

The Rotary Club of Lincoln

September 2025 Newsletter



Club meeting 8th September

Speaker and special guest : District Governor Moira

Moira commended the club for its impressive range of charitable projects over the past year and expressed hope for similar initiatives in the coming year. She noted the challenges posed by a declining and aging membership, suggesting that collaboration with other Lincoln clubs could be a valuable way forward.

Moira emphasized that growing Rotary membership remains an ongoing priority. She highlighted the importance of maintaining an active online presence through the club's website and Facebook page, as well as engaging younger generations through junior projects.

She also informed members that Rotary District 1070 will have a stand at the upcoming business show at Lincoln City football ground on 21st October 2025. Rotarians will staff the stand to promote Rotary and encourage new members from the local business community. Former President Dennis expressed his interest in attending and representing the Rotary Club of Lincoln at the event.

Finally, Moira reminded everyone of the importance of enjoying Rotary, supporting one another, and having fun together as a club.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Lincoln, President Patrick expressed sincere thanks to DG Moira for her encouraging reflections on the work we currently undertake. He also took the opportunity to acknowledge the challenges we face due to declining membership, noting that while our capacity is limited, we remain committed to doing all we can under the circumstances.



Club meeting 22nd September

Speaker and special guest : Simon K, Lindum Rotary Club

Simon challenged us to reconsider Wyatt Earp—not just as a legendary lawman, but as a complex figure shaped by myth and Hollywood.

Contrary to popular belief, the Wild West saw only about 20 fatal gunfights, and most gunfighters died from lead poisoning rather than wounds sustained in duels. The iconic image of quick-draw, hip-shooting cowboys is largely a Hollywood invention; in reality, accuracy and careful aim mattered more than speed, and Earp himself favoured a long-barrelled revolver for this reason.



Shown in the picture aged 39, Earp's life was far from the heroic narrative often portrayed. He was not only a lawman but also a gold prospector, bouncer, petty thief, and pimp, with multiple marriages. The famous gunfight associated with him didn't actually happen at the O.K. Corral, but nearby on Fremont Street in Tombstone, Arizona. The 1881 shootout was a brief, violent clash rooted in personal and political rivalries, not a simple battle of good versus evil. Although the Earps were legally exonerated, the feud escalated, leading to further violence and revenge killings by Wyatt and his allies.

Despite his questionable integrity and the complexities of his story, Earp became a symbol of frontier justice, thanks to books and films that simplified his life into a tale of lawmen versus outlaws. Early Hollywood directors, including John Wayne, drew inspiration from Earp, cementing his legendary status and contributing to the romanticized mythology of the American West.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Lincoln, John Herrick expressed the club's gratitude to Simon for sharing his deep knowledge of Wyatt Earp and for a fascinating talk whilst made us all aware of the need to critically reflect on historical narratives



Portrait of Wyatt Earp aged 39



Tombstone 1881