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# LORD MORAY'S FEU SUMMER 2018

## AGM Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018

### The Educational Institute of Scotland, 46 – 48 Moray Place

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Feuars responsible for the upkeep of Lord Moray's Pleasure Grounds will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018, at 46-48 Moray Place, starting at 6.00pm. The accounts for the year to 31 March 2018 are annexed.

**Nominations for election to the committee, and any resolutions for consideration at the meeting, should be lodged with the secretaries at least two weeks before the meeting when they will be posted on the notice board in Moray Place Gardens. Anyone wishing to vote on behalf of a feuar should provide written authority to the secretaries at the start of the meeting. Whitelaw Wells, Secretaries, 9 Ainslie Place. Tel 226 5822**

#### AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. Copies of the draft minutes of the annual meeting held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 are available at 9 Ainslie Place.
3. Treasurers' report and approval of the accounts for the year to 31 March 2018.
4. Assessments for the current year (set out in the secretaries' report).
5. Reports by convenors of sub-committees.
6. Elections to the Committee of Management.
7. Appointment of secretaries and treasurers.  
The Committee recommends the re-appointment of Whitelaw Wells, Chartered Accountants.
8. Any other competent business.

Following the AGM there will be a **drinks party in Moray Place Gardens**. A charge of £5 will be made for this event which will be collected from you when you arrive in the garden.

## REPORTS

### Chairman

Welcome to the Summer Newsletter of the Moray Feu.

There have been no major incidents in the feu since the last newsletter and I believe that our commitment to these beautiful private gardens has been kept in good balance with our wider responsibility to the city.

There will be some changes in the committee structure at the AGM . Fiona Young will take over from me as Chair at the end of my six years in post. Sue Jarvie has kindly offered to continue with her Sage advices based on her profound experience of the feu and its affairs although for now she does not wish to serve on the committee.

Enthusiasm for bee keeping in the feu is still high although the bees suffered terribly in the cold spring. Steps are being taken to revitalize the colony. There is an agenda item to establish a donation towards bee keeping from central funds of a maximum of £500 per annum. More bee keepers are required.

We are embarking on a rolling programme of ironwork painting (railings) much of which has been neglected or only haphazardly maintained over the years. We are starting on the upper walk in the bank gardens and this will be followed by the Western half of Ainslie Place. Please give a thought to your privately owned railings – they cost a fortune to replace if rust damage goes too far.

Please note the Festival Garden Party on Sunday 12th August. If you can, bring a guest or two who may or may not have something to do with the festival.

I would like to conclude by saying that it has been a pleasure and a privilege to have served as Chairman and I wish every joy to Fiona Young as my successor.

Robert Hay, 10 Moray Place

### Treasurers and Secretaries

The results this year report a surplus of £3,500, reversing the loss of £10,500 reported in 2017, and generally in line with that budgeted. The Bank Gardens reported a surplus of £2,000 increasing the closing reserves to £43,000 whilst the Front Gardens Fund reported a surplus of £1,500 increasing closing reserves to £18,500. £1,750 more was spent on plants during the year against cost savings in wall maintenance and the Secretaries fees for dogs where there were higher one-off costs in the previous year. In the Balance Sheet fixed asset additions of £2,300 included new tables, benches and storage together with fencing in the Bank garden. In anticipation of future expenditure the committee are looking to adopt a budget approach to give a small annual surplus. Front and Bank assessment rates are proposed to increase as noted below. Randolph Crescent and Outside Subscribers rates are proposed to increase for the first time in a number of years.

<b>Front Gardens:</b>	6.6p per £ of 1989 rateable value (previously 6.0p)
<b>Bank Garden:</b>	5.9p per £ of 1989 rateable value (previously 4.9p)
<b>Randolph Crescent:</b>	£30 per property (previously £25)
<b>Outside subscribers:</b>	£200 per property (previously £140)
<b>Annual Dog subscription fee:</b>	£30 per dog (previously £30)

These rates include VAT.

