

ST. ANDREW'S

Echoes Echoes



**ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF OAKLAND
NEWSLETTER APRIL - MAY 2011**

We are eco-friendly. Printed copies of Echoes use only recycled paper. E-mailed copies use recycled bits from the massive BSD Unix bit compost heaps at UC Berkeley and Stanford U.

**ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF OAKLAND
C/O 3565 WHITEHALL CT,
PLEASANTON, CA 94588**

Editor's Corner

Quiz: What is our Google group's name? saint-andrews-society-of-oakland@googlegroups.com

What's it used for? We use it for bulk emails such as this Echoes to every member in the group.

What else is it good for? Surveys, discussions, royal wedding ... check your email for an example.

Is it really useful or just another reason to sit at the PC and burn bits? Depends on what we put in ...

Visit our group page at <http://groups.google.com/group/saint-andrews-society-of-oakland>

And don't forget the website at <http://standrewssocietyofoakland.org/default.aspx>

Echoes Corrections

Kalvinder Sandhu had a birthday on the 6th of February and the Echoes Eejitor (yours truly) missed an opportunity to extend best wishes. Well, better late than never my Da' used to say.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY, Kalvinder! Take this copy of Echoes newsletter to any Bags&Buzzsaws* shop in the Bay area for a free tune-up for your best chainsaw or your favorite bagpipes. Chainsaws are same day service, but please allow a fortnight for the pipes.

* Bags&Buzzsaws owned & operated by U.R. Kidding & Sons, Pleasanton CA.

The Royal Wedding

Did you watch it live or otherwise? Some of our society members did and sent these details:

"My wife and I watched it live (I joined her when she accidentally switched on the TV at the loudest setting)."

"Didn't watch the event - tad too early for me! "

"DVR on Saturday evening. Fast forward through some of it!"

"I didn't see it all live, it was just too early, I did get up in time to see the main event. I recorded it from the start and enjoyed every minute of it. "

"We recorded about 4hrs of it. My wife had some ladies round - suitably attired and with tea & scones etc - to watch it in the morning. I watched it in the evening after work with the kids."

"I asked my daughter to come over and watch with me. She stayed over and we got up just as it was about to start. I had bought tiaras at the Party Barn so we would fit in with the guests. We had finger food and drinks so as not to feel left out. She was a gorgeous bride and we enjoyed the wedding."

Riding the Flying Scotsman

Your Eejitor (me) and his family took the annual PBFSCO Flying Scotsman train ride through Sunol Canyon on Sunday, May 1 this year. I've got one thing to say followed by one question.

Thing one: This was an unbelievably fun and educational experience! All ages came and enjoyed it, and even if you're not a died-in-the-wool cagoule-wearing binocular-toting Wizzo-Doodlebug trainspotter, this experience is priceless. It is the closest thing to riding a time machine in this world, as you chug along (yes ,STEAM powered) through Sunol canyon with the river on one side, the lofty green hills on the other, a plethora of flora and fauna so rich and varied you give yourself whiplash trying to catch the scenery with your camera. Some examples perhaps ...



Question one: Where were you guys? We saw a few of our St. Andrews brethren (and sistren?) on the train but wished for many more to share the moment. Next time around we'll advertise more, talk it up, remind, re-remind, and coordinate with a goal of having enough St. Andrews members to fill a whole passenger carriage. Now, a bit more about PBFSCO ...

Pleasanton-Blairgowrie-Fergus Sister City Organization (PBFSCO)

The purpose of PBFSCO is to promote understanding and friendship between the citizens of Pleasanton, Blairgowrie, and Fergus and their respective regions, and to encourage and facilitate the exchange of people and culture between the communities

Have You Seen Me?



We've temporarily misplaced two new flags recently, and need to find them to complete the retirement of the old flags. If you know where they might be, please contact any of the officers listed at the end of this newsletter. Thanks!

Society News

Meetings

Regular business meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 8pm at a predetermined venue in Pleasanton. For 2011, the July and August meetings are canceled just in case a season called "Summer" remembers to come to our area for a visit of longer than 2 days at a time.

the next meeting will be held on Thursday the 9th June at Cafe Main, 401 Main Street, Pleasanton. As per usual the meeting will commence at 8 p.m.

Membership

Welcome Janet and Derek Brown who joined the Society in May.

Entertainment Committee

Summer Ceilidh

The fifth Annual Joint Club's Ceilidh will be at Encinal Yacht Club in Alameda on Saturday August 13th, 2011. Once again we will dance to and be entertained by the John Taylor Ceilidh Band. Go to the **ANNOUNCEMENTS** page of this newsletter for details and the ticket order form. Sky Spirits will do the whiskey tasting. For those of you who know Mary Gilbert, this will be Mary's last event before leaving the British Consul.

