

By George

newsletter

MAR/APR 2009

President Neil says - Time to volunteer?

President Neil's Blog!

Don't be afraid of volunteering to take on a role in the club!

After all if you volunteer to take on some task you really fancy doing it will be much better than being landed with a job you don't really want to do!

Still on volunteers I am grateful for the generous responses to my plea for support in hosting and entertaining our visitors from Aschaffenburg. There is still time to add your name to the lists so please get in touch with me just as soon as you can.

We have just had what must be our busiest month of the year what with the Seniors' Ceilidh, the Primary School Quiz and the Sportsman's Dinner. Many thanks to all who volunteered.

President Neil

PRIMARY SCHOOLS QUIZ

In an exciting contest, watched closely by a large audience of teachers, parents and families, 8 local schools competed in the 17th annual Primary Schools Quiz, hosted by the Rotary Club of Perth St Johns in the Salutation Hotel, Perth.

Eight teams, including Craigie, Dunbarney, Kinnoull and St Johns Primary Schools, had won their way through the previous round but it was Moncrieffe Primary who took an early lead with a perfect score in round 1. Six-times winners, Viewlands Primary, then took over, only to lose the lead to Caledonian Road Primary at the half-way mark. A ding-dong tussle ensued, with Viewlands regaining pole position before Caledonian Road stormed through at the end to take the trophy, pushing Viewlands into second place and Oaklands Primary into a close third, only two points behind.

The winning Caledonian Road Primary team, Emma Wallace, Hugh Cairney, Adam Flannigan and Scott Klatschak, received the trophy from club president, Neil Townend, and will now proceed to the next round of the national competition. **SEE THE PICTURE ON PAGE 2 >>**

Convenor: Graham Fleming

A report on the Sportsmans Dinner will appear next month. -Ed.

Tom Howie

It was with disbelief and shock that members heard of Tom's sudden death on March 23 whilst driving his car in Crieff. Many members, by my estimate at least half of the club, attended Tom's funeral service at Scone Old Church conducted by his Rotary colleague and friend, Bruce Thomson. Our condolences and sympathy have gone out to his widow, Olive, and son, Jason.



Tom joined St Johns over twenty years ago as a jeweller but when the family business was sold he trained as a chiroprapist and that became his Rotary classification. Tom therefore had to give two very different job talks! Tom never sought the limelight in the club but he was always involved in its activities. It took a lot to persuade him to appear in a newspaper photo call with the Luncarty Guides last autumn when they

had once more supported out shoebox effort. He certainly preferred to get on with the job in his own quiet and thorough way. Tom worked hard for many years on the shoebox project, but for me his efforts to set up and manage at very short notice the Christmas parcel distribution, when PKAVS were no longer able to use Royal Mail, were a clear indication of his loyal service for other folk in the community.

Tom will also be remembered for his exemplary attendance record at the club. As Bruce said at the funeral service Tom didn't seem to take a lot of holidays and thus seemed always to be at the club,

often the first there, helping those on duty for the day.

Many of us enjoyed his great sense of humour and will happily recall swapping jokes with him on a Wednesday lunchtime. Meetings won't be the same without him and I am sure we will not forget Tom's friendship and involvement for a long time to come.

President Neil



Weekly Duty Rota: 08 April to 01 May 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 & VOT:</u>
08 Apr	Rob Burke	Fergus Harris	Michael Jamieson	BUSINESS MEETING
15 Apr	Alex Hay	David Ramsay	Bert Macdonald	Michael Jamieson
22 Apr (Evening)	Stuart Cameron	Richard Higgs	John Macintyre	AGM
01 May (Evening)	Mark Cairns	TBC	Gail MacKay	Aschaffenberg Visit

Summary of the Meeting of Council held on 9th March 2009

President's Items:

Council confirmed the Club's AGM is to be moved to 22 April.

Council noted that the Club at the last business meeting approved a contribution of one-third of the cost of improving the Centenary Clock (the estimated total cost of which is £2,300)

President Neil is to lead the planning for the upcoming visit by Aschaffenburg Rotarians; he will be assisted by Ian Marr, George Beaton and Sally McCartney.

