



the Scottish Banner



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A' Bhratach Albannach

Volume 46 Number 11 NEWS FOR GLOBAL SCOTS May 2023



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the Scottish Banner

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The Banner Says...

Equality in the pipe band movement



by Sean Cairney

Pipe bands are an icon of Scotland and enjoyed by millions of people across the world, a true global sound enjoyed by not just those of Scottish descent. Think pipe bands and many will think of men proudly playing, but women can quite often be overlooked in this talented group of worldwide musicians. Historically the pipe band movement was not considered a place for women, perhaps this was reinforced as many Scottish pipe bands had links to the military and bagpipes were considered as an instrument of war. However, women's connections to bagpipes goes back deep into history. In the late 1800's a set of bagpipes was found in a female's coffin in Egypt, believed to be about 3,000 years old. The pipe band world was not an accommodating place for women, nor did it try to be for many years. The world's first all-female pipe band is thought to have in fact started in the East End of London, England when the Dagenham Girl Pipers Pipe Band was created by the Reverend Joseph Waddington in 1930. With Scotland getting its first female pipe band in 1934. Women were not mixed into regular pipe bands more commonly until the 1970s. Prior to that they were outright barred from taking part in a pipe band.

Females in the pipe band movement are here to thankfully stay

Today it is estimated women make up around 20-30% of pipe band numbers and recognised as quite literally 'playing' an important role in the pipe band movement.



Lance Bombardier Megan Beveridge. Photo: The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

But is that enough? Clearly gender has no role in how well someone can play an instrument. However, some today even argue that women are better off suited to the drum corps, rather than playing the pipes as they have a smaller lung capacity than male players. As we go to press with this issue a new study into the underrepresentation of women in Scotland's piping and drumming scene has been launched by The National Piping Centre in Glasgow, in collaboration with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Entitled *Women in Piping and Drumming: Equality, Inclusivity, and Diversity*, the six-month study is launching an online survey, designed to gain a better understanding of women's perspectives and experiences within piping and drumming in Scotland.

It was only a few years ago, in 2016, that Lance Bombardier Megan Beveridge made history by becoming the first serving female soldier to perform as the Lone Piper at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The coveted role, which is often a highlight for many visitors to the Tattoo, had only had one other female Lone Piper in 1977 in its over 70-year history. We cover a variety of piping events in *the Scottish Banner* and you may have noticed most of the solo competitions are led and won by male, and white, performers and judges. Of the most prestigious solo piping championships in Scotland, you can count female winners with one hand, and at times just one finger. The oldest piping society in the world, the Royal Scottish Pipers Society, only allowed women to join in 2015 and they were founded in 1881!

While females in the pipe band movement are here to thankfully stay, we are still far from having an equal representation of players. I know and have met many great female pipers around the world, and I hope that gender disparity in the traditional Scottish music scene continues to be put well into the history books. As we need both men and women to keep the pipe band movement flourishing around the world.

In this issue

When thinking of Scotland's myriad of open places and stunning nature you may first think of the Highlands or the rolling countryside of the Scottish Borders. However, at the turn of the 20th century, the Scottish adventurer Ella Christie came back to Scotland from a trip to Asia and was inspired to build a Japanese garden. The historic garden at Cowden Castle was once considered "the best Japanese garden in the western world", but sadly fell into disarray.

The garden however has been nurtured back to health and again open should you be looking for something unique and peaceful to do when next in Scotland.

There is nothing more awe inspiring than a Scottish castle. They reek of history, sorrow and still today dominate the surroundings where they are located. This month our very own Castle Hunter, David C. Weinczok, reflects on some of his favourite castles he has visited in Scotland. Since he has been to nearly 450 of these historic sites across the nation, he is well poised to recommend some perhaps you have yet to visit.

Scottish fashion was the star of the show recently in Washington, DC as the 20th annual Dressed to Kilt fashion event again took place. It was the first time the event moved to the nation's capital and tartan, tweed and style were all put on show for a great cause.

The Stone of Destiny

One of Scotland's most historic relics will be on display for the world to see this month. The Stone of Scone or Stone of Destiny (also referred to as The Coronation Stone) is an ancient symbol of Scotland's monarchy and was used for centuries in the inauguration of its kings and today is housed at Edinburgh Castle.

The stone will play a key role in King Charles III's coronation, which will take place on Saturday 6 May 2023 at Westminster Abbey in London. Charles will be formally crowned King of the United Kingdom and 14 other Commonwealth nations, including Australia, Canada and New Zealand. The stone will be returned to Edinburgh after the coronation events to the castle's Crown Room.

Are you a female member of a pipe band, if so, what are your experiences? Do you think more women should be in pipe bands? Do you have any comments from the content in this month's edition? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or: #ScottishBanner, #TheBanner

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We appreciate your support and hope you enjoy this edition.



Gracing our front cover: Miss Scotland Lucy Sophia Thompson at Dressed to Kilt. Photo by Jemal Countess/Getty Images for Friends of Scotland.

Scotland's oldest tartan discovered by Scottish Tartans Authority



John McLeish, chair, Peter MacDonald, tartan historian, of The Scottish Tartans Authority and V&A Dundee curator James Wylie.

Glen Affric tartan to go on display for the first time at V&A Dundee Tartan exhibition.

New scientific research has revealed a piece of tartan found in a peat bog in Glen Affric around forty years ago can be dated to circa 1500-1600 AD, making it the oldest known surviving specimen of true tartan in Scotland. The Scottish Tartans Authority commissioned Dye Analysis and Radiocarbon testing on the woollen textile to prove its age. The first investigation was dye analysis carried out by analytical scientists from National Museums Scotland. Using high resolution digital microscopy, four colours were visually identified for dye analysis: green and brown and possibly red and yellow.

The dye analysis confirmed the use of indigo/woad in the green but was inconclusive for the other colours, probably due to the dyestuff degradation state. However, there were no artificial or semi-synthetic dyestuffs involved in the making of the tartan, which pointed to a date of pre-1750s.

The oldest-known piece of true tartan found in Scotland

Further clarification on the age of the tartan involved radiocarbon testing at the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory in East Kilbride. The process involved washing out all the peat staining, which would have otherwise contaminated the carbon content of the textile.

The Radiocarbon testing results identified a broad date range between 1500 and 1655 AD, with the period between 1500 and 1600 AD the most probable. This makes it the oldest-known piece of true tartan found in Scotland – the Falkirk ‘tartan’, dating from the early third century AD, is actually a simpler check pattern woven using undyed yarns. The Glen Affric tartan, which measures around 55cm by 43cm has gone on display for the first time at V&A Dundee’s *Tartan* exhibition.

The piece will be the oldest exhibit among more than 300 objects. The exhibition examines tartan’s universal and enduring appeal through iconic and everyday examples of fashion, architecture, graphic and product design, photography, furniture, glass and ceramics, film, performance and art.

Peter MacDonald, Head of Research and Collections at The Scottish Tartans Authority, said: “The testing process has taken nearly six months, but the effort was well worth it and we are thrilled with the results! In Scotland, surviving examples of old textiles are rare as the soil is not conducive to their survival. As the piece was buried in peat, meaning it had no exposure to air and was therefore preserved. The tartan has several colours with multiple stripes of different sizes, and so it corresponds to what people would think of as a true tartan. Although we can theorise about the Glen Affric tartan, it’s important that we don’t construct history around it. Although Clan Chisholm controlled that area, we cannot attribute the tartan to them as we don’t know who owned it. The potential presence of red, a colour that Gaels considered a status symbol, is interesting because of the more rustic nature of the cloth. This piece is not something you would associate with a king or someone of high status; it is more likely to be an outdoor working garment.”

historical significance. It is likely to date to the reign of James V, Mary Queen of Scots, or James VI/I. There is no other known surviving piece of tartan from this period of this age. It’s a remarkable discovery and deserves national attention and preservation. It also deserves to be seen and we’re delighted that it is to be included in the *Tartan* exhibition at V&A Dundee.”

James Wylie, curator at V&A Dundee, added: “We knew The Scottish Tartans Authority had a tremendous archive of material and we initially approached them to ask if they knew of any examples of ‘proto-tartans’ that could be loaned to the exhibition. I’m delighted the exhibition has encouraged further exploration into this plaid portion and very thankful for The Scottish Tartans Authority’s backing and support in uncovering such a historic find. To be able to exhibit the Glen Affric tartan is immensely important in understanding the textile traditions from which modern tartan derives, and I’m sure visitors will appreciate seeing this on public display for the very first time.”

Tartan at V&A Dundee is on until 14 January 2024. For details see: www.vam.ac.uk/dundee



Scotland's oldest tartan discovered by Scottish Tartans Authority. Images: Alan Richardson Pix-AR.

Tartan of the Month

Angels' Share Glass, Whisky & Water Tartan

The Scottish Banner is pleased to be offering the Tartan of the Month series highlighting a variety of different, unique and colourful tartans from around the world which are registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans in Edinburgh. The Scottish Register of Tartans was established by an act of the Scottish Parliament in November 2008 and promotes and preserves information about historic and contemporary tartans from Scotland and throughout the world. Text and image use are courtesy of the Scottish Register of Tartans (SRT).

Angels' Share Glass Ltd was founded in 2012 by father and daughter, Tom Young MBE and Karen Somerville. This is the official corporate tartan for their company, epitomising the beautiful glass craftsmanship of their product collections and their inherent links to Scotland's national dram whisky and its pairing partner water. The colours specific to this design

embody the iconic teal blue and golds associated with the Angels' Share Glass brand, enhanced with base and overchecks in black and white. The thread count of this design captures key dates and meanings to the story of Angels' Share Glass. We see 82 threads in teal blue marking the 82 years of Tom's life - he began glassblowing from the age of 14 which is also acknowledged in the teal blue thread count. The Angels' Share is a Scottish legendary phrase associated with the evaporation process of whisky cask storage, and in 82 years anything from 56% or 81% of whisky could have evaporated from a cask in a rate of 1-2%. These numbers are also incorporated in the design with base checks of a rich gold and black representing the whisky mystically being captured by the 'Angel'.

The white overchecks notes the partnership of Tom and Karen since 2012, which is also marked with 12 bright gold threads across the main brand colour of teal blue. This tartan (SRT reference: 13150) was designed by Prickly Thistle Scotland Ltd and registered in May, 2021.

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SCOT POURRI

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?

Hayland Gathering

I attended the inaugural Hayland Gathering at Hay March 11th 2023. A good 2-hour drive across the plains on a beautiful day. A large crowd had gathered for this first event of what will be an annual event. The stirring sounds of the bagpipes of the attending bands as they marched in to the sportsground stirred the cockles of the heart. A large group of youngsters contested the Highland Dancing, viewed by a very appreciative crowd.

Guest dancer was National and Australian champion dancer Morven Johnston from Western Australia. Morven arrived in Australia aged 4 years from the weaving village of Kilbarchan in west Scotland. Spectators also enjoyed the Highland Muscle group and their skills at heavy lifting, this included ladies as well! A few Clans had stalls, and this will increase for next year I would think. Good to note that many attendees wore their Clan tartan either over the shoulder or on their hat.



The Kilted Dash was hugely popular with the youngsters, all trying to find a kilt to borrow for the Dash. With prize money of \$100 they were dead keen. All day music, including the local Sing Australia group and Sydney based Auld Alliance, performed beautifully. I was disappointed not to meet up with any of "my" Clan the Matheson's!! Judging by the popularity of this first event, Hay organisers will be keen to repeat the event for many years to come. Congratulations to the Hay committee.
*Jan Evans
Binya, NSW
Australia*

The Declaration of Arbroath

The 1320 Declaration 2023.

Ancestral Voices from out the depths of time, waiting...

Rise resolute, resonant, reassuringly wise, watching...

Beckoning, affirming every freeheart & mind... welcoming

Royal Sons & Daughters of Sovereign Scotland All, to

One Spirit's Crowning, Saltires -Liberations Diamond Call

Alba's Bright New Day sensing seizing sharing Loves Way

The Throne of Scone Connecting Independence Resurrecting

Happy NOW Our Land, Och Noo & for Aye!

Charles Mugleston

Felixstowe, Suffolk

England

Scotland's link to the Panama Canal



This was such a wonderful story (*Scotland's link to the Panama Canal, the Scottish Banner* August, 2022). I read it twice and forwarded it on to many "Zonians" (Americans who grew up in the American Canal Zone" at the Panama Canal. I drove by *Corozal* weekly over a period of 30 years and would also work and shop at the U.S. Military Exchange (PX). I often wondered where the name *Corozal* came from, as it was such a unique yet odd name. I am so grateful for this wonderful article and journey of the amazing men who helped build the greatest waterway.

I could only imagine how incredible it would have been to have lived during this time.

Very respectfully,

Erik Petroni, USA

(Son of Captain Gerard Petroni, Panama Canal Ships Pilot)

Ed note: Thank you for your letter Erik and so glad this article found you.

Scottish Gin



The Banner itself is wonderful and speaks to a life enjoyed. Being a gin gal, I particularly appreciated its mention (*The Isle of Cumbrae Distillers, the Scottish Banner*, February, 2023), considering Hendricks was born there. I have never been to Scotland, but I feel it has to be on my bucket list. Our good friends Grace and Gerry Dwyer have been many times and are in love with Scotland. We need to find out about it and look forward to going sooner than later. My Dad was a MacDonald, and being a true Scot, thought my husband should change his name. Perhaps so, but I am fortunate enough to have both Scottish and Irish heritage. I love them both.

Joy (and Mike) Dean (alias Deighan)

Recent monetary increase in scholarship awards

The Wabash Valley Scottish Society (Terre Haute, IN, USA) has very recently increased by \$500, its two scholarships: Academic, for Scottish, British and/or Celtic studies at the college level, and Cultural, for piping, dancing, drumming, and more, for those persons 12 years or older. The former is for \$1500, the latter for \$1000.

*Donna Taube
Indiana, USA*

Scottish wedding customs

I love to read my *Scottish Banner*. You always have such interesting news from 'home'. I really liked the mention of the Gretna Green marriages in the February issue. I grew up in a small village

in Stirlingshire in the 50s & 60s. One of the customs of the village was when a girl was getting married, the week before the wedding her friends came to her home. She was sat in a wheel barrow with a potty (commode) full of Epsom salts on her lap.

It also had a doll and a jar of Vaseline. Neighbours placed a penny for luck into the potty. The wheelbarrow was also decorated with balloons and streamers and one girl pushed the barrow and the others sang as we walked around the village: "Hard up kick the can (your name), now has got a man!" That always drew a lot of attention and the kids joined in the singing. We went to the house of the bride to be and had a show of presents and then tea. All the neighbours gave a small present, usually a tea caddy and tea, clothes rope and pegs and things like that.

Bedding was one of the more expensive presents. I still have some of those presents. Another was the day of wedding the father of the bride threw out money from the bridal car to all the kids waiting and watching. That was almost 66 years ago, I wonder if they still have some of the old customs taking place in Scotland? Keep up the good work, we Scots love it!

Isabella Brown

South Australia

Ed note: Thanks Isabella for your letter and memories. Does any reader know of any old Scottish wedding customs still taking place today? Please share it with us.

The Frank Watson Book Prize 2023



We are pleased to announce that the Centre for Scottish Studies is currently accepting submissions for the Frank Watson Book Prize 2023 for the best original work on Scottish History published in 2021 or 2022.

We welcome all submissions of monographs, edited collections, and/or book-length original works on Scottish History published between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2022. The prize consists of a cash award, an invitation to present a plenary lecture, and permission to advertise success in the competition.

Authors, publishers, or other sponsors should submit ebooks or PDFs of nominations (limit of three) with covering letter to the Centre for Scottish Studies, scottish@uoguelph.ca. Deadline for submissions: 31 May 2023.

Details and past winners:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/scottish/frank-watson-book-prize>
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FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



Sent to our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts-send us your photos or letters via social media (#ScottishBanner or #TheBanner):

Eilean Donan Castle



All roads lead to Eilean Donan
Derek A Grist

Brave Scots-Some Gave All



This was my Grandfather's troop, he Archie Virtue, would be the only one to survive in the battle of the Somme.
annewolf882

The Kelpies



Reflections at the Kelpies.
Charles McGuigan

Holyrood Palace



The late Queen's official residence in Scotland, now that of Charles.
Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh.
The Kilted Photographer

By: Wade King



Highland Rose, Jacobite Living History Group



Would you like to see someone slain with a Lochaber axe? How about seeing someone slashed from shoulder to hip with a highland broadsword? If you have someone in mind who deserves either of those fates, you should take them along when Highland Rose is doing their thing.

The Highland Rose Jacobite Living History Reenactment Group is located in New South Wales, Australia. It is a small group specialising in re-enacting the 17th and 18th century "Jacobite Era", the period from the 1689 uprising of Bonnie Dundee to the 1745 Rising led by Bonnie Prince Charlie. They cover all protagonists of this period, Government and Jacobite, but most of its members focus on the Jacobite forces of the 1745 Rising, in particular, the brave Highlanders who fought for the Bonnie Prince and for Scotland at the Battle of Culloden in April, 1746.

The Jacobite army at Culloden included clan regiments, like the Frasers, Camerons, MacDonalds and MacPhersons, amongst others, and regiments raised in local areas of Scotland, like the Atholl Brigade recruited in Athol and the Forfarshire Regiment (Ogilvy's) from the lands of Angus.

There were also non-Scottish forces such as the Royal Ecosais (French), and the Irish Piquets. Most wore their own clothing, their tartan kilts, although some were issued tartan uniforms. Many wore blue bonnets with white Jacobite cockades. Most carried a broadsword, a dirk and a spiked targe. Some carried Lochaber axes, sharp blades fixed to long poles. Some also carried muzzle-loading firelock muskets and pistols. Many carried their own weapons. Full stands of arms (musket and accoutrements, bayonet, sword, etc.) were brought from France and issued to Jacobite forces.

