



March 2008

Saltire Sentinel

The Newsletter of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, Inc.
PO Box 3972, Glen Allen Virginia 23058, www.standrewssociety.org

"If you are receiving this newsletter through the United States Postal Service, it means we do not have an accurate or valid email address. Please email us at

Board@StAndrewsSociety.org with your correct address so that we may save money on postage.

For those of you who did not renew for the 2007/2008 membership year (and are still receiving the newsletter), we hope you will consider renewing for the upcoming 2008/2009 year. You are important to us.

Calendar



Mar. 7, 8 Sullivan's Irish Pub – Common Threads, featuring Robin Rich. For more information: <http://www.myspace.com/sullivansirishpub>

Mar. 9 Richmond Folk Music and Congregation Or Ami would like to extend a warm invitation to the St. Andrews Society to our upcoming concert featuring the USAF Celtic Aire Heritage Ensemble. The concert is free, but reservations are necessary so that we do not exceed the parking/seating capacity of Or Ami. We advise those who want to attend to make their reservations early. Here is the website with more information www.richmondfolkmusic.com

Mar. 12 **St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting** at The Church of the Holy Comforter

(Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.) We gather at 6:30 pm to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm. *Celtic Buffet, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.*

Mar. 14 Virginia Scot Guard will be at Sullivan's in Ashland at 7:00 p.m.

Mar. 15 Virginia Scot Guard – Sullivan's from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; then again later that evening.

Mar. 15 SALPD - Dublin's Pub
www.myspace.com/dublinsirishpub

Mar. 16 Crossroads Irish Dance Troupe performing Tuesday March 16 at 6:30pm at the historic Henrico Theatre in Highland Springs. This is a free show open to all ages. Reservations are recommended; call 328-4491 for additional information. The Troupe prides itself on combining an exciting blend of both traditional Irish step and the present day "Riverdance" and "Lord of the Dance" style of Irish dance.

Mar. 17 Virginia Scot Guard – Stratford Grill at 7:00 p.m.

Mar. 17 SALPD - Dublin's Pub
www.myspace.com/dublinsirishpub

Mar. 23 SALPD - Westhampton United Methodist Church <http://www.gbgm-umc.org/westhamptonumc/index.html>

Mar. 23



Mar. 29, 30 The annual Irish Festival at St. Patrick's Church will take place at the intersections of Broad St. and 25th St. The hours are 10am to 6pm on Saturday and 11am-6pm on Sunday. There will be bands, food, music, merchandise vendors and tours of both St. Patrick's and St. John's Churches. Admission is only

\$2.00. There is parade on Saturday, which starts at 10am. We will be asked to line up at 9:00 am. We are in need of parade participants (no blue jeans please) and we are in need of members to help man the tent. Please come out and support the society and spend a day immersed in all thing Irish. For more information: <http://www.saintpatrickchurchhill.org/index.htm>

We will have a raffle for a “basket o’ goodies.” Check in at the St. Andrew’s tent to “pays your money, and takes your chances...”

NOTE: St. Patrick's Church is making plans to celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2009. They would like to be in touch with all the alumni of St. Patrick's School. Please let them know your name and address. Drop them a note at 213 N. 25th St. Richmond VA 23223, or call 804-648-0504 or email at st.patrickric@aol.com.

April. 9 St. Andrew’s Society Business Meeting at The Church of the Holy Comforter (Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.) We gather at 6:30 pm to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm. *Celtic Buffet, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.*

April. 12 Once again this year, the St. Andrew’s Society of Richmond has reserved a Sky Suite at the Strawberry Hill Races on Saturday, April 12 at Colonial Downs. For the past few years, this has been a great way to spend a day with all your friends.

Here’s the way it works: You pay \$35.00 per person; You get the shuttle bus ride from Richmond International Raceway to Colonial Downs before the Races and back to RIR after the Races; you get a ticket to the 76th Running and admission to the St. Andrew’s Society Sky Suite. You can bring your own food and drink. Ask anyone who has been there before and they will tell you what a fun time it is.

In order to take part, you must have your reservation (and money) in as soon as possible. Please bring your check or cash to the next meeting and give it to our Treasurer, Analee Evans. Make checks payable to the St. Andrew’s Society of Richmond. We need at least 20 people and we have a limit of 50. So get your reservations in now. You can also mail them to the St. Andrew’s Society of Richmond, P. O. Box 3972, Glen Allen, VA 23058-3972.

The theme this year is The Spirit of ’76, so you can feel free to dress accordingly if you wish. Don’t miss the fun, the socializing, and the races. That’s the 76th Running of the Strawberry Hill Races, Saturday, April 12 at Colonial Downs. We’ll see you there!

