

## **ANNANDALE SPEAKERS REPORT--31 January 2019**

The 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of Annandale Speakers held on 31<sup>st</sup> January opened with a fitting tribute by President **John Kerr** to **Donald Martin** from Moffat who will be fondly remembered by all.

Geez twa pehs , ain plen bridie an an ingin yin ana.

Mr Speaker for the evening, **Ronnie Callendar**, took control of the meeting and introduced each speaker informatively and with a subtle vein of humour.

**Bobby Smith** opened the programme with an excellent speech on Bird Song. Bobby is a renowned local expert on birds and educates the assembly every time. This was no exception although the wee robin redbreast in his poem at the end didn't think so much of him.

**Sandy Scott's** One for the Road was a trip back in time to describe his career in the wine trade. Like all good careers he started young, and in Paris, received a great education in wine and other pastimes as you would expect in the city of romance. Another good tale from Sandy.

Rounding off the first half was **Joe Glass**, with Whose Sorry Now. More teenage hormones as Joe confessed to an unrequited love affair with Connie Francis. Her life story was laid bare by Joe, all of its ups and downs. Joe has an entertaining manner about him which makes him easy to listen to.

Debutant Topics master **Ross Cunningham** dished out both topics and confectionary to **David Bell, Alan Collins, John Cannon, Michael Dickie, Phil Kenyon and Bruce Edensor**. All "victims" made varied attempts to respond on subjects as diverse as Fleetwood Mac to Rabbin Burns. Well done Ross.

Kicking off the second half of the meeting **David Logan** responded to the title a man's a Man. David's slow deliberate style gave us his thoughts on the famous poem by our National Bard. It ended with a challenge for us all to come together for the better of everyone. Listen up Theresa.

**John Reid** gave us there was a Lad. A recollection of a lot of the smart Alec lads he had attempted to teach throughout his career. Humorous, witty and enlightening. Just exactly what we come to expect of John.

Final speaker of the evening was **Brian Shaw** with Who needs Money. Being a farmer this is obviously one of Brian's specialised subjects. He gave us all an insight into the history and uses of money delivered in his usual demonstrative style with his hands working overtime.

**Sandy Grant** tried his best to keep the errant Speakers in check with his Timekeeper duties and **Ken Morland**, as Critic, found little to complain about.