

HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

www.caledonians.com

Volume 114 Issue 7 October 2016

NEXT GATHERING is on Friday, October 14, 2016, 7:30 pm at **Lake City Presbyterian Church**, 3841 NE 123rd Street Seattle, WA. Please call Bill McFadden, 206-364-6025, if you need a ride to the gathering.

PROGRAM

This is our annual potluck meal and post-summer get-together.

Calendar of Seattle Area Scottish Events

October 2016

1 Tanahill Weavers, Scottish Band, Lincoln Theatre, 712 S. First St., Mount Vernon, WA, 360-336-8955.
<http://tannahillweavers.com/>

2 Tanahill Weavers, Scottish Band, Phinney Neighborhood Center, 6532 Phinney Ave. N., Seattle, WA 206-783-2244. <http://tannahillweavers.com/>

8 Clan Donald All Clans Fall Banquet, Renton Technical College, 3000 NE Fourth St., Renton, WA. \$35; \$45 at the door. Early reservations required for choice of menu. 425-204-5511

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

14 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society of Seattle Gathering, 7:30 pm. Lake City Presbyterian Church, 3841 N.E. 123rd Street, Seattle, WA;
www.caledonians.com

15-16 Celtic Fling Weekend, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 111 NE 80th St., Seattle, WA 206-523-7476
<http://www.saintandrewsseattle.org/>

16 Jamie Laval, Phinney Center Concert Hall, 6532 Phinney Ave. N., Seattle, WA 7:00-9:30pm
<http://www2.seafolklore.org/wp/events/>

November 2016

5 SSHGA Heather Tartan Ball and Silent Auction, Seattle Latvian Cultural Center, 11710 3rd Ave. NE, Seattle, WA, 6:00pm. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.
<http://www.sshga.org/tartanBall/heatherBall.htm>

5 Geoffrey Castle, Auburn Avenue Theater, 10 Auburn Avenue, Auburn, WA, 7:30pm, Tickets \$18 & \$15 Seniors at Brown Paper Tickets
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2566551>

17 Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas in Concert, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA, 7:30-9:30pm. \$30
<https://celticarts.org/celtic-events/alsadair-fraser-natalie-haas-concert/>

Flowers of the Forest

Former Caledonian, Rosalae L. Duncan, passed away in June from ALS. She had left Seattle some years ago to get married & live in Alexandria, Virginia. She will be remembered as a member of the RSCDS, the Caledonian Players, and the Choir. She participated in a number of June shows, writing and directing a number of skits, and portrayed Flora MacDonald in one memorable sketch about Bonnie Prince Charlie and his escape to the Isle of Skye. She was a research scientist at the UW when she lived here, in the Dept. of Zoology. July 23, 1954 - June 24, 2016

June Gathering

Elections for President were held. Don Moore had agreed to run for president and Victoria Johnson for 2nd Vice President.

Discussion about the future of the organization continued.

Students from the Northwest Junior Pipe Band school provided the entertainment.



Articles About Scotland and Things Scottish

From BBC.Com

St Kilda fundraising appeal launched

A new fundraising appeal is being launched to look after the remote islands of St Kilda. The National Trust for Scotland, which owns the islands, is launching the Love Our Islands campaign to support historical conservation and environmental



work on the archipelago. The appeal marks the 30th anniversary of St Kilda's designation as a World Heritage Site.

The islands lie about 40 miles west of Benbecula in the Outer Hebrides.

St Kilda is home to hundreds of thousands of seabirds which nest on the seven islands that make up the archipelago. It was also the home of generations of people until the last were evacuated in 1930.

St Kilda was designated as a natural World Heritage Site in 1986 after being one of the first sites put forward in the UK for the designation. In 2005, it became the UK's first site to have mixed listings for both natural environment and cultural value.

Caring for St Kilda costs the National Trust of Scotland £270,000 a year. It includes preserving the street the residents once lived on, the church, nearly 1,400 "cleits" - conical stone structures used for storage and drying of seabirds - and buildings which are thought to be prehistoric.



The trust also monitors wildlife on St Kilda, which is the largest seabird colony in the north-east Atlantic with 600,000 nesting birds each year.

The most recent major survey, conducted last year, revealed dramatic declines for seabirds including fulmars, kittiwakes, common guillemots and razorbills, amid rising temperatures and rising seas, the trust said.

