

Winter 2015

# 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,*

Can't believe we are in December already and our fourth magazine which just seems to get better with every edition. In our recent survey, we asked members if they found the E-magazine a helpful and interesting way to find information on SOWW activities and the scores came back surprisingly low, with most members preferring to be given news in the form of an email rather than the magazine. As a result, we are seriously thinking of this being our last edition. Please e-mail me your thoughts at [convenor@soww.scot](mailto:convenor@soww.scot) and we'll take your feedback into consideration before making a final decision on the future of the e-magazine at our committee meeting in January.

Well it's been some three months, with the Society getting permission to build a Cairn to commemorate the Battle of the Bell O' The Brae as well as permission to erect two plaques in Rutherglen church to commemorate where Menteith agreed to betray Wallace. We have also received permission to put a plaque up at St Bartholomew church in London to commemorate Davie's epic Walk for Wallace in 2005. The plaque in London is also a testament that even after 700 years we still remember Scotland's greatest hero. The plaque will also hopefully raise public awareness of the church and its connection to Wallace. The Church was there in Wallace's day and he may have looked upon the church as some sort of sanctuary when he was being hung drawn and quartered.

It's been a brilliant year for the Society and with these projects coming to their final conclusion then 2016 looks like it's going to be an outstanding year and I for one can't wait. A few special mentions for all their help in helping the Society achieve our goals are Hugh Miller at Rutherglen Church, Zoe McMillan and Paul Robertshaw and Andy Hillhouse for St Barts Plaque and Stevie Scott, Denis McCue and Andy Hillhouse for Bell O The Brae.

Thank you so much to the committee for all your hard work, as without your commitment and dedication we would never have achieved our goals. To all our old members and our new members thank you so much for all your help and support and hope you have enjoyed the ride as much as we have. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and let's all come back refreshed ready for the challenges 2016 holds for us.

*Gary Stewart*

Convenor



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# SOWW PROJECTS

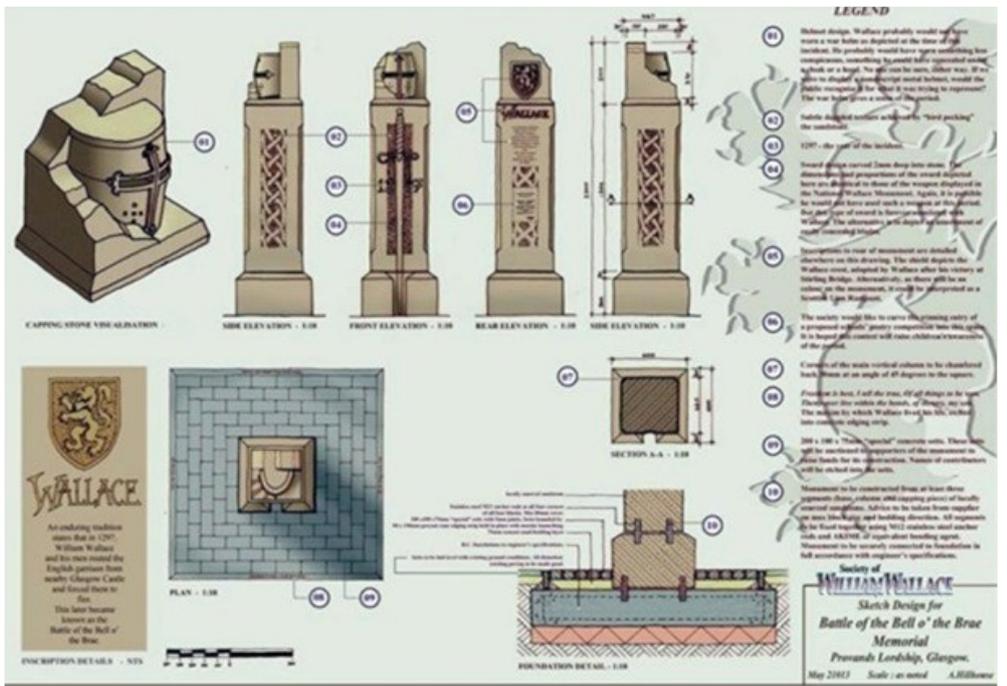
Gary Stewart - Convenor

*The Society have several projects underway at the moment to preserve and promote the legacy of William Wallace throughout Scotland. We will keep you regularly updated on our progress.*

**We're ending 2015 on a high, with all 3 of our current projects having been granted permission to erect the following:**

## Bell O' The Brae

After 6 years of battling bureaucracy, permission to build the Battle of the Bell O' the Brae monument has finally been given and will be built in the Necropolis in Glasgow by March 2016. Details of the unveiling ceremony will be posted nearer the time.



## Rutherglen Church

It was in the grounds of this church that Sir John Menteith contracted with the English to betray Wallace. The SOWW have now received authorisation from CARTA to erect two plaques to commemorate the event and signpost another landmark in Wallace history. The plaques will be unveiled on 13th Feb 2016.

## Walk for Wallace 10 year anniversary

St Bartholomew church have confirmed that they are happy with our proposals regarding wording and the picture by Andy Hillhouse. Planning permission has now also been granted and a plaque to mark the 10 year anniversary on the wall of the church where the Walk for Wallace service was held in 2005 will be erected in the very near future.

# VISIT Roslin

Gordon Aitken - Historical Advisor

***Hello and welcome to the fourth of our Wallace visits. As it's a winter edition, I felt it appropriate to write about the Battle of Roslin and Wallace's part in it.***

## *Wallace in Roslin*

After the Battle of Falkirk in July 1298, Wallace resigned as Guardian of Scotland and very little is known about his movements in the next few years after this. We do know that he went to France and Rome as a special envoy to try and persuade the French King and the Pope to put a halt to Longshanks' aggression towards Scotland in the hope that diplomacy would succeed where open battle had failed. We think Wallace returned to his native soil around the end of 1302, just as events were shaping up to give Scotland a resounding victory against not just one, but three English armies within a period of 24 hours.

In late 1302, preparations were in hand for the marriage of Lady Margaret Ramsey of Dalhousie, to Sir Henry St Clair of Rosslyn. However, an English Knight, Sir John Seagrave also had designs on the lady and petitioned Edward Longshanks to lead a punitive expedition against St Clair. In mid February 1303, Sir John, along with Sir Robert Neville, Sir Ralph Confrey, and Ralph de Manton, the English paymaster, and an army of 30,000 men, crossed the Scottish border by night and headed towards Rosslyn castle via Melrose. Here it was decided to split their forces into three to lay siege to Borthwick castle, Dalhousie, and Rosslyn. They managed to approach within a few miles of their objectives before being observed by prior Abernethy at the priory of Mountlothian, who immediately sent fast riders to alert the Scots leaders, urging them to muster with all speed at Biggar, some 20 miles from Roslin.

By the afternoon of 23<sup>rd</sup> February, legend states that around 8,000 Scots had assembled, among them Sir William Wallace, Sir John Comyn, and Sir Simon Fraser. Wallace was offered overall command of the Scots forces, but declined, having no wish to undergo another experience like Falkirk. He was given command of the right wing of the army instead, and overall command went to Sir Simon Fraser who immediately ordered a night march to Carlops, 5 miles from Roslin where the men were rested and fed by the monks. Prior Abernethy then led 5,000 of them under Fraser and Wallace, to the English camp of Sir John Seagrave above the river North Esk, where in the dim early morning light, the Scots fell upon the half- asleep English, causing great slaughter. The survivors rushed to escape through a pass in the forest, only to be confronted by Comyn and the remaining 3,000 Scots who had waited in ambush. Seagrave, realising all was lost, surrendered to Wallace and pleaded for quarter. Some of the survivors however, had escaped and made their way to Dalhousie and Borthwick to warn the remaining English forces of the massacre.

