**Blue Knights Scotland II**



**Annual General Meeting 2019**

The Station Hotel, Perth

Saturday 16th November 2019

**Welcome**

The chapter president, Ewan Skinner opened the meeting and welcomed all

**Present**

Ewan Skinner, Andy Salmon, George Ritchie, John Bryden, Kyle Walker, Jack Russell

Libby Chisholm, Ross Denholm, William Low, Stuart Blyth, Ian Mackay

Guest – Derek McGrail

**Apologies**

Jim Thomson, Dave Connelly, Paul Garrett, Colin Aitken

**Minutes silence** – A minutes silence was held for fallen officers followed by a reading of the Blue Knights Pledge

**Previous minutes** – The minutes of the 2018 AGM had been circulated to all members and were unanimously agreed as accurate

**Presidents report** – Ewan Skinner

Where has the past year gone? It has disappeared so quickly, it doesn’t feel like it was 12 months ago that we were here. A lot has in fact happened and I may miss out some details due my advancing years and me being me.

We have welcomed new members; Stuart, Libby, Dave and Willie. We also have Paul and Gwyn Garrett joining us as transferees from England XIX.

Last December saw our Christmas night out which was well attended and the usual full house for our Burns Supper, including all 3 Scottish Presidents and representatives from a number of English Chapters. Phil Teese did a marvellous job of auctioning goods and I am pleased to say he is returning. However, it was the team in the background who did all the work, Jack and Kathy travelling up from Leicestershire to do the catering & members acting as servers and kitchen assistants all contributed. Paul Garrett managed to deliver his toast despite suffering from alcohol poisoning for which I must take some blame. Jack also stepped into the breach to deliver the Immortal Memory after we were badly let down by the original person. Nuff’ said.

We were able to help Kirsty’s Kids at the Scottish Motorcycle Show, with Kyle becoming an expert steam engine driver.

May saw us supplying some bikes to support Blood Bikes Scotland at the Dunfermline Fresh Air Festival (our chapter currently has 3 Blood bikers with another considering). We were also joined by a local funeral director who brought along a couple of classic Japanese bikes. The main thrust of the day was to publicise the work carried out by BBS but we were also able to raise over £130 for their funds. Sadly, the weather was not great and there was not a lot of foot fall but another time it may be better.

In June we had a wee jaunt up to Trust House where John and Jan hosted us very nicely indeed. After a morning out in Mallaig we returned to find John bring out the Hexhog for us all to try and experience what a wonderful asset it will be for youngsters. We flew across rough terrain in complete safely and negotiated ditches and even slopes too steep to walk down. Youngsters will be able to do all that and more and to be able to do that from being wheelchair bound is amazing. We then proceeded to compete in the most exhausting highland gathering ever devised, well, the funniest one. We were all laughing and really enjoyed the day. John and Jan’s imagination knows no bounds.

Summer saw Kim and I heading off on the trusty Goldwing to visit chapter friends Mike and Erna. Mike has recovered more of his movement in his left arm but sadly motorcycling for him is over. They were terrific hosts and took us to the Belgium 7 All You Can Eat Mussels Rally. They are great hosts and will give you a warm welcome if you are passing Antwerp way.

On a more personal note, I have to thank Ian particularly for the support he gives me, almost on a weekly basis, to avoid me putting my foot in it more than I do. But I also have to thank the other office bearers and all the members who make being President not only bearable but actually quite enjoyable.

I have a busy time over the next few months. A trip to Manchester with others for their Pre-Christmas Bash, the small matter of packing my house up for a house move to Shotts at the end of January and most importantly a certain marriage ceremony in South Queensferry in March. On that note it may be an idea to keep your diaries free for the 28th of March when there is a wee soiree taking place to celebrate our marriage with our friends.

None of that will stop me from my duties as President if you wish me to continue. I am happy to step aside if anyone else wishes to give it a go, but I am also happy to continue in the role.

