

SCOTTISH POLISH CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Edinburgh

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NEWSLETTER

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Editors: G W McLachlan & E R-Sharp

Visit to Scottish Parliament

I approached the new Scottish Parliament building at Holyrood with a feeling of curiosity.

Curiosity raised by the numerous articles written on the 'controversial' building and what on earth could have cost over £480 million without being made of gold!

I was joining an informal tour, organised by our chairperson, Izabella Brodzinska, and waited for our small party to congregate outside the strange bamboo-lined multi-level building. Our guide, Richard Welsh, who works full time as a researcher in the Parliament for one of our MSPs, had kindly agreed to take us around. This was an excellent opportunity to see 'behind the scenes' of normal parliamentary life as well as the 'public' face experience of normal tours.

Our tour moved through the public areas: low, large curved ceilings of concrete, amazing bright spacious halls inspired by boats, the very modern debating chamber and into the more private warren of meeting rooms and offices used by parliamentary workers and MSPs.

Our guide was able to move us round the whole building sharing with us its history, his thoughts and showing us the glossy and perhaps not so glossy aspects.

I think all of us were struck at how deceptively small the parliament appears from the outside, but then this was Enric Miralles' plan.

The Spanish architect who designed the building wanted to give the impression of a building 'rising from the ground'. It is a multi-level affair, a strange mix of natural and man-made; of concrete, glass, metal and timber. No matter what your taste in architecture, you will be struck by the imagination of this design.

I walked away feeling curiously settled; I could understand 'what all the hype was about' and I could see the magnificent level of detail that could have caused those mounting costs.

I think curiosity will lead many people to drive past the building, but if you want to really see the boundaries of imagination pushed, please take those steps inside and I think you will be amazed at what you find.



We had the chance to see where the normal unglamorous day-to-day work took place, in rather small offices much like any other office but again with an Enric Miralles twist.

For us 'tourists' it was a fascinating insight into our Scottish parliament building, to our guide it was another normal day at the office.

Megan Brodzinska-Readman

The Rededication Ceremony for the Polish School of Medicine Collection

This memorable occasion took place in the Chancellor's Building, Little France on 5th of April 2005 in the presence of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal.



*Photo.:Douglas Robertson Photography
©copyright: The University of Edinburgh*

Among those present were a few of the remaining ex-graduates of the Polish School of Medicine which was founded on 22nd March 1941, the Principal of the University Professor Timothy O'Shea, the Polish Consul General Mr. Wojciech Tycinski and representatives of various Polish organisations in Scotland and also members of the medical profession.

One of the main organisers of the event was Dr Maria Dlugolecka-Graham.

The historical collection is situated on several levels. There is a tastefully arranged display cabinet in the entrance vestibule and other memorabilia are displayed on different floors of the building. Not all the items are exhibited. Some are still being allocated places whilst others are undergoing conservation treatment. Some will be stored and exhibited periodically in a system of rotation.

After being taken round to see the exhibition, Princess Anne was greeted by the Principal and proceeded to unveil the dedication plaque and say a few words to the invited guests. Dr Maria Dlugolecka introduced many of those present to the Princess.

Finally a small group of us were fortunate to be taken around the collection by Maria who recounted many interesting aspects of the collection and explained the significance of the items. Her excellent knowledge on the subject of the historical collection and trust fund established in the 80's by Dr Tomaszewski and her enthusiastic commentary kept us all enthralled. Those wishing to visit the collection are able to do so on request.

Dr Ida Boron

"Saved from Oblivion"

Szymon Kobusinski a well known Polish photographer has presented his photographic exhibition at the Polish Embassy in London on 9th September 05. His intention was to document the achievements of Poles living abroad especially those who found themselves in UK after the 2nd World War and 60 years later not many are still here to tell their story. The chairperson of the Scottish Polish Cultural Association was invited to the opening of the exhibition by the Polish Ambassador in London.



Izabella Brodzinska at the Exhibition with her photograph

The Exhibition remained in London for a month and then was moved to Warsaw where it will be available for viewing at the Lazienki Palace for a month from 20th October 05.



