

By George

newsletter

NOVEMBER 2009



President Ian's Blog

"We had a great meeting on 18th November looking at a Club M.O.T. There was a good attendance and lots of discussion was had by all.

If you weren't able to be there or have had any particular thoughts since the meeting please feel free to pass these on to David Grant who is collating all the notes from the discussions on the day.

All the notes made on the 18th will be brought to Council for a full discussion there. This may take more than one Council meeting as there was certainly a lot of lively discussion around the tables. In the early new year Council will bring a plan of action to the Club for discussion and it may be that we put some changes in place immediately while others may wait for a new Rotary Year.

I have been hugely encouraged by the enthusiasm that I see around the club as we look to the future with a real sense of optimism. People are volunteering to take on roles and to drive forward new ideas which is brilliant, it shows that we have a club of committed members who are looking to work together in to the future which is great.

I have heard a few members talking about people they are talking to about joining the club to so there is a real buzz growing which is great going forward in to 2010."

President Ian

**Bit light on articles this month.
Anything of interest ? Please let the ED know.**

Gavel Competition 2009



Eight trusty members volunteered to take on our friends from Bridge of Allan & Dunblane on Wednesday 21 October. They were Stuart Cameron, John Galbraith, Neil Townend, Rob Burke, Gail Mackay, George Beaton, David Cuthbert and Sally McCartney. We played Mammoth Jenga, Putting, Nine Spot Dominoes and that deceptive intellectual game Connect4. It was a keenly fought competition until the hotel staff brought in the coffee and we lost the will to win and lost all the last games.

On Thursday 29 October we played at home against the lads from Aberfeldy. This time our team was John Galbraith, Stuart Cameron, John Fyfe, Rob Burke, Gail Mackay, George Beaton, Graham Harding and Mark Cairns. The same games were played but I withheld the coffee and we came from behind to draw at full time. In the keenly fought extra time drama we narrowly beat Aberfeldy and were most grateful to Rob Burke who excelled himself (own words - modestly spoken) by cracking in the final put.
Rotarian John Galbraith

Weekly Duty Rota: 25 November to 06 January - 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>
November 25	Brian Kitching	Jim Urquhart	Enrico Frattaroli	Mike Buckley-Jones
December 2	Gail Mackay	Maureen Young	John Fyfe	Rob Burke
December 9	Sally McCartney	Ian Mutch	Brian Kitching	BUSINESS MEETING
December 16	Bert Macdonald	Jim Moyes	John Galbraith	Mark Cairns
December 23 & 30	No Meetings			
January 6	Alison Crook	John Macintyre	Graham Harding	Stuart Cameron

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

Minute of the previous meeting:

Approved, other than to note Rob Burke had not been present.

President's Items (Ian Marr):

The 'Black Watch' has just returned from Afghanistan and will go on post-operational leave; it is likely to be into the New Year before a suitable evening date can be agreed to introduce them to the Club as Honorary members.

The '3 Clubs' World Polio day article has yet to appear in the press.

President Ian has spoken to SVP Paul who has decided given his work circumstances he cannot take on the Presidency next year; President Ian and JVP Heather will lead the search for a replacement.

In the short term the Admin team will require leadership; Ian Mutch will consider a co-ordinating role but work commitments would not allow him to take on the 'Speakers' convenor role (President Ian will address this issue).

Sally McCartney will circulate a 'board' to determine interest in the 2010 Aschaffenburg visit (13/16 May).

Treasurer Rob described the Giraffe singing event in more detail; to be put to the Club to determine interest.

Perth 800: the 3 Perth Clubs are looking at holding a 'Kids day out' event as their contribution to the celebrations; more information later.

Secretary's Items (David Grant):

President Ian is to attend the 15 November District Council meeting in Aberdeen; PP Michael Jamieson is no longer able to go.

The Officers were given delegated authority to take part in the postal ballots for AGs.

Treasurer's Report (Rob Burke):

The balances on the Club accounts are as follows:
Charity acc: £7,874.07 | Club acc: £4,997.46 (includes £2,130 in hospitality reserve)

In the short time since the last meeting there have been no significant transactions.

Service Projects (Heather Stewart):

Bruce Thomson will circulate a 'board' to gather names for the Ochil Nursing home singing Christmas singing event.

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

Welsh choir: a possible fund raiser for the 3 Perth clubs next year (the other Clubs seem keen) – being investigated.

Club Administration:

No general report. John Watson advised that attendance has improved slightly to 59.38%. John also

advised that a new duty list for the first part of 2010 will be put on the Club notice board this week.

Foundation (James Urquhart):

On further investigation the idea mooted at the last Council meeting will go no further. Jim has met with Alison Irvine of P&KC's Education and Childrens' Service; a number of ideas were discussed in outline; much more work needs to be done on this before taking a proposal to Council and Club.

Membership:

See AOCB

AOCB:

Council devoted the main part of the meeting to Club and membership development issues of which the following is a brief summary of the main items discussed: Consider a change to the cycle of Club meetings; business meetings can be dull; look at a quarterly meeting devoted to individual committee meetings; expand on the Club affairs idea.

Break up the projects committee into a number of individual teams; encourage teams to come up with new project ideas. We need to freshen up our programme.

Conceptually, we need to sell ourselves to ourselves before we can 'sell' Rotary to others.

Of late there have been concerns over the level of commitment and interest shown by members in the Club and its activities – a feeling that a small number of people are doing all the work. This can be exacerbated by our present method of running events where the project leader (especially, if a new member) can feel isolated.

Concern that we have only 1 social event – BBQ; fellowship can lead improvements to the Club. Consider other possibly more informal events which could appeal to only a small number of members each time – should not be cost prohibitive. Considered essential to have a 'Social Convenor'

We may need not only a Membership Convenor but also a 'Retention' Convenor.

Suggested we need fewer outside speakers and more focus on Club members and Club activities at lunchtime meetings.

Date of Next Meeting: December 7th at 1800 hrs

Forthcoming Events for your Diary

07 December	1800 hrs Council Meeting
09 December	1300 hrs Business Meeting
16 December	1300 hrs Christmas Lunch
17 December	Time TBC - Carols at Ochils Nursing Home
23 December	No Meeting
30 December	No Meeting
11 January	1800 hrs Council Meeting

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

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