At the risk of sounding like a broken record (you remember those vinyl discs that used to get into a groove and “repeat and repeat in your ear,”) we are having increasing numbers of Obituaries. Very worthy people who have done considerable good in the World and I must apologise because lack of space dictates that the Editor must become a censor. However, don’t let that deter you, the Newsletter is your vehicle for the dissemination of News to our Members but please don’t feel offended if your efforts are decimated by an editorial “blue pencil.”

On a positive note, we had two visits undertaken by members and their guests this past three months: firstly, to The Hill House and then to the Glasgow Museums Resource Centre. Also, we are planning a visit the Mitchell Library on the 17th of January to an exhibition of George Wyllies’ Works. You’ll remember “The Straw Locomotive and the Paper Boat.” Our Vice-president Davie Tanner is the contact (see article on page 4 re GMRC. If anyone has any suggestions for other possible visits either in the Glasgow Area or further abroad, I would be delighted to hear from you.

The Coronation Boys plans are afoot for our 60th reunion on 19/20 July 2013. We will make further contact and reveal the plan in January.

Alan McLellan
editor@allanglens.com

Dates for your Diary

Second Friday of the month - Monthly Lunch - (0141 357 0137)
Last Friday of the month - Bishopbriggs Lunch - (0141 357 0137)

- 19 April 2013 - East of Scotland Dinner
- 17 May 2013 - East of Scotland Dinner
- 24 May 2013 - Annual General Meeting
- 6 June 2013 - Pitlochry Festival Theatre (Hello Dolly)
- 23 November 2013 - Annual Dinner Trades Hall
On a fairly pleasant winter evening, our Annual Dinner was held in the Trades Hall Glasgow on 24th November. 116 members and guests attended, including a top table of 13. All had good time for a prompt 7p.m. start accompanied by Murdo MacGregor on the pipes.

President Ronnie Wright and Vice-president David Tanner MBE were joined at the Top Table by our Guest of Honour and Old Boy, Col John Kelly MBE (class of 1962, ex Army Officer and the current Deacon Convenor ), Mr Robert Winter (ex Lord Provost and class of 1949), Mr Tony Brooke (ex AGS art teacher), our Raconteur for the evening, Ian Valentine (class of 1956, retired sums teacher and Headmaster) and representatives of the Incorporation of Wrights, The Aloysian Association, The Glasgow High School Club, Kelvinside Academical Club, The Glasgow Academical Club, The AG Sports Club and the AGS East of Scotland Club. The other 6 tables seated 68 members and 35 guests.

The President welcomed all present, introduced the Top Table and invited the Rev. Alan Garrity to say Grace. Corinthian, the new caterers for The Trades House, under the direction of Diaver Mete, then served an excellent meal in a slick and efficient manner. After the meal, toasts were proposed to ‘The Queen’ and ‘Allan Glen’. The Guest of Honour then regaled us with stories from his school days and his time in the Army, mentioning exciting tours in Ireland, Berlin and The Far East (Edinburgh). He brought out the skills he had learnt at Allan Glen’s and how it had prepared him, and his health, for the challenging task of being Deacon Convenor, the Third Citizen of Glasgow.

After the interval piper Murdo got the proceedings underway again. The President presented John Mac Donald with the J G Kerr Golf Trophy, which he won for the third time. He also got his third Quaich to keep. Bob Winter was then given a framed photo, taken in the City Chambers by Mike McCrory, to mark the unique occasion when Bob and John Kelly the first and third citizens of Glasgow, met in The Lord Provost’s office. Vice-president David Tanner then proposed a toast to “our Guests” before introducing Ian Valentine and inviting him to respond on behalf of the guests. Ian gave us a very funny “stand up” routine including references to his Robinson Crusoe Job (Bu’tered by Friday) as a Head Teacher, something about a Walnut Whip!, and a disturbing story explaining how Ian Kent got the vertical worry furrows on his forehead. Ian concluded by asking us to charge our glasses and drink a Toast to the ‘Allan Glen’s School Club.’ Depending on where you sat in the hall, there were problems in hearing the speakers. Hopefully this will be addressed by next year.

Immediate Past-president Gregor Egan rose and expressed thanks to all those who had participated in the organisation and running of the function.

