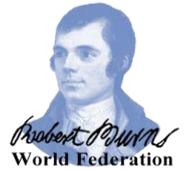




The Robert Burns World Federation Newsletter



Issue 38 May 2019

One of the most important contributions the Federation makes to Scottish culture is the promotion of competitions among the younger generation. This issue showcases that talent and demonstrates clearly that the legacy of our National Bard is in safe hands. The Schools' Festivals reflect great credit, not only of the fine work done by the Education Committee, but also on parents, teachers and friends who willingly put in immense time and effort honing skills and encouraging participation. This year's Secondary Schools' Festival at Irvine Royal Academy was no exception. Also featured is an upbeat message from President Bill Nolan on the significant progress being made by the Federation towards establishing financial stability and promoting sustainable growth.

In this Issue:	Page
- Secondary Schools' Festival	1-3
- A Family's Love of Burns	3
- Ayr Burns Club's Tom Morrall	4
- Address to a Haggis Competition	4
- Thornhill Youngsters Shine	4
- Federation's Annual Conference	5
- Easter Fun at Ellisland Farm	5
- President's Encouraging Report	6-7
- Innerpeffray Library	8
- Economic Survey on Value of Burns	8
- Mauchline Burns Club Busy Month	8-9
- Friendship Tiles	10
- Legacy Donations	10
- Camperdown Burns Festival	10
- Board Member Profile	11
- Arbroath Burns Club Welcomes Lasses	11

Lovely Polly Stewart

Chorus

O LOVELY Polly Stewart!
O charming Polly Stewart!
There's ne'er a flower that blooms in May
That's hauf sae sweet as thou art. –

May he, whase arms shall fauld thy charms,
Possess a leal and true heart!
To him be given, to ken the Heaven
He grasps in Polly Stewart!

The flower it blows, it fades, it fa's,
And art can ne'er renew it;
But Worth and Truth eternal youth
Will gie to Polly Stewart. ---

by Robert Burns

2019 Secondary Schools National Festival



The 2019 Secondary Schools National Festival was held on 23rd March, hosted by North Ayrshire Council and Irvine Burns Club. Competitors travelled from all over Scotland to gather at Irvine Royal Academy.

Proud winner of the title **Young Burnsian** was Liam Kearney representing the Glasgow and District Burns Association, with (R to L) Federation President Bill Nolan, Liam, Provost Ian Clarkson and, President of Irvine Burns Club, Archie Chalmers.

Chosen as the best from all the performances in recitation, singing, instrumental and bagpiping, Liam had also won the recitation competition with an

exuberant rendition of *Address to a Haggis* and will be a worthy ambassador for the Federation.

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2019 Secondary Schools National Festival (cont'd)

A hall packed with pupils, parents, friends and family settled in eager anticipation for what turned out to be a most enjoyable and uplifting occasion. Convenor of the Education Committee Lesley McDonald opened the festival by introducing Federation President Bill Nolan and Provost of North Ayrshire Ian Clarkson to say a few words of welcome and encouragement for all the participants.,



All through the school the wonderful sound of Burns could be heard in words and music. Performers were given great support and encouragement by the family and friends who accompanied them on the day. The varied programme and overall standard impressed the audience, adjudicators and Burnsians alike.

While the final deliberations were taking place RBWF Past President, Peter Hughes, entertained the crowd with a selection of songs and certainly grabbed the youngsters' attention in dishing out fivers for correct answers to a Burns' quiz.

The adjudicators stressed the difficulty in choosing winners from the high standard of participants. They offered constructive advice to the performers and encouraged them to continue in their appreciation of Scotland's National Poet.

Pictured are the individual winners: **Verse Speaking:** Liam Kearney (page 1) from the Glasgow and District Burns Association; **Singing:** Sophie Bysouth from Renfrewshire Association of Burns Clubs (above); **Bagpiping:** Finlay Peden representing West Lothian (right) **Instrumental:** Alan Hunter, also representing West Lothian, who unfortunately could not stay for the awards presentation and photographs.



