

**TERNAN**

**TIMES**



## E Newsletter

In issue 16

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### Message from President Jim

Hi everyone,

And now the end is near, and so I face, the final curtain.

Regrets I have had a few, but with your help you got me through, without exemption.

I have had a year that's been full of that I am certain.

Yes there was times, I'm sure you knew, when I bit off more than I could chew.

And to think we did all we had to do and may I say, not in a shy way,

You all helped me to do it my way!

To everyone thanks for a brilliant year it has been a pleasure to be your President and Edwina will have no fears if the support is given to her as it has been given to me

Once again thanks, yours

Jim

## Crathes Rally – Sample Sandy's Selection

Club member Sandy MacDonald came up trumps as the Ternan Times photographer for the 2010 Crathes Rally. Over the course of the day, Sandy took 119 pix of cars, entertainers, service providers, and members of the public and delivered them to TT on a CD. You can't get much better service than that. Many thanks Sandy Club members can view a larger selection of Sandy's photographs on the Club website. Despite the weather a successful Crathes Rally took place, thanks to the enthusiasm of all involved; car owners, entertainers, caterers and the public who paid to enjoy the selection of vehicles on show. Every cloud has a silver lining and President Jim was able to announce that the Club had received a very generous donation of £5000 from an anonymous donor, to offset the drop in income from the Rally.



Early morning raindrops Alan Foxton's JBA Falcon Kit Car



Ernie Knowles' Baby Austin brightens up the show park



Sun comes out for the Winner's parade led by W. Walker



Arabella from Malaria No More, presents Best In Show to K Sherrard



The ever popular young lasses of Coutts School of Dancing



Not as busy as usual, but always a friendly Rotary Ladies welcome

## Past Times in our Club

26 Years Ago

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

The following poem was composed by PP Bill Stuart and given by him as his address to the District Rotarians when, in 1984 during Bill's term as President, the District Council met in Banchory Town Hall and took lunch here in the Burnett Arms Hotel. Stewart W

It was at a Cooncil Meeting  
Earlier in the year  
Things were going fine  
Harry wis in the cheir  
Up gets IAN Geekie  
"This you've got to hear  
The District Meeting's in September  
An they're huddin the damned thing here."

Well the silence roared its heid aff  
We a' turned as white as chalk,  
Och then we hid a nippy  
An' the colour it came back.  
Then the penny drapped  
I think it was fae Bob,  
He said, "It's a' richt lads –  
At's next year's Cooncil's job

An' they'll manage the damned thing fine!"  
The days an weeks they drifted by  
An' Harry he did well,  
He booked the Hall,  
Saw Bert Flett an' fixed up the Hotel.  
"Fit's that you're saying, Ian"  
Man that's a richt fine beer.  
Fit meetin's that you're on about,  
Are they huddin the damned thing here?"

"Now dinna panic lads,  
We've held the thing afore,  
There's somebody for the money  
An' twa or three on the door.  
An' Harry's booked the Hall an' things  
An' the meal's nae owre dear,  
It's nae gan tae be a bother Ken,  
We'll easy manage the damned thing here!"

Well the hot line started tae buzz.  
"That's a gey place that Toon Hall,  
Folk are inclined tae dose aff  
An Gordon will hae tae bawl.  
We'll get a mike up on the stage  
An' ane doon on the flier,  
Och, I suppose we'll manage that  
Seein you're huddin' the damned thing here!

"The President's fae Mexico,  
An' his meesage you will hear  
I hope he spiiks in English  
Or that will cause a steer!  
You'll get a tape recorder  
That sounds out loud and clear,  
An' help ma Bob fit next,  
Fit wye are they huddin' the damned thing here

The telephone rang again,  
"Hello Bill, this is Gordon  
Div ye mind thon 3H programme,  
Well we've got a video recordin  
You'll get a video recorder  
An' screen from here to here."  
An' help my Bob it's gettin' worse  
Fit wye are they huddin' the damned thing here.

Well at last the big day came  
They came fae far and near.  
Wi' laughing eyes an' outstretched hands  
The message it was clear.  
Wi' fellowship an' laughter  
An' a crack owre a glass o' beer,  
It was a' worth while  
I'm richt gled they held the damned thing here.

