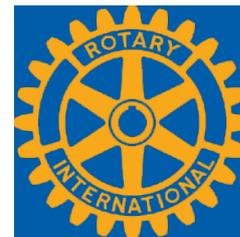




# THE ROTARY CLUB OF LYME REGIS

Chartered 1950

## Bulletin - September 2025



### EXECUTIVE:

President: David Sarson

Secretary: John Berry

Treasurer: Bill Taylor

President Elect: John Enticott  
(President Jan '26-June '26)

### CONTACT:

info.lymeregisrotary@gmail.com

### WEBSITE:

[www.lymeregisrotary.org](http://www.lymeregisrotary.org)

### FACEBOOK

Rotary Club of Lyme Regis

### INSTAGRAM

rotarylymeregis

### MEETINGS:

Alternate Thursdays, 5.45 pm  
for 6.15pm at Hunter's Lodge,  
Raymonds Hill, Lyme Regis  
(meals ordered by 6.00 pm)

(as we have a variable  
programme please check with  
Secretary first before visiting)

For Lyme Regis Rotarians:  
Pls tell Secretary if you will  
be absent on any evening.

### THE FOUR WAY TEST

- Is it the Truth?
- Is it Fair to All?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



**SERVICE ABOVE  
SELF**

Fellow Rotarians

Wow, what a month, with Candles on the Cobb taking the lead role, a great effort by all who took part, you should all be proud of yourselves. I am sure we had record crowds; Lyme Regis, in my memory, has never been busier. Our guests also enjoyed the day, with thanks to **Larry from Largigi** for supplying refreshments, coming in at the last minute after our original supplier bowed out. Thanks also to John Enticott, Arthur Banwell and Erica for help in hosting the guests. I am hearing already from locals that this was the best ever Candles on the Cobb. We await the final count of how many "Candles" have been sold online and in certificate form, certainly a record and we confidently **expect profits in excess of £30,000.**

An incredible job was done by our **Candle Lighters** from **The Gig Club, The RNLI, The Powerboat Club, The Sailing Club, The Lym Valley Scouts, The Charmouth Scouts and Lyme Rib Rides**, plus all the **individuals** who volunteered to take on this important role. Wind and waves made it tough lighting candles on the Cobb but you worked wonders. Thanks also to the **volunteers** looking after the carparks, to the **Marshalls and Bucket Collectors**, including **Josh** and his brother **Jacob** and of course mother **Annette**.

I think it worth mentioning those that worked extremely hard in the Purple Hut for the last few hours, right up to 8.00pm, these were **Lynnette Ravenscroft**, and her sister **Susanne, Caroline Powley, Belinda Bawden, Rotary Secretary John Berry** and our new potential member **Alistair Bowes**, who I understand excelled himself, (not forgetting those who slaved away during the week leading up to the 24<sup>th</sup> August), and our new member **Kent Davis** who came down to help clear up on Monday morning.

We are so grateful to our **Main Sponsors, Lyme Bay Holidays, The Slipway, Rockfish, Natural and Welsh Candles** (Scott and Nicola Quinnell who once again supplied the T Lights free of charge) our **Partners Advantage Digital Print and LoveLymeRegis** and the many other **Official Supporters** who are listed on our COTC website.

I would also like to thank **John and Sue Eaton** for saving the day with regard to the problems we had with parking, John provided parking for Rotarians and some guests and ferried them to and from the front. It was great to see **Jo and Danny Hopkins** at the reception supporting us, I expect to be picking up Danny for future meetings.

I am sure you will also agree that a **SPECIAL THANKS** goes to **Alan Vian and Rob James** for a **HUGE** amount of organisation and planning of the event, calling on vast past experience and a myriad of specialist skills.

Our guests included his **Worship the Mayor Philip Evans and Jackie**, our **DG Mike Kew and Jules**, the **High Sheriff of Dorset Callum Bremner and Jane**, **Phil Street and Dawn and Mike Higgs and Sue**, **Town Clerk John Wright and Rose**, and a number of **Town Councillors**.