The President then declared the Dinner officially over but, as is customary, the members and guests were free to circulate and chat for a while longer.
Sir Kenneth Calman, *Allan Glen’s School* 1954–1959, is ex Warden and Vice-chancellor of Durham University, now Chancellor of Glasgow University. He is currently Chairman of the National Trust for Scotland and, had noticed that the information in The Hill House went into great detail about Charles Rennie Mackintosh the man but, omitted to mention anything about his time as a pupil at *Allan Glen’s School* from 1877 to 1884. In order to remedy this, he asked for information from *Allan Glen’s School Club*, which he had modified and copied onto a plaque.

Charles Rennie Mackintosh designed and built The Hill House for the Glasgow Publisher Walter Blackie. Ten members of the School Club, together with three of their wives visited Helensburgh and were greeted by Robert Fergusson, National Trust for Scotland, West of Scotland Area Manager and Lorna Hepburn, who is the Property Manager for Hill House.

Following morning coffee, we were shown round the house and the plaque was presented to Sir Kenneth on behalf of *Allan Glen’s School Club* by our Vice-president, David Tanner.

---

**Alexander Denis Shedden 10 September 2012**

An Appreciation from John, his twin Brother.

Sandy and I were at *Allan Glen’s School* from 1939 to 1944. Sandy distinguished himself academically, in athletics and as a member of the 1st XV. He was also a prefect. He went on to take a First Class Honours Degree in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy at Glasgow.

Sandy’s National Service was with the RAF at Yatesbury, Wilts teaching Maths and Physics to boy entrants. He had begun to think of becoming an actuary, influenced, I believe, by an uncle who worked at a Life Assurance company in Canada. He went on to complete his Actuarial Exams while working at the Scottish Temperance in Glasgow and was duly admitted to the Faculty of Actuaries in 1952. At the instigation of his uncle, Sandy emigrated to Canada and worked as an actuary with the Dominion Life Assurance Company in Kitchener, Waterloo, Ontario.

Some years later in 1963, he decided to return to Scotland. Sandy joined Standard Life, at the company’s Edinburgh HQ, where he spent the rest of his working life, rising to the most senior level of management as Deputy Chief Executive and Company Secretary. From time to time he was called upon to undertake various independent actuarial assignments, and had continuous involvement with the Faculty of Actuaries. He was duly elected President of the Faculty for the 2 year term 1983/85. Sandy was a member of the *Allan Glen’s School* - East of Scotland Club.

John Sneddon 0208-466-5357

---

**David Dunsmuir**

(Ed’s Note : Gregor Egan forwarded Ian Sanderson’s e-mail about the death of his brother Harry to Ken Clark in Toronto which he in turn circulated to his group. That produced the response below from James Dunsmuir, who also mentions that his own brother David had died in August.)

Hi Ken:

Thanks for the info. Don’t remember any specifics about Ian’s brother Harry (many memories in general about my time at AG - too traumatic?!) but he was probably a contemporary of mine, and his name somehow does ring a bell. By the way, I may also have mentioned that my elder brother David ( *Allan Glen’s School from 1946 – 1950*, he left early to go to Canada) also passed on in Vancouver 14 August, aged 77, after a brief illness.

Don’t know if anyone keeps tabs of such things at home base, but if they do, this might be of interest to his contemporaries.

I do remember he was a bit more involved in school stuff than I was.

Thanks again, have a great holiday season, and I look forward to seeing you with everyone again in the Spring.

James Dunsmuir.
A group of fourteen of us (it should have been fifteen but either Ian Dale or his GPS System malfunctioned and he finished up in areas of Glasgow unknown to Mankind and returned home.) To be fair the Centre, which is in Nitshill, is not very well sign-posted and a number of us did have some trouble in getting there.

The trip was set up by Blair James Allan Glen’s School 1955 – 1961. His son Gareth is Museum Manager at the Centre. Prior to this, Gareth had been involved in theatre management in the Athenaeum and Citizens in Glasgow and the Bloomsbury, National and Young Vic Theatres in London. Gareth was our Principal Guide around an absolutely fascinating facility. There are 17 purpose-built pods with environment control systems to suit the requirements of the various items in store. There are approximately 1.4 million articles in storage at any one time. Originally, the facility was created to cope with the refurbishment of the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and then extended to store objects from the Transport Museum in transit to the Riverside Museum.

There is no doubt that many of those who were present at the GMRC will be back. The Resource Centre is open seven days a week and there are guided tours of selected areas of the Museum, however, interested parties MUST BOOK THEIR TRIPS, either on 0141 276 9300 or by email at OpenMuseumEnquiries@glasgowlife.org.uk

By the middle of the trip George Smith Allan Glen’s School 1941-1947 was on first-name terms with Gareth, the Museum Manager, through his ability to become a one-man wanderer around the various exhibits and appearing from behind trams and from underneath the “soor milk cart from Rothesay.”

