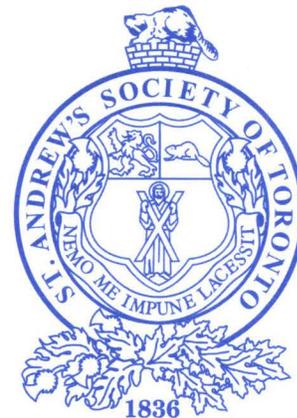


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# Newsletter

## of The St. Andrew's Society of Toronto



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2013, #2

April, 2013

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**A**fter a four-year apprenticeship as your 2nd, then 1st Vice President, I am deemed to be ready to take over. This does not happen without much mentoring, in particular from our immediate Past President, Graham Desson.

On behalf of the members, I would like to thank Graham for all he has done in the last two years. Graham has been impressive as President, gentlemanly at all times, with a flair for finding new activities for the Society, a passion for our Grants recipients, inimitable in his dramatic recitation of "Tam O'Shanter" and a singer to boot. I look forward to having his continued advice as he remains on the Board.

We must say goodbye to three Board members who are stepping down. Alister Mason, an exemplary Treasurer for several years, has not only kept our finances in great shape, but his keen eye for detail has made sure that we kept on the right track with many issues. While Peter Fleming, Chair of the Communications Committee, leaves us as Chair, he will continue with committee work in both the Ball and Communications Committees. Our sincere thanks to both Alister and Peter for their work on the Society's behalf. Thank you also to Pat Main, our outgoing Immediate Past President, who leaves the Board as well, after eight years of stellar service. She will remain active on the Grants Committee.

Your Nominating Committee was determined to have a full slate of younger Board members this year, an ambition that was happily successful. Ann Pennington has taken over as Hon. Treasurer, Mark MacLean is our 2nd Vice-President, Darren Purse fills the long-empty Chair of the Program Committee and we welcome Stewart Kirkpatrick as Member at Large. You will read more about them elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Attention will be paid to retaining and building our membership over the next two years. We are looking to bring new events that will attract both young and old. Our new website is generating considerable interest and has been successful in attracting online membership applications and renewals.

In 2014 the Society will be having a special event to commemorate and celebrate the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn. A committee is already in place to organize this event.

Also, 2014 is The Year of Homecoming Scotland 2014, a year-long program of events celebrating the food and drink, natural beauty and active adventures, and the rich culture and ancestral heritage of Scotland.

In the same year, Scotland, the home of golf, also plays host to one of the sport's most prestigious events, the Ryder Cup at Gleneagles, as well as the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Several Board members attended Tartan Week events in early April. This fulfills another mandate of the Society's Strategic Plan – to meet with other Scottish groups and to become better known to them. You will hear more about the Strategic Plan, and its progress, in further communications and elsewhere in the Newsletter.

In closing, I am honoured to be President of the Society. I look forward to keeping true to our charitable roots and to getting to know and helping those most in need in our society. I am proud that nearly every penny that we raise does indeed go to these charities.

Our main fundraising event is the St. Andrew's Charity Ball. Please come this year and help us to help others while having a wonderful evening!

**From The  
President,  
Anne Moir**



Most of the work of the Society is conducted by the Board of Directors and the six standing committees. Each committee is chaired by a board member. After the Annual General Meeting, the following was the composition of the Board and the positions filled by the members.

<b>President</b>	Anne Moir
<b>First Vice-President</b>	Rory Sinclair
<b>Second Vice-President</b>	Mark MacLean
<b>Hon. Secretary</b>	Douglas Gibson
<b>Hon. Treasurer</b>	Ann Pennington

The detailed work is conducted on behalf of the Society by the six standing committees. Membership may change during the year, but at this writing the following are the members of the committees. The President is, ex officio, a member of all committees.

