

# HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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

Volume 114      Issue 8      November 2016

---

**NEXT GATHERING** is on **Sunday, November 13, 2016, 3:00 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

One of our favorite performing groups, the Fiddlefooted Cummings Family, will be the entertainment. Since our meeting is in the afternoon, not the evening, tea will be provided by the Board so you do not need to bring anything. Our usual raffle of items Scottish and otherwise will be available, and the library of books about Scotland will be open. Our president, Don Moore, will provide a book review! This should be a very entertaining Gathering. Hope you can make it!

---

## Calendar of Seattle Area Scottish Events

### November 2016

**5 SSHGA Heather Tartan Ball and Silent Auction**, Seattle Latvian Cultural Center, 11710 3<sup>rd</sup> 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>

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

**13 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society of Seattle Gathering**, 3:30 pm. Lake City Presbyterian Church, 3841 N.E. 123rd Street, Seattle, WA;  
[www.caledonians.com](http://www.caledonians.com)

**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/>

### December 2016

**2 Geoffrey Castle**, Center for Spiritual Living, 5801 Sand Point Way, NE, Seattle, WA  
[info@geoffreycastle.com](mailto:info@geoffreycastle.com) [info@SpiritualLiving.org](mailto:info@SpiritualLiving.org)

**10 Geoffrey Castle's Celtic Christmas**, Historic Everett Theater, 2911 Colby Ave, Everett, WA, 425-258-6766  
<http://www.geoffreycastle.com>

**11 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society of Seattle Gathering**, 3:00 pm. Lake City Presbyterian Church, 3841 N.E. 123rd Street, Seattle, WA;  
[www.caledonians.com](http://www.caledonians.com)

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

**16 Geoffrey Castle's Celtic Christmas**, Kirkland Performance Center, 350 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA, 425-893-9900. <http://www.geoffreycastle.com>

**17 Geoffrey Castle's Celtic Christmas**, Northshore Performing Arts Center, 18125 – 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NE, Bothell, WA 98011, 425-298-3449  
<http://www.geoffreycastle.com>, [info@npacf.org](mailto:info@npacf.org)

**22 Geoffrey Castle's Celtic Christmas**, Bake's Place, 155 108<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Suite 110, Bellevue, WA, 425-454-2776 <http://www.geoffreycastle.com>

---

## November Gathering

Starting this year, Caledonian Gatherings will be held on **Sundays from 3:00-5:00pm**. The

Board has chosen the Sundays following the second Friday of each month. This is not always the second Sunday of a month, so be sure to calculate Gathering dates based on when the second Friday of the month is.

The November Gathering will be held on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00pm. We are continuing to meet in the Great Room at the Lake City Presbyterian Church as we have for the last several years.

---

## Interesting Items Received on our Web Site

Dear Fellow Scot,

We're reaching out to you and your organisation because we think you might be interested in a new free online magazine we've launched.

[www.positivelyscottish.scot](http://www.positivelyscottish.scot) is a not-for-profit venture, telling inspiring and positive stories about Scotland and Scots, home and abroad. We'll focus on how people and groups tackle issues in a fast-changing world, and present an alternative to a mainstream media which some readers say has become too reliant on a diet of conflict, disaster, and clickbait. The site will always be free to access, apolitical, and will not host any digital advertising, helping to make your reading experience as enjoyable as possible.

Positively Scottish will include a mixture of long reads, interviews, and profiles of largely unsung heroes in areas such as social enterprise, charities, the environment, and grassroots arts and sport. In its initial phase, at least one story will be posted every day (Monday to Saturday). A pool of 15 freelance journalists have already signed on to contribute. More than half are completing their journalism training at Scottish universities. Some two-thirds of writers are female, and eight different nationalities are represented. All articles will be overseen by an experienced editor to ensure high standards of useful journalism. Writers will be paid at a market rate for articles they pitch which are successfully commissioned.

For US-based readers, we've got a special treat: our very own man in America! Iain Lundy, a Scot who now lives in Arizona, will write a regular column telling tales of Scots' achievements in the USA. If you know of suitable stories, you can contact him direct at [ilundy@hotmail.com](mailto:ilundy@hotmail.com)

Positively Scottish is operated by a Community Interest Company (CIC) whose directors share decades of

experience in journalism, web development, digital design and the charity sector. Funding for the initial phase will come from a personal legacy and the nature of the CIC means any external finance that can be brought in must be re-invested in journalism. Possible funding routes include philanthropic aid from individuals or grant-giving bodies, or editorial partnerships with organisations attracted by a site with a signed-up audience of Scots committed to social good. So that's us.

