

# HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

[www.caledonians.com](http://www.caledonians.com)

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## NEXT GATHERING

**Sunday, April 9, 2017, 2:00 pm at Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.** This is our new meeting place. Please call Bill McFadden, 206-364-6025, if you need a ride to the gathering.

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## PROGRAM

Since our meeting is in the afternoon, tea will be provided by the Board so you do not need to bring anything. The program will be a celtic harpist and a talk by member Harry McAlister. Our usual raffle of items Scottish and otherwise will be available, and the library of books about Scotland will be open. This should be a very entertaining Gathering. Hope you can make it!

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## Calendar of Seattle Area Scottish Events

### April 2017

**2 Colleen Raney Band**, Traditional Irish-Celtic Music, Tim Noah Thumbnail Theater, 1211 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Snohomish, WA. 4:00pm. Admission: \$20 general, \$15 student/senior at Brown Paper Tickets  
<http://thumbnailtheater.com/index.html>

**6 Tartan Day**, 12:00 noon. Capitol Steps, Olympia

**8 Colleen Raney Band**, Traditional Irish-Celtic Music, Sean-nós NW Festival, Hotel RL by Red Lion, 2300 Evergreen Park Dr. SW, Olympia, WA  
<http://www.seannos.org/festival/>

**9 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society of Seattle Gathering**, 2:00 pm. Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.  
[www.caledonians.com](http://www.caledonians.com)

**11 SSHGA Meeting 7:30 pm**, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 111 NE 80th Street, Seattle WA Info: (206) 522-2541

### May 2017

**20-22 Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival**, Topaz Park, Victoria BC  
<http://victoriahighlandgames.com/games/>

### June 2017

**3 Prosser Scottish Fest & Highland Games- NOTE NEW DATE FOR 2017-** Prosser Wine and Food Park, Prosser, WA <http://prosserscottishfest.org/>

**9-11 McKenzie Highland Games & Celtic Gathering**, Willamalane Sports Complex Park, Springfield, OR.  
<http://www.mckenziehighlandgames.com/clan-registration>

**24 Tacoma Highland Games**, Frontier Park, 217<sup>th</sup> & Meridian/Hwy 161. Celtic Concert on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
<http://tacomagames.org/infoGenInfo.php>

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U-Tube Videos recommended by Diana Smith

This guy on his bike is amazing - both videos take place in Scotland with gorgeous scenery in the background.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K\\_7k3fnxPq0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_7k3fnxPq0)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQ\\_IQS3VKjA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQ_IQS3VKjA)

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## Recap of March Gathering

Caledonians gathered for March enjoyed a colorful video of Inverary Castle, seat of the Duke of Argyll and chief of Clan Campbell. We also celebrated St. Patrick's Day a few days early with Irish colors and treats.

## Articles About Scotland and Things Scottish

*From BBC News*

### Hairdryers used to strike blow against speeders in Hopeman

Villagers dressed in fluorescent jackets are pointing hairdryers at cars to mimic police using speed cameras in a bid to deter fast drivers in Moray.

Residents of Hopeman fear someone could be seriously injured or killed by speeding drivers. It follows concern about cars reaching speeds of up to 60mph as they travel through the area. There is a long straight leading out of the village.



Residents including children have now resorted to the hairdryers.

Moray councillor Dennis Slater, who lives in Hopeman,

told BBC Scotland: "It's very dangerous, the speed that the traffic is doing through Hopeman is quite serious, especially when the kids are going to school in the morning - it's quite alarming.

"This is why some of the residents have resorted to taking out hairdryers and putting on hi-vis vests to try to slow the traffic down."

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*From The Scotsman*

### Monarch of the Glen set to tour Scotland after being secured for the nation

The iconic Monarch of the Glen painting is set to go on tour around the country after the Scottish Government stepped in to help secure its future.

The National Galleries of Scotland has used a ring-fenced government fund for acquisitions to help secure the 19th century masterpiece following a four-month fundraising campaign.

Ministers have also agreed to provide extra funding to help meet the costs of a nationwide tour of Sir Edwin Landseer's painting, which is widely regarded as one of Scotland's most

iconic paintings.



