



the Scottish Banner



Australasian Edition



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A' Bhratach Albannach

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The 2016 World Pipe Band Championships

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Celts

Exploring Celtic culture

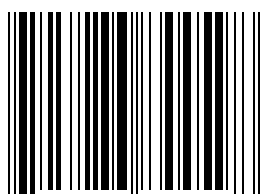
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The Scottish Banner-Uniting Scots Around the World for 40 Years!



The Banner Says...

By: Valerie Cairney

A Royal love affair with Scotland



Britain's Royal Family have long had a love affair with Scotland. Scotland has played a role in royal holidays, education, marriages and more. This month the Braemar Gathering will again take place highlighting the Royal Family's special bond with Scotland. From spectacular castle's, events and history Scotland continues to play its role in shaping one of the world's most famous families.

Palace of Holyroodhouse

Starting with the Palace of Holyroodhouse these are some of the places the royals love so much. Holyrood as it also known, is the Queen's own official residence in Scotland. The palace is situated at the end of the famous Royal Mile which extends up to Edinburgh Castle. Mary Queen of Scots lived here between 1561 and 1567, and successors of kings and queens have made it their premier residence in Scotland. The queen has an official Holyrood Week, which runs from the end of June to the beginning of July. During this week the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh entertain guests at an annual garden party, a tradition that dates back to King George V and Queen Mary. The ceremony is attended by guests from all walks of Scottish life. In celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday the Palace recently presented *Fashioning a Reign* which charted significant events in The Queen's life and the nation's history through an unprecedented collection of dress and accessories designed for these occasions, from childhood to the present day.

Balmoral Castle

Balmoral Castle, in Royal Deeside, Aberdeenshire, has been the Scottish home of the Royal Family since it was purchased for Queen Victoria by Prince Albert in 1848. Much loved by Queen Victoria, Balmoral led in her journals as *My Dear Paradise in the Highlands*. The Royal family are usually in residence between September and the beginning of October, when the grounds are closed to the public. Many royals have spent part of their honeymoon at Balmoral, including the Queen and Prince Phillip, Prince Charles and the late Princess Diana, Prince Edward and Sophie the Countess of Wessex, and Prince Charles and Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall. The Queen is said to be at her most relaxed when at Balmoral and its surrounding areas. In 1992 Princess Anne married Timothy Laurence in Crathie Kirk, which lies close to Balmoral. In 1848 Queen Victoria began the custom of members of the Royal Family and their guests worshipping with local people in the parish church. Today still the Kirk is best known for its regular attendance by the Royal Family who worship here during their stays at the castle.

The Braemar Gathering

Every September the Royal Family can be found at the Braemar Gathering in Aberdeenshire. The annual visit always generates a great deal of interest from visitors and media from across the globe as they enjoy a day of Scottish culture and tradition. The event is run by the

Braemar Royal Highland Society which was formed back in 1815. From the time of her first appearance at the Gathering in 1848, Queen Victoria took a close interest both in the Society and the Gathering, and in 1866 ordered that the title "Royal" should be added to the name of the Society. Since 1848 the Braemar Gathering has been regularly attended by the reigning Monarch and members of the Royal Family.

Glamis Castle

Glamis Castle, in Angus, has been the family home of the Earls of Strathmore for over 600 years. Glamis was the childhood home of the Queen Mother, Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, whose parents were Lord and Lady Glamis. At the age of four, Elizabeth's grandfather, who was the current Earl, passed away and her father inherited the earldom and with it Glamis Castle. The family then divided their time between Glamis Castle and two other royal residences. Glamis has many stories and legends attached to it and is thought to be one of the most haunted castles in Britain. The late Princess Margaret, sister of Her Majesty Elizabeth II, was born in Glamis Castle, the first royal baby born in Scotland since 1600.

St Andrews

The town of St Andrews in Fife lays claim to being the birth town of the love that blossomed between Prince William and Kate Middleton. Both studied at Scotland's oldest university which is where they met in 2001. After the announcement of the royal engagement St Andrews University laid claim to the title of Britain's top match-making university where one in ten of their students meets their future partner.

Strathearn

Prince William and Kate Middleton took the titles of Earl and Countess of Strathearn following their marriage. The Perthshire region of Strathearn, which means Valley of the River Earn, stretches from the central

lowlands to the Highlands. The region has had royal connections since Robert Stewart, High Steward was created Earl of Strathearn in 1357. The picturesque areas, which once belonged to Queen Victoria's father includes the towns of Crieff, Auchterarder and Comrie.

The Royal Yacht Britannia

The Royal Yacht Britannia is one of the world's most famous ships. It was launched at John Brown's shipyard in Clydebank in 1953 and served the Queen for 44 years. The Britannia carried out 968 voyages for the Queen and the Royal Family, until it was taken out of service in 1994. The Royal Yacht Britannia can now be found in Leith, Edinburgh, where visitors can discover what life was like on board for the Royal Family and the crew and today is one of Edinburgh's most popular attractions.

Other Scottish Royal Connections

Catherine Middleton's wedding dress was designed by Sarah Burton at Alexander McQueen. McQueen, whose father was Scottish, frequently used tartan in his work. Scotland had its own royal wedding on July 30, 2011 when Zara Philips, daughter of Princess Anne, married rugby player Mike Tindall, at the Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh. The Duke of Edinburgh Prince Charles, Andrew and Edward, all attended Gordonstoun, a school in Moray, Scotland. Whilst Princess Anne followed family traditions and sent both children, Zara and Peter to Gordonstoun. In 1074 King Malcolm 11 was murdered at Glamis, where there was a Royal Hunting Lodge. William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* was supposed to have lived in Glamis Castle, the real MacBeth never did.

Of course Scotland is there for all of us to enjoy its rich history, culture, scenery and people and regardless of your bloodline Scotland will roll out a royal welcome mat for you on your next visit.

Have you been to any of the royal sites in Scotland? Tell us and share your story.



Her Majesty The Queen accompanied by Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Charles (Duke of Rothesay), Princess Anne's son Peter and his wife Autumn at the 2015 Braemar Gathering. Photo: Courtesy of the Braemar Gathering Annual.

Gracing our front cover: The 2016 World Pipe Band Champions, Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band. Photo: Glasgow Life.

THE SCOTTISH BANNER

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Inverness drummer to recreate Battle of Somme bravery



An Inverness born soldier is set to take a central role at this month's Highland Military Tattoo. Sergeant Brian Taylor of The Highlanders 4 SCOTS will be recreating the heroic deeds of Drummer Ritchie who won the Victoria Cross at the Battle of the Somme. Currently a recruiting officer at the Army Reserves Centre at Gordonville Road, Sergeant Taylor is also a drummer, bugler and highland dancer and is usually a member of The Highlanders Pipes and Drums. Whilst on secondment in Inverness he has been playing with the

newly formed City of Inverness Pipe Band, who are enjoying a very successful first year of competitions and are also playing at the Tattoo at Fort George in September.

WW1 Battle of the Somme

One of the historical vignettes at the Tattoo will commemorate the WW1 Battle of the Somme. Drummer Walter Ritchie was a 24-year old drummer in the Seaforth Highlanders when he won the Victoria Cross for his gallantry in standing on the parapet of an enemy trench in the face

of heavy fire repeatedly sounding the charge to rally the men of his battalion. The bugle sounded by Drummer Ritchie is currently on display at the Highlanders' Museum at Fort George as part of their WW1 exhibition. As part of The Highlanders' Pipes and Drums, Sergeant Taylor has performed nine times at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo and has also played at tattoos around the world, including Moscow and Windsor.

Fort George

Highland Military Tattoo director, Major General Seymour Monro, said: "We are delighted to have a performer and musician of Sergeant Taylor's calibre joining our fabulous cast for this year's Tattoo. Our historical vignettes are always a real hit with the crowds and we look forward to commemorating the Battle of the Somme and the naval Battle of Jutland at this year's event." Fort George is a 'registered historic monument' and for the last 250 years has been a military garrison and later a training depot for the British Army. Between 1881 and 1964 the fort served as the depot of the Seaforth Highlanders and then the Queen's Own Highlanders. Since 1967 it has been the base of a regular infantry battalion, currently The Black Watch 3 Scots. The site is cared for by Historic Scotland and plays host to more than 60,000 visitors every year.

This year's Tattoo runs each evening from Friday 9th to Sunday 11th September, more information is available at www.highlandmilitarytattoo.com and you can follow the Tattoo on Twitter @HMTFortGeorge.

Tartan of the Month *The Isle of Jura Tartan*

The Scottish Banner is pleased to be offering the Tartan of the Month series highlighting a variety of tartans from around the world and registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans in Edinburgh. Text and image use is courtesy of the Scottish Register of Tartans.



The Isle of Jura tartan is inspired by colours which are found on the island and was registered in March, 2015 (Registration Number: 4038296). This tartan was designed by Fiona MacDonald and a woven sample of this tartan has been received by the Scottish Register of Tartans for permanent preservation in the National Records of Scotland.

Ancient stone markings *Scotland's rock art in context*



Historic Environment Scotland (HES) has been awarded £807,000 to help academics and communities investigate ancient stone markings by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, allowing them to uncover information about Scotland's Neolithic rock art. Around 6,000 rocks with 'cup-and-ring' carvings are known in Britain, with over 2,000 located in Scotland. 'Scotland's Rock Art in context: placement, re-placement and engagement' will work with local communities and heritage organisations across the country to generate a digital database of Scottish rock art, including 2D and 3D models. The database will be used to inform a detailed, contextual analysis of the carvings, and to address key research questions. The carvings, thought to date from the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age (c.4000-2000 BC), form part of a broader European rock art tradition. Their purpose and significance to prehistoric and more recent communities

is poorly understood. Rebecca Bailey, who led the grant application for Historic Environment Scotland, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have secured our first very substantial research grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council. The project will be a co-production between our expert staff, academic partners and community groups, in keeping with our vision that the historic environment is understood, shared and enjoyed by everyone. We look forward to the teams getting out into the field, making new discoveries, generating new knowledge, and sharing that on an international stage." The 5 year project will be launched in early 2017, and will be led for HES by Principal Investigator Dr Tertia Barnett. Co-investigators from Edinburgh University and Glasgow School of Art will also be involved, with project partners Archaeology Scotland, Kilmartin Museum, and the North of Scotland Archaeology Society.

FROM ACCLAIMED FILMMAKER
TERENCE DAVIES

★★★★★
THE GUARDIAN

OFFICIAL SELECTION
Melbourne International
Film Festival

OFFICIAL SELECTION
Sydney Film Festival

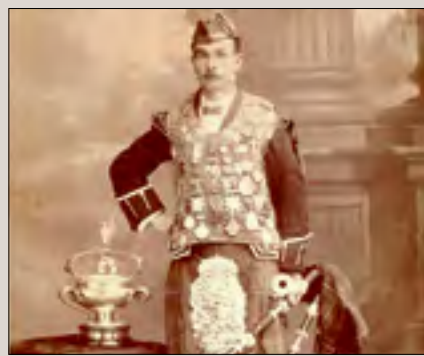
"Davies has done
the novel, and
Scotland proud"
THE HERALD

AGYNESS DEYN PETER MULLAN KEVIN GUTHRIE

SUNSET SONG

IN CINEMAS
SEPTEMBER 1

The Victorian Solo Piping Championships - *The James A Center Memorial Award*



At this month's Victorian Solo Piping Championships there will be a major prize on offer which is the Overall A Grade Champion, known as the James A Center Memorial Award. The winner will be awarded \$1,000, a silver medallion and their name on a perpetual trophy. Sitting atop the perpetual trophy will be Australasian Championship Solo Pipe Champion Cup and it will be the first time in over 100 years that this cup will be awarded to a solo piper. The cup was awarded to James A Center in 1910 and has been in the Center family since that time. The family have sponsored the award in conjunction with Rennick & Gaynor Solicitors (where James A Center's great-great granddaughter, Joanne Hazeldene, is a partner). The cup forms a significant part of Australia's immigration history. James A Center was a son of John Center who was a famous bagpiper maker in Edinburgh, Scotland, the Center family immigrated from Scotland to Melbourne in 1908. James A Center, at the time, was known as being among the most elite bag pipers in the world. James initially won the cup in New Zealand in 1907, he then won it again in 1908 and 1909. When he won again in 1910, the organisers of the event decided to just give him the cup as they decided that he had won it so many times that it was his.

The Victorian Solo Piping Championships will be held at 9:30am at Scotch College, Morrison Street, Hawthorn. For further details on The James A Center Memorial Award contact: Shane Hume on 0418 990 206 or email: a1pergolas@optusnet.com.au.

Vale-Danus Skene of Skene



Chief Danus Skene of Skene at the Smoky Mountain Scottish Festival & Games, Maryville, Tennessee, USA. Image courtesy of Ralph Comp.

It is with sadness we announce that Clan Chief Danus Skene of Skene has passed away on August 19th at age 72. Danus suffered a torn aorta earlier in the year upon returning from a trip to Africa. In August he entered hospital again and was transferred to a London hospital. He underwent successful surgery and was recovering in ICU when he died in his sleep. Danus was also an SNP parliamentary candidate for the Orkney and Shetland. Our condolences and sympathies go out to his wife, Anne, and his children, Dugald, Hannah, and Abigail and all Clan Skene members across the world.

Cyclists get on their bikes for Harris Tweed Festival Day



Some 50 cyclists got on their bikes to ride out in the Isle of Lewis' first ever Harris Tweed Bike Ride which took place on Saturday 13th August. Dapper lads and lassies of all ages, clad in the finest Harris Tweed, handwoven by fellow islanders across the Outer Hebrides, got on their bikes to celebrate one of Scotland's most famous exports and raise money for Action for Children. The bike ride was part of Harris Tweed Festival Day, a celebration of all things tweed based at Stornoway arts centre, An Lanntair. Cyclists gathered at An Lanntair, the Outer Hebrides' hub for creativity and the arts at the start of the ride. The tweed-clad peloton then made

its way around Stornoway, taking in some of the area's spectacular scenery, before racing back to An Lanntair. The winning cyclist was awarded a length of stunning yellow Harris Tweed officially named by the Harris Tweed Authority as Feis Clo Geansaidh Bhuidhe, meaning Tweed Festival Yellow Jumper in Gaelic. They also received a hand-made version of the famous Tour de France yellow jersey, specially commissioned and knitted by Harris-based Joan Macleod using yarn donated by the Carloway tweed mill on Lewis.

Clò-mòr

An international movement, 'Tweed

Runs' take place in cities across the world including Moscow, Paris, Tokyo, New York and Athens. London recently saw its eighth annual run with some 1000 tweed-clad participants pedalling their way around the capital's iconic landmarks. Elly Fletcher, CEO of An Lanntair, organisers of the event said: "We have been amazed at the popularity of Tweed Runs across the world and, as the Outer Hebrides is the home of Harris Tweed, we jumped at the chance to host a bike ride here in Stornoway to kick-start our Harris Tweed Festival Day. The Harris Tweed Festival presents us with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the successes of this remarkable industry and captures the story of Harris Tweed; from the Outer Hebrides to London Fashion Week.

It will be a great way to bring people together to celebrate Harris Tweed, raise funds for a local charity and have fun!" For centuries the islanders of Lewis and Harris, the Uists, Benbecula and Barra have hand woven 'clò-mòr' in the original Gaelic or 'big cloth', in their homes, or small weaving sheds on the edge of the Atlantic. A vital means of livelihood for over 250 craftsmen and women weaving and working in the mills of the Outer Hebrides, in 2012 some one million metres of Harris Tweed was produced and shipped to every corner of the world and used by world's best designers, fashion houses and artists.

Stringmania! - Get your fiddle on



Scottish-born fiddler Alasdair Fraser and US born Celtic cello extraordinaire Natalie Haas will headline Alasdair's first ever Australian fiddle camp this month in Victoria as teachers join some of the world's best traditional players in Melbourne for one night only concert on Saturday 24 September at Scots Church, Melbourne.

Featuring a mix of local and international talent a series of concerts will be taking place this month in Victoria which will highlight some of the best fiddling in the country. Friday 23 September 2016, 8pm at All Nations Church, Carlton (Bookings: www.boite.com.au or 03 9417 1983) with Finnish legend, Timo Alakotila has brought the non-traditional piano into the sphere of folk music, where he employs it in diverse projects. Shetland fiddler, Catriona Macdonald is one of the world's leading traditional fiddle players. On Saturday 24 September 2016, 7.30pm the Official Stringmania! opening concert at Scots Church, 156 Collins St, Melbourne (Bookings: www.trybooking.com/213395 Enquiries: 0438 560 741). This concert is a celebration of the opening of Alasdair Fraser's first Australian traditional music camp, Stringmania! Presented by the Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club, this concert features acclaimed Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser, cello extraordinaire Natalie Haas, leading Shetland fiddler Catriona Macdonald and innovative pianist Timo Alakotila from Finland. Also featured are premier Australian artists and camp tutors Gina Williams (song & language), Jenny M Thomas (fiddle), Catherine Fraser (fiddle), Davydd McDonald (dance) and Peter Vadivelloo (rhythm). **Scottish Banner**

readers get a special price (15% discount) on tickets to the opening concert by using the promo code: **BANNER**. Also on Friday 30 September 2016, 3pm is the Finale concert at the Warburton East Public Hall featuring all tutors and camp participants (Bookings: www.trybooking.com/220054 Enquiries: 0438 560 741).

Stringmania! Camp

Alasdair's camps provide a full immersion experience for beginner (including a dedicated kids' class) and advanced fiddlers. Two cello classes, guitar, voice, piano, rhythm, dance and improvisation are also offered with tutors Davydd McDonald (social dance) Monique Bartowiak (cello), Neil Adam (guitar), Timo Alakotila (piano/improv.) and Peter Vadivelloo (rhythm). Alasdair's camps continue to attract a worldwide audience of diverse musicians - Stringmania! will be no exception.

Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club

The Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club (MSFC) is a community group, now in its 21st year. Stringmania! is the culmination of the group's long-standing relationship with Alasdair and Natalie and aims to explore Australia's unique voice, traditions and perspective. Founded by Judy Turner, the MSFC is stronger than ever. Exploring

the lively sounds of Scottish music with repertoire that both acknowledges and reinvents traditional roots, the MSFC continues to draw enthusiastic and loyal crowds. Regularly collaborating with some of the world's best traditional musicians, the Club puts on a charming and exhilarating show.



Master Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser and Celtic cello extraordinaire Natalie Haas.

For details on the Stringmania! concerts: 0438 560 741 or www.trybooking.com. **Scottish Banner readers get a special price (15% discount) on tickets to the opening concert. Promo code: BANNER. The Stringmania! Camp takes place 24 September - 1 October, 2016 at Arrabri Lodge, East Warburton, Victoria. For details see: www.stringmaniacamp.com.**

SCOTSPEAK

Scotspeak is a selection of quotes which made headlines in Scotland last month on a variety of current Scottish affairs.

"This is a historic and symbolic moment in the building of the Queensferry Crossing. We're all witnessing engineering on a truly epic scale on this project, with over 30,000 tonnes of concrete and steel used just to build this part of the bridge. Despite the massive size and weight of the bridge, completing the closure between the viaduct and bridge deck is a delicate operation involving extremely precise tolerances for fit up."

Economy secretary Keith Brown said as the new Forth crossing has been connected to Fife. Engineers working on the £1.3bn Queensferry Crossing closed a 70cm gap between the north deck and the north approach viaduct, meaning the new bridge is now connected to land at the north side of the Forth.

"Our vision to build a whisky distiller on the banks of the Clyde, first conceived many years ago, is now set to become a reality. Work has started on site and our first batch of spirit should be flowing before the end of next year. The city was once home to many whisky distilleries, and we think The Clydeside Distillery will put Glasgow right back on the Scotch whisky map. Few people know the historical significance of the iconic pump house building to the Scotch whisky trade. In years gone by, this building controlled the entry bridge into the Queens Dock ensuring Customs and Excise could keep a close eye on goods in and out, including whisky. My great and our commercial director Andrew Morrison's great great grandfather, John Morrison, built the Pump House in 1877 and it gives me great pleasure to now have the opportunity to bring the building back to life, restore it to its former glory and give the building and the surrounding area the respect and status it deserves."

Tim Morrison of the Rattray Scotch Whisky Company said as work has commenced on transforming The Pump House on the banks of the Clyde into a working whisky distillery and visitor centre. The £10.5million project at The Pump House - located between the Riverside Museum and the Hydro - is

ongoing until next year, with plans to have the place up and running by autumn 2017.

"It is envisaged that the redeveloped museum will attract more tourists and motor racing enthusiasts alike thus contributing to the local economy and the Scottish Borders generally. The proposed alterations respect the original design of the building, whilst also addressing issues with the condition of its fabric, by creating a contemporary, fit-for-purpose visitor attraction for the 21st Century."

A spokesperson for the Scottish Borders Council said as plans have been submitted for a museum in the Borders celebrating the achievements of two-time Formula One world champion Jim Clark. It is hoped the development could be completed by 2018 - the 50th anniversary of Clark's death at Hockenheim in Germany, aged just 32. The driver was born in Kilmany in Fife, but raised in the Borders, and was crowned Formula One world champion in 1963 and 1965. He won a total of 25 grand prix races.



Photo: Edinburgh International Festival.

"Deep Time celebrates Edinburgh as the city that inspired our understanding of the world's deep history, and Hutton's ideas of discovery and logic through the prism of time and geology. And in Scotland's Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design, Deep Time also reflects on Edinburgh Castle, one of the longest continually inhabited sites in Scotland - from a Bronze Age settlement

to the spectacular edifice we see today, across almost 3000 years of Scottish history. Blending trailblazing technology, narrative drama and emotional storytelling, Deep Time celebrates the wonders and beauties of the natural, the geological and the man-made, exploring the very foundations of Edinburgh itself."

