

# By George

newsletter

January 2009

## Foundation? What's Foundation?

### President Neil's First Blog of 2009!

Foundation? What's Foundation? Well you might ask and longer serving Rotarians than me are still looking for the answer. Rotary Foundation is certainly the biggest charity in the world supported by annual contributions from almost all clubs including Perth St Johns. There is no doubt that many needs world wide have been relieved by Foundation but some of us have had a feeling that too much of the available funds are controlled at Rotary HQ and some funds go to causes such as Ambassadorial Scholarships which don't always appear to supporting those in greatest need.

Well, it's all changing. The main changes proposed are that local determined grants should form 25% of the fund compared with the present 10%; there will be more small humanitarian grants and fewer ambassadorial scholars; more programmes fully funded centrally and more focused matching grants (these are where a club funds a project overseas through a link with a club in that place and receives matching funding from RI). Further detail will soon be available.

There will be 100 pilot districts world wide, to be selected this year with a pilot programme running until 2013 when there will be a world-wide introduction of the changes. Our District is considering applying to be a pilot and it will be discussed at the next District Council in March.

It see the proposals as a major step forward in the issue of local involvement and I hope District 1010 can become a pilot because I believe by this means we can influence the eventual form of Foundation in the next decade.

A District must have 66% of its clubs in support before it can be considered for the role of a pilot - I hope our District can achieve this.

President Neil.

PS: January to March is a very busy time for the club so make sure you have all the dates in your diary.

### Sportsman's Dinner

This year it is on Friday 27 February 2009 at The Lovat Hotel, Perth. Club members are especially welcome. **Please join us for our 11th Charity Dinner.** We can offer you a fine meal, entertaining speakers and excellent service in the convivial surroundings of the Lovat Hotel.

This year we are supporting the following charities:

- # **Shelterbox** - an outstanding Rotary charity which delivers urgent emergency support to devastated communities worldwide.
- # **Cash for Kids** (formerly Caring for Kids) - a Tayside based charity which offers imaginative and wide ranging help to disadvantaged young people in our community.
- # Our own **Club Charity account** which assists a wide range of charities in our local community and elsewhere.

**Please contact David Grant for tickets - Only £35 each, a saving of £10 on the normal price. A really special price for club members.**

Convenor: Michael Jamieson.

### Senior Citizens Ceilidh

A board is currently being circulated requesting assistance with the **Senior Citizens Ceilidh** on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009. In case you don't see the board, I am sending this email as a catch all. We will need drivers for pick ups at 18:30 and 19:00 to get people there for the 19:30 start of the Ceilidh. We will then need drivers back again to do a couple of homeward runs at 21:15 until we clear the attendees. A number of people to assist during the event as well would be useful.

Can you please advise me, either by phone, email or by signing the sheets circulating at lunch, whether you are available as;  
- driver before / - driver after / - assist at the event.

Many thanks, Paul Kyle.

### Weekly Duty Rota: 28 January 2009 to 25 February 2009 - 12.30 pm unless otherwise stated

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Door Duty:</u>	<u>Door Duty:</u>	<u>Bottle Duty:</u>	<u>Speakers Host &amp; VOT:</u>
28 Jan	Michael Archibald	Ian Mutch	Enrico Frattaroli	Albert Donaldson
04 Feb	Mike Buckley-Jones	Bill Smith	John Fyfe	Graham Fleming
11 Feb	Rob Burke	Alexander Stewart	John Galbraith	BUSINESS MEETING
18 Feb	Mark Cairns	Heather Stewart	Graham Harding	Louis Flood
25 Feb	George Beaton	Bruce Thomson	Fergus Harris	John Fox

## A Summary of the Meeting of Council held on 5th January 2009

### **President Items:**

Neil reported that a Newsletter has been received from SOS Children's Villages showing the Perth Clubs' Kayankerni community centre in full and continued use.

It was decided to not to renew the Club's gaming licence and to cease the 'Great Weather Lottery' project.

President Neil and PP Michael are to attend the RI Convention in June; Council decided not purchase small Club badges as a goodwill handout.

Council congratulated Rob on an excellent upgrade of the Club's website. Rob is to discuss with Stuart Cameron a 'welcome new members box.

