



# THE SEANACHIE

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AUG. 2017

## TWO GREAT, BUT DIFFERENT, HIGHLAND GAMES COMING PLEASANTON & BIG TREES

### 152nd Scottish Highland Gathering and Games - Pleasanton, CA

These Games are the [largest Highland Games](#) in the Northern hemisphere.

**What are the 2017 Scottish Highland Gathering and Games?** - The Games are a two-day event of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco's 152<sup>nd</sup> consecutive annual celebration of Scottish culture, competition and entertainment.

**When are the 152<sup>nd</sup> Games?** - Labor Day Weekend, September 2-3, 2017.

**Where are the 152<sup>nd</sup> Games?** - The Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Avenue, Pleasanton, CA.

**What time do the Games Start and End?** - Gates open to the public at 8am both days and close after the Grandstand Show ends ~ 6:30pm.

**Who are the music performers?** - Albannach, Brother, Ed Miller, Browne Sisters & George Cavanaugh, Golden Bough, Micheal Mullen, Neil McNeil, Peter Daldry, Tempest, The Fire and others.

**Will there be an SBSS Booth?** - Yes, come see us and hang out. Volunteering to man the booth would be greatly appreciated and help the SBSS, contact: [gov-at-large.c@southbayscots.org](mailto:gov-at-large.c@southbayscots.org)



### Big Trees Scottish Gathering & Highland Games - Felton, CA

These games are a one-day event in the redwoods of California.

**What are the 2017 Big Trees Scottish Gathering and Games?** -

These games will feature all the wonderful activities you have come to know and love at this and other Games. So, bring your family and friends and for a day and immerse yourself in the sites, the sounds and the taste of an ancient culture kept alive in the hearts and by the hands of its proud descendants.

**When is the Big Trees Games?** - October 7, 2017.

**Where are the Big Trees Games?** - Roaring Camp Historic Railroad, 5401 Graham Hill Road Felton, CA.

**What time do the Games Start and End?** - Gates open to the public from 10am to 6pm.

**Who are the music performers?** - Tempest, The Fire, Peter Daldry and others.

**Will there be an SBSS Booth?** - Yes, come see us and hang out. Volunteering to man the booth would be greatly appreciated and help the SBSS, contact: [newsletter@southbayscots.org](mailto:newsletter@southbayscots.org)



2017 SOUTH BAY  
SCOTTISH SOCIETY BOARD  
OF GOVERNORS

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**GHOULS, GHOSTS, GOBLINS AND THINGS  
THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT  
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!**

Marjorie Coakley

This year our Halloween Party will be on Saturday October 28, 2017, and will not be part of the General meeting (which is scheduled on Friday, October 6). We will be sending out flyers with more information closer to the event!!!

Other upcoming events include Darts Night, Bowling, Archery, Dance (through the ages) and a game night (poker – with chips not for money).



**SBSS ON-LINE**

[Merchandise](#)  
[Facebook](#) [Webpage](#)

**SENNACHIE PUBLICATION  
INFORMATION**

Submit all materials to:  
[newsletter@southbayscots.org](mailto:newsletter@southbayscots.org)

**Note:** All published material becomes the property of the South Bay Scottish Society. Newsletter content is decided upon by the Board of Governors, representing the membership of the South Bay Scottish Society.





- 10 Chief's Picnic  
11:30am-5:00pm  
John D. Morgan Park, Area C  
590 W. Rincon Ave, Campbell  
[map](#)
- 15 Movie Night – Are you being served?  
7:00 PM  
Round Table Pizza Parlor  
1400 Campbell Ave, Campbell
- 17 Almaden Art and Wine Festival  
10:00am-6:00pm  
Almaden Lake Park  
6099 Winfield Blvd, San Jose  
[map](#)

### August

- 5-6 Monterey Scottish Games  
8:00am-4:30pm  
Monterey County Fairgrounds  
2004 Fairground Rd, Monterey  
[map](#)
- 7 SBSS Board of Governors Meeting  
7:00 PM  
Mountain Mike's Pizza Parlor  
301 E. Hamilton Ave., Campbell  
[map](#)
- 18 Movie Night – Hetty Wainthropp Investigates, Episodes 3 & 4  
7:00 PM  
Round Table Pizza Parlor  
1400 Campbell Ave, Campbell  
[map](#)

