

By George

newsletter

OCTOBER 2009



President Ian's Blog

Polio Day.....and more.

October 24th was Polio Day. These days we have a day for just about everything. Did you know that 9th October is World Post Day celebrating that we can post letters and parcels - kind of ironic right now with the posties on strike.

In that atmosphere it's good to have a day which really means something - **World Polio Day**. A day to focus attention on the fact that we are close to eradicating a terrible illness from the face of the earth. I say "we" are close to this because the "we" here is Rotary. The battle to eradicate it is probably the one really distinctive thing about Rotary and something that ordinary people can relate to. An older friend of mine when I was a teenager had suffered from polio as a younger man and it still impacted on his ongoing health years later. What Rotary, working with others, has done is to drastically reduce the number of people who will ever suffer from this disease and we are close to wiping out the disease entirely.

There are a lot of other things that are important about Rotary and about our club in particular. There isn't room here to list them all but the reason I have asked people to join St Johns is quite simply because I enjoy being part of the club. Over the next couple of months we are going to be thinking about how to build on what we have in this club. With that in mind I would like to ask you all to think about what you enjoy about this club and bring that to our discussions over the next few weeks.

President Ian

District 1010 Aviemore Conference Report

Attached to By George this month is a very interesting and comprehensive article on the District 1010 Conference held in Aviemore on 18th to 20th September. Written by Eileen Waterston (partner of PP Michael Jamieson) it gives a real insight into the great fellowship enjoyed by all and also how much goes on and is achieved at a District Conference. Please take the time to read this feature - it is well worth a read.

The BG Editor

Cornhill Macmillan Centre.

The club was privileged to contribute £3000, part of the proceeds from the Sportsman's Dinner held in February 2009, to the new Cornhill Macmillan Centre in Perth.

It has just opened for day care, and the first residential patients arrive in November. I was fortunate to attend an open day recently.

The centre offers residential palliative care facilities for up to ten patients at time. It also offers day care and drop-in services to people with

cancer and life limiting illnesses. Services include end of life care, symptom control, counselling and complementary therapies.



There are bright open views across Perth from many of the windows, and it was clear that a lot of experience has gone into the design. For example, the patients' rooms have built-in folding beds so that relatives can stay overnight.

There are quiet rooms and family rooms. The day centre facilities occupy the upper floor and, like the residential section, provide a range of facilities. Overall I was very impressed with the quality of the furnishings and decoration, and the pleasant appearance of the whole facility. The centre also brings together staff from three current locations, so that care can be coordinated more effectively than is possible at present.

Photos are of the Day Care Lounge and one of the Bedrooms.

Treasurer Rob Burke

Weekly Duty Rota: 28 October to 02 December - 12.30 pm unless otherwise stated

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Door Duty 1:</u>	<u>Door Duty 2:</u>	<u>Bottle Duty:</u>	<u>Speakers Host & VOT:</u>
October 28	John Galbraith	Alexander Stewart	Albert Donaldson	CLUB MEETING
November 4	Graham Harding	Heather Stewart	TBA	Michael Archibald
November 11	Fergus Harris	Neil Townend	TBA	BUSINESS MEETING
November 18	Bert Macdonald	John Watson	John Fox	George Beaton
November 25	Brian Kitching	Jim Urquhart	Enrico Frattaroli	TBA
December 2	Gail MacKay	Maureen Young	John Fyfe	Rob Burke

Summary of the Meeting of Council held on 20th October 2009

Matters Arising:

Chernobyl liaison: Michael Archibald has this in hand

Black Watch honorary membership: awaiting an update from PP Maureen Young on the return date of the Regiment and the formal induction/International evening date.

World Polio Day: President Ian is working to make a joint press release with other Perth Clubs on Rotary's polio eradication work.

Perth 800: discussion ongoing

District Treasurer has been informed that the Club's 2008/09 accounts have been prepared and examined.

President's Items (Ian Marr):

Given the number of unfilled vacancies within his department (and the added workload this entails) SVP Paul has asked for 6 months leave of absence; he also questions his ability to take on the Presidency next year. Leave of absence approved. President Ian is to meet with Paul to discuss transitional arrangements for the leadership of the admin team for the leave of absence period and the Club presidency for 2010/11.

President Ian touched on the RIBI February 2010 membership campaign and District 1010 involvement; to be discussed more fully as part of the Club membership and programme review.

