

HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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www.caledonians.com

June 2009

ENTERTAINMENT

Our next gathering is June 12th. We will have the usual brief officer reports and the new Board of Administration will be sworn-in, to serve until June 2010. For entertainment, The Kilmany Scottish Band is providing a large band (10-piece or more), they will have their excellent singer, Claudia Peterson, and a guest violinist may be performing. We will also have a charming group of Highland Dance Lassies dancing under the careful direction of Inge Bentzen. All in all this will be a most enjoyable evening of Scottish music, song and dance. The Suggested Donation for the additional entertainment and the usual lavish Tea is \$5.00 for Members, \$8.00 for non-members and \$4.00 for children 12 and under. Plan to attend and please try to bring along a friend or two to let them enjoy the program also – and perhaps get us a new member. If you have any questions, contact: Harry McAlister 206 284 1094 scotinfo@nwlinc.com

HARP COMPETITIONS

The NW Regional Scottish Harp Competitions are taking place this summer at the Bellingham, Skagit Valley, and Enumclaw Highland Games, sponsored by Dusty Strings, in cooperation with the Puget Sound Folk Harp Society. www.pugetsoundfolkharpsociety.org.

NEXT GATHERING
JUNE 12TH

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

A Letter from our President Bill McFadden

Summer is coming! The Caledonians are gearing up for the summer events – the various Highland Games throughout the Puget Sound region, and our annual picnic. I want to encourage members to sign up to help out in the booths at Mt. Vernon and at Enumclaw. If we all pitch in we can have a lot of fun and maybe attract some new members. We ask for a 2 hour commitment, which still leaves a lot of time for you to enjoy the events and activities. Please sign up with Susan Walker, who is organizing the schedules.

Our annual summer picnic – we will announce the date and place at the June gathering (Diana will also email this out to members). And we may do a brief summer Heatherbell to let you know about this. As of this date, we have not confirmed a venue or a date. Hopefully the date will fit into your summer plans as we always have a great time playing silly games and eating and talking.

At our June gathering, we will be have the usual Business Reports and the new Board of Administration will be elected and sworn-in, to serve until June 2010. Our June show is featuring Kilmany and the Inge Bentzen dancers (see more information elsewhere in the Heatherbell). I want to applaud Harry and Diane McAlister for all the hard work they've done to put this show together. It takes a lot of time and organization and their willingness to coordinate this event is certainly commendable. Thanks Harry and Diane!

We are looking for replacements to run raffle table. The Board recently discussed the future of the raffle as Christine Castro and Allan Patten are resigning after several years of wonderful service. The Board wishes to recognize Chris and Allan for the time and effort they have dedicated to the Raffle and to thank also the many Members who donated items. The Raffle is an important source of revenue for the Society and we are anxious to have it continue. We need one or two Members who are willing to come early to the Gatherings, to set up the Raffle tables, sell tickets and

PRESIDENT from page 1

put away the items displayed at the Gathering at the end of the night. The June gathering will be handled by Allan and Chris. New personnel are needed to open up for the start of our next season in October. Please give consideration to handling this important assignment. If you are interested in helping or have any good ideas, please contact me (Bill McFadden, President 206-364-6025 billmcfadden@mindspring.com).

Here's wishing you a pleasant summer. I hope to see you all at the June gathering and at the Highland Games.

Yours Aye,
Bill

TEA REPORT

Many thanks to those who so generously provided the tea for our May gathering: 'scheduled' volunteers included Liz Leedom, David Blakemore (who had eye surgery that afternoon, but Rosemary brought the sandwiches David had made in the morning!!) and Jim Van Zee. Others who brought a bounty of good things were Kathy Bowie, Shelley Butchart, Denise Chitwood, Chuck Cook and Margaret Russell. Lynda & Cliff Glaspey brought another gorgeous gallon or three of ice cream and Philip Junkins made a 'Celtic' stew for this month's meeting. How blessed we were to have such a grand variety of food from which to select!

Thanks go to Bonnie Munro for the beautiful May decorations and to Shelley and Bonnie for the behind-the-scenes kitchen organization! Thanks also to Diana Smith and Susan Walker for handling the door donations. Speaking of 'donations' it's high time we thanked Christine Castro and Allen Patten who have given so generously of their time and commitment to organizing the raffle the past several years. They will be stepping down after next month's gathering. We've mentioned it before, but another reminder that Bonnie and I will be stepping down, as well (with no one to take our place, at this writing).

