

Write of the Line

www.royalscotsclub.com

June 2014

A well-deserved Lunch!

On Monday 28 April, the Club held a lunch to honour the retiring Club Chairman, Craig Duncan.

Past and present Committee Members were there to celebrate Craig's 25 years on the Committee and his 6 years as Chairman, from 2006 to 2014. To thank Craig for his out-standing long service and support of the Club, he was presented with a RS piper statuette and plaque by incoming Chairman, John Lloyd. John praised Craig's leadership and promotion of the Club and thanked him profusely for handing the Club over in such good order.

And of course, the power behind the throne was not forgotten! Craig's wife Jean was presented with a lovely bouquet and one of the beautiful new Royal Scots Club silk scarves, as a big thank you for her loyal support of Craig and the Club for all these years.

Also present at the lunch was Chairman of Trustees, Brian Adair, who presented both Craig and Jean with Honorary Life memberships, which the Trustees had felt was appropriate and fully deserved.

John presenting Craig with the statuette, with Jean and Brian



We wish you well for your retirement Craig, but still expect to see you and Jean on a regular basis!

RSC Goods are Go!

The new Club merchandise is now on display and available to buy: our bespoke slippers, the ladies silk scarf, club umbrella, greetings cards & a print of the Club by well-known artist Kelly Stewart, and a Club mug. There is a price list inside the newsletter.

And not forgetting our original RS goods of cufflinks, braces, socks, watch straps, lapel badges, blazer badges and RSC silk ties, including bow ties.

These are ideal presents for members and friends. Please contact Janet if you would like an order form for the slippers and we will order them directly from Shipton & Heneage with your specifications.



Although the slippers may seem a little expensive, we are reliably informed that the list price for Regimental slippers on the Shipton & Heneage website is £395.00. Which makes £185.00 for a pair of RSC slippers a bargain!

Come see the Bands!

Beating the Retreat & The Edinburgh Military Tattoo

There are still a few places left for both these popular Club events.

Beating the Retreat, Sunday 8 June – a delicious lunch in the Club then over to Queen Street Gardens for Beating the Retreat performed by the Royal Scots Association Pipe Band.

Military Tattoo Evening, Thurs 31st July – have Supper at the Club and then make your way up to the Castle Esplanade for an evening of spectacle and celebration from around the World.

Tickets MUST be booked and paid for with a completed Booking Form. Further details inside.



Beating the Retreat in Queen Street Gardens

Ladies! Put the date in your diaries, **Wednesday 29th October 2014.**

The club is holding another Charity Fashion Show with Dinner

All the latest fashions for ALL ages – bring your friends for a fun night out

Details in September newsletter



From new chairman, John Lloyd

I am delighted to be your new chairman, taking over from the excellent Craig Duncan. We were able to thank him and his wife, Jean, for their years of service at a luncheon given on your behalf. Also included were the retiring members of the committee. Following election at the AGM we have a fresh new group of members willing to serve.



The Members' Committee has responsibility for all ideas concerning our programme and matters of interest to our membership (which currently stands at 2002). We are your representatives and I trust that you will feel free to speak with any of us about ideas or concerns that you have. I have included short biographies and photos of the committee, so that they can be recognised!

I promise that matters raised will be discussed in committee, the minutes of which will be posted a week after the meeting is held.

This is your newsletter and we are beginning a regular staff profile to enable you to know more about this happy band who serve us so faithfully and well.

In August the whole country will be beginning to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the Great War. Our Club was conceived and set up as a living memorial to the 12,000 Royal Scots who lost their lives in that ghastly conflict and it is with pride that we can join in with this commemoration. We are setting up a rolling programme of lectures, talks and events that will take up this theme for the coming four years.

On display at the Club you will now find the full range of Club goods. The mug will help wet your whistle, the broly will keep you dry, the picture will adorn your wall, the house shoes will impress all who come across them, the lady's scarf will complement the gent's tie and all will enable you to fly the Club flag and show your pride in membership. Buy now whilst stocks last!

I greatly look forward to meeting more of you over the coming months. Please say hello...