The Prez Sez!

March is a month of transition. It is the bridge between the winter of February and the spring of April. It is a month that has its ups and downs. For basketball fans there is March Madness. There is St. Patrick’s Day every March, and this year Easter will make a rare March appearance. The tempo of life seems to increase in March. The weather is warmer, the days are longer (thanks to the Federal Government moving the start of Daylight Savings Time to March 9), and people just seem to be revitalized. On the down side, we are closer to the Federal Income Tax Deadline. But aside from that, I still think March is a great month.

So what does March hold for us this year? Our General Meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 12 at 7-PM at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church. St. Patrick’s Day will be Monday, March 17. Easter takes place Sunday, March 23. The St. Patrick’s Irish Festival takes place Saturday and Sunday, March 29 & 30. Then there is March Madness for all us basketball fans. How many of these will you be a part of? We certainly want to see you at the General Meeting. I know a lot of you will celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. Most of you will celebrate Easter. How many of you can we count on to help at the Irish Festival? This is the first event of the year where we will have a tent and need helpers. Even if it is only for an hour or so, we can use you. The more folks who volunteer, the less time each has to spend at the St. Andrew’s Tent and the more time you can wander the tents and displays.

Some other things to consider are the Strawberry Hill Steeplechase Races in April and our Elections in June. March is the best time to get your reservations in for the Strawberry Hill Sky Suite. There is a notice elsewhere that gives you more info. The Races takes place Saturday, April 12 and it is always a good time. As for the Elections, we will have two people rotating off the Board and we need to elect two new members. If you are interested in running or you have a name that you feel we should consider, please let us know.

Let’s make this a March to Remember. The St. Andrew’s Society of Richmond is more than officers and board members. It is you...all of you. We are growing and with growth comes the need for more folks to get involved. What are your plans for March? I hope they include getting more involved with your organization, The St. Andrew’s Society of Richmond.

Aye! Dick

Treasurer’s Report:

For the month ending February 29, 2008, we stand at:

Previous Balance:	\$5,174.66
Income:	\$219.29
Expenses:	\$2,560.00
Balance:	\$2,833.95

This Month in History

1 March

On March 1 1910, David Niven, the Scottish film actor and author, was born. His films included 'A Matter of Life and Death', 'Around the World in 80 Days', 'The Guns of Navarone' and 'The Pink Panther'. He was also well known as the author of the bestselling autobiography, 'The Moon's a Balloon'.

2 March

On March 2 1316, Robert II, the first monarch of the House of Stewart, was born at Renfrew. He was the son of Marjorie Bruce, daughter of Robert the Bruce, and Walter, High Steward of Scotland. Robert acted as regent three times during the reign of his uncle, David II, and acceded to the throne in 1371. He died in 1390 and was succeeded by his son Robert III.

3 March

On 3 March 1792, Robert Adam, the Scottish architect, furniture and interior designer, died. Born in Kirkcaldy, Adam is regarded as one of Europe's great architects. Inspired by the Roman ruins he had studied whilst on a tour of France and Italy, Adam became one of the leading lights of the neo-classical movement. One of his many masterworks is Culzean Castle in Ayrshire.

4 March

Today in 1951 saw the birth of Kenny Dalglish, probably Scotland's greatest ever footballer. Dalglish started his career at Celtic before moving to Liverpool, scoring the winning goal in the 1978 European Cup Final for them. He managed to amass a record 102 Scotland caps, scoring 30 goals to equal Denis Law's record.

5 March

On this day in 1790, Flora MacDonald, the Jacobite heroine, died. Flora is famous for helping Bonnie Prince Charlie escape from Scotland after the defeat at the Battle of Culloden, disguising him as her maid, Betty Burke - immortalised in the Skye Boat Song.. She died in Kingsburgh, Skye, in the same bed in which Bonnie Prince Charlie had slept during his escape. Her funeral was said to have been attended by over three thousand mourners, and three hundred gallons of whisky were drunk at it.

6 March

On 6 March 1923, Scotland's first radio broadcast took place. The broadcast took place from Rex House, 202

Bath Street in Glasgow. The BBC's founder, Lord Reith of Stonehaven, opened the station. Orchestra, pipe band, choir, solo singers, actors and speech makers were all squeezed into a small attic for the first broadcast. By the summer of 1924, stations had opened in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, and, by the eve of the Second World War, over 90% of the Scottish population was served by BBC transmitters.