Many weapons were captured from Government forces, particularly after the battle of Prestonpans. Men armed thus confronted British Government troops arrayed in drilled regiments armed with muskets and bayonets, and swords, and heavily supported by artillery firing grapeshot. The Jacobites used the tactic of the Highland Charge to close with Government troops so as to use their bladed weapons to advantage.

Centuries-old Highland culture

The men of Highland Rose carry and demonstrate Jacobite weapons. Some show the use of broadswords, dirks and spiked targes. Others display Lochaber axes, the sweep of which could cut an enemy in two. Some exhibit the use of muskets and pistols that were discharged at the enemy, then hurled into enemy ranks in the hope of knocking Government troops down. The women of Highland Rose preserve the old Highland culture by setting up a period-accurate camp, and practising historical crafts like spinning, weaving and embroidery, historical woodwork, metal- and leatherwork, sewing, cooking and more, and by giving talks and demonstrations. Together, the men and women of Highland Rose give a faithful representation of the centuries-old Highland culture, which was swept away in the years after Culloden by the English in the Highland Clearances, an awful process of ethnic cleansing. The Clearances left much of the Highlands empty of people

and fit only for sheep; they also brought many thousands of cleared Highlanders to places like Australia where their descendants celebrate their Scots heritage in annual events like the Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival (where Highland Rose will perform on Saturday, 3rd June). Highland Rose members perform at Highland Gatherings and at schools or anywhere else they can share their knowledge and skills with interested members of the public.

The Highland Rose Jacobite Reenactment Group is always looking for new members. It welcomes all with for a passion for this period of Scots history, those of any age, gender or experience level, as long as they have open minds and willingness to learn. Living history reenactment is rewarding but it requires commitment. Like most hobbies it is not cheap, but the group does its best to help new members get started. If this sounds like it interests you, please contact the group via Facebook Messenger or email, or come to an event and say hello.

If you are organizing a Highland Games or Gathering, a Medieval Fair or any other community event that you would like Highland Rose to attend, please get in contact to discuss details at: www.facebook.com/TheHighlandRoseJacobites or highlandrosejacobites@gmail.com. The 2023 Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival will take place on Saturday 3rd June, 2023. For details see: www.bonnieingham.com



Kisimul Castle, also known as the 'Castle in the Sea'. Photo: VisitScotland.

How well do you know Scotland? To test your knowledge we have assembled ten fun questions on its geography, history and culture — but if you get stumped, the solutions can be found underneath. Good luck!

- 1) The village of Kemnay takes its name from the "kame" on which it sits - what is a kame?
- 2) Where is Kisimul Castle, home of the MacNeil clan?
- 3) In which year was capital punishment abolished in Scotland?
a) 1963, b) 1964, or c) 1965?
- 4) The 42nd Royal Regiment of Foot is better known by which name?
- 5) In Old Scots what is a spindrift?
- 6) According to legend the Giants Causeway once stretched from Country Antrim in Ireland to the coast of which Hebridean island?

- 7) Name the songwriter who penned the anthem *Flower Of Scotland*?
- 8) What in Scotland is the Buller of Buchan?
- 9) Where in Scotland is the Electric Brae?
- 10) What is the claim to fame of Wanlockhead village in Lanarkshire?

Answers

- 1) A ridge.
- 2) On the Isle of Barra in the Hebrides.
- 3) c) 1965.
- 4) The Black Watch.
- 5) Snow driven by the wind into drifts.
- 6) Staffa.
- 7) Roy Williamson of the folk group The Corries.
- 8) Sea cliffs, near Peterhead, Aberdeenshire.
- 9) Outside Dunure, Ayrshire.
- 10) It claims to be Scotland's highest village.

MELBOURNE TARTAN FESTIVAL 23

Melbourne Tartan Festival
2nd - 30th July 2023

Tartan Day Parade

Program

2nd July - Kirkin 'O the Tartan service at The Scots' Church
 2nd July - City of Melbourne P B Concert, Melbourne Town Hall.
 7th July - Ceilidh Dance with Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club , Collingwood Town Hall.
 8th July - VPA Solo Piping Championships, PLC
 8th July - Scottish Gaelic Society event, Assembly Hall, Collins Street
 9th July - Melbourne Tartan Day Parade on Collins Street at 2.00pm.
 14th July - The Scots School Albury PB presents 'Sounds of Scotland'
 14th July - Scotch Whisky's Legacy to the World.
 15th July - The Scots School Albury PB presents 'Sounds of Scotland'
 15th July - VSDMAI 62nd Commonwealth Championships
 16th July - Concert - 'A Celebration of Scots Song' with Fiona Ross
 17th July - Online Lecture: A Grand Tour of Scotland Part 1
 19th July - The Scots Cellar: Rare & Old Whisky
 22nd July - MTF Gala Dinner & Concert ,Melbourne Town Hall.
 23rd July - CBD Walking tour - Melbourne's Scottish Connections
 24th July - Online Lecture: A grand Tour of Scotland Part 2

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MelbourneTartanFestival
Website: www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au

SCOTSPEAK

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



"We are excited to introduce the UK's first autonomous bus fleet in east Scotland which is also home to our headquarters and where it all began over 40 years ago. We are proud to be at the forefront of transport innovation with this project that marks a significant milestone for public transport and we look forward to welcoming our customers on board in the coming months."

Stagecoach UK managing director Carla Stockton-Jones said the world's first full-size, self-driving bus services will begin this month in Scotland. The fleet will be the first registered full-sized autonomous buses, made up of five vehicles, which will travel a 14-mile route. The route will go across the iconic Forth Road Bridge from Ferrytoll Park & Ride in Fife to Edinburgh Park Transport Interchange. Once registered, the service will operate a frequent timetable with the capacity for around 10,000 journeys per week.

"Culloden is a powerful and evocative historic site, and the story of the battle and its aftermath have global relevance and interest. We look forward to welcoming visitors to the site for our commemoration

weekend and exploring the story of Culloden together – mindful not just of the events and legacies of the battle, but of the impacts of war and civil war on the lives of people around the world today."

Gail Cleaver, Operations Manager for the National Trust for Scotland, commented ahead of April's 277th anniversary of the Battle of Culloden. The Battle of Culloden, which took place just outside Inverness on 16 April 1746, was part of a civil war that would decide the ruler of Great Britain and ultimately have a global impact. It saw over 1,500 lives lost in the space of an hour. The anniversary service and commemoration events brought people together in person and online to commemorate the fallen on both the Jacobite and Government sides. The event also saw the launch of a new exhibition, *Culloden Memories*, which has seen people from all over the world sending in their memories, photographs and mementos of the site – it covers the social history of the battlefield since 1746.

"Glasgow defies description. Many great men and women have tried to describe its spirit and failed miserably. What do you say about a town that dances, sings, plays and jokes differently from everybody else? The winner of this Award will have to be a nutter like me..."

Sir Billy Connolly said ahead of the inaugural Sir Billy Connolly Spirit of Glasgow Award, which was given out at the 2023 Glasgow International Comedy Festival. The Spirit of Glasgow award was defined by five criteria

– humour, resilience, openness, depth and being unapologetic. The winner of the inaugural award was comedian Janey Godley.



"With much of the work on the castle taking place at high level, even putting up the scaffolding has been a major task. But we're excited that it's now in place so we can start on our conservation work, ensuring that the local community and Arran's visitors can enjoy this magnificent island castle, and its exceptional collections, far into the future."

Sally Gandon, the National Trust for Scotland's Operations Manager for Brodick Castle, said the scaffolding is going up at Brodick Castle, as they embark on a major project to protect Arran's landmark castle for future generations. The NTS have mapped out a nine-month programme of building work on the fabric of the building to help it withstand the effects of time, rain and climate change. The skilled and specialist restoration work will include roofing repairs, overhauling windows, repair of stonework and repointing, and improvements to leadwork, guttering and drainage.

"This is an exciting time for genealogy at Strathclyde and the genealogical community. Our passion is to help people, whether they are experienced or new to the subject, to learn more, connect with each other and further their learning or research. We are already well respected internationally for our programmes, which gives the Institute a great start. Our aim is to create a vibrant space where genealogical learning and discourse can flourish – we are reaching out to anyone with an interest to join us on our journey."

The University of Strathclyde's Dr Calista Williams said an initiative to promote world-leading genealogy education, events, and research has been launched at the University of Strathclyde. The Strathclyde Institute for Genealogical Studies has been established with the aim of delivering academic excellence through the creation of new courses and research opportunities to run alongside the University's long-standing world-leading

postgraduate programme. The creation of the Institute will facilitate the development of collaborations, driven by a growing international appetite to discover ancestors, build family trees and better understand results from genetic genealogy tests.



"Habitat loss, persecution and hybridisation with domestic cats has brought the Scottish wildcat population to the brink of extinction. The Saving Wildcats partnership has been a lifeline for the species and our decision to grant a translocation licence to allow wildcats to be released in the Highlands of Scotland marks a crucial point in the long journey towards conserving this iconic species. This journey is not without difficulty, and we know that there are more hurdles to overcome before we reach the point where we are ready to release the wildcats into carefully selected areas of the Cairngorms National Park. Once there, the wildcats will face further challenges, so it's crucial the project continues to work with local communities, farmers, land-owners and cat owners to ensure wildcats are given the best chance to survive and thrive. We are incredibly proud to be part of the Saving Wildcats project, as we take another step towards restoring the 'Highland Tiger' to Scotland's landscapes for future generations to cherish."

NatureScot's Head of Biodiversity Dr Katherine Leys said NatureScot has approved a licence application from the Saving Wildcats partnership to release wildcats in the Cairngorms National Park later this year. The decision marks the first-ever conservation translocation of wildcats in Britain, with the first in a series of trial releases being planned to help restore Scotland's critically endangered wildcat population. The Saving Wildcats partnership plans to release around 20 wildcats each year, with the first trial release planned for June 2023. Scotland's wildcats are a subpopulation of the European wildcat and are the same species as their relatives on the continent.

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SCOTWORD

Here is a wee Scottish crossword for you to try! If you're stuck, answers can be found on page 22.

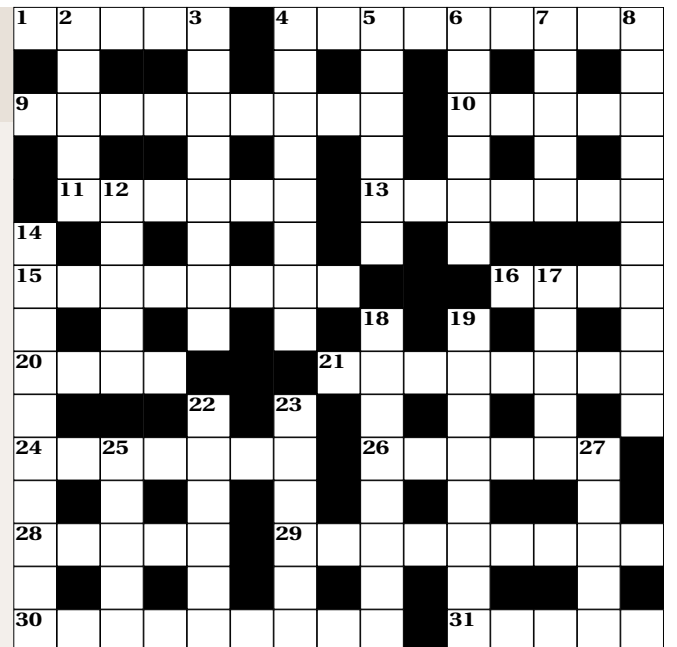
CLUES ACROSS

- Soak at an angle! (5).
- Two-edged swords (9).
- Tayside flower! (5, 4).
- In Scotland he's a provost (5).
- A tumshie to a Scot (6).
- An undershirt (7).
- Major police commission (8).
- Minerals (4).
- Smoke to Scots (4).
- Dance movement put together! (8).
- A gathering of Scots! (7).

- Apprehensive (6).
- In debt to (5).
- Yeeee-Haaa! (5, 4).
- Valley, village and forest in Central Region (9).
- Edible seaweed (5).

CLUES DOWN

- Contort at this dance (5).
- Laurel & Hardy, Martin & Lewis (8).
- Competitor's ultimate aim (8).
- Town 3 miles W. of Invergordon (6).
- A short time (6).
- Top stag! (5).
- Dance it or play it (10).
- Loosen (5).
- Symbol to gather and fight (5, 5).
- Loose gowns (5).
- Amber nectar to the Gael (8).
- Annuled (8).
- Move in fits and starts (6).
- Spanish wine (6).
- More slippier (5).
- Egg centres (5).



Research shines new light on the Stone of Destiny

Innovative methods have revealed new information, including previously unrecorded markings and further evidence of the Stone's provenance.



Member of the HES Digital Documentation & Innovation team digitally scanning the Stone of Destiny at Edinburgh Castle.

A new digital 3D model of the Stone has been created, allowing the Stone to be viewed from different perspectives in higher detail than ever before. This has revealed previously unrecorded markings on the Stone's surface, which have the appearance of Roman numerals. The digital imaging has also improved visibility of the geological features of the Stone, such as cross-bedding, which is indicative of the geological conditions in which the sandstone was formed and which is characteristic of sandstone of the Scone Sandstone Formation. The many tooling marks evident from original working of the stone and areas of wear and tear can now also be seen more clearly, as well as further details of the 1951 repair.

An object unique and important to Scotland's history

The digital scanning has also been used to create an exact scale 3D printed replica of the Stone, which has been used to help preparations for placing the Stone in the Coronation Chair. Ewan Hyslop, Head of Research and Climate Change at HES, said: "It's very exciting to discover new information about an object as unique and important to Scotland's history as the Stone of Destiny. The high level of detail we've been able to capture through the digital imaging has enabled us to re-examine the tooling marks on the surface of the Stone, which has helped confirm that the Stone has been roughly worked by more than one stonemason with a number

of different tools, as was previously thought. The discovery of previously unrecorded markings is also significant, and while at this point we're unable to say for certain what their purpose or meaning might be, they offer the exciting opportunity for further areas of study."

Harnessing a wider range of forensic techniques than available in the past, new scientific analysis has also uncovered additional information about the Stone. This has enhanced the results of the previous investigation in 1998, when fragments from the Stone underwent detailed examination by the British Geological Survey. This work identified the Stone as being indistinguishable from sandstones of the Scone Sandstone Formation, which outcrop in the area around Scone Palace, near Perth. The new examination has provided further evidence for the Stone's origins, while also unearthing more of its post-quarrying history. X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analysis was undertaken to determine the elemental composition of the Stone, leading to the discovery of traces of copper alloy on the top surface of the Stone that coincide with a dark stain near its centre. This suggests a bronze or brass object has been in contact with or placed on the Stone at some time in its history.

The Coronation of King Charles

Microscopic traces of gypsum plaster were also found to be present, infilling pores in the sandstone at various places

around the Stone, possibly traces of a plaster cast that was taken some time in the past. Ewan continued: "The scientific analysis we've been able to undertake using cutting-edge techniques that weren't previously available to us have offered some intriguing new clues to the history of the Stone. We may not have all the answers at this stage, but what we've been able to uncover is testament to a variety of uses in the Stone's long history and contributes to its provenance and authenticity. The Engine Shed is one of very few places within the heritage sector globally to offer this kind of cutting-edge digital and science work, and we're delighted to be able to demonstrate the potential of these methods to enhance our understanding of such an important piece of our past as the Stone of Destiny."

The Stone of Destiny will be included in the Coronation of King Charles III, where it will be placed within the Coronation Chair for the ceremony, before returning to Scotland. A number of different teams within HES, with a range of specialist expertise, are involved in preparing the Stone for its move to Westminster Abbey for the Coronation, working in partnership with the Conservation team at Westminster Abbey.

The 3D digital model of the Stone of Destiny is available to view on Sketchfab:
<https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/stone-of-destiny-edinburgh-castle-4d46d1df627d41a2adc65f6550b2fa9c>

Remembering boxing great Ken Buchanan

Scottish boxing legend Ken Buchanan MBE has passed away at aged 77 in Edinburgh. Ken is regarded as the finest Lightweight ever to come out of Scotland and won the World Lightweight Championship in 1970 and is widely regarded within boxing circles as the best post war British fighter. In 2000 Ken was the first living British boxer to be elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame. Edinburgh's Lord Provost Robert Aldridge has paid tribute to Ken Buchanan MBE and said: "Edinburgh has lost one of its most renowned sons with the death of boxing legend Ken Buchanan at the age of 77. Born in Leith in 1945, Ken Buchanan would go on to become Scotland's first undisputed world champion and was once voted 'Britain's Greatest Ever Boxer' by the *Boxing News*. Ken won a huge local fan base for putting Edinburgh firmly on

the map and in 2016 he was presented with the Edinburgh Award. It is very fitting that his famous fighting hands have been immortalised on a flagstone outside the City Chambers. Throughout his life, he showed great appreciation for his native city and its people, and just last August crowds gathered to celebrate as a statue of Ken was unveiled at a

public ceremony on Leith Walk. Our city mourns one of its most celebrated sons. May he rest in peace and I'm sure his legacy will be longstanding." A bronze statue of Ken was unveiled by the former Lord Provosts of the City of Edinburgh, Frank Ross and Donald Wilson, on 14th August 2022 outside the St James Quarter at the top of Leith Walk.



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Tickets on sale for CelticFest 2023



inclusions will be announced over the coming months. Sunday 1 October will then comprise a full-day of Celtic-themed celebrations at the Warwick Showgrounds, running from 9am-4pm. This year, CelticFest will play host to the Highland Games Heavy Events national titles, and visitors will again be able to watch professional strongmen and women as they perform many feats of strength, including putting the stone, the farmer's walk, and the perennially popular caber toss. The medieval village will be open for CelticFest attendees to stroll through, providing a window into a bygone era, including battles between knights of yore, graceful dancing displays of women through history, and the daily life of those who lived in feudal times. Visitors will also be able to watch displays from pipe bands and highland dancers, wander through Celtic-themed markets, marvel at the gloriously gentle Highland cows, trace their genealogy, and feast on Celtic-themed food and drink.

