

US \$2.00

CLAN WALLACE SOCIETY WORLDWIDE

Am fear-gléidhidh



"The Guardian"—Published by the Clan Wallace Society Worldwide. Founded 1966.

Spring 2006

Vol 40, No 2

New Members

On behalf of Ian Francis Wallace of that Ilk, 35th Chief of Clan Wallace, the President and the Board of Directors welcome the **EIGHT** individuals listed below to our fellowship.

Ciad mile failte!

Life Members

David Wallace Giffin, Bellbrook, OH
William Heath Giffin, Bellbrook, OH
Kristian Nammack, London, UK

Annual

Theresa Wallace Matthews, Denton, NC
Samuel Clark Wallace, Dale City, VA
John Douglas Warner, Robins, GA
Venita Kent-Basham, Woodland, CA
Lloyd D. Wallace, Roseville, CA

**Effective
20 May 2006,
the Clan Wallace
Society World-
wide has 1200
members.**

From the Desk of the President



Greetings, again, Fellow Members of Clan Wallace Society Worldwide! As you can tell, the Editorial Staff of "The Guardian" is working hard to provide to you timely and excellent newsletters and I am sure that you will especially enjoy this edition. Since my last letter, I have been busy with several Society projects: I have selected a Committee and we have started the planning for the 2007 Clan Wallace Gathering at Williamsburg, Virginia in the Fall of 2007, and we have sent donations to Canada in support of the Wallace Mural at Wallaceburg, Ontario, as well as to the Council in Renfrewshire, Scotland, in support of the Wallace Yew Tree Restoration Project in Elderslie. You will be hearing more about these projects as the year passes.

Mark your calendars for some special Games and Festivals later in the season, as it has been announced that Clan Wallace will be Honored at four locations during 2006; we will be Honored Clan at the Glasgow, Kentucky, Highland Games during the period 1-4 June 2006; at the Sycamore Shoals Celtic Festival in Elizabethtown, Tennessee on 8-10 September 2006; at the Virginia Scottish Games at Wards Park in Alexandria, Virginia, on 15-17 September, and again at the Foothills Highland Games at the Blue Ridge Community College in Hendersonville, North

Carolina on 3-5 November 2006. I will be at all of these and would love to be surrounded by a field of Wallace Tartans at these events. See updates on these Festivals and Games on the CWSW Website as the year progresses.

Sir William Wallace was honored at this year's Tartan Day Dinner held in Danville, Virginia, sponsored by the Virginia Carolina Scottish Society. I was privileged to attend to represent you at this excellent dinner and celebration as their Honored Guest on 8 April.

The Rewards Program continues to draw interest and the Society received several more donations during this past month. I encourage all of you to consider joining one of the "Circles" soon by sending us your Tax Exempt donations. Information on this important program can be found on our wonderful website.

As you can tell, this last year as your President, is looking both busy and rewarding. Join me whenever you can at the many events I will be attending in Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, and New Mexico.

ENJOY OUR WONDERFUL SCOTTISH HERITAGE WITH ME!

In your Service,
Capt. John R. Wallace, President
Clan Wallace Society Worldwide

CWSW Rewards Program Update: Spring 2006

Congratulations from the President and the Board of Directors to donors who continue to demonstrate their dedication and support to the Society by making contributions to the CWSW Rewards Program. Information on how to get involved is found at the CWSW website at www.clanwallace.org.



CIRCLE OF THE CROSS

Russell Harper
(Life Member)
Lewisville, NC

All persons, whether members of the Society or not, may participate in this important Rewards Program and re-

ceive the uniquely designed pins, medals, and medallions. For more information, please contact the CWSW Rewards Program Coordinator at:

John R. Wallace
CWSW Rewards Program
4327 Gadwall Place
Virginia Beach, VA, 23462-4810

KEY CONTACTS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

John R. Wallace
4327 Gadwall Place
Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4810
Phn: 757-495-8194
Cel: 757-270-8239
Eml: johnrwallace@earthlink.net

