

The Perth Guildryman

The Newsletter of the Guildry Incorporation

Scottish Charity no. SC008072



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

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The Lord Dean's Comments

We're heading towards the AGM and I really can't believe my first year as Lord Dean has passed so quickly! I've enjoyed it greatly, but it's been busier than I thought it would be, and I'm grateful for the support of vice-Dean Neil and the committee, and of course our new Secretary. Carla has thrown herself into the job with great enthusiasm and has been swotting up on our history and traditions, as well as mastering the day-to-day running of the 'business' side of things.

Disbursing funds continues to be our main focus, and I was delighted to hand over the newest vehicle in Perth's Access Cars fleet. We've supported this worthwhile project for many years, and it's good to recognise the Guildry crest on the cars and vans around town.

Youth projects are always uppermost in the minds of the committee and we were pleased to continue our sponsorship of Perth Grammar School Sports Trust, as well as funding for the local Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, which goes from strength to strength. I was the guest of Perth Youth Orchestra at their annual concert and was greatly impressed at the skills on show, especially by the young soloists; we've contributed towards the cost of their summer tour to Prague.

Our student bursaries are always the biggest outlay of funds and over the past year 42 awards have been made, totalling nearly £50,000. Our veteran team of Ron McDougall and Ian Nicol are standing down after ten years of assessing the applications and we thank them for their hard work. Ron will stay on temporarily to oversee the new team!

Work has been going on at our various properties; new detectors and alarms have been fitted in the High Street and at Craigmakerran, and the flats have also had new glazing installed. Major drainage repairs have been carried out at Hallroom, and work is planned for the farm cottages there too.



The Ex-Deans' Dinner

There was a new venue for the Ale Tasting, which took place at the Post Box in George Street with ales supplied by Inveralmond Brewery. The Tasters found the samples to be of the highest standard and reported that the products had passed to their entire satisfaction. Although this stringent testing is carried out only once every three years, it is clear that the Tasters spend many hours diligently practising their skills.

Thanks to Tom and Carla for this edition of the newsletter, and I hope to see you at the AGM.

Ale Tasting - Post Box - March 2016



Ale Tasters are a happy lot - Dean of Guild Louis Flood lines up with the Ale Tasters - from left - Lindsay McLaren, Garland Smith, Geoffrey Ford (Head Ale Taster), Finn Thomson and Pieter van Aswegen, with Inveralmond brewer Richard Barnes and Mine Host at the Post Box at the back



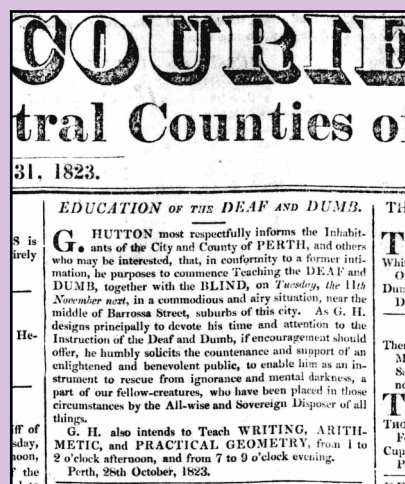
With Inveralmond Brewer Richard bringing along a good selection of the breweries beers to sample it was indeed a busy night for the Ale Tasters sampling beers from Fair Maid extra pale, Thrappledouser Scottish red beer and Blackfriars dark Scotch Ale the strongest offering of the night with an ABV of 7%! but Richard also educated them in the art of tasting and appraising the beer in an interesting and entertaining way so that they could all appreciate the work that the brewers put into their craft and declared all the samples to be of the finest quality.



Guildryman George Hutton – Early links with Sign Language in Scotland

The Guildry office was delighted to receive a request from the author Anthony J Boyce for background detail on one of our historic Guildry members George Hutton. Mr Boyce himself is past secretary of the British Deaf History Society, was a teacher at the Yorkshire Residential School for the Deaf, Doncaster and taught Mathematics at the American School for the Deaf, West Hartford for a spell. He had picked up information on The Guildry from reading Marion Stavert's book.

Mr Boyce visited our premises for the day and was delighted with the extensive range of archives within our premises, which assisted him in his research. George Hutton was born in Perth (1801) he then moved to Caputh to take up teaching under Mr George Clark. When Mr Clark died, George Hutton



returned to Perth and set up a private school in 1823. The attached notice in Perthshire Courier October 1823 showed his appeal, to all those deaf and blind to attend his premises near the middle of Barossa Street, Perth for instruction. He married Ann Scott in Perth a year later. Mr Hutton became a Guildryman in 1833. By 1849 the Committee of Education of Perth Guildry was aware of another National School being built in Perth, the third one, and so transferred the Guildry hearing children to the new school. This was in order to save money. Mr Hutton had to leave but he set up his own private school at 2 Melville Street, the family home, where he continued to teach a small class of deaf children. Mr. Hutton was one of the earliest instructors of sign language in Scotland and his detailed scribe and mimeography is being investigated currently, in order to compare with the Scottish sign language used today. George Sutton's son James Scott Hutton, taught at the Edinburgh Institute for the Deaf from 1847 to 1857 and then moved to Halifax in Nova Scotia, Canada.

