



Lanark Rocks

lanarkcurlingclub.org

Issue 3 - 06/07 Season

February 2007

LANARK MEETS RHONA

Lanark CC was invited, via Alistair Mackintosh, to field a rink for the Innerkip/Greenacres Charity Bonspiel to be played at Greenacres on 5 December 2006. Not to be known to refuse an invitation, Lanark was represented by Alistair Mackintosh (skip), Anne Hood, Jack Hood and Moray Deane.

As it was only a few days before the European Championship Alistair teased his fellow members indicating that Rhona Martin could be practising that day! With great excitement we were eagle-eyed as we arrived at Greenacres and, lo and behold, we did see Rhona on the ice doing things with stones that we didn't think possible!! As we sat down to our light snack and to meet other fellow curlers for the day we heard an announcement—'Will the Lanark team please go on the ice?'. We cautiously followed Alistair onto the ice only to find that he had organised a photo opportunity with Rhona. THANK YOU Alistair. It certainly made our day.....

PS: The Charity Bonspiel was a terrific day. Plenty of fines for players to boost the charity funds: a first class Cream Tea was provided: good fun on the ice and excellent company.



A happy Lanark team sharing the limelight with Rhona Martin.

CONTENTS Page

IN-TURNS

Picture Gallery 2

Trophy History 3

Stranraer 7

Dinner Dance 9

Congratulations 10

OUT-TURNS

Jim Morrison - Development Officer 13

News From The Rink 14

FINAL ENDS 14

Pick-ups:

- Jack Hood was part of the Mens' Tour to USA who successfully brought the Herries Maxwell Trophy back to Scotland after 30 years. Four curlers from Hamilton Ice Rink were part of the 20-men tour. Congratulations gentlemen.
- Richard Gray and his team won the Presidents League 2006 with an unbeaten record! Well done. His team were Jack Hood, Marian Fergusson and David Toy.
- Ivan Strachan successfully led his team to win the Frameshield in December 2006. Congratulations to Ivan, Marian Fergusson and Gregor Noble.
- Hey Marian—you're a curling babe being a winner of the Presidents as well as the Frameshield!



PICTURE GALLERY XMAS BONSPIEL



Trophy History

THE VASSIE MEDAL

THE FANACKAPAN

From an initial telephone call, subsequently followed by a letter, your Secretary found herself engaged in communication with Sheriff David B Smith, from Troon. My first reaction was to instantly call upon the services of Bill Tennant—however, the matter turned out not to be of a legal nature.



Sheriff Smith is a keen curling historian and he called to state that someone had bought Lanark CC memorabilia from a car boot sale. Two things were bought and Sheriff Smith described them as: "A half crown coin, the reverse of which has been buffed smooth and engraved with these words:-

FANACKAPAN TROPHY/CURLING/1947/WON BY/ R LOCKHART.

The other things are a pair of small silver dishes, presumably ashtrays. One has the crossed brooms and stone, part of the Lanark CC badge, and has the words LANARK CURLING CLUB engraved round this. The other is engraved THE VASSIE MEDAL/WON BY/ALEX S REID. The dishes were made by Brooks of Edinburgh and have the date mark 1838, in which year I see from the Annual that the winner was a member. The Annual Dinner programme which I have is for March 1956." Sheriff Smith was asking if I could supplement the above with further information about the Fanackapan Trophy and the Vassie Medal.

I became intrigued with the memorabilia so I searched through the Lanark CC Minute Books and found a lot of information for the Vassie Medal (see below). I found very little information relating to the Fanackapan but Sheriff Smith told me that the term 'Fanny Fanackapan' is an expression from North England meaning 'a woman who deems herself above her station'. Could this relate to curlers moving up a position within the rink ie we're curling above our stations? - more information in a forthcoming edition of Lanark Rocks.

Enjoy more history of some Lanark trophies in forthcoming issues of the 'ROCKS'

THE VASSIE MEDAL

Outside ice competition – annually

Knock-out competition. Each rink had 6 players allocated – although 4 only played.

Two games were played each day – one morning and one in the afternoon.