<b>Investment Committee</b>	
Donald Cameron (Chair)	Graham Desson
John Catto	Ann Pennington <i>(ex officio)</i>

<b>Ball Committee</b>	
Katey Witt (Co-chair with the 48th Highlanders)	John Hutchinson
Graham Desson	Fiona Phillip
Michael Noble	Peter Fleming
Jean Normand	
Darren Purse	

**Program Committee** – at present a committee of 1  
Darren Purse (Chair)

<b>Chief Marshal</b>	John Hutchinson
<b>Hon. Counsel</b>	Alec Clute
<b>Chair, Investment Cttee.</b>	Donald Cameron
<b>Co-Chair, Ball Cttee.</b>	Katey Witt
<b>Chair, Program Cttee.</b>	Darren Purse
<b>Chair, Grants Cttee.</b>	MalcomSinclair
<b>Chair, Communications Cttee.</b>	vacant
<b>Chair, Membership Cttee.</b>	Frank Moir
<b>Member at Large</b>	Douglas Worling
<b>Member at Large</b>	Stewart Kirkpatrick

<b>Grants Committee</b>	
Malcolm Sinclair (Chair)	Pat Main
Jeanette Macdonald	Will Ingram
Graham Desson	

<b>Communications Committee</b>	
Chair is vacant	
Ian McHaffie (Newsletter Editor)	
Susan Paterson (Newsletter Assistant Editor)	
Peter Fleming	Jenna Little
Frank Moir	

<b>Membership Committee</b>	
Frank Moir (Chair)	Bill Walker
Bill McDonald	Jenna Little
Brian Cartwright	

## The Board and the Committees

### New Board Members Ann Pennington and Darren Purse

We welcome four New Board Members. Here and on page 8 is a bit about them.



**A**nn Pennington has recently retired from the exhilarating, exhausting, and wonderful career of midwifery. She brings her experience of running her own business to the task of administering the accounts of the Society and the Foundation.

Ann's parents, Ben Harrison and Sheila (née) Catto, attended the Ball for several years and encouraged her to go. They had so much fun that they have been attending the Ball ever since and have made some great friends in the Society! In fact, they had so much fun that they have started taking Scottish Country Dancing in Barrie this year!

**D**arren Purse was raised in Glasgow where he studied Hospitality at the Glasgow College of Food Technology. After working for many years in that field, he decided on a move to retail – a job with regular hours. Experience with The Hector Russell Group led to an invitation to spend three months in Toronto, managing the recently acquired MacNeil's store on Avenue Road. Time in California running another newly acquired business convinced him that Toronto was the place to be.



Darren leads a committee of one – himself – working to diversify our Programs. His experience will be a great asset to the Board and the Society.

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**T**he **Annual Spring Dinner** will be held on Friday, May 24, 2013. As in recent years, we shall enjoy the delightful surroundings of The Officers' Mess, The Canadian Forces College, 215 Yonge Boulevard, Toronto, ON M5M 3H9.

The evening will start with a reception (cash bar) at 6:00 pm; dinner will be served at 7:00 pm.

Program: Our speaker will be Colin Hennigar (photo at the right), who will speak on the Canadian Branch of the National Trust for Scotland.

Our entertainer will be Daniel McLaughlin.

The cost of the dinner will be \$65.00 per person (unchanged from 2012).

Our Dinner will be a deluxe buffet with Roast Beef au Jus, Fillet of Sole, Buttered Seasonal Vegetable Medley and Oven Roast Potatoes. There will be a

Vegetarian option available. Please advise when you reserve.

To reserve your place, please use the form that accompanies this Newsletter. Cheques, payable to the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto should be mailed to Bill Walker, 55 Craigmere Ave., Willowdale, ON M2N 2Y6.

Directions: From Wilson Avenue, between Yonge Street and Avenue Road, turn north on Yonge Blvd. into the Canadian Forces College parking lot. From the east end of the lot, walk down the open staircase to the main entrance where the commissioner on duty will check your name on the list and provide directions to the Officers' Mess. If you have an Accessible Parking Permit, you may ask the commissioner for permission to drive directly to the mess and park there.

