



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 3 September 2025

A Fantastic QBM Filled with Inspiration, Friendship, and New Beginnings! 🌞

We enjoyed a fantastic and memorable Quarterly Business Meeting on Monday, with visitors joining us from as far afield as Chile and Tokyo 🌐. Our QBM reports were delivered, and we were delighted to welcome our special guest, Holly Bisson, together with her great aunt, our Honourary Member, Dr. Mary Buchanan, as well as her brother and family, whose presence and support meant so much to Holly and to the Rotary Club of London. Dr. Buchanan proudly introduced her remarkable niece, who was one of only three UK delegates sponsored by Rotary to attend the Youth World Affairs Seminar in Wisconsin, with its central focus on Peace Building 🌱. Holly gave an excellent presentation sharing her experiences at the Seminar.

We then heard from our Foundation Chair, Saumen Ray, and District Governor Adrian Faiers, who spoke about the Rotary Foundation and the importance of each of us making a lasting difference by becoming sustaining members 💛.

Finally, we saved the best for last with the joyful induction of our newest member, Constantinos Zacharaides, who comes from a family of Rotarians and is himself an invaluable asset to both our Club and Rotary 🎉.

A big thank you to all our members and guests who graciously stayed longer than expected to share in such a busy and wonderful programme.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday.

With my very best wishes,

Anahita Harris
President
Rotary Club of London

Photos of last RCL meeting [here](#)

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/BuZKHD3AZUN7Bm78A>

Next Lunch Meeting: Monday 8 September 2025

Arrival time 12.15pm

Meeting starts 12.40pm

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

**Our speakers are Ian Pelham Turner
and Helena Chard**



Ian has been a journalist for 59 years and a commissioned Royal photographer, working with five generations of the Royal Family. He wrote for the *Evening Standard*, *Daily Mail*, and *Mirror Group* before moving from print to TV 15 years ago.



Copywrite Ian Pelham Turner

Since then, he has broadcast with CNN, NBC, Sky, BBC, and now comments for Fox in America. Alongside Helena Chard, he co-creates *The Royally Rich Lifestyle Show*, aired worldwide. He shares Royal memories and insights into the challenges of live broadcasts.



A love for storytelling took Helena behind the lens, refined through photojournalism at Central Saint Martins. A fortunate twist led to her role as a Royal Photographer, with images published worldwide—capturing everything from palace interiors to press-pit chaos. The royal connection drew media attention, and Helena became a Royal commentator and broadcaster on major platforms.



Garter Day – Copywrite Helena Chard

Today, she works across global media—breaking exclusives, leading investigations, sharing feel-good features, and offering insight into Royal affairs. She is passionate about uncovering hidden stories and giving others a voice. As a TV producer, director, and presenter of *The Royally Rich Lifestyle Show* with Ian Turner, Helena feels fortunate to do what she loves every day.

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.



DARTS NIGHT!

FLIGHT CLUB VICTORIA

Join your fellow Rotarians for an evening of fun, laughter, and friendly competition at **Flight Club Victoria** – the home of Social Darts!

Just a 5 minute walk from Victoria Underground, Main Line, and Bus Stations

Wednesday 18th September at 6:30pm to 8:30 pm

£15 per person (covers the cost of the games)

Drinks and food can be purchased individually on the night.

See flightclub.com/location/victoria for more about this incredible venue

Spaces are limited – don't miss out!

[Click HERE book your tickets](#)

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

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

**Celebrating International Peace Day:
A Rotary Club of London Luncheon with Distinguished Voices,
Inspiring Music, and Fine Dining**



H.E. Ambassador Enkhsukh Battumur brings over two decades of governmental experience to Mongolia–UK relations. Currently serving as Ambassador to the UK, he has previously held senior roles including Deputy Director General at the General Intelligence Agency, Director General of the Intellectual Property Agency, and Head of Consular Division at the Embassy in Beijing. With advanced degrees in Public Management and Law, he has also chaired committees on cybersecurity, crime prevention, and intellectual property. His dedication to public service and diplomacy continues to strengthen Mongolia’s presence in the UK.



H.E. Osman Topčagić, former Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Ambassador to the UK, born in Sarajevo, is a seasoned diplomat and public servant with a distinguished career in European affairs. He served as Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Ambassador to the UK and later to the EU, before becoming Director of the Directorate for European Integrations and Head of the Department for the EU at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Decorated with the French *Ordre National du Mérite* in 2007, Osman has also been active in academia and civil society, serving on the Steering Board of Sarajevo University and as President of the PanEuropean Union of Bosnia and



Dr. (Mrs.) Rajni Rijal - President of the Women's Council

Dr Rajni Rijal is a dentist, researcher, and community advocate based in Surrey. A qualified dental surgeon and Care Quality Commission registered manager, she oversees multiple practices, ensuring high standards of patient care.

She holds a PhD from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, where she conducted malaria research in Africa, before pursuing a career in dentistry. Beyond her clinical role, Dr Rijal serves as Chair of The Women's Council, leading global health initiatives for children and families with disabilities across Asia, the Middle East, and beyond. She has also worked with ADAPT in Mumbai, delivering dental care and education to disadvantaged communities.

Balancing professional excellence with community service, Dr Rijal is committed to accessible healthcare, sustainable wellbeing, and empowering communities through education and advocacy.

Herzegovina. Trained in mathematics and classical music, he speaks English and Russian.



**Her Excellency Dr. Iruthisham Adam-
The High Commissioner of the Republic of Maldives**

Iruthisham Adam has been a member of PILPG's Circle of Former Ambassadors to the UN Human Rights Council since 2023. A career diplomat of over 25 years, she has served in London, New York, and Geneva, and was the first Ambassador of Maldives to Germany, Italy, Turkey, and Switzerland. She also served as Vice President of the UN Human Rights Council in 2013.

She has been a strong advocate for women, children, the disabled, and small states, leading key negotiations on human rights, climate change, and the establishment of the Trust Fund for Small States and LDCs.

She later served as Minister of Health and Minister of Youth & Sports, introducing universal health coverage, modernizing medical services, and advancing youth and sports facilities nationwide.

⚡ 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!





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>

Forthcoming Club Meetings and Events

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/>

MEMBER's NEWS

CELEBRATING OUR BIRTHDAYS

September Birthdays

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



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



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