

# Write of the Line

www.royalscotsclub.com

SEPTEMBER 2017

Welcome to the September issue of your Club newsletter. We've got a jam packed autumn coming up so make sure you have your diaries at the ready! Remember you can also book your events online. You don't need to log in anywhere, just select the number of tickets and away you go.



## St Andrew's Night Dinner

Friday 24 November, 7.00 for 7.30pm £40

We are delighted to announce that the speaker for our St Andrew's Night Dinner has been confirmed, and we will be welcoming fellow Club member Reverend Iain May in November. Come and hear Iain's fascinating story from

high flying banker to minister and director of a "social justice mission".

Reverend May is a former naval officer, and served in both the Royal Navy and the Merchant Navy as a

navigating officer. He then joined Royal Bank of Scotland as a marketing manager for its credit card business in the early 1990s. After leaving RBS, Iain moved to Dublin to work for Allied Irish Banks. In 2007, Iain began training for the ministry and saw how many people were relying on the quick fix of a payday loan. The need for more preventative action was clear and as a result, Castle Community Bank was formed to provide the community with an affordable alternative. Quite a career turnaround!

This is one of the Club's most popular events so we advise booking early. A very special black tie evening which includes a wonderful 3 course dinner and a whole evening's entertainment. Decorations may be worn.

## Breakfast and A Day at The Races

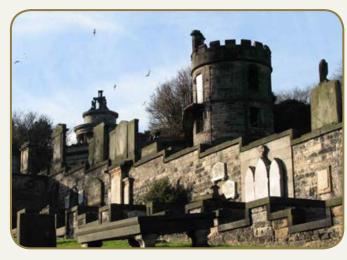
Sunday 1 October, 11.30am, £25

A great day out for all the family. We are putting on a tasty breakfast here at the Club, before taking you out to Musselburgh Race Course for the Support Your Services Race Day where you will be able to see all the action from the comfort of the Lothian Suite. Don't worry about transport - a coach will leave from the Club at 1.00 pm to get you there in plenty of time for the first race at 2.00 pm. The last race is at 5.15 pm and the return coach will leave at 5.45pm. This day out is exceptional value for only £25. Dress: Jacket and Tie.



# Spooky Fireside Chat and Supper

Tuesday 31 October, 6.30pm, £18



Whilst we don't want to wish away the summer, those longer nights are never too far away. If you're brave enough, venture into the Club on All Hallow's Eve to meet John Baxter – one of Scotland's leading historians on the Burke and Hare murders. He has been featured on ITV and BBC discussing bodysnatching and the West Port Murders. John will chat to us about various spooky goings on in the streets of Edinburgh from years gone by. We'll serve a comforting supper afterwards to soothe the nerves!





## From the Chairman Col. Clinton Hicks OBE

As we approach the autumn we can look forward to a programme of members' events that I hope will include something for everyone. There are, of course, some old favourites, which are very quickly sold out. The Club St Andrew's Night is one such event. This year we will welcome as

our guest speaker, the Reverend Iain May along with some new additions to the evening's entertainment.

Turning to another event I would strongly recommend the Race Day at Musselburgh Racecourse on Sunday 1st October. This is a 'Support your Services' day, which will feature amongst other things a display by massed pipes and drums, military displays and of course the racing. The Club has been granted exclusive use of the Lothian Suite, which is on the ground floor of the Queen's Stand with a private garden, bar and Tote betting facilities. It also enjoys a panoramic view of the racecourse.

The 11th October is the 220th Anniversary of the Battle of Camperdown. It is an important date in naval history and of particular interest because Admiral Duncan from Dundee commanded the British North Sea Fleet during the battle with the Dutch Navy. The Club will mark this event with a dinner on Saturday 14th October. You will find more information about Admiral Duncan elsewhere in this newsletter.

There are, of course, many other members' events listed in this newsletter, including details of the Young Musicians' 2017 concert on Tuesday 3rd October and a number of Speakers Lunches taking place throughout the autumn. The final event of the year will be the Chairman's Christmas Drinks on Thursday 21st December.

I hope you see you there.

**Clinton Hicks** 

## Chairman's Membership Offer

The recruitment of new members is always a priority for the Club and whilst our online facility has helped to boost membership numbers the best recruiting sergeant is still another member. In recognition of this the Club will offer a special promotion until the end of January 2018, which will entitle any current member who recruits a new member to a complimentary lunch for both parties in the Club dining room.

