



## Editor's Comments

### Halò a` chairdean agus fàilte

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

October marks the start of meetings returning for the Society, although in a restricted format. This gives members a chance to finally see each other face to face again. Please make sure that you take a note of the new location, dates, and times for these events.

Although the meetings are resuming, other events, like the Scottish Country Dancing, are still unable to be held at this time.

We are still highlighting member businesses this month, so if you haven't forwarded information on your own business, then please send me your details.

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](mailto:shawfield27@gmail.com).

### Tapadh Leibh

(Tapa leev - Thank you)

**Derek**

## Miniature Railway Comes To The End Of The Line

Scotland will see the country's oldest miniature railway blow it's last whistle in two weeks time as it makes the final run alongside Arbroath's seafront. An attraction since 1935, Kerr's Miniature Railway is closing due to ever decreasing visitor numbers. Over two million excited children had bought their tickets to ride the various steam engines, but declining interest saw only 3,500 riders in 2019.



Matthew Kerr, the original mastermind behind the railway, was originally a dairy farmer who was unhappy being involved in the family business. Instead, he went full time in the railroad industry, after purchasing some beachside land. At it's peak, the railway attracted 60,000 in 1955.



Despite 250,000 views on Facebook since the announcement John Kerr, the creator's grandson, is unable to change the fate of this beloved favorite. Rather than being sad, he is happy that so many people have taken such joy from their childhood visits to West Links Park, Arbroath.

It appears that the internet, Facebook, and video games have replaced the truly unique experiences from our yesteryears. With this in mind, maybe it's time to take our own children and grandbabies to New Orleans' very own City Park to ride the miniature train through the wonderful live oaks. And don't forget to wave if you hear a toot while walking through here either. We won't mind if you stop for beignets!!

# MONTHLY MEETING

We are happy to announce that meetings are returning, albeit in a restricted format. This has been decided by the Board and in conjunction with the current Parish and State demands.

Please note that the requirements for attending the following meetings are the wearing of a mask and observing a six foot distance from fellow attendees. These meetings will also be streamed using Zoom, so look out for an email with more details on how to join the meeting remotely.

**Sunday, October 11, 2020**

**Venue** – Jackson Avenue Evangelical Church,  
(Audry Reich Hall)  
2221 Chippewa St, New Orleans, 70130

**Time** – 2:00-3:00pm

**Program**- Meet & Greet / Founders of the CSO  
**Information** – No food or drink will be provided due to restrictions. Please bring your own refreshments.

**Sunday, November 8, 2020**

**Venue** – Jackson Avenue Evangelical Church,  
(Audry Reich Hall)  
2221 Chippewa St, New Orleans, 70130

**Time** – 2:00-3:00pm

**Program**- St Andrew's Day Discussion  
**Information** – No food or drink will be provided due to restrictions. Please bring your own refreshments.

**Sunday, December 13, 2020**

**Venue** – Jackson Avenue Evangelical Church,  
(Audry Reich Hall)  
2221 Chippewa St, New Orleans, 70130

**Time** – 2:00-3:00pm

**Program**- Christmas Party  
**Information** – It is planned to present food in boxes for attendees. This is still dependent on State and City orders.

**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**

In last month's issue, we revealed the new 2020-22 Board members. In case you missed it, here they are,

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

## **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 \$25, 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 CSO 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**

CSO 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.

We had a tie for most viewed post in September. This was shared by a 360° panoramic view of the Isle of Harris, and the discovery of a Medieval Scottish coin found in England. 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: Bond Design 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](mailto: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 Medicare solutions, individual coverage for those under age 65, ancillary products(dental, vision, etc.)  
Contact Details: Phone: (504) 367-9663  
Email: [derekewart73@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

## Time For Gaelic

Have I eased you back into learning Gaelic following the Summer hiatus? It seems strange that I started my journey on learning what seemed like an impossible language, almost a year ago! The words I thought were just unpronounceable, or unfathomable regarding spelling, have become easier with each new or reminder lesson.



Just remember that you are in this for the long haul, so keep practicing, as repetition is the key! In addition, don't forget that you are learning a new language, so it does take time. No one expects to learn French in a few weeks, and I don't expect that with Gaelic either.

### The question

**Gaelic -** *A bheil Gàidhlig agad?*  
**Phonetic -** (A veel Gaa-lik agg-ad)\*  
**Gaelic -** *A bheil Gàidhlig agaibh?*  
**Phonetic -** (A veel Gaelic agg-av)\*  
**English -** Do you have Gaelic? \*\*

### Possible Responses

**Gaelic -** *Tha beagan Gàidhlig agam*  
**Phonetic -** (Ha bayk-an Gaa-lik agg-am )  
**English -** I have a little Gaelic\*\*  
**Gaelic -** *Tha Gàidhlig agam*  
**Phonetic -** (Ha Gaa-lik agg-am)  
**English -** I have Gaelic\*\*

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

*\*\*These are the literal translations, although the phrase would be understood to be "do you know"*

### The question

**Gaelic -** *Cò thusa?*  
**Phonetic -** (Ko oo-sa)\*  
**Gaelic -** *Cò sibhse?*

**Phonetic -** (Ko shiv-sha)\*  
**English -** *Who are you?*

### Possible Responses

(These are the same as last month)

**Gaelic -** *Is mise.....*  
**Phonetic -** (Is Mish-a.....)  
**English -** I am.....  
**Gaelic -** *Is sinne.....*  
**Phonetic -** (Is sheen-ya.....)  
**English -** We are.....

