

Mark and Charles would like to wish all our Branch Members and Friends a very healthy, happy and successful 2022. We realise that 2021 has been a very hard year for all of us and a particularly difficult year for many of our families but hopefully we will pull together to support each other when we can, to face 2022 positively, making the most of our time and talents.

We plan to issue our 'Keeping Us Together' newsletter monthly in 2022 round about the start of each month so we can keep all our readers up to date with plans for our monthly meetings in Glenrothes.

Please send in any items you would like to share with our readers. By contributing to our newsletter, you will be assisting us to produce an even more diverse publication, which reflects the interests of our readers.

Best wishes



Charles Small 01592 713824 and Mark Coxe

#### Chairman's Message

We have held the last Committee Meeting of the 2021 team and the next stage is the Annual General Meeting to review the past year and appoint the officers for 2022. You will see elsewhere in the Newsletter that the AGM is planned to take place on Zoom, on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

I am very grateful to my Committee for their fantastic support during the pandemic year. According to the feedback from various sources, I'm delighted that the Fife Branch 2021 programme was considered by many as one of the best Group programmes in Scotland. My one disappointment is the relatively low number of members who have attended the online meetings.

We have had to halt some of the in-person meetings that we re-started towards the end of 2021. Rest assured that this will be temporary and we hope to further expand the portfolio of in-person meetings as soon as we are convinced that it is safe to do so.



Finally, the papers for the AGM will be sent to you in the very near future including the opportunity to make nominations for the various Committee positions.

#### John Minhinick

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#### A Lass is a Lass for All That

Rabbie's poems and Rabbie's sangs

So well kent the hale world o'er

Bespokes, 'A man's a man'

It's God's gift so naturally adored.

He loved the lassies and won their trust

To simply get his way

But would the lassies of today

Be so easy to persuade?



The gift of the gab he truly had

To woo a lass amang the rigs o' barley

Modern Miss would say 'My lad, Nay! Nay!,

My tights may fray. The barley rigs are jaggy.'

Or if the wee, sleekit, cowrin, tim'rous beastie

Was to appear now looking for revenge

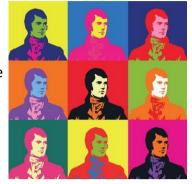
For Rabbie was the cause of his eviction

And his family life to an end.

His love was like a red, red, rose,
But today's lassies look for more
A walk along some bonnie bank
Does not suffice true love for sure.
Ae fond kiss would break his heart
As ruby lips are adorned with rings
Surely dampening his intentions
As he tries to comprehend such things.

'A Man's a Man for a' That'
Well kent words to me and you
If man would only heed these words

A better world too
Please tak a cup of kindness
Just to make his words ring true
Around the world we'd realise
Just what we have to do.



Us lassies would still be honoured to be courted
And be loved by such a simple man
So if a man like Rabbie comes your way
You must grab him with both hands.

There will always be a lass like a pillar quiet and strong
Supporting every great man through his life,
Unless I'm wrong

So all around the world just for the sake of auld lang syne
A lass is a lass for all that - until the end of time.



#### **Margaret Stewart**

## January Monthly Meeting Cancelled

Unfortunately, our proposed monthly meeting in Glenrothes on January 13<sup>th</sup> 2022, will not go ahead.

The Committee met on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of January and decided that after reviewing the latest government advice and Parkinson's UK guidelines, it would be sensible to cancel the meeting.

For the information of all our members but especially people who have recently joined us at the inperson gatherings, the Branch usually meets on the second Thursday of the month in the Bridge Centre / Glenrothes Baptist Church. Historically we do not usually meet in July and August.

The Committee has decided to review the feasibility of the meetings on a month-by-month basis. The review will consider the most up-to-date advice available at the time. On this basis the committee will decide whether to hold an in-person meeting each month. Our monthly newsletter will keep everyone informed of any changes. The committee takes all of the branch members' safety very seriously and recognises that many of us also have underlying health conditions. This will be taken into consideration when an assessment is made.

In order to plan ahead for 2022, here are the proposed dates for you to ring fence in your diaries.