A huge number of people helped out in various roles, I wish I could name you all, but the Bulletin would be off the pages if I did, but you know who you are and we are so grateful.

A quick mention of **Rotarian Jim Moseley** who is/was suffering from a bout of food poisoning and could not join us, but he did take a fantastic photograph from his bedroom window (?). Hope to see you soon Jim.

We will be writing to **Macmillan Cancer Support and Prostate Cancer** once we have a handle on the amount we can donate; this will also apply to the **Local Organisations and Good Causes** with whom we will be requesting bids; this will be actioned by the end of September.

August was otherwise a quiet month but as well as COTC we helped out with a number of bucket collectors for the Carnival Fireworks. We welcomed a new Rotarian, Kent Davis and a number of potential new members, we look forward to getting to know you all.

David Sarson

## WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to  
Rotary 



Well, what a month, with loads going on in Lyme Regis at which we helped out with manpower (Carnival Week Parade and Fireworks). Only one meeting, August 7th, at which we welcomed **Kent Davis** as a new Rotarian. Good to have you on board Kent, hope you and **Emma** enjoy a long and fruitful time in Rotary. We also welcomed our DG, **Mike Kew**, his wife **Jules** and daughter **Ellie** to our major event, Candles on the Cobb, on August 24th. Jules wasn't content with just one collection bucket, she took two and I suspect filled them both, such was her enthusiasm. Thanks for your help, folks, much appreciated.

## DOWN MEMORY LANE - AGAIN

Whenever I tell my children (all over 50 now) about my childhood days they raise their eyes to the heavens and say, in a heavily contrived Scottish accent, "Hoots, Mon! When I wiz a lad...". But I carry on, undeterred, although I know much of it falls on deaf ears. After all, for me these were good memories, I've been lucky to have forgotten the bad ones.

But things *were* different, and I'm sure I'm not alone amongst the Boomer Generation in thinking we had a less constrained, less complicated, more active and adventurous upbringing than even our own children and especially the children of today. So, when I came across this wee poem I just had to share. Enjoy.

Back in the days of tanners and bobs,  
When Mothers had patience and Fathers had jobs.  
When football team families wore hand me down shoes,  
And T.V gave only two channels to choose.

Back in the days of three penny bits,  
When schools employed nurses to search for your nits.  
When snowballs were harmless; ice slides were permitted  
And all of your jumpers were warm and hand knitted.

Back in the days of hot ginger beers,  
When children remained so for more than six years.  
When children respected what older folks said,  
And pot was a thing you kept under your bed.

Back in the days of Listen with Mother,  
When neighbours were friendly and talked to each other.  
When cars were so rare you could play in the street.  
When Doctors made house calls and Police walked the beat.

Back in the days of Milligan's Goons,  
When butter was butter and songs all had tunes.  
It was dumplings for dinner and trifle for tea,  
And your annual break was a day by the sea.

Back in the days of Dixon's Dock Green,  
Crackerjack pens and Lyons ice cream.  
When children could freely wear National Health glasses,  
And teachers all stood at the FRONT of their classes.

Back in the days of rocking and reeling,  
When mobiles were things that you hung from the ceiling.  
When woodwork and pottery got taught in schools,  
And everyone dreamed of a win on the pools.

Back in the days when I was a lad,  
I can't help but smile for the fun that I had.  
Hopscotch and roller skates; snowballs to lob.  
Back in the days of tanners and bobs.

*John McCallum*

....OH! Talking about tanners and bobs, many of you are, I know, back from holidays and I'm sure you found some foreign money lingering in those pockets and/or wallets. Well, our very own numismatist, Richard Main, will gladly take them off your hands and magically turn them into Rotary funds. Why not bring them along this Thursday to our regular meeting. If you aren't a Rotarian and are reading this then we would be delighted if you would give any unwanted foreign (or indeed any old British money), paper or coins, to our Club where we can use to further Rotary aims. Contact Ed. (see page 1) for details.

