

Message from President Judith Diment MBE

July marks Rotary's Maternal and Child Health Month. Rotary makes high-quality health care available to vulnerable mothers and children so they can live longer and grow stronger. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and children everywhere can have the same opportunities for a healthy future. In 2020, an estimated 5 million children under the age of 5 years died, mostly from preventable and treatable causes. Approximately half of those deaths, 2.4 million, occurred among newborns (in the first 28 days of life). The leading causes of death in children under 5 years can all be prevented or treated with access to affordable interventions in health and sanitation.

The [Rotary Foundation](#) reaches mothers and children in need by giving communities the help and training they need to take control of their own maternal and infant health care.





Through the Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge, Rotary members are strengthening community health systems and increasing the capacity of community health workers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Zambia.

In Sri Lanka, Rotary members collaborated with the ministry of health to support policy change and improve cervical cancer screening protocols. They advocated for HPV vaccination which is now part of the national immunization programme. Rotary Club member Professor Mary Ann Lumsden recently visited this project.

The Rotary Club of London supports many projects and two recent examples are providing funding for a vital lifesaving project for new born babies in Egypt, to supply a flexible Bronchoscope to the chest department of Sohag Hospital. And funding for the Rotary Club of Cannes Kangaroo Project for neonatal facilities for mothers and newborns.

Rotary International Award for Extraordinary Service to Humanity

I was greatly honoured today to present the Rotary International Extraordinary Service Award to Paolo Barbarino, former Alzheimer's Disease International CEO. The award was nominated by President Ana Graticos from District 7000, Puerto Rico. Ana is in London this week for a conference and Paolo lives in London. Paolo's award was for a lifetime commitment to supporting people with Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's Disease International support and work with Alzheimer and dementia associations in over 100 countries, as well as people living with dementia, carers and all relevant organisations to help raise awareness, challenge stigma and to call for dementia to be a global health priority. Paolo and I both support the Commonwealth NGO Common Age and met at a Common Age dinner a couple of years ago.

Judith Diment MBE



Message from Rotary International President

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

Rotaract 

Rotary
GB&I MAGAZINE

**"Change is only
the beginning.
Impact is what
endures. We
must think of the
long-term impact
of every project."**

Olayinka H. Babalola,
Rotary International President
2026 - 27





Rotary
Club of London

MONDAY
20 JULY
EVENING MEETING
6:30 - 9:00 PM

Rotarian
JASMINE HARRISON
WILL BE OUR SPEAKER

Solo sailor **Jasmine Harrison** completes the Mini Globe Race of 26,000nm in a 5.8m long boat.

BOOKING INFORMATION
Pre-booking only by Friday 12pm prior to the meeting date.

BOOK NOW
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rotarycluboflondon2/2246766>

VENUE
Chesterfield Hotel,
35 Charles Street, Mayfair,
London, W1J 5EB








Rotarian Jasmine Harrison sails solo around the world completing the Mini Globe Race of 26,000nm in a 5.8m long boat.

Jasmine Harrison, world record holder, solo sailor, solo rower and swimmer sailed into Falmouth Harbour, Antigua, on 11th March 2026, 381 days after her departure from there in 2025, completing the **first global circumnavigation by a British woman in the smallest boat known to have made that voyage**. Jasmine's boat, named Numbatou, is a colourful homemade plywood yacht, only 5.8m (19 feet) long. Thirsk Rotarian and Rotary Young Citizen Award Winner 2023 Jasmine was a novice sailor when she first set out from Lagos, Portugal in December 2024 for her qualifying solo Atlantic Ocean crossing to enter the Mini Globe Race. Since setting off from Portugal, she has sailed across four oceans, 26,000 nautical miles, stopping in fifteen countries. **Jasmine's motto is "Just Do It, Follow Your Heart" and "Be stronger than your excuse".**

BOOK NOW (Before Friday 17 July at 12pm)

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rotarycluboflondon2/2246766>



Rotary
Club of London



MONDAY
27 JULY
LUNCH MEETING

12:30 - 14:00 PM

OUR SPEAKERS

Dr Chris Puttock and Terrell Ann Erickson



Dr Chris Puttock



Terrell Erickson

TOPIC

Wetlands - an integral and vital part of all tropical ecosystems.



BOOKING INFORMATION

Pre-booking only by
Friday 12pm
prior to the meeting date.



BOOK NOW

[https://www.tickettailor.com/
events/rotarycluboflondon2/2246766](https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rotarycluboflondon2/2246766)



VENUE

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



Dr Chris Puttock

Chris has over 50 years' experience in environmental conservation and restoration. He holds a doctorate in systematic botany, has described new plant and algae species, developed habitat restoration databases, authored an award-winning wetlands book, and spent 15 years specialising in mangrove restoration.