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Bill J. Wallace
134 Rainbow Dr #3483
Livingston, TX 77399-1034
Phn: 480-818-1355
Eml: billandnorma@cox.net

SECRETARY

Kay Fulfs Cayler
510 Spruce St
Dixon, CA 95620-3742
Phn: 707-678-2448
Eml: kcayler@davis.com

GLEIDHIDH EDITOR

Tom E.S. Wallace
50 Cavalier Drive
Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia
Canada B4C 3K3
Phn: 902-252-2653
Eml: editor@clanwallace.org

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Marcus (Jim) Wallace, Jr.
3200 Blake St
Corinth, Texas 76210-1602
Phn: 940-321-3067
Eml: director3@clanwallace.org

CONVENORS' AFFAIRS

Jean R. Wallace
3005 Ridge Pass Rd
Little Rock, AR 72227-2123
Phn: 501-227-7116
Eml: jwallace3@alltel.net

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Charles M. Wallace
3464 N Beechwood Dr
Macon, GA 31210-2304
Phn: 478-471-7489
Eml: cmw12@cox.net

WEBMASTER

Jim "Bowie" Wallace
6711 Homestake Dr
Bowie, MD 20720-3315
Phn: 301-464-0661
Eml: webmaster@clanwallace.org

www.clanwallace.org

CWSW Convenor's Corner



As we have all started our convening for the New Year hope you are enjoying your travels. One-way to get meet other clans is to take the brochure from your home games (ours is the Arkansas

Scottish Festival, we helped start them) and pass them around at all the festivals. This gives you an opportunity to meet the clans and vendors and a way to open conversation. Also, it helps to promote your home game.

Remember to let me know if you have any changes in your address or e-mail as I am still getting e-mails bounced back. I will pass the information on to the correct people on the Board. I am still waiting to hear from some of you on the games you are convening. Jim "Bowie" Wallace has done a great job on the web site to list convenors and their games. If we have the information, can we post correctly. While we had originally planned to publish a list of convenors by state/province, however that project has been delayed due to several who have not responded permitting publication, while several others have chosen not to have their name published. The most current information that the Society has is at <http://www.clanwallace.org/convenor-list.html>.

Please check the list and notify me of any additions, corrections or changes. If you are not listed, please contact us immedi-

ately. The 2006 Highland Games Season is upon us!

On a lighter note, make sure that you have a copy of *The Highlander* or *Scottish Life* with you when you set up your tent. I find that it is very helpful when connecting someone with his or her roots. Most of the clan and societies are in there and we have no other way than that of giving them the information on how to contact their clan. Not everyone has a computer to access this information.

Sincerely,
Jean.

CWS Marks Tartan Day



President John R. Wallace (R) represented the CWSW at the Virginia Carolina Scottish Society Tartan Day Dinner at Danville, VA, on 08 April 2006. Here, he poses with VCSS President William Smith.

A "Pleasanton" Celebration of Robbie Burns



In honor of Robert Burns Birthday (25 January 1759), several friends attended a Burns Night Supper in Pleasanton, California. A traditional Burns Night Supper was prepared and all enjoyed haggis, tatties 'n neeps, and related dishes.

Seated (L-R): Peggy Gibson, Kay Cayler, Lois Wallace, Jan Wallace. Standing (L-R): Roy Gibson, Russ Cayler, Richard A. Wallace, Robert B. Wallace.

“Lunch With A Vet”

Council Member William H. Wallace of Mesa, AZ, long-time convenor for the Arizona Highland Games, is not only a stalwart CWSW supporter — he is also a longtime supporter of the Tempe Historical Society.

To commemorate Veteran’s Day and to raise funds for the Tempe Historical Society Bill organized a “Lunch With A Veteran” event that was a great success. ROTC cadets and other attendees had the opportunity to eat with and talk to Veterans of World War Two, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert Storm. Three Tuskegee Airman attended, one of whom was an original WW II Tuskegee Airman. The vets talked about their good memories of their time in service and gave the guests a flavor for what life was like for soldiers during the Big War and after. Frank Schmuck — an Air Force Academy graduate, Desert Storm vet, and currently a captain with Southwest Airlines — served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Brigadier General Greg Maxon, Deputy Adjutant General, AZ National Guard, was the keynote speaker. He told about his experiences visiting wounded soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Bethesda Md. He reported the soldier’s morale in Walter Reed and in Iraq is high. He was followed by four PowerPoint presentations to the 112 guests.



