

Rotary Club of Canterbury

Meeting of the Club Council held on Monday, 14th April 2025 at Rosemary Doyle's

1. **Present:** President Maxine Blades, Andrew Clague, Raj Dasan, Rosemary Doyle, Neil Fraser, Tony Loughran, Robin Vickers and Graham Bough for item 3.
2. **Apologies** for absence had been received from Richard Kemball-Cook.
3. **2025/26 Budget Discussion:** After consideration of known increased costs for the year ahead, including RIBI and Rotary District, it was agreed to recommend to the Club a subscription of £215 plus voluntary Foundation contribution of £20 – total £235 for the Rotary year 2025/2026 being an increase of just under 4%.
4. **Minutes** of the meeting of Club Council held on Monday 17th March 2025 were agreed.
5. **Secretary's Business –**
 - a. RGB&I database showing 48 members & 1 honorary member as of 06/04/25.
 - i. New member Karen Joy will be inducted on 6th May.
 - ii. The basis of allocation of new members to Groups was discussed and it was agreed to follow the present basis of asking new members to attend each of the 3 spending groups for 2 meetings each and subsequently to agree with the President of the day which Group they would wish to serve on. New members would be included on the Club Stewarding rota as a further means of meeting members.
 - iii. The tribute to John Hill given by Robert Yonge at the April 1st meeting had been well received by Mrs Joan Hill and the Club.
6. **President's Business:**
 - a. The Point update: Andrew Clague reported that the Point is largely complete now with just a small amount of carving to be done. The response to the invitations for the unveiling was going well and all preparations for the unveiling on the 29th April were also well in hand.
 - b. Cooperation with Local Clubs
 - i. Bat and Trap proposal for Tuesday 19th August 2025 has been arranged by Raj Dasan at The Beverlie and to coincide with the MGSE at a cost of £18 per capita. Forest of Blean and Sunrise are holding their own separate events but Chestfield Club will be invited to our evening.
 - ii. Inner Wheel 100th Birthday greetings & Church service/Afternoon Tea: President Maxine had attended the Inner Wheel Centenary lunch which had been excellent. The Inner Wheel Church service will be on the 22nd April at 2.00pm followed by afternoon tea in Littlebourne Village Hall.
 - iii. Whitstable Club VE Day event at The Crescent Turner Hotel on 7th May will be at a cost of £35 per capita to include a donation of £10 to their Club Charity account.
 - c. Pentangular
 - i. Weekend 6-8th June – 21 people attending but 2 have not yet paid. It is understood that 80 non Leuven members will be attending.
 - ii. Ludenscheid Pentangular dates are 5-7th June 2026.
 - d. Events and Fundraising update – 2025/6
 - i. Duck Race 21st September: Maxine has sent out a comprehensive list of responsibilities for the Duck Race to be discussed at the Business meeting on the 6th May.

- e. Feedback from District Council, DOTS and Rotary LDF:
 - i. 2025/6 RI Presidents message is about Evolving Rotary – United for Growth.
 - ii. 2025/6 DG Penny Spiller is taking a relaxed approach in her approach especially in supporting collaboration between Clubs and areas when holding events and other activities.
 - iii. Revised NE Area: Faversham Club has been re-allocated to a different district but will continue to meet with our cluster group.
 - iv. Eastbourne Conference in October has been cut back to 2 days with no Gala Dinner.

7. Dining Arrangements:

President Maxine and President Elect Raj had met with the management of Abbotts Barton Hotel in New Dover Road following it's refurbishment and are interested in offering Club meals. Sunrise Club are using this venue and find it satisfactory and Forest of Blean Club are considering moving there. Howfield Manor meals had proved variable and the location out of town is not good for some members. It is proposed to continue Business Meetings at The Kent and Canterbury Club subject to review in December and to move Club meetings to Abbotts Barton Hotel as from July with review in December at a cost to members of £25 for a 2 course meal and coffee, the same as at present at Howfield Manor.

8. Mini Group Study Exchange 2024:

- a. MGSE 2025 in Canterbury invitations have been sent out with good response from Lüdenscheid who have asked if they can send 3 participants. Offers of accommodation from Club members are coming in.
- b. Funding/budget for hosting MGSE has been agreed at appropriate levels for the activities planned.

9. Treasurer's Report:

- a. Tony reported that due to timing of receipt of bank statements there was no further update but all continues as planned. He has arranged the sending of funds to Rotary Club of Dhaka as per International's request and is urgently awaiting requests from Community Service for distribution of funds allocated to that Group particularly in the light of the report to the Club made by Bettie Morton on Richard's behalf.

10. Club Programme Update:

- i. 15th April – Martin Ward – Full Steam Ahead.
- ii. 22nd April - Inner Wheel 100 Celebration Service and afternoon tea 2pm.
- iii. 29th April – The Point unveiling.
- iv. 6th May – Business Meeting at Kent & Canterbury Club.
- v. 13th May – Afternoon meeting at Folkestone Fishing Museum with fish and chips.
- vi. 19th May – Club Council at Rosemary Doyle's.
- vii. 20th May – Club AGM at Howfield Manor.
- viii. 3rd June - Club Assembly at Kent & Canterbury Club.
- ix. 6th to 8th June - Pentangular at Leuven.
- x. 14th June – Safari Supper.
- xi. 16th June - Club Council with dinner at President Maxine's.
- xii. 17th June – Club handover meeting at Howfield Manor.

11. AOB:

Raj has invited Viv Pritchard to join Club Council next year. Tony offered to host Club Council meetings. Raj is making progress on the programme for the year ahead but welcomes offerings of speakers.

Thanks were expressed to Rosemary for her hospitality.

RWV 06.04.25