The winning rink would get the gold medal to keep for one Year + badges for the team.

However, a player could only ever hold one badge – no accumulation was allowed.

I believe the badge was also in gold – as an archive letter would suggest – see **

Excerpts from Minute Books of Lanark CC re the Vassie Medal:

1865 - Mr John Vassie was elected as President of LCC. He presented a gold medal for an annual competition (outside ice) which was to replace the current Silver Medal competed for. (The silver medal was not to be played for again – kept by the Treasurer until a decision was made re its future use etc)

1874 - AGM – decision taken that the Silver Medal was to be Runner-up for the Gold Medal.

1899 - John Vassie Esq of Croftin hall was made a patron of Lanark CC

1905/06 - John Vassie died. His widow wrote a letter to Lanark CC (which club still has within its Minute Book). Mrs J Vassie proposed that the Vassie Medal still be competed for as an outside competition annually. She gave the club a Pref Ordinary Share thus allowing the annual dividend to be used to buy the replicas for winners of the Vassie Medal competition. The club became the owner of this share investment – its value being £42. The annual interest accrued was 25/- per annum. Mrs Vassie arranged for Messrs Brook & Son (Edinburgh) to supply a new badge as per same design as the last medal won by last year's winning rink. She applied conditions for this competition ie

- That any 4 players within Lanark CC could form a rink and participate for the medal
- That the medal shall be played on the first suitable ice (as current practice)
- "When play for the medal is commenced the rinks left in shall not take part in club matches (except the Upperward Bonspiel and the Caledonian Cup matches) 'til the medal is won"
- That the final shall be a game of 31 shots or 4 o'clock.
- That the winning skip gets the badge unless he is the holder of a former one – in which case, it passes to the next member of the rink who has not got one

If there is any accumulation of badges they shall be allocated up to four (which shall be the maximum number of badges disposed of in any one season) in the following order: 1st – skip : 2nd – the 5&6 player : 3rd – lead, and, 4th – the 3&4th player

Over the years the annual dividend would decrease and by the period of WW1 the costs of badges exceeded the receipt of annual dividend. This information was extracted from a letter (still in Club hands) from John Vassie Jnr who wrote to the curling club – (complete excerpt below – dated **6 November 1918**)



Dear Alick,

Mr Houston, Treasurer of the Curling Club mentioned the other day that he would like to have a talk with me about the 'Vassie Badges' so I called on him yesterday.

Mother bought £42 NB Preferred Con Ordinary Stock and handed it over to the Curling Club with a deed of gift attaching the conditions as to the use of the effering dividends, to provide for all time a Badge for the annual winner of the 'Vassie Medal'. At first the investment yielded 23/9 after deduction of Income Tax, but with Income Tax at 6/- per £1 the nett return is only 17/6.

You may perhaps know that Clubs cannot obtain abatement of or exemption from Income Tax.

Formerly Brook & Son supplied a Badge annually for which the dividend was sufficient to pay, but now the price is 37/6 and the dividend is 17/6 nett. The open winters of 1912, 13 and 14 did not permit of the medal games being completed so in 1915 four Badges had collected to be competed for and according to the revised deed of gift each player in the winning rink in 1915 received one Badge which induced a considerable display of the pot hunting spirit and caused a lot of bad feeling. Mr Houston told me that the games were completed in 1916 and 1917 but as there was not enough money to buy badges of the usual value the shortage was made up out of the Club funds and the winning skip in each of these years received 25/- to buy a souvenir. I had been too much occupied otherwise to take any interest in this matter and did not know about it till Tuesday, when I at once told Mr Houston that this was very considerate but must not be repeated, and I would see what you said about changing the conditions of the deed of gift to meet the altered circumstances.

