

HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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NEXT GATHERING

Members of Caledonian & St. Andrew's Society will continue to gather using the electronic app Zoom for the next several months, due to the current health crisis and prohibitions on large gatherings of people.

Our next gathering is **Sunday, May 2nd**, at 2:00pm. This is a week earlier than our usual gathering date, since Mother's Day is on the second Sunday of May. An e-mailed link will be sent to everyone who has computer access a few days in advance of this date. You can also join by clicking on this link or copying and pasting this address into your browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/713418301?pwd=K1ZUQnBOSE53YURUYjE4SW4ySjkxQT09>

You can also participate by phone by calling 1-253-215-8782 and entering the meeting ID: 713 418 301 and then the passcode: 004905. For those without a camera on your computer, you can do both, letting you see everyone on the computer and connecting with people on your phone.

MAY PROGRAM

Entertainment for the May 2nd gathering will be a musical performance by Seumas Gagne. Seumas is a Seattle-based harpist and Scottish Gaelic musician.



He has played music of the Highland and Irish Gaels on the Celtic harp for more than thirty years, and performed throughout the U.S. and internationally in both solo and group performances. He also provides private instruction in music and teaches Gaelic. You can keep up with him on his website at www.seumasgagne.com.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

Plan ahead to join us each month for gatherings on Zoom. We will have a variety of local, national, and international talent for the program.

June 13: Charlie Zahm, balladeer (returning)

FACEBOOK

The Caledonians have a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/seattlecaledonians/?ref=bookmarks>

Diana Smith frequently posts interesting articles and notices, so check back often.

SUNSHINE REPORT

Bonnie reminds people that she does not have e-mail, so please call her when you have information about Caledonians who are ill or passed away. Her phone is 425-806-3734.

Calendar of Seattle Area Scottish Events

Virtually all highland games that had been cancelled in 2020 are also **cancelled in 2021**, including the following:

Tacoma - May 22
Bellingham - June 5
Prosser - June 19
Mount Vernon - July 10-11
Portland - July 17
Seattle - July 23-25
Spokane - August 7

Still scheduled - Kelso - September 11-12

Recap of the April Caledonian Gathering



Red McWilliams joined the Caledonians on Zoom from his home in Alabama. In a program lasting over an hour, he sang a variety of familiar songs as well as ones he had written. He is someone most of us know from years of

attending local Highland Games where he has been a performer, and he was happy to chat with us both during his performance and afterward.

Elections

May is the month when we elect officers for the coming year. Caledonian bylaws specify two-year terms for Board members with continuity established by having half the Board elected in even-numbered years and half elected in odd-numbered years. Because 2020 was an unusual year and we had no idea how long the organization would be able to function when public gatherings were precluded by state law, the Board decided to merely have existing officers continue for another year without holding an election in 2020.

Now that we are a year into the coronavirus pandemic and have found our balance with

continuing to meet on Zoom, we are returning to the election schedule set up in the bylaws. Although everyone on the Board is up for election this year, the slate of officers reflects term lengths based on whether the election year is "even" (2020) or "odd" (2021). Therefore, some of the positions on the Board this time are officially for one year (re-election in 2022), and some are for two years (re-election in 2023).

The slate of officers presented for election this year is as follows:

President - Tom Lamb (1 year)
1st Vice Pres. - Christian Skoorsmith (2 years)
2nd Vice Pres. - Rosemary Blakemore (1 year)
Secretary - Ruth McFadden (1 year)
Treasurer - Ruth McFadden (2 years)
Social Director - Bill McFadden (1 year)
Parliamentarian - Victoria Johnson (2 years)
Sunshine Chair - Bonnie Munro (1 year)
Trustee - Harry McAlister (1 year)
Trustee - Selvyn Lane (2 years)
Trustee - Dennis Smith (2 years)

There will be one last opportunity for additional nominations from "the floor" ("from the Zoom"?) on May 2nd, but Bylaws state that the election will be held at this gathering, with installation at the June gathering. Please plan on joining our May gathering so that you may vote for Board members for the next one and two years. Only paid members may vote.