John Lloyd

johnlloyd@mediamatters.info

Chairman & Committee Members

John Lloyd Esq - chairman

A life member of the Club, John is a retired journalist, writer and teacher with homes in Edinburgh and Chippenham, Wiltshire. A widower, his three sons and their wives have produced between them six grandchildren. He is, amongst other things, a Burgess and Free Citizen of Edinburgh.

Lt Col Jim Blythe MBE – previously voted onto the Committee



Jim is a second generation member of the Club. Born and bred in Edinburgh he was commissioned into The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) in 1969. Having served at regimental duty and on the staff, he retired from the Army in 1992 and worked abroad before returning to join the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service. Now returned to his military roots, he serves in a civilian capacity at Regimental Headquarters The Royal Regiment of Scotland. He is also Chairman RS Association, Secretary RS Museum & Heritage and Chairman RS Benevolence Society. His wife Mhairi and son James are also Club members. When time permits, he supports Heriot's Rugby Club, walks in the Pentlands and skis.



Maj Jan McClean – previously voted onto the Committee

A trained physics teacher, Maj Jan McClean has been a member of the Territorial Army/Army Reserve all her adult life. She is currently working with Army Training Units (Scotland). She has been a member of the Club for over 15 years.



Mr David Salton – previously voted onto the Committee

David is a retired civil servant, who worked for HM Revenue and Customs for 40 years. He has been an active Club member for 10 years.



Ms Aline Ewan – new committee member

A member of the Club since February 2000, Aline lives in Edinburgh with her partner David Young who is also a Club member. She is vice-chair of the Development Board of the Women's Fund for Scotland. Most of her working life has been spent within banking (latterly managing a portfolio of private clients) and the third sector. Her last post within banking allowed her to combine both by managing the Charity of the Year Relationship for Scotland.



Sqn Ldr Graeme Lyall – new committee member

A Club member for 13 years Graeme lives with his wife, Linda in Edinburgh. His day job is as Senior Safety Consultant with Accenture PLC and in his part-time job he serves with the Royal Auxiliary Air Force. He retired, in the rank of Squadron Leader, as CO of No 602 (City of Glasgow) Squadron in 2012 and is still serving, nominally based at Air Command, High Wycombe. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Leadership and Management, a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health, a Member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology and a Member of the City and Guilds of London.



Mrs Anne Ewing – new committee member

Anne qualified as a nurse at Guy's Hospital, London, where she met her husband, David, also a Club member and now a retired medical doctor. They have two daughters and two grandchildren. Having retired from nursing, her last post was as deputy matron at Merchiston Castle School. She maintains her interest and expertise in the nursing field working with students and staff at both Edinburgh and Napier Universities.



Mr Fred Lawson – new committee member

A life member of the Club, Fred studied for a Science degree at Edinburgh University after which he qualified as a Chartered Accountant. He was a young officer in the Royal Artillery Reserves in Arbroath. He entered the investment world in London and later in Guernsey, and Australia.

On selling his company to a London Merchant Bank, he became an investment manager in the Bahamas with Coutts and Co. Married to Sue, they have two married daughters each with three children. He golfs at Muirfield and plays cards at the Carlton Bridge Club.

Ever welcome...

We are always delighted to see your guests enjoying events and facilities at the Club.

Should they be frequent visitors, however, you might consider asking them to join!

The subscription is reasonable and the programme excellent; and we will certainly accept your recommendation of them as suitably 'clubbable' potential members.

ANNUAL 2014/15 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE 1st JULY 2014

The Club is happy to announce that the annual membership subscriptions have not been increased for the year 2014/15.

The Renewal Notices are not enclosed with the June Newsletter this year, we are sending them out to members separately. We are hoping that this prompts a quicker response when sent out themselves, and we would ask members to send back the completed notice with correct payment by return.

Payment will not be taken until late June.

Those members who are not due to pay, or pay by Direct Debit, will still get the opportunity to donate to Club Funds, or to enter the 200 Club Draw, on their annual donation notice.

DIRECT DEBITS: Direct Debits will help us greatly with the annual subscriptions and we would urge you to use this method of payment if not already doing so.

Please complete and return the DD application enclosed with the Renewal Notice.

MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE THE RENEWAL NOTICES IN JUNE.

Staff Profile

RSC Head chef, Bremner MacDonald



Bremner joined the club as Head Chef in 2013.

Born and educated in Brora, following High School he left Sutherland for the Army Apprentice College in Aldershot, where he passed out as Junior Sergeant and top student.

Bremner then signed up with the Queens Own Highlanders, and served with them for 6 years.

His civilian career started at the Royal Scots Hotel,

now The Marriot, and has since been Head Chef at many city establishments including The Capitol Hotel, The Cramond Brig and Murrayfield Stadium.

He has 2 daughters and 1 son, all at school, and lives in Corstorphine.

Bremner is a great asset to the Club and we are very happy to have him as part of our kitchen team.

‘Dine with Bordeaux’ *Hosted Wine Dinner*

Great Grog Wine are holding a Bordeaux wine tasting at the Club for members and guests on

Thursday 25th September 2014

This will include a delicious 4 course dinner with matching wines from the famous Bordeaux region, as well as a welcome drink and canapés.

Come and join us for an exceptional evening with Bordeaux specialist Jamie, who will talk you through these wonderful wines.

Arrival drinks from 7.00pm, dinner at 7.30pm

£45.00pp

Whether a beginner or connoisseur, this is a night not to be missed.

**great
Grog**
WINE MERCHANT

Look out for our Dining Room

ONE COURSE GRILL, SUMMER SPECIAL!

~ available 30th June – 30th August, Mon - Sat 6pm – 9pm ~

Menu & details to follow

Evening Lectures at the RSC

AUTUMN SERIES 2014

There are again some fascinating lectures this season, so come and spend the first Monday evening of each month with us. **There is no December lecture.**

Lectures start at 7.00pm and last for approximately 1 hour. All lectures are free to attend for Members and their guests. Please let the office know if you plan to attend so that we can estimate numbers.

Why not book a table for high tea or dinner and make a night of it – high tea is served from 5pm on the Monday lecture evening



Monday 6th October 2014

Forget Thursday 18 Sept 2014 come and hear about Scotland's first bid for independence 700 years ago.

Member of the new Bannockburn Centre Academic Advisory Panel

Dr Fiona Watson on
'Bannockburn'

Come and hear about Scotland's first bid for independence at Bannockburn 700 years ago, led by Robert the Bruce and his much outnumbered army, but excellent guerrilla tactics!

Hear the whole story of Robert and Edward, and what the battle meant for Scotland, then and now.

Fiona will also talk about the new National Trust for Scotland's Bannockburn Visitor Centre as she is a member of their Academic Advisory Panel, which ensures authenticity at the centre.

Dr Fiona Watson is a well-known author, broadcaster and historian. She is a Research Fellow at the University of Dundee.

Fiona was the author of a report for Stirling Council on the possible sites of the Bannockburn historic battlefield (2000) and also author of various publications on the Wars of Independence. She is a presenter on Radio 4's Making History.

Monday

3rd November 2014

An appropriately macabre topic for 3 days after Hallowe'en!

Professor of Translational Anatomy and Director of Anatomy at Edinburgh University,

Prof. Gordon Findlater on

Burke & Hare's Edinburgh

Prof Findlater will give an overview of the teaching of medicine and anatomy in Edinburgh over the years, and in particular the prominent role that anatomy in Edinburgh has had in the shaping of what currently happens in medical schools throughout the UK.

The Professor will then lead us through this medical history up to the time of Burke and Hare and relate their story to modern day Edinburgh. After this, the next time you walk around Edinburgh's old town, you will be able to pin point where some of these horrible events took place!

Gordon is responsible for the design and delivery of anatomy teaching to both undergraduate and postgraduate medical students, and has an interest in innovative methods for teaching anatomy.



Prof Gordon Findlater with death mask of William Burke

Scottish Arts Leaders LUNCHTIME LECTURES September - November 2014

These new lectures have become very popular, so why not treat yourself to a delicious 2 course lunch, good company and an exceptionally interesting talk – what else would you be doing on a Monday lunchtime? Held on the third Monday of the month.

