

HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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www.caledonians.com

October 2010

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment for this month is Caledonian member, Annette Mentzer, giving a talk entitled “Wearing, Carving and Feeding of the Kilt; A Kiltmakers Perspective.”

MASTERY OF SCOTTISH ARTS

Is an annual concert presented by the Celtic Arts Foundation. This wonderful concert will be on Friday, February 4, 2011, 7:30 pm. We have been offered a special discount for preferred seating (very close to the front) for the discounted price of \$32.00 per ticket. If you want to join fellow Caledonians for this event, please contact Diana Smith asap.

IN MEMORIUM

Cara Johnson passed away on Oct. 21 after experiencing a fast moving form of leukemia. She was at home with her family. Cara served as Second Vice President several years ago and had been a member of the Caledonians since April 1988. We will miss her. Our deepest sympathies to the Johnson family.

NEXT GATHERING

NOVEMBER 12TH

SET-UP - 6:30 PM,
MEETING - 7:30 PM,
ENTERTAINMENT - 8:00 PM
TEA - 8:45 PM

SCOTTISH HISTORY

TOLBOOTHS

A feature in all Scottish cities and burghs, the tolbooth had an important role within the community. They usually served as the city’s council chambers and the meeting place for the sheriff’s court, with judges travelling widely within the sheriffdom, therefore the buildings tended to be of some significance and built in a prominent position, often in close proximity to the Mercat Cross (market cross).

It is here that the local people would pay their taxes, and travellers would pay a toll when entering the burgh. Those taking animals and produce to sell at market would pay a toll and there was a levy to be paid on items bought at the market; this is where the public weighing machine, the tron was utilized.

As an alternative to being dropped down a hole into the bowels of some Scottish baronial castle – a common “gaol” option at that time – those falling short of the law in medieval Scotland would find themselves held in cells within the tolbooths. Primarily intended for short-stay prisoners, the captives were usually awaiting trial or had their freedom removed until monies were paid or a debt settled. Bigger city burghs often offered the most appalling conditions, throwing debtors, thieves, political prisoners, rapists and murderers in together. A short stay was not a pleasant stay, and many methods were used to shackle, mutilate and torture these unfortunate prisoners. Tiny, filthy cells housed the inmates, and there was no sanitation, so disease was rife. Tolbooths were often in close proximity to the gallows and it was a short walk for those found guilty – often unjustly – of a serious crime. Many were hanged, disembowelled and beheaded, and their heads placed on spikes outside the tolbooth, as a warning to others.

Many tolbooths continued to function well into the 17th century and beyond and played their part in Scottish history, holding many Scottish prisoners captured fighting for their cause. A few of the old

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A Letter from the Editor

Diana Smith

In October, for our first gathering of the year, we enjoyed meeting with our friends whom we hadn't seen over the summer, along with a lovely potluck dinner. Both Cora Howard and Bill Clark entertained us with piano music and we had a little sing-along which was lots of fun. We missed Bill McFadden, who was home ill. He had planned to give a presentation about Bonnie Prince Charlie; perhaps he can give this another time. This month Annette Mentzer will give a talk on the kilt, entitled the "Wearing, Caring and Feeding of the Kilt; A Kiltmakers Perspective." This informative presentation on Scotland's national dress should be interesting. Annette sews kilts and is quite knowledgeable, so bring your questions!

We lost one of our long-time members in October - Cara Johnson. We will miss her smiling face at the gatherings and at the Highland Games. She was always a gracious hostess for our board meetings when she served as Second Vice-President some years ago, inviting us to her home in Kent. Victoria Johnson has had a hard time of it lately, too, having been hospitalized with complications from diabetes. We send our love to the family in this sad time .

This month, November, is the month of Veteran's Day as well as Thanksgiving. We should all thank our veterans who have served to keep our country safe and free. Veteran's Day used to be called Armistice Day, also called Remembrance Day, and was initially added to our calendars to celebrate the signing of the armistice between the Allies and the Germans at the end of World War I, but has now expanded to include veterans from all wars, and those who serve during peacetime. The armistice, signed at Compiègne, France, commemorated the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front, which took effect at eleven o'clock in the morning—the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918. In many parts of the world people pause for a two-minute moment of silence at 11:00 a.m. as a sign of respect for the roughly 20 million people who died in the war.

