

DIARY DATES - SPEAKERS

We currently have the following arrangements in place (via Zoom until further notice):

MARCH

- 1st** **Lucinda Wessel**, Surgical Matron Royal Free Hospital—'Reflections on Nursing during the COVID pandemic'
(Vote of Thanks: Babs Marson)
- 8th** **Fellowship/Committee Meeting**
- 15th** **Dr Julian Tang**, Consultant Virologist at the Leicester Royal Infirmary—'SARS-COV-2—an update'
(Vote of Thanks: Richard Power)
- 22nd** **Roger Graves**, Retail Manager HSBC Grantham—'How to avoid Banking Scams'
(Vote of Thanks: David Howard)
- 29th** **Rtn Steve Howe**—'The Road to Crufts'
(Vote of Thanks: Tim Lee)

APRIL

- 5th** **Bank Holiday—no meeting**
- 12th** **To be confirmed**
- 19th** **Zinthiya Trust**
- 26th** **To be confirmed**

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Please submit to Bulletin Editor, David Brunton, by 20th March 2021

SPEAKER & VISITOR WELCOME

ROTARY CLUB OF LEICESTER

Meetings currently held on Mondays, 1.00pm via Zoom
Apologies: Telephone 0116 2233950 or e-mail :
johannedraycott@pickeverard.co.uk

Immediate Past President: Chris Saul
President Elect: Scott Gallacher
Junior Vice-President: To Be Advised
Honorary Treasurer: David Brunton
Honorary Secretary: Barry Davies
Honorary Assistant Secretary: Vacant

Elected Council Members

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

Other Contacts:

District Council Representatives: Moira Bartlett,
John Saunders and Richard Power
Bulletin Editor: David Brunton
Club Protection Officer: Mick Marvell

LEAD COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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



PRESIDENT - PARMDEEP VADESHA

BULLETIN - MARCH 2021

DONATIONS DURING FEBRUARY

The Club made 4 substantial donations during February;

Charity Link £1,000 to support their work in caring for those who are struggling in many ways during the pandemic. We received the following "thank you" note from Sue McEniff.

I would like to say a huge thank you to you and all my fellow Rotarians for your most generous gift of £1,000. You will ensure that local families are warm, safe and fed during this very difficult winter. Your gift will help brighten the months ahead for local people and children in need. On behalf of all the local vulnerable people and children you will help, I would like to say a sincere and heartfelt thank you. Thank you once again for your support.

Nether Hall School £1,345 to allow them to purchase special electronic equipment to help their students with learning difficulties to study at home. We had the following message from the head teacher, Sarah Naylor.

That is wonderful news. On behalf of the pupils, staff and governing body, please pass on my sincere thanks to the members of the Rotary Club of Leicester.

Rotary Foundation £3,800 to support the Foundation. As you know, the target is for each club to contribute \$100 per member to Foundation each year. With 54 members at the start of the year this equates to about

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£4,000 so, with some members donating direct, we will meet our target this year. We rely heavily on the donations members make each month/year to meet this target so thank you to all who contribute. *See article below about Foundation*

Rotary 4 Foodbanks £2,200 to fund 4 of our foodbanks (£550 each) so they can make their first bulk purchases through Morrisons.

FOUNDATION IS A WINNER

For the 13th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating — four stars — from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of charities in the U.S. The Foundation earned the recognition for adhering to sector best practices and executing its mission in a financially efficient way, demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. Only one percent of the organizations Charity Navigator evaluates have received 13 consecutive 4-star evaluations.

"Your achievement and 4-star rating will enhance your organization's fundraising and public relations efforts," says Michael Thatcher, president and chief executive officer of Charity Navigator. "This exceptional designation sets the Foundation apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness." The rating reflects Charity Navigator's assessment of how the Foundation uses donations, sustains its programs and services, and practices good governance and openness.

DRESS-UP MONDAY

It has been proposed that we all get "dressed up" (shirt and tie or similar) for our meeting on 15 March when consultant virologist, Julian Tang, will be addressing the club. Not compulsory but something worth trying rather than leaving it to Bob Collins to keep up standards every week.

EASTER EGG COLLECTION

Diana Esho has suggested, and kindly agreed to coordinate, an effort to send Easter Eggs, Easter Cakes or Chocolate to a local Food Bank so they can brighten up Easter for the children of families who rely on foodbanks.

Please can members help by dropping off eggs etc at Diana's house (7 Burlington Road, LE2 3DD, 07984 221159, diana@ei.uk.com) before 27th March so there is a week to get them to the Food Bank.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ELECTION (CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP)

In accordance with our By-Laws I hereby give notice of a proposal that LOROS, Groby Road, Leicester LE3 9QE be elected to corporate membership of the Club. The following persons will represent LOROS in accordance with the parts of BY-LAW XII of the club's constitution relating to corporate membership approved at the E.G.M. on 23 November 2020:

John Knight, Chief Executive Officer Principal Representative

Wayne Matts, Chief Finance Officer Associate Representative 1

Caroline Baker, Director of Income Generation and Business Development Associate Representative 2

Proposer: Nick Thomson

Classification: Corporate Member

Any member wishing to object to the proposed election has a 7-day period during which he or she may send to the Secretary a written and reasoned objection.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMIT

In January, Richard Power and I attended the RIBI Membership Summit. Despite the upbeat tone, it started out with some rather gloomy but nevertheless factual information. Rotary faces an existential crisis; RIBI is losing members at a rate equivalent to one District a year and 70% of membership is over 70 years of age. That is borne out within our Club; in the 7 years I have been a member our membership has fallen by a third and we are struggling to recruit as we lose our senior Rotarians.

The route out of this crisis is seen as the promotion of new clubs that are structured to suit the lifestyles and interests of the potential new Rotarians drawn from the working age generations. I have no argument with this, and believe that we should help drive this forward through encouraging satellite clubs that can eventually hive off to form new Rotary Clubs. Indeed, our District 1070 has decided that Leicester and Peterborough are under-represented in Rotarian numbers and have established websites for each city to directly recruit 'floating' Rotarians who may choose to establish new clubs for themselves. Visit www.leicester.onerotary.org

However, I do not believe that we at the Rotary Club of Leicester are done yet. If we are to go down, we should go down fighting! So, we are planning a number of initiatives, as well as corporate and family membership, to encourage people, as we are released from the COVID restrictions, to come and see whether Rotary is for them. These include volunteering opportunities and regular recruitment-focused open day lunch meetings (that go further than our familiar Meet for Business meetings).

I will expand further on the meetings in the future, but in the meantime we need your ideas for volunteer projects.

Nick Thomson