

## Land at Guildtown

Two areas of land have been handed over and building works have commenced. There are 4 tranche sales of land in total.

## Travel Grants

We have had several requests for assistance towards travel for study etc. For the moment some of these can only be agreed as pledges, due to covid travel restrictions. Travel restrictions changing daily just now.

## Application for Funding Forms

If you know of anyone looking for assistance please let them know these forms are online and can be downloaded and emailed to [secretary@perthguildry.org.uk](mailto:secretary@perthguildry.org.uk)

## Members Bursary Forms

These are available within the forms section of the website. These should be completed along with required attachments and emailed to [secretary@perthguildry.org.uk](mailto:secretary@perthguildry.org.uk)

## Non Members Bursary Application Forms

This process is now closed for the year and re-opens in April. If you are aware of someone who is struggling financially whilst studying, please remind them of the help they may receive from the Guildry. Terms apply and are detailed in the form each year. This form may be subject to change from year to year. These forms were placed on the website for the first time in 2021 and have been successfully used. Again a large number of students applied.

## New Land Managers

Meetings took place with Bell Ingram, the new land managers for Craigmakerran estate. They have met all the tenant farmers and are familiarising themselves with the properties. The Guildry looks forward to a successful relationship with the new providers.

## Members Bursary Thank You

*I'm writing to send my thanks for the support I have received with my bursary. This will greatly help with my pursuit of further education. Kind regards. Ben Rattray.*

*Thank you very much for the bursary that was paid to me in my first year at university. It was most appreciated, especially during the covid period, and allowed me to purchase equipment that I needed for online learning. Sydney Wood.*

The Lord Dean and committee hope you are enjoying your NTS tickets during this staycation period.



*Tom Rorrison and his daughter Anne enjoyed an afternoon out visiting Branklyn Gardens, the National Trust property situated on our doorstep that most of us have always meant to visit but few of us have. Now is the time to correct this and enjoy the beautiful garden setting with something different to see in all seasons and perhaps finish off your visit with tea and cake in the garden tearoom.*



**Seasons  
Greetings**

*The Dean and Committee wishes every one a  
Merry Christmas  
and a happy New Year when it comes*

The

# Perth Guildryman

*The Newsletter of the Guildry Incorporation*

Scottish Charity no. SC008072



Tel: 01738 623195 - email: [secretary@perthguildry.org.uk](mailto:secretary@perthguildry.org.uk)  
website: [www.perthguildry.org.uk](http://www.perthguildry.org.uk)

**Issue Fifty Five / Autumn 2021**

## The Lord Dean's Comments

Welcome to the autumn edition. This is my first newsletter since becoming the Lord Dean in May. I joined the Guildry 50 years ago when I was a 7 year old and I am honoured to now hold the position of Lord Dean.



The start to my term has been very busy, I have a new committee, some of whom had never met before and I'm delighted that our September meeting was held back in the George St office after 17 months of zoom meetings enforced on us all by Covid. I would like to thank the outgoing Lord Dean Dewar and members of the previous committee for all their hard work, Ex Dean Menzies who has been most valuable with his knowledge of building standards, see report on page 3 of Dunc 'on the job' at our property at 5 Atholl Place, which we are in the process of selling. The last tenants vacated 2 years ago and we have been unable to find a new tenant, so we decided to try and sell due to the increasing costs of keeping a large vacant property indefinitely. Thanks also

to Tom Rorrison for his invaluable work keeping our newsletter going.

I've had invites from Horsecross/Perth Theatre and thoroughly enjoyed Don Juan, quite funny and glad to see the theatre at full capacity again. We were able to share with our members a talk which was given to the Court of Deans of Scotland by Professor Christopher Whatley I hope those that managed to watch enjoyed it. We have also issued NTS tickets to those who requested them, I hope you have had the opportunity to get out and visit, I thought it was a nice gesture since we've not been able to travel far this last 18 months.

