

# SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

# THIS TIME

April 1996  
ISSUE 4.4

## President's Message

**D**ear Members,

Well wasn't that another great evening of Scottish tunes. We have a wealth of musical talent in our group. Well done, and thanks to Diane McCullough, and friends for their excellent performance. Obviously, Alex is going to have to pull something really special out of the hat at the Ceilidh to recover his lead. Speaking of the Ceilidh, it's right around the corner.



Good News!

We have located and will serve the Burns Night haggis at the Ceilidh...you'll remember how the English sabotaged our Burns Night.... Don't worry there will be other things to eat there too!

Better get prak-ti-sin'. Everybody knows what it's all about now, and they'll be prepared. Dig out the music, have more and more libations until your vocal chords are in order.

Watch out for the extra surprises this year, and book early because there's limited numbers.

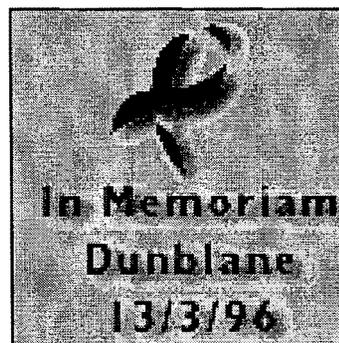
See you there.

*Aw-ra-best, Keith*

It's time to elect New Board Members, please send nominations to Keith Parle, 1446 Chesterfield Estates, St Louis, MO 63005, or call 314 537 9463.

President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Membership Chair  
Entertainment Chair  
Recording Secretary  
Correspondence  
Band Representative  
Historian

Nominate one or more for the above.



We are collecting donations, and will send these as one for use in the Dunblane Memorial Fund. If anyone wishes to contribute, please make check to the St Andrew Society (marked Dunblane), and send to:

Anne McLaren, 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Ct., Chesterfield, MO 63017.

## inside...

*Events Program*

*About Scotland...*

*Caledonia Corner*

*Toasts & Things*

*Other really good stuff!*

# Events Program. Come along and enjoy...

**I** heard it was another grand night of song and music, which hopefully put everyone in the mood for their own talented contribution at the Ceilidh.

NEXT



EVENT

**Saturday May 4th, 1996, starting 7:30pm: Annual Ceilidh**

At Whispering Hills Club House.

See attached flier and reservation form. Children under 16, only \$5.00.

**Will be limited to the first 120 to reserve tickets.**

If anyone wishes to order Scots pies for delivery at the Ceilidh, please call Tom Brennan at 314 532 2151

**Denise Duffy, and her various helpers, are working very hard to create another enjoyable year for all.**

**More help is welcome!  
Call Denise: 532 7587**

## Ceilidh definition (from Scotland)

A Ceilidh (pronounced "Kay-lay") can be one of many things, related to friends visiting. The word derives from the Gaelic with the translation being "a visit". It can also mean a house party, a concert, or an evening of informal Scottish dancing. In southern Scotland, Ceilidhs tends to have more dancing, while in the north they tend to have more singing - unless the advert says "Ceilidh dance" which becomes obvious! In any case, dancing at Ceilidhs is informal and the purpose is the enjoyment of performing in the dance. Scottish Country Dancing and Highland Dancing are often more formal and performed as an exhibition, while Ceilidh Dancing is for participation (let ye'r hair doon). Ceilidh bands are regaining popularity in Scotland, and the first world champions were "Fire in the Glen", now called "Tannas".

## **O**ut and about....

**May 20th:** Bill Nicoll will talk about the history of music in Scotland, including recordings which trace the evolution from the Middle Ages to the present day. Don't miss this unique hour, covering many aspects of our musical heritage.

**June 30th:** St Andrew Society BBQ and Scottish Picnic. Faust Park, Chesterfield. (it's difficult to make sure we find a place where it'll rain!).

- \* Every Wednesday night: Country Dance at the Focal Point. Starts 7:30pm.
- \* Scottish Festivals and Games (we'll list them by month, ahead of time):
  - May 10-12th: Carrollton, KY. Call 800-325-0078. About 4 hours driving time.
  - May 18th: Springfield, IL. Call 217 546 7671. Just over 1 hour driving time.
  - June 1st: Milwaukee Highland Games, WI. Call 414 796 0807. About 7 hours!
  - June 1-2nd: Glasgow Highland Games, KY. Call 502 651 3142. Approx. 4 hours.
  - June 8th: Kansas City Highland Games, MO. call 913 341 4263. About 4 hours.
  - June 15-16th: Illinois St Andrew Society Highland Games, Chicago, IL. Call 312 449 7268. About 5 hours driving time.

# About Scotland...

**S**ome interesting facts about Scotland....*(there will be a quiz later!)*

\* Scotland is 274 miles from south to north and varies between 24 to 154 miles from east to west. The total area is estimated at 31,510 square miles, with 6334 miles of coastline.

