

Selkirk Colonial Society - 2025 Newsletter



“Souters aye return to Selkirk when the roses bloom again.”



Selkirk Colonial Society - MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Once again, I am delighted to send greetings from Selkirk to all of our exiles, in “a’ the airts”, and I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health.

Over the last year the Society was saddened to learn of the loss of Catriona Livingstone, a former exile, who had returned to the town. Catriona was a staunch supporter of the Society before her health deteriorated.

Common Riding 2025 was a great success. Our Standard Bearer and Lady Busser were terrific. The weather was warm and sunny. The Society events were well supported.

All in all, 2025 was a great vintage. Standard Bearer Brenton Barbian and his wife/Lady Busser Marta did a fantastic job of representing the Society and they brought with them a large contingent of family and friends from the USA and UK. Both Brenton and Marta thoroughly embraced the Common Riding and I hope that they will return to many more Common Ridings without the pressures.

Our Common Riding events were successful and well attended. The Concert was chaired by Angela Williamson, a former LB from 2002. The Reception, upstairs, was once again, a full house, and members and exiles enjoyed an excellent night, with plenty of chat between old and new friends. On Common Riding day, Brenton was supported throughout the procession by a great many members and exiles, before he cast the Society Flag in an exemplary manner.

After the formalities the Society retired to the Victoria Hall for their Foy, and a grand time was had by all. And that was it for another year. As a Society we are overwhelmed to welcome each year so many exiles, visitors and friends to our various events.

Financially, we are able to report that all our events “washed their face” and we made an acceptable profit over the Common Riding despite the ever-increasing cost of hiring the Victoria Hall. Fortunately, with large attendances, donations for the cost of flowers, top table drinks, printing, etc, and some cash donations from members, we are financially secure. The sales of books, badges and CDs always add to our funds.

The Society has its new web site. Donations to local organisations continue and we await decisions on the Haining House (the potential placing of our regalia) before we consider any further financial contribution.

Last year the Society held its first member social event – a night out at Tibbies’ restaurant/bar. It was a great success. This year we are going for a meal at the Fleece (no longer a hotel, just a bar and restaurant). All seats have already been taken. We have also welcomed a fair number of new members in the last year, so a wee bit more positive for the future.

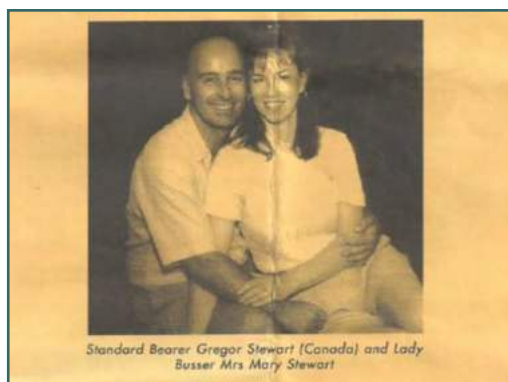
And finally, thinking of 2026, we have already chosen the Standard Bearer and although at this time the name is not being announced, I can confirm that it will be another from America. I hope to welcome many of you to Selkirk next year to support the Standard Bearer and meet with family and friends.

It is also worth mentioning that 2026 will see Donald Waldie celebrate his 50th anniversary as Standard Bearer, and Lewis Brydon will celebrate his 60th anniversary. Great achievements!

With my very best wishes from Selkirk.

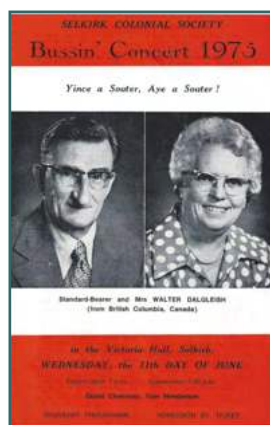
Ian Clapperton, Chairman.

Selkirk Colonial Society - ANNIVERSARIES



25th Anniversary

Colonial Standard Bearer Gregor Stewart
and Lady Busser Mary Stewart, CANADA



50th Anniversary

Colonial Standard Bearer Walter Dalgleish and
Lady Busser Jenny Dalgleish (nee Turnbull), CANADA.