The team from the Dumfries and Galloway Association of Burns Clubs (DGBA) won the verse-speaking, singing, and instrumental sections which helped them capture the Overall Team winners title with most points accrued across all disciplines [Photograph on page 3] The team from the Ayrshire Association of Burns Clubs won the bagpiping category.



Prior to the presentations, President Bill Nolan proposed a Vote of Thanks. He acknowledged the efforts of the Federation's Education Committee, the assistance of North Ayrshire Council, the staff at Irvine Royal Academy but, most importantly, the enthusiasm of the competitors and the support of their teachers and families. He congratulated Lesley McDonald for organising the event, for the first time as Convenor of the Education Committee, before inviting her to announce the winners.

Photo L to R: Provost Ian Clarkson with his gift of a RBWF friendship tile, President Irvine Burns Club Archie Chalmers proudly holding a lectern produced by pupils at the Academy, Head Teacher Alison Sutherland, RBWF President Bill Nolan and RBWF Education Committee Convenor Lesley McDonald with a second lectern presented to her

own Larkhall Burns Club.

Secondary Schools National Festival (cont'd)



All smiles from the multi-talented team from the Dumfries and Galloway Burns Association retaining the overall team-winner's trophy. [All photographs for the Schools' Competition courtesy of Jim Leslie]

A Family's Love of Burns



Typical of those taking part in the Schools' Festival are members of the Simmers family. The family has made an outstanding contribution to the Robert Burns World Federation schools festival both in the North East of Scotland and nationally. They hail from Keith in Morayshire. The oldest, Eilidh, has been entering the competition from P4 level upwards; she composes her own pieces and arrangements of Scottish music for piano and also sings and recites poetry. Eilidh has won medals for her performances locally and nationally.

Her brother Dodie performs in all disciplines to a very high standard in singing, verse, guitar, violin and bagpipes and again has won medals locally and nationally. Their younger sister Kirsty is already making quite a name for herself in the Burns movement and plays two instruments, sings and recites. We look forward to hearing what their younger twin brothers will produce in the coming years! The Simmers family have devoted a huge amount of time, dedication and enthusiasm to support many charitable events including numerous Burns Suppers and events in the North East of Scotland and nationally. **Photo left:** Irene Brown, grandmother, with Dodie and Kirsty Simmers at Aberdeen Festival. **Photo right:** Eilidh with granddad, David Brown. [Leslie McDonald]



Ayr Burns Club Remembers Dedicated Burnsian Tom Morrall



On Friday 8th March, Ayr Burns Club President, Office bearers and Members said a sad and fond farewell to Dr. Tom Morrall who passed away peacefully at Ayr Hospital on Friday 22nd February.

Tom's love of Robert Burns was great and it was a great honour for us that Tom became, and was a proud and very hard working, President of Ayr Burns Club from 2009 – 2014. He remained a valued member, who loved this club and was more than just caring of the Members. Dedicated, kind, caring, loving, quietly hard working, and a good loyal friend, Tom will be so sorely missed by everyone who had the honour of having him in their lives.

President Robbie McMahon and all Members send their warm love at this saddest of time to Margaret, Liz, Andrew, Bryce, Fiona, Kenneth and Grandchildren.

Address to a Haggis Competition

Monday 18th March saw the Helen Waddell memorial competition for the Address to a Haggis won by David Brown from Greenock Burns Club (second right). Competitors from various parts of the country delivered their version of the poem much to the delight of the assembled company.

Pictured here, the winner with trophy and haggis donated by James Chapman butchers from Wishaw with judges Brian Goldie, Patricia Leslie and Jim Jamieson.



Young Entertainers Shine at Thornhill & District Burns Club



Thornhill & District Burns Club held its annual youngsters concert on the 21st March at the newly refurbished Friendship Club, Thornhill. There were five extremely talented young performers who entertained an appreciative audience. Kyle Anderson was excellent playing his accordion and was followed by Bethany Nicolson who sang and played guitar. Ailsa Black also sang and played her guitar. Emily Kennedy recited and Rose Byers played the fiddle and sang.

