

CHAPTER 1

THE CLUB FORMATION

The first tentative steps towards the formation of the Rotary Club of Peterhead were taken on 29th September, 1958. On this day a meeting took place between Mr William A. MacDonald, the then manager of the TSB bank in Queen Street, Peterhead, and two members of the Rotary Club of Fraserburgh, Mr James Shepherd and Mr William Crawford.

Mr MacDonald had been asked by Mr Crawford to carry out a survey of local business colleagues with a view to setting up a Rotary Club in Peterhead.

During the next twelve months , regular meetings took place between Mr MacDonald and Mr Crawford, culminating in the first meeting of prospective Rotary Club members taking place in the café of the then Regal Cinema in Peterhead. This meeting took place on 6th October, 1959.

Those present were:-

Rev Dr WJ Morris	Church of Scotland minister
Mr L Gordon	Cabinetmaker.
Mr I Roberts	Chartered Accountant.
Mr J M M Smith	Solicitor
Mr J G Smith	Grocer

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

Mr H. K. Allan	Registrar.
Mr S Reid	Draper.
Dr J N C Clark	Rector Education.
Mr W. A. MacDonald	Trustee Savings Bank.
Provost R. Forman	Provost of Peterhead.

The meeting was chaired by Mr W Crawford from the Rotary Club of Fraserburgh. Mr Crawford was assisted by the Provost of Fraserburgh, Mr M. Robertson, who was also the President of the Rotary Club of Fraserburgh.

At the meeting, Mr Crawford and Provost Robertson explained the general principles and practices of Rotary, after which a lively discussion took place. It was agreed that a further meeting would take place, at which the District Extension Officer, Mr Gavin Reekie would attend.

This meeting was held on 27th October 1959. At this meeting, it was agreed that a Rotary Club in Peterhead was a necessity. A provisional formation committee was formed and the first luncheon meeting was scheduled for the Palace Hotel, Peterhead on Monday, 9th November, 1959.

The first luncheon in the Palace Hotel took place as planned. The notes from the meeting state that the meal was of a very high standard, and that the catering arrangements were highly satisfactory, although it was thought that the proprietor of the Hotel should be approached to try and lower the 6 shillings 30p today's price on regular luncheons.

During the period between November 1959 and 11th January 1960, recruitment of proposed Rotary members continued. At the meeting on 11th January 1960, there were 25 attendees with 3 people giving apologies for absence.

Also present were Mr J L Clark and Mr W Lawrie from the Rotary District Council and Mr W Crawford of the Rotary Club of Fraserburgh who presided.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

At this meeting, the interim office bearers were elected as follows:-

Interim President	Dr. J N C Clark
Interim Senior Vice	Rev W J Morris
Interim Junior Vice President	Mr A Reid
Interim Hon. Secretary	Mr H K Allan
Interim Hon. Treasurer	Mr H P Halkett

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr D Mackenzie
Mr I F Roberts
Mr R H Ballantyne
Mr A Craig
Mr W A MacDonald
Mr J M M Smith

The Interim President announced that in accordance with Rotary Bye-laws, the minimum entrance fee payable by founder members would be £3.13s 6d, and the annual subscription would also be £3.13s 6d.

It was also agreed that a date be set for the inaugural dinner for the Rotary Club of Peterhead, and that it would be held in the Palace Hotel, Peterhead, on Friday 19th February at 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

The actual inaugural meeting and dinner took place in the Palace Hotel on 11th March 1960. The original date of 19th February had to be cancelled due to severely inclement weather conditions.

A company of 85 sat down to dinner composed as follows:-

Officials of District 101

Mr J. Downie Campbell J.P. Chairman

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

Mr R. W. W. G. Burns	Vice Chairman
Mr D. L. Cooper	Treasurer
Mr J. L. H. Scott	International
Mr G. H. Reekie	Extension Officer
Mr J. Lawrie	Secretary
Mr A. Hyland	Community

Rotary Clubs representation

Aberdeen	4 members
Anstruther	3 members
Banff	5 members
Brechin	1 member
Carnoustie	2 members
Cupar	3 members
Fraserburgh	14 members
Huntly	2 members
Inverurie	7 members
Keith	2 members
Kirkcaldy	2 members
St. Andrews	2 members
Stonehaven	3 members.

The Rotary Club of Peterhead Founder Members

Mr W A MacDonald	Banking Savings
Dr W J Morris	Church of Scotland
Mr J M M Smith	General Law and Practice
Mr H Halkett	Banking: Commercial
Mr H K Allan	County Government
Dr J N C Clark	Education: Secondary
Mr J G Smith	Groceries Retailing
Mr S G Reid	Drapery: Retailing
Mr I F Roberts	Accountancy Services
Mr R Gordon	Furniture Retailing
Mr W Allan	Radio Engineering

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

Mr T Murison	Hardware Retailing
Mr J Garden	Farming: General
Mr C Cuthbert	Baking: Retailing
Mr D McKenzie	Public safety
Mr R H Ballantyne	Insurance
Mr J L Clark	Dentistry
Mr A Reid	Fuel Oil Distribution
Mr G C Wilson	Road Haulage
Mr A N Macleod	Excavating Equipment
Mr W Lawrie	Fruit Retailing
Mr J Skene	Fish Curing
Mr J H Will	Riding Instructor
Mr E Duncan	Pharmacy / Chemist
Mr A Craig	Local Government
Mr I D M ^{ac} Rae	Automobile Retailing
Provost R Forman	Fishing
Dr G C Taylor	Medical Practice

The Dinner Menu

Fruit Juice

Cream of Mushroom Soup
or
Clear Oxtail Soup

Fillet of Sole Bonne Femme

Roast Stuffed Chicken
or
Cold Gammon and Ox Tongue

Brussels Sprouts: Buttered Carrots: Potatoes

Compote of Fruit with Cream
or
Cheese and Biscuits

Coffee

Unfortunately there is no record of the cost of the meal.

