



The River City Caledonian

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 2

DEC JAN FEB 2016-17



Society Officers:

President: Ann Ter-
rill-Scholte

Vice President:
Bruce Sutton

Treasurer: Maggie
Mackay

Secretary: Gerald-
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Board members:
Marian Baxter
Margaret Duckworth
Barbara Evans
Jerry Mackay
Don Raybould
Joseph Schaub

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What we've been up to, what's coming up

So far this fall:

In October, the Society participated once again in the Central Virginia Celtic Festival and Highland Games.

We got our Irish and Scottish on at Rare Olde Times for pub night in November, with Glasgow Kiss as the evening's musical entertainment.

On Sunday, November 27, we participated in a Kirkin' of the Tartan service at Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Midlothian, Va. This was our second time at Redeemer—led by the St. Andrews Legion Pipe Band, we processed with tartans, were part of a Scottish-themed service, and held an after-service Taste of Scotland lunch.

We hope more of you can make it to our future events—we want to see your bright, shiny faces!

See the rest of the newsletter for upcoming activities, like the Christmas party and Burns Night.



Right: Literally chillin' at the Celtic Festival

Nollaig Chrìdheil

Merry Christmas

Date: Saturday, December 17

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: Home of Marian Baxter
8701 Wishart Road, Richmond, VA

*****Note this is not at our normal meeting location or day*****

Our Scottish Society's December program will be a mix of food, fun, and fellowship. If you want to play.... we will have our annual "Dirty Santa" game. Bring an inexpensive (5 dollar maximum) gift for the game and a light dish or dessert to share. This will be our last get together for 2016!!



BRING YOUR CHRISTMAS SPIRIT AND JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL
EVENING WITH FRIENDS!

SHARE THE EVENT WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Please donate to the Burns Night Silent Auction! See the Burns Night Notice, page 3.

Scottish Society and Area Celtic-Themed Events, Dec/Jan/Feb

(* denotes Scottish Society of Richmond participation—see stories elsewhere in this newsletter about these events)

December 3: Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Old Town Alexandria

*December 5: Scottish Society Board Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church, 7 pm.

*December 17: Scottish Society Annual Christmas Party, Marian Baxter's home, 7 pm.

*January 21: Annual Burns Night Supper, Jefferson Lakeside Country Club, 5:30 p.m.

*February activities to be announced

Member News

Welcome to the following new members:

Michael Edward Means and Sherry Pittman Means, and Cynthia Boardman

We hope to see you at an upcoming event!

And happy birthday to the following Society members:

December:

James Pollard, Dec. 13; Jerry Mackay, Dec. 15; Bruce Sutton, Dec. 19

January

Bob Land, Jan. 6; John Dickinson, Jan. 14; Christopher Martin, Jan. 15; Brynley Dolman, Jan. 25; Maggie Mackay, Jan. 28

February

Louis Swann, Feb. 2; Kenneth Young, Feb. 12; Mary Sue Krout, Feb. 13

If you don't see your birthday, please let us know, so we can add it to our database for future birthday wishes!

Recipe: Empire Biscuits Source: allrecipes.com



Ingredients:

2 cups butter, softened; 1 cup sugar; 4 cups sifted all-purpose flour; 1 cup raspberry preserves ; 24 maraschino cherries; 8 cups confectioners' sugar; 1/2 cup milk

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until smooth. Gradually stir in the flour until well blended. On a lightly floured surface, roll the dough out to 1/4 inch thickness. Cut into rounds using a cookie cutter.

Bake for 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven. Allow cookies to cool on baking sheet for 5 minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool completely. Sandwich one teaspoon of jam between two cookies. Repeat with remaining cookies. In a medium bowl, gradually stir the milk into the confectioners' sugar until the icing is of a spreadable consistency. Spread on top of the sandwiched cookies. Top each cookie with half of a cherry while the icing is still wet.

Our Biggest Event: the Burns Supper!

The annual Burns Nicht Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 21, 2017, at Jefferson Lakeside Country Club. The social hour begins at 5:30 and the festivities start at 6:30. Look forward to the presentation of the haggis (and eating it, of course), toasts, music, good food, and good fellowship. The Press Gang will be the evening's musical entertainment.

There will be some slight programming changes to make the evening run at a smoother pace, and a cash bar will be available for a more extended time than in the past.

Please bring an item (or more than one) for the silent auction. Scottish-themed is great, but not required. Just bring something you think people would like to bid on. (Remember, this is a great place to donate those Christmas items you received that, while nice, just didn't quite fit into your lifestyle!) The auction is our main fundraiser for the year (we don't really make any money off ticket sales, sad emotion), so we really need the auction to be a success. And the other (and probably more important) way to make it a success is to BID on items, and get those bids up there, well above the "lowball" bids.

Ticket prices are \$42 per person for Society members, \$47 per person for non-members.

Contact Ann Terrill-Scholte, for registration, and/or for giving a brief description of your donated items for the auction. (terrillscholte@gmail.com, or 804-338-0580)

Please get your registration in by January 9.