7 March

On 7 March 1744, the world's first golf club was founded in Edinburgh. The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers held their first meeting on Leith Links and petitioned the Edinburgh Council to provide a silver club for competition. John Rattray was the first winner. He joined the Jacobites after the Battle of Prestonpans and became Bonnie Prince Charlie's personal surgeon. He escaped beheading after the uprising thanks to the intercession of his golfing friend, Lord President Forbes.

8 March

On this day in 1936, the "Oor Wullie" cartoon strip first appeared in the "Sunday Post".

9 March

On March 9, 1770, Haggis was served on board Captain James Cook's ship "Endeavour", anchored off New Zealand, in celebration of the birthday of a Scottish officer who was on board. (Captain Cook was born in Yorkshire of Scottish parents).

10 March

Today in 1615, St John Ogilvie, a Banffshire-born Jesuit priest, was hanged for refusing to renounce the supremacy of the Pope. He was the only Roman Catholic martyr in Scotland and was canonised in 1976.

11 March

On 11 March 1911, Sir Fitzroy MacLean, the Scottish soldier, diplomat, politician and author was born. A founder member of the SAS and reportedly the inspiration for Ian Fleming's character, James Bond, he is probably best known for his exploits during the Second World War. In 1943, Churchill chose MacLean to parachute into German-occupied Yugoslavia as his personal representative to the partisans of Tito, who became leader of Yugoslavia after the war. MacLean was instrumental in gaining Allied support for the Communist partisans instead of their rivals, the right-wing Chetniks.

12 March

On this day in 1286 Margaret (Maid of Norway) was crowned Queen of Scotland. She died on the sea voyage to Britain, leaving Scotland in a perilous state,

which King Edward of England was only too keen to exploit to his own ends.

13 March

On 13 March 1873, the Scottish Football Association was formed. The impetus for forming the organization came from a meeting after the first international match against England. Attending the meeting were representatives from all of Scotland's leading clubs: Clydesdale, Vale of Leven, Dumbreck, Third Lanark Rifle Volunteer Reserves, Eastern, Granville and Rovers. The meeting was chaired by Queen's Park. (Scotland's oldest team, Queen's Park, formed in 1867, arranged the first match to take place between England and Scotland, which occurred at the Hamilton Crescent cricket ground.)

14 March

Today in 1900 saw the birth of Scottish lawyer, Dame Margaret Kidd. Not only was Kidd Scotland's first woman advocate, but she was also the first woman King's Counsel in Britain and the first woman to plead before the House of Lords. She was appointed Britain's first woman KC on 20 December 1948.

15 March

The morning of March 15 1941 saw the end of two nights of heavy German bombing of Clydebank. The attack started about 9pm on Thursday 13 March and destroyed much of Clydebank - targeted because of its shipbuilding and manufacturing industry. The Clydebank Blitz, as it became known, destroyed a third of the buildings of Clydebank, leaving 35,000 people homeless. A thousand German bombers were used in the raid and the devastation of the town was so complete that only eight buildings remained entirely unscathed after the bombing. To further compound Clydebank's misery, only two enemy planes were shot down. That same year, a certain Deputy Fuhrer, dropped in on the west of Scotland.

16 March

On this day in 1888 the first recorded sale of a manufactured motor car was to Emile Roger of Paris, who bought a petrol-driven Benz - but did you know that the first inflatable car tyre was invented by a Scotsman?

17 March

Today in 1951, the cartoon character "Dennis the Menace" appeared for the first time in the "Beano" comic.

18 March

On 18 March 1286, Alexander III, King of Scots, set off on the journey that led to him being killed accidentally at Kinghorn, Fife. The last of the

MacAlpine dynasty and the Celtic line of Scottish Kings, his reign was known as "The Golden Age". His successor, Margaret, known as the 'Maid of Norway', died on her way home from Norway to claim the throne. Margaret's premature death precipitated the disastrous involvement of Edward I of England in Scotland's affairs.

19 March

On this day in 1813, Dr. David Livingstone, the famous Scottish missionary and explorer, was born. Livingstone, from Blantyre, outh Lanarkshire, became well-known for his exploration of central and southern Africa. The famous missionary and explorer was the first European to see the Zambezi River and the Victoria Falls in 1855, which he named after the then queen. The whereabouts of Livingstone became the subject of the famous search by American journalist Henry Morton Stanley, which gave rise to the popular quotation, "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?" when they met.

20 March

Today in 1780, the firm of James Watt and Co was established to manufacture the world's first duplicating machines.

