



ESTABLISHED IN 1863

The St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco

Volume 151, No. 6

March 2014



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Deadline for newsletter contributions: Articles, pictures, & notices is the 1st Monday of each month of the year (except for July and August).

Scottish Military News

Scots in Liverpool? Naturally, but not much longer!

The Liverpool Scottish was formed as an infantry battalion in 1900 in response to the crisis of the Boer War. A battalion then had an establishment of 1000 men. It was raised from among the body of highly educated and professional young Scotsmen in the city as the 8th (Scottish) Volunteer Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment). There was an annual subscription of 10 shillings (50p) and an entrance fee of £2. The founding Commanding Officer was Colonel C. Forbes Bell V.D. Colonel. The Forbes tartan kilt was adopted by the regiment and the Highland full dress uniform featured a khaki tunic with scarlet collar and facings together with a feather bonnet or glengarry and tartan plaid. feather Bonnets were introduced for officers in 1908. A party of 22 men went to South Africa with the 4th Service Company of the Gordon Highlanders and were attached to the 1st. Battalion of that regiment. An account of volunteer service in South Africa with the 1st Service Company of the Gordon Highlanders can be found here. With HQ established in Fraser Street in the Liverpool city center, the home of the Scottish until 1967, the Battalion was re-designated in 1908 on the establishment of the Territorial Force as the 10th (Scottish) Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment) with new bonnet and sporran badges.



Captain Basil Rathbone

During World War One, Captain Basil Rathbone, (picture below) an actor later famous for his portrayal of Sherlock Holmes, served with the Liverpool Scottish. He gained a Military Cross as the Patrols Officer when serving with the Regiment in early 1918.

In the 1930s the Regiment was linked to the Cameron Highlanders as one of their battalions.

During World War Two, many members served with the

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A Message from Our President

The Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco

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San Francisco, CA
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Membership Meetings:

Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of the month, at 7:30 PM. Light refreshments served after the meeting. (Free valet parking is provided for members' meetings. MUNI: one block east of Hyde St. cable car).

Officers of the Society

David McCrossan, President
Jaeeame I. Koyil, First VP
David Campbell, Second VP
Ian Baird, Treasurer
Francesca McCrossan, Secretary
Roger Weed, Librarian
Charles Syers DDS, Physician
Marilyn Van Story, Chaplain
Margory Matic, Bard
Jack Cunningham, Piper
Thomas E. Kasinger, Historian

Trustees –

Gene McCracken - Chairman
Norman McLeod
Bill Blair
Stewart Hume
James Robertson, AIA-E
Sandy Corbett

Board of Relief –

Biz Obley
Robert Blair, Jr.

Trustees Emeritus –

John B. Ritchie,

Board of Relief –

Marilyn Van Story,
Biz Obley
Robert Blair, Jr.

Board of Student Assistance –

J. Robert Logan, Chairman
William Cummings, Sr.
William Cummings, Jr.
Fiona Allan



St. Andrew's Society
of San Francisco

Dear members and friends:

By the time you read this, most of us will have celebrated our Irish roots on yet another St. Patrick's Day.

It often comes as a surprise to Scottish or Irish people who didn't grow up in the States, to experience the popularity of the event St. Patrick's Day can be here - it's not just painting the river green in Chicago (as I once experienced myself one frozen March) or the big downtown parades across the country.



In 2014 it's sometimes hard to imagine a time when being Irish wasn't all that popular. A century and a half after the big Irish influx to the East Coast, Irishness is now thoroughly infused into the popular culture. Everyone, no matter how tenuous their connection, wants to celebrate the part of them that's Irish.

In the 1980s the Scots started to realize that although we may have been here much longer and in larger numbers than the Irish, we could build the same popular support for a Scottish celebration that St. Patrick's Day has so successfully achieved. Thus, Tartan Day was born 25 years ago in New York and is now a fixture in the calendar for all kinds of Scottish celebrations.

We are proud to be supporting events around the Bay Area in the coming four weeks around that theme. Look out for our booth at the Scottish Tartan Day fair at Ardenwood historic Farm in Fremont on April 5th.

We look forward to seeing you there or at the firehouse, third Monday of the month.

