

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 28 August 2025

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

I hope you have all enjoyed a fantastic summer ☀️, wherever you may have been. We were fortunate to have an exceptionally brilliant summer here in London, filled with sunshine, fellowship and memorable moments.

My sincere thanks go to our **Past President Clive Amos**, who carefully organised and arranged our informal meetings throughout August. We are very grateful for his dedication and tireless commitment to the Rotary Club of London. Thanks to him, we enjoyed three wonderful informal gatherings, welcoming visiting Rotarians from the USA, India, and Australia 🌍.

As we look forward to September, I am delighted to welcome you back to our first official meeting of the season. This will be a very special occasion, as we will induct a new member into our Club 🎉, a moment of celebration and renewal for us all.

Furthermore, we will hold our **Quarterly Business Meeting (QBM)**, followed by a presentation from our Foundation Chair, Saumen Ray, and a report from Holly Bisson, the niece of one of our much-valued Honorary Members, Dr Mary Buchanan, who will share her inspiring achievements made possible with a little help from RCL.

September promises to be an exciting and busy month for our Club, with several special occasions ahead. We begin with a **fantastic social event on**

18 September, kindly organised by our own Stuart Castledine, at Flight Club Victoria. This will be an evening of fellowship, laughter, and friendly competition 🎯 over a few lively games of darts. Please book your tickets in advance through the provided link.

We are also delighted to invite you to one of our Club's most prestigious annual occasions, **International Peace Day on 22 September**, organised by our Past President, Dr Vasi Daniel. This inspiring event is always a highlight in our calendar, and I warmly invite you all to join us and be part of this special and meaningful occasion 🌸.

Finally, we will close the month in style as we celebrate our Immediate Past President, Candy Liu, at the **IPP Dinner on 27 September** at Imperial China Restaurant. This promises to be a wonderful evening of fellowship and recognition as we come together to celebrate Candy's year as President, featuring captivating traditional Chinese performances accompanied by delicious Chinese cuisine. An evening not to be missed!

I look forward to seeing many of you on Monday as we continue the wonderful momentum we built together in July and carry it forward into an exciting Rotary year ahead.

With my very best wishes,

Anahita Harris
President
Rotary Club of London

Next Lunch Meeting: Monday 1 September 2025

Arrival time 12.15pm
Meeting starts 12.40pm
at The Chesterfield Hotel, 35 Charles Street, Mayfair, London, W1J 5EB

Quarterly Business Meeting (QBM)

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.

🎯 Thursday 18th September 2025 🎯
BOOK YOUR SOCIAL EVENING NOW
6.30pm - 8.30pm

Join fellow Rotarians for a couple of hours social activity with the opportunity to throw darts at Flight Club Victoria.
The location is less than five minutes walk from Victoria underground, mainline and bus stations.
See their website for full detail of the club flightclubdarts.com/location-victoria. £15 per person to cover the cost of playing darts from 6.30pm - 8.30pm.

Drinks and food to be purchased individually on the night.

Book here via the Club's Ticket Tailor site [Buy tickets – Darts at Flight Club Victoria – Flight Club Victoria](#)



SAVE THE DATE
🌸 International Day of Peace 🌸
Monday 22nd September 2025

Lunch Meeting

Arrival time 11.45am
Meeting starts 12.15pm promptly
and ends 2.30pm

at The Chesterfield Hotel, 35 Charles Street, Mayfair, London, W1J 5EB

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations general assembly. Two decades later in 2001, the General assembly unanimously voted to designate the day as a period of non-violence and cease fire.

For International Day of Peace 2025, Rotary international's message, aligning with the 20 25–26 presidential theme is “unite for good”. To strengthen a global culture of peace and improve the lives of people everywhere.

The United Nations emphasises the importance of everyone playing a role in promoting peace through concrete actions like speaking out against violence, respecting diversity, and supporting initiatives that foster understanding and non-violence.

2025 global Peace Day theme: act now for a peaceful world in a time of turbulence, tumult, and uncertainty, it is critical for everyone to take concrete action to mobilise for peace. The theme highlights how addressing issues like poverty, inequality, and environmental challenges can create a stronger foundation for peace.

The UN Secretary General Antonio Gutierrez message is:
The demand for peace today is unparall. Conflict and warfare wreck havoc, breed poverty and starvation and displace countless individuals. The turmoil of climate change is Omnipresent. Even peaceful nations face significant disparities and divisive politics.

Past President Vasi Hollinghurst-Daniel
President's Ambassador
President 2013-2014 / Almoner
Rotary Club of London
Peace Ambassador & Special Representative ICPA

Join Us for a Night of Celebration and Culture!

We warmly invite you to celebrate Immediate Past President Candy Liu's special event at the elegant Imperial China in Chinatown.

All RCL members and friends are welcome to enjoy an evening of fun, fellowship, and captivating traditional Chinese performances.