These five have won many competitions and it was a pleasure to have them at the club. After the performance they were presented with a certificate of appreciation by President Colin Gibson and all enjoyed a buffet provided

by the members.

Photo L to R: Bethany Nicolson, Ailsa Black, Kyle Anderson, President Colin Gibson, Emily Kennedy, Rose Byers, [photo by Halina Cairns]

Annual Conference Heads to Glasgow



The Robert Burns World Federation Annual Conference will be held over the weekend of 6th – 8th September 2019. The location will be the Hallmark Hotel, Washington Street, Glasgow which is perfectly located for you to enjoy an abundance of city attractions. It is only 9 miles from Glasgow International Airport, a few minutes' walk to the city centre, and boasts a swimming pool and other recreational facilities. A warm welcome is assured. The cost will be £220 (single supplement £25), with an initial deposit of £70 required to secure your booking.

The Glasgow and District Burns Association (DGBA) is working extremely hard in the preparation for the Conference. A bus tour of Burns-related sites is being mapped out and organised to include: Wellpark Brewery; Burns Room in Mitchell Library; Argyle Street; Southern Necropolis; Begg gravestone; Gorbals Cemetery; John Wilson gravestone; Citizens Theatre; Burns Statue; and, Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum,

The Federation is extremely pleased to have been granted a Civic Reception Dinner on the Friday evening, which will be held in the fantastic setting of Glasgow City Chambers' banqueting hall. This special privilege is to welcome the international delegates and UK representatives and we are incredibly lucky to have been granted such an honour. It is hoped that the Lord Provost and members of the Trades Incorporations will be in attendance, in addition to Club delegates.

The Inaugural Dinner will be held in the Hallmark Hotel on Saturday 7th September with a stellar lineup of entertainment. There will also be a number of associated seminars and other Burns-related entertainment planned over the weekend. For delegates arriving early, the DGBA hope to stage a concert on Thursday 5th September demonstrating the best of winners from the local Schools' Competitions including the Young Burnsian of the Year, Liam Kearney.

[Image by kind permission of Glasgow City Council, Libraries Information and Learning.]



Scottish Dance Band *Reel Stramash* will be providing the music immediately following the Conference Dinner. Glasgow Cathedral will be the venue for the Sunday Service with the newly appointed Minister the Rev Mark Johnstone, officiating and thereafter floral tributes will be laid at the foot of the statue of Robert Burns in George Square, Glasgow.”

The Booking process is now open with an easy-to-complete form, downloadable from their website and also by clicking on the link below. The organisers would be delighted for as many people as possible to attend this annual and unique celebration of all things Burns.

For further details click on <http://www.rbwf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Conference-booking-form-2019.pdf>

Primary Schools Festival



Just a wee reminder that the 2019 National Festival for Primary school children will be held at Irvine Royal Academy, Kilwinning Road, Irvine, KA12 8SJ on Saturday 11th May 2019. Registration starts at 11 am. Everyone should assemble in the Main Hall at 12.00 noon for the opening ceremony which will commence at 12.15pm.

We are indebted to Golden Wonder and the Jean Armour Trust for their sponsorship of the schools' competitions.



Onwards and Upwards in Taking Burns and the Federation Forward



At the Quarterly Meeting in Kilmarnock in March, Bill Nolan gave members present encouraging news in presenting the Board's Half-Yearly Report following his installation as President last September. "At times, it has been challenging", said Bill "But I have been fortunate in having an active Management Board with members clearly pulling in the same direction as part of a management team that is there to serve the Federation in not only stabilising it but also growing the organisation".

"As a result, we can present a very positive Half-Year Report which shows that the Federation is moving in the right direction in every way and that each Committee and their respecting Chairs are active and committed, both individually and collectively."

