

23rd June 2004

REF:04-107

PRESSCALL NOTICE

EDINBURGH DENTIST TO LEAD ROTARY IN ITS CENTENNIAL YEAR CIVIC RECEPTION AND INAUGURATION CEREMONY June 26th 2004

Date/Time: Saturday June 26th 5.30pm

**Venue: The City of Edinburgh Council, City Chambers, High Street
Edinburgh EH1 1YJ**

PHOTOCALL OPPORTUNITY:

In-coming President of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland Gordon McNally will launch Rotary International's centennial year, and present the first Presidential Centennial Banner to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, The Rt Hon Lesley Hinds. On July 1st Gordon, aged 46, and a dentist from Edinburgh, will become the youngest leader of some 59,000 Rotarians who belong to 1,835 clubs in Great Britain and Ireland. Gordon is a member of the Rotary Club of South Queensferry. He will be joined at the photocall by David Buchanan Rotary District Governor Elect for South East Scotland, also from the Rotary Club of South Queensferry.

To arrange interviews and more information:

Contact Judith Diment Telephone 07860 162313 or Ricky Kerr 01506 847979 or email judithdiment@aol.com or ricky@rgk.co.uk

From July 1st for twelve months Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland celebrate a century of service to their communities. The first Rotary Club was founded by Paul Harris in Chicago, USA on 23rd February 1905. Ever since, Rotary's work has spanned the globe, with clubs in 166 countries and a membership of 1.2 million business men and women. In the Rotary Centenary year Rotarians around the world are encouraged to focus on three key goals for 2005: eradicating polio, increasing membership to 1.5 million members and supporting The Rotary Foundation, the world's largest private charity. To mark the centennial year 2004/2005 Rotary Clubs are encouraged to initiate Centennial Community Projects to benefit their communities and to demonstrate the remarkable scope and power of Rotary service.

Following the photocall at the City Chambers Gordon McNally will be hosting a Presidential Inauguration evening at Murrayfield. He will be announcing two new partnerships for the centennial year. Firstly, Rotary's Africa Hope in partnership with Hope and Homes for Children. This Rotary Centennial project is to help alleviate despair and deprivation for 5,000 children orphaned by AIDS or genocide in Rwanda and South Africa. Secondly a partnership with *Lifesavers* – The Royal Lifesaving Society UK to help save lives. This aims to raise public awareness of the issues surrounding cardiac arrest and the fact that many lives could be saved if those who suffer from a heart attack are given treatment early.

Notes to Editors

Rotary is an organisation of business and professional men and women who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. Paul Harris formed the world's first service club in Chicago on 23rd February 1905. The name Rotary is derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices. Today there are some 1.2 million Rotary club members of more than 30,000 clubs in 166 countries.