It is expected to be a star attraction at the Scottish National Gallery in Edinburgh, where it has gone on display ahead of a tour later this year, which is expected to take in at least three locations, including the Highlands.

A £750,000 drive was launched in mid-February to raise the final amount to buy the painting from whisky giants Diageo for £4 million.

The National Galleries faced a race against time to find the money after striking a "part-purchase, part-gift" deal in November, weeks after it emerged the firm was planning to put it up for auction with a £10 million price tag.

Donations from around the world, including Queensland, Los Angeles and Hong Kong, helped ensure that the painting has entered public ownership for the first time.

The 1851 painting of a stag set against a remote Highland backdrop, which had been on long-term loan to the National Museum of Scotland for the previous 17 years, was expected to attract global interest when it came under the hammer in London.

The Monarch of the Glen was originally commissioned for the House of Lords, but never went on display and was bought from the artist by the sportsman Lord Londesborough for 350 guineas. It changed hands several times before being snapped up by whisky firm John Dewar and Sons in 1916 and has been in the hands of the industry from then until now.

Although born in London, the artist - who created work for Sir Walter Scott and Queen Victoria - had been visiting the Highlands regularly for more than 25 years when he created the Monarch of the Glen.

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## 9 of Edinburgh's oldest buildings

Edinburgh is renowned for its old buildings and boasts a higher concentration of ancient structures than most European cities.

If you're visiting the UK for the first time and are hoping to take in a bit of history, then a stroll through Scotland's capital is an absolute must. Edinburgh has an incredible number of ancient buildings - many of them built over 500 years ago.

### 1. St Margaret's Chapel, Edinburgh Castle



Thought to have been completed in 1130 by King David in honour of his mother, Queen Margaret, St Margaret's Chapel has seen

a fair few changes in Edinburgh. In fact, as the oldest building in the entire city, it's seen ALL the changes. The chapel is situated within the walls of Edinburgh Castle, which may sound like a safe place to be until you consider that the castle has historically been the most besieged location in the whole of Britain. Once you factor in the Protestant Reformation of the 1500s and the fact that the chapel lay disused for centuries afterwards - save for a spell as a storage room for gunpowder - it's actually quite incredible that it's still standing. Today's chapel has since been tastefully restored, first by Queen Victoria in the 1850s, who made it usable once more and reintroduced stained glass to its five windows, and again in 1922. Despite the rather compact little chapel only being able to hold around 20 people, modern weddings and baptisms are a regular occurrence at the 900-year-old place of worship.

### 2. Trinity Apse, Chalmers Close



Trinity Apse is all that's left of the ancient Trinity College Kirk, which was constructed on the eastern banks of the Nor' Loch in 1460. Both the kirk and a nearby hospital were founded by Mary of Gueldres, consort to King James II.

For centuries the little kirk lay undisturbed - even the Reformation couldn't shake it. Then came the Industrial Revolution... The original kirk was destroyed in the 1840s to make way for an expansion of Waverley Railway Station. It had been intended to move the kirk stone by stone to a new site, and each piece was numbered and deposited on Calton Hill. Unfortunately, thirty years would pass before a decision was made to rebuild the kirk, by which time many of the numbered stones had disappeared. A new church was eventually built on Jeffrey Street, but this too was demolished in 1964. A small section of the rebuilt Trinity College Kirk, known as Trinity Apse still survives and many of the painted numbers from when the kirk was dismantled can still be seen. The apse is located on Chalmers Close, between the High Street and Jeffrey Street.

### 3. St Giles, High Street



Founded in the 12th century, St Giles' Cathedral can be considered one of Edinburgh's oldest buildings.

In its early days, St Giles' was just a small stone kirk, which stood roughly on the site of the present-day nave. This church was burned down by an attacking English army in the 14th century and subsequently rebuilt in spectacular fashion, owing the building its current look with distinct crown steeple. Although most of the

church dates from later centuries, there are elements contained deep within which are considerably ancient. St Giles' original 12th century doorway survived until just 200 years ago. Despite not having been a seat of bishops since 1638, St Giles', similar to Glasgow Cathedral, has retained its title as a cathedral.