### Lyme Regis Skittles League

**We have entered a team in the league for '25/'26.**

**Two matches on 12th and 26th September. HIT WOOD!**

### Rotary Challenge Trophy

**Date and opponents of next match still to be advised.**



## THE DILEMMA THAT IS SUPPLYING HUMANITARIAN AID TO GAZA

One of our Members, Honorary Rotarian Kathryn Haskins, contacted me after the last Bulletin and asked if we had any plans to help the people of Gaza. It wasn't the first time the question had been asked so I thought it might be a good idea to do a bit of research and jot down what the situation is.

With an area of just 141 sq. ml (25 ml long and 3.7 - 7.5 ml wide) the Gaza Strip has a population of 2.1 million (2024 census). This means it is about the size of the Isle of Wight but with a population density overall about that of London, although some parts had a population density about five times that of London. It is bounded on the west side by the Mediterranean with a gently sloping sandy beach with no ports, on the south by Egypt and on other sides by Israel, with a fence along most of the border. Israel controls all border crossings, as we know, and has complete control of what goes in and what goes out, even over the border with Egypt. Nothing and nobody goes in or out without Israel's agreement.

We know from numerous newsreel reports that the people of Gaza are suffering hugely since Hamas, the ruling party, committed the atrocities in October 2023 and took many Israeli hostages. Israel's counter offensive has been severe but although Hamas has recently agreed to release hostages Israel apparently refuses to negotiate and continues to use extreme force to root out Hamas militants and has decided that nothing and nobody will get in their way, ignoring international condemnation of the extreme collateral damage. There are reports of further atrocities as the population gets even more desperate in their search for food and need for medical care.

It's the people of Gaza that suffer again from this intransigence by the warring parties. They are starving and 90% of their housing and other infrastructure and the little things that make a community work have been destroyed. Many have been displaced multiple times. Once productive farmland has been bombed and laid waste so they cannot feed themselves. They really need help but just how can we help with the situation showing no signs of moderating? That is a question being asked by all humanitarian organisations. So I asked the question directly of **Shelterbox** and **Water Survival Box**, two charities closely linked to Rotary, that specialise in disaster relief. The response was the same in each case, it was as expected but nonetheless very disturbing.

### Shelterbox:

*"The situation in Gaza, as you say is just dreadful and like all humanitarians' organisations, we are struggling to get anything into the country. I have attached our most recent Monthly summary report which has details on Gaza and all other countries we are working in.*



*However, it is very frustrating as we are unable to get any aid into the country at this time. All shelter items remain explicitly prohibited from entering Gaza and since the start of March, no shelter materials – like tents, tarpaulins, or timber – have been allowed in due to a full Israeli blockade imposed on that date.*

*However we have stocks of tents held in storage in Jordan to shelter thousands, but we are unable to get them in because of the ongoing restrictions.*

*We do not see this likely to change over the coming months so we are on hold at this time and this is the same for all NGO's"*

### Water Survival Box:

*"Sadly there is little we can do at present.*

*We have tried a number of our regular NGO distributors and the message is always the same. The Israeli Defence Force controls the border and is allowing only minimal aid in. You will have seen this on the news, I'm sure. They are also very particular about what is allowed in. We sent boxes to Palestine before and the Israeli Defence Force removed anything that could be construed as weapons, so most tools, knives etc.*



*Water Survival Box is ready to respond as soon as there is any change in the situation but we fear it may be some time."*

It is clear that some form of shelter and water purification, in addition to food, will be a first priority when humanitarian aid is allowed in. These charities need to be ready to move when that occurs. It is also important to be confident that any charity that we support will be able to focus their aid to people that really need it and that it is not acquired by warring factions or illegal groups. Both of these charities have a history of being able to do that. **The Rotary Club of Lyme Regis has pledged £1500 to Water Survival Box via "THE BIG GIVE" which will match fund our donation. We will pay this pledge by January 2026 out of our Trust Fund and seek to replenish the fund by raising the monies at our annual Soup & Ploughman's luncheon in February 2026. <https://biggive.org/>**