A founding director of ESRAG in 2015, Chris served as its first Executive Director, later Chair, and now Senior Strategic Advisor. During his leadership, ESRAG grew from fewer than 250 members to over 1,450 across 12 regional chapters.

He currently chairs the Advisory Board of the 26 Rotary Action Groups and the Rotary Action Group for Endangered Species. Chris is passionate about protecting biodiversity and preventing irreversible ecological damage.



Terrell Ann Erickson

Terrell returned to Hawaii in 2022 after a 30-year federal conservation career and a period in private environmental consulting.

She is Vice President of the Friends of Oahu National Wildlife Refuges, leading bird tours and supporting the restoration of native forests and wetlands. A Rotarian since 2023, she is a member of the Rotary Club of Metropolitan Honolulu and is active in Rotary Action Groups focused on endangered species, water, sanitation and freshwater.

Terrell held senior roles with the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. She holds degrees in Political Science and Environmental Science and continues to advise on wetland and stream restoration projects.

BOOK NOW (Before Friday 24 July at 12pm)

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rotarycluboflondon2/2246766>



August Informal Lunches – Join Us!

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**



We are pleased to announce that during August, our club will be holding informal lunches for our members, guests, and any overseas visitors. These will take place on **Monday 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th August**, and will be hosted by the Chesterfield events team at the special cost of **£33.50** per person.

Each lunch will include a two-course meal followed by coffee or tea and chocolates – a perfect opportunity to relax and enjoy good company in an informal setting.

Please note: Advance booking is required. If you would like to join us, please contact **Clive Amos** by email at **clive.amos@hotmail.co.uk** by **8:00pm on the preceding Thursday** to reserve your place.

We hope many of you will take this opportunity to enjoy these informal gatherings with friends old and new.

Introducing “Meet Our Members”

We are launching a new opportunity for Rotary Club of London members to introduce themselves, share their personal and professional experiences, and bring their knowledge, ideas and expertise to the Club.

During selected Club meetings, members will be given **10 minutes to share or present** something about themselves. This could include their career, personal journey, community involvement, area of expertise, passions, achievements or an experience that could inspire and bring value to fellow Rotarians.

These special sessions will be called **MEET OUR MEMBERS** and are scheduled for:

- **Monday 21 September 2026**
- **Monday 12 October 2026**
- **Monday 2 November 2026**
- **Monday 25 January 2027**
- **Monday 26 April 2027**

Every member has a story to tell, knowledge to share and something valuable to contribute. These sessions will help us learn more about one another, discover the diverse backgrounds and talents within our Club, and strengthen our connections as Rotarians.

Please come forward and add your name to the list of participating members.

To express your interest, contact Elisabeth at **elisabeth07816@gmail.com**.

President Judith's House Party

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**



President Judith's Traditional House Party Margate, Kent September 25th-27th 2026



President Judith Diment MBE is delighted to invite Members to the President's House Party which will take place in Margate from Friday 25th-27th September 2026

The entire Fort Hotel, Margate has been booked for the exclusive occupancy of Rotary London members and their guests. The hotel is conveniently situated in the Old Town.

"The finest sunsets in Europe"
J.M.W. Turner

Itinerary

FRIDAY 25TH

3.00pm - 4.00pm

- Tea and cake on arrival at the Fort Hotel
- Dinner at the Fort Hotel with special guest Mayor of Margate, Councillor Leo Britchner

SATURDAY 26TH

- Breakfast at the Fort Hotel
- Guided Art Tour by Professor Robert Diament including Carl Freedman Gallery exhibition by Emmi Alrai
- Visit to Counter Editions print studio
- Visit to Tracey Emin Art School exhibition
- Visit to Turner Gallery to view the specially commissioned installation by David Hockney
- Free time in Margate Old Town and beach area

4.30pm - 5.30pm

Champagne and cake at the President's home

7.00pm

Reception at the Turner Gallery

7.30pm - 10.30pm

Dinner at the Turner Contemporary Gallery guest speaker Clarrie Wallis, Director, Turner Contemporary Gallery

SUNDAY 27TH

Breakfast at the Fort Hotel

Free to enjoy attractions of Thanet

President Judith's Traditional House Party • Margate, Kent September 25th-27th 2026



President Judith Diment MBE is delighted to announce the President's House party will take place in Margate from 25th-27th September.

I have taken over the whole of the Fort Hotel. With its fabulous sea views, Margate's Fort Road Hotel is ideally located a stone's throw from the beach, the old town and the Turner Contemporary. A boarding house from 1820, the hotel was sensitively refurbished in 2022. Combining the ease of home with contemporary luxury. The fourteen guest rooms are individually designed and feature carefully selected artworks, vintage and bespoke furniture and beautifully tiled ensuite walk-in showers or baths. Continental breakfast is included. Parking is available adjacent to the hotel and payment made to the hotel reception on arrival.

