



# Rotary Club of Lincoln



www.lincolnrotary.org.uk

March 2011

*A few Lunch Meetings ago PP David Drury gave a thought provoking talk entitled 'Quo Vadis'. The questions he asked us to consider deserved to reach a wider audience within the Club than the members that attended on that particular day and so:*

## Quo Vadis?

Hopefully an unusual title has managed to get your interest at the start. With a bit of luck I might have your interest at the end. Quo Vadis – Book by Nobel winning author Henryk Sienkiewicz – written in 1896 – prompted by a section from the apocryphal Acts of St Peter where St Peter is fleeing from Rome and meets Jesus who asks him 'wither goest thou'. It causes him to think.

Animal Farm – Book by George Orwell where animals take over a farm from an irresponsible farmer. The prosperity of the farm relies heavily on Boxer the horse who works until he drops. Putting these two together prompts me to ask questions about this club 'Where are we going' and are we relying on too few people for the present achievements? At the outset may I state that **I am not getting at anybody** but I am hopefully **getting to everybody?**

This club has a reputation of being a well run club – we are efficient -but are we effective? The simple definition of efficiency is doing the job right and I am sure we can put a tick in the box. The simple definition of effectiveness is doing the right job. Are we focused on the right things in the 21<sup>st</sup> century - are we using modern communications effectively twitter and Facebook are just



*The Club's 89th Charter Dinner in the County Assembly Rooms. Club members and their guest enjoyed roast sirlon of Lincolnshire beef in an evening of fun and great fellowship.*

two options? If your instant reaction is there's no use for such things in this club then are you sure your personal feelings are not submerging what the club could achieve by using it?

The other Lincoln clubs feature the Santa Run, Sausage Sizzle, weekend metal detecting events. These are big money spinners and excellent advertising for Rotary. In addition Lincoln Colonia was awarded a civic award with the headlines Sausage Fest founders to receive Civic Award. Vic

Kinnin in his newsletter does a marvellous job of singing the praises of the club. But how much of the content is his and how much other contributors? Should each committee or current project take it in turns to provide copy? At the millennium, thanks to the initiative of Peter Manton we planted some oak trees. Hopefully these will be a lasting memory. But how do they compare with Shelter Box, the provision of a vehicle for Jersey's Cheshire Home, a garden of reflection for the relatives of bereaved children. Or even the provision of a generator for an African school provided by our friends in the Rotary Club of Radcliffe, to which we provided some funding.

Evidence of previous achievements was provided from "Rotary Club of Lincoln – The First Seventy Five Years". It included the formation of a Hospital Committee in 1925 which provided support and donations. One fund raising idea was the production of a play at the Theatre Royal. The status of the club in the early days resulted in the press regularly attending and reporting the activities of the Club from 1922 until 1947. The Club was integral in the formation of the Lincoln Civic Trust. We do have a list of events, mainly repeated ones that we are comfortable with. These have their place but should we not be getting outside our comfort zone? Many will argue that they have done their bit and that may be a justifiable claim. But they have a role to play from their experienced perspective to encourage innovation and development to the energetic doers. We have nearly done 100 years so lets be setting the club up for a centenary that will celebrate stunning successes in the lead up to 2022.

What is our record of attracting and retaining members? What do we discuss every Monday - is it Rotary or other matters? Just reflect on what has been discussed on your table last week and this week and for those that can remember before Christmas. Are papers circulated from table to table or do they just lie there for the originator to try and find after the meeting? That is so demoralising and I must hold up my hand to not being as diligent as I should in this matter. Have we a membership that has its pulse on the needs of Lincoln or have we been

marginalised? There is currently a project to celebrate the centenary of pumping and storing fresh, clean potable water for Lincoln. This has become a cross committee activity and in addition the inclusion of non-Rotarians. The idea originated from somebody outside the club. Anglian Water has wholeheartedly come on board and it is developing into something which this club is going to be proud to be associated with and I am sure will create an enthusiasm throughout the club. But note we are harnessing a range of people and talents and everybody has something important to do!

