

Swiss Tour profiles

Norman Ainslie

Born 1956

From Dunblane, a small town in Perthshire, and have lived in the area all my life. My grandfather was a keen curler and lived in Port of Menteith, a short walk from the Lake, and a great place for curling.

Married to Frances for 40 years. Since retiring from the family engineering supplies business in 2013, my days are filled with curling, cycling, playing golf, and gardening. I enjoy travel (all over the world but I have never visited Switzerland), food and wine.

My home club is Sauchie & Bannockburn based at The Peak in Stirling. I also curl for Dunblane and the Old Fellows curling clubs. As a level 2 coach, I enjoy coaching Stirling Young Curlers, the Stirling Virtual Club, and school groups.

I am really looking forward to meeting fellow curlers and making new friends.

Basil Baird

Born 1961

I have lived around Edinburgh all my life, for the past 34 years with my favourite wife Anne. We have 3 grown up children: Scott, Mhairi and David - all curlers.

My diverse career includes pig farming, mushroom production, snail and worm growing. Currently grow cereals and run a haulage and storage business with Anne and Scott.

Have curled at various levels over the years without notable success other than taking part in the 1985 Glasgow Silver Broom Men's World Championships (swept the first stone at the opening ceremony along with seven others). I was Midcalder CC President from 1999-2001 and I am currently the Midlothian Province President.

Other hobbies include game/clay pigeon shooting and golf. Quite partial to quality cheese and chocolate so looking forward to the tour.

Harry Brodie

Born 1955

Retired last year after over 40 years in the petrochemical industry and I wonder how I had time to actually work!

Played cricket at school before taking up Football Refereeing which I did for over 20 years. Officiated at a Norway v Brazil match which was the highlight of my career. Love hillwalking

and biggest thrill to date was going to Nepal, seeing Mount Everest close up and getting to over 19,000ft on a nearby mountain.

Took up Curling in 2007; mother club is Abercorn CC and also curl regularly with Linlithgow CC and Buchlyvie CC. I am a Level 2 Umpire and also Competitions Convenor for the Scottish Wheelchair Curling Association.

Married to Michele who also curls and umpires! Love to read detective novels, going to the movies, walking and my garden. This will be my first ever visit to Switzerland!

Robin Copland

Born 1953

First played in Haymarket ice rink in Edinburgh in 1969 and immediately fell in love with the game. Curled competitively for many years and was lucky enough to represent Scotland in the 1989 World Championships in Milwaukee. Toured Canada in the centenary tour in 2003. Though I played against many Swiss teams, notably the Attinger and Tanner rinks, I have never curled in Switzerland.

I am a member of Currie and Balerno CC and look after the club's website. Founder member of the Reform CC in Glasgow and a past-president of the Glasgow Young Curlers Club and the Edinburgh Curling Club. Now serving on the Area Standing Committee of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club.

I am married to Lois, a fellow curler whom I met in Stranraer Curling Club; we have three grown-up children. I golf – but not very well!

David Cunningham

Born 1968

Started curling at university and was awarded a "colour"; played for only five seasons before moving to Guernsey as a Chartered Accountant with a Big 4 firm - no curling there! Took the sport up again in 2013 after returning to Edinburgh. Currently Secretary of both SIAE CC and Midlothian Province of RCCC; also play with Merchiston CC - all based at Murrayfield Curling Rink.

Although qualified as a CA, I spent most of my career in HR, recruitment and office management roles.

Since retiring in 2012, have volunteered at Paralympics, Commonwealth Games, Ryder Cup, European Curling Champs and European Diving Champs. Used to love running (completed nine marathons) but bad knees ended that fun. Still enjoy watching many sports, going to music gigs, quizzing and viewing art.

In a relationship with the lovely Debbie and I help my dad to maintain his independence.

Mike Dick

Born 1957

I have curled for more than 45 years, winning the Scottish Championship in 1981 and 1982 with Colin Hamilton. Also been runner-up in the Scottish, Scottish Junior and Scottish Mixed and have had a few successes more recently on the Seniors tour.

Married to Alison and we have two grown up sons, Jamie and Colin. All three are also past national curling champions.

Away from the ice rink, I play golf and sing with an Edinburgh amateur choir.

I'm a consulting actuary advising pension schemes and have served on various councils and committees for the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries.

