

Burns Night Supper

Tartan Army

On 28th January, 140 people gathered in the New Beaconsfield Hall to celebrate Burns Night in true traditional style. The evening had

been organised down to the last thistle by David and Moi Nixon to raise funds for the Burford School Uganda Link.

Addressing a Haggis

Guests, wearing dress kilts, tartan sashes or a sprig of heather in honour of the evening were welcomed with a glass of 'bubbly', sipped to the sound of 'The Pipes'.

Once everyone had taken their seats the haggis was piped through the hall and John Michie, best known as D.I. Robbie Robson of 'Taggart' fame delivered an *Address to the Haggis* in suitably theatrical style. Ken Smith, another Scottish exile, read Robbie Burns' poem *To a Mouse*.

Then followed the traditional *Toast to the Lassies* proposed by Mike Watson, Myra McDougall, a very Scottish newcomer to the Wychwoods responded with her *Reply for the Lassies*.

The youngsters from Burford School, who had taken part in Uganda Exchange last summer, ably turned their skills to waiting on tables for the evening, lead by



David Leake who had prepared the meal.

Uganda Link

Hannah Nixon and Colin Muir gave a fascinating account of the trip to Uganda, illustrated with some of the group's

photographs. Knowing just how much the exchange was achieving at the school in Uganda encouraged everyone to spend generously. The raffle and auction of prizes, which had all been donated by local businesses, was well supported. The sum of £3,200 was raised to help bring the Ugandan students here to experience life in the Cotswolds and to continue building facilities in the Ugandan community.

Ringerike Ceilidh Band

Then the tables were pushed back to make way for the dancing. This is when the kilts came into their own as we all stepped out to the rousing music played by the 'Ringerike' ceilidh band.

We all had a marvellous time so a big 'thank you' to David, Moi, and the students and parents of the Uganda link for organising such a brilliant night. These events do not happen without a great deal of hard work beforehand to make everything run smoothly.

Christine Halliday