Another charity that has worked extensively in Gaza and other Palestinian homelands and Palestinian refugee camps is "**Medical Aid for Palestinians**", set up following the atrocities in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon in 1968 with the aim of providing medical aid to all Palestinian peoples, wherever they



*Continued over*

Continued from p3

**COFFEE MORNING**  
 IN AID OF  
**GAZA**  
**MONDAY 6TH OCTOBER**  
**FROM 11AM**  
 HOSTED BY THE  
**ALEXANDRA HOTEL & RESTAURANT**  
 POUND ST. LYME REGIS DT7 3HZ

COFFEE £5 DONATION FOR UNLIMITED  
 100% OF ALL MONEY TAKEN WILL GO TO...  
**MAP**  
 MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS

BUY YOUR TICKETS BY DONATING  
 SCAN

GENEROUSLY HELPED BY:

Cafe DU MONDE, R.F. PARRIS LTD, ALEXANDRA HOTEL & RESTAURANT, JOHNSONS, MOO, OJO

may be in the area. As with ShelterBox and Water Survival Box getting personnel and supplies across the border into Gaza at the present time is difficult but the charity is working with the UN and NGO's to advocate for immediate entry to the war torn area, entry being fully controlled by Israel. Supported by *Unison*, (the UK Public Service Union), MAP has, throughout this latest assault, supported hundreds of thousands of people in Gaza to access healthcare, shelter, food and water. They have helped renovate hospitals after they were invaded and have established a MAP Solidarity Polyclinic to provide specialist care. The charity's personnel within Gaza continue to provide support to the population despite the ongoing desperately dangerous and difficult situation and the death of over 1600 medical personnel within the province. MAP also provides much needed health support to Palestinians in the West Bank where military operations are intensifying and in other towns and cities including Jerusalem.

Kathryn Haskins has herself decided to do what she can to help the people of Gaza through supporting this British registered charity and to this end has very generously organised a **Coffee Morning at her Alexandra Hotel on Monday 6th October.**

I have attached hereto a poster which provides all information, please note the date in your diary and direct any questions or requests for further information to the Alexandra Hotel, 01297 442010.

*John McCallum*

## ROTARY HAS A NEW MEMBER



President David Sarson welcomes Kent Davis into the family of Rotary.

On 7th August we inducted Kent Davis into the family of Rotary. Kent is the General Manager of the Royal Lion Hotel in Broad Street, Lyme Regis. He and his wife, Emma, live in Beer.

Kent expressed an interest in Rotary some time back when he was in conversation with Rotn. John Enticott as the latter persuaded the Royal Lion to continue its sponsorship of **THE LYME LUNGE**. Now our John is nothing if not persistent and a spark of interest unleashed the bulldog spirit in him and eventually Kent put in an application form. We are delighted to welcome you and Emma into our merry band, Kent and note that you got stuck in straight away with helping out with the clearing up of the Cobb on the morning after the Candles evening. Well done.

*John McCallum*

## FURTHER SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

### “NEW PROJECT: SEE AND HEAR WITHOUT WAR”

In 2024, the **Rotary Club of Brit Valley**, in collaboration with the **Rotary Club of Dnipro Novyi**, completed a project to undertake 35 Cataract Operations in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine. Readers (Bulletin Oct '23) will recall that many services, particularly in the medical sphere, have broken down in the eastern, war torn provinces of Ukraine and **The Rotary Clubs of Lyme Regis**, Chard, Mendip, Yeovale and Yeovil as well as the Charity “Global Sight Solutions” and three Individuals all contributed to raise combined funds sufficient to provide **37 Cataract Operations**. The Rotary Club of Lyme Regis contributed £1200 to this project, part matched by a District Grant of £500. This followed previous donations of £4500 by the Club towards other humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.



Brit Valley has decided to lead a project to provide more Cataract Operations through the funding of the purchase of artificial lenses (costing in the region of £216 each) for which there are at least 28 Applicants to date. These are vulnerable people who have lost almost everything through the war and are desperately in need of help to improve their sight.

