

Caledonian Times



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 "Ceud Mile Failte"

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A Word from the President

On the 1st FEB. there was a **Coffee Morning... with Poetry** led by Wendy.



Hello again everyone

I hope you're not all busy building arks, but think we may need them if this relentless heavy rain doesn't stop soon. Let's trust spring is just around the corner, just seeing the daffodils blooming gives me hope.

I spent a **pleasant afternoon** at our Scottish Hall today. It was an afternoon tea in respect of RSCDS teacher **Marilyn Watson**, who retired recently. Most people who have done Scottish Country Dancing know or have heard of Marilyn, and I'm sure you will join me in wishing her a long and happy retirement.

As I've said before, to those of you who are not in the best of health at the moment, I trust you get well soon. I look forward to seeing you all on Mondays or Thursdays.
 Love and best wishes to all....

Maisie



14 of us gathered and sat round in a circle and read our chosen **poems**. **Wendy** had brought extra ones so that all had one to read. We had **many a laugh** from the ones we heard. Phil read one by Phyllis, *about the Caledonians*, which was lovely to hear again ...and there was a poem too composed by our Bill Alton.

On the 8th Feb, **Irene**, (below) now back from her cruise, gave us a **MUSIC QUIZ** and gave out chocolates for prizes. Poor Irene has only just recovered from a virus she picked up on the cruise ship she went on last month. That is the snag on these huge cruise liners ...a virus can so easily spread among all the people enclosed in one place.



22 Feb. Sam's Birthday.

He will be **94**. We wish him a Happy Birthday and all the very best. Here he is four years ago at his 90th Birthday Party >>>



Feb 22nd Coffee Morning **Robin** showed us a DVD of **'The Jacobite steam train trip'** going from Fort William to Mallaig.

Sad to say, the last member of "DAD'S ARMY" ...Ian Lavender... who gave us such laughs in the past, died this month aged 77.



Our Zoom Quiz & Chat

It was great listening to all the old **60's tunes** again... trying to remember who sang them.

We all **knew the songs** at least, and sang along to them.





Photos of our lunch at the **Carpenters Arms**, Bransgore, after the **8 km/ 5 mile WALK** in Holmsley Inclosure. We managed to avoid the rain and had a good hike around the place followed by a very pleasant and convivial lunch together at the pub.
Paul



Cheers... !

Tues 6th Feb.



Our Valentine's Ceilidh



Valentine's evening was fun, with games dancing and entertainment



ST VALENTINE and his connection to GLASGOW

It all began in **1868** when a wealthy French family donated a small wooden box labelled '**Corpus Valentini Martyris**,' to a **Franciscan Holy Order**. It was then **brought to Glasgow by monks** who were impressed by the faith of the **local Scots**. These bones (**just the forearm**) were placed in Saint Francis' Church, in the rundown neighbourhood of the **Gorbals**. The relics sat there in almost **complete anonymity** for **over a century**. In **1993**, the casket was re-discovered and moved to the nearby **St. John Duns Scotus Chapel**, where it was granted a place of honour at the church's entrance. When **Valentine's Day** comes around, a statue of the Saint is placed next to it and the casket is decorated with flowers. Lovers have been known to propose to their intended within its shadow. **It has even led Glasgow to call itself the 'City of Love.'**
Valentine, who was a priest, was actually put to death by the Romans in 270 AD for conducting the wedding of a Roman soldier... when all soldiers at that time were forbidden to marry... by the Emperor.



"Timmy" has arrived at the Home. Just in time for Doug's birthday <<<<<<<<

When **THE KING** visited Selkirk after his Coronation, he met **John Purvis (who was wearing his SAS medals)** & spoke to him.



Some of you may not remember John. He was a member of the club some years back and married Lina our dance teacher. They returned to live in Scotland.

Update on our friend Douglas...

He has moved to a care home next to Christchurch Hospital. Here he will be well looked after, and he has a big room to himself where they say he can even bring his cat if he wants to! Paul & Maisie went to visit him there this month. **Within a few days of writing this I had the sad phone call from Maisie to say...**

...that Douglas has died... also his cat had to be taken to the vet as he was not well **...he was an old cat...** so they were together at the end. This is so sad. I feel bad that I did not get to see him in the Home. Douglas was so kind & helpful to me.

NB Change to MARCH Programme
MARCH **Thursday mornings 10.30am**
Thurs 7 Skittles... Robin
Thurs 14 Ukelele Pups ...U3A group
Thurs 21 Andy Stewart ... Martin
Thurs 28 **CLOSED for EASTER**

...And of course, along with everyone else, we wish **King Charles** all the very best with his treatment for his newly diagnosed cancer.