

Caledonian Times



Newsletter of the Bournemouth Caledonian Society
 "Ceud Mile Failte"

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LOOKS LIKE SPRING ! (clocks go forward on the last Sunday in March)



Daffodils, crocuses and lots of blossom is out now, and the sun is actually shining.

Spring is definitely on it's way



I received this note from Lina & John after sending out the Feb. Cally Times
 They live in Selkirk now.
'Thank you Joan for this month's newsletter. We really enjoy reading these - so full of news and interesting tidbits. Makes us feel close to you all again! Love to everyone from The Scottish Borders!'

UPDATE ON MAISIE

from Julie: 02/03/2025

"We've just spent a few hours with Maisie and she was in good spirits, chatting away, some of it making sense and some not. No real update I'm afraid, things are very much in the same spot for her. She's still having 1-2-1 care, but she's on normal food now.
 We're just waiting to get her to a suitable care home closer to home.
 She wanted to go through photos, and seems to enjoy going through them. We didn't see her being distressed about anything today and she came to the front door to wave us off.



On March 13th Nicola came and led us through exercises... to help keep us fit. These are most enjoyable and let us see just how well we are progressing....or not!

Whilst we were there we heard that Pam had rung today to say that JOHN was knocked over in Tesco and hurt his hip and is now in hospital. He had to lie on the floor there until the ambulance came.



We all wish you the very best John and are thinking of you. We send our love. God bless.

Paul and Jenny went down to see Maisie again in Bristol, after their skiing holiday, and found her much the same as Julie did.

It is 5 YEARS on Sunday 23rd March...

since we were all told to stay home, and COVID Lockdown had begun. This was to try and keep us safe from the virus spreading across the world from China. It was 2020 and It was serious, people were dying. The NHS staff were at the forefront of the battle. On March 15th the Caledonian Society had to close. We were allowed out to walk for exercise and shop for food, but we all had to wear a mask.... Remember?

March 20th Heard from John's daughter, Alison, that John is in Poole Hospital. He has had an operation to improve the situation of his hip and is in Brownsea Ward now... ..and able to receive visitors in short sessions... but please check up on this as he may be moving soon to either Wimborne or Alderney. Joan & Fiona visited him on 23rd.

The Monday class is open to all ages We learn Scottish country dances. All welcome to join in! Give it a try. Great way to exercise and make friends.



Mervyn the teacher giving all a laugh. ----- Looks fun.

The Monday Dance Class Pictures by Paul



17th March Time for refreshments at the Monday Dance class

HAVE YOU EVER HAD a BAD DAY ? I had one on Thursday 6th March 2025

Fiona, my daughter, is not well and had an appointment at Bmth Hospital, so I drove her there in my car, but found getting in to the parking area completely different from when I was last there, some years ago.... as the hospital is now twice the size. I had to drive a long way before I found a place to park.

Fiona said she had seen the entrance we required so we walked back (*about 500 miles!*)! ..only to be told it was back where we came from. So we walked back the *500 miles*. Inside, we then had to walk another *500 miles* to the section we had to be in, **and** up two flights of stairs. (*Began to feel like that song by the Proclaimers*)

After seeing the consultant, Fiona was given a prescription and told to take it to Boots in the hospital building. Boots told us to go and wait in the cafe till it was done. This involved **another walk** to the cafe. In the cafe your number flashes up on a screen and you then have to **walk back** to get your prescription. While waiting I thought we would have a coffee each. This came to £7. Perhaps I haven't been going out much lately but I thought that a bit pricey for two small cardboard 'tubs'. Finally we had to **walk back** to the Entrance and then to our car, after trying to pay for parking. This is a cashless hospital and only cards accepted. Good job I had mine with me.!

All the walking is not good when you are not feeling well.

This was a hard enough morning, but **on the way home**, on Castle Lane, my car hit a pothole with a real thump. I didn't see it. After that, the car seemed not to respond in the usual manner and began to smell of burning. It was losing power so I pulled into the first layby I saw and rang for the RAC. (*Thank Heavens for mobile phones*) I was on the busy A31 by now in **rush hour!** The RAC came, and after about an hour the RAC man finally got my car on to a float and towed it to my local garage. Meanwhile, we were stuffed into his van where his radio was playing *extremely* loud music. *Just what we didn't need!*

The garage, Hillmans, said they were so busy with work it will be a while before they can give me back my car. Which probably requires a new clutch. So I won't be able to come to anything at the Hall, *...unless I can get Charlie to give me a lift.* I am without transport, Fiona is still not well, and this day did not help in any way. Hope the doctors get to the root of her trouble soon.

(Also hope I get my car back in working order.... and not **too** expensive !)

Cheers for now.

Editor Joan



Update Got my car back in 11 days.....it WAS expensive.!

SPRING CEILIDH 20th MARCH

It was a jolly evening despite many not being able to come because of illness. We missed them. **Veronica** put together a programme and **Charlie** MC'd. **Paul, Marion** and **Charlie** did spots of entertainment, **Mervyn** kept us all dancing and there were delicious refreshments for all. We had a spot Waltz, with prizes supplied by **Irene** (*sadly one of those who couldn't come*) The winners were **Mike** and **Hazel**. There was a raffle with some interesting prizes and we ended in our usual way singing Auld Lang Syne



Mervyn, Sue and Carole



Paul taking pictures of us all



Winners of the Spot Waltz. >>>>>



Irene is unable to come on Thursday morning 29th to do her quiz as advertised, as she is taking very strong antibiotics, so Marion will do her Card Making instead and Irene will come on April 3rd the following week.
As there is no space left I will put pictures of Marion's Morning in next month's Cally Times.