



Members' newsletter – December 2020 & January 2021

- The updated Club programme can be seen on our website here:
<http://www.rotarycanterbury.org.uk/rotary-club/club-programme.html>
- Visitors, especially prospective Rotarians, are welcome - but are asked to contact us first (contact details at www.rotarycanterbury.org.uk/contact/contact.html)
- Due to Covid-19, for the time being we are meeting online by Zoom. This is the URL until further notice: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3484423928#success> You may need to click on "launch meetings" or follow instructions in a dialogue box. Please contact **Richard Kemball-Cook** if you need help attending the online meetings.
- Members of Committees are asked to liaise with Committee Chairs for details of Committee meetings.

Dates for your diaries (all TBC, given Covid-19):

Club Coffee Bar (by Zoom) – every Thursday at 11 am, usual Zoom link.

- Special General Meeting 8 December 2020
- Christmas get-together (online): 15 December 2020
- Rotary Canterbury Book Club (online): THURSDAY 10 December 2020

2021

- Macbeth: 6 April 2021
- Art & Craft Fair: 26 April 2021
- (Rotary Convention, Tapei: 12-16 June 2021)

See below for details of some of these events. Bracketed events are not hosted/organised by our Club.

Special General Meeting: 8 December 2020

Proposed officers as follows but see email dated 28/11/20 via the Secretary with updated agenda and details. PRESIDENT - STEPHEN THOMPSON; PRESIDENT ELECT - TONY LOUGHRAN; VICE PRESIDENT - MICHAEL LEADBEATER; TREASURER - KAILASH MAUNICK; SECRETARY - MAXINE BLADES.

Christmas get-together (online): 15 December 2020

Starts at 7pm. An evening of song, poetry and readings. "Put on your glad rags & top up your drink glasses. We may not be able to meet but we can celebrate together." For details please contact **Dee Mepstead**.

Rotary Canterbury Book Club (online): THURSDAY 10 December 2020

Next meeting 10 December 7.30pm by Zoom. "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens. Previous notes are available in the Member's area of our website. Please contact **Brian Dobinson** to join.

2021

Art & Craft Fair: 26 April 2021

Please contact **Alan Mepstead** for further information.

Macbeth: 6 April 2021: note new date

The theatre company "Primal Clay" in association with Phil Abbott Estates "are pleased to announce that the play will now be staged for the Rotary Club of Canterbury on the evening of Tuesday 6th April 2021 at Mr. Abbott's home starting at 7 p.m." Please contact **Peter Hermitage** for tickets – see message from him via the Secretary on 15/10/20.

Other information

Club Coffee Bar (by Zoom): weekly

A new initiative via which Members can interact was set up by Richard Kembell-Cook had its first gathering on Thursday 11th November. It's via our usual Zoom link. See email via The Secretary dated 2/11/20 or contact **Richard** for details.

Quiz night (online): 1 December 2020

Joint winners were Roger & Sandra Power/Shabana Raman. Runner up, Mark Rosen. Thanks to **Peter (& Brenda) Hermitage** for organising the fun event.

Alan Forrest

A booklet of tributes has been collated by Dee & Alan and passed on to Diana, his wife.

Global grant: Rotary Club of Dhaka

The Rotary Club of Dhaka has been awarded the Global Grant to set up a Covid testing lab at the National Cancer Hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Our Club is an International Partner on this. Our Club donated £1000 and Julie also committed to raising £500 towards this project; Julie has already raised some funds (e.g. through the photo competition and through donations from her friends and family). A number of Rtns have also kindly offered some dining funds. Work on the lab has already started and an article will be on the website soon. For further info please either contact **Viv Pritchard** or **Julie Reza**.

Santa's sleigh & alternative Santas

The sleigh usually organised by the Rotary Club of Sunrise has had to be cancelled because of Covid restrictions, but an alternative has been set up – a series of stories with Santa as an alternative Santa event. Full details are on their Face Book page <https://www.facebook.com/rotarycanterburysunrise>. Alan has also circulated news of other alternative Santa events by email.