Tickets are now available for CelticFest 2023, to be held in Warwick, the Celtic Capital of Queensland, at the Warwick Showgrounds on Saturday September 30 and Sunday October 1, 2023. The highly-anticipated event, which last year attracted almost 5,000 attendees, will bring back favourites such as the highland games heavy events, The Gathering Irish band, the medieval village, pipe band and highland dancing displays, Irish dancing, Celtic-themed markets, Celtic animals, the gathering of the clans, Celtic-inspired bar and food – and much more.

CelticFest 2023 will run over two days, comprising a St Patrick's Day themed evening of music on Saturday 30 September on the Celtic Connections stage at the Showgrounds, when The Gathering Irish band will headline a night of foot-stomping, rock-on Celtic music. Gates will open at 4pm and supporting acts and other program

CelticFringe

In an exciting addition to the 2023 CelticFringe – CelticFest satellite events which are separately organized and/or ticketed, and which will run at various times and venues from Friday 29 September through Monday 2 October – the Scots PGC College will host the Inaugural Australian Juvenile Pipe Band Championships on Saturday September 30. More than 20 talented pipe bands from around Australia are expected to descend on Warwick to battle it out for pipe band supremacy.



Southern Downs residents and visitors will be able to see these bands in action during the Warwick Thistle Pipe Band Centenary Street Parade down Palmerin Street on Saturday morning. The street parade is also an added CelticFringe event for 2023, starting at 8.30am on Saturday 30 September. Medieval re-enactors, strongmen and women and others will join pipe bands – including the Warwick Thistle Pipe Band, which this year celebrates its centenary, and competitors in the IAJPC - in what is sure to be a stirring spectacle to open the CelticFest weekend.

Other CelticFringe events will include the return of last year's very popular Celtic line dancing workshop at the Club Warwick RSL, which will also host Celtic bands; the Southern Downs Explorer Heritage train, which will run tours on Friday night and Saturday lunch time, Celtic music and themed dinners at venues including local cafes and restaurants, and the opening of other historic local Celtic buildings including Pringle Cottage and Glengallan Homestead. On a sporting note, the Queensland Gaelic Football and Hurling Association and the Warwick Redbacks AFL Club will co-host a



Gaelic Football match, and Warwick parkrun will host a Celtic-themed parkrun on the banks of the Condamine River on Saturday 30 September – including a kilted dash!

More CelticFringe events will be announced over the coming months. Earlybird pricing for CelticFest tickets for adults and pensioners are \$15 for Saturday night, \$20 for Sunday full day, and \$30 for weekend (Saturday night and Sunday full day). Tickets for school-aged children (between 5-17) are \$5 for Saturday night, \$5 for Sunday full day, and \$10 for the weekend (Saturday night and Sunday full day). Children under 5 are free. Earlybird pricing will be available until midnight Friday 30 June.

For more information, please follow us on Facebook and Instagram at CelticFest Warwick, or visit our webpage: www.celticfestqld.com.au.

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H30cm W30cm D20cm



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KINGS CASTLES AND "DURTY" WEE RASCALS

Australian Jim Stoddart 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.



Pit up yer Dukes

*My old man's a midgy man,
He works the midgy motor,
A dod of s---- came aff a wa',
And hit him on the stoater.*

Perhaps winning one or two more than I lost is my memory of schoolboy fights in Glasgow or is that merely the effects of time wiping out my worst experiences – and my losses? My older sister claims that I was always in fights, but I don't remember being involved in that many of them. My father's advice on dealing with intimidation at school was simple and consistent. He would say, "Don't start a fight. Don't hit girls. If a boy hits you first, hit him back harder. Stand up for yourself, but if he's a lot bigger and older than you, then it's okay to run. But remember, if you choose to run, he might come back for you the next day." Having learned these rules early in the piece, I didn't really need to bother him again for his advice on how to deal with bullies; I just got on with it as best I could. It was certainly better to take on a bully, no matter what degree of success you could anticipate, for if you didn't, they usually did come back to pester you again. To back down from a challenge and be labelled a 'yellow belly' could make you a victim, more effectively than having met the challenge and got beaten. Even bullies drew upon their best traits when they beat you in a fight. After we had done our best and stood up to them, they usually left us alone, at least for a while.

Apache Jim

I fitted in well at school. I wasn't too brainy or too daft. I wasn't too tall or too short. I wasn't too skinny, and I wasn't too fat. So I wasn't ever to be called a swot, a dunce, a beanpole or runt, a skinny malinky or a Billy Bunter. Nor did I have a Christian name that lent itself easily to ridicule, such as David - Davie, Davie, stick him in the gravy or Robert - Bobby, Bobby, now aged nine, sewed his breeks with binder twine. My surname gave me my nickname, Studsy or Studs but I don't remember it being used in a rhyme such as happened to people like Tom Martin - Tam Marten, went up the lum farten.

But I was saved from being too smug by being gifted one very special feature by nature, a wee gene that gave me a patch of blonde hair at the back of my head; about the size of a jam-jar lid and quietly out of sight of my peripheral vision. This sat incongruously amongst the rest of my brown hair and hazel eyes. When children wanted to get back at me, to hurt my feelings they would call me "Apache Jim." Luckily for me the Apache Indians were quite a competent bunch of warriors on the silver screen, sometimes a bit sneaky in their fighting strategies but definitely not pansies.

Schoolboy fights had rules of chivalry that were developed after hours of watching our screen heroes such as the Count of Monte Christo and Robin Hood. The challenger usually offered a choice of a 'fair fight', meaning a version of the Marquis of Queensberry rules or an 'all in fight' meaning wrestling, kicking, scratching, or whatever. Very wisely, a fair fight was almost universally preferred and that reduced serious injury to the would-be fighters. The combatants' best pals acted as seconds and held the jackets. They helped to ensure that other people didn't get involved when one party began to lose. Unwarranted involvement by third parties was definitely seen as unfair and dishonourable. At the pictures these people usually received a well-deserved arrow in the chest from Will Scarlet or a good knock over the head by Friar Tuck's wooden staff. Down on the spare ground I made do with Jim Main to assist, but Jim was a tough kid and a very useful second for such duels.

"Ah'm gonnae get you, your in for a doin', ah'm gonnae have you efter school," were the ominous catchwords that preceded a formal challenge of "Dae ye want a fight?" These words rang out as the prelude to the acceptance speech. "Aye ye'r on - where aboots then?"

"The spare grun along the road", was usually the answer. Once the time and place for a fight was determined it was vigorously advertised by word of mouth, ensuring that a large group of spectators was

in attendance. The spare ground along Leithland Road, where we set up our bonfires on the 5th November, or the grassy hill, close by on Cornaig Road, were often favoured venues for a fight after school, and the soil there must be full of our schoolboy blood. When the bell went at four o'clock the people, in the know, just about carried the contenders to the spare ground to then form a ring of excited bairns chanting "fight, fight, fight." For the would-be combatants the die was cast. There was no turning back.

Like a script in a BBC drama

In fact the worst could have been said to be over, even before a punch was struck. It was that nagging uncertainty that occurred when someone said that they were going to beat you up and then having to wait out the rest of the day for the bell to go to see whether the matter had been forgotten, or whether the continuing taunts were to materialise as fisticuffs at four o'clock.

That was often, in reality, the worst part of all. For once you got to the venue, the adrenaline took over for fight or flight and flight was not a realistic option by that time unless you were prepared to suffer the indignity of being called a coward. Fights, of course, took place between friends, who had fallen out, as well as between sworn enemies. In the first case the combatants often hoped for divine intervention to get them out of a predicament that hasty words had brought about.

Before a fight began there was a re-establishment of what had caused the problem in the first place. This was played out like a script in a BBC drama, for the sake of the inevitable audience, to bring them up to date with the matter at hand. "You were moochin' and took ma cigarette card of Wullie Waddell."

"Naw a didnae. You called ma sister a wee hairy." "So she is. Ask her pals. Anyway, your maw's a midgie raker." "Naw she's no'. You said ah had a pug nose." "So ye have and you said ah was a wee nyaff." "So ye are and ye'r a clipe as well. You told oor teacher that I peed ma trousers, so ye did."

"Naw a didnae that was your pal, Tommy, the wan who told me that you wanted tae fight me." And so it went on with little effect on the outcome, for any move to withdraw from the fight at this late stage would have meant a serious loss of face and a great deal of disappointment for the now eager spectators who had invested time and effort to come and watch this upcoming contest. And of course it was often a third party, like Tell-Tale Tommy an instigator of fights who had egged on both participants in the first place.



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IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Photo: UNESCO UK.

Shetland sites to be considered for UNESCO Heritage Status

The UK Government has put forward seven culturally important sites to be considered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for recognition. The sites from across the UK and Overseas Territories have been added to the Tentative List meaning they are now part of a seven site list to be put forward by the Government for inscription on the illustrious list. The Tentative List is published around every ten years by the UK Government. It sets out the sites it feels have the best chance of succeeding and will now work with local authorities and devolved administrations to develop their bids. The latest Scottish site is the Zenith of Iron Age Shetland, a collection of three ancient settlements dating back thousands of years. Each of the three sites displays a different and distinctive facet of Iron Age architecture. Dr Val Turner, The Zenith of Iron Age Shetland, Shetland Regional Archaeologist, said: "We are thrilled and excited to remain on the new Tentative List and hope to progress to nomination within the next ten years. We have already experienced the benefits of being on the previous Tentative List, which has attracted first-class research to Shetland. We are currently working to conserve Old Scatness – a key milestone along the road.

UNESCO's World Heritage Site system offers a fantastic opportunity for cultural and natural heritage sites to gain international recognition and promote themselves on a global stage. If successful, the Scottish sites would join the 33 other World Heritage Sites already based in the UK including Stonehenge and Hadrian's Wall and global landmarks such as the Taj Mahal and the Galápagos Islands. Another Scottish site which submitted their full nominations to UNESCO earlier this year is The Flow Country, a large area of peatland across Caithness and Sutherland in the north of Scotland which plays a crucial role in supporting biodiversity. Scotland currently has six World Heritage sites which include: The Antonine Wall; Heart of Neolithic Orkney; New Lanark; the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh; St Kilda; and the Forth Bridge.

Gold for Scotland at World Men's Curling Championships



Photo: Team GB.

The team of Bruce Mouat, Grant Hardie, Bobby Lammie, Hammy McMillan, and Kyle Waddell clinched Scotland's first

world men's gold since 2009 in Ottawa, Canada. After a mixed start to the tournament, the Scots found incredibly form and finished second in the table standings. They went on to beat Italy in the semi-finals and overcame hosts Canada in the gold medal game. Afterwards, Scotland skip Mouat said, "That was unreal! I didn't expect the final to go that way, but I'm just so proud of everyone who's been part of our team, I'm over the moon."

Scotland took gold, with Canada clinched silver and Switzerland the bronze. The Scottish team hope to replicate their success at the next Winter Olympics.

Hunt launched for Taggart treasure investigator



GCU Honorary Graduate and Cultural Fellow Blythe Duff with Taggart co-star John Michie in 2018.

Glasgow Caledonian University has launched a hunt for a PhD student to investigate an archive of *Taggart* scripts and memorabilia donated by Blythe Duff. The actress, who played Jackie Reid in the iconic detective show, donated scripts from 95 episodes to the university in 2018, along with a treasure trove of material from her career, including books, press cuttings, awards and rare photographs. Now academics are searching for a PhD candidate to research the archive as part of a three-year studentship. Possible research themes include the contribution of the archive to understanding the history of Scottish TV drama production and scriptwriting and the wider history of television and theatre in Scotland, from the perspective of a female actress breaking into a male-dominated industry. Professor John Cook, of Glasgow Caledonian's Department of Media and Journalism, said: "It is a really significant cultural archive. Blythe kept everything throughout her long and successful acting career. The archive gives us a new window not only into the history of *Taggart* and Scottish TV drama but wider Scottish culture, including tartan noir. We are delighted to offer the right student the opportunity to investigate this previously unexplored full archive."

Blythe Duff, an honorary graduate and a Cultural Fellow of Glasgow Caledonian, made her first on-screen appearance in *Taggart* in the episode *Death Comes Softly* in 1990 and was part of the final cast in the last episode screened by STV, called *Ends of Justice* in 2010.

First Minister nominated



Humza Yousaf has been nominated to become the sixth First Minister of Scotland, following a parliamentary vote. Mr Yousaf also announced his intention to appoint Shona Robison as Deputy First Minister. MSPs voted 71 to 57 to select Mr Yousaf as First Minister from a total of four nominees who put themselves forward; he was then formally appointed with a Royal Warrant from His Majesty King Charles III. First Minister Humza Yousaf said: "This is a really proud day for me and my family. I hope it is also a proud day for Scotland, as it speaks to our values as a country as I stand here as the first ever Muslim to lead a western democratic nation. A key priority of my government will be to protect every Scot, as far as we can, from the harm that has been inflicted by the cost-of-living crisis. We will protect and we will reform our NHS and social care and other vital public services – to support our wellbeing economy to improve the life chances of people right across our country. We will rapidly develop plans to extend childcare, improve rural housing, support small businesses, and boost innovation. The Parliament has given me the opportunity to help steer this nation's course, as we make the next stage of that journey together. Doing that will be the honour and the privilege of my life. I will strive every single minute of every day to be worthy of it and will do so in the best interests of our nation."

Mr Yousaf takes over from Scotland's longest-serving and first ever female First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, who resigned from office after more than eight years in the role.

Entry fee being considered for St Giles



One of Scotland's most famous churches, St Giles, is considering charging visitors an admission to visit for the first time in its 900 year history. Founded in the 1140s, St Giles' is considered the 'Mother Kirk' of Scotland and is an icon of Edinburgh's Royal Mile.

The charge amount has yet to be set, but is expected to be around £5, and not start until 2024. The charge would reflect sustainability rather than profitability as buildings such as St Giles' have huge costs

associated with their upkeep. There are no suggestions entry fees would be imposed on worshippers, it would rather be for tourists and visitors. Other historic churches in London are also doing a fee-based system for visitors such as Westminster Abbey and St Paul's Cathedral. The Church of Scotland says the money earned will go towards maintenance costs for the building, which it says have risen to nearly £1 million per year.

Noah overtakes Jack in Baby Names chart



Noah has knocked Jack off the top of the baby name chart according to new figures from National Records of Scotland. Jack had spent 14 consecutive years at number one, but the biblical boat builder's moniker has sailed into the top spot with 373 baby boys given the name in 2022. For girls, the top name is Olivia, for the second year in a row. The name has been a long-term favourite holding the top spot in six of the previous seven years. National Records of Scotland (NRS) Statistician Daniel Burns said: "NRS is happy to welcome all the new babies of 2022. A relative flood of Noahs in the last four years has saw the name leap from 8th to 1st. There are now so many more names in use, as parents aim for something more unusual, that it takes far fewer babies to share a name for it to be high up in the charts. Back in the 70s when David was the most popular name there were upwards of 1,700 babies a year with the top boys name. Since then fertility has declined, meaning there are fewer births, but with more names in use Noah can claim the top spot with 373 baby boys given the name in 2022." Popular culture is having an impact on the names chosen for babies. Daniel explains: "Luca has climbed 20 places to land in 5th place for boys, moving into the top 10 for the first time; possibly given a boost by Luca Bish appearing on *Love Island*. The name Maeve has been used in a couple of different TV shows and has grown in popularity over the past few years.

Names seen on *Love Island*, such as Luca, Millie, Arabella and Kai have all increased since appearing on screen. Other names apparently influenced by celebrities include Lando, Tilly, Matilda and Dua." Daniel added: "The latest figures also reveal a rise in names relating to nature, with Violet, Daisy, Ivy, Wren, Dahlia, Primrose, Oakley and River all rising. Oakley and River rose for both boys and girls. Top 10 movers: For boys - Findlay, Alexander and Lewis drop out of the top 10 for boys. James, Theo and Archie are joint ninth place, the lowest position for James ever in the charts which start in 1974. For girls, the names inside the top 10 have all stayed the same but Isla, Freya and Millie have risen in the rankings while Emily, Ella and Ava have dropped. See www.nrscotland.gov.uk for full results.

Glen Affric. Photo: Grant Willoughby.



World's first rewilding centre opens near Loch Ness

Centre offers gateway to UK's largest rewilding landscape, boosting jobs and supporting re-peopling.

The world's first rewilding centre has been opened near Loch Ness in the Scottish Highlands by charity Trees for Life – showcasing how large-scale nature recovery can give people inspiring experiences, create jobs and benefit rural communities.

The Dundreggan Rewilding Centre in Glenmoriston celebrates rewilding and the region's rich Gaelic culture and offers a gateway for visitors to explore the 10,000-acre Dundreggan estate, where Trees for Life is restoring the Caledonian forest and its wildlife. "For 15 years, Dundreggan has been a beacon for rewilding our landscapes. Now it will be a beacon for rewilding people too," said Steve Micklewright, Trees for Life's Chief Executive. "This is a place of hope. We want to breathe life into the huge potential of the Highlands to help nature return in a major way – providing people from all walks of life with fantastic experiences while supporting re-peopling, boosting social and economic opportunities, and tackling the climate and nature emergencies."