This leads me to ask is our committee structure holding us back. Should we organise ourselves based on projects, such as the centenary dinner, in which those interested or with the appropriate skills can become involved? Are we a fragmented club? Not everybody can or needs to join in everything, but everybody's enthusiasm and encouragement would be beneficial!

Should we have more opportunities at club level to discuss the way ahead for the club? For those who listened to the Radio 4 programme on Rotary will note that the questions I am posing are not restricted to this club. It is just that with a proud past have we got a proud future ahead of us? Now back to the beginning "Where are we going" and how do we focus and make best use of the talents of the entire club? *David Drury*



**The President drops in to thank Scott Ward of James Usher for prominently displaying the Club's Vocational Award, which, last year was presented to teacher Simon Dayman. This year's award is in hand and will be presented as soon as the 'bespoke' individual trophy is completed.**

## ***President David's Piece***

At the beginning of the Rotary year, District Assistant Governor Jackie Karlson asked the Club Presidents how many new members their Clubs would attract; a gentle reminder of the importance of recruitment. I hazarded three. With the induction of Nick Bevan and Trevor Pacey, we are well on the way. We wish both of them a warm welcome to the world of Rotary.

At the Christmas lunch I was very pleased to give my first PHF to Past District Governor who received his second Sapphire. This was closely followed by an award to a very surprised David Yabbacome. The Lunch was brilliantly organised by Terry Coffey, who has also over the past few years provided the Service Sheets for the Carol Festival; this, has saved the Club great expense - many thanks, Terry. The collection at the Festival raised £513-23 for my chosen charity, 'Candles', an excellent cause. I look forward to presenting them with a cheque in the near future.

As usual over the Christmas period, Peter Manton's sleigh was on display to raise money for charity. The need for teams of four, every two hours, puts an enormous strain on the Club's volunteers. Many had to do several shifts and the Club is most grateful for the help from members of Inner Wheel. Peter and Audrey usually took the last shift, packed up and took the sleigh home. Within two hours they had counted the money and emailed the result as well as having washed the beads - 'Service above Self' indeed. The chosen charity was the 'Cedars'. A group of us were invited to the Cedars and we were pleased to present a cheque for £3000.

To end; of late I have enjoyed three opportunities for fellowship: We met with Members of Inner Wheel for a game of New Age Curling organised by Bill Lee; an enjoyable evening finishing with

fish and chips. Dave Hutchinson invited us to his wood to see the Snowdrops and raise funds for the Royal Marsden Hospital. Wine and Wisdom has for many years been one of the highlights of the Rotary Year. Ian Smith and his team from Community Service organised an enjoyable evening and raised funds for Young Carers and the Club's Benevolent Fund. Fellowship and fund raising - Rotary at its best.

*David McKee*



## ***The 'Cedars' Presentation***

Young vulnerable people in Lincoln will be getting a boost thanks to a generous donation by the Rotary Club of Lincoln who presented crime reduction charity Nacro Lincoln with a cheque for £3,000. Nacro Lincoln's Cedars project helps homeless and vulnerable 16 to 24 year-olds resettle into the community providing housing related support to enable young people to move on and maintain their own home.

Teri Kilpin, Lincoln Nacro team manager said: "We are really grateful for the generous donation that Lincoln Rotary Club have made to The Cedars project which will go a long way in helping the vulnerable young people who use our services. The Cedars is a well established and much needed project within the county. We provide a support package to enable young people to achieve their goals and our aim is to help people learn the skills needed to live independently (continued on Page 7).

# The 89th Charter Dinner



Above: President Elect Paul, organiser of the evening, looks nervous as he views the diners. He needed no concerns as the meal of smooth duck liver parfait, roast sirloin of Lincolnshire beef, followed by warm black cherries steeped in cognac and topped ice cream was a 'hit' with the gathered Rotarians and their guests.

