



the Scottish Banner



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Volume 47 Number 12

NEWS FOR GLOBAL SCOTS

June 2024

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The Banner Says...

A link to Dundee's exploration past comes home



by Sean Cairney

It was 150 years ago (February 15, 1874) this year that a baby boy was born in County Kildare, Ireland. He was the second of ten children and at the age of 10 the young boy would move with his family to England. Ernest Shackleton would go on to join the merchant navy at just the age of 16 and a life of exploration and adventure was born.

RRS Discovery

Shackleton would go on to become a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society of London, and in 1901 he was chosen to go on an expedition to Antarctica led by Antarctic explorer Robert Falcon Scott. The iconic Dundee built *Royal Research Ship (RRS) Discovery* was made specifically for Antarctic research and launched in 1901. The wooden vessel was the UK's first purpose-built Antarctic research ship, it was made for the ice and added to Dundee's reputation for shipbuilding. *RRS Discovery* is now a popular attraction and permanently moored at Dundee's Discovery Point alongside the incredible V&A Dundee.

The Boss

Its first venture to Antarctica carried both Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton. Shackleton would then be chosen by Scott to take part in a sledging trek towards the South Pole. This was still early days of Polar exploration and they had basic provisions, but they managed to get closer to the Pole than anyone before them. Sadly weather, illness

and inhospitable terrain forced them back and not realise their goals. Shackleton would of course not give up on his dream to make it to the South Pole and would go on to undertake a further three expeditions to the region and during those he inherited the nickname 'The Boss' due to his leadership qualities.

In 1904 Shackleton moved to Scotland and became Secretary of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. Office life was not for him and left that role and turned to politics in Dundee but was unsuccessful with that. He also found employment at the Glasgow shipbuilders William Beardmore and Company. Mr Beardmore would go on to support one of Shackleton's expeditions and have the Beardmore Glacier in Antarctica named in his honour.

Sir Ernest Shackleton

Sir Ernest Shackleton, as he would become, was knighted by King Edward VII. In 1921 the *Quest* was the fourth and final ship to carry Shackleton to the Antarctic. On January 5th 1922 Shackleton suffered a massive heart attack and died at the age of 47. He never did make it to the South Pole, though he did get close and less than 100 miles from his target. What Shackleton did do was leave a huge legacy of exploration and human endurance. He was laid to rest in South Georgia and his grave headstone is made of Scottish granite.

In this issue

Dunfermline may be Scotland's newest city, it was awarded city status as part of Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Civic Honours in 2022, that does not stop it from having an incredible history and with a medieval past. Some of Dunfermline's historic sites are waiting for you to explore and is an easy day trip from Edinburgh.

Greyfriars Bobby must be Scotland's most famous dog and likely one of the most known, and loved,

dogs in history. Some fascinating new images have been released of this faithful companion and one of Edinburgh's most visited statues and graves. The story of Bobby is just another reason why there is nothing quite like man's best friend.

Robert McVitie was born in Scotland in 1809. He had a recipe for success with his baking business in Edinburgh. The family business would go on to be a global brand that many of us can now enjoy whether back in the UK or at home internationally with tens of millions of biscuits being sent worldwide.

The Hope Cross

As we go to press the *RRS Sir David Attenborough* is travelling off the Falkland Islands coast bound for the UK. The icebreaker is travelling over 7,000 miles from the southern Atlantic Ocean. On board is a special piece of cargo, the cross from Shackleton's Hope Point memorial. The Hope Cross was constructed at Grytviken whaling station in South Georgia by crew members of the *Quest* as a monument to Sir Ernest Shackleton following his death. Measuring almost 3 metres/10 feet tall by 1 metre/3 feet wide and weighing approximately 30kg/65lbs the cross will soon be able to be seen by many more than the few who make it each year to South Georgia.

There can be no place more fitting for Shackleton's Hope Point memorial to be displayed than at Dundee's Discovery Point museum; home of the *RRS Discovery*, the very ship that first carried Shackleton to Antarctica in 1901. This will be the first time it has been in the UK and allow a wider audience to view this important piece of Antarctic heritage and pay its respects to a legendary Polar explorer whose stories are revered the world over. The Hope Cross is due to arrive in Dundee in August and with it a part of Shackleton's pioneering legacy is returning to Scotland. 🇬🇧

Have you visited RRS Discovery? 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.



Sir Ernest Shackleton. Photo: © Dundee Heritage Trust.



Gracing our front cover: Dunfermline Abbey. Photo: VisitScotland.

New tour of Cathedral gravestones brings Orkney's past to life



St Magnus Cathedral Graveyard.

Locals and visitors can delve into Orkney's fascinating history and colourful characters of the past as revealed by the gravestones surrounding St Magnus Cathedral – through a new in-depth guided tour, available from this summer. The project has been made possible through the support of the Friends of St Magnus Cathedral who've helped fund a new Cathedral Curator post - filled earlier this year by Fran Flett Hollinrake who will be well known to many as Cathedral Custodian for many years and gifted local storyteller. During the hour-long tour guided by Fran, folk will encounter the many characters who have shaped Orkney's trajectory, or been affected by pivotal moments in its past.

Highlights include gravestones of the rich and famous, including the 19th century epitaph of Samuel Baikie of the Orkney family dynasty of Tankerness House. Brother of William Balfour Baikie, the

renowned African missionary from Orkney buried inside the Cathedral, Samuel built the striking Town Hall opposite St Magnus Cathedral – and also much of Dundas Crescent. The tour will also showcase five war graves from WWI (three in War Grave Commission style), the mass graves where nave burials were relocated from inside the Cathedral, paupers' graves - and a gravestone somewhat uniquely featuring the date '30 February'.

Wealth of history

Fran explains the tours are aimed at people who want to get a view of Orkney over the centuries - through a grass roots lens, "It's often said death levels us all, and there is much to be learned by reading between the lines of someone's gravestone and how their contribution to society was recorded at the time in this most final of ways." One of Fran's favourite gravestones is that of Peter

Wick, the first Cathedral Custodian, who died in 1902 and whose photo is held by the Orkney Library and Archive: "His main job seems to have been to be stop people from carving their names in the walls of the Cathedral! I think everyone would agree we've moved on since then – nowadays the Cathedral is admired around the world and seen as a marvel holding an age of amazing stories. And this new tour of the graveyard is just one way to prise open the lid on that wealth of history."

Chair of the Council's Education, Leisure and Housing Committee, Gwenda Shearer, said: "Fascination for Orkney and its history continues to grow the world over, as does local pride in our heritage – so it's with delight that we are launching this new tour to further celebrate the wonderful history embedded in St Magnus Cathedral."

St Magnus Cathedral was founded in 1137, and is of international significance. Built from local red and yellow sandstone, the cathedral is mostly Romanesque in style. It is dedicated to St Magnus, Earl of Orkney in the 12th century, at a time when Orkney was part of the Kingdom of Norway. He was killed on the orders of his cousin and rival Hakon, and many miracles were reported after this death. In 1137 Magnus's nephew Rognvald began construction of the 'fine minster' in honour of his saintly uncle; Magnus's relics remain interred in a pillar of the choir. The cathedral has stood firm against Reformers, Cromwellian troops and wartime danger, and is the most complete medieval cathedral in Scotland.

Visit the Orkney Museums website for more information: www.orkneymuseums.co.uk

HM The King takes on RSCDS Patronage



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS) are honoured to confirm that, after receiving correspondence from Buckingham Palace, a review of the Patronages of The Late Queen has taken place and His Majesty King Charles III has accepted the Patronage of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. The King will be the Society's second Royal Patron, succeeding The late Queen Elizabeth II, who was Patron of the Society from 1947, as HRH Princess Elizabeth until her death in 2022. The title "Royal" was bestowed by King George VI in 1951, the year before the late Queen's accession to the throne. Chair of the RSCDS William Williamson said, "His Majesty The King, like the late Queen, has always expressed his affection for Scotland and its culture. With this news we look forward to his continued interest in the life of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. I hope you will, when the opportunity arises, raise a glass to our new Patron and the future of our Society."

The RSCDS expresses deep gratitude to The King for his ongoing support of the Society and for assuming the role of Patron.

Aug 31
Sept 1

Celebrating Celtic culture in the Canadian Rockies!

**CANMORE
HIGHLAND
GAMES**

TASTE OF THE HIGHLANDS
SATURDAY, AUG 31, 5 - 9 PM

CANMORE HIGHLAND GAMES
SUNDAY, SEPT 1, 8 AM - 5 PM

THE CANMORE CEILIDH
SUNDAY, SEPT 1, 6 - 11 PM

See all information at: canmorehighlandgames.ca

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?

Dumbarton Castle



Dumbarton Castle commands a striking presence as it sits on a volcanic rock overlooking the Firth of Clyde. Its history is as remarkable as its landscape, having been a royal refuge, a military stronghold, and a silent witness to many significant events in Scotland's past.

With roots stretching back to the Iron Age, Dumbarton was once the capital of the ancient kingdom of Strathclyde. Its strategic position made it a coveted asset through the centuries.

In the year 870, the Vikings, led by the fierce Olaf and Ivar, laid siege to the castle, known then as Alt Clut, the rock of the Clyde. This stronghold was the

heart of the Kingdom of Strathclyde. The Vikings encircled the rock, cutting off any escape, and after a brutal four-month siege, they conquered the fortress.

By the Middle Ages, it became a formidable fortress, with Scottish kings like Alexander II and James IV strengthening its defences.

The castle played pivotal roles during the Wars of Scottish Independence and saw action up to the Second World War. It's also famed for being the prison of William Wallace for a short period before he was taken to London for execution.

Today, Dumbarton Castle stands not just as a monument to Scottish resilience and strategy, but also as a treasure trove for history enthusiasts. The twin peaks of the rock, known as The Beak and The Summit, provide panoramic views that are well worth the climb, offering a serene vantage point to ponder the turbulent history that unfolded below.

Thomas Lamont
The Killed Photographer
Falkirk, Scotland

The search for Nessie



The following is a true story! It was misty and somewhat cool August 1997 afternoon, we visited from our 2 year home in Castiogne Dela Steverie in Italy to Loch Ness! While my beautiful wife Serene and our two Scottish friends were watching me at the beach side of the loch from the top of Castle Urquhart, I stood close to the edge and said in a yelling voice, "Hey Nessie, if you are real, I demand you show yourself!" All of a sudden I saw ripples in the water, and heard a loud grumbling sound! I ran so fast to the Castle that you would have thought that I was Eric Liddell, the Great Scottish Olympian runner of *Chariots of Fire* movie fame! The moral of this story is, if you don't want to get eaten by Nessie, then don't tease or challenge her!

Cordially,
Pastor Joseph Captain Scotland Culp
Pickerington, Ohio
USA

Family research help

I wonder if any readers can help me please? I am doing my family history. My family came from the Scottish Borders and belonged to the Free Church of Scotland. What I am in need of help with is where the files and records are kept. My family is Johnston/Johstoun. I am getting back into family research so I would appreciate any help I can get. I have been told these people were around 1800?

Valerie Vale
31 Henty St
Pakenham, Victoria
3810, Australia

Tartan Day in Ottawa



The Sons of Scotland Pipe Band in Ottawa, Canada enjoyed a big Tartan Day weekend in their nation's capital which saw a new Tartan Day Expo added to the National Tartan Day Celebrations held for the 16th time on Parliament Hill. The Expo saw many exhibitors of Celtic fare, fashion and homemade creations, there was live music, and refreshments, and lots of wonderful raffle prizes – and an audience of hundreds that came out to support this inaugural event. The following day, the massed band was joined by friends in the dancing community – highland, step, and Scottish country- as well as singing and corgis on parade for an exceptional day marking heritage and tradition. It was also the first time the band's new Patron was out to support their efforts, His Excellency Mr. Whit Grant Fraser, C.C., who enjoyed the day's celebrations very much. He was moved by the talents of many, and gave his support of everyone's great work.

We look ahead to trips to Scotland, Ireland, the Invictus Games 2025, and more – and you can be part of our adventures. Visit us at www.sospb.com for all the details.

Bethany Bisaillon
Sons of Scotland Pipe Band
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada
www.sospb.com

Tartan Day

In the April issue of *the Scottish Banner*, you asked the question of what we thought about the varying dates for Tartan Day. I must admit that I find the date of 6th of April for Tartan Day in Canada and the USA a bit strange as the date has nothing to do with actual tartan and in fact, it's doubtful that it even existed back then considering the oldest tartan pattern known is dated between 1500 and 1600.

Yes, they made it about the Declaration of Arbroath but that was in 1320 when Canada and the USA didn't exist as we know it. Australia and New Zealand got it absolutely right by celebrating International Tartan Day on the 1st of July, the actual date of repeal from the banning of wearing tartan from the Act of Proscription in 1747.

Well done Down Under.

Best regards,
Frank McGregor
Tasmania, Australia

Tartan Day April 6 in Canada

I think likely April 6 was selected for Tartan Day in Canada due to our nation's celebration of Canada Day being July 1st annually-where we celebrate all cultures of all Canadians both born to Canada, and those who have made Canada their home, after arriving from elsewhere in the world. I'm a born Canadian, second generation with my Grandparents emigrating from Scotland in the 1920's, and married to a

first generation Canadian, whose parents arrived from Scotland shortly before his birth in the 50's-he always jokes he was "made" in Scotland, but "born" in Canada.

T. Murray
Canada

The Kelpies



Well who else would want to feed the Kelpies!? After reading the April copy of *the Scottish Banner* with the 10th anniversary of the Kelpies I had to send you this photo of my wife Trudi.

David Mackenzie
Mornington, Victoria
Australia

What is my Clan?

Hi there, my maiden name was Crighton. It was, I believe, originally spelt Crichton but one of my grandparents changed it back in the day. Do you know what clan the name belongs to?

Thank you,
Jane
jane55@icloud.com

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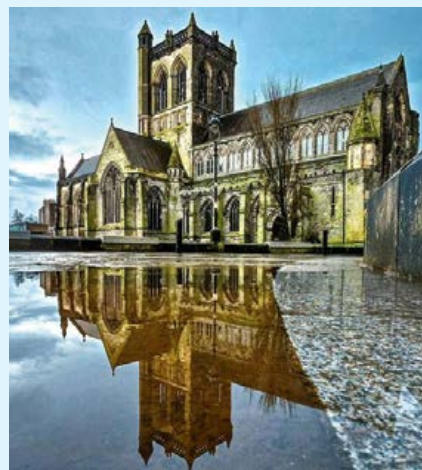
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MV Dayspring



Sun shines on the Corpach shipwreck.
Mik Coia

Paisley Abbey



A reflective Paisley Abbey.
IG: eadietam

Portpatrick, Dumfries and Galloway



A hoose with a view!
Colfin Captures

Bauchaille



A misty Bauchaille never fails to impress.
Ronald Stokes

Embracing our Heritage: Scotland In The Class Program extends free resources to educators and families

In a world where cultural diversity is celebrated, preserving heritage remains paramount. For Jennifer Licko, leader of the *Scotland In The Class* initiative, nurturing a deep connection to Scottish heritage begins in the classroom and extends into family homes across the United States.

What truly sets *Scotland In The Class* apart is the personal connection of its creators to their Scottish heritage. These are not just teachers, but individuals with a profound understanding and love for their culture. They have crafted a program that resonates deeply with both teachers and

students, ensuring that Scottish heritage is not just taught, but felt in the classroom.

At the core of *Scotland In The Class* lies a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility. Offering a comprehensive celebration unit for school spanning art, music, physical education, history, and reading, the program ensures that every grade, from kindergarten to fifth grade, has access to standards-based lessons that seamlessly integrate Scottish culture into the classroom experience.

From captivating lessons on Robert the Bruce to lively Highland Dance tutorials, educators have access to a wealth of materials designed to engage and inspire

young learners, all available for free. Moreover, by understanding families' pivotal role in shaping cultural identity, *Scotland In The Class* extends its outreach beyond the classroom.

Torchbearer for Scottish heritage

Parents and grandparents are invited to explore the program's kids corner newsletters, which offer enriching activities centered around Scottish history, culture, and tradition. By fostering meaningful connections between generations, *Scotland In The Class* empowers families to celebrate their heritage together.

Moreover, the *Scotland In The Class* program is not just a resource, but a collaborative effort. It invites Scottish organizations and clans to utilize these materials in their own communications, fostering a sense of community and heritage preservation among members. Your involvement is crucial in this journey of cultural celebration and preservation.

The significance of the *Scotland In The Class* initiative is not just in its practical offerings, but in its role as a torchbearer for Scottish heritage. By embracing our heritage from a young age, we lay the foundation for its preservation into adulthood. Jennifer Licko and her team understand this profound truth and are dedicated to ensuring that future generations carry forward the torch of Scottish heritage with pride and reverence. Your participation is vital in this mission.

As we navigate an increasingly globalized world, initiatives like *Scotland In The Class* serve as beacons of cultural preservation and celebration. By visiting the website, educators, families, and organizations can access a wealth of free resources to ignite a passion for Scottish heritage in children's hearts everywhere.

So, let us embrace our heritage, nurture our roots, and sow the seeds of cultural legacy for generations to come. After all our unique threads of heritage weave the most beautiful stories of all.

Visit the website to see all the available resources at: www.ScotlandInTheClass.com.





Northumberland Scottish Festival & Highland Games

Port Hope Agricultural Park, ON

June 14 & 15, 2024





2024 is our year for change

Formerly known as the Cobourg Highland Games, we now have a new name and location.

Welcome to the Northumberland Scottish Festival and Highland Games being held on June 14th and 15th in Port Hope, Ontario. Our Highland Games events and entertainment are just as you remember, but the big news is that admission prices are lower and there's free parking at the park!