### September

- 2-3 Pleasanton Scottish Games  
8:00am-6:30pm  
Alameda County Fairgrounds  
4501 Pleasanton Avenue, Pleasanton  
[map](#)
- 6 SBSS Board of Governors Meeting  
7:00 PM  
Mountain Mike's Pizza Parlor  
301 E. Hamilton Ave, Campbell

### October

- 2 SBSS Board of Governors Meeting  
7:00 PM  
Mountain Mike's Pizza Parlor  
301 E. Hamilton Ave, Campbell
- 6 SBSS General Meeting  
7:00 PM  
Potluck Dinner, entertainment  
West Valley San Jose Public Library  
1243 San Thomas Aquino Rd, San Jose  
[map](#)
- 7 Big Trees Scottish Games  
10:00am-6:00pm  
Roaring Camp Railroads  
5401 Graham Hill Road, Felton  
[map](#)
- 20 Movie Night – The Mirror Crack'd  
7:00 PM  
Round Table Pizza Parlor  
1400 Campbell Ave, Campbell
- 28 SBSS Halloween Party  
7:00pm-10:00pm  
West Valley San Jose Public Library  
1243 San Thomas Aquino Rd, San Jose  
[map](#)

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## 2017 HIGHLAND GAMES SEASON ENDERS

Aug 5 & 6 - [Scottish Games & Celtic Festival](#) [Monterey County Fairgrounds](#), Monterey

Sep 2 & 3 – [Scottish Gathering & Games](#) [Alameda County Fairgrounds](#), Pleasanton

Oct 7 - [Big Trees Scottish Games](#) [Roaring Camp](#), Felton



# 2017 ANNUAL MINI-GOLF TOURNAMENT

Bob Anderson & John Dewing



The June 24 competition was held again at Golfland USA in Sunnyvale. The pleasant clear skies and temperature provided a perfect day as the dozen or so competitors battled it out on the western course for top honors. The best or luckiest putters this year were Bob Anderson in 1<sup>st</sup> place, Andrew Whiten in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Maria Rhodes-Labrecque took 3<sup>rd</sup>. Afterward we met at the Duke of Edinburgh Pub in Cupertino for lunch, libations and prizes.

I took my 8-year-old great nephew with me. We both agreed that it was a nice day out for golfing. We were part of a foursome among the several foursomes that composed the SBSS contingent. We started at the beginning and went through lots of twists and turns and some ups and downs (and really frustrating ‘anthill’ holes). He was sort-of willing to take suggestions on playing better but had a technique of his own. However, he got a hole-in-one and I didn’t.

Did this bring us all closer to our Scottish athletic roots? ... probably not.  
Did we all have a great time? ... Absolutely!

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## DARTS NIGHT AT THE BRIT

By Elly (Elhayym) Campbell

We had a wonderful turnout of 12 South Bay Scottish Society members for our first ever drink ‘n’ darts night at the pub on Monday, June 26. We had some initial practice with our darts teacher then we settled down to dinner and small-talk, then back up to the dart boards for some actual game time.

We split up our 12 members consisting of Lyn Irvine, Gail Meikle, Cheryl Comento, Gail Moore, Robb Moore, Nathan Irvine, Dorrie Scherer, Ron, Bob Anderson, Leslie Fiedler, Marjorie Coakley and myself into 4 teams of 3, then battled it out for the championship! The ultimate winner, undefeated, was the team known as “The Vixens” – with Lyn Irvine, Marjorie Coakley, and Elhayym “Elly” Campbell. We all had a fantastic time and give many thanks to Tommy Palermo for teaching us darts and guiding the tournament and to Michael North for hosting the event in his pub, the Britannia Arms on Almaden.

Please join South Bay Scottish Society as we continue our darts nights, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month – the next to be on August 14, 2017.  
Thanks to everyone for coming out!!!



# ESCAPE TO THE COUNTRY COLLECTION: A NETFLIX ORIGINAL

Beth Dewing

The show hosts help prospective home buyers select country houses from all over Great Britain, highlighting each area's natural beauty and history.

