

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 9 October 2025

Connecting Across Europe: Rotary Leaders Gather in Berlin

On 6 October 2025, I had the honour of representing the Rotary Club of London at the R7 Meeting in Berlin, alongside Vice President Judith Diment MBE, Second Vice President Chikako Osawa, and R7 Chair Tim Waugh CBE. In a rare and unique gathering, five Presidents from the participating clubs – Berlin, London, Geneva, Milan, The Hague, Paris, and Brussels came together over lunch to exchange ideas and explore collaborative projects.

After lunch, we had the privilege of being personally guided by Rotarian Wilhelm von Boddien, the visionary behind the reconstruction of the historic Berlin Palace, now the magnificent Humboldt Forum – a world-class cultural institution.

The evening club meeting at the Hotel Adlon was graciously hosted by the Berlin-Brandenburger Tor Rotary Club and its President, Hans. Over dinner, all clubs shared their ideas and projects, and I had the pleasure of presenting our Vocational Chair, Diana Olar's Tech for Good by Rotary programme. This inspiring initiative, which connects the professional skills of Rotary and Rotaract members with charities seeking digital transformation, will continue on a much broader scale this year, reaching and supporting even more organisations in their digital journey.

The presentation inspired interest among some R7 members, laying the foundation for potential partnerships and collaborative projects in the

future. "R7" is committed to promoting understanding, goodwill, and meaningful service across borders. Under the strong and accomplished leadership of its Chair, Tim Waugh CBE, these clubs coordinate projects and build connections that enhance the reach and effectiveness of Rotary initiatives throughout Europe.

Heartfelt thanks to Tim Waugh CBE for chairing the meetings and to the Rotary Club of Berlin-Brandenburger Tor, particularly Madeleine, for hosting an engaging and informative day that celebrated fellowship, innovation, and Rotary's enduring commitment to Service Above Self.

With Warm regards,

Anahita Harris

President, Rotary Club of London



Next Evening Meeting: **Monday 13 October 2025**

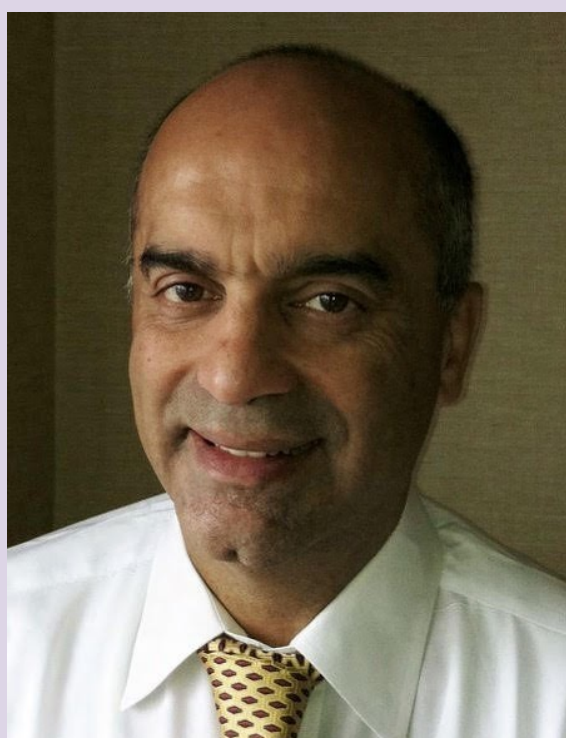
Arrival time 6.30pm

Meeting starts 7.00pm

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

Our speaker is Pradeep Kapadia - Founder Kapadia Education Foundation

"How to change the lives of a million people, one student at a time."



Pradeep Kapadia is the Founder of the **Kapadia Education Foundation**, which supports deserving university students in developing countries. Since its inception, the Foundation has helped nearly **1,100 students** pursue higher education and create positive change in their communities.

Originally from India, Pradeep moved to the U.S. in 1972 to study at **Tufts University**, earning a degree in **Mechanical Engineering**. With a **47-year career in environmental sustainability**, he now works as a **sustainability engineer at Amazon**.

A **Rotarian for over a decade** with the Ojai, California club, Pradeep has led international service projects, collaborated with Rotary clubs across Africa and Asia, and is a **two-time Paul Harris Fellow**.

