



rotary

humanity in motion

Rotary Club of Perth Kinnoull

This month's issue contains news of the Club as winter approaches and outdoor activities are put aside for more comfortable pursuits. The Young artist Competition culminated in the presentation at Perth Art Gallery on 4th November

Editorial

I guess we have had a more pleasant run in to mid-winter than last year and the time has flown by. Contrary to my feelings while preparing the last issue, I have now completely forgotten about October. Have you? So excuse the amalgamation of October and November as they were quiet months. In fact, indoor months with the gavel competition and the social curling underway thanks to the sterling efforts of Ian Stevenson.

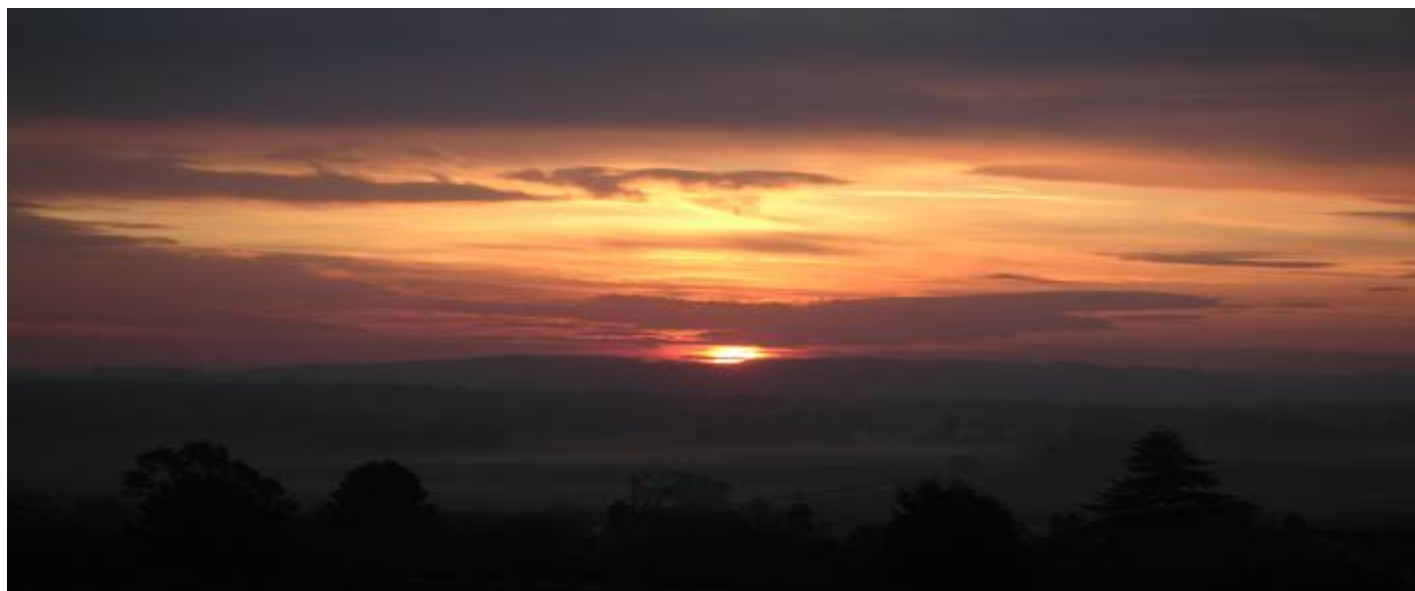
It hardly seems a year since the Young Artists Competition which went ahead with the final at the Perth Art Gallery. And many thanks again to Bob, seen below with Denver Webb at Gloucester RC, for all his pictures



Enthusiastic acceptance for JVP's suggestion to the archive storage problem

Social Curling

Colin and Ian have, again, given their time to take on the beginners' sessions with a view to playing the other clubs at a later date. Their enthusiasm and expertise have made for two enjoyable sessions on the ice. I'm not sure about the level of expertise gained by the beginners but I am sure that Colin and Ian will be sound guides through the coming events. Meanwhile they continue to plough their own ice furrows and have progressed in the professional arena. We have to give thanks for all the time they have given to the Club curling and wish them luck in the near future. As for the rest of us, only time will tell.





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Perth and Kinnoull Club Members enjoy the first gavel of the season



Helen has received info on our two sponsored children at the Jo Homan School

Tom Laurie

Our own Tom Laurie took time off to speak to the Club at the start of November about the current situation in the housing market. His inimitable style gave the members an interesting and enjoyable evening.



