

## Press Release 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2006

### Rotary President lifts top award



**Stevenage Grange Rotary Club was presented with three of seven prestigious annual awards, including Club of the Year 2005/6, at the Rotary District 1260 Induction Dinner last week.**

**The incoming President of the Club, Ray Turner (pictured right) receives the Cup, on behalf of the Grange from District Governor Meirion Morris.**

Commenting on the awards, Ray who lives in Clifton with his partner Jill, who has now has taken over the Club Presidency from Bryan Cornish said "The Community Service award rightly recognises the great work done by Brian Turner and his team during the year. To be accorded the best out of 54 excellent clubs in Herts, Beds & Bucks, as well as getting the Public Relations Trophy, rightly recognises the importance of the Club's national initiative to help save sight for millions in developing countries – called the Rotarians Ophthalmoscope Initiative or ROI."

The ROI enables members of the public, as well as Rotarians to donate just £25 to send a revolutionary lens free, pen sized ophthalmoscope to developing countries, via Sight Savers International and other eye-care charities. The Ophthalmoscope, called Optyse™ (pictured right) was invented by Dr Roger Armour of Hitchin. Already some 350 units have been sent to over 13 countries as far a field as Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Thailand, The Solomon Islands, South America & Pakistan.



Ray's team for the coming year include Immediate Past President, Bryan Cornish; Ist Vice-President Andrew Fraser; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Ted Coles; Community & Vocational Chairman, Brian Turner; Fundraising Chairman, Ted Bellingham; Youth Activities, David Stewart; They are supported by Treasurer, Ian Begg; Secretary, Steve Sypula & Dining Steward, Russell Ball.

The Club meets most Monday evenings at the Cromwell in Stevenage Old Town. For further details on how you can support the Saving Sight for Millions initiative, contact details or to find out more about what the Club does, why not dip into their web site [www.sgrc.org.uk](http://www.sgrc.org.uk)

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#### Note to Editors:

**Stevenage Grange Rotary Club** comprises people drawn from all walks of life. It meets at the Cromwell Hotel, High Street, Old Town, Stevenage on most Mondays at 19.45 for 20.00. The Club's President is Ray Turner, a Chartered Accountant with his Practise in Clifton. The Club celebrates its 20th Charter in 2007.

New members are always welcome. Please email the Secretary, Stephen Sypula, on [stephen@sgrc.org.uk](mailto:stephen@sgrc.org.uk) Details of our programme, activities & what the Club does can be found on the Club's website [www.sgrc.org.uk](http://www.sgrc.org.uk)