And speaking of 'next month', many, many thanks to the following who have indicated a willingness to help with our June Show tea: Karen Bryce, Shelley Butchart, Frances Crews, Carolyn Harris, Phil & Cora Howard, Don Johnson, Annette Mentzer, Dorothy Leo & Stephanie Sprinkle and Joyce Stevenson.

A HUGE thank you to all who have been willing to 'step up to the tea plate' over the past two years!! Bonnie and I have enjoyed working with everyone and very much appreciate your significant donations.

A Letter from the Editor

Diana Smith

This month, for our entertainment, we feature Kilmany, a 12 piece Scottish ensemble of violins, flutes, Oboe, piano, bass, guitar, and bodran (Celtic drum) led by Phillip Wilkinson, founder and director, along with their wonderful singer, Claudia Peterson. Inge Bentzen is bringing her Scottish dancers as well. I might mention that Inge is a former student of Marion Webb's and is an award winning dancer. She is now passing her knowledge and skills along to her students and we will see some of these on the 12th. (Inge is multi-talented, being a tenor drummer with the Keith Highlanders Pipe Band as well as a dancer and dance teacher.)

I have, on occasion, had inquiries about renting or borrowing or buying kilts. In view of this, I have decided to keep an informal list of who might have extra kilts and if someone needs a kilt for an occasion I will try to provide a link. This will be an informal service, just to help out those who may not have a kilt. If you have an extra kilt lying around that you're willing to rent, loan, or sell, please let me know. I'll want to know if it's a man's or woman's kilt, what size, what tartan and whether it's ancient, modern, hunting, dress, etc. and if you want to sell or lend it out. And if you know anyone who needs a kilt, let them know that I'm keeping a list of who's got what. Arrangements for cleaning, etc., will have to be negotiated between the two parties. I'm only the go-between.

As you know, the Caledonians won't meet during the summer. Our first gathering in the Fall will be the October 9 meeting. We don't know, yet, who our entertainment will be but traditionally the Oct. meeting is a potluck, so watch out for the suggested food assignment. We do it by the first letter of your last name.

Summer is always busy with all the Highland Games. I encourage everyone to come out and volunteer a couple of hours in our booths. It's lots of fun and it's a good way to meet other Scots. Susan Walker and Carol Garmen are coordinating the Skagit booth. There will be sign-up sheets to work, for both Skagit and Enumclaw, at the June meeting.

Our annual picnic is in August, so put that on your calendars as well! We don't have the date or venue set, but we'll let you know as soon as that's finalized. Susan Walker will be coordinating this.

Diana

LIBRARY BOOKS

Carol Garmen, our librarian, requests that everyone return their books at the June meeting so that she can do an inventory over the summer

MEMBER NEWS

New address for **Bob Nicholson**
116 Fairview Ave N #500
Seattle, Washington 98109-5353
206.254.1641, rdern2@gmail.com

New email for **Phil Howard**: tavy2000@aol.com

New Members:

Ken & Nancy Wallace
14719 30th Ave NE
Shoreline, Washington 98155
206.364.7118

Dorothy Leo & Stephanie Sprinkle
1316 N. 161st
Shoreline, Washington 98133
206.546.3286, dunrulm@verizon.net

Patrick Hancock
4814 S 187th Place, Suite B-301
206.683.8221, rickh10@apl.com

Gretchen Borck
P.O. Box 336
East Olympia, Washington 98540
360.878.8489, gretchen@ritzville.com

Marylucia Kropelnicki
3901 S Angeline Street, Apt. C
Seattle, Washington 98118
206.300.4304, mkropelnicki@maryknoll.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 – Prosser Highland Games & Scottish Festival, Port of Benton Food & Wine Park, Prosser, WA; www.prosserchamber.org

June 20 – BC Legion Highland Games, Langley, BC

June 20 – Campbell Highland Games & Celtic Gathering, Campbell Community Center, Campbell, CA; www.campbellgames.com

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

June 27 – BC Highland Games, Centre Stadium, Port Coquitlam, BC; www.bchighlandgames.com

June 29 – Young Dubliners, 9:0 pm, The Tractor Tavern, Ballard, \$15.00; www.tractortavern.com; 206-789-3599; www.youngdubliners.com

