

# The Perth Guildryman

The Newsletter of the Guildry Incorporation  
Scottish Charity no. SC008072



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## The Lord Dean's Comments



Photo: Charlie Fraser

Hello everyone, this has been a busy period for me with life is getting back to some form of normality. I have attended various performances at the Perth theatre and was invited by Charlie Fraser (St Johnstone/ Aberdeen Considine) to have my photo taken with the two trophies St Johnstone won. I think it would be fair to say I will be the only Lord Dean to get my hands on these prestigious footballing cups - an amazing piece of history for Saints and Perth.

The Ex-Lord Deans' dinner was held last month at Balhousie castle which proved to be a fabulous venue for the event. This was my opportunity to update the Ex Lord-Deans on all Guildry matters since the last AGM. My update was well received and a vote of thanks was given by Ex Lord Dean Michael Thomson. Out with the formality of the evening, it was great to see and hear the Ex Lord-Deans and committee chatter the evening away.

Later this month will be the return of the meal searching, again another great opportunity to keep our tradition going and catch up with old friends.

I would like to encourage our members that we don't see or hear from often to meet up. As a result, we have organised two events this year, a golf outing at King James and an evening at Perth races, you should have all received your invitation by email or letter. I would like to use these events to engage with our Guildrymen and give them a simple understanding of Guildry business in the hope that they may consider joining a committee in the future. If you are interested, please reply asap as places are limited.

I have my first Guild Court this month where we have 4 new members joining. Due to the large number of attendees this will be held in the Royal George Hotel. The Court of Deans Guild of Scotland Dinner is to be held later this month where the Installation of Lord President will take place. This year the event is being hosted by the Arbroath Guildry Incorporation. On this occasion I will have the pleasure of being in the company of our Ex Lord-Deans and the Vice Dean.



*The Ex Lord Deans awaiting dinner being served.*

## Extract from Perthshire Chamber of Commerce Article “Guildry wants to get behind local apprenticeships”

**A HISTORIC Perthshire Charitable Organisation** is encouraging the next generation of tradespeople by offering grants to businesses to help facilitate the employment of apprentices.

The Guildry Incorporation of Perth, or the ‘Guildry’ as it is more commonly known locally, is exploring the possibility of providing financial support to businesses to encourage them to take on apprentices.

Particular emphasis is to be given to ‘heritage trades’ and the development of skills that provide a valuable connection to the past and an inspiration for future employment.

The Guildry is keen to hear from traditional construction trades such as stonemasons or drystone dykers, but also anyone who is a clockmaker, a French polisher or a furniture restorer for example, keen to expand their business and enthusiastic to pass on their knowledge and experience to the younger generation.

The organisation will gather expressions of interest until the end of March, and then will get back to the successful applicants.

The Guildry is the direct descendant of the Merchant Guild which received its royal recognition in the famous Charter which King William the Lion granted to the City of Perth in 1210.

It was an early friendly society, supporting members who had fallen on hard times, infirm members, widows and students.

Its earliest records, contained within the Lockit Book, began in 1452 and give a fascinating insight into life in Medieval Perth. It is first and foremost a register of members, however from within its pages we can glean information on the way of life at that time.

The Guildry maintained trading standards within the burgh and ensured that all merchants complied with Guildry regulations. This included no sale of goods on Sunday nor hoarding food during times of famine.

The first Dean of Guild was elected in the early fifteenth century to preside over the Guild Court, which dealt with disputes between traders and also collected fines for breaches of the trading laws. The Dean was also responsible for implementing Acts of Parliament and other orders from central Government as they affected the Guild.

In the early sixteenth century craftsman were admitted to the Guild Council.

After 1560 the Guildry gave active support to the minister at St. John’s Kirk and contributed to the salary of the reader. They also paid a pension to their chaplain. This support was given from the money received from admissions which increased considerably at that time. Guildry members were expected to play an active role in Church life and if they did not, they were fined.

Today, the organisation provides support for its members by way of bursaries, pensions and more, and it also supports deserving local causes.

Anyone who operates a business in the Perth area and is considering taking on an apprentice, is asked to contact the Guildry by e-mail at- [secretary@perthguildry.org.uk](mailto:secretary@perthguildry.org.uk), giving an outline of their business and their proposal for the employment of a new apprentice.



