

DIARY DATES - SPEAKERS

DECEMBER 2025

- 1st** **RYLA Presentations**
Vote of Thanks: Chris Saul
- 8th** **Danielle Gillett, CEO EMB Group, Chair of Governors of Leicester College**
Leicester College: A Gift to the City, Especially At Christmas
- 15th** **Christmas Lunch: Hon Rtn Mike Kapur OBE CStj, Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire**
The Invisible Lord-Lieutenant
Vote of Thanks: Martin Traynor
- 22nd** **No Meeting**
- 29th** **No Meeting**

JANUARY 2026

- 5th** **Rt. Revd Saju Muthalaly, Suffragan Bishop of Loughborough**
New Year Message
- 12th** **Nash Chatralia, CEO The Bridge (East Mids)**
Preventing and Overcoming Homelessness
- 19th** **Andrew Sharp, Mohs Surgeon at University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust**
White yet Black: Albinism in Africa
- 26th** **Stephen Bryan JP, High Sheriff of Leicestershire**
The Role of the High Sheriff
Vote of Thanks: Gordon Arthur

INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM

Congratulations to our Rotary member **Trusha Lakhani** MSc FCCA on her re-election to the Global Council of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Trusha is on the Corporate Sector panel, contributing to national and international initiatives.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Do not forget to book places at this year's Christmas lunch at the Grand on Monday 15 December. The guest speaker will be the Lord Lieutenant. Menu choices to President Martin. Money (£27.50 ph) to the Club account.

Rotary Club of Leicester
Sort Code 30 94 97
Account No 02721817

ROTARY CLUB OF LEICESTER

Meetings at the Grand Hotel commencing at 12.25
Apologies: Telephone 0116 2233950 or e-mail :
johannedraycott@pickeverard.co.uk

Immediate Past President:	Ed Cufflin
President Elect:	David Mathers
Junior Vice-President:	Vacant
Honorary Treasurer:	David Brunton
Honorary Secretary:	Richard Power
Honorary Assistant Secretary:	Moir Bartlett
Impact Group Chair	Diana Esho

Elected Council Members
Mark Simpson, Clive Smith, Vicky Ball, Vicky Ball,

LEAD COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Club Service	Gordon Arthur
Membership	Parmdeeo Vadesha
Service Projects	Moir Bartlett
Rotary Foundation/Benevolent	David Howard
Communications	Diana Esho



PRESIDENT - MARTIN TRAYNOR

BULLETIN - DECEMBER 2025

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

It doesn't seem a year since we were enjoying our Christmas Lunch at the Grand. What ever happened to 2025?

At this time of the year it is always useful to reflect on the past twelve months where we can celebrate success and plan for the following year. I am pleased to say that we as a Club have much to celebrate, from a hugely successful Technology Tournament to our hosting of Rotarian colleagues from Bordeaux to name but two. My gratitude goes to all our members who give up their time to support the many activities the Club undertakes.

When reflecting on the year, I also took the opportunity to review the speakers we have welcomed to our Club along with the sheer variety of topics covered. Our thanks must go to our Speaker Finder Gordon for delivery what has been really interesting and insightful programme.

It is good to see that over the past year our Impact Group has continued to flourish and are taking on some really interesting community based activities. I look forward to supporting Diana and the Group with their 2026 programme of activities. As ever, building membership remains a challenge for our Club as it does for Rotary as a whole. However, we are making some progress with several prospective members in the pipeline and a push for Corporate Members planned for the New Year.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish you and your family a very happy Christmas. I look forward to our continued Rotary fellowship in the New Year.

President Martin

ROTARY POLIO WHEEL N WALK

In October members of the Rotary Club of Leicester led by the Impact Group, joined forces with the CFWHub to raise both awareness and vital funds within the local community in support of Rotary International's End Polio Now campaign. This inspiring collaborative event was designed to bring people together in a spirit of health, unity, and service, reflecting Rotary's ongoing global mission to eradicate polio once and for all.

The centrepiece of the day was a meaningful charity walk that guided participants past several places of worship across Leicester. This route was carefully chosen to symbolise inclusivity and shared purpose, recognising the strength that comes from communities of different faiths and backgrounds walking side by side. Participants set off from Stoneygate Baptist Church, where they were warmly welcomed with refreshments before the walk began. The journey concluded where it started, with further refreshments and an opportunity for fellowship.