The second part of our viewing was to look at a selection of Ralph Cowan’s drawings, paintings and books held in the Museum. The information on these articles was relayed to us by Alison Brown who is Curator of European Recreational Art from 1800 to the present time. There are about 150 items of Ralph’s Work in the Museum. Ralph was brought up with a Quaker Background and the items have a strong religious conviction, as is also evidenced by Ralph’s Christmas Cards, of which we produce an example every year in our December Newsletter. During the War Ralph, being a pacifist, served in the RAF in a Radar Unit at Start Point on Sanday Island, a part of the Orkney Isles and included in his collection were drawings of the installation and early radar dishes.

All in all, a superb display for which we thank Blair James for the idea and his son Gareth the Museum Manager and Alison Brown the Museum Curator for their enthusiastic and knowledgeable exposition. Many of us will return I am sure.

In the meantime, there is an invitation to view an exhibition of his work “In Pursuit of the Questionmark” on view at the Mitchell Library. He had a prodigious artistic output and attended Allan Glen’s School 1933-1938. He died in April 2012.

The contact for the viewing is our Vice-president Davie Tanner, davietanner@o2.co.uk. (01698 826077) Davie worked with George in HMRC and played guitar in his Band, “The Clubmen Trio.” The date for the visit is Thursday 17th January at 12:30 PM prompt. There is a coffee shop where you can enjoy a snack before/after the visit.

Links to relevant websites

www.whysman.co.uk
www.georgewyllie.com

Some unusual objects

Railway Engine Nameplate

A Coffin!
Henry Dargie explained the vital function of the most important muscle in the body and the role of Engineering in finding solutions to fixing damaged and failed hearts even to the point of devising mechanical replacements.

118 senior school pupils accompanied by several teachers turned out to hear Henry Dargie’s lecture at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow on Monday the 26th November. This year Jack McGuinness introduced the audience to Allan Glen and his legacy. As previously he explained Allan Glen’s skill and success as a business man and his understanding of the problems associated with the lack of a proper education in the working classes. He stressed that Allan Glen was also a skilled carpenter as was evidenced by his acceptance into the Incorporation of Wrights. The audience was left in no doubt about the difficulties of making a door or window frame from a pile of rough hewn wood in a locked room 200 years ago with only hand tools available; a task that few skilled carpenters, if any, would be able to achieve today.

Henry Dargie started his lecture by asking for a show of hands from the audience of those planning to be engineers and then asked how many were planning to be doctors. It seemed that the audience was balanced about 50:50. After presenting some staggering statistics on the working of the heart (120 cycles a minute without stopping until you die) he explained the functions of the heart and the electrical system that tells it what to do and when. He described the heart attack caused by a blood clot blockage and how a flexible wire catheter and balloon could clear it. He explained how a stent could be used as a more permanent solution to expand the wall of the artery to improve the blood flow. The lecture proceeded with illustrations and videos of hearts, both healthy and diseased. Heart valves were also shown, both healthy and faulty together with mechanical replacements. He produced a video showing the extensive civil works required to install the Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (CMR) scanner into the Western Infirmary. One of the more surprising elements of this was the revelation of the heavy reliance on generous benefactors such as Colin Montgomerie and Brian Souter to meet the £2 million cost of buying the scanner. The lecture concluded with a short question and answer session followed by the presentation of an Allan Glen’s Quaich to Henry by David Tanner, Vice-President of the Club.

After the formalities were over Henry produced a very small pump of the type used to help patients circulate their blood and small groups of pupils gathered round him for further discussions. The lecture theatre eventually cleared about 4.00pm. Thanks are due to Henry Dargie, Jack McGuinness and to Mike McCreery for their contributions to the success of this event. Eight Club members turned up to look after registration and act as stewards and it was rewarding that Colin McIlwrath, one of the first students to win an Allan Glen Endowment Scholarship in 2002, was also present. Their support was very much appreciated.

