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A' Bhratach Albannach

Volume 42 Number 01 The world's largest international Scottish newspaper July 2018

You take the high road



Six of Scotland's best road trips
» Pg 16

The Story of St Cuthbert

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Kirkintilloch Roman and Dry

» Pg 13

» Pg 5

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Scottish Banner

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The Banner Says...

Celebrating 150 years of Charles Rennie Mackintosh



by Sean Cairney

ast month the city of Glasgow celebrated the 150th birthday of one Scotland's most influential art figures, Charles Rennie Mackintosh. The nation, and city of Glasgow in particular, are now half way through a year of celebrations which honour and highlight the designer, architect and artist who epitomises "Glasgow style".

Charles Rennie Mackintosh had a lifelong connection with Glasgow and visitors to the city will no doubt be familiar with masterpiece works across the city such as The Glasgow School of Art, The Willow Tea Rooms, Mackintosh House at The Hunterian, University of Glasgow, the villas Windyhill and The Hill House, Scotland Street School and the House for An Art Lover.

Born in Glasgow on 7 June 1868, Charles Rennie Mackintosh went on to be regarded as a leading figure in both the Scottish art world and also in European Art Nouveau. Mackintosh worked exclusively in Glasgow for decades and his genius has meant the city was left with a legacy of incredible work ranging from buildings and furniture to art drawings, glassworks and designs. Today Glasgow is home to the world's pre-eminent collection of Mackintosh's work and his cultural legacy is part of the fabric of the city's identity.

The Charles Rennie Mackintosh Go Glasgow app

For those who are visiting Glasgow this year I encourage you to take in some of the works of Mackintosh

whilst there. To honour and celebrate the man and his work, the City of Glasgow has installed an innovative network of Bluetooth beacons at all Mackintosh venues, such as the Scotland Street School Museum, Mackintosh at The Willow and many more.

Walking around the city, each beacon communicates with the Go Glasgow app to reveal the story of each building as you arrive or pass by. The app also provides practical information for each venue, Mackintosh news & events and a map of all the venues.

Mackintosh heritage

Charles Rennie Mackintosh is no doubt a hugely important part of the fabric of Glasgow. His works are celebrated across the world and he has influenced generations of artists and art lovers.

Today Glasgow is home to the world's pre-eminent collection of Mackintosh's work and his cultural legacy is part of the fabric of the city's identity.

'The Glasgow Style' is part of the Mackintosh heritage left to Scotland. In 2018 as the city celebrates the incredible legacy and creative genius of one Glasgow's greatest cultural icons we hope people can take in some of the 150th anniversary celebrations and connect with one of Glasgow's most famous sons.

In this issue

Getting out onto the open road for many is the perfect way to see Scotland. A great and diverse number of road drives are now available in Scotland which allow visitors to take in stunning scenery, incredible history and unique places. Pulling over in charming towns or stopping

at breathtaking vistas must be a highlight for many visitors and perhaps hitting the road will be on your next Scottish adventure?

Many may not consider Edinburgh to be a coastal city as they take in all that is historic sites across the Old and New Towns. However the city is surrounded by water and the Scottish capital is now looking at celebrating its water heritage. This summer a variety of projects are taking place to connect both locals and visitors to the nearly 30 km of shoreline that is on the doorstep of the city.

The ancient town of Kirkintilloch in Dunbartonshire dates back to Roman times when it was a fort on the Antonine Wall. Today the historic town is considered the 'Canal Capital of Scotland' and attracts a good number of water-borne tourists. However not all liquid was welcome as the town was dry for many years. Alcohol was prohibited from sale until 1967 however the town continued to have a rich cultural and industrial history which continues to be celebrated today.

Devastation at the **Glasgow School of Art**

As we go to press we have been shocked and saddened to learn that Charles Rennie Mackintosh's iconic A-listed building, the Glasgow School of Art, has suffered a second terrible fire.

The Glasgow School of Art was undergoing restoration work after an earlier fire devastated its library in 2014 and was due to reopen in early 2019. This fire appears to have caused even more devastating damage and as a cruel twist taken place on the 150th year of Mackintosh celebrations.

We have reached out to the School to see how the Scottish Banner and our readers can help and will keep you posted at this incredibly difficult time as the city mourns the destruction of one of its most famous buildings.

Celebrating 42 years

With this issue we also celebrate our $42^{\mbox{nd}}$ anniversary. What started above a Scottish restaurant in rural Canada, the Scottish Banner has been received by Scots across the world every month since 1976.

We thank our readers and advertisers for their incredible support and for helping us create a special community amongst the Scottish Diaspora. 🗱



Gracing our front cover: The drive through Glen Docherty, Wester Ross on the North Coast 500. Photo: Steve Carter.



Scotland's young people love castles



oung Scots love castles, according to the nation's top heritage organisations. The National Trust for Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland and Historic Houses have been offering £1 access for holders of Young Scot cards during the Year of Young People. Of the hundreds who've already used their Young Scot card to enjoy this historically low discount, the majority have chosen to visit castles. More than 65% of young visitors taking up the offer have stormed the ramparts with Edinburgh, Stirling and Crathes Castles

proving popular, showing Scotland's young people love its oldest buildings.

Exploring Scotland's heritage

Alex Paterson, Chief Executive of Historic Environment Scotland, said: "We have had a great response to the one pound offer since it launched in February, with castles seeing the highest footfall since the scheme was launched. However, it's not just castles – palaces and abbeys, such as Linlithgow Palace and Arbroath Abbey, have also proved popular with young people, who have been exploring Scotland's heritage."

The Earl of Hopetoun, Chair of Historic Houses Scotland said: "We are thrilled to be involved with this initiative. We represent the nation's largest collection of independently owned historic houses and gardens and are here to ensure these historic homes stay alive for generations to come. Making these sites more accessible to young people is of huge importance to us and we hope that Young Scot card holders enjoy exploring our fascinating homes."

Holders of Young Scot cards can access all National Trust for Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland and Historic Houses places for £1 during 2018, Scotland's Year of Young People. There are over 670,000 Young Scot cardholders in Scotland - over two-thirds of all young Scots - and the card is available for free to all young people living in Scotland aged 11-26. To access the discount young people just need to present their card when buying their ticket. The discount will run throughout the Year of Young People 2018.



Scotland's first cycle circuit opens in Fife



by record breaking long-distance cyclist Mark Beaumont and Provost of Fife Jim Leishman. Funded by Fife Council, sportscotland and the Scottish Government, the purpose built cycle park is set to put central Fife at the forefront of Scottish cycling and further bolster the Kingdom's position as the number one destination in Scotland for outdoor activities.

Fife Cycle Park is an outdoor floodlit cycle facility that allows for a full range of cycling activities to take place in a traffic free environment all year round. It's 1.6km in length but offers various circuit layout options within this. Customers are able to choose from a variety of circuit configurations and several groups or sessions can use the facility at the same time.

Mark Beaumont said: "I've really enjoyed opening the Fife Cycle Park today. This is a first for Scotland and a wonderful facility available to everyone, not just skilled cyclists. I believe it will encourage people of all abilities to get on their bikes and have fun."

Western Australia Police Pipe Band By The Right CD - Reader Giveaway



ith a new album under their belts the WA Police Pipe Band continue to support the community performing at more than 240 engagements each year, whilst also assisting Frontline Police Services.

By the Right... is the band's 13th album and is a collection of well-known traditional military tattoo style tracks which are often requested at their community engagements and were asked for through the band Facebook page.

The CD can be purchased for \$10 plus post and packaging through their

website at www.wapol.com.au and all proceeds go back into the band to help fund running costs. You can follow the band on Facebook at www.facebook.com/westernaustraliapolicepipeband

Take a copy home

The Scottish Banner is pleased to offer 5 lucky readers a chance to take home a copy of the Western Australia Police Pipe Band- By The Right.

To enter simply tell us how many albums the band have made by email: competitions@scottishbanner.com, via our website at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us or post (sorry no telephone entries) our Sydney office, our full contacts can be found on page 2.

Please ensure you include your full postal address and email/phone details. Winners will be notified directly, good luck!

Congratulations also to our recent competition winners:

The Paul McKenna Band CD-Scottish Banner June A Wajer, Maryborough, QLD D Keith, Strathdale, VIC S Austin Grange, QLD F Howat, Drouin, VIC A Burke, Heathmont, VIC The Bay City Rollers tickets-Scottish Banner May M Hollingworth, Glen Innes, NSW G McKenzie, Melbourne, VIC



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?

The Highland Military Tattoo



We were saddened to learn that the Fort George Tattoo is no longer going to be held. The only military tattoo in the Highlands. What an incredible loss to the community. In 2016, we had the privilege of attending the Fort George Tattoo, on what turned out to be a wild, windy, rainy and cold night. And my goodness, how the warmth and welcome of the military personnel, current, and retired made up for the weather!

Being averse to large crowds, the Fort George Tattoo was the perfect option for us. Many of the same acts as the Edinburgh Tattoo, a marvellous, atmospheric location, and so many advantages. We drove to Fort George, and found parking within an easy walk of the Fort. Arriving early we were met by the 'postman' - a serving soldier, who delighted in telling us the history of the Fort and its inhabitants, and giving us hints on what to look for. And on a practical level, toilets were easily accessible, and the seating was manageable for someone with mobility issues. We had plenty of time to walk around the marquees lining the grassed area before the Tattoo commenced. Each of the marquees was the location of a different group of serving or returned defence personnel. We spoke to the people who looked after soldiers who were vision impaired, those who found energy and solace in riding motor bikes, a group for former soldiers who had lost limbs as a result of their military service, a young man who along with his support

Labrador, were being 'trained' to live with severe PTSD. We spoke to partners of defence force members, and heard the most incredible stories of life, heartache, and hope. And of course, there was the lady who made clothes out of uniforms which were no longer required, for teddy bears, which she then sold, with all proceeds being directed back into a fund for the welfare of soldiers and their families. Oh yes, and the army cook, who had specially made 'Cullen Skink' pies, and his conversation. We had not known so many different support organisations existed, and wondered whether the same sort of supports were available for Australian defence forces personnel also. The impact of war and efforts for peace have many ramifications. Everyone wanted to talk, and we were only too happy to listen. We even heard of a few folk who had at one time or another thought of migrating to Australia - but the thought of so many things that could kill you (snakes, sharks, spiders, mosquitoes, etc), had put them off! We did try to set the record straight!! And that was all before the Tattoo itself. The local gentry and honoured guests marched in, a veritable sea of the most wonderful tartans and Harris tweeds. All close enough to see without binoculars! 'Battles' between different Battalions were 'fought' with energy and grit. The choir comprised of soldiers wives was amazing, even though they were the act who had to contend with the worst of the weather. And the bands were brilliant. I could go on. For atmosphere, and the experience of a lifetime without all the crowds of the Edinburgh Tattoo, the Fort George Tattoo would be difficult to beat. It is a shame it will not continue. Thank you to everyone at the Fort who made our attendance at the Fort George Tattoo such a wonderful and memorable experience. Congratulations, and well done all of you. Roger Key Grovedale, Victoria Australia

Ed. note: Thank you Roger for sharing your experience with us at the Highland Military Tattoo, a great event we hope can come back.

