

# Ring In the New Year: Hogmanay 2014-15

By David Campbell

*Note: The Hogmanay review was written for the January newsletter, but we decided rather to include it in this one.*

Have you ever planned a party or important event in the middle of a power outage? Imagine this: you arrive at the firehouse, open the door, you flip the light switch...and no power! My first thought was—it's a joke, right?! On second thought it occurred to me that we must be having electrical problems again with our lighting in the main meeting hall. Fortunately, we had about a dozen votive candles on hand, and I had another dozen or so as backup



for just such an occasion. So, I got busy placing candles strategically—both so I could see well enough to continue with setting up, and also to provide adequate lighting for volunteers and early guest arrivals. Having arrived myself with what would normally be enough time to set up and prepare for Hogmanay, we would now be stretched to pull it all off. For the first 45 minutes of setting-up, we had no further information other than that the power to both upstairs and downstairs was simply not on. Fortunately, however, shortly thereafter our tenant Michael and his lovely wife (and mother-to-be) Laura were just returning from errands, and were able to confirm that there was, in fact, in the neighborhood—a PG&E power outage. The location of which was literally right around the corner—on Leavenworth Street, just down towards Fisherman's Wharf. The report was that power had been out since early morning,

*Hogmanay, continued on page 6*



# The Grand Tours of Scotland

June 6th to 20th 2015

HARP will be running a new Archaeology field school investigating the 18th Century of Highland Scotland. The project will focus on the changing social and cultural landscapes of Scotland at this time, and aims to record the historical and archaeological sites dating to this period. The location of the project is inspired by a series of historical 'Grand Tours' that were being undertaken in Scotland at that time by a number of individuals including Thomas Pennant's tours of the Highlands, Joseph Banks tour to Staffa and Johnson and Boswell's tour to the Hebrides. The Tours were often facilitated by the construction of new military

*Highlands Field School, continued on page 4*

MARCH 2015 ~ Vol. 152, NO. 2	
<b>Ring in the New Year</b> ..... 1 Hogmanay Celebration 2014-15	<b>Local Magazine Shows Off Our Finery</b> ..... 5 A few members grace the pages of <i>SF Magazine</i>
<b>Grand Tours of Scotland</b> ..... 1 An opportunity to investigate 18th century Scotland	<b>San Francisco's Robert Burns Statue</b> ..... 3 A request for its history and background
<b>President's Letter</b> ..... 2	<b>Davie Scott</b> ..... 6 His Life's Story
<b>Officer Installation 2015-16</b> ..... 2 The transfer of the presidential collar	<b>Upcoming Events</b> ..... 8



# President's Letter – March 2015

First I think we should all congratulate David Campbell for putting on a spectacular Burns Supper. I felt the evening was well run, somehow very intimate and at times moving.

Kathleen Kimura MBE gave a nice overview of the British Benevolent Society and since they are a similar size group I think there is a lot we can learn from them.

One thing the BBS does a little differently from us is that they use a part time paid Executive Assistant to help keep them running smoothly. This is an arrangement that we are taking a look at ourselves.

As an all-volunteer group everyone pitches in and we are all very appreciative of the efforts of so many members who contribute their time and talents for the benefit of our little Society.

At the same time over the past ten years I have seen that small items can fall through the cracks.

For example our society phone number—which we have on our stationary and on our website—rings in the elevator and has no voicemail attached to it. Nobody remembers the password to the account so AT&T will not speak with us. This is the kind of small item that has slipped through the cracks for ten years now.

In summary the EA would provide secretarial and administrative work to the Society as an independent contractor, attend monthly Trustee meetings and Interface and support the Officers, Trustees and other active members (I.e. Webmaster etc) as a back-up resource.

We hope to work out the kinks in this idea and take a vote in the near future.

Yours Aye

**Jaeame I. Koyil**

President

## Officer Installation 2015

By David Campbell

As President Koyil was unable to attend January's meeting due to a prior obligation regarding professional training, this year's slate of officers was installed in two parts (January and February).

