

Great SCOT!

Look what's
going on...

Scottish Cultural Organization of the Triangle

January 2013

Kirkin' o' the Tartan

All are cordially invited to a Kirkin' o' the Tartan church service on **Sunday, January 27 at both the 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. church services** at the Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian Church in Cary. The church address is 200 High Meadows Drive, at the corner of High Meadows Drive and Kildaire Farm Road.



The service is truly a Scottish-American custom begun by Dr. Peter Marshall, the Scottish-born pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC. During World War II, he held a prayer service to raise funds for British war relief and at one of his services, he gave a sermon entitled "The Kirkin' o' the Tartans"—thus a legend was born. Since then, the history of

the service has been embellished, with some stating that the custom dates to the time when displaying one's tartan was forbidden, so Highlanders hid pieces of tartan and brought them to church to be secretly blessed at a particular point in the service. True or not, we will carry on this practice by supplying a bit of Carolina tartan as each person enters the Sanctuary.

The worship service provides an opportunity for the church to remember its Scottish roots, dating back to the 1500's when clergyman John Knox led the Scottish Protestant Reformation. Tartan banners will process into the church, followed by a "Blessing of the Tartan." The service will include readings from the Scot's Confession, Celtic prayers, and Scottish hymns. Bagpipes and drums will compliment the musical offerings.

Contact Emily Sprague at 919-828-1269 for more information.

Burns Supper

Join us to celebrate a Burns Supper
Saturday, January 19, from 7:00 to 9:30 pm
Tir Na nOg Pub at 218 S. Blount Street in Raleigh.

A Burns Supper is a celebration of the life and poetry of the poet Robert Burns, author of many Scots poems. The suppers are normally held on or near the poet's birthday,



Robert Burns
1759 — 1796

January 25, sometimes also known as Robert Burns Day or Burns Night (Scots: *Burns Nicht*), although they may in principle be held at any time of the year. Burns suppers are most common in Scotland and Northern Ireland but occur wherever there are Burns Clubs, Scottish Societies, expatriate Scots, or aficionados of Burns' poetry. There is a particularly strong tradition of Burns suppers in NC where many Scots and Irish settled.

A traditional Scottish Dinner special will be offered all evening, which includes:

Scotch Broth
Haggis Pate

Lamb or Salmon

with mixed vegetables & roast tatties
Scottish Pudding dessert (optional)

The Haggis will be piped into the room by Pipe Major Joe Brady from Wake & District. Donald Ross, the President of SCOT, will address the Haggis. This Burns supper is a fund raiser for the Jo Moore Kalat School of Scottish Dance, and great raffle prizes will be offered with all the proceeds going back to the school. In addition, Tir Na nOg will give 10% of food sales to the school.

The evening will continue with Highland dance, Wake & District piping, and the music of Barrowburn. Make plans to come out for a local Scottish celebration!



ACT NOW
for Beer Tasting!
Details on Page 3.

Wake and District

The Wake and District Pipe Band has had an unusually busy fall, filled with concerts, competitions with our two bands, and lots of fun. We welcomed EUSPBA and open pipe Ken McKeveny to the band as the Pipe Major of our Grade 4 competition group and his son Ian to our drum line. We are very proud of our competition bands performances this year as well as our soloists. Our new Grade 5 band had a strong run at each contest, finishing the season at Stone Mountain with a 3rd place overall in a field of 11, and a 1st place in Ensemble. For the 2012 season, the Grade 5 band placed 8th out of 103 bands!

At Stone Mountain, the Grade 4 band, under the leadership of Ken McKeveny and Jacob Egen, placed 6th (4,4,5,9) in Medley in a field of 12. For 2012, the Grade 4 band finished 16th out of 61 bands. Our soloists also ranked well at season's end with Jean Russell placing 2nd in Tenor Amateur II, and Jacob Egen placing 9th in Snare G4. Kudos to Garrett Justice for hitting the boards for the first time this season as well!

It was a banner season for mid-section drummer Jean Russell. Not only did Jean place 2nd out of 41 Tenor Amateur II drummers in EUSPBA, she also entered the first-ever World Online Piping & Drumming Championships and placed 1st in Grade 5 Tenor 2/4 March.

The Raleigh Fire Department's centennial anniversary came to a close on Nov. 17, 2012 at The Fireman's Ball held at the Raleigh Convention Center. The members of the Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums are proud to be a part of the rich heritage and tradition of the Raleigh Fire Department. We have three RFD members in our band – Captain Joe Harwell (RET), Captain Lloyd Johnson, and Lieutenant Jason lane - all founding band members.