Council Member Bill H. Wallace (L) poses with Junior ROTC Cadets as part of the “Lunch with a Vet” he organized for the Tempe (AZ) Historical Society on 12 November 2006.

LTC (Ret) Carol McKnight, USAF, made a presentation about a terrorist attack on Headquarters USAF, Europe in the early 1980s. The recent Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, GEN Meyers was injured in the car bomb attack. MSG (Ret) Rubin Townsend, USA, talked to the group about his two escapes from North Korean prisoner of war camps during the Korean War.

A rare true native of Arizona, Bill H. presented his experience transporting Polish

refugee children from Mumbai, India, to Wellington, New Zealand, where a school and orphanage had been established for these children. He also gave a presentation about the mine sweeper USS Revenge, the first US warship to enter Tokyo Bay preceding the Japanese surrender ceremony. She ensured that Tokyo Bay was free of mines before the USS Missouri and dignitaries arrived in Tokyo in late August 1945.



The High Desert Pipe and Drum Band has been designated the Clan Wallace Society (Worldwide) Official Band. They wear the Modern Dress Wallace Tartan and they acknowledge the Society at games where they compete and perform and have a link from their website (<http://www.hdpd.org>) to the CWSW website. Members of the Society have contributed to this very worthwhile organization for many years. Photo (L-R): Bill H. Wallace, Ann and Howard Sloane, Norma Wallace (kneeling); ten band members, Bill Horn, and Mark Nelson.

Convenor's News and Other Clan Wallace Stories

Tucson Celtic Festival & Highland Games

Howard and Ari Sloane and Evelyn Rose (granddaughter and daughter respectively – garbed in her Wallace tartan kilted skirt) convened the annual Tucson Celtic Festival and Highland Games held at Rillito Park Race Track on 05 November 2005. The event was Evelyn's first Celtic festival and she enjoyed every minute of it making sure Grandpa took her to very clan tent to say, "Hello." Unlike 2004, the weather was nearly perfect. As a result the festival had a good turnout of visitors. A new festival organization and advertising also helped generate good attendance. William Wallace and CWSW were much in evidence in Tucson. Clan Wal-



Life Member Wallace Allen of Corpus Christi, TX (far left) demonstrating Scottish Country Dancing with the dance group "Celtic Menagerie." Notice the two wee lassies at the far right of the photo... imitation is the most sincere form of flattery, indeed.



Three Generations: Ari, Evelyn Rose, and Howard Sloan at the Tucson Highland Games.

lace had a full page in the games program. The 700th anniversary of Wallace's martyrdom was mentioned in opening ceremonies. A new 'Wallace Stone' event was added to the 2005 athletic events and will be continued in the future. The event was inspired by the "Braveheart" incident when Wallace's cousin throws a boulder at Wallace and is in turn felled by a small rock thrown by Wallace.

San Antonio Highland Games

Director Marcus Wallace filled in at the San Antonio Highland Games for his brother. The weather was beautiful if somewhat windy. Member Lance Wallace of Houston competed in heavy athletics while member Wallace Allen of Corpus Christi performed in Scottish Country Dance demonstrations. Lance came by and introduced his wife Becky and daugh-

ter Mackenzie. "There was a good crowd although not many Wallaces came by the tent," contributes Marcus. "The weather was hot on Friday where it was 99° F setting a record. Saturday morning dawned with temperature in the 55-60° F range. While it warmed up during the day, it did not reach the levels of Friday. The entertainment was very good and was mainly local groups with my favorite being a group named "Paisley Close." They are very friendly and talented group of youngsters. An unusual booth at these games is a actor in a WW I uniform demonstrating weapons of the era. It was

somewhat startling when he fired blanks from time to time. In addition to heavy athletics and demonstrations of Scottish Country dancing and Highland dancing, there were demonstrations of herd dogs and medieval fighting with Roman soldiers and Saxons in period costumes. The visitors seemed to be having a good time."

