



Friday 8th November 2024



Lest We Forget



President Jeff welcomed 31 members, 1 honorary member and 2 guests with 17 apologies received. Guests were prospective member Bryan McCourt and our speaker Alan Pilkington.

Peter Phillips and Ged Wiper were on hand to distribute Reverse Advent Calendar Cardboard Boxes. As previously reported we are aiming to give a gift at Christmas to all of Darlington's Care Leavers now living independently. Our RotaKids are supporting this and we hope members, friends and family will also get involved. Contact Nigel Little for more information (if he's not at Twickenham!).



All other notices are reported elsewhere in this report...the Secretary also announced that David Hayward had nothing to say! He did, however, win the Wine Draw...you can't keep a good man down. Walid had nothing to report on Members' Health and the Bonus Ball was won by Iain Anderson...again!!

The President reported on a busy week which had included the official launch of The Wall of Kindness at Firthmoor Community Centre. Details have been circulated about the initiative to donate coats and jackets to those in need. No pics available as yet which we will try to rectify in future editions.

President Jeff was unable to attend the International Service Meeting but said he had heard that much was discussed and is looking forward to the details when the minutes are circulated.

Thursday's Community Service Meeting was held in a new venue – Darlington Rugby Club, Blackwell Meadows. The meeting was a success and congrats all round to Chair Gary Blenkinsopp who will be asking if food may also be included. Minutes will soon be out.

The speaker was Alan Pilkington from Bishopton village who spoke about the names on their War Memorial. As somebody who has lived in Bishopton for over 25 years, Alan realised that he, like many others, remembered the dead each year but had no sense of who the young men were who had given their lives in the two world wars.



continued overleaf.....



Coming Soon...

Tuesday 12th
Youth Service Meeting
 6:00pm Darlington College

Friday 15th
Club Breakfast Meeting
 7:15am Speaker: Philip Sculthorpe "My New Book"

Wednesday 20th
Club Service Meeting
 6:00pm at St. Teresa's Hospice

Friday 22nd
Club Lunch Meeting
 12:30pm Special General Meeting

Wednesday 27th
First Christmas Tree Tagging Session
 10:00am at Croft Trees

Thursday 28th
"Fifth Friday" Social: Race Night – see overleaf

Friday 29th
FIFTH FRIDAY: NO MEETING

December Thursday 19th
Christmas Magic Concert
 7:30pm at All Saints Church

Friday 20th
Christmas Message Meeting
 12:00noon £25 per head
 Speaker: Dr. Roger James
 Order in advance, pay on the door

January Friday 24th
Austin Brooks Youth Day

Lest We Forget.....continued

14 young men from World War One and 2 from World War Two are commemorated on the memorial – there are, Alan reported, others not recorded that might be added. (Research into this is taking place.)

Alan reported that 14 of the 21 from Bishopton who served in the First World War gave their lives. He went on to give details of his research into each of these young men, their regiments and the date and circumstances of their deaths. He had learned where they had lived and their occupations thus giving life to the names on the memorial.



For those interested full details will be circulated when they are received. Also, the memorial features in the North East War Memorial Project which can be found by clicking [here](#).

Steve Rose gave the vote of thanks for a well-researched and poignant talk.



**“FIFTH FRIDAY”
RACE NIGHT**

**Thursday 28th November
7:00pm at Rolling Mills Club.
Longfield Street, DL3 0HX**

For **£15** you’ll get professionally run programme of 8 races + hot buffet and sweet treats

Board circulating
Rotary Club General Account
52-30-18 41856384

**Christmas Message
Meeting**



**Friday 20th December
12:00 Noon**

Speaker: Dr. Roger James

£25 for two course
Christmas Dinner
inc. mince pies & coffee

Meals to be ordered in advance, pay on the door

Board and email to be circulated

**Stronger Community Awards
Rotary Young Citizen of the Year: Adiy Ahmed**

Darlington’s Annual Stronger Communities Awards were held on Friday evening with the Rotary Young Citizen of the Year being presented by President Jeff. The most worthy recipient this year was Adiy Ahmed who



had experienced the trauma of a good friend attempting suicide. As a result Adiy has provided support to the family and also established a mental health charity in his friends name. I’m George’s Mate is devoted to raising awareness and providing crucial support for young people struggling with mental health issues. More details on [Facebook](#) or [Website](#)

**Exceptional Young Volunteer Award
QE Interact Club**

Also delighted to report that Queen Elizabeth 6th Form Interact Club won the award for volunteering for the first time. Having won national Rotary Awards it’s good to know that their achievements are being recognised locally.

The citation focused on their work at Xmas time but we know they are great all of the time!



Wall of Kindness



Donate good quality, clean coats and jackets on a hanger to Firthmoor Community Centre or Sue Campbell.

A simple act of kindness makes a whole wall of difference

**Xmas Tree
Tagging**

Come to tag at Croft Trees

**10:00 a.m.
Wednesdays
27th November and
4th & 11th December**

For full details contact
David Hayward

Club Information

Website: [click here](#)
Facebook: [click here](#)
X: @darlrotary
Club Diary: [click here](#)
LinkedIn: #darlingtonrotary