

The Perth Guildryman

The Newsletter of the Guildry Incorporation

Scottish Charity no. SC008072



Tel: 01738 623195 - email: guildryperth@btconnect.com

Issue Forty One / Autumn 2014

The Lord Dean's Comments

This has been an extraordinarily busy and colourful year for Perth Guildry as you will see from the compendium of photographs put together by our answer to David Baillie, Tom Rorrison.

Like the Commonwealth Games and Ryder Cup the visit of the Court of Deans of Scotland to Perth on 25th April took a very long time in the preparation and yet was over in a flash. The pageantry in parading with the Provost and our own Colonel Peter Little who, with sabre drawn and booming voice kept the colourful procession, led by Perth & District Pipe Band, well and truly in step. The visits to the City Chambers, the Fair Maid's House, and Balhousie Castle demonstrated just how much this City of ours has to offer. It was an education not just for the visitors but for the hosts! The day was topped with dinner in St. John's Kirk. A gourmet meal was provided by local outside catering firm Ginger Snap and the speeches, especially that by Mike Robinson of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, were very well received. I doubt if any of the other Guildries in Scotland (and indeed England where Berwick-upon-Tweed, next year's hosts are also members) will be able to surpass what Perth put on.



Alistair Duthie proudly led the parade with the Guildry banner

Although we had no farmers with us on the triennial assembly this year, because we clashed with the Royal Highland Show, I think the trip to Fife was greatly appreciated by all who attended. En route we stopped at Discovery for an hour and most agreed that we could have stayed longer. In fact two trippers stowed away on the vessel and were almost left behind.



The Dean at the Fisheries Museum

We had a superb lunch at the Craw's Nest Hotel in Anstruther before visiting the National Fisheries Museum. This was a real Tardis experience. It seemed to be tiny but stretched all along the harbour front and housed several complete fishing vessels which had been hauled up and into the huge museum sheds. With very knowledgeable guides we had a great time even though Vice Dean Flood declared he was "museumed out". Several of our number made a further historical tour of the hostelrys in Anstruther which had in the past been frequented by the sailors of the fishing fleet.

Once the stragglers were rounded up we headed for the St. Andrews Fairmount Hotel whose dimensions staggered many of our number. We were joined there by Deputy Provost Bob Band, and Councillors Alistair Munro and Alexander Stewart.

We had a great day for the annual inspection and although Bill Smith was ailing and not able to welcome us to Hallroom, the visit went very well including a fantastic performance by the children of Guildtown School. We enjoyed a really good meal at the Atholl Arms Hotel, Dunkeld at which a surprise presentation was made to Secretary Lorna Peacock to mark 25 years of guiding Perth Guildry. This was particularly demonstrated in the organisation which went into the Court of Dean's visit and the Trip this year. I record in these pages the gratitude which I expressed on the night to Lorna for all her hard work which is so greatly appreciated.

As we batten down the hatches for the winter I reflect that I am now half way through my final year in office. It really is flashing past.

Court of Deans of Guild of Scotland = Perth = 25th April 2014



Provost Liz Grant welcomes the Court of Deans to the City of Perth



The Dean presents a banner from Perth Guildry to Alistair Duthie of Perth and District Pipe Band



Lord President Alastair Anderson presents a cheque on behalf of the Court to Raymond Jamieson co-ordinator PKAVS' Young Carers Project



Col Peter Little 51st Division 7th Bn. Royal Regiment of Scotland brings the parade to order



The High Constables provides the Guard of Honour



The Parade through the streets provides a colourful spectacle for the many onlookers



The 'Chain Gang' in all their finery

Dinner in St John's Kirk



St John's Kirk made an impressive setting for dinner



Time to catch up with old friends



The Lord President's chain is passed on to Jim Evans, Chairman of the Guild of Free-men of Berwick-upon-Tweed



The Dean addresses the company



Mike Robinson our after dinner speaker



The new Lord President, Jim Evans gives the vote of thanks

Triennial Assembly - Discovery Point - Dundee



Discovery Point



Louis Flood gets some practice at the helm



Auxiliary steering at the stern



Time for a chat



Discovery at the quay side



Coffee break



Triennial Assembly - Anstruther



The 'Reaper' a Fife sailing herring drifter



The Dean and Ian Nicol listen to one of the guides



The museum curator explains the different types of drifters



Where did he get that hat!



