

Rotary Club Estoi Palace

Newsletter

Volume 12

April-June

2016

Service Above Self



Rotary



Estoi Palace International



District
1960
Portugal

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PRESIDENTIAL HANDOVER



Outgoing President, Robin

**Wilson, on What Gifts we have
given to our Community this Year**

communities, thank you Kent

The Club has continued its great work in the village of Estoi and the surrounding community. Pauline Burnham was recognized for her continued contributions towards the Rotary Foundation.

RCEPI has grown the partners it works with, including a microfinancing project in Sao Tome, a group of Algarve cyclists to help END POLIO, the people of Sao Bras where we held two concerts in aid of the LARS Centre in Estoi, ACCA to improve the lives of two young disabled Algarve girls and with the RC of Olhão and the Alliance Française the Club organized the 'White Diner in Faro to raise funds for the REFOOD project in Faro and the WOLF VALLEY team to aid the purchase of a van in the community of Boulisqueime.

The Club has further improved the lives of those children at the local school with a gift of dictionaries and especially for one student, RCEPI is funding their University education, she is studying hard and loving the opportunity to learn and progress her life, well done Beatriz, keep up the good work.

RCEPI, indeed been a gift to our community this year, all made possible with the outstanding help and support from all the members of RCEPI, congratulations to you all!



As I reflect on my year as President I appreciate what a special time this year has been for me in my life, being part of a worldwide organization whose guiding principle is to provide 'service above self' has indeed been a cool experience!

The Rotary motto for the year 2015/16 was 'be a gift to the world', or as I say 'how can RCEPI be a gift to its community?' The Club has focused mainly this year on; Fellowship, 'serving others before ourselves', working with others and improving the lives of others.

The highlight of our Fellowship year was the cruise around the Mediterranean onboard 'Allure of the Seas', a remarkable experience with over 40 Rotarians and friends. These experiences foster goodwill and understanding, bringing like-minded people together for the benefit of our

Rotary Club Estoi Palace International

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Incoming President for 2016-17 Rotary Year, Jim Ditheridge, explains his plans for the future



I am proud and honoured to be the President of the Rotary Club of Estoi Palace International 2016/17

I wish to thank Immediate Past President Robin for his stewardship of the Club over the last 12 months – another year of achievements for our Club – well done Robin

We all should recognise what a responsibility it is to ensure the Club continues to make a difference to people's lives. If we reflect on the achievements since the Club was formed in 2008 it is very clear that people's lives have improved thanks to Service above Self by our members.

The achievements are many and varied but none of this would have been possible if our group of like-minded people had not taken the opportunity to do something for someone else.

So we are continuing on our journey to come together to laugh, talk, share ideas but above all give service.

At our recent Club Assembly we discussed our ambitious goals for this next Rotary year but continuity is the by word.

We want to continue to have interesting and fun meetings: we will invite like-minded people who we believe will achieve more good Rotary work to join us; to develop our service in our communities; support the young and the disadvantaged; help Rotary International eradicate Polio worldwide and develop international relationships.

We will bring people together to help us raise funds for our projects. A golf day; a concert to celebrate the centenary of the Rotary Foundation showcasing music over 10 decades and a 'White Night' dinner to name but 3.



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RCEPI members are ready for another year of making a difference.

NEW MEMBER PINNED AT PRESIDENTIAL HANDOVER



Maria Jose Pires , with a degree in Clinical Psychology, is Vice President of the Algarve Oncology Association and we are delighted to welcome her into our Club as we are involved with other Algarve Clubs in the purchase of a new mobile breast screening unit. The AOA have the opportunity to purchase the unit for 25% of the normal cost and we are awaiting confirmation on how to proceed. Maria Jose will be joining the Community Service Committee and we are sure she will be a valuable addition to our Club. Our President Elect for 2017-18, Manuela Robinson, is her sponsor.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIP AWARD



RCEPI have worked with Odette Sousa since 2009 when we first became involved in delivering milk to the Casa do Povo to supplement the Faro Food Bank food parcels. We also work with Odette in arranging the Christmas Party at the Casa do Povo for the underprivileged in Estoi and we have helped deserving cases at her request. Odette works tirelessly for the Estoi Community and we were very happy to be able to show her how much she is appreciated with the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellowship Award. The Club will continue to work with the Casa do Povo and Odette.

