



humanity in motion

The Rotary Club of Comber Bulletin

Autumn '08



Rotary International is the world's largest service organization for business and professional people, with about 1.2 million members in 200 countries. There are some 58,000 Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland in 1,850 clubs. The main objectives of Rotary are service, goodwill and peace — in the local community and throughout the world.



Service above Self

From the Editor

Welcome to the first edition of 'The Bulletin' for this new Rotary Year, which began on the 1st July 2008, and to our new President – Howard Beattie OBE. This edition features the projects which the club Service Chairs plan for this Rotary year please make a note in your diary of the dates of the various projects. On page 2 you will find an up-dated programme for club meetings.

Link Editor – 9187 2607

Club Web Site – <http://www.comberrotary.co.uk/>

The New President - Howard Beattie



It seems like no time since Handover, and here we are – three months into the year already. The next quarter promises to be a very busy period, and I ask for the support of every member of the Club in the activities that are planned for then. The run-up to Christmas is a particularly important time

for us to show ourselves in the community; and there will be plenty of opportunity for us all to do so with our participation in Comber's "Fair in the Square"; the second year of our Remembrance Tree project – which last year proved to be such an appreciated community service venture - and our regular car ballot fund-raiser. During October our Youth Leadership heats will get under way, with the final following in November – by which time the Rotary Young Chef heats will be starting. Quite a push for Karen and her team – and again I ask for the support of all who are asked. Looking to the New Year, the response has been very positive to reviving our Bushmills – or similar – weekend. If you haven't already mentioned it at home, please do so now and details will follow soon. Also on the fellowship side, consider joining us in our return visit to Biggar – we expect to hear their suggested dates in the near future. And a MUST for your diary – our formal Joint Rotary Ball on Friday 3 April 2009, with colleagues from the Rotary Clubs of Newtownards, Bangor, North Down and Donaghadee.

Club Finance – George Pigott

Club finances continue to be sound and I am confident that plans already in place for the year will ensure that we can continue to not only meet our financial commitments but also support the various local and international projects that have been agreed.

Membership and Club Service – John Beers



The start of the new Rotary year saw John Ritchie join the Club. Our picture shows him being presented with his membership scroll. Plans are progressing to build on the membership efforts of last year and we will be alerting the Club to these in the near future. We now have name badges for visitors and I hope you will soon see them in use. Crosby is organising speakers again this year, and has them booked well into the New Year. The Updated programme below shows those confirmed before Christmas – and we again ask you to let Crosby know of anyone who might give an interesting talk at a future meeting

Community & Vocational Services – Phillip Beggs

Plans for our activities are now starting to take shape. Ards Borough Council has given us permission to again use the Christmas tree in the Square for our Remembrance Tree project which we are planning for the 18th, 19th and 20th December. We will need wholehearted support from all members of the Club to ensure the success of this project. Following discussions between the Service Chairs we will approach various Clubs and Associations in Comber (i.e. The Rifle Club, North Down Cricket Club, Comber Rec. Football Club) to seek their support in raising our profile and fundraising.

International Services - Mike Moore



FAIR IN THE SQUARE: THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER.

We will need all hands on deck for the Club's planned participation in this year's Fair in the Square to be held on Thursday 27 November. It

is envisaged that all Club members will be required on a rota basis to cover initial setup around 3.00pm through to about 10.00pm and beyond for site clearance. A rota list will be circulated nearer the event. Our primary purpose will be to promote the Club's work and its charities both local and International, rather than to raise money. Nevertheless we will take the opportunity to launch our Remembrance Tree initiative and raise the profile of the usual Christmas Car Ballot. Plans are well advanced for using our existing free-standing display unit outlining Club projects, and will demonstrate if possible a Shelter Box and publicise Polio+ - and the push being given it by the Gates Foundation - and the Schools 4 All project in Africa. This will be supported by relevant leaflets on our work and we are investigating the availability of small give-aways for children. We also hope to offer a winter warmer drink - formula still to be decided.

Rotary Foundation - Ronnie White



Our key objectives this year are: To continue raising the profile of "Foundation" in the club. To achieve \$100 per head contribution to the annual

fund, by a mixture of fundraising and personal contributions. To achieve an additional \$1000 contribution to Polio+ by means of fundraising. To seek an Ambassadorial Scholar from our area. To facilitate matching or district simplified grants for any of our projects which may qualify. It is our intention this year to co-operate closely with the other Chairs of committees particularly that of "International" as Foundation match fund many of the International projects. In raising the profile of foundation in the club we particularly want to ensure that members fully understand the difference between the "Annual Fund" and the "Permanent Fund". In simple terms the Annual Fund is the fund to which most clubs contributions are directed and out of which, projects are financed. Matching grants and international exchanges are also financed out of this fund. The Permanent Fund is where people make specific bequests either during life or via their will. The contributions to the Permanent Fund are invested and only the interest is used. The permanent fund exists to ensure, that any shortfalls in an ongoing project can be met. Donations to the Annual Fund are invested for 3 years. During this time investment earnings support administrative costs and may be used to benefit foundation's humanitarian and international programmes. After 3 years the capital is released for return to support District and Club projects.

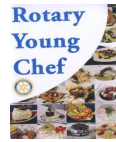
Youth Opportunities - Karen McKeown

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES!

In October all applications for the Youth Leadership development competition will be assessed in order to carry

out the Phase 1 interviews. These should take place towards the end of October in order to facilitate the Area Finals, scheduled for mid to end of November. All help will be gratefully received regarding the school-based interviews where applicants will be asked a series of questions on leadership, teamwork and the European Union. A list will be circulated soon to check your availability.

For the first time ever, we will attempt the Rotary Young Chef Competition. Closing date for application forms at Club level will be 10 October with school rounds and Club Cook Off being completed by the 22nd November. For the "Club Cook Off" a 2 course meal must be cooked and presented in 1-2 hours. We hope to have a local chef judge the competition. The name of our Club winner will then be passed on to the District Rotary Young Chef Officer in preparation for the District 1160 final in February 2009



Communications - John Moore

We intend to have ongoing publicity in the local press, to inform the local community about the Club and its activities. Members should to keep an eye on the Club web site, www.comberrotary.org for the most up to date information.

Updated Programme of Activities

- 6 October:** Away Day: The Raj - please bring wives/partners/guests
- 13 October:** Club Meeting: followed by Council
- 15 October:** Rotary Club of Bangor, Charity Breakfast: 7.30 am Clandeboye Lodge (Speaker - Dennis Murray, BBC)
- 20 October:** Club Meeting: Speaker - Jim Kerr on Buildings Heritage
- 27 October:** Club Meeting
- 3 November:** Club Meeting: followed by Council
- 10 November:** Special General Meeting: to receive the Club's Financial Report for 2007-2008 and elect the Club Executive for 2009-10
- 17 November:** Club Meeting: Visit by District Governor, Paul Hutcheson
- 24 November:** Club Meeting: Speaker - Clive Patterson, Ards Council on Reduce, Re-use, Re-Cycle
- 1 December:** Club Meeting: followed by Council
- 8 December:** Club Meeting: Speaker - Caroline Nolan, Strangford's tidal turbine
- 15 December:** Club Meeting:
- 22 December:** Christmas Dinner
- 29 December:** Holiday: No Meeting
- 19 January:** Ewan Boyle, Job Talk
- Feb 9 or 16:** Mervyn Bates, Law and the Motorist
- 23 Feb:** Dr Paul Duprex, the Measles Vaccine Programme

