

Toronto Burns Club

On Saturday 21st January 2012, the Robert Burns Club of Toronto hosted their eleventh annual Burns Supper in the grand setting of the Granite Club with 180 attending.

This year the man who was responsible for the organization of these events, Gordon Hepburn, was sadly missed, having succumbed to cancer in June 2011.

The MC this year was David Campbell the President of the Scottish Studies Foundation, the sponsoring organization for the Guelph University Scottish Studies program.

David opened the evening by singing "The Star o' Rabbie Burns"

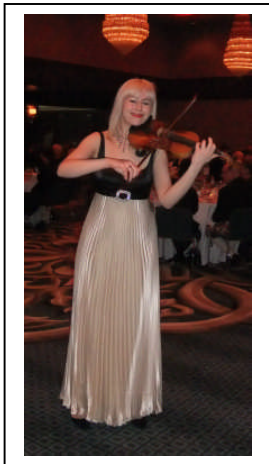
During the early part of the evening meal the outstanding young fiddler Stefanie Hutka serenaded us as she wandered amongst the tables. What must be almost unique amongst Burns suppers was the entry of the haggis, on a hod, piped in by the **Chef** of the Granite club no less!

The haggis was ably addressed by David Hunter, followed later by Douglas Gibson who delivered an immortal memory in which he related his Ayrshire upbringing to that of Burns.

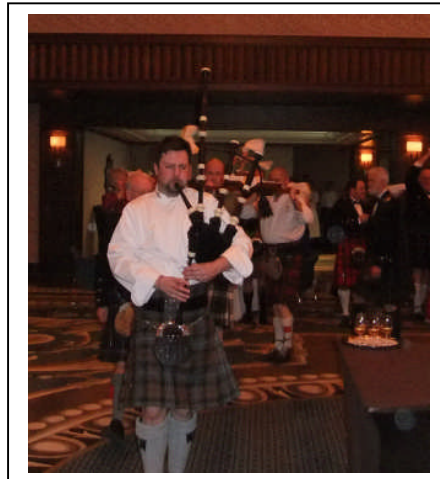
Ronnie O'Byrne delighted with an illustrated rendition of Tam O'Shanter, following which we were treated to a 'provocative' Toast to the Lassies by Prof. Graeme Morton from Guelph University, which was well responded to by Jodi Campbell, one of his graduate students.

The evening continued with country dancing for all, led by David Booz.

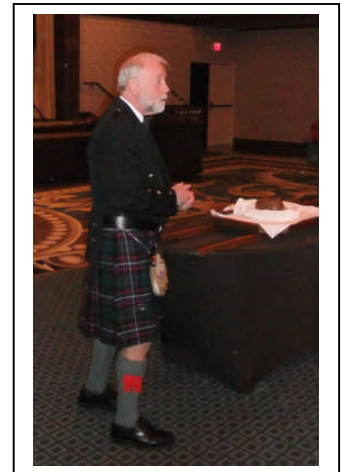
The evening concluded with a rousing Auld Lang Syne.



Fiddler Stefanie



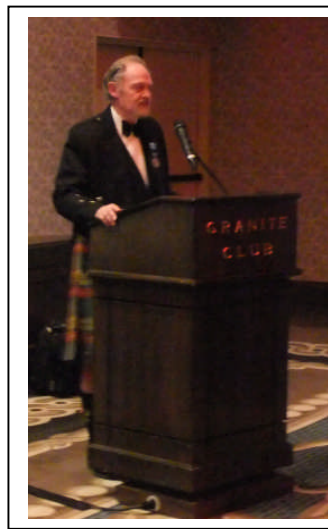
The Chef pipes in the haggis



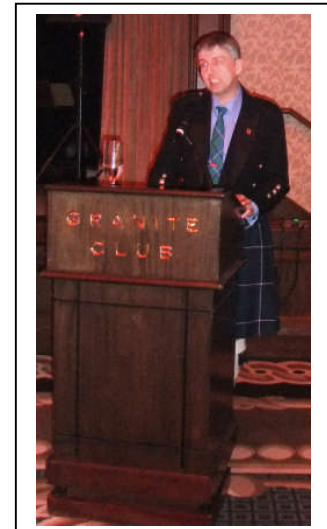
David Hunter's address



Ronnie O'Byrne's Ram O'Shanter



David Gibson' Immortal Memory



'To the Lassies' Graeme Morton