



Nov-Dec 2024

# The Caledonian

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## *Honoring the Bard for Sixty Years*



**The Annual Robert Burns Dinner** was one of the original objectives of the founding members of the Society. According to the 2015 fiftieth anniversary program, “That has been done unfailingly every year in January with formal toasts at a grand Burns Night.” Ten years later we still get together to celebrate the Scottish Bard with toasts, music, haggis, poetry & more.

**The Burns Cairn in Glen Afton; the inscription on the cairn says "Flow Gently Sweet Afton. Robert Burns 1759 - 1796. Erected by New Cumnock Burns Club (500) to mark its golden jubilee 1973." Wikipedia**

On January 25, 2025, we will celebrate Robert Burns' 266<sup>th</sup> birthday along with the Society's 60<sup>th</sup> at the Oahu Country Club. The theme is “Honoring the Bard for Sixty Years.” Plans are still being arranged but reservations are now open (*see insert*). Be sure to make your plans early for the best pricing.

The Windward Community College Performing Arts department will be offering an original piece based on Burns' poetry and written by Nick Logue for the Immortal Memory. Nick teaches drama at WCC and, with several students, put on a dramatic version of Burns' "Tam o' Shanter" at the Burns Night of 2015.

Would you like to have a speaking part or give a toast in the program this year? Contact Chieftain McEwan at [bemacewan@gmail.com](mailto:bemacewan@gmail.com).

### **“Afton Water” by Robert Burns, 1791**

Flow gently, sweet Afton, among thy green braes,  
Flow gently, I'll sing thee a song in thy praise;  
My Mary's asleep by thy murmuring stream,  
Flow gently, sweet Afton, disturb not her dream.

Thou stock-dove, whose echo resounds thro' the  
glen,  
Ye wild whistling blackbirds in yon thorny den,  
Thou green-crested lapwing, thy screaming forbear,  
I charge you disturb not my slumbering fair.

How lofty, sweet Afton, thy neighbouring hills,  
Far mark'd with the courses of clear winding rills;  
There daily I wander as noon rises high,  
My flocks and my Mary's sweet cot in my eye.

How pleasant thy banks and green valleys below,  
Where wild in the woodlands the primroses blow;  
There oft, as mild Ev'ning sweeps over the lea,  
The sweet-scented birk shades my Mary and me.

Thy crystal stream, Afton, how lovely it glides,  
And winds by the cot where my Mary resides,  
How wanton thy waters her snowy feet lave,  
As gathering sweet flowerets she stems thy clear wave.

Flow gently, sweet Afton, among thy green braes,  
Flow gently, sweet river, the theme of my lays;  
My Mary's asleep by thy murmuring stream,  
Flow gently, sweet Afton, disturb not her dream.



## Chieftain's Column: From the Craig

As 2024 winds down, our focus is on The Caledonian Society's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for 2025, that starts with Burns Night January 25<sup>th</sup>. While the Council is hard at work making plans, we need members to volunteer to participate in the year's events as they come up. Hopefully you will find something interesting to participate in from our event calendar on page 4. Don't be bashful in volunteering. Let me know of your interest.

Slàinte, Bruce

## Falls of Clyde Update: A True Loss of a Scottish Historic Landmark



I am writing this piece not as your Chieftain, but as the President of Friends of Falls of Clyde (FFOC), the nonprofit organization formed to preserve and restore the National Historic ship *Falls of Clyde*.

Many of you may know of the 16 years that FFOC moved from planning how to preserve and restore the National Historic Landmark ship *Falls of Clyde* to challenging the State Dept. of Transportation Harbors Division (DOTHD) to keep them from removing the ship from Honolulu Harbor. I have to report that FFOC has lost our effort to save the ship. DOTHD issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) this year to remove the ship, and the only proposals identified as feasible will result in total loss of the ship.