Bill Stuart

Key to those mentioned in the above poem written by Bill Stuart, who was Club President 1984/85:

Ian Geekie	District Governor 1986/87
Bob MacAuley	Club Secretary
Harry McDonald	President 1983/84
Bert Flett	Manager Burnett Arms Hotel
Ken Robinson	Council Member 1983/84
Gordon Boyd	District Governor 1984/85
Carlos Canseco	RI President (Mexico) 1984/85

## Biker Phil makes a Dream Come True

The thought of embarking on a trip the length of Britain on a 50cc Step-Through motorbike might make many ponder, is this wise, particularly if the driver was in his seventies. But this adventure had become a burning ambition in the heart of our Honorary member, PP Phil Taylor.

Those who know Phil should also have known that once he has set his course on something, there is little that will stop him. Indeed, he has set himself such targets and challenges throughout his life, such as Lairig Ghru – Ben Nevis – Lochnagar at Sunrise - and when he completed a mountain bike ride through Glen Tilt in 2002 at the age of 65, even he thought that this would be the end of such adventures, as by this time Rheumatoid Arthritis had set in and was changing all thoughts of physical challenge. However some eighteen months ago, due to a new treatment, his crippling ailment became bearable to live with and the taste for adventure once again surged into his life.

In his teenage years, Phil had a strong urge to have a motorbike but it never happened. But, the hankering had never left him and last summer a visit to Shirlaws in Aberdeen resulted in him realising a long held dream when he bought his first motorbike. Phil's Dad had purchased a New Hudson bike in the 1920 for which he had a photograph and Phil got Ed Read to take a photograph of him on his new bike at the same location. He began to enjoy recreational rides around Deeside, ever widening his range and the dream of making the journey from John O' Groats to Land's End was born.

Following a carefully planned route, he set off on his latest challenge on May 4<sup>th</sup>, staying with friends for his first night, before heading off for John O' Groats. From there his journey proper began staying throughout with friends and relatives, including a weekend with his son Graham and his wife in Chester, and B & Bs. Some 868.8 miles from John O' Groats he stopped his bike at Land's End on 11<sup>th</sup> May, long enough to buy a postcard and take a photograph. His average speed had been 26 mph. The return journey was a reversal of the downward and nearly home he met some bikers at the top of Cairn O' Mount. These guys were really impressed by his achievement, in view of the size of the bike and the age of the rider. His total mileage of 1767 was covered at a cost of £105 in fuel!

Phil dropped in to see me this week in the course of an evening motorbike ride. He was very unassuming about his latest adventure, admitting that he had enjoyed it very much but also saying that it was in the past now. When he left I went out to see the motorbike. He obviously enjoys the freedom which the bike affords and suggested that travelling at modest speeds means that you have time see so much more of your surroundings than from a car. As he disappeared back along the road to Inchmarlo, once more I marvelled at his achievement and wondered at the same time, what his next adventure might be?

Ed



Phil's father John Taylor and Phil, at the gate to Glassel House separated by around 90 years

## Visits to Rotary Clubs Overseas

One of the interesting features of our weekly meetings is the call for Club members who have been visiting other clubs. This is particularly so, when the clubs are overseas. Below we have a selection of members' brief accounts of visits to overseas clubs.

While visiting my son in Gran Canaria last month I visited the Rotary Club of Las Palmas and was made very welcome by their members. My Spanish is zero, but I was welcomed by a German who is the General Manager of the Symphony Orchestra, and found myself sitting between a German lady who runs a Jewellery design business and a Spaniard whose card says he is the Consul General for Ireland in Gran Canaria. What a mixture, and of course all spoke excellent English. It goes to show that wherever you are in the world there is a Rotary Club not too far away.

If you haven't been to another club recently, why not go whenever you have a chance. As I found on recent visits to Aboyne, Deeside, Westhill, Arbroath, Alford & District and Aberdeen St Machar you always receive a welcome and meet "like minded people". If you are abroad don't feel that you are at a disadvantage as you will almost certainly find English speaking member and you may learn more about the district than from a guide book.

John K

### Rotary Club Beograd-Centar

Andy and I were in Belgrade for a few days at the end of April to attend a wedding there. On our first night, having gone out to a restaurant for a meal, we arrived back at our hotel around 9pm to find a Rotary Club (Beograd-Centar) meeting in progress. Once the invited speaker had finished his presentation on Italian food we were invited to join the meeting. I then addressed the meeting with a brief resume of Banchory and our club.

