

By George

newsletter

October 2008

RIBI PRESIDENT IAN THOMSON TO VISIT PERTH

President Neil's Blog!

Make sure you're up to date with our meeting plans this month – they are a bit unusual! No meeting at all on October 22 but I'm delighted that more than half of you will be joining with the Perth Club on the following day, October 23 at McDiarmid Park (12.30 for 1) to hear the RIBI President, Fifer Iain Thomson, who is visiting our district at that time.

Then the following week (October 29) we are having an evening meeting (6 for 6.30pm) to which our wives, husbands and partners are invited. Our speaker that evening will be former New Seeker, Eve Graham, telling us something of her life as a pop star.

With that evening, and then the Ceilidh only a few weeks away, there are good opportunities for you all to enjoy the fellowship of Rotary. I do hope you will want to take part in both or at least one of these events. Here's a challenge! If we're not getting it right and events such as these do not attract you then please speak direct to me and tell me the sort of fellowship activities which you would like to see in the club.

Our intention to spread our community programme throughout the year by holding the Seniors Ceilidh in the late Autumn has been abandoned on the advice of social work and caring service professionals and so this event will fill its usual spot in February or March 2009.

Keep on enjoying your Rotary.

President Neil

Good Luck to the Gavel Teams:

First game is vs Perth Kinnoull at the Royal George on Tuesday 21st October 2008.

District Conference Report

Michael Jamieson and I represented the club at the District Conference in Aviemore last month. Michael was working hard in Production (see picture) but I had the leisure to listen and reflect on the talks.



I was struck by the enthusiasm many clubs have for Foundation. The average across the district is £85 per member, and 28 clubs contribute over £100. I understand our position, and we do other great things with our money, but I wonder if we're missing something that the others see.

An excellent talk by journalist Bob Tomlinson reminded us that a child dies from a preventable cause every 3 seconds. There is an urgent need to grow Rotary, so we can do more for this challenge. He thinks we could do a lot more to partner with youth organizations, combining their energy with our skills.

The weekend was a good social event too, and I think many of our members would enjoy it. It's not too late to get a wider view of Rotary in the next 12 months – the RIBI Conference in Edinburgh and the RI Convention in Birmingham are still to come.

Rob Burke

Weekly Duty Rota: 15 October to 26 November 2008 - 12.30 unless otherwise stated

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Door Duty:</u>	<u>Door Duty:</u>	<u>Bottle Duty:</u>	<u>Speakers Host & VOT:</u>
15 Oct	Michael Jamieson	Sally McCartney	Rob Burke	Maureen Young
23 Oct	No Meeting on 22 Oct / Joint Meeting with Perth Club, McDiarmid Park at 1pm Visit of RIBI President Door Duty still required by Tom Howie & Jim Moyes on the 23rd at McDiarmid Park			
29 Oct (6.00)	Brian Kitching	Ian Mutch	Stuart Cameron	Michael Archibald
05 Nov	Paul Kyle	TBD	TBD	George Beaton
12 Nov	Bert Macdonald	David Ramsay	Catrina Cochrane-Mills	TBD
19 Nov	John MacItyre	Euna Scott	Alison Crook	Mike Buckley-Jones
26 Nov	Gail Mackay	Susan Scott	Albert Donaldson	Rob Burke

Summary of the Meeting of Council Held on 6th October 2008

PP George Beaton reported that he had attended a meeting re the clock with representatives of the Perth Club and Kinnoull. There was agreement that the clock faces had to be improved and proposals brought forward.

The DG and the District Extension Officer (Maureen Holmes) were keen to promote the idea of a breakfast club in Perth and wanted clubs' views

A Leave of Absence request by Mike Buckley-Jones for 4 weeks was approved.

The Charity Account had a balance of £26,794.63 less commitments of £16,750. The balance on the Club Account was £4950.26. The balance on the Hospitality Account was £2603.79.

Discussion took place on how safe the Club's funds were in the current financial turmoil but it was decided to take no action.

Moving Senior Citizens' Ceilidh to a date before Xmas was not popular with participants so provisional dates were either 03 or 10 Feb 09.

Graham Harding was involved in speaking to the Council about the Perth 800 celebrations in 2010. Pres Neil would speak to the other 2 Presidents to see if a joint approach was possible.

