

Australasian Edition



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# the Scottish Banner

40  
Years Strong - 1976-2016

*A' Bhratach Albannach*

Volume 39 Number 11 The world's largest international Scottish newspaper May 2016

## Bundanoon is Brigadoon

» Pg 5

## World Whisky Day

» Pg 16

*Whisky Month*



## The 7 Continent Piping Challenge

» Pg 12

## Rambling Scotland

*Morven, Caithness*

» Pg 24

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7 25286 84459 8 11

New York Tartan Day Parade 2016 ..... » Pg 13  
Whisky Month-Whisky in Scotland ..... » Pg 17  
The battle of Scottish bluebells ..... » Pg 30

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The Banner Says...

# Scotland's icons



by Valerie Cairney

Scotland is known for many iconic things from bagpipes, castles, history, great inventors, music, its people and great scenery to name just a few. Few however will think of Scotland without kilts and tartan. Tartan Day has just been celebrated across North America and plans are under way for celebrations in the Southern Hemisphere on July 1<sup>st</sup>, the cloth of our nation continues to be popular across the world. Whilst whisky is enjoyed by millions around the world and is another icon of Scotland and her people and this month Whisky Month is being celebrated across Scotland and World Whisky Day is seeing people raise a glass on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Tartan-The cloth of a nation**

Tartan, what beauty this fabric exudes. Of all national symbols tartan is probably the world's most widely recognized and acceptable of fabrics. It can be fashioned into clothing, including a wide range of traditional garments both worldwide and at home. Tartan is a very useful Scottish cloth. In Gaelic it is known as "braecan" meaning a particolored or speckled, otherwise coarse fabric or wool, linen or cotton. It is composed of different coloured wools woven into a distinctive patterns known as a 'sett'. Few Scots, or those of Scottish descent, fail to be stirred by tartan. This cloth is made of varying coloured wools, woven into a distinctive pattern of stripes and checks - also known as a sett. It is a symbol of patriotism which few Scots or those of Scottish descent, fail to be stirred by. Ever since the 1500's, and to this day, British royalty still like to be seen wearing tartan on appropriate occasions. Very soon the Braemar Gathering, taking place each September, and which the Royal Family like to attend, usually wearing the Balmoral tartan at the event. This tartan was designed around 1848 by Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's consort. Another tartan, the Royal Stewart, is said to be exclusive to the British sovereign, although eight other Scottish families are entitled to wear other variations of it.

**Historical factors**

The present popularity tartan enjoys, is due to a number of historical

factors. One of these is when Bonnie Prince Charlie made his aborted bid for the British throne in 1745. This is also when a legendary figure was born. He caught the attention of Brits worldwide, he helped Scots become 'fashionable' - even romantic! Soon a tailor from Edinburgh, decided to advertise "Tartans in the newest patterns". This enterprise swelled the ranks of tartans sets from fifty-five in 1831, to more than a thousand today. Queen Victoria fell in love with both the country of Scotland and the tartan itself, when she visited there in 1855. Shortly after that Prince Albert's Balmoral Castle was resplendent with tartan carpets, sofas, and chairs. It was during that time, tartan became the fabric of choice for many crinolines. Today tartan is an accepted form of dress, not only in Scotland, but in other parts of the world also. Men don the kilt and women wear tartan sashes, secured by brooches over their shoulder. The most popular tartan has been for many years, and still is the Black Watch. Strictly speaking, tartan of any kind can only be worn by those who claim the historical right or 'belong' to a particular Scottish clan. Yet tartan is a proud and sturdy link between Scots. There's a colour a sett, and a tale, behind each and every one. Few countries can carry signs of their birthright on their clothing, and yet Scots can. Many family names are connected to their own tartan. Its part of being Scottish and part of showing pride in their heritage. Watch this space for some exciting news from us here at *the Scottish Banner* regarding tartan in an upcoming issue.

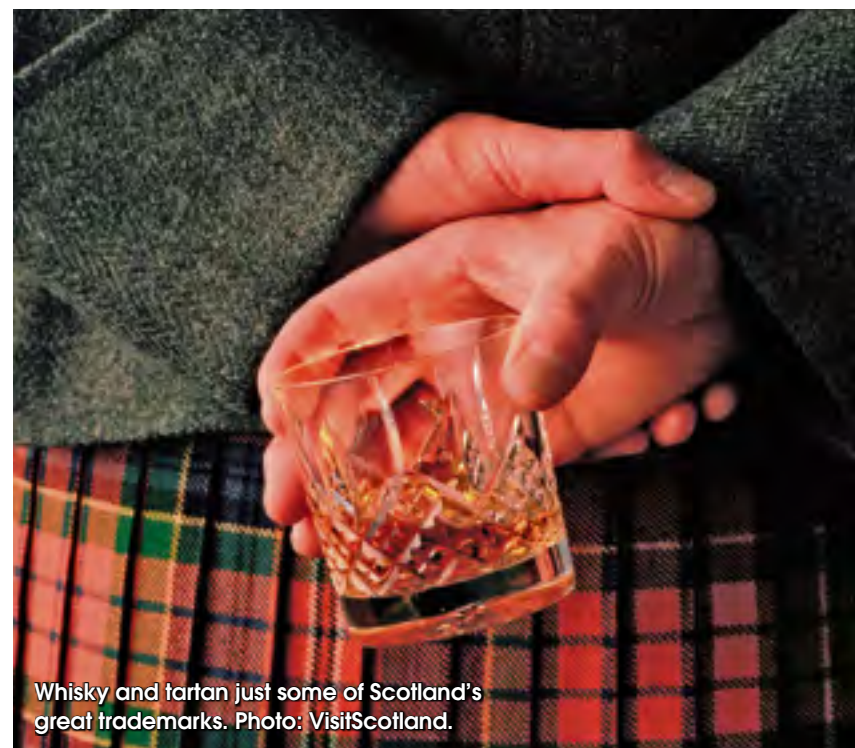
**Water of life**

Another Scottish icon we cannot forget is whisky, also known as the water of life (or uisge beatha in

Gaelic). May in Scotland is Whisky Month and many people will also be celebrating World Whisky Day on May 21<sup>st</sup>. In this issue we have literally poured you a "whisky flavoured" edition highlighting the drop that has made Scotland famous. Whisky is big business for Scotland and as the nation spends this month celebrating you can raise your glass to whisky, which is produced and right across Scotland and enjoyed around the world. Whisky is part of Scotland's business, social and tourism footprint and includes such a special history for Scotland. We hope you enjoy learning more about World Whisky Day, Whisky Month and the great architecture which blends together in celebration of Scotland's spirit.

**Celebrating 40 years**

And finally it is hard to believe but we here at *the Scottish Banner* will soon be celebrating 40 years of monthly publication this July. Since 1976 thousands of ex-pat Scots and those of Scottish descent have been getting *the Scottish Banner* in order to connect with home and one another. So much has changed in since we began and *the Scottish Banner* family is certainly wider now than when we began. We would like any readers who have a *Scottish Banner* story to tell to share with us. Where did you first find *the Banner*? Has the paper helped you connect with anyone? Have you found a recipe for a favourite family dish in our pages? Have you celebrated your Scottish heritage or attended a Scottish event listed in our pages? We would love to hear from readers on how *the Scottish Banner* has helped you or been a part of your life. Please share your thoughts with us either via our web site or email or post your nearest office and together let's celebrate 40 years!



Whisky and tartan just some of Scotland's great trademarks. Photo: VisitScotland.

Gracing our front cover: Daryl French of the Parramatta RSL Caledonian Pipe Band and the Massed Bands at Bundanoon is Brigadoon. Photo: Noel Fisher.

# Culloden- 270 years on

Text and photos courtesy of Culloden Battlefield & Visitor Centre.



Images from the 270th Anniversary event on April 16, 2016.

**O**n the 16th April 1746 the Battle of Culloden took place on Drumossie Muir, near Inverness. The battle lasted less than an hour and saw Prince Charles Edward Stuart's Jacobite army defeated by a Government army led by William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland. The battle is considered as a key point in Scottish, European and indeed World history and every year hundreds of people come to Culloden Battlefield to commemorate the battle and all those who fell. This year was the 270th anniversary of the battle and to mark this we thought we'd have a little look back at how the battlefield has changed over the years.

## Coil Lodair

At the time of the battle, in 1746, Culloden was moorland and by all accounts was rather boggy, indeed the name 'Coil Lodair' can be interpreted in Gaelic to mean 'marshy nook'. Over the years though the landscape has changed. By the 1840's trees were planted on the moor as part of a larger forested area and a road was built that passed through the site. We know that at the conclusion of the battle some 1,500 Jacobite men were killed

and buried on the battlefield in mass graves; but it wasn't until 1881 that the gravestones we see now on the field were put up. The stones were put in place by the landowner of the time, Duncan Forbes, who also built the memorial cairn. Before the stones it was possible that there had been other, less permanent, markers but there are no records of these, so we cannot be certain. The stones from 1881 remain in place to this day and can be seen by anyone who comes to the site.

## Victorian tourism

With the development of Victorian tourism and new railways making travel affordable and accessible, Culloden began to gain more interest from visitors across the country, who wanted to learn more about the battle. The first attempts to officially maintain Culloden Battlefield were taken by the Gaelic Society of Inverness. They enclosed the memorial cairn and repaired the roofs on the two stone cottage on the site; Leanach and Kings Stables. In the 1930's the newly formed National Trust for Scotland (NTS) took the lead and began lobbying to protect the battlefield due to its historical and cultural significance. In 1937

the NTS received its first gift of two small areas of the battlefield from Alexander Munro of Leanach Farm and in 1944 Hector Forbes gifted the graves of the clans, the memorial cairn and Kings Stables Cottage as well as selling the field containing the Cumberland Stone to the NTS.

## Culloden Battlefield & Visitor Centre

The first visitor centre, if you will, began in the 1960's as more and more people began to travel to the site. The NTS created an exhibition inside Leanach Cottage, allowing people to discover the history of the site, before opening a brand new visitor centre in 1970. Work began to remove the trees on the battlefield in negotiation with the Forestry Commission and the NTS began the idea of returning the site to its original state at the time of the battle. The Highland Council also moved the road, from between the clan graves, further away from the memorial cairn to protect the site and they also designated the land a Conservation Area. During the 1980's the removal of the trees left rough ground which was susceptible to invasive birch, gorse, conifers etc. Felling and grazing by sheep failed to contain the situation and more intensive shrub control was introduced to conserve the battlefield. Today the team outside continually monitor the field and try to tackle the invasive species in the best way possible. Moving into the 1990's more land was acquired by the NTS including the Field of the English and land to the south to prevent development beside the battlefield. They also recreated the Leanach and Culwhinniac enclosures using traditional drystone dyking and developed the interpretation of the site. This all finally led to the new visitor centre being built in 2007. The new centre incorporates new archaeological research and interactive interpretation to showcase the history of the site and allows the growing visitor numbers to see the site and remember the battle.

For more information on the Culloden Battlefield & Visitor Centre see: [www.nts.org.uk/culloden](http://www.nts.org.uk/culloden).



## Culloden Battlefield given landscape laser-scanning treatment

**A**rchaeologists from the National Trust for Scotland are using cutting-edge, laser scanning, technology to provide a detailed model of the battlefield of Culloden, 270 years on from the event. Stefan Sagrott, Archaeological Data Officer for the National Trust for Scotland said: "LiDAR is revolutionising the way that archaeologists work and look for archaeological sites. Because we can view and light the digital model from different angles, it can pull out topographical features that we wouldn't see in any other way. It's providing us with a view of the Culloden battlefield that we've never had before, and that's really exciting."



The image shows the LiDAR scan of the area around the Cairn and Clan Graves at Culloden revealing the micro-topography of the battlefield and its monuments.

## Prehistoric remains

Aerial LiDAR (which stands for Light Detection And Ranging) is captured by using a pulsed laser beam fired from a plane. The beam scans from side to side over the survey area and measures thousands of points per second to build up a highly accurate and detailed model of the ground and the features on it. "We can filter the LiDAR data to remove some of the vegetation such as tree cover and this might allow us to find archaeological remains which are currently hidden within the tree cover" said Sagrott. "Having such a detailed topographical survey of the battlefield means that we can also use GIS to carry out analysis of it to look at the positions that the different forces held and to see if the terrain had an influence on how it played out. The data will help us to manage and conserve the battlefield area, and we hope to use it in innovative ways to increase the visitor experience and understanding of the battlefield as well. We also know that the area has a lot of prehistoric remains, such as the Clava Cairns just to the south of the Culloden, and these have been captured by the LiDAR survey as well, so we'll be using the data to visualise these and look at other archaeological sites in the area."

Culloden Battlefield is an important part of Scotland's story which has been in the care of the Trust since the 1930s. At this site on 16 April 1746, the Jacobite army fought to reclaim the throne of Britain from the Hanoverians for a Stuart king.



## Berry Celtic Festival

**Sat 28 May**  
from 9.30am

Featuring "The Year of Cornwall".  
The Grand Street Parade commences at 9.30am followed by a full day of entertainment with pipe bands, beautiful singing, highland dancing, Celtic market stalls, Celtic Clans and much more. A special highlight will be performances by much acclaimed The Raggeder Band.

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[www.berrycelticfestival.org.au](http://www.berrycelticfestival.org.au)

# 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? Pose your questions on Scottish related topics to our knowledgeable readership who just may be able to help. Our letters page is a very popular and active one and many readers have been assisted across the world by fellow passionate Scots. Please keep letters under 200 words and we reserve the right to edit content and length. Letters, photos and any other items posted to *the Scottish Banner* cannot be returned. We prefer letters to be emailed to your nearest office or please visit our online Scotpourri form at [www.scottishbanner.com](http://www.scottishbanner.com), alternatively you may post or fax your letters to us. Please ensure you include your full contact details, when emailing it is best to include your post address for those without internet access. This page belongs to our readers so please feel free to take part! Thanks to all our readers from around the world who have made this such a special page.

## Gretna Green



I was very interested in February's article on Gretna Green (*Gretna Green-Scotland's home of love, Scottish Banner*, February, 2016). My partner, Peter, and I were together for 6 years when there was a program about Gretna Green on TV and jokingly I suggested we 'elope' there as coming from Glasgow in 1966 I knew the history, of course. Peter came from a family of 11 and I had 4 children from a previous marriage so the thought of getting hitched here was just too daunting. He said if I could organise it he was game. My eldest daughter had gone back to Scotland a few years previously for a working holiday and had never come back. So I enlisted her help and suggested she also 'tie the knot' there. Between us it was organised and on 3rd August 1995 it all happened. Peter and I wed just before lunch and Anne and John just after. Our guest list was another daughter and her partner and my Dad (who still lived in Scotland). We went over to the Smithy and when my Dad explained how happy he was to be at the weddings of both his daughter and granddaughter on the same day we had another 'ceremony' at the anvil. A very memorable day for us all. We all stayed two nights at Lover's Leap Motel and had a great time. Three years ago Peter and I travelled through Gretna and being nostalgic we stopped to have a look around. We would not have recognised the place and walked up and down the road looking for the motel -to no avail. I finally found out that it had been demolished years ago. What a pity, but glad to report that the marriage is lasting a lot longer than the motel. Thanks for *the Scottish Banner*, I so look forward to it each month. Well done.

Anne Koomen  
The Patch, Victoria  
Australia

## Looking to find family connections

Ms. Violet Milne McIntyre of Niagara Falls, NY, 92 years young. Wrote with a request concerning a member of her family. Her father James Milne of Montrose who served in the 10th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry had a nephew Capt. Edward R. Milne late of Montrose, Angus shire who was in the 10th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry in the first world war. His untimely death came about when the ship he was aboard named the R.M.S. Leinster was torpedoed in the Irish Sea. The death was made more tragic in that it happened just one month before the 1918 armistice. He had received the D.C.M. or distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in action. Ms. McIntyre is looking for Canadian relatives to pass some records of this gentleman. Here is a biography from what information Ms. McIntyre sent and what Ron Dempsey was able to find on line. Edward Ramsay Milne born Feb 6, 1888 at Montrose, Angus. In the 1891 census, the family was still in Montrose and his father William M. Milne was a Salmon fisher. He was found on the 1901 census in Galway at Nun's Island with siblings and parents. The family moved to Cashel, Galway some later where Edward became secretary of the board of Conservators of Fisheries. He married Ida McCullagh in the last quarter of 1917 in Dublin. E. R. Milne is one of three brothers, Robert and Arthur who also served in the Canadian Army during the first world war. They were the children of William Milne and May Nicol of Montrose. Edward was in the Mounted Rifles, while Robert was in the Canadian Dragoons and lastly, Arthur was in the Field Artillery. Edward and his wife Ida McCullagh had a son named Ned who with his wife the former Peggy Curley were known to have lived on Vaughan Rd. in Toronto as late as 1964.

If anyone is related to these people or know of relatives please write to:

Ms. Violet Milne McIntyre  
7210 Williams Rd.  
Niagara Falls, New York  
14301, USA

## Always learning about Scotland

Thank you *Scottish Banner* for a great wee paper each month! I am always amazed just how much I learn from each issue and every time I finish reading my copy I become just a bit more proud to be a Scot. There is so much I learn from these pages it really is quite incredible and has become such a great resource about Scotland and what is happening all over the world. I have no doubt a great deal of work and love goes into this publication and I for one thank you all for it. I also follow you on Facebook and absolutely love the many great posts and images you share with us, *the Scottish Banner* is always welcome in our home.

Karen McLean  
Auckland, New Zealand

**Ed note: Thank you Karen for your kind note and also for following us on Facebook. We invite all readers to like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter for more of Scotland direct to your computer, tablet or phone each week.**

## Castles & "Durdy" Wee Rascals

I enjoy Jim Stoddart's articles as I come from "Doon the Watter" at Port Glasgow. I went to Glasgow University in 1950, just in time for the 500 years celebrations and always dressed up for student charity days, going by train to Glasgow. I totally identified with Jim's piece about old customs, including having clean underwear in case of an accident, wear green wear black was a thing of my mother's and I didn't own anything green until after she died! I lived in a house looking over the Clyde and just above Ferguson Marine who are still building boast-hooray. My father spent all his life in Lithgow's yard and all those famous yards worked day and night during the war, alas no more.

I have just walked past the current *Queen Elizabeth* cruise liner at the Overseas Terminal in Sydney with two friends from Greenock and we remembered seeing the original going down the Clyde in battleship grey in 1940 on her way to being a troop ship, unlike her sister *Queen Mary* in 1936 in all the Cunard colours.

My husband Gordon is from Aberdeen and was a Gordon's College pupil and went inside Marischal College when it was part of the medical school. My five grandkids now have Scottish kilt beach towels and friends have the dialects bags from *the Scottish Banner*.

Lang mae yer lum reek.

Anne Vaughan  
Wahronga, NSW  
Australia

## Sam Heughan



Thank you *Scottish Banner* for a fantastic April issue featuring *Outlander* and Sam Heughan. When I picked up my copy I nearly melted at the newsagent when I saw the cover-what a great issue and so great to have Sam take part in *the Scottish Banner*. All my friends were out hunting down copies to buy of this fantastic edition! I really enjoyed the other *Outlander* articles as I am a huge fan of both the show and the books. My teenage daughter also loves the show (and Sam!) and has laminated the cover and put it up on her bedroom wall. We loved the fact the Sam plans to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa this year in his kilt-photos please!

Keep up the great work of *the Scottish Banner*-always a pleasure to read, especially with Sam on the cover!

Jill Scott  
Wellington, New Zealand

**Ed note: Thanks Jill for your letter and we have been amazed of the response to this issue and so glad you and your friends and family liked it so much.**

## The Clydebank Blitz



I read the March issue of *the Scottish Banner* on the Clydebank Blitz (*The 75th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz*). While it happened the year before I was born, and long before my daughter was born, I still have my memories of Clydebank. When my Great Grandma Mary Ann Weir married her husband Alexander Miller, they started to build their life together in Clydebank as Singers was opening a factory, and my Great Grandpa was an iron moulder. They had my Grandma Mary, born in Bonnybridge, and soon after - three sons -were all born in Clydebank. They lived at 72 Second Avenue in "The Holy City" as it was often called. When the boys grew up, they too worked as iron moulders in Singer's. John Allison Miller met his wife there, and they too set up their home at 3 Crown Ave. My Grandma met her first husband there, a cabinet maker. My Grandma's first husband died in an industrial accident at Singers. She then followed her brother Alexander to Canada where she later married my Grandpa. She had a young daughter, Mamie, and since there was no day care for weans in those days my Aunt Mamie was raised by her Grandparents and John's daughter Mary. I was later told by a second she was right spoiled. Her first job also was in the office at Singer's. When I took my daughter back to Scotland for the first time, we could still see the peaceful country side around Rashfield Farm in Kilmun, Argyll, where Mary Ann Weir grew up. Also, we can still see the house where she was in service in Glasgow (now offices). Mary walked around Clydebank with us and pointed out the few houses which predated the Blitz. I cannot see the homes that once stood at 27 Second or 3 Crown Avenues.

Those memories of Clydebank that Mary once knew are now gone as the Germans on those nights in March 75 years ago aimed to destroy the shipyards. Unfortunately, they just about destroyed all of Clydebank in the process. Except Singer's clock. Like St Paul's Cathedral, it stood amid all the flames and destruction. Aunt Mamie who was aye proud to be known as a "Bankie" gave me two booklets she has from Tom McKendrick D.A. R.S.O, born in Clydebank. They contain photographs, and art work with a touching tribute to memories of those who lived through those nights of terror, destruction, and death. The Clydebank my daughter and I saw with Mary is still a nice place with good folk living their lives as we did. But it was not the town of March 12, 1941. That is gone except for people's memories, or managing to save in art and history. Bombing changed this town in so many ways. Not as big as London or Coventry, but certainly devastating on those dates, 75 years ago.

Donna G. Portree  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Canada

**Ed note: Thanks Donna for sharing your story about this dark time in Clydebank's history.**

# The Bundanoon Highland Gathering-Brigadoon Is Brigadoon

Photos: Noel Fisher.



Over 12,000 people came out under lovely autumn skies on April 9<sup>th</sup> to Bundanoon is Brigadoon, Australia's largest Scottish event in the NSW Southern Highlands. Clans and Scottish societies continued their annual pilgrimage to the Gathering to meet up with family and friends, a true gathering of the Clans which goes to show the magical appeal Brigadoon. The street parade was a procession of bands playing such a broad variety of music that really entertained the spectators lining the street, accompanied by the various

children's floats, the RFS and of course the proud Clan and Scottish societies marching in their groups. As usual Brigadoon had a magnificent display of traditional pipe band music, with 20 bands in total and over 450 performers. Pre-games entertainment big changes

this year saw Members of the Sydney University Pipe & Drums perform in the main street for an hour prior to the Street parade, but they also formed up and piped off the visitors from arriving trains, something that really added a spark to the day's activities. Other entertainment included String Loaded Celtic Fiddle Band, singer Mary Kiani and Scottish Highland and country dancers. The popular Tartan Warriors celebrated 24 years of continual participation at Brigadoon which is an outstanding achievement and included events such as the lifting of the Bundanoon Stones and the Farmers Walk. Brigadoon came to a finale with the closing ceremony and the audience were treated to a superb massed band display, an advance in full strength all 20 pipe bands. The lone piper 16 Year old Jacob Casey from Goulburn Soldiers Club Pipes & Drums also played a haunting rendition of *Mist Covered Mountains*. Congratulations to the Bundanoon Highland Gathering Committee for putting on another excellent event and they are already busy planning the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Brigadoon in April, 2017.

**The 40th Anniversary Bundanoon Highland Gathering will take place on Saturday April, 1st, 2017, for further details see: [www.brigadoon.net.au](http://www.brigadoon.net.au). Would be interested in joining this highly dedicated and committed committee? If so please contact email: [publicity.brigadoon@gmail.com](mailto:publicity.brigadoon@gmail.com).**

## The new Clan Davidson Chief steps out

By: Dr F Davidson



Chief Grant Guthrie Davidson.



The Chief's banner party prepares to make their processional entrance for the Kirkin'o'the Tartan at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Canberra, 13th March.

Following the death of his father, Alister 2<sup>nd</sup> of Davidston in Auckland in December 2014, Grant Guthrie Davidson has succeeded him as 3<sup>rd</sup> of Davidston and Chief of the Name and Arms of the world-wide Clan Davidson. This was held in Canberra on the weekend of 11-13 March 2016, attended by clans people from all Eastern Australian states with a special guest from London, clan Heraldry expert Nick Hide. The Clan Davidson Society

in New Zealand held his Inauguration in Christchurch on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and the new Chief accepted an invitation to be Guest of Honour, with his wife Brenda, at the 2016 Gathering of the Clan Davidson Society in Australia. In his after-dinner presentation, Nick intrigued his audience with an illustrated presentation of Clan Davidson heraldry in Australia. This included an early grant made to a Tasmanian Davidson, the stained glass commemoration of former Archbishop of Canterbury Randall Davidson in Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle, and the extensive personal heraldic grants held by members of the Davidsons of New England family. Clan Davidson is the only clan to have as its Chief a native New Zealander and the new Chief, although a direct descendant of the previous Chiefly house of Tulloch Castle in Ross-shire, is a fourth generation New Zealander. Grant has readily taken on the responsibilities of his position and has already agreed to be Guest of Honour next year at the Glasgow Highland Games in Kentucky, where he and his wife will be hosted by the Clan Davidson Society (USA). Needless to say, over the past year he has also been a prominent figure in Highland Games and Scottish events in his native New Zealand. Previously Shore Manager for an international yachting syndicate prominent in the Americas Cup competition, and after a career that has taken him all over the world, Grant and his family have re-settled in Auckland. The Clan Gathering in Canberra included a special Clan Davidson Kirkin'o'the Tartan at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, conducted by the Minister the Rev. David Campbell.