*Izabella Brodzinska with Ryszard Kaczorowski
ex-president of Poland in exile*

Farewell and Welcome

In July we said goodbye to Polish Consul General Mr Tycinski and his wife Mrs Malgorzata Tycinska at a special farewell concert given Dr Colin Kingsley at the Edinburgh Society of Musicians.



massed fiddle orchestras. Our highly accomplished guest soloist plays in one of these when she is at home, and I am sure that many of the audience would be surprised to learn that she is not actually a professional musician. She played a highly convincing arrangement of Elgar's lovely Salut D'Amour, accompanied by Dr Kingsley, as well as several solo pieces by specialist Japanese and Italian composers for the instrument, including her own teacher. In between, Matthew sang a Mozart aria and Schuber's Who is Sylvia?, followed by witty renditions of two Gilbert and Sullivan favourites (This Helmet from Princess Ida and the Judge's Song from Trial by Jury), which Colin accompanied with such panache that the normal full orchestration was hardly missed. To conclude, all three artists came together to perform what is certainly the most famous piece of music to feature the mandolin, the Serenade from Mozart's opera Don Giovanni.

Gordon McLachlan

In August we welcomed to Edinburgh new Polish Consul General Mr Aleksander Dietkow and Mrs Monika Dietkow. Mr Dietkow is already known to many of our members from his previous posting to Edinburgh six years ago. Welcome back.



Mr Dietkow casting his vote during recent Polish Parliamentary elections

World Day of Prayer 4th March 2005

At the beginning of March the SPCA committee members had an opportunity to give talks on Poland. The occasion was the World Day of Prayer, which this year focused on Poland. There is nothing better than direct contact with the public, so we could not afford to miss the opportunity with which we were provided. As a result, we were present at three separate events in Edinburgh's churches. This short article will give you an insight into our exploits.

The first invitation came from the Church of Scotland Guild in Davidson's Mains. Mrs Rogers, who is the secretary there, welcomed Bogna Smerecka and myself on Monday 28 February to an audience of about 30 members of the Guild. I presented general information on Poland, including history, geography and a brief on contemporary Poland, including new Polish immigration to Britain. Bogna introduced the parish members to some aspects of Polish cultural life and talked about national customs. We met with a very warm welcome and an enthusiastic reception, and gave a similar talk on Friday 4 March at St Margaret's Catholic Church in Davidson's Mains. I was also invited to speak to the members of the Scottish Episcopal Church in Colinton Village.

During our talks we tried to include as much information about Poland as we could. The members of all three churches showed a deep interest in our country and culture. I took the liberty of advertising a book called "Last Report", written by an ex-combatant of the Polish Army, Marian Dlugolecki, and translated by his wife Mrs Dlugolecka. Thanks to Mr Dlugolecki's daughter Maria, I was able to introduce this book and I have to say that it made an impact on the listeners. I wish I had had more time to speak in detail about the activities of the different Polish organisations in Scotland, but this was not possible.

Spring Concert

In place of the usual annual Young Talent event, this year's spring concert at the Edinburgh Society of Musicians on 22nd May was given an international flavour by featuring the Japanese mandolin player Sawako Naito in addition to one of the stalwarts of the regular concerts, the baritone Matthew Stanhope. As ever, Colin Kingsley provided the piano accompaniments. I must admit I have never heard a mandolin concert before, though this gentle plucked instrument is capable of producing the most beguiling sounds, including startlingly dramatic arpeggios. Apparently it enjoys great popularity in Japan, where there are orchestras with up to 100 mandolins: comparable, I suppose, with Scotland's

We discovered that there is plenty of interest in our country and we certainly should take advantage of this. Bogna and I fully enjoyed giving these talks and feel satisfied that our small input may have helped raise Poland's profile. It was a good opportunity to talk to people who remember our predecessors very well. Lots of Scots had Polish neighbours, or went to school with Polish folk. Despite being young at the time they still remember the charming manners of the Polish soldiers stationed around Scotland.

It certainly took some time and an effort to prepare these talks. Nonetheless, I think it was very worthwhile. I thank all those who showed interest in our country and made time to listen to us.

Jola Debicka-MacLennan

“Polonez” from Budapest Monday 24th April 2005

My husband and I have been members of the Scottish Polish Cultural Association for a number of years and have attended many of the wonderful and diverse activities in which they are heavily engaged. One of the most recent entertainments must surely deserve special mention.

A young Polish/Hungarian group 'Polonez' were travelling from Budapest to Edinburgh to give two performances in the Roxy Art Theatre. As a great adherent to any form of national dance and music, I was very much drawn to this attraction and booked tickets for the Monday performance.

