



Friends of Scottish Rugby

December 2014 Issue No. 5



A Word from our President

In this our final Newsletter of the year it seems appropriate to wish all our Members, old and new, a very Merry Christmas and of course health, happiness and maybe even a little prosperity in the New Year.

It is an obvious truism that nothing happens unless we make it happen and I suspect that 2015 will be a huge challenge as we treasure and remember our history but also try to shape our future.

Certainly your President's small band of energetic volunteers, Les, Simon and Steve are enthusiastic and sensibly creative so watch this space as we expect to produce proposals to develop FoSR and make it even more attractive to new Members.....our life blood.

Meantime the feedback from our revamped Gala Dinner has been encouraging so we expect to return to the Landmark in October 2015. We are absolutely delighted that James Fairbairn will stay on board and with his help and experience we hope to present an even jollier evening. As ever ideas, advice and constructive criticism will be very welcome.

David Mackay

Professor Patrick Minford lunch

Our traditional annual lunch, the 19th, was very well attended in the Caledonian Club on 7th October. A very senior and eminent Member commented that 'twas probably the best ever and hopefully that opinion is widely shared.

Patrick was stimulating, challenging and provocative whilst also being encouragingly positive about the UK's future prosperity.....despite the trials and tribulations of Europe! No doubt there are some major events and possible surprises in 2015 which will challenge our joint mettle!



Professor Patrick Minford
David Mackay

Annual Gala Dinner

The [21st we think!] annual Gala Dinner was a spectacular affair, held at the Landmark Hotel in London. From the start this was a sensational evening with Andrew Fox's memorable address to the obligatory haggis. And following a fine meal, the entertainment continued with the skirl of the pipes, courtesy of Pipe Major Ian King RVM, and singing from Elliot Goldie and Sandra Smith.

As ever, the Pinstripe Highlanders ably supported the goings-on.



The, refreshingly brief, speeches were rounded off by Tom McNab, sports coach, author and Technical Director of Oscar-winning "The Chariots of Fire".

BBC rugby commentator Ian Robertson took over for the auction, which featured everything from a day's stalking to F1 memorabilia, and for the more cultured members a night at the opera or Miss Saigon.

The Gala Dinner is FoSR's biggest fund-raiser of the year and the quality of food, wine and entertainment this year bodes well for the future. Book your table for 2015!

Andrew Fox addressing the haggis

Douglas Hutchison

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we remember two of our dear friends who have passed away since the publication of our last newsletter. Andy Wilson passed away on 9th June and Sir Thomas Macpherson CBE, MC, TD, DL on 6 November.

May they rest in peace

Dundee Collections

During recent events we have held Dundee collections to raise funds for named charities.

At the AGM we collected £1,000 for the Dore foundation and received this message of thanks from Kenny Logan.

Dear All,

Thank you so much for the generous £1000 donation to the Dore Foundation that was raised at your AGM. I have forwarded the cheque to the head office, and I am sure they will also send their thanks. Your donation will go towards helping more people with Kind regards,

Kenny Logan
Founding Director

At the dinner held to honour Sir Willie Purves, we raised £1,500 for Princess Anne's charity of charities.

Donations

Your committee are pleased to report that donations this year have been made to; London Scottish Academy, Greenock Wanderers, Glasgow Hawks RFC, Falkirk Community Trust and Helensburgh RFC.

For more details on these clubs and how you have helped, please refer to the "Success Stories" our website: www.f-s-r.org

London Scottish Web Site

London Scottish FC have completely revamped their website, and in recognition of our ongoing support for the academy our logo is now displayed in their banner advertisements. Visit LSFC at www.londonsscottish.com

Editors Note

Members, sponsors and friends, this is your newsletter so if you have any items or comments that are printable! send an email to admin@f-s-r.org.

If you have a story, an amusing anecdote, or just something that you feel needs airing, we will do our best to include it in a future edition.

Ed.

Seasons Greetings to all our members and supporters from the Committee

Forthcoming Events

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) and dinner are scheduled to be held at the Caledonian Club, London on 18th March 2015. Invitations will be issued to members nearer the time.

Friends of Scottish Rugby thank our Sponsors and Supporters for their generosity

Visit us at "www.f-s-r.org"