In January—Past President Gerry Sample was on hand to read into office (with his usual great imagination and flair) the following lineup:

- First Vice President..... David Campbell
- Second Vice President ..... Francesca McCrossan
- Secretary..... Jean Allen
- Treasurer (Interim) ..... Ian Baird
- Chaplain..... Marilyn Van Story
- Piper..... Jek Cunningham
- Bard ..... Marjory Matic
- Physician ..... vacant
- Librarian ..... Roger Weed
- Historian ..... Tom Kasinger
- Membership Secretary..... Kent Walker
- Newsletter Editor..... Gary Ketchen
- Trustees (5)..... Sandy Corbett  
    Stewart Hume, Norman Macleod,  
    David McCrossan, James Robertson
- Board of Relief (3)..... Biz Obley  
    Robert Blair Jr., Marilyn Van Story
- Board of Student Assistance (6)..... J Robert Logan, Chair  
    William Cummings Sr., William Cummings Jr.,  
    Jean Allen, James Robertson

In February, with Gerry Sample unable to be present to perform again the duty of installation—immediate Past President David McCrossan read text provided by Gerry, as he ceremonially installed our new President Jaeame Koyil for the 2015-2016



**Past President David McCrossan ceremonially installs New President Jaeame Koyil (right)**

term. As such, President Koyil is the rightful bearer of the presidential collar—which he then donned, accordingly. So, we now take the opportunity to welcome President Koyil and the whole slate of officers to their roles...we wish them well and the best of success—all for the good of the order!





# San Francisco's Robert Burns Statue

Dear St Andrews Members,

My name is Gordon Ashley, and I'm writing to you from Melbourne in Australia in the hope you may hold, or know where any are held—archival materials relating to San Francisco's 1908 statue of Robert Burns.

I am particularly interested in ascertaining whether you happen to have any records relating to the activities of the Burns Monument Committee (minutes and correspondence)—the body responsible for both raising the funds to secure the statue and for the planning and conduct of the unveiling ceremony. I know that the St Andrew's Society was one of many Scottish associations in San Francisco which had representatives on the committee.

In May 2013 I searched in vain for records of various Scottish associations in San Francisco Public Library. I've since contacted the Caledonian Club, but they hold no such records. Geoffrey Craighthead advised me to contact Mr Roger Weed who, in turn, recommended that I approach both the San Francisco Historical Society and the California Historical Society as he was confident a fond of Caledonian Club documents does exist. The latter may yet produce something, but the former appears to have nothing.

My interest in the San Francisco Burns relates to my work on a manuscript for a book which is intended to provide an account of the often amazing stories behind each of the 50+ public statues of Burns across the world. This project



**Statue of Robert Burns located in Golden Gate Park**

is a direct consequence of my 2009-10 research which established that the oldest surviving statue of Robert Burns is an 1830 Scottish sandstone sculpture which was shipped to Australia by its owner in 1883. It was a gift to his adopted town—Camperdown—located in the State of Victoria, about 130 miles west of Melbourne, in Victoria.

As a result of my findings, the Camperdown statue was rescued from the public park where it had been located between 1883 and 2009 for repair and conservation. It now stands (out of harm's way) on a turntable in Camperdown's civic centre where it is on exhibition daily for the benefit of locals and visitors from within Australia and overseas—and where, only a fortnight ago, it was visited by a couple from the St Andrew Society of Greater St Louis—the couple with whom I stayed in May 2013 when I researched that city's 1928 Burns statue (which, incidentally, was designed by Californian, Robert Ingersoll Aitken,

a one-time associate of Earl Cummings.

As you will know when the San Francisco statue of Burns was raised in 1908 it was regarded as a palpable symbol of cultural revival and commitment by a city resurging from the 1906 earthquake and fire. I've pieced together much of the story, but certainly not all, as there are many gaps that only the records of the Monument Committee could possibly fill, and, that, notwithstanding the reservoir of information the San Francisco Call provides on relevant events for the years 1895-1908.