A spokesman for 59 Productions said as Edinburgh Castle was used as a canvass for giant animated images during an event to launch this year's International Festival. The outdoor display brought together animation, lighting and music as it depicts 350 million years of Edinburgh's history. The projections and illuminations are said to have been inspired by the deep geological history of the location.

"The idea of the scheme is to allow the public to tell us which historic figures deserve to be celebrated and commemorated. By installing a plaque on a building closely associated with that person we hope to emphasise the social and human element of local architecture. After all, a building can have a great influence on the character of the person who lived or worked there."

Martin Fairley, head of grants at Historic Environment Scotland, said as comedian Stan Laurel is to be commemorated with a plaque on the Glasgow tenement where he grew up. The comic - one half of comedy duo Laurel and Hardy - is one of 12 recipients of Historic Environment Scotland's plaque scheme, which allows members of the public to nominate notable figures for public commemoration. His plaque will be mounted on the wall of the tenement block at 17 Craigmillar Road, where he spent part of his formative years.

"Not many people these days have heard of Christian Maclagan, who lived in Stirling and is buried in the old town cemetery. She was Scotland's first female archaeologist and she is often credited with being one of the first people to undertake modern excavation and in 1872 she identified a possible broch at Livilands. Unfortunately, she suffered from contemporary sexism and her work

was overlooked and the broch 'lost'. Indeed, her first paper to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland had to be transcribed by a man. I am launching a Crowdfunding campaign to help rediscover Stirling's lost broch and restore her reputation."

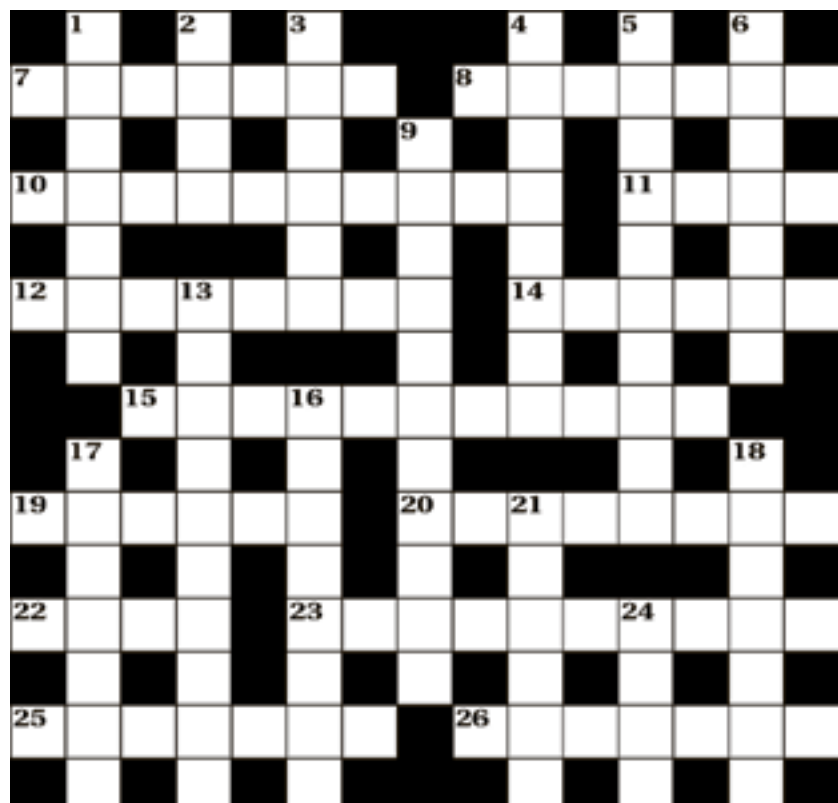
Stirling Council archaeologist Dr Murray Cook said as Scottish archaeologists searching for a lost Iron Age roundhouse hope to conduct the first excavation of it. The hunt for Stirling's lost broch, a 2000-year-old tower structure, is to begin with digs at Wester Livilands this month. It is believed the original discovery of the possible broch was made in 1872 but was ignored as it was found by a woman. In her paper of 1872, Ms Maclagan describes the discovery as being at Livilands, which had proved a puzzle for modern day archaeologists as Stirling has two Livilands, in Easter and Wester. Having long suspected Easter Livilands was the likely site, it was feared the broch had been destroyed when it could not be found in the 1950s. The discovery of a prehistoric stone tool for grinding grain in the grounds of Wester Livilands has reignited the search for the long-lost site.

"We're delighted that Museums Galleries Scotland has supported our ambition to mark the 150th anniversary of Charles Rennie Mackintosh's birth in 2018. We are working with a wide range of stakeholders to bring together plans to celebrate the 150th anniversary. There is widespread recognition that we can use the anniversary to reinvigorate and grow the city's Mackintosh offer."

A spokesperson for Glasgow Life said as a major celebration of the life and legacy of Charles Rennie Mackintosh is to be staged in his home city of Glasgow to mark the 150th anniversary of his birth. Born in Glasgow in 1868, Mackintosh was to become one of the leading lights of the British Arts and Crafts movement in the 19th century after serving an apprenticeship to architect John Hutchinson and enrolling in night classes at Glasgow School of Art.

SCOTWORD

Here is a fun crossword for you to try with a few of the answers to be found in Scotland! If you are in doubt, you may need a wee peek at a Scots dictionary or a map. Or, if you are really stuck, the answers can be found on page 24!



CLUES ACROSS

- 7) It's prettier in Scotland (7).
- 8) Small mound (7).
- 10) Island west of Girvan (5, 5).
- 11) Captures open fabrics (4).
- 12) One corner to another (8).
- 14) Glossy coating (6).
- 15) Stronghold near Rothesay (5, 6).
- 19) Rush into occupation (6).
- 20) Gives a service (8).
- 22) A threesome (4).
- 23) Town south-west of Dumfries (10).
- 25) Burns! (7).
- 26) System of servitude (7).

CLUES DOWN

- 1) Old schoolmaster (7).
- 2) Played in curling (4).
- 3) A Presbyterian official (6).
- 4) Vests (8).
- 5) Top Scots stay-over (1.0).
- 6) Old mowers (7).
- 9) House near Mauchline (1.1.).
- 13) Bagpipe embellishments (5, 5).
- 16) Dignities of noblemen (8).
- 17) Top chambers (7).
- 18) Deer meat! (7).
- 21) They're kinfolk (6).
- 24) A swell (4).

Canberra College of Piping & Drumming
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**CANBERRA BURNS CLUB
HIGHLAND GATHERING**

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PIPE BAND & HIGHLAND DANCING CHAMPIONSHIPS
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FREE ENTRY
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Massed Pipe Bands	Scottish Stalls & Food Stalls
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Send us your inquiries on life's little question marks. Ever wanted to know what happened to your old pal from home, how to make your favourite Scottish meal, or wondered about a certain bit of Scottish history? Pose your questions on Scottish related topics to our knowledgeable readership who just may be able to help. Our letters page is a very popular and active one and many readers have been assisted across the world by fellow passionate Scots. Please keep letters under 200 words and we reserve the right to edit content and length. Letters, photos and any other items posted to *the Scottish Banner* cannot be returned. We prefer letters to be emailed to your nearest office or please visit our online Scotpourri form at www.scottishbanner.com, alternatively you may post or fax your letters to us. Please ensure you include your full contact details, when emailing it is best to include your post address for those without internet access. This page belongs to our readers so please feel free to take part! Thanks to all our readers from around the world who have made this such a special page.

Oor Wullie

Well *the Scottish Banner* has done it again, the June issue with Oor Wullie and Desperate Dan all in the one issue, which took me back to my childhood days, growing up in Fort William in the 1950's. In those days nothing much happened on a Sunday. It was put on your Sunday best and as a family we would walk to church then on the way home my father would buy *The Sunday Post* and some rolls from the baker. My mother would often open a small tin of Nescafe and warm the milk for coffee. Then I got to read *Oor Wullie* and *The Broons*. After reading about the bucket trail (*Dundee Delights: The Oor Wullie Bucket Trail, Scottish Banner*, June, 2016) I dug out my old *Oor Wullie* annuals and had great delight as an adult seeing how the artist captured his character in many moods (no words required). I have been in Australia now for many years and regularly attend Highland Gatherings and Celtic festivals. The picture I am including with my letter sums up all us Scott's away from our homeland. When we attend Gathering's, the kilt and anything that is Scottish comes out and in the words of Oor Wullie, we try "Mair Scottish than ever!" All the best and congratulations on the 40th anniversary milestone.
David Mackenzie
Frankston South, Victoria
Australia



The Lord-Lieutenant of Dumfries

Just a note to let you know how delighted I was when I read in a recent issue that Lady MacGregor had been appointed to the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Dumfries. I have enjoyed Fiona's writing and accomplishments for many years, and she is truly deserving of this honor. I am sure she will serve the Royal Family and all of Scotland well, and those of us who are just 'off shore'. I do hope she keeps on writing for you. She has a great talent with a wee bit of wit and whimsy we all enjoy.

And Valerie, I would like you to know how much I have appreciated your ability in maintaining a super staff of writers and commentators. Even though I am here in the US, I do enjoy the monthly trip to Scotland through each issue of *the Banner*. I received my first issue when you had offices in Niagara Falls. So please keep on keeping on - and God Bless you and those in your flock.

Wil Irvine
Hendersonville, North Carolina
USA

Ed. note: Thank you Wil, and yes we are all very proud of Lady MacGregor and feel sure she will do a fine job. We hope you enjoy Lady Fiona's column this month which tells us more.

The Glesga Fair

Well aff we went on our annual crusade,
Away oer tae Rothesay, wae oor buckets and spades,
We set aff fae Blantyre, away tae Wymess Bay
Praying we could keep the ticket inspector away.
I stood at the jetty looking in awe,
At this massive big ship that would take us awa,
I stood at the bow like Jack in the Titanic,
But there was nae Rose fur me, just ma maw in a panic.
We hurried aff the gangway oan tae dry land,
There was nae time tae stop or tae take anybody's hand,
Up tae the digs we would venture,
A one bedroom flat wae nine of us, now that was an adventure.
On to the beach we would go,
Taking turns tae go in'tae the water, that was four below,
The parents they would sit there wae their wee carry oot,
Watching the weans gaun fur a dook.
The fortnight was spent, fishing and putting,
It's the aw ye could dae, cause ye got it fur nothing,
We had fish every night, cause we got it fur free,
Oan a Sunday ma granny, went tae the Glenburn for a spot of high tea.
Now if we were good we would get a treat,
It would be off to Zavaroni's for aw the ice cream you could eat,
Then on to the Winter Gardens for a shot oan the shows,
Oh how good those days were, nobody know's.
I have fond memories there,
Especially at "THE GLESGA FAIR."
Jimmy Whelan
2009

Aye - the Glesga Fair wis awfy swell
but shovin' an bumpin' oan thae trains wis pue hell
hoo ever when Rothesay's shores came in sight
we forgoat oor troubles and planned a fortnight.
We bought oor ice cream and sat doon on the sand
and if we were lucky we could listen tae a band.
Efter some time we decided on lunch
we picked through oor pockets fur some pennies tae spend
but had on'y enough fur a raspberry punch.
So we aw pit thegeather tae buy prawns in a poke
dividin' thae prawns among six wis nae joke.
Efter a while came supper time
and efter thae prawns, fish an' chips sounded sublime
but again we forgoat - oor pennies were gone
so back tae oor digs we trudged - all forlorn
But Mither and Faither they had a wee stash
so we were able tae get some 'bangers an' mash!'
Then amid aw the unpacked cases an' trunks
We goat in tae oor jamas and climbed intae bunks!
So was oor first day - oan Glesga Fair Day.

The above little poem was written by my father (83) in response to the poem below by Mr Jimmie Whelan. I had sent *The Glesga*

Fair poem to my Dad knowing he would like it and was so very surprised when he sent his poem back to me in response!

Angela Barrie
Montreal, Quebec
Canada
Sent via Facebook

Scottish Banner 40th Anniversary



Dear Valerie,

Congratulations! What a wonderful time this must be for you. You must be so proud of all you have achieved. I think it is amazing that you have been publishing *the Scottish Banner* for 40 years and you have had so many letters of congratulations from so many famous people. What wonderful keep sakes. Valerie, I have to thank you so much for all the joy and tears I have gone through these years when reading *the Scottish Banner*, and I also enjoy when speaking to you on the phone. Thank you for bringing home a little closer, and I pray you continue for years to come.

Congratulations once again.

Norma Merrill
San Antonio, Texas
USA

Ed. note: Thank you Norma. It certainly doesn't seem that long, the years have just flown by.

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo-Melbourne

I would like to thank *the Scottish Banner* for sending me a copy of The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo-Melbourne DVD. I watched it on a cold winters Sunday and how it warmed my heart to watch all the great performers on display. Once more many thanks.
Margaret 'McKay' Warn
Sefton, NSW
Australia

Scottish Banner 40th Anniversary

Just writing to say congratulations on the 40th anniversary of *the Scottish Banner*. That is a truly remarkable achievement, and we know it is the result of a lot of very hard work and dedication. *The Banner* keeps on getting better and better, and it is absolutely essential to the keeping of the Scottish community in touch with yesterday, today and tomorrow here in Australia. Very best wishes from all at Scottish Heritage Centre of WA!
Shirley Oliver
Secretary
Scottish Heritage Centre of Western
Australia Inc.

Pleasant surprise

I received a very pleasant surprise the other day on returning home, to find a parcel from *the Scottish Banner* containing 6 deluxe DVD's of The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. I feel very honoured to be chosen as one of the lucky winners of the giveaway. These will make a great addition to my collection. I have enjoyed receiving *The Banner* every month for a number of years and hope to do so for many more. It is most informative reading.
Charles Nibloe
Werribee, Victoria
Australia

POSTED TO THE SCOTTISH BANNER FACEBOOK PAGE



I thought your readers might like this pic of us taken at Culross By Graham Harris Graham, who lives in the house by the cross shown here. We are Glenberrie, and are on Facebook under that name. We've started to be booked for *Outlander* related events, and were doing or own photo shoot in Culross (Cranesmuir in the series), when Graham walked by!
Neil Clark
Scotland

Scottish Banner 40th Anniversary

Congratulations for 40 years of publication! Received my 40th Anniversary copy today (*Scottish Banner*, July, 2016), all wrapped in its new protective cover for delivery. Have had a quick scan through and look forward to sitting down later on in the day with a cuppa and a good read! Might make the chocolate cake on page 26! Well done in keeping every lover of Scotland informed for 40 years!
Patricia NicGill-Eain
Australia

Glencoe



Thought I'd post the full size of my sunsets in Glencoe from April and May.
Carolynn Wilson
Scotland

Scottish Banner 40th Anniversary

Congratulations to *the Scottish Banner* for 40 wonderful years of keeping the Scottish Diaspora informed around the world.
Scottish Australian Heritage Council

Gretna Battlefield becomes 40th site on the National Inventory

Site of little-known Scottish victory at Battle of Sark formally recognised.



'Scots taunt the English forces into deep water at the River Sark. Conjectural reconstruction by Andrew Spratt, 1984.' Copyright © Andrew Spratt.

A battlefield to the southwest of Gretna in Dumfries and Galloway has become the 40th site to be added to the Inventory of Historic Battlefields. The Battle of Sark, fought in 1448, was the first decisive victory for a Scottish force over the English since the Battle of Otterburn, 60 years earlier, and the final pitched battle between the two countries in the period of the Hundred Years War. Philip Robertson, Historic Environment Scotland's Deputy Head of Designations for battlefields, said: "The Inventory raises awareness about important battlefield sites which add to our understanding of Scotland's archaeology and history. Following an application from a member of the public, we carried out further research into the Battle of Sark, and found that it met the criteria to be added to the inventory. The battle was fought during a fascinating and tumultuous period of Scottish history, and we hope that by adding it to the inventory

we will raise awareness of the battlefield site, stimulate further research around it, and develop its potential as an educational resource and site for visitors."

The Douglas family

The background to the battle was a brief period of relative peace between England and Scotland, abruptly brought to an end in late 1448 by the decision of Henry Percy, 2nd Earl of Northumberland to invade Scotland with a force reported to be around 6,000 men. He did so with the blessing of the English king Henry V. His plan was to ransack the lands of the Douglas family. He made camp in the area adjacent to modern Gretna and dispatched scouting and raiding parties to the surrounding area. Near the end of October, Northumberland's army was met by a Scottish force of 4,000 men led by Hugh Douglas, Earl of Ormonde. Although the English army were warned of Ormonde's advance and able to deploy for battle in time to meet the Scots, the battle soon became

a rout after the English archers were neutralised and the main Scottish army was able to advance on Northumberland's forces, who were now cornered by three watercourses – the Esk, the Sark, and the Kirtle Water. Hemmed in on three sides, the English soldiers were unable to easily retreat and many were reported to have been drowned in the Esk. Although the victory was a decisive one for the Scots, the battle did little to alter the landscape of internal conflict in the Kingdoms on both sides of the Borders, other than to greatly increase the prominence of the already powerful Douglas family in Scottish politics. The Earl of Northumberland was able to escape the conflict.

The Inventory of Historic Battlefields was created in 2011 and is a major resource for enhancing the understanding and appreciation of battlefields, as well as promoting education and stimulating further research on the topic. It helps with the protection and management of battlefields.

Perth to bid for UK City of Culture



Perth is to add its name to the list to bid for the 2021 UK City of Culture, along with Paisley, Coventry, Sunderland and Stoke-on-Trent, with possible bids to be announced from Milton Keynes and Cardiff. The winning city would host a number of high profile cultural events and could see a multi-million pound boost to the local economy. The first UK City of Culture was Derry-Londonderry in 2013 - an award which reportedly brought one million additional tourism visits. Hull will be the second city to receive the title, beginning in 2017. Cities are designated as the UK City of Culture for 12 months. The other Scottish city Paisley, is bidding for UK City of Culture 2021 as part of ambitious plans to use the town's internationally-significant collection of heritage and cultural assets to transform its future. UK City of Culture means a year-long extravaganza of major national events – but it isn't just a big year-long party. It's about long-lasting economic, social and cultural change. The bidding process for 2021 begins in January, with the winner announced by the end of next year.

Stirling Castle shortlisted for Best UK Heritage Attraction



Stirling Castle has beaten the competition to become the only Scottish attraction on the shortlist for this year's British Travel Awards. Members of the public now have until 30th September 2016 to vote for their favourite UK Heritage Attraction on the BTA website. The British Travel Awards are the largest consumer voted awards programme in the UK. In 2015, over 254,000 members of the public voted for their favourite destinations, holiday providers and heritage attractions. The castle faces stiff competition from Beamish Living Museum in Durham, the Giant's Causeway, Longleat Safari Park in Wiltshire, Titanic Belfast and the Tower of London, so staff are appealing to locals and visitors alike to help put Stirling on the map. Liz Grant, Executive Manager of Stirling Castle, said: "It's wonderful that Stirling Castle has been recognised once again by the British Travel Awards. Just being shortlisted is testament to the hard work of all our staff, but of course we'd love it if it was

third time lucky with a win for the castle in 2016. It would be great if the people of Scotland could show support for the castle by voting online, and I'd encourage the many visitors we've welcomed through Stirling Castle's gates to show their support too." It has been a busy year at the castle, which launched a new website and a brand new fashion event, In Vogue, as well as beginning a programme of conservation works on the James IV arch, and hosting cultural events from the Scottish Chamber Orchestra to Dunblane High School's Shakespeare festival. Still to come this summer, Stirling Castle will host its popular outdoor theatrical performances, as well as running a range of activities for school children to enjoy over the holidays. In 2015, over 254,000 members of the public voted for their favourite destinations, holiday providers and heritage attractions.

To vote for Stirling Castle to win the Best UK Heritage Attraction Award at the 2016 British Travel Awards, visit www.britishtravelawards.com.

BATTLE OF BANNOCKBURN

TIMELINE FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER 2016
SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER 2016
FROM 9.00AM – 5.00PM

- Period re-enactment
- Pipe bands
- Highland dancing
- Early Viking and Period village
- Archery
- Jousting
- Scottish clans
- Scottish games
- Military re-enactment groups and camps

- Full flight "Birds of Prey"
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- And much more ...

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FAMILY (2 adults, 3 children)	\$50 per day \$75 Weekend Pass	Children (5-15yrs)	\$10 per day \$15 Weekend Pass
Adult	\$20 per day \$30 Weekend Pass	Children under 5 years	FREE
Concession	\$10 per day \$15 Weekend Pass	Most children's rides and entertainment are free NO BYO alcohol permitted	

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Have a name that has you stumped? Scottish Banner readers can send in their name queries direct to Ron via the Scottish Banner by post or email: info@scottishbanner.com. Ron will do his best to help you with your name query and may just add that extra piece to your genealogy puzzle.



After a very hot and dry summer here in Southern Ontario, it is a relief to see some milder and wetter weather. Although we are not looking forward to shovelling piles of snow as the Farmer's Almanac predicts. This is something that supposedly happens after an "El Niño!" weather effect. The only philosophy we can follow is "it is what it is". If we are to have a harsh winter then it will be a good time to seal up indoors and attack some genealogical projects and general tidying up of ancestral files. It's always fun to find a new

Roddy MacLeod wins Silver Chanter in Skye



Photo: Courtesy of Derek Maxwell.

