

OF THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF MONTREAL

September 2014

Upcoming Events

Scottish Reel Practices Commence

Black Watch Armoury 2067 Bleury Street Wednesday's, October 15th to November 26th, 2014, 8-10pm

Taste of Scotland's Malt Whiskies and Fine Foods

Black Watch Armoury 2067 Bleury Street Friday, October 17th, 2014

Council and Committee of Management

Monday, November 10th, 2014

Debutantes' Reception

Black Watch Officers' Mess Wednesday, November 26th, 2014

St. Andrew's Luncheon

Cantlie House Wednesday, November 26th, 2014

St. Andrew's Ball 2014

Marriot Chateau Champlain Hotel Friday, November 28th, 2014 Rue de la Gauchetière Ouest

Saturday, November 29th, 2014 Royal Montreal Curling Club

Morning Service

Sunday, November 30th, 2014 The Church of St. Andrew & St. Paul

Children's Christmas Party

Sunday, December 7th,2014 Officer's Mess, Black Watch Armoury

₩ Burns Dinner

University Club Friday, January 23th, 2015 **※**

WhiskyFete

University Club February 20th, 2015 <u>www.whiskyfete.org</u>



President's Letter

It has been a busy summer for the Society.

I am very proud to report that the Montreal Highland Games were held in Verdun's Arthur-Therrien Park. I say proud since had it not been for the Society and certain benefactors close to it, there would have been no Montreal Highland Games this year and maybe not for many years afterwards. Moreover, we understand the athletes, pipe bands, dancers and guests have found the event to have been well organized and enjoyable. The Montreal Highland Games have been re-established as a credible, first rate event and are set to grow in the years to come.

The biggest highland games in North America are the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville, Ontario, about one hour's drive from Montreal. This event routinely attracts pipe bands and other participants from the Southern USA and even Mexico. These are held on the Ontario civic long weekend in August and finish on the Saturday. The Montreal Highland Games have been held for many years on the Sunday after the Glengarry Games, which gives participants and spectators the chance to attend a second event on the same long weekend before they head back home on the Monday. This double-header has often been called the M&M weekend.

The Montreal Highland games had been held since 1976, picking up from the Caledonian Games that had been held from 1856 to 1973. There having been no Montreal Highland Games in 2013, there was a real concern that if Montreal failed to hold Games in 2014, another city would take over Montreal's place on the circuit the Sunday following the Glengarry Games, which would have made it much harder to keep the Montreal Highland Games going. One of the purposes of the Society is the maintenance of Scottish traditions. Losing the Montreal Highland Games would have been a major blow.

After the death of Kirk Johnstone in 2013, several of the members of the Montreal Highland Games organizing committee withdrew. Society people stepped up to take over the vacant key roles. Society First Vice-President Brian MacKenzie took on the lead role as President of the Montreal Highland Games Society (the "MHGS") and did an enormous amount of work on many aspects of the event. Immediate Past President Bruce Bolton, who was one of the founders of the MHGS when it was constituted in 1977, provided guidance and experience and, among other things, was the head organizer of the patron's tent. Society life member Greg Doyle took on the responsibilities of treasurer. The undersigned also assisted in various ways, including as liaison with the Borough of Verdun. One thing that became clear to us throughout the preparation of the event is the extent to which Kirk had done so much of the work himself. Kirk was truly remarkable and he will be sorely missed. The 2014 Games were held in Kirk's honour and deservedly so.

We would also like to note the extent to which the Borough of Verdun extended a warm welcome and greatly contributed to the success of the event. The equipment and technical expertise they provided were invaluable. Another group that was instrumental in the success of the event was the 78th Fraser Highlanders which provided much needed manpower for the day of the event.

Thanks and congratulations are due to all who helped with the organization. We hope this is the beginning of a new and long chapter in the story of highland games in Montreal.

Thanks are also due to the Membership and Activities' committee for holding the summer barbecue, a brand new golf event and the fish and the chips night. The first and the last are well established and anticipated events and we look forward to the golf event growing in the years to come. The committee is doing an exemplary job in keeping the Montreal's Scottish community active and vibrant.

