

Rotary Club of Canterbury
Minutes of the Club's Business Meeting held on Tuesday 4th March 2025

1. **President Maxine** welcomed all to the meeting.
2. **No apologies** for absence had been received.
3. **Thought for the Day** was given by Rosemary Doyle.
4. **Dr Aruna Jago-Brown** was presented to the Club by Richard Kemball-Cook and inducted into membership by President Maxine under the classification of University Lecturer.
5. **Almoner/Health Report:** President Maxine reported that the Club Almoner, David Lewis, is making steady progress in recovery. John Hill is very poorly. Robert Yonge reported on Jim Gascoyne being in good spirits but having dialysis 3 times per week. Maxine reported that Mark Rosen's wife, Janice, is not well.
6. **Minutes of last Business Meeting** held on 4th February 2025 had been circulated and there were no Matters Arising.
7. **Secretary's Business:**
 - a. February membership 47 Active, 1 Honorary member which will now increase to 48 Active members with the addition of Aruna.
 - b. Programme Updates – March to June 2025:
 - i. Charterhouse Visit 10th April has spaces available for any new bookings that day. Cost is £18 per capita to be paid to the Club's event account.
 - ii. Safari Supper will be on the 14th June.
8. **Presidents' Matters -**
 - a. Club Council - February Meeting Minutes had been circulated.
 - b. The Point: Stephen Thompson reported on progress to date including the unexpected discovery of a 100mm gas main beneath the site despite the extensive surveys required by the Council. There had been good progress in the last week and it is hoped that we are still on track for the 29th April unveiling.
 - c. Cooperation with other clubs
 - i. Report - Santa's Sleigh Funds of over £1,000 had been received from The Sunrise Club.
 - d. District update. Maxine reported on a recent District meeting where a number of new officer appointments were announced together with an increase in the recommended District subscription of £2 per capita towards District youth competitions. Maxine will be attending the training weekend shortly in preparation for her role as Assistant District Governor.
9. **MGSE Martin**
 - a. Meeting of 2025 Hosting Committee will take place shortly. A request for Club members to assist in providing accommodation for the visitors will be circulated.
10. **Pentangular**
 - a. June 2025 Pentangular Weekend in Leuven: With a cut off date today 16 members of the Club and their guests have accepted the Leuven invitation.
 - b. JPP6 Ludenscheid 2026 Treatment for Ukrainian mothers and children suffering from PTSD has now been agreed by the Pentangular Clubs with an alternative proposal from Leuven being rejected.

11. **Treasurers' report** – Tony

- a. February Financial Report had been circulated and Tony Loughran advised all was well. It is good to see that the Vocational and International Groups have identified expenditure to be met from the allocated funds.

12. **Updated Club Programme** Version

- a. Events for March/April
 - i. 11th March – **Lunchtime** Speaker Meeting – Dr Andrew Richardson Royal Daughters of Kent – Anglo Saxon Women of Power at Howfield Manor Hotel.
 - ii. 18th March -**St Patrick's Day Supper** at Prince of Wales Youth Club. Peter Hermitage advise that there are seats available. Raffle prizes are requested.
 - iii. 25th March – no meeting
 - iv. 1st April **Lunchtime** Business Meeting at the Kent & Canterbury Club with induction of 2 new members.
 - v. 8th April **Dinner** speaker meeting Mike Harman at Howfield Manor Hotel.
 - vi. 10th April **Visit to Charterhouse** – Brian Dobinson arranging.
 - vii. 15th April **Lunchtime** speaker meeting Martin Ward at Howfield Manor Hotel.
 - viii. 22nd April **Inner Wheel 100th** Celebration and Afternoon Tea.
 - ix. 29th April **Lunchtime** unveiling of The Point.

13. **Updates from**

- a. Community Service Group: Report and Minutes from recent meeting awaited.
- b. Vocational Service Group: Alan Mepstead reported on the progress with the Reading Festival to take place in Canterbury and the good progress being made by the organisers. Brian Dobinson reported that submissions for the Innovation Competition are expected by the end of March.
- c. International Service Group: Raj Dasan reported that at a recent meeting it was agreed to make grants as follows: Shelter Box £650, Aqua Box £600 and RC Dhaka £500 for cancer prevention and screening project. Raj had visited recently the RC of Kandy, Sri Lanka, and possible projects that we may be able to help with are awaited. Lend with Care activity continues well and it is proposed that Robin Vickers will report more fully at a future Club meeting.

14. **Membership update:** Robert Yonge reported on progress with two prospective new members who are expected to be inducted into the Club at the April Business Meeting.

15. **AOB:**

- a. President Maxine asked for a volunteer to provide temporary cover of Almoner's Role.
- b. Stephen Thompson reminded the Club of the invitation from the Royal British Legion to their 'Thank You' coffee morning.

16. **The 100 Club** draw winner was John Hill.