



Message from President Judith Diment MBE

Another busy Rotary week! With the focus on World Polio Day this month The Global Polio Eradication Initiative organised a three day retreat at the Gates Foundation in London for the Gender Mainstreaming Workgroup. I attended two days with 35 representatives from WHO, Unicef and the Gates Foundation from 10 countries including Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. It was excellent to hear first hand from staff working on the frontline in these challenging countries.

Later in the week, I attended a Commonwealth and Soroptimists meeting on the impact of AI on women's health, with experts from around the world. I was pleased to contribute on the experience gained from the polio programme (pictured with Renata Trottman Probst, President of Soroptimists).



We had our second Meet the Members session this week. Thank you to our members Annette Rieger and Stefan Braunecker for sharing their interesting journeys both professionally and personally. If you would like to share your story at one of our forthcoming meetings please let Elisabeth know.



With Queen Angelique-Monnet Thompson from Nigeria



Message from President Judith Diment MBE

**CREATE
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I was pleased to welcome to the meeting two visiting Rotarians from the Philippines and Japan, and Kapi Kalombo President of the Rotaract Club of London and a prospective member Larry Yesufu.

Past President of Rotary International Mark Maloney and his wife Gay were in London this week and I had dinner with them on Friday. They were reminiscing fondly about their visit for Commonwealth Week in 2020, their last official visit as they were recalled to the US because of Covid. They send warm greetings to the Club.

Please register for the International Gala Dinner on November 7th, bring family, friends and colleagues for an evening of fun and fellowship at the Skyline Rooftop Terrace.

With my best wishes,

Judith Diment MBE
President Rotary Club of London

Link to Monday's meeting photos taken by PP Hiko Tanaka: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/e7NgtC3ir5jBJ2EK9>





SAVE THE DATES

Save these dates in your diary!

19th October - RCL Evening Meeting - Lord Mayor of Westminster, Karen Scarborough will be our speaker

22nd October - Long Bar RAC Pall Mall

26th October - RCL Lunch Meeting - General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter will be our speaker on Memorial Gates Trust History of Commonwealth Memorial Gates - We will be joined by R7 Rotary clubs

2nd November - Meet our Members. Gary Cheung and Clive Amos

7th November - 6.30pm International Gala at Skyline Tower Suites by Blue Orchid Hotels

An Evening with the Lord Mayor

Rotary
Club of London



Join us to hear
**The Right Worshipful
the Lord Mayor of the
City of Westminster**

**Councillor
Karen Scarborough**

Cllr Karen Scarborough has represented Marylebone Ward since first being elected to Westminster City Council in 2014. She entered politics to be a strong voice on issues that matter most to communities.



An exclusive event with
The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor

ALL WELCOME



Date & Time
Monday,
19th October
at 6.30pm



Venue
The Chesterfield
Mayfair Hotel,
35 Charles Street,
W1J 5EB



Hosted by
Rotary Club
of London



Book your place here:

<https://buyticketsat/rotarycluboflondon/2386983>



Please book before midday on Friday 16th October.

Cllr Karen Scarborough has represented Marylebone Ward since first being elected to Westminster City Council in 2014. She entered politics to be a strong voice on issues that matter most to communities.

She has held several positions including Deputy Cabinet Member roles for Children & Young People, Communities, and City Management & Highways. Cllr Scarborough has also served on a wide range of committees including the Strategy Group for Air Quality, the Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood, Chair of Scrutiny Committee, Chair of Licensing Committee.

Cllr Scarborough has also contributed extensively to community and charitable organisations across Westminster. She is currently a Governor of St Vincent's Catholic Primary School in Marylebone, a Trustee of the Young Westminster Foundation, and a member of both the Harley Street BID and Edgware Strategy Group. She was also recently a Governor of St Mary of the Angel's Catholic Primary School and a Trustee of the Marylebone Almshouses.

Born in Scotland, Cllr Scarborough lived there until the age of 11 before moving to Westminster, where she has spent most of her life. She has a background in both law and business and is married with three adult children, five grandchildren and two step grandchildren.

Booking link : <https://buyticketsat/rotarycluboflondon2/2386983>

Please book before midday on Friday, 16th October for early bird rate.

Rotary
Club of London



SAVE THE DATE

Annual International Gala

Saturday 7 November 2026

from 6:30 pm

London • by the Thames

*A prestigious black-tie evening of dining,
musical entertainment and fundraising.*

BOOK HERE

HIGHLIGHTS

Black-tie gala dinner

3-course meal + petit fours

Complimentary drink on arrival

Amazing musical entertainment



Tables of 10 available at a discounted rate
Book a table for you and 9 guests

PROUDLY SUPPORTING TWO CHARITIES



✨ Join us for the Rotary Club of London
Annual International Gala! ✨

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Rotarians, invite your **partners, friends, esteemed colleagues and fellow Rotarians** to join us for a memorable black-tie evening of fine dining, musical entertainment, friendship and fellowship.