<p>Friday, June 14th</p> <p>Bar opens at 5.30pm</p> <p>Ceilidh, featuring</p> <p>Cobourg Legion Pipe Band</p> <p>Scottish Country Dancers</p> <p>Bang on the Ear</p> <p>Madman's Window</p>	<p>Saturday, June 15th</p> <p>Highland Games Competitions</p> <p>Massed Pipe Bands</p> <p>Ceilidh, featuring</p> <p>Bang on the Ear</p> <p>Donegal Fiddlers</p> <p>Caledon County</p> <p>Madman's Window</p>	<p>At our Festival enjoy</p> <p>Solo Piping & Drumming</p> <p>Pipe Bands</p> <p>Highland Dancers</p> <p>Heavy Athletes</p> <p>Clans</p> <p>Food & Merchant Vendors</p> <p>Wee Highlanders Area</p> <p>Massed Pipe Bands</p>
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Get complete details about our Festival and purchase your online tickets at:

www.northumberlandhighlandgames.ca



Scottish Comedian Bruce Fummey is taking time out from his Canadian tour to be our Honorary Chieftain.

SCOTSPEAK

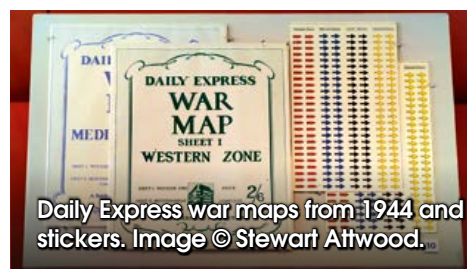
Scotspeak is a selection of quotes which made headlines in Scotland last month on a variety of current Scottish affairs.

“The Southern Upland Way was Southern Scotland’s first long distance footpath and the first official coast to coast path in Britain. It takes people through some of the best of the region’s coastline, hills, forests and valleys and is a great way to experience the wild scenery of Dumfries and Galloway. This new exhibition is a perfect way to celebrate 40 years of this spectacular path.”

Councillor Ian Carruthers, Chair of Dumfries and Galloway Councils Economy and Resources committee, said at the launch of a new exhibition on the Southern Upland Way which is celebrating 40 years. The Southern Upland Way, Scotland’s Coast to Coast path, was officially opened on 27 April 1984. Since then, thousands of people have walked, or more recently cycled, the 214 miles from Portpatrick on the west coast of the Rhinns of Galloway to Cockburnspath on the east coast of the Scottish Borders.

“Having been born and raised on the Isle of Lewis, the most northerly of the Outer Hebrides, I am thrilled to set sail on this exciting podcast journey, exploring the rich tapestry of stories that weave through Scotland’s west coast islands. ‘Scottish Island Adventures’ is more than a podcast; it’s an invitation to join me on a captivating voyage, where we’ll uncover the island’s unique stories, their charm, their people and savour the flavours of our dishes. Join me as we set sail on a virtual voyage that will inspire visitors, both old and new, to travel over the seas to explore the heart and soul of each island, one captivating episode at a time.”

The Hebridean Baker, Coinneach Macleod, said his new podcast series is set to take listeners on a voyage around Scotland’s storied islands. The CalMac podcast will transport listeners to Scotland’s west coast in a series of ten episodes, and will each focus on a different island. Host Coinneach Macleod, also known as the ‘Hebridean Baker’, will be joined by various guests as he uncovers ‘Scotland in miniature’ on the Isle of Arran, visits Islay and Jura to learn about the islands’ world-famous distilleries, and witnesses Skye’s incredible natural attractions.



Daily Express war maps from 1944 and stickers. Image © Stewart Attwood.

“Cairns’ painting and the personal collections of other Second World War veterans inspired us to produce this display to examine the creation, use and reinterpretation of maps. Maps: Memories of the Second World War explores the purpose of a map as much more than just a physical or a functional object and reveals the stories of the people who kept these maps as a memory of a personal journey.”

Julie Gibb, Assistant Curator of Science at National Museums Scotland said a new display at the National War Museum in Edinburgh Castle explores the purpose,

importance and personal significance of military maps in the Second World War. The display was inspired by the painting, ‘Major Robert W. Cairns MBE, TD, MA Father’s Memorabilia, North West Europe’, (1995), by Joyce W Cairns. Major Robert W. Cairns MBE served in various posts and locations during the war. From 1943, he was responsible for organising the travel network for the movement of troops and supplies across the inadequate and congested roads of Northern Europe. The painting depicts the artist’s father’s memorabilia from the Second World War. The maps and photographs in *Maps: Memories from the Second World War* are now on display until 25 Jan 2026.



“While the contexts for singing are currently in decline, the music continues to be a soundscape to a way of life for many people. The purpose of this exhibition is to explore how sacred singing was, and continues to be, integral to many aspects of community life, and to highlight the wealth of hymns, psalms and spiritual songs being sung in the region today. Language is a way to express culture. The deep spiritual connection it has with its people and the role which music plays in this, must be recognised and supported into

the future if we are to keep some of the most precious aspects of Gaelic culture alive.”

Dr Frances Wilkins, Senior Lecturer in Ethnomusicology at the Elphinstone Institute, University of Aberdeen, said research to highlight traditional forms of Gaelic singing has now been turned into an exhibition which will tour Hebridean communities in 2024 and 2025. Visitors can learn more about sacred song traditions of the region and explore sound recordings, film, objects, and a digital archive, soundmap and interactive virtual tour.

“There is a widespread misconception that water resources are always abundant across Scotland because it’s ‘always raining’, and this has led to this precious resource being largely undervalued. However, we are experiencing more extremes in our weather, and while this can result in very intense rainfall events, it can also lead to much longer periods of lower rainfall. Added to this we are also seeing the demand for water increase, which combined with periods of reduced available water, is increasing our national vulnerability to water scarcity.”

Dr Sarah Halliday, Reader at University of Dundee’s Division of Energy, Environment and Society, said immediate action must be taken to tackle water scarcity in Scotland. Dr Halliday says the combination of prolonged dry periods, brought on by weather changes created through climate change, and an increase in water usage is leaving Scotland vulnerable. A typical domestic customer in Scotland now uses around 180 litres per day, which is ‘significantly higher’ than other parts of the UK and Europe, the report has revealed.

The Glengarry Highland Games-75 times perfection



When the crowds start flooding the gates of this year’s Glengarry Highland Games on August 2 & 3, they will be

following in the footsteps of thousands of fans who have made this festival one of the most popular in Canada and one of the premier Celtic events in North America.

This year’s 75th edition of the Games in Maxville, Ontario, will include the traditional Scottish events of highland dancing, fiddling, heavy events and piping that everyone has come to love and enjoy. To celebrate its 75th, the Games has added many special events making for two jam-packed two days of music, tradition and heritage.

The Games will host this year’s World Scottish Highland Games Heavy Events and welcomes the best in the sport to our infield. Friday night’s famed Tattoo will headline Canada’s Celtic Ambassadors, the Barra MacNeils, and to honour the 100th Anniversary of the RCAF, the RCAF Pipes and Drums will also perform.

To the delight of many long-time Games fans, long-term Games MC Reg Gamble has been selected as this year’s Guest of Honour. At Saturday’s breath-taking Games closing, the massed drum fanfare will return based on the hugely enthusiastic response to the performance at last year’s Games. Many more surprises are in the works for this milestone celebration of Scottish heritage and the welcome is out to all to come and discover the magic at the 75th Glengarry Highland Games.

The 75th Glengarry Highland Games will take place August 2 & 3 in Maxville Ontario. For details see: www.glengarryhighlandgames.com

SCOTWORD

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

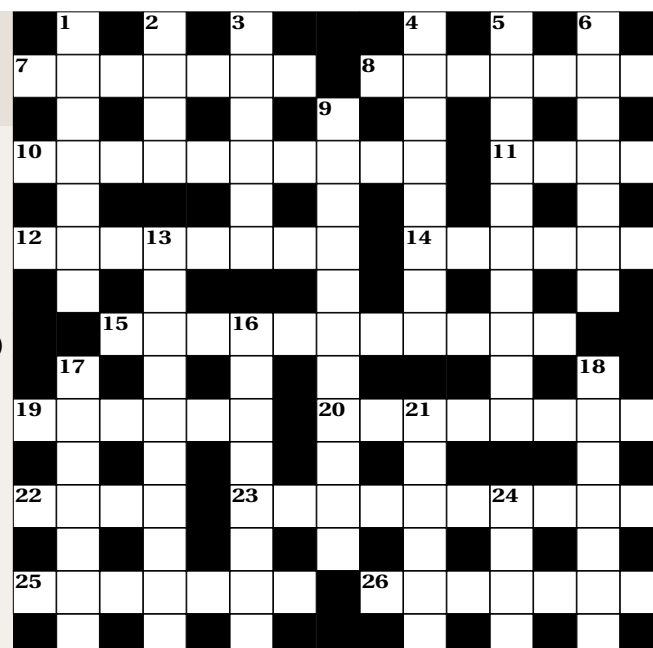
CLUES ACROSS

- 7) He’s No. 1 with 18 Down. (7)
- 8) First page (7)
- 10) Village east of Kinlochewe (10)
- 11) Monster waterway (4)
- 12) Wide US street (8)
- 14) The type to lean (6)
- 15) Village north-west of Pitlochry (5, 6.)
- 19) A Scots whim (6)
- 20) Found north of the Border (8)

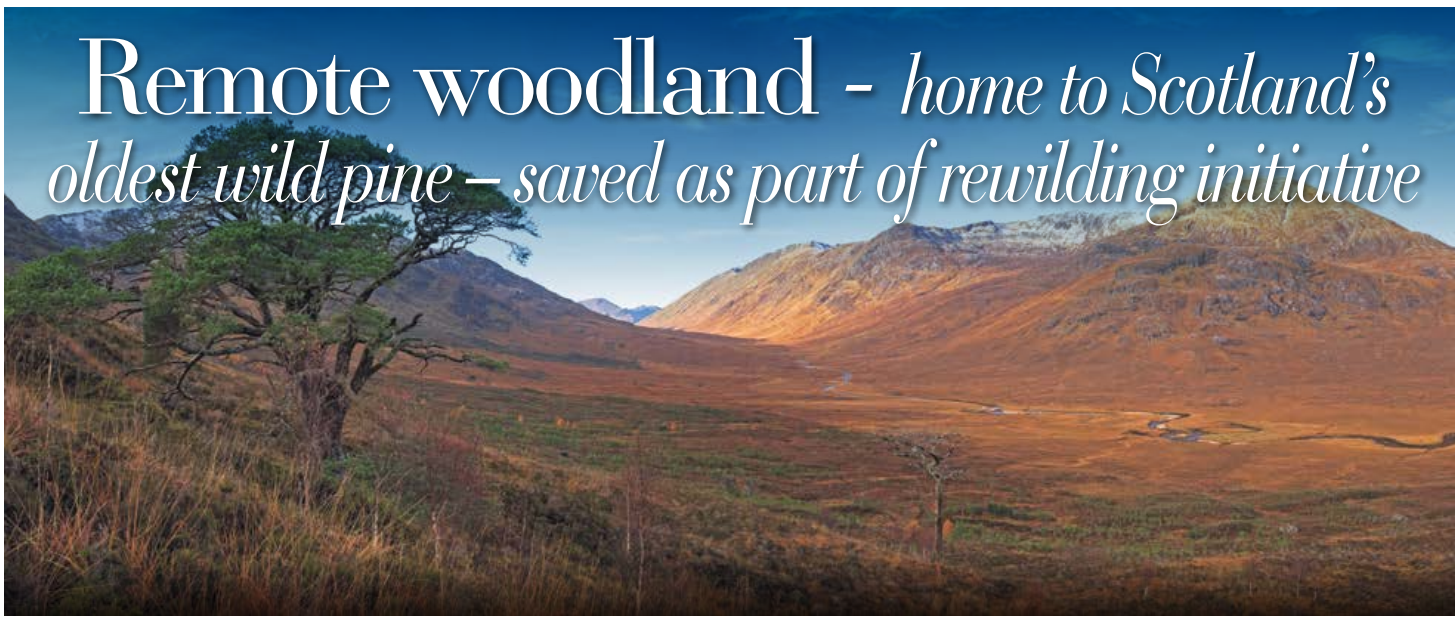
- 22) An eyesore (4)
- 23) Not excessive (10)
- 25) Edinburgh is (7)
- 26) First school stage (7)

CLUES DOWN

- 1) They add colour at the Games (7)
- 2) Shock with a blow (4)
- 3) Picture puzzle (6)
- 4) Close family members (8)
- 5) Scotland’s palatial hotel (10)
- 6) Plant with carrot-like root (7)
- 9) January 1st (3. 5. 3.)
- 13) Old version of 25 Across (4, 6.)
- 16) In memory of Burns (8)
- 17) Famous Glasgow station (7)
- 18) 1 Down’s nautical change (7)
- 21) Fragrances (6)
- 24) Member.s weapons (4)



Remote woodland - home to Scotland's oldest wild pine - saved as part of rewilding initiative



A remote ancient woodland, home to Scotland's oldest wild Scots pine, which is at least 565-years-old - has been saved from being lost forever and given a chance of regeneration thanks to Trees for Life, as part of the charity's vast Affric Highlands rewilding initiative. The pinewood remnant of some 57 pines, all several centuries old and scattered through Glen Loyne in the northwest Highlands, was at risk from overgrazing by excessive numbers of deer - a key threat to surviving Caledonian pinewoods that prevents them from naturally regenerating.

The oldest pine has been dated to at least 1458 by St Andrews Tree-Ring Laboratory, and is believed to be even older. The ancestry of such pines stretches back to the last ice age.

Globally unique

In cooperation with the landowner, whose love of the pinewoods made the project possible, Trees for Life has created a new deer-proof 'exclosure' of fencing to protect the woodland, including the most ancient pines, and to allow young seedlings to grow without being eaten. "Glen Loyne's wild pines and other Caledonian pinewoods are globally unique, and a special part of Scotland's character and culture. Saving and restoring them offers a major opportunity for tackling the nature and climate crises," said James Rainey, senior ecologist at Trees for Life.

Trees for Life surveyed the site as part of its four-year Caledonian Pinewood Recovery Project, one of the most comprehensive surveys of the health of Scotland's pinewoods. The team found that some of the oldest pines were outside an area of fencing

which had been erected in the 1990s to protect the trees from grazing pressure. Deer had also breached the fenced area. Trees for Life has now erected 1.5 kilometres of new fencing, and has connected up, extended and repaired existing sections, with the heavy-duty materials having to be transported into the remote glen by helicopter. The pinewood will now be able to naturally regenerate for the first time in decades. "Fencing is only a temporary fix, but for now it's a vital way of giving these precious pinewoods a fighting chance of recovery until effective landscape-scale deer management can be properly established," said James Rainey.

The UK's largest rewilding landscape

Historically part of the royal hunting grounds of Cluanie, the Glen Loyne woodlands would once have been home to capercaillie, wildcat, and lynx. Ordnance Survey maps from 1874

show a more extensive woodland in the glen, but by the 1990s there were only 85 ancient pines left - a number that has since been reduced further to just 57. The nature recovery project has been funded by the family of Harry Steven, who with Jock Carlisle wrote *The Native Pinewoods of Scotland*, published in 1959. This pioneering book recognised the special status of the pinewoods, and documented 35 wild pine populations that had managed to survive centuries of deforestation.

In the 1990s, the work of Steven and Carlisle led to the then Forestry Commission Scotland compiling Scotland's official Caledonian Pinewood Inventory, which today recognises 84 sites. Glen Loyne, on East Glen Quoich estate, lies within Affric Highlands - the UK's largest rewilding landscape. Led by Trees for Life and Rewilding Europe, this 30-year community-focused initiative will restore woodland, peatland and riverside habitats over half a million acres from Loch Ness to the west coast, supporting re-peopling and nature-based economic opportunities.

The Caledonian forest once covered much of the Highlands, but today less than 2% survives. The pinewoods are one of Scotland's richest habitats, and offer refuge to declining wildlife such as red squirrels, capercaillie and crossbills. Trees for Life is dedicated to rewilding the Highlands, including by restoring the Caledonian forest.

For further details see: www.treesforlife.org.uk.

Paisley Museum weaves new chapter in textile history

Paisley's rich textile history is being brought back to life, as part of a pioneering partnership which is helping the next generation of conservators to make their mark on Scotland's biggest cultural heritage project.

As part of the £45 million refurbishment of Paisley Museum, textile conservation students at the University of Glasgow, have conserved items of clothing dating from the 1830s through to the early 20th century. They include a children's dress and bonnet, as well as a crinoline 'cage' skirt and even a knitted woollen water polo uniform.

The University is home to the UK's only textile conservation programme and, as a global leader, attracts students from across the world. The partnership with OneRen, the charity which is leading the refurbishment of Paisley Museum, provided a unique opportunity for students to work on objects which will go on display, rather than back into museum stores.

The textiles, in many cases, were dirty, laden with decades of industrial dirt and soot and required delicate, painstaking work to transform them. The results have been phenomenal, with marked differences in before and after photos. However, the work of a textile conservator is not about making objects look as good as new. The team helped conserve 13 objects in total, with more being worked on this academic year.

One of the more unusual pieces conserved is a knitted swimsuit from the early 20th century that belonged to a member of the Irish International water polo team. It was exchanged with William G Peacock, an Olympic water polo player who trained at Paisley's Corporations Baths in Storie Street. Sean Kelly, Collections and Conservation Manager at OneRen, said: "The work done by the students and the team at the University of Glasgow has been exceptional, helping to bring these incredible objects back to life. This has been a fantastic partnership, bringing benefits for both the conservation and care of these textiles and for the next generation of conservators. Of course, what's even more exciting is that these items will soon be on public display at the refurbished Paisley Museum, where everyone can see for themselves the students' outstanding work."

The refurbishment of Paisley Museum is Scotland's largest cultural heritage project, creating a world-class attraction with community and partnership at its core. I want to extend my thanks to the team at the University of Glasgow for their continued support and their part in making the new museum a reality." Paisley Museum & Art Gallery in Scotland is set to reopen in 2025 with a new public courtyard, a 26% increase in gallery space, hundreds more objects on display and new learning, community-making and social spaces.



Gates reopen to famous castles and gardens across Scotland



The Japanese Garden, Cowden. Photo: Tom Langlands Photography.

