

HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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May 2009

ENTERTAINMENT



Bronn Journey is a widely acclaimed classical harpist with a Celtic background. His musical accomplishments are recognized through out the State of Washington and the Pacific NW. He has just returned from a series of Community Concerts in Florida, Ohio and Virginia. Join us at the May 8th Gathering and enjoy this gifted graduate of the University of Washington School of Music, who has been playing the harp since he was 11 years old. His skill, universality, and humor, as he approaches this classical instrument, will thrill you.

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NEXT GATHERING
MAY 8TH

SET-UP - 6:30 PM
BUSINESS MEETING - 7:30 PM
ENTERTAINMENT - 8:00 PM

A Letter from our President Bill McFadden

June 2009 is fast approaching and our society has a lot of housekeeping to get done before then.

First, we have society elections, with four positions to be filled: 2nd Vice-President, two Trustees, and Chaplain. Please consider stepping up and running for election for one of these positions. Contact our nominating committee—Harry McAlister, Phil Howard, and Walter Russell. They will be happy to inform you about the duties of these positions. The Board is the backbone of our Society and we need good people!

Second, Allan Patten and Christine Castro, who have been doing an outstanding job with the Raffle, have asked to be replaced as they have been doing the Raffle for the past four years. They both would really appreciate it if a couple of members would take over responsibility for this job. They are willing to train their replacements at the May and June gatherings so that the new people could take over in October.

Third, Harry and Diane McAlister have decided to turn over the Scottish Musical Evening and June Show events to other members. They have been organizing these programs for many years and would like someone else to step up and take over this very rewarding position. They will finish up this year with the June Show, hoping to be able to train the new people in the process.

Our Society, just like any other organization, needs the participation of all its members. Please consider taking over one of these jobs for next year.

Don't forget the fundraiser Ceilidh on May 9th to support the Northwest Junior Pipe Band as they prepare to return to Scotland for the 2010 World Pipe Band Championships.

Remember, the May gathering features Bronn Journey, Celtic harpist. It will be a great program and you will want to bring your friends!

See you at the gathering.
Yours, aye, Bill

ENTERTAINMENT from page 1

You can look forward to a better understanding of the harp in Celtic culture as Bronn interweaves his comments in a harp program of favorites rooted in our Scottish, Irish, Welsh heritage. Bronn will play a variety of songs such as: the Skye Boat Song, Flowers of Edinburgh, Chariots of Fire, Bunessan - "Morning Has Broken" (Scottish), Ar hyd y nos "Sleep My Child," "Ash Grove" (Welsh), Slane "Be Thou My Vision" (Irish), Greensleeves (English). It will be a wonderful culmination to our series of programs featuring Scottish, Welsh, and Irish heritage. You can learn more about Bronn by visiting his web site: <http://www.bronnjourney.com>.

SCOTTISH HISTORY

Scottish History: Sir John Steell (1804 – 1891), born in Aberdeen and died in Edinburgh, was a Scottish sculptor. He travelled to Rome in 1829 and was made a member of the Royal Scottish Academy upon his return. He was created Sculptor to the Queen in Scotland and won an international competition with a seated figure of Sir Walter Scott (marble, 1838-46) to be placed in the Scott Monument, Edinburgh. He introduced artistic bronze-casting to Scotland and built at his own expense a foundry where his equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington (bronze, 1848-52; Edinburgh) was cast, as well as works by other artists. The height of his career was marked by Queen Victoria's inauguration of his innovative Albert Memorial (1868-76; Edinburgh) and Steell's subsequent knighthood. His technical excellence in both bronze and marble and his imaginative compositions put him in the forefront of Victorian monumental sculptors in the 19th century. Steell studied art at the Trustees Academy* in Edinburgh and then studied sculpture in Rome. On his return he opened Scotland's first foundry dedicated to sculptures, and was commissioned for numerous works, particularly statues and monuments in Edinburgh. He exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy and the Royal Academy, and was knighted in 1876 following the unveiling, by Queen Victoria, of his statue The Prince Consort. Sir John Steell's brother Gourlay Steell was himself a noted painter: he was Queen Victoria's animal painter; many of Gourlay Steell's paintings remain in the private collection of Queen Elizabeth II.

