

# HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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

Volume 117

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May 2019

## NEXT GATHERING

Our May gathering will be on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please note on your calendar that this is the first Sunday in May. Our usual second Sunday meeting date is 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.

The program will be a talk about "Scottish Influence on the Foundation of the USA" by Tom Lamb. Those who attended the March gathering know that Tom is a skilled presenter and his program will be a treat.

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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

Bonnie reported that everyone must be in good health this month as she had not heard of anyone being sick or recovering from illness or operations.

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

### 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 80<sup>th</sup> 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/>

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### June

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

**1 Searson Concert,** Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA. 7:00pm. \$25. 360-416-4934. <https://celticarts.org/celtic-events/searson-concert/>

**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 80<sup>th</sup> 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/>

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

## July

**12 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of the Clans Dinner**, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA. 7:00pm. \$35. 360-416-4934. <https://celticarts.org/celtic-events/clans-dinner-19/>

**13-14 Skagit Valley Highland Games & Celtic Festival**, Edgewater Park, 600 Behrens Millet Road, Mount Vernon, WA. <https://celticarts.org/celtic-events/hg19/>

**26-28 Seattle Scottish Highland Games**, Enumclaw Expo Center, 45224 – 284<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Enumclaw, WA <http://www.sshga.org/>

## August

**3 Spokane Scottish Highland Games**, Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, Spokane, WA \$8-10. <https://www.spokanehighlandgames.net/>

**17-18 Bitterroot Celtic Games & Gathering**, Daly Mansion, Hamilton, MT. <https://festivalnet.com/73403/Hamilton-Montana/Ethnic-Festivals/Bitterroot-Celtic-Games-Gathering>

## September

**14-16 Kelso Highlander Festival**, Tam O'Shanter Park, Kelso, WA <https://www.kelso.gov/visitors/highlander-festival>

## Re-Cap of April Gathering



Karen Shelton-Johnson brought two adults and two children to provide the program on Highland Dancing. A large group of 22 members enjoyed the program and

Hannah and Adrienne performed the Highland Fling. Kaylie and Eloise showed off their steps in the Sword Dance.



lavish tea table.

## Election of Officers

The annual election of officers for the Caledonian and St. Andrew's Society of Seattle will be at the May gathering. Nominations for two-year positions to be elected this year are:

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (responsible for the tea table at gatherings) – Rosemary Blakemore

Treasurer – Porter Patten

Two (of 3 )Trustees – Victoria Johnson and Harry McAlister

The newly elected officers will be installed at the June gathering (June 9<sup>th</sup>).

## Ads Received on the Caledonian Website

*(From time to time we receive information on our website about local performances and various services that we think Caledonians may be interested in knowing.)*

From Derek McEwan: May I introduce my company, [www.fifetours.com](http://www.fifetours.com) to you. We are a family run business offering bespoke tours of Scotland, in a luxury Lexus RX450 for up to 4 people. Unlike many tour companies, we charge per hour for the car, not per person, keeping our prices down and offering a personal dedicated service to our guests. Fife tours is based in Dunfermline, the ancient Capital of Scotland, only a short journey from Edinburgh airport and in close proximity to Edinburgh City, St Andrews and the many beautiful villages on the Fife Coastal Path. Besides bespoke tours, where you can choose exactly where you want to go and what you want to see, we also offer set tours of Edinburgh, Kingdom of Fife, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, Glencoe, William Wallace and King Robert the Bruce sites of interest. We are ready and waiting to assist any member of your society who may be visiting or planning a visit to Scotland. Our aim is to show you the very best of this beautiful country and to help you see what you want to see. If you want to trace a family tree, visit where your ancestors came from or retrace some places of family or personal interest, we will be happy to help. Please contact us on our contacts page at [www.fifetours.com](http://www.fifetours.com) Best regards from Bonnie Scotland  
Derek McEwan Owner and Tour Guide

From Jenny Murry: Hello. I am a member of the Seattle Metropolitan Singers. I am reaching out to you to invite your members to attend our spring concert on 6/9 at Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard Ave, Seattle. A local non-profit SSAA choral group, the Seattle Metropolitan Singers, under the direction of Allan J. Andrews, performing songs from the "Old Country", including such favorite folk songs as "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" and "Danny Boy". You will also enjoy more contemporary pieces such as "The Waking" by local composer Giselle Wyers, and "How Can I Keep From Singing?" arranged by Karen P. Thomas, the artistic director of Seattle Pro Musica. \$10-\$20 suggested donation, paid lots and street parking only (it's Capitol Hill). We hope that you can share this invitation with your members, so that they might be able to join us. Thank

you so much! Jenny Murray Seattle Metropolitan Singers  
Administrative Committee Coordinator

## Articles and Topics About Scotland and Things Scottish

*From ebooks.visitscotland.com*

### Famous Scots

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#### Art

Is it the splendour of our landscapes? The spirit of our people? Or simply because we're home to some of the finest art schools in the world? Whatever the reason Scotland has produced some great artists of note - and even artistic movements. Collections by The Glasgow Boys, The Glasgow Girls, The Scottish Colourists can be seen at some of the magnificent galleries throughout Scotland. Perhaps one of our most renowned artists was Charles Rennie Mackintosh. His iconic architecture still stands proud today; the Glasgow School of Art, Hill House and the Mackintosh's Lighthouse building which is now Scotland's Centre for Architecture, Design and the City. A fitting home indeed, as art and design continues to shine brightly in Scotland.