As Aberdeenshire's iconic Craigievar Castle, and the community-run Braemar Castle open their doors following extensive multimillion pound refurbishments, visitors should make the most of the blooms and sunshine with a visit to these and many more of Scotland's estates, walled gardens and castles as they reopen for the season. Whether an afternoon picnic amongst nature or stepping back in time to marvel at the ancient tales and architecture, find the latest gardens and castle news as

well as unique events taking place across Scotland below, to inspire the ultimate day out during a break away.

Castles reopening

Over twenty Historic Environment Scotland (HES) sites have reopened their doors to welcome visitors, as well as several heritage locations too. This includes Lochleven Castle, which famously held Mary Queen of Scots imprisoned in 1567; Iron Age archaeology at the Broch of Gurness; dark historical tales from

Hermitage Castle, Spynie Palace, Newark Castle and Scotland's only circular castle, Rothesay Castle, following essential conservation work. For the full list of reopenings and prices for admission, please visit: www.historicenvironment.scot

Braemar Castle, Aberdeenshire

Built by the Earl of Mar in 1628, Braemar Castle has been a hunting lodge, fortress, garrison and family home. An iconic 17th century landmark in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park. The castle's future rests with the small community of

Braemar, and over the past ten years the village has been working to raise funds and gradually conserve and restore the castle to provide even better facilities for future visitors. As a result of the communities' efforts, Braemar Castle is opening its doors following a £1.6 million restoration programme to re-render the exterior.

Craigievar Castle, Aberdeenshire

An example of the best of Scottish Baronial architecture, Craigievar Castle fits naturally amongst the rolling hills of Aberdeenshire.

Continued on next page ->

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The elegant pink tower of Craigievar Castle was completed in 1626 and is amongst the most loved in Scotland. The castle is currently undergoing a major conservation project to carry out essential maintenance work, including refreshing the lime wash that gives Craigievar its distinctive and beloved pink colour. Visitors will be treated to a grand reveal in the coming months, when the new exterior is unveiled.

Gardens reopening

Kailzie Gardens, Scottish Borders

Kailzie Gardens is a renowned garden and woodland a mile east of Peebles in the Scottish Borders, with 20 acres to explore. Kailzie Gardens also boasts the popular Courtyard Café that has become a firm favourite with locals. Their seasonal shop offers local produce, gifts and plant sales, as well as a children's nature trail and a chance to have a go on the Gardener's 18-hole putting green, or a game of pétanque.

Amisfield Walled Garden, East Lothian

A hidden gem lying on the outskirts of Haddington in East Lothian, Amisfield Walled Garden dates back to the late 18th century and is one of the largest

walled gardens in Scotland, with extensive herbaceous borders, fruit and vegetable beds, wildflower meadow, orchard and woodland to explore. The Garden is currently being restored and developed as a community garden by the Amisfield Preservation Trust and a band of volunteers, providing a venue for education and training for people of all abilities.

The Japanese Garden at Cowden, Clackmannanshire

Those looking to embrace serenity should look no further than the beautiful grounds of The Japanese Garden at Cowden. The woodlands and gardens are adorned with an array of exceptional plants and flora which are elevated by the tranquil essence of its Japanese-inspired design and structures, creating a unique and utterly authentic bridge between Scottish and Japanese culture. Numbers in the garden are restricted so that its peaceful atmosphere is not compromised, but despite that, 40,000 people still visit every year. Today Cowden has a team of full-time gardeners, a thriving cafe, and the Stewart Adventure Woodland where children can let off steam.

Da Gairdins, Shetland

This 60-acre site (of which one third is maintained woodland and gardens) is an area of outstanding natural beauty on the Westside of Shetland. Avid wildlife watchers can experience the diversity of Shetland's wildlife as, due to its proximity to the sea and the salt marsh dividing the gardens between the sea, the area is a magnet for nesting and migrating birds. Wander around and sit on one of the many benches to witness firsthand the fact that Shetland is not a tree-less landscape like many would believe, but instead is an oasis of life, with a surprisingly mild climate, thanks to the North Atlantic Drift which surrounds this captivating location.

Carolside House & Gardens, Scottish Borders

Carolside is an 18th century mansion set in beautiful parkland flanked by wooded hills, nestling in a bend of the River Leader. Carolside is one of Scotland's finest

Private Gardens and is best known for its collection of historic roses, many of them rare today and is home to the National Collection of Gallica Roses.

Crawick Multiverse, Dumfries & Galloway

Located near Sanquhar and spanning the equivalent of over 36 football pitches, Crawick Multiverse is a unique location of outstanding artistic and historical interest and is not to be missed. Designed and constructed on the site of a former open-cast coal mine by renowned landscape architect Charles Jencks between 2011 and 2017. Feel the spiritual and astrological magic of the landforms through the striking landscape, opt to have a picnic in the Sun Amphitheatre, photograph the incredible 360 views of the site and Upper Nithsdale Valley from the Northpoint or peer inside the 'cave' of the Omphalos; there's plenty to see and do.



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

- 1) What is the most southernmost point on the Scottish mainland?
- 2) According to the sales figures, what drink is the top-selling grocery brand in Scotland?
- 3) Name the three lochs which make up the Caledonian Canal?
- 4) In which year did the Tay Road Bridge open? a) 1826, b) 1926 or c) 1966?
- 5) Where is the island of Little Cumbrae?
- 6) Where in Scotland is the skiing area known as Aonach Mor?

- 7) What is Scotland's deepest inland loch?
- 8) Who wrote *The Guns Of Navarone*?
- 9) Which area of Scotland is regarded as the best for growing soft fruit?
- 10) In which town is Robert Burns buried?

Answers

- 1) The Mull of Galloway.
- 2) Irn-Bru, Scotland's other national drink!
- 3) Lochs Lochy, Oich and Ness.
- 4) c) 1966.
- 5) In the Clyde estuary.
- 6) Fort William.
- 7) Loch Morar at 1077 feet.
- 8) Scotsman Alistair McLean.
- 9) Blairgowrie in Perthshire.
- 10) Dumfries in the Scottish Borders.

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Photo: First Minister John Swinney MSP at Bute House in Edinburgh with his wife Elizabeth Quigley. Photo: Scottish Government.

New First Minister nominated

John Swinney has been nominated as the seventh First Minister of Scotland, following a vote in the Scottish Parliament in May. MSPs voted 64 to 57 to select Mr Swinney as First Minister from a total of four nominees. There were seven abstentions. Mr Swinney was formally appointed as First Minister with a Royal Warrant from His Majesty King Charles III. He was later officially sworn in at the Court of Session, and took the Official Oath in front of the Lord President of the Court of Session and other senior judges. This comes just over a year after Humza Yousaf took the post in 2023. Humza Yousaf was the youngest and first person of colour to hold the office of Scotland's First Minister and formally stepped down in May after announcing his intention to do so in late April. At his time of appointment, he was the first Muslim leader of any Western nation.

First Minister John Swinney, 60, said: "It is an extraordinary privilege and it is my honour to accept the office of First Minister, committing myself to do the best I can for Scotland. I will be unapologetic about bringing to this Parliament the measures we can take to eradicate child poverty and I look forward to seeking the support of others to achieve that aim. I recognise, that is how it is going to have to work. I am leading a minority Government. I will need to reach out to others to make things happen. If we want to fund our schools and our hospitals, if we want to give our businesses a competitive edge, if we want to take climate action, if we want to eradicate child poverty, if we want to change people's lives for the better, we have to work together to do so. I commit my Government to working to create that agreement across the Chamber. I hope there is the space and the willingness for that to happen in the interests of the people who sent us here. To the people of Scotland I would simply say this. I offer myself to be the First Minister for everyone in Scotland. I am here to serve you. I will give everything I have to build the best future for our country."

First Minister John Swinney has also formed a majority female cabinet, including Kate Forbes who has been appointed Deputy First Minister.

Luca leapfrogs Noah to top Baby Names chart



Luca was Scotland's top name for baby boys for the first time in 2023, according to new figures released by National Records of Scotland (NRS). Luca climbed four places to the top spot with 344 baby boys given the name. Last year's most popular name, Noah, is pushed into second place, while Leo remains third. Jack has dropped out of the top three names for boys for the first time since 1996, falling to fourth place. Isla returns to the top slot for the first time since 2020, overtaking Olivia, the most popular name for girls in recent years. Freya is still the third most popular girls' name.

NRS Statistician Phillipa Haxton said: "National Records of Scotland is pleased to welcome all of Scotland's bundles of joy in 2023. There are more names in use today than there were in previous generations. The number of different names for boys reached a new all-time high in 2023, as did the number of unique names given to only one child in the year. The same pattern was observed for girls' names, and the variety of names given to girls is still greater than for boys."

Some of the names rising in use are associated with movies. Luca is now Scotland's top name for baby boys, rising from 43rd in the charts before the release of the 2021 Pixar movie of the same name. Meanwhile the names of actors in the summer blockbuster movies *Oppenheimer* and *Barbie* further increased in popularity, with Cillian up 24 to 99th in the list and Margot up 57 places to 106th. New entrants in the top 100 names include Oakley, which rose 64 places to 87th and Mabel, which leapt 102 places to joint 93rd. Choices for baby names differ across Scotland's 32 local authorities. Luca was top in seven areas and Isla in eight. Luca and Isla were top in Moray and North Ayrshire but Luca shared the top spot for boys with several names.

Biggest change in 200-plus years to Aberdeen's Union Street starts



Aberdeen leaders hailed the start of works upgrading a section of Aberdeen's main thoroughfare of Union Street as a major milestone to revitalising the Granite Mile – the biggest change to the street since it was built more than 200 years ago.

The works to the Union Street Central area - between the Market Street and Bridge Street junctions – will make it more attractive and vibrant while promoting walking and cycling as part of the City Centre and Beach Masterplan. The works include new pavements of Scottish whinstone, a road surface with locally-sourced granite, cycle lanes, and will help to create a plaza pavement entrance to the new market building. Aberdeen City Council Co-Leader Councillor Christian Allard said: "The new high-quality streetscaping for Union Street Central is the next step to make Aberdeen's city centre a great destination for residents and visitors to enjoy. Union Street which is 200 years old is due a makeover - a local makeover as local and Scottish materials are being used for the streetscaping which will help the economy."

Works are due to be completed, depending on what is uncovered by utility companies, weather, and world-wide supply-chain availability of materials, in autumn 2025.

Rare artefacts go on display for first time in new exhibitions in Lewis



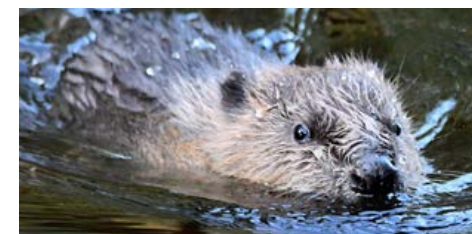
Photo: Scandinavian cast gilded bronze mount, Lewis. Image © National Museums Scotland.

Rare objects representing thousands of years of island life, from the Neolithic to the Viking Age, have gone on display in Lewis. More than 40 artefacts on loan from National Museums Scotland, including some displayed for the first time, feature in new exhibitions at Comunn Eachdraidh Nis and the Kinloch Historical Society Museum. The artefacts were discovered at sites across Lewis and include a unique, complete 2500-year-old pot from Allt Cleascro, Achmore, found buried deep in peat, and an exceptionally rare example of pre-Viking Age Scandinavian craftsmanship. The intricately decorated bronze mount was converted into a buckle during the Viking period and worn on its journey to Scotland. Brought together for the first time the objects provide an insight into the island's deep past, revealing how people have lived and thrived in this area for thousands of years. Na Dorsan opened at Comunn Eachdraidh Nis and charts the history of the Galson area. The objects,

discovered on the Galson coastline, tell the fascinating story from the first farmers in the area, some 6,000 years ago, through to the arrival of Vikings on the island.

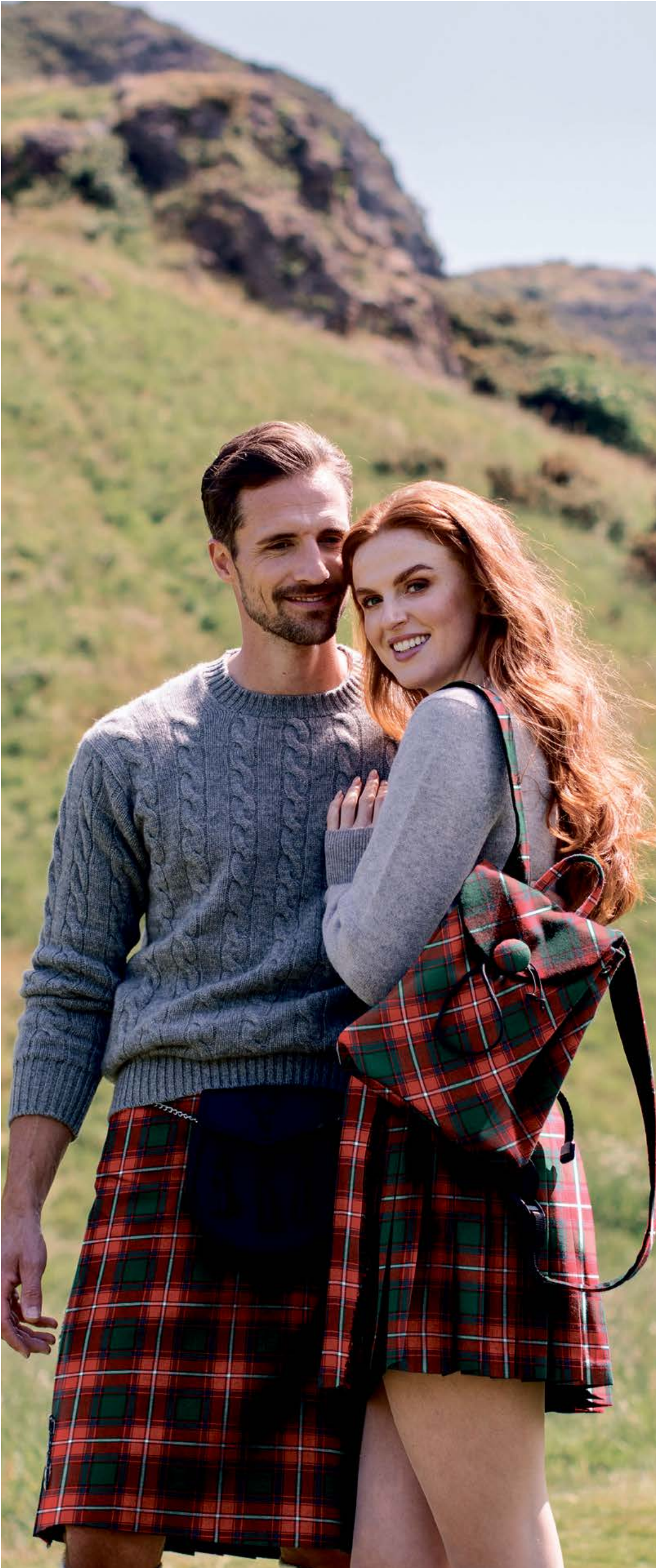
Archaeology Homecoming at the newly accredited Kinloch Historical Society Museum, also raises awareness of the area's rich archaeology. The exhibition highlights remarkable finds like the Achmore pot, and significant features within the local landscape such as Sidival Stone circle. Dr Fraser Hunter, Principal Curator of Prehistory and Roman Archaeology at National Museums Scotland, said: "It's been a real treat collaborating on these exhibitions with our colleagues in Nis and Kinloch. These objects help bring the distant past to life, from elegant bone tools from Galson that show the craft skills of the Iron Age to the remarkable Viking-period bronze mount from Ath Linne, which is a unique find for Scotland."

Study sheds new light on Scotland's beavers



A study by the University of Stirling has shed new light on how beavers reintroduced to Scotland indirectly interact with deer – and the implications for the woodlands they share. Researchers found that almost two thirds of trees felled by beavers produced new shoots, which were more abundant and concentrated closer to the ground than on other trees. This could diversify woodland structure into a mix of short and tall tree stems, which ought to boost biodiversity, according to researchers in the Faculty of Natural Sciences. The research, which also involved researchers at NatureScot and the James Hutton Institute, was carried out in eastern Scotland in established beaver territories by studying almost 800 trees. Scientists compared the number of shoots on beaver-felled trees to standing trees and collected 156 shoots with four different combinations of beaver and deer browsing to compare their nutrient levels and physical characteristics. Beavers were hunted to extinction in Scotland about four centuries ago. A formal multi-agency programme of reintroduction involving experts at the University of Stirling and the study partners – the first of its kind for a mammal species anywhere in Britain – began in 2009 in Argyll.

Dr Kelsey Wilson, who led the new study as part of her PhD research at the University of Stirling, said: "Beavers have gradually returned, sometimes after long absences, into riverside or riparian woodlands often shared with large populations of browsing deer. Beavers use their sharp teeth to cut down riverside trees of different sizes and species. Their most favoured trees, such as willows, usually respond by vigorously sprouting a crown of new shoots - similar to what happens with traditional tree coppicing. We found that almost two thirds of trees produced new shoots after being felled by beavers. These shoots were more abundant, nutritious, and concentrated closer to the ground than on other trees, making them an easily accessible food source for foraging deer."



