



The Caledonian Extra

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Celebrating Alex Pratt and Harry Lauder on Oct. 16

Alex Pratt, a fixture at Caledonian Society events for nearly 40 years, died 30 September after a long illness.

Come share your "Alex" story and enjoy the musical and piping tributes to Alex at ***"A Joyful Celebration of the Life of Alexander Pratt" to be held on Saturday, October 16, at 2 p.m.*** at Heather MacGregor's Alexander Manor, 1559 Thurston Street in Honolulu.

He was born the 7th of 8 children on 19 August 1924, in Springburn, a suburb of Glasgow, Scotland. He was conscripted at age 18 into the Royal Navy during World War II. Later he trained as a carpenter and eventually joined the Merchant Marine to see more of the world.

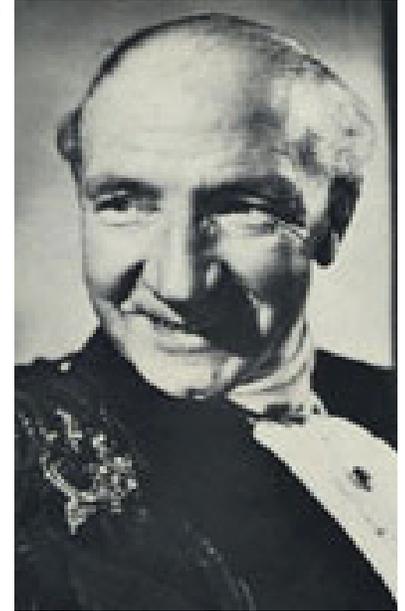
He emigrated to the US, followed carpentry jobs across the continent, and in 1970 reached Hawaii, where he settled but never lost the Glasgow brogue. He soon joined The Caledonian Society, where he was known for his wit, kindness and knowledge of Scotland. He helped to found the Scot in Hawaii interview project and was named Scot-of-the-Year in 1998. Alex relished his connection with Clan Stewart and enjoyed Scottish Country Dancing.

He was an amateur painter, read widely, and fond of music and films. His sister, Jean Addison, and his niece, Linda Miller, from Scotland, were with him in his final weeks.



Much to his amusement, Alex Pratt is serenaded on stage by Katie Doyle after being named the 1998-Scot-of-the-Year.

Harry Lauder? He may be a stranger to some of you, but his music is as fresh as a daisy. With his famous kilt and nobby sticks, he took Scotland and then the world by storm with his simple, touching songs about love and life from the 1890's to the 1940s. He was *THE* international music hall entertainer of the early part of the last century.



You'll get to know Sir Harry and his music in a program presented by Bill and Helen Wynn on ***Saturday, October 16 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Clement's at 1515 Wilder Avenue.*** We're fortunate to have Scottish singer Helen Baskett, a music hall entertainer in her own right, and Susan Spangler, a noted pianist and frequent Caledonian accompanist, to help bring Harry's songs and story alive.

We'll start out with a soup supper, made by Society volunteers. ***Just bring a bread, dessert or other item to share.*** Call Jackie Phillips at 621-6622 to volunteer to make soup.

Then Bill Wynn will take you through Lauder's story with pictures and play his songs...and you can sing along... from "Roamin in the Gloamin", "I Love a Lassie" to "Keep Right On to the End of the Road".

You'll hear how he "carried on" and performed courageously just after he learned on January 1, 1917 that his only son had died on the battlefield in France on December 28, 1916. John Lauder's dying words were: "Carry on". Within a few days he returned to his show and had to sing the poignant ballad, "The Laddies Who Fought and Won."

Harry appeared in Honolulu several times in the early 1900's and even wrote a song for Honolulu, which you'll hear. This will be an uplifting, joyous celebration of a great Scot and minstrel of the world. Surely Alex Pratt will be singing along from above.

Calling all Scots

“Victorians, Scots, and Hawai‘i” Presentation Series October 27 & 30 – ‘Iolani Palace and Pacific Beach Hotel

October 27 marks the beginning of a remarkable series of presentations on “Victorians, Scots, and Hawai‘i” by eminent scholars from around the world, highlighting the Hawaiian Kingdom’s Caledonian connections, and the Hawaiian and South Pacific influences on Scottish writer Robert Louis Stevenson. The presentations are open to Caledonian Society members. Please call Lillian Cunningham for information on how to register for these sessions and other parts of the conference.

Presentation I

Wednesday, October 27, 2010, 7-9:00 p.m., Old Archives Building at ‘Iolani Palace

When Jesus Surfed to Hawai‘i: How a Queen was Deposed and a Scots-Hawaiian Princess Martyr was Created.
Presented by Professor David Finkelstein of Queen Margaret’s University, Edinburgh.
Through a multimedia presentation, Finkelstein will explore the powerful links between Scotland and Hawai‘i, two culturally significant countries dominated by larger, more powerful neighbors.

Presentation II

Saturday, October 30, 2010, 9 a.m.–2 p.m., Pacific Beach Hotel, Papio Room
Robert Louis Stevenson: The Victorian Scot in Oceania

Professor Barry Menikoff of the University of Hawai‘i will discuss how Hawai‘i inspired Robert Louis Stevenson’s later writing, and what Stevenson thought of this very special place. Menikoff’s presentation at 9:00 a.m. will be followed by panel presentations by Richard Hill, University of Hawai‘i; Carla Manfredi, Queen’s University Canada; Arnold Schmidt, CSU Stanislaus; Neil Hultgren, CSU Long Beach; Sylvie Largetaud-Ortega, Université de Polynésie Française, Tahiti; and Catherine Mathews, Sydney, Australia.

David Finkelstein is the author or editor of ten books and numerous articles on 19th century Scottish life and culture, and the publishing trade. His Print Culture and the Blackwood Tradition won the 2006 Colby Prize for its contribution to scholarship on Victorian publishing. Menikoff has edited a number of Stevenson’s most important works, and his Narrating Scotland: the Imagination of Robert Louis Stevenson has been called “a riveting study.”
This presentation series has been organized in conjunction with the 15th Annual Conference of the Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States (VISAWUS), and is co-sponsored by the Hawai‘i Council for the Humanities, the Caledonian Society of Hawai‘i, and the Friends of ‘Iolani Palace.
“We’re pleased to bring the Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association to Honolulu for this landmark conference, and we’re particularly pleased to join with local associations to make the ‘Victorians, Scots, and Hawai‘i’ presentations available to the public. This event will continue to build Honolulu’s reputation as a city where intellectually important events can flourish because of its intellectually curious citizenry,” said Windward Community College Vice Chancellor and Conference Chair Richard Fulton, a member of the Caledonian Society.

The Caledonian
Society of Hawai‘i
P.O. Box 4164
Honolulu, HI 96812-4164