

The Scots' Society of St Andrew

Slough, Windsor & District

Founded 1933

December 2025 Newsletter

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Forthcoming Events - December Dates for the Diary

Wed. 3rd + 10th December: Dancing: Carol

Wed 17th December: Dancing Christmas Party (p.2)

Wishing all our members

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Christmas Dance Party: Wed 17th December, 7.30 - 10pm

The room will look festive, and there will be Una's famous punch, lots of favourite dances using Christmas tunes, table quizzes etc. and a shared supper, so please bring a plate of tasty finger food. Non-dancers are welcome!

2nd Thursday Coffee Mornings

December 11th: 'Christmas Coffee' at Carol's. Seasonal treats (and traditional brain-teaser!!) included. All welcome; please book!

January 8th: at Thames Hospice (as New Year Lunch will be on 10th)

New Year Lunch, Sat. 10th January 2026, 12 - 4pm

A delicious lunch will be followed by traditional entertainment. Full details are on the application form, attached separately, and in the November newsletter. Members £32, 'Non' £34. Do come! Please book by Wednesday 17th December.

Burns' Supper & Ceilidh: Sat. 14th February 2026

Una, our Convenor, writes: Our 2026 Burns' celebration will again be held in The York Club, Windsor Great Park. Unfortunately the room is not available until 14th February; this is long past Burns' birthday, but not wholly inappropriate as it is Valentine's Day and Rabbie was noted for his love of the ladies!

Join us for an evening of delicious food, piping, singing, dancing, poetry and general conviviality worthy of the Bard himself.

6.15 for 6.45pm

Members £45, Non-members £50

Numbers are limited; book early! (Details attached separately)

Firework Night: Wednesday 5th November



The fireworks were laid out ready; sand and water were at hand!



Some of the fireworks were spectacular (others less so!).



We danced with sparklers (left) and had plenty more to wave before enjoying our delicious refreshments of sausages, nibbles and home-made ginger cake.



All the dances that evening fitted the theme, with Catherine Wheels featuring quite often, as you can imagine. We all had great fun.



Thank you: Eleanor for the photos; Alan & Douglas for the fireworks; Jacqui for the lovely hot sausages; Cath for the gorgeous cake!

Eating Out: Lunch at Oaktree Garden Centre, 13th November

Seventeen of us enjoyed food and fellowship; a very jolly occasion.

St Andrew's Dinner & Dance 2025

Convenor Jane (brand new to the job!) writes as follows:

What a night! On Friday 28th November over 50 members, family and friends came together at the Royal Ascot Golf Club to celebrate St Andrew's Night at our annual Dinner & Dance. The new venue looked after us very well and toastmaster Tony kept everything in order. We enjoyed a delicious and plentiful meal while also enjoying live music provided by the Strathallan Band with George on bagpipes. Una addressed the haggis magnificently with her usual panache.

After the meal Stuart Forsyth toasted The Toons We Bide In. We were then entertained by two of the Sutton family: Lesley (our Past President) introduced Andrew, her son, as our guest speaker - who then proceeded to lift the lid on what it was like to grow up within our Society and all that that entailed. Our Secretary Cath gave an interesting summary of the Society's activities since St Andrew's Night 2024.

Then on to the dancing, with much fun and laughter had by all and, on occasion, some interesting variations on the set moves! During a well-deserved interval we were treated to two lovely dance demonstrations and a super raffle.

May I extend my thanks to all those who contributed to the organisation of the evening and all those who attended and helped to make it such an enjoyable and uplifting night.

Editor's note: congratulations and thanks to Jane for her superb organisation of our annual 'flagship' event.

On the next two pages you will find photographs of this event.

'Thank you' to Stuart, Jane's husband, who took the photographs. In order to do them justice, half of them appear in this newsletter and the other half will entertain you in the January newsletter!



St Andrew's 2025

Presiding Officer Lesley, Andrew - our guest speaker, George the piper, and all the members of Council, Jane being next to George.



Two views of our excellent raffle - well done, Cath, in organising it! - and of the Presidential Shield.

Top Table:

Una, 'haggis-addresser', Andrew, guest speaker, Lesley and Dick (see next month for details!), with Carol and Douglas in the background (also see next month ...)





Our new venue

Royal Ascot
Golf Club,
looking from
Top Table
towards the
bar.

Looking
towards the
entrance and
bar, - with
Cath deep in
listening to
conversation!



Toastmaster Tony
(look closely and you
will see the gavel
block), with Rowena,
Linda, Chris and
Angela, and Angela's
three guests.

St Andrew's Service - p.7

St. Andrew's Day Service: Sunday 30th November

As is traditional, the service was held at Trinity United Reformed Church, Windsor Road, Slough, this year being on exactly the right day. It was led by visiting preacher Derek Wensley who skilfully wove together all the bible references to St Andrew and deduced from them various lessons for life. Four stirring hymns were accompanied on the piano by the inimitable Marcelle. After the service, coffee or tea was served with shortbread and home-made pancakes (aka drop scones), freshly produced that morning.

Dancing with 'ADS' - Alzheimers Dementia Support

On the last Thursday of each month this wonderful support group holds a session called 'Moves and Grooves' in Gardeners' Hall, Windsor. Several times a year we are invited to lead them in simple Scottish dances. As there will be no session in December, Thursday 27th November had a Christmas theme,



with seasonal music to accompany our dancing. The joy on the faces of both sufferers and carers is always very rewarding for us. (Another photo next month.)

Cliveden Care Home, Marlow

To celebrate St Andrew's Day, a group of us entertained the residents and staff on Sunday afternoon, 30th November.

Report in the January newsletter