The weekend will commence on Friday afternoon with tea and cake for those who arrive early, and dinner Friday evening at the hotel.

On Saturday morning there will be a guided walking Art Tour of Margate. Enjoy lunch in one of the many restaurants and cafes along the sea front or traditional fish and chips at Peter's Fish Factory, followed by champagne and cake at my home.

On Saturday there is a black tie reception and dinner at the Turner Gallery with guest speaker Clarrie Wallis, Director of the Turner Gallery.

Sunday is free to enjoy the many attractions of Thanet including the Shell Grotto in Margate, Charles Dickens Museum in Broadstairs and the Yacht Club in Ramsgate. For the more active there is mini golf and two golf courses.

The price per person includes accommodation, breakfast, tea and cake on arrival, dinner both evenings and reception on Saturday, the Art Tour, champagne and cake on Saturday. Lunch on Saturday is self-funding. Cash bars available throughout your stay and at dinners on Friday and Saturday.

Rooms will be allocated on a first come basis and full payment required by 15th August.

Travelling to Margate

There is a regular high-speed train from St Pancras to Margate.

Please advise any dietary or mobility requirements.

President Judith's Traditional House Party • Margate • September 25th-27th

BOOKING FORM

Name of Attendees	Email	Phone
1		
2		
3		
4		

I/we wish to attend the Margate weekend and would like to book:

King room Single person weekend stay	£809.00
Sea view room Couple weekend stay	£959.00
Superior Sea View room Couple weekend stay	£1,099.00
Suite Couple weekend stay	£1,159.00
Saturday dinner only	£89.00

1 ☐

1 ☐

1 ☐

1 ☐

1 ☐

Total

To confirm your booking please remit the total payment using this link:
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rotarycluboflondon1/2246936>
Full payment required by 15th August.

Please email this booking form to judith@thediments.co.uk

Volunteering Opportunities

The Soho Village Fete which will be taking place this **Sunday 19th July** at **St Anne's Church, 55 Dean St, London W1D 6AF** in Soho.

When are you able to help? They have a few options here (please reply back to me with your preferences)

- Set up on Saturday (18th July) evening from 5pm to 9pm
- Set up on Sunday (19th July) morning from 9am till 12pm
- Support selling raffle tickets during the day on the Sunday
- Supporting on the Waiter's race
- Slots across their different stalls (split across 3 slots of 12pm to 2pm, 2pm to 4pm and 4pm to 6pm)
 - The Soho Society Stall - this mainly involves selling raffle tickets
 - Tombola
 - Splat The Rat
 - Human Fruit Machine (they are looking for volunteers to be on the Human Fruit Machine but they are also looking for barkers - volunteers who encourages the crowd to play as they pass by)

They will be running a volunteer training session on Wednesday 15th July at 6pm at St Anne's Church in Soho so please put this in your diary if you can attend. Do let me know if you are interested in volunteering.

My contact number is 07958 404 991 and my email address is emelydlamini@gmail.com.

Best wishes,
Emely Dlamini
Community Chair

Insight into St Paul's Cathedral

A Fascinating Insight into the Life and Mission of St Paul's Cathedral

At this week's Rotary Club of London meeting, members and guests had the privilege of hearing from **The Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral**. Dean Tremlett has led the spiritual and operational life of St Paul's since September 2022. During his engaging presentation, he shared stories from his personal journey, explored the remarkable history of the Cathedral and explained its continuing role as a place of worship, national remembrance, education and welcome.

A Life of Service

Born in Devon, Andrew spoke warmly about his family background and his father's career on the railways. His own ministry has taken him to many different places and roles, including almost a decade as a port chaplain in Rotterdam, senior positions at Westminster Abbey and six years as Dean of Durham. While serving at Westminster Abbey, he attended major national occasions, including the wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton. At Durham Cathedral, he helped establish the Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation and developed his strong commitment to education, music and the life of cathedral communities. His arrival at St Paul's came at an extraordinary moment. Andrew and his wife, Maggie, moved to London in September 2022, just days before the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Although he had not yet been formally installed in his new role, he was asked to lead the nationally broadcast service at St Paul's the following day. It was his first time speaking from the Cathedral's pulpit and took place immediately before King Charles III's first address to the nation. He later attended both the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II and the Coronation of King Charles III.



Insight into St Paul's Cathedral

A Cathedral for London and the World

St Paul's describes its mission as:

“Inspiring faith, welcoming everyone, a Cathedral for London and the world.”

Behind the public face of the Cathedral is a substantial organisation. St Paul's has approximately 220 full-time staff and around 400 volunteers, supported by a diverse governing body bringing together clergy, lay members and specialists in areas such as law, finance, buildings and business services.

