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The Dixon Scottish Cultural Association

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Annual membership dues are \$20 for individual members; \$25 for families.

**DSCA Officers:**

Chief-Maren Murphy

Vice-Chief-Philip Venable

Secretary-Pam Mitchell

Treasurer-Bill Anderson

Sgt-at-Arms-Neil Henderson

Financial Officer-Kevin Angelo

Trustees: Bill Scott, Roger Schaller, Doug Hicke, Carolyn Speir, and Steve Cook

# The Rampant Lion



## DSCA's New Website

The Dixon Scottish Cultural Association has a new website and a new web name. On March 26, 2007, our new site launched at [www.scotsindixon.org](http://www.scotsindixon.org).

Our new site has more capacity and the ability to display a lot more information than the previous site.

Vendors and people interested in our club can e-mail the officers and Games venue chairs directly by clicking on their names. No e-mail addresses are listed so spammers won't take advantage of the site, or us.

Membership forms, Vendor forms, and Pre-pay ticket order forms will be put on the page so users can print them, fill them out, and send them in. Eventually the forms will be able to be filled out online and e-mailed directly to the venue chair.

An online calendar will inform users of upcoming Celtic events, and users will be able to download past issues of this fine periodical.

Games coverage will be better than ever with all venues having their own page. The event will be described with a history of the venue and photos. We can even list our vendors with links to their web pages.

None of this would have been possible without the help of Jim Downey of Castles Information



**TOP PHOTO:** John Mitchell pipes in the haggis at Burns Night.

**BOTTOM PHOTO:** Color Guard member Roger Schaller says "You too could look as cool as I if you join the Color Guard". Taken at 2006 Tartan Day in Sacramento.

Network. Castles has a non-profit program which allowed us to have this service for a small nominal fee, much less than their regular price. Additionally they provided the club with a new e-mail address: [scotsindixon@castles.com](mailto:scotsindixon@castles.com). Castles is located in Vacaville and you can see their website at [www.castles.com](http://www.castles.com). Check them out and support those who support us.

Check out our new site and imagine the possibilities.

**Events of Interest**

Apr 7-Tartan Day, Sacramento

Apr 21-22-Medieval Fantasy Festival, Vacaville

Apr 28-29-Woodland Games

May 12-May Fair Parade, Dixon

May 26-Fiesta Days Parade, Vacaville

## *In The News*

When word of our move from the Dixon May Fair to the Travis Credit Union Park hit the media, courtesy of Don Burns, I received phone calls from a lot of different media outlets.

The following article was on the front page of the Vacaville Reporter the Friday after our last meeting with the Fair Board.

Dixon games in Vaca venue

By Melissa Murphy/Staff Writer

Article Launched: 03/16/2007 06:26:29 AM PDT

It still will be called the "Dixon Scottish Games & Gathering," but for the next three years, the annual September event will take place in Vacaville. The Scottish festival has been held at the state-owned Dixon May Fair grounds for the past seven years, but due to a significant increase in rental fees and greater restrictions on the event, organizers say they're moving down the road to Travis Credit Union Park, next to the new Nut Tree in Vacaville. While organizers say they are excited about the new location, they expressed disappointment that an agreement couldn't be reached to keep the games in Dixon.

"We tried to work it out," said Phil Venable, vice chief of the Dixon Scottish Cultural Association.

"It's a big blow to the city of Dixon, since the revenue will go to the city of Vacaville," Venable added.

In addition to an increase in the rental fee for the fairgrounds, Venable said the May Fair Board of Directors, unlike previous years, wanted full payment in advance and was going to charge a fee for set-up the day before the event - something it hadn't done in the past. In addition, the Scottish group would have to pay more for beer keg fees, trash pickup and would have been required to hire a professional security service, he said. Venable said his group approached the May Fair Board of Directors in an attempt to get the fees lowered, but to no avail.

Hendrick Crowell, president of the May Fair board, said the increase in fees is a reaction to an increase in the cost to maintain the grounds. "Just like any business, when costs go up, we have to be creative to meet our obligations," Crowell said. He also said it costs \$40,000 a month to maintain the fairgrounds just to keep the doors open. "We have no hard feelings," Crowell said. "They're a wonderful organization and they do good things."

