

EDINBURGH

# Branch News



**ROSL**  
ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE

*The latest news and events from the Royal Over-Seas League, Edinburgh*

DECEMBER 2016 TO FEBRUARY 2017



## FROM THE BRANCH CHAIRMAN

*Mrs Helen Macpherson*



Members and Friends, the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is here once more. Autumn has been beautiful so far but soon the clocks will change and the daylight hours be fewer. This is time for us to plan our diaries for the months ahead.

A list of our forthcoming events can be found in the following pages of this Newsletter. Please come and join us, bring your friends and family also.

If you would like to be kept informed of ROSL events or changes to events in Edinburgh, please could you send your email address to our Secretary, Tom Murison at [tamurison@hotmail.com](mailto:tamurison@hotmail.com).

Many of you were present at some of the events that took place over the Summer and it was good to see you there, whether it was at our Celebration Lunch in honour of our Queen's 90th Birthday; the impromptu visit by our Patron, Princess Alexandra; The Scottish Member's Dinner; The Royal Garden Party at Holyrood; The Scottish

Members' visit to the London Clubhouse; our Coffee mornings or our Arts Lunches. I hope you enjoyed them all.

Improvements within our Clubhouse continue and as I write we are awaiting the commencement date for renovations to the front entrance.

You will find, later in this newsletter, the advance dates of events for your diaries including St Andrew's Day Dinner on 26 November and Coffee Morning and Carol Singing led by the Choir from St Andrew & St George's Church on Wednesday 14 December.

Also, an outside visit to a member's Borders Home is planned for Wednesday 19 April 2017 with proceeds to the Roderick Lakin Memorial Appeal.

Details for your Committee are listed outside the Members' Lounge, should you wish to contact any of us.

**Helen Macpherson**  
**Edinburgh Branch Chairman**

## Clubhouse News

The Edinburgh Clubhouse has seen a wonderful summer; The Music & More Festival with outstanding performances from the musicians, extremely busy bedroom occupancy and many conference and banqueting events held. It was so lovely to see so many people entering the Clubhouse for the first time and experiencing all that we had to offer.

The end of August saw our Fireworks Dinner in the restaurant with members reception within the bar area. A fantastic evening with a wonderful view of the Fireworks and accompanying music. Reservations are already being requested for next year.

Over the past few weeks the Edinburgh Clubhouse has seen a number of changes with painting and redecorating taking place. The main staircase and reception have been completed and we now

move to the bedroom corridors and remaining areas. Our Maintenance Man Richard Milton has been hard at work and we are encouraged by the feedback we have received from members on the changes we have made.

Autumn will see a busy time with a number of events being held, from the new members reception, St Andrew's Night Dinner and the many Scotland member events being held with outstanding speakers and performances.

December and Christmas will be especially busy and we do look forward to welcoming many of our members to the lunches and dinners that are being held. We have a small number of tables available for our Christmas Day Lunch. Please contact our reception team who would be pleased to reserve a table for you.