21 March

On 21 March 1925, Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh opened, becoming the home of Scottish rugby. Scotland marked the occasion by beating England 14-11 and winning their first Grand Slam in front of 70,000 spectators. Unfortunately, the Scottish rugby team have only managed to repeat this success twice more, in 1984 and 1990. The Five Nations series was founded in 1910 when France joined the four UK countries. Italy joined in 2000 to create the Six Nations series.

22 March

On this day 1875, Alexander 'Greek' Thomson died in Glasgow. Thomson is considered one of Scotland's greatest architects, and his impact on the look of Victorian Glasgow was enormous. In fact, many buildings in the city cannot even be definitively identified as his, as his style was so routinely copied. Holmwood House in Cathcart is regarded as one of his greatest works and is now owned by the National Trust for Scotland.

23 March

On 23 March 1848 the ship John Wickliffe anchored at Port Chalmers, New Zealand. From here Scottish settlers founded the Free Church of Scotland settlement at New Edinburgh, New Zealand was founded. One of the city founders was Rev Thomas Burns, a nephew of the poet Robert Burns. The settlement later became

Dunedin (the Gaelic name for Edinburgh), one of the largest towns in the country, and one which still retains a distinctive Scottish character.

24 March

On this day in 1936, an estimated one million people watched the Queen Mary leave the Clyde for the first time. However, the sailing did not quite go to plan: despite extensive dredging having taken place, the liner ran aground twice on the way to Gourock where she was fitted with lifeboats.

25 March

March 25 was celebrated as the traditional date of the Scottish New Year until 1599. In that year, Scotland converted to the modern Gregorian Calendar. England did not adopt the new calendar until the Calendar Act of 1751 was passed, a full 152 years after Scotland.

26 March

Today is the anniversary of the death in 1827 of Ludwig van Beethoven. While no Scottish connection immediately springs to mind, he did in fact make arrangements of a hundred or so Scottish, Welsh and Irish folk songs between 1809 and 1820 at the request of George Thomson, secretary of the "Board for the Encouragement of Arts and Manufactures in Scotland". They are not considered to be among his finest works, however, and some have even been described as "truly wretched".

27 March

On this day in 1923, Sir James Dewar, the inventor of the vacuum flask, died. Dewar's discovery was a by-product of his lifetime's work on cryogenics. However, the flask was not manufactured for commercial or domestic use until 1904 when two German glass blowers formed Thermos GmbH. Dewar also discovered superconductivity and, with Sir Frederick Abel, invented the explosive, cordite.

28 March

On this day in 1661, the first Scottish newspaper, Mercurius Caledonius, ceased publication after a run of only nine issues. It had started on a brighter note, promising extensive coverage of "the Affairs now in Agitation in Scotland, with a Survey of Foreign Intelligence."

29 March

On 29 March 1822, Ewan MacLachlan, the noted Gaelic poet and scholar, died. Born in Lochaber in 1775, MacLachlan became the librarian at King's College, Aberdeen, and achieved renown as the translator of Homer into Gaelic.

30 March

On this day in 1296, Edward I of England sacked the at-the-time-Scottish border town, Berwick-upon-Tweed, in his quest to gain control of Scotland from Robert the Bruce. The English army destroyed the town and decimated the population of around 15,000. Most of the town's residents were killed, even those fleeing to the churches. This act was retaliation for the widespread carnage perpetrated in the north of England, and what Edward considered to be the treacherous stab in the back of the Scottish-French alliance. Berwick was rebuilt by Northumbrians, and the Scottish-English border forever after remained north of this town.

31 March

On this day in 1635, General Patrick Gordon was born. Gordon led a remarkable life. Upon leaving Scotland, he entered the Russian army as a major and soon rose to become a close advisor to Russian Tsar, Peter the Great. Gordon rose to the rank of General-in-Chief and was made an admiral of the Russian navy. It is even said that Peter entrusted Gordon take charge of his empire while he visited Western Europe. The two became such close friends that Tsar Peter kept vigil at Gordon's deathbed.

Thanks to John Scott, Clan Scott, and BBC Scotland (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/history/onthisday/>), and Scotsman.com (<http://heritage.scotsman.com/>), About.com, and other miscellaneous sources.

You can email the Officers and Board at Board@StAndrewsSociety.org. Each of the officers can be directly emailed at President@..., VicePresident@..., Secretary@... and Treasurer@....

Contributions Please!

Please send any articles, music/book reviews, jokes, recipes or information on upcoming events (of a Celtic nature) to **Analee Evans** at analee_e@hotmail.com or P.O. Box 3972, Glen Allen, VA 23058, **by the end of March**. **This is your St. Andrew's Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it!** Thank you!

