

# HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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

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## NEXT GATHERING

Our January gathering will be a celebration of Robert Burns on **Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, a week later than our usual gatherings.** As usual, we will gather at 2:00 pm at Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

Entertainment will be piping, poems and recitation of the "Address to a Haggis", and haggis, neeps, and tatties will be served at tea. Please understand that this is a celebration of Robert Burns in the month of his birth, not a Burns Dinner, and **alcoholic beverages cannot, and will not, be served.** Guests are requested to respect the fact that we gather in a United Methodist Church. The United Methodist Church around the world has a strict non-alcohol policy.

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## Looking Ahead

The February Gathering has traditionally been at the Masters of Scottish Arts concert at Benaroya Hall. This year, the concert will be Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. When you call Benaroya Ticket Office (206-215-4747) ask for the group rate for Caledonian & St. Andrew's Society. It will be \$10 less.

Two local organizations that regularly have Robert Burns Dinners have changed dates and locations:

**Tacoma Scots Burns Dinner**, Slavonian American Hall, 2306 N.30<sup>th</sup> St., Tacoma, WA. February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00-11:00pm. \$45. Tickets through [www.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://www.BrownPaperTickets.com)

**Robert Burns Dinner, Kenmore and District Pipe Band**, Lagunitas Brewing Company, Seattle Taproom & Beer Sanctuary, 1550 NW 49<sup>th</sup> St., Seattle, WA 98107. Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30pm. \$10.

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## 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.

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## Sunshine Report

**Sunshine Chairperson Bonnie Munro reports this information about members, former members, and those in the Scottish community:**

**Kenneth Munro**, long-time Caledonian member and former president of the organization, passed away on December 21<sup>st</sup>. A celebration of his life will be held February 9<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30 pm at Lake City Presbyterian Church, 3841 NE 123rd Street Seattle, WA. Cards may be sent to the Munro family care of Bonnie Munro, 19800 68<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Bothell, WA 98028-2039.

**Jim Kinghorn** recently had surgery and is recovering well at home. Cards may be sent to him at 10516 11<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125.

**May Helmsley** is having eye surgery in Oregon to repair damage to her cornea. Cards may be sent to her at 7025 Cooper Point Rd. NW, #2, Olympia, WA 98502-4380.

**Harry McAlister** is recovering at home from recent surgery on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Cards may be sent to him at 911 N. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Tacoma, WA 98403.

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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.

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## Calendar of Seattle Area Scottish Events

### January

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

**19 Robert Burns Supper,** Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 5:30pm. This event is sold out, but call to be put on the wait list: 360-416-4934 <https://celticarts.org>

**20 Robert Burns Celebration at the Caledonian & St. Andrews Society Gathering,** 2:00 pm. Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

### February

**1 Masters of Scottish Arts Concert,** Benaroya Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> and University St., Seattle. 7:30pm. tickets from \$28-49. Contact the Benaroya Hall Ticket Office at 206-215-4747. The Caledonians have reserved a block of tickets for \$10 savings.

**2 Tacoma Scots Burns Dinner,** Slavonian American Hall, 2306 N.30<sup>th</sup> St., Tacoma, WA. 6:00-11:00pm. \$45. Tickets through [www.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://www.BrownPaperTickets.com)  
Questions: [sheepgirl@msn.com](mailto:sheepgirl@msn.com).

**4 Robert Burns Dinner, Kenmore and District Pipe Band,** Lagunitas Brewing Company, Seattle Taproom & Beer Sanctuary, 1550 NW 49<sup>th</sup> St., Seattle, WA 98107. Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30pm. \$10. Available at [www.kdpipeband.com](http://www.kdpipeband.com) or at the door.

**24 Gung Haggis Fat Choy 2019,** China Harbor Restaurant, 2040 Westlake Ave. N., Seattle. Doors open at 4pm, entertainment starts at 5pm. \$45. Contact Bill McFadden for tickets at 206-364-6025.

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## Recap of the December Gathering



Nineteen Caledonians enjoyed almost an hour of the music of "The Backup Clan", a Scottish country dance band that got its name because it really was

the backup band for another music group that was unable to perform and the name stuck. Christmas goodies were served for tea.

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## Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your membership for 2018. Bring your check made out for \$35 for a single and \$45 for a couple to the next Gathering or send it to:

Treasurer  
Caledonian & St. Andrew's Society of Seattle  
PO Box 27278  
Seattle WA 98165-1778

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## Ghille Brogues for Sale

This item for sale is from the Douglas County Celtic Society in the Roseburg, OR area: *One pair*



*of quality Executive Ghillie Brogues by 'Gaelic Themes' of Scotland. Men's size 8 (US). Pre-owned, but in excellent condition; very gently worn only a few times. Full leather uppers & soles, complete with tasseled laces. \$60.00 obo.*

*Call 541-637-5456 or email: [dboth@mac.com](mailto:dboth@mac.com). These would be just the thing to complete the traditional 'highland dress' for the Robert Burns Night Dinner or the Highland Games!*

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## Researching Scottish Ancestry

This offer from Doug Archibald to help research your Scottish ancestry came in through our website:

*A big hello from Dumfries in south west Scotland, last resting place of our National Bard Rabbie Burns. Just a quick note to let you know I am in the business of researching Scottish Ancestry and wondered if you might be so kind as to share this with your members. My e-mail is [archambaud@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:archambaud@tiscali.co.uk) and my website is at Lookbak Scotland. If any of your members are interested in getting help researching their family roots, I would be only too happy to oblige. A ten per cent discount to anyone quoting the reference SCO4647. I hope your society flourishes and all are well. Wishing you all the best and thank you.*

