

Spring 2016

# THE SOCIETY OF WILLIAM WALLACE

Charity No. SCO45959

Est. 1912



MEMBERS MAGAZINE

# PRO LIBERTATE



I have brought you to the ring, now dance the best you can

# WELCOME

Gary Stewart - Convenor

*Dear Patriots,*

A big thank you to all the people who have made a contribution to this quarterly magazine as without their efforts we could not make it as exciting as it is.

What a few months it's been! There will be a special newsletter about the Rutherglen commemoration but would just like to say a big thank you to Hugh Millar at the Church who was a pleasure to deal with since we started this about a year ago and without his help this may not have happened. About 300 people turned up for the event and it was great to see so many people taking an interest in what we do as a lot of work went into getting the plaques up and also arranging the day, and Saturday especially makes it all worthwhile.

As I have explained we have had a slight problem regarding the Bell O The Brae monument and I am afraid to say we need to start from scratch as the monument we had getting built was not of the standard that we were looking for. We have a new sculpture to start again but this is going to cost in excess of £7500 and we are looking for members to be part of this exciting project by setting out a crowd funding account, and any contribution of up to £50 will get a certificate and the first 100 contributions over £50 will get a signed copy by the artist Andy Hillhouse of the drawing of the monument and also a certificate.

This is a massive undertaking by the Society and we really need your help to achieve an outstanding monument to William Wallace in Glasgow which will be there long after us.

Smithfield plaque is looking like the unveiling will be on the 14th May and will update you on arrangements as soon as we have them but trust me work has already started regarding this.

We have also had talks with Renfrewshire council and looking to maybe have a 3 day Wallace event in Aug with Wallace Day being the climax of what hopefully will be a wonderful few days of Wallace events in Elderslie. Will let you know more information when we have it but fingers crossed this works out.

We had Faithers 80th birthday party on Saturday and what an outstanding success it was and faithers face when he was presented with a Quaich from the Society engraved with the Society Logo was a picture. Can't wait for the next quarterly magazine as we will hopefully have great tales of how everything has panned out with what we have planned. Jan, Feb and March are supposed to be our quiet months as well LOL.

*Gary Stewart*

Convenor



## Contents...

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Welcome: Gary Stewart     | 2  |
| Charitable Status         | 3  |
| Visit: Dundee             | 4  |
| Events:                   |    |
| Faither's Party           | 6  |
| Wellwood Bronze Visit     | 7  |
| Feature Articles:         |    |
| G.O.S.T. Kathleen O'Neill | 8  |
| G.O.S.T. Elspeth King     | 11 |
| A Victorian Masterpiece   | 14 |
| Meet: Ted Christopher     | 16 |
| Guest: Andrew Wallace     | 17 |
| Contact us                | 18 |



*The society recently gained charitable status. The Society of William Wallace is now a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registration number: SC045959. So what's this charitable status all about then? Why has the society all of a sudden after decades of existence decided that charitable status would be a good thing to have? Our membership Secretary Stuart Duncan tells us why the society has gone down this path.*

When I joined the society I was surprised that society did not have charitable status. After all doesn't the society provide some public benefit in the work that it does through promoting Scottish history, traditions and the preservation of historic monuments? Do they not, in their own distinctive way, preserve and celebrate the distinctive character of Scottish society?

All of the above are part of the Scottish Charity Regulators (OSCR) test for becoming a charity. So the society gets a pass mark on all counts. But what's the point, the society has survived decades without charitable status. That may be so but times have changed and many voluntary organisations now see charitable status as a prerequisite to their formation.

So what are the advantages to achieving charitable status? Well let's start with public recognition and trust. If you're looking for people either to join your organisation or donate money they have to be confident that their money will be used properly. The assets of a charity can never be used for private benefit. Did you know since gaining charitable status the society has tripled its membership? If you're asking an outside agency to fund a project then most funding organisations won't even talk to you if you're not a legal entity. That's no guarantee that you'll get the funding you're asking for but it at least it gets your foot in the front door.

Then there is the financial benefit in tax relief you can obtain. Not that the society has massive reserves of money or an offshore bank account. No, it's having tax relief in the form of Gift Aid on donations that the society can receive from individuals, up to 20%. Exemption from Corporation Tax on any profits we make on trading. That reminds me have you paid a visit to our online shop? And of course among others tax relief on funding.

But with advantages there are always disadvantages. Charities may face some restrictions on what they are allowed to do. Political activities can be a bit of a minefield. Where you cannot be controlled or support a particular political party you can advocate a cause. Imagine the society of William Wallace being unable to support independence!

With charitable status comes governance. Some may see that as a disadvantage as all of a sudden you have rules you have to follow, so less freedom.

But this can also be an advantage as it gives the general public and society members the assurance that the society is being monitored and advised by the charity commission, run properly.