Read articles on [www.positivelyscottish.scot](http://www.positivelyscottish.scot) Sign up for a daily dose of positivity and to comment on articles in a safe place Share the word with all the fellow Scots you know. We're on Facebook and Twitter.

Thanks for your time,

Calum Macdonald, Co-founder

---

Thank you for your interest in my book "The Year of The Prince" which told of a successful Jacobite Uprising in 1745 and the entry of Prince Charles Edward Stuart and his troops into London on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1746.

The book is volume one in my six-volume alternative history "The House of Stuart Sequence" and I am very pleased to announce that volume two is now available as a Kindle book.

"The King Shall Have His Own Again" explores the history of Great Britain, Europe and North America during the reigns of King James III, King Charles III and King Victor Francis. It takes the story of the restored Stuarts to the year 1800.

A King is assassinated, a fateful battle is fought on Drumossie Moor, the burning issue of slavery is addressed and a Stuart Prince dies a heroic death as a Crusader.

You can see further details and you can purchase "The King Shall Have His Own Again" by clicking on this link:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Shall-Again-House-Stuart-Sequence-ebook/dp/B01M4FRX8A/>

Further volumes of The House of Stuart Sequence are currently in preparation and I am hopeful that physical books of the series will be available at some stage in 2017.

I'd be delighted if you could spread the news of this new book to friends and colleagues.

Kind regards,

*George H Kearton*

## Articles About Scotland and Things Scottish

From Popular Mechanics.com

(Thanks to Jim Van Zee for spotting this article.)

### Scotland Will Soon Be Running on Kite Power

By Avery Thompson



A new kite-driven power station is being built near Stranraer in Scotland, and will be one of the first large-scale

commercial power stations of its kind.

Kite-driven power stations are a relatively new idea. The concept involves using multiple kites to harness wind power and drive turbines on the ground. The kite is attached to the ground-based turbines with a tether, and when the wind forces the kite to rise, the tether spins the turbine to generate electricity. By using a system with two kites, in which one rises as the other falls, power can be generated continuously.

The firm building the power station, Kite Power Systems, says its system is so cheap and cost-effective that it won't need a government subsidy, unlike most renewable energy plants.

The location is a big advantage here, as the winds in this area of Scotland blow at the same strength all year round, especially at several hundred feet. This gives the kite-driven system an advantage over other renewable power plants that typically have long downtimes.

Once this plant is built, it will become the first large-scale kite-driven plant in the UK, and only the second in the world, after a research project in Italy. The company expects each kite will generate two or three megawatts of electricity each. They are optimistic that the plant will be able to generate several hundred megawatts by the year 2025.

---

From *The Scotsman* Newspaper

### Orkney sheep farmer hailed as Britain's "hardest working man"

Billy Muir, who collected his Pride of Britain award on Monday for his work on North Ronaldsay. PIC.

An Orkney sheep farmer who holds down 20 jobs across his island has been hailed as Britain's hardest-working man. Billy Muir keeps a large flock on North Ronaldsay but his other roles include lighthouse keeper, firefighter, electrician, builder rubbish collector and airport worker. The 67-year-old, from North Ronaldsay, who also shows tourists around the island, was honoured with a Pride of Britain award at a ceremony in London last night (Monday). Awards organisers described Mr Muir as Britain's hardest-working man as he picked up a Community Partner award.

The father-of-two said he enjoyed working on the island and had no plans to retire. "It's made me very happy," Mr Muir said. He told BBC Radio's Good Morning Scotland programme: "I've been the lighthouse keeper at the North Ronaldsay lighthouse for some 47 years. I've been a fireman on the island for the Scottish Fire and Rescue team for 33 years, and a fireman at North Ronaldsay airfield for about 11 years. And I've been a contractor on the island for most of my working lifetime."