Meanwhile, Fraser and Wallace had moved their men and prisoners to Rosslyn castle, where, after a hasty meal, the English forces from Dalhousie were seen approaching across the plain, past the site of the first battle, and approaching the Scots, charged recklessly at them only to be cut to ribbons by volleys of arrows from the Scots archers, forcing Sir Ralph Confrey to veer his men towards the north, not realising that they were headed for a steep ravine where hundreds of English horse fell to their deaths. This concluded the second part of the battle, again with minimal losses to the Scots, who had by now marched all night, and fought two engagements with little food or rest. Almost exhausted, they still had to face another battle with the troops from Borthwick under Sir Robert Neville.

Prior Abernethy meanwhile had dispensed his brother monks to the tops of the Pentland Hills with timber and ropes where they erected a huge cross of St. Andrew. The prior himself delivered an impassioned address to the



# VISIT Roslin

battle weary Scots, reminding them of the miseries endured by Scotland at the hands of Longshanks, and on seeing the stage was set for his exhibition, he asked them to turn around and look to the hills. On seeing the emblem of their Patron Saint, the Scots took fresh heart and once more took up battle formation to face the fresh English army. Once more the Scots archers caused havoc among the English ranks and on seeing a force of Scots looters emerging from the trees they broke away, only to fall into the same ravine that had claimed the lives of so many of their countrymen. The carnage was so great that the Scots commanders called a halt to the slaughter and allowed the remaining invaders to escape with their lives. The Scots had won three separate engagements against a vastly superior English force.

The various locations of these battles are marked to this day by names like 'The Hewan', 'Stinking Rig', 'Killburn' and 'Shinbanes Field' where many bones of the dead have been turned up by ploughs over the centuries. The hill on which the cross was erected is named Carnethy, in honour of Prior Abernethy and many stones have been carried to the top over the years to make a sizeable rough cairn. For those of you fit enough to climb Carnethy, it is well worth the stiff climb to the top to shelter inside the wall of stones against the wind which hits you like a slap in the face over the last hundred yards to the summit. The view from the top is spectacular on a clear day looking out over the town of Penicuik in front of you, and the battlefield of Roslin slightly to your left and beyond to the Forth Estuary. To get to Carnethy from the Edinburgh bypass travelling east, turn off at the junction signposted Biggar/Carlisle A720 and turn right at the top of the sliproad. Head straight through the mini roundabout and stay on the A720 driving along for about 5 miles with the hills to your right. There is a lay-by on the right hand side just before the village of Silverburn and a wooden signpost points out the start of the climb to Carnethy. Back to your vehicle after the climb and turning back the way you came pass the Flotterstone Inn on your left and take the 3<sup>rd</sup> turning on your right signposted Bush Campus, drive along this unclassified road through a mini roundabout and you pass over the



Killburn where part of the battle took place. At Gowkely Moss roundabout go straight through onto the B7006 Roslin Road. About a mile on you will come to the village of Roslin. At the crossroads turn right at the sign for Rosslyn Chapel and park in the carpark. Walk towards the chapel but before you come to it turn right on to the path beside the cottage and follow the path through the graveyard to the castle. Follow the path going below the castle and you will come to part of the gorge above which the castle was built. Follow the path with the castle on your right and turn off onto a small path on the right following the castle walls and as you turn to the back of the castle, you will come to an ancient yew tree which would have been there in Wallace's day. Back to the car park then, and go back to the crossroads and turn right onto Manse Road. When you come to a footbridge, park up wherever you



can, and on the left hand side there is a long straight road before Dryden Mains farm. The battle monument is 500 metres down this road. It was raised by the Roslin Heritage Society and unveiled in 1994. On it is inscribed, 'Battle of Roslin 24<sup>th</sup> February 1303'. Returning to your vehicle go back to the crossroads, driving straight on back to Gowkley Moss roundabout and follow directions for Edinburgh bypass. Enjoy your day at Roslin.

Slainte

*Gordon*

# EVENTS UPDATE



## *Stirling Brig Commemoration - 11th September*

It was a beautiful clear evening as we assembled at Stirling Castle to march down to the battle site. Well attended as ever, it was a glorious sight to see so many Saltires flying as we crossed Stirling Bridge to gather around the newly erected flagpole. Ted Christopher who organises this event, welcomed all those in attendance and told us of the progress being made on the next phase of the site commemoration - a statue built on the north bank of the river Forth of William Wallace and Andrew de Moray, as well as an education programme for local children on the history of the two great men.

Steven Patterson MP who is the councillor for Stirling East was our first speaker of the night. Steven worked at the Wallace Monument in a previous life and said that tourists frequently asked him to point out the scene of the battle of Stirling Brig as in those days there was nothing at all to mark the battle site. Now though, there is the flagpole with Saltire permanently flying and the three granite cairns with information on the battle of Stirling Brig and the two heroes, William Wallace and Andrew de Moray. Steven congratulated Ted Christopher and the Guardians of Scotland trust for everything they have achieved so far and thanked them for their continuing hard work.

This has always been one of my favourite commemorations. What with the beautiful Scottish scenery, the historic castle at the top of the hill, the ancient stone brig, the sound of the river flowing alongside us and the Wallace monument itself dominating the skyline, it has always had an atmosphere all of its own. But it was really something special to see the Saltire being raised as the twilight shadows darkened and Ted sang 'I'm Coming Home'. I wonder what Wallace and De Moray would have thought, knowing that centuries later so many would gather to pay tribute.

Gordon Aitken from SOWW then described the scene as it would have been 718 years before, saying that all around where we stood, there would have been a massive party going on as the Scots, having just 'malkied' the biggest army ever assembled, celebrated their historic victory. But amongst the jubilation he could picture William Wallace kneeling beside his friend Andrew de Moray and praying for his recovery. Gordon spoke of the lives and history of

## Stirling Brig Commemoration - 11th Sep

these two young men who had commanded an army – an army of ordinary men, just like those assembled here, that had fought so bravely in defence of their country. Gordon also thanked Ted Christopher for his tireless efforts over the years, saying that in 2003 there were only 6 members of the SOWW who came to commemorate Stirling Brig and now thanks to Ted, the crowd gets bigger every year. Gordon then sang the Corries 'Stirling Brig'.

John Robertson of the Andrew de Moray project spoke of the role Andrew de Moray played at Stirling Brig saying that Andrew de Moray was an absolute hero and one who defines Scotland for him. Moray lost his place in popular history as well as his life at the battle of Stirling Brig and the aim of the Andrew de Moray project is to rectify this and give this fantastic warrior the recognition he deserves.

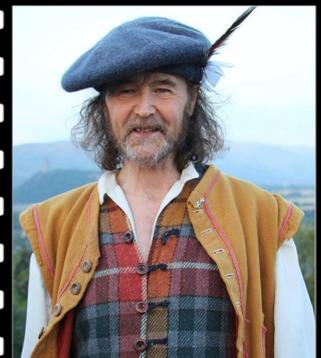
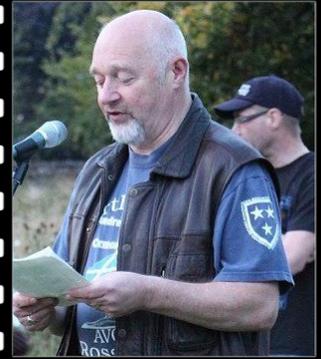
Bard Paraig MacNeil then read the excerpt in mid-Scots from the poem 'The Battle of Stirling Bridge' that is inscribed on the cairns. I've had the pleasure of hearing Paraig recite before and he truly is a 'teller of tales'.

Ted then brought the commemoration to a close, singing 'Scots Wha Hae' accompanied by young Robbie Devine. Thanks to all those who came along to make this such a special and patriotic night.

