



# Newsletter for the Ukrainian Community in Edinburgh & Scotland

(plus all our readers around the World)



ISSUE No 5

Edited by: **Stefan Tymkewycz**

Summer 2009

## Summer Barbeque set for Saturday 13 June

This summer's barbeque at the Club has been arranged for Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> of June from 1pm.

Last year over 120 members and their friends attended the barbeque in the gardens at Royal Terrace, some members attending the club for the first time in many years.

The weather was sunny and dry, which added to the party mood and by all accounts a great time was had by all.

The cost of £5 will entitle you to a helping of barbequed lunch expertly prepared once again by last years 'chef' Paul Muzyka, and there will of course be drinks served at *probably* the cheapest bar in Scotland ! We hope to see you there on Saturday 13 June.



Last years barbeque at the club was enjoyed by over 120 members and their friends.

## Forthcoming Events at the Club

Ladies Night.....Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at 7pm.(free, bring a dish or nibbles)  
(Body Shop Party)

Summer Barbeque.....Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009 from 1pm. (£5 admission)

Independence Day.....Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 at 1pm. (free)

Hallowe'en, Fireworks...Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009 5pm (£8 and  
& Bonfire £5 concessions, under 12's in fancy dress free)

Holodomor Exhibition....Saturday & Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009 from 6pm (free)

St Nicolas.....Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009 at 3pm (free, parents to provide  
(especially for children) presents for own children)

Ukrainian Christmas.....Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 2pm (£12 & £8 concessions)

Malanka.....Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 7.30pm

Burns/Shevchenko Night..Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 7pm (£12 & £8 concessions).

# **AUGB Edinburgh Branch Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of AUGB Edinburgh Branch & Ukrainian Social Club was held in the Club on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2009. The proceedings were admirably Chaired by AUGB Chief Executive Mr Fedir Kurlak. The members elected a new management committee for the forthcoming year, details can be found at the end of this newsletter. A summary of the Chairman's report for the past year follows;

## **Chairman's Report by Stefan Tymkewycz**

### **Introduction**

It was an honour and a privilege to have been elected as your Chairman at last years Annual General Meeting of the AUGB Edinburgh Branch and Ukrainian Social Club. This role has involved representing the Ukrainian Community of Edinburgh & Scotland at many functions throughout the year including an invitation to the Ukrainian Embassy in London in September 2008 to join in the celebrations on the anniversary of Ukrainian Independence.

A personal highlight of the past year as your Chairman was receiving the Holodomor Torch of Remembrance in the City Chambers, Edinburgh, on behalf of the Ukrainian Community, as it travelled around the world in commemoration of the millions of victims of the Holodomor. The Ceremony in the City Chambers was attended and addressed by the Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh the Right Honourable George Grubb, Cardinal Keith O'Brien, Mr Askold Lozynski President of Ukrainian World Congress and The Consul General of Ukraine in Edinburgh Mr Bohdan Yaremenko. There was also a good representation and turnout from the Ukrainian Community on the day.

### **The Management Committee**

In forming the management committee last year I attempted to bring 'old' and 'new' committee members together to work alongside each other to the benefit of the Club and the Community as a whole. Many new members were brought onto the committee with specific skills and experience that were vital to the implementation of a three-year business plan, proposed and adopted at last years AGM, which was intended to ensure the viability and long term future of the club.

### **Challenges Facing the Club**

A principle reason for accepting the nomination and subsequent election as Chairman at last years annual general meeting was real concern for the very future of the Ukrainian Club. Having attended a few events during the preceding months and speaking to members of the Association I recognised that the Club was in financial difficulties and the building required some urgent attention.

On election as Chairman my principle objective was to address the immediate problems facing the Club. These included upgrading the electrical system throughout the building; there was also an outstanding Statutory Notice that had been served on the Club in 2004 to deal with the eroding balustrades on the front elevation of the building at roof level. In the basement there were significant problems with rising and penetrating damp that required attention before the vital electrical works could be undertaken. The ageing basement boiler had apparently not been serviced for a number of years (possibly as many as forty) and the building was vastly underinsured. All of these issues I am happy to report to this AGM have now been addressed in the past 12 months. To ensure minimum costs to the Association I have personally undertaken a significant proportion

of the required works and am now pleased to be able to report that the club is now in receipt of an electrical safety certificate.

