



humanity in motion

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Carrickfergus



Rotary International is the world's largest international service organization, with 1.2 million professional men and women in 33,000 clubs in 200 countries. There are 58,000 Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland in 1,850 clubs. Clubs are open to business, professional or community leaders who want to use their experience for the benefit of others. Rotary initiates local and global projects to promote world understanding and peace and improve life conditions for all ages and cultures. To find out more, visit www.ribi.org.



Service above Self

From the Editor

This edition of the Link covers some of the Rotary events in the period of September to Christmas of the Rotary year 2009 / 2010. Photographs by Rotarians Sam Bell, Kim Lindsay and Mary Sinnamon.

The Editor welcomes articles for or comments on the Link.

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served by members of Carrickfergus Ladies Inner Wheel and Rotarians they enjoyed an afternoon of fun, fellowship and musical entertainment provided by Mervyn Robinson.

Rotarian David Craig (acting Community Service chairman), would like to thank former Rotarian Jack Creighton for providing all the savoury food, the members of Inner Wheel and Rotarians who supplied the tray bakes, all those Rotarians who provided transport and Jackie Boyd who masterminded the organisation.

Change at the top

Unfortunately shortly after assuming her role as leader of the Club, President Judith Tweed was forced to take leave of absence. Her husband Stephen became ill and Judith needed to devote her time to supporting Stephen, Laura, Katy and Mark and to the family business.

We in the Rotary Club wish them all well and hope Stephen's health will soon be restored and they will all be part of Rotary again.

President Elect Michael McCune has taken over as President. We wish him a successful period in office.



Rotary Conference in Athlone

The Annual Rotary Conference in Athlone was attended by a party of thirteen delegates from the Carrickfergus club.



Senior Citizens' Hallowe'en Party



The annual Senior Citizens' Halloween Party held in the Masonic Hall in early November was a huge success with 115 Senior Citizens in attendance. As well as a sumptuous tea

Guest speakers at conference included the Kenyan Ambassador to Ireland who expressed her appreciation of the work of District 1160 and Elaine Bannon with the Maasai children through the Rotary Rombo project.

Other compelling speakers were Sonia Jacobs and Peter Pringle who were wrongfully convicted of murder and sentenced to death in quite separate incidents. They recounted the story of their incarceration, their strategies for keeping sane and the fight to clear their names. On their respective releases they devoted themselves to healing and peace and reconciliation. They now work together promoting human rights, opposing injustice and opposing the death penalty.

Another very successful feature of conference was an open

forum on 'Ethics in Business and the Professions'.

As always, those who attended enjoyed the event but especially the opportunity for fellowship and fun.

New Member

In September President Judith welcomed Rotarian Derek Coles to the Club. Rotarian Derek is no stranger to Rotary having been a member of Belfast Fortwilliam since 1998, a Past President, Paul Harris Fellow and Youth Leadership Development Officer at District level.



U3A – University of the Third Age

The Rotary Club of Carrickfergus is facilitating a meeting in the Coast Road Hotel on Wednesday 10th February at 2.00 pm to gauge interest in establishing a branch of U3A in the East Antrim area. All interested parties are invited to attend.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A provides educational, creative and leisure opportunities for those who are no longer in full time employment.

U3A groups can include such interests as book groups, gardening, walking, art appreciation etc. The field is wide and is determined by the interests of the members. To find out more about U3A see their website at www.u3a.org.uk.

Youth Leadership Area Final

Carrickfergus Rotary Club President Michael McCune welcomed competitors, their teachers and Rotarians from the Rotary Clubs of Antrim, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Belfast Fortwilliam, Carrickfergus, Coleraine, Larne and Limavady.

The judges were Laura Garland (Belfast Rotoract Club), Kelli Bagchus (Carrickfergus Enterprise) and Jack Creighton (Carrickfergus Chamber of Commerce and Trade).



Laura Garland, Chairman of the judges, in congratulating all the participants, commented on the tough task for the judges in selecting just three finalists from such a strong field of

high calibre candidates. The three finalists chosen were Tuesday Howe (Ulidia Integrated College) representing the Rotary Club of Carrickfergus, Samuel Tweed (Larne Grammar school) representing the Rotary Club of Larne and Chris Colwell (Belfast High School) representing the Rotary Club of Newtownabbey.

Carrickfergus Rotarian Jim Dunlop organiser of the area final, thanked the judges congratulated all those who had taken part and wished the three winners an enjoyable and productive experience when they take part in the personal development programme and travel to Strasbourg in February.

Tree of Hope



The Rotary Club Tree of Hope sited at Tesco's store in the run up to Christmas raised a magnificent £21,000 for Children's Hospice and for Action Cancer.



In the case of Action Cancer the focus will be on support for breast cancer and prostate cancer, the two most common cancers affecting women and men.

The Rotary Club members are grateful for the support of Tesco shoppers, the Tesco store management, the volunteers from Carrickfergus Inner Wheel, Carrickfergus Ladies' Probus Club, Carrickfergus Men's Probus Club, Carrickfergus branch of Action Cancer, Carrickfergus Children's Hospice group and members of the community who joined them to man the tree and collect.

The initiative was the brainchild of Rotarian Sam Crowe



who masterminded the organisation of the whole event. Our thanks and congratulations go to Sam for a tremendously worthwhile and successful effort.

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