*Lesley Matthews*



*The future of Wallace's legacy is in safe hands. Robbie Devine and Jesse Matthews sing along as Ted Christopher sings 'I'm Coming Home'.*



*Speakers - Steven Paterson, John Robertson, Gordon Aitken, and Paraig MacNeil. Ted and Robbie singing 'Scots wha hae'.*

## *Inverclyde for Independence - 18th Sep*



STILL YES 2015. The Society of William Wallace, Ronnie Cowan MP, Stuart McMillan MSP, Geraldine Harron, John Houston, The Tartan Specials, The Folkin Hillbillies and The Fandangos were all special guests at a 'Still Yes' Celebration held in the Darroch Bar in Gourock on the 18th Sept. Inverclyde for Independence was formed just days after the referendum, the group's main aim being to promote and support groups and people who want Independence for Scotland. Being modern day Freedom Fighters we were delighted to hear all about the history of Scotland's best known Freedom Fighter, William Wallace, from SOWW membership secretary Stuart Duncan. It was a night to reminisce with old friends and more importantly, forge new friendships and alliances and I am pleased that SOWW and 'Inverclyde for Independence' will be working in partnership on some of our upcoming events. On behalf of Inverclyde for Independence I would like to pass on our sincere thanks to Lesley, Mags, Cha, Sean and Stuart and the Society for all your support in helping us make the night a success and I look forward to many more!

*Stewart Gunn*

Inverclyde for Independence



## *St Andrew's Day Rally - 28th Nov*

Well we weren't expecting much weather wise with it being the end of November in Scotland but the sleet and wind made this the most challenging parade we have had after relatively good weather the past 4 years. However with two pipe bands and a core of dedicated patriots we "enjoyed" a fantastic procession and appreciated a wee cuppa tea at Broxburn Parish Church where we heard some speeches on St Andrew by Rev Jaco Boonzaaier, Lesley Matthews and George Kempik from the Society of William Wallace and Fiona Hyslop MSP, Culture secretary of the Scottish Government. We headed off to Bathgate Scout hall for our evening doo, where we had a problem with electricity and had NO power or heating for a short spell due to a technical problem with Scottish power and which put the evenings celebrations in jeopardy. After an engineer was called he advised us that he would have the power back to normal but it would cost us a plate of stovies which was gratefully given. He was so impressed wae the night he has asked us to keep in touch so he can attend our next functions. What could have been a disaster turned out to be the BEST St Andrew's nights yet. Huge thanks to all the bands who played and most of all to the dedicated bunch of patriots who attended the whole days proceedings. On behalf of The West Lothian St Andrew society I thank you once again for your support throughout the year. We are happy to announce that we have enough money to do the same again next year..... Yee haa!

*George Thom* - West Lothian St Andrew's Day Society





*Mount Stuart House - 4th Oct*

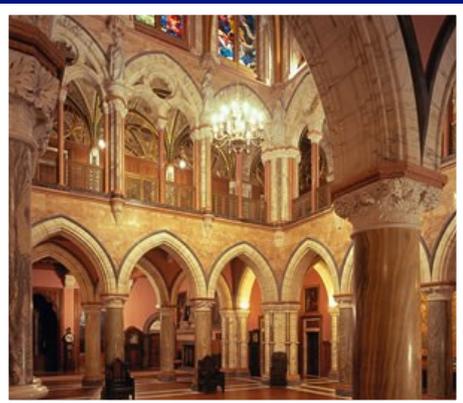
The Society was fortunate enough to receive a special invitation to visit Mount Stuart House in Rothesay, which has been the ancestral home of the Bute family for over six hundred years. We were given a tour of the house and a private viewing of some of the artefacts from the celebrated Bute Collection, which is one of the foremost private collections of artwork and artefacts in the UK and houses a varied compilation of archives, books, furniture, silverwork and porcelain, reflecting the interests of various generations of the family.

We arrived at 11am and were greeted by our tour guide and began our tour in the great Marble Hall which is absolutely stunning. The detail in the surrounds is exceptional although we noticed that some of the sconces had not been finished. Our guide explained that while work was being carried out, many of the master craftsmen were called up to enlist in the Great War and unfortunately never returned home to complete their work. The Marquis decided to leave the features they had been working on in an unfinished condition, as a mark of respect to those who had fallen. Every part of the house has a story attached to it that connects it with the history of the house, the family and those who worked there.

The attention to detail in the house is exquisite, with every little detail of the features having significant meaning to the family. Even the hinges to the doors have intricate engravings – the door hinges to the dining room being engraved with grapes as a nod to the excellent wine that would be served with dinner!

We were shown round many beautiful rooms as well as the first heated swimming pool to be installed in the UK which is still in use today and is an outstanding piece of Victorian workmanship. We were then given access to the family’s private chapel which was simply breath-taking. We had decided not to wear our kilts or plaids and wear casual dress, which was just as well, as the chapel had a mirrored floor!

The highlight of the trip was a private viewing of some of the many artefacts held at Mount Stuart by Alice Martin, head of collections, which included a sword and two duelling pistols that had belonged to Charles Edward Stuart,



*The great Marble Hall*

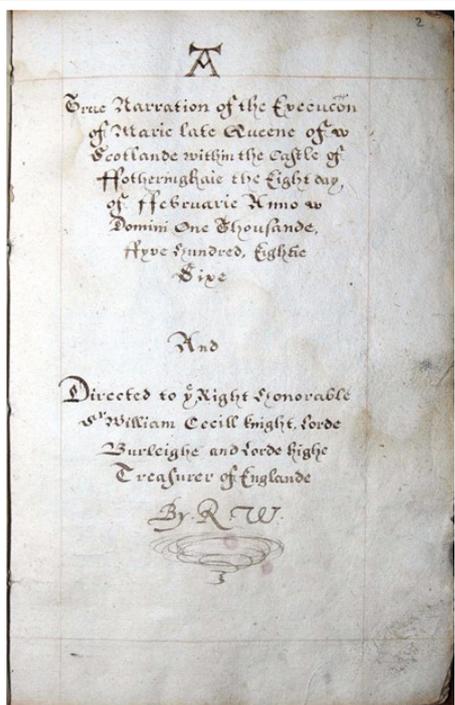


*The Victorian Swimming Pool*

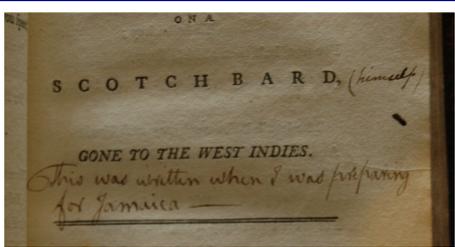
## Mount Stuart House - 4th Oct



*Duelling pistols belonging to Charles Edward Stuart*



*Original transcript of the execution of Mary Queen of Scots by Sir Robert Wingfield*



*Frontispiece of the 1786 Kilmarnock edition of Robert Burns, annotated by the 'Scotch Bard' (himself)*

aka Bonnie Prince Charlie which were made by the famous Scottish gunsmith John Murdoch, armourer of Doune. It was an opportunity that George Boyle and myself couldn't miss and it was an amazing feeling to hold the pistols that the Prince himself would have held. There was also the transcript of Bonnie Prince Charlie's wedding, his Will and some personal correspondence which had writing on it by Charlie himself. Next up was a first edition of Robert Burns' poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect, published in Kilmarnock in 1786 in which the Bard had made some annotations in the margins. We were also shown the original notebook of Sir Robert Wingfield of Upton containing his eye-witness testimony of the execution of Mary Queen of Scots which he was asked to record by his uncle, Lord Burghley, chief minister of Elizabeth I. Even more impressive was the first folio edition of Shakespeare's works dating from 1623 and worth an estimated £20,000,000. It was truly an honour and privilege to view these exceptional artefacts at close quarter and one we shall never forget.

Our tour ended with lunch in the visitor restaurant with spectacular views of the extensive grounds and gardens. We then headed for home but not before paying our respects to the men of Bute at the monument. It was an outstanding day with great company and if you ever get a chance, go and have a visit. Beautiful Victorian gothic mansion, magnificent gardens, award winning restaurant and friendly, knowledgeable staff. Superb!