### **Secretary's Items:**

David reported that RIBI has opened a new website; access is available to all members who have an RI membership number. Currently only former officers of the Club will have a number allocated.

District Secretary has written to all Club secretaries to pass on the view of District Chairs that they are not receiving proper feedback from information and requests put on the District website.

District website; Club secretaries are asked to monitor the site regularly and encourage appropriate responses.

### **Treasurer's Items:**

Rob circulated quarterly accounts for the period ended 31 December '08. The balances on the Club accounts are as follows: Charity acc: £9,184.61 / Club acc: £4,727.82 / Hospitality acc: £2,252.80.

From the Charity Account a £100 entry fee for the Primary Schools' Quiz was paid.

Council should note that the 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment of the RIBI dues will be paid at the end of the month.

Hospitality Account payments are £300 Royal George Hotel staff gratuity and a £150 cancellation charge for the Christmas Ceilidh.

Rob has noticed that the weekly draw income is lower than the previous year.

### **Service Projects (Paul Kyle):**

*The Christmas goodwill parcel deliveries were very successful.*

*The Senior Citizens Ceilidh has been booked for Tuesday 10 February in the Salutation Hotel.*

*The Primary Schools' Quiz club final will have 11 participating teams.*

*Thank you received from 'Shelterbox'; our 2 boxes (full and partially funded) have been sent to Quetta in Pakistan.*

*The Carol Singing at Ochil Nursing Home went well and was well attended.*

**Club Administration (Ian Marr):** Average attendance after 6 months is 70%; 5 members are below 50%.

Club Admin continued: 3 members are on leave of absence.

Ian Marr suggested the Club consider purchasing its own laptop/projector package given the increasing requests from speakers for such a facility. Idea to be costed.

### **Membership (Stuart Cameron):**

*The team are looking forward to the membership lunch; members will be reminded again by email of the event and encouraged to bring along a guest.*

### **Ways and Means (Michael Jamieson):**

There has been no progress with Full Length and Fabulous 2.

Invites to the Sportsman's Dinner have been sent out; all other arrangements are in hand.

**Date of next meeting is Monday 9 February 2009 at 7.30 pm.**

## HOSTING ..NIGHTS to remember.....!

The hosting sheet has now been circulated. Hosts please contact your hostees as soon as possible. Hosting's can take place any time starting from ..... NOW!

If your name is not on the list let me know as soon as possible. £25 per couple being hosted to be paid to the Treasurer following the hosting taking place. A hard copy is up on the notice board.

**Enjoy and have fun, Sal**

## Christmas Goodwill Parcel Deliveries

Each year our club delivers Christmas parcels produced by Perth & Kinross Association of Voluntary Service. We are particularly proud of our effort this year. PKAVS produced 785 parcels, a big increase on the previous total of 300, and our members delivered most of them.

By 1.00 pm on 19 December, out of the 785 parcels, only 16 had been returned as undeliverable (e.g. no one at the address, recipient now in hospital, etc.) That means that 98% of the deliveries were successfully dropped off. And indeed, of the 16 returns, Janet at PKAVS managed to find alternative drop off addresses for all but 3 of them.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR**

**This is not just any By George, this is your By George.**  
PLEASE SEND ME ARTICLES AND PICTURES, ESPECIALLY THOSE RUNNING AN EVENT. PICTURES ARE GOOD AS THEY TELL A STORY SO MUCH BETTER THAN WORDS

## **Forthcoming Events For Your Diary:**

- 28 Jan** Membership Lunch, RG Hotel 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm
- 09 Feb** Club Council Meeting, RG Hotel at 7.30 pm
- 10 Feb** Senior Citizens Ceilidh (Confirmed)
- 27 Feb** Sportsman's Dinner, Lovat Hotel
- 03 Mar** District Council, Dundee
- 09 Mar** Club Council Meeting, RG Hotel at 7.30 pm
- 10 Mar** Primary School Quiz, Salutation Hotel

Please send news items and contributions to Ian Mutch or [ByGeorge@perthsjrotary.org.uk](mailto:ByGeorge@perthsjrotary.org.uk) by 08 February 2009

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