The Band continued to play at public service officer graduations, parades, Tir Na nOg's 15th Anniversary celebration, and other functions around the Triangle area. The Fall Fling was a rousing success with a full house, and Scottish and Irish dancers performing for the audience.

Thanks to all for your continued support during 2012 and we look forward to another banner year in 2013.



12th Annual Burns Night

On **Saturday, January 26**, SCOT will again proudly participate in the Burns Supper held at The Country Squire in Kenansville, NC - a true Scottish tradition!

This year promises to be another great evening for all in attendance. The food and entertainment will be up to our usual high standard, with the desire to share our Scottish culture and love of Burns for all to enjoy.

The Country Squire has been forced to increase the price of tickets by a whopping \$1 to a cost of \$46 per person, and the menu will be:

Haggis, Neeps & Tatties

Salad with Choice of Dressing

Choice of Entrée served with Potato & Vegetable:

Spinach Stuffed Chicken w/ Cream Sauce

8 oz. Ribeye

Broiled Flounder

Scottish Steak Pie

(add \$5 for a side order of Haggis)

Scottish Trifle for Dessert.

All dinners include a glass of wine, tea, and coffee.

The Country Squire will again show their appreciation to all SCOT members by offering a ticket for an extra glass of wine or beer. Reservations may be made directly with The Country Squire at 910-296-1727 or www.countrysquireinn.com, or you may contact me at welake87@gmail.com or 919-934-1915.

I look forward to seeing many of you on January 26. If you have not attended before, then you have missed out on a great evening, so come and join the fun.

- Donald Ross

Award-Winning Booth

The Scottish Cultural Organization of the Triangle was well represented at the 2012 International Festival. Certainly the judges for the festival must have thought so, since out of over 60 cultural exhibits from all over the world, they chose to award our booth 2nd place. The theme for this year was "One Great Moment in Time" for each country. The event we emphasized was "How a missive from Scotland influenced the US Declaration of Independence." What better moment to highlight for Scotland than the 1320 signing of the Declaration of Arbroath.

The booth was framed by a backdrop of a Scottish landscape. Quotes contrasting phrases from the Declaration of Arbroath and the Declaration of Independence highlighted against this background. A truly beautiful PowerPoint played continuously. The booth was well manned by volunteers for three days, during which the story of the Declaration of Arbroath was told over and over to curious visitors who also enjoyed looking up their possible clan connections and any tartans associated either by clans or regional locations.

In addition to our award winning booth, Scottish culture was also well represented on the International Festival Main Stage by Highland Dancers, Scottish Country Dancers and Scottish Hard Shoe Dancers. It was a good weekend for all.



The story of the Declaration of Arbroath goes like this. At Arbroath Abbey in 1320, a letter was penned to Pope John XXII declaring Scotland as an independent, sovereign state, free from rule by England and the Pope. Before being sent to the pope, this letter was circulated throughout Scotland where leaders of all Scottish clans endorsed the document by appending their seals to the bottom.

Four hundred and fifty-six years later, across the Atlantic Ocean, a new nation was envisioned and affirming its freedom from external rule. That affirmation of freedom was the United States Declaration of Independence. The writings of great philosophers and documents of other sovereign nations were no doubt on the mind of Thomas Jefferson and other founding fathers in 1776 as the Declaration was being written. Many of these men were of Scottish family origin or birth, and Scotland's Declaration of Arbroath was one of the central documents on which they reflected. Indeed it is easy to see some of the influence when you contrast passages from each of these documents.

From the Declaration of Arbroath

"We will maintain even to the death.."

"...we are fighting for liberty__for that alone, which no honest man gives up but with life itself.."

"... For so long as a hundred remain alive, we never will in any degree be subject to the dominion of the English."

"...we should exert ourselves at once to drive (the King of England) out as our enemy and a subvertor of his own rights and ours."

"There is neither weighing nor distinction of Jew and Greek, Scotsman or Englishman..."

From the Declaration of Independence

"We mutually pledge our lives."

"...certain unalienable rights, among these are life, liberty..."

"...That these United Colonies are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown."

"But when a long train of abuses and usurpations... evinces a design to reduce (mankind) under absolute desposition, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government."

"All men are created equal."



Judi Lloyd, Donald Ross and Pat Johnston show off our award.



Poem & Commentary *(Continued from page 6)*

his pocket for a bit of land and cottage in his Lochaber homelands. There hopefully, Jeannie might be waiting for his return.

