

MEDICINE HAT BURNS CLUB

The eighth annual Burns Supper of the Medicine Hat Burns Club was held on Saturday 25th.

For this year's event we are excited to be back in the Medicine Hat Lodge

The club enjoys an attachment with the British Army Training Unit Suffield {BATUS} close by Medicine Hat at CFB Suffield and many of the members and the evening's speakers were drawn from that connection, including Lt. Col. Sean Hackett, CD Base Commander CFB Suffield.

Prior to the formal Supper there was a cocktail hour with music by the South Alberta Pipes & Drums and Highland Dancers.



The night began with the grand entry of the club executive and honored guests followed by the **parade entry of the flags**.

Following Oh Canada, our past president **Neil Chisholm** addressed the haggis and you didn't want to be too close when he gushed its entrails bright as you may have gotten splattered.

2014 was also the 100th anniversary of Canada's famous Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI), so with the Club's close relationship with nearby Canadian Forces Base Suffield, and the British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS) that is also stationed there, and considering the fact that the Canadian Base Commander, his Chief of Staff and the Base Regimental Sergeant Major were all members of the PPCLI, the Club decided to do something special. This included bring in 100 custom



made anniversary medallions, that sold out in eleven (11) minutes. Next we had the British army craftsmen make three (3) plinths, or custom engraved wooden stands that each held a custom laser engraved decanter and qiach, one for each of the previously mentioned PPCLI members. As a response the Base Commander had his fellow PPCLI members join him to **'sing for their supper'**, and the audience was treated to various regimental songs including 'It's a long way to Tipperary'.



After dinner The "Address Tae the Lassies" was delivered by Major Les McCulloch (AGC) SPS, an Honorary Member,

which was ably responded to by our own Angie Anton.

The Immortal Memory was delivered by Major Andy Harrower, MBE our Club Bard.

The Toast to the Queen was then offered by Col. Jim Landon MBE, Commander, BATUS



Entertainment was provided by the **South Alberta Pipes and Drums**, the McConnell

School of Highland Dancing and Jennifer Brown our Club Vocalist.

The night was then handed over to "**BACK TO THE BUS**" a Ceilidh Band from Central Saskatchewan.



Finally, the club does a special thing most clubs don't, they run their own Scotch Bar (now world famous). They also have specially trained Lassies who assist as servers and our own Scotch Steward.

The evening closed as always with Auld Lang Syne.

You will note in the black tam with a black and white checkered border worn by Neil Chisholm. The badge worn is the Scottish clan style belt having a square and compass in the center. These were acquired for us, by a British army contact out of India. It depicts a Masonic theme. These tams are only worn by the official Jolly Beggars, as we call our members.