*founded in 1760, now known as the Edinburgh College of Art. It is located in the Old Town of Edinburgh, overlooking the Grassmarket, and not far from Edinburgh University's George Square campus.

A Letter from the Editor

Diana Smith

Our April gataherring was really enjoyable and educational. Tom Laurenson gave a terrific presentation on the tartan (see the synopsis of his talk elsewhere in the Heatherbell). I am always amazed at Tom's expertise and skill. He has a wide knowledge of Scottish culture and his talks are always fascinating.

Don Scobie played a lament for three of our members who have passed on recently – Jean McHutchison, Velda McDonald, and David Hunter of Montlaw.

This month we will enjoy harpist Bronn Journey. Many of our members will remember him from years past when he entertained us with his lovely harp music. Bronn is a Welshman, and he and his wife, Katherine, are well-known and in demand all over the country, having performed in 21 states throughout the United States. He is amazingly versatile and plays in a variety of genres, including light classical, soundtracks, romantic, Celtic, hymns, inspirational, seasonal, lullabies, American folk, Broadway tunes, and pop. Bronn started studying harp when he was 11 years old and holds a BA in music from the University of Washington. Nineteen albums are currently available on the Journeys' own label, Phileo Music, and his annual Christmas concerts have become a Pacific Northwest institution. Albums are available, along with dvds (also vhs), from the website: www.bronnjourney.com.

See you on May 8!

Diana

RAFFLE

Thank you to Chuck Cook for the lovely lilies and to Bonnie Munro for the basket in bloom. And to all those who've donated previously.

Christine Castro and Allan Patton would like to have some volunteers step up and assist with and learn to do the raffle table. They have done an exceptional job these past few years, and could use some help. Please get in touch with them if you are willing to help out. June is our last raffle for the year, so we'd like someone prepared for our October meeting. (Christine: ccastro2@netscape.com, 425-348-7610; Allan: allan.patten@verizon.net, 206-542-7692)

"If you tried to do something and failed, you are vastly better off than if you tried to do nothing and succeeded."

- Anonymous

TEA

We had a bounty of wonderful things to eat at our April gathering, thanks to the generosity of our primary tea volunteers: Jan Alexander, Bill McFadden and Cathy Osborne. We also could not do without the 'sweet' donations of Shelley Butchart (who also brought Easter-devilled eggs!), Philip Junkins, Bonnie Munro and Susan Walker.

Thanks, as well, to Bonnie Munro for the beautiful floral (pansy) decorations that brought more than a hint of spring to our gathering. And of course considerable compliments go to Shelley for her organization of the evening 'tea' and kitchen crew.

We look forward to May's tea donations: To date, David Blakemore, Liz Leedom and Jim Van Zee have volunteered. May is normally 'Men's Night' but we'll expand that this year in anticipation of a larger crowd for our Bronn Journey entertainment. We'll be contacting additional members for donations that evening.

SCOTTISH HUMOR

A woman attending a Weight Watchers club was praising an elderly woman who had lost the most weight that week. When fellow slimmers asked her how she managed it, she told them: "It's simple. Ah just take ma teeth oot every night at six."

Scottish grammar and pronunciation: There was a little girl in a supermarket who asked her mother: "Maw, are ye goin' tae buy some bu'er?" She was told by her parent: "It's not bu'er; it's butter." Suitably chastened, the child asked again: "Maw, are ye goin' tae buy some butter?" to which the mother replied: "That's be'er."

A Scotsman wanted to impress his girlfriend so he took her for a ride in a taxi. The trouble was, she was so beautiful he could hardly keep his eyes on the meter.

An Englishman, and Irishman and a Scotsman went into a bar. The Englishman stood a round of drinks, the Irishman stood a round of drinks and the Scotsman stood around.

How do you know if a Scotsman is left-handed? He keeps all his money in his right-hand pocket.

