

St Andrew's Society of Oakland

3565 Whitehall Court
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ST ANDREW'S ECHOES



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February 2008 Issue

Society News

January Business Meeting:

Meetings are held every 2nd Friday of the month at Dick's Restaurant, Alvarado St, San Leandro. All are welcome.
Next meeting: Feb 8th at 8 pm.

Report from the Sick Committee

Jim reported that Karen Thomson is slowly returning to health. Her memory is coming back and she is becoming more mobile.

Jacqueline reported on the following:

Bob and Jenny Penman – Bob feels that the injections are beginning to work and both enjoyed good health over the holidays.

Neil and Margaret Lundy – Neil is on medication to control his heart and is now waiting to get his other knee operated on. Margaret's vertigo has cleared up and they are both doing well.

Mark Pierce – Mark is no longer driving as he has received chemo/radiation therapy on his knee, which has been debilitating. He is waiting to have a ct scan, but is doing a great job in keeping his spirits up. He says his 6 months old great grandson, Logan, is a huge inspiration.

Joe Collins – Joe feels like doing a Highland Fling! His operation went really well and is on the mend.

Ralph and Wanda Paulk – Ralph and Wanda are in good health and taking care of themselves.

Please keep Jacqueline informed of any illness or of anyone who needs some solace in times of sadness or hard times. Her contact details are at the end of this issue.

Unfinished Business

We had a wee discussion around the absence of a President for 2008. What should the Society do? Should the Vice-President take over the Role of the President and fill in at the regular monthly meetings? Should a Past President chair the meetings as per the rules recorded in the bye-laws? Should we try again to find someone else? Big debate ensued. However, Ian Myles volunteered to become President if the position of Treasurer could be filled. Everyone thought this was nice of Ian to help the Society out, and his thoughts were that if we could find a Treasurer within the next couple of months, he may take over as President in April/May time. Obviously, there will be more to talk about at the next meeting.

The Storage Facility was then discussed as there are still items in member's possessions, which need to be stored. If you have anything which belongs to the Society, please inform one of the Officers so that we can schedule a pick up from you.

Ian reported on the research he has been doing on the best way to bank the Scholarship Fund. He has looked into a few options and feels the best way is to put it into the Morgan

Stanley accounts and they can tier the money into certain CDs for 6 months and/or up to 2 years, depending on how long we want it tied up. This will give the fund the best possible interest rates. A motion was made for Ian to organize this, it was seconded and all were in favor.

Audit Committee

Steve Wigley reported that the committee had received all the necessary documents, from Ian to carry out an audit and the committee was satisfied that all is in order.

Looks like the Society's funds are doing well folks!

Entertainment Committee

This committee was to meet after the regular meeting and Kenny, being the VP, was chairing it. He said that arrangements around the Burns Supper on the 16th February were to be discussed.

Kenny also mentioned that Fred Rutledge from the San Francisco Branch of St Andrew's societies, had asked if there was any chance of the two societies getting together to have a joint Banquet this year. Fred had approached Ian Robertson in December and although Ian mentioned it at the December meeting, not too much discussion ensued. However, it was suggested then that there would be no harm in finding out costs, etc, but probably 2009 would be a better time to at least think about a joint venture. Fred has been looking into prices at the Marriott Hotel, Oakland and also the Claremont. Since the January meeting, however, Kenny would like to poll the members to find out how you feel on a joint Banquet. More is to be discussed at the next meeting.