By the way did I tell you that since becoming a charity we have increased our membership? I did? I wasn't sure.

All in all the advantages out way the disadvantages that's why just about every community group like ourselves join the thousands that go down that path towards becoming a recognised charity.

Regards

*Stuart Duncan*

Membership Secretary



# VISIT Dundee

Gordon Aitken - Historical Advisor

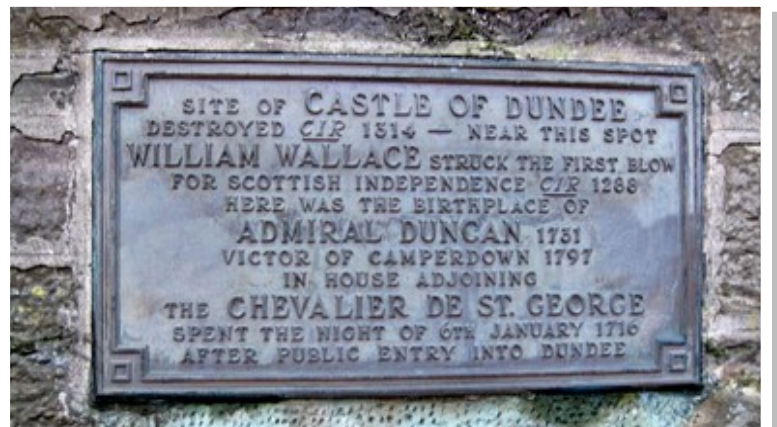
***Hello and welcome once more to our Spring edition of Pro Libertate. In this edition of places with a Wallace connection we are going to Dundee, which has two connections with Wallace. The first connection comes once more from the pen of Wallace's biographer, Blind Harry who tells us of an incident in Wallace's youth.***



## *Wallace in Dundee*

From boyhood, Wallace was given an education by one of his uncles, the priest of Dunipace, who taught him basic French and Latin, and instilled in him a love of freedom by teaching him a Latin verse - "*dico tibi verum, libertas optima rerum: nunquam servili sub nexu vivito, fili*" which translates as "my son, I tell thee soothfastlie, no gift is like libertie: then never live in slaverie". Around this time English troops were beginning to occupy Scottish towns and we are told William's father decided to split his family and move them to safer places. He took William's brother to the lands of the Lennox around Loch Lomond, while William's mother took him to stay with an old uncle at Kilspindie on the Firth of Tay, where his education could be continued at Dundee. William grew to manhood and is described as "strapping, stout and bold. While at Kilspindie, he heard news of the atrocity at the barns of Ayr where Scots lords were invited to talks, and treacherously hanged from the rafters by English lords. Wallace grieved for his countrymen, and soon after came his first retaliation when he was confronted in the street, when wearing a new suit of fine green cloth, by "young Selbie" son of the English constable of Dundee, who asked him why a Scot should be wearing such fine clothes. As he reached for the knife hanging from Wallace's belt, Wallace grabbed him by the throat, drew his knife, and stabbed him to death, before taking to his heels pursued by Selbie's men. He made good his escape by running into an inn, where the landlady, who knew him, quickly dressed him in a woman's gown and set him to work

The stone on which Wallace supposedly sat to spin has been passed down through the generations and is on display at the McManus galleries in Dundee, close to Wellgate shopping centre. A plaque marks the spot where this incident is said to have happened inserted into the wall to the left of the steps of St Paul's episcopal cathedral in Dundee. Wallace returned to Kilspindie, where he and his mother, decided to disguise themselves as pilgrims and make for the shrine of St. Margaret in Dunfermline.



The second incident took place in August/September 1297 when Wallace, with his men, was besieging Dundee castle, having met up with Andrew Murray.

On hearing the news that an English army was heading north to Stirling with the intention of crossing the river Forth to deal with the Scots forces, Wallace and Murray decided to leave a detachment of men, under Alexander Scrymgeour to maintain the siege, while the rest of the army marched south to encounter the English at Stirling Bridge. After this battle which was a resounding victory for the Scots, Wallace returned to Dundee, on learning that the castle had been captured, where he made Alexander constable of Dundee and conferred upon him the

# VISIT Dundee

hereditary honour of royal standard bearer. Alexander held the castle for a year but surrendered it to English control after the disaster of Falkirk. In 1306 he joined Robert Bruce at his coronation in Scone and was re-confirmed as standard bearer. Unfortunately Alexander was captured at the disastrous battle of Methven the same year and was taken to Newcastle and hanged.