The centre, eight miles from Loch Ness on the main road (A887) to the Isle of Skye developed in consultation with the local community, the free-to-access centre has been made possible thanks to the generous support of major funders. Visitors, families, schools and those with specific needs will be able to enjoy year-round events and experiences, discover how rewilding benefits wildlife such as golden eagles, red squirrels and wood ants, and learn about Gaelic culture and its deep connections to the landscape. The centre features a stunning tree sculpture of reclaimed metal, created by acclaimed artist Helen Denerley, and offers a gateway to the wild forest, with fully accessible trails, child-friendly forest experiences, and more adventurous walks. Displays in English and Gaelic introduce rewilding and the Gaelic language, and a storytelling booth showcases local history and heritage.

Affric Highlands

A café and events space offer locally sourced food and drink and entertainment areas, while a purpose-built and accessible 40-bedroom accommodation building allows people to stay for longer experiences. Twenty new jobs have already been created, employing local people, and the multi-million pound investment will generate an ongoing economic boost for local suppliers and services. The period of design and construction has already involved local businesses from architects

to plumbers. Laurelin Cummins-Fraser, Dundreggan Rewilding Centre Director, said: "Whether a visitor has just an hour for a quick visit or wants to stay with us for an immersive rewilding experience, our centre will welcome people to discover stunning landscapes, unique wildlife and Gaelic culture, while connecting with the wonders of the natural world.

The Rewilding Centre is embedded in the landscape and the community. Its design is inspired by Gaelic heritage and history, and by the Caledonian forest – with verticals representing trees, changing light to reflect how light plays in woodlands, and materials and colours conjuring up bracken and forest bark. It's a really special place for people to enjoy."

Dundreggan is part of Affric Highlands, the UK's largest rewilding landscape which will potentially cover over 500,000 acres – restoring nature while strengthening land-based livelihoods and creating economic opportunities. Trees for Life launched the Affric Highlands initiative in 2021, in partnership with Rewilding Europe and an initial coalition of communities and landowners.

For more details see:
www.visitdundreggan.co.uk.



Glen Affric. Photo: Chris Aldridge.



The Dundreggan Estate. Photo: Ashley Coombes.

Orkney cancer gene link revealed



Bay of Pierowall, Westray, Orkney.

People with grandparents from Orkney have a variation in a gene that could increase the chances of developing breast and ovarian cancer, research shows. One in 100 women who are descendants of families in Westray, Orkney, have the same change in the BRCA1 gene - one of the commonest genes linked to breast and ovarian cancer, according to the results. In Scotland, testing is currently available to people with a direct family connection to the BRCA1 gene, or who have a close history of ovarian or breast cancer in their family. As a result of these findings, plans for a pilot trial to widen testing to Westray people with a locally born grandparent, regardless of a family history of cancer, are being put in place by NHS Grampian and local cancer charity Friends of ANCHOR. If the pilot proves successful, it may be extended to anyone in Scotland with a Westray-born grandparent. Around one in 1000 women across the UK have inherited a variation to the BRCA1 gene. A team of geneticists from the Universities of Aberdeen and Edinburgh repeatedly discovered the same single change to this gene in women from Orkney with breast and/or ovarian cancer. Edinburgh Scientists studied genetic information from more than 2,000 volunteers with Orkney grandparents in the Orkney Complex Diseases Study (ORCADES).

They discovered the BRCA1 variant in 1 per cent of men and women with historic Westray ancestors. As the gene variant is hereditary can affect multiple members of families.

Risk-reducing surgery, breast screening with MRI from age 30 and lifestyle advice can all improve health for women with the gene, experts say. This research, funded by the Medical Research Council, is part of Viking Genes, which aims to discover the genes and any changes in these that could influence the risk of disease. Professor Jim Wilson, Professor of Human Genetics, University of Edinburgh,

said: "The fact that one in a hundred Orcadian women carry a high-risk variant for breast and ovarian cancer highlights the value of population studies such as Viking Genes, without which we would not know this. It is imperative that Scottish island populations are represented in research, to allow equitable delivery of genomic medicine across the country."

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Twelve years and over 400 castles later: My favourite Scottish castles

By: David C Weinczok



Kisimul Castle.

Twelve years after my arrival in Scotland from Canada, I have more than made up for the lack of true castles in the country of my birth.

To date, my Scottish castle count stands at 443, almost all of which I have reached by foot, bicycle, and public transport. To answer the two very reasonable questions that spring to mind upon reading that number: yes, that's an awful lot of castles (being a touch obsessive does help), and no, they don't all start blending together. Each castle carries a distinct history and character, though I concede that some leave a more lasting mark than others. There are many reasons why people still visit these ruins of the past – a fascination with history, a sense of awe, an ancient family connection, or just a way to entertain the kids or grandkids. Each is valid, with no shortage of possibilities.

With so many castle experiences behind me, my list of favourites changes every time I try to compile one. It's worth declaring my biases first. Perhaps thanks to seeing brooding ruins in films such as *The Lord of the Rings* during my childhood, I have a strong preference for ruinous castles rather than fully intact and still inhabited ones. I also rule out anything built much later than 1600 AD, as the social structures which made castles a possibility and necessity were by then heavily eroded and making way for the Early Modern era. Grandiose non-defensible country houses with dozens of

rooms filled with gold-framed portraits and fancy furniture hold little appeal to me. If said ruin is on the coast, even better – the juxtaposition of a crumbling tower and a body of water sates my inner Romantic. With all that said, the following five castles are ones which I love for very different reasons and want to share with as many fellow castle aficionados as possible.

Each castle carries a distinct history and character.

Kisimul Castle, Barra

Sometimes it really is the journey that makes a place. Five hours into the ferry sailing from Oban to Castlebay, having passed through a gauntlet of Highland shores lined with crumbling castles and crossed the open sea, Kisimul Castle at last comes into view. With waves lapping directly against its walls, Kisimul is the embodiment of a 'galley castle' – a type of castle found throughout coastal Scotland, but especially in the west and north, whose power is inextricable from seaways and the ships that sail them. Indeed, the Hebrides are too often referred to today as 'remote', when for most of their history they formed an 'aquapelago' with rich seaborne connections between and

beyond the island chain. Kisimul was, and still is, home to the MacNeils of Barra, a family synonymous with Barra itself. The medieval MacNeils made their reputation as marauders and pirates, and Kisimul Castle has seen everything from sieges to kidnappings. Many MacNeil descendants now reside in my home Canadian province of Nova Scotia, where the surname is common. The castle fell into ruin after a fire in 1795 and further degraded during the depredations of Barra's absentee landlord, Colonel Gordon of Cluny, in the 1830s, being used as a herring curing station and stripped of much of its masonry for ballast. It was restored by Robert Lister MacNeil and gifted to the nation in 2003, for the annual rent of £1 and a bottle of Talisker whisky.

Dunnottar Castle, Aberdeenshire

Scotland is spoiled by way of incredibly impressive castles, but none of them can quite compete with the 'wow factor' of Dunnottar, near Stonehaven. Built atop a promontory lined on all sides by steep cliffs, it would not be at all out of place in an epic fantasy film. In fact, it was one of the major inspirations for DunBroch Castle in the Disney/Pixar film *Brave*, and was shortlisted in 2013 to be named as the 8th Wonder of the World. There was a fort here long before the stone castle was built. In the Pictish period it was known as Dùn Fhoithear, 'the fort on the shelving slope'.

It has seen major action in every period of its history. A siege by an Orcadian fleet is recorded here in 681 AD, and in 934 AD Athelstan of Wessex laid siege as Constantine II of Scotland defended it. In 1296 the castle submitted to Edward I of England, but William Wallace retook it the next year and allegedly burned the garrison alive within one of the thatched buildings. Montrose attacked unsuccessfully during his campaigning in 1645, and in 1651 Cromwell's soldiers bombarded it with cannon in an attempt to capture the Honours of Scotland held within. The Honours were secreted away by beyond enemy lines, and did not emerge again until Walter Scott rediscovered them in a sealed chamber within Edinburgh Castle in 1818. Though the castle complex itself is fairly standard with its towerhouse and stone outbuildings, the power of Dunnottar's location elevates it into the stuff of legends.

Duffus Castle, Moray

There's just something immensely satisfying about motte-and-bailey castles. I'm not sure if it's their typically circular form, a shape long associated with aesthetic perfection, or the way they rise artificially yet congruously from their landscapes. Whatever the precise nature of their appeal, Duffus Castle near Elgin is the best example of its kind in Scotland. Duffus' history speaks to two crucial stages in Scottish castle history: the 'upgrading' of many timber castles into stone ones in the 13th and early 14th centuries, and the arrival of powerful Norman, Flemish, and other Northern European knights in the late 11th and early 12th centuries.

The first castle here was a timber one begun by Freskin, a Flemish mercenary, and completed by his son, William, who took the surname 'de Moravia', which eventually became 'Moray' (modernised into 'Murray'). The later stone keep is only partially intact, with several fragments slipping down the earthen slope and giving the appearance of some great, destructive act – though the ravages are of time rather than of any siege engine. The broad top of the stone-lined bailey feels a bit like an overgrown amphitheatre, focusing the roar of jets overhead from the nearby RAF Lossiemouth airfield. One can only wonder what Freskin would make of these 'dragons' circling his castle!



Dunnottar Castle.



Duffus Castle.



Craigmillar Castle.

Craigmillar Castle, Edinburgh

I have now visited Craigmillar Castle at least twenty times, and I would not hesitate to visit twenty more. The reason? It is simply so much fun to explore! With neuks and crannies galore, two layers of curtain walls surrounding a central tower, astonishing views across Edinburgh and the Lothians, and enough architectural features to occupy even the most expert eye for days, it's the kind of place where you always discover something new with each return. It doesn't hurt that Craigmillar is one of the best-preserved medieval castle ruins in all Scotland, with a roof still over its great hall.

It dates from at least the mid-14th century, and was a favourite escape for Mary, Queen of Scots from the toxic mix of medieval Edinburgh's unsanitary streets and political machinations. Not that such machinations entirely eluded Craigmillar – the 'Craigmillar Bond', which set out to assassinate her husband, Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley, was formed here.

Mary's involvement in the Bond remains open for debate. In recent years Craigmillar has joined Doune Castle as a well-known star of the big and silver screens, having been used as a filming location for the likes of *Outlander* and *Outlaw King*. It's also dog-friendly, amazing for kids (and adults who want to unleash their inner child with foam swords on the ramparts), and endlessly entertaining to wander through.

Monimail Tower, Fife

By far the least well-known castle on this list, Monimail Tower near Cupar, Fife, is the castle a hobbit would build if they ever had the inclination. Part of its petite charm lay in the fact that it is the only surviving fragment of the much larger Palace of Monimail, a country residence of the Archbishops of St Andrews. All that is left of this grand palace is a corner tower, surrounded by a volunteer-run community garden. The vibe of Monimail Tower is somewhere between Hobbiton and Woodstock. A sign made from



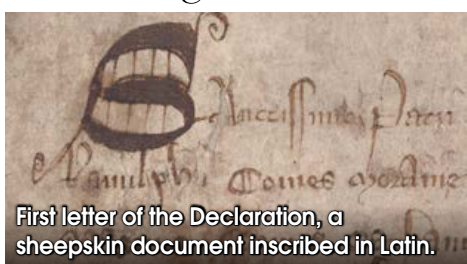
Monimail Tower.

fragments of multi-coloured tiles welcomes all visitors. Its hall, always left open, is stuffed with binders, information panels, and interactive activities. Artists' brushes, only recently set down, lay about in the tower's dedicated arts room. Even the cheerful yellow colour of the tower itself exudes warmth and happiness. This very distinctive and warm atmosphere is thanks to the Monimail Tower Project who run activities on-site, from apple juicing and

scything workshops to mini-concerts in the garden. Many castles can feel stripped of the human element that once made them what they were, and are firmly part of the past. Not so with Monimail, where people continue to reinterpret and reinvigorate it as a place for people present and future to enjoy.

Do you have a favourite Scottish castle? Share your story with us by email, post, or online at: www.scottishbanner.com.

New images for Declaration of Arbroath released



First letter of the Declaration, a sheepskin document inscribed in Latin.

New photographs of the Declaration of Arbroath have been published by National Records of Scotland (NRS), ahead of the famous document going on display in June 2023. These never-before-seen photographs are being made available to mark its 703rd anniversary, which took place in April.

The Declaration will be displayed for the first time in 18 years from 3 June–2 July 2023 at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh. The Declaration of Arbroath is a letter to the Pope sent in 1320 from the barons of the Kingdom of Scotland seeking his recognition of Robert the Bruce as the country's lawful king.

Scotland's medieval past

NRS Chief Executive Janet Egdell said: "NRS is proud to help display the Declaration of Arbroath, one of the most prestigious

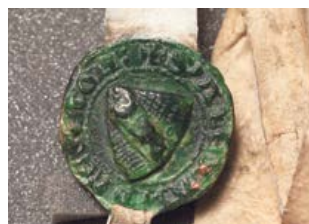
documents in our collections, a record of a key period in Scottish history. The Declaration is striking but at 703 years old, it's fragile and can only be displayed occasionally to ensure its long-term preservation, under the care of our conservation experts. I hope that these new images released today bring this key period in Scottish history to life for people and as many as possible take the chance to see the Declaration for themselves from 2 June."

Dr Alice Blackwell, Senior Curator of Medieval Archaeology and History at National Museums Scotland: "We're delighted to be able to present this rare and fragile part of Scotland's medieval past in a free exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland this summer. Its evocative sentiments have given the Declaration of Arbroath a special distinction, not just in Scotland but around the world. We are looking forward to inviting visitors to learn more about this fascinating document and to enjoy a rare opportunity to see it first-hand."

The Declaration of Arbroath will be displayed at the National Museum of Scotland from 3 June until 2 July. Admission is free and the exhibition will be in Gallery 2, Level 3, 10:00 – 17:00 daily. Further information on the Declaration and its history is available at: www.nrscotland.gov.uk/Declaration



Wax seals attached to tags on the Declaration, symbolising the support of individual Scottish barons.



Seal of Sir William Oliphant of Dupplin and Aberdalgie.



The Declaration of Arbroath.

The 2023 Aberdeen Highland Games



Heavy events.

Save the date of Saturday 1st July 2023 for the Aberdeen Highland Games, at Jefferson Park in Aberdeen, Upper Hunter Valley, NSW. Gates will open at 8.00 am, with the Opening Ceremony at 9.00 am. Get to the ground early to ensure you don't miss the magnificent Massed Band display. Our Chieftain of the day is the Hon. Simon Abney-Hasting, 15th Earl of Loudoun. Now residing in Victoria, the Earl holds several patronages and governorships and is also a strong supporter of Scottish culture. This day will be full of all things Scottish including The Kilted Warriors will be there so come and see their feats of strength lifting the Stones of Destiny as well as the return of the Caber Toss. Childrens novelties will be in full swing with the addition of the barefoot

tug-o-war, so get some friends together for this. Don't forget the best dressed laddie, lassie and best dog. These dogs are getting smarter and in out fits. There will be a multitude of stalls including clan societies and Scottish outfitters. 2023 will also see the return of the Ceilidh. A note for your diary will be the change of venue, this year sees a move to the Muswellbrook RSL 6.30pm for a 7pm start. The Boatmen will be supplying the music. For bookings visit www.aberdeenhIGHLANDGAMES.COM and follow the links to TryBooking.

For more information contact: Scone Visitor Information Centre 02 6540 1300, or inquires@aberdeenhIGHLANDGAMES.COM



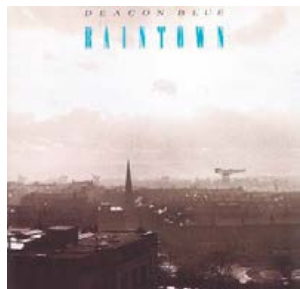
Find your Clan.

