



Editor's Comments

Halò a` chairdean agus fàilte

(Hal-o aa harsh-din agg-us faal-cha / Hello friends and welcome)

Welcome back to a new season for the Caledonian Society. Little did we think that this season would begin the same way the last one ended.

Like everyone else, we've all had to adapt to doing things remotely and online. I'm hoping that by now we all know how to Zoom, Skype, and Facetime friends and family, wherever they may be.

Due to the ever changing situation here in Louisiana, it has been difficult to prepare meetings for the new season. A new board is in place – with a lot of similar faces!- and we have been looking at ways of how to present monthly programs in line with current restrictions.

In the meantime, I hope the newsletter is helping you stay up-to-date with the goings on in the CSoNO. If you have any news or items you want included in the newsletter then you can contact me at shawfield27@gmail.com.

Tapadh Leibh

(Tapa leev - Thank you)

Derek

Paddle Steamer Returns to the Clyde Once Again

The world's last remaining seagoing paddle steamer set sail again after a two year hiatus. The PS Waverly took on passengers for the first time since 2018, after urgent repair works were required on the boiler.

Named after a Sir Walter Scott novel, it was built in 1946, as a replacement for a ship lost during the evacuation of Dunkirk in WWII. The Waverly was withdrawn from service in 1973, after it was deemed too costly to maintain, and



was sold for the princely sum of £1. It took a £1m grant to meet it's £2.3m target to ensure that this magnificent vessel was fully restored and ready to take to the seas once more. This refit saw funnels replaced and the ship returning to it's original colors from 1947, when it launched under London & North Eastern Railway.

The Waverly has now seen over five million passengers on it's decks since being bought by the Paddle Steamer Preservation Society in 1975. There is a certain irony over the fact that an agreement was made during the purchase that the Waverly would never compete with the TS Queen Mary, Caledonian MacBrayne's remaining steamer. The TS Queen Mary was retired in 1977 and, after a turbulent history, is now back in Glasgow undergoing a refit to become a dockside museum as part of the Science Centre.

The steamer was deemed "a vessel of pre-eminent national importance" by National Historic Ships UK when it was listed in the National Historic Fleet in 2003. In addition to cruising around Britain, the Waverly has also been used in TV and film, one notable mention being in the 2011 movie "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows."

Editor's Note- Unfortunately, only two weeks after launching, the Waverly ran into a pier on the Isle of Arran, and has had to miss the rest of the 2020 schedule due to hull repair work.

MONTHLY MEETING

Due to state and local restrictions still being in place, we have been unable to determine a course of action for meetings in the immediate future. Unfortunately, we cannot host our traditional welcome back Pot Luck. The board is currently looking at ways we could present a program online, either through Zoom, Facebook, or another medium. Please keep an eye out for an update.

Member and Society News

If you have any member news to include in the newsletter, please let Christyn Elliott know at her e-mail address or home phone number so that she can pass the information on to me for the next newsletter.

Election Of New Board Members

The 2019-20 season saw the end of the serving term for our board. A ballot was sent out in May for the election of officers for the 2020-2022 board. Our Board Members for the coming two years are as follows,

President	<i>Robert Grubb</i>
Vice-President	<i>Laurie McConnell</i>
Secretary	<i>Connie Rodriguez</i>
Treasurer	<i>Wendy Grubb</i>
Historian	<i>Virginia Urquhart</i>
Parliamentarian	<i>Lance von Uhde</i>
Members at large	<i>Jeanie Mestier</i> <i>T. Diemer</i>

Yearly Dues

It's the beginning of a new year and we want to start early by reminding all members of the yearly dues. Family rates are \$20, while Individuals and Students pay just \$20 and \$10, respectively. It's not much to pay, but what we receive goes a long way

in helping pay for monthly meetings, refreshments, and major events on the CsoNO schedule.

If you are currently receiving our newsletter on our courtesy list, why not consider upgrading to become a member. As you can see, the fees are low and you will receive news of all events and invitations not normally issued to those just on our courtesy list.