Bill reiterated the promise made to members last September that the new Management Board would be committed to defining and aiming for certain strategic goals, one of which was to get people working together in the one direction. The other was to chart a course that would lead to financial stability and eventually to fully sustainable growth via the implementation of a Business Plan covering everything from Marketing to Heritage, and from Education to Literature.

"We have exercised budgetary control within all disciplines and, with new and enhanced fund-raising projects already bearing fruit, we are confidently predicting being able to show a sizeable profit at the end of the RBWF'S current Financial Year at the end of April. A wide range of fresh marketing initiatives are coming into play including our popular Friendship Tiles and we are grateful to the early support of this scheme from Clubs and individual members within Clubs. In line with a fresh communications strategy, we have also been working increasingly with social media platforms and have launched a series of awareness messages and fraternal greetings around the world covering St Andrew's Day, Hogmanay, St Valentine's Day (with Red, Red Rose) and one in which we invited clubs and members to Back Burns on his Birthday by making birthday monetary gifts to the RBWF; this particular marketing initiative generated several sizeable donations being received and these are still being received some two months later".

Continued the President: "Membership fees, especially from Burns Clubs and Individual Members, remain as our main income generator and we are constantly trying to encourage new members from within our global family to join up and become involved in supporting the Federation in its objectives of protecting and promoting Robert Burns and his works. Added to that, we have noticed an increase in the number of schools signing up, including St Andrew's School in Christchurch, New Zealand, and several much closer to home including some whose pupils are featuring in our Schools Competitions for the first time. Because schools don't pay a membership fee, some still question having them as RBWF members, albeit non-voting, but my answer is that bringing young people into the Burns' movement at an early age is an investment in the next generation and anything that makes them feel involved is always going to be worthwhile."



Looking towards the future, the Federation is launching a new initiative aimed at channeling the energies and enthusiasm of today's Young Scots. "We simply have to involve young people in spreading the word about Burns and the other strands of literature and music that contribute to Scotland's present, as well as its future, heritage." said Bill who went on to explain "We hear great things about how involved some young people are in running events for their peers and for other groups such as Rose Byers (pictured left winning the S1/2 singing

Onwards and Upwards in Taking Burns and the Federation Forward (cont'd)

category at the Secondary Festival) who is the Youth Ambassador at Ellisland Farm Museum. We are looking to draw on that energy and expertise across the country by creating and hosting a Burns' Ambassador Programme that will recognise and encourage this hands-on involvement by the next generation of Burnsians. Our Education Committee is looking to develop this project and, on their behalf, I have been speaking with The Scottish Government seeking support, including funding, for this fresh initiative that could be so valuable in involving young people."

"The financial uncertainty that has been created via Brexit across the UK has not helped us with enhancing our commercial sponsorship programmes and we are particularly grateful to our good friends at Isle of Arran Distillers who have continued to support us in both cash and in product. They were present at our Annual Conference in Irvine and have continued their input by supporting the Robert Burns Association North America Conference in May in Canada. We are discussing several other possible commercial deals and partnership, at least one of which would generate income for several years ahead."

"The Brexit Saga - and that is not a political comment - may have created uncertainty across Europe but it hasn't prevented a resurgence of interest in Robert Burns with added growth happening in Russia and in Ukraine and with new memberships being taken up by national and local bodies in Luxembourg, Austria (in Vienna) and Norway (in Oslo). Burns remains a global icon and our hope has to be that his ideas on universal humanity can at last become a unifying force for the entire world."

"People never cease to be amazed at the number of Burns' statues, plaques and monuments that exist around the world and the Heritage Committee is very vigilant in ensuring that they are looked after properly by those responsible for them. Because most of the activity surrounding the creation of Burns' statues happened in the late 19th and early 20th Century, I, like many, had assumed that such activity was firmly in the past. You can perhaps imagine the surprised looks when I passed a recently received letter to Heritage Convenor David Miller from a group of Burns' enthusiasts in Germany seeking advice and support from the RBWF over a Burns-related monument. This would be based around Tam O' Shanter and they wish to erect it next year in Uetze, a small town near Hanover. Burns' appeal clearly remains universal and timeless though we shouldn't be too surprised at our German friends as their's was among the first languages into which Burns was translated.