If you are unable to participate in the gathering on Zoom on Sunday, but wish to have your vote tallied, please notify the secretary, Ruth McFadden, at ruthmcfadden@mindspring.com with your vote.

Articles and Topics About Scotland and Things Scottish

Information based on articles in *The Scotsman* newspaper and using Wikipedia.

Picturesque Scottish Villages to Visit

Killin



Killin is located in Stirlingshire, on the A827 road at the western head of Loch Tay. The scenic Falls of Dochart are at the west end of the village where the rivers Dochart and Lochay meet. The McNab Clan were once dominant here, and have long been associated with Killin. A well-preserved prehistoric stone circle can be seen on the grounds of Kinnell House, the seat of the MacNabs. Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve is easily accessed from Killin. The Killin Music Festival has been held in June of each year since 2016.

Kenmore



Kenmore is located on Loch Tay where the loch drains into the River Tay at its northern end. This village dates back to the 16th century, when it was moved from a prior location to be closer to Balloch Castle. Its name translates from Scots Gaelic to “big (or large) head”, which reflects that the entire village is located on a prominent

headland by the shores of Loch Tay. The Kenmore Hotel, commissioned in 1572 by Colin Campbell, is reputed to be Scotland’s oldest hotel. Another Campbell creation is Taymouth Castle, originally an enormous mansion built in 1842 in the neo-Gothic style, now privately owned with a golf course on its grounds.

Rick Steves said that “Kenmore offers a fine dose of small-town flavour.” The village retains many of its original buildings and historic appearance. The Croft Moraig Stone Circle is nearby and one of eighteen crannogs (circular houses on stilts) in the area was rebuilt and became the museum known as the Scottish Crannog Centre.

East Linton

This East Lothian village is a peaceful destination east of Edinburgh with a pretty main street, an old water mill, and historic Hailes Castle a short walk away.



The village is situated on the River Tyne, and can be reached via the A1 and A199 roads. Also close by are the National Museum of Flight, St Mary’s Collegiate Church, Amisfield Walled Garden, and John Muir’s birthplace.

Tobermory

The port at Tobermory, capital of the Isle of Mull in the Inner Hebrides, is one of the most famous views of Scotland with its multi-coloured houses looking out across the Sound of Mull. The village was founded as a fishing port in the late 18th century, with its houses brightly painted allegedly so fishermen could see their homes as they returned to port.

Tobermory is just a 21-mile drive on a good road from the ferry dock at Craignure, so visitors should plan to stay a while, perhaps overnight, and enjoy the Mull Museum, the Mull Aquarium, and a short road trip to the Eas Fors waterfall.



Plockton



Called “The Jewel of the Highlands,” Plockton is a Highland village located north of the Bridge to Skye on a sheltered bay overlooking Loch Carron. The warm microclimate allows palms to grow all along the main Harbour Street. It was once a fishing and crofting center. Despite its small size with a population of just 378, there are a number of places where visitors may stay to enjoy stunning views across the loch and as a base for visiting nearby locations.

History seekers may enjoy a stop at nearby Duncraig Castle (actually a mansion) or a view of the ruins of Strome Castle across a narrow arm of the loch.

Scottish Place Names Derived From Foreign Shores

Moscow

The name of this small East Ayrshire hamlet may have been amended from its original “Moss-hall” to mark Napoleon’s retreat from Moscow. To further the link, the burn that runs through the settlement has been dubbed the Volga.



California

The origins of the name for this quiet village near Falkirk are unclear, although some believe it may have been named in the 1840s when the region experienced a coal boom at about the same time the gold rush in California in the U.S. began.



Waterloo



Some say the sleepy Perth and Kenross hamlet of Waterloo was built in tribute to the fallen local soldiers who never came home after the famous battle fought south of Brussels in 1815, while others said it was settled by soldiers returning from that battle. It is located on the old A9, near Bankfoot. Just outside Waterloo there are two standing stones known as the Staredam standing stones. One has a cross carved in it, considered to be one of the earliest examples of a Christian symbol carved on a pre-historic standing stone.