President Neil attended the District Council meeting on Tuesday last; a report will appear in the next 'By George'.

PKVAS Party in the Park on 16 May; we will not take up their invite to participate.

Treasurer's Report:

The balances on the Club accounts are as follows: Charity £12,599.42 / Club £3,646.37 / Hospitality £2,427.29

Charity account: the Senior Citizen Ceilidh costs of £441.50 have been paid;

Anticipated profit from the Sportsman's Dinner is £3,516.75 (this is after the Club meeting the 'loss' on ticket sales of £131.25).

Club account: only routine costs have been met during the month; looking forward and having regard to known financial commitments (Foundation, the Centenary Clock, and the laptop/projector purchase) the Club account balance will fall to approximately £880. It should be noted that this figure would be even lower had we not used the hospitality account for certain overhead costs.

Subscription 2009/10: having regard to next year's budgeted costs and with the aim of returning the Club account to its agreed minimum balance, the subscription will have to rise to £107.50; this was approved by Council and should be proposed by the Treasurer at the AGM

Service Projects (Paul Kyle and Graham Fleming):

A bitterly cold evening reduced numbers attending the Senior Citizens Ceilidh; this aside it was viewed as a successful event.

Arrangements are fully in hand for the Primary Schools' quiz tomorrow evening.

Paul described his forthcoming tandem parachute jump with the 'Red Devils' on 14 or 15 May; he would like to use this as sponsored event and suggested if this could be opened to Club members, 'Polio Plus' would be a worthy project. This was warmly welcomed by Council.

Club Administration:

Stuart Cameron reported that the Club were joint leaders of the area Rotary Club league having beaten Glenrothes on Sunday evening.

Brian Kitching reports that 2 members are below 50%; Council noted this and while the President reported on an informal discussion with one of the two, it was decided no further action should be taken at the moment. Perth 800: the Senior and Junior VPs of all 3 Clubs are to meet Alan Graham and Suzzane Cumiskey of PKC shortly to discuss possible options for the Clubs to do something to mark the year.

'Help for Heroes'; Gail MacKay is aware of an individual fund raiser cycling from John O'Groats to Lands End, with some sponsored parachute jumps on the way. Council were agreed we should support the Charity but in our own right; a £100 donation was approved.

Membership (Stuart Cameron):

An information meeting will be held for 3 prospective members after Wednesday's Club meeting.

Ways and Means (Michael Jamieson):

An excellent Sportsman's Dinner is likely to produce a £3,500 surplus; proposals to distribute the proceeds to our nominated charities can hopefully be taken at the next Council meeting to allow prompt payment. It was agreed to hold the dinner once again in 2010

AOCB:

As it is becoming increasingly relevant for members to know their RI registration number in order to access Rotary websites. The Secretary was asked to begin the process of updating our RI membership list; individual members will be asked via 'By George' whether they wish to participate.

Date of next meeting: Monday 6 April 2009 at 7.30pm
Secretary David.

Rotary Curling Champions...again!!

Out of an entry of 20 teams Perth St Johns came out top winning the Jewel Trophy at the Dewars Centre on the 10th March.

Stuart Cameron, David Grant, Rob Burke and Gordon Wood from South Queensferry Club swept their way to victory winning both games and gaining

enough shots to push Perth Kinnoull into second place. Interviewed later by our curling correspondent David Grant stated that he put this win down to sheer endeavour and some decent refreshment between games. Perth St Johns remain joint leaders with the Perth Club of the Rotary League with one game to play



PRIMARY SCHOOLS QUIZ

**CALEDONIAN ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHAMPIONS AFTER A CLOSE FOUGHT CONTEST**



Forthcoming Events For Your Diary:

22 Apr / 6 for 6.30	CLUB AGM - note change of date & time
29 Apr	Cancelled : NOW EVE ON 1ST MAY
01 May	Friday Evening Meeting
01 - 03 May	Aschaffenburg Visit
04 May	Council Meeting
10 May	District Assembly

Please send news items and contributions to Ian Mutch or ByGeorge@perthsjrotary.org.uk by 12 April 2009

Visit the NEW REDESIGNED & UPDATED CLUB WEBSITE at www.perthsjrotary.org.uk for full duty and diary details