

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LINCOLN OCTOBER BULLETIN 2023

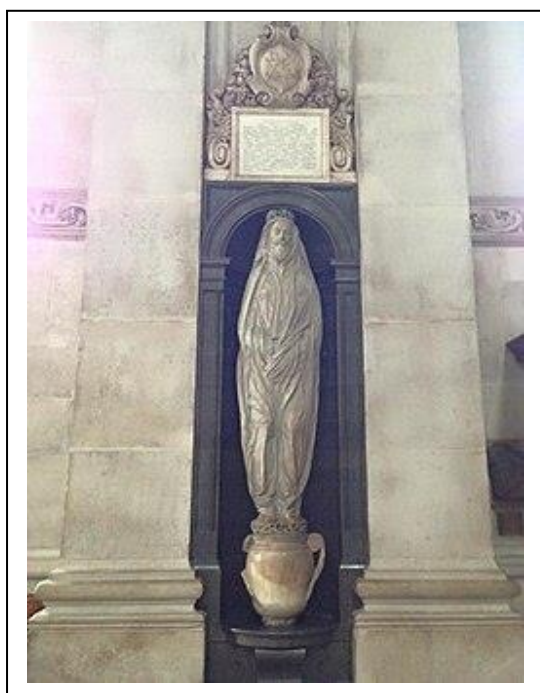
PRESIDENT JOHN CAWDELL

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR :- Good morning John, on behalf of the Mayor, Biff Bean, and myself personally, I would like to thank you very much for the warm welcome and wonderful hospitality we received yesterday at the Rotary Club Lunch. It was, indeed, a pleasure to be with you all and to meet the special guests from Neustadt. It was also an honour for the Mayor and I to be with you and your wife on the top table and to thank you both for the lovely company. With all good wishes, Kate. Civic & International Partnerships Manager.

(During the lunch, I was able to re-iterate the Club's thanks to Kate for singing at our Centenary Concert in the Cathedral with Peter Merrick on 13th December 2021. ED)

CLUB COUNCIL 2nd OCTOBER and PROJECTS COMMITTEE 5 OCTOBER

The detailed rules and regulations for Santa events and other December events were the main subjects at both meetings. Results of these meetings will be recorded later in the report of the next Council meeting of 30th October.



NORMAN BRISTOW, THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON.

It was Norman's second talk to our Club on Monday 9th October. The subject this time, was The Great Fire of London which swept through central London from Sunday 2nd September to Thursday, 6th September 1666, gutting the medieval City of London inside the old Roman City area.

Norman began by describing the area where the fire started. The streets were very dirty, there being no sewers at that time and the houses were "Galleried", the Upper Floors projecting over the street, almost forming a tunnel which gave the fire the opportunity of spreading quickly across the street. Warehouses on the Thames embankment burned fiercely. The old London Bridge, with dwellings on it, became impassible, cutting off one exit from the heart of the fire. The Mayor was on site from 3am but was reluctant to allow fire breaks to be made by demolition of houses. Fire fighting equipment was not very advanced and access to water was difficult.

On Tuesday 4th September the fire had reached St Paul's Cathedral and several tons of books inside the building were lost in the conflagration. The statue of Dean John Donne (see photo above) was saved and later installed in the modern church which now exists.

The Guildhall, which was better built, survived and many London records were saved. The death toll was believed to be only 7 people but some bodies may have been cremated and not recorded.

The rebuilding was supported by King Charles 2nd and Christopher Wren. Firebreaks were included in the new layouts. Fire brigades were established as a result of the great fire and building owners had to pay a fee and erected a plaque on their building which would be recognised by the fire fighters. Dick Denby gave the vote of thanks, expressing our appreciation of a well given tale of a historical disaster.

