


THE ROTARY CLUB OF LINCOLN. CHRISTMAS BULLETIN 2010 PRESIDENT PETER MANTON

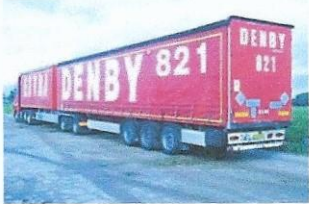
Fellow Rotarians, these are not normal times and last week was particularly difficult for all of us. Audrey and I had watched the funeral of one of our best friends on line on Wednesday morning. We had a telephone call only an hour later from our neighbour who told us her husband, who I have known for 60 years had just died. The following day I was told that Rotarian David Briggs has died which came as an enormous shock as David had been with us on zoom at our Monday meeting.

Those who knew him will remember David as a quiet friendly person with a wicked dry sense of humour. We knew that David has been unwell for some time and his loss is greatly felt by us all. We will all remember how caring Diane has been during David's illness and remember how she helped him present a memorable talk about his travels in Japan to the club on 22 July 2019 and a unique piece of history he learned when he lived in Norfolk in the 1970s and 80s recounted in a talk given on 17th February 2020. One of my special memories of David follows an offer from Dick Denby for members of the club to have a drive in his monster truck. David and I eagerly accepted and I recorded the result in the following extract from my Autumn 2017 newsletter. I guess we were kindred spirits.

KEEP ON TRUCKING



Members will be aware that the Denby team have been campaigning to the Government to make their ECO-LINK project, an 8 axle 60 tonne truck legal. They claim that it is better for the environment than the two vehicles it replaces. Dick kindly offered members of the Club to a test drive and David Briggs and I eagerly took the opportunity. The pictures show the truck and David Briggs at the wheel. Diane was in the passenger seat enjoying the experience. The Club wish Denby Transport every success. **Page 7**



LEN DREW and BILL LEE At the time of writing Len Drew is still in the Holbeach refuge following a spell in Lincoln Hospital. Hazel assures me that he is still waiting for some treatment, needing physiotherapy . If she can get home physiotherapy he can be home for Christmas. Bill is still in Lincoln Hospital and promised that his heart test will be carried out before Christmas and it is hoped that he will be returned home .We wish them both well.

The last time I spoke to him Patrick Forbes Ritte was about to go to hospital for some tests. Like all those in the Hospitality industry, Patrick is apprehensive about his future in the Assembly Rooms and we all wish him well on both counts.

If any member knows about other members who are ill, please let me know.

OUR CLUB AND AGE UK

As you may recall from the last two bulletins some of our members are now signed up and trained to help Age UK as Telephone Befrienders. I am sure we should all do well because if there is one thing Rotarians can do it is talk !

We are already supporters of Age UK making ourselves available to drive their members to various events at Park Street.

During Peter Hill's discussions with them Age UK asked for volunteers to help with packing gifts for retired Service men and women and he and Malcolm and Margaret Miller had a few hours doing that. Peter then took a trailer load of parcels to their Sleaford branch for distribution.

Peter has also been requested to join in their on-line meeting to discuss National Strategy initiatives. We look forward to hearing how that went.

TREE PLANTING

Andrew Arden is still waiting for a map showing a possible tree planting site, in what was Lincoln Brick's base at the bottom of the hill from Brant Road to Waddington village. The surrounding area has recently been developed as a housing site. I imagine the final piece of the ring road will go close by but so far I have not been able to get hold of a plan showing the route.



RUNNERS AGAIN

Yesterday an Indian Runner appeared at each East window of our lounge with a twig of sage in his beak. The birds are not as smart as I thought, unaware that sage is a major ingredient in stuffing.

ROTARACT

20 years ago the members of our Club saw the demise of our Rotaract Club, unable to prevent it's closing which was happening all over the country. I was fortunate that the Club was still active when I was President in 1994/5. When we held our Carol Festival in the Cathedral I was able to persuade the President of the Rotaract Club to read one of the lessons. Rotaract has experienced a slow recovery in recent years and we are hopeful that a new club can be formed in partnership with the local NCS provider. If we are successful the new Club will be attached to all four Lincoln Rotary Clubs , but the lead is in the hands of Maureen Gariff of Lincoln Colonia Rotary Club.

The incoming District Governor David Morris has called a zoom meeting on this in January and I have agreed to represent our Club.

CENTENARY PLANNING

We still have 6 months of 20/21 to enjoy before we start our Centenary year, but there is much to do during that time towards events in 21/22.

The completion of the frieze is an important part of that preparation . We have discussed the possibility of a dinner to celebrate the completion of the frieze and hopefully to raise money towards a Water Aid scheme for which we will apply for a Foundation Grant. I have decided that my President's Charity for both years will be Water Aid. While I am always a supporter of local communities we should still be interested in those less fortunate in so called "developing" countries. Access to clean water and safe sanitation is vital to peace and stability as well as health.

The incoming DG has suggested we hold an event in the Cathedral and I am waiting for rates and costs from the clerk. Likewise Paul Brewer is waiting for dates and costs for a Sekt and Seafood event which we share with FFN.

I will be contacting the other three President Elects to discuss the Centenary after Christmas, that is, Steve Bartle (Lindum), Alan Orient (Bailgate) and Roger Hall (Colonia).



The runners were going to sing "We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" but there is a problem.

Well done Paul Brewer for winning the Christmas Hamper. Paul and Sue came over on Sunday along the new by-pass to collect it. And many thanks to those who contributed to the funds raised.

At the time of writing, I have not heard from RAF Waddington and think the sleigh can be dismantled shortly. I am not sorry in a way, because the magic we were able to create before covid could not be achieved by just riding past the house however loud the music.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A MUCH BETTER NEW YEAR TO ALL FROM PRESIDENT PETER

STAY SAFE MY VOICE IS RUSTY