Nothing now remains of Dundee castle as all documentation was destroyed and there are no portraits to show what it looked like. It is said to have stood on a 90 foot high rock known as the black rock, part of which was blasted away by dynamite to make way for modern building, and only the name 'Castle Street' survives to tell us of its location. To see the stone on which Wallace supposedly sat, the McManus galleries address is Albert Square, Meadowside, Dundee DD1 1DA. The plaque is at St Pauls episcopal cathedral, 96, High Street, Dundee DD1 2TD. A recent discovery of a doorway in a wall between Kilspindie castle, which no longer exists, and Kilspindie church, through which Wallace may have walked, can be seen at Kilspindie castle wall, Kilspindie, PH2 7RX. Enjoy your day exploring the Dundee area.

Slainthe

*Gordon*

## *From our archives....*

### **Workers have uncovered a centuries-old gateway which may have been used by William Wallace.**

Volunteers hacking ivy from a wall at Kilspindie Church revealed a stopped-up gap which would once have linked the church to the adjacent Kilspindie Castle. The gateway was exposed as locals worked on the Historic Churchyards Project, led by Fiona Fisher of Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust.

She said: "Hidden underneath the heavy cladding of ivy was an ordinary looking gateway which may have an extraordinary history. The gateway once linked Kilspindie Castle to the church and it is said that Wallace walked through this gateway to the parish church. Kilspindie Farm House is on the site of Kilspindie Castle which was once the home of his uncle. According to the chronicler Blind Harry, who claimed to have based his work on the diaries of John Blair, Wallace's mother's private chaplain, he resided at the castle after the death of Alexander III in 1286, when he would have been 16."

Repairs to the wall, which has collapsed in one place and is leaning and has loose stones in others, are under discussion with the owners of Kilspindie Farm House and Perth and Kinross Council. It is proposed to repair the wall and reinstate the wooden gate.







# EVENTS UPDATE

## *Faither's 80th Birthday Party - 20th Feb*

This was one of those night's when you were proud to claim "I was there!" - the event of the year - Faither's 80th Birthday party!

Elderslie Village Hall was packed to capacity with Family and Friends who had gathered in celebration of 'Faither' aka Mr Eddie McNeill - Honorary Lifetime Member of SoWW and all round gentleman.

With the drinks flowing all night and wonderful music from Fiery Jack and Ted Christopher, the dance floor was full from the get-go as we raised the roof and partied the night away. The many tributes and gifts, including an inscribed silver Quaich from SoWW were testament to how much this man is loved and respected by all, especially the wonderful poem written and performed by Charlie McCauley Robertson.

Faither is a true patriot with an uncanny knowledge of his country's history, a teller of tales, a braw dancer, with a kind word for everyone and a kiss for the lassies and always a twinkle in his eye. I was once asked by an American visitor at Stirling Bridge if I was Eddie's daughter, 'No', I replied, 'but I'm proud to call him Faither'. Happy Birthday Eddie—we wish you many more x

*Lesley Matthews*





## Wellwood Bronze visit - 31st Jan

On Sunday the 31st January 2016 myself and a few other society members travelled to Irvine Burns Club. They had invited us to visit their club to view The Wellwood Bronze, a fantastic piece of artwork commissioned for their 250th anniversary in 2009. We arrived at 2.30pm where we met Irvine Burns Club committee member Graham Hyslop. He gave us a fantastic guided tour of the premises, starting with a sound & lights show telling the story of Burns inside a large room made to look like Burns's own cottage. The room also had an incredible mural painted in the early 1950's. The club itself is the 2nd oldest in the world, my home town Greenock (the Mother Club) being the oldest.



We saw rare exhibits including a Burns First edition, a Burns skull mould, original manuscripts lifted from the printing room floor and were given access to rooms in the house not normally open to the public.

Now to the Bronze itself. The exhibit was called Independent Minds and features Robert Burns & his hero Sir William Wallace, the pictures below do not do it justice. As I mentioned earlier, they decided for their upcoming anniversary to have something made to sit on the window ledge sitting half way up the stairs to the first floor. The window itself is a beautiful stained glass window. Ideas were sought and various meetings were held over many months, then one of the Committee had the brainwave to have Burns & Wallace together, meeting and sharing their views on Scotland and its future. How that meeting would have went we can only wonder but I am sure you will agree the end result is fantastic. It is one of a kind by Alan Beattie Herriot DA,ARBS. and the Club decided it will never be copied. It was 5pm before we knew it. I honestly thought we were down just to see the Bronze but it was a thoroughly entertaining afternoon and what a fantastic history lesson we all learned.