Arizona Scottish Gathering and Highland Games

The Caledonian Society of Arizona Scottish Gathering and Highland Games were held on the grounds of the Mesa



Clan Wallace on the March: Anna Cocklin, Bill Wallace, Lois Wallace, Mike Steele, Rick Palowski, Howard Sloane, Diane Wallace, Bob Wallace, Bob Wason, Donna Wallace, and Norma Wallace (nice shades, ladies) at the 2006 Arizona Highland Games.

Convenor's News and Other Clan Wallace Stories

(AZ) Community College 25-26 February 2006. The weather was warm and pleasant and there was a good turnout. Clan Wallace was well represented with about 20 people in attendance. We were later saddened to hear of the death of Almeda on 05 March. Members from Texas included Immediate Past President Marcus (Jim) and his daughter Donna, Rick Palowski and Mike Steele from Las Vegas, Tucson Convenor Howard and Ann Sloane, Mark Nelson of Prescott, Bill and Norma Wallace of Mesa, Ken and Margret Wallace of Apache Junction, Ben and Cathy Howard of Gilbert, AZ,

and their grandchildren, Treasurer Bob and Lois Wallace of Dayton, NV, and last, but not least, Former Membership Chair Dick A. and Jan Wallace of Marysville, CA. Saturday night we gathered at the home Mr. and Mrs. Swanson for an excellent Wallace Barbeque. Alison Swanson is Bill and Almeda Wallace's daughter. Sunday evening Bill and Norma, and Bob and Lois had dinner at Macayo's. Friday evening dinner was held at an Irish Pub, attended by Dick and Jan, Bill and Norma, Bob and Lois. This was the first game where the Caledonian Society of Arizona awarded the Cladaigh Trophy for "Best



The Clan Wallace Tent at Lyon College. Linda Hendricks (left) of the United Scottish Clans of Oklahoma is visiting with Dale Robertson (center) of Oklahoma City. Convenor Dick Wallace can be seen in the background discussing the chart with all of the septs of that Clan which he had prepared. Dick's chart is on same material as the Clan Wallace banner above the entrance, as seen here.



to the Swamp Celts Festival. Knowing that we would stay dry at this festival since everything is in a great indoor facility. No tent or table needed they provide tables and benches so all we have to bring are handout materials. Friday night they have a great cookout at the headquarters of the Celtic Society of Louisiana (the Kitchen is what they call it) great food and all had fellowship. The honored Clan Campbell is presented with a handmade plaque. Love the fact that the handmade plaque was much smaller without a sword than the one given to Capt. John in 2005. Saturday dawned

group that runs the festival is very friendly and there is something for everyone."

Arkansas Scottish Festival

Jean R. and Dick Wallace submit the following report: "Warm sunshine and record attendance numbers poured onto the Lyon College campus at the 27th Annual Arkansas Scottish Festival during its three-day run from April 21-23. Jimmy Bell, Lyon's director of Scottish Heritage, estimated that 10,000 people attended the event this year, up from last year's previous record of 8,000. "I believe 10,000 was the most ever at this festival," he said. The festival featured bagpipers, clans, dancers, drummers, falconry exhibitions, athletics, sheepdog demonstrations and musical entertainment. Vendor booths offered everything from Scottish and American foods to clan regalia, kilts and Claiborne broadswords. Friday started out cloudy, but by the afternoon, the clouds had left and abundant sunshine spilled down onto the grassy Lyon campus and lasted through the weekend. Ally Panneton, 12, of Fort Smith, visiting the festival with her father Bert, said she loved the sound of the bagpipes more than she ever expected. 'I never knew they were so cool,' she said. 'I got goose bumps when they started playing and banging those drums, and it's hot out here today.' She also spent a good part of the day at the falconry exhibit, getting an up-close look at the various raptors on display there. I've seen hawks and falcons before at zoos, but not up close like this,' Ally said. 'Look at their eyes. They know we're talking about them.' The next Arkansas Scottish Festival will be 20-22 April 2007. For more information about Scottish Heritage programs at Lyon College, contact Jimmy



Two Robert Bruce Wallaces flank three William Wallaces at the 2006 Wallace Barbeque Dinner that was held on 25 February 2006, in conjunction with the Arizona Highland Games.