**Johanne Falconer**  
General Manager



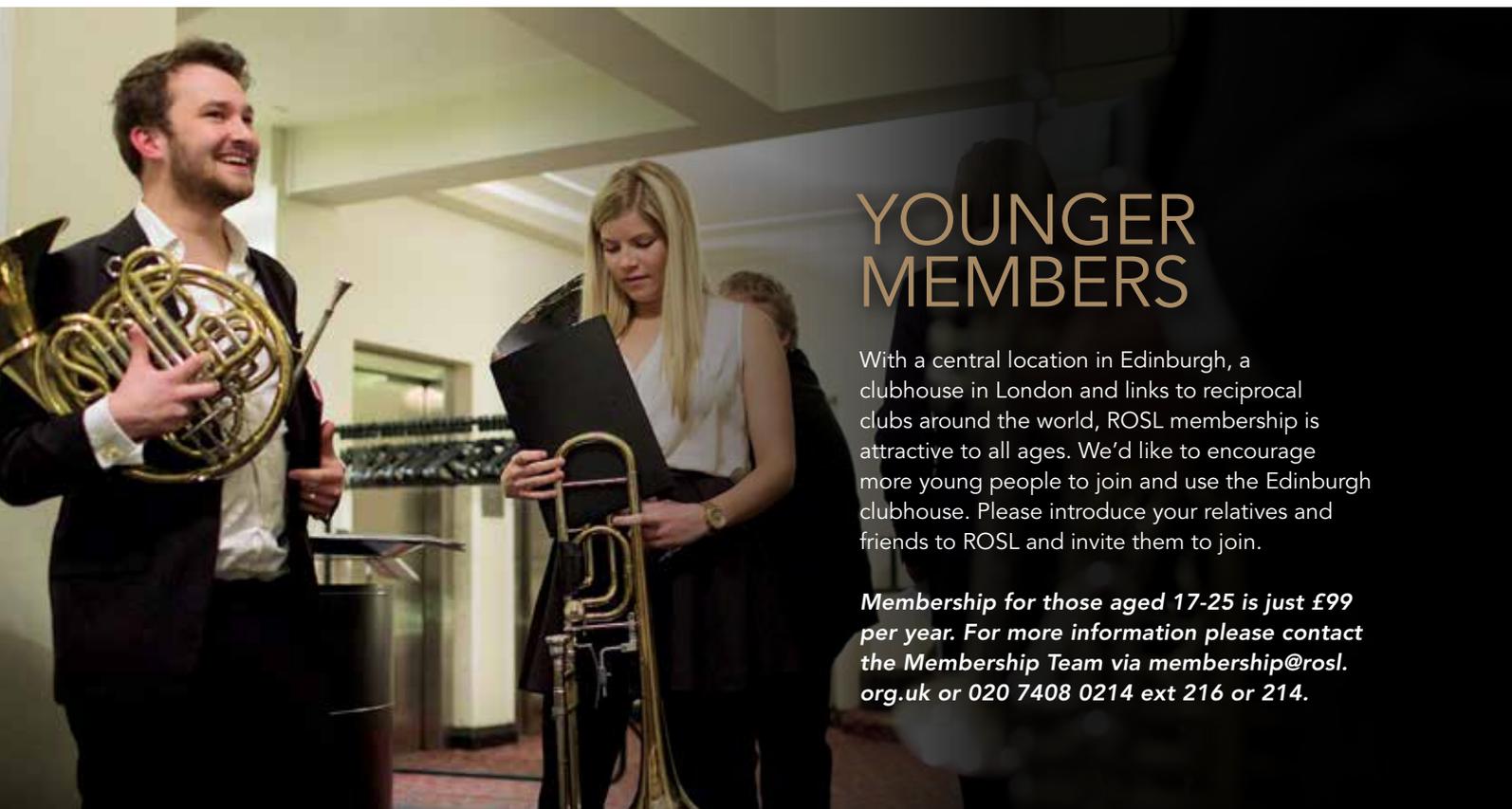
## A MESSAGE FROM THE D-G

It has been very encouraging to see so many positive developments in the Edinburgh Clubhouse recently. We had an exciting Festival Fringe series of concerts this year and plan to build on the lessons we learned in staging the music programme and providing a service for Members staying in the club. I am very encouraged that, under Johanne Falconer's inspiring leadership, our team in Edinburgh are making a real difference and the levels of service are improving. I am very grateful to Johanne for her tireless efforts and her attention to Members' needs.

We have an exciting set of proposals to put to the ROSL Central Council at the end of November for developing the fabric of the clubhouse. We want to improve greatly the presentation and utility of the rooms and the quality of the fabric and décor. I hope to be able to give you more detail once our Council has reviewed our plans. In the meantime, we are continuing with minor improvements and we will definitely carry out the work to improve the look and feel of the Main Entrance and Reception area in January 2017. We will also be making improvements to the Members' Drawing Room and finalising plans for a business room for Members on the First Floor.

There is much to look forward to in 2017. Gemma Matthews and Geoff Parkin will be working with the Edinburgh Branch Committee to develop an engaging programme of events, especially in the Arts, and we are looking forward to collaborating closely in 2017 and beyond with some important partners, including the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and Hospitalfield House. I would like to thank the Edinburgh Committee for their help and support in defining the way ahead for the clubhouse and I hope that you will renew your subscription for 2017 and join with us in enjoying what Edinburgh has to offer in the months ahead.

**Roddy Porter, Director-General**



## YOUNGER MEMBERS

With a central location in Edinburgh, a clubhouse in London and links to reciprocal clubs around the world, ROSL membership is attractive to all ages. We'd like to encourage more young people to join and use the Edinburgh clubhouse. Please introduce your relatives and friends to ROSL and invite them to join.