July 2 – Old Blind Dogs, 8:00 pm, Tractor Tavern, 5213 Ballard Ave NW, Seattle, \$20.00; www.tractortavern.com; 206-789-3599; www.oldblinddogs.co.uk

July 3 - Old Blind Dogs, Capitol Theater, Olympia; www.olympiafilmsociety.org; www.oldblinddogs.co.uk

July 11-12 – Skagit Valley Highland Games, Edgewater Park, Mt. Vernon, WA, www.celticarts.org/

July 11-12 – Athena Highland Games, Athena City Park, Athena, OR; www.athenacaledoniangames.org

July 12 – Gypsy Soul, Sunday Afternoon Waterfront Series, Port Gardner Landing, 1700 West Marine View Dr., Everett, WA, 2:00-4:00 pm; www.gypsysoul.com; www.everettwa.org

July 17-18 – Portland Highland Games, Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham, OR, www.phga.org/

July 24 - Molly's Revenge, 7:30 pm, Old Liberty Theatre, 115 N. Main, Ridgefield, WA; \$15.00; www.oldlibertytheatre.com; www.mollysrevenge.com

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

Aug 1 – Spokane Highland Games, Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, Spokane, WA, http://www.spokanehighlandgames.org/

Aug. 8 – Whidbey Island Highland Games, Greenbank Farms, Greenbank, WA; www.wihg.org/

Aug. 15 – Clumsy Lovers, Olalla Bluegrass Festival, Olalla; www.olallabluegrass.com; www.clumsylovers.com

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

Aug. 15 – World Pipe Band Championships, Glasgow

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

Sept. 12-13 – Kelso Highland Festival, Tam O'Shanter Park, Kelso, WA http://hilander.kelso.gov/

Sept. 26 – Treasure Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games, Expo Idaho, Boise, ID www.idahoscots.org

Oct. 17 – 18th annual Celtic Fling, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Seattle; www.saintandrewsseattle.org

Oct. 18th – Church Service and Kirkin' O' the Tartan, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Seattle; www.saintandrewsseattle.org

Oct. 29 – Battlefield Band, Kirkland Performance Center, 350 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA; www.kp-center.org; www.battlefieldband.co.uk

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Bonnie Munro reports that she has sent cards to Phil Howard whose son recently had a heart attack, and a consequent triple bypass surgery; to Cora Howard, who had a small stroke; to David Blakemore, who had eye surgery on May 8; and to Denise Chitwood, who had hip surgery. Bonnie would like to remind everyone that if you know someone who is ill or hospitalized, please let her know so she can send a card. She doesn't have a computer now, so please call. Her phone number is 425-806-3734.

SCOTTISH NEWS

Bonnie Prince Charlie, Louis XV and the lost ship that could have changed history - Divers have found a wreck that could unlock the centuries-old mystery of why the king of France abandoned Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobite Rebellion. The fact that Louis XV left Charles Edward Stuart in hiding, without supplies, after his defeat at the Battle of Culloden in 1745 has long puzzled historians. Now a team of divers believe they have found the key to the mystery – in the shape of a wreck of a ship, perhaps containing a vast quantity of gold, that sank en route to the prince. Significantly, a rare ring seal of Mary, Queen of Scots, believed to have been carried by the crew as proof of their loyalty, was found in the area. Now an excavation is under way to find evidence that the ship was a supply vessel. Records show Louis XV made one failed attempt to send relief ships, laden with huge quantities of gold coins, weapons and troops, to the Young Pretender, in hiding in the Scottish Islands. Those two vessels were intercepted by the Royal Navy and limped back to France with their precious cargoes.

Diver, Joe McCormack, said, “It’s a historical fact that King Louis XV sent a number of ships laden with supplies to support Charlie while he was in hiding. Two of them were named ‘Le Mars’ and ‘La Bellone’, and they were laden with a huge quantity of gold and weapons. These two vessels never reached Charlie. They were intercepted and damaged in an encounter with the English navy, after which they limped back to France. Mary, Queen of Scots was Bonnie Prince Charlie’s great-great-grandmother. Our theory is that the seal was a ‘token of authenticity’ carried by an emissary on the relief vessel to demonstrate his credentials on meeting the prince.”

Historian Michael Fry said, “If there had been more tangible French help, I have no doubt the clansmen would have fought on and perhaps changed the whole of Scottish history.”

