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Walkers
— ESTABLISHED 1898 —

*With the falling leaves comes thoughts of the upcoming **holiday** season which is the time of year when **Walkers Shortbread** is most popular.*

Walkers Shortbread has baked its award-winning, delicious all natural shortbread for over 100 years in the Highlands of Scotland where the Walkers family still owns and operates its world-famous bakeries. Walkers products are sold at fine food stores across the country and contain no artificial flavors, colors or preservatives and are Kosher certified OUD. If Walkers products are not available at a store near you, please visit www.walkersshortbread.com.

Walkers Shortbread Popular for "First-Foots" Treats this Hogmanay and Upcoming Holiday Season

St Andrew's Society of Oakland

3565 Whitehall Court
Pleasanton, CA 94588

ST ANDREW'S ECHOES



St Andrew's Society of Oakland Echoes

October 2007 Issue

Society News

June Business Meeting: (Meetings held every 2nd Friday of every month at Dick's Restaurant, Alvarado St, San Leandro. All are welcome. Next meeting Oct 12th at 8 pm.)

DUES ARE DUE! DUES ARE DUE!

Report from the Sick/Relief Committee

Janet gave a wee report on Bill Meek and Joe Collins and that they are both doing well. Joe has had a knee replacement and Bill has had an operation on his wrist. He is waiting to heal before going in for the other wrist. Neil Lundy is due to see his surgeon to discuss when he can schedule his knee replacement procedure. Also, Neil's wife, Margaret, is due to have a thyroid operation in the very near future.

Jim Hutchinson's wife, Agnes, had yet another procedure to her knee, this time to take out the old scar tissue, but she is doing fine. Ernie was having an epidural on the 19th September, to help manage his pain.

Karina Tharp has had a sinus infection.

Please remember folks to keep Janet and Jacqueline updated on anyone who is in need of help during sickness or in times of sorrow. The Society is there to help you through.

Reports on Unfinished Business

Ernestine had the Past Presidents Pins with her, which she handed over to Ian Robertson.

Ian would like a decision made at the next meeting on where to have the Society's storage facility located.

Also, he would like to have the Alec Moir Scholarship fund running fully.

New Business

Nancy gave a quick report on the change of venue for our Banquet this year. The Crowne is undergoing major renovations and has been working with the Sheraton to make sure that our evening will be as good as ever. Ian R mentioned that we will be dancing to a different band too. Who? I hear you ask.

The Don Victor Band.

TURN to page 7 for more information on the Banquet.

Reminder

Membership fees are due from 1st December every year. Those of you who appear to have forgotten to pay for 2007, wee reminders are in the mail. Payment should be sent to the Treasurer.



Happy Birthday to You!

October birthday wishes go to –

Gordon McGill – 3rd

Sandra Keir - 9th

Gene Anderson – 10th

Ian Myles – 11th

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes from the

St Andrew's Society of Oakland

Huge apologies go to Bill Edmiston for my glaringly obvious mistake last month!!! (Well, it was obvious to others but my mind must have been somewhere else!?) **Bill's** birthday was the 12th September, **not** Bill Merrimen's as I so wrongly inserted into the above list. Very sorry, Bill, but hope you had a good one!

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



The President's Post

Society members and friends,

Almost election time and if that's not a high point on your calendar the installation should be. A chance for the Society to treat it's members to fish & chips and get the newly elected officers off to a flying start, a fine way to finish the year. If you haven't attended a Society meeting this year, then make it the December meeting.

Our banquet plans are rolling along and promises to be another wonderful night. Seating will be limited to ensure everyone has a good seat, so it would be wise to get your tickets promptly.

If anyone has photos relevant to the Society, which they can share with me (the older the better: Society events, members at large, Scottish/Society affinity) I'd appreciate it. If possible e-mail would be good, or mail, and I promise to return them. There's an outside chance we can add a little twist to the evening, so with your support...

Games season is drawing to a close, and I'll wrap up my personal tally this weekend at the Seaside Games in Ventura, where Lewis will compete in the drumming competition on Saturday. As such, I won't make the Friday meeting but will be ably represented by your officer core...

That's it from me, until the next time...take care, stay healthy.

Ian Robertson

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

Next Week in Scottish History



October 7 1782 - Birth of Charles McLaren, one of the founders of the "Scotsman" newspaper.

October 8 1774 - Rev Henry Duncan, founder of the first savings bank, born in the Manse at Lochrutton.

October 9 1506 - King James IV ratified the Charter incorporating the Surgeons and Barbers.

October 9 1995 - Death of Lord Home of the Hirsel, also known as Sir Alec Douglas-Home, formerly Foreign Secretary and UK Prime Minister.

October 10 1802 - Writer and geologist Hugh Miller born on the Black Isle, Cromarty.

October 11 1297 - Letter from Wallace and Moray to the mayors of Lubeck and Hamburg saying that "The Kingdom of Scotland has, by God's Grace, recovered by battle from the power of the English".

October 11 1511 - Ship "Great Michael" launched for King James IV.