I enjoy the program as an armchair traveler. I get to see beautiful countryside and interesting old homes that are so different from the ones I am accustomed to in California. I find myself enchanted with how very different and very old these homes are. The episode that ties my Scottish Heritage is in Season 1, Episode 6: Scottish Highlands with Jules Hudson, who is as charming as they come. I am smitten. This episode begins with a glimpse of the Ruthven Barracks in Badenoch, Scotland, which are the smallest but best preserved of the four barracks built in 1719 after the 1715 Jacobite rising. Next, we meet the prospective home buyers, so we may join them on their search for a new home. While on tour of the three homes, we are also learning about the historical presence and a little of the folk lore of the area. It's a wonderful program; I can heartily recommend it.



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## OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

Cheryl Comento

Our October General meeting will be held on October 6 at the West Valley Branch Library 1243 San Tomas Aquino Road in San Jose. Please remember to bring a gastronomic creation of your choosing to share with the other members. Suggested arrival time is 6:30 PM for dinner, General Meeting will start promptly 7:00 PM.

Following the general meeting John Ralston our new society historian, will be presenting a PowerPoint slide presentation on his and his wife Lana's recent trip to Stonehenge. Hope to see everyone at the meeting.



# FLYING SCOTSMAN WITH THE PBFSCO

Nathan Irvine

The Pleasanton - Blairgowrie - Fergus Sister City Organization or the PBFSCO sponsored the annual Flying Scotsman train ride round-trip from Sunol through Niles Canyon on Sunday, May 7. We met at the Sunol train station by 10 A.M. and were then piped on board for a prompt 10:15 departure. "The Flying Scotsman" Niles Canyon train ride is a unique experience and vastly entertaining. After the approximately one-and-a-half-hour ride, at least a dozen South Bay Members gathered with the PBFSCO for a picnic in the park across from the train station, continuing the Scottish plaid tidings. To all at the PBFSCO, "tapadh leat" (thank you!) for the warmest of hospitality and the open arms welcome to the SBSS.



L to R: Matthew Seymour, Michelle and Marjorie Coakley, Gail Potter Meikle, Lyn Irvine, Melva Irvine, Bonny Bell, Nathan Irvine

"Aye," said the Brakeman to the conductor, "That Scottish Group is back again this year. When the wind of the Locomotive passes under those kilts, there's no denying why they call this trip The Flying Scotsman!"



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## SBSS 2017 ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Bob Anderson



Can't blame the weather; it was beautiful. It wasn't the cost or distant location; it was inexpensive and nearby. Perhaps we didn't get the word passed well enough but for whatever reason, on May 27 at 10 am at Blackberry Farm Golf Course in Cupertino only four duffers showed up to compete on the short nine-hole course for the three prizes. We had enough fun for a much larger group and nearly everyone won a prize. The links were uncrowded and the play was leisurely, letting everyone take plenty of time to study their next shot and look for lost balls. Top honors went to Lori Daly with Dorrie Scherer taking 2<sup>nd</sup> and Bob Anderson coming in 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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## NEW MEMBERS HOORAY!

Help these new members feel welcome as part of our Society:

Jane Voss, Santa Clara  
Kimberly & Mark Liljequist, San Leandro







SOUTH BAY SCOTTISH SOCIETY  
**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
San Jose Public Library, West Valley Branch  
Friday, April 7, 2017

7:00 pm – Members and friends arrived, socialized and enjoyed a potluck picnic.

7:30 pm – NO QUORUM – Scribe – Graeme Coakley.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Chief – Robert Anderson

ROLL CALL – Scribe – Graeme Coakley

Board Members Present: Robert Anderson, Cheryl Comento, Graeme Coakley, and Nathan Irvine.

Board Members Absent: Dorrie Scherer, Father Basil Rhodes, Lori Daly, and Maria Rhodes-Labrecque.

STEWARDS REPORT – Robert Anderson reported on the current accounts in Lori's absence.

Income: \$0.00

Expenses: \$248.22

Balance: \$5,927.28

APPROVAL OF GENERAL MINUTES FROM APRIL 7, 2017 – No quorum. Approval of these minutes deferred to the next General Meeting (October 6<sup>th</sup>).

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – None.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – No quorum.

#### **Old Business**

Newsletter – Bob mentioned the need for some more articles including: the July General Meeting and announcements for the Pleasanton Games and the Big Trees event.

Membership Recruitment – Given the success of this event (fun and 3 new members), Bob reported that this event may become an annual event.

Dart Night – Bob remarked on the success of the Darts Night and mentioned that we will be making this a monthly event (second Monday of the month).

#### **New Business**

Historian Position – John Ralston mentioned that he is still interested in the position.