Time for our buffet lunch at the 'Craw's Nest' in Anstruther



The main group at the 'Craw's Nest'



We were joined by the Deputy Provost for dinner at the Fairmont Hotel, St Andrews

Annual Inspection



The children of Guildtown School entertained us on and off the playing field



The Dean, on behalf of the members, presented Lorna with gifts in appreciation of her 25 years service with the Guildry. Graham Fenton proposed a toast, recalling Lorna's first visit to the Estate - was it really 25 years ago! Lorna thanked the Dean and members for their kindness and said how much she appreciated their thoughtfulness. She said it was difficult to believe that she had been in the post for quarter of a century, but as they say time flies when you are having fun!!

Bonnie Lass o' Craigmakerran



At our recent AGM ex-Dean Michael Thomson surprised the Dean when he presented him with a book of poetry, which he had tracked down on the internet, featuring a poem entitled the Bonnie Lass o' Craigmakerran.

To complete the surprise the poem was set to music and performed by local musicians. Members were provided with song sheets and joined in the musical interlude. A fitting end to our AGM! Perhaps the Inspection committee could perform it the next time they visit the Estate!

The Dean thanked ex-Dean Thomson for this interesting tome which will be placed with our archives. He also thanked the duo for their excellent performance which certainly livened up our meeting.

Student Bursaries

Guildryman Christopher Harding



He writes: I am pleased to report that I successfully attained a Bachelor of Science Degree with Honours in Computing and Networks.

Throughout each of the four years of my studies, the bursary awarded to me by The Guildry Incorporation of Perth has been of tremendous assistance and I would just like to extend one final thank you for all the financial support you have provided over the years of my further education.

Christopher with his Parents and Grandfather.

Meli Patterson writes: I have now completed my second year on my marketing and enterprise course which I passed with merit. During my holidays I am putting my knowledge into practice with an internship for South Ayrshire Social Enterprise Network and am really enjoying it so far.

Thank you once more for your financial support which helps greatly with my course expenses



Lauren Soutar writes: I am writing to update you on my first year at The Hammond School. Firstly, I have learned so much this year doing what I love best. I feel as though I have achieved loads and have improved in all disciplines. In my assessments I received distinction in all dance styles and I received the highest mark for ballet and I have had written confirmation to continue my studies next year. Recently I have taken part in two different productions one being dance and one being musical theatre, every one being a successful sellout. During my summer break I have chosen to go to Yorkshire ballet summer school where top teachers from around the world do a two week school, which is an additional experience.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and helping to make this possible, for me it is a dream come true.

Thank you from Kiwangala, Uganda



Rosie Dowell writes about her experiences as a Project Trust teacher in the Children's Sure Trust House Primary school in the village of Kiwangala. She teaches P5 and P3 English, maths, and science and occasionally some more fun lessons like games, sports and even baking. "I love the work and although I don't feel like a great teacher, the school only has 7 full time teachers and there are 9 classes so I know that whatever work I can do means that a class at least has a teacher. The classes vary in size from P6 with 15 pupils to P3 with around 60 and the ages in the classes vary just as much! The pupils, many of whom are orphans, are all from fairly rough backgrounds. After four months though, it

has become very easy to put that aside, getting to know all the kids and their stories has been the most amazing experience I have had out here!.

There are already many things which I have learned from the amazing people out here and so many experiences which I will never forget. I cannot say thank you enough for all the support and donations which have helped me get to where I am now, I can honestly say I'm making every penny count. Weebale nyo mukwano! (Thank you very much friend, in Luganda)"

Harry Carstairs also is working as a Project Trust volunteer teacher but in the remote Amerindian Village of Chenapou, Guyana tells us that this is his second term in the rainforest, in charge of a class of 22 children aged 6-7.

Viewlands Primary School made a donation towards the teaching project which helped to buy item such as paper, pencils, crayons, rulers, etc, quite basic items but they made an immeasurable difference to what they could do in class. As Harry says, "I have seen with my own eyes how much more likely a child is to learn if he/she is pasting colourful words on paper instead of staring at a blackboard.

The children of grade two have inspired me greatly this year. Their curiosity, their energy and their little moments of genius have provided all the rewards I could wish for as a teacher.

Thank you for your donation which has enabled me to participate in this worthwhile project."

Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust held a Heritage Market on the 31st May which was well supported by local organisations and the public. The Trust was very grateful for our donation as without our support this great event would not have taken place

The stallholder of Alba Falconry tells the story, "One small boy was rather timid but his Dad was coaxing him to hold one of the birds of prey and get his photo taken. Both his Dad and myself assured him he would be fine and when I asked him which bird he would like to hold he replied "THE ONE WITH NO TEETH" - this gave the people watching a great laugh."



The Antonine Guard march through the town

You can see how pleased these youngsters are to hear of our donation towards equipment

