



DISTRICT 7230 EMBRACE LETTER

Rotary International
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District Governor

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Embracing Hamilton Rotary

Birthday Accolades

Hamilton Rotary held a special 90th Birthday Celebration for Past President Owen Darrell at their lunch time meeting at The Royal Amateur Dinghy Club.

Hamilton Rotary Club celebrated the 90th birthday of one of its past presidents, Owen H Darrell who joined Hamilton Rotary in 1971 and was an active member for nearly four decades, and still a member today, but a "little" less active, serving as president from 1982 to 1983. PP Owen who turned 90 on March 16 was joined by his wife of 63 years and their daughter Joy and her husband Patrick Jones.

Vice President Greg Smith gave the club a little background on PP Owen. Born in 1921 at Pitt's Bay Road, Bermuda. PP Owen was named a Rhodes Scholar in 1940. He attended Oxford University in the UK, but his education was interrupted with five years' service in the Royal Navy during the Second World War. VP Greg noting that PP Owen also underwent training as a tank driver, which led AG Keith, who was born on Oxford, to ask if the damage done during the war was from the bombing or PP Owens tank training. PP Owen is the only Bermudian known to have served on the notoriously dangerous navy convoy that supplied the Soviet allies with war materials through Murmansk. In 2005 as recognition of his service, he was awarded a medal from Russia on the 60th anniversary of the war. PP Owen was also President of the Bermuda Historical Society in 1959. He has written on the life of Sir George Somers, and on the history of the Rotary Club in Bermuda. He has published flyers on the life of Sir George Somers and on signing them personally before they are presented to our guest speakers, assures them that one day they will be extremely valuable, worth at least \$100.

President Barrett rose to the occasion by issuing us all with song sheets and leading us on his coronet with, *Happy Birthday* (full version) and *It's a Long way to Tipperary*. As a club known for its "singing" both songs were sung with our usual "flair and gusto", much to the enjoyment of PP Owen.

PP Owen still as sharp and witty as we all remember him passed on these gems. "Never grow old, just stay young for as long as possible." "When you near the age of 90, it's time to make room for posterity," "Once you're past 90, it's high time" and finally "I have to live from day to day at my age and I'm enjoying it very much".

The meeting closed with many accolades, from President Barrett, Past Presidents and AG Keith, not one to miss an opportunity to speak, who thanked PP Owen for his years of memorable service to Rotary along with his good humour, and quoting the closing comments we all remember so well when PP Owen was called upon to thank a speaker. "I would like to present a motion to the club members to thank our speaker, which I have no doubt will be carried unanimously, and with a hearty round of applause.



Hamilton Rotary Club's Past President Owen Darrell celebrates his 90th birthday.

Rotary Clock

As Bermuda approaches the 400th Anniversary of colonization (July 2012) and after almost 90 years of Rotary Service in these Islands The Hamilton Rotary Club is collaborating with the other three clubs to raise on the city of Hamilton's waterfront a four faced clock.

This civic amenity will be funded entirely by donations, so that its cost will not impinge upon our social and development programs. With each illuminated face emblazoned with Rotary's gear wheel symbol this clock will serve to remind those local residents and visitors arriving from and departing for destinations to east and west of the significance of Rotary International in Bermuda. Not only will it reflect on the service inaugurated in 1924, but it will also indicate the promise of "Service Above Self" in the years to come.

In 1974 the Bermuda Post Office issued a set of stamps to commemorate 50 years of Rotary in Bermuda. In Bermuda's 400th year of settlement this clock will be another symbol of our Islands connections to the world of Rotary around us.



Embracing St. George's Rotary

Youth Development Raffle

The St. George's (Bermuda) Rotary Club will again be holding its annual Youth Development raffle from September to December.

This is a project to raise funds for youth activities. Students and their families from the participating schools and the Sea Cadets Association in the eastern end of Bermuda are encouraged to sell raffle tickets. The prizes are solicited by Rotarians from local merchants. 80 per cent of the proceeds raised by the raffle are donated to the schools and the Sea Cadets in proportion to the number of tickets sold by each participant. St. George's Rotary retains approximately 20 per cent. The draw for the prizes will take place in December followed by the donation of funds raised to the participants. The schools use their donation to improve the development of their students by assisting in financing overseas trips, additional books for their library, purchase of musical instruments and other needs. St.

George's Rotary uses their portion to cover expenses and to fund the Tom Davies Memorial Bursary and the sponsoring of a student for RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership). Last year the raffle raised over \$28,000.00

The Tom Davies Memorial Bursary is in remembrance of a past president of St. George's Rotary Club (1962/63) and Principal of St. George's Preparatory School, who passed away suddenly. Currently the bursary is worth \$3000.00 and is awarded to a student attending University or College outside of Bermuda.

