

# Northumberland and Durham Caledonian Society



## Newsletter December 2018

Dear Members/s

Hope you are keeping well. There are a few members who have been feeling less than 100% and a few who have been in hospital so very best wishes to them.

As we approach the end of the year it is with mixed emotions of happiness and sadness. As in September we heard of Jean Wright's death. She was a great friend and asset to our Society and will be very much missed. A great membership attended her funeral and a donation in lieu of flowers was given to Jean's chosen charities by our Treasurer Ted.

On a happier note this last couple of months saws the Golden Wedding Anniversaries of our members Anne and Ian Morton and Flora and Alastair McWilliam, congratulations to them. We also send congratulations to Gillian Stewart who was given an award by the RSCDS for her services to music. As we know, as well as all her other musical activities Gillian plays the piano for our dance class on Monday evenings, so if you haven't done so already, come along and enjoy the music and fun. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month and always practice dances for our forthcoming events.



With a successful St. Andrews Ball now behind us we look to our next event, our New Year Dance. This will be held at Shiremoor Community Centre on Friday 28 December. A new venue and new time 1.30 - 4.30 and with so much food having being consumed we are keeping refreshments simple - tea/coffee and a delicious cake, no turkey to be seen! Easy to read maps showing the

## *Northumberland and Durham Caledonian Society*

location of the venue are on our web site [www.nadcally.org.uk](http://www.nadcally.org.uk) – go to the 2018 Programme page and click on the 'directions' button under New Year's Eve. If you're feeling fit the nearest Metro station is about a 10min walk and some buses are available.

Ring me to reserve tickets if you have not managed to buy them at recent functions.

On that note we must look beyond Christmas and think of Burns Night which is on Saturday 26 January 2019. Again, another new venue. The Village Hotel at Shiremoor 6:45 for 7:30, with plenty of parking it should make for a hassle free start to the night to which I list the menu and entertainment below:

- **Starter: Haggis, Neeps and Tatties**
- **Main: Scottish Roast Beef, Yorkshire pudding and seasonal vegetables**
- **Dessert: Raspberry mouse and shortbread**
- **Tea/coffee and mints**
- **Entertainment: Leonard Brown on accordion.**

**The price for this evenings £30.00 – please ring or email me to book your place by 18 January 2019.**

As always any dietary requirements, vegetarian, gluten free vegan will be arranged. Just give me a call so I can advise the venue. On this point could I just ask that if you are paying by bank transfer you follow this up with a quick call to me with your menu choice. Thank you in advance.

Leonard is also entertaining at Benton House just near Four Lane Ends, on Wednesday 30 January for a Burns Supper Evening. The price is £8.50. Let me know if you would also like to attend that one.

In 2019 our Society celebrates the 95th year. We hope to make it a memorable occasion and plan to have some extra events. At the moment I am awaiting information for 2019 Edinburgh Tattoo. Those who attended this year will tell you it was a wonderful event. We hope to have a day out in and around the Scottish Borders including a stately house visit and high tea. We may also be having an outing to another place of interest followed by high tea

## *Northumberland and Durham Caledonian Society*

and dancing. These events have to be booked well in advance and it is hoped they will take place between April and August. So once I have the information I will let you know.

Talking of trips away, earlier this year myself and John along with 8 other members attended Leonard Browns dance weekend at Perth and very enjoyable it was. He is organising the same event for next year on 24 - 26 May at the Salutation Hotel. £155 per person. Neil Hardy, Malcolm Ross and The Leonard Brown All Star Band are among the entertainment. He is also playing at the Whitley Bay Playhouse Sunday afternoon concert on 24th March - always a sell out and a fantastic event. If you wish to go to any of these events do let me know as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Well, with all these dates to put in your new diaries we are sure to have a fun packed season. So I shall close now and go back to writing the Christmas cards!

As this is your last newsletter before the Festive Season I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a happy and healthy 2019.

On a final note the treasurer has asked me to remind you that your subs are due on 1 January 2019. Ted is quite happy to take your subs at any of our functions, or those who normally do so can make a bank transfer.

Stay warm, take care and see you at an event soon.

Bye for now.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Crystal', written in a cursive style.