





This was followed by an account of a busy morning with Sky News at St. Aiden's School, where details of the much praised school's Online Safety Forum were being launched in our area.

Lola went on to describe her origins in North Road, education at George Dent, St Augustine's, Carmel and then QE. Early career in the Union sector before finally arriving in Westminster and being appointed to the prestigious Treasury Select Committee.

Here she arranged for the committee to visit the Darlington Economic Campus and while in the town took them to the covered market where a discussion with stallholders and public took place regarding the possibility of a cashless society. Whilst there, they indulged in bargaining session with the legend that is Robin Blair.

A personal highlight of her new job was meeting the Governor of the Bank of England and coming face to face with, and holding an actual gold bar. Extremely heavy and at £895,000, the most amount of money she would hold in her hand - ever.

Another was meeting the His Majesty the King and playing on his love of trains, inviting him up to join in the S&DR 200th Celebrations later in the year - watch this space.

Lola went on to talk about skill training and meeting two young engineers in the town and making a success of this type of training for young people. Helpful comments from the floor about how this worked well in the past, saw her scribbling down notes for possible later use.

A quick mention was made of a possible Rotary visit to the House of Commons sometime later in the year, and support for her Golden Ticket scheme, which allows access for local primary school children to the play area at the new Hopetown site. Future plans, with the help of Chris Lloyd, for more blue plaque recognition for prominent Darlingtonians of the past were also touched on before Jeff asked host Jane Bradshaw to give the vote of thanks.

Jane thanked Lola for her energy and commitment on behalf of the town and her grandchildren for all her efforts on regarding online safety and wished her well as another woman taking her place in Parliament.

*Rotary the world over.*

## Westminster Ties

In a bid to make our speaker feel more at home, Rotarian Nigel Little dug out this tie that featured 'Big Ben.'

## Rotary Trophy contest Darlington Quoits Club

We now have 31 people signed up to try and wrest the Rotary Cup from out the hands of Andrew Griffiths of Marford Litho on Thursday May 15th.

This is always a fun night and we are made most welcome by their members - instruction is given and all are abilities are welcome. If for some reason you think you won't be able to attend, please let me (Tony Marshall) know in good time as I have to give them final numbers. I will put the board round again closer to the date.



## Club branded Polo shirts

I still have five Polo shirts for sale. Sizes are two Medium, one Large and two XL (2). These are £15 each if any members are interested. Dark blue in colour with the Rotary logo in deep yellow with the Rotary lettering and Darlington in white.



## Photo's for your Lanyards

Mine and Andy's request for a more up to date photograph to go on the new lanyard badges, resulted in the usual lack lustre response. So I have extended the deadline to April 1st. If you haven't supplied a new pic by then I will go with the one that is in the Members Directory.

**Please send pics to the pivot email address not to our Secretary Andy Teague, he has enough to do already.**

*My thanks to Chris, Jane, Heather, the two Nigel's, Lindsey, Eric, David R, Robin and Ged who kindly supplied new images without any prompting.*