

Selkirk Colonial Society - 2020 Newsletter



On Thursday June 11, 2020 the Selkirk Royal and Ancient Burgh Ex-Standard Bearers Association laid a wreath at the Flodden Memorial. The wreath was laid by Silver Jubilee Royal Standard Bearer Duncan Lawson. Duncan was accompanied by Chairman Gary Guthrie and Secretary David Mitchell. Ex Royal Burgh Standard Bearers individually placed flowers at the Memorial over the weekend which resulted in a beautiful floral tribute.

(Social distancing protocols were followed.)

Selkirk Colonial Society - MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Well, what a year 2020 has been...

Appointed Chairman, diagnosed with Prostate Cancer and Covid-19 – *the only way is up!*

Male members, I encourage you all to ask your GP for a PSA level blood test, it may just save your life.

Normally at this point the Chair would go on about what a wonderful job our Standard Bearer had done when casting the golden banner in our royal and ancient market place, and the gracious manner in which his Lady Busser had carried out her duties. Oh and how glorious the weather had been.

Not this year folks...

Back in March we had so much to look forward to and everything was in place, little did we know that our world as we knew it was about to be turned upside down and inside out.

Despite all of this I am delighted to send greetings from Selkirk to our exiles in "a the airts" and I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health.

Falconer Grieve who led our community singing for many years reached his Golden Jubilee as Royal Burgh Standard Bearer, our Society Standard Bearer alongside him in 1970 was Gordon Stewart whose son Duncan celebrated his Silver Jubilee anniversary with our Society this year. I know for a fact Dorothy Bjorklund was planning on celebrating her 60th anniversary of bussin' our Society flag for James Finlay in style and missed out on a party.

Our CD and book stock continues to reduce, even during a pandemic, anyone interested in purchasing should contact Ian Clapperton who continues to manage the stock.

In the past year we sadly lost Rosalie Saunders who bussed our golden banner in 1968, the year Lawrence Scott was our Standard Bearer, she was also an extremely loyal member of the Colonial Society.

Let us hope that we can all come together soon under one roof, meet, hug or shake each other's hand without fear of this, or any other virus...until that day

With our very best wishes from Selkirk.

Jim Bunyan, Chairman.

Selkirk Colonial Society - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the March 12, 2020 Society Annual General meeting Ian Clapperton stood down as Chairman after four years in the post, preceded by five as Secretary. Many thanks to Ian Clapperton for his dedicated and continued support of the Colonial Society.

The new Chairman, who was unanimously approved by members is Jim Bunyan, Colonial Standard Bearer 2007 (USA).

Margaret Rae was appointed Assistant Treasurer and Elana Lawrie was appointed Assistant Secretary.

The Society welcomed the following new members Jim Jackson, George and Susan Thomson, Lucy and Matthew Boyd, Elana Lawrie, Jackie Penman, Kenny Scott and Fiona Murray.

Selkirk Common Riding Trust - PROVOST KEITH MILLER



Statement from the Selkirk Common Riding Trust following the cancellation of the 2020 Common Riding due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Selkirk Common Riding Trust 4.00 am Friday 12th June 2020

Fellow Souters, Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls;

As Provost of Selkirk Common Riding Trust, it is my pleasant duty to announce that the Selkirk Marches have been reared for this year 2020, and our Burgh Lands have been reported to me as, "Intact and in Good Order."

This means that our ancient traditions have been upheld and the duties of Selkirk Common Riding Trust discharged for this year.

We can now concentrate on Common Riding 2021, planning for which is already well in hand.

Enjoy all that you do today and hopefully all will be back to normal next year.

"Safe Oot, Safe In."

Keith Miller (Provost).

Selkirk Colonial Society – A LOOK BACK OVER THE DECADES

1920

James Nichol, SOUTH AFRICA. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser Ada Mary Nichol. The Bussin Concert was held in the Picture House and the Society Chairman was William Chrichton.

1930

Robert L. Haig, USA. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser W. R. Linton. The Bussin Concert was held in the Picture House.

1950

Jack Harper, SIERRA LEONE. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser Nancy Scott. The Bussin Concert was held in the Picture House.

1960

Jim Finlay, AUSTRALIA. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser Dorothy Hyde.

1970

Gordon Stewart, CANADA. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser Mrs. May Stewart. The Bussin Concert was held in the Victoria Hall.