I am mindful of the possibility the Monument Committee's records may have been destroyed in the fire that followed the earthquake. And I wonder, also, if there might to be a biography on John Duff McGilvray and/or the McGilvray Stone Company. He was certainly a member of the Monument Committee from ca 1904-5, but with the press reports nowhere near as fulsome from 1900 through to 1908 than they were in the previous decade, it is difficult to determine who really were the "movers and shakers" during its final years.

I plan to return to San Francisco in mid-July to try to pull the various loose threads together, so any help and guidance you might be able to give would be deeply appreciated. I would also be able to pass on to you the brimming document of material I have been able to knit together on the different Scottish associations in San Francisco from the 20 years of reports generated by local newspapers.

Yours sincerely,

Gordon Ashley  
([ashleygw@eftel.net.au](mailto:ashleygw@eftel.net.au))

# David Scott: Blood, Sweat, Gypsies, and Dreams

By David Campbell

At our monthly meeting in February, in addition to President Koyil taking office, we had the good fortune of hearing from long time Caledonian and friend of St. Andrew's Society: David Scott. Davie shared with us his unlikely, but ever eventful life story!

Davie's story begins: "I arrived on the scene on September 18th, 1936, the first born of Winston and Mary Scott, in the district of Milton, Glasgow, Scotland..."

Continuing...reading from the back of the book: "Scotty, a hardy little Scotsman raised in the tenements of Glasgow, grew up during the murky days of World War II, under the stern upbringing of his Grandparents. A good student, he always believed that there had to be a better life out there, compared to the drudgery endured by average working class Glaswegians, and he set out to find it. His skill riding racing motorcycles brought him to America, where a series of remarkable connections, propelled him to the top of his field. His success did not come easy, good times were often followed by disaster and tragedy, but throughout his adventurous quest for his dream, he always managed to recover, many times helped by friends all over the world."



David Scott shares his life's story with Society members

Accompanying Scotty that evening was long time friend and fellow Caledonian Floyd Busby. Floyd also happens to be Scotty's Editor...and has had this to say: "This book will take you with Scotty, on his improbable journey, across the world, throughout countless hardships and obstacles, yet he survived all, to tell a tale that is humorous and absolutely true...join Scotty on his real life adventure, this is not just about racing motorcycles, it is about real life lived on the edge"

Also of note are two upcoming significant anniversaries: 2015 is the sesquicentennial year for the Caledonian Club of San Francisco; and 2016 will be the centennial for the Erskine Trust with whom Davie is doing great work.

Thanks for joining us Davie and Floyd! Davie's book Blood, Sweat, Gypsies, and

Dreams is available for purchase through the contact information indicated below. Please have a look...give it a read!

Weekend Racer Publishing, LLC  
1201 Monument Blvd, Ste 14  
Concord, CA 94520  
T: 925.332.8161

From Front Cover

## Highlands Field School

roads in Scotland, which were built in an attempt to 'open up' the Highlands following the Jacobite uprisings. These new roads were constructed by the likes of General Wade, and new mapping projects and surveys were undertaken by the likes of William Roy. The project aims to follow the routes of these tours and military surveys to identify the changing landscape of the 18th Century, from the Jacobite uprisings, through to the

coming of sheep and the start of the Highland Clearances. Our survey will identify and compare what was seen by the tourists and surveyors of the time compared to what can still be seen today.

The 2015 project will focus on sections of the routes undertaken by Pococke in 1760 (Blair Castle to Crieff via General Wade's Military Road), and De Saint-Fond in 1784 (Kenmore to Dunkeld via Aberfeldy). Pococke vis-



Taymouth Castle

ited Blair Castle, and both of these tours visited Taymouth Castle and its grounds, where the Earls of Breadalbane were significant figures in this period of Scotland's history. Our

survey will trace and record by historical research, photography, technical drawing, building recording and GIS, the visible remains of these routes including sections of Wade's Road and its bridges. It will also record a selection of contemporary settlements and architecture.