Now it is on to the Ball. Again this year, the major parts of the funds raised are ear-marked for the Chair for Canadian-Scottish Studies at McGill. So far, over \$2.6M of the required \$3M has been raised. The McGill fundraising people believe that within a year, the goal may have been reached. It would be wonderful if this were the case. You can help by attending the Ball and by donating or soliciting silent auction items. We urge you to do so in large numbers and hope to see you there.

Have a great fall! Scot Diamond



Verdun's Scottish Community

Gillian I Leitch

Verdun was formed in 1875 when the village of Riviere-St. Piere split from the parish of Notre Dame de Montreal. It attracted a mainly working class population attracted to the area's expanding industrial sector, and to the Lachine Canal. The population was a mix of Anglophone and Francophones, among them, Scots.

According to Serge Durfilinger, the city of Verdun in the 1940s "was e home to the densest per capita concentration of British-born residents in the Montreal area." Scots made up almost 35% of this number.¹ These" statistics don't include those of Scottish origin born in Canada, the families of these immigrants. They were attracted to Verdun by its location to industry, the jobs that they had come to fill, particularly after the First World War, and buoyed by the large "network of cultural, social, fraternal and political organizations, as well as local branches, or their equivalents, of familiar institutions such churches or sporting as organizations."2 The Sons of Scotland, whose Scottish Centre on Stephens Ave still stands as a reminder of the strong Scottish community,

Verdun's Scots served in impressive numbers during the First and Second World Wars. There was a strong connection to Montreal's Black Watch Regiment, which continues to this day with annual parades through Verdun's streets commemorating the Battle of Ypres, which continues to this day. The Watch was a regular feature in Verdun, carrying on recruiting drives, during the two World Wars. They considered it one of the "main sources of recruits for the Regiment." 3

Flipping through the pages of the membership lists for the Caledonian Society of Montreal⁴, it is

¹ Serge Durflinger, *Fighting from Home: The Second World War in Verdun, Quebec*, Vancouver, University of British

Columbia Press, 2006, p.16.

striking to note how many of its members lived in Verdun. The society was responsible for organizing the Caledonian Games from 1856-1973, the predecessor of the Highland Games. The Highland Games were established in 1976, and were held at the Douglas Hospital Grounds from 1995-2001, before moving to Pierrefonds. And now they have returned to Verdun.

Looking Forward to Halloween, Letter from Glasgow, 1911

Posted on March 1, 2014 by Gillian I Leitch (http://gilliandr.wordpress.com/2014/03/01/looking-forward-to-halloween-letter-from-glasgow-1911/)

Montreal Standard, 28 October 1911, page 3

Looking Forward to Halloween
Letter from Mungo

Glasgow, October 11 My Dear Canadians,

How are all our Scottish friends in Montreal doing? Now, don't say- Doing everybody! That wheeze is too old. Are they looking forward to Halloween? Have you tattie parties over there? Do you hunt amongst the beetled spuds for the elusive ring, and button, and dolly? If not, why not? It is great fun, especially to the young folks.

With your climate, I daresay it might not be expedient to dook for apples in a tube. Even here we have practically given over that heroic game—which meant wet shoulders and too often a nasty cold. We compromise now by leaning over the back of a chair and trying to spear the floating fruit with a dinner fork dropped from the mouth.

The occasion has lost some of its charm here. We townsfolk can't go out to the burn at the foot of the field, and, calling upon our beloved, see her or his face mirrored on the moonlit surface of the stream. The old freits are nearly all done away with. You can't get people to believe in them today: it is "superstitious nonsense!" Heigho, I wish we had been left some of our nonsense!

² Ibid.

³ Paul P. Hutchinson, *Canada's Black Watch*, The First Hundred Years, 1862-1962.

⁴ Which are now in the custody of the Archive of the St Andrew's Society of Montreal.

Our new style of celebrating the feast of All Hallow's Eve is a supper and dance. The mashed potatoes are brought forward in a pudding basin, and each guest makes a dig with a large spoon. Happy is the lass who finds the ring in her portion, because it means that she will be married before the next Halloween, and doleful is the lad who gets the button as it implies a long bachelorhood.