I hope to see everyone at the November gathering on the 12th. And Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

CORRECTION

In the October Heatherbell, we incorrectly named the representative from the Trade Development Alliance as Jim Kaplan. He is Sam Kaplan. We apologize for the mistake in his name.

A Letter from our President

Don Moore

What shall we be when we grow up?

Our Society is over a hundred years old. It started as a private club (by invitation only) and, like all good organizations, has morphed slowly over the years into the cultural society we have today. In just my short tenure with the society (less than ten years) I have watched minor shifts in programming or procedures become new traditions. This is not a bad thing. When society in general is changing as rapidly as it has been, we basically have only two choices: plant our feet firmly in the ground and keep our old traditions and attitudes until the lack of either members or money forces us to close -or- find ways to be relevant in 21st century Seattle, whatever that becomes.

I don't think we've ever discussed it and taken a vote on the matter but I observe we are following choice #2. That's good. I wonder, though, if it might be time to get out ahead of the change curve instead of just following it.

We face financial, programming and organizational changes in the future. Your Board, at it's first meeting, plunged head first into these issues. The Board is discussing new ways of bringing those things that make the society attractive to members and future members. What we have is a focus on Scottish and Celtic history, culture and art. There seems to be no shortage of people interested in these subjects so our task is to find affordable (maybe even profitable) ways of bringing this to the public.

I've never found the members of the Society to be lacking in ideas or opinions (we're Scots after all) so I challenge each of you to get those ideas and opinions to someone who can implement them (such as a Board member) or to become someone who can implement them (such as volunteer). There is no lack of need and there is no lack of opportunity. Please take your ideas and make them happen or get someone to make them happen for you. The contact phone numbers on the back page are a place to start.

HELP REQUESTED

The Caledonian Board is requesting some volunteer help with the tea. We need someone who can be responsible for signing people up to bring sandwiches and cookies, and someone to oversee the kitchen (make coffee, make sure it's clean at the end of the night, etc.) Victoria Johnson, our Second Vice President, is unable to do this at present, so if someone could step up to help, we'd really appreciate it. If you think you can help, please talk to Diana Smith or Susan Walker. Thanks in advance!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 12 – Caledonian-St. Andrew’s gathering; 7:30; Lake City Presbyterian Church; entertainment will be Annette Mentzer giving a presentation entitled the “Wearing, Caring and Feeding of the Kilt; A Kilt-makers Perspective.”

Nov. 16 - Battlefield Band 7:30 pm; \$23 adv/\$25 day of show; The Triple Door, 216 Union Street, Seattle, WA; (206)838-4333; www.battlefieldband.co.uk/; www.tripledoor.com

Nov. 20 - Celtic Tenors with The Cascade Youth Symphony, 2:00 pm; Benaroya Hall, 200 University Street, Seattle, WA; www.cyso.us/events; Phone: (206) 215-4800; www.celtictenors.com

Dec. 3 and 4 - Geoffrey Castle’s Celtic Christmas; December 3, 7:30 PM; December 4, 8:00 PM; Kirkland Performance Center, 350 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA; Adults \$25 - Seniors \$20 - Youth \$15; www.kpcenter.org; www.geoffreycastle.com

Dec. 4 - Enumclaw Christmas Parade; Enumclaw, WA

Dec. 10 - Caledonian-St. Andrew’s gathering; 7:30; Lake City Presbyterian Church.

Dec. 11 - Hanz Araki and The Celtic Conspiracy 8:00 PM, Kirkland Performance Center, 350 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA; Adults \$25.00 • Sr \$25.00 • Youth \$25.00; Tiered Seating for this Event; Prime Seats \$25 - Choice Seats \$22; Hanz Araki is the sixth generation in his family line to play the shakuhachi, a traditional Japanese flute, and the first to bring the music of Scotland and Ireland into his repertoire. This concert will celebrate the magic of the winter solstice. www.kpcenter.org; www.hanzaraki.com

Jan 14. - Caledonian-St. Andrew’s gathering; 7:30; Lake City Presbyterian Church.