Together, we will enjoy a very special evening while raising funds for **The King's Trust** and **End Polio Now**. 💙💛

Saturday 7 November 2026

From 6:30 pm

Skyline Tower Suites by Blue Orchid Hotels

[100 Minories, London EC3N 1JY](#)

£99 per person

Tables of 10 are available at a discounted rate of £960

BOOK HERE:

<https://buytickets.at/rotarycluboflondon1/2414389>

For further information, please contact **Duchess Williams-Alonga** at **bhalondonuk@aol.com**.

Come together, celebrate and help us make a meaningful difference!



LONG BAR SOCIAL

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THE LONG BAR AT THE ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB, PALL MALL

Enjoy a relaxed Social meeting in the Long Bar at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall.

Kindly hosted by Rotarian Tim MacAndrews, but please contact Stuart Castledine (s_castledine@btinternet.com) with any queries.

Please ensure that you comply with the RAC Club dress code, details of which can be seen by following this link: [Pall Mall Dress Code and Standards - Royal Automobile Club](#)

Thu 22 Oct 2026 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Long Bar RAC Pall Mall, SW1Y 5HS

Booking link: <https://buytickets.at/rotarycluboflondon2/2442367>



MEET OUR MEMBERS

Introducing “Meet Our Members”

We are delighted that our **Meet the Members** sessions are proving so popular, with the October slots already fully booked.

There are still opportunities for members to give a **10-minute presentation** at one of our upcoming sessions:

- **2 November 2026**
- **25 January 2027**
- **26 April 2027**

If you would like to take part, please contact **Elisabeth** (elisabeth07816@gmail.com) to reserve your slot. Places are in demand, so early booking is recommended to avoid disappointment.

These sessions are all about **you**. They are a wonderful opportunity to introduce yourself to fellow members, both personally and professionally, and for others to discover more about who you are, what you do and what matters to you.

And who knows what might come from those ten minutes? A new friendship, a professional connection, a collaboration, a shared interest – or something completely unexpected.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

Annette Rieger: Resilience and Global Perspective

Annette focused on the theme that the world is smaller than one might expect, illustrating this with stories of unexpected connections made during her early career in Japan.

- * **Professional Background:** Originally from Rosenheim, Germany, she worked in financial services for many years, including roles at State Street Bank and HSBC. After experiencing redundancy, she pivoted to start her own bookkeeping business.
- * **Personal Journey:** She spoke openly about her experience with alopecia, opting to embrace her appearance with colourful scarves rather than using wigs.
- * **Volunteering:** She is highly active in the Fulham area, serving as a treasurer and trustee for a charity focused on cemetery preservation, and she participates in local riverbank clean-up initiatives.



Stefan Braunecker: High-Stakes Medicine and Service

Stefan detailed his career in medicine and his commitment to service-oriented organisations, drawing parallels between his past as a Boy Scout and his current role in Rotary.

- * **Professional Life:** As a cardiac anaesthetist, he manages urgent, life-saving surgeries for patients who often arrive in critical condition.
- * **Academic & Research Highlights:** He has a distinguished academic career, including a professorship at the University of Florida. Notably, he developed emergency medicine training for the European Space Agency, teaching astronauts (including Tim Peake) how to perform life-saving procedures in space.
- * **Global Impact:** He shared insights from his medical mission trips to Tanzania, describing how these experiences shifted his perspective on global healthcare and privilege.
- * **Rotary Involvement:** Trained as a pilot for his European Space Agency work and from his professional and early background, he is an active member of Rotary fellowships (Healthcare Professionals, Aviation, and Scouting) and he views Rotary as a vital vehicle for making the world a better place.



Presidential Peace Conference

**REGISTRATION
OPEN**

ROTARY PRESIDENTIAL PEACE CONFERENCE - LONDON SATURDAY 6 MARCH 2027

The 2027 Rotary Presidential Peace Conference headlining RI President Olayinka Babalola is on 6 March 2027 in London, England. The Conference will emphasise President Olayinka's call to "Create Lasting Impact". Stressing personal transformation as foundational to broader impact, he said that "To make this vision a reality, we must acknowledge and unleash the change within ourselves". Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus intertwine with the UN Global Goals to form a Global Impact Framework. The Conference will underscore the Shared Pathways to Sustainable Peace highlighting both sustainable development and Rotary's Peace Mission.