"There's a lot happening at present within our World of Burns and Mike Duguid and his Literature Committee have a firm finger on the pulse of related publications, new editions, fresh interpretations and information. The Newsletter is a fantastic asset and communications medium and it's a sign of success that Mike gets ever-increasing reports from around the country of what's going on socially in the name of Robert Burns."

In concluding the Half-Year Report, Bill urged members to savour the social element that is not simply associated with, but at the very core of, our interest in this most sociable Scot. He said "When speaking at events, I've been at pains to stress that the core elements of the RBWF are Friendship, Fellowship and Fun and when we add Focus to this alliteration, then our Federation's Future will be secure, an objective that has to be our ultimate goal. It is certainly the primary target for this President and for those who serve on the various Committees and on the Management Board."

As I've said often we simply can't afford to be looking back wistfully for the world has changed as has Society. I have never believed in change for the sake of change and someone said to me last year that I could expect many problems as the new President. I don't see these as problems but view them instead as opportunities to move onwards and upwards. Robert Burns and this Federation deserve nothing less."

Curiosity Corner – Burns' Related Destinations in Scotland.



Situated on the B8062, 4 miles from Crieff and 6 miles from Auchterarder and Gleneagles. Discover Scotland's oldest free, public lending library, a museum where you can literally touch the past at a site steeped in history from Roman times.

The Innerpefferay Library features a large and precious collection of Burns-related publications. Also on show is the Gaelic translation of the works of the Bard presented by the Federation. There is a veritable treasure trove of interesting literary material. [Photo courtesy of Paul

Tompkins]

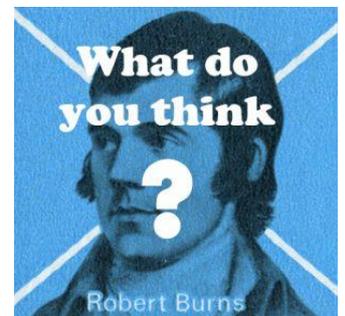
March is Burns month at Innerpefferay when it holds its annual “A Feast of Burns” event: a chance to see the Kilmarnock Edition of Robert Burns poems on display. There is also a full programme of events to be found at: <http://www.innerpefferaylibrary.co.uk/whats-on.php>

Survey – The Impact of Robert Burns and the Scottish Economy

The Scottish Government (Economic Development Directorate) has contracted Professor Murray Pittock at the Centre for Robert Burns Studies at the University of Glasgow to undertake a study on the Economic Impact of Robert Burns in the Scottish Economy.

In order to make this study as accurate as possible, this project will greatly benefit from your collaboration in responding to this survey, which seeks to identify Burns' importance to you.

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Robert_Burns_in_Scottish_Economy



On behalf of the team at the Centre for Robert Burns Studies, thank you for your participation.

'Jolly Beggars' in Loudoun Street, Mauchline



A combined enterprise involving The Mauchline Burns Club and senior art students of Auchinleck's Academy has produced a startling new piece of art work. This is in the form of a large mural depicting a scene from Burns' famous cantata “Love and Liberty,” better known as “The Jolly Beggars.”

And what better place for it to be located than outside Poosie Nansie's where the original inspiration took place. The piece was deemed to be too racy and radical so it did not appear in print until 1799, three years after his death.

Under the supervision of Principal Art Teacher Jude Smith the young ladies have put their own modern and youthful interpretation on the scene which will certainly enhance this corner for years to come.

New President Alec Crawford welcomed a large and interested crowd in Loudoun Street to watch the unveiling of the mural by the artists themselves. Afterwards, the company adjourned to The Kilmarnock Supporters' Club for a cheque presentation and afternoon tea. Club members Drew Baird and Ian Lyell were overall responsible for the project.

