

HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

www.caledonians.com

Volume 117 Issue 4 April 2019

NEXT GATHERING

Our April gathering will be on Sunday, April 14th. As usual, we will gather at 2:00 pm at Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

The program will be highland dancing by students from Karen Shelton-Johnson's School of Highland Dancing.

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 thanks the many Caledonians who came to the memorial for Kenneth Munro on Saturday, March 30th.

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

April

5 "Jock's Jocks" Book Presentation & Signing, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 7:00pm. \$25. 360-416-4934 <https://celticarts.org>

6 Tartan Day, Steps of the State Legislative Building, Olympia, WA. 1:00 pm. No host lunch at O'Blarney's Pub in Lacy immediately afterward.

6 Smallpipe Workshop, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 10am-3pm. \$55 & \$12 lunchbox. 360-416-4934 <https://celticarts.org>

6 National Tartan Day PNW Piping Showcase, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 7:00pm. \$25. 360-416-4934 <https://celticarts.org>

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

12 Tanahill Weavers, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 7:00pm. \$25. 360-416-4934 <https://celticarts.org>

13 Tanahill Weavers, Phinney Center, 6532 Phinney Ave. N., Seattle. 7:30 pm. Tickets are through Brown Paper Tickets at sfs-tannahillweavers.brownpapertickets.com, and more info is at www.seafolklore.org

14 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society Gathering, 2:00 pm. Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

May

5 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society Gathering, 2:00 pm. Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125. (Note – this is one week earlier than our usual gathering date due to our usual date being Mothers Day.)

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

18 Scotch-tasting Gala (fund-raising event), Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 7:00pm. \$75. 360-416-4934 <https://celticarts.org>

19-21 Victoria Highland Games & Celtic Festival,
Topaz Park, Victoria, BC, Canada.

<http://victoriahighlandgames.com/games/>

June

1 Bellingham Highland Games, Hovander Homestead Park, Ferndale, WA

9 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society Gathering, 2:00 pm. Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

<http://www.caledonians.com/>

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

15 BC Highland Games, Lafarge Lake Park, Coquitlam, BC. <https://bchighlandgames.com/>

15 Prosser Scottish Fest & Highland Games, Food & Wine Center, Prosser, WA. <http://prosserscottishfest.org/>

22 Tacoma Highland Games, Frontier Park, 21718 Meridian Ave E., Graham, WA. <http://tacomagames.org/>

Re-Cap of March Gathering



Tom Lamb regaled 21 members and friends of the Caledonian & St. Andrew's Society with his entertaining memories of growing up in Scotland. People were fascinated with his recount of the Polish who lived in Scotland

during World War II.

Election of Officers

The annual election of officers for the Caledonian and St. Andrew's Society of Seattle is coming up soon. Traditionally, a slate of officers is brought to the gathering in April. This year, the Board positions to be elected for two-year terms are 2nd Vice President (responsible for the tea table at gatherings), Treasurer, and two Trustees. Elections will be held at the May gathering (this year on May 5th) and the newly installed officers will be installed at the June gathering (June 9th).

Articles and Topics About Scotland and Things Scottish

From ebooks.visitscotland.com

Famous Scots

Literature

Sir Walter Scott

1771 - 1832

Born in Edinburgh, Scott is best known for historic fiction and romantic poetry. His most well-known works include *Ivanhoe*, *Rob Roy*, *The Heart of Midlothian* and *The Lady of the Lake*. He has the unique boast of being the only author to have a station named after a work; Edinburgh's Waverley Station.

J.M. Barrie

1860 - 1937

James Matthew Barrie was born in Kirriemuir, Angus. His most famous work is *The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up* – better known as *Peter Pan*. Prior to his death, JM Barrie bequeathed the copyright to *Peter Pan* to the Great Ormond Street Hospital in London. His other works include *Quality Street* (1901); *The Admirable Crichton* (1902); *What Every Woman Knows* (1908); *Dear Brutus* (1917); *Mary Rose* (1920)

Robert Louis Stevenson

1850 - 1894

A prolific writer, Stevenson published more than 100 books in his lifetime. Born in Edinburgh he took much inspiration from his native Scotland and many travels. His literary legacy is quite phenomenal: *Treasure Island*, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, *Kidnapped* and *Catriona*.

