

Arran Stowaways

Magic Torch Comics is publishing a now long forgotten story, titled "The Stowaways, The Story of the Boys on the Ice." On April 7, 1868, seven young lads snuck onto the steamship "Arran" waiting at Greenock to journey to Canada, hoping to be hired as ship's helpers. The captain at first seemed sympathetic, but the ship's mate was brutal and retaliatory. Off the coast of Newfoundland, the mate dumped the boys onto the sea-ice and steamed away. The boys scrambled through loose shifting sea-ice for several miles, until someone on shore spotted them and came to the rescue. Two boys had already died.

When the episode was learned of in Scotland, the captain Robert Watt & mate James Kerr were tried upon their return. Capt. Watt spent 18 months for culpable homicide; Kerr plead guilty, and was sentenced to 4 months. The verdict was greeted by hisses. The only previous book on this episode was written by John Donald, one of the survivors, in 1928. The new publication as a graphic novel is funded by a lottery trust created in Newfoundland to bring forgotten history to the attention of modern generations.

The Scots Tongue

For several generations, Scottish schools have discouraged or even banned children from using the Scots language. A new project is aimed at both reversing the ban, and in making the Scots tongue available in attractive formats for children. The "Wee Windaes" project of the National Library of Scotland is developing both curriculum materials and providing training for teachers.

Scots is spoken at home by nearly 2 million people, though discriminated against in schools. Janet Archer of Creative Scotland hopes to encourage self-expression and generate greater pride among young people concerning their national heritage. The project also promotes the preservation of local and regional variants.

www.nls.uk/news/press/2016/12/scots-language-website.

Our National Poets: Henry MacKenzie

Virtually unknown save to specialists today, Henry MacKenzie was long praised as the first to publish a modern style novel focused on the feelings or mental state of the protagonist. Older novels were predominantly action oriented, but MacKenzie developed the interaction of characters. MacKenzie was born at Edinburgh in 1745, and trained in classical literature and English law there and in London. Because novels were normally published anonymously, a man named Eccles attempted to claim authorship of MacKenzie's "Man Of Feeling" 1771, a controversy which actually greatly boosted sale of his novel. MacKenzie returned to Edinburgh, where he had a very successful law career working for the Exchequer.

Scots Names: Moray/ Murray

The name traces back to William of Moravia, son of Freskin the Fleming in the late 10th century. Two primary branches of the family are known. The Tullibardine line in Perthshire used the spelling Murray; those on the Bothwell estates used Moray. The noble line of Moray became vacant, but a cadet line later elevated to Earl of Annandale claims descent. The Perthshire family were quite prolific, with a number of families, most prominent of which was that at Atholl, along with more than two dozen cadet families. The Atholl line became prominent in the Stewart cause.

Scots Tongue

- cowcloos (n pl) common trefoil.
- cowclink (n) a common harlot.
- cove (v) = to frighten or overbear (n) a broombush.
- cower (v) to recover.
- cowie (n) naturally polled or hornless cow.
- cowlick (n) tuft of hair standing straight up on head.
- cowman (n) alternative name for the Devil.
- cowpers (n pl) mountings on handloom; .
- cowpon (n) a little bit or fragment.
- cowpers (n) basket designed to catch fish.
- cow quake (n) a disease of dairy cattle.
- cowshot (n) the domestic ring-dove
- coxy (a) pompous, coxcombical in behavior.

GML Editor Bruce Shields (802) 888-5165 -- <bshields@pwshift.com> St. Andrews Society of VT website use <www.SASVT.org> or <www.standrewssocietyofvermont.org>

SCOTS CASTLES: Birsay, Orkney, residence of half brother of Mary, Queen of Scots

Located on the island named Mainland, some miles west of Kirkwall. Roam the ruins of the palace residence of Robert Stewart, half-brother of Mary Queen of Scots, who became Earl of Orkney in the late 1500s. The Earl's Palace is a fine courtyard castle, and remains in a remarkable state of completeness.

One of the illegitimate sons of James V, Robert Stewart was a notoriously harsh earl, and the gun holes at ground level in every wall of the palace may suggest that he expected trouble.

The palace's use was short-lived, however: built between 1569 and 1574, its story effectively ended with the overthrow of the Stewart earls in 1615. An inventory drawn up by Oliver Cromwell's troops in 1653 suggests neglect had already set in, and by 1700 the palace was roofless and decaying.



