

Clanjamfry 2007

Clanjamfry 2007 was a huge success! From Friday night's ceilidh to the Dinner on the Grounds after the Kirkin' of the Tartans on Sunday, there was something for everyone.

Although Clanjamfry is an outreach program of Evergreen Presbyterian Church's recreation ministry, MSSSI members were busy helping behind the scenes as well as performing on center stage.

The Ceilidh on Friday evening was well-attended as well as being very entertaining. Piping was, of course, heard throughout the weekend, but the Wolf River Pipes and Drums never sounded better than at the Ceilidh. Those in attendance were enchanted by the sweet sounds of the Snowden Elementary School Chorus, which proved to be a wonderful contrast to the pipes. Exhibition dancing, group dancing, a vocalist, Andrew

Whaley, and storyteller, Mary Ann Lucas were the rest of the warm-up acts to the featured band, Legacy.

Saturday's 5-K race preceded the opening of the Fair. Perfor-

Getting the grounds ready at Evergreen Presbyterian on Friday before Saturday's Faire.



mances on the Dance Stage, Music Stage, and in the Heritage tent ran smoothly, the weather was perfect, the food was good and plentiful, the wares presented by vendors were unique, and the dunking booth was a very popular place! The many clan tents were informative, as were the demonstrations, particularly the border collies herding the sheep! Bodega, from Scotland but touring North America this year, presented a wonderful concert to top off the day.

The church was full at the Kirkin' of the Tartans on Sunday morning—many enjoyed the touching service, while some were there in anticipation of the tons of food to enjoy at the Dinner on the Grounds immediately after the service. They were not disappointed. We're not sure how Evergreen will top this year's Clanjamfry, but our sources assure us that they're already working on it!

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SCOTTISH CONNECTION

If you thought only historical things were Scottish, be disabused of that opinion: three of the hottest new rock stars have a Scottish Connection.

K. T. Tunstall, who penned "Suddenly I See" which was featured in the film *The Devil Wears Prada*, was raised in Fife. She started the festival now known as Acoustic Edinburgh and has wowed audiences and critics alike with her roguish-but-insightful lyrics and exuberant delivery of vocals and guitar. Her popularity exploded about 3 years ago in spite of being considered too old then to enter pop music, at the ripe old age of 27, and despite her physicist dad advising her to "get a proper job". Her albums include the prize-winning *Eye to the Telescope* (named after activities with her dad) and the current chart-topper *Drastic Fantastic*. To her family, still in Fife, and neighbors she's known



K.T. Tunstall



as "oor Kate", just a home-town girl who made good.

Dave Sneddon was the 1st winner of BBC UK's Fame Academy (their equivalent to American Idol) in 2002. His biggest hit is "Stop Living the Lie" from the album *Seven Years - Ten Weeks* which rose to #5 on the UK Albums Chart. He was born and raised in Paisley and attended the University of Glasgow.

Paolo Nutini -- now there's a name you'll never find in Tartans For Me, but he is seriously Scottish. His mother is Scottish, and his father's family, though of Italian extraction, immigrated to Scotland back four generations ago. He also hails from Paisley, where he had expected to go into the fish & chips shop started by his grandfather and still run by the family. His interest in music came from the Scottish folk songs he learned from his grandfather. He has appeared live on BBC Radio Scotland and BBC

Paolo Nutini - left

Scotland's Hogmanay Live this past December. Coincidentally, he has appeared in concerts with both K. T. Tunstall and Dave Sneddon. His best known songs (really contemporary ballads) are "These Streets" (about Paisley), "Last Request", and "Jenny, Don't Be Hasty", in which Nutini, at age 18, woos and wins an older woman of 23. Och, a braw lad!

So, next time the snotty adolescent in your life casts some age-ist grief your way, just lay out some factoids on K. T. Tunstall, Dave Sneddon, or Paolo Nutini and their Scottish Connection.

Dave Sneddon



GRACE NOTES

Grace Notes is the official publication of the Memphis Scottish Society, Inc. It is published monthly. Like the Society itself, the credo of *Grace Notes* is "to foster education and promote understanding of things Scottish."

If you have something of interest to readers of this newsletter, please submit a typewritten manuscript to the editorial staff. If the article or notice is very brief (30 words or fewer), just use the telephone. *Grace Notes* will accept and publish good quality photographs (preferably black and white; no Polaroids, please).

The deadline for all submissions is the second week of each month preceding the month of publication. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with each submission, if you want the material returned.

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*to foster education and
promote understanding of
things Scottish*



WE DO SAMHAIN RIGHT!