JUNE 12TH GATHERING

Kilmany's 10 piece Scottish Band, with the lovely voice of Claudia Peterson. Highland Dancing Lassies with Inge Bentzen, Instructor. Come and enjoy.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 8 - Caledonian-St. Andrew's Society gathering; 7:30; Bronn Journey, harpist

May 15-17 - Celtic Woman at the Paramount; tickets are now on sale through Ticketmaster

May 16 - Comox Valley Highland Games, Courtenay BC

May 17 - Victoria Highland Games, Victoria, BC, www.victoriahighlandgames.com/

May 22-25 - Northwest Folklife Festival, Seattle Center; many Celtic groups entertain here (it's free)

June 6-7 - Bellingham Highland Games, Hovander Park, Ferndale, WA, www.bellinghamhighland.org/

June 12 - Caledonian-St. Andrew's Society gathering; 7:30; Scottish musical night featuring Kilmany

June 13 - Sons of Scotland Highland Games, Delta, BC

June 20 - BC Legion Highland Games, Langley, BC

June 27 - Tacoma Highland Games, Frontier Park, Graham, WA, www.tacomagames.org

June 27 - BC Highland Games, Port Coquitlam, BC

July 11-12 - Skagit Valley Highland Games, Edgewater Park, Mt. Vernon, WA, <http://www.celticarts.org/>

July 17-18 - Portland Highland Games, Gresham, OR, www.phga.org/

July 25 and 26 - Seattle Scottish Highland Games - Enumclaw, WA, www.sshga.org/home.htm

Aug 1 - Spokane Highland Games, Spokane, WA, www.spokanehighlandgames.org/

Aug. 8 - Whidbey Island Highland Games, Greenbank, WA

Aug 15-16 - Winston Highland Games, Winston, OR

Aug. 15 - World Pipe Band Championships, Glasgow, Scotland

Aug. 29 - World Highland Dance Championships, Cowal, Scotland

MEMBER NEWS

Please add Frances Crews' and Gary Cosgro's email to your directory: frangary1311@copper.net.

We have two new members -

Please welcome **Dorothy Leo** and her daughter **Stephanie Sprinkle**, 1316 N. 161st St., Shoreline, WA 98133; 206-546-3286; duntulm@verizon.net.

SCOTTISH NEWS

Loch Lomond park rangers get police powers – They will have the largest beat in all of Britain, but also the most beautiful. In the first initiative of its kind in the UK, rangers protecting Scotland's first national park will be given the same powers of arrest as police officers by becoming special constables. Four officers will be charged with patrolling the sprawling lochs, glens and shores of Loch Lomond, covering 720 square miles. Aided by the three police forces that cover the park, it is hoped that the rangers' status as special constables with Central Scotland Police will curb reckless and antisocial behavior in a region that attracts millions of visitors every year. Communities in the park claim unauthorized camping, public drinking and litter are all problems – scourges that the rangers will focus on – and have welcomed the development. The measures echo long-established powers in the United States, where park rangers have the ability to arrest anyone found breaking the law.

Kiltmaker discovers £5000 garment she made is for Sir Sean Connery – Shona Thomas knew it was no ordinary job when the order came in for a hand-sewn cashmere kilt. As if working on the world's most expensive kilt was not nerve-wracking enough, she then found out who it was for – probably the most famous living Scot. The East Lothian kiltmaker had no idea the £5,000 garment she was stitching in her shop in Gifford was destined to be worn by Sir Sean Connery. The kilt was designed for the James Bond star to wear during the Dressed to Kilt fashion show in New York at the end of March.

Boot camps the latest weapon to fight teenage crime - The Scottish Government is planning on tackling youth crime by rolling out army-run "boot camps" for problem teenagers aged 15-17. The aim of the tough outdoor course is to give the youngsters the motivation to stay away from crime. Only 30 per cent of those who attend go on to reoffend. The courses are run by the army, with help from police forces in the Northern and Grampian regions. Youngsters attend from throughout the Highlands and Islands and Grampian. The camps are held during school holidays and about 120 teenagers attend voluntarily each year, having been referred by police or local authorities. They take part in low-level military activities, including drill, sports, assault courses, map-reading and living in the field, to help develop confidence, teamwork and leadership skills. They are also given advice on drugs and alcohol, citizenship, road safety and first aid. Teenagers on the course have said their experiences had been positive.