Sixteen telegrams and letters of congratulation were read to the gathering from other Rotary Clubs in District 101.

The meeting to present the Charter to the Interim Rotary Club of Peterhead was held in the Palace Hotel on Friday, 7th October 1960.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

A Company of 89 sat down to dinner comprising as follows:-

Guest of Honour

Rev. David Dick Past President R.I.B.I.

Officials of District 101

Mr. E. M. MacClelland	Chairman
Rev. W. G. Burns	Senior Vice Chairman
Mr. A. H. Hylands	Vice Chairman
Mr G. R. Reekie	Extension Officer
Mr J. L. Hunter Scott	Chairman / International
Mr J Downie Campbell JP	Immediate Past District Chair

Rotary Clubs Representatives

Aberdeen	3 members
Anstruther	2 members
Banff	4 members
Buckie	9 members
Fraserburgh	14 members
Glasgow	2 members
Inverurie	5 members
Keith	2 members
Montrose	4 members
Prestwick	1 member
St. Andrews	3 members
Stonehaven	4 members
Stornoway	2 members

Rotary Club of Peterhead's 27 Founder members

The proceedings were presided over by Mr. E. M. MacClelland, assisted by Mr. G. R. Reekie

The Charter was handed over to the first President of the Rotary Club of Peterhead, Dr. J. N. C. Clark, by Past President of

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

R.I.B.I., Rev. David Dick.

The present of a lectern which is still in use today, was given by the Rotary Club of Fraserburgh.

Seventeen telegrams and letters of congratulations received from other Rotary Clubs were read out to the gathering.

So at last the Rotary Club of Peterhead was now officially recognised.

PAST PRESIDENTS

1960 / 1961	Dr. J. N. C. Clark
1961 / 1962	Dr. J. N. C. Clark
1962 / 1963	Rev. Dr. W. J. Morris
1963 / 1964	W. A. MacDonald
1964 / 1965	T. J. Smith
1965 / 1966	J. L. Clark
1966 / 1967	J. A. P. Ross
1967 / 1968	T. Murison
1968 / 1969	I. Watt
1969 / 1970	H. P. Halkett
1970 / 1971	J. Skene
1971 / 1972	H. Hill
1972 / 1973	J. Geddes
1973 / 1974	F. W. Jack
1974 / 1975	J. Greig
1975 / 1976	T. S. Buchan
1976 / 1977	J. M. M. Smith
1977 / 1978	R. F. Bruce
1978 / 1979	J. W. Stevenson
1979 / 1980	N. M. Godsman
1980 / 1981	D. Harris
1981 / 1982	W. D. Adam
1982 / 1983	T. Murison
1983 / 1984	J. Will
1984 / 1985	D. Mackinnon
1985 / 1986	I. B. Robertson
1986 / 1987	A. Mitchell

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

1987 / 1988	D. Forbes
1988 / 1989	P. Walker
1989 / 1990	D. Bodger
1990 / 1991	D. McGillivray
1991 / 1992	J. Brown
1992 / 1993	G. M. Hay
1993 / 1994	S. Gordon
1994 / 1995	J. L. Taylor
1995 / 1996	C. Watt
1996 / 1997	G. Western
1997 / 1998	R. Antczak
1998 / 1999	I. Burnett
1999 / 2000	B. Milton
2000 / 2001	J. Buchan
2001 / 2002	R. Paton
2002 / 2003	L. J. Townsend
2003 / 2004	D. A. Low
2004 / 2005	J. Tozer
2005 / 2006	J. Hill
2006 / 2007	J. Hill
2007 / 2008	P. Mundie
2008 / 2009	I. B. Robertson
2009 / 2010	M. G. Pearce

CHAPTER 2

THE SWINGING SIXTIES!

The first ever meeting of the Rotary Club of Peterhead took place on May 9th, 1960 at the Palace Hotel.

The purpose of the meeting was to choose the chairmen of the various working committees of Rotary.

The interim President, Dr. J.N.C. Clark presided over the meeting, with help and guidance from the Rotary Extension Officer, Mr G. Reekie, Mr Crawford and Mr Rothney from Fraserburgh Rotary Club.

Sub committees

The first ever Chairmen elected were as follows:-

Club Service	The Rev W. J. Morris
Attendance and house	Mr D. Mackenzie
Classification of member	Mr H.P.Halkett
Programme	Mr I.F. Roberts
Publicity	Mr W.A.Macdonald
Sports and entertainment	Mr R.H.Ballantyne
Vocational service	Mr A. Craig
Community service	Mr M. A. Reid
International service	Mr J.M.M.Smith

At this meeting, the completed membership forms necessary for the application of the charter were handed to Mr Reekie, together with a cheque for £36.8s 0d, being the fee payable at the rate of £1.6s 0d for each member of the club.

