



## Chieftain's Chatter

Welcome everyone, to another year of the Saint Andrew Society of Western Australia - our 80th anniversary year no less!

The AGM has been and gone since the last issue of the Saltire, which means of course, that we have a new committee - the members of which are as follows:

Chieftain	<a href="#">Richard Paxman</a>
Vice Chieftain	<a href="#">Ron Cooper</a>
Hon. Secretary	<a href="#">Diana Paxman</a>
Hon. Treasurer	<a href="#">Eoin Kennedy</a>
Committee Members	<a href="#">Steve Banks</a>
	<a href="#">Sammi Cooper</a>
	<a href="#">Pennie Stewart</a>
	<a href="#">Mark Wimshurst</a>
	<a href="#">Margaret Davies-Slate</a>

A big thank-you to all those that put their hand up to help this year. Of the four 'office bearers', Ron, Diana and Eoin are all in new roles this year and the five other members are all new to the committee and bring with them new enthusiasm, skills and ideas.

It is also important to acknowledge the work of the committee members that stood down this year.

Reggie McNeil, retiring Vice Chieftain, is of course a long time and hard working servant of the society. Reggie felt it necessary to stand down this year because of his professional workload, however he hopes (as do we) to be back again next year. In the meantime, he will continue in his role as the society's Dance Master and will be leading the various dance classes we will be holding through this year.

Cheryl Hill has been on the committee for seven years, the last three of which were as Treasurer. As well as handling your membership subscriptions and ticket payments, she has been a key player on the Events Sub-committee, along with Diana and Reggie, and took care of such thankless tasks as chasing raffle prizes. Cheryl, since the death of her father last year, who she spent much time looking after, is quite rightly going to devote some time to herself and go travelling this year.

Also retiring this year were Robert Bannister and Darian Ferguson. Darian, former Hon. Secretary of the society, spent time last year under-studying the activities of the Events Sub-committee, with, we hoped, a view to a more senior role in the future, but with a busy life at the moment, he was perfectly happy to sit quietly in a corner taking the minutes during the AGM, while everybody else, much to his wife Susan's delight, forgot to nominate him for this year's committee. Next year my friend!!

Lastly, I would like to offer our sympathies to James Wagner, a long time supporter and friend of the Society, who lost his fiancé, Ann Marie late last year. Anne Marie, who like James, was from Fort William, attended several of our events over the past few years and was always delighted at how kindly she was received by the Society. In 2015 she took the opportunity to reciprocate that kindness when a group from the Society completed walking the West Highland Way in Fort William. They were given a splendid reception, including a Piper, all organised by Anne Marie.

Richard Paxman  
Chieftain

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### **Membership**

A reminder to you all that this is the most advantageous time of year to renew your membership or join the Society. Membership runs from AGM to AGM and costs a mere \$30. You will get \$10 of that back if you attend the Chieftain's Ceilidh, by virtue of cheaper ticket pricing and then \$20 back if you attend the Ball and another \$20 for attending the Burns Supper. You can end up so far out in front you won't know where you are!! Join or renew now by clicking on the button below:



## Events for the 2018 / 2019 SASWA year

Last year, if you include all the dance classes we held, we ran 28 events - or it might have been 29! Can't remember! Either way it was the most the Society has ever run in a single year. The reason for running so many was that (1) we wanted to encourage new membership, (2) provide for those less keen on dancing, and (3) we had plenty of experienced organisers on the committee.

This year, based on the limited success of the reeling classes; the lower than hoped for attendance by members at the non-dancing events and with a less experienced committee, we plan on going back to a more typical calendar. And that calendar will look like this:

Pre ceilidh dance classes (x3)	(See website for dates)
Chieftain's Ceilidh	19 May 2018
Weekend away	30 June 2018
(Possible Winter Ceilidh)	TBA
Golf day	TBA
Pre-Ball dance classes (x5)	(See website for dates)
St Andrew's day 80th anniversary Ball	30 November 2018
Pre-Burns dance classes (x2)	(See website for dates)
Burns Supper	25 January 2019
2019 AGM	TBA

The 'firm' events are already posted on the website and further details will be posted as they become available.

The first series of events are the dance classes and Chieftain's Ceilidh, for which you should have already received advanced warning by email. All the details you need, times, cost etc, as well as how to book your tickets, are available on the [website](#)!



***"NO, NO! Not bra support...PASSPORT! Je wants a new British passport.  
NO, NOT CARPORT! Parlez-vous Anglais, you moron? Wait. Don't hang up!...  
HELLO, HELLO?"***

(For those not in the know, the new British, post-Brexit passports are to be made in France!)

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## Clubhouse discussions

Those that attended the AGM will know that the possibility of some sort of arrangement for the use of the Italian Fiumano E Giuliano Club's clubhouse premises in Welshpool is back on the cards again. The most likely of several possible options is some sort of arrangement by which we would use their facilities.

As a society, we will need to consider the options very carefully before we arrive at a final decision. As a first step, Doug Melville was appointed at the AGM to lead a small working group, which will put together a Business Case, the purpose of which is to formally identify and consider the pros and cons; identify what our obligations would be and make a recommendation. Once completed, the Business Case will be circulated to the membership for consideration prior to an Extraordinary General Meeting, at which we will have to decide the way forward.

In the meantime, you are encouraged to go and have a look at the clubhouse facilities for yourselves. Club Fiumano, to use its abbreviated name, is on the corner of Welshpool Road and Roe Highway (east side of Roe Hwy.) and they provide Sunday lunch to non-members for just \$13.

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