

The Scots' Society of St Andrew

Slough, Windsor & District

(FOUNDED 1933)

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NEWSLETTER - April 2017

Dear Member

As always at this time of year, may I remind you of the **AGM: Wednesday 10th May at 8pm**, at our usual venue of Trinity URC Hall. Further details can be found at the end of the enclosed Secretary's Report. We would, naturally, like to see as many members as possible; it is important that you hear the reports, join in the discussions, vote in the elections and feel yourself to be an active member of our Society. Following the official business, wine and refreshments will be served to enable everyone to mingle and chat and put our Society and the world to rights.

Subscriptions 2017-18 become due at the AGM. The Treasurer requests that you pay by cheque if at all possible as this avoids the problem of lots of change and is much more secure for all concerned.

RECENT EVENTS

Welsh Evening, Wednesday 1st March (St David's Day): Who else to be the convenor but Tony Welsh? Tony, Welsh by name but not by birth, put together a very happy evening on the obvious theme. A small male voice choir (4 men actually, but very good!) performed a number of traditional songs, accompanied by a brilliant guest pianist. Tony interspersed the songs with readings and with historical and geographical information accompanied by slides and DVDs, including a clip from Ivor the Engine. There was a display table; the walls were decorated with flags and the tables with daffodils - a very appropriate setting. There were substantial refreshments: home-made leek & potato soup, Welsh cheeses (+ bread & Welsh butter), and home-made Bara Brith. Our cooks and bakers received many compliments. Thank you, Tony & Rowena, for a very pleasant non-Scottish evening, showing once again that our Society is very broad-minded!

Social, Wednesday 29th March: And next we had an English evening, courtesy of Datchet Border Morris Men and their musicians. They were colourful, they were loud, they were joyful - and great entertainment. Interesting explanations were given between each dance and the dancers, both young and old, performed with considerable energy and gusto. We were invited to join in one dance; the majority of us did so, with pleasing success! Our 'English' refreshments included Gala Pie Ploughman's Platter and DIY Eton Mess, which were much appreciated by both our members and our visitors.

Forthcoming Events

Talk, Wednesday 19th April: The return of Tony Eaton, who enthralled us with his talk on Glenn Miller, is eagerly awaited; he will explain more myths, this time about Rudolph Hess. Shared supper, remember.

Dance Class Party, Wednesday 17th May: Calling all dancers! Come and enjoy a selection of your favourite dances, with home-made cake to give you extra energy. Just £3.00 as usual.

Historic Reading Walk, Wednesday 28th June: Following the success of his Windsor Walk, Alan Hoskins will be leading a walk around Reading, revealing surprising and interesting places. Meet at St Mary's Church, St Mary's Butts, at 10.00am sharp for a walk of 2 hours or so, and then lunch if you wish. Places are limited, obviously, so book with Alan asap, + check the easy directions - 01753 861930.

Theatre Outing, Thursday 13th July: WEO will be performing Verdi's Masked Ball at the Farrer Theatre in Eton, 7.30pm. Book tickets at £18 (special price) from Fran Costello, 01753 867425. Our president and other familiar faces will be in the chorus.

Windsor Races: Which do you fancy - Cuban Night on Monday 17th July or Sausage Festival on Monday 7th August? Give your preference and book your 'special price': contact Richard Smart, 01628 673649.

Garden Party & BBQ, Sunday 23rd July: Once again we have been invited to Otley Cottage, Windsor Great Park, by Joanna and Mike Scott for our summer party, starting at 5.30pm. There is a lovely garden to explore before enjoying a tempting array of tasty food - meats from the BBQ, salads, home-made puddings, plus wine, juice and coffee. Directions will be available when you book.

Pre-booking is essential so please send your **name(s)**, **cheque** (payable to the "Scots' Society of St Andrew"), notice of any special **dietary requirements** and a **telephone/mobile** number, to Carol (contact details on page 1) by **Wednesday 5th July**. **Members £11, non-members £12.50.**

Ramble, Wednesday 23rd August: Alan Hoskins will be leading a local walk of about 2 hours. Meet at 10am promptly at the ramblers' car park near Boveney Lock, accessible from Eton Wick / Dorney. Lunch at a nearby pub? Booking is not necessary but it would be helpful to let Alan know - 01753 861930.

Skittles Evening, Friday 15th September: We shall be returning to the Greyhound at Eton Wick for the first social evening of the new season. As last year, we aim to complete 4 rounds of bowling with a refreshment interval when a pre-ordered choice of hot food will be served. The cost is likely to be £13 for members, £14.50 for non-members. Do put the date in your diary; more details in August.

DANCING

Peter Loveland takes the class on 26th April and 3rd May. He then takes a break until September.

Summer dancing dates: **7th, 21st June** **5th, 19th July** **2nd, 16th August**

Do come along to help maintain your fitness and to have fun!

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Meanwhile, we look forward to seeing you at the AGM, 8pm on Wednesday 10th May.

Please do not forget to use the nomination form; we always need 'new blood' on the Council.

Carol Berry