Having lived on three continents and visited over 70 countries, Pradeep is passionate about **cross-cultural connection** and continues to **mentor and inspire young people worldwide**.

Please book in the usual way with Tom Swainland **by 5pm Thursday 9 October** (tomswainland @ icloud. com)

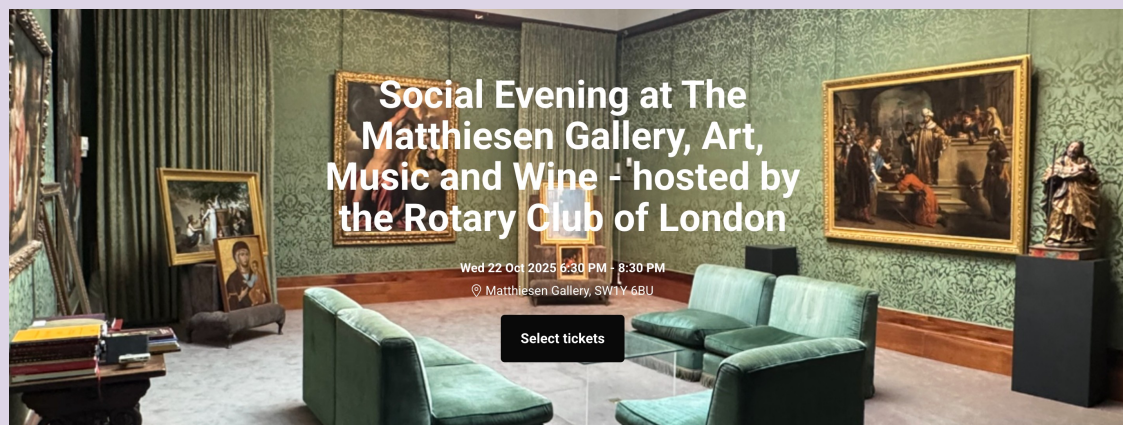
Price £36 (to pay on the day)

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.

Here is the link to photos taken during our Monday meeting on 6 October 2025.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/zCjtcJsJqc6uyJHw7>



🎨 Cultural Evening at the Matthiesen Gallery 🎵

By kind invitation of recently admitted Rotarian **Laila Gaber** and **Patrick Matthiesen**, founder of the **Matthiesen Gallery (est. 1978)**, we are delighted to invite you to a **special cultural and social evening** on **22nd October 2025**.

🌟 Enjoy a private viewing of the gallery's **magnificent Italian paintings**, accompanied by a **musical interlude** from acclaimed cellist **Ben Tarlton**. Laila and Patrick will also share fascinating insights into the world of fine art and the works they represent.

🍷 **Drinks and canapés** will be served.

👉 **Rotarians and guests are warmly welcome.**

💷 **£30 per person.**

⚠️ *Numbers are limited, so please book early to secure your place!*

BOOKING now here

📄 For any enquiries or to reserve your place, please contact **Stuart Castledine** at s_castledine@btinternet.com or 📞 **07768 977 875**.



ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

MONDAY 15 DECEMBER • 12PM-2.30PM

CHESTERFIELD HOTEL, W1J 5EB

In support of the Salvation Army

Entertainment will include Salvation Army Brass Band, traditional Christmas Carols, a special performance by guest singer Grace O'Malley plus charity auction and tombola.

**£78 PER PERSON
MEMBERS & GUESTS**

Must be booked by 1st December.

BOOK ONLINE AT:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rotarycluboflondon1/1863423>



Contact gillianfbalcombe@gmail.com

Forthcoming Club Meetings and Events

October 13, 2025 - **Evening Meeting** - Pradeep Kapadia - Founder,
Kapadia Education Foundation

October 20, 2025 - **Lunch Meeting** - Mike Finn
October 22, 2025 - Cultural social evening
October 24, 2025 - World Polio Day
October 25 & 26, 2025 - Eastbourne District Conference
October 27, 2025 - **Lunch Meeting** - The Rt Hon The Lord Soames of Fletching
November 3, 2025 - **Lunch Meeting** - SGM
November 10, 2025 - **Lunch Meeting** - Sir Bob Neill KC (Hons) FRSA
November 17, 2025 - **Evening Meeting** - Chairman of the Board
Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland
November 24, 2025 - **Lunch Meeting** - International Men's Day

SAVE THE DATE

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/>

MEMBER's NEWS

Funeral Service and Celebration of Life notice

In loving memory of the beautiful life of Eileen Standish, the family warmly invites you to join us for a Funeral Service, followed by a Celebration of Eileen's Life on Thursday, 23rd October 2025.