Where is Scotland?

You asked readers to write if they knew of any places outside of Scotland with Scottish names.

In my area, in the outer Northeast of Melbourne, there is a suburb named Macleod. Many of the streets around Macleod, also have Scottish names. To list some, there is a Skye Street, Strathalan Road, Dunvegan Crescent, and Stewart Terrace.

The suburb I went to High School in, is called St Helena. In St Helena, there are streets named Caledonia Drive, Glen Katherine Drive, Angus Court, and MacDhui Avenue.

Scott McPhee,
Briar Hill, Victoria

A wee touch with our ain folk

Australia

Many thanks for the first issue of our new online version of *The Banner*. Most happy to oblige with the new system; everyone's "doing it" and we are happy to comply.

Best wishes for health of Miss Valerie or whoever owns the situation that has created this necessary change. Please keep us posted, for our continued prayers. Whatever the form, it's great to continue our connection with *the Scottish Banner*, and a wee touch with our ain folk. Wish that we had a supply of some newsprint paper, to keep the original feeling at hand. All the same, our love and thanks to all involved. *Bruce and Janet Wallace Wethersfield, Connecticut USA*

Ed note: Thank you Bruce and Janet for your kind letter and for all the North American subscribers who have transferred their subscriptions with us.

St Andrew's First Aid



Please find attached a photo of our first aid post at the Ringwood Highland Games in Melbourne. SAFAA was proud to be a sponsor of the Games as well as providing the first aid and an additional marquee for the main oval.

Pictured with Simon Abney-Hastings, the Earl of Loudoun are first aiders Jordan Wilkinson, Peter Barker and Iain Townsley.

The Earl is the Patron of the Games and serves as the Chairman of the Board of Governors of St Andrew's First Aid Australia.

David Alexander-Fleming Chief Commissioner St. Andrew's First Aid Australian Headquarters

Digital subscription

Just received our first digital copy of the Scottish Banner, it looks great. Colors are bright and beautiful. Really impressed. Keep up the good work. We have enjoyed the Banner for many years.

Jim and Jean Vennard

Delaware (formerly of Glasgow)

Culloden Moor



I would like to have my say on the building development application at Culloden Moor (*Scottish Banner*, June, 2018). Being a conservation area and a national memorial my husband and myself are outraged at the proposal of houses being built on Culloden Moor. It is incredibly stupid and short sighted, a preposterous decision. Culloden is a sacred place. How would those people like if a housing estate was built on their sacred ground? *Cheryl Bruce Jennings, NSW Australia*

Ed note: Thanks for sharing your views Cheryl and we would like to hear more readers views on this controversial issue.

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send your photos or letters via social media

Jura sunset



GN Photogaphy Clydebank, Glasgow Scotland

Coo selfie



Sent by Robert Gibb Scotland

Buachaille Etive Mòr



The unmistakable Stob Dearg at Buachaille Etive Mòr, Glencoe and Black Rock Cottage.

A View From My Camera Midlothian, Scotland

Clan Donald Forum in New Zealand



Photo: Neil Macdonald Commissioner Qld, Norman Macdonald Commissioner Vic, Lachlan Macdonald High Commissioner Australia, Pamela McDonald Commissioner WA, Alan Macdonald High Commissioner NZ, Elwyn Mart Commissioner South Island and Tom Macdonald Commissioner North Island.

February 2013 saw the inaugural Clan Donald Australasia get together in Auckland, under the auspices of The High Commissioner for Clan Donald NZ Mr Harold MacIsaac, ably assisted by Ms Pamela McDonald President of Clan Donald WA.

The aims and aspirations which Harold held were that the forums were intended to

encourage interaction, exchange ideas, and foster involvement in Clan activities, both in our own states, territories and across the Tasman.

Sadly, Harold MacIsaac fell ill, and passed away prior to the next forum which was hosted by Clan Donald Australia, during March 2016 at Geelong in Victoria.

Following on from Geelong, Clan Donald NZ held a forum in March 2018, in Christchurch, which had a number of members of the Clan from Australia crossing "the ditch", recently.

I would like, on behalf of Mr Lachlan Macdonald High Commissioner Clan Donald Australia, the CDA State Commissioners and delegates, to extend our congratulations to the team from Clan Donald Canterbury, who put together an interesting program for the attendees, and hope that we in Australia can emulate their success in future. *Jan Macdonald*

Secretary, Clan Donald Australia

Pose your questions on Scottish related topics to our knowledgeable readership who just may be able to help. Please keep letters under 300 words and we reserve the right to edit content and length. Letters can be emailed to info@scottishbsanner.com or online at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us, alternatively you may post your letters to us (items posted to the Scottish Banner cannot be returned). Please ensure you include your full contact details should you require a reply. This page belongs to our readers so please feel free to take part!

The Story of St Cuthbert's Way



Kenny MacAskill was an SNP MSP and Justice Secretary from 2007-2014. He is now a columnist with the Herald and Scotsman, as well as contributing to other papers and magazines. He has written several books on the Scottish Diaspora along with former First Minister Henry McLeish, as well on his own on Scottish politics, the Lockerbie Bombing and a biography of the trade union leader Jimmy Reid, recently released.





owadays St Cuthbert's Way is a well-known walking route, as well as being part of a growing development of pilgrimage ways that are criss-crossing the country for believers, historians and ramblers alike. It runs from Melrose in the Scottish Borders to the famous Lindisfarne Priory, in Northumbria. At Kirk Yetholm it intersects with the Pennine Way, allowing even keener hikers to access the famous North of England route.

In many ways that convergence between Scotland and England is apt for someone born in Scotland, yet who became the patron saint of the North of England. But, who St Cuthbert was is far less well known despite the thousands who now follow his path. I also have to confess to having been remarkably ignorant of him until a few years ago.

Kirkcudbright

In my early years I knew of the grand Church, and the Co-operative Society likewise that bore his name in Edinburgh. Indeed, like most wee boys I was also aware that Sean Connery had worked for the latter as a milkman before achieving Hollywood fame. But, beyond that I knew nothing.

However, a discussion with a Minister friend embarking on writing a book on Scottish Saints opened my eyes. St Cuthbert, he explained had a history in the city of Edinburgh going back over a thousand years with a church bearing his having been present long before the current prominent site in the lea of the Castle was even consecrated.

But, his revelations went far beyond that when he mentioned Kirkcudbright. Now of course I knew the town and county and like every young Scot knew the famous folk song The Wee Kirkcudbright Centipede but had never associated them with St Cuthbert. My friend patiently excused my ignorance and proceeded to enlighten me that Kirkcudbright means "Church of Cuthbert" in Scots.

Of course, I knew that "Kirk" was church but never that "Cudbright" was Scots for Cuthbert. My sense of ignorance was lessened though when I told the tale to a former First Minister who confessed that he hadn't known it either. I'm not sure many Scots do either.

Yet, Scottish he is as he was born in Dunbar in 634 AD though it has to be said at a time when the East Lothian town was still part of the Kingdom of Northumbria that ran up the North Sea coast, traversing the modern border between the two nations. To be fair in those days not only was the border more fluid but modern Scotland hadn't even been born. Apparently from a noble family he was fostered out to a family in Melrose which was common practice in those days and allowed for learning though as much in the art of war, as anything educational.

However, St Cuthbert lives on and is shared peacefully now across the border by Scots and English united by the way that bears his name.

Edwin who was Northumbria's King had recently converted to Christianity and it was turbulent times with both violence and some paganism still prevalent. Edwin's predecessor as Northumbrian King had invited Irish monks over from Iona just about the time that Cuthbert was born and they included the man who became St Aidan, and who founded not just but Lindisfarne but Melrose Abbey. Despite his latter sainthood its thought that Cuthbert would have been involved in battles before entering into the priesthood but that applied to many in the church.

But, on 31St August 651 AD he was on guard duty when he spotted a light descending in the sky, which then rose again. Learning later that Aidan had died that evening he took the revelation as a calling and became a novice at Melrose Abbey. Remaining there for 13 years, he then proceeded to Ripon, in Northern England, where lands had been provided to preach and establish a new monastery. Returning to Melrose he found the Abbey afflicted by the plague from which he recovered but the Prior succumbed. Cuthbert acceded to the Priors role which was in effect the Abbots deputy.

Ascetic personality

In that new role he travelled far and wide from Melrose to Lindisfarne and from

Berwick across to Galloway, and even its suggested up into Edinburgh ministering to the faithful. Hugely popular with ordinary people, he was widely respected for his asceticism, forsaking the riches and opulence that many monasteries were noted for in later years.

In 664AD Northumbria it was decided that spiritual leadership should come from Rome not Ireland, as it had been up until then. This resulted in the Irish monks returning to Iona and Lindisfarne falling under the direction of Melrose. The Abbot and Cuthbert as Prior were in charge of both and he moved to Holy Island where Lindisfarne is based off the Northumbrian coast to continue his work.

No doubt partly due to his ascetic personality he then decided to become a hermit as part of his religious devotion. Moving to another remote and almost inaccessible island nearby he built a hermitage where he remained for many years, though visitors who came in search of advice and spiritual guidance were received by him.

In 684 AD he was persuaded by the King, as well as his church colleagues and devoted public, to forsake his isolation. Reluctantly agreeing he then became Bishop of Lindisfarne travelling widely

again across the now border lands between Scotland and England. He died three years later becoming one of England's most popular saints as Northumbria merged into Norman England.

His image and cult were part of the growing identity for the people around Durham and his tomb lies in that English cathedral city, having been moved from Lindisfarne to avoid pillage and desecration, no doubt, by Viking raiders. Revered by many his image was even carried into battles on the banners of English soldiers as they sallied north to fight the auld enemy, despite the fact that he'd been born there.

However, St Cuthbert lives on and is shared peacefully now across the border by Scots and English united by the way that bears his name. His distinctive cross is also shared as it adorns the flags of both County Durham and Kirkcudbright.



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Lights on for the Fair Isle



tiny island between Orkney and Shetland is getting ready to enjoy a 24-hour electricity supply for the first time later this year. Work is taking place on Fair Isle's new electricity scheme after the community group Fair Isle Electricity Company secured its full £2.65 million funding package last year. The three-mile long island has used a combination of wind and diesel power since the 1980s, but it is presently lights out between 11pm and 7am on nights when there is no wind. A spokeswoman for the National Trust for Scotland, which owns the island, said that Fair Isle would not be the last place in the UK to get 24-hour electricity as Canna, which they also own, in the in the Inner Hebrides is in the same situation. Fair Isle Electricity Company director Robert Mitchell said "With a decent infrastructure we can look for sites on the island now to build houses and connect them to a system, whereas before there was no point in building new houses because we didn't have any capacity to take them on. All that for the future will make a difference and should hopefully encourage people to come and live on the island." The project is expected to be completed in September.

