

Write of the Line

www.royalscotsclub.com

December 2015

Looking forward to 2016!

As well as our ever-popular Club events such as The Burns Supper, St Andrews Night Dinner, Speakers Lunches and Tattoo Night, we are going to be holding many new and exciting events at the Club in 2016.

Look out for a **'Brass on the Grass'** Summer picnic on 31st July and a special **Racing Dinner** on 24th September, the night before The Royal Regiment of Scotland Musselburgh Races, with our very own racing pundit to help you back the winners! And our **Anatomy Day** on 4th April (see below) should not be missed.

Attending these club occasions is a great way to meet other members and make new friends, as well as having an enjoyable time. Why not make it your New Year's Resolution to try out these new events, as well as continuing to enjoy all your traditional favourites?

Anatomy Day at the Club Monday 4th April 2016

It may seem an odd thing to do on a Monday in April, but attendance at our Anatomy Day will surely bring its rewards! Combining science and the arts, it will offer a look at the human body from a variety of different angles.

We have lined up a series of top class contributors who will inform and entertain.



Professor Sue Black, world-renowned professor of Anatomy and Forensic Anthropology at the University of Dundee, will start the day with her lecture on forensics.



Martin Clayton, Senior Curator of Prints and Drawings at The Royal Collection, is an expert on the anatomical drawings of Leonardo da Vinci



George Donald RSA RSW, painter, printmaker and lecturer in studio arts, will demonstrate drawing the human form, from a live model.

The day begins with coffee & pastries at 10am, there is a break for lunch at 1.00pm, and after coffee at 3.30pm there will be a final round-up panel discussion from all three contributors.

This is a unique opportunity to get a fascinating inside view of the body and how it is structured and used - and in a very easy and entertaining way.

You do **not** need to be an expert - this is how we should ALL learn about science

The full day costs £30.00pp, £35.00 for non-members, including lunch and all refreshments

Anatomy & art in a day – what a great way to spend a Monday!

The RSC Annual Burns Supper

Friday 22 January 2016

What a night we have for you in January. Not only is journalist and former newspaper editor,

Magnus Linklater CBE, giving **'The Immortal Memory'**,

we also have award-winning crime author,

Val McDermid to give the **'Reply for the Lassies'**.



Val McDermid



Magnus Linklater

Along with excellent musical performers, this will be another Burns Supper to remember. Book quickly as places are now limited.

6.30 for 7.00pm, £36.00pp

RSC Scheme for Young Musicians

As well as new events, the club is starting a new initiative to encourage, support & develop Scottish traditional music.

We are inviting Club members to sponsor young musicians aged 12 – 15 years, who play either the **bagpipes, clarsach, fiddle or accordion**.

You will find enclosed a leaflet giving full details of this scheme and how you can participate at various different levels, with the benefits involved.



This is wonderful new venture for the club and we hope it will be fully supported by the members



From the Chairman

The autumn has been a busy time for your committee and staff members. Planning and executing our programme of activities takes time, but the great reward comes when we are able, with you, to take part in and enjoy what is on offer.

Our programme for 2016 is even more extensive than previously and we do hope that you will find much in it that attracts you. Alongside the old favourites there are a number of new events and ideas for participation. More and regular Club dinners will bring in some exciting and interesting speakers, the spring lunches will introduce three chiefs of our emergency services, Monday lectures will look at music and art and will offer responses from non-combatants in the Great War. The Japanese tea ceremony in February will give a warm insight into another culture. New to the programme in April is our Anatomy Day, running as a contribution to the Edinburgh Science Festival taking place at that

time. Details of these and other events and activities can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

The festive seasons of Christmas and the New Year are soon upon us. May I remind you that the cabinet showing our Club merchandise is an excellent place for window shopping and all goods can be purchased from the duty receptionist? A look through our list of companies offering benefits to our members may also prove fruitful on the present front!



I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

John Lloyd, Chairman

Club News Club News Club News Club News Club News Club News



Survey helps with planning

A recent internet-based survey of a representative group of members has thrown up a number of interesting points. With general satisfaction of the Club and our activities quite evident, some criticism and many good ideas have been noted and will be acted upon by both committees and staff. It is planned that such a survey will become a regular event and that in future more members will be invited to take part.

When did you first visit the Club?

We are looking for members who have very long memories! Do you remember your first time in the club, and why you were here? We are looking especially for memories about the club before the 1950s. If you have any memories - good or bad! - from that era of the club, please get in touch with Janet on **0131 556 4270** or membership@royalscotsclub.com We'd love to hear from you!