Monday 15th September

Lucy Forde

Scottish Chamber Orchestra
Connect Director

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra is one of Scotland's five National Performing Arts Companies. Formed in 1974, it is generally recognised as one of the world's finest chamber orchestras. Committed to performing throughout Scotland, the ensemble also regularly delights audiences in many other countries as well as making many fine recordings.

Lucy Forde is the Director of SCO Connect that has led the way in music education. The project provides workshops for children and adults, introducing them to music and music-making.



Monday 20th October

Laurie Sansom,

Artistic Director National
Theatre of Scotland and
Scottish playwright

Rona Munro

*'All of Scotland is our stage,
and from here we perform to
the world.'*

*We are a theatre of
imagination: a Theatre
Without Walls.'*

Established in 2006, the National Theatre of Scotland - led by Artistic Director Laurie Sansom since March 2013 - has been involved in creating more than 190 new productions in more than 200 different locations.

Completing the Royal Scots Club speaker luncheons involving Scotland's top five arts companies, Laurie will give an insight into the running of this national company before introducing Rona Munro, playwright, whose three new plays (directed by him) about James I, II and III of Scotland will have been premiered at the Edinburgh International Festival in August.



Monday 17th November

Author & literary critic

Rosemary Goring
& husband **Alan Taylor**
journalist & critic

Rosemary Goring is a writer – her first best-selling novel *After Flodden* was published in 2013 and a new, updated version of her book *Scotland: The Autobiography* came out earlier this year. Her 'day job' is as literary editor of the Herald and Sunday Herald newspapers. Having begun her career as an in-house editor for Chambers Biographical Dictionary, she has since edited and written for many reference books. Her second novel, a sequel to her first, will be published in the spring of 2015. Having shared with us something of her life as a writer and journalist, Rosemary will then introduce her husband Alan Taylor, editor of *The Scottish Review of Books* and a 'staffer' at Herald newspapers. Formerly he worked for Scotland on Sunday and The Scotsman, where he was managing editor. A regular contributor to a variety of publications, he was also half of the Scottish team on BBC Radio 4's Round Britain Quiz. He has been a Booker Prize judge.



**For Speakers Lunches:
meet in the cocktail bar from 12 noon,
sitting for lunch at 12.30pm,
2 course lunch £14.00pp**

**Please book in advance by sending
in Booking Form or phone the office,
0131 556 4270.**

**BOOK 3 LUNCHEAS AT ONCE AND SAVE
£3.00 – ONLY £39 FOR 3 LUNCHEAS**

Royal Regiment of Scotland Day
at
Musselburgh Races
Sunday 28 Sept 2014

The Royal Regiment of Scotland Day at Musselburgh Racecourse will have the usual great military displays, wonderful piping from the Lowland and RS Association Bands, and of course, the fabulous thrills and spills of the sport of kings.

Thanks to the generosity of Musselburgh Racecourse, discounted tickets will be available to Royal Scots Club members and their guests and remain at £18.00 for parking, entry, and a refreshment voucher. Great value!

Full details have not been finalised so please contact Janet if you would like further information and to be sent a booking form.

This is a superb day out for ALL the family!
membership@royalscotsclub.com



Tattoo Evening with Supper

Thursday 31 July 2014 £35.00, ticket & supper
Very few places left

A great evening's entertainment with wonderful performances from around the World.

Bookings can ONLY be made by sending in your Booking Form with the correct payment.

There are two supper sittings, one at 6.00pm and 7.15pm.

When one sitting is full, all further bookings will be placed at the other sitting.

This Tattoo performance starts at 9.30pm and the audience is asked to be in their seats by 9.15pm.

There is no transport provided – for advice on mobility difficulties, please phone the Tattoo Office



Forthcoming Events at the Club

Bookings can ONLY be taken when payment is made at the same time.

1. sending in the Booking Form with your payment – cheque or credit card
 2. phoning in your booking and paying with a credit card
 3. booking and paying in person to Janet in the Club office during office hours
- REFUNDS** For fully booked events, refunds will **ONLY** be made if the places returned can be resold.
NO refunds **FOR ANY EVENT** will be made less than 48 hrs before an event.