Ramsay develops the story around different meanings from the phrase, "Lochaber no more." At the beginning of the poem the speaker is leaving his Lochaber home to go to an uncertain war and may never again return, thus his departure may be absolutely, "Lochaber no more." He wishes to spur himself to his objective of garnering honour and success, without which standing he will not be worthy to his family to return and thus emotionally his leaving could be "Lochaber no more." His positive hope is that by achieving his goals of honour in battle and returning he will have a full, meaningful life among his people and then will be able to stay with Jean and leave "Lochaber no more." For centuries, such is the way many Scots are programmed to think and live.

Lochaber is the beautiful scenic area in Scotland around the southwest end of the Great Glen. A mixture of hills, mountains, glens, rivers, lochs and sea for the traveler to enjoy as an ever-changing, entrancing place of Highland beauty, true to the image of stepping out along the path in the famous Highland song "The Road To The Isles." There is Glenfinnan at the head of Loch Sheil, where Bonnie Prince Charlie raised the Jacobite army from most of the Highland clans in 1745 for his nearly successful bid to return the Catholic Stuarts to the British throne. Nearby is the long railway viaduct and station lifted into contemporary mythical life in the films of the Harry Potter stories by the modern Scottish writer, J. K. Rowling. A little bit north is Loch Ness with its invisible monster supposedly living under its dark, mysterious surface. Further is the largest series of boat locks ever built so that boats can sail through the Great Glen from the Atlantic and the Hebrides to the North Sea beyond Inverness and the Moray Firth. Among the mountains on its eastern flank is Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain, providing climbs for people of all skill levels, from beginners to those preparing for Himalayan expeditions. During the day, visitors can enjoy scenic walking, good fishing in rivers and lochs, and in the evening, enjoy local hospitality, Highland food and malt whiskeys with music and entertainment. Around Achnacarry Castle is the very rough terrain where Commandos trained during World War II, for their vital, guerilla fighting was required under any circumstances, anywhere in the world. Near Spean Bridge is where the majestic "Commando Memorial" was raised to the fallen, because this place was where all had trained. Nowadays, warfare around Lochaber is limited to activities on the shinty field – a wild game which could be described politely as a very aggressive form of field

hockey played by locals for the honour of their village or glen and whose team names can be properly pronounced only by Gaelic speakers. All examples support why a local, humble Scottish soldier would consider Lochaber the place to be until life was no more.

Here is the life of many men from all over Scotland, raised on tales of their fathers, uncles and grandfathers fighting in wars back across the centuries around the world. Each man going through the anguishes of war and hoping to return home to a waiting lassie in their little bit of Scotland for a mostly happy life working hard for little, but in their place in this chaotic world. Each is proud to add his words to the local ongoing history and unconcerned that his story may be the same as his great grandfather's.

- Dr. George S. Birrell

Beer Tasting



For quite some time now, we have been trying to arrange a Beer Tasting for our members, and finally, we have one organized! Unfortunately, this is rather short notice, but we hope you will make plans to join us on **Sunday, January 6 at 4 p.m.** at the White Street Brewing Co. at 218 S. White Street in historic, downtown Wake Forest.

The folks at White Street Brewing Co. are excited to have us come along for a beer tasting featuring their Scottish Ale, and some history of their small-batch process and development, including:

- ♦ A flight of beer
- ♦ A pint of beer
- ♦ A history of their craft beers and small-batch process
- ♦ Scottish-style stew, mashed potatoes, and gravy made with their Scottish Ale

The cost is only \$20 for SCOT members and \$25 for non-members. If you would like to join us, please contact me at welake87@gmail.com or 919-934-1915, and I will reserve a spot for you and collect payment there. Directions are available on the White Street Brewing Co. website at www.whitestreetbrewing.com.

- Donald Ross

Tastes of Scotland



Tea and Baps

A wonderful find is the cook book [A Taste of Scotland](#) by Theodora FitzGibbon. The very best part of this book is the nostalgic photographs from earlier times — wonderful period photos of cottage interiors, landscapes, people at work and people at play. The descriptions with the recipes also add to the understanding of Scottish culture in years past. Indeed, this is a recipe book and the recipes are varied and interesting. The usual favorites are here, but many regional and unusual dishes are included as well. Here is a traditional recipe with some interesting notes.

“Glasgow is reputed to be the home of the tearoom, the coffee houses of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries being used only by men. Miss Cranston, later Mrs. Cochrane, is said to have been the pioneer, and in 1884 she rented rooms in Aitkin’s Hotel, Argyle Street, for her tea shop which was a success.”

“...about 1850 William Lang opened the first sandwich and snack bar, referred to by the writer William Makepeace Thackeray as ‘fifty separate ways of spoiling one’s dinner’.”