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

1 - England declared war on both Scotland and France. **1522**

1 - Act of Union of English and Scottish parliaments proclaimed, the Union was brought about in spite of opposition by the majority of Scots. **1707**



1 - Glasgow band Deacon Blue release their debut album *Raintown*. **1987**

2 - Edward Bruce, brother of King Robert the Bruce, crowned High King of All Ireland. **1316**

2 - King James I crowned at Scone. **1424**

2 - Mary, Queen of Scots, escaped from Loch Leven Castle and revoked her abdication. She soon gathered an army and moved towards Dumbarton Castle. **1568**

2 - Loch Ness monster is sighted. Although accounts of an aquatic beast living in Scotland's Loch Ness date back 1,500 years, the modern legend of the Loch Ness Monster is born when a sighting makes local news on 2 May 1933. The newspaper *Inverness Courier* related an account of a local couple who claimed to have seen "an enormous animal rolling and plunging on the surface." **1933**

3 - John Knox began the Reformation in Scotland. **1557**

3 - Nearly 300 miners are arrested outside Ravenscraig in clashes with police as they try to stop lorries laden with coal entering. The steel works was the site of some of the most violent conflicts of the strike of 1984 and 85. Bottles, stones and missiles were thrown with both workers and police suffering many injuries. **1984**

3 - The Pan Am Flight 103 bombing trial opens at the Scottish Court in the Netherlands. Flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland, on December 21, 1988, after a bomb was detonated. All 259 people on board were killed, and 11 people on the ground also died. **2000**

4 - Marquis of Montrose victorious at Battle of Auldearn. **1645**

5 - King Charles I surrenders to Lord Leven and was later passed to the Parliamentary forces. **1646**

5 - King George VI officially opened the Empire Exhibition in Glasgow. Glasgow's Bellahouston Park played host to over 13 million people who came to visit the Empire Exhibition, a celebration of the achievements of the British Empire. **1938**

6 - Last major bombing attack on the Clyde area by the Luftwaffe; Greenock was badly hit with 280 dead. **1941**

6 - Icelandic gunboats fired live rounds at British fishing trawlers, many of them from Scottish ports, during the Cold War over fishing rights. **1959**

6 - The election of the first Scottish Parliament since 1707. Elections were held for the Scottish Parliament and the 129 Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs) took their seats on 12 May 1999. **1999**

7 - The Earl of Hertford invaded Scotland in an attempt to force the marriage of Edward, son of Henry VIII, and Mary, Queen of Scots. **1542**

7 - James Nasmyth, engineer and inventor of the steam hammer, died. **1890**

7 - First broadcast of the BBC television variety show *The White Heather Club* which airs nationally until 1968. **1958**

8 - Scottish-born pirate "Captain" William Kidd tried for piracy at London's Old Bailey. He was hanged on 23 May. **1701**

8 - V.E. (Victory in Europe) day marked the end of World War II in Europe. Over 50,000 Scottish servicemen lost their lives during the conflict. **1945**

9 - J M Barrie, author of *Peter Pan* born. **1860**

9 - The Marquis of Montrose and his Royalists camped at Auldearn near Nairn, enroute to attack Inverness. The Covenanters, reinforced by troops withdrawn from England because of the threat from Montrose, gathered at Inverness before marching overnight in an attempt to surprise Montrose at Auldearn. The Royalists won a fierce fight, killing 2000 Covenanters for the loss of 200 of their own men. **1645**

10 - Rev Henry Duncan opened the world's first savings bank in Ruthwell, near Dumfries. **1810**

10 - Donovan, Scottish pop and folk singer-songwriter, was born. Upon his emergence during the mid-'60s, Donovan was anointed "Britain's answer to Bob Dylan". **1946**



10 - Rudolf Hess crash-landed in Scotland after his bizarre solo flight from Nazi Germany. Hitler's most trusted official and friend, he crash-landed a stolen plane at Eaglesham in an inexplicable effort to negotiate an end to the war. He died in 1987 after apparently trying to hang himself with an electrical cord. He was 93. **1941**

11 - Covenanter martyrs, Margaret Lachlane, or McLachlan, and Margaret Wilson, refused to take an oath of loyalty to Charles II that acknowledged his authority on everything, including religious matters. They were tied to stakes in the Solway near Wigtown where they drowned as the tide rose. A reprieve had been sent from Edinburgh but never reached Wigtown. **1685**

12 - The Black Watch regiment was commissioned under General Wade to police the Highlands. The force was known in Gaelic as Am Freiceadan Dubh, "the dark" or "black watch". The regiment's motto is Nemo Me Impune Lacessit (No One Assails Me With Impunity). **1725**

12 - Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, daughter of the Earl of Strathmore, was crowned Queen of the United Kingdom with her husband King George VI. Queen Elizabeth was raised at Glamis Castle in Forfar. Queen Elizabeth reigned until 1952 and became known as the Queen Mother as her daughter, the current Queen Elizabeth, took the throne. **1937**

12 - The Scottish Parliament reconvened with Dr Winifred M Ewing MSP as acting Presiding Officer. Her first words to the Parliament were: "The Scottish Parliament which adjourned on the 25th of March in the year 1707 is hereby reconvened." **1999**

13 - The forces of Mary Queen of Scots are defeated at Battle of Langside by a confederacy of Scottish Protestants under James Stewart, the regent of her son, King James VI of Scotland. During the battle, which was fought out in the southern suburbs of Glasgow, a cavalry charge routed Mary's 6,000 Catholic troops, and they fled the field. Three days later, Mary escaped to Cumberland, England, where she sought protection from Queen Elizabeth I. **1568**

13 - James Kirk was executed near Dumfries as a Covenanter refusing to swear the oath, one of the last of the wave of deaths of the "Killing Times". **1685**



14 - St Andrews Society of Golfers constituted. In 1834 it became the Royal and Ancient Golf Club. Thus began the foremost club in both Scottish golf history and world golf in general. **1754**

15 - Mary, Queen of Scots, married Earl of Bothwell - at 4am. Mary's third marriage to James Hepburn, the Earl of Bothwell took place in the Chapel of Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh. **1567**

15 - Bobby Murdoch, Scottish footballer, died. Murdoch was a key figure in Celtic's European Cup-winning side of 1967, dubbed the Lisbon Lions. **2001**

16 - Biographer James Boswell met Samuel Johnson for the first time. **1763**



16 - The Bay City Rollers form in Edinburgh. Called the "tartan teen sensations from Edinburgh", The Bay City Rollers sold 120 million records worldwide. **1966**

17 - King James V established paid judges to sit as the Court of Session, the highest civil court in Scotland. **1532**

17 - Robert Tannahill drowned himself in a Paisley canal. A compassionate poet, he explored themes of love, friendship and empathy, and often used his surroundings as inspiration, taking long walks in the country around his home. He was prone to bouts of melancholy. **1810**

18 - Robert the Bruce invades Isle of Man. **1313**

18 - The Free Church of Scotland was founded by dissenting members of the Church of Scotland. **1843**

19 - Death in Auchinleck of James Boswell, biographer of Dr Johnson. **1795**

20 - Battle of Dunnichen (also known as Nechtansmere), south of Forfar in Angus, as a result of which the Picts stopped the advance northwards of the Angles of Northumbria. **685**

20 - The Earl of Argyll sailed from Holland to Campbeltown with 300 men in an attempted uprising. After its failure he was executed. The rebellion was designed to place Charles II's illegitimate son, the Duke of Monmouth, on the throne. The failure of this revolt led to a close bond between the Stewart monarchy and the enemies of the Campbells in the Highlands, which was to become more apparent in the subsequent Jacobite uprisings. **1685**



20 - Dunfermline, Fife, is among a record number of locations to have won prestigious city status through a competition, as part of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Dunfermline became the eighth Scottish city, joining Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee, Inverness, Stirling and Perth. **2022**

21 - Clocks and watches went forward for one hour as the Daylight Savings Act brought in "British Summer Time" for the first time. **1916**

22 - Britain's worst train disaster at Quintinshill (near Gretna Green) in which three trains collided, with the loss of 227 lives. A troop train carrying the Seventh Royal Scots Regiment hit a stationary train and the night express from London then hit the wreckage. Two signalmen were later jailed. **1915**

22 - The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland voted in favour of women ministers. Soon after four women were accepted as candidates for the ministry by the Presbyteries of Edinburgh, Irvine, and Kilmarnock. **1968**

23 - Captain William Kidd, the notorious Scottish pirate, died. Born in Dundee, around the year 1645, Kidd became one of the best known pirates of his age. **1701**

23 - "The Unknown Bairn": The drowned body of a young boy is found washed up onshore at Tayport; he is never identified. **1971**

23 - A major fire at the Glasgow School of Art causes severe damage to the main building, designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh. A further fire took place during the restoration in June, 2018. **2014**

24 - King David I died at Carlisle and Malcolm IV crowned at Scone. **1153**

24 - Glasgow Rangers became the first Scottish side to win the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, when they defeated Dynamo Moscow in Barcelona. **1972**

25 - John Stuart, Earl of Bute, Britain's first Scottish Prime Minister, born. **1713**

25 - Celtic FC become the first British football club to win the European Cup. The winning team was made up of eleven Scots, all born within a thirty mile radius of Glasgow. **1967**

25 - St. Enoch Centre shopping mall opened to the public in Glasgow city centre. The building is notable for its massive glass roof, the largest glass-covered enclosed area in Europe, and is affectionately nicknamed "The Glasgow Greenhouse". **1989**

26 - The parliament convened by King James I approved the arrest of a number of the Scottish nobility - and also banned the playing of football. **1424**

26 - Dunnottar Castle, the last Royalist stronghold in eastern Scotland, surrenders. Dunnottar Castle had been under siege for eight months by Cromwell's forces. Although the castle fell, the defenders managed to smuggle out the Crown Jewels of Scotland to nearby Kinneff Church. **1652**

27 - Maiden voyage of liner *Queen Mary* from Southampton to New York. Built by John Brown & Company in Clydebank, Scotland and was a luxury ocean liner for three years until 1939, when it was transformed into a troopship for the Second World War. She resumed passenger service in 1947, where it continued until 1967, when it docked permanently in Long Beach, California. **1936**

28 - Papal Bull signed by Pope Alexander VI confirming the marriage of King James IV and Margaret Tudor and the "Treaty of Everlasting Peace" between Scotland and England. **1503**

29 - King Charles II born. **1630**

29 - King Charles II returned to England. Royal Oak Day. **1660**

30 - Thomas Chalmers, the Presbyterian cleric, theologian and social reformer, died. Chalmers was a popular figure within the Kirk and held a keen interest in improving social welfare. **1847**

31 - The Royal Bank of Scotland was formed from a company of debenture holders. **1727**



31 - Start of passenger services on Edinburgh Trams. Trams previously ran in the Scottish capital from 1871 to 1956. **2014**

The 2023 Bundanoon Highland Gathering makes a huge return



Brigadoon Clans. Photo: Melissa Venture.

By: **Alaistair Saunders**

It's taken 5 attempts to hold our 43rd Brigadoon gathering, beaten by Covid 19 for two years and in 2022 defeated by the horrendous weather, but once again old mother nature had the last say, it rained, just a fine Scotch mist, but heavy enough to be uncomfortable. Mother Nature may have tried but nothing was going to stop Brigadoon from going ahead as 11,000 visitors participated in a wonderful day to celebrate all things Scottish. The Chieftain of the day was The Rt. Honourable the 15th Earl of Loudoun, the honourable Simon Abney-Hastings. Simon Abney-Hastings is an Australian Earl who is the current holder of one of the oldest Scottish noble titles, Earl of Loudoun. Earl of Loudoun is named after Loudoun in Ayrshire, Scotland. The Campbell's of Loudoun are the oldest branch of the house of Argyll. The Earldom was originally granted to the 1st Earl of Loudoun, John Campbell – Lord Chancellor of Scotland, by King Charles 1st in 1633 and has since passed down to Simon Abney-Hastings though the laws of succession when his Father Michael, the previous Earl of Loudoun passed in 2012. The Title is one of the oldest Scottish noble titles and it carries with it the right to carry the Golden Spurs (the emblems of knighthood and chivalry) at the Coronation of a British Monarch.

Our special guest for the day was His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia accompanied by his wife Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley. They enjoyed Brigadoon so much in 2019 (when he was Chieftain) that they couldn't resist returning to enjoy another day of Brigadoon. The Street Parade was sight to behold with 1,000 participants, starting at 9.15am and featured 28 pipe bands, with some joining the more experienced pipe bands to gain confidence and self-esteem and they were wonderful. There were three newly formed pipe bands participating, our own Bundanoon Pipe Band, Presbyterian Ladies' College Pipes and Drums, Sydney, and Granville Boys High School Pipe Band, Sydney. It was a wonderful experience for all of them accompanied by decorated children's floats and marching Clans.



Pipe bands on display.

At 10.00am, the Chieftain of the Day officially opened the gathering. During the opening ceremony, spectators are treated to a massed pipes and drums display with 550 bandsmen and women participating. The sheer magic of this moment with traditional Scottish music and the swirling of a myriad of coloured tartans has to be experienced to be believed. As usual we had all our favourite events, Games, Scottish Country Dancing (you can even join in to the *Dashing White Sergeant*) Scottish Highland Dancing (Joy Reiher School of Highland Dance) Southern Highlands Kennel and Obedience Club, Bonnie Bairns and of course our Fiddlers Tent a very comprehensive and enjoyable list of events, something for everyone. A family friendly fun day out.

Bundanoon Stones

The Clans attending were Clans attending Brigadoon 2023 were: Clan Donald, Clan Buchanan, Clan Henderson, Clan MacNeil, Clan Cameron, Clan Davidson, Clan Malcolm, Clan Young, Clan Farquharson, Clan MacEwan, Clan Edmonstone, Clan Gregor, Clan Campbell (15th Earl of Loudoun), Clan Fletcher, Clan MacLennan, Clan MacCallum, Clan Maclean, Clan Hope and Clan Sutherland. The Pipe bands performed individually throughout the day at 3 locations situated around the oval for the entertainment of the public. This is a time when the pipe bands can go out and let their hair down and play to entertain without having to comply to competition rules. The Kilted Warriors were lifting the Bundanoon Stones. Modelled on the MacGlashen Stones. The stones used for the current competition are 115kgs, 120kgs, 125kgs, 140kgs and 165kgs. The stones are laid out five metres apart lightest to heaviest with each competitor having to lift all five stones on top of a wooden barrel four feet in height. The person who can lift all five stones on top of the barrels in the fastest time is declared the champion of the day. The history of the stones goes back over one thousand years to the highlands of Scotland when a boy was considered to have reached manhood when he could lift two stone in weight from the bare ground onto the top of a stone dyke or fence as we know it. Most villages took part in this exercise and the stones varied from village to village. In the late 1970's the lifting of the stones was brought back to life in Scotland with the introduction of the MacGlashen Stones.

Bundanoon Stones Results 2023: 1st Sean Gillen- Brigadoon Champion, 2nd Tyler Helm, 3rd Andrew Fraser and 4th Macauley Tinker. Australian Highland Heavy Weight Championships involved an outstanding field of heavy weight competitors. Events included the Caber, Stone Putt, Weight for Height, Weight for

Distance and Hammer throw - five events fiercely contested to produce just one overall champion. Australian Highland Heavyweight Championship results: 1st Terry Sparkes- Brigadoon Champion, 2nd Macauley Tinker, Joint 3rd Kurt Livens & Lance Holland- Keen and 5th Jamie Muscat.

The closing ceremony is really quite spectacular lasting about 30 minutes (a real mini tattoo) with the finale of the Lone Piper and the Chieftain closing the gathering for another year, Brigadoon then fades back into the mists ready to reappear on 6 April 2024. Bundanoon is a comfortable 2-hour drive from Sydney



The Earl of Loudoun presenting a winning trophy. Photo: Harry Mitchell.

and Canberra and the South Coast, which makes it the ideal location for travellers who just want to pop in for the day or for others who wish to stay and enjoy "Brigadoon" and the hospitality and culture of the Southern Highlands. With such an influx of people coming into the area, local businesses and the hospitality trade in particular have thrived to the point where there is hardly a room available and in most cases all accommodation is booked a year in advance.

The Bundanoon Highland Gathering is a non-for-profit registered charity. Once all our costs are taken into consideration and after appropriating a management budget for the following year all surplus monies are distributed back into the local community coffers. The committee ensures that it recognises the commitment of those local volunteer and charities groups who give countless hours of labour to the gathering by disbursing monies raised on the day on a proportional basis to each organisation. To date Brigadoon has disbursed about \$1.4 million back into the local community.

For more details see: www.brigadoon.org.au



Brigadoon Station. Photo: Jeremy Tonks.

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IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Cranachan with raspberries, whisky and cream

Ingredients:

3 tbsp. soft brown sugar
75g/2½oz. porridge oats
250ml/9fl oz. double cream, whipped until soft peaks form when the whisk is removed
75g/2½oz. cream cheese
1 tbsp. plain yoghurt
1 tbsp. icing sugar
dash whisky
50g/1¾oz. dark chocolate, chopped
30g/1oz. fresh raspberries
sprig fresh mint, to garnish

Method:

Gently heat the sugar in a frying pan until golden and completely melted.

Add the oats and stir well, then pour the mixture onto a non-stick baking sheet and leave to cool. When completely cooled, break into small pieces.

Place the whipped cream, cream cheese, yoghurt, icing sugar and whisky into a bowl and mix well, then fold in the chocolate.

To serve, place half of the caramelised oats into the bottom of a serving glass. Top with half of the cream mixture, then half the raspberries. Repeat the layering with the remaining oats, cream mixture and raspberries and garnish with a sprig of mint.

Beef with whisky and mushroom cream, wilted spinach and potatoes

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 pepper and sea salt
2 tbsp. sunflower oil
50g/2oz. butter
200g/7oz. fresh cep (porcini) mushrooms, thickly sliced

For the potatoes:

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

Celebrate Whisky Month in May with these recipes which add a splash of flavour using "the water of life". You can of course omit Whisky if preferred, enjoy and Slainte mhath! Your very good health!

Whisky flapjacks

Ingredients:

55g/2oz. oats
2 eggs, beaten
55g/2oz. self-raising flour
55g/2oz. caster sugar
vegetable oil

1 miniature whisky

To serve:

2 segments orange
fresh mint sprig

Method:

Mix together the main ingredients, except the oil and whisky, and shape into three patties. Heat a pan with a drop of oil and fry for two minutes on each side. Add the whisky to the pan, warm and carefully set alight to flambé for a few seconds.

Serve on a warm plate with the orange segments and mint sprig.

Whisky marmalade



Ingredients:

1 small grapefruit
2 lemons
1 sweet or Seville orange
1.75 litres/3 pints water
1.4kg/3lb 1oz. granulated sugar
75ml/5 tbsp. whisky

Method:

Juice the fruit and pour the juice into a large, lidded pan with a capacity of 6-8 litres/10-14 pints. Add the water. Scrape out the inner membranes and pips from the fruit with a small sharp knife. Put the membranes into a food processor or mini-chopper and chop finely. Put the chopped membranes, and any pips, into a muslin bag or a piece of muslin tied with string. Add to the pan. Shred the peel to your preferred thickness and add it to the pan. Set aside to allow the peel to soak for a few hours or, if possible, overnight. Bring the lidded pan to boil, reduce the heat and simmer very gently for two hours. The peel should be very tender. Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 140C/275F/Gas 1. Pour the sugar into a baking dish and warm in the oven for a few minutes. Remove the muslin bag from the pan and squeeze the liquid from the bag into a bowl. Pass through a sieve and add to the pan. Weigh the contents of the pan - it should be no more than 1.4kg/3lb 1oz. If you have more than this, return the contents to the pan and simmer to reduce the liquid until the correct weight is achieved. Add the warmed sugar to the pan and stir until dissolved. Gradually bring the pan to a rolling boil. After seven minutes, test

the setting point by scooping out a large spoonful of the marmalade. Allow the mixture to cool a little, then slowly pour it back into the pan. If it is at the setting point, the drops will run together to form a hanging flake (this is known as the flake test). It can take up to 30 minutes to reach setting point, so keep testing. Leave the marmalade to cool for 5-10 minutes (a skin should form on the surface). Remove any scum from the surface and add the spirit of your choice to the pan. Gently stir the marmalade to evenly distribute the peel and the alcohol. Pour the marmalade into sterilised jars and seal. Leave the jars upright and undisturbed to set.

