

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2026

Rotary
Carlton



Welcome to our latest Newsletter - aimed to update our members and "Friends of Carlton Rotary" with activities undertaken, and those planned. We hope you enjoy!

We are always keen to welcome new members, so please pass this on to any friends or family who might be interested in finding out more about us—to have fun and to make a difference to our world. Do contact us, too, if you have a community project or particular need you feel we could help with.

Joint Presidents for 2026-27 Rotary Year

Carlton Rotary is delighted to welcome Joint Presidents Paul and Charlotte for the next Rotary year.



Paul brings a wealth of Rotary experience, having previously served as President and held a variety of leadership roles within the club. His knowledge, dedication, and understanding of Rotary values provide a strong foundation for the year ahead.

Joining him is Charlotte, who is taking on the Presidency for the first time. Bringing fresh perspectives, enthusiasm, and new ideas, Charlotte is excited to work alongside Paul to build on the club's successes and explore new opportunities.

Together, Paul and Charlotte combine experience with

innovation, creating a dynamic partnership that reflects the spirit of Rotary. They are looking forward to an exciting year filled with fellowship, community engagement, and meaningful projects that will continue to make a positive difference across our local community.



With a shared commitment to service and a passion for bringing people together, they invite members and friends to join them in embracing new opportunities, supporting local causes, and making 2026–2027 a memorable and impactful Rotary year.

**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**



"Create Lasting Impact" is Rotary International's theme for the year—something Carlton Rotary aspires to achieve.

Our visit in May to Hucknall Test Centre



Our visit started with an informative video presentation detailing the history of this former aviation testing facility in Hucknall. The site has a proud heritage dating back over 100 years. It became especially significant through its association with Rolls-Royce, where decades of pioneering engine development and testing took place.

A real highlight of the afternoon was learning about the remarkable aircraft engines developed and tested at Hucknall.



These included piston engines like the famous Merlin, which powered iconic aircraft such as the Spitfire and Hurricane during the Second World War. We also explored the evolution into the jet age, with early jet engines such as the Welland and Derwent helping to shape the future of aviation.



The museum's collection brings this history to life, showcasing engine components, technical displays, and stories of the engineers and test pilots who pushed the boundaries of innovation.

A big thank you to the dedicated volunteers who shared their knowledge and made the visit so engaging – a fantastic insight into an important part of our local heritage. And thanks too to David Styles for organising the visit.

Latest Collection of Spectacles

We recently sent another box of 250 used spectacles to York Ainsty Rotary for their SpecSort programme. Some we had collected ourselves, but most were passed on from AC Allan Opticians in Sherwood.

We received a copy of SpecSort's latest Newsletter which described how the spectacles are cleaned and sorted by many Rotary volunteers. They are graded by use of focimeters to identify the power of the lenses, then bagged into pairs of 20 of the same

power. They are stored in libraries of 1000 pairs ready for distribution. Last year 6000 pairs were despatched and shipments were sent to clinics in Albania, Nepal, Kenya, Fiji, and Zimbabwe. Photo shows a delighted recipient in Kenya.



York Ainsty Rotary writes that they are inspired to keep going with the project due to such positive feedback saying that many in poor communities can now see much better. An excellent Rotary project of which we are pleased to play a small part.

Recent speakers at Carlton Rotary

In May, members and friends of Carlton Rotary were delighted to welcome Alan Barnes, accompanied by his wonderful guide dog, Windsor.

Alan gave a truly inspiring and insightful talk about the vital work of guide dogs, sharing his own personal experiences of living with sight loss and how Windsor has transformed his independence and day-to-day life. It was both a moving and informative evening, giving us all a greater understanding of the challenges faced by those with visual impairments—and the incredible difference that guide dogs make.



In April, we had the pleasure of welcoming Lydia Yates, Youth Mayor of Gedling, and Hilary Brown from Phenomenal Futures.



They gave an insightful talk about their joint work in raising awareness of coercive control and of wider issues around abuse. It was inspiring to hear how they are working with young people and the community to encourage understanding, support, and positive change.

A big thank you to Lydia and Hilary for sharing their time and passion with us. Their work is making a real difference.

Donations this quarter

Using some of our Christmas collection monies, grants and donations this quarter have been given to:

- ◆ My Sight Nottingham—grant towards some accessible yoga sessions
- ◆ Carlton Hill Action Group—cost of a first-aid ambulance for their Summer Event on 16 August
- ◆ Four extra tents for 1st Gedling Scouts to enable more participation at The Big Weekend in Newark
- ◆ Donation to Guide Dogs
- ◆ Provision of an extra treadle sewing machine for the tailoring course at the Sri Sai Vidyarthi School, India
- ◆ Donation to Rotary's own charity—The Rotary Foundation—specifically for the Polio eradication fund
- ◆ Donations to disaster relief charities Aquabox and Shelterbox
- ◆ Donation to 3rd Netherfield Scout Group for portable solar camping battery packs and lighting



If you know of a local cause which would benefit from a Community Grant—do contact us.

The power of Facebook

Carlton Rotary are delighted to have been able to support local gymnast Grace Davies in her early years.

Grace, now 18, has progressed to Team GB. She won a silver medal at the recent World Cup gymnastics competition and a Facebook post highlighting the interview with her and her Mum on East Midlands Today gained over 1,400 views!

Well done, Grace. We look forward to following your story as you progress further.



An **OPEN INVITATION** to join in with any of the meetings or visits below.
Meetings (MGC) are at Mapperley Golf Club—with a 2-course meal & coffee @ £16 followed by a speaker, business meeting or activity.

Just email carltonrotary@gmail.com to book in.

NOTE A TIME CHANGE—starting 16 July we shall meet earlier at 17:30 for a meal at 17:45

Day	Date	Venue	Topic
Thursday	02-Jul	MGC	SPEAKER: Isabella Harris—Emmanuel House. Guests invited
Thursday	09-Jul	MGC	SPEAKER: Vicky Jones & Lucy. Art at the NHS. Guests invited
Thursday	16-Jul	MGC	Business Meeting
Thursday	23-Jul	MGC	SPEAKER: Cathy Mitchell—Africa talk
Saturday	25-Jul	Newstead Ctr	District Council meeting 9.00 am
Thursday	30-Jul	TBA	Walk & Meal
Thursday	06-Aug	MGC	Christmas Float meeting
Thursday	13-Aug	MGC	TBC
Thursday	20-Aug	MGC	SPEAKER: Aaron Paul—Arnold Eagle Girls Football. Guests invited
Sunday	23-Aug	Various	Annual Gadabout
Thursday	27-Aug	MGC	Murder Mystery game
Thursday	03-Sep		Bank Holiday—no meeting
Thursday	10-Sep	MGC	Business Meeting
Thursday	17-Sep	MGC	SPEAKER: Janette Mullins—Care System
Thursday	24-Sep	MGC	SPEAKER: Clare Wainwright—Rainbows Hospice for Babies & Young People

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