

The Perth Guildryman

The Newsletter of the Guildry Incorporation
Scottish Charity no. SC008072



Tel: 01738 623195 - email: secretary@perthguildry.org.uk
website: www.perthguildry.org.uk

Issue Fifty Two / Spring 2020

The Lord Dean's Comments

"I could not have imagined I would be writing to you in the midst of a viral pandemic Covid-19. The Guildry in response to this has had to make operational changes. Our office at 42 George Street is closed however we continue to respond by email and our Secretary/Treasurer Carla Murray is home working."



A deserted High Street after Lockdown

Photo - Carla Murray

There have been a few firsts for your Dean and committee. Our first monthly meeting by conference call which went well and will continue until normal service can resume. I also ask that we include in our minutes a coronavirus record of how it has impacted the Guildry and Perth. This I feel will be of interest in the future not only to the Guildry but for future reference as a contemporary account. Another first was our conference call with our accountants to prepare for our AGM.

This has once again been a busy year for the Guildry and committee members. We have had extensive works carried out to the estate and it's continued maintenance. Upgrades of cottages at Hallroom and we have concluded our renovations

at Loanhead Farmhouse. We have also done a full tree survey on the Estate, something which we need to keep under review. Changes in regulations for landlords mean we keep our residential and commercial interests compliant. Atholl Place became vacant after our tenant of almost 30 years relocated. Extensive refurbishment of the property is ongoing and is marketed by Graham + Sibbald. Aberdeen Considine our tenants in the High Street have extended their premises to include one of our flats which has changed use from residential to commercial and improved our income.

I have attended a few events including our own Autumn Court of Deans where guests enjoyed the hospitality at Horsecross and a tour of the renovated Perth Theatre. I attended a virtual meeting of the Arbroath Court of Deans where all Guildrys are currently in the same position as Perth. This should have been a celebration of the Declaration of Arbroath 700 year anniversary.

There are many uncertainties ahead needless to say the impact of Covid-19 and Brexit will present challenges for our income. We continue to utilise the best professional advice to safeguard our interests.

Due to the impact of the Coronavirus we have had to cancel a number of events, the Ex Deans Dinner, Annual Inspection and the Triennial Assembly. The AGM is likely to be postponed until 17th August 2020, this may take the form of a virtual meeting. Further details to follow.



Photo - Alan Rorrison

The normally busy York Place junction

Guildries Final Visit to St Martins Church



Guildrymen, the Minister and Session Clerk pose for the camera outside St Martins Church which is to be closed by the Church of Scotland and the congregation transferred to Balbeggie Church. The Guildry has strong ties with St Martins and had private pews originally in the Gallery but after it was deemed unsafe they were placed in the body of the kirk. Guildryman Alex Sneddon, front right, has been a Guildryman for 35 years and has been at all bar a couple of the church services, which he always enjoys, he remembers the days the church was near full and the Guildry sat upstairs in their private pews.



The Guildry Crest on Balcony



Plaques on pews



Princess Anne at Stirling Guildry's 900th Anniversary

The Dean attended a dinner at Stirling Castle with Ex Deans Ward, Menzies and Bannerman and Vice Dean Gaffney. They were greeted by Her Royal Highness Princess Anne and enjoyed an evening celebrating 900 Years of the Guildry together with the City of Stirling.

Whyler Photos of Stirling

New Members Admitted at November Guild Court



Guild Court

At the Guild Court held in November two new members Conall McGlashan and Grant MacGregor joined.

Photos above show Grant MacGregor receiving the Mortar and Lime from the Dean and Conall McGlashan receiving a welcoming hand shake into the guildry, and right Connal and Grant pose with the Dean after the ceremony



Autumn Court of Deans



Perth hosted the Autumn Court of Deans with the business side of the proceedings being held in Horsecross after which a tour of the recently renovated Perth Theatre was laid on for our guests.

Photos show some of our guests after the business had been completed and top right, our new table spread which shows off our crest to perfection.



Lord Dean of Guild Neil Dewar was invited to talk at the Tuesday Fellowship at the North Church in Perth. Attendees listened to the history of the Guildry and

posed questions regarding it's modern day activities.

Members Bursaries

"I would like to thank you for the very generous bursary I received at the beginning of my studies for my first year of university. My travel costs to and from the campus was costly and the bursary has helped reduce overall expenses for the year. In addition to this it has also helped with the cost of books and course materials. I am studying Chemical Engineering meaning I require lab equipment and protective clothing and I have also used the bursary to help purchase these. The bursary has had a significant impact on my first year at university and I am very grateful for the assistance. Yours sincerely, Cameron Ritchie"

"I am writing to thank the guildry for all of their financial help throughout my time at university. I am delighted to let you know that I graduated with an Upper Second Class Honours (2:1) in International Business with International Relations. The financial assistance granted to me took away a great deal of financial stress and enabled me to truly focus my time on my studies. I cannot thank you enough.



I have attached a picture of myself and my Grandad Mac who is also a Dundee University Graduate and a Guildryman.

In March I was elected as the Vice President at the Dundee University Students Association. So for the next year I will be leading all of the welfare campaigns on campus, and helping students through the stresses of university life. I'm in for a busy but exciting year!

Thank you so much again, I am very grateful."

Kindest regards,

Lauren MacGregor

Member Bursary Eligibility Criteria

Bursaries are awarded to members, or sons or daughters of members of the Guildry, attending a full time course of study at a university or college in the United Kingdom.

Non-Members Bursary

"I thank you sincerely for the bursary awarded. With deadlines and work piling up in my second-to-last university semester, the financial freedom afforded to me is a great load off my mind. I have purchased the books required for the current courses and these will also greatly assist my studies."

Charitable Donation Thanks

"Thank you so much for your continued support of Perth Festival of the Arts. It makes such a wonderful difference to the festival each year."

"Thanks to the Guildry Incorporation of Perth enabling members from Perth & Kinross Headway to join other members of Headway from across Scotland to take part in the third Activity & Relaxation weekend in Scotland (BRAW19)....The purpose of the weekend was to let survivors of brain injury know that they were still able to do the things they thought were no longer possible for them and to engage with people with similar problems. They had the chance to take part in various activities e.g. arts and crafts, walking football, therapies, disabled cycling, swimming, outdoor activities, orienteering, archery, problem solving etc....We were also very happy that the Lord Dean of Guild was able to attend on the Saturday to see just what crazy things we get up to."

Commercial Property for Rent – Newly refurbished period style office space to rent in central Perth available in whole or part, consisting of basement, ground first and second (attic) floors. If you know of anyone who may be interested please contact Keith Scobbie at Graham + Sibbald 01738 445 733.



Stay Home...

Stay Safe...

Stay Well...