St Andrews University principal cuts ties with ancient club and brands men-only membership 'sexist' - An ancient student society dating back to the 15th century has been told by the principal of one of Scot-

land's most prestigious universities that its sexist men-only membership rules are unacceptable. Dr Louise Richardson e-mailed every student to say St Andrews University is withdrawing its official recognition of the Kate Kennedy Club. The society is famous for a colorful procession, on April 18th this year, which attracts large crowds and is led by a male student dressed as a woman.

Dr Richardson said she hoped the event would continue as an "important tradition" and praised the group's charitable fundraising. But she added: "The university will not, however, be participating officially in the procession this year nor continuing its recognition of the Kate Kennedy Club." She told students she believed the university could not endorse a club from which so many were excluded at birth. She added: "The official endorsement of any club or society which excludes people because of their gender or race would be completely at odds with the values of this university, and our commitment to foster an open and inclusive international community of scholars and students in St Andrews." The club was set up to honor the niece of Bishop Kennedy, a founding member of the university, and dates back to the 15th century. It is most famous for its annual procession in which students dress as historical characters connected with the town such as Mary Queen of Scots, John Knox and Andrew Carnegie. A male first-year student is selected on the morning of the event to dress as Kate. While he was a student at St Andrews, Prince William is reported to have pointedly not sought membership of the society.

Holyrood pest control - Since the Scottish Parliament building was opened in 2004, its officials have been battling against constant bombardment from winged menaces. Now Holyrood staff have finally admitted the only way to tackle the pigeons and stop them fouling the building is to introduce their own air force. They have asked falconers to tender for what could be a £40,000 contract to chase off the pigeons. It is hoped that the birds of prey will be enough to scare them away. The clean-up bill for pigeons at the Scottish Parliament is footed by the taxpayer and costs thousands of pounds each year. Officials have already spent about £35,000 trying to tackle the problem, including taking nesting baby pigeons away and introducing netting and metal spikes to stop pigeons landing.

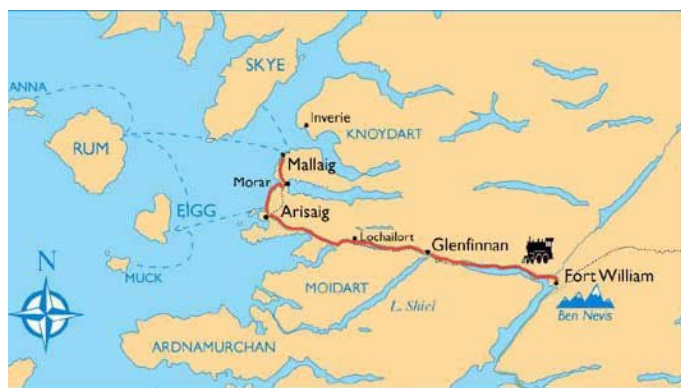
Historic squadron is disbanded – For almost 100 years the pilots of the "Fighting Cocks" – the last surviving front-line fighter squadron formed in Scotland – have blazed a trail of glory in the war-torn skies over Europe and the Middle East. But recently, the 43 Fighter Squadron, based at RAF Leuchars in Fife, lost its battle for survival as the Ministry of Defence announced that it was to be disbanded. The squad-

Scottish News continued

ron was formed in Stirling in 1916 at the height of First World War. In the Second World War its pilots provided air cover for the evacuation of Dunkirk and were among the famous “Few” who emerged victorious in the Battle of Britain. And only six years ago they formed part of the spearhead for the air offensive in the invasion of Iraq.

After 70 years, the Road to the Isles is finally finished – It’s taken more than 70 years, but those campaigning for improvements to one of Scotland’s most famous tourist routes can now see the end of the road. The A830, known as the road to the Isles, is renowned for its spectacular scenery but has long been condemned for narrow and hazardous stretches. But a £22.8 million upgrade of the route, which winds its way through some of the Highlands’ most evocative scenery, is now – finally – complete.