The first annual general meeting of the Rotary Club of Peterhead took place on Monday, 22nd May 1961. The annual subscription for 1961 / 1962 was set at £3.3s 0d.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

The Rotary Plaque was erected at the front of the Palace Hotel. Half the cost of the supply and installation of the plaque was paid for by the proprietor of the Hotel, the contribution being £3:6s:3d.

During the formative years of the Peterhead Club, the main charitable outlets were all local.

These included:-

- Taking patients on outings from Peterhead Ugie Hospital and Maud Hospital.
- Purchasing chairs for Peterhead Ugie Hospital.
- Holding careers seminars at Peterhead Academy.
- Allocating money to Peterhead Coal Fund.
- Supplying gift parcels at Christmas and Easter, to Ugie and Maud hospitals, local pensioners and disadvantaged children.
- Concert parties to Maud and Ugie hospitals.
- Transporting blood donors to Ugie Hospital.
- Provision of TV sets to needy people.
- Assistance to Peterhead Scottish Week.
- Erection of sun shelter in Landale Road gardens.
- Showing films in Ugie and Maud hospitals.
- Supplying Red Cross lamps to old age pensioners.

Towards the latter end of the 1960s, the distribution of gift parcels became unmanageable, and the club changed their

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

approach by supplying gift vouchers for gas and electricity instead of the usual parcels.

Internationally, the Rotary Club of Peterhead made contact with various Rotary Clubs across the world.

One of the first projects was to collect books and magazines which were transported to South Africa and India.

A 16mm film of Peterhead and its workings was produced by the Rotary Club of Peterhead. This was sent to Grass Valley and Yuba Clubs in the USA. The film was sent to Sweden, and finally the film was sent to Fairfield Rotary Club in Australia. The film was never returned from Australia.

Other International charities which were assisted included the Sue Ryder appeal and Thailand School appeal, both spearheaded by R.I.B.I.

Towards the end of the sixties the Peterhead Club was approached by the Fairfield Club in Australia, that they would sponsor a family from Peterhead if they were emigrating to Australia.

The first family from Peterhead left for Australia in 1967 and the sponsorship proved to be a great success.

The main sources of income for the charities account and the Old and Lonely fund were as follows:-

- Annual afternoon tea party.
- Annual Rotarians Dinner / Dance.
- Additional monies from weekly lunches.
- Donations.

By the end of 1969 the numbers of Rotarians in the Peterhead Club stood at 40, with more new members in the pipeline, so

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

the 40 existing members had set the ground rules. During the first ten years the principles of Service, Goodwill and Understanding were sustained by the fellowship which Rotarians enjoy within the Club.

It should also be noted that the longest serving member of the Rotary Club of Peterhead is J A P Alan Ross who joined on 11th September 1961, just one year after the inauguration.

At the time of joining the Club, Alan was manager of the Euclid factory in Peterhead, responsible for making components for heavy earthmoving equipment.

During his tenure as International Service chairman, Alan was responsible for overseeing the production of the 16mm film of Peterhead, which was sent to Rotary Clubs in the USA, Sweden and Australia. Alan completed his year as President from July 1966 to June 1967.

Alan is still a very active member of the Peterhead Club, and is currently involved in R.Y.L.A. activities, and we all look forward to his talks about Robert Burns and his poetry.

CHAPTER 3

THE SUPER SEVENTIES

This decade was a period of considerable change throughout the United Kingdom, both socially and politically.

On 15th January 1971, decimal currency was introduced. This was followed on 1st April 1974 by the introduction of value added tax.

The introduction and decimalisation, and the imposition of value added tax caused high levels of inflation in the country with resultant social unrest because wages were not rising in line with inflation.

December 1973 saw the commencement of the building of the St Fergus Gas Terminal complex and also the commencement of building the Boddam Power Station.

With these major projects in progress, Peterhead was well shielded from the trials and tribulations being experienced in the central belt of Scotland and over the rest of the United Kingdom.

The Rotary Club of Peterhead continued to flourish, increasing its membership from 40 at the end of the sixties, to 46 by the end of the seventies.

The annual subscription in 1970 was £6.6s 0d. By 1979 this had risen to £12.50. The cost of the weekly luncheon in 1970 was 7s.6d and by 1979 this had risen to £1.70.

The Rotary Club continued to support all the local causes which had been nurtured during the 1960s. In addition, donations were

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

made to:-

- Y.M.C.A.
- The Peterhead Welfare Football League.
- Single parent families.
- Playgroups.
- Peterhead Christmas Tree lights.
- Purchase of a bench seat at Peterhead Harbour.
- Buchan Foundation for recovering alcoholics.
- Purchase of a rambler pavement vehicle for a disabled person in Peterhead.
- Buchan Contemporary Society.

Charity funds continued to be raised through the same sources as the 1960s, namely:-

- Annual Afternoon Tea Party.
- Annual Rotarians Dinner / Dance.
- Additional monies from weekly lunches.
- Donations.

An exception to the customary methods noted above took place in 1979, when Neil Godsman organised a ploughing match at Cairngall, Longside, on 1st December 1979.

Catering for the event was arranged by Ronnie Ferrari.