October 11 1797 - The British fleet, under the command of Admiral Adam Duncan (born in Forfar in 1731), defeated the Dutch off the village of Camperdown, Holland

October 11 2000 - Scotland's first First Minister Donald Dewar died suddenly after

a fall on the steps of his official residence in Edinburgh.

October 12 1866 - Ramsay MacDonald, first Labour Prime Minister of UK, born in Lossiemouth.

October 13 1644 - Battle of Aberdeen, James Graham, 1st Marquess of Montrose, sacked the city.

October 13 1713 - Birth of Allan Ramsay, painter and son of Allan Ramsay the poet.

A Wee Bit O' Blethers

The Golden Spurtle World Porridge Making Championship, 14th annual contest was held on the 7th October in Strathspey. More than



a dozen people competed hoping that their oatmeal concoction would be hailed as the world's finest. Bizarre ingredients ranging from grapenuts, white chocolate and seafood were included in the combinations.

However, after a tense cook-off, Mrs Maria Soepp's recipe won the Golden Spurtle. She and her husband are the proprietors of Roineabhail Country House in Kilchrenan, Taynuilt, Argyle and make porridge every morning for their guests.

Judges look for the perfect combination of consistency, taste and color, made from untreated oatmeal with a pint of porridge from each competitor.

So, the next time you are in Argyle, you know where to go to get the perfect bowl of porridge!

Here is the winning recipe:

TAKE one cup of pinhead oatmeal, which has been soaked for 24 hours, and place in a saucepan with four cups of cold water. Stir gently over a medium heat until simmering, then lower the heat and continue to stir for five minutes.

Add a pinch of salt and a half bar of Scots tablet, plus ground almonds and roasted almonds. Add half a cup of cream and a touch of whisky and stir. Serve in a warm bowl.

(What is a spurtle? A straight wooden stick without a molded end. Porridge should be stirred with only a spurtle, in a clockwise direction and with the right hand, so as not to invoke the devil!)

Royal Mail

The UK Post Office apologizes for any delay caused by the Postal Strikes with the next planned strike to be held on Monday October 15th and Thursday October 18th. This will cause widespread disruption, but Royal Mail authorities say they will do everything in their power to keep mail flowing and prevent significant backlogs.

Note: if you have any parcels you wish to send to the UK be aware of some delays in delivery in the next couple of weeks.

Sport



Well, Scotland's out after a hard fought match against Argentina last Sunday. This was their last game losing 19-13.

Mind you, three Scottish football teams playing European football have won their matches, not to mention the national side's amazing 1-0 sneak in Paris, putting us top of Group B.

Rangers' beat Lyon 3 – 0 in an exciting match away from home. Lee McCulloch was the first to score in the 23rd minute, whilst Daniel Cousin and Da Marcus Beasley finished the game with another two goals. Lyon hit the woodwork 3 times, but Rangers' remarkable display was a perfect follow up to Scotland's result a few weeks earlier. Rangers will now play Barcelona on the 23rd October.

Celtic beat reigning European Champions AC Milan 2-1 in Glasgow, goal scorers being Stephen McManus and Scott McDonald. However, a cheeky fan ran onto the field at the end of the game and slapped the Milan goalkeeper's face, which ended up with the goalie "falling" to the ground, earning himself an Academy Award in the process. According to the Celtic website, the man has been barred from all Celtic games and was in the hands of the Strathclyde police.

Aberdeen earned themselves a 1-1 draw against Dnipro in the first leg of the UEFA Cup, which has helped them through to the group stage on the away goal rule.

What a month for Scottish football!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Name that Scot

- Was born on 30 December, 1933.
- In 1951, at 18, enrolled at the College of Dramatic Art (later Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama) in Glasgow.
- After graduation he won a 6 month deal with BBC Scotland.
- But, his real apprenticeship began during his prize time at the BBC in Glasgow when he was able to work with, and observe, the established actor and entertainer Duncan Macrae.
- On 14 October, 1955 he married Sheila Prentice in a Church of Scotland ceremony.

- Reached his widest audience with the BBC's The White Heather Club, first transmitted in 1959.
- Coined the saying... "If your mother, wife and daughter would be embarrassed [by a joke], don't do it."
- He had a song, which remained in the British charts for 40 weeks in 1961.
- He also visited hospitals and nursing homes, chatting with and entertaining the patients both in Scotland and on trips overseas. No-one was ever turned away.
- He died at home in Arbroath on 11 October, 1993. His funeral took place on 15 October and he was cremated at Park Row, outside Arbroath.

Last month's answer is: **Carol Smilie**



Joke time

As a Christmas present one year, the Laird gave his gamekeeper, MacPhail, a deerstalker

hat with ear-flaps. MacPhail was most appreciative and always wore it with the flaps tied under his chin to keep his ears warm in the winter winds. One cold, windy day the Laird noticed he was not wearing the hat.

"Where's the hat?" asked the Laird.

"I've given up wearing it since the accident," replied MacPhail.