1980

Andrew Emond, AUSTRALIA. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser Mrs. Helen Emond.

1990

Murray Russell, CANADA. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser Mrs. Cathy Russell. The Bussin Concert was held in the Victoria Hall. The Guest Chairman was Ex Standard Bearer Harry O Russell.

2000

Gregor Stewart, CANADA. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser Mary Stewart. The Bussin Concert was held in the Victoria Hall and the Guest Chairman was Duncan Stewart, CSB 1995, CANADA.

2010

John Graham, CANADA. His flag was bussted by Lady Busser Eva Michael. The Bussin Concert was held in the Victoria Hall and the Guest Chairman was Jim Henderson, CSB 1983, CANADA.

Selkirk Colonial Society – A LOOK BACK OVER THE DECADES

SELKIRK COLONIAL SOCIETY.

"Far from my home I wander,
But still my thoughts return
To my ain folk, aye yonder,
In the shieling by the burn."

The Exiles' Bussin'.

Standard-Bearer: Mr R. L. Hogg, Chicago.
Lady Bearer: Mrs W. R. Linton, Vancouver.

.. PROGRAMME ..

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.
Chorus—"Hail Swirling Morn"—Party
Leader: Mr J. B. Stewart.
Song—"The Border Maiden"—Mrs Rathven
Song—"My Ain Folk"—Miss C. Brown
Song—"Auld Selkirk Town"—Mr W. Park
Song—"Flowers of the Forest"—Mrs Beattie

Song—"Scotland Yet"—Mr A. Connely
Song—"O a' the Airts"—John McClary

Presentation of Medallion to Burgh Standard-Bearer
on behalf of Edinburgh & Lothians Souters
by Mr ANDREW SCOTT,
Lady Bearer: Mrs SCOTT.



COMMON RIDING 1960-HALF A CENTURY

Standard Bearer that year was Jim Finlay (Australia) his Lady Bearer being Dorothy Hyde (Bjorklund). Standing to the left of Dorothy is Mrs Mirtle (formerly Chrissie Williamson) who performed the Lady Bearer duties at the first concert in 1911. Bill Hogg, Chairman of the Society from 1959 to 1982 is standing on the extreme right.

Yince a Souter, Aye a Souter!

SELKIRK COLONIAL SOCIETY

Bussin' o' Colours
and Presentation of Medallion to Burgh Standard-Bearer
— on behalf of the Edinburgh & Lothians Souters —

Standard-Bearer: Mr J. L. HARPER
Lady Bearer: Miss NANCY SCOTT

THE PICTURE HOUSE, SELKIRK
THE NIGHT AFORE THE MORN
THURSDAY, June 15th, 1950
Doors Open 7 p.m. : Commence 7.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN, Mr R. W. SIMPSON

The Exiles' Colour Bussin' 1970

FROM CANADA, STANDARD-BEARER AND LADY Bearer
Mr and Mrs GORDON STEWART

Artists
NETTA LAWRIE, MARGARET LAWRIE, JOHN MITCHELL, JOHN SIMMONS
JIM CLAPPERTON
SELKIRK HIGH SCHOOL BAND (Conductor: JACK WILSON)
SELKIRK HIGH SCHOOL CHORUS (Directed by JAS. BALLANTYNE)
GUEST CHAIRMAN - Mr J. C. N. RANKINE, M.A.

THE VICTORIA HALL, SELKIRK,
WEDNESDAY, 10th JUNE, at 7.30 p.m.
Doors open 7 p.m.

SELKIRK COLONIAL SOCIETY
Bussin' Concert 1980

YINCE A SOUTER, AYE A SOUTER!

Standard-Bearer and Mrs Andrew Emond
(from Victoria, Australia)

in the Victoria Hall, Selkirk,
WEDNESDAY, THE 11th DAY OF JUNE
Doors open at 7 p.m. : Commence 7.30 p.m.

Guest Chairman, Mr Ian McIntyre, BBC, London

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME : ADMISSION BY TICKET

FOUNDED IN CANADA 1910
Hespeler, Ontario

SELKIRK COLONIAL SOCIETY

Bussin' Concert

Standard-bearer, Murray Russell, Canada
with wife, Mrs Cathy Russell, his Lady Bearer

1990

In the VICTORIA HALL, SELKIRK
WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of JUNE
DOORS OPEN 7 p.m. - COMMENCE 7.30 p.m.