# SCOTTISH ACCESSORIES SHOPPE KILT HIRE



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# SCOTSPEAK

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

*"These exciting plans for a new sustainable urban quarter signal another step in the transformation of Falkirk's economic fortunes. The Gateway is a prime site to attract jobs, investment and development for our area. With the huge and growing appeal of the Kelpies, the community stadium facility and the forthcoming college campus there's huge investment potential for developers across tourism, business and leisure."*

Falkirk Council leader Craig Martin said a new £17m urban quarter comprising business, learning and leisure facilities is being planned in Falkirk. Falkirk Council has revealed plans to create a new, environmentally friendly urban quarter at the eastern entrance to the town under its multi-million-pound tax incremental finance (TIF) initiative. Its proposed package of infrastructure works aims to attract a mix of facilities over 376 acres to regenerate the gateway entrance into Falkirk and create better connections between the town centre, Grangemouth and the rest of Scotland's central belt and takes in sites that encompass the Gateway, Falkirk Community Stadium, land earmarked for the new £70m Forth Valley College campus and the home of the iconic Kelpies, Helix Park.

*"As part of the build up to the many events which will happen during the 700th year of the Declaration, Arbroath 2020 plans to rebrand April 6 as Declaration Day and also intends to create a lasting, and fitting, legacy for Arbroath. Arbroath 2020 would like to see the area in front of the abbey developed into a civic space, perhaps named Declaration Square, for the people of Arbroath. As part of these plans, we are currently in discussions about moving David Annand's wonderful Declaration sculpture from the outskirts of*

*the town to this proposed square, where it would be seen by residents and visitors alike in an historic and highly relevant setting."*

Arbroath 2020 Chairman Norman Atkinson said as major plans to mark 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath in 2020 were revealed. On April 6, 1320, the Declaration of Arbroath was sent to the Pope by the nobles of Scotland from within the walls of Arbroath Abbey. Widely acknowledged as the most famous document in Scotland's history, the declaration sought to confirm Scotland's independence and used partially for the basis for the American Declaration of Independence. Events marking 200 years of the document are expected to be held in and around Arbroath throughout 2010.



An artist's impression of the Holyrood Park Distillery.

*"We are very excited by the prospect of resurrecting the proud tradition of distilling single malt whisky in Edinburgh. We have submitted plans which outline our vision to bring single malt whisky distilling back to Edinburgh and have worked closely with local residents and businesses to build a proposal that we hope will benefit the local community as well as Edinburgh as a whole. Our vision is to create beautiful, hand-crafted spirits and the Engine Shed building is the ideal location*

*for us to realise this ambition. With its history dating back to the 1830s, it will provide a fantastic home for us to create a small, but world-class distillery and tourist destination of which Edinburgh can be proud."*

David Robertson, project lead for the Holyrood Park Distillery, said as an application to develop the first single malt whisky distillery in Edinburgh in nearly a century has been submitted to Edinburgh City Council. The Engine Shed building on St Leonard's Lane will be turned into a small whisky distillery and visitor centre under the plans. Subject to approval, the £3.6m Holyrood Park Distillery will be the first single malt whisky distillery since Glen Sciennes closed in the 1920s. The business aims to start distilling whisky in 2017, initially producing 53,000 litres of alcohol per year, resulting in around 140,000 bottles of mature single malt in eight to 12 years' time.

*"It is a sad day and truly the end of an era to learn that the last of the native St Kildans has passed away. I was privileged enough to have met Rachel on a number of occasions. She was intensely private but extremely kindly. On behalf of the National Trust for Scotland and all who care for St Kilda, we offer our condolences to her family and many friends."*

Alexander Bennett, of the National Trust for Scotland, said as the last person born on St Kilda in the Outer Hebrides has died 86 years after the island was evacuated. Rachel Johnson was eight when she left Scotland's most remote island aboard the HMS Harebell on August 29, 1930. She was among 36 people who abandoned St Kilda after a flu outbreak and a series of crop failures in the 1920s and settled in Clydebank, West Dunbartonshire, where she married and later died aged 93.

*"The key to the future of the windmill is bringing it back into the consciousness of the community. It might take a year or two but elected members have displayed a lot of confidence in the project. A nearby school campus has been named after it and enthusiasts hope this will lead to Fife Council safeguarding the tower itself."*

Fife Council archaeologist Douglas Spiers said a local windmill thought to be Scotland's oldest is to be restored from ruin. The B-listed Dysart Windmill in Fife, dates back 400 years is officially listed as "ruinous." Now the landmark, which once sported sails, could be fitted with an internal spiral staircase and a glass-covered viewing platform with Fife Council funding. The vaulted tower windmill was built in the 1650s, pre-dating a similar structure at St Monans by more than a century. The building came into council ownership in 1927 and was fitted with a searchlight and again used as a watchtower during the Second World War to assist in the hunt for German aircraft flying over the Forth.



The 19th-century mansion Mount Stuart on Bute. Photo: VisitScotland.

*"In terms of literary discoveries, they do not come much bigger than a new First Folio, and we are really excited that this has happened on Bute."*

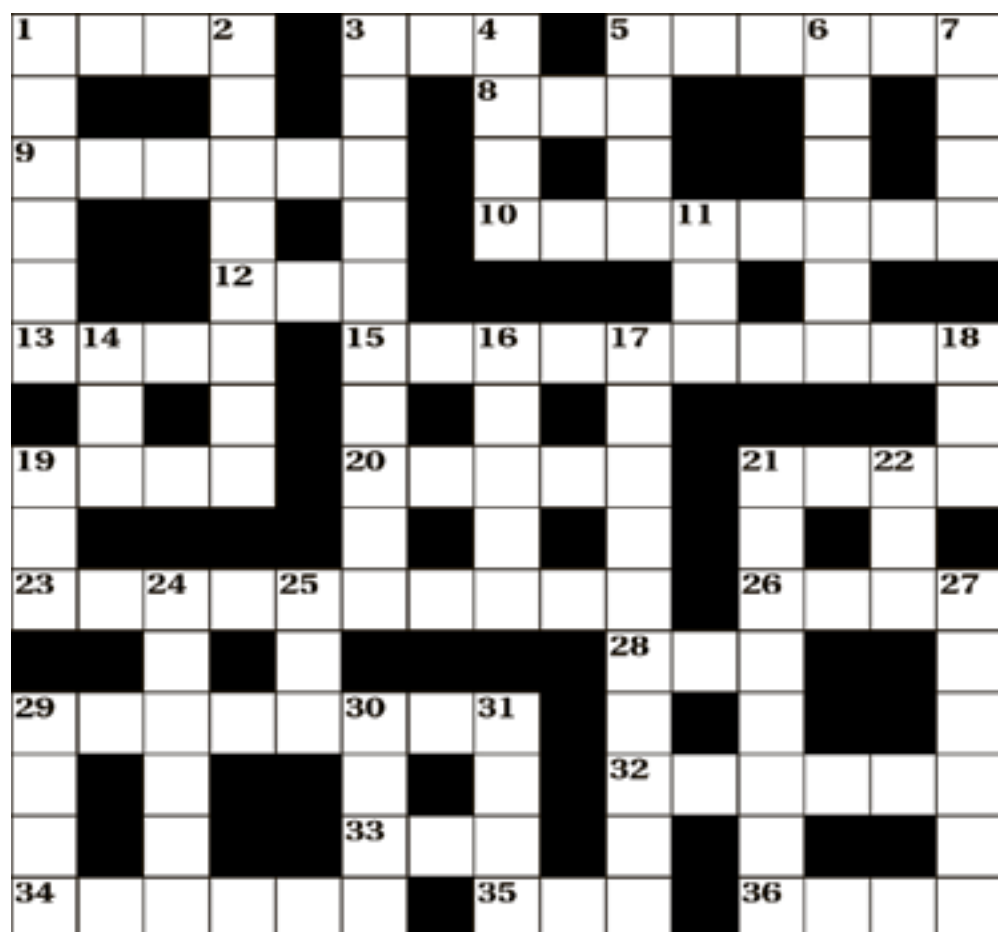
Alice Martin, Head of collections at Mount Stuart House on the Isle of Bute said as a copy of Shakespeare's First Folio has been discovered at the stately home. The book was in the library of the Victorian Gothic mansion for more than 100 years before being rediscovered weeks before the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the playwright's death on April 23. The collection was first published in 1623, seven years after the Bard died, and contains 36 of his plays.

*"The vendor had seen one or two of the first ever annuals sold and thought to himself 'I'm sure I've got one of them'. He looked it out and took it to the Antiques Road Show when they were in this area and asked if it was the real thing, and they said 'yes, it's genuine'. Once this is bought it will probably be put away and not come out again for a generation. This one came out right at the beginning of the Second World War. It's an artefact of its time. It's an investment item and is only going to increase in value. It was one of the first ever issues of what became an iconic brand. I'm aware of a few selling over the past few years but this is our first one. One sold in 2014 for £4400 and one sold in December last year for £3400 but it all depends on the condition they're in."*

Steven Dewar of Curr and Dewar Auctioneers said as a rare Oor Wullie annual, dating from around 1941, has sold for £2800 at an auction in Dundee. Historic DC Thomson annuals can command a great deal of money depending on the condition of the item and collectors from across the world have interest in these for both investment and sentimental purposes.

## SCOTWORD

Here is a fun crossword for you to try with a few of the answers to be found in Scotland! If you are in doubt, you may need a wee peek at a Scots dictionary or a map. Or, if you are really stuck, the answers can be found on page 25!



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1) Scottish fuel (4).
- 3) A Scots bread roll (3).
- 5) Dark purple plum (6).
- 8) Whichever (3).
- 9) Pertaining to Scotland's "anthem" (6).
- 10) Scotland's top islands (8).
- 12) Distress call (3).
- 13) Over hasty (4).
- 15) A drinking hole! (10).
- 19) Tattie's partner (4).
- 20) A hopeful glow! (5).
- 21) Scotland's fastest river (4).
- 23) Old vessels (10).
- 26) Blairgowrie's beny (4).
- 28) A starter at St. Andrews (3).
- 29) Mrs Brown! (8).
- 32) A dram of about a gill (6).
- 33) Always in Scotland (3).
- 34) Annual festival (6).
- 35) Bottom of the class! (3).
- 36) Male red deer (4).

### CLUES DOWN

- 1) Para Handy's craff (6).
- 2) Village (8).
- 3) January 25<sup>th</sup> (5,5).
- 4) Scottish conical hills (4).
- 5) Scots stone wall (4).
- 6) Wrench a joint (6).
- 7) Necessity (4).
- 11) Dancers point it (3).
- 14) Loch near Dalmailly (3).
- 16) She's kin (5).
- 17) They give final reports (10).
- 18) Farmer's gathering! (3).
- 19) Scotch measure (3).
- 21) Requirement of a heavy! (8).
- 22) Printer's measures (3).
- 24) Perth's two measures! (6).
- 25) In the past (3).
- 27) Measure of 26 Across (6).
- 29) Scots valley (4).
- 30) At Hampden it's loud! (4).
- 31) Stretch of territory (4).

## Great music line-up announced for The National Celtic Festival



The National Celtic Festival (NCF) will gather some of the world's best and brightest Celtic musicians, artists and performers in Victoria's historic coastal town of Portarlington this 10-13 June for an immersive Celtic experience that is sure to be the biggest craic of the year. The 2016 first line up announcement features top Irish acts including Bernadette Morris Band, Colum Sands and John McSherry & Donal O'Connor Trio, and Irish/Australian star Damien Leith. Also featured in the first announcement are local talents Bush Gothic, Claddagh, Claymore, Drumworx, Highlander, Irish Joe Lynch, Marcia Howard (recently announced as Port Fairy Artist of the Year), Maria Forde, Siobhan Owen, Senor Cabrales, The Freewheeler, Zeon plus lots more announcements coming soon.

### Rich Celtic culture

From Gaelic songs and stories to bagpipes and bodhrans, warm yourself this winter with rich Celtic culture and a creamy pint of Guinness. Portarlington will come alive with over 65 acts across twelve venues showcasing a top class arts program including Music, Song, Dance, Theatre, Comedy, Literature, Pipes and Drums presented in workshops, master classes, Trad Talk Sessions, forums, music sessions, showcasing, presentations and feature concerts. The NCF theatre strand will feature play writes, storytelling, readings, and language workshops. Across the weekend we will be presenting a range of plays staged by international, state and local theatre companies. Phillip Hardy from Bainstrom Theatre in Killkenny will be a very special guest. The Trail of Tales' – a mythical and magical trail will take children inside some of the best known legends from

Ireland, Cornwall, Wales, Scotland and Isle of Man. Set dancer Mairead Casey visits us from Ireland and will feature in the dance program along with displays, workshops, showcasing and of course festival Ceili's. The market area has taken on a new lease of life and will be again profile some emerging designers, Celtic markets, clans and associations, and delicious local Bellarine produce. Of course the bars will be stocked with some of the very best local wines and ales as well as your favourite brew! The world renowned National Celtic Festival takes you on a journey to honour the ancestors, wrestle the Vikings, and be serenaded by the stories of Irish myths and legends.

*The National Celtic Festival will take place on the Queen's Birthday weekend, 10-13 June, 2016 in Portarlington, Victoria. For further information and to book tickets head to [www.nationalcelticfestival.com](http://www.nationalcelticfestival.com)*

## The National Celtic Festival

**The Winners of the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award Talisk announced in this year's line up.**

The group also won a coveted Danny Kyle Award at Celtic Connections 2015, have performed live in session on BBC Radio 2 and were this year's house band at the MG Alba Scots Trad Music Awards.

Talisk utilises their strong individual backgrounds in Irish and Scottish music to create an award winning sound. Their engaging and energetic performances have already landed them slots at some of Britain's biggest festivals, including Cambridge Folk Festival, Celtic Connections and Fairport Convention's Cropredy Festival.



## The Geelong Highland Gathering



The massed bands at the Geelong Highland Gathering.



The March of the Clans led by piper, Iain Coombes, and the Chieftain of the Geelong Highland Gathering Association, Doctor Maurice Marshall.

The 59<sup>th</sup> Geelong Highland Gathering (in the current series) took place at Goldsworthy Reserve, Corio, Geelong on Sunday, 20 March 2016. The Geelong Highland Gathering dates back to New Year's Day 1867 and continued up until the mid-1930's before being revived in 1958. A large crowd enjoyed all the traditional activities a Highland Gathering should offer including pipe bands, Highland dancing and Scottish heavy games competitions. Numerous other activities including Scottish country dancing, Scottish folk musicians, Clan and Scottish organizations tents (including

genealogy), Scottish Dogs, medieval re-enactment groups, whisky tasting as well as free activities for kiddies including a petting zoo, jumping caste as well as a varied range of food stalls. The official opening ceremony included the March of The Clans and the Chieftain of The Gathering recognised the traditional owners of the land and thanked them for their long-standing contribution to The Geelong Highland Gathering.

*Text and photos courtesy of The Geelong Highland Gathering. For further details on the Geelong Highland Gathering see: [www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au](http://www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au).*



The spirit of the dance at The Geelong Highland Gathering.

### PIPE BAND COMPETITION

The winners in the Geelong Highland Gathering Pipe Band Competition were:

Grade 1: No contest.

Grade 2: 1st Hawthorn City Pipe Band & 2nd Moorabbin City Pipe Band.

Grade 3: 1st Victoria Scottish Pipe Band, 2nd Scotch College Pipes & Drums No. 1 & 3rd City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band No. 1.

Grade 4: 1st Warrnambool & District Pipe Band No. 1, 2nd Golden City (Bendigo) Pipe Band & 3rd Geelong RSL Pipes & Drums.

Juvenile band contest: 1st Scotch College Pipes & Drums No. 1 & 2nd Scotch College Pipes & Drums No. 2.

Drum Major Contest (Solo): 1st Benjamin Casey (Old Scotch Pipes & Drums), 2nd Paul Potter (City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band) & 3rd John Harvey (City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band).

**The HIGHLAND MILITARY TATTOO**

**9-11<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

*Come and join us for a Highland extravaganza with the spectacular backdrop of the UK's largest military fort: Fort George, near Inverness in the Highlands of Scotland.*

Getting off to a roaring start with a fly past from an RAF Typhoon and culminating in a dazzling fireworks display, the Highland Military Tattoo showcases a mix of local, military and international acts and celebrates the best of traditional and contemporary Highland culture.

**This year's event will be the most spectacular yet – don't miss out!**

**For tickets, please visit [www.ticketline.co.uk](http://www.ticketline.co.uk)**

More information at [www.highlandmilitarytattoo.com](http://www.highlandmilitarytattoo.com) Follow us on Twitter @HMTFortGeorge

# WHAT'S IN A NAME?



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



At the risk of being repetitious in an annual way, I will start May's column off with a saying of my dear Mother: "Never cast a cloot until May's oot!" For those of you who are not conversant in Scots English it translates as follows: "Never cast a cloth until May ends." For us of in these Northern climes of North America truer words were never spoken, as this Spring has been lacking to the warmth that usually envelopes at this time of year. Another pearl of wisdom from my Mother was the Celtic suggestion of washing your face in the morning dew of May 1<sup>st</sup>. The result is that one would look forever youthful in doing so. By my profile picture, you'll see it didn't work for me. Now to your letters, there has been lapse in my response to letters coming in to the office of *the Scottish Banner* and I hope to resolve most of that with this issue.

## Vennard

Mrs Jean Vennard and her husband wrote to us from Smyrna, Delaware in the U.S to ask about their surname. Originally from Glasgow, they emigrated to Canada and then to the U.S. Mrs. Vennard says that they know that their name is French in origin but wondered how it came to Scotland. Being of French origin I don't have this name in my usual resources. However, I was fortunate in finding a website that seems offers a few answers. As in any website the veracity needs to be confirmed. That website would have that it is from the French for a "lucky fellow". The name may have followed William the Conqueror to England but others have as coming to England and Ireland with the expulsion of the Hugenots (French

Protestants) in the 16th century from France. Another has as a Cornish name from "wyn-ard" or high marshlands. For Mrs. Jean Vennard and her husband, a paper trail genealogy would resolve the actual origin of how the family arrived in Scotland. Website [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) has lots listed in the Lowlands of Scotland as far back as 1825 and Armagh in Ireland and Somerset in England.

Further reading on the name can be found at [www.vennardfamily.com](http://www.vennardfamily.com).

## Connell

Morley W. Connell of Kanata, Ontario wrote ask about his surname. His ancestors arrived in Canada in 1840 from Cork, Ireland. That immediate ancestor was his great great grandfather Thomas Connell. Connell is a Gaelic name usually preceded by Mac or O. McConnell is predominantly in the north east of Ireland and the southwest of Scotland in origin. The original Gaelic name is MacDhomhnuill which also Anglicized as MacDonnell. In the southwest of Ireland primarily in county Kerry, it is from O Connell, meaning descendant of the 'high, powerful'.

## Kay

From Perth, Western Australia we had a letter from Mr. John McDonald Kay. Originally from Loanhead, Midlothian, Mr. Kay is interested in his surname. Kay is one of those surnames that spans Britain with a variety of meanings and origins as shown by its many spellings which include, Kay, Key, Keyes, Keay etc. In English it originally was personal name from Cai and previously from the Latin Caius. Depending on what part of Britain your ancestors originated the meaning

varies. In the South of England and in the West country it can be for one who worked at the dock or the Quay. In the Midlands has an origin for one who is left handed. In the north and including Scotland where there was any areas with Norse influence it meant Jackdaw. Possibly in imitation of the bird's call. So it would be difficult to ascertain exactly what its origin is in any one particular family since surnames predate most available genealogical paper research. This combined with searching through regional dialects and speech. In the Celtic world, the name may have come from MacKay, meaning son of Hugh. The name is prominent in the very north of Scotland in this form. However, originating from Gaelic, it has its Irish forms in MacKee, MaGee and McCoy all having the same meaning. Hugh in Gaelic Aodh and means fire.

## Ainslie

Mr. Adam Ainslie of Australia wrote to ask about a tartan for his surname. I entered "Ainslie tartan" in my trusty Google web browser and came up with more than a few entries. Some were of a commercial enterprise so I won't mention it here. The name Ainslie is Anglo Saxon in origin and an old name in Scotland. G.F. Black suggests that it is from Annesley in Nottinghamshire. We can't be sure if it from the female name Anne's meadow or an old version of a man's name from the Old English combined with ley or lea meaning meadow. It is recorded as early 1220 in Scotland. A major family of the name held land in Dolphinstoun near Roxburghshire from the earliest times and some of the family went on crusades. Over the centuries they inter married with

most of the major border families in the region such as Pringle, Douglas and Kerr, until Marjory Ainslie heiress, married Mark Kerr of Cessford, who was killed at the battle of Pinkie in 1547. General Charles Ainslie commanded the 93rd Highland Regiment better known as the "The Thin Red Line" at the battle of Balaclava in 1854. Clan or family Badge: Issuing out of a cap of maintenance, a naked arm embowed grasping a Scymitar all proper. Motto: Gude in need.

## Cruickshanks

Last one this month on our requests is from Ms. Nancy Lynn Cruickshanks Harms, of Topeka, Kansas, U.S. Within her family is the name Cruickshanks which they researched back to Aberdeen, Scotland to an Alexander Cruickshanks. At some time in the past the family spelled name Cruikshanks but a great uncle who was doing family research and saw it was spelled with an "ck" then changed their family name to reflect that spelling. Cruickshanks seems to fall under the category of descriptive or nick names. One could think that it meant crooked or bent legs possibly for someone who was disabled or was bow legged which it may. Again G.F. Black suggests that it's a toponym or place name. Cruick is used to mean crooked as in Cruickheugh a descriptive land name. Shank was also used to denote a point of land of a projecting hill onto a plain. So it may be the bearer of the name of a person who originally lived on the crooked point of land.

It was recorded in Scotland as early as 1296. The name is also associated with Clan Stewart.

Some of you write to me with interesting pieces when asking about your surnames. I do appreciate it and enjoy them. However, for the sake of brevity and space I have to limit myself to the reason for the inquiries, the surnames. Something else I don't always mention but I am thrilled to hear how much you look forward and enjoy reading the column. After 30 odd years of writing this column, I sometimes wonder if it is still interesting to readers. So it is gratifying to realize that I am reaching an audience. Enjoy your May.

**Scottish Australian Heritage Council**  
**Scottish Heritage Week 2016**  
 Saturday 18 to Thursday 23 June 2016 (Sydney)

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN**

Honoured Guests Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor, Chief of the Name and Arms of MacGregor, Convener of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, and Fiona, Lady MacGregor, Lord Lieutenant of Dumfriesshire

**in a celebration of Scottish Australian culture and heritage.**

New events include the Scottish Festival and the Clans and Families forum. Traditional events include the Scotland Australian Cairn ceremony at Mosman and National Tartan Day commemorations with the Kirkin' o' the Tartan service (bring your tartan).

Details and a booking form can be found at the SAHC website: [www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au](http://www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au)

# Did you know?

Whisky- Scotch represents almost 4% of the Scottish economy, roughly a quarter of Scotland's exports and also quarter of the UK's food and drink exports. It is reckoned to employ about 10,600 people directly, and indirectly, 25,000 more. Scotch whisky can only be called Scotch whisky after it has matured for a minimum of three years in oak casks in Scotland. Many whiskies are matured for much longer. An age statement on a label denotes the age of the youngest whisky in the bottle. Scotch whisky is always spelt without an 'e'. Sláinte!

Photo: Glenturret Distillery. Kenny Lam/VisitScotland.



# The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry finishes Australian tour in Sydney



From left, Cathy Aston, (Thomas Tait, pylons Sydney Harbour Bridge) Barbara Gurney, (Governor Macquarie) Jenny Bruce, (Tour Director) Elizabeth Campbell-MacKenzie, (Elizabeth Macquarie) Dr Frank Davidson from SAHC (wearing the Australian tartan) and Janet Morrison from Brisbane (Qantas panel).