CITATION OF SERVICE FOR FOUNDER MEMBER AND PAST PRESIDENT KENT RINGBORN



This citation is for individual Rotarians who have contributed to all 5 Avenues of Service and only one nomination can be made per Club in a Rotary year. Kent Ringborn was a founder member in 2008 and has since worked very hard for the Club serving on all Committees and leading the Club as President in 2010. Kent has been very active in encouraging Youth projects, working with the local community, particularly the Casa do Povo where over the years he has delivered in excess of 30000 litres of milk. In October last year he arranged a fantastic fellowship event taking 46 of us aboard the Allure of the Seas for a Mediterranean cruise. Kent had been a Captain for the cruise line Royal Caribbean. His commitment to Rotary and our Club has been outstanding and he embodies the Rotary motto of Service above Self.

RCEPI CONCERT AT LETHES THEATRE



The concert organised by Rotarian Agnete Sylvan in mid April was a great success. The São Lourenço Choir under the musical direction of Joyce Whitelaw, entertained a full house of over 230 people at Lethes Theatre in Faro to a selection of songs from Broadway musicals, through the decades, including West Side Story, My Fair Lady and many, many more songs.

Over 2800 euros was raised for the Algarve Oncology Association and other Rotarian charities.

RCEPI would like to thank all those who gave their time to this event and particularly the management of Lethes Theatre for their assistance and Fine Dining in Almancil for helping with the bar. A very entertaining evening was had by all.

CARITAS COLLECTION

In April 2016 Rotary Club Estoi Palace decided to help a local charity, Caritas, which operates out of São Bras de Alportel. Its mission is to help families in need and currently supports around 50 plus families in the area. Estoi Rotary Club has helped arrange 2 collections of food, clothing and other items that are urgently required by these families. The collections were well supported with a lot of people donating items to help support the work of Caritas.



All the products collected were taken to the Caritas Headquarters on the 28th of March and the 5th of May and handed over to its President Sr. Rodrigues.

NEW VAN FOR VALE SILVES COMMUNITY CENTRE BOLIQUEIME



The Social and Community Centre of Vale Silves, Boliqueime, provides support to the local community in various ways. Its principal objective is to help and support unemployed families but its scope is wide and far reaching. The team there provide information, occupational workshops, social and cultural events, transport, youth clubs, activities for the elderly, and much more. It relies heavily on donations to keep going.



The Centre desperately needed a new van to continue to transport and deliver food to families on a daily basis within the Loule area. The Council committed to funding 50% but needed help with the remaining 50%. The Wolf Valley Charity stepped in with an offer of assistance and they asked RCEPI if we would also like to contribute. We were very pleased to be able to make a donation of 1000 euros to this project.

The van was handed over at the end of April to a delighted Administration Team by the Wolf Valley Charity President Paulo Chaves and Treasurer

Graham Miller along with RCEPI President Elect Jim Ditheridge and Chair of the International Committee Shirley Dunne.

The Centre staff explained what a difference the van would make to them in the help they can give to the local community.



MICROFINANCING IN SÃO TOME

RC Sao Tome finally completed all the paperwork required to enable the first of the four ladies to received the benefit of the microfinancing project set up by RCEPI. The funds were handed over to to members of the female cooperative by our partner Club in Sao Tome to enable them to expand their market for buying, drying and selling fish, particularly to the local school.



The ladies aim to repay the loan in 3 months, when another 4 women in the cooperative will receive the 500 euros for another 3 months and so on until all 16 women have been helped. Sao Tome and Principe is one of the poorest countries in the world and RCEPI are very pleased to be able to make a difference for some the community there.