The magnificent sum of £3003 was raised, with the sum of £2400 donated to Oxfam and the remaining £603 distributed amongst local charities.

Neil Godsman is the second longest serving member of the Rotary Club of Peterhead, joining on 12th December 1971. He is still a very active member of the Club. He served as President in years 1979 /1980 and is currently chairman of the International Committee.

During the 1970s the Rotary Club of Peterhead became more involved in Rotary International.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

Besides continuing to support the charities recorded in the previous chapter, the Club donated to:-

- Emergency Aid Kits.
- Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind.
- Houses for Bangladesh.
- Leprosy in Africa.
- Medicaid.

Substantial donations were also made to:-

- R.S.P.C.C.
- RAF Buchan cycle sponsorship for UNICEF.
- Queen's Silver Jubilee Fund.
- Society for Cancer Research.
- Cancer Relief Grampian.
- Muscular Dystrophy.
- British Red Cross Society.

Moving into the 1980s, the Rotary Club of Peterhead continued to flourish and make an excellent contribution to the local community. This is in line with the spirit and ideal of Rotary.

CHAPTER 4

THE EASY EIGHTIES

During the 1980s significant changes to the Rotary International constitution were enacted. The main change invoked was the admission of women into Rotary.

The first historical note in the Rotary Club of Peterhead is referenced in February 1987, when Rotarians were asked for their views on allowing women to become members.

Further discussions took place throughout 1987, 1988 and 1989, with all Rotarians taking part in a democratic vote on the subject.

Correspondence from the Peterhead Club to R.I.B.I. national committee indicated that there was not general approval of the motion for the admission of women into Rotary.

In December 1989, a letter was received from R.I.B.I. indicating that women would be admitted into Rotary, but it would be well into the new millennium before the first female was enlisted into the Rotary Club of Peterhead.

The annual subscription charge in 1980 is recorded as £18.00. By 1989 this had increased to £30.00. The luncheon cost in 1980 was £1.70, and by 1989 this had increased to £2.70.

During the 1980s, there were various discussions centred on moving the weekly meetings from lunchtime to evenings. Many Rotarians were finding it increasingly difficult to leave their places of work at lunchtime, but the status quo was maintained.

Membership continued to maintain a fairly consistent level

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

during the 1980s. In 1980 membership peaked at 48, with 49 members in 1989. During the intervening years membership had stood at 55. There was a high turnover of members due to the exigencies of work commitments.

Overall, the Club continued to thrive and the working committees were very active in charitable projects. In 1980 the Club started a monthly newsletter “The Rotaria”, and this was produced throughout the 1980s.

In 1981 the Club celebrated the 21st year of its charter with a formal dinner at the Palace Hotel. To make the anniversary more memorable, a charitable fund called ‘Operation heartbeat’ was set up to raise funds to purchase equipment for various medical practices in the area. The object was to raise £5000 to purchase the equipment. Various fund raising activities took place. This, together with some generous donations meant that by early 1982 the funds were sufficient to purchase:

- 4 Mini-scopes with Charger
- 2 Defibrillators
- 1 Foetal heart detector
- 1 Sonic-aid

These were presented to doctors from Peterhead, Mintlaw, Crimond and Hatton.

At the start of 1980, a committee was formed to produce a pictorial record of Peterhead. The book was to be produced with the help of the Merchants Company of Edinburgh. After many trials and tribulations, the book was published in 1985.

2060 copies were published at a cost of £1.63 per book, and sold throughout shops in Peterhead and surrounds, bringing in a healthy sum of money for the charity account. Special mention should be made of the Rotarians who followed through with this project: George Brebner, Alistair Yule, Bill Adam, Frank Jack and John Geddes.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

During the 1980s there were many local charities supported by the Rotary Club of Peterhead. In conjunction with the Inner Wheel and the Peterhead Round Table, the Club continued the Christmas and Easter distribution of parcels to the old and lonely of Peterhead. There were also Christmas concert parties at Maud and Ugie Hospitals.

The Club also purchased 2 rambler invalid cars as well as battery operated wheelchairs. Vocationally, the Club took part in careers conventions and mock interviews at Peterhead Academy, as well as assisting with schools in conjunction with the young enterprise scheme in which Rotarians helped Peterhead Academy pupils form a company called “Truly B’zzared”.

They made and sold notebooks, Christmas crackers and wooden decorations. The Company was formed in 1988 and liquidated in April 1989, after a very successful and profitable run.

The Rotary also sponsored a Primary School Drama Festival in the Peterhead Theatre. Although this was supposed to become an annual event, this did not happen because of an ongoing industrial dispute with the teaching unions, who stopped teachers taking part in extra curriculum activities.

Throughout the 1980s the Rotary Club continued to have a member on the Scottish Week committee. Various activities were allocated to Rotary. The Club looked after the “Top o’ the Toon” quiz; the window spotting competition and provided marshals for the Saturday Parade.

The activities looked after by Rotary since 1960s were discontinued.

