



AFFILIATED TO THE
rscds

NANTWICH & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY

Founded September 1958
Newsletter – January, 2016



Dear Members

2016! Happy New Year, everyone. I hope you have had an enjoyable Christmas and were able to see in the New Year in style. Let's be thankful that, here in Cheshire, we haven't had to cope with the flooding of our homes that has happened elsewhere in the UK.

As a Society, we have had a very busy time since the last newsletter appeared in your inbox. Our first event, in September, was the **coffee evening**, raising funds for Macmillan nurses. The committee agreed to hold this event in the knowledge that two of our members were undergoing treatment for cancer and were being assisted by this wonderful organisation. My original idea was coffee and cake (for a donation) instead of tea and biscuits at our half-time break. No sooner was the suggestion uttered than several further ideas for fund raising were put forward. The original fifteen minute time slot increased to thirty minutes of fund raising activities and, together, we raised £461.

"Thank you" seems inadequate, but it is uttered from the bottom of my heart.

October saw Roger and I dancing at the nuclear research establishment near **Aldermaston** and, yes, there are armed guards at the gates, steel wire and a no-mans land type of boundary! We were visiting friends in Basingstoke (I lived there many moons ago and Kim and Stephen were born there). Ann Stent (who also used to live - and dance - in Basingstoke) was visiting her son there at the time and suggested that we join the local Society at their Tuesday evening session. We were made to feel very welcome. Incidentally, their youngest dancer is eight years of age!



Summer Treasure Hunt - June 2015



Setting out from Little Moreton Hall - 30th October 2015

At the end of October Eileen led a **walk** around the Cheshire country side near Little Moreton Hall. Although the ground was wet the weather was good to us on the day. The pub grub was greatly appreciated afterwards! Nantwich Civic Centre echoed to the lovely sound of Scottish dance music and lots of laughter in November, when we held our **Presidents' & Visitors' evening**. There were over 130 dancers on the floor. An amazing sight. The evening ran smoothly and our visitors were very appreciative of the efforts of all involved; not just appreciative of the committee, but also for the hospitality they received from all our members. It is good to know that we are held in such high regard.

Later the same month **St Andrew's Day** fell on a Monday – and didn't we celebrate in style? Everyone pulled together to make this a night to remember, but I must give especial thanks to Jean, Bernice, Jan and Helenor for the catering. They were busy all day, preparing, cooking and serving – not to mention the planning and purchasing of produce beforehand.

Our **demonstration team** has been busy this term, dancing at a variety of venues, entertaining Beavers, a Ladies group (from which we have two potential new members) and residents of two residential homes, one in Crewe and one in Nantwich. Thank you to all team members for the time you give to “spreading the word”, so to speak.

Our **charity raffles** this Advent have raised just under £200. The money will be divided equally between Crewe Stroke Support Club and Guide Dogs for the Blind. Thanks go to Cynthia for organising the raffles, and of course, to yourselves for purchasing tickets and donating goods for the hampers. I hope those who won one of the magnificent hampers have enjoyed eating and drinking the contents of same!

Next term commences on Monday 11th January at 7.30pm with our **ceilidh** – a night of celebration. I hope all those willing to participate in the readings, singing, musical items etc. have notified Liz so that she can draw up a programme of events. And there will be dancing! Dress theme for the evening is “Bling”!!! Gentlemen are excused from the bling theme - please wear kilts (or a tartan item) instead. Please bring a small plate of food for the buffet. There will be a raffle; if you are donating a prize - all prizes to be wrapped, please. It promises to be a good start to the year.

I hope that as many members as possible will participate in the events that the committee has planned on your behalf. We are fortunate in that we are a very active Scottish Society, not just a dancing one.

We hope that we have organised something for everyone. Please do come along – I look forward to your company.



Dates for your Diary

Sat 23rd Jan - Burns Night at the Masonic Hall, Willaston - *Elsa has tickets and her phone number is on your Syllabus card*

Sat 5th March - Annual Ball with Alan Ross & His Band at Sandbach Town Hall - *tickets on sale shortly*

Sat 9th April - Scottish Fiddle Orchestra at Nottingham - *details to follow*

Thurs 21st April - Afternoon Tea Party to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday - *details to follow*

Mon 25th April - AGM

Mon 23rd May - last dancing of the season

Mon 13th June - Treasure Hunt by car - *details nearer the date*

Fri 24th June - Summer Dance at Worleston Village Hall - music by Ian Slater - *details nearer the date*

It is with regret that I have to end this Newsletter on a sad note. Most of us will remember **Jack Owen**, a stalwart of this Society for many years and an Honorary Life Member. His last two years were spent in a residential home in Nantwich and Helenor, Charles and I have visited him on occasion. Sadly, he passed away on 2nd January. Jack would have been 95 at the end of January. He met his wife Sybil through dancing – they did all types of dancing, but loved Scottish Country Dancing best. Jack loved reading and read books until very recently. Our thoughts are with his family. Helenor has sent a card on behalf of us all. We will forward details of funeral arrangements once we receive them.

See you all at the New Year Ceilidh on 11th January. Looking forward to a fantastic evening!

Maureen

3rd January, 2016

Reminder!

Don't forget - you are all invited to Peter Marshall's 70th Birthday Party at Nantwich Civic Hall on **Monday 4th July 2016**. Marian Anderson and Her Band will provide the music. Please bring a contribution of 'finger food' for the buffet. There is no charge for this event - a collection will be made for **MacMillan Nurses**. It would help Peter if you'd let him know whether you intend to be there.

CG 3 Jan 2016