You will remember that our most beloved Pope John Paul II had fallen ill and subsequently died that weekend, and the whole world it seemed, all felt very bereft and saddened.

On Monday, the day we were to attend the concert, I felt somewhat troubled about being entertained, whilst in mourning for the passing of Pope John Paul.

My fears evaporated immediately when Mrs Izabella Brodzinska sensibly pointed out that Pope John Paul had so loved the youth and would most assuredly himself be watching from his window in heaven. So with a much lighter heart, I went on Monday evening and was wonderfully entertained by this young company which portrayed such talent and skill. The youngsters in this group 'Polonez' have rightfully, after performing in several European countries such as Germany, France, Italy and Sweden been earning quite a name for themselves - indeed have gained a considerable international reputation.

The entire concert was lively, colourful and vivacious both in movement and in costume and you could see in their faces how they themselves loved whatever dance they were performing. Full marks too to the choreographer for managing so many

varied movements in what was a considerably confined space.

Before giving us this marvellous rendition of Polish folklore, the group showed respect and reverence to the memory of our beloved Pope John Paul by one minute silence and then by one of the company singing very sweetly 'Panis Angelicus' (Bread of Angels).



I am sure the whole audience, like myself, was delighted that we did not miss this opportunity to witness and show our appreciation for such an enthusiastic group and we wish them every success in the future.

Barbara (Nowosielska) Conboy.

Beyond The Front Line

The SPCA's autumn lecture, *Beyond the Front Line*, was given on 18th November 04 by Lieutenant-Colonel William McNair, the Honorary Consul of Jordan, at the Polish Ex-Servicemen's Club. Illustrated with both slides and videos, this fascinating talk concentrated on the years 1980-2, when Lt-Col McNair worked for BRIXMIS, a Cold War intelligence unit based in West Berlin - and the adjoining East German city of Potsdam. This curious arrangement was part of the post-war settlement which resulted in the division of Germany into four zones of occupation - which duly became two hostile states. As part of the same agreement, Soviet intelligence officers were able to operate in West Berlin and West Germany.

Being able to move around on the opposite side of the Iron Curtain obviously provided unique opportunities for collecting intelligence, and Lt-Col McNair described with wit and humour the almost surreal circumstances in which he operated, and the constant cat-and-mouse games with the Soviets, whose aim, understandably enough, was to control and lead astray his unit whenever possible. His period of duty had an important Polish dimension, as it coincided with SPAHI, the operation to watch the troop movements of the Soviet Union during the period which saw the emergence of the Solidarity trade union in Poland and the subsequent imposition of Martial Law by President Jaruzelski.

Gordon McLachlan

35 years of the Scottish Polish Cultural Association

The purpose of the Scottish Polish Cultural Association is to introduce Poland and Polish culture to Scottish people and to make Scotland more accessible for Polish visitors and emigrants. To do this we organise exhibitions, performances, excursions and events like meetings, national celebrations etc. We use English as the main language for all events in order to make it easier for our friends who represent many different nationalities.

The Davidsons founded the Society 35 years ago. Mr Davidson (Dawidowicz) - a Polish ex-serviceman - came to Scotland during the war. He met and married a local woman. They communicated in English as the Polish language is exceptionally difficult to learn.

Mrs Davidson was driven to set up the Society after visiting her husband's home country and encountering Polish traditions, arts and crafts. She was fascinated by the products of this culture, so she formed a collection of artefacts and brought them to Scotland. She also persuaded the curator of Museums, Mr Couttes, to organise a first exhibition - "The Great Polish Amber Show".

Richard Demarco, a great enthusiast as well as supporter of Polish culture and art (particularly theatre, film and paintings), worked hard with the society to encourage young talents to flourish.

The society includes many members: for example graphic artist Jurek Putter (whose father was Polish soldier) is its vice-president.

Although we are not a charitable organisation we have, in the past, raised funds to assist various Polish causes, such as the "Mazowiecki Fund", the restoration of the Royal Castle in Warsaw, and children's hospitals.

The society stopped its activities during Martial Law but come together again in 1989, thanks to the work of Mrs Elzbieta Rychlik-Sharp, Mrs Teresa Dzikowska and Mr Roman Iwaskiewicz-Wight (Polish soldier from Monte Cassino), who presided over the SPCA in 1989. Because of his involvement we had Polish children at the Paralympics in Scotland.

