



To: Members and Friends of the British Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce
From: Bill Drysdale, Chairman

10th January 2012

Dear Colleagues,

Johnnie Walker Burns Night Dinner in traditional Scottish Style
Friday 27th January 2012 at the Sofia Hilton Hotel – Drinks Reception 7.30 pm, Dinner 8.15

I have great pleasure in cordially inviting you and your spouse, partner and/or guests to celebrate with us the 253rd Birthday of the famous Scottish romantic poet Robert Burns. While enjoying the authentic menu of Scottish smoked salmon, haggis, neeps (turnips) and tatties (potatoes), followed by best Bulgarian roast sirloin of beef (with a vegetarian option) and a Celtic dessert – all washed down with Johnnie Walker Scotch whisky and your choice of Bulgarian wines, there will be non-stop entertainment of live Bagpipe music, recital of favourite short poems, topical speeches in a historical context, and many toasts. Special ritual surrounds greeting and opening the Haggis, airlifted in from the remote highland glen where it was shot in freezing weather a few days earlier. Dress will be Scottish Kilts (owned or borrowed), national costume of Bulgaria or other countries, or ‘smart casual’ as preferred.

Our main Sponsor for the event is Johnnie Walker of Kilmarnock in Scotland. Ayrshire, where Kilmarnock is located, is the home county for Robert Burns, the reason we are getting together on the 27th. He would approve as he often enjoyed a night out with friends and whisky. To appreciate the extraordinary respect which Scots pay to their National Bard (Poet), and to see how the evening will be organised, it is worth visiting http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burns_supper.

Attendance is mandatory for Scots in Bulgaria and every other person from wherever on the planet with a Scottish (eg Mac.....) name or Scottish ancestry however remote. We hope many Bulgarians will come, to share and enjoy our traditions. English, Irish and Welsh neighbours if well-behaved, and Americans, Canadians, Australians and all other Anglo-Saxons, as well as people from every other country in the world, are also warmly welcome.

Please reply to our Executive Director, Ralitsa Gospodinova, as soon as possible and in any event no later than Monday 23rd January at office@bbcc.bg to confirm your attendance and how many places you would like. A charge of BGN 60 will be made for members of the BBCC and BGN 70 for non-members. Please remit this using the bank details shown below, to the BBCC, no later than 24th January. A choice of wines will be available to buy in cash for your group or table. There will be an auction sale during the dinner of framed Scottish historical and landscape prints, in aid of the Cedar Foundation. I look forward to seeing you at the Hilton.

Best regards,

Bill Drysdale
Chairman - British Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce (BBCC)
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