Clan Tent." This trophy was donated in the name of Clan Wallace.

Louisiana Swamp Celts Festival

Director of Convenor's Affairs Jean Marie Robinson Wallace represented the CWSW at the Swamp Celts Festival at Gonzales, LA, on 01 April 2006. She writes, "With a threat of rain, we headed out to south Louisiana for our second trip

and we were off to the games. We had a much larger crowd that last year with more clans and visitors. We connected with a member of Clan Wallace that had moved from California to Louisiana and found the festival on the internet. He and a friend of his marched in the tartan parade with Dick. If you ever get a chance to attend this small but wonderful festival, I would strongly advise attending. The

Convenor's Continued

Bell at 870 698-4298."

Albuquerque (NM) Highland Games

IPP Marcus Wallace forwarded this report while still on the road. "Now here is a sight that you don't see at many Scottish Games. They were giving tethered balloon rides as an added attraction. The Albuquerque Games were held 20 May 2006 at the Balloon Festival Grounds in Albuquerque. These are small games with a distinct New Mexico flavor. This is the



At the Albuquerque (NM) Highland Games: (L-R) David Tomlinson, Collette Morgan, Sandra Wallace Tomlinson, Roger Wallace, David Meitaiya, Brandon Morgan, and John Troy Sanders. All, with the exception of David, are members of Roger's family.

first time they have been held at the Balloon Festival Park and instead of the usual type rides, the crowd was treated to hot air balloon rides. The games were hosted by Roger Wallace and his daughter Sandra Wallace Tomlinson. Although the crowds were small, we did have eight people sign in. The weather was warm and very cooperative with mild breezes for most of the day. This is a one day game sponsored by John Campbell. The High Desert Pipes and Drums band was present and in competition. It is believed they did well. Member David Tomlinson entered the heavy athletics competition but after a hard week landscaping (laying flagstones) he decided that was a bit much.



Historian Claims Marion Braidfute Was Invented

Marion Braidfute, wife of William Wallace, was a fictional character concocted by medieval biographers, a leading historian has claimed.

Braidfute, who was supposedly murdered by the Sheriff of Lanark, triggering Wallace's rebellion against the English, was created more than 200 years after his death to heighten the political standing of a noble family, according to new research.

In Mel Gibson's 1995 film *Braveheart*, the brutal murder of Wallace's wife (whose name was changed to Murrin MacClanough, and was played by the actress Catherine McCormack) is portrayed as a pivotal moment in his transformation into a revolutionary hero.

However, Ed Archer, an authority on Wallace, has found no mention of her in the earliest accounts of his life Blind Harry's "The Wallace," an epic poem written in about 1508, refers to a woman called Innes, who is credited with helping Wallace escape from the clutches of English troops. There is no suggestion that she was his lover or his wife.

Braidfute does not appear until 1570, in a revised edition of Blind Harry's poem, possibly commissioned by the Baillies of Lamington, a wealthy family from Lanark who hoped to ingratiate themselves with Mary, Queen of Scots by claiming to be Wallace's descendants. In the revised text, Braidfute, from Lamington, Lanarkshire, is described as Wallace's lover and the mother of his daughter, from whom the Baillies of Lamington claim to be descended.

However, a study by Archer of contemporary historical records found no mention of any Braidfutes living in the area at the end of the 13th century. "Dispelling the myth of Marion is important because we should try to get at the truth beyond the romance that surrounds Wallace," said Archer. "What lies at the heart of this is the political aspiration of a local, minor



Actress Catherine McCormack played Wallace's wife in the film *Braveheart*. She may have been a complete work of fiction.

aristocratic family who wanted to gain favour at the court of Mary Queen of Scots by claiming to be descended from William Wallace.