Of course, no tricks are played with that pudding basin! Oh, no! Certainly not! Still it is very curious that an engaged maid usually gets the ring, a confirmed bachelor the button, and a latterly married lady or gentleman the little china doll.

Sometimes a piece of silver money is inserted in the tattle mass. I notice that this prize always goes either to a very young person or to a very old one who is suspected of being miserly. I don't know how these things happen so appropriately. Once I asked a giver of the feast how it was done, and was rewarded with a stony stare.

But the dance is the thing! None of your fal-la! Merry widows or Military steps! No! a set or two of quadrilles or lancery, with a plain waltz, a polka, and a Highland schottische to hooch in! and then there will be romping, singing, and talking games, such as "The good old Duke of York", "The wee Malony Man", and "I love my love." All this in the parlor of a three or four roomed house. The young men have carried the big table away and laid it on a bed in the next apartment, and they have shifted the piano into a corner to make way for the

dancers. The sideboard is dragged into the hall and the sofa is upended and placed beside it, like some giant "policeman" set there to keep watch over the wandered furniture.

The guidman and guidwife of the house are treated with the most ceremonious

respect, but are bumped about so much that in the end they seek refuge in the kitchen, where they listen nervously to the clatter of the ornaments knocked off the mantelpiece in the dancing-room. It is a young folks play, and they know;

but they are not unhappy, and the old lady looks in the old man's eyes, and they both break into smiles as they see that each other recalls some such evening long ago.

Atwater Library Scottish Collection: Books, eBooks, DVDs, Digital Music

Lynn Verge

The Atwater Library welcomes everyone and we especially invite members of the St. Andrew's Society of Montreal to enjoy our Scottish Collection, developed over the past ten years with Society support.

Agnes McFarlane, retired Gazette librarian, has voluntarily helped choose most of the 1,550 titles in the specialty collection. Here are some of her picks with her comments.

The Great Tapestry of Scotland with text by Alistair Moffat (2013)

This is a beautifully illustrated book showing the 160 embroidered panels depicting events in the history of Scotland. The Tapestry is to be displayed in museums around the country and the book allows us all to enjoy the show. Alistair Moffat tells us about the stitchers of the panels and gives intriguing snippets of history explaining events behind the designs.

Civilization: The West and the Rest by Niall Ferguson (2011) – both book and eBook formats

The subtitle of this timely book explains what it is about. Ferguson suggests western dominance may

have run its course and could be replaced by other civilizations.

Under the Wide and Starry Sky by Nancy Horan (2013)

Although this is novel. the places, people and events are real. One review describes it as a "fictionalized account of the passionate and turbulent story of Robert Louis Stevenson and his tempestuous American wife,

Fanny".

The Lewis
Trilogy by Peter
May: The
Blackhouse

Whisky Tasting Night

The St. Andrew's Society of Montreal would like to invite all members and their friends to our annual Whisky Tasting Night on Friday October 17th, 2014 from 6 pm to 10 pm. It will take place in the Officers' Mess at the The Black Watch Armoury, 2067 Bleury Street, Montreal (across from the Place des Arts Metro Station – Bleury exit).

This ever popular event will allow guests to sample different brands of Scottish whisky and enjoy a buffet featuring a variety of delectable Scottish dishes. Food will be provided by "By George Catering" Inc. The buffet will be served from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Dress Code: Gentlemen – jacket and tie or highland day wear. Ladies – business attire or semi formal dress. **No jeans are permitted**.

Tickets for the evening cost \$75.00 for members (\$80 if paid after September 30th) and \$90.00 for non members (\$100 if paid after September 30th)

Please get your tickets as soon as possible as this is a very popular event and space is limited.

(2011), *The Lewis Men* (2012) and *The Chessmen* (2013)

If you would like to experience the Outer Hebrides but can't get there – read these. In addition to being page-turning crime novels they depict the land, climate, the daily lives and problems of the ordinary folks.

The Atwater Library catalogue is online at www.atwaterlibrary.ca. For more information, contact Library Manager Aude McDermott at 514-935-7344 or atwaterlibrary.ca.

