



Lanark Rocks

lanarkcurlingclub.org

Issue 2

November 2006

The Donald Steele Trophy

THE FIRST PIECE OF SILVER HAS BEEN WON

Congratulations to Angus Law and his team for winning the first competition of the season. The Donald Steele Trophy (for the Opening Bonspiel) was won by Angus Law (skip); Jack Hood; Jane Morton and Eric McGuinness with a winning score of +9 shots.

Jokingly, Angus said "I've started the way I mean to continue". The other skips have different ideas though.....



A happy team after being presented with their prizes by the President.
Does it look as if Moray is about to be assaulted by Jack?

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Pick-ups:

- Lanark CC made steady progress in the TBDick competition - however, we lost out in the Semi Finals - Boo Hoo!
- Scott Lumsdens Wishesaw Rink will represent Hamilton Ice Rink in the forthcoming Scottish Ice Rink Championships in April next year.
- Jim Morrison has been appointed Development Officer for Hamilton (See Jim's letter on Page 11).
- A new caterer has been appointed at the Rink - Janette. She is presently trying to 'firm-up' with a selection of suitable tasty fayre and is open to any reasonable ideas.

IN-TURNS

....And the One that Got Away.....

The date is October 19th and Lanark participates in the B & UC Annual Bonspiel.

Team 1 step onto the ice ie Wilson Heatlie; Tom Steele; Alistair Mackintosh and Bill Hannay.

Play commences at 3 pm.....tensions are high.....the team hope to win and start playing with confidence and conviction. As the play progresses the team accumulate their score and at the final end Lanark were sitting with 4 stones counting in the head. The opposition had the last stone and a draw was being played – the stone literally wiggled into the centre of the rink and the opposition took the one point. However at the end of the game Team 1 walked off the ice with +11 shots. What a score! As Wilson handed this score over to the second skip he must have felt the cup was coming to Lanark.

Team 2 step onto the ice ie Donald MacRae, Richard Fergusson, Marian Fergusson and Anne MacRae.

Play commences at 5.45 pm and Team 2 face Lanark Ladies. Donald and his team were determined to capitalise on the winning score of Team 1 but Lanark Ladies proved a formidable and difficult team. Throughout the game the score remained even – it came to the final end. Donald had one stone counting and his second stone came in for a measure. Both thirds scrutinised the measure and Donald's second-stone just lost out by a fraction of an inch. The game ended on 'peels'.

As this exciting game was taking place another club managed to accumulate +11 shots between their two games. Was the cup coming to Lanark? The final scores were rechecked but both clubs had +11 shots so who had won the most ends? Lanark unfortunately came 2nd – the winning club being Lesmahagow.

Now, how close was that? It was the trophy that just got away.....(this year anyway).....

Congratulations to both teams.





Presidential Summers

I thought members might be interested to know how their President spends his time outwith the curling season. It's not easy not being retired and the job often entails arduous trips to Florida. [Note the unusual one handed putting style!] Moray had hoped that the up-grades that last year's President enjoyed would be a 'perk' of the job – but alas, no – cattle-class once again.



Some of you may know of Moray's early days at sea, and



this year he was fortunate to be able to take to the water once more, this time with an all-female crew [Diana, and Helen, the boat's owner]. It was a beautiful weekend, and the skills gained negotiating the 'bridge holes' [which were only a few inches wider than the boat], will have kept his eye

