

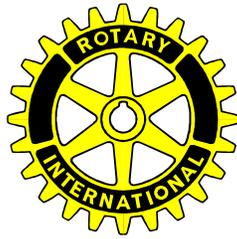
THE ROTARY CLUB OF FALKIRK

District 1020

The Old

(Founded 1924. Charter granted 1924. R.I. No - 18793. R.I.B.I. - No 167.)

ROTARY CALLING



News, Reports and Comments

President Margaret Lyon
President Elect Jim Cairns
Immediate Past-President Andrew Dawkins
Secretary Narek Bido
Assistant Secretary Linda Pacitti
Treasurer Linda Noble

Contributions to muir.rig@gmail.com
will be welcomed

www.falkirk.rotary1020.org

Number 96

Editor Sandy McGill

February 2017

LEND WITH CARE UPDATE

Our supported entrepreneur this month is a farmer from Ecuador, Arnaldo Marino. His request for a loan last July was for a period of 6 months and his loan repayments are up to date with his final loan repayment due at the end of January. All 6 of the initial loans made last July/August have now been featured in this and earlier issues of Rotary Calling. Two of these Central African short term group loans have now been repaid. All loan repayments have now been re-lent to new projects.



Arnaldo Ramon lives near the small town of Malacatos in the province of Loja. He is 49 years old and is married to Nieves Vasquez. They have six children together, three are independent while the younger three are still at home with them. Arnaldo is a farmer growing tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and maize. He also has a small plot of land where his wife breeds pigs and chickens for home consumption, selling the additional produce. Arnaldo began growing maize and beans 20 years ago. Over the years, he started diversifying the production with peppers, cucumbers and tomatoes. This activity has given him and his wife the opportunity to provide their children education and to support the home. He makes a profit of approximately \$4,700 every five months when he harvests. Currently, he needs to buy tomatoes, peppers and maize seeds to continue planting. He also needs to temporarily hire two labourers to help him weeding the crops as a single person cannot do the work alone. He therefore requested a loan repayable over six months.

FAW-KIRK COMPETITIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL



Four of the five competitors are pictured with Hugh Gillespie (L) And John Leitch (R)

Five competitors took part in this year's Faw Kirk Music Festival on 28th January. Two of the competitors played Cello, one Piano, one Bagpipes and one played both Cello and Piano. All played their various pieces extremely well.

The adjudicator, Mr. John Leitch, who spent his working life teaching in Ayrshire, was appointed Principal Teacher of Instrumental Music in 1995 and is now Course Director for the West of Scotland Orchestral Trust.

Mr. Leitch outlined the various melodic qualities of each player, emphasising the little idiosyncrasies of tone, melody, phrasing etc., that led to each and all of the competitors playing to a very high standard.

It was a very difficult decision to pick winners as Mr. Leitch outlined but he chose :-

Robbie Macisaac (bagpipes) as the winner with Annette Selwyn (Piano) runner up

Both will represent the Falkirk Rotary Club in the Semi-final being held in Airdrie Lesser Town Hall on Thursday February 16th, 2017 at 7.00pm.

Thanks must go to Mr. John Leitch for adjudicating, Mr. John Gray of Coatbridge for attending the event and who will be organising the Semi-final in Airdrie, to Depute Provost John Patrick for his great support, and especially Gillian Gardner, Bob & Christine Tait and Bill Mitchell who, together made the day a great success. Thanks to all who helped and attended.

AQUABOX

We often donate money to international disaster aid Charities such as Aquabox but we rarely are made aware of exactly how and when that money is spent. I have extracted this article from the RIBI International Service Newsletter: -

“When disasters strike, whether they are natural ones such as the flooding in India, the forest fires and flooding in Nepal or Hurricane Matthew in Haiti, or man-made problems such as the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis, the need for clean safe drinking water and humanitarian aid is urgent. Aquabox has responded to all of these situations during 2016 to help those in desperate need”. -

Aquabox shipments in 2016

January: -

100 boxes sent to Tamil Nadu, India, in response to the severe flooding in the region.

500 boxes sent to Syria to families in the refugee camps

May: -

520 boxes sent to Nepal to help those affected by forest fires, flash floods and landslides

25 community filters sent to Cameroon for use in schools.