AGE UK PROGRESS. Peter Hill and I have now passed our DBS status and are registered as Volunteers for Age UK. (DBS stands for Disclosure and Barring Service). This means that we can visit our Clients as well as telephone them. Peter and Lydia have taken theirs out but sadly my Client was not fit enough to travel when Audrey and I visited him on 31st August and he had a stroke shortly afterwards and was in hospital for several weeks. We later learned that he has been admitted in a Care Home in his own village and were able to visit him there on 19th October. It was good to see that he was receiving good care and has put weight back on since we last saw him. It will not be necessary to telephone him every week as he has plenty of company in the care home but we will check him out regularly and visit when we have the opportunity. I have now got another Client and am enjoying long conversations with him on the telephone once a week.

AgeUK have asked for drivers to get members to and from their Christmas lunch on 14th December. Dennis Bambridge is recruiting drivers and will allocate passengers to each when he receives the details.

23rd OCTOBER- A TALK BY CAROL DEARNEY AND MAGGIE TOWNEND ON THEIR VOLUNTARY WORK AT LINCOLN PRISON AS MEMBERS OF THE IMB.

Carol introduced the subject with a break-down of the current situation of the Prison Service in the UK. There are approx. 88126 prisoners at the present time. 96% are male and 4% female. They are divided into four categories. CAT A:- Serious offenders, CAT B :- Cannot be trusted in an open situation. CAT C :- Cannot be trusted in an open situation but less likely to escape. CAT D :- Low risk prisons like North Sea Camp in Lincolnshire.

Lincoln is a Class B prison, built in 1872 with a capacity of 650. It is for male prisoners only, from the age of 18 years upwards. The Prison Service aims to encourage the development of skills which will allow ex-prisoners to find work when they are released, rather than re-offending. For example, Lincoln Prison has recently created a Bistro led by a Celebrity Chef which trains prisoners to cook and serve meals. Training of other skills is also taking place.

Maggie Townend then explained where IMB, (Independent Monitoring Board) fits in. There are 1200 members across the country. They are independent public appointees, not part of the Prison Staff. They have their own rules and responsibilities. They are particularly interested in 1:- Safety of Prisoners. 2:- The well-being of Prisoners. 3:- The fair and humane

Treatment of Prisoners and 4:- A progression towards successful re-settlement . They check access to Health Care , the risk of self-harm and bullying.

An annual report is made for each Prison, and this is copied to Government Ministers and the General Public.

IMB members are supported by training. They are unpaid but receive expenses as required. Their commitment is a minimum of 1-3 days per month plus a monthly board meeting.

Why do they do it? It is stimulating, demanding and mind-stretching, the Principle Aim, to see Prisoners are treated fairly, humanely with humanity and dignity.

Peter Morrison thanked the two speakers for their address and voiced our approval of the important work that they do.

26th OCTOBER:- COFFEE MORNING AT PETER MORRISON'S HOUSE TO REMEMBER NORAH'S LONG MEMBERSHIP IN INNER WHEEL AND RAISE FUNDS FOR THE NATIONAL APHASIA ASSOCIATION.

Six members of the Rotary Club along with a house full of Inner Wheel members spent a very wet morning enjoying Peter's hospitality and some very interesting cakes. A good time was had by all. £500 was raised for the Aphasia Association.

THE NEW RULES RECEIVED FROM THE DISTRICT SAFEGUARDING OFFICE HAVE SPREAD!



RED LEADER TO SANTA...I HOPE YOU ARE WEARING YOUR SAFETY BELT....OVER

CLUB COUNCIL ZOOM 30th OCTOBER 2023

Eight members attended the Council Meeting. Bill Lee was voted as a full member of Council due to his regular attendance. Paul Killingsworth will be welcome as an observer, unfortunately unable to be at this meeting.

In his report (that's him on the right, a few years ago,) the President reminded us that we have a new member to induct next Monday along with our Special Business Meeting.

Dennis reported that we have seven drivers so far for the Age UK transport to and from their Christmas Lunch on December 14th.

The use of the sleigh at the Food and Gift Fare was discussed. Peter reported that Paul was unable to attend this meeting, but had agreed to prepare the sleigh for use and fit a safety belt. Drivers for the sleigh still have to be confirmed. Towing insurance and Licence to tow should be checked.