Once again, may I thank all of you for making my job such a nice thing to do.

Ewan

**Treasurer** - Andy Salmon

I have brought together the accounts for the Chapter for the year 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2019.

This reporting year has been quite a lucrative year for income.

Most notable is the income generated from our annual and very successful Burns' Night; a little over half of the total income. After expenses, the surplus from the Burns' night came to £1118.29.

Although included in these accounts are the £200.00 deposits for the Ireland trip in 2020, the payment to Ewan will be recorded in the 2019/20 accounts.

All in all, our total income from the year exceeded our expenditure by £432.79; this includes the charitable donation of £1500.00 to Kirsty's Kids.

25 of the 26 members of the Chapter have paid their subscriptions for the year 2018/19, and these subscriptions have been forwarded to International Headquarters. I have yet to collect the subs from one member, our paths never seem to cross at work, however he is aware that he does owe the money.

Initial response for our 2020 Burns' Supper has been quite good this year. I have 20 paid up names at present. Although at this time last year I reported that 32 people registered interest, but only 6 payments received. This includes 12 of our own Chapter members who have paid up.

Subscriptions for 2020 are now due.

I will close on the note that as at 31st August 2019, the chapter bank account stood at £913.33.



**Andrew Salmon**

Treasurer 5/11/2019

**Chapter Officers**

Present Holders - President - Ewan Skinner

Vice President - Ross Denholm

Treasurer - Andy Salmon

Secretary - Ian Mackay

At this point the President stood down from the Chair and George Ritchie assumed the chair and asked the members present for nominations for the Chapter positions.

As there were no nominations and as the present Officers were willing to continue in post, George Ritchie stated that Officer bearers for the year 2020 would be as follows -

President - Ewan Skinner

Vice President - Ross Denholm

Treasurer - Andy Salmon.

Secretary - Ian Mackay

Directors - George Ritchie (Ride Captain), Kyle Walker (Quartermaster), Jack Russell

Ewan resumed as Chair of the meeting

**Hon Member(s)**

Two nominations were received

Steven Boyle – Proposed by Andy Salmon, Seconded by John Bryden

Derek McGrail – Proposed by Kyle Walker, Seconded by Ewan Skinner

Ewan informed the meeting as we now had 25 members, we could have two honorary members. There being no further nominations and no objections the above named were elected

**Annual subscription** - To remain at £25.00 and is due shortly

**Chapter Charity**

No other nominations were received so it was unanimously agreed to continue with Kirsty’s Kids as our nominated charity

**Events**

The next event on our calendar will be a pre-Christmas night out on 14th December. Meeting point will be the bar at 28 York Place, Edinburgh followed by a meal at the Cosmo buffet at 1930hrs

Burns Supper – 8th February 2020. Ticket sales have been steady so get your booking in

Ireland 2020 – At present there are 11 chapter members attending. If anyone else wishes to come along contact Ewan as soon as possible

There is no Scottish Rally in 2020 however the Lochailort Highland games have been pencilled in for the first weekend of September, further details will be circulated when known

**AOCB**

Dave Norris has contacted the chapter asking if we would be willing to visit the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers in Fife with which he assists, to explain who we were and members were agreeable. John Bryden stated he would be happy to host a group at Lochailort for a weekend where they could take part in some outdoor activities and chat to serving and retired members. Ewan stated he would put Dave in contact with John to speak direct and explore possibilities.

Ewan informed the meeting that the other Scottish chapters had held their AGMs. There was no change at Scotland 1 however President of Scotland 3 Stuart Barrowman has stood down and was succeeded by Graham Michie.

Ian encouraged members to submit photos or ideas to freshen up our website. Any contributions or ideas should be sent to him. He also encouraged members to suggest runs either at weekends or mid-week, a quick entry on Facebook is all that is required.

John Bryden thanked the chapter for its continued support for Kirsty’s Kids which is greatly appreciated by Jan and himself.

The Meeting was then closed