January 13 <sup>th</sup> Cancelled	May 12 <sup>th</sup>	September 8th
February 10 <sup>th</sup>	June 9 <sup>th</sup>	October 13th
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	July 14 <sup>th</sup> Holiday	November 10th
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	August 11 <sup>th</sup> Holiday	December 8th

#### **DONATIONS TO OUR BRANCH - Alex Rodger**

Our Fife Branch of Parkinson's UK is always very grateful to receive donations from members, their families and friends and from individuals and groups who wish to raise money for a local charity. We are aware that these donations are given after times of celebration and enjoyment but that sometimes they are gifted after times of sadness.

Thanks to the latest donors.

Mrs D Penman, Mr& Mrs C Small,



If you or someone you know is thinking about fundraising, remember that our Fife Branch has its own

'Just Giving' page, where you can increase your donation with Gift Aid. You can find the link on our own web site, **fifeparkinsons.org** 

#### **Apple and Yogurt Cake**

This is a lovely cake that is easily assembled in the food processor and can be eaten warm or cold. It is delicious when served with ice-cream or natural yogurt.

#### **Ingredients:**

150g sliced apples 70g Greek yogurt 60g ground almonds 190g self-raising flour 2 eggs 130g soft margarine 130g caster sugar 10g soft brown sugar

10g flaked almonds



#### Method:

Pre-heat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas Mark 4. Line the base and sides of a 20cm loose base cake tin with baking parchment.

Put the flour, eggs, ground almonds, caster sugar, yogurt and margarine into a food processor and blitz until smooth.

Pour into the prepared tin.

Scatter the apple slices over the top and sprinkle over the almonds and brown sugar.

Bake for 35-40 minutes until golden and firm to touch.

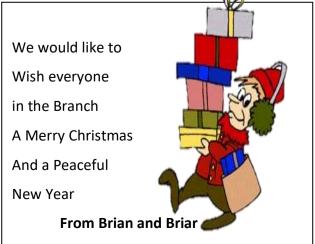
#### Briar Richardson.

#### Thank you, Briar. Your recipe sounds and looks delicious!



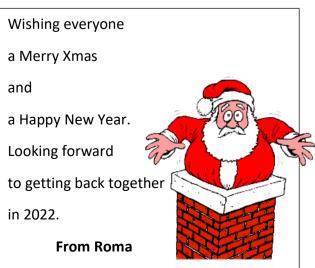
Our apologies go to Brian and Briar Richardson and to Roma Jefferson for missing their Christmas Messages from our Christmas Edition of 'Keeping Us Together'. Sorry Folks!

Charles 'n' Mark



#### **Quick Quiz!**

- 1. In Scotland, 'first-footing' is a tradition which involves visiting homes with a gift of whisky and which other item?
- 2. Literally meaning the 'beginning of the year', what name is given to the Jewish New Year?
- 3. The month of January is named after which Roman god of doorways?
- 4. What word do the Scottish people give for the last day of the year and its celebration?
- 5. Which Australian city has one of the largest New Year's celebrations?
- 6. What day of the week was New Year's Day, 2020?
- 7. On January 1st 1881, Ferdinand de Lesseps began French construction on which great civil engineering project?
- 8. Who wrote the song 'Auld Lang Syne'?
- 9. In 2022, Chinese New Year will be the year of which animal?
- 10. Is the Chinese New Year, commonly referred to as the Winter, Spring, Summer, or Autumn Festival?



### Here's my A to Z of the year '21 If it wasn't for Covid it would have been much more fun

A's for AstraZeneca The vaccine for all J's Jason Leitch And his amazing new fame

B stands for Boris He's due for a fall K is for Kiss On Hancock's CCTV R for Reshuffle Rayner's not in the room

of 2021

C is for Christmas
There's no partying here

L is for Lobbying
Patterson's money-making spree

S is for Shropshire The Lib-Dems win the cup

D stands for Downing Street And all of the parties last year M stands for Macron

T is for 'Time Please' As the pubs all shut up

E stands for Exercise Or complete lack of it Thinks our PM's a clown

U stands for U-Turn
On the standards debate

F is for Face-masks

Tory rebellion put down

N is for No's

V is for Virus Watch this bastard mutate

Where's yours you halfwit?

