

This month's issue contains news of the Club at the start of 2013. The first draw was made for the Charity Calendar and Burns Night took an entertaining twist while members reflected on the activities of the past year.

Editorial

January 2013. It doesn't seem that long ago that we were celebrating the Millennium. Does time really fly that fast? Well, yes as it is hard to believe we have arrived at the point where the Club Calendar activities come to fruition.

The Club returned to business after the Christmas break in preparation for the first calendar draw of the year and a Scottish Night organised by President Helen to give a flavour of the traditional Burns Night in a wider context much appreciated by all the members.

So it is with time passing at a cracking pace that I leave you with this month's little contribution and my thanks to those who make it all possible.



The Scottish Night at the Royal George Hotel began with the traditional salute to Robert Burns and the haggis by Bob Riddell and piper Ian Stevenson

Annual Charity Dinner
22nd March 2013



Several Club members took advantage of some practice time on the rink



rotary

humanity in motion

Rotary Club of Perth Kinnoull



President Helen and Club Members make the presentation to Raymond Jamieson of PKAVS

The latest beneficiary of the Rotary Club of Perth Kinnoull is the PKAVS Young Carers Project. The project which is part of the long standing charity PKAVS, supports children aged 5-18 who have a caring responsibility and aims to allow their young carers to be children first and carers second.

In order to raise funds for the invaluable project, the Rotarians have been hard at work selling their Charity Lottery Calendar which includes an entry ticket for a monthly cash prize draw throughout 2013. The Rotary Club's Scottish Night provided an opportunity for PKAVS representatives to receive a cheque of £6,000 from the sale of the calendars.

Young Carers Project coordinator, Raymond Jamieson commented: "We are overwhelmed to have been selected as the principal charity to benefit from the sale of the calendar and cannot thank the members enough for the time and commitment that has gone into creating and selling the calendars. The amount raised is fantastic and the money will allow the project to continue supporting our young carers through the weekly groups we run, school holiday activities and residential trips. We are very proud to be part of such a brilliant fundraising project and have enjoyed working with The Rotary Club of Perth Kinnoull."

The first ticket drawn on the Scottish Night, for £100, was bought from the PKAVS office which rather rounded off a lot of hard work in the best possible fashion. The two other tickets, both for £50, were sold by a Perth Club Rotarian and at the Farmers Market respectively.

Club Members who sold the largest number of calendars are shown in the picture above; they are Peter MacDougall: Douglas Sinclair: Ian Stevenson and Eddie. Their combined contribution of over 600 calendars contribution has made the Calendar Project and very successful and worthwhile venture for the Club.

Chatters January 2013

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Speakers

- 8th Jan Grant Ager Community Regeneration
 22th Jan Michael Thomson Travels in Armenia

Michael Thomson - Travels in Armenia



We wish Ian Brown a speedy recovery and look forward to his company soon.

Grant Ager - Chief Executive Fairfield Housing Co-operative

Fairfield Housing Co-operative is a major housing provider in the city of Perth with over three hundred properties for rent comprising of family homes, housing for the elderly, disabled and single people.

Grant told the Club that they provide a locally based housing management and maintenance service to all their tenants. In the future, they intend to extend this excellent array of services and to build and develop more homes.

Fairfield is centrally located with an array of excellent local facilities such as supermarkets, a nursery, schools and easy access to the city centre by road or public transport. All the properties have double glazing, fitted kitchens and central heating and almost every property has its own individual garden.

The overall management of the Co-operative is carried out by tenants elected annually by you at our Annual General Meeting held in June. They ensure that the Co-operative is being run properly by the staff.





The January picture from the Rotary calendar - Fishing Bothy at Scone

Chatters January 2013

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Scottish Evening

President Helen welcomed the members and guests for the evening and passed onto Bob Abernethy for the Selkirk Grace.

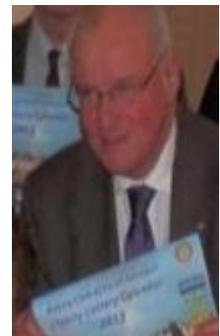
Following the piping and addressing of the haggis, as shown right, the Club settled to the meal at the Royal George Hotel.

This was the evening that the first Lottery Draw was made by the Club's guest, Raymond Jamieson, who also received a cheque from the Club on behalf of PKAVS.

The entertainment was started by Aileen Ogilvie, a musician from Perth College, and her children's choir. This was the first time that the children had performed and the recital was greeted warmly by the Club members.



The evening continued with a humorous poem recited by Iain Brown and a colourful representation of a William Souter poem by Vice President Peter MacDougall.



BOUND FOR THE DARK CONTINENT



Bob Thomson has now completed eight different series of inoculations and 'regimes' before setting off for Nairobi on 22 February. Bob said, "I feel as if I have missed my true vocation as a test pilot for a pin cushion company!"

So, why is Bob heading out to the slums of Nairobi? No pandemic in history has struck the world in such a frightening way as HIV/AIDS and Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the hardest hit areas. In Kenya each and every day between 300 and 400 children die of this terrible disease. 94% of infected persons live in developing nations where drug therapies are largely unaffordable. Over 13 million African children have been orphaned already through AIDS and this number is predicted to increase as high as 40 million by 2020.

In Kenya, there are huge areas where the population of child-bearing age have been wiped out by the scourge of HIV/AIDS and this has left many communities populated only by orphaned children and 'grannies'. The institution Bob will be working with is called COGRI Nyumbani - "Children of God Relief Institute". Incidentally, Nyumbani means 'home' in Kaswahili and has given a lifeline to so many children in this area of Africa.

Nyumbani has a number of facilities including an orphanage for about 1000 children who have no relatives surviving, Nyumbani village itself, which caters for small families consisting of grannies and children, and Diagnostic Clinics and schools for those affected by HIV/Aids

Bob joins a team of about a dozen Rotarians from D1010 who will attend at their own expense and pay for their accommodation. He said, "Everyone is expected to contribute to the associated costs so I will be carrying about \$750 US, to buy supplies to add to the funds which Alison Stedman has collected in the last year." He is also grateful for a healthy contribution from Perth Kinnoull!!.

During his stay in February, Bob will be assisting in the completion of a TB screening/diagnostic facility in the clinics around Nairobi; TB is one of the main side effects of HIV/AIDS. He finished by saying, "I look forward to being able to come back and regale members with my experiences in Mid-March and thank you all for the support and assistance I have been given."