We Scots (whether wee or braw) sure know how to observe the Celtic New Year. To whit:

The program for our October Members' Meeting on the 2nd Monday in October (10/10/07) will be "Haints of Scotland", presented by Elaine Meece with the help of some ghoulish fiends, that is, *friends*, including Bill Crump, Mary Ann Lucas, and Sammy Rich, among others. If you plan to have dinner, be sure to make your reservations on or before Thursday, October 4th by contacting 901-757-4200 or www.memphisscots.com. Note: the old phone number and email addresses WON'T work for reservations anymore (!), so contact only 757-4200 or the website.

Next, our Samhain (Halloween to the Sassenachs amongst us) Party will

be help on Saturday, October 27th at Agnes Starks's Pottery Studio, 12675 Donelson Road in Arlington. See Directions to Stark Pottery Studio. From 5:30 till 10:00 pm we will eat and drink and converse and play and sing and dance and generally do our best to scare ourselves silly. Dinner will be a partial pot luck, with hot dogs, smoked sausages, condiments, drinks and tableware provided by the club. Be guided by the following suggestions (according to initial of your last name) for your part of the potluck: A thru G – desserts, fruits, nuts; H thru L – chips, dips, appetizers; M – side dishes, slaw, salad; N thru R – non-hot-dog entrees; and S thru Z – buns (no, not *those* buns: buns for the hot dogs). Prizes will be awarded for Best Costume and Best Jack-o-Lantern.

DIRECTIONS TO STARK POTTERY STUDIO
Take I-40 East towards Nashville. Take exit 24/25 onto the frontage road, pass the Millington exit. Go next to exit 25 New Airline Road/TN 205. Bear right (south) for 1.3 miles. Turn left at East Donelson Road. Go 0.7mi to 12675 Donelson Road. Look for sign and banners! 25 minutes from Poplar Plaza! If lost call 901-867-9240 or 901-458-2354. See also agnestarkpottery@aol.com or www.starkpottery.com.

Whiskey Tasting

St. John's Episcopal Church will host a Scotch Whiskey tasting on Thursday Evening November 8th. Several single cask, single malt varieties are to be available for tasting. The seventy-five dollar ticket includes a Scottish cocktail buffet with an assortment of various salmon recipes and bridies. The entertainment will include Brenda McGuire on the harp and Ric Clausi on the pipes. Contact Seldon Murray for more information at 753-6565.

So, this bird walks into a store.....



A seagull in Scotland has developed the habit of stealing chips from a neighborhood shop.

The seagull waits until the shopkeeper isn't looking, and then walks into the store and grabs a snack-size bag of cheese Doritos.

Once outside, the bag gets ripped open and shared by other birds.

The seagull's shoplifting started early this month when he first swooped into the store in Aberdeen, Scotland, and helped himself to a bag of chips. Since then, he's become a regular. He always takes the same type of chips.

Customers have begun paying for the seagull's stolen bags of chips because they think it's so funny



Your 2007 membership expires on Sunday, September 30. To re-new membership send in dues of \$20 per family, \$17 per individual, \$10 for military or student. Note: this year the membership rosters are being built from scratch: they will not be carried over from last year's roster, so only those who send in their dues will appear on the roster.

Samhain party games

In some districts, when the fire was smouldering low, the ashes were collected and laid in the form of a circle. Round the circumference a stone was placed for each person present. If, before morning, any stone was injured or removed, it meant that the person it represented was fey and doomed to death before another Halloween.

About 8 or 10 days before St. Luke's Fair (for they were baked at no other time of year) a certain quantity of oatmeal is made into dough with warm water and laid up in a vessel to ferment. Being brought to a proper degree of fermentation and consistency, it is rolled up into balls, proportionable to the intended largeness of the cakes. With the dough there is commonly mixed a small quantity of sugar and a little aniseed or cinnamon. The baking is executed by women only, and they seldom began their work till after sunset, and a night or two before the fair. A large space of the house, chosen for the purpose, is marked out by a line drawn upon it. The area within it is considered as consecrated ground; and is not by any of the by-standers to be touched with impunity. A transgression incurs a small fine, which is always laid out on drink for the company.

This hallowed spot is occupied by six or eight women, all of whom, except the toaster, seat themselves on the ground in a circular figure having their feet turned towards the fire. (The fire was formerly in the

middle of the floor.) Each of them is provided with a bake-board, about two feet square, which they hold on their knees. The woman who toasts the cakes, which is done on a girdle suspended over the fire, is called the Queen or Bride and the rest are styled her maidens. These are distinguished from one another by names given them for the occasion. She who sits next to the fire, towards the east, is called the Todler. Her companion on the left is called the Hodler; (these names are descriptive of the manner in which the women so called perform their part of the work. To toddle, is to walk slowly like a child. To hodle is to move about more quickly), and the rest have arbitrary names given them by the Bride, as Mrs. Baker, best and worst maids, etc.

