

Chester Caledonian Association



2010-11: Photo Archive
President, Mr Mike Martin

2010: Men's Supper

We had a super supper this year again at Willington Hall Hotel with Chris Pilsbury, Chairman of Chester Football club as guest speaker.

In the sympathetic company of Scottish football club supporters, many well used to the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, Chris described the demise of the old club and how the energy and commitment of those who loved it was decisive in its rebirth. He went on to acknowledge the very considerable contribution made by MBNA and how important this was in cementing the support of CWaC council and local businesses.

It was an inspiring story even for those with just a passing interest in the club and football. The old club had been misgoverned for years and was eventually unceremoniously thrown out of the football world. Within a few months a new club owned by its 2500 members had been formed, sponsorship, gained, the ground leased from the Council and a place won in the football pyramid. It demonstrates how much can be achieved if the will exists.

The defunct club was founded in 1885 a year after the our Caledonian Association so who knows - our forebears might have been at the first games.

Once again Stuart Begbie and his team did us proud.

2010: Men's Supper (continued)



Debating



Eating



Concentrating



President Mike Martin thanks guest speaker Chris Pilsbury, Chester FC Chairman

2010: St Andrew's Day Dinner & ball

Once again the Association enjoyed another St Andrew's Day Ball at the Pavilion Suite at Chester Racecourse. The colourful evening ran to its normal formula of a wholesome meal followed by dancing to the rousing tones of the evergreen Kenny Thompson and the Wardlaw Band. Our thanks go to Kenny for travelling down once more from Ayrshire.

Vice President Iain McAulay made a fine toast to the Lassies and Helen Martin, the President's wife, replied in kind. The President paid tribute to Charles Taylor, our Treasurer, who died recently and who had done so much for the Association. He especially thanked Moira, his wife, and her family for making it to the Ball. Sandy McLennan conducted the proceedings with his customary humorous but disciplined approach as the evening finished on time.

As ever, a hunting team went out on the Saturday morning around the hills of Beeston Castle and snared a really fine haggis. The beast was prepared and cooked in good time, piped in by Scott Lindsay and superbly addressed by Frank Wood.

Over 130 guests attended. Given the poor weather and straightened economic times this was very encouraging. A great time was had by all. We look forward to an equally good Burns Dinner on 29th January 2011.

2010: St Andrew's Day Dinner & ball—continued



Frank Wood addresses the Haggis.



The President takes a dram with Frank Wood who "toasted the Haggis"



Enjoying a glass of champagne before the entertaining night



We really do know what we are doing!!!

2010: Fly Fishing

The Caledonian Association fly fishers had their foundation meeting at Llyn Brenig on June 29th. Seven members and guests attended and all had a most enjoyable day. Conditions were apparently almost perfect for fishing with light cloud and a nice ripple on the water. It was unfortunate that no one had told the fish that. They were hard to catch and despite lots of tugs and rises the total bag was only one trout. A number of perch were also caught. It was a profitable day for Brenig!

We all enjoyed ourselves a great deal and the day was, as it should be, convivial, friendly and fun. We are to meet again later in the season and date and time will be put on the web site. It is worth noting that in the evening the Brenig midgies are much more likely to bite than the trout during the day.

Ian Gill



2010: Fly Fishing Again

The group had another visit to Llyn Brenig on Tuesday 21st. September. Five fishers were there and the trout were much more co-operative than on our last visit. Sixteen were caught. The most successful member, with six fish, and Association Champion for 2010 was Dugie Gemmill and he was presented with a box of flies to commemorate the occasion. The event itself was, in the traditions of the Association, both convivial and fun. We will meet again in the 2011 season.



Catch of the Day



Prize Flies