Congratulations to Roddy MacLeod MBE on his historic 7th Silver Chanter win in Skye on Wednesday 3rd August. The contest is held annually at Dunvegan Castle, the seat of the MacLeod of MacLeod, chief of the Clan MacLeod, and the oldest continuously inhabited castle in Scotland. No-one has won more Silver Chanters than Roddy now, with the competition starting in 1966. Roddy is the Principal of Glasgow's National Piping Centre, who work in partnership with *the Scottish Banner*.

ancestor but it takes discipline to place them properly in a relationship tree with an appropriate biography.

Norwood

Melissa Dengate of Penrith, New South Wales kindly emailed an inquiry for her neighbour Jimmy Norwood, who originated from Crawford Street, Partick during and just after World War II. Jimmy has grandkids who want to know a little of their Scottish heritage and what their possible clan connection is. Norwood is one of those generic place names, that are found in surnames and simply indicates some long ancestor who was known by their origin or residence at the north woods. It is not a very common surname in Scotland and when found it is predominantly, in the south west coast of counties such as Ayr, Renfrew and Lanarkshire, although still found sparsely in other counties too. It is fairly prolific in England, so it is possible that some Norwood's came north or went to Ireland in the Plantation days only to move again to Scotland in the 1800's. I have an affection for this particular surname from the days some 40 years ago when I first started my genealogical quest. I shared that same interest with a friend and co-worker named Art Norwood. I was initially, at a brick wall in my own research at the time due to inexperience but Art had managed over the course of a few years to trace his Norwood name back to the 13th century with the record of a gentleman named "Northwode" who rented lands from convent on the Isle of Sheppey in the river Thames on the northern coast of Kent. Sorry I couldn't find a clan connection for the Norwood grandkids but I'm sure there are plenty in some of the female lines. I have to add that not every Scottish family were associated with a clan as some surnames were primarily a Lowland name and wouldn't have had any interactions with clans or large noble families.

Chirrey

Jean Crosson is a second time inquirer for a surname. This time the name is Chirrey which was the name of her grandfather. He was a hand loom weaver and plied his trade until the ripe old age of 91 in Bannockburn.

While there are many records of the name in birth and marriages with the name in Scotland, particularly in the southwest and central areas. I wasn't able to come up with a definitive origin or meaning. So trying different vowels and consonants, the best I could find was the obvious Cherry. This would be for someone who grows this fruit or sells them. Old documents do show people recorded as Chyrre and a place name of Chyrrelandes, so fluidity of spelling over the centuries would account for the difference of names. There is the old dialect pronunciation for Sherriff which was spelled as Sherra or Shirra, but I think that's a bit of a stretch. If anyone can add to this, we would be pleased to hear from them.

Stocks

David Kirk Stocks from Wanambool, Victoria, Australia asked about his own surname. Mr. Stocks' family originated from Fife and he says there weren't many families with the final "s". The final "s" on a surname usually denotes lineage as in Stock's son. When doing genealogy it is difficult to ascertain whether the name is "carved in stone" with an "s" or not as it is often recorded with and without the "s" through the generations and even in the same life time of an individual. I know I have seen often enough with an Edward or Edwards ancestor of mine. It was recorded either way depending on the document.

Stock or Stocks a place name for who dwelt near the stumps as in tree stumps. Looking at familysearch.org most records of the names seems to be on the east coast of Scotland from Aberdeen down to Fife. Mr. Stocks jokingly wondered how English the name could be. I would say very much how but one must ask how long has it been in Scotland can only be determined by doing a family tree. The longer it has been here the better the chance of it being infused by Scottish DNA by marriage to good Scots lassies over the centuries.

Buchanan



My apologies for the tardiness in responding to this inquiry. Sometimes we do have a back log of letters and some just miss the deadline for a particular month. So to Mr. George Speirs a native of Glasgow who now lives in Tasmania here we are. Mr. Speirs has had a genealogy done on both his maternal and paternal ancestry. He is particularly interested in his mother's side. Which leads back to a Thomas Gray Buchanan b. 1805 and resided at Wellshot House at Cambuslang, which he acquired in 1841. He died in 1876 leaving an estate of £15,000 which you can imagine was a great wealth at that time. Mr. Speirs has been led to believe that Buchanan Street a main street in downtown Glasgow may have named after this family. I wasn't able to make a connection when I looked at glasgowhistory.co.uk on Glasgow street names I found the following: "Buchanan Street, opened 1780 and named for Andrew Buchanan, of Buchanan, Hastie, & Co., who were leading merchants in the city. He was proprietor of the ground on which it was formed as far north as Gordon Street." I wasn't able to find out if this Andrew Buchanan and Thomas Gray Buchanan were related.

Lachlan Macquarie

In the last few months, *the Scottish Banner* has enjoyed its 40th anniversary. As mentioned in a previous column, I have had the privilege of being part of it for some 30 of those years.

Starting out in Canada and slowly blossoming into the United States, it had a wonderful reception in its initial 20 years of publication. However, it was approximately 20 years ago (I'm not sure of the exact date) that *the Scottish Banner* was first published in Australia. From that time it has flourished in both Australia and New Zealand. It is indicative to me of its popularity there since most of the letters of inquiry I receive are from that part of the world. Like other parts of the British Commonwealth, Australia has had its share of Scottish immigrants. It has a history of Scots starting back at its beginnings who were to make an impact on the emerging colony. One such individual was the fifth governor of New South Wales who was a Scot and became known as the "Father of Australia" his name was Lachlan Macquarie. He was born in 1762 on the Isle of Ulva, heartland of the Clan Macquarie lands. His mother was daughter of the MacLean of Duart, the MacQuarries and MacLeans were strong allies. Lachlan joined the army at a young age and rose through the ranks and served all over the known British Empire world of Canada, pre-revolutionary America, Jamaica and India. He became the governor of New South Wales in 1810. He oversaw the transfer of the area from a penal colony in to free enterprise one. He clashed with existing groups on how the colony should be run and was the last autocratic governor of the colony. He died in 1824 in London and is buried in a family mausoleum on the island of Mull.

Clan MacQuarrie

Since we have mentioned an illustrious person of the MacQuarrie clan, we may as well address this Island clan. Similar to the MacKinnon's with whom the share a common heritage. Gauire was brother to Fingon the ancestor of the MacKinnon clan. The clan is associated with the isle of Ulva and became dependents of the Lords of the Isles, i.e. Clan Donald. The first recorded chief was John MacQuarrie died circa 1473. When the powerful Lords of the Isles lost their influence and power, in the reign of James VI, Clan MacQuarrie aligned themselves with the MacLean of Duart.

The clan was a Royalist supporter against Cromwell and the Interregnum.

They continued to hold their historical lands but like so many of the Island chiefs they were forced to sell them to cover debts. The son of Lachlan mentioned above died without issue and so the chiefly line disappeared.

Clan Badge: A tiger rampant in ermine holding an arrow with point downwards. The arrow is silver with red barbs. Clan Motto: Constant and Faithful There is a MacQuarrie tartan.

At this time of year Northerners will feel like putting on a jumper (sweater for North Americans), while Southerners may take theirs off. Where ever you are in the world enjoy your September. We love hearing from you so keep those letters coming.

Lady MacGregor's Scotland

Lady MacGregor of MacGregor – otherwise known as British broadcaster Fiona Armstrong. Fiona is currently news reading for the BBC. But she also leaves the studio from time to time to report on matters Scottish. She lives in Scotland with her husband, the MacGregor clan chief. Sir Malcolm is Convenor of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, and Fiona is an active member of Clan Armstrong, so their lives are interwoven with all things tartan. The couple have moved from the borderlands to the lowlands, home is now a white tower house between Perth and Dundee, although filming and writing takes Fiona all over Scotland.



By: Lady Fiona MacGregor



The 2016 Lord-Lieutenants with the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at St James's Palace in London. Lady MacGregor of MacGregor (Fiona Armstrong) is in the second row. Image courtesy and copyright of Steve Solomons, Beaumont Photography.

Greetings from Scotland where it is breezy, but bright. Like Chicago in the USA, Perth in Australia, and Wellington in New Zealand, we, too, have our 'windy city'. Yes, when it comes to blustery weather, I fear Edinburgh gets the unwanted title here. Yet is this being fair to Scotland's proud and historic capital? Indeed, research appears to show that the windiest cities in Britain are, in fact, in England. So there we are: Scotland is not that squally. Indeed, Dundee, a city port that overlooks the wild North Sea, is said to be one of the least windy places to live in the whole of the UK... Sometimes it doesn't seem like the weather is calm. Especially when you're filming in the wettest place in Scotland. Again, I was always told that Eskdalemuir in the south of the country, was where the most amount of rain fell over the year. And why not? This is a remote spot, where peaks are planted with fir trees, fields are green, and where rivers run clear and full. There is even a weather monitoring station, one that also measures earthquakes and tremors. But when I arrive to interview a meteorological expert - suitably clad in protective waterproofs, umbrella turning inside out with the wind - I am told that this is not the case. On the contrary, my scientific authority on the matter insists that the consistently wettest places are not in Dumfriesshire, but on the Scottish west coast.

Balmoral

As they say in my profession: never let the facts get in the way of a good story. I still advise folk to take their brollies when they head for the hills... I just hope that climes are kinder up in Aberdeenshire where the Royal Family are taking their annual holiday.

Balmoral was bought by Victoria and Albert in 1852. This rundown estate came with a not-so-grand abode which was demolished as the couple set about renovating the place and building themselves a turreted castle. The Prince loved hunting and shooting in the hills and glens. His wife liked to scale the peaks and spend time spinning with old women in bothies. Victoria adored her precious Highlands and Highlanders and when Albert died, she went there as much as she could.

A Lord-Lieutenant is the Queen's personal representative in the area he or she lives in. There are around thirty of us in Scotland and we have a range of duties, from helping to arrange visits by members of the royal family, to liaising with members of the armed forces, to presenting telegrams from the Queen to those who reach the venerable age of 100.

Successive royal heads have also spent time at Balmoral and our own Queen Elizabeth II is said to regard it as her favourite residence. It looks a fascinating place and I have passed its gates many times, but never quite had the time to stop and look round. It is most certainly on the list of places to visit - as it seems to be for others. The castle is open to public for several months and each year seventy thousand people make a trip to this iconic home on royal Deeside.

The monarch and her family spend several weeks a year in north-east Scotland - and here, the Queen has time to herself. She can relax after what have been a hectic few months. This year has seen her 90th birthday and great civic celebrations have been taking place the length and breadth of the country. After all the parades and concerts, the dinners and fireworks, the visits and church services, some bracing Scottish air and a few quiet country walks may be just the tonic...

Lord-Lieutenant

All this partying has kept her Lord-Lieutenants on the ball. A Lord-Lieutenant is the Queen's personal representative in the area he or she lives in. There are around thirty of us in Scotland and we have a range of duties, from helping to arrange visits by members of the royal family, to liaising with members of the armed forces, to presenting telegrams from the Queen to those who reach the venerable age of 100. We attend local charity, civic and community events and are helped in our efforts by a team of deputies.

As you know, I was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Dumfries earlier this year and am still discovering what the role involves. My duties this month include attending local naval and air force ceremonies and a service to remember Robert Burns. I will also unveil a statue in memory of World War One female ammunitions workers. It is small in comparison to the royal effort, for Her Majesty may be ninety, but with official events almost daily, shows no sign of slowing on the work front. Indeed, the Queen has been called the most dutiful monarch in a thousand years. May the wind ease and the sun shine up on Deeside...

The Scottish Heritage Centre of Western Australia-Kirking of the Tartan



The Scottish Heritage Centre of Western Australia (SHC) held a Kirking of the Tartan church service at the beautiful and historic Scots Church, Fremantle on Sunday afternoon, 3rd of July. The banners were piped into the church by Viv Riley, the honorary piper for the SHC. Rev. Stuart Bonnington, who is the minister at Scots Church took the service, in which the chaplain for the Scottish Heritage Centre, Rev. Frances Hadfield, read the key paragraphs concerning the Act banning traditional Scottish dress, the later repealing of that Act, the famous quote from the Declaration of Arbroath, and the repealing of the Act banning the Gaelic Language as demanded by Queen Elizabeth the second in the 1950's. It was a very significant moment in the service for all those in attendance.

The congregation enjoyed the following afternoon tea and conversation, during which there were many requests for this service to be held again next year. That was so good to hear. It is all about keeping our culture alive and cherished and keeping our communities linked. Scottish Heritage Centre is most grateful to Rev. Bonnington and members of his congregation who gave so much time and help to make this service the truly Scottish and successful event that it was.

By: Judy Vickers

An Orkney tragedy-100 years on



The HMS Hampshire image courtesy of the Orkney Library and Archive.



On 5 June 1916, HMS Hampshire left the Royal Navy's anchorage at Scapa Flow, Orkney, bound for Russia.

The Secretary of State for War, Lord Kitchener, was on board as part of a diplomatic and military mission aimed at boosting Russia's efforts on the Eastern Front. 100 years on, extensive research has been undertaken of the tragedy and an accurate death toll has been announced about an event which still shakes Orkney today, as Judy Vickers explains.

The true number of deaths from the sinking of the HMS Hampshire 100 years ago has finally been revealed by experts researching a definitive account of the tragedy. Twelve authors have spent two years painstakingly researching the tragedy – which claimed the life of Lord Kitchener, of the “Your Country Needs You” poster fame – and believe they can now put an accurate figure of 737 on the number of deaths, estimates of which have wildly fluctuated over the years. The figure is revealed in a new book to be published later this year, *HMS Hampshire: A Century of Myths and Mysteries Unravelling*, which also looks at the truth behind the tall tales that have built up surrounding the sinking. Revenues from the book will help to fund the restoration of an Orkney memorial to the tragedy at Marwick Head, including a new wall with the names of the all the dead.

Conspiracy theories

Two of the most persistent rumours which the authors have examined were that the ship sailed through a known minefield, making the Admiralty culpable of at the very least incompetence, and that the military refused to allow local Orcadians

to help with rescue attempts. Their conclusions are that the first was down to a simple misprint in an official document and the second did not hold up to close scrutiny except in just two isolated cases. The Hampshire, an armoured cruiser, was en route from Orkney to Russia, taking Lord Kitchener, the then Secretary of State for War, on a secret mission to bolster support from the Tsar for the war when it hit a mine and sank on June 5, 1916. There were only twelve survivors. The death of such a figurehead as Kitchener, almost two years into the 1914-1918 conflict, had a profound impact on the country. “Very like President Kennedy or Princess Diana's deaths in later years, everyone who was alive then would remember the moment they heard about Kitchener's death even though three weeks later 20,000 died at the Somme.” says James Irvine, one of the authors. And, much like Diana's and Kennedy's deaths, the demise of Kitchener attracted conspiracy theories. The ship set off westwards at 4.40pm from Scapa Flow into a Force 9 gale. The two destroyers accompanying her struggled to match her speed in the appalling weather conditions and were sent back. When she hit the mine

at 7.40pm, she was less than two miles from the Orkney coastline yet only 12 men were rescued.

Sensitive subject in Orkney

Accusations of incompetence or collusion against the Admiralty have focussed on the destruction of another ship, HM Drifter Laurel Crown, on June 2, blown up by the same minefield, laid by U-boat U-75, and why the Hampshire was sent through a known danger zone. But Mr Irvine says that rumour comes from a simple misprint in an internal minesweeping Admiralty document – the date of the destruction of the Laurel Crown should have read June 22. The date was later corrected but the damage was done. Rumours that something sinister was afoot have also been fuelled by accounts from Orcadians claiming they were not allowed to assist in the rescue attempts and were even forcibly stopped by the military when they tried to intervene. But Mr Irvine says careful examination of what is still a very sensitive subject in Orkney has revealed such stories are “almost certainly myth” with just two recorded incidents with some basis in fact. Many of the accounts come from

Birsay, which was nearest to the stricken ship but not to where rescue efforts were focussed, in Sandwick, a few miles south of Marwick Head, where the majority of bodies and handful of survivors came ashore. “It is something like survivors' guilt. They couldn't do anything and they felt the whole world was looking at them and it was their fault nothing was done,” he says. Add in a mixture of tiredness, a general suspicion from the military of the effectiveness of civilian help and the poor communications of the time and the myth was born. Mr Irvine adds: “The authorities' immediate response was inadequate.” The original number of deaths was put at 643 and estimates over the years have varied considerably, partly because there were some changes of crew at Scapa Flow in the hours before the ship set off and because aside from the Navy personnel, Kitchener had a military staff with him. But Mr Irvine says the authors are now confident that their research, including contacting around 100 descendants of survivors and victims, means they finally have an accurate roll of honour.

For more information on HMS Kitchener see: www.kitchenerhampshire.wordpress.com



An aerial image of the Kitchener Memorial, Marwick Head, Orkney. Photo: Frankie Tait/ Orkney Heritage Society.

Conspiracy theories and wild rumours of the HMS Hampshire

- Some of the wilder stories that have circulated about the loss of the Hampshire include that the ship was full of gold bound for Russia to bribe the Tsar, that the IRA had a hand in the destruction of the ship and that Kitchener was actually dead by his own hand before boarding and that the mining of the Hampshire was an elaborate ruse to cover this fact.
- The idea that there was something more than a simple tragedy behind the loss of the Hampshire was fuelled in the 1920s by journalist and fraudster Frank Power, who claimed in a series of newspaper articles that there had been a cover-up. His hoax was revealed when a coffin, which he claimed contained the body of Kitchener recovered from the Norwegian coast, was opened by the authorities and found to be empty.
- Another colourful character involved in the myth-making was Frederick Joubert Duquesne, a Boer soldier who claimed to have assassinated Kitchener by boarding the Hampshire posing as a Russia count and signalling a German submarine from on board. As the U-boat which laid the mine which destroyed the Hampshire was already back at base on June 5, this is very unlikely.
- County Kerry born-Kitchener was also supposed to have been assassinated by the IRA, who had laid bombs on the ship according to German “spymaster” Ernst Carl in his post-war account. Rumours have since circulated that the wreck, still lying on the seabed off the coast of Orkney, shows evidence of outward not inward explosion damage. Carl also claimed that the ship was laden with gold bound for Russia to use to bribe the Tsar, a tale which has led to the wreck, a protected war grave, from being illegally salvaged.
- Other stories included that he had committed suicide – or been assassinated – in London and his body taken and put on the Hampshire and the ship deliberately blown up by the British to cover up this fact.

KINGS CASTLES AND "DURTY" WEE RASCALS

Australian Jim Stoddart who was born in a Glasgow Tenement and raised in a Glasgow Housing Scheme 1943-1965. Jim will be taking readers on a trip down memory lane of a time and place that will never be the same again and hopes even if only a few people in the Scot's Diaspora have a dormant folk memory awakened, then he shall be more than delighted.



Away wi' the Fairies

Back at Leithland Road primary on a warm summer day we were singing proudly. We had finished the last refrain of Robert Burns' song, *Bonnie Wee Thing*, when the aging Mr Henderson, our itinerant music teacher, said "talking about wee things, have any of you boys and girls seen a fairy at the bottom of your garden?" Aye sure, that would be right were our thoughts as we chuckled with healthy skepticism at the idea. The only mysterious happenings at the bottom of my garden had been when my dad planted two apple trees, and when they had matured sufficiently to bear fruit, we had been disappointed to find that the bright red apples had been mysteriously spirited away. We had not thought of the wee folk, but rather about the kids from over the back fence living in the flats on Netherplace Road.

Scots songs

As Mr. Henderson settled into his discussion about fairies, we began to enjoy this unexpected respite from us having to recant our scales, to do our do, ray, me's and having to learn that 'all cows eat grass and every good boy deserves a favour'. I dreaded these weekly visits by this itinerant music teacher and my stomach turned at the thought that he might pick on me to sing something or to recognize the notes and symbols on a sheet of music. In the earlier years of schooling we had occasionally had the symbols, drums, tambourines and other percussion instruments made available to us to accompany a simple tune. There were never enough of these to go round and we had to wait eagerly and patiently to get a turn on these instruments. I quite enjoyed singing our traditional ballads and Scots songs such as *Mairie's Wedding*, *Ho Ro My Nut Brown Maiden* and the *Road and the Miles to Dundee*, but the theoretical side of music was a complete mystery to me. It was as difficult for me to understand and interpret music as it was for me to tackle the Cyrillic alphabet or the characters of a Chinese language. I had discovered that I had absolutely no ear for music and had been astonished at the ease by which some of my pals could play a 'moothie' or a jaws harp and been able to rattle out an impromptu tune. Larry Adler was still a

popular entertainer and most of us owned tiny wee harmonicas that could be fully inserted into our mouths and near enough swallowed. They sat in our mouths like silver teeth and could be sucked and blown at leisure. I also had a regular sized mouth organ which I played, unsuccessfully, from one end to the other. I enjoyed listening to music, like everyone else in my family, and we took turns weekly to choose a vinyl record for my father and me to buy on our Saturday morning excursions to the city and bring home to play on the new radiogram sitting impressively against the wall. Both of my older siblings, Charlie and Jean, had learned to play piano accordions when they were younger although I never had the pleasure of ever actually hearing either of them play. A red accordion lay in the sideboard cupboard and I was forever taking it out to try it out without success. To read music, to make sense and interpret these strange symbols into sounds, never mind something pleasing to the ear, remained a complete wonder to me.

Do you not believe in fairies?

I really did dread Mr. Henderson's lessons but his visit to our school was different one day. Instead of his authoritarian, and pedantic teaching, and instead of his usual impatience with our 'cloth ears', he seemed remarkably relaxed. Here he was talking enthusiastically about fairies and we had become captives to his enthusiasm and seeming light-heartedness. "So, boys and girls, what do fairies look like?" This, of course, was being asked in an era when Bruce, meant a Scottish national hero, a Gay Gordon, a soldier from a famous Highland regiment and a fairy one of the mythical wee folk. The girls gave descriptions of fairies with gossamer wings, pretty pink dresses and sparkling shoes, rather like those on their scraps and like Walt Disney's Tinkerbell dressed up for the evening. The boys gave descriptions uncannily like a midget Diana Dors or Marilyn Monroe. We laughed and giggled at some of the daft descriptions but gradually Mr. Henderson's mood began to change. He was clearly not impressed.