August: -

500 boxes sent to Syria continuing Aquabox support

October: -

500 boxes sent to Syria as the refugee crisis worsens

500 boxes and 18 community filters sent to Haiti after the devastation caused by Hurricane Matthew

DISTRICT GOVERNOR HANDOVER DINNER

The District Governor's handover dinner for 2017 will be held on the evening of 30th June at Boroughmuir RFC, Edinburgh. Details and booking information will be publicised soon, but meanwhile please consider attending and so keep this date clear.

MUMBAI FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

District has issued this urgent request for Rotarians who can provide accommodation for our incoming Rotarian Friends from District 3141 (Mumbai, India) - can you assist?

Earlier District Newsletter notices have not produced the required number of Rotarians within our District who have offered to provide accommodation for couples coming from D3141 to visit D1020 over 3rd to 17th June 2017. We are still requiring at least five further offers of assistance in this regard.

We have Rotarians from D3141 who have now committed to booking flights and travelling to be with us in June. We are urgently wanting to get accommodation settled for them. Please give this serious consideration and if you can help please let our District's Friendship Exchange Coordinator, PDG Alistair Marquis know asap,

Thank you for giving this your consideration. Please note that those offering to host in June 2017 are not required to make the exchange trip to Mumbai over 2nd to 16th February 2018 but will naturally be able to avail themselves of this wonderful opportunity if they so wish.

A programme of visits and activities will be organised by D1020 to ensure that demands on hosts are not unreasonable. Incoming Rotarians are expected to fund trips/activities so what hosts require to provide is mainly accommodation and meals where required. Let's help ensure that D1020 shows hospitality to fellow Rotarians.

Christmas Raffle

Christmas raffle was carried out successfully under guidance of Harry Johnston and raised a net contribution to the club of £1,132 Our thanks go to Harry for his efforts. This was virtually the same amount as last year

Today's teaser!

What's the difference between an attorney and a pit bull terrier?

COUNCIL SNIPPETS

Secretary Narek reports as follows: -

All correspondence that has not been circulated to club members is listed below and available on request.

1. Minutes of the special General Council meeting of RIBI attached
2. Minutes of Central Area meeting 1020 attached
3. An email/phone from the following, declining the invite to our CD as they have pre-scheduled commitment: - Tom & Sheila Davidson, RC of Linlithgow & Bo'ness, Archie Ralston and his partner, Jim & Aileen Hunter, RC of Grangemouth
4. An email from RI regarding a survey for "Your Vision for Rotary's Future"
5. An email from Duncan Collinson in regards to Growing Rotary locally.
6. Events in Edinburgh on 21 Feb and Carluke on 20 March
7. I have replied to Jo Pawley on behalf of the club with the opinions and suggestions of the members who replied to the email requesting views on District 1020 conference
8. On Pres. Margaret's request, I have informed the secretary of RC of Grangemouth our club's intention to attend the joint meeting on last Thursday of March 2017. Venue Grangemouth.

And some items reported from the area meeting: -

District Newspaper Update

Since North County Leader the Dublin based company publishing the newspaper pulled out claiming problems with Brexit efforts have now switched to producing digital newsletter scheduled for November 2016. This will then appear 3 to 4 times a year depending upon level of content coming in from clubs. Once the digital version is running successfully we can then progress to a printed newspaper and other social media formats if price and benefit are aligned.

Forth Bridge proposed sponsored walk

In partnership with District 1010 a joint request has been submitted for a Family Walk in aid of End Polio Now across the new Queensferry Crossing in advance of the opening in May 2017. *(the minute actually said 2107 but I think they intend finishing sooner than that)*

Numerous organisations have applied and a decision is expected early in the New Year.

FOOD BANK

Jim Cairns is anxious to make members aware that we donate to the Food Bank last Thursday every month. Your continued support of this would be not only expected but appreciated. Currently fruit juice still tops the wish list.