Iaian Banks

1954 - 2013

Born and bred in Fife Iain's best-known works include *The Wasp Factory*, *The Crow Road*, *Complicity* and his final novel, *The Quarry* – as well as science fiction under the name Iain M. Banks. In 2015, two years after his untimely death, a posthumous book in collaboration with his friend Ken MacLeod - called, simply, 'Poems' – was published to great critical acclaim.

Irvine Welsh

1958 -

Gritty realism is the trademark of the Leith-born author famed for his 1993 novel, *Trainspotting*. His writing examines the themes of addiction, violence and social division characterised by his raw Scots dialect. Welsh's numerous works include *Filth* (1998),

Glue (2001), The Acid House (1994), and Skagboys (2012)

Robert Burns

1759 – 1796

Scotland's national bard needs little introduction. The former farm boy wrote about social injustice and inequality and is also regarded as a pioneer of the romantic movement. His most notable works include A Red, Red Rose, A Man's a Man for A' That and Tam o' Shanter. He also wrote the words to an old Scottish folk song which has since become the global phenomenon that is Auld Lang Syne

From *The History of Scotland in 25 Objects*

<https://ebooks.visitscotland.com/25-objects/>

Paisley Shawl



Paisley Museum has the finest collection of Paisley shawls in the world.

The distinctive swirl design that is the hallmark of Paisley shawls is a classic Kashmiri design, and the scarves have been woven in

India since about the 11th century. Russian nobles began to acquire them in the 17th century, but they did not reach Western Europe until around 1775. The first shawls woven in paisley were made in 1805, and the trade peaked in 1860 when there were 71 shawl manufacturers in the town

The shawl varied over time, to suit the fashions of the day. Their ornate beauty made them incredibly popular, but they were prohibitively expensive to all but the richest people. Queen Victoria was among trendsetters of the period who made Paisley shawls fashionable, purchasing 17 in 1842.

The Paisley shawl began as an attempt by European manufacturers to imitate the rare and expensive Kashmiri shawls which featured intricate designs inserted by hand. Imitating the shawl on looms required a high level of skill and technology, and by that point Paisley was one of the most successful shawl manufacturing centres in Europe. Its subsequent dominance in production made the shawl and the distinctive teardrop pattern that appears in endless permutations in these shawls synonymous with the town.

By 1850 Paisley was a boom town because of this industry, with more than 7,000 weavers living

there. But 20 years later demand started to fall dramatically due to changing fashions and the ubiquity of these once rare items. They symbolize a golden manufacturing era when Scotland, as an active player in the Industrial Revolution, capitalized on the demand for a product.

From *The Scottish Banner*

Tartan-The Cloth of a Nation

By Sean Cairney



MACDONALD



MACDONALD CLANRANALD



MACDONALD DRESS



MACGREGOR



MACKENZIE



MACLEOD of HARRIS



MACLEOD of LEWIS



MACPHERSON RED



ROBERTSON RED



ROSS HUNTING



STEWART BLACK



ROYAL STEWART



STEWART CAMEL



STEWART MUTED BLUE



WALLACE

This month North American Scots will be celebrating Tartan Day on April 6th. The day had its humble beginnings in Nova Scotia and today has grown to be recognised by official government bodies and includes celebrations across Canada and the USA.

The first Tartan Day was held on April 6th, 1986 at a meeting of the Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia, which symbolically took place on the anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath (the most famous document in Scottish history, which declares Scotland's independence, drafted in 1320).

Whilst Tartan Day is not being celebrated this month in places such as Australia and New Zealand, they celebrate on July 1st, regardless of where you are in the world tartan is one of Scotland's true icons.

Few fabrics I can think of speak to you like tartan and give the wearer a real sense of belonging and connection to Scotland. Tartan is how many Scots express themselves and you can be guaranteed to be noticed when wearing it. I have been to Scottish events in several countries around the world and you will always find many in tartan, it is a timeless product and carries a great legacy with it. You of course do not have to be Scottish to wear some tartan as it represents quality in manufacturing the world over.

It also is a fabric that continues to reinvent itself, showcasing more than kilts, and something more than just Scots aspire to owning. It is one of 'brand Scotland's' top ambassadors and is renowned for its premium quality, allowing Scotland to be recognised as a nation of top production.

