

Blooming Orlando

Our speaker was our own Sue Campbell who, as District Governor Elect, had recently taken part in the Rotary International Assembly in Orlando, Florida.

(Pictured with the Flags of the Nations)



Sue started by thanking everyone for the support she has received after her son-in-law succumbed to cancer aged just 48. She said, "If Rotary is a family, I have been blessed. Thank you."

Every District Governor in Rotary completes their training and preparation at the International Assembly. Now held in Florida, 1600 people from across the world go through a series of seminars and socials to ensure the new DGs are ready for their year.

Sue admitted to not knowing what to expect but was surprised, as was her husband Bill, at how much she enjoyed it. Mixing with Rotarians from around the world was interesting and stimulating. The incoming Rotary International President, Olayinka "Yinka" H. Babalola is a charismatic Nigerian who wants us all to Create Lasting Impact, urging members to focus on sustainable service, welcoming clubs, and personal transformation.



One of the features of the Assembly is the Cultural Night with everyone dressed in national costumes. Japanese in kimonos, Indians in saris, Africans in flowing robes and Germans in lederhosen....and the Brits? In rugby shirts – we must do better!

After the Assembly Sue and Bill had a chance to tour a bit of Florida and were slightly freaked when confronting an alligator but were incredibly fortunate to be in Cape Canaveral on a Space X launch day, the highlight of the trip (but don't tell Rotary).



President Jane gave the vote of thanks, wishing Sue well for the coming year.

"Fifth Friday" Meal

Thursday 28th May
at Bannatyne's Hotel, Southend Avenue, Darlington, DL3 7HZ

6:30 for 7:00 start.

Cost £22 – book on Event Hub please

Speaker: Michelle Thompson B.E.M.

"A Life of Fundraising the Hard Way – including my recent trek in Peru"

Wild About Darlington

Click for [BELLBURN SHEET](#) or [SCHOOLS SHEET](#) circulated 13th February

1) [BELLBURN](#) Lane allotments full details 2) [SCHOOLS](#) full details

To sign up to take part or to find out more **contact Michelle Thompson.**



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.

Dolphin Centre

Breakfasts now in Soft Play. The Dolphin Centre will be serving our usual Full English or Continental.

All **lunches** will now be in Central Hall, entrance in Bull Wynd.

PLEASE NOTE: Card payments only



The New Club (Key Club)

Wednesday 18th March (6.00pm)

Quebec Street Darlington (opposite Wilko's)

Pie & Peas & gravy and 2 free snooker tables all night + dominoes

Our annual foray into the world of pub games

Please contact Gary Blenkinsopp for full details



Committee Meetings

6pm, Dolphin Centre Function Room or as stated

March 19th: Club Service

3rd Thursday bimonthly

March 25th: Club Council

4th Wednesday monthly

April 2nd: Community Service

1st Thursday monthly (not August)
Darlington Rugby Club, Blackwell Meadows

April 8th: PR & Marketing Group

4pm – Function Room, Dolphin Centre

May 5th: International Service

1st Tuesday bimonthly

May 12th: Youth Service

2nd Tuesday bimonthly
Darlington Rugby Club, Blackwell Meadows

Club Information

Website: [click here](#)

Weekly Reports: [click here](#)

Club Diary: [click here](#)

Facebook: [click here](#)

X: @darlrotary

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