Probus talk 27 February 2025

Glasgow and Funny Poetry

David Vennard

Renowned after dinner speaker David Vennard gave a talk to Allander Probus on Glasgow Poems, some well-established and some he had written himself. It was much more than a poetry recitation; it was also an outstanding performance interspersed with jokes and observations on Glasgow life.

David was originally from Paisley, the "baseball bat capital" of Scotland and works in an IT section of Renfrewshire Council but has an amazing "stage presence" when handling an audience.

He regaled us with many poems:-

- "Where is the Glasgow that I used to know?"
- "I have a little Sat-Nav"
- "Address to a Fish Supper"
- "The Steamie"
- "Gonnae gie us a sang"
- "Santa's little Helpers"

and mixed in several jokes, mostly repeatable. For example :-

A man goes to the doctor who gives him some very bad news.
The patient says "I'd like a second opinion"

So, the doctor brings in a hamster that walks around the patient, and then a cat which does the same. Finally, he brings in a Labrador which sniffs the man's private parts.

"Well" says the doctor; "You've had a PET scan, a CAT scan and a Lab report. They all confirm what I told you! "

It was a marvellously entertaining talk, much appreciated by the Probus members.

David Vennard is an after-dinner speaker on a wide range of subjects (often done in costume)

· Robert Burns (of course)

· Robert W. Service (the poet of the Yukon whose epics “The Cremation of Sam McGee” and “Dangerous Dan McGrew” are well worth reading or performing.)

· Dr Rae (discoverer of the North West passage)

· The Huguenots

· Glasgow Tobacco Lords and Slavery.

· Victoria Crosses.

Mel Burt Feb 2025