



## A COMPLETELY NEW COMMITTEE

**THE** Federation of Scottish Branches of the NHSRF has a full set of new Honorary Officers. After nominations were sought, a vote (one vote per branch) took place at the AGM. The outgoing Chairman, Renee Gibb, noted in her Report to the AGM that the very fact of a vote indicated that we have a healthy organisation in Scotland, with members prepared to involve themselves.



**Above:** New committee l-r: Win Morrison, Jeanie Sutherland, Grace Clarke, Liz McGibbon.

**Below:** Outgoing committee l-r: Archie Fleming, Renee Gibb, our President John Dow MBE and Helen Anderson.



## FIFE BRANCH RAISE FUNDS FOR MACMILLAN

**AT THE APRIL** meeting of the Fife Branch of the NHSRF, a cheque for £250 was donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.



Two representatives from the Charity, Tracey O'Neil and Audrey Slinn, were present to receive the cheque. They are photographed here in the centre and left of the front row.

Tracey delivered an interesting insight into the work of the charity and Audrey who works on the local Cancer Support charity shop represented those who volunteer for the charity.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**21 May 2014**

Federation of Scottish Branches, Stirling

**4-7 July 2014**

UK NHS RF AGM and Holiday, Stratford-upon-Avon

**8 October 2014**

Federation of Scottish Branches, Perth

**15 October 2014**

Annual Seminar, Perth

**22 October 2014**

National Council, London

# ANNUAL GATHERING AND AGM

**THE 2014 ANNUAL GATHERING AND AGM** was held on 7 May at the Stirling Management Centre. Two hundred and fourteen members attended from all except one branch. The registration desk was staffed by members of Forth Valley branch, who welcomed the delegates as they signed in, and then pointed them in the direction (a long walk!) of the coffee and meeting rooms. In the coffee room, “Affinity”, who run many pre-retirement courses for NHS Boards, had a display with free sweets, and in the meeting-room, Anthea Graham, the Fellowship’s Administrative Officer, had set up a fabulous show of photographs from the recent competitions, as well as information about the book group, golf section and the Benevolent Fund.

The AGM itself followed the usual format, with reports from the outgoing Honorary Officers and several interesting questions. Then the vote took place for the new Honorary Officers. When the result had been announced, Renee invited the new Honorary Officers to come forward and introduce themselves, and she also extended thanks and commiserations to the unsuccessful nominees.

Everyone then moved through to the dining-room for lunch – another long walk! There was a choice of starters served at the tables, and then we all went up in turn to admire the hot and the cold buffet choices. The decibels showed that everyone was enjoying meeting old and new friends, probably discussing Fellowship matters, not least the election results. Meanwhile rain was bucketing down outside, but the Management Centre is certainly a very pleasant venue with plenty of space and attentive staff.



*Above: coffee break. Below: listening to the speaker.*



After lunch a presentation of flowers was made to both Renee and Helen. The flap involved in having these delivered to the Management Centre was hopefully not visible to anyone attending! Then we were entertained by John McKelvie, a retired policeman and football referee. There were no complaints about his jokes and stories and Rankine Mackie (Forth Valley) thanked him very sincerely, complimenting him particularly on the way he had woven in some NHS stories.

The musical entertainment was provided by the Forth Valley Police Band who played and sang their way through a medley of mostly very familiar ceildh and folk songs. Many members happily joined in as the afternoon came to a close. Helen and Renee made final farewell speeches, to a big round of applause each, before buses, cars and taxis took everyone home again.



## CSRF / NHSRF Photography Group



*Ballerina by Pam Melhuish.*

**IN NOVEMBER**, Pam Melhuish was judged the NHSRF winner of the Photography competition "Wildlife and Pets" for her beautiful picture "Ballerina". Congratulations to Pam who had strong competition from 250 entries, many of which you can see online at <http://tinyurl.com/wildlifeandpets>. The judges were Jean Cooper, Chief Executive, CSRF, Adrian Best, emarketing and IT Manager from our generous sponsors, the Civil Service Insurance Society [www.csis.co.uk](http://www.csis.co.uk) and Vic Griffiths, Vice President NHSRF. The winner of the current competition, "Seasonal Colours", will be announced at the end of June.