This 6<sup>th</sup> and final Australian Scottish Diaspora Tapestry Exhibition was opened by the UK Deputy Consul-General in New South Wales, Scott Strain, who hails from the Glasgow area, with Mayor Sam Iskander of Marrickville Council also in attendance. John Macpherson Clan Chief of the Macpherson was MC. Representatives of Duke of Argyll, Clan Campbell, Clan Nicolson and Clan Johnston were all present; and the Scottish Australian Heritage Association were also out in force. Marrickville Mayor spoke at the official opening of the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry quoting Winston Churchill: "Of all the small nations on this earth, perhaps only the ancient Greeks surpass the Scots in their contribution to mankind." Councillor Sam Iskandar went

on to say that he was delighted to see the culmination of the work of over 300 embroiderers, telling a wonderful story of courage and achievement of Scottish migrants and their descendants. Of the population of Marrickville, which is an inner city Council Area of Sydney, 8% identify themselves as having Scottish ancestors, which compares with about 6% in greater Sydney. Councillor Iskandar expressed his thanks to Scotland for giving the world golf, Scotch whiskey, porridge and tartans; great thinkers such as James Watt whose steam engine led to the Industrial Revolution; Alexander Fleming's discovery of penicillin which saved millions of lives; Adam Smith (economic theory); Charles Rennie Mackintosh (art & design); Andrew Carnegie (Industrialist & philanthropist); John Muir (National

Parks); David Livingstone (who opened up parts of sub-Saharan Africa), to name just a few. The Tapestry boasts 305 panels which have been stitched across the world and proudly tell a unique and local story and link back Scotland. The project is led by Prestoungrange Arts Festival, building on their experience creating the now famous Battle of Prestonpans Tapestry in 2009-10. It has seen communities across Scotland interacting and inter-relating with others in 25 nations stretching right across the globe, to develop an extraordinary visual record of the Scottish Diaspora. Those 25 countries have been selected as being the key destinations for Scots emigration across the centuries, and from their manifold experiences of Scots migration will emerge a series of fascinating and personal tales: it is these stories which have come together in the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry.

For more information on the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry see: [www.scottishdiasporatapestry.org](http://www.scottishdiasporatapestry.org).



Some of the talented Australian stitchers of The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry. Photo: Ed McArthur.

## New trains cut travel time on Scotland to London route



Three-hour train journeys between the Scottish central belt and London are on track following a pact between the UK and Scottish governments. Travellers bound to and from Glasgow or Edinburgh and London Kings Cross Station will be able to get from the centre of each city in shorter time with a new fleet of high speed trains. New track could be built either side of the Pennines, or bypasses introduced on sections of the existing east and west coast main lines where speed is constrained, according to a report by HS2 Ltd. The cost of the suggestions range from £17 billion to £43bn, although some improvements could be introduced in stages. The two governments announced that work on evaluating options for the project would begin next year and said "implementation" of the plans could begin in 2019. A new fleet of trains with faster acceleration will cut journey times on the East Coast Main Line by up to 22 minutes, Virgin Trains has said. The 65 new trains will be built by Japanese firm Hitachi at its manufacturing plant in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham. They will be named Virgin Azuma, which is the Japanese translation for "east". Backers of the project have claimed it could bring £3bn of benefits to Scotland.

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"The general vibe around the venue. Everyone was happy to be there and excited to see the performances."

"The bands! Also the food tasting tent and having a wander round all the different sales tents. It was a fantastic day well organised, and just a great friendly atmosphere."

**Come to Piping at Forres, Grant Park Saturday 25 June 2016, 24 June 2017 and 23 June 2018 and find out for yourself how good it is.**

**Visit our website for more information.**

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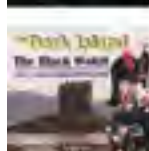
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*Live At The Lake DVD & complete RHCP back CD and DVD catalogue all available. Price: \$24.95 Plus postage*



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New release and an outstanding collection of traditional pipe band competition sets and cutting edge contemporary pipe band music. 10 Tracks: Gerry Duffy, Blue Lagoon, MSR, QE2, The Kitchen Piper, Back on Track, Donald MacLean, Schoolhouse Reels, A Flame of Wrath and more. Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



**The Dark Island** The Black Watch Pipes & Drums  
Black Watch play 21 tracks and many of the old favourites are here. Amazing Grace, Auld Lang Syne, The Dark Island, Black Bear, Glencoe, Caledonia, Glamis Castle, The Road to the Isles and more. One of Scotland's finest military bands, classic recording. Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



**The Gael** Various Artists  
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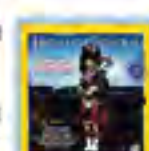
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## KINGS CASTLES AND "DURTY" WEE RASCALS

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



### Celtic or Rangers

Glasgow was a city that imposed division upon its citizens based upon religious adherence. It began in the primary school when my Catholic pals, who I played with after school, at the weekends and during the school holidays, went on their own ways to enrol in Roman Catholic schools. Naturally enough, some of my friendships with these Catholic children weakened, whilst those with Protestant children continued and strengthened, as we spent more and more time together, both in school as well as out of school. There were even divided loyalties, on some occasions, when groups of us clashed going to and from our separate schools. By secondary school age when new and lasting social contacts and friendships were being developed, and a new interest in the opposite sex was awakening; when the school doors sprung wide open in July, Catholic and Protestant youths living in the same streets had largely gone their separate ways. By the time we had made our first visits to the Flamingo and Plaza ballrooms, as teenagers, to try out our new-found ballroom dancing skills, the cycle of division was all but complete.

### The male script

The male script began with the usual complexities of traditional opening gambits when addressing a pretty dancing partner, and especially near to the end of the evening.

"Do you come here often?"  
 "Yes, at least twice a week."  
 "Are you here on your own?"  
 "No, I'm here with two friends. That's one of them dancing over there."  
 "What team do you support, then?"  
 "Celtic of course! Is there any other team?"  
 "No, of course not."

This coy reply by a girl as she swished her taffeta dress and smiled generously at her partner would determine the rest of the evening. As the band belted out the latest tunes the next key question would be posed.

"Oh aye' and where do you live, then?"  
 "Mosspark, just past the railway station."  
 "Oh right, do you need a lumber then? Can I see you home after the dance? It'll be finishing soon."

"Okay, but I need to tell my friends. Hold on and I'll talk to them."

With anticipation and excitement the would-be escort completed the script

"Great, I'll see you on the front steps, after you've collected your coat."

Of course the young man might have played out a variation of his script if he was a Rangers supporter. If he had in turn replied, "Oh right, I support Rangers", and she had kept her smile and the reply did not faze her, then the outcome of that evening may have remained the same. On the other hand it may have taken a quite different turn. The young man may have chosen to politely thank his partner as he escorted her off the dance floor and let her go her own way for the rest of the evening. The young woman for her part may have politely said that she had to powder her nose or meet up urgently with her friends. She might have used any of umpteen strategies to end the dancing partnership and resist staying on the dance floor and run the risk of being escorted home.

### The code

The scripts of course had little or nothing to do with football. It had to do with religion, and both parties were using an unwritten code to determine the other's religious affiliation. Young men and women who had never been to a football match, or who wouldn't have been seen dead in the blue, red and white of Rangers or the green and white of Celtic, were still tempted to use the code. The protocol was that it was best not to get romantically involved with a person of the opposite sex in Glasgow, unless you shared the same religion. The cycle of social division that began in the playground was then all but complete. That checking out that took place in the dance hall now continued in the workplace and wherever young people met socially. 'Mixed marriages', between Protestants and Catholics, were often seen as unfortunate events, only to be supported and accepted as a last resort. Some families never accepted such unions and it was often the cause of deep division and isolation within them. Many people were brought up to believe that it was best to end the possibility of a lasting relationship, before it got a chance to begin, never mind flourish. This was thought to be a safe way of avoiding possible alienation of the couple from parents, from brothers and sisters, and from friends.

Nevertheless, Glasgow had its fair share of Clydeside Romeos and Juliets, who braved the consequences and listened to their hearts as much as

their heads, and who were prepared to take on Glasgow's dark side. It happened in my family when some of my cousins married Catholic boys. Religious affiliation usually determined which football team was supported but there were often exceptions to the rule. Although Protestant, my brother-in-law's, father and some of his brothers and cousins, all born and raised near Parkhead, supported Celtic Football Club. They were Scots first and Protestant second, and wouldn't have wanted to waste their Saturday pennies travelling to the other side of Glasgow, to Ibrox, just to support Rangers and wear a blue, white and red scarf. My father, on the other hand, was raised close to Ibrox stadium and was a keen supporter of Rangers throughout his boyhood, youth and young adulthood.

### Cultural diversity

By the time I was born, he was nearly forty years old and within another four years we were all living in Pollok. I only remember going to football matches at Ibrox a few times with him and by then he declared he was sick of the sectarian violence that could ensue before, during and after the matches and I was never to gain my full rite of passage into becoming a partisan Rangers supporter or a football fanatic of any persuasion. My brother, Charlie, distanced himself even further from Rangers by adopting Edinburgh and

**Religious affiliation usually determined which football team was supported but there were often exceptions to the rule.**

supporting Heart of Midlothian F.C. The sad thing, of course, for Glasgow, was that no matter what team we affiliated with, and no matter whether we flew the Union Jack or the Irish Tricolour from the terraces of Ibrox and Parkhead, we were in the end all the same people, allowing ourselves to be divided by religion, politics and football. If we had been able to look back, beyond the green and blue, back beyond the battle of the Boyne, back beyond Scotland's Reformation, and back beyond the plantation of Northern Ireland, we would have found our common Celtic ancestry across both Ireland and Scotland. We had once faced the same enemies but we had divided ourselves from each other, more strongly than the Irish Sea ever did, and we paid a terrible hidden price to gain an interesting cultural diversity within our city.

## Tartan of the Month-Whisky

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

May is whisky month so this month we raise our glass to the Whisky Tartan (Reference:7267). The yellow lines on the brown band are the fields of barley; the black squares are for the peat and coal used to dry the malted barley. The small brown squares are for the yeast. The darker blue squares are for the Scottish water, the brown lines are the barrels, black lines the warehouses, the light blue lines are for the 'Angels' share', the resulting fungi from which blacken the walls of the warehouses and the white lines are for the glass bottles. This tartan was recorded prior to the launch of The Scottish Register of Tartans and designed by Edgar van de Crommert. Slainte Mhath!





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Kilt up!

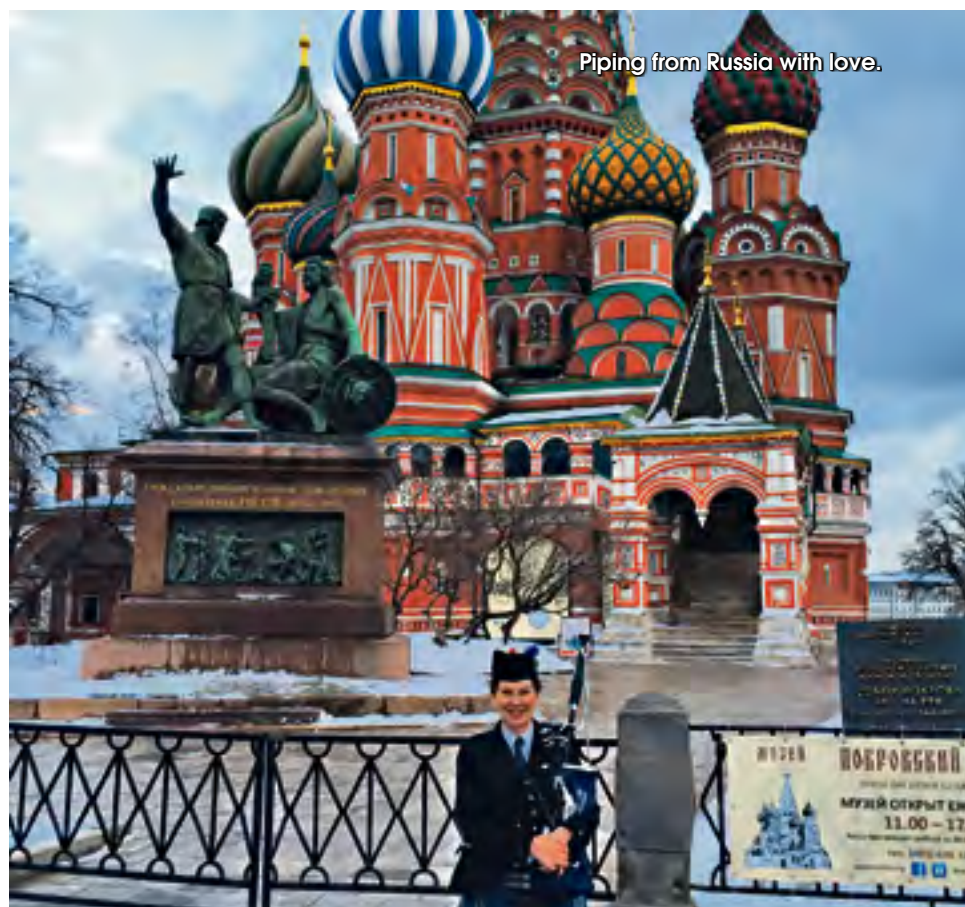
**EXPERIENCE THE VIBRANT ESSENCE OF SCOTLAND IN THE UPPER HUNTER VALLEY**

# The Scottish Banner speaks to Irene Robinson *The 7 Continent Piping Challenge*

**Many people involved with pipe bands know that often travel is part of many pipers duties, however for Irene Robinson, Forensic Nurse Practitioner, from Poole, England this has taken on a whole new meaning. Irene has set herself an epic challenge of travelling 50,000 miles across the 7 continents in 50 days to raise £50,000 for charity. Between tunes and planes Irene took the time to speak to the Scottish Banner's Sean Cairney on her world tour, love of the pipes and the world's reaction to her journey.**



Irene at Victoria Peak, Hong Kong.



Piping from Russia with love.

**SC:** Irene thanks so much for taking the time to speak to *the Scottish Banner* amid your gruelling travel schedule. Can we begin with you telling us how you came about the idea for The 7 Continent Piping Challenge and what you are hoping to achieve with this ambitious undertaking?

**IR:** It's my pleasure and I really appreciate that you have been following my journey. At the end of 2014 I took unpaid leave for three months and I went to rural Cambodia to do voluntary work with children, teaching English and helping to run the project. It was an incredibly humbling experience and when I returned to my nursing role I began to realise that I could possibly do something bigger and actually fundraise for my chosen charities. I knew that it would be something to do with piping and as I couldn't find any evidence of a piper travelling across all 7 continents in one journey I thought it would be amazing to attempt a 7 Continent Charity Piping Challenge. Once I realised it was going to be 50,000 miles in 50 days I thought that a pound a mile was reasonable! I am hoping to achieve my fundraising target or as close as possible.

**SC:** You have been in love with bagpipes since childhood, what is it about this instrument you find so special and can you tell us about some of the background you have had with piping?

**IR:** I started learning the pipes when I was 13 years old and I was encouraged by my father. He couldn't play any instruments but he could sing a song. The bagpipes are a unique instrument and it's difficult to define exactly but they have so much history and a huge sound that is very special to me. I am very active within pipe bands and always support if I can. I have travelled through my piping and I have made friends across the world.

**SC:** Irene your epic journey takes you to some real amazing places such as New



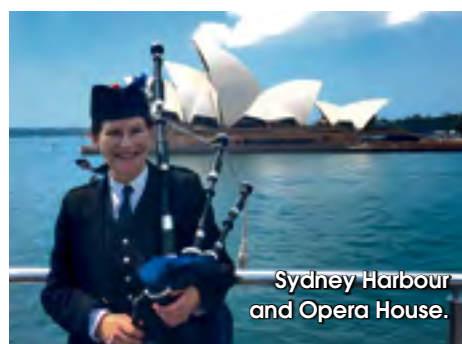
Meeting the locals in Antarctica.

York's Radio City Music Hall, Auckland's Sky Tower, Sydney Harbour and the Christ the Redeemer Monument in Rio De Janerio. What sort of planning must be undertaken and how many hurdles did you have to get through to play in so many iconic and special world locations?

**IR:** It was always my plan to make this challenge different and as big as I could possibly make it. I started planning in March last year and it has taken all of my time. I have literally jumped through hoops and for the places that refused official permission I took the unofficial route! Every location has been exciting, incredible and at times scary such as the SkyWalk, I thought that I would be playing on the SkyDeck! Communication was key to sorting out my chosen venues and I am so grateful to all concerned and to those who trusted me.

**SC:** One of the most incredible parts of your journey seems to have been Antarctica. Just how did it make you feel playing *Auld Lang Syne* on this icy untamed landscape?

**IR:** To actually reach Antarctica and for all factors to be in your favour was a gift to me. My piping day in Paradise Bay and Neko Harbour was perfect. The weather was cold but crisp and with beautiful tones in the landscape. I hadn't planned to play *Auld Lang Syne* I asked some people from the expedition what they would like to hear and they said play what you feel you want to, so in an extraordinary beautiful environment



Sydney Harbour and Opera House.

and perhaps thinking that I wouldn't be back again, I chose that tune and it will always take me back to Antarctica.

**SC:** You are playing specific set of tunes for each of the stops visited. How did you come up with your play list and has any song been particularly well received on your travels?

**IR:** I chose my set of *Scotland the Brave*, *Rowan Tree* and *The Marines Corp Hymn* because they are recognisable to most people across the world. The length of time to play them was achievable and I needed to be able to give a definitive time to these iconic venues. Of course, the reality was that I was asked to play for longer. A particular request was *Amazing Grace* wherever I was including the SkyWalk but playing it in the Regina Mundi Church in Soweto was very special. Most of the congregation of about 800 people had not heard the pipes before.

**SC:** Irene music can be such a common bond between people, what has been the reaction to your piping been and is there anywhere that has most surprised you about the reception you have received?

**IR:** I have had a fantastic reception

everywhere but it was it my mission to engage with people and share my enthusiasm throughout this challenge. I was surprised when I stood in front of Christ the Redeemer at the glorious reception from the crowd there. Alcatraz was amazing and there are great videos on [bagpipetheworld](http://bagpipetheworld.com) YouTube channel.

**SC:** And finally Irene, regardless of age what message do you have for anyone wanting to join a pipe band today, especially for females considering joining this great movement?

**IR:** Well immediately my response is to say that we need more female pipers and it is also something that I have encouraged along the way. Once you can play the pipes as a female you are accepted everywhere but more importantly, being in a minority, it can actually open doors for you - and for me that is extra special now as I have successfully achieved being the first piper to travel across the 7 continents in one journey and to have fundraised for The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity and Julia's House has been a privilege. I truly hope that I have inspired people to reach for their goals and I am very grateful for all donations if my story has been enjoyed!

**Every donation counts, The Scottish Banner is urging our readers to back Irene on her great quest to raise a pound for every mile she has travelled. For more information or to help Irene raise money for The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity and Julia's House please see: [www.bagpipetheworld.com](http://www.bagpipetheworld.com) or donate at [www.virginmoneygiving.com/bagpipetheworld](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/bagpipetheworld)**

Text courtesy of Scotland.org All images courtesy of Jennifer Leonard

# New York Tartan Day Parade 2016

Wet and cold weather did not put off Scottish actor Sam Heughan as the Grand Marshal for this year's New York Tartan Day Parade. The parade which took place in Manhattan on Saturday 9 April, is the largest celebration of Scottish heritage and pride in the USA. Sam who is best known for his role as the 18th Century Scottish Highlander Jamie Fraser in the STARZ hit series *Outlander*, joined pipers, bands and clans from across North America and Scotland in the celebration. He said: "As Grand Marshal of the New York Tartan Day parade 2016, I am honoured and proud to serve the city and its ancestral ties. I love the city, the people and the vibe. Please join me in toasting all who live and visit there with a whisky and a toast!"

The actor joins other famous Scots who have led the parade including Sir Sean Connery, Alan Cumming, Cliff Robertson, Brian Cox and most recently in 2015, fellow *Outlander* star Graham McTavish. The Tartan Day Parade is the highlight of celebrations which ran from 2 April to 10 April, and included a diverse range of events, from the Scotland Run through Central Park, to lunch-time concerts, business seminars and a pre-parade ceilidh. The Parade is organised by The National Tartan Day New York Committee, a 501C3 Not For Profit registered charity. The Organization comprises the St Andrews Society of the State of New York, the New York Caledonian Club, The American-Scottish Foundation and Clan Campbell.

The New York Tartan Day Parade began



Grand Marshall Sam Heughan.



Proud Scottish lassie.



Edinburgh Academy Pipe and Drum Band.



Four legs welcome at Tartan Day.



Clan Kincaid proudly marches.



Jarl Squad from the Shetland Islands.

18 years ago with a handful of people walking down a sidewalk, and has now grown to be the culminating celebration of over ten days of events that take place throughout New York. Tartan Day has been celebrated in the Big Apple since 1998. Over the years it has been expanded into a week-long programme of events promoting Scotland in North America. The

official parade tartan has been designed by the Scottish Tartans Authority, funded by the Scottish Registers of Tartan and its registration donated by the National Records of Scotland. Its colours and pattern represent aspects of Scottish and American culture such as the blue and white of the Saltire and the green of the trees bordering 6th Avenue where the parade takes place.



## Ben Nevis taller due to new technology



Britain's highest mountain Ben Nevis has "grown" by a metre in 65 years and is officially 1,345 metres tall. But the Ordnance Survey calculation is not down to geological movement – just improved technology. A GPS receiver at the summit in the Scottish Highlands fed data for two hours to satellites, before experts checked the readings. A new Ordnance Survey (OS) calculation found Ben Nevis stands at 1345m rather than the previously recorded height of 1344m. Its new height was recorded by positioning a survey grade GPS receiver at the summit of Ben Nevis for two hours. Data was constantly fed to satellites and then checked by OS experts before being confirmed. In 1949, it took a team of seven surveyors 20 nights to obtain their calculation, OS said. The new height is exactly 1344.527m but is rounded up to 1345m officially. Mark Greaves, OS geodetic consultant, was

the first person to discover the change. He said: "The new height relates to the highest natural point on the summit and was measured as 1344.527m. I double-checked everything and asked others to do so, too. What is amazing is how close the surveyors in 1949 were. The measured height has changed by centimetres but those centimetres mean we now need to round up rather than down. So that's why Ben Nevis will now be officially known as 1345m." Field surveyor Angus Hemmings climbed Ben Nevis to check if repair work to the stone cairn at the peak had affected the trig pillar, a surveying station at the top of the mountain. He said: "It was raining, sleeting and snowing at the summit but harsh weather doesn't affect our equipment or readings. What it did do, though, was give me a greater sense of respect for the 1949 surveyors. Each day they hauled 200lbs of equipment up Ben Nevis and its surrounding mountains. They also had to wait till night, because strong lights were shone from the trig pillars of the other mountains on to Ben Nevis, which enabled them to collect their data. It took the surveyors 20 nights because they only had three clear nights in that period to get it right. To do the best possible job it had to be run with military precision, everything they did had to be timed to perfection. Their effort and accuracy is remarkable." OS holds around 460 million geographic features in its database of the UK and regularly updates maps, with more than 10,000 changes possible each day.

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind  
 seas I betwixt us  
 for auld lang syne  
 O my Luv's like a red, red rose  
 that's newly sprung in June  
 O my Luv's like a sweet wood violet  
 O my Luv's like a honey-suckle  
 whose heart is true  
 O my Luv's like a daisy flower  
 that's common to all  
 O my Luv's like a roselin  
 that grows in many a place  
 O my Luv's like a lily of the valley  
 that's whiter than snow  
 O my Luv's like a burn  
 that flows thro' the burn  
 O my Luv's like a bonnie bird  
 that's wing'd and free  
 O my Luv's like a daisy flower  
 that's common to all  
 O my Luv's like a roselin  
 that grows in many a place  
 O my Luv's like a lily of the valley  
 that's whiter than snow  
 O my Luv's like a burn  
 that flows thro' the burn  
 O my Luv's like a bonnie bird  
 that's wing'd and free*

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The Wee White Dug at Wanlockhead, the highest village in Scotland.

# Lady MacGregor's Scotland

By: Lady Fiona MacGregor

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



Greetings from Scotland where the weather is improving. It's a little wet on some days, but at least it's mild and the midges have not yet arrived-so who's complaining... Perhaps we are heading for a golden summer. Indeed, this might even be Scotland's golden year. As the price of oil falls and the old 'black gold' becomes less attractive, 'golden gold' is back in the headlines. I've been filming at a place called Wanlockhead. At 1,631 feet above sea-level it's Scotland's highest village. You might think that lofty claim should go to the Highlands, but Scotland's highest village is actually in the Lowlands, and almost in the Borderlands-Wanlockhead is on the reaches of the Southern Uplands. It is where eagles soar, and it is not just a treasure-trove of wildlife. Last summer a sizeable nugget of gold worth fifteen thousand dollars was found in a local stream.

