

FEBRUARY BULLETIN 2023
THE ROTARY CLUB OF LINCOLN
PRESIDENT BOB BELLAMY



When I spoke to the incoming District Governor David Kendrick at a DG Reunion recently I asked him if he thinks Polio will be eliminated soon. He is confident that the end is in sight.

The photograph on the left shows our plantation of crocuses at the Usher Gallery and our notice telling the observer “why purple?” The sculpture in the distance is “A mighty blow for Freedom-f...the Media”) by Michael Sandle purchased by The Heslam Trust, The National Collections fund and Lincolnshire County Council in 2007.

CLUB MEETING 06/02/2023

President Bob reported that he had suffered a serious domestic accident that morning following the hoist failure in his bathroom. Fortunately he was able to recover and give a light hearted report of the incident.

Our speaker was our recent new member who has joined us from Boston Rotary Club, Dennis Bambridge, giving us his “Me and My Job” talk. Dennis began by speaking about recent voluntary work in the St Barnabas Charity shop on Burton Road. He also told us that his sister is currently Mayor of Kings Lynn and he is a Consort, a job not without its perks, when he enjoyed drinks with the King one Saturday night, along with 199 others, he hastened to add.

Dennis then talked about his professional career as a solicitor starting as an articled clerk in late 1969 at £5 per week and after 5 years, college in Guildford and a degree in Law. There followed experience in many different aspects of law including two murder cases, the first in Norwich and the second in Spalding in 1969. Practicing in the Lincolnshire area he worked on many cases where food companies were involved and also specialised in Matrimonial Cases which required great patience.

In 1997 he became Senior Partner in the Roythorn office in Boston and bought the office in 2000.

John Cawdell gave the vote of thanks concluding that Dennis will make a great contribution to this Club.

DISABILITY GAMES. The arrangements are increasing at a pace and Simon had asked for team applications to be returned before the end of February so we have been busy getting the Lincoln team together. Having lost several members in recent years, with Joanne Brennan’s help we have been recruiting a few more contestants from Club 87.

A while ago we submitted our application for 13 members and 4 carers and have already asked for drivers to take some of them to and from the games. So far we have four volunteers and may have 11 people to collect. The four who have volunteered so far are Peter Hill, David McKee, Malcolm Miller and Nigel Harrison. I am sorry I can't add my name to the list because I will be driving the leader of Archery and collecting the Targets with my trailer.

CLUB MEETING 20/02/2023

President Bob had been in hospital for a few days since the last meeting and , although he was recovering at home, did not feel fit enough to attend the meeting and PE John agreed to run it.

Dick Denby was our speaker on this day, promising a talk about a friend who had flown bombers in WW2. To ensure a good audience Dick had invited family of the pilot and some distinguished friends including a retired Air Chief Marshall, The Police and Crime Commissioner, the Commandant of RAF Waddington and members of his own family.

Unfortunately as his family gathered at the Denby residence just before lunch Elisabeth had a fall and it was thought had broken her hip. An ambulance was called and Dick left his daughter Victoria and son Peter to support Elisabeth and he came to the event to greet his guests.

It was to Dick's credit that he was able to carry on with speaking after the meal and we were all relieved to see Peter join us to say his mother had been taken in the Ambulance to the Hospital and Victoria was with her.

Dick began by telling us his subject was John Hudson who had made a name for himself by escaping from the Germans after being shot down during a raid in 1943 and he and his crew managed to bail out. Sadly all the crew except John were captured and taken to a POW camp but John managed to contact members of the Resistance and they helped him to escape. The route of his escape was through part of Vichy France, over the Pyrenees and eventually to Gibraltar. This took a long time including time spent working on a farm, but he eventually made it to Gibraltar. It took 3 days for the authorities to accept him as he had no identity papers left. The final test was when the interviewer told him the good news that he had been accepted and told him his sister had just had a baby. This was his final test as he did not have a sister so he made the proper response and was sent home to England.

After the war John joined Albion Motors (originated in Bathgate East Lothian, Scotland and were bought out by Leyland Motors in 1951) began a career which eventually brought him to Bawtry and business with Denby Transport which led to a friendship with Dick .

Proposing the vote of thanks, Terry Coffey reminded us that he was President in 2003/4 and one of his duties was to induct Dick Denby as a new member. He congratulated Dick on his talk, informing us of the experiences of one RAF member during WW11.

We learned later that Elisabeth had an operation and I am sure I speak for the whole Club when I say we wish her well.

CLUB COUNCIL MEETING ON ZOOM, 27th FEBRUARY

President Elect John Cawdell reported that President Bob was still indisposed and his wife Julia (a retired nurse) is monitoring him.

The treasurers report recorded that we have sent a gift of £500 to The Nomad Trust through the YMCA following the Four Clubs decision not to collectively pay to support a room for another three years.

I was able to confirm that Bailgate will lead the Rotary team at the Lincolnshire Show in June and they were meeting the organisers that week.

Kids Out was discussed and Bill Lee will contact Bob Fletcher at Lindum and assist with the arrangements.

BENCHES AT ST MARY LE WIGFORD

Work has started on the site and I will be making arrangements to varnish the two Rotary benches while they are removed from their present location. I will call for volunteers shortly.

I apologise for being a few days late with this bulletin as other Rotary work has taken priority. If any member wishes to contribute to the next issue, please contact me.

PETER MANTON....BULLETIN EDITOR