Residents loving life in Edinburgh



esidents continue to enjoy life in the Capital, according to the Edinburgh People Survey 2017 - the largest study of its kind in Scotland. Of the 5,180 respondents to the annual survey, 95% said they were satisfied with Edinburgh as a place to live, while 69% said they were content with the way the Council manages the city - up from 66% the previous year. Participants also recognised Edinburgh as an inclusive and diverse city, with 85% perceiving neighbourhoods as a place where people from different backgrounds can get on well together and the vast majority - 94% agreeing that the Capital is welcoming and accessible to people of all ages.

Council Leader, Councillor Adam McVey, said: "Each year the Edinburgh People Survey gives us a real insight into the public's perception of Edinburgh, the services we provide and the areas in which we can improve. I'm pleased to see that, once again, residents are satisfied with life here – with satisfaction with the way the Council manages

the city up 3% - and that the vast majority feel safe and included in their communities, making Edinburgh the welcoming place it is."

Community life

Community life features heavily in the Edinburgh People Survey, which showed that 39% of respondents feel they are able to have a say on things happening in their area, the highest figure since the survey began. It is recognised that the figure could be improved, though it is intended that the recent establishment of Locality Committees across the city will address more issues at a local level. Other areas for improvement include road and pavement maintenance, dog fouling and graffiti and cycle safety.

A number of questions added in 2016 highlight residents' travel habits and demonstrate, for the second year, the bus to be the most common form of transport, with three quarters of participants using the service in the last month (compared to 68% in 2016) – chiming with 90% satisfaction with public transport. The public travel on

foot most frequently though, walking 5.6 days a week, followed by travel by car or van, which was used 4.3 days a week.

Key findings in the Edinburgh People Survey 2017 include:

- Residents continue to be happy with life in Edinburgh, with 95% of participants satisfied and 89% content with their neighbourhood as a place to live.
- 84% of citizens feel safe in their neighbourhood after dark, while most don't think violent crime (86%), graffiti and vandalism (76%) or antisocial behaviour (72%) is an issue in their area.
- More people than ever 67% attended a festival in Edinburgh in the last two years, with 76% believing festivals make the Capital a better place to live.
- More than two thirds of respondents -72% - agree the Council cares about the environment.
- 57% think the Council keeps them informed about the services it provides compared to 48% in 2014.
- Edinburgh's parks and green spaces are as popular as ever, with an 86% rate of satisfaction, which has gradually increased over recent years.
- 47% of respondents had used the library in the previous 12 months, with 91% satisfied with the service.
- Almost half (47%) of cyclists feel safe using roads, dipping from 53% in 2016.
- Two thirds of citizens are confident about their job prospects in Edinburgh, broadly consistent with recent years.

Scotland out-performs rest of UK for 6th year running



he annual release of visitor figures from the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions (ALVA) has seen Edinburgh Castle leap four places in the rankings to be named the 12th most-visited attraction in the UK for 2017. Recording a 16% increase in footfall as it welcomed 2,063,709 visitors last year, the iconic castle cemented its place as the top paid-for attraction in Scotland.

The release of visitor figures also showed a number of other Historic Environment Scotland (HES) managed sites performing strongly throughout the last year. Stirling Castle and Urquhart Castle both welcomed record numbers of visitors in 2017, with 18% and 23% increases in footfall respectively. Glasgow Cathedral joined these sites in the UK top 100 for the first time, as it saw visitor numbers increase by 36% to 389,101.

These historic attractions were closely followed by sites such as Doune Castle, which continued to celebrate the 'Outlander effect' throughout 2017 with a 38% surge in visitor numbers to 124,341; Skara Brae in Orkney, which witnessed an 18% increase in footfall as it recorded 110,028 visitors; and St Andrews Castle, which saw an 18% increase in footfall bring its visitor tally for the year to 90,617.

Recored-setting year for Scottish attractions

Bernard Donoghue, Director of ALVA, commented: "2017 was a remarkable and record-setting year for Scottish attractions. The fact that Scottish visitor attractions are outperforming the rest of the UK in visitor growth reflects years of strong investment by central and local government in Scotland, and by organisations such as the Heritage Lottery Fund, in Scotland's visitor economy and cultural landscape."

The latest figures from ALVA show that 2017 was a record year for Scottish tourism, with attractions in Scotland seeing an overall 14% increase in footfall – out-performing the UK as a whole.

Sons of Scotland Pipe Band visit China



attending. They look forward to another trip to China and are most thankful for

he Sons of Scotland Pipe Band from Ottawa, Canada had the wonderful opportunity to take a special trip to China to help mark some unique events being held in Beijing, Chengdu and Suining in late April as the weather turned sunny and warm. As guests of the Rideau Stone Arts Centre, the band played at the Great Wall of China and at the Walk for the Environment, attended by thousands of people from all over the world, and at the memorial dedicated to celebrated Canadian surgeon Dr. Norman Bethune. They visited the Panda Exhibit and made great friends at a local grade school show supported by China's largest steel manufacturer, and worked very hard at all the events they had the honor of

trip to China and are most thankful for their sponsors who made this happen.

The Sons of Scotland Pipe Band is Canada's oldest civilian pipe band, for more details on the band see: www.sospb.com



SCOTSPEAK

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

"About a month ago I was walking on a beach near to Stranraer as part of my job with Solway Coastwise, really looking at stories behind place names, and there right on the water's edge was this great big bone. It was the size of the bone that really stood out - it was much bigger than any bone I had ever seen before and I'd found whale bones and things like that on the beach before. I realised straight away that it was an extraordinary thing because it was such a large bone and I really had no idea what it could be. It was sent to the National Museums of Scotland who have compared it with various bones that they have and have confirmed that it is almost certainly a mammoth bone. They now need to do further tests to carbon date it and find out other things about it - so really this is just the beginning of the story. Until the tests are done we don't really know how important the discovery is but as the first confirmed mammoth bone in Scotland it opens up a whole new chapter of understanding what was living where and when and so could be incredibly important."

Nic Coombey, co-ordinator of the Solway Coastwise project, said after finding a large 2ft (60cm) bone on a Avrshire beach. This is considered the first mammoth bone found in Scotland and could date back as far as 30,000 years.



"This will be the first big test of the Council's initiative to try and protect what remains of historic battlefield and its setting through $a\,Conservation\,Zone.\,The\,Zone\,could\,not$ be applied retrospectively to the Viewhill housing development but we hope that it will prevent further unsympathetic

encroachment on this pivotal site for Scotland's story. Our great concern about Viewhill is that it would set a precedent that developers could exploit, leading to the absolute loss over time of an historic landscape. If Conservation Zone status does not prevent this development, it confirms our opinion that Scotland's Planning Laws must be completely overhauled if we are to have a fair chance of preserving places that our vital to our heritage and in themselves intrinsic to our tourism economy."

Diarmid Hearns, the National Trust for Scotland's Head of Policy, said as the conservation charity objects to new threat to the Culloden Conservation Zone. Developers plans have been submitted to enable construction of holiday, leisure and hospitality facilities, including 13 lodges, a cafe/shop, reception building, laundry and restaurant. The Battle of Culloden was the final confrontation of the Jacobite rising of 1745 and the last pitched battle fought on British soil. On 16 April 1746, the Jacobite forces of Prince Charles Edward Stuart were decisively defeated by Government troops on Culloden Moor.

"Police in Edinburgh have received complaints from local residents and a councillor about excessive noise from bagpipe buskers on the Royal Mile over the last month. Officers engaged with the buskers asking them to consider only playing on six days of the week to give local residents some respite on one day. On Sunday June 4 officers from the city centre Community Policing Team observed a bagpiper busking at Castlehill. The noise level was clearly excessive. The busker concerned was told to stop playing and issued with a 'yellow card' warning which outlines the relevant legislation. Once a recorded police warning has been issued, officers are required to record the busker's details. The busker refused to comply with this and he was arrested. He was released later in the day."

A Police Scotland spokeswoman said as a bagpiping busker was arrested on Edinburgh's Royal Mile for playing the bagpipes too loudly. The busy tourist thoroughfare hosts many buskers, however local businesses and residents have complained of excessive noise.

"Before, there was a very rough track that was covered when the tide was high. Now people will get to and from their houses at any time and it opens up Sanday for visitors, who can now reach the puffins and the lighthouse more easily. Economically it is good for Sanday. If people want to offer holiday accommodation, they are not relying on people being able to get onto the islands only at certain times of the day."

Isebail MacKinnon, from the Isles of Canna Community Development Trust, said that the very first road to open on the Scottish island of Sanday. The island has a local population of approximately 7 and previously had only dirt track roads.

"Only a small number of Gaelic manuscripts with a Scottish connection survive from this early period and our collection of more than 60 volumes is unparalleled in its scale and coverage. The Gaels in Ireland and Scotland shared a rich learning and literary tradition, and our collection provides a fascinating Scottish perspective. Passages in Latin and occasional samples of texts in Scots or English also show how actively Gaelic Scots were engaged with multiple European cultures. We are delighted to have these manuscripts listed in the Memory of the World Register - it highlights their outstanding historical and cultural value."

Dr Ulrike Hogg, Gaelic manuscripts curator at the National Library of Scotland said as early Gaelic manuscripts from the National Library of Scotland have been recognised for their historical and linguistic significance. The collection are being inscribed in the

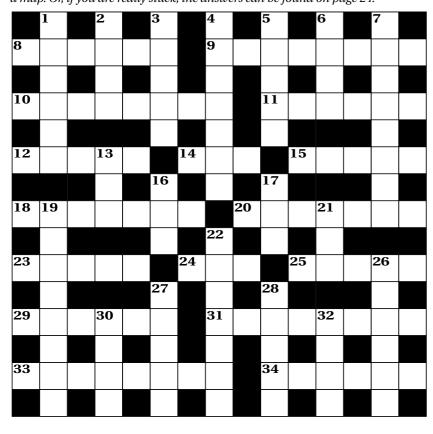
Unesco Memory of the World Register, which highlights archive and library items of outstanding historical value. The library has the largest collection of Scottish Gaelic manuscripts in the world from a period between the 14th and 18th century.



