

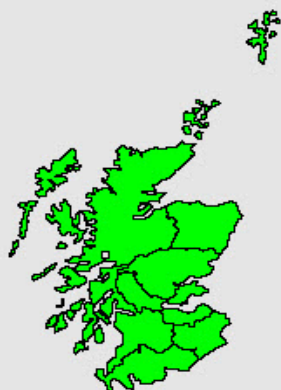


THE Saltire

No 3

Message from the Chieftain

August 2011



"Alba Gu Brath"

COMMITTEE 2011-2012

Chieftain

Ken Suttie

Vice Chieftain

Jeff Crookes

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Brian McMurdo

Hon Treasurer

Diana Paxman

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Susan Bogie

Cameron Dickson

Cheryl Hill

Doris LaValette

Reggie McNeill

Margaret Weir

Mistress of the Dance

Dawn Cromb

Honorary Piper

John Sinclair

Website

<http://saintandrew.org.au>

Dancing the night away

Well, that was the Xmas in July Ceilidh, that was!

We may have been slightly down on numbers compared with recent ceilidhs, but the people who were there obviously came ready to have a good time.

It was one of the most "dancingist" ceilidhs the Society has had, probably because our dancer-extraordinaire Reggie McNeill led the sub-committee that put it together (Diana Paxman, Margaret Weir and Cheryl Hill were the other members of that team).

However, the guests certainly threw themselves into the dances we have enjoyed over the years . . . even when they danced them to Christmas music, on a couple of occasions.

And they appreciated the new dances demonstrated by Reggie and a troupe of Society members.

The Heel n Toe unveiled their new drummer (yes! drummer!), Stephen, for the first time at one of our functions, and he certainly added something different to the band's sound.

I really have to say how much I appreciated the effort put in by the entire Committee.

The Xmas in July Ceilidh probably entails more decoration work than any of the others and the place, especially the tables, was resplendent when the guests arrived.

I must also mention how impressed I was in the number of guests who helped the Committee pack away the decorations at the end of the ceilidh . . . it made clean-up so much faster and easier.

It was greatly appreciated by the Committee members.

Ken Suttie
Chieftain

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Surprises in store at Spring Ceilidh

The Committee hopes you are all starting to get excited about the upcoming Spring Ceilidh, because it's to be held in a venue we haven't been to before.

After a bit of searching, the Committee found the Scarborough Sportsman's Club . . . we're sure you'll be impressed!

At 75 Deanmore Road, Scarborough, the club is close to the West Coast Highway, on the northern side of Scarborough Beach Road, near Sackville Terrace.

This year's Spring Ceilidh will be held on Saturday 10 September and the convener of the organising sub-committee, Susan Bogie, is confident it will be a great event.

Susan and her group reckon they have a couple of surprises up their sleeves!

You will be wined and dined, as usual, and if you are interested in seeing the menu just look under Events on the Society's website.

Of course, our friends of the Heel n Toe band will be on hand to get your toes tapping.

As always, we'll be hoping that some of the guests will put their hands up to help with the entertainment.

So, grab the form at the end of The Saltire and send it off as soon as possible to book your seat or table.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Spring Ceilidh: September 10

Venue: Scarborough Sportsman's Club

Dances Classes: Wednesdays, September 21 to November 23

Venue: Karrynup Community Hall

St Andrew's Day Ball: November 26

Venue: Novotel Langley Hotel

2012

Burns Supper: January 25

Venue: Parmelia Hilton Hotel

Spring Ceilidh Menu

On Arrival in the Bar Area

Selection of Canapés and Hors D'ouvres

Hot and Cold Finger Food

(Served for 45 minutes)

Dinner

Warm Bread Rolls and Butter on the table

Main

Choice of

Chicken Breast, stuffed with
Sundried Tomato and Cream Cheese,
Grain Mustard Cream Sauce

or

Slices of Succulent Oven Roasted South-
West WA Spring Lamb
Mint Sauce, Rosemary and Red Wine Jus

with

Roast Rosemary and Thyme
Gourmet Potatoes

Selection of Spring Seasonal Vegetables
served in tureens to each table

(Vegetarians or guests with special dietary requests will have a special main course menu and dessert, if required)

Dessert

Scottish Cream Liqueur Cheesecake,
Crème Ecosse , Dark Chocolate

To Conclude

Selection of Fine, Indian, Chinese and
Herbal Teas

Freshly Percolated Coffee

Scottish All Butter Shortbread



The Members' Spot

Do you have something you would like to share with the other Society members?