O stands for Omicron Found roaming the street

W's for Windsor Now Prince Harry's surname

G stands for Gove And his trendy dance move P is for President Trump's far from discreet

X is for Ex-Royal's What is Megan's end-game?

H is for Hancock His wife didn't approve Q stands for Quizmaster Here's Boris on Zoom

Y stands for Yorkshire And its racist cricket club

I stands for Idiot That's Hancock again

Z's for Zuckerberg And his Congressional snub

#### **QUICK QUIZ ANSWERS**

1, A lump of coal 2, Rosh Hashanah 3, Janus 4, Hogmanay 5, Sydney, Australia 6, Wednesday 7, The Panama Canal 8, Robert Burns 9, Tiger 10, Spring Festival

I hope you agree what a year this has been, It was bad for us all but spare a thought for the Queen.

Nobody knows how next year will transpire, Will Tony Blackburn finally decide to retire?

Will a general election see the Boris lot beaten? That shambolic scarecrow educated at Eaton

Is Indi-Ref forefront of Nichola's mind
Or will Eck come along and tackle her from behind?

Nobody knows and does anyone care?

Just as long as the virus can't be found anywhere!

# PARKINSON'S UK HELPLINE 0808 800 0303

**Mark Coxe** 

## **BRANCH AGM '22**

We are now able to confirm that the Branch AGM 2022 will take place on ZOOM on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. Papers will be sent out beforehand and the Committee hopes that as many members as possible will be able to join the meeting.

Make sure that you pop the date and time in your new diaries.

#### **MEETINGS FOR JANUARY & FEBRUARY**

Joining codes and Passwords can be found in the Branch Schedule email.

**Branch Zoom Get Together** Mon. 11am Jan. 10, 17 & 24<sup>th</sup>. Feb. 7, 14, 21 & 28<sup>th</sup>

**Zoom Camera Club** Wed. 10.00am Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

**Zoom Quiz Evening** Wed. 7.30pm Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

**Bowling, Abbeyview, Dunfermline** Wed. 2pm Jan. 12, 19 & 26<sup>th</sup>. Feb. 2, 9, 16 & 23<sup>rd</sup>.

NOTE (This is not a Fife Branch activity. However, rinks remain booked and bowlers meet at their own risk. Advice applies to, at the earliest, the end of January).

Monthly Meeting, Glenrothes Baptist Church Thu. Midday (TBC). February 10<sup>th</sup>

Walking Group: Fri. 25th February

**Zoom Coffee & Chat** Wed. 11am Jan. 12 & 26<sup>th</sup>. Feb. 9 & 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Alex's Zoom Exercise** Thu. 11.15am Jan 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. Feb. 3, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Meri's Zoom Sing-along** Fri. 9.45am Jan. 21 & 28<sup>th</sup>. Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>.

Please note that the views expressed in the newsletter are of the contributors and editors and do not represent those of Parkinson's UK.

#### **Robert (Bert) More**

Many of you will have heard the sad news about Bert More passing to higher service. He died suddenly on December the eleventh a short while after we celebrated his 90th birthday at our November meeting in Glenrothes.



Bert was an outstanding supporter of the Fife Branch. His contributions to raffles and coffee mornings have been extraordinary over the years. Bert and his close friend, John Herries, were regular attenders at our monthly meetings at our ceilidhs, special events and on our outings.

Bert was a very good footballer in his early years and played in several local teams very successfully. When he had to hang up his boots, he put his enthusiasm and knowledge of the beautiful game to good use by contributing at committee level and in particular into the Amateur Football League. He could be seen at most Amateur League matches often on the gate in all weathers. His support was greatly appreciated by the staff and players.



Bert also liked to travel to far flung places. He was presented with a medal for climbing the highest part of the Great Wall of China and was probably the first Kirkcaldyite to have his feet pedicured at a Tai Fish Spa! Bert even ate snake at a street vendor's stall in Honk Kong. He didn't know that was what he was eating until he realised that the slithery snakes were

not just for show at the back of the counter!

Bert's funeral took place at the Kirkcaldy Crematorium on Friday 31st December.