Gregor Egan


---

**ALLAN GLEN'S Promoters of the annual Young Persons Lecture**

---

Gregor Egan  Jack McGuinness  Henry Dargie receives his quaich from David Tanner
Hi Mike,

I was saddened to read in the newsletter of the death of Ian McIntosh whom I knew well. He and his brother Alistair were long standing members of the 52nd scout troop in Mosspark. Ian was my second one year when I was his PL (patrol leader) at a scout camp in the Highlands. He was extremely conscientious and despaired of my laid back attitude. Nevertheless, we were rated the top patrol at the conclusion of the camp. His older brother Alistair, was my companion on the 24 hour overnight hike necessary for completion of the 1st class scout badge.

There was another item about Mosspark school which I attended, concerning the reputation of Mr. James Patterson, a teacher and assistant headmaster. Mr. Patterson taught my class during its last two years at Mosspark School. I still remember the excellence of his teaching and the rapport he had with my fellow classmates several of whom went on to Allan Glen’s.

Moore Hislop

Deacon Convenor – Glasgow Trades Hall  Colonel John L Kelly MBE

In the June 2012 issue of the Newsletter we presaged the ascent of Past-president John L Kelly to the position of Deacon Convenor of the Trades of Glasgow. In this position he assumes the role of Third Citizen of Glasgow, after The Lord Provost and The Lord Dean of Guild of the Merchant’s House. John retired last year as a Senior Army Officer and the link-man between the Army and the Resilience Services in Scotland.

John will be supported by the Rt Rev Dr Idris Jones, who is Collector of the House and is the former Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.       Alan McLellan - Editor
Glasgow-born 'father of e-screen reading' dies

THE kilt-wearing Scot who became "the father of e-reading" has died in America.

Bill Hill attended Allan Glen’s School from 1961 until 1966. Thereafter, he briefly attended Heriot-Watt University and then went into a series of jobs in the newspaper industry, culminating in 12 years in the Glasgow Office of The Scotsman.

He could see that computers were going to change the Publishing Industry and before he knew it he was writing articles on computers and technology for not only The Scotsman but for magazines ranging from Apple User to Jane’s Defence Weekly. Bill joined the software firm Aldus in 1986. He was an innovator in the reading of text on screen and one of the inventors of Microsoft’s ClearType.

He lived in Washington with his Wife Tanya, who is an Honours Graduate from Glasgow School of Art. They also spent much of their time in their second home on the Hawaiian Island of Kauai.

He most famously once said: “The most important operating system is not Windows or The Macintosh or Linux but Homo Sapiens Version 1. It shipped about a hundred thousand years ago. There’s no upgrade in sight but it runs everything.”

Bill Greenock

ED’s Note. Bill visited us and had lunch in the summer of 2009 (see AGSC Newsletter 17 June 2009) and we were very impressed with his contribution to e-reading. Very sorry to hear that he has died so young.

DAVID T BICKERTON died 6th September 2012

David Bickerton attended Allan Glen’s School from 1938 to 1946. For some reason he had three names! Officially David but Tony to his close friends and Joe to his schoolmates. He started school in the “Q” classes, he was in Greyfriars House and became House Captain and a Prefect in his Final Year. He was a good rugby player and was in the 1st XV in his fifth and sixth years.

While at school he spent his holidays working on local farms and it was no surprise that, following two years National Service in the RAF, he entered Vet School.

After qualifying as a Vet, he joined what had been a single-handed practice in Bishopbriggs and while there he developed a flourishing small animal practice in what had been mainly a large farm animal practice. In addition, he played a large part in the administration of the Veterinary World, especially in the Defence Society and in Benevolent Funds.

Tony was very good company. He enjoyed the Monthly Lunches and Annual Dinner. He was a keen member of Probus, being a long-time member and one-time President. He was a good golfer an excellent bridge player and a keen gardener, the latter two activities giving him much pleasure when he was no longer able to golf.

He will be greatly missed by his many groups of friends.

Jack McGuiness

ROBIN BICKERTON - died 19 July 2012

Robin attended Allan Glen’s School, as did his brother, David, initially as a “Q” boy. He attended from 1943 until 1951. He was a quiet lad but with a nice sense of humour. Like his big brother he had a great love of the Country Life and spent his holidays working on local farms.

When Robin left school, he entered The Agriculture College, after which he became a foreman and, in a short time, Manager in a farm.

He was soon recognised as an expert in pig farming but later, in his own farm, he had a mix of cereals, sheep and cattle. Robin had few hobbies and his friends were largely from the Farming Community. He loved the Markets and was well-known in the Stirling Cattle Market.

He was dedicated to farming and was widely regarded as a very good and highly respected farmer.