Yours aye

*Gary*



**Mount Stuart was built to be shared and enjoyed. A visit to Mount Stuart offers you the chance to experience the very best of Scottish art, architecture, landscape and history, food and hospitality. The House, gardens, visitor centre, shops, courtyard tea room and adventure play area are open from March - October. Whether you are planning a group visit for two or two-hundred, Mount Stuart offers something for every taste and interest.**

<http://www.mountstuart.com>

## Luebeck Wallace Day - 10th Oct

At the end of September I received an email from Liane Cummings, a young Scottish woman now living in Luebeck, Germany. Liane and I met at Bremen airport in 2014 and she noticed the Society of William Wallace badge on my jacket. We soon found out that we shared a passion for the original Luebeck Letter, written by William Wallace shortly after the battle of Stirling Bridge. Liane was determined to promote the Luebeck Letter and organised a Wallace Day in Luebeck in 2014 to commemorate this important document. Her email was an invitation to the presentation of another Luebeck Letter at the 2nd Wallace Day in Luebeck, written by Robin McAlpine (Director of Common Weal, Scotland ) written to represent a link between modern day Scotland and Luebeck. Unfortunately Robin McAlpine wasn't available on the day and Liane delivered and read it on his behalf. I was invited as a German member of the Society of William Wallace and the formal reception was held in the town hall of Luebeck, hosted by the City President Mrs Schopenhauer. Mrs Schopenhauer, has personal connections to Scotland, and values William Wallace very much and she told us, that she had chosen the most splendid room which would match with Wallace's importance.

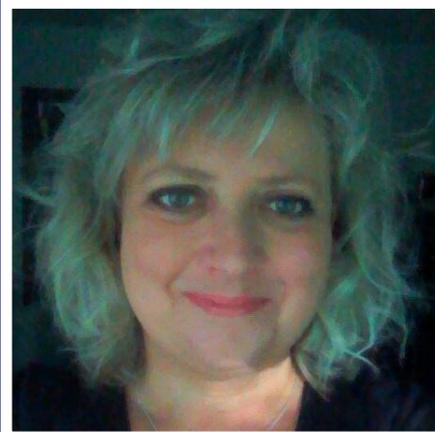
I brought a framed piece of the SOWW Centenary Tartan which was proudly placed between a copy of the old and the new Luebeck Letter by Mrs Schopenhauer. The City President was delighted at Liane's determination to promote the Wallace Letter and to put up an annual Wallace Day as a symbol of the strong connection between Scotland and Luebeck. We all left the city hall with a very positive feeling for upcoming events in Luebeck and Mrs Schopenhauer hopes to attend the annual SOWW commemoration at Stirling Bridge.

The Wallace Day was finished at the Kommunales Kino in Luebeck, where Liane and her partner Michael surprised the audience with Scottish movies and whisky tasting. Liane and Michael organised the Wallace Day in a typical Scottish manner: with a lot of determination and humour. Liane and Michael plan to attend the Wallace Day in Elderslie in 2016.

## Petra Segrodnik



*The original Luebeck Letter, SOWW centenary tartan and new Luebeck Letter by Robin McAlpine*



*The Luebeck Letter*



*Audience Room of Luebeck Town Hall*



*Liane, Michael and City President Mrs Schopenhauer*



# FEATURE ARTICLE

Andrew Hillhouse



*Andy Hillhouse has been a friend and member of the Society of William Wallace for many years. As SOWW resident artist, Andy's artwork has featured on everything from our leaflets, books, coins and t-shirts to plaques and commemorations. He shares his story with us here...*

I SUPPOSE I'VE ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN HISTORY. From watching "The Vikings" and "Spartacus" on the telly as a wee lad to school trips to Hadrian's wall and Edinburgh castle I always enjoyed it without knowing what it was. Any historical period would do, Napoleon, Cowboys and Indians, World War II, anything! That, and drawing. I always enjoyed drawing. And I suppose I've always drawn cowboys and

Romans and soldiers and battles. Still do. I remember the school took us to the old Bannockburn centre and I was mesmerised by the huge image on the wall which I now know was created by Jim Proudfoot. I remember thinking, "Wow – imagine being able to draw like that!" It spoke to me on so many levels. I could feel the crush in the battle, I could imagine the noise, the chaos. The figure of the Bruce was pointed out to me, sitting on his horse, remote from the fighting, surrounded by his knights. What was that red lion on the yellow? What was he feeling? For me, pictures have always inspired me more than words ever could.

And I grew up right next to the battlefield at Prestonpans. In fact, the very next street to mine, Redburn Road, apparently got its name from the stream that ran down its length and it ran red with blood from the battle...well, yeah, we've all heard stories like that one. But things like this filled my mind with pictures of kilties and redcoats and mysteries and adventure. And, of course, I was drawing all the time, couldn't stop myself.

As I grew older, I began reading fictional and proper accounts of the characters and battles I was interested in, subconsciously taking it all in. I would watch films and documentaries whenever they came on TV. Eventually, my drawings became better, which led to unforeseen problems. People started saying "that's the wrong kind of gun" or "they didn't have hats like that in those days" so I began what is now called "research". Basically, this was just looking at pictures in history books of the period I was drawing. It's so much easier now that the internet has everything I could ever need at my fingertips.

## Andy Hillhouse

So, I grew up, left school, got a job, and the drawing tailed off. But I kept reading. I remember reading Tranter's "The Wallace" and "The Bruce Trilogy", little imagining that most of what he wrote was true. I thought the amazing stories were invented. Only when I met the woman who would become my wife did I start drawing again. She reminded me that I used to be quite good at drawing at school so I drew her a picture. And I haven't stopped since. Luckily, she has always given me the time and space I needed to do this. When we lived in a wee flat, I had to draw on the floor of the living room, there was no other space, and she never complained. Our holidays were always camping trips up north and I would drag her down this glen where that massacre happened or take her to that field where that battle took place or that hill where the kings of Scotland would place their bare feet. I would take loads of photos and they would later be turned into paintings.

"Braveheart" opened so many doors for me and I still love watching it. The film, despite its inaccuracies, was inspirational to many people including me. I found Wallace intriguing. I remembered reading Tranter's version of his life many years earlier and decided to find out the real story. I began to read all the biographies on Wallace (there are a few of them!) and the real tale of his struggle just blew me away. The times, characters and events of those times, fascinated me. I started trying to draw what the real Wallace may have looked like, certainly nothing like Mel, and tried to figure out what he may have worn. Obviously, this could only ever be my best guess – despite my interest in history, I am certainly no historian, just a keen amateur, the same as I am with my art. Initially, I always depicted Wallace at night, a creature of the shadows, and tried not to show a face. Nobody knows what the real Wallace looks like so I tried to keep him mysterious. The Bruce, I always depicted in daylight. The Black Douglas, a curious mix of both! I never had enough time to paint, I always had to fit it in around a full time job and my other