Mauchline Burns Club – A Very Active Club

On Sat 16th March, 25 members of The Mauchline Burns Club set off on a 2-day mystery tour arranged by Malcolm Noble their Events Organiser. The Scottish Parliament was the first destination where a guided tour took the group round the building. The highlight was standing in the floor of the chamber with Ian Lyell, Hon. President, reciting lines from “Tam o’ Shanter.” After an afternoon on the Royal Yacht Britannia, the night was spent near Dunfermline with dinner and quizzes.

Sunday morning saw a visit to the Andrew Carnegie Museum nearby. After a stop at New Lanark, wives and partners met the travellers at Ballochmyle Golf Club for a buffet meal.



The Club sent 4 benches, showing a cut out representation of WW1 soldiers, made by David Ogilvie Engineering of Kilmarnock. The Club is able to spend the £4000 thanks to a bequest from deceased member, John Murphy, with the firm donating one free.

In 2007 the Mauchline club had been invited to take part in the unveiling of a war memorial near Zonnebekke, Flanders a memorial to the Scottish

soldiers who had died in the Battle of Passchendaele in 1917. One of the new benches has now been placed at the memorial site as shown.

Over the years the Mauchline Burns Club has enjoyed a fruitful association with a Belgian group, “The Flanders Jocks,” a group which re-enacts WW1 events involving Scottish regiments. The association has been a rewarding one promoting Burns’ sentiment “let brothers be for a’ that.”



After a hectic month the Club had a change of office bearers: Andrew Cooper from long serving Secretary to Honorary President; Robert Somerville from President to Secretary; and Alec Crawford to President

Isle of Arran Distillery New Tours



With the start of a new summer season fast approaching, Isle of Arran Distillery, the Burns Federation’s official sponsors, have announced exciting plans for the Tours and Whisky Tastings they offer at their Lochranza Distillery to ensure that each visitor gets the very most out of their experience.

They recognise that not everyone has the same motivations, or circumstances, when paying a visit and they want to ensure that everyone is able to get and take away as much as they want from their visit. To this end, they have adapted their current tour offering to ensure that there is something for everyone in their new

Tour & Tasting line up. <https://www.arranwhisky.com/about/news/190-arran-distillery-tours-and-whisky-tastings>

In order to learn more about any of their tours, or to book your visit, please email bookings@arranwhisky.com or telephone 01770 830264. See main website: <http://www.arranwhisky.com/>



The Robert Burns World Federation's project to raise funds to secure and develop a range of services within our Kilmarnock Headquarters as part of our Outreach and Education programmes has been given a boost as the first section of sponsored wall tiles has been completed and now adorns a wall in the downstairs conference room.

Hopefully many more panels will appear as a result of the initiative to contribute to the sale of these 'Friendship Tiles' which can be purchased for a Club, Association or an Individual. They are also a great way to commemorate someone or something of note which helps create a sense of history for the Federation.

The text on the tile is chosen by the purchaser (there is a limit of 16 characters in each of 3 lines). There has been a good response to this initiative and the Federation Board is very grateful to those who have contributed towards the tiles so far because it will allow them to enhance the provision of additional services for the younger generation.

Order forms at: <http://www.rbwf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/RBWF-Tile-Form.pdf>

Let your Memory Live On

Friends and colleagues we would like to begin by thanking you for your support, past and present for the Robert Burns World Federation and to remind you that without your support we would be unable to witness the continued promotion and perpetuation of the works of Burns.