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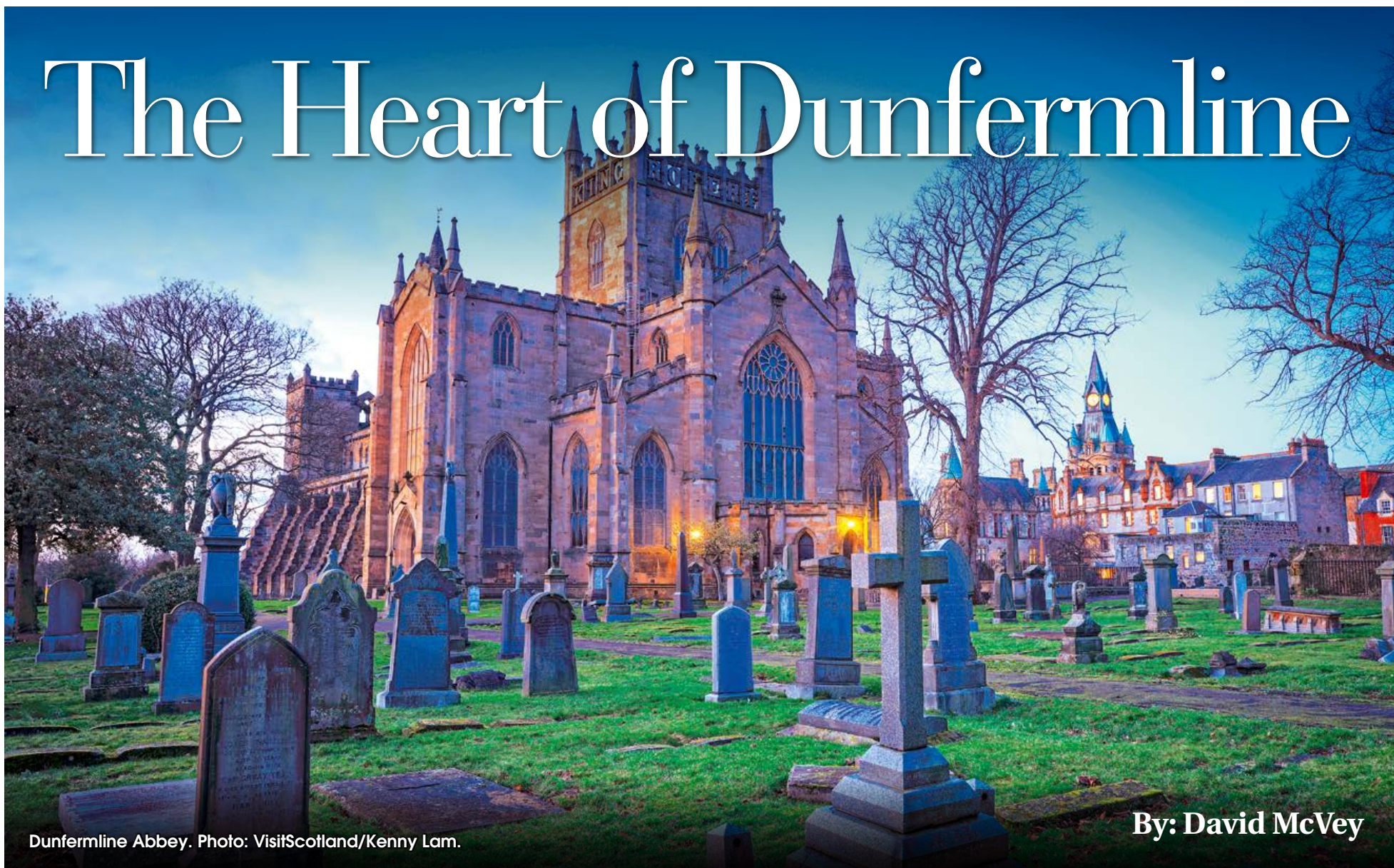
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The Heart of Dunfermline



Dunfermline Abbey. Photo: VisitScotland/Kenny Lam.

By: David McVey

Dunfermline is Scotland's newest city; it was awarded this status in 2022 as part of the late Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. Oddly, it's also one of Scotland's *oldest* cities. Like Stirling and Edinburgh, it has a historic quarter with medieval origins, in this case squeezed between the town's busy shopping streets and Pittencrieff Park. There are none of the crowds you'd associate with Edinburgh's Royal Mile, Stirling Castle or Linlithgow Palace. In fact, if tourist Edinburgh's sheer *busyness* wears you down, you could do worse than hop on a train to Dunfermline.

If you do, you'll alight at a station that has been speedily renamed Dunfermline *City*: it was formerly Dunfermline *Town*. You also get to cross the wondrous Forth Bridge.

The capital of Scotland

Dunfermline has a very long history. In the 11th century it was the stronghold of King Malcolm III and arguably the capital of Scotland, so its city status was perhaps overdue. Ruins known as Malcolm's Tower stand in Pittencrieff Park but the name is misleading; what's visible probably dates only from the 14th century. However, Malcolm's residence may well

have occupied the same site; there's a lot of 'perhaps' and 'may' when we talk about a thousand years ago. We *do* know that Malcolm married his Queen, Margaret, at Dunfermline in 1070.

Margaret was a particularly devout Roman Catholic and founded a religious house at Dunfermline, importing Benedictine monks from Canterbury to get it started. Four of her sons subsequently became kings of Scotland; even her youngest, David I, came to the throne, in 1124; this year sees the 900th anniversary of his accession. David was determined to see his mother's religious community become a major abbey and installed Geoffrey, the former prior of Canterbury, as abbot in 1228. David had grown up in England and he wanted to create an impressive building in stone, like the ones down south, for his mother's foundation. He imported stonemasons from Durham Cathedral and the nave of the structure they built survives in Historic Scotland's care, dominating this part of Dunfermline still.

Malcolm and Margaret both died in 1093 and were buried at Dunfermline Abbey. So too, in 1153, was David. Margaret's and Malcolm's remains were removed to a new dedicated shrine at the eastern end of the abbey church after Margaret's canonisation. The shrine was a focus for pilgrims for centuries, but Malcolm's and Margaret's remains are said to have been removed for safekeeping at the Reformation, sent to the Escorial in Spain, and then lost.

Royal burials continued at Dunfermline for centuries. William the Lion and Alexander III are among those interred in the abbey. Most famously, Robert the Bruce (minus his heart) was laid to rest there in 1329. The last royal burial was Robert, the infant son of James VI, in 1601. The locations of most have been lost; we need Scottish

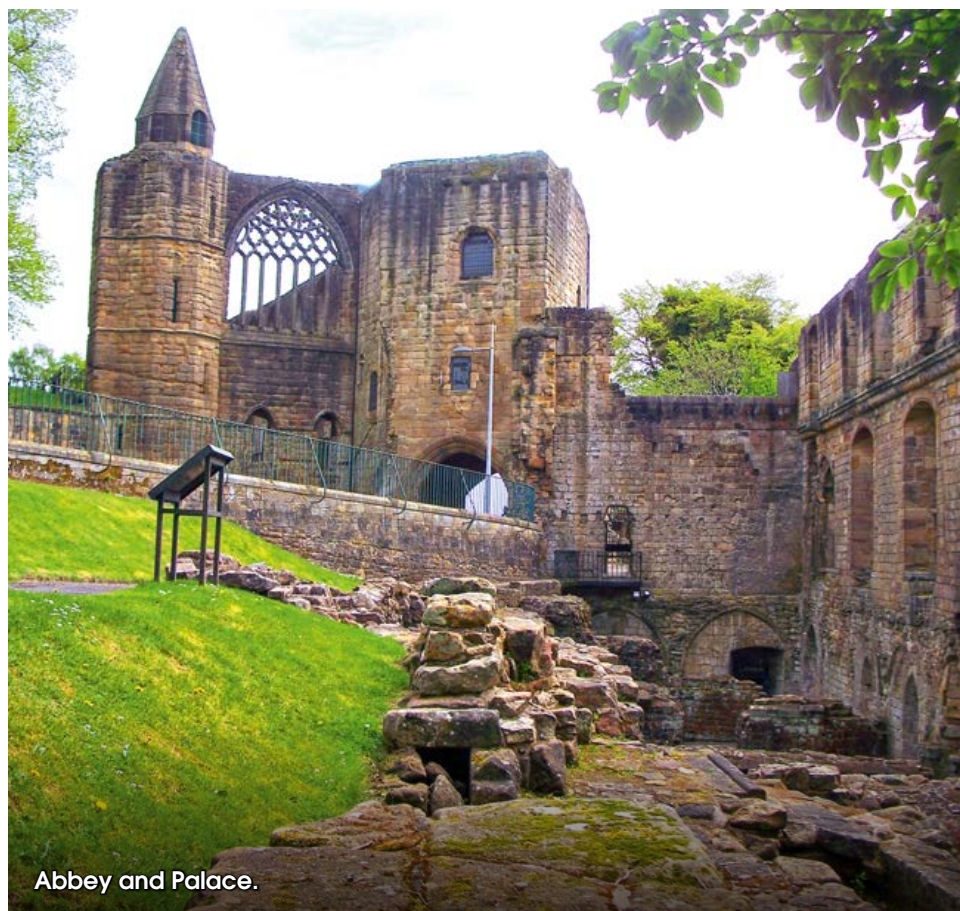
equivalents of those clever people who identified Richard III of England below a Leicester car park.

St Margaret

Talking of car parks, Margaret was said to pray in a cave near the centre of modern Dunfermline. In recent times the area has been built up and a car park covers much of the site, but the grotto was preserved. Accessed by a steep flight of steps and a tunnel, St Margaret's Cave became Dunfermline's oddest attraction. Since the pandemic, access has been limited so it's best to check before any planned visit. Queen (or *Saint*) Margaret is multiply commemorated around Dunfermline and Edinburgh, even in the name of the new city's other railway station.

By the time of the Reformation, the abbey St Margaret founded was the third richest monastic foundation in Scotland. Afterwards, many of its buildings fell into decay, but the nave of the abbey church survived in use as the parish church. In 1821, a new parish church was consecrated on the site of the former choir; its tower is ringed in stone with the words KING ROBERT THE BRUCE so's you know who's buried there. The site of St Margaret's Shrine is still identifiable, outside the church to the east, but its glory has departed.

The refectory is the most complete survivor of the monastic buildings at Dunfermline; an impressive gatehouse, which houses exhibition space and the Historic Scotland shop, links it to the monastic kitchens and the guesthouse. The spiral staircase down to the monastic kitchens is the tightest I've ever encountered, and as a history buff I've encountered quite a few. It's strictly one person at a time.



Abbey and Palace.



Also in Dunfermline's historic quarter, the 1821 parish church is usually open to visitors. To the north of the kirkyard is the beautifully restored 16th century Abbot's House, which has a gift shop and cafe on the ground floor. The rest of the building is not usually open to the public but there are occasional open days when you can explore this fascinating survivor.

In more recent historical times, Dunfermline is perhaps best known as the birthplace of Andrew Carnegie. If the city's most famous son funded New York's Carnegie Hall, he also funded *Dunfermline's* Carnegie Hall. If he funded hundreds of libraries around the world, Dunfermline's was one of them. The Carnegie Library now has modern extensions housing a gallery, museum and café making it a visitor destination as well as a community resource.

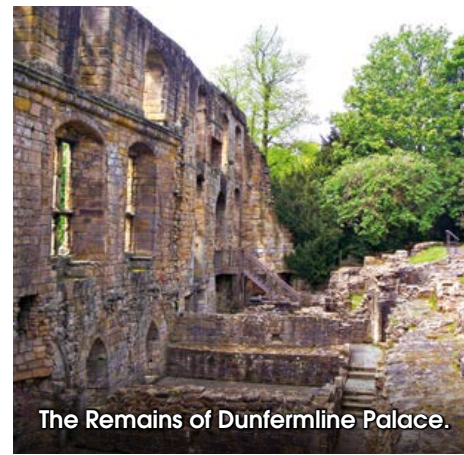
Carnegie bought the Pittencrieff Estate in 1902 and donated it to his home town; it is now the popular and elegant Pittencrieff Park which extends to 76 acres and is renowned for its peacocks. The magnificent 17th century Pittencrieff House, restored not long ago, used to be a local museum but is

now sadly disused. However, the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust (it was set up by Carnegie in 1903 and owns the park) hope to reopen it as a public facility in the future. It would be a fantastic focal point for the park.

The birthplace of Charles I, the shrine of St Margaret, the burial place of Robert the Bruce, the legacy of Andrew Carnegie; Dunfermline has enough to satisfy the most demanding history enthusiast.



Abbot House.



The Remains of Dunfermline Palace.



Church and Abbey.

Photos: David McVey.

Monks had a duty to provide hospitality for visitors and maintained guesthouses. Like hotels today, guesthouses offered different grades of accommodation; guests could be lowly, penniless pilgrims, and they'd get the budget beds. Yet visitors could also be royalty. The remains of one guesthouse survive at Dunfermline, with its earliest remains going back to the 14th century. It probably offered top of the range accommodation and in the 1580s, James VI's Queen Anne employed the royal Master of Works, William Schaw, to transform the building into a royal palace. Their daughter (later Elizabeth of Bohemia, 'The Winter Queen') was born here in 1596 and in 1600 so

was their son, the future Charles I. Charles was the last ruling monarch to be born in Scotland or, indeed, to be a Fifer. His son, Charles II, visited the palace as late as 1650 but it fell into disuse soon after.

The most impressive surviving medieval buildings in Scotland

Abbey, palace and nave are amongst the most impressive surviving medieval buildings in Scotland, but they've been much altered over the centuries. The huge buttresses on either side of the nave were added in the 17th century to prevent the structure from collapsing. The southwest tower *did* collapse in 1807 and was replaced.

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Scott MacAulay
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THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

1 - Dr Henry Faulds, who established the uniqueness of fingerprints, born in Beith, Ayrshire. 1843

1 - First Tay Rail Bridge opens. It was to collapse 18 months later in the Tay Bridge Disaster. 1878

1 - Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act of the Scottish Parliament establishes Bòrd na Gàidhlig to secure the status of Scottish Gaelic as an official language of Scotland. 2005

2 - Prince Henry St Clair (Sinclair) reputed to have landed in Nova Scotia, having sailed from Orkney. 1398

2 - James Douglas, 4th Earl of Morton, beheaded in Edinburgh Grassmarket, accused of the murder of Lord Darnley. 1581

2 - Clothes rationing introduced as a war-time measure. The British government needed to reduce production and consumption of civilian clothes to safeguard raw materials and release workers and factory space for war production. It was not lifted until 1949. 1941

3 - James Hutton, founder of modern geology, born. 1726

3 - Poet Robert Tannahill born in Paisley. 1774

3 - The company formed by John Logie Baird televised the Epsom Derby which was then transmitted by the BBC. 1931

4 - First recorded inter-club golf match - between Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society and Bruntfield Links Golf Club. 1818



4 - General Post Office introduces the first postbus in Scotland, Dunbar-Innerwick-Spott, East Lothian. Postbus services by Royal Mail were used to replace rapidly declining local bus and rail services in rural areas and transport mail, people and even groceries. 1968

4 - London's Wembley Stadium was vandalised by jubilant Scottish fans after a thrilling 2-1 victory over the Auld Enemy. Following the match, Scottish supporters invaded the pitch and caused an estimated £15,000 worth of damage. 1977

5 - An Act of the Scottish Parliament came into force "concerning the Office of Lyon King of Arms and his brother Heraldic" creating the best regulated system of armorial bearings in Europe. This became The Court of the Lord Lyon. 1592

5 - The HMS Hampshire sank off the coast of Orkney. It was one of the First World War's worst naval disasters with the loss of 737 men, including the Secretary of State for War, Lord Kitchener. 1916

5 - Referendum held on British Membership of the European Community. In Scotland the vote was "Yes" 1,332,286; "No" 948,039. Turnout was 61%. Only Shetland and Western Isles had majorities against. 1975

6 - Thomas Blake Glover, founding father of Japan's industrialisation (including Mitsubishi) and Japanese Navy, born Fraserburgh. 1838

6 - Sir John A MacDonald, the Scottish-born Canadian statesman, died. MacDonald was considered to be the architect of the Confederation of Canada and served twice as the first Prime Minister of the unified Dominion, between 1867-73 and 1878-91. 1891

7 - Robert the Bruce died, at Cardross Castle, Dumbarton, aged 54. Bruce's heart was then taken to Melrose Abbey, with his body having earlier being buried at Dunfermline Abbey. 1329

7 - Sir James Young Simpson, pioneer of anaesthetics and chloroform, born. 1811



7 - Charles Rennie Mackintosh, the celebrated architect, painter and designer, was born. Regarded as one of the foremost British figures in the art nouveau movement, and as the principal exponent of the "Glasgow Style", Mackintosh was born in the Townhead area of the city. 1868

8 - Robert Stevenson, engineer, who constructed 18 lighthouses around Scotland, born Glasgow. 1772

8 - The Earl of Seaforth raised a regiment for the American War from the MacKenzie's and MacRae's of Ross-shire and Sutherland. 1778

9 - St Columba died on Iona. Columba founded a monastery on Iona which was to become one of the leading centres of Christianity in Western Europe, and the base from which Columba launched his successful mission to convert the Pictish nation. 597

9 - First US troops (over 10,000 men) disembark from Queen Mary on the River Clyde. 1942

10 - James Francis Stuart born. In honour of the "Old Pretender", this is known as "White Rose Day" in Jacobite circles. 1688

10 - Battle of Glenshiel, Jacobites with Spanish assistance, and government forces clashed. 1719

10 - Death of King George I and accession of George II. 1727

10 - Construction of the Forth and Clyde canal started. It was to take 22 years to complete. 1768



10 - The floral clock in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, began operation - initially driven by clockwork and with only an hour hand. Edinburgh's is believed to be oldest floral clock in the world. 1903

10 - Sir Jackie Stewart, three-times world motor racing champion, born in Dunbartonshire. 1939

11 - Battle of Sauchieburn during which King James III died attempting to subdue a group of rebel barons. 1488

11 - Marie of Guise, widow of King James V and Queen Regent of Scotland, died. 1560

11 - First oil pumped ashore from British oilfields in the North Sea. 1975

11 - Police Scotland arrest former First Minister Nicola Sturgeon as part of their ongoing investigation into the SNP's finances. She is subsequently released without charge. 2023

12 - Sir David Gill, Scottish astronomer, was born. Gill was noted for his measurements of solar and stellar parallaxes, which accurately revealed the distances of the Sun and other stars to Earth. He was also a pioneer in the use of photography to map the heavens. 1843

12 1997 - Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust acquires the island. The community ownership group manage the island which has just over 100 residents and it is the second largest of the Small Isles after Rum.