As you can see, these are more conversational starters to help on your first meeting with a Gael!

**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/>

The Learnghaelic website also has a wide variety of ways to learn, including lessons for all grades of learners. I have tried this myself and feel that this is one of the better sites.

If you have tried learning Gaelic and are struggling, then why not get in touch with me at [shawfield27@gmail.com](mailto: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

This month we visit a castle that has had it's own share of drama, both ancient and recent past.

**Name :** Brodie Castle  
**Location :** Forres, Moray  
**Year Built :** 1567  
**Clan Affiliation :** Brodie



Awarded the estate in 1311 by Robert the Bruce, Clan Brodie built this “z-plan” castle over two hundred years later. Unfortunately, after Clan Gordon destroyed the castle in 1645, the clan records were lost. It is thought that the Brodies may have originated from the House Brude, a royal family of the Picts dating back much further in the area. The connection is shown through the 6 ft. high Pictish slab known as Rodney’s Stone, on display as you enter the grounds, possibly in honor of a monk from Iona. Also, within the estate is Macbeth’s Hillock, said to have been where the three witches told the future king of his prophecy!

Following a fire in 1786, it was not until 1824 that plans were made to remodel the castle using Scotland’s famous architect, William Burn. The building work was never completed, which then subsequently saw James Wylson oversee the final remodelling in 1845.

It is reported that the wife of a former clan chief haunts the home, after falling asleep too close to a fire. and dying after her clothes caught fire. Rather morbidly, there is a skeleton of a small child on display, found during renovation of a turnpike stair.

The National Trust for Scotland purchased the estate in 1980, from clan chief Ninian Brodie, in exchange for preserving the castle and providing him rent free accomodation. This sale, however, caused acrimony in his extended family, with his

son’s ex-wife fighting the sale, claiming that the castle was her children’s birthright. Things were so bad that his grandson was escorted from the property after refusing to leave. Brodie died in 2003 and the dispute died too.

## Distilleries Of Scotland

**Name :** Auchentoshan  
**Location :** Clydebank, Dunbartonshire  
**Whisky Region :** Lowland  
**Whisky Type :** Single Malt  
**Website :** [www.auchentoshan.com](http://www.auchentoshan.com)



The distillery’s name comes from the Gaelic Achadh an Oisein, meaning “corner of the field.” There appears to be a dispute over the original date of construction, but Auchentoshan received it’s whisky license in 1823. John Bulloch was the original owner, but he went bankrupt and passed the property to his son, who also went into bankruptcy. Apparently, the new owner agreed to the father living rent free there until his death, which occurred at the ripe old age of 87!

Auchentoshan changed hands over the years and had to shut down during WWII. The road nearby was painted over to look like the river Clyde, in an attempt to fool German bombers from hitting vital riverside targets. It worked too well. A warehouse was destroyed along with over a million liters of the water of life!

1948 saw a resumption in production and, since then, there has been numerous transfers of ownership with Beam Suntory owning the site at present. In addition to Bourbon casks being used, Auchentoshan is the only Scottish distillery to triple distill it’s product. This leads to fewer impurities and more distinct flavors for the connoisseur. As a result, their whiskies are highly rated and enjoyed across the world.

## Just For Fun

How did y'all do with our first questions of the season? Anyone get five out five?

1. McCaig's Tower overlooks which Scottish town?  
*Oban*
2. On which Scottish Island did George Orwell write his novel 1984?  
*Jura*
3. Which famous Scottish figure was depicted in the film Braveheart by Angus Macfadyen in 1995?  
*Robert the Bruce*
4. The Scottish soap opera *Take the High Road* was set in which fictional village?  
*Glendarroch*
5. Which motorway connects Scotland's two largest cities, Glasgow and Edinburgh?  
*M8*

And now for this month's teasers,

1. Pittodrie is a football(soccer) stadium in which city?
2. Where is the National Wallace Monument?
3. The bagpipes are what kind of instrument?
4. In 1603, following the death of Queen Elizabeth I, which Scottish monarch ascended to the throne of England?
5. What is the official Scottish currency?

## 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!

## *Caramel Shortbread*



*Caramel Shortcake is often called "Millionaires' Shortbread" - presumably because it is so rich. I have to confess this is one of my favourites when eating out*

*anywhere which has "home baking" on the menu.*

### **Ingredients (Biscuit Base):**

8oz (200g or two US cups) plain flour  
6oz (150g or 1½ US sticks) butter  
30z (75g or half US cup) caster (fine white) sugar

### **Ingredients (Filling):**

2oz (25g or ½ US stick) butter  
2oz (25g or between a ¼ and a ½ US cup) light brown sugar  
A tin of condensed milk

### **Ingredients (Topping):**

8oz (200g or one US cup) milk chocolate

### **Method:**

Rub the butter and flour together in a bowl until you have a mix which is similar to breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar. Spread the mixture evenly into a 9" (23cm) square tin which has been lined with baking parchment. Bake in a pre-heated oven at 170C/340F (160C/320F if fan assisted) for approximately 35 minutes until it is golden brown. Allow the base to cool.

Heat the filling ingredients together in a pot, making sure that you stir it constantly (otherwise it will stick!) until it begins to simmer. Continue stirring until it thickens (which it should do in a few minutes). Spread the filling evenly over the base and again allow to cool. Melt the chocolate so that you can spread it over the filling. When it has cooled and you are ready to eat it, cut up into squares or rectangles with a sharp knife.

We hope these recipes are going down well, but 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!)*