\* Scotland has 3 main geographic regions:

- the Highlands, mainly having a basis of ancient metamorphic rock
- the Midland Valley, composed of Devonian Old Red Sandstone with several extinct volcanoes (most stand out as volcanic plugs, eg. Arthur's Seat and Traprain Law)
- the Southern Uplands, which are mainly old sedimentary rock.

The view from Ben Nevis

\* There are 787 islands in Scotland, and only 62 of these exceed three square miles in area. The main groups are the Orkneys, the Shetlands and the Hebrides.

\* Scotland has 26 rivers that flow directly into the sea. The main ones being the Clyde, Dee, Don, Forth, Spey, Tay and Tweed.

\* Three of the rivers flow into large estuaries: the Firth of Clyde, Firth of Forth, and the Firth of Tay which support the cities of Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dundee, respectively.

\* Scotland is famous for beautiful scenery which arises from the combination of mountains and lochs (lakes). Some well-known mountains are Ben Nevis, Ben Macdhui, Braeriach, Cairntoul and Cairngorm. Notable fresh-water lochs are Loch Lomond, Loch Ness and Loch Awe. There are many sea-lochs, and Loch Fyne penetrates some 40 miles inland.

\* While Scotland is one of the four constituent nations of the United Kingdom, the country retains it's own legal and judiciary system, has an independent educational system, and maintains it's own banking system with Scottish banknotes (at UK par value).

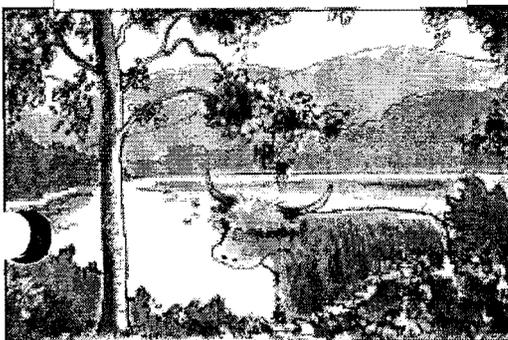
\* Johnson and Bacon's "The Scottish Tartans" lists 101 distinct Scottish tartans, 91 Arms of Clan Chiefs, 81 Clansmen's Badges, and 36 Plant Badges of the Clans. (It's not comprehensive: there are >280 tartans).

\* There are 226,350 miles of roads, and 1950 miles of motorways.

\* The most recent census estimated the population at 5,102,000 of which 49% were male.

\* The regular potential workforce is put at 27,908 thousand with about 2,915 thousand unemployed (10.5%).

The view down Loch Tay



# CALEDONIA CORNER

**T**he most popular first names in Scotland are.....

All births are registered in Scotland and each local registrar send the details to the Registrar General who produces statistics including the popularity of names used. At great expense, we obtained a copy for your review: I have the top 100 for boys and girls, but due to space will only reveal the top 10 for each here...

	BOYS	GIRLS
1	Ryan	Lauren
2	Andrew	Rebecca
3	Scott	Emma
4	David	Amy
5	Michael	Sarah
6	James	Laura
7	Jordan	Megan
8	Christopher	Nicole
9	Ross	Rachel
10	Craig	Hannah

It should be noted that although the names are ranked in order, the most popular names are only a few percent of the total. In other words, no one name is extremely popular and many different names are used.

OK... I'll tell you what was last (#100) on the list...

For boys: Niall  
For girls: Karen

## Wha wad ken?

**F**irst to answer all three wins a Society flag pin.

1. What's the "glorious 12th"?
2. What firth is not mentioned on page 3?
3. Where and what's the place in the photo?

All replies to Jim McLaren:

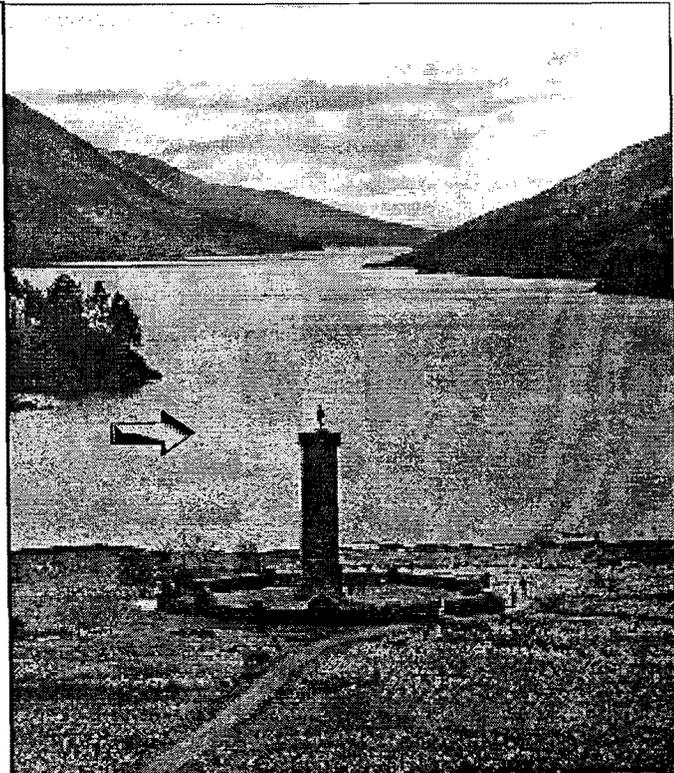
Phone: (314) 532 5986

Fast e-mail: JamesM66@aol.com

Snail mail: 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Ct,  
Chesterfield, MO 63017.

