

The Scots' Society of St Andrew

Slough, Windsor & District

Founded 1933

September 2026 Newsletter

Happy New Year! *In other words,* Welcome to the new season.

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Forthcoming events - dates for your diary.

Wed. 2nd September - First Dancing of New Season

Sat. 26th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning

Wed. 14th October - Ceilidh (including Shared Supper)

Thurs. 15th October - Windsor Theatre outing

Thurs. 12th November - Eating Out for Lunch (tbc).

Sat. 21st November - St. Andrew's Dinner & Dance

Subscriptions still £10. Most members have paid; for the rest:-

Account name: The Scots Society of St Andrew (with/without apostrophe!)

Account number: 00689939 Sort code: 20-78-58

Reference: Subs (or Subscription) Your name is automatically shown.

Send cheques to: Mr R Sutton, 44 Aston Mead, Windsor SL4 5PP

Summer Dancing: a report by Cath

Well, we managed a few sessions of summer dancing despite the high temperatures. Many thanks and well done to those who volunteered to lead the dancing, namely Anne, Cath, Jacqui, Linda, Magi, Una and Wendy. A further 'thank you' goes to those who opened and later locked the building for us. Although our dancing was curtailed, we still had good fun, which is what it is all about.

The first dancing of the new season will be on 2nd September; and then every Wednesday thereafter. **Wed. 14th October** will be a Ceilidh, of which more detail in October's newsletter.

Macmillan Coffee Morning: Saturday 26th September

Trinity URC Hall, from 10.30 a.m.

In addition to the coffee and tempting home-made cake, there will be a quiz (not too serious!), cake for sale, and other attractions.

It is important that you book your place by Saturday 19th Sept. Text/message Carol on 07712238165. We also require offers of cake and raffle prizes; please contact Carol as above.

Do bring family and friends; also remember to bring plenty of **CASH!**

Windsor Theatre Trip: Thursday 15th October

The Mousetrap - a foretaste from Cath

A shocking murder rattles London. Far from the chaos, in a remote guesthouse, seven strangers seek refuge. A police sergeant battles through a deadly snowstorm with a warning no one expects, and it becomes clear the threat is already within their walls. Every whisper hides a clue, every story masks a lie. As suspicion tightens its grip, one question chills the room: who among them is capable of murder?

Will our nine members of the Scots' Society be able to solve this great British murder mystery during its 75th anniversary tour? We shall see!

St Andrew's Dinner & Dance: Saturday 21st November

Convenor Jane writes: I am delighted to confirm that tickets are now on sale for this year's Dinner & Dance, to be held at Royal Ascot Golf Club after our very successful evening there in 2025. Full details can be found on the attached application form. You will notice just a small increase in the price and I want to share with you that costs have increased quite considerably this year BUT – thanks to generous bequests to the Society – we have been able to minimise this increase for both our members and their guests, without whom we could not hold this very special event:

We enjoy a delicious **3 course meal**; (see menu below)

We have live **music from the Strathallan Band** to entertain us and dance to;

Our excellent **piper George** brings a real feel of Scotland to the evening;

Our ever-patient **caller Bob** guides us through all the dances.

I hope you will agree that **£54 / £58** per head is excellent value in our current times. Please encourage your family and friends to join you for a night of good food, entertainment and some seriously fun dancing.

MENU

Haggis OR Vegetarian Haggis, with Neeps & Tatties

Braised Shin of Beef, in a red wine reduction

OR Fillet of Salmon, with tarragon sauce

OR Mushroom Bourguignon Pie (details on application form)

All served with seasonal vegetables and potatoes

Warm Chocolate Brownie, with vanilla ice cream

OR New York Cheesecake

Coffee / Tea and mints

And now for our annual taste of Scotland itself:

Views of the islands of St Kilda: by Anne Greenshields

In 1930, the remaining inhabitants of rocky St Kilda were evacuated to the Scottish mainland at their own request. St Kilda, in the Outer Hebrides, is 35 nautical miles/65km west-northwest of North Uist. It is so remote that I had no expectation of ever seeing it, but our cruise round the UK was passing near, and on a bright clear day with a calm sea (yes, really!) we had a wonderful journey through the whole rocky archipelago.



St Kilda was formed from the remains of an extinct volcano, and consists of five islands, and a number of amazing stacks of rock

soaring vertically out of the sea, including the two highest stacks in Britain. (see right)



The first island we saw was Boreray, which has the world's largest colonies of puffins and fulmars. It was too late for nesting, but birds were flying everywhere. And we saw puffins!

The main island is Hirta, the only one ever populated. Now the only year-round residents are military personnel. Our ship sailed close enough to Hirta that we could see all the buildings, people walking about, and even the little black dots of Soay sheep moving about high on the cliffs. All over the village and up the hill are lots of what look like tiny cottages, but are actually containers used for food drying and storage.





We went so close that someone even contacted the captain to ask if we were trying to land! Too soon we were travelling away from St Kilda, but we feel so lucky to have been able to see it.

Thank you, Anne, for your very colourful report.

And finally ...

A delightful picture of Cath's granddaughter on her first visit to Scotland.

She might not have the hat but she's got the stride. She'll go far!

And that's all until October.

