



May-June 2021

The Caledonian

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Scottish Heroes VII
Saturday, May, 29th
Via Zoom at 5:00 p.m.

The next **Scottish Heroes** (number VII) will begin at 5:00 p.m. on **Saturday, May 29th**. This time we will hear from Susan Anderson on Kirkpatrick Macmillan, who was a blacksmith (b. 9/2/1812, d. 1/26/1878) credited with inventing the pedal driven bicycle; Hardy Spoehr on Archibald Scott Cleghorn, (b. 11/15/1835, d. 11/1/1910), was a Scottish businessman who married into the Hawaiian royalty; and Lillian Cunningham who will discuss More Scottish Margarets. **Please email Kevin Campbell Bogan at kevin.bogan@gmail.com** or call him at 778-4697 for the link to the event.



Archibald Scott Cleghorn & Princess Miriam Likelike

The Caledonian Society Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Annual General Meeting of the Caledonian Society is scheduled to be via Zoom on **Saturday, June 19th from 2 pm to 4 pm**. A small amount of business will be conducted first, including a review of the past year and the election of Council members for next year. The following are running for renewed three-year terms:

Bruce McEwan, Chieftain; Susan MacKinnon, Vice Chieftain; Kevin Campbell Bogan, Membership Secretary; Susan Anderson, Secretary; and Larry Phillips, Director. We also need a Treasurer—please let the Chieftain know if you can help the Society out with this important position.

After that we will be treated again to a program by Scottish entertainer Bill Mullen from Florida, who entertained us so well at the virtual Burns Night in January and also in person at the 2019 AGM. This time he will perform music from various geographical areas of Scotland where whisky is produced. It might be an idea to have at hand a liquid treat to sip while listening to Bill's music.



From Bill Mullen; *The theme that sprang to mind which would be quite interesting and have some appeal for everyone would be a virtual whisky trail around Scotland, not a whisky tasting (but you'd be welcome to add in a whisky or two). I thought I could highlight an area of Scotland, talk a wee bit about historical and geographic influences then zoom in a bit further into a distillery in that area, talk of why it is there, its history, the whisky it produces then sing a song from that area. For example: The Isle of Skye, its geography, a bit about the Inner and Outer Hebrides, history from the Mesolithic period through Pictish times, then the Norse, then about Clan MacLeod and Clan Donald, Highland clearances, the distillery, Talisker (and Poin Dhu) then the song, "Over the Sea to Skye" (and include the version written by Robert Louis Stevenson and its link to the series Outlander). That sort of thing traveling around the country using distillery locations to guide the theme would have something for everyone.*

(Both versions of the poems are printed on page 4)

Register in advance with Kevin Campbell Bogan kevin.bogan@gmail.com and the connecting link for the Zoom meeting will be sent to you on Friday, June 18th, the day before the meeting.

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Chieftain's Column: From the Craig



We have been successful with our series of Scottish Heroes and all who have attended have learned a lot and have heard from several Caledonian members, who have shared their research and knowledge. There is always an opportunity for members to participate.

We are also honored to have Bill Mullen as our keynote speaker/entertainer at our June 19th Annual General Membership meeting. Bill was our keynote at our live 2019 AGM, but will be virtual this year. He promises a fun program for attendees. The AGM is also the time for elections for five positions renewing each year. In addition, we do have an opening for an appointment to fill a non-expiring board position, which is open to any member, so please contact me at bemacewan@gmail.com if you are interested. We are especially interested in

someone who is willing to serve as Treasurer. Board meetings will continue to be via Zoom for the near future. Following the AGM, the board will be preparing the event schedule for 2021-2022 and we are always open to program ideas from members. At some point this year, we should be able to meet in person to deliver our programs. Let's all stay safe. Slàinte, Bruce

Member News

May Birthdays Adella Sefrhans, David Main, Elizabeth MacNeill, Ian Birnie, Ian Stuart Laing, Mary O'Brien-Ichikawa, Ronald MacPherson, Stephen Craven, Stuart Donachie, Susan Anderson, Walter Killough, Jr., and William Sefrhans.

Membership Renewal Fee In 2020 the Society Council voted to forgive dues for the 2020-2021 fiscal year (from July 1 to June 30 each year). It is now time to renew the membership fee for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. This fee allows the Society to underwrite events and provide monies for the storage of our many books, event supplies, and archives of the history of the Society. Please use the form included with this newsletter to send in your dues.

The Falls of Clyde has been in the *Star Advertiser* and TV news reports lately because the State has said it must be removed from the harbor soon. There are avenues still being explored by the Friends of the Falls of Clyde, and the situation is changing rapidly. Chieftain McEwan (President FOFC) will provide an update from the Friends as soon as there is word on their efforts to save the historically important ship.

June Birthdays Jean Bruce, Leilani Maguire, Leslie Brey, and Mary Alice (Marcy) Moore.

Note: If your birthday is in May or June 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 778-4697 or by email at kevin.bogan@email.com.

Scotland Video suggestion By Susan MacKinnon



While visiting friends in Seattle, I was treated to a detective series filmed in the Shetland Islands: *Shetland*, a BBC film produced in 2015 and based on the best-selling novels by Ann Cleeves. There are five seasons available on Amazon with a sixth in production. I watched the first two seasons and I think I got hooked! Each episode of murder cases pulls you into the lives of the small community of Lerwick in the Shetland Islands.