Mr Iwaskiewicz-Wight was succeeded by Dr Maria Musur-Grieve. She, amongst other things, introduced the annual Carnival Ball. For the last 10 years the chairperson has been Mrs Izabella Brodzinska. With her help the society has been able to re-start the Polish Saturday School.

With the help of our Honorary President, Dr Colin Kingsley, we have launched yearly shows to promote talented young musicians with Polish backgrounds.

The society helps Polish people in need overseas by sending money and medical supplies, as well as computers for rural schools. The most recent idea for supplying computers for schools came from Mr Czeslaw Kruk.

Our Society has to deal with a high workload, lots of responsibilities and little time, as all our contributors work on a voluntary basis. We hope to continue our hard work for another 35 years and more.



In 2004 our efforts were recognised by the Association of Journalists of the Republic of Poland and we were awarded a silver statuette.

Izabella Brodzinska

Events At The Roxy

The Roxy Arts Centre is now well-established as a venue for events with a Polish dimension. To date, the most important has surely been the week-long exhibition Poland at War 1939-1945. This was opened on 3rd May at a reception hosted by the Polish Consul-General, Wojciech Tycinski, whose opening speech was followed by others by the Deputy Lord Provost, Councillor Steve Cardownie and by Colonel Jozef Korabowski, the most senior representative of the Polish Veterans' Committee in Scotland. The exhibition itself covered the walls of the aisles of the former church, and featured both photographs and documentary information illustrating the course of the war. As the Consul-General pointed out, Poland fought for the longest time, was subjected to the most vicious occupation, and suffered the heaviest proportional casualties of any country involved.

A couple of months before, the Roxy hosted a series of performances entitled Witkacy Idiota, which portrayed the famous Polish cultural polymath Stanislaw Ignacy Witkiewicz, otherwise known as Witkacy. Among his achievements was the creation of a Theatre of the Absurd long before the term came into general use through the works of Beckett and Ionescu. This entertainment, which was loosely based around one of Witkacy's own plays, was devised and directed by David W W Johnstone, who

played the part of the psychologist to Sandy Grierson's portrayal of the playwright himself. Both actors gave virtuoso performances of roles which must surely be very demanding from a physical point of view alone.

Gordon McLachlan

Happy Birthday, Colin

Many happy returns to our Honorary President, Dr Colin Kingsley, who celebrated his 80th birthday at the Reid Concert Hall on 16th April. The first half of the concert was given by some of Colin's former pupils and colleagues. University organist Dr John Kitchen began by playing Bach's Fantasia and Fugue in C minor. The hall's custom-built Neo-Baroque organ has a reputation of being a fearsomely difficult instrument to play, but this was certainly not evident in an excellently paced performance. Next, pianist Peter Evans - a well-known figure in Edinburgh music circles - and his violinist partner Ulrike Fenner played Aus der Heimat by Smetana, followed by three light-hearted arrangements of American songs. Jeremy Begbie, an Anglican clergyman and academic, showed his musical gifts by playing piano music by Kenneth Leighton, who for many years was Professor of Music at Edinburgh University. Then Angela Brownridge, a pianist who has gained an international reputation, ended the first half with stirring renditions of one of Chopin's Polonaises, followed by the same composer's Ballade No.4.

The second half was a family affair, with Colin very much to the fore. First of all he accompanied the soprano Irene Drummond in songs by Domenik Argento, Rirchard Hageman and Ned Rorem. He then played the piano reduction of the orchestral score of Saint-Saens' Cello Concerto in A minor, in which the solo part was taken by his granddaughter Eleanor Fraser, whose mother Nicky was responsible for organizing the concert. Colin's other daughter, Veronica Wilson, then played three piano pieces by Schubert, before joining her father for the original duet versions of three of Brahms' Hungarian Dances. These life-enhancing works are clearly great fun to play, and they brought the concert to a suitably festive conclusion.



However, there was more to come. To mark Colin's long commitment to the local Polish community, the Polish Consul General, Wojciech Tycinski, and the Chairperson of the Scottish Polish Cultural Association, Iza Brodzinska, made a surprise presentation of a pewter tankard. There was also an email message from the distinguished international conductor Donald Runnicles, which paid fulsome tribute to Colin's skills and commitment as a teacher.

