

The St. Andrew's Society

Est. 1863



St. Andrew's Society's 154th Annual Banquet and Ball

By Francesca M. McCrossan, 1st Vice President

The Society's Annual Banquet and Ball on Saturday, November 25th both celebrated our namesake saint's birthday and kicked off the Holiday season. This year's honored guest, Don Macleod of the Saltire Foundation, spoke about the Scholars and Fellows of the program and the entrepreneurial spirit they bring to their learning experiences in the US. The St Andrew's Society this year has partnered with the Foundation to support Saltire interns in the Bay Area.



David Campbell, President

December 2017

President's Report

Dear St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco,

In this festive season—I would like to first wish you: Happy Saint Andrew's Day!

Indeed on November 25th we celebrated the occasion—our 154th Annual Banquet & Ball. Kudos and many thanks to 1st VP-event coordinator Francesca McCrossan (and her support team) who put on a fantastic event for the Society, and our many appreciative partners and guests! All of the major local Scottish and several British organizations were represented—and we enjoyed a lovely evening of great food and company, and equally good entertainment provided by The Peninsula Scottish Fiddlers and the Stewart Tartan Pipes and Drums. We were also fortunate to have with us Don Macleod (and wife Mary) as Guest of Honor—and to hear about the great work and service that Entrepreneurial Scotland is performing through its Saltire Foundation! Please see Francesca's write-up for her reflections on the event, and also click on the link

President's Report, continued on page 2



The Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco Annual Banquet and Ball.

Another partner in giving, the American Friends of Erskine, was soundly represented by David. J. Scott, past-president of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco and current ambassador for the American Friends of Erskine. Partnering with both of these organizations gives the Society new and meaningful ways to further its mission.

The evening was full of fun and entertainment as well. The Peninsula Scottish Fiddlers again brought their top notch playing to our Cocktail and Dinners hours, and then, in a change

Banquet and Ball, continued on page 4

DECEMBER 2017 ~ Vol. 154, NO. 10

President's Report.....	1
154th Annual Banquet & Ball.....	1

The Innovation of Money	5
Calendar of Events	10



President's Report

below for a photographic look at the evening—captured by Drew Altizer Photography visit drewaltizer.com.

I'd also like to share with our Society—the happy news received on that same day...the birth of James Hunter Costello to members Irené Waldman Costello and Brian Costello on Wednesday, November 22nd. What a joyous moment...making Thanksgiving 2017 all the more memorable! Flowers have been sent to the happy family on behalf of the SASSF—to welcome James into the world. We'll look forward to good things from young James (and his membership application) in the years to come. Wishing Irené and Brian our heartfelt congratulations!

Getting into the Christmas spirit... please consider joining us for an outing to the see the California / Christmas Revels: A Scottish Celebration of the Solstice—at the lovely Scottish Rite Center in Oakland. The plan is to attend the Sunday, December 17th, 1:00 PM performance, and then head across the way to Lake Chalet for an early supper. Please see the

advert in this edition, and also check your e-mail for a message that Susan is sending out.

Following Christmas, closing out the year—naturally we will hold our annual Hogmanay celebration (Sunday, December 31st / 1:00 to 4:00 PM). Please see flyer for additional details.

In January on the 15th—we will be joined by Executive Director Jennifer Baker of the British Benevolent Society...so, we'll look forward to starting off the new year on solid footing.

Please also get on your calendar Saturday, January 20th—our 155th Annual Burns Supper!

In this season of joy and remembrance—wishing you and your loved ones, and our whole St. Andrew's Society and community—a very Merry Christmas!

Slainte,

David Campbell, President

E-mail: daviddoncampbell@netscape.net

C: 415.225.9307



1st VP Francesca McCrossan presenting donation check to Shauna Pickett-Gordon at Nov 20th meeting.



Accompanied by the Peninsula Scottish Fiddlers—Juliet Davoren "calls the tune" (Nov 20th).



More Ceilidh dancing...



Grace Cathedral Service of Remembrance—poppies.



Stewart Tartan Pipes & Drums Christmas concert—Saratoga (Sunday, Dec 3rd).



British Consul General Andrew Whittaker featured guest speaker at the October 16th meeting.