#### 4. John Knox House, High Street

One of Edinburgh's most historic and picturesque old dwellings, John Knox House on the High Street is thought to have been lived in and owned by the Protestant reformer John Knox - although there is no concrete evidence to actually support this. The house was constructed around 1490 and originally belonged to a Mr Walter Reidpath, who passed it on to his next of kin.

John Knox House has changed little in style over the years, retaining its 'overhanging' upper floors - a feature once common in medieval Edinburgh architecture. If John Knox did ever stay in the house, it is thought that it



was for no more than a few months during the great siege of Edinburgh Castle in the

16th century. However, some claim the famous Scots minister died here.

#### 5. Moubray House 1500s, High Street

Sharing the same nook of the High Street as John Knox House is an equally-ancient residence, Moubray House. It was built back in 1477 for a Mr Robert Moubray and was later used as a tavern and a bookshop. The esteemed writer Daniel Defoe resided here for a spell while he was editor of the Edinburgh Courant newspaper. The facade of Moubray House was rebuilt in the early 17th century, though parts of the interior are very much original.



#### 6. Merchiston Tower, Colinton Road

Although not in the Old Town, this building is worth a mention due to its age. Sometimes referred to as Merchiston Castle, this five-storey L-plan tower was built around 1454 by Alexander Napier, the second Laird of Merchiston. The building remained in the Napier family for several centuries and it is recorded that John Napier, the inventor of logarithms was born here in 1550. How appropriate then that the tower is now situated in the grounds of modern-day Napier University. The tower was built upon a rocky outcrop, which can still be seen on two sides of the building.

#### 7. Huntly House, Canongate

Similar to John Knox House and Moubray House further up the Royal Mile, Huntly House features overhanging gables. It was built around



1570 and has still managed to maintain its historic character. It is thought to have been named in the 17th century after the Marquis of Huntly, who stayed here for a time. The house is sometimes referred to as the 'speaking house' on account of Latin inscriptions displayed on its facade. Several inscriptions have been added over the centuries. Huntly House is now home to the Museum of Edinburgh.

#### 8. Canongate Tolbooth, Canongate

One of Edinburgh's most photographed old buildings is the Canongate Tolbooth. It was built in 1591 at a time when the Canongate burgh was still separate from Edinburgh, and served as the district tolbooth, comprising a courthouse, jail and public meeting place. The Tolbooth has undergone a



number of alterations over the centuries, the most notable being City Architect Robert Morham's remodelling in 1875, which added its distinctive clock. The building now houses The People's Story Museum and boasts a Category A listing.

### 9. The Magdalen Chapel, Cowgate



Just to the east of the Grassmarket at the start of the Cowgate stands the quaint Magdalen Chapel. The chapel was built between 1541 and 1544 at the bequest of one Michael MacQueen who was interred here shortly after its completion. Magdalen Chapel is

notable as being the last Roman Catholic church to have been constructed in Edinburgh prior the Reformation and provides us with the only remaining example of pre-Reformation stained glass in Scotland. This is particularly astonishing when you consider that the chapel is considered the 'cradle of Presbyterianism', having held the first ever assembly of the new Church of Scotland in 1560. John Knox was one of the 42 ministers present. The chapel is now the headquarters of the Scottish Reformation Society.

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### Who ordered the Massacre of Glencoe?



He is known as the "Curse of Scotland" for his role in the Glencoe Massacre, the government minister whose exploits went largely unpunished following the infamous murders which took place 325 years ago. The killing of 38

members of the MacDonald clan on February 13 1692 by Campbell-led government troops is one of the darkest episodes in the turbulent history of the Highlands.

The victims were killed at daybreak on a freezing winter's morning by soldiers who had enjoyed 12 nights of MacDonald generosity in the glen. It was deemed an outrageous affront to both the rule of

law as well as the Highland code of hospitality and caused uproar across the country. But the multiple deaths - a further 40 perished in the snow after their homes were set on fire - were the result of far more than the inter-clan warfare of the Campbells and the MacDonalds.

