From: <u>b s rickett</u>

To: <u>undisclosed-recipients:</u>

Subject: last nights Rotary (sent to all members)

**Date:** 25 March 2021 21:46:46

## Rotarians,

I have stopped doing my regular summary of our speaker evenings (I found something to do in lockdown) but last night we had an exceptional speaker, Colin Penny and I feel compelled to write a report, as well as pass on some unwelcome club news.

We had 23 attend the Zoom meeting, sadly a lower than normal turn out.

Colin is a Polio survivor having caught the virus as a baby, he is now in his seventies. I will not try to reproduce his extremely moving, sad. uplifting and funny talk but in summary:

He started by describing his three wished from his lifetime with polio, they were, to dance, to run for a bus and to tie his own laces! He pre-dated the Polio vaccine by months. Despite his very hard beginnings he is now semi retired from his own successful accountancy firm. He is a polio ambassador, a living reminder of why we need to finish the fight against polio. He reminded us of those still being afflicted around the world. As a man who has sat with Bill Gates, campaigned in Westminster and received numerous Rotary awards we marvelled at his energy and willingness to engage with us all. I think that we will need to consider a donation to a polio charity at our next business meeting.

On club news I sadly reported that Shaun O'Brien has resigned from the club, his radio career is booming and understandably taking up all of his time. Roger is leading a small group who are thinking about our future and how to retain younger members (ideas welcome).

Thanks Bryan



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