The Burn’s lunch was an occasion to remember. Bagpipes heralded the arrival of the haggis which was ‘addressed’ traditionally in broad Scottish by Don, with translation by Geoff. We all sang ‘Auld Lang Syne’ to finish the meal off after an excellent Scottish Quiz.

David Beardsley gave a really interesting talk about Sir Merton Russell Cotes interweaving details of his life with fascinating insights into the growth of Bournemouth and its snobbish society in the 19th C. The history of the Bath Hotel and the building of the house for his wife, Lady Annie, next door, which turned into the museum, was accompanied by pictures of the treasures held there. There will be quite a number of us who want to visit in the future. The eclecticism of the Russell Cotes collection of treasures should mean there is something for everyone.