Amongst other sites, the survey will visit the site of

*Highlands Field School,  
continued on page 5*



Highlands Field School,  
from page 4

the Battle of Killiecrankie and will take in the grounds of Taymouth Castle ([www.taymouth-castle.com](http://www.taymouth-castle.com)) where we will identify and record the archaeological remains, as well as conduct a photographic survey of the castle itself. We will be surveying sections of the military road

survey and record the changing settlement patterns that were taking place at this time as a result of social change and enforced agricultural and economic change following the Jacobite uprisings.

Along with visiting the historical remains of an integral part of Scotland's history, participants of the field school will receive training in historical

build a portfolio, along with full training and copies of software, used during the course, that they can take away with them at the end. For participants who are completing an Archaeological Skills Passport all relevant sections will be signed off.

The field school will be based in the Perthshire and Tayside region of the Central Highlands, and accommodation will be based near Blair Atholl. Accommodation will be provided in a traditional, luxury, hunting lodge on the Atholl Estate ([www.atholles-tateslodges.co.uk](http://www.atholles-tateslodges.co.uk)), a great opportunity to experience the Scottish Highlands. Participants will have full access to the Lodge facilities, which includes wifi, entertainment facilities, payphone, and beautiful grounds. Twin shared rooms will be provided, and the lodge has full catering facilities where we will prepare our meals. All meals will be provided on workdays of the project. The middle weekend of the fortnight will be free time allowing participants to explore the surrounding

area at their leisure. Local highlights include the estate grounds at Blair Atholl, Blair Castle, The Blair Atholl Distillery etc..

The total cost for the field school is £650 (GBP) per person and includes accommodation, all meals on workdays, transport on all workdays and site visits. Transport to and from the field school is not included but free pick-ups will be arranged between Blair Atholl and the field school accommodation. A limited number of transfers to/from Edinburgh will be available for an extra fee and information on this will be provided on request.

For more information or to apply for a place please email Ian at [ian.harparchaeology@gmail.com](mailto:ian.harparchaeology@gmail.com)

Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice, Conference House, 152 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EB, Tel: 07856208076  
email: [harparchaeology@gmail.com](mailto:harparchaeology@gmail.com)  
web: [www.harparchaeology.co.uk](http://www.harparchaeology.co.uk)



Forest Lodge on the Atholl Estate

that still survive to this day, as well as surveying a number of the bridges built as part of the road construction scheme. We will visit and survey Drovers Inns that were an integral part of an 18th Century Tourist itinerary, and will assess,

research, historic map analysis, archaeological field survey, monument recording, GIS training, Photographic survey and Historic Building survey.

Every participant will receive a course book to work through during the field school to

## Looking our Best in San Francisco Magazine

By David Campbell

You might recall that the *SF Magazine* photographer Antonio De Lucci attended our Burns Supper to photograph the event, and ultimately to piece together (along with writer Lauren Murrow) a pictorial essay for the magazine entitled "Affinities: Leave Your Dirks at the Door." Well, we did indeed "make the cut"! We are featured on page 152 of the **March 2015 edition**, now available for purchase.

And, while they didn't get the comments on the Sporan quite right, it was nonetheless, good coverage, you might say. Well done Highlanders...you make us look good!



*From Front Cover*

# Hogmanay

and there was no reliable estimate of when it would be coming back on.

Nevermind...it would take more than the lack of electricity to deter the guid Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco from hosting its annual end of the year Hogmanay celebration! In candle-lit ambience—slowly the firehouse filled with warm bodies, good holiday cheer, and a most festive spirit. Enjoyed by all were great company, a sumptuous potluck buffet, and more than enough single malt to go around. The afternoon though would not have been complete without the musical offerings of a trio well-known to us from the Peninsula Scottish Fiddlers. Christy and Jim Tillotson, were joined by David Lange...the mood and their music was even more magical by candlelight. And finally YES, by some stroke of magic—or good luck—the lights did indeed come back on, well before the stroke of midnight!