"You, boy, do you not believe in fairies?"
 "No, Sir"
 "And you?"
 "No, Sir"
 "And you, girl?"
 "No, Sir"
 "You, boy, why are you laughing at them? Do you not realize that every time you deny the existence of a fairy, - a little fairy dies?"

Mr. Henderson's voice was changing as he got further laughter with our rejection of his hypothesis.

"What's funny about that? "You boy, why are you laughing?" continued Mr. Henderson as his blood pressure rose. It reached a peak after he picked on William, the class stutterer.

"What's your name? Stand Up!"
 "Wi, Wi, Wi, Will, Will, Wi, Wi, Wi,"
 "Get it out, boy. How dare you laugh!"
 "Wil, Wil, Will,"
 "Oh sit down, you fool."

William Wallace

There was a sudden silence as we all at once stopped laughing and the class

atmosphere dramatically altered. We had all at one time or another been guilty of quietly laughing when William was asked to read some lines of poetry or answer a question in class. This had usually happened when a temporary teacher had taken the class in the absence of Mr. Lauder. We had sniggered at the teacher's discomfort and embarrassment rather than at William's plight. For William was a popular pupil, a big boy, physically strong but a gentle giant by nature. He was mothered by the girls and envied by the boys, not for his physical prowess, but for his name. When William arrived at our school and was introduced as the new boy to the class, it was as 'William Wallace'. He was, apart from another new boy, who had come with a glass eye and a chip on his shoulder, having had someone stick the nib of a pen straight into his eye at another school, one of the more memorable pupils at Leithland Road. Our teachers were rarely, if ever, challenged, not because of our timidity or even the threat of the strap but because of a traditional respect for teachers within the community. It had its origins in a national respect for education, which had nothing to do with what the teacher earned but with what the teacher knew. Nevertheless, Mr. Henderson, having treated William badly, lost credibility in our eyes especially when he was trying to sell an idea, which clearly contradicted our own humble life experiences. He was now open to be challenged by any child with good common sense.

Wee Pollok fairies

"You, girl, don't you believe in fairies?"
 "No, Sir. My dad says that there are no such things as ghosts, fairies and the like, that there are enough things that we can see to worry about, without fashing about fairies and ghosts and all that". "Well, I have seen them and they look just like us, only smaller," spluttered Mr. Henderson. "And you only see them when you believe in them," he continued, defensively. Our smothered laughter was now at him rather than with him. We were gradually becoming aware that we were now facing a teacher who vehemently believed that fairies lived at the bottom of his garden. He had suggested that they died when snotty-nosed children like us denied their existence and we were guilty of having slaughtered lots of our wee Pollok fairies, his friends, and he was quite clearly quite outraged. His rage and our discomfort were only appeased and released when at last the bell went for home time. We never saw Mr. Henderson again at our school. We never fully understood what had happened to him that day. Our parents thought that he was having a joke and playing a trick on us. But we knew that Mr. Henderson had not been trying to be funny. We were convinced that he had 'gone off with the fairies' and we supposed that he would enjoy that state of mind, in the knowledge that he had the comfort and friendship of those of his wee friends who had survived our onslaught and our skepticism.



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The Scottish Banner speaks to Andy Scott Scotland's man of steel

Images courtesy of Andy Scott.



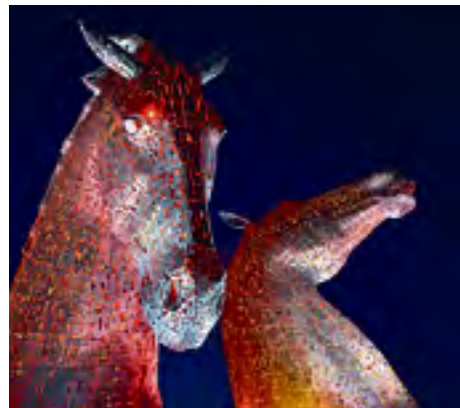
Andy Scott is a sculptor, artist and has a Honorary Doctorate in Engineering, whose work can be found across the UK and internationally. Scott is behind some of the Scotland's most iconic landmarks; the Kelpies, the Heavy Horse, Arria in Cumbernauld, the Ibrox Disaster Memorial, Ravenscraig's Steelman, and Rise in Glasgow's Harbour. Andy took the time to speak to the Scottish Banner's Sean Cairney on creating larger than life artwork, one of Scotland's top new visitor attractions and how it all fits together.



SC: Andy thank you for taking the time to speak to *the Scottish Banner*. 2016 is the year of Innovation, Architecture and Design in Scotland. As an artist and innovator yourself how important do you feel it is for Scotland to shine a light on its outstanding built heritage, and its thriving, internationally acclaimed creative industries sector?

AS: Vital. We excel in the creative industries: architecture, design, theatre, literature and of course visual art. It is essential that government agencies get behind these disciplines and celebrate, advocate and proclaim them to the world.

SC: You graduated from the renowned



Glasgow School of Art. How did it impact you when the school was damaged by fire in 2014 and how important is it for you to play a creative role in developing artwork for a modern Scotland?

AS: The fire was like seeing a great old friend in mortal danger. It was extremely emotional for everyone who had been to the School, but what struck me was the sense of loss and grief which the whole city of Glasgow felt. It showed to me how much the city loves not only the Mackintosh legacy, but the pride it feels in "our" art school. I will never forget the terrible smell of smoke which fell across the city on the day of the fire and lasted over the following few days. A real sense of loss. Luckily the fire service in the city did an incredible job and restoration is soon to begin. As for my own role, to be honest I don't think of it in those terms. I just do my job, and do it the best I can. Ironically my work could probably be described as "old-fashioned". I make things with my hands, on my own

(usually) in a big studio. Most artists these days are more project managers than craftsmen or artisans. So I don't see myself in any way as part of the art world in modern Scotland and couldn't be further removed from the contemporary art scene. Where my work does play a role is in the communities which they serve, taking art to real people outside of the galleries and consultants, and creating a genuine sense of pride and ownership. That is something I take very seriously and am very proud of.

SC: The sculptures you have created really seem to tell a story and connect to the history of local areas. How important is it for you to connect on these levels with your work?

AS: Essential. I absolutely believe that artists should be able to express themselves creatively. However I also believe that if an artist is placing his or her work in the public realm, that work should serve the widest possible audience. My method of doing this is to research the area and find a trigger, a narrative, historical fact, heraldic symbol, whatever it might be that triggers a creative response and leads to a striking artwork. The public might not immediately realise the subtlety of meaning, and simply see a nice big horse or a four-armed woman. But on investigation the public will find serious research and academic rigour behind each artwork. The danger however is in compromise in appeasing the tastes and expectations of the communities and local representatives. It can be a fraught process and looking back some of my works perhaps do their job better than others.

SC: Your work is certainly not hidden from the public and is quite accessible. How does it make you feel that people simply passing by or driving home can take in your art on any given day?

AS: Proud. Many artists don't consider that for most folks, life has challenges. Job, kids, schools, walk the dog, pay the mortgage, etc. etc... They simply don't have the time or energy or pause to ponder an artist's hidden meanings and esoteric symbolism. To paraphrase the poet Adrian Mitchell, most people ignore art because most art ignores people. I prefer to make artworks which, as I said above, have an immediacy, a "riff of recognition". And, if they pass it every day and begin to wonder "why does that horse look in that direction?..." or "why is that four-armed woman called Arria" they might begin to develop a deeper appreciation of my

Everyone now forgets that we made The Kelpies happen during the worst economic recession ever, and that took a lot of commitment when all they had was me saying "trust me, if you build them they will come".... And they have, almost two million visitors. Not bad for a town of 50,000 folks.

efforts. The very least I can do is to elevate the mundane and to create a sense of place, of pride in an area.

SC: You specialise in striking landmark artworks and work using predominately steel and bronze. Can you tell why you prefer this medium and materials over others?

AS: They're very different materials to work with, that's for sure. Steel is an unforgiving material, but I enjoy bringing it to life in the sort of three-dimensional mosaic technique that I use. Taking dozens of lengths of steel bar and transforming it into a dynamic equine or human form is very rewarding. Clay is much easier to manipulate and allows, or encourages, a more rigorous and detailed approach to the subject matter... or it does for me anyway. When the clay is then cast into bronze, it becomes a very durable artwork and has the kudos of a millennia-old artmaking process. In most of my commissions I need to consider the longevity and maintenance of the artworks and both these materials satisfy all of those concerns.

SC: With big artworks must come big logistics? Can you tell us just what goes into something into something as amazing as The Kelpies from conception to Scottish icon and attraction?

AS: It would take a book to answer that question with regards The Kelpies... which is why my wife Hanneke and I wrote our book about that project. All my projects need cranes and trucks and structural engineers and often many more consultants. However The Kelpies were in a different league. At that scale it becomes a construction and engineering challenge as much as an artwork. The key ingredient, above all the logistics, engineering, calculations, etc. etc.... was a "can-do" attitude. It demanded a very un-Scottish positivity (!) to pull it together and had its fair share of doubters. It demanded partnerships between diverse groups and professionals, including politicians, most of whom were very unused to building this kind of very unusual structure. It took some serious effort for my colleagues at Falkirk Council and Scottish Canals to stick with the project. The UK National Lottery saw through their funding pledges when things got difficult. Everyone now forgets that we made The Kelpies happen during the worst economic recession ever, and that took a lot of commitment when all they had was me saying "trust me, if you build them they will come".... And they have, almost two million visitors. Not bad for a town of 50,000 folks.

SC: I have never seen a photo that truly gives you a full perspective of the vast size of The Kelpies. Just how exciting has it been for you to create the UK's tallest equine sculptures using 300 tonnes of steel? And can

you tell us more about the story of the Kelpies and is there any story about the creation that our readers may not be aware of?

AS: It was a pretty amazing thing to be part of, that's for sure. To see something that I'd dreamt up and sketched ten years previously become an international icon for my own country is a very unusual experience. As I said, I could go on for hours with tales of their evolution and construction. They've brought me some unique experiences.... It's not often I'm flown over my sculptures in a helicopter for a BBC documentary, or introduced to Royalty... Seen them illuminated by French pyrotechnic companies... Seen and heard a full pipe band play inside one of The Kelpies... Seen them rendered small scale in Lego... and seen them spray-painted onto a customised big rig truck... to name but a few.

On a social note, the sense of transformation and pride in the Falkirk/Grangemouth area is almost tangible. People are very proud to have them. They've brought about new developments, hotel stays in the area have gone up dramatically, local attractions have benefitted, and hundreds of jobs have been created by the shine off The Kelpies. Better than any of that, it gives little Falkirk an amazing clout against the big guns of Glasgow and Edinburgh!

SC: And finally Andy, The Kelpies certainly are one of Scotland's great modern day attractions. Did you expect the international acclaim and interest they have caused? And how proud are you to have been behind one of Scotland's great new tourist highlights?

AS: Very proud indeed. I wrote in one of the first reports that they had the potential to become international icons, so to see them used in promotional campaigns by both VisitScotland and the GREAT Britain tourism initiative is very rewarding. I knew they would be an amazing spectacle if they could be built to my vision.... I wouldn't say I expected the acclaim, but I certainly hoped it would work out well. It is



important for me to stress that I am only the front-man of a huge team who made the Kelpies a reality. Sure, I thought them up, and designed the equine forms, but without dozens of extremely clever colleagues, skilled craftsmen and dedicated advocates they would never have happened.

They've won numerous awards and accolades, from the Saltire Society, UK Steel Industry and many others and even won me two Honorary Doctorates. I accept all of them for the team as much as myself, and am deeply honoured to do so on behalf of everyone involved. They've cropped up in the most unusual places: German & Dutch steel magazines, American, British, French, New Zealand and even Egyptian horse magazines, dozens if not hundreds of newspaper articles. *French Elle*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Cathay Pacific in-flight magazine*, *Easy Jet in-flight magazine*, *Lighting magazines*, *tourism brochures*, dozens and dozens of products and merchandising (not all of which are legal!)

They're used as backdrops by the BBC, they've been used in TV adverts, they're even featuring in new web film by Ferrari sports cars. They were a backdrop for a line-up of vintage Ford Mustangs, and at the more obscure end of the spectrum they made the front cover of *Camper-Van Monthly* and have been recreated more than once as wedding cakes (seriously)! The tenth-scale maquettes still tour the country to exhibitions and events, acting as ambassadors for the big sculptures and proving to be very successful sculptures in their own right. They've been to Chicago, Indiana and New York and right now my colleagues at Falkirk Council are negotiating to tour them to Australia. I'll be honest, behind all of that it's often been a very stressful, upsetting, demanding and difficult project, and it continues to be challenging. But it's been rewarding in so many ways it more than makes up for the negatives. It's been an amazing trip. They're guaranteed for 130 years, at least. Long after I'm gone and forgotten, the Kelpies will still be there, standing tall over the Forth & Clyde Canal.

Aberdeen Highland Games



Competitors from the heavy events competition.



The Tamworth Pipe Band were runners up on the day for the traditional piping and drumming.



Aberdeen Highland Games President Charles Cooke and Lachlan Ian MacDonald, High Commissioner of Clan Donald Australia, the 2016 Games Chieftain.

The town of Aberdeen, NSW again hosted another fantastic Highland games in the Upper Hunter Valley in July. The Federal election did not deter the Scots as a large crowds once again enjoyed a variety of events such as pipe bands from across the state, heavy events, Scottish dancers, food, stalls and more. Held on the first Saturday of July each year at Jefferson Park this event has grown to be one of Australia's largest Scottish festivals. The hard working committee continues to produce a fantastic family friendly event which celebrates Scotland and Scottish-Australians. For those who have yet to attend this great event mark your diary Saturday July 1st 2017, which is also Tartan Day.

For further details see: www.aberdeenhighlandgames.com



Illawarra
Scottish Fair
Sunday 16 October 2016



The Dandaloo Hotel Sports Ground
336 Kanahooka Road, Brownsville
(Entry through Hotel carpark)
Gates open at 8.30 am

- * Pipe Band Contest * Highland Music Heavy Events *
- * Scottish & Irish Dancing * Haggis Hurling *
- * Slide & Food Stalls (Scottish Food) *
- * Free Childrens Events (Prizes, Races & Face Painting) *
- * Massed Bands (approx 3.00 pm) *

Enquiries to Alison on: 0414 928 016
Presented by the Illawarra Pipe Band

By: Derek Stewart



The first modern pilgrimage to Whithorn

The cradle of Christianity in Scotland

Derek at Whithorn Priory.

I have always found the concept of pilgrimages fascinating – combining history, architecture, and spirituality all together within a footpath. I had previously completed a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela (Way of St. James) in northern Spain in 2007 – so was interested in walking the Whithorn Way when I found out about it in Feb 2016. The Whithorn Way was recently put together by the Whithorn Way Steering Group, who held their first meeting on 7th August 2014, launching their idea to re-create and promote a long distance footpath from Glasgow to Whithorn. The group formed out of the “Paisley Abbey 850” committee (commemorating the anniversary of the abbey’s founding), who had made a 127 mile pilgrimage walk to Whithorn in eleven sections, setting out in August 2012 and completing in Sept 2013. The experience of the trail gave the group a desire to leave a lasting legacy; and to develop the walk into something more permanent. Setting up a new committee they added an extra 13 mile section from Glasgow to Paisley onto the route.

The group is interested in promoting faith tourism and long distance footpaths which follow the ancient religious routes of medieval Scotland. Working alongside the Whithorn Trust (formed in 1986 to interpret the archaeology and history of Whithorn), it is hoped the trail will become a well-recognised and walked route.

St. Ninian

Whithorn is known as the cradle of Christianity in Scotland – the home of Scotland’s first saint, St. Ninian. Ninian died in 432 and was buried in his church, where miracles attributed to him brought fame, and a whole tourist industry developed around pilgrimages, bringing prosperity to the town. The Reformation in 1560 ended the town’s importance, with St. Ninian’s shrine being destroyed and pilgrimages being outlawed in 1591. The restoring of Whithorn’s long heritage would be a noble project indeed. Pilgrimages don’t have to be a religious journey; they can be to a person’s grave (such as Graceland and Elvis Presley), or to the source of a river (such as the Ganges) or a mountain top. It just has to

be something special and unique to that person. I am not particularly religious, and have found the experiences of being a pilgrim to be of a deep spiritual nature, enabling an understanding of the self and individual truth. As a hobby I do Living History re-enactment, which gave me the idea to do the walk in 13th century clothes. I wanted to get a sense of what it was like for those who followed the pilgrim route back in Middle-Ages. I contacted the Steering Group in March on my idea, and received an enthusiastic reply – they gave me their full support.

The walk was now a reality. There have been pilgrimages to Whithorn since the Reformation, a revival occurred in the late nineteenth century when the 3rd Marquis of Bute reinstated the traditional processions on Saint Ninian’s Day – 16 September. In 1924 700 pilgrims travelled by train and charabanc to Whithorn, converging on St. Ninian’s Cave for a service. The success of the endeavour resulted in the making of the pilgrimage an annual event, with subsequent pilgrimages arranged by the Diocese of Galloway for the last Sunday in August. In 1997 a proper way-marked route was opened – the “Whithorn Pilgrim Way”, a 25 mile long trail from Glenluce to Whithorn, developed by the Whithorn Pilgrimage Trust.

Pilgrim’s passport

I would however, be the first pilgrim to complete the new Whithorn Way. From the onset, I wanted to not just be a modern pilgrim, but to be a real medieval pilgrim – to try and get under the skin of the medieval mind, and obtain a glimpse of those who walked the route 500 years previously. My main goal was to carry as little as possible, and to have no tent or coat. Shoes were a problem, lacking a heel and with no socks. They even caused the original pilgrims difficulties, with King James IV being held up for two days in 1507 to have his shoes resoled. I would pack along a pair of modern suede shoes, and wear socks. I bought the shoes from a Living History supplier, and made the remainder of my kit myself from sourcing patterns online. Using army surplus blankets, I made a cloak, hood, tunic and hose – all hand sewn. I also packed along

a wooden bowl, cutlery, gaming dice, and maps (kindly provided by Sylvia Jenks as the route is not way-marked yet). To make the pilgrimage official, a pilgrim’s passport was needed which medieval walkers required to prove their credentials. This would allow the pilgrim access to church facilities along the way, to obtain food and lodgings – and to distinguish them from the vagabonds and beggars of the time.

Copying this tradition the Steering Group produced a new passport, which I hoped to test out. As an extra touch, I wrote a letter to the Vatican explaining my mission to the pope, asking for a safe journey. I was not expecting a reply – and it came as a great surprise when in May I received a letter from the pope’s secretary saying that Pope Francis sends a blessing and will remember me in his prayers for my journey. I was now an official pilgrim.

A 13th century pilgrim striding through modern south west Scotland

I began the trail on Monday 20 June, arriving 9:30am at the starting point of Glasgow Cathedral, where I was met by 5 members of the Steering Group to see me off. After getting the first stamp in my passport, I proudly strode out on my expected journey, feeling slightly like a character from the Lord of the Rings. Day one was all spent in a built up area, despite this the history of the area made up for the lack of countryside. I was in the cradle of the Stewarts, and being a Stewart, it gave the walk a dimension of a pilgrimage within a pilgrimage. I ended my day at Paisley Abbey, where the minister kindly put on cakes and sandwiches. When it came to sleeping, I wanted again to be as authentic as possible. The original pilgrims would have either used the hospitals attached to churches, or slept under a tree rolled up in their cloak. I intended to do the same, packing an extra blanket and a small foam roll mat to lie upon for when outdoors.

During the journey I slept out three times under the stars, to mixed effect, bothered by slugs and the noise of rain pattering down onto my cloak keeping me awake. The other six nights were spent indoors, finding hospitality at local churches and community halls, much

as a medieval pilgrim would have done. Life on the trail was reduced to the simple basics, with the day’s only big decisions being where to sleep and what to eat. Food were possible, was kept to what was available in the 13th century; fruit, bread, cheese, and oatcakes – and water was the only drink. The reaction to a 13th century pilgrim striding through modern south west Scotland was very positive. I had numerous conversations with locals on who I was and my destination. When walking through Govan, I was mistaken for “Gandalf”, and some kids commented on my walking stick – “Nice staff”. When stopping to have my water bottle filled at a Chinese take-away in Lochwinnoch, I was mistaken for a “Shaolin Monk”. And when passing through Irvine, approaching kids saluted me. Day seven was my first spell of walking in the rain, which descended at noon in a penetrating light drizzle. Climbing out of Barrhill I wrapped my cloak around and pulled the hood up, which surprisingly was effective in keeping the rain out. There was one negative effect; the cloak became sodden and trebled in weight. It was at times like this that I could understand how the average life expectancy of a medieval person was 31.5 years. The pain and fatigue are all part of the pilgrimage – the more hardships the better. All negative experiences are tests to be overcome.

Combines history with some of Scotland’s finest scenery

On day nine at 2pm, I arrived at Whithorn, welcomed at the town’s entrance by Gerard Murdoch of the Steering Group. I was then led to Whithorn Primary school, where I gave a talk to eighty children on my pilgrimage. An hour later I was approaching Whithorn Priory. I could feel a thousand years of history watching me, and the commending spirits of previous pilgrims patting me on the back. A guide led me into the cathedral’s crypt, and into an empty barrel vaulted room. This was journey’s end, which once housed the tomb of the saint. With pilgrimages the reaching of a destination is only one part the experience, the journey is at the centre of pilgrimage. The centuries of faith and devotion can be felt, those that came before can be imagined – from saints and sinners to monks & monarchs. I had my own quiet moment alone, to take in the sacred dust of the enclosed space – an area that meant so much, and to so many people – for a thousand years.