What I think we should do is to say that a Badge will be presented to the rink winning the 'Vassie Medal' each year in which the Tournament is completed, that it will go to the skip of the rink winning the medal if he does not already hold a Badge. If he does, that it will go to the third player and so on to the lead : possession of a Badge barring any player from receiving another when won in that or any other rink, till all the four have one, after which the skip will again qualify should the same rink still be in existence. I propose that the Treasurer should keep a note of the dividends received and of the amount expended in purchasing one badge per year the Medal game is completed, and that I provide the necessary cash to make up any shortage there may be after crediting the balance resulting from the non-expenditure for any year or years in which there may have been no medal won. This should keep up the prestige of the 'Vassie Medal and Badges' and give sufficient interest in the winning of them to the players. I also propose to hand over whatever deficiency there was in the dividends for 1915 and 1916 from meeting the cost of the souvenirs for these years.

Signed JW Vassie

1927 - Vassie Medal stock showed no return with its capital growing less so the Club decided to sell the stock and deposit any fund.

1927 - Mrs Vassie (and daughter, Miss Vassie) wrote to Lanark CC. They wished the club to know that once the above fund was exhausted, they would continue to pay for a replica of the Vassie Medal each year when it is won. Mrs Vassie instructed that the replicas be provided by Messrs Brook & Son.



1938 - Lanark Club wrote to Miss Vassie seeking permission if this Medal could be played on inside ice – given no appropriate outside ice available. Permission was granted but Miss Vassie indicated that the replica could only be given to the winner on outside ice only.

1938 - Communication between Miss Vassie (now residing in Edinburgh) and Lanark CC.

****Letter from Miss Vassie – dated 20 January 1940**

Dear Sir

Thank you for your letter of 17th inst re the winning of the Vassie Medal. I have been considering the matter of the replica of the medal.

At the time when it was started watch chain were fashionable but I feel that now it is rather out of date. Also gold has risen considerably in price and the replica costs very much more than it used to. If the curling club is agreeable I should like to alter the momento to a pair of silver ash-trays like the enclosed sketch.

Will you please let me know what you think in the matter?

Signed E L Vassie

The Club accepted this generous offer.

1942 – 45 - No games held due to WW2 and difficulty in getting enough men to play who weren't in service.

1952 - Members query conditions of Vassie Medal. Committee wrote to Miss Vassie asking that the game be played whenever it suited the club members – more flexibility re time of play sought. It also meant that new members were eligible to play as previous conditions insisted on daytime curling only – now the game could be held in the evening therefore more people able to compete.

Permission was granted by Miss Vassie.

To this day Lanark CC still play for the Vassie Medal on an annual basis.

If there is outside ice available on Lanark Loch then the Vassie Medal is competed for. The last time this happened was in December 1995. When no outside ice is available then we play for the Vassie Medal as our club's closing bonspiel.

The winning team receive the Vassie Medal only – no replicas/Badges are available.



Stranraer Weekend... 10-12th February

Club members enjoyed another successful weekend at Stranraer in February. Five rinks participated with Donald MacRae's rink winning the newly unveiled Heatlie Silver Scuttle. Donald's rink went through to the semi-finals.

A big 'hello' was given to 3 new curlers for the weekend ie Liz McGuinness (Eric's wife) : Lillas Tennant (Bill's wife) and Louise Allison (Susan's daughter). We hoped you enjoyed your first curling event ladies.....

Thank you to Anne Ramsay for organising the weekend. Next year, Moray (as ex-President) will organise Stranraer 2008.



And Our New Stranraer Trophy.....



The Heatlie Silver Scuttle

Dec 1995

Did you manage to name everyone? No submissions to the Secretary were made therefore the bottle of wine stayed firmly in the Secretary's grip.....hic, hic, hic.



A Trip Down Memory Lane



New Lanark Mill Hotel



DINNER DANCE & PRESENTATION OF PRIZES

Is Being Held at The New Lanark Hotel on
FRIDAY 23 MARCH

YOUR SUPPORT IS INVALUABLE.

Will Leads and Thirds donate a raffle prize? Thank you.
Please submit your name to Moray if you are attending.

See you there.....

JOLIPESTAL COMPETITION

2nd February

Congratulations to this year's Jolipestal winners:

East Kilbride & Haremyres

The team, outwith the winning club, who had the highest-up score was **Lesmahagow**. They picked up the wine.



Congratulations.....