13 - Birth of James Clerk Maxwell, first Professor of Experimental Physics at Cambridge University. He created the electromagnetic theory of light. 1831

13 - Rate of price inflation reached 25% in the UK. 1975

14 - Queen Mary, Aquitania, Empress of Canada, and Empress of Britain arrive in the River Clyde with the first contingent of Australian and New Zealand troops. 1940

14 - John Logie Baird, inventor of the first television, died. 1946

15 - Queen Mary leaves Greenock, taking nearly 15,000 GI's home to US. 1945

15 - A second devastating major fire takes hold at Glasgow School of Art. The blaze that gutted the iconic Charles Rennie Mackintosh building and devastated the neighbouring 02 ABC concert venue. 2018

16 - Siege of Dunbar Castle by the English was raised. 1338



16 - Thomas Mitchell Morris or 'Old Tom Morris', the world's first professional golfer and the father of modern greenkeeping. He was a 4-time Open Champion, and was born in St Andrews, the home of golf. 1821

17 - Wolf of Badenoch burns Elgin Cathedral. 1390

17 - Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned at the island fortress of Loch Leven Castle. She eventually escaped, never to step foot in Scotland again. 1567

17 - Charles Macintosh patented the waterproof cloth he was using to make raincoats. 1823

18 - Pacification of Berwick, Charles I forced to withdraw from Scotland and recognise an independent Scottish Parliament. 1639

18 - Flora MacDonald met Prince Charles Edward Stuart and persuaded him to wear women's clothes as part of the escape plan from the Outer Hebrides to Skye. 1746

19 - Mary Queen of Scots gives birth to the future King James VI of Scotland and I of England. 1566

19 - Coronation of King Charles I at Holyrood. 1633

19 - "Day of Public Thanksgiving" on Restoration of Charles II as King. 1660

19 - Earl Haig, Commander in Chief of British forces 1915-18, founder of British Legion, born. 1861

19 - Sir J M Barrie, author of *Peter Pan* died. 1937

20 - Adam Ferguson, philosopher, historian, "Father of Sociology" born Logierait, Perthshire. 1723



20 - New Tay Rail Bridge opened, then the longest in Britain. The Tay Rail Bridge crosses the Firth of Tay and connects Dundee with the Fife. 1887

20 - First announcement of the discovery of high-grade crude oil in the North Sea. 1969

21 - Robert Napier, regarded as the "Father of Clyde shipbuilding" was born. He died on 23 June, 1876. 1791

21 - Scottish explorer Mungo Park reached the source of the river Niger in Africa. 1796

21 - More than 50 German warships were scuttled at Scapa Flow, Orkney. It was the single greatest loss of warships in history, and the sailors killed that day were the last fatalities of World War One. 1919



21 - Riverside Museum in Glasgow opens to the public. The purpose-built Museum replaced the previous home for the city's transport collection, at the city's Kelvin Hall and is located on the banks of the River Clyde. 2011

21 - The Peebles Hoard, comprising Bronze Age horse harness, a sword and other artefacts dating back to between 900BC and 1,000BC, is discovered in a field near Peebles in the Borders by a metal detectorist. 2021

22 - At the Battle of Bothwell, the Covenanters were defeated by royal troops led by the Duke of Monmouth near Glasgow. Ideological differences among the Covenanters factionalised them, and the resulting disorganisation contributed to the ease of the Royalists' victory. Although deaths on the field were few, 200 were killed later. Of the 1400 captured or surrendered, another 258 were shipwrecked while being transported in The Crown of London. The battle features in fictional form in Sir Walter Scott's novel *Old Mortality*. 1679

22 - Malt Riots, Glasgow - against higher taxes imposed on Scottish malt. 1725

23 - Charles II sailed into the estuary of the river Spey and signed the Covenant before going ashore. 1650

23 - Singer Kenneth McKellar born. McKellar died of pancreatic cancer, at the age of 82 in 2010. 1927

24 - Robert the Bruce defeated Edward II at Battle of Bannockburn. The battle was one of the most famous events in the wars of independence.

It saw the Scottish king, Robert the Bruce, win a key victory over the English forces of King Edward II, despite being outnumbered two-to-one and facing what was regarded as the finest army in the medieval world. 1314

24 - The birth of Admiral Sir John Ross, Scottish Polar explorer. In 1818 he went in search of the Northwest Passage but turned back after exploring Baffin Bay. 1777

25 - David Douglas, explorer and botanist, born at Scone, Perthshire. In addition to the Douglas Fir, he brought back to Europe lupins, phlox, penstemon, sunflowers, clarkia, Californian poppy, mimulus, flowering currant, rose of Sharon and mahonia. 1799

25 - Seven Scots, including John Stuart Forbes, were in the US 7th Cavalry with General Custer at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. 1876



25 - Wallace statue unveiled at the Wallace National Monument, Stirling. 1887

25 - The first Sherlock Holmes story by Edinburgh-born author Arthur Conan Doyle was published in the *Strand* magazine. 1891

26 - James IV crowned king at the age of 15 at Scone. He reigned until 1513 when he fell with the flower of Scotland's nobility at the Battle of Flodden Field. 1488

26 - Darien Company formed to set up a Scottish colony in Panama. 1695

26 - King George IV died, aged 67 (and William IV ascended the throne). George IV is reckoned to be Britain's fattest king. His favourite breakfast was two roast pigeons, three beefsteaks, a bottle of white wine, a glass of champagne, two of port and one brandy. 1830

27 - King James VI (aged 8) escaped from Castle Ruthven. 1583

27 - Robin Hall, Scottish folk singer and musician, was born. Hall achieved national fame in partnership with fellow Scot, Jimmie MacGregor, on the BBC TV show, *Tonight*. His hits included *The Mingulay Boat Song* and *Ye Cannae Shove Yer Grannie Aff a Bus*. 1937

27 - The Royal Navy's new aircraft carrier leaves its home port for the first time. *HMS Queen Elizabeth* - one of two new carriers being built at Rosyth dockyard in Fife at a cost of more than £6bn - is to begin sea trials. The ship passed under the Forth Bridge just before midnight. It is the largest warship ever built for the Royal Navy. The flight deck alone is the size of three football pitches. The ship can operate with a crew of 1,000 and 40 aircraft. The 65,000 tonne warship was the Royal Navy's first aircraft carrier since *HMS Illustrious* was scrapped in 2014. 2017

28 - Flora MacDonald and Bonnie Prince Charlie set sail from Benbecula to Skye. After Culloden, the Prince had a high price on his head. He came to Benbecula, and Flora helped him escape to Skye by disguising him as her Irish maid, Betty Burke. 1746



28 - The Forth and Clyde Canal opened. The 35-mile course from Bowling to Grangemouth is the longest of the Lowland canals. It was formally abandoned in 1962. Its re-opening in 2001 was part of the Millennium Link scheme, allowing waterway travel from Edinburgh to Glasgow by linking to the Union canal via the remarkable Falkirk Wheel boat lift. 1790

29 - Scottish actor Ian Bannen, was born. Bannen appeared in more than 60 British and American films. These include *The Flight of the Phoenix* (1965) for which he received an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actor. He died in 1999, aged 71. 1928

30 - Start of trial for murder of Madeleine Smith who was eventually found "Not Proven". The daughter of a Glasgow architect, James Smith, this most eligible of society ladies was accused in 1857 of murdering her alleged former lover, Emile L'Angelier. 1857

30 - James Loughran, Scottish conductor, was born in Glasgow. Loughran first came to notice when he won the Philharmonia Orchestra's Conducting Competition in 1961, and soon became principal conductor of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. 1931

The War Wolf at Stirling Castle

By: James Macivor

Text and images courtesy of Historic Environment Scotland.



An illustration by Jim Proudfoot showing the siege of Stirling Castle in 1304.

In 1304, Edward I, the Hammer of the Scots, besieged Stirling Castle. It was 'game over' for the Scots when a monstrous weapon called The War Wolf arrived on the scene. Robert the Bruce looking on as the terrifying trebuchet flings a pot of "Greek fire" at Stirling Castle makes a memorable opening scene to the epic film *Outlaw King*. But it's quite likely that this dramatic episode really happened, and that the War Wolf isn't just the stuff of legend!

The Hammer of the Scots

After defeating William Wallace at the Battle of Falkirk in 1298, Edward I of England needed a further six years to grasp full control of Scotland. But by April 1304, nearly all of Scotland had been reconquered by "the Hammer of the Scots". William Wallace was hiding in the countryside, soon to be betrayed to the English. The Scottish nobles had surrendered, submitting to Edward's rule in exchange for the return of their lands. Only at Stirling Castle did any resistance remain. Sir William Oliphant was the governor and held the castle with about 25 men. On the ramparts, he still defiantly flew the Lion Rampant flag, a symbol of the Scottish crown. In March, Edward had the garrison declared outlaws at his parliament at St Andrews. Preparations began to extinguish the final glimmer of resistance in Scotland.

Edward decided to flex his authority in Scotland as he prepared to travel to Stirling. He no longer had to rely on troops and supplies from England alone. Now, he could order his Scottish subjects to help him take their individual castles. Scottish earls and lords were ordered to send men and horses to Stirling to assist the siege effort. They were also told not

to allow their people to try and provision the garrison. Edward did not just want men, though; Stirling was one of the most defensible castles in Scotland and it would require more than bows and arrows alone for it to fall.

Materials for siege engines were shipped from Newcastle and Edward ordered the churches in Scotland to strip their roofs of lead and send it to Stirling. On top of "all the iron and great stones of Glasgow", five carts from Brechin, 12 from Dunfermline and 22 from St Andrews arrived at the castle filled with lead to be used by the English engineers for their siege engines. By the time Edward arrived at Stirling on the 22 April, the siege was ready to begin. Oliphant attempted to delay the inevitable by asking for permission to send a messenger to the guardian of Scotland, John de Soules. Considering that de Soules was in France at the time, his request was unsurprisingly denied.

The War Wolf

When the bombardment began, the "Hammer of the Scots" appears to have wanted to simply pummel this last stronghold of Scottish independence into submission. To do so, he arranged possibly the largest array of siege engines ever assembled by the kingdom of England. The Scots were to be left with no doubt about what another uprising would bring. 13 catapults and trebuchets hurled projectiles at the castle day and night. Robert the Bruce, the future king of Scots, was said to have been present during at least part of the siege. In fact, he provided Edward with several siege engines. It's possible that Bruce's experience at Stirling contributed to his policy of destroying castles during his own campaign against England.

Against all odds, Stirling Castle held out against Edward's siege. For three months, Edward watched on as the catapults flung boulders and fire at the castle walls. He was determined to see it fall. Oliphant must have been fairly surprised too. The defences were holding out and still had plenty of salted beef to feed the men. Little did he know that Edward's engineers had been working on something special...

Five master carpenters and 50 workmen had been tirelessly assembling massive wooden beams, winches and an enormous counterweight into one of the largest trebuchets ever. When Oliphant saw it in

its final stages of construction he knew that it was over. He surrendered in an attempt to save his men and the castle from the destructive power of Edward's hugely expensive new toy.

However, Edward was not in a particularly generous mood. This was to be the final nail in the coffin of the Scots and he wanted them to know it. He had a gallery constructed for the ladies of the court to view this humiliating spectacle. The fearsome engine was christened the "the War Wolf". When its 140kg missile was released, it shattered Stirling Castle's curtain wall. Oliphant and his men were publicly humiliated and sent to England for imprisonment.

Political theatre

The siege had shown the overwhelming resources Edward had at his disposal and his attitude towards Scotland. This was not merely a military operation. Unlike most sieges, Edward did not want to break the castle's mighty walls just to gain a military advantage, Oliphant had already given up. Instead, he designed a piece of pure political theatre. He did not allow the garrison to surrender, so he could make a public spectacle of his power in the form of the world's largest trebuchet.

Edward wanted to quench any thirst for resistance in grand and ultimately humiliating style. In showing himself to be overwhelmingly powerful and resourceful, it was not just Scottish military forces that

he wanted to crush, it was the idea of an independent Scottish kingdom, an idea of which he had become the destroyer. It was in this atmosphere of total defeat that a young Robert the Bruce launched his campaign to become king of Scots.

Want more stories from Stirling Castle? Then head on over to the dedicated section of the Historic Environment Scotland blog where there's tales of queens, kings, tournaments and ghosts. And if you're visiting the castle, grab one of the brand-new guidebooks. They're packed with research, reconstructions and riveting reads to enhance your experience of the iconic stronghold. See: <https://blog.historicenvironment.scot/category/stirling-castle>

Historic Environment Scotland is the lead public body established to investigate, care for and promote Scotland's historic environment. For more details see: www.historicenvironment.scot



Stirling Castle today. Photo: VisitScotland.



An interpretation of the siege by Heath Gwynn.



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Mighty McVitie's-Edinburgh biscuits conquer Britain and beyond



McVitie & Price's Digestive factory sample, 1870-1900, Victoria and Albert Museum. Gryffindor, CC SA-BY 3.0.

By: Eric Bryan

By a long stretch the maker of the best-selling biscuits in the UK, producer of the famed Chocolate Digestives, Hobnobs and Jaffa Cakes, McVitie's is another example of Scottish inventiveness and ingenuity that started small and then snowballed into massive proportions. Incredibly, sales numbers for 2020 show that McVitie's outsold its two closest competitors by more than five to one. It all started in Edinburgh with Robert McVitie (1809-80), an apprentice baker from Dumfries.

Robert and his father William established a provision shop in Rose Street, Edinburgh in 1839, from where Robert sold his baked goods. These proved so popular that Robert opened another shop at Charlotte Place near Charlotte Square. Robert married in 1844, and with an eye toward continuing and expanding the family business, sent his two sons Robert Jr and William to study bakery on the Continent.

Rose Street



Kenilworth Bar, 152, 154 Rose Street, Edinburgh. Enric, CC SA-BY 4.0.

Sandwiched between George Street and Princes Street, the narrow Rose Street was constructed in 1770-81 as a secondary east-west road running from St Andrew Square to Charlotte Square.

Originally lined with three-storey houses, as of 1820 more and more shops were in operation on Rose Street. This trend progressed until by the mid-20th century the entire street was devoted to shops and bars. The street became pedestrian-only in the 1980s. The Eagle Buildings (1904) and Kenilworth Bar (1899), the latter named after one of Sir Walter Scott's Waverly novels, are notable establishments on the street.

Royal seal of approval

In the 1870s McVitie's had premises at Antigua Street, East London Street, and Queensferry Street. Charles Edward Price joined the firm in 1875 as sales rep. After Robert passed away in 1880, Robert Jr took over the Queensferry establishment. Robert Jr expanded into Merchant Street in 1884, and a few years later hired biscuit maker Alexander Grant of Forres as bakery foreman. Price's success as salesman led to the partnership McVitie & Price.

McVitie's is another example of Scottish inventiveness and ingenuity that started small and then snowballed into massive proportions.

Business was so brisk and demand so high that the firm couldn't keep up the required production, so in 1888 the team established the massive St Andrews Biscuit Works in the Edinburgh suburbs. The company marked another milestone when in 1892 Alexander Grant developed the Digestive biscuit which became a McVitie & Price flagship product. McVitie & Price received the royal seal of approval in 1893 after being requested to bake the wedding cake for Princess Mary and the Duke of York. Going from strength to strength, surging trade south of the border led the firm to establish a factory in Harlesden, North London in 1902.



McVitie's Rich Tea biscuit. Sean Whitton, CC SA-BY 3.0.

After Robert Jr passed away in 1910, Alexander Grant became the firm's main shareholder and managing director.

With the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, the British government called upon McVitie & Price to apply its expertise and factories to producing 'iron ration' plain biscuits for the British Army. This venture required the opening of yet another production facility, this time in Manchester, in order to meet the demand. The business continued to grow post-war, and in 1922 McVitie & Price acquired Simon Henderson & Sons, an Edinburgh bakery. In 1923 Alexander Grant donated a £100,000 endowment for the establishment of the National Library of Scotland. McVitie & Price began focusing primarily on biscuit production from 1924, as biscuits kept well, were easily portable and handy to eat on the run. High-profile travellers who used and endorsed the biscuits included George Binney, who led the Oxford University Arctic Expedition in 1924. The firm's concentration on biscuits led to experimenting with chocolate and the creation of the Homewheat Chocolate Digestive brand biscuit, now famously known as McVitie's Chocolate Digestives.

A titan on the British and world stage

Pastries were still on the McVitie & Price agenda, however, with the now renowned Jaffa Cake appearing in 1927. Flavoured by sweet Jaffa oranges and a tangerine oil jam, the Jaffa Cake was the subject of a controversy when Her Majesty's Customs and Excise declared that the item was a biscuit and not a cake, and so subject to VAT.

The firm succeeded in proving to the courts that the Jaffa Cake is a cake, and decades later the treat remains VAT-free. Another £100,000 came from Alexander Grant in 1928, this time for the construction of the National Library site on the George IV Bridge in Edinburgh. The deprivations and sacrifices of World War II had a profound impact on McVitie & Price. So great was the effect of these challenges that while the company was producing 370 varieties of biscuits and cakes in 1939, in 1945 only 10 different McVitie & Price items were on offer. McVitie & Price had more royal involvement when in 1947 they made the more than 2.5-metre-tall wedding cake for Princess Elizabeth and Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten. Working amidst Britain's food-rationing restrictions, the cake's ingredients were imported from overseas. In 1948 McVitie & Price merged with Macfarlane, Lang & Co Ltd to form United Biscuits Group. United Biscuits acquired Edinburgh biscuit company William Crawford and Sons in the early 1960s. William McDonald & Sons, the Glasgow maker of Penguin brand biscuits, came into the United Biscuits fold in 1965, followed by Carr's of Carlisle in 1972.

Yet another McVitie's breakthrough occurred in 1985 with the introduction of Hobnobs. So popular was this biscuit that McVitie's brought out its chocolate variant only two years later, soon followed by another hit, Boosters. Adding to its century-long string of successes, McVitie's introduced its Milk Chocolate Caramel Digestive biscuit in 1999, and in 2004 the product won the Dunk for Britain campaign, earning the title 'Nation's favourite McVitie's dunking biscuit'.

