

# HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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

Volume 116      Issue 5      May 2018

---

## NEXT GATHERING

Our May gathering will be on the first Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, because our usual gathering date conflicts with Mother's Day. As usual, we will gather at **2:00 pm at Haller Lake United Methodist Church**, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

This month entertainment will be by Mary MacRae and several of her flute-playing friends. This group has performed for us before, and is excellent.

---

## 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

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

Long-time Caledonian member Margaret Russell passed away on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Information about a memorial service will be forthcoming. Cards may be sent to her daughters, Dorothy Russell 7512 33<sup>rd</sup> NW, Seattle, WA 98117, and Denise Chitwood, 8225 Bagley Ave N., Seattle, WA 98103.

Another long-time Caledonian member, Ken Monro, fell on Easter Sunday and broke his hip. After surgery to support his hip with a rod and pin, he is recovering at a rehab facility in Bothell. Cards

may be sent to him at his home, 19800 68<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Kenmore, WA 98028-2039

Victoria Johnson continues to recover from surgery at Genesis Nursing Home-Ballard. She is using her cell phone, so people can contact her at 206-321-4980.

Harry McAlister spent a week in the hospital and is now resting at home. Cards may be sent to him at PO Box 7865, Tacoma, WA 98417.

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

### May

**5 Clan Donald Annual Spring Ceilidh**, American Legion Post 150, 8329 SE 89<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR. 5:00-10:00pm. \$25. <https://springceilidh2018.eventbrite.com>

**6 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society Gathering, 2:00 pm. Haller Lake United Methodist Church**, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125. (Note that this is a week earlier than the usual meeting, since the regular meeting date is Mother's Day.)

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

**19-21 Victoria, BC, Highland Games & Celtic Festival**, Topaz Park, Victoria, BC. <http://victoriahighlandgames.com/games/>

**26 Eugene Festival**, Irving Grange, 1011 Irvington Drive, Eugene, OR. 9:30am-5:00pm. <http://www.eugenescottishfestival.com/index.html>

### June

**2 Bellingham Highland Gathering**, Hovander Park, Ferndale, WA. This one-day come-back event appears to be for dance, bagpipe, and drum competitions, not a

full-blown Highland Games with clan tents, vendors, and entertainment.

<https://www.facebook.com/Scottishdance.org/photos/a.567339753638939.1073741828.556885824684332/573023769737204/?type=3>

**9-10 McMinnville Scottish Festival**, Linfield College, McMinnville, OR <https://www.macscottishfest.com/>

**16 BC Highland Games & Scottish Festival**, Percy Perry Stadium, Coquitlam, BC. <http://bchighlandgames.com/>

**16 Prosser Scottish Fest & Highland Games**, Prosser Wine and Food Park, Prosser, WA <http://prosserscottishfest.org/>

**23 Tacoma Highland Games**, Frontier Park, 21718 Meridian Ave E., Graham, WA 98338. <http://tacomagames.org/>

## Tartan Day 2018

A small, but enthusiastic group met on the steps of the Capitol Building on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, to participate in the annual Tartan Day activities. Thanks to Schuyler Hoss from Governor Jay Inslee's office, the Saltire was flown overhead beside the American flag.



Fran MacGregor-Hollums read the proclamation for Tartan Day from Governor Inslee.

The Olympia Highlanders Bagpipe Band provided an introduction and additional performance music for the event.



Dance students from McPherson Highland Dance School performed several Highland dances on the steps.



Attendees listened pensively as names of Flowers of the Forest were read for members of the Tartan Day organization who had passed this last year, including Frances Crews, Bob Parrish, and Clain Lust. Then Alan McEachern sang the Lament of Mary, Queen of Scots.



## Recap of the April Gathering

The Cummings Family (Dale, Judith, Flora, and Elinor) were the entertainment at the Gathering on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. This multi-talented family provided over an hour of music on fiddle, harp, guitar, and tin whistle, with the two girls demonstrating skills in Highland dancing that they have learned as students of Karen Shelton.



## Articles and Topics About Scotland and Things Scottish

---

A selection of objects important in the history of Scotland will be highlighted in this and future Heatherbells. This information comes from an ebook titled "The History of Scotland in 25 Objects" and available at [visitscotland.com](http://visitscotland.com).

### Carpow Logboat



The Carpow Logboat, discovered in the Tay Estuary in 2001, is a 3,000-year-old boat carved out of a single oak tree. It is nine metres long.

Around 1,000 BC, when this boat was created, communities living on and beside rivers and lochs would have relied on boats to get around. Many people lived in crannogs – ancient loch dwellings – and owning a decent vessel would have been vital for their ability to move about and interact and trade with other people.

