

## **Annandale Speakers--28 November 2019**

President **Sandy Grant** got the 5th meeting of the season of to a prompt start as he handed the gavel to Mr Speaker for the evening, **Ronnie Callander**. Ronnie welcomed an impressive turnout of members and two guests who all enjoyed an excellent evening's entertainment.

**Sandy Grant** stood in to give us "A wee bauchle". He discussed how many Scots words weren't complimentary and bauchle was certainly one of them. He nearly got himself in a rankle but saved the lectern just in time.

Next was **Michael Dickie** who delivered a fascinating talk on "Me Too". He explained how a young David Attenborough was inspired by Grey Owl, a fur trapper turned conservationist. Michael regaled us with stories about Attenborough's career, eventually turning down the position of Director General of the BBC, to follow his passion for making nature programmes.

After being introduced by some non-complimentary "Scots", **Bruce Edensor** got on with some psychological manipulation as he explained "Gaslighting". Bruce used the film of the same name to introduce the concept and then went on to highlight how it can be found in relationships, at work and even at school.

**Joe Glass** then delivered his highly original topics. **Robert Jardine** was asked who he would nominate for a talent contest; **John Kerr** had to disagree that women are excluded from agriculture; **John Reid** told us what his Christmas gifts would be if he got José Mourinho's wage; **Ken Morland** let us know what has been the greatest act of kindness shown to him; poor **Phil Kenyon** denied he had ever made an inappropriate remark and **John Cannon** got the hot potato of a topic, could global warming threaten fish suppers.

**Godfrey Newham** has an inquisitive nature and dry wit which suited his investigation into the meaning of "A wee stotter". He concluded that the purpose of the Scots language was to confuse the English.

Never scared to be controversial, **Frank Farrell** tackled his title "Woke". Frank spoke about how attitudes to ethnic minorities have changed in British society and also the disgrace of the Windrush scandal.

To round the evening off we had **George Gilhooly** with "A wee scunner". As usual a beautiful, flowing speech, where George took us from his Grannies in Kirkintilloch to the searching for seals on the high seas.

The next meeting is at Lockerbie bowling club at 7pm on the 19th of December.