



September 2009

# Saltire Sentinel

The Newsletter of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, Inc.  
PO Box 3972, Glen Allen Virginia 23058, [www.standrewssociety.org](http://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 <mailto:Board@StAndrewsSociety.org> with your correct address so that we may save money on postage.*

**MEMBERSHIP DUES: just a reminder that 2009-2010 membership dues can be submitted to the Treasurer from July 1, 2009.**

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## Calendar

**September 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 p.m. to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be primarily to plan our upcoming year's activities.

We will have a BOOK SALE for the Society at The Gayton Kirk Festival on 12th September. We will be collecting Books and Magazines for our Book Sale at The Gayton Kirk Festival on September 12th. There is not a theme so it does NOT have to be Scottish books. So, speak to friends and neighbors who may also want to have a book house cleaning. If you cannot make it to the meeting please let a board member know where and when we can pick up from you.

*The Celtic Buffet will be there, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.*

**Sept. 12 Gayton Kirk Festival - (rain date 9/19)** Saint Andrew's Society has again been asked to be part of this event. We will finalize the details for communication in the September Saltire or before.

**September 18th, 19th, 20th** – We will be participating in the Field Day of the Past. Information about the event can be found at the web site [www.fielddayofthepast.net](http://www.fielddayofthepast.net).

**October 14 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting** at The Church of the Holy Comforter (Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.) We gather at 6:30 p.m. to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. *Celtic Buffet will be there, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.*

**October 24 and 25 Meadow Highland Games & Celtic Festival** (formerly Richmond Highland Games and Celtic Festival). More info on their web site at <http://www.richmondceltic.com/home>. There is also a brief article on page 5 with more details.

**Oct. 2009 Billy Kennedy** (Scots-Irish author) will be hosted by the Williamsburg St. Andrews Society for a Luncheon Review in Williamsburg in October. Details to follow.

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## Fundraising Activity

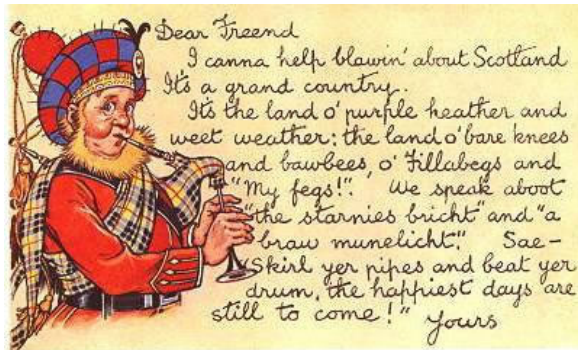
In June we hosted "The Bagpipe Busker" - Rob Calder - in Richmond during his Charity Tour of the USA. For those who came along to see Rob downtown or at our Pub Gig in Finn McCool's I want to thank you very much. The end result, apart from a brilliant

night out was collections of \$105 Downtown and \$510 at the Pub. A great total of \$615 collected for disabled children's charity ECAS. By the end of his 6 week tour he had raised \$8,525 including what was collected by on-line giving. Rob also asked me to pass on his regards and thanks to everyone.

Bill Cooper



## President's Notes



Bill Cooper

### continued "in Colonial English"

Well, it is a few months since the new board and officers were elected so first things first - there have been a few changes: Jack Short has resigned from the board but will continue to play a key role on the Special Events Committee; work commitments meant that Lorain Arritt stepped down as Secretary and moved to the Board position vacated by Jack; and Cleva Pierce accepted the Board's nomination and is our new Secretary.

Now, I have quickly realized that as with my decades of work in Industry and Consulting, Communication is going to be the biggest challenge I face unless we do something about it. I will certainly be chatting with our past Presidents about their experiences. So beware – I've dropped the hint – you will not experience "under-communication". And ... it will help a lot if it can be a two-way thing. So please put [president@standrewssociety.org](mailto:president@standrewssociety.org) into your email address book and if for instance you cannot make it to an event, send a quick note "Won't be there" or even "buzz off, I'm busy" is actually better than nothing at all. Of course "see you there and have you thought about this....." would be a much more positive communication for me.