## Three Upcoming Events



*Colin Hennigar*

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**L**eave the driving to someone else in this new summer expedition. **Burns to Brigadoon** is playing at the Westben Arts Festival Theatre in Campbellford at 2:00 pm on Saturday, July 13. Enjoy all your bonnie favourites from the songs of Robbie Burns to "Heather on the Hill." Donna Bennett, soprano, Colin Ainsworth, tenor, and Brian Finley, piano, will entertain us.

Campbellford is a delightful small town about two hours' drive from Toronto, with interesting shops,

a flea market, and chocolate and cheese factories.

We meet at 10:00 am at St. Andrew's United Church, 117 Bloor Street East. A two-hour drive takes us to Campbellford, with time for shopping and lunch. After the show we drive back to the same place.

Tickets (\$69 for the luxury coach and admission) are limited and must be ordered by June 15.



*Colin Ainsworth*



*Donna Bennett*

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### Advance notice: The 177th Annual Church

**Parade** will be held on Sunday, November 24, 2013 at a new location. This is an advance notice. Details will be given in the Fall Newsletter. The service will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 115 St. Andrew's Road (Lawrence & McCowan), Scarborough. This beautiful 1849 Gothic revival church, which replaced the original 1819 church

building, is on land donated by David and Mary Thomson, originally from Dumfriesshire, who were Scarborough's first European settlers in 1799. The church's history suggests that the Thomsons and other Scots who followed them settled far from the Town of York, now Toronto, as the latter had too many Englishmen for their liking!

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We welcome the following New Members:

Angela Carmichael  
Mary Chalmers  
Elliott Davis  
Sheana Desson  
Judith and Russell Gregg  
Mark MacLean  
William Middleton

Walter Mitchell  
Robert Moir  
Olive Pester  
Carole and Duncan Skinner  
Margo Street

We record with sadness the passing of

William N. Allan

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## Membership

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The Newsletter of the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto is published three times a year. The Editor is Ian McHaffie (mchaffieian@mac.com or 905-846-0567). The Assistant Editor is Susan Paterson (spaterson1957@rogers.com).

The Society website is [www.standrews-society.ca](http://www.standrews-society.ca)  
Mail to the Society should be addressed to PO Box 94024, 3409 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON M4N 2L0 or to [information@standrews-society.ca](mailto:information@standrews-society.ca)

## Contact

The Hon. Treasurer, Alister Mason, presented two financial statements (St. Andrew's Society of Toronto and St. Andrew's Charitable Foundation) to the AGM for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012.

The Society has investments with an approximate value of \$575,000, an improvement of \$25,000 in the past year. The income from these investments permits the Society to carry out its operations (such as meeting costs, Newsletter and website) and to make significant donations to the Charitable Foundation and other activities. As income from these investments covers virtually all the costs associated with membership, donations by members go to the Charitable Foundation in their entirety and are fully tax-deductible.

After the business section of the AGM, members heard from an old friend.

Dr. Kirsty Duncan, a long-time Society member and a former member of the Board, has often brought Scottish dancers to our meetings (and has danced herself), but this time the program was different. In 2008 Kirsty left her academic career as a medical geographer and stood (successfully) as Liberal Candidate for the federal riding of Etobicoke North. She retained her seat in the 2011 election.

Her remarks to the Society, delivered with a passion that brought tears to many eyes, had a general theme of "Doing Politics Differently." Among the many points that Kirsty mentioned were:

- her riding of Etobicoke North is as diverse as any in the country
- 74% of the residents are non-Canadian born
- 95% are either born elsewhere or are first generation
- about 100 families a day are seen in her constituency office
- far too many Canadian children (in her riding and elsewhere) are going to school hungry
- as a country, we are still not taking climate change seriously (Kirsty is the Liberal Environment Critic)

- Increase membership by attracting and retaining members who are interested in Scottish heritage by offering active engagement in social, charitable, educational and networking events
- Enhance our capacity to give to GTA charities that can leverage our donation for greater community impact. Increase our giving to build our investment capital
- Enhance existing events and introduce new activities. Appeal to an expanded constituency and

The Foundation has investments with an approximate value of \$515,000, an improvement of \$45,000 in the past year. The income from these investments, together with individual donations from members, memorial and bequest donations and revenues from the Ball and Burns Dinner, go to support charitable works. During the year, the Foundation supported 15 organizations with grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,500.

