

The Rotary Club of Lincoln

March 2025 Bulletin



PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR (PDG) REUNION, 1ST MARCH

PDGs Peter and Audrey attended the meeting at Greetham Valley which was to celebrate our next DG who has recently attended the 2025 International Assembly. Sadly, we were told on arrival, that Moira was unable to attend as she was unwell. She had passed her notes on to Steve Howe, and he would address us after the lunch.

The top priority of the Assembly was again **membership**. Peter recalled the 2009 assembly for his year as DG where the motto was "*The future of Rotary is in your hands!*"

Innovation for change had been discussed, particularly collaboration with business organisations. Working together with other organisations is one way of increasing membership, the Polio campaign being a good example.

Unite for good- strengthen Rotary in your district and support those clubs who have problems! We look forward to hearing more from Moira when she has recovered.

KIDS OUT 2025

Kids Out Day this year is 11th June. A **date for your diary** for those who feel able and willing to help.

The object of the Kids Out Charity is to provide disadvantaged and vulnerable children with a positive and happy experience. Rotary has supported the charity over the years.

National Rotary Kids Out Day is the biggest single outing for disadvantaged children in the UK. Last year over 20,000 children took part in 73 venues. Along with Lindum Lincoln, we took 100 children, carers and teachers to enjoy a fun day out at Sundown Adventure Land, to be repeated this year.

We are reminded by the teachers that the children so looked forward to the day. Indeed, it was described as one of the highlights of the school year.

It is a positive and happy experience for all concerned children, teachers, carers and accompanying Rotarians.

Malcolm



TRIBUTE TO RICHARD LONG

Richard passed away peacefully, at home, on Monday 17th March, aged 87. Beloved husband of Jo, father to Martyn and Kevin, father-in-law to Barbara.



Occupation : Consultancy, Science Education

Key Moments in Rotary Career:

- Richard Joined the Club in 1993 and was club secretary 1995-1997
- Visited St Malo Rotary Club 1995
- Richard became District Magazine editor in 1995 and continued until 2002.
- Went on Neustadt the Rotary Club visit in 2000
- Richard was President of the Lincoln club 2001-2. Attended Rotary International Conference in Barcelona 20TH to 26TH June that year and was very taken with a presentation by Kenneth Behring, an American businessman, who started the Wheelchair Foundation .
- Richard became Assistant Governor 2002-3, DG Elect in 2003-4 and District Governor of District 1270 for the year 2004-5. The Southport Conference took place from 24th September 2004 and there was a good turn-out from our Club.
- Richard researched the history of our Rotary Club as we prepared to celebrate our Centenary in 2022. He also gave a talk to the club on his findings on 21/06/21.

Richard and Jo had a time- share house in Madeira and met Rotarians from all around the world. A couple from Ilkley Rotary Club met them many times and told us how they enjoyed their friendship. Richard helped them start a satellite club in Ilkley.

He will be sadly missed by the members of the club



“UMBRELLAS” A TALK BY BECKY WYATT AND JODI WEAVER ON 24th MARCH.



Jody and Becky both had children with additional needs 10 years ago and they were friendly with other families with similar problems. Their immediate needs, outside the home, were a safe environment where they could all meet.

They started a group which they called “Umbrellas” and after several years of fundraising they found some premises between Hykeham and Lincoln where groups could meet and enjoy painting, craftwork, computer work, games room and a sitting room. The team of helpers includes 5 husbands.

Their big dream now is to get access to some secure outdoor space.

The President then presented them with a cheque to support their charity.

Giving the Vote of thanks, Martin said he knew about the challenges carers can face as he has a member of his family suffering from autism. He thanked them for speaking about their charity and expressed admiration for what they have achieved.



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Umbrellas - Lincoln

PRESIDENT DENNIS BAMBRIDGE- “VISIT TO IRAN” AFTER ROTARY LUNCH ON MARCH 10TH.

Dennis explained that his visit to Iran was 6 years ago. He has given talks about it at Boston and Sleaford Rotary Clubs in the past. He used his slide collection to remind himself of the tour and began with a short summary of Iran's history.

The Persian Empire was a huge area between Egypt and India, founded by Cyrus the Great in 550 BC and taken over in 335BC by Alexander the Great. The Persian empire continued until modern times when the last Shar of Persia was overthrown by the Ayatollah in 1979. By that time the country was occupied 90% by Muslims, divided into Sunni and Shia.

The complexity of its history has led to a heritage of historic buildings and Dennis's tour took him to many of these. Sadly, there was not time to view all of the slides but those we did see were memorable.

There are rules for dress in most areas, particularly for women. There are four styles, the Hijab, the Chador, the Niqab and the Burka. The Hijab is a headscarf which hides the hair, ears and neck. Only the oval shape of the face is visible. The Chador has a full cloak which covers the body and the hair, this is most common in Iran and Afghanistan. The Niqab is a veil which covers a person including the mouth and nose. The Burka is a full veil, covers the head and body with a grill over the eyes. Dennis said that their tour guide, a lady in her 30s, wore a Hijab.



Figure 1 Nagsh-e Jahan Square

The itinerary for the tour was a flight to Istanbul followed by a flight to Shiraz. The tour then continued by coach to Tehran taking in Persepolis and Isfahan on the way. The first Historical monuments visited were around the huge Nagsh-e Jahan Square at Isfahan and included the Sheikh Lotfollah Mosque, the Shah Imam Mosque and the Aali Qapu Palace.

The celebration at the end of Ramadan was special because the families attending the event were so friendly and Dennis spent some time talking to them and shared their picnics.

John Herrick, giving the vote of thanks, said we had enjoyed a colourful talk which showed the human side of Iran as well as the great buildings.



Figure 2 Shah Imam Mosque