Drinkers order Whisky Galore island’s entire stocks... five years too early - Not a brick has been laid to build the first distillery on the island where Whisky Galore! was filmed – but connoisseurs have already signed up to reserve the entire batch of its first-year casks. The distillery, costing more than £1 million, will make about 5,000 gallons of Isle of Barra Single Malt Whisky a year using water from Loch Uisge, the island’s highest loch. It will use barley grown by crofters on the island before being milled and malted locally and be bottled at the distillery in Borve. Whisky needs to be matured for three years before it can legally be called whisky so the distillery will not have its first consignment until 2014. In the meantime orders have been taken for the £1,000 oak casks from people in many countries including Germany, Japan and Sweden, and the rest of the UK. More than half

the casks will be retained by the distillery but the public quota of second-year reserve is already being sold. It is projected that it will sell at about £30 a bottle at current prices at the premium end of market.

Kilt is not just any old fling - A campaign is under way to protect Scotland’s most iconic piece of clothing. The Government has backed an MEP and a renowned kilt designer, who believe the word “kilt” should only be used to describe a pure wool, hand-sewn garment made in Scotland. Howie Nicholsby, 29, who owns 21st Century Kilts, has teamed-up with the SNP’s Alyn Smith, in an effort to combat the influx of cheap, machine-made versions.

Forth waterfront walkway may be capital’s answer to the boardwalk – Edinburgh city council is planning a boardwalk, reminiscent of those found at Saint Tropez and Nice, a lovely continental-style promenade along its shoreline. The plan is for a 10 mile walkway that, it is hoped, will be attractive to tourists, cyclists, wildlife enthusiasts, and families. New public parks and piazzas, barbecue areas, cafés and restaurants and works of art are planned to be created between Cramond and Portobello.

Sunday ferries ban to end – It is an issue that has long divided communities the length and breadth of Lewis and Harris, but the debate over whether to have Sunday ferries breach the last major stronghold of Sabbatarianism in the Outer Hebrides looks set to be settled within months. It appears that equality laws could force ferry operators to start operating on Sundays. Churchgoers have promised to fight the move. The sailings could begin as early as October, at the start of the winter timetable.

Edinburgh: The greenest place to live in Scotland - There is limited green space, high levels of pollution and constant traffic. But now a major report has said residents of Edinburgh city centre care more about the environment than do people from anywhere else in Scotland. Research has revealed nearly six out of ten people living in the EH2 postcode – around George Street and Princes Street – regard the environment as important. In contrast, Kirknewton, in West Lothian, came bottom of the list, with more than a quarter of residents not caring at all about green issues. It is the first such wide-scale study of green behavior and attitudes.

Carol Ann Duffy, Scotland-born poet, named the new Poet Laureate – Duffy is Britain’s first female Poet Laureate. Duffy, 53, is the first woman, the first bisexual, and the first Scottish-born poet to take the 340-year-old Royal post. Succeeding Andrew Motion, she will hold the title for ten years. As a signal of her independence, she will give away her £5,000 annual payment to fund a poetry prize. She will not write royal poems to order, because “no self-respect-

Scottish News continued

ing poet” would – though she may pen one for Duke of Edinburgh’s 88th birthday in June, she conceded.

Duffy is the author of numerous award-winning poetry collections, plays, fairy tales and poetry for children. She is one of Britain’s best-loved and most public poets and she is the creative director of Manchester Metropolitan University’s writing school. In addition, she also collaborated with Manchester composer Sasha Johnson Manning on The Manchester Carols - a series of Christmas songs that premiered in Manchester Cathedral in 2007. She was awarded an OBE in 1995, and a CBE in 2002. Duffy’s poems provide voices for an extraordinary number of contemporary characters, including a fairground psychopath, a literary biographer, a newborn baby, disinherited American Indians, and even a ventriloquist’s dummy. Many of the poems reflect on time, change, and loss. In dramatizing scenes of childhood, adolescence, and adult life, whether personal or public, contemporary or historical, she discovers moments of consolation through love, memory, and language. She explores not only everyday experience, but also the rich fantasy life of herself and others. The poet has characterized her poetry using a simile: “Like the sand and the oyster, it’s a creative irritant. In each poem, I’m trying to reveal a truth, so it can’t have a fictional beginning.”

Duffy is also a playwright and a writer for children. In addition, she also collaborated with Manchester composer, Sasha Johnson Manning on The Manchester Carols - a series of Christmas songs that premiered in Manchester Cathedral in 2007.

