# Gizzen Briggs Fiddle group with Roddy MacLean

# 7.30pm

The Haggis – Mel Langilles
Address to a Haggis - Graham Park
Grace

## First course

Two Songs - Catherine Charlish John Barleycorn - Jimmy Melville

# **Pudding**

Two songs -Ronnie Bruce
Holy Willie's Prayer – Helen Fairgrieve
Scottish medley –Trio

# Coffee

Violin Solos -Donald Goskirk Tam O'Shanter - Hugh Steele Two Songs - Ronnie Bruce

**Auld Lang Syne** 

# DORNOCH HERITAGE SOCIETY TASTE OF BURNS 2009

22<sup>nd</sup> January Royal Dornoch Golf Club



### **Selkirk Grace**

Some hae meat and canna eat, And some wad eat that want it; But we hae meat, and we can eat, Sae let the Lord be thankit.

#### Address To A Haggis

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face, Great chieftain o' the puddin-racel Aboon them a' ye tak your place, Painch, tripe, or thairm: Weel are ye wordy o' a grace As lang's my arm.

The groaning trencher there ye fill,
Your hurdies like a distant hill,
Your pin wad help to mend a mill
In time o' need,
While thro' your pores the dews distil
Like amber bead.

His knife see rustic Labour dight, An' cut you up wi' ready sleight, Trenching your gushing entrails bright, Like ony ditch;

And then, O what a glorious sight, Warm-reekin, richl

Then, horn for horn,
they stretch an' strive:
Deil tak the hindmost on they drive,
Till a' their weel-swall'd kytes belyve,
Are bent lyke drums;
Then auld Guidman, maist like to rive,
"Bethaukitl" 'hums.

Is there that owre his French ragout
Or olio that wad staw a sow,
Or fricassee wad mak her spew
W? perfect sconner,
Looks down wi' sneering, scornfu' view
On sic a dinner?

Poor devill see him ower his trash, As feckless as a wither'd rash, His spindle shank, a guid whip-lash, His nieve a nit; Thro' bloody flood or field to dash, O how unfit!

But mark the Rustic, haggis fed,
The trembling earth resounds his tread.
Clap in his walle nieve a blade,
He'll mak it whissle;
An' legs an' arms, an' heads will sned,
Like taps o' thrissle.

Ye Pow'rs wha mak mankind your care, And dish them out their bill o' fare, Auld Scotland wants nae skinking ware That jaups in luggies; But, if ye wish her gcatefu' prayer, Gie her a haggis!

#### The Translation

Fair is your honest happy face Great chieftain of the pudding race Above them all you take your place Stomach, tripe or guts Well are you worthy of a grace As long as my arm

The groaning platter there you fill
Your buttocks like a distant hill
Your skewer would help to repair a mill
In time of need
While through your pores the juices emerge
Like amber beads

His knife having seen hard labour wipes And cuts you up with great skill

#### Digging into your gushing insides bright Like any ditch

And then oh what a glorious sight Warm steaming, rich

Then spoon for spoon
They stretch and strive
Devil take the last man, on they drive
Until all their well swollen bellies
Are bent like drums
Then, the old gent most likely to rift (burp)
Be thanked, mumbles

Is there that over his French Ragout
Or olio that would sicken a pig
Or fricassee would make her vomit
With perfect disgust
Looks down with a sneering scomful opinion
On such a dinner

Poor devil, see him over his trash
As week as a withered rush (reed)
His spindle-shank a good whiplash
His clenched fist the size of a nut.
Through a bloody flood and battle field to dash
Oh how unfit

But take note of the strong haggis fed Scot
The trembling earth resounds his tread
Clasped in his large fist a blade
He'll make it whistle
And legs and arms and heads he will cut off
Like the tops of thistles

You powers who make mankind your care And dish them out their meals Old Scothand wants no watery food That splashes in dishes But if you wish her grateful prayer Give her a haggist

#### John Barleycorn: A Ballad

X There was three kings into the east, Three kings both great and high, And they hae sworn a solemn oath John Barleycom should die.

They took a plough and plough'd him down, Put clods upon his head, And they hae swom a solemn oath John Barleycom was dead.

But the cheerful Spring came kindly on, And show'rs began to fall; John Barleycom got up again, And sore surpris'd them all.

The sultry suns of Summer came,
 And he grew thick and strong;
 His head weel arm'd wi' pointed spears,
 That no one should him wrong.

The sober Autumn enter'd mild, When he grew wan and pale; His bending joints and drooping head Show'd he began to fail.