Whisky Fudge



Ingredients:

450g/1lb. granulated sugar
50g/2 oz. butter
2 tablespoons golden syrup
4 tablespoons water
8 tablespoons full cream condensed milk
1 tablespoon whisky

Method:

Put the sugar, butter, syrup, water and condensed milk in a saucepan and stir over a gentle heat until the sugar dissolves. Bring to a boil without stirring, then continue boiling until a temperature of 116C/240F is reached on a sugar thermometer, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking. Remove the pan from the heat, add whisky, and beat the mixture with a wooden spoon or an electric mixer until thick, grainy and cloudy. Pour the mixture into a lightly greased 18cm/7-inch shallow square tin and leave until almost set-about 5 to 10 minutes. Using a sharp knife, mark the soft fudge into squares then leave to cool completely before cutting and removing from the tin. The fudge can be stored for up to 2 to 3 weeks in an airtight container.

MacDaddy

Ingredients:

dash whisky bitters
1 strip orange zest
25ml/1fl oz. Scotch whisky
25ml/1fl oz. ginger liqueur
lemon zest, to garnish

Method:

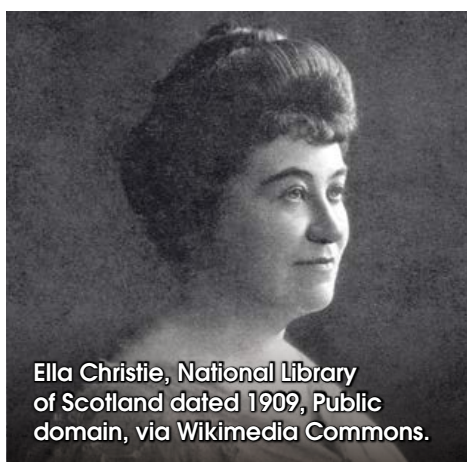
Place all the ingredients into a cocktail shaker with a handful of ice and stir to mix. Strain into a whiskey tumbler over ice, garnish with lemon zest and serve.

Scotland's zen garden

By: Judy Vickers

The place of pleasure and delight

Japanese garden at Cowden. Photo: Tom Langlands Photography.



Ella Christie, National Library of Scotland dated 1909, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons.

Everything about the Japanese Garden at Cowden is designed to slow visitors down, to calm the mind and encourage contemplation, even down to the uneven stones underfoot at the entrance arch, which is carved with the words “the place of pleasure and delight”. These days, the garden, near the town of Dollar, quietly hums with tranquillity and serenity – yet its history is filled with turbulence and drama. Created by one of the most extraordinary and pioneering Scottish women of the 20th century, it has survived destruction at the hands of vandals and abandonment for more than 50 years to become restored to its former glory by one of her descendants.

This summer the final touches to the restoration of the main garden will be put into place, including a wooden sunshade, which is currently under construction. It will mark more than a decade of work by Sara Stewart, great niece of the garden's creator Ella Christie, who inherited the estate in 2012. “I had Ella on my shoulders,” she has said of creating the plans to revitalise the 2.8-hectare site. And Ella Christie would be quite a formidable, if inspiring, character to have watching over you.

Cowden Castle and Estate

Ella's father, John, had made his money in coal in Lanarkshire and to seal his entry into the landed gentry, bought a big pile - Cowden Castle and Estate - in 1865. Four-year-old Ella moved there with her mother, brother and sister and grew up on the estate which had once belonged to the bishops of St Andrews. As a family they were fond of travel and Ella had already visited much of Europe by the time her mother died in 1894.

Her brother had died at 12 and her sister, Alice, was married so she became her father's travelling companion and the pair ventured further afield to Egypt, Palestine and Syria.

But this exciting lifestyle came to an abrupt end in 1902 when her father died. Lindsey Gibb, a Perthshire storyteller who was commissioned last year by Year of Storytelling funds to uncover more details about Ella's extraordinary life, explains: “Ella was very much with her father a lot of the time but the day after he died there was a knock on the door. I always picture the man standing there in a trench coat with a clipboard. They (Ella and sister Alice) discovered only then that all their father's money had been willed away from them and given to a charity that he had set up without them knowing. Alice was married and married well but Ella was left destitute. She had no money of her own and no home, overnight she had lost everything.”

There had been no sign of the rift between father and daughters before his death but Lindsey says: “He had had an illness before he died and his personality had changed,” and points to the possibility of some form of dementia. But even as the man from the charity left the shell-shocked daughters at the doorstep and proceeded to tour the house, cataloguing the furniture and family's possessions as he went, Ella was forming a plan. “Ella, being Ella, doesn't take this lying down,” says Lindsey. “She fights it in court and she wins a healthy settlement, the equivalent of several million pounds today and she manages to keep the estate and castle. The orphanage charity which her father had set up was also well provided for. Ella and her sister were very charitable themselves, so it must have been difficult for her to fight it.”

The most important Japanese garden in the Western world

With her future secure, Ella now embarked on her overriding passion in life – travel. With her trusty maid Humphries, she made journeys that few single Western women had even dreamt of in the early years of the 20th century, through India, Kashmir, Ceylon, Malaya and Borneo. She banqueted with the Maharaja of Kashmir, camped in snow in the Chorbat Pass in Pakistan, trekked on foot for 60 miles in the Desoi mountains in the Himalayas and became the first Western woman to meet the Dalai Lama.

“She must have been incredibly charming, people just open doors for her left, right and centre,” says Lindsey. But it was when, after travelling through Korea, she took a boat to Japan, that another passion was ignited. “She just falls in love with the gardens in Japan – and handily she has an estate back home where she can recreate one,” says Lindsey.

Now reopened to the public, the garden is once again welcoming visitors from near and far.

That 1907 tip to Kyoto and beyond inspired her so much that when she returned to Scotland, she hired Taki Handi, a female Japanese garden designer, from the Royal School of Garden Design at Nagoya, but at that time studying at Studley College in England to create her Shā Raku En – the place of pleasure and delight. “She [Taki] became the first woman to create a Japanese garden outside of Japan and even in Japan it was rare,” says Lindsey.

She did an impressive job, melding views of the nearby Ochils Hills into the lines of the garden and using local plants as well as imported Japanese specimens and those grown from seeds Ella had snaffled while in Japan. “The garden was created on a marshy bit of the estate, they dammed a burn to create a loch because water is a big part of Japanese gardens,” says Lindsey. A tea house, lanterns and bridges completed the site which so faithfully reproduced the exquisite gardens which had inspired Ella in Japan, that in 1925, Professor Jiji Suzuki,



Bridge and tea house at Japanese garden at Cowden. Photo: Tom Langlands Photography.

the 18th hereditary head of the Soami School of Imperial Design in Japan, called it the most important Japanese garden in the Western world.

He was a regular visitor, helping to maintain the trees and bushes, and from 1925, the garden was looked after full time by expert Japanese gardener Shinzaburo Matsuo who had lost his entire family in an earthquake in Japan. He found a new home in Scotland and he and Ella had long conversations about gardening plans – despite the fact he spoke no English and Japanese was not one of the four languages Ella was fluent in.

And for Ella it was indeed a place of pleasure and delight, where she held tea parties with her friends as she recharged from her latest travels – she continued to journey until a few months before her death from leukaemia in 1949. By then she was living in just a few rooms of the castle, crammed in with treasures from her globe-trotting.

Lives up to its name

After her death, the estate was inherited by her nephew, Robert Stewart, Alice's son. The castle, Lindsey believes, must have been in a poor state, as attempts to sell it failed and it was completely demolished in the 1950s. The Japanese Garden remained however until 1963 when it was destroyed in a vandal attack by local schoolboys. “It was absolutely devastated, they burned everything that could be burned and destroyed everything that could be destroyed,” says Lindsey. “They never caught who did it even though they were seen leaving in their school uniforms. No one has ever been caught and no one has ever come forward as they got older to admit it, we don't know if it was teenage high jinks or if there was something more behind it.”

Too expensive to repair, the garden was then left to slowly decay and become overgrown until 2012 when an ageing Robert passed the garden to his daughter, Sara. She began a fundraising campaign and created a trust to restore the garden to Ella's vision. Helped by £750,000 from the UK government, funds from other sources and expert advice from Professor Masao Fukuhara, best known for restoring the Japanese Gardens at Kew in London, the garden was slowly revived.

Now reopened to the public, the garden is once again welcoming visitors from near and far, just as Ella planned. Lindsey says: “It's wonderful to walk around the corner and find a Japanese garden in this rural part of Scotland - it blends so well with the landscape. I find I instinctively relax as I go through that archway, you get away from all the busy-ness of life. It lives up to its name, it is a pleasure and a delight.”

For more information see:
www.cowdengarden.com



Zig-zag bridge at Cowden's Japanese garden. Photo: Tom Langlands Photography.

Calling the Clans

Welcome to our "Clansified" listing of Scottish Clans, Societies and Clubs. If you would like to add your Clan please contact our office for full details. Our contacts are located on page 2. If you are contacting your Clan be sure to tell them you saw them in *the Scottish Banner* and please support these great community organisations.

Clans and Scottish organisations

To have your Clan or Scottish organisation listed in these pages please contact us at:
info@scottishbanner.com
 or www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us



Clan Cumming Society of the United States

Website: www.clancumming.us
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Clan Donnachaidh Society of New South Wales Inc., Australia

Duncan Robertson Reid
 People who bear any of the above names or other Sept names of Clan Donnachaidh "The Children of Duncan" are invited to join in our activities by participating in the Scottish Gatherings held in NSW.
For information and membership application, contact Richard Harvey, Secretary
Email: c2100575@uon.edu.au

Clan Fraser Society of Australia

Invites all Frasers and Fraser septs to join our clan society.
 All members receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter "Strawberry Leaves"
 Membership enquiries to Don Chitts
 Ph: (03) 9754 5120 donchitts@hotmail.com
 Website: <http://clanfraseraustralia.org>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/482236358590288>

Clan Baird Society Worldwide

Membership is open to those descended from Baird, Barde, Bard, Beard, Beaird, Brd, Bayard, Bardt, Barth and Biard or varied spellings of the name of Scottish origin.
 In addition to the Society newsletter and the opportunity to associate with fellow clansman members may query the Society genealogist. **For information write:**
 Clan Baird Commander
 Richard Baird of Rickarton, Ury and Lochwood
 Rickarton House, Stonehaven, Scotland.
 Hereditary President of Clan Baird Society Worldwide
 Debra J. Baird, Ph.D. FSA Scot, CBSW Convenor
 Email: djbaird4@gmail.com
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Clan Davidson Society in Australia Inc.

CHIEF: Grant Davidson of Davidston cordially invites to membership all who bear one of the Clan Names, and all who can trace their descent from an ancestor bearing one of these Names: Davidson; Davison; Dawson; Davis; Davie; Davey; Davy; Day; Dye; Dyson; Dawson; Dea; Dean; Deane; Deas; Deason; Dees; Dee; Dey; Daw; Dow; Dhai; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade; MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagny; MacDhai; McKeedie. In addition we welcome into membership all who have a family association with the Clan Davidson.
 Applications may be made online: clandavidsonaus@gmail.com or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P., P.O. Box 519 Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 dhill1@bigpond.net.au 0431 527 662

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Canada: Ontario * Western Canada
Australia: New South Wales * Victoria * Queensland * Western Australia
New Zealand: New Zealand
Europe: Spain
Africa: South Africa
USA: Arizona * Carolinas * Florida * Gulf Coast * Mid-Atlantic * New Mexico * Mid-West * Northeast * Northern California * Pacific Northwest * Rocky Mountains * South * Southern California * Texas * Upper Mid-West
 Visit our website to learn more about Clan Donnachaidh, our History & Traditions, the Clan Museum in Scotland, the DNA Project, the new Struan Kirk Appeal, & locate a Branch near you.
<http://www.donnachaidh.com/>
 Facebook: [The Clan Donnachaidh Society](https://www.facebook.com/TheClanDonnachaidhSociety)
 Email: ivc@donnachaidh.com

Clan Galbraith Society

Includes name variations such as Galbreath, Culbreath, Gilbraith etc.
 DNA testing project, members only databases, Biennial gatherings, blog, Quarterly journal.
www.clangalbraith.org

CLAN BELL

Invites membership inquiries from persons named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. Various resources available for genealogical research. Quarterly newsletter. Tents hosted at major Scottish games nationwide.
Website: www.ClanBell.org
 Online membership: <https://clanbell.org/membership.html>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ClanBell>
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secretary.clandonaldaustralia@gmail.com
There is no joy without Clan Donald

Edmonstone Clan Society

Invites membership to anyone of the surname or variations: - Edmiston/e, Edmondston, Edmanson, Edmeston, Edmonson, Edmondson, etc. Chieftain Sir Archibald Edmonstone Bt of Duntreath
Contact: Mal Edmiston
3 Laguna Ave
Kirwan, Qld, 4817
61 (0)7 4755 4370
m.edmiston@bigpond.com

Clan Gregor Society

Established 1822, Edinburgh, Scotland
 Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor
 7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balgihidder,
 24th Chief of Clan Gregor
 Great Lakes, New England, Pacific North West, Western U.S. and Southeast Chapters
www.clangregor.org
 For membership contact Keith MacGregor
 PO Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876
kmact1@optonline.net
 Peter Lawrie, Secretary
 6 The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL, Scotland

Family of Bruce International, Inc.

Family of Bruce International, Inc., the only such organization recognized by the hereditary chief of the Name of Bruce, The Rt. Hon. Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, is a non-profit organization established to create kinship amongst its family members and promote interest in the Family of Bruce and its history. Membership is open to persons who qualify by surname, by descent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle, Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.
Membership inquiries should be directed to:
 Donald E. Bruce Polly A. (Bruce) Tilford, Secretary
 President 5561 Earl Young Road
 1051 Eagle Ridge Trail Bloomington, IN 47408
 Stillwater, Minnesota 55082 www.familyofbruceinternational.org

Clan Donald Queensland

Commissioner: Neil Macdonald
 Ph: 0412 090990
 Email: clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au
 Web: www.clandonaldqld.org
ELIGIBILITY: Those with the name of MacDonald Macdonald McDonald McDonell, Donald, OR of one of the Septs of Clan Donald, OR with a connection through family lineage.
There is no joy without Clan Donald

Elliot Clan Society, U.S.A.

Jim Dougherty - Clan President welcomes membership of all who are connected with this great border family.
 Direct inquires to: Marianne Elliott, Membership Chair
 Email: marianne@mmelliott.com
Website: www.elliotclan-usa.com

Clan Gregor Society Australasia

All MacGregors and Septs of our clan are invited to join the Clan Gregor Society Est 1822
 If you live in Australia or New Zealand, please contact our clan representative:
 Frank McGregor
 PO Box 14 NORTH HOBART TAS 7002
Email: clangregorastralia@gmail.com
Web: www.clangregor.com
"Royal is our Race"

National Clan Cameron Australia Inc.

Celebrates those who trace their ancestry to Clan Cameron or are connected to the Clan through marriage or partnership or are from families acknowledged as Septs of Clan Cameron.
President: Alistair Cameron
Secretary: Terry Cameron
secy.nationalclancameronaus@gmail.com
www.clan-cameron.org.au

Clan Donald U.S.A. Inc.

Clan Donald USA is a nationwide organization of over 2,000 families who trace their ancestry to any of the branches of Clann Domhnaill. We embrace all the MacDonalds and other surnames that are recognized as branches or adherents of the greatest of the Highland clans.
www.clandonaldusa.org

Clan Farquharson Association Australia

Membership inquiries are invited from descendants of Farquharson and descendants of Sept family names. Please contact the association by mail to:
The Secretary: Clan Farquharson Association Australia
 PO Box 585 Springwood, NSW 2777
 or by Email to: finlaysb@bigpond.com
www.clanfarquharsonaus.weebly.com

American Clan Gregor Society

Est 1909 Membership inquiries welcomed from MacGregors of all spellings and Septs
Gregor Grier MacAdams MacNish Magruder McGehee Gregory King Peter Fletcher Gregg Lecky Black and many others
Contact our registrar: Jeanne P. Lehr
11 Ballas Crt.
St. Louis, MO 63131-3038
 Phone: 314-432-2842, registrar@acgsus.org
 website: www.acgsus.org

CHISHOLM Clan Chisholm Society of Australia Inc

Membership is invited from Clan Chisholm descendants of all spellings of the name (Chisholm, Chisolm, Chism, Chisum, Chisam, etc)
 Contact: Kim Polley OAM
 PO Box 84, Longford, Tasmania, 7301
Email: kim.polley13@gmail.com
www.clanchisholmsociety.org/public/AUSmembership.php

CLAN DONALD in VICTORIA

Proudly affiliated with Clan Donald Australia, Victorian Scottish Union and Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group. Represented at all major Highland gatherings in Victoria.
CLAN DONALD VICTORIA
 President: Mr Norman A. Macdonald
 Contact: secretary.clandonaldvic@gmail.com
 Formed in 1934, with membership from many MacDonald, McDonald and Macdonald families living in Victoria. Membership available, with dance classes for Scottish Country Dance most Friday evenings in Gardenvale.
CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE
 Hon Chief: Mr Lindsay McDonald
 Contact: secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com
 A hereditary clan society formed by the children of Norman Hume Macdonald and Johan McKenzie Macdonald (nee Munro) who departed Scotland in 1854.