These were:

- The “Red Lamp” warning system for old people. With houses being modernised, the system became defunct, and this was discontinued in September 1981.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

- Provision of transport for people attending blood donor sessions discontinued in September 1986.
- The provision of Easter gifts to the elderly was incorporated into the Christmas gift scheme subsequently discontinued in April 1982.
- The showing of films to Maud and Ugie Hospitals was discontinued in 1982.
- In 1984 the Rotary Youth Leadership activity centre was opened. The first 2 applicants from Peterhead Academy attended at a cost of £140 per person. R.Y.L.A. is continuing and provides a good learning platform for leadership skills to be developed with young people.

Internationally, the Club became more active

- The purchase of and filling emergency boxes continued.
- There were projects undertaken to collect foreign coins and stamps which in turn were converted to money for the Royal Commonwealth for the Blind Eye Campaign in India, and for Save the Children Fund.
- A project to collect used spectacles was undertaken. The spectacles were sent to a Rotary Club in Edinburgh for onward transmission to Tanzania.
- Another project was collecting old tools which again were sent to Edinburgh for refurbishment before onward transmission to Third World Countries.
- Other projects included sending baby clothes to Ethiopia, and collecting and sending medical Textbooks to Tanzania.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

- The Club also took part in an International Group Study Exchange. A member of the Club went to District 704 in the USA.
- In November 1986, a committee was formed to commence raising funds for the Polio Plus campaign. Many millions of pounds have been raised by Rotary Clubs throughout the World in a concerted effort to eradicate Polio. The campaign should be completed by 2012.

The head of the committee in 1986 was Ian Robertson. Ian joined Rotary on 8th September 1980, and has twice served as President, in 1985/1986 and 2008/2009.

Ian is a very active member of Rotary and will be taking up the position of Secretary of the Club for 2010 / 2011. Our monthly magazine is produced and edited by Ian and Robbie Emslie. Robbie is another long serving member of Rotary, having joined on the December 1985.

In 1980 a celebration of Rotary's 75th anniversary, the 3H programme was introduced. 3H stands for HEALTH, HUNGER and HUMANITY.

It was from this programme that the major immunisation projects came into being, culminating in the idea for controlling polio and 5 other contagious diseases.

Since 1986 and up to the present, the Rotary Club of Peterhead has been a big supporter of this Rotary project.

CHAPTER 5

THE NEARLY NINETIES

The nineteen nineties were quite eventful for the Peterhead Club. There were many contentious issues within the Club including the entry of women into Rotary, and changing the weekly Rotary meeting from lunchtime to evenings. Although many debates were held, no resolutions to change happened. These two issues affected the Club. In 1990 there were 49 members but by the end of 1999, this had reduced to 38 members.

On February 5th, 1990, an extraordinary meeting of the Rotary Club of Peterhead took place. At that meeting it was decided to exclude women from the Club. No further discussions took place in the Club until 1997. There was a proposal to take another vote, but this was deferred until 1998. At this time the entry of women into Clubs across Great Britain and Ireland was well established, with 48 acting as President. In March 1998 another debate took place within the Club, with a secret ballot preceding. The result was announced at the Annual General Meeting on April 27th, 1998 as follows:

14	Votes for women members
16	Against women members
1	Abstention.

So it would not be until the millennium that the Rotary Club of Peterhead would change its constitution and allow women members.

From the mid-nineties onwards, discussions took place within the Club with reference to poor attendance and lack of fund raising activities. During 1995 and 1996, there were some

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

heated debates about the subject. Members complained that because of work commitments they were not now able to take time off to attend lunchtime meetings.

A vote for change was taken but by a small majority, it was agreed to maintain the status quo. Throughout the rest of the decade, the subject of luncheon or evening meetings continued without any resolution for change.

In 1993 the Rotary Club of Peterhead were approached to help set up a Probus Club for the area. The undertaking was given to Rotarian John Geddes to pursue this project. Throughout 1994 and into 1995 John and his team assisted with setting up the Club and the first meeting took place on 29th March 1995. On 23rd April 1995, the Rotary Club presented a chain of office to the Probus Club as a permanent reminder of their affiliation with Rotary.

One of the main fund raising objectives since the inauguration of the Rotary Club of Peterhead was to provide Christmas and Easter parcels for the old and lonely, as well as sending concert parties to the Maud and Ugie hospitals. With the changes to social services over the past 30 years, it was felt that this enterprise was no longer required.

It was decided in 1996 that Rotary would look for another project which would help the older population of Peterhead. The project chosen was the provision of a Day-care Centre for Peterhead. This would include the erection of a purpose built building to accommodate 20 sheltered houses. A feasibility study was undertaken and meetings held with Aberdeenshire Council and other interested parties. Meetings took place through 1996, 1997 and 1998. Eventually the formation of the Craigewan Trust took place and the Rotary Club of Peterhead withdrew from the project.

Interaction with Peterhead and Mintlaw Academies continued throughout the nineties. The Rotary Youth Leadership Activities, R.Y.L.A. was supported by the Club throughout the

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

decade with many of the pupils taking part, coming back to the Club and talking about their experiences at the activity centre.

The Club also helped with Young Enterprise Companies. Helping 5th and 6th year pupils form companies, manufacture and sell products, and at the end of the school year liquidate the companies.

The Club also assisted the schools with mock interviews, careers conventions and work experience. In 1992 a young engineers club was formed at Peterhead Academy. The Rotary Club was assisted by many of the town's businesses.

