

DIARY DATES - SPEAKERS

The calendar below shows who would have been addressing the club had life been as normal. Some speakers have agreed to present via video streaming. We hope to have speakers at our meetings but members will appreciate that the Diary is fluid and subject to change.

APRIL 2020

- 6th** **Professor Graham Shipley**, Archaeologist at the University of Leicester, will talk about “Finding a flag for the historical county of Leicestershire”
- 13th** **Easter Monday - No Meeting**
- 20th** **Fellowship/Committee Meeting** - we will be taking Chairman’s Reports
- 27th** **Laura Challis**, Community Fundraiser, will talk about the Fire Fighters Charity

SPEAKER & VISITOR WELCOME

APRIL		MAY	
6th	N/A		
13th	N/A		
20th	N/A		
27th	N/A		

ROTARY CLUB OF LEICESTER

Meetings held on Mondays, 12.25pm at the Mercure Leicester City Hotel
 Apologies: Telephone 0116 2233950 or e-mail :
johannedraycott@pickeverard.co.uk

Immediate Past President: Colin Derrick
 President Elect: Parmdeep Vadesha
 Junior Vice-President: Scott Gallacher
 Honorary Treasurer: David Brunton
 Honorary Secretary: Barry Davies
 Honorary Assistant Secretary: Vacant

Elected Council Members

Diana Esho, David Howard, Tim Lee, Mark Simpson,
 David Brunton, Babs Marson

Other Contacts:

District Council Representatives: Moira Bartlett, Rodney Spokes,
 John Saunders and Paul Bonnett
 Bulletin Editor: David Brunton
 Club Protection Officer: Mick Marvell

LEAD COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Club Service Mark Sandall
Membership Nick Thomson
Service Projects Moira Bartlett
Rotary Foundation/Benevolent David Howard
Communications Diana Esho



PRESIDENT - CHRIS SAUL

BULLETIN - APRIL 2020

COVID 19 PANDEMIC

When we met for our first meeting of the year, and Rabbi Pink visited us to give his New Year message, no one predicted that by the end of March the world would be in total lockdown. Because of Covid 19 we find ourselves in an unfamiliar world which most of us will never have experienced before. Maybe the older ones amongst us will recall the hardship suffered during the Second World War, and whilst this is a completely different type of enemy it is, nevertheless, one which threatens our society and our future.

Our Rotary Club has followed the government guidelines; the usual Monday meetings, events, and other charitable activities have all been put on hold. This does not mean that the Club loses touch or effectiveness. We can still phone or email each other. We now have a conferencing facility (Zoom) and our Monday meetings will now take place online at 1.00 pm. Council will continue to meet monthly via video conferencing to ensure we continue to meet our charitable objectives in these difficult times.

We are aware that the lockdown and general uncertainty regarding employment, finances, healthcare and many other aspects of normal life will have put a great strain on many families and individuals. Given the age profile of our members it is extremely important that we follow the government guidelines and

stay at home and stay safe. Those members who can help the wider community will do so, but support comes in many ways and the easiest way we can all make a difference is to keep in touch with other members who may otherwise have no one to talk to. Likewise, please keep in touch with anyone you know who may be lonely or frightened.

We have spoken to several local charities to see if we can offer any help, many of them finding that the demands are increasing and their resources are stretched like never before. Whilst we can only provide limited manpower to assist, it would seem appropriate for us to support them financially if we can.

The Club has close association with Charity Link and Age UK Leicestershire & Rutland—both important local charities doing all they can to support the local community. Given that members are not buying lunch at the Grand each Monday it is suggested that members should consider the option of making a voluntary contribution each month whilst the lockdown continues. All money donated will be passed straight through to the charities. We realise not all members will be able to contribute, indeed some may themselves be struggling, but if you can please do so in the knowledge that we are helping our people and our community. Details of how to contribute are given in the next column.

We will come through this crisis and life will slowly return to normal. Rotary, through its members, will continue its good locally, nationally and internationally. We look forward to seeing everyone again and ask that you all keep safe, follow the government guidelines, help where you can and above all keep positive.

*Chris Saul
President*

Voluntary Contributions can be paid by Bank Transfer to:
Rotary Club of Leicester
Sort Code 30 94 97
Account No. 02722147
And reference it. COVID19

YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION



Leicester sponsored for the first time in recent years, an ensemble in the Intermediate category (11-14). This was three very motivated young boys, piano, saxophone and violin, who arrange their own music and asked to enter the competition. They not only won their class, but also the overall District Instrumental Ensemble Trophy.

Leicester once again sponsored a junior violinist for the Young Musician competition, who whilst winning the semi-final round, came second in the final, having been slightly overwhelmed by the size of the venue at Leicester Grammar School – enough to frighten any performer!

Moira Bartlett

BLUEBELL WOOD SERVICE CANCELLATION

As probably anticipated, this year's Bluebell service scheduled for 26th April has been cancelled.

LESLIE HAMILTON AND ARTHUR BENNETT

More sad news during March were the deaths of two of our long serving members. Arthur Bennett died early in March and Leslie Hamilton died at home on 28th March.

VIDEO MESSAGE RE COVID 19 FROM RICHARD POWER

For our meeting on 30 March Richard Power kindly recorded a video message. It is available on You Tube at this link: <https://youtu.be/XEV0ArEJLQM>

BENOVOLENT COMMITTEE DONATIONS

The following donations have been approved by Council and will be forwarded subject to Club approval

The Carers Centre—£350

Open Hands Trust—£350

The Macular Society—£350

Carl Gunn's Boxing Club—£350

For information the Club made a donation of £304 to End Polio Now. This being the surplus from the 2019 Golf Day (in aid of Polio Now) and the World Polio Day event at the Cathedral in October 2019.

ONLINE WEEKLY MEETINGS

We had our first online meeting on Monday 30 March with over 20 members logging in. We intend to continue with the meetings. To join the meeting on Monday 6 April, and any future meetings, the link is <https://zoom.us/j/205496327>

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Please submit to Bulletin Editor, David Brunton,
by 23rd April 2020