Visiting the Orkneys requires careful planning because of the location about 30 miles due north of John O'Groats (nominally the most northerly spot in the British Isles), and normally cannot be blended with other trips. For better information, use this link: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/earls-palace-birsay/>

Society Event

Richard McLay will host one or more cultural events which will make use of content from contemporary Scottish television. For starter, he will screen an episode of "Taggart," a police drama set in the Glasgow area, featuring fictionalized case files from the Glasgow Metropolitan police department. The episode screen time is a little more than an hour. Following the screening, Richard's plan is to have light snacks and a brief discussion of Scottish customs and traditions as evidenced in these action episodes. The details are not yet available, but will be shared via the social media mentioned below.

Social Media

The St. Andrew's Society has developed a FaceBook page, of which Bret McLay is the monitor. Go to: <<https://www.facebook.com/vtsaintandrews/>>. The Society has experimented with a closed group Facebook page for communications among the Officers and Directors. It will be open by invitation. <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/575290872653373/>>

Note: The St. Andrews web site has a short URL, <www.SASVT.org> which takes you to the same website as the longer version.

38th Annual ROBBIE BURNS DINNER & CELEBRATION!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2017 At the Barre Elks Club



Evening filled with music for listening, dancing and singing with musicians from The Highland Weavers, Vermont's own Celtic Heritage band.

Appearances also by The Pipes and Drums of St. Andrew's, The St. Andrew's Highland Dancers of Vermont, and our famous Wee Raffle. [Contact Pauline Kirkpatrick]

Price \$35.00 per person \$12 for ages 12 and under.
(note menu choice on reservation)

Dinner: Top Round Roast Beef or Stuffed Chicken Breast, with Mashed Potato & Gravy, vegetable medley, salad, rolls, dessert.

RESERVATION DEADLINE, Sunday, January 20, 2017!

Make checks payable to St. Andrew's Society of Vermont mail with form to Pauline Kirkpatrick 88 Hedgerow Dr. Shelburne, VT, 05482
<pnwkirksa@gmail.com> or (802) 985-3832

• For event information contact Pres Allison Menday Norton (603) 938-273

Schedule:

- 5:00 PM Social Gathering
- 5:30 Seating of members & Guests
- 6:00 Haggis Ceremony
- 7:45 Pipes & Drums, Dancers
- 9:00 Music of the Highland Weavers and Social Dancing
- 10:00 Raffle Drawing
- 11:00 Auld Lang Syne for closing.

RESERVATION FORM;

The following persons will be attending the Burns Night Celebration:

Name on Ticket Dinner Choice w/Price Clan Affiliation (if any)

_____! Contact for the party is: Phone #

A total of _____ will be attending. Enclosed is a check for \$_____.

Seating will be by assigned tables. Indicate preference of whom you would like to sit with below.

2016 Contacts for St Andrews Society:

President - Allison M Norton (603)938-2736
Vice Pres - Pauline Kirkpatrick (802)985-3903
Secretary - [vacant]
Treasurer - Cedric H. Farrow 802-985-3832
Historian - Bruce Shields 802-888-5165
Chaplain - Theodore Faris 802-592-3908
Newsletter Editor - Bruce Shields 802-888-5165
Archivist Pro Tem - Bruce Shields
Webmaster - David Campbell 802-878-8663
<<campbell@together.net>>
Past President: Thomas Johnston IV (802)293-5836
At Large: Cass Wright, Jonathan Park,
Nancy Chase
Karen Fay (SAS Pipe)
Iain McHarg (Catamount)
KIRSTEN Gretkowski, Dancers
Darryl Calkins, Foundation Chair
Storekeepers: Al & Jackie Walker

Correct your address promptly to <<cfar-row@ieee.org>>

SCHEDULE OF Coming EVENTS

- *28 Jan, 2017 Burns Day, Barre*
- *29 April, 2017 Annual meeting, Barre*
- *16 July, 2017 Kirking of Tartan*
- *19 August, 2017 Vermont Highland game*

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Bring friends to these events. We have good food, good company, and a great introduction to Scottish heritage and culture.

In This Issue:

- P. 1 Notes & News
- P. 2 castle & activity report
- P. 3 Burns Dinner Reservation
- P. 4 Masthead

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