FORBES

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CONTACT: MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG

Clan Hamilton Society

Hamiltons and those of Hamilton descent are cordially invited to join the society.
 Inquiries to be sent to:
 Sheri Lambert, Treasurer
 P.O. Box 5399
 Vernon Hills, IL 60061
 visit our website:
www.clanhamilton.org

Clan Hay Australia

A' Hay A' Hay
A callout to all Hay's and our name variants, descendants, and supporters. Clan Hay looking for new members to join our illustrious Clan. All descendants and supporter's welcome.

Alderston; Ayer; Bagra; Beagrie; Conn (Aberdeenshire only); Constable; Delahaye; Delgaty; Du Plessis; Dupplin; Errol; Garrow; Geary; Gifford; Hayden; Hays; Haynes; Hayter; Haynes; Hays; Hayton; Hayward; Hey; Hye; Kinnou; Laxfirth; Leask; Leith; Locherworth; Logie; Macara; MacGaradh; McKester; Peebles; Phillips (Aberdeenshire only); Slains; Turrif; Tweeddale; Yester; Zester

For more information, please contact:
Australian Clan Hay convenor, Chris Hay McMor Fairbank
PO Box 70, Darrinallum, Victoria, 3325, Australia
E: clanhayaustralia@outlook.com
clanHayAustralia@Facebook.com

CLAN LAMONT SOCIETY AUSTRALIA

invites membership from Sept names refer to Web Site www.clanlamontaustralia.com

Clan Chief Peter Lamont of that Ilk resides in Sydney Australia.

For all enquires about the Clan and Membership contact :-
President Ian McLucas.
Email ianandbevmclucas@bigpond.com
mobile 0448 778 799

Clan Mackenzie Society in Australia Inc.

Membership enquiries welcomed from Mackenzies of all spellings and Septs

Contact: N Dennis, 61 Alma Street, East Malvern 3145 Ph 03 9569 5716

Visit our website
Check out your Tartan and Sept
www.clanmackenzie.org.au

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Clan Hay

April Rich
28 Oxbow Drive
Willimantic, CT 06226
clanhaymembership@hotmail.com

The American Branch of the First Family of Scotland welcomes inquires from descendants of: Hay(s); Hays(s); Hayne(s); Hey(s); Alderston; Arml; Ayer(s); Constable; Con(n); De La Hays; Delgatie; Delgaty; D' Ay(e); Della'h'a'y; Errol(l); Garrad; Garrow; Gifford; Hawson; Haygood; Hayter; Hayward; Haywood; Haynie; Hayden; Hayfield; Hayne(s); Leask(e); Leith; Lester; MacGaradh; Peebles; Peoples; Peoples; Turrif; Tweeddale; Yester

www.clanhay.com

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MacLaren

Clan Labhran

Clan MacLaren Society of Australia

Information about the Clan and application for CMSA membership is available on the website or via the email address below.
Membership is open to MacLarens (all spellings), Septs, individuals and families with an association to the Clan.

<https://clanmaclarenau.org/>
clanmaclarenau@gmail.com

Clan Macnachtan Association Worldwide

Descendants and Septs of the CLAN MACNAUGHTON are invited to join our Worldwide Association to learn and share our MacNaughtan and Scottish heritage. For more info go to: clanmacnaughton.net or contact Mary Nivison Burton, Membership Secretary at: membersec@clanmacnaughton.net

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Clan Henderson Society

Purposes of the Society

- Foster Scottish culture and activities
- Promote Scottish festivals and games
- Assist in genealogical research
- Foster fellowship among kith and kin
- Promote the history of Scotland
- Promote charitable and educational activities via a scholarship fund
- Gather the Clan, as directed by our Chief, Alistair of Fordell

Contact: Jeff Henderson
jeffh@bigpond.com
0439 330 012

www.clanhendersonsociety.com

McAlpin/e

and variant spellings

Commander: Michael T. McAlpin

DISCOVER YOUR HERITAGE!
Contact: membership.macalpein@gmail.com
Website: <https://macalpein.com/>

Clan MacLaren

MacLaren MacLaurin Lawrence
Lawson Low[e]
Low[e]ry Law[e] Patterson
MacPatrick MacRory

Mark A. McLaren, President
President@clanmaclarenna.org

Clan MacNeil Association of Australia

For all enquiries about the clan and membership contact: John McNeil
21 Coopers Avenue
Leabrook, South Australia 5068
Phone: 08 833 33990 Email: kisimul@chariot.net.au

Clan Hope of Craighall Society

For all of the name and lineage of Hope

INTERNATIONAL & AUSTRALIA
President & Commissioner: Stephen J. Hope
president@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
High Commissioner: Richard Rex Hope
highcommissionerusa@clanhope.org

Membership Chair: Cynthia Hope Henderson
membership@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org

CANADA
Commissioner: Scott Hale
commissioner@clanhope.ca
www.clanhope.ca

SCOTLAND
Commissioner: Colin Douglas Hope
commissionerscotland@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org

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

Clan MacDougall Society of North America

MacDougalls, MacDowalls, & ALL Associated Families

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CLAN MACNEIL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

invites all MacNeils, regardless of surname spelling, to join us in celebrating our heritage!

website: ClanMacNeilUSA.us
Find us on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram
[@ClanMacNeilUSA](https://www.instagram.com/ClanMacNeilUSA)

Clan Irwin Association

Chief and Patron
Alexander H.R. Irvine of Drum,
27th Baron and Laird of Drum, Chief of the Name
Mary Erwin, Chairman
155 Hattaway Road, Calhoun, LA, 71225
mary.erwin@clanirwin.org
www.clanirwin.org
IRWIN • IRVINE • IRVIN • IRVING • ERWIN
And the many other spellings of the Name

INTERNATIONAL CLAN MACFARLANE SOCIETY, INC

The OFFICIAL Clan MacFarlane Society
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Re-established - 1973 Grandfather Mountain, NC

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Michael R. MacFarlane, FSA Scot - President
Richard G. Kilby, FSA Scot - Treasurer
John K. Manchester - Secretary

International Clan MacFarlane Society, Inc.
PO Box 359 Eldersburg, CA 91740 USA
info@macfarlane.org

Arms of the International Clan MacFarlane Society granted by Lord Lyon, King of Arms, 16 February, 2000

MACFARLANE.ORG

Clan MacLellan

John B. McClellan, Jr.
Treasurer
383 Ash Brook Lane
Sunnyvale, TX
75182-3250
Email: treasurer@clanmaclellan.net

Invites all MacLellans and their descendants regardless of surname spelling to join in preserving our heritage. Various family names are MacLellan(d), McClellan(d), McLellan(d) and Gilliland.

Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net

Clan MacNicol

Chief: John MacNeacail
of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac
Contact: Secretary Mal Nicolson
PO Box 243
GYMEA NSW 2227
www.clanmacnicol.org

Clan Lachlan Association

based in Castle Lachlan, Strathlachlan, Argyll, Scotland along with its branches worldwide welcomes interested persons from MacLachlans of all spellings & septs

Canada ~ Ken Godfrey ken.godfrey1@gmail.com
Australia ~ Douglas McLaughlin banddmcl@tpg.com.au
Britain, Ireland & Scotland ~ Tony MacEwen macewen45@sky.com
New Zealand ~ Helen Chegwin kiwihc@extra.co.nz
USA ~ Kevin McLachlan kevinbmcclachlan@gmail.com

Clan MacInnes

Int'l Assn. of Clan MacInnes (Aonghais)

Worldwide, we welcome descendants of all spelling variations, including (Mc)Angus, (Mc)Canse, (Mc)Ginnis, (Mc)Guenis, (Mc)Inch, (Mc)Innes, (Mc)Innis, (Mc)Kinnis, (Mc)Masters, (Mc)Neish, (Mc)Ninch, and more.

Scott McInnis, Member Services: scott@macinnes.org
or visit **www.macinnes.org**

Clan MacLeod Societies of Australia

Membership is open to MacLeods and Septs (of any variant spelling), and descendants. **Recognised Septs:**

Askey MacAndie MacClure
Beaton MacAskill MacCorkill MacWilliam
Bethune MacAulay MacCrimmon Norie
Caskie MacCabe MacGillechallum Norman
Harold MacCaig MacHaigh Tolmie
Lewis MacCaskey MacRaid Williamson

- NSW, ACT & Qld - Peter Macleod 02 4397 3161
- Victoria & Tas - David Dickie 03 9337 4384
- South Australia - Alex McLeod 08 8327 0925
- Western Australia - Ruth MacLeod 08 9364 6334

• Email: peter.macleod@exemail.com.au

Clan Macpherson Association

Clan Macpherson welcomes enquiries from Macphersons and members of our Associated families. For information about local activities visit our web site www.clan-macpherson.org/branches

Africa: Derek Macpherson
African.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +265 999 512 620

Canada: Denise Lagundzin
Canada.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +1 519 507 4465

Europe: Will Tulling
Europe.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +31 655 774 425

Scotland & Northern Ireland: Annie Le Roy-Lewis
SandN.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +44 7793 317 387

Australia: John L Macpherson
Australian.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +61 409 122 141

England & Wales: William Macpherson
EandW.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +44 7877 363 507

New Zealand: Tony McPherson
NewZealand.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +64 274 587 813

USA: Robert T McPherson
UnitedStates.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +1 360 701 8133

The Clan Macpherson Museum is located in Newtonmore, Inverness Shire PH20 1DE, at the junction of the A86 and B9150 It is open from 1st April to 31st October.
Ph +44 1540 673 332. See <http://www.clan-macpherson.org/museum/>

Scottish Associations and Societies



The Clan MacRae Society of Australia and New Zealand

If your surname is MacRae, or you are descended from a person having the surname MacRae (any spelling) or that of a Sept of the Clan then you are eligible to join our Society.

Australian Contact:
Roslyn MacRae 0412 291 054 email: learn@vsr.com.au
NZ Contact: Sue Tregoweth email: sue.treg1@gmail.com



Clan Ross in Australia

for information contact Commander Des Ross
(By appointment David Ross Bt Chief of Clan Ross and Balnagowan)

We would be pleased to hear from anyone with Ross Clan heritage and interest.

Contact: Commander Des Ross at
lonepiper.ross@gmail.com M 0403 830 853
Ken Duthie JP Director of Publicity M 0409 322 374



The American-Scottish Foundation, Inc.

Through our platform of projects and events ASF helps share and strengthen the heritage and cultural message of Scotland's past and future. A bridge between the United States and Scotland.

www.americanscottishfoundation.org

The American-Scottish Foundation



Scottish Gaelic Language Classes:

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Contact: Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277
Email: scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria
Founded in 1905
<https://www.scottishgaelicvictoria.com>



Clan MacRae Society of North America
Granted Arms in 2008

We invite MacRaes of all spelling variations and their descendants to join our Clan MacRae Society. Learn your Scottish MacRae history and family lineage!

www.macrae.org
Need more info? Contact:
Bruce McRae, President
303-670-9611
brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com




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info@clanross.org

www.clanross.org



Caledonian Society of WA Inc.

Promotes Scottish Culture and Traditions in Perth, Western Australia

For further details contact John: 0427 990 754
Email: caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com
www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

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Contact Raghnaid NicGaraidh
rachel.hay@iinet.net.au



Clan Maitland Society

Chief: Ian Maitland, The Earl of Lauderdale!
We are all related! Contact your local society

North America: Rosemary Maitland Thom
rthomnvrpcan@aol.com www.clanmaitlandna.org

Australia: Amanda Maitland clanmaitland@yahoo.com.au
12 Settlers Way, Westleigh, NSW, 2120

New Zealand: Judette Maitland judette@xtra.co.nz
33 Disley Street, Highbury, Wellington 6012, NZ

We welcome all with Maitland, Lauderdale, Maitten and similar name spelling. See the entire list and your family history at:
www.clanmaitland.org.uk



Clan Sinclair Australia

Membership and inquiries from all Sinclairs, Sinclair Septs and Sinclair descendants.


For further info contact
President: WayneSinclair 0417 146 174
Secretary : Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263
E: clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com
www.clansinclairaustralia.com



Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc

Promotes and supports all forms of Scottish culture in Newcastle, Hunter Valley and surrounding areas. Members and interested people are welcome to attend activities such as Burns Night, Caledonian Night, St Andrew's Day, and other social functions.

Web: hvscots.org **Email:** hunterscots@gmail.com
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NESBITT - NISBET SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA



Clan Nisbet, a Borders family, welcomes new members worldwide. Whether you're a Nesbit, Nisbet, or one of the many other spelling variations, we encourage you to inquire.

Head to our official website to learn about our proud heritage. Our must-read section, "Notable Nisbets" chronicles Alexander Nisbet, Scotland's famous author of heraldry and other renowned ancestors.

www.ibydeit.org
enisbet@ibydeit.org



Clan Sutherland Society of North America Inc.

The Society cordially invites membership of all Sutherlands (however the name is spelled) and historically associated families: Cheyne, Duffus, Gray, Frederith and Mowat.

Email: Secretary@ClanSutherland.org
Website: www.ClanSutherland.org

The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne Inc.

- > Promotes interest in the works, life and milieu of the Scottish Poet Robert Burns
- > Celebrates Scottish Culture
- > Conducts Annual Burn Supper, Poetry Afternoon & Pleasant Sunday Afternoon

For Membership Information contact:
Secretary: Noel Wright (03) 8333 0973
Email: noelwright@netspace.net.au



Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group
Supporting the Scottish Community in Victoria

Suite 87, 139 Cardigan St
Carlton Vic 3053

Email: resource_centre@scotssofarus.org.au
Website: <https://scotssofarus.org.au>
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E: membership@clanyoungaustalia.com.au
www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/
<https://clanyoungsociety.com/australia>

The Scottish Australian Heritage Council



Membership is welcome from all of Scottish descent.

For information please contact
members@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

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Established 1905


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Clan Grant	Scottish Country Dance Society of Victoria
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Clan Sinclair	Warrambool & District Caledonian Society
Geelong Scottish Dance	Warrambool Highland Dance

Chief : Mr Grant McKinna
President Norman Macdonald
Secretary Jan Macdonald

Contact details:
Email: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com
Mobile 0438 584 930
Address: PO Box 116, Cobden, Victoria 3266
www.victorianscottishunion.com



Clan Pollock

Among the most ancient families of Scotland. If you are a descendant of Pollock, Pollok, Pook, Polk, Polke, Paulk, Poalke, Poulk, Poolke, Pogue - you are cordially invited to contact:

A. D. Pollock, Jr.
PO Box 404
Greenville, KY 42345
e-mail: apollockis@comcast.net



Clan Wardlaw Association
Founded 2004

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email: shusa457@gmail.com
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Share your Clan news, photos and events with us so we can share with our readers and online.

Please contact us at:
info@scottishbanner.com,
www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us
or add your upcoming events at:
www.scottishbanner.com/events/submit-an-event

All Clydesdales great and small to be celebrated at Scenic Rim

From tiny Shetland ponies to the towering Shire horses, all Clydesdales great and small will be celebrated in the Scenic Rim over the weekend of June 17 and 18 for the hugely popular Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular. Now in its 11th year, the Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular is the richest Clydesdale Show in the Southern Hemisphere, where the grand champions of the breed are judged, the heritage of the breed is shared, and the history of the breed in Australia is toasted. In a major coup – an epic 11-horse team of Marlie Draught Horses is confirmed to attend. One of the largest teams in the country, they will pull a Bennett's Wagon and perform twice daily. Known as the Gentle Giants of the horse world and recognised in Australia as 'the breed that built the nation', yet listed as 'vulnerable' internationally, Queensland has a long history with the Clydesdale.

"Our region owes much to the majestic Clydesdales which played a key role in establishing the Scenic Rim's incredible agricultural base by clearing vast tracts of land, ploughing the paddocks and bringing in the harvest," said Organising Sub-Committee Chair, Rick Stanfield. "While the advent of machinery saw a decline in the breed in the 1960s, the efforts of fan, breeders and this event committee to preserve and celebrate the 130-year history of these gentle giants here has resulted in the Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular



becoming one of Queensland's most significant events." The event generates some \$2.3 million for the region, generated 10,109 visitor nights over the weekend in 2022 and contributed to more than 13,000 visitor nights throughout Queensland. The full schedule of Clydesdale competition takes place in the main arena, while rare trades are showcased including harness making, blacksmithing, wheelwrights, horse-drawn demonstrations & driving displays, whip plaiting and more. Additional highlights include the Queensland Whip Cracking Championships, World Billy Boiling Championships, wood chopping, working dog displays, Friesian Horse Troupe performances, artisan coopering & bush poetry.

Tribute to the Scottish descendants

In tribute to the Scottish descendants who moved to the region and brought with them their beloved Clydesdale, the event includes a stirring massing of Pipes and Drums, Calling of the Clans, the Clydesdale and Clan class and traditional Scottish caber tossing. There'll be haggis burgers a whisky bar and Scots are encouraged to attend in their clan kilts! Andy Scott's Clydebuilt which sits proudly at the roundabout into Boonah, was built in a local Butter Factory workshop and a local economic development committee raised the funds to buy it after it had been displayed at the Swell Sculpture by the Sea Festival in Sydney. The sculpture is recognised by the Queensland National Trust.

"The event will feature some of the top Clydesdales in the country and shouldn't be missed by anyone who has an interest in this magnificent breed, or anyone who loves horses, or for that matter anyone who wants a brilliant experience in the country where there is literally something to watch and experience at every moment!" said event organiser Greta Stanfield. The Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular will be staged in the middle of the region's famous EAT LOCAL MONTH, creating just another reason to visit, stay and experience.

Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular 2023 takes place Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th June 2023 at Boonah Showgrounds at 8 Melbourne Street, Boonah. 8am until late both days. More information and tickets: www.clydesdalespectacular.com.au

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Scottish New Wool Tartan Blanket:

This luxury 70% wool 30% mixed fibres blend blanket will keep you cosy and warm during the winters and also can be used in the car or as a picnic rug. These timeless durable travel rugs measure 180cm x 140cm and are with a purled fringe, these classic blankets are approved by the Scottish Tartans Authority with 31 tartans available.