## Lofty Wanlockhead

Mind, this is not the only place experiencing a rush. There are gold mining operations in Aberdeenshire and Argyshire, whilst it was announced that

Tyndrum near Stirling could be home to an estimated £200 million worth of the precious metal. It's led to small armies of panning hopefuls arriving with waterproofs and sieves: not quite the Klondike rush where 100,000 people turned up in Canada at the end of the nineteenth century, but it is exciting to think that there's treasure in the high lands. We arrived at lofty Wanlockhead on one of the best days of the year. The sun shone and the wind did not blow. This is a community of around 150 people, and whilst the views are magnificent, there are drawbacks: if you're going to be ill, do make sure it's only on a Tuesday or Friday, as those are the only days the doctor comes. If you run out of anything other than a pint of milk, you must plan a journey of least an hour to stock up the fridge. If you hope never to be snowed in during winter, forget living there. But if you like wild walks and solitude, if you want somewhere where you definitely know your neighbour, and crime is non-existent, this is the place to be. It is a close community, with school, pub, village hall and tourist centre, plus there is a small business that makes beer. The Lola Rose Brewery is a family-run firm and they claim a great marketing slogan. Forget 'Beer with Attitude'. These mountain folk sell 'Beer with Altitude'. Perhaps you will

get to taste some one day. If you do, you will know that it comes from Scotland's highest village. Getting to the place was a journey in itself. The rain has played havoc with Scotland's roads, particularly the smaller ones. Pot holes are springing up and it often means driving in the middle of the road to avoid them; which is fine as long as no-one is coming in the opposite direction doing the same thing... I report these motoring hazards from time to time to the authorities, but you have to be able to prove they are the size of a dustbin lid before anyone will come out to fill them. Then who carries a dustbin lid around in their car to measure? Potholes shred tires and play havoc with the steering. No, Scotland's roads are a bit of a mess at the moment.

**But if you like wild walks and solitude, if you want somewhere where you definitely know your neighbour, and crime is non-existent, this is the place to be.**

## Scottish lineage

In the meantime, I get an email from across the pond. It is from an Armstrong

friend who tells me about his fishing and his family. It turns out that he has a bit of MacGregor in him from a great great Grandmother called Grier. Then his mother was a Pirie, which is an Aberdeen name, and he also has Henderson, MacFadden, Simpson and Davidson roots. That is some Scottish lineage. I have Moreland and MacMaster roots from my mother's side. I married a MacGregor, but am from solid Armstrong stock. Indeed, one of my Armstrong forebears married another Armstrong, so we had a double dose of trouble. MacGregors and Armstrongs: these two warring families are probably more than enough for any one person to cope with. My ancestors were miners and shoemakers, but the MacGregor can claim descent from some very grand people indeed. Among his forebears is Admiral Hardy, who served with Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar. There was a Murray, a daughter of the Duke of Atholl, and there was a Macdonnell, a daughter of an Earl of Antrim. Among the other wives were the offspring of the landowning Rollo and Butler families. If you have done your family tree you may also have some interesting forebears. You will also know how many names you can lay claim to. A gold nugget goes to the one who has the most - if I can ever find the gold, that is...

# International visitors flock to top tourist attraction in Stirling



From Africa to North America, the National Wallace Monument has global appeal - that's the finding of the Monument's visitor book which showed that visitors, from all four corners of the globe, flocked to the popular tourist attraction. The sample of just under 3,000 tourists revealed that 80 different countries were represented - including Barbados, Qatar and Taiwan. The iconic attraction, which last year alone has attracted in excess of 90,000 visitors, demonstrates the international appeal of not just Scotland but of the Monument - built to commemorate the warrior who famously led his men to victory at the Battle of Stirling Bridge and whose

life was depicted in the blockbuster film *Braveheart* which this recently celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Ken Thomson, Stirling District Tourism Marketing Manager, explained: "Even after 20 years the number of visitors who credit the 1995 Academy Award winning film as their reason to visit the monument is astounding. In a recent survey *Braveheart* was identified by over 20% of participants as having influenced their decision to visit Stirling and its attractions."

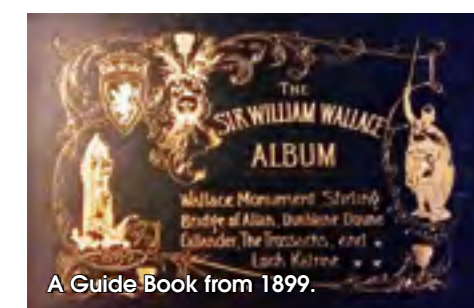
## William Wallace

The Monument is delighted to have such a wide audience who are interested in William Wallace and Scottish history. The figures

are in line with other parts of Scotland and their visitor attractions. Research conducted by VisitScotland found that Stirling and the surrounding areas was the fifth most visited region of Scotland for overseas visitors in 2014 - after the Lothians, Greater Glasgow, Highlands & Islands and Grampian. Liz Buchanan, Visit Scotland's Regional Director for Stirling, said: "The National Wallace Monument is one of Scotland's most instantly recognisable landmarks and, over the past 20 years, it has enjoyed a huge surge in popularity as a site of pilgrimage for fans of *Braveheart*. Undoubtedly a jewel in our tourism crown, it is no surprise that this icon continues to attract visitors from every corner of the globe."

In August 2015 the National Wallace Monument launched their new website aiming to meet the expectations of Monument's global visitors and in the first three months following its launch the new website has been viewed by over 30 thousand users in a total of 122 different countries. Ken Thomson, described how the influx in international visitors affected how they designed the new website: "Since our website was last launched in 2009 there has been a great deal of technological advancements and we wanted to make sure we are offering our visitors all they need online. The first area to address was the online ticketing service, being able to offer visitors to pre-purchase their tickets online not only improved accessibility to the Monument on busy days but also so the large number of international visitors could plan their trips and pre-purchase admission tickets."

## Dusting off Wallace Monument Memorabilia



The National Wallace Monument has kicked off a campaign to collect memorabilia featuring The National Wallace Monument from years gone by, to mark the 155th Anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation Stone. Guide books, newspaper articles, photographs and gift items will form part of a display during 'A Victorian Masterpiece', our special weekend that will take place between the 24th to the 26th June this year. Elspeth King, Director at The Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum is assisting with the special exhibition at the Monument, which will include a collection of Mauchline ware items which used to be sold in the Monument's gift shop. Many of the wooden souvenirs are inscribed: "Made from wood grown on the slopes of the Abbey Craig." Anyone who would like to share an item or photograph from the past depicting The National Wallace Monument can get in touch by emailing info@nationalwallacemonument.com or contacting us on Facebook before the 24th May.

For more information on the National Wallace Monument see: [www.nationalwallacemonument.com](http://www.nationalwallacemonument.com)

# Classic and contemporary architecture blends together in celebration of Scotland's spirit

*2016 will shine a spotlight on Scotland's achievements in innovation, architecture and design through a wide-ranging, variety of new and existing activity. Scotland has produced some great architectural heroes who have helped shape this great nation to what it is, with more great minds planning the amazing Scotland of tomorrow.*



Strathisla Distillery the oldest operating distillery in the Scottish Highlands.

## Cutting-edge design and green technology

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century whisky industry, heritage mixes with high tech and two new Speyside distilleries have been able to take centuries of accumulated distilling knowledge and expertise and merge it with cutting-edge design and green technology to produce quality spirit. Opened in 2009, Roseisle was the first malt distillery of scale to be opened in Scotland in 30 years. The striking distillery, owned by Diageo, uses cutting-edge technology to significantly minimise our carbon footprint and impact on the environment. Roseisle was designed to build on best practice from Diageo's other 28 malt and grain distilleries to improve efficiency and performance, building on centuries of distilling experience and knowledge. Dalmunach opened in summer 2015 on the site of the mothballed Imperial Distillery at Carron and is an excellent example of securing the future of the industry by respecting its heritage and utilizing energy saving innovations. Remnants from the old distillery situated on the site from 1897-2012, were built into the new one with an architecturally impressive design, inspired

by the shape of a sheaf of barley reflecting the core ingredient of single malt whisky. It houses eight unique copper pot stills, with a tulip shape used for the wash stills and an onion shape used for the spirit stills, replicating those from the original distillery. In a departure from tradition, the stills have been positioned in a circular design that provides a unique aesthetic for the future.

Distilleries of all shapes and sizes, old and new continue to be a hit with visitors to Scotland with whisky lovers from all over the world making a stop at one and raise their glasses to this incredible Scottish industry.

*The 2016 Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival runs until May 2nd, for further information about the event visit [www.spiritofspeyside.com](http://www.spiritofspeyside.com). Interested in seeing Scotland's architecture for yourself? The Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design runs until 31 December 2016 with a series of exciting events and activity, the year will showcase Scotland's position as an "innovation nation", its outstanding built heritage, and its thriving, internationally acclaimed creative industries sector. For further details see: [www.visitscotland.org](http://www.visitscotland.org) or join the conversation at #IAD2016.*

Visitors to Speyside, the world's best known whisky-producing region, are never far from the sight of the distinctive pagoda. It's a design which has become an iconic symbol for Scotch whisky the world over and one which has its roots firmly set in the Speyside region, home to some of the biggest names in distilling. The ornate pagoda roofs which adorn many of the area's 50-plus distilleries will be used as a backdrop for thousands of photographs, videos and selfies during the Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival this spring, during which visitors will learn just how pivotal this piece of architecture has been to shaping the whisky industry.



Dalmunach Distillery one of Scotland's newest distilleries opened in June 2015 by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

the area. Ann Miller adds, "Charles Doig died in 1918 but his design lives on, not only at distillery buildings in Speyside and elsewhere in Scotland but in branding and marketing materials promoting this world-famous export, being an emblem of Scotland's Malt Whisky Trail. They are a real talking point and are instantly associated with the region's industry. Scotland will celebrate the Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design in 2016 so it seems only fitting that we celebrate an iconic piece of Scotland's architectural heritage, while also introducing people to brand new distilleries that use modern technology and design." Many options were considered and discounted before the final pagoda design was reached, and its strikingly attractive appearance, combined with functionality, ensured the pagoda became an essential feature during the distillery building boom of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Strathisla, boasts twin pagodas and its setting and style makes it one of the most photographed – and arguably the most picturesque – of all Scotland's distilleries. Dating back to 1786, the Keith distillery buildings have changed little, from the old cobbled courtyard to the water wheel and of course the distinctive double pagodas.

## Scotland's water of life

As ornate as they are, pagoda roofs weren't created solely for decoration. They may look Oriental, but they were designed for a very practical reason - as a chimney, to improve the flow of smoke out of distillery buildings from the fires which dried the malt below. They are, essentially, a key ingredient in Scotland's water of life. Renowned distillery architect Charles Chree Doig came up with the classic design. On moving to the county capital of Elgin in 1882 he became assistant to a land surveyor, going on to become a partner in the business and moving into architecture and engineering. When the owners of Dailuaine Distillery commissioned Doig to carry out alterations to their maltings, he converted the existing ventilator into the distinctive pagoda shaped roof that is so familiar.

## Scotland's Malt Whisky Trail

Ann Miller of Speyside Whisky Festival says the pagoda design charms and intrigues the many thousands of visitors that descend on

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# The Scottish Banner speaks to Fraser Allen - World Whisky Day



*This month Scotland celebrates Whisky Month. Ancient, distinct and varied - there are so many reasons why whisky should be celebrated, it has been produced in Scotland for generations and is a major industry for the Scottish economy which exports whisky around the globe. Saturday May 21st is World Whisky Day, a day which celebrates the water of life (or uisge beatha in Gaelic), and the Scottish Banner's Sean Cairney spoke to Fraser Allen from World Whisky Day on how this day got started, what is planned for 2016, how best to drink whisky and why whisky continues to be so popular across the world.*



World Whisky Day founder Blair Bowman celebrating Antarctica's involvement in World Whisky Day.

**SC:** Fraser thank you for taking the time to speak to *the Scottish Banner*. Can we start by you telling us about World Whisky Day and how it got started, what happens on World Whisky Day and how you are promoting it in both Scotland and internationally?

**FA:** World Whisky Day was the brainchild of a 19-year-old student at the University of Aberdeen called Blair Bowman. Five years ago, he noticed that there was a World Gin Day and - being a whisky fan - wondered why there wasn't an established global celebration day for whisky. So he simply picked a date, spread the word through social media and encouraged people to hold their own World Whisky Day events and share pics and videos on social media. It took off in a fairly extraordinary of fashion with hundreds of thousands of people across the world getting involved. The Scottish Government provided some support and a lot of whisky brands got involved too. By last year, it had grown into too large a project for Blair to manage on his own so he invited my business to take over the project. I publish a drinks magazine called Hot Rum Cow ([www.hotrumcow.co.uk](http://www.hotrumcow.co.uk)) with a similar audience to World Whisky Day and a team skilled in developing these kinds of initiatives. Last year more than 10,000 people attended 170 registered World Whisky Day events in 48 countries - we even had a World Whisky Day party in Antarctica, and David Beckham

joined in the celebrations on American TV. But many more people joined in on social media - on Twitter alone we achieved a social media reach of 11.3 million. This year, World Whisky Day is on Saturday 21 May and we expect it to be the biggest yet!

**SC:** World Whisky Day officially takes place on the third Saturday in May each year. Why has this been chosen and is there a reason a specific date has not been allocated?

**FA:** That was Blair's choice. He had to pick a date - and May in Scotland is usually a pretty good time of year. He also wanted it to be a Saturday to make it easier for as many people as possible to join in.

**SC:** Last year thousands of whisky fans all over the world raised a glass to World Whisky Day! Can you tell us what is being planned for World Whisky Day 2016 and how people can start or join an event?

**FA:** Much of the activity on the day is simply people holding their own events. Last year that ranged from friends gathering informally to sample a range of whiskies to numerous events in bars and even a National Trust for Scotland whisky tasting dinner cruise to St Kilda in the Outer Hebrides! To register your own event, all you have to do is go to [www.worldwhiskyday.com](http://www.worldwhiskyday.com) and provide a few details - it's free. And we'll happily promote your event via social media.

**SC:** Whisky appreciation has a huge following across the world which spans all age and ethnic groups. What is it about whisky you find so special and how does its universal appeal translate today?

**FA:** A lot of what we love about whisky is the history, the people and the stories behind it. It's a fascinating product that brings together nature, heritage, craft and the sheer social pleasure of enjoying a well-made drink. We have quite a young audience with an open mind to whisky and they are willing to try new things. For us, whisky is an adventure that should be open to anyone (of legal drinking age!) and we're keen to break down some of the pretentiousness and elitism that can sometimes put people off asking about and trying whisky. We are of course also based in Scotland, the home of whisky - but are interested in all the different varieties of whisky and whisky across the globe.

**SC:** Many people may be surprised that there are a variety of whisky glasses available. Different glasses can suit different types of drinkers can you tell us more about what is available and how someone can choose the best glass for them?

**FA:** If somebody wants to really savour a whisky - particularly a single malt - it's good to drink from a tapered glass that narrows at the top (such as the popular Glencairn glass). That type of glass concentrates the aroma of the whisky, which is a great part of the experience. If, by contrast, you drink from a broad, open glass, the 'nose' is considerably weaker. Having said that, whisky should be about enjoying what YOU like - and everybody's taste is different. So if what you really want tonight is a coke & bourbon in a tumbler, that's great too... enjoy!

**SC:** What's the best way to drink a good whisky? Water, ice, neat? Are there any rules when it comes to whisky?

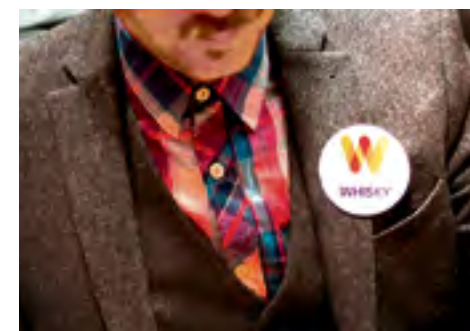
**FA:** There will be people who talk about rules but we don't believe in them. It's best to experiment and drink your whisky however it suits you. A lot of whiskies can certainly be enjoyed neat, while many (particularly the stronger ones) also benefit from a tiny splash of water. And if you like it with ice, nothing wrong with that.

**SC:** Many have been left surprised that Scotland has not produced some of the top ranked whiskies recently. Canada, Australia and Japan have all gained top spots in whisky awards, can you tell us more and how this has left the local whisky industry feeling in Scotland?

**FA:** My personal feeling is that these awards are very over-rated and some people take them far too seriously. The measure of how good a whisky is is not just really what one or two experts think in the course of a blind tasting - it's about when and where you drink it, who you drink it with, the heritage and the stories around the brand. I daresay that some marketing people for Scotch have found these recent awards to global brands frustrating but they're kind of irrelevant to what true whisky drinking should be all about.

**SC:** And finally Fraser whisky lovers coming to Scotland are blessed with a variety of both historic and new distilleries to visit. Distilleries can be found on the islands, in the cities and amongst the amazing natural surrounds of the Scottish countryside. For someone starting out how does the taste differ around the country and do you have a favourite region you can recommend for someone wanting to hit the whisky trail?

**FA:** Scotch whisky is traditionally split into four regions: Speyside, Islay, Highland and Lowland. Speyside (north-west of Aberdeen) is the biggest concentration of whisky production with brands such as Glenfiddich, Tomintoul and The Glenrothes. Flavours range widely but Speyside whiskies are often associated with fruit, vanilla and coconut, from lighter styles such as The Glenlivet to the denser flavours of The MacAllan. Islay whiskies, from a clutch of distilleries on the small Hebridean island of Islay, are more challenging, with strong peat and seaweed flavours - for many big whisky fans, they are amongst the most exciting single malts, whilst others can find them a bit overpowering. Highland whiskies cover a wide range of whiskies both in style and geography from Old Pulteney in the North-East to Talisker on the Isle of Skye. The lower-profile region is Lowland which, typically has lighter whiskies, such as Glenkinchie in East Lothian. If you want to try a wide variety of whiskies and and do some great distillery tours, Speyside is an ideal starting point.



For more information on World Whisky Day see: [www.worldwhiskyday.com](http://www.worldwhiskyday.com). Follow the conversation at #WorldWhiskyDay and #WhiskyMonth.



# Back to school for lessons in whisky

Imagine a school that is open just three days a year and is devoted to its students' favourite subject, and it is little wonder that there's world wide appeal, and a lengthy waiting list, for the Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival Whisky School. It's an experience that couldn't be replicated anywhere else in the world, as only in Speyside, a region which is home to more than half of Scotland's malt whisky distilleries, can you find the unique mix of industry experts, specialist industries and the goodwill that make the whisky school the success that it is. That's the view of four whisky legends who, with a collective knowledge of 200 years in the art of making whisky, founded the annual school which has become a magnet for dram lovers from all over the globe. During the comprehensive three day programme, students learn about single malt whisky production from the raw material to the finished product through a series of lectures from industry experts, complemented by site visits. A love of whisky knows no boundaries, with past pupils coming from Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, India, Israel, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Myanmar, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand and the USA, and of course the UK.

## Devotion to whisky

Despite the mix of nationalities, culture and language differences have never been a barrier, with a shared devotion to whisky serving as one of the best ice breakers around. Students are drawn from all walks of life – couples, the retired, a bush pilot, paratrooper, doctor, even industry professionals with a thirst for tapping into the specialist insights on offer, are among graduates. The majority sign up because they want a deeper appreciation and understanding of whisky; some even come with a vision of setting up their own distillery. The school's founding fathers Ed Dodson, Dr Tim Dolan, Charles Smith and Peter Warren got behind the venture in order to give something back to an industry which has been good to them. They've found that same generosity of spirit across Speyside when seeking lecturers, venues to visit and other support for the school. Industry experts freely give of their time, and firms are happy to open their doors and welcome scholars to their venues, explains Peter Warren, who continued a four-generation family association with distilling, holding senior management positions and still working on a consultancy basis. "The whole industry supports us, and everyone involved volunteers their time," Mr Warren explains. "Like us, there's a feeling that people want to give something back to

the industry that they enjoy." Charlie Smith's lengthy career in whisky management saw him work both in his native Speyside and other parts of Scotland. Mr Smith is adamant that for a complete grounding in whisky production, nowhere comes close to the experience offered on Speyside. He says: "Speyside is the only place with the facilities that allow the school to reinforce what's been taught in lectures with site visits. You just cannot replicate that anywhere else in the world." The exclusive school has places limited to just 18 in order to ensure students derive maximum benefits.

## The art of producing Scotch

Dr Tim Dolan has extensive academic and industry experience which as well as management included teaching, coaching and lecturing. He says that although the whisky school could attract many more pupils, its protected size delivers better learning opportunities. "Small is beautiful," says Dr Dolan, "and the essential thing is to give the right experience, for students to be able to speak to lecturers and ask questions, and because space can be restricted on technical visits." Outgoing whisky school director Ed Dodson worked in the Speyside whisky industry for more than 40 years, retiring as manager at Glen Moray Distillery in Elgin in 2005, and has reflected on the whisky school's success. "We have people who are genuinely interested in discovering the art of producing Scotch. The big attraction is gaining a more detailed knowledge of production than can be obtained by just visiting distilleries or reading about it. Contact with the speakers and having questions answered in detail is important for the students. There's always been international appeal and the main interest comes from the Scandinavian countries and Canada and USA. There's been more interest from Asia in the last couple of years. I feel that it is the range of subjects covered by eight lectures, each presented by specialists and backed up with excellent technical visits is what makes this school unique. There are other excellent whisky schools but we are in the fortunate position of having different distilleries, a malting, coppersmith and cooperage to visit as a follow up to the lectures. Being part of the festival makes it even more appealing." While the 2016 School is fully booked and the waiting list for 2017 is full a visit to Speyside contains over 50 of Scotland's malt whisky distilleries and who wouldn't toast to that!

**Information about the 2016 Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival can be found on the website [www.spiritofspeyside.com](http://www.spiritofspeyside.com).**



Toasting the Spirit of Speyside Whisky School are its founding fathers, from left, Dr Tim Dolan, Charles Smith, Ed Dodson and Peter Warren.



Whisky is wonderful stuff and well worth exploring. Lovingly produced throughout Scotland for hundreds of years, from the Highlands, islands and Lowlands, you'll find distilleries carefully crafting their own unique single malts and whisky blends – often following secret and closely guarded recipes. Such a well-loved drink, whisky even has its own calendar of events. Kicking off the summer season of merriment is the ever-popular, month-long celebration of Scottish whisky known as Whisky Month (1 – 31 May). Taking in the popular Spirit of Speyside Festival (28 April – 2 May) and the international celebrations around World Whisky Day (21 May) to name just a few, make sure you're there to raise your glass and toast the world-renowned Scottish uisge beatha, meaning 'water of life'.

## Head to its source

There are over 100 working distilleries in Scotland which are dotted across five distinct whisky-producing regions. Believe us when we say they're as diverse as the wines of France – no two Scottish whiskies taste the same! Honestly! The distilleries' pagoda roofs are unmistakably recognisable from a distance, and with their doors flung wide open to welcome whisky beginners and aficionados alike, there's no better place to start your whisky adventure than at its source. Discover the centuries-old art of whisky production on a visit to a distillery, and enjoy a wee dram at the end of the tour!

## Scotland's whisky regions in a nutshell

- Speyside – by far the largest whisky-producing region, Speyside whiskies are noted for their elegance and complexity. There's a refined smokiness mixed with sweetness and the region's rich and fruity whiskies are considered the ultimate Scottish single malt. The region is also home to the Malt Whisky Trail, the only trail of its kind in the world!
- Highlands – the biggest region in geographical terms, Highland malts embrace wide and robust flavours. Heavier and drier compared to other regions, some enjoy nutty, honey, heather or peaty notes, while others have a salty tang from the sea.

- Lowlands – the handful of Lowlands' distilleries still in operation produce more subtle and lighter style single malts and are traditionally known as the 'Lowland Ladies'. Savour their zesty flavours with a slightly fruity, citrusy hint – the perfect introduction for beginners.
- Islay – known as Scotland's whisky island. It's covered in peat which is used to malt the barley used in distilling and gives Islay single malts their characteristic smoky flavour with some salty, seaweed notes. Be prepared – their distinctive smell and taste is simply unforgettable!
- Campbeltown – as Scotland's smallest whisky-distilling region, Campbeltown holds a special place in the hearts of single malt enthusiasts. Whiskies produced in this small coastal town are briny in character and some boast subtle salty and peaty notes – a sheer treat to a palate.

## Dos and don'ts

There's no right or wrong way to drink whisky, and you don't need to be an expert to enjoy it! Check out our tips on how to taste and appreciate a dram of single malt whisky. If you've a nose for adventure, forget the wine the next time you're cooking! It's not just haggis that goes well with whisky. The amber spirit is a great accompaniment to a variety of dishes. Discover top tips for pairing food and whisky, and don't be surprised when you see combinations like chocolate delice with Glenmorangie Signet or Dunsyre Blue cheese with Lagavullin 16-year-old. That's right – cheese and whisky! Get more ideas for cooking with whisky using our whisky recipes.



You can find out more on Scotch whisky at [www.visitscotland.com/whisky](http://www.visitscotland.com/whisky) including the option to download eBooks on Scotland's distilleries and find full listings covering opening hours and directions, as well as details of each distillery's best known whiskies.