The event was very well attended, including several Past Presidents: John Allison, Fred Rutledge, Bill Blair, Iain Macdonald, and Tom McGlaughlin.

Also in attendance—in addition to many of our regular monthly meeting and special event attendees—were also quite a few new faces...all welcomed guests!

Well, no Scottish special occasion would be quite the same without the Haggis. Robert Burns Ode to the Haggis was rendered expertly—and with good contextual explanation—provided by Fred Macondray Thanks also goes to Alec Henderson (Caledonian Club of San Francisco), our usual source and provider of the Haggis!







At John Allison's prompting, we also held a raffle—with several items of mostly wine and some good single malts—going to the lucky ones. Notable was a most generous raffle item provided by Iain Macdonald (a gorgeously packaged—and expensive, I might add—bottle of Dalmore Reserve). The grand prize Dalmore was won by Connie Brons (guest of Marilyn Van Story, I believe). Turns out that Connie and her husband Ron will also be joining us for Burns Night. So, there you have it! Best of all though was the worthy cause: \$169.00 raised to benefit The Erskine Trust—a check for which has already been sent to Davie Scott (Caledonian Club) on behalf of the trust.

As the appointed hour 4:00 PM (midnight GMT) approached, the PSF fiddler trio led the whole group in a rousing round of holiday songs. After a traditional countdown to midnight, The Saint Andrew's Society welcomed and rang in the New Year with a toast. And who then was that tall, dark-haired stranger knocking on the door? Well, it was none other than President David McCrossan, "First Foot" to cross the threshold of the New Year and into the "home" of host Jaeame Koyil (1st VP)!

Before saying our final goodbyes to 2014 and to each other, we joined hands and sang out the old year to Auld Lang Syne. And now lastly, a toast to greet the New Year: wishing us individually and collectively as one society—a happy and most prosperous 2015...Slainte Mhath!

# Upcoming Events

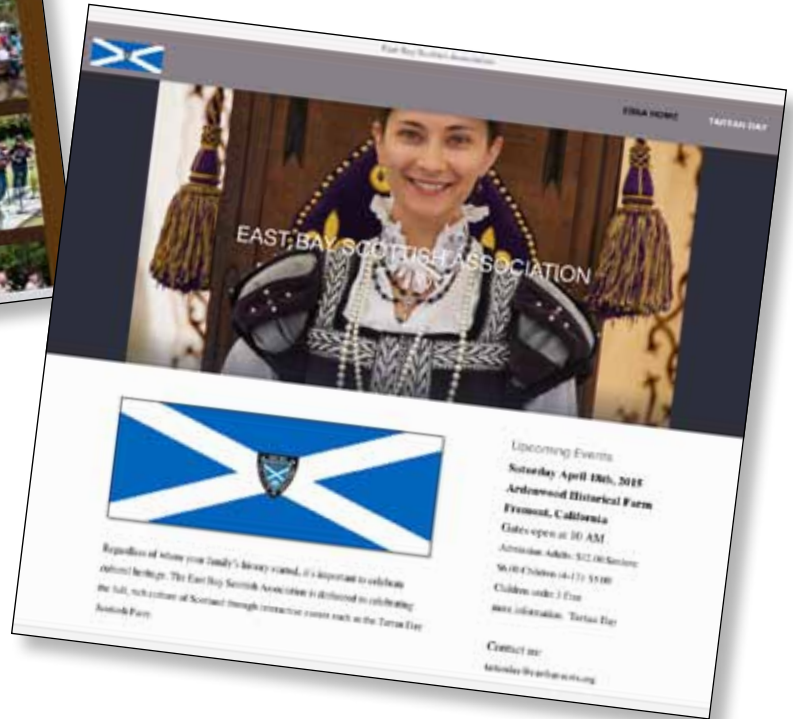


## John Muir Birthday–Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, April 18th, 2015

John Muir National Historic Site

For more information visit [www.johnmuirassociation.org](http://www.johnmuirassociation.org)