A relaxing and satisfying night was spent sleeping in the manse of Whithorn New Parish Church. Having explored Whithorn, my pilgrimage was not yet over – I had one last goal before the journey could be called complete. On day ten, I set off for Glasserton Beach, and the cave of St. Ninian, which he used for quiet prayer and to find solitude. Looking back, the Whithorn Way is a superb new walk, which combines history with some of Scotland’s finest scenery. In today’s secular society there is still space for the sacred – and it is reassuring to see our spiritual dimension hasn’t been lost and in many ways is becoming even more interesting to people. The future of St. Ninian and Whithorn’s legacy looks secure, with the long and sacred history of Whithorn continuing to attract visitors and pilgrims today. With experiences that are eternal – and will hopefully continue to flourish for another thousand years.

Perthshire Amber Festival returns for 2016



Gaelic superstar Julie Fowlis.



Dougie MacLean.

Perthshire Amber – The Dougie MacLean Festival returns for a 12th year of fantastic music, first-class talent and a packed programme for festival fans. Scotland’s award-winning autumnal music festival, which attracts global audiences, has already sold-out four of the concerts and festival organisers are predicting another successful year.

Dougie MacLean and Friends

Renowned Scottish singer songwriter Dougie MacLean, who is the musical director and founder of the festival, will be joined by a stellar mix of musical talent, including Julie Fowlis, who’ll perform in the atmospheric Murthly Castle Chapel and Perth Concert Hall, Duncan Chisholm, who takes to the stage in the majestic Dunkeld Cathedral and Castle Menzies, as well as festival favourite Tim Edey who’ll charm audiences at the Crannog on Loch Tay and other venues. Cilla Fisher and Archie Trezise, of Singing Kettle fame will also be joining the all-star cast at the ‘Dougie MacLean and Friends’ concert, as well as Artie performing ‘Artie’s Tartan Tales’ in the Wee Festival Hall.

This year the popular-festival, which attracted global audiences from 27 countries in 2015, has distilled the length of the festival from ten days to four, as organisers have taken the decision to condense and refine the festival, whilst still maintaining the popular mix of concerts, sessions and community events. The festival’s opening concert will feature the hugely talented Siobhan Wilson from Glasgow described by *The Scotsman* (Jan 2016) as “Mesmerising... a hugely exciting talent”. Siobhan follows in the footsteps of Rachel Sermanni (2014), Bella Hardy (2015) who both performed at opening concerts in their respective years and have both gone on to achieve great critical acclaim.

Caledonia Cantata

Dougie MacLean’s *Caledonia Cantata* will be a highlight (Friday 4th November) as he takes to the stage with strings and Celtic musicians and his wonderful

melodies and compelling songs. Then on Saturday 5th November Dougie MacLean and Friends promises lively collaborations and a very entertaining evening of music. Both concerts take place at the prestigious Perth Concert Hall and tickets can be bought from the festival box office or directly from the Concert Hall. The festival is committed to supporting emerging talent and the excellent Cabaret Amber hosted by Gina Macleod and Alan Jordan will run in the early evenings and the ever-popular Open Mic will take place on Saturday and Sunday afternoons in the Wee Festival Hall, Amber Central (Royal Hotel, Dunkeld).

A unique and really quite moving event

The fantastic Decorated Wheelbarrow Parade returns to the streets of Dunkeld and after the success of the Amber Autumn Picnic (which attracted crowds of 2,000 last year) will return and includes a free concert in the beautiful setting of Stanley Hill (just tucked in behind the main street in Dunkeld). The Pub Sessions will continue with the pubs in Dunkeld and surrounding villages hosting sessions of free music and new for 2016 are the Café Concerts, which will be intimate music concerts in the late morning or early afternoon in relaxed settings throughout Perthshire. Jennifer MacLean, Festival Director said: “We’re delighted once again with our line-up for 2016, and I’m amazed by just how much inspiring music and celebration you can cram into four days! So pop the dates in your diary...especially that special Sunday in Dunkeld with the Wheelbarrow Parade and Amber Autumn Picnic and Concert ...it’s a unique and really quite moving event. I’m sure all our visitors will enjoy the sights and sounds of autumnal Perthshire and we look forward to welcoming new festival-goers and familiar friendly faces back to Dunkeld and to all our other special venues in stunning autumnal Perthshire.”

For more information and tickets, phone the box office on +44 (0)1350724281 or go to the website www.perthshireamber.com.

2016
Highland Gathering
and the
PERTH KILT RUN

Sunday 18 September, 9am – 5pm
Minnawarra Park, Armadale
www.perthkiltrun.com.au

PERTH KILT RUN
9am Check-in/registrations • 10.30am Run begins

- Fun run for the largest Kilt Run World Record
- 2.5km Classic Run or 5km Warrior Challenge
- Group discount available for Groups of 10 or more
- Visit perthkiltrun.com.au to register

FESTIVAL
11am - 4pm

- Live music • Highland Games • Pipe Bands
- Childrens Activities • Scottish Food & Craft Stalls

This event proudly brought to you by the City of Armadale
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CITY OF **Armadale**



Photos courtesy of Glasgow Life.

Huge crowds watch the 2016
World Pipe Band Championships
in Glasgow



Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band from Northern Ireland has been named the World Pipe Band Champions for 2016. They fought off stiff competition from Inverary and District who finished second and St Laurence O’Toole from the Republic of Ireland who were third. The 2016 event was the 30th year in a row Glasgow has hosted the World Pipe Band Championships. 234 Pipe Bands brought around 8000

pipers and drummers to Glasgow Green to compete at the World Pipe Band Championships. Over 35,000 people attended the event over 2 days. In total 15 nations were represented at The Worlds as they are affectionately known including bands from Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Canada, England, USA, New Zealand, Australia, Denmark, Switzerland, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Belgium, the Netherlands and Scotland.

Pinnacle of Pipe Band competition

The World Pipe Band Championships are a unique celebration of Scottish culture featuring outstanding musicians who have practised for years to reach the pinnacle of Pipe Band competition. The event has been associated with Glasgow for nearly 70 years. Ian Embelton, Chief Executive of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, said: “We have enjoyed an incredible two

days of thrilling competition from Pipe Bands who have committed so much time, energy and talent in pursuit of the ultimate prize. The planning for next year is already underway and I am looking forward to seeing what we can do to build further on this fantastic occasion.” The Lord Provost of Glasgow and Chieftain of the World Pipe Band Championships, Sadie Docherty, said: “There is nothing like the sights and sounds of Glasgow Green during the World



Pipe Band Championships and the city remains proud to welcome the event and so many pipers and drummers to the city every summer. It has been a wonderful championships full of outstanding performances and more than a little drama. Congratulations

to everyone who took part." As well as the opportunity to enjoy world class performances, the World Pipe Band Championships hosted Highland Dancing competitions, a Highland Games, a kids zone area, food village and traders.

The World Pipe Band Championships are a unique celebration of Scottish culture featuring outstanding musicians who have practised for years to reach the pinnacle of Pipe Band competition.



The World Pipe Band Championships will return to Glasgow Green on 11 and 12 August 2017 and in 2018 will be held on 17 and 18 August. Glasgow will host the World Pipe Band Championships until 2021. The event is delivered by Glasgow Life on behalf of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association and Glasgow City Council and is supported by EventScotland and Glasgow City Marketing Bureau.

2016 WORLD PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

Grade 1

- 1st Field Marshal Montgomery (Northern Ireland)
- 2nd Inveraray & District (Scotland)
- 3rd St Laurence O'Toole (Ireland)
- 4th Shotts & Dykehead (Scotland)
- 5th Scottish Power (Scotland)
- 6th Police Scotland Fife (Scotland)
- 7th Simon Fraser University (Canada)
- 8th Spirit of Scotland (Scotland)
- 9th Greater Glasgow Police (Scotland)
- 10th 78th Fraser Highlanders (Canada)
- 11th Manawatu Scottish (New Zealand)
- 12th New Zealand Police (New Zealand)

Grade 2

- 1st Johnstone (Scotland)
- 2nd Police Service Northern Ireland (Northern Ireland)
- 3rd Lomond & Clyde (Scotland)
- 4th Bagad Brieg (Brittany)
- 5th Glasgow Skye (Scotland)
- 6th Buchan Peterson (Scotland)

Grade 3A

- 1st Worcester Kilties (USA)
- 2nd Aughtinobier (Northern Ireland)
- 3rd Kintyre Schools (Scotland)
- 4th Portlethen & District (Scotland)
- 5th Cameron Highlanders of San Diego (USA)
- 6th Vale of Atholl (Scotland)

Grade 3B

- 1st Perth Metro (Australia)
- 2nd Wallacestone & District (Scotland)
- 3rd St. Joseph's (Ireland)
- 4th Prestonpans Royal British Legion (Scotland)
- 5th Bothwell Castle (Scotland)
- 6th 2622 (Highland) Squadron R.A.F (Scotland)

Juvenile

- 1st George Watson's College (Scotland)
- 2nd Dollar Academy (Scotland)
- 3rd George Heriot's School (Scotland)
- 4th Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia (Scotland)
- 5th West Lothian Schools (Scotland)
- 6th Preston Lodge High School (Scotland)

Grade 4A

- 1st Ullapool & District (Scotland)
- 2nd Cleland Memorial (Northern Ireland)
- 3rd Portavogie (Northern Ireland)
- 4th Burntisland & District (Scotland)
- 5th Tullylagan (Northern Ireland)
- 6th Cullybackey (Northern Ireland)

Grade 4B

- 1st Johnstone (Scotland)
- 2nd Clontibret (Ireland)
- 3rd St Marys, Derrytrasna (Northern Ireland)
- 4th Lochryan (Scotland)
- 5th Davidson's Mains & District (Scotland)
- 6th Gilnahirk (Scotland)

Novice A

- 1st North Lanarkshire Schools (Scotland)
- 2nd Dollar Academy (Scotland)
- 3rd Oban High School (Scotland)
- 4th George Watson's College (Scotland)
- 5th Scots College (Australia)
- 6th George Heriot's School (Scotland)

Novice B

- 1st Troon Boys Brigade (Scotland)
- 2nd Bucksburn & District (Scotland)
- 3rd Sgoil Lionacleit (Scotland)
- 4th Lochgelly High School (Scotland)
- 5th North Lanarkshire Schools Development (Scotland)
- 6th MacKenzie Caledonian (Scotland)

IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Edinburgh tops the charts for travel ease. Photo: VisitScotland.

Scottish cities rank high for travel ease

Edinburgh and Glasgow have been ranked among the top cities in the UK to travel in. Researchers rated 33 cities across the UK in terms of travelling locally and also travelling from, taking into account attitudes towards public transport. Edinburgh ranked the UK's easiest city to travel within, scoring 6.55 out of 10, with Glasgow coming fifth, scoring 6.37 out of ten. Stirling was the best-performing Scottish city in making journeys to further afield, finishing fifth with a score of six out of ten. Inverness finished eighth, scoring 5.94 out of ten.

York took the top spot as the easiest city to conduct a long journey from, scoring 6.21 out of ten. Researchers for ESP Group's easy travel index found that 53% of 3331 people quizzed in the 33 cities claimed public transport does not meet their needs. People over the age of 60 showed a strong preference for the car, with 70% of the group choosing to drive locally and car ownership being the highest among the age group. The easy travel index also showed clear differences between younger and older generations, with people aged 16 to 20 worrying the most when travelling. Almost half (47%) worried about getting lost, 37% were concerned about personal safety and 36% stressed about not having the right documents. Dr Steve Cassidy, director of future transport at ESP Group, said: "With over half of the British public of the view that public transport does not meet their needs, and some common problems needing to be addressed, there are many opportunities for cities to improve their performance. We will be repeating this research on an annual basis and I look forward to seeing some of those cities towards the bottom of the easy travel index improve their rankings."

Iron Age bones found on Orkney

Archaeologists have released an image showing where human remains were found at an Iron Age site in Orkney. A lower jaw bone was found centrally placed in a large whalebone vertebra within the ruins of a broch at The Cairns in South Ronaldsay.

Brochs, also known as Atlantic roundhouses, were fortified homes built in the Scottish islands and Highlands. The find, which also includes two human teeth and animal remains, were made by The Cairns Project. Work had been done to the whale vertebra to shape into "a vessel" to hold the human jaw bone, said the University of the Highlands and Islands, which is working on the project along with others including organisation Orkneyjar. The Cairns site director, Martin Carruthers, said: "Initially we could see that there were some red deer antler points projecting out of the deposit surrounding the whalebone, but these were revealed to be almost full length antlers. They were laid out snug against each other and the southern side of the whalebone vessel, almost cradling it."

"It now looks like the whole event that led to the deposition of the human jaw involved quite a formal laying out of the various objects - the whalebone, the deer antlers, a large saddle quern, and stone mortar, as well as portions of a juvenile pig and a juvenile cattle vertebra. It's quite an interesting little assemblage of materials drawn together in a moment of reflection on the part of those who put them in the ground, shortly before abandoning the broch and packing it with rubble inside and out."

He added: "Perhaps there will be one last surprise before we lift the whalebone." Careful excavations of where the discovery was made and the wider archaeological site are still ongoing.

Author claims Scots outnumbered not out powered at Culloden



Jacobite forces were outnumbered but not outgunned on the battlefield at Culloden, according to fresh research that claims to reveal the truth behind the downfall of Bonnie Prince Charlie's army. Glasgow University professor Murray Pittock has studied written evidence, battlefield archaeology and weapons surrender from the battle on Culloden Moor in April 1746 and claims swords, not muskets, handed victory to the government troops. His research flies in the face of the popular perception that a primitive claymore-wielding Jacobite army was beaten by the musket power and cannon fire of the British government redcoats. "Arguably no battle out of living memory is remembered so powerfully and so falsely," says Professor Pittock. Crushing the caricature of the Jacobite forces as undisciplined

'noble primitives', Professor Pittock shows they were in fact professional in formation and well-armed. Culloden, he suggests, is a classic case of history being written by the victors. One of Professor Pittock's central aims in research is to find new evidence to redefine debates based on misremembered pasts. "Interrogating memory is very important to my work. Memory governs the behaviour and expectation of individuals and societies in areas far removed from the thing remembered. The memory of Culloden is critical to how we remember what we think we know about Scotland and Britain. Everyone has a point of view about Culloden: that point of view is often independent of the evidence." He said: "On Culloden Moor what was, in some ways, the last Scottish army sought to restore the Stuarts to a multi-kingdom monarchy more aligned to European politics than colonial struggle. They were in many essentials a regular army. Outnumbered but not outgunned, cavalry proved their downfall. My own archival research and the battlefield archaeology of the site shows that it was not British ball that brought down kilted swordsmen as much as British dragoon blades that cut down Jacobite musketeers. Culloden as it happened is in fact much more interesting than Culloden as it is remembered."

William Wallace statue in Glasgow unveiled

Glasgow's first monument to Scottish hero William Wallace has been unveiled near the Necropolis. The monument commemorates The Battle of the Bell o' the Brae in 1297. The Necropolis site was chosen because it is close to where Wallace took over Glasgow Castle after ousting an English garrison of 1000 men. The Glasgow William Wallace monument was unveiled by The Society of William Wallace who have been campaigning for a Glasgow tribute since 2009.

New harbour for Barra

A new £1.7m harbour has opened in Barra in what will be a big boost to the island's main economy, fishing. Three new shellfish trawlers have already been purchased by the island's fishing fleet on the back on the decision to build the sheltered haven on the north coast of the island. Fishing remains a main source of income on the island which has 1,100 residents and the new harbour will safeguard a local fleet essential to the long term future of fish processing and exporting from Barra. The Barratlantic seafood factory provided the site for the harbour. Manager Donald Maclean said: "We've been waiting for this since a disaster in 2005 when there were three boats lost here. That was a big blow. Let's hope it's a big turning point in the fishing industry in Barra. There's three new boats bought in the last four months so there's 11 boats now working out of Barra, which is a huge achievement for a small island. Things are looking up and let's hope that in years to come we'll see more boats coming in, securing more jobs on the island and at sea." The Isles of Barra and Vatersay are the most Southerly inhabited islands in the Outer Hebrides and the most Westerly in the UK.

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

1 - Death of St Giles, patron saint of Edinburgh (and Elgin). **714**

1 - The sole remaining gas street lamp in Glasgow was lit for the last time. **1971**

2 - Death of engineer, road, bridge and canal builder Thomas Telford. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. **1834**

2 - Bill Shankly, arguably the greatest football manager ever, was born in Glenbuck, Ayrshire. His early career saw him winning seven caps for Scotland as a professional footballer. At the age of 33, Shankly was approaching the end of his playing days, so when the 1946-47 season brought professional football back post-war, Shankly embarked on a new career as a manager, he was appointed chairman of Liverpool in 1959. At this time Liverpool was languishing in the Second Division. Shankly turned this situation around and elevated Liverpool to the top of the league, the envy of all other clubs.. Shankly died of a heart attack in 1981. **1913**

3 - Prince Charles Edward Stuart proclaimed his father as King James VIII of Scotland at Perth. **1745**

3 - Rioting on the streets of Glasgow, as weavers expressed their anger at wage cuts. Workers burned their looms in the streets, and bricks were thrown at magistrates and soldiers, in protest at the city manufacturers' proposal to reduce the scale of wages. The disorder resulted in soldiers opening fire on the insurgents and six people were killed. **1797**

4 - The last of the famous green and yellow tramcars ran in Glasgow. The final scheduled tram ran from Dalmuir to Auchenshuggle in the city's East End, and marked the demise of a transportation system dating from August 1872. More than 200,000 Glaswegians turned out to bid a poignant farewell to the trams. **1962**



4 - The Forth Road Bridge was opened to the public. Construction had begun in 1958, and at 6,156 feet long, with a centre span of 3300 feet, the suspension bridge spanning the River Forth at South Queensferry outside Edinburgh was the longest in Europe at that time. **1964**

5 - John Home, the Scottish playwright, historian and minister, died. Home outraged the Church when his verse tragedy, Douglas, enjoyed a successful run in Edinburgh after its first performance in 1757. **1808**

6 - The Earl of Mar unfurled the standard of the "Old Pretender" in Braemar at the start of the first Jacobite Uprising. **1715**

7 - Sir Simon Fraser, the "Scottish Patriot", who fought alongside Wallace and Robert the Bruce, was executed by the English and his head displayed in London alongside that of Wallace. **1306**

7 - The birth of Henry Campbell Bannerman, the British Prime Minister. Born in Glasgow and educated at Glasgow and Cambridge, Bannerman became the Liberal MP for Stirling in 1868, a position he held until his death. He climbed the parliamentary ranks, before becoming leader of the Liberal Party in 1899. Bannerman became Prime Minister in 1905 following Balfour's resignation, and led his party to a landslide victory in the 1906 general election. **1836**

8 - The hanging and beheading of John Baird and Andrew Hardie in Stirling, following the Battle of Bonnymuir in April. The Radicals, who were on strike from the weaving communities in outrage at decreased wages, had marched from Glasgow towards the Carron Iron Works in Falkirk. **1820**

9 - James IV and the flower of Scotland's nobility were killed in battle at Flodden Field, near Branxton, in the English county of Northumberland. **1513**

9 - Mary Queen of Scots was crowned in the security of Stirling Castle. Although only six days old at the time, Mary's coronation took place in the castle chapel following the death of her father, James V. **1543**



10 - HRH Duke of York opened the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow. **1897**

10 - The Scots were defeated by the English at the Battle of Pinkie Cleugh, or Falside, near Edinburgh. The battle was sparked by the "Rough Wooing"; the English demands that the ten-year-old Edward VI should marry Mary Queen of Scots, aged five. The military campaign by Henry VIII on the Borders followed the reneged agreement by the Scots Parliament that the two crowns would be united by marriage. The battle was fought at Pinkie Cleugh (cleugh meaning narrow glen in Gaelic) outside Musselburgh and can be regarded as the first "modern" battle on British soil. **1547**

11 - Battle of Stirling Bridge, Wallace (as famously portrayed by Mel Gibson in *Braveheart*) defeats Edward I. **1297**

11 - The Referendum on Devolution in Scotland which approved the creation of a new Scottish Parliament. In the 1990s, the Labour Party had revived the idea of devolution and, on their return to power in 1997, the first moves were made. The referendum received an overwhelming "Yes" vote in favour of establishing a Scottish assembly with tax-raising powers, with 74.3 per cent voting for a Scottish parliament and 63.5 per cent in favour of it having tax-raising powers. The Scottish Parliament was formally opened by the Queen on 1 July 1999, with Labour politician Donald Dewar invested as the first minister, at the helm of a Labour-Liberal Democrat coalition government. **1997**

12 - Jacobites defeated government forces at Battle of Sheriffmuir. **1715**

12 - The death of William McNab, the curator of the Edinburgh's Royal Botanic Garden. McNab was one of the greatest of 19th century Scottish gardeners, responsible for reviving the Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh, elevating it from a state of neglect into one of the world's great plant collections. **1848**

13 - Battle of Aberdeen, in which the Marquis of Montrose captured the city. **1644**

14 - Bonnie Prince Charlie, Charles Edward Stuart, occupied Edinburgh. **1745**

15 - The "Hector" from Loch Broom, near Ullapool, arrives at Pictou, Nova Scotia, carrying emigrants escaping from the Clearances. It is estimated that today there are more than 140,000 descendants of these emigrants living in Canada and the United States. **1773**

