

## 2014 (A.G.M.) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Good Morning to all our members, and a warm Welcome from your President.

Like last year, I am sending my presidents report out early to you, so as you may take your time to read it before our meeting.

I am very pleased with this past year, as our hard working committee has achieved so much.

Firstly we had our first Christmas Party, and what a lovely time we had together. It was a great success. We are hoping this year will be the same.

Next was February, our first concert, a little disappointing with numbers though, but had lots of entertainment by members and the Irish Dancers. Enjoyable indeed, Lots of laughs.

We were well represented this year in the St Patrick's Day Parade, accompanied by the Cornish group, with various other Celts joining us as well.

Our biggest event for the year is of course the Pan Celtic Awards Night Dinner. This year was exceptional. We had 8 recipients, and a wonderful night was had by all. Every one enjoyed the whole night. Good entertainment, good food, good company and a great venue. We had lovely table decorations of dolls dressed in the 8 Celtic Nation Traditional Costumes, one placed on each table.

Glen Innes was the next event on our calendar. I enjoyed myself this year. It was the coldest day, and made things quite miserable for all. But still I enjoyed the event very much.

Our banner was carried at the "Parading of the Flags" by my husband Bruce, as I had to be on the stage for the Guardians Ceremony. I then represented the Celtic Council at the Guardians Lunch.

We then ventured up the hill to the Standing Stones Area.

They had the Guardians Ceremony at 3.30pm, where I was present once again.

I would like to thank Grahame Jardine-Vidgen for attending the Morning Tea on our behalf. He had to drive approx 40 kilometres to attend to this event. It was too difficult for me to be in two places at the one time. Thanks Grahame.

Another item this year was that I represented our Council at the Cornish A.G.M., which was held at the Yeronga R.S.L.

Many thanks to Ian Kaye for hosting a guided tour through Parliament House and a barbecue afterwards, on the 20th June for Celtic Council members. A lovely time to catch up with each other. It was well attended with more than 50 persons attending.

The 'Kirkin of the Tartan' was our next outing for the Celtic Council, with the CCAQ banner being displayed.

We were excited about awarding Val Ashworth her D. Ua. Award at The Manx Group's "Tynwald Day" function. Well deserved for her efforts over many years.

Next is "Tartan Day", a wonderful day out. We will be attending again this year, to give our support and help.

Clan Thompson will hold their “Scotland in the Park” event on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

We will be there in force with our brand new “tent” on display. Thanks go out to Neil McDonald for all his help and good will in helping us out with the purchase of this item, as well as transporting and storage etc.

We were fortunate to have a doll dressed by Shelagh Trusselle in Ernie “Thompsons Tartan” to give them as a prize for a raffle, which will be drawn on the day, and the proceeds to go towards that day.

Our Celtic Council has again donated two trophies to “Scotland in the Park, “One for the Bands” and “One for the Dancers”.

Our Celtic Council has now been made “Incorporated” - thank goodness.

Also, insurance has been obtained for the Celtic Council of Australia (Queensland) Inc.

Another major achievement was establishing our own Official “Web Site”. I am very grateful to Alan Hancox, who stepped up to take the Position of “Webmaster”.

The Lord Mayor presented us with a grant of \$500.00 towards the running costs for our Awards Night Function. This was much appreciated indeed.

We are pleased to announce that we have given a donation of \$200.00 to the Manx Society, for their upcoming play and centenary celebrations.

We have a newsletter going out regularly to members. Thanks to Grace Roberts CyC. for producing this important item. Many thanks to Grace for all her efforts. Much appreciated.

John Agnew gave his permission for us to use the 'Queensland Tartan' as the Celtic Council Q'ld designated Tartan.

Membership is growing. In the past two months, a total of 13 new members have joined. A big welcome to all of them.

I conclude with saying “Thanks”, for all the help and support I have received from everyone. This includes 'Executive Committee', Committee Members and other members of the Council, whose combined efforts, all added to make my position easier.

That concludes my report for the past year. I can only hope the next year will be as prosperous as the past one has been.

President,

Mavis K. Williams