"If successfully implemented the proposal has the potential to help support lifeline transport services to the region's most remote and fragile islands. Among the most successful tourism initiatives are those which encourage the visitor to follow or complete a trail or visit a list of attractions. From the West Highland Way to Munro Bagging and the recent huge success of the NC500, they are all examples of existing attractions that have been marketed and packaged in ways that have encouraged significant increases in visitors. Similarly, to help encourage visitors to the west coast of Ireland, local partners including the National Tourism Authority have marketed the coastal route as the Wild Atlantic Way. A Scottish Islands Passport would seek to tap into a similar area but has arguably even more potential. Among the added benefits, is that it would encourage many more visitors to the smaller and least accessible islands."

The Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership manager Neil MacRae said they are looking the feasibility of introducing a Scottish Islands Passport for tourists. The passport hopes to help boost visitor numbers and have economic benefits to Scotland's 93 islands, which last year attracted 1.3 million visitors.

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



CLUES ACROSS

- 8) People of a state (6)
- 9) It can be found in the North Sea (8)
- 10) It goes with Dumfries (8) 11) Scots town sounds American (6)
- 12) Perfect (5)
- 14) A Scots roll (3)
- 15) Front of a kilt (5)
- 18) Bagpipe essential 20) Scotland' emblem (7)
- 23) Scots valleys (5)
- 24) Conical hill (3)
- 25) Call-to-arms cross! (5)
- 29) Resort near the River Earn (6)
- 31) The Granite City (8)
- 33) East-coast port (8) 34) A Scots bride's dowery (6)

CLUES DOWN

- 1) A knight's tunic (6)
- 2) A Scots measure (4) 3) A Scots hilltop
- 4) Follow the feline! (7)
- 5) Glasgow' flower! (5)
- 6) Bequeath (4) 7) Fishing port on Loch Broom (8)
- 13) Scotland's own (3)
- 16) A river from 31 Across (3)
- 17) Reserved (3)
- 19) A capital palace (8)
- 21) Scots winter pastime (3)
- 22) Castle rampart (7)
- 26) Smelt in Scotland! (6)
- 27) Gently-flowing water (5) 28) Grampian town on the Isla (5)
- 30) Newts (4)(3)
- 32) Across airport (4)

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By: Ron Dempsey

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 via our website at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us, by post or email: info@scottishbanner.com. Ron will do his best to help you with your name query and may just add that extra piece to your genealogy puzzle.



Then I see Games and Festivals advertised in January and February in the Scottish Banner. especially after I have just shovelled snow from my driveway, it is with a sigh and some envy that I imagine so many people in kilts enjoying the pipes, the dancing and the heavies at Games in somewhere sunny place like Florida. Then there are those lucky Aussies who have them in July because it's a little cooler at this time of year. Sometimes life isn't fair!!! Never mind, it is July now and my turn to attend the local Games so let the fun begin.

Try to take the time to attend a Games or Festival. So many volunteers have worked hard that you may enjoy Scottish culture in your local area.

It is always fun and informative to mention historical events in Scotland that happened on the current calendar month so here we are for July.

On July 3rd, 1928 John Logie Baird transmitted the first experimental colour television broadcast. Speaking of television and also radio, Lord Reith the first governor of the BBC was born at Stonehaven July 20th, 1889.

While on July 6th, 1747 John Paul Jones, the famous hero of the U.S. Navy was born at Kirkbean, Kirkcudbrightshire. He also died in this month on July 18, 1792.

Harvie

Well now off to address surname inquiries and there a more than a few this month. The first is from Mr. Neil Harvie Thomas of Belair, South Australia, who wrote a complimentary letter and inquired about his middle name Harvie.

One source of the name is from a Breton personal name meaning "battle worthy. A person bearing this name brought it to Britain via the conquest in 1066. Later the name is again the personal name of the lord who held sway over the lands of Keith and so the surname Harvey is a sept of that great clan.

Other unrelated names Harvie, Harvey, Hervey, and Hervie held lands in other parts of Scotland. The main one is Harvey of Braidlie or Broadley in the parish of Dalry, Ayrshire.

Love

Mrs. Linda Love of Sydney, NSW, Australia wrote on behalf of her husband Jeff's surname. Mr. Love's family hailed from Kirkcudbrightshire in the early 1800's. Love has been dealt with this column in previous years but usually in February when a name is a natural for St. Valentine's Day themed column.

Try to take the time to attend a Games or Festival. So many volunteers have worked hard that you may enjoy Scottish culture in your local area.

However, as always mentioned, the name has nothing to do with romance. As Mrs. Love mentioned in her letter it has a French origin. This is correct in one variation of the name and its meaning is wolf more a female wolf which was spelled "louve" in Old French. It is probable that it arrived with many Old French words to Britain and latterly to Scotland with descendants of the Norman Conquest.

It was also recorded as Lufe as early as 1472 in Scotland, which lends itself to an even more ancient variation of the name which is "Lufa" an Old English personal name.

Moiss

Mr. Ray Parry of Lismore NSW, Australia joins us again with an impressive list of names that he wishes me to pursue. Some are self-explanatory and others are interestingly not so much.

First on the list is the surname Moiss, it is an unusual name of which I had trouble finding any resources defining it. I only found two records of the name in Scotland as a surname both of them in Fife. It seems to be lumped with name Moss and possibly it is an east coast variation of the name. If it is in fact a form of Moss, it is has more than one derivation, the first being the obvious for a person resided near a morass or bog. The personal and biblical name Moses is another possible origin. Lastly, an Irish source has it as an incorrect Anglicization of the Gaelic surname

Ó Maolmona. Oldest record of the name is 1374.

Owe

The next name is a tough one. While there are records of people named Owes I had a difficult time finding any sort of origin for the name in my usual resources. Owe is a name that seems to be Scandinavian from Ove. There is a listing for the surname Ov in Scotland, where a Roger de Ov was recorded in 1150. The name was originally French from de Eu.

Walker is third on the list which is a more common name that can be easily explained. Although it is not what it appears to be. A Walker was an occupational name in the cloth trade, they were also known as a Fuller. The Fuller or Walker cleaned and thickened the wool. Walker is from the Old English "wealcere" Fuller is the Latin "fullo" for the same operations. Working the wool in this manner was called waulking the wool. Earliest recording of the name in Scotland was 1354. The highland equivalent is MacNucator,

Millar

Millar is a variation of spelling for the occupation of Miller. Millar was more common a spelling in Scotland. Like Smith every community, parish or collection of dwelling had a miller who milled the grain. Variations are Mill, which be for someone who lived at the mill or nearby but not necessarily the miller, the same for the very Scottish name Milne. The first record of the name was in 1467 in the form of Millare. Prior to that they were identified in the Latin "Molendinarius".

There are more names on Mr. Parry's list but we will save them for our column in August.

Lastly, I will again repeat my mantra on family history. So much can be lost within generations. Sadly, we never think to ask questions of elders when we are young and elders may neglect to pass along what they know about past generations to their grandchildren. Take a little time to do so. Enjoy your July.

Tartan of the Month Sherlock Holmes Tartan



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

The Scottish Register of Tartans was established by an act of the Scottish Parliament in November 2008 and promotes and preserves information about historic and contemporary tartans from Scotland and throughout the world. Text and image use is courtesy of the Scottish Register of Tartans.

he Sherlock Holmes tartan (Reference: 11759) has been created to show his followers that a tartan has been designed in his name. The creator of Sherlock Holmes was Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who was born in Scotland with Irish ancestry, hence the blue and green in the tartan. The lighter blue with the brown edging represents the Reichenbach Falls in Switzerland, the gold strip to show that Sherlock Holmes was one of the leading detectives of London. The tartan will be used to sell merchandise worldwide to all his fans and Sherlock Holmes societies.

Expeditions to study health of whales in Hebrides using pioneering laser photography



ebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust has announced details of its 2018 surveys, in which volunteers and marine scientists will carry out pioneering research into the health of whales, dolphins and porpoises off Scotland's west coast using photogrammetry – the science of making measurements from photographs.

The trust has been collecting data on cetaceans – the collective name for whales, dolphins and porpoises – from its specialized research yacht *Silurian* for 15 years. Photo-identification research over this time has catalogued 230 minke whales, some of which have returned to the same feeding grounds every year for over a decade.

This year, new laser photogrammetry equipment used by the crew will enable volunteers participating in the surveys to help collect vital new information to assess the overall health of whales in the Hebrides.

Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust and its volunteers are making an important contribution to marine conservation in Scotland.

The bespoke equipment made for the conservation charity works by placing two dots of light – of a known distance, typically around 10 centimetres – onto the body of an animal at the same time a photograph is taken.

The technique will be used to measure the length of the animals – helping to determine numbers of young whales, assess body conditions for parasites such as sea lice, and classify marks and scars from interactions with marine plastic and fishing gear.

"Monitoring by volunteers onboard *Silurian* has shown how Scotland's west coast is an important feeding ground for migratory minke whales. This new equipment will help build a greater understanding of individual

whales' movements, behaviour and overall health, and help us evaluate their interactions with manmade items in the marine environment," said Becky Dudley, Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust's Marine Biodiversity Officer.

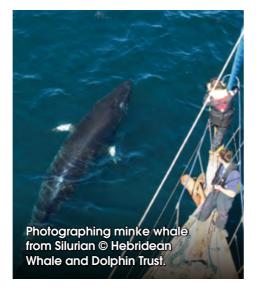
"All of our research expeditions depend on volunteers. We offer the opportunity of a lifetime to contribute to a better understanding of cetacean health, whilst enjoying the beautiful scenery of Scotland's west coast and experiencing some exhilarating sailing."

Important contribution to marine conservation in Scotland

Volunteers live, work and sleep on *Silurian* for up to 12 days, receiving training and working with the trust's scientists to conduct visual surveys, acoustic monitoring using specialist equipment, and identify individual animals through dorsal fin photography. The data collected using each of these research techniques also helps to assess impacts and threats caused by human activity. Volunteers also help run *Silurian* – giving them the chance to develop other skills such as sailing and navigation.

Surveys are partly funded by a grant from Scottish Natural Heritage, which supports the role of citizen science in better understanding Scotland's seas.

Fiona Manson, a marine specialist at Scottish Natural Heritage, said: "Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust



and its volunteers are making an important contribution to marine conservation in Scotland. We're excited by the innovative techniques the trust is using to find out more about the health of wildlife in Scotland's seas. The data collected by Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust over the years has helped us understand more about our marine wildlife and how to look after it, and this is an invaluable way to better connect people to nature in their local area."

Did you know?

- The Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust has been monitoring marine megafauna in the Hebrides since 1994, and from its yacht Silurian since 2002.
- Over the past 15 years, Silurian has travelled more than 100,000 kilometres surveying Hebridean waters from Islay to Cape Wrath and west of the Western Isles.
 Data – collected onboard by trained volunteers – forms the largest continuous database of its kind in the UK, comprising of over 6,000 hours of underwater sound recordings, and over 30,000 animal records.