## Tartan Day Scottish Day

Saturday, April 18, 2015

Ardenwood Historical Farm

Fremont, California

Presented by the East Bay Scottish Association

For more information visit [www.eastbayscots.org](http://www.eastbayscots.org)



## Tartan Ball

Saturday April 4, 2015

San Ramon Marriott

San Ramon, California

Presented by the Caledonian Club of San Francisco

For more information visit [www.caledonian.org](http://www.caledonian.org)



## Meeting & Events Schedule

Date	Event / Topic	Location / Notes
<b>2015</b>		
Mon. Mar. 16	Member Meeting..... (Guest Speaker: Philip S. Huff, Vice Consul, British Consulate, San Francisco)	1088 Green St., SF
Sat. April 18	18th Annual Tartan Day Scottish Faire .....	Ardenwood, Fremont
Sat. April 18	John Muir Association / Earth Day celebration .....	Martinez
Mon. April 20	Member Meeting..... (Guest Speakers: Kathleen Kimura and Karen Thomas, British Benevolent Society)	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. May 18	Member Meeting.....	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. June 15	Member Meeting.....	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. July 20	Summer Break – no meeting	
Mon. Aug. 17	Summer Break – no meeting	
<b>Sept. 5–6</b>	<b>150th Highland Games &amp; Gathering .....</b>	<b>Pleasanton</b>
Mon. Sept. 21	Member’s Dinner .....	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. Oct. 19	Member Meeting.....	1088 Green St., SF
Sun. Nov. 8	Remembrance Day Service.....	Grace Cathedral, SF
Mon. Nov. 16	Member Meeting.....	1088 Green St., SF
<b>Sat. Nov. 28</b>	<b>153rd Annual Banquet &amp; Ball .....</b>	<b>Marine’s Memorial</b>
Mon. Dec. 21	No Meeting due to Hogmanay Potluck on 12/31	
<b>Thur. Dec. 31</b>	<b>Hogmanay Potluck.....</b>	<b>1088 Green St., SF</b>
<b>2016</b>		
Mon. Jan. 18	Member Meeting..... <i>Inauguration of 2016 Office Bearers</i>	1088 Green St., SF
<b>Sat. Jan. 23</b>	<b>Burns Supper</b> (The Family) .....	<b>545 Powell St., SF</b>
Mon. Feb. 15	Member Meeting.....	1088 Green St., SF

## About Us

### The Saint Andrew’s Society of San Francisco

1088 Green Street  
San Francisco, CA  
94133-3604

415-885-6644

www.saintandrews  
societysf.org

Editor: Gary Ketchen  
E-mail: ketchen.gary@  
gmail.com

### Membership Meetings

Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of the month, at 7:30 P.M. Light supper served before the meeting. (Free valet parking is provided for members’ meetings. MUNI: one block east of Hyde St. cable car).

### Officers of the Society

Jaeame I. Koyil,  
President  
David Campbell, First VP  
Francesca McCrossan,  
Second VP  
Ian Baird, Treasurer  
Jean Allen, Secretary  
Roger Weed, Librarian  
Marilyn Van Story ,  
Chaplain  
Marjory Matic, Bard  
Jack Cunningham, Piper  
Thomas E. Kasinger,  
Historian  
Kent Walker,  
Membership Secretary  
vacant – Physician

### Trustees

vacant – Chairman  
Norman McLeod,OBE  
David McCrossan  
Stewart Hume  
James Robertson, AIA  
Sandy Corbett

### Board of Relief

Marilyn Van Story  
Biz Obley  
Robert Blair, Jr.

### Board of Student Assistance

J. Robert Logan,  
Chairman  
William Cummings, Sr.  
William Cummings, Jr.  
Jean Allen  
James Robertson



**The Saint Andrew's Society  
of San Francisco**  
1088 Green Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133-3604

Recipient

---

---

---

---