New Members

The Society is very pleased to welcome newly reinstalled annual member: Steven Trudeau. Steven left Montreal in 2007 to take up a teaching position in France and now that he has returned to Montreal he has reinstated his membership. Welcome back, Steven!!

Flowers of the Forest

We would like to extend condolences to the families of the following former members: Dr. J. C. Maurice Campbell, annual member 1974; Mr. Robert D.

annual member 1974; Mr. Robert D. Cruickshank, annual member, 1979 and Mrs. Jean Heuser (née Duffus), annual member 1985.

Birth Announcement

Here is a picture of Nancy and I's (Mathieu Abbott-Brown) twins in their "kilts"; Theo in red and Liam in green. They were born March 23rd. Theo 5.4 lbs and Liam at 6 lbs.



Private Rental Spaces: Households and Business Storage

Lock-It Storage Inc. has been providing a storage locker to the Society for many years. Their clean and secure facility is located five minutes from downtown just below Westmount, off the Glen at 4840 Acorn Street. Telephone is: 514-934-0386. Mini storage is an inexpensive way to safely store personal and business items. They offer sizes as small as a closet or as large as a garage.



Fish 'n Chips Night Pub Quiz

- 1. Who did Mary Queen of Scots marry in 1565?
- 2. To which saint did Robert the Bruce attribute his success at the battle of Bannockburn?
- 3. Who invented the television?
- 4. What did the JM stand for in JM Barrie's name (writer of Peter Pan)?
- 5. Which Scottish university did James McGill attend?
- 6. Which football team play their home matches at Glebe Park?
- 7. What year was the St Andrew's Society of Montreal founded?
- 8. Name the first Scottish mayor of Montreal?
- 9. Where were the last Commonwealth Games held?
- 10. Who had two no 1 hit albums entitled "Rollin" and "Once Upon a Star"?

Bonus Questions:

Who is the current president of the St Andrew's Society of Montreal?

What year was the Black Watch of Canada formed?

St. Andrew's Ball Silent Auction

The St. Andrew's Ball Silent Auction Committee would like to thank the following donors for their generous gifts to this year's silent auction:

DONORS	ITEMS
Fuller Landau	Pair of Canadian's Hockey Tickets
Ms. Clifford's Floral Emporium and British Tea Room (Hudson, Qc)	High Tea for 8 People
78th Fraser Highlanders	1 Hour of piping
Dr. Gillian Leitch	10 Hours of Genealogy Research
The Employment Solution	Gift Card to Golf Town
Members of the St.	Fine selection of Wine
Andrew's Ball Committee	
Henry Marks and Son	Gift to be announced at the event
Chareen Dias	Book: Whiskey by Michael Jackson
78 th Fraser Highlanders	Dinner under the Stars certificate and performance by the Fraser Highlanders
Members of the St. Andrew's Council	Selection of Council's Favorite Whiskys
Clarence & Cripps Inc. (Hudson, Qc)	Gift Basket
The MacDonald Stewart Foundation	Book: The Century of Modern Design by David Hanks
From Anonymous Donors	Bagpipe Santa, pair of Canadians Hockey Tickets and Glencairn Whiskey Glasses
Simple Space	Voucher for Closet Remodel
Shortbread by Gryphon Inc.	Gift Basket
Chateauguay Chapter of	Fishing Guide for a day
Trout Unlimited Canada	and a 1 year membership
McGill University	Gift to be announced at the event
Le Marché aux Fleurs	Gift to be announced at the event
Scottish Central	Gift to be announced at the event
Black Watch	Gift to be announced at the event
Jason MacCallum	Canadians Hockey Tickets
Kennedy Celtic Boutique	Jewellery
	<u> </u>

We hope to see you all at the silent auction table this year.

Best of luck at the auction.

To the Education Committee of the St. Andrew's Society of Montreal

As a grateful recipient of education bursaries for the past two years, I wish to formally acknowledge the contribution that the St. Andrew's Society has made to my academic career. The scholarship funds that I have received have been an invaluable component of my success at Concordia University.

This past spring I obtained my Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, with distinction, and also completed a minor in Multidisciplinary Scientific Studies. At convocation, I was selected as the class valedictorian, and was given the supreme honour of delivering the valedictory address to my fellow graduating students. Additionally, I received the Malone Medal for outstanding contribution to the Concordia community, as well as the Science College Medal for obtaining the highest grade point average of any member of the Science College.