Anyone can join one of the trust's expeditions for seven to 12 days, and there are still a few places available onboard in 2018. The surveys run to the end of October, with departures from Tobermory on the Isle of Mull, Kyle of Lochalsh near Skye, and Ullapool. Participation costs cover boat expenses, accommodation, training, food and insurance, and support the trust's research.

For details, email volunteercoordinator@ hwdt.org, call + 44(0)1688 302620 or see www.hwdt.org/silurian

historic Boondooma homestead



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For more info: www.boondoomahomestead.org.au

SORRY-NO EFPOS

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





Scrambles

Hard up, soor dook, Cannae throw a penny oot Hard up and kick the can, Oor wee Sadie's got a man, And who dae ye think it is? His name, as we all know, Is bonny Gavin Munro.

A skipping rhyme associated with the throwing of small change by the groom, the best man and the bride's parents onto the street on their way to the wedding celebration.

ur pocket money was never enough to satisfy our ambitions but it could be supplemented by going around people's doors and asking kindly folks for their unwanted lemonade bottles. We used a bit of spit on our hair and our faces to brighten us up a little; we pulled up our socks to hide the hacks on our legs and pulled down our jersey sleeves to hide the holes in the elbows. We looked angelic, or maybe pitiful, and we often had success. "Have ye any lemonade bottles ye don't want, mister? We'll take ye'r empty bottles back tae the shops for you."

"Aye, okay, son. Ye can take these wans, today. In fact come back again on Sunday. We're havin' a party on Seturday night. I'll want to get rid of some mair o' them." Now, with an empty bottle or two under our arms, a trip to the pictures or a copy of the Dandy or Beano became a possibility.

Hard up!

Soft drink bottles, beer bottles and jam jars carried refundable deposits of a penny or two and were eagerly sought out by us children. Pollok folk were by nature generous and trustworthy. When we went to a door we just assumed that paedophiles, serial killers and rapists didn't live inside. Having never come across any of these people in our wanderings, we realised that such predators must hang out in far-off places such as Newton Mearns and Clarkston, but certainly not around where we lived.

Our main chance to get extra money came when there was a wedding and a scramble. It was customary for brides, and the wedding party, in Scotland, to throw handfuls of money out of the window of their Daimler limousines for good luck. We all copied the adults and shouted "Hard up! Hard up! Hard up! Rusty pockets!",

Our main chance to get extra money came when there was a wedding and a scramble. It was customary for brides, and the wedding party, in Scotland, to throw handfuls of money out of the window of their Daimler limousines for good luck.

although we never thought, at the time, about what it might mean. It was in fact based upon the idea of making a challenge to the groom, suggesting that if he didn't have enough money to generously shower us with some of it, then he mustn't have the worldly wealth and means to support a wife.

Pennies and half-pennies

So, lucky for us, no self-respecting groom or bride's father for that matter let themselves leave their homes or the church without a scramble. For that

reason no bride or groom in Pollok ever left quietly for their wedding, or ever had to suffer bad luck. To ensure that they lived in blissful good fortune for the rest of their married lives, whenever the familiar satin ribbons were spotted on a limousine, we were there to enthusiastically help them on their way.

On Saturdays during the summer months there were lots of weddings and, with a bit of luck, our gang would spot one on our wanderings. Seeing a wedding party in the distance raised an excited call of "a scramble" and our expectations ran high as we hurried to get there on time. We were always optimistic, hoping that we would end up with a handful of pennies and half-pennies laced with a threepenny bit, a sixpenny piece, and maybe even a shilling or two. If there was a very large group of children already gathered then we might end up with not much more than a black eye or a 'skint' knee from the ensuing vigorous scramble along the pavement and the gutter. Nevertheless the happy groom or bride then moved off to a life of wedded bliss, taking our guaranteed good luck wishes with them. Nevertheless, if a less than generous groom or bride's father had been involved then the refrain of "poor oot, ye durty brute, ye cannae spare a penny" might be heard and we disappointed bairns left with little more than empty pockets and a new tear on the seat of our trousers.



ave you always wanted to have a traditional Scottish wedding? There's a lot more to it than just wearing a kilt!

Learn about the quirky Scottish good luck rituals and romantic customs you can incorporate into your own ceremony, from those which have become common in weddings around the world to obscure time• honoured traditions that are still followed in small corners of Scotland.

Lucky charms from around Scotland

- Right foot forward is the correct procedure a bride should follow when exiting her house on her way to the wedding.
- A sixpence in the bride's shoe has long been a tradition in Aberdeenshire and Angus.
- A sprig of white heather hidden in the bride's bouquet is a popular good luck token in the Scottish Borders.

- The 'wedding scramble' is traditional in most parts of Scotland. As the bride steps into the car, her father throws a handful of coins for the children to collect.

 Believed to bring about financial good fortune, it also takes place in weddings in Ayrshire where it is known as a 'warsel'.
- It may sound unlikely, but feet• washing is a custom that originates in Fife and Dundee & Angus. The bride sits on a stool while an older, married woman washes and dries her feet. In Fife, however, only a few brave bridegrooms go through the traditional custom, which involves sitting in a tub of water while his legs are smeared with grease, ash and soot. Lovely!

Ceremony and reception

• Gretna Green Famous Blacksmiths Shop is where couples have been coming to tie the knot since 1754. Are you feeling rebellious? Follow in the footsteps of the countless runaway lovers who, lured by Scotland's lenient marriage laws, eloped to the sleepy town of Gretna Green on the Anglo-Scots border. Say your vows over the original anvil used by the 'Blacksmith Priest' when presiding over clandestine unions.

- The Wedding Walk is the formal march taken by the wedding party to the church. Preceded by a piper or fiddler, the bridegroom leads the maid of honour while the bride walks behind with the best man. After the ceremony, the newlyweds leave the church followed by the best man escorted by the maid of honour. To secure good luck it was traditionally thought that the wedding procession should cross running water twice.
- A Penny Wedding is an ideal solution for those after a traditional yet budget• friendly wedding. Guests bring their own food and drinks to the reception allowing the couple to splurge on the wedding cake.
- The Scottish Quaich or 'Loving Cup' is a two-handled silver bowl which is topped up with whisky, usually by the bride, and then passed around for the wedding party to sip once the legal proceedings have been concluded.

Dances

• The Lang Reel is a traditional dance which happens in the fishing communities in the north east of Scotland. The dance sees villagers and the wedding party begin dancing from the harbour and continue through the village, with each couple leaving the reel when they pass

their home. This continues until the only couple left are the bride and groom who have the last dance.

• The Traditional Grand March is often the first dance to take place at a wedding reception. It begins with the bride and groom marching to the sound of bagpipes or a live band. The maid of honour (or chief bridesmaid) and the best man join in, followed by both sets of in-laws, and finally the guests!

Gifts

- The 'wedding sark' is the traditional name given to the shirt worn by the groom which is gifted by the bride. The groom pays for the wedding dress in return.
- Clocks are traditionally given to the happy couple by the best man in the north east while the maid of honour gives them a tea set.
- A luckenbooth is a brooch given as a love token by a gentleman to his betrothed.
 They are usually made of silver and engraved with two hearts combined.

Did you know?

Blackenings are a ritual performed very occasionally with great gusto on the night before the wedding.

The unlucky groom-to-be is captured by his friends and is stripped to the waist before bound and 'blackened' with feathers, treacle, soot and flour! He is then noisily paraded through the village by his friends who endeavour to make the experience as embarrassing as possible. In some parts of Scotland, this can happen to the bride too!

Text image courtesy of VisitScotland.

The Battle of Carham-The most important Scottish battle you may have never heard of



By: Kevin John Tolmie

2018 marks the millennial anniversary of the Battle of Carham. This battle was fought on the banks of the River Tweed, where the border between Scotland and England is today. Indeed this battle is the reason the border is there. Many scholars therefore believe that this was one of the key battles in Scottish history as defeat here could have meant death for the nation in its infancy. In this respect it ranks with another little discussed battle; that of Dunnichen (Nechtansmere) of 685.

In 1018 (although some have asserted 1016), Malcolm II, King of Scots in alliance with Owen of Strathclyde defeated Uthred, Earl of Northumbria. The confusion in dates results from Uthred's date of death being likely misreported. Simeon of Durham reported the battle was preceded by a comet. One is known to have been visible through August 1018 so the battle was likely fought in September. The exact location of the battle is also in doubt, some placing it some 3kms further east at the present day village of Wark. However at that time the course

of the River Tweed flowed further to the south and the supposed battle site there was a marshland.

Scots nationality

So Carham was the place and 1018 was the year but what was the battles importance? In the preceding hundreds of years the more indigenous Britons and Picts were joined by invaders who settled the island of Great Britain including Scots (from Ireland), Angles (from Denmark/Germany) and Vikings (Denmark/Norway).

The importance of the Battle of Carham is that arguably, without the acquisition of Lothian and Strathclyde, Scotland, may not have been a viable entity.

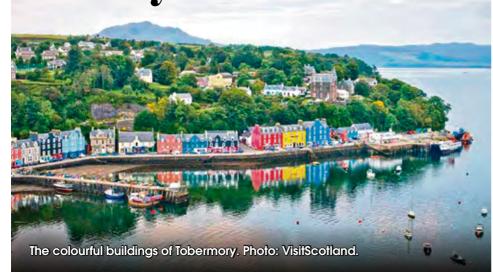
The time after the departure of the Romans from Caledonia (Scotland) in the early 3rd century was known as the Time of Four Kingdoms – Scots, Picts, Britons and Angles. Then the Vikings arrived and their influence was to be significant in the development of Scotland (and England). The Hebrides, Orkney and Shetland Islands were to be for many years after the establishment of Scotland, a part of the Kingdom of Norway.

The Anglian Kingdom of Northumbria (the land north of the Humber) had once spanned from Humber to Forth. Scotland when first created by the joining of the Scottish and Pictish kingdoms therefore had the Firth of Forth as its frontier with Northumbria. Meaning that Scotland's present-day capital, Edinburgh was once effectively in England! The Scots sought to push the border south. Edinburgh was captured around 950 and after the Scots victory at Carham the province of Lothian was ceded to the Scots and the border became the River Tweed, on whose south bank the battle was fought (in present day England).

Later in 1018 Owen died and the Scots absorbed the Kingdom of Strathclyde making Scotland much nearer to the size we see today. In fact at this time Strathclyde included the province of Cumbria so the border was in fact much further to the south on the west coast. Cumbria was lost after the Scots defeat by the English at the First Battle of Alnwick (1093). The importance of the Battle of Carham is that arguably, without the acquisition of Lothian and Strathclyde, Scotland, may not have been a viable entity. It may have been part of England or Norway. So for those who value their Scots nationality 1018 is indeed an important year to note.

Events will commemorate the Battle in this important anniversary year including a re-enactment over the weekend 7-8 July. For further details visit www.carham1018.org.uk

Did you know?