SFBay Scots Pub Night

Reminder from: [sfbayscots Yahoo! Group](#)

Title: Pub Night

Date: Last Tuesday of every month

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Repeats: This event repeats every month on the last Tuesday.

Location: British Bankers Club, Menlo Park

Street: 1090 El Camino Real

City State Zip: Menlo Park, CA 94025

Notes: Informal networking "pub night" for Scots. Meet new and old friends.

On The Day – John McDonald's story of the Spirit of Scotland Pipe Band

The origins of the bagpipes go back two thousand years. Their ancient sound resonates deep within our souls. Sometimes the unique music is sorrowful, sometimes joyful. The sound of the pipes has been heard in times of battle, but most often in times of peace and celebration. Every August over 200 bagpipe bands from all over the world gather in Glasgow, Scotland for the World Pipe Band Championships. They converge on a vast field called Glasgow Green for a single day of competition. John McDonald chronicles this competition as well as focusing on the lives of a handful of players, revealing distinctive personalities as they emerge through cinema verite observation and one-on-one interviews.

Whatever viewers think they know about bagpipers and piping music will be forever changed. The film explores the lore of the pipes and reveals the people behind these intimidating instruments, set against the background of the World Championships. The film will entertain and enlighten audiences from all walks of life and open their hearts to experience and appreciate this often misunderstood stirring form of music.

The project was made possible with the generous donations of individuals, clans and Scottish organizations who saw the opportunity to spread the word about an aspect of Scottish culture.

ON THE DAY The Story of the Spirit of Scotland Pipe Band

A Feature Documentary by John McDonald



FATHER'S DAY SCREENING The Piedmont Theatre in Oakland, CA June 18 & 19 @ 11am

[Click here for details](#)

<http://www.landmarktheatres.com/market/SanFranciscoEastBay/PiedmontTheatre.htm>

Piedmont Theatre, 4186 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland, CA 94611 (510) 985-1252

Tickets may be purchased in advance at <https://tickets.landmarktheatres.com/Ticketing.aspx?TheatreID=205>

June 18 and 19, 2011; showing at 11:00 am both days.

Adult	\$10.00
Dad (with paid Junior/Adult)	\$ 8.00
Senior (62+)	\$ 8.00
Junior (4-12)	\$ 8.00
Child (under 4)	Free

Partially sponsored by:

Caledonian Club of San Francisco

<http://www.caledonian.org/>

St. Andrews Society of Oakland

<http://standrewssocietyfoakland.org/>

Scottish History for April

April 1 Hunt the Gowk- On this day people would play tricks and tell lies to catch each other out. But the jokes had to stop at mid-day. Now called April Fool's Day, hunting the gowk was originally sending someone on a foolish errand. "Dinna laugh, an' dinna smile, but hunt the gowk another mile."

April 1 1571 Dumbarton Castle under siege since Jan. 1570 captured by Capt. Thomas Crawford by scaling the walls.

April 2 1593 Marischal College, second University in Aberdeen, founded.

April 4 1406 King Robert III died and James I ascended the throne (but was not crowned until 1424 as he was a prisoner of the English).

April 4 1689 Scottish Parliament declared that James VII had forfeited the Scottish throne.

April 6 1320 Declaration of Arbroath - "For we fight not for glory nor for riches nor for honour, but only and alone for freedom, which no good man surrenders but with his life".

April 6 1944 "Pay As You Earn" Income Tax introduced for the first time.

April 10 1988 Sandy Lyle becomes the first Scottish (and British) golfer to win the US Masters tournament.

April 12 1606 Union flag adopted as the flag of England, Wales and Scotland.

April 13 1951 The Stone of Destiny, which had been removed from underneath the Coronation Chair by Scottish nationalists on 25 December 1950, was returned to Westminster Abbey after being found at Arbroath Abbey.

April 13 2001 Entertainer, actor and comedian Jimmy Logan died.

April 14 1582 University of Edinburgh founded.

April 15 1924 Actor and comedian Rikki Fulton born in Glasgow. He was best known for his double act with Jack Milroy as "Francie and Josie" and as the Rev I M Jolly in "Scotch and Wry".

April 16 1746 Charles Edward Stewart defeated at Battle of Culloden.

April 17 1341 Edinburgh Castle captured from the English.

April 17 1969 Everyone in Britain over the age of 18 was allowed to vote in parliamentary elections. The minimum age of 21 had been set in 1928.

April 18 1874 Remains of David Livingstone interred in Westminster Abbey.