Feb. 4 - Mastery of Scottish Arts concert, Benaroya Hall, 7:30 pm

Feb. 4 – Solas; McIntyre Hall; 2501 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, WA; 360 416-7727 ex.2; www.mc-intyrehall.com; www.solasmusic.com

Feb. 11 - Caledonian-St. Andrew’s gathering; 7:30; Lake City Presbyterian Church.

Feb. 18 – Jim Malcolm 8:00 pm; Traditions Café and World Folk Art, 300 5th Avenue SW, Olympia, WA; 360-705-2819; \$15 Student/low income: \$10; www.traditionsfairtrade.com; www.jimmalcolm.com

Feb. 23 - The Chieftains 7:30 pm; The Washington Center For The Performing Arts, 512 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA; www.washingtoncenter.org; www.thechieftains.com

March 11 - Caledonian-St. Andrew’s gathering; 7:30; Lake City Presbyterian Church.

March 11 – Dervish; Dinner 6:30 pm / Show 8 pm; The Admiral Theatre, 515 Pacific Ave, Bremerton, WA; Dervish is one of Ireland’s most exciting tradition-rooted bands. With its combination of virtuosic instrumentation, high-energy arrangements and the vocals of Cathy Jordan, Dervish continues to weave its own path in Ireland’s great musical heritage. Main Floor Show with Dinner \$60; Main Floor Reserved \$29; Loge reserved \$24; Balcony Reserved \$19; Tickets: 360-373-6810; www.admiraltheatre.org; www.

HUMOR

Golf and Whisky.....

An 80-year-old Scotsman went to the doctor for a check-up. The doctor was amazed at what good shape the old fellow was in and asked: “How do you stay in such great physical condition?”

“I am Scottish and I am a golfer,” said the old fellow, “and that is why I am in such good shape. I am up well before daylight and out golfing up and down the fairways. I have a wee glass of whisky, and that’s it.”

“Well,” said the doctor, “I am sure that helps, but there has to be more to it. How old was your Dad when he died?”

“Who said my Dad died?”

The doctor was amazed. “You mean you are 80 years old and your Dad is still alive? How old is he?”

“He is 100 years old,” said the old Scottish golfer. “In fact he golfed wi’ me this mornin’, and then we went to the topless beach for a walk and had anither wee dram and that is why he is still alive. He is a Scot and he is a golfer, too.”

“Well,” the doctor said, “that is great, but I am sure there is more to it than that. How about your Dad’s Dad? How old was he when he died?”

“Who said my Grandad is dead?”

Stunned, the doctor asked, “You mean you are 80 years old and your grandfather is still living! Incredible, how old is he?”

“He is 118 years old,” said the old Scottish golfer.

The doctor was getting frustrated at this point. “So, I guess he went golfing with you this morning too?”

“No. Grandad couldnae go this mornin’ because he is getting married today.”

At this point the doctor was close to losing it. “Getting married!! Why would a 118 year-old bloke want to get married?”

“Who said he wanted to?”

SCOTTISH NEWS

The village of Falkland in Fife has won the Britain in Bloom champion of champions title twice in a row. Never before has a town won this award twice running. Full-time volunteers in Falkland propagate the flowers, grow them, get the community involved. Falkland was Scotland's first conservation village. Other Scottish places scooped various awards including Aberdeen, which won the bronze in the city category; Cupar, which collected the silver gilt in the town section; and Comrie, which received the gold and category winner for large village.

Tuk tuks coming to Glasgow – Tourists who've been to Thailand and India are familiar with them, and they've made an appearance in London and Edinburgh, but now the motorized rickshaw is set to hit Glasgow's streets under taxi driver Pat Donnelly's tourism venture, The Scottish Tuk Tuk Experience. Donnelly is awaiting delivery from Thailand of an upscale tuk tuk, which he plans to operate on a time-tabled service to transport visitors around the main tourist destinations in Scotland's biggest city. He plans to charge passengers £10 a head for a one-hour trip around the city. The open-sided three-wheelers are named after the sound of their idling two-stroke engines.

