

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST

MEETING AT THE TOWN-HALL ROMSEY 14 NOVEMBER 2018

Thirty three members were present to hear an address from the District Governor Elect Allan Smith who was accompanied by Assistant District Governor Bob Dunster.

Speaking without notes but wearing his baseball cap, Allan gave us a quick rundown of his personal history telling us how he began his Rotary life with Rotaract on the island of Jersey. His passion has been International Service for which he received an MBE.

As part of preparation for his role as District Governor, he made a trip to the Rotary Convention at San Diego where he met the President of RI, Barry Rassin. He showed a clip from the speech of the President who set out the motto "Be the Inspiration" to build a better world where people would unite. This happily echoed Allan's own slogan "Inspire Success"

Allan then elaborated on his objectives for the year to encourage Clubs in the District to explore ways to contribute to the fight against Dementia and to promote Rotary Rides to raise awareness of Prostate Cancer. He also spoke on the topic of his own passion, International Service, on the need to raise funds using food related events, eg Tea parties, to support the final push to End Polio Now. He drew attention to the project Gift of Sight for which he is the lead and also a scheme to correct Clubfoot, a condition easily treated in the Western world but still a problem in Third World countries. Allan reiterated the benefits of processing funds via Rotary International where there can be a leverage of 5 to 1, using fund-matching.

The DGE is an enthusiast for publicising Club successes through the Press, Facebook/Twitter and our own Website citing the planting of 250,000 crocuses at Hilliers as a story which deserves maximum exposure.

He is keen to stress that District exists to help clubs in every possible way and told us of major changes that are under way there, including new Governor Awards recognising exceptional efforts.

Allan drew our attention to the District conference at Hayling Island and stressed the need for early commitment.

He finished with the slogan "BE THE INSPIRATION".

Stuart gave the vote of thanks.

Tony Abbott gave a reminder to members to book for the Christmas Dinner on 18 December 2018.

Advance notice was given of a Quiz night in aid of Prostate Cancer on 8 March 2019 organised by the "Other Club" and also their Marathon at Broadlands on 12 May 2019.

The DGE was first out of the hat for the wine Draw and promptly auctioned the bottle for £12 in aid of Rotary Charity Funds.

Sandy Dunn recently back from USA reported that Jim Purdie's first week of his holiday in Naples Florida was spoiled having caught a severe cough and chest infection from President Stuart during a splendid dinner party hosted by the aforementioned President just before Jim departed to Florida.

Bill Gidley sort of apologised for the lack of advance notice of the menu but since we never got what was originally proposed it was not really a problem,(that appeared to be what he said.)

Next Meeting: Cromwell Arms 8pm Social Evening

TMP 16/11/18