New Banner – Bob briefly described the proposed new banner or banners and Kristen (of Artisan Candies) offered to help with the design.

#### **Report & Announcements**

Movie Night – Cheryl reported a potential issue with the DVD (Whitechapel season 3).

Monterey Games – August 5-6 – Bob remarked on the need for volunteers to setup and staff the booth.

Pleasanton Games – September 2-3 – Nathan is handling the booth sign-ups for this event.

Chief's Picnic – September 10 – Cheryl mentioned that we have reserved picnic Area C at John D. Morgan Park and will start the picnic at 10 am.

Almaden Art and Wine Festival – September 17 – Marjorie is coordinating this event and Bob mentioned that there is a need for volunteers to run the booth.

#### **Time Location of Next General Meeting**

West Valley Branch Library: October 6 at 7:00 pm.

#### **Adjournment**

7:52 pm – The meeting was adjourned.

Please note these are meeting notes until they are approved at the next General Meeting

# GETTING IN STEP WITH SCOTTISH HIGHLAND DANCING

Andy McFarlin  
Part 3

At this point I think it appropriate that we look into the means by which young persons, as well as adults, obtain their training and skill in Highland Dancing in the Santa Clara Valley. Beginning back in the early 1960s, Norine Vucovich, later to become Harmon, started the San Jose School of Highland Dancing, one of the few schools to be named for an area rather than the name of the teacher of the classes. After Norine became ill and later passed away, the students of that school were left wondering what was to become of their interest in Highland Dancing.

The next year, early in 2001, the San Jose School of Highland Dancing was reborn through the strenuous efforts and dedication of the leader of dance instruction, Fred DeMarse and Susanna MacDougall. When I asked Susanne when and how she became involved, it was rather a matter of how could she help her daughter in her continuation of the lessons started under Norine Harmon several years earlier.

So, on January 11 eleven years ago the San Jose School of Highland Dancing opened its dance studio, with twelve students in what had been the MacDougalls' garage. You would never recognize the interior as a garage: The necessary wooden floor, wall mirrors, etc., that were rescued from Norine's studio were all revamped along with several new features.

When Susanne showed me the studio I was very impressed. It was light and airy. There was a false ceiling, numerous bulletin boards with photos of the many events in which the pupils of the school have participated. Besides the usual Highland Games and other regular dance competitions, the school puts on many other appearances: San Jose's Christmas in the Park, the Campbell Easter Parade, 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades, the Santa Clara County Tartan Day Ceremony, the St. Andrews Day Celebration at Evergreen Valley College, and demonstrations at various public schools for their international days, retirement homes and similar venues.

Besides the many displays, they have a "loaner closet" where they maintain Highland and National or "peasant" costumes for beginners to borrow if they are not sure if they are going to continue in dance and do not wish to go into the expense of buying their own. I might also add that they have a plentiful supply of real and practice swords. A waiting area for parents is also provided with pleasant seating and tables in a covered area adjacent to the studio.

Susanne also confided in me that if it were not for the fact that there is no cost to the San Jose School of Highland Dancing for the dance studio, the instructional cost would have made the whole dance program out of reach for many of their pupils.

The current instructional staff consists of Fred DeMarse, Leader of Dance Instruction. He is assisted by Jennie Dolen and Catherine MacDougall; all are fully Certificated Highland Dance Instructors.

The San Jose School of Highland Dancing has 35 or more students attending twelve classes two afternoons and evenings per week with monthly Saturday workshops. The classes are arranged for all levels from Primary to Premier. The average class size is from four to six students with some private help available.

The school also holds an annual "lavish" Christmas time program along with the MacIntosh Pipe Band in both Saratoga and Menlo Park to raise money for a two- or three-day Highland Dance workshop twice a year for their own dancers, as well as dancers from other states and Canada. For those interested in the criteria for each class of dancer: Primary dancers are from four to six years old. Beginners are those seven years and older. When Beginners win six 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards at competitions they can advance to the Novice class; when they have won six more 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards they may advance to Intermediate class where after one year and learning all of the



dances Premier dancers perform at competitions they automatically become Premier class. This is the highest level.

When asked how often do dancers compete, Susanna replied about 18 times per year, which range from local, all over California and even a few out of state.