16 - David Livingstone discovered Lake Nyasa, Africa. **1859**

16 - Jacobite forces routed Hanoverian dragoons on the outskirts of Edinburgh in what was known as the Canter of Coltbrig. At the beginning of September Charles had entered Perth. He had then crossed the Forth unopposed at the Fords of Frew and, after passing through Stirling and Linlithgow, he arrived within a few miles of Edinburgh. **1745**

17 - David Dunbar Buick was born in Arbroath. Buick emigrated to the USA with his parents at the age of two and founded the Buick Manufacturing Company which later became General Motors. **1854**



18 - Theatre Royal, Glasgow, became the first theatre in Britain to be lit by gas. The Queen Street Theatre's consent to be "illuminated with sparkling gas" in the presence of a large and fashionable audience was a significant advance. **1818**



18 - Scotland holds a Referendum on independence. More than 3.6m people turned out to answer the referendum question: 'Should Scotland be an independent country?' 55.3% voted no and 44.7% voted yes. **2014**

19 - The Great North of Scotland Railway opened, running from Aberdeen to Huntly. **1854**



20 - Liner *Queen Elizabeth II* launched at John Brown's shipyard at Clydebank. The ship was not named after the Queen, but rather was the second ship to bear that name. This is why the Arabic '2' is used in the name rather than the Roman numerals used by the Queen. The ship made its maiden voyage in 1969. **1967**

21 - King James V crowned at Stirling Castle. **1513**

21 - Prince Charles Edward Stuart emerged victorious at the Battle of Prestonpans. The Jacobite army of just over 3,000 under Bonnie Prince Charlie heavily defeated the English Royal forces led by Sir John Cope. **1745**

22 - Alex Salmond defeated Margaret Ewing by 486 votes to 186 to become National Convener of the Scottish National Party (SNP). Salmond is credited with improving the credibility of the SNP by projecting a moderate image and presenting the party as a realistic alternative to the Labour Party. **1990**

23 - The Earl of Mar was commissioned to raise a regiment nicknamed "Earl of Mar's Gray Brecks" which later became the Royal Scots Fusiliers. **1678**

24 - Edward Balliol, son of John Balliol, crowned at Scone. He was deposed by supporters of David II in December 1332, restored in 1333, deposed again in 1334, restored in 1335 and finally deposed in 1341. **1332**

25 - The first telephone cable connecting the UK and North America "went live". 2,240 miles long, the cable ran from Gallanach Bay, near Oban in Argyll and Bute, to Clarenville, Canada. **1956**

26 - Queen Margaret, Maid of Norway ("Eiriksdotter") died, en route from Norway to Scotland. **1290**

27 - The 80,000-ton liner *Queen Elizabeth*, then the largest passenger ship ever built, launched at John Brown's shipyard, Clydebank. **1938**

28 - "Battle of the Clans" between clans Chattan and Kay on the North Inch, Perth, in front of King Robert III. **1396**

29 - Charter granted to Sir William Alexander of Menstrie to colonise the "Baronetcy of Nova Scotia". **1621**

29 - John Cobb made an attempt at the world water-speed record on Loch Ness which ended in tragedy as the boat crashed and Cobb was killed. Cobb was a racing driver who had broken the land speed record in 1938, 1939, and 1947, when he became the first man ever to attain a speed of 400 miles per hour on land. In 1952 he made an attempt on the water speed record. On his first run, he became the first person to break the 200 miles per hour barrier, but his boat crashed shortly afterwards and he was killed. **1952**

30 - Announcement of the discovery of penicillin by Ayrshire-born Sir Alexander Fleming. **1928**

30 - John Rae, explorer and surveyor of Canada's northern coastline was born in Orkney. Several Orkney born explorers worked in the Canadian Arctic in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, but Rae was the most outstanding. **1813**

By: David McVey



Scotland in Budapest

Budapest, the capital of Hungary, is a growing tourist destination. As that mythical creature 'Every Schoolboy' knows, it is actually two cities, Buda and Pest, straddling the Danube in a stunning location with spectacular buildings. Right in the heart of the tourist area are tangible reminders of two remarkable Scots. Both have been commemorated by the city of Budapest but are relatively little known in Scotland or among the Scots diaspora. Their stories begin in Edinburgh and in Dunscore near Dumfries. Many thousands of tourists take boat tours on the Danube from the quays on the Pest shore. Perhaps they will also cross the Chain Bridge, the first permanent crossing of the river in Budapest, to take the funicular to the Royal Palace. This whole area, as we'll see, has a Scottish flavour.

Jane Haining

The road that runs between the boat quays and the buildings of Pest is Jane Haining Rakpart. It's named after Jane Haining, who was born at Lochenhead Farm near Dunscore in 1897. Jane was a bright pupil and gained a scholarship to Dumfries Academy and after some post-school study she worked as a secretary in Paisley, at the J & P Coats thread empire. By then Jane lived in Glasgow's Southside. She had a strong evangelical Christian faith and attended Queen's Park West UF Church near her home. The church had a strong missionary emphasis and, influenced by this, in 1932 she was appointed matron of the girls' home attached to the school run by the Church of Scotland's Budapest mission to Jews. The school had around 400 pupils and there were about 50 under Jane's care. She learned Hungarian with impressive speed (it's apparently a tricky language to learn) and became popular with the pupils, most of whom were Jews, many of them orphans. In the years before the Second World War, Hungary began to gravitate towards Nazi Germany and the atmosphere for Jews became increasingly threatening. Jane was

actually on furlough in Cornwall when war broke out and chose to return immediately to Budapest. A year later she was urged to return home by the Kirk's Foreign Missions Committee but resisted. With communications to Scotland breaking down, the Scottish mission came under the care of the Hungarian Reformed Church, which gained an honourable name for its sheltering of refugees and Jews from the Nazis.

The Budapest Scottish Mission

The Nazis directly occupied Hungary from March 1944 and Jane Haining was arrested by the Gestapo the following month. She was charged, amongst other things, with working among Jews and with listening to BBC radio. In May she was taken to Auschwitz, tattooed as Prisoner 79467. She was dead by the end of July, ostensibly through illness but there must be doubts about this. It is quite possible that she died of starvation or even in the gas chamber. Memorials to Jane Haining can be found in Dunscore, in her former church in Glasgow (now Queen's Park Govanhill Parish Church) and in the Budapest Scottish Mission, which is now known as St Columba's Church. She is recorded as one of the Righteous among the Nations by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust remembrance body. Two Budapest schoolchildren and a teacher visit Scotland every year under the Church of Scotland's Jane Haining Prize scheme. But Haining's

most visible memorial is perhaps the prominent Budapest road that's named after her. The Scottish mission in Budapest dates from 1841.

Adam Clark

One of its members in those early days was a young engineer, born in 1811 in Edinburgh, Adam Clark. If you cross the Danube from Jane Haining Rakpart in Pest, you use the Chain Bridge. It was designed by an Englishman called William Tierney Clark (no relation to Adam). The bridge was constructed between 1839 and 1849, and Adam Clark was in charge of the building project. Clark subsequently married a Hungarian girl, settled in Budapest and became a technical advisor on a number of civil engineering projects. When you arrive in Buda off the Chain Bridge, you find yourself in a large square with a busy roundabout and some gardens.

This is Clark Adam Ter (or square). On the far side of the square is the lower station of the funicular. Next to it is an impressive castellated tunnel entrance; this is the Buda Castle Tunnel which carries one of the main roads leading from the roundabout far beneath the Royal Palace. Adam Clark designed this tunnel. He died in Budapest in 1866. There's a curious sculpture among the gardens in Clark Adam Ter, a stylised figure zero. It indicates that the square is point zero in calculating distances from Budapest. In other words, the square named after a little-known Scot is the official centre of Budapest and Hungary.

Haining and, especially, Clark (who does not even have an entry in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography) are not widely known at home in Scotland or amongst the wider Scottish family, but they are permanently memorialised in Budapest. If you go there, make sure you pay homage to them. And, if you feel the need for a spot of tartan, or pipe music or ceilidh dancing, St Columba's Church promise that they are the best place to find these in Budapest.



Developing cutting-edge technology for Antonine Wall



A new project has been granted £150K of funding from Creative Europe to develop cutting-edge technology which will revolutionise the visitor experience at the Antonine Wall, in Central Scotland. The Wall is part of the Europe wide 'Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site' and the project will see Scottish, German and Austrian partners working together to create a mobile app platform and exciting new visitor content. The new technology promises to make the visitor experience more interactive through the use of augmented reality and 3D virtual reconstructions, whilst improving understanding and access both for users on-site but also for those who may want to visit 'virtually' from elsewhere. A key aim of the project is to engage with key audiences and carry out user testing, potentially with schools and community groups, in Scotland and Germany. Engagement with local authority partners across Central Scotland will also explore how best to use the app to support the tourism offering at individual properties along the length of the Antonine Wall. The Antonine Wall became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2008 as part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site which also includes Hadrian's Wall and the German Limes. The Wall was the most northerly frontier of the Roman Empire nearly 2,000 years ago. It ran for about 40 Roman miles (60km) from modern Bo'ness on the Firth of Forth to Old Kilpatrick on the River Clyde. At the time it was built, the wall was the most complex frontier ever constructed by the Roman army.

Scottish Banner new look web site

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SCOTTISH BANNER EVENTS

Having a Clan event? Know of a highland games? Know where the pipes will be playing? Let Scottish Banner readers know of Scottish events both near and far with the Scottish Banner events page. Send us your community event, concert, meeting or anything with a Scottish twist! Please submit events either online at www.scottishbanner.com or email info@scottishbanner.com. Please ensure you submit your event in the exact format we use below, events not submitted in this way cannot be guaranteed to be printed. Events will run both in print and online and is a free service.

AUSTRALIA

SEPTEMBER 2016

1 - 26 Sydney, NSW - Learn Scottish Country Dancing with Scots on The Rocks

This course is for new dancers who wish to learn steps and basic dance formations that are the building blocks of Scottish Country dancing. You will be introduced to Jigs and Reels and will learn a series of lively, beginner friendly dances. Info: www.sotr.org.au/beginner or 0435 154 433.

3 Exeter, SA - The Port Adelaide Caledonian Society Inc. Ceilidh

7.30pm start shared basket supper BYO drinks-family fun night at 189 Semaphore Rd. Info: Lyn: masson55@tpg.com.au.

3 Perth, WA - Dance Scottish WA 40th Anniversary Ball

The Ball is being held at Perth Town Hall to celebrate the WA Branch 40th anniversary with live music from the well-known Scottish musicians, Marian Anderson and Max Ketchin. Info: www.rscdswa.com or chairman@rscdswa.com.

3 Norah Head NSW - 20th Annual Gathering of the Clans

From 9.30am to 4.30pm at the Norah Head Sports Ground, Bungary Rd. A great Scottish day of pipe bands, Scottish dancers, Scottish heavy events, Clans and stalls. Info: 02 4334-1067 or www.gatheringofthec clans.weebly.com

3 Warwick, QLD - Scots College Mini Band and Piping Solos Contest

At Scots College Warwick. Info: 07 3103 2574.

3 Hawthorn, VIC - Victorian Solo Piping Championships

At Scotch College, Morrison St, includes the James A Center Memorial Award, and will be the first time in over 100 years that this cup will be awarded to a solo piper. Info: Shane Hume 0418 990 206 or a1pergolas@optusnet.com.au.

10 Exeter, SA - A Scottish Evening featuring The Borderers

Presented by The Garrick Stewart School of Highland Dancing & Port Adelaide Caledonian Society. Info: Leonie Burgess 0437 007 202 or www.scots-sa.org.au.

10 Macgregor, QLD - Macgregor Highland Dancing Competition

Info: 07 3276 0266.

10 Mackay, QLD - Mackay Blue Water Fling

Free family day celebrating 90 years of the Mackay and District Pipe Band. With a street parade, market stalls, fireworks and more. Info: village@newsxpress.com.au.

11 Melbourne, VIC - Celtic Piping Sessions

Piping music session 2pm - 5pm, upstairs at the Exford Hotel, 199 Russell St. Info: email@celticpipingclub.com

11 Rochedale, QLD - Piobaireachd Group Queensland Social

At Rochedale High School, 10am. Info: 07 3397 4512.

17 Exeter, SA - The Port Adelaide Caledonian Society Inc. City of Pt Adelaide Highland Dancing Championships

At 189 Semaphore Rd. Info: Lyn: masson55@tpg.com.au.

17 Nelson Bay NSW - Clans On The Coast

Pipe bands, stalls, caber toss, Celtic dancers, sword fighting and more at Tomaree No 1 Sports Field, 4981, Nelson Bay Rd. Info: Ron Swan on 0418 495 336 or www.clansonthecoast.com.

18 Armadale, WA - Armadale Highland Gathering & Perth Kilt

WA's largest Scottish festival with pipe bands, Scottish dancers, entertainment and stalls. Also includes Perth's Kilt Run. A free community event. Info: 08 9394 5000 or www.armadale.wa.gov.au.

19 - 20 Toowong, QLD - Queensland Piping & Drumming School

This is a unique 2 day workshop opportunity to learn from World Champion musicians for piping & drumming at Brisbane Boys' College, Kensington Terrace. Info: Andrew Roach 0417 287 443 or bigmansmate@bigpond.com.

23 - 25 Canberra, ACT - Canberra Workshop 2016

Piping & drumming workshop with international instructors hosted by the Canberra College of Piping & Drumming at the University of Canberra. Info: www.canberracollegepipesdrums.org.

24 - 1 Melbourne, VIC - Stringmania Australia

A total immersion experience, with participants and instructors living, learning, jamming and playing together in community. Presented by Melbourne Scottish Fiddlers. Info: www.melbournescottishfiddlers.com.

24 Inglewood, WA - Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh Dance

At Bob Daniels Community Centre, 891 Beaufort St. Info: John 0427 990 754 or www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com.

24 Sydney, NSW - Scots on The Rocks Chaotic Ceilidh

Featuring music by Aria Award winning Chris Duncan & Catherine Strutt, it will be a night of energetic and popular dances. Includes supper (BYO alcohol). Info: www.sotr.org.au/chaos

26 Balmoral, QLD - Queensland Highland Pipers Society AGM/Pair of Players Contest

At Bulimba Bowls Club, Quinn St. Info: 07 3397 4512.

OCTOBER 2016

1 - 2 Wairoonga, NSW - 2016 Australian Pipe Band Championships

Pipe bands from across Australia compete in all grades. The contest will be a two day event and will be held in the grounds of Knox Grammar School, Woodville Ave. Info: www.knox.nsw.edu.au

2 Rochedale, QLD - Piobaireachd Group Queensland Social

At Rochedale High School, 10am. Info: 07 3397 4512.

8 Exeter, SA - The Port Adelaide Caledonian Society Inc. High Tea

Start 1pm tea/coffee and food supplied at 189 Semaphore Rd. Info: Lyn: masson55@tpg.com.au.

8 Perth, WA - St Andrews Ball

Presented by The Saint Andrew Society of Western Australia. Info: www.saintandrew.org.au.

8 Kambah, ACT - Canberra Highland Gathering

A full day of Scottish activities including pipe bands, Scottish dancers, ACT Pipe Band Championships, Clans and more at Kambah Oval, Kett St. Info: www.canberragathering.com.au.

9 Melbourne, VIC - Celtic Piping Sessions

Piping music session 2pm - 5pm, upstairs at the Exford Hotel, 199 Russell St. Info: email@celticpipingclub.com

9 Mount Barker, SA - Mount Barker Highland Gathering

South Australia's only highland gathering with pipe bands, Scottish dancers, clans and more at Keith Stephenson Park. Info: www.mtbarkerscots.org

12 Teralba, NSW - Hunter Valley Scots Social Night

7:00pm at Teralba Hall, ANZAC Parade. Info: www.hvsc.org.au

16 Kanahooka, NSW - Illawarra Scottish Fair

Presented by the Illawarra Pipe Band with pipe band contests, Scottish stalls and more at Dandaloo Sports Oval, Kanahooka Rd. Gates open at 8.30 AM and Massed Bands Closing ceremony at approx 3.00 PM. Info: Alison 0414 928 016 or www.illawarrapipelineband.com.

16 Bracken Ridge, QLD - South Queensland Highland Dancing Championships

At Bracken Ridge State School, Barfoot St. info: 0438 510 890.

29 Exeter, SA - The Port Adelaide Caledonian Society Inc. Halloween Night

Shared basket supper, BYO drinks, great family fun night at 189 Semaphore Rd. Info: Lyn: masson55@tpg.com.au.

29 - 30 Bannockburn, VIC - Battle of Bannockburn Timeline Festival

Two day festival with 300 re-enactors, pipe bands, Scottish clans, great entertainments, Scottish stalls and more at The Bannockburn Golf Club, Shelford-Bannockburn Rd. Info: 0412 584 188 or www.timeline.org.au.

29 Inglewood, WA - Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh Dance

At Bob Daniels Community Centre, 891 Beaufort St. Info: John 0427 990 754 or www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com.

29 St Lucia, QLD - Queensland Pipers Society-Julie Appleton-Seymour Memorial Trophy

At Emmanuel College, University of Queensland. Info: 07 3397 4512.

30 Bendigo, VIC - Clan MacGillivray 40th Anniversary Clan Gathering

The Clan MacGillivray Society in Australia announces their 40th Anniversary Clan Gathering, 12 noon to 4pm, at Bendigo TAFE. Members of Clan Chattan Confederation clans are also invited. Registration at: info@clanmacgillivraysocietyaustralia.com

NEW ZEALAND

SEPTEMBER 2016

9 Auckland - Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Fiddle Club Night

7:30 PM - 11:00 PM at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub

10 Levin - Horowhenua Scottish Society Debutante Ball

At Levin and District War Memorial Hall, Chamberlain St. Info: 06 368 3295.

10 Invercargill - Pipin' Hot

Pipin' Hot will give Southland audiences another taste of what they love and this year Pipin' Hot is showcasing New Zealand and Australian music at Civic Theatre, 88 Tay St. Info: (03) 211 1692.

16 Auckland - Scottish Celtic Music Group

Monthly on the third Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: John Hawthorn john.hawthorn@xtra.co.nz

17 - 18 Nelson - Celtic Pipe Band presents Unlocked - Myths and Legends

Celtic Pipe Band bring to the stage the myths and legends of Scotland in their fourth annual stage show. Celtic's shows are known for their blend of traditional and modern music, instruments and dance, at Theatre Royal Nelson, 78 Rutherford St. Info: 03 548 3840 or www.theatreroyalnelson.co.nz.

18 Wellington - Shetland Society of Wellington Anniversary Lunch and AGM

Social event at the City of Wellington Pipe Band Hall. Info: www.shetlandwellington.org.nz.

21 Hamilton - Celtic Sessions

Find your Celtic roots and get along to listen, sing or jam: all welcome at Nivara Lounge, 266 Victoria St. Info: 07 838 0306.

24 Tauranga - Te Awamutu Highland Dancing Competition

Held in conjunction with the Te Awamutu Performing Arts. Info: glaidsdalefarm@outlook.com. 30 Hillsborough, Auckland - Ceilidh Club 7:30-10:30 pm, monthly on the last Friday at St David's in the Fields Church, 202 Hillsborough Rd. Info: learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com

OCTOBER 2016

8 Christchurch - Julie Hawke School of Dance-Paris 2017 Fundraising Dinner and Dance

30 highland dancers from the ages of 8-15 years are embarking on an opportunity of a lifetime to dance on the world stage in Paris in November next year. This event is to help raise funds to get them there at The Tannery, 3 Garlands Road, Woolston. Info: 0800 4 TANNERY or www.thetannery.co.nz.

14 Auckland - Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Fiddle Club Night

7:30 PM - 11:00 PM at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub

21 Auckland - Scottish Celtic Music Group

Monthly on the third Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: John Hawthorn john.hawthorn@xtra.co.nz

28 Hillsborough, Auckland - Ceilidh Club

7:30-10:30 pm, monthly on the last Friday at St David's in the Fields Church, 202 Hillsborough Rd. Info: learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com

29 Mt Albert, Auckland - Auckland Caledonian Tea Dance

At the Mt Albert Presbyterian Church Hall, 14 Mt Albert Rd. Dancing from 2pm to 6.00pm is a mix of Old Time, Sequence and your favourite Virginia, Cumberland and Govendale reels. Home made Afternoon Tea is included with entry. Info: www.scottish.org.nz

SCOTLAND

SEPTEMBER 2016

1 - 30 Stirling - From the Thistles to the Castle

Stirling Castle and the city centre shopping area will be the start and end of a trail of architectural activity that will occupy spaces along the route from the city centre to the Castle creating inventions and opportunities to participate. Info: www.foa2016.com

1 - 30 Nationwide - Doors Open Days 2016

Free access to hundreds of fascinating buildings across Scotland. Every weekend in September members of the public can explore places that are normally closed to the public or charge to enter. Some open up once a year, some just once in a lifetime. Info: www.doorsopendays.org.uk.

3 - 4 Edinburgh - Scotcon

Special attractions will include Outlander and Scottish Cosplay, The Wallace Society and William Wallace's Sword, Clanranald, Clanadonia, 18th century living history re-enactment with battle re-enactments and more. Info: www.scotcon.scot.

3 Braemar - The Braemar Gathering

Full traditional highland games, with a visit from the members of the Royal Family in The Princess Royal and Duke of Fife Memorial Park. Info: +44(0)13397 41098 or www.braemargathering.org.

7 - 11 Pitlochry - 2016 Clan Donnachaidh Gathering & AGM

This year's Clan Gathering will include a Welcome Reception at the Atholl Palace Hotel, coach tour to Loch Leven Castle, Annual General Meeting & Chief's Reception & Dinner. Info: secretaryclandonna@btconnect.com or www.donnachaidh.com.