Our RSC Carol Concert

Don't forget we have our candle-lit Carol Concert on **Tues 15th December**, with the wonderful Edinburgh Military Wives Choir joining us again. This is a poignant but festive evening, with Rev Neil Gardner presiding over proceedings and wine and mince pies after the concert.



Chairman visits Belfast

Club chairman, John Lloyd was a guest at the 130th anniversary dinner of our reciprocal club The Ulster Reform in Belfast. Whilst in the city he took the opportunity to visit Palace Barracks, the home of the Royal Scots Borderers, 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland. "The dinner was a most friendly affair," says John, "and the members certainly celebrated in style - with a casino for after-dinner entertainment! My trip to visit the battalion the following day was also most enjoyable. Before lunch I was able to expound on the joys of membership and encourage use of the Club when the soldiers are in Edinburgh. Also, it was good to see the Club's old billiard table well set up and obviously getting full use in the officers' mess."



John in the Mess after lunch with 1SCOTS

Rugby Rooms

We still have bedroom availability for the weekend of the Scotland/England Rugby International on 6th February, two night minimum stay. These will go very quickly so phone our reservations team now - 0131 556 4270.

Have you a special interest you can share?

Your Club should be a place where you can enjoy a full and satisfactory social experience with like-minded people. And so it is proposed to set up a series of special interest group, or sections, further to enhance your opportunities for good living.

We want these groups to be self-supported and self-sustaining and each section will be expected to be run independently, but within the general orbit of the Club.

Popular ideas so far include walking, fishing, golf, theatre, art appreciation, wine & gourmet food and a reading group.

Do you have a special interest that you would like to share with your fellow members?

The Club committee is calling for volunteers who might take on the task of being a convenor, who will be encouraged to gather a small group to help plan and execute the activities, to which all members will be invited.

Help will be given in the early stages to suggest particular speakers and/or suitable activities, both within and outwith the Club. Each section will be able to book a suitable meeting room within the Club free of charge.

If you have any ideas and might like to help, please contact the chairman John Lloyd
johnlloyd@mediamatters.info





Mio Shapley demonstrating the tea ceremony

Japanese Tea Ceremony & Afternoon Tea

Wed 17 February, 3.00pm, £21.50

Join us for this most enigmatic of ceremonies, beautifully demonstrated by **Mio Shapley** who is an expert in Japanese culture and is a qualified master of the Urasenke Tea Ceremony.

She will be ably assisted by club member Atsuko Clement. We will also be talking about the kimono and will be shown exactly how to wear these exquisite garments.

This will be a lovely afternoon so come along with friends for this most tranquil of events, with a delicious traditional afternoon tea served after the ceremony.



A magical musical evening with a capella group

INCOGNITO Wednesday 6th April

Come along to a fabulous cabaret evening of supper and songs!

This wonderful a cappella group originally formed in 2011 to perform at a friend's surprise birthday party, and so the name **INCOGNITO** was born! The singers are all members of the much larger award-winning **Forth Valley Chorus**, and since forming, they have performed at a variety of concerts, Christmas entertainments and charity events in and around Edinburgh. Their songs are all performed in 4-part a cappella harmony and include traditional Barbershop arrangements, jazz numbers, blues, swing, and pop classics from the 50s and 60s.

Definitely something for everyone!

Supper served at 6.30pm, concert starts at 8.00pm, finishes 9.00pm.

£20.00pp, including supper

Evening Lectures at the RSC Winter/Spring Series 2016, Jan - April

There are again some fascinating lectures this season, so come along the first Monday evening of each month.

Lectures start at 7.00pm and last for approximately one hour.

All lectures are free to attend for members and their guests. Please let the office know if you plan to attend so that we can estimate numbers.

Why not book a table for high tea or dinner and make a night of it? – high tea is served from 5pm on the Monday lecture evening

Mon 11th January 2016

'The Pipers of Scotland'

Alistair McEwan, part of 'Edinburgh's War Project'

This talk will explore how the value of the pipes was demonstrated in every action involving Scottish troops during WWI. It seemed that whenever Scottish troops were flagging or struggling against the odds, a piper emerged and rallied the men.



Mon 1 February 2016

'Scottish Artists of the First World War'

Dr Patricia Andrew

Until recently, the Scottish contribution to art of the First World War has been rather neglected.

In her well-illustrated lecture Dr Andrew will discuss why this was so, showing many examples (both dramatic and reflective) produced during the War and as memorials to commemorate it.



