

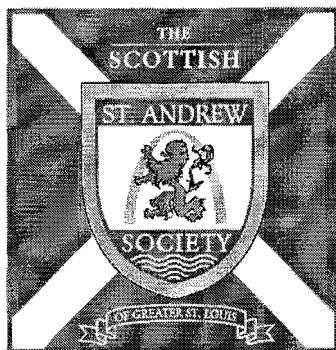
SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY
OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

PRESIDENT'S EDITORIAL

Dear Members,

I hear Esley Hamilton did a good job with the "Views of Scotland" evening, and the ceilidh was another great night of fun, song and dance. Again thanks to Marilyn, Denise, and the events committee for all their work on making these happen. I'm sorry I missed these events, but I was back on the other side of the "pond" working in Scotland and England.... and it was just as rainy there as you can imagine it to be!

I hope you all had a chance to look over our 25th Anniversary plaques, they've come out rather well with our new logo. We're still working on the decals. The members who were recognized for their long-standing support of the Society, as part of our 25th Anniversary



were:

- Iona Baldwin — 1973
- Floyd and Mary Breckenridge — 1973
- Tom and Sandra Brennan — 1974
- Sandra Brown — 1974
- Jean Cobain — 1972
- Alan and Hazel Craig — 1972
- William and Dorothy Dick — 1973
- Allan and Etta May Eagle — 1974
- Peggy Flynn — 1974
- Peter Geery — 1974
- Jessie Gober — 1972
- Thom and Ruth Hunter — 1973
- Alex and Margaret Mackie — 1974
- Vic Masterson — 1974
- Elizabeth McGregor — 1972
- Mary Paton — 1972
- Elizabeth Rankin — 1972
- Winnie Shirreff — 1972
- Francis Stirratt — 1972

Heard in Court

From the Rutherglen Reformer, dated 7th June 1895.

John Smith, a miner, of 17 North Nimmos Lane, for breach of the peace on Friday last, was fined 5 shillings or 3 days. One of the witnesses remarked, when asked by the Fiscal if the accused was worse of drink, that he was. And besides "...he was so bad that I think they must be making it extra strong these days!"

The courtroom laughter had to be silenced by words from the Judge.

taken from "Courtroom Crack"

inside...

Upcoming Events

Out and About

The Darien Scheme

Caledonia Corner

Toasts & Things

Upcoming Events

Next



Event

May 3rd, 2:00pm

Annual Picnic and Scottish BBQ.

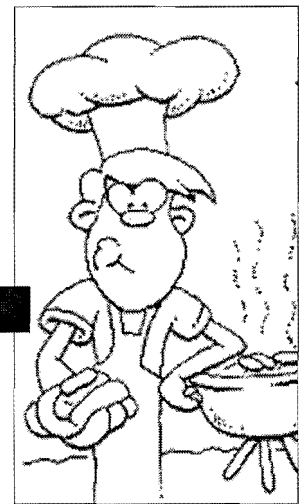
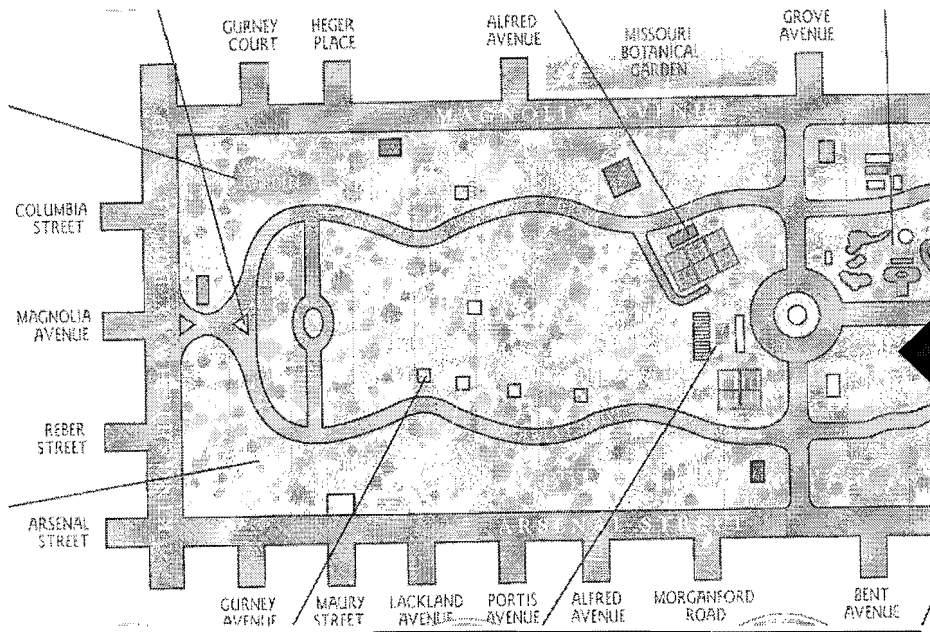
At Tower Grove Park, Kingshighway Blvd. and Magnolia Ave (see map below)

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN FOOD AND DRINKS

BBQ PIT AND SHLETER HAVE BEEN RESERVED

We will have games and various picnic events

Go to the Turkish Pavilion, near the Pool and Shakespeare Statue



**MANY THANKS to
Marilyn Geery and the Entertainment
Committee for organizing
another great program year**

Know what a "carnyx" is? Well don't feel too bad, there's not many around these days. It's a Celtic war trumpet! You can actually hear this and other ancient instruments on a new CD called the *Kilmartin Sessions*. The music includes such favorites as the ringing rocks, bird-bone flutes, bronze horns and drums. Apparently the CD ends with a very eerie and moving combination of harmonic singing, carnyx, and Bronze Age horn.