Trevor Dodds

Born 1957

Former President of three clubs as well as Midlothian Province. Past member of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club board, now on the Area Standing Committee. I have been President of Edinburgh Curling Club and am heavily involved in the refurbishment of Murrayfield Curling Rink.

Toured Canada in 2003. Represented Scotland at World Championships at Oberstdorf. Won many national events including Senior Mixed with the tour captain.

Looking forward to the tour.

David Hardie

Born 1960

Married to Fiona and have three children: David (a designer based in London), Aline (a florist with her own business based in Edinburgh) and Grant (a full time curler based in Glasgow). David and Aline both got married in 2019 and I am looking forward to what the future will bring along.

I have curled for over 40 years and enjoyed some success but now see my participation as mainly social, although I still play in the Scottish Seniors. Recently enjoyed spectating and have travelled to numerous overseas events including the Olympics in Sochi and several World Championships.

I am a Civil Engineer and run my own construction company which I started in 1996. Also enjoy golf (12 handicap), car rallying (where I compete in the British Tarmac Championship) and the usual eating and drinking.

Iain Jamieson

Born 1955

Curl with Dumfries Curling Club, based at the Ice Bowl in Dumfries.

Married, with a daughter and a son. Started working career as an electronics engineer, then software engineering and finally information technology, now retired.

Hobbies include a lot of curling (playing, coaching and umpiring) and mountain bikes in the summer.

Jim Lawson

Born 1956

St Boswells Curling Club. Married to Carol, who is involved in teaching, with a son Angus, who lives and works in Glasgow.

For the first years of my life, I lived in Angus thereafter in the Scottish Borders. I have been very lucky as farming is both my work and my hobby, and I have been doing it all my life. The two "T's" have been very kind to me – "Tatties and Teaching".

Encouraged by my parents, I started curling at the age of 16 at Borders Ice Rink, Kelso; have won and lost a few games there and all over Scotland. I am looking forward to representing Scotland and playing overseas with new team members. The biggest disappointment in my curling career was being dropped from the Borders team to play in the Corstorphine Friendly!!

Brian McArtney

Born 1951

Married to Jane with two married sons and three grandchildren. I am a retired technology and pupil care and support teacher. Before becoming a teacher, I was a qualified engineer.

Presently, I am the President of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club (Scottish Curling) and am the Vice-Captain of the 2020 Tour to Switzerland. Member of Letham Grange Curling Club since 1999, playing at Forfar Ice Rink. I have been my Club and Province President twice. Organised the 2014 incoming Swiss tour when it came to Forfar. Qualified coach and have developed schools and wheelchair curling in my area.

I also enjoy playing golf in good conditions at Carnoustie Golf links as well as gardening during the summer.

Rod Mickel

Born 1951

Married to Pauline, with 2 sons and 2 grandchildren. Live in Crieff, a small town on the edge of the Highlands in Scotland. Formerly a lawyer, and thereafter worked in a wine shop.

My curling club is Crieff & Ochertyre. I have been Secretary, Treasurer, and President in the past, and am now Vice-President for 2nd time. A member of the Area Standing Committee of Scottish Curling, I am a level 2 qualified coach, employed at Dewars Ice Rink in Perth, and also a qualified umpire.

Hobbies include playing bridge, hill walking and riding motorcycles.

Robert Robertson

Born 1954

Married to Jean (a curler), I have a son David, daughter Lynsey, son-in-law Scott and a beautiful granddaughter Amelia.

Curling for over 37 years and an active member of Eddleston Curling Club in Peeblesshire Province. Immediate Past President of the Province and have been Club President on 4 occasions. A highlight of my Presidency was carrying the Scottish flag when the Canadian tourists visited Edinburgh for the Strathcona Cup in 2018. As a keen curler, I also find time to develop the sport and am a qualified Level 1 coach with Edinburgh Curling School.

Have recently retired from my own business improvement consultancy and now have time to enjoy my granddaughter, a future curler in the making!

Wide range of interests include walking, reading crime and horror novels, travelling and watching a number of sports – football, rugby and, of course, curling.

Stewart Robertson

Born 1949

New Abbey Curling Club. Married to Liz, with three children and four grandchildren. I am a retired lorry driver/mechanic.

I have curled for over 50 years at club and national level and now umpire up to international level. Was a member of the Scottish touring team for the Strathcona Cup tour to Canada in 2013 and I am very much looking forward to being part of the 2020 tour to Switzerland.