PRAYER

Some days, although we cannot pray, a prayer utters itself. So, a woman will lift her head from the sieve of her hands and stare at the minims sung by a tree, a sudden gift.

Some nights, although we are faithless, the truth enters our hearts, that small familiar pain; then a man will stand stock-still, hearing his youth in the distant Latin chanting of a train.

Pray for us now. Grade I piano scales console the lodger looking out across a Midlands town. Then dusk, and someone calls a child’s name as though they named their loss.

Darkness outside. Inside, the radio’s prayer - Rocakall. Malin. Dogger. Finisterre.

Highland Games in the Desert – [excerpted from a report from AL ASAD AIR BASE, Iraq] - Lone star State Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 142nd Infantry Regiment (Task Force Avalanche), caused vehicle and pedestrian traffic jams here during their much anticipated Tartan Day festival, April 6. Onlookers converged from all directions in response to post-wide rumors of men wearing dresses - Soldiers of Scottish descent wearing kilts and conducting the Highland

Games. Maj. Mike Wallace, master of ceremonies and 2nd Bn., 142nd Inf. Regt. battalion executive officer, ignited the Tartan Day idea and inspired Soldiers of Scottish descent to requisition their respective kilts. After a long day participating in heavy sports, [with] flying objects, and surprisingly - no injuries, all gathered for a sunset sampling of Haggis with lamb hearts and onions, Iron Brew [sic] and butter shortbread, followed by a showing of Braveheart starring Mel Gibson as Sir William Wallace. During weeks of preparation, Wallace and Staff Sgt. Jeff Hardin built the 80 pound, 16 foot long caber - it became 15 feet long after a practice flip broke its snout. On the morning of the event, Scotland’s Lion Rampant replaced the Texas flag - an occasion seldom seen.

Texas Governor Rick Perry dispatched a proclamation to Task Force Avalanche. His message reads in part, “Texas has been deeply influenced by settlers of Scottish descent. Scottish surnames, such as Houston, Austin, Dallas, Crockett and Bowie - are literally all over the Texas map.” Lt. Col. Mark L. Burkett, 2nd Bn., 142nd Inf. Regt., battalion commander and career “roughneck” infantryman, had an indescribable look when his chain of command, Col. Samuel Bethel and Col. Lee Henry, showed up at the games and saw his staff warriors dressed in kilts. Alba Gu Brath!



MINI QUIZ ON SCOTLAND

1. Scotland is made up of how many islands?

Scotland consists of over 790 islands, including the Northern Isles and the Hebrides.

2. Glasgow and Edinburgh are Scotland's largest cities, respectively. What is the third largest?

The third largest city in Scotland is Aberdeen, with a population of around 220,000 (Edinburgh has around 500,000; Glasgow nearly a million.)

3. Is Scots a real language, or just a dialect?

It is a real language. It is considered an autochthonous language, i.e. one that is native to a region and spoken by indigenous peoples but has been reduced to the status of a minority language. Both Scots and Scottish Gaelic are officially recognized under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

4. About how long ago were the first known settlers living in Scotland?

Groups of settlers began building the first known permanent houses on Scottish soil around 9,500 years ago, and the first villages around 6,000 years ago.

5. Within the Scots legal system, there are three possible verdicts. What are they?

Within criminal law, the Scots legal system is unique in having three possible verdicts: "guilty", "not guilty", and "not proven". Both "not guilty" and "not proven" result in an acquittal with no possibility of retrial.

6. What is the highest point in Scotland?

The mountain, Ben Nevis, which is 4,406 ft above sea level.

7. Which is Scotland's longest river?

The River Tay, at 120 miles long.

8. What is Scotland's tallest tree? oldest tree?

The UK's tallest tree is the Stronardron Douglas Fir, located in Argyll, and the Fortingall Yew may be 5,000 years old and is probably the oldest living thing in Europe.

9. What is the population of Scotland?

Over 5 million; at the last census it was 5,168,500.

10. What is Scotland's oldest university?

St. Andrews is Scotland's oldest university, and third oldest in the English-speaking world, having been founded between 1410 and 1413.

11. What is the national flag of Scotland and how old is it?

The Saltire or St. Andrew's Cross, dates (at least in legend) from the 9th century, and is thus the oldest national flag still in use.