Last year a design student from the Scottish Borders designed a tartan for the blind and vision impaired. Heriot-Watt student Anna Cuiu designed a knitted tartan fabric using stitch structures to translate colours and patterns from the traditional tartan fabric into a sensory one. This is a perfect example how the industry is moving along with a modern world and being of appeal to a broad spectrum of people.

In today's fast fashion world products with heritage, legacy and that last are becoming more and more rare. Tartan has been part of the fabric of the story Scotland for generations and long may that weave of quality continue.

Scotland Facts – Unbelievable, but True

Known as 'Hunt the Gowk' Day in Scotland - gowk being the Scottish word for a foolish person - the 1st of April tradition used to see people sent on a foolish errand to deliver a sealed message reading 'Dinna laugh, dinna smile, hunt the gowk another mile' (send the fool onward with another foolish errand.)

Today, it continues to be a time to fool friends with fictional tales but from tales about Elvis Presley to waterfalls higher than Niagara Falls, the following Scottish stories – believe it or not - are no April Fools:

- Scotland has approximately 790 islands but only a quarter are inhabited.
- There are more red heads in Scotland than anywhere else in the world.
- The village of Bonnybridge, near Falkirk, has been dubbed the UFO capital of the world, with more than 300 reports of unidentified flying objects recorded every year.
- Prestwick Airport in Ayrshire is considered the only place in Britain that Elvis Presley ever visited. In 1960 the 'King' was finishing his army national service and stopped over for 2 hours.
- Edinburgh was the first city in the world to have an organised municipal fire brigade. The Edinburgh Fire Engine Establishment was formed in 1824, led by James Braidwood who went on to be first director of what was to become the London Fire Brigade. A statue to James Braidwood can be found in Edinburgh's Parliament Square.
- It was a Scot from Renfrewshire who laid the foundation stone for the Statue of Liberty. William A Brodie was a stonemason and moved with his family to the US in 1843 when he was two years old. He was born in the village of Kilbarchan.
- Cairns were rallying points before battles and fights. Each man would place a stone on the ground upon arrival and remove it again after the fight. Then the number of stones left would count to the lost number of the Clan.
- Following a storm in 2008, cup and rings marks were revealed in Achnabreac Forest near Lochgilphead believed to be around 5,000 years old.

Women of Note

By Norry Wilson

When it comes to celebrating ground-breaking women, and the incredible contributions they have made, the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) is putting its money where its mouth is. Of course, this is nothing new to the bank, which has long been an innovator in banknote technology. In 1727, the year RBS was founded, the bank issued the first note to feature a human face, a portrait of George II; in 1777 it became the first bank in Europe to issue multi-coloured banknotes (black, red and blue) and

in 1826 it became the first British bank to issue a double-sided note.



Their new, polymer notes feature design ideas drawn from a countrywide People's Money consultation. While the reverse side of their new £5, £10, and £20 notes celebrate Scotland's open spaces and wildlife – featuring mackerel, otters, and red squirrels, the faces of the notes will celebrate Scottish women.

The £5 note will feature pioneering Scottish writer, poet and naturalist Nan Shepherd (1893-1981). Author of fiction and poetry, as well as a celebrated non-fiction book titled 'The Living Mountain' (1977) about her experiences walking through Scotland's famous Cairngorm Mountain range, Shepherd is today recognised as a major contributor to Scottish Modernist literature.

The £10 note carries an image of writer, mathematician and astronomer Mary Somerville (1780-1872). Famously lauded as the 'Queen of British science' upon her death, Mary Somerville was hugely influential throughout her life and was nominated to be the first-ever female member of the prestigious Royal Astronomical Society.

The new £20, due to go into circulation in 2020, celebrates one of Scotland's pioneering female entrepreneurs; Glasgow tea room queen Catherine 'Kate' Cranston (1849-1934), and her world-famous Willow Tea Rooms, in Glasgow's Sauchiehall Street.

A legend in her own right, Miss Cranston not only changed the way women socialised in Scotland, she also ushered in the pioneering interior look known as the 'Glasgow Style' through her patronage of architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh and his artist wife Margaret.