In an effort to make its biscuits more healthful, McVitie's reduced the saturated fat content of its Rich Tea and Hobnobs brands by fifty per cent in 2009. The company performed more royal duties when in 2011 it was commissioned to create a groom's cake for the wedding of Catherine Middleton and Prince William – a no-bake cake with McVitie's Rich Tea biscuits as a main ingredient! Marching further on into the 21st century, McVitie's has introduced McVitie's Sweet™, Digestive Nibbles and Digestive Thins. What would Robert McVitie think that well over a century on, his Edinburgh-based bakery is a titan on the British and world stage?

Digestive biscuits



McVitie's Chocolate Digestive biscuit. Jolly Janner, public domain.

In 1839 two Scottish doctors originated the semi-sweet digestive biscuit as a digestive aid. The high sodium bicarbonate content of the recipe was believed to work as an antacid.

A digestive biscuit's basic ingredients are coarse brown wheat flour, sugar, malt extract, vegetable oil, wholemeal, raising agents and salt. In 1851 brown meal digestive biscuits were offered for sale in The Lancet, and Huntley & Palmers of Berkshire advertised digestive biscuits in 1876. The digestive biscuit developed by Alexander Grant and manufactured by McVitie's was made from a secret recipe which is still in use today. McVitie's Digestives remain the best-selling biscuit in the UK, with the Chocolate Digestives consistently voted the UK's number one snack food.

Jaffa oranges



Sliced McVitie's Jaffa Cake. Asim18, public domain.

Named for the ancient Canaanite port city, now part of Tel Aviv, Jaffa oranges were developed by Arab farmers in the mid-19th century. Also called the Shamouti, the Jaffa orange is oval with a thick, deep orange-coloured peel.

Due to the thickness and toughness of its peel the Jaffa travels well and so is an ideal fruit for export. Despite its hardy skin, the Jaffa is easy to peel and the flesh tastes sweet and is almost seedless.

TENEMENT TALES - By: Brian Diamond

Canadian Brian Diamond has developed a collection of short humorous stories which were written to create a book that he could give to his 13 grandchildren. The stories are 100% true and accurately portray his childhood growing up in a tenement in the industrial suburb of Springburn in Glasgow in the 1940's and 50's.



Reuniting with Liam Oxley

I will now ask you to travel back to September 1963 I am getting married to Helen Cox from Barlanark on Sept 28th and we had sent a wedding invitation to Helen's brother John Cox who lived in Detroit, USA. John had written back to say that he was unable to attend but one of his close friends from Detroit was coming home from Detroit to Glasgow on vacation and would we mind if he attended in John's place. He said that his friend was a photographer, and he had an 8-mil camera and that would take moving pictures and show our wedding to them in Detroit when he returned from his vacation. Back in 1963, a video seemed like a good idea. On the wedding day, John's friend turns up to take pictures and his name is Dick Oxley, he turns out to be the stepbrother of my nemesis Liam from our school days and the reason that I now have a front crown. Dick and his wife Nora were exceptional people, we got on well together, he took some film and went on with his vacation. He did tell us that Liam

was his stepbrother and that Liam had also immigrated to the USA, I never said that I knew him, or told him about my missing front tooth, the embarrassment of it all, way too much to bare.

The top of his game

So now, flash forward yet again 33 years to 1995, 40 years after the eventful but ill-fated boxing match, my brother-in-law John Cox is in a bar in Detroit with his friend Dick Oxley, and they are joined by Dick's brother Liam. John is telling Dick about a recent vacation he had in Canada where he was staying with his sister and brother-in-law Helen & Brian Diamond, "You remember them Dick", he said, "you were at their wedding." At this point Liam interjects and said to John, "Brian Diamond? a red headed guy from Springburn?" "That's him" said John, and Liam replies that he went to school with me. Liam then asks John for my home telephone number and John kindly obliges.

Several days later I receive a call from Liam Oxley, 33 years since our last encounter, I am quite amazed by this, we have a great conversation which ends with me inviting him and his wife Michelle to come and see us in Toronto. It's only a five-hour drive from Michigan to Toronto, and no mention of the Long-ago boxing match was ever mentioned. Well, the fateful day arrives, and Liam and Michelle arrive at our house for what is the start of a wonderful and surprising weekend.

Firstly, Liam has this incredible Sean Connery thing going for him, he is tall,

slightly balding with smouldering brown eyes and cracks a wicked smile. Couple this with a nice disposition, charming wit, a great sense of humour, and the reader can understand that Liam was like the original Bond at the top of his game, a fact that did not go unnoticed by my wife and two daughters who shamelessly stared in awe at this hottie! Well dear readers, if you have managed to reach this point, you should now be thinking how is this all going to turn out, is there a happy ending here?

The glory days of Springburn

Yes indeed, there is moral justification to this story, the moral being 'everything good comes to he who waits'. So, after we have all got to know each other and our guests are settled in, our oldest daughter Nikki, says to Liam, "My dad always tells us this story about you and him when you guys were young in Springburn. Liam lets out a great hearty laugh and with his wicked smile says, "I know, I know, he probably tells you about our boxing match and how he knocked my tooth out" GASP. Thinking that Liam was being much too gracious to me in front of my family, I said, "Aw come on now Liam, it was me that had his tooth broken". At this, Liam give us that big laugh again and proceeds to tell me what really happened in the grudge boxing match 40 years ago, and I must tell you that it was worth waiting 40 years to hear.

Apparently about one nanosecond before he knocked me out cold, I had managed to deliver my killer right

uppercut on the point of his chin and broke his front tooth, but as I was going down for the long count thanks to his haymaker, I never knew that I had hit the mark. Back then, young Liam did not want anyone to know that a smaller kid like me had broken his front tooth, way too much ego damage there, so he left the club that evening in case anyone should find out. I of course was still being revived and he was blissfully gone when I woke up, and neither one of us ever knew that we had each broken each other's front tooth until 40 years later.

Liam and I looked at each other in amazement, and then we both laughed for so long that our sides ached, it was a great weekend, I brought out old school photographs and we tried to name all 42 of the kids in our class. Liam was a terrific guest and as far away from the sullen boy that I remembered as possible, The point of this story is you should never make assumptions about the canvas until the artist has finished his work, Liam was outstanding company, and we all had a great weekend together. In closing this story, as a surprise for our 40th wedding anniversary, our oldest son Paul contacted Dick Oxley in Detroit and between them they managed to recover the two minutes of 8 mil black and white film that Dick took on our wedding day in 1963 and had it transferred to a video format, it is now a very memorable and prized possession. To this date, Liam and I have met for the past 10 years on vacation in Florida, and over a few drinks recall the glory days of Springburn.



Did you know?

The Battle of Bannockburn

- In June 1314 the history of Scotland as a nation was about to change forever. At the Battle of Bannockburn Robert the Bruce, King of Scots, faced down the English army led by Edward II. Edward, keen to retain the stronghold of Stirling Castle, had led a huge army through Scotland to lift the Scots' siege of his garrison at the castle. Achieving this was vital to Edward's hopes of re-establishing his weakening grip on the country, but he was stopped short by the army of Robert Bruce.
- Over the two days of battle, 23-24 June, Edward's army was repeatedly thwarted by the Scots' stubborn resistance before finally finding itself trapped by the surrounding terrain with no room to manoeuvre their huge force. The result was an unprecedented rout of King Edward's army.
- Robert Burns would visit Bannockburn in 1787 and later wrote his famous poem *Scots Wha Hae* about the battle.
- Located near the historic city of Stirling, the site still evokes the landscape that would have been seen by medieval soldiers in 1314, when the area was a royal hunting park. Today the Battle of Bannockburn Visitor Centre harnesses 3D technology to bring Scottish history to life. You can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with medieval warriors and armoured knights while learning about the tactics of two opposing kings in a truly immersive experience. Visitors witness the sights and sounds of medieval battle first-hand including ancient battle strategies, weapons and armour in what was a crucial event in Scottish history.

Kamloops Highland Games

JULY 13 2024
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 2025 Summit Drive
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Competitions in:
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 Highland Dancing
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- Scottish Vendors
- Games for the Kids
- Clan Tents
- Lots of Entertainment
- Great Food
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- Beer Gardens
- Seniors & Children: \$10

www.kamloopshighlandgames.org and Facebook



BELLINGHAM SCOTTISH GATHERING

SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024

Hosted by the City of Blaine, Washington U.S.A

ScottishDanceSociety.org



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FEATURING:

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- Highland Dancing Championship
- Piping, Drumming & Bagpipe Bands
- Vendors, Clans and Athletics!

Made possible in part by Tourism Promotion Grants
from the Cities of Blaine and Bellingham and from Whatcom County



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.

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 geneologist. **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
Website: clanbairdsocietyworldwide.co.uk



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](http://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.clandonaldivic@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.

Clan Fraser Society of Australia



Invites all Frasers
and Fraser sept
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/](https://www.facebook.com/Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/)

Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/
482236358590288

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>

Email: President@clanbell.org

Clan Bell North America

49 Greystone Lane NW

Cartersville, GA, 30121



Learned Kindred
of Currie

A leading Scottish non-profit cultural and educational organization dedicated to preserving and promoting Scottish and Highland heritage and the arts through a wide variety of programs.

contact@curriekindred.com
www.learnedkindredofcurrie.com

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 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

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 decent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle, Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

Donald E. Bruce

President

1051 Eagle Ridge Trail

Stillwater, Minnesota 55082

Polly A. (Bruce) Tilford, Secretary

5561 Earl Young Road

Bloomington, IN 47408

www.familyofbruceinternational.org

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 the name Davidson or one of the Septs shown on the member application form available from the Clan's Facebook Group link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/360160657504253/> or by contacting the Hon. Secretary:

Dennis Hill, PO Box 519
Baulkham Hills NSW 1755
E:dhill1@bigpond.net.au, P: 0431 527 662

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

Membership invited to all who share the Sept names:
Duncan, Robertson, Reid, etc.

UK: London & Southern Counties * Rannoch & Highlands

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/TheClanDonnachaighSociety)

Email: ivc@donnachaidh.com

CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

Est: 1822 in Edinburgh Scotland

Patron: Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor Bt

Membership enquiries for USA: usa@clangregor.com

Rest of the World:

membership@clangregor.com

Web: www.clangregor.com



6 The Esplanade

Broughty Ferry

DUNDEE, DD5 2EL

Scotland UK



ARE YOU A BURNETT,
BURNET, BURNETTE,
BARNET, BARNETT,
BARNETTE, BERNIT,
BERNAT, BURNAP,
BURNAT, MACBURNET,
OR OTHER SPELLING
VARIATION; MARRIED TO
A BURNETT, OR A
DESCENDENT?

**HOUSE OF BURNETT
INTERNATIONAL, INC.**
THE WORLDWIDE BURNETT SOCIETY
www.houseofburnett.org



Clan Donald Australia

"Under the patronage of the
High Council of the chiefs of Clan Donald"


High Commissioner John Angus Currie

State Commissioners

NSW	John A Currie
Qld	A. Neil Macdonald
SA	Michael Murphy
Vic	Norman A Macdonald
WA	Pamela McDonald

clandonald.com.au
clandonaldnsw.au@gmail.com

We are a family of many names, come & join your family!



Edmonstone Clan Society

Invites membership to anyone of the surname
or variations:- Edmiston/e, Edmondston,
Edmanson, Edmeston, Edmonson,
Edmundson, 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 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: clangregoraustralia@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 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 McDonnell, 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.elliottclan-usa.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 Ballias Crt.
St. Louis, MO 63131-3038
Phone: 314-432-2842, registrar@acgsus.org
website: www.acgsus.org



CLAN CARRUTHERS SOCIETY -INTERNATIONAL-

HEREDITARY CHIEF AND SOCIETY PATRON
Simon Peter Carruthers of Holmains
Chief of the Name and Arms of Carruthers

Cordially invites all Carruthers and their
descendants to join us in preserving our Clan
and Family heritage.

Clan Carruthers Society - International
officially representing Carruthers worldwide

www.clancarrutherssociety.org
clancarrutherssociety@gmail.com



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



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NEWSLETTER!

For more information:
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

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

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

www.clanhay.com



Clan Little Society, Inc.

Welcoming Little/Lyttle/Lytile and the like.

- Promoting our Scottish heritage
- Hosting tents at Scottish games
- Connecting our families
- Maintaining our genealogy and DNA

www.clanlittlesociety.org
Registered in the State of Georgia, USA
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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

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

The MacEanruigs, proud sons of Henry, invite you to join!

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 MacKenzie Society of New Zealand

We welcome all MacKenzies
All spellings and from all Septs
Secretary: clanmackenzie@gmail.com
www.clanmackenzienz.org

THE MACLEODS

RICH IN HIGHLAND TRADITIONS

FOR INFORMATION:
WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG

A.L. MACLEOD
3923 ROCKWOOD WAY #B
WEST VALLEY CITY, UT
84120-6880

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

YOU are invited to join CMSNA!
We would love to share Scottish heritage and traditions with YOU!

Learn MORE at www.MacDougall.org

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 MacNaughton and Scottish heritage. For more info go to: clanmacnaughton.net or contact Mary Nivison Burton, Membership Secretary at: membersec@clanmacnaughton.net

New Second Edition!
A History of the Clan Macnachtan
Paperback available through Amazon.com, Amazon.co.uk, Amazon.ca

CLAN IRVING

HEREDITARY CHIEF AND PATRON

Rupert Christopher Irving of Bonshaw
Chief of the Name and Arms and 20th Clan Chief

Cordially invites all Border Irvings & Irvines and variations of the Name to join in preserving the Clan and Family history!

DISCOVER YOUR HERITAGE!
clanirving.com

Macfie Clan Society of Australia

Invites anyone interested in our Clan and its ancestral heritage to contact us. Various Clan names include McPhee, MacFee, Macfie, McAfee, Fee, Phee, McDuffy, Duffy, McCathie and many more.

For more information please email: colonsay@bigpond.net.au, visit us at [facebook.com/clanmacfieaustralia](https://www.facebook.com/clanmacfieaustralia) or our website: <https://clanmacfie.com.au>

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: malcolmjmcneil@outlook.com

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

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www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com

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.facebook.com/ClanMacNeilUSA)

www.clanmacneil.org

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 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 MacLellan

Kevin S Gates
Treasurer
2610 Kuykendall Dr.
Arlington, TX
76001-6726
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
55 Arcadia Ave
GYMEA BAY NSW 2227
www.clanmacnicol.org



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: Bodo Bernd Schmitz
Europe.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +0152 538 19 355

Scotland & Northern Ireland: Moray G Cattanach
SandNI.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +44 7810 860 528

Australia: Pam Rhenrev
Australian.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +61 407 789 924

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

New Zealand: Tony McPherson
NewZealand.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +64 274 587 812

USA: Dave McPherson
UnitedStates.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +1 408 781 5199

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/>



Morrison

Clan Morrison Society of North America
Clann MhicGillehoire: Morrison + Gilmore + Brieve

Membership cordially invited from those who are connected with this great Clan, i.e., Morrison, Morison, Gilmour, Gilmer, Gilmore, Murrison or descendants of eligible name.

www.clanmorrison.net



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



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



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: clanmacraeaustrnz@gmail.com

NZ Contact: Sue Tregoweth
email: sue.treg1@gmail.com



Discover Your Nesbitt/Nisbet Ancestry

ibydeit.org
nesbittnisbet.org.uk



Clan Sutherland Society in Australia Inc.

Contact: M Williams, Secretary

clansutherlandsocietyaustralia@gmail.com
<http://goldenvale.wixsite.com/clansutherlandaus>
Facebook: Clan Sutherland Society in Australia



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



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
720-793-7530
brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com



OLIPHANT CLAN & FAMILY ASSOCIATION of North America

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Oliphant - Olyphant - Oliphint
Olifant - Olifent and all descended

ClanOliphantMembership@gmail.com
www.OliphantOfNorthAmerica.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



Scots Canada

Join our 90+ members in celebrating your Scottish Heritage while promoting your growth and success

Find out more and how to belong at scotscanada.com

Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada



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
clanmaitlandaustralia@gmail.com
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, Maitlen and similar name spelling. See the entire list and your family history at: www.clanmaitland.org.uk



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



YOUNG

Youngs of Scotland in Australia

Invites membership from all those with the name of Young or ancestral ties to the name.


Convenor: Ian J Young AM FSAScot
E: membership@clanyoungaustralia.com.au
www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/
<https://clanyoungsociety.com/australia>



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
P.O. Box 34, Kotara NSW 2289



Clan Muirhead Society

A NON-PROF. CORP.

Muirhead, Muirbode, Morehead, Moorhead and all Variant Names

www.clanmuirhead.com

Rev. Ret. Chev. Raymond L. Morehead, GOTJ, FSA Scot,
Chief Officer Elect Clan Muirhead Society
Email: raymondktj@msn.com or raymond@clanmuirhead.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



YOUNGS OF SCOTLAND

Membership inquiries:
Ms. Laura Young,
33 McKeen Street,
Jarvis, Ontario,
Canada NOA 1J0

4scottishthistles@gmail.com



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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New photos of Greyfriars Bobby unveiled



Friends of Dalry Cemetery volunteer Lani Knoff with the newly unveiled photograph of Greyfriars Bobby in Greyfriars Kirk.

By: Jakob Assarsson, Friends of Dalry Cemetery

Greyfriars Bobby needs no introduction. He's one of the most recognizable figures in Scottish history and probably one of the most famous dogs in the world. Yet despite a wealth of literature, and a Disney film, there remain open questions about who exactly this little dog was. Speaking strictly from the photographic record, there are two dogs purported to be Greyfriars Bobby. One, often named Greyfriars Bobby the First, appears in at least five photographs, taken by Edinburgh publisher Walter Greenoak Patterson around 1867. The other, Greyfriars Bobby the Second, appears in a single photograph of unknown date and origin.

Skye terrier

Before we continue, we must sadly put Greyfriars Bobby the Second to bed. In the cold light of day, a single photograph of a Skye terrier, with "Grayfriars Bobby" written on it, is not enough to suppose, as some have, that there was a second dog. Photographs are frequently mislabelled. On the balance of probability, we have no choice but to conclude that Greyfriars Bobby the Second was no Greyfriars Bobby at all, but a Greyfriars Red Herring.