Selkirk Colonial Society - 2025 BUSSIN OF THE COLOURS



Colonial Standard Bearer Brenton Barbian, Lady Busser Marta Barbian and Chairman Ian Clapperton perform the Bussin' of the Colours for 2025.



Edinburgh & Lothian Souters - MEDALLION PRESENTATION



Each year the Edinburgh & Lothian Souters Society presents the Royal Burgh Standard Bearer with the Edinburgh Souters medallion. Mr. & Mrs. Alan and Bev Elliott represented the Society at this years Bussin Concert. Royal Burgh Standard Bearer Darren Knox received his medallion from Mrs. Bev Elliott.

Edinburgh & Lothian Souters - GROUP PHOTOGRAPH



It was lovely to have members of the Edinburgh & Lothian Souters Society in attendance at the 2025 Colonial Bussin Concert.

Selkirk Colonial Society – OVERSEAS RECEPTION



Selkirk Colonial Society - LADY BUSSE MEDALLION



Ms. Elana Lawrie, Colonial Society Secretary presented this year's Lady Busse Marta Barbian with her Lady Busse Medallion.

Selkirk Colonial Society - WALTER WALDIE MEMORIAL MEDALLION



Mr. Marcus Waldie, CSB 1997 presented CSB 2025 Brenton Barbian with the Walter Waldie Memorial medallion.

Selkirk Colonial Society - COMMON RIDING MORNING



Selkirk Colonial Society - CASTING



Selkirk Colonial Society Foy - "HANDS ACROSS THE SEA"



Selkirk Colonial Society Foy - "HANDS ACROSS THE SEA"



Selkirk Colonial Society – A LOOK BACK OVER THE DECADES

1915

WWI.

1925

John Colledge, BRAZIL. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser Bella Scott.

1935

Robert Beattie, AUSTRALIA. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser Cathie Rae (Mrs. G. Scott).

1945 WWII.

1955

D. McKintyre, KENYA. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser A. Gibson.

1965

William Hislop, SOUTH AFRICA. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser A. Fordyce.

1975

Walter Dalglish, CANADA. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser Jenny Dalglish (nee Turnbull).

1985

George Emond, NEW ZEALAND. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser Margaret Emond.

1995

Duncan Stewart, CANADA. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser Phylis Christie (nee Stewart).

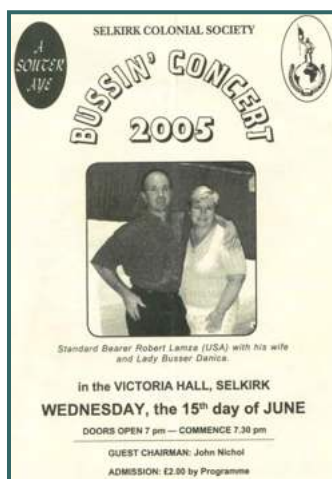
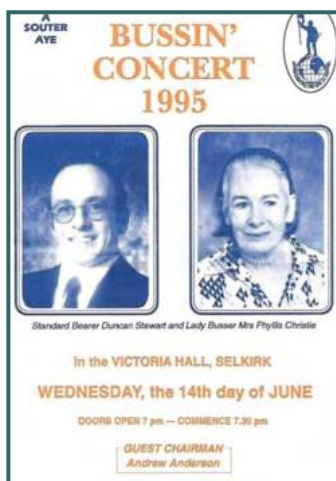
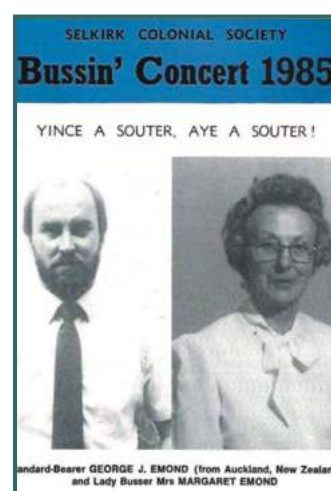
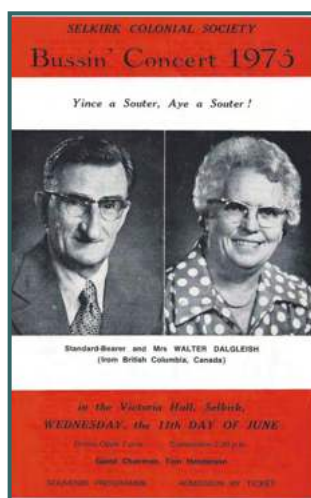
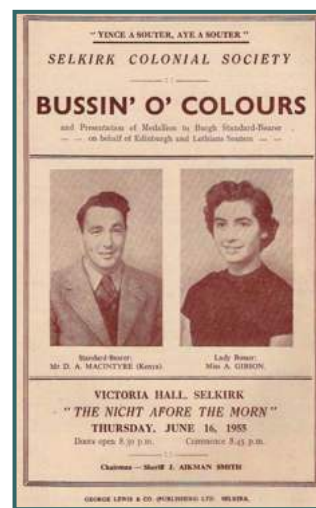
2005

