

WEEKLY BULLETIN 20

Lochaber Rotary

Wednesday 5 August 2020

Firstly, we extend our best wishes and congratulations to Past-President George Bruce and his wife Brenda on becoming great grandparents! ... We can't believe the youngster running around George and Brenda's local shop in Upper Achintore (remember when every community in town had a local shop??) is now a grandfather!

Club Council is meeting tonight and will discuss the prospects of re-starting our Alex-based meetings. Mike has been discussing arrangements with the Alex management and Club Council will need to balance this with the advice and "route map" produced by the Scottish Government.

This week's meeting is an evening get-together. We hope you can join us online. The joining details are set out in President Richard's email circulated earlier today.

..... **twelve Rotarians including District Governor Angela Samson and Assistant Governor Bob Thomlinson attended last week's online lunchtime meeting.**

Apologies were tendered by Flora, Robbie, Jenny, Ian N and Iain J. President Richard hosted and chaired the meeting. It was a lively forum and a good range of topics were raised and discussed including-

Duncan Gillies: Members were extremely sorry to hear that Past-President Duncan has resigned his membership, but appreciated his reasons. Secretary John has responded to Duncan saying that we are sorry to lose him as a Member and letting him know that he will be welcome to join us at any of our lunches in the future. Duncan's resignation will be discussed at Club Council tonight.

Return to the Alex: Mike reported that he had discussed this with Val and there are prospects of us returning on Wednesday 12 - with physical distancing, fewer people

around the table, orders taken at the table. Club Council will discuss this tonight and Secretary John will be in touch with everyone.

Abbeyfield Care Home: David T, who is vice-chair of the care home board, advised that it is still virus-free and that staff are being tested once weekly.

Great Knitted Christmas Tree: Sheana updated on this project.

It involves participants donating knitted and crocheted items to clad a metal framed Christmas tree to be displayed in a public place. After Christmas, the items would be gifted to charities.



Mike has designed a sectional metal frame that can be quickly assembled. A topical and innovative knitted product is the "twiddle muff" - see above.

Parade Sundial plot - Mike and Richard are looking for Club volunteers to hoe and weed the plot.

District Governor Angela enjoyed her virtual visit and said she was looking forward to visiting us in the Alex at an early date.

Red squirrel sightings - David M and Simon both reported visits from this rare endangered little species!

.... and we can expand upon George's news with his brief note below

Hi All,

The Bruce Family became Great Grandparents when our Great Granddaughter was born early on Monday morning. We are heading down to see her and parents next month - Funny having a son who is a Grandfather - it's making ne feel older than I think I am..

This lockdown has sped up the book that I was trying to write and its now ready to find a publisher any thoughts on this?

George

... and some gardening tasks and tips for August from Treasurer Donald-

GARDEN TASKS IN AUGUST

Generally

Keep grass cutting and trimming hedges

Keep watering, (although, with the weather we've had, it is mainly the greenhouses that require it)

Tidy up leaves which have fallen and pile them up to use later in the season for mulching

Keep all areas free from weeds and use all non-perennial weeds for composting

Now is the time to scarify lawns and repair damaged areas and re-seed
Deadhead dead flower to stimulate fresh growth
Now have a well-earned rest before doing more specific tasks and have a small libation
to fortify yourself

More specific tasks

Collect seeds from flowers and dry off for later sowing
Check roses, tomatoes etc for aphids and treat them
This is the time to divide bearded irises and also to plant or move strawberry plants
Cut back the fruit bearing branches of summer fruiting rasps and reduce old wood in
blackcurrant bushes by about a third
Harvest greenhouse crops- tomatoes, courgette, cucumber etc. And dig up potatoes as
and when required and peas and beans from the garden
Dig up onions and garlic when leaves turn brown and hang up to dry off before using
them
Harvest herbs and hang to dry or freeze them for later use
There is still time to sow basil and parsley, preferably indoors
There are probably more tasks that can be done, but I'm long overdue a refreshing
libation so must go now.

..... an amusing contribution from Press & Publicity Convener John-



Thanks John !

.... **Presidential Handovers 2011-12 and 2012-13**