In September 1991, a Rotary Interact Club was set up in Peterhead Academy by Ian Robertson. Initially 16 members were recruited and various fund raising events were completed, but exams and school holidays disrupted the continuity of the Club, and in February 1993 it was decided to close Interact down.

Areas of activity which have continued through the decade have included the organisation of a yearly tea party for old people which is held at the Peterhead Mission for Deep Sea Fishermen, where up to 100 old people have been entertained.

The supply of places for old people to have a caravan holiday at Fochabers continued. The costs are covered for three deserving couples to have a week's holiday in the summertime.

Two major projects which commenced during the nineties were Peterhead Harbour Open Day, run by the Peterhead Deep Sea Mission and assisted by The Rotary Club of Peterhead and the Aberdeenshire Life Education Centre (A.L.E.C.), which is a mobile classroom which visits all Primary Schools in Aberdeenshire to provide life education. A.L.E.C. is supported by a number of North East Rotary Clubs.

The Harbour open day started in 1995, when a letter requesting assistance was received from the Royal Mission for Deep Sea

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

Fishermen. Since the first Open Day, the Club have manned the entry gates and also looked after the barbecue at a busy event. Since the inception of A.L.E.C. in 1997, Rotarian Bob Antczak has been the Club's representative on the committee. Peterhead, along with many other Rotary Clubs in Aberdeenshire, have been responsible for the fantastic success of this project. Due to very intense fundraising, the first unit and educator was ready for action by the start of the millennium. The scheme has gone on to even further success; two units are now operating throughout Aberdeenshire, with a third in the pipeline.

During this decade the Club kept up its participation with the Scottish Week committee until 1995; organising the "Top o the Toon" event. After 1995, the Club had not taken part in any other Peterhead Scottish Week events. In 1997 the Scottish Week committee asked Rotary to take over the running of the Trades Fair, but this was turned down by the members.

Internationally there was little activity as far as fund raising was concerned.

Donations were made to:

- Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind.
- Books were sent to the Ranfurly Library in India.
- Rotary International African Vision.
- Rotary District appeal for Somalia 1992.
- Aqua Boxes were purchased and filled.
- Emergency Boxes were purchased and filled.
- 1400 pairs of spectacles were collected and sent to the Pencuik Club for grading by Edinburgh prisoners prior to being sent to Tanzania.
- Shoebox appeal.
- In 1998 a collection of tools took place for onwards transmission to Ghana.
- Donation to assist Bangladesh families.
- Saving sight in Africa.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

Peterhead Rotary Club also took part in some Group Study Exchanges.

In 1991, Japanese students visited Peterhead and were entertained to a fish barbecue which turned out to be a spectacular success. In 1994, Gordon Hay led a group study exchange from District 1010 to New York.

In 1996 a Danish choir of 40 people visited Peterhead and gave a concert in Peterhead Old Parish Church. The choir were sponsored by Rotary District 1010 and were in Peterhead for 2 days.

In 1998 the Rotary Club of Peterhead paid a visit to Aalesund in Norway. Eighteen members made the trip. A return visit from Aalesund Rotary took place in 1999. Twenty people attended.

During the nineties there were many innovative charity initiatives to raise money for local, International and Foundation charities.

Besides the Annual Ladies Nights, Peat Sales, 100 Club Prize Draw, Cheese and Wine Parties, the following charity fund raising functions took place:-

- 1990: Fiddle concert and raffle.
- 1991: Antiques Road show.
- 1991: Ideal Home Exhibition.
- 1992: Concert by Banchory / Strathspey and Reel Society.
- 1992: Holiday/Leisure/Fashion extravaganza.
- 1992: Silent Auction.
- 1992: Rotary Team challenge.
- 1992: Scotland the What concert.
- 1993: Rotary treasure hunt.
- 1993: Motor Show.
- 1994: Slim or swim project.
- 1994: Balloon Race.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

- 1995: Stress Wise evening.
- 1995: A day on the Farm.
- 1995: Drug Awareness Seminar.
- 1995: Four-wheel driving: Saplinbrae.
- 1996: Generation Game.
- 1996: 4 x 4 Classic Car Rally.
- 1997: Tree Planting Project.
- 1997: Car Boot Sales.
- 1997: Farm Roup at Cairngall, Longside.
- 1997: Barbecue.
- 1998: Country Ball.
- 1999: Trolley Dash.

The monies from the above events went mostly to local charities and Rotary Foundation. The charities are too numerous to mention.

In 1991 a Primary School painting competition was organised by the Rotary Club; the theme was 'Preserve Planet Earth'. The competition was a resounding success with over 3250 entries being received.

In 1990 the subscription for Rotary members stood at £30 with the cost of a meal at £2.70. In 1998 the subscription had increased to £70.

The Club moves into a new millennium, preparing to celebrate the 40th anniversary of its inauguration.

CHAPTER 6

THE NAUGHTIES

The new millennium dawned with the Rotary Club of Peterhead preparing to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of its inauguration. The 40th Charter Dinner was held on 7th October 2000, with founder members being present, namely Past President J.M.M. Smith., J. Skene and A. N. McLeod.

At the beginning of the year 2000, membership stood at 38, with the meetings being held on a Monday at lunchtime. Recruitment of new members has always been high on the agenda for the Club, but unfortunately the decline in membership has continued. At the end of year 2009, the Club has only 22 members.

