

# *February Chatters*

**2010 News from the Rotary Club of Perth Kinnoull**

## **Editorial**

It has been such a short time since the last edition but so much has happened in the meantime. The Club has been exceptionally busy, as you shall see, as well as giving us the time for an emotional look at ourselves. There is no doubt about the high quality of this month's speakers and the high quality of the work being carried out at the moment by individuals and committees; at home and abroad. Back home, the computer is behaving so all is well for the moment giving me time to get on with this edition. Many thanks to both Bobs and Julia for keeping me up to date; to Eva for keeping me in touch and Nick for his timely information. Last February doesn't seem that long ago somehow; it's true what they say about the seasons turning.



## Community Service

- Kids Out claims pack has been received and we are in the process of identifying a group of disabled/disadvantaged youngsters who would benefit from our support. We feel that, as this is our first year of Kids Out that we would start with a small project, but hope to involve the other Rotary Clubs in the future.
- A request has been received for a donation of decorating materials to be used to freshen up the family room at Cortonvale Prison, we have agreed to fund this project.
- Balnacraig School look forward to receiving our support and are willing to come and speak to the club in the near future
- When delivering goods to the Starter Pack group, it was felt that the organisation could benefit from a cash injection to help with heating and running costs, also the group would appreciate more basic furnishing donations, such as towels, blankets, pillows. We have produced a flyer to help jog the memories of members to continue to donate to this cause.
- Waiting for contact from the Children of Chernobyl group to say when the trip to Drummond Safari Park will take place.

Julia



## Youth & Vocational Committee

- **Fairview School:** Following receipt of our £500 donation, the supported cycle has been purchased and a formal cheque presentation, with photographs, will be arranged shortly.
- **RYLA 2010:** The selection interviews will take place at McDiarmid Park on Sunday 7th March.
- **Young Singer Competition:** This year's young singer competition will be held at the Royal George on Tuesday 1st June. Pete Honeyman hopes to present 4 or 5 singers, each singing 2 songs, accompanied by Michael Ellacott, who will hopefully perform a solo during the judging process.
- **Mock Interviews at Strathallan School:** It is hoped that up 32 pupils will be presented for interview over 2 evenings, Wednesday 24th February and Monday 8th March, commencing at 7pm. Thanks to those Rotarian that have volunteered to assist.

Bob



## **Sports**

The deep snow has not covered the enthusiasm of the Club curlers. Having not done too well in one competition, the Perthshire League curlers then visited Pitlochry to come away 11 - 2 winners and are currently lying second in the league. The novice curlers can be said to have served their apprenticeship with honours

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## **Special Meeting Tuesday 16th February**

Some new officers were unanimously elected at the meeting and are highlighted below:

### **President**

Janet Simpson

### **Senior VP**

**Colin Moreland**

### **Junior VP**

**Bob Brown**

## **CLUB ADMINISTRATION**

Attendance, House & Sales

John Steven

Fellowship

John Shedden

Membership

D Sinclair & G Delgaty

Public Relations

Eva Smart

Sergeant-at-Arms

Harry Cooper

Speakers

Colin Moreland

Treasurer

Tom Laurie

**Secretary**

**Julia Robertson**

Sports

Ian Stevenson

Webmaster & "*Chatters*"

Greg Ross

### **SERVICE COMMITTEES**

Community

Julia Robertson

International & Foundation

Iain Brown

Ways & Means

Andrew Still

Youth & Vocational

Bob Abernethy



### **February Attendance**

02/02/10 73%      09/02/10 71%

16/02/10 76%      23/02/10 73%

## Nick Hine

At last year's President's Dinner, Kay and I successfully bid in the auction for Mike Massey's time and cabinet making skills. We are completely thrilled with the result. The picture really doesn't do it justice, but gives an idea of his workmanship. He built the cabinets on either side of the chimney breast and the shelving and installed the lighting.



At the same dinner, we won the raffle for the 'Champagne Dinner for two at the Royal George Hotel. Being incurable romantics we timed the dinner to coincide with Valentine's Day and our wedding anniversary. We enjoyed our very pleasant evening enormously. Our compliments to the chef for a good meal.

Our thanks go to Mike and Eddie



### **Mock Interviews**

The Club opened this annual commitment with the first interviews at Strathallan School under Nick's auspices on Wednesday 24 February. Eight members attended, viz; Bob, Frank, Peter, George, Michael, Mike and Iain, and are to be thanked for their commitment to this support by the club for young people setting out on their journey..

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### **Rotary Thanks for Life Day**

This was declared Tuesday 23rd February 2010, the day of the Club meeting, in aid of the Rotary International Polio Campaign. As part of the event, the Club made a collection at Tesco Stores on Saturday 27th

February. Many, many thanks are due to John, Bob B, Bob E, Mike and Janet who managed a very creditable £411.30p for their services.