Charter Dinner

IPP Andrew met with the management of the Beancross last week with the following result: -

1. The event will start at 18:45 and can go on until 01:00.
2. Arrival drinks have been arranged for each guest
3. We will have access to the bar area and function room.
4. The chairs will be dressed.
5. Table numbers allocated with a seating plan produced and displayed by the venue.
6. They will provide an MC and microphone for the evening.
7. The meal choice has been agreed as well as one red or white or sparkling drink per guest
8. Additional drinks to be paid for at point of order
9. Both acts have been paid for and their attendance confirmed.
10. I have sourced a suitable prize for the raffle and Linda Noble has kindly agreed to collect envelopes and bank cash.
11. It would seem that we will have circa 90 guests attending. It has been suggested that the arrival drinks are paid for from club funds if we find there is insufficient cash to cover these.

A number of people have indicated that they hope to be there on the night but I would like confirmation as to the refund policy? If guests do not appear will we still have to pay for the cost of their meal and the chair decorations, reception drinks and entertainment etc.?

All ticket payments must be made in advance as we cannot accept cash on the night

Primary Schools Quiz: formal invitations have been sent to the 10 Primary Schools for the quiz to be held on Tuesday 14 March 2017 in St Francis Xavier's PS at 6.45 for 7.00pm and replies are beginning to be received. A set of questions has been supplied by Jim McPherson the District PSQ officer and he knows of our plans. Sandy Murrison has also been kept fully informed and responses so far are encouraging.``

Club members are reminded that Linda still has a number of bags of crocus bulbs still to be purchased by club members. Still time to plant so come on all members who have space in their Garden. All proceeds go to End Polio Now
Thanks to Linda for all her efforts

JANUARY REPORT

2017 was begun in traditional fashion with Dennis Canavan giving us his usual incisive insight into the year gone by and what we might expect of the year to come.

David Cochrane from the Royal Highland Agricultural Society followed with an informative and amusing account of the history of the Royal Highland Show.

On the 19th Christine Bell spoke to us about a new initiative in Falkirk which originated in Holland where volunteer cyclists take elderly residents of care homes out for a run on a very expensive Trishaw. The initiative is called "Cycling Without Age" but I think that it should be Cycling With Age.

Past President Sandy Bovaird returned to the Club on the 26th To entertain and amuse us with his tremendous Knowledge of Robert Burns,

P³

John Struthers is currently organising a "Play, a Pie and Pint" night in the Park Hotel. for the 9th March 2017 Tickets will be on sale very soon, make sure you get your order in. The play "Casablanca, The Gin Joint Cut" will be presented by Tryst Theatre (British and Scottish amateur drama champions.) The pies selection will be arranged by Mr Fellowship and the drinks by The Park Hotel.

Thought for the day

Is there a riddle stuck in your brain, and you cannot solve it?
Be happy! It is a positive proof that you have a brain.

ROTARY DUTIES AND PROGRAMME

Date	Speaker	Subject	Speaker's Host	Visitor's Host
2nd February 2017	John Lindsay	Counter Terrorism	Richard Johnston.	Raymond Morton
9th February 2017	Donna Hutchieson	RAFA	Harry Johnston	Sandy Murrison
16th February 2017	Jo McCorriston	Central Carers	Robin Johnston	Linda Noble
23rd February 2017	Bob Tevendale	The biodiversity of the Antonine wall	Ian Johnston	Stewart Ross
2nd March 2017	June McAlpine	My Job talk	TBA	Gillies Sinclair

Date	Cashier	w/c	Station Tubs
2nd February 2017	Jim Cairns	6th February 2017	Brian Jack & Jim Hay
9th February 2017	Tom Curry	13th February 2017	Harry Johnston & Andrew Niven
16th February 2017	Gordon Daly	20th February 2013	Ian Johnston & Bill Laurie
23rd February 2017	Andrew Dawkins	27th February 2017	Richard Johnston & Narek Bido
2nd March 2017	Hugh Gillespie	6th March 2015	Margaret Lyon & Inglis McAulay



NEWSLINE READERS

The following Rota for the reading duty on Thursday evenings has been published by Jim Cairns.

Each participant should receive the key to the premises from the previous participant on the Thursday Lunchtime on the day of duty, . You should present yourself there at 18.45.

DATE	READER
2nd February 2017	Stewart Ross
9th February 2017	Sandy Murrison
16th February 2017	Brian Jack
23rd February 2017	Jim Cairns
2nd March 2017	Sandy McGill