

The Rotary Club of Lincoln

January 2025 Bulletin



Rotary Club Meeting 13th January 2025

Speaker: Councillor Alan Briggs, 819th Mayor of Lincoln



Being a local lad, Alan attended Robert Pattinson school and then went to Nautical College in Hull. He then joined the Merchant Navy and went to sea at age 16. By the time he was 21 he had been around the world 6 times! He recalled one voyage where they navigated from Sydney to Rotterdam with great precision, not seeing any land until their arrival in Holland

On another voyage his ship suffered a breakdown and a Royal Navy vessel which happened to be passing, towed them into a harbour in India where they were able to arrange repairs. Many years later he met an ex- Royal Navy man and was amazed to find that his new friend had been on board the Royal – Navy ship which towed them to safety.

On leaving the merchant Navy, Alan worked in the frozen food industry and became a National Sales Manager. It was at a dinner in Newark where he met George Osborne (Chancellor of the Exchequer from 2010 to 2016).

Alan felt the urge to serve the community himself and decided to try to get elected as a Councillor. His first attempt at Boutham, Lincoln failed. Eventually he was elected as a Councillor in Birchwood which he enjoyed for 7 or 8 years. Now he is a County Councillor as well. This year Alan will make his first visit to Neustadt where he has been asked to speak, and his subject is to be Democracy!

He also told the Club a recent Dedication Ceremony at the Bomber Command Memorial site, involving the unveiling of a memorial stone in memory of the Jewish Aircrew of the RAF and Bomber Command who perished during WW2 (at least 600 personnel



Giving the Vote of Thanks, President Dennis congratulated Alan on his presentation and said he was aware of the pressures of serving the Community as his sister is Mayoress of a town in Norfolk. He finished by saying that it would be good for the Club to visit the Mayor's Parlour while Alan is still in office.

Club Council Meeting Minutes, Online 18:00 20th January 2025

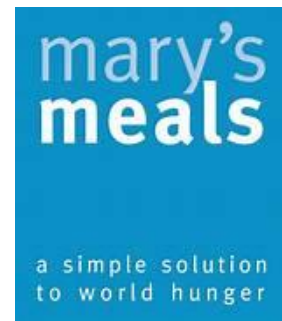
Present; DB,DM,JAC,BD,NC,LM,BB,MM,MC.

1. Apologies; Patrick Forbes-Ritte and Peter Hill. Peter Manton logged in after the meeting closed.
2. Minutes of last meeting; agreed,
3. Matters Arising; President's Lady's badge was found in President's chain box.
4. President's Report; Disability Games well advanced in planning. Malcolm Miller to assist with transport. A further £400 agreed to be donated to "Lincoln to Lebanon" charity.

5. Secretary's Report; Speakers for rest of year almost fully booked. President may give a presentation on his trip to Iran. DG visits on 24/02, Club Assembly on 9/06, AGM on 23/06. Reconvened Special Meeting on 10/02.
6. Joint Treasurers' Report;
 - a) Because items paid from General Account instead of Benevolent Account £5k transfer not possible. A lesser amount taking into account this will be made. Richard Long subscription is still with E Club.
 - b) Agreed single item per day limit of £500 will be increased to £1000.
 - c) Agreed Neustadt hospitality reserve be increased to £1000 and in future shown as ring fenced General Funds.
 - d) Lochan had had a request for a personal education contribution from someone in Nepal which she was uncomfortable with. Agreed person should write (email) request to Club (but noted that Club policy has been not to gift to individuals). Accounts for 23/24 will be available soon for approval.
 - e) 4 Club advert money still held £140;
 - f) 4 Club Chair should give instructions.
 - g) Martin will liaise with David Drury regarding ongoing website costs payable for the domain name and advise Treasurers on any outstanding costs.
7. Projects;
 - a) Santa Sleigh raised £1100.
 - b) President to let Treasurers know exactly who is to benefit with Account details.
 - c) Martin is investigating the potential of organising a Rotary Technology competition for local schools
 - d) Neustadt visit- no further news but President +1 , IPP +1, Lochan and Peter Mo all interested.
8. Membership Report; Another new member will be inducted on 10th February.
9. AOB; President congratulated on his choice of VP and his persuasive powers.
10. Next Meeting; 17/02/2025 1800 hours GMT.

Rotary Meeting 27th January

Speaker: Jane Wright, Mary's Meals



Jane began by explaining that Mary's Meals is not just a local charity, it functions in at least 16 countries around the world.

We were then shown a video which is part of their website, explaining that Mary's Meals is not just a local charity, it functions in at least 16 countries around the world, in low income areas. A low income area being one where 33% of children do not attend school whereas there are only 3% of non-attendees in high income areas. The vision of Mary's Meals is that every child deserves love, an education and a daily meal.

How did it all start? In 1996 two men walked into a pub in Scotland and the conversation got around the poverty experienced by many low-income families, and what could be done to help them. They decided to help local low income families by collecting spare clothing and were soon collecting and distributing it locally and eventually abroad. This led to a group called Scottish International Relief (SIR). It was run by Magnus Mac Farland-Barrow and his brother Fergus.

Fergus visited Malawi during the famine in 2002 and helped supply meals to 200 children in 2 primary schools. That led to Mary's Meals being developed. The name Mary refers to Mary, the mother of Jesus, who brought up her own child in poverty. From 2002 Mary's Meals became a global charity supporting schools, with 2.5 million daily meals in 16 countries. 80,000 volunteers are involved in this charity, their aim:- To eat and to learn.

Our speaker then told us how to get involved. A donation of £19-15 will feed a child every day for a school year. One method of support is to donate your spare foreign currency to their online shop. Some supporters support a school with £20,000.



Proposing a vote of thanks, Malcolm Miller congratulated Jane on presenting a real success story with simple objectives, leading to family and community benefit.



Mr Murderies' Players
28 Rectory Lane
Branston
Lincoln
LN4 1NA

01522 791699

Mr Peter Manton
Lincoln Rotary Club

31 December 2024

Dear Peter

On behalf of Mr Murderies' Players and the Salvation Army (Lincoln Corps) may I thank you and the Lincoln Rotary Club for supplying the sleigh for Santa's visit to Branston on 9-12 December 2024.

The event raised £1130.96 which will support the Salvation Army's Community Drop in which is a warm safe place where people can have breakfast and lunch free of charge as well as whole life support for the homeless and lonely.

Thank you so much for collecting and delivering the sleigh for us and helping to bring a great deal of fun and cheer to the community.

Could you please pass on my thanks to the Lincoln Rotary Club.

Finally could we please provisionally book the sleigh from 8 -11 December 2025.

Thank you so much for your support.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Graham King
Treasurer, Mr Murderies' Players.