“On the Isle of Lewis in the Nineteen-century tea drinking was thought to be sinful and was only done in secret. The day started with a dram (of whisky) known as a ‘skalch’ in the Highlands”

Baps are yeasted rolls eaten all over Scotland, often at tea.

- 1 lb. (4 cups) sifted flour
- 2 heaping tablespoons lard
- 1 oz. yeast or 1 packet
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- ½ pint tepid milk

Mix the flour and salt in a warm bowl and cream (or mix) the sugar and yeast together. Heat the lard and when melted add rather less than half of the tepid milk to it. Make a well in the middle of the flour and put in the yeast, milk and lard and mix well with a wooden spoon or the hands. Knead until smooth, scatter a sprinkling of flour over, cover, and set in a warm place to rise for 1 hour. Turn out to a floured board, knead lightly, then form into oval shapes about 3 inches long and 2 inches wide.



President's Corner

Dear Members,

By the time this newsletter is in your hands we will be into the new year, and I trust that everyone had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am enthusiastic about the year ahead and trust that SCOT will have plenty of participation from all our members at the events this year. Once more, I will encourage you to let us know what we can do to make your experience in SCOT all that you want it to be. We are unable to read your minds, so please keep us informed of ways that we can help. Of course, I want each of you to encourage young people to get involved in SCOT, as they are our future. Keep an eye on your in box for updates as we go through the year.

God Bless & Have a Wonderful Year,

Donald Ross
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SCOT

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The Scottish Cultural Organization of the Triangle (S.C.O.T.) is a non-profit organization dedicated to informing and educating the public about the history, culture, and heritage of Scotland and the Scottish people.

Board of Directors:

George Birrell	Ginny Kent
Chris Chandler	Donald Ross
Carolyn Graf	John Sprague
Patricia Johnston	Darci Zorio
Cheryl Jones	

Put onto a baking sheet, brush with milk, and if liked floury, dust them with a sprinkling of flour. Leave again for 15 minutes. Make a small dent in the middle with your finger, and bake in a hot (400° F) oven for 15 to 20 minutes. Makes about 10 baps.

[A Taste of Scotland, Scottish Traditional Food](#), by Theodora FitzGibbon 1971, Houghton Mifflin Company Boston.

- Carolyn McDonald Graf



Scottish Poem and Commentary

LOCHABER NO MORE

By Allan Ramsay

Farewell to Lochaber, an'¹ farewell to my Jean,
 Where heartsome wi'² thee I've mony³ day been;
 For Lochaber no more, Lochaber no more,
 We'll maybe return to Lochaber no more.
 These tears that I shed, they are a'⁴ for my dear,
 An' no for the dangers attending on weir,⁵
 Tho'⁶ borne on rough seas to a far bloody shore,
 Maybe to return to Lochaber no more.

Tho' hurricanes rise, an' rise every wind,
 They'll ne'er⁷ mak a tempest like that in my mind;
 Tho' loudest o' thunders on louder waves roar,
 That's naithin'⁸ like leaving my love on the shore.
 To leave thee behind my heart is sair⁹ pain'd;
 By ease that's inglorious no fame can be gain'd;
 An' beauty an' love's the reward o' the brave,
 An' I must deserve it before I can crave.¹⁰

Then glory, my Jeannie, maun¹¹ plead my excuse;
 Since honour commands me, how can I refuse?
 Without it I ne'er can have merit for thee,
 An' without thy favour I'd better not be.
 I gae,¹² then, my lass, to win honour an' fame,
 An' if I shou'd luck to come gloriously hame,¹³
 I'll bring a heart to thee wi' love running o'er,¹⁴
 An' then I'll leave thee an' Lochaber no more.

¹and, ²with, ³many, ⁴all, ⁵war, ⁶though, ⁷never, ⁸nothing,
⁹sore/very, ¹⁰desire it, ¹¹must, ¹²go, ¹³home, ¹⁴over

This is a poem of the common Scottish experience of an anguished soldier leaving to fight in a war far away. He is telling of his feelings about leaving his family, his home and mostly, leaving his lassie, Jean. His concerns are not about surviving difficult sailings and the anguishes of war. Rather, he wants to gain honour in how he fights and being able to return whole, maybe with a little money in

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We welcome your contributions to this quarterly newsletter! Please forward news of any achievements, births, marriages, or graduations to Amy Mooney (danceramy@aol.com) to be included. If you have an article, story, artwork, or bit of Scottish lore to share, please submit it to Jane Dunbar (thedunbars@mindspring.com).

S.C.O.T.

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