



Founded 1877

# LEICESTER CALEDONIAN SOCIETY BULLETIN

November / December 2011

## COMING SOON BOOK NOW

Details inside

St Andrew's day service  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2011

St Andrew's day lunch  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2011  
( **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL** )

Scottish Country Dance  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Burns Night Dinner  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2012

( **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL** )

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Mrs. V. Mackay (01530) 243770  
Mrs. M. Thorpe (0116) 2674707  
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Mr. C. Wilkinson (0116) 2419679  
Mrs. M. Yates (0116) 2730328

### **Honorary Piper**

Mr. B. Yates

# St Andrew's tide Celebrations

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

Members and friends are invited to join us  
at St Stephen's UR Church, De Montfort Street for

## **MORNING SERVICE**

At 11.00am

Kilts welcome

Followed by:

## **St Andrew's tide lunch**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2011

After the service we will enjoy a 3 course

## **CARVERY LUNCH**

12.30 for 1.00pm

At the **Mercure Leicester City Hotel**, Granby Street.

(Formerly The Ramada Jarvis Hotel)

Cost - £15.00 per person includes free parking  
and tea / coffee after lunch

**\*\* LUNCH BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL \*\***

to enable us to choose our first course in advance.

Names to Hugh Mackay (01530 243770)

or e-mail to [hugh.mackay@talkalk.net](mailto:hugh.mackay@talkalk.net) by 20<sup>th</sup> November 2011



## Date for your Diary

*The last Leicester Caledonian Quiz night was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, another date has been arranged which is 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The venue has still to be found but will appear in the next bulletin.*

*P. M. Moyce  
Convenor*



# Robert Burns World Federation Ltd

## Annual Conference, Peebles,

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Once again, my wife Valerie and I were the representatives of the Leicester Caledonian Society at this conference held at the Peebles Hydro hotel in the Scottish borders. There were about 250 delegates present, mostly from Scottish Burns clubs plus overseas visitors and a few that we recognised but none from the EMASS area. Quite a lot recognised us!!

We arrived a day early to explore the area and walked to Neidpath castle but could not get anywhere near it as heavy rain had partly washed away the road past it and the river Tweed was running very high.

The first evening of the meeting included an informal dinner and “home made” entertainment from some very competent delegates organised by past president, John Haining. The highlight was some beautiful singing by Leona Evans, winner of the Young Burnsian of the year competition in 2011.

At the AGM, on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September, we heard that the Federation had been through a turbulent year with the dismissal of last year’s Chief Executive and long term sickness of the other main staff member. They are currently looking at new ways of working including reorganisation of functions and how meetings are held. The former web master stood down and has not been replaced and the marketing / membership director has been ill. The Executive remained optimistic mainly as a result of the success of the schools programme and the fresh approach of the Heritage and Literary Conveners.

Jim Shields was elected President with Bob Stewart as Senior Vice President and a new face, Jane Brown (currently manager of the Globe Inn, Dumfries) as the Junior Vice President.

Our Society was publicly thanked for our efforts to secure the future and long term safety of the world’s oldest statue of Robert Burns in Camperdown, Victoria, Australia.

The Saturday afternoon seminar included a “tour de force” talk by past president, Angus Middleton and an interesting talk by Chris Rollie on “Burns in England” but was spoilt by an awful audio system.

The formal dinner on Saturday evening saw the installation of the new Presidential officers with due ceremony followed by an excellent meal. The evening concluded with dancing to the same band as in Aberdeen (“Shindig”) but they had turned the volume down this time.

Next year, the conference will be held at the Cairn Hotel, Harrogate, 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September 2012 which should be within easy reach of more southern delegates. Hope to see you there.



Hugh Mackay,  
Past President



Neidpath castle



# The Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, Alloway

After the Burns Federation Conference in Peebles, Val and I headed across country to Alloway to see the new Robert Burns Birthplace Museum (RBBM). This is a joint venture involving the National Trust for Scotland, the Scottish Government, the Heritage Lottery Fund, local councils and various charitable bodies.