The Isle of Mull

- The Isle of Mull is the second largest island of the Inner Hebrides.
- Mull was first settled in the Bronze Age.
- There are more sheep on Mull than people with just 3000 residents.
- Much of the population are Macleans, MacLaines, MacKinnons, Macquarries and MacDonalds, descendants of Mull's ancient clans.
- People from Mull are known as Mullochs.
- The Isle of Mull Railway is Scotland's only island passenger railway.
- Tobermory (meaning "Mary's Well") is the capital of the Isle of Mull and was built as a fishing port in the late 18th century.
- Mull is considered one of the best places to see wildlife in the United Kingdom with viewing opportunities for birds, deer and whales
- Mull is home to the largest and rarest bird of prey in Britain, the white• tailed sea eagle. One of 250 different bird species found on the island.
- Ben More is the highest mountain and only Munro on the Isle of Mull.

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reetings from Scotland, for once, a sweltering, sunshine-bathed spot! Since we last talked it has been hot, hot, hot. Barbecues brought out of long-term hibernation.

Deckchairs dusted down. Midges galore...
Yes, that is the downside of a balmy Scotia.

May to September is the typical flying season. During this time walkers and fishers can be seen rubbing anti-midge spray onto every bare bit of skin and covering themselves in netting. What's more, rank is no bar to being bitten. Back in the nineteenth century the world's most powerful woman had to flee a heathery hill after being eaten alive. It was Queen Victoria who was being plagued by the blessed beasties.

The Highlands and Islands suffers most when it comes to these annoying swarms, but the recent warm weather has brought them out here - in the Lowlands and Borderlands - and we live in near-perfect conditions: the soil peaty, and the house sandwiched between a river and a bank of trees.

These no-seem-'ems love me. So I suffer more than most. Just one solitary bite results in a large itchy swelling. But they tend to leave the chief alone. Maybe it's due to the fact that he's got a tough skin. Perhaps it's because he's a red-head. Or,

Lady MacGregor's Scotland

Lady MacGregor of MacGregor – otherwise known as British broadcaster Fiona Armstrong. Fiona is currently news reading for the BBC, but she also leaves the studio to report on all matters Scottish. Fiona lives in Scotland with her husband, Chief of Clan MacGregor, Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor, and is also 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.

it could just have something to do with the past: all those rufty-tufty MacGregor ancestors prowling the glens. They simply became immune to midge attack.

Wildlife photography

This resilience is handy, as the chief has been spending much time in the great outdoors. Along with other seasoned snappers the MacGregor has been testing out a wildlife photographic course. It is planned to take place on a friend's farm – and a professional verdict on the operation is needed.

Holyroodhouse sits at the end of Edinburgh's Canongate, its ancient rooms witness to death and romance.

Here is Mary Queen of Scots' bed chamber. Here are the state apartments where Bonnie Prince Charlie held court before heading off to fight in the 1745 uprising.

Now, my husband is a landscape photographer. From desert dunes, to snow-covered mountain peaks, his forte is capturing the majestic and the dramatic. He is quite at home in the wild. So how hard can it be to get a shot of a wee red squirrel?

Stealth is all. He sits in a hide for what seems like an eternity. But when the bushy-tailed creature does make an appearance, it refuses to sit still.

I arrive at the end of day two to see how things are going and I find the team comparing pictures on computers. No-one has yet managed to shoot the squirrel (not literally) but there are close-up shots of birds and badgers. As dusk falls a bottle of wine is uncorked and dinner comprises of shepherd's pie, followed by rhubarb meringue.

The Palace of Holyroodhouse

Rather more luxurious surroundings await us later in the month when we are invited to stay at a palace. Holyroodhouse sits at the end of Edinburgh's Canongate, its ancient rooms witness to death and romance. Here is Mary Queen of Scots' bed chamber. Here are the state apartments where Bonnie Prince Charlie held court before heading off to fight in the 1745 uprising.

In this historic abode famous faces from Scotland's dramatic past watch from the walls, MacBeth and Robert the Bruce among the cast. Today the palace hosts less warlike monarchs. This is The Queen's official residence whilst in Scotland and we marvel at the plasterwork ceilings; at the tapestries and the gilded velvet chairs.

Fabulous jewels glitter in glass cases. But it is the palace gardens that charm and a tour of the hothouses shows hundreds of tender plants being brought on before being bedded outside. In the palace grounds are borders brilliant with colour and exotic species of tree. Here is Queen Mary's sundial, made for Charles the First's coronation in 1633.

By: Lady Fiona

MacGregor

So why are the chief and I there? Well, we are invited to dinner and to stay the night by the Lord High Commissioner and he is The Queen's personal representative to the Church of Scotland. For one week of the year this man is effectively the monarch north of the border. As such he lives at the palace for seven days, puts on receptions and dinners – and invites Scots from different walks of life to join him.

I find myself sitting next to a world-famous crime writer. Ian Rankin lives in Edinburgh. He stems from Fife and is the person who created Rebus, a hard-drinking Edinburgh detective who solves all those nasty Scottish murders. Millions of copies of his books have sold round the globe. They are among my favourite reading – and I cannot believe I am talking to their author.

With thirty or so of us at dinner it is an entertaining night. When the chief and I retire we find our bedroom high-ceiling, floral, and heavy-curtained. The plumbing creaks into the wee small hours and I wonder about ghosts. Holyroodhouse. Even if you do not stay the night, there is plenty to see in the daytime, so put this place on your Scottish must-see list.

Latest revelations from Captain Scott's Discovery Expedition could help climate change battle



he is one of the world's most famous ships and is synonymous with British scientific endeavour, and more than a century after her historic expedition to Antarctica, RRS Discovery is still revealing her secrets. An examination of biological samples returned to Britain by Captain Scott and his crew in 1904 has revealed potentially crucial information for future studies into climate change. Specimens of cyanobacteria - commonly known as blue-green algae - have been examined by a team of researchers working at London's Natural History Museum, the University of Dundee, and the Brain Chemistry Laboratory in Wyoming. The research, to be published in the European Journal of Phycology, provides a crucial snapshot of conditions on the frozen continent before widespread human activity, according

to Geoffrey Codd, Emeritus Professor of Microbiology at Dundee.

Cyanobacteria

Professor Codd, who assisted with the project, said, "These findings from the Discovery Expedition will provide crucial baseline information given the steady global increase in cyanobacterial populations. These increases are in response to climate change and the growing human pressures on our water resources. Using modern analytical methods, we have identified several cyanobacterial toxins in the material, the earliest evidence of these toxins in Antarctica from a period before any real human influence on the continent and before the current period of increasing evidence for climate change."

Cyanobacteria are commonplace in water bodies throughout the world,

including Scotland. Often concentrated in clumps on the surface of lochs, reservoirs, rivers and along shorelines, blooms and mats can be toxic and are capable of killing animals or causing serious illness in humans. Having been stored for decades, the team of researchers, led by the Natural History Museum's Dr Anne Jungblut, began to take a closer look at clumps of the leather-like material retrieved by the Discovery Expedition, concluding that the concentration of toxins is likely to have been even higher when originally gathered.

A catalogue of breakthroughs

Professor Codd added: "Modern molecular methods are allowing us to fully examine and reveal the merit of these samples. Having carried out research for many years on cyanobacteria and especially their toxins at the University of Dundee, the home of RRS Discovery, it is interesting to think that samples returned on that iconic ship are still proving valuable to science more than a century later."

Launched in Dundee in 1901, RRS Discovery was designed to spearhead the British National Antarctic Expedition, led by Captain Robert Falcon Scott.

Tasked with carrying out scientific and geographical research, the vessel returned after three years in the freezing conditions, having made a catalogue of breakthroughs. Today, *RRS Discovery* is one of Scotland's most celebrated visitor attractions and is berthed alongside the soon-to-open V&A museum on Dundee's waterfront.

Did you know?



- The *Discovery* was modelled after whaling ship designs.
- The ship was nearly built in Norway but it was decided that a ship for a British expedition should be built in the UK and was built in Dundee.
- The *Discovery* was the first ship ever to be built in Britain specifically for a scientific expedition.
- The vessel typically carried 45 men, 11 officers and 36 crewmen.
- The ship forms part the British Antarctic Territory coat of the arms.
- The *Discovery* was the last traditional three-masted wooden ship to be built in the UK.
- The Dundee Heritage Trust took over the care of the *Discovery* restoring it to its original appearance, and opened it as a museum in Dundee in 1986 where it remains today.

Kirkintilloch: Roman and Dry



round the year AD 140, a wall was commissioned by the Roman Emperor Antoninius Pius to link the Firths of Clyde and Forth. For about 20 years after it was built, you could call it Rome's North-west Frontier. In 2008, what we now know as the Antonine Wall was awarded World Heritage Status by UNESCO. The course of the wall runs right through my home town of Kirkintilloch; I grew up a few hundred metres on the Roman side.

The Antonine Wall was built of turf on a stone foundation and not much above ground survives, and nothing at all in Kirkintilloch. However, the town's very name is thought to be derived from 'Caer-pen-tulach', a mixture of old Welsh and Gaelic that suggests 'Fort at the Head of the Ridge'. The 'fort' in the name probably refers to the medieval motte, part of which can still be seen in Peel Park. Its construction may have removed all trace of the Roman fort that must have occupied the site. Certainly, it's never been found.

Burgh of Barony

Kirkintilloch is old, then. Some sort of settlement would have gathered around the fort (wherever it was), the first Kirkintilloch, if you like. Roman altars and other objects have been found nearby; some are on display in the town's excellent Auld Kirk Museum (housed in a former 17th century church) while others are in the Hunterian Museum at Glasgow University.

Kirkintilloch was granted a charter as a Burgh of Barony in 1211 by King William the Lion, so the town celebrated its 800th official birthday in 2011. Oddly, it had celebrated its 750th in 1964, when there was still some ambiguity about the date burghhood was granted. The medieval motte or 'peel' in Peel Park was captured by English troops during the wars of independence. If this castle had survived and been added to in stone, it's fun to speculate how Kirkie might have been different. Perhaps it would now be a major tourist trap with the steep hill leading to Peel Park from the Cross resembling a shorter version of Edinburgh's Royal Mile!

Burghs usually kept meticulous records and Kirkintilloch was no exception. In 1963 the Scottish History Society published *The Court Book of the Burgh of Kirkintilloch 1658-1694*, edited by George S Pryde, a volume that's much-used by social historians. It's a fascinating insight into ordinary life and misdemeanours in the 17th century. It often reads, as you'd perhaps expect, like an archaic version of the crime stories in a local newspaper.