The Scottish festival attracts more than 6,000 people each year and, Venable believes, that many, if not more, will attend the event in Vacaville. "I think it will actually increase in attendance," he said. "More people know where the Nut Tree is. I'm excited about the new venue."

Still, the club voted not to rename its annual celebration, noting that they are a Dixon-based organization. Venable explained that even though the Vacaville ballpark is smaller, it gives his group a chance to "reinvent" the games. "It gives us the opportunity to make some

changes and breathe fresh air into our games," he said.

The decision to move the games was completely financial, said Kay Fulfs Cayler, a member of the association. "I feel very bad that they cannot have their Scottish games in Dixon," Cayler said. "But we can't run the games and lose money, the people will only pay so much for tickets."

Dixon city leaders said they don't want to see the festival moved either. "It's really sad to see the Dixon Scottish games move to Vacaville," said Mayor Mary Ann Courville. "It's really strange; it's sad that they're moving, but it's out of our control."

Police Chief Don Mort agreed. "It's a shame that it's not going to be in Dixon," he said. "It is an event that was built for Dixon and it's a shame that it can't be here."

And it is not the only local event that has backed out of using the May Fair grounds since fees increased. The annual Lambtown Festival committee would have liked to hold its 21-year-old festival at the May Fair grounds, but like the Scottish games, couldn't afford the increase in rental fees. Efforts to find a new place for Lambtown are still in the works.

In the meantime, Venable is promising that the Scottish games in Vacaville will live up to their reputation for quality. "We will bring the same top-quality Scottish entertainment and activities to Vacaville, as we have had in Dixon," Venable said. "We will present award-

winning bagpipe bands; top-name Scottish, Celtic and Irish folk musicians; superb Scottish athletes; talented Highland dancers; tasty British foods and ales; fine gift items; and more."

This year's games are scheduled for Sept. 22.

Melissa Murphy can be reached at [dixon@thereporter.com](mailto:dixon@thereporter.com).

The next day the Vacaville Reporter published an editorial in a segment they call "Picks and Pecks". They welcomed the Games to Vacaville and look forward to covering the games. They did suggest we call the games "Solano Games and Gathering".

Additional article appeared in the Fairfield Daily Republic, both Dixon newspapers, and an article will appear in the Davis Enterprise newspaper.

Thanks to Don Burns for his great work in publicizing our Games.



## Clan Chattan Crest

## Clan Corner-Clan Chattan

The 'Clan of the Cats,' was not always a single family but a confederation or community of families, some of whom had been related and some who were not. The wildcat in heraldry can often help as a means of distinguishing the families associated.

Most believe that the name came to be through Saint Cattan. His servant, the baillie of Ardochattan's abbey lands, called himself Gillichattan Mor and is seen as the first clan chief. The family possessed lands at Loch Arkaig and Glenloy during Malcolm II's time and Torcastle became the seat of the chief.

In 1291 Eva, the only child of the sixth chief Dougall Dall, married Angus, sixth Laird of MacKintosh. Angus became

Captain of Clan Chattan. It was disputed whether the chiefship was a heritable honour that Eva could have conferred on her. The chiefs of Clan MacPherson cited that their descentance from the Clan Chattan chief Muireach in 1173 was their right to be chiefs of Clan Chattan. This dispute was on-going for two hundred years.

Angus and Eva also had land disputes begin in their time which would last four hundred years. Because they had Angus Og of Islay for an enemy, Angus decided to move out of Torcastle and withdraw to Rothiemurchus.

At this the Camerons claimed that the Arkaig lands had been abandoned and, proclaiming right of conquest, moved into them. It was in the fourteenth

century that Clan Chattan developed into a confederation. Along with the MacPhersons, other clans who formed an alliance were the MacPhails, MacBeans, Cattanachs, MacKintoshes and their cadet branches the Shaws, MacCombies, Ritchies, MacThomases and the Farquharsons.

