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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 9 April 2025

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**Dear Fellow Rotarians,**

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Tim Waugh for his outstanding leadership in R7 initiatives and to our esteemed senior member Rhidian Jones for his continued support. Their guidance and dedication were instrumental in making our recent meeting in Geneva both productive and inspiring.

We had a truly fruitful gathering with our R7 partners, reinforcing the spirit of collaboration that has defined this group since its inception. Established in 2004, R7 is a unique alliance among seven distinguished Rotary Clubs in Europe: RC of London, RC of Paris, RC of Dublin, RC of Berlin, RC of Athens, RC of Warsaw, and RC of Geneva. This partnership was formed to combine our strengths and resources, enabling us to undertake impactful service projects across our regions and beyond.

Our regular meetings serve as a testament to the enduring commitment of these clubs to share knowledge, support each other, and amplify our collective impact.

We also extend our warmest congratulations to the Rotary Club of Geneva on their 100th anniversary—a remarkable milestone that celebrates a century of service, leadership, and meaningful contributions to the community.



Lastly, I would like to bring attention to the Myanmar and Thailand Earthquake Appeal. As many of you will have seen in the news, the devastating earthquake in Myanmar has affected the entire region. We also shared communications regarding this on 28 March 2025. If you wish to support relief efforts, please consider donating via ShelterBox at:

👉 <https://shelterbox.org/myanmar-and-thailand-earthquake/>

Best Regards,  
Candy Liu  
President of Rotary Club of London  
[candy.liu@rotary-london.org](mailto:candy.liu@rotary-london.org)

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## **Terrific night of tributes for IPP Doug Wills and fund raising at the House of Lords**





IPP Doug Wills says:

What a wonderful evening: a fantastic night. I felt humbled and exhilarated in equal measure. I cannot thank everyone at the Club enough for paying me such a tribute. It was magnificent how everybody responded so generously to support Bakhita House and the vital work that it does. Head of Bakhita House Karen told us in a moving address at the House of Lords dinner of the horrors that the victims of trafficking had gone through and the need for the compassion and support given by her team. The £5000 raised from the evening will result in such good and desperately needed support.

Thank you all on so many levels.

Here is the link to the photos taken during the event at the House of Lords on Monday 7 April 2025.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/wcdopR8Yx2Q7gFpR9>

## Next Lunch Meeting: Monday 14 April 2025

Arrival time 12.15pm  
Meeting starts 12.40pm


 **Meet Our Next Speaker: Rupert Douglas-Bate, CEO of Global MapAid** 



We're excited to welcome Rupert Douglas-Bate to our next meeting – a visionary leader and the driving force behind **Global MapAid**, a nonprofit harnessing the power of mapping and AI to tackle some of the world's toughest challenges.

Rupert founded MapAid to help teams collaborate more effectively in the face of disasters. More recently, he's led the development of **WellMapr**, a groundbreaking low-cost AI system designed to map groundwater across Africa. This innovation is helping prevent aquifer depletion and enabling small-scale farmers in Ethiopia to double their crop yields, access clean water, and fight climate change – all through better data.

With decades of experience, including founding **MapAction** and serving as a **Stanford University Fellow**, Rupert brings deep insight into tech-driven humanitarian work. His efforts are helping shift the future for 2.5 billion smallholder farmers around the globe.

 **Don't miss this opportunity to hear from Rupert and be inspired by the power of purposeful innovation. See you there!**

Please book in the usual way with Tom Swainland today (tomswainland @ icloud. com)  
**Price £31.50 (to pay on the day)**  
Chesterfield Hotel, 35 Charles St, London W1J 5EB

IMPORTANT NOTICE : MEAL CHARGES : "Missed bookings" at our regular Monday meetings results in RCL receiving a £20 charge from the Chesterfield Hotel.  
>> We ask all members for their cooperation. If you book your place and you are not attending, you will be asked to pay £20 to RCL.



**A Special Thank You 🙏  
and Last Chance to Join Us for the  
★ International Gala Dinner  
on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

Dear Esteemed Rotarians,

Our heartfelt thanks to all of you who have already secured tickets for our upcoming **International Gala Dinner**. For those who haven't yet had the chance to reserve your spot, we would be deeply honoured to have you join us. Availability is now limited, so kindly secure your tickets by **Friday, 11th April 2025**, via this link: <https://buytickets.at/rotarycluboflondon1/1565468>.

