



THE Saltire

No 12

Happy New Year to All

January 2011



From the Chieftain

Well, that is another year gone, and it seems like only a few months since the start of 2010 – I think someone is spinning the earth faster, or maybe it is just that I am getting older.

2010 was a successful year for the Society with all the functions well attended, but the most pleasing aspect was the number of new people we welcomed to those events.

We have had several new members join and several more promise to, so our numbers should increase in 2011.

Last week, we held our annual Burn's Supper and according to all who attended it was a very good night indeed.

While we hold reverently to the traditions of this event, we believe that the most important aspect of the evening is enjoyment and we certainly had plenty of that at the Parmelia Hilton.

The hotel provided a first-class meal – including haggis, of course – we had great music from the Heel 'n' Toe ceilidh band, and our speakers all did a marvellous job.

Brian McMurdo entertained us with his rendition of the Address to the Haggis.

Our Immediate Past Chieftain, Ken Suttie, enlightened us with the amazing achievements of Robert Burns in his very short life, a life unrivalled in his field to date, in the toast to the Immortal Memory.

Diana Paxman made a witty response in her reply Fae the Lassies to Jeff Lavalette's toast Tae the Lassies, in which he lauded the attributes of the fairer sex (I think his wife wrote his speech).

All this, with singing, dancing, story telling and poems, took us to midnight, when we sang Rabbie's most famous song, "Auld Lang Syne", followed by "Advance Australia Fair" as we had by then slipped into Australia Day.

Talking about slipping, my wife, Maggie, slipped on a wet floor on Tuesday night, badly bruising her arm and shoulder, but she bravely stayed at the Burns Supper although in some pain.

I sent her back to work today to take her mind off it and I would like to report that she is much better now, if still a bit bruised.

Maggie and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very healthy, stress-free and happy 2011

Sandy Milligan
Chieftain

"Alba Gu Brath"

COMMITTEE 2010-2011

Chieftain

Sandy Milligan

Immediate Past Chieftain

Ken Suttie

Vice Chieftain

Jeff Crookes

Hon Secretary

Brian McMurdo

Hon Treasurer

Pauline Sedgwick

Members

Cameron Dickson

Bob McGhee

Diana Paxman

Thelma Koppi

Jacqui Ure

Margaret Weir

Mistress of the Dance

Dawn Cromb

Website

<http://saintandrew.org.au>



Sunday beautiful Sunday

Sunday is a great day of the week, when we can relax and do what we like . . . a bit of gardening for some, going to the church for others or just lazing with the Sunday papers.

It is also a day when we have a bit of time on our hands and as the day wears on we start to think about going to work the next day . . . yeeuk!

Well, the Society has very thing to help you use up some of that spare time and ease the going-to-work blues on at least one Sunday.

The Committee has decided to hold the Society's Annual General Meeting on Sunday 27 February, instead of the traditional Friday, and we aim to make it as relaxed as possible, as befits a Sunday event.

As usual, the AGM will be followed by a meal (chicken and salad followed by dessert, coffee and tea) and a mini-ceilidh, with dancing to recorded music.

We figure it would finish up by around 9pm . . . in time for you to go home and have another cup of tea before going to bed.

So instead of just sitting about on that Sunday, you can grab a couple of bottles of your favourite tippie and come over to the Mt Hawthorn Community Centre, on the corner of The Boulevard and Scarborough Beach Road in Mt Hawthorn.

The idea is to get there by 4.30pm, have a chat and a drink until 5pm, and then get down to the business of the AGM . . . you might even consider putting your hand up for a position on the Committee.

The Society is always looking for people who are willing to give up a little of their spare time to serve on the Committee in some capacity.

Let's face it, there would be no events for everyone to enjoy unless there were committee members working together to make them happen!

What is needed are Society members who are self-starters, with the nous, energy and

commitment to make each event a rousing success.

It's also important that you have an understanding of Scottish culture . . . and being Scottish or of Scottish ancestry is a definite advantage!

You also have to be a paid-up member of the Society to vote at the AGM and become a Committee member.

Actually, although there's a bit of work involved in organising Society events, and there's a meeting to attend once a month, it isn't a bad job being a Committee member.

You can make great friendships through Committee involvement.

After the meeting is finished, the sound system will be cranked up, some food will be put on the table and we'll while the early evening away with a couple of drinks and a bit of dancing.

Doesn't that sound great?

See the attached flier for full details.

Get The Saltire by email . . . you know it makes sense

It would make the Committee's job much easier if we could send you The Saltire by e-mail . . . no stamps, envelopes, address labels, folding time and posting.

It would also save the Society a bit of money each year.

The benefit for you is that you would get The Saltire in colour (we can't afford to print it in colour for mailing).

So, please send your e-mail address to:
Brian McMurdo [bdmcmurdo@hotmail.com]



The Members' Spot

Do you have something you would like to share with the other Society members?

Well, this is your chance . . . take the pressure off the Editor by sending in your contributions!