Stewart Stevenson, the transport minister, officially opened the final section of the road which has seen a four-mile stretch between Arisaig and Loch nan Uamh brought up to two-lane standard. It is a route rich in beauty and history, taking motorists past Glenfinnan, where Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard to begin the 1745 Jacobite Rising, and to Loch Eil and Loch nan Uamh, where a stone cairn marks the bay where the prince left Scotland for France after defeat at Culloden. The road continues to Arisaig and the Local Hero beach at Morar, before twisting on to Mallaig with breathtaking views out to Skye and the Small Isles. But for those living at the end of the A830 Fort William to Mallaig road, its reputation as the “Road made for Hell” was well deserved, being the only main road in Britain with single lanes and passing places. In the 1960s and 70s, the 45-mile journey could take up to 90 minutes. The narrow road was difficult to negotiate for lorries and emergency vehicles.



Scottish woman gets international attention on Britain’s Got Talent – I’m sure everyone has now heard of Susan Boyle, who became an overnight success when she sang on Britain’s Got Talent. This 47 year old, unmarried, unemployed woman from Blackburn East Lothian, who looks like a common housewife, has

astounded the judges, the audience, and most of the world with her rendition of “I Dreamed A Dream” from Les Miserables. If you haven’t heard her sing, and you want a real treat, go to YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9lp0IWv8QZY>.

Scotland’s population rises again - Scotland’s population has risen to its highest level since 1981, according to the latest government figures. The estimated population of Scotland was 5,168,500 in mid-2008, up 24,300 on the previous year. The increase was slightly less than the year before, although births outstripped deaths by almost 4,000.

Cheque written in Gaelic rejected - Scottish banks are to be encouraged to offer services in Gaelic after a cheque made out in the language was rejected. Michael Drummond, from Stornoway on Lewis, used a bilingual Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) chequebook. However, RBS said in the UK it was necessary for cheques to be written in English so they could be understood by everyone who may have to handle them. Mr Drummond had been writing the cheques in Gaelic for 20 years.

Outspoken TV historian Dr. David Starkey sparked outrage and demands for an apology recently after branding Scotland a “feeble little nation”. The controversial academic also went on to describe Robert Burns as a “boring provincial poet” during an outburst on the BBC’s Question Time. He said England did not have national music “like the awful bagpipes.” Viewers rang the BBC switchboard to complain, with one describing his remarks as “racist and hurtful to the Scottish people”.

SCOTTISH SLANG

Jock Tamson’s Bairns is a popular saying in Scotland and the far north of England meaning “we’re all God’s children” or “we’re all the same under the skin”. This is a common egalitarian sentiment in Scottish national identity, also evident in the popularity of the Robert Burns’ song A Man’s a Man for A’ That. Although Jock Tamson’s Bairns is used as a personification of the Scots nation, it is also used to refer to the human race in general. One explanation of this phrase is that the Reverend John Thomson (Jock Tamson, Thamson), minister of Duddingston Kirk, Edinburgh, from 1805 to 1840, called the members of his congregation “ma bairns” (“my children”) and this resulted in folk saying “we’re a’ Jock Tamson’s bairns” which gave a sense of belonging to a select group. “Jock Tamson” (John Thomson) would have also been a very common Scottish name, and would have been equivalent to such phrases as John Doe or John Smith.

CELTIC ARTS FOUNDATION

In 2008, the Mastery of Scottish Arts dissolved into the Celtic Arts Foundation. The CAF is now producing the annual concert in Benaroya Hall and is offering the Winter School at Seabeck. This year the concert had an increase of over 10% from last year's attendance. The enrollment at the Winter School was over 100. Because of the success of both programs, the concert for next year is now booked for February 5 and the Winter School will be offered as well. The CAF is doing well, with membership almost doubling in the last 12 months. This year \$12,000+ in scholarships were awarded to aspiring artists for the Winter School.

The Masters of Scottish Arts CDs are now for sale on the CAF website (http://www.celticarts.org/index.php?page_id=74). Volume 1 was recorded live in Seattle, Washington at the Scottish Rite Center in February of 1998 and 1999, and at Town Hall in February of 2000. Featured artists include Hugh Cameron, Craig Colquhoun, Mike Cusack, Tyler Fry, Alasdair Gillies, Jim Kilpatrick, Jack Lee, Bill Livingstone, Roddy MacLeod, and Ian McLellan. Volume 2 was recorded live in Seattle, Washington at Benaroya Hall on February 6, 2004. Featured artists include Jori Chisholm, Mike Cusack, Alasdair Fraser, Tyler Fry, Bruce Gandy, Jim Kilpatrick, Jack Lee, Roddy MacLeod, Willie McCallum, Calum MacKinnon.