Dining/thanks

Alan sent a thanks to all who have donated some /all of their dining balance to various charities. He reminded all that for every £10 donated gift aid increases it to £12.50. For Polio Plus with uplift from RIBI and the Bill & Marilyn Gates foundation it becomes £37. Alan asked Members to e-mail **Richard Kemball-Cook** by 11/12/20 if they wish to make donations. See Alan's email dated 4/12/20.

Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership (VCS EP)

Please see the Rotary DMS email from Brian Dunne on 4/12/20 about Rotary's involvement; there's more information about the Partnership itself here: <https://vcsep.org.uk/>

Ducking and diving

Some of our "rubber" ducks will be helping a local Primary School's PTA raise funds – see message circulated by Secretary Lewis Norris on 3/12/20 and "trailer":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dmdXowsij0o&feature=youtu.be>

Hopefully an article will follow. Another school has also borrowed ducks. Thanks to **Robin Vickers**.

Update from the Vocational Committee from Chair Mary McGeary

"During December we will be receiving the entries for the Primary Schools Writing Competition, the theme this year is as always, A Christmas / Winter's Tale. As Christmas is a special, magic time for young children we look forward to receiving their entries - entries which are often beautifully illustrated. The prizes are usually awarded in January and this year owing to Covid restrictions we may have to be especially creative in how we will distribute the prizes. The Innovation Competition continues to flourish and we in the Vocational Team are excited at the launch of the new Essay Competition - **A Letter to my Future Self***. Special thanks are due to the people and groups who come forward to sponsor our competitions and to all the individuals both fellow Rotarians and non-Rotarians who join the members of the Vocational Team to make these projects successful in the community." (*see below).

Dear Future Self Writing Competition for Secondary Schools (2021)

This new competition will also be launched soon. Read more about it here.

<https://www.rotarycanterbury.org.uk/activities/future-self-competition-intro.html>. Posters will be available soon for this competition and the Innovation competition. To find out more about either competition, please contact **Brian Dobinson**. Please spread news among your contacts.

Inner wheel & the new Kent and Medway Medica School (KMMS)

Read more about prizes that Inner Wheel will be offering:

<https://www.internationalinnerwheel.org/news-and-features/latest-news/2020/11/24/opportunity-knocks-for-medical-students/>

Honey Bears update

Sadly, Honey Bears specialist nursery, which our Club has been in the process of fundraising for, had to close. Please see email from Bob via the Secretary dated 19/11/20 for an update.

Online gallery idea

Please could you contact **Julie Reza** if you or a family member produced any "lockdown art" (artwork, craft, photos etc) that you'd be happy to share a picture of online, perhaps with a line or two about the inspiration for it.

Juba

Viv Pritchard (Chair International) sent Members a copy of the report sent to Pentangular Presidents about Juba. See email from Viv via the Secretary dated 5/11/20.

Remembrance Day 2020/Poppy Appeal

On Remembrance Sunday Chris Barnett (President, Sunrise) represented Canterbury Rotary clubs in wreath laying. Our Members also donated to the Poppy Appeal. Including the Gift Aid, that the Legion will recover, our donation comes to £872.35. See email from **Stephen Thomson** dated 1/12/20.

Rotary 100 Club

100 Club – it's only £1 per month! The 100 Club Draws take place in October, February and June. Please contact **Graham Bough** to join.

Sailor Ted

Don't forget to contact Tony Pomeroy with your nautical miles (!)

Attendance stats: N/A until further notice.

Social media stats

[Instagram](#) – nearly 200 followers – thanks to Shabana Raman for setting this up.

[Facebook](#) – 465 followers

[Twitter](#) – 1431 followers

Please encourage friends & family to like, share, follow etc!

New articles

Please visit our website: <http://www.rotarycanterbury.org.uk/canterbury-rotary-news/>

It's a great way to catch up with news and stories that you may have missed.

Please note that the dates that accompany stories are date of posting and not necessarily of the event.

Please remember to tell **Julie Reza** about any newsworthy stories or if you want to add to the series of articles about Members' hobbies/pastimes. (These were mainly written for those in isolation/lockdown, but they can continue to tell others about our Members.)