Published by Kilmartin House in Argyll you can order by phone at +44 1546 510278

Out and About



Interesting combination.... wonder where the sghian dhu is hidden?



What's this? No men around... no wonder the ladies look so happy!



This looks like a lively group... it must have been a St Andrew Society Ceilidh!



Oh! Oh! We found some of the men.... is that camera squint or what!

A recent book full of advice on "entertaining", "dress", and "hiring and firing", which apparently is published in the USA, has received the attention of the Scottish press....

The book also features a cartoon of a party scene involving 12 social gaffes. These include holding your drink in your left (or indeed right) paw so you can shake hands easily "without spilling your drink over you". Also, "when you shake hands [it] is dangerous to touch any other part of the body without permission".

Another part of the course outlined in the book is "how to write powerful business letters". It was addressed to our **Lewis correspondent** at

**38 Street, HS1 2NF,
Stornoway,
France.**

Caledonia Corner

The MILLENIUM - Dynamic Scotland

Details of Scotland's largest interactive tourist attraction set to open at the turn of the Millenium have been unveiled. The high-tech 34 million pound project Dynamic Earth will chart the course of evolution and the history of Scotland. Designers are confident that ground-breaking, state-of-the-art images and effects will draw over half a million visitors to the attraction in its first year. Set against the stunning backdrop of Edinburgh's Salisbury Crags, Dynamic Earth, funded partly by the Millenium Commission, will be built opposite the new Scottish Parliament building. The attraction has received a warm welcome from the Scottish Tourist Board, which hopes it will boost tourism across Scotland.

Among claims that "There is nothing like this project anywhere else in the world where people can actually experience evolution for themselves," it is planned that visitors will travel in mock time machines back to the age of the dinosaur and experience 3D effects depicting vivid volcanic eruptions with flowing lava and earth tremors. They will also be treated to tours around tropical rainforests, with exotic animals and mock rainstorms. The 90 minute experience ends in a sensational finale of the earth's natural phenomena, including earthquakes depicted by moving floors, tidal waves and lightening forks.

Work on Dynamic Earth is already underway and project organisers revealed that they were on schedule to open the new gallery to the public in May next year. The building, which features a translucent tented roof and a huge amphitheatre, was designed by Sir Michael Hopkins and is sited on the old Scottish and Newcastle brewery site.

The project has been funded by 15 million pounds from the Millenium Commission with further contributions from Lothian and Edinburgh Enterprise

Wha wad ken?

First to answer all three correctly wins a Society lapel pin.....

1. An island, famous for tweed?
2. Who was born in Helensburgh, and first demonstrated that TV could work, in 1926?
3. What Scottish regiment is nicknamed the "Thin Red Line"?

Congratulations to Winnie Shirreff who won.

Answers:

1. Sgian Dhu (or dubh) is the "Black Dagger" worn with kilt socks.
2. Alexander Fleming: discovered penicillin
3. Loch Lomond is further west.

All replies to Jim McLaren

Phone: 314-532-5986

Fast e-mail: mclaren@inverizon.com

Snail mail: 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Ct.,

The Scottish headlines are...

Dolly had a little lamb - the usual way!

Yes, it appears that our famous sheep *Dolly*, the world's first sheep to be cloned from an adult sheep cell, has given birth to a healthy lamb. It was announced on April 23rd and surprised many critics who had predicted that she would be sterile. It's surprising what those Scottish sheep can do!

The lamb, called *Bonnie*, was born at the Roslin Institute near Edinburgh on April 12th, but scientists kept the event a secret until they were certain mother and baby were healthy.

The Darien Scheme

This July will be the 300th anniversary of the Darien Scheme, and there is talk of making a movie about the affair, as a follow up to “Braveheart.” Those of you familiar with the Darien story will know that this is not really a celebration — but rather a remembrance of one of the darkest times in Scotland’s history. Some even say that it was the Darien fiasco that forced the subsequent Act of Union.