There is mention in our minute books of "The Guildry Free School" at this time but the site of the premises is unknown. Can anyone assist? We have perused our local AK Bell library archives without success. If you can shed any light, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Mr Boyce may be conducting a talk in this area in the near future, if any of you are interested please let Carla Murray know. *Photos Mr Boyce at our premises and the Perthshire Courier Newspaper notice..*

Charitable Donations

Perth Autism Youth Theatre expressed their thanks for our donation "This fantastic donation will make such a difference to the lives of the children with Autism Spectrum Disorder who attend. What is more, it will also offer their parents and other family members increased respite opportunities."



Perth Access Cars

Alastair Munro Treasurer at Perth Access cars "Your help is very much appreciated and greatly benefits those who use our services; particularly to attend routine medical appointments which the rest of us take for granted. It is also, of course, used for pleasure trips and holidays which would not be possible for this section of the community without this vehicle."

Photograph shows Lord Dean of Guild, Louis Flood with Councillor Alexander Stewart who accepted the new vehicle on behalf of Access Cars.

Wanted

Your email addresses please. If you haven't already done so, could you please advise Carla Murray of your email address to guildryperth@btconnect.com - thank you.

Office Opening Hours

Monday to Thursday 9am until 2pm. Doors open to the public 10 until 1.

Guildryman's Daughter in Colorado

Meriel Young update of her studies in Colorado "I completed my undergraduate degree in Geology at the University of Edinburgh in 2014. After taking some time out to work and travel, I decided to apply to do a Masters in Geological Engineering in the States.

As my undergraduate degree went on, I became more and more interested in how interlinked geology was with many of



the civil engineering projects going on around the world. After working for a power developer at LR Senenergy while I was a student in Edinburgh, I also realised that the global demand for sustainable, economical and practical development has never been as great as it is now; to have knowledge of both geology and engineering would only be an advantage in today's world.

And so I ended up at the Colorado School of Mines to do an MS in geotechnical engineering beginning in January 2016. I definitely feel I have made the right choice, both in terms of the course and in location. The subject is much more mathematical than my undergraduate degree which was challenging at first

but is actually much more interesting! And the 300 days of sunshine a year in Colorado mean returning to Scotland might be very challenging! Thank you to the Guildry for your continued support-and for helping to make such an incredible and enriching experience possible."

Thank you from Guildryman

Ruari Thomson is currently in his final year at the University of Glasgow. "The course has been going well and I am currently on course for a 2:1 honours degree, which should hopefully help me to secure a position with a firm that will support me through my chartered accountancy exams in the future.

I really appreciate the support I have had from the Guildry during my time at university and it has helped considerably with the purchasing of core course textbook, as well as general living costs."

Non Member Bursary Recipients

Melissa Brown commenced her degree in Primary Education with religious studies at The University of Edinburgh and is delighted with her bursary "Thank you so much for accepting my application for the Guildry bursary this will help me massively with my studies and I very much appreciate it."

Rhia Laing who is at Glasgow School of Art working towards her BA(Hons) in Fine Art "I have just received the great news by post telling me that I have been awarded the £900 bursary for students. I cannot thank the Guildry of Perth enough!"

Blair MacDonald continues his studies following his successful Law LLB Degree, moving to the University of Glasgow to study the Diploma in Professional Legal Practice. "I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Guildry kindly for their decision to award me a bursary. I can assure the Guildry that this money will be put to good use. Indeed it has already given me a great deal of comfort that my finances will not cause any undue worries this year. The Diploma is an expensive but crucial qualification that – without the assistance of the Guildry – I would likely struggle to be able to undertake. Now that I have started my studies I am already applying for traineeships for 2016 and look forward to the start of my career as a solicitor in Scotland."

It is with great sadness we have to inform of the passing of Mrs Anne Drummond in March. Mrs Drummond was our longest serving tenant in the High Street, having taken up residence in 1972. A sweet lady, who will be sadly missed by family, friends and of course the Guildry.

Notable Dates

There's to be a Guild Court on 18th June 2016 If you know of someone who would like to become a Guildryman then please contact the office. Our continued membership is an important part of our future as well as our past.

The Guildry AGM will take place on Monday 16th May 2016 at the Royal George Hotel at 7:15pm. Please attend if you can.

Annual Inspection at Craigmakerran will take place on Wednesday 1st June 2016.

Open to existing Committee, Meal Searchers, Ale Tasting Committee and Ex Deans.