



Lend a Hand

By George

The Newsletter of Perth St Johns Rotary Club

APRIL 2004 ISSUE

CLUB NEWS

Council Matters

The following is a summary of the April Council meeting prepared by President David.

Presidents Items

District Conference will be held in Dundee 17th -19th September. A big effort has been made by District to reduce costs and make the event more accessible to all. We hope to have a good representation of both day and resident delegates with the attraction that if more than 10 register we will enjoy a further cost reduction. Details on noticeboard soon.

We will arrange a club visit for the Thursday before the conference to the **Anastasis** Mercy Ship, which will be restocking at Dundee before its next voyage. Neil Townend will progress this visit on behalf of the club and partners will be most welcome.

Treasurer

Weekly draw has now raised £1007, which is committed to the clock project.

Sportsman's Dinner final result was a profit of £7991.90
Charitable account stands at £17,000 for spending next year.

Vocational

The **Young Choreographer** competition was a great success despite the low number of entries. Both judges (David O'Gara and Catherine Cassidy) and co-ordinator Fiona Pedgrift felt we would attract more entries next year. Council felt that the George Mortimer trophy should, therefore, continue to be used for this event. **Alan Mathieson** is to be congratulated on coping so well with the late change of venue and all the difficulties this created.

Perth College received our support in their **Perth Operatic Poster** competition again and recent publicity appeared in the PA.

International

The **Chang Mai** project, which we supported with £250, has been postponed indefinitely. The four local youngsters selected to take part however will now be going to Minsk in Belarus to a similar project involving disadvantaged children and our donation will be put to equally good use.

A **Plan International Update** appears in this newsletter, thanks to Alex Hay who is our club contact for our Kenyan youngster.

A request for help with a Malawi project being co-ordinated by a former RYLA candidate of this club, Caroline Proctor was passed to Tom Howie for background research and possible future support. Caroline is keen to address the club to update her progress as a co-ordinator with an Edinburgh University recognised charitable group. Council felt this worthy of consideration at least.

Ways and Means

Great Weather Lottery to be sold to the club at next business meeting.

George Pollock has the **Silent Auction**, planned for the 24th April, all in hand. The Ways and Means committee, which now includes our recent new member Gary Farmer, will be planning a rota to help on the day and members are reminded again to pass on any suitable items to David Ramsay. Maureen has progressed the **Donkey Derby**. Our crucial role in this will be attending with friends on the night. All the lead in work i.e. selling races and horses will be done for us so lets give it our full support.

Mercy Ships

Planned club visit to Anastasis in Dundee as mentioned above.
Requirements will be circulated to members and any contacts who might help us to fill the provisions list.

CLUB SERVICE

Attendance for the first 3 months of this session was 78 %. Only two members have less than 60% and will be reminded of position. Sandy Scrimgeour has applied for leave of absence for three months and this was granted by council. He will still be running the info meetings during this time.

Membership now stands at 47 with the induction of Gary Farmer. An info meeting was held last week and a very positive response received from a new candidate. Also two new proposals will be the subject of another info meeting in the near future so the 50 mark is within reach this session. Sandy Scrimgeour has prepared a comprehensive and informative presentation for all info meetings, which has proved invaluable in explaining the club activities and responsibilities to prospective members.

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YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHER COMPETITION

While the number of entries was small the quality of performance displayed by the four dance groups was excellent, particularly that of the winner and runners up. The latter was danced to a poem narrative and the interpretation won high praise from our judges **David O'Gara of The Scottish Contemporary Art School** from "**The Space**" in Dundee and **Catherine Cassidy** who won the event 10 years ago. Catherine now runs her own dance troupe "**Topiary**" which is touring Great Britain with a children's show "**The Potting Shed**". The novel lifts, musical interpretation, and clear structure to the story of the winning dance "**The Nothing I've Become**" staged by **Sara Davidson** from Perth High attracted particular praise. All the groups received a written critique from the judges on their performances.

Perth High School stepped in at the last moment to allow use of their theatre and **Iain and David Lamond** made huge efforts

to allow us to go ahead in the new venue, transferring the lighting and sound systems with very short notice.

Particular thanks to **Fiona Pedgrift** local PE teacher and Dance enthusiast who continues to promote her first love in the face of little support from others.

Both Fiona and Catherine made a plea for the club to continue its support for Choreography and would be willing to help find and secure entries for next year. We owe it to George Mortimer to keep going through difficult times. Indeed this is when dance and choreography really need the club's support. I feel we must repeat the show in the coming years.

Maybe another dancer/choreographer will be stimulated to follow a professional career in the arts, as did Catherine Cassidy who so eloquently pleaded for us to keep the competition going in the face of difficulties.

Many thanks to **Rob Burke** and **Ian McLellan** for all their work but special mention of **Alan Mathieson** who repeatedly knocked on doors to try and enlist entries, coped incredibly with the last minute loss of venue and arranged a very successful dance class run by David O'Gara for all the dancers. This was a real joy to watch and ensured another club project was such a success.