Yours for Scotland,

David McCrossan
President

Upcoming Membership Program Speakers:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event / Topic</u>	<u>Location / Notes</u>
Mon. Mar.17	Scottish Music & Culture St. Patrick's Day (emphasis on Scots-Irish culture	1088 Green St, SF
Sat. April 5 17 th	Annual Tartan Day Faire (*PSF (Shauna Pickett-Gordon & Colyn Fischer)	Ardenwood, Fremont
Sat. April 19	John Muir Assn./ Earth Day	Martinez
Mon. April 21	Erskine Trust: Serving Scotland's Brave	1088 Green St, SF
Mon. May 19	Scottish Music & Culture	1088 Green St, SF
Mon. June 16	Scottish Referendum 2014: Independence?	1088 Green St, SF
Mon. July 21	Summer break – no meeting	
Mon. Aug. 18	Summer break – no meeting	
Sat. Aug. 30	149 th Highland Games & Gathering	Pleasanton
Sun. Aug. 31	149 th Highland Games & Gathering	Pleasanton
Mon. Sept. 15	How the Scots Invented the Modern World	1088 Green St, SF
Mon. Oct. 20	Samhain: Traditional Celtic Festivals	1088 Green St, SF
Mon. Nov. 17	Scottish Music & Culture	1088 Green St, SF

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

As most of our members know our Society has a Student Assistance Program. Over the last 20 years we have given assistance to 100 students for a total amount of \$201,000. This is a most commendable program of which we are most proud.

We are now accepting applications for the 2013-2014 academic year (available at our web site)

The deadline to apply will be May 10, so they can be reviewed by the Committee and then presented to the membership at our May 20 meeting.

The basic criteria for an applicant is:

- Resident of Northern California
- Scottish birth or ancestry.
- Demonstrate a need for financial assistance
- Attending a Northern California University (accredited by the Western Assoc. of Schools and Colleges), or one located in Scotland.
- Entering their Junior/ Senior or Graduate year
- Demonstrate a grade point average of 3.0

We are bringing this to the attention of our membership so if they know of any potential students, they can advise them and get their application submitted.

J. Robert Logan
Chairman
Board of Student Assistance.

One of the casualties of the Ministry of Defence's Future Reserve 2020 (FR20)



white paper published in July 2013 is the Liverpool Scottish. This proud Regiment which once numbered 10,000 men in the First World War, reduced to 50 in 1999 will cease to exist "No later than December 2016."

"For a variety of reasons; from the availability of clothing, to the requirement to now produce a cohesive single uniform for the bands of the different battalions, it has been decided that Regimental Pipes and Drums will all wear a single uniform to identify

them as members of the Royal Regiment of Scotland. A Dressing Committee has been

formed recently to advise the Colonel of the Regiment on what form this future dress should look like. It is expected that the Committee will make its recommendations to the Regimental Council in November 2013."

The last vestiges of the Royal Scots, the Black Watch, the Argylls and so on, were left in the various battalion bands. Now even that will disappear.



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Army Commandos including Captain Donald Roy DSO, decorated for his courage and skill in the raid on St. Nazaire in 1942 in which many other Liverpool Scots took part. Donald Roy, known as 'The Laird', insisted that his men wore kilts both in training and in action. Details of the book, 'Storming St. Nazaire' can be found [here](#).



was established at the TA barracks in Score Lane in Childwall (a Liverpool suburb) which had previously been Signal House. It was renamed Forbes House. The Liverpool Scottish tradition was thus blended for the next twenty five years with that of the famous 51st Highland Division. An article 'Saturday Night Soldiers - The Territorials to 1973' was written by the second commanding officer of the Highland Volunteers, Lt. Col. the Hon. W.D. Arbuthnott, Black Watch. Some of the history of Forbes House previous to the arrival of the Liverpool Scottish can be found at the website of 42 Signal Squadron TA.



In April 1967, The Liverpool Scottish reformed as V (The Liverpool Scottish) Company, 51st. Highland Volunteers. The company adopted the Highland Brigade bonnet badge (a stag's head upon a saltire) worn on a cloth Forbes tartan background and continued to wear the blue hackle of The Queen's Own Highlanders. The Forbes tartan kilt (as with all other forms of dress) was retained. On leaving Fraser Street, a new HQ for the Territorial company

In July 1999, fifty Liverpool Scottish soldiers, retaining their distinctive bonnet badge, their Highland dress and their regimental customs, were reconfigured under Lt. Col. David Richardson MBE to form part of a new Territorial infantry battalion, The King's and Cheshire Regiment. Their new location was with A (King's) Company at TA Center, Townsend Avenue, Liverpool, with a Liverpool Scottish element to the Reconnaissance Platoon of KCR based in Manchester. The Museum was relocated in Liverpool and redeveloped its displays.