August saw the presentation of a £5000 cheque to Letham4all to assist them in the purchase of a minibus to assist members of their community to attend events/medical appointments etc, the committee thought this was a great cause as this will allow families to be able to visit other places that they many have never have had the opportunity to see, such as the seaside.

In September we had the assistance of Ex Deans Anderson and Harding who offered their valuable time to adjudicate the applications for non-member bursaries and this year saw a total of 35 lucky applicants. The committee voted to increase the bursary to £1000 from next year.

The development of the Guildtown land is going well and we have been receiving the payments in tranches from A&J Stephen as work progresses. Some of which has been invested with Charles Stanley our stockbroker, other monies we hope to use for a Guildry legacy project.

The Lord Deans Project for my term is to assist the community by donating Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). This is very personal to me as my father sadly died very suddenly 41 years ago due to a cardiac arrest and the recent tv coverage of Christian Eriksen collapsing during the 2020 Euros highlighted the effectiveness of available AEDs. We have had requests from two local amateur football clubs and also the residents of Guildtown for such devices and I'm delighted to say we will assist.



## Profile on Guildrymen



Name	Michael Graham	Finn Thomson
Age	39	29
Location	Perth	Edinburgh
Occupation	Microbiology Technician at Abertay University	All things whisky! I run the family whisky business with my Father but have also recently launched my own whisky brand called 'Fable' with some other colleagues.
What's a typical day for you?	A mad dash in the morning to get my toddler ready and out the door on time (not always achieved!). Go to work (for a rest!) where I have great fun preparing media and growing microorganisms for practical classes. Head home to spend a bit of time with my family and hopefully have time to relax.	It can range from going over numerous spreadsheets to (if I'm lucky) sampling a new batch of samples I might have received for analysis. I work from home as it stands but expect to be travelling for work a lot more once restrictions are fully lifted.
Any plans for the rest of the year?	Work is about to become very busy until the middle of December with the return of students for a new semester.	I hope to launch another whisky brand this year which will have to remain a secret for now! Otherwise, I'll be playing as much football as possible for my team Edinburgh Caledonian and also hillwalking and camping whenever I have a spare weekend.
Any other interesting facts about yourself?	I have a purple sash in Lau Gar Kung-Fu, which I have been doing for the past 14 years.  I spent 10 years working in a diagnostic veterinary laboratory, where I had the pleasure of participating in the post mortem examinations of a wide range of animals. From cows and sheep to bears, rhino and even an elephant!	I'm 1/4 Jamaican from my Grandmother's side. She moved to Scotland from Jamaica when she was 18 to study at St Andrews where she met my Grandfather (and former Dean of Guild) Michael Thomson.

## Presentation to Letham4all



Lord Dean Michael Gaffney is pictured handing over a cheque to Letham4all to assist with the purchase of the minibus to be used within the community.

Letham4all was created by local people to support people to be involved in their community, develop their ideas to improve the health and wellbeing of the area and create positive opportunities for residents of all ages to enhance their quality of life.

## Guildry Support for Athletes with Disability



The Lord Dean Michael Gaffney and Committee member Peter Caw, joined the Perth Open Championships for Athletes with a Disability. They were hands on assisting with the event and presented medals to worthy participants. The Guildry Incorporation of Perth are past supporters of this event and have contributed to the purchase of specialist bikes, which allows athletes with disabilities to train and compete nationally.



## A Dreich Day for Craigmakerran Visit

It was an umbrella day when the Dean and committee members met in person for the first time in more than a year at Craigmakerran Estate at what can only be described as a dreich day. It was useful for the new committee to see the properties which are discussed monthly.



## Ex Dean Menzies likes to get "Hands On" when doing property inspections



Dunc has not had "One too many" but is actually checking a water supply to our property at 5 Atholl Place prior to it being put up for sale.

Dunc's expertise has been invaluable to the Property Committee when called upon to inspect one of our town properties or Craigmakerran Estate.