#### **CLUB NEWS**

## John Lloyd: An Appreciation



July 17th saw the Hepburn Suite filled for a Celebration of John's varied and colourful life, particularly in Scotland since 2000. Three members of his

family joined friends, former colleagues and representatives of organisations that he served or supported, including the Scottish Bible Society, Edinburgh Zoo and Heraldry Society of Scotland. The programme of spoken words and musical items reflected John's love of all things cultural and literary, and expressed the depth of respect and love in which he was held by so many. This was further enhanced by a fascinating display of relevant items from his home, alongside friends' interesting photographs. Part of John's legacy as Chairman was the introduction of Young Musicians, including Ryan Corbett, whose accordion playing was notably most sensitive and moving. Many thoughtful words of appreciation were recorded in two books for his family. His son, Guy, said the event triumphed.

Anne Ewing

## **Royal Scots Club App**

Did you know the Club now has an app? Download it now to see lots of information like the history of the Club, directions, best places to park, contact details, lists of reciprocal clubs, opening times and a reminder of the dress code

## Christmas isn't too far away!

Santa might not be polishing his sleigh just yet, but don't forget we have some great stocking fillers available to buy. It's easy to order online for Royal Scots gifts such as ties, prints, ladies and gents Club socks, cufflinks or for a real treat, our beautiful Club slippers. If you're a local member you can pop in and buy from Reception, or drop us an email and we can post items out to you.

## Booking accommodation soon?



We are running special bedroom rates for all RSC members between 1 September and 22 December 2017. Book a stay between these dates and receive 10% off the usual members rate. This offer can only be booked direct by phoning 0131 556 4270 and by quoting 'Members Autumn Offer'. Ts&Cs apply.

## Events been and gone

#### **WRNS** Dinner

In June we were delighted to welcome Commodore Inga Kennedy, Inspector General at Headquarters Surgeon General and the Queen's Honorary



Nursing Sister. The evening was celebrating 100 years since the formation of the Women's Royal Navy Service and was a great success. After a three course dinner, Inga spoke about the extraordinary changes that Wrens have undergone over the last decade. A super night.



## Speaker's Lunches

These lunches are held on the third Monday of the month and are fantastic value at just £15. For that you can enjoy a delicious two course lunch, good company and an interesting talk. Most people arrive at 12.00 noon to have a drink at the bar, and then lunch is served at 12.30 pm. This autumn we are focussing on some of Edinburgh's amazing architecture.

Monday 18 September 2017, 12.00 noon for 12.30pm £15 Ms Rosemary Mann,
Secretary of The Mansfield Traquair Trust



The Mansfield Traquair Trust was formed in 1993 in response to public concern about the deterioration of the condition of the former Catholic Apostolic Church in Mansfield Place, Edinburgh. There had been significant damage to the murals by Phoebe Anna Traquair and at the time there was no viable use for the building. The aims of the Mansfield Traquair Trust are to seek a sustainable long-term future for the building and to ensure that the fabric and the murals are repaired and conserved for the benefit of the public at large. All income and expenditure is dedicated to achieving these aims. There is now a Board of Trustees who bring a wealth of experience in fields of art, architecture, history of art and architecture, fund-raising, the conservation and reuse of historic buildings, project and building management. Join Rosemary in September to hear about the fascinating history of this building.

#### Monday 16 October 2017, 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm £15

## **Professor Cliff Hague,** Chairman of The Cockburn Association

The Cockburn Association is a 140 year old Scottish Charity which works to promote the conservation and enhancement of Edinburgh's landscape and historic and architectural heritage. They believe that buildings should be designed in a way that blends with and enhances their surroundings. Cliff is



Professor Emeritus of Planning and Spatial Development at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Past President of the Royal Town Planning Institute and of the Commonwealth Association of Planners and past Chair of Built Environment Forum Scotland. He will be telling us about the work of the Cockburn Association.