Consequently, we must dismiss the hypothesis that Greyfriars Bobby the First died and was replaced prior to 1872 - the "two dog" theory. That so famous a dog could have been replaced by one of a different breed without raising any eyebrows already stretches the bounds of credulity. Perhaps most importantly, it means that Bobby was, probably, neither a purebred Skye terrier, nor a Dandie Dinmont, although they will forever remain an integral part of the legend of Greyfriars Bobby.

So, who was Greyfriars Bobby the First? If you visit Bobby's display at the Museum of Edinburgh, you will see the three images known prior to 2010. One shows Bobby with the family of John Traill, another with the family's children, and one by himself, the Museum's cabinet card-sized copy addressed to John Traill from WG Patterson. John Traill ran an establishment at 6 Greyfriars Place, at different times described as a coffee house, refreshment rooms, or a restaurant, always with Temperance added to signify that no alcohol was sold. Today, it is part of Alandas Gelato, with nothing but a neon sign reading "where the magic happens" to signify its historical ties to Bobby.

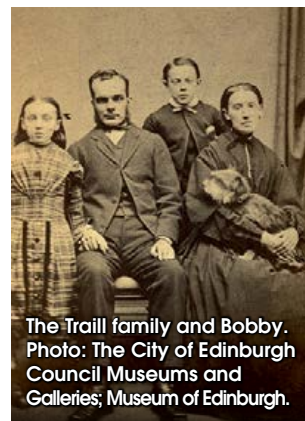
Bobby would visit and be fed at 6 Greyfriars Place, as he would visit other local homes and businesses in-between stints in Greyfriars Kirkyard. As time went on, the Traill family's role evolved to something like carers or owners, and it is for this reason they were photographed with the famous pooch. What is rather remarkable is that since 2010, three entirely new photos have come to light. Mine is the latest and the reason for this article. In 2010, a Flickr user posted an Edinburgh carte-de-visite photo of a small terrier in a cemetery. It was quickly pointed out that the photographer, WG Patterson, the graveyard setting, and the general appearance of the dog, suggested it might well be Greyfriars Bobby. Having compared the photograph to the location of John Gray's grave in Greyfriars Kirkyard, and the subsequently discovered photos of Bobby, I am confident that not only is this indeed Greyfriars Bobby, but Bobby at the famous graveside he may have mourned at.

A better understanding of Bobby

In 2022, another carte-de-visite of unknown ownership but with a remarkable resemblance to the renowned canine began to circulate in the media. Fresh on its heels, I discovered a further carte-de-visite in 2023. For the first time, we can assemble all of these photos together and gain a better understanding of Bobby. One of the first conclusions we can draw (yes, pun intended) is that the previously-known solo portrait is not a photograph, but a traced illustration of the photo I discovered, with some minor changes. Another is that being intended for commercial sale, the images were probably taken in order of saleability until the final, illustrated image was chosen for sale to the public.



Photo: Jakob Assarsson.



The Traill family and Bobby. Photo: The City of Edinburgh Council Museums and Galleries; Museum of Edinburgh.



The Traill children with Bobby. Photo: The City of Edinburgh Council Museums and Galleries; Museum of Edinburgh.

Resembling the most strongly a traditional Victorian studio portrait, it is likely that the Traill family was photographed first. However, the inclusion of a family that not all intended customers would have been familiar with, and Bobby looking away from the camera in one photo and blurry-faced in the other, probably necessitated additional photos. From here it may have been decided that instead of with his current caretaker family, Bobby might be photographed at the famous graveside of John Gray, the man who may have been his former owner. With no further known photos in this Kirkyard series, we can hazard a guess that Bobby may not have been particularly cooperative in terms of adopting a mourning pose when prompted. We can also see from the shallow depth of field that the studio camera had been adjusted for a shorter exposure, probably to maximize chances of keeping a moving dog in focus.

Inability to secure a photo of Bobby suitably reposed may have led Patterson back to the studio, where Bobby was placed, by himself, on an ornamental pedestal. One photo shows his claws, in another they are absent - the photo with claws must have been taken first. Perhaps they were trimmed to soften Bobby's appearance. His coat, too, is brushed. In my photo, an alert, sitting Bobby, claws hidden and coat smooth, finally has his face in focus. For the first time, we can truly look Bobby in the face. He is unquestionably a terrier cross, resembling no breed in particular. He has teefs. He looks quite happy. So why was this relatively good photo made into an illustration for sale? Here, examining the minor changes is revealing. Bobby's right ear is lowered. His teeth are hidden. His eyes are made to gaze upward, his entire demeanour taking on an air of mournfulness. His body, made blurry by the shallow depth of field, is brought into sharp focus. Finally, Patterson had his sellable image of a sad Greyfriars Bobby. The rest is history.



Photo: National Galleries Scotland.



Greyfriars Bobby the First.

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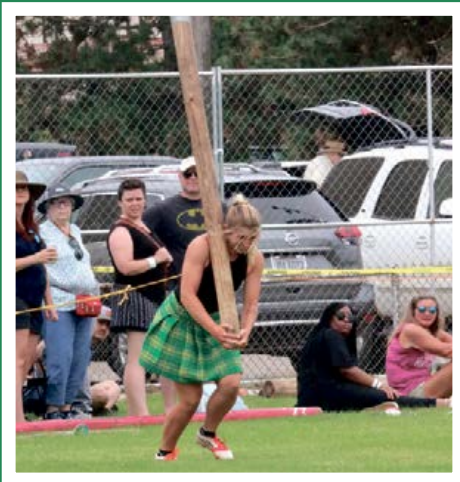
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June 21 & 22, 2024



Friday, June 21, 2024
7:00 PM – 11:00 PM

Irish/Scottish Cèilidh (party!)
in the Pub Tent with Live Music!
Music begins at 7:00 PM

\$22.50 Admission
Cash bar

Saturday, June 22, 2024
9:00 AM – 11:00 PM

Highland Games begin 9:30 AM
Festival grounds open until 8 PM
(Music continues until 11:00 PM)

\$12 (16 & older)
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HOLLAND CELTIC FESTIVAL

Ottawa County Fairgrounds

DeZwaan Windmill photo by Norm Hoekstra. Other photos by Erika Tinney & Cassie Veen-Haveman

WHAT'S ON - SCOTTISH EVENTS

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

Canada

JUNE 2024

The Gathering of the Scots

6-9, Perth-Andover, NB

Celebrating 20 years of Scottish culture and athletics. Info: www.gatheringofthescots.com

Georgetown Highland Games

8, Georgetown, ON
Boasting over 1,000 competitors who gather to compete in Piping, Drumming, Highland Dancing & Heavy Weight events throughout the day. Traditional Highland Games at Georgetown Fairgrounds. Info: <https://georgetownhighlandgames.com>

Greater Moncton Highland Games & Scottish Festival

11-15, Moncton, NB
Events includes highland dance, pipes & drums, heavy events, and sword competitions as well as demonstrations, workshops, live entertainment, and cultural exhibitions at the Hal Betts Sportsplex, corner of Assomption Blvd and Vaughn Harvey Blvd. Info: www.monctonhighlandgames.com

Northumberland Scottish Festival and Highland Games

14-15, Port Hope, ON
New name and location for the previously known Cobourg Highland Games. Two days of Scottish celebration at Port Hope Agricultural Park. Info: www.northumberlandhighlandgames.ca

ScotFestBC

14-15, Coquitlam, BC

The British Columbia Highland Games-with Scottish entertainment, information, displays and competitions. Info: www.scotfestbc.com

1000 Islands Celtic Roots Festival

14-15, Mallorytown, ON
Featuring: The Mudmen, The Fiddleheads The Steel City Rovers & The Celtic Kitchen Party at Happy Green Acres. Info:www.happygreenacres.com

Water Valley Celtic Festival

15, Water Valley, AB

A one day lively and totally unique experience that features talent of all levels involving music, dance and stories performed by individuals and groups covering the range from amateur to professional level. Info: www.watervalleycelticfestival.org

The Kingsville-Exsex Highland Games

22, Kingsville, ON
New venue at the Canadian Transportation Museum & Heritage Village, 6155 Arner Townline, Kingsville. Pipes & Drums, Highland Dancing, Scottish Athletic Heavy Events, Tug of War, Clan Village, Sheep Herding, Haggis Hurl, vendors and so much more. Info: www.facebook.com/kingsvillehighlandgames

Manitoba Highland Gathering

22-23, East Selkirk, MB
Pipe Bands, Highland Dancers, Heavy Games, Canoe/Kayak Races, Sheep shearing, Clan booths, Sword demos at Legacy Park. Info:www.manitobahighlandgathering.org

Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo

28-July 1, Halifax, NS
There's something for everyone at the Tattoo: marching bands, acrobats, dancers, military displays, pipes and drums, and much more. Info: www.nstatattoo.ca

KitchenFest-Féis a' Chidsin

28-July 6, Cape Breton, NS
Concerts and céilidhs, pub nights and square dances-a celebration of Gaelic culture. Info: www.kitchenfest.ca

Scotword answers from page 6

Across:	Down:
7) Captain	1) Dancers
8) Flyleaf	2) Stun
10) Achnasheen	3) Jigsaw
11) Ness	4) Clannish
12) Broadway	5) Gleneagles
14) Italic	6) Parsnip
15) Blair Atholl	9) New Years Day
19) Megrim	13) Auld Reekie
20) Scotsman	16) Immortal
22) Styne	17) Central
23) Reasonable	18) Sailors
25) Capital	21) Odours
26) Primary	24) Arms

July 2024

Happy Canada Day

1, Nationwide
Wishing all our Canadian readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Canada Day!

Embro Highland Games

1, Embro, ON
Ontario's oldest Highland Games, a day of family fun with a Scottish flare at Embro Zorra Community Centre, 355644 35th Line. Info: www.zorracaledoniansociety.ca/embro-highland-games

Gathering of the Clans

1, Pugwash, NS
Celebrate Canada Day with a touch of Scotland. Info: www.pugwashvillage.com/index.php/festivals-and-events/gathering-of-the-clans

Penticton Scottish Festival

5-6, Penticton, BC
Scottish entertainment and celebration at King's Park. Info: www.pentictonscottishfestival.ca

Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games

5-7, Kincardine, ON
Enjoy three days and nights of lively music, exciting competitions, cultural workshops, and friendly small town hospitality at Victoria Park. Info: www.kincardinescottishfestival.ca

Almonte Celfest

5-7, Almonte, ON
Celfest is a fun weekend of Ottawa Valley and Celtic entertainment, performed in the natural amphitheatre of Gemmill Park in the heart of Almonte. Info: www.almontecelfest.com

Antigonish Highland Games

7-14, Antigonish, NS
A full program of Scottish events, competitions and celebrations-the longest running Highland Games in North America. Info: www.antigonishhighlandgames.ca

Kamloops Highland Games

13, Kamloops, BC
Take in all the sights and sounds of a traditional Highland games. This annual festival will be the host to many activities including Scottish heavy athletics, highland dance, music and more at Albert McGowan Park, 2025 Summit Dr. Info:www.kamloopshighlandgames.org

Cambridge Scottish Festival

19-20, Cambridge, ON , Canada
Celebrating Scottish culture and heritage at Churchill Park. Info: www.cambridgescottishfestival.ca

Orillia Scottish Festival

19-21, Orillia, ON
Celebrating Scottish culture & heritage at Couchiching Beach Park. Info: www.scottishfestival.ca

Sherwood Park Highland Gathering

20-21, Sherwood Park, AB
The event consists of piping and drumming competitions, massed band performances, Highland Dance competitions, and Scottish heavy games, held on the Salisbury High School Athletic Fields in Broadmoor Lake Park. Info: www.sphg.ca

New Brunswick Highland Games

26-28, Fredericton, NB
Workshops, entertainment, competitions giving visitors an opportunity to learn more about Scottish heritage, on the beautiful grounds of historic Government House. Info: www.highlandgames.ca

Uxbridge Scottish Festival

27, Uxbridge, ON
A celebration of Scotland at Elgin Park. Info: www.uxbridgescottishfestival.com

USA

June 2024

1, Bellingham Scottish Gathering

Blaine, WA
Pacific Northwest beauty abounds with the new home of the Bellingham Scottish Gathering in Blaine, WA. The annual festival features the City of Bellingham Open Highland Dancing Championship, bagpipe, drum and band competitions, food and merchandise vendors, clan tents, athletics, Scottish breed animals and the Scotland FOREver Golf Tournament. Nestled between Seattle, WA and Vancouver, BC, and adjacent to the Peace Arch border crossing. Enjoy waterfront views of the Salish Sea, Mount Baker and Semiahmoo resort where whale and bird watching are popular. Info: www.scottishdancesociety.org

Garrett County Celtic Festival

1, Friendsville, MD
Celebrating heritage of the Scots, the Irish, the Welsh and all things Celtic with music, dance and fun at Friendsville Community Park. Info: www.gcclctcfestival.com

Blairsville Scottish Festival & Highland Games

8-9, Blairsville, GA
Highland dancers, Scottish athletes, family clans, bagpipes and drums and traditional musicians come to celebrate their heritage at 490 Meeks Park Rd. Info: www.blairsvillescottishfestival.com

Utah Scottish Festival and Highland Games

14-16, Salt Lake City, UT
The largest Scottish Festival in Utah at Utah State Fair Park. Info: www.utahscots.org/highland-games

Chicago Scottish Festival & Highland Games

14-15, Wheaton IL
A celebration of Scotland at Dupage County Fairgrounds. Info: www.chicagoscots.org/festival

Holland Celtic Festival and Highland Games

21-22, Holland MI
Scottish & Irish music, Clans, Highland Games, Celtic food and more at the Ottawa County Fairgrounds, 1286 Ottawa Beach Rd. Info:www.hollandcelticfestival.org

Ohio Scottish Games & Celtic Festival

21-22, Berea, OH
The Games highlight the traditional dance, music and athletics of the ancient Highland Games, at Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. Info:www.ohioscottishgames.com

Tacoma Highland Games

22, Graham WA
Promoting Scottish culture at Frontier Park, with dancing, piping and drumming and athletics and more. Info: www.tacomagames.org

San Diego Scottish Highland Games and Gathering of the Clans

22-23, Vista, CA
A weekend of Scottish culture, entertainment and fun at Brengle Terrace Park. Info: www.sdhhighlandgames.org

Alaska Scottish Highland Games

29-30, Palmer, AK
Featuring all things Scottish-Bagpipes, Heavy Athletics, Celtic Dance, Drumming, Kilted Mile, Scotch tasting, Salmon Tossing, Highland Coo, Tug-Of-War and more at the Alaska State Fairgrounds. Info: www.alaskascottish.org

JULY 2024

Happy Independence Day

4, Nationwide
The Scottish Banner wishes our US readers a very Happy Independence Day. July 4th commemorates the Declaration of Independence, which is said to have been influenced by Scotland's Declaration of Arbroath.

School of Scottish Arts

5-11, Banner Elk, NC
The School of Scottish Arts is an iconic sleepaway camp for Highland Dancers to hone their skills with top instructors and leads directly up to the Grandfather Mountain Scottish Highland Games. This camp experience for young people was formerly engaged in the teaching and learning of many Scottish Arts disciplines, but currently is focused on the perpetuation of Scottish heritage through the dances of Scotland, at Lees-McRae College. Info: www.schoolofscottisharts.com

Balmoral School of Piping & Drumming Summer School

7-12, Kutztown PA
In small group classes, 1-on-1 lessons, and camp-wide seminars, students will receive instruction on the Great Highland Bagpipe and Scottish Snare Drum at Kutztown University. Info: <https://balmoralschoolofpiping.org/summer-piping-drumming-camps>

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

11-14, Linville, NC
Thousands of kilt-clad Scots make their way to MacRae Meadows for their annual gathering and games. Clans, pipe bands, entertainment, vendors and more-one of America's top Scottish events. Info: 828 733-1333 or www.gmhg.org.