His colour sicken'd more and more, He faded into age; And then his enemies began To show their deadly rage.

They've taen a weapon, long and sharp, And cut him by the knee; Then tied him fast upon a cart, Like a rogue for forgerie.

They laid him down upon his back, And cudgell'd him full sore; They hung him up before the storm, And turned him o'er and o'er.

They filled up a darksome pit With water to the brim; They heaved in John Barleycom, There let him sink or swim.

They laid him out upon the floor, To work him farther woe; And still, as signs of life appear'd, They toss'd him to and fro.

They wasted, o'er a scorching flame, The marrow of his bones; But a miller us'd him worst of all, For he crush'd him between two stones.

And they hae taen his very heart's blood, And drank it round and round; And still the more and more they drank, Their joy did more abound.

John Barleycorn was a hero bold,
Of noble enterprise;
For if you do but taste his blood,
Twill make your courage rise.

'Twill make a man forget his woe;
'Twill heighten all his joy;
'Twill make the widow's heart to sing,
Tho' the tear were in her eve.

Then let us toast John Barleycom,
 Each man a glass in hand;
 And may his great posterity
 Ne'er fail in old Scotland!

#### Holy Willie's Prayer

O Thou, that in the heavens does dwell, As it pleases best Thyse!', Sends aen to Heaven an' ten to Hell, For Thy glory, And no for onie or ill They've done afore Thee!

I bless and praise Thy matchless might, When thousands Thou hast left in night, That I am here afore Thy sight, For gifts an' grace A burning and a shining light To a' this place.

What was I, or my generation, That I should get sic exaltation? I wha deserv'd most just damnation For broken laws, Six thousand years 'ere my creation, 'Thro' Adam's cause.

When from my mither's womb I fell, Thou might hae plung'd me deep in hell, To gnash my gums, and weep and wail, In burnin lakes, Where damned devils roar and yell, Chain'd to their stakes.

Yet I am here a chosen sample, To show thy grace is great and ample; I'm here a pillar o' Thy temple, Strong as a rock, A guide, a buckler, and example, To a' Thy flock.

O Lord, Thou kens what zeal I bear, When drinkers drink, an'swearers swear An' singing here, an' dancin there, Wi' great and sma'; For I am keepit by Thy fear Free frea them a'.

But yet, O Lord! confess I must, At times I'm fash'd wi' fleshly lust: An' sometimes, too, in worldly trust, Vile self gets in; But Thou remembers we are dust, Defil'd wi' sin.

O Lordl yestreen, Thou kens, wi' Meg Thy pardon I sincerely beg; O may't ne'er be a livin' plague To my dishonour, An' I'll ne'er lift a lawless leg Again upon her.

Besides, I farther maun avow, W? Leezie's lass, three times I trow -But Lord, that Friday I was fou, When I cam near her; Or else, Thou kens, Thy servant true Wad never steer her.

Maybe Thou lets this fleshly thom Buffet Thy servant e'en and mom, Lest he owe proud and high shou'd turn, That he's sae gifted: I have as, Thy han' maun e'en be borne, Until Thou lift it.

Lord, bless Thy chosen in this place, For here Thou has a chosen race! But God confound there stuborn face, An' blast their name, Wha brings Thy elders to disgrace An' open shame.

Lord, mind Gaw'n Hamilton's deserts; He drinks, an' swears, an' plays at cartes, Yet has sae mony takin arts, Wi great an' sma', Frae God's ain priest the people's hearts He steals awa'.

And when we chasten'd him therefore, Thou kens how he bred sic a splore, And set the world in a roar O' laughing at us; Curse Thou his basket and his store, Kail an' notatoes.

Lord, hear my earnest cry and pray'r, Against that Presbyt'ry o' Ayr; Thy strong right hand, Lord mak it bare Upo' their heads; Lord visit them, an' dinna spare, For their misdeeds.

O Lord my God! that gib-tongu'd Aitken, My vera heart an' flesh are quakin, To think how we stood sweatin, shakin, An' pish'd wi' dread, While he, wi' hingin lip an' snakin, Held up his head.

Lord, in Thy day o' vengeance try him, Lord, visit them wha did employ him, And pass not in Thy mercy by them, Nor hear their pray'r, But for Thy people's sake destroy them, An' dinna soare.

But, Lord, remember me an' mine Wi' mercies temporal and divine, That I for grace an' gear may shine, Excell'd by nane, And a' the glory shall be Thine, Amen, Amen!



Happy 250th Robbie