



Nollaig Chridheil agus Bliadhna Mhath Ùr

[The future format of The Saltire](#)

Welcome to this, the 2016 Christmas edition of the Saltire and the first edition in its new format. With the successful overhaul of our website and the steady stream of newsletters that we send out with information regarding our forthcoming events, the committee felt that the Saltire was due an overhaul!

Only a few years ago, the society's only means of communicating with its membership was through the Saltire, which was posted out to members only. Then the world suddenly went electronic! After thinking about this for some time and observing the rocketing price of postage stamps, we went electronic too! This enabled us to communicate more information, more often, with prettier pictures and to a wider audience than just our membership.

While we continued to send out the Saltire electronically, this was mostly duplicated effort. The committee has therefore decided that going forward, the Saltire will be used primarily for sending out the Chieftain's newsletter, as well as any other articles that members might wish to contribute.

[The Chieftain's Newsletter](#)

Firstly a very warm welcome and seasons greetings to all the members of the Saint Andrew Society WA and indeed to our supporters, their families and friends.

The year has flown past (as everyone seems to observe at this time of year!) with our Chieftain's, Saint Andrew's Day and various other ceilidhs; the Weekender at El Caballo; the Saint Andrew Society Ball and many dance classes now seeming so long ago. But having said that, they were a great success with overall attendance numbers up on last year.

Prior to the ball our Master of the Dance, Reggie McNeill, ably assisted as always by Brian McMurdo and others, organised a series of dance classes over a six week period, to provide the foundations for newcomers and to help repeat offenders to hone their skills in traditional Scottish Country Dancing. For me, the highlight of the ball itself was 51 ACU Swan Regiment Drums & Pipes, who were outstanding in both their playing and also other entertainment, such as the Sword Dance, which was performed with excellence.

I would like to pay tribute to the SASWA Executive and Committee Members for their outstanding contributions this year, which have helped the Society continue to grow and flourish. The Committee, their spouses and friends have worked hard to ensure our events meet and indeed exceed member's and guest's expectations. Membership this year has risen to near 100.

The Committee relies on the support of the Members of the Society and to that end I would ask that you support us in addressing your expectations for the Society by renewing your membership next year as well as actively encouraging new members.

Finally I would take the opportunity to again thank you for your support throughout 2016 and wish you and yours a Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year.

Cheers!

Douglas Melville
Chieftain,
Saint Andrew Society of WA.



Reggie and Esther McNeill, showing us how it's done at the Christmas Ceilidh.

Upcoming events

2017 Burns Supper

Date: Wednesday 25 January 2017

Our 2017 Burns Night festivities are being held in the Terrace Ballroom at the Hyatt Regency Perth, commencing at 7pm on Wednesday 25th of January (when else!).

Those wishing to share Mr. Burns' birthday celebrations will receive pre-dinner drinks on arrival (to the sound of the pipes), followed by a three course dinner, which (naturally) includes a haggis course as well as a wee dram to toast The Bard. All beer, wine and soft drinks are included in the price.

The most important meeting for the membership is:

The 2017 Annual General Meeting

Date: Friday 10 February

Perth Tattersall Club, 2 Plain Street, East Perth

The AGM provides members with the opportunity to: have input into the future direction of the Society; to vote on any proposed changes to the constitution and to elect the Chieftain, Vice Chieftain, Secretary, Treasurer and up to six Committee Members for the coming year. You may wish to nominate for a committee position for 2017 yourself, indeed, if you have an interest in, or you have skills you consider would be of benefit to the Society, I would strongly encourage you to do so.

A major item for discussion at the AGM will be the proposal to secure a club room for the society.

The Tattersall Cub is available from 5.00pm for drinks and meals at bar prices with the meeting starting at 7.00pm. Nibbles will be provided.

Whisky Tasting

Friday 10 March

Details to follow later.

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