At this year's 15th annual Skagit Valley Highland Games and Celtic Festival, July 11-12, 2009 (at Edgewater Park in Mount Vernon, WA), there will be featured a Canadian master woodcarver, Mr. Daid Western from Victoria, BC. David will showcase his skills at carving "lovespoons", the ancient symbolic utensil given during courting. He'll give talks and hands-on demonstrations of his carving, much of which has a distinctive Celtic flair. David Western was born in Cardiff, Wales but now lives in Victoria, BC, Canada. He is a graduate of the University of British Columbia and a cabinetmaker by trade, holding a City and Guilds Certification in both cabinet making and furniture design from the UK and Canadian Inter-provincial Certification in joinery. He has been carving for over 20 years and his spoons are found in collections throughout the world. David's lovespoons are carved entirely by hand using only domestic North American woods. He feels native timbers easily rival any tropical hardwood for beauty and coloration. Using sustainable, easily grown lumber such as alder and maple allows him to avoid contributing toward the denuding of tropical rain forests.

For more information on the Skagit Games, please see: http://www.celticarts.org/index.php?page_id=32

The CAF is also sponsoring a Scottish ale beer tapping on June 12 at 5:00 pm. Each year, the Skagit River Brewery creates a special Scottish-style ale just for the Highland Games. This event takes place at the Brewery (404 S. 3rd Street, Mount Vernon, WA) and features piping, Highland dancing and Scottish folk music. As part of the fun, the first keg of the current year's batch is "piped out" of the cooler, and officially tapped, tasted and declared fit for drinking. There is no cover charge for the event and children accompanied by adults are welcome at the brewery. For more information, see: http://www.celticarts.org/index.php?page_id=39#Beer_Tapping

GAMES SEASON

The Bellingham Highland Games will take place this June 6-7 at Hovander Park, Ferndale, WA. For the past 21 years, the Scottish Highland Games has taken place in beautiful Hovander Homestead Park on the Nooksack River near Ferndale. The Games feature two full days of Scottish games, spectator sports, dancing, food, music and fun for everyone in the family. More than 1,000 competitors will vie for awards in dance, athletics, harp, piping and drumming. The State-champion Ferndale High School band will perform this week-end along with the Mt. Baker Mountaineers in full kilted uniforms. Also performing will be international dances on Sunday and back this year are Maggie's Fury along with Tempest, a Celtic rock band out of California. The Games run from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. with a Ceilidh Saturday evening. <http://www.bellinghamhighland.org/>

The Tacoma Highland Games will take place on June 27 at Frontier Park, in Graham, WA. The Tacoma Highland Games were held for the first time in 1970. Since then they've grown to be a major Games in the Pacific Northwest. Frontier Park is a very pleasant venue for this all day event (with a ceilidh celebration in the evening). See: <http://www.tacomagames.org/>

The Seattle Scottish Highland Games Association's annual Highland Games will take place the week-end of July 25-26 in Enumclaw. There will be lots of great entertainment and fun for the whole family. [More information coming up in the June Heatherbell.]

DUES ARE DUE!

If you haven't paid, please do so now so that you can be included in the new directory. Mail your checks (and any change in address or phone) to Denise Chitwood, 8225 Bagley N., Seattle, 98103.

THE TALE OF TARTANS

The Tantalising Tale of Scotland's Tartans by Tom Laurenson (this is a condensed version of the talk that Tom gave on April 10)

Vocabulary: The word tartan comes from tiretaine, meaning originally a light wool/linen blended cloth; a plaid or blanket originally referred to the belted plaid or feilidh-mhor (great wrap); the kilt was known as the feilidh beg (little wrap).

Part 1 Pre Culloden - Earliest tartans: Known as the Falkirk tartan, the earliest tartan we know about dates from 325 AD. It was discovered in 1933. There were probably tartan fabrics before this time, but this is the earliest actual piece of fabric in existence.