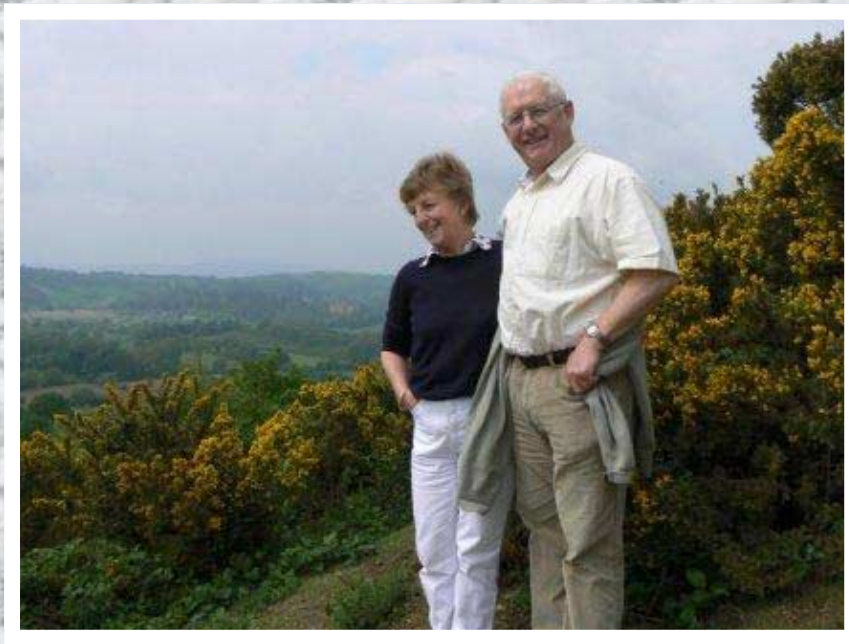


in, so there should be no more complaints of being off the brush. Operating the wind up bridges helped tone the drinking/sweeping arm.



Back on dry land, and time for some home maintenance, then a walk with the dogs.

Visiting his cousin in Ledbury would not have been complete without a hill climb in the Malverns. Oxygen and /or beer



The Deanes Invade The Malverns

would have been welcome, but the promise of the latter, speeded the descent.

The lovely weather really spurs Moray on to do some (armchair) gardening. It may be summer, but there's always some rugby to watch as well.

Walking has played a prominent part this summer and the highlight was the ascent of Tinto [his first 'Donald'] plus dogs, Diana and Sassenach friends – Moray's sights are now set on Coulter Fell – perhaps he'll start on the 'Munros' next year – watch



this space!

It's been a good summer for the Deanes and hopefully for all of you as well and we look forward to a successful curling season for 2006/07 led by our new president.

Diana

PRESIDENTS LEAGUE 2006				2005 WINNERS - Donald MacRae, Jack Hood, Ian Reid, Lorna Gray								
SKIP	MATCH SHEET	SANDRA CARRUTHERS			MATCH SHEET	BOB GRAY			MATCH SHEET	RICHARD GRAY		
Date & Time		Score	Points	Shots		Score	Points	Shots		Score	Points	Shots
14/09/06 19:55	OFF				Richard First	21/6	0	-11	Bob 0 First	16/2	2	11
21/09/06 19:55	Angus First	12/6	2	6	OFF				OFF			
28/09/06 19:55	Doug Second	3/9	0	-6	Bob T First	8/4	2	4	OFF			
03/10/06 19:55	Bob T Third	7/8	0	-1	Donald Second	10/6	2	4	Ivan Fourth	13/3	2	10
10/10/06 22:05	Ivan Fourth	7/9	0	-2	Doug Third	6/4	2	2	Donald Second	5/3	2	2
24/10/06 19:55	OFF				OFF				OFF			
02/11/06 19:55	Bill First	11/2	2	8	Angus Second	9/6	2	3	OFF			
02/11/06 22:05	Play 19:55				Play 19:55				OFF			
14/11/06 19:55	OFF				Ivan First	9/6	2	3	Bob T Second	8/7	2	2
19/11/06 19:55	Richard Second				OFF				Sandra Second			
26/11/06 19:55	Donald Second				Bill Second				OFF			
30/11/06 22:05	OFF				OFF				Doug First			
05/12/06 19:55	Bob 0 Third				Sandra Third				Bill Second			
14/12/06 19:55	OFF				OFF				Angus First			
Totals So Far			4	6			10	2			8	20

Well, so far it looks like the battle of the Grays with Bob leading his dad, Richard, by 2 points. However, Richard has two games in hand and if all goes to plan should end this side of Christmas with the winning score. However, as the saying goes "don't count your stones in until they all come home to rest" (just made that one up!)

