



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Issue 6

February

2014

THE ROTHES ROTARY RAG

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF GLENROTHES

DISTRICT 1010

President's Message



Hi All

Once again I have been missing from a couple of meetings and this has been due to other Rotary commitments, mainly the Focus Group. The final meeting was held last week where we have now collated all the comments from the questionnaires that every Rotarian in District 1010 had the opportunity to complete and these will be presented at the District meeting in March at Pitlochry. Thank you to all who completed this questionnaire - our club responded well!

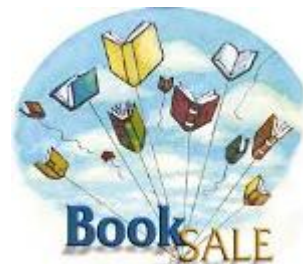
We are now entering a very busy period within our Rotary calendar - especially with quizzes, young artist, young musician and young photographer for the first time. This would not be possible without the enthusiasm and passion for the work of Rotary in our community shown by so many of you. I truly believe that within our Rotary club we have the Object of Rotary at the centre of all we set out to achieve.

Fun and Fellowship is one of the great attractions of Rotary to many and yet again we have events organised to suit most of us - Gavel with the Interact group from Auchmuty High School, Book Sale, Know Your Blood Pressure Day and the Sportsmans Dinner is fast approaching.

I know that we are all busy people and during the next few weeks it will become hectic - so remember if you need time out I am always free for a coffee and a chat,

Thanks again for all your support

Tracy



**District Conference 2014
to be held in**

DUNBLANE HYDRO

Friday 31 October -

Sunday 2 November 2014



Balgonie Castle

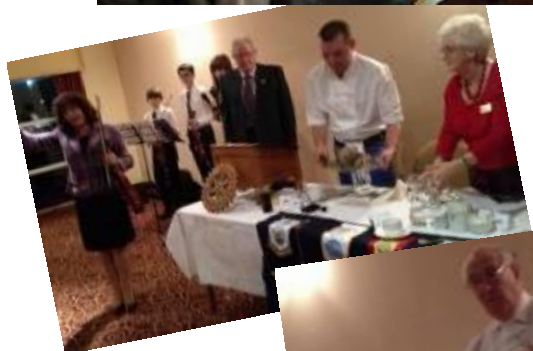
On Thursday January 30 our speaker was Stuart Morris from Balgonie Castle. Stuart gave a wonderful and very informative presentation of both the history of the castle and indeed the area, as well as a pictorial summary of the renovation to date and his goal and dream for the castle. Balgonie Castle is the only castle in Fife with the original medieval chapel and this beautiful chapel is the



venue for weddings most weeks and couples come from around the globe to be married in this. The Great hall is also a perfect venue for a wedding reception. Rotarian Edgar Shields gave the vote of thanks and reminded Stuart that he knew someone who could provide beautiful wedding cars for that special day - I wonder who that could be Edgar!

Burns Supper

The club's annual burns supper and evening meeting was held on 23rd January at the Gilvenbank hotel. Nick the hotel's chef gave the address to the haggis, while our Rotarians Ray McKnight was Pussy Nancy, Archie Lawrie did the Address to the lasses and May Ford gave the reply from the lasses. Music was provided on the night by Rotarian Chris Grist and two pupils from Auchmuty playing the fiddle



Scottish Evening at Glenwood High School

On Thursday 30th January, Rotarians Brian Johnson and Ron Young along with their wives were treated to a wide variety of entertainment by the pupils. This included music, poetry, Scottish Country dancing, a quiz, some country dancing, singing and a supper of stovies. There was lots of talent and enthusiasm amongst the participants. Brian says "well done ! We hope to build on the foundations which have been made in order to develop opportunities for our club".



Rotary Curling Tour to Canada 2012

Every four years a team of 22 Rotarians leave Scotland for a months curling tour of Canada, and every 4 years a Canadian Rotary curling team comes to Scotland. The first tour from Canada was in 1957 and it has been going every four years since then.

I was fortunate enough to be chosen to take part in the Canadian tour of 2012, and though I had been on a Royal Caledonian Curling Club tour to the USA in 2007, I was apprehensive of



the fact that 95% of the time we were being hosted by our Rotary Hosts. My main reason was "time to

ourselves " as we had enjoyed on the USA tour as we stayed in hotels.

It all started in August 2011 when the team was selected, and we had our first meeting when we would all meet each other for the first time in some cases. Jobs were



allocated and I was chosen to arrange the formal and informal clothes, needless to say, this was quickly handed over to Julie, who did an excellent job in kitting out the team in their "finery". Each person had a set of formal wear, a set of casual wear plus curling kit.

