

AGM notice for Annual General Membership meeting.

Two-thirds say Scots is not a real language

Published Date: 1/15/ 2010 from The Daily Scotsman
By David Maddox

NEARLY two-thirds of the Scottish public do not believe that Scots is a real language, according to a study. The result is a blow to SNP ministers, who commissioned the report as part of their policy of promoting indigenous Scottish languages. Dubbed the "mother tongue" by supporters, there has been a long-running controversy over whether Scots is any more than a version of English. And the results of the study have led opponents to call on the SNP to stop spending taxpayers' money trying to embed Scots as a separate language in the school curriculum.

Concerns have already been raised over the millions spent on promoting Gaelic, which is spoken by just over 1 per cent of the population. Despite claiming the Scottish block grant faces a real-terms cut from Whitehall, finance secretary John Swinney proposes to increase the budget for Gaelic support by more than 10 per cent, from £19.2 million to £21.7m. But while Gaelic is recognised as an official language, the Conservatives pointed out Scots was not and said it should receive no funding, especially in a difficult time for the economy.

However, the Scottish Government pointed out that the study showed 85 per cent said they used Scots and that 67 per cent thought it should continue to be used in Scotland. Culture minister Fiona Hyslop said: "This research shows clearly that Scots is a living language, playing an important role in the majority of Scots' daily lives, as well as being a vital tool in connecting with and understanding Scotland's history." Professor Derrick McClure, the convener of the working group and head of the University of Aberdeen's School of Language and Linguistics, said: "I am very pleased the Scottish Government has taken another important step in support of the Scots language.

"The survey results are most encouraging in showing how many people still speak and understand Scots, and recognise its importance as part of our national identity."

Scottish Country Dance -- Montpelier

Wednesdays at gym of Union Elementary School, Montpelier, 7-9 PM. For information about the class itself, contact Martha Kent mdkent@comcast.net or 802-879-7618 Dates for the upcoming session are March 10, 17, 24, 31, April 1, 8, 15, 28, May 5 [No class Apr. 21, Makeup May 12] Cost:--9-week session: \$32 for Montpelier residents, \$48 others. Also Individual registration @ \$5.00/\$7.50 per session. <http://www.montpelierrec.org> or call Jenny Bartlett at 802-225-8691

Our National Poets: Allan Ramsay

After the Act of Union (1704), literature in Scotland faced very hard times. When all the functions of government moved to London, Edinburgh no longer had a confluence of wealthy people supporting the arts. Many authors chose to write in southern English rather than to identify themselves as Scots. Allan Ramsay [1686-1758] was a talented writer and keeper of a bookstore in Edinburgh. He published a magazine called *Evergreen* which accepted poems in both Scots and English (as well as some Latin). Ramsay developed a brash, cheeky, bantering voice as a poet which Robert Burns imitated in many ways. Ramsay also pioneered the writing of poems to well-known traditional Scots tunes, leading ultimately to the project to which Burns dedicated so much of his career. No English writers of the 18th Century wrote so extensively to well known tunes as did Ramsay. Without Ramsay's lead, Burns might never have developed his uniquely Scottish voice.

Scots Names: Brown

From the common Germanic root meaning brown, or deep red. In some cases, the Scots name may translate the Gaelic nickname "dun". This was not a name of the upper nobility, but many substantial middle-class families bear the name -- among them Robert Burns's mother Agnes Broun. Several leading banking, mercantile, and manufacturing families in Aberdeen, Dundee, and Glasgow bore the name, including the once pre-eminent shipyard John Brown's on the Clyde where the original ships *Queen Mary* and *Queen Elizabeth* were fabricated. Robert Brown of Edinburgh published Allan Ramsay's "Gentle Shepherd" volume of poems in 1808.

The Old Scots Tongue

- marischal (n) a steward.
- Mar's Year (n) The year of 1715 [re: John Erskine].
- mart (n) war; also, beef laid up in salt for the winter.
- martrik (n) marten (a large mink or ermine)
- martyr (v) to hew down
- marvel (n) a marble (in the game)
- mase (n) a wide-spaced net placed over a horse's back
- maser (n) the maple tree or wood
- mashlum (n) a meal of mixed grains [Old Fr. maslin].
- mask (v) to steep or infuse; to mash.
- maskert (n) an herb.
- masking-pat (n) a tea pot.
- maskings (n) the strong tea of a first steeping
- massimore (n) the dungeon of a castle or prison
- massondew (n) hospital (French Maison Dieu)

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St. Andrews Society of VT website
<www.standrewssocietyofvermont.org>

Flowers of the Forest

We have not reported for some years. Here are a number of deaths not previously noted.