*Whitelaw Wells,*  
Secretaries and Treasurers

## **GARDENS**

We continue to benefit from the quarterly visits of Dr David Rae OBE FRSE SHM from the Botanics, who spends a full morning walking round advising us where we can improve. We are most grateful to him for giving up his valuable time to help us.

The Botanics have kindly given us some young conifers, some of them rare species, which we hope to plant in the Bank Gardens. We have very few conifers, only yew, and these new species will provide a more interesting mix. It will be necessary to clear one or two sites of laurel and holly, and possibly one or two other trees, to give them enough light and space to flourish, but this will be in accord with the recommendations made in our Conservation Management Plan of 2014.

Work in the gardens in the last six months has been principally planting herbaceous plants in all the spaces. The gardeners have been industrious, taking many cuttings and dividing existing plants, as well as buying in new, and I hope you will notice that the Bank Gardens are more colourful than in previous Springs.

A rustic wooden handrail was erected by the gardeners, matching the existing ones, on the section of path behind 3-5 Ainslie Place, so that one can now linger at the top of this slope and look at the new planting growing below without fear of falling.

The Bank Gardens have been the gardens sub committee's principal focus in the last years as it was most in need of tidying up. There is still work to be done which might take a few years more.

I would particularly like to commend the gardeners on their hard work in the last year as they have made some very noticeable improvements.

Fiona Jarvie, 2 Ainslie Place

## **TRAFFIC AND POLLUTION IN THE FEU**

Air pollution is now far higher up the political and public health agenda than we could possibly have imagined when we first highlighted it as a glaring weakness in the main Tram project feasibility study. Even so we see that before the Lord Hardie Inquiry reports the Council is preparing to extend the Tram to Newhaven.

The dramatic increases in traffic through the Feu we predicted would arise, from the completion of the short Haymarket/York Place section, alongside the equally dramatic decreases of traffic of Charlotte Square, have happened. The use of Charlotte Square, once held up as the supposed relief route through a largely non-residential area, for the largely residential Feu route has not happened. We do now fear the traffic could well get worse. The full increases we felt would be inevitable were always predicated upon the Council finishing the whole project, which of course is only now happening, almost a decade later than planned.

The original impacts and effects were always expected to spread city wide by the Council, and not be restricted to just those neighbourhoods close to the tracks. This is inescapable from that original foundation report predicting, as it did in 2003, worse air quality for over 136,000 homes. This, over 60% of all households in the city, being a far larger number than can be accounted for by just buildings along the line of the tracks, or even within a hundred metres of the on-road sections of tram tracks.

We obviously have to recognise that such is the embedded bias in favour of the project that still exists within the Council, despite some pretty startling revelations from Lord Hardie's Inquiry, the plans are

unlikely to be modified significantly by anything more we may say alone. However other communities are now waking up to the potential realities facing them. It is possible that as the numbers and volume of protesters grow a point may be reached where the Council begin to take mitigation of the problems their favoured project has created far more seriously than they have to date.

As we have mentioned in the past there is no reason at all that traffic and especially heavy commercial vehicles and vans using the Feu cannot, right now, be diverted during 'quiet hours' (between 10:00pm and 6:00am) and use Charlotte Square, and Maitland Place, to avoid the Feu's heavily residential streets and use the almost entirely commercial route when people are sleeping. The council have agreed this point, but make no effort to implement it.

Ashley Lloyd, 14A Randolph Crescent

## **SOCIAL**

The Christmas Party took place on December 15<sup>th</sup> and a special "thank you" to all the people who helped. Allan and Alistair; Rachel; Candia; Fiona Young and Robert, plus everyone that I contacted who turned up with delicious food. A giant "THANK YOU" to Paul Broda who braved the freeze to guide guests at the entrance and of course a big "THANK YOU" to Grace Durham who allowed us to use her beautiful and spacious flat. Around eighty people enjoyed the evening.