Scotland's Canal Capital

The Forth and Clyde Canal runs through the middle of Kirkintilloch. It was completed in 1790 but earlier, in 1773, the section from the Forth to Kirkintilloch had been opened and the town became an inland port. Some of the Roman artefacts now on display in

museums were unearthed by the canal builders. The canal was closed in 1963 but reopened as a Millennium project in the 21st century. Kirkintilloch now calls itself 'Scotland's Canal Capital', a possible contentious claim, but with an annual Canal Festival and increasing numbers of pleasure craft chugging past, the canal is very much alive here.

Around the year AD 140, a wall was commissioned by the Roman Emperor Antoninius Pius to link the Firths of Clyde and Forth. For about 20 years after it was built, you could call it Rome's North-west Frontier.

Before the Second World War there were pleasure cruisers - Fairy Queen and Gipsy Queen -operating from Kirkintilloch. Rail and canal met at Kirkintilloch Basin, serving Kirkintilloch's celebrated ironfounding industry. The Basin area has now been redeveloped as a leisure marina. Two shipyards operated on the canal in Kirkie, most famously producing the legendary Clyde Puffers of Para Handy fame.

Kirkie

On pavements throughout the UK you'll see little cast iron drain covers that bear the inscription 'Cameron and Roberton: Edinburgh and Kirkintilloch'. These were cast at the Southbank or Star Foundry and all of them must be fifty years old or more, now. The most famous ironworks in Kirkie (not, please, 'Kirky') was the Lion Foundry, which produced many of the UK's red telephone kiosks as well as much else. It should be much better known that almost all of the classic telephone boxes (which were once annoyingly voted as 'Icons of England') were cast in Scotland - at the Lion, at the Carron Foundry in Falkirk, and at the Saracen Foundry in Glasgow. The Carron and the Saracen are now long gone, and so are all of Kirkie's iron foundries.

Near the site of the Lion Foundry, right by the canal, the red sandstone tower of St Mary's Parish Church is the most distinctive building in the town, the probably front cover in any Kirkie pictorial calendar. It only dates from 1914, when it replaced the Auld Kirk that's now the museum.

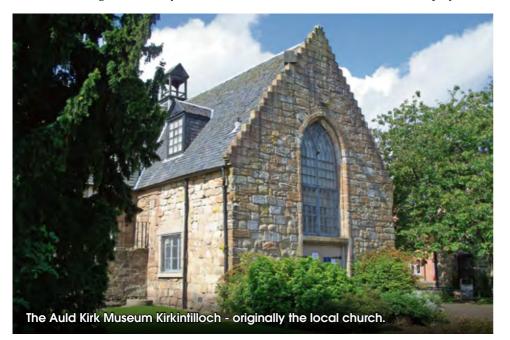
Kirkie's football team have probably the best name in world sport. Kirkintilloch Rob Roy FC, formed in 1878, have won the Scottish Junior Cup three times. Stevie Chalmers, who scored Celtic's winning goal in the 1967 European Cup Final, played for Rob Roy. So did George Young, the first Scotsman to win 50 caps for his country. Sadly, the club are presently homeless, playing their home games seven miles away in Cumbernauld. Their former ground, Adamslie Park, was also home to the Kirkintilloch Highland Games until they were discontinued in 1977.

Going 'wet'

Famous Kirkie people include the 19th century scientist Archibald Scott Coupar, and the wartime Secretary of State for Scotland Tom Johnston. Contemporary novelist Andrew Crumey grew up in the town, 18th century reforming martyr Thomas Muir came from nearby and Charles McIntosh - inventor of the mackintosh [sic] - lived for a while at Antermony House a couple of miles away. David Gray, the 19th century poet, came from Merkland, then a country hamlet, now engulfed by the town; his best-known poem, The Luggie, celebrates the broad, muddy river that slices through Kirkie.

Yet for all its rich cultural and industrial history, Kirkie is perhaps most famous because for many years it had no pubs or other alcohol sales outlets. It was a 'dry' burgh from 1920 until 1967 and several local referenda were held over the years giving the townsfolk the choice of whether to go 'wet'. The last one was held in 1967 (I remember getting the day off because my primary school was used as a polling station) and this allowed the town to go 'wet'. The 'dry' years never led to Al Capone gangsterism as during prohibition in the USA, in Kirkintilloch or in any of the other Dry Burghs, and it's certainly true that standards of public behaviour have declined markedly since 1967 as Kirkie, perhaps, reverts to the national average.

A few people, on hearing that I'm from Kirkintilloch, have struggled to place the name but then remembered, 'There's a song, isn't there?' Indeed there is; Scottish folk legends The Corries debuted *There Are No Pubs in Kirkintilloch* on their 1966 album *Those Wild Corries*. Now there's fame!





Hunt for Nessie's neighbours underway



new investigation to uncover anything unusual lurking in Loch Ness has begun. The mission to identify what lives in the UK's biggest by volume freshwater loch is being led by the Super Natural History team – a global group of scientists - and has been hailed by VisitScotland as an exciting venture into the mystery of Nessie. The loch's inhabitants could be revealed through DNA sampling techniques used by the team - who are keeping an eye out for any irregular species.

The examination involves the sampling of water, the concentration of living things from that water and the extraction of the DNA from these. The team will sample all over the loch over a two-week period to determine the types of creatures that live there.

Professor Neil Gemmell of the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand leads the team which includes Adrian Shine from the Loch Ness Project who has conducted previous research on the loch, Professor Eric Verspoor, director of the Rivers and Lochs Institute at Inverness College University of Highlands and Islands (UHI), and molecular ecologist Lucio Marcello from UHI. Similar investigations are being carried out at nearby Lochs Morar, Oich and Garry as control groups that could potentially reveal Nessie's presence in Loch Ness.

As creatures move through the loch, they leave tiny fragments of DNA through their skin, scales, feathers, fur, faeces and urine. The team is travelling the length of the loch on the Loch Ness Project's deepwater research vessel, Deepscan, which has been provided by The Loch Ness Centre in Drumnadrochit, taking water samples from three different depths. UHI has also provided an inshore boat to help with sampling.

'Nessie' phenomenon

Highland Cow and

Calf Canvas Bag

A lovely design of a Highland Coo mother and

calf. With sturdy black webbed handles.

H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm

The environmental DNA project's base camp is at the Loch Ness Project's laboratory at The Loch Ness Centre. The samples will be sent to labs in New Zealand, Australia, Denmark and France to be analysed and the final findings of the search will be released in early 2019.

In 2016 a 30-foot long Loch Ness Monster model as found on the loch bed during a state-of-the art sonar search by Kongsberg Maritime and supported by The Loch Ness Project and VisitScotland.

The finding was a prop from the 1970 film, *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes*, directed by Billy Wilder and starring Robert Stephens and Christopher Lee and it is believed the model sank after its buoyant humps were removed.

Loch Ness is famous throughout the world, not only for the monster which is said to inhabit its waters, but as an area of outstanding natural beauty. Discoveries already made within its waters include: a crashed Wellington bomber from the Second World War, a 100-year-old Zulu class sailing fishing vessel and parts of John Cobb's speed record attempt craft Crusader which crashed at over 200mph in 1952.

The Loch Ness Monster or 'Nessie' phenomenon is worth millions to the Scottish economy. Hundreds of thousands of visitors travel to Loch Ness and Drumnadrochit every year to catch a glimpse of the mythical monster.

One of the world's most famous enigmas

Chris Taylor, VisitScotland Regional Leadership Director, said: "The mystery and the intrigue of the Loch Ness Monster attracts visitors from all over the world to the stunning area every year. It is exciting to welcome Professor Gemmell and his team to the loch and we will be eagerly anticipating their findings. While the research could provide an insight into one of the world's most famous enigmas, it will certainly offer a closer look at all of the different creatures living in the loch. Tourism is the heartbeat of the Scottish economy, creating jobs and sustaining communities, so it is great to have a spotlight on Loch Ness and encourage more visitors to discover what lies beneath its depths and beyond its banks."

Professor Neil Gemmell, of the University of Otago, said: "Scotland is dear to my heart because my mother and her family are Scottish, I'm delighted to be here to undertake our environmental DNA investigation of Loch Ness. It's a place of extraordinary natural beauty. We're delighted with the amount of interest the project has generated in the science and, monster or not, we are going to understand Loch Ness, and the life in it, in a new way."

Adrian Shine, Leader of the Loch Ness Project, said: "The Loch Ness Project has spent over 40 years assembling species list for Loch Ness the hard way using nets and microscopes and now looks forward to comparing the results from this very elegant project. But there will be a Loch Ness Monster for as long as people want there to be."

For more information on the project visit: www.lochnesshunters.com

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Scotland Highland

Fling Jute Bag

Scotland text and a Highland Dancer

and two pipers. Made with sturdy jute with blue webbed handles.

H: 40cm, W: 36cm, D: 18cm

Record bug season for Scotland



Millions of insects are preparing to hatch and fly across Scotland this summer, in what is expected to be one of the most intense bug seasons in years. Perfect weather conditions have meant that crane flies are in abundance and scientists are predicting a record number impacting Scottish farmers as Nick Drainey explains.



cotland is preparing to close the windows, shut the doors and turn off the lights in the face of masses of daddy long legs. Hordes of crane flies are about to take to the wing across Scotland after scientists discovered hundreds of millions of the grubs they grow out of are living underground across the country. The experts at Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) found leatherjackets had prospered during the wet autumn and winter and are now waiting to hatch – and there is nothing we can do about it.

Previously, farmers have been able to use special pesticides but they are now banned, meaning real concern not only for people scared of the flying insects, but also farmers with crops in the ground. On average, at least a million of the grubs, or larvae, of daddy long legs are living in each hectare of land surveyed by SRUC – that equates to 250 on an average family dining table with space for four people. In gardens, the leatherjackets are also a risk to lawns as they like nothing better than eating the roots of grass.

Crane flies

In the coming weeks they will hatch and millions of the insects - commonly known as crane flies - will take to the wing, peaking by the end of July. Davy McCracken, Professor of Agricultural Ecology at SRUC, who co-authored the study said of the millions of grubs, "90plus per cent will end up as crane flies". Although not harmful to humans, Prof McCracken concedes many are scared of the insects. He said: "It is partly their size and partly the way they fly - they are just hanging there, drifting around with their legs dangling. They will be trying to come to the lights and getting in through a window. A lot of people have a phobia but they are completely harmless."





But there is little to be done to stop them coming near you, especially if out in the countryside or in the garden. At night you can only turn your lights off to stop them coming near a house. A wet autumn has meant the larvae did not dry out at all - the main natural reason they die off. And Prof McCracken said climate change in the last 20 years had seen the average yearly number of leatherjackets double because of wetter weather in Scotland. Pesticides had been able to kill many of them off but three years ago, products containing chlorpyrifos were banned in the UK meaning there is no longer an effective way of killing leatherjackets chemically.