12. Why is the thistle Scotland's national flower?

In 1263 in Largs, a small seaside town on the west coast of Scotland, the Viking longships approached the shore silently in the dark moonless night. They

clambered onto the shore in silence, the Scots oblivious of their presence. However, the barefoot Vikings ran into the thistles, and began yelling out in pain, alerting the Scots. Battle ensued and the Scots defeated the Vikings (for the first time in history), all due to the thistle's prickly warning system.

13. What are the Cairngorms and the Grampians?

The Cairngorms is a mountain range south of Aviemore and north of Braemar and the largest National Park in Scotland. The Grampians are a separate distinct range south of The Cairngorms.

14. Where in Scotland can you find red rocks, resembling rubies, on the beach?

In Elie, on the Firth of Forth, in Fife.

15. Are you Scottish or Scots or Scotch?

You are Scottish or Scots. Scotch is a drink, or an adjective describing something Scottish, such as Scotch eggs or Scotch beef.

16. How about Celtic (Sel-tic or Kel-tic)?

There may be regional differences, but generally it's "keltic". The pronunciations of both versions are considered "correct" in English prescriptive usage.

17. Where does the word "Caledonia" originate? The word "Scotland"?

Caledonia is the Latin name given by the Romans to the land north of their province of Britannia. The name is related to that of a Pictish tribe, the Caledoni, one amongst several in the area. The name "Scotland" is derived from Scotia, a Latin term first used for Ireland (also called Hibernia by the Romans) and later for Scotland, the Scoti peoples having originated in Ireland and resettled in Scotland. Another, post conquest, Roman name for the island of Great Britain was Albion, which originates from the Scottish Gaelic name for Scotland of Alba.

18. Name a domestic cat that is native to Scotland.

Name three dogs. Name one horse.

Cat: Scottish Fold (named because their ears fold down, giving the cat a somewhat owl-like appearance). Dogs - There are 13 breeds of dogs which have their origins in or along the borders of Scotland or among the islands near its shores. All the dogs were developed with a specific job to do. The dogs were never kept as pets alone: Scottish terrier, West Highland White Terrier, Skye Terrier, Border Terrier, Cairn Terrier, Scottish Deerhound, Bearded Collie, Border Collie, Dandie Dinmont Terrier, Golden Retriever, Gordon Setter, Shetland Sheepdog. Horses: Clydesdale, Shetland pony, Highland pony, Scottish Galloway pony (now extinct).

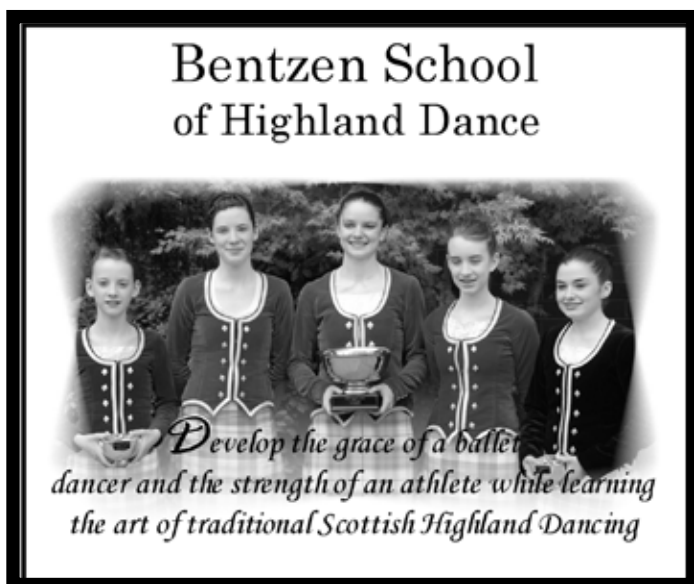
19. What is, and where is, Brigadoon?

This is the bridge that crosses the Doon River, near Alloway, south of Ayr. The Robert Burns Monu-

ment overlooks the Brig o' Doon. (Nearby is the Burns Cottage.) And Brigadoon is also the name of the musical by Lerner and Loewe which takes place in Scotland.

20. What is the Flying Scotsman?

The Flying Scotsman is an express passenger train service that has been running between London, England, and Edinburgh since 1862. The Flying Scotsman is also a movie, which came out in 2006. It's the true story of Graeme Obree, the Champion who won his championship only to have his title stripped from him, contributing to mental health problems from which he has suffered since. This Scottish racing cyclist twice broke the world hour record, in July 1993 and April 1994, and was the individual pursuit world champion in 1993 and 1995. He was known for his unusual riding positions and for a bicycle he built which included parts from a washing machine.