The operation is begun by the todler, who takes a ball of the dough, forms it into a small cake, and then casts it on the bakeboard of the hodler, who beats it out a little thinner. This being done, she, in her turn, throws it on the board of the neighbor; and thus it goes round from east to west, in the direction of the course of the sun, until it comes to the toaster, by which time it is as thin and smooth as a piece of paper. The first cake that is cast on the girdle is usually named as a gift to some well-known cuckold, from a superstitious opinion that thereby the rest will be preserved from mischance. Sometimes the cake is so thin as to be carried, by the current of air, up into the chimney.

As the baking is wholly performed

by the hand, a great deal of noise is the consequence. The beats, however, are not irregular nor destitute of an agreeable harmony; especially when they are accompanied with vocal music, which is frequently the case. Great dexterity is necessary not only to beat out the cakes with no other instrument than the hand so that no part of them shall be thicker than another, but especially to cast them from one board to another without ruffling or breaking them.

'The toasting requires considerable skill, for which reason the most experienced person in the company is chosen for that part of the work. One cake is sent round in quick succession, so that none of the company is suffered to remain idle. The whole is a scene of activity, mirth, and diversion.

Dookin' for apples (Does this sound familiar?)

Place a large tub, preferably wooden, of the floor, and half fill it with water. Tumble in plenty of apples, and have one person stir them around vigorously with a long wooden spoon or rod of hazel, ash or any other sacred tree.

Each player takes their turn kneeling on the floor, trying to capture the apples with their teeth as they go bobbing around. Each gets 3 tries before the next person has a go. Best to wear old clothes for this one, and have a roaring fire nearby so you can dry off while eating your prize!





**Clanjamfry
2007**



**How many MSSSI
members can you
identify in these pictures?**





Set aside the dates of Saturday, November 1 and Monday, December 10.

Our annual St. Andrew's Day tea will be held on Saturday, November 1st at Crumpets Restaurant on Highland from 2:30 till 4:00 pm. There will be a limited number of tickets, owing to the wee size of the setting. Those tickets will run in the neighborhood of \$25 and include a full cream tea (we would call it "a high tea"), use of the facility, and entertainment. Proceeds go

"KILTS NOT REQUIRED"

1st Wednesday

The following appeared in the September 28th *The Commercial Appeal Playbook*, entitled "KILTS NOT REQUIRED":

"The 1st Wednesday party, from 6 to 9 p.m., at **Memphis Brooks Museum of Art** heads to the Highlands for festivities inspired by "**Wrapped in Splendor: An Exhibition of Paisley Shawls from the Permanent**

to the MSSI Scholarship/Grant Fund. Contact Board Member-at-Large Sue Malone 385-1938 for more information.

In lieu of our regularly scheduled Monthly Members' Meeting on the 2nd Monday of December (that would be the 10th, BTW), we will hold our annual Winter Holiday Party. It will feature the customary aspects – a gala pot luck (featuring your best holiday recipes), an exchange of \$5 gifts, a collection of children's gifts for the USMC's Toys-for-Tots campaign, music, and dance – and maybe a surprise or twa. **WE WILL NOT MEET AT THE HOLIDAY INN FOR**

Collection". Bagpipe music will fill the museum's plaza from 6 to 7; the local trio **Scotch & Soda** will perform from 6 to 9 in the Rotunda. A cash bar will supply "Tartan-tini cocktails" (martinis made with scotch, perhaps), while at 7 Jennifer Sargeant (from Memphis College of Art) will lead a tour of the exhibit. The Scottish film *Night People*, winner of the Audience Award at the BAFTA

Plan Ahead

THIS MEETING: stand by for the announcement of a different location. So, whether you celebrate the Winter Solstice, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Hogmanay, or New Year's Eve, mark your calendars now. Contact Board Vice President Mary Ann Lucas 725-1879 for more info or to volunteer to help.



Scotland Awards in 2005, will be screened at 7:30. The museum's **Brushmark Restaurant** will be open for a themed dinner created by Chef Wally Joe. Call 544-6255 for dinner reservations.

"Admission to 1st Wednesday is free to museum members; \$6 for others. Tickets available online at www.brooksmuseum.org or at the door. Call 544-6209."

Genealogical itch that you can't quite reach?

Well Oct. 12-13, may well be your cure. The Tennessee Genealogical Society (TGS) is hosting a Genealogy and History Fair over the two days with guest speakers, dinners, vendors. This is a good way to gain new insights on how to extrapolate some more history of your family or how one should go about acquiring that information for the novice and expert alike. Guest speakers include Dr.

