

The Rothes Rotary Rag

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF GLENROTHES

Issue 18

DISTRICT 1010

August 2015

Presidents Report



I cannot believe that it is already the middle of August and unfortunately our Scottish shores have not been blessed with glorious sunshine!! However in our club we have made a positive start to the new Rotary year with one or two innovations, namely the first of our monthly evening meetings and similarly a monthly talk by a member of our business community. As you are aware these small steps are only part of our plan to make our club more attractive to potential new members, especially those who are still in employment and have contacts which can enable us to widen our sphere of influence in the town. Incidentally the world wide rotary theme for August is Membership and Development so please support our special membership meeting on 24th September by bringing along at least one visitor.

Very shortly the various committees will meet and our active role in Glenrothes will begin again. Let us all try to focus on President Ravi's theme for the year--Be a Gift to the World. We have a busy and varied programme of service projects lined up, some familiar and some breaking new ground, but all aimed at making a meaningful contribution to our community. We all have gifts to share--our experience, our compassion and our enthusiasm to name but a few --and if we all devote some of our time and energy to supporting projects there is no doubt that our club will make a significant difference in the coming months and of course we intend to enjoy lots of fun and fellowship along the way!!

I look forward to working with you all and wish you all a fulfilling year as a member of our great club.



Evening Meeting



It was agreed to introduce a monthly meeting on the last Thursday of every month as a trial, for 6 months, to attract more members or friends along to Rotary. The first of these was held on 30th July with speaker John Winter, from Ravenscraig Probus Club, who talked on the sad passing of old Scots. President Elect Brian has booked speakers from industries within the area to come along and talk at these meeting where the speakers will have a 40 minute slot rather than the allocated 15-20 at our lunch time meetings. Although club business will be discussed at the evening meetings, we hope this will be a more relaxed and social event and Rotarians are asked to invite friends along who may be interested in Rotary and making a difference in the community.

Membership

Membership was the focus of discussion at our meeting on 6th August where we confirmed our Mission/raison d'être and What's so special about Rotary....Changing peoples' lives for the better, volunteering, giving freely of time, skills, expertise and experience to make a difference; giving something back, which provides personal dividends friendship and satisfaction



Unique sphere of influence in community, 'punching well above weight'; deciding our own agenda to make a difference in our community, at home and abroad; part of a wider national and international movement for good; fellowship when away from home

Sustaining Membership and Attracting New Members

- keeping in touch with members, supporting each other and arranging visits
- varying our meeting times and format with trial evening meeting once per month
- giving advance notice of speakers
- Attracting new members by inviting family and friends, and neighbours
- Rotary organised events such as fashion show and sport dinner
- contacting local businesses, commerce and service sectors - possibility of corporate and associate members
- updated brochure / mailing list
- informal events - 'coffee shop' meetings In the meantime, we accepted a personal challenge - if at all possible * to talk to 2 people about rotary within the next fortnight and to bring at least one visitor to our evening meeting on Thursday 24th September 2015 at 6:30pm in the Gilvenbank hotel

A Fond Farewell to Special Friends

On a lovely sunny Sunday afternoon (yes it really was sunny!) a few weeks ago Rotarians and partners gathered together at Rotarian Lars and his wife Julies house in Falkand to bid farewell to Ian and Fran Hastie who are leaving the area to move closer to their family in Ayrshire. What a lovely afternoon it was – friendship and fellowship at its best. Julie provided food and drink and the weather enabled us to sit in Lars and Julies beautiful garden



Love in the Air!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



We may not have many youngsters within our club but romance has definitely been in the air recently when two of our Rotarians surprised everyone by “tying the knot”!

ARCHIBALD A. LAWRIE AND MAUREEN G. DROULIS
22nd July 2015

Archie and Maureen have known each other since childhood days in the Methil/Leven area where they grew up and where they first met in the Parish Church.

While affection grew between the pair, by the 1950s life moved them in very different directions and put an ocean between them but by 1988 they were once again linked, at least by post.

By 2012, death and other dramatic circumstances enabled the pair to move together once again and to live in their native Scotland rather than in Canada. After a year or two of re-acclimatisation both Archie and Maureen decided to formalise matters by being bonded through a very quiet registry wedding in Carberry House, Leven....a most suitable venue because it was just over the wall from a house where Maureen grew up, and which Archie had visited all those years ago!

Archie and Maureen Lawrie





Love in the Air - cont.....