Peter MacDougall

Peter spoke about teeth, more teeth and teeth again. This is not surprising as he knows quite a bit about teeth. The main effect was that my teeth began to hurt. Oh, and I have been treating them wrongly all my life. His 'lies about teeth' was thought-provoking and if you haven't had enough there is more to come on December 6th





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Speakers

Oct – Peter MacDougall

Oct - Alan McGregor

1st Nov – Tom Laurie

15th Nov - Steve Norris



Mr Steve Norris, Deputy Rector of a Fife Secondary School

Steve Norris blew a breath of fresh air onto the meeting with his account of work at the chalk face. His speciality is the daunting role of guiding primary school pupils into the senior school. The many initiatives put upon current school managers take no account of their professionalism. People like Steve make schooling a pleasant and fruitful experience by their involvement with pupils and parents. It was invigorating to hear how his school was benefiting from his management role as he steered the realistic course through the political minefield that is education today.

Rebecca Blakey, right, senior prize, and Gabrielle von Waldburg, junior prize, in the Perthshire Young Artists Competition were presented with their awards at a ceremony on 4th November at the Perth Museum Art Gallery



Alan McGregor of the St Andrews Links Trust

Alan McGregor gave a fascinating talk on the work of the Links Trust and the changes that have taken place over the years. Not wanting to be too formal in his talk, he gave the Club a more intimate glimpse with his personal favourite moments. His talk was welcomed by the Members as a refreshing insight into an old subject



Carol, Auchterarder Rotary President, relaxes in company after a full evening



Team Brown being presented with their Charity Golf prize by organiser Willie Monks

20th Anniversary (Vicennial) Charter Dinner

1st June 2012



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Chatters November 2011



The gavel is back



Chatters November 2011



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A Guide to Curling by Abe Ginner

Curling, if you have ever watched, looks to be a relaxing, comfortable pastime played in slow motion. I can hear a few voices for and against this view already and I would agree with the dissenters having now tasted the action.

My first shock was that the game is played on sheet ice and God only gave me two narrow feet. Ice, for any novitiates, is hard, wet and slippery and I do not mean like Daniel Craig in a wet suit or a statue of Tony Blair. No, contact with this substance can be anything from a slow appreciation of the medium or a sudden, irrevocable involvement. Indeed, a slow appreciation can often end in a sudden involvement.

Now, I can accept the downward movement, however completed, but was not prepared for the consequent upward movement necessary to regain dignity. I was reminded of Charlie Chaplin in his violin sketch. To make matters worse, I was presented with a small blue bag to make one foot slip more easily while the other remains stubbornly fixed to the ice. Hence one has to raise the stubborn foot to slip along on one foot. If I had trouble with two feet fixed to the ice then trying the same with one foot becomes a nightmare as all the muscles in the body attempt to maintain a centre of gravity, especially if you weigh a top heavy eighteen stone.

My second shock was that the game is played in a crouched position which has to be held for a few seconds to provide the frame for launching the stone; none of your gentle bend observed in bowls. But at least this gives the player the chance to put more points onto the ice. Pushing onto the slippery foot allows you to glide forwards pushing the stone ahead of you. Theory comes into place here as the balanced frame should move forward to allow the stone, now at speed, to be released and glide effortlessly forward. This is fine if the balanced frame and all points retain a forward motion. However, any sideward movement of the arms does counter the principles outlined above and the balanced points of contact become disarranged producing a downward movement. The hips and legs are firmly fixed in position; one arm holding a supporting brush to the side and the other pointing at the disappearing stone. I need say no more as the next few moments involve both downward and sideward movements which I now understand to be called a nose dive. I probably ended up looking like a polar bear drying itself in the snow.

I thought that this was the end of the shocks but, no; no such luck. A lot of the time I spent was stood watching other players; time I thought was for recovery. Recovery? Don't make me laugh! This time has to be spent moving sideward along the length of the ice while bent over a brush. If I had trouble



Auchterarder and Kinnoull fill the house for the gavel competition in a very relaxed evening

moving forward then you can only imagine what sideward meant, especially when you have to be balanced on one moving foot; yes, the slippery one.

It is possible to master the principles of curling as long as your expectations are sensible and your body resilient. There is an element of enjoyment within a group and the targets are quite clear but be prepared for the biggest shock of all - the next day. Ha, you say. What about the next day? Well, actually the next day is not too bad. It's the following week as curling reaches the muscles that other sports cannot reach.

So why did I go back for a second beginners' session? Well, you can work that out for yourself. Respect to penguins.



See, there are two Is in Kinnoull