April 21 1838 John Muir, pioneering conservationist and founder of Yosemite National Park, born in Dunbar.

April 21 1926 The future Queen Elizabeth II born. Her parents at that time were the Duke and Duchess of York.

April 23 1968 The new 5p and 10p decimal coins were introduced in anticipation of decimalisation (in 1971). They were used as one shilling and two shilling coins until then.

April 24 1949 Chocolate and sweets were no longer rationed, a measure introduced at the start of World War 2. However, demand was so great that it had to be re-introduced.

April 27 1794 James Bruce, explorer and author of "Travels to Discover the Sources of the Nile" died.

April 29 1977 Scottish Aviation becomes part of British Aerospace.

April 30 1728 Royal Bank invents first overdraft, Wm Hogg overdraws by £1,000 (£66,000 at today's money).

Scottish History for May

- May 1** Beltane's Day - ancient fire festival celebrating start of summer.
- May 1 1522** England declared war on both Scotland and France.
- May 1 1873** Missionary and explorer [David Livingstone](#) died.
- May 2 1424** King [James I](#) crowned at Scone.
- May 2 1568** [Mary Queen of Scots](#) escaped from Loch Leven castle.
- May 2 1933** The story of the Loch Ness Monster first appeared in the press, starting off a long-running debate on whether or not some unknown animal or fish inhabits the murky depths of the loch.
- May 2 1959** The first nuclear power station in Scotland, at Chapelcross, opened.
- May 2 1963** Rootes car factory opens at Linwood, making the Hillman Imp.
- May 5 1758** James Taylor who developed the steamboat was born.
- May 8 1945** [Victory-in-Europe Day](#), end of World War II in Europe.
- May 8 1701** Scottish-born pirate "[Captain](#)" [William Kidd](#) tried for piracy at London's Old Bailey. He was hanged on 23 May.
- May 9 1860** [J M Barrie](#), author of "Peter Pan" born
- May 10 1850** Sir Thomas Lipton, founder of the Lipton's grocery chain who was a millionaire by the age of 30, was born in Glasgow.
- May 12 1725** The Black Watch regiment was commissioned under General Wade to police the Highlands.
- May 12 1937** Coronation of King George VI and [Queen Elizabeth](#) took place at Westminster Abbey.
- May 13 1568** Mary, Queen of Scots, defeated at Battle of Langside.
- May 14 1754** St Andrews Society of Golfers constituted. In 1834 it became the Royal and Ancient Golf Club.
- May 15 1567** [Mary, Queen of Scots](#), married [Earl of Bothwell](#) at 4am.
- May 15 1800** King George III escaped two assassination attempts in one day. In Hyde Park, London, a bullet intended for him hit a man standing alongside. Later, at the Drury Lane Theatre, two bullets missed him and hit the wooden panel behind him. His assailant was found to be insane.
- May 16 1568** [Mary Queen of Scots](#) sailed from Port Mary across the Solway Firth to exile in England.
- May 18 1313** [Robert the Bruce](#) invades Isle of Man.
- May 18 1843** Break up of [Church of Scotland](#) and formation of [Free Church of Scotland](#).
- May 20 1303** France and England make peace, releasing forces to attack Scotland.
- May 20 1747** Edinburgh-born James Lind began a controlled experiment which demonstrated that citrus fruits could prevent scurvy, a disease contracted by sailors on long voyages. The lime juice which eventually became standard issue to British sailors gave rise to the term "limey" as a name for British overseas.
- May 21 1916** Clocks and watches went forward for one hour as the Daylight Savings Act brought in "British Summer Time" for the first time.
- May 22 1611** King James VI introduced the title "baronet" for the first time. This is the lowest hereditary titled order.
- May 22 1859** [Sir Arthur Conan Doyle](#), author of Sherlock Holmes, born of Irish parents in Edinburgh.
- May 24 1819** The future Queen Victoria was born.
- May 26 1950** Petrol rationing, introduced during WW2, was ended.
- May 29 1630** [King Charles II](#) born.
- May 29 1660** [King Charles II](#) returned to England. Royal Oak Day.
- May 29 1687** [Order of the Thistle](#) founded by King James VII.
- May 31 1727** The Royal Bank of Scotland was formed from a company of debenture holders

April/May Birthday Wishes go to:

Jane Beveridge April 3
Kay Deehan April 4
Donald Douglas May 3
Bill Dryburgh May 14
John Gray May 7
Lindsay Hicks Frazer May 16
James Hutchinson May 18
Alistair Keir April 2
Curtis Rigor May 26
David Unsworth April 23

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday from all your friends of the Society!

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