7th December 2006 - Pairs

Congratulations to Lorna and Richard Gray who are our new Pairs Champions. A better final one could not see anywhere

MATCH SHEET	RICHARD GRAY		
	Score	Points	Shots
Bob G First	16/2	2	14
OFF			
OFF			
Ivan Fourth	13/3	2	10
Donald Second	5/3	2	2
OFF			
OFF			
OFF			
Bob T Second	9/7	2	2
Sandra Second	9/2	2	7
OFF			
Doug First	11/1	2	10
Bill Second	10/3	2	7
Angus First	13/1	2	12
	1ST	16	64

MATCH SHEET	DOUGLAS TOY		
	Score	Points	Shots
OFF			
OFF			
Sandra Second	9/3	2	6
Angus First	6/8	0	-2
Bob G Third	4/6	0	-2
Bob T Third	12/9	2	3
Donald Third	5/4	2	1
Play 19:55			
Bill Third	7/3	2	4
OFF			
OFF			
Richard First	1/11	0	-10
Ivan First	10/1	2	9
OFF			
	2ND	10	9

The Sandy Grierson Pairs Trophy



14th December 2006 - Presidents Prize

And congratulations also to Richard Gray, Jack Hood, Marion Fergusson and David Toy with their convincing win for the Presidents Cup, with the Toy family keeping in the runners-up position with young Douglas's Rink

Congratulations.....



LANARKSHIRE ICE RINK BONSPIEL - 26th November 2006.....

Lanark CC won the LIR Bonspiel which was held at Hamilton Ice Rink. Thanks to Donald MacRae (skip), Jack Hood, Bill Tennant and Anne MacRae for not only representing the Club but in winning the competition. The M&S vouchers (prizes) proved very useful for Christmas

PRESIDENT'S CUP- 15th February 2007.....

Lanark CC has their name engraved on another trophy. Moray (President) was organising a rink and asked Martin Yuill to skip—Martin politely asked him if he would like to skip as he is President. Moray accepted (following his success at Stranraer) and with the help of Martin Yuill, Jack Hood and Alistair Mackintosh went on to win the competition. Congratulations to all.

There is no doubt that this will be one of Moray's great 'highs' during his presidential year.



On the back of the cup it has only been inscribed since 1983 with **Lanark** winning in:

1986 - Richard G
1987 - Richard G
1998 - Donald Mac
2005 - Donald Mac

On the front of the cup it has the following inscription " Presented to The Biggar District & Upper Clydesdale Province Curling Club - By- Alexander Edward Esq of Sanquhar - 1936



What A Lovely Trophy

A Report By David Strachan



The Annual Sport Clydesdale Curling Bonspiel was held at Lanarkshire Ice Rink, Hamilton on **Thursday 28th December**. Ten clubs from the Clydesdale area participated in a competition using the Schenkel System with ends, shots and points deciding ranking.

In an extremely close final result, with the winning margin being only one shot, the High Road Winners were Douglas Curling Club The High Road Runners Up were Lanark Ladies Curling Club.

In the Low Road Competition the Winners were Upperward Ladies Curling Club. The Runners Up were Coulter Curling Club

The prizes were presented by David Strachan, Chairman of Sport Clydesdale,



and thanks were extended to Lockhart Steele for administering the event and to the staff at Lanarkshire Ice Rink for their assistance.

High Road Winners - Douglas Curling Club (John Trainer, Robin Scott, Kerr Findlay, Graham Cowan)

High Road Runners Up - Lanark Ladies Curling Club (Morag Sandilands, Jane Gilchrist, Jenny Lorimer, Margaret Neilson)

Low Road Winners - Upperward Ladies Curling Club (Mary Armour, Ann



Smith, Margaret Hyslop, Rita Herd)

High Road Runners Up - Coulter Curling Club (Hugh Jackson, James Moffat, Gavin Jackson, Agnes Jackson)

Jim Morrison - Development Officer

Jim Morrison[jimprop@btinternet.com]

SCHOOLS COACHING. The general programme is now fully booked although we have odd spaces and could still take another school. The limiting factor remains the lack of volunteers to assist coaches, and on some occasions a lack of coaches. I have plans to attract more of both but will keep these on hold until nearer the start of the new season. We held a very successful A level coaches course at East Kilbride with 11 people attending (the highest number ever on one course, I'm told) two of these will do their 10 hours training with a B level coach at Hamilton. Promoting curling as a health/exercise benefit has also lead to our first booking from a "Get Active" group and we expect to have more contact with this kind of group in the future. We have also secured a booking for a 1 hour, 4 week session from Hamilton School for the Deaf which further fulfils requirements to promote our sport to minority groups.