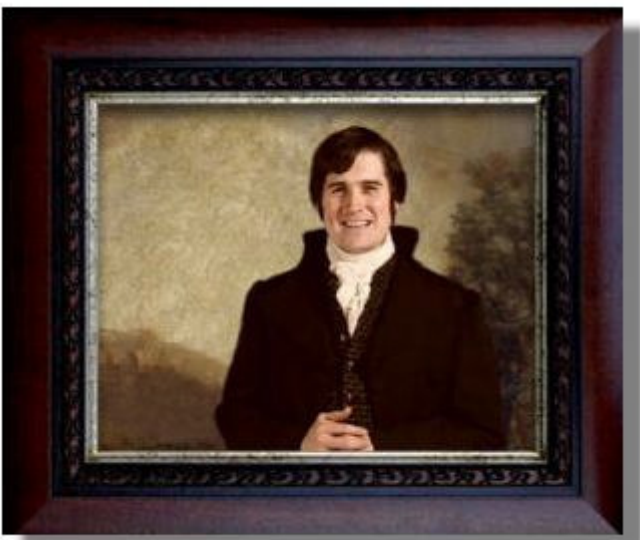
Happy Birthday to You!

January birthday wishes go to –

Ann Sagramoso – 7th
Janet Robertson – 12th
Judith McKenzie-Le Bris – 25th
Joe Collins – 28th

*Happy Birthday and Best Wishes from the
St Andrew's Society of Oakland*

(If we have missed anyone, please accept our apologies and let us know for future issues.)



Mr Robert Burns

Most Scots have had their Burns suppers by now, but the St Andrew's Society of Oakland will be holding theirs on the 16th February 2008.

I found the following on the Rampant Scotland Website:

“Rabbie himself may not be able to speak to us at the many events taking place at this time of year around the world, but Scotland.org has organized a most attractive alternative - actor Andy Weir reading some of Burns' great poems, giving advice on recipes and his own immortal memory. The Interactive Burns presentation is slick and amusing and will appeal to Burns fans and to those who are just discovering him. There's also a Scots language quiz and facts and information on Scotland's national bard. Well worth a look at [Burns Interactive](#)”

The next 10 items were taken from the website www.scotlandistheplace.com and they are ten things you may not have known about oor Robbie.

On 25 January Scots all over the world will be gathering together to honour the great bard's short, yet prolific career. But did you know...

1. Burns' Suppers were first held on 29 January, because his friends got his birthday wrong. It was only after double checking the church register that the 25th became the definitive date!

2. There is much speculation about how many children he fathered. Most believe it is twelve, from four by different women, while others believe it could be fourteen children and by six mothers. His last son, Maxwell, was born on the day Burns was buried.

3. Many refer to him as Rabbie but Burns signed himself Robert, Rob't, Rab, Rob, and or just R. He used either 'Robbie' and 'Rabbie'.

4. Though a humble ploughman, he was well educated. He read Shakespeare and included French and Latin in his letters. He was also a competent fiddler and could sight-read music. He became a theatre enthusiast and was planning to write a play when he died.

5. The first recorded Burns supper was in 1801 in Alloway when a group of his friends gathered, not in January but in July, to mark the fifth anniversary of his death.

6. He was not a heavy drinker as his poems might suggest. Neither his health nor his wallet allowed it.

7. He was a hard worker as a farmer and exciseman as well as a poet. The 224-line poem Tam O'Shanter was drafted in a single day while occupied on his day job.

8. Burns's poems are published into more than 24 languages, including Esperanto (an artificial language based on words common to all the European languages).

9. It is estimated that Robert Burns is worth £100 million in tourist revenue alone. That's not including £5.5 million in high street sales and £1.2 million in traditional food.

10. More people will take part in a Burns' Supper this year than the total population of Scotland at the time of Burns's birth.

So have a look at his website:

<http://www.scotland.org/burns-night/interactive/>

It's a great wee website – listen to his Ode to the Haggis. Read up on his immortal memory. Find some recipes to use. In fact, the following is a recipe that I found on <http://www.scotland.org/celebrate-scotland/organise-an-event/event-ideas/burns-supper/>

Try it out!



Haggis & Turnip Mousse

Ingredients

- Haggis – traditional sheep: 200g
- Turnip: 120g
- Whisky (Highland Park): 15ml
- Cream (single): 25ml
- Eggs (medium): 2
- Rowan Jelly: 3 teaspoons

Method

Thick slice haggis and bake in oven at 170 °C for 10 minutes.

