

DIARY DATES – SPEAKERS

APRIL

- 6th Bank Holiday - No Meeting
- 13th **Kevin Allen-Khimani, Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Leicestershire**
(Vote of Thanks: John Saunders)
- 20th **Lord Mayor of Leicester, Councillor Teresa Aldred**
(Vote of Thanks: Mark Simpson)
- 27th **Revd. Dr Tom Wilson, Director, The St Philip's Centre**
Leicester: an Intercultural City?
(Vote of Thanks: John Aldridge)

MAY

- 4th Bank Holiday – No Meeting
- 11th **Rtn David Mathers**
'Remembering Harry'
- 18th **Camilla Barrow, CEO Loros**
- 25th Bank Holiday – No Meeting

RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL

The Club has been successful in securing a stall at the Riverside Festival on the weekend of 6th /7th June.

The intention is to use it to promote the work we do and encourage new members to join. We will need volunteers to man the stall over the weekend so please put the date in your diary.

A THANK YOU

Thank you to Rodney Spokes who very kindly provides most of the pictures for the newsletter every month.

ROTARY CLUB OF LEICESTER

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

Immediate Past President:	Ed Cufflin
President Elect:	David Mathers
Junior Vice-President:	Vacant
Honorary Treasurer:	David Brunton
Honorary Asst. Secretary:	Moirra Bartlett
Impact Group Chair:	Diana Esho

Elected Council Members: Mark Simpson, Clive Smith, Vicky Ball, Gargi Rampurkar

LEAD COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Club Service:	Gordon Arthur
Membership:	Parmdeep Vadesha
Service Projects:	Moirra Bartlett
Rotary Foundation/Benevolent:	David Howard
Communications:	Diana Esho



PRESIDENT – MARTIN TRAYNOR

BULLETIN – APRIL 2026

VISIT TO GUIMARAES

In March a party of nine Rotarians and partners visited our twin club in Guimaraes. After an early start from Birmingham Airport, we arrived in Porto in plenty of time to travel up to Guimaraes for lunch. We were met at Porto Airport by colleagues from Guimaraes and swiftly transported to a hill-top park overlooking Guimaraes. The park is famous for its geological formations but before we made our way to the top we were treated to an amazing tapas at a cosy restaurant. The food and wine just kept coming!



Our hotel was in the centre of old town Guimaraes and that evening we had a couple of drinks and listened to singing by groups from the University. Next morning we were blessed, once again, with good weather and were guided round old Guimaraes, a UNESCO heritage site, by a local historian, followed by lunch in the town square.

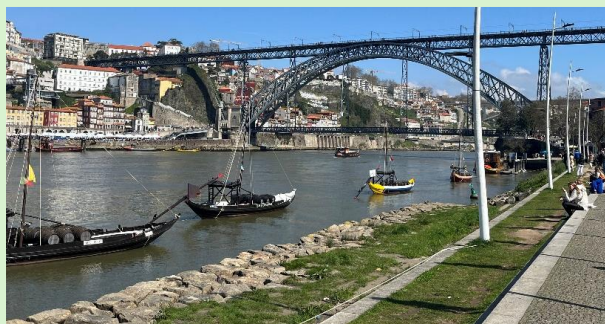




Late afternoon we were taken to an old monastery which had been converted to a Parador hotel where we were given afternoon tea, a guided tour of the hotel by the manager, and then a banquet dinner with members of the Rotary Club of Guimaraes and their partners. We exchanged gifts and banners - we gave them a signed Leicester Tigers shirt which they then trumped by giving us a signed Manchester United jersey (one of their members' sons plays for Manchester United and Portugal). On Sunday morning we were taken to Porto where the hosts kindly dropped us off at Cockburn's Port distillery.



We had a guided tour of Cockburn's followed, of course, by port tasting. We finished the day with lunch overlooking the Duoro, sightseeing and an evening meal.



It was a wonderful trip and a great chance to bond with our colleagues from Guimaraes. Hopefully, we will continue to help each other with our charitable projects, and we look forward to welcoming them to Leicester in 2027.

David Brunton

MARCH GUESTS



Guests joining our Monday meetings in March included Rebecca Hale, Jack Matthews, Allison Tripney and Nic Kotecha. Well done Gordon Arthur finding great speakers all year



AN INVITATION FROM THE IMPACT GROUP

On the 6th of May, Laura from AGE UK Leicestershire & Rutland is coming to speak to the Impact Group. All Rotary Club members are welcome to attend.

FORTHCOMING ROTARY EVENTS

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 Matthew De Giovanni*

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

Thursday 14 May 2026 – Sunday 17 May 2026, Friendship visit with our twin Rotary Club Bordeaux Tourny. Contact Parmdeep Vadesha*

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

Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 June 2026, Leicester Riverside Festival, Club stand. Impact led. Contact: Diana Esho[^]

Wednesday 10 June 2026, Rotary Children's Fun Day. Contact Mark Simpson* [^]

Thursday 8 October 2026 Rotary Leicester 110th Charter Celebration Dinner, Grand Hotel, Leicester. Contact Martin Traynor*

Saturday 17 October 2026, - District Conference, Whittlebury Park NN12 8WP. Open to all Rotarians and partners.

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

* Rotarians requiring contact details go to:
rv.rotarygbi.org

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