Scotland has retaken the Golden Spurtle title for the best porridge in the world - and it was all down to the spoon. After losing the World Porridge Making Championship last year to the United States, the crown returned to Scotland thanks to a chef and inventor of a double-backed spoon. Neil Robertson, owner of the Tannochbrae Tearoom in Auchtermuchty, Fife, created the world's best porridge in the 17th run of the event in the Highland village of Carrbridge. He said, "The double-backed spoon I invented - the Spon - works almost like a mortar and pestle at first. It puts more air into the mixture and makes it lighter and fluffier." Mr. Robertson said that the perfect bowl of porridge requires precision with measuring ingredients which should be put cold into the pan. He said the mixture should be gently brought to a boil and always stirred clockwise "because if you stir anti-clockwise you let the devil in". It should take about nine minutes in a conventional warm kitchen. He added, "Just watch it until it starts to do that popping thing, and don't add the salt until the end."

New Scottish Monopoly game - One throw of the dice, and Loch Ness could be yours. Inverness Caley Thistle (the football club), Loch Ness and Ben Nevis are among the top attractions in Scotland to make it on to the new Highlands and Islands edition of the popular board game Monopoly. Loch Ness came out top in an online poll, taking the board's most prestigious property slot; other properties include the rugged beauty of Skye, Mull and the Callanish Stones on

Lewis, as well as the shinty club, Culloden, and The Scotsman newspaper.

Salmonella, the bacteria best known for causing food poisoning, could be used to cure people of cancer, Scottish research suggests. Scientists at Glasgow University have discovered how a protein in the bug manipulates what happens in the body's cells, causing them to die off. This ability could be directed to kill cancerous cells, potentially curing the disease. In future it is hoped that special forms of salmonella could be injected into patients to destroy their cancer, before they are treated with antibiotics to rid them of any remaining bacteria. Dr. Donal Wall, who worked on the study, said the team had discovered how salmonella uses an enzyme, known as caspase-3, to spread inflammation in the body. A protein in the bacteria called SipA causes the enzyme to proliferate, prompting cell death. The scientists, whose work was funded by the medical research charity Tenovus Scotland, hope this process could be amplified and directed at cancerous cells, with the bacteria effectively killing the tumors.



Oor Wullie – The National Library has a full set of Oor Wullie annuals. With his spiky hair, trademark dungarees and upturned bucket, Oor Wullie has become one of Scotland's most enduring national institutions. On the 70th anniversary of its first publication, the National Library of Scotland has finally completed its collection of Oor Wullie annuals by buying two extremely rare volumes of the youngster's adventures for £4,000. A 1940 annual, the first Oor Wullie collection ever published, has been bought for £3,000 at auction, along with a 1942 annual for a further £1,000. They are the only two to have been published during the Second World War because of severe paper shortages, yet their popularity was such that they marked the beginning of a Christmas gift tradition that has lasted decades. The first annual, published in October 1940, features Oor Wullie on the cover in his trademark position on his upturned bucket. Stories inside include him causing havoc at the local swimming pool by throwing frogs in, being chased by a policeman, and visiting his aunt in Eng-

land, where he is mocked for wearing dungarees and called William.

Painting of Old Aberdeen returns home after 200 years

- A “strikingly accurate” painting of Old Aberdeen in the early nineteenth century by one of Scotland’s foremost artists has been returned to the city. The 1808 picture by Alexander Nasmyth was bequeathed to Aberdeen University by its owner, Anne Dixon. Mr. Nasmyth was also known as the father of Scottish landscape painting.

Cows enjoy a night on the town - Four cheeky cows in Argyll decided they’d had enough of their field and fancied a night in the town recently, leading the police on a merry chase to get them all rounded up again.

