



March 2010

Saltire Sentinel

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

Calendar

March 10, Wednesday:

SASR Regular Meeting

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

This will be a Charity Fundraiser incorporating a Live Auction (Items t/b/a March Newsletter), Book Sale, St. Andrew's Society Car Decals, and other items.

Please note that we will be meeting in a different location at the church (see article later for details).

March 13, Saturday

Eileen Ivers in Concert

Paying homage to the rich and tireless passage of the native Irish people from Ireland to Canada and the United States, Eileen Ivers has created "Beyond the Bog Road," an all-star assemblage of Irish and traditional musicians, singers, step dancers and cloggers/tap dancers. This is Eileen Ivers at her most heartfelt—a seminal work and a slice of Irish-American musical history underscored by Ivers' abiding passion and timeless grace. **Tickets:** \$19-\$38 with discounts for seniors & children; through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000 or ticketmaster.com. Additional fees may apply.

March 17, Wednesday:

St. Patrick's Day

March 20 & 21, Saturday & Sunday

Irish Festival

The Annual Irish Festival, with the Kick off event – The IAS sponsored parade on

Saturday morning – step-off at 10am. SASR will again have a tent there (please sign up at the next meeting to help at the tent).

March 20, Saturday

Irish Music

An Irish Session with Local musicians at Finn Mc Cools from 8ish to 10ish pm. Finn McCool's (www.finnmccoolsrichmond.com) is a nice little pub with good food, and it's great that they're starting to feature Irish entertainment - long may it continue! Finn's is located in The Shoppes at Innsbrook, corner of West Broad Street and Cox Road. Telephone 804-217-8167. This is where SASR hosted our Bagpipe Busker Charity event last Summer.

April 6, Tuesday

690th Anniversary of Scottish Independence

The Declaration of Arbroath, a statement declaring Scotland a free and independent nation, was signed on this date. Our American founding fathers were well aware of this document and Thomas Jefferson used it as a model for our Declaration of Independence. Raise a glass for freedom this night!

April 14, Wednesday

SASR Regular Meeting

The location and topic will be announced in the next newsletter.

April 24, Saturday

10th Annual Ettrick Celtic Festival

The Ettrick Historical Society presents its 10th Celtic Festival at Knox Springs Farm. More information can be found on their web site <http://www.ettrickhistoricalsociety.com/>

New Meeting Location

The Community Room at the Church of the Holy Comforter has been our regular meeting place for many years. The church has asked us (and other organizations) to move to another building on the church grounds. It is a smaller building that was a Boy Scout meeting place and later a day care center. There are several ways to get to the building:

- From the entrance we normally use on Monument Street (not Avenue!), walk to the right and then along the building. The meeting place is the smaller building to the back and right.
- From the Staples Mill Road side, walk through the arches between the main church building and the community room and the meeting place is at the end of the side walk.
- There is also an alley on Chantilly Street between Monument Avenue and Monument Street that dead-ends at the building with minimal parking. This should only be used by people with a Handicap Parking permit.

We will try to have signs and people to direct you.

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

President's Notes

I hope most of you have avoided the many viruses that seem to have plagued the Richmond area over the past month. Having spoken with some members it seems many have been floored with bronchitis or flu.

So let's hope that we can have a good turnout at our meeting next week where we can all evaluate the Lodge facility offered by The

Holy Comforter Church. And don't forget we'll also have an auction of some very interesting items amongst other activities.

I forgot to mention last month that I realized we were celebrating our 15th year as a society in 2010. To help recognize this we have had a special Bumper Sticker produced – check it out in this newsletter. We had an initial amount of 85 produced in line with our 2009/10 paid membership and we'll have more produced in line with demand.

Our next “major event” coming up that we support is the Irish Festival in Richmond and we'll discuss this at our March meeting too. It's fun to attend and even better if you volunteer for an hour at our SASR booth. We are also considering a new event for April – so watch this space

Last month we had our first movie night which John LoRe reviews in this edition. For me it was a good night out and everyone had a most enjoyable cheap date at a GREAT movie. Well done Amanda and her team. Huge, huge thanks to Samis Grotto for the venue.

In closing – bring on Spring and I hope tae see awbody soon.

Aye for Scotland

Bill Cooper

Movie Night Review

St. Andrew's Society hosted the first of what is hoped to be many “Movie Nights” at Sammis Grotto Temple of the Shriner's on MacArthur Ave. in the Ginter Park area of Richmond. The old Bellevue movie house was closed back in 1963 but has been renovated and updated a bit to serve as a

lodge and for special events. The kitchen, staffed by St. Andrew's volunteers, provide popcorn, hotdogs, chili, taco's with cheese and a variety of beverages, all for \$1 each. The movie, "Water Horse – Sea legend" itself was free and a real treat for anyone, child or adult. The story took place in Scotland during WWII and featured a young family, Mother with a young son and daughter struggling with home while her husband had died in battle. The boy discovers a seed or egg-pod on the beach which turns out to be . . .well you'll just have to watch the movie. Everyone had a great time and we all look forward to making "Movie Nights" a regular feature to St. Andrew's members.

