

B.E.M.: Brilliant, Excellent Michelle ... continued

Ginny’s voice is heard and that her experiences of treatment can help create better services for others. This passion has led Michelle to becoming an effective advocate for patients across all NHS services and has had a highly successful career in ensuring the voice of ordinary people is heard.

Michelle is also very honest about the impact that her sister’s death has had upon her and, whilst it motivated her to achieve incredible feats, it also provided a trauma that took many, many years to come to terms with. In the final section of her talk Michelle described how her 2025 trip back to the Inca Trail in Peru, thirty years after her sister died and twenty-one after her first visit, was her opportunity finally to say goodbye to Ginny and the weight of grief she had been carrying. Very emotional for all present.

There is no doubt that giving a vote of thanks is almost impossible when the speaker has been so effective, well-presented, humorous and emotional. President Jane once again demonstrated her skill at undertaking the role and summarised all of our gratitude in a vote that also included her only criticism ... the presentation included many pictures of Michelle’s naturally curly hair, much preferred to the straight version. Thank you Michelle.

Pics below: Michelle with President Jane after her excellent talk; with her British Empire Medal; a snap of the crowd including someone who got a different dress code memo!



Dolphin Centre

Breakfasts continue in Soft Play.

Lunches in Central Hall

PLEASE NOTE: Card payments only

Completion hoped to be by the end of July

Letter of Appreciation from Nancy Wall, QE6

As promised in last week’s report:

Excerpt, “Yesterday we competed in the GreenPower race



after taking a car that was practically heading for the skip and somehow turning it into a racing machine. Even more importantly, thanks to (Rotarians) Iain, Robin, and Ged; the students now not only know what a spanner is, but also which end to hold and how to use one properly! The three of them have been absolutely brilliant throughout...”

[FULL LETTER: NANCY WALL](#)

Club Handover Lunch

President Jane hands over to Iain Anderson

Includes presentation of awards, acknowledging Past Presidents, music and speeches

Friday 26th June at 12:00 in Central Hall

Guests welcome

Menu: Beef or Salmon; Lemon Tart or Cheese & Biscuits

Dress Code: Business smart

£30

Booking details will be on the Event Hub by Sunday 31st May

Please state who you want to sit with and we will do our best to accommodate your request

Charity Golf Day

Thursday 23rd July at Blackwell Golf Club

[CHARITY GOLF ENTRY FORM](#) for circulation

Contact Iain Lyle for information and offers of help



Committee Meetings

6pm, Dolphin Centre Function Room or as stated

May 27th: Club Council

4th Wednesday monthly

June 4th: Community Service

1st Thursday monthly (not August)

Venue to be confirmed

June 18th: Club Service

3rd Thursday bimonthly

July 1st: PR & Marketing Group

5pm – Venue to be confirmed

July 7th: International Service

1st Tuesday bimonthly

July 14th: Youth Service

2nd Tuesday bimonthly

Venue to be confirmed

Club Information

Website: [click here](#)

Weekly Reports: [click here](#)

Club Diary: [click here](#)

Facebook: [click here](#)

X: @darlrotary

LinkedIn: #darlingtonrotary

DARLINGTON ROTARY EVENT HUB

Club events are booked by clicking [EVENT HUB](#) or using this QR code. Events are either “Members Only” or “Public” and can easily be found by scrolling through.

