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## **Annual Report of the Dunedin Burns Club April 2013**

Since the last AGM on 19 April 2012 the Club has continued with its aims of fostering interest in the literature and songs of Robert Burns. The activities of the Club were described in newsletters in April, August and December 2012 and in March 2013.

We welcomed Jack McLeod as our new patron.

The Robert Burns song section in the Otago Performing Arts Competitions Society Senior Vocal Competition was well supported.

The Robert Burns Poetry Competition 2013 went well with a record number of entries and the Burns Supper on 25 January this year at Toitu Otago Settlers Museum was well received.

We combined with the Southern Heritage Trust for a meeting on 16 September 2012 at the Dunedin Gas Works Museum when Seán Brosnahan described retracing the footsteps of Robert Burns.

We established a website for the Club at [burns.blogtown.co.nz](http://burns.blogtown.co.nz).

The Club was pleased Professor Gerard Carruthers was able to visit Dunedin in August 2012 and speak on Robert Burns in the 21st century.

We hosted a visit from Kathleen Davey, Junior Vice President of the Ayr Burns Club and Dr Robbie McMahon, President of the Association of Burns Clubs in Ayr. Dr McMahon gave a talk on Burns' doctors.

It was clarified with our auditor that the Club, which has an income of less than \$10,000 per annum, will continue to have a tax-exempt status with the Department of Inland Revenue.

Following the Club being struck off the register of Incorporated Societies on 19 January 2001 the financial statements for 2006–2011 and the constitution were uploaded to the Companies Office site and the status of the Club as an incorporated society restored. A declaration, dated 15 February 2010, was made by David Josland, Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand, of revocation of the dissolution of the Club as an incorporated society that was previously made on 19 January 2001. Subsequently the financial statements for 2012 and the changes to the rules passed at the AGM on 19 April 2012 were filed with the Companies Office and are now posted on the Companies Office's website with the other information about the Club.

After discussions with the Auckland Burns Club, the Club has agreed to host the AGM of the Robert Burns Association of the Pacific Rim in Dunedin around September 2014.

Subscriptions were increased for the year commencing 1 March 2013 to \$10 single and \$12 double to cover increased postage charges and making ends meet.

The Club is exploring hosting further concerts and is looking forward to the one after our AGM with entertainment including songs by Peter Chin, Gladys Hope and Arnold Bachop.

*Bruce Spittle*

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Secretary