Other associate families without blood ties were the Davidsons, MacAndrews. MacGillivrays, MacLeans of Dochgarroch, MacIntyres of Badenoch and the MacQueens of Pollochaig.

Clan Chattan suffered badly after the 1745 rising and the MacKintoshes became the dominant clan.

## Chief's Letter

We have now officially signed the contract with Travis Credit Union Park to host our games for the next three years. They are extremely excited to have us hold our family oriented games and are more than willing to work with us to make sure we have a very successful run at the Park. It is now more important than ever that all Games Chairpersons attend the games meetings as we consider where every venue is going to be placed.

I also would like to hold 2 or 3 games meetings at Travis Credit Union Park so we can walk through the placing of the venues and work out the kinks. The first available time that we can do a walk through is the end of June after all the ballgames are finished, and I'm not sure whether that will come before or after our June meeting. I will let you know when I have the date secured.

There are still some GAMES COMMITTEE CHAIRS that need filling:

**Awards    Children's Glenn    Parking Passes**  
**Tickets    Sponsorships    Volunteers**

If you can Chair or assist in chairing one of these positions, please let me know. We need INACTIVE MEMBERS to help out. Our core group is getting pretty "burned out" ! You can reach me at 530-219-4189 or e-mail me at justmaren@yahoo.com.

At the April meeting, nominations will be held for the position of Trustee that member Doug Hicke is vacating due to personal reasons. Doug has done an excellent job for the Club. He assured me he will make periodic visits to the meetings and will not be a total stranger.

I will see you at the Games meeting on Tuesday, April 17th at 6:00 pm and the regular meeting following at 7:00 pm.

Yours aye,

Chief, Maren Murphy

## *This Month's Events in Scottish History*

**Apr 1, 1820**, the proclamation which sparked the Radical War was distributed around Glasgow. The uprising was led by weavers and commanded a lot of support throughout the west of Scotland. However, the Radicals had been infiltrated by Government agents and the rising was soon quelled, with the ringleaders executed.

On **3 April 1603** King James VI travelled to London to take up the English throne. James moved his court to Whitehall Palace in London, where they settled around the palace in an area which became known as 'Scotland Yard'. On his way to London he knighted 300 people, and in the space of four months in England had knighted more people than Queen Elizabeth had in her entire reign. James returned to Scotland only once, in 1617, and he liked to boast that he now ruled his northern kingdom with a stroke of his pen.

On **April 4, 1406** King Robert III died, he once described himself as "the worst of kings and the most miserable of men." The eldest son of King Robert II and grand-son of Robert the Bruce, he was crippled following a riding accident in 1388. Robert succeeded his father to the throne in 1390, but was not really suited to being monarch, with his ambitious brother, the Duke of Albany, in reality running the kingdom. Robert's eldest son, the Duke of Rothesay, was imprisoned at Falkland by Albany, where he starved to death. Robert sent his younger son, who would become King James I, to safety in France, but the news that James had been captured by the English killed Robert. Robert is buried in Paisley Abbey where, in the 19th century, Queen Victoria paid for the construction of a memorial to him.

On **5th April 1820** government forces defeated Radical weavers at the Battle of Bonnymuir. The Radicals had marched from Glasgow and were heading towards the Carron Iron Works in Falkirk. However, their ranks had been infiltrated by government agents and they were in fact being guided to an ambush outside the village of

Bonnybridge. During the battle a Lieutenant of the 10th Hussars received a wound to the hand and a sergeant was severely wounded, four Radicals were wounded and a haul of five muskets, two pistols, eighteen pikes and about 100 rounds of ball cartridges were taken. Hardie and Baird, the leaders of the Radicals were hanged at Stirling, with Hardie declaring 'I die a martyr to the cause of truth and liberty'.

**Apr 6, 1320**, the Declaration of Arbroath was drawn up by the monks of Arbroath Abbey. The declaration was a letter, in Latin, from the Scottish nobles to Pope John XXII, affirming their determination to maintain Scotland's independence. The document is also seen as the first example of a contractual monarchy, with the nobility asserting the right to dethrone King Robert I should he submit to England. The Declaration of Arbroath is widely regarded as being the inspiration behind the American Declaration of Independence in 1776.

