

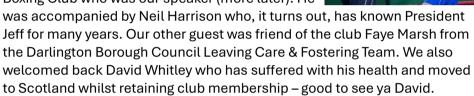
Friday 2nd May 2025

MEETINGS IN MAY – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN ORDER					
	9 th	16 th	23 rd	30 th	
	Lunch	Breakfast	Breakfast	Lunch	

Old School Breakfast

On a beautiful, sunny morning President Jeff welcomed 22 members, 1 Honorary and 3 guests to our breakfast meeting where we were served by Katie and Jamie with their usual aplomb.

Guests were Michael Hall from the Old School Boxing Club who was our speaker (more later). He



(Although the picture above was chosen from the <u>Old School Facebook</u> <u>page</u> there was no animosity or need for fisticuffs for most of breakfast although Roger James did get a bit feisty about mention last week of his performance in the Ron Hall Trophy.)

Notices given by members were firstly from Gary Blenkinsopp, Chair of Community Service, who spoke on behalf of Ken Wiper to promote and encourage members and their families to sign up for marshalling the 10k Run. The board is circulating – please email **Ken Wiper** if you need more details.

SVP Jane Bradshaw, who had been giving out personal invitations prior to the meeting, gave details of the Kind Hearts Ball to be held on Saturday October 4^{th} at the Raby Castle Riding Stables. She enthused about what will be a fantastic event with only 150 tickets available – these will be on tables of 10 (and no other number!). Price to Rotarians is £60 and Jane asked if members could arrange themselves into groups of 10 if possible. Tickets will be available on the new Event Hub (see over) from next week. Jane also stressed that, apart from a table allocated for sponsors Charles and Angela Tompkins, no tables had yet been sold. Get in early to avoid disappointment.

President Jeff's notices included urging everyone to sign up for the Choirs for Cancer Care on 10th June (see over). He also reported on attending a Zoom meeting with other local Rotary Clubs which focused on membership development. On Thursday he attended the Abbey School GreenPower session and enjoyed watching the young drivers try out their skills. He announced that Gail Wiper and Barry Chapman had won the Bonus Ball.

Walid reported that Bob Devonport was in hospital and that a decision

continued overleaf....

Coming Soon...

May

Friday 9th

12:15 Club Lunchtime meeting Speaker: Brian Dobinson, Darlington Sports Winners

Thursday 15th May: **Quoits,** Raby Terrace, DL3 7AB

Friday 16th

07:15 Club Breakfast meeting Speaker: Hayley McKay, Music Minds at the Forum

Thursday 22nd **Chris Lloyd** (see overleaf)

Friday 23rd

07:15 Club Breakfast meeting Speaker: Caroline Todd, King's Church Foodbank

Friday 30th

12:15 Club Lunchtime meeting Speaker: Cllr. Bob Donoghue "My Year As Mayor"

June

Friday 6th

07:15 Club Breakfast meeting

Tuesday 10th
19:00 Choirs For Cancer Care

Friday 13th
12:15 CLUB ASSEMBLY

Friday 20th
07:15 Club Breakfast meeting

Friday 27th **18:30 Handover Dinner**(No Lunchtime Meeting)



Breakfast News >>> >>> >>> >>>

Old School Breakfast....continued

would soon be made as to where would be best for his care and support. Richard Western's health is of course of concern to us but is showing no change. We send them both our best wishes.

Secretary Andy announced that on Tuesday, 6pm there is the International Committee at the Dolphin Centre and on Wednesday, 5pm the PR Group meets at St. Teresa's Hospice. Next week's lunchtime speaker will be Brian Dobinson from the Darlington Sports Winners Scheme - celebrating 50 years of acknowledging young talent.



Our speaker was Michael Hall from the Old School Boxing Club. Here pictured on the left in 1995 when he won the ABA Welterweight title, going on to be picked for the 1996 Olympics in

Atlanta but unable to compete due to ill health. And here he is now with the President and Neil Harrison who accompanied him.

Following an auspicious amateur career, including fighting Ricky Hatton, Michael went pro as a part of the famous Brendan Ingle gym in Sheffield. He also joined the local Fire Service and has been a firefighter ever since becoming a part of Durham & Darlington Fire Service when he moved back. He actually came to our meeting straight from a night shift!

With encouragement from others he has established the Old School Boxing Club in the Old Telephone Exchange in Darlington. The "old school" values he espouses ensure that fitness and wellbeing come before competition and only when participants ask do they progress to actual contests. Girls and boys are benefitting from this new club in town, led by a very small team with a culture that we can all appreciate and support.

A very good talk generated lots of questions and an appreciative vote of thanks from Gary Blenkinsopp.

Boards & Invitations circulating:

Annual Quoits Evening to be held on Thursday 15th May at Darlington Quoits Club, Raby Terrace, DL3 7AB Organised by Tony Marshall.

Choirs 4 Cancer Care – book your tickets or use the new Event Hub.

Darlington 10K Run – Sunday 3rd August 08:30-12:30. Ken Wiper is asking for you to confirm attendance and chosen duty.

Kind Hearts, the Ball – Saturday 4th October in the Raby Castle Riding School. Tickets available on the Event Hub from next week (see below). Price to Rotarians: £60



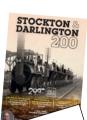
Darlington Rotary Event Hub: Club events can now be booked by going to www.darlingtonrotary.org/event-hub or using this QR code starting with the Choirs. If you need a demonstration please ask.

Chris Lloyd talk on 200th Anniversary of Stockton & Darlington Railway

Thursday 22nd May

6.30pm for 7.00pm Bannatyne Hotel

£20 per head Two course meal



Now only 2 Places
Remaining!

Steve Rose your meal choices and paid for the event into the Club's General Account

Darlington Rotary Club 52-30-18 41856384

Handover Dinner

Our annual black tie dinner to mark another year and the handing over of the Presidency....and have a bit of fun too.

Friday 27th June Headlam Hall Hotel

Reception 6.30pm Meal 7.15pm

Tickets: £48

Rooms available at special rate

Email <u>Steve Rose</u> to book – include details of your party if booking a table of 10

Club Information

Website: click here
Facebook: click here
X: @darlrotary
Club Diary: click here
LinkedIn: #darlingtonrotary