### **Events & Celebrations during the Year**

Throughout the past year many of the traditional and long standing events held in the Club continued, with the introduction of some new events to attract old and new members, and friends, back to the Club. All of these events were hugely successful both financially and in bringing many members of the community back into the fold, some of whom had not attended for well over 20 years. The events included:

- Ukrainian Easter and Christmas.
- Summer barbeque that was attended by over 120 people.
- A fish supper night and Malanka.
- Independence Day celebration plus St Nicolas Night.
- Combined Hallowe'en and bonfire night.
- The final celebration of the past years calendar was another sell-out event, the Burns/Shevchenko night in February.

I cannot praise highly enough the members of the social committee, and their helpers, who organised, prepared and put on these successful events. A huge thank-you to you all.

Part of the reason for the huge success of these events was 're-communicating' with the Ukrainian Community. One of the first decisions over the past year was to produce a newsletter. This was sent out quarterly and was very well received from the many members who were included in a contacts database which I built-up over many weeks and months. Our electronic version of the newsletter has been widely read, not only at home but also abroad, evident from the responses received from around the world (mostly expats), including Canada, Australia and the USA, praising the newsletter and thanking us for keeping them informed of what's happening in the Ukrainian Club in Edinburgh.

### **Challenges facing the Club**

There are many other challenges facing the club in the short term including other works required to the building, and to turnaround the financial position of the Association & Social Club from running an annual deficit into a surplus. A concerted effort is required in the near future to manage these changes and ensure the viability and success of the Club over the longer term and hopefully for generations to come.

### **The Future**

I personally believe that with the tremendous support and encouragement shown from the Ukrainian Community in Edinburgh and throughout Scotland during the past year, that there is a long-term future for the continued existence of the Ukrainian Club in Edinburgh. The Club, which our forefathers struggled so hard to establish and build-up all those years ago, can and deserves to succeed for the sake of a lasting legacy of the history of Ukrainians in Scotland.

Yours Sincerely

**Stefan Tymkewycz**

Stefan Tymkewycz  
Chairman AUGB Edinburgh Branch & Ukrainian Social Club



## Friends of Ukraine (Scottish Foundation)

### From Professor Robert Brown.

I thought it might be interesting for this edition to give a little more detail on some individual things that are happening with my work in Ukraine helping children in some of the orphanages there. I have chosen the

stories of two children in different orphanages to illustrate the problems they face.

In Sumy there is a little boy less than two years old called Taras who has no arms or legs and no family either to help him. The staff in the orphanage asked me to try to raise \$3,000 for a special chair made in Austria that would give Taras mobility. To cut a long story short I raised the money and Taras got his chair. The lady who helps me with the orphanage work visited the orphanage recently to see Taras in his chair and was proud to report that he was sitting surrounded by all the other children and was quite the little leader ! But you have to ask yourself what does the future hold for Taras ?

In Dnipropetrovsk in the south east of Ukraine there is a teenage girl called Nastya who is suffering from a congenital hip disorder which meant that if she did not have an operation soon she would lose the ability to walk and possibly also to have children. After numerous attempts to raise the \$5,000 necessary for the operation and the discovery that Nastya also had heart problems which complicated things she has now undergone the operation in Kharkhiv and is making great progress though it is going to be a long haul.

I think what these two stories indicate is that many of the children in care in Ukraine not only have the major (and irreplaceable ) loss of their parents but many other problems as well.

## Your Club is available for private functions !

Did you know that the club can be hired by members for a variety of events and functions !

The main hall is available for parties, dances, ceilidhs etc. There is also the library which can be used for meetings, plus the bar and dining area downstairs which can also be used by members and their guests.

If you would like more details and the modest cost of hiring the club please contact Stefan. Please use and support YOUR Club.

## Pictorial History of Ukrainians in Scotland

Peter Kormylo is compiling this 'library'. You can scan any photos you have and email them to [nasharchiv@btinternet.com](mailto:nasharchiv@btinternet.com) or phone Peter to arrange for them to be copied and returned.

## Email Addresses

If you have an email address and have not yet received any emails from Stefan please forward your email address to; [stef.tymkewycz@snp.org](mailto:stef.tymkewycz@snp.org) This is to save some vital funds by sending out newsletters and other information about the Ukrainian community by email in future.

## Your Committee Contact List

Chairman	Stefan Tymkewycz	0131 661 2522
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Treasurer	Dmytro Czyz	0131 556 7622
Social Organiser	Stefany Hawryluk	01368 860 061
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