Scottish National lacrosse team in tournament play during Bay Area visit.



The lads line up at the St Andrew's Society of Oakland's Annual Ball.

“Frozen Scotland” Debuts

Huge ice and snow sculptures will be a new addition to Edinburgh's Christmas celebrations this year. Kelpies, Highland cows, Vikings and eagles will join Robert the Bruce, Mary Queen of Scots, Dolly the Sheep, the Loch Ness Monster and others at the west end of George Street in a Journey Through Frozen Scotland, an “immersive walkthrough experience.” Other additions include turning one of the city's buildings into a giant Advent calendar and projecting images of historic winter images on General Register House. A myriad of returning attractions, including an ice skating rink, a carousel, Christmas markets and a range of performances, will also be on offer. For the full rundown of activities from November to January, visit www.edinburghschristmas.com.



This article was first published in the Winter 2017 edition of Scottish Life magazine.

Banquet and Ball

of pace from previous years, played a Ceilidh for the evening dance. Juliet Davoren, Ceilidh caller, helped lead everyone though the dances on a dance floor that was packed throughout the evening.

The evening entertainment was rounded out by the Stewart Tartan Pipes and Drums, and dancers Eileen and Fiona Pulchny of the San Jose School of Highland Dancing. The Society would like to thank our fellow organizations, the Caledonian Club of San Francisco, the British American Business Council, Scottish Development International, the British Benevolent Society, the Oakland St Andrew's Society and the Pleasanton Blair Gowrie Fergus Sister City Organization for being our guests for the evening.



The Innovation of Money

By Irené Waldman Costello

Scotland is a nation with the innate emotional desire to do well in the world. There are more Scottish inventors per capita than any other nation and Scotland is the leading country in the world for education. And another good trait is that we Scots, as you know, are very good at keeping our promises (and our money!). Sounds very positive, right? However, with all of this innovation, enlightenment and independent spirit, did you know that NONE of the Scottish tender is actually legal tender?

Yes, I said it! Scottish Bank notes are not legal tender. The definition of legal tender is coins or banknotes that must be accepted if offered in payment of a debt. This however is not the case in Scotland! Every note has a sentence printed on it that states that the note is a “Promise to Pay the Bearer on Demand” meaning that the customer agrees to the value of the note, but the note itself is not legal tender! The notes are issued by Scotland’s three largest banks (the Royal Bank of Scotland, the Bank of Scotland and the Clydesdale Bank), which still print paper notes denominated in pounds sterling to this day and are only a promise to pay ...



The Scots Pound was first introduced by David I, in the 12th century in the Kingdom of Scotland, before the Kingdom unified with England in 1707. It was based on the models of English and French money, divided into 20 shillings, each of 12 pence. Later it was de-valued relative to sterling and, by the time of James III, the pound sterling was valued at four pounds Scots.

In 1707, the pound Scots was replaced by the pound sterling at a rate of 12 to 1 (1 pound Scots equal to 1s 8d sterling), although the pound Scots continued to be used in Scotland as monetary value through the 18th century.

Earlier this year, on October 15th 2017, the old £1 coins ceased to be legal tender and businesses are now no longer obliged to accept them. The same story as Scottish notes!

The evolution of money continues today as banks and other financial organiza-

tions now consider BitCoin or their own digital currency for global commerce. Imagine an Internet-based promise to pay without a physical bank note (or even credit card statement) as evidence of the IOU! It will be interesting to see how Scottish innovation meets this new form of digital tender!

Sources: www.scotbanks.org.uk/banknotes/legal-position.html

Say It In Scots

By Liz Strachan

Even those who don’t speak the English language with a beautiful lilt, but who are proud to have Scottish ancestry, will want to enhance their vocabulary with the addition of a few good Scots words.

The best one to start with is “wee,” meaning small. “Wee” is such a friendly little word and it is very addictive. After even a short time in the company of a Scot, everyone delights in using it in phrases like “Come in for a wee minute” or “Would you like a wee cup of tea?” In both cases, “wee” is meaningless, but adds much to the friendliness of the invitation.