Please choose **your MENU** during check out!

Rotary



Club of London



CELEBRATE WITH US AT IPP CANDY LIU EVENT

Event Details: Save the Date Now

Date: 27 Sept 2025, Saturday

**Doors open at 6:30pm,
dinner at 7pm & event ends 10.30pm**

**Captivating traditional Chinese performances,
accompanied by a delicious Chinese cuisine experience**



BOOK NOW HERE

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rotarycluboflondon1/1824081>

💖 **MEMBER'S NEWS** 💖



Wally Wallis, PP Ian Balcombe, Rtn. Rebecca Poynter, President Anahita Harris, IPVP Gillian Balcombe, Rtn. Ginger Mayo and PP Clive Amos at the informal meeting of August 4th, 2025





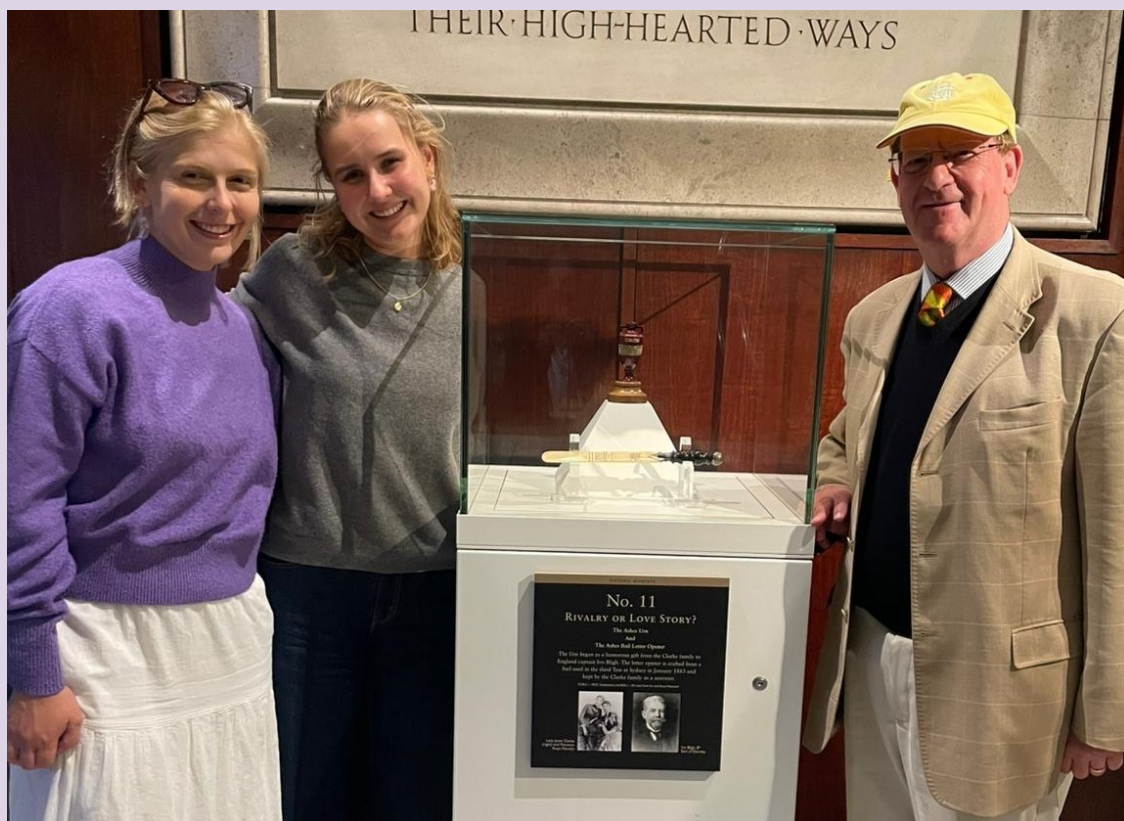
Wally Wallis, PP Clive Amos, Shahid Chaudri, Margaret Garner, President Anahita Harris, Rtn. IPP Gaurav Bagroy of RC Ranchi, District 3250, India, IPVP Gillian Balcombe, PP Ian Balcombe, David Price and his colleague attended the informal meeting on August 11th. IPP Gaurav Bagroy and Anahita Harris exchanged banners. IPP Gaurav Bagroy also presented RCL with two gifts.



Paul Willson, Wally Wallis, Dr. Robyn Pearce, IPP Cameron Pearce of the Rotary Club of Adelaide in South Australia, President Anahita Harris, Constantinos Zachariades, Past President Clive Amos, and Margaret Garner attended the last informal meeting on August 18th. During the meeting, President Anahita Harris and IPP Cameron Pearce exchanged banners.



We are deeply grateful to Past President Clive Amos for his dedication and for making the August RCL meetings truly unforgettable.