Scotland's NHSRF News readers have until 30 November to take a winning picture for the next competition on the theme of "Travel". You don't have to be an experienced photographer to enter; in past competitions, winning and highly commended pictures have been entered from "happy snappers" as well as from experienced amateurs.

To join the photography group and receive newsletters and information about the competitions, contact the Co-ordinator:

Anthea Graham,  
Glais Bheinn, Lochcarron,  
Ross-shire IV54 8YB,  
email [photography@nhsrf.org.uk](mailto:photography@nhsrf.org.uk) or  
telephone 01520 722951



*Judges: Jean Cooper, Adrian Best and Vic Griffiths.*



THE CSRF & NHSRF  
**BOOK  
CLUB**

## SHARE YOUR LOVE OF BOOKS

**IF YOU ENJOY** reading then why not register as a member of the CSRF/NHSRF Book club which we run in partnership with our friends at the Civil Service Retirement Fellowship (CSRF).

The club runs on a national basis with members being sent out the books on the annual list (six are selected each year) and then sharing their views and opinions via the book club website and, for those not online, via a printed newsletter. The two titles reviewed so far this year were Virginia Ironside's *No I Don't Need Reading Glasses!* And Antoine Laurain's *The President's Hat*.

**If you'd like to register as a book club member then contact David Tickner, the Book Club Co-ordinator (who is from the CSRF) on 020 8691 7411 or by email to: [bookclub@csrf.org.uk](mailto:bookclub@csrf.org.uk)**

# BACK TO PERTH!

AT THE MAY meeting of the Federation, a debate took place about where to hold these meetings.

One thing was clear – it is impossible to please all of the people all of the time – but after a vote, it was agreed that the October Federation meeting, on 8 October, will return to the Queens Hotel in Perth



## ANNUAL SEMINAR

**THIS HAS BEEN ARRANGED** and will take place on 15 October. The first speaker will be Ian Williams of Campbell Dallas and Co, Chartered Accountants, who will talk about Inheritance Tax. Members who attended our very first Seminar will remember Ian as the only Chartered Accountant who makes you hoot with laughter on such a serious topic. Ian says that there have been several changes to the legislation since then so he will be happy to bring everyone up to date.



The first speaker in the afternoon will be Ken Neil of the Scottish Wildlife Trust's Save The Red Squirrel Tayside group. He has been asked as a result of a request for suggested topics at a recent Federation meeting, and he says there is still a good population of "Reds" in Tayside as well as other parts of Scotland, and will have some ideas on how we can help to preserve this iconic little creature.

Finally, Marilyn Barratt will talk to us about "Everyone Matters", which is the name of the Scottish NHS current workforce policy (or for many of us, HR policy or even Personnel policy). It will be interesting to hear where their priorities lie these days and how they are going about implementing them.

Places will be £10 each and no numbers have been set, although if we exceed the fire safety number of 120 places we may have to do some quick thinking! Branch Secretaries have the information, so best to get your booking in now, to be sure of a place.



### The NHS Retirement Fellowship in Scotland

Development Officer  
Maggie Havergal  
143/2 Constitution Street  
Leith EH6 7AD

Phone: 0131 553 1383  
Mobile: 07776 147786  
Email: mcuddihy117@btinternet.com

Never heard of the NHS Retirement Fellowship?

Like to know more?

Contact Maggie (as above) to arrange an invitation from your nearest Branch.

Copies of Scotland's NHSRF News are posted individually to every member, using the list held by Central Office in Dorset. This means contact details must be up to date for everyone, so please ensure Central Office has an accurate list.