Having said this, FFOC now wants the State to commit to erecting a commemorative exhibit at Honolulu Harbor to let locals and tourists know about the history and importance of *Falls of Clyde* to Hawai'i and the international maritime community. However, we proposed this idea to State agencies over a year ago and have been completely ignored. What we need now is broad community support to see the benefit of our idea. We have recently reached out to the Governor to see if he is willing to get the State Historic Preservation Division to finally sit down with us.

We are open to any ideas and support from the community members who remember why *Falls of Clyde* has been important to them. The Caledonian Society has a long history of events and work projects on the ship. My first Caledonian Society event was a Chieftain's Night aboard the ship in 1976. FFOC is open to your ideas and support.

Slàinte, Bruce

## Member News

**November Birthdays** Pamela Asbury-Smith, Faith Burns, Linda Campbell, Lillian Cunningham, Elspeth Kerr, James Redmond, Karen Thompson & Helen Wynn.

**December Birthdays** Joshua Beem, Susan MacKinnon, Larry Phillips & Jane Redmond.

**\*\*A belated Happy Birthday to longtime member Lois Bruce, who became 90 years young on August 11.**

*Note: If your birthday is in November or December, and you don't see your name listed here, we probably don't have it in our database. We want to celebrate your special month too, so please contact Kevin Campbell Bogan at 808-778-4697 or by email at [kevin.bogan@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.bogan@gmail.com).*



## Scottish Spooky Stories

Eight supernatural stories were read by Society members on Saturday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the Ocean Terrace Room at the Hokua

condominium, in what has become our annual Halloween-season event. We thank Susan MacKinnon for hosting this evening and everyone who attended for bringing a delicious pupu or dessert.

All the stories this year involved either a ghost or someone (or something) with mysterious powers: **(Thank you to all the readers.)**

**Lillian Cunningham**, "Short Hoggers" --A child ghost troubles a village, but one night she meets Sandy MacDougal.

**Karen Thompson**, "The Well at the World's End" --A daughter getting water meets a big frog who reappears to claim a promise.

**Kathleen O'Del**, "My Own Self" --A child refusing to go to bed meets a fairy girl who gets burned by a cinder.

**Tom Boyd**, "The Loch Ness Kelpie" --A monster horse encounters MacGregor and they quarrel over a magic bridle.

**Kevin Bogan**, "The Laird O' Co'" --A wee laddie asks the Laird for a pannikin of ale for his mother, but the pannikin at first refuses to fill.

**Susan MacKinnon**, "The Death Bogle of the Crossroads" --A man sees a bogle while admiring Pitlochry one night.

**Jill Ackerman**, "Green Caps" --Tiny men put on green caps to transport themselves & fulfill wishes. An observer tries on a green cap for himself.

**Bruce McEwan**, "Haunted Distilleries" --A distillery manager reports ghost sightings.



## Scottish History: The Picts

As a defined group of people, the Picts entered history in 297 AD when a Roman writer referred to the inhabitants of Northern Britain collectively as Picti. In a sense they had always been there, for they were the descendants of the first people to inhabit what eventually became Scotland. Their distant origins lay in Celtic central Europe, and their ancestors, having migrated to new territory, released from the grip of the ice sheets, developed during the Bronze and Iron Ages through a tribal system. A dozen such units amalgamated into major groups, eventually becoming the nation-state we know as Pictland. The Picts may therefore be seen as the true aboriginals of the country now called Scotland.

Most of what little is known about the Picts is conjecture. Even their name is a mystery, for we do not know what they called themselves. The name Picts (painted ones) may have been given by Roman soldiers and seems to refer to the Picts' habit of painting their bodies (perhaps blue?) when they went to war.

What little we know of the Picts comes from a number of large standing stones bearing Pictish symbols and from placenames beginning with the element "Pit" derived from pett 'a parcel of land. It is the standing stones of the Picts, which they embellished with their unique symbols and designs, that constitute their principal material legacy. The symbol stones testify to a hierarchical society which probably contained royal lineages, a warrior aristocracy, a powerful priesthood, skilled craftsmen, poets and bards. It all came to an abrupt end in the middle of the 9th century when the Picts ceased to exist as a national entity with clearly recognizable characteristics, disappearing into history as mysteriously as they arrived.

