

## Welcome to your St Marnock Newsletter

**We've had another really great six months packed with enjoyable events and good company. It's been a real pleasure meeting so many of you recently and we look forward to many more enjoyable get-togethers in the months ahead.**

It's also an absolute pleasure to welcome some new Members to St Marnock District - Margaret, Ian, Cathie, Christine, Margaret, Morag, Lia, Elizabeth, Adrienne, Elizabeth, Clare, Margaret, Lindsay, Moyira, Penny, Myra and Anne.

## Cheque presentation

Once again, Oddfellows show their support for good causes. In July, we were pleased to welcome Jan Mattison, Parkinson's UK, Community and Events Fundraiser to our West of Scotland Social Branch meeting. Jan gave a very thought-provoking talk about how the charity actively supports people,

and their families, affected by this serious brain condition. She told us about the medical research they fund and how we could help the charity by fundraising or volunteering.

We were delighted to present Jan with a cheque for £125.00 by way of a donation on behalf of the Oddfellows.





## **Your Events Organisers in Scotland - Shirley Macmillan and Amanda Fraser**

Hello! We're always looking for new event ideas and welcome feedback about restaurants, places to visit, theatre shows, short breaks, stately homes, talks, gardens, day trips, holidays, walks, museums....

The list is endless and the choice is yours, so please let us know!

If you have any queries about the programme, or want to book a place on any of our current events, please get in touch - our contact details are on the back page.

## **Oddfellows Advice Line**

**Did you know as an Oddfellows member you have access to a free general advice helpline?**

The service covers everything from one-off queries to full welfare benefit checks and practical help managing complex money problems.

Though advisors may not be able to give you the full answer there and then, each query is researched individually to ensure that up-to-date and accurate advice is given. Plus if they can't help, they will put you in touch with an organisation that can.

Run exclusively for the Oddfellows by the Citizens Advice, it's staffed by two experienced, full-time advisors. Specialist information, advice and support are just a phone call away.

**Call 0800 0149 821, Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm. Free to callers from any landline or mobile number.**

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## **New Financial Products from Oddfellows**

**Oddfellows has just launched two new financial products including its latest Guaranteed Investment Bond which offers very favourable terms.**

The Bond requires a minimum single premium investment of £1,000. 100% of the Capital is guaranteed and the Policy term is 5 years. The premium can be returned at any point including on early-surrender or death.

The Investment will pay a guaranteed return of 2.05% per annum which will accrue within the product over the 5 year period. If surrendered early, the policy will return the original premium but no investment return will be payable.

Alternatively, invest in your future with a Stocks & Shares Flexible ISA from as little as £25 a month. Enjoy flexible and convenient withdrawals without affecting your tax free allowance and watch your savings grow. The value of your investment is likely to fluctuate and the proceeds will depend on the investment performance of the Fund, which cannot be predicted. The value of the money invested can go down as well as up.

These products are being marketed (sold) on a non-advised basis, with no advice given or sought (self sold). Whilst we can provide you with factual information, we cannot advise you on what to do. If you are interested in investing or require any further information please call 0161 832 9361 or email [insurance.enquiries@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:insurance.enquiries@oddfellows.co.uk).

# What's been happening in the West of Scotland

**Our summer programme commenced with a daytrip to St Andrews. After a leisurely stroll around the historical town, we headed to Anstruther for a tasty fish tea.**



August was an overnight stay in Edinburgh, when despite getting drenched we had a fantastic time at the Royal Military Tattoo. The following day we explored some of the sights and sounds of the city's famous festival in glorious sunshine.

A day out in Helensburgh included a tour of Hill House where Charles Rennie Mackintosh designed almost everything. We enjoyed lunch at the Commodore Restaurant before heading for a brief stop at Lomond Shores.



Our October event was a delicious lunch at Marcello's Restaurant followed by the popular musical 'Sister Act' at the King's Theatre Glasgow. Our final event of 2016 was our enjoyable Christmas lunch at the Moorings Hotel, Motherwell.

**Shirley Macmillan**







## What's been happening in the East of Scotland

**Events in the East of Scotland continue to be enormously popular and well attended. And that's all thanks to the support of our members and their enthusiasm for our events.**

A visit to New Register House allowed us to find out more about this fascinating resource and Bonhams Auction House rolled out the red carpet in what turned out to be one of the highlights of the year.

A trip to one of Edinburgh's hidden treasures - Redhall Walled Garden - proved a real treat. And the theme continued with a day out in the East Neuk which included a visit to Kellie Castle's Walled Garden and a very special lunch in St Monans.