They have also identified another need in eastern Ukraine - mobile phone charging banks - due to increased power cuts in and around Dnipro and the need for people to keep in touch in these troubled times. Purchased within Ukraine these would cost about £38 per charging bank.

Brit Valley Rotary Club propose to raise £9120 to fund the purchase of these 28 lenses and 100 charging banks, the monies to be sent via tried and trusted route to the Rotary Club of Dnipro Novyi. Brit Valley has pledged £2000 and is seeking the balance from other Rotary Clubs and individuals, many of whom may have contributed towards the first project mentioned above.

**The Rotary Club of Lyme Regis is to pledge £1000 to the project, including a generous donation of £500 from Rotarian Alan Vian and his wife Lynne Vian who have raised the funds from Lynne’s plant sales on their doorstep.**

***John McCallum***

## RYLA 2025 - A HUGE SUCCESS

We sponsored two students to a **ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD (RYLA)** course at the Story Arms centre in the Brecon Beacons in South Wales, run by Rotary District 1150. The course focuses on leadership skills using outdoor activities as the base. The objective is to enable the students to develop team-working skills, explore leadership through leading a team and being led and to develop greater personal confidence.

Kai Kirby went for a week in early August and Sophie Smith the following week. Both are students at The Woodroffe School in Lyme Regis. Reports back from both families indicate that they had a great time and have benefitted enormously from the course. They will be coming to our Club on the 16th October to show us what they got up to and how beneficial the course was to them. Please put the date in your diary and come along with your Partner and enjoy. Here are some photos from this and previous RYLA courses in Wales.

***John McCallum***



## CANDLES ON THE COBB 2025

What a lovely evening we were blessed with! Record crowds turned out on a truly balmy summer evening to enjoy another **CANDLES ON THE COBB**, courtesy of the Rotary Club of Lyme Regis. This year the beneficiaries are 25% to Prostate Cancer UK, 25% to Macmillan Cancer Care and 50% to Local Good Causes.

It didn't all just happen by chance, it really did take a bit of planning and a lot of help from a fabulous community. From:

First there were YOU - Rotarians and your Partners, family and friends. You did such sterling work on the day, out on the Cobb directing various work parties to set out the candles, organising bucket collections, selling candle certificates, marshalling the huge crowds, counting the cash in the buckets, some working many hours. **GREAT JOB - THE ROTARY CLUB OF LYME REGIS SHOULD BE VERY PROUD OF ITS ACHIEVEMENT.**

Scouts (Lyme Regis and Charmouth) manning the St Andrews Field and Haye Farm and helping with setting up and lighting candles

The Woodroffe School had a team, and a small ARMY of helpers from Riding for the Disabled

The Sailing Club setting up and lighting the candles on the North Wall as the tide cut it off

Members of the Powerboat and Gig Clubs and Lyme Rib Rides helping in a number of tasks including Marshalling, Bucket Collecting, provision of boxes of sand, clearing up, etc

Bowls Club generously giving up places in their car park for working Rotarians and friends,

Harbour Master and Town Council giving valuable assistance and approvals to use the Harbour and other facilities

Advantage Digital Print printing the certificates

Members of the RNLI, Fire & Rescue Services and REMS (Emergency Medical Services).