Adapted from *Collins Encyclopaedia of Scotland*, Edited by John Keay & Julia Keay. HarperCollins Publishers, London. 1994.

## SCOTTISH MONARCHS

From the unification of Scotland to the Union of the Crowns (1603).

1005—1034	Malcolm II	1286—1290	Margaret
1034—1040	Duncan I	1292—1296	John Balliol
1040—1057	Macbeth	1306—1329	Robert I Bruce
1057—1058	Lulach	1329—1371	David II
1058—1093	Malcolm III	1371—1390	Robert II
1093—1094	Donald Ban	1390—1406	Robert III
1094	Duncan II	1406—1437	James I
1094—1097	Donald Ban (restored)	1437—1460	James II
1107—1124	Alexander I	1460—1488	James III
1124—1153	David I	1488—1513	James IV
1153—1165	Malcolm IV	1513—1542	James V
1165—1214	William	1542—1567	Mary
1214—1249	Alexander II	1567—1603	James VI
1249—1286	Alexander III		

- Longest reigning king of Scotland (49 years) was William. James VI's rule was longer, lasting from 1567-1625 (58 years) but from 1603, he ruled as king of both Scotland and England.
- Shortest reigning king of Scotland: Duncan II (7 months).
- Youngest Scottish monarch: Mary Queen of Scots. She became Queen when she was seven days old.

This list of monarchs is from *A Scottish Miscellany*, by Michael Bruce, Waverley Books, New Lanark, 2009.

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### Consolidated Celtic Calendar

<https://goo.gl/mCnvsU>

## 2024-2025 Events Calendar

**Jan. 25 Burns Supper -- Oahu Country Club**

**Feb. 8 Ko'olau Distillery Tour in Kailua**

**March 8 Heroes XIV**

**Apr 5-6 Highland Festival (HSA event)**

**May 17 Scottish Castles**

**June 21 Annual General Meeting  
"Scottish Kings & Queens"**

**"Twelve Highlanders and a bagpipe make a rebellion." --Sir Walter Scott**

## Caledonian Society Dues

The Caledonian Society relies on membership participation, donations, and annual membership fees to keep the Society healthy, to allow us to plan events, and to keep costs at a minimum. Most events are either free or kept at our cost. We also do not charge extra on most events for bringing a guest. Now our 2024-2025 fiscal year has begun, and it's time to send in your fee of \$30 per member (we don't have a family membership). If you have a question regarding your membership, please contact our membership secretary, Kevin Bogan, at [kevin.bogan@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.bogan@gmail.com).

## Ko'olau Distillery Tour in Kailua

Opened in 2018, the Ko'olau Distillery and is a disabled veteran-owned business. The Caledonian Society will meet on February 8, 2025, for a tasting at 905 Kapaa Quarry Pl., Bldg. 50, in Kailua. **Reservations are required** and a fee of \$20 per person must be paid in advance.

## More Spooky Fun Pictures

*Tom Boyd*



*Scott MacKinnon & Mary Fraser*



## Kirkin' o' the Tartans

You are cordially invited to The Saint Andrew Society of Hawaii's annual Kirkin' o' the Tartans!

**Saturday, November 30, 2024**

**The Cathedral of St. Andrew,**

**229 Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, HI 96813**

**5:00 pm: Doors open**

**5:30 pm: The Kirkin' o' the Tartans church service begins,** with bagpipes, flags, processional, Celtic music, and a blessing (kirkin') of our tartans by The Rev. Canon Heather Patton-Graham of The Cathedral of Saint Andrew.

Please **RSVP** to [registrar@standrewsocietyhawaii.org](mailto:registrar@standrewsocietyhawaii.org) no later than Thursday, November 28 so we'll be sure to have enough food. Invite your friends and family, and make sure they RSVP as well.

**YES, IT'S ALL FREE** again this year. We welcome donations to offset our cost of putting on this event. There will a calabash bowl there. Mahalo!

Facebook

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1519629222047587/>