To say that we were welcomed would be an understatement. The club president for 2009-10, Oliver Lepori, and other members could not have welcomed us more warmly, albeit through broken but very passable English (a lot better than our Serbian). I enjoyed their company until nearly midnight by which time although many had gone home, a few die-hards remained.

I was presented with a small certificate of attendance at the meeting of this apparently active and vibrant club. They have a membership of over thirty, a good mix of the genders and an average age of about forty-ish. I have since exchanged emails with President Oliver Lepori who said he hopes one day to visit us at Banchory-Ternan and was impressed with our website.

Rvan B



Ryan with President Lepori

After a long very cold winter my wife and I decided we should try to catch up with some sunshine and escape from the dark skies of Scotland for a wee holiday.

After much discussion and head scratching we opted for St Lucia as it seemed to be a destination with a lot going for it - a lovely climate, beautiful beaches, friendly locals and the icing on the cake - a Rotary Club. St Lucia is a volcanic island in the eastern Caribbean and as many will know from the postcards, it is famous for its pitons - two enormous volcanic outcrops that rise from the sea in majestic fashion like two enormous ice cream cones.

Prior to the holiday I took the trouble to read up all about the island and also went to the trouble of phoning the local Rotary Club....

Yes - no problem we gather at The Piers Restaurant, Sandals Halcyon, Gros Islet Highway Friday 2nd April at 12.15 for lunchtime meeting.

We would be very happy to welcome a member from the Banchory Ternan Rotary Club. Clearly our fame has spread abroad!

The day arrived and I set off in our little hired car for Sandals. As I parked I thought what a grand place this is - bound to get a good lunch here.

Might even match the Burnett on a good night! All did however look strangely quiet as I made my way through marbled corridors looking for the Piers Restaurant only to be challenged by a rather brusque "Where do you think you are going?" I proudly displayed my banner from the Rotary Club of Banchory Ternan and even let slip Jim Thomson's name, thinking this must surely do the trick. All to no avail - this was Good Friday and being a good Christian community everything stops for Easter apparently including the Rotary Club of St Lucia! The receptionist did however agree to pass on our banner to the local president and that I'm afraid was that - a bit of a non event. Still we did have a great holiday.

If you're thinking of going watch out for the mosquitoes and DO double check the Rotary dates!

Jim C



## Friendship Exchange Exceeds all Expectations



District 1010's outgoing Rotary Friendship Exchange team to Louisiana comprised Peter Tong, Westhill, couples from Shetland and Loch Ness Clubs. and from Banchory-Ternan, John and Eileen Thornton and Colin and Margery Sutherland. Most of the team arrived in their New Orleans hotel for two or three days before the official start of the visit, in order to recover from any jetlag and to see and explore the unique city of New Orleans.

The very detailed and intensive programme for the visit after a further two days in New Orleans

allowed three nights staying with Rotarian host families in Baton Rouge, then Lafayette/Opelousas, followed by Lake Charles near the Texas Border and finally Houma close to the Gulf coast and involved with offshore oil activities. The programme called for many early starts in order to make 7.00am presentations to Breakfast – or “Sunrise” Clubs before following a full programme of cultural and business visits together with active leisure pursuits and one of

Louisiana's favourite activities, namely eating large quantities of excellent tasty Southern seafood at every opportunity. The writer heroically sacrificed his waistline in the greater interest of Rotary's International Friendship.



The group at Opelousas Rotary



Would you take a chance with him?

All the team agreed that this visit was a huge success and everyone on it believes that the memories of it, the culture absorbed and the especially the amazing hospitality given by all the hosts will never be forgotten. The return visit by the incoming team from 6200 will take place in the latter part of August and early September. Stonehaven and Westhill will be among 1010's hosting Clubs.  
Colin S

### Gordon and Iris Re-tie the Knot



Many Club members will remember Gordon Buchanan, whom we had on loan from RC Dyce for some years. As some of you already know, Gordon re-married on 22<sup>nd</sup> May this year to his first wife Iris. Congratulations to you both, from all of us here at Banchory-Ternan.

Many thanks to all contributors of text and photographs for the June issue of Ternan Times  
Ian H. Ed