

ROCKVALE REBOUND T.N.

Annual Trustees Report 2014/15

The year for 2014/15 got off to a flying start with our first event being our Annual general Meeting which was held at the end of May. The venue as before was Townend Bowling club's function suite and was attended by 24 members. A full report of the A.G.M. has already been done and is in our website. We were very pleased indeed when the election of a committee was being held and after the existing members had been re-elected, Amelia Kerr announced that she, her husband David, Ricky Holloway and his wife Mary would be willing to come on to the committee. This was greeted with tumultuous applause and they were all duly elected unanimously. At a following committee meeting, Amelia was appointed as secretary and Ricky agreed to take on the vice Chairman's role. All four have shown themselves to be most enthusiastic and have proved to be a very valuable asset to the organisation.

In general things were fairly quiet during the summer months with all our services in the field of information provided going smoothly, and the real action beginning to take place in the early Autumn.

Our annual Summer outing was held on the 30th of September when the destination was Crieff in Perthshire, and it was a wonderful outing. The weather was a bit dull while we were making our way there, but by the time we had all finished our lunch at the Murray Arms Hotel, and returned into Crieff proper the clouds had disappeared and the sun had come out, complete with hat on and ready to play. It was a bit breezy, but nonetheless enjoyable.

Although not the largest town in Scotland, Crieff has plenty to offer the visitor with many shops an Arts & Crafts centre the oldest library in the country and many other sights. Doubtless the shops were well patronised!

We took a slightly different route on the way home, passing by the Lake of Mentieth, Scotland's only lake and which many people had never seen before, and we came back via Aberfoyle and the Ballat crossroad, adding only fifteen minutes to our estimated time of return.

Our annual fund raising event this year was a return to the well tried and tested sponsored walk, which was held on October 4th. We were not very fortunate in securing pupils from the three secondary schools this time, though. One is already heavily engaged in doing charity work and provides readers for 'Bankie Talk'. At another, the teacher who had been, for many years in charge of charity work had retired and nobody had at that time, been appointed to take her place, and at another the teacher with similar responsibilities was off ill, and, again, nobody was able to help. However thanks to Ricky Holloway, we did manage to get seven people who were willing to do the walk, and, between them they raised a wonderful £508 And enjoyed the experience as well! The walk went from the Meadow Centre in Dumbarton to the Lusset Restaurant in Old Kilpatrick and even a short, drizzly shower did nothing to dampen anybody's spirits.

Later in October we learned that three pupils from the Vale of Leven Academy had decided to embark on a Young People's philanthropic Initiative, and had chosen Rockvale Rebound as the charity they wished to support. The three girls, Abby and Laura Shaw and Jennifer Doe went at the project with a will. They compiled and conducted an interview with our Chairman and the way they had put it all together would have done credit to any professional television interviewer. They also interviewed other people connected with Rockvale Rebound, visited our premises and made a short

tape recording of what they were doing and why. Their first presentation to teachers was successful so they proceeded with the next stage which included organising a cake and candy stall at Loch Lomond shores and raised the wonderful amount of over £250. However, the crowning glory was on February 24th when, at the start of a committee meeting the three girls arrived to make an announcement which was that they had been successful at the final presentation and had won the amazing sum of £3,000!! It almost goes without saying that the committee were all most enthusiastic in their congratulations agreeing that the girls deserved to be winners, given the amount of time, planning effort and initiative that they had all demonstrated, and it is extremely difficult to find the appropriate words to adequately express our admiration and gratitude to all three girls. The official presentation of the award will take place at the Perth Concert Hall on Wednesday 10th of June.

During the year we received other donations from Alexandria Town's womens Guild. Lodge Leven St. John 170 Freemasons, the United Reform Church the Royal Navy's charity service, the Clydesdale and Yorkshire Bank, The Lennox Evangelical Church as well as from individual people.

We were also informed in March 2015 that we had been successful with our application for funding from the WDCVS Community Chest to the tune of £1,300.

Our 2014 Christmas lunch was an outstanding event which was held once again in the congenial function suite of Townend Bowling club, and a superb seasonal meal was provided by Margaret Coleman and her team. The attendance was up by 25 percent on the previous year, and, reminiscent of previous years we had pre-recorded suitable music throughout the meal provided by Mr. Sammy Dennett. Sarah Worthey, Amelia Kerr and Claire Muir carried out a grand raffle and Lewis and Jack Campbell, appropriately attired in bright Christmassy tops were on hand to make sure that the winners had their prizes in record time. The entertainment was started off by a couple of lovely seasonal songs by Amy Mcgrandles who had the gathering enthralled with her most melodious voice. Then Davy Kerr and Ricky Holloway took over the rest of the entertainment and what a wonderful job they did of it, with Ricky dressing for the occasion in Elvis Pressley style as well as giving grand renditions of Elvis's songs and Davy singing a grand version of 'The Dark Island. The afternoon was drawn to a close with a poem and an amusing story by the Chairman and everybody went off home fully replenished in every way.

In January 2015 we were most taken aback when Claire Muir announced rather suddenly that she had decided to give up all her associations with Rockvale Rebound due to pressing family commitments. Thankfully, Karen Renaud agreed to take on the role of Website manager and also to prepare the material for the newstape of which Claire had been a member. Karen is a qualified lecturer on Computer technology so we are fortunate indeed to have secured her services and skills in this field. Shortly afterwards, we were able to secure the services of Denise Currie as a reader on that team, and within a few weeks we also managed to recruit bridget Thomson as another reader on the team, thus bringing it up to full strength.

During the course of the year we have embarked on a campaign to try to increase our membership and Amelia Kerr along with Davy, Ricky and Mary have spent many hours on this venture. Unfortunately, we have only managed to get two new members, but flyers have been distributed in many places, so it is hoped that through time we will receive requests from other people.

Overall our equipment has been performing well, but our sound mixer gave up the ghost on the 4th of December and we were unable to send out a newstape that week. However, a quick Email to A & C Audio Systems had great results with Andrew Borthwich bringing a new device over to Dumbarton and fitting and checking it out on December 9th and so we were back in action by that week.

The year ended in a disappointing note, however. Because of business commitments, David Kilbourn has had to tender his resignation as a recording operator with Rockvale Rebound. David has been with us for many years and has proved himself many times a sterling asset to the organisation

and it will not be easy to find a replacement, although the news tapes will still be recorded and copies sent out in the meantime and it is hoped that we will find someone who can take over that role. So we have come to the end of another eventful year and can look forward to yet another one.

There are many different roles within the Rockvale Rebound all of them intertwined and interdependent and no one role is either more or less important than any other, so whatever your own role is, please, be proud, very proud of what it is that you do, because many, very many people derive a great deal of pleasure from your efforts.

Bobby Simpson M.B.E.
Chairman R.R.T.N.