So, on a lighter note, I hope everyone has enjoyed the summer and maybe even managed a little break away from usual routines. We've had a few board meetings and there are a couple of fun events coming up with planning well underway. We also had a great day for our summer picnic out in Powhattan. It was well attended, with good food, smiling faces, Debbie teaching Lawn Croquet, and band members David, Paul, Ruth and Gene supplying brilliant "background music". We even had passers-by dropping in to listen and have a chat with us.

At the moment we have two special events for September: The Gayton Kirk Festival and Field Day of the Past. We felt we needed to add something to our usual presence at such events with a view to raising funds, promoting education and importantly - more fun for all. Please read more later in this newsletter and note that our society needs your help to realize success.

In closing on my first president's note, we each have an opportunity to raise funds and own something special – so check out what's available to us through special ordering in the

Fundraising section of this Newsletter. I hope to see all your healthy and happy faces at our September business meeting and perhaps any new members can drop me an email if you think you will make it.  
[president@standrewssociety.org](mailto:president@standrewssociety.org)

To everyone – “Don’t be a stranger!”

Aye for Scotland  
Bill

You can email the Officers and Board at <mailto:mBoard@StAndrewsSociety.org>. Each of the officers can be directly emailed at [President@...](mailto:President@...) [VicePresident@...](mailto:VicePresident@...) [Secretary@...](mailto:Secretary@...) and [Treasurer@...](mailto:Treasurer@...)

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## Contributions Please!

Please send any articles, music/book reviews, jokes, recipes or information on upcoming events (of a Celtic nature) to **Editor** at [News@StAndrewsSociety.org](mailto:News@StAndrewsSociety.org) or P.O. Box 3972, Glen Allen, VA 23058, **by the end of September for the October issue. This is your St. Andrew’s Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it!** Thank you!

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## Do any SASR members have a claim to land in Scotland?

**Ye Jacobites by name lend an ear... age old slur could be a thing of the past**



By Tristan Stewart-Robertson  
Gareth Easton

Picture:

THOUSANDS of Scots and their relatives around the world could soon have a slur lifted that has stood against their names for hundreds of years.

A new campaign has been launched that could see the likes of actor Ewan McGregor – a member of the same clan as Jacobite rebel Rob Roy MacGregor – pardoned for actions that took place centuries ago.

Several hundred nobles were persecuted after Jacobite uprisings in the 18th century, including national hero Rob Roy and Flora MacDonald, who provided shelter for Jacobite leader Bonnie Prince Charlie after his defeat at the Battle of Culloden in 1746.

Certain noble lineages were declared as having a "corruption of blood". There were executions and banishments, and land and titles were taken away.

The new campaign, led by retired banker and heraldry expert Peter Drummond-Murray, has found cross-party support through a motion before the Scottish Parliament. Mr Drummond-Murray's ancestors had their estates and titles removed but later restored through private Acts of Parliament. He said many others have gone through the costly process of gaining such acts but an overarching campaign could remove the stain from hundreds of family names with relative ease.

He said: "This I see as doing justice to those who could not afford private Acts of Parliament and reconciliation. I think people are entirely convinced that these honourable men followed their consciences. "Several hundred were stigmatised as having a corruption of blood and were exiled, largely to North America. This could lift the stigma for thousands of people around the globe."

The campaign, if successful, could restore ancient titles to descendants of earls of

Panmure, Southesk and Kellie, as well as the Duke of Berwick.

"Acts of attainder", which branded an individual or group guilty of a crime without trial, were passed 264 years ago, although many were overturned to celebrate the Queen's silver jubilee in 1977.

Jamie McGrigor, a Tory MSP for the Highlands and Islands, lodged a motion at Holyrood backed by colleagues Nanette Milne, Elizabeth Smith and Bill Aitken, the SNP's Maureen Watt, Labour's David Stewart and the former Green leader Robin Harper. He said the Year of the Homecoming was an ideal time for the move. Mr McGrigor said: "I think the Scottish diaspora do take these things very seriously and it's important Scotland acknowledges that loyalty to family and roots." He added that the Scottish Parliament could only take the motion so far and it required an Act in the Westminster parliament to clear the Jacobite names.