- John LoRe

SASR 15th Year Anniversary Bumper Sticker

Proudly display our society and your "Scottishness"



Measures 3.5" x 7.5"

Price **\$4.50** each available at our meetings or events.
\$5.00 each available by Post on receipt of your check at SASR mailbox.

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 or P.O. Box 3972, Glen Allen, VA 23058, **by the end of February for the March issue. This is your St. Andrew's Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it!** Thank you!

Usher Hall opening out of this world

Published Date: 25 February 2010

By BRIAN FERGUSON

EDINBURGH'S Usher Hall is to reopen with an ambitious performance of Holst's The Planets Suite accompanied by pictures from space via the Hubble telescope.



• Major refurbishment completed including a new wing and spiral staircase. Opening will be marked by a performance of Holst's The Planets.

Picture: Jane Barlow

News of the stellar opening gala – on 10 October – was revealed as the venue offered the first look at its extension following a £40 million refurbishment.

A giant screen will be hoisted above the hall's stage to show breathtaking NASA footage, which will accompany an orchestral performance of The Planets.

And is hoped that at least **one of the original Moon-landing astronauts** will be in attendance after leaders of the council-run venue revealed that they would be on the invite list.

Gustav Holst's famous piece will be performed at the opening night by the **Houston Symphony Orchestra**. It has joined forces with **NASA** to create a multimedia show, given its world premiere in the US last

month, to celebrate the space agency and the orchestra's shared association with Houston. The orchestra, which will be visiting Edinburgh as part of its first international tour in a decade, will perform beneath high-definition images of the planets.

The Usher Hall's general manager, Karl Chapman, said: "Gustav Holst performed here with his orchestra in the 1920s, so we think it's a nice way to celebrate the official opening of the venue.

"It's a brand new show, which was **only performed in Houston and at New York's Carnegie Hall last month.** It's something a bit different for us as we'll be installing a 24ft-wide screen, which shows this amazing footage captured by the likes of the Hubble and the Mars Rover. It'll be a great combination of two artforms."

A full-scale renovation of the venue was ordered in April 1996 after part of the auditorium ceiling fell in following a Tony Bennett concert. The main arena was refurbished from 1997-2000, but a second phase, involving an overhaul of backstage, catering and toilet facilities, as well as the building of the new wing, did not get underway until March 2007.

Edinburgh architect Colin Ross designed the extension to blend in with the A-listed building. The improvements at the venue have inspired the council to install more than 40 artworks from a collection normally held in storage at the City Art Centre. These include pieces by the likes of Sir William Gillies, John Maxwell, Leon Morrocco, Victoria Crowe and William Stewart MacGeorge.

Deidre Brock, the City of Edinburgh Council's culture leader, said yesterday's unveiling of the new facilities at the Usher Hall was a "landmark" in the history of a venue that dates back to 1914.

The content below is a paid advertisement.

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Irish Festival

On March 20 and 21 St. Patrick's Church will hold their annual Irish Festival. As usual, we will have our tent set up. We are in need of your support. We need people to help set up on Friday evening from about 6 pm to 7pm. On Saturday and Sunday we need participants throughout the day from 10 am to 6 pm. There will be a sign up sheet at the general meeting on March 10 or call Steve Bruce at 350-9973. Please come out and enjoy good music, food and fun.

SASR 15th Year Anniversary Bumper Sticker

Proudly display our society and your "Scottishness"



Measures 3.5" x 7.5"

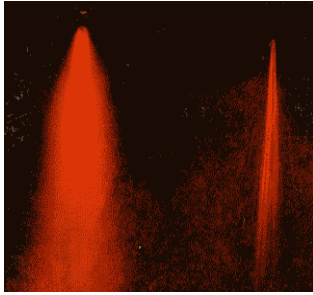
Price **\$4.50** each available at our meetings or events.

\$5.00 each available by Post on receipt of your check at SASR mailbox.

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This is a paid advertisement by ITM International Corp., Glen Allen, Virginia

Visit us at www.abetterblueplanet.com

Advertise in the Saltire Sentinel

We now offer our members (and others) a chance to advertise in the *Saltire Sentinel*. This will benefit members who have businesses and the Society through generated revenue.

The rates shown below are for 3-month blocks (that is three consecutive months). The ads must be submitted to the Editor (news@StAndrewsSociety.org) via email in digital format or by USP mail (PO Box 3972, Glen Allen Virginia 23058) in camera-ready form. The half page size can be either vertical or horizontal half page. The business card does not have to be an exact business card; the idea is to have just the essential.

RATES:

Full Page	\$100
Half Page	\$50
Quarter Page	\$25
Business Card	\$10

SASR Event Booth

Your Saint Andrew's Society participates in many outdoor events every year (Irish Festival, Meadow Farm Celtic Festival, Ashland Strawberry Festival, etc). Over the years we have built up a collection of items to decorate our booth and to provide information about Scotland and our society. Regrettably to say it has been many years ... too many years. Some (if not most) of what we use it getting a little thread worn and damaged. The Board of Directors has appointed a committee to come up with a plan to revitalize our booth. The committee is composed of Jeff Kelso (chair), Amanda Scholte, and Lorraine Arritt.

The committee solicits your input with any suggestions, criticisms, or just comments (you can email Jeff at Jeff@JeffKelso.com). We hope to come up with a new look for our booth soon.