#### Monday 20 November 2017, 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm £15

## Mr Adam Wilkinson, Director of Edinburgh World Heritage

Edinburgh World Heritage was created in 1999 through a merger of the Old Town Renewal Trust and the New Town Conservation Committee. They represent the World Heritage Site and monitor its state of conservation as required by UNESCO. Adam was appointed Director in April 2008 and is responsible for providing executive leadership and overall management of EWH, its staff and other organisational



and financial resources. He holds an MA in Medieval History and Russian Language, and an MSc in Historic Conservation, and has a broad knowledge of UK conservation policy and architectural history. Come and hear about this important organisation to round off this series of lunches.

## Private Christmas meals at the Club

Have you booked your Christmas lunch or dinner for the office or with your friends yet? The Club is offering its usual excellent Christmas lunches and dinners in the dining room, or in a private room.

Edinburgh members will have received a Christmas Leaflet with this newsletter, but we are happy to post or email one out to anyone else who may be interested in celebrating Christmas at the Club.

Lunches start from £21.50, dinner from £29.00. Bookings are already coming in, so please contact Ayesha in our events office soon on 0131 525 6156 events@royalscotsclub.com

## **Christmas Members Events**

#### **Christmas Lunch**

Saturday 9 December, 1.00 for 1.30 pm £22.50

A Christmas extravaganza this year! Included in your afternoon of festive fun will be a glass of fizz on arrival, a delicious three course lunch with a glass of wine and a wonderful carol concert from the Military Wives Choir. In addition to all that we will be holding our ever popular raffle so don't forget to buy your tickets on the day.

#### **Chairman's Christmas Cocktails**

Thursday 21 December, 6.00 - 8.00 pm £15

A new addition to the Events Calendar. After you've done all your last minute shopping, reward yourself by coming into the Club for some festive canapes and some tasty Christmas cocktails. Got the family visiting? No problem, bring them along too!





## Young Musician's Annual Concert

#### Tuesday 3 October, 6.00 - 9.00 pm £10

Another wonderful chance to see our young musicians perform at their Annual Concert. Enjoy a glass of fizz in the Library before heading down to hear all four youngsters and their mentors showcase their amazing talents. We are also delighted to welcome back Sir James and Lady MacMillan. Drinks will be served from

6.00pm and the concert will begin at 7.00pm.
There will be have a short interval with tea and coffee half way through.
Proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to the Young Musicians Scheme.



## **Camperdown Dinner**

#### Saturday 14 October, 7.00 for 7.30 pm £30



To mark the 220th Anniversary of the Battle of Camperdown, the Club has arranged a wonderful dinner which will include an appropriate guest speaker. Not many people know that the lands now known to us as Camperdown Park were gifted to Dundonian Admiral Adam Duncan because of his decisive naval victory over a Dutch

Navy fleet. That battle was called the Battle of Camperdown, and was fought on 11th October 1797 in waters just outside Haarlem (unsurprisingly called Camperduin). Born in the Seagate in July 1731, his naval experience began at 15. He became a lieutenant less than 10 years later, and achieved commander after a further 4 years, by 1759. He continued to climb the ranks, becoming Admiral and commander-in-chief in the North Sea in 1795. He was created Viscount Duncan of Camperdown, Baron Duncan of Lundie and also was the guest of honour at a Thanksgiving Service at St Paul's Cathedral. It was attended by King George III and many lords and noblemen, who were all genuinely grateful and thankful to him for his services to his King and country. Duncan retired in 1800, aged 68, and you can find a marble statue of him in St Paul's Cathedral in Dundee, as well as a bronze statue in the centre of town. Book now for this special black tie dinner which will include a drinks reception and a delicious three course meal. Decorations may be worn and also Mess Kit where appropriate.

## Remembrance Sunday Lunch at the Club Sunday 12 November, 12.30 £17.50

Come along to the Abercromby Dining Room for a three course lunch to mark this special occasion. We will hold a short dedication at the Club memorial at 12.00 pm and then you can book in for lunch afterwards.



## 2018 Events



# Burns Lunch Tuesday 23 January 2018, 12.30 pm £21.50 A great way to celebrate the Bard, with all the usual food and entertainment but

without the late night.