It has erected an entirely new museum area which is of all wood construction with a sedum roof, ground source heating, local stonework and is intended to house the definitive collection of Burns memorabilia for public view and private study in ideal storage conditions. The display areas are aimed, at least in part, at the younger generation with “touch screen”



displays and audio tracks of Burns poems and songs. These can be a bit distracting while trying to read or view original material from the Burns cottage and elsewhere. ample parking.

The new museum is about 200 yards from the Burns monument, the “Auld Kirk” at Alloway and the Brig o’ Doon. There is a new, level paved walk-way – The Poet’s Path – leading to the original cottage about a quarter of a mile away. The cottage now contains replicas of the Burns family items currently shown as originals in the new museum.

It is certainly easier to get around the site now but dry weather helps (it poured on us) and the museum layout with audio may not be to everyone’s taste. If you get a chance and are up that way go and see for yourself. Then let us know what you think through the Bulletin.

Admission is free to National Trust and NTS members or £8.00 for adults if non-members.

The museum is open 10.00am to 5.30pm (or 5.00pm October to March ).

The post code for your Sat Nav is KA7 4PQ



Brig o’ Doon



Burns Cottage Now



Burns father’s grave,  
Kirk Alloway



Kirk Alloway

Hugh Mackay  
Past President



# Robert Burns Statue.

Camperdown, Victoria, Australia



The saga of this, the world's first and therefore the oldest statue of Robert Burns, formerly in the Camperdown botanic gardens since 1883 is coming to a successful conclusion thanks largely to the efforts of Mr Gordon Ashley from Victoria and our own Society.

The statue was carved in 1830 by an eminent Scottish sculptor John Greenshields and based on the first full length portrait of Burns by Peter Taylor in 1786. The hatted figure of the poet is seated with his dog, Luath beside him. The Taylor family migrated to Victoria in the 1850s and the statue followed to Camperdown in 1883 where it was sighted in what was to become the botanic gardens.

When it came to the wider public notice on Burns 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, it suffered considerable vandal damage and after pressure from Mr



Ashley was taken into safe storage.

We were involved in a Heritage Victoria hearing which decided the statue should be listed separately and in a public consultation which decided that the statue should be displayed inside the new civic centre after restoration.

The work is almost completed and the immediate Past President of the Federation visited Camperdown this summer and saw for himself the progress. Our Society was publicly thanked by him at the last Burns Federation conference for its support.

Hugh Mackay,  
Past president

**\*\*Photos published with permission of Glen Bernoth, Community Relations manager  
, Corangamite Shire Council, Victoria, Australia. \*\***



## Condolences

I am sorry to report the death of Mrs. Della Taylor, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2011. Della was a life member since 1948. She sang in the Societies choir and also went dancing at the Secular Hall. When Russell, her husband, died she donated a Trophy in his honour for the Dominoes Evening competitions. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends, and may they find comfort in each other.

Mrs P. M. Moyce  
Editor



# The John Clow Golf Cup

Five society members competed in this year's competition at "The Birstall Golf Club" on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011. They were the holder Tom Hendry, Peter Walker, John Stacey, Jim Seagriff & Andrew Kay.

The competition was played in glorious sunshine, over a well presented course – all the more remarkable following the gales of the previous two days. The winner, with 36 points, was Andrew Kay, second was Jim Seagriff on 33 points followed by John Stacey on 29 points.

The Golf trophy was presented to the society by Mr. John B. Clow, who was our president from 1960 to 1963.

The winners since then were as follows:-

1962 – D. S. Ralston	1963 – Dr. J. M. Anderson	1964 – J. M. Mckay
1965/6 – Dr. J. M. Anderson	1967 – F. F. Picken	1968 – D. S. Ralston
1969 – Dr. J. M. Anderson	1970 – G. L. Williams	1971 – J. Berthram
1972 – W. S. Maclean	1973 – J. W. D. Baxter	1974 – J. B. Clow
1975 -- J. Berthram	1977 – D. M. Macgregor	1979/80 – J. R. Gordan
1982 -- D. M. Macgregor	1983 – J. A. Blackhurst	1985/6 – G. A. Andrew
1987 -- J. W. D. Baxter	1988 -- J. A. Blackhurst	

(1989/2001 cup reallocated for annual long alley skittles, due to dwindling golfing members, and restored to golf in 2002)

2002 – D. Hunter Walker	2003 – J. Williamson	2004 – M. Hart
2005 – J. W. Seagriff	2006 – A. D. Kay	2007 – J. M. Stacey
2008/9 – J. Seditas	2010 – T. J. Hendry	2011 -- A. D. Kay

Mr. Andrew Kay  
Convenor



## Season's Greetings



As this is the last bulletin to be produced before Christmas, the President and all the committee members, wish you all A Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.