GUEST CHAIRMAN
Ex-Standardbearer Harry O. Russell
Chairman, Gala Souters' Association

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME — ADMISSION BY TICKET

A SOUTER AYE

SELKIRK COLONIAL SOCIETY

BUSSIN' CONCERT 2000

Standard Bearer Gregor Stewart (Canada) and Lady Bearer Mrs Marly Stewart

in the VICTORIA HALL, SELKIRK
WEDNESDAY, the 14th day of JUNE
DOORS OPEN 7 pm — COMMENCE 7.30 pm

CHAIRMAN: Jim Henderson
GUEST CHAIRMAN: Duncan Stewart, (Colonial Standard Bearer 1995)
ADMISSION: £1.50 by Programme

A SOUTER AYE

SELKIRK COLONIAL SOCIETY

BUSSIN' CONCERT 2010
Centenary Programme

Standard Bearer John J. Graham (Canada) and Lady Bearer Eva Michael (Canada)

in the VICTORIA HALL, SELKIRK
WEDNESDAY, the 16th day of JUNE
DOORS OPEN 7 pm — COMMENCE 7.30 pm

GUEST CHAIRMAN: Jim Henderson

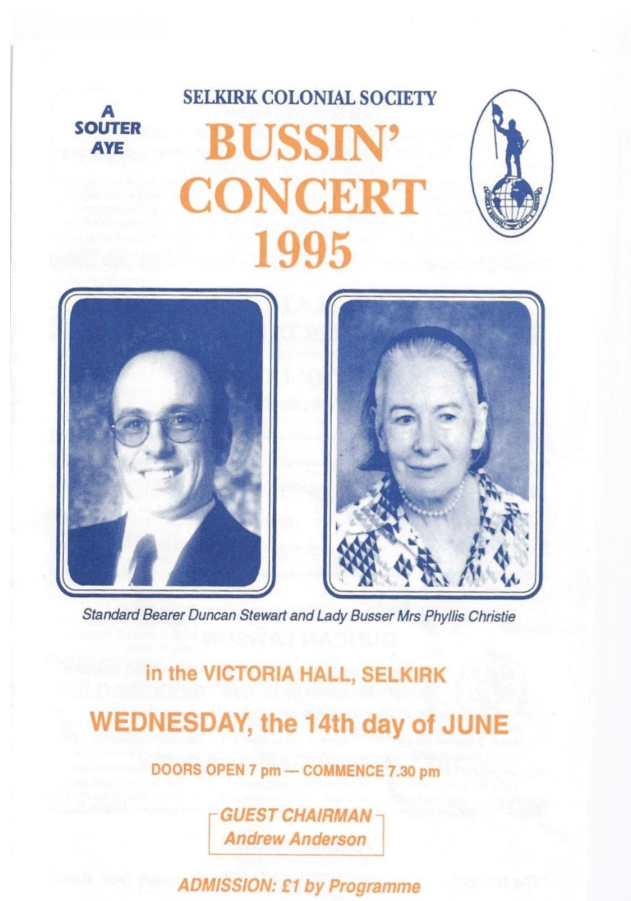
Selkirk Colonial Society - CONDOLENCES

It is with much sadness that the Society shares the passing of the following members. Jennifer O'Flaherty, for whom a Memorial Scholarship has been created in her memory. Mabel Thomson, who bussed the Colonial flag for her husband George in 1964. Her sons George and Kenny were both Colonial Standard Bearers, in 2012 and 2014 respectively. John Elliot, a dedicated local Society member and Rosalie Saunders, who bussed the Colonial flag for Lawrence Scott in 1968. Our thoughts are with the families.

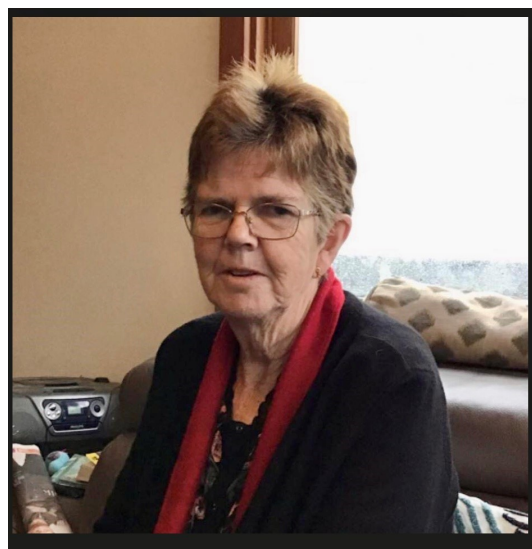
Selkirk Colonial Society - ANNIVERSARIES