Natural and Welsh Candles for donating the eco-friendly 'T' lights

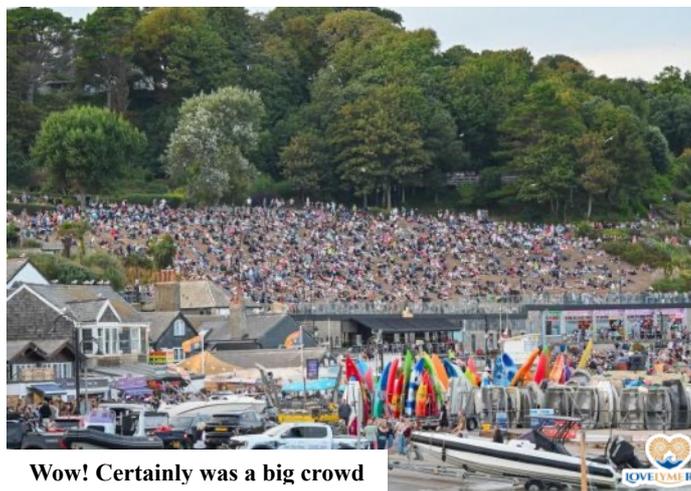
John Eaton providing car parking for Rotarians from Axminster and Brit Valley and their friends and families who were assisting in the event and ferrying them to and from the sea front.

All our generous Sponsors and Supporters, listed on our COTC website, whose donations provided seed corn cash to cover all expenses which meant that ALL funds raised from candles purchases and donations go to our beneficiaries.

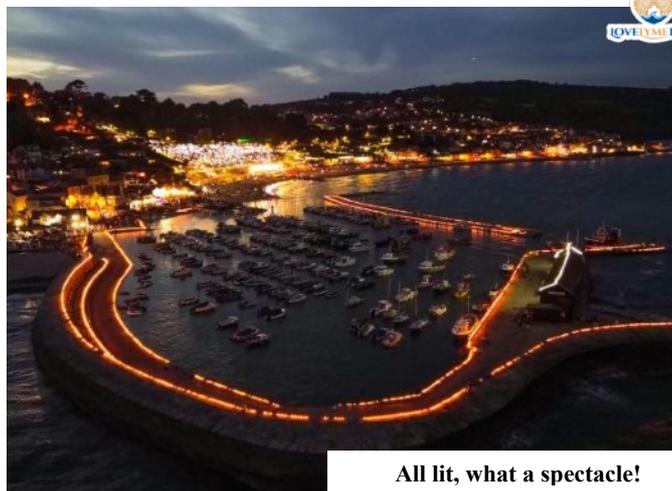
And the many people, including Annette, Josh and Jacob Denning, who came along to help out in a variety of tasks - you all were cogs in the wheel; the wheel would not have turned without you. WE know who you are, YOU know who you are, you are too numerous to name here, but a **BIG THANK YOU.**

Here are some photos to record the event, more on the Candles on the Cobb website, plus a super video - [www.candlesonthecobb.com](http://www.candlesonthecobb.com)

All photos by **LOVELYMEREGIS** unless shown otherwise, with grateful thanks for such superb publicity.



Wow! Certainly was a big crowd



All lit, what a spectacle!



The wind proved an issue on the top wall and the high tide on the lower harbour walkway

.....and a thousand thanks to the steering committee, led by Rotary President David Sarson, who all worked tirelessly for many months to ensure it all ran smoothly.

**A special mention must be made of the huge effort by Rob James whose IT skills and perseverance we could not have done without and of the tireless enthusiasm of Rotarian Alan Vian without whose leadership many of the critical elements would not have fallen into place. CHAMPIONS, BOTH!**

*Continued on next page*



Great job, Alan, many thanks



From L-R: Jacob Denning, Ellis Holt, Karen James, Annette Denning, Rob James, Alan Vian



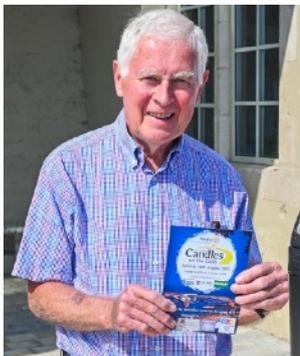
Rotarians Arthur Banwell and John Berry with Lynette Ravenscroft in the booth, selling Candle Certificates



A huge crowd watches the candles being lit



Scouts and Explorers from Lyme and Charmouth were everywhere - great job, all of you



.....and the man who counts the money, Rotary Treasurer Bill Taylor, proves he has bought his own candle



The founders of "COTC" Phil Street PHF and Mike Higgs help light the first candles.

