

# By George

newsletter

June 2010



President Ian's Blog.  
My Swan Song.....

I jokingly said to Ian Mutch that I would write a "Swan Song" piece for By George. It occurred to me to wonder where that expression "Swan Song" comes from so I went to the ubiquitous Wikipedia resource. I discovered that in ancient myth they believed that the Mute Swan was in fact mute until just before its death when it sings one beautiful song.

The Wikipedia article goes on to point out that "Mute Swans are not actually mute during life - they produce snorts, shrill noises, grunts, and hisses - and they do not sing as they die."

It occurred to me to wonder if what I have done over the past year as your President could be summed up as "snorts, shrill noises, grunt, and hisses"! I certainly hope not!

I was thinking back over the past twelve months and I must say I have really enjoyed the year. The club has a collection of great people who are ever willing to get involved which is great and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the opportunity of being President over the past year.

It has been particularly encouraging over recent months to see a number of new members joining the club which I trust will give a new boost of energy as Stuart takes over.

Finally I would like to wish Stuart all the very best for his year as President, I'm sure he will serve us well with more "song" and less "grunts and hisses" than his predecessor!

President Ian.

PKAVS  
Carers Day Out at Radio Tay..



The club sponsored the PKAVS Young Carers day out to Radio Tay and Dundee Megabowl in April. The group was accompanied by Rotarian Micheal. Michael says they all had a great day out.

Your Subs are now DUE

**Rotary subscriptions for next year are due on 1st July.**  
The full subscription is £130, unchanged from last year. This includes: A suggested voluntary donation to Rotary Foundation of £18. You are free to vary this as you wish. £20 to take part in the monthly draw. Proceeds go to our charity account. So the subscription is £110 if you do not wish to join the monthly draw.

I have to pay our dues to RIBI and District at the end of July, so I would be grateful for **prompt payment** of your club subscription.

Treasurer Rob

**PERTH SHOW WEEKEND**

**Fri 6 & Sat 7 August**

**WE NEED SUPPORT FROM ALL THE CLUB. PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON THE BOARD. COPY OF LUNCH BOARD SHEET ATTACHED. IF YOU ARE NOT AT THE CLUB OVER NEXT 2/3 WEEKS EMAIL ME TO LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU CAN HELP. MANY THANKS**

Community Convenor: Ian Mutch

**Weekly Duty Rota: 30 June 2010 to 28 July 2010 - All 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 &amp; VOT:</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| July 07      | Graham Harding      | John MacIntyre      | Stuart Cameron      | Neil Townend                    |
| July 14      | Fergus Harris       | Sally McCartney     | Alison Crook        | BUSINESS MEETING                |
| July 21      | Michael Jamieson    | Gail Mackay         | David Cuthbert      | Roger Ward                      |
| July 28      | Brian Kitching      | Jim Moyes           | Albert Donaldson    | John Watson                     |

## Summary of the Meeting of Council Held on 14th June 2010

### **Matters Arising:**

President Ian reported following informal 'soundings' with the Aschaffenburg Schonbusch Club they were very keen to continue the programme of Club visits on an annual basis; this was agreed.

Council reaffirmed its view that leave of absence should not be granted for periods exceeding 6 months when the position would be reviewed.

### **President's Items:**

Former President Michael Thomson, on behalf of the Trust for St John's Kirk, has asked the Club to contribute to St John's development scheme. President Elect Stuart will arrange for the Chairman of the Trust (or his representative) to speak to the Club, which should allow a more informed decision.

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

The District Governor passed on a report from RI President John Kenny confirming RI is now more than half way towards meeting the \$200 Million Challenge (Thanks for Life – End Polio Now).

Perth Youth Orchestra wrote to ask support for its visit this year to Aschaffenburg; given this will take place shortly, Council approved a £100 grant.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Letter of thanks from James Alexander re CheckIn donation.

Although approved, no request had been received for the £260 for the Mini Olympics. Secretary to investigate.