Dress: Lounge Suit, something tartan

## **Burns Supper**

## Friday 26 January 2018, 7.00 for 7.30 pm £37

Our hugely popular Burns Supper always books up quickly. We will welcome Lieutenant Commander Glen MacDonald to deliver the Immortal Memory. On joining the Royal Navy as a university cadet aged 17, Glen undertook basic officer training at Dartmouth Naval College before completing an MA degree at Aberdeen University. On return to the Navy he cut his teeth as a Seaman Officer in a string of sea going roles and his final appointment was Regional Staff Officer in support of the Royal Naval Reserve Units in Scotland & Northern Ireland. He has worked with Combat Stress and now works part time for Poppyscotland. Glen lives with his wife Muriel in Fife and has two daughters. In addition to the Immortal Memory and toasts, we will also have

musical entertainment to make it an evening to remember. Dress: Lounge Suit, something tartan.

## **Speakers Lunches 2018**

Monday 19 February 2018 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm £17

#### Mr David Mitchell, Chair of Scotland's Gardens

After thirty years at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, mostly as a curator, David recently retired to become an Honorary Research Associate at the RBGE. A Fellow of the Charted Institute of Horticulture and the Royal Geographical Society, he is respected lecturer and tour leader leading groups for travel companies and Ivy League Universities. This is in addition to his long career as broadcaster with the BBC, STV, Channel Four and Radio Scotland. Join David in February where he will deliver his talk 'Gardening is the Glue'.

## Monday 19 March 2018, 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm £17

Mr Robert Ross,

Regional Operations Coordinator for Commonwealth War Grave Commission in Scotland and

#### Trustee with Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society

This talk will be on the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society - the history up to the present day, their current activities and plans for the future. Robert Studied Horticulture at Auchincruive in Ayrshire and then had a brief spell as a gardener at Duthie Park in Aberdeen during their Heritage Lotteryfunded regeneration project. Come along in March to hear more.

## Speaker's Dinner 2018

## RAF Dinner with Bob Kemp

## Thursday 22 February 2018, 7.00 for 7.30 pm £30

The seeds of airpower were sown above the battlefields



of the Somme in WW1. But the story of military aviation started before that and has interesting Scottish roots. To mark the centenary of the formation of the Royal Air Force in 2018 Group Captain Bob Kemp will tell the early story of 'War in the Air'. Come along to a drinks reception at 7.00 pm and then enjoy a wonderful three course dinner. A fascinating story to be told afterwards.

## **Evening Lectures at the RSC**

Lectures start at 7.00 pm and last for approximately one hour. All lectures are free to attend for members and their guests. Why not also have something to eat in the Dining Room and make a night of it?

#### Monday 2 October 2017

## 'Medical Expertise and the Criminal Courts' with Professor Tony Busuttil

Tony Busuttil is Regius Professor of Forensic Medicine at the University of Edinburgh and Professor of Apllied Pathology, Emeritius at the Royal College of Surgeons. Tony will give us a fascinating insight into how his work has helped some very high profile cases.

#### Monday 6 November 2017

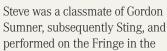
### 'In the Footsteps of Allenby - The Palestine Campaign 1917-18' with Colonel AK Miller

Col. Miller will be marking the 100th anniversary of The Palestine Campaign. His talk will principally focus on the exploits of the 52nd Lowland Division in which the Royal Scots played a significant role along with the other Lowland Regiments.

#### Monday 8 January 2018

## Between Dreams: Difficult Paths and Dangerous Places *with Steve Harvey*

In this lecture, Steve Harvey will be covering his time in pre-independence South Sudan where, in 2008, he was safety and security officer for the Irish charity, GOAL.





70s with fellow student, Liam Neeson. He's been an English teacher, youth worker, police officer, volunteer teacher in Iraq, lecturer in Modern Poetry at Suleimaniyah University, and Safety & Security Officer for an NGO in South Sudan. He's organised readings by writers including Spike Milligan, conferences with speakers such as Anne Fine and run creative writing courses in Normandy with tutors A L Kennedy and Donny O'Rourke. He's had poems published in the UK, Ireland, France and Iraq, and his memoirs, "Between Dreams: Difficult Paths & Dangerous Places", were launched at Blackwell's in Edinburgh in November 2016. The Irish writer, Eoin Colfer, called it, 'A memoir that reads like a swashbuckling novel', and of Steve's poems Scottish poet, Liz Lochhead, said that some 'will break your heart... some will make you laugh out loud.'