The first two volumes follow Detective Jimmy Perez (Douglas Henshall) and his DS, "Tosh" MacIntosh (Alison O'Donnell) on a number of murder cases that will leave you guessing who was the murderer until the end. Seasons 3-5 change the format to one murder case per season of 6 episodes. Good acting, compelling stories and beautiful Scottish scenery make these episodes worth watching.

Who is Nicola Sturgeon?



Nicola Sturgeon is the First Minister of Scotland, meaning she is the political leader of the country. She assumed office in November 2014, when she also became the leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP), which has campaigned for many decades for the

independence of Scotland from the United Kingdom.

Sturgeon was born in 1970 to an electrician and a dental nurse, and grew up as a bookish child in a council house on the edge of Irvine, near Glasgow. She graduated from the University of Glasgow Law School in 1993 and worked for a few years for a law firm. She got involved in youth work with the SNP at age 16 and has been focused on the party and its goals since then. She married the then head of the party, Peter Murrell, in 2010, and they have no children.

When the Scottish Parliament was established in 1997, Sturgeon was elected to represent Glasgow Southside, a seat from the Govan district, which she still holds. The First Minister must be elected by the other members of the Scottish Parliament to be the leader from among them.

Sturgeon is a popular leader, sometimes referred to by Scots as “Oor Nicola.” According to a recent poll, Sturgeon’s handling of the pandemic was approved by 78% of Scots. Her politics put her to the left of the policies of the Labour Party. She and the SNP disapproved of the Iraq war, instituted a progressive tax code, introduced free university tuition and personal care for the elderly, and reduced the voting age to 16. She hopes to establish a universal basic wage and wants Scotland to reduce carbon emissions to zero by 2045. Some say that Nicola Sturgeon is the most talented politician Britain as well as being one of the country’s most powerful women.

Sturgeon’s mentor in politics was Alex Salmond, who was her predecessor as First Minister of Scotland. He recognized her talent early and made her his deputy and sometimes spokesperson. More recently, however, she and Salmond’s close professional relationship has been seriously broken because of his handling of accusations by multiple women of sexual improprieties. Salmond has now left the SNP and started another party called Alba, which also has the goal of Scottish independence.

In the early May elections, the SNP won 64 seats in Scotland’s Parliament of 129 members. This is one short of a majority, but with the assistance of 8 Scottish Green party members, the SNP will dominate the new Parliament now being organized.



Bute House, Official Residence of the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon

Since the election, Boris Johnson, Prime Minister of UK, has invited Nicola Sturgeon and the leaders of Wales and Northern Ireland to meet with him in a summit to discuss “our shared challenges.” Johnson, of course, wants to forestall moves toward Scottish Independence, including another referendum in Scotland to vote again on possible Scottish independence.

The British government says Scotland would need permission from the British Parliament in order to hold a second referendum. (In the first one in 2014, Scots voted by 55% to remain in the UK). The SNP says that it wants another referendum by 2023. Scottish vote in a future referendum is likely to be influenced by the effects of Brexit, a solid economic recovery from the pandemic, and a widespread personal dislike of Johnson in Scotland.

Nicola Sturgeon, who is both leading the country now and at the same time promoting a huge future goal, says that another referendum on Scottish independence is a question of “when” not a question of “if.”

Wikipedia; Sam Knight, "Separation Anxiety," The New Yorker, 5/10/21.

Historical Reminders

1603 – Union of the Crowns: Scotland and England were united under King James VI of Scotland as he became King James I of England.

1707 - Union of Parliaments: The United Kingdom formed under one monarch (Queen Ann) and one parliament located in London.

1997 - Devolution: Scotland and Wales allowed to establish local parliaments to deal with local issues in each country. All remain part of UK.

2014 - Referendum on Independence: 55% of Scots voted to remain in the union.

2016 - UK vote on leaving European Union: 62% of Scots voted against Brexit

2020 - Polls suggest 58% Scottish support for independence.

2019-2021 Council Contacts

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Consolidated Celtic Calendar

<https://goo.gl/mCnvsU>



Thanks to Bruce Graham

Skye Boat Song Original lyrics 1884

[Chorus:]

Speed, bonnie boat, like a bird on the wing,
Onward! the sailors cry;
Carry the lad that's born to be king
Over the sea to Skye.

1. Loud the winds howl, loud the waves roar,
Thunderclaps rend the air;
Baffled, our foes stand by the shore,
Follow they will not dare.

2. Many's the lad, fought on that day
Well the claymore did wield;
When the night came, silently lay
Dead on Culloden's field.

3. Though the waves leap, soft shall ye sleep,
Ocean's a royal bed.
Rocked in the deep, Flora will keep
Watch by your weary head.

4. Burned are their homes, exile and death
Scatter the loyal men;
Yet ere the sword cool in the sheath
Charlie will come again.

Skye Boat Song

Robert Louis Stevenson's 1892 poem, which has been sung to the tune, has the following text:

[Chorus:]

Sing me a song of a lad that is gone,
Say, could that lad be I?
Merry of soul he sailed on a day
Over the sea to Skye.

1. Mull was astern, Rum on the port,
Eigg on the starboard bow;
Glory of youth glowed in his soul;
Where is that glory now?

2. Give me again all that was there,
Give me the sun that shone!
Give me the eyes, give me the soul,
Give me the lad that's gone!

3. Billow and breeze, islands and seas,
Mountains of rain and sun,
All that was good, all that was fair,
All that was me is gone.

Wikipedia.com. Original lyrics also on Wikipedia.com