

**Rotary Club of Canterbury**  
**Minutes of the Club's Business Meeting held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025**

1. **Welcome:** President Maxine welcomed Mrs Joan Hill to the meeting
2. **Apologies** for absence had been received from Andrew Barchi, Richard Kemball-Cook and Robert Temple.
3. **Thought for the Day** was given by Roger Hickman.
4. **Tribute to John Hill:** At President Maxine's request Robert Yonge paid tribute to the late Past President John Hill to which Mrs Joan Hill responded.
5. **Induction of Clare Hewitt:** Clare Hewitt was presented to the Club by Stephen Thompson (on behalf of Andrew Barchi) and was inducted into Rotary membership by President Maxine with the classification of Lecturer.
6. **Almoner/Health Report:** President Maxine reported that Andrew Barchi was unwell as was Robert Temple's wife Mavis.
7. **Minutes of the Business Meeting** held on 4<sup>th</sup> March having been circulated in advance were agreed.
8. **Secretary's Business:**
  - a. February membership 47 Active, 1 Honorary member. It was expected that a further new member would be inducted at the May Business meeting.
  - b. Programme Updates – March to June 2025:
    - i. President Maxine reported on a very successful St Patrick's Day celebration at The Prince of Wales Youth Club and thanked Peter Hermitage for organising the event which had raised £671 for the PoWYC.
    - ii. Charterhouse Visit 10<sup>th</sup> April.
    - iii. Safari Supper 14<sup>th</sup> June – hospitality venues and cooks needed from Club members if the event is to proceed.
    - iv. Canterbury Show scheduled for July in Westgate Gardens has now been cancelled but it is hoped will happen in 2026.
    - v. Canterbury Riverfest will run from 21<sup>st</sup> to 28th September and the Club Duck Race will be on 21<sup>st</sup> September.
9. **Presidents' Matters -**
  - a. Club Council – March 17th Meeting Minutes were circulated.
  - b. The Point: Stephen Thompson advised that all was in hand for the unveiling of The Point by The Lord Lieutenant on the 29<sup>th</sup> April. Andrew Clague advised that the work is on target for completion. Invitation have been sent out and replies are requested by 11<sup>th</sup> April. 8 Club members volunteered as Stewards for the day and Peter Hermitage will co-ordinate them.
  - c. Cooperation with other clubs:
    - i. Duck Race: A meeting will be organised to agree the plans for the Duck Race including all responsibilities and preparations and other Clubs being asked to assist.
    - ii. Inner Wheel 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday events details have been circulated and President Maxine will be attending the lunch on the 8<sup>th</sup> April at UKC.
10. **Corporate Membership Pilot:** Following a presentation by Andrew Clague and a meeting between Andrew, President Maxine and Robert Yonge Club Council had recommended to the Club:

- a. A small working group be established, headed by Andrew, to manage the process of identifying and interviewing potential Corporate Members of the Club under a Pilot Scheme in accordance with the paper circulated to the Club by Andrew.
- b. It was noted that only the 'lead' member of any Corporate Membership would be entitled to vote on Club matters and that initially corporate membership would be limited to five new 'members'.

11. **MGSE:** In Martin Ward's absence President Maxine reported that Invitations and draft programme have now been sent to the other Pentangular Clubs. Hospitality arrangements are still needed for 4 of the visitors.

12. **Pentangular:**

- a. June 2025 Pentangular Weekend in Leuven – bookings sent. 18 members and guests attending. Participants are reminded to make their own Hotel reservations directly.
- b. JPP6 Ludenscheid 2026 Treatment for Ukrainian mothers and children suffering from PTSD to proceed as planned.

13. **Treasurers' report:** The latest Financial Reports had been circulated in advance and Tony Loughran reported that all is in order.

14. **Updated Club Programme:**

- a. Events for April
  - i. 8<sup>th</sup> April **Dinner** speaker meeting Mike Harman Howfield Manor Hotel.
  - ii. 10<sup>th</sup> April Visit to Charterhouse – Brian Dobinson.
  - iii. 15<sup>th</sup> April Lunchtime speaker meeting Martin Ward talk entitled 'Full Steam Ahead' at Howfield Manor Hotel.
  - iv. 22<sup>nd</sup> April Inner Wheel 100<sup>th</sup> Celebration and Afternoon Tea.
  - v. 29<sup>th</sup> April **11.00 am** unveiling of The Point followed by lunchtime reception.

15. **Updates from:**

- a. Community Service Group: Bettie Morton reported on possible activities to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of the Centre including a London trip and a Visit to the Harry Potter Museum. Consideration is also being given to means of supporting the Funding of Daytime Youth Services.
- b. Vocational Service Group: Nothing to report.
- c. International Service Group: Nothing to report.

16. **AOB**

- a. Stephen Thompson, Philip Abbott and Raj Dasan had recently attended the Royal British Legion coffee morning to thank those who had participated in the 2024 Poppy Appeal. It is noted that new premises and management team are needed by the Royal British Legion for November 2025.
- b. Dietary requirements for Members guests should be advised to President Maxine.

17. Rotary the World Over Toast coupled with Club from the Tel Aviv suburbs.