Frank Sinatra, who never got as far as Scotland, sang “In the Wee Small Hours of the Morning,” a lovely ballad about his bittersweet love for Ava Gardner. Although “wee” and “small” are synonymous, the inclusion of the superfluous adjective emphasises the feeling of loneliness in his sleepless hours after midnight.

And, of course, guests in a Scottish home will always be offered “a wee dram.” Only when the bottle of a 12-year-old single malt appears, the drams are seldom small...and overindulgence results in the drinker feeling “a wee bit wabbit” the following morning—and there is no need to translate the adjective!

The addition of the diminutive “wee” can often turn a derogatory noun into what



is almost a term of endearment. Much loved babies are called “wee rascals,” a school child wouldn’t take offence at being referred to as a “wee scatterbrain” and enjoying “a wee blether” is preferable to being accused of wasting time in idle gossip.

The most popular topic of conversation in Scotland is the weather. The saying goes that if you don’t like the weather, wait half an hour and it will change. And it is true that the weather often gives a gala performance, dashing through all the seasons in one day.

Tourists are warned to bring

Say It In Scots, continued on page 6

Say It In Scots

an entire wardrobe in their rucksacks. So the Scots have many words for the weather... mainly bad weather! All the following words are used in ordinary, everyday conversation. Most of them do not have a one-word English translation. When the day is "dreich," it is wet and dismal, with very little natural light. A "snell" wind is one that is bitingly cold and when the "haar," or, the cold, thick sea mist, descends on the northeast coast, the claxon sounds on the golf links to warn golfers that continuing their game would be dangerous. Sometimes, there is only a "smirr" of rain, a light drizzle, so there is no fear of getting "drookit," or thoroughly drenched, and it is probably not worth donning a raincoat.

For reasons not readily acknowledged, there are fewer Scots words for good weather. We consider ourselves lucky not to be "puggled" very often, or physically exhausted by the heat. We are a hard-working race and temperatures above 70 degrees F slow

us down and are not good for our fair complexions.

However, our ever-so-welcome tourists should be encouraged by the news that for almost four months in the summer of 2006, all parts of Scotland enjoyed wall-to-wall sunshine. There were also many lovely moonlit evenings. But only a true Scot like Harry Lauder, the famous singer

stunning view. But when the cold mist descends on the loch and very few people are around, the monster called Nessie has been known to appear from the deep. However, although the tourist shops are full of Loch Ness Monster postcards and toys, no one has ever taken an authentic photo of Nessie or been able to describe what it looks like.

rus in the world, sung at all occasions when people affirm the importance of friendship. A particularly poignant occasion is at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, held every year during the month of August. At the end of every show, against the backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, spectators and performers from all over the world join hands with strangers to sing the anthem.

*Should auld acquaintance be
forgot And never brought to
mind?*

*Should auld acquaintance be
forgot And auld lang syne.*

For auld lang syne, my dear,

For auld lang syne

*We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.*

And then, we will shake hands
and say, "Haste ye back!"

People with Scottish blood in
their veins are always proud
of their heritage. Learning a
few Scots words will add to
their sense of belonging to the
finest race in the world.

*This article was first published
in the November/December
2017 edition of The Highlander
magazine.*

**But only a true Scot could get
his tongue round, "It's a braw bricht
moonlicht nicht, th'nicht."**

in the first half on the 20th
century could get his tongue
round, "It's a braw bricht
moonlicht nicht, th'nicht" (It's
a brilliant; bright moonlight
night tonight).

Another "ch" word is "loch,"
which is the Scots word for
"lake." We have hundreds
of them, with perhaps the
biggest one, Loch Lomond,
being also the most beautiful.
The second biggest, Loch
Ness, with a depth of 755
feet, is the scariest one. On
sunny days, when the tourists
are there, it is just one more

Rhyming with "loch" is Scots
curse "Och!" We mutter "och!"
when we miss a short putt
on the golf course and yell
"och!" when a pot of soup boils
over and necessitates a major
cleaning up job. (All that
clean-up work could leave us
"wabbit" and in need of a rest
and, of course, a "wee" cup
of tea.)

All over the world, people
have heard the phrase, "Auld
Lang Syne," although they
don't necessarily know it
means "times past." It is the
title of the most famous cho-

Newest Future Member of the Society.