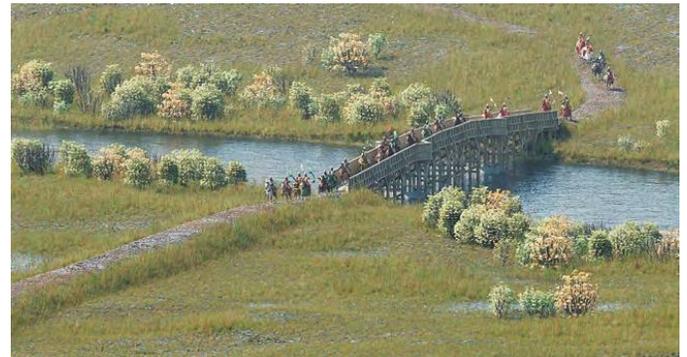
Before Miss Cranston opened her chain of Glasgow tea rooms, it was not the done thing for ladies to socialise without a male chaperone. Her business model, and visionary taste in modern design, freed-up a whole generation of modern ladies to break

with Victorian and Edwardian convention and experience a new kind of freedom.

The daughter and sister of existing tea room owners, Miss Cranston used her business acumen and design flare to put Glasgow on the world stage and helped transform the city. Gone were the dim and dusty old-style meeting places, replaced by bright and airy interiors, light years ahead of anything found anywhere else in Europe.

National Wallace Monument to Unveil New Look

State-of-the-art refurbishments of The National Wallace Monument have been designed to tell the story of Scotland's national hero better than it has ever been told before, and to appeal to the diverse visitors that the Monument attracts from across the world.



A reconstruction of the bridge used in the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297

Filled with fascinating historical information and exciting new insights, the displays will give focus to the story of the Battle of Stirling Bridge, where Wallace's army famously defeated English forces in 1297. A detailed reconstruction has been created with expert guidance to show visitors how Stirling would have looked at the time of the historic battle. Wallace's pivotal role in the Wars of Independence will also be told through a powerful animation.

The Hall of Heroes will be updated with the addition of two new busts depicting Scottish heroines Mary Slessor and Maggie Keswick Jencks. Other elements will be introduced specifically to engage children in history.

Accompanying extensive interior refurbishment is ongoing conservation work to the exterior of the building.

Editor's Addendum: Who are the Scottish heroines whose busts have been added to the Hall of Heroes at the National Wallace Monument?

Mary Slessor (1848-1915)

Mary Slessor was a hard working Scottish mill girl and an unorthodox Sunday School teacher, who, inspired by David Livingstone, became a missionary in Calabar, Nigeria, an area where no European had set foot before.

Despite several bouts of illness and constant danger, she lived with the tribes, learned their language and traditions, and earned their respect, putting an end to some barbaric practices, such as the killing of twins. She adopted many Nigerian children (particularly twins) who had been left to die.

When Southern Nigeria became a British Protectorate, she became the first ever female Magistrate in the British Empire and a skillful diplomatic emissary.

Maggie Keswick Jencks (1941-1995)

Margaret Keswick Jencks was a Scottish writer, artist and garden designer who co-founded Maggie's Centres with her husband Charles Jencks.

Maggie Keswick Jencks hailed from a family that has lived and done business in China for nearly 140 years. She was born in Cowhill, Scotland, but spent much of her early life in post-revolutionary China. She became known in the USA with the appearance of her book "The Chinese Garden" (1978), which was embellished with her own photography. She wrote other books and was in demand as a garden designer.

In May 1993, Maggie was told that her breast cancer had returned and she was given two to three months to live. She joined an advanced chemotherapy trial and lived for another 18 months. During that time, she and her husband Charles Jencks worked closely with her medical team, which included oncology nurse, Laura Lee, now Maggie's Chief Executive, to develop a new approach to cancer care.

In order to live more positively with cancer, Maggie and Charles believed you needed information that would allow you to be an informed participant in your medical treatment,

stress-reducing strategies, psychological support, and the opportunity to meet other people in similar circumstances in a relaxed domestic atmosphere.

Maggie was determined that people should not "lose the joy of living in the fear of dying."



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

Mailing Address:

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

www.caledonians.com

BOARD MEMBERS:

President: Don Moore
1st Vice President: Christian Skoorsmith
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