Mon 7 March 2016

'Nursing at home during the Great War'

Yvonne McEwan

This talk will cover many aspects of the difficult nursing undertaken by the nurses who stayed at home, and gave nursing care to the young soldiers sent home with horrific physical and mental injuries from the Great War.

Nursing in Edinburgh during Great War



Mon 11 April 2016

The Pentland Way: A Walk with History

Lt Col Bob Paterson OBE

Bob, a founder member of the Friends of the Pentlands, will be talking about 'The Way', which runs from Dunsyre to Swanston and will be talking about who has lived, travelled through, or appreciated these hills, and perhaps been inspired by them long before ourselves.

The Pentlands



Scottish Speaker Lunches

Winter/Spring Season 2016, February-April

£15pp or £42 for all three

We will be hosting a new season of these popular Speaker Lunches in the New Year, held on the third Monday of the month. These lectures have become very popular, so why not treat yourself to a delicious two course lunch, good company and an interesting talk – what else would you be doing on a Monday lunchtime?

Mon 15 Feb 2016

Alasdair Hay

Chief Fire Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

Chief Officer Alasdair Hay joined the fire service as a trainee fire-fighter in 1983 and worked his way up through the ranks before being appointed as the first Chief Officer of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in Autumn 2012.



Mon 21 March 16

A senior representative from Police Scotland

Due to the resignation of Sir Stephen House, we are awaiting confirmation of a replacement speaker from Police Scotland. This should be confirmed early in 2016.

Monday 18 April, 2016

David Craig

CEO, Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance

Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA) was launched in May 2013 to assist the Scottish Air Ambulance Service (SAAS) to deliver front-line care to time-critical emergencies across Scotland. SCAA provides a fully equipped medical helicopter that can be deployed from its central base at Perth Airport to incidents across the length and breadth of Scotland.



Reciprocal Club Information Reciprocal Club Information Reciprocal Club Information Reciprocal

Delhi Gymkhana Club, New Delhi



We are delighted to report that our reciprocal agreement with the Delhi Gymkhana Club has now been re-instated for all RSC members apart from those who are resident in India. This is a beautiful club with many facilities including accommodation. Well worth a visit if in Delhi.

www.delhigymkhana.org.in

Royal Canadian Military Institute, Toronto



A bedroom at the RCMI

After extensive redevelopment, this excellent club has now re-opened with a great combination of modern facilities and old world charm. With several dining rooms, luxury overnight accommodation and a state-of-the-art fitness club, this is the place to stay in Toronto.

www.rcmi.org

RSC member Dr Fazlul Chowdhury lecturing to the Medical and Nursing Staff of IIMCH, a budding Medical and Dental College Complex in Chittagong, during his recent visit to Bangladesh, where he stayed at our reciprocal club, **The Chittagong Club.**



Union Jack Club, London

Please note, only RSC members with military service are able to use the overnight accommodation at this Club, and only residents are able to use the dining facilities.

New Club in Washington DC

The Sulgrave Club, 1801 Massachusetts Avenue



The Sulgrave Club, located in the centre of Washington DC, offers elegant fine dining, beautiful settings for private parties and eight comfortable guest rooms. Open from early September through late June, the Sulgrave is a home-away-from-home for its guests.

We have already had one of our members visit this new club and they said it was a gem – staff very attentive and excellent food.

Please note - Strict dress code – jacket & tie at all times apart from breakfast when tie not required

www.sulgraveclub.org

STAFF PROFILE

Receptionist



Jade Kuźniewska

Jade is originally from Szczecin in Poland but has lived in Scotland for 8 years. She previously worked at The George Hotel and The Sheraton Hotel, and has now been working as one of our reception team for over 18 months.

Jade's real passion however, is flowers, and she is currently also training as a florist.

Her interests are cycling and swimming, and she manages to return to Poland regularly to see her family and friends.

Past Events Past

RSC Waterloo Dinner



The Club held a hugely successful and enjoyable dinner in June, to celebrate our victory over Napoleon 200 years ago. Despite this, the French Consul General graciously agreed to attend and he and historian Trevor Royle gave excellent talks after a delicious dinner.

Top table guests

Charity Cookery Demonstration

This autumn, the club held a Charity Cookery Demonstration in aid of **Alzheimer Scotland**, which was great fun and a great success. The photo shows Richard Meadows of Great Grog who held an excellent wine tasting to match the dishes, Head chef Bremner who demonstrated how to make the delicious food, and Jimmy Sinclair, Club member and great supporter of Alzheimer Scotland. The event raised over £700.00.