Portobello



Portobello now is a thoroughly modern coastal suburb of Edinburgh facing the Firth of Forth with a promenade fronting onto a wide sandy beach. Historically, it

was a town in its own right located in an expanse of moorland called Figgate Muir. The name of the area came from a cottage built by a seaman, George Hamilton, who as a member of the Royal Navy had participated in a siege on Porto Bello, Panama in 1739 during the War of Jenkin's Ear. Portobello was one of two ports from which the Spanish shipped silver from Peruvian mines back to Spain.

Joppa

Located in South Ayrshire, the hamlet of Joppa traces its name to an adaptation of the name for the port of Jaffa in Israel. It is located on the A70 road, with nearby access to Culzean Castle, Greenan Castle, Dumfries House, and Dundonald Castle. It is also near the Scottish Dark Sky Observatory near Loch Doon.

Mount Florida

Now a suburb in the southeastern corner of Glasgow, Mount Florida traces its name back to the early 19th century. At that time it was an estate of about 15 acres, which was owned by a family who came from Florida, USA. Currently, it is the location of Scotland's National Stadium, Hampden Park.

Patna

William Fullarton, son of an employee of the British East India Company, was



born in Patna in India. He founded the Ayrshire village of Patna in 1802 to provide

housing for workers on the coal pits and limestone works of his estate, and named it after his birthplace. Patna lies along the banks of the River Doon (of Robert Burns fame) and is on the A713 southeast of Ayr. It is 45 miles southwest of Glasgow.

Scotland's Ancestral Ties with Native People of North America

A paper produced by Professor Daniel Wilson of Toronto and presented to the British Association of Anthropological Studies in 1878 made a startling statement about the prevalence of intermarriage, or the result of intimate relationships, between the Native peoples of Canada/North America with Europeans, including Scots, who were explorers, pioneers, settlers, fur traders, and miners.

Wilson's studies of the Métis, a people with mixed European and Indigenous ancestry, led him to believe there was a high degree of Scottish or French racial mix within the Native peoples. Two factors led to Wilson's premise. First, the Hudson's Bay and North West companies didn't allow women to emigrate to fur trading outposts, and since fur traders and trappers were primarily men, there had long been an established practice of fur trappers and traders forming intimate relationships with Native women in North America. Second, Scots dominated all levels of the Hudson's Bay Company, both as trappers and traders, but



Unidentified Métis Family



also in managing company affairs.

Wilson's research focused primarily on the Red River Settlement in Manitoba, Canada, north of Minnesota and North Dakota, which had been established in 1811 by Thomas Douglas, the 5th Earl of Selkirk. Born in 1771, Selkirk had grown



up after the Jacobite rising of 1745 and was constantly troubled by the plight of Scots displaced by the Highland Clearances. He

focused the majority of his time and resources on establishing Scottish settlements in British North America. Early settlements he established were in Prince Edward Island and Baldoon, Upper Canada.

In 1811, Selkirk obtained a grant of about 116,000 square miles along the Red River near the mouth of the Assiniboine River from the Hudson's Bay Company. There were many problems brought about by conflicts between rival fur trading companies, but Selkirk persevered, even to personally bringing a small army in 1817 to break up a problem with the North West Company. Selkirk died in France of consumption in 1820, but his colony lasted until 1836, when it reverted to the Hudson's Bay Company and eventually became part of Manitoba in 1870.

Selkirk is best remembered as an advocate of the right of cultural minorities to preserve their way of life through resettlement in British North America.



Village of Stromnes, Orkney islands

Many Scots were recruited from the village of Stromness in the Orkney Islands. While most probably stayed in Canada, many Orkneymen retiring from the company's service took their native wives and offspring with them to Orkney.

Scottish Banner's Tartan of the Month



Scotch Whisky 1494 Tartan



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

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