

Scots and Tobacco

During the debate in Scotland before the vote on independence, many people pointed to Scotland's very rich heritage in the tobacco trade. Tobacco virtually created the city of Glasgow from a tiny sleepy castle town. Like virtually every element of commerce in Europe in the 17th century, the right to buy tobacco from the English colonies along the Chesapeake, and to sell into England, was tightly controlled Royal monopoly. And because France was either directly or covertly at war with England during most of the 17th century, it was virtually impossible for English settlers on the Chesapeake to sell into the very lucrative French market.

Scotland was effectively an independent country, de facto until the Act of Union of 1707, and potentially for the next century. France in particular of the European powers was willing to open trade with Scotland which was not legal with England. Glasgow was 4 days sailing time closer to the Chesapeake than London, partly because more favorable winds and currents could be accessed in the open Atlantic much more readily from Glasgow than from the SE coast of England.

Not long after the Act of Union, France granted a monopoly to Glasgow tobacco traders: as British subjects they had access to Chesapeake ports, but were not then subject to the more burdensome tariffs and restrictions. The Tobacco Lords, operators of the tobacco trading houses, thrived and quickly became the millionaires of their time. They built lavish homes on the edge of the Barony. The home built by William Cunningham now houses the Gallery of Modern Art on Royal Exchange Street. The American Revolution killed the monopolies and special privileges of the Tobacco Lords, and by 1800 many of the trading companies had reorganized as merchant banks.

Loudoun Castle Redevelopment

The long derelict Loudoun Castle, at Galston on the river Irvine just east of Kilmarnock, has been bought by a private investment fund which is pledging up to \$1 Billion to restore the ruins (burned in 1942) and establish a major housing tract and destination resort.

Our National Poets: Walter Scott again

Walter Scott's contribution to our modern social identity is impossible to over estimate. Incubating his literary talents, Scott had tried writing in a number of genres, that is, kinds of literature. He loved theater, but English taste in the year 1800 tended toward extravagant costume spectacles. He admired Schiller and Goethe. As the career of Napoleon Bonaparte progressed and he attempted to weld all of Europe into one single Empire, people in reaction all over the Continent began to celebrate their unique cultural roots as a way to resist Bonapartism. Scott had always loved the songs and ballads sung by common people in Scotland. Following the publishing success of scholars like Ritson and Childe, Scott pursued heroic ballads of Border warfare all over his beloved Liddesdale. The result was *Minstrelsy Of The Scottish Border*, February 1802. It was an extremely popular publication, steering Scott into historic and romantic themes, cementing his credibility as a publishable author.

Scots Names: Pringle

The oldest form of the name is Hoppringle, a manor on the Gala Water near Stow. The name is attested frequently from about 1300, especially in Teviotdale and Berwick. Over time, it appears as Oppringle, and then simply Pringle. A branch at Torsonce daughtered out in the 18th century, but the barony was transferred to Stitchell. Another branch thrived at Whytebank. A Thomas Pringle of Teviot was a pioneer British settler in South Africa, who after a number of years returned to become general secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society.

The Old Scots Tongue

- maun, mon, mun (v) must [do something]
- maundrels (n pl) nonsense, foolish fantasies.
- mauner (v) to talk like a lunatic, to rave in foolishness.
- maunna (v) must not [do something].
- mausel (n) mausoleum.
- mausie (n) a slovenly, dirty, lazy foul mouthed woman.
- maut, mawt (n) malt, for beer making.
- mavis (n) a bird, the thrush.
- maw (n) seagull or (v) to mow hay.
- mawgre (n) ill will or bad feeling.
- mawkish (adj) listless, spiritless.
- mawment (n) an idol.
- mawn (n) a kind of basket, smaller than a creel
- mer (v) to drive into confusion.

SCOTS CASTLES: Stirling.

Possible one of the most intricate tourist sites in Scotland. It is a massive complex of buildings tracking back to the Roman era, because the site is strategically a key to the whole core of Scotland, and includes a greatly defensible height. William Wallace's great victory at Falkirk occurred only a few miles away, and the soaring Wallace Monument is visible on a hillside not far outside Stirling.