Past President Ian Balcombe was pleased to take Global Scholar from Australia Evangelia Wichman (pictured middle) and her flat mate Paula to a Hundred Game at Lord's Cricket Ground. They are pictured with the Ashes Trophy in the Museum.

From our Rotarian, Mohammed Ayyaz:

🌐 Today marks another important step in the global fight to eradicate polio. Deep gratitude to Rotary International President Francesco Arezzo, Trustee Chair Holger Knaack and IPPC Chair Mike McGovern, for meeting with the Prime Minister of Pakistan and reaffirming our shared commitment to a polio-free world. 🙌

🙏 Thank you to the Government of Pakistan and our dedicated polio partners for providing an extensive update and continuing to lead with resolve and compassion.

Together, we are not just fighting a virus—we are fighting for futures, for dignity, and for every child's right to thrive.

#EndPolioNow #RotaryInternational #GlobalHealth #Pakistan
#TogetherWeCan

International Children's Peace Assembly 2025 Concludes with a Week of Inspiration, Creativity & Global Unity

London, UK – The International Children's Peace Assembly (ICPA) 2025 wrapped up after an unforgettable week of learning, cultural exchange, leadership training and celebration, uniting young people from across the globe for peace and a brighter tomorrow.

Throughout the residential programme and day passes, participants took part in a vibrant mix of education, creativity and fun:

✨ **Cultural & Educational Visits** – Exploring heritage at the Natural History Museum and Leeds Castle.

💚 **Environment & Sustainability Day** – Eco-art workshops, dance for peace, and a tree-planting nursery visit.

💓 **Life-Saving CPR Training** – Practical emergency response sessions.

🏛️ **Parliamentary Peace Day at the House of Lords** – Youth debates and the signing of a UN-inspired Peace Declaration.

🎭 **Arts & Inspiration** – Enjoying the spectacular *Starlight Express* musical.

🌐 **International Talent Showcase** – Over 60 performances in dance, music, art, poetry and drama.

🏆 **Gala Awards Evening** – Every participant received a medal, with special

honours presented by ambassadors and dignitaries.

Royal Insight & Media Training – A masterclass from a renowned Royal Correspondent on media and British culture.

 **Photos and highlights here**

 More info: www.icpeacenetwork.org

Forthcoming Club Meetings and Events

September 1, 2025 - **Lunch Quarterly Business Meeting**

September 8, 2025 - **Lunch Meeting** - Ian Pelham Turner and Helena Chard - Royally Rich

September 15, 2025 - **Evening Meeting** - Laura Windsor, dubbed the UK's Queen of Etiquette

September 18, 2025 - Darts Social Evening

September 22, 2025 - **Lunch Meeting** - International Peace Day

September 27, 2025 - Evening IPP Dinner

September 29, 2025 - **Lunch Meeting**

SAVE THE DATE

October 25 & 26, 2025 - Eastbourne District Conference

November 17, 2025 - Stanley Leverton Day

November 24, 2025 - International Men's Day

December 15, 2025 - Christmas Lunch

January 26, 2026 - Burns Supper

March 2, 2026 - International Women's Day

May 15 - 17, 2026 - Leonardo Da Vinci Awards, Florence

May 27, 2026 - Charity Golf Day

June 29, 2026 - Glass Boot Day

July 6, 2026 - Handover - New President

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

 **Never Miss a Meeting or Event – Add the RCL Calendar to Yours!**

Stay up to date with all upcoming Rotary Club of London meetings, events, and socials by adding our calendar directly to your own.

Here's how to do it:

1. Visit rotary-london.org/events
2. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on **"Subscribe to Calendar."**
3. Choose the calendar format that works best for you – Google Calendar,

Apple Calendar, Outlook, etc.

4. For Google Calendar users: Click the **Google Calendar** option.

5. When prompted, confirm by clicking **"Add"** to include the RCL Calendar in your list.

Once added, all Rotary events will automatically appear in your calendar – so you'll never miss an update!

CELEBRATING OUR BIRTHDAYS

August Birthdays

5th - Peter Sävblom

7th - Judith Diment MBE

16th - Kapil Rijal

22nd - Bella Evidente

25th - Roger Gewolb

September Birthdays

1st - Monika Bader

1st - James Innes

2nd - Benedicte Pfister

4th - Mo Ayyaz

4th - Stuart Castledine

7th - Kiyomi Nada

11th - Daib Akhter

11th - Adrian Fenesan

25th - Anjal Kariya

If your name isn't included, please reply to this email so we can celebrate you too.

Thank you



Your Feedback Matters!

We hope you enjoyed this week's bulletin.

We'd love to hear from you! Share your stories, insights, or feedback directly with us at elisabeth07816@gmail.com.

Elisabeth Reyes

RCL PI and Communication Chair

Newsletter Editor



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