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Diana Smith recently went to Hawaii. She would like to share pictures from her trip with you on her blog: <https://myhawaiiinotes.blogspot.com/2019/01/hawaii-dec-2018.html>

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## Articles and Topics About Scotland and Things Scottish

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From [ebooks.visitscotland.com](http://ebooks.visitscotland.com)

### Famous Scots

#### Science & Technology

Here are more Scots who turned science into technology useful around the world:

##### **Alexander Graham Bell**

**1847-1922**

Born in South Charlotte Street in Edinburgh's New Town, he emigrated to the United States due to ill health. He initially planned to invent a machine to help the deaf to hear. It was during the course of this research in Boston that he developed the telephone

##### **John Napier**

**1550-1617**

Napier was born in Merchiston Castle in Edinburgh, which is now part of the university named after him. He was an eminent mathematician and theorised the concept of logarithms. He also invented war machines including the forerunners of the armoured tank and the submarine. He also built Lauriston Castle in Edinburgh, which is now open to the public.

##### **Sir Alexander Fleming**

**1881-1955**

Born in Loudoun in East Ayrshire, Fleming worked on anti-typhoid vaccines. He became famous for his discovery of penicillin in 1928 although the drug was not perfected for another 11 years.

##### **John Dunlop**

**1840-1921**

Dunlop was born in Ayrshire and became a vet. It was his hobby as a cyclist that led him to change the tyres of a bicycle from solid rubber to having a pneumatic tyre. This development was fundamental in the development of the motor car.

##### **John Logie Baird**

**1888-1946**

Born in Helensburgh, Baird was a student of electrical engineering. Inventor of the world's first practical, publicly demonstrated television system in 1926, and also the world's first fully electronic colour television tube, demonstrated in 1928.

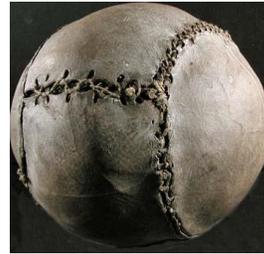
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From *The History of Scotland in 25 Objects*

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

### One of the World's Oldest Footballs

This football (soccer ball to Americans) was found in Mary Queen of Scots' chamber during renovations at Stirling Castle in 1981. It had become lodged in the rafters, leading experts to believe that somebody had given it quite a kicking – deliberate or otherwise – during reconstruction work in the 1540s. The ball is made from a pig's bladder, covered in cow leather with large, visible stitching. It's smaller than modern footballs, and not as heavy as it looks.



It was created between 1540 and 1570, making it around 500 years old. There is also evidence in the Lord High Treasurer's accounts on 11 April, 1497 that footballs were ordered for the

monarch, James IV.

Why is this old football so important to Scotland? Football has been an important part of Scottish life since the Middle Ages. The early game was quite rough, often leading to injuries. Players could use their hands and scrummages were frequent. In 1424, under the reign of James I, the Football Act was passed to ban the game because it often led to violence and was a distraction from military training. Anyone caught playing could be fined four pence. The law eventually fell into disuse and was repealed in 1906.

It can be viewed at the Smith Art Gallery and Museum in Stirling.

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From *The Scottish Banner*

### **Burn's works authenticated by new, minimally destructive technique**

Authenticating historic manuscripts can be a complicated and at times destructive process, with parts of the paper or ink damaged. However, a cross-disciplinary team of researchers from the University of Glasgow have found a novel way to accurately authenticate ancient documents in a minimally destructive way.

The findings, published in *Scientific Reports*, present a technique called direct infusion mass spectrometry, which uses a method of minimally destructive sample extraction directly from the paper surface. The team analysed the ink and paper of both authenticated and forged Robert Burns' manuscripts to produce a 'Support Vector Machine classifier' that could accurately distinguish true Burns handwriting from the fakes. The scientists were also able to distinguish which inks Burns used to write each of his poems, whether it be ivory black, iron gall or a mixture of the two.

With the help of Burns collector Dr William Zachs, the team were able to look at originals and fakes to ascertain the type of ink used, helped by a handwritten book owned by Dr Zachs which contained recipes for all sorts of liquids, including inks.

In total, the team tested 12 documents; three real Burns' documents selected from different periods of the bard's life, and nine fakes from the 1890s by notorious forger Alexander Smith. The scientists were able to lift ink from the copies using a simple pipetting process that could be performed outside the laboratory, and that crucially did not visibly damage the original material. Tests were initially performed on one of Alexander Smith's handwritten 150 year old fakes before being performed on real Burns' material.

According to Professor Gerard Carruthers of the School of Critical Studies, "In terms of Robert Burns there has been a huge historic industry in forgery and fakery, and he is not alone in this. It is very exciting that we're creating an authenticity tool that will have wide implications for scholars, libraries, archives, auction houses and collectors. This appliance of science to the physicality of culture is a crucial development."

*From The Scotsman Newspaper*

## Robert Burns' romantic riverside haunt to woo public

By Alison Campsie



The romantic site by the flowing waters of the Ayr at Failford, South Ayrshire, where Robert Burns is said

Robert Burns and Highland Mary, as depicted by artist Thomas Faed.

to have swapped bibles with his love Highland Mary in a commitment to marry, is opening up to the public from a new investment in the area's heritage. The community group South Ayrshire Paths was awarded a grant of £1,500 from Paths for All to help them do this.

Walkers will be able to tread in the footsteps of the couple following as access along an ancient path through Ayr Gorge Woodlands is improved. It is among these trees that the poet and Mary Campbell are said to have spent time during their romance, with the couple reputedly become "engaged" here in 1786. They planned to emigrate to Jamaica together, but the romance came to a sudden and tragic end when Mary died of a fever, possibly just weeks after the first meeting.



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

Mailing Address:  
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