Shelter Boxes: the 3 boxes purchased from the proceeds of the 2009 Sportsman's Dinner were sent as part of a 700 item shipment to Agadez, Niger, West Africa to help alleviate the sufferings of 100,000 people displaced by flooding. (SEE PHOTO OPPOSITE OF A SHELTER BOX)

'Giraffe' December singing event: more information required before we take a view on Club participation

Secretary's Items (David Grant):

Paperwork has been posted to us to elect District Officers for 2010/11; this has mainly arisen as nominations for AGs exceed the vacancies.

Robin Rippin has been elected unopposed as DGNN i.e. District Governor in 3 years time.

Louis Flood has requested leave of absence until the 31 Dec 09; approved. *The next district council meeting is in Aberdeen on Sun 15 Nov; PP Michael Jamieson is to attend, President Ian to consider attending. Open to other Club members.*

Simon Orr admitted to membership. Membership Convenor Sally McCartney to be asked to arrange induction, if possible, in consultation with sponsor for the 11 Nov business meeting.

Newsletter 4, 'Thanks for Life', received.

Treasurer's Report (Rob Burke):

Interim accounts for the period to 30/09/09 have been circulated to Council. *Balances are as follows: Charity acc: £7,874.07 / Club acc: £5,006.18 (includes £2.109 in hospitality reserve)*

Charity account: paid since last meeting - £100 to Princes Trust, £115 for the Craigendargity Trophy event, and £490 for a shelter box (Pacific emergency appeal)

Club account: £300 from monthly draw transferred to charity account. Paid £666 Foundation contribution (from monies collected along with subscription)

Council approved the purchase of a cable to connect the built-in IW speaker in the projector to the laptop.

Service Projects (JVP Heather Stewart):

In a written submission JVP Heather Stewart reported:

Shoe Boxes: Mark Cairns will shortly update the Club on progress.

International evening: (see matters arising) the provisional date of 18 Nov will not apply and a speaker will be required for a normal lunchtime meeting.

Christmas Goodwill parcel delivery: John Fyfe is liaising with Graham Fleming of PKAVS on the arrangements for this year's delivery programme.

Welsh choir: A possible fund raiser for the 3 Perth clubs next year – being investigated.

Foundation (James Urquhart):

James is investigating a possible funding project and will report back once he has had a preliminary meeting with the sponsor

Membership (Neil Townend):

John Watson reported attendance during the current quarter to date was 53.24%.

IPP Neil amplified the President's remarks on the RIBI membership campaign and the part to be played by our Club in the Zone plan. He also briefly commented on the presentation made by District Membership Convenor Bob Thomson to the Club at the lunchtime meeting last week.

President Ian circulated to Council a report prepared by Bob using material supplied by RIBI. PP Bruce Thomson is to represent the Club at a Zone meeting on this subject on Monday next.

Council discussed at some length a membership development /active membership retention programme. The first stage will be a special meeting on Wednesday 28 October; President Ian will lead with a detailed outline of discussions to date – other members of Council will also contribute. Council will condense its general business at its 2 November meeting to 30 minutes to allow more discussion on the next steps which could include further general Club meetings with the emphasis on member input, a Club questionnaire, and other items falling within the RIBI 'Club MOT check'.

AOCB:

Council agreed PP Michael Jamieson would be the Club link between the PYO and our Aschaffenburg colleagues concerning the 2010 PYO tour.

After a tortuous negotiation IPP Neil has obtained a proposal from SOS Children to erect a plaque at the Kayankemi development to acknowledge the work of Perth and its Rotary Clubs in rebuilding the community facility there. The proposed wording is; 'Constructed with the generous financial support of the Rotary Clubs and Community of Perth'. Council approved this wording. It has been passed to the other Perth Clubs for their approval. PP President Stuart Cameron advised Council of the forthcoming World Rotary Curling Championships to be held in Perth next year. RC of Perth is the organiser. A special evening meeting of the Perth Club will be held on Thursday 1 April at Dewars Centre. Council provisionally agreed to cancel its Wednesday meeting that week and encourage members to attend this evening meeting.

Date of next meeting: Monday 2 November, 2009 @ 6pm

Shelter Box Presentation January 09



Forthcoming Events for your Diary

28 October	Special Club Meeting
29 October	Gavel competition
02 November	Club Council Meeting
11 November	Club Business Meeting
15 November	Ramshead Curling Competition
15 November	District Council, Aberdeen

Please send news items and contributions for the NOVEMBER Issue to Ian Mutch or bygeorge@perthsjrotary.org.uk by 20 November 2009

Visit www.perthsjrotary.org.uk for full duty and diary details / Rotary Club of Perth St Johns Charitable Trust Fund, No: SC024989