



# NEWSLETTER

## April 2009

As members will recall there was a delayed start to the second half of the Curling Season due to problems with the plant at Moray Leisure Centre following the cold weather over the festive season. This had many 'knock-on' effects with the rearrangement of various games and competitions. One of these effects is the delayed issue of this newsletters until all Province Competitions had been completed so that the various movements, up down or no change, of Elgin Province Teams could be reported.

### Macallan Bonspiel

The Macallan Bonspiel was held at Moray Leisure Centre on Saturday 4th March with teams from all over the North of Scotland taking part. Ice conditions were generally good, though 'interesting' in places, and the curling very competitive but the Bank of Scotland team skipped by Alastair Maltman came out as clear winners on the day. Runners-up were Ballindalloch and the winners of the Low Road were Darnaway. The Club is very grateful for the continued support of Macallan for this Bonspiel. The large uptake of invitations by teams across the several Provinces shows that it is one of the highlights of the Curling calendar



Some critical sweeping



The President's team



Alistair Maltman (Bank of Scotland) receives the Macallan Trophy from Club President, Andrew Allardyce



Low road winners - Darnaway



### Morag's Meanderings

Club member, Morag Cumming continues on her World tour. You can keep in touch with her travels, and read about where she has already been by accessing her blog - <http://journals.worldnomads.com/mogsie08-09/about.aspx>

## Club Competitions

With the end of the season it is a good time to remind you of competition winners earlier in the season and to let you know of the winners of more recent competitions.

Falconer - Douglas Howie

SMD league - Bob Stuart (taking over from Bill Steven)

Davidson Knockout - Kenny Oswald

Pairs - Helen Downey & Bil Duncan

Points - Men - Alistair Grant

Points - Ladies - Greta More

**Congratulations to all!**

## Annual General Meeting & Prizegiving

**Thursday 16th April**  
**7.30pm**

**Mansion House Hotel**

### Province Placings

2008-9 will go on record as one of the less successful seasons - although not for all - congratulations go to Graham Grant in gaining promotion from Division 4 to Division 3. However overall the Club Report is **Could do better!**

Division	Skip	Place	Result
----------	------	-------	--------

1	D. Howie	5	Down
---	----------	---	------

2	K. Oswald	3	Stay
---	-----------	---	------

2	B. Steven	5	Down
---	-----------	---	------

3	B. Grant	6	Down
---	----------	---	------

<b>* 4</b>	<b>G. Grant</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Up *</b>
------------	-----------------	----------	-------------

4	A. Grant	3	Stay
---	----------	---	------

4	A. Allardyce	6	Down
---	--------------	---	------

5	R. Tyson	3	Stay
---	----------	---	------

### Province Knockout

Although there was little success in the Province Leagues, the knockout competitions proved more fertile soil for Elgin teams.

In the Open Competition Kenny Oswald and his team were the victors, and Louise Marshall and her team came out on top in the Ladies Competition.

It should be noted that Louise was also a member of Kenny's Open team.

(At the time of writing results of the Mixed Pairs and the Points are not available, but it is not believed that Elgin members were successful in these - sincere apologies if this is wrong.)

### Committee

At the AGM, Andrew Allardyce will stand down as President and John Downey as Committee Member. The Club is grateful for their contributions during their time on the Committee.

Nominations will be required at the AGM for a new President (although by normal convention Douglas Howie as Vice-President will be nominated for the office). However nomination of any member is allowed.

There will also be one vacancy for a Committee member. If you would be interested or wish to nominate someone, please contact Barbara King.

## The Curling Pond, Trust Status and the Constitution

This is an issue which is of importance to all members, and the way that the Club goes forward is probably one of the most significant decisions which will be made in the history of the Club.

You should have already received a document detailing the proposals. However essentially the Club possesses a potentially very significant asset in the Curling Pond in Old Mills Road and if it is sold at some point Capital Gains Tax will apply on the sale and as the Pond was purchased for the nominal sum of £1, the tax sum could be very large. If the Club moves to become a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) then the tax would not be charged and there are other potential financial benefits to the Club, but no funds could be distributed or paid to members. If the Club remains as currently constituted then it would be liable for tax, but any funds raised could be given directly to members.

CASC status would require certain changes to the Club Constitution which would not affect the normal working of the Club - full details can be found at [www.hmrc.gov.uk/casc/casc-guidance.htm](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/casc/casc-guidance.htm). It is important that any concerns or questions should be raised - if there is anything that is concerning you then contact Andrew Allardyce (542378 or [andrew.allardyce@virgin.net](mailto:andrew.allardyce@virgin.net)), Barbara King (860363 or [et.king@vodafoneemail.co.uk](mailto:et.king@vodafoneemail.co.uk)) or Graeme McKenzie (544304 or [macken86@aol.com](mailto:macken86@aol.com)).

At the AGM a decision in principle will be made as to which way to proceed. It is important that this decision is made in confidence by a well informed membership.