9 - 11 Fort George, Ardersier - The Highland Military Tattoo

Largest Military Tattoo outside Edinburgh at Fort George in the Scottish Highlands. Info: + 44(0) 1463 404 401 or www.highlandmilitarytattoo.com.

10 Pitlochry - Pitlochry Highland Games

Traditional Games which has been hosting competitors and enthralling spectators since 1852. Info: Tel:+44 (0)1796 473488 or www.pitlochryhighlandgames.co.uk

18 Edinburgh - Edinburgh Kiltwalk

A stunning city route that starts at the iconic Murrayfield Stadium and takes in some of Edinburgh's most picturesque places. Info: www.thekiltwalk.co.uk

21 - 26 Moray - Findhorn Bay Festival

The biennial Findhorn Bay Festival is a spectacular six-day celebration of arts and culture taking place at the heart of Moray and showcasing artists of national and international renown. Info: www.findhornbayarts.com/festival

23 - 2 Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire - Wigtown Book Festival

A 10-day festival celebrating books, theatre, music and film. Info: www.wigtownbookfestival.com.

29 - 2 Loch Ness - Loch Ness Knit Fest

An exciting and innovative four-day festival for the international crafting community to be held in the heart of the Highlands. Info: www.lochnessknitfest.com.

29 - 30 Pitlochry - The Enchanted Forest

Set amidst the stunning Autumn woodland of Faskally Wood in Highland Perthshire, Scotland's premier sound and light event. Info: www.enchantedforest.org.uk.

OCTOBER 2016

1 - 6 Glasgow - The Mackintosh Festival

2016: Mackintosh The Innovator
A participatory and creative event including an exhibition and other activities imagining what Mackintosh might have created with the technologies of today. Info: www.glasgowmackintosh.com.

6 - 9 St Andrews - Alfred Dunhill Links Championships

Adding some celebrity stardust to the golfing scene, the Dunhill Links pits A-list actors, sports stars and musicians alongside top European Tour stars at St Andrews, Carnoustie and Kingsbarns. Info: www.alfreddunhilllinks.com.

6 - 10 Shetland - Shetland Accordion & Fiddle Festival

Various artists perform traditional Shetland music. Info: www.shetlandaccordionandfiddle.com.

7 - 16 Dunoon, Argyll - Cowal Fest

A 10 day annual Walking and Outdoors Festival which is the largest and most varied walking festivals in Scotland, with more than 80 walks. Info: www.cowalfest.org.

8 - 15 Crieff, Perthshire - Drovers' Tryst Walking Festival

Eight days of guided walks throughout the region to celebrate the life and work of the people who made Crieff the cattle-droving crossroads of Scotland in the 1700s. Info: www.droverstryst.com.

19 - 23 Dundee - Dundee Literary Festival

5 days of adventures in books, in Dundee. Comics, bright minds, fantastic fiction, book design, events for the family, debut voices and more. Info: www.literarydundee.co.uk/festival

21 - 30 Edinburgh - Scottish International Storytelling Festival

A ten-day celebration of traditional and contemporary storytelling, oral traditions and cultural diversity, bringing together artists and audiences from Scotland and beyond. The theme of the 2016 festival is The Right to Dream, connecting with our ability to dream something different into existence. Info: www.tracscotland.org/festivals/scottish-international-storytelling-festival

Answers to Scotword on Page 5

ACROSS -7 Bonnier; 8 Hillock; 10 Ailsa Craig; 11 Nets; 12 Diagonal; 14 Enamel;

15 Kamescastle; 19 Career; 20 Minister; 22 Trio; 23 Dalbeattie; 25 Streams; 26 Serfdom

DOWN -1 Dominie; 2 Ends; 3 Deacon; 4 Singlets; 5 Gleneagles; 6 Scythes; 9 Ballochmyle;

13 Gracenotes; 16 Earldoms; 17 Garrets; 18 Venison; 21 Nieces; 24 Toff

Trust celebrates anniversary of St Kilda's World Heritage status



Local women on St Kilda in 1885. Photo: National Museums of Scotland.

The owners of St Kilda, conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland, are marking the 30th anniversary of its world heritage designation by a special commemoration and the launch of a new fundraising appeal. St Kilda is renowned for its remote and sea-swept position, with islands that are home to hundreds of thousands of seabirds and provided a unique and challenging lifestyle for generations of residents until the last families were eventually evacuated in 1930. The National Trust for Scotland's Chairman, Sir Moir Lockhead, said: "St Kilda received its first world heritage designation for its natural environment 30 years ago and in 2005 it was the first UK site to gain mixed designation for both culture and environment. Its remote location, outstanding natural beauty and the dramatic story of the people who once lived there have captivated people across the

centuries and it still holds an allure for many people today. More importantly, anyone who cares about our seabirds and the wider health of our oceans will appreciate the work we carry out here year on year at St Kilda. Our seabird survey from St Kilda is providing us with vital information which appears to shows major impacts of on sea conditions and the species which depend on the marine environment."

Love our Islands

The Trust has also announced a new fundraising appeal, called 'Love our Islands', to support important conservation and ecological work on St Kilda and in the longer to term to help support the island and coastal places and communities in its care. Caring for St Kilda costs the charity around £270,000 annually. Preservation of manmade dwellings including the iconic street, the church and

factor's house along with nearly 1400 cleits (conical stone structures used for storage and drying of seabirds), enclosures and miles of drystone walling, as well as the enigmatic buildings in Gleann Mor are monitored as part of an ongoing repair programme. An increasingly vital role for St Kilda is as a bellwether for the condition of our climate and seas by monitoring the conditions of native species, especially the seabird population. St Kilda is the largest seabird colony in the north-east Atlantic, with something in the region of 600,000 birds nesting each year across seven islands within the archipelago.

Full counts of all of the seabirds in the colony take place at intervals of around 15 years, with the most recent taking place in 2015. In the intervening years NTS staff carry out routine monitoring of small sub-sections of the colony which help to build a picture of shorter term trends in numbers. The 2015 survey concentrated on Black-legged Kittiwakes, Northern Fulmars, Razorbills, Common Guillemots and European Shags. The results make sombre reading as there have been significant declines recorded in key species. The Trust intends to carry out further work but a common factor seems to be climate change and warming seas. The reduction in sandeels has impacted kittiwakes particularly as they are a major food source for them.

Love Our Islands - www.nts.org.uk/loveourislands

Did you know?



Located in Falkirk, Scotland, The Kelpies tower a massive 30 metres above the Forth and Clyde Canal, forming an impressive gateway to the canal entrance on the East Coast of Scotland. Created by Scotland's leading sculptor, Andy Scott, The Kelpies are a tribute to Central Scotland's horse powered heritage.

- They are the largest equine sculptures in the world, standing 100 feet tall.
- The Kelpies are located in the 900-acre Helix Park in Falkirk, Scotland.
- They each weigh over 300 tons and sit on 1200-ton foundations.
- Each structure contains approximately 18,000 individual pieces.
- There is over 1.5 miles of steel in each structure.

Did you know? The first signs of habitation on Hirta (the largest island in the St Kilda archipelago and the only one you can really land on) are thought to have occurred c. 600 AD.

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www.hororatahighlandgames.org.nz

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IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Fish Pie

Ingredients:

For the poaching stock:

600ml/20fl oz. fish stock
50ml/2fl oz. anise-flavoured liqueur, such as Pernod
1 small onion, roughly chopped
1 small fennel bulb, roughly chopped
2 celery sticks, roughly chopped
1 bay leaf
few sprigs fresh parsley

For the filling:

500g/1lb 2oz. haddock fillet (or other white fish of your choice), skinned and boned
250g/9oz. salmon fillet, skinned and boned
250g/9oz. smoked langoustines

For the saffron mash:

1.5kg/3lb 5oz. floury potatoes (such as King Edward), peeled and cut into large chunks
salt and black pepper
100ml/3½fl oz. double cream
pinch of saffron
50g/1¾oz. unsalted butter

For the sauce:

40g/1½oz. unsalted butter
40g/1½oz. plain flour
300ml/10½fl oz. reserved poaching stock (from above)
100ml/3½fl oz. double cream
2 tbsp chopped fresh tarragon
salt and black pepper

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. For the poaching stock, place all the ingredients in a large pan and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat to a simmer. Add the haddock and salmon to the stock, pressing them down gently into the simmering liquid. Poach the fish for a few minutes, or until just cooked. Strain the mixture, reserving all the liquid. Pick out the stock vegetables and bay leaf and discard. Leave the fish to cool. Put the strained poaching liquid into a clean pan. Bring to the boil, and boil until the volume of liquid has reduced by half. You will need 300ml/10½fl oz of the reduced liquid for the sauce. Set aside. For the mash, put the potatoes in a large pan. Cover with cold water, add a little salt and bring to the boil. Cook for 15–20 minutes, or until tender. Meanwhile, to make the sauce, melt the butter in a pan. Stir in the flour to form a roux. Let this cook over a medium heat, stirring frequently, for 2–3 minutes. Take off the heat and gradually add the reduced poaching liquid, a ladle at a time, beating well after each addition to create a smooth sauce. Return to the heat and cook, stirring often, for about five minutes. Finish the sauce by adding the cream, tarragon and some salt and pepper. Drain the potatoes well and set aside. Heat the cream, saffron

and butter gently in the potato pan, until the butter has melted, then take off the heat and pass the potatoes through a ricer into the pan (or just tip them in and mash). Season with salt and pepper to taste and stir to combine. Flake the cooked fish over the base of your ovenproof dish, taking care to remove any bones as you go. Scatter over the langoustines. Pour over the sauce. Top with the mash, smooth it down and then mark into a scallop pattern with the tip of a pallet knife, or the handle of a large spoon. Bake for 25–30 minutes, or until golden-brown on top and bubbling all the way through. If your assembled pie has cooled down, it may take longer. Serve with buttered peas.

Beef with whisky and mushroom cream, wilted spinach and crushed tatties

Ingredients:

For the beef:

3 tbsp. black peppercorns, coarsely ground, sieved, dust discarded
4 x 175g/6oz. fillet steaks, cut in half
4 tsp. Dijon mustard
freshly ground sea salt and freshly ground pepper
2 tbsp. sunflower oil
50g/2oz. butter
200g/7oz. fresh cep (porcini) mushrooms, thickly sliced

For the tatties:

450g/1lb. new potatoes, scrubbed, boiled until tender
50g/2oz. butter
salt and freshly ground white pepper
3 tbsp. chopped flatleaf parsley

For the spinach:

25g/1oz. butter
500g/1lb 2oz. baby leaf spinach
3 tbsp. water
salt and freshly ground white pepper

For the whisky sauce:

50ml/2fl oz. whisky
50ml/2fl oz. beef stock
50ml/2fl oz. double cream

Method:

For the steaks, spread the coarse black pepper pieces over a small plate. Coat all sides of the steaks with the Dijon mustard and then press them into the crushed peppercorns to coat. Heat a large frying pan until very hot and add the sunflower oil. Season the steaks with salt, then add to the pan to cook for 1–2 minutes. Turn once to brown both sides (don't move the steaks around once they are in the pan or the peppercorn crust will fall off - cook to achieve a good crusty coating on each side.) Add the butter and allow it melt and turn nut-brown in colour, but don't let it burn. Add the mushrooms and stir in the butter. As the mushrooms start to absorb the pan

juices, turn the steaks again and allow them to cook for 3–4 minutes on each side, or until cooked to your liking. Remove the steaks and place onto a baking tray and leave to rest in a warm place. For the tatties, place the potatoes into a large mixing bowl. Add the butter and gently crush each potato with a fork until it just splits. Season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground white pepper, and add the parsley. Mix until all the butter has been absorbed, but don't over-mash the potatoes. For the spinach, heat a medium frying pan or wok until hot. Add the butter and the spinach and stir-fry for one minute, then add the water. Continue to stir until the spinach has wilted. Remove from the heat, season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground white pepper and set aside until ready to serve. For the whisky sauce, add the whisky to the pan used to cook the steaks, and cook over a very high heat for one minute to boil off the alcohol. (CAUTION: the whisky may catch fire, which is perfectly acceptable, but if this worries you, have a large lid handy to place onto the pan to prevent the flames. And make sure you have your extractor fan turned off.) Add the stock and boil to reduce the liquid volume, until thickened, then add the cream. Boil to reduce the liquid volume again, scraping and stirring to loosen the stuck bits from the bottom of the pan. Pour any juices released by the resting steaks into the sauce and stir well. To serve, place a chefs' ring into the centre of each of four plates. Fill with the crushed potatoes and carefully remove the ring. Place a small pile of spinach onto the potatoes, and arrange two medallions of steak on top of each pile. Spoon the sauce and the mushrooms over the steak, and serve.

Roasted Celtic scallops, cauliflower, raisins and capers

Ingredients:

scallops (hand-dived if available)
1 medium cauliflower
500ml/16½fl oz. full fat milk
icing sugar
150g/5oz. unsalted butter
30g/1oz. chopped shallots
30g/1oz. chopped button mushrooms
1 bouquet garni
100ml/4oz. dry white wine
100ml/4fl oz. double cream
50ml/2fl oz. virgin olive oil
30g/1¼oz. water soaked raisins
30g/1¼oz. washed salted button capers (baby capers have more flavour but others are fine)
15 leaves of fresh chervil

Method:

Using a table knife prise the scallop open. Lift the scallop from its shell and remove the roe and beard (keep the beards for the sauce and the roes can be used in a salad). Keep the scallops on a cloth in the fridge until ready to cook (this keeps them dry for frying in oil). To make the cauliflower, cut the cauliflower into even sized florets. Break off 15 florets and set aside. Slice the remaining cauliflower, and cook in the milk, with enough salt to taste, until tender and remove from the milk. Purée in a liquidizer using 50ml/2fl oz of the double cream until smooth, adjust seasoning where necessary. To make the sauce, gently fry the scallop beards in 30g/1oz butter without any colour. Then add the shallots, mushrooms, bouquet garni and cook for a few more minutes. Pour in the wine and reduce by 9/10ths. Add 50ml/2oz of the double cream and bring to the boil. Remove to a low heat and stir in 120g/4oz of butter. Adjust the seasoning and

pass through a fine sieve onto the raisins and capers. Do not allow this sauce to get too hot or cold (store in a warm place).

Cook the scallops in a non-stick pan to your liking. Season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Dust the cauliflower florets liberally with icing sugar and in the same pan fry them until golden. To serve, place the cauliflower florets neatly around the serving plate. Put some of the purée in the centre. Place the scallops on top and spoon around the caper and raisin sauce. Decorate the dish with chervil.

Rhubarb crumble

Ingredients:

10 sticks of rhubarb
4 tbsp. water
8 tbsp. caster sugar
1 tsp powdered ginger
110g/4oz. butter, softened
110g/4oz. demerara sugar
180–200g/6–7oz. flour

To serve:

double cream

Method:

Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4. Cut the rhubarb into 7½cm/3in long sticks and place on an oven tray, sprinkle with the water and caster sugar and roast in the oven for 10 minutes. Once cooked, remove from the oven, sprinkle over the ginger and mix well. Fill an ovenproof dish about 4cm/1½in deep with the rhubarb. Rub the butter into the flour and sugar to make the crumble topping. Sprinkle over the rhubarb and bake in the oven for 35–45 minutes, or until the crumble topping is crisp and golden-brown and the rhubarb filling has softened and is bubbling. Remove and allow to cool slightly before serving with double cream.

Potato soup with soured cream and chives

Ingredients:

25g/1oz. butter
5 rashers fatty, smoked streaky bacon
1 large onion, chopped
500g/1lb 2oz. floury potatoes, peeled, cut into small pieces
750ml/1 pt light chicken stock
salt and freshly ground white pepper
1 bay leaf
4–5 tbsp. soured cream
1–2 tbsp. snipped fresh chives

Method:

Melt the butter in a lidded saucepan and fry the bacon until golden-brown. Remove from the pan using a slotted spoon and set aside. Fry the onion in the remaining fat until soft. Rinse the potatoes under cold running water until the water runs clear. Drain the potatoes. Pour the stock into the pan, and then add the potatoes, salt and freshly ground white pepper and bay leaf. Bring up to a gentle simmer, skimming off any scum that forms on the surface, and add the bacon. Cover with a lid and simmer for 25–30 minutes, or until the potatoes begin to break up. Remove the bay leaf and bacon (you can crisp the bacon up for a sandwich if you like). Pass the mixture through a vegetable mill using the finest mesh disk into a clean pan. You can also blend the soup in a food processor - though I find this method produce too smooth a result. Gently reheat and ladle into hot bowls. Serve with a good dollop of soured cream and sprinkle with plenty of chives.

Tower transformed following conservation work



in scaffolding to allow Masonry and Lime Ltd from Elgin to carry out a wide range of repairs. This included fixing masonry on the monument and boundary wall, replacing lime pointing, renewing the roof, installing a more accessible hatch at the top of the monument and a new handrail to help visitors climb the 62 steps. Historic commemorative plaques were also expertly cleaned, repaired and re-lettered. The landscaping around the monument was also improved.

Jacobite story

Property Manager Kirsteen Nielsen said: "It is great to see the Glenfinnan Monument standing tall and looking fantastic again, just as we approach its 201st birthday. Our visitors will be able to get some fabulous pictures of this well-preserved piece of our heritage, while learning more about the Jacobite story." As part of the project, new

equipment to help the conservation charity monitor the movement of the tower was installed. Laser survey points were put in at the top and the bottom of the 18m high monument. This will provide the team with more accurate information about its 'lean' over time. It currently tilts by about 260 millimetres to west. The Glenfinnan Monument marks the beginning of the 1745 rising. On 19 August 1745, Charles Edward Stuart rallied the Highland Clans, raised his standard, and began a campaign that aimed to secure the Scottish throne for the exiled Stuarts – this ended in a bloody defeat less than a year later at Culloden. The monument was built in 1815 by Alexander MacDonald of Glenaladale to honour his ancestors and the fallen Jacobites. For 200 years, tourists from all over the world have come to visit the monument, and enjoy the dramatic Highland view, and reflect on the events of the 18th century.



One of Lochaber's most-popular heritage sites is back to its best, after conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland completed £170,000 of repairs on the 200 year old structure. The monument which commemorates the 1745 Jacobite rising was in desperate need of repair after decades of wind and water damage were taking their toll. Funding from Historic Environment Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland's Canadian Foundation and generous individual donors made the project to restore this important piece of Scotland's heritage possible. Work started in April and the monument was covered

Mary Queen of Scots comes to aid of data scientists



The historic last letter of Mary Queen of Scots is helping a group of young scientists to develop a system they believe will one day revolutionise the way digital data is stored. The National Library of Scotland is working with the group at the University of Edinburgh in supplying the iconic text of the letter, written just hours before she was executed in 1587, to see if it can be stored and successfully retrieved using DNA — the essential blueprint of life. Written text is converted into short molecular sequences that, in theory, can be stored safely for centuries, in a stable form and at much lower cost than existing technology. These sequences can be rapidly assembled together in any order, using a method resembling a typewriter. The researchers say such a system would be capable of storing the entire *Harry Potter* book series 20 trillion times within a single gram of DNA.

This, however, is not the only type of data that can be stored, as the DNA fragments can be arbitrarily assigned values to represent colours or sounds, thus enabling the user to store images, music and any other file that can be stored digitally. The demand for data storage is increasing at a rate of around 50% a year as the use of smart phones, social media, email and other means of electronic communication grow. Current storage methods require huge data centres that consume large amounts of energy and depend on limited supplies of raw materials such as silicon. DNA offers an alternative. It is life's innate information storage mechanism, containing the complete blueprint for all life.

The University of Edinburgh undergraduate iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine) team, which includes students studying biology, computer science, psychology and chemistry, believes it can provide the solution to the world's storage problems. They are not alone.

The software giant Microsoft recently completed a research project to use DNA as a high density, durable and easy-to-manipulate storage medium. However, this is based on a process that is very expensive and requires specialised machinery and resources. The iGEM team are pursuing a method that is much more affordable and flexible while also being guaranteed to withstand the test of time. "It is a real privilege to be allowed to use the basic text from the last letter of Mary Queen of Scots to test our DNA storage system," said Brendan Largey of the iGEM team. "While there is increasing interest in using DNA in this way, our approach is unique in its security, modularity and affordability. We want our technology to be accessible not only to large scale companies but to anyone with long-term data storage needs." The research project is to be entered into the iGEM synthetic biology competition in Boston in October.

New £5 and £10 polymer Scottish notes unveiled



When next visiting Scotland look out for new bank notes landing into your wallet as The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) has unveiled the designs for its new £5 and £10 polymer notes. It also announced that the Scottish novelist and poet Nan Shepherd will feature on the £5 note when it comes into circulation later this year. To design

the notes Royal Bank of Scotland engaged with thousands of people across Scotland through workshops, online communities and polling surveys. As a result of this 'the Fabric of Nature' was chosen as the theme to underpin the design elements of the note set. The new notes will be printed on De La Rue's Safeguard® Polymer material and will also contain a variety of new security features,

making them difficult to counterfeit but easy to authenticate. The choice of Nan Shepherd to feature on the £5 note was taken by the RBS Scotland Board. This announcement follows the recent public vote that led to scientist Mary Somerville being chosen to feature on the £10 notes which will enter circulation in 2017. The reverse of the £5 note features two Mackerel, the single most valuable stock for the Scottish fishing industry, as well as an excerpt from the poem *The Choice* by Sorley MacLean. Behind the portrait sits a picture of the Cairngorms, beloved by Nan Shepherd and celebrated in her writing, as well as a quote from her book *The Living Mountain*.