Phobia

And with no other way of ridding the ground of the grubs it means they are able to thrive on the roots of spring crops, or grass being grown for silage. Farmers were now "very worried", Prof McCracken said, as they waited to see how much impact, particularly on cereal crops there would be. The SRUC's advice to farmers is to look at their fields to work out which ones have a high density of leatherjackets and not to plant crops on them, and instead use them for grazing.

Hordes of crane flies are about to take to the wing across Scotland after scientists discovered hundreds of millions of the grubs they grow out of are living underground across the country.

That way money is not wasted on planting, fertiliser or cultivation for a poor yield.

Birds such as rooks and waders will, however, enjoy eating the grubs in the ground. And when the daddy long legs hatch they will be food for small species. Mr McCracken said: "In a year like this I would be saying it is a good year for birds."

Dr Mark Salter from the Royal College of Psychiatrists said "specific phobias" such as those of daddy long longs or other flying insects are an evolutionary condition, or "a throwback to our earlier life". He said: "Inside your brain there are whole chunks of DNA sequence tucked away that equips you to make a quick, sudden snap decision when you confronted by something that is harmful to you. It can be dogs, heights or it can be ancient things that posed a threat to our ancient ancestors. Those things are sitting away in our genes and seem to predispose us in this modern day and age to an intense reaction, for reasons we don't fully understand. It may be due to previous exposure to the sight of insects, or a terrifying film about insects."

But with a good clinical psychologist, Dr Salter said the phobia can be cured 80% of the time through cognitive-behavioural therapy or behavioural therapy. He said the treatment works "like when you put a hand in cold water – it's cold at first but your body adapts." He added: "You expose people to an innocuous thing like a big furry woolly animal. Bit by bit you go along and expose them to images on a computer or a book, and contact with the insects comes at the end." At each stage, using breathing and relaxation techniques, the patient is taught to relax. "Eventually you reach mastery," said Dr Salter.

Midges

The insect perhaps best known for provoking fear and loathing in Scotland is the Highland biting midge and despite a slow start to the year. Hot weather in May and June is predicted to create a

bumper number this summer. Cool and wet weather in early spring meant the first emergence from the larvae below the soil surface was not as bad as previous years. However, Dr Alison Blackwell, an expert behind the Scottish Midge Forecast, said warm weather after that means Scotland can expect a lot more in the coming weeks.

She said: "They are pretty adaptable in surviving all kinds of conditions as we have seen. They know how to survive. They've done it for thousands of years. They survived the last Ice Age after all."

And like the daddy long legs, there is little to be done about the midge. Dr Balckweall said: "To get rid of them you would have to change Scotland's landscape – and that is not going to happen. I am afraid they are here to stay."





The freedom getting out on to the open road in Scotland is a big attraction to many. Hit the high (or low) road and discover ancient castles, glistening sandy beaches and spell-binding heritage. Veer off the beaten track and take in all the scenery and magic of Scotland.

ne of the best ways to discover Scotland's stunning scenery, rich heritage and culture is to get behind the wheel and set off on a scenic self-drive tour. Here are just some of the road trips you can take around Scotland. Whether you choose to spend a few days just cruising around or weeks really exploring the length and breadth of the country, the possibilities are endless.

1. Snow Roads Scenic Route
Spanning 90 miles of snow-capped
peaks, rugged glens, outdoor
adventures, cycling and delicious food
and drink; the Snow Roads Scenic Route
is a distillation of the finest elements of
the Cairngorms National Park.

Running through the eastern portion of this magnificent landscape, the route owes its name to the highest public road in Britain, and boasts some of the wildest, most dramatic Highland scenery imaginable. Steep climbs, 'blind' summits, and sharp twists and turns makes this one of the slower driving routes, and the gentler pace allows you the time to soak in the extraordinary views at 'Instagramready' vantage points and explore the various attractions along the way.

From whisky distilleries including Royal Lochnagar and fairytale castles such as Corgarff, to the jewels of Royal Deeside and the winter sports playground of Glenshee Ski Centre and The Lecht; the Snow Roads offers plenty of short, easily accessible detours during the course of your journey. You can even extend your journey by an extra day or two and get out and really explore this lesser-known corner of the Cairngorms National Park.

Discover more about the Snow Roads Scenic Route at: www.visitcairngorms.com/snowroads





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Taxt courtasu of Scotland ora



2. South West Coastal 300

After a leisurely drive over a long weekend? The South West Coastal 300 is a joy to drive. Enjoy over 300 miles of quiet roads through the beautiful countryside of Dumfries & Galloway and south Ayrshire.

Along the way, encounter wonderfully secluded stretches of beach and rugged clifftops, colourful towns and villages, and gently rolling hills purple with heather. Soak in postcard-perfect beauty spots like Sandyhills Bay, browse handcrafted artworks in the creative hotspot of Kirkcudbright, and delve into a world of Vikings, saints and Iron Age life at Whithorn, the earliest known Christian site in Scotland.

With the romantic ruin of Sweetheart Abbey and gorgeous gardens, as well as the dazzling starry skies visible from the Scottish Dark Sky Observatory on the edge of the Galloway Forest Park; the South West Coastal 300 boasts splendid locations and rich heritage in equal measure.

Hit the South West Coastal 300 at: www.visitsouthwestscotland.com/ attractions/southwest-coastal-route

3. North Coast 500

Scotland's answer to America's legendary Route 66 has swiftly established itself as one of the world's most iconic driving routes. It follows a sweeping loop around the whole northern tip of Scotland; from Inverness all the way to John O'Groats in the north east, along jagged coastline

overlooking the North Sea to Durness, then down the west coast before returning inland at the Applecross peninsula.

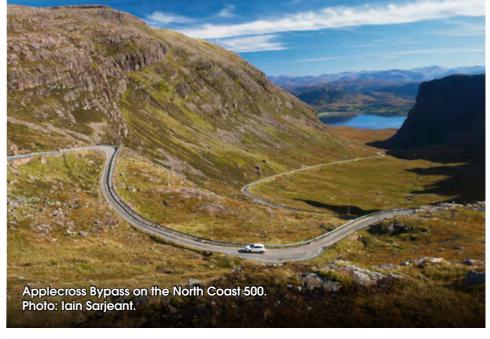
The Scottish Highlands are synonymous with untouched wilderness and when it comes to awesome scenery the North Coast 500 does not disappoint. Discover the dazzling white sands of deserted beaches like Balnakeil, endless views of the Atlantic, tantalising islands scattered just off shore, geological marvels like the mysterious Smoo Cave, and lofty heights along the single-track roads through the mountains.

Set against this glorious natural backdrop are a great deal of historic sites and other attractions. Along the way you'll encounter the French-style chateaux of Dunrobin Castle, countless ancient standing stones at Hill O' Many Stanes, drams of the finest malt at distilleries Glenmorangie and Old Pulteney, and the occasional free-roaming Highland coo.

See more about the North Coast 500 at: www.northcoast500.com

4. North East 250

The North East 250 is Scotland's best-kept motoring secret, encapsulating everything that makes Scotland so enchanting. Much like the North Coast 500, this is a circular route that winds through such captivating regions as Speyside, the Cairngorms, Royal Deeside, Aberdeen, the East Coast and the Moray Coast. Its condensed length makes it perfect for those who want to spend less time driving and more



time exploring the attractions that are all within easy reach of the route.

Spanning the Malt Whisky Trail, the route offers the opportunity to visit some of the most famous distilleries in the world such as Glenlivet. Dozens of Munros – mountains over 3,000 ft (914.4 m) – also line the route.

Along the route you can tee off on world-class golf courses including Braemar Golf Club, which is known as the highest course in the country. And don't forget the castles. The North East is positively brimming with them with Braemar, Ballindalloch and Balmoral just a few of the magnificent properties you can visit on your route. Just off the route lies the Banffshire coast, home to some of the finest beaches in Scotland. Feast on freshly caught seafood in delightful fishing villages.

Explore the North East 250 at: www.northeast250.com

5. The Argyll Coastal Route

Starting just north of Glasgow, the Argyll Coastal Route is like discovering the romantic Scotland of bygone age. Spanning Tarbet to Fort William, it follows a coastal fringe of tranquil bays and fjord-like inlets on one side with soaring mountains on the other. Iconic castles, the bonnie banks of the Loch Lomond, wildlife sightings and an oyster bar line the route. You can extend your journey by taking a detour off the main route to discover

Scotland's 'Secret Coast'. The route follow the road to the Kyles of Bute and Loch Fyne. A relatively undiscovered corner of Argyll, it features miles of natural splendour. Soak in dramatic Highland vistas, romantic glens and lush forests, and get out from behind the wheel to explore charming historic villages, empty beaches, and plenty more surprises along the way.

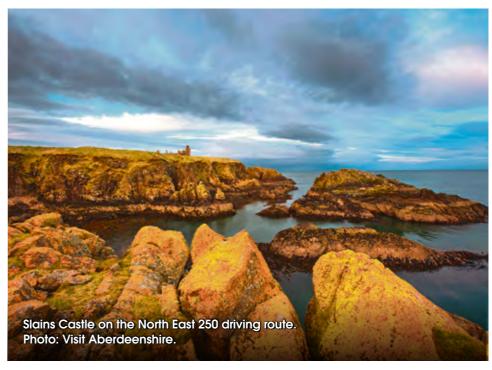
Follow the Argyll Coastal Route at: www. visitscotland.com/see-do/tours/driving-road-trips/routes/planner/argyll-coastal-route

6. The Borders Historic Route

Heading to Edinburgh? Follow the generations of eloping couples before you to Gretna Green and continue onwards into the heart of the Scottish Borders, Sir Walter Scott country. Weave through a beautiful countryside strewn with immense ruined abbeys, castles and country houses which hark back to a storied and sometimes turbulent past filled with fierce clashes, fair damsels and daring heroes. Swing by Scott's beloved home of Abbotsford, watch as authentic tartan and tweed is woven from scratch at Lochcarron of Scotland and the Borders Textile Towerhouse, and make a very worthwhile stop at a special independent craft brewery on the outskirts of Edinburgh.

Explore the Borders Historic Route at: www.visitscotland.com/see-do/tours/ driving-road-trips/routes/planner/ borders-historic-route





IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Second tragic blaze at Glasgow School of Art

ragedy has hit one of Glasgow's most iconic buildings, as the Glasgow School of Art has again gone up in flames. This is the second such incident to happen at the Charles Rennie Mackintosh designed building in four years. The school was in the midst of a £35m refurbishment and repair after the iconic building was devastated by fire in 2014, which resulted in the loss of the celebrated Mackintosh Library.

Muriel Gray, Chair of the Board of Governors, Glasgow School of Art (GSA) said "First we would like to express our deep gratitude to the magnificent Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and also to extend our sympathy to our neighbours, both residents and businesses, who have also suffered, very much including the beloved O2 ABC Glasgow. It is an understatement to say everyone is utterly devastated but as usual the GSA Executive Team, staff and students, