

**Learn How to Speak  
Scottish Gaelic:**

*Nollaig Chridheil agus bliadhna mhath ur*

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

**A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR**

Hello to all of our members of the SSI! Hope you are all continuing to stay well, healthy and safe. With the pandemic still lingering and the numbers rising once again, the Board is doing hard work behind the scenes to keep the society and the monthly meetings going until it is safe to come together as an organization. Elections have come and gone - currently working on items for 2021, which include a potential return of the Highland Games & Festival. Not much else is happening at this time but we hope to keep all of you informed in case something does change. Please keep an eye out for updates on social media, email blasts and also the newsletter. As the holidays are coming up, we hope you all safely get to see and talk to your loved ones. Celebrate and reflect on good times, memories that you can share within this hard time. Please continue to stay safe and stay healthy. From the Board to all of you, we wish you Happy Holidays! Slainte!

~ Sarah Rae, 2020 SSI Trustee  
Member/Presidential Assistant &  
Newsletter Editor

**PLEASE WELCOME NEW SSI MEMBERS:**

- Jan Grant

**IN MEMORIAM**

- Former member of the SSI Jeff Hohreiter passed away back in mid-October. Thoughts and prayers go out to his family/friends right now.

**NOTICES  
FROM THE**



**MEETING DETAILS:** Due to the current pandemic of COVID-19, the SSI Board of Trustees advise that there will be NO IN-PERSON meetings and/or gatherings until further notice. Any updates will be announced in a timely manner through our official newsletter as well as on social media. We want to keep our members safe and healthy until it is the right time to gather together once again. Thank you.

[Click Here to Check Out Website](#)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

For more articles, updates on events and more - Like and follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/indyscot.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/771893283583992>

## BOARD



### **\*\*MEMBERSHIPS\*\***

The Board of Trustees has confirmed we will be transferring membership fees for 2020 and will placing a grace period for the current paid memberships into 2021. We want our members to feel good about being in our organization and the continuous support this society has in the state of Indiana. Members who have paid for 2020 will move to the membership expiration on 12/31/2021. Members who are delinquent on their dues will have an expiration date of 12/30/2020.

### **\*\*2021 SSI BOARD ELECTION RESULTS\*\***

Thank you to those who came out to vote in person at the Latvian Center back on 11/14. We actually had a nice turn-out with members coming out and the Board enjoyed seeing each other in person for the first time since the last in-person board meeting in February of this year. The results were tallied and they were unanimous. The slate given for the 2021 SSI Board of Trustees were appointed to the positions and the adjustments for the by-laws were approved. Here are your 2021 SSI board members:

- President ~ Matthew Douglass
- Trustees~ Karen Couch, Kathy Hohman, Dan Patton, Sarah Rae, Barbara Rush, Tom Wallace

### **\*\*TOMMY THOMPSON AWARD 2021\*\***

This year has been a difficult one with all of the changes that occurred and even trying to keep the society together during this time. However, with a suggestion from our former president of SSI Robin Jarrett and an agreed decision with members of the board, we are happy to announce that this year's recipient of the Tommy Thompson Award for 2020 goes to Kathy Hohman. Kathy has done much in regards to the society in volunteering, service and going above & beyond for what needs to be done in

keeping the society a wonderful organization. Here are some words from Kathy herself in regards to receiving this award: *"I wish to thank the Scottish Society for awarding me the Tommy Thompson Award for 2020. I feel honored. I love serving as a Trustee and on the SSI Games Committee. I treasure all of the friendships that I have made in the 5 years I have been a member of the SSI. Looking forward to many more years! I am looking forward to things getting back to normal and seeing everyone every month. Thank you again."*



## **HOLIDAY FUN / THINGS ABOUT SCOTLAND**

**\*\*Working on Christmas Day is now a distant memory for lots of Scots, but there are other old traditions that people still hold onto. For example, some folk like to bake unleavened bread for each person in their family. Whoever finds a trinket in their loaf will be blessed with good luck for the year. Other traditions including a burning a rowan twig as a way to get rid of any bad feelings between friends or family. Some others include: Wassailing (caroling), putting a Christmas tree on the door, eating mince pie, whisky imbibing, Christmas Eve mass or gathering for a Christmas Day lunch.**

### **\*\*A Poem**

The wonders of the universe  
All there for all to see  
The greatest wonder of them all  
Is where I long to be  
The scenery is unsurpassed  
Can made a grown man cry  
And colours just invent themselves  
As mountains touch the sky

A sunset view across a loch  
Is something to behold  
The stories and the legends  
Are the greatest ever told  
Its proud and honest people  
Are its beating heart and soul  
We gave the world square sausage  
And we put it in a roll  
My life may take me far and wide  
Each corner of the earth  
But Scotland's always home to me  
The country of my birth  
This country gave me everything  
It had me from the start  
For Scotland you always be  
Forever in my heart

November  
Meeting  
Recap -  
Meeting the  
1st SSI  
McMath  
Scholarship  
Recipient /  
Who Were  
the Picts &  
What Happened to Them



During the beginning of this meeting, we got to meet the first recipient of the SSI McMath Scholarship. His name is Reese Chesher. He is currently a junior at IUPUI - studying with a major in history focused on 18th century European history. He advised he is wanting to concentrate more on the Scottish enlightenment and various thinkers during that time period (epidemiology). Chester stated he has been to the Scottish Festival & Games in 2019 and he is hoping to go back again in the future. He stated he is blessed to have received this scholarship as it is helping with his tuition, college journey at this time during the pandemic.

Then, we had our SSI member Armand Hayes talk and give a presentation on the Picts. The Picts were first seen in 300 BC and then they disappeared down the road. Pictographs were the main source of communication for this group of people. To this day, it is hard to find traces or even

lineage with the females of this group of people. It is easier with the men. During the early medieval times, sources report the existence of a distinct Pictish language - it was said to be believed to have been a Celtic language, closely spoken by the Britons (as the Pictish language as since been extinct. The Picts were assumed to have been the descendants of the Caledonians and other Iron Age tribes. Here is an interesting fact: St. Ninian's Isle Treasure contains the best collection of Pictish forms. Other pieces of information were given during this presentation. The board would like to thank Armand Hayes a wonderful presentation on this subject. This presentation was interesting and learned some great things about these people.



### DECEMBER VIRTUAL MEETING

Our next virtual meeting is all about the history and fun times that surround the celebration of Hogmanay! This

presentation will be given by SSI members Jane and Dan Patton.

The meeting will be on December 9th, 2020 and this meeting online will begin at 8:00pm via Zoom or you are able to watch it on our new Facebook page - [click here](#) if you haven't joined the group yet. Additional announcements and updates will be given at this meeting as well - please note this will be the last virtual meeting for 2020.

### HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING - PLEASE READ ALL NOTED!

**\*\*Option 1: ZOOM ~** You do not have to a Zoom account to participate/attend a meeting. You will be prompted to download the software after you click on the meeting link. To fully participate, you will need a computer with a camera and a microphone. You can also join by using a smartphone app or calling in to the telephone number in the invitation. If you are needing more information about joining a meeting of any kind on Zoom, [click here](#).

**\*\*Option 2: SOCIAL MEDIA / FACEBOOK ~** The meeting will be live in broadcast on the new Facebook group just for members of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis. You can watch it while the meeting is going on or watch it after the meeting is over. [Click Here](#) to join the new Facebook group and/or watch the meeting from there.

**NOTE: ALL CURRENT MEMBERS in the SSI that have a**



membership, you will receive a link for the upcoming meeting. The link will be in an email with the invitation that will be sent 24 hours before the Zoom meeting. Please note: You will not be allowed to share this link to others as we will be keeping record of how many members we have attending the meeting. If you have any questions about this, please let us know. If you are not a current member or would like to invite a guest to join, please reply to the email with the newsletter so our newsletter editor/board member Sarah Rae and SSI Treasurer Emeritus Steven Johnson can send over the link. Thank you.

#### **VIRTUAL MEETINGS - COMING IN 2020/2021**

- December 2020: Jane and Dan Patton discuss Hogmanay
- January 2021: Barbara Rush talks about Robert Burns
- February 2021: Whiskey Event
- March 2021: Genealogy 101
- April 2021: Debbie Lyle Owens discusses Scots on the Titanic

Note: If there are any changes with the meeting topics and/or if the meetings change from virtual to in-person, we will update this information. If you are interested in giving a 10-15 minute presentation for the society, please notify a board member. Thanks!

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