#### The Glasgow School

The Glasgow School was a selection of artistic collectives that emerged in the 1870s, flourishing between the 1890s and 1910. The 'school' was composed of The Four, which included renowned architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh and his wife Margaret MacDonald; the Glasgow Girls, a group of female designers and artists; and the Glasgow Boys. The latter is the best-known of the movement, working mostly in impressionist and post-impressionist painting, and included Joseph Crawhill and Sir James Guthrie. Their works can be seen in various Scottish collections, notably the Burrell Collection in Glasgow and Broughton House in Kirkcudbright.

#### The Scottish Colourists

##### 1920s - 1930s

Composed of artists Samuel Peploe, Francis Cadell, Leslie Hunter and J.D. Fergusson, the Scottish Colourists were a group of post-impressionist artists who blended Scottish painting traditions with the influences of French artists such as Monet and Cézanne. Though their work lost popularity in the 1930s, they were rediscovered in the 1980s and have since had a great influence on Scottish art. Their works can be seen in numerous galleries including Aberdeen Art Gallery, the J. K. Fergusson Gallery in

Perth, and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in Edinburgh.

#### Colquhoun & MacBryde

Born in 1914 and 1913 respectively, Robert Colquhoun and Robert MacBryde – dubbed "The Two Roberts" – met at Glasgow School of Art in the early 1930s. They began a lifelong relationship and professional collaboration and moved to London, where their Modernist and Expressionist paintings took the art world by storm.

#### Ken Currie

##### 1960 -

A graduate of the prestigious Glasgow School of Art, Ken Currie is known for his atmospheric, eerie depictions of political and philosophical issues. One of his best known works, the chilling *Three Oncologists*, can be seen at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh, while others are on display at the People's Palace and Winter Gardens in Glasgow and the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum in Ayrshire.

#### Charles Rennie Mackintosh

Born in Glasgow, Mackintosh was one of Scotland's most original architects, instantly recognisable through his colourful Art Nouveau designs. His creations include Glasgow School of Art, where he was a student, Hill House in Helensburgh and House of an Art Lover, which was built after his death. Scotland's Centre for Architecture, Design and the City is now housed in The Lighthouse, which he designed as the Glasgow Herald offices in 1899.

#### Jack Vettriano

Jack Vettriano is Scotland's most commercially successful artist, best known for the famous *Singing Butler*. Born Jack Hoggan in the seaside town of Methil, Fife, he left school at 16 and didn't take up painting until a girlfriend bought him a set of watercolours for his 21st birthday. He has since exhibited all around the world, including a major retrospective at Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum. Some of his popular works can be seen at Kirkcaldy Galleries in Kirkcaldy, Fife, where he still lives and works today.

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From *The History of Scotland in 25 Objects*  
<https://ebooks.visitscotland.com/25-objects/>

#### Steam Locomotive "Maude"

Steam locomotive No. 673 was designed to pull carriages of rail freight using steam power. It was designed by Matthew Holves, locomotive

superintendent of the North British Railway, in 1888 and built in Glasgow in 1891. Between 1888 and 1900, 168 locomotives of this type were built.



Apart from being one of the few preserved 0-6-0s (these numbers refer to the

configuration of its wheel arrangement) to have been certified for main-line work in the UK, it played an important role in supporting the British Army in World War 1.

In 1915 the government asked British rail companies to support the army. No. 673 was rebuilt and sent to the Western Front in France to transport troops and supplies to the trenches.

In 1919, to commemorate its part in the war, No. 673 was named after Lieutenant General Maude, who was best known for his operations in the Mesopotamian campaign.

After the war, No. 673 returned to freight duties and in 1967 it was sold by British Railways to the Scottish Railway Preservation Society, which restored and saved it. It is on permanent display at the Museum of Scottish Railways in Bo'ness, near Edinburgh.

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From *The Scotsman Newspaper*

## 6 sacred stone sites of Scotland with strange tales

Claire Randall Fraser launched a time travelling odyssey after touching the fictional Craig Na Dun stone circle in television show *Outlander*. While it may have been a fantastical voyage, the strange powers felt at Scotland's sacred stone sites have long been documented. With some of Scotland's stone circles around 5,000 years old, a rich culture of folklore and myth has evolved surrounding the mysterious formations, some where Druids are believed to have worshipped. Here we look at six sites and their links to love, health, fertility fortune

and death - and the tale of one tourist who believed he was cursed after visiting a key Highland attraction.

### Calanais, Lewis, Outer Hebrides



Legend tells how a white fairy cow came to save starving islanders by giving milk at the 5000 year old stones. Recent research confirms

that the stones were deliberately placed to align with the orbits of the sun & moon.

