



MID-SUSSEX CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER July 2014

RECENT EVENTS

AGM / Wine and Cheese Social

Haywards Heath Town Hall

Friday 6th June 2014

24 members attended the AGM and Wine and Cheese party which was slightly up on last year.

The format of the meeting was changed slightly with the wine and cheese social taking place prior to the formal proceedings. It was thought that would give members time to discuss the problems arising from a lack of volunteers for committee posts.

The President, Carol Blake, had circulated a copy of her full report to the Society prior to the start of the meeting.

The President then addressed the meeting and made additional comments:-

"I hope you have all read my report which was circulated well before this meeting. As you will have read, numbers at most events dropped yet again. However, both St. Andrew's Night and Burns' Night celebrations showed an increase in numbers attending. Burns' Night, in particular, which was held in a new venue, was very successful.

The Treasurer's report will show that St. Andrew's Night was heavily subsidised by the Society. Those attending paid only £20, which did not even cover the cost of the meal, BUT numbers were up - 42, compared with 33 the previous year. For Burns' Night, members paid only £30 which was the meal price charged by the Cottesmore Golf and Country Club, but again numbers were up - of the 80 people present, 64 were Society members and their guests (the previous year the number was 46!). The Society subsidised Burns' Night by paying the charge for hiring the Barn, where dancing took place after the dinner.

The present committee has, optimistically, booked Wivelsfield Village Hall for a St. Andrew's Night dinner/dance on 28th November 2014, and Lulu is willing to cater for the event. A provisional booking has been made at the Cottesmore Golf and Country Club for Burns' Night 2015 and must be confirmed and deposit paid or cancelled soon after this meeting. In my report, you will have read the suggestion of a former President as to how the organisation of future major events could be handled (a sub committee to be formed to organise each event). So far we have a small group who will take charge of St. Andrew's Night (IF IT HAPPENS!).

As mentioned in my main report, those members who replied to my survey (and thank you to those who did) all wanted to retain St. Andrew's Night and Burns' Night events. Therefore no plans have been made for any events other than the Golf Day and Garden Party at the end of this month, and St. Andrew's and Burns' Night.

This meeting will decide if we go ahead; crucially, according to the current Society Rules, we MUST elect a President. I have served the MAXIMUM term of three years. If no-one comes forward, we must decide NOW if the Society is to continue and how it can be run."

The Treasurer, Reg Finkle, presented the Balance Sheet which showed an overall loss over the year of £464 mainly due to the subsidies for St Andrew's and Burns' Night. Reg thanked Bernard Hawkins for again filling the role of Auditor but stated that Bernard would be stepping down from the role as he has moved away from the area.

Five members of the Committee have stepped down, Carol Blake, Julian Blake, Reg Finkle, Helen Firmin and Leila Wilson. It was emphasized that any positions, but especially those of President and Vice President, could be accepted for a one-year term. There is still room for additional Committee members if anyone wishes to assist.

The new Committee for 2013/14 is as follows:

President:	Marian Imrie
Vice President:	Iain Millar
Hon. Secretary/	
Membership Sec.:	Diane Johnstone
Hon. Treasurer:	Jennifer Russell
Committee Members:	David Anderson
	Maureen Anderson
	Gordon Russell
Auditor:	Reg Finkle

The following members have volunteered to lead groups to organise an event:-

St. Andrew's Night – Gordon Russell
Burn's Night – Bob Imrie
Family Walk & Scottish tea – Reg Thirkettle

In addition, several members have indicated their willingness to help in various capacities.

There was some discussion as to the viability of holding Dance Practices or the At Home event in the future. (There was little support for these in the recent Questionnaire.) This will be considered by the incoming Committee.

MSCS Annual Golf Competition

Hassocks Golf Club,

Friday 27th June 2014

The annual MSCS golf competition, well organised again by Ian Burt, was held at Hassocks Golf Club.

Eighteen golfers took part, including five ladies - an excellent turn-out, and a welcome return for the ladies who were absent last year for a variety of reasons.

The golf was played throughout a long afternoon in wonderful weather, so everyone was quite tired at the end.

Seven players attended the Garden party at Ditchling afterwards for the prize-giving. The overall winner and winner of the Men's trophy was Steve Mitchell with 37 points. Runner-up overall was Alex Henderson with 36 points.

The winner of the Ladies' Trophy was Margaret Delves with 31 points. Linda Adamson was runner-up with the same points total, but losing on a count-back. The team Yellow Ball competition was won by Margaret and Allan Delves and Marian and Bob Imrie.

Nearest the Pin competition was won by Peter Johnstone.

Ian thanks all players for their support for this competition, and help on the day.



Summer Garden Party

Ditchling

Friday 27th June 2014

24 members attended the Summer Garden Party held in the garden at the Ditchling home of Helen Firmin. All week rain had been forecast but the we were lucky to have good weather although it got chilly as the evening progressed.



As always, we had a superb choice of delicious salads, quiches and desserts brought by members to accompany the salmon and ham. Ian Burt reported the

results of the golf competition as described above and presented the trophies and various prizes to the winners. Marian thanked the members for their contributions to the spread and she also thanked Helen for hosting the event in such beautiful surroundings

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

St Andrew's Social/Dance Practice

Sunday 23rd November 2014

Old School Hall, Cuckfield

St Andrew's Night Celebration

Friday 28th November 2014

Village Hall, Wivelsfield

Burns' Social/Dance Practice

Sundays 18th January 2015

Old School Hall, Cuckfield

Burns Night Celebration

Saturday 24th January 2015

Cottesmore Golf Club

Family Walk & Scottish Tea

Sunday 17th May 2015

Handcross

AGM/ Wine and Cheese Social

Friday 5th June 2015

Haywards Heath Town Hall

Golf Day / Summer Garden Party

June 2015

Action for Children

Saturday 1st November 2014

Methodist Church Hall

Perrymount Road

Haywards Heath

Advance notice on this event. MSCS has been asked by Action for Children to lead the dancing for another supper and Scottish country dance evening at the above location. Some of you may remember that we have organised two of these events previously. It consists of some demonstration dancing followed by Members trying to entice the Action for Children supporters to participate in some simple dances. It is great fun and a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

News of Members

As most of you know, one of our longest standing members, Donald Barratt died recently. We pass on our condolences to Joy and family.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Finally, a reminder that subscriptions for 2014/15 are now due. There is no change from last year - £8 single membership or £10 for families.

Many members currently pay by direct debit and we would like to encourage more to do so as it cuts down on administration and the need to chase up outstanding subscriptions.

If you would like to pay by direct debit, please complete the attached form and send it to your bank requesting the initial payment to be made on 30th September.