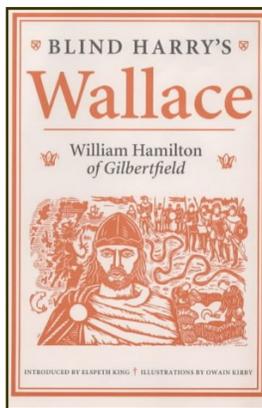
"There is still mileage in Wallace and there are still things to be discovered about him. People have avoided Blind Harry's 1508 version of the Wallace story because it is not an easy read."

Ian Scott, Chairman of The Saltire Society, said he was surprised by Archer's discovery. "The story of Wallace's wife and what happened to her is thought of as a trigger event in his life and is key to the story of the man himself," he said. "New discoveries will continue to be made about Wallace's life because so little of the hard historical fact is known."

John Murtagh, who played the turncoat nobleman Lochlan in *Braveheart*, said he had always believed that Wallace's wife was a symbolic figure. "To me his wife has always been a metaphor for Scotland itself," he said. "And so when the English try to rape, and then murder her, it is symbolic of the way Scotland was treated."

Little is known about Wallace's life before 1297, when he killed Sir William Heselrig, the English-appointed Sheriff of Lanark, and then led a popular uprising. His greatest victory took place at the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297, at which he routed the British army and was later proclaimed Guardian of Scotland.

Archer presented his findings last year, at a conference on Wallace's life hosted by the Lanark Archaeological Trust, part of a series of events commemorating the 700th anniversary of Wallace's death.



The Poet's Neuk

A Letter to Sir William Wallace

By Ronald Dennis Cederlund

Dear Sir William Wallace,
If there was only a way
If I could address you in a letter
Would I know just what to say?

I understand the sacrifice
To so many that were brave
You won back Scottish Freedom
So many lives you saved.

You died for your believing
You were the first to make a move
When they took your love away
Your weakness they tried to prove.

You made a powerful impression
Now a statue stands of you
What it's overlooking
Is the land you loved and knew.

I believe you are the reason
My heritage, so rich and true
That I can look back on it now
And feel that I knew you.

I know it seemed chaotic
Such bloodshed leaves it stains
But it was a necessary
If it even got you slain.

Your bravery saved a nation
Who knows just where we'd be
Would I be re-telling this story?
If you hadn't rescued me.

