

Highland venue renowned as a celebrity hideout

SKIBO boasts an impressive guest list, but staff would never reveal who has stayed at the exclusive Highland retreat.

The Carnegie Club prides itself on providing privacy and "an escape from the stresses and responsibilities of the modern world". But some of its more famous guests have been impossible to keep under wraps.

Skibo was thrown into the spotlight in 2000 when pop icon Madonna married film director Guy Ritchie at the castle. Their nuptials attracted massive coverage and dramatically increased the number of visitors to the Dornoch area, which is still benefiting from the "Madonna effect".

Actress Ashley Judd and racing-driver Dario Franchitti fol-

lowed suit in 2001. And pop star Robbie Williams celebrated his 30th birthday at the castle this year.

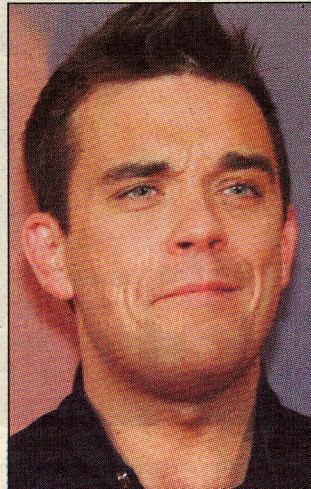
Visitors have included ex-US presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton, Prince Andrew, Microsoft's Bill Gates, Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta Jones, Sir Sean Connery, Jack Nicholson, Bob Geldof, Ted Danson and Mick Jagger.

Many of the Carnegie Club's famous guests, including Madonna and Robbie Williams, have planted trees in the castle grounds to commemorate their visits.

Skibo has also hosted prestigious events like the Northern Open Golf Tournament, which attracts thousands of enthusiasts to the area.



**Madonna . . .
planted a tree at Skibo**



**Robbie Williams . . .
30th birthday venue**



**Ashley Judd . . .
married at the castle**