The teams were allocated and I was fortunate to join a team whose skip was Matt Murdoch, who is the father of David Murdoch, World and known each other for a number of years, so I knew it would be an enjoyable, but tough tour.

Money was collected and a Sergeant at Arms was appointed, this was the only lady in the team, and her job was to fine any person for any misdemeanour. All moneys raised in this way went to a Canadian Charity of our choosing.

We arrived in Montreal on Sunday 28th October about two hours late, and were meet by 21 of the 22 Canadian curlers from the previous tour. What a welcome. We were then whisked off to our hotel, got changed and met down in the Bar, (Where else)!

The following day we had our first curling match; with most of the Scottish team looking a wee bit the worst for wear. After



the match we were introduced to our hosts for the first two nights. This pattern was repeated throughout the tour, and, it worked exceedingly well. As we were with our hosts for two nights, one day would be set aside for sightseeing, and one day for curling, with formal or informal dinners, depending on where we were.

The hosts came from very different walks of life, and I stayed with one family whose home was very cosy, but very small, and in one house, where my home could have fitted into their "lobby" with room to spare. In all cases they



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were all excellent hosts, and could not do enough for us. I was fortunate to stay with some families who were very involved with the local youth. Other families took us out to see where the old colonial forts were, and one member of our team was shown the prisoner of war camp where his Italian father had spent the war years.

Some of the group hosting was quite amazing, as the Canadian houses all had cellars and some of these had been turned in "play rooms" with their own pool and bar.

Throughout the tour, we were not allowed to pay for anything and we hardly put our hands into our pockets. One of my hosts, had contact with an Amish family and I was able to meet the head of the house, which was most interesting, and to hear how they lived. He had installed electricity in his work shed to help him make hen houses and the like, but had not told his father who lived at another farm, as this is forbidden.

The whole tour was in Ontario, and we were able to visit Niagara Falls and the Canadian Parliament where we were entertained to lunch and meet up with the Canadian Foreign Minister.

One of my most enjoyable occasions was an evening when we were split into groups, and taken around to 6 different houses, each group starting in a different house with a starter before moving on to another house where they had soup, and so on. It needed good timing and worked exceedingly well. One of my host's lady friends is a blind golfer and blind curler, and I have recently heard that she has just won the world blind golfing championship in Australia

and is now competing in the world blind curling championship.

Golf and curling in Canada, in some places go hand in hand, with the club having both a golf course and a curling rink; this meant that the clubhouse was used throughout the year. An excellent idea, with great facilities, but oh! the cost to be a member!

Though we were away for a month, on reflection,

it just flew past and my apprehension was totally wrong, as on my arrival at the hosts house, I was offered alternative things to do, and asked if any laundry needed washing. In the vast majority of cases, we all had our own bathroom facilities, and though most of the Canadian households had "hot tubs" very few of the people used them.

We flew back with all three trophies that were being played for, a very tired, but happy group with great memories of a month spent with some wonderful people, seeing interesting places and some great curling also having made some new friends.

This year in November a Canadian Rotary team is coming over and I am starting to look for hosts, who would be willing to have a fellow Rotarian in their home. It is a great way for forging Rotary Fellowship and of having a friend across the "pond"

Lars Christianssen





Young Chef 2014

On January 25, Sharie Gordon from Glenwood High School, our representative for the young chef competition took part in the District 1010 South Finals, which was held at Dundee and Angus College. Although Sharie did not make the final 3 in the competition, she produced an excellent 3 course meal and had the opportunity to meet and compete with the other local winners. Rotarians Rae McKnight and Archie Lawrie attended the event which was an excellent experience for Sharie. Sharie will receive an engraved trophy from our club for winning the local heat. Full details of the competition in Dundee can be found on the Rotary District 1010 website at

<http://www.rotary-ribi.org/districts/page.php?PgID=423138&DistrictNo=1010>



Interact Club

The Interact club at Auchmuty High School have been busy raising funds for their bespoke charities. On Friday 24th January Interact members presented a cheque for £150 to the Alan McLure Residential home as a result of a very successful Bake Sale shortly before Christmas. They have also organised a charity concert towards the end of February at the YMCA, proceeds to go to Hope and Homes for Children. Music will be provided by bands from the school and the local community. More

details in the next issue. A sponsored event will take place on the last Sunday in March in aid of Mary's Meals a walk with a difference. Interactors will promote this event at assemblies and during the preceding week will do a "sit-in" at lunchtimes in the dining area, where they will eat a mug of porridge to replicate what Mary's Meals provides for the children in Africa. Rotarian Wilna Roger has obtained promotional material from Mary's meals to give to the interactors