DATE & TIME: Conference – Saturday 6th March 2027: 9am (registration), 10am start – 3.30pm end. Optional Gala Dinner - Saturday 6th March 2027: 7pm start – 11pm Carriages. **VENUE:** Leonardo Royal Hotel – London Tower Bridge, 45 Prescott Street, London E1 8GP, UK. **REGISTRATION FEES:** Early Bird Rate: Conference: £75. Conference & Dinner: £150. (ends 30th Nov 2026). 1st Dec 2026 – Conference Fee: £100; Conference & Dinner: £200. The Gala Dinner is optional and only open to Conference Delegates.

<https://rotarypeaceconference.london> Email: rippc.london@gmail.com



Member's News



Summit Ally Pally to *End Polio Now*: A Joint-District Fundraiser

World Polio Day - Saturday 24th October

Following last year's successful "O2 Dome Climb" please join us once again to summit a pinnacle and fundraise to *End Polio Now*.

This World Polio Day (Saturday 24 October), Rotarians and friends from Districts 1110, 1120, 1130 and 1145 will [summit Ally Pally](#) - the UK's highest roof walk - to support the global fight to eradicate polio. Details below:

Date: Saturday 24 October

Time: Arrival at 13:00 sharp for a start from 13:15

Venue: Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace Way, London N22 7AY

Meeting Point: East Court Entrance of Alexandra Palace,
just inside the main doors

Cost: £30 per person - [Book tickets at this Eventbrite link](#)

Fundraising target: No minimum targets, just your best efforts

NB. RGB&I is setting up the fundraising link, and we'll send it to climbers (fundraisers) as soon as it's available. The fundraising link will remain live until mid-December 2026, providing plenty of time to raise critical funds to end polio now.

Thanks to ongoing partnership, every pound you raise through this event will be trebled (matched 2-to-1) by the Gates Foundation, turning a £10 donation into £30 of life-saving vaccines.

We look forward to seeing you at Ally Pally this World Polio Day!

Christine Wong, District Foundation Chair christine.s.wong@gmail.com



Member's News

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An Evening at the Tower of London with Blesma

On Thursday 1 October 2026, I had the pleasure of attending a special evening at the historic Tower of London, hosted by Blesma – The Limbless Veterans, one of the charities the Rotary Club of London proudly supported during my presidential year, 2025–26.

The evening featured a fascinating guided tour of some of the Tower's most iconic landmarks, including Traitors' Gate, the Scaffold Site and the exterior of the Bloody Tower. Along the way, we heard remarkable stories about former prisoners and residents, royal intrigue and the secrets hidden within these ancient walls.

Blesma is one of Britain's longest-established veterans' charities, with roots dating back to the aftermath of the First World War. Formally established in 1932, the charity provides lifelong support to veterans who have experienced limb loss or loss of use of a limb, enabling them to lead independent and fulfilling lives.

A particularly memorable part of the evening was the warm and moving speech by Vivienne Buck CBE, Chief Executive of Blesma, who expressed her sincere appreciation for the generosity of organisations and supporters whose contributions enable Blesma to continue its invaluable work supporting veterans and their families.

I would also like to extend my special thanks to Brigadier Tim Waugh CBE, who first brought Blesma to my attention during my presidential year. Through his introduction, I learned about the charity's remarkable work, which led the Rotary Club of London to support this worthwhile cause. I am particularly grateful to Tim for introducing us to an organisation whose work makes a meaningful difference to the lives of those who have served our country.

My sincere thanks to Vivienne Buck and the entire Blesma team for their wonderful hospitality and for a memorable evening at one of London's most historic landmarks.

Anahita Harris
Immediate Past President 2026-2027, Rotary Club of London



Photo shows Vivienne Buck CBE, Chief Executive of Blesma, alongside Immediate Past President Anahita Harris at the Tower of London.

IN MEMORY OF

Barry Moughton Memorial service

A Memorial Service to celebrate Past RCL President 1984/85 Barry Moughton's life will be held at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Mickleham, Surrey RH5 6DU, on Monday 2nd November 2026 at 11.30am, followed by a reception at The Running Horses (opposite the Church). All are welcome.

Donations in Barry's memory are invited to Transform Housing & Support - Reg Charity No 264133, which now manages the former activities of Churches of Dorking Housing Aid Ltd, (CODHAL) to which Barry dedicated many years of service.

Address for correspondence: Mrs Elizabeth Moughton, 20 Prebendal Court, Station Road, Shipton under Wychwood, OX7 6BB or Julia Palejowska, julia.palejowska@btinternet.com.



Birthdays



Celebrating our Birthdays

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

12th October - **Christina Zucconi**

28th October - **David Kendall**

If your name is not 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



Eve Conway

Newsletter Editor

Public Image Chair 2026-2027

Rotary Club of London

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 reflect our vibrant community. Share your stories insights or feedback with us at eveconway@hotmail.co.uk.