Funeral Service Location: East Chapel, Croydon Crematorium, Mitcham Road, London CR9 3AT

Time: 13:30 – 14:15

We kindly ask guests to make their own way directly to the East Chapel, as there will be no formal procession.

Dress code: Smart casual attire, with gentle colours preferred to reflect the warmth and joy Eileen brought to our lives.

In lieu of flowers, we would be grateful for donations to Macmillan Cancer Support charity, which was close to Eileen's heart. Please use this link to leave any tributes

and to donate: <https://eileenstandish.muchloved.com/>

Celebration of Life

Location: Woodcote Park Golf Club Meadow Hill, The Bridleway, Coulsdon, London CR5 2QQ

Time: From 14:30 onwards

Following the service, we warmly welcome you to join us in a relaxed and heartfelt gathering to share cherished memories and celebrate Eileen's life. Food and drinks will be provided.

If you plan to attend, please let us know of any dietary requirements when you RSVP.
RSVP: khstandish@gmail.com

Your presence would mean a great deal to the family as we honour Eileen's life with love, remembrance, and togetherness.

Winter Warm Clothes Appeal

The Rotary Club of London is collecting warm clothing throughout the autumn and winter months for people experiencing homelessness, in partnership with **The Passage**.

Most needed are men's items.

- Coats & jackets
- Hoodies & jumpers
- Trousers/jeans/tracksuit bottoms/cargo pants
- Socks & new underwear
- Shoes & trainers
- Belts

Please donate items that are clean and in good, wearable condition.

How to donate

Please contact **Emely Dlamini**, Community Chair, to arrange collection:

 emelydlamini@gmail.com

 07958 404 991

Thank you for helping keep Londoners warm this winter.

Fundraising Gala Concert

In support of the Ukrainian Children's Hospital



UCA - UK
THE UKRAINIAN CULTURAL
ASSOCIATION IN THE UK
WWW.UCAUK.COM

The Ukrainian Cultural Association in the UK presents

Fundraising Gala Concert

For the Ukrainian Children's Hospital in Lviv
Thursday 27th November 2025 at 7.30PM



Holy Trinity Church

Sloane Square, London SW1X 9BZ
(near Sloane Square tube)

Tickets: £28, children under 13 - Free

Cash at the door or via the Eventbrite link:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fundraising-gala-concert-in-aid-of-the-ukrainian-childrens-hospital-tickets-1708823811019?aff=oddtcreator>

Refreshments and charity souvenirs will be available with cash donations

www.ucauk.com

You are invited to an unforgettable evening of music and generosity at our **Fundraising Gala Concert**, with all proceeds going to the Ukrainian Children's Hospital. Join us as we come together to make a difference through the power of music.

 Date & Time

Thursday, 27 November 2025

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

 Venue

Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square
146 Sloane Street
London, SW1X 9BZ

Your presence and support will help bring hope and healing to children in need.

[book your ticket here](#)

CELEBRATING OUR BIRTHDAYS

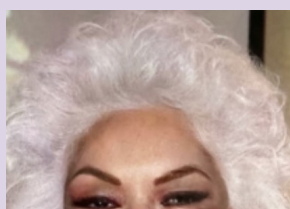
Upcoming birthdays

11 October - Rajiv Sabharwal

12 October - Christina Mohseni

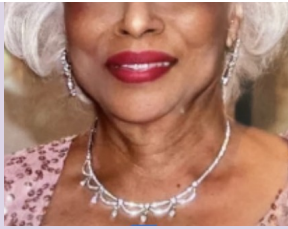
If your name isn't included, please reply to this email so we can celebrate you too.
Thank you

We sincerely wish our dear Almoner and Past President, Vasi Daniel, a gentle and swift recovery during her time away from our club meetings. Our thoughts are with her during this time.



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.



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



[View in browser](#)

Copyright © 2025 Rotary Club of London, All rights reserved.
You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:
Rotary Club of London
85 Great Portland Street, First Floor,
London, W1W 7LT

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