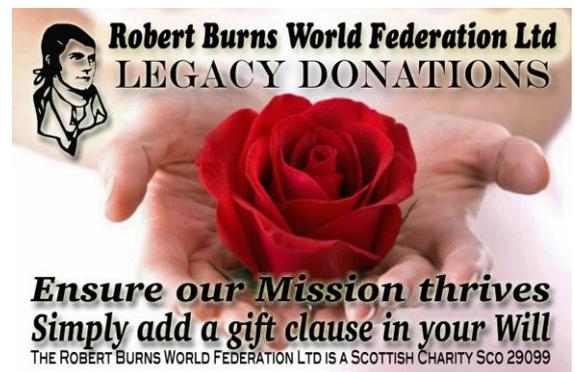
We have much to do and one of the more pressing aspects of our status as a charity is that we must generate the finance we need to ensure that we will be here for many years to come. This is by no means an easy task and we realise that monetary constraints on households and businesses are a critical factor in charitable donations. But the time has come to approach what is a very sensitive subject for many and given that our aging membership have supported the Federation throughout their lifetime, we are asking if you would continue that support with a bequest in your will.

A gift of this nature will guarantee that the work you have been a part of will go on and will maintain the presence and stability of the Federation as the representatives of the worldwide Burns movement.

Camperdown Festival 2019



This year's Burns Festival in Camperdown features an exciting and wide-ranging list of top performers including legendary songwriter Eric Bogle. There is also country dancing, whisky tasting, poetry and art competitions, lectures, pipes and drums and a Burns Supper. See website: <https://camperdownburnsfestival.com.au/>



New Convenor of the Federation's Marketing Committee



Continuing the series highlighting volunteers who fill positions on the Board of the Federation, we focus on the position of Marketing Convenor. Following sterling work over many years by the previous incumbent, Murdo Morrison, the post is now filled by Dr Peter Hughes who is no stranger to the organisation, having been President in 2015/16. Peter brings a wealth of experience across a wide range of disciplines including being Chief Executive of Scottish Engineering and a keen advocate for the promotion of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), particularly in primary schools.

More importantly, however, he is passionate about the Robert Burns World Federation and all it does to keep alive the memory of our National Bard. Importantly that involves not only marketing the Bard himself to the widest possible audience but also seeking revenue streams to ensure the Federation remains financially viable and uses its precious funds for the maximum benefit. His work involved with promoting STEM with primary school pupils comes in very handy at the Federation's Schools' Burns competitions when he employs his musical talent to entertain the competitors and their supporters during the interval.

Arbroath Burns Club Ground Breaking Burns Supper

Arbroath Burns Club held its 131st annual supper on Friday, 25th January 2019. The assembled company of 200 were treated to a stirring and evocative "Immortal Memory" by Angus Middleton of Skelmorlie who set the bench mark for a wonderful evening of Burns entertainment.

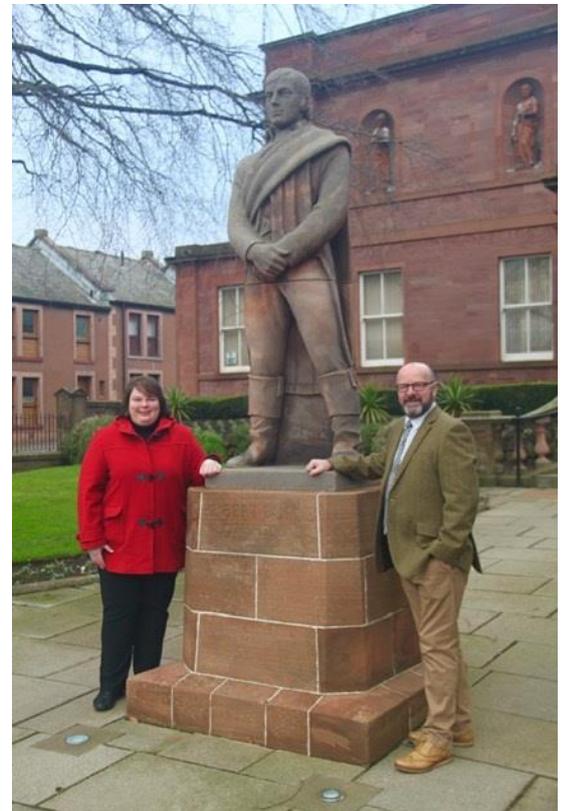
However, Mr Middleton was not to be the only principal guest, as the club welcomed its first lady speaker in its 131 year history.

