

Northampton Town & County Scottish Association

Founded 1920

Centenary Year 2020



NT&CSA NEWSLETTER JULY 2020

Dear Member, welcome to the fourth in our series of our seasonal Centenary Year Newsletters. On behalf of the Executive Council, we hope that you remain in good spirits and as the lockdown restrictions begin to ease, that you are now re engaging with family and friends.

With very little happenings within the Association to report since our previous newsletter, we take this opportunity to bring you up to date with our deliberations following a ZOOM council meeting held on the first day of July 2020.

It was with considerable regret that we learned of the decision by council member Allyson Russell to resign her position as secretary from the Executive Council due to family and workplace demands. On behalf of everyone in the Association we take this opportunity to thank Allyson for her sterling work and significant contribution to NT&CSA during her time as secretary. Allyson has agreed to continue with her support of the Association as a member. Thank you Allyson, with our best wishes.

After a wee blether and catch up with each other, the council focus of attention was on COVID guidelines and how specifically, our plans for the remainder of the year remain affected or not, given recent guideline information from the Government. So following Boris's most recent easing of restrictions effective as of mid July 2020 this is where we now are with our plans.

Our planned 2020 AGM, Centenary Church Service and Members Celebratory Lunch are, as you know, fully dependent upon the various venues being available, or at least being in a position to accept our bookings, which until now, hasn't been possible.

Regretably, following contact with the various venues, current guidelines do not permit acceptance of bookings for large groups and therefore the situation regarding our proposed events for 2020 remain unchanged from our previous communication. We will however remain in contact with the respective venues and inform all members immediately as the situation changes.

Regarding the Burns Night Dinner/Dance 2021 we remain confident that the first event of the new year will proceed as planned on January 23rd. We will of course communicate details and invites, nearer the time.

Regarding our Annual Accounts, we would like to thank all members who responded to our request to adopt the 2019-20 Year End Accounts. Having received a satisfactory number of email votes, telephone votes and written communications we are happy to declare the accounts as accepted. This will be ratified at our next Annual General Meeting.

Recipes and Photos. Our recent news bulletin issued on 16 May invited all members to respond with some good old fashioned Scottish recipes as well as photographs of your travel memories around Scotland but unfortunately due to a lack of responses this invitation is sadly, now rescinded.

Memories. Old Photographs, memories or stories relating to 100 years of the Scottish Association are still welcome however and can be submitted via email : membershipntcsa@gmail.com

In the event our centenary celebrations are given the green light, your inputs will take centre stage!

A Birthday Celebration. Stepping spritely into her one hundredth year, our congratulations go to Betty Sheppard who celebrated her 99th birthday on 24th June. Despite restrictions, such an occasion could not go unmarked so thank you to Mary Roach for organising a wee get together outside Betty's apartment to sing happy birthday and to wish her well. Thanks also to everyone who was able to turn up and lend their voice to the occasion. A very special thanks to Alan McIlravie for playing a wee tune or two on the bagpipes. On behalf of the Scottish Association, Betty was presented with a basket of flowers with the Chronicle and Echo newspaper in attendance to make the day even more special for Betty. Later that same evening The Chronicle and Echo featured the gathering in their daily report. Check out our website for a short video and a couple of photographs. Betty took the time to send a card to Mary Roach, thanking all who attended and for making her day so special.

Our Scottish Quiz. On June 9th you will have received a communication from our "resident quizmaster" Shirley Morrison regarding, appropriately, a QUIZ!! No ordinary quiz, but a specialist quiz on all things Scotland and to make it even more special, prizes to be won including, a pack of loo roll; a deconstructed strawberry cream tea; a bottle of our favourite tippie and lots of other surprises.

Our thanks go to all who took part but a special thanks to those who placed "Robert Perkins" under Sean Connery's photograph, perfectly understandable!! (should have went to Spec Savers!!) 😊😊😊

The Winners were, Alex and Sandra Berry, Ian Slatter, Robert & Carole Perkins, Mary Roach, Angela Morrison.

Keeping in Touch. Unfortunately due to the unprecedented times we find ourselves in, our July Newsletter appears rather brief. It would be wonderful, going forward, to include a "members page" to embrace past memories, recent birthdays, funny stories, ideas or indeed any old tittle tattle from amongst our membership, which could be included in future Newsletters, so please drop us a line on our email address, send a card or even make a telephone call to Mary, who loves a blether, with news or questions on anything Scottish. After all, this is YOUR Association.

Finally, a smile, a history lesson and a name check!

☺ **BRINGING A SMILE TO ALL OF OUR FACES, COURTESY OF MARGARET JONES** ☺

A SCOTSMAN IS WORKING AT A SEWERAGE. IT'S A WARM DAY, SO HE TAKES HIS JACKET OFF AND DRAPES IT OVER A HANDRAIL WHERE IT SLIPS OFF INTO A VAST TANK OF POO! HE'S JUST ABOUT TO DIVE IN WHEN HIS MATE SHOUTS

"ITS NAE GUID TAE DO THAT, THE JACKET'S RUINED" HE REPLIES "AYE, AH KEN, BUT MA SANDWICHES ARE IN THE POCKET"

A SCOTS BOY CAME HOME FROM SCHOOL AND TOLD HIS MOTHER HE HAD BEEN GIVEN A PART IN THE SCHOOL PLAY "WONDERFUL" SAYS HIS MOTHER "WHAT PART IS IT?" THE BOY SAYS "I PLAY THE PART OF A SCOTTISH HUSBAND" THE MOTHER SCOWLS AND SAYS "GO BACK AND TELL YOUR TEACHER YOU WANT A SPEAKING PART!"