"Accident? I didn't know you'd had an accident."

"Yes. A man offered me a nip of whisky and I had the earflaps down and never heard him."

In the middle of foggy night in the North-west Atlantic.....two lights are heading directly for one another... and on the radio an American voice is heard saying "We suggest you alter course by 10 degrees to port". Back comes the reply "We suggest YOU alter course by 10 degrees to port!"

Then the American voice says *"This is the battleship USS Missouri leading the American Atlantic battle fleet. You had better alter course by 10 degrees to port."* Back comes the reply *"This is the Outer Hebrides lighthouse, but it's your call, Jimmy"*.

In Alford, Aberdeenshire, a small boy was one of the contestants at a children's cookery contest. The judge made a great show of tasting his iced cakes and saying how delicious they were. He glowed with pride. Then the judge asked how he had managed to get such a lovely gloss on the icing. How had he managed that? *"I lick them"* he replied.

A Wee Quiz

How much Scottish Trivia do you know?

- 1 Which famous journalist is known as 'The Sage of Auchtermuchty' – James Naughtie or Sir John Junor?
- 2 What are 'wallie dugs' – Alsatians, china ornaments or running shoes??
- 3 Which Canadian city and national park is named after a North-East coastal town?
- 4 Which alcoholic drink is created by mixing whisky with green-ginger wine?
- 5 Which town or city was once promoted as 'The Silver City with the Golden Sands'?

- 6 Name the lead singer of the band, Simple Minds.
- 7 Provide the title of the 'alternative' Glaswegian dictionary, devised by comedian Stanley Baxter.
- 8 In the words of the song, 'Dance tae yer Daddy' where will you get 'a fishie'?
- 9 Which whisky's trademark is a striding, tail-coated gentleman, in top hat and boots, carrying a cane?
- 10 Which singer/actress had a chart hit in 1976 with 'Answer Me'?
- 11 With which comedy duo is the catch phrase, 'Fandabbydosie', associated?
- 12 In which town is there a street with the unlikely name, "Khyber Pass" – Stirling, Stromness or Selkirk?
- 13 Who sang 'We Have a Dream' prior to a major sporting event in 1982?
- 14 In what condition is a person with 'nae siller'?
- 15 Which Hebridean song was a chart hit for Des O'Connor and Roger Whittaker at Christmas 1986?

(Answers on last page of this issue)

Readers Input If you have an article, which you would like to be included in the Echoes, please send it on to us. It could be anything, ie, a letter to the Editor, or some story you would like to share with your fellow society members. You'll find our contact information at the end of this issue.

GET READY...IT'S HERE...
129TH ANNUAL BANQUET
CELEBRATING
ST ANDREW'S DAY

WHEN: Saturday November 17 2007
WHERE: Four Points Sheraton – Pleasanton
5115 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, CA94588
Tel: 925 460 8800 / Fax: 925 460 0603

No Host Cocktails 5.30pm – Dinner 6.45pm
\$70 per person (Members \$65)

Tickets bought after November 10th, will increase by \$5 for both members and non-members. A block of guest rooms will be available at the Four Points Sheraton at a special rate of \$79 plus tax. Contact the hotel directly for rooms and say that you will be attending the St Andrew's Banquet. You have until November 3, on a first come, first serve basis to reserve your room, otherwise the rates will return to their normal price.

Once again St Andrew's Society of Oakland is getting ready for their annual bash, which as you know from past years, is an evening you do not want to miss.

Entertainment:

Prince Charles Pipe Band & Highland Dancers

New...

Music and Dancing till Midnight to Don Victor and his band
And, of course, our Scottish Dancing.

For further information contact Ian Robertson 925 755 2520 or
Nancy Wigley 925 426 8969



You'll see below information about Remembrance Day. A service is being held at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco on November 11th. If you would like to make a donation and receive a poppy, give Janet a call on 925 755 2520 as she has poppies available to send to you.

The Royal British Legion
Will Present
The Twenty Ninth Annual San Francisco
Festival of Remembrance
Honoring All Those Who Lost Their Lives in the Service of their Country



The Remembrance

They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,

We will remember them.
(From "The Fallen," Laurence Binyon)

Sunday, November 11th 2007 at 3:00 p.m.
Grace Cathedral, 1000 California Street, San Francisco, California, U.S.A.
(Please be seated by 2:45 pm)

This service is open to the general public

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Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Nov 17 th	St Andrew's Society of Oakland, St Andrew's Banquet, Sheraton Hotel, Pleasanton
Dec 9 th	Seniors Christmas Party, Oor Nancy's Hoose

Answers to A Wee Quiz:

1 Sir John Junor; 2 China Ornaments; 3 Banff; 4 Whisky Mac; 5 Aberdeen; 6 Jim Kerr;
7 Parliamo Glasgow; 8 On a Little Dishie; 9 Johnny Walker; 10 Barbara Dickson;
11 The Krankies; 12 Stromness; 13 Scotland's World Cup Football Squad; 14 Penniless,
Broke; 15 Skye Boat Song