Mr Muir added: "I've spent most of my life in the lighthouse service and that means a lot to me. It's something you dedicate yourself to doing as long as you're able to. There is no retiring age now and that's the reason I've clocked up so many years. It's made me very happy, and it keeps me fit. As long as I keep fit and healthy I've got no plans to retire."

Mr Muir said he and his neighbours on North Ronaldsay relied on each other to keep island life going. He said: "If you're a willing hand you get lumbered with the job. But we're a very close-knit community and we rely on each other all the time to keep the island going. The sheep are a major part of that because it takes the whole island to round them up. It's not an easy task to round up 2,500 sheep on a shoreline. We're like one big family."

Mr Muir's wife Isobel, 76, said: "He does a lot of work for the community when I would like him to be doing more work around here." But she added: "It's worth it. I've often wondered where the island would be if he didn't do all those jobs. He contributes so much to everything that goes on. It's an ageing population and he's one of the people that's still strong and fit enough to do all this work."

## Castle owned by world's first gun-toting assassin for sale

The ruins of a castle which once belonged to a Scot who carried out the world's first documented assassination by firearm have gone on sale. Old Woodhouselee Castle in Roslin, Midlothian, was once the home of James Hamilton after he married its heiress, Lady Anne Sinclair. He became the first man recorded in history to carry out a planned assassination using a firearm – shooting James Stewart, the half-brother of Mary Queen of Scots, on January 23, 1570.

His home was burnt down as an act of revenge following the crime, and now all that remains 446 years later are large underground vaults and a pile of rubble. But those interested in its grisly history now have the chance to purchase the ruins - which come with two acres of land and a five-bedroom luxury mansion. Firth House is currently on the market with Savills for offers over £1.4 million.

In the description is a piece about the area's history, which reads: "The ruins of Woodhouselee Castle lies in a spectacular wooded setting to the north of Firth House. This dates from the 1500s and stands in what was a strategic position overlooking the North River Esk. All that remains are two collapsed barrel vaulted storerooms and part of a tower above a cliff plunging to the river."

It was during the 16th century that the castle became the property of James Hamilton, and legend has it that his wife and newborn child were evicted by James Stewart, who was the 1st Earl of Moray and the Regent of Scotland at the time. The pair died after being left in the cold, and it is said that their ghosts haunt the site and their screams can still be heard by those dwelling nearby. As an act of revenge, Hamilton stalked the Regent across much of Northern England and the Borders and through Perth, Glasgow and Stirling, finally finding his perfect opportunity in Linlithgow. According to the legend, he set up his assassination position in a gallery window in the house of the town's provost, Charles Drummond. He fired a single shot at the Regent, leaving him with fatal wounds, and fled on horseback. Hamilton left the country and went to France, and Woodhouselee Castle was burned down by the Regent's men.

## Culled From Wikipedia

### A Little About Newspapers in Scotland

During the 17th century, there were many kinds of publications that told both news and rumours. Among these were pamphlets, posters, ballads etc. Even when the news periodicals emerged, many of these co-existed with them.

*Mercurius Caledonius* founded in Edinburgh in 1660, was Scotland's first but short-lived newspaper. Only 12 editions were published during 1660 and 1661.

The *Edinburgh Courant* was published out of Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland. Its first issue was dated 14-19 Feb 1705 and was sold for a penny. It was one of the country's first regional papers, second only to the *Norwich Post* (1701). The paper was produced twice weekly for five years, then continued as the *Scots Courant* until April 1720. Later that same year, the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* began publication, and it survived until the *Evening News* came into existence in 1873.

The increasing popularity and influence of newspapers was problematic to the [British] government of the day [presumably because most had an "agenda".] The first bill in parliament advocating a tax on newspapers was proposed in 1711. The duty eventually imposed in 1712 was a halfpenny on papers of half a sheet or less and a penny on newspapers that ranged from half a sheet to a single sheet in size. In 1802 and 1815 the tax on newspapers was increased to three pence and then four pence.

The development of the press was greatly assisted by the gradual abolition of the taxes on periodicals as well as by the introduction of a cheap postal system. Both of these developments made the newspaper more affordable to a greater percentage of the population. The burden of the newspaper tax on publishers was heavy, resulting in 29,400,000 tax stamps being issued in 1820. In 1828 the proprietor of *The Times* had to pay the state more than £68,000 in taxes. After the reduction of the stamp tax in 1836 from four pence to one penny, the circulation of English newspapers rose from 39,000,000 to 122,000,000 by 1854.