JOCK'S WIFE MAGGIE WENT TO THE DOCTOR COMPLAINING OF PAINS IN THE STOMACH. THE DOCTOR TOLD HER IT WAS "JUST WIND" "JUST WIND?" SHE SCREAMED AT HIM. "IT WAS JUST WIND THAT BROUGHT DOWN THE TAY BRIDGE!"

WHEN JOCK MOVED TO LONDON HE CONSTANTLY ANNOYED HIS ENGLISH ACQUAINTANCES BY BOASTING ABOUT HOW GREAT SCOTLAND WAS. FINALLY IN EXASPERATION ONE SAID, "WELL IF SCOTLAND'S SO MARVELLOUS, HOW COME YOU DIDN'T STAY THERE!" "WELL" EXPLAINED JOCK, "THEYRE ALL SO CLEVER UP THERE I HAD TO COME DOWN HERE TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF MAKING IT AT ALL" "!!

QUESTION TO GOD "ISNT IT UNFAIR TO CREATE A COUNTRY CALLED SCOTLAND AND GIVE TO IT SO MUCH BEAUTY, SO MANY INTELLIGENT PEOPLE, SCOTCH WHISKY, GREAT FOOD AND GREAT CULTURE?" "YES" GOD REPLIED "BUT HAVE YOU SEEN THEIR NEIGHBOURS!?"

CALLUM DECIDED TO CALL HIS FATHER IN LAW THE "EXORCIST" BECAUSE EVERY TIME HE CAME TO VISIT HE MADE SPIRITS DISAPPEAR

A SCOTTISH NEWSPAPER ADVERT "LOST...A £5 NOTE...SENTIMENTAL VALUE"

SAVE PETROL BY PUSHING YOUR CAR TO YOUR DESTINATION. INVARIABLY PASSERS BY WILL THINK YOU'VE BROKEN DOWN AND WILL HELP

INCREASE THE LIFE OF YOUR CARPETS BY ROLLING THEM UP AND KEEPING THEM IN THE GARAGE

OLD TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES MAKE IDEAL PERSONAL ADDRESS BOOKS. SIMPLY CROSS OUT THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES YOU DON'T KNOW

IRATE GOLFER ON HIS WAY TO A ROUND OF 150 "YOU MUST BE THE WORST CADDIE IN THE WORLD" SCOTTISH CADDIE (DRYLY) "THAT WOULD BE TOO MUCH OF A COINCIDENCE, SIR"

DOUBLE GLAZING IS DOING GREAT BUSINESS IN SCOTLAND AT THIS TIME. IT PREVENTS THE CHILDREN FROM HEARING THE ICE CREAM VAN WHEN IT COMES AROUND

ANGUS CALLED IN TO SEE HIS FRIEND DONALD TO FIND HE WAS STRIPPING THE WALLPAPER FROM THE WALLS. RATHER OBVIOUSLY HE REMARKED "YOU'RE DECORATING I SEE" TO WHICH DONALD REPLIED "NAW, I'M MOVING HOUSE"

I CALLED MY SOLICITOR IN EDINBURGH LAST WEEK AND ASKED HIM HOW MUCH WOULD HE CHARGE TO ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS? HE REPLIED "£100, NOW WHAT WAS YOUR SECOND QUESTION?" "!!

AND REMEMBER

YOU DON'T STOP LAUGHING BECAUSE YOU GROW OLD, YOU GROW OLD BECAUSE YOU STOPPED LAUGHING!

DID YOU KNOW?COURTESY OF OUR "RESIDENT HISTORIAN" BILL LOCKERBIE

*The Treaty of Edinburgh–Northampton was a peace treaty signed in 1328 between the Kingdoms of England and Scotland. It brought an end to the First War of Scottish Independence, which had begun with the English invasion of Scotland in 1296. The treaty was signed in Edinburgh by Robert the Bruce, King of Scotland, on 17 March 1328, and was ratified by the English Parliament at **Northampton Castle** on 1 May.*

*The most powerful historic hero of Scotland is William Wallace, who began a revolt against King Edward I of England. Edward was known as Longshanks and "The Hammer of the Scots" He was a frequent visitor to **Northampton** and on the death of his wife Queen Eleanor he visited **Delapre' Abbey** in December 1290. Hence the Queen Eleanor Cross on London Road.*

The world's first colour photograph, that of a Tartan Ribbon, was taken in Scotland.

FINALLY, WHAT'S IN A NAME ?COURTESY OF BETTY SHEPPARD, 99!

The Scottish-English border region in ancient Scotland, home to the tribes known as the Boernician were the ancestors of the first to use Sheppard as a surname. It is a name for a shepherd, one who guarded sheep. The surname Sheppard was first found in Peebles. One hundred years later we find a branch of the family in Morayshire! Unfortunately, my own surname Lockerbie, also Scottish-English border region, were notorious border sheep stealers otherwise known as Border Reivers. With apologies to Betty!!! 😊😊😊

Well, that's all folks until the next edition of our Centenary Newsletter in September when hopefully we will be publishing confirmed dates and invitations to our planned events during the final quarter of 2020 as well as further details on our Burns Night Dinner/Dance 2021. In the meantime, please be assured that as Government Guidelines continue to ease we will keep you informed as to any implications which may affect our events callander.

Until then, on behalf of all who serve on the executive council, may we wish you continued safety, health and good spirit as, hopefully, we begin to see light at the end of an extraordinarily long tunnel.

Fuirich Sa'bhailte/ Stay Safe!! And stay in touch!

Bill Lockerbie , Communications Officer,

On behalf of the Executive Council

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