

An t-Albannach

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NEW YORK CALEDONIAN CLUB

Promoting Scottish Heritage • Established 1856

NEWSLETTER • SPRING ISSUE 2019

Great Scot! It's 2019 NYC Tartan Week!



Photos courtesy of the Nat. Tartan Day NY Committee



Photo by Lee Harwell



HAIL TO THE CHIEF



83RD CHIEF
SUE ANN MCDEVITT

Spring 2019

Hello, Members,

This is my last letter as my time as Chief will end in June. I am saddened by the prospect but proud of all that the Club has accomplished over the past two years: new website, total rebranding, increasing membership, and more events for your enjoyment: pub nights, karaoke and the Central Park picnic. We have had sellouts at nearly every event, keeping with the trends of earlier years. All in all, we are a vibrant community and I think well-situated for another 160-plus years of preserving Scottish culture in NYC.

I must thank the Board of Directors for their unflagging work and support. This is not to downplay anyone's contributions, but I must make special mention to:

- **Marti Dorais**, who keeps us all on track. Me especially.
- **Barbara Lynn Rice** for juggling both Scottish Studies and the newsletter. A super star if there ever was one.
- **Steve Klugman** for spearheading the revision of the By-laws to ensure, that

they are clearer, consistent, easier to follow and consistent with how the Club operates. Keeping the legalities in order is pretty important!

I hope you continue to support your Club and our new Chief. It has been an honour to serve you all.

Slàinte Mhath!

Sue Ann McDevitt
83rd Chief

Recent Event / Robert Burns Supper '19



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With contributions from many.

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Dunfermline Abbey

STORY & PHOTOS BY SUZANNE PRESENT

In the year 1818, while doing some restoration at Dunfermline Abbey, some workmen came upon the skeleton of the great Scottish King, Robert the Bruce, who died in 1329. His remains were wrapped in cloth of gold and the breast bone had been sawed open to honor his deathbed wish of having his heart brought to the Holy Land. Sadly, though begun, that journey was never completed. Fortunately, the Bruce's heart was recovered and now lies in a marked site in the Border Region's Melrose Abbey.

The King's remains were re-interred and can now be found beneath Dunfermline's beautifully carved pulpit. The tomb's red and gold brass cover depicts the Monarch standing on the back of a lion; armed with sword and shield. Nearby, a cast of his skull is displayed.

In the North Transept, the impressive Bruce Memorial Window further honors Scotland's liberator. Designed by Gordon Webster, it is the most recently installed stained glass window in the Abbey Church. It was dedicated to King Robert the Bruce on July 7, 1974, exactly 700 years after his birth.

Robert the Bruce shares the Abbey with some rather distinguished company. Eleven kings and queens, along with some of their family members are interred there.

These include the 11th-century founder of the Abbey, Queen Margaret, consort of King Malcolm III. She later became a saint and her shrine outside the east gable became a place of pilgrimage.



While most of the church is more modern, the nave of the 12th-century Abbey, built by King David I, still exists. It lies directly over Queen Margaret's original foundations. Today it is called The Old Church or The Old Nave.

Dunfermline Abbey's lectern has an interesting story attached to it. When Queen Mary visited the Abbey, it was lacking a lectern. She inquired about this and a church elder immediately wrote out a check to procure the one seen today, which was installed in 1931.

Dunfermline Abbey is located in the town of Dunfermline which was once the capital of Scotland. It was also the birth place of philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The town features a variety of interesting attractions which include historical museums, monuments and the scenic Pittencrieff Park. Those more interested in the performing arts can take in a play or concert at Dunfermline's very own Carnegie Hall.



Scottish King Robert the Bruce's Skull



Post-Tartan Day Parade Brunch

The Tailor, 505 8th Avenue - SUNDAY, APR 7 2019 - 11AM - 1PM

UPCOMING
EVENT




Scottish Fiddle Workshop with Calum Pasqua

Ripley Grier Studios, 520 8th Ave., Rm 10c - APR 13 2019 - 2PM - 4PM

UPCOMING
WORKSHOP

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