Well, this is your chance . . . take the pressure off the Editor by sending in your contributions!

Just drop an email to kas@iinet.net.au or send it through Australia Post to The Saltire Editor, Midland BC, PO Box 1212, Midland DC WA 6936.

Bagpipes saved by Chieftain

When James Pearse had his bagpipes stolen from his car recently, he thought that would be the last he saw of them.

The pipes were uninsured and with a set of bagpipes costing more than \$1000, James was devastated.

But Lady Luck was actually smiling on him!

Luck break number one came when the thieves dumped his pipes near the Leeder-ville home of the Chieftain, Ken Suttie.

Ken was out walking when he came across the set of pipes and a Glengarry cap beneath a tree about 50 metres from his house.

Luck break number two was that the pipes had a Perth Highland Pipe Band logo on the bag and Ken had the contact details of the band secretary, so a quick email was sent.

Ken then found the name Pearse and a mobile number inside the Glengarry, so he was also able to contact James directly.

Needless to say, James was delighted to hear his pipes had been found and he rushed round to claim them.

Everything wasn't completely rosy, however, because the all-important mouthpiece was still missing, so Ken and James searched the area the pipes had been dumped.

At that moment, one of Ken's neighbours saw what was going on and produced the mouthpiece from a skip he had been filling with rubble . . . lucky break number three!

In the end, James lost his carrying case and a practice chanter, but with his pipes returned he'll be able to continue making beautiful music.

New Dance Classes venue

This year the dance classes in the lead up to the Ball will be held at Karrinyup Community Recreation Centre.

This venue is directly behind Karrinyup Shopping Centre, on Davenport Street, which runs between Borroughs Road and Francis Avenue.

As usual, the classes will start at 7.30pm, every Wednesday from 21 September to 23 November.

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Knock Castle

Knock is a small but attractive tower, strategically built on top of a hill where Glen Muick (pronounced "Mick") meets the Dee valley, just west of Ballater in Aberdeenshire.

It stands at the head of a long rough track, signed to Knock Farm, and is cared for by Historic Scotland.

The building, dating from approximately 1600, consists of an oblong keep of four storeys with no wings.

It once contained a vaulted basement, now long since collapsed.

The remains of a courtyard and subsidiary buildings can be seen around about.

Both the east and south facing corners of the tower have circular angle turrets supported on fine label-style corbelling, and the west facing corner has a square watch chamber corbelled out above the stairhead (shown in the drawing).

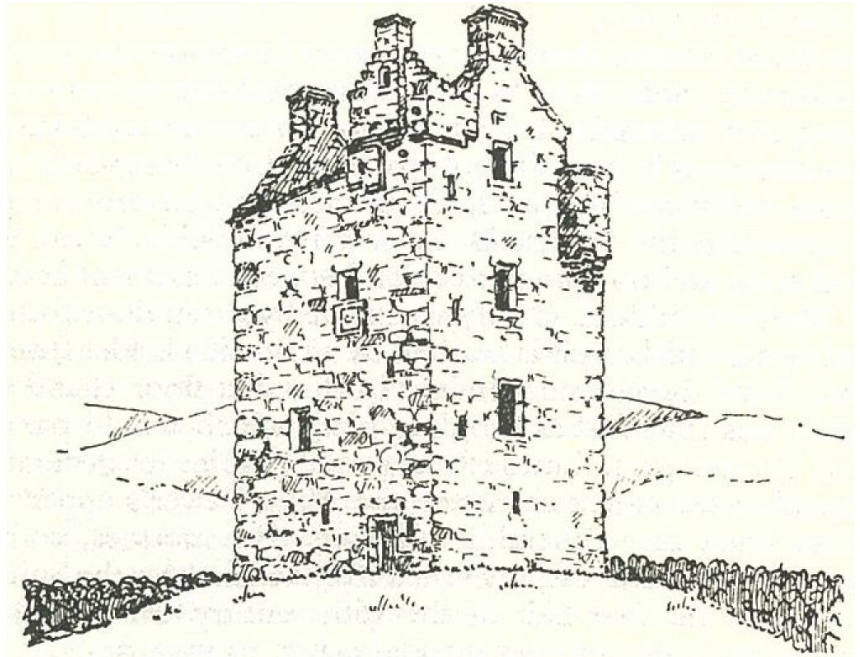
This was a Gordon house, and like so many others, saw its share of tragedy.