A significant accounting change springs from the fact that the Ball and the Burns Dinner, formerly presented by the Society, are now both run by the Foundation; this change permits us to issue charitable donation receipts for the donation portion of the ticket price for each function and, for the Ball, to avoid having to charge 13% HST.

- there is a great need for more attention to "brain health" and mental health

After the presentation, one member reminded us that Kirsty has a reputation for being one of the hardest-working MPs in Ottawa.

In addition to her work as an MP, Kirsty works with several international bodies concerned with both mental health and climate change.

A very busy lady!



*Kirsty with a few of her constituents*

- add value to SAS membership
- Build our capacity to engage with our communities; adopt more efficient technologies; embrace social media to build online engagement
- Define how we work to engage younger members and involve more on the Board and in the community
- Build ongoing, energetic relationships with other Scottish groups and societies to achieve mutual aims

## Summary Financial Report

*The full financial statements (including the Auditor's Reports) run to 17 pages. They are available upon request to members with a special interest in this topic. Please address your requests to the Editor. This summary has been approved by the Hon. Treasurer.*

## Dr. Kirsty Duncan, Liberal MP for Etobicoke North

## Strategic Plan Highlights

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The Annual General Meeting of the St. Andrew's Society took place on February 21, 2013. As is the case with all such meetings, the agenda consisted of two main items: the presentation of reports (especially from the President and Treasurer) and elections. Both these topics are the subject of articles elsewhere in this Newsletter.

In addition, we had the opportunity to hear from representatives of two of the organizations we support.

Jerry Enchin, Executive Director, spoke about Camp Winston, which supports children with complex neurological disorders. In addition to providing a camping experience on Sparrow Lake, a great deal of emphasis is placed on life skills. Too often, said Mr. Enchin, fellow campers are the only close friends that their clients have; they are often rejected by their age-mates at school and, in some cases, are no longer in school because they are too disruptive.

Golfers among the membership might want to play in the Camp's fundraising golf tournament, to be held at Angus Glen on Monday,

June 3. Details on the camp's website.

Loly Rico, Co-Director, and Philip Ackerman spoke about the work of the FCJ Refugee Centre. The Centre offers temporary accommodation to women and children refugee claimants, workshops on various aspects of the refugee and immigration process, and information, assistance and referrals to all uprooted people.

After each presentation, Dr. Malcolm Sinclair, Chair of the Grants Committee, presented a cheque and conveyed the Society's gratitude for the work undertaken by these organizations.

Both organizations have websites:

[www.campwinston.com](http://www.campwinston.com)

[www.fcjrefugeecentre.org](http://www.fcjrefugeecentre.org)

After the presentation by the agencies, we heard from our main speaker, one of our own members, Dr. Kirsty Duncan.

A report on her talk and activities as a Member of Parliament appear elsewhere in this Newsletter.

## Annual General Meeting

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The other day John Catto was going through some old papers of his late father and came across the program for the 123rd Anniversary Dinner, held on November 30, 1959, at the Royal York Hotel (as it was then called). It makes interesting reading, as there are some familiar names.

The Hon. Treasurer was John W. Glendinning, father of our auditor, Mary. The 2nd Vice-President was H. Gordon McHaffie, father of Ian McHaffie, the current Newsletter Editor, who is also a Past-President. The standard bearers were Capt. John Catto (later Col. and President of the Society) and John Hamilton (also later to be a President). The wives of both John Catto (Margaret Catto) and John Hamilton (Sylvia Hamilton) also became Presidents of the Society. Alistair Normand, whose obituary appeared in the last Newsletter, was a member of the organizing committee.