Don't miss out on this remarkable evening dedicated to making a difference.

This Gala is more than a dinner - it's an event with purpose and heart, as we come together to support the incredible, lifesaving work of the **David Nott Foundation**.

We look forward to welcoming you on **Saturday, 26th April 2025**, at the prestigious **Royal College of Surgeons**. Prepare to be delighted by an evening filled with exquisite dining, captivating entertainment, a live auction and raffle, and the sheer joy of gathering for an extraordinary cause.

Furthermore, whether you've secured your tickets or not, we warmly invite everyone to take part in the spirit of giving by visiting our **online fundraising platform** at <https://urka.co.uk/rcl/> or scanning the QR Code [[Download QR Code](#)]. Place your bids on a curated collection of exceptional offerings and purchase raffle tickets at just **£9.97 each** for a chance to win a **Caribbean Cruise for 4 people!**

Thank you once again for your support. Your presence and generosity are the very essence of this event's success.

Yours sincerely,

The International Service Committee  
Rotary Club of London

**Please use this link to book:** <https://buytickets.at/rotarycluboflondon1/1565468>



You are cordially invited to the  
INTERNATIONAL GALA DINNER

# *The Forgotten Crises*

Healing in Hostile Environments:  
Enhancing Surgical Capacity in War-Torn Regions

**DATE & TIME:** Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025, 6:00 -10:00pm

**VENUE:** The Royal College of Surgeons of England,  
38-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PE

**DRESS CODE:** Black-tie attire with a touch of white,  
blue, or green accessories for both ladies and gentlemen

**PROGRAMME:** Welcome Reception with drink,  
Three-course meal, Messages of healing and impact  
by the David Nott Foundation, Live music, Auction,  
Raffle, 'Infotainment', and Dance party

**TICKET PRICES:**

Early bird discount (if purchased by 15<sup>th</sup> February 2025): £125 per person

A table of 10: £1,200

Standard ticket price: £135 per person

Scan to Register



**Registration and payment** <https://buytickets.at/rotarycluboflondon1/1565468>  
and email: [RCLinternationalcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:RCLinternationalcommittee@gmail.com)

RSVP by 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025 (Friday)

The evening is in support of the David Nott Foundation

*David Nott*  
FOUNDATION

The David Nott Foundation is a UK charity that provides specialist training  
for medical professionals working in countries impacted by  
conflict and catastrophe. They strive for a world where safe,  
skilled surgical care is available to all.

## Social Evening at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall, SW1Y 5HS

Thursday 1 May 2025 6.00pm till 8.30pm



Join fellow Rotarians for a couple of hours fellowship and conversation in the Long Bar at the prestigious RAC, Pall Mall. Initial drinks and sandwiches provided, with the opportunity to buy additional items.

Kindly hosted by Rotarian Tim Mac Andrews. Organized by Rotarian Stuart Castledine, to whom any enquiries should be directed.

([s\\_castledine@btinternet.com](mailto:s_castledine@btinternet.com) 077 689 77 875)

Arrival from 6.00pm, departure around 8.30pm. £25 per person. Booking essential, preferable before Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025, to enable appropriate meeting sized area to be reserved and sufficient food to be ordered.

**Click this link to reserve your space:**

**[Buy tickets – The Long Bar at The Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall. – Long Bar RAC Pall Mall](#)**

**Leonardo Weekend  
16 to 18 May 2025 in Athens Greece**

If you may be interested in attending please contact Vice President Gillian Balcombe [Gillianfbalcombe@gmail.com](mailto:Gillianfbalcombe@gmail.com)

There is a basic cost of £295 per person plus  
Guided tour and lunch Saturday £60  
Sunday brunch £45

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  **The Rotary Club of London Golf Charity Day is back  
on 27 May 2025**  



## The Rotary Club of London Golf Charity Day 2025

To all **expert players, social beginners and supporters,**



Every year we raise thousands for children's charities through the Golf Day event, we hope this year will be no exception!

We're thrilled to announce our Golf Day fundraiser at the prestigious **Muswell Hill Golf Club** on **Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> May**. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a day of golf, delicious food, and camaraderie, all while supporting **Lifeline4kids** which do amazing work in supporting severely handicapped and terminally ill children, and in these hard economic times are in greater need than ever for our support.