The Dancers from the San Jose School of Highland Dancing are very successful at the Beginner and Novice levels since over one-fourth of the dancers competing are from this school, whereas many schools or teachers may have only a handful of students.

It was also called to my attention that Highland Dancing and Highland Dance competitions are a wonderful way for parents and their children to enjoy something together and with other youth and their parents, regardless of whether it is a one-day event or over several days. The dancers and their families all join together as a very close-knit group and get to socialize in an informal atmosphere. Now, the next time you have the enjoyment of watching Highland Dancers, whether it be at a competition or just joyful entertainment, you hopefully will have a greater appreciation of what you are witnessing.

*Editor's note: The SBSS financially supports the school as part of our community support for Scottish culture. You can see the students compete at the Pleasanton Highland Games over Labor Day weekend.*

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## CHIEF'S PICNIC SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

Bob Anderson

Starting at 11:00 am on Sunday, September 10, we'll be grilling bangers and sharing a potluck lunch. Bingo with prizes, cake and other entertainment will also be on the agenda. While enjoyment is not a requirement, it is strongly suggested.

**PLEASE NOTE THE NEW LOCATION:** This year we are moving the feast and fun to John D. Morgan Park at 590 W. Rincon Ave., Campbell. John D. Morgan Park is Campbell's largest park at 32 acres. This a family friendly park; the picnic areas are lovely and spread throughout the park. We will be in Picnic Area C and the nearest parking lot is off the end of Rincon Ave.

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## ALMADEN ART AND WINE FESTIVAL

10:00am-6:00pm

Almaden Lake Park

6099 Winfield Blvd, San Jose

The SBSS is going to have an outreach (and membership) booth at this annual event. Come and enjoy the event and stop by for a visit.

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## GET THE POINT (DARTS)?

Cheryl Comento

Darts Night on Monday August 14th at Britannia Arms at 5027 Almaden Expressway. We will be meeting 6:30 PM for dinner and darts immediately after. If you are interested in playing please contact Cheryl Comento at 408-483-9973 so we can let Michael at Britannia Arms know how many of us to expect. Darts are available for use for those of you who do not have your own.



If you have any questions please contact Cheryl Comento, [gov-at-large.a@southbayscots.org](mailto:gov-at-large.a@southbayscots.org)



# SBSS SCOTTISH AND CELTIC GATHERING!

Marjorie Coakley

On Sunday, May 21, 2017, Martial Cottle Park in San Jose sprang into life with music, festivity and good food when SBSS hosted our first Scottish and Celtic Gathering. We created our event to share a small part of our Scottish and Celtic history, traditions and culture in the South Bay community, hopefully providing information to encourage and bring together our members and the general public. Our event was free to those attending and we not only provided information but also a wide variety of entertainment, food and drinks.

Thank you so much Diablo Pacific Short Line for bringing your amazing train layout which brought smiles to so many children (and adults) who were really excited at being able to use the train controls. You also imparted so much interesting information which represented the very strong ties of Scotland to Trains, which were the first main forms of transport (and very dear to my heart).

Many thanks to our friend and favorite Scottish singer Peter Daldry, who greatly entertained us (as he always does) with his fantastic musical and singing skills which created such a great atmosphere for our event! Thank you so much, Peter, for singing my personal favorite "I Will Go," as well as all the other wonderful songs which we all joined in with.



A big thank you to Steaphen Fick and Davenriche European Martial Arts School, for coming out in all that heat and giving us a demonstration of medieval weapons and warfare. One of the highlights was a 400-year-old sword that was used in the Jacobite rising of 45 in the battle at Culloden. Also, everyone loved being able to participate in lessons on sword fighting which brought out their Scottish fighting spirit; many were definitely a force to be reckoned with! Thank you also for the cards for free lessons which everyone appreciated!

Our friends Kristen and Dean from Artisan Candies also came along to support our event. Thank you for all the great treats you brought for sampling which included their rum cakes, scotch whiskey cake and Irish soda bread. The Scotch eggs were delicious, Kristen. We even had an unexpected treat when Peter joined Kristen and Dean in a musical surprise for us all!

I also would like to thank all our volunteers, especially our SBSS social committee who went above and beyond to make this such a fun event! A huge thank you to John Dewing for coming along to set up our SBSS booth and for staying all day to greet everyone and help them to learn more about their Scottish Ancestry! Another **huge** thank you to Lyn Irvine for barbecuing for everyone on one of the hottest days we've had!