- Robert W. Fraser of Barre, age 82, passed away February 4, 2010. He was a member of SAS of VT since 1991. Donald Murray piped for his funeral.
- Dr. William Black, dentist formerly of Randolph. passed away at age 81 on August 2, 2009. He was a first generation Scot and very active in St. Andrew's Society events.
- Stephen J. MacPherson of Montpelier. He was a Life Member and passed away Feb. 25, 2006 at age 81
- Norman A. Tudhope of Avon Park, FL and Isle LaMotte, VT. He also was a Life Member and passed away on November 18, 2009 at age 93.
- Donald Glenn Moore a Life Member of St. Johnsbury, VT passed away on September 5, 2007
- Harriet F. Fisher of Lyndonville, VT passed away August 4, 2008 at age 80
- Gordon D. MacGregor (Life Member) died on 12/17/08 at age 84 (His nickname was "Mac")



Cultural Grant Recipient's Report:

Cultural Grant
Scholarship Committee
Vermont St. Andrews Society

Dec. 29th, 2009

My name is Duncan Mathewson, and I am a 9th grader at Middlebury Union High School. Last year I received a Cultural Grant from the St. Andrews Society. This has provided me with a good opportunity to pursue my bagpipe lessons while my confidence as a piper continues to grow.

The Grant assistance helped me to continue my weekly piping instructions with Tim Cummings, a piper from Monkton. I have learned a lot from him and continue to do so. I visited Matt Buckley's summer small-pipes workshop in Richmond, and attended the Pipers' Gathering in Killington over Aug. 14-17 and received instruction from Ellen Macphee, Jim McGillivray and EJ Jones. Last summer, I attended a Music Camp in the Florida Keys during which I performed several times with my pipes onstage. I was invited to be the piper at a burial at sea off the coast of Marathon, where I played "Amazing Grace". Afterwards I was paid for my services, which was the first time that had ever happened. I attended the Queechee Games, where I helped at the St. Andrews Society Booth, and, a couple months later, the New Hampshire Highland Games at Loon Mountain. Earlier in the year, I played my pipes in the M.U.M.S. band during the 4th of July parades in Middlebury and Vergennes.

I was invited to practice with the Catamount Pipe Band in Montpelier, but wasn't able to do so because of scheduling problems. Next year over Feb 27-28 I will be attending Iain MacHarg's small and border pipe workshop in Marshfield. I have stayed involved in the Scottish community during the last year, and plan to attend the Robert Burns dinner with my father.



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the St. Andrew's Society of Vermont

Following a social hour and dinner, the annual meeting was called to order by President Duncan Maccaulay at 6:35 PM April 24, 2009 at the Hill Top Restaurant.

On motion by Richard Downer, and seconded by David Cary, the minutes of the previous annual meeting were accepted.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Cedric Farrow, who fielded some questions from the floor regarding some expenditures. On motion by Richard Downer and seconded by Richard Page, the report was accepted as published.

The Auditors report was read by President Macaulay. The audit was performed by Ann Lanzet who reported the books were accurate according to standard auditing procedures.

Roderick Maclay then presented the slate of officers for the coming year which are President: Duncan Macaulay; Vice President: David Campbell; Secretary: Margaret Moon; Treasurer: Cedric Farrow; Chaplain: Rev. Dwight White; and Historian: Bruce Shields. A motion to have the Secretary cast one ballot for the office of President was made by Richard McClay, and seconded by numerous members. The motion to have the Secretary cast one ballot for the remaining officers was made by Richard Downer, and seconded by George Walker.

President's Remarks: Duncan thanked the membership for the honor and privilege of serving as President. The Quechee festival was a lovely day, but attendance was down. There was a discussion on how to attract more attendees. The Tartan Ball was enhanced by the Macaulay wedding reception, and Burn's Night was made more special by celebrating the 99th birthday of a member of the society. The newly formed Events Committee had not met as yet.