The attack had been planned at the very highest level of the state. Central to the plot was John Dalrymple, 1st Earl of Stair, a shrewd political operator who helped secure the accession of King William II and his wife Mary to the Scottish throne.

He was appointed Secretary of State of Scotland during the reign of William II and had virtual control of his affairs north of the border. Dalrymple, of Ayrshire, a former Lord Advocate, quickly acted upon his disdain for the Highland clans who broadly retained support for deposed Stuart king of James VII, the brother-in-law of the new king.

Rebel clan chiefs were called to a summit at the ruins of Achallader Castle in June 1691 with the Earl of Breadlebane, Lord Treasurer of Scotland, who was also a member of Clan Campbell, leading negotiations. Breadlebane, known as "Slippery John" for his double dealings, promised a royal pardon and £12,000 to the clan chiefs involved in the recent Jacobite win at Killiecrankie in return of an oath of allegiance to King William - to be signed by January 1 1692.

The Highland Jacobites sought counsel from France and a form of peace briefly settled as clansmen waited a response. However, Dalrymple took issue with the pace of progress and King William issued a proclamation to the clan leaders - pledge your allegiance or be answerable to your "highest peril."

On December 30, Alistair McLain of Glencoe - head of a sept of Clan Donald - was crossing the north in deep wintry conditions in order to sign the pledge. Mistakenly, he went to Fort William and then was sent on to Inverary, a Campbell stronghold three days away, to pledge his allegiance to the King via the sheriff. He missed the deadline by six days.

Despite assurances at Fort William that McLain would be protected, word was delivered to Dalrymple at his office in Kensington Palace by Archibald, 10th Earl of Argyll, Chief of Clan Campbell, that MacIain's certificate was void. Some believe that Archibald's cousin, the Earl of Breadlebane - or Slippery John - encouraged the line that MacIain's pledge was irregular given the

opportunity for his Clan Campbell to seek revenge on the MacDonalds. Other historians have disregarded this.

The massacre was launched on February 13 1692 after the King ordered Captain Robert Campbell of Glen Lyon to attack his hosts and “put all to the sword under seventy”. Instructing that the attack be carried out at 5am, the order added: “This is by the Kings special command, for the good & safety of the Country, that these miscreants be cutt off root and branch.”

The Campbell’s have long been vilified for their role in the massacre. But accounts exist that a number of Campbell’s tried to warn the MacDonald’s of an impending horror, urging the MacDonald’s to flee. Fugitives were helped at Castle Stalker, a safe place for Clan Campbell, according to tradition. Muster rolls also show that Campbells made up a minority the government-backed troops dispatched to Glencoe.

Public outcry led to a parliamentary commission. It found events to be a “murder under trust” and Dalrymple was forced to resign. But it wasn’t long before he was back in government. By 1700 his reputation had been rehabilitated, and he was appointed as a member of the Privy Council of Scotland. He lobbied hard for the Act of Union in 1707.

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## ‘Unicorns’ are alive and well in Galloway

KNOCKENGORROCH World Ceilidh Music Festival organisers are aiming to break the international record for the highest number of unicorns in one place later this year. The attempt, which has been registered with and accredited by the Guinness Book of Records, will see festival-goers wearing unicorn horns and counted by an official adjudicator.

2017 will see the festival’s 20th year. It will take place from 25 to 28 May, featuring music and arts from across the globe in its stunning location in the Galloway hills of South West Scotland.



Festival organiser and landowner Liz Holmes said: “We wanted to do something exciting, fun and different to celebrate our 20th year. “The unicorn is an ancient and fascinating mythical creature, depicted and worshipped in many countries across the world. Its a truly multi-cultural symbol for us to celebrate, reflecting our international taste in music!”The unicorn is the national animal of Scotland. Portrayed on the Scottish Royal Coat of Arms in chains, it is said to govern through harmony and peace.

The four day family-friendly festival programme includes music from Scotland and across the world, with a strong emphasis on traditional and roots music.



A fellowship founded in Seattle in 1902 to foster a love of Scotland, her people, and her heritage.

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