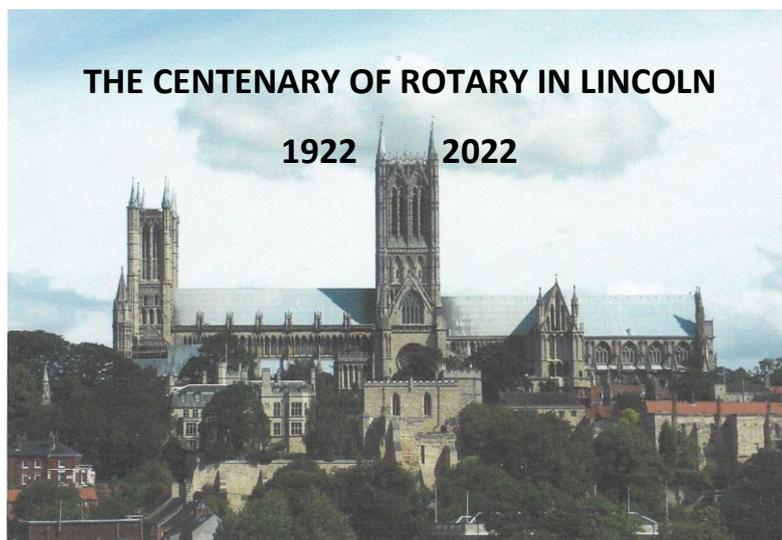


## THE ROTARY CLUB OF LINCOLN JANUARY 2022 BULLETIN



### ONLY A FEW WEEKS TO THE CENTENARY OF OUR FIRST MEETING

I think this is the time when we should look forward to renewing our connection with the community and particularly with the younger generation. We are grateful to Alfred and Jackie for all the work they did at the Lesley Manser School with the Rota Kids and for the Peace Pole which was supplied

by PDG Len Taylor. We have promised some help with some planting around the Peace Pole and hope to help the school to set up the next group of Rota Kids. Alfred has retired from the project and Jackie is hampered with Isolating so can not visit the school until that is resolved. We need another helper and I will be asking the Club for a volunteer. We were also looking forward to meeting staff and pupils from Westgate School who had the intention to be involved with the Frieze celebration. Sadly Covid cancelled that. Jackie wondered if they could be the recipients of a Peace Pole in the future.

**10 JANUARY THE MAYOR'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE.** Councillor Jackie Kirk, Mayor of Lincoln, joined us for lunch on 10<sup>th</sup> January continuing a tradition which has been with us for many years. Jackie's message was very much in tune with Rotary aspirations, the health of the community and the environment both emphasised. In my response, while thanking her, I was pleased to tell the Mayor that two farmers are members of our club and we are hoping to join them in some rewilding and planting schemes.

**ROTARY DAY OF SERVICE :-**If you have kept up with my many messages over the last few months you will be aware that we started with a Rotary Day of Service to be on 8<sup>th</sup> May on the site of St Paul in the Bail. When Peter Hill's efforts with the Health Awareness Fair began to grow into a much bigger event than previously I suggested that we would weave the Rotary Day of Service into that. We were in the process of getting organised to hold the Day of Service there when the event had to be cancelled because of the effect Covid was having on the participants who could not guarantee to have the staff to plan or take part in it. Imagine my disappointment, Peter Hill had put a huge amount of work into it.

We were then faced with returning to our previous plan to hold an exhibition at St Paul in the Bail. I have to say I then had doubts about a simple exhibition. We had put information boards and pull ups at the Showground Food and Gift Fair, the Christmas Market in the Assembly Rooms and at the Christmas Concert in the Cathedral. I never saw anyone actually look at the exhibits and when I drew people into conversation about Rotary they did not stay long! I talked to my fellow Presidents suggesting that we might make the Lincolnshire

Show our Rotary Day of Service. The four clubs have been involved together over several years. I suggested that if we could think of some additional service at the show to make our presence more significant that might be a good way of celebrating the Centenary of Rotary in Lincoln at the very end of the Centenary Year.

To that end I am meeting the organisers of the show next week with one or two fellow Presidents to see if there are more tasks we could take on and if a location with better footfall could be provided. My next task would be to get District 1070 to agree to the change and release the £3000 they had allowed. Wish me luck.

## **24<sup>th</sup> JANUARY MEETING, JOHN CAWDELL'S 51st TALK- THE VICTORIA CROSS, RECIPIENTS IN LINCOLNSHIRE**

John delivered yet another fascinating talk about a subject which interested us all, recipients of the Victoria Cross in Lincolnshire. The recipients were not all natives of Lincolnshire but some names familiar to all of us, such as Guy Gibson (Dam Busters) and Lesley Manser who flew from Skellingthorpe airfield and where the school is named after him. It was interesting to be told that there are remains of a German Bomber Crew buried at Scampton. John also mentioned a recipient from Grantham called Charles Sharpe and I will research him when I have time, as one of the first jobs I did after Qualifying , was to design a new seed shop in Grantham Market Place for Charles Sharpe, I wonder if Charles Sharpe VC was a member of the famous Seed Merchants who had their headquarters at Sleaford.?

**SUSTAINING MEMBERS:-** The District Foundation Chair, Hugh Holden has sent us nine "Sustaining Member" badges and I had the pleasure of handing one out on 24<sup>th</sup> Jan. The secretary has those which belong to the absentees and we will see that the recipients receive theirs in due course. Sadly, one is for the late John Hunt and we will see that Elsie receives it in due course.

**RESIGNATION.** I am sorry to have to tell you that Past District Governor Richard Long has resigned from Rotary due to becoming more disabled following a recent fall. Richard has distinguished himself by producing a great Centenary memoir and I am sure that we may be able to persuade him to be a Friend of Rotary in the future. We are pleased that he has decided to continue supporting Rotary Foundation as a Sustaining Member.

**PRESIDENT PETER**