

The Scots' Society of St Andrew

Slough, Windsor & District

(FOUNDED 1933)

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NEWSLETTER - October 2017

Dear Member

As I write, the clocks are about to go back and autumn is well on its way. So, it's time for the winter newsletter - with reports on the past and details of future events ...

RECENT EVENTS

Garden Party & BBQ, Sunday 23 July: A most successful occasion, thanks to the excellent hospitality from Joanna & Mike at Otley Cottage. The weather held fair, the food was delicious, and the ambience in the lovely garden - complete with suitable background music - was very pleasant and sociable.

Historic Walk, Wednesday 23 August: Alan Hoskins led a most interesting walk around Eton, revealing history and places of which many of us were quite unaware. Amazing!

Skittles Evening, Friday 15 September: A very happy atmosphere prevailed at the Greyhound, Eton Wick, as 32 members & friends, in 8 teams, bowled for prizes and for fun; a great start to our season.

Eating Out, Wednesday 27 September: On a Wednesday for the first time, this event proved just as popular and very enjoyable. The Fox & Pheasant, Bells Hill, provided a tasty varied menu.

Talk, Wednesday 11 October: Malcolm Nelson kept us spell-bound as he regaled us with well-narrated incidents and inside information from "Forty Years of Catching Smugglers at Heathrow".

Forthcoming Events

Discover the Promised Land, Wednesday 1st November: President Tony is in charge of this evening, providing information, interest, insight and tasty treats. £4 members, £5 non-members - do come!

Anniversary Celebration, Wednesday 22 November: A Platinum Wedding Anniversary seems like a good excuse for a party, so that's what we're doing:- 'street party tea', bubbly + lots of fun. £4/£5 as above.

St Andrew's Dinner & Dance, Saturday 25 November: The deadline for bookings has now passed! We anticipate that our flagship event, held at Maidenhead Golf Club, will once again be a very special evening.

St Andrew's Service, Sunday 26 November: Our annual service will be held, as always, at Trinity URC at 10.00am. We would be delighted to see you there, wearing something tartan if you can.

Christmas Party, Wednesday 13 December: Another party! Mulled wine this time and a tasty light supper, plus crackers and entertainment - our last social of 2017. £5 members, £6 non-members.

New Year Lunch, Saturday 6 January 2018: Our well-established New Year celebration begins at 12 noon, for lunch at 12.30, and ends at 4.00pm following 2 hours of entertainment and dancing. Jacky Williams Catering will again supply the hot meal so please choose from the selection below and send in your request form (attached) by Wednesday 13 December: £21.00 members, £23.50 non-members.

* Chicken & Stilton Roulade wrapped in bacon, in white wine sauce OR Steak and Vegetable Pie OR
Spinach and Mushroom Lasagne

* Lemon Cheesecake OR Raspberry Crème Brulee

We look forward to seeing you to welcome in the New Year with us.

Quiz Evening, Wednesday 17 January: By popular request we are having an evening to test the little grey cells, providing fun rather than pressure even though prizes will be at stake. There will be light refreshments and the price is expected to be £4 members, £5 non-members. Mark your new diary!

Burns' Supper & Ceilidh, Saturday 27 January: As always we shall have all the traditional ingredients:

Haggis supper (following the Address); Toast to the Immortal Memory; Toast to the Lassies; piper Bill Copland - who also recites Burns' poetry; dancing; singing; surprise item (still a surprise to the organisers at this moment in time !); and a well-stocked raffle. 6.15 for 6.45pm, NWCC, Hanover Way.

Tickets cost £26.50 for members and £29.50 for non-members. Please fill in the attached form and return it as directed to Una by Wednesday 10 January at the very latest.

Valentine Ceilidh, Wednesday 14 February: This is still on the drawing board as I write but, if past events are anything to go by, it will be an innovative and enjoyable evening for all. No doubt there will be interesting refreshments, too. 'Watch this space' for further details early next year.

It seems strange to be planning ceilidhs and entertainment without input from **Jean Porter** who always contributed with imagination and enthusiasm. Most of you who knew Jean will be aware that she died in August after several months of illness. As well as being 'performer extraordinaire' herself, she arranged visiting speakers for us and was Past President and Honorary Member. She had been a member of our Society for longer than any other present member and so it was very fitting that a large number of us attended her funeral in St Giles' Church, Stoke Poges. In her memory the Society has made a donation to the PDSA (People's Dispensary for Sick Animals) for which we have received a grateful acknowledgement.

Our talk on 11th October was the last one Jean had arranged and, typically, it was excellent.

Dancing: Peter Loveland will be teaching the Dance Class on the following dates:

8th + 15th November, 6th December; 10th + 24th January, 7th + 21st February.

We have welcomed some new members at the class this year and wish them - and you - Happy Dancing.

A great deal of work goes into preparing our events; we look forward to your support and enjoyment.

Carol Berry Hon. Secretary