These commendations were the culmination of three years of dedication to my studies and to my university. They were the rewards for countless hours of late night study, as well as extensive extracurricular involvement. While I take pride in these achievements, I am humbled by the familial and community support that has made this success possible. I consider myself supremely privileged to have had such generous patrons facilitating my studies. Thanks to the St. Andrew's Society, I was unburdened by financial concerns and permitted to focus all of my energies into my undergraduate career.

I am, and always will be, utterly grateful for the vote of confidence that the Society has given to me and to my education. Presently, I am applying to McGill Law School and hope to begin my studies next fall. One day I hope to repay the kindness that the St. Andrew's Society has shown me, and continue to allow future Montrealers of Scottish descent to benefit from the generous bursaries that the Society provides.

Cameron Hogg-Tisshaw

I Remember... David Guthrie, Montreal, 1911

Posted on December 10, 2012 by Gillian I Leitch (http://gilliandr.wordpress.com/2014/03/01/looking-forward-to-halloween-letter-from-glasgow-1911/)

Montreal Daily Star, 19 April 1911, page 12

"I remember over fifty years ago when there being no curling rinks in the city, we used to clear a sheet of ice on the river and there participate in the 'roaring game', "said Mr David Guthrie, who is one of the oldest curlers in the city, if not in the Dominion. He will celebrate his 74th birthday on August 24th and the 50th anniversary of his wedding on the 12th of July.

"Yes, in the olden days we were not so particular as to having an exclusive sheet of ice. The river served our purpose for a time. Not, for long, however, for within a very few years the Caledonia Curling Club and the Montreal Curling Club were inaugurated. They started on vacant lots on either side of St Catherine street near Mountain street. The Caledonia occupied the south side lot, which was a field of considerable

dimensions, and the Montreal Curling Club were on the north side of the street. This ground was rented, and the club houses of which we were not a little proud, were very crude buildings. No attempts were made at elaboration, as in our present numerous clubs throughout the city. Everything was done and carried out with as little expense as possible. No lights were even installed in the rinks. These were unnecessary, for in the good old olden times, we did not have to work during the winter and we could play from early morning until it was too dark to see the curling stones.

"Yes, the olden times were easy. Prevailing conditions at that time allowed of a great deal more sport than now. There has been a great change in the city. At the time of which I speak the population was in the neighbourhood of only 150,000. It did not take much to feed and keep this number alive in the winter, consequently many of the citizens spent the winter with doing hardly any or very little work. Work was not so necessary then, and the struggle for existence was almost nil.

"I was employed in the grocery business of Alexander McGibbon on St James Street, which failed. Mr McGibbon then joined James Baird and another business was opened about where



FISH AND CHIP NIGHT @ THE IRISH EMBASSY!!

If I look down that table... I can see some pretty good looking fish and chips. So good in fact that it appears there isn't much left! I suspect that is why I see some pint glasses to wash all of that yumm-i-ness down.



Alexander's confectionary is now on the same street. It only required my being down for a brief period in the morning, and then I was free for the day, as were many other citizens, and then we repaired to the curling club, or other places of sport. At that time there were only about 30 curlers in the city. Now I understand there are about 3.000."

Something Proud to Note

One of our members spotted a small article in the Gazette, by Eva Friede, related to a young man, Thomas Tait, who won the LVMH Young Fashion Designer Prize. An award worth 300,000 Euro and comes along with a year's mentorship. It just so happens that Thomas was one of our bursary recipients while he was at LaSalle College and Central Saint Martin's in London.

The presentation of a ceremonial mace to McGill University by the University of Edinburgh



Photo: Owen Egan

A ceremonial mace was presented to McGill by the University of Edinburgh in May of this year. The mace itself was designed and made by University of Edinburgh students - made from silver and Scottish oak with vibrant maple leaf enamel inlays. It represents and celebrates the strong links between the two universities.