Clan Profile: the Forbes Clan (source <https://www.scotsconnection.com/>)

The surname derives from the Braes of Forbes in Aberdeenshire and one fanciful tradition has it that the Forbes ancestor, one Ochonochar, from Ireland, slew a bear and took possession of the up-until-then uninhabitable territory. In a Charter from Alexander III in 1271, the tenure was altered to become feudal.

In the late 13th century, Alexander de Forbes was a fierce opponent of Edward I of England's claim to be Overlord of Scotland and he died defending Urquhart Castle. His son was killed supporting David II against Edward Balliol at the Battle of Dupplin in 1332. From his son, Sir John de Forbes, originate the numerous branches of the family, including Brux, Corse, Craigievar, Culloden, Echt, Kildrummy, Monymusk, Pitsligo, Polquhoun, Rothiemay, Skellater and Inverernan.

Sir John's eldest son, Alexander, fought against Donald of the Isles at the Battle of Harlaw in 1411 and having married a granddaughter of Robert II, was created Lord Forbes. In the Union Roll of 1707, Forbes was recognised as the premier Lordship of Scotland.

Throughout the 16th century, the Forbes family remained at odds with both the Leslies and the Gordons. With the murder of Seton of Meldrum, the Master of Forbes was accused of conspiring to murder James V. He was found guilty and executed, but the sentence was over-turned, rather too late for the Master's satisfaction and rather too late to pacify his followers. The Forbes/Gordon feud came to a head in 1571 with the battles of Tillieangus and Craibstone. Two acts of Parliament were necessary to force the clans to make peace.

Duncan Forbes of Culloden was Lord President of the Court of Session (1685-1747) at the time of the 1745 Jacobite Uprising, opposing the cause of Prince Charles Edward Stuart, but used his influence to ease the cruel repercussions inflicted upon the Highlands in the aftermath. Sir William Forbes of Pitsligo (1739-1806) became Chief Partner in the banking firm of Coutts & Co. and was a founder member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Alexander Penrose Forbes (1817-1875) was consecrated Bishop of Brechin in 1848.

Places of Interest:

Balforbes, Aberdeenshire. Seat of Lord Forbes.

Castle Forbes, Alford, Aberdeenshire. 19th century seat of Lord Forbes.

Craigievar Castle, Alford, Aberdeenshire. Built in 1626 for a Forbes laird 'Danzig Willie' who was a rich merchant. Today owned by the National Trust for Scotland.

Monymusk, Aberdeenshire. Originally, this was an Augustinian Priory mentioned in 1245. Passed to Forbes Family. There is a 16th century tower.

Corgarff, Strathdon, Aberdeenshire. In 1571, during the feud between the Forbeses and the Gordons, Corgarff was defended by the wife of the absent Alexander Forbes. The tower was set on fire and rather than surrender, the occupants perished. The ruin was rebuilt as a barracks for Government troops in the 18th century.

Culloden House, Culloden, Inverness-shire. Home of Lord Forbes of Culloden, Lord President of the Court of Session at time of 1745 Jacobite Uprising, but requisitioned by Prince Charles Edward Stuart at the time of the Battle of Culloden. It is now a luxury hotel.

Clan Forbes and the Lonach Gathering (source: Wikipedia)

The **Lonach Highlanders** are members of The Lonach Highland and Friendly Society, made up of men from the Strathdon area of Aberdeenshire in Scotland. The society was formed in 1823. The principal aims of the Society are the preservation of Highland Dress and the Gaelic language; to support loyal, peaceable manly conduct and the promotion of social and benevolent feelings among the inhabitants of this district. It was further agreed to open a fund for distressed members and their families. Unlike the Atholl Highlanders, the Lonach Highlanders have never been presented with colours, however they carry the society colour and two banners ensigned "LONACH". They cannot be considered as part of the British Army – or indeed as an independent military force.

The Highlanders parade annually during the annual Lonach Highland Games and Gathering, held on the 4th Saturday of August, to officially open the games. At various points along the route from Bellabeg to Strathdon, the column stops for a "wee dram". This is led by the patron of the *Lonach Highland and Friendly Society*, part of the Forbes clan. Most of the men in Lonach are Forbes, although there is a section for the Wallace and Gordon clans as well, each with their own tartan.

The current patron of the Lonach Highlanders is Sir James Forbes.

The Lonach Highlanders are led by the Lonach pipe band at the Lonach Gathering every year, as well as other society occasions and visits abroad, such as in 1996 when they visited Hungary.

On the 150th anniversary of Lonach a new colour and banners were presented at the Lonach Gathering. The following week the pipe band and highlanders marched over the hills to Braemar to present the new colours to Queen Elizabeth II at the Braemar Gathering. The Highlanders set up camp at Braemar Castle re-enacting an occasion that last happened during the reign of Queen Victoria.