Graham Fleming would be speaking to PKAVS on the logistics of this year's Xmas parcel deliveries. Wherever possible 2 people should go out on deliveries together for safety and to assist with parking difficulties in some areas.

The Xmas Carol Concert arrangements were in hand.

Arrangements for the Primary School Quiz were progressing

Shoebboxes were in the process of being issued by Tom Howie.

The average attendance after 14 meetings is 71% with 3 members below 50%.

The system of providing speakers was not working well and Ian Marr is to review present arrangements.

It was intended to make the last meeting in January 2009 an opportunity for members to bring along a guest or guests who might be interested in joining Rotary. Suggestions were made on dates (a month rather than one meeting) and topic (speaker or video) and it was remitted to the Membership Committee.

Christmas Ceilidh on Fri 5th Dec 08

The Rotary Club of Perth | Perth St Johns Rotary Club and Perth Kinnoull Rotary Club

The Annual Tri Club Ceilidh will take place on Friday 5th Dec 08 at the Dewar's Ice Rink. As usual a drinks reception will be held at 7.00 following which dinner will be served at 7.30. Our music for the evening will be provided by Bert Pozzi and his band

Come along for an evening of fellowship, good food, fine wine and dancing. We require your support to make this tri club event a success. It's a great evening – well worth while attending

As a number of people pulled out last year just prior to the event we have decided that this year payment of the tickets requires to be made at the booking stage.

***Tickets £31 per person Dress : Informal and festive!
Contact Sally McCartney to book***

More from Roger in Ontario

Ontario is super and both we and the kids are VERY happy here; we leave for North Carolina on Friday. The excitement this week was when the rector of the Beamsville Anglican church, Ian Chadwick (from UK originally), asked me to go sailing with him yesterday on Lake Ontario in his 24 foot 1974 boat with a 6 hp outboard.

This was my very first trip in a small boat – partly because I can't swim and the water scares me somewhat, but I felt I was in good hands... Off we went in a light breeze, with me driving/steering it from time to time, and on the way back he was showing me some of the lovely lake side homes when we ran aground; the 1 ton lead keel became embedded in the large size shingle (fortunately no big rocks and only 4 feet deep). With every wave the boat went right over to one side then went back on the other side and while he was trying to throw the anchor out to sea, from the front, so we could capstan ourselves out of the shingle,

I was sitting in the back with my life jacket on praying very hard! Then a crowd formed on the shore, about 150 ms away, a passing speedboat offered to help but the two gentlemen in it were (I quote Ian, who was not feeling charitable at that moment) quite incompetent and made matters worse; then a fire engine appeared on the shore, with all lights flashing, and two of them dressed up in fluorescent suits with an inflatable and came towards us; by this time Ian was out of the boat and in the water, up to his chest (he removed his watch and his wallet first!), trying to get the front of the boat to point out to sea (well, you know what I mean).

He was exhausted by his efforts and then a police launch appeared, blue lights flashing, with two x 250 hp outboards, and between the police and the firemen they attached a line and started to tow us towards deeper water; just in case we were lonely there then appeared a second police launch so we had everybody's undivided attention, as I helped Ian to struggle back on board (the only constructive thing I did all afternoon), and then we had to park alongside the police launch for a good 20 minutes while they asked all sorts of questions to establish that Ian owned it and was carrying all the right bits and pieces to comply with the law – I just kept quiet and gave thanks!

I must be the only chap to have been shipwrecked on Lake Ontario!! I now have aching muscles where I didn't think I had any.

Hi Roger, thanks for keeping in touch.

Suggest you stay on dry land - there's plenty in Canada!!Ed

Congratulations to the Club Curling Team for winning their first match against Stirling 11-4

Forthcoming Events For Your Diary:

Please note two meeting changes, on 23rd and 29th Oct, as detailed below. Don't miss a great programme in October.

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| 23 Oct (No Mtg 22nd) | Joint meeting with Perth Club at their new venue, McDiarmid Park- Visit of the RIBI President |
| 28 Oct at 6.00 / 6.30 | Evening meeting with Eve Graham, formerly of the New Seekers. Family & friends all welcome. |
| 02 Nov | Rams Head Curling Competition @11.15 am |
| 05 Dec | 3 Perth Rotary Club's Ceilidh |

Please send news items and contributions to Ian Mutch or ByGeorge@perthsjrotary.org.uk by 08 November.