National Trust for Scotland chairman Sir Moir Lockhead said: "Its remote location, outstanding natural beauty and the dramatic story of the people who once lived there have captivated people across the centuries and it still holds an allure for many people today.

"More importantly, anyone who cares about our seabirds and the wider health of our oceans will appreciate the work we carry out here year on year at St Kilda.

"Our seabird survey from St Kilda is providing us with vital information which appears to show major impacts of climate change on sea conditions and the species which depend on the marine environment."

The Scotsman Newspaper

The "Robin Hood" of Scotland who was tricked to his death



He is described as Scotland's answer to Robin Hood - an outlaw and freebooter who shared the spoils of his campaign against the gentry with the poor of the north.

James Macpherson, born 1675, was the illegitimate son of a Highland laird and a gypsy woman who was raised by his father at Invereshie House near Kincaig.

Following his father's death, Macpherson absorbed himself amongst his mother's folk with his life story becoming richly peppered with myth and lore. Sir Walter Scott later wrote about his exploits.

He is remembered as a man of magnificent stature, strength and intellect who could handle a sword as expertly as he could play a fiddle. Some accounts record him as the leader of a band of caterans, or cow thieves, as well as a legitimate horse trader.

What is certainly known is that Macpherson was captured and hung from the clocktower at Banff in 1700 following foul play by his influential adversary with a lament he composed in the week before his execution later rewritten by Robert Burns.

The downfall of Macpherson was executed by his enemy-in-chief, Lord Duff of Braco, who had become increasingly incensed by the antics of the outlaw's armed posse as they became increasingly brazen in their deeds, often

marching into towns on market day behind a piper.

Macpherson was captured on two occasions, once in Inverness and another in Aberdeen, but managed to escape - once with the help of one of his most trusted allies.

Macpherson was finally seized in an operation executed by Lord Braco in the autumn of 1700 at the St Rufus Fair in Keith. As battle broke out, one of Macpherson's men was killed with the target captured after a woman threw a piece of rug over him from an upstairs window.

He was tried in Banff by Sheriff Nicholas Dunbar, a friend of Lord Braco, and was condemned to hang for the crimes of purse cutting, theft - and of being an Egyptian or gypsy.

Condemned "to be hanged by the neck betwixt the hours of two and three," Lord Braco, on hearing that a lone rider was approaching from Turriff with a reprieve, had the town clock turned forward by 15 minutes to ensure the execution went ahead. Before his death, Macpherson apparently mounted the scaffold at Banff to play the tune he had composed in his cell. When he was finished he offered the fiddle to the crowd which had gathered - but no one dared to accept. He then smashed his instrument and dropped it at his feet, with the remnants on display at the museum.

The tune he is said to have composed is widely known as "Macpherson's Rant" or "Macpherson's Lament". Robert Burns later used it as the basis "Macpherson's Farewell."

Those involved in moving the clock forward were punished, and for many years afterwards the clock was kept fifteen minutes fast, as a reminder of Macpherson's killing. Sometime after 1839, the faces of the clock tower were removed from Banff and rehoused in the newly built Dufftown tower. It is known locally as "The clock which hung Macpherson."



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

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 27278
Seattle WA 98165-1778

Dancing:

Mondays, 7 p.m. at The Phinney Ridge Community Center. For information contact Fraser MacLeod (fraser509@hotmail.com)

Gatherings:

- When - Second Friday of each month except July, August and September.
Where - Lake City Presbyterian Church
3841 N.E. 123rd St. Seattle WA 98125
Directions - From Lake City Way proceed east on 123rd to 40th. Park in the Church parking lot.
Time - Set-up at 6.30 p.m.
Social Hour at 7:00 p.m.
Business meeting at 7:30 p.m.
Entertainment and raffle at 8:00 p.m.

Visit us on the Web: www.caledonians.com

Return Address:

Caledonian and St. Andrew's Society of Seattle
P.O. Box 27278
Seattle, WA 98165-1778

President: Don Moore
1st Vice President: Andrew McDiarmid
2nd Vice President: Victoria Johnson
Secretary: Ruth McFadden
Treasurer: Allan Patten
Social Director: Bill McFadden
Parliamentarian: Don Moore
Trustee: Rosemary Blakemore
Trustee: Phillip Junkins

HEATHER BELL EDITOR:

Ruth McFadden 206-364-6025
ruthmcfadden@mindspring.com