Right: March of the Highland Men, Lonach Gathering



Below, left to right:

Forbes crest, Forbes Castle, Forbes tartan, ancient colors



This Day in Scottish History, Dec-Jan-Feb

Dec. 6: Today in 1745 Prince Charles Edward Stewart and the Jacobite Army began their retreat from Derby. After a decisive victory in the '45 campaign at the Battle of Prestonpans, "Bonnie Prince Charlie" reached Derby on the 4th December. With the Jacobites' arrival only 150 miles north of London, there was widespread panic. However, with the promised French and Spanish invasion of England conspicuously absent and with limited support from the English Jacobites, a reluctant Charles was forced to heed his advisers and withdraw from Derby only two days later.

Dec. 7: St. Columba was born in Donegal, Ireland on this day in 521AD. Also known as Colum-Cille, an aristocratically-born Columba was banished to Scotland, following battles over monastic possessions. In 563, with 12 companions, he established a monastery on Iona, possibly on the site of an existing church. Columba is credited with converting King Bridei, the leader of the Picts in Scotland, to Christianity. Columba died on Iona in 597 A.D, and his biography by Adamnan is a main source of information for the period and in describing the Christianisation of northern Scotland.

Dec. 21: On this day in 1988 Pan Am Flight 103 was blown up over Lockerbie. All of the 259 crew and passengers on board died, when a bomb exploded. 11 townspeople died when burning wreckage from the fully fuel-laden plane crashed into the town. It took 10 years to bring the Libyans accused of the atrocity to trial. They were tried in a Scottish court, set up in a specially constructed facility, at a Dutch air base.

Jan. 1: On this day in 1963, The Beatles opened a 5-day tour of Scotland to promote their first single *Love Me Do*. The first date was cancelled due to bad weather and the tour finally got underway on the 3rd, with a concert at the Two Red Shoes Ballroom, Elgin.

Jan. 7: On this day in 1451 a Papal Bull from Pope Nicolas IV enabled the foundation of Glasgow University. The university had been requested by King James II and championed by Bishop William Turnbull. The building was modelled on the University of Bologna and became Scotland's second university, forty years after the founding of St Andrews.

Jan. 18: Today in 1976 witnessed the launch of the Scottish Labour Party. The inaugural meeting of the breakaway party was held in Glasgow. It was formed as a result of the dissatisfaction several Labour MPs felt with their party over its stance on devolution for Scotland.

Jan. 25: On 25 January 1759 poet Robert Burns was born. Scotland's National Bard entered the world in a clay biggan at Alloway. Although born into a poor family, Burns's father enrolled him at a local school and the poet's love of language was born.

Feb. 4: On the 4th February 1818 Sir Walter Scott supervised the rediscovery of the Honours of Scotland, the Scottish Crown Jewels, in Edinburgh Castle. The jewels consist of a sword, crown and sceptre. The three items were first used together during the coronation of Mary, Queen of Scots and last used for the coronation of Charles II in 1651. During the Second World War, they were hidden in different parts of Edinburgh Castle in case of German invasion.

Feb. 7: On 7 February 1716, the Old Pretender's Jacobite army disbanded at Aberdeen, ending the 1715 uprising. James, the Old Pretender, had set sail for France three days earlier. The revolt had been badly led by the Earl of Mar and was doomed to failure after the inconclusive result of the Battle of Sherrifmuir. Thirty years later his son, Charles, would try again to recapture the throne for the Stuarts.

Feb. 21: On this day in 1945 Eric Liddell, winner of the 400 metres at the 1924 Olympics, died. Liddell was born to missionary parents in China and became a noted sportsman while studying at Edinburgh University. He was not only a top sprinter but a noted rugby player as well, representing Scotland on seven occasions. Liddell is most well known for his refusal to run in the heats of the 100 metres, his favoured distance, at the Paris Olympics, as they were being held on a Sunday, then going on to win in the 400 metres. After his retirement from athletics Liddell returned to the Far East as a missionary and died in a Japanese internment camp in China.

2017: May yours be a wonderful year!



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Make checks out to Scottish Society of Richmond

The Scottish Society of Richmond was founded in 1978 for the purpose of sharing ideals of Scottish heritage. It provides a gathering place for those with an interest in Scotland, educational programs and events on Scottish themes, as well as scholarships and awards for those studying Scottish arts and culture. September through May, the Society holds a monthly event: either an entertainment/educational program on the 3rd Thursday of each month at Trinity United Methodist Church (903 Forest Avenue, Richmond), or another off-site gathering, as announced in our newsletter. We hold our annual Burns Night Dinner every January, and our summer picnic in June.

On the web

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

We're on Facebook, too!

Scottish Society Merchandise



Proudly display your Scottish Pride with several items in the SSR Store. We have created the Richmond Scots store at cafePress.com for you to purchase your SSR logo swag from. Whether it's a T-Shirt, Sweatshirt, or a mug, you'll be able to proudly display your Scottishness.

Café Press does all the hard work; you simply use the link on our website to order your merchandise and Café Press does the rest. A portion of all sales goes directly to the Society, so not only are you telling the world you are a Scot and you are proud, but you are helping the Scottish Society at the same time.

Just visit the website, <http://www.richmondscots.org>, and follow the "Store" links.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Scottish Society!

