



WELCOME

to the Society's first newsletter. We hope to be able to update our members on the Society's activities more regularly through this newsletter. We hope you like it and would welcome any feedback or even contributions from our members. Please send comments and contributions to info@sonsoftherock.org.uk

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Inside this issue:

Welcome	p1
Dr Alison Jack	p1
Callendar House Event	p1
Auld Hansel 2012	p2
Grant Awards	p2
Stamp Price Rise	p2

Our New Preses – Dr Alison Jack

Dr Alison Jack took up the post of Preses at the AGM in January. Commenting on her new role she said, “I am delighted to be taking on the role of Preses at such an exciting time for the Society. It is a privilege to be able to make a real difference to the lives of individuals in the Stirling and Falkirk areas.”



Dr Alison Jack— SOTR making a difference

As a result of the Society growing its network of non-governmental care providers it is now

receiving a good number of applications from people in real need. These applications are supported by a new referral process, which places particular emphasis on evidence and referees.

She continued, “in the immediate future, it is important that we establish better links with local businesses, while working to increase our membership, in order to be able to fulfil the aims that the Society has been proud to maintain throughout its long history.”

‘Behind the Scenes at Callendar House’

Wednesday 5th September 7 for 7.30pm

Thanks to generous sponsorship from solicitors Russel + Aitken, the Society will host what promises to be a fascinating evening in the magnificent setting of Callendar House in Falkirk. Falkirk Community Trust staff will show us

the public galleries and museum exhibition area, including a costumed interpretation of life in the 1825 kitchen, as well as the local archives held in the 1850s Library. One of our members, Captain Derrick Forbes of Callendar, who

spent his childhood years in this beautiful house, plans to join us for the event. Light refreshments will be served. Numbers are limited to 60, so early booking is advised. Contact the secretary, (nick@clearserv.co.uk), to purchase tickets (£20 each).

Annual Gathering Auld Hansel Monday 2012

The Annual Gathering was held at the Macrobert Centre, Stirling University on Auld Hansel Monday.

There was an excellent turnout for the AGM and members

heard a fascinating talk by the Right Hon. George Reid. The former Presiding Officer gave a spellbinding account entitled "Caught in the Crossfire", a re-



flection on the 15 years he spent in wars and internal conflicts and disasters as Director of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent.

There was also a very informative talk given by Ann Wallace emphasising the importance of grant funding bodies such as Sons of the Rock as we are one of very few charities that individuals can apply to directly for funding.

The board outlined the year's ac-

tivities highlighting the cost reductions achieved through new appointments of accountants Macfarlane Gray, new investment managers, Smith and Williamson, and a new host for the Society's website cutting the cost to the Society of this service by 90%.

After the formal activity there was a buffet and relaxed social gathering accompanied by Stushie, a group of talented young musicians who the Society has supported previously.

Recent Grant Awards

The Society has awarded a number of grants in the last few months. A grant of £432 was approved to Camphill Blair Drummond Trust to cover the cost of equipment for their Phototrail project which aims to help not just the residents but also the wider community.

An application from a student of

Forth Valley College was processed by the 'fast track' procedure. A grant of £150 was approved and paid to the College to fund the applicant's participation on a residential course at Badaguish Cairngorm Outdoor Centre.

An application from a

- Phototrail Project
- Badaguish Outdoor Centre
- Microlite Glider Flight

disabled resident of the Blackwood Care residential centre at Bannockburn, was also 'fast

tracked'. A grant of £100 was approved to meet the cost of a microlite glider flight as part of a forthcoming holiday at the Leuchie House respite centre.

Stamp Price Rise - How You Can Help



The recent price rise impresses still further the need for the

Society to become more email friendly. A postage mailing will now cost over £100 - up by nearly 40% as the new charges kick in.

The Small Charities Coalition warned, "A hike of 39% in the cost of 2nd class stamps generally used

by small charities will hit them especially hard."

We urge all members with access to an email address to register it at info@sonsoftherock.org.uk.