Mr Drummond-Murray said Prime Minister Gordon Brown could bring in an Act on the matter and it would easily pass with support from all sides.

A spokeswoman for Number 10 declined to comment last night.

SNP MSP for North East Scotland Maureen Watt said: "It is bizarre that these ancient laws are still in existence on the statute book. "It is about time this historical discrimination was dumped, and what better time to do it than in this year of Homecoming."

AFTER 1688, when James VII of Scotland and II of England was replaced by his daughter, Mary II, and her husband, William of Orange, many who refused to swear allegiance to William and Mary, right, and other staunch Stuart support-ers, were tried for treason, executed and "attainted".

Many more went into hiding or into exile, and were punished without trial by parliament passing Acts of Attainder. They lost all civil rights and their property, and, because their blood was held to be "corrupted", their descendants were disinherited.

The intention had been this would be relaxed on the death of the sons of the "Old Pretender", but it never happened. King George IV came to Edinburgh in 1822 and undertook to have the attainders reversed for anyone who so petitioned, but only a handful of peers could afford the procedure of a private bill in parliament to achieve this.

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## Notes from the Editor, Jeff Kelso

This is my first issue of *The Saltire Sentinel* as editor. I actually was the editor of our first newsletter for a year or two when the Society was first founded; the newsletter was a single page that was mailed to all the members back then. My, how times have changed. Now we only have a handful of members getting the newsletter by the USPS (if you are and have an email address, please let us know ... it costs a lot of Society money to mail the newsletter!).

The previous editors, Analee Evans and Lennie Geipel, have left big shoes for me to fill. Actually, that is a lie: I am sure my shoe size is way bigger than those lovely ladies. That being said, they both did a wonderful job over the last few years and desire the thanks of all the members.

The format of *The Saltire Sentinel* is not going to change much (if any) although initially it may be a wee bit shorter. Articles are gratefully accepted; please send them to [News@StAndrewsSociety.org](mailto:News@StAndrewsSociety.org), preferably in Microsoft Word format. I will reformat and edit as need be but the content will not be altered.

## “Stuff” for everyone and Fundraising Too

Aside from the incidentals for sale at each meeting, check out the following three must have stuff available to the Society. Each will bring a small amount to our funds – but every little helps.

### 1. Printed T-Shirts, Embroidered Smart and Casual Shirts, Hats, Outerwear, Accessories etc.

Shown below is our Printed Casual Logo on a T-Shirt (great with the casual kilt or skirt at festivals)



Next shows examples of our Embroidered Logo on Smart Casual wear (great for our meetings and pub nights etc.).



**HOW DO I GET SOME OF THESE?** You may ask!

- Go on-line to [Queensboro.com](http://Queensboro.com)
- Pick what you want.
- Email [cooperbl1@yahoo.com](mailto:cooperbl1@yahoo.com) with Item Style number, size, color etc.
- The price will be what you see + ship'g +embroidery cost + small SASR contrib.
- Your item(s) will be added to the next order.

### 2. SASR Crest - Etched Crystal and Glassware

SASR has established Wholesale pricing with the supplier ex Canada.



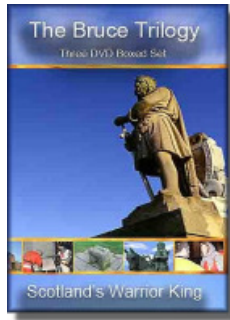
A few are available now – Small Crystal Shot \$14.75 ea. Tall Crystal Shot \$13.25 ea.

**HOW DO I GET MORE OF THESE?** You may ask!

- Email [cooperbl1@yahoo.com](mailto:cooperbl1@yahoo.com) with Style and Quantity
- Send check to SASR P.O. Box address or pass to Treasurer
- Your item(s) will be added to next order.

### 3. Three Set DVD pack – The Bruce Trilogy

SASR has established Distributor rights for this Scottish production.



- Society Members Price is \$32.00
- Non-Members Retail Price is \$39.95
- Send check to SASR P.O. Box address or pass to Treasurer

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## Charitable Donations

Once again St. Andrew's Society of Richmond is seeking possible charitable organizations for our Giving Program.