*Left:
Richard, Brem & Jimmy*

*Right:
The delicious leg of lamb with honey stuffing and barley brie.*



Remembrance Sunday

Maj Gen Mark Strudwick, Chairman of the Club Trustees, about to lay a wreath at the Club Memorials, before Remembrance Sunday Lunch.

St Andrew Night Dinner

We had a superb guest speaker in Prof Norman Drummond CBE, at this year's dinner. His talk was relevant, informative and very funny, which is an excellent combination! We also had beautiful singing from Maj Jan McClean and wonderful fiddling from Thoren Ferguson, on the Wilfred Owen violin.



Top table guests

November Speakers Lunch



Members had a real treat when they came to hear Dame Anne Glover DBE, past Chief Scientific Adviser to Scotland, speak at the November lunch. Dame Anne covered many subjects, not all scientific, and was passionate about encouraging women to go into science as a career. A great ambassador for the promotion of science, to everyone.

Dame Anne Glover with Club Chairman John Lloyd



New Dining Promotion starts in January!

Visit the club dining room eight times for a 3 course Market Menu dinner between 5th January and 31st March, and we will give you a complimentary 3 course Market Menu Dinner in April or May.

We will issue you with a loyalty card after your first meal, with the first stamp on it, and then you just collect 7 more stamps, up until the end of March.

Couldn't be easier!

Collect another 3 stamps and get a free bottle of house wine as well.

*1, 3 course dinner, equals 1 stamp on 1 member's card (bringing 3 guests doesn't mean 3 extra stamps!)
Stamps are not transferable, you can only get your own card stamped*

If you forget your card, it must be brought in and stamped within 7 days of your meal. T&Cs apply.

Christmas Opening Times at the Club

The Club will be closed on Wed 23rd December and will reopen for lunch on Tues 29th December
Please note – there will be **NO High Tea** served 29 – 31 December.

Date	Lunch	Dinner
Wed 23 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED
Thurs 24 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED
CHRISTMAS DAY	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sat 26 – Mon 28 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tues 29 Dec	12-2pm, Betwixt Menu	7-9pm, Betwixt Menu
Wed 30 December	12-2pm, Betwixt Menu	7-9pm, Betwixt Menu
Thurs 31 December	12-2pm, Betwixt Menu	7-9pm, Betwixt Menu
Fri 1 - Mon 4 Jan	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tues 5 January	Normal opening from lunch	OPEN

Christmas Staff Fund

At this time of year, many of our members ask about donating to the staff fund.

There are several ways you can do this:

- At renewal time in June/July, donate to the Staff and Development Funds with your renewal subs.
- If you would prefer, you can send in your donations at Christmas.
- Many members prefer to tip the staff when they are in the Club on a regular basis

The donations sent in with the annual subscriptions and at Christmas, are divided up amongst ALL the staff, including those behind the scenes, and paid out in December.



Christmas Goodies!

Ideal stocking fillers

Remember, our new Club merchandise would be perfect as presents and stocking fillers:

The beautiful ladies silk scarf, our Club umbrella, the Club mug and our best-selling Club socks (for ladies & gents) are all ideal!

And not forgetting our original RS goods of Club silk ties & bow ties.

We also have our RSC Christmas card.

A pack of 10 for £7.50

Buy at Reception or for posting,
email Janet at

membership@royalscotclub.com



Betwixt Menu

Served lunch & dinner, 12-2pm & 7-9pm
29, 30 & 31 December

*Homemade sweet potato & butternut squash soup
Cullen Skink*

*Haggis bon bons with a whisky sauce
Seafood hors d'oeuvre*

*Button mushrooms with garlic & cheese sauce
Chicken liver parfait and Melba toast
Stilton & brie tart, with port & redcurrant jelly*

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*Roast leg of Scottish lamb, flavoured with rosemary
Beer battered haddock, chips, tartare sauce
Moules Mariniere with skinny fries
Coq au vin*

*Lamb Rogan Josh, pilau rice, poppadoms & mango chutney
Grilled 6oz sirloin steak, tomato & mushroom (£4.00 supplement)
Spinach, tomato & pine nut linguine, parmesan and side salad*

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*Pancakes, winter berries, ice cream
Chocolate & marmalade pudding, Chantilly cream
Jam roly poly, custard
White chocolate & Champagne bavaois
Selection of cheeses with biscuits, grapes and celery*

Lunch - 2 courses £14.00, 3 courses £16.00

Dinner - 2 courses £17.00, 3 courses £19.00

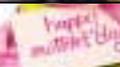
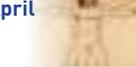
Forthcoming Events at the Club

Bookings can ONLY be taken when payment is made at the same time.

