



The Caledonian

July-Aug 2026

Published by The Caledonian Society of Hawaii

Previously Postponed Movie *Angels' Share* — Saturday, July 18 Via Zoom



Movie Night returns, and this time it comes to you: join fellow members on **Saturday, July 18, at 6:00 pm**, for a Zoom screening and discussion of *The Angels' Share*, Ken Loach's warm-hearted 2012 comedy-drama set in Glasgow and the Scottish Highlands.

The film follows Robbie, a young Glasgow father who narrowly avoids prison and, through community service, discovers an unexpected gift for “nosing” and appreciating fine Scotch whisky — a talent that just might open a path to a better life for him and his mates. The title comes from the whisky trade's own term for the portion of each cask that quietly evaporates from the barrel during aging. Winner of the Jury Prize at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival, it is by turns gritty, funny, and hopeful, with plenty of Scottish scenery and a whisky-soaked caper at its heart. (Note: the dialogue is authentically Glaswegian and includes some strong language.)

Pour yourself a wee dram and settle in. Watch for the link to arrive in your in-box from Kevin Bogan.

2026-2027 Membership Fee is Due

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 we charge a minimal fee to cover our costs. Also, we do not charge extra on most events for bringing a guest.

Now our 2026-2027 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 questions regarding your membership, please contact our membership secretary, Kevin Bogan, at kevin.bogan@gmail.com.

To pay by credit card, please go to www.scotsinhawaii.org.

Use the link there for SquareUp. (A fee of \$2 is added for each charge.)

Personal checks can be mailed to:

The Caledonian Society

P.O. Box 4164

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Chieftain's Column: *From the Craig*

As we close out our 2025–2026 fiscal and event year, I want to thank everyone who joined us at the Annual General Meeting in June. It was a pleasure to gather again at the Waioli Kitchen & Bake Shop, to review a good year, and to elect the officers and directors who will guide the Society into 2026–2027.



This is the time of our event year to reach out to members for ideas on programs that you would like to see, both in-person and virtual. If you want to learn more about a specific Scottish tradition, historic event, historical person, or any other topic, chances are that other members would also be interested. The council meets on August 22 to set our event schedule, so you have time to submit ideas to me or any other council member.

The Hawaiian Scottish Association (HSA) is preparing for the 2027 Highland Festival & Games and is looking for the financial support needed to make the event successful. HSA, like The Caledonian Society, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and any donation to support the event is tax deductible. As a sponsor member with HSA board representatives, we have a direct stake in the success of the Highland Festival as a community event highlighting our Scottish culture and heritage. To donate to HSA, go to their website at www.hawaiianscottishassociation.com.

In the meantime, I hope you'll join us on July 18 for a Zoom screening of *The Angels' Share* — a fine, funny film about whisky, second chances, and finding one's way. Here's to another year of good company and good learning. Slàinte, Bruce

Member News

July Birthdays Neil Abercrombie, Bruce Bonbright, Carl Frazier, Chuck Jamison, Sally Little, Michael McIntosh, Jeremy McOuat, Susan Melow, & Rita Thompson.

August Birthdays Kevin Bogan, Hunter Gallacher, Chris Haig, Grace Lipton, Dr. Nancy Smiley, & Brian Whitcraft.

Note: If your birthday is in July or August, 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

Wasn't this a fun part of the FIFA World Cup?

A screenshot of a Boston Globe article titled "Dear Tartan Army," dated Wednesday, June 24, 2003. The article features three photographs of Scottish football fans in kilts and Saltire scarves. The text of the article is as follows:

Dear Tartan Army,

You came for the World Cup, but gave us something more.

For a week, you turned train stations into singalongs, Fenway into a football ground, and an ordinary June into something we'll be talking about for years.

Boston has hosted championships, parades, and celebrations of every kind. But we've never hosted guests quite like you all.

Thank you for the laughter, the huggings, and the memories. The World Cup will move on. So will the songs, but we'll never forget the joy you brought to our city.

The Boston Globe

The Tartan Army Comes to America

For the first time in 28 years, Scotland's national football (soccer) side returned to the FIFA World Cup this summer. The Scots ended their long absence from the finals by winning their qualifying group, sealing their place in dramatic fashion with a 4–2 win over Denmark at Hampden Park, scoring twice deep into stoppage time to send the Glasgow crowd into raptures.

That meant the famous **Tartan Army** — Scotland's devoted and famously good-natured traveling supporters — descended on the United States in kilts and Saltire blue. Scotland opened with a 1–0 win over Haiti, then fell 1–0 to Morocco and 3–0 to Brazil, finishing third in the group and narrowly missing a spot in the knockout rounds.