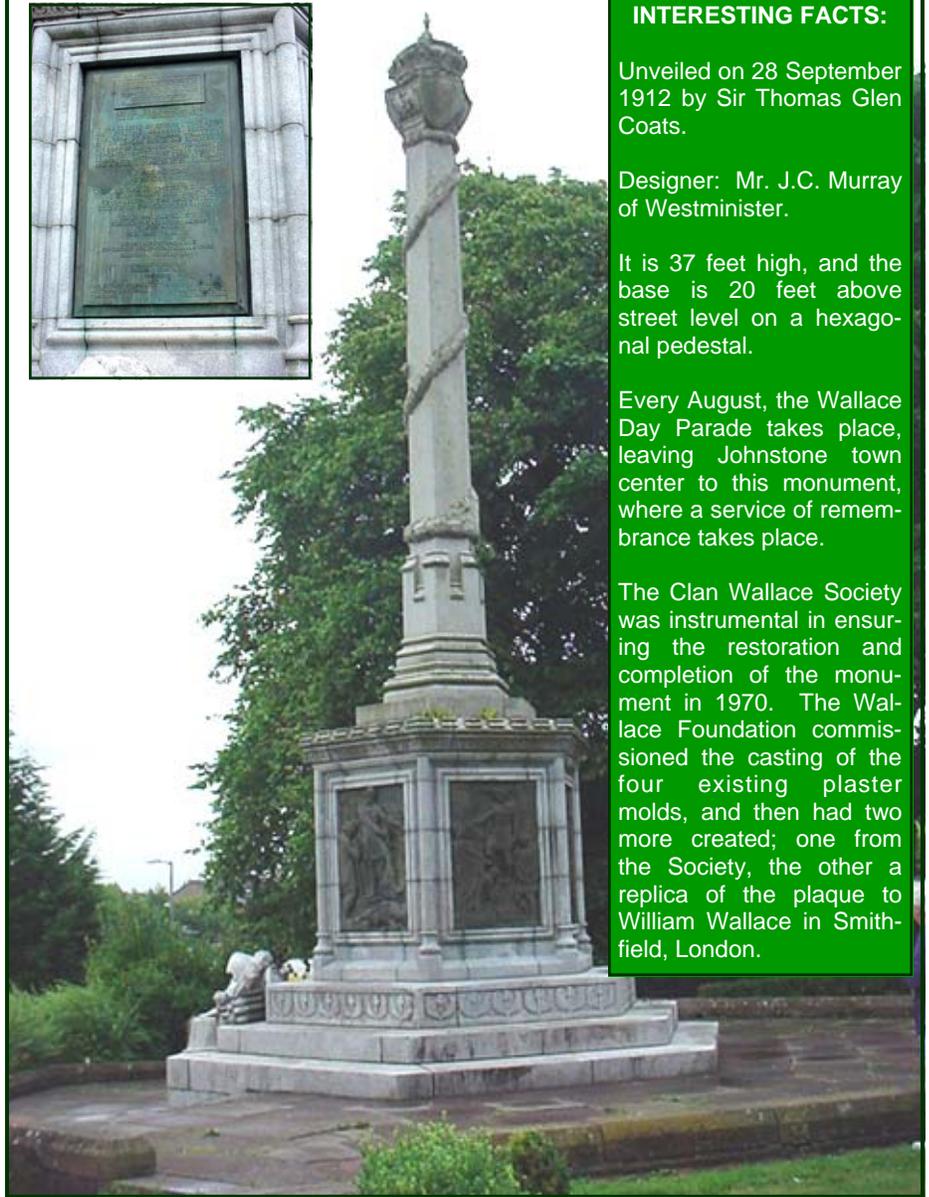
By standing tall and leading
The Scots who followed you
Is worth the admiration
From ones who read of you.

So in truth you are immortal
Forever etched in stone
And as these words are written
You'll never be alone.

So to thee I am thanking
For every deed you've done
For every life lay wasted
New freedom and lives you won.

[Editor's Note: The composition above was forwarded by Wayne Cederlund of Clan MacDuff, the author's father. The Editorial Committee encourages this kind of submission, especially in the context of Scottish heritage and to the Immortal Memory of William Wallace.]

CWSW Projects: Wallace Monument at Elderslie



INTERESTING FACTS:

Unveiled on 28 September 1912 by Sir Thomas Glen Coats.

Designer: Mr. J.C. Murray of Westminster.

It is 37 feet high, and the base is 20 feet above street level on a hexagonal pedestal.

Every August, the Wallace Day Parade takes place, leaving Johnstone town center to this monument, where a service of remembrance takes place.

The Clan Wallace Society was instrumental in ensuring the restoration and completion of the monument in 1970. The Wallace Foundation commissioned the casting of the four existing plaster molds, and then had two more created; one from the Society, the other a replica of the plaque to William Wallace in Smithfield, London.

The Wallace Monument at Elderslie is of particular significance to the Clan Wallace Society. Erected 94 years ago, the shaft was created from a single piece of granite, the Crown of Scotland at its summit, and there are six plaques, four bas-reliefs of Wallace's life and two memorials, mounted upon a hexagonal base.

Though erected in 1912, only four of the six plaques designed by J.C. Murray were created, and remained in plaster form only until 1970, when the Clan Wallace Society (Worldwide) and the DeWitt and Lila Acheson Wallace Trust created "The Wallace Foundation." This trust made the preservation of the

Elderslie monument a priority. The CWSW continues to honor that pledge. As well, two additional plaques were also cast in resin to mark the completion and re-dedication of the monument. The Dedication Plaque (inset above) reads:

It was ordered by Edward I that after his revolting barbaric execution, the head of William Wallace be set on London Bridge, one quarter of his body be suspended on the gibbet of Newcastle-on-Tyne, another quarter at Berwick, another quarter at Stirling and a fourth quarter at St. Johnstoun.