The program serves as a reminder of two aspects of our history. At that time only men were members of the Society: it was not until 20 years later that women were admitted to membership. Also, until

the past 20 years or so, the Annual Ball was hosted in alternate years by the Society and by the 48th Highlanders of Canada. In the "non-ball" years, the Society had a formal Anniversary Dinner on St. Andrew's Day.

On that occasion, more than 50 years ago, the reply to the toast "The Day and a' wha honour it" (the major speech of the evening), was given by Sir Ernest MacMillan, the recently retired conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

There is even more Catto family history that involves the Society. Charlie Catto and John Catto (who served as Society President in the early 1950s) were brothers. They were both grandsons of John Catto, who left Fraserburgh in 1852; the immigrant John joined the Society in 1867, and served as 2nd Vice-President. John Catto Jr., who served as President in the early 1980s and is currently on the Investment Committee, is the son of John Sr. Our newly elected Hon. Treasurer, Ann Pennington, is a granddaughter of Charlie Catto and therefore is second cousin to the children of John Jr. and Margaret.

## A Small Bit of Society History

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The following is a much abbreviated version of Graham Desson's Report to the AGM.

The social events of the year were highlighted: the Spring Dinner (with Rory Sinclair and Stephanie Miletic); the reception at Bonhams Gallery; Lunch and Learn focusing on John Buchan; the Fall Meeting, with a whisky tasting; the Ball; and the Burns Dinner, which raised \$2,500 for our Foundation. The Foundation has allocated \$2,000 to St. Andrew's Church Out of the Cold Program.

The Charity Ball, our major social event of the year, raised more than \$10,000 for the Foundation. My thanks go to those who contributed so much to the success of all last year's events. Much effort has gone into both the Ball and membership databases, enabling tax receipts to be issued easily.

We all recognize the need to introduce ideas and events that will appeal to a younger audience.

The Foundation has made grants of \$47,610 to 15 agencies, and the Society has made cultural awards of \$4,000 (to the Celtic Studies Program at St. Michael's College and to the Centre for Scottish Studies at Guelph University).

In addition, the Society made an award of \$1,000 to the Paterson family to help repair their porch lift, essential in enabling them to wheel their lively and courageous son Ted to his programs.

Thanks to Anne Moir and the Communications Committee, a new, easily maintainable Society website has been implemented.

A short-term objective of the Board is to examine the appropriateness of our committee titles and responsibilities in light of the changes in communication technology over the past 20 years. For this reason, and in light of Peter Fleming's desire to retire from the Board, we are not nominating for election a Director with specific responsibilities for Communications at this time.

We have increased the suggested minimum membership donation from \$50 to \$100. It is too early to draw conclusions from this change. Although there is a slight decrease in regular members, the value of regular donations for calendar 2012 has increased by \$1,800 over 2011.

Early in 2012, the Investment Committee made a change in our investment manager to improve the return on our portfolio within acceptable bounds of risk tolerance. Stovel Investment Counsel is now the manager of the Society and Foundation portfolios.

Through the Newsletter we have kept members informed of the Strategic Planning process initiated in May 2012. This has given us several challenging goals for the next three years, highlights of which are noted elsewhere in the Newsletter.

One aspect of the Strategic Plan is a capital fund-raising campaign. We currently benefit enormously from the generosity of our members. However, since we are now facing a protracted period of artificially low interest rates, we cannot rely on our existing portfolio to generate the sort of returns that were normal in years past.

The Society needs to position itself as an attractive option, amongst the many competing alternatives, for sustained and planned giving by our members. It is my hope that the Board will move forward with this initiative in the coming weeks.