Remember to check the **NOTICEBOARD** out for the latest updates

SKIP	MATCH SHEET	BILL JACKSON			MATCH SHEET	ANGUS LAW			MATCH SHEET	DONALD MACRAE		
		Score	Points	Shots		Score	Points	Shots		Score	Points	Shots
Date & Time												
14/09/06 19:55	OFF				OFF				OFF			
21/09/06 19:55	OFF				Sandra First	6/12	0	-6	OFF			
28/09/06 19:55	Donald Third	21/0	0	-8	Ivan Fourth	8/10	0	-2	Bill Third	10/2	2	8
03/10/06 19:55	OFF				Doug First	8/6	2	2	Bob 0 Second	6/10	0	-4
10/10/06 22:05	Bob T First	9/4	2	5	OFF				Richard Second	3/5	0	-2
17/10/06 19:55	Angus First	6/10	0	-4	Bill First	10/6	2	4	Ivan Second	8/5	2	3
24/10/06 19:55	Sandra First	21/1	0	-9	Bob 0 Second	6/9	0	-3	Doug Third	4/5	0	-1
30/10/06 22:05	Play 19:55				Play 19:55				Play 19:55			
14/11/06 19:55	OFF	3/7	0	-4	OFF				OFF			
19/11/06 19:55	OFF				Donald First				Angus First			
26/11/06 19:55	OFF				Bob T First				Sandra Second			
30/11/06 22:05	OFF				OFF				OFF			
05/12/06 19:55	OFF				Richard First				Bob T Third			
14/12/06 19:55	OFF				OFF				OFF			
Totals So Far!			20	4			4	5			4	4

SKIP	MATCH SHEET	IAN STRACHAN			MATCH SHEET	BOB THOMSON			MATCH SHEET	DOUGLAS		
		Score	Points	Shots		Score	Points	Shots		Score	Points	Shots
Date & Time												
14/09/06 19:55	OFF				OFF				OFF			
21/09/06 19:55	OFF				OFF				OFF			
28/09/06 19:55	Angus Fourth	10/8	2	2	Bob 0 First	4/8	0	-4	Sandra Second	9/3	2	6
03/10/06 19:55	Richard Fourth	31/3	0	-18	Sandra Third	8/7	2	1	Angus First	6/8	0	-2
10/10/06 22:05	Sandra Fourth	9/7	2	2	Bill First	4/9	0	-5	Bob 0 Third	4/6	0	-2
24/10/06 19:55	Donald Second	5/8	0	-3	Doug Third	9/12	0	-3	Bob T Third	12/9	2	3
02/11/06 19:55	Play 22:05				Play 22:05				Donald Third	5/4	2	1
02/11/06 22:05	Bob T First	3/8	0	-5	Ivan First	8/3	2	5	Play 19:55			
14/11/06 19:55	Bob 0 First	6/9	0	-3	Richard Second	7/9	0	-2	Bill Third	7/3	2	4
19/11/06 19:55	OFF				OFF				OFF			
26/11/06 19:55	OFF				Angus First				OFF			
30/11/06 22:05	OFF				OFF				Richard First			
05/12/06 19:55	Doug First				OFF				Ivan First			
14/12/06 19:55	Bill Second				Donald Third				OFF			
Totals So Far!		0		-4			4	-8			8	10

14th Nov

A Trip Down Memory Lane

Following the superb hot summer of 2006 will an equally unseasonal freezing winter follow? In many ways people hope not. However, curlers live in the hope of swarming to the Lake of Monteith for a Grand Match in January 2007. Lanark CC will have two rinks if this occasion should arise—the committee will decide how we select players.

The last outdoor match LCC members enjoyed was in 1995—remember that cold snap? I remember getting a call from Bill Jackson, then Secretary, to say that curling at Lanark Loch was on. The members all turned up and had a great day curling - who can **you** spot from the accompanying photographs? (Names will be given in the next newsletter)..... submit your entries to me (Secretary) before the next newsletter - a bottle of wine will go to the person who has identified ALL people correctly.,

We were all told to assemble for a group photograph for the local Gazette. As we did so we heard a loud crack and I have never seen so many people disappear off a Loch so quickly!



December



1995





Nov 06 - Lanark Takes Part In -

The Ottawa Valley Goodwill Tour



I would just like to say that the event went very well at Hamilton and was a success all round from the quality of the opposition to the hospitality shown by the clubs to our guests which they appreciated very much.



All in all a most successful meeting of two countries with a common love of this great game of curling.



Thanks again to all those who participated and if you look at the left hand side of the bar on the wall you will see a small black plaque given by them to us as a sign of friendship to us all .

Alistair Mackintosh



Wilson is New England Bound!..