BOB DYLAN TRIBUTE CONCERT IN SAO BRAS

The concert was held at the Cineteatro in Sao Bras in May to raise funds for the Centro Comunitario de Estoi to assist with food distribution to those in need and to assist other Rotarian charities. The main act was supported by 3 young girls from the Jovens and Natureza Associacao in Sao Bras ably assisted on the guitar by Paul Carter and on the piano by their singing teacher Irene.



Isabella, Lara and Maisie treated us to their version of the Sound of Silence followed by an energetic solo from Isabella Robinson. This was followed by a group of musicians and singers performing for the first time in public Rattle "N" Strum led by Rotarian Uwe Jonsson. A diverse group of 13 members treated us to an eclectic mix of songs from different genres much enjoyed by the audience.



The main act of the evening performing the Bob Dylan Tribute were Boris Buggerov and Guillermo Martins. These very talented musicians entertained the audience with a mixture of Bob Dylan songs old and new performed to the highest standards.



RCEPI is very grateful to the Camara of Sao Bras for the use of the venue and all the help and support they gave us. Over 1300 euros was raised for the Centre and other Rotarian charities with 700 euros being



handed over to Dora Luis, the Director of the Centre on the 14th of June when she came to the Club and gave a presentation about the work the Centre. The Community Centre accommodates 29 elderly people and also operate a crèche for over 100 children. They supply and deliver food to the elderly in the community. Following the recession their income has decreased and their costs have increased hugely. Our Club will be looking at other ways to assist them.



REFOOD

In 2010 an American ex pat living in Lisbon, Hunter Halder, realised that he could help to stop the shocking amounts of food being thrown away and reutilise them. On Wednesday 9th March 2011 ReFood went into action with one volunteer on a bicycle visiting 30 restaurants and collecting enough food to feed 50 people in need for 5 days a week. Today there are 31 ReFood centres operating throughout the country where more than 4,500 volunteers are currently rescuing 46,000 meals a month from more than 900 food source partners and serving 2,500 people 5 to 6 days a week.

Our Club is proud to support this organisation which operates under the Portuguese Food Administration organisation ASAE which ensures that all the food reused and delivered has been passed as safe for human consumption.



The latest ReFood Centre is in Faro and opened in the middle of May. Rotarian Christine Fay has volunteered to help deliver meals to those in need and along with 150 other volunteers recently went on two training courses firstly to learn about the collection of the food and then secondly for the redistribution to the families benefitting from this initiative.

WHITE NIGHT/JANTAR AO BRANCO



Another very successful, White Night, Branco Ao Jantar, was organised by the Rotary Clubs of Estoi Palace International and Olhao together with the Alliance Francaise Algarve. 180 people attended the event held at the Faro Catering College. Everybody attending dresses in white and brings their own food and dresses their own table. Guests were entertained during the evening by the Sao Bras Folkloric Group, Fadista Raquel Peters, and Danças Salao by Escola Joao de Deus do Faro.



From the entry donation a fantastic 3800 euros was raised which will benefit ACAPO - Association for the Blind and Amblyopic in Portugal, which is a non-profit organisation and aims to support the rights of its users and partners to facilitate their integration into the community.



The second association benefiting is ReFood whose mission is to reduce human suffering from hunger by recovering food which would otherwise go to waste and to distribute this excess directly to the people who really need it.



Thank you to all who contributed to the success of this event particularly Christine Fay, Carmo Justo, the Catering College and Mestre Raposa.



DONATION TO REFOOD



From the funds raised by the White Night representative from Rotary Club Estoi, Rotary Club Olhao and Alliance Francaise handed over a cheque for 1856 euros to the newly opened ReFood Centre in Faro. The money will help to purchase refrigerators, food containers and cleaning products.



The donation to ACAPO, the Association for the Blind will be made in July..