*Cha Halliday* - Monuments officer for SoWW



### Wellwood Burns Centre and Museum

at the home of Irvine Burns Club, established 1826

Welcome to our online information and resource centre  
Hours of opening: Apr-Sept: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 2.30-4.30;  
Admission free (just ring the bell) - Oct-Mar: Sat. only  
'Wellwood', 28 Eglinton St., Irvine, KA12 8AS ::: [Virtual visit](#) :::



## *The Guardians of Scotland Trust*

*The Guardians of Scotland Trust was granted charitable status in 2012 to advance the education of the public by promoting the roles of William Wallace and his lesser celebrated counterpart Andrew de Moray in the Scottish Wars of Independence; to create a public art work with educational/community opportunities attached, in their honour, and to raise awareness of the place the De Moray family had in the Scottish Wars of Independence. Project manager Kathleen O'Neill gives us an in-depth update on the latest stage of the Trust's art-work project.*

The Guardians of Scotland Trust was delighted to open an exhibition of major heritage importance at the Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum on 8<sup>th</sup> January; the private view of Wallace AND De Moray. Lots of people made it along to the event from across the country, including SoWW members, whom I take this opportunity to thank again on behalf of the Trust. It was a great event with enjoyable support from people from all walks of life and all political parties with some people in traditional dress and robes, this added to the occasion for which we were very grateful.

The Stirling Smith exhibition open Tuesday – Sunday, 10.30am – 5pm, until 21<sup>st</sup> February, shows designs from six shortlisted artists who are competing for a commission award in principle, to create commemorative artwork showing representation of Andrew de Moray and William Wallace at Stirling Bridge once fundraising is completed. The awarded artist will meantime assist the Trust in their fundraising, by allowing us to use their designs in our promotion and being available to talk about their artwork ideas to potential funders as appropriate.



*SoWW Convenor Gary Stewart*



*Malcolm Robertson, Alan Herriot, David Annand and Kate Robinson*



# FEATURE ARTICLE

## *The Guardians of Scotland Trust*

It is most fitting that the exhibition includes sculptors of the highest national and international reputation, whose work can be found across Scotland and in other parts of the world. Their reputations indeed stand up to the responsibility of the task for which they are competing. The judging panel made up of nominated Guardians of Scotland Trustees will have a tough day on February 10<sup>th</sup> when a final decision is hoped to be made.

As many of you will know, the Trust plans that the artwork will be situated at Bridgehaugh; on land at the north side of the River Forth, which represents 10% of the battlefield closest to Stirling Bridge. Artists were selected from a total of 21, who responded to a publicly advertised call of interest from Scotland, England and Canada.

Trustees hope SoWW members will make it to see this exhibition and follow our FB page for more news:

<https://www.facebook.com/GuardiansScotland/>

Even those with very fixed ideas of what this artwork should look like, will be given food for thought by the drawings, models and design work on display. These incredible artists have considered many things; historic information about the men, the battle and the wider life of the site, as well as all the things members of SoWW will realise are not recorded anywhere in any shape or form.

Our six selected artists have come up with their own far reaching thoughts, which actually present six very different ideas of how this artwork should look. The exhibition which is only part of the full applications for this work, suggests in some designs what the men might have looked like and in other designs, artists have selected to consider the strength and sense of presence of Wallace and De Moray together, above all else. In some cases figures or faces are not present at all. Whether you usually appreciate art or not, this show would make anyone think more about William Wallace and Andrew de Moray, together, in 1297.

Scotland lost both Wallace and De Moray as relatively young men. The selection panel also need to think about tomorrow's young men and women. How might people view this artwork 50 years or more from now? This work must stand the test of time in commemoration of these great men and of others who gave their lives at the famous bridge site. The choice of artwork is massive for Stirling and Scotland, presenting both great responsibility and honour for Guardians of Scotland Trustees. Trustees are delighted to date with all artists work and their on going commitment to assist Trust aims.

Big thanks to SoWW for all on going support,

*Kathleen O'Neill*

Project manager

### ***The selection panel:***

- ◆ Chair, Fergus Wood – Founding member Guardians of Scotland Trust
- ◆ Provost Mike Robbins, Stirling Council
- ◆ Robin Iffla, Dean of Stirling Guildry and Deputy Lieutenant Stirling and Falkirk
- ◆ Dr Elspeth King, Director Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum and internationally respected historian
- ◆ John Robertson, Guardians of Scotland Trust Treasurer and representative of the Andrew de Moray Project
- ◆ Ted Christopher, musician and originator of the idea to create an artwork at Stirling Bridge from which the Trust was first formed. Ted is also the Trust representative for SoWW
- ◆ Other - the panel will be supported by Jan Patience renowned Scottish Arts Commentator, Historic Environment Scotland (Conservation) and myself; freelance project manager for the Trust since 2012

# FEATURE ARTICLE

## *The Guardians of Scotland Trust*

### **Wallace AND De Moray - Exhibiting Artists include:**

**Kenny Hunter** is a prominent international artist and Sculpture Programme Director at the University of Edinburgh. Kenny has created a number of high profile, public commissioned works including; *Citizen Firefighter*, 2001, outside Glasgow's Central Station, *Youth with split apple*, 2005 for Kings College, Aberdeen and *iGoat*, 2010 in Spitalfields, London. Kenny exhibits with and is represented by galleries in Germany and in the USA.