Boil turnip until soft, mash (do not purée) and mix with haggis.

Add whisky, cream and egg yolks.

Whisk egg whites until peaky and fold into mixture.

Grease 6 ramekins lightly with vegetable oil.

Spoon in the mixture and cook in a water bath at 170 °C for 20 minutes or until firm to the touch.

Garnish with rowan jelly.

(Next item is an excerpt from the Rampant Scotland Newsletter)

Next Week in Scottish History



January 27 1783 - Glasgow Herald newspaper first published. It is the longest continuously published daily newspaper in Britain.

January 27 1926 - First public demonstration of TV by John Logie Baird.

January 28 1829 - William Burke, murderer and body snatcher of "Burke and Hare" fame, executed.

January 29 1928 - Earl Haig, Commander in Chief of British forces 1915-18, founder of the British Legion, died.

January 30 1649 - King Charles I executed.

January 31 1761 - Lachlan MacQuarie, "Father of Australia" born Ulva.

January 31 1788 - Charles Edward Stewart, "Bonnie Prince Charlie" died in Rome.

January 31 1953 - Princess Victoria, Stranraer-Larne ferry, sank in a storm with the loss of 133 lives; 44 were rescued.

February 1 1708 - Alexander Selkirk, a sailor from Lower Largo, Fife, rescued after four years on the island of Juan Fernandez, 400 miles off the coast of Chile; his story inspired Daniel Defoe to write "Robinson Crusoe".

February 1 1865 - Highland Railway formed from the amalgamation of Inverness and Perth Junction and the Inverness and Aberdeen Junction Railways.

February 1 1918 - Author Muriel Spark born.

February 2 - Feast and legal Quarter Day of Candlemass.

February 2 1424 - James I married Lady Jane Beaufort, daughter of the Earl of Somerset, in London.

A Wee Bit O' Blethers

The following two pages show some noisy revelers having a great time at Nancy's hoose in December!



Round the table waiting to get tucked in!



Margaret and Nancy



The girls having a laugh with their hats



Bob and Jimmy



Sheila and Jenny



Bob and Jacqueline



Three wise men!



Donald saying cheers!



Gordon - always a ladies man!



Ann Sagramoso



Dorothy and Kenny



Oor Chaplain in Good Spirits!

Name that Scot

- ✚ born November 8, 1966 in Johnstone, Scotland
- ✚ has been awarded a total of twelve Michelin Stars.
- ✚ He is famous in the UK for presenting TV programmes about competitive cookery.
- ✚ was chosen to play for Warwickshire at age 12.
- ✚ his professional football career came to an end at age 19.
- ✚ He was the first Scot to receive a third Michelin Star.
- ✚ is 6' 2", with size-15 feet.

Last month's answer is: **John Loudon McAdam 1756-1836**



Joke time

Glasgow teachers are known to use the following translations for the remarks they make on pupils' report cards:

- "A born leader" - *Runs a protection racket*
- "Easy-going" - *Bone idle*
- "Good progress" - *You should have seen him a year ago*
- "Friendly" - *Never shuts up*
- "Helpful" - *A creep*
- "Reliable" - *Informs on his friends*
- "Expresses himself confidently" - *Impertinent*
- "Enjoys physical education" - *A bully*

"Does not accept authority easily" - *Dad is in prison*

"Often appears tired" - *Stays up all night watching television*

"A rather solitary child" - *He smells*

"Popular in the playground" - *Sells pornography*

A Wee Quiz

How much Scottish Trivia do you know?