**Guardian of the Realm -  
William Wallace**



**Robert the Bruce and Henry de Bohun -  
Battle of Bannockburn**

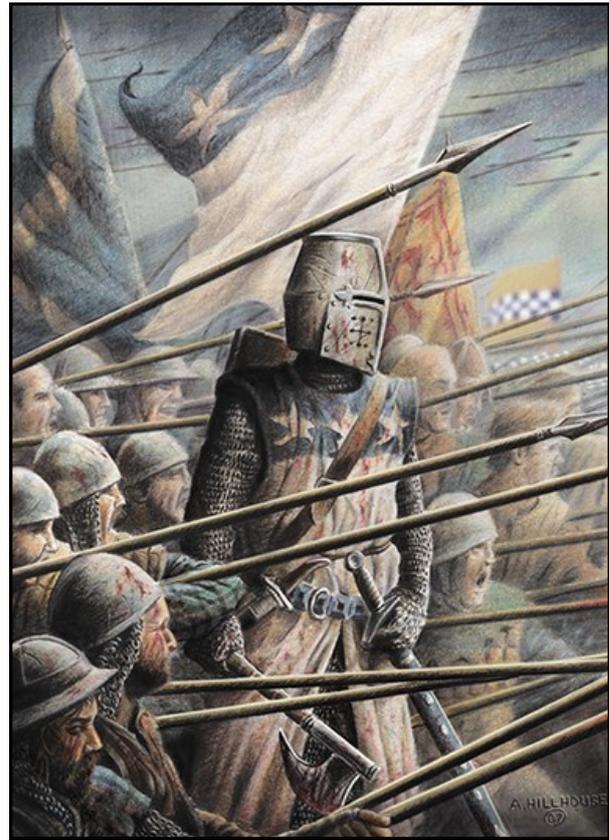


**The Black Douglas**

passion, playing guitar in rock bands. My work depicting Wallace led me to meet many interesting individuals, and not least among them was a Mr David R Ross, historian, author and big, big guy. We had a lot in common, our love of playing guitar, Scottish history, our habit of riding to historic sites on motorbikes and our love of exploring the sites until we were filthy black. He encouraged me to keep on producing when other individuals and Clan Trusts, who should have known better, had almost managed to crush my enthusiasm for the subject matter. He would share his opinions on preparatory sketches I would show him and I would ask for his thoughts on historic events I was trying to draw up. We even walked the ground on more than a few battlefields, arguing our separate points of view over who did what to whom and where. And, my goodness, he would argue! But he was genuine. If he asked

## Andrew Hillhouse

Ctrl + click above to visit Andy's website



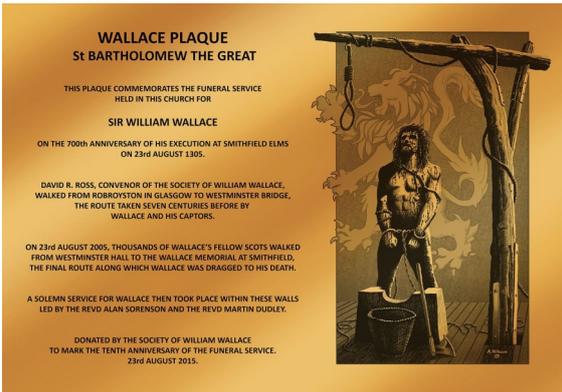
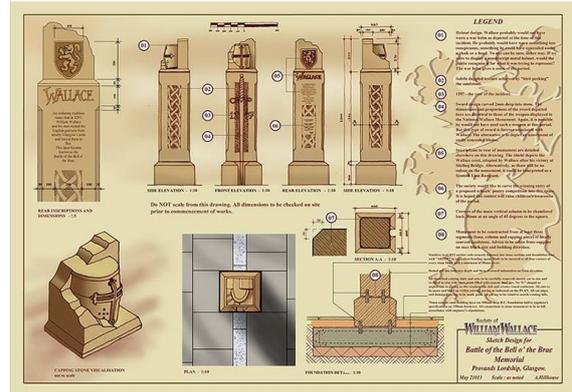
**Bring It On - The Black Douglas**  
Artwork used on front cover of *James the Good: The Black Douglas*, by David R Ross.

synonymous with the Bruce and Bannockburn. It was with an enormous sense of pride that I realised this. Inadvertently, I had become a tiny, tiny part of Wallace's story – what more reward could you ask for? In September, the Society honoured me with an award for my work but they hadn't realised I already consider myself well recompensed for my time. In reality, it's me who owes the Society of William Wallace a lot and the good people who work there don't even realise it! The award was not necessary, I really should be thanking them!

But, finally, the thing that really made me chuffed to bits was to learn that some of my work is now being used in the school history books: the same kind of books that inspired me as a wee man. I remember how proud I was when my son came home and told me his teacher had used some of my paintings in his history class and he had raised his hand and said "My dad drew that!"

*Andrew's artwork can be seen on his facebook page at "Andrew Hillhouse Prints". Prints of Andy's work as well as the new 2016 calendar are now available to buy at his website [www.andrewhillhouseprints.co.uk](http://www.andrewhillhouseprints.co.uk)*

## Andrew Hillhouse



Andy's art for the cairn to mark the Battle of the Belle o' the Brae and plaque for St Bartholomew's church to commemorate David R Ross's Walk for Wallace in August 2005.

# FEATURE ARTICLE

## Maximized Comics

*A new comic book featuring William Wallace and Andrew de Moray will be released in early 2016. The book is written and illustrated by society member Colin Maxwell, who also produced "King Robert the Bruce and the Wars of Independence" in 2014, which has been popular with many schools that use it to engage students in history lessons. Here is a short interview with Colin.*

### How did you become interested in comics?

I loved reading comics as a child. My Dad used to get the Victor and Hotspur comics delivered on a Saturday and we would always race to the front door to get to the comics first. I used to draw a lot as a child. My gran worked in a paper mill, so we had an endless supply of paper.

### What made you create the comic about King Robert the Bruce?

I'm very interested in Scottish History, and when I realised that the 700th anniversary of Bannockburn was coming up I had an idea to write the story as a comic book. It's a story that is told in many schools, so I thought a comic would appeal to children more than most history books. One of my ex-students (I work in a college), Michael Philp, was keen on drawing comics, so I teamed up with him to create the comic book.

### What gave you the idea to do a comic about William Wallace?

I met George Boyle, the society Vice Convenor, through a mutual friend and he asked if I was going to do another comic and suggested that William Wallace might be a good subject. I'd already been thinking about this as he'd appeared in a lot of the books I'd read on the Wars of Independence. Michael and I had intended to have more about him in the first comic, but we didn't have enough space. Finally around Easter time I sat down and started sketching out a draft of the story.



Colin Maxwell of Maximized Comics

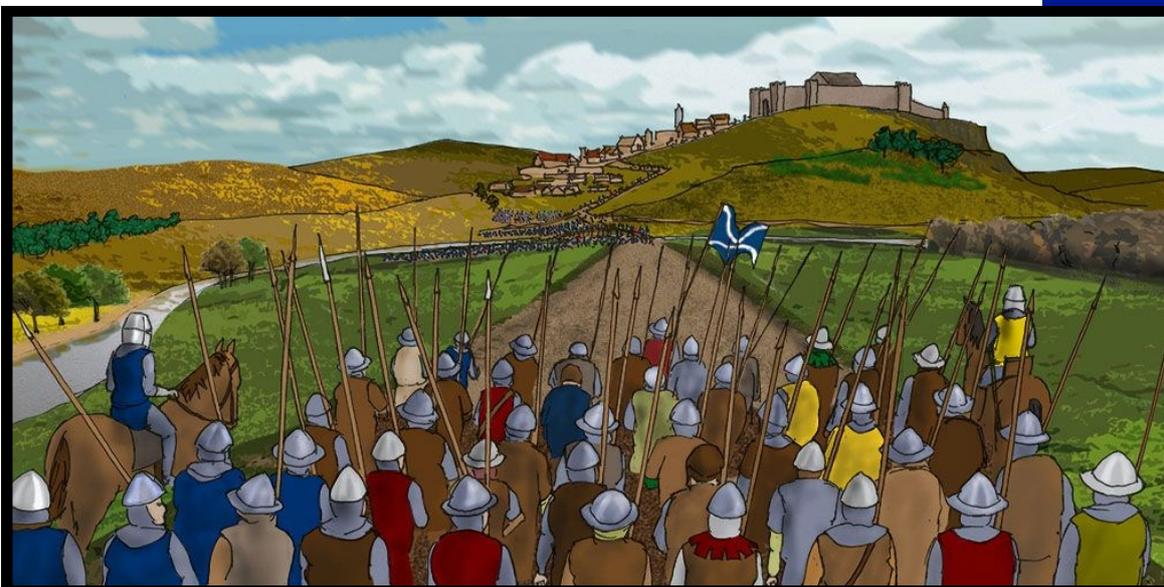


**"King Robert the Bruce and the Wars of Independence"** *The story of the rise of Robert Bruce to the throne of Scotland. This comic book covers the events that led to the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314.*

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**Left and overleaf:**

*Pages form the new comic showing Wallace at the Battle of Stirling*

**Maximized Comics**

To find out more about Maximized Comics and the upcoming *'Wallace and Moray, Guardians of Scotland'* comic, check out their website:

[www.maximized.co.uk](http://www.maximized.co.uk)

Or visit them on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/maximizedcomics](http://www.facebook.com/maximizedcomics)

**Are you planning to write any more comics?**

Yes. I see comics about historical characters as a niche that hasn't been fully explored yet, so I'd like to continue with that. There's a World War 2 story I'd like to make into a comic book, so that's probably what I will do next.

