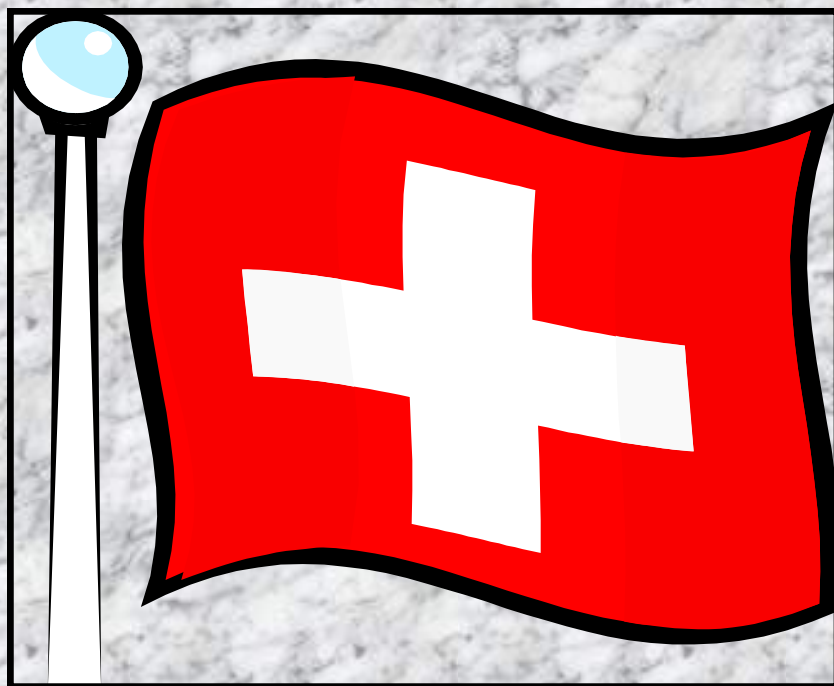




Lanark Rocks

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Season 2014-15
Issue 3



SCOTTISH

EDELWEISS TOUR 2014

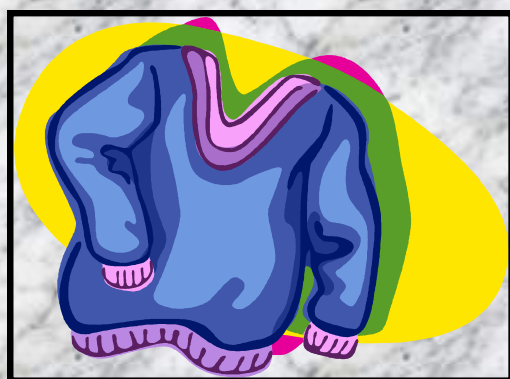
Curling tour to Bavaria and
Switzerland



The Magazine of Lanark Curling Club

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CLUB JUMPERS:

DOES ANYONE REQUIRE TO ORDER A CLUB JUMPER?

I NEED TO KNOW YOUR SIZE AND WHETHER YOU PREFER A ROUND OR V-NECK JUMPER.

PLEASE GIVE ALL RELEVANT DETAILS TO ANNE HOOD.

THANK YOU

Anne Hood (President)

President: Anne Hood

Presidential Musings



SCOTTISH EDELWEISS TOUR 2014

It was with great delight that Jack and I joined the above tour from 27 September—11 October 2014. This tour was organised by Gordon Gilchrist (Lesmahagow CC) and 17 curlers from Scotland plus 2 Canadian curlers embarked on this tour. The Scottish contingency departed from Hamilton Ice Rink and we drove to Hull to pick up the ferry to Zeebrugge. It was on this first leg that we noticed that perhaps Gordon's timing can be a little bit out. We thought the ferry was sailing at 7 pm (perhaps a little earlier at 6pm?) so we arrived at the ferry terminal at approximately 5.15pm. Our driver walked to the reception area then came running out with custom officials—apparently the boat was waiting for us! The officials jumped onto our bus to inspect our passports whilst the driver was told to follow a car, with the revolving yellow light on its roof, at speed to the boat. We were then told to get off the bus immediately and get onto the boat—the driver stated he had the last space in the hold and he barely had time to switch the engine off and engage the handbrake before the ship's back door closed and the boat was off! We made it—just! A pleasant night of amiable companionship followed.

The following morning Gordon told us that it would take approx 7-8 hrs to drive to Fussen in Bavaria. This would be the longest drive of the tour so we settled down for such a journey. However, 12 hrs later, we were still on the road and Gordon had to telephone to our hotel to inform them we would be late. The hotel told us that they would be closed but they would leave the hotel open: our keys would be waiting for us at Reception and to simply make ourselves at home. This wouldn't happen in a city! We arrived just after midnight and everything was waiting for us—lovely.



Our hotel in Fussen
with our tour bus.





We woke up the next day to a beautiful day—above was our first group meeting. Our itinerary for today was a free morning with a guided walk (by locals) in the afternoon.



Most of us took a walk (there were many walking routes) that run alongside lovely lakes and the meadow flowers were still in bloom.





Our walking guides were locals, and curlers, who turned up in traditional costume. What a lovely touch.....

