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## **CROWD CHEERS ON ROTARY CLUB'S POOL EVENT**



## Swimmers take a dip to help fund smaller charities

CROWDS turned out to cheer on By MELISSA HILLS 46 swimmers in a charity

The Rotary Club of Basildon Concord staged the event, which saw teams battle it out for their chosen charities, including the Daisy Palmer Trust and the Karis May Darling Foundation. The swimathon took place at

the Basildon Sporting Village, off Cranes Farm Road.

The proceeds from the event are still being counted up. Danny Lovey, president of the club, said: "We had nine teams

turn out. It was our first ever

"We achieved what we set out to do, because we wanted smaller charities to come forward and use the event to raise funds.

"We are hoping to put on the event again next year, so it

will be bigger and better. It was a great event that was lots of

port the Daisy Palmer Trust. Daisy, seven, who is a pupil at Berry Primary School Langdon Hills, was in the crowd

to cheer on her family and Daisy has a lifethreatening condiion, which prevents her from eating. As a result, she is hooked

Six teams turned out to sup-

machine 18 hours a day. Daisy's older sister Megan, 13, who swims for Basildon Swimming Club, also

memory of Karis, Corringham, who died in April last year at the age of 12 after contracting streptococcus A bug.

had a great time."

■ Daisy Palmer with Rotary's Danny Lovey BA54542\_01

had a team with some of her

Daisy's dad, Damon, pictured

left, 40, of Burr Close, Langdon

Hills, also took part. He said:

"The whole day went well. We

were really well represented.

Daisy was in the gallery and she

"It was a great event and we

The Karis May Darling

Foundation was set up in the



■ Tag team – Bethany Richardson takes over from Lillie Houlton BA54542\_10 ■ County champion swimmer Brooke Frost, 11 BA54542\_15



## Youngsters are in top gear



■ Engine studies – Andy Fells from Ford talking to pupils from Ryedene School



■ Fun - Grace Jordon

BRIGHT sparks proved they were revved up about engineering when they designed their own vehicles for a com-

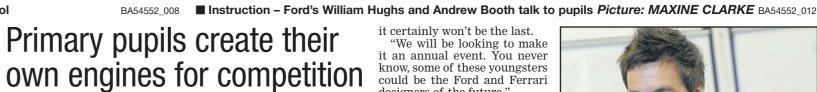
By EMMA PALMER

petition. Children from 25 primary schools across Basildon spent time working with engineers from Ford Dunton, to build their own imaginative cars

Pupils from eight shortlisted schools then showed off their creations at the "Primer Engineer" final evening held at James Hornsby High School, in Laindon.

trucks and emergency vehicles.

The event was organised by Best – Basildon Education



Services Trust – a charitable organisation set up to support schools in the borough.

Ford also helped organise the event, to get more five to 11 year olds to use and enhance their maths, science, physics and technology skills.

Patrick White, director of Best, said: "I wasn't just chuffed, I was absolutely amazed at the standard of entries designed by our young

"We had sports cars, fire trucks, ambulances, police cars - you name it - on show.

show car designers of today a thing or two about their jobs. "This was the first time we have held this competition together with Ford Dunton, but

You never know, some of these youngsters could be the Ford or Ferrari designers

of the future

it certainly won't be the last. "We will be looking to make

it an annual event. You never know, some of these youngsters could be the Ford and Ferrari lesigners of the future.

A team of budding engineers from Ryedene School in Vange triumphed with three awards, while Fairhouse, Ghyllgrove, Northlands. Phoenix and Greensted primary schools were among those who also wowed the judges with their engineering entries.

Patrick added: "We are really grateful to the large team of engineers from Ford Dunton who went into schools to spend time working with the children, and to the many parents who came along to the final evening to support the pupils."



■ Adviser - Andy Fells from Ford BA54552\_010



■ Animal emergency – Shannon Ward and Katie Taylor

BA54552 006 Party time - Jessica Lewis and her "Disco Limo"

BA54552 004



■ Testing - Eira Evangelista and Willow Hunter