

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF LINCOLN- MAY BULLETIN 2023

## PRESIDENT BOB BELLAMY

Mr Peter Manton  
The Rotary Club of Lincoln



22 May 2023

Dear Mr Manton,

I am writing to thank you for the Rotary Club's recent support with Age UK Lincoln & South Lincolnshire's Coronation Party on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023. This included volunteer drivers providing transport for our Lunch Club Members on the day, which I believe you kindly arranged for us.

I am delighted to inform you that the event went really well, was thoroughly enjoyed by all and raised over £300.00 for Age UK Lincoln & South Lincolnshire. As a local independent charity, such funds are invaluable to us and will contribute to our continuing work to support lonely and isolated older people in our local community.

Many thanks again for your support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Jolly".

Michele Jolly  
Chief Executive

The above letter refers to the driving carried out by 6 members of our Club to take 2 passengers each to the Coronation Lunch Club Party at the Park Street premises of AgeUK, and take them home afterwards. Three of us were helped by our wives, all members of Lincoln Inner Wheel. The letter refers to "lonely and isolated older people". Peter Hill and I have been telephone responders to some of these older people since March 2021 for AgeUK and I have to tell you how satisfying it is and how much the members appreciate it.

With regard to Inner Wheel, I have to tell you that the day before, 4<sup>th</sup> May, six members of our Club went to the Inner Wheel Charter at Hemswell Court, President Bob as official guest, accompanied by his wife Julia. A good time was had by all.

### 15<sup>th</sup> MAY AGM

The annual general meeting was more complete than both the former AGMs which were affected by Covid and our difficulty in appointing Principal Officers. We are greatly indebted to Bob Bellamy who agreed to move forward from VP-Elect to President Elect when both the appointed President Elect and Vice President had to resign for personal reasons. As Bob's Presidential year developed the appointment of John Cawdell as President Elect and joining member Dennis Bambridge as Vice President completed the picture.

In his report, President Bob was pleased that we have appointed two new members during the year. He has enjoyed a good relationship with the other three clubs and is sure that will continue in the future.

He was pleased that the Projects Committee report recorded quite a lot of projects and events in spite of the situation.

### **BENCHWORK.**

It may be recalled that I had recently requested help to re-varnish two wooden benches which Rotary has donated to St Mary-le Wigford Church. The larger one was presented in 1974 and is engraved "Presented by The Rotary Club of Lincoln 1974". The smaller one was presented by Nellie Proud, the widow of a Lincoln Rotarian Sid Proud, and is dated 7/4/1990. Although these benches belong to the church, members of the Rotary Club of Lincoln have repaired and re-varnished the seats many times. The larger seat was broken in two one night by some of Lincoln's finest and in ordinary circumstances would have been scrapped. With the help of Steve Pope's workshop and my welder, we rebuilt it with a 5<sup>th</sup> leg and brackets holding the broken arms back in position. It has survived several years since then and both seats have been enjoyed by the public.

The Church and the City have arranged for the West end of the site, where the benches are situated, to be re-arranged with new stone walls and some grassed areas. The seats were due for a re-varnishing so we retrieved them and Dennis Bambridge and I revarnished the large one, and David McKee and I the smaller one. Hopefully, when the work on site is complete there will be a celebration and we hope Rotary's benches will be publicised.

### **17<sup>th</sup> MAY, THE FUNERAL OF NORAH MORRISON.**

There was a large turnout for Norah's funeral which was held in All Saints Church, Branston and ably led by Nigel Dicken. Norah's long life of service was celebrated in the Eulogy. Her first occupation was as a Midwife. (I remembered her telling one of our members that she delivered him!). Her long service to the Inner Wheel Club of Lincoln was mentioned and we all remember Norah and Peter behind the counter in The Whisky Shop for several years. Several members of the Rotary Club were present, and we all enjoyed the later gathering at Washingborough Hall where we were able to meet the Morrison family and share our memories of Norah.

### **20<sup>th</sup> MAY DISTRICT ASSEMBLY**

Thanks go to David McKee who volunteered to drive our team to Loughborough University to attend the District 1070 Assembly. Malcolm Miller, Lochan Manandher and myself were the passengers.

After the usual coffee and bacon roll welcome, we assembled in the hall of the Stewart Mason Building.

After a call to order by Sergeant at Arms Tim Tucker, DG Steve Howe opened the proceedings and introduced DGE David Kendrick, who began by congratulating the new Club Peterborough International for having 86% of their members present at the meeting!

David then spoke of next year's key words "Create Hope in the World" He encouraged us to face the challenge of falling membership and particularly the poor retention of joining members.

He addressed Rotary's Core Values which are not always maintained, reminding us of the Four Way Test. Promote and advertise what we do! Promote Rotary! Engage Satellite Clubs, Friends of Rotary, Rotaract and Interact.

David reminded us to support Rotary Foundation which is recognised as a 4 star rating as a Charity! It is our bedrock! Support the Polio Campaign, Peace Scholarships and Water Aid.

He reminded us that the Environment is a big issue with many young persons and they are more likely to join a Rotaract or Rotary Club which actively addresses these problems. Encourage your Environment Officer to engage with them.

David then went on to remind us that 2023/24 is the Centenary Year of Rotary District 1070 and lots of events are being planned. A Centenary Pin-Badge is available. The Conference in Scarborough on 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 will be special- do not miss it. He informed us there may not be conferences in the future. We can create lasting change together.

There followed an overview by PDG Ken Billington who reminded us that our Compliance Document has to be signed by 1<sup>st</sup> July or our Club will not be insured. A Compliance Officer is vital.

Kate Haythornthwaite then reminded us of Rotary's responsibility – the protection of children. Planning an event where safeguarding issues are identified and prevented. She emphasised that events with schools have greater requirement.

## **BREAK-OUT SESSIONS**

David McKee went to Secretaries, Lochan Manandher stayed in the hall to enjoy the President Elect and New Members talk on Foundation followed by a New Members event in a break-out session. Malcolm Miller went to Foundation and I enjoyed Public Image.

The first part of my session caught me by surprise – it being a very technical explanation of proposed changes to the relationship between RGBI and RI on-line systems. I am aware that people requiring information about almost anything these days will swich their iPhone, laptop or computer on to the website of the subject they are interested in. We should examine our Club Website with this in mind. Does it give the viewer a clear picture of what we do? Would it encourage anyone to make further enquiries and encourage them to join Rotary?

The second part of the session was centred around the District Magazine. It is a valuable record of what Rotary does as long as we communicate with the Magazine team. **PAGE 3**

Extending the readership of the magazine is important. Copies should be presented to libraries, press offices, waiting rooms of surgeries etc and anywhere people have to wait.

We returned to the main hall for the summing up session and the proposals for improvements to the Data Management System were recommended to us again. I will not attempt to explain the complexities of the proposals but I believe Clubs all need a Compliance Officer to make sure we are insured and Health and Safety plans are all in order. We need a computer expert to deal with our Data Management Systems.

### **CLUB COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY**

Various decisions were made as follows:- The treasurer will talk to Projects chairman with regard to re starting the “Windle” raffle, Patrick will visit Assembly Rooms to establish what items belonging to the Club are still in storage, Volunteers for Kids Out and the Lincolnshire Show event were established. Angela Betancur, our friendly Peace Scholar, who is studying at Lincoln University, has volunteered to go to Kids Out and to help at the Lincolnshire Show.