The past two years seem to have flown by, probably because there was always something on the go. However, it has been great fun and very satisfying. I have been very fortunate in having had the support of a hard-working Board, always ready with good advice and prepared to take on tasks.

I would be remiss in not singling out my 1st VP Anne and husband Frank who have been veritable powerhouses. The Board in turn has been supported by many willing and capable Committee members; in particular I should mention the ever enthusiastic Ian McHaffie, who maintained the steady flow of attractive and informative Newsletters during the year.

A big "Thank you" to you all.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of firstly, Margo Street, who as Asst. Secretary has diligently made sense of and recorded our Board proceedings, and secondly, Jennifer Whelpton, who in an equally efficient manner has been looking after the Asst. Treasurer file.

And finally a "Thank you" to you the members for giving me the great honour of being President of this venerable Society. While it is with a tinge of regret that I pass the reins over to Anne – regret at not having been able to accomplish more in the two-year time span – it is also with pleasure and confidence. She and Rory have assembled a strong slate of Board members, including some fresh, younger faces. I know Anne will lead the Board with energy and wisdom and that the Society will prosper under her guidance.

**Report to the  
AGM by the  
outgoing  
President,  
Graham  
Desson**

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Probably the most appalling atrocity of the 20th century was the Holocaust. These notes are taken from an article, written by someone our older members knew. Sixty-eight years later this account still has the power to appall. (*Editor*)

In the conquest of Germany during the Winter and Spring of 1945, there were revelations to the conquering troops which justified almost every charge that had been made previously against certain Germans. It was revealed that they had been guilty of hideous and unspeakable atrocities. Conditions and situations were uncovered which German leaders never expected to have to reveal to the eyes of the world.

.....  
We had been told, even before the war began, that concentration camps were one of the means of punishment which the Nazi party had devised for its enemies.

.....  
The camp was situated deep in the woods on a side road. On all the roads, at a distance five miles from the camp, there were large placards forbidding entrance to unauthorised persons, because typhus was rampant. On entering the office at the gate, we were first thoroughly dusted with an antiseptic powder. We were introduced to the Padre and the Chief Medical Officer. The Padre was a minister from Stornoway, a Capt. Ross of the Church of Scotland. The camp was a desolate-looking place, with many smells emanating from it, but over it all the predominating smell of dead flesh. The people were dying at the rate of 800 a day. Altogether it was estimated that there were 70,000 persons imprisoned there. As we walked into the camp between the rows of barrack blocks we saw people with no animation in their faces and with the most abject hopelessness in their very gait. Some appeared to be in fairly good health. We were told that they had not been there long. The majority of them were terribly emaciated. Some had moved out of the barrack blocks and had arranged pieces of canvas or sacking over poles, and were trying to find shelter from the cold wind. Others had burrowed holes in the ground.

.....  
The Medical Officer explained to us that they were removing as many persons as possible who could respond to some preliminary treatment, so that their lives might be saved. A hospital had been commandeered not far from the camp, and the people were being taken out as rapidly as possible for that treatment. On the day that we were there the removal of such persons had to stop because they had run short of medical supplies. It was then 3 o'clock in the afternoon. They had removed on that day 600 persons. Later we saw those people from Belsen and other concentration camps who were being flown

back to their native countries, many of them to die on their native soil. Wherever we went, there were unearthly cries from the people thinking that we were there to arrange their removal also. Such hopeless dejection, such complete physical collapse and emaciation are impossible to imagine unless one has seen them. The Medical Officer said to me: "Never in all my life have I imagined such a mass of dead and dying humanity as is to be found here."

.....  
The food which these people were given was totally inadequate to sustain any measure of life for a long period of time. For breakfast, they had a little potato soup, and ersatz coffee and a crust of bread. Bones for soup, and potatoes seemed to be the principal diet. In the centre of the camp were two large concrete reservoirs for the storage of water. Both of these were cracked so that the water could not be contained in them. There was no sanitation of any kind. Water was obtained from two taps which originally supplied the concrete tanks.