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From 2006 the King's and Cheshire Regiment of the Territorial Army was reorganized and the King's Regiment companies (A and C Company), including the Liverpool Scottish element joined the 4th Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's, Lancashire and Border). Private soldiers continued to be known as 'Kingsmen'. The 1908 pattern 10th King's Liverpool Regiment badge, (see below) readopted in 1993 on transfer from the 1st Battalion 51st Highland Volunteers to the 5th/8th Battalion, The King's Regiment and that continued to be worn by V (The Liverpool Scottish) Company in the King's and Cheshire Regiment, was replaced by the Duke of Lancaster's badge seen to the right, worn on the TOS. The Regiment is known in speech as "The Duke of Lancaster's" and the Territorial battalion has the designation 4 LANCS. The Liverpool Scottish rifle platoon is part of A (Ladysmith) Company of 4 LANCS, based at the TA Center at Townsend Avenue in Liverpool. During this period members of the Liverpool Scottish have been on active service in the various phases of Operation Telic in Iraq (see piper below) as well as being deployed in Afghanistan. The blue hackle continued to be worn.





AN OLYMPIAN VISIT TO ST. ANDREWS (by David Campbell)

At our February 17th monthly meeting of the St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco, we were honored to host **Olympian Brenda Villa**. Before hearing from Brenda, a "Scottish Overview" was provided which highlighted the contribution of Scottish Olympians and Scottish culture to the Olympic Movement. That her presentation was during the waning days of the recent Games (XXII Winter Olympics - Sochi) was especially meaningful. As a Summer Olympian, Brenda spoke to the Society generally on the theme: The Spirit of an Olympian. Central to this very spirit: "*Once an Olympian, always an Olympian never former, never past*". Wise words indeed...and a spirit to live up to!

Brenda came to us recommended as the most decorated female water polo player ever. Her bio continues: a four-time Olympic medalist (Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, Beijing 2008, and London 2012) and World Champion (2003, 2007, 2009), she started swimming at age 6 with Commerce Aquatics in Commerce, California, and began playing water polo at age 8. Named the FINA (Federation Internationale de Natation) "Female Water Polo Player of the Decade" for the 2000s, Brenda is an accomplished scorer and passer, and has competed with the USA Women's national team for the last 16 years. As an undergraduate at Stanford University, she won the 2002 Peter J. Cutino Award as the top female college water polo player. Brenda also co-founded a non-profit, Project 2020, which strives to give access to aquatic sports to youth that would otherwise not have access to aquatic sports.

We first began with a review of basic background and history of the modern Olympics. The first Games in this new era were The Summer Games held, fittingly, in Athens, Greece in 1896. The governing body known as the *International Organizing Committee (IOC)* was founded by Baron Pierre de Coubertin in 1894. Its mission and operations are guided by the *Olympic Movement* and the *Olympic Charter* which define its structure and authority.

The *Olympic Charter* in part reads:



Olympian Brenda Villa

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“The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.”



The aspirational Olympic motto is: *Altius, Citius, Fortius*, or Higher, Faster, Stronger. The Olympic flag, first presented to the IOC at the 1920 Summer Games, displays its symbol in the form of five intertwined rings representing the unity of the five inhabited continents (Africa, America, Asia, Oceania, & Europe) and the combination of colors which show on their respective flags. Coubertin’s inspired Olympic ideals are expressed in the *Olympic Creed*:

“The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win, but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph, but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well.”

“Dear Olympians, we look forward to seeing you next in Rio de Janeiro in 2016!”



The Caledonian Club of San Francisco's

Tartan Ball



It's time once again to dust off your kilts, sporrans and dancing shoes for our annual Tartan Ball!

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- Prince Charles Pipe Band •
- Scottish Highland Dancers • Scottish Country Dancing •



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Dancing till late to the sounds of DJ Nick

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www.caledonian.org

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WORLD

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1759-1796

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Traditional Songs and Open Mike.

Cost - \$50 per person

No Host Cocktails @ 7:30 p.m. / Dinner @ 8:00p.m.

For more information and to make your reservations please contact:

Nancy Wigley (925) 426-8969 or by email: ns_wigley@yahoo.com

Ian Myles by email: ianmyles@att.net or

Colin Ritchie by email: colingritchie@gmail.com

And send your payments (payable to St. Andrews Society of Oakland)

to

Martin Deehan 4173 Crisfield Lane, Pleasanton, CA 94566

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