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### **Grantham Visitors**

Iain was instrumental in organising the evening meeting with Alistair Holmes and the rest of the Grantham Rotary Club Members on Friday 26th February at the Royal George Hotel. Iain explained that it was an excellent evening and that he was very grateful for the opportunity to see the hotel bedrooms for the first time. You couldn't make it up.

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### **KidsOut**

Julia and her committee have been working hard on behalf of KidsOut, the only UK charity dedicated to bringing fun and happiness into the lives of disadvantaged children. The small team work with KidsOut's partners, of which we are now one, all across the UK to deliver innovative, high quality services to disadvantaged children. Because the charity is small, they are actively very effective, rather than just raising awareness, and offer real practical help and support; 83p in every £1 raised goes directly on the services provide to disadvantaged kids, making them one of the UK's most effective charities!

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### **Shelter Box News**

You will all be pleased to know that the Club's support with 2 boxes have been part of the consignment with which the ShelterBox Response Team have set up a ShelterBox camp for up to 1,000 people on the Henfrasa sports field in Delmas, Port au Prince, Haiti, providing

emergency shelter for the most in need and the most vulnerable; prioritising families with newborn babies and pregnant women.

Aid for more than 20,000 people has already arrived in Haiti and is being distributed by the Response Team with the help of the Dutch marines, Rotarians, French aid agency ACTED and the French Red Cross. ShelterBox's team of volunteers in the UK are continuing their hard work packing boxes. Another 3,000 ShelterBoxes are due to arrive by the end of this week taking ShelterBoxes commitment of boxes above the 5,000 mark.

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## **Rocking for Haiti**

Club members Helen, Eva, Andrew, Julia Janet, Tom and Iain were present at the Salutation Hotel on Friday 20th February alongside the featured four top local bands - Shotgun 76, Face to Face, Afterthought



and Lateshift, for Rocking for Haiti organised by the Rotary Club of Perth Kinnoull. What promised to be a great night of classic rock, country and soul certainly saw the musicians, helpers and crowd uniting to help the earthquake victims in Haiti. They were joined during the evening by District Governor Bill Macfarlane Smith and his wife Daphne.

Perth's kind-hearted rockers helped raise over £3300 for earthquake victims. "The evening was a roaring success," said Helen MacDonald. "We saw a great performance from each of the four bands

with a seamless changeover between the acts. Our thanks go to students from Perth College music department who looked after the sound mixing.

“A competition prize for best dress male and female rocker and a raffle completed the fund-raising. In all, £3376 was raised for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti”

“The club would like to thank the Salutation Hotel, Perth College, Face 2 Face, Shotgun 76, After Thought and Lateshift for their generous contributions to the evening.”

Great credit for the event must go to Helen McDonald who had the conviction and ability to make her inspirations come to life

**THANK YOU!**



**ROCKING FOR HAITI**  
Featuring **LATESHIFT** + more bands to be announced  
All proceeds to go to Haiti Earthquake victims

**Sat 20th Feb**  
**7.30pm**  
**Salutation Hotel, Perth**

**Tickets £12 (Inc. Stovies)**  
**Available from**  
**Bandwagon Music**  
**Innovations**  
**Hine Opticians**  
**Or phone 07799722519**

Prizes for the best dressed Retro Rockers

  
Rotary Club of  
Perth & Kinross

## **Speakers**

### **Sarah Mellersh, Cookery School, Abernethy, 2nd February**

Sarah Mellersh addressed the meeting on Tuesday 2nd February about her new venture **Let's Cook!** Sarah is a professional cook with over ten years catering experience. After starting her career in the City in London a complete career change took her into the world of catering. Having retrained, Sarah then concentrated her career as a private chef, working for a number of outside catering companies, catering for weddings and parties for up to 500 guests, to looking after private dinner shooting and fishing parties all over the UK. However, more recently she has been teaching and designing cookery courses for both adults and children, some for just one day and others for six months at the Edinburgh School of Food and Wine. And it is here where Sarah's passion now lies, teaching students all the skills, techniques, hints and tips that she has learned during her time as a private caterer and a cookery teacher, as well as passing on her in depth knowledge for food.

<http://www.letscookscotland.co.uk/home.html>

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### **Colonel Nigel Gallier, MBE, 16th February**

Nigel spoke to the meeting on his career in the army from Sandhurst and Cambridge University to taking the salute as the senior officer at the Edinburgh Tattoo for the last three years. If only our members had known at the time, he would have had more company from the cloudburst. In between, as an officer in the Green Howards, he saw every theatre of war and gave a very personal and intimate account of each of his tours of duty. His was a talk of many thought provoking

surprises which was received very warmly and will be remembered for many years to come

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### **Mike Beale - (From Retirement to Work) 23rd February**

Mike is well known to the Club members and gave a humorous talk of the vagaries of retirement. The former headmaster of Craigclowan School and President of the Perthshire Chamber of Commerce found it impossible to 'retire' from life. He explained how retirement from a career or position was just the opening of new ventures closer to the heart where experience does count. He is enjoying life after the typical scares that touch one at that time of life.