The Scots bowed out at the group stage — a familiar heartbreak for a nation that has three times missed advancing on goal difference alone. Yet simply being back on the world stage was cause for celebration.

It was a fine summer to dust off the Saltire and cheer on the boys in blue. *Slàinte to the Tartan Army!*

Annual General Meeting — Recap

The Caledonian Society gathered for its Annual General Meeting on **Saturday, June 20, 2026**, at the Waioli Kitchen & Bake Shop in Manoa. Roughly 25 members and guests filled the cozy private room at the front of the building, beginning the morning with scones with Carol Anne Gordon's clotted cream (*thank you Carol Anne*), coffee, and tea before settling in for the business of the Society.

Treasurer, Karen Thompson, reported on the financial health of the Society, and Membership Secretary, Kevin Bogan, gave an update on our membership. While the Society finances are healthy, we appreciate donations to offset the costs of renting venues for our events. Our annual fees also contribute to our treasury to keep the Society's programs running smoothly.

The nomination and election of officers and directors for 2026–2027 followed:

Nancy McPherson was appointed for a one-year term for Susan Anderson who is retiring.

Edward “Mickey” Knox was elected for a three-year term.

AJ Buchanan was elected for a three-year term.

Returning Council members: **Treasurer Karen Thompson, Jackie Phillips, & Hardy Spoehr** were elected for three-year terms. Congratulations and thanks to all who have agreed to serve. (*See full Council list on pg. 4*)

New Council Members



AJ Buchanan w/daughter Allie;



Nancy McPherson with AGM attendees;



Mickey Knox with Susan & Bruce

We also say Aloha to Lillian Cunningham, who is retiring this year after many years on the Society Council. She has held many positions but the most recent was Events Coordinator. For many years she had ideas for our meetings, found spaces for those events, coordinated the planning and helped with set up and all that was needed to ensure a successful event. She also has been my steadfast editor and writer on the Caledonian newsletter. We will all greatly miss you, Lillian.

Lillian Cunningham--2011



After the meeting, members enjoyed a luncheon of ½ BLTA and ½ egg 'n cheese sandwiches, salad & haupia bread pudding for dessert. To finish the annual meeting, Chieftain McEwan and Brian Richardson described the evolution of the tartan. An interesting fact from the program: “‘Tartan’ is a highly specific symmetrical crisscrossed pattern with the exact same colors & sequence of vertical & horizontal stirpes. It creates a woven squared design known as setts. ‘Plaid’ is a much broader umbrella term for any fabric pattern of crisscrossed horizontal and vertical bands. The term comes from the Gaelic *plaid* meaning blanket.” (Would you like to see the whole “Tartan verses Plaid” power point program? Contact Bruce at bemacewan@gmail.com)

Council Contacts 2026-2027

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Consolidated Celtic Calendar

<https://goo.gl/mCnvsU>

The Glasgow Fair: Scotland's Old Summer Holiday

By Dr. Anton Anderssen

Long before summer holidays meant airport queues and online reservations, Glasgow had its own grand July ritual: the Glasgow Fair. What began in the Middle Ages as a



practical marketplace became, over the centuries, one of Scotland's best-loved summer customs.

The Fair reaches back to the twelfth century, when Glasgow was still growing around its cathedral and market cross. In those early days, an annual fair allowed merchants, dealers, farmers, and townspeople to gather under royal protection. Goods and livestock were bought and sold, strangers came into the town, and Glasgow's place as a trading center was strengthened.

But the Fair did not remain only a market. As Glasgow became an industrial city, the Fair became a holiday. By the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, factories and businesses often closed, and families took their annual summer break. For many working Glaswegians, this was the one great holiday of the year.

The phrase most lovingly attached to the season was "doon the water" — down the water. Families boarded steamers on the Clyde and sailed toward seaside resorts such as Dunoon, Rothesay, and the Ayrshire coast. Hampers were packed, children were dressed for travel, and the city briefly emptied itself toward fresh air, salt water, and a little freedom.

Today the old Fair Fortnight no longer closes Glasgow as it once did. Modern life has scattered holidays across the calendar. Yet the memory remains powerful because the Glasgow Fair was never merely about leisure. It was about community, rest, family, and the dignity of ordinary people having their share of summer.

For Scottish societies abroad, the Glasgow Fair offers a warm July reminder that heritage is not only castles, battles, and kings. Sometimes it is a packed railway platform, a steamer whistle, a family hamper, and the happy thought that, at last, summer has arrived.

July/August in Scottish History & 2026

31 July 1786: Robert Burns publishes *Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect*. This collection of verse contains many poems that will later be regarded as classics.

August 7-29 2026 The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Edinburgh.