NATIONAL COME & TRY. A very successful Come and Try day was held on 28th January with over 60 people attending. All six sheets of ice were in use. All those attending received a copy of the R.C.C.C. booklet on Starting Curling, and information on all our coaching and open come and try sessions. The results have been promising, with increased numbers attending the Sunday sessions including a number of children who will be directed towards the after school or junior club sessions. Every club member who introduced a potential curler has also been contacted and offered several dates, at no cost, when we would like them to return with their guests for a little more coaching and a short game. Thanks go to all the coaches and curlers who came along on the day to ensure all had an enjoyable and safe experience.

DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN FOR LANARKSHIRE ICE RINK. I have been working closely with Gordon Kennedy, R.C.C.C. Development Manager to produce a plan which will allow targets and goals to be set in relation to all aspects of the development of L.I.R. This should allow us to see where progress is being made and in which areas we need to give more attention. It would also give continuity to the Development Officer post, acting very much as a detailed job description and allowing the next occupant of the position to easily establish what is working, what has been achieved and what has still to be tackled. I expect to present a draft of this document by next meeting.

WORLD FIRST FOR HAMILTON. Celebrating International women's Day, South Lanarkshire Wheelchair Club have organised the first International Women's Wheelchair Bonspiel on Friday 16th March. Radio and Press interest is expected and articles for press release have been prepared. Some able bodied curlers may be required to give some help on the day and one or two issues on signage and access still require attention. An excellent event to Hamilton's credit and furthers our progress in offering access to the sport to minority groups.

L I R WEBSITE. It will shortly be possible for all members to leave their email address on the website and allow us to email directly newsletter/competitions/events etc., Please visit www.lanarkshireicerink.co.uk to add your email address.

Lanarkshire Ice Rink

OUT-TURNS

At The Rink

26th Feb/1st March - Henderson Bishop

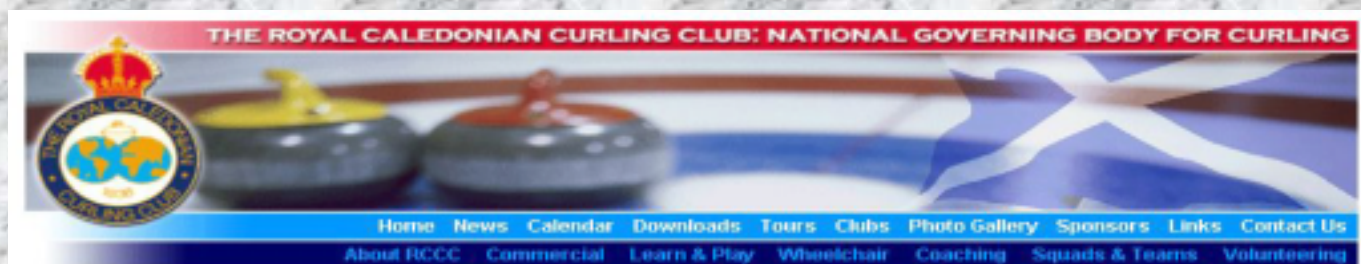
4th March - Bob Mackintosh

13th March - Lanarkshire Province AGM

16th March - International Ladies Wheelchair Bonspiel

28th April - LIR Prizegiving Evening

29th May - LIR AGM



Annual Gala Awards Dinner - 2007 - Hilton Edinburgh 18th May

<http://www.royalcaledonianscurlingclub.org/commercial/prodshow.cfm>

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 **May**, 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)!!

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