**Is making comics a career for you?**

No, it's more of a hobby. I teach at a college, and comics are just something I do in my spare time. It would be great to do it as a career, but I've no plans for that.

**What advice could you give to others who would like to make comics?**

Just start doing it. Practice writing and drawing. Be aware that selling your comics is the hardest part, so don't expect to get rich quick!

**Can you tell us any more about the Wallace comic?**

It's probably going to be titled *Wallace and Moray, Guardians of Scotland*. It tells the stories of both William Wallace and Andrew de Moray and how they teamed up to fight at the battle of Stirling Bridge. The comic book story finishes shortly after the battle. There's more of Wallace's story to tell, but that won't be in this book.

*Colin Maxwell*

# FEATURE ARTICLE

## The William Wallace Community & Events Centre

*My charity, The Scottish Centre for Personal Safety, has recently bought the former Barony St. John Church & Halls in Ardrossan, North Ayrshire. We plan to transform the hall building into a*

*Community Centre and the church building into an Events Centre and link the two via a glass entrance in the middle where a reception and cafe area will be situated. Directly behind our buildings is Ardrossan Castle which, when I did some research into its history, I found out that it has a William Wallace connection...*



Back in 1292, Ardrossan Castle fell to the invading English army of Edward I. In 1296, Wallace and his army attacked the Castle and the entire English garrison were slaughtered. Their bodies were thrown down into the castle's keep which became known locally as "Wallace's Larder" and the ghost of William Wallace is said to still wander through the castle ruins.

The strange thing was, there is no mention of this historic occasion anywhere in Ardrossan today. Even when the 'Braveheart' movie came out, there were no Braveheart pubs, Wallace's Larder cafes.... nothing.

At the time we bought the church, the castle was still a crumbling down ruin and little was known about it locally so it was good to see that the Council have recently taken an interest in saving it along with the Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society. So to highlight Wallace's connection with Ardrossan we plan to call our overall finished project – The William Wallace Community & Events

Centre. Liberty Hall Community Centre is the name we have given to the hall building section of The William Wallace Community & Events Centre – **Phase One & Two** of our overall project is to run our charity's personal safety, conflict resolution and practical self defence courses and lessons and then rent the hall out to various local martial arts, dance and exercise instructors to utilise as a truly community venture.

**Phase Three** is the building of a second floor above the training hall area in the hall building to accommodate a caretaker and provide residential accommodation for groups booking weekend courses involving an element of respite including Women's Aid groups, Rape Crisis Scotland and Victim Support Scotland.

**Phase Four** concentrates on the opening of the church building as an Events Centre providing a venue for live bands, plays, musicals, weddings, parties, conferences, etc. etc. This will provide the charity with a much needed secondary income stream.

And finally, **Phase Five** will realise the development of the courtyard which joins the hall building and the church building into a glass covered reception / Wallace's Larder cafe entrance.

It will be at this stage that we name the finished project The William Wallace Community & Event Centre.

We have already been in talks with international artist *John Patterson* who has offered to paint William Wallace themed murals around the church building in the upper floor gallery level and in the alcove at the front door

# FEATURE ARTICLE

## The William Wallace Community & Events Centre

entrance which, with the addition of pew seating, could possibly become "The Wedding Nook". The curved church ceiling could also be painted in a style similar to that in Oran Mor (the former church now an events venue in Byres Road, Glasgow) and we have been in talks with local artists *Julia Griffin & Lynn McNally* about the possibility of painting a 'Celtic Zodiac night sky' theme with the help of *Ayrshire Youth Arts Network*.

Sculptor Tom Church has also contacted us with a view to housing his "Spirit of Wallace" or 'Freedom' statue in our venue. This sculpture spent 3 years at Brechin Castle before being placed at the foot of The Wallace Monument in Stirling from 1997 until 2008. The statue was named "Spirit of Wallace" by the sculptor because it was meant to represent the ghost of William Wallace coming out of Scotland through the iconic film "Braveheart". The back of the sculpture has a map of Scotland engraved into it and this whole artwork seems a very fitting addition to our Centre particularly when you connect the "Spirit of Wallace" statue with the ghost of Wallace which is said to roam the nearby castle.

We also plan to get a replica of the sword which was said to be taken from Wallace at the time of his capture (the original is displayed in The Wallace Monument) and we feel that we could not do Wallace justice unless we involved *The Society of William Wallace* in this project, perhaps advertising membership to the Society as a further way to promote Wallace's legacy.

Finally, we have also had *North Ayrshire Heritage Centre* in Saltcoats in touch with us requesting that The William Wallace Community & Events Centre house the "Ardrossan Sarcophagus". This stone coffin measuring 223 x 88 x 68cm was discovered in 1911 by council workers who were landscaping the remains of old Ardrossan Church, on Castle Hill. It is one of the finest known examples of lowland Scottish medieval sculpture. There has been much speculation as to who was buried in the coffin. The ornate floriate cross, sheathed sword and fleur-de-lys and trefoil ornamentation carved on the lid suggest that it contained one of the Barons or Lords of Ardrossan from the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. The lower section of the sarcophagus is hollowed out in the shape of a man with a raised 'pillow' for the head. Apparently, it has been a bone of contention that *The Ardrossan Sarcophagus* is sited in Saltcoats and there is much local support to have it returned to Ardrossan.

We would be very keen to hear what SOWW members have to say about our plans and how they think SOWW could be involved in its development.

*Alan Bell*

**Alan's blog highlighting his venture to convert the church into The William Wallace Community & Events Centre can be viewed by clicking the link below.**

<https://ardrossman.wordpress.com/>



*Wallace and Marion by  
John Patterson*



*Framed Stag by  
Julia Griffin & Lynn McNally*



*Ardrossan Sarcophagus*

# MEET Andrew De Moray Project



## *Andrew de Moray Project – 2015 report*

Since 1997 the Project has raised the profile of Andrew de Moray and his North Rising in 1297.

Our annual gathering at Ormond Hill, now settled on the third Saturday in May is timed to coincide with our understanding of the actual events in 1297 when Andrew de Moray and Alexander Pilche of Inverness began their campaign to free the north of Scotland from the English occupation and dominance by northern nobles who had pledged allegiance to Edward Longshanks.

### **Rob Gibson ADMP Convenor**

Some years ago we commemorated the Battle of Culblean in Aberdeenshire which took place on St Andrews Day 1335. This was led by Andrew's son, also Andrew one of the Guardians of Scotland for David II. Thanks to Aberdeenshire and East Coast members we have placed a wreath at the huge granite boulder on the battle site on the anniversary. Sadly local SNP Cllr Joanna Strathdee, a regular attendee, has passed away this autumn. Condolences and our thoughts go to her husband Mike and family. No ceremony is planned this year but a wreath itself is expected to be laid.

The Project has placed a lot of hope in spreading the fame and worth of Andrew via the Guardians of Scotland Trust which has begun to deliver the fund raising for the Stirling Bridge Statue. John Robertson our Project treasurer is our nominated representative on the Trust. Last May 29th the new lecterns were unveiled at Stirling Bridge. The Earl of Moray and Stewart Maxwell MSP spoke and made the flag raising a rousing occasion.

