



Congleton Rotary Huddle Meeting - February 5th 2024

Apologies for absence:

Stuart H, Tish, Avril & Rob, John R. Eddie Rush, Gill, Sandra, Simon, Joan & Janet H.

Welcome

President

Thought for the day:

Doug

Welfare

Doug

Doug reported on Ernest Harrison's funeral.

Apologies sent: Unable to attend Jill Scotney-Robinson's funeral

Doug reported that Jean Crawford was unwell

Tish's wife Rekha had suffered a TIA and members joined in wishing her well.

Eddie Roberts was welcomed back enthusiastically and he thanked everyone for their concern and support during his illness.

No member birthdays this month.

Visits

Brian

Brian reported on the Rotary New members forum also attended by Ian, Stew and Rod, where they had learned about the work of Foundation, explained in great clarity. He will summarise for all at a later date.

Treasurer's report

Bob

Bob had little to add to his report. He had paid Rotary central subs. About £43.5K available for distribution.

New member forum & Project Team Re-structure

Brian

Brian suffered a technical problem with the AV equipment and his presentation is held over to a later date.

Cath brought up the idea of separating WhatsApp into two; one for

'official news' the other for social messages, including birthday wishes.

Rod thought it easier if he wished members 'Happy Birthday' on behalf of all, saving numerous individual, repetitive posts.

(Individual, personal messages are perhaps best sent by email).

The new members meeting is at the Horse Shoe Inn on Monday 15th. 7pm.

Meal cost is £9.95. All are welcome. Prebook with Ian.

Funding Requests

Rod

Rod reported on two funding requests

1: Congleton Youth Orchestra had requested £1,000 sponsorship (the usual amount!) Proposed by Doug, Seconded by Eddie. Unanimously agreed.

2: CAUSN. Paul Nixon had requested £2,000 for Ukrainian 1:1 English lessons to help them become self-supporting. Brain and Rod had met with Paul and Alex (?) They recommended the payment as the final support

for Paul who is winding the project down. Kev spoke in support, as did Ian and John G. Proposed by John K, seconded by John G. Agreed.
Rod has 2 more appeals in the pipeline requiring further investigation before submission to members.

Conference 2024

Rod reported that bookings had been made and fees paid - and made a last call for any further members to attend (with partners).

Project Leaders member questions:

Swimathon.

Rachel

Rachel reported 13 lanes remain to be booked on Friday 15th.
Stew asked for more lane counting volunteers.
Rod reported that CTC had granted £960 to cover event hire

Environment.

David summarised the projects in hand including the Wildlife Garden competition, and wildflower 'Heart' garden

Youth Services.

Cath reported progress on YP award presentations. Quinta had asked for a presentation of Parking Buddies sponsored by the club. Brian invited to attend on Thursday at 2.30. All welcome.

Cath

Bonfire and Community.

Eddie

Brian reported that most pre-ordering had been done for the event. Fairground operator was collating all the group's requirements for CEC
John K reported that the Rugby Club were happy to volunteer - in exchange for a contribution.
Eddie had two further possible groups of helpers.
Eddie and Stew had met with CTC, who requested our support for the switch-on on Friday 29th November. The layout is being revised this year.
A War Memorial hospital bed push is being organised to celebrate 100 years in Congleton on 27th May (Bank Holiday Monday). Marshalling help required from Rotary. Eddie and others are hunting for old hospital beds with big wheels!
Denis said that the hospital is proposing some gardening work as part of its centenary, including planting an orchard and removing a hedge at a cost of £750. Patti Pinto is liaising on this.

CEC is funding volunteer training courses. More details from Eddie.
The Mayor's Charity Ball is on 26th April. Tickets £40. Eddie asked anyone not attending Llandudno to consider supporting the event.

Young Artist

Rod

Rod reported that the theme has been chosen by the sponsor Bird Bellows, who had provided £750 of support. The theme is '2050'. He is launching to schools this week.

Classic Car Show

Rod is holding a meeting on Tuesday 6th February at Egerton Arms to plan the event. Volunteers welcome. 7.15pm

Diary of Events:

Biddulph Charter Night March 18th. Names asap to Ian.

Meeting scheduled for that night is cancelled. It will now be on March 25th.

Next meeting: Monday February 19th, speaker night, Astbury Golf Club.

District Governor, Swati, is to speak at the March 25th meeting at Astbury

(Note date change from 18th March due to Biddulph Charter Night).

Raffle

Prize donated by Kev, who won it and put it back. John G won it!

Closing toasts

President

Minutes secretary

John Gauld

Tuesday, 7th February 2024