Here is a link to the Club website: <https://www.muswellhillgolfclub.co.uk/>

This year we have **three packages** for you to choose

### Package 1 - For the Avid Golfers (£75 per person)

- Teeing off at c12.30
- 18 holes of golf, and a delicious 2-course dinner (drinks excluded).

### Package 2 – Putting competition (£40 per person)

- Putting at 5pm – 6pm
- Putting competition included a glass of prosecco (or non-alcoholic drink)
- Plus, a delicious 2-course dinner (drinks excluded).

### Package 3 – Dinner only (£25 per person)

a delicious 2-course dinner (drinks excluded)



### Highlights:

- Support a worthy cause.
- Beautiful setting at Muswell Hill Golf Club.
- Opportunities for both competitive and social golf.
- Delicious 2-course dinner.
- Fantastic chance to connect with fellow RCL members.

We encourage all members to participate, whether you're a seasoned golfer or a complete beginner. This event is about enjoying the sport, building

connections, and supporting our community.

**How to Book: Please email to: Diana Olar (Diana.a.Olar@gmail.com)**

**For payments, please transfer to Rotary Club of London:**

**Account Number: 00152687, Sort Code: 60-01-73 (put your name+Golf)**

**book here : <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rotarycluboflondon1/1648223>**

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## **Save the Date: Rotary London's Multicultural Fête 2025**

 Saturday, 14 June 2025 |  12:00–19:00 |  Victoria Embankment Gardens

We're thrilled to invite you to "From Rotary's Heart to Yours," our first multicultural fête celebrating community, diversity, and service. Mark your calendars for a day of live performances, global cuisines, and family-friendly activities—all in support of Rotary's local and global humanitarian projects.

**Express Your Interest (For Accountability Purposes): <https://buytickets.at/therotarycluboflondon/1661291>**

You can of course walk in, but this link helps us estimate attendance for health, safety, and logistical planning. Your response is greatly appreciated!

For More Details: Contact Stephanie Tumba  
at [Stephanie.tumba@icloud.com](mailto:Stephanie.tumba@icloud.com)

## Save the Date

# From Rotary's Heart to Yours

Dear Fellow Rotarians, Friends, and Supporters,  
Mark your calendars! Join us for "From Rotary's Heart to Yours", a vibrant multicultural fête celebrating London community, our diversity, and especially our talents.

**Date: Saturday, 14th June 2025**

**Location: Victoria Embankment Gardens, London**

**Time: 12:00 – 19:00**

Enjoy a day of live music, art, dance, food, and performances from Rotarians and friends. This festival is more than just an event—it's an opportunity to connect, celebrate, and support community initiatives while raising funds for our very own Rotary Foundation and supporting amazing future projects.

Expect a fantastic atmosphere with engaging activities, delicious food, and a chance to experience the spirit of Rotary in action.

Stay tuned for more details! We look forward to celebrating with you.

RCL Community  
Committee 2024-2025



## Forthcoming Club Meetings and Events

**Monday 14 April 2025:** Lunch meeting - Rupert Douglas- Bate. Water Project in Ethiopia - Map Aid

**Monday 21 April 2025:** Easter Monday - NO MEETING

**Saturday 26 April 2025:** RCL International Gala Dinner at the Royal College of Surgeons of England

**Monday 28 April 2025:** Lunch meeting

**Monday 5 May:** No meeting

**Monday 12 May:** Annual General Meeting

More events here : <https://rotary-london.org/events/>



### WELL-BEING UPDATE

If you or another member are feeling unwell, recovering, or have any other updates to share such as Anniversary or Birthday, please get in touch with **our Almoner, Past President Vasi**. You can reach Vasi via phone or WhatsApp at 07940 312930, or by email at [vasidaniel41@gmail.com](mailto:vasidaniel41@gmail.com).



### **Your Feedback Matters!**

We hope you enjoyed this week's bulletin. We'd love to hear from you! Whether it's your news, ideas, or updates, your contributions help us make this bulletin truly reflect our vibrant community. Share your stories, insights, or feedback directly with us at [elisabeth07816@gmail.com](mailto:elisabeth07816@gmail.com).

Elisabeth Reyes  
RCL PI and Communication Chair



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