Duncan Stewart Canada 1995 - 25th

Gordon Stewart Canada 1970 - 50th



Selkirk Colonial Society - JENNIFER HOGG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



In November 2019 the family of the late Jennifer O'Flaherty (Hogg) and the Selkirk Colonial Society announced the launch of the Jennifer Hogg Memorial Sponsorship.

Jennifer Hogg was born in Selkirk in 1950 but lived in Australia after her marriage to Pat O'Flaherty. Jennifer never forgot her roots and was a staunch supporter and member of the Society. Jennifer regularly returned to Selkirk for the Common Riding and attended the Society functions throughout the week. Jennifer's father was Mr. Bill Hogg, Colonial Standard Bearer 1933 representing Australia and Society Chairman from 1959 - 1982.

Jennifer is survived by her husband Pat and three children in Australia and, her two sisters Isobel Oliver and Margaret McDonald in Selkirk, all of whom were involved in the decision making of the Memorial Sponsorship.

The Sponsorship will provide for an annual donation of \$1000.00 (Australian) to Stable Life based at Ashkirk, and will provide support to a young person who is experiencing personal challenges in their life.

Since 2008 Stable Life has supported youth and their families by providing a safe and nurturing learning experience using the horse and its environment to help young people reach their full potential and achieve their aspirations and dreams.

Coincidentally both Jennifer and her sister Isobel received riding lessons as youngsters from Miss McGowan who was well known in the community for her support of children.

The Sponsorship of Stable Life brings back many memories for the family and is very much in line with what Jennifer herself would have wanted.

Selkirk Common Riding Trust – WILLIAM LINDSAY MEMORIAL BIRDBATH



The Selkirk Common Riding Trust are pleased to announce the unveiling of the William Lindsay Memorial birdbath in recognition of Mr. William Lindsay's kindness and generosity to his community.

Mr. Lindsay lived in Selkirk for most of his life and was actively involved in many local Clubs and Associations.

Mr. Lindsay passed away in August 2016 and bequeathed generous donations to many of the Clubs and Associations that he was involved with.

The memorial was made by stonemason Andrew Bunyan and put in place on the grounds of the Victoria Hall earlier this year.

Selkirk Colonial Society - REUNIONS

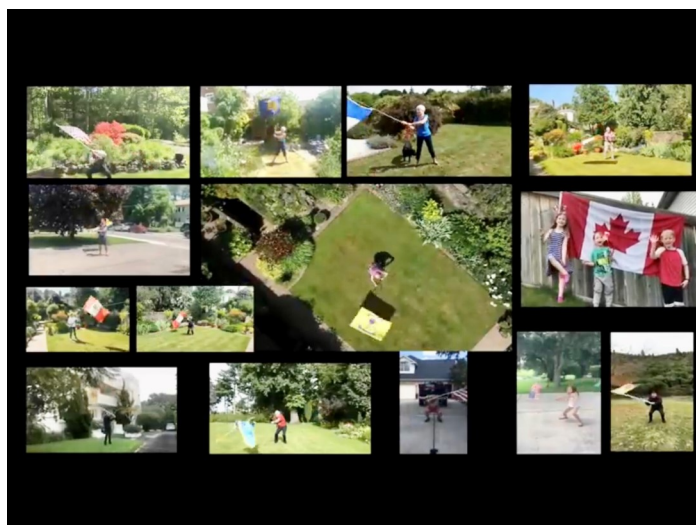


Colonial Standard Bearers George Thomson (2012), Craig Douglas (1999) and Kenny Thomson (2014) reunited in New Zealand in February 2020.



Colonial Standard Bearer Raymond Smith (1969) and Society member Keith Rodgerson display the golden banner in sunny Barbados, December 2019.

Selkirk Colonial Society - THE ROSES



COVID 19 prevented exiled Souters around the world from returning to Selkirk. With Common Riding 2020 sadly cancelled a group of Society members, Souters and their families joined together under the guidance of Society member Keith Rodgerson to create a "virtual" Common Riding to celebrate friendship and community spirit.