It could be:

- ◆ News and pictures from Scotland.
- ◆ Your favorite Scottish recipe.
- ◆ A special holiday destination, including hotel or B & B information to pass on.
- ◆ A joke — Scottish or otherwise (clean of course)
- ◆ Birthdays, new babies, new grandchildren, weddings, anniversaries, etc, with pictures.

Just drop an email to kas@inet.net.au or send it through Australia Post to The Saltire Editor, PO Box 479, West Perth WA 6872 .

Good Scottish Blonde Wife

On a bitterly cold winter's morning a husband and wife in Glasgow were listening to the radio during breakfast.

They heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through."

So the good wife went out and moved her car as instructed.

A week later while they are eating breakfast again, the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through".

The good wife went out and moved her car again.

The next week they are again having breakfast when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must park....."

Then the power went off. The good wife was very upset, and with a worried look on her face she said, "I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snow ploughs can get through?"

Then, with all the love and understanding in his voice, that men who are married to blondes always exhibit, the husband replied "Why don't you just leave the bloody car in the garage this time?"

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Oldest Burns statue in need of repair

Stone from a Scots quarry is to be sent to Australia to repair the oldest existing statue of Robert Burns.

The sculpture, carved by John Greenshields in 1826, was shipped to Australia in the 1850s by a wealthy Scot, and has been on display ever since in the Botanical Gardens, in Camperdown, Victoria, .

But it has been in poor repair for several years.

Writer Gordon Ashley discovered the significance of the statue while carrying out research for a novel set in Scotland.

The Australian National Trust contacted the British Geological Society asking if it could suggest the best type of stone for repairs.

The best match has now been found at the Drumhead Quarry in Denny, Stirlingshire.

The stone to be used to repair the statue will come from excavations already carried out.

Kirsty James of the Australian National Trust said the Trust was currently trying to raise public awareness of the importance of the Victorian statue.

“There has been some restoration work carried out on the statue, but it has been done using inappropriate stone and techniques,” she said.

“It is thrilling to have the opportunity to restore the statue using the correct stone, and we are delighted to be working with the community in Denny to do this.”

Seemingly, the Drumhead sandstone is of a very high quality, which could also be used for the repair and maintenance of important heritage buildings throughout Scotland.



Have you changed your mail or email address recently?

To make sure that our records are up-to-date, fill in the form below with your new contact details and mail it to The Hon Secretary, PO Box 479, West Perth WA 6005.

Or you could go into our website (<http://saintandrew.org.au>), click on “Contact Us” and complete the form there and send it in.

Name:

Address:

.....

Phone: Email:



Angela says thanks

You may remember that the Society recently helped a young WA dancer, Angela Mitchell, to go to Scotland to compete in major dancing competitions.

In our October issue we reported on her success over there and Angela has since sent a letter of thanks to the Society.

"I ended up coming home with six medals and a trophy," Angela writes.



"It has given me experiences which I will put to use when I become a teacher myself.

"Thanks again for giving me this opportunity that I will never forget."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Annual General Meeting: February 27
Venue: Mt Hawthorn Community Centre

Chieftain's Ceilidh: May 7
Venue: RAAFA Club, Bullcreek

Xmas in July Ceilidh: July 23
Venue: Yokine Bowling Club

Spring Ceilidh: Date to be advised
Venue: To be advised

St Andrew's Day Ball: November 26
Venue: Novotel Langley Hotel

2012

Burns Supper: January 25
Venue: To be advised

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Feel free to drop in and see
a kilt "under construction"!



The Saint Andrew Society of WA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2011

4.30pm for 5.00pm

**MOUNT HAWTHORN COMMUNITY CENTRE
SCARBOROUGH BEACH ROAD, MT HAWTHORN**

FOLLOWED BY A MINI-CEILIDH

Light Meal at \$10 a head ♦ BYO Drinks ♦ Dancing to recorded music

Please come along and show your support for the Society

Numbers dining required for catering purposes. If staying for the meal and mini-ceilidh, complete and send in the form below, with payment, by **21 February 2011** to

The Treasurer, Saint Andrew Society of WA, PO Box 479, West Perth WA 6005

Cheques should be made payable to 'The Saint Andrew Society of WA'.

Or pay by electronic funds transfer to The Commonwealth Bank; BSB: 066105; Acc No: 00901144 detailing sender and items covered by payment

[It's time to renew your Society membership.](#)

Annual subscriptions (\$30 per member) can be paid by mail (see below), EFT or at the AGM.

[Remember you must be a financial member to vote or stand for office at the AGM.](#)

For further information contact Ken Suttie on kas@iinet.net.au or call 0410 825 607

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....
.....

PHONE:..... EMAIL:

- I/we will be attending the Saint Andrew Society AGM and wish to book a meal.
- I/we will be attending the Saint Andrew Society AGM, but do not wish to book a meal.
- I/we wish to pay my/our membership subscription.

No of MEMBERS = \$