The Society was please to be invited to the event, to which several members attended. If you would like to find more about the event and the mace, you can refer to the following news article links:

- http://publications.mcgill.ca/reporter/2014/05/t he-amazing-mace/
- 2. http://www.ed.ac.uk/news/2014/mcgillmace-280514

4 Presidents



A chance meeting in July – four former SAS presidents in one place at one time - Bruce McNiven, Reford MacDougall, Ian Aitken and Bruce Bruce Bolton.

President's BBQ to Thank All the Society's Volunteers

This past summer the President of our society opened his home and backyard to volunteers that contribute to the society – just to say "Thanks!" From what we can see of the photos it was a lovely evening of nibbling and mingling.





SOCIETY'S SUMMER BBQ AT TERRACE ST AMBROISE

Lucky for all those 89 people who showed up at the BBQ! The weather was good and the rain held off until after the BBQ was over! Yahoo!! As an extra special bonus, McAuslan gave those 89 people free beer! I guess if you missed it... you will know better for next time!





So... do we honestly think the golf gadgets will help his game?? ©

Check out the photo album on our website: http://photos.standrews.qc.ca/6653588... It looks like everyone struck it rich in golf aids!



TEE OFF IN TARTAN.... FORE!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A DEBUTANTE AT THE ST. ANDREW'S BALL?





Join us as a débutante at the St. Andrew's Ball which is held annually in November.

This year, Friday, November 28th, 2014.

You will be introduced to some Scottish traditions such as: helping those in need; participating in a volunteer night at the Old Brewery Mission.

You and your escort will learn the Scottish Waltz (4 lessons, normally the Wednesday night) which you will perform the night of the ball for the pleasure of the Ball guests.



You will be also be invited to the Débutante's Tea by the wife of the president of the St. Andrew's Society while your escort will be invited to the Escorts' Luncheon by the president of the St. Andrew's Society.







At the Débutantes' Cocktail Reception (the Wednesday prior to the ball) you will be presented to the Ball Guest of Honour and to the members of the St. Andrew's Society.

For more information and to register contact Julie Perron, Chair Lady, Débutantes' & Escorts' Committee of the St. Andrew's Society at 450-748-0876 or <u>julieperron@scottishcentral.com</u>.

WWW.SCOTTISHCENTRAL.COM

Purveyor of all things Scottish needed for St-Andrews Ball.

The St. Andrew's Ball

Friday, November 28th, 2014 Debutante Application Form (Please remove and return)

The Debutante is expected to wear a long, white evening dress with a tartan sash (either the family tartan or one can be purchased/borrowed from the Society) and long gloves. A corsage is provided for each Debutante at the Ball. There will be a room reserved for the Debutantes during the Ball.

Debutante		
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
Date of Birth	Age	
Address	City/Province	Postal Code
Home Phone	Business Phone	e-Mail
Father		
First Name	Last Name	
Address (if different from above)	City/Province	Postal Code
Home Phone	Business Phone	e-Mail
Mother		
First Name	Last Name	
Address (if different from above)	City/Province	Postal Code
Home Phone	Business Phone	e-Mail
Sponsor (If other than mot	her or father)	
First Name	Last Name	
Address (if different from above)	City/Province	Postal Code
Home Phone	Business Phone	e-Mail
Escort (If Debutante has an	Escort an application must be	completed)
First Name	Last Name	
Payment Registration and Payment: Please	Contact - Julie Perron, Chair Ladv	Debutantes & Escorts Committee of the St.
Andrew's Society at 450-748-0876	or julieperron@scottishcentral.com	<u>n</u> .
Debutante: \$80.00	Escort: \$80.00	Total: \$

The St. Andrew's Ball Friday, November 28th, 2014

Escort Application Form

The Escort is expected to wear traditional Scottish evening wear (kilt and jacket) or black tie.

	Informati	
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First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	
Address	City/Province	Postal Code	
Home Phone	Business Phone	e-Mail	

Name of Debutante

Quiz Answers: (1)Henry Stuart (2)St Fillan (3)John Logie Baird (4)James Marhew (5)Glasgow (6)Brechin City (7)1835 (8)Peter McGill (9)Glasgow (10)Bay City Rollers Bonus: (1)Scot Diamond (2)1862

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