From the cities of Australia to the Arctic's icy main the video was created. The video can be seen on YouTube by searching, "The Roses and Casting out the virus. A video greeting to Souters everywhere for Common Riding 2020."

Many thanks to all who contributed, and especially to Keith for his patience hosting the exuberant zoom chats and for compiling the final video.

"Yince a Souter Aye a Souter"



VJ Day 75th Anniversary - MR. ADAM HOUSTON

August 15, 2020 marked the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day. Selkirk Colonial Society member Mr. Adam Houston served for Britain in WWII. The photographs show Mr. Houston greeting his mother upon his return to Selkirk in January 1946 and more recently celebrating his 99th birthday. The Society is extremely proud of Adam's contribution to the war effort and he is a most respected member of the Society.



VJ DAY 75th Anniversary - SELKIRK WAR MEMORIAL



David Deacon and Kevin Turnbull laid a wreath at the War Memorial on VJ Day, August 15, 2020.

Selkirk Flodden 500 Association - WREATH LAYING CEREMONY



Mr. Jake Wheelans laid a wreath at the Selkirk Flodden Garden on September 9th, 2020, the 507th anniversary of the Battle of Flodden.

The Flodden garden is maintained by the Selkirk Flodden 500 Association. The garden is located on the grounds of the Victoria Hall.

SELKIRK NEWS 2020



On New Year's Day 2020, the Selkirk Silver Band started the year off by playing at Elm Park, Thornfield Nursing Home, The Bield and to a good number of townsfolk and visitors in the Market Place.

The 2020 Annual Haggis Hunt on the Selkirk Hill was a great success. It was well attended and everyone had a great time.



The Selkirk Musical Theatre Companies production of "All Shook Up" was held in February 2020 and was enjoyed by all who attended.

SELKIRK NEWS 2020

At the Selkirk Ex-Standard Bearers Charity and Good Causes Presentation Night held in February 2020, the Bunting Ladies received a presentation from Chairman Gary Guthrie. The ladies repair and make new true blue and scarlet bunting ensuring that Selkirk looks great each year in the build up to and at the Common Riding. The group consists of Iona Monks, Laura Munro, Sheila Lockie, Heather Beggs, Dilys Wheelans Alison Clifton, Moira Squance, and Anne Guthrie.

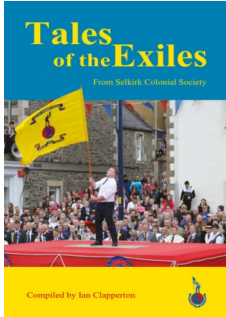


Selkirk Bandsman Ryan Borthwick played “Up Wi the Souters” at 7:00 pm on what should have been Appointment Night in April 2020. Ryan is Provost Miller’s grandson.

Congratulations to Donald Ballanytne who won the Selkirk Golf Championship for the 18th time, out of 20 finals that he has played in over the years.



Selkirk Colonial Society - CD & BOOK SALES



You can still listen to the music and songs of the Common Riding by buying the Colonial Society CD with 27 recordings covering the “Nicht Afore the Morn” through to the “Liltin” at the casting. The songs are from weel kent local artistes and the music from the Selkirk Flute, Pipe and Silver Bands. The CD price is £9.00.

Why not combine the music with our own book, Tales of the Exiles, telling the story of our Society from it's inception to the present. As well as our history, the book contains many tales of Souter's who have made new lives overseas, some written by Selkirk High School pupils. The book price is £6.50.



If you buy both together, the sale price will be £14.00. The proceeds enable the Society to continue to support local good causes.

Anyone interested in making a purchase should message the Society to arrange payment and delivery/post. Local deliveries will be made by the Society, free of charge.

Selkirk Colonial Society - THANKS

The Society would like acknowledge and thank Grant Kinghorn for providing the photos for our newsletter.

www.grantkinghornpics.co.uk



Selkirk Colonial Society - FACEBOOK



The Society Facebook page continues to be popular with 500+- members and guests following our page around the world; keeping up to date on Society business and of course the main event, the Common Riding. If you would like to submit photos or an article to the Facebook page please email vjanegraham@hotmail.com or contact Jane Graham via Facebook messenger.

Selkirk Colonial Society - CONTACTS

Email us at - secretary@selkirkcolonialsociety.com

Selkirk Colonial Society website: www.selkirkcolonialsociety.com