In a ground breaking move, Arbroath Burns Club has decided to embrace change and invited Dr. Karen McGavock of Kirriemuir to be its first female speaker, thus breaking the mould of an all-male club and opening the door to future female participation in the club.

Karen said: "I am honoured to be invited to take up the challenge to reply on behalf of the Lasses. It's a great opportunity for the Lasses to celebrate Burns on equal terms with the lads – something the Bard himself would have appreciated."

President Alan Mowatt described the move as the first step on the road to change and said, "there will be a point in time when women will form part of the company at a supper. Arbroath Burns Club has felt the need to embrace change and by inviting Karen to give this reply, we have broken the mould of an all-male club. This decision was unanimously agreed by the club committee at our 2018 AGM. The world Burns movement is progressive in changing and we want to be part of that change."

[Photo: President Alan and Karen by Burns Statue]





Who Can Join? Anyone sharing our Mission, who believes in our Objectives and wants, to get involved in taking the Burns legacy to the World as an individual, Club or Society.

Benefits of Membership ~ Become a partner in imparting the legacy to the world.

Being able to enjoy the company of fellow Burnsians and share an interest as part of a worldwide organisation that has around 300 clubs and affiliated bodies committed to it.

Increase your knowledge about the life and works of Robert Burns through qualifying for a FREE copy of the Annual Burns Chronicle, which not only keeps members in touch but also provides access to academic articles and researched topics that will add to your own knowledge. The Chronicle is complimented by a regular RBWF Newsletter containing Club and Burns related news.

Become involved in a hands-on-way as a volunteer working to generate interest in Burns amongst the next generation through involvement in Schools' competitions which attract 80,000 children in Scotland, the USA, Canada, Russia, Australia, New Zealand and around the Pacific Rim.

Enabled to influence the future direction of the RBWF by having access to the Annual Conference at special rates and discounts which may also apply to other associated events (where advertised).

Have access to RBWF Headquarters staff and a range of experts, who will be happy either to answer, or source replies to questions which lead to an expansion of knowledge about Robert Burns.

Be involved in the leading global authority and promotional body on the works, life and influence of Robert Burns and help ensure his place in the history of world literature.

About your subscription ~ Subscription to RBWF, kindles knowledge of, and stimulates interest in, Robert Burns, his life and works. Membership provides a driving force, to research, educate and promote Robert Burns across the world.

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Student Membership (proof required) £15	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The Robert Burns World Federation

Advancing knowledge and education about the life and works of Robert Burns and the Scottish Language.

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Membership Form

Special Note ~ Chronicle by airmail (international only) an additional £12

I wish to give a Donation, Specify Amount £ _____

Become a Member ~

Name(s)

Company/ School Title

Address..... **Tel**.....

..... **Post Code**

Email.....

Mobile.....**Web**.....

Methods of Payment ~

1. **By Standing Order** - On the 1st day of ____ 20.... and thereafter annually, please remit to the account of the 'The Robert Burns World Federation' (Account : 00856523 Sort Code 80-08-53) the sum of ____ This order will subsist until cancelled by me.

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Signed

2. **Cheques** made out to : 'The Robert Burns World Federation Ltd'

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5. **Pay through your bank** by BACS transfer : Sort Code 80-08-53 Use your name as reference: Account No 00856523

6. **Paypal** join online, use ref: admin@rbwf.org.uk

Completed form to ~ **The Robert Burns World Federation Ltd**, 3A John Dickie Street, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, KA1 1HW.

Gift Aid Declaration ~ Increase the worth of your RBWF fees and donations. For every pound you give, we get an extra 25 pence from HM Revenue and Customs, if you are a UK Tax Payer. Even better, we can backdate this 4 years on all past fees and donations. To qualify, the Income Tax you pay must equal at least the amount we claim in the tax year.

Sign **Date** / /

Notify us, if you ~1. **Want to cancel** this declaration or 2. **Change** your name or home address