We will solicit ideas from all members at next week's regular business meeting; ideas may also be emailed to the board.

When thinking of ideas for us please refer to our mission; "to promote Scotland's History, Art, Culture and Lifestyle through educational presentations, scholarships, social activities, publication, and attendance at local Celtic events". There are a great many worthy candidates for donations however, we will restrict ours to those that help fulfill our mission and are local to Richmond. Some good examples include local Public Radio's Shamrock & Thistle program, local Celtic Dance groups and Pipe & Drum Corps. So, please let us know of any ideas you have that fit that criteria. Also, bear in mind that we are a social group primarily so our sources of funds for this purpose are limited. Thank you.

- John LoRe, Treasurer

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## The 2009 Meadow Highland Games & Celtic Festival

### New Name – New Place – Same Great Time

In case you haven't heard or seen, the Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival has moved to its new location at Meadow Event Park in Doswell. And with the move comes a new name. It will now be known as the Meadow Highland Games & Celtic Festival.

The dates are Saturday & Sunday, October 24 & 25 and, as usual, there will be plenty of Music, Food and Large Men Throwing Stuff. It's a great time to come out and learn more about our Celtic Heritage and have a good time. Your St. Andrew's Society of Richmond will have its usual Tent along the Athletic Field and here is where we can congregate, socialize and, most importantly, greet attendees and tell them a bit more about their Clans and about our Society.

In previous years, we have been able to tell people about us, invite them to a meeting, and get them involved. Here is where we need help. The more people we can get to "work" the tent, the more fun we can all have.

The St. Andrew's Society of Richmond will also be sponsoring the "Bonnie Knees Contest" for the second consecutive year. Those of you who took part last year, know what a fun event that was. With your help it can be even more fun this year. Mark your calendar now for the 2009 Meadow Highland Games & Celtic Festival on October 24 & 25.

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## Gayton Kirk Festival Book Sale

This is just a quick note to confirm that we will have a BOOK SALE for the Society at The Gayton Kirk Festival on 12th September.

We will be collecting Books and Magazines at our General Meeting next Wednesday 9th September. There is NO theme so it does NOT have to be Scottish books. So, speak to friends and neighbors who may also want to have a Clearout.

If you cannot make it to the meeting please let a board member know where and when we can pick up from you.

Thank you in anticipation.

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## The Selkirk Grace

Although commonly attributed to Robert Burns, the Selkirk Grace dates from at least the 17<sup>th</sup> century and was known as the Galloway Grace or the Covenanters' Grace. However it was Robert Burns who really popularized it when called upon one evening to say grace at a dinner party hosted by the Duke of Selkirk.

Some hae meat and canna eat,  
And some wad eat that want it;  
But we hae meat, and we can eat,  
Sae let the Lord be thankit.

Your editor has said it many times when unexpectedly "invited" to give the blessing.

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## Field Day of the Past - 18th, 19th 20th September

We will be attending this event again after a few years break and intend to add something different. Firstly, we are putting together a display tent with the theme of "Scottish

Inventors" and secondly, we will host what we are currently calling a "Highland Games 101 for Kids". We need a few more volunteers, so come join the fun.

Bill Cooper

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## Hogmanay 2010

Date: January 9, 2010

Time: 7:00 pm for cocktails at cash bar  
dinner at 7:30 pm

Place: Sheraton Richmond West Hotel  
6624 West Broad Street,  
Richmond, VA 23230

[www.sheraton.com/richmondwest](http://www.sheraton.com/richmondwest)

Cost: \$55.00 per person

When you send in your check please let us know if you want chicken, Beef or Vegetarian.

Rooms will be available for a rate to the Society for \$89.00 for the night. When making the reservation please mention you are attending the ST Andrews Hogmanay on January 9.

Please start gathering any donations you would like to make for our silent auction. This year we will also be having a live auction as well.

Hope to see you all there. If you would like to volunteer your time please contact Amanda Scholte at [AmandasScholte@aol.com](mailto:AmandasScholte@aol.com).