President Elect Paul Brewer proposed the toast to RI and RIBI; District Governor Len Taylor proposed the Response to the Club. Our speaker was Colin McFarlane, a stage, TV, screen actor, a director, and the voice of many familiar cartoon characters. He spoken of his journey into his profession, enlightened us to the many stages of obtain a Hollywood screen role, and of his project to, "put something back into society". Taking many questions from the 'audience' he gave insight into a world many of us know little about apart from enjoying the characters an actor places before us.



*"A fresh new snowdrop greeted me  
Amongst the leaves beneath the tree  
That delicate and tiny flower  
Braves frost and rain and snowy shower  
To tell us Spring is nigh."* *Nessie Gell*

Dave Hutchinson invited us to his wood to see the Snowdrops and raise funds for 'The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity'. The total raised including 'gift aid' was £382.72. This when added to funds raised from a earlier visit resulted in a total of £604.72 for the charity.

## Wine & Wisdom

A great evening was provided by the Community Service Committee for this year's quiz. Seventeen teams competed in a closely scored quiz and at the end the team titled "Anything Will Do" were declared the worthy winners with a score of 78 from joint runners-up; "Friends & Family" and the "Untouchables", both with a score of 75.



Thanks goes to all the helpers who provided a well planned, smooth running evening and especially Neil Curtis who prepared the mid quiz sustenance, and Emma's hard working 'raffle Girls' Audrey Manton and Wendy Kinnin.

Photos top right and right show the teams in deep thinking mode, whereas, the photo above shows them responding to the music questions with 'Last Night of The Proms passion'. Below, the winning team "Anything Will Do" pose with the trophy.



**The Raffle** of 26 prizes was organised by Emma Murray and raised £485.00 for the Club's Benevolent Fund - our thanks to all who donated prizes and purchased tickets. The proceeds from the rest of the event (after expenses) will be donated to Lincoln Young Carers. In all, a great night of fun, fellowship and fundraising!



Members of the Club gather to congratulate Rotarian Neil Curtis on being honoured as a Freeman of the City of Lincoln. Neil said, "I am very proud to receive the acknowledgement in recognition of the family's work in Lincoln over the past 180 years. I was born in Lincoln and I had heard about the award, but receiving it is a great honour and something I never expected." It is not known whether Neil is now entitled to drive a herd of pigs over High Bridge.

**Simon Clarke, Chairman of the Youth Committee reports on one area of the Club's support for youth:**

### Lincoln Primary Schools Football Association

The Association organises competitive fixtures for Primary Schools in Lincoln and the surrounding area. As well as league fixtures, the Association also run a knock-out cup and the Eric Robson 7-a-side competition, along with selecting a representative team.

The Association is run by some very dedicated Primary School teachers, including Rob Cook and Joe Dobson (Cherry Willingham PS) and Daniel Callaghan (Ellison Boulsters C of E Primary School). They receive no official funding.

### Lincoln Boys Representative Team

Trials were held in November to select the 14-man squad for the representative team, and they are already training together, usually at Cherry Willingham School. The boys are drawn from 12 different primary schools across the city and county. Their first game was away to Gainsborough, and despite dominating play, Gainsborough scored with their only two chances of the match and the Lincoln Boys eventually lost 2-1. Their next game is on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February at Cherry Willingham School against Bassetlaw.

*Last year, a donation from the Club funded new kit, complete with Rotary logo, and individual trophies for members of the Representative Team.*

(Cedars' presentation from Page 3) ... in their own accommodation. Our project workers help people manage their money, look at education, training and employment options, and health or personal problems, and provide help and advice in securing a more permanent home when they are ready."

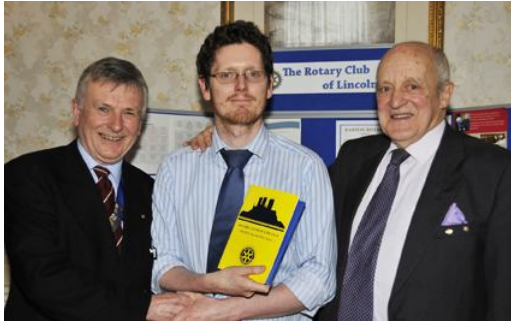
The money was raised during the Rotary Club's Santa sleigh charity collections in the city during the freezing run up to Christmas. David McKee, Lincoln Rotary Club president, said: "The money was collected in St Mark's Square, at Waitrose Supermarket and during Santa's tour of Cherry Willingham on Christmas Eve. "We would like to thank the people of Lincoln for their generous support, which has enabled us to make this donation to a worthy local cause. I would also pay tribute to the members of my Club who gave up their time to collect in the freezing temperatures."