The Rotary Club has considered many ways to try to improve recruitment. In January 2001, a motion was passed by 18 votes to 8, allowing the Club to become dual gender, although it was not until 19th January 2004 that the first ladies were inducted. They were Phyllis Mundie and Linda Bolger.

Although Linda has left the Club, she is still a Rotarian, and is a founder member of the recently formed Rotary Club of Central Buchan. Phyllis is still a very active member of the Club. Not only did she make history as our first lady member, she also made history by becoming our first Lady President in 2007 / 2008.

The move to dual membership has been beneficial in helping to keep our numbers up. There are currently four ladies in the Club: Past President Phyllis Mundie, incoming Senior Vice President Lynn Smith, incoming Junior Vice President Elaine Taylor, and the newest recruit to the Club in Lynne McIntyre, who was inducted in May, 2010.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

The Club also considered moving meeting times from lunchtime to evenings, and in March 2000 a motion was put before the Club to move meetings from lunchtime to evenings. A compromise resolution was passed on 18th April 2000, to hold evening meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month, starting in July. In May, 2007 a motion was presented and passed to move meetings from a Monday to Tuesday, and to have all evening meetings commencing at 6.00pm, this for a trial period of one year. There have been no further changes to meetings times.

In January 2000, District Extension officer Peter Tong attended the Club to solicit opinion on the formation of a second Rotary Club in Peterhead, with the proposal that this Club would meet on a Friday evening. It was decided that this matter would be discussed at the club's next business meeting on 18th April. The motion to allow a second Rotary Club in Peterhead was unanimously rejected, and District was informed.

However, in March 2008 the Rotary Club of Peterhead was approached by district officers to assist with the formation of a Club in West Buchan. Peterhead was to be the Mother Club and President Ian Robertson would be a mentor.

Ian continued to attend and assist the new Rotary Club during its formative months, including assisting with deliberations on a suitable name. R.I.B.I. originally rejected the chosen name but finally approved of the name of Central Buchan after some pressure was put on R.I.B.I. by the new members that this name was, in fact the district shown on Ordnance Survey maps!

Success followed, and this culminated in the inaugural Charter Dinner, held in the Waterside Inn, Peterhead, on 14th April 2009. The Rotary Club of Peterhead presented a Presidential Chain of Office to President Donald Taylor of the Rotary Club of Central Buchan to celebrate the inauguration. It was quite a proud day for Past President Ian Robertson to see the fruits of his labour, turned into a new Rotary Club.

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

In July 2000, a group of 13 Peterhead Rotarians visited Aalesund in Norway as guests of Rotary Clubs there. A return trip of Rotarians from Aalesund took place in May, 2003. During their visit, the Norwegian Clubs donated £300 to the Polio Eradication Fund being run by Rotary Foundation. In July 2008, the Rotary Club of Peterhead sponsored the Peterhead Academy school musicians on their visit to Aalesund.

In 2001, Past President James Brown proposed a project which allowed a disabled person to have the opportunity to board and sail on a ship. This was fully supported by the Club and on 29th April, the person sponsored boarded the vessel The Lord Nelson and sailed from Glasgow to Oban.

The venture was repeated in June 2002 when this time an able bodied person joined the ship “Tenacious” for the trip of a lifetime.

James Brown has been a member of the Rotary Club of Peterhead since 1st June 1985. During his working life he had an accident which resulted in the loss of his legs. Like the Second World War fighter pilot Douglas Bader, James has risen above his disability and has devoted his life to helping others.

In June 2003 a Rotary project to help limbless people in Jaipur, India, was launched. James decided that to raise funds he would complete a sponsored walk up the mountain of Bennachie. With the help of other Rotary members, he completed this fantastic feat and in the process raised over £2000.

Not satisfied with his fundraising activities, James decided he would deliver the funds in person to the Jaipur Limb Centre in person. So with a young lady on each arm to accompany him, he made his way to India and handed over a cheque for £3000.

In June 2004, James was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship in recognition of his wonderful contribution to the Rotary Club of Peterhead. James Brown is not the only Rotarian to have

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

received an award for meritorious service. In August 2006, at the grand old age of 96, the late Past President John Geddes was presented with a Paul Harris Fellowship for his services to Rotary. Past President John joined the Rotary Club of Peterhead on 29th December 1964. He became Club President in 1972 / 1973. He then joined the District Team and became District 1010 Governor in 1977 when the Rotary Club of Peterhead hosted the District Conference at Gleneagles in his honour.

During his period as District Governor, he was responsible for launching the R.I. project of Polio Plus. John passed away on 24th June 2008 at the grand old age of 98.

In November 2007 a Paul Harris Fellowship was awarded to Past President Alan Ross. As already mentioned elsewhere, Alan is the longest serving member of the Rotary Club of Peterhead having joined on 11th July 1961. The award is for Alan's long and meritorious service over the past 49 years.

Past President Neil Godsman was awarded a Presidential Citation in August 2007. Neil has been responsible for many fund raising activities. As Chairman of the Clubs International Committee, he has organised the Vintage Tractor Ploughing matches and the subsequent evenings' entertainment. Those activities have raised many thousands of pounds for Rotary charities.