The Lord Moray's Feuars Burns Supper was again at the Angel's Share Hotel. We had a full programme of speakers and Mike Baynham was our Master of Ceremonies chairing the evening and controlling us well. After the "Selkirk Grace" he introduced Gregor Henderson to "Address the Haggis". We had not realised the showman in our midst - what a star performance Gregor!! Next myself experimenting with the "Immortal Memory", giving it a different style. The cheers and enthusiasm were quite rowdy at times. Then Andy Dobson with a charming and very personal touch to the "Toast to the Lassies", followed by the excellent "Reply" given by Gillian Raab who gave a new and feminine insight into "Tam O'Shanter", and was much applauded. It was a splendid night with good food and wine all served up by the enthusiastic staff. We just managed to get home before the massive snow storm. Perfect timing.  
Enid Holman-Arthur

Various social events are organised during the year. Those coming soon include:-

**Sunday May 13<sup>th</sup>** - Moray Place & Bank Gardens will be open to the public under Scotland's Garden Scheme from 2 to 5pm. If you can help at the gates or with home baking, please contact Grace Durham on 225 5363 or [gracedurham@btinternet.com](mailto:gracedurham@btinternet.com)

### ***The Big Lunch, Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>***

Bring your own picnic and join us in Moray Place Gardens at 1pm. Games and dressing up for children. Wedding Hats or Finery for guests. To reserve a table please contact Enid on 0131 225 7839.

### ***Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June***

Please join us after the AGM for wine and snacks in Moray Place Gardens, tickets £5.

### ***Festival Garden Party - Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> August at 12 noon in Moray Place Garden.***

Wear your posh hats ladies or fancy headdress, and gentlemen you too! Wine and canapés provide. There will be a charge of £5 for this event.

Please contact Enid Holman-Arthur, 4 Ainslie Place, if you would like to help with any of these events or have ideas for future events.

## **RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT**

The table tennis table will be brought out again for summer - please do bring it on to the grass and have fun using it. It should be folded up and returned to its resting spot near the shed after use.

The croquet set is also available for use and is kept in the shed. Your garden key opens the shed padlock.

Candia Kingston 25 Moray Place

## **DATA PROTECTION LAW**

New data protection legislation comes into force on 25 May 2018. We will be placing a privacy notice on our website at [www.morayfeu.com](http://www.morayfeu.com).

Candia Kingston 25 Moray Place

## **WEBSITE**

The Moray Feu web site can be accessed at [www.Morayfeu.com](http://www.Morayfeu.com)

