

DEANS DIARY- FUTURE EVENTS

2023 Dates

Autumn Court	Friday 29 th September
Dean's Council	Wednesday 22 nd November
Winter Court & AGM	Wednesday 6 th December

2024 Dates (provisional)

Dean's Council	Wednesday 24 th January
Dean's Dinner	Friday 9 th February
Dean's Council	Wednesday 13 th March
Spring Court	Wednesday 27 th March
Kirkin Service	Sunday 12 th May
Dean's Council	Wednesday 31 st July
Summer Court	Wednesday 14 th August
Dean's Council	Wednesday 11 th September
Autumn Court	Friday 27 th September
Dean's Council	Wednesday 20 th November
Winter Court & AGM	Wednesday 4 th December



Guildry of Stirling News

Summer 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Guild Brothers,

Thankfully, we have returned to normal, with the usual Court meetings taking place. These have been highly enjoyable and well attended. Returning to the renovated Guild Hall has been appreciated by us all.

The usual Remembrance Service was attended by several Guild Brothers. After the service the focus moved down the hill to the War Memorial where, together with other dignitaries, I laid a wreath on behalf of the Guildry.

Several Guild Brothers joined me in Stirling's Walking the Marches on a beautiful day at the end of May. An important element this year was the delayed dedication of the Guildry March Stone to mark the 900th anniversary of



Elizabeth Roads - Dean of Guild

We resumed the service of Kirkin' the Guildry and it was a great pleasure to be back in the Kirk of the Holy Rude for this traditional event. We continued to award History Prizes to the university and secondary schools and to give other relatively modest charitable donations.

The Guild Hall is being used for more events and the Dean was delighted to be able to welcome members of the Order of St John to a reception hosted by the Provost of Stirling at the end of June. Next year sees the 900th anniversary of the Charter creating Stirling a Royal Burgh as one of the 4 Curia Quattuor Burgorum, out of which developed the Convention of Royal Burghs. The Provost is planning events to mark this occasion and the Guildry will have an important role to play. Not least hosting the Autumn Court of the Court of Deans of Guild.

Elizabeth

DEAN'S DINNER 2023

The annual Dean's Dinner took place at Stirling Golf Club on 17 February 2023 and was enjoyed by all who attended. This was the third time running we had chosen the Golf Club and, as in previous years, the staff looked after the guests very well and provided a delicious meal



We were delighted to have as our guests the Lord Lieutenant, Alan Simpson, OBE, the Provost of Stirling Douglas Dodds and Deputy Chief Constable Fiona Taylor of Police Scotland. DCC Taylor QPM was guest speaker and spoke about the role played by Police Scotland following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This proved a fascinating and illuminating insight into the complexities of ensuring her final journey from Balmoral to Edinburgh Airport. Mike Robbins gave the toast to the City of Stirling and Robin Iffla, Dean's Chamberlain, gave the Vote of Thanks in his customary manner. A good evening was had by all.

Queen Victoria School (QVC) Grand Day

The Guildry supports QVC by providing history prizes in the form of a Certificate and a spending token. The lead Drummer also receives a Certificate and the Drum is a perennial trophy provided by the Guildry. At the recent annual Prize Giving and Grand Day the Guildry was represented by Past Dean Paul Millar and Guildry Clerk Angus Annan. Robin Iffla also attended as a Governor of the School. The Prize giving in Dunblane Cathedral was followed by a buffet lunch and an afternoon of parades on the QVC sports ground. The school pipe band led with a march past of all one hundred and fifty pupils and elegant displays of highland dancing. The school is a co-educational boarding school and it is provided by the MoD for children of the armed services.



WINTER COURT AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PAST DEANS PANELS

Many of you will have seen that, as part of the overall refurbishment, which is splendid indeed, the wooden panels in the Guild Hall have now been adorned with the names of the past Deans of Guild.



SPRING COURT 2023

The Spring Court was held on 29 March and was well attended by Guild Brothers. Those in attendance stood in silence in memory of late Guild Brother Willie Weir. Dean's Councillor Peter Smith was thanked for arranging the painting of the new Dean's boards in the Guildhall. A very enjoyable, and highly informative, talk was given by Guild Brother Colin Botfield on famous residents of Bridge of Allan.



COWANES TRUST TEAM



This is the team that keeps the Guildhall going and always in good care (left to right: Eva Frydrych - Finance, Paul Reynolds – Caretaker, Shirley Malley - Administration, Lorne Scott – Master and Factor. All are employed by the Patrons of Cowane's Hospital Trust and work for and on behalf of the Cowane's Trust. Nicola Cowie, who is also indispensable, was not there at the time of our visit.

The Guild Hall is a busy place used by many organisations for meetings and receptions and also for weddings and other events. The café is back in action again after a short break.

For more information see www.cowanes.org.uk.

WALKING OF THE MARCHES 2023.

The Walking has resumed after a lapse of some years and is now established as an annual event. This year it took place in beautiful weather on the morning of Saturday 27th May. Guild Brothers gathered at the Rotunda at the bottom of King Street and the Walking set off led by the Provost, the Dean and the Clerk of the Guildry.



A good crowd gathered, attracted perhaps by the two pipe bands which led and supported the March. The route went up King Street and passed the war memorial to the Smith Museum. Here drams were provided for those in need and then suitable fortified, the March took the steep path up to Back Walk.

At the Guild Hall Bowling Green, the Dean made a speech, bravely carrying on against the ringing of the Holy Rude Bells. Again, an appreciative crowd gathered viewing and listening from the Guild Hall Terrace.

Afterwards a lunch event was held at the Gold Lion Hotel, with bothers from other guilds present for the occasion.

A selection of photographs are shown on the following page, courtesy of Guild Officer Jim Mailer

WALKING OF THE MARCHES - PHOTOGRAPHS

