I opened the bag to see layers of meat, yes, uncooked meat neatly packed with ice-packs in a cooler bag.

This year, the first day of the New Year falls on February 18, 2007 — and it is the year of the Pig. More interestingly Chinese and Korean fortune-tellers have designated this New Year as that of the “Golden Pig” which only comes around every 600 years. Most significantly this could result in a significant crowding of maternity hospitals (the birth rate is predicted to rise by as much as 10%) because it is deemed a great year to have a

baby, who should be blessed with good luck and fortune. Luckily last year was deemed a good year to get married in!

If you were born in 1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983 or 1995 - you were born under the sign of the pig. Like the pig, you are highly regarded for your chivalry and pureness of heart, and you often make friends for life. For pigs in 2007, any recent setbacks or obstacles can be overcome so look forward to a year in which to really shine, either personally or professionally.

Happy New Year!

*St Valentine's Day*

Saint Valentine's Day or Valentine's Day falls on February 14. It is the traditional day on which lovers express their love for each other; sending Valentine's cards, candy, or Donations to Charities, often anonymously. It is very common to present flowers on Valentine's Day. So Gents don't forget under pain of a horrible rest of the year!! The holiday is named after two men, both Christian martyrs named Valentine. The day became associated with romantic love in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished.

It was traditionally dedicated to two ancient martyrs named Valentine. They are listed in early martyrologies under the date of February 14, which is likely the date of their deaths. There is a third St. Valentine from Africa who was also martyred on February 14, but he did not get a saint's day. Very little historically accurate information exists on any of these Valentines. The Valentines honored on February 14 are:

- Valentine of Rome (*Valentinus presb. m. Romae*): a priest in Rome who suffered martyrdom about AD 269 and was buried on the Via Flaminia. His relics are at

the Church of Saint Praxed in Rome, and at Whitefriar Street Carmelite Church in Dublin, Ireland. According to a biography of Saint Valentine by Robert Sabuda, the priest was also a doctor who would treat patients even if they could not pay him. It is said his miracle was curing a difficult case of blindness in a young girl.

- Valentine of Terni (*Valentinus ep. Interamensis m. Romae*): He became bishop of Interamna (modern Terni) about AD 197 and is said to have been killed during the persecution of Emperor Aurelian. He is also buried on the Via Flaminia, but in a different location than Valentine of Rome. His relics are at the Basilica of Saint Valentine in Terni (*Basilica di San Valentino*).

*A politically correct Season's greetings*

Below is a politically correct seasonal greeting!

Dear Friend  
Please accept with no obligation, implied or implicit, my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low stress, non addictive, gender neutral celebration of the winter solstice holiday, practiced with the most enjoyable traditions of religious persuasion or secular practices of your choice with respect for the religious/secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions or celebrate this festival at all.

I also wish you a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year 2007, but not without due respect for the

calendars of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make our country great (not to imply that the UK is necessarily greater than any other country) and without regard to the race, creed, colour, age, physical ability, religious faith or sexual preference of the wisher.

By accepting this greeting, you are accepting these terms:

This greeting is subject to clarification or withdrawal. It is freely transferable with no alteration to the original greeting. It implies no promise by the wisher to actually implement any of the wishes for her/himself or others and is void where prohibited by law, and is revocable at the sole discretion of the wisher. This wish is warranted to perform as expected within the usual application of good tidings for a period of one year or until the issuance of a subsequent holiday greeting, whichever comes first, and warranty is limited to replacement of this wish or issuance of a new wish at the sole discretion of the wisher. \*

*Thanks due to Marcel for the above*

*Some useful things you can do with your mobile phone*

Your mobile phone can actually be a life saver or an emergency tool for survival. Check out the things that you can do with it:

**(1)\*The Emergency Number worldwide for \*\*Mobile\*\* is 112.\***

If you find yourself out of coverage area of your mobile network and there is an emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing network to establish the emergency number for you, and interestingly this number 112 can be

dialled even if the keypad is locked.

**2)Subject: \*Have you locked your keys in the car? Does you car have remote keys?\***

This may come in handy someday. Good reason to own a cell phone:

If you lock your keys in the car and the spare keys are at home, call someone at home on their cell phone from your cell phone.

Hold your cell phone about a foot from your car door and have the person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the mobile phone on their end. Your car will unlock. This saves someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can reach someone who has the other "remote" for your car, You can unlock the doors (or the trunk).

**(3)Subject: Hidden Battery power for Nokia**

Imagine your cell battery is very low, you are expecting an important call and you don't have a charger.

Nokia instruments come with a reserve battery, to activate, press the keys \*3370#. Your cell will restart with this reserve and the instrument will show a 50% increase in battery. This reserve will get charged when you charge your cell next time.

**(4)How to disable a STOLEN mobile phone?**

To check your Mobile phone's serial number, key in the following digits on your phone:

\* # 0 6 #

A 15 digit code will appear on the screen. This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe. When your phone gets stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset so even if the thief changes the SIM card, your phone will be totally

useless.

You probably won't get your phone back, but at least you know that whoever stole it can't use/sell it either. If everybody does this, there would be no point in people stealing mobile phones.

Please spread this useful information around. They all work, I have tried them, sad person that I am.

*Thanks to Susan for these*

*And now for some useful new words for 2007*

**BLAMESTORMING.**

Sitting around in a group, discussing why a deadline was missed or a project failed, and who was responsible.

**SEAGULL MANAGER**

A manager who flies in, makes a lot of noise, craps on everything, and then leaves.

**ASSMOSIS.**

The process by which people seem to absorb success and advancement by sucking up to the boss rather than working hard.

**SALMON DAY.**

The experience of spending an entire day swimming upstream only to get screwed and die.

**CUBE FARM.**

An office filled with cubicles.

**PRAIRIE DOGGING.**

When someone yells or drops something loudly in a cube farm, and people's heads pop up over the walls to see what's going on. (This also applies to applause for a promotion because there may be cake.)

**SITCOMs.**

Single Income, Two Children, Oppressive Mortgage. What yuppies turn into

when they have children and one of them stops working to stay home with the kids or start a "home business".

**SINBAD.**

Single working girls. Single income, no boyfriend and desperate.

**STRESS PUPPY.**

A person who seems to thrive on being stressed out and whiny.

**PERCUSSIVE MAINTENANCE.**

The fine art of whacking the crap out of an electronic device to get it to work again.

*Finally a thought for you all*

*Image of Hope*

*"I believe in these difficult and mean-spirited times in which we live there needs to be a message of hope. Just a single image that speaks to us of love, harmony, peace, and joy. An image that suggests the universal brotherhood of man. I have found that image and I ask that all of you take a moment to study and be inspired by it."*

