

The Scots' Society of St Andrew

Slough, Windsor & District

Founded 1933

January 2026 Newsletter

We wish all our members

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Forthcoming events - dates for your new diary!

Wed. 7th January - First dance class of the New Year

Thurs. 8th January - Coffee at Thames Hospice, 10.30

Sat. 10th January - New Year Lunch (see p.2)

Wed. 21st January - Special Burns-themed dance class

Thurs. 12th February - Coffee at Carol's. (Please book)

Sat. 14th February - Burns' Supper & Ceilidh (see p.2)

Thurs. 12th March - TVAA Talk & Afternoon Tea (see p.2)

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

As has become traditional, lunch will be served promptly at 12.30pm. Two delicious courses, with wine or soft drink, will be followed by coffee/tea and chocolates. The entertainment will begin about 2pm with a short new pantomime, featuring 'all the usual suspects' and more! Music, dancing, puzzles, lucky ticket raffle and other items will take us through to Auld Lang Syne and a 4pm finish, so time to get home before dark.

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

Join us at the York Club, Windsor Great Park, for a traditional evening of delicious food, piping, singing, dancing, poetry and general conviviality worthy of the Bard himself. The menu choice and payment details are attached separately. The deadline for booking is 21st January so don't delay as numbers are limited and this event is always popular.

6.15 for 6.45pm Members £45, Non-members £50

TVAA Talk & Afternoon Tea - Thursday 12th March, 2.30pm

Thames Valley Air Ambulance is one of the charities which our Society supports annually. We are delighted that one of their volunteers has agreed to give us a presentation on their work. There will be time for questions as we then chat over a tasty home-made afternoon tea. Do invite family and friends. We need to know numbers so tickets will be sold in advance.

Members £5, non-members £6; contact Carol 07712238165.

St Andrew's Dinner & Dance 2025 - more photographs ...



We had a new 'chef' this year!!
Do you recognise him?



With her customary skill, Una addressed and despatched the sturdy haggis - a delight for us

all to see and hear. She well deserved her 'tot', as did our presiding officer Lesley, piper George, 'Poosie Nancy' Dick and 'chef' Douglas.



Piper George later played a selection of tunes for us, watched by Anne and Chris of Strathallan Band and by Bob, our caller for the dancing.



(Two more photos on p.4)



The interval demonstration of the three-couple strathspey 'The Wind on Loch Fyne', including young Andrew as partner to Jane.

A delightful picture of the talented Suttons - parents Dick & Lesley, and son Andrew our guest speaker and demo dancer.

Thank you, Stuart, for these photos.



Dancing with 'ADS' - Alzheimer's Dementia Support



A further picture of the Christmas dancing with ADS at the Gardeners' Hall in Windsor on Thursday 27th November. The arch and a couple 'going under' is always a popular move. However, the group's favourite dance, with which we always begin and end, is Circassian Circle - but there is no photo available (sorry!).

Cliveden Care Home, Marlow

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



And another arch! Linda is dancing with a carer. Nearly all the residents were seated behind the photographer (who was one of the staff) so not visible in these photos.

We purposely involved the staff in the dancing.

All lined up and ready for action, with enthusiastic participation shown below.



Between the dances Kirstie played the accordion and we sang Scottish songs. The

mixed programme of dance, song and accordion solo was much appreciated by both residents and staff.

Christmas Dance Party: Wed. 17th December

Profound apologies to everyone - we completely forgot to take photographs so you will have to use your imagination from the following description:

On arrival, all one's senses were immediately stimulated ...

Sight: the room looked very festive with coloured lanterns, brightly lit Christmas trees in two corners, and garlands round the walls shimmering in red and gold.

Smell: the spicy scent of Una's mulled wine provided a very warm welcome, with an equally delicious non-alcoholic version.

Touch/Feel: we were expecting it to be a wee bit chilly as the heating had been playing up! It wasn't too bad, thanks to the hot drinks and energetic dancing.

Hearing: the dancing was accompanied by Christmas tunes and also by lively Scottish melodies, always a treat for the ears. The other sound was often laughter - oops, that should have been left hand not right, and other similar lapses!

Taste: we had a very 'tasty' shared supper, of course!

Our thanks go to the convenor Anne who not only organized the dancing but also a couple of tricky little quizzes which made sure the brains were exercised as well as the bodies.

All in all, we had a very jolly evening of Christmas fun, our last social occasion together in 2025. See you next year!