Welcoming James Hunter
Costello, born on the
22nd November, 7lbs 11
ounces! Irené and Brian are
thrilled to announce the new-
est addition to their family.



A Baby Is A Miracle

Author unknown

*This little tiny baby,
Was sent from God above,
To fill our hearts with happiness,
And touch our lives with love,
He must have known,
We'd give our all,
And always do our best.
To give our precious baby love,
And be grateful and so blessed.*

COME JOIN THE
**SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY
OF SAN FRANCISCO**

WHAT

SCOTTISH HOGMANAY CELEBRATION

WHEN

NEW YEAR'S EVE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017
TO COINCIDE WITH MIDNIGHT IN SCOTLAND,
WE TOAST IN THE NEW YEAR AT 4:00 PM (OUR TIME).

POTLUCK

FESTIVITIES START AT 1:00 PM (APPETIZERS & DRINKS).
THERE WILL BE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT - THE TARTAN
TRIO (OF THE PSF). THE HAGGIS WILL BE ADDRESSED
AND ENJOYED, AND A DARK HAired STRANGER
WELCOMED FOR FIRST FOOTING. THE FESTIVITIES WILL
TAKE PLACE AT THE SOCIETY'S FIRE HOUSE.

WHERE

1088 GREEN ST, SAN FRANCISCO
VALET PARKING WILL BE PROVIDED.

INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS: FRANCESCA MCCROSSAN
FRANCESSAMCCROSSAN@HOTMAIL.COM 510-652-3216

PLEASE RSVP YOUR POTLUCK ITEM TO:
SUSAN GOODIER SUSAN.GOODIER@GMAIL.COM

Ladies and Gentlemen, Lads and Lassies,

We still have quite a few 2017 Games
T-shirts, tank tops, athletics shirts, polo
shirts, pins, water bottles, tote bags and
DVDs in stock! These make excellent
Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers, and
we are selling them at bargain prices!
All remaining T-shirts and Tank Tops
are \$10 each, plus a \$5 S&H charge
per order. So, go to the website, www.thescottishgames.com/shirts2017.php,
and buy the ultimate Christmas
gift for yourself, your family, and your
friends! We need your help to get rid
of these items in order to make room
for next year's shirts, which will be upon us soon.



Please allow 1-2 weeks for shipment, and remember
that it is already early December, so order now if you
want them by Christmas!

Yours aye, and a Happy Hogmanay to one and all!

Malcolm Carden (CCSF Online Merchandising)

**RAVEN
ANTIQUES**
EDINBURGH

**Original Edinburgh Crystal
Thistle—Special rates for your
Scottish Society members**

My name is Douglas Dunbar
and I am the director of Raven
Antiques, based in the centre of
the historic city of Edinburgh,

Scotland. I would be very grateful if you would forward
this offer to your members who I believe would be very
interested in acquiring some genuine, original and un-
used, Edinburgh Crystal Thistle glassware.



For some time now we have been great fans of the
fabulous Edinburgh Crystal Thistle range of glasses, a
collection that justifiably captures the ancient skill of the
glass makers art together with that proud floral emblem
of Scotland's national heritage. Over the last couple of
years we have amassed a significant lot of unused, never
unpacked items of Edinburgh Crystal Thistle Design glass-
ware, acquired direct from the Edinburgh Crystal factory
just before its closure in 1996. This unused Edinburgh
Crystal Thistleware has been kept in storage by us ever
since.

Please look us up on either ebay.co.uk or on ebay.com
to view some of the collection, or simply click on the
link below.

As a special introduction to our services we are pleased
to offer to a limited number of established Scottish so-
cieties a one off offer for a 15% discount on our normal
prices. Simply order from us direct by sending your order
to this email address and we can invoice your PayPal
account directly, thus ensuring the same security as any
normal online transaction, but at a substantial cost saving
to you.

Please email us directly with your detailed requirements
and we will gladly provide you with an individual quote
for shipment anywhere in the world. Alternatively, you
are welcome to order via eBay and pay by PayPal.

Direct link to the Edinburgh Crystal Thistleware.