# The Leicester Caledonian Society & Birstall Golf Club

Present

## Burns Dinner

at

The Clubhouse, Station Road, Birstall.

on

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2012 (6.30pm for 7.00pm till late)

Guest of honour: The Lord Mayor of Leicester  
Councillor Robert Wann

Dress:- Black tie or Lounge suit – Kilts welcome. Ladies :- Something Tartan

### Dumfries Haggis, Tatters & Neeps

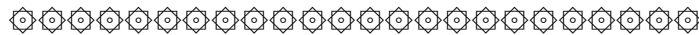
Washed down wi' usqueba and other drinks from the bar, Whisky sponsored by Glenfiddich.

We will dance and be entertained by Peter Scatterty and an array of speakers who will offer toasts to:- The City of Leicester, Birstall Golf Club, The Leicester Caledonian Society, The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns, The Lassies and the Lassies Reply.

Ticket price £16.50 may be obtained from:-

Mr. Andrew Kay, 21, Roman Road, Birstall, LE4 4BB, phone (0116) 2674707.

Cheques made payable to Leicester Caledonian Society should accompany the order with an S.A.E, please. As there is an upper limit of 110 guests, booking early to avoid disappointment is recommended :-- no later than January 9<sup>th</sup> 2012.



## Congratulations

These go to Mr. Glyn & Mrs Diane Hatfield on the birth of their first grandchild, born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011, a little girl Lilly Grace. To their Son and his wife Emma, the proud parents, May she bring Love and happiness to them and I am sure will be spoilt in a nice way.

P. M. Moyee  
Editor



## Sudoku Puzzle

4	1	8	3	7	9	5	6	2
5	2	3	8	4	6	1	9	7
9	6	7	1	5	2	4	8	3
1	7	5	9	3	8	2	4	6
6	8	2	5	1	4	7	3	9
3	4	9	2	6	7	8	5	1
7	9	1	6	8	5	3	2	4
2	5	4	7	9	3	6	1	8
8	3	6	4	2	1	9	7	5

*Here is the answer to  
the last puzzle.  
Try this next one, this  
could be classed as a  
little more difficult.*

1	8		5		2			
7	6							8
		3	1					
			4			2		
		9	8	2	3	5		
		1			9			
				7	3			
4							5	7
			2	5		1	9	



# *The Scottish Fiddle Orchestra*

*As mentioned in previous bulletins, the famous Scottish Fiddle Orchestra are performing at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham, on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012, the start time is 7.30pm. Doris our dance co-ordinator is willing to arrange a coach and supply tickets, would all members wishing to go please let her know, either by mail, phone or e-mail by the middle of November, so that the right size of coach and number of tickets can be ordered. The address is Mrs D Buchanan, 9, Alcester Drive, Leicester. LE5 6LB. The phone no. is (0116) 2415857, and the e-mail address is [doris.buchanan@virgin.net](mailto:doris.buchanan@virgin.net). The earlier it can be done then the better seating will be available. The last time this was organised it turned out to be a most memorable evening.*

*Mrs P. M. Moyce  
Editor*



## *The Leicester Caledonian Society*

*Are holding their*

### *NEW YEAR SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE*

*On*

*Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2012*

*At*

*St. Peter's Church Hall, Glenfield.*

*Music is to be provided by THE PHILL JONES DUO*

*Adults £8.50      Spectators £4.50*

### *BRING AND SHARE SUPPER*

*If you are going to attend please contact Doris Buchanan (her name & address are on the front of this bulletin)*