Please send your payments to Wendy Grubb, 8131 Cohn St, New Orleans, LA 70118. Alternatively, you can hand them in at the next meeting.

Newsletter

CSoNO members receive the newsletter by e-mail or post. A complimentary e-mail newsletter is also sent to non-members who have expressed an interest, so if you know of someone who would be interested, please send their information for inclusion in the courtesy e-mail group. All mass e-mails are sent to recipients "bcc" for privacy.

Social Media

The Society has a website with many links and gallery pictures for everything Scottish! In case you haven't seen the site yet, all you need to do is just click on, or copy and paste the following link: <http://www.caledoniansocietyofneworleans.com/>.

The site also has a very useful resources page, where you will find almost everything you could think of needing. This has links that can help you with ancestry, heraldry, and even learning more about Scottish Gaelic(gaa-lik).



In these times of social distancing and quarantines don't forget that you can still be social and not get too close. Have you checked out our Facebook page? If not, then you're in the minority. You can find us by looking for "Caledonian Society Of New Orleans," and hit the like button to follow us.

August 19th saw our most viewed post of Summer. 186 people saw our comedic post about bagpipes and breathalizers. Our runner up was a picture of a

nice “healthy” Scottish breakfast. Why not let us know what type of posts you would like to see on our page? We want to engage with everyone. If you do like anything you see on our page, then why not share or even comment. This helps us to be seen by more people.

Assisting Member Business During Covid

Due to the economic hit taken by many small businesses during the shutdown, the CSoNO has decided to try and assist any member-owned business by providing them with the opportunity to raise awareness and offer their services to whoever needs them. The following are all those who have forwarded details.

Member Name: Scott Bond
Business Name: BondDesign Web Media
Business Description: Web design and Development/Graphic Design/Photography/Search Engine Optimization/Social Media Marketing
Contact Details:
Phone: (504) 210-0457 or (504) 601-5508
Email: jscott@bonddesign.com
Website: <http://www.bonddesign.com>
Location: 476 Metairie Rd, Suite 208, Metairie, LA 70005
Hours: M-F 9:00am to 5:00pm
CSoNO Member Discount: 20% off all services.

Member Name: Derek Ewart
Business Name: Independent Insurance Agent
Business Description: Provide healthcare solutions for Medicare Advantage, Medigap Supplemental, Prescription Drug Plans, Dental, and Vision, and also Individual coverage for those under age 65
Contact Details: Phone: (504) 367-9663
Email: derekewart73@gmail.com
Hours: Flexible Hours
CSoNO Member Discount: No charge for services

Member Name: Myra Ewart
Business Name: Myra Wood – Insurance Agent
Business Description: Evaluate and offer employee benefit options for groups.
Contact Details: Phone: (504) 367-9663
Email: myrarwood@hotmail.com
Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M-F
CSoNO Member Discount: No charge for services

Member Name: Robert Grubb
Business Name: Pipes & Drums of New Orleans(PDoNO)/Kilts of Many Colors
Business Description: Only Pipes & Drums Band in New Orleans
Contact Details:
Phone: (504) 957-0248
Location: 8131 Cohn St, New Orleans, LA 70118
CSoNO Member Discount: Free lessons on learning how to play the Pipes

Member Name: Charles M. “Tex” Stevenson
Business Name:
Law Offices of Charles M. Stevenson
Business Description: Personal Injury/Criminal Defense/Wills/Successions
Contact Details:
Phone: (985) 893-4600 Fax: (985) 893-0503
Location: 321 N. Vermont St., Suite 103, Covington, LA 70433
Hours: M-F 9:00am to 4:00pm, Saturday appointments available

Loss of Highland Games

The entire Highland Games schedule was hit this year with the limitations placed on large events. Without the ability to adapt to ever changing mandates, it has proven impossible to properly plan and adapt to the requirements. This has hit many people, from attendees, to vendors, and hotels providing expected accommodation. We are hoping that the future Games, whether in LA, MS or GA, will come back stronger in 2021. Details will be posted once planning has commenced.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of South Louisiana(RMHC-SLA) have

announced that the “Kilts For Kids” fundraiser has closed for 2020. You will know that the Society has assisted them in the last two kilt fundraisers. Last year, we had raised \$4610, while we had raised \$1091.75 before the Covid lockdown. We would like to thank all the members, friends and family who contributed in the last two fundraisers. Your donations have proven to be invaluable.



