

ICE DINNER GLASGOW  
27 NOVEMBER 1997  
Vote of Thanks by J P McCafferty

ICE/15.1

Ladies & Gentlemen, Honoured and Eminent Guests.

Thrust into the limelight at this late stage in the proceedings, <sup>my role</sup> ~~like~~ <sup>that of</sup> the cross eyed <sup>scanning</sup> javelin thrower, pushed onto the field ~~was more to do with clearing away the crowd~~ <sup>as the Highland Games draw to a close</sup> than winning any medals ~~and clear the way for the ceremony~~. I shall not detain you for long.

A few years ago at another dinner in another place, Bill McAlonan, a past chairman of this Association, gave a vote of thanks in which he declared that the last time he had been that close to <sup>such</sup> eminence was when the Pope visited Bellahouston Park.

Tonight we can bask in the reflected <sup>glow</sup> light of even greater eminence as we are honoured by the presence of <sup>Rt Hon the</sup> The Lord Provost of Glasgow Pat Lally, The President, Vice President and Director General of the Institution of Civil Engineers, The President of the Institution of Highways and Transportation, The Deputy Lieutenant of Renfrewshire, the Former Sheriff of Glasgow and a host of chairmen and other eminent guests.

Gentlemen, thank <sup>ball of</sup> you for being here with us this evening. Lord Provost ~~I cannot recall any previous holder of your high office being with us at this Dinner. I hope you have enjoyed yourself and trust that future Lords Provost will be able to join us on similar special occasions.~~

*add my thank to  
I'd like to thank you for officiating at the opening of the Road Show today with the President of Sir AC and the President of IHT  
Prof John Woolton*

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure that you will wish to join with me in showing our appreciation to all of those who <sup>have</sup> worked behind the scenes to make this such a thoroughly enjoyable and successful evening.

Particular thanks are due to our Honorary Dinner Secretary David Hutchison and our Honorary Treasurer Dom Gallagher who, between them, have organised and managed this whole event.

*during these occasional difficult moments*

We are indebted to our toastmaster Mr John Hollingsworth for keeping good order as usual

Thanks are due too to the Banqueting Manager and staff of the Forte Posthouse Glasgow for a splendid meal served with the usual deftness, speed and good humour. ~~Will also say a~~ particular word of thanks to Chef Bogie who has been with the hotel for 25 years this year and who must have looked after us at every dinner during that period.

*I can see that they that they have been up all night staffing christmas trees through the ceiling  
for our delight*

~~The chairman of the Association, Sir John Hollingsworth, has made a most excellent speech.~~

Sir Alan, we have enjoyed hearing your views on the future of the Institution and the industry, we trust that you have enjoyed your stay in Scotland at the start of your Presidential year and we wish you good fortune in your travels around the UK and overseas.

Ladies and Gentlemen, our speakers, **Jim Wardrop** Deputy Lieutenant of Renfrewshire and **Sheriff Irvine Smith**, have entertained us royally and with the best of <sup>intelligence and gentle</sup> good <sup>scots</sup> humour. Gentlemen, thank you for making us laugh so much, we are delighted to have you with us this evening.

The Honorary Treasurer has asked me to say how particularly grateful he is that <sup>both of</sup> you have <sup>as</sup> waived your usual fees in these difficult times; he says that his will help us to get some really excellent speakers next year.

**Sheriff**, you will be interested to know that we have included in Sir Alan's itinerary for tomorrow, a visit to the equestrian statue in Woodlands Road of that other famous Glasgow Sheriff, Lobby Dosser, where Sir Alan will be sworn in as an Honorary Deputy Sheriff of Calton Creek.

Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen to our Chairman **Walker Hamilton** upon whose broad shoulders the ultimate responsibility for this dinner has rested. We are fortunate to have him as our Chairman not only for tonight but for the coming year. Quite apart from his Institution and business interests, Walker is a Past Chairman of the Scottish Branch of the Chartered Institute of Building, a Director of the Bridgeton Burns Club, Past Captain of his Golf Club and an enthusiastic sportsman.

*In fact,*  
Earlier this evening over pre dinner drinks, he told us that he's a little stiff from Bowling. This surprised us actually, because we all thought he <sup>came</sup> from Bishopbriggs!

Walker, many thanks for your superb address to the Haggis, for your excellent choice of speakers and for your very able Chairmanship of the dinner. Please accept our best wishes for your year in office.

*Thank you for attending in greater numbers than ever before and for the generous way that you*  
Ladies and Gentlemen please give a hearty round of applause to all concerned. *have responded to the speakers.*

Thank you and goodnight.