- 1 What is the name of the brittle, stick-shaped confectionery, associated with Scotland's capital city?
- 2 Which is Scotland's oldest university?
- 3 Which major English athletics event was Allister Hutton the first Scot to win in 1990?
- 4 Name the Aberdeen-born baroness who appeared for many years in the TV show, "What's My Line?"
- 5 Which political party once adopted the slogan, "Free by 93"?
- 6 To whom was the Declaration of Arbroath addressed in 1320?
- 7 What is the most popularly-used name to describe residents of Edinburgh?
- 8 What was the color and gender of Tam o' Shanter's horse?
- 9 Name any other country which shares St Andrew as its patron saint.
- 10 Complete the famous whisky-brand slogan – 'Don't be vague...'
- 11 Which Scottish Football League club plays its home games at Hampden Park?
- 12 Who said in 1854, "I shall open a way to the interior, or perish?"

A pigeon from George Square in Glasgow was boasting to one from Central Station about how often he managed to "bless" the people passing by. "Whit's your score rate?" it asked. Its pal replied "Ach, I dinna ken. Aboot wan in three, mebbe, They pedestrians have taken tae runnin' lately." The first pigeon responded "Huh! Doon in George Square I hit seven oota ten, nae bother." His pal was unimpressed. "That's nae great shakes. If I had all them big-headed cooncillors strollin' in an oot o' the City Chambers, I'd score ten oota ten every time."



Scotland has a New Manager

The manager of Southampton Football team, 51 year old Scot, George Burley, has been appointed to manage Scotland in the next international tournament, which will be the World Cup in 2010. George has managed a few teams in his career, those being Colchester, Ipswich, Derby and Heart of Midlothian. Scotland has failed to qualify for a major international game for the last ten years, so let's hope our new manager will help them through, eh?



Jam Tarts

Heart of Midlothian hope to have a new stadium at Tynecastle by 2010. Plans have been submitted to Edinburgh city planners with a building cost estimated at a whopping 51 million GBP! However, the seating capacity would be expanded to 23,000. and if the plans go through, Hearts hope to start work on the new stadium this summer.



American Football at Murrayfield?

You might be seeing Murrayfield being used for an official NFL American football match in the not too distant future. Apparently, the Scottish Rugby Union bosses are in discussions at the moment after seeing the success of the sellout game at Wembley last year, when the New York Giants and the Miami Dolphins made their debut as the first NFL match to be played outside North America. The game drew 80,000 people.

Superbowl

Maybe there is a connection? The team that went to the UK and wins, wins the Superbowl. The New York Giants caused a major upset against all odds by defeating the previously undefeated New England Patriots. Clearly, the magic of winning at Wembley carried all the way through to the NFL Championship.

Another interesting side note was that the quarterback of the New York Giants, Eli Manning, was voted MVP exactly one year after his older brother, Peyton Manning, was voted MVP at the 2007 Superbowl.



Officers

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Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Feb 16 2008	St Andrew's Society of Oakland, Burns Supper, Dick's Restaurant, San Leandro
Aug 9 2008	Four Clubs Ceilidh

Answers to A Wee Quiz:

1 Edinburgh Rock; 2 St Andrews; 3 London Marathon; 4 Lady Isobel Barnett; 5 Scottish Nationalist Party; 6 Pope John XXII; 7 Edinburghers; 8 Grey mare; 9 Greece, Romania and Russia; 10 '...Ask for Haig'; 11 Queens Park; 12 Dr David Livingstone.

St Andrew's Society of Oakland

Celebrating the 249th Anniversary of the birth of

Robert Burns

1759-1796

When - 16 February 2008

Where - Dick's Restaurant

3188 Alvarado Street,

San Leandro,

CA 94578

Meal Choices - Haggis, Chicken, Pasta...please make your choices and contact Ian Myles or Nancy Wigley.

*Entertainment - Toasts, Ceilidh, Music and Dancing
Traditional songs by guest singer and open mike.*

Cost - \$40 per person

No Host Cocktails @ 6:30 p.m. / Dinner @ 7:30 p.m.

Reservations and information call..

Ian Myles (510) 797-9621 or email: ianmyles@att.net

Nancy Wigley (925) 426-8969 or email: ns_wigley@yahoo.com