*John McCallum*

## ROTARY AND LENDWITHCARE - A GREAT PARTNERSHIP

Our ROTARY Club is continuing to support more entrepreneurs around the world, to help them improve their business and increase their customer base through the *Lendwithcare* charity and their partners. A total of £1250 invested since 2017 has allowed nearly £4000 to be loaned and repaid and helped over 500 people and their families create and build sustainable businesses. Here are a few more helped this month.

Alex from the Philippines has requested a loan to help him to get assorted stocks of pork, chicken and frozen produce to sell to his customers in his meat shop. He is looking to increase his family income through his business and is a family man who wants to provide a brighter future for his children. Alex is fully funded now and is looking to put his business plans into action.



Rodillo is also from the Philippines and he has requested a loan to help him expand his grated coconut business in Cebu. He is looking to increase his daily supply to his customers and allow him to reduce his cost base. Rodillo is also looking to provide for his family and he is the sole breadwinner at this time. Rodillo is also fully funded to achieve his goals.

Kevin Paul is a farmer from Ecuador who is looking to use his loan to invest in a bio-digester and to purchase additional dairy cows, with the supporting vaccines and vitamins. He is fully funded now and his plans are to increase his income through his business planning.



These are more great examples of our Rotary Club helping determined entrepreneurs around the world to achieve their business goals and to provide a better future for their family and employees. We will continue to support more entrepreneurs in the coming months using the accumulated repayments from past loans through the brilliant '*Lendwithcare*' charity.

*Steve White*

**PS - You too can enjoy the pleasure of helping these entrepreneurs achieve their goals by investing directly in *Lendwithcare*. Visit their website at [www.lendwithcare.org](http://www.lendwithcare.org) and donate, then manage your account for as long as you like, choose who to help and enjoy seeing their businesses grow, their families prosper with your help and their repayments to *Lendwithcare* coming in monthly.**

**You can add to your account if you like, or have your investment repaid to you at any time. Go for it, and don't forget to share your enjoyment with us. **WHAT A GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT TO GIVE TO FAMILY OR FRIENDS!****

**PROGRAMME for September 2025 - November 2025.**

Date	Event	Grace
Sept 04	Council Meeting	
Sept 11	Business Meeting	RC
Sept 18	Activity evening at Lyme Regis Bowls Club with Fish n Chips / bar	
Sept 25	Speaker - Judy Clarke, Station Mgr NCI Lyme Bay QAVS	CB
Oct 02	Council (if required)	
Oct 4	DISTRICT FORUM	
Oct 9	Business Meeting	SW
Oct 16	Speaker: Sophie Smith and Kai Kirby on their RYLA experience	PF
Oct 27	tba	
Nov 6	SGM +Carols and Lunge delegation meeting	JM
Nov 20	Speaker TBA	DS
Nov 22	Assist with Christmas Lights Switch on.	

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

CHARTER NIGHT (75th ANNIVERSARY)

11th December 2025 - **PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY NOW****CHARTER NIGHT**

Our Club's 75th Anniversary Celebration will take place on Thursday 11th December with a dinner at the Royal Lion Hotel, Broad Street. Menus and times will go out later but please put this prestigious event in your diaries and seriously consider inviting friends and ex Club members along. Cost will be close to £40.00 p/p for an excellent dinner.

I'm also looking for a suitable free speaker, any thoughts?

**JIM MOSELEY**

Yes, President David mentioned in his address on page 1 that Jim had been unwell on the night of the big event. Now many of you might have thought that Oor Jimmy was in fact skiving off, preferring a night indoors with a glass of golden liquid in his hands. But we know him better. Traditionally an 'always present' it must indeed have been a bad dose that kept him away. We won't mention the establishment from which he purchased the offending pastry but it certainly left him incapacitated for a few days. Good to see you up and about again, Jim, and thanks for the photo, I know our readers will agree that it was worth the struggle over to Langmoor Gardens to take it. Hope you made it home OK?

**John McCallum**