

Greenloaning Burns Club Annual Supper 2009

On Friday 5th February 2009 Club President Alex Mc Gln extended a warm welcome to ninety-eight members and guests at to the Club's Annual Supper in Braco Village Hall. The haggis was borne by Bob Robertson, piped in by Neil Bremner and addressed with customary vigour by past-President Jim Dawson. Grace preceded an excellent supper of traditional fare.

Following the loyal toast the minutes of the 2008 Supper were read, approved and signed. Chairman Alec reported on another busy year for the club. He congratulated club members Harry McClelland, Alan Gardner, Ted Gardner and Gini Campbell in winning the Stirling and District Federation of Burns Clubs Bowling competition and duly presented the rink with the trophy. It was noted for the record that the rink failed in their duty to uphold tradition by not filling the cup with a celebratory dram. Addendum to Minute: the rink have an opportunity to correct this faux pas tonight having retained the trophy in 2009! The club had continued its work in promoting Burns to children and had judged Burns Poetry Competitions at Comrie and Greenloaning Primary Schools. Alec expressed the Club's sincere gratitude to Billy Philips for recording the Annual Supper onto DVD and to Peter Hill for producing the programme and song-sheet and updating the Club's website. The Company was upstanding to observe silence to mark the

passing of Jim Brown, a long standing member from Dunblane

Musicians Scott Christie, Stewart McDonald and Kevin Corr got the evening off to a rousing start with a stirring rendition of 'Scots Wha Hae'.

The Chairman called upon long standing Club stalwart Peter Hill to propose the Toast to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns. Peter's depth of knowledge and genuine passion for Burns were conveyed with his customary style and enthusiasm. Using a time-line from Burns death in 1796 through to 2009 - interspersed with appropriate references and quotations - Peter demonstrated his claim that Burns poems and songs are as relevant today as they have always been. Before Jethro's customary cameo, Peter demonstrated his diversity by singing 'Willie Brewed a Peck o' Malt' ^{whilst} ~~and~~ downing a half-bottle, the sort of multi-tasking most women can only dream of. Following their appreciation of Peter's unique ~~not~~ the Company joined voices to sing 'There Was a Lad'.

combined

Stewart McBain, his sharp wit and deep love of Burns in an excellent and well received 'Toast to the Lasses' which was replied to in similarly humorous vein by Kirk Gauldon behalf of the fairer sex.

Davy McDonald and Roy Smith brought Burns poetry to life in front of our eyes with typically expressive and excellent recitals of 'Tam o' Shanter' and 'John Willie's Prayer' respectively.

Mike Horton, making his first toast at Greenloaming proposed an interesting and well thought out toast to 'Burns Clubs the World Over'. In his amusing and thought provoking toast to 'Greenloaming Burns Club', Harry McClelland - long time member and past Club secretary - reminded the company of all that is good about the Club.

Music and song of the highest order from Neil Bremner, Scott Christie, Stewart McDonald and Kevin Carr ran like a golden thread throughout an excellent evening.

The Chairman announced a record collection of £272.80 had been raised for Jean Armour Home. Peter Scott proposed a vote of thanks to the artistes on behalf of the club, before proceedings drew to a close in traditional song.

Signed 5th February 2010:

Alex McGill (President):

Alex McGill

Peter Scott (Secretary):

Peter Scott