This painstakingly preserved work is on display at the Perth Museum and Art Gallery. It is part of a fascinating exhibition alongside other Bronze and Iron Age objects that tell the story of Perth from the Neolithic through to the Bronze and Iron Ages, Medieval, and later periods.



There's a full-size replica of a Crannog at the Scottish Crannog Centre on Loch Tay, not far from where the logboat was found.

This part of Scotland is famed for its spectacular

trees and wildlife, and is a wonderful, green area to visit at any time of year. One of its most famous trees is the Fortinghall Yew, which is believed to be the oldest tree in Britain – between 2,000 and 3,000 years old. There are some truly magical woodlands in Perthshire, including Faskally Wood, near Pitlochry, which comes alive every Autumn in a stunning display of lights and sound. There are also several distilleries, castles and much more.

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

## Famous Scots

### Politics, Economics & Social Reform

**In 1701 the crowns of Scotland and England were combined in the Act of Union to form Great Britain. Three centuries later, that decision continues to polarize opinion. Whatever your feelings on independence, Scots have created a lasting legacy in Britain's political and economic landscape. From the "Grand Old Man of politic", W.E. Gladstone who led four British governments, to Adam Smith's economic theory in Wealth of Nations, Scots have shaped a land that stretches beyond our own border.**

### Andrew Carnegie

#### 1835 - 1919

Born in Dunfermline to a weaving family, Carnegie made a fortune in the steel industry in the United States. What is remarkable is that he gave a sizeable percentage of his wealth to causes he felt would benefit society and built over 2,500 free libraries throughout Scotland, England, the United States and Canada. He returned to Scotland and built Skibo Castle (well known as the venue for Madonna and Guy Richie's wedding) for his retirement. The Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum in Dunfermline tells the story of this exceptional man. You can also learn more about him online from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

### David Dale

#### 1739 - 1806

Born in Stewarton, Dale joined with the English cotton-spinner inventor Sir Richard Arkwright in a short-lived partnership to build the New Lanark Mills. Dale improved the conditions of his employees, providing a balanced diet, free schooling and low cost housing. The New Lanark World Heritage Village is now a visitor attraction.

### Rev Henry Duncan

#### 1774 - 1846

Rev Henry Duncan was responsible for the world's first savings bank. It opened on the 10th May 1810 in Ruthwell, near Dumfries. The Ruthwell Parish Bank paid interest on the savings of locals and was intended to instill thrift and independence in the working man. The idea soon took off and before long, there were savings banks throughout Britain, Europe and

America. Duncan was also a geologist and is credited with being the man who first identified a fossil footprint in Britain at Cornockle quarry near Lochmaben. He also restored the Ruthwell Cross in 1818, which is one of the most discussed medieval monuments in the world.

## **Sir Patrick Geddes** **1854 - 1932**

Sir Patrick Geddes was born in Ballater. He began working in the National Bank of Scotland but went on to study botany at Edinburgh University. He did not enjoy formal study and left after only a week to go to London. In 1880, he returned to Edinburgh University and his wide field of interests led him to develop innovative urban renewal programmes, including the creation of the first student halls of residence. He was a believer in improvements to the environment, claiming that humans prospered where there was fresh air, gardens and good housing. He purchased a building near Edinburgh Castle which he used as a 'social observatory'. Its famous Camera Obscura is still part of the outlook tower and can be visited today. The work of Geddes now influences civic planning throughout the world.

## **Ramsay McDonald** **1866 - 1937**

Ramsay MacDonald was born illegitimately to the son of a plough-boy and serving girl in Lossiemouth. He was elected the first Labour Prime Minister in 1924. He was re-elected in 1929 and later formed a coalition Government with Stanley Baldwin in 1931.

---

From *The Scottish Banner*

### Whisky facts

- The world's most popular spirit, Scotch whisky, is sold in over 200 markets worldwide.
- Scotch Whisky is one of the UK's top 5 exports, with 36 bottles exported every second.
- Scotch whisky delivers £109 per second to UK exports
- More Scotch whisky is sold in one month in France than Cognac in a year.
- Scotland's International Centre for Brewing and Distilling is the only organisation in the UK to

offer both Honours and Masters degrees in Brewing and Distilling.

- Whisky in Gaelic is 'uisge beathe', which means 'water of life'.
- Whisky stored in barrels gradually evaporates at an approximate rate of 2% a year. This is referred to as the famous 'angels' share'.
- Scotch whisky can only be called Scotch whisky when it has been left for a minimum of three years to age in casks, in Scotland. Some casks hold whisky for considerably more time than this though.
- Scotland is home to more than 20 million casks of maturing whisky. That's almost four for every person living there.



