

Hot & Bloody

On what turned out to be a sweltering hot Friday, lunchtime - 31 Rotarians, 5 guests and a potential new member, still managed to turn out for new President Iain's first lunchtime session.

By way of celebrating this momentous event, he gave us his thought for the day. Before mentioning that it was the first time in 16 years that David Hayward has come to Rotary without a tie. David obviously was still traumatised as he then threw water all over himself, the table and chair. Hayward's cabaret was followed by Nigel Little, reminding Rotarians of their 8am call, for Saturday's Car Rally. Gary Blenkinsopp reminded all of the Annual Quoits Competition on Thursday 6th August and of the next outing for the Hit Squad at Gurney Pease School.



Paul Robinson then asked for raffle prizes for the AM-AM Golf. Only 29 teams so far, but the Golf Club says that is getting to be the norm with charity events these days.

Ken Wiper closed the announcements by saying there will be full briefing on the Friday before Sunday 2nd August the 10k run.

Iain then introduced the guests. Potential new member Kelly Knight from Kane's World, then the joint winners of our Young Citizen Award, Florence Reid and Freya Shepherd-Pegman along with her Dad Paddy and Interact co-ordinator Sam Roberts.

Iain then presented Florence and Freya with framed Certificates of their achievements (picture below), before Sam gave a round-up of all their fund raising events carried out over the year.

Iain's president's announcements included his trip along with others to the District Assembly and the handing over of the District Governorship, to our own Sue Campbell. Attendance at International committee and Mike Clement's marathon cycle ride. By the time you read this, Mike will have completed the challenge and has encountered some tough weather conditions.



There was nothing to report members health-wise, Sue Campbell had won the Bonus Ball, and the wine draw Brian Jones.

Philip Cook, Assistant Secretary, announced Tuesday's Youth Meeting at The Mowden, Club Service at The Dolphin and that Friday's Breakfast speaker was to be him.

Iain then introduced an old friend, Rotarian Paul Howell to talk about the Northumbria Blood Bikes service, who perform a vital free service transporting, blood, breast milk, platelets, various blood products and other items throughout our region.

Continued overleaf.....

Coming Soon July

Friday 17th (Soft Play)

07:15 Breakfast Meeting

Speakers: Gurney Pease RotaKlds

Friday 24th (Central Hall)

12:15 Lunchtime Meeting

Speaker: Rachel Steedman 'Power Lifter Team GB'

Friday 31st (Soft Play)

07:15 Breakfast Meeting

Speaker: Pauline Culley "My Life So Far"

August

Sunday 2nd

From 08:30 Darlington 10K Run

Friday 7th (???)

07:15 Breakfast Meeting

Speaker: Rachel Stocker "My Life So Far"

Sunday 9th

From 12:30 Rotary BBQ

St. Augustine's Parish Centre
Full details to follow



Friday 14th (???)

12:15 Lunchtime Meeting

Friday 21st (???)

07:15 Breakfast Meeting

Speakers: TBA

Friday 28th (???)

12:15 Lunchtime Meeting

Speaker: TBA

Membership 2026/27

We start the new Rotary year with 68 members. Those who have resigned their membership are: Peter Campbell, Andrew Craddock and Paul Stewart – we wish them all well.

John Turner has been inducted as an honorary member.

(Apologies for last week's report!)

Hot & Bloody... continued

It was formed in Surrey in 1962 and the Northumbrian one in 2012. locally they have 220 members and 124 riders who perform a round the clock service in support of the NHS.

Paul, who has only be involved for just over 12 months outlined all the tests and procedures he had to complete to become part of this vital service. It is run un and paid for by fund raising and donations.

Paul ended with asking if anyone had ever been on the back of one of the blood bikes? The blank faces resulting made him explain. "If you have ever had a blood transfusion in a local hospital – you've been on the back of a Blood Bike!"

In closing the meeting, his host Keith Gunning, who works in the NHS,

mentioned the appreciation they have of all the organisations that help support their work.

The meeting closed and adjourned to the foyer to have a look at Paul's BMW motorbike. Paul Robinson had a sit on and we had a heck of a job persuading him to get off it.

Rotary the world over!



Dolphin Centre

Breakfasts continue in Soft Play.

Lunches in Central Hall

PLEASE NOTE: Card payments only

We are still being told that completion will be by the end of July

Mike off a Bike

Mike Clements with his self-professed "dicky ticker" has completed cycling Lands End to John O'Groats in aid of the British Heart Foundation. Set off two weeks ago – well done Mike.

[CLICK HERE](#) to donate



Charity Golf Day

**Thursday 23rd July
at Blackwell Golf Club**

[CHARITY GOLF ENTRY FORM](#)

Contact Ian Lyle for information,
raffle prizes
and any offers of help



District Governor Sue Campbell

On Sunday (5th July) Sue Campbell became District Governor of Rotary North East (District 1030). In a programme that included presentations about communications, press and media Sue was inducted by outgoing DG Joy Palmer-Cooper (left). Well supported by Darlington (right) the event was compered by Steve Rose and official photographer was Tony Marshall. Have a great year Sue!



Committee Membership

Every member is expected to be active on at least one of the Club Committees and to take on some of the work of that Committee.

If you would like more information please contact the Committee Chairs

Yea or Nay Fifth Fridays?

Zero response – it will be discussed at Club Service – if anyone wants to arrange something for a Fifth Friday come to the meeting and present your plans for organising something.

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.



Committee Meetings

6pm, Dolphin Centre Function Room or as stated

July 14th: Youth Service

2nd Tuesday bimonthly
The Mowden Pub

July 16th: Club Service

3rd Thursday bimonthly

July 22nd: Club Council

4th Wednesday monthly

August 12th: PR & Marketing Group

5pm – 22 Glenfield Rd

Sept. 1st: International Service

1st Tuesday bimonthly

Sept. 3rd: Community Service

1st Thursday monthly (not August)
The Mowden Pub

Club Information

Website: [click here](#)

Weekly Reports: [click here](#)

Club Diary: [click here](#)

Facebook: [click here](#)

X: @darlrotary

LinkedIn: #darlingtonrotary