The Diocese of London itself stretches from the City of London to Heathrow Airport and includes approximately 600 parishes and 1,200 clergy.

St Paul's welcomes around 400,000 worshippers each year, including approximately 8,000 people every week. Unlike many local churches, cathedrals often attract visitors and worshippers from across the world, providing people with a place where they can simply enter, reflect and participate without immediately being expected to take on a formal role.

Andrew acknowledged the decline of institutional religion across parts of Western Europe, while emphasising that religion remains vibrant globally. He noted that English cathedrals have often resisted this decline because of their openness, accessibility and ability to welcome people from many different backgrounds.

Music, Education and Equality

Music remains central to the life of St Paul's.

The Cathedral school educates approximately 280 children and provides specialist training for its choristers, who live and study at the school from the ages of eight to thirteen.

Their musical education is exceptionally demanding, requiring them to learn and perform large amounts of complex music every week while continuing their academic studies.

Dean Tremlett described chorister training as being comparable to elite sport because of the discipline, concentration and commitment required.

He also spoke about the historic decision to welcome girls into the Cathedral choir after approximately one thousand years of an all-male tradition.

He emphasised that genuine equality required much more than simply admitting girls. The Cathedral has worked to create a wider cultural change by promoting female composers, organists, conductors, professional singers and other role models. This ensures that girls entering the choir can see genuine opportunities for their future within church music.

A Memorable Rotary Meeting

President Judith presented Dean Tremlett with a Rotary Club of London speaker's certificate. The meeting's collection also raised **£200**, which was warmly acknowledged by the Dean. The Rotary Club of London extends its sincere thanks to **The Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett** for sharing his personal journey, his knowledge of the Cathedral's history and his inspiring vision for the continuing mission of St Paul's.



A Wonderful Evening of Shakespeare, Fellowship and Fun

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**



Stuart Steals the Show as Hercules!

A Wonderful Evening of Shakespeare, Fellowship and Fun

Members and friends enjoyed a truly delightful Club social evening at St James's Square Garden for an outdoor performance of Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost*.

Organised by Stuart Castledine, the evening began with a relaxed pre-show picnic in the beautiful garden surroundings. The weather could not have been better, creating the perfect setting for an evening of fellowship, laughter and entertainment.

The performance itself was lively, energetic and absolutely hilarious, with the cast bringing Shakespeare's comedy to life in a wonderfully engaging way. The highlight of the evening came when Stuart was invited by the performers to join the cast and take on the role of Hercules. His unexpected stage appearance was met with great amusement and applause from fellow Rotarians – and Stuart entered fully into the spirit of the occasion!

Everyone in attendance had a wonderful time, and the evening was a perfect example of how enjoyable and relaxed Rotary fellowship can be.

Our sincere thanks go to Stuart for arranging such a memorable and thoroughly enjoyable Club social.

Elisabeth Reyes
Vice-President





Celebrating our Birthdays

We are delighted to celebrate the following members with birthdays in July:

Dr Mamdouh Barakat -	16th July
Tony Colman -	24th July
Sarah Field -	25th July
Luxshman Somanathan -	25th July
Hiko Tanaka -	26th July
Janet Kirk -	26th July

If your name is not included, please email us: info@rotary-london.org so we can celebrate you too.

Thank you.



IN MEMORY

🙏 Dear Fellow Rotarians,

This is a gentle reminder of the funeral arrangements for **Past President Giovanni Marengi**, whose passing we remember with great sadness and gratitude for his service, friendship and contribution to the Rotary Club of London. **Requiem Mass:**

📍 St Ann's Catholic Church, Kingston Hill, KT2 7LX

🕒 11.00am on Friday 24 July

There is a decent-sized car park at the rear of the church.

Burial:

📍 Cobham Cemetery, Tilt Road, KT11 3EZ

🕒 1.00pm

Please note that parking at the cemetery is extremely limited.

Following the burial, everyone is warmly invited to join the family at **The Running Mare, KT11 3EZ** for food and refreshments.

For catering purposes, please RSVP to genevieve.daly@gmail.com genevi

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the **Alzheimer's Society** in Giovanni's memory via his memorial page.

IN MEMORY

In Memoriam – Dr Mary Buchanan

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of our beloved Honorary Member, Dr Mary Buchanan, on 18 June.

Mary was a much-loved member of the Rotary Club of London whose kindness, friendship and gentle presence touched the lives of many. She embodied the spirit of Rotary through her care for others, her loyalty to the Club and the warmth she showed to all who knew her.

She will be remembered with great affection and greatly missed by her many friends in the Rotary Club of London.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with Mary's family and loved ones at this difficult time.

Funeral and memorial service details (which is expected to be in September) will be shared with members as soon as they become available.



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



Eve Conway

Newsletter Editor

Public Image Chair 2026-2027

Rotary Club of London