



# The Miner's Lamp

Bringing the Light of Service to the Community and the World Through Rotary

25 March 2008



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## March is Rotary Literacy Month

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***Literacy and numeracy are key to the education of children and adults. Rotary has long had a policy of promoting these programs to free people from the poverty of ignorance around the world . The love of reading is the best gift we can give a child.***

## Our Member of Parliament

Our guest speaker last week was Catherine Bell, Member of Parliament for Vancouver Island North. Catherine began her remarks by congratulating our club on the work we have done in the local and wider community.

The main thrust of Catherine's talk dealt with Canada's contribution to the need on the world stage or what we have always called "Foreign Aid". She stated that Canadians want to build a world that is just, compassionate and peaceful. Canadians want our country to provide a leadership role to ensure that human rights are respected and that the needs and well being of people are foremost in our priorities as a country. She also suggested that we want to bridge the growing gap between the rich and the

poor in our world. Peace and stability are important to all of us both at home and around the world. The percentage of our gross national income that we dedicate to foreign aid has varied over the years and is currently 0.33% or around \$5 Billion. Our MP's position is that Canada has the resources to do better and should. We once ranked in the top five countries as providers of foreign aid. We have fallen to number 55 in the world in global peacekeeping and 28th in cutting greenhouses gases. Our reputation has diminished in the eyes of the world, according to Bell. Global poverty is a huge issue; about 3 Billion people live on less than \$2 per day, 800 Million people go to sleep hungry every night and most of them are children, 2% of the world's people own more than 1/2 of the world's wealth. She firmly believes that average Canadians want to change things and improve Canada's participation in helping others. A good presentation with lots of food for thought. Thank you, Catherine.

## Announcements—What's Happening in our Club—Please Read

- Jill Cornwell continues to be interested in suggestions for speakers: [jcornwell@shaw.ca](mailto:jcornwell@shaw.ca) She is also accepting donations of good books for the Cumberland Lodge Library we have helped establish.
- The Mexican GSE (Group Study Exchange) Team will visit our area. Leader- Dr. Natlio G. Solis age 44, male, internal medicine. Members: - Angel Isaac Diaz Goytortua, age 28, male, Mechanical engineer, Computer engineer. - Antonio Cantu Galvin, age 40, male, University Prof, Civil engineer - Christian Emilio Saldana Lopez, age 25, male, Computer engineer - Erika Rodriguez Garcia, age 25, female, University Administrator - Wendi Paola Alvarado Garcia, age 25, female, Coordinator.
- 12 Volunteers needed for traffic control during Lantern Festival evening of 29 March. Steve circulated a sign-up sheet. Show up at the Fire hall around 6:30—7:00 PM Send a note to Steve if you didn't sign up and want to: [thepoolguy@shaw.ca](mailto:thepoolguy@shaw.ca)
- Katimavik volunteers will once more do some work in the orchard on Sunday, 6 April. The Board approved another \$300 for the *A Day for Africa* project to thank the volunteers.
- Bill Armstrong indicated that the GSE Team from Mexico will arrive via train on Tuesday, 6 May. Potluck dinner at the Armstrong's that night. Billetting has been arranged at Bill and Rhonda's and Linda and Dave's homes. Various events are planned before they leave on Friday to Port Hardy. More to follow.
- Linda introduced Brad McKinnon, a member of the RCMP, whom she has proposed as a new member of our club. Brad's e-mail address is: [bmckinnon32@hotmail.com](mailto:bmckinnon32@hotmail.com) He'll be inducted at next week's meeting so why not send him a note and welcome him to our midst.
- Debbie Lemire will be our club's contact for Empire Days
- The District 5020 newsletter can be found at: <http://www.rotary5020.org/newsletter.pdf>
- District Conference in Parksville 29 May to 1 June. [www.rotary5020.org](http://www.rotary5020.org)
- Our 2008 Installation dinner will be on Tuesday, 24 June at the Kingfisher. Meal will be a barbecue. \$25 per person. See Dave Stevens for tickets and to reserve seats. [cvas4@shaw.ca](mailto:cvas4@shaw.ca)

**Speaker (25 March) John C—Tasting Wine**

**March Greeters: Liz Phillipson and Jill Cornwell**

**Greeters' Duties:** Arrive by 6:30 AM, set up room—hang banners, arrange flags, guest register, bell and gavel, name tag box, place sandwich board on sidewalk, greet everyone as people arrive and hand out badges, help with visitors' name tags and make-up cards. At end of meeting, return room to original condition by putting everything away—please don't leave the sandwich board on the sidewalk.

# Rotary Moment



## What Paul Harris Said

*"The grandest opportunity to serve humanity is directly before us.*

*Let us remember that it is always darkest just before dawn. These are the before daylight hours. Let us fervently hope that when the sun does rise it will usher in a day of unprecedented glory - the day of the brotherhood of man."* See the full article at:

<http://www.whatpaulharriswrote.org/library/conventions/1942toronto.htm>

As Paul Harris tells us, a world of goodwill and peace provides Rotarians with countless opportunities to serve. Paul Harris described himself in numerous articles as a Rotary ambassador of goodwill. During his many travels around the world, he would share his dream of a more peaceful world with everyone he met. Harris' optimism came from his love of his fellow mankind and his certain knowledge that Rotary will always remain an organization that looks forward and never dwells on past achievements.

It is no surprise that our Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson places so much emphasis on the power of the Rotary International Convention. It is the convention that brings Rotary ambassadors of goodwill from all over the world together in friendship and fellowship. It is a truly inspiring and motivating experience to discover the power of Rotary International.

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RGHF Chairman 2006/07

Rotary Club of Longniddry & District

District 1020

Scotland

## Attendance

16 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting last week. Visiting Rotarian: Chip Ross RC of Strathcona Sunrise. Guests: Simon Garstin, Brad McKinnon, and Catherine Bell, our guest speaker.

## March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays: 6 Ann Janssen, 22 Debbie Lemire, and 26 Kurt Nielsen

Anniversaries: 23 Ann and Wessel Janssen

Best wishes to all of you.



Alinda accepted a cheque for \$1500  
For the RC of Kakamega, Kenya

## Parting Shots

Two Cheque presentation to worthy causes. News releases have been sent so check Friday's papers and listen to the radio.



Steve gave Simon Garstin a cheque  
for \$500 to help with his expenses

## Board Clips—Deliberations of Our Elected Representatives

- “Welcome to Cumberland” signed project has received approval from the Village to proceed
- Funds from fines and happy bucks will be disbursed as deemed appropriate by the Board
- Linda proposed RCMP Cst Brad McKinnon as a new member. Approved by the Board
- Janey Armstrong of Cumberland Elementary has requested financial assistance for community school programs. Linda will research and report details.
- Approval to reimburse Village \$200 for tipping fees paid following orchard clean up on 1 March
- Ann Janssen has requested a leave of absence from the club. Approved.
- Approval given to provide \$500 to mountain biker Simon Garstin to help with his competition costs.
- Club attendance was 91% in January—1st in Area One and 2nd in District 5020
- Approval was given to provide A Day for Africa project an additional \$300
- Perseverance Creek bridge project delayed by local government officials
- David Stevens will follow up on installation of defibrillators in the Valley
- Anderton Therapeutic gardens has requested support to obtain a chipper. Cathe Egan will report.
- Linda proposed a change in meeting venue. She has discussed details with owner of the Gatehouse Bistro and Eatery on 3rd Street at Penrith Avenue. The Miner's Café has been sold and has only been open for our meetings in recent weeks. More to follow.
- President Keith would like to see us increase our membership by 10 net this year. We're 70% of way.