

Reporting Hybrid Meeting of 22 August 2022

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 8/15 Work Party at Captain/CHS
8/16 Zoom Present. on Muchila Zambia Global Grant

This Week: 8/22 Letters from a Laureate: Liz Hicklin

Next Week: 8/29 Social Meeting – Lake George Narrows Cruise

Coming Up: 9/5 No Meeting, Labor Day
9/8 Board Meeting
9/10 Anchor Diamond Park Service Project
9/12 Charlton School Tour and Meeting

Note: Regular Zoom Meetings are held Mondays at 6:30 pm.
Check your e-mail inbox the day of the meeting for the computer Zoom link and password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

Note: Many Meetings are now hybrid with an in-person option.

Please give suggestions for future programs to Darlene Bower & Peter Sawyer.

Find us at bhblrotary.org and on Facebook

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves

Letters from a Laureate Liz Hicklin

It was a pleasure to meet Liz, the sister of our Walter Grattidge. Liz was visiting from her home in Melbourne, Australia. Both Walter and Liz experienced the WW II Blitz in England. Early in Liz's life, Walter was off to boarding school, then on college and then to the USA, so this is a nice time in their lives where they can become closer.

Liz's presentation was as unique to our club as it was beautiful. The story she presented was written in beautiful prose and poetry, and the way she read it was captivating. We were all mesmerized. Liz noted she took elocution classes when she was young, and it showed. The story she spun was of love, loss and "limerence". (Look it up, it is also the title of one of the books she wrote, and brought to the meeting.)

Liz met and was swept off her feet by, at the time a young Ted Hughes, who became a world-famous English poet, translator and children's writer. In 1984 he became the Poet Laureate of the United Kingdom, and served so until his death in 1998. (Highly recommend reading about him on Wikipedia). Clearly, they had a serious love affair. Liz reported that Ted asked her father for her hand, but Ted being a night watchman at the time, her father did not want them to be married.

Ultimately, Liz moved away to Canada, where she subsequently learned that Ted had married the famous author, Sylvia Plath. Liz was heartbroken but carried on, moved to Australia, got happily married, and had three children. She too is an author.

Liz shared a poem Ted Hughes wrote about her and a love letter he sent her. She also had two of his unpublished poems for which she was offered \$10,000. Though never to see him again, Liz followed Ted's life through the media, and his prolific work.

It is impossible in a few paragraphs to do justice to Liz's presentation – its detail, warmth, humor and beautiful prose, and so well delivered. It was truly an enriching experience. More can be learned about Liz's life and work by Googling 'Liz Hicklin', then going to mmhpress.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- After a description was circulated, an Aug 16 Zoom Presentation and a host club commitment, the BOD approved proceeding with applying for a Global Grant for a Zambia Humanitarian Project.
- Semi-annual dues of \$85 are due. Please send checks to Steve Geene, 10 Knollwood Hollow, Ballston Spa, NY 12020.
- The club received a \$7,500 grant from the town to be used for public works. TIB also asked to help with Jenkins Park flower beds.
- One ticket is left for the Lake George Cruise, should someone want it.
- Still need a President Nominee and a Secretary. In the interim, looking for rotating volunteers to take notes at BOD meetings.
- Need nominations for Citizen of the Year and Rotarian of the Year!
- A Drive-Thru dinner is scheduled for 9/21.
- Thank you notes were read from the Pennington Scholar, the PTA and a Tuskegee Airmen letter will be forwarded.
- We welcomed Assistant District Governor Larry Bailey, and the Brown's.
- Mike, as he always does so well, led us in Happy Dollars.
- All in favor of continuing to meet at the town Hall, BYOM (M=meal).
- The recent passing of Grace Jorgensen was again noted with sadness.

Reported by Steve Caine