IN SCOTLAND TODAY



The Royal Regiment of Scotland/Facebook.

## The 10th Anniversary of the Royal Regiment of Scotland

The Royal Regiment of Scotland has recently celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Royal Regiment of Scotland was formed in 2006 through the amalgamation of Scotland's historic infantry regiments to form a single fighting force.. Celebrations have included the Regiment exercising the freedom of the city with a Royal Mile parade and a new exhibition marking its first decade of operations at the National War Museum in Edinburgh Castle. The Regiment comprises of six battalions and one independent company of combat infantry soldiers. The soldiers call themselves 'The Jocks'. They are proud, fierce, professionals, trained to accomplish the full range of operational infantry roles. The Jocks have consistently been deployed on the front line serving with distinction and upholding the proudest traditions of the Scottish soldier. Raised in 1633 by Sir John Hepburn, The Royal Scots was the oldest Regiment in the British Army until it was merged, in 2006, with the other Scottish Infantry Regiments to form The Royal Regiment of Scotland. Retired Maj Gen James Cowan said: "Since the regiment was formed in 2006 our soldiers have deployed almost continuously on operations around the world, so the regiment is now building its own proud history as we head into the future. Over the course of hundreds of years Scottish infantrymen have fought with courage. That has not changed. If you look at the stories behind the many combat honours for bravery under fire that Royal Regiment of Scotland soldiers have been awarded over the past decade, including 13 Military Crosses and one Queen's Gallantry Medal, it is very humbling."

### Viking treasures found in Galloway



Historic Environment Scotland.

More than ten centuries after being buried in a field in Galloway, conservators are releasing images that reveal the contents of a pot of Viking treasure for the first time. Although the objects are not currently on display, a series of images will give the public a chance to see the Viking treasure for the first time, following a painstaking conservation project to remove and conserve the rare items, which date from 9th-10th centuries AD. The cache of objects were, until recently, contained in a 'Carolingian' (West European) vessel, or pot, which was part of a wider hoard, amounting to around a hundred items, which includes a large number of silver ingots and armrings, a beautifully-preserved cross, and an ornate gold pin in the likeness of a bird. Richard Welander, of Historic Environment Scotland, said: "Before removing the objects we took the pot CT scanned, in order that we could get a rough idea of what was in there and best plan the delicate extraction process. That exercise offered us a tantalising glimpse but didn't prepare me for what was to

come. These stunning objects provide us with an unparalleled insight to what was going on in the minds of the Vikings in Galloway all those years ago. They tell us about the sensibilities of the time, reveal displays of regal rivalries, and some of the objects even betray an underlying sense of humour, which the Vikings aren't always renowned for!" The hoard is the most important Viking discovery in Scotland for over 100 years. The items from within the vessel, which may have been accumulated over a number of generations, reveal objects from across Europe and from other cultures with non-Viking origins. The hoard includes six silver Anglo-Saxon disc brooches of early 9th century date, equal in itself to the largest such hoard of brooches from England, the Pentney hoard in the British Museum. Other material includes a silver penannular brooch from Ireland, Byzantium silk from around modern-day Istanbul, a gold ingot and some gold and crystal objects that have been carefully wrapped in cloth bundles. At the moment, their purpose remains a mystery. While it's clear many of the objects collected have a value as precious metal, the nature of the hoard remains a mystery, and includes objects in base metals and glass beads which have no obvious value. The decision about which material to include in the vessel appears to have been based on complex and highly personal notions of how an individual valued an object as much as the bullion value the objects represented. The hoard will then be offered for allocation to Scottish museums, with the finder eligible for the market value of the find – a cost that will be met by the successful museum. The objects were found by metal detectorist Derek McClennan in a field in Galloway in September 2014.

### Underwater robot probes depths of Loch Ness and finds "Nessie"!



Adrian Shine of the Loch Ness Monster Project and the MUNIN AUV. Photo: VisitScotland.

Time after time the search has been made, and time after time, they've all come back empty handed. However last month, Kongsberg Maritime Ltd, the UK division of Kongsberg Maritime, has achieved the unimaginable and uncovered the elusive Nessie. That is, the long lost model of Nessie which was used during filming of 1970's *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes*. The discovery was made during a survey of Loch Ness, led by Kongsberg Maritime Ltd and supported by The Loch Ness Project and VisitScotland. Operation Groundtruth is the first survey of its kind in Scotland, making use of Kongsberg Maritime Ltd's recently-launched MUNIN AUV (Autonomous Underwater Vehicle). The highly accurate underwater vehicle features groundbreaking sonar and camera equipment, which provide the ability to map vast areas up to a depth of 1,500m at incredibly high resolution. As Loch Ness has a reputation of being

incredibly difficult to survey, the state-of-the-art MUNIN will undoubtedly reveal brand new information regarding the Loch. Uncovering the 46 year old Nessie model was just the beginning. Craig Wallace, senior subsea applications engineer at Kongsberg Maritime Ltd is excited to be back at a favourite location: "Kongsberg Maritime Ltd began surveying Loch Ness with some of the world's first multibeam sonar back in 1987. Over the years, the company has returned many times, bringing the latest technology to uncover the Loch's mysteries. The MUNIN AUV offers significant benefits in terms of low utilisation costs, high reliability, an excellent standard of data quality and easy deployment. We expect to uncover new information from the Loch during this survey, as MUNIN is the most advanced low logistics AUV on the market and is the first of the next generation AUVs from Kongsberg Maritime. Merging the cutting edge technology from the commercial sector whilst maintaining the robust reliability from the military market, the vehicle is providing insight to the Loch's depths as never before imagined. Finding Nessie was, of course, an unexpected bonus!" Loch Ness is the largest body of water in the UK with an official maximum depth, which still remains in place, is 754ft (229.8m).

### Scotland's last castle to be built up for sale



A 40 bedroom former stately home said to be haunted by a ghost called Betty has been put back up for sale after a plan to turn into a hotel was abandoned. Carbisdale Castle in Sutherland, north west Highlands is back on the market for a reduced £900,000, reduced from offers over £1.2m. The castle is category B listed, and was built between 1906 and 1917 for the Duchess of Sutherland. It is believed to be the last castle to be built in Scotland. Having had a disagreement with her in-laws, the Duchess decreed that the clock tower, which could be seen from their lands, would only have a clock face on three sides, as she did not wish to give them the 'time of day', earning it the nickname 'The Castle of Spite'. The castle was bought in 1933 by the Salvesen family, who although Scottish were of Norwegian extraction. During World War II, Colonel Salvesen provided a safe haven at the castle for King Haakon VII of Norway and Crown Prince Olav, during the Nazi occupation of Norway. Also in war time the castle was used to hold important meetings including the Carbisdale Conference in 1941, where agreements were reached on the future of Norway after the war. When Colonel Salvesen died his son inherited Carbisdale, and gifted the castle and its contents to the Scottish Youth Hostel Association which began to run the castle as a youth hostel in 1945.

# THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

*Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past*

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

**1** - Act of Union of English and Scottish parliaments proclaimed. **1707**

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

**5** - King George VI officially opened the Empire Exhibition in Glasgow. **1938**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



**12** - The Black Watch regiment was commissioned under General Wade to police the Highlands. **1725**

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

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

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

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

**15** - Mary, Queen of Scots, married Earl of Bothwell - at 4am. **1567**

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

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

**16** - James Boswell's *Life of Johnson* published. **1791**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

# CALLING THE CLANS

Welcome to the *Scottish Banner's* Calling the Clans section. Our "Clansified" listing of Scottish Clans, Societies and Clubs. If you would like to add your Clan to these pages please contact your nearest *Scottish Banner* office for full details. Our address and phone numbers 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 Anderson Society, Ltd**

Cordially invites membership inquiries from anyone bearing the surname Anderson (any spelling) and their descendants.

**For More Information:**  
James N. Anderson  
3734 Hunting Ridge Dr.  
Liburn, GA 30047

email: admin@clanandersonsociety.org  
Visit our website at www.clanandersonsociety.org



**CLAN BELL INTERNATIONAL**

Cordially invites membership inquiries from persons Named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. Computerized Genealogical data base available to help members in their research. Quarterly newsletter published. Tests hosted at major Scottish games from coast to coast.

Your Bell ancestry is important!  
Visit our web site: www.clanbell.org  
Contact our Membership Chairperson:  
Alta Jean Ginn  
12147 Holly Knoll Circle, Great Falls, VA 22066  
Phone: 703-430-6745 or e-mail: aginn@cox.net

**Clan Campbell Society (North America)**

A society for Campbells, members of recognized septs, their descendants, and their friends. Recognized septs include: Ballantine, Burnett, Burns, Caddell, Calder, Harris, Hastings, Loudon, MacArthur, MacConachie, MacDaid, MacIver, McKellar, MacKellar, MacKessock, MacNichol, MacTavish, MacThomas, Moore, Muir, Orr, Pinkerton, Thomas, Thompson.



Prospective members inquire to:  
Secretary (secretary@ccsm.org)  
Clan Campbell Society, (NA)  
963 Plum Tree Lane  
Fenton, MI 48430  
www.ccsm.org

**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  
secretary.victoria@clandonaldustralia.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: Mrs Christina Milne Wilson  
Contact: Secretary  
secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com  
A hereditary clan society formed by the children of Norman Home Macdonald and Johan McKenzie Macdonald (nee Munro) who departed Scotland in 1854.



**CLAN CARMICHAEL USA**

Membership inquiries:  
Kathy Gambill, Membership Chairperson  
3298 S. Boddow Street  
Terre Haute, IN 47802  
Email inquiry:  
membership@carmichael.org

**Clan Donnachaidh Society**

Duncan Robertson Reid

Collier	Colyear	Connochie
Conochie	Connon	Dobbie
Dobbin	Dobie	Dobson
Dobinson	Dobson	Donschie
Donschy	Duncanson	Donschie
Hobson	Inches	Kynoch
MacConachie	MacConchie	Macconich
MacConochy	MacConochie	MacDonachie
MacClashan	MacIver	MacIver
MacJames	MacLagan	MacCollich
MacConachie	MacRobbie	MacRoberts
MacRobie	MacWilliam	Reed
Robbie	Roberts	Robison
Robson	Roy	

For information contact:  
Ms. Marjorie Robertson Hale  
P.O. Box 608, Brisbane, CA 94065-0608



**Clan Davidson Society in Australia Inc.**

CHIEF: Grant Davidson of Davidson cordially invites to membership all who bear one of the Clan Names, and all who can trace their descent from an ancestor bearing one of these Names: Davidson; Davison; Dawson; Davis; Dawie; Dawey; Davy; Day; Dye; Dyon; Dawson; Day; Dain; Daine; Dain; Deason; Dees; Dee; Dey; Daw; Dow; Dhat; Kay; Key; Key; Keys; MacDade; MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDaven; MacDagnie; MacDagny; MacDhat; McKoddie.

In addition we welcome into membership all who have a family association with the Clan Davidson.

Applications may be made on our website www.clanidavidson.org.au or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P. P.O. Box 519 Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 dhill@bigpond.net.au 0431 527 662



**Armstrong Clan Society**

Arms awarded by the Lord Lyon in 1985. We invite descendants of Armstrongs, Coziers, Fairburns, Groziers and Nixons thru their paternal or maternal lines to join this famous family. We are tax-exempt and publish the ARMSTRONG CHRONICLES quarterly for our world-wide membership.

For information write: Armstrong Clan Society  
128 Essex DR. • Summerville, SC 29485  
Be sure to visit our website at www.armstrong.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 Egin and Kincardine, is a non-profit organization established to create kinship amongst its family members and promote interest in the Family of Bruce and its history. Membership is open to persons who qualify by surname, by descent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle, Camuthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.

Membership inquiries should be directed to:  
William A. Bruce, FSA Scot, Polly A. (Bruce) Tilford, Secretary  
President 5561 Earl Young Road  
5556 27th Ave. So. Bloomington, IN 47408  
Minneapolis, MN 55417-1934 www.familyofbruce.org

**The Armstrong Clan**  
(Reaffirmed 1999)

JOIN over 2,500 Armstrongs world-wide in the quest for our ROOTS in the non-profit "yearly" organization having 31 years' collection of Archives in the LIBRARY (complete with "glow" and MUSEUM at GILNOCKIE TOWER, Canobie, Dunfermline, SCO, from the 60 ft top of which there is a magnificent view over the Anglo-Scottish Border. The Clan Association also administers Clan Armstrong Centre Ltd, a registered charity.

FOUNDER	CONVENERS	USA	CANADA
E.H.Armstrong FSA (Scot)	M.E.Armstrong	M.W.Armstrong	
Thyme, Riverside Park	PO Box 209	267 Roxton Dr.	
CANONIE, DG140UY	James City, PA	Waterloo, ON	
Dunfermline, Scotland	16734-0209	N2T1R2	

tel:arndie@kancorp.net • mearm@ipern.com  
mearm@armstrong@mail.sprint  
www.armstrong-clan-association.org



**Clan Buchanan Society International, Inc.**

Invites membership of all Buchanans and of other septs:

Bahanes	Leavy	MacGourey	MacMoris	Murchison
Coleman	Lennie	MacCubie	MacMurchie	Richardson
Cormack	Macalorich	MacCubbin	MacMurphy	Risk
Constant	Macalman	MacDonlevy	Macneor	Rusk
Dewar	Macadeor	MacGeorge	MacQuit	Spittal
Donlevy	Macastan	MacGibbon	MacQuilty	Walter
Dove	Macassellan	MacGilbert	MacQuimby	Wason
Dow	MacCalman	MacGowrie	MacWattie	Watson
Gibb	MacCallmond	MacGibbon	MacWhirter	Walters
Gibby	MacCallmond	MacGibby	MacWhorter	Watt
Gibson	MacCallmond	MacGibson	MacWhorter	Watt
Gibson	MacCallmond	MacGibson	MacWhorter	Watt
Gilbert	MacCallmond	MacGibson	MacWhorter	Watt
Gilbertson	MacCallmond	MacGibson	MacWhorter	Watt
Harger	MacCallmond	MacGibson	MacWhorter	Watt
MacCallmond	MacCallmond	MacGibson	MacWhorter	Watt

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our website: www.clanarthur.org



**Clan Arthur Association, USA**

MacArthur, McArthur, Arthur, McCarter

Robert C. McArthur, President, Clan Scrivener  
Contact: Nancy McArthur Cochener  
10821 E. Glengate Circle  
Wichita, KS 67206  
ncochener@cfind.com / 1-316-733-5392



**Clan Cameron Australia (NSW)**

http://www.clan-cameron.org.au

President: James L. Cameron jcam2812@yahoo.com  
Secretary: Terry Cameron jr.la.cameron@gmail.com



**Clan Baird Society Worldwide**

Cordially invites membership inquiries from anyone bearing the name of Baird, Board, Boaird, Bard, Barde, Bardr, Barr, Bayard, Beard, Beard, Biard or Byrd and their descendants. please contact:  
Vincent Baird, President  
886 East 930 North  
Tooele, UT 87074  
E-mail: vbaird@trilobite.net  
website: www.clanbaird.net



**THE CLAN CAMPBELL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA**

The Society exists for the benefit of all its members.

All Campbells or descendants of Campbells and members of Clan Septs are most welcome to join the Society. Branches exist in NSW, Vic, Qld & SA.


For information contact the National Secretary Judy Campbell  
Ph: (08) 8260 3637  
Email: campbelljr@optusnet.com.au  
www.clan-campbell.org.au

Membership cordially invited from the descendants of all Blairs

Visit our Web Site at www.clanblair.org



Charles Diman  
Membership Chairman  
3413 Sunnybrook Dr.  
Charlotte, NC 28210  
Email: clanmembership@clanblair.org



**Clan Donald Canada**

Glenda McDonnell  
High Commissioner  
19680 Williams St.  
Williamstown, ON, N0C 2J0, Canada  
(613) 347-2293  
glendangm@sympatico.ca

Annual membership \$20.00 Life Membership \$500.00  
"No h" ebbness gas Chlainn Donnald"

**CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY**

Chief Gilbert Robertson of Struan

Membership invited to all who share the Sept names: Duncan, Robertson, Reid, Collier, Dobson, Hobson, MacConachie, MacIver, MacJames, MacLagan, MacLagan, Mack, and all variations.


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Australia: New St. Wales \* Victoria \* Queensland \* Western Australia  
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Learn more about Clan Donnachaidh's our history \* Membership \* our Clan Museum in Brue, Scotland \* the DNA Project \* locate a Branch near you. Visit our website:  
http://www.donnachaidh.com/  
Facebook: The Clan Donnachaidh Society  
Email: IYC@donnchaidh.com



for information on  
**Clan Donald Nova Scotia**

Contact the commissioner  
RONALD J. MACDONALD LL.B.  
Crown Attorney's Office  
195 Main Street, Antigonish, NS B2G 2B8  
Tel: (902) 863-523



**Clan Dunbar of The House of Gospatric the Earl**

Eligible blood or marriage, all descendants of The Gospatric: Dunbar, Clugston, Corbett, Dundas, Edgar, Grey, Heryng, Home, Knox, Nisbett, Poddie, Strickland, Washington, Wedderburn and all spelling variations of each name. Also all other families who were associated with The Gospatric. Write:  
Chieftain James E. Motters, Jr.  
2634 Aurale Dr.  
Escondido, CA 92025

**CLAN DONALD QUEENSLAND**

Commissioner: Neil Macdonald  
PHE 0412 090990  
29 Pinewood St, Goeburg Qld 4034  
Email: clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au  
Web: www.clandonaldqld.org

*There is no joy without Clan Donald*



**DURIE**

The Durie Family Association and the Chief of the Name and Arms, Andrew Durie of Durie, CBE DL, invites membership from all variant spellings of the name including Dury, Durre, Durie etc. Genealogy information & enquiries welcome  
Visit: www.duriefamily.co.uk



**Clan Donald, U.S.A., Inc.**

Membership is open only to persons of the blood of Macdonald, however spelled or of the blood of a recognized associate family or is related by marriage or legal adoption to either of these write for more info and a complete Sept list.  
Eliane Carey-Schmitz  
1485 Casitas Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91103  
celticw@sbglobal.net

**Edmonstone Clan Society**

Invites membership to anyone of the surname or variations:- Edmiston/e, Edmondston, Edmanson, Edmeston, Edmonson, Edmundston, etc Contact

3 Laguna Ave,  
Kirwan Qld 4817  
61 (0) 74755 4370  
m.edmiston@bigpond.com



**Clan MacInnes**  
International Association of Clan MacInnes (Aonghais)  
All spelling variants of MacInnes are welcome worldwide: (Mc)Angus, (Mc)Kinnis, (Mc)Innis, (Mc)Ginnis, (Mc)Ninch, (Mc)Neish, (Mc)Carse, (Mc)Masters, (Mc)Innes, (Mac)Masters  
[www.clanmacinnes.org](http://www.clanmacinnes.org)  
Eric Paery, Director-Member Services 14 Jakos Lane, Daxder, ME 04930; eric@macinnes.org

**Clan Mackay**  
Society of the U.S.A.  
There are about 240 different spellings of the surname and its Septs, (branches). Some of the more common ones, whether Mc or Mac are:  
ALLEN MACCOT MACKIE MCFALL NELSON  
BAIN MACEYE MACKOY MCGEE PAUL  
BAYNE MACGAW MACPHAIL MCKEY PAULSON  
KATY MACOGE MACQUADE MCKEE POLE  
KEY MACGHEE MACQUE MCKEY POLLESON  
KEE MACOHEE MACQUEY MCKEE POLLARD  
KEE MACOHEE MACQUOD MCFRIL QUAY  
KEE MACKAI MACKVAIL MCKUAD QUET  
MACRAE MACKAY MAGEE MCKUAD REAT  
MACCAW MACKIE MCKAY MORGAN SCOBIE  
MACCAJODH MACKIE MCCOY NEELSON WILLIAMSON  
Doug McCoy National Treasurer  
1898 Prince Drive  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043  
treasurer@clanmackayusa.org

**Clan MacKenzie**  
Society in the Americas  
All Mackenzies and sept, their descendants and friends are invited to join this charitable membership association.  
Victoria MacKenzie, Secretary  
P.O. Box 313  
Vancouver, WA 98666  
Email: vmac3205@comcast.net  
website: www.clanmackenzie.com

**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](http://www.clanmackenzie.org.au)

**CLAN MACKINNON SOCIETY**  
Clan MacKinnon Society  
P. O. Box 832, Wilton, CA 95693  
Email: info@thmackinnon.com  
Website: themackinnon.com

**Clan Mackintosh**  
Membership in Clan Mackintosh of North America is available to all persons bearing the name of any of the clans or sept of Clan Mackintosh. Associate memberships are also available to those interested in the clan.  
Canada: Mr. David J. Elder, 46 Dunvegan Dr., Chatham, Ont. N7M 4Z8  
U.S.A.: Margaret McIntosh, Secretary, 301 Smugglers View, Jeffersonville, VT 05464

**Clan MacLaren**  
MacLaren, MacLaurin, Lawrence, Lawson Low(e), Law(e), Low(e)ry, Patterson MacPatrick MacRory and other spellings  
Barbara Allen Gard, President  
1100 N Street #3C, Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 448-8529  
E-mail: Barbara-gard@calpsy.org

**Clan MacLellan**  
Larry N. McLeland, CPA- Treasurer  
3372 Fourth Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92103  
mrlmac@earthlink.net  
(619) 681-1965  
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](http://www.clanmaclellan.net)

**Clan MacLeod Societies of Australia**  
Membership is open to MacLeods, Septs (of any spelling) and descendants.  
Askey MacAndie MacCorkill  
Beaton MacAskill MacCrimmon  
Bethune MacAulay MacGillechallum  
Caskie MacCabe MacFraid Norie  
Harold MacCaig MacWilliam Toimie  
Lewis MacClure Norman Williamson  
NSW, ACT & Qld - Peter Macleod 02 4397 3161  
Victoria & Tas - David Dickie 03 9337 4384  
South Australia - Nicole Walters 0415 854 836  
Western Australia - Ruth MacLeod 08 9364 6334  
Email: peter.macleod@exemail.com.au

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[www.clanmacleodusa.org](http://www.clanmacleodusa.org)  
PO Box 70928, West Valley City, UT 84170

**Clan Macnachten**  
Association Worldwide  
Sir Malcolm F. Macnaghten, Bart  
Chief of Clan  
Chairman - Peter McNaughton - 360-688-8451  
We welcome membership from all Scots named MacNaughton or any of the Septs on our website; contact the Membership Secretary, Vice-Chairman or Regional Commissioner in:  
USA - Membership Secretary - Mary Nivison Burton 541-367-2282 membersec@clanmacnaughton.net  
UK - Vice-Chairman - David McNaughton +1447 525 36 8287 vcuk@clanmacnaughton.net  
Australia - Regional Commissioner - Bruce McNaught +317-326-62047 bruce@brucemcnaught.com  
W. Canada - Regional Commissioner - Miles MacNaughton 403-703-8566 milescommac@aol.com  
[www.clanmacnaughton.net](http://www.clanmacnaughton.net)

**Clan Macneil**  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
Invites all Macneils... regardless of surname spelling, some of which are listed below:  
MCNEILL MACNEIL MACNEAL MACNIEL  
MCNEELY NEAL NEELSON O'NEILL  
to join us in preserving our heritage. Contact: Rhoswyn Darby McNeil, VP, Membership, P.O. Box 230693, Montgomery AL 36123-0693 (204) 834-0612. E-mail rdarby@macneil.com

**Clan MacNeil Association**  
OF AUSTRALIA  
For all enquiries about the clan and membership contact.  
John McNeil  
21 Laurel Avenue, Linden Park, SA 5065  
Email kistmud@chariot.net.au

**Clan MacNicol**  
Nicolson, Nicholson, Nicol, Nichol, MacNicol, Nicoll, Nicolls and similar.  
Chief: John MacNeacall of MacNeacall and Scorrybreac  
For membership inquiries contact: Ross Nicolson 22 Bellevue Drive Carlingford NSW 2118  
[www.clanmacnicol.com](http://www.clanmacnicol.com)

**CLAN MACNICOL SOCIETY, INC.**  
Member of The Highland Clan MacNeacall Federation  
Welcomes persons of the names Nicolson, Nicol, MacNicol in all spellings  
For membership inquiries, contact:  
USA: Jeremy Nicholson, P.O. Box 501166, Atlanta, GA 31150-1166  
CANADA: Jacques McNeill, 202 Berioz Apt 203, Verdun, QC H3E 1B8 Canada  
[www.clanmacnicol.org](http://www.clanmacnicol.org) Email: jnicol@videotron.ca

**Clan Macpherson Association**  
Clan Macpherson welcomes enquiries from Macphersons and members of our Associated families. For information contact your local representative, our web site [www.clan-macpherson.org/branches](http://www.clan-macpherson.org/branches), or the 'Official Clan Macpherson Association' Facebook page  
Australia: John I. Macpherson grymac@scotnet.com.au phone +61 2 4071 1123  
Canada: John C Gillies jcgillies@rogers.com phone +1 705 480 200  
New Zealand: Tim McPherson timm@stra.co.nz phone +64 3 234 5058  
Scotland: Bill Macpherson bill.macpherson@btinternet.com phone +44 1577 830 430  
USA: Ken Croker ckrocker@vll.net phone +1 559 658 6189  
Clan Macpherson, Canada: macpherson@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 1540 673 332 (1 April to 30 October)

**Clan MacQuarrie**  
The Red Tartan Army  
New membership is most welcome!  
E-mail inquiries to Frank Fisher: [fyfisher@roadrunner.com](mailto:fyfisher@roadrunner.com)  
[www.clanmacquarrie](http://www.clanmacquarrie)

**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.  
In Australia contact the Secretary by phone on 02-9798-5358, email: elmacrae@live.com.au.  
In New Zealand Phone 07-878-6642 or email: sue.tregoweth@ill@stra.co.nz.