**Kate Robinson** is a most highly regarded artist. Amongst her past work are statues of Jimmy Johnstone and the founder of Celtic football club, and Brother Walfrid at Celtic Park, Glasgow. Kate's sculpture, *Woman Man Sun Moon* sits next to the M8 motorway in South Lanarkshire.

**Doug Cocker** is hugely regarded in Scotland, for both his own work and his development and support of other professional artists. He has created work for organisations and individuals in Britain and Ireland, Holland, France and Norway across his career. Doug has created many well known sculptures, including the memorial to the Tay Bridge Disaster. His work has been exhibited in Chicago, Sarajevo, Taiwan, Zagreb, Norway, Romania and Hawaii. Towards the end of his extensive under and post graduate teaching career he was a visiting lecturer at Edinburgh University, Glasgow School of Art, Grays School of Art, Aberdeen, and Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Dundee.

**Alan Herriot** has a vast reputation for production of figurative sculpture and his work includes a statue to Robert the Bruce which sits outside Marischal College in Aberdeen. He has produced work for the major Heritage Conservation bodies, The National Trust for Scotland and Historic Scotland as well as for organisations and individuals in Britain, Ireland, France, Holland and Norway.

**David Annand** who has created an array of strong public art, nationally and internationally, for a wide range of clients in heritage and regeneration sectors. This includes sculpture of the poet Robert Ferguson outside the Canongate Kirk in Edinburgh and *The Turfman* in County Derry; a figure fabricated in Irish turfs then cast in bronze to celebrate the 70th Birthday of Seamus Heaney and his poem 'Digging'. In 2015 he created Scotland's first statue of Mary Queen of Scots for Historic Scotland which sits outside Linlithgow Palace Scotland's first statue of Mary, Queen of Scots, looks out across her birthplace, Linlithgow Palace Scotland's first statue of Mary, Queen of Scots, looks out across her birthplace, Linlithgow Palace.

**Malcolm Robertson** whose previous work includes the tribute to Dundee's' Jute Women and an extensive range from his time as Town Artist in Glenrothes, over a 14 year period, early in his career. His work can now be found in a range of places internationally, including across India and extensively throughout Florida in the USA. Malcolm's public art works are strong in message and very powerful.

Following interviews and study of all designs and background information, the panel hopes to make a decision on February 10<sup>th</sup>. It is hoped that funding permitting, the work will be installed on site by the Annual Commemoration of the Battle of Stirling Bridge on September 11<sup>th</sup> 2017.

**For more information, as well as information on our furniture fundraising film/ and our event on 29th January please visit the Guardians of Scotland FB page We try to keep the Facebook page lively!**

<https://www.facebook.com/GuardiansScotland/>



# FEATURE ARTICLE

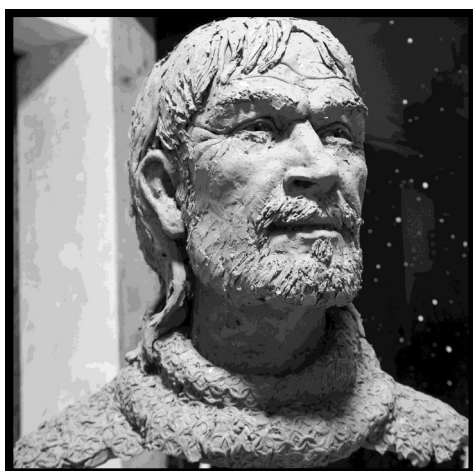
## *The Guardians of Scotland Trust*

News from the Stirling Smith by Dr Elspeth King

The National Wallace Monument was built, 1861-1869, overlooking the site of the battle, and towards the battlefield of Bannockburn, where Scotland's independence was confirmed and consolidated by Robert Bruce's victory in 1314. These days, visitors cannot understand why there is nothing beside the Old Bridge of Stirling, on the battlefield site. In 1997, for the 700th anniversary of the battle, a new Wallace oak with a wrought iron tree guard and metal seat was planted near the bridge, and on the entrance wall to the area, two gate guardians in the form of the dragon from Wallace's helmet, were carved by the sculptor Gillian Forbes. These are depicted as sleeping peacefully.

On 11 September 1997, the people of Scotland also went to the polls to deliver the vote which brought the Scottish Parliament back into being. Eighteen years later, a new generation wish to establish a new work of art on the north side of the bridge.

Each of the six entries is very different, and each has its own merits. David Annand's work shows Moray and Wallace as two brothers-in-arms, of equal merit. Kenny Hunter shows them as armoured sentinels, looking over the battlefield. Doug Cocker's work, abstract in nature, features two pillars and a bridge, with all of the symbolic attachments repaying very careful study for the story they tell. Alan Herriot's work is of a mounted Andrew de Moray, with Wallace beside him. Malcolm Robertson's work shows the two heroes springing from the ground, at bust level. Kate Robinson's work involves an equestrian statue, but three figures: Wallace, Moray and Moray's pregnant wife, ready to carry on the next generation.



