



# FEDERATION NEWS

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THE MILLENNIUM ISSUE



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Scottish Federation of Meat Traders' Associations (inc) has existed since 1918, serving the best interests of the independent private retail butcher throughout Scotland over the years.

The Federation, through a network of local associations, has provided advice, support and essential information to the trade, ensuring that the retail butcher has been kept fully up to date with developments affecting their well being. Additionally, the Federation has provided an essential vehicle communicating and representing an agreed point of view to Government and other relevant bodies. Over the years, unquantifiable benefits have been accrued to its many Members.

As we enter the new millennium, despite the changing retail scene, the Federation continues to provide an essential service to the trade.

The licensing of butchers is one such example with the Federation providing the link between the independent private retail butcher and local authority. The Federation will continue to provide that essential continuity with a very professional and modern service - can you afford not to benefit from it?

**Wilson Ferguson,**  
President.

## FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

As the Chief Executive to the Federation, I am delighted to have an opportunity to welcome you to membership with all the attendant benefits as laid out in this folder. We are constantly updating our service to ensure that you, our Member, gets value for money with measurable advantages.

We have reported that 1999 has been used to consolidate and strengthen the Federation. So what about the way forward.

Among our priorities for the 2000, we have determined that at the Perth Headquarters, our central aim must be to provide whatever assistance will be necessary to enable Butcher Licensing to be eased in with the minimum of pain and with the greatest of effectiveness. We will need to keep you, the Membership, fully informed. We will need your ongoing and active support and those of butchers in Scotland who are not currently part of our Membership. To assist in this, we are starting a recruitment campaign in January and will be looking hard at the current Local Association structure to see if it can be more actively and usefully assisted by the Perth office. Nothing stands still and as the number of butchers diminish, there are pockets of the country where the Federation is not as strong as it should be.

We are strengthening our management and administration structure, adjusting it to meet the future. We will now have the full time accounting supervision to control and direct the Federation finances on a day to day basis, while all the staff will be provided with a full job specification so that there will be no ambiguity as to what their responsibilities are.

Other priorities will include the continuing and ongoing review of our Training and Development activities, a major undertaking. We intend to establish a new company, wholly owned and controlled by SFMTA, but free to follow a wider remit. We are looking at generating further revenue from our Perth office by the provision of mini conference facilities and we intend to go back and look at the viability of a more modest skills centre in Perth, sufficiently flexible that if it were not to succeed, income could still be derived from any investment made.

In addition, the Executive are anxious to build on the already close relationships with other Scottish food orientated trade associations.

A very full agenda but one that is well worth working towards. I sincerely hope that all independent private retail butchers throughout Scotland will become an integral part of our efforts.

**Alan Stevenson,**  
Chief Executive.





# SFMTA MEMBERSHIP - THE BENEFITS

## Membership Benefits

### ● Trade Representation

SFMTA is the recognised representative body for the independent retail trade. With more than two thirds of Scotland's independent butchers in membership, it speaks authoritatively with government and other official bodies on behalf of the retail meat trade. SFMTA has played a major role in consulting with Government over the introduction of butcher licensing, winning important concessions for the trade in the application of the law.

### ● Legal Advice

Legislation for the retail meat trade is becoming increasingly complicated, almost on a daily basis. SFMTA keeps a watching brief on a whole raft of food safety legislation, extracting and communicating changes to members on a "need to know" basis.

### ● Employment Advice

Do you know all about the Working Time Directive and the Minimum Wage Regulations? What do you know about Paternity Leave? Awards for Unfair Dismissal have just risen to a new high of £50,000! As a Federation member, access to free advice on all these issues is just a phone call away!

### ● Marketing Support

SFMTA has its own promotional programme, providing exclusive marketing support to members at point-of-sale and through Product Evaluation events such as the prestigious annual 'Make it with Meat Awards'.

### ● The Guild of Q Butchers

Membership of SFMTA is an essential prerequisite for prospective members of the

Guild of Q Butchers, the premier quality assurance scheme for independent butchers. With more than 500 members nationwide, Q butchers are already firmly established at the "top end" of the retail trade, with a growing reputation in the catering sector.

### ● Federation News

SFMTA publishes its monthly newsletter free of charge to all members. Posted direct to each member's business address on the first Wednesday of every month, Federation News is packed with articles of interest to the trade ranging from updates on legislative changes to arrangements for the next golf outing! Unmissable!

### ● Insurance

SFMTA has negotiated special terms with one of the world's leading insurance companies. Its exclusive "Butcher Elite" insurance policy offers unrivalled cover for specialist butcher's shops at highly competitive rates. Available only to SFMTA members.

### ● AA Membership

Members can join the Automobile Association's Fleetwide 3 scheme, giving Roadside, Homestart, Relay and Relay Plus cover for an annual fee of just £49.00 per vehicle. Compare the cover with other organisations - you won't find better!

### ● Trades Fair

Every year, on the second Sunday of September, your Federation promotes the Scottish Meat Trades Fair, the largest annual one day trade show of its kind in Scotland, as a service to members. With craft and product competitions for the trade, plus attractions for the kids, the Meat Trades Fair has become a real Family Day Out!



## The Training Organisation

### ● Vocational Training

SFMTA's, Training Organisation is the lead body in Scotland for assessment of meat craft training programmes which range from SVQ Level 1, 11 and 111/Modern Apprenticeship. At this time, we are the only organisation in Scotland accredited to deliver the Meat Processing SVQ Level IV (Management Qualification at General Degree Level). Our highly respected team of fully qualified Assessors can verify a wide range of SVQ qualifications in the retail meat sector and beyond. We service the whole of Scotland, offering a level of coverage that's hard to beat!

### ● Hygiene Training

In partnership with a group of EHO specialist tutors, SFMTA deliver a Meat and Meat Products specific Intermediate Hygiene Course. This programme very much relates to the normal day to day routines in a butcher's shop and is very user friendly. We also deliver the basic level of Food Hygiene programmes throughout the country.

### ● HACCP/Risk Assessment

SFMTA deliver a course in the understanding of HACCP principles, which will enable butchers to develop, maintain and manage their own Food Safety Risk Assessment to conform with legal requirements.

### ● Health & Safety at Work

Health & Safety at Work has assumed a new priority on the Enforcement Officers' agenda in recent months. Federation Training can offer on-site surveys to ensure compliance with the law and courses are now in development to instruct members in the general principles of risk assessment in the workplace.

### ● Customer Service

High Standards of Customer Service are a key contributor to the success of any business. Sadly, they're often overlooked as a profit earner by small retailers, with the pressures of everyday business constantly on their minds. SFMTA can help your business build a better relationship with customers old and new with a Customer Service course for your whole staff.

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## WHO'S WHO AT FEDERATION OFFICES



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**Robert Booden**  
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**Valerie MacKay**



**Lynn Rettie**

**SFMTA:**  
**WORKING FOR THE RETAIL MEAT INDUSTRY IN SCOTLAND**

## THE SFMTA TRAINING TEAM



**Ian Thorburn**



**Derek Stahly**



**Moira Brady**  
Training & Development Manager



**Bob Lauchlan**



**Ian Brown**

**SFMTA:**  
**LEADERS IN MEAT SECTOR TRAINING**

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