The £10 note sees two otters at play on the reverse and an excerpt from the poem *Moorings* by Norman MacCraig. Burntisland Beach, where Mary Somerville lived as a child, features behind the portrait, along with a quote from her work *The Connection of the Physical Sciences*. Malcolm Buchanan, Chair, Scotland Board, said: "I am delighted that we have been able to involve the public throughout this process; from the workshops and surveys that helped to decide on the theme, right through to the public vote that resulted in Mary Somerville being chosen to feature on the £10 note. People in Scotland will be using this money every day and it is quite right that they got to play an important role in designing it. This truly is the people's money. The Royal Bank of Scotland has never before featured a woman on its main issue bank notes. It gives me enormous pleasure that we are able to celebrate the fantastic, and often overlooked, achievements of two great Scottish women. Both made huge contributions in their respective fields."

Celts-Exploring Celtic culture

The idea of a shared Celtic heritage across ancient Europe retains a powerful hold over the popular imagination. But many common ideas about the people known as 'Celts' are in fact more recent re-imaginings, revived and reinvented over the centuries. Now a fascinating new exhibition has opened in Edinburgh looking at the ancient Celtic people.



The Celts exhibition. Photo: Phil Wilkinson.

The first major British exhibition on the Celts for over 40 years has opened at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh. The name 'Celts' does not refer to a single people who can be traced through time, and has been appropriated over the last 300 years to reflect modern identities in Britain & Ireland and beyond. Produced in partnership with the British Museum, the exhibition draws on highlights from both collections, alongside spectacular treasures and the latest research from across Europe, to tell the complex and fascinating story of the different peoples who have been called or have called themselves Celts. In total, the exhibition, which is sponsored by Baillie Gifford Investment Managers, will feature over 350 objects from the collections of National Museums Scotland and the British Museum as well as 14 UK and 12 international lenders.

Masterpieces of Celtic art

Dr Fraser Hunter, Principal Curator, Iron and Roman Age Collections, said: "This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see masterpieces of Celtic art from all across Europe. These allow us to explore connections and differences across the Europe of 2000 years ago, to think about what the idea of Celts means, and to see the power that this art gave to objects which people cherished. This exhibition puts our Scottish finds into an international setting". The exhibition explores what these decorated objects can tell us about the complex idea of "Celts". Celtic art was originally a Europe-wide phenomenon, making objects into powerful symbols reflecting status, connections and beliefs. Many of the objects have never been shown in Scotland, notably the Gundestrup Cauldron, one of the great treasures of the National Museum of Denmark. A visual feast of spectacular imagery, this massive

silver vessel challenges simple ideas of a Celtic world by revealing a mix of influences from across Europe and into Asia some 2000 years ago. Another highlight loan is one of the masterpieces of the Bern Historical Museum, Switzerland, a Roman-period bronze statue of a goddess and a bear dedicated to Deo Artio. The goddess' name is the Celtic word for bear, and the visual connection shows the influence of the Roman world on local beliefs.

Treasures from the collections of National Museums Scotland include the Iron Age gold torcs famously unearthed at Blair Drummond by metal detectorist David Booth, the Hunterston brooch, and the Monymusk reliquary. Archaeological finds from all across Scotland are part of a series of linked artistic styles which evolve over two and a half millennia. A recent (2014) example is a find of a bronze torc and a Romano-British brooch from Auldearn, near Nairn. The torc is the first of its kind from Scotland, while the brooch is a wonderful amalgam of Celtic-style ornament on a Roman brooch. From the British Museum, come treasures pulled from the depths of the River Thames, such as the Waterloo helmet and Battersea shield. The astonishing craftsmanship of the late Iron Age is shown in the Snettisham Great Torc, made from over a kilogram of gold-silver alloy.

Remarkable objects

The exhibition uses these remarkable objects to explore wider topics. "Celts" and "Celtic" are terms which are used in many different contexts and carry different meanings and connotations. They do not relate to any single people or culture. The words were first recorded around 500BC, when the Ancient Greeks used them as catch-all generalisations to refer to 'barbarian' peoples of Europe from north of the Alps. However, although there was never a single Celtic race, nation or 'people', a set of related artistic styles were

used widely across much of Europe in the Iron Age. In Britain and Ireland these styles were reinvented and modified during the Roman occupation and into the early Medieval period. The exhibition reveals these early cultural connections by looking at the shared styles and the differences in decorated objects across Europe – for instance, a brooch from Balloch Hill on Kintyre uses the same style of decoration as chariot fittings from near Paris and Bulgaria. Decorated objects underwent a major transformation during the Roman period in Britain, when new styles of art and artefacts, such as animal-headed, dragonsque brooches defined new identities that were different from the conquering Romans.

Celtic art styles

The transformation of Celtic art styles continued in Britain and Ireland for

a thousand years longer than on the Continent. With the advent of Christianity, this artistic heritage was reinvented and used alongside a variety of other styles of decoration adapted from the Mediterranean, and from the Anglo-Saxons. This new style can be seen on large stone crosses, the finest metalwork and in minute detail on an intricately decorated early Christian manuscript borrowed from the University of Oxford's Bodleian Library. The final section of the exhibition will explore the re-discovery and re-invention of the Celts over the last 300 years. The discovery of ancient objects in the 18th and 19th centuries played a key role in creating new images of the Celts and were part of early attempts at creating national histories and understanding of the past during times of great political change.

Many of our modern ideas about Celts were shaped during this period and are only slowly being revised and updated. Dr Martin Goldberg, Senior Curator, Archaeology – Iron Age, Roman, Early History at National Museums Scotland said: "Over the last few centuries, Celts and Celtic art have helped us to understand our own place in the bigger story of European history, but as our knowledge of the past has grown those concepts have changed in use to suit particular times. This exhibition has given us great opportunities to look afresh at our own material through new research and presentation, to display some exciting new finds from across Scotland and to work with exceptional objects from other national and international collections. The resulting breadth, variety and quality of objects tell us fascinating, occasionally challenging things about Celts."

Celts runs until Sunday 25 September 2016 at the National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh. For further details see: www.nms.ac.uk



The Hunterston Brooch. Photo: National Museums Scotland

By: John Garvey

An artist's journey round the Moray Coast in 1815



Dunrobin Castle, Sutherlandshire.

William Daniell RA travelled round the coast of Great Britain over the years 1813 to 1823. His journey was divided into 6 parts, from Land's End to Land's End. He made pencil sketches of the places of interest and on returning to his home in London, transferred his sketches into aquatint prints. He produced 308 prints, which together with text from his observations were published in 8 Volumes by Longman London, over the period 1814 to 1825. William Daniell was born in Chertsey in 1769, the son of the landlord of the Swan Inn. In 1779, on the death of his father, he moved to London to be looked after by his uncle, Thomas, an artist in the Royal Academy of Arts. William attended the Royal Academy School. He developed into a successful artist in oils and watercolours. His greatest artistic talent was as an aquatinter, with the unique skill to turn his paintings into aquatint prints. His prints of Scotland are some of his most attractive prints. The aquatint technique results in prints that are very atmospheric. They have no hard lines and their visual impact resembles watercolours. The size of the prints is 9 x 6.5 inches. The name aquatint comes from the use of aquafortis (nitric acid) to determine the tint (tone), of each part of the print. The polished copper plate is randomly sprinkled with fine rosin dust. The plate is heated and the particles of dust melt and adhere to the copper. Areas of the plate that are not to be etched are protected by the application of an acid-resisting compound. The plate is submerged under the acid for say one minute. This process is repeated as required. The copper which lies under the rosin dust is protected from the acid etch. When a print is taken off the plate, this results in a covering of fine white dots, which prevent hard lines from appearing in the print. The prints are coloured by hand.

Mey Castle

In May 1815 Daniell travelled north to Wigton and made his way round the coast of Scotland, arriving in Dundee on the east coast in October 1815. During July and August 1815 he journeyed around the Moray coast from which he published 30

prints. Five of these prints are reproduced in this article, together with some of Daniell's text. His itinerary is shown, indicating the places from which he produced a print. Mey Castle was built by George Sinclair, 4th Earl of Caithness, between 1566 and 1572. The castle was simply a fortified tower of quite modest size. The various figures bring the print to life. There is a path leading the eye down to the edge of the Pentland Firth, with distant figures standing on the shore. The Island of Hoy can be seen in the distance. The core of the castle has remained unchanged since 1815. In 1819 the 12th Earl added a grand entrance, and a dining room. The castle was in a semi-derelict state, when in 1952, it was purchased by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. In 1996 the Queen Mother made the property over to the Queen Elizabeth Castle of Mey Trust, which has opened the castle and garden to the public since her death in 2002.

Dunrobin Castle

Dunrobin Castle has been the principal seat of the Sutherland family since the 12th century. It was originally a heavily fortified tower, with stone vaults on every floor, well capable of being defended. In the 17th century a large house was built around a central courtyard and connected to the tower. Further additions and changes were made in 1785, at the time of the marriage between Elizabeth, Countess of Sutherland, and the heir to the Marquess of Stafford. Daniell's print presents an attractive picture of the castle, perched on a wooded hill leading down to the sea. The boat by the pier looks very natural with its sails picking up a light wind. The print is full of detail. The water in the Firth is convincingly portrayed. Between 1845 and 1850 the 2nd Duke of Sutherland enlarged the castle in the style of a French Chateau that has 189 rooms! It has the most beautiful gardens.

Cromarty

In Daniell's words "Cromarty, the subject of the next print, is situated on the firth of that name, near its confluence with the sea, which is bounded by two bold headlands, called the Suturs of Cromarty; the strait between them being about a mile and a half in width. This



firth is reputed to be one of the finest bays in Britain; its length is about sixteen miles, and in some parts its breadth is three miles. In this noble roadstead the whole navy of empire might ride in safety within a view of the town, since, after passing the Suturs, there is the finest anchorage in the world, extending several miles up the bay. The town is small, and its chief dependence is on the herring fishery." Daniell includes a mixture of fishing boats and tall-masted ships at the entrance to the Firth. The cows on the grassy sward in the foreground look very contented.

Inverness

Daniell's print of Inverness is full of life and people going about their daily business. The river dominates the view and leads the eye up to the sea and the narrow crossing at Kessock, where the Beaulie Firth and the Moray Firth meet. Over the water on the right we see the Black Isle, and on the left the distant mountains of Ross Shire dominated by Ben Wyvis at a height of 1046 metres. The town is

predominately on the East side of the river and we see in the centre the tower and steeple of the Old High Church, and on the right the steeple of the court house built in 1791. Inverness Castle was blown up by the Jacobites in 1746, just before the Battle of Culloden. The seven-arched bridge was built in 1660 using stone from Cromwell's Fort. The people are depicted very naturally, their clothes indicating the influence of the regency period. There seems to be only one kilted figure!

On the top of Cluny Hill in Forres there sits Nelson's Tower, built to celebrate the victory of Nelson over the combined fleets of France and Spain at Trafalgar on 21st October 1805. The foundation stone was laid on 26th August 1806, and the Tower was officially opened on 21st October 1812. The distant view is Findhorn Bay in the foreground and the Moray Firth beyond. The view from the top of the Tower is superb. On a clear day you can have a view as far north as Dunrobin Castle and the Suturs of Cromarty. Looking at the dress of the people in the print one realises that we are no longer in the Highlands. The dress is Regency, with the gentlemen wearing trousered suits and top hats, and the ladies in long elegant dresses.

I acknowledge the generosity of Glasgow University Special Collections Department for permission to include the high resolution copies of Daniell's aquatints in this article.

A full and comprehensive description of Daniell's journey around the Moray Firth can be found at www.daniell-on-the-moray-coast.com

2016

SOUNDS OF SCOTLAND

Come along for a great night of Scottish Entertainment as Brisbane Boys' College Pipe Bands join with local musicians and dancers to present their 'Sounds of Scotland' variety concert.

Date	Friday 14 October	Tickets	\$16.00 per person. Available through the Event page of the BBC website or via http:// bit.ly/SoundsofScotland
Venue	College Hall Brisbane Boys' College Toowong Qld 4066		
Time	7.00pm to 10.00pm (approximately 8.15pm interval)		

Acts include Pipe Bands, Scottish Music, Dancers, Address to the Haggis and much more.
Food, drink, BBQ and Scottish stalls open at 5.30pm.
For more information contact Director of Pipe Band, Steven Stanley on **0400 953 126** or via sstanley@bbc.qld.edu.au

Battle of Bannockburn Timeline Festival-Bannockburn, Victoria



The Bannockburn Lions Club and Bannockburn Golf Club are excited to present another exciting weekend of family fun with The Battle of Bannockburn Timeline Festival to be held at the Bannockburn Golf Club on the weekend 29-30 October 2016. The event has now joined forces with Timeline Festival who will bring with them up to 400 re-enactors covering all periods of history from medieval through to the Vietnam War. The festival this year has also attracted six international joustiers who will perform their skills throughout the weekend. These joustiers have been performing at Kryal Castle but have made themselves available for our event. They will also have skilled at

arms shows each day. The Geelong Military Re-enactment Group will be bringing a massive display to Bannockburn with up to 50 soldiers representing camps from Russia, British, American, German and Australia. They will be doing a show each day using pyro technics and using 25 pound canons, bazookas, light armoured vehicles and many other weapons represented throughout history. Their living history display will be well worth a visit.

Full flight

The 2014 event had the birds of prey display, and are very excited to be able to once again secure this wonderful display. "Full Flight" will be doing a live show

each day over the weekend to show how these birds were used in medieval times. The camps this year will look magnificent with up to 500 people in period costume representing how they lived during the time they represent. From blacksmiths to butchers a walk through their camps should not be missed. Throughout the weekend there will be live music with Celtic bands and pipe bands performing. You will be able to stroll through the market site with up to 150 traders covering all types of craft merchandise and plenty of variety of food stalls, with a good representation of Scottish clans. The children have not been forgotten with plenty of activities for all ages. There

will be jumping castles, animal farms, entertainment with Dan the Dazzling Man, plenty of games and activities for everyone to be kept active. There will be plenty of Scottish games for all ages including the Haggis throwing. On the Saturday there will be a fashion parade with the Highland dancing competition on the Sunday.

The 2014 pricing remains with \$50 family (\$75 weekend) \$20 Adult (\$30 weekend) and \$10 Concession & Child (5-15) with \$15 weekend pass. Traders who would like to be represented at this event can download an application through or if looking for more information on the Battle of Bannockburn Timeline Festival see: www.timeline.org.au.

Hat's off to Scotland!

Hats off to Scotland! Cover Yer Heid with this great range of Scottish baseball and beanie hats.
 All hats one size fits all adult and are \$19.95 plus \$7.00 postage. To order contact the Scottish Banner (contacts can be seen on page 2).
 Many more styles are available online at www.scottishbanner.com/shop. Go on, wear your Scottish pride on yer heid!

			
Scotland Reversible Bucket Hat Code:C8966E	Scotland Saltire Code:C3076E	Edinburgh Scotland Saltire Code:C3075E	Glasgow Scotland Saltire Code:C3032E
			
Lion Rampant Royal Stewart Tartan Code:C3002ER	Lion Rampant Black Watch Tartan Code:C3002E	Lion Rampant Lip Peak Code:C3089E	Frayed Scotland Code:BB41
			
Lion Stripe Code:BB43	Carduroy Red Lion Code:BB46	Scotland 1314 Red Lion Code:BB47	Scotland 1314 Code:BB48
			
Saltire Beanie Code:C3067E	Saltire/Scotland Beanie - Navy Code: C3059E-NA	Fleece Lined Scotland Saltire Beanie Code:SH26	Lion Rampant Beanie - Black Code: C3060E-BLK

The tomb of Robert the Bruce goes on show in Stirling



For the first time in 550 years, a true replica of the long lost tomb of King Robert the Bruce has been recreated at The Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum. Specialists working with the few marble fragments found with the discovery of his body in 1818 have used the latest digital technology to reconstruct and recreate the white marble royal tomb. A digital printer has produced a 3D model of the tomb and is its first public showing. Using tiny pieces of marble recovered from the tomb site at Dunfermline Abbey, scientists and historians have digitally reconstructed the tomb. The few surviving marble fragments found in 1818 are readily identifiable as elements of the tomb chest and have allowed the team to piece together the overall design of the whole monument.

Museum director Elspeth King said she was delighted Stirling would be the first to host the tomb on its Scottish tour, both in digital and 3D form. She said: "It is a miracle they have managed to put it back together. There is a representation of him on top and his body was inside, covered in a cloth of gold. Robert the Bruce is very big for us in Stirling because we had the Battle of Bannockburn."

The work was a collaboration of a number of national bodies, working with Historic Environment Scotland. Members of the public who go to see the exhibition will be able to examine the reconstructed tomb, around a third of the original size, which has been created using a 3D printer. The exhibition is open to the public until October 2.

Text and photos by: Nick Drainey



Rambling Scotland

Ben Lawers, Loch Tay

Refresh and enliven your senses in Scotland, a country perfect for walking. Whether you want a gentle stroll in the countryside among the trees and rivers, a breezy coastal stroll along sandy beaches or a walk through the wild mountain and loch scenery, Scotland has all of this in abundance. Nick Drainey will be taking readers on some of his favourite walks around the country and this month visit's Ben Lawers, Loch Tay. Ben Lawers is Scotland's tenth highest Munro and the central Highlands' highest mountain, stretching 1,214m (3,984ft) above Loch Tay, it is also renowned for its arctic-alpine flora, and is a National Nature Reserve. Make it to the summit and you'll be rewarded with magnificent views of Ben Lomond and Glencoe to the west, and the Cairngorms to the north.

Loch Tay is dominated by the sprawling mass of Ben Lawers and its outlying Munros. The pointed summit, a fine objective at any time of year, is one of Scotland's most popular mountains. The Victorians, as they liked to do, put their own stamp on the landmark. Its height of 3,983 feet was not enough for some and a huge cairn was built in 1878 to make the highest point above 4,000 feet. Unfortunately for the builders, led by local man Malcolm Ferguson, the construction soon fell down and the summit has remained at its natural height ever since – the 10th highest Munro.

A lovely sweeping ridge

Height, however, is often not the real reason to climb up one of Scotland's summits. It is the terrain covered and the views admired which make up great memories, rather than statistical analysis. A lovely sweeping ridge leads from Beinn Ghlas, another Munro, to the summit from where the views stretch from the Grampians in the east, north over Rannoch Moor and west to the Munros above Bridge of Orchy, Tyndrum and Crianlarich. South lie the Trossachs. Before the serious uphill walking begins the Edramucky trail is followed from the car park. This is an area the National Trust for Scotland has fenced off from red deer and sheep to allow it to regenerate. The trust also demolished an incongruous visitor centre four years ago to reduce intrusion on the hillside. The fence was built in 1990 and now the establishment of trees, especially mountain willow and birch, can be seen. Among these, tall grasses and flowers such as lady's smock, heath bedstraw and the

strangely named devil's-bit scabious grow. In turn these plants have provided food for insect-eating birds including whinchats and stonechats, as well as a habitat for butterflies. There is also an area of bog which may sound uninspiring but also provides a habitat for colourful plants such as butterwort and sundew, which trap insects. Above you there are often skylarks and finding the will to continue walking up to steeper ground may need a bit of effort.

Crannogs

History from before the Victorians can be seen as you walk up Beinn Ghlas. In the glen below are old shielings - rough stone shelters used until the end of the 18th century by peat cutters and families who herded sheep up to the higher pasture in the summer months. These people would not have been that interested in "bagging Munros", indeed the concept had not been invented then. But they would surely have been impressed as the views expanded the higher up the mountain they clambered. The ridge narrows near the top of Beinn Ghlas but not enough to cause any exposure for the usually wary walker. Far below the sight of Loch Tay now catches the eye and this impressive body of water holds yet more history. Crannogs were built on man-made islands off the shore of the loch. These conical huts were places of safety, protecting families from raiders. They were accessed by wooden walkways built just below the surface of the water so they would be unseen. And rather than being built in straight lines, the walkways would zig zag towards the homes, meaning any attackers were at risk of falling in the loch and being repelled as they ran. The

Scottish Crannog Centre near Kenmore at the eastern end of the loch has become a very popular tourist attraction and explains this history in great detail.

Majestic area of mountains and lochs

The panorama as you walk on a good path up the ridge leading to Ben Lawers is far removed from this ancient strife, a place to take it a bit slower and enjoy being in high mountain country. The final clamber up to the summit rewards you with the

best views of the day and, as with most mountains, it is a place to sit down, take out your sandwiches and look at what is around you. As well as far-off peaks, you get to see along the rest of the ridge linking the two Munros you have enjoyed with three others - to walk it requires about twice as much time and effort. Leaving the summit the same way there is a path going off right which skirts right the way round Beinn Ghlas, making the descent much easier and also creating a contrast from the dramatic scenery above. Here, grassy glens sweep down with the chance of spotting red deer herds making their way across the lonely countryside. After passing below the sheer-sided Meall Corranaich, Loch Tay comes back into view and to the right stands Ben More, another iconic mountain, waiting for another day. After the walk you may just want a cup of tea or pint of beer but for even more history, of the slightly more natural kind you could head to the village of Fortingall. Its churchyard is home to a yew tree said to be the oldest living thing in Europe, dating back between three and nine thousand years depending on who you listen to. Whatever its age, it is proof that this majestic area of mountains and lochs is a place steeped in history.

WALK FACT BOX:

- Distance: 6½ miles.
- Height climbed: 2,790ft.
- Time: 4½ to 5½ hours.
- Map: OS Landranger 51.
- Start point: A new car park two miles up a single track road which leaves the A827 about five miles east of Killin.



Edramucky Burn and Beinn Ghlas.



Beinn Ghlas and Ben Lawers from Loch Tay.

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