

NOVEMBER 2022 BULLETIN

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LINCOLN

PRESIDENT BOB BELLAMY

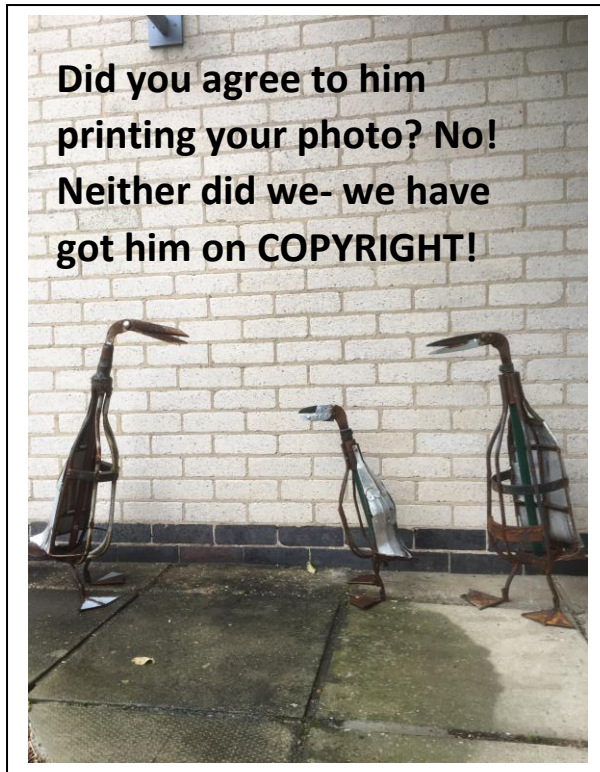
While President Bob was planting our wreath on the War Memorial on Saturday 12th November I was unable to attend as I was engaged in a Webinar given by RGBI on the subject of Copyright. The message, which was well delivered, is simple "Copyright is an obligation, not an option!" There followed one and a half hours of the rules and this newsletter would not be long enough to record all of it. I will say the basic rule is do not use any photographs, drawings or printed articles by others without their written permission. Where pictures are of children under

16, Privacy laws can be breached if permission is not granted by their parents. Group scenes are a no-no if everyone in the picture has not agreed to be photographed. To help us with Rotary graphics have a look at The Rotary Brand Centre on <https://brandcenter.rotary.org>. Yes that's how they spell "center" in America! There are hundreds of topical Rotary event photographs which we can use with no copyright issues.

ARMISTICE DAY CEREMONY THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION NOVEMBER 12TH. Thanks again to Bob Bennison for the Wreath. President Bob Bellamy has said how humbling the ceremony was and I agree, having experienced what it felt like to participate myself in 2021.

CLUB MEETING 14TH NOVEMBER :- VISIT OF THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR, STEVE LOWE. We gave our DG Steve Howe and AG Colin Scott a friendly welcome Knowing that they are both concerned about Membership decline we were able to introduce them to our latest new member Lochan Manandher and to inform them that we have at last, appointed a President Elect.

The DG encouraged our President to encourage the Club to check the 12 Challenges listed for a Citation and try to achieve at least 9.



He spoke about the management of RGBI and the changes which are taking place. The replacement of the old Governing Council of 25 DGs with a 14 person board of persons selected for their skill set. To simplify management, Districts are to be clustered in groups of four. A document will shortly be released.

On the subject of "Growing Rotary" Steve reported that Peterborough has a new International Club, Oakham a Ukrainian Club, Lindum Lincoln has a Satellite Club and Lincoln University now has a Rotary Club.

He reminded us that as membership decreases so does Rotary Foundation . The Polio update included news that 18 cases have recently been discovered in Pakistan and one in New York. Steve is raising money for the Polio fund and has a valuable limited edition painting by artist Jennifer Jones. He invites members to donate £5 to the Polio campaign to have their photograph taken with the picture.

The Gates Foundation are still supporting the Polio campaign and with their help it is likely that 2.6 billion dollars will be spent over the next three years!

The DG finished his presentation by reminding us that Conference will be on 21st/22nd April at Drayton Manor.

SITE MEETING ON 14th NOVEMBER AND DISABILITY GAMES ZOOM ON 16th NOVEMBER

The site meeting at Lincoln Christ's Hospital School was to review the layout in preparation for the 2023 games allowing for an expected increase in numbers and adjustments found to be necessary at the 2022 games. The amendments agreed were discussed at the zoom meeting on 16th November.

SANTA TO FOOD AND GIFT FAIR- LINCOLNSHIRE SHOWGROUND 26th and 27th NOVEMBER

This has become an annual event for us and we were placed in the same position in the Epic Centre as last year with dressing room close by for Santa changes. Santas were Patrick Forbes Ritte, David McKee, Peter Hill and Steve Pope over the two days. Elves were Nigel Harrison and Pip, Lydia Hill, Neil Curtis, and Audrey . I was there as general assistant/Elf when required. There were many children among the 8000 visitors and we had a great time entertaining them. The atmosphere was great, the staff at the Showground most obliging. It was a pity that we could only raise 6 elves (including me) over the two days. Nigel helped us set up on the Thursday before the event and Nigel and Neil and Audrey were there to help get the sleigh ready for the road at the end. We collected £300 for the Nomad Trust and local children's charities as well as collecting gifts of toys for the Showground Committee to present to the Bridge Church Christmas Sack Appeal. Christmas has started!

28 NOVEMBER MEETING- GUESTS EDDIE PEARSON (AG-CLUB RESTRUCTURING) and our regular AG, COLIN SCOTT

In spite of the reason for their visit, we extended a warm welcome to our guests and a happy atmosphere was maintained throughout. 16 members of our club were present.

The first business after the lunch was the induction of our new member Dr Lochan Manandher. Her proposer, our new President Elect, John Cawdell, introduced Lochan and President Bob carried out the ceremony and we all welcomed her into Rotary.

AG Eddie then addressed us on the subject of our reducing membership. His talk was in three stages, First the overall picture of how we are now, 2nd, How to leave a footprint and 3rd, How to reverse markedly reduced levels of activity.

How are we now? Our District lost 7 clubs last year-Why? The DG and AGs investigated the reasons for the decline and encouraged members to join other clubs where possible. This year there are 2 new clubs plus 3 or 4 in the pipeline. The declining performance of an ageing club is obvious, average ages of 75+ means that there are less helpers for any event.

Eddie predicted that there are 12 to 14 clubs in our district which will be in danger in 3 or 4 years time. The use of helpers was suggested as a way of keeping a club active in the community.

He reminded us of last years RI President Shekhar Mehta saying "Service is the rent we pay for our place on earth!"

Eddie emphasised the important issue of the environment and how Rotary can be involved. He then emphasised the importance of publicising what we do and how important our support of Rotary Foundation is regarding help with food projects, Housing, Vaccination, Surgery and clean water.

The President asked me to respond and I was able to mention that we have a tree planting scheme planned to go on land belonging to one of our farmer members. We have promised to help with a school garden around the Peace Pole erected at the Lesley Manser school where we have a Rota Kids club. I also mentioned our hope to help with a wild flower garden by the Westgate School, planned to go next to the sculpture we erected last year in front of the Water Tower. We have maintained two wooden benches at St Mary le Wigford Church which have been there many years and they need attention. Clearly we need to publicise what we do and recruit helpers where necessary.

The President thanked our visitors.

The dates of the next meetings were discussed and the meeting planned for December 12th was cancelled, the Christmas Lunch to be on Monday 19th December. The Mayor's visit will be on Monday 9th January.

Peter Manton Bulletin Editor