The Aberdeenshire Life Education Centre A.L.E.C. has been a major success for Rotary Clubs in 1010 throughout the first ten years of the new millennium. Since the purchase of the first unit in 1999, a second unit has been bought and wheels are in motion to purchase a third unit. In 2004 the project was taken over by Aberdeenshire Council who have recognised the importance of this education tool.

Funds are still being raised by Rotary and the interests of our Rotary Club are looked after by Past President Bob Antczak, who has been a member of the ALEC Trust since inception. When the third ALEC unit is on stream it will mean that each

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

Primary School will be visited annually instead of 18 months as at present.

Because of the reduction in Club numbers, some fund raising activities have been discontinued. In June 2000, the 100 Club was disbanded. The Ladies Night Social was stopped after March 2003.

On the positive side, the annual Senior Citizens Party continues, although the location has now changed. In April 2003, the venue was changed from the Deep Sea Mission premises to the Salvation Army Citadel.

Helping the Royal Mission for Deep Sea Fishermen to run their major fundraising Open Harbour Day continues. The sponsoring of caravan holidays at Fochabers for the old and lonely continues. The sponsoring of two school pupils to R. Y. L. A. camps has also been sustained through this decade.

The Stroke Awareness campaign has been continued throughout the decade, although over the last few years public interest has dwindled as local GP surgeries have become more proficient at carrying out regular patient screening.

Intermittently the Club has undertaken the Primary School Quiz. This has picked up towards the latter years and hopefully the Club will continue to support this worthwhile project.

Main areas of fundraising have been as follows:-

- Bag Packing at ASDA.
- Wine tasting nights.
- Silent auctions.
- Charity Balls.

In 2007 / 2008 / 2009, consecutive Vintage Tractor Ploughing Matches were arranged with the help of the Buchan Vintage Tractor Club, with follow-on evenings of Scottish Entertainment. These events, together with a major raffle, have

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

become the major fund raising activities.

In 2009, the Ploughing match and Meal an' Ale evening was sponsored by the Peterhead Burns Club. The funds raised amounted to a grand total of £9,900, with the main charity beneficiary, C.H.A.S. (Children's Hospices Association Scotland). Nominated by Peterhead Burns Club, they received £3300. The Vintage Tractor Club also received £3300 who disbursed the monies to local charities.

The remaining £3,300 was disbursed by the Rotary Club of Peterhead as follows:-

- £1,000 to Mercy Ships
- £1,000 to Elgin Rotary Clubs' Water in Nepal project.
- £1,000 to Leonard Cheshire fund in Africa.
- £ 300 to Peterhead hospital renal unit.

Other charities which have benefited from the fund raising activities of the Club include:-

- Sponsorship for Rotary Euro scholar
- Emergency Boxes Appeal
- Shelter Boxes Appeal.
- Shoeboxes appeal.
- Nepal Trust Fund.
- Chiplikizi Wa Yes Trust in Tanzania.
- A.L.E.C.

Donations to many local charities too numerous to mention here amounting to many thousands of pounds have been made.

So the first decade of the twenty-first century is drawing to a close. The Rotary Club of Peterhead is still in existence after 50 years of trials and tribulations! Who knows what the future of the Club will be.

Rotarians are justly proud of their reputation for service. This,

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

coupled with the Rotary tenets of freedom and democracy, will help the Club to survive and go forward through this next decade and beyond.

Since the inauguration of the Rotary Club of Peterhead, all meetings have been conducted at the Palace Hotel in Peterhead. So, not only is it a 50th anniversary for the Rotary Club, but also for our association with the Palace Hotel.

The Rotary Club of Peterhead would like to thank Mr Kenneth Watt and Mrs Margaret Watt, the current proprietors for being such benevolent hosts, and hope that there will be many more years of association.

The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- **FIRST.** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- **SECOND.** High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- **THIRD.** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- **FOURTH.** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PETERHEAD

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP 2010

J. ALAN P. ROSS	11/07/61
N. GODSMAN	12/12/70
R. ALLAN	25/01/70
A. MITCHELL	23/07/79
I. ROBERTSON	08/09/80
S. MACKINTOSH	14/06/82
J. BROWN	01/06/85
R. EMSLIE	16/12/85
R. ANTCZAK	01/06/86
I. BURNETT	20/01/87
A. RUSSELL	08/10/90
S. RENNIE	14/01/92
R. PATON	15/05/97
J. TOZER	26/10/98
D. LOW	29/05/00
P. MUNDIE	19/01/04
M. PEARCE	21/08/07
D. ROSIE	04/02/08
S. HERRIDGE	01/07/08
E. TAYLOR	24/03/09
L. SMITH	17/02/09
L. M ^c INTYRE	04/05/10

Fifty years of Rotary in Peterhead

This historical document has been one BIG project all on its own, and is worthy of mention. A far greater research of 50 years of The Rotary Club of Peterhead than even the author, current Club President Michael Pearce ever expected!

Having undertaken this task, and produced a wonderful gift to the Club, it is only right that an acknowledgement is made to accompany the publication.

Therefore, on behalf of the Club members, it is my pleasure to thank President Mike for his tireless and in no way an expression of effort, having seen the exhausted gentleman frequently at work, only realising the extent of the history of this super Rotary Club at finishing point.

Mike, you've done a wonderful job, may I thank you so much for all your sweat and perhaps a tear or two.

Rotarian Ian Robertson.
Senior computer keyboard operator.

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