Time For Gaelic

This summer has been an inadvertently ideal time to learn Gaelic. I am hoping that some of our members – and friends of the CsoNO – took up the challenge. It is with sadness, that I read recently, that there are some islands in Scotland anticipating the language dying out within 10 years. With people relocating from the mainland, it also means less Gaelic being spoken.

Today, more than ever, sees us losing crucial segments of our heritage and culture. It is so important to maintain and keep alive the things that make our history unique. If you haven't already, I ask you to take up the cause and keep Gaelic alive.



With only 75,000 fluent speakers in the world, you really could make an impact in keeping Gaelic alive. I have found learning the language to be frustrating at times, but also wonderful, as what were once unpronounceable and unspeakable words have opened up to understanding and delight.

With this in mind, let's move on to some, hopefully, easy phrases. You may have seen one or two before, but we're trying to go for more introductory phrases now.

The question

Gaelic - *Dè an t-ainm a th`ort?*
Phonetic - (Jay an ten-m a horsht)*
Gaelic - *Dè an t-ainm a th`oirbh?*
Phonetic - (Jay an ten-m a hor-iv)*
English - *What is your name?*

**The first is used for singular and peers while the second is used for formal, senior and 2+ persons.*

Possible Responses

Gaelic - *Is mise.....*
Phonetic - (Is Mish-a.....)
English - I am.....

Gaelic - *Is sinne.....*
Phonetic - (Is sheen-ya.....)
English - We are.....

The question

Gaelic - *Cò às a tha thu?*
Phonetic - (Ko as a ha oo)*
Gaelic - *Cò às a tha sibh?*
Phonetic - (Ko as a ha shiv)*
English - *Where are you from?*

**The first is used for singular and peers while the second is used for formal, senior and 2+ persons.*

Possible Responses

Gaelic - *Tha mi à Aimearaga*
Phonetic - (Ha me a Amerika)
English - I am from America

Gaelic - *Is sinn à Aimearaga*
Phonetic - (Is sheen a Amerika)
English - We are from America

Don't forget to check out these learning apps.



uTalk



Duolingo



Mango

In addition to these apps, you can also find useful resources on the following sites,

<https://www.learnghaelic.net/>

<https://www.fluentin3months.com/scottish-gaelic/>

<https://go-gaelic.scot/>

If you have tried learning Gaelic and are struggling, then why not get in touch with me at shawfield27@gmail.com. I have been learning since November and, with the inclusion of Gaelic in the newsletter, have had to become a teacher too. I am happy to help you understand the finer points – if I know them!

I look forward to being welcomed in Gaelic at our next Society meeting, whenever that may be!

Castles Of Scotland

We go back to just one castle again this month, unless someone tells me there is another castle of the same name!

Name : Braemar Castle
Location : Braemar, Aberdeenshire
Year Built : 1628
Clan Affiliation : Mar/Farquharson



While the current castle was constructed in 1628 by the Earl of Mar, John Erskine, it has been reported that a castle has stood here since as early as 1250. This castle had been built to provide defense against the ever increasing power of the Farquharsons. As you can see from the clan affiliation, this was ultimately all in vain.

It was the pro Jacobite “Black Colonel”, John Farquharson, who had the castle burnt in 1689, as a result of the Mars backing the reign of William & Mary over the deposed James VII. There is a certain irony in the fact that, during the 2nd Jacobite rebellion, it was the 11th Earl of Mar who led the rising. As a result, like so many clans, the castle was subsequently foreited and then purchased by the Farquharsons.

After the battle of Culloden, and the failed 3rd rebellion, Braemar was renovated by the Crown, who had a garrison of troops stationed with the purpose of preventing future uprisings, with rent being £14 per year. Government troops finally left around 1830, and the property was returned to the Farquharsons, which saw the castle refurbished and returned to a family home.