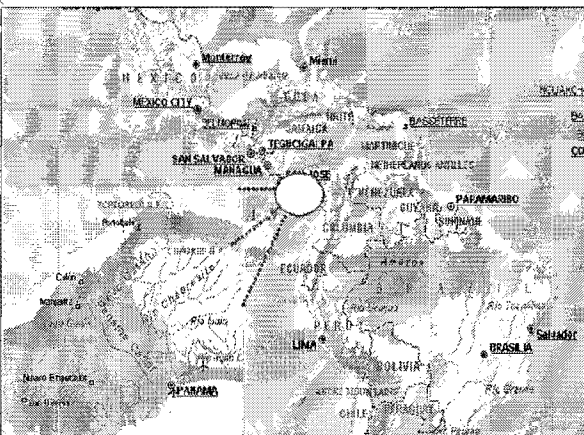
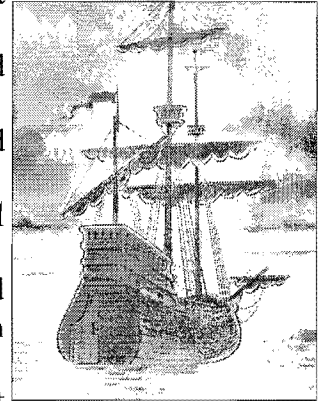
As with most major historical events, the stage was set by apparently unrelated circumstances coming together....

- 1) William Paterson had successfully made a fortune through exploration and trading with the West Indies, and he was an influential man back home in Scotland.
- 2) The Scottish economic policy at the time was expansionary and successful colonies had been created in New Jersey, and the Carolinas.
- 3) The domestic economy was in recession and there had been a series of bad harvests, and several social disasters — this period is often referred to as the “seven ill years” of the 1690’s.

Paterson recognized that the isthmus of Panama was one of the most important tracts of land in the world. He foresaw it as the cross-roads of all travel and trade: between the Americas in the north and south, and between the great Atlantic and Pacific oceans in the east and west. His vision was that Scotland would control this vital piece of land through a great settlement at Darien — which is close to where the Panama Canal starts today. In 1697, Paterson and the authorities formed the “Company of Scotland” and attracted investors from every walk of life. This was the most ambitious colonial scheme ever attempted and was intended to re-vitalize the Scottish economy, through investment returns for the gentry and by providing jobs and a new life for emigrants.

In 1698, some 1,200 people set sail for the new world amidst large cheering crowds. Unfortunately, few aboard realized how long the journey would be, or how hot and humid their destination would be. None had imagined the devastating disease and fever that would be transmitted by swarms of mosquitoes. They named the land “New Caledonia” and its capital was to be “New Edinburgh” — but the main task was digging graves. A few sick voyagers eventually made it back to Scotland, but the promise of the region was so enticing that a second expedition of 1,300 left Scotland in 1699 and also headed for Darien. This second attempt may have been better prepared, however, a fire destroyed the ship and all the provisions just as they arrived. The outcome was that those who survived the fever were forced to surrender to the Spanish who had some control of the area. The “Company of Scotland” collapsed, the investors lost all their money, and hundreds of

lives were lost. In the aftermath of the Darien scheme, Scotland was essentially bankrupt and it is no coincidence that 15 out of the 25 Articles of Union were concerned with economics and financial matters. Thus, the ill-fated Darien scheme is said to have been a main cause of the Union.



Even today, the area around Darien is a dense swampy forest where the wrecks of Land Rovers are not uncommon.

70 ASYS & THINGS

Tales from “Anither Dash o’ Doric”....

Wee Gordon was certainly becoming a farmer as he strode around the yard with his thumbs in the straps of dungars, and sitting with the wrokers at fly time.

Eventually, a new addition arrived in the family and Gordon’s aunt from Aberdeen asked him if he was pleased with his new baby sister.

“Fairly that” he replied, scowling as he hauled off his wee wellies. “Though we’d mair need o a new ploo!”

Robert was sitting in the front room with a face like thunder. “Are ye no proud o yer new baby brither,” asked his visiting uncle. Robert said nothing. “Fa div yee think he’s like?” asked his uncle. Still no reply.

“I wid say he’s got yer dad’s nose an yer mither’s een,” said Robert’s uncle. To which Robert replied, “Aye, an he’s got my bedroom!”

A poem of spring... (By Dafe McFadzean)

“Braeriach Tae Braemar”

High on Braeriach winter breathes its last
The snaw in thaw yields tae the souching winds;
The final wreaths mingle with the rain and
overflow the Wells O Dee.

Purling, swirling, dirling, icy snaw bree;
Dashing, crashing, thrashing, in suicidal leap;
Scrawling, bawling, falling, ower the crags
o Sputan Dearg;

Grumbling, tumbling, rumbling, tae the burn
in the Lairig Ghru;

Joined by waters plenty of other mountain
streams — rushing, gushing, crushing,
through ancient Cairngorm granite;

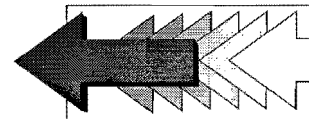
Boring, scoring, foaming, roaring,
through the falls o the Linn O Dee

Spreading, threading, never ending,
through the pines tae the Braes O Mar.



Aberdonian lady says to the butcher
Div ye dee liver?

**Send in your nominees
for the Board
to Keith Parle, 314 537 9463**



Hope 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: mclaren@inverizon.com.

Website address is <http://www.inverizon.com/scotlink>