

Alresford Rotary



www.alresford-rotary.org rotaryalresford@gmail.com

July 2022

07753 998829 / 01962 735172

Maggot racing for Beginners!

Alresford Rotary was pleased to support the Platinum Jubilee Picnic in the Park on 4th June and thanks all who contributed to the organisation and success of the day particularly town councillors Keith Divall and Marilyn Weston.

Rotary's principal contribution was to introduce a new game to Arlebury Park – to join Football, Rugby, Tennis – Maggot racing!

Simple ideas are very often the ones that work best and that's how it was that many punters whiled away the afternoon racing maggots. The age range of the punters stretched over 80 years, truly making it an activity to be enjoyed by the whole family and as the maggots wriggled their way towards the finishing line loud shouts of encouragement could be heard across Arlebury Park and beyond!

The equipment was very easy to put together. A pint of maggots was purchased from a fishing tackle shop but could have been bought online from willyworms.com and the racetrack was made by partitioning a rectangular piece of hardboard into 5 tracks. For each race four or five maggots were positioned at one end of each track (no starting blocks were used) and the maggot that reached the other end first was the winner. Whether there is potential for a hurdles race at a future event remains to be seen! Field events are unlikely but the success of Alresford Rotary's initial foray into maggot racing (which generated about £100 for Rotary charities) does pose the problem that there is already significant clamour for it to be a staple ingredient of future Rotary fund raising events!

Wessex Rotary Shoebox Scheme

For anyone wishing to make an early start to preparing Christmas shoeboxes of gifts for disadvantaged and displaced children in Albania, Montenegro, Moldova and Romania the scheme leaflets are now available (wjrp@hotmail.co.uk 738788). Because in recent years it has become increasingly difficult to source boxes of the prescribed size empty boxes will now be provided and will be available shortly. Local schools who supported the scheme last year will be contacted but it is not just a scheme for schools. Everyone and all local organisations are encouraged to take part – please contact us!

Stratton Bates Playground

Work has started on the construction and installation of the new children's playground at the Stratton Bates recreation ground. As of mid-June the opening ceremony is scheduled to take place at 2.00 p.m. on Thursday 21st July. Alresford Rotary is pleased to have made a financial contribution to what promises to be a wonderful community facility, thanks principally to a generous legacy from former Grange Road residents Mike and Bridget Newitt.

And Finally...

The new Rotary year starts on 1st July bringing to an end Jonathan Read's two years as President of Alresford Rotary, twice the normal term.. Alresford Rotary thanks Jonathan for steering it through a time of Covid "choppy waters" and looks forward to the leadership of the

new helmsman, David Marshall! If you would like make a difference to your local community please let us know. **We'd love to hear from you!**

James Pinniger & Andrew Castillo