Sunday 8 June		Sunday Lunch & Beating the Retreat Our ever popular lunch at the Club followed by a superb Beating the Retreat in Queen Street Gardens with The Royal Scots Association Pipes & Drums. Seating available in the gardens, but ladies, please wear flat shoes if you can for the slightly steep entrance/exit. Places limited so book quickly. Lunch 12.30pm, Retreat 2.30pm, £16.50pp
Thursday 31 July		Edinburgh Military Tattoo Evening with Supper See details above
Thurs 25 Sept		Dinner with matching Bordeaux wines, hosted by Great Grog Wines Delicious 4 course dinner with matching wines, and includes welcome drink and canapés. Will be an exceptional evening of food and drink for all wine lovers 7 for 7.30pm, £45.00pp
Sun 28 Sept		RRS Day at Musselburgh Races A cracking day at the races, with military displays, pipe bands, food and refreshments and the thrill of the race. Discounted tickets for RSC members and guests. Contact Janet at the Club for further details on booking tickets Afternoon meeting, £18.00
Wed 29 Oct		Charity Fashion Show & Dinner Following our last two fabulous shows at the club, L K Bennett will once again send their models down the catwalk with their latest fashions – for ALL ages. Further details sent out over the Summer – make sure we have your email address!
Sun 9 Nov		Remembrance Sunday Lunch Come and join us for lunch, after a short dedication at the Club Memorials. A lovely way to spend this special day. Lunch from 12.30pm, £17.50
Wed 12 Nov		Speakers Dinner Our favourite Club member, Lt Cdr Dairmid Gunn OBE will be speaking after dinner on, 'Sir Walter Scott's quiet Invasion of Russia' . Dairmid is such a wonderful speaker this evening will be another treat for us. 7 for 7.30pm, £24.50
Fri 21/Fri 28 Nov		RSC St Andrews Night Our guest speaker is yet to confirm, but we will be advertising the date and the speaker whenever that happens. The event will, of course, have the usual excellent performers and superb dinner. 7.00 for 7.30pm
Tues 2 Dec		Members Christmas Lunch Another fun-filled festive lunch, with turkey, raffle, carols - and mistletoe! Come and jingle your bells with us to start off the season. If you haven't attended before, why not come along for your first turkey of the season! 12.00 for 12.30pm £18.50
Wed 10 Dec		RSC Carol Concert A lovely candle-lit event with carols and readings, and we are hoping to have Edinburgh Garrison Military Wives Choir back again to help with the community singing and to perform themselves. Rev Neil Gardner from Canongate Kirk will be in charge of proceedings and wine and warm mince pies will be served after the concert when you can meet the choir. 7pm, £11.00

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Please ensure that our membership secretary, Janet Grant has your email address. Should we have something special to impart, this will enable us to be in touch with you quickly and cheaply between newsletters. If you do not have a computer, is there someone close to you who has? He or she could receive the electronic communication on your behalf and print it out for you. Do consider this option and let Janet have the details.

Club News

The Royal Scots Association Returns!

In March, the RS Association moved their offices into The Royal Scots Club, and we are absolutely delighted to welcome them back! The Association used to have a base in the Club, but latterly the work has been very ably carried out by Lt Col Jim Blythe at the Castle. Circumstances change however, and the Trustees have now appointed Tam Douglas to share some of the duties. Tam is no stranger to the Club and it is a pleasure to have him join the team – and he is eagerly waiting to welcome association members to his new home!



Tam in his new office

Opening hours:

Monday, 7pm – 9pm Tuesday, 2pm – 4pm Thursday, 7pm – 9pm

RS-AssociationSecretary@royalscotsclub.com

Tel: 0131 556 4270 Ext 268

DDI: 0131 525 6165 **Mob:** 07846 512628

Charlie's Christening

The Club had a very special Christening in the Club in April. Long-serving staff member Sarah McIver and 1SCOTS husband Gus held a very quiet family Christening for their son Charlie, with big sister Eilidh looking on. Aunt Emma was Godmother, of course, and Club member Rev Roddy Campbell christened lovely Charlie.