Jack McGuiness

Norman Caulfield Walker

Norman Caulfield Walker attended Allan Glen’s School from 1932 until 1937. He started on a degree course at Glasgow University and then volunteered for National Service and was called up for Aircrew Training in the Fleet Air Arm. Subsequently he returned to University to complete his degree and then served as an officer in the Royal Army Service Corps.

With his background in textiles and an awareness of the developing tourist trade, in partnership with his sister Isabell he bought a former garage in Pitlochry and converted it into the first knitwear supermarket. The success of this venture led to the opening of further shops in many locations from John O’Groats to Jersey, with the number of Pitlochry Knitwear Shops eventually exceeding 60.

In 1971 the Abernethy Trust was formed and Mr Walker conveyed the ownership of the property to it. The success of the centre inspired others to gift or offer equivalent buildings in other locations and within 15 years there were four centres. On the 40th anniversary of the trust, celebrated in December 2011, it was said that the total number of guests over the years had been 450,000.

Mr Walker’s leadership in business and in Christian Organisations led to him being awarded an OBE. He was vice-chairman of the International Textile Institute, served as chairman of Scottish Crusaders, of the Bible Training Institute which later became the International Christian College, and was chairman of the Argyll and Islands Local Enterprise Company and of Iona Abbey Ltd.

Jack McGuiness
Season’s Greetings
From Allan Glen’s
School Club

Card Design by the late Ralph Cowan 1992
With kind permission from his daughter Diana
Please choose your Item from the illustrations and complete the order form.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Year 2012/13 Order Form

Please Complete and send to  
Tom Bell, 30 Campbell Drive, Bearsden, Glasgow, G61 4NE  
Tel 0141 942 6579 e-mail tom.d.bell@ntlworld.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Total £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>School Club Tie with crests</td>
<td>£8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>150th Anniversary Tie – single Crest</td>
<td>£8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bow tie – Club Pattern</td>
<td>£8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bow Tie Anniversary colours</td>
<td>£8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Balmoral Pure Lambswool Jersey with embroidered Anniversary Crest Dark Blue – sizes available – 50” 38”</td>
<td>£35</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>New</strong> Balmoral Pure Lambswool Jersey with embroidered School Crest Light Blue – sizes available – M (38/40”) L(42/44”) XXL(50/52”)</td>
<td>£40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>New</strong> Balmoral Pure Lambswool Jersey with embroidered School Crest Navy Blue – sizes available – M (38/40”) L(42/44”) XXL(50/52”)</td>
<td>£40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Balmoral Cotton and Polyester Polo shirt with embroidered Anniversary Crest in Light Blue – size M, L</td>
<td>£15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Balmoral Cotton and Polyester Polo shirt with embroidered Anniversary Crest in Dark Blue – size L</td>
<td>£15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>New</strong> Papini Pique Cotton and polyester Polo Shirt with embroidered school crest. Light Blue Sizes M(36”) L(38/40”) XL(42/44”) XXL(46-48”)</td>
<td>£15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td><strong>New</strong> Papini Pique Cotton and polyester Polo Shirt with embroidered school crest. Navy Blue Sizes M(36”) L(38/40”) XL(42/44”) XXL(46-48”)</td>
<td>£15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><strong>New</strong> Papini Pique Elite Cotton and polyester Polo Shirt with embroidered school crest. Light Blue with Navy Sizes M(36”) L(38/40”) XL(42/44”) XXL(46-48”)</td>
<td>£17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Allan Glen’s Celebration Deluxe Blend Whisky Over 8 Years old</td>
<td>£14</td>
<td></td>
<td>Collect Only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>150th Anniversary Cufflinks.</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>150th Anniversary Book edited by the late Professor James Murray.</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD1</td>
<td>School Magazines 1905 to 1940 CD</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td>inc UK Post</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD2</td>
<td>School Magazines 1940-1973 CD</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td>inc UK Post</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD3</td>
<td>Register Project CD Pupil Index of register to Magazines etc</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td>inc UK Post</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD4</td>
<td>Original 100 Year book Scanned to CD</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td>inc UK Post</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set</td>
<td>4 Above items</td>
<td>£30</td>
<td>inc UK Post</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVD</td>
<td>Ralph Cowan at 99 20 Minutes of Ralph Cowan (Art Teacher 1947 – 1963) talking and reciting Burns and Shakespeare.</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td>inc UK Post</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Postage for multiple items – please contact me for amount required.

Your Name and Address and Phone no please:-

Tel ..................................................