Birds of prey centre hunts for new falconer - A north Northumberland visitor attraction is on the hunt for a trainee falconer. The Barn at Beal, near Holy Island, is looking for a new apprentice, specializing in falconry, to work with their head falconer and learn to train and care for birds of prey. The full-time post is available to any young person with a driving license, a genuine desire to work outdoors and a willingness to learn. General manager Jim Loughran said, “There aren’t many fully qualified falconers around. We are keen to take on someone who wants to learn how we do things and become a full time employee afterwards.” The sport of falconry - hunting with birds of prey - was first introduced to Europe around 400AD. Medieval noble men enjoyed the past-time and used it as a means of conveying their status, as the birds used were so expensive. The Barn at Beal keeps this ancient rural skill alive and combines a birds of prey centre, with outdoor activities, a working farm and a restaurant and gift shop. The company also takes birds of prey off site to schools and other venues to stage educational displays. As well as taking part in these activities, the new apprentice will be taught animal husbandry skills like caring for and nurturing the birds, feeding, weighing and training them as well as learning about customer service.

Rescued kittens - Workers at a waste management plant saved a litter of abandoned kittens that had crawled into recycling machinery. Staff at Dow Waste Management Centre, in Cumbernauld, arrived at work to find the eight tiny kittens asleep in the engine of a machine. The kittens were only about three weeks old would most likely have been crushed had workers not found them in time. Manager Kelly Collins said: “The kittens were probably in the engine because of the heat.” All but one have been adopted.

Highland Laddie - Bill Millin: The Scottish Piper immortalized in the 1962 adaptation of Cornelius Ryan’s book, *The Longest Day*, has died in August in Devon, aged 88. Brigade Commander Lord Lovat ignored orders from Military High Command that pipers should not play because of fears over casualties, and ordered

21-year-old Bill Millin to lead his troops ashore to the skirl of the pipes. Bill Millin’s place in history is assured as the piper playing “Highland Laddie” as the 1st Commando Brigade stormed Sword Beach on June 6, 1944. The picture of the 21-year-old commando from Glasgow became one of the enduring images of the Normandy landings which later paved the way to Hitler’s defeat in the Second World War. A monument, dedicated to the Commando is due to be unveiled at Colleville-Montgomery, near the site of Sword Beach, next year.

A lost Vivaldi concerto has been discovered in Edinburgh. Andrew Woolley, a research fellow from the University of Southampton, discovered the manuscript from a lost Vivaldi flute concerto among papers housed in the National Archives of Scotland. The set of parts for *Il Gran Mogol* has since been authenticated as the work of the 18th century composer and has not been performed in modern times. It will receive its modern day premiere in Perth in January. It is unclear how exactly the concerto was brought to Scotland, but it is believed the manuscript was the property of the flute-playing nobleman Lord Robert Kerr, son of the 3rd Marquess of Lothian, and that he may have acquired it on a Grand Tour of Europe in the early 1700s. *Il Gran Mogol* belonged to a quartet of ‘national’ concertos – the others, titled *La Francia*, *La Spagna* and *L’Inghilterro*, remain lost. Scotland’s Culture Minister, Fiona Hyslop, said: “This remarkable discovery of an unpublished concerto by one of the world’s best-known composers shows the outstanding quality of the collections in the National Archives of Scotland. “With no evidence that the piece has ever been played, I welcome the news that its premiere will be in Scotland.”

The Scotsman Digital Archive - You can search every newspaper published between 1817 and 1950 here. Find significant moments in the history of Scotland, major historical world events or discover if your ancestor appears in the births, marriages and deaths notices, or even in a news story. There is a minimal charge; see: <http://archive.scotsman.com/> and <http://archive.scotsman.com/pricing.cfm>.

Some excerpts from the archive (if you go to the web site you can read the articles in their entirety):

25th January 1817: The Scotsman launched - In Edinburgh, on Robert Burns’s birthday in 1817, William Ritchie, a solicitor, and Charles Maclaren, a customs official, produced the first edition of their liberal newspaper pledged to “impartiality, firmness and independence” in response to the “unblushing subserviency” of other publications to the establishment.

25th December 1819: Strathnaver Clearances - Strathnaver, in Sutherland, at its most populous contained a dozen or so settlements. Over the five years from 1814

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to 1819 the valley was brutally cleared of its inhabitants to make way for sheep. The Duke of Sutherland employed his estate factor, Patrick Sellar, to persuade the inhabitants to leave by burning settlements to the ground.