The Cedars is a 13 bed space project with furnished rooms and cooking facilities. The project has been housing and supporting young vulnerable people for 14 years.

**Thanks goes to Bill Lee for organising the kurling event at Sudbrooke Drive Community Centre.**

Thirteen people participated and were divided into four teams. Congratulations go to the Inner Wheel team who triumphed on the evening - yet more fun and fellowship.

## A Warm Welcome to New Members:



**Nick Bevan** - "I was born in the British Military Hospital in Berlin. Attended Wells Cathedral School, studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of Manchester for three years and one year studying engineering in Italian at the Univerita Degli Studi Trieste, Italy. Joined Siemens in Lincoln in 2007 and spent my first 18 months on the Siemens Graduate Program doing placements around the various departments. Following my graduate programme I was taken on as a Support Engineer within the Service Engineering Dept. My role in the company is to provide engineering support for the servicing of gas turbine by our world-wide network of Field Technicians, and representing the service business in the Lincoln organisation. I am a keen snowboarder and run half-marathons when inclined. This year my girlfriend and I are running the London Marathon for UNICEF."



**Trevor Pacey** - "I am Born and bred in Lincoln. Lincoln Technical College(1 Year) Apprentice and Electrician at East Midlands Electricity Board. Moved to the newly formed Anglian Water Authority and qualified as a Water Engineer in Mechanical and Electrical engineering. Became District Superintendent of Water supplies for Lincoln, then became District Manager for Drinking Water Supplies as-

sociated with Lincoln, Gainsborough, Trent Valley Power Stations, Retford, and parts of Notts and Bassetlaw Council districts. Now retired, I enjoy doing a Voluntary Job at the local Law Courts on the Witness Service, also invigilating of Exams at the LSST Federation of Academies. I also enjoy a game of golf, garden - particularly my pond. I also enjoy supporting our Lincoln City with my 12 Year old Nephew - now that is dedication. Married for 42 Years to Maureen who is also a Lincoln lass."

### ***Dates for your Diary 2011***

<b>04 Mar</b>	Charter Dinner 2011
<b>09 Apr</b>	'Know Your Blood Pressure Day'
<b>10 Apr</b>	'Disability Games' in Hull
<b>18 Apr</b>	Club AGM
<b>16 May</b>	Club Assembly
<b>08 Jun</b>	'Kids Out' Day
<b>31 Jul</b>	'BHF Sponsored Bike Ride'
<b>01 Oct</b>	'Lincoln Water 100' Celebration
<b>12 Dec</b>	'Festival of Carols'

### **Stewards' Rota Mar 2011**

14 Mar	Mike Palethorpe & Stephen Pope
21 Mar	John Rose & Ian Smith
28 Mar	John Stones & Eddie Strengiel

*If you cannot attend the meeting when you are nominated to be a steward, it is your responsibility to arrange for another member to do it for you; and please inform both the Secretary and the Senior Steward.*

### **Publication Notes**

**Copy for the next issue of the Newsletter must be forwarded to the Editor by no later than 18 May 2011** Copy is preferred as a 'Word' document or as typed copy, which then can be 'OCR' scanned into an electronic file. Photos are preferred in digital file format (as .jpg or .tif files). Hard copy photos can be scanned for subsequent digital processing by forwarding them to the Editor. Please seek advice before submitting tables for publication as these can prove troublesome to replicate.

Published on behalf of:

**The Rotary Club of Lincoln** by Rtn Vic Kinnin,  
01522 696993 ([vkinnin@virginmedia.com](mailto:vkinnin@virginmedia.com)).