

Rotary Club of Canterbury
Minutes of Club Assembly followed by Business Meeting on Tuesday 3rd June 2025 at the
Kent and Canterbury Club

1. **Welcome:** President Maxine welcomed ADG Vivienne Rose and The Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Club member Keji Moses to the meeting.
2. **Apologies** had been received from Aragon St Charles.
3. **Thought for the Day** was given by Rosemary Doyle.

Club Assembly: PE Raj Dasan Presented the draft programme for 2025/6:

1. **Raj** advised the Club that the programme for the year ahead will be based on The Garden of England embracing Kent and the Countryside. Included in the programme will be the Club's annual Duck Race; the MGSE; a number of job talks; Fundraising events including a 'Taste of Sri Lanka; 2026 Pentangular in Ludenschied. Raj is counting on the support of the Club to make it an enjoyable and fulfilling year for all.
2. **Richard** introduced the plans of the Community Service Group in consolidating the present activities including mental health projects and special schools. Work will continue with Thanington and Hersden Community centres together with the Salvation Army.
3. **Brian** introduced the plans of the Vocational Service Group to continue with projects for young people including the Innovations competition and the Children's Literature project. Brian emphasised the need for younger Club members to become involved in these exciting opportunities.
4. **Raj** Introduced plans for International Service Group under the Chairmanship of Graham which will include projects in Dhaka, Sri Lanka and the support of Lend with Care.
5. **Andrew** introduced plans for Corporate Membership development to continue and already has 1 prospective Corporate member in mind. He hoped that the Club programme would include some items of interest for Corporate members.

Business Meeting:

1. **Almoner/Health Report:** David Lewis advised that Jim Gascoyne remains in William Harvey Hospital and Philip Abbott had visited recently reporting that Jim was in better spirits. Sidney Denham is awaiting hip replacement surgery.
2. **Minutes of Business Meeting** held on 6th May 2025 having been circulated in advance were agreed.
3. **Secretary's Business:**
 - a. May membership 49 Active members, 1 Honorary member. Lewis Norris had advised that he will not be renewing his Club membership for personal reasons. Maxine enquired whether anyone had news of Leonard Rea since we no longer have email contact with him. Members are asked to advise any final updates in membership details asap so that the Directory for the new year can be printed.
 - b. Programme Updates – June 2025
 - i. Safari Supper on 14th June will start at Maxine's house. Preliminary details for hosts will be circulated shortly.

4. **Presidents' Matters:**

- a. Club Council: 16th June Meeting Minutes had been circulated.
- b. The Point: Andrew advised that The Point is being well used. A few modifications are needed and will be made. The City Council have now refunded the £10,000 deposit to the Club.
- c. Cooperation with other clubs:
 - i. Bat & Trap 19th August at Ye Olde Beverlie will form part of the MGSE and it is hoped that Sunrise and Chestfield Clubs will also participate.
- d. District update:
 - i. District Council 28th May: Maxine and Raj had attended an unimpressive meeting.
 - ii. District Handover will be on 26th June when Penny Spiller will become the District Governor. Previous Cluster Groups are now to be known as District Groups for administrative purposes but Penny is relaxed about interaction between Clubs from different Groups.
 - iii. The District Conference at Eastbourne in October is now a 2 day event without formal dinner. Maxine is attending for the Saturday.

5. **Duck Race 2025:** Following discussions between Maxine, Tim Brett, Andrew Clague and Roger Hickman proposals regarding ways of increasing Corporate sponsorship (and thereby income) for the Duck Race were considered by Club Council. A summary of these proposals had been circulated to Club members and after full discussion the Club agreed to run a separate Corporate Race over a shortened course immediately before the main Duck Race.
The price for sponsoring individual ducks for the ordinary race had stood at £1 since inception and the Club agreed to increase the price of individual ducks from £1 to £2 with the prize moneys also doubled.

6. **Strode Park Rainbow Room:** A briefing paper on a transformation project for the Rainbow Room at Strode Park had been prepared by Julie Reza and Malini Karani and circulated in advance of the meeting. There were a number of phases within the scope of the project in which it is hoped other Clubs will participate and after discussion it was agreed that Julie and Malini continue working up the project with a view to bringing proposals back to the Club at the July Business Meeting.

7. **MGSE Martin:**

- a. Martin reported on the continuing need of:
 - i. Accommodation: 10 bedrooms.
 - ii. Programme update now included a visit to The Houses of Parliament.
- b. UK participants selection had now been completed with two excellent candidates being chosen.

8. **Pentangular**

- a. 6th -8th June 2025 Pentangular Weekend in Leuven – bookings sent. 21 members and guests attending.

9. **Treasurers' 11 month report:** Tony reported on the financial position at 11 months as per the figures already circulated and that everything is on target. It is pleasing that nearly all the Charity funds allocated to Groups has now been spent.
Members were reminded that subscriptions fall due on the 1st July (and not before). Subscriptions are £215 together with voluntary contribution to Rotary Foundation of £20.

10. **Updated Club Programme June & July**

- a. 3rd June –Lunchtime Club Assembly & Business Meeting – Kent & Canterbury Club
- b. 6-8th June – Pentangular Weekend in Leuven
- c. 14th June – Safari Supper – starting at Hatch Farm at 5.30pm

- d. 16th June Club Council & Dinner, Hatch Farm
- e. 17th June – Lunchtime Handover Meeting – Howfield Manor
- f. 1st July – Lunchtime Business Meeting
- g. 8th July – Evening Speaker meeting, Paul Whitfield Wildwood Trust, Abbots Barton
- h. 15th July – Lunchtime meeting, MGSE Presentation by Hallie, TBC
- i. 29th July – Lunchtime Business Meeting, Kent & Canterbury Club

11. **ADG Vivienne Rose** applauded the Club on the plans outlined for the year ahead and wished the Club well for the year.

12. **The 100 Club** draw was made with Brian Dobinson being the winner.

RWV 03.06.25