



WALLACE 700 ASSOCIATION

SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER

2014.



We are delighted that Dr Margaret Bennett, renowned Scottish folklorist, writer, singer and broadcaster has agreed to give the Wallace Address at this years Ceremony. A prize winning author she has written ten books and contributed to 40 others. In 2010 she received an Honorary Doctorate of Music [Glasgow], Le Prix du Quebec [for contributions to Quebec cultural studies in 2011] and was made an Honorary Professor of the Royal Scottish Academy in 2011, foremost folklorist. The late Hamish Henderson said about her: *“Margaret embodies the spirit of Scotland”*.

WALLACE COMMEMORATION CEREMONY 2014.

Fourteen Years on - - - - Where are We ?? Random blethering amongst friends in 2001 raised the question What is happening in 2005 to mark the 700th Anniversary of William Wallace's martyrdom??. As the answer was apparently “nothing”, the resolve was that we should take on that duty. A constituted committee was formed in 2002 and our application for charitable status was approved by the inland revenue in March 2003. The 700th Anniversary Commemoration was a great success, enjoyed by the hundreds who took part and the many thousands of spectators who lined Union Terrace, Union Street or stood in Rosemount Viaduct. *Fourteen years on, albeit on a smaller scale, we are still honouring Wallace and the principles for which he stood and died.*

*The invitation by Aberdeen City Council Events Team some seven years ago to bring our Ceremony within the umbrella of the City's Tartan Day Celebrations coincided with the stark reality facing us that we could not guarantee to raise the necessary thousands of pounds required every year. Moving our Ceremony from August to July to be part of Tartan Day was a pragmatic and sensible move relieving us of the administrative and structural costs of Road Closures, Stewarding, Publicity etc., whilst we contributed volunteers, colour, music, history, song and the £2000 we could comfortably raise within the year. At the back end of 2013 an article in the P& J alerted us to the City Council decision to cancel Tartan Day and replace it with an “Aberdeen Day”, which we understood would not involve the Wallace Ceremony. As good loyal Burgers *O' OUR BRAIR TOWN*, we would, as individuals, welcome and support any celebrations of our City , but at a stroke the stark reality we faced in 2007 has been brought back in focus. However be assured that with good response to our current financial appeal combined with the funds we have in reserve, there will be sufficient to ensure that our*

2014 CEREMONY WILL GO AHEAD AS PLANNED ON SATURDAY 16th AUGUST.

PREVIOUS WALLACE CEREMONIES AT SCHOOLHILL



1890. Charles Napier ascending Fireman's ladder to hang a wreath around Wallace's neck.



2007. A scene from the late Charles Barron's play 'A King Crowned Twice' an historic tale of Robert the Bruce's Coronation.



2008. Pupils of Ferryhill and Albyn Primary Schools performed 'The Wallace Pageant' written by the late Charles Barron.



2009. Former Lord Provost Peter Stephen and Lord Aberdeen leaving the statue after laying the Wallace Wreath.

OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN
WITH THE NEW

Jim Allison at a mere 79 year young has declared himself to be too old to be wandering about in sandals playing the “Abbot” and has finally hung up his cassock. Ian



Hamilton, who no longer has *The Leopard* to groom and cajole has very kindly agreed to take on this role. Ian is also a Journalist, folk and Blues singer.



**ANNUAL WALLACE COMMEMORATION
CEREMONY SATURDAY 16th AUGUST 2014,
SCHOOLHILL, ABERDEEN.**

12.15pm Pipers Welcome

12.30pm Kintore Pipe Band.

Welcome— *The Very Rev'd Dr. A.E. Nimmo.*

Recitation - *Eilidh Simmers, The Proclaimers' , Scotland 's Story".*

Annual Wallace Address -

Dr. Margaret Bennett

The Declaration of Arbroath - 1320

Herald - *Gordon Casely.*

Abbot of Arbroath - *Ian Hamilton*

King Robert Bruce and Barrons by Medieval Realm

Wreath Laying - *Dr. Margaret Bennett*

Floor 's O the Forest

Pipe Major Bruce Lobbon.

“Freedom Come Aa Ye - *Yvonne Morton*

Dedication - *Rev'd Stephen Taylor*

of the Mither Kirk. Kirk of St . Nicholas

Whistle Medley — *Sorley Fairbairn.*

13.30pm Beating Retreat - *Kintore Pipe Band.*



Yvonne Morton, a member of the Wallace 700 Council and popular Aberdeen entertainer. Yvonne is pictured here singing Hamish Henderson's Anthem “Freedom Come Aa Ye.

Eilidh Simmer who is an S1 pupil at Keith High School will once again give her popular recitation of The Proclaimers song “Scotland's Story”. In 2012 Eilidh was voted Young Burnsian of the year.



Sorley Fairbairn a P7 pupil at Whitehills Primary comes from a family with a musical background. Sorley has discovered a natural talent for the Whistle which he has only been playing for just over a year. He is also the proud owner of a full drum kit and an accomplished cornet player, but will only bring his whistle to this years ceremony.



The Very Reverend Dr Emsley Nimmo, Dean of Aberdeen and Orkney St Andrews Cathedral and one of Wallace 700 Association 's nine dedicated independent Trustees, is currently walking to Lismore following in the footsteps of St. Moluag. Cathedral on 5th May he headed towards Kildrummy eventually crossing was made to he will head down to Ness to Fort Augustus the 16th May. A walk collect funds for the Andrew's Cathedral in cause deserves support and if you want to donate please look up www.justgiving.com/deanswalk. St Moluag is regarded as one of the most outstanding missionaries of his time having by the time of his death converted the Picts of Alba and founded over 120 Monasteries.



The Wallace 700 Association is a non-political Charitable body registered Charity No SCO34208 which exists to advance the education of the public about the life of William Wallace. As a charity we are dependent on subscriptions and donations to enable us to continue with our Annual Wallace Commemoration Ceremony. Please make sure you have paid your subscription for this year and at the same time why not make it a Direct Debit and then you don't have to rely on your memory. Subscriptions are reasonably priced at £10 per individual and £12 per family. To make a Direct Debit please contact John Mackay, 6 Cairn Walk, Cults, Aberdeen AB15 9TF.