On **9th April 1747** Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat, the leading Scottish Jacobite rebel was beheaded on Tower Green, London. Lovat has the unwanted notoriety of being the last man to be publicly beheaded in Britain.

**Apr 10, 1512**, King James V was born at Linlithgow Palace. He was the only surviving son of James IV and Margaret Tudor and inherited the throne at the age of 18 months. Between 1526 and 1528, he was held prisoner by his step-father, Archibald Douglas. Once he escaped James set about asserting control of the country, and was unswerving in his hatred of the Red Douglas clan and their English allies. His second marriage was to the French Mary of Guise, who was to bear him a daughter, the future Mary, Queen of Scots. However, James cannot have been too confident in his heir as he uttered the famous quote, 'It cam wi' a lass and it will gang wi' a lass', at her birth, believing that a female heir spelled the end of the Stuart dynasty.

On **13 April 1827**, Hugh Clapperton, the Scottish explorer, died. Clapperton was the first European explorer of northern Nigeria.

He explored the region with two fellow Scots, Dixon Denham and Walter Oudney, after crossing into the region from the Sahara desert. He returned to Britain to tell of his discoveries, but died in Africa on a subsequent journey, trying to trace the source of the Niger river.

**Apr 14, 1999**, Scottish broadcaster, Eileen Mitchell, died. Mitchell was the woman whose voice was known to millions through the phrase, "Are you sitting comfortably? Then I'll begin". She presented BBC Radio's daily children's series, 'Listen with Mother', and also sang many of the nursery rhymes in the programme on which she appeared for about 15 years. When the programme spawned BBC TV's "Watch With Mother", she supplied one of the voices in "The Woodentops".

On **16 April 1746**, the Jacobite army was defeated by Hanoverian forces in the Battle of Culloden. The defeat marked the end of the last Stewart attempt to regain, by force, the throne forfeited by James VII. Bonnie Prince Charlie refused the advice of his most able general, Lord George Murray, over the positioning of the Jacobite forces, letting himself be persuaded into placing his troops on an open moor, which gave all advantages to the Hanoverians. Charles compounded this error by choosing this moment to take personal charge of his force for the first time. In less than an hour the government force, outnumbering the Jacobites two to one and with a vast advantage in artillery, defeated them for the first and last time.

On **20th April, 1934**, the first public meeting of the Scottish National Party was held. The meeting was held in the Central Hall, Tollcross, Edinburgh with Compton Mackenzie, the Lord Rector of Glasgow University, and W. Oliver Brown, prospective Nationalist candidate for East Renfrewshire, as guest speakers. The Scottish National Party was formed by the amalgamation of The National Party of Scotland and The Scottish Party.

## *Scottish History (con't)*

**Apr 21, 1838**, John Muir, the Scottish-born American naturalist, was born. Muir was responsible for the creation of Yosemite and Sequoia national parks in California. The 550-acre Muir Woods National Monument is named after him.

**Apr 23, 2001**, Jan Sundberg, an explorer specialising in unusual species, arrived at Loch Ness in a bid to trap the legendary monster. The Swede planned to install a massive creel to catch Nessie, a move which led to Scottish Natural Heritage drawing up a voluntary code preventing environmental damage caused by monster hunters. Although recorded sightings of Nessie stretch back to the days of St Columba, the public obsession with Nessie really began with a sighting in 1933 by the late Donaldina Mackay. Since then the loch has been inundated with monster hunters, and many thousands have claimed to have spotted him in the waters of the loch.

**Apr 27, 1296**, the Scottish army was routed in the Battle of Dunbar by Edward I, King of England. Hostilities started when the King of the Scots, John Balliol, renounced his allegiance to the English Crown. The battle became known as the "Dunbar Drave".