David Annand



Kenny Hunter



Doug Cocker



# FEATURE ARTICLE

## *The Guardians of Scotland Trust*



*Stirling Bridge by Andrew Hillhouse*

In the meantime, the Smith is taking the opportunity to show other Wallace treasures, including the Stirling Bridge painting by Andrew Hillhouse, the maquette of the 1814 Dryburgh Wallace statue by John Smith of Darnick, and the manuscript book of the story of Wallace, created by Andrew Munro in Brooklyn, 1908.

### **The King of Scots in Battle**

This maquette by Charles d'Orville Pilkington-Jackson, who created the Bruce statue at Bannockburn in 1964, was purchased last year by the Friends of the Smith at auction. It is one of an edition of three – another (originally bought for the People's Palace) can be seen "skyed" in one of the top floor galleries in Kelvingrove, where it accompanies the Bannockburn painting by John Hassall which won the Kelvingrove competition for a Bannockburn painting in 1914. The public were really displeased with the choice of winner and dubbed it "The False Bannockburn". One of the entrants in the competition was the artist John Duncan, who on his death, left his competition painting "Bruce and de Bohun" to the Smith Art Gallery and Museum in 1945. It is one of three large Bannockburn paintings in the collection.

### **Past Souvenirs from the Wallace Monument**

This year is the 155<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the laying of the Foundation stone of the National Wallace Monument. There will be a programme of extra activities and displays there, and the Smith will lend a collection of Mauchline ware, souvenir woodwork made for places like the Wallace Monument, 1870-1930, and usually inscribed: "Made from wood grown on the slopes of the Abbey Craig."



*Mauchline Ware*



# FEATURE ARTICLE

## *The Guardians of Scotland Trust*

### **Marion Wallace Dunlop (1864-1942)**

Suffragette and artist, Marion Wallace Dunlop was imprisoned in July 1909 for daubing the walk of Westminster with a suffrage message in indelible ink. Like the rest of the Wallace-Dunlop family, she counted herself as a descendant of Wallace, and when in prison, tried to think of how her heroic ancestor would have handled the situation. So she stopped eating – and the tactic of the political hunger strike was born. This changed the course of the suffrage campaign, with hunger striking, force feeding and the passing of the Cat and Mouse Act.

Writing to Mrs Pankhurst, the playwright George Bernard Shaw summed up her actions:

*“Marion Wallace Dunlop struck a chord which will vibrate to the end of time. When we are dead and forgotten, when this great movement has spent itself and has been crowned with victory, our spirits poised on a sunset cloud will see her statue standing in Trafalgar Square. She had no ships nor thousands of half – drunken sailors to win doubtful victories. Her victory was the triumph of the spirit, the greatest and most difficult of all fights before which the shambles of the battlefield and warships are but the ferocious struggle of human dogs”.*

Recently, the Smith acquired one of her embroideries, “Spring”, for the permanent collections.

The National Wallace Monument is now looking at adding women to its Hall of Heroes. Marion Wallace-Dunlop should surely find a place there.

### **The Wallace of South America**

Recently, a portrait of Simon Bolivar (1783-1830), liberator and creator of so many South American countries, was discovered in the Smith collections. It has been there since 1874, and is in terrible condition. A fund-raising campaign for the restoration costs will be launched soon. Raploch has the “Big Noise” Orchestra, modelled on the Simon Bolivar orchestra of Bolivia, and it is right and fitting that the image of the Wallace of South America should be fully restored for Stirling.

The Stirling Smith has been collecting memorabilia on Wallace, Bruce and the Wars of Independence for many years, and has a collection which is unique in Scotland. It will be applying for national Recognition for its collections this year, and is pleased to have the support of the Society of William Wallace.

### *Elsbeth King*

Director  
Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum



*Marion Wallace Dunlop*



*‘Spring Embroidery’*



*Portrait of Simon Bolivar*



# FEATURE ARTICLE



Ken Thomson

## *'A Victorian Masterpiece'*

*One of the important themes for the Monument in 2016 is the focus on the Anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation Stone, linked to the fact that 2016 is the 'Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design' - one of the VisitScotland 'theme years'. Ken Thomson, Marketing Manager for Stirling District Tourism gives us the story...*

The 155<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2016) of the laying of the Foundation Stone for The National Wallace Monument provides the perfect opportunity to reflect on the esteem in which William Wallace was held at the time when the people of Scotland set out to build a fitting and lasting monument to their national hero. It was on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 1861, the anniversary of The Battle of Bannockburn, that the country at last made an effort to atone for its neglect of the memory of Wallace, as thousands of men, women, and children made their way from all across Scotland to witness the laying of the foundation stone on The Abbey Craig, just outside the ancient capital of Stirling.