Being somewhat isolated from the Gordon powerbase further north, it may have been seen as an easy target by the Gordon's perennial enemies the Forbes, whose lands lay in between.

At the beginning of the 17th century, Henry Gordon, second Laird of Knock, was killed in a raid by a company of Forbes and Clan Chattan (McIntosh) men.

Henry was succeeded by his brother Alexander, who is said to have built the castle as it now stands.

The story goes that in another attack the Forbes surprised, attacked and killed all seven of Alexander's sons as they were digging peat and their severed heads were left attached to their peat cutting spades!



On hearing this dire news, the laird was so overcome that he fell down the spiral stairway at Knock and broke his neck.

Forbes of Strathgirnock was summarily condemned and executed for leading the affray, by Gordon of Abergeldie, as deputy for Gordon the Earl of Huntly, and his lands annexed to . . . Gordon of Abergeldie!

These proceedings, of course, could hardly be considered impartial by modern standards, but warranted they may have been and were sadly typical of the times.

There are those that will tell you that the castle is haunted by old Alexander Gordon, still lamenting the loss of his sons!

An unusual feature at Knock are the defensive shot holes, for pistols, under all of the numerous windows, each of which has a defensive grate protecting them.

The shot holes are all angled to the ground, with the centre one pointing forward and the two outer holes pointing slightly askew.

By Richard Paxman



New £74m transport museum gears up

Glasgow's new £74m transport museum has opened its doors to the public and should become one of Scotland's biggest visitor attractions.

Glasgow's history as an industrial giant, and a global leader in engineering and shipbuilding, is celebrated in the beautiful Riverside Museum.

There are 3000 exhibits and 150 interactive displays.

The new museum includes all the old favourites from the former transport museum . . . steam engines, cars, miniature boats, motorcycles, and trams.

However, there are also new features, such as world record breaking cyclist Graeme Obree's bikes and racing attire, and the late Colin McRae's Subaru Impreza, in which he won the World Rally Car Championship.



The museum is also about the people who worked and lived in the city.

One of the main attractions are Glasgow streets as they looked in the past.

Visitors can walk through the 1900s street and explore the shoemaker shop, the pawnbroker, the Mitre pub or even Le Rendezvous Café, from Dennistoun.

Bunbury winter ceilidh

Our Bunbury cousins, the MacAussies, are holding a Winter Ceilidh on 27 August.

There will be dancing to CD music, which will include traditional and contemporary Scottish tracks, as well as a mix of popular music.

The MacAussies have also invited a local piper along to play a few sets and they have a new member who plays the small pipes.

The ticket price of \$35 will include a light supper, with succulent Scottish delicacies such as stovies, mince and tatties, and deep fried mars bars on the menu!

It will be bring your own drinks event.

Some Society members from Perth are going along and a few tickets are being held especially for any other interested members.

For tickets, contact Ellen Reid on 0410 608 455 or ermacaussie620@gmail.com.

The event, which will run from 7.30pm to midnight, is being held at the Druids Building, 1 Stuart Street, Bunbury.

Society email address

You can now contact the Committee by email (enquiries@saintandrew.org.au) with queries or feedback.

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Feel free to drop in and see a kilt "under construction"!





The Saint Andrew Society of WA



Spring Ceilidh

SCARBOROUGH SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

75 Deanmore Road, Scarborough

On Saturday 10 September 2011

at 7 PM



Put a spring in your step and dance the night away with the Heel and Toe band.

We look forward to seeing you there to enjoy the flavour of spring.

Special Spring Prizes for you to win in the raffle.



Spring Ceilidh Booking Form

Saturday 10 September 2011

Members \$60 ** Non Members \$70

Delicious Canapes and scrumptious two-course meal with tea and coffee
Tables of up to eight people



For further information, email enquiries@saintandrew.org.au

To book tickets please complete and send in the form below

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

Phone:..... Email:.....

Please provide me with the following tickets:

Spring Ceilidh members @ \$60 each \$.....

Spring Ceilidh non-members @ \$70 each \$.....

Total \$.....

Cheques should be made payable to "The Saint Andrew Society of WA" and should be returned along with this completed form before 1 September to: [The Treasurer, The Saint Andrew Society of WA, Midland BC, PO Box 1212, Midland DC WA 6936](#)

Or pay by EFT to St Andrew Society of WA – CBA: BSB: 066 105 A/C No: 901144

Please remember to include your name.