.....  
We were told of the unspeakable treatment of the prisoners, the pseudo-scientific treatment of both men and women by S.S. men and S.S. women, and we saw for ourselves the horrible results in the wan and broken bodies of those who were unfortunate enough to remain alive during those years of persecution. There seemed to be no designed system of torture as was reported from other camps. As one Polish man said: "To be in Belsen was sufficient torture."

.....  
About 70 per cent of the people in the camp were Jews, and the others were political prisoners. In other words, they were not in any sense criminals. They were people who were unfortunate enough to be born as Jews or had disagreed politically with the National Socialist Party. For holding such political views, or for having been born Jews, they were subjected, over a period of years, to a treatment which had been patently successful in the vast majority of cases. It was a treatment which was designed to reduce human beings from the dignity of manhood and womanhood to the indignity and squalor of animals. We saw two women fighting over a bone in the gutter. We saw men feeding themselves as apes would do. There was a physical revulsion produced by such sights, which was beyond even the revulsion of the sights of a battlefield. As we came out of the office, having spent about 3½ hours in the camp, Padre Ross showed us a file which had not been opened, containing the papers of a person who might then be alive in the camp. As he opened it the first document in it was a birth certificate. It was of a woman who was an American citizen, born in New York, and who had been caught by the Nazis while on a visit to Austria.

## A visit to the Belsen Concentration Camp

*In 1945, the late Major the Rev. Ross K. Cameron (later to become a President of the Society and father of Donald Cameron, also a Past President and Chair of our Investment Committee, visited Belsen and wrote an article for The Front Line, a Presbyterian journal.*

*The article concludes with these words:*

Accounts of these atrocities have appeared in words and pictures in books, magazines and movie newsreels. They have not been exaggerated. No words or pictures could describe adequately the horrors of concentration camps such as Belsen. The evidence against Kramer, the commandant, and the S.S. men and women under his command, submitted at the trials in Lüneburg was sufficient to more than justify his execution and the execution of several men and women under him. It clearly indicates the depths to which humanity can sink when its lower nature is allowed undisciplined expression.

## The Queen

As a Loyal Society, we are always interested in developments dealing with the Monarchy. As most people know, Canada's gift to Her Majesty, in recognition of her 60 years on the throne, was a portrait, which now hangs in Rideau Hall.

A reproduction of the portrait, painted by Phil Richards, will appear on a Canadian stamp that is to be issued on May 8, 2013.

To get more information about the stamp and the portrait, visit the Canada Post website: [www.canadapost.ca](http://www.canadapost.ca) and enter "Richards" in the search line.



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## Alexander McCall Smith

Fans of the Edinburgh author, Alexander McCall Smith (author of several series of books including *44 Scotland Street*, *Isabel Dalhousie* and *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*) might like to know of his website: [www.alexandermccallsmith.co.uk](http://www.alexandermccallsmith.co.uk)

One of the things you can do there is to sign up for a regular email: if you are a fan of this author you can't get too much of him!

## Homecoming 2014

If a visit to Scotland is part of your 2014 planning (or even if it's not – yet!) it may be worth going to [www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com). For the 2014 Homecoming page, put your mouse on "Things to do" and the Homecoming page will be one of the choices.

## Scottish Studies: University of Guelph

The best way to get information about the activities of the Scottish Studies Program is through the Internet at [www.uoguelph.ca/scottish](http://www.uoguelph.ca/scottish).

There are two main public events each year: a Spring Colloquium held in Toronto, typically in April; and a Fall Colloquium held in Guelph, typically in October. This Newsletter is too late for one and too early for the other! There are also several other events, all of which are announced on the website.

