

# CHANNEL MERCURY

## Keeping you informed about Channel Rotary (Folkestone)

No. 8 Spring 2026



### Great Start to 2026

After the Christmas break the Channel programme was soon back into full swing. There was the normal mixture of planning meetings for fund raising and supporting the community.

The annual **late Yule feast** (cunningly named after late member Don Yule) was a light supper with proceeds going to charitable funds. Late members were remembered.

An evening was held at the **Folkestone Bowls** Centre with expert instruction followed by an excellent supper. Some participants demonstrated a previously hidden bias outside of their control.

An excellent speaker evening was held on the 25th February giving a fascinating insight into **Roman Folkestone** by local historian Terry Begent – the book is available in the summer.

### Wine and Wisdom

The annual W and W was held at the Harvey Grammar School. Thought to be the largest quiz in Kent (probably). 144 participants had an evening to brighten the darkest winter night. Almost £2500 was raised for local good causes



Just a few participants.....

### Mechelen Visit

Channel is linked to a Rotary Club in Mechelen Belgium. A group of 8 visited and enjoyed culture, fellowship and their regular meeting.

Our membership lead Courtney Collins gave a presentation (in English) which was received with great interest. In general our hosts' English is better than Channel's Flemish.



Waiting for lunch.....



A seasonal image?

Answer overleaf.

To find out more in depth articles visit: [Channel News](#)

# Channel in Full Swing

The first "Friends Evening" for Channel Rotary will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. The Sailbox on the Harbour Arm have kindly agreed to host the evening. This is an opportunity to socialize and find out more of Channel's activities. Details below:



Meet • Mingle • Chat

## FRIENDS of Channel Rotary Open Evening

Wednesday 22 April 6:30pm  
The Sailbox, Folkestone Harbour Arm

Join us for a relaxed social evening with drinks & nibbles as we celebrate over 45 years of community support with Channel Rotary Club.

Why not come along and:  
Meet new people  
Hear about local projects  
Get involved (if you wish to)  
Enjoy a friendly evening out

Sponsored by  
**SAILBOX**  
BARRESTER BARNES & BENTON

No pressure. No commitment. Just great company.  
Bring a friend — everyone welcome!

**For Information and booking**  
Geoff Milsted 07976 276633  
[www.channelrotary.co.uk](http://www.channelrotary.co.uk)

We look forward to seeing you there.

## GOLF COMPETITION

This very popular tournament and our major fundraiser takes place on 8<sup>th</sup> May. There are a few tee times left so please book soon.

All golfers welcome and help on the day would also be great. Information and Entry: [GOLF DAY](#)

**To volunteer please email:**  
[golf@channelrotary.org.uk](mailto:golf@channelrotary.org.uk)

**All funds raised by Channel Rotary support those suffering hardship in the local area and other local charities**

## Cycle Challenge

The annual Cycle Challenge across the Marsh is on Sunday July 8<sup>th</sup>. Distances of 30, 50 and 80 mile are available depending on the Challenge needed. Electric assisted bikes welcome.

A family event will also be held – more details to follow.

Information here : [Cycle Challenge](#)

**Social Events:** There are a number of meetings where friends would be particularly welcome in the next months.

On 13<sup>th</sup> May at the Clifton there is a talk on scams and cyber security – something that will affect us all.

There is a Darts evening on 27<sup>th</sup> May – come along and unleash your inner Luke Littler.

A further Speaker evening on 10<sup>th</sup> June will give us an update on the Leas Lift.

We look forward to seeing you next at the Friends evening at the Sailbox.

Check out our FB page for lots more information and photos: [Channel Rotary FB](#)

**If any Friend, or potential Friend or member wishes to attend a meeting, please email :**  
[Bill.Flavell@channelrotary.org.uk](mailto:Bill.Flavell@channelrotary.org.uk)

## Photo question from overleaf:

The Seasonal image:

A Rotary Spring, of course.

If any reader not a member of Friend of Channel wishes to find out more then simply drop us a line at [membership@channelrotary.org.uk](mailto:membership@channelrotary.org.uk) or connect with any existing full member. Don't forget to check out more about us at [Channel Rotary](#)

**Your feedback is important! Let us know what you think of this newsletter and what you'd like to see in future editions.**



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