Michael R. Bradley, Historian, Teacher, Author will speak on "*How Shall We Understand History?*" Friday Oct. 12 at 6:30. Reservations must be in hand by noon, Thursday October 10. Then on Saturday at various times the speaker shall be Paula Stuart-Warren for four different sessions: *Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records*; *The Art of Successful Genealogical*

Research Trips; *Genealogical Goldmine*, *The Records of Old Settlers Organizations* and then *The US Federal government: 13 Underutilized Research Resources*.

Dinner on Friday night is \$12 for nonmembers and the seminars are \$25 for nonmembers. Mail to: Tennessee Genealogical Society, PO Box 381824, Germantown, TN 38183-1824.

Calendar of Events

Mondays

Caledonia Chorale 7 pm
Church of the Holy Communion,
Walnut Grove at Perkins,
272-7159 for info.

Thursdays

Sgt. W.K. Singleton Pipes & Drums
6:30-8:30 at Bethel Pentecostal
Church, Stage Road in Bartlett;
call 386-2052 for info.

Wolf River Pipes & Drums,
6:30-9:30 at St. Luke's Lutheran;
Germantown Parkway. 753-9494
for info.

Fridays

Dancing: 7:30-10 pm, Idlewild
Pres.; 1750 Union Ave,
West Entrance
1st, 3rd & 5th Friday
Contra Dancing. 278-1216.
2nd & 4th Friday
Scottish Country Dancing.
274-1889

Monday, October 8

Regular monthly meeting,
Holiday Inn Express, Poplar @
I-240.
Dinner reservation required
by October 4th; call 757-4200 or
go to memphisscots.com.

6:00 pm Dinner & 7:00 pm
Program: Elaine Meece
Haints of Scotland

Thursday, October 25

Board Meeting at Perkins at
1340 S. G'town Rd. 5:30 pm.

Saturday, November 1

Saint Andrew's Day Tea at
Crumpets. Call Sue Malone at
385-1938 for further informa-
tion. Reservations required.

Thursday, November 8

Whiskey Tasting. Contact
Seldon Murray 753-6565.

Scottish/Celtic RadioMusic

Sundays, 6-7 p.m.

"The Thistle and Shamrock"
WKNO-FM 91.1

Saturdays, 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

"Strands of the Celtic Knot"
Robert Campbell, host
WEVL-FM 89.9

Sun and Mon 6 p.m. and Fridays,

7 p.m.
"The Thistle & Shamrock,"
WMAV-FM 90.3



the Thistle & Shamrock®

October 4 /Hands On

Old songs provide a lens through which we can view lifestyles and workways, now passed into history, when manual labours filled the day. Hear of horse drawn ploughs, handloom weavers, coalface workers and fishing under sail with Dick Gaughan, Christine Kydd, Ewan MacColl, Christy Moore and others.

October 11 /Words Verses Music

Poetry tells the story this week, with songs and tunes inspired by poets' lives and works.

October 18 / What in the World?

21st century contemporary Celtic music may take in Balkan tunes, African percussion, and Latin

rhythms. Does it all simply boil down to world music soup, or is this cutting edge Celtic? Decide for yourself as we circumnavigate the globe with Sharon Shannon, La Bottine Souriante, Tony McManus and other favorites.

October 25, 2007/Mythography
Ballads and tunes of Celtic origin and inspiration lead us on an exploration of myth, legend, and mystery

November 1, 2007/Soundtracks
From the epic "Rob Roy" and "Braveheart," to the intimate "Songcatcher" and "Heartlands," hear the contributions made by Celtic music to many of today's cinema soundtracks.

Start your holidays off with the St. Andrew's Day Tea to be held Saturday, December 1, from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. at Crumpets on Highland Avenue. Come join us for a delightful afternoon in a pub-like atmosphere. Men are welcomed. The event will be highlighted with a full cream tea and background music.

Please contact Sue Malone, 385-1938, for further information. There is limited seating and all reservations must be paid in advance to have a guaranteed reservation. The cost will be \$20 per person. Yhank you,
Mary C.

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Two lovely lasses
dance a fling
at Clanjamfry.
For more pic-
tures, see pages
1,3, & 5.



Next Monthly Meeting - October 8th - Dinner Reservations by 10/04, 757-4200 or online
www.memphisscots.com - Holiday Inn , Poplar and I-240; Dinner at 6:00, Program at 7:00.
Board Meeting, Thursday, October 25th at 5:30, Perkins @ 1340 S. Germantown Rd.

GRACE NOTES

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