The Royal Residence, for nearly 400 years the primary palace of Scotland's kings, is one of the best preserved Renaissance structures in Europe, with sumptuous furniture and tapestries displayed. There is a lavishly decorated chapel, and the Regimental Museum of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders is also on the grounds. After King James VII was deposed by Parliament in 1688, he attempted to return by way of capturing Stirling Castle. Queen Anne's



government reacted by re-engineering the works at Stirling into possibly the most heavily fortified military installation in the United Kingdom. The outer works and curtain are pictured above. Here is a web-link: <http://www.stirlingcastle.gov.uk/home.htm>

Recent Book Announcement: "But For Freedom"

Elizabeth Rodger, a graduate of Glasgow School of Art, has taken those three words as the title for her novel *BUT FOR FREEDOM – Across the Sea beyond Sky*, and the sequel *BUT FOR FREEDOM – A Rebellious Echo of the White Cockade*. The theme is historical fiction based on the history of Scotland and Virginia. The story begins with a dark period in the rancorous relationship between Scotland and London. The sequel dwells on the rebellion of the American colonies to the edicts from Parliament.

In 1707, the Scottish nobility agreed to a Union of the Parliaments. There was rioting in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Forty years later, Bonnie Prince Charlie lost his effort to be restored. A superior English force routed the Highland army at Culloden. Charles's loss resulted in the English force scouring the Highlands and ending clan culture. Soon after, many Highlanders herded on disease-ridden boats, indenturing themselves for years as payment for passage.

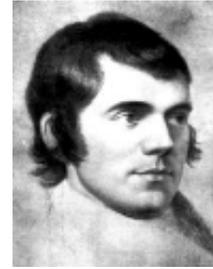
The storyline follows the MacKenzie family after the torching of their home and their forced emigration to the 'New World' of Virginia, where, they prosper. The oldest son survives the French and Indian war. The youngest son befriends Thomas Jefferson at William and Mary. He returns to Scotland to study medicine at Edinburgh. He finds his old glen quite empty. Soon the colonialists cross the North Bridge at Lexington in Massachusetts marching to the pipe tune of *The White Cockade*, the white rose Bonnie Prince Charlie wore on his bonnet. It was a *taunting sign of defiance to the English army. The story ends with the reading of the Declaration of Independence on the courthouse steps in Williamsburg, Virginia.*

BUT FOR FREEDOM-Across the Sea beyond Sky and the sequel, A Rebellious Echo of the White Cockade are eBooks available on www.lillibettbooks.com/BigKids or directly from Amazon Kindle.

Note: The St. Andrews web site now has a short URL, www.SASVT.org which still takes you to the same website you are familiar with.

36th Annual ROBBIE BURNS DINNER & CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2015
 At the Barre Elks Club
 Corner of Elm & Jefferson Streets
 in Downtown Barre



- 5:00 Social Gathering (Cash Bar)
- 5:30 Seating of members and guests
- 5:45 Highland Dancers Welcome
- 6:00 Haggis Ceremony
- 6:30 Family style roast pork loin w/ mash potato, carrots, rolls, salad.
- 7:45 Highland Dancers, then Pipes & Drums of St. Andrews.
- 9:00 Dance to the music of the Highland Weavers.
- 10:00 Drawing for the Wee Raffle.
- 11:00 Traditional singing of Auld Lang Syne.

Evening filled with music for listening, dancing and singing with musicians from The Highland Weavers, Vermont's own Celtic Heritage band. Appearances also by The Pipes and Drums of St. Andrew's, The St. Andrew's Highland Dancers of Vermont, and our famous Wee Raffle. [Contact Donald Murray to add items to the raffle]

Adult Meal Choices: \$35.00
 • *Roast Pork Dinner*
 • *Vegetarian Stir Fry[request]*
Children: (12 & under) \$12.00
 • *Chicken Fingers*

Price \$35.00 per person \$12 for ages 12 and under. (note menu choice on reservation)

RESERVATION DEADLINE, Sunday, January 11, 2015

Please send your check (payable to the St. Andrew's Society of Vermont) and reservation form to:

Tom Johnston
 533 Staples Rd.
 Danby, VT 05739

For more information, please call Tom at (802)-770-2234 or email t4jovt@vermontel.net

RESERVATION FORM;

[The following persons will be attending the Burns Night Celebration:

Name	Ticket	Dinner Choice w/Price	Clan Affiliation (if any)

Contact for the party is: _____ Phone # _____

A total of _____ will be attending. Enclosed is a check for \$_____.

