

DIARY DATES - SPEAKERS

JULY

- 6 **President Handover**
- 13 **Rob Banner**, Director PROSTaid
'The new Prostate Centre'
(Vote of thanks: Robert Mansfield)
- 20 **Martin Robinson**, Community
Partnerships Manager, Hope Against
Cancer
(Vote of thanks: David Howard)
- 27 **Amanda Leandro**, Director,
Cosmopolitan Arts
(Vote of Thanks: Pam Spokes)

AUGUST

- 3 **Georgia Woodcock**, Hearing Aid
Audiologist - 'Hearing Health'
(Vote of Thanks: Barry Davies)
- 10 **Krupa Bhatt**, Growth and Impact
Manager, Mosaic 1898
- 17 **Revd Julia Bradshaw**, Anglican
Chaplain, HMP Gartree - 'My
Role as a Prison Chaplain'
(Vote of Thanks: Gordon Arthur)
- 24 **Rtn Bernard Greaves** - 'Living
With Allergies: the Challenges
and the Rewards'
- 31 **Bank Holiday - no meeting**

ROTARY CLUB OF LEICESTER
Meetings at the Grand Hotel on Mondays at 12.25.
Apologies: Tel. 0116 2233950
or email Johannedraycott@pickeverard.co.uk

President:	David Mathers
Immediate Past President:	Martin Traynor
President Elect:	Paul Donaghy
Junior Vice-President:	Vacant
Honorary Treasurer:	David Nisbet
Honorary Secretary:	Moira Bartlett
Impact Group Chair:	Diana Esho

Lead Committee Chairmen:

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

Elected Council Members:

Mark Simpson, Clive Smith, Vicky Ball, Muriel Beoku-Betts, Seamus Grant

FORTHCOMING ROTARY EVENTS

Monday 6 July 2026, Presidents Handover. Martin Traynor*.

Saturday 8 August 2026, day hosting Rotary Youth Camp international visitors age 18-25. SAS^.
Contact Moira Bartlett*.

Saturday 22-Saturday 29 August 2026 Rotary Youth Leadership Award. Contact: Chris Saul*

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).

\$ New entry or details changed.



BULLETIN - JULY 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

As the club enters its 110th year, I am honoured to be the latest in a long line of Presidents to serve, not only Rotary but our members.

My vision for this year is one of Collaboration, Cooperation and Communication in order to strengthen, not only the bonds between individual members but also between our lunch and impact groups. I also want to increase collaboration with other Rotary groups so we can extend our reach where possible.

I have chosen not to have my own charity focus this year but rather to encourage you, the members, to bring forth suggestions of charities you may wish to help support – with the cooperation and collaboration of our two groups I am sure we can achieve much during the coming year. Is there a project you would like to work on or lead – let me know and we can look at whether we can work on that as a club.

Council have agreed to have a new team structure commencing this year and we are always looking for new team members to work alongside our team leaders to take the club forward.

Cont'd

We will, in the near future, be launching a mentor or “buddy” system for new members, so that they can be supported on their journey with Rotary, guided in their early years and as they develop, to be supported to work on projects.

It is also great to have one of our club members, Diana Esho, as Assistant Governor, as again this will enhance our communication with District.

The year ahead will be full of opportunities, and I commit myself to working with you all to take our club forward, I hope each of you will commit, circumstances permitting, to working alongside your fellow members in the lunch and impact groups, to serve those in need.

David Mathers RGN

RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL 2026

The Rotary Clubs in Leicester came together to share a stand at the Riverside Festival, celebrating their work with local communities and welcoming visitors who might not know about Rotary. For many people, Rotary remains unfamiliar territory. Many people might walk past our projects, benefit from our fundraising efforts or see our community work without knowing we are behind it. Because of this, events like the Riverside Festival offer an opportunity to bridge that gap and connect directly with the people we serve.

The festival attracts thousands of visitors over two days every year. Despite the unpredictable weather the Rotary stand proved a great success. Members wore club polo shirts and stood ready to chat with anyone curious about our work, explaining their involvement in local initiatives and answering questions about how Rotary supports Leicester's communities.

The main question asked was "What is Rotary?" This simple question came up again and again throughout the weekend, revealing just how many people had never encountered our organisation despite its long-standing presence in Leicester & Leicestershire. For the members, answering this question became an opportunity to explain their community projects, their fundraising initiatives and their commitment to making a difference locally.

Around the stand, the festival buzzed with activity. Food stalls offered everything from traditional festival fare to international cuisine. Craft vendors displayed handmade goods, while local charities and community groups set up their own stands to share their missions. Live music filled the air from multiple stages.

For the Rotary members who volunteered their time, the festival provided something invaluable: genuine conversations with people who might never have encountered Rotary otherwise. Many visitors stopped by simply because they were curious, leading to discussions about volunteering, community needs and an abundance of ways people can contribute to their local area.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROJECT APPEAL TO ROTARY MEMBERS

The Impact Group is leading a new project collecting product donations and dropping them off at the Stoneygate Baptist Church for local charities to collect. Since March we have supported New Future Projects, ADAMS Project and WOMENS AID plus W.A.I.T.S. HSBC Bank have also been partnering with us. Items we need to help these and other charities are NEW:

- Mens and Womens Socks
- Mens and Womens Underwear
- Adult and Kids Bedding
- Towels
- Childrens PJs of all sizes

Thank you.

Diana Esho

DISTRICT GOVERNOR HANDOVER



The attached photo was taken at our District Handover and shows the District Governor chain gang for 2026/27. From left to right: DGN Judi Rastall 2028/29 (Skegness), PDG Moira Penny 2025/26 (St Ives), DG Dawn Denton 2026/27 (Towcester), DGE Chris Knight 2027/28 (Ashby Castle).

Rodney B. Spokes