1. sending in the Booking Form with your payment – cheque or credit card
2. phoning in your booking and paying with a credit card
3. printing off the online booking form at www.royalscotsclub.com and sending/emailing it in
4. booking and paying in person to Janet in the Club office during office hours

REFUNDS For fully booked events, refunds will ONLY be made if the places returned can be resold. **NO** refunds FOR ANY EVENT will be made less than 48 hrs before an event.



Mon 11 Jan 	EVENING LECTURE Alistair McEwen 'The Pipers of Scotland during WW1'	7.00pm, free to attend
Fri 22 Jan 16 	RSC Burns Supper Magnus Linklater CBE will be giving 'The Immortal Memory' and crime-writer Val McDermid will be giving 'The Reply for the Lassies' – a night not to miss!	6.30 for 7.00pm, £36.00pp, Dress: Kilt or Lounge Suit
Tues 26 Jan 16 	RSC Burns Lunch All the good bits of Burns, without the late night! Haggis, piping, recitations, and our own Lt Cdr Dairmid Gunn giving a short Immortal Memory. Always a relaxed and sociable lunch with great entertainment.	12 for 12.30pm, £20.00pp
Mon 1 Feb 	EVENING LECTURE Dr Patricia Andrew 'Scottish Artists of the First World War'	7.00pm, free to attend
Mon 15 Feb 	SPEAKERS LUNCH Alasdair Hay, Chief Fire Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service	12 for 12.30pm, £15.00pp
Wed 17 Feb 	Members Afternoon Tea & Japanese Tea Ceremony This year we have the enigmatic Japanese Tea Ceremony demonstrated and explained to us, as well as tea-tasting and a display of exquisite kimonos. Followed by a delicious, traditionally British, afternoon tea.	3.00pm, £21.50
Sun 6 March 	Mothering Day Lunch Treat the lady in your life, to a delectable lunch at the Club	Lunch served from 12.30 to 2.00pm, £17.50pp
Mon 7 March 	EVENING LECTURE Yvonne McEwan 'Nursing at home during the Great War'	7.00pm, free to attend
Mon 21 March 	SPEAKERS LUNCH A senior representative from Police Scotland	12 for 12.30pm, £15.00pp
Sun 27 March 	Easter Sunday Lunch Another reason to have a delicious Sunday Lunch at the Club	Lunch served from 12.30 to 2.00pm, £17.50pp
Mon 28 March 	Regimental Day Lunch Book a table in the dining room with old friends and comrades for a delicious lunch	Lunch served 12 noon to 2pm
Mon 4 April 	Anatomy Day at the Club This will be a fascinating day, where you will get an inside view of the body and how it is structured. No previous knowledge required!	10am – 5pm, members £30pp, non-members £35.00pp
Wed 6 April 	INCOGNITO, a musical cabaret evening This is a fabulous a capella group with a huge and entertaining repertoire. Join us for supper and an evening of song and fun	6.30pm, £20.00 incl supper
Mon 11 April 	EVENING LECTURE Lt Col Bob Paterson, 'The Pentland Way: A Walk with History'	7.00pm, free to attend
Wed 13 April 	RSC AGM with Great Grog Wine Tasting following	7.00pm, all members welcome
Mon 18 April 	SPEAKERS LUNCH David Craig, CEO Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance	12 for 12.30pm, £15.00pp
Fri 20 May 	SPEAKERS DINNER Lord Selkirk of Douglas, James Douglas Hamilton, will speak about his father, with 'Roof of the World – Man's first flight over Everest, 1933'. Delicious 3 course dinner served before the talk.	7 for 7.30pm, £21.50pp

Douneside House, Royal Deeside

Douneside House is part of The MacRobert Trust, and was originally used as a Holiday Home for serving and retired commissioned officers of the British Armed Services. It is currently undergoing an extensive renovation programme and will re-open in April 2016. Recently faced with a reduction in guest numbers, the Trust has decided to open the house to members of the public, and are taking bookings from Easter next year.

The accommodation includes en-suite bedrooms in Douneside House, Apartments, and Cottages, a newly renovated Spa & Leisure Club, as well as extensive gardens.

Please visit their website at www.dounesidehouse.co.uk



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www.royalscotsclub.com

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