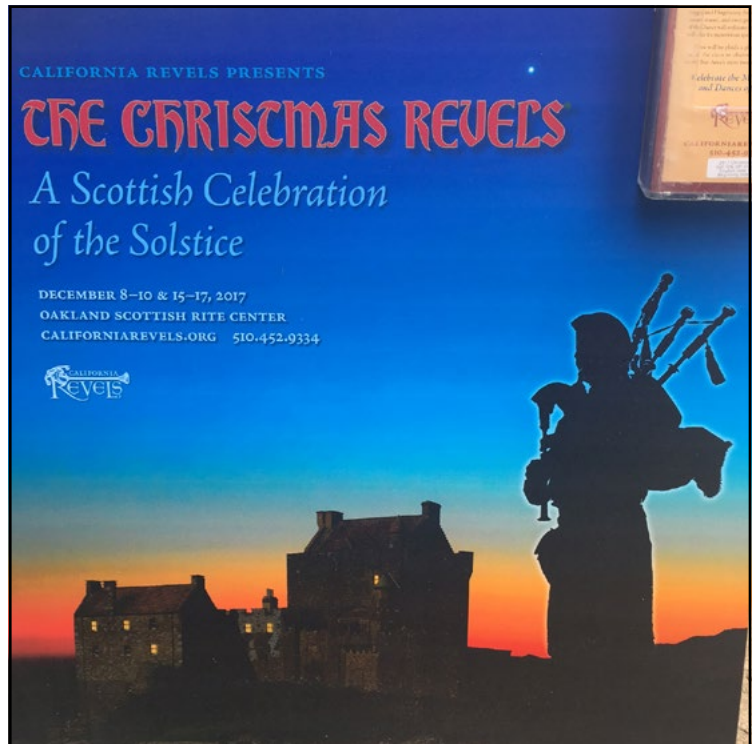


With the skirling of pipes and the swirling of kilts, the 2017 Christmas Revels celebrates the turning of the year in Scottish style.

Join us this December in the land of Robbie Burns as we pass the shortest day in song, dance, and spirited folk tales. Be there for haggis and Hogmanay, first-footing, wool-waulking, mouth music, and even guising! Of course the Lord of the Dance will welcome you, and Abbots Bromley will cast its mysterious spell.

There will be plaids a-plenty, as Scots of all ages gather the clans to observe the return of the sun in the Bay Area's most treasured holiday tradition. You'll find us in the Oakland Scottish Rite Theatre from December 8th through 17th.

For more information: Go to our **website** or visit us on **Facebook**.



Robert Burns
(1759–1796)

*The St. Andrew's Society
of San Francisco*

Burns Supper

Saturday, January 20th, 2018

Save the date for the annual commemoration of the anniversary of the birth of Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns with a traditional Burns Night Supper.

at

The Family

545 Powell St., San Francisco

6:00 PM: No Host Cocktails

7:00 PM: Dinner & Entertainment

Formal Attire Encouraged

For enquiries contact Allen Cary (2nd VP) at:
2ndVP@saintandrewssocietysf.org

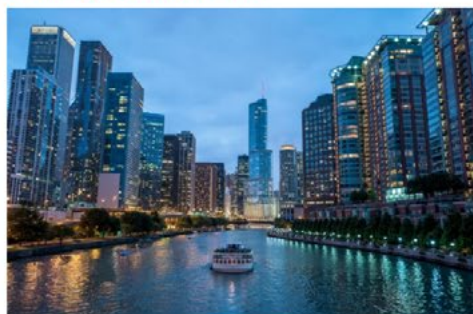
Tickets will be available through the Society's website,
saintandrewssociety.org, beginning in December.

ENTER TODAY!

RLS BIRTHDAY RAFFLE

Benefiting the Robert Louis Stevenson Museum

GRAND PRIZE:
Chicago Adventure!



Prize Includes:

7 day stay in private, 2 bedroom apartment
near the Magnificent Mile!

and **two** VIP Chicago City passes with
access to

- The Field Museum
- 360 Chicago
- Art Institute of Chicago
- And much, much more...

Winner Drawn January 15th!



*Winner will have until December 31, 2018 to claim prize.

*Winner will be announced on Robert Louis Stevenson Museum social media accounts.

*Airfare is not included in prize

CLICK HERE TO ENTER!