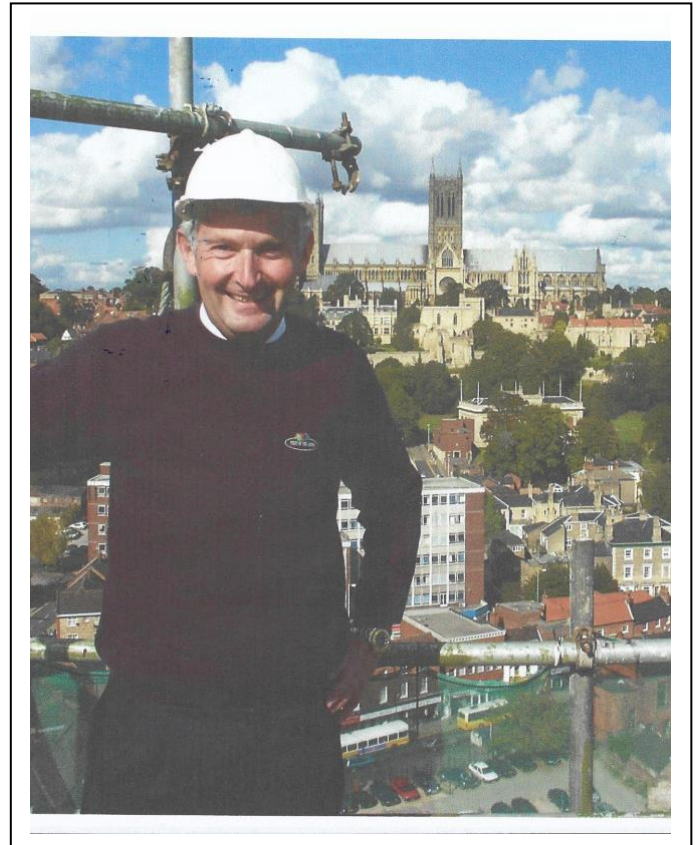
Funding to pay for Christmas gifts for the pupils at St Christopher's school may be available from Kids Out. Bill will check this.

The Carol Service was discussed and it was agreed to cancel it this year following poor attendance last year.

Carol singing at Care Homes was also discussed and Secretary David will investigate whether we and members of Inner Wheel could perform this year.

PEACE FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR AT BRADFORD 28th OCTOBER.

I was looking forward to attending the Peace Fellowship meeting in Bradford but sadly I had to give in due to my current infirmity. If any member did attend please give me a report to put in the next newsletter. PM



PRESIDENT'S PAGE NOVEMBER 1st 2023

In a couple of days new member Simon Judge will be inducted. An excellent recruit I believe. Our focus must continue to be the recruitment of new members. This is stressed in the October/November edition of Rotary magazine which you all had posted to you about a month ago.

We have received many messages of thanks for the overwhelmingly successful visit of the Rotarians from our twinned club Neustadt an der Weinstrasse. The Mayor's office was particularly effusive. There were many unexpected late changes and challenges but we overcame them as opportunities. We are promised an invitation back, Surely the best way is a flight to Frankfurt and being picked up at the airport. A 5 hour drive after a ferry crossing does not appeal to me.

November is month of Rotary Foundation. Who knew that? Rotary Foundation is a large and accredited well run charity for humanitarian causes; notably eradicating polio and world peace. I completed the Rotary peace studies course a couple of years ago and it was very stimulating. Algorithms are used to establish the most peaceful and most troubled countries in the world. We are well placed, Northern Ireland is still a tinderbox and failed states such as Haiti are near the bottom.

I am still planning another Club visit soon to the National Memorial Arboretum where we can pay our respects to members who have passed to a higher service at our plaque on Rotary Ridge.

The difficulties with transporting, maintaining and observing insurance rules with the santa sleigh have been hard to resolve. I am grateful to the Projects Committee led by Dennis and supported by Peter for their patience.

President John Cawdell

November 2023