**Membership for those aged 17-25 is just £99 per year. For more information please contact the Membership Team via [membership@rosl.org.uk](mailto:membership@rosl.org.uk) or 020 7408 0214 ext 216 or 214.**

## In Brief

### ALTERATIONS TO THE CLUBHOUSE ENTRANCE

The final phase of refurbishment is intended to take place early in the new year. For a short time it will be necessary for Members and visitors to enter by a tidied up rear entrance from Rose Street South Lane. Notices will be placed in the Clubhouse giving due notice of this when plans are firm.

### BRANCH COMMITTEE

Your committee met on the 7 September and the 31 October to discuss the programme and speakers. We try to arrange the next twelve months so that we all have time to make reservations in diaries.

Members met with the new Operations Director, Carolyn Henderson with a view to furthering the programme.

Events are advertised in this Newsletter and in notices placed in the Clubhouse.

We would like you to send an email to our Secretary, Mr Tom Murison so

that he can hold your email address purely for the purpose of reminding you of events and Branch activities.

You can contact him at [tamurison@hotmail.com](mailto:tamurison@hotmail.com).

If you have not already done so your committee would like you to complete the questionnaire at the end of this newsletter and return your answers to the secretary.

It can be copied and returned to Mr Tom Murison at [tamurison@hotmail.com](mailto:tamurison@hotmail.com) or detached and placed in the comments box in the Edinburgh members Lounge.

### Committee Members

Mrs Helen Macpherson, Branch Chairman,  
Mr Stuart Lynch, Deputy Chairman,  
Mr Tom Murison, Branch Secretary  
Mr Alex Lamley, Younger Members,  
Mrs Marjorie Wilson, Coffee Morning Administrator  
Keith Stringer, Newsletter Editor  
Mr David Withington  
Mrs Wilma Bernie  
Miss Katie Elliott

### MEMBERS LOUNGE COMMENTS BOX

There is a box for members' feedback in the Members' Drawing Room. Members are asked to complete one of the forms placed there with their observations, comments and suggestions on the running of the Edinburgh clubhouse and branch. The completed form should be placed through the slot in the box. The Branch Secretary will empty it from time to time. The Committee and Management will then take any appropriate action arising from the comments.



# EVENT REVIEWS

A look back at some of the highlights over the last few months

## SCOTTISH MEMBERS VISIT TO THE LONDON CLUBHOUSE

*Fri 29 Jul 2016*

The depicted members had a very good weekend visiting the sights or relatives. Six of us visited the Albert Hall for an afternoon Prom and we all dined together each evening.

## FIREWORKS CONCERT DINNER FOR THE END OF THE FESTIVAL

*Mon 29 Aug 2016*

This well attended high class seven-course dinner was followed by the Festival Fireworks and Concert overlooking "The Best View of Edinburgh". The weather was kind as the diners visited the roof for the Concert and Fireworks. They returned for coffee and dessert.

## COFFEE MORNING

*Sat 03 Sep 2016*

A talk by Frank Hay and Len Saunders on "The Briggers" The men that built the Forth Bridge, was detailed, extremely well researched, relevant and interesting.

## FILM NIGHT

*Tue 13 Sep 2016, 5pm*

"The Hurt Locker"

## ARTS LUNCH

*Wed 14 Sep 2016, 12noon*

"Casablanca: The fascinating secrets behind this 1942 classic"  
Speaker: Ian Garden  
Chairman: Helen Macpherson and speaker Ian Garden

## COFFEE MORNING

*Sat 01 Oct 2016*

Mr Paul McAuley, Collection Care Officer of Edinburgh City Council, gave a very interesting presentation on 'Monumental Edinburgh'. Paul is a conservation officer with the City of Edinburgh Museums and Galleries. He showed images of monuments from unusual angles as he explained the conservation carried out on our monuments. His presentation allowed us to see the monuments from a different perspective.

## FILM NIGHT

*Tue 11 Oct 2016, 5pm*

"Gandhi"

## ARTS LUNCH

*Wed 12 Oct 2016, 12noon*

*St. Marys Music School*

They were so professional and a delight to have, led by Paul Stubbings, head of music and John Cameron. head of keyboard. They are hoping to come next year.

## ROSL CHAIRMAN'S SCOTTISH LUNCH

*Fri 28 Oct 2016*

Three Chairmen, ROSL, Edinburgh and Glasgow. The Chairman of the League, Sir David Brewer, KG, CMG, CVO, JP entertained 48 members to Lunch in the Restaurant. The event was enjoyed by all who attended and we were able to meet Sir David on his first visit to Edinburgh in his new capacity. He had toured the building earlier in the company of the Director General, Roddy Porter and Operations Director, Carolyn Henderson.