31st January 1829: Burke and Hare trial - William Burke and William Hare were Scotland's most notorious murderers, killing 16 victims and selling the corpses to anatomy students. Their downfall came when lodgers found a body under a bed. Hare did a deal with the police and testified against his partner in crime, who was hanged on 28 January, 1829.

4th April 1829: Catholic Emancipation Bill - In 1829, amid much controversy, Robert Peel, Home Secretary in the Duke of Wellington's government, performed a considerable u-turn and introduced a bill allowing Catholics to sit as MPs and making them eligible for most public offices.

19th July 1924: Eric Liddell winning the 400m in the Olympics - One of the most celebrated British athletes ever; Eric Liddell was an international rugby player for Scotland and the 1924 Olympic 400m champion. A devout Christian, he refused to run in his best event, the 100m sprint, as it was held on a Sunday. He switched to the 400m and ran a superb race to win ahead of the American, Horatio Fitch. Liddell later became a missionary in China and was held in an internment camp when the country was invaded by the Japanese. He died in captivity in 1943.

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buildings still stand today, often with very interesting history specific to the region, but the majority have now been demolished or are in ruins. Two that still remain are in Aberdeen and Stirling; they are now museums or venues for musical performances.

(Excerpted from "Interesting Scottish places: Tolbooths" by Elizabeth McQuillan, printed in the Caledonian Mercury; for full article see: <http://heritage.caledonianmercury.com/2010/10/23/interesting-scottish-places-tolbooths/001535>)

MEMBER UPDATES

Bernice Clarke now lives at Foundation House at Northgate. The address is: 11301 3rd. Ave. N.E. Seattle, 98125 and the phone number is 206-788-4760.

Corrections: The editor apologizes to Allan Patten for misspelling his name in the October Heatherbell. Also, our new member, Cindy Todd-Walters' correct address is 640 NW 88th St., 98117.



PICTURES FROM THE OCTOBER GATHERING

As has become a tradition, the October Gathering is a primarily social event. As these pictures show, we had a fine potluck and entertainment contributions from our most talented members.



THANK YOU ...

... to Kyle Gaul, from the NWJPB, who was our piper at the Oct. gathering.

PICTURES FROM THE OCTOBER GATHERING



MAGICAL STRINGS CELTIC YULETIDE CONCERTS

These are always a treat at holiday time. For information and tickets, see: www.magicalstrings.com/YT_2010.html

- 12/3 Fri - Olympia, WA
7:30 pm, St. John's Episcopal Church
- 12/5 Sun - Kent, WA
3 pm, Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center
- 12/11 Sat - Portland, OR
7:30 pm, First Congregational Church
- 12/12 Sun - Kingston, WA
3 pm, Redeemer United Method Church
- 12/17 Fri - Tacoma, WA
7:30 pm, Urban Grace Church
- 12/18 Sat - Seattle, WA
7:30 pm, Town Hall
- 12/19 Sun - Mt. Vernon, WA
3:00 pm, Lincoln Theatre
- 12/20 Mon - Bellevue, WA
7:00 pm, Meydenbauer Center

RAFFLE

Thank you to Bernice Clarke for donating several lovely china tea cups and saucers. Thanks, too, to everyone who donated whose names we didn't get. As always, we appreciate good quality, Scottish or Celtic donations for our raffle table.

SUNSHINE REPORT

Bonnie sent a comfort card to Cara Johnson, and a sympathy card to the family. She also sent a get well card to Bill McFadden. Please let Bonnie Munro know of anyone who is ill or in hospital, etc., so she can send a card.

TEA

For October we had a very nice potluck dinner with some incredible desserts as well as a great array of salads and entrees. For November, we have Victoria Vegors, Kathy Bowie, and Kim Cambern, Diana Smith, and Shelley Butchart.



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 fraser509@gmail

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

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Upcoming Caledonian gatherings for 2010/11:

November 12 December 10 January 14
February 11 March 11 April 8
May 13 June 10

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