

HOUSTON TEXAS BURNS BUST REDEDICATION CEREMONY

On Sunday, January 25, 2015, the twelfth anniversary of the dedication of the Robert Burns Bust gifted by the Heather & Thistle Society to the City of Houston, the Bust was rededicated in its new surroundings; Hermann Park has recently reopened after an extensive remodeling to mark its centenary. A great day drew a nice crowd when the Houston Highlanders Pipe Band opened the proceedings. RBANA President Robert Boyd gave the introductory remarks and read a letter to Jack Hume from Shirley Bell, retired CEO of RBWF, who dedicated the Bust in 2003, which she fondly recalled as being one of this highlights of her career at the Federation. Jack, the leader of the Bust project, then spoke about how happy he is with its very prominent position in the Avenue of Heroes – a promenade of international figures. Helen Mann spoke on behalf of the British community in Houston, and a prayer of dedication was given by Rev. Melvyn Douglass. The Houston Highlanders performed a set to close, and in a nice postscript, three pipers wound their way playing up the new spiral walkway round the 30-foot mound that is a new feature of the park; at the top one of the pipers proposed to his girlfriend, and she said YES! The group repaired to the Black Labrador pub to ruminate on another great Burns weekend.



The crowd round the Bust



The spiral walkway



Jack Hume speaks



A prayer from Mel Douglass



Jack and Guida Hume with 2 Roberts

Gathering at the pub