Berwick-upon-Tweed was the destination for a packed day out with visits to Berwick Town Hall and Paxton House, where we enjoyed a wonderful welcome. Later in September, a behind-the-scenes tour of Murrayfield Stadium proved to be a real hit with our group.





October saw us head to Pitlochry for our first overnight event! The Enchanted Forest proved every bit as captivating as we'd hoped and was the highlight of our trip. Also in October, a tour of Edinburgh's prestigious Glasshouse Hotel turned out to be a real treat.

November saw a group take their seats at the theatre for a fun-filled performance celebrating The Broons comic strip. We also enjoyed the launch of a new walking programme with a stroll to The Hermitage.

The prestigious Signet Library was the venue for a delicious lunch and fascinating tour. The Grassmarket Community Project hosted an inspiring visit as we found out more about the transformational nature of the work and projects on offer.



During the course of the year we have been lucky enough to enjoy many memorable - and delicious meals together.



The year ended with a truly delicious Christmas lunch in Café St Honoré as we toasted the festive season and looked forward to the New Year.

**Amanda Fraser**







# Trip to Germany

**The highlight event in 2016 was an interesting coach trip to the German Christmas Markets. After a pleasant journey to Hull, we enjoyed a tasty meal together during the overnight sail to Rotterdam.**

Our first market was in Koblenz, which is where the Rhine and Moselle rivers meet. We enjoyed sampling the traditional Bratwurst and Gluhwein before journeying to our hotel.



where they joined the guests for mulled wine and Bratwurst.

Finally, we enjoyed visiting the bustling and famous Cologne Market, situated beside the city's Gothic Cathedral before our return journey. An enjoyable time with good company!

**Shirley Macmillan**



After a leisurely start, we headed to the picturesque Rudesteim Market, situated on the banks of the Rhine with cobbled streets and traditional buildings. On arrival back at our hotel there was a small market set up by the locals



# events diary

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## March



### Tuesday 7 - Tour of Tennent's Brewery

Come along and enjoy a behind the scenes tour of the historic Wellpark Brewery, which is famous for Scotland's famous pint, the iconic Tennent's Lager. We will learn some of the history of the production processes that have taken place at Wellpark, see a rare collection of vintage Tennent's packaging and enjoy a little taste at the end of the tour. Meet at 1.45pm at the Visitor's Centre, Tennent's Caledonian Brewery, 161 Duke Street, Glasgow G31 1JD. Cost: £5.

**Please contact Shirley ASAP to book your place**

## April

### Wednesday 12 - Tour of Dumfries House and Visit to Barony A Frame

We will start our day with a short visit to the Barony A Frame in Auchinleck. The 'A' Frame is now a monument to mining and local communities who worked in the colliery. Our next stop will be Dumfries House which is one of Britain's most beautiful stately homes. Lunch in the Coach House (pay on the day) before a guided grand tour. Cost: £13 Transport will be arranged at various pick up points - £5 per member.



**Please contact Shirley ASAP to book your place**

## June

### Monday 19 - Social Afternoon at the Fenwick Hotel

All members are invited to a free event at the Fenwick Hotel in Ayrshire. We'll enjoy entertainment which includes a magician from the Magic Circle plus home grown talent. You'll be welcomed with a fruit punch on arrival and Afternoon Tea will be served during the event. Cost: Free. Event runs from 2 - 5pm. Transport to the Fenwick Hotel will be arranged and costs £8.

**Please contact Shirley or Yvonne to book your place.**



## Walk with Friends

### Various dates May - September

As part of the new East of Scotland programme, we'll be running a series of free walks. Join us as we discover some of Edinburgh's hidden green areas on foot. Each walk will go at a gentle pace so no-one gets left behind. Enjoy good company in the fresh air. Cost: Free.

**Please contact Amanda to find out more**



# contact details

## District Secretary

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## Events Organiser West of Scotland

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[www.facebook.com/oddfellowseastofscotland](http://www.facebook.com/oddfellowseastofscotland)



# Oddfellows Members Do you need help?

None of us know what is round the corner...

## St Marnock District Care and Welfare

To request contact from a Welfare Visitor and for local help and information about Branch benefits and benevolence contact Shirley Macmillan and Amanda Fraser, see page 2 for contact details.



## Oddfellows Advice Line Call

**0800 0149 821\***

Monday - Friday,  
9.30am - 4.30pm

**Email:** oddfellows@manchestercab.org

## Care and Welfare Helpline Call

**0800 0149 822\***

Monday to Thursday, 9am - 5pm,  
Friday, 9am - 4pm

**Email:** care@oddfellows.co.uk

\*Free to callers from any landline or mobile number