### Clach-na-Bhan - Stone of the Woman - near Braemar, Aberdeenshire

Women would journey to this ancient rock on the top of Clach-na-Bhan in hopes of increasing chances of an easy childbirth. Single women also made pilgrimages to the stone in the belief it would help them find a husband.



### Clava Cairns, near Inverness



A Belgian tourist claimed to have been cursed after lifting a stone from this 4,000-year-old sacred. It is believed that rituals using the dead were

carried out at the site, which is linked to the midsummer full moon.

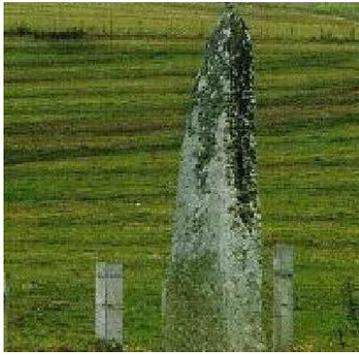
### Granny Kempock, Gourock, Inverclyde

This 6ft monolith stands above the main shopping street and has long been the source of superstition in the town.

Originally thought to be a Druid altar, Kempock was believed to bring good fortune to newlyweds and fishermen



## Quoybune Stone, Birsay, Orkney



Sacred stones were believed to be loaded with life & power with the Quoybune Stone said to move at the stroke of midnight on Hogmanay. Those who witnessed this phenomenon would not live to see another

year, according to legend.

## Ring of Brodgar/Stones of Stenness/The Odin Stone, Orkney

Many believe The Ring of Brodgar, made up now of 27 stones, was an open-air temple for Druid rituals, possibly including human sacrifice. Orkney folk tradition claims the stones as giants who were petrified on sunrise.



## Scotland's most spectacular seabirds and where to spot them.

By Lloyd Bent



The UK is home to almost half of the seabirds in the EU, and 70 per cent of them are in Scotland. The islands and cliffs around the country provide habitats for a wide range of seabirds including puffins, guillemots, kittiwakes and cormorants

Seabirds get almost all of their food from the sea and spend most of their time far from land, but they have to come back to the coast and cliffs to

breed. This is when both enthusiasts and curious visitors have the best chance of seeing them.

There are colonies of seabirds, each with their own unique mixture of breeds, all over Scotland. Here are some of the best places to go and see them.

## Isle of May

The Isle of May is home to the oldest bird observatory in Scotland, which was founded in 1934. Five



miles off the Fife coast, the island is internationally important for its populations of breeding seabirds. The most significant breed on the island are puffins, with more than 40,000 occupied burrows in the spring and summer. Other breeding seabirds are found in large numbers including shags, eiders, guillemots, kittiwakes, razorbills, arctics, common and sandwich terns, herrings, lessers and great black-backed gulls.

## St. Kilda



This world-famous colony is home to almost a million birds, with 17 different species of seabird

breeding on the remote group of islands. St Kilda also boasts a number of bird-related records. Among the many that nest there is the largest colony of northern gannets in the world, the largest colony of Leach's storm petrels in Europe, and the biggest colonies of Atlantic puffins and northern fulmars in the EU.

## St. Abb's Head

A short drive from Edinburgh, St Abb's Head near Berwick is an ideal place to view around 50,000 nesting seabirds, with May and June the best months to visit.



Common guillemots and black-legged kittiwakes are the most prevalent, but you can also now see northern gannets. The birds were absent from St Abb's for many years and only attempted to breed there again in 2017.

### Staffa Nature Reserve



Reached from Iona by open boat, Staffa is one of the most idyllic islands you can visit in Scotland. Atlantic puffins burrow here in May and June.

The name 'Staffa',

which is home to the famous Fingal's Cave, comes from the Norse word 'Stave' or 'pillar island'. This is thanks to the enormous basalt columns that stick out from the sea just off the island's coast.

### Shetland

For close-up viewings of majestic seabirds making their nests for breeding, Sumburgh Head, Noss and Hermaness nature reserves on the Shetland Islands are the places to be. Gannets, guillemots, puffins, razorbills, kittiwakes and fulmars are all known to make their homes here. Sumburgh Head is the most accessible of the three, while Noss boasts the spectacle of 23,000 gannets, 24,000 guillemots and 10,000 fulmars spread out over a mile of cliff face. Hermaness, which includes the Muckle Flugga stacks off the northern tip of Unst, has even more gannets.

### Shiant Isles



One of the remotest places in Scotland, the Shiant Isles are uninhabited and can only be reached by chartered boat - but there's a strict limit on how many people can visit the islands at once. They're located east of Harris and south east of Lewis in the

Outer Hebrides, and if you're really keen you can stay there in a cottage with no running water or electricity. The privately owned islands are home to around 10 per cent of the UK's puffins and seven per cent of the UK's breeding razorbills. The Shiant also offer an ideal place for seabirds to set up new colonies and Manx shearwaters and storm petrels have been doing just that.



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

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