Weaving - Tartans were originally woven vertically with a weighted warp; handlooms used a horizontal warp and a shuttle for the weft. They were of limited width because of the narrow houses where people lived and wove their fabrics. Wool from small local sheep was washed to remove the oils and spun by hand with a drop spindle or on spinning wheel. The threads were coarse and uneven.

The earliest tartan dyes were derived from different vegetation, for example the Crottle plant gave browns, yellows and golds; Grey Beard gave orange and brown; the leaves of the Ragwort gave greens and the flowers gave yellow; Birch leaves gave yellow-green and the Birch bark gave light brown if used without a mordant (a substance used to set dyes).

The earliest historical reference to tartan was in 1587 in a Crown Charter to Hector

MacLean of Duart, wherein the feu duty payable on the lands of Narraboll, Islay, was stated to be "sixty ells of cloth, of white, black and green colours." (A feu duty is a payment for right of use, an annual payment made by the owner of a building in Scotland to the nominal feudal superior for the right to use the land or property.)

Part 2 – the Tartan Discovered – In 1725 the Black Watch tartan (whose origins are uncertain) was adopted for the Army. This is one of few tartans reliably dated to this period. Before there were clan tartans, one's affiliation was distinguished in other ways, for example by a flower in the bonnet. During the Jacobite Rebellion there were no clan badges or family tartans. From 1746 to 1782 the kilt was proscribed except for the Scottish regiments (the kilt was their uniform). The tartan was forbidden to Highlanders (but not Lowlanders). Post proscription, manufacturing increased. About 1763 or 1765 William Wilson started manufacture of tartan in Bannockburn. His main customers were the Army, in the east and the Lowlands. Manufacturing meant the need for repeatable designs and industrial dyes for new and

more consistent colors. Numbered designs gradually acquired names and became associated with specific clans. Prior to this, tartans weren't associated with specific clans and people wore different tartans and different combinations of tartans.

During the early 1800s (the Napoleonic Wars) tartan was associated with war victory and could be seen in victory parades, which stimulated the interest in kilts and tartans.

In 1822 Sir Walter Scott persuaded King George to visit Scotland, and to wear a kilt. This increased the visibility of tartan and the kilt as civilized and gentrified dress. In 1842 Queen Victoria toured the Highlands. In 1848 she leased Balmoral, and in 1852 she purchased Balmoral. Because of her interest, tartan became more acceptable and fashionable. In 1854, the Crimean War increased the pride in tartans, as did the Battle of Balaklava and the 'Thin Red Line'. Soldiers in tartans were glorified, and their dress was emulated by the people.

Tartan today – There are no real "Tartan Authorities" and no rules. You can wear any tartan you want. There is no official registry, and over 6,000 tartan designs exist today. More are being designed all the time. One can wear tartan formally or informally, wearing all one tartan or mixing them up.

Interesting facts: the St. Andrew's Association of NY is 250 years old (the oldest known in the U.S.) and has its own tartan.

Seil Island - Seil is south of Oban and the bridge there has been known (and marketed) as the Bridge over the Atlantic for years. Off Seil island is Easdale Island, which is the venue for the World Stone Skimming Championships held every September. In the days of the proscription of the kilt, there was no bridge and so the long arm of the law was a little shorter. The islanders would go to the Inn, change into trousers (truish) and go across to the mainland. On they way home they'd change back, so the Inn became known as the house of the trousers.





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 call Fraser 206-784-5943

Gatherings:

When - Second Friday of each month except July, August and September.

Where - Lake City Presbyterian Church
3841 N.E. 123rd St. Seattle WA.

Directions - From Lake City Way proceed east on 123rd to 40th. 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

BOARD MEMBERS - CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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Secretary:	Susan Walker	425-387-2011

FUN, ANYONE?

The Board have discussed the idea of staying after the Gatherings for music and fellowship, dancing, whatever. This is an invitation to stay after for further fellowship for those that are interested. The Society used to do this in the old days, so we'd like to start up again. We would like to let people to know each other better, and have some FUN together! Susan Walker and Denise Chitwood will be organizing this – if you want to help, let them know.

The **HEATHER BELL** staff:

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Don Moore - Publisher

Walter and Margaret Russell - Mailing

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