Gordon McLachlan

Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra in the Usher Hall 12 February 2005

The International Classics Season at the Usher Hall featured a visit from the Warsaw Philharmonic, the national orchestra of Poland. The orchestra regularly participates in the International F. Chopin Competition and the Warsaw Autumn Festival. Apart from outstanding Polish artists, the Warsaw Philharmonic has hosted many eminent soloists from all over the world, including Nigel Kennedy, Yehudi Menuhin, Anne-Sophie Mutter, David Oistrakh and Artur Rubinstein, among many others. The Edinburgh concert was conducted by Antoni Wit, who has been the Warsaw Philharmonic's Artistic Director since January 2002. An interesting programme of popular pieces by Rossini, Greig and Saint-Saens drew a large audience to the Usher Hall on a cold Saturday night.

The opening piece was the famous William Tell Overture by Rossini, which was played with an exuberant manner and energy. The music was overwhelming, with a great participation of cellos and later on an amazing sound of flutes and saxophones. This was followed by the Greig Piano Concerto in A minor, in which the soloist was Ewa Poblocka, one of the finest Polish pianists and a former winner at the Chopin competition. She played with high professionalism and a great feeling for Greig's music. The music was deeply moving and the combined performance of the pianist and the orchestra was enthusiastically received.

The third work was the Saint-Saens Organ Symphony No 3 in C Minor, with John Kitchen playing the Usher Hall's amazing organ. It certainly was very different from the two previous pieces and to most of the classical music I have listened to before. It filled the audience an omnipotent power of the organ. John Kitchen, a well-known Edinburgh musician, played brilliantly and stamped his own mark on the music.

The audience didn't want the orchestra and the conductor to leave the stage too quickly, and they were duly rewarded with three encores. I certainly enjoyed the concert, and so did my companion. It brought a fresh outlook to famous classical pieces, and I'm convinced that lots of you would agree with me.

Jola Debicka-MacLennan

Traditional Annual Dinner Dance

The annual dance of the Scottish Polish Cultural Association took place on Friday 4th February 2005 in the Hilton Grosvenor Hotel, which hosted this event for the fourth time. The honorary guests of the evening were the Deputy Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Councillor Steve Cardownie, representing the City Council; the Polish Consul, Boguslawa Podgorska, with her husband Professor Wojciech Podgorski, representing the Polish Consulate; and the chairman of the SPK, Marek Straczynski, with his wife Teresa.

Councillor Cardownie was resplendent in traditional Highland dress, wearing his badge and chain of office. In his short, friendly speech, which was very sympathetic towards Poland, he talked about a recent visit to Krakow by Lord Provost Councillor Lesley Hinds and the links between Krakow and Edinburgh. He added that he himself had also visited Poland.

Dancing started after a tasty supper. It was nice to watch everyone having a good time. A band called "China Blue" provided the entertainment. The musicians turned out to be true professionals. The choice and order of dance music was excellent: ballroom dancing tunes from the 60s and 70s intertwined with traditional Scottish music. Such music suited everyone regardless of age or taste. Special thanks should go to Bogna Smerecka who suggested that "China Blue" should play and sing at our annual dance.

There was a break for a raffle halfway through the evening. There were plenty of nice prizes, such as dinner for two at "Guiliano's" restaurant; pictures by Richard Wawro, who presented them to the winners himself; Polish crystal and amber gifts; and, of course, various bottles of alcohol, many of them from Poland. On behalf of the organisers I wish to express my thanks to everyone who donated the raffle prizes.

After the raffle, dancing resumed with even more enthusiasm and vigour. The festivities continued till well after midnight. Joyful guests were sorry to leave the dance floor at the end of the evening. On their way out they thanked the organisers for a really successful and enjoyable evening.

Izabella Brodzinska

Christmas Party

The traditional "Mikolajki" party took place in December 2004 in the SPK Club, Drummond Place, Edinburgh. This event, organized by the Scottish Polish Cultural Association, gathered members of the Polish society from Edinburgh and the surrounding area, their Scottish friends and invited guests of various nationalities. The Polish Consul-General Wojciech Tycinski with his wife Malgorzata

and the Polish Vice-Consul Mrs Boguslawa Podgorska with her husband Wojciech were also present. The room on the first floor of the SPK Club, where the party took place, looked really festive. A beautifully decorated Christmas tree and shiny decorations on the walls totally transformed the look of this room, gave it a special appearance and created a festive mood.

