

Blethers

May 2009



Dear Members

It hardly seems any time since Blethers was last written but it has been a whole year and many things have been happening.



In November we held our St Andrew's Ball at Beau Sejour and in January – the 250th anniversary of Robert Burns' birth – we held one of our most successful Burns' Nights at Beau Sejour. Due the huge success of these events in future you will need to book early to secure your places!

March saw the Quiz evening taking place at the Wayside Cheer Hotel and much fun was had! While April was the month when our dancers held their dance weekend and it too was enjoyed by those who were able to attend.

Some of our events, however, did not come to fruition and hopefully this New Year will see some of them taking place. Look out for a golf match and fishing trips!

If you have any suggestions for further events that you would like to see appearing on the GSA calendar please do not hesitate to tell a committee member or myself about it. I wish you all a very enjoyable year and look forward to seeing you at our various events.

Slainthe!

*Stewart Chisholm
President*

St Andrew's Ball 2008

This year we were unable to hold the ball on St Andrew's Day but this did not seem to deter the members and guests who attended!



We were superbly entertained by our guest speaker, David Taylor, and also by the Wednesday

Evening Demonstration Dancers who showed us all how Scottish country dancing should be done! The Thistle Band led by Doctor Paul Riley provided excellent dance music throughout the evening.

Indeed, it was a great evening of fun, entertainment, education and dancing – I for one am looking forward to this year's ball!

Dates for your Diary:

June 29th 2009 – evening fishing trip with Peter Perrio – flier to follow
July/August - a full day fishing trip with Peter P – precise details to finalise.

September – Stuart Hardie will be organising another golf outing for the GSA trophies

October – Whisky evening with Liam Ruddy

30th November - Beau Sejour, St Andrew's Ball

Burns' Night 2009

Celebrating the 250th Birthday of Robert Burns was an occasion too good to miss for the GSA committee and in particular Mr Stuart Hardie

who was the main organiser of this year's celebrations – and what an excellent job he did! He managed to bring down some pipers who entertained the maximum crowd with wonderful reels, jigs and strathspeys – in particular a very haunting and emotive rendition of Highland Cathedral. As well as this, President Stewart recited 'to a Haggis' – as it should be read and John Fitzgerald gave us an Anglicised and very amusing version for those who did not understand the first!

Kevin Stewart, formerly of Island FM, was charged with entertaining and informing with The Immortal Memory. Stuart Hardie proposed

the 'Toast tae the Lasses' and a cross dressing Dave McGall replied. Once again the Thistle Band was there to get us all dancing - and that we certainly did!

It was a superb evening and one that you should not miss next year.

Annual Quiz Evening 2009

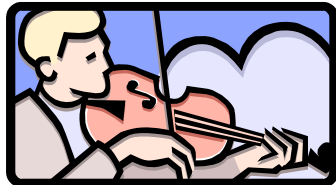
Following on from last year Mr Peter Perrio once again provided the association with a quiz to remember.

The Wayside Cheer Hotel filled with eager quizzers who were soon to be yelling with glee or scratching their heads – depending on their knowledge. The hotel provided us with an enjoyable basket meal at half time, which was accompanied with a round of 'match the phobia'. Amazingly, one team managed to get 36 out of 40!



Eventually the end arrived and winners and losers were announced – a team made up mainly of teachers from the Grammar School won, while the team led by our President achieved the wooden spoon or in this case the chocolate eggs!

**April
Dance
Weekend
2009**



The dancing group hosted their annual dance weekend at La Mare de Carteret School on the last weekend of the Easter holiday. We welcomed 6 dancers from UK, 6 from Brittany and 17 from Jersey. They joined our stalwart local dancers for a Social Dance and Supper on the Friday evening, to music provided by Phill on his 'magic band accordion', with a bit of help from local lass Louise.

All gathered again on Saturday morning – really just for the coffee, chat and ploughman's lunch – though we did practice a few of the more complicated and unfamiliar dances!

The Grand Ball on Saturday evening started with a welcoming glass of sparkling wine to get us ready to follow the pipers in a grand march into the hall. With sets made up, we jigged, reeled and strathspeyed away the evening, this time with the full band, Ceol Na H'Alba, to inspire us. The delicious buffet was prepared by ladies from St John Ambulance and we were delighted to be able to give them the proceeds of the raffle.

The rest of the catering was arranged locally with contributions from many of our members.

The Guernsey Dance Weekend has a reputation for friendliness and excellent hospitality – this year can only have added to it.

AGM 26th April

The AGM was held at the Rocquettes Hotel. The President, Mr Stewart Chisholm welcomed the members and gave a review of the previous year, thanking his committee for all their help and support. As usual the audited accounts were reviewed and agreed after a little discussion which led to the decision that the membership fees would remain as they were for another year!

The Guernsey Scottish Association has a variety of gifts for sale that could make excellent presents.

- Crystal glasses
- Silk ties
- GSA polo shirts

Please contact a committee member for further details.

Your Committee:

*Stewart Chisholm, Kenny Lloyd,
Stuart Hardie, Angus Kemp, Grant
Howitt, Katherine Adam, Jacqui
Sallis and Liam Ruddy*

This is your Association and if you have any good ideas or you would simply like to help out, please do not hesitate - get in touch!!

So, if you are interested please contact Stewart Chisholm or any of the other committee members.