The following recent events took place after the copy date for this newsletter and may be reviewed later.

## COFFEE MORNING

*Sat 5 Nov 2016*

The History of the Festival and Kings Theatres. Speaker: Cerin Richardson Head of Creativity and Diversity, City of Edinburgh

## FILM NIGHT

*Tue 8 Nov 2016*

"The Last Emperor".

## MUSIC @ 100 PRINCES STREET

*Wed 9 Nov 2016*

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Chamber and vocal concert Schubert and Brahms and Spohr, guitar, clarinet, voices and piano.

## CHAIRMAN'S RECEPTION FOR NEW MEMBERS

*Thursday 10 November 2016*

*Over-Seas House, Edinburgh*

This was an opportunity for members who have recently joined ROSL or were unable to attend last year's reception to meet ROSL representatives and the Edinburgh Branch committee

## ST ANDREW'S NIGHT DINNER

*Sat 26 Nov 2016, 7 for 7.30 pm*

Rev Benjamin J A Abeledo, former Senior Chaplain to the Task Force Helmand in Afghanistan and now a Parish Minister in Edinburgh. He will speak on "War and Peace and Military Chaplaincy"

**Tickets £35, Members £30**



VISIT TO THE LONDON CLUBHOUSE



ROSL CHAIRMAN'S SCOTTISH LUNCH



ARTS LUNCH: ST MARYS MUSIC SCHOOL



ARTS LUNCH: HELEN MACPHERSON AND IAN GARDEN



## COFFEE MORNING AND CAROL SINGING

*Wed 14 Dec 2016*

Coffee will be followed at 11:00 by carol singing, with St. Andrew and St. George Choir then mulled wine and seasonal mince pies.

**Price £10 per person**

## CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

*Sun 25 Dec 2016 at 12noon*

In the Princes Suite for canapés and bubbles, then through to the restaurant for a choice 3 course menu. The ROSL Father Christmas will appear after pudding to give everybody a present. Then you can relax and watch the Queen's speech during coffee.

**Christmas Day – menu and Price being finalised**

## HOGMANAY DINNER AND DANCE

*Sat 31 Dec 2016*

Watch the fireworks from the finest viewpoint in Edinburgh.

**Price. £105.00 per person**

**Includes: A glass of Champagne on arrival, Five course menu Half bottle of wine, Glass of Champagne to see in the New Year Access to the roof top terrace. Our Ceilidh band will be on hand for dancing before and after midnight. Also available as part of a three-night Hogmanay package.**

## COFFEE MORNING

*Sat 7 Jan 2017*

**Speaker** Rev John Cameron.  
"Foreign Exchanges"

## BURNS NIGHT

*Sat 28 Jan 2017*

Speakers

**Immortal Memory**

Robin Harper

**Address to the Haggis**

John Duncan

**Toast To Lassies and Reply.**

Katie Elliot and Friend

**Piper;** Edward Seaman

**Tickets £35, members £30**

## COFFEE MORNING

*Sat 4 Feb 2017*

**Speaker:** Rev, John Ramsey,  
"Glen Miller"

## MUSIC @ 100 PRINCES STREET

*Fri 10 Feb 2017, 7pm Princes Suite*

Yehudi Menuhin School Concert.

Includes Cocktail Reception and Wine Musicians from the prestigious Yehudi Menuhin School for exceptionally gifted string players and pianists are visiting ROSL on their annual concert tour of Scotland.





HOGMANAY  
DINNER AND  
DANCE

The recital will include works by Mozart, Schubert and Debussy in the Princes Suite, followed by a glass of wine and a chance to chat to the performers.  
**£12; £10 Friends of ROSL ARTS.**

### ARTS LUNCH

*Wed 15 Feb 2017*

John Durnin, "Chief Executive And Artistic Director, Pitlochry Festival Theatre"

### COFFEE MORNING

*Sat 04 Mar 2017*

Speaker: Mr. Martin McMenigall on "The High Constables of Edinburgh"

### COFFEE MORNINGS WILL BE HELD ON:

*Sat 01 Apr 2017*

Speaker To Be Announced

*Sat 06 May 2017*

Speaker To Be Announced

*Sat 03 Jun 2017*

Speaker To Be Announced

### COMMONWEALTH DAY LUNCH

*Mon 13 Mar 2017*

Speaker To Be Announced

### ARTS LUNCH

*Wed 12 April 2017*

TBA

### OUTSIDE TRIP TO A MEMBER'S BORDERS HOUSE

*Wed 19 Apr 2017*

Mr and Mrs Osman have invited a limited number (maximum 36) of members to their house, "Tweedbank" at Fishwick near Berwick on Tweed, for lunch. A Chamber Group play.