Robert Lamza, USA. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser Danica Lamza.

2015

Chris Yardley, New Zealand. The flag was bussed by Lady Busser Eleanor Yardley.

Selkirk Colonial Society - A LOOK BACK OVER THE DECADES



Selkirk Colonial Society - Local Members Evening Out



Thirty local members enjoyed an evening out at the Fleece on Thursday, September 18th. A good time was had by all.

Selkirk Colonial Society - Standard Bearer & Lady Busser REFLECTIONS

This past June, I had the privilege of attending the Selkirk Common Riding with my husband Brenton, who served as the Colonial Standard Bearer. It was a proud moment for our whole family, especially sharing it with our two children, my family in Selkirk, and family and friends who joined us from both Scotland and the United States.

One of the most meaningful parts of the week was when I busied the flag for Brenton, a moment that really underscored the history and significance of the tradition.

We also appreciated the chance to connect with so many members of the Colonial Society, who welcomed us with genuine warmth and made us feel part of something bigger. Experiencing the Common Riding surrounded by family, community, and tradition is something we'll never forget. It was a week full of pride, connection, and lasting memories.

Marta Barbian, Lady Busser 2025

Serving as the Colonial Standard Bearer at this year's Selkirk Common Riding was a real privilege. Being part of such a longstanding and meaningful tradition is something I'll always be thankful for.

I am especially grateful for the people I met along the way both in the Colonial Society and in the Selkirk community who made the experience memorable and welcoming from start to finish. I'll take away not only great memories, but genuine friendships, and I'm thankful to have had the opportunity to be part of such an important event.

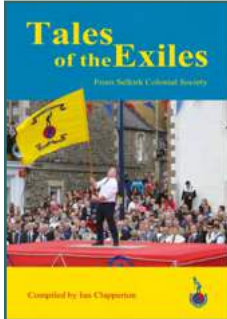
From the moment I arrived, I was struck by the sense of history and community that surrounds the Common Riding. Being trusted with the role of Colonial Standard Bearer was an honor I didn't take lightly, and I'll always look back on the experience with gratitude and respect. It's something I'll carry with me for years to come, and I hope to stay connected with the people and the place that made it all so meaningful.

Brenton Barbian, Colonial Standard Bearer 2025

Selkirk Colonial Society - CD & BOOK SALES



Enjoy the music of the Common Riding by purchasing the Colonial Society CD with 27 recordings covering the "Nicht Afore the Morn" through to the "Liltin" at the casting. CD stock is very low, and as such remaining CD'S are on sale for £2.50 while stock lasts. Once they're gone, they're gone!



Our second edition Society book "More Tales of the Exiles" is available for £7.50

*Merchandise is available for purchase @ Scott's Selkirk,
Peony Rose Café, The General Store, and the Gin Shop.*

Selkirk Colonial Society - THANKS

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

www.grantkinghornpics.co.uk



Selkirk Colonial Society - FACEBOOK



The Society Facebook page continues to be popular with 600+- 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

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