*The Scotsman* was launched in 1817 as a liberal weekly newspaper by lawyer William Ritchie and customs official Charles Maclaren in response to

the "unblushing subservience" of competing newspapers to the Edinburgh establishment. The paper was pledged to "impartiality, firmness and independence". Its modern editorial line is firmly anti-independence. After the abolition of newspaper stamp tax in Scotland in 1855, *The Scotsman* was relaunched as a daily newspaper priced at 1d and a circulation of 6,000 copies.

With literacy rising sharply, the rapidly growing demand for news led to changes in the physical size, visual appeal, heavy use of war reporting, brisk writing style, and an omnipresent emphasis on speedy reporting thanks to the telegraph.

Newspapers increasingly made their profit from selling advertising. In the 1850s and 1860s the ads appealed to the increasingly affluent middle-class that sought out a variety of new products. The advertisements announced new health remedies as well as fresh foods and beverages. The latest London fashions were featured in the regional press. The availability of repeated advertising permitted manufacturers to develop nationally known brand names that had a much stronger appeal than generic products.

The *Scottish Daily News* was a left-of-centre daily newspaper published in Glasgow between 5 May and 8 November 1975. It was hailed as Britain's first worker-controlled, mass-circulation daily, formed as a workers' cooperative by 500 of the 1,846 journalists, photographers, engineers, and print workers who were made redundant in April 1974 by Beaverbrook Newspapers when the *Scottish Daily Express* closed its printing operations in Scotland and moved to Manchester.

By the 1980s Robert Maxwell's various companies owned the *Daily Mirror*, the *Sunday Mirror*, the *Scottish Daily Record* and *Sunday Mail* and several other newspapers. Maxwell was litigious against those who would speak or write against him. The satirical magazine *Private Eye* lampooned him as "Cap'n Bob" and the "bouncing Czech", the latter nickname having originally been devised by Prime Minister Harold Wilson (under whom Maxwell was an MP). Maxwell took out several libel actions against *Private Eye*. Maxwell's untimely death triggered a flood of instability with banks frantically calling in their massive loans, and his publishing empire collapsed. It emerged that, without adequate prior authorisation, Maxwell had used hundreds of millions of pounds from his companies' pension

funds to shore up the shares of the Mirror Group, to save his companies from bankruptcy.

---

## Encyclopaedia Britannica Has Scottish Roots



The *Britannica* was the idea of Colin Macfarquhar, a bookseller and printer, and Andrew Bell, an engraver, both of Edinburgh. They conceived of the *Britannica* as a conservative reaction to the French

*Encyclopédie* of Denis Diderot (published 1751–1766), which was widely viewed as heretical. Macfarquhar and Bell were inspired by the intellectual ferment of the Scottish Enlightenment and thought the time ripe for a new encyclopedia "compiled upon a new plan".

William Smellie was offered 200 pounds sterling to produce the encyclopedia in 100 parts (called "numbers" and equivalent to thick pamphlets), which were later bound into three volumes. The first number appeared on December 6, 1768 in Edinburgh, priced sixpence or 8 pence on finer paper.

The *Britannica* was published under the pseudonym "A Society of Gentlemen in Scotland", possibly referring to the many gentlemen who had bought subscriptions. By releasing the numbers in weekly instalments, the *Britannica* was completed in 1771, having 2,391 pages. The numbers were bound in three equally sized volumes covering A–B, C–L, and M–Z; an estimated 3,000 sets were eventually sold, priced at 12 pounds sterling apiece. The 1st edition also featured 160 copperplate illustrations engraved by Bell.

The key idea that set the *Britannica* apart was to group related topics together into longer essays, which were then organized alphabetically. Previous English encyclopedias had generally listed related terms separately in their alphabetical order, rather like a modern technical dictionary, an approach that the *Britannica's* management derided as "dismembering the sciences".

Supplements and additional editions were printed throughout the 1800's, and American editions came out starting in the 1900's.



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. 123<sup>rd</sup> St. Seattle WA 98125  
Directions - From Lake City Way proceed east on 123<sup>rd</sup> to 40<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://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](mailto:ruthmcfadden@mindspring.com)