Scottish Tartan Scarves:

Made in the Scottish Borders and available in over 100 Clan, family and district tartans. Made by Ingles Buchan these soft lamb's wool scarves are both comfortable and elegant, suitable for any occasion and anyone. 100% Lambswool, measuring approx. 30cms x 152cms.

If after a specific tartan please check online for full listing or contact us before ordering. Ask us for your tartan today!

Scarves: \$44.95 each plus \$9.50 postage Australia wide. NZ customers add \$5.00 (AU\$ only)

Scottish New Wool Tartan Blanket: \$119.95 each plus \$16.00 postage Australia wide. NZ customers add \$10.00 (AU\$ only)

Order at: The Scottish Banner: PO Box 6202, Marrickville South, NSW, 2204
P: 02 9559 6348 E: info@scottishbanner.com W: www.scottishbanner.com/product-category/collectibles

Berry Celtic Festival

Sat 27 May
from 9.30am

Feel the mystical spirits of the past when the pipes of the mass bands send their cries across the arena ... and stand back when the jousting knights on horseback go charging at one another. Experience medieval camp life, and watch out for Scottish soldiers reliving glory battles. Or just enjoy the Celtic fiddlers and the enchanted singing and dancing.
ENTRY: \$15 PER PERSON under 15 years free



BERRY SHOWGROUND

Another community fundraising project of the Rotary Club of Berry with thanks to Shoalhaven City Council and Sponsors.
www.berryrotary.org.au



WHAT'S ON - SCOTTISH EVENTS

Enjoy Australia and New Zealand's top Scottish event listings in the Scottish Banner. Please check direct with event contacts for the most up to date information. You can also see our latest updates (including events listed across Scotland and North America) or add your event at: www.scottishbanner.com/events

Australia

MAY 2023

Australian Celtic Festival 4-7, Glen Innes, NSW

Celebrating year of Scotland with a great range of Celtic entertainment, stalls and more amongst the Australian Standing Stones. Come and experience this unique Festival in the spectacularly colourful autumn that is a highlight of the cool New England climate. Info: 02 6730 2400 or www.australiancelticfestival.com

Soup & Damper Social 7, Teralba, NSW

Join the Hunter Valley Scots Club for a social event at Teralba Community Hall, Cnr Margaret St & Anzac Pde. Info: www.hvscots.org

Clan Davidson Gathering 7, Pokolbin, NSW

Luncheon at Tamburlaine Organic Wines, Pokolbin, Hunter Valley. Info: Geoff Davidson: niara@bigpond.com

2023 Chieftains Ceilidh 13, Perth, WA

Join the Saint Andrew Society of Western Australia for Scottish music, dance and fun at Yokine Bowling Club, 10 Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine. Info: www.saintandrew.org.au

Scottish Ceilidh with The Ceilidh Clan 19, Brisbane, QLD

South-East Queensland's premier ceilidh band, The Ceilidh Clan, and Anywhere Festival Moreton Bay present a night of joyful dancing and live music at the Hills District Community Centre, Arana Hills. Family friendly event – all ages welcome. Info & tickets: www.ceilidhclan.com

World Whisky Day 20, Nationwide

A day of global whisky celebration, try a dram and celebrate the water of life. Info: www.worldwhiskyday.com

Society of St Andrew of Scotland, Darling Downs Branch Highland Gathering 20, Toowoomba, QLD

A Highland Gathering (2 Course evening meal), a fabulous evening of all things Scottish, will be held at the Downs Club at 6pm. Cost \$75.00 per person. Info: Marg 0429 700 217 or www.societystandrewddb.org

Berry Celtic Festival 27, Berry, NSW

The Knights, pipe bands, Clans, medieval villagers, Celtic stalls, singing and dancing at Berry Showground. Info: www.berryrotary.org.au/celtic-festival

Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh 27, Inglewood, WA

All ages welcome. Music by the Heel n Toe Ceilidh Band. Come and enjoy a really fun night out at Bob Daniels Community Centre, 895 Beaufort St. Info: John: 0427990754 or www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

The Gathering Pipe Band Competition 27, Ipswich, QLD

Pipe band competition only, the event will be free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/TheGatheringIpswich

JUNE 2023

Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival 3, Wingham, NSW

Pipe bands, Scottish dancers & entertainment, Scottish Clans & community groups on display at Central Park. A free community event. Wingham is a small township 20min drive west of Taree on the beautiful mid-north coast of New South Wales. Info: www.bonnieingham.com

Bonnie Wingham Scottish Concert 4, Wingham, NSW

The Concert, which is run by the Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival, is a unique opportunity for people of all ages to enjoy the spectacular world of music and dance. Performers are all locals who excel in their respective field. It is a chance for all to experience music in its full glory. 2-4pm. Info: Jillian 02 6559 3605 or www.bonnieingham.com/sunday-concert

National Celtic Festival 9-12, Portarlington, VIC

The National Celtic Festival, Australia's largest and most diverse celebration of Celtic music, arts and culture, held over the June long weekend in beautiful Portarlington, on the Bellarine Peninsula, Victoria. Info: www.nationalcelticfestival.com

24th International Tartan Day 17, Brisbane, QLD

This event has been cancelled for 2023. Info: www.aussie-scots.org.au

Clydesdale Spectacular 2023 17-18, Boonah, QLD

A 2-day Clydesdale & Heavy Horse Experience featuring a Scottish Highland Gathering with pipe bands at Boonah Showgrounds. Info: 1300 259 343 or www.clydesdalespectacular.com.au

Townsville Tartan Day 18, Townsville, QLD

The day the Scots of Townsville and everyone who loves all things Scottish come together for a free community event in conjunction with the

Cotters Market. Info: www.facebook.com/Townsvillescots

Mid-Winter Scottish Night & Ceilidh 24, Bathurst, NSW

Celebrate the Winter in Bathurst with pipes and drums of the Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band, Scottish Highland Dancing, songs and poems of Robert Burns, kilts and traditional dancing. Join in lots of dancing with the Ceilidh Dance Band in the ballroom and plenty more at Abercrombie House, 311 Ophir Rd. Info: 02 6331 4929 or www.abercrombiehouse.com.au

Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh 24, Inglewood, WA

All ages welcome. Music by the Heel n Toe Ceilidh Band. and enjoy a really fun night out at Bob Daniels Community Centre, 895 Beaufort St. Info: John: 0427990754 or www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

Camperdown Robert Burns Scottish Festival 29-July 2, Camperdown, VIC

The festival promotes the legacy of Robert Burns and celebrates the diverse cultural heritage in south-west Victoria. Info: www.camperdownburnsfestival.com.au

New Zealand

MAY 2023

Scottish Country Dancing Course 2, Wellington

Scottish dancing is social and energetic – exercise for body and mind, done to toe-tapping music! Have fun and meet new people, while getting fit. It's suitable for all levels of fitness, and is a great way of meeting and socialising with new people at Wellington High School Community Education Centre, 249 Taranaki St. Info: www.eventfinda.co.nz/2023/scottish-country-dancing/wellington

From the Highlands to the Caucasus 7, Lower Hutt

Hutt Valley Orchestra is delighted to be presenting their first concert for 2023. Included are MacCunn's "The Land of the Mountain and the Flood" evoking stirring images of the Scottish Highlands, Vaughan Williams lively "English Folk Song Suite", Khachaturian's "Waltz" from Masquerade and Delius "La Calinda" at St James Church, 71 Woburn Rd. Info: www.hvo.org.nz

The Scottish Kiwi 10-13, Wellington

Fresh from a sold-out run at the Sydney Fringe Comedy Festival, catch the 2021 winner of "Best Newcomer" (NZ Comedy Guild 2021), Ryan McGhee, as he explores all things Scottish and Kiwi at Te Auaha, 65 Dixon St. Info: www.comedyfestival.co.nz/find-a-show/the-scottish-kiwi

Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh 13, Wellington

A ceilidh is held in the City of Wellington Pipe Band Hall, corner Stoke and Hanson Street Newtown, from 8.00pm - 12.00am. We are a very family-oriented organisation and we encourage participation by all ages and encourage the opportunity for you to wear some tartan. Info: www.wellingtongaelicclub.org.nz

Craic N' Ceilidh 20, Wellington

A night of food, music and dancing at St Teresa's Church Hall. Presented by Pipes in the Park Wellington. Info: events@stteresas.ac.nz or www.facebook.com/pipesintheparkWGTN

World Whisky Day 20, Nationwide

A day of global whisky celebration, try a dram and celebrate the water of life. Info: www.worldwhiskyday.com

VUW Wellington Scottish Interest Group 28, Wellington

Shetland Migrants to New Zealand-Seafarers, Knitters and much more. The Wellington Shetland Society members are delighted to share news of the Society's current activities to celebrate its Centenary year – exhibitions, Anniversary Picnic, Viking Ball, annual Stout Lecture, Island Bay mural, interwoven with stories of migrants and settlements and illustrated with displays at the Victoria University of Wellington Law School, Old Government Buildings, Lambton Quay. Info: <https://wellyscots.wordpress.com>

JUNE 2023

Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh 10, Wellington

A ceilidh is held in the City of Wellington Pipe Band Hall, corner Stoke and Hanson Street Newtown, from 8.00pm - 12.00am. We are a very family-oriented organisation and we encourage participation by all ages and encourage the opportunity for you to wear some tartan. Info: www.wellingtongaelicclub.org.nz

VUW Wellington Scottish Interest Group 28, Wellington

"Rainy rainy rattlestanes, dinna rain on me": "Mackintosh" formula – patented in 1823. Ways to make life easier have always engaged inventive Scottish minds. Dr David Lambie will reveal the successes of two 'chemistry' partners, one being Charles Macintosh who has long kept us dry with the essential 'mack!' at the Victoria University of Wellington Law School, Old Government Buildings, Lambton Quay. Info: <https://wellyscots.wordpress.com>

Scotland

MAY 2023

Edinburgh TradFest 4-5, Edinburgh

An annual celebration of traditional music from Scotland and around the world, features an extensive programme of concerts and workshops, performed and hosted by world-class musicians. Info: www.edinburghtradfest.com

Arran Mountain Festival 12-15, Isle of Arran

From wildlife-watching coastal walks to scrambles on towering granite ridges, Scotland's premier hillwalking and mountaineering festival is an opportunity to discover a fascinating island with amazing landscapes, in the safe hands of experienced local leaders. Info: www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk

Helensburgh Beer & Gin Festival 19-21, Helensburgh

Patrons will be able to taste a wide range of Ales and many local gin producers will be exhibiting, enabling people to explore different varieties of the famous drink. On top of beer and gin, the festival will also welcome a cocktail bar, a prosecco bar, a rum bar, cider and lager. Info: www.helensburghroundtable.org/our-events

Aye Write!

19-28, Glasgow
Aye Write! is Glasgow's Book Festival, founded in 2005 and each year celebrates the best in national, international and local writing, with big names and emerging talent on the programme. Info: www.facebook.com/AyeWrite

World Whisky Day

20, Nationwide
A day of global whisky celebration, try a dram and celebrate the water of life. Info: www.worldwhiskyday.com

Gordon Castle Highland Games

21, Fochabers, Aberdeenshire
A fantastic day out for the whole family, with attractions from Highland Dancing to contemporary Scottish sports. Info: www.gordoncastle.co.uk/gordon-castle-highland-games-2023

Orkney Folk Festival 25-28, Orkney

Alongside regular favourites and scores of Orkney-based musicians and singers, the lineup features acts from across the UK, Scandinavia and North America. The globally renowned Scottish folk group Capercaillie are set to appear at this years event. Info: www.orkneyfolkfestival.com

Blackford Highland Games 27, Blackford, Perthshire

The famous Blackford Highland Games have been held since 1870 on the park, an area of land loaned to the community by the landowner. A condition of the loan is that the Highland Games are held there annually in May. Info: www.blackfordhighlandgames.co.uk

The Atholl Gathering 28, Pitlochry

Traditional Scottish Games in heart of Scotland at Blair Castle. Info: www.atholl-estates.co.uk/blair-castle

Scotword answers from page 6

Across:	Down:
Across:	2 Twist
1 Steep	3 Partners
4 Claymores	4 Champion
9 River Earn	5 Alness
10 Mayor	6 Moment
11 Turnip	7 Royal
13 Singlet	8 Strathspey
15 Interpol	12 Untie
16 Ores	14 Fiery Cross
20 Reek	17 Robes
21 Assemble	18 Usquebae
24 Ceilidh	19 Repealed
26 Uneasy	22 Fidget
28 Owing	23 Sherry
29 Rebel Yell	25 Icier
30 Strathyre	27 Yolks



The Manning Valley Historical Society Inc
proudly presents the 18th

Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival

SATURDAY 3rd June 2023

Come along and join in the celebrations.
Activities for all Ages.

Clan of Honour 2023- **Clan Donnachaidh**

Visit our new website at

www.bonnieingham.com
for more information
about our fabulous Festival.



For more information contact
John
02 6556 9057
bonnieingham18@gmail.com

Festival Program

Saturday 3rd June - 9.30am-3.00pm

HIGHLAND FAIR

There will be no official Street Parade, however the bands will parade around the stall area before the Opening Ceremony. Other activities include: Highland Games, Stalls (both Clan and retail), Quintet competition, Pipe Bands, Highland Dancing, Scottish Theme Dog competition and events for the kids.

Sunday 4th June - 2.00pm-4.00pm

SUNDAY CONCERT

Come along and enjoy an afternoon of singing, dancing by local artists. Tickets sold at the door. A small supper will be available for a gold coin donation.

Miss Scotland Lucy Sophia Thompson.



Images by Jemal Countess/Getty Images for Friends of Scotland.

Dressed to Kilt 20th Anniversary Show



The Sir Sean Connery Tartan.

country lifestyle were also included in the show. The big winner here was Scottish cashmere, tweed, and tartan.

The show featured fabulous kilts and tartan looks worn by notable, celebrities and acclaimed professionals from Scotland, the United States, and various parts of the globe. Models who graced the runway included Edward Beyers, SEAL Team Six and US Congressional Medal of Honor recipient; Taylor Winyard, Scottish rower who holds a record for rowing across the Atlantic; Lesley Paterson, Scotland's latest heroine and 2023 Oscar winner for *All Quiet on the Western Front*; and Lucy Sophia Thompson, current Miss Scotland. And for the first time ever, the show included a member of the clergy. The Rev. Canon Dana Corsello, the Vicar of the National Cathedral in Washington D.C., made her runway debut wearing the World Peace Tartan kilt. Other models included

Scotland's most famous fashion show, Dressed to Kilt (DTK), celebrated its 20th anniversary with a massive sold-out show in Washington with over 65 looks. The show took place on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC, exactly 20 years to the day of the first show in New York City on April 1, 2003. This year's theme is "Country Cool- Fashion for the Outdoors" highlighting looks inspired by hunting, shooting, fishing, camping, riding, hiking, and other outdoor activities. A number of Scotland's top designers participated in this show including Calzeat, Glenisla Kilts, Harris Tweed Hebrides, House of Cheviot, Kinalba Scottish Cashmere, Lorna Gillies, Strathmore Woolen Mills, Slanj, Totty Rocks and Walker Slater. Several American designers that utilize traditional Scottish fabrics that are not only suited for the catwalk but also the outdoor



Scottish singer Nati Dredd.



A model wears Lorna Gilles.

former Navy SEALs, high-profile athletes from both sides of the Atlantic, news anchors, politicians, several fearless female veterans, and a few furry friends including a Scottish terrier and a live falcon and a former Navy SEAL carrying a huge Scottish salmon down the runway.

The largest and most prestigious Scottish fashion event in the world

Mid-show the attendees were treated to a special performance by Scottish singer and Tik Tok sensation, Nati Dredd. This year's show also remembered three of Scotland's greatest supporters, Queen Elizabeth II, Sir Sean Connery, co-founder of Dressed to Kilt, and Dame Vivienne Westwood, a huger supporter of Dressed to Kilt.

Proceeds from the evening will benefit the Navy SEAL Foundation. During the after-



party the founders of the event received a serious invitation to hold the next Dressed to Kilt outside of the United States for the first time ever.

From its genesis in 2003, DTK is now the largest and most prestigious Scottish fashion event in the world, and one of the highest profile fashion shows in the United States. They believe that fashion, without the enrichment of diverse cultures, becomes hollow. The show is produced by the Friends of Scotland charity which was co-founded by Sir Sean Connery in 2002. In addition to supermodels, this show highlights very accomplished men and women on the runway and it is also filled with A-List celebrities and athletes from both sides of the Atlantic. In recent shows Sir Sean Connery, Gerard Butler, Alan Cumming, Kiefer Sutherland, Kyle MacLachlan, Chris "Mr. Big" Noth, Mike Myers, Brian Cox and Craig Ferguson have all walked the runway. The charity has raised significant sums for the families of wounded veterans.

For more information, please visit: www.dressedtokilt.com



A falcon was a show hit.



A model wears Retll Designs from Austria.



Bands
Dancers
Market Stalls



ABERDEEN HIGHLAND GAMES
"A Celtic Experience in the Scottish Tradition"

Saturday 1st July 2023
Jefferson Park, Aberdeen

Experience the vibrant essence of Scotland
in the Upper Hunter Valley

TICKETS: www.aberdeenhIGHLANDGAMES.COM

ScotlandsPeople 1921 census

 Who will you find?



Recently, National Records of Scotland published millions of records from 1921 for the first time. The census provides a glimpse of what life was like for Scottish people in the 1920s. Travel back in time and discover your Scottish ancestry today.

Search records now at scotlandspeople.gov.uk



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