**HE HAD NO TOMB
HE NEEDED NONE**

Scottish Wedding Traditions Alive and Well in Clan Wallace

With little literacy and no media in a traditional Scottish village, the ringing of bells announced that a wedding had taken place. The bells also were said to drive out evil spirits.

Bagpipes add atmosphere and grandeur to weddings. The Piper stood outside of the church or castle greeting the guests as they arrived. This established the tone of the celebration. Later the piper led in the bride as well as leading the couple outside after the ceremony.

The horseshoe is uniquely a Scottish symbol. An old story is told of the devil asking a blacksmith to shoe his single hoof. The blacksmith recognized him to be the devil and made the shoe so painful that Satan roared for mercy. He was released on the condition that he would never enter a place where a horseshoe was displayed.

Two Wallace couples each celebrated their marriages with weddings using these and other Scottish traditions. Both weddings emphasized different symbols, each reflecting the personal styles of the couples.

Wallace-Wason Wedding

On 01 October 2005, Mary Dianne Wallace and Robert George Wason were married in Sun City, Arizona. Dianne wore the traditional white dress with a Wallace Tartan sash. The bridesmaids wore black dresses with Wallace Tartan sashes. Bob wore the Buchanan Tartan, of which "Wason" is a sept, and the groomsmen were kilted, along with Prince

Charlie jackets and a vestees.

In ancient commitment ceremonies, the bride and groom ripped their wedding tartans and tied the two strips together as a symbol of their unity, hence the expression "tying the knot." Dianne and Robert tied their tartans together after the pronouncement of their marriage.

The bride might wear a horseshoe on her arm for good fortune, or a pageboy may deliver it at the ceremony. Dianne Wallace proudly displayed her horseshoe when she and Robert Wason signed the legal documents of the marriage

Historically a Scottish bride maintained her surname, which speaks to the strong matriarchal traditions of our ancestors. Once a couple was engaged, the community at large was already aware of their relationship, so taking a husband's name was considered redundant. Dianne, in that spirit, is keeping her Wallace name.

Greenwood-Wallace Wedding

More recently, on 01 April 2006, Nicole Greenwood and Douglas Wallace were married in Lakewood, Washington. Nicole was presented her horseshoe on the eve of the wedding as a gift from her soon-to-be nephews Adam and Ramsey Wallace, aged 2 and 4, respectively. At that time she was plaided with the Wallace Tartan. On the day, Nicole wore a traditional white dress. She was beautiful as she stood alone



Douglas and Nicole (née Greenwood) Wallace cut their wedding cake with a dirk at their recent nuptials on 01 April 2006.

on the landing of the stairway waiting for her groom, after her mother, Cheri Greenwood gave her away. William Wallace, Doug's father, read this traditional poem as Nicole waited for Doug to climb the stairs.

Traditional Gaelic Poem

*She stood in her snood and arisaid
Beneath the trees of the wood,
The buckled plaid round her shoulder laid,
She looked for him as she stood.*

*He came to her running o'er the heath,
A present was in his hand,
And upon his dirk drawn from the sheath
The plighted their troth to stand.*

*O God give the joy and God the love
To those who are lovers true,
Shed down benediction from above
As in one are joined the two.*

The groom and his father wore Wallace Tartan kilts with Prince Charlie jacket and fly-plaid. The wedding took place in Thornewood Castle, a manor house that had been moved to Lakewood from England. The castle was festooned in Wallace Tartan.

In lieu of lighting a unity candle the newlyweds shared Wallace liquor from the quaich. Later at the head table the two families shared scotch from the quaich, a symbol of their unity.

On behalf of the Society, congratulations to both couples!

Lang may a' yer lums reek!



Dianne Wallace peers over her husband Robert Wason's (Clan Buchanan) shoulder, proudly displaying her traditional "horseshoe for luck" at their marriage on 01 October 2005.