



humanity in motion

the link

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Carrickfergus



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

This edition of the Link features just some of the activities in the life of the Rotary Club of Carrickfergus from September to November 2008. My thanks to Rotarians Sam Bell, Peter Allen, Colin McCarthy and Andrew Davidson for supplying photographs. As usual the editor would welcome comments and contributions for future editions.

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

Sligo Conference

The Rotary Club of Carrickfergus was well represented at the annual Conference in Sligo. A party of seventeen



enjoyed the fun, fellowship and a programme of outstanding speakers. These included Niall Mellon describing his work building homes for families in the South African townships; Jim Gamble outlining the work of the Child Exploitation and On Line Centre in detecting criminal paedophile activity on the internet; and Welshman Peter Shaw with a vivid account of his kidnapping in Georgia, incarceration in an underground bunker and his eventual release.

Congratulations to the Rotary Clubs of Newtownabbey and Sligo on excellent conference organisation.

It was gratifying to note that our own newsletter, the Link, was commended at conference for the quality of its layout.

Carrickfergus Rotary Club Fashion Extravaganza

A large crowd turned out for the Rotary Club of Carrickfergus Fashion Extravaganza staged in the Clarion Hotel and compered by well known entertainer Gene Fitzpatrick.



The event which was sponsored by Calor, The Yard, the Tile Yard and Video City (Carrickfergus and Whiteabbey) featured fashions by NATORIA of Ballyclare and Larne, and RED of Carrickfergus.

The evening of fashion, organised by Rotarians Kim Lindsay and Judith Tweed raised £3,155 which will be used to support local and international Rotary projects.

This was an evening of style, elegance and fun. It was also an opportunity to celebrate

the family of Rotary with visitors from the Rotary Clubs of Newtownabbey and Larne, Inner Wheel members from Carrickfergus, Newtownabbey and Ballymena



and Probus ladies from Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey mingling with our own members, their families and friends.

The Rotary Club of Carrickfergus is grateful to comperè Gene Fitzpatrick and to the sponsors for their generous contribution to an excellent evening.



Presidential Citation.



Each year Rotary Clubs throughout the world have the opportunity of achieving a Presidential Citation by meeting targets laid down by Rotary International. The Rotary Club of Carrickfergus was awarded a Citation for its work on membership, supporting Rotary Foundation and its commitment to local and international projects during the Rotary year 2007-2008 under the then President, Colin McCarthy.

Senior Citizen's Party.

The Community and Vocational team led by Rotarian David Craig chose Guy Fawkes Day to entertain over 80 senior citizens from the local area to a sumptuous tea, community singing and dancing to the music of Mervyn Robinson and his group. Rotarian David would like to thank Jack Creighton and the Inner Wheel ladies for providing the food, those who provided transport and Jackie Boyd for co-ordinating the arrangements. Judging by the comments of those who attended everyone enjoyed the event.



Pupils Compete for Rotary Youth Leadership

Jenny Robinson (Downshire School), Lauren Hanna (Carrickfergus College), Jessica Black (Carrickfergus Grammar) and Kathryn Brennan (Ulidia Integrated College) represented their schools in the local final of the Rotary Youth Leadership competition.



throughout Ireland.

The winners of the local finals go forward to area finals where 24 candidates throughout Ireland are selected to take part in a Euroscola event in the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Lauren Hanna (Carrickfergus College) was selected to go forward to the area final in Larne.

Rotarian Andrew Davidson, chairman of the Youth Activities committee and his team were most impressed with the presentation skills and the leadership achievements of all the participants.

The competition is designed to develop self presentation and leadership skills and is open to Post Primary senior pupils

Thanks to Deborah Yea Partnership for their kind assistance in the production of this publication

Visit to Clifton House

Rotarian Grace McNeill, as part of her Fellowship programme, organised an excellent visit to Clifton House, Belfast in early September. Rosie Forde-Hutchinson the Manager gave a conducted tour and outlined the history and development of the Charitable Institute from its foundation to the present day.



Italian Ambassadorial Scholar.

Rotary Foundation worldwide provides scholarships for young people to complete a year of post graduate study at a university in a country other than their own. This year there are 11 students from around the world studying at Irish Universities and being mentored by Irish Rotarians.

The Rotary Club of Carrickfergus was delighted to welcome Serena Giordano from Monza in Italy to a meeting. Serena, a lawyer, is completing a post graduate year in social justice and human rights law at Queen's University and NUI Galway.



She gave an accomplished presentation tracing the historical development of her region of Italy, its geographical features, its commercial life and the importance of Monza's famous racing circuit to the local economy.

Serena expressed her gratitude to Rotary Foundation for providing her with a wonderful study and travel opportunity and she was most impressed by Carrickfergus and the surrounding district.

Rotary says 'Thank You'



Deborah Yea and Rachel Skelton of Deborah Yea Partnership and Joanne Magee of Castle Web Solutions were honoured guests at a recent meeting of the Rotary Club. President Colin de Fleury and the members wanted to say a special thank you to them for their continued support for the publication of 'the Link' and the provision of the Club website.