#### Monday 5 February 2018

'Sir Robert Sibbald 1641 -1722: A fascinating life in a dangerous time' with Iain Milne

Sir Robert Sibbald was a distinguished physician and

scientist and a founder fellow and president of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. His long life, spanned one of the most difficult periods of Scotland's history. Thanks to his rare autobiography we can relive this period in a story that features whales, golf and highwaymen. Iain Milne, Sibbald Librarian and Head of Heritage at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh will tell this interesting story. He is responsible for one of the world's great collections of historical medical literature. He has a major interest in the history of Scottish medicine particularly in the 18th and 19th century period and is the author or co-author of a number of publications on this period.

#### **STAFF STORIES**

We were sad to say goodbye to two long standing members of staff here at the Club - Kenny Loudon and Laura Beattie.

Kenny had worked as a chef at the Club since 1999, but he also delivered morning papers here as an 11 year old boy! His first cheffing job was at The Roxburgh Hotel in 1982, and he went on to work at Tatlers Restaurant, the Intercontinental George Hotel, and then The Royal Scots Club. Kenny has a 19 year old daughter, Jennifer, and likes to follow the Jambos when he can. We wish him luck in his new venuture.



Laura was our hardworking
Bar Lady who kept the
Cocktail Bar ship shape. In
her spare time Laura likes to
play guitar, something she
has done for about 14 years.
But deciding which of her
8 guitars to pick up must
be a tricky decision! After
4 years of working at the
Club, Laura has decided to
shake things up by learning
cocktail making at the Hilton
Edinburgh Carlton

And a new face joins us in the Office!

Welcome to Kirsty Duncan, our new Sales Executive. Kirsty joins us from the Hilton Hotel in Aberdeen and is originally from New Zealand. She moved to the UK in 1998 and recently graduated from Robert Gordon University. In her spare time Kirsty likes to keep fit and enjoys playing hockey. Do introduce yourself next time you visit!



## **Royal College of Physicians**

The Royal College of Physicians at 9 Queen Street would like to extend an invitation to all RSC members to their upcoming programme of public events. The College has a fascinating list of lectures and talks from now until next April. Lots of the events book up entirely, so attendees are best to book online at

www.rcpe.ac.uk/historyevents

## **Events Calendar**

You can now book your events online. Just head to the Club website and click on Members Events, you don't need to log in anywhere first. You can also book over the phone or send in a cheque with a booking form.





Mon 18 September	12.30 pm	SPEAKER'S LUNCH WITH ROSEMARY MANN £15
Sun 1 October	11.30 am	BREAKFAST AND SUPPORT YOUR SERVICES RACE DAY £25
Mon 2 October	7.00 pm	EVENING LECTURE WITH TONY BUSUTTIL
Tues 3 October	7.00 pm	YOUNG MUSICIANS CONCERT £10
Sat 14 October	7.00 pm	CAMPERDOWN DINNER £30
Mon 16 October	12.30 pm	SPEAKER'S LUNCH WITH DIRECTOR OF COCKBURN ASSOCIATION £15
Tues 31 October	6.30 pm	SPOOKY FIRESIDE CHAT AND SUPPER £18
Mon 6 November	7.00 pm	EVENING LECTURE WITH COL. AK MILLER
Sun 12 November	from 12.30pm	REMEMBRANCE DAY SUNDAY LUNCH £17.50
Mon 20 November	12.30 pm	SPEAKER'S LUNCH WITH ADAM WILKINSON £15
Fri 24 November	7.00 pm	ST. ANDREW'S NIGHT DINNER £40
Sat 9 December	12.30 pm	CHRISTMAS LUNCH £22.50
Thurs 21 December	7.00 pm	CHAIRMAN'S CHRISTMAS COCKTAILS AND CANAPES £15
Mon 8 January	7.00 pm	EVENING LECTURE WITH STEVE HARVEY
Tues 23 January	12.30 pm	BURNS LUNCH £21.50
Fri 26 January	6.30 pm	BURNS SUPPER £37
Mon 5 February	7.00 pm	EVENING LECTURE WITH IAIN MILNE
Mon 19 February	12.30 pm	SPEAKER'S LUNCH WITH DAVID MITCHELL £17
Thurs 22 February	7.00 pm	RAF DINNER WITH BOB KEMP £30



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