Inge Bentzen Merry is a full credited member of Scottish Dance Teachers Alliance (SDTA). Inge has been teaching in the Northwest area since 1991 along with her sister Kiki Bentzen. They instruct dancers of all levels and age for US and international championships, local competition, show choreography and exhibitions. Dancers develop the grace of a ballet dancer and the strength of an athlete while learning the art of traditional Scottish Highland Dancing. Inge and Kiki are also members and drummers of the Keith Highlander Pipe Band which took 3rd place in the World's held in Glasgow, Scotland 2008. This past year Inge and Kiki are proud to announce a new studio location in Bellevue. The new studio is called Bentzen School of Highland Dance. They are always accepting enrollment for new students and Inge's phone number is 425-746-7532.

GAMES SEASON

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: Alex Beaton, Colin Grant-Adams, Golden Bough, Needfire, Seattle Knights, Molly's Revenge, and the Wicked Tinkers. The games include the North American Scottish Athletics Championship, the US West Coast Drum Corps Championship, the NW Regional Harp Finals, individual piping and drumming, pipe bands, Highland and National Dancing. You will see the tossing of the caber and other Scottish sports. You can listen to the Celtic Harpists as they join together for a Celtic harpist jam session. Bagpipes and drums are well represented. (Last year there were 23 pipe bands and numerous individual musicians – the bands compete in different classes and at the end of each day they march onto the field en masse. It's pretty exciting to hear 300-500 pipers all playing together!) Plus there are dancers who are competing in the Highland Dance competitions, and country dancers entertaining the crowd. Traditional Scottish food will be available and there will be two pubs where you can quench your thirst. The Celtic Arts Showcases feature various local English, Irish, Scottish, and Welsh dancers, musicians, and singers. The Seattle Knights perform choreographed stage combat using real steel weapons, including broadswords, axes, and staves. In the Avenue of the Clans and the Glen of the Clans you will find booths where you can explore your Scottish ancestry and heritage. You can also observe the fine workmanship of Scottish artisans, and you can buy just about anything you can think of that is Scottish in the Hall of the Vendors and the Celtic Marketplace. The Heritage tent will have quality presentations on Scottish history and culture. And the Scottish Farm is always popular, with Scottish Highland cattle and Clydesdale horses, as is the Celtic Kennel with dozens of Scottish dogs represented. On Saturday evening is the Ceilidh, a traditional Scottish party with music, sing-along, stories, Scottish country dancing and the talent competition. This is a week-end not to be missed – full of fun, education, and traditional Scottish activities. www.sshga.org/

Gumption – a Scottish word that describes the Scots! If someone has moxie, guts, spunk or grit, and a good head on their shoulders, combined with a tenacious drive and initiative, one could say that person has a belly full of gumption. Gumption comes from the Scottish “rumble-gumption” (or “rumgumption”), referring to a person's common sense. Rumble-gumption made its first written appearance in the late 1700s, courtesy of the immortal Scottish poet Robert Burns (1759–1796).



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

NWJPB – The Northwest Junior Pipe Band had a successful fund raising dinner on May 9. Several of the Caledonians attended and had a fun time, spent a little money to help the band, ate good food, and enjoyed the terrific entertainment. Two full hours of music and dance – it was a very enjoyable evening. Todd Schiele reports: [The] NWJPB raised almost \$10,000.00, slightly more than last year during our major fundraising push for Scotland, which was a big surprise for us in this tough economy. It demonstrates that our supporters believe in the youth program and think it's important to support it even when the economy is weighing heavily on everyone's minds. NWJPB is investigating a trip to Maxville, Ontario next year for the North American Championships at the Glengarry Highland Games, and is hoping to add vests and/or jackets to the uniform this year, so this support couldn't have been more appreciated.

Weekly Celtic session in Duvall – Susan Burke, the Cape Breton fiddler, who entertained us last year, plays in the weekly Tuesday night Celtic sessions in Duvall, at the delightful Grange Café, on Main Street. They start playing tunes at 6:30. It's a farm-to-table fabulous café with an awesome menu and a bar to satisfy any aficionado. Grange Café – 15611 Main St. in Duvall; 425-788-2095 (www.grangecafe.com/)

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