Other interests include rally motorsport.

David Roy

Born 1968

I live in the beautiful and surprisingly diverse county of Fife, shuffling through life on the back of managing the bucolic and surprisingly mixed Crail Golfing Society, the world's seventh oldest golf club. Interests include larking about on stage in community theatre, playing about on a golf course and curling. Currently the President of the Club Managers Association of Europe and also currently married to Jenny, who is an award-winning Master Saddler and keen horse rider. She is also a curler and we won our club 'Pairs' competition this year.

Ian Sankey

Born 1951

Originally from Perth. I am a retired Physical Education teacher and live in Glenrothes in Fife. My wife Meg and I have three children: Alistair, Marianne and Michael. Sadly, Alistair died aged 21.

I was introduced to Curling by my doctor who diagnosed that I was too old to play Rugby at 30. "Be at Kirkcaldy Ice Rink by 17:30 on Monday" and a curler was born. I retired from Rugby aged 58!

Member of both Markinch and Raith & Abbotshall curling clubs, playing at Kirkcaldy and Kinross ice rinks. President of Markinch Curling Club and also highly involved in the 'Curling's Cool' programme, visiting schools to give talks and coaching. On tour, what I'll enjoy most will be the friendly games, played in a competitive spirit, good fun and making new friends both with fellow-tourists and our Swiss hosts.

Enjoy Rugby and travel. I am a long-suffering supporter of St. Johnstone Football Club in Perth.

Mike Silvera

Born 1949

I have been curling for over forty years, with my local club Bishopshire all that time, and have been a very successful club curler. I have also had the privilege to visit Canada and Japan to watch my daughter Michelle play in the World Junior Curling Championships, which she won in Japan.

Worked in the grain trade for twenty years, before coming home to run the family farm, where I work alongside my son Martin. We grow a variety of vegetables and cereals on the farm, as well as operating a very successful farm shop and coffee shop. Enjoy spending time with my grandchildren, who are 3, 4 and 6 years old, so keep me on my toes!

Alan Stuart

Born 1950

Born in Edinburgh, briefly a law student, then banker. From age of 25, worked in the family baker and butcher business (founded 1857). I am currently chairman and there are 220 employees. Past President of Scottish Bakers and Centenary Chairman of the British Confectioners' Association. Founded World Scotch Pie Championships in 1999.

Married Jan (RCCC Swedish Tourist) in 1979, have two married sons who work in the family business. Two great daughters-in-law and four wonderful grandchildren.

Have golfed since childhood with lowest handicap of 4 and scored five holes-in-one. Past Captain of Lundin Golf Club.

Have curled for 50 years at club level for Leven CC and Hercules CC, serving as President for both. In fourth year on RCCC Area Standing Committee. Have skipped two 8-enders.

Finally, have lost over 40 kilos to come on tour - hope not to put any back on! Still a bit of a gourmand and wine lover.

Gordon Thomson

Born 1968

My home is in Kirkcaldy, also known as the "Lang Toun", in the Kingdom of Fife. I'm married to Avril and have a daughter, Caitlin. Work as a Project Manager for a multinational company which delivers bespoke, highly skilled engineering support for the marine sector.

My mother club is Thornton which plays in Scotland's oldest ice rink, Fife Ice Arena. I've served as the club's Vice President and President - currently on a second term as Vice President.

My other hobbies and interests include gardening, playing golf and marshalling at car rally motorsports.

On tour, I'm looking forward to make new friendships with the tour team and also our Swiss hosts, making the tour a trip of a lifetime and something to remember.

Derek Young

Born 1956

After Qualifying as Chartered Accountant in 1980, moved into industry as Finance Director for a medium sized family business in the car and caravan trade. In last 5 years, moved to part time work in Highland Wear business run by the next generation of the same family.

Mother Club is Borestone and Stirling, one of 4 oldest clubs in the world, but play most of my curling with Kilsyth CC (oldest club in the world) and Drymen CC. All play out of The Peak in

Stirling. I am a level 2 qualified coach and coach Stirling Young Curlers and Stirling Virtual Club. Curled for over 40 years.

Live in Stirling with my wife Janice. One daughter, married to member of RAF and lives near Cambridge.

My other interests are golf, cycling, walking, and reading.