**Clan MacRae Society of North America**  
Granted Arms in 2008.  
We invite MacRaes, of all spelling variations, and their descendants to join our membership in our exciting quest for a Chief. Contact: Mrs Bruce Macrae, Treasurer, 306 Surrey Road, Savannah, GA 31410 (912) 897-3986.  
[WWW.MACRAE.ORG](http://WWW.MACRAE.ORG)

**CLAN MAITLAND SOCIETY**  
CHIEF: IAN MAITLAND THE EARL OF LAUDERDALE  
WE ARE ALL RELATED!  
Contact your local society  
NORTH AMERICA: Rosemary Maitland Thom rthom@prdcare@aol.com [www.clanmaitlandna.org](http://www.clanmaitlandna.org)  
AUSTRALIA: Carole Maitland 4230 Colac - Lavers Hill Road Weapoinah, VIC. 3237 carole\_maitland@yahoo.com.au  
NEW ZEALAND: Judette Maitland 33 Disley Street, Highbury, Wellington 6012. NZ judette@xtra.co.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](http://www.clanmaitland.org.uk)

**Clan MacTavish, U.S.A.**  
Under the patronage of Chief Steven MacTavish of Dunstrie invites you to join us in celebrating our history. Cash, Holmes, MacTavish, Stephenson, Stevens, Thompson, Thomson, Todd & other variants.  
[www.clanmactavish.org](http://www.clanmactavish.org)  
Membership Info: [Clanmactavishusa@gmail.com](mailto:Clanmactavishusa@gmail.com) or PO Box 686, Milford, OH 45150-0686

**CLAN MATHESON SOCIETY**  
Chief of the Clan Major Sir Fergus Matheson of Matheson  
7th Baronet of Lochalsh  
Invites all Mathesons/Mathesons or Kin to join our Clan Society. Contact the Chief's Lieutenants in USA  
U.S.A.: Malcolm Matheson, III P.O. Box 307, The Plains, VA 20198 Tel: (540) 687-6836, Fax: (540) 687-5569 [clanmatheson@aol.com](mailto:clanmatheson@aol.com)  
[www.clanmatheson.org](http://www.clanmatheson.org)

**Clan Maxwell Society of Canada**  
Membership inquiries welcomed from all Maxwells and Sept families to:  
Jacqueline R. Rowan  
8 Chadwin Drive, Lindsay, ON K9V 0E9  
e-mail: rowan1@sympatico.ca  
Phone: (705) 328-9034

**Clan Menzies Society**  
Membership and inquiries invited.  
US: Jerry Minnis PO Box 397 Vernon, AZ 85940-0397 928-537-1902 [djminis@frontier.net](mailto:djminis@frontier.net)  
For joining details go to [www.menzies.org](http://www.menzies.org)

**Clan Moffat Society**  
Madam Jean Moffat, Chief of the Name and Arms of the Family of Moffat, welcomes Moffats of all spellings. Spouses and those legally adopted by Moffats are also eligible for membership.  
Website: <http://www.ClanMoffat.org/>

**Clan Montgomery Society International**  
Join a Thousand Year Tradition  
Barbara J. Carver, Secretary  
56975 Fairchild Road  
Macomb, MI 48042-1516  
Secretary: [clanmontgomery.org](mailto:clanmontgomery.org)  
[www.clanmontgomery.org](http://www.clanmontgomery.org)

**Clan Morrison Society of North America**  
Edward Holcomb, Jr., Chairman  
1524 David Hills Avenue  
Hendersonville, NC 28791  
Arthur Morrison  
Membership Treasurer  
220 So. Orchard Drive  
Burlington, CA 91506  
[www.clanmorrison.net](http://www.clanmorrison.net)  
Membership cordially invited from those who are connected with this great Clan, i.e., Morrison, Morrison, Gilsour, Gilsor, Gilsore, Morrison or descendants of eligible name.

**Murray Clan Society of North America**  
Balneaves, Neaves, Dinsmore, Dunsmore, Fleming, Moray, Murrie, Piper, Pypier, Small, Smale, Small, Smcal, Spalding.  
[www.clanmurray.org](http://www.clanmurray.org)  
Stanley B. Fleming 515 Watt Street Fergus, Ontario N1M 2K3  
Robert W. Murray 883 Evergreen Drive Wyomissing, PA 19689

**Clan Nisbet Nesbitt/Nisbet Society North America**  
Invites membership to anyone of the surname or any spelling variation and all interested parties. Go to our web site to sign up for membership at [www.itydeit.org](http://www.itydeit.org) under membership or contact our Secretary/Treas. for an application  
Nicholas D. Nesbitt, 154 New Hanby Ave., Westerville, OH 43081, 614-895-0399

**Clan Pollock**  
Among the most ancient families of Scotland. If you are a descendant of Pollock, Pollok, Poek, Poik, Poike, Poisk, Poisik, Poisik, Poisik, Poisik, Poisik - you are cordially invited to contact:  
A. D. Pollock, Jr.  
PO Box 404  
Greenville, KY 42345  
e-mail: [apollock@comcast.net](mailto:apollock@comcast.net)

**CLAN RAMSAY ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA**

Ramsay MEMBERSHIP INVITED  
Dalhousie  
Ramsay of Ramff  
Ramsay

WEST  
Robert A. Ramsay  
5515 N. Fresno St., #214  
Fresno, CA 93710

EAST  
David F. Ramsay  
434 Skinner Blvd.  
Dunedin, FL 34698

**Clan Skene Association, Inc.**

Invites membership from Skene and septa Cariston, Carney/Carnie, Carehill, Dyan, Dyo, Dyer, Hall, Halyard/Hallyard, MacGallard, Rennie, and Skains.

Dorna Comp  
President  
183 Summers Alley  
Summersville, SC 29485  
Email: dkc1027@yahoo.com

**Scottish Associations and Societies**

**Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc.**

Promoter of International Tartan Day, Brisbane, Queensland  
PO Box 3188, South Brisbane 4101  
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All persons of Scottish Descent welcome. [www.aussie-scots.org.au](http://www.aussie-scots.org.au), Email: [secretary@aussie-scots.org.au](mailto:secretary@aussie-scots.org.au), Ph 07 3359 8195

**Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria**

[www.scottishgaelicsocietyvic.org](http://www.scottishgaelicsocietyvic.org)  
Founded in 1905

**Scottish Gaelic Choir:**  
Wednesdays 10:30 am to 12:30 pm during school terms at The Kildara Centre, rear of 39 Stanhope Street, Malvern.

**Language Class:** Wednesdays 7:00 to 8:30 pm during school terms at the Celtic Club, Cnr Queen and Latrobe Streets, Melbourne.

Contact Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277  
Email: [scottishgaelicsocietyvic@gmail.com](mailto:scottishgaelicsocietyvic@gmail.com)

**Ross Clan in Australia**

The clan is active again in Australia for information contact Commander Des Ross (By appointment David Ross Sr Chief of Clan Ross and Balhagowan)

We would be pleased to hear from anyone with Ross Clan heritage and interest contact Commander Des Ross at [lonepiper.ross@gmail.com](mailto:lonepiper.ross@gmail.com)

**The Stewart Society**

Welcomes Stewarts, however spelled, by name, birth, or descent, from all over the world. Annual Gathering in historic, Stewart-related properties in Scotland. Newsletter. Annual magazine.

Please inquire:  
The Secretary  
53 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2HT,  
Tel/Fax 0131 220 4512 [www.stewartssociety.org](http://www.stewartssociety.org)

**The Caledonian Society of Arizona**

Celebrating all things Scottish!  
PO Box 5853  
Scottsdale AZ 85261  
[ArizonaScots.com](http://ArizonaScots.com)  
602.431.0095

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Cry	Fearn	MacGulloch	Taggart	Waters
Deas	Gillanders	MacGulloch	Tarrel	
Deason	Hagart	MacLaggart	Telle	

[www.ClanRossAssociation.org](http://www.ClanRossAssociation.org) • [brunops@aol.com](mailto:brunops@aol.com)  
Membership Secretary Jan of L. Van Ego  
7950 Hwy 60D Commerce City, CO 80002 • (303) 237-0650

**Clan Stewart Society in America, Inc.**

CSSA offers membership to all who are connected with the House of Stewart through any of its branches and persons interested in the history of the Stewarts and Scotland. Address inquiries to:  
Glenn Stewart, Secretary  
1111 Sprague Lane  
Foster City, CA 94044  
[secretary@clanstewart.org](mailto:secretary@clanstewart.org)  
<http://www.clanstewart.org>

**Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia** (The Scottish Gaelic Association of Australia) is a non-profit organisation which supports the language and culture of Scottish Gaels.

Ruaraidh MacAonghais, Neach Cathrach (Convener)  
Phone: 04 0482 2314 E-mail: [flou@ozgaelic.org](mailto:flou@ozgaelic.org)  
Web: [www.ozgaelic.org](http://www.ozgaelic.org)  
Mail: PO Box A2259, SYDNEY SOUTH 1235

**SCOTTISH TARTANS MUSEUM**

86 East Main Street  
Franklin, North Carolina 28734  
[www.scottishtartans.org](http://www.scottishtartans.org)

The Scottish Tartans Museum is a non-profit Heritage center dedicated to the continuing Tradition of Highland Dress, featuring samples of tartan and kilts from the 1700s to today. Our gift shop offers a full line of Highland Dress, including tailor made kilts and many other gifts.

(828) 524-7472 [tartans@scottishtartans.org](mailto:tartans@scottishtartans.org)

**Clan Scott Society**

Membership is invited from all descendants of the surname Scott; associated families Balwearie, Bucklew, Geddes, Harden, Laidlaw, and Langlands (however spelled); as well as those who have an interest in the heritage of the Middle March of the Borders of Scotland.

Clan Scott Society  
PO Box 13021  
Austin, TX 78711-3021  
USA  
[Info@ClanScottSociety.org](mailto:Info@ClanScottSociety.org) • [www.ClanScottSociety.org](http://www.ClanScottSociety.org)

**Clan Sutherland Society of North America, Inc.**

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

Mr. Arthur V. Sutherland  
3509 Meadowbrook Rd.  
Murrysville, PA 15668  
e-mail: [arvs@windstream.net](mailto:arvs@windstream.net)

**Daughters of Scotia**

A 100 plus year old fraternal order for women of Scottish birth or descent or married to men of Scottish birth or descent whose purpose is to keep alive our Scottish heritage and customs.

For membership information contact:  
Ms. Susan Wallace  
Grand Recording Secretary  
14088 S. 39th Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85044  
480-329-4298  
[mswallace@com.net](mailto:mswallace@com.net) <http://www.daughtersofscotia.org>

**Saint Andrew's Society of Los Angeles, Inc.**

Inquiries are invited  
John E. Lowry, FSA Scot  
President  
818-686-4968  
[jemmettlowry@aol.com](mailto:jemmettlowry@aol.com)  
[www.saintandrews-la.org](http://www.saintandrews-la.org)

**CLAN SCOTT AUSTRALIA GROUP**

Clan Chief: The Duke of Buccleuch K.B.E  
Commissioner: Heather de Sylva

Membership welcome from Scotts and Septs: Balwearie, Harden, Laidlaw, Geddes & Langlands.  
Info: Secretary, PO Box 320, Maclean, NSW 2463  
E: [heatherdesylva@bigpond.com](mailto:heatherdesylva@bigpond.com)  
W: [clanscottaustaliagroup.moonfruit.com](http://clanscottaustaliagroup.moonfruit.com)

**Clan Sutherland Society of Australia**

The Society welcomes membership of all bearers of the Sutherland name and any of their septa - (Cheyne, Duffin, Frederith, Mowat (or any variation of the spelling)).

Marie Hodgkinson  
212 MacKenzie Street  
Toowoomba, 4350  
Queensland, Australia  
e-mail: [william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au](mailto:william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au)  
<http://goldenvale.wix.com/clansutherlandians>

**Illinois Saint Andrew Society**

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For more information on Society membership and programs or The Scottish Home, contact  
Gus Noble, President  
708-447-5092 or [www.chicago-scots.org](http://www.chicago-scots.org)

**The Society of St. Andrew of Scotland (Queensland) Limited**

ABN 30 093 578 860  
Invites membership of all people of Scottish descent or association.

The Secretary, P.O. Box 3233, South Brisbane, BC, QLD, 4101, Australia. [www.standrewsociety.com](http://www.standrewsociety.com)

**Clan Shaw Society**

Invites membership or inquiries from all: Shaw, Aysen, Adamson, Eason, MacAy, MacLay, Shiach, Sheach, Sheath, Seth, Seth, Skairth, Scairth and Shay.

Mike Shaw  
Secretary  
2403 West Cranford  
Denison, TX 78020

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Visit [www.turnbullclan.com](http://www.turnbullclan.com) or Write to [secretary@turnbullclan.com](mailto:secretary@turnbullclan.com)

**The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne Inc.**

Commemorative functions to honour the Scottish National Poet and world recognized bard and to study his poems, songs, writings and philosophy have been held continuously in Victoria since the arrival of the first permanent Scots in 1836. The current Robert Burns Club was established in 1955. The club became a member of the Robert Burns World Wide Federation in 1991 and has continuously functioned from that time. The objects of the club are:  
Promote the works of Robert Burns  
Celebrate Scottish Culture and Dancing  
Conduct monthly Social Activities  
Present an Annual Burns Supper

For membership information contact:  
Secretary, Box 746  
031-9543 1540  
[www.robertburnsmelbourne.com.au](http://www.robertburnsmelbourne.com.au)

**St. Andrew's Society of Vermont**

P.O. Box 484  
Essex Junction, VT 05453

Invites membership inquiries.  
David Campbell - President (802) 878-8663

**Clan Sinclair Australia**

Membership and enquiries from all Sinclairs, Sinclair Septs and Sinclair descendants

For further info contact  
President Wayne Sinclair (03) 9873 4761  
Secretary Liane Sinclair (03) 9348 2663

E: [clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com](mailto:clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com)

**Clan WARDLAW Association**  
Founded 2004

Worldwide organization for all Wardlaw or related families. We invite you to join us. Email: [clanwardlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:clanwardlaw@yahoo.com)

'Wardlaw Ivermair!'  
[www.clanwardlaw.com](http://www.clanwardlaw.com)  
Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

**Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.**

P.O. Box 457  
Pinehurst, NC 28370

Welcomes membership of anyone interested in the exchange of people and ideas between Scotland and the United States.

Write or phone for our free brochure.  
[www.scottishheritageusa.org](http://www.scottishheritageusa.org)  
email: [shusa@embarqmail.com](mailto:shusa@embarqmail.com)  
(910) 295-4448

**Victorian Scottish Union**  
Established 1905

Umbrella group representing the interest of Scottish Clans and Societies in Victoria. Affiliated Clans & Societies for 2013-2014:

Bellarat Highland Dancing	Geelong Highland Gathering Association
Balmoral Highland Dancing Society	Geelong Scottish Dance
Begonia City Highland Dancing Society	Geelong Celtic Dancers
Brunswick Scottish Society	Hansham & District Highland Dancing Club
Clan Cameron	Kilmore Celtic Festival
Clan Donald Victoria	Maryborough Highland Society
Clan Grant	Marrington Peninsula Caledonian Society
Clan Lament Australia	Scottish Country Dance Victoria Society
Clan Macdonald Victoria Inc	St Andrew's First Aid
Clan Mackenzie of Australia	The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne
Clan Maclean Australia	The Royal Caledonian Society
Clan Sinclair Association	Warmanbool & District Caledonian Society
Glenmaggie Scottish Folk Festival	Warmanbool Caledonian Highland Dancing Society

Jan Macdonald: Secretary  
Victorian Scottish Union  
T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930  
E: [secretary@victorianscottishunion.com](mailto:secretary@victorianscottishunion.com)  
[www.victorianscottishunion.com](http://www.victorianscottishunion.com)

**Clan Sinclair Association, Inc. (U.S.A.)**  
All Sinclairs and Septs invited to join:  
Sinclair, Sinclair, St. Clair, Sinkler

For further info contact

President  
Melvin Sinclair  
224 Bransfield Road,  
Greenville, SC 29615  
Mel@ClanSinclairSC.org

Secretary/Treasurer  
Stacy Barker  
209 The Glades  
Chapel Hill, NC 27517  
email: [StacyBarker@aol.com](mailto:StacyBarker@aol.com)

**CLAN YOUNG**

Ms. L. Young,  
Clan Young Canada,  
[4scottishbodies@gmail.com](mailto:4scottishbodies@gmail.com)

Mr. W. Sheffield,  
Clan Young U.S.A.,  
[warren.sheffield@hotmail.com](mailto:warren.sheffield@hotmail.com)

Mr. R. Young,  
Clan Young Australia,  
[rby@clanyoungaustralia.org](mailto:rby@clanyoungaustralia.org)

**The Scottish Australian Heritage Council**

Founded at a meeting held in Sydney 18 June 1981  
Welcomes membership from all Australians of Scottish descent.

Applications for membership can be obtained from:  
The Hon Secretary, SAHC  
Susan Cooke tel: 02 6255 6117  
Email: [scdfrida@bigpond.com](mailto:scdfrida@bigpond.com)  
[www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au](http://www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au)

# Rambling Scotland *Morven, Caithness*

Text and photos by: Nick Drainey

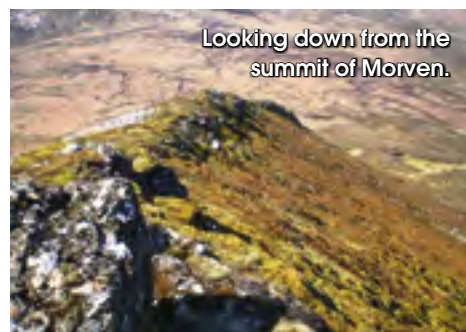


Looking from the summit over Maiden Pap.

**It doesn't really matter where you go, what counts is getting out there, but for some of the best opportunities for escapism in all of Scotland, Caithness is hard to beat. Wide open spaces dotted with lochans stretch to the horizon, interrupted only by pointed mountains and the odd Bronze Age cairn.**

confidence despite its diminutive size. Once you have got to the top the wide summit is all yours and the type of view which was once described to me as like being in an airplane. The Flow Country is laid out to the north, a vast carpet of heather and bog with hundreds of lochans dropped in. This is the largest expanse of blanket bog left in Europe and the 1,500 square miles is viewed by many as the last real wilderness in Scotland. Beyond lie the Orkney Islands with the mountains of Sutherland to the north west. Maiden Pap looks diminished from above, to the east. Once you have picked out these landmarks the overwhelming sense is of vast emptiness. A few wind farms are visible but the not many. The bog and moorland is largely untouched except by those hunting game, whose catch must be plentiful. Below

**Refresh and enliven your senses in Scotland, a country perfect for walking. Whether you want a gentle stroll in the countryside among the trees and rivers, a breezy coastal stroll along sandy beaches or a walk through the wild mountain and loch scenery, Scotland has all of this in abundance. Nick Drainey will be taking readers on some of his favourite walks around the country and this month visit's Morven in Caithness, Scottish Highlands. Morven is the highest point in Caithness and a very fine and steep-sided conical peak. It is a wonderful viewpoint, standing in a remote landscape high above the Flow Country and desolate moorland.**

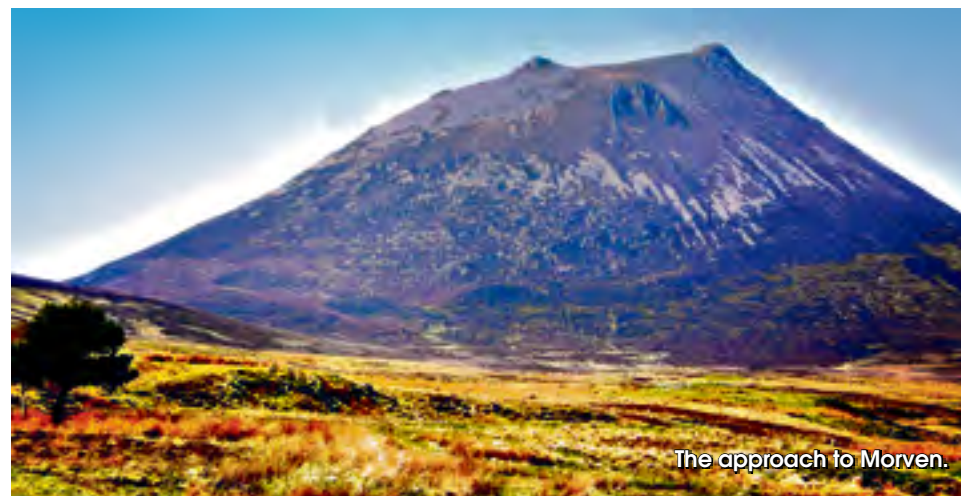


Looking down from the summit of Morven.

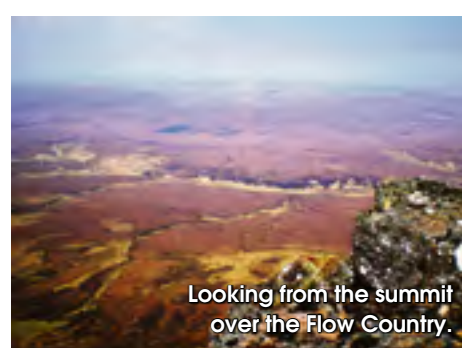
all behind. Once north of the Dornoch Firth, the A9 stops being a major thoroughfare and gradually calms down into a winding road where speed is less important as you thread through beautiful countryside.

#### Another level of remoteness

By the time you reach the old herring harbour of Dunbeath it seems there can't be much of Scotland left, and you would be right – it is less than an hour to John o' Groats. But a left turn down a single track road brings another level of remoteness; forget a radio or mobile phone reception and enjoy the change from rough farmland to open moorland as you drive the six miles to Braemore. The road ends here and is replaced by estate tracks which thread through the wilderness like snakes. The route up Morven, however, is over rough ground with a path at first but then the need to follow a map and pick the best way you can through the heather. Although Morven is only a shade over 2,300ft the ground is tough going and you need to be fully kitted out with mountain walking gear and prepared for any weather. The first section is deceptively easy compared to the uphill walking to come and after just over three miles you reach a lonely cottage at Corrichoich, passing Scaraben and the impossibly pointed Maiden Pap. Finally, the rocky outcrops of Smean rise to the left with wide expanses of moorland all around. Golden eagles can be spotted - people are definitely rarer. It is at this point the grass path disappears and you need to



The approach to Morven.



Looking from the summit over the Flow Country.

pick your way through heather, avoiding boggy ground if you don't want to get wet feet. With the help of deer tracks a dry route can be found to reach the bealach between Carn Mor and Morven. You can trudge up the steep slopes from here, navigating through scree and boulders but there is an easier way if you continue round to the south side of the mountain. Finding this way up can seem almost impossible, especially when you are on your own with no-one else within sight, and probably not within about five miles. But just when you probably think you have gone too far a wide, heather-clad gully can be seen above, with small boulder fields on each side.

#### The Flow Country

Head up this and you will find a faint path which gives a surprising amount of

you is Loch Braigh na h-Aibhne, not easy to pick out amid all the other small bodies of water but it is from here that Dunbeath Water flows down to the harbour. This relatively short stretch of water is the setting for the novel Highland River by Neil Gunn, who was born in Dunbeath in 1891. The book follows the river from sea to source and if you are in the area for a while a walk doing the same is a brilliant trip, covering some 25 miles by the time you return via Braemore. As you can see from high up, most of it is pathless but when you reach the waters of the loch with Morven as a backdrop the sense of being somewhere truly remote is immense. After taking in the view it will be with some reluctance that you begin retracing your steps to the start. But in your memory bank will be one of the truly great walks in all of Scotland; tough but one which lends itself to being taken slowly in order to appreciate the magnificent feeling of "being in the middle of nowhere".

#### WALK FACTBOX:

Distance: 12 miles.  
Height Climbed: 1,950ft.  
Time: 6 to 7 hours.  
Map: OS Landranger 17.  
Start point: Braemore, six miles from Dunbeath, along a single track road.