My father liked to announce to unsuspecting company that he was "blessed with few relatives". My mother's side didn't cause me to be over-endowed with them either. Indeed, a classic family bust-up involving her father meant that even some who did exist were literally never mentioned until they had died. (The propensity not to reproduce: Nature or Nurture? Discuss.)

So it was with a real sense of novelty, as well as natural curiosity, that I met some real, live relatives for the first time, during the summer. Joan Fossum grew up on the family canary seed farm in Minnesota, not far from Bemidji, home of the USA curling team. She now lives in Concord (pronounced "Conquered") in New Hampshire, tagged "The Granite State". That, however, ends any tenuous curling connection.



Left Foot Canada, Right Foot
USA Derby Line VT

I had met Joan's parents once, when I was 14. (Her mother, now 83, and mine shared grandparents, and also their grandmother's name, Helen.) Joan has a brother exactly my age, and at that time tales of him driving a ski-doo and attending school proms sounded impossibly exotic. A younger sister and their collective progeny are scattered across the USA, showing that at least the American branch of the family went forth and enthusiastically multiplied. (As did the Laing branch, but that's another story.....!)

Spending a delightful weekend with Joan, her mother and most of her grown-up family was an unanticipated bonus of a 3-week visit to New England, the six states lying north-east of New York City. (We managed to tick them all off.) Taken together they would make a moderate-sized state farther west.

Being summer, we missed the famous Fall foliage, but in Fall we wouldn't have had an open-air concert from the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, nor a sweltering 98 degrees F on Cape Cod's fast-eroding seashore (though the sea itself was only 55 degrees).

The Fall must indeed be stunning, since New England appears to be largely covered in trees, large and very varied in species. This came as something of a surprise. We learned that in New Hampshire, for example, 90% of the land is largely unused, a lot of



covered in trees.

Apparently, much of the natural forest had been cleared for farming and settlement by around 1800. But then the Midwest was opened up, and the farms literally "went west", leaving New England to be recolonised by the trees. One can actually get fed up with them. Southern New England is pretty flat, and one can drive for miles along the astonishingly good road network without seeing much except for trees.

We were thus quite smitten by the scenery of Vermont - "The Green Mountain State" (check your French). There one can still find attractive farms, covered bridges and white-spired churches in profusion, amid a landscape of dramatic hills which give elevation and thus views. On Dorothy Jackson's recommendation we headed for Stowe, where the Von Trapp family had finally settled. It reminded them of Austria, and you can easily see why. They founded a holiday resort complex there. We also discovered the intriguing opera house and library at Derby Line, on the border with Quebec - the front door and rear stalls are in the US, but the check-in desk and stage are in Canada. French is optional.

Here endeth the Geography lesson - or possibly History? New England has been settled by "modern" Americans for a long time, even by our terms. The Pilgrims arrived in 1620, and historical sites and monuments abound, especially around "Bwahstun".

We happened upon Faneuil Hall, in Boston, one of America's crucibles of Independence and Democracy, just in time to hear Senator John Kerry, the man who narrowly lost to George Bush two years ago, make a speech to the party faithful. (He was introduced by his daughter, Vanessa, who was about to start her final year at medical school. I'll be surprised if we don't hear more of her in the future.)



Kerry's theme was America's inequitable health provision. He laid into Bush, understandably, and then turned to Wal-Mart. Some of the eponymous Wall family are among America's richest individuals, but the company, devoted to price-cutting profitability, provides health cover for less than half its work force. This in a country where, traditionally, employers do pay for workers' health cover. In contrast, General Motors' health care costs add \$1500 to the price of every car it produces. Think about that when you next drive your Astra round to Asda!

Wilson

Outside Competitions



HAMILTON RINK COMPETITIONS

The Club continues to support the LIR's various competitions with as many rinks as we can muster but, unfortunately to date, we have been unsuccessful in bringing home the silverware. However over the rest of the season we shall keep our fingers crossed and brushes scrubbed in anticipation.

Caledonian Trophy - 29th Oct

RINK#1 Bill J, Anne H, Seona H, F Hetherington
RINK#2 Wilson, Richard F, Jack, Marion F

No Silver - So Far!!