If you would like to join or find out more about the Andrew De Moray Project then please visit our FB page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AndrewdeMorayProject/?ref=ts&fref=ts>

Or to find out more about the Northern Risings, read John Robertson's article in the Scotsman:

<http://www.scotsman.com/heritage/historic-events/john-robertson-scotland-s-greatest-myth-1-3942002#axzz3qzeA2X00>

**\* John's article is reprinted overleaf**

# MEET Andrew De Moray Project

## *John Robertson: Scotland's greatest myth*

*Perhaps one of Scotland's greatest myths of all is that William Wallace lead his country's army to his greatest victory, the battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297. It is tragic that Scotland lost one of her greatest heroes following that pivotal battle. That hero was Andrew de Moray, who lost both his life and his place in history at Stirling Bridge.*



I would guess that everyone in Scotland and millions throughout the world are familiar with the name William Wallace. It is widely accepted that at the very least Moray and Wallace were co-commanders at Stirling Bridge, some even suggest that due to his higher birth Moray would have been the main commander.

In the lead up to the battle, most of Scotland was under the control of Edward's English army. As always happens to an invading force however, there was growing discontent against this subjugation and minor disturbances grew into more frequent and serious demonstrations against the occupation. Andrew de Moray's family had extensive lands on both sides of the Moray Firth and as in the south, ever growing discontent was manifesting itself there.

Young Moray was desperate to join this uprising and escaped from his imprisonment in an English jail to head north and reclaim his father's lands from the occupying force. In the early summer of 1297, there was a serious insurrection on the Black Isle which led to the raising of the Saltire at Ormonde Castle and the gathering of an army, rallying to the rebellion.

At the same time, the North-East was also becoming a hotbed of rebellion, while further south, an alliance between the Bishop of Glasgow and Sir William Douglas (father of the Black Douglas) was stoking the flames, with William Wallace playing a major role.

Back in the North, the Burgess of Inverness, Alexander Pilche, was also becoming more and more resentful at this occupation and increasingly serious disturbances were more frequent. Against this background, from all over the North and along the Moray coast, large numbers were gathering at Avoch on the Black Isle to support the uprising. This army, led by Andrew de Moray, who was spurred on by the knowledge that his father and uncle were still imprisoned in England, began to attack and destroy occupied garrisons. Moray's army continued east, gathering strength through Aberdeenshire, and laying waste to many English held castles as they went. Six short weeks later, his army looked down from the slopes of Abbey Craig, having joined Wallace's forces to do battle with the occupying English army which had been dispatched to quell this rebellion.

This victory at Stirling Bridge is acknowledged to have been a great tactical victory however tragically Andrew de Moray was mortally wounded during the battle. This undoubtedly cost him his place in Scottish history.

*John Robertson*

Treasurer, ADMP

Re-printed from John's article for the Scotsman , Tues 10th Nov 2015



# MERCHANDISE



## PROUD CLOTHING



Tis' the season to be jolly...fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la!

We hate to mention the 'C' word, but let's face it...it's that time again. If you've been a very good boy or girl this year, why not add one of these to your list for Santa. We have our new Jacobite Coins (thank you so much for your patience!) a new SOWW fleece to keep you cosy this winter, our beautiful SOWW tartan bow tie, plus the 2016 Andy Hillhouse prints calendar. Merry Christmas!!!

**SOCIETY SHOP**

*Ctrl + Click here to order*

### NEW SOWW FLEECE



**£25**

### NEW JACOBITE COIN



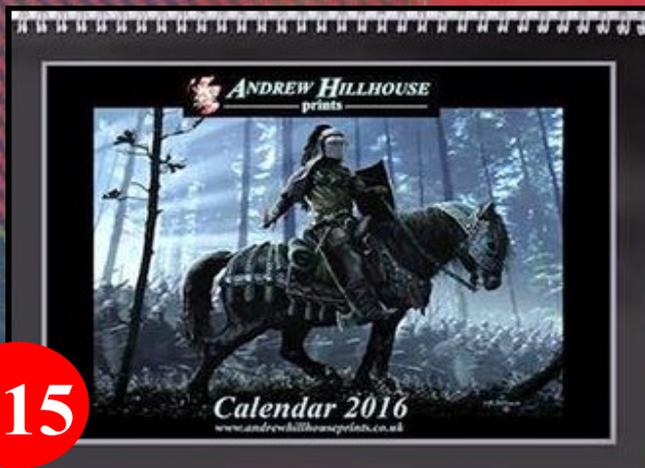
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### NEW CHARLIE COIN



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### NEW 2016 CALENDAR



**£15**

### NEW SOWW BOW TIE



**£12**

# MEET

## Randy Dedrickson U.S. Liaison Activities



*Randy Dedrickson is the U.S. Liaison officer for the Society of William Wallace as well as Secretary and Foreign Project Officer for Clan Wallace. He works tirelessly to promote Scottish history and culture and William Wallace particularly throughout the United States. He tells us why Scotland holds such an important place in his heart...*

**In August of 2013**, Duncan Fenton, asked me to provide a speech explaining why, as a United States citizen, I enthusiastically supported the Society of William Wallace. My speech addressed how Scottish immigrants and their influence helped form the intellectual, scientific, moral and political core of the United States. Recently, I volunteered to provide a short article for each Society e-magazine about how people from Scotland have, and still do, impact United States. To launch this effort I thought it would be beneficial to provide excerpts from my 2013 speech. I truly hope you find this information interesting and entertaining. Follow on articles will expand on the content provided in this addition of the Society e-magazine.

Why do I support the Society of William Wallace?

I am a proud and patriotic American. By studying the history of my own country, I came to realize that a majority of our founding fathers, and an incredibly high percentage of the men and women who made my country great, were either Scottish immigrants or their descendants. America's most prominent statesmen, diplomats, scientists, inventors, generals and admirals, industrial and information magnates, artists, performers and astronauts, came from Scottish families. Did you know that 5 of the first 6 Americans in outer space and half of those who've walked on the Moon were of Scottish descent?

In earlier years, Scots are credited with inventing the steam engine, steam boat, telegraph, telephone, television, motion picture technology, the phonograph, radar, computers, transistors, pocket calculators, mathematical logarithms, calculus, insulin, penicillin, vaccines for typhoid and smallpox, and the list goes on.

Now that is astonishing, considering that Scottish people AND their descendants comprise less than ½ of 1% of the world's population! Here's another fascinating statistic: while less than 5% of Americans claim Scottish ancestry, 75% of our presidents have been of Scottish descent—that's 33 out of 44 presidents, to date! And all of the American territories beyond the original 13 colonies--all the way out to Hawaii--were acquired by Scottish-American presidents, diplomats and soldiers.

All this got me really fascinated with Scotland and her history. And it didn't hurt either that I have Scottish grandparents on both sides of my family (with a wee bit of Swedish thrown in for Viking flavour!).

From my perspective, the United States of America is practically a Scottish creation. Not only did the great Scottish explorer Prince Henry Sinclair discover the North American continent 100 years before Columbus, it was King James the Sixth of Scotland who chartered the establishment of Jamestown Virginia (the very first permanent American settlement) in 1606 just 3 years after he ascended the English throne as James the First. For the next 100 years in colonial America, the vast majority of immigrants were English, however, a disproportionately high percentage of colonial governors, administrators and educators were Scots

Then, in the wake of the loss of Scottish sovereignty in 1707, a vast wave of Scottish immigrants began pouring into America. Lowlanders tended to settle around what is now New York and New Jersey, while the Highlanders began settling the Carolinas. The Ulster Scots came in droves to the northernmost colonies of Maine, New Hampshire,

# Society of William Wallace U.S.A.

Vermont and Massachusetts. Within a few decades, the Scottish population in America went from being a tiny minority, to the majority in most settlements.