Duncan then welcomed new members Duncan Mathewson, Samantha Bruce, and Derek Davidson.

There was no "Old Business".

New Business: Charles Gibson commented that every member should be working on recruiting new members, and that a list of members should be made available to all. This prompted a spirited discussion from the floor. Bruce Shields stated that the Secretary prepared a list of address labels every three months for the Green Mt. Lion mailings, and he could be contacted for whomever an address was needed. A. Walker stated that the idea of a membership directory had not been accepted several years ago for fear it might be used unscrupulously. However, a list of names and city/town of residence might have some merit. Kathy Farrow noted that the Officers and Board of Managers had a membership list which included names, addresses and telephone numbers. After much discussion, it was moved by Richard Page and seconded by Cedric Farrow that a list of members with city/town of residence be generated to be made available from the Secretary to members when requested. Passed without dissent.

Dr. D. White asked for the number of members currently. Treasurer Farrow responded that there were between 300 and 350.

Duncan Mathewson commented briefly on a popular event at the NH Highland Games, namely the Blessing of the Bairns.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Stafford, and seconded by M. Cary at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Walker, Acting Secretary.



Treasurer's Report 2009

Cash Beginning January 1, 2009

Checking:	\$3,569.33	
Permanent Savings:	\$8,832.38	
Total:	\$12,401.71	

Income:	Annual Meeting	\$703.00
	Burn's Night	\$3,656.00
	Dues	\$3,935.00
	Donations	\$15.00
	Interest	\$21.87
	New Memberships	\$285.00
	Society Store	\$20.00
	Tartan Ball	\$5,241.50
	Total	\$13,877.37

Disbursements:	Administration	\$1,465.31
	Annual Meeting	\$612.00
	Burn's Night	\$3,719.53
	Kirkin	\$103.00
	Newsletter	\$1,425.95
	Office Supplies	\$47.12
	Postage	\$187.71
	Quechee	\$81.28
	Tartan Ball	\$6,036.87
	Taxes	\$422.00
	Total	\$14,100.77

Transferred to Permanent Savings:	\$0.00	
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Cash Ending December 31, 2009

Checking:	\$3,324.06	
Permanent Savings:	\$8,854.25	
Total:	\$12,178.31	

Submitted by Cedric Farrow.



Reservation Form
St. Andrew's Society of Vermont
Annual Meeting (& dinner)

New Members Encouraged to Attend

Hilltop Restaurant
Quarry Hill, Barre VT
Friday, April 16th, 2010
Social time: 5:30pm
Buffet Dinner at 6:00pm
Meeting following dinner
\$19.00 per person

Please send reservation form with check payable to
St. Andrew's Society of Vermont by April 12th to
Duncan Macaulay
172 Oustinoff Rd
Cambridge, VT 05444

For information contact Duncan at 802-849-6996, e-mail hylandr3@juno.com

Annual Meeting Reservation

Name: _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____
Number attending: _____ Total enclosed \$ _____
E-mail address: _____

2010 Officers and Board Of St Andrews Society:

President - Duncan Macaulay 802 849 6996
Vice Pres - David Campbell 802-878-8663
Secretary - Peggy Moon 802 223 5748
Treasurer - Cedric H. Farrow 802-985-3832
Historian - Bruce Shields 802-888-5165
Chaplain - Dr. Dwight A. White 802-584-3520
Newsletter Editor -Bruce Shields 802-888-5165
Dancers - Lauren Starkey 802-878-7767
Archivist - T. Stephen Turnbull 802-485-8378
Webmaster - David Campbell 802-878-8663
<<campbell@together.net>>

Directors [Board of Managers]
Keefe Healy Ann Lanzet
John R.Campbell Russ Slora
Arthur McNeill Kate Davie
John Dennis Dale Stafford
Colin Tindall Richard Downer, Found.
Storekeepers: Al & Jackie Walker
Peggy Moon's Address: 544 East Rd.
(Berlin) Barre, VT 05641-5369

Correct your address promptly to
<<pmoon123@pshift.com>>

SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

- April 16, 2010 AGM & Elections
- July 18, 2010 Kirkin at Mosquitoville
- August 28, 2010 Quechee
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Bring friends to these events. We have good food, good company, and a great introduction to Scottish heritage and culture.

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Duncan Macaulay, President
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