After the walk, a national vaccination van was stationed in the church car park as part of the National Vaccination Programme, highlighting the broader theme of public health and prevention. Later, attendees gathered in the church hall to hear speakers share insights on the fight against polio and the ongoing importance of vaccination worldwide.

Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of everyone involved, a fantastic **£720** was raised for the End Polio Now campaign. With the added contribution from Gift Aid and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation committing to add \$2 to every \$1 raised our total will be approximately **£2,200**. These funds were collected through participant fees, donations for refreshments, the 'Name the End Polio Now Bear' competition, and the sale of books kindly donated by **Rotarian** and author **Dr. Mark Esho**.

Thank You to Our Supporters and Volunteers

Many thanks to everyone but especially,

- **Rotarian Dr Annette Kenningham**, for her ongoing collaboration with the event through her role as founder of the CFWHub. Bringing along speakers, various health and wellbeing charity stands and the mobile immunisation van.
- **Rotarian Dr Gargie Rampurkar**, for organising the walk and generously donating sandwiches and cakes.
- **Rotarian Babs and Dave Marson**, for arranging the use of Stoneygate Baptist Church.
- **Rotarian Gordon Arthur**, for coordinating the illumination of Leicester Cathedral in purple in recognition of Rotary's polio campaign.
- **Rotarian Dr. Mark Esho**, for donating book sale proceeds to the cause. Plus donating his books to Rotary Freetown Sierra Leone towards their End Polio fundraiser
- **Rotarian Jim Mathews**, for supporting the event with collection buckets.
- **Rotarian Parmdeep Vadesha and Nick Thompson**, for managing leaflets, refreshments, and funds for the 'Name the Bear' competition.
- **Rotarians Rodney and Pam Spokes**, for looking after the Rotary stand throughout the event.
- **Rotarians Hulash Chand Donempudi, Muriel Beoku-Betts and Jason Chauhan** for their brilliant marshalling skills
- **Palbir, Simreet and Nihal Vadesha** for manning the refreshments and making the hot and cold drinks.
- **Rotarian Diana Esho** for organising the Risk Assessment and co-ordinating the project

Looking ahead, We hope to make this walk an annual tradition, bringing even more people together in support of Rotary's vital work.

Rotarian Diana Esho

FORTHCOMING ROTARY EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 3 December 2025, District 1070 Council Meeting at 7:30pm only via Zoom. All Rotarians welcome. Contacts Moira Bartlett, John Saunders, Rodney Spokes*

Tuesday 16, Wednesday 17 & Thursday 18 December 2025. Serving Christmas Lunches at Age Concern. SAS^.
Contact Chris Saul*

Saturday 24 January 2026 9:00am- 5:00pm. Young Musician District Finals. Uppingham Community College. All Rotarians welcome. Contact Moira Bartlett*.

Saturday 7 February 2026 9:00am- 5:00pm. Young Chef District Finals. Loughborough College. Contact Moira Bartlett*.

Tuesday 3 March 2026, District 1070 Council Meeting at 7:30pm. All Rotarians welcome.

Sunday 8 March 2026, Treckly Challenge week. Contact Clive Smith*

Saturday 14 March 2026 District Youth Speaks Final at Uppingham Community College. All Rotarians welcome as spectators. Contact Moira Bartlett*

Sunday 12 April 2026 at 10:30 am, District Disability Games, Ratcliffe College. SAS^.
Contact David Mathers*

Monday 19 – Sunday 24 April 2026, Calvert Trust week, SAS^.
Contact Clive Smith*

Sunday 26 April 2026 at 9:00 am, National Rotary Youth Competition finals. Contact Moira Bartlett*

Saturday 16 May 2026 at 9:30 am - District Assembly, Loughborough University. All Rotarians encouraged to attend - Contact Richard Power/PE David Matthers*

Monday 8 June 2026 at 7:30pm, District 1070 Council Meeting. All Rotarians welcome.

Saturday 13 - Wednesday 17 June 2026, Rotary International Convention, Taipei, Taiwan

To add or change events e-mail rotary@spokes.biz

*Rotarians requiring contact details go to:

rv.rotarygbi.org

^Service Above Self opportunity (hoped all members will take part in at least one).