We really appreciated everyone: our current members, our new members, our prospective members and all our entertainers (who shared their many talents) for braving the intense heat to attend our event! If you are on Facebook please feel free to tag yourselves in any of the photos but also check out our website at [www.southbayscots.org](http://www.southbayscots.org). We look forward to seeing you at some of our other upcoming events!





# MOVIES, MOVIES, MOVIES SBSS MOVIE NIGHT!

More in August, September & October  
Next - Friday, Aug. 18, 7:00 PM

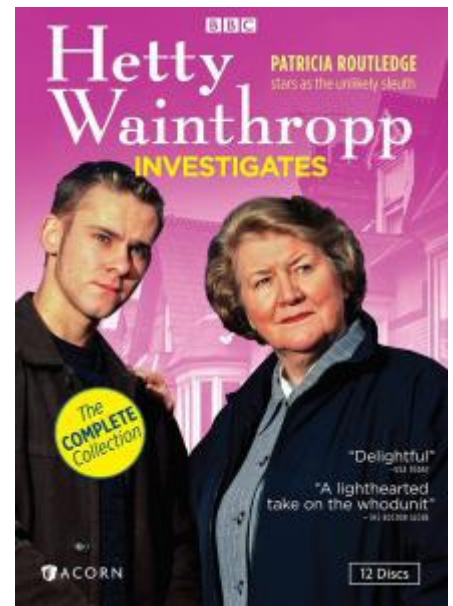
Round Table Pizza Parlor  
1400 Campbell Ave.  
Campbell, CA 95008  
[map](#)

## Movie, Food, Friends

Come and enjoy this great opportunity to order your own drinks, pizza, and other snacks at the counter and then enjoy your treats and your friends with a movie.

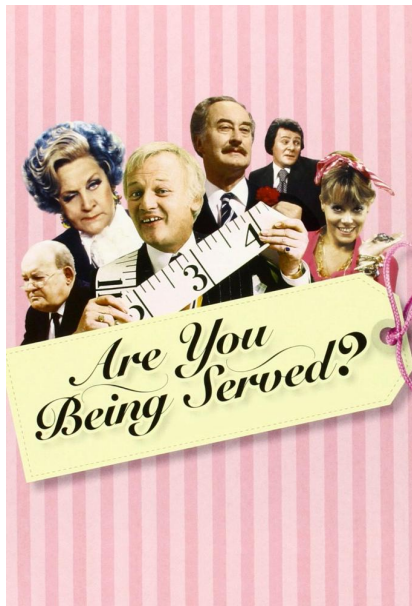
### Aug. 18 Hetty Wainthropp Investigates, Episodes 3 & 4

Hetty wakes on her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and decides to become a private investigator. With assistance from a teenager called Geoffrey and her husband Robert, combined with her own common sense, Hetty is confident she can solve any case. [more](#)



### Sep. 15 Are you being Served? Volume 6

This comedy series, which follows the exploits of employees at London's Grace Brothers department store, is full of sexual innuendo, slapstick, visual gags and double entendres. [more](#)



### Oct. 20 The Mirror Crack'd

At a reception for a fading film star making a screen comeback, a gushing, pushy fan is poisoned by a drink apparently meant for the actress. [more](#)

A nominal donation is requested to help defray the cost of our annual permit to show these films publicly



**SOUTH BAY SCOTTISH SOCIETY**  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL FORM**

Please complete this form and return it with your check, made out to: **SBSS**

**Mail to:** SBSS Membership, 1020 E. Empire St., San Jose, CA 95112

**Questions:** Lori Daly (408) 644-0649 or [steward@southbayscots.org](mailto:steward@southbayscots.org)

**Membership Dues:** Individual and Immediate Household - \$18 annually Jan.-Dec.

Save \$15 by prepaying membership dues for 5 years for \$75.

New  Renewal

Date: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday m/d:    /    \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to help?

<input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Budget
<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	Historical <input type="checkbox"/> an	SBSS <input type="checkbox"/> Booth

*The purpose of the South Bay Scottish Society is to stimulate and sustain an interest in Scotland; to provide education regarding its history, traditions and culture; to bring together people of Scottish heritage; to promote good will between its members and the general public; and to perform such charitable good works as may be reasonable and appropriate.*

South Bay Scottish Society  
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