

Annandale Speakers

Annandale Speakers held their 5th meeting of the season at Lockerbie Bowling Club on Thursday 29th November, where President **John Kerr** welcomed everyone. Although numbers were slightly down due to inclement weather, the quality of the contributions was higher than ever.

Mr Speaker, **Kerr Little**, outlined the changes on the programme then proceeded to introduce each participant with his usual slick, sharp wit.

Leading the way was **Jack Forrest**, with his title "Turning Over a New Leaf". In a quiet, unassuming way, Jack explained how some health issues are forcing him to change the way he tackles certain activities, but he hasn't lost his dry sense of humour that we all know and love.

Next up was **John Reid** with "Fingers Crossed". Looking very dapper, as always and in command at the rostrum, John explained the early origins of various sayings such as 'fingers crossed', 'thumbs up', 'V for Victory' etc. This was a very informative, educational & entertaining contribution that certainly had nobody 'sitting on their hands' at the end.

To close the first half, the President stood in at short notice to fill an unexpected gap with "I Am Not Superstitious, but...". Having had a run of bad luck with household appliances, he must have thought his luck had changed when he found a 4 leaf clover in an old book when moving house. However, having a birthday on the 13th, this was a forlorn hope! This was a humorous talk, well delivered.

After tea the Topics session was in the very capable hands of **David Logan** whose victims included **Michael Dickie, Ronnie Callender, Phil Kenyon, David Bell, Allan Collins and George Gilhooly**. They tackled a wide range of topics such as 'How to stay dry on the golf course', 'fizzy drinks', 'diesel v electric cars', 'Making a movie', 'excursion to the far east' and 'mannerisms at the rostrum'.

Leading the way in the 2nd half was **Brian Shaw** with "Why Me", which turned out to be an audience participation talk where members were invited to give their opinion on whether Brian's misfortunes could have been prevented or whether some of them were as a result of his own actions; areas under discussion ranged from playing cricket against a very tall athlete, to being caught with a bar bill for the speakers club! Once again Brian delivered an extremely humorous, entertaining speech.

Mr Speaker, **Kerr Little**, then showed his versatility by filling the 2nd unexpected gap of the night. This was vintage Kerr at his very best, the ultimate story teller & entrepreneur who could sell ice cream to the eskimos, never mind pies at a farmer's market. Marvellous stuff.

The 12 minute slot this week went to **Ken Morland**, whose talk was entitled "Whatever". Ken wandered through the catchphrases of many famous comedians with many anecdotes from his extensive repertoire. Everybody pays attention when Ken is at the rostrum and he always rises to the challenge, 'whatever'.

Timekeeper **John Cannon** proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Speaker, Topicsmaster and critic, **Robert Jardine**, who had very little to criticise, bringing the curtain down on another memorable evening at Annandale Speakers.