JOHN FERRIS'S MARRIAGE TO JUDITH LEASK

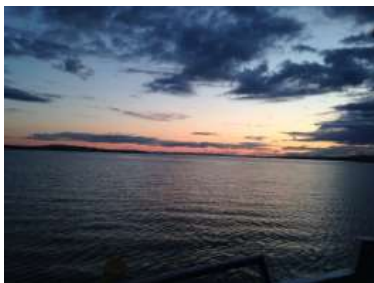


Members who joined the club prior to 2002 are likely to remember John's former wife, Pat. For ten years or so prior to her tragic death from bowel cancer on Christmas Eve 2001, Pat had been an active member of the Glenrothes Inner Wheel Club. John and Pat married in Glasgow in 1963, one of her bridesmaids being her sister Judith, so John and Judith have known each other for a very long time! Pat and Judith's mother outlived Pat by seven years and during those years John would join Mother and Judith on holidays and other occasions and remained part of the family. Following Mother's death, John and Judith would go on holiday together with each continuing to live in their respective homes but working together elsewhere in John's accountancy practice. Out of love and affection for each other, they then started living together and, with the full support of John's family, were married in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Kinross on 26 June.

So.....Who's next?????

Summer fun with the Rotarians

On Friday 24th July a group of Rotarians along with friends and partners boarded the Maid of the Forth for an evening jazz sail under the bridges and along the coast. The weather was exceptionally good and the scenery was stunning. A jazz band played and supper was served in the form of a steak sandwich. Everyone joined in the fun and entertainment. A great social evening and one which we should maybe make an annual fixture.



Stories from Beyond - ARCHIE'S TALK ON PSYCHOMETRY



A few weeks ago, our guest speaker was our own Rotarian Archie Lawrie who spoke of an incident with scientific interest and all things Psychical. It was quite a gripping story as Archie tells in his normal fashion and amazing how they get to the bottom of something from in this instance a photograph. At the meeting, Archie told us he had been sent 4 packages from somebody in Aberdeen and had been asked to see what they related to as they had been discovered under floor boards. He was going to see his friend after the meeting to see what they could discover from the contents. Possibly the next chapter in his quests to discover things "from beyond the grave"

"What Happened Next"

After Rotary lunch on the above date Archie and Maureen met with the psychic medium, Frances, in a little hall around the corner from where she lives in Edinburgh. The time was precisely 4pm.

The collection of buff envelopes containing the items from the Aberdeen house under restoration were placed on the table in front of the medium in exactly the manner as they were laid upon the Rotary top table during the talk: all stapled together in a bundle.

Frances began by pointing to the top envelope and saying,

"When I was in my house at 2pm this afternoon I was told (psychically) that I was to find a white envelope addressed

to myself within the top larger buff envelope."

I slid the still-stapled bundle across the coffee-table to Frances and watched her open the top envelope: she then drew out a white envelope addressed to herself! This was the client thanking her in advance for her services. As our medium opened each envelope in turn she revealed fact after fact by touching the contents and Maureen carefully recorded 29 statements which were eventually forwarded to the Aberdeen householder. Of those, 50% would have to be checked out by the client regarding their accuracy...like a serious fire having taken the lives of five children while leaving their parents unscathed. The other half of Frances' statements were, however, immediately recognised as historical (family) fact...like the master-printer who once lived in the building using his wealth to purchase a house in the countryside west of Aberdeen only to go bankrupt later and then be evicted from it. Frances gave us a clear and sad description of "*bailiffs removing the man from his countryside cottage*". How could such a fact be known to Frances by sheer chance?

The 29th fact we wrote down was that the client "*would soon not be lacking in cash*". What we did not know was that on the very day when we were sitting with Frances in Edinburgh, our client was finalising the very profitable sale of his present property in Aberdeen!

Game, set and match to Frances I think!

August Diary

DATE	SPEAKER	VOTE OF THANKS	SIGN IN AND GRACE	TAKE MONEY	Visitor HOST
13 August 2015	Council Reports		Iain Haywood	Lars Christiansen	Mark Latimer
20 August 2015	Industrialist Ian Wilkie Commercial Director Brand Rex				
27 August 2015	Evening Meeting Alistair Robertson NHS				
3 September 2015	Shirley Paterson NextGenergy				
10 September 2015	Council Reports				
17 September 2015	Industrialist				
24 September 2015	Evening Meeting Membership Drive				

From the Editor

As you will have noticed from this month's edition we have been doing a lot of socialising and it's been fun, however as we get into the new Rotary year, preparations for our usual school competitions will be starting also fund raising events we have planned. So watch out for the next edition to see the exciting things we will be involved in over the coming year

Anne



Next Event – Past Presidents Dinner
Hatters Restaurant in the Folk museum
in Ceres – 2nd October
Bring your own booze



Watch out for
details of our first
Exciting ladies day
on November 1st at
Balbirnie Hotel