FORTHCOMING GOLF DAY

One of the most anticipated events of the year's golf calendar, Rotary Club Estoi Palace International is again hosting a Golf Day on **28th August at Monte Rei Golf & Country Club**, the most prestigious golf facility in the Algarve and the only Jack Nicklaus Signature course in continental Europe. Proceeds will go to support Algarve based charity projects, including continued financial support for one underprivileged child's four year University course at the University of the Algarve, Re-food and LARS



The programme for the day includes:

Valet parking by club staff including transfer of clubs to your dedicated buggy

Access to practice facilities before the game

Continental buffet breakfast

Accompanied to your starting hole for a 9:30am shotgun start

Free on course water and soft drinks

18 holes Individual Stableford at Monte Rei Golf Club

BBQ lunch with complimentary wine and beer

Competition Prizes

Optional Raffle

LAST YEAR'S WINNERS



The cost is €145 per player. Golfers who are interested in registering to play the best course in the Algarve at a cost that is a significant discount to Monte Rei's usual green fee, please contact Rotary Club Estoi Palace International member Uwe Jonsson

uljaenm001@gmail.com – Mob: 918 503 189

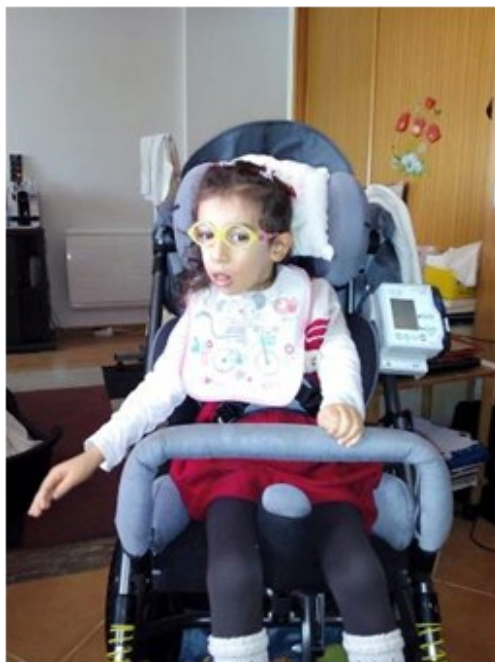
CHAIR FOR MARIANA

Mariana was born in October 2009. After an emergency Caesarean she was found to have severe motor difficulties and was diagnosed with cerebral palsy amongst other things. She was unable to breast feed and could not get enough nourishment from a bottle so she had to have a gastric tube to get nourishment.



Mariana's parents realised how difficult life would be for their daughter and her mother, Monica, gave up her job as a teacher of special needs children to focus on her own child. Her parents have fought every step of the way to get the treatment that they believe their child needs.

Mariana is now 7 and attends a therapy centre in Faro five times a week for motor, speech and occupational therapy. Her costs are supported by plastic bottle top donations and others willing to help Marianna and her parents. ACCA, a local children's charity, have purchased a special swallowing machine which stimulates the throat muscles to swallow - this is to enable Mariana to eat by mouth rather than be fed by tube. ACCA asked our Club if we would be willing to buy a special chair to assist her at home and we were delighted to be able to purchase this for her and improve her quality of life.



Upcoming Events July to September 2016

5th July	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Committee Meetings and Board Meeting
12th July	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker: Pedro PALMEIRIA “New forms of architecture, design in houses in the Algarve”
19th July	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker: Gillie STENVERS “aid to Greece via “Lighthouse Relief”
26th July	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker:- New Member talks by Uwe and Mina
2nd August	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Committee Meetings and Board Meeting
9th August	No Meeting
16th August	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Fellowship
23rd August	No Meeting
28th August	Charity Golf Day at Monte Rei Golf Club contact Uwe Jonsson uljaenm001@gmail.com – Mob: 918 503 189 for details
30th August	FELLOWSHIP [Scatter week, visits to other clubs]
2nd September	RCEPI Charter Day 2008
6h September	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Committee Meetings and Board Meeting
13th September	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker Phil Wyndham on Western Australia
20th September	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Club Forum
27th September	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker on Multiple Sclerosis
	As event scheduling can change at the last minute. Please always check with our MOC for up to date info.

For anyone wanting to know more about any of our events or to register for participation, please contact via e-mail the Secretary at SECRETARY@ROTARYESTOIPALACE.ORG

If you wish to attend one of our meetings please let our Master of Ceremonies know by sending an e-mail with your details to MOC@ROTARYESTOIPALACE.ORG