

The Rotary Club of Lincoln

November 2025 Newsletter



In HONOUR of the FALLEN:

On Saturday 8 November, as the city paused to remember, President Patrick laid a wreath on behalf of the Rotary Club of Lincoln at the official Remembrance Service, organised by the Civic Team and the Royal British Legion at the Lincoln Cenotaph. A solemn tribute to those who gave everything. Their sacrifice will never be forgotten.



Club meeting 10th November

Speaker : John C, Rotary Club of Lincoln

John beautifully narrated 4 charming anecdotes.

A Lincolnshire Lyricist

John described how in the 1960s a young man from Market Rasen went into Cyril Spouge Record Shop on the Cornhill Lincoln and bought a HIFI on credit for £1200. People thought he was mad at the time because this was the cost of a Mini motorcar at the time.

The same young man in 1967, answered an advertisement for talent that was placed in the New Musical Express. Elton John answered the same advert. Neither passed the audition but Elton told the man behind the desk that he could not write lyrics, so the man handed Elton a sealed envelope from the pile of people submitting lyrics.

The envelope contained poems by Bernie Taupin. The duo have collaborated on more than thirty albums since. In 2024, Taupin won the Ivor Novello Award for Outstanding Contribution to British Music.

The pub in Market Rasen which inspired Bernie Taupin's lyrics for "Saturday Night is alright for fighting" was The Aston Arms.



Strange twist of fate

She was the youngest ever chief Executive officer of a top flight English football club at the age of 23 with Birmingham City. Whilst as CEO at Birmingham she married one of the players Paul Peschisolido. Chasing an unpaid bonus for her husband she realised that it had been paid to one of the apprentices Grayham Potter. She later went on to be CEO at West Ham football club where she both hire and sacked the same Grayham Potter as manager of the club.

The CEO in question is Baroness Karren Brady, TV personality as aide to Alan Sugar on The Apprentice, a Conservative member of the House of Lords, a Small Business Ambassador for the UK government and still the current West Ham FC CEO. An incredibly capable and hard working woman.



Local War Hero

John reminded the members of former Lincoln Rotarian Arthur Tindle (deceased), a former RAF Lancaster Bomber pilot who flew 35 bombing missions in WW2. He flew as a pathfinder sending down flares over the targets so that the bombers following him knew where the target was located. It is remarkable that he survived these missions as 43% on RAF aircrew died during WW2 and most crews stood down after 15 missions.

Arthur was later posted to Lough Foyle, where the German Atlantic fleet of U-boats were surrendered and later scuttled. Staying in Northern Ireland after the war he sensitively managed highways projects in sensitive sectarian areas.

John also shared a number of humorous anecdotes from his experiences as a chartered surveyor in charge of the audit of the local police Headquarters.

Vote of thanks made by Dick D acknowledging the longstanding connection between Nicholsons Accountants where John was an acting partner



Club Meeting, Special Business Meeting, 24th November

Rotary Officers for 2026/27, proposed, seconded and approved as follows:

President John H

President Elect Martin C

Vice President: Pending

Secretary: David M

Treasurers: Barry D & Neil C

Financial Examiner for the Annual Accounts for year ending 30th June 2027: Emma Murray

Campaigning with Inner Wheel Ladies for Orange the World: 25th November 2025

On a cold but sunny Tuesday morning members of the Rotary Club of Lincoln joined Inner Wheel Ladies short, medium and n long walks round Lincoln's busy streets all dressed in Orange distributing **Orange the World** leaflets.

Meeting at the St Mary Magdelene Church, Bailgate, Lincoln at 10:30 for a hot drink before heading off in multiple directions.



Within the church Sandra L from Inner Wheel has created an emotive exhibit to highlighting issues of abuse in our society



Orange the World runs annually from 25 November to 10 December, aligning with the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.
<https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/unite/orange-the-world>

Those Rotarians attending: David M, Terry C, Lochan M & Martin C, Patrick F-R



Club Council Meeting 24th November

Minutes: Awaiting ratification

AGENDA

- 1 PRESENT : Patrick FR, John H, David M, Bob B, Dennis B, Martin C, Neil C, Malcom M
- 2 APOLOGIES: Barry D Peter H.
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST : None
- 4 MINUTES from 13th October council meeting. This was the first meeting in which we switched from zoom to in person meeting at the Nightingale and consequently only 5 members able to attend. Therefore an informal meeting held discussing projects moving forward without formal minutes being taken.
- 5 PRESIDENT'S REPORT:
 - I apologise for not being as active as I would have wished over the last two months caused by my ill-health. However, I have not been totally inactive.
 - I attended the City's Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph on November 8th and laid a wreath of respect on behalf of our Club.
 - I was invited by the local radio, LCRFM. to introduce the Rotary organisation and what it does in the local Community. I used my time to promote the Rotary organisation in general and our Club in particular, explaining the Rotary principles and what we do to support community projects and Charities. I told listeners that there are four Rotary Clubs in Lincoln an encouraged any listener who would like to know more about us (Names, phone numbers and e-mail information given (Data Protection considered)
 - Collection of unwanted clothing. Thank you all for your donations and gifts. There were a number of bags left over and I delivered these to the St Barnabus Hospice shop at Nettleham Fields, for which they were most grateful.
- 6 SECRETARY'S REPORT Nothing to report
- 7 TREASURERS' REPORT Proposal for spending discussed. Neil C shall draw up a list of the clubs ringfenced financial commitments and future charitable donations shall be reviewed at the next meeting
- 8 PROJECTS
 - Santa's Sleigh : Health and Safety guidelines to be issued before the event with the main consideration being that members must ensure that they are never alone with a child and that no child must be allowed on the sleigh.
 - Youth Entrepreneurs youth project was discussed and the council members approved funding for the prize money (£200) and pupil's lunch (6 x 19 = £114)
- 1 MEMBERSHIP : See above Rotary promoted on local radio
- 2 PRO Martin C suggests promotion of both Inner Wheel and Rotary initiatives on the Lincoln Rotary Facebook page in order to keep the page as active as possible.
- 3 TRUSTEES
- 4 AOB : Malcom is storing a bench donated in memory of former Rotarian, Sid Proud. It was agreed that Malcom will contact the hospital to find out if they would like it in their gardens. Neil C to support with transport as necessary.
- 13 DATE OF NEXT CLUB COUNCIL MEETING: Monday 8th December 2025