According to tradition, the guests were welcomed with an excellent punch superbly prepared by members of the SPCA committee. During the evening hot, tasty *bigos* was served with Polish bread. Everyone liked the *bigos* - and no wonder, as it was truly excellent and very well prepared by Mrs Izabella Brodzinska, the Chairwoman of the SPCA. As in previous years many guests had been expecting a tasty meal and good alcoholic drinks. They were definitely not disappointed as, apart from the *bigos*, there were nibbles and sweets as well as good wine and non-alcoholic drinks. Many guests finished their meal with coffee or tea.

Good music and Christmas carols were on offer too. The performance of two talented young ladies was the highlight of the evening. Aimee Bell, a pupil at Fettes College (and known to many from her previous appearances at the SPK Club), provided the piano accompaniment during the carol singing. Then Mrs Alina Brzezinska played her harp beautifully. Mrs Brzezinska is a frequent visitor to Fettes College - not, however, as a student but as a harp teacher. Traditional Christmas carols such as "Cicha Noc", "Lulajze Jezuniu", "Pojdźmy wszyscy do stajenki" etc sounded really special accompanied by such wonderful sounds. The "singing party" was led by Mr Kenneth Jack, who is well-known for his musical talents.

The main attraction of the evening was, of course, Santa Claus handing out Christmas presents from his big sack. As in previous years, Santa was skilfully impersonated by Mr Wojciech Lubienski. Who could possibly play that role as well as him? The room became even more noisy and lively during the time when the guests were opening their nicely wrapped presents. I think everyone who attended last year's Christmas party will agree that the event was exceptionally successful. Nobody was left disappointed. On the contrary, the guests thanked Mrs Izabella Brodzinska and the members of SPCA committee for such a wonderfully organised evening as they were leaving, making it a date for Christmas 2005!

Violetta Bell

Thank you from "Polonez"

FAO: Mr Wojciech Tycinski, Polish Consulate, Edinburgh

On behalf of the "Polonez" Group from Budapest I would like to express to you my sincere thanks for your financial support during our visit to Edinburgh. Our members very fondly remember their stay in Scotland and unanimously agree that it was their best trip ever. I hope you enjoyed our concerts. Perhaps we will return to beautiful Scotland in future.

FAO: The Scottish Polish Cultural Association, Edinburgh

On behalf of the "Polonez" Group from Budapest I would like to thank you for organising our stay with you and our concerts. We received a lot of genuine help and support from the organisers and in particular from Mr and Mrs Brodzinscy. Mrs Izabella Brodzinska made us very welcome, was looking after us very well and ensured that our visit was excellent, for which we are very, very grateful. We also received a memorable book on Edinburgh, to the delight of our young members.

FAO: Mr Ken Jack

Thank you for creating a nice atmosphere and helping around at our concerts

FAO: "Nasza Dolina" Group and the Scottish-Polish Community in Edinburgh

Thank you very much for coming to our concerts. We hope that you will remember fondly the time spent with the "Polonez" Group. Once again we wish to thank you for everything to all who contributed towards our trip to Scotland. We wish to thank a man who helped to organise our trip to St. Andrews and who was also our guide from and to the airport.

With "Polonia" Greetings
Katarzyna Balogh
Manager of "Polonez" Group



THANKS TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Ida Boron, Gordon McLachlan, Jola Debicka-McLennan, Barbara Conboy, Izabella Brodzinska, Violetta Bell, Elizabeth Rychlik-Sharp

SPCA COMMITTEE

Mrs Izabella Brodzinska – chairperson
Mrs Jolanta Debicka-MacLennan – vice-chairperson
Mrs Teresa Dzikowska – honorary treasurer
Mrs Elizabeth Rychlik-Sharp – honorary secretary

Committee members:

Mrs Violetta Bell, Mr Kazimierz Boron, Mrs Grace Moss,
Mrs Maria Musur-Grieve, Mrs Bogumila Smerecka.

SPCA DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Saturday 29 October 05, 10.00 am – Late Autumn Borders Walk

Thursday 17 November 05, 7.30 pm – Talk by Gordon McLachlan on Polish Lithuanian Union 1386 to 1795

Sunday 4th December 05 – "Pastoralki" directly from Poland

February 2006 – Traditional Annual Dinner Dance (*details to be confirmed*)

Members will receive details of all of the above in personal mailings.