### **"...never before had such a spectacle been witnessed"**

From early morning, trains arrived from all parts of the country, bringing municipal bodies, "Companies of Volunteers", around 200 Lodges of the "Ancient Order of Freemasons of Scotland", representatives of the "Order of Odd-fellows", and members of numerous other organisations, to be joined by forty bands of musicians and pipers, whose repertoire for the occasion ranged from "Scots Wha Ha'e" and "God Save the Queen" through to "The Mason's Anthem".

The crowds assembled in the King's Park throughout the morning, until the throng numbered 100,000 people, and at 1pm, as a signal-gun was fired from Stirling Castle and bells rang out across Stirling, the three-mile long procession set off for The Abbey Craig, headed by Lt-General Sir James Maxwell Wallace, K.C.B., a direct descendant of Wallace himself.

Included in the procession were the swords of prominent Scottish warriors, with the Sword of Sir William Wallace carried by the Master-Gunner of Dumbarton Castle, and the Sword of King Robert The Bruce carried by a servant of the Earl of Elgin.



# FEATURE ARTICLE

## A Victorian Masterpiece

By 2pm the procession had reached Causewayhead, but it was over an hour later before the party reached the summit of the Abbey Craig, for the laying of the foundation stone. The ceremony commenced with a blessing from the Rev. Dr. Arnot of Edinburgh, and after the stone was laid by the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke of Atholl, the signal was sent to Stirling Castle for a salute of artillery to be discharged from the ramparts.

And so construction was under way for the landmark which would forever be synonymous with Stirling - **The National Wallace Monument**.

Later that same evening, a special banquet was held at The Corn Exchange in Stirling, and the programme included the performance of a poem written especially for the occasion by Mr. James McFarlane (“The Battle of Stirling Bridge”), finishing with the lines -

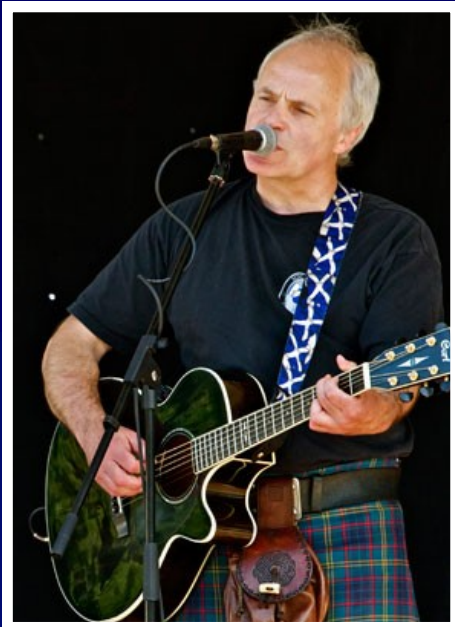
“Though years like shadows fall  
O’er the dial of stones of time,  
Thy pulse o’freedom still shall beat  
With the throb of manhood’s prime,  
Still shall they valour, love and truth  
That shone on Scotland’s early youth,  
From Scotland ne’er disever  
The Shamrock, The Rose, The Thistle stern  
Shall wave around her Wallace cairn  
And bless the brave for ever.”

155 years later – the National Wallace Monument proudly pays tribute to the life and legacy of William Wallace, and welcomes visitors from all parts of the world, who come and discover for themselves the story of the Scottish warrior whose campaign against oppression, injustice and inequality still resonates with so many people today. Between 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June this year a programme of special activities at the Monument, including performances by costumed actors, will recreate the atmosphere of that remarkable day back in 1861 when work started to bring the design of the architect into reality.

Full details of all the activities and events planned for 2016 at The National Wallace Monument are available at [www.nationalwallacemonument.com](http://www.nationalwallacemonument.com).

Many credit the initial campaign to build the monument to the Rev. Charles Rogers who, despite having the reputation of falling out with anyone he ever met and attracting scandal at every turn, managed to set in motion efforts to raise money and support for a monument design competition and fundraising from 1856, when a ‘National Meeting’ was held in the King’s Park in Stirling on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June.

The winner of the design competition was John Thomas Rothead of Glasgow, one of the leading architects of the day and the builder named as Mr Harvie of Hamilton. Unlike other national monuments, the monument was funded by contributions from the public rather than by government, and partly for this reason fundraising was difficult to the extent that on more than one occasion it was questionable whether the monument might ever be completed. When the monument was finally inaugurated in 1869 after eight years of building work, it was wildly over budget (almost double the original estimate) and had taken much longer than planned.