152nd Scottish Highland Gathering and Games
Pleasanton, California September 2 and 3, 2017

A Scottish Christmas Concert

Christmas 2017 is upon us! Wait!, you say... it's not even Thanksgiving! And yet there is no better time than now to mark your calendar for the upcoming Scottish Christmas Concert, December 16th, presented by the Stewart Tartan Pipes and Drums. We will once again be featuring the marvelous talent of our guests:

- **The Peninsula Scottish Fiddlers**
(Directors Shauna Pickett-Gordon and Colyn Fischer)
- **San Jose School of Highland Dancing** (Saratoga concert)
- **Piedmont Highland Dance** (San Carlos concert)

Please join us for an afternoon of music whose origins are found in the highlands of Scotland and brought to you in the New World. Celebrate Christmas with traditional carols, dance, fiddle music and of course pipes and drums.

Upcoming events

A Scottish Christmas Concert

When: Saturday, December 16th at 3 PM

Where: Trinity Church, 330 Ravenswood Ave. Menlo Park, CA 94025

If after the concert you find yourself interested in learning Scottish drumming, piping, fiddling or dance, let us know. We will get you started toward a lifetime of enjoyment.

Join us Tuesday evenings from 7–10 PM at St. Andrews Church, 13601 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, CA 95070. Come by to listen. Then plan on staying to learn!

Merry Christmas,

Paul Olson
President and Drum Major
707.421.2831

Stewart Tartan Pipes and Drums
<http://www.stewarttartan.com/>

Meeting & Events Schedule

Date	Event / Topic	Location / Notes
2017		
Mon. Dec. 18	No Meeting due to December 31st. Hogmanay Celebration	
Sun. Dec. 31	Hogmanay Celebration.....	1088 Green St., SF
2018		
Mon. Jan. 15	Member Meeting (Jennifer Baker BBS)	1088 Green St., SF
Sat. Jan. 20	Annual Burns Supper.....	The Family, SF
Mon. Feb. 19	Member Meeting (speaker/topic TBD).....	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. Mar. 19	Member Meeting (speaker/topic TBD).....	1088 Green St., SF
Sat. April 7	Tartan Day Scottish Faire at Ardenwood	Fremont, CA
Mon. April 16	Member Meeting (speaker/topic TBD).....	1088 Green St., SF
Sat. April 21	John Muir Day / Earth Day celebration.....	NPS - Martinez, CA
Mon. May 21	Member Meeting (speaker/topic TBD).....	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. June 18	Member Meeting (speaker/topic TBD).....	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. July 16	No Meeting (Summer Recess)	
Sat. July 21	Summer Ceilidh at Encinal Yacht Club	Alameda, CA
Mon. Aug. 20	No Meeting (Summer Recess)	
Sept. 1-2	Caledonian Club's 153rd Highland Games & Gathering.....	Pleasanton, CA
Mon. Sept. 17	Member Meeting (speaker/topic TBD).....	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. Oct. 15	Member Meeting (speaker/topic TBD).....	1088 Green St., SF
Sun. Nov. 11	Remembrance Service.....	Grace Cathedral, SF
Mon. Nov. 19	Member Meeting (speaker/topic TBD).....	1088 Green St., SF
Date TBD	155th Annual St. Andrew's Banquet & Ball	Marines' Club, SF

About Us

The Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco

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www.saintandrews
societysf.org

Editor: Gary Ketchen
E-mail: ketchen.gary@gmail.com

Membership Meetings

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

Officers of the Society

David Campbell,
President

Francesca McCrossan,
First VP

Allen Cary, Second VP

Ian Baird, Treasurer

Jean Allen, Secretary

Susan Goodier,
Executive Administrator

Roger Weed, Librarian

Laurien Fiddes, Chaplain

Irené Waldman, Bard

Jek Cunningham, Piper

Thomas E. Kasinger,
Historian

Bill Jagers, Herald

Fred Rutledge,
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Norman McLeod, OBE

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William Cummings, Sr.

William Cummings, Jr.

Jean Allen





**The Saint Andrew's Society
of San Francisco**
1088 Green Street
San Francisco, CA 94133-3604

Recipient