# SCOTTISH BANNER EVENTS

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

## AUSTRALIA

### MAY 2016

**1 Rochedale, QLD - Piobaireachd Group Queensland Social**  
At Rochedale High School, 10am. Info: 07 3397 4512.

**1 Burnside, VIC - A Pleasant (Scottish) Sunday Afternoon**  
The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne is Holding a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon at 2pm at the Burnside Retirement Village Community Centre, 16 Nicol Ave. The Afternoon consist of music, Scottish folk songs, Highland dancers, country dancers and the Highland pipes. The Cost is \$15 Per Person and includes Afternoon Tea. Info: Ina Graham 03 8361 0308

**5 - 27 Nationwide - Celtic Thunder Legacy Tour-Australia 2016**  
Celtic Thunder touring Australia. To book your tickets and for further Tour information visit [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au).

**7 Exeter, SA - The Port Adelaide Caledonian Society Inc. Past Chiefs Night/Birthday Celebration**  
7.30pm start shared basket supper BYO drinks at 189 Semaphore Rd. Info: Lyn: masson55@tpg.com.au.

**7 Coburg, VIC - 63rd Annual Highland Ball**  
Presented by the Scottish Societies and Clans of Victoria at Coburg Town Hall, 90 Bell St. With Highland pipe band, VSU & H&NDA Highland dancing, Scottish country dancing and more. Info: Bill Graham 03 8361 0308.

**7 Collaroy, NSW - The Warringah Scottish Society Tartan Night**  
Entertainment will be the Pipe Band and Scottish dancers. Bring your own supper. There will be tea and coffee served with shortbread at supertime. We do Scottish dances, old time dancing and there is a kids corner. \$12 per person. Info: normancarmichael@bigpond.com.

**8 Melbourne, VIC - Celtic Piping Sessions**  
Piping music session 2pm - 5pm, upstairs at the Exford Hotel, 199 Russell St. Info: email@celticipingclub.com

**12 Perth, WA - Western Australia Police Pipe Band Birthday Event**  
WAPOL will be hosting an informal tea and the bands birthday outside the Old Police Office James St, Perth for any former band members to come along. Info: [www.wapol.com.au](http://www.wapol.com.au)

**14 Albury, NSW - The Scots School Albury Highland Gathering & Tattoo**  
Celebrating The Scots School 150th Anniversary with pipe band displays, Scottish dancers, strong man events, Clans and stalls at The Scots School, 393 Perry St. Info: 02 6022 0084 or [www.scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au](http://www.scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au)

**14 Yandina, QLD - Sunshine Coast Pipe Band Contest**  
Pipe bands compete at Nambour-Yandina United Football Club, North St. Info: Robyn 07 5442 8632.

**14 Albury, NSW - National Clan Mackenzie Gathering**  
Mackenzie's from across Australia will be gathering in Albury. Dinner seating can be booked at [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com) (Clan Mackenzie Albury 2016 Gathering) or contact: Geraldine 03 9889 5304.

**20 - 22 Camperdown, VIC - Robert Burns Scottish Festival**  
A weekend of events to celebrate Robert Burns, Scottish music and culture, including headliner Scottish Australian folk singing legend Eric Bogle. Info: 03 5593 7100 or [www.camperdownburnsfestival.com](http://www.camperdownburnsfestival.com)

**21 Nationwide - World Whisky Day**  
Try a dram and celebrate the water of life. Events are taking place all over the globe and all about making whisky fun and enjoyable. Info: [www.worldwhiskyday.com](http://www.worldwhiskyday.com)

**22 - 29 Wingham, NSW - The Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival**  
A week long event from Sunday May 22nd 2016 ending on May 29th 2016. The Gathering will be held on Saturday 28th May at Central Park with pipe bands, dancers, stalls and more. Info: [www.manninghistorical.org](http://www.manninghistorical.org)

**23 Balmoral, QLD - Queensland Highland Pipers Society Social**  
At Bulimba Bowls Club, Quinn St. Info: 07 3397 4512.

**28 Berry, NSW - Berry Celtic Festival**  
At Berry Showground with pipe bands, Celtic fiddlers, highland dancing, Celtic stalls, the Highland Warriors and more. Info: 02 4464 2274 or [www.berryrotary.org.au](http://www.berryrotary.org.au)

**28 Inglewood, WA - Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh Dance**  
At Bob Daniels Community Centre, 891 Beaufort St. Info: John 0427 990 754 or [www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com](http://www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com).

**28 Morley, WA - The Celtic Shindig 2016**  
Get your clan together for Perth's most anticipated Celtic event at YMCA Morley Sport and Recreation Centre, hosted by Perth-Metro Pipe-Band. Tickets Available: [www.trybooking.com](http://www.trybooking.com) or see [www.perthmetropb.com.au](http://www.perthmetropb.com.au).

**29 Wingham, NSW - Scottish Australian Heritage Council Scottish Clan and Celtic Leaders' Colloquium**  
10:00am - Colloquium of Clan and Celtic association Leaders at Australia Hotel. Info: [www.manninghistorical.org](http://www.manninghistorical.org) or Susan Cooke, [info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au](mailto:info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au)

### JUNE 2016

**4 Ipswich, QLD - 2016 Queensland Solo Piping and Drumming Championship and Pipe Band Championships**  
Gathering of the Clans, pipe band and solos competitions, Scottish stalls at Limestone Park, Lion St. Info: Katrina 0414 776 361 or [www.ipswichthistle.com](http://www.ipswichthistle.com).

**5 Strathfieldsaye, VIC - Little Scots Day Out Mini Pipe Band Competition**  
As part of Bendigo's Scots Day Out program piping event at Strathfieldsaye Sports Club. Info: [scotsdayout@gmail.com](mailto:scotsdayout@gmail.com).

**5 Rochedale, QLD - Piobaireachd Group Queensland Social**  
At Rochedale High School, 10am. Info: 07 3397 4512.

**8 Teralba, NSW - Hunter Valley Scots Social Night**  
7:00pm at Teralba Hall, ANZAC Parade. Info: [www.hvsc.org.au](http://www.hvsc.org.au)

**10 - 13 Portarlington, VIC - National Celtic Festival**  
Music, laughter and passion of the Celtic spirit with non-stop entertainment, workshops and stalls over the June long weekend. Info: 0409 017 130 or [www.nationalcelticfestival.com](http://www.nationalcelticfestival.com)

**11 - 12 Boonah, QLD - Fassifern Highland Gathering**  
A celebration of Scottish arts and culture with a particular focus on celebrating the Scottish heritage of the Fassifern at Boonah Show Grounds, includes The Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular. Info: 0412 550 821 or [www.fassifernscots.org.au](http://www.fassifernscots.org.au)

**17 - 24 Sydney, NSW - Scottish Heritage Week Celebrations 2016**  
A week of Scottish events around Sydney with guests of honour Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor and Lady Fiona MacGregor for more details and bookings see SAHC website. Info: [www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au](http://www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au)

**18 Petersham, NSW - Sydney Thistle Highland Pipe Band Ceilidh**  
At Petersham Town Hall, 107 Crystal St. With piping, dancing, food and more. Info: [www.sydneysthistle.com](http://www.sydneysthistle.com)

**18 Sydney, NSW - Scots on The Rocks Chaotic Ceilidh**  
Featuring music by Aria Award winning Chris Duncan & Catherine Strutt, it will be a night of energetic and popular dances. Includes supper. Info: [www.sotr.org.au](http://www.sotr.org.au) / chaos or 0435 154 433.

**19 Townsville, QLD - Townsville Tartan Day**  
Celebrate Scotland at Cotters Market, Flinders St. Info: Marie Gibson 0413 456 542 or [mlg7@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mlg7@optusnet.com.au).

**19 Perth, WA - Clan Donald Society of WA Annual Luncheon**  
Held at SAS House. Info: [culloden@aapt.net.au](mailto:culloden@aapt.net.au)

**24 Brunswick, VIC - Brunswick Society/ Glenbrae Debutante Ball**  
Presented by The Brunswick Scottish Society, in conjunction with the Glenbrae Celtic Dancers, at Brunswick Town Hall. Info: Hayley Rose 03 9438 6843 or Bernadette Rae on 0417 525 293.

**25 - 26 Kilmore, VIC - Kilmore Celtic Festival**  
Includes folk and Celtic music, markets, musical instrument workshops and dance. Info: [www.kilmore.info](http://www.kilmore.info).

**25 Inglewood, WA - Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh Dance**  
At Bob Daniels Community Centre, 891 Beaufort St. Info: John 0427 990 754 or [www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com](http://www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com).

**26 Spring Hill, QLD - Kirkin' o' the Tartan Brisbane**  
Presented by the Scottish Clans Congress Queensland Society at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 43 St. Paul's Terrace, Brisbane. 9:30 am service where the Celtic Community have their family/Clan Tartans blessed. Info: Neil Macdonald 0412 090 990, [president@scottishclans.org.au](mailto:president@scottishclans.org.au) or [www.scottishclans.org.au](http://www.scottishclans.org.au).

**27 Balmoral, QLD - Queensland Highland Pipers Society Social**  
At Bulimba Bowls Club, Quinn St. Info: 07 3397 4512.

## NEW ZEALAND

### MAY 2016

**13 - 15 Mosgiel - 2016 Clan Mackenzie Gathering and AGM**  
Hosted by Clan MacKenzie Society of New Zealand at Mosgiel Memorial RSA, Church St. Events include a meet and greet on Friday night, full day of activity and AGM on Saturday and a bus trip to venues related to our early Scottish Settlers on Sunday. Info: [www.clan-mackenzie.org.nz](http://www.clan-mackenzie.org.nz)

**13 Auckland - Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Fiddle Club Night**  
7:30 PM - 11:00 PM at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: [www.freeewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub](http://www.freeewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub)

**20 - 22 Wellington - Clan Davidson Society in New Zealand Annual Clan Gathering**  
An opportunity to get to know others who have Davidson family connections and history. We welcome both old friends and new Clan members. This year the dates coincide with Davidson Day so why not come and meet your fellow Clansfolk. Info: Maureen MacDonald (04) 577-2225 or [maureenmac@extra.co.nz](mailto:maureenmac@extra.co.nz).

**20 Auckland - Scottish Celtic Music Group**  
Monthly on the third Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: John Hawthorn [john.hawthorn@extra.co.nz](mailto:john.hawthorn@extra.co.nz)

**21 Christchurch - Clan Donald NZ AGM & Gala Dinner**  
A day of Clan Donald business and social events at Heartland Hotel Cotswold. Info: Patricia McKechnie 04 293 4290 or [jpmckechnie@extra.co.nz](mailto:jpmckechnie@extra.co.nz)

**21 Nationwide - World Whisky Day**  
Try a dram and celebrate the water of life. Events are taking place all over the globe and all about making whisky fun and enjoyable. Info: [www.worldwhiskyday.com](http://www.worldwhiskyday.com)

**27 Hillsborough, Auckland - Ceilidh Club**  
7:30-10:30 pm, monthly on the last Friday at St David's in the Fields Church, 202 Hillsborough Rd. Info: [learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com](mailto:learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com)

**28 Kilmorie - Viking Ball**  
Presented by Shetland Society of Wellington at the Indian Cultural Centre. Info: [www.shetlandwellington.org.nz](http://www.shetlandwellington.org.nz)

### JUNE 2016

**4 - 5 Dunedin - 105th Annual Queens Birthday Piping and Dancing Championships**  
Including Under 18 Years PDANZ Highland Dancing Championships. Info: [www.piping-dancing.org.nz](http://www.piping-dancing.org.nz).

**10 Auckland - Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Fiddle Club Night**  
7:30 PM - 11:00 PM at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: [www.freeewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub](http://www.freeewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub)

**17 Auckland - Scottish Celtic Music Group**  
Monthly on the third Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: John Hawthorn [john.hawthorn@extra.co.nz](mailto:john.hawthorn@extra.co.nz)

**24 Hillsborough, Auckland - Ceilidh Club**  
7:30-10:30 pm, monthly on the last Friday at St David's in the Fields Church, 202 Hillsborough Rd. Info: [learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com](mailto:learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com)

**25 - 26 Blenheim - Top of the South Championship**  
Highland dance events and competition at ASB Theatre Marlborough. Info: [www.piping-dancing.org.nz](http://www.piping-dancing.org.nz).

## SCOTLAND

### MAY 2016

**1 - 31 Edinburgh - Filmhouse Season on Architecture**

The diverse selection of features and documentaries will explore many topics, including the social impact of architecture, and the role key architects have played in forming the physical landscape. Info: [www.filmhousecinema.com](http://www.filmhousecinema.com)

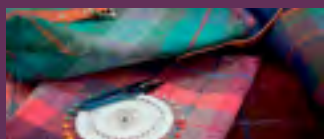
**6 - 30 Dundee - Ignite Dundee**

The festival programme will include the annual degree shows, exhibitions, talks, performances and workshops that take place during May each year, alongside a series of specially curated events new for 2016 - 'IgniteSparks'. Info: [www.ignitednd.co.uk](http://www.ignitednd.co.uk)

### Answers to Scotword on Page 6

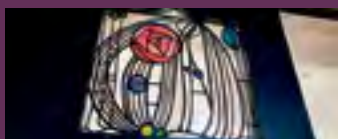
**Across:** 1 Peat; 3 Bap; 5 Damson; 8 Any; 9 Flower; 10 Shetland; 12 SOS; 13 Rash; 15 Nineteenth; 19 Neep; 20 Gleam; 21 Spey; 23 Privateers; 26 Rasp; 28 Tee; 29 Victoria; 32 Noggin; 33 Aye; 34 Easter; 35 Ass; 36 Hart.

**Down:** 1 Puffer; 2 Township; 3 Burnsnight; 4 Paps; 5 Dyke; 6 Sprain; 7 Need; 11 Toe; 14 Awe; 16 Niece; 17 Tombstones; 18 Hay; 19 Nip; 21 Strength; 22 Ems; 24 Inches; 25 Ago; 27 Punnet; 29 Vale; 30 Roar; 31 Area.



#### CLO MOR FESTIVAL JULY - NOVEMBER

Visit the beautiful Isle of Lewis for a celebration of the achievements and innovations within the Harris Tweed industry.



#### THE MACKINTOSH FESTIVAL 1 - 31 OCTOBER

Explore how Mackintosh, Glasgow's most famous architect, designer and artist, would have created with the technologies of today.



#### FINDHORN BAY FESTIVAL 21 - 26 SEPTEMBER

A spectacular mix of theatre, exhibitions, live music, and art in the beautiful region of Moray in the Highlands.

## JOIN THE YEAR OF INNOVATION, ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN IN 2016.

Celebrate Scotland's awe-inspiring innovation, breathtaking architecture and bold designs through our year-long programme of events. To find out more go to [visitscotland.com/IAD2016](http://visitscotland.com/IAD2016) and join the conversation using #IAD2016.



**VISITSCOTLAND.COM**  
national tourism organisation

IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN

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



## Honey and whisky porridge

**Ingredients:**

150g/5½oz. porridge oats  
3 tbsp. double cream, plus extra to serve  
250ml/9 fl oz. milk  
1 tbsp. soft brown sugar  
dash whisky  
1 tbsp. clear honey, to serve

**Method:**

Place the oats, cream, milk, sugar and whisky into a small saucepan and cook over a gentle heat for 6-7 minutes, until thickened and smooth. To serve, pour the porridge into a bowl and drizzle with honey and cream.

## Whisky mustard crusted pork chop with sautéed potatoes

**Ingredients:**

**For the whisky mustard pork chops:**

75ml/3fl oz. whisky  
25g/1oz honey  
1 lemon, juice only  
75g/3oz yellow mustard seeds  
25g/1oz brown mustard seeds  
50ml/2fl oz. water  
4 x pork loin chops, French trimmed, fat removed  
75g/3oz dried breadcrumbs  
1 tbsp. olive oil  
25g/1oz butter

**For the sautéed potatoes:**

50g/2oz. butter  
3 tbsp. olive oil  
4 small potatoes, peeled, cut into thick slices  
1 garlic clove, peeled, finely sliced  
2 fresh sprigs rosemary, leaves only

salt and freshly ground black pepper  
400g/14oz baby spinach leaves  
2-3 tbsp. water

**Method:**

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Heat the whisky, honey, lemon juice and water into a saucepan and heat until the honey dissolves. Stir in the mustard seeds and cook for 1-2 minutes, or until most of the liquid has been absorbed. Blend the mixture in a food processor until creamy (this will take a few minutes). Sprinkle the breadcrumbs onto a plate. Brush the pork chop on one side with the mustard mixture and dredge in the breadcrumbs. Spoon the remaining mustard into a small bowl and set aside. Heat the olive oil and butter in an ovenproof frying pan until hot. Fry the pork chops for 2-3 minutes on each side, or until golden-brown on each side. Transfer to the oven for 6-8 minutes, or until the pork is cooked through. Remove from the oven and set aside to rest. For the sautéed potatoes, heat the olive oil and half of the butter in a frying pan until hot. Fry the potatoes for 4-5 minutes, or until golden-brown and tender. Add the garlic and rosemary and season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Heat the remaining butter in a frying pan, add the spinach and water and cook for 2-3 minutes, or until the spinach has wilted. To serve, spoon some potatoes onto each of 4 serving plates, top with a pork chop and spoon some spinach alongside. Serve with the remaining mustard.

## Chocolate, croissant and whisky pudding

**Ingredients:**

500ml/18fl oz. milk  
500ml/18fl oz. double cream  
1 vanilla pod  
3 whole eggs  
5 egg yolks

200g/7¼oz. caster sugar  
3 large croissants  
25g/1oz sultanas  
25g/1oz. butter, melted  
175g/6¼oz. good quality white chocolate, grated  
3 tbsp. whisky  
55g/2oz. apricot jam, slightly melted  
icing sugar  
vanilla ice cream, to serve

**Method:**

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Pour the milk and cream into a pan, add the vanilla pod and gradually bring to the boil. Place the eggs, egg yolks and sugar together in a bowl and mix well. While the cream is heating, slice the croissants and place in an ovenproof dish, slightly overlapping the pieces. Sprinkle with sultanas and pour over the butter. Once the cream has boiled, take it off the heat. Add the egg mixture and chocolate and stir well. Set on one side to allow the chocolate to melt, stirring occasionally. Add the whisky to the cream mixture. Next, using a sieve, strain the cream over the croissants, cover with foil and bake in the oven for fifteen to twenty minutes or until almost set. Remove from the oven, coat the top with the jam and dust with icing sugar. Caramelize the topping using a very hot grill. Serve at room temperature with a spoonful of ice cream.

## Whisky marmalade



**Ingredients:**

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

**Method:**

Juice the fruit and pour the juice into a large, lidded pan with a capacity of 6-8 litres/10-14 pints. Add the water. Scrape out the inner membranes and pips from the fruit with a small sharp knife. Put the membranes into a food processor or mini-chopper and chop finely. Put the chopped membranes, and any pips, into a muslin bag or a piece of muslin tied with string. Add to the pan. Shred the peel to your preferred thickness and add it to the pan. Set aside to allow the peel

to soak for a few hours or, if possible, overnight. Bring the lidded pan to boil, reduce the heat and simmer very gently for two hours. The peel should be very tender. Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 140C/275F/Gas 1. Pour the sugar into a baking dish and warm in the oven for a few minutes. Remove the muslin bag from the pan and squeeze the liquid from the bag into a bowl. Pass through a sieve and add to the pan. Weigh the contents of the pan - it should be no more than 1.4kg/3lb 1oz. If you have more than this, return the contents to the pan and simmer to reduce the liquid until the correct weight is achieved. Add the warmed sugar to the pan and stir until dissolved. Gradually bring the pan to a rolling boil. After seven minutes, test the setting point by scooping out a large spoonful of the marmalade. Allow the mixture to cool a little, then slowly pour it back into the pan. If it is at the setting point, the drops will run together to form a hanging flake (this is known as the flake test). It can take up to 30 minutes to reach setting point, so keep testing. Leave the marmalade to cool for 5-10 minutes (a skin should form on the surface). Remove any scum from the surface and add the spirit of your choice to the pan. Gently stir the marmalade to evenly distribute the peel and the alcohol. Pour the marmalade into sterilised jars and seal. Leave the jars upright and undisturbed to set.

## Hebridean Sunset

**Ingredients:**

1 shot Scotch whisky  
1 shot Grand Marnier  
½ shot Cointreau  
½ shot lemon juice  
1½ shots orange juice  
Dash of Grenadine  
Twist of orange

**Method:**

Fill glass with cubed ice. Prepare Orange Twist. Fill shaker with ice (metal section). Put orange juice, lemon juice, grenadine in shaker (glass section). Add Scotch whisky, Grand Marnier & Cointreau to shaker (glass section). Shake for 1 minute. Strain into glass. Squeeze orange oil from twist over drink & rub round rim of glass. Put orange twist into glass & place straw next to it

## MacDaddy

**Ingredients:**

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

**Method:**

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

By: Tony Brooks

# Catherine Helen... who?

A good few years ago I discovered by accident the existence of Catherine Helen Spence. Excited by the amazing details of her long life, I rushed to share her with my friends. The response was all too often the title of this article. As I read and re-read the truly stunning story of the little Scottish Australian hero I was horrified to realize that so few Australians knew about her, especially young women who probably considered themselves feminists. Recently I found myself, a Sassenach deeply involved in the Scottish Diaspora tapestry exhibition here in Adelaide. The panel lauding her achievements was there of course, and I was able to introduce my novel based on her life, *First of All*, and speak about the achievements of the wee lassie from Melrose.

## Little Scottish wonder

I was delighted to find that more than one person I spoke to actually had some knowledge of her. And one lady even built up my ego by saying that she had actually read the book, and 'could not put it down' – words a writer longs to hear some time in his life. But who actually was this little Scottish wonder? Catherine came to South Australia in 1839 on the barque Palmyra and arrived in Holdfast Bay on her thirteenth birthday. She, her father, David, her mother Helen and her four brothers and sisters were thus some of the earliest settlers in this state, and for a while David, a writer, was the first town clerk of the city. It is hard now to believe that gentlemen of that time

were reputed not to value education as a high virtue in the wife of their choice. Be that as it may, Catherine had a massive thirst for literature and acquiring a broader knowledge of the world.

## Clara Morrison

Some of the Adelaide grande dames must have thought she was making an unseemly display of this thirst for knowledge when she often walked along reading a book. 'She will never find a husband', they must have thought, but Catherine actually received several offers; none of which she accepted, although she eventually found herself bringing up three groups of children whose mothers had died. Clearly the little lassie from the lowlands had great hopes of acquiring and spreading knowledge and must have despaired at first of realising her hopes in the far distant infant colony. The years were to prove that despair unfounded. When the men of South Australia trooped off to the gold fields the pioneer women were left with no alternative but to keep the ship afloat by their own efforts, and needlework and embroidery gave way to caring for the crops and livestock – not very ladylike, but essential. Catherine used the experience to base the first of her five novels, *Clara Morrison*, on it and found herself writing articles to keep her family's newspaper alive. But, oh dear, surely ladies did not work as professional novelists and journalists.

## Humanitarian work

The papers here and in Melbourne were



**The papers here and in Melbourne were soon full of articles and poems published under the initials CHS, because of course it could not be known that a respectable lady would get her delicate fingers dirty with printer's ink.**

soon full of articles and poems published under the initials CHS, because of course it could not be known that a respectable lady would get her delicate fingers dirty with printer's ink. Many of her articles examined issues in the social and political life of the colony and she was drawn into caring, humanitarian work, especially when she joined the Unitarian Church with its philosophy of humanism. Why *First of All*? Well, the fact is that Helen

Spence's wee dochter became the first South Australian novelist, journalist, lecturer, and preacher. She was the first female member of a school board, the first woman to be nominated for a political post and the founder of the enormously successful Boarding Out Society that found homes for abandoned children.

In mid-life Catherine travelled back to England and Scotland, commenting widely on what was wrong in Victorian society. Back home she even founded a women's cooperative clothing factory to ensure that mothers with children could get a decent, living wage. But she could identify the fact that the political system was at fault and so she pressed for a reform to the voting system which brought about the Hare/Spence system of preferential voting. Spence died in her eighties in Norwood in Adelaide and is remembered by all who feel that women have much to offer a healthy society. Miles Franklin was right to title her, 'the most outstanding woman ever to live in Australia'.

**For more information on the author and his work see: [www.tonybrooksbooks.com](http://www.tonybrooksbooks.com).**



# Tourism Cattle Drive

VisitScotland has launched a search for eight unique people to experience the summer of a lifetime – and get paid for the pleasure. The national tourism organisation is looking for a team of energetic and outgoing people to attend to a herd of new, specially created and simply bovine Highland Cow (or 'Coo') Campervans. From Inverness to Dumfries, Portree to Aberdeen, the campervans will travel around Scotland throughout the summer providing inspiration and information at some of the country's biggest and best events, visitor attractions and tourism hotspots.