Paid; £512.50 Senior Citizens' Ceilidh costs plus £78.38 for Perth Show Stand – leaving a balance of £8,252.33 on the Charity Account.

A small number of Hosting night payments are outstanding. Council agree non-participants would not be asked to contribute.

The balance on the Club Account after usual routine payments was £3,822.35, which includes £1,952.81 in the hospitality reserve.

Council agreed no payment would be made this year from the Club Account to the Charity Account.

### **Community Service (Ian Mutch):**

The Perth Show: the stand will be manned all day on the Saturday and it's for decision whether to attend on the Friday afternoon. It is also for decision whether to display a Shelterbox on the stand.

### **Youth Service (George Beaton):**

Young Carers: a day out to Dundee on 28 August to attend a 'Hell for Lycra' event (wrestling) with a budget of £400 was approved.

Ukraine childrens' visit: the usual fruit supply has been organised. A board will be sent round seeking help on the first day of their visit with the provision of sandwiches and soft drinks. The usual sweatshirts will be handed over at the final Ceilidh.

Perth Academy has expressed interest in a simulated job interview project; this to be followed up.

### **Fellowship (Maureen Young):**

7 going on the Highland Show visit on 24 June and a fairly similar number are signed up to go on the walk/picnic organised by Rob and Lis Burke.

In July there will be a sports' taster event (date to be confirmed).

In August an 'SAS' day at Glen Turret – 8th.

September 5<sup>th</sup> will be an evening fellowship event and possibly later in the month a visit to Fort George.

### **Membership and Communication (Neil Townend):**

A new member will be inducted on Wednesday. An information meeting had been held and a further application is anticipated.

### **Ways and Means (Heather Stewart):**

The Sportsman's Dinner will be held on Friday 18 February 2011.

### **AOCB:**

President Elect Stuart chaired an informal meeting of the incoming Council. It was decided the annual meetings of the Club will be held on the usual dates next year (AGM 27 April 2011 and Assembly 29 June 2011). Council will meet at 7.30pm next year (2010/2011).

**Date of next meeting: Monday 2 August at 7.30pm**

## A Letter of Thanks from CheckIn

The following letter was received by Treasurer Rob from James Alexander, Manager, CheckIn Group.

"On behalf of CheckIn Board I am writing to thank your Rotary Club for its very generous donation of £700 which was raised at the Sportsman's Dinner. The money is contributing significantly to the costs of our horticultural efforts at our polytunnel at Westbank Hursery in Perth. Some of our more green fingered CheckIn buddies, job seekers and Giraffe volunteers have been working hard over the last few weeks to raise an



amazing range of plants and herbs for our first fundraising plant sales which will take place on the South Inch on the 12th and 13th June.

Over the next year, the Rotary Club's kind donation will be used in a very practical way to buy seeds, plug plants, compoast and a variety of pots! We are confident that the Club's investment will help us generate addition income for our employment support activities with disadvantaged job seekers.

The polytunnel is an important new strand in the work of the CheckIn Group. The peace and quiet in the polytunnel, and the practical theraputic value of gardening, lends itself to supporting individuals who find it more difficult to cope in some busier settings.

I would be grateful if you would pass on our sincere thanks to your Rotary colleagues for their continuing interest in, and support of, the CheckIn Group"

## Welcome.... New Member Contact Details

A warm welcome to James Alexander, who was proposed by Treasurer Rob, and formally joined the Club at Assembly on 30th June 2010. His contact details are as follows. James will join Community Service.

See email edition.

## Forthcoming Events for your Diary

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| August 02      | Council Mtg RGHotel at 7.30pm                |
| August 06 / 07 | Perth Show, Rotary Stand                     |
| August 08      | 'SAS' Day at Glen Turret - Details to follow |

Please send news items and contributions for the JUNE issue to Ian Mutch or [bygeorge@perthsjrotary.org.uk](mailto:bygeorge@perthsjrotary.org.uk) by 23 July 10

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