In 1844, Queen Victoria attended the Braemar Highland Games held on the castle’s grounds. The castle has been operated by the community since 2007, and they re-opened Braemar to the public in 2008. Like many castles, it does have it’s ghosts. One is rumored to be a young woman who threw herself from the battlements. The other is said to be the ‘Black Colonel’ himself, John Farquharson.

Distilleries Of Scotland

Name : Arran/Lochranza
Location : Lochranza, Isle of Arran
Whisky Region : Island
Whisky Type : Single Malt
Website : <https://www.arranwhisky.com>



Originally founded by Harold Currie, former director of Chivas Regal, the distillery began construction in 1994. It was not until a year later that the building work would be completed, due to mating golden eagles nesting near the site. Prior to this new venture, the last legal distillery on the island closed in 1837.

The Queen was on hand in 1997, along with her grandsons, William and Harry, to open their new visitor center. As a reward they received two casks, which are still stored on site for them to this very day! 1998 saw their first 3-year-old Arran Single Malt being opened by Ewan McGregor. This was the first legal production of whisky on the island for 159 years! Since its opening, the distillery has added two additional stills, while the owners have now also constructed a new sister distillery in 2019.

In addition to the 3-yr malt, they are now also producing numerous other malts, blends, limited editions, and cream liquers. As a patron of the Robert Burns Federation, Arran/Lochranza has also

produced a special edition single malt in honor of our national poet. They are currently the only distillery that has been given permission to display the bard's image and signature on their bottles.

Just For Fun

Did y'all get the answers right? We've all had a few months to get them! If not, then here they are.

1. Which Scottish city became Britain's second largest city in the Victorian era, after earning its riches through engineering, ship building, iron, steel and the textile industries? **Glasgow**

2. When was the building of the Scottish Parliament Building started? **1999**

3. In which town did William Wallace start his campaign against the English? **Lanark**

4. Gerard Butler is one of Scotland's most successful actors, but what did he originally train to become? **Lawyer**

5. What Scottish title was given to Prince William and Kate Middleton once they married?

Earl and Countess of Strathearn

Are you ready for more?

1. McCaig's Tower overlooks which Scottish town?

2. On which Scottish Island did George Orwell write his novel 1984?

3. Which famous Scottish figure was depicted in the film Braveheart by Angus Macfadyen in 1995?

4. The Scottish soap opera *Take the High Road* was set in which fictional village?

5. Which motorway connects Scotland's two largest cities, Glasgow and Edinburgh?

I'm Fixin' To

When you live in Louisiana you know that a favorite topic here is either eating, talking about eating, or talking about eating while eating, and not necessarily talking about what you're eating! We start the new season with a treat from the Border town of Ecclefechan (Eckel-fekin).

Ecclefechan Butter Tart

When travel writer Bruce Stannard, from Scots Heritage Magazine, was staying at Coul House Hotel he was so impressed by the

Ecclefechan Butter Tart that he asked for the recipe. Here it is. As for Ecclefechan, that's a small town in Dunfries and Galloway where the influential philosopher and historian Thomas Carlyle was born.



Ingredients:

2 Beaten eggs

6oz (200 gms or just under one US cup) soft brown sugar

4oz (125 gms or one stick) melted butter

1 tbsp vinegar

8oz (250 gms or one and a quarter US cups) mixed dried fruit

2oz (50 gms) chopped walnuts

Prepared shortcrust pastry

Method:

Mix the sugar, butter and beaten eggs together. Stir in the vinegar, then add mixed fruit and nuts. Line patty tins with pastry and put a spoonful of the mixture into each. Bake in a fairly hot oven (190C/375F/Gas Mark 5) for 20-25 minutes.

We hope these recipes are going down well, and would love to see pictures of our members' attempts, whether it's successes or failures. If you're worried about trying any, we recommend cooking with whisky. After three drams we usually can't remember what was being cooked anyway!

We hope you have enjoyed this month's newsletter. Our aim is to educate and entertain, as well as keep our members informed and up-to-date on all things Scottish.

Tioraidh an-drasta

(Cheery an drasta) (Bye just now!)