The McIver family and Rev Roddy Campbell.

RECIPROCAL NEWS

The New Cavendish Club

We were very sorry to hear that one of our London Clubs, The New Cavendish Club, is closing its doors on 4th July this Summer. Their lease is not being renewed, and so their members are transferring to The Naval & Military Club. The Cavendish was extremely popular with our members and will be sorely missed.

RSC Goods, Price List 2014

RSC Ladies silk scarf	£49.50
RSC bespoke slippers (order forms available)	£185.00
RSC Memorial entrance print	£75.00
RSC umbrella	£15.00
RS braces	£35.00
RSC Silk Ties	£18.50
RSC silk bow ties – clip & self-tie	£15.00
Beanie hats	£18.00
Embroidered blazer badges	£16.50/£15.50
RSC library print	£15.00
RS watch straps	£10.50
RS cufflinks	£9.50
RS socks	£9.50
RS lapel badges	£4.50
RS cards	£3.00

The Edinburgh Festival fringe Programme 2014

As in previous years, the Club will become a Fringe Venue for the first two weeks of August, from Monday 4th to Saturday 16th. We have a variety of shows on offer, and of course we are delighted to welcome back the Arkle Theatre Company with another two fabulous productions.

We also have some other great Fringe shows starting from Monday 4th, so come and see a show and have a bite to eat as well.

EARLY SHOW (6.15pm)

'Weekend Breaks' by John Godber

This play is by the superb UK playwright, John Godber, who made his name with 'Bouncers' in 1997 and has gone on to be the third most performed playwright in the UK behind William Shakespeare and Alan Ayckbourn.

The play tells how Martin, on returning to his Northern roots, discovers the old adage that whilst he may love his parents that does not necessarily mean he would not gladly throttle them!

John Godber's clever take on family old and young is a tale of wine, wit and, eh, Whitby.

August 11 – 16 18.15 (1hr 40mins) price £12.00 / £10 thru the Club

LATE SHOW (8.30pm)

'Rumours' by Neil Simon

This is one of Neil Simon's most farcical pieces. Guests arrive at a luxurious flat only to discover that the evening of good company and conversation that they had expected, starts to descend into chaos and farce. And why does that man have a gunshot wound in his ear??

This is a hilarious play, the work of a true master playwright and will be well worth seeing.

August 11 – 16 20.30, (1hr 40 mins) price £12.00 / £10 thru the Club

The Edinburgh Graduate Theatre Group

'The Duchess of Malfi' by John Webster

is a macabre tale of a woman marrying below her status in society. Her two brothers exact revenge with tragic consequences, a powerful drama.

Monday 4th to Saturday 9th August at 18.30 each evening, all tickets £10.

'The Wonderful World of Dissocia' by Anthony Neilson

finds Lisa Jones having lost an hour of her life.

To regain it she must travel to Dissocia where she encounters all sorts of trials – compelling modern drama.

Monday 4th to Saturday 9th August at 20.45, all tickets £10.

Larry McCluskey

'Awhile with Seamus Heaney' is Larry McCluskey's affectionate tribute to one of Ireland's greatest literary figures. Music and words for all to enjoy.

Tuesday 5th to Saturday 9th August at 15.30, tickets £8 (£6 concs.)

Tightlaced Theatre

'I Promise I Shall Not Play Billiards' by Fiona McDonald.

1857, Madeleine Smith has just stood trial for her life, accused of poisoning her lover. Given the uniquely Scottish verdict of Not Proven, she is free from prison, but never from suspicion. A great hour of theatre to reflect a legal case that gripped the country and fascinates to this day.

Tuesday 5th to Tuesday 12th August, (not Sunday 10th), at 13.00, tickets £9.50 (£7.50 concs.)

Arkle Theatre Company

'Anorak of Fire' by Stephen Dinsdale.

Enter the world of the true trainspotter. A look into the mind and, eh, lunchbox of Gus Gascoigne. An hilarious one-man performance by Phil Barnes of this hugely funny play, a treat for all.

Tuesday 12th to Saturday 16th August at 15.30, all tickets £8.

- this show can also be booked thru the Club but no discounts.