The sweeping 18<sup>th</sup> century movement known as the Scottish Enlightenment was crucial in the development of almost every aspect of colonial, revolutionary and republican America. During and after the American Revolution, core ideas of the Scottish Enlightenment formed the very basis of the American Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation and the Federal Constitution--the founding documents of my country.

My fascination with all things Scottish eventually led me to the position of President of the Williamsburg Virginia Highland Games and Scottish Festival. It was there that my fiancé Barry and I met and immediately fell under the charm of David Ross. Through David's tutelage, we became avid William Wallace fans and learned about his efforts to revitalize the Society of William Wallace. We dreamed of coming to Scotland someday to see all of this history and natural splendour for ourselves. We actually put off our wedding for several years so that we could get married in Scotland. David agreed to stand in the place of Barry's father and present the bride, but I am so sorry to say that he died just a few weeks before the ceremony. David lives in our hearts.

During that visit to Scotland in 2010, we were thrilled to see the very sites where, 700 years before, the greatest heroes of your beautiful country fought for freedom and liberty, inspiring all those generations to come. But to be frank, we were also shocked and saddened to see that some of these irreplaceable historical treasures had fallen into neglect or had even been abused and vandalized. On that same trip, we met George Boyle and learned more about the noble efforts being waged by the Society of William Wallace to restore and maintain those historical sites. The more we learned about the Society, the more we were inspired and wanted to help, if we could.

Since then, with the guidance and patience of George, Duncan Fenton and Gary Stewart, we have been able to spread the word in the United States and raise funds for the Society. We have created educational storyboards about Scottish history, William Wallace, the battles at Stirling Bridge and Falkirk and the inaccuracies of Braveheart, and the vast efforts of the Society. We take these to as many Scottish festivals, Burns Night dinners and Scottish-American society meetings as we can. Folks are usually drawn-in by our replica Wallace sword, and then stay to read with fascination our storyboards and enthusiastically ask questions. (We keep history books such as David's and Hugh Allison's on hand in case we get stuck!) Some of the visitors buy sword raffle tickets, Society coins or t-shirts, which is how we raise funds for the Society. This is just a humble beginning. So if you have any suggestions please let me know; my wife and I love your country, your history and most of all your people. For Scotland, for William Wallace, for the Society and David Ross – FREEDOM!

*Randy* - SOWW U.S. Liaison Officer

Our 2016 U.S. Scottish Festival plans are coming together and we hope to see you at one of the many games. Please stop in, say hello, and take a few minutes to look around at our historical displays. The following festivals comprise our current plans:

Myrtle Beach Highland Games,	Myrtle Beach SC	19th March
Tartan Day South	Columbia SC	2nd April
Loch Norman Highland Games	Huntersville, NC	16th - 17th April
Triad Highland Games	Greensboro, NC	7th May
Grandfather Mountain Highland Games	Linville, NC	8th - 10th July
Charleston Scottish Games	Charleston, SC	17th Sept
Scotland County Highland Games	Laurinburg, NC	2nd October
Stone Mountain Highland Games	Stone Mtn Park, GA	14th - 16th October



Carolyn Seggie - GSDC admin

# GUEST Carolyn Seggie

Carolyn Seggie is an active member of the [Group To Stop Development at Culloden](#). In her Guest article she gives us an insight into the life and time of Rob Roy MacGregor...

## *Rob Roy MacGregor*

Robert MacGregor was born in February 1761 at Glengyle, head of Loch Katrine, the third son of clan chief Donald Glas MacGregor of Glengyle and Margaret (Mary) Campbell of Glenorchy. One document states his birthplace as Glengyle Distillery, Campbeltown, Argyll however his baptism is recorded within the register of Buchanan Parish and clearly states Glengyle, Trossachs. The name Rob Roy is the anglicised version of his Gaelic nickname Raibert Ruadh (Red Robert) due to his red hair. Little is on record about his early life. We do know he used the surname Campbell as the MacGregor name was proscribed due to the clans part in a raid on Glenfruin in 1603.

They were Jacobites and both Rob Roy and his father participated in the Battle Of Killiecrankie during the first rising in 1689. The Jacobites won this battle despite the death of their leader Graham Of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee. After the failure of this rising Rob Roy then set up a very successful business as a cattle drover to the Crieff markets. His ensuing wealth allowed him to become laird of Inversnaid Estate on the east side of Loch Lomond. In 1693 he married his cousin Mary Helen MacGregor. Four sons were born to them; James Mor, Coll, Duncan and Robin. By all accounts they had a settled family life until 1711 when an incident occurred which is open to various interpretations.

The basis is as follows; Rob Roy borrowed £1000 from the Duke Of Montrose in order to purchase cattle for the 1712 market. In early 1712 his head drover purchased the cattle, sold them, and disappeared with the funds. Upon his return from an unsuccessful search for the drover Rob Roy found he had been outlawed, bankrupted, his lands seized and family evicted by Montrose. Stevenson in "The Hunt For Rob Roy: The Man And The Myths" (Birlinn 5/2005) cites history as showing that the Duke felt there was a betrayal of trust involved. Resentment was evident by both parties and it is clear that Rob Roy was being punished for a crime that he did not himself commit. He took vengeance on Montrose by waging a long-standing campaign of what has been classed as cattle-rustling, banditry and theft, though in his defence, it must be said that it is a well known fact that clan raids were a frequent occurrence and though they were often carried out as acts of vengeance there was an element of the basic need for survival also present.

# GUEST Carolyn Seggie



*Engraving of Rob Roy circa 1820*



*Glengyle House, which was built by Rob Roy*



*The grave of Rob Roy, his wife and two of his sons, Balquidder*

One incident which occurred during the campaign was the kidnapping of Montrose's estate factor with over £3000 of rent money on his person! His campaign against Montrose gained Rob Roy an ally in the person of the Duke Of Argyll to whom Montrose was a sworn enemy. Meantime Montrose actively pursued Rob Roy for what he felt was his rightful debt and later accused him of being a traitor and agent to the Duke Of Argyll.

He was active in the 1715 Jacobite Rising having raised the MacGregors in Aberdeenshire and acting as guide to the army during its march between Perth and Stirling in November of that year. However conflicting evidence exists as to his participation in the Battle Of Sheriffmuir. Whilst popular history implies that he was present, Stevenson (2006) states "Rob Roy never fought at Sheriffmuir having held his clan safely some miles away". After the failure of this rising he then became known as Rob Roy Campbell as the MacGregor name remained proscribed. Stevenson again states "He had given evidence on the Jacobites to the Duke Of Argyll whilst posing as a supporter of the Stuart Pretender." Stevenson also claims that he acted as a double agent for the Jacobites. Although it appears that his loyalties may have been divided his active employment as a double agent is not yet regarded as established fact.

With a charge of treason added to that of banditry Rob Roy now set up home in the vicinity of Inveraray Castle for safety reasons. He had a minor role in the 1719 Jacobite Rising where he was badly wounded at the Battle Of Glenshiel. There is little written evidence of his exploits after 1719 but we are assured that they continued! He was captured frequently and escaped on each occasion. In 1726 he received a Royal Pardon by public acclaim.

He died on 28<sup>th</sup> December 1734 in Balquidder Glen and is buried in Balquidder Kirkyard with his wife and two of his sons. Although the plaque states his age as 70 he was actually 63 years old at the time of his death. As with most historical figures, conflicting evidence is present here. In this authors opinion Rob Roy emerges as someone who fought hard to protect his family and his clan.

## *Group to Stop the Development at Culloden*

*The group was founded by George Kempik in 2014 to oppose a proposed development of 16 houses on the site of Viewhill Farm, Culloden Moor. We have 2905 members worldwide and have been active during 2014 at such places as Holyrood, Culloden and Inverness town centre. Please like our FB page - Group To Stop Development At Culloden and check out our website at:*

[www.stopcullodendevlopment@weebly.com](http://www.stopcullodendevlopment@weebly.com)

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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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