Lanarkshire Ice Rink Championships - 29th Nov

RINK#1 Donald, Jack, Bill T, Anne Mac
RINK#2 Richard F, Anne H, ? Diana



Lawrie Trophy - 15th Nov

RINK#1 Richard G, Martin, Moray, Carolyn
RINK#2 Bob T, Donald, Yvonne, Jack

SCOTTISH RINK CHAMPIONSHIPS

A couple of years ago in the 2004/05 season Richard Gray's rink of Bob, Martin and Jack were successful to win through to the Finals at the Galleon (Kilmarnock) where they were unfortunately beaten by Pete Loudon's Perth Rink. Success continues to elude the lads as they were beaten this year by EK & Haremyres in the Hamilton Rink Semi-Finals. There is always next season.....

Wishaw (Skipped by Scott Lumsden) went on to win through to represent Hamilton next year at Kilmarnock. The Club wishes Scott the very best success in this prestige competition.



New Development Officer for Lanarkshire Ice Rink

Jim Morrison

I am very pleased to have the opportunity to be involved in the development of curling at LIR. In essence, we need more people coming into the sport, joining clubs and enjoying the game of curling. Recently the focus of development has been changing and now the Development Officer is seen as the person exploring new avenues to bring a much wider range of people into curling, increasing the numbers playing the game, using the ice rink facilities and joining clubs. By using modern ways of promotion, for example through the internet, club websites, links to health and exercise agencies, we will then bring the results of that research to the clubs for them to use in the most appropriate way for their circumstances. By promoting curling into previously untried/untapped markets, channelling the results through "come & try" sessions, we will introduce new curlers to the clubs. In addition by resurrecting and organising the tried and tested methods of recruitment, the open night, the presentation to the local Rotary Club, the come and try session, the club stand at your local shopping centre on a Saturday afternoon, or whatever it takes, it's my job to organise, promote, publicise and generally bring curling to the attention of a much wider public.

It's your job to enjoy your curling, the new friends, the new gossip and all the other possibilities, that this new blood can bring to a club.....but can you take just five minutes, sometime soon, and email, phone or speak to me at the rink with

- A new idea you have had to recruit new curlers
- An old idea that's worth resurrecting
- A local group or organisation you think I could contact and introduce to curling
- A work colleague/friend/neighbour/relation who might be interested
- A school who may want to join our schools programme
- A school who may want to join our schools programme

We don't have a massive promotion budget, but we do have a close-knit group of curlers who interact with hundreds of people every day. If you know of someone looking to get fit, a company looking for a new way to entertain clients, or a family just wanting something different that they can do together, let them know about curling, and let me know about them!!

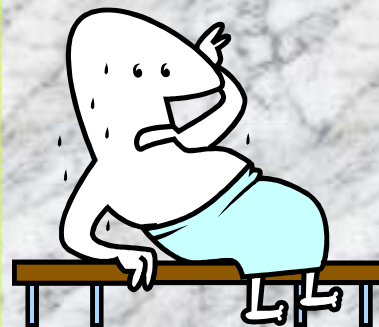
Contact me, Jim Morrison, Hamilton Curling Development Officer, via email at jmprop@btinternet.com, or phone 07753 236714

Check out Jim's Board as you enter the changing area at the Ice Rink

At The Rink

FITNESS ROOM & SAUNA

If you are feeling a bit out of 'peck' on the ice remember that you can upgrade your membership to include the fitness room and sauna for a mere £35 pa. There is no charge for the use of these facilities which are open from **0900-2200 hrs** weekdays and 1230-2000hrs Sat/Sun. Also check with the office for the summer schedules.



JUNIOR CURLING

If you have children, grandchildren, nieces & nephews remember that Junior Curling is available most Friday afternoons between 1600-1700hrs. As a follow-on, Saturday mornings are reserved for young beginners. So why not invite them along?

BAR LOUNGE & RESTAURANT

Finally, if you are having a private function and wondering where to hold it, then why not make use of the Rink's excellent social facilities? Again contact the office in the first instance for details.



I do hope you have enjoyed this issue. If you have any items for inclusion or features you would like to see included in **Lanark Rocks** next issue, scheduled for February, then please contact me. It is always interesting to hear about your activities outwith the Club. So don't be shy! And of course we are always interested in 'Pick-ups' (Curling Gossip)!!



Anne Hood
Secretary Lanark Curling Club
4 Murray Road
LAW
ML8 5HR

Phone: 01-698-350-926
annehood@btinternet.com