## Coo-Visers

The lucky Coo-Visers (cow advisers) will attend to the every need of the herd, from shepherding vans along the countryside roads to allowing them to stop and graze in the urban centres. As well as an underly fun and unique exterior, the Highland Cow Campervans will be fitted inside with digital equipment including I-pads, to excite both

visitors and residents to explore Scotland. The campervans are part of VisitScotland's strategy to provide inspiration to visitors in new and innovative ways and in doing so extend a 'personal touch' to outreach marketing activity, passing on distinctive information about things to see and do throughout the country. The initiative comes on the back of the launch of VisitScotland's first ever global campaign. The Spirit of Scotland marketing campaign and #ScotSpirit social movement was launched by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon on 10 February and seeks to inspire the world to discover and share Scotland's unique spirit – whether it's the magic of the landscapes or the warmth of the people. The Coo-Visers will be responsible for the campervan allocated to them, including the technical equipment and information stored inside and will be required to drive across the country to key events throughout Scotland, engaging with locals, tourists, and industry. They will be at the forefront of delivering a new approach to customer service for VisitScotland.



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# Malt and moo-sic: Speyside farmers launch bid to produce beef to rival world famous Kobe beef from Japan

*Farmers help Scotch industry lead fight back after a Japanese whisky is named best in world.*



One of the Aberdeen Angus herd cannot wait to get his daily dram from Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival director Ann Miller.



Fiddler Lorna Edward has been entertaining the cattle at Ure Gullybale, which have also been enjoying a daily dram. Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival director Ann Miller suggests other Speyside farmers try out the newly discovered farming techniques.

Farmers on Speyside are being urged to lead a fight back for the Scotch whisky industry after a Japanese malt was named best in the world - by feeding their cattle a daily dram. A nip of our national drink - coupled with a diet of high quality feed from distillery by-products - could produce meat so succulent and tender that it will rival Japan's famous Kobe beef. And it is thought that playing cattle upbeat traditional Scots music, in much the same way that Kobe herds enjoy classical sounds, will further enhance the quality of the beef.

### Whisky-tinged flavour

Now there are calls from organisers of the world renowned Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival for local farmers to help further trial the theory. Thousands of visitors from all over the globe visit the annual Festival, and organisers are concerned about the level of attention being focused on Japanese whisky. Ann Miller, a director of the Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival, says, "We do not believe there is anywhere on earth that produces better malt whisky than Speyside - and millions of whisky drinkers agree. We were genuinely shocked and dismayed when Yamazaki was named the best whisky in the world, but we are firm believers in the old adage of don't get mad, get even. And that is exactly what we intend to do. All the

signs indicate that introducing Speyside malt into a cow's diet and using animal feed created from distillery by-products gives the meat a lovely, whisky-tinged flavour. But while Japan may have been able to produce some decent drams, it doesn't have the history and heritage of Scotch whisky. We've been producing the best whisky in the world for generations - no beef about it - and while they have learned how to make whisky from us, we're now learning from their farming techniques."

### Incredible discovery

The incredible discovery was made by Speyside farmers Ali Rolfop and Joe King, who have a herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle. They were mucking out a byre one evening on their farm, Ure Gullybale, near the distillery town of Keith and poured a bottle of single malt Scotch into a water trough. Ali explains, "I'm a big fan of two of Speyside's most famous products - malt whisky and traditional music - and so I decided to share these with our cattle. The next day, we noticed their coats were shiny and their eyes were bright. We've since been sharing a bottle of malt with them and we even have some local fiddlers come down to perform. We tasted the beef from the herd for the first time a couple of weeks ago and it is sensational - there is definitely a hint of whisky in the meat."

## Piping At Forres-The European Pipe Band Championships 2016



Tickets are on sale for Piping At Forres, the European Pipe Band Championships, sponsored by Benromach Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky, which will take place on Saturday 25 June in Grant Park. Former Runrig frontman and critically acclaimed solo artist Donnie Munro is to be Chieftain of Piping At Forres for 2016. The singer will also perform at a charity dinner hosted by the Forres Rotary Club in Grant Park on the Friday Night in aid of Archie's Foundation and Maggie's Highland. The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association opened the application for bands to participate in mid-March and the organisers, Forres Events Ltd, are hoping that the number of bands will top 100. Being based in Europe is not a requirement for bands wishing to compete and enquiries have already been received from pipe bands in the Netherlands, Denmark and from the Brisbane Boys College in Australia who first came in 2014 and plan to return this

year. The family friendly event has been a phenomenal success since it was first brought to the town by Forres Events Ltd, a company run on a not-for-profit basis by a small group of business men and women in the town in 2013. It is the biggest single ticketed day event in Moray and in 2015 brought in an estimated £1.3 million of incremental benefit to the area to the local area, an equivalent to an additional 5,500 working days or 25 full-time equivalent jobs in the area. In addition to the piping there will be a retail and craft village and a food and drink village, including a Walkers shortbread sponsored marquee featuring some of the finest produce in Moray and the surrounding area. Brodie Countryfare's piping hot café, will be serving teas and coffees in a seated area. There will also be beer tents, including craft beers, fairground areas, and other entertainment stalls for all the family including the World Tattie Scone Championship. The European Pipe Band Championships are

the only championships of the five "major" championships run by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (RSPBA) to take place in the north of Scotland.

### Chieftain Donnie Munro

Donnie Munro said: "I am deeply honoured to have been invited to act as Chieftain for this highly prestigious international event. Pipe Band Music has undergone enormous changes over the years and the professionalism, the quality of musicianship and complexity of performance, is now quite outstanding. I am sure this will be a fantastic day out for everyone." Skye born Donnie Munro was lead singer of the Scottish Rock Band, Runrig, achieving huge international success from the 1980s through to 1997 before leaving to develop his political and personal career. In 2000 he established his own band releasing a string of highly acclaimed albums in Europe and the UK. Donnie has performed at some of Scotland's biggest events including Murrayfield and Hampden Stadium, Edinburgh's televised Hogmanay celebrations, broadcast live to a worldwide audience of many millions and also, more recently, the Ryder Cup Televised Concert from the Glasgow Hydro Arena. Donnie graduated from Gray's School of Art in Aberdeen, before moving on to Moray House in Edinburgh, for a post-graduate year in education after which he taught Art and Design at Inverness Royal Academy, Leith Academy and Tynecastle High School (Edinburgh) before

embarking on a full-time professional music career with his Runrig colleagues, in the early 1980s. Donnie is a past Rector of the University of Edinburgh and was first Rector of the new University of the Highlands and Islands. He is currently Director of Development, Fundraising and the Arts with Sabhal Mor Ostaig, the National Centre for Gaelic Language, Culture and the Arts on his native Isle of Skye and also Chairman of Tobar an Dualchais-the Kist o Riches, a National Cultural Heritage Initiative which has resulted in the creation of one of the world's most advanced Sound Archives.

The European Pipe Band Championships are the only championships of the five "major" championships run by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (RSPBA) to take place in the north of Scotland.



*Piping At Forres, the European Pipe Band Championships 2016, takes place in the stunning setting of Grant Park, Forres on the Moray Firth in Scotland on 25 June 2016. For further details see: [www.pipingatforres.com](http://www.pipingatforres.com).*

# Remembering The Hampshire *A Birsay Heritage Trust project*



## Preserved for posterity

The trust will work with Voluntary Action Orkney to record oral memories which will be made public in both audio and written formats, and preserved for posterity. Volunteers will be trained in the correct use of the equipment, and in the techniques used to best “draw out” family memories and stories from people who have come forward. Help is also needed to staff the exhibition throughout its opening times. Birsay Heritage Trust’s Remembering The Hampshire - supported by Orkney Island Council’s World War I Culture Fund - is intended to complement Orkney Heritage Society’s Kitchener & HMS Hampshire Memorial project which will see the Kitchener Memorial at Marwick Head restored and a commemorative wall created alongside, engraved with the names of all men lost with the warship. On Sunday 5 June, the centenary of the sinking, an evening service will be held at Marwick Head. It is expected the nearby Birsay Community Hall will be the hub of activities that weekend with talks, films and catering. Mr Johnson said: “We hope the exhibition events will be a focal point for those attending the centenary events, enriching their visit and offering them some Orkney hospitality.” All historic items not needing to be returned afterwards will be held by Birsay Heritage Trust and publicly shown, on an ad hoc basis, as opportunity arises.

*Anyone who would like to offer artefacts or memories, or act as a volunteer, can contact Alan Manzie, Birsay Community Development Worker, by telephone (07503 519328), email (Alan.Manzie@vaorkney.org.uk) or by writing to: Alan Manzie, Birsay Community Development Worker, Voluntary Action Orkney, Anchor Buildings, 6 Bridge Street, Kirkwall, KW15 1HR. Alternatively, contact can be made through Facebook (@Kitchener.Memorial), Twitter (@kitchenerorkney), a blog at kitchenerhampshire.wordpress.com/ or the new HMS Hampshire history website, www.hmshampshire.org.*

**D**o you think you might have artefacts related to the loss of *HMS Hampshire*, or to Lord Kitchener, famous for the First World War “Your Country Needs You!” recruitment posters? If so, Birsay Heritage Trust would love to hear from you. The group’s volunteers are arranging an exhibition to mark the centenary of the sinking of the warship off Orkney with the loss of 737 men, including Kitchener. Keith Johnson, Chairman, Birsay Heritage Trust, believes there may be artefacts, photographs, letters and memorabilia hidden away in cupboards, attics and sheds which would be of great interest to the public. Or, perhaps you have a family story related to the Hampshire to be told? A replica of *HMS Hampshire* has been specially commissioned as a contribution to the “Remembering The

Hampshire” exhibition, to be held from 3 to 5 June at Birsay Community Hall. The model, expected to be around one metre long, is to be built by professional model maker, Paul Tyer, of Peedie Models, Tankerness, using Admiralty plans obtained by the trust.

*HMS Hampshire* was taking Earl Kitchener, Britain’s Secretary of State for War, to Russia for talks when she sank on 5 June 1916. There were only 12 survivors. Keith Johnson said: “We hope the exhibition will interest local people and the many visitors expected here in June to remember the loss of the crew of *HMS Hampshire*, as well as Lord Kitchener and his staff, when she foundered after hitting a mine off Marwick Head. We are appealing to folk throughout Orkney, and the UK and abroad, for items, photographs, and memories.”

## Whisky DVD-A unique exploration of the Islay experience

Whisky takes the viewer to a primary sanctum of Scottish whisky. Evoking the finesse of the liquor, the art of tasting, the craft of distillation, the history of the distilleries and the richness of the isle itself, in beautifully crafted images. This splendid documentary shows us these whisky factories, their particularities, their typical approach, their own special setting in the context of Islay. After all, whisky is bound to, and of, the land where it is distilled. You can almost taste the sea breeze, the peat, the whisky itself...

Distilleries. The distillers love for their produce is apparent when it comes to the distillation process itself. Don’t expect to see cold, overly technical installations festooned with blinking lights and computer terminals. Here, where gold is created, gold is

unmistakably present. This feature documentary oozes a richness of detail just as you would expect to find in your glass of fine malt whisky, even where it tackles subjects such as malting, fermentation, distillation and bottling. The whole process is described meticulously by the distillers themselves, with an aesthetic eye for detail, served at the right temperature.

Tasting. Of course whisky is served, with detailed tasting notes explaining the art and the pleasure of the whole end process. How does one truly appreciate whisky? This exquisitely shot film leaves no doubt: you don’t drink it, you taste it, with care, openness and a devoted attention.

The whiskies and distilleries explored on this DVD: Caol Ila, Kilchoman, Lagavulin, Laphroaig, Ardbeg, Bowmore, Bruichladdich & Bunnahabhain.



**Celebrate Whisky Month! To order your copy from the Scottish Banner please see our order form on page 10**

By: Peter MacIver

## Robert Burns Essay Competition 2016 Prize Award Ceremony



Jacob Baker, Stephanie Else, Mayor Rod Fyffe, Olivia Dimovski and Genevieve Foott at the Robert Burns statue.

**O**n March 21st 2016, four Rochester Secondary College students received award certificates and medals from the Robert Burns World Federation after entering the 2015 essay writing competition which was based around lines from the poem *Such a Parcel of Rogues in a Nation*. Rod Fyffe, the Mayor of Bendigo, presented the awards and said that he thought competitions such as this were a great way for students to extend themselves. He added that having Scottish roots himself it was great to see Australian students taking an interest in Robert Burns. Rochester Secondary College teacher, Peter MacIver, said that he would, “encourage teachers in Australian and New Zealand Schools to get their students to take part in the Burns Competition as it was an excellent opportunity to pit themselves against their peers in an international competition.” This year’s winner Caitlin Allman of Bendigo Senior Secondary College was unable to attend the presentation. Details of the 2016 competition will be available from the Robert Burns World Federation website later in the year.

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By: Judy Vickers

# The battle of Scottish bluebells

Across Scotland bluebells are sure sign spring has arrived with the beautiful bluebell meadows that carpet Scottish woodlands. From Angus, Perthshire, the Highlands and around the cities Scotland's bluebells are starting to bloom making now the perfect time to start bluebell spotting. In Scotland, another old name for this plant was Witches Thimble, and one of the UK's favourite flowers has been under threat from its continental cousins as Judy Vickers explains.



**Scientists have been studying bluebell populations over the last 12 years amid concerns that the Spanish incomer will wipe out our well-loved native flower. In a sign of hope, they have found the British species appears to produce "better, more efficient and more prolific" fathers.**

British bluebells are fighting back against Spanish invaders, thanks to a higher "sperm count", world experts from Edinburgh have found. Scientists have been studying bluebell populations over the last 12 years amid concerns that the Spanish incomer will wipe out our well-loved native flower. In a sign of hope, they have found the British species appears to produce "better, more efficient and more prolific" fathers.

Professor Pete Hollingsworth, Director of Science at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, says: "The classic story which appears each spring is that the death knell is sounding for the British bluebell. The general concern is that we have a globally important population of bluebells here but that another bluebell was introduced and that it's going to outcompete our native bluebell." That would put our springtime carpets of blue in ancient woodland at threat as the incomer isn't uniformly blue, often producing pink or white flowers, as well as genetically altering one of our most iconic flowers as the two species interbreed.

But Prof Hollingsworth said various strands of on-going research all point positively towards the native bluebell's future, including that the British variety appears to be three times more likely to be a successful father than the Spanish flower. "Preliminary findings suggest that the native British bluebell makes better

fathers. Based on a grid of 112 plants of equal proportions of native British and Spanish bluebells laid out at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, much more seed was fathered by the native British bluebell than the Spanish bluebell," said Prof Hollingsworth. "The non-native bluebells produce lots of leaves and bulbs underground, they are chunkier and brasher. But it's the equivalent of having a low sperm count in humans."

## "Odd-looking" bluebells

Research is also appearing to show what we call the Spanish bluebell is actually already a cross between two species, which has left it with misshapen pollen. "The Spanish bluebell in the UK doesn't look the same as the classic *Hyacinthoides hispanica* in Spain. Our preliminary data suggest that what we call Spanish bluebell in the UK is actually already the product of hybridisation. Hybrids are often less fertile than their parent species, and certainly these Spanish bluebell plants often have misshapen pollen. If that generalisation holds true, it will certainly act as a delaying mechanism and an additional factor that will greatly reduce the likelihood of native bluebells being taken over." Scientists are also optimistic that genetic tests might show that some "odd-looking" bluebells in remote parts of the country which were previously thought to be Spanish

or hybrids are actually just quirky native examples. "We're trying to figure out how 'odd' a native can look and still be native - we've collected some pretty strange individuals and found no genetic evidence of hybridisation," says research associate Deborah Kohn who has worked with the Botanics on bluebells since 2004. "The other reason for optimism about survival of the natives is the fact of bulb reproduction. We don't know how long bulbs live or how many times they can multiply themselves underground, but this is definitely a way in which they cannot be touched by genes from an introduced species."

## Ongoing genetic testing

A change in the law is also assisting the native bluebell's case. "Until a few years ago legislation meant that you couldn't dig up native bluebells, so you didn't see people harvesting native bluebells," says Prof Hollingsworth. And even gardeners who thought they were helping native bluebells by buying them from their local garden centre to plant in their gardens may well have been duped. "It was the case that lots of Spanish bluebells were being sold as native ones. We have looked at this more recently again but it seems the trade has cleaned up considerably now there is a system in place to collect

native bluebells under licence. The public can now have greater confidence that if you buy a native bluebell, that's what you get." And he says overall the picture is brighter than first thought for native bluebells. "That doesn't mean we should be blasé about it. Clearly there is a threat and it would be a bad idea to go out and start planting Spanish bluebells around our woodlands," says Prof Hollingsworth. And Dr Kohn says: "They almost certainly cannot be eradicated, and even if no more get planted they will likely continue to spread." Ongoing genetic testing will provide scientists with a clearer picture. But Prof Hollingsworth adds: "Spanish bluebells do occur surprisingly regularly and there is the potential for hybridisation but there is considerable resilience in the native bluebell population. And the big qualification is the population size of the native flower, these huge carpets of bluebells. The home army is very large compared to the invading army."

**Bluebells spend most of the year as bulbs underground in ancient woodlands, only emerging to flower and leaf from April onwards. The bluebell native to Scotland (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) flowers from April to June. The flowers are always blue, with 6 bell-shaped lobes that curl back fully.**

## Scottish Golf Historian honoured in USA



Author Roger McStravick.

A golf historian based in St Andrews has been awarded one of the highest honours by the United States Golf Association. At the ceremony in San Diego Roger McStravick received the United States Golf Association's Herbert Warren Wind Book Award for his book, *St Andrews: In the Footsteps of Old Tom Morris*. The book which chronicles life in St Andrews during the era of Old Tom Morris, examines the role that he played in securing the town's reputation as the "home of golf". Old Tom Morris who was considered the best golfer of his time, won The Open Championship four times, all at Prestwick between 1861 and 1867 and was a prolific designer, credited with work on approximately 100 golf courses, including the Old Course at St. Andrews, Muirfield, Prestwick, Carnoustie, Royal County Down and Cruden Bay. Roger, who wrote the book over three years with the help of descendants of the great golf

families and landowners of St. Andrews, has written for the British Golf Collectors' Society magazine *Through the Green*, as well as *Golf Illustrated*, *HK Golfer* and organizations such as the Ladies Golf Union and the St. Andrews Links Trust.

## Oscar for golf writers

He said: "This is like winning the Oscar for golf writers. It really is the ultimate award and I'm absolutely delighted. It's without doubt the greatest thing I've achieved but it could not have happened without the creative genius of book designer Chic Harper and the guidance of historians Peter Crabtree, David Hamilton, Dr Eve Soulsby and David Joy. I am truly grateful to the USGA and those who supported the book from day one, including my family in St Andrews and Lurgan."

The Herbert Warren Wind Book Award was established in 1987. The award recognises and honours outstanding contributions to golf literature while attempting to broaden public interest in, and knowledge of, the game of golf. Michael Trostel, director of the USGA Museum, said: "Roger McStravick's *St. Andrews: In the Footsteps of Old Tom Morris* is an outstanding achievement and a major contribution to the literature of the game. The level of research undertaken to breathe new life into this subject is extraordinary. McStravick's writing, along with the previously unseen photos of St. Andrews, Old Tom and others from that era make this a magnificent, one-of-a-kind book."

Text and image courtesy of Scotland.org

# The Scots School Albury Highland Games and Tattoo-Celebrating 150 years



Members of the Scots School Albury Pipe Band.

Where will you be on Saturday 14th May? Perhaps you might consider attending a great day out in Albury as The Scots School Albury will be celebrating 150 years in 2016. To help mark this auspicious occasion the School will be holding a Highland Games and Tattoo at the school this month. The Highland Games will include the following: Pipe band competition, Highland dancing competition, heavy events, historic Scottish martial arts, clan, retail, Scottish and other cultural food stalls and will culminate in our inaugural Tattoo at night. Our day will begin with a parade of Pipe Bands through Albury's main street. There are 14 pipe bands attending from NSW, ACT and Victoria. The Band competition ranges through juvenile, Grade 4 and 3 and they

look forward to the high calibre piping and drumming that will be part of the contest.

### World Champion Drum Major

A particular coup for these Highland Games is that the current World Champion Drum Major, Brian Wilson, is travelling from Ireland to be part of the proceedings. He will demonstrate his skills and expertise to the crowd and compete in the Drum Major competition. We also have seven times World Champion Highland dancer, Morgan Bamford, from New Zealand with us to adjudicate the Dance Competition. The evening Tattoo will be a high point for all with the program mirroring the internationally acclaimed Edinburgh showcase. There will be something of interest for every-one in our audience. Performances will range across piping, drumming, marching, singing and

they have been lucky enough to attract the skills and services of recent "Man from Snowy River" junior champions to demonstrate their horsemanship. The Tattoo will begin and end with fireworks displays.

### Celebrating 150 years

In 1866 the Anglican Diocese of Goulburn established a Grammar School in Albury with fourteen pupils. This school was eventually absorbed into the privately run Albury High School and in 1902 changed its name to the Albury Grammar School. In 1929 the school came under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church and became a Grammar School solely for boys. A Cadet Unit was formed at the school in 1939 and the school's first band of two drums and two bugles was established. It remained as a drum band until 1956 and with the introduction that year of bagpipes, it became the Grammar School Pipes and Drums. The Cadet unit and Band adopted the Gordon Tartan and the Glengarry as its uniform, which in 1965 was worn in public for the first time. In 1972 the School was amalgamated with Woodstock Presbyterian School for Girls. By 1975 due to a lack of male recruits, interested girls were admitted to the band for the first time and remained as part of its composition. After official funding for school cadets ceased, the Cadet Unit and Band operated on a voluntary basis and then disbanded. Determined to continue with a pipe band, the school engaged a tutor in 1980. The Band currently has 32 players registered with the Australian Pipe Band Association for the purposes of competing at Association competitions and there are 56

students from Kinder to Year 12 who attend piping and drumming tuition each week.

### The Scots School Albury Pipe Band

The Scots School Albury Pipe Band features at many local and district functions throughout the year. They also compete in Pipe Band Competitions at juvenile and fourth grade level. Specific highlights for Pipe Band in the past few years have included -Travelling to the World Pipe Band Championships in Scotland in 2014 and also to the South East Asian Championships in Jakarta for two consecutive years. The Band was crowned 2014 and 2015 South East Asian Junior Champions. In 2015 the Band competed on Australia's Got Talent and they reached the top 100 acts in the country. We are looking forward to 2017 as the Band has been invited to perform at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. All in our community are very excited about this magnificent opportunity. The Scots School Albury looks forward to seeing you at our Highland Games and hope you will come out and enjoy the day.



The Scots School Albury Highland Gathering and Scots Tattoo will take place on Saturday May, 14th in Albury, NSW. For details: 02 6022 0000 or [www.scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au](http://www.scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au).

## Notes from Scotland-Scotland's national young composers competition



Do you have what it takes to strike the right note? In partnership with the Festival of Architecture 2016, Scotland's national orchestra is running the second composition competition specifically for 12-18 year olds based in Scotland. In partnership with the Festival of Architecture 2016, *Notes From Scotland* invites young composers to write a two-minute work for an instrumental trio, quartet or quintet. The theme for the second *Notes From Scotland* is inspired by Scotland's contemporary architecture; Maggie's Highlands; Pier Arts Centre, Orkney; The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh; Shettleston

Housing Association, Glasgow, and Dundee Contemporary Arts Centre. From the entries five finalists will be selected by an expert panel with their compositions being performed and recorded by members of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO) at the Orchestra's new home, adjacent to the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. The winner will be announced following the live performance and will receive an iPad loaded with music software packages, as well as VIP access to RSNO concerts.

**Full details on the competition and how to enter can be found at [www.notesfromscotland.co.uk](http://www.notesfromscotland.co.uk). Closing date for entries is Tuesday 31 May 2016.**

## READER GIVEAWAY Celtic Thunder to take Australia by storm



International singing and touring powerhouse Celtic Thunder will be taking Australia by storm in May as they head down under to perform an all-encompassing national tour. The spectacular Legacy is a show like no other with an array of Celtic Thunder's most popular songs to date. Joining the Legacy Australian Tour will be special guest Damian McGinty, an original member of Celtic Thunder who went on to win "The Glee Project" before landing a recurring role (as "Rory Flanagan") in the worldwide hit series *Glee*. Celtic Thunder has sold over two million albums worldwide and

more than a million concert tickets. Their official YouTube channel "Thunder Tube" has seen over 77 million views since its inception in 2008. Having successfully toured Australia on three prior occasions world-renowned musical ensemble Celtic Thunder is back by popular demand for the fourth national tour.

The Scottish Banner is pleased to be offering 2 silver tickets for the following performances: Perth Saturday May 7, Melbourne Friday May 13, Adelaide Saturday May 14, Sydney Sunday May 22 and Brisbane Friday May 27th. In addition we have 5 copies of the new Legacy DVD to giveaway. To win simply email, post or fax us (see our contacts on page 2 and sorry no telephone entries) and tell us which prize you are after and the name of Celtic Thunder YouTube channel. Winners will be chosen at random and full tour details and ticket information can be found on the below web site. Good luck!

**To book your tickets and for further Tour information visit: [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au)**





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