

Ballater Beat

Profitable night at the races!

Anne and Gillian delighted by latest fundraising success

BALLATER race night on January 14 proved a very successful bet for Alzheimers Scotland when around 70 race-goers backed the hobby horses, raising £1,700 for the charity.

Grateful thanks went to Aboveye Masons and especially Ian Duguid, who provided the hobby horses, and ran the tote, and to all who donated raffles and helped on the night. A generous £250 was also handed over by Ballater Masons.

The event was organised by Gillian Smith, of Ballater, and Anne Geddes, of Braemar, both of whom are raising money in memory of their fathers.

After months of training in the hills around Deeside, the intrepid duo will set off on a sponsored climb of Kiltinangar, flying to Nairn on January 29 to begin their ascent.

Sponsorship so far amounts to an incredible £6,300, but the ladies are hoping to add to this.

Visit: <http://justgiving.com/Gillian-Smith> fill in a sponsor form at the Phoenix Chip Shop, Ballater, Alldays in Braemar, and in the Balnoral Estate Office.

Whist

The Ballater weekly whist drive was held on Wednesday, January 18, and whilst the number attending was slightly less than normal, those who were there enjoyed a pleasant evening.

The winners of the whist were

runners up - Andrina Robertson and Mike Franklin. Special prizes were awarded to Jean Appleyard and Jock Watt.

The next whist drive will be on Wednesday, February 1 at 7pm in the Beaton-Craigie room, entrance on Monaltrie Road, everyone is always welcome to come, admission is £1, including half time refreshments and there will be the usual raffle.

Royal Hort. Society

Ballater Royal Horticultural society will meet on Monday, February 6 at 7.30pm in the Mike Sheridan room in the halls, station square, Ballater.

Chris Wardle will give a presentation about how Crathes works - an insight behind the scenes.

It is hoped that the schedule for this year's annual exhibition along with details of the mini-bull show in april will be available at the meeting. Entrance is £2.00, refreshments will be provided afterwards, new members and visitors are most welcome.

WRI

PRESIDENT Anne Richardson welcomed members and WRI members from Upper Deeside to the 'Scottish night' held in The Albert Hall, Ballater, on January 19.

The Ballater Songsters, under the leadership of Sheila Rumbles, sang a selection of Scottish songs, Mary Munro entertained the company



CHEQUE: Pictured (from left) are Anne Geddes, Gillian Smith and Alan Davidson

Wright played a selection of Scottish tunes and Kirsty Florence danced two highland dances.

Results in the competition for a vegetable decorated with tartan,

- 1) Margaret Finnie, 2) Sheena Armstrong, 3) Margaret Cannerton, 4) Aileen Barbour.

After a lovely Scottish fayre tea, provided by members, the raffle

of thanks and wished everyone a safe journey home. Madge Wards gave the vote of thanks on behalf of the visitors. Business was then discussed and Mrs Richardson thanked the members