Fussen is a lovely village but there was a case of 'déjà vu' as we walked through it. It wasn't until later that I learnt that Fussen was where they filmed 'The Great Escape' so I need to watch the film again, taking my eyes off Steve McQueen and James Garner, in order to concentrate on the beautiful scenery.



Our first evening saw our first curling game (you may have been wondering when I was getting to the curling report). We played in Garmisch and that was when we discovered who we were playing against in Bavaria. We were presented with a Bavarian curling list of ex-national champions: ex-world champions: ex-senior champions: ex-European champions etc.....it was a list of Who's Who in curling. As you can imagine we emerged as runners-up but it was a very pleasant and enjoyable experience. The Bavarians made us feel so welcome and couldn't do enough for their Scottish /Canadian guests.



Gordon leaving for his first curling match—we were to discover also that Gordon has a fascination for hats!



Our 'tour gifts' were a tartan box, with RCCC tartan onto which we pinned our tour pin and club pin. We also provided a RCCC ladies coaster. Our tour pin showed a curler delivering a stone but without a brush—in the left hand was a glass of spirit (to show the friendly side of this game/tour)



In Garmisch our host was Rainer Schopp who, together with his sister Andrea, have plenty of curling titles between them. We played against Andrea (7 times European champ: twice World champ and European Mixed champ (playing with Rainier)).



Gordon wearing his best curling outfit for the first match and, above, introducing Rainier to the friendship cup (Quaich)



Our second day saw us curling in Fussen itself where we met the Kapp family—yes, brothers Andy and Uli who were European champs and medallists at world curling level also.



Ice rink at
Fussen





Let the friendly games continue





The friendship cups continue to be exchanged—thank goodness Gordon has stamina for alcohol!

Both Garmisch and Fussen provided excellent cuisine with traditional Bavarian delicacies which was washed down with local beer. You can see the barrel of beer that was brought in for consumption at left of photograph above!

Our sincere thanks go to our Bavarian hosts who certainly gave us the 'red carpet' treatment. We all had a great time.

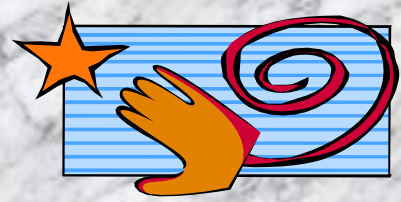
Our next stop was Zug, Switzerland and—en route—we would stop at the famous Neuschwanstein Castle (reputedly being the castle that Walt Disney based his on) but, sod's law, this was the only day that we had poor weather. Never mind—it was a lovely trip.



To be continued in next edition—next stop, Switzerland.



Out-Turns



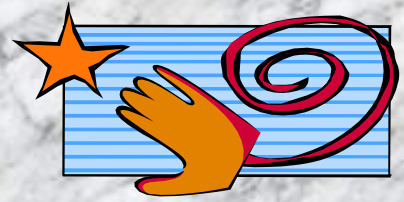
ANNE MACRAE AND THREE BLIND MICE

Well, here is a sight for sore eyes! At a HASSRA Competition (Civil Service) we have Arthur Devine (you will have seen his face within the Bavarian Report as Arthur is the person in front of Neuschwanstein Castle): Donald MacRae (as you have never seen him before): Anne MacRae (skip– yes, well done Anne) and Ross (somebody the team collected on the way!). It was Hallowe'en –you wouldn't have guessed, would you?- and here we have The Farmer's Wife and 3 Blind Mice. Donald reported that Anne played a 'blinder' (groan!) and the team remain undefeated since 2006 with 51 wins under their belt or tails. How Anne kept a straight face when Donald's tail fell off during sweeping remains a mystery—the fact that Donald was sweeping at all remains a mystery!! The 'mice' certainly felt the temperature rise within their lovely body suits during sweeping.....now, this could be a new way to lose weight during curling.

Thanks for the photo folks and sharing this with us.



Out-Turns



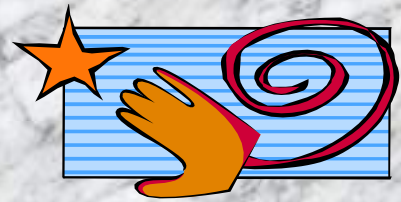
CONGRATULATIONS to Martin and Elspeth Yuill who have a new grandson.

Also, to Dot Moran who has a new grand-daughter with further twins due shortly.
You'll have your hands full Dot.

Enjoy—the beauty with grandchildren is that you can always hand them back!!



Out-Turns



WILSON'S UPDATE.....

Wasn't the picture of Wilson in the last edition of Lanark Rocks hilarious? Wilson was disappointed that I had given the game away because he was so looking forward to receiving emails from members enquiring about his tattoos.

However, and not on such a hilarious note, is that Wilson is not curling this season due to an injury sustained during the summer. Wilson was on a double decker train in Italy and, whilst descending the stairs with suitcase in hand, the train jolted and Wilson descended the stairs more quickly than expected. He has ruptured 3 of the 4 quad muscles and 2/3 of the quad tendons. Ouch! We wish you a full recover Wilson as it certainly looks a horrendous injury.



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I NEED SOME NEWS AND STORIES!!!!

Anne Hood - 4 Murray Road LAW ML8 5HR