Payson Scottish Festival

12-13, Payson, UT
A celebration of Scottish culture at Memorial Park, free admission. Info: www.paysonscottishfestival.org

Saline Celtic Festival

12-13, Ann Arbor MI
A family-oriented event with something for everyone at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds: 5055 Ann Arbor Saline Rd. Info: www.salineceltic.org

Robert Burns Commemorative Supper

13, Tulsa OK
The Robert Burns Commemorative Supper is held by the Scottish Club of Tulsa (S.C.O.T.) in the fashion, honor and tradition of the first Burns Supper on July 21st of 1801. We endeavor to provide an experience that embraces the ceremony and the spirit of that august and auspicious event. The evening is divided into three parts with the Commemorative Supper being held as primary. The second part of the evening is a brief S.C.O.T. Ceremony of awards and distinction, followed by the Cèilidh. Info: www.scottishcluboftulsa.com

Minnesota Scottish Fair & Highland Games

13, St. Paul MN
A celebration of Scottish culture at Macalester College. Info: www.mnscottishfair.org

Balmoral School of Piping & Drumming Summer School

14-19, Edinboro, PA
In small group classes, 1-on-1 lessons, and camp-wide seminars, students will receive instruction on the Great Highland Bagpipe and Scottish Snare Drum at PennWest-Edinboro University. Info: <https://balmoralschoolofpiping.org/summer-piping-drumming-camps>

Maine Celtic Celebration

19-21, Belfast ME
A family-oriented weekend celebrating the rich Celtic heritage, culture, and hospitality found along the Coast of Maine, at the Commons and at Steamboat Landing Park. Info: www.mainecelticcelebration.com

Pacific Northwest Scottish Highland Games and Clan Gathering

27-28, Enumclaw, WA
Bringing Scotland to the Pacific Northwest for over 70 years through the skirl of the Pipes and Drums, the beauty of Highland Dancing, the brawn of Scottish athletics, and the sharing of clan history. Info: www.sshga.org

Scotland

JUNE 2024

Helensburgh & Lomond Highland Games

1, Helensburgh
Featuring a variety of traditional Highland Games Competitions like the Sheaf Toss, Hammer Throw and of course the world-famous Caber Toss. Info: www.hlhighlandgames.scot

MacEwen Family Convention

6-9, Otter Ferry, Argyll
Everyone with the MacEwen surname, spelling broadly defined, are invited to attend the MacEwen Family Convention. This meeting will seek to affirm the Clan's position on the matter of the Chiefship of MacEwen, a post which has been vacant for more than 500-years. Info: www.ClansMacEwen.com

British Pipe Band Championships

8, Forres
With pipe bands from across the UK competing across various grades at Grant Park. Info: www.rspba.org

The Reeling

8-9, Glasgow
Scotland's newest traditional music festival, is set to return to Glasgow's Rouken Glen Park with a spectacular line up and even bigger programme of activities for all. The single biggest weekend of traditional music in the Central Belt. Info: thereeling.com

Strathmore Highland Games

9, Glamis
The traditions of Highland Games held on the glorious grounds of Glamis Castle in Angus. Info: www.strathmorehighlandgames.co.uk

2024 Clan Urquhart International Gathering

14-19, Glasgow
A gathering of Urquhart's, their descendants and members of families to gather from across the world. Info: www.clanurquhart.org

Aberdeen Highland Games

16, Aberdeen
A highlight on the Aberdeen summer calendar, it promises to be a day full of fun for all the family; with traditional Highland Games events at Hazlehead Park. Info: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/leisure-culture-and-parks/major-events-aberdeen/aberdeen-highland-games-2024

Clan MacKinnon Gathering

18-21, Edinburgh
Join the Clan MacKinnon Society for local tours, workshops, sightseeing, social time, a banquet, and more... not to mention reconnecting with old friends and making new ones from near and far. Info: www.themackinnon.com/scotland2024.html

St Magnus International Festival

21-28, Orkney
Each year there are a variety of events in music, theatre, arts, dance, literature, cabaret and folk music alongside community projects, education and learning opportunities all of them set against the backdrop of Orkney's magical midsummer. Info:www.stmagnusfestival.com

Drumtochty Highland Games

22, Drumtochty
Known as the friendliest Highland Games in the area they are firmly established in the Scottish Highland Games calendar as one of the most outstanding events, held in the grounds of Drumtochty Castle. Info: www.drumtochtyhighlandgames.co.uk

East Neuk Festival

26-30, East Neuk of Fife
Taking place in Crail, Anstruther, Kilrenny, St Monans and St Andrews in a range of quirky and atmospheric venues, from churches, halls, and an ex-nuclear bunker, to caves, an RAF base, a Scout hall, stately homes and gardens. Info: www.eastneukfestival.com

Ceres Highland Games

29, Ceres
Ceres Games are the oldest free games in Scotland. There has been a market and games held here at the end of June, every year (except for war and during the period of the 1746 Act of Proscription) since 1314. Info: www.ceresgames.co.uk

IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Cheddar Soda Bread

Ingredients:
 350g/12oz self-raising flour
 1 tsp baking powder
 100g/3½oz unsalted butter
 50ml/2fl oz. milk
 100g/3½oz cheddar, grated
 6 sprigs fresh rosemary
 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method:
 Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Place the flour, baking powder and butter into a food processor and blend together. Continue blending and add the milk and cheese. Mix until the mixture just starts to come together then stop. Remove the dough with floured hands and shape into a large flat round about 3cm/1in thick. Place onto a floured baking sheet and decorate with the rosemary sprigs. Add salt and pepper to taste. Slash a criss-cross over the centre of the dough and place into the oven to bake for 15 minutes, until risen, golden and cooked through. To serve, cut up the cheddar bread into eight pieces and place in a basket or bowl.

Shepherd's pie



Ingredients:
 25g/1oz. dripping
 1 large onion, finely chopped
 2 tbsp. olive oil
 500g/1lb 2oz. minced beef or lamb
 1 tbsp. plain flour
 2 bay leaves
 2 sprigs fresh thyme
 1 anchovy, finely chopped (optional)
 1 x 400g tin chopped tomatoes
 2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
 450ml/16fl oz. chicken, beef or lamb stock
 salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the mash:
 700g/1½lb potatoes, peeled and cut into halves or quarters
 55ml/2fl oz. milk
 75g/3oz butter
 1 free-range egg yolk

Method:
 In a large saucepan, heat the dripping. Add the onion and cook for 5 minutes. Meanwhile, in a large frying pan, heat a little olive oil and fry the mince, stirring, until browned all over. While the meat is frying, break up any lumps with the back of the spoon. Stir the onions and add the flour (this helps to thicken the juices) and stir. Mix well and add the bay leaves, thyme and the anchovy and stir. Add the chopped tomatoes, stock (keep a little aside, for putting into the mince pan to de-glaze the pan) and Worcestershire sauce. Add the cooked mince and then pour the stock mixture into empty mince pan, scraping off any bits of mince left in the pan. Pour the remaining stock into the pan containing the sauce mixture. Bring the mixture to the boil, adding a pinch of salt and pepper and let it simmer for about 45 minutes, stirring regularly. Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6. For the mash, boil the potatoes until tender (about 10 minutes). Drain, add the milk, butter and egg yolk, then mash until smooth. Season with salt and pepper. Pour the meat into a 1.4 litre/2½ pint ovenproof dish and spread the mash on top, smooth over and mark with a spatula. Put the dish into the oven and cook until the surface is golden-brown.

Steak Balmoral

Ingredients:
 4 (Aberdeen or alternative) Angus rib-eye steaks
 30g/1oz. butter
 1 shallot, chopped
 4 tbsp. Scotch whisky
 1 tsp coarse grain mustard
 150ml/¼ pint beef stock
 110g/4oz. sliced mushrooms
 290ml/½ pint double cream
 handful of fresh parsley, chopped
 salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Method:
 Pan fry the steaks to desired 'doneness' and keep warm. In a separate pan, melt the butter. Sauté the chopped shallot until soft. Add the whisky to the pan and carefully set it alight. When the flame goes out add the grain mustard, stock and mushrooms. Add the cream and bring to the boil. Simmer gently until the sauce has reduced by half, stirring from time to time. Add the chopped parsley just before serving. Season well. Pour over steaks to serve.

Bannockburn tart

Ingredients:

For the pastry:
 300g/10½oz. plain flour, plus extra for dusting
 125g/4oz. cold unsalted butter, cut into cubes
 30g/1oz. sugar
 2 free-range eggs
 2 tbsp. milk (optional)

For the filling:
 225g/8oz. unsalted butter, softened
 225g/8oz. caster sugar
 225g/8oz. ground almonds
 3 free-range eggs
 1 lemon, finely grated zest only
 50g/2oz. plain flour
 1 jar raspberry jam
 flaked almonds, for sprinkling

Method:
 For the pastry, place the flour, butter and sugar into a food processor and pulse until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add one of the eggs and pulse until the mixture comes together to form a rough dough. If the dough is too dry, add a bit of milk. Shape the dough into a ball and wrap in cling film. Chill in the fridge for 20 minutes. Unwrap the dough and discard the cling film. Turn the dough out onto a floured work surface and roll out until large enough to line a 30x20cm/12x8in cake tin. Line the tin with the pastry, then place into the fridge to chill for a further 30 minutes. Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Line the chilled tart case with a sheet of greaseproof paper and fill with baking beans. Bake for 15-20 minutes, or until the pastry is lightly golden-brown.

Remove the paper and beans and brush the pastry all over with the remaining beaten egg. Return the pastry to the oven for a further five minutes, until golden-brown. Remove the pastry from the oven and turn the oven temperature down to 180C/365F/Gas 4. For the filling, beat the butter and sugar together in a bowl until pale and fluffy. Mix in the ground almonds, then crack in the eggs one at a time, beating well between each addition until smooth and creamy. Fold in the lemon zest and the flour. Spread some of the raspberry jam generously across the base of the pastry, leaving a 2.5cm/1inch gap around the edge. Spread the filling mixture over the jam and sprinkle over the flaked almonds. Bake the tart for 20 minutes, or until the filling is set and golden-brown. Allow to cool in the tin before serving. To serve, cut the tart into 5cm/2in squares.

The Lone Piper

Ingredients:
 1 tsp lemon juice
 35ml/1fl oz. blended whisky
 15ml/0.5fl oz. peach liqueur
 20ml/0.7fl oz. pressed apple juice
 cream soda
 peach and apple wedges, to garnish

Method:
 Mix the lemon juice, scotch, peach liqueur, apple juice in a mixing glass with a handful of ice. Strain the mixture into a highball glass and top with cream soda. Garnish with the peach and apple wedges.

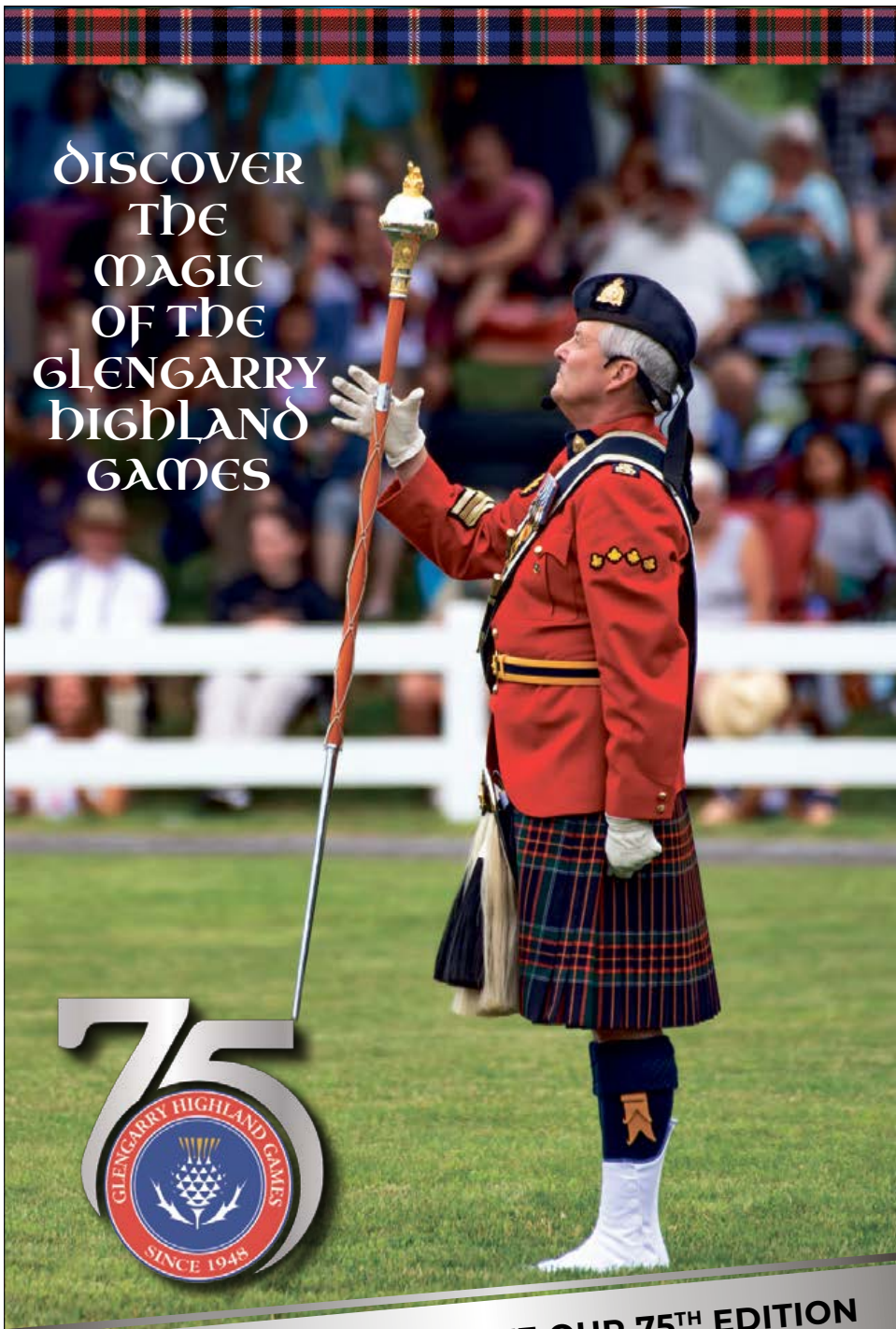


The Scottish Banner is pleased to be offering the Tartan of the Month series highlighting a variety of different, unique and colourful tartans from around the world which are registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans in Edinburgh. The Scottish Register of Tartans was established by an act of the 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).

A tartan for Charlottetown, the capital city of the province of Prince Edward Island, Canada. The City was named after Queen

Charlotte Sophia of England, wife of King George III. The City's flag includes Queen Charlotte's brilliant burgundy crown along with the five squares that represent the greenery of Charlottetown: Queen Square, where the Father's of Confederation met; Rochford Square; Connaught Square; Hillsborough Square and Kings Square. The City was created under the City of Charlottetown Act on April 17th 1855, and this date is featured in the thread count of the tartan. Colours: burgundy is intended to represent Queen Charlotte along with green and white for the City's flag; blue is intended to represent the Sea and fishing industry. This tartan (reference: 14267) was designed by R Paterson, W Watters and G McGladdery and registered in April, 2024.

Glasgow tunes up for Scotland's biggest week of bagpipes this August



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Piping Live! festival and the World Pipe Band Championships get set for summer of sound.

Glasgow is set to host Scotland's biggest week of bagpipes this summer, with the return of Piping Live! from Saturday 10th - Sunday 18th August, and The World Pipe Band Championships on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th August. The world's biggest piping festival, Piping Live! attracts over 30,000 attendees to Glasgow each year, with an eclectic programme of events for pipers and music lovers alike to be held at venues across the city. Run by the National Piping Centre and now in its 21st year, the festival will have lively concerts, captivating recitals, hard-fought competitions, engaging workshops and energetic sessions involving 700 musicians on the musical menu across its nine days, including a swathe of free and ticketed events.

The World Pipe Band Championships – a major event which Glasgow first hosted in 1948 and the city has staged every year since 1986 – attracts thousands of pipers and drummers from all over the world to compete in the ultimate 'battle of the bands'. Organised on behalf of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association by Glasgow Life – the charity which delivers culture and sport in Glasgow. Social media sensation Ally Crowley-Duncan, known online as Piper Ally with a combined following of over 4 million for her

innovative piping content, will be flying in to take part in Piping Live!. Originally from New York, Ally will be performing and hosting a Q&A as part of the Street Cafe, taking part in the Piping Live! Big Band, and acting as a secret judge in competitions across the week.

The sound of the pipes to the streets of Glasgow

Ally the Piper, said: "Being part of Piping Live! is like standing on the grandest stage of bagpipe mastery. It's where the world's finest gather to showcase their talents and where every note carries the weight of centuries of tradition. To be invited back to this world-renowned festival is an amazing moment for me in my musical journey and I can't wait to share the experiences I have with all of my followers. Even though my career in bagpiping largely exists outside of the traditional, I'm immensely grateful for the opportunity to stay connected to the community, and immerse myself once again in the atmosphere of Piping Live! and I am really looking forward to being back in the beautiful country of Scotland and reconnecting with old friends, having first taken part with the Scotia Glenville Pipe Band (now the Capital District Youth Pipe Band) in 2012."

Continued on next page ->



The spectacular sonic week includes the iconic Piping Live! Big Band welcoming pipers and drummers of all ages and abilities to join the festival's mass participation event, filling the city centre streets with music as they march from Mansfield Park in Partick to Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum. Also taking place are free, open-air performances by pipe bands from across the globe taking place each day. Including sets from the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Pipes and Drums, the City of Angels Pipe Band from LA, and Old Scotch Pipes and Drums from Australia, these performances offer a fantastic chance to experience world-class piping in the bustling heart of the city centre. In Glasgow's West End, the iconic Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum will host a recital by an amazing international artist each day of the festival at 2pm, showcasing bagpiping traditions from around the world in the breathtaking Centre Hall.

Finlay MacDonald, Artist Director for Piping Live!, said: "We are proud and excited to be able to bring the 21st edition of Piping Live! to the city of Glasgow. We are thankful to our supporters, performers, participants and funders who have continued to support this event through some challenging times for the creative industries. As the popularity of piping and traditional music continues to grow and thrive, we have created a diverse, inclusive and engaging programme, showcasing the breadth and depth of the piping traditions whilst celebrating world, indigenous and modern traditional music. There are opportunities for pipers of all levels and ages, whether in competitions, at our Big Band event, or for those who fancy a go, our come and Try Sessions. You don't have to be a piper to enjoy and take

part in Piping Live!, Piping is for everyone and we look forward to bringing the sound of the pipes to the streets of Glasgow."

The very best pipe bands on the planet

The week will come to a fitting crescendo with The World Pipe Band Championships at the iconic Glasgow Green with bands competing from across Scotland and the world in all grades. This year's 'Worlds' promises another fiercely-fought competition involving the very best pipe bands on the planet. Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association Chief Executive, Colin Mulhern, said: "Last year's spectacular World Pipe Band Championships, which attracted a fantastic attendance from bands from almost every corner of the globe as well as spectators from near and far, demonstrated just how much this iconic event means to the international piping community, and how much interest there is in the music of Scotland's national instrument. This year's 'Worlds' promises another superb showcase of piping and drumming, and – judging from the number and very strong contingent of bands already signed up – we can look forward to an incredible, hard-fought contest."

Glasgow Life Chair and Glasgow City Council Convenor for Culture, Sport and International Relations, Bailie Annette Christie, said: "As a UNESCO City of Music, Glasgow has a great international reputation as a fantastic destination for lovers of all types of music, and there's certainly nowhere better to enjoy world-class piping. With the city hosting both the world's biggest piping festival and the pinnacle of the global piping competitive calendar, Glasgow is looking forward to resounding with our national instrument's very best talent in August. Celebrating Scotland's culture and music and providing fantastic entertainment, Piping Live! and the Worlds are firmly established highlights of the city's summer events programme. Attracting thousands of pipers and spectators, boosting Glasgow's visitor economy and further enhancing its international profile, these much-loved events are extremely important to our city."

Piping Live! 2024 takes place from Saturday 10th - Sunday 18th August. For more information and tickets see: www.pipinglive.co.uk. The World Pipe Band Championships take place on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th August. For more information and tickets see: www.theworlds.co.uk.




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