



# Monthly Newsletter

Website: [www.rotarygi.org](http://www.rotarygi.org)



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31st August 2013



## Lunch Speaker Mike Cowing gave a very interesting Power Point presentation on The Japanese Tsunami

Mike is a Chartered Environmental Scientist and a Chartered Waste Manager, specialising in environmental impact assessment, waste management, sanitation and the management of hazardous materials. His talk was about his mission to Japan last year, to look at the environmental issue related to the tsunami - and any possible lessons for St Lucia. Mike who has over 30 years experience is operating as a free-lance environmental consultant - with present client list including the UN, the World Bank and the EU. On 11th March 2011, a massive 9.0-magnitude earthquake triggered a monster tsunami that swelled to up to 65 feet in places. The wave devastated many of Japan's coastal towns, killing just over 19,000 people and unleashing the world's worst nuclear crisis in a quarter of a century. In Japan, residents are still recovering from the disaster. Radioactive water was recently discovered

leaking from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, which suffered a level 7 nuclear meltdown after the tsunami. Japan relies on nuclear power, and many of the country's nuclear reactors remain closed because of stricter seismic safety standards since the earthquake. Two years after the quake, about 300,000 people who lost their homes were still living in temporary housing, the Japanese government said. Scientists estimate roughly 1 1/2 million tons of Japanese tsunami debris is still floating in the Pacific Ocean. NOAA estimates the largest concentration of tsunami debris is floating between Hawaii and the west coast of the United States.



# Grow Well Junior Golf Camp



Golf and fun a great mix for youth Grow Well's junior golfers experienced hard work and fun at the second annual summer camp for youth in the community of Gros Islet. Conducted during the last week in July and the first week in August, this year's camp saw 20 youngsters ages 8 to 16 vying for top prizes on the on the course of the St. Lucia Prizes included, trophies, Each child received an 8GB manufacturer PNY. Their

driving range, the putting green and Lucia Golf Club at Cap Estate. new golf bags and golf club sets. flash drive, courtesy of US days started early. By 8am, they are at the Grow Well Centre, having found their way from communities throughout Gros Islet. The prestigious St. Lucia Golf Club courtesy bus transported them to the Golf Course and by 8:30 the training, practice and competitions began. Claire Nardoni, an owner of Cap Estate, sponsored this second annual junior camp. Mrs Nardoni recently returned to the island with her granddaughter Alyssa and three of Alyssa's secondary school friends from Chicago specifically to help run the camp.



# Grow Well Remedial Reading Project Summer Camp 2013



For the second year Grow Well has set out to help a new group of Gros Islet children who lag behind the literacy norm for their age group. As an introduction, a four week Summer Camp was held at the Gros Islet infants school so we could establish a rapport with them and to assess their level of literacy. With a group of enthusiastic young teachers and interested adult volunteers the camp set out to grab the participants' interest by providing an enjoyable programme of games and activities. Learning through play is a more efficient way of teaching children. The group was split into three 'Islands' – Saint Lucia, Grenada and Dominica, each member issued with a 'passport'. This gave an opportunity to learn something about these islands, whilst the adults could assess in small groups the various childrens' level and ability. The camp was led by Tobias Mastracola, a US Peace Corps member, whose vigour is important to the project. The whole programme, which is scheduled to last through the forthcoming school year, with three sessions per week, is dependant upon support from, amongst others, the Bank of St Lucia, Lucelec, Rotary Club of Gros Islet (Grow Well's main sponsor) and various friends of Grow Well. If this year's project is as successful as the 2012, we hope we can see an expansion into other parts of the Gros Islet district next year and, hopefully, throughout Saint Lucia in the future. LITERACY – THE KEY TO LEARNING!



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**The Rotary Club of Saint Lucia's 2013 summer camp** was successfully launched on Monday August 5, 2013. The 40 young campers arrived on Sunday afternoon and were welcomed by Rot. David and IPP Konrad together with members of the RSLPF they were issued mattresses and assigned camp style sleeping places before it was time to eat dinner. In a well organized ceremony President Doddy talked about the camp's goals and the challenges faced by our youth. Members of the RSLPF thanked Rotary for this initiative and financial Support. The camp was officially declared open by Commissioner of Police Francois who together with other senior members of the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force were present at the ceremony.



Strong people stand up for themselves, but the strongest people stand up for others.

**FOUR WAY TEST** of the things we think, say or do:  
 1. Is it the TRUTH?  
 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?  
 3. Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIPS?  
 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



**LUNCH MEETING 27th September** our speaker was PP Maria Thom. We had an interesting talk on the current situation for the tourism industry in St. Lucia. It seems things are much better than we had all imagined. Maria explained that the high end hotels/resorts we doing extremely well, and this summer there was an increase in business compared to last year. Our visiting guest was Brendan Lee.



**Wheelchair recycled** - We are still getting the odd request for wheelchairs, and it is sad when we have to say, sorry none left. However, just a quick message to double check with PP Konrad produced a wheelchair than was no longer required and returned. So within 24 hours another lady in her eighties was mobile again.



**Dahlia** celebrated her birthday on 24th August. We could have quite a shared party this month, with so many member having birthdays in September. **Judy 3rd, Matt 10th, Adrian & Ian** on the 25th, and **Angela** on 30th.

30th September Friday fellowship cancelled due to lack of support