The applicants must be Bermudian and have graduated from a school in Bermuda and have received no other grant or award.

This year 32 applications were received for the award. These applications were reduced to 4 possible candidates and the students have recently been interviewed by a team of Rotarians. The winner is Jasmine Cooke who is studying Graphic Art at the Winchester (UK) School of Art, in association with the London College of Fashion. The bursary will be forwarded to the school shortly to assist in her costs of tuition.

Other recent projects of the St. George's Rotary Club includes distribution of our funds raised during the past Rotary Year. These included \$2000.00 to the Rotary Polio Plus campaign, and \$1000.00 each to the following groups in Bermuda - Meals on Wheels (an organisation for distributing meals to elderly people), PALS (a support organisation for people suffering with cancer), the St. George's Sea Cadets (a youth organisation teaching students maritime skills), and The Salvation Army.



Embracing Bermuda Rotary Student Exchange



Bryson is with his mother Leslie Doers, grandmother Monica Doers, and his four-year-old brother Jamon Doers, who already acts like he too is an ace drummer.

The Bermuda clubs are proud to have supported the Student Exchange program for 30 years. During that time more than 400 students have either been sent abroad or hosted in the homes of local Rotarians.

Until the last couple of years we had been able to host eight students two per club. However, due to expenses and the difficulty of finding host families for the students we are now only able to support one per club. This year we will be hosting students from Belgium, Slovakia, Brazil and Ecuador. The four students from Bermuda will be experiencing life in Thailand, (2) Bolivia and Columbia.

Our student going to Thailand, Bryson Doers, was recently given a blessed send off from his Pastor and congregation of the AME Church Somerset. The pastor cited him as a fine committed young Christian and lauded him for freely giving of his talents to the church for the past five years. Bryson will be going from a population of 60,000 to a country with a very different language and culture of a nation of eight million people. In return the people Bryson comes into contact with will receive an excellent idea about Bermuda from this 17-year-old, a multi-talented recent graduate of CedarBridge Academy, where he was Deputy Head Boy. His ambition is to become a lawyer, and has already had a rather successful career in the music field. He is an accomplished drummer; having studied four years at Eddie Ming's Rhythm Lap; he studied violin under Tiffany Fox; Jarrid Robinson taught him piano; and he's a self-taught guitarist.

Embracing Pembroke Rotary

A Year in Review

Briefly, our year ended with a feeling of having achieved yet another period of great fellowship, partners moving in the same direction to help the less fortunate whether through disaster/ill health or other areas where living exists between the poverty line.

The Annual Children's Fair, which has been directed and produced by Pembroke Rotary Club for 20 years, is the main fund raiser each year. Year ending 2010/11 added \$80,000 to this project, totalling \$1,200,000 in support of Government aided Primary Schools, in their never ending need for funds. The children are prime movers in the scheme of earning money by selling raffle tickets to their school's credit. They enjoy every minute of salesmanship!

Donations to various organizations included, Rotary International, Polio Plus, Shelter Boxes, World Literacy Day, Foster Children of Bermuda, Caravan of Mercy and Meals on Wheels.

Other events for the year included a Dinner Auction which raised \$5000 and truly 'showed off' our talents as those who love to have fun.

Our Annual Christmas Party for the Special Persons was suc-



Santa entertained at the Pembroke Rotary's Christmas party.



Rotary Student Exchange



Adorable faces at the Pembroke Children's Fair (photos above and below).



cessful in bringing happiness galore with the presence of Santa, delightful food, gifts and the spirit of the Season.

Our Welcome to Rotary GSE Team was extended.....we had a wonderful fun time with this talented team from Italy, who also enjoyed the Bermuda sunshine and turning fun time from day into night and vice versa!

Along came our Exchange Student from Chile, Oscar Espinoza, who was a popular young man who displayed his talent on our tennis courts. In July of this year, we said our farewells, wishing him the best.

A presentation celebration for the Paul Harris Awards was made in May to 4 well known Bermuda recipients who have been very supported in our never ending strive to improve life for many.

Every October we welcome On-to-Bermuda Rotarians and their partners to become part of our daily lives and to exchange the news about our respective Rotary Clubs.

President Kevin Monkman's plans for 2011/12 is to continue our annual fundraising, along with supporting Bermuda charities. His international interest Feed My Lambs Ministry in Haiti is organized and labored by Bermudian Phillip Rego, currently finishing construction on an orphanage to house 60 children. Bermudian tradesmen travel to Haiti to assist along with providing building supplies. We hope to be fundraising for this project.