Lonnie Donegan, the Scottish skiffle singer, composer and guitarist, was born on **Apr 29, 1931**. Considered by some to be Britain's first pop superstar, James Anthony Donegan burst onto the scene in the mid-1950s with a distinctive, lively sound called "skiffle", which was based loosely on American folk music. His first big hit, "Rock Island Line", achieved the then rare distinction of soaring up the US hit parade, and he was rarely out of the charts from then until "The Beatles' era". Donegan's hits included "Does Your Chewing Lose Its Flavour", "My Old Man's A Dustman", "Cumberland Gap" and "Puttin' On The Style".

**Apr 30, 1873**, David Livingstone, the renowned Scottish missionary and explorer, died. Born in Blantyre, Livingstone was famed for his exploration of central and southern Africa. He was the first European to see Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The mysterious whereabouts of Livingstone in Africa became the subject of the famous search by Henry Morton Stanley.

## *Fiona's Corner*

Since the response to this segment of the newsletter has been underwhelming at best, I decided to use this space for other things. Here is a recipe for you to try out. Happy eating.

### **Scotch Broth Soup Ingredients:**

1kg neck of mutton or lamb (my mum sometimes uses chicken)

75g pearl barley and 1 large onion

75g split peas or fresh peas and 1 large leek

3 wee neeps (turnip) and 1 swede

water depending on thickness required - try 2.5 litres

3 carrots and 2 tablespoons of freshly chopped parsley

salt and pepper and small cabbage (optional)

### **Scotch Broth Soup Cooking Directions:**

1. Pre soak the barley and split peas
2. Chop all the vegetables
3. Melt a wee bit of lard/cooking oil and add the chopped onion. Once softened add the water and meat (you can just add stock rather than boil meat) and boil, skimming off any fatty deposits from the top.
4. After boiling for about half an hour add the barley and peas and simmer for another 30 minutes.
5. Add the remaining vegetables.
6. If used, remove the bone and strip off the meat and return this to the pot.
7. Give the dog the bone once it's cooled!
8. Add parsley before serving. Great with warmed bread rolls.
9. If making a big pot full it'll keep out provided you boil and stir each day.

# Official Newsletter of the Dixon Scottish Cultural Association

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## We're on the Web

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

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The next Games meeting will be Apr 17 at 6:00 pm. The General Meeting follows at 7:00 pm. The meeting is at the Pie Shop in Dixon.

Check out the new website at [www.scotsindixon.org](http://www.scotsindixon.org)

We also have a new e-mail address: [scotsindixon@castles.com](mailto:scotsindixon@castles.com). Pass it out.

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## *DSCA Happenings*

On March 10 the DSCA Pub Night Team went to the San Francisco Cally Club's Pub Night to conquer the other clubs. Unfortunately the other clubs had other ideas and we had to settle for 4th Place. But the Darts team of Jim Snyder and Phil Venable saved the day by winning the competition without losing a game. Our team consisted of Alex Henderson, Duncan McMartin, Bill Anderson, Jim Snyder, John McKenzie, and Phil Venable. We'll get 'em next year.

This year the DSCA will represent our club at the Vacaville Medieval Fantasy Festival, April 21 and 22, in Downtown Vacaville. Thanks to the numerous volunteers who will give their time to staff the tent at the festival. Check the web site and

your e-mail for your assigned times.

On Apr 22, 2 pm, the DSCA Honor Guard will represent our club at a ceremony at the new Solano Veteran's Cemetery on Midway Road in Dixon. Come on out and support them.

Speaking of the Color Guard, they are looking for a few good men or women to fill their ranks. If you are interested in becoming one of the few, the proud, the Color Guard, contact Neil Henderson at [neilhenderson95670@yahoo.com](mailto:neilhenderson95670@yahoo.com), or contact him at the next meeting.

More volunteers are needed for this year's Games, so let the Chief or I know if you can help



**Who says we aren't a fun, family club? Some of our younger members having fun at our annual Christmas potluck.**

I know it is late notice, but if you need something to do on April 7 at about 1:00 pm, come on out to the K Street Mall in Sacramento. We will be celebrating Tartan Day with the Sacramento Callie Club and our Honor Guard will be present. We will have game flyers on hand to pass out.

Come and join the fun. Help us get the word out about our Games and maybe you will get a photo of yourself in the newsletter.