---

## **Arrol-Johnston-*The historic Scottish automaker***

*By Eric Bryan*

Arrol-Johnston of Paisley, Scotland, was the first ever Scottish car company which was formed in the late 1800's and designed, constructed and trialled Scotland's first automobile. The firm got started at the end of the nineteenth century, a time when it appeared that the automotive industry would become a major part of Scotland's economy. The company would provide the first motor car to Antarctica and continue in the automotive business until the late 1920's. It grew to be Britain's fifth largest automaker.

The first Arrol-Johnston car, named the Dogcart, was produced in a factory in Yates Street, Camlachie, Glasgow. Presented in 1898, this vehicle had a wooden body, sat six occupants in back-to-back configuration, and was fitted with a 10 horse

power (hp) flat-twin engine. The motor, which was mounted underneath the floorboards, had a rope-pull starter. A chain drive turned the rear wheels, and the vehicle had solid tyres, leaf spring suspension, and rear brakes (the latter said to be ineffective in wet weather).

Johnston test-drove the car at midnight in November, going up to 12mph for 20 miles on the streets of Glasgow. For this experiment, Johnston was charged with violating the Locomotive Act for operating his vehicle on Buchanan Street and in St Enoch's Square during proscribed hours. Though Johnston was prosecuted and fined for the test drive, the Dogcart proved to be a success. The car was solid and reliable, and was manufactured until 1907.

Arrol-Johnston received some high-profile exposure when it provided a car to the 1907-09 Nimrod Expedition to the South Pole. The car had a four-cylinder 15 hp air-cooled engine. It was reported in *The Car* that it was estimated that the vehicle could go 150 miles in 24 hours, and that it might be able to dash to the pole. This project however was mostly a publicity stunt, as the car's engine hadn't been tested for operation in such extreme temperatures, nor had the wheels been prepared to provide traction in snow and on ice.

Though Arrol-Johnston produced and marketed several vehicles from 1906 to 1913, its most popular



and successful prewar model was its four-cylinder 15.9 hp car. Introduced in late 1909 and available in 1910, the first 15.9 had four-wheel brakes and a dashboard radiator. It was offered with increased engine capacity in 1912.

From *The Scotsman*

## Scottish locations that should be World Heritage sites



The Isle of Iona has been home to a community since 563 when Saint Columba is rumoured to have founded the island's monastery. The abbey is regarded as the best preserved Middle Age ecclesiastical building in the west of Scotland.



Founded in 1178 and consecrated 21 years later, Arbroath Abbey has played a significant part in Scottish history. The now ruined sandstone building was the site of the declaration of Arbroath—a declaration of Scottish independence made in 1320.



Situated on the south of Shetland, the immaculately preserved drystone homesteads of Mousa, Old Scatness and Jarlshof provide significant examples of the European Iron Age in an area outside the Roman Empire.



Glenfinnan is an area of historical and architectural significance. The banks of Loch Shiel were the location where Prince Charles Edward Stuart raised his royal standard and launched the 1745 Jacobite Rising. The Glenfinnan Viaduct, a fine example of Victorian ingenuity and architecture, is an iconic concrete span comprised of 21 arches. It overlooks the monument and Loch Shiel.

## Call to ban buses from Edinburgh’s Old Town to protect heritage

People living in the historic heart of Edinburgh want a clampdown ordered on open-top buses, tourist coaches and trucks, amid claims Old Town has become an “unsustainable mess”.

Parts of the city centre are said to be regularly brought to a halt and suffer damage to roads and pavements due to a lack of regulation over areas on and around the Royal Mile. A “large vehicle ban”



on the Canongate, Lawnmarket, Victoria Street, Cockburn Street, St. Mary’s Street, Candlemaker Row, West Port, East Market Street, Jeffrey Street and the Cowgate has been proposed by community leaders. The dossier states that “tourist buses are a serious problem. There are far too many of them, they are too large, not designed for use in cities, and rarely more than half-full. These oversized buses congest our narrow streets and represent a serious degradation of the livability of our city.”

Soaring tourism numbers, traffic chaos, “third world” roads and pavement conditions, and an invasion of illegal advertising boards have also been cited. The Old Town Community Council wants delivery companies to be forced to use small vans or electric vehicles to get access to the Old Town in future. The Council also wants much stricter regulation, including a new permit system for groups of more than 10, aimed at operators of ghost tours, pub crawls, and “silent disco” events to curb disruption and ensure roads and pavements are kept clear for local residents.



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](http://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](mailto:ruthmcfadden@mindspring.com)