Auchmuty High School pupils Kendal Dick (President), Nicole Cuthbert (treasurer), Jodie McArthur and Rachel Milne presented a cheque for £150 which was raised from a bake sale to residents of the Alan McLure residential home



Events Diary

Young Photographer 2014

Closing date for the competition is Friday February 14. Submissions expected from Auchmuty and Glenrothes HS and possibly Markinch PS. Judging to take place on Thursday 27th February from 7pm at the Gilvenbank Hotel. Details in next issue

Young Artist 2014

Wednesday February 26 at Glenwood HS 9.30am to 12.30pm. Rotarians Anne Sampson, David Ritchie, Sandy Clark and Rae Mcknight will meet and greet entrants and introduce judges. Rae will present winner's trophy to prize winners. Details of winners in next issue.

Young Musician 2014

Thursday February 20 Auchmuty HS at 7pm Auchmuty HS will take on responsibility for the competition this year, but it is essential that Rotarians come along and support this event. District competition takes place in Perth on Saturday March 29

Primary School Quiz

booked at Auchmuty High School for Wednesday February 26 at 7pm. This year's quiz has been written by Rotarian Peter May and his wife



Book Sale

Saturday February 22

Kingdom Centre Glenrothes plus Know your blood pressure with the support of 3 "first responders from the ambulance service A good turn out from the Rotarians is also needed for this event



Top of the Form

booked at Auchmuty High School for Wednesday March 12



A gavel evening has been arranged between Interactors and Rotarians on Wed February 18 at 7pm at Gilvenbank. Sandwiches will be provided. Rotarians will pay £5 towards the cost of the refreshments.

The Primary School Area District Quiz

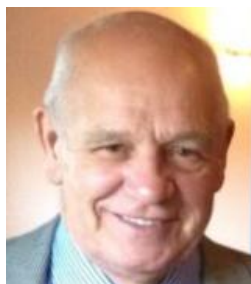
booked at Glenwood High School community use for Wednesday April 30
Further details to follow



New Members

The Rotary Club of Glenrothes welcomes its 2 newest members

David Smith



Mark Latimer



THE ROTARY CLUB OF GLENROTHES SPORTSMAN'S DINNER

Friday 21st March 2014 – 7 pm for
7:30 pm

GILVENBANK HOTEL GLENROTHES
Tickets only £30 /person

AUCTION & RAFFLE

SPEAKERS

Willie Allan, Craig Brown
& Jimmy Stirling

The Sportsman's Dinner continues to be an extremely popular event in our Rotary calendar and once again thanks to Ian Haywood we have secured popular speakers.

As well as ticket sales going well, there has been a keen interest in advertising within the colour brochure, although more tickets and advert sales are still needed. Please contact Ian or May for tickets and Tracy for adverts in the brochure [closing date end of February]

Most of the money raised on the night comes from the Auction and Raffle - however not many of us have contacts who can donate larger auction prizes, therefore the fundraising committee have decided to ask each Rotarian to donate at least one bottle of wine, to enable us to 'make up' mixed boxes of wine as prizes on the night. Donations for the auction or raffle can be brought along to any lunch time meeting.

Please Remember - In order for the Newsletter to continue, I need your input. Photos, Rotary Moments - Have a group of you organised an outing?? Any articles to

geoannie@tiscali.co.uk





February /March Diary

Date	Speaker	VOT	Sign in and Grace	Take Money	Visitor Host
13 Feb	Council Reports		Wilna Roger	John Ferris	Edgar Shields
20 Feb	Tu Edwards – Maggies	Bill Wooton	Ray McKnight	Mark Latimer	May Ford
27 Feb	Sandra Thomson My Jute Journey	Walter Fletcher	Peter May	Jim Penman	David Ritchie
6 March	Jim Boyd	Murray Grubb	Wilna Roger	Will Wishart	Ron Young
13 March	Council Reports		Bill Wooton	May Ford	Hamish Rothnie
20 March	Arlene Kidd – Sri Lanka	Brian Johnson	John Wood	Geoff Sampson	Anne Sampson
27 March	Keith Jeffrey – The Roberts Partnership	Lars Christiansen	Julie McDougall	Edgar Shields	Chris Grist
3 April	Rhona Cunningham - Gingerbread	Ron Young	Roy Francey	Ian Hastie	John Allison
10 April	Council Report & AGM		Gerald Cameron	Lars Christiansen	Murray Grubb

On Thursday January 30, Rotarian Lars Christiansen decided to help the staff at Gilvenbank as they were extremely busy. Lars recruited Rotarians Geoff Sampson and Ian Hastie to help serve the lunch. Thanks must go to these guys for the help but thankfully the following week the "professionals" were back in