Congratulations to Carrie Sutherland who had all three correct.

1. Papers: eg. Sunday Post, Scotsman.....
2. Allan Ramsay: poet and printer (also started the first mobile library in UK).
3. Dunnet Head is most northern point. (John o' Groats northern tourist place).



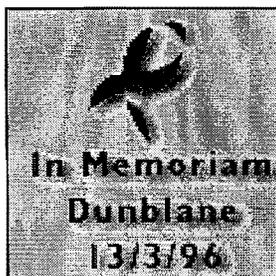
Looking forward to hearing from you: answers or interesting questions welcome.

Q: What's the difference between Liberace and Walt Disney?

A: Liberace plays the piano, and Walt Disney!

# CALEDONIA CORNER

*This page is dedicated to the memory of the Scots who died at Dunblane.*



Victoria Clydesdale (5)  
Melissa Currie (5)  
Emma Crozier (5)  
Charlotte Dunn (5)  
Mhairi McBeath (5)  
Brett McKinnon (6)  
Abigail McLennan (5)  
Emily Morton (5)  
Sophie North (5)  
Joanna Ross (5)  
Hanna Scott (5)  
Megan Turner (5)  
Kevin Hasell (5)  
Ross Irvine (5)  
David Kerr (5)  
John Petrie (5)  
Mrs Gwenne Mayor (44)

With the approval of Stirling Council, the Dunblane Primary Gym has now been demolished and a temporary memorial garden has been planted on the site. Discussions are being held concerning the nature of a permanent memorial.

There is a memorial message site on the internet, which has collected thousands of responses from across the world and passes these to the people of Dunblane. I took the liberty of sending the following:

*As first, second, and third generation ex-patriots we were deeply shocked by the terrible tragedy which took so many innocent lives. It is with great frustration that we share in your grief: what can we do, what can we say.....your pain must be beyond belief. We can only encourage you to call on that deep strength of Scottish character, and ask that you know we are with you. Our deepest sympathies to those who are enduring such a great loss.*

Jim McLaren, on behalf of the 344 members of the St. Andrew Society of Greater St. Louis.

If you are able and wish to connect, the URL is <http://iota.scotweb.co.uk/tp/dunblane/>

# TOASTS & THINGS

**H**ere's a great piece of Gaelic, straight out of cyberspace (courtesy of Dick Lodge who scans the ether for these gems!).....

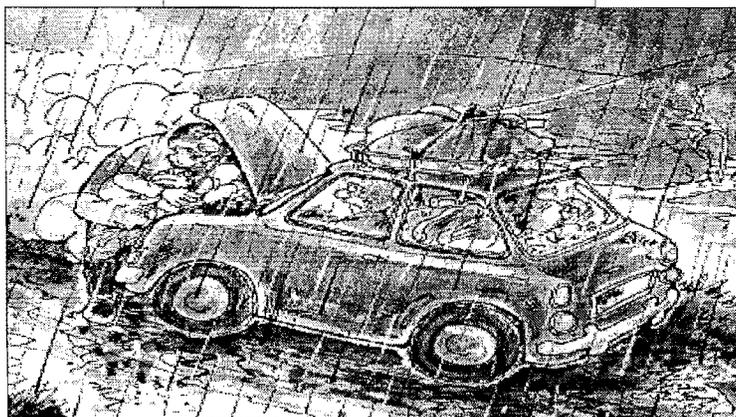
Bhoil, ma tha Uinneagan agad feumaidh thu an **keyboard driver** a atharrachadh. Deantar e seo tron "**International Control Panel**". Roghnaich "**US-International**" ann an liosta ri taobh **keyboard layout** agus lean na **dialog boxes**. Feumaidh thu na dioscai Uinneagain bhith agad chun an **driver** ur sgrìobhadh tro na **keys** seo.....

Who said silicon glen would never make it?

Hear about the Scot who walked into the bakery and said "Is that a macaroon in the window or a meringue"?

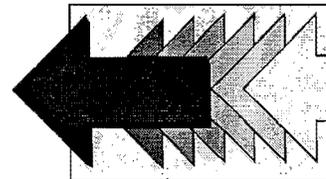
*(am a wrang!)*

Hey Morag, we're oot o' water!



Please try to find someone who may enjoy becoming a member, and encourage them to join, or come along and find out what we have to offer.

Enquiries to: Peter Geery, (314) 227 2785.



## Thank you for your participation and help...

**H**ope you all enjoyed reading our very own newsletter, the Thistle Times.  
Comments, and new material to the Editor:

*Jim McLaren, 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Court, Chesterfield, MO 63017  
or call (314) 532-5986, or e-mail: JamesM66@aol.com.*

*Many thanks to those who contributed all the excellent material, it does help!*