# MEET Ted Christopher

*Ted Christopher is one of Scotland's finest performers. He is a well travelled and extremely versatile singer songwriter. He is equally at home whether singing heart felt originals to a concert audience, belting out Scottish favourites to the Tartan Army or playing some of his huge pop/rock repertoire to a packed dance floor. Luckily for us, he is also a long time loyal friend and supporter of SoWW and no Wallace Day would be complete without him. We asked Ted to give us a wee insight into how he became involved with SoWW...*

## TOUR SCHEDULE

### MARCH 2016

2nd STIRLING, No.2 Baker St. (hosting Roadshow Music jam session) 9.30pm

4th STIRLING, Molly Malones 9pm

5th ALVA, Cross Keys 8.30pm

6th CALLANDER, Dalgair 5pm

9th STIRLING, No.2 Baker St. (hosting Roadshow Music jam session) 9.30pm

10th STADECKEN-ELSHEIM (GERMANY)  
The Highlander

11th BRUGGEN, The Klimp

12th BRUGGEN, Burggemeindehalle (with Red Hot Chilli Pipers)

13th HUCKLEHOVEN, Hangover Bistro

16th STIRLING, No.2 Baker St. (hosting Roadshow Music jam session) 9.30pm

17th AMSTERDAM, The Tara Amsterdam

19th FALKIRK, Behind The Wall 9pm

### APRIL 2016

8th Glasgow - Barrowland Ballroom

### **I blame it all on Davie Ross!**

I was patriotic with a keen interest in the history around me here in Stirling and always felt far too little had been done to promote, benefit and educate people about it. I knew the Society of William Wallace commemorated the anniversary of the Battle of Stirling Bridge every year but had never got involved.

Then the Big Warmer appeared into my life. He'd heard that I was singing some songs that he could relate to and recognised that I had the potential to do much more than I was currently doing for my country. It was Davie that basically kick started me into all I am now involved in. Like many others, I read his books, learned so much and gained so much inspiration but I had the huge fortune of having him personally pushing me in the right direction.

It was Davie that recruited me into the Walk for Wallace insisting that I was the guy who had the ability to put the emotion of all we felt into words and music. There was to be no argument. I would write a song and sing it in St. Barts. I was told! "I'm Coming Home" was born.

I can think of no greater honour for a Scottish singer than to sing at William Wallace's funeral service.

It was also Davie who explained to me why I should not join the society as he reckoned that I could be of much more support as an autonomous voice than as a member. Having said that I am extremely fortunate to have found so many great friends within the society who I consider to be chosen family.

I look forward to many more achievements and happy times together. We have much still to do.

For Scotland, St. Andrew and freedom!

*Ted*





# GUEST Andrew Wallace

*Andrew Wallace is next in line to inherit the title of Chief of Clan Wallace when he succeeds his father, Ian Francis Wallace, the Clan's 35th chief.*

On a recent trip to South America I was talking to an extremely hospitable Colombian couple in a traffic jam outside Bogota. I had made no reference to my name but was amused when they talked animatedly and knowledgably of Scotland's great patriot and liberator as if he was an old friend. Such is the power that Scotland's greatest national hero exerts over the imagination of people across the globe.

The story of William Wallace, both the myths and realities, have dominated our family's history since the 14<sup>th</sup> Century and his life has proved a hard act to follow! We are not a Highland Clan, in the way that many would think of us, but a lowland family with as many soldiers, statesman (and also ne'er do wells) as many other families. But our name carries with it a legacy that probably only the Bruces and Stuarts can match.

Practically, the options for a modern clan chief (currently my father who, at 90, has wisely handed over responsibility to me) are pretty limited. After all, opportunities to invade England are scarcer than they once were. But one thing I am able to do is to encourage all those who have a passion for keeping the history of the family (and particularly its most famous son) alive, as well trying to find some relevance to the strong sense of worldwide kinship that Scottish families have the privilege of enjoying.

The Society of William Wallace, with its unstinting efforts to keep the flame of Sir William Wallace burning brightly and its work at filling in the historical gaps in the life of a man around whom so many myths and legends hang, is one such organisation to whom I, and all those who bear our name, owe a huge debt of thanks. Likewise the Clan Wallace Society, so active in the United States and Canada, which represents those Wallaces who form part of the great Scottish diaspora, in all corners of the globe, and yet whose office bearers and members remain as proud of their roots and family history as if they were born and raised in Paisley.

To be able to encourage and thank such people may be one of the few really practical things a modern day chief can usefully do. Therefore, on behalf of my father and I, it is a genuine privilege and pleasure to thank the SoWW for all the hard work and dedication they have and continue to demonstrate in so many practical and inspiring ways.

*Andrew Wallace*

On behalf of Ian Wallace of that ilk.

# CONTACT US

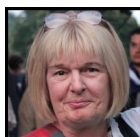
Please get in touch with any questions or comments.  
We'll do our very best to get back to you within 24 hrs.



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