## Guildries Annual Visit to St Martin's, Balbeggie

The Lord Dean enjoyed a Service at St Martin's, Balbeggie back in November. He was accompanied by Ex Lord Deans Anderson, Montgomery and Mrs Montgomery. They enjoyed a chat with the local congregation over a cup of tea.

## Ex Lord Dean's Dinner

An Ex Lord Dean's Dinner took place and this was the first time many of the Ex Lord Dean's had met in person in 3 years. The meal took place at Balhousie Castle and the Lord Dean gave his report on activities which have taken place throughout the past financial year.

Photo shows from left: Douglas McGlashan, Ex Lord Dean Louis Flood, Ex Lord Dean Duncan Menzies, Lord Dean Michael Gaffney, Ex Lord Dean Bill Montgomery, Ex Lord Dean Graham Harding, Rory Flood, David Murdoch, Ex Lord Dean Gordon Bannerman, Vice Dean Euan Begg, Peter Caw and Alistair Barn



## Guildryman selected for the U16 Scotland Hockey squad

Young Guildryman, Euan van Aswegen (15), is celebrating being selected for the U16 Scotland Hockey squad this season.

He's a dedicated hockey player, who both plays and coaches junior hockey at his own school, Perth Academy. He is also a keen member of Perthshire Hockey, where he plays for the juniors and the Men's 1st team.

## A random fact from the Courier Newspaper spotted by Ex Lord Dean Flood.

### Village's eerie claim to fame

Hollywood legend David Niven's surgeon grandfather hailed from St Martins by Perth – a site broached in a scene during Macbeth with the location marked to this day by the parish's aptly named Witches stone.

### and finally...A host of golden daffodils on Perth North Inch



Photo: Tom Morrison

## Profile of Guildryman

**Name?** Kenny Montgomery

**Age?** 56

**Location?** Perth



**Occupation?** Taken early retirement from 35 years in insurance industry and now a part time delivery driver with Tesco.

**What's a typical day for you?** Checking on post and emails and then making a do list for the day ( if my good lady has not already provided one!). Would then attend shift at work as appropriate. Once finished will usually check in with both my daughters who are away from home now, one working and one studying. Thereafter any odd jobs that ensure I don't have to watch day time TV.

**Any plans for this year?** Hoping to enjoy some time in the revamped garden that I laboured on for 4 months after retiring last year.

**Any other interesting fact about yourself?** I am presently the chairperson of a local charity, Ad-lib Arts which is a performing arts organisation based in Perth.



Photo: Carla Murray

The secretary enjoyed a doorstep visit with Guildryman and newsletter guru Tom Morrison. Tom is well and keeping himself busy. He was finishing off designing and printing his calendars containing local photographs of Perth. He has had a new sunhouse installed in his garden and is enjoying time looking out at his garden and planning his seedlings for the forthcoming season.



Photo: Charlie Fraser

The Dean gets his hands on the Scottish Cup and the Scottish League Cup after St Johnstone's great achievement of winning both cups last season, a very rare event in Scottish Football and one the citizens of Perth are justly proud of.

## Non Member Bursary Thank you's

*"I would just like to thank the Guildry for the bursary I received this year. The Guildry has been a massive help over the 4 years at uni to reduce financial pressures during my studies. Thank you for your generosity.*

*I am very pleased to accept the award of bursary from the Guildry. The generosity of the organisation is so very much appreciated and will prove to be of great value in my coming year of study."*

**The Non Member Bursary** is now worth £1000 and these forms are available on the website for download from April until mid August.

**The Member Bursary** application form is also available on the website for members or sons or daughters of members of the Guildry attending a full time course of study at a university or college in the United Kingdom. This is now worth £1000.

## Dates for your diaries

**AGM Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022** – 7:15pm at Royal George Hotel, Perth. All members welcome. There will be a buffet after the meeting. Please come along to meet your fellow Guildrymen and hear all about the Guildry activities.

**Guild Court** – there is likely be a Guild Court in August please contact the office for application form, details of the paperwork required and charges which apply. Email [secretary@perthguildry.org.uk](mailto:secretary@perthguildry.org.uk) or telephone 01738 623195