David Ramsay

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SILENT AUCTION HAY ROOM SATURDAY 24TH APRIL 10AM TO 12NOON

TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL EVENT WE NEED HELP.

- 1) Items to sell preferably worth at least £10. Deliver to a meeting or to the Presidents Home.
- 2) Attend with your family, friends and neighbours. Tell everyone about it. Posters are available if you know of a shop or site to put them.
- 3) Some help will be needed on the day to "police" the goods, collect the entry money and the sale price and to hand over the goods to the purchaser.

A number of members have already given goods so, if this applies to you,
please disregard no. 1

Any queries contact President David or George Pollock

MONEY ADVICE SCOTLAND

Money Advice Scotland, the national money (debt) advice charity, is holding its inaugural Corporate Charity Golf Day at Culcrieff Golf Course, Crieff Hydro, in the beautiful Perthshire countryside on Thursday 20th May 2004. This is an invitation for members of your club to attend the event and show your support for a worthwhile charity. As well as a days golfing, there is an opportunity for non golfers to pamper themselves in the luxurious Victorian Spa at Crieff Hydro before meeting up for a drinks reception and gala dinner with our guest speaker Miles Hilton Barber.

Accommodation is also available for those who wish to indulge themselves that little bit more and enjoy a traditional Scottish breakfast the next day and the idyllic Perthshire countryside. If you require any further information on Money Advice Scotland or the Corporate Charity Golf Day please contact Grant Reilly at any time (by telephone 0141 572 0428, or g.reilly@moneyadvicescotland.org.uk or their website www.moneyadvicescotland.org.uk).

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Door Duty



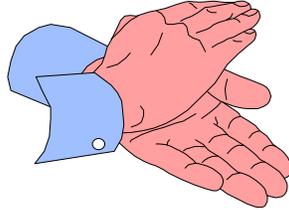
28 April Elaine Halley and Hamish McLaren

5 May Graham Harding and Ian McLellan

12 May Fergus Harris and Norman McPherson

26 May Tom Howie and Ian Mutch

Vote of Thanks



28 April Euna Scott **5 May** Robert Scott
19 May Sandy Scrimgeour **26 May** Sandy Taylor

Bottle Duty



April 28 Ian Agnew **5 May** George Beaton
19 May Stuart Cameron **26 May** Michael Archibald



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A Tale of Irish Sacrifice

An Irishman moves into a tiny hamlet in County Kerry. One night he walks into the local pub and orders three beers. The bartender raises his eyebrows, but serves the man three beers, which he drinks quietly at a corner table, alone. An hour later, the man has finished his three beers and orders three more and again drinks them alone at a quiet table in the pub.

The following night he returns to the pub and again orders and drinks three beers at a time, alone at the corner table. This goes on, night after night, and soon everyone in the hamlet is talking about "The Man Who Orders Three Beers".

Finally, after about a week, the bartender broaches the subject. "I don't mean to pry, but folks around here are wondering why you always order three beers?"
"T'is odd. isn't it?" the man replies, "You see, I have two brothers, and one went to America and the other went to Australia. We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank as a way of keeping up the family bond".
The bartender and the whole community is delighted with this answer, and soon The Man Who Orders Three Beers became a local celebrity and a source of pride to the hamlet, even to the extent that outsiders came to watch him drink.
Then, one night, the man goes to the pub and orders only two beers. The bartender pours them with a heavy heart. This continues for the rest of the night, he order only two beers and word flies around the hamlet. Prayers are offered up for the soul of one of the brothers.

The next day, the bartender says to the man, "Folks around here, me first of all, want to offer condolences to you for the death of a brother. You know, the two beers and all....."
The man ponders this for a moment, then replies, "You'll be happy to hear that my two brothers are alive and well. It's just that I, meself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent".

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*Lest this august publication be accused of being sexist here
is the alternative (female) view to last month's,
"MEMO FROM DAZED AND CONFUSED":*

"INSTALLING HUSBAND 1.0"

Dear Tech Support,
Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slow down in overall system performance - particularly in the flower and jewelry applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0. In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5, and then installed undesirable programs such as NFL 5.0, NBA 3.0. and Golf Clubs 4.1. Conversation 8.0 no longer runs, and Housecleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system. I've tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail.
What can I do?
Signed,
Desperate

Dear Desperate:

First keep in mind, Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an Operating System. Please enter the command: "http: I Thought You Loved Me.htm" and try to download Tears 6.2 and don't forget to install the Guilt 3.0 update. If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewelry 2.0 and Flowers 3.5.

But remember, over use of the above application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5. Whatever you do, DO NOT install Mother-in-law 1.0 (it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of all your system resources). Also, do not attempt to reinstall the Boyfriend 5.0 program. These are unsupported applications and will crash Husband 1.0. In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. You might consider buying additional software to improve memory and performance.

We recommend Hot Food 3.0 and Lingerie 7.7.

Good Luck,
Tech Support

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The magazine is also available our website

WWW.perthsjrotary.org.uk

(Thanks to Peter Young for printing this month's
edition)