Seating will be by assigned tables. Indicate preference of whom you would like to sit with below.

**The St. Andrew's Society of Vermont Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
Announces its 2015 Academic Scholarships and Cultural Grants**

Academic Scholarships

ELIGIBILITY: Applications will be considered from Vermont residents or from St. Andrew's Society of Vermont members and their families, regardless of residency; who will enroll or who are already enrolled in an associate's or a bachelor's degree program.

AWARDS: Four (4) grant awards to the institution of thousand dollars (\$ 1,000.00) each are available, to be administered by the institution in the name of the winner.

SELECTION: Recipients are selected by the scholarship committee on the basis of previous scholastic records, three (3) letters of recommendation, a letter of educational goals and financial need and SAT scores. Past recipients of Academic Scholarships are not eligible.

DEADLINE: February 18, 2015.

Cultural Grants

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Vermont residents or St. Andrew's Society of Vermont members and their families, regardless of residency, who will enroll or who are enrolled in studying Scottish history, language, arts, literature, dance and/or music.

AWARDS: One thousand five hundred dollars (\$ 1,500.00) is available for cultural grants, to be administered by the institutions in the name of the winner. No recipient will receive more than \$500.00. The committee reserves the right to divide the money as they see fit.

HOW ARE GRANTS AWARDED? Committee selects on the basis of a statement of need written by the applicant, three letters of reference, a chronology of study and a photocopy of the institution brochure. First-time Cultural Grant applicants will be given preference.

DEADLINE: May 6, 2015

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT: <<SASVT.ORG>>

Officers of the Foundation:

Richard Downer, President
W. Scott Blanchard
Darryl J. Calkins
Thomas Johnston IV, Ex Officio
Bruce P. Shields, Treasurer

If you are interested in assisting the work of the Foundation, contact Mr. Downer or Shields.

2015 Contacts for St Andrews Society:

President - Thomas Johnston IV 802-293-5386
Vice Pres -Allison M. Norton (603)863-0907
Secretary - Margaret Shields 802 584-4755
Treasurer - Cedric H. Farrow 802-985-3832
Historian - Bruce Shields 802-888-5165
Chaplain - Theodore Faris 802-592-3908
Newsletter Editor -Bruce Shields 802-888-5165
Archivist Pro Tem - Bruce Shields
Webmaster - David Campbell 802-878-8663
<<campbell@together.net>>

Others [managers and representatives]
Kirsten K. Gretkowski Jonathan Park
Karen Fay (SAS Pipe)
Cass Wright Nancy Chase
Iain McHarg (Catamount)
Kirsten Gretkowski, Dancers
Richard Downer, Foundation Chair
Storekeepers: Al & Jackie Walker

Meg Shields's Address: 223 Crown Dr.
Groton, VT 05046 (802)584-4755

Correct your address promptly to
<<megshields@fairpoint.net>>

SCHEDULE OF 2015 EVENTS

- 17 Jan, 2015 *Burns Night Celebration, Barre*
 - April, 2015 *Annual General Meeting [TBA]*
 - 19 July, 2015 *Kirking of Tartan, Barnet.*
 - 22 Aug, 2015 *Quechee*
 - Oct 30 *Tartan Ball [tentative]*
- Bring friends to these events. We have good food, good company, and a great introduction to Scottish heritage and culture.*

In This Issue:

- P. 1 Notes & News
- P. 2 castle & grant report
- P. 3 Tartan Ball reservation form
- p. 4 Scholarship announcements
- P. 5 Band & SAS news
- P. 6 Masthead



Thomas Johnston, President
St Andrews Society of Vermont
533 Staples Rd. Danby, VT 05739