Ticket proceeds after costs will go to the Roderick Lakin Memorial Appeal. Details of the application to attend will follow later.

### ARTS LUNCH

*Wed 10 May 2017*

Speaker To Be Announced

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*Wed 17 May 2017*

### MUSIC @ 100 PRINCES STREET

*May 2017*

Gala Opera Evening, Royal Conservatoire Of Scotland. Includes Cocktail Reception and wine.

### SCOTTISH MEMBERS DINNER

*Wed 23 June 2017*

Speaker, TBA

## Glasgow Branch

Glasgow Branch meetings are usually held at the Western Club, 32 Royal Exchange Square, Glasgow at 2pm unless otherwise stated. All members and their guests are welcome. For information about the branch, please call Bill Agnew on 0141 884 6342.

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

*Friday 2 December*

Details to be announced. Contact Bill Agnew to register your interest.

### TALK

*Friday 3rd February 2017*

The Western Club, 2pm  
"A miscellany of donors of paintings to Glasgow museums"  
Talk by Dr Frances Dryburgh  
**£2 donation.**

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

about any of the above events or to reserve tickets please contact the Reception team on 0131 225 1501 or email [reception@rosl-edinburgh.org](mailto:reception@rosl-edinburgh.org)

Arts Lunches are at Over-Seas House, Edinburgh. 12pm for 12.30 Prices. Tickets £20 Guests £25

Coffee Mornings are on Saturdays. We gather at Over-Seas House, Edinburgh after 10am, speaker at 10:30, may last until 11:30. Priced at £5.00

Film Nights are discontinued for the time being.

## MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

While attendance at the monthly Coffee Mornings is reasonably healthy, your committee would like to increase the attendance at Arts Lunches. They'd like to know what would encourage a bigger turn out of members and their guests at these regular Edinburgh Branch events. Could we ask members to fill in the following short Questionnaire in an attempt to determine what members are looking for.

How many Arts Lunches should there be in the year: 4, 6 or 8 ?

Should there be an Arts Lunch if there is a Club dinner that month?

Arts Lunches start at 12pm for 12.30 with the speaker starting at 12.30.

Would you change this and if so to when?

It has been suggested that some Arts Lunches might be replaced with Soup and Sandwiches with a speaker, at a lower price.

Would you be in favour? Yes / No

Where are the best places for you to see the Arts lunches' details? *Please quote the letter of the ones you would use.*

- A. On the clubhouse notice boards in the corridor, on the bar tables and in the lift.
- B. In an email a few days in advance of the event.
- C. In the Edinburgh Branch Newsletter.

How far in advance would you like to see the notices?  
1 week, 1 quarter.

Are there any particular subjects you would like covered by speakers?

Any other comments

Your committee would like you to complete this and return your answers to the secretary. It can be copied and returned to Mr Tom Murison at **tamurison@hotmail.com** or detached and placed in the comments box in the Edinburgh members Lounge.



## THE ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE

For over 100 years the Royal Over-Seas League (ROSL) – a unique not-for-profit membership organisation – has encouraged international friendship and understanding through social, music, arts and humanitarian programmes. With reciprocal arrangements with over 80 clubs around the world and splendid clubhouses in prime locations in St James's, London and Princes Street, Edinburgh, members can escape from the bustle of the city and meet friends and colleagues in a peaceful environment.

If you have a friend or family member that would be interested in joining, please contact the Membership Department on **+44 (0)20 7408 0214 ext. 214/216**, **membership@rosl.org.uk** or visit **www.rosl.org.uk**.

Royal Over-Seas League

Founder: Sir Evelyn Wrench, KCMG

Patron: H.M. The Queen

Vice-Patron: HRH Princess Alexandra, KG, GCVO



London Clubhouse

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London, SW1A 1LR, England  
+44 (0)20 7408 0214, info@rosl.org.uk

Edinburgh Clubhouse

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www.rosl.org.uk