## Highland Games

Fergus, Glengarry, Cobourg: all have their Highland Games – as do many other places. To get the details on what's coming up try [www.shga.co.uk/events.php](http://www.shga.co.uk/events.php)

## New Board Member: Stewart Kirkpatrick



Stewart Kirkpatrick was raised in the south of England and moved to Canada in early 2012, where he is with the Bank of Nova Scotia. A Modern Languages graduate of St. Andrew's University, he acquired there a love of ceilidh dancing, which is shared by his wife, Liliana. Stewart spent time in Colombia before coming to Toronto. He is fluent in Spanish and tackles French, German, and Italian with enthusiasm, and what he describes as "questionable proficiency." Stewart enjoys driving and skiing and is a keen self-taught pianist. We hope he will get together with Darren!

## Two Notes from the Editor

The bio and photograph of our fourth new Board Member, Mark MacLean, will appear in the next issue.

In the electronic (email) version of this Newsletter there is an additional page that deals with email, website and related matters. There is also an invitation to members to express their interest in Committee Membership and for the positions of "Chieftain" of both the website and email communications.

Members who would like copies of this extra page are invited to contact the Editor.

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## Email Addresses

We would encourage all members to keep us informed of their current email addresses. At the present time more than 70% of the Regular Members, and just over 30% of our Life Members, have provided us with their email addresses. Email communication is much simpler and faster, and reduces our mailing and administrative costs.

## On-line Registration and Payment

Now that the website has been upgraded, we are pleased to announce that we are now able to provide online registration and payment through our website.

This applies to New Membership Applications, Membership Renewals and Regular Donations. It will also apply to Charity Ball Ticket Applications, which will be available in the Fall. Please check out the following links:

<http://www.standrews-society.ca/get-involved/renew-your-membership/>

<http://www.standrews-society.ca/get-involved/become-a-member/>

<http://www.standrews-society.ca/get-involved/donate/>

## Committee Members Needed

The work done by our committees is very important for the continued health of the Society. If you are able to donate some of your valuable time, we are always looking for new energetic members, especially on our Program and Membership Committees. We now have a convenient online application form available on the website at:

<http://www.standrews-society.ca/get-involved/join-a-committee/>

## Membership Year-end Change

At the January meeting, the Board of Directors voted to change the Membership year-end from December 31st to August 31st, to match our Financial year-end. This will reduce the administrative workload at the end of the calendar year, which is already busy with the Ball, and the Christmas and New Year holidays. It will also avoid any confusion as to which year the donation is intended to apply to, when donations are made late in the year. If you have not already done so, please submit your 2013 donation before the end of August. As noted above, I am pleased to advise that you can now conveniently make your donations online.

## Society Web Chieftain Required

We are seeking a qualified candidate to be responsible for the Society's websites. The job description is as follows:

- The Web Chieftain reports to the Chair of the Communications Committee
- The Web Chieftain has the following responsibilities:
- Manages the Society's websites and social media connections, with the assistance of the web team
- Maintains the integrity of the site layout standards established by the website designer
- Establishes rules/guidelines for management of website content
- Assigns duties to, and provides training for. the members of the web team
- Monitors performance of the web team
- Reports to Communications Chair on any issues of concern
- Ensures that website content is updated regularly with current information
- Maintains regular contact with the Newsletter Editor
- Ensures that a member photographer/videographer is assigned to all Society events
- Solicits material from members for posting on the websites
- Monitors and reports on website utilization statistics
- Assists with implementation of the Strategic Plan recommendations

## Society Email Chieftain

We are seeking a candidate to be responsible for the Society's emailing. The job description is as follows:

- The Email Chieftain reports to the Chair of the Communications Committee and has the following responsibilities:
- Distributes information and notices to all the members who have provided their email addresses, including:
- Digital versions of the Newsletters
- Information/notices requested by the Officers of the Society
- Details of upcoming events
- Send membership donation reminders
- Obtains regular updated lists of email addresses from the Membership Chair
- Collects event information and designs eye-catching layouts for event notices
- Resolves any bad email addresses and informs the Membership Chair of any corrections needed.

## Some Internet Issues

**Note: This page is included only in the email version of the April, 2013, Newsletter**