**LORD MORAY'S FEUARS**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

for the year ended 31st March 2018

	<b>6.00</b>	<b>4.90</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
	<b>Front</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Gardens</b>	<b>Gardens</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
Assessments receivable	55,946	33,643	<b>89,589</b>	80,124
Bike Shed hire	305	153	<b>458</b>	500
Randolph Cresc Gardens	1,038	-	<b>1,038</b>	917
Outside subscriptions	3,558	1,779	<b>5,337</b>	4,939
Awning hire	217	108	<b>325</b>	225
Key deposits net of costs	245	122	<b>367</b>	880
Dog registration income	2,383	1,192	<b>3,575</b>	4,333
Sale of Moray Place elm products & honey	3	1	<b>4</b>	524
Donations	17	8	<b>25</b>	-
	<b>63,712</b>	<b>37,006</b>	<b>100,718</b>	<b>92,442</b>
Bank interest receivable	11	5	<b>16</b>	26
	<b>63,723</b>	<b>37,011</b>	<b>100,734</b>	<b>92,468</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Wages	33,128	16,564	<b>49,692</b>	47,927
Pension	1,152	576	<b>1,728</b>	1,414
Insurances	2,887	1,443	<b>4,330</b>	4,189
Fertilisers	1,004	502	<b>1,506</b>	1,521
Hire & repair of equipment	2,241	1,063	<b>3,304</b>	3,417
Turf, top soil & grass seed	260	146	<b>406</b>	51
Fuel	438	219	<b>657</b>	713
Consumables	550	286	<b>836</b>	656
Repair to railings, gates & benches	571	1,705	<b>2,276</b>	2,171
Wall maintenance	360	-	<b>360</b>	1,500
Small tools & equipment	288	144	<b>432</b>	-
Edging & gravel	67	245	<b>312</b>	3,217
Lawn tining	-	-	<b>-</b>	1,795
Plants	1,458	1,298	<b>2,756</b>	1,006
Gardeners' travel expenses	215	108	<b>323</b>	249
Dog expenses	366	183	<b>549</b>	2,440
Equipment depreciation	2,995	3,440	<b>6,435</b>	6,304
Waste collection	321	160	<b>481</b>	955
Electricity	867	433	<b>1,300</b>	1,273
Tree surgeon	280	-	<b>280</b>	720
Tree surveyors' safety report	-	-	<b>-</b>	750
Sundries	13	7	<b>20</b>	171
Honoraria - Dr Rae	57	29	<b>86</b>	112
	<b>49,518</b>	<b>28,551</b>	<b>78,069</b>	<b>82,551</b>
Secretaries & Treasurers' fees	10,867	5,433	<b>16,300</b>	15,750
Secretaries & Treasurers' fees - dogs	833	417	<b>1,250</b>	3,250
Website maintenance	262	131	<b>393</b>	370
Net social event cost	109	55	<b>164</b>	174
Debt collection & searches	579	289	<b>868</b>	354
Bad debts	192	138	<b>330</b>	476
	<b>12,842</b>	<b>6,463</b>	<b>19,305</b>	<b>20,374</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for year</b>	<b>1,363</b>	<b>1,997</b>	<b>3,360</b>	<b>( 10,457 )</b>

**LORD MORAY'S FEUARS**

**BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2018**

**ASSETS EMPLOYED**

	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Depreciation</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Machinery & equipment	67,713	45,647	<b>22,066</b>	27,660
additions	2,312		<b>2,312</b>	710
disposals	( 330 )	( 330 )	-	-
charge for year		6,435	<b>( 6,435 )</b>	( 6,304 )
	<u>69,695</u>	<u>51,752</u>	<u><b>17,943</b></u>	<u>22,066</u>

**Current assets**

Wood stock			<b>1,891</b>	-
Assessments outstanding			<b>3,380</b>	1,311
Prepayments and VAT			<b>4,477</b>	4,916
Bank deposit accounts			<b>39,902</b>	33,805
Bank current account			<b>1,000</b>	1,000
			<u><b>50,650</b></u>	<u>41,032</u>

**Current liabilities**

Creditors			<b>( 7,009 )</b>	( 5,258 )
			<u><b>( 7,009 )</b></u>	<u>( 5,258 )</u>

**Net current assets**

	<u><b>43,641</b></u>	<u>35,774</u>
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**Total net assets**

	<u><u><b>61,584</b></u></u>	<u><u>57,840</u></u>
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<b>FUNDS EMPLOYED</b>	<b>Front</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Gardens</b>	<b>Gardens</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General Fund b/f	10,636	38,686	<b>49,322</b>	59,779
Results for year	1,363	1,997	<b>3,360</b>	( 10,457 )
General Fund c/f	11,999	40,683	<b>52,682</b>	49,322
Amenity fund	6,399	2,503	8,902	8,518
	<u>18,398</u>	<u>43,186</u>	<u><b>61,584</b></u>	<u>57,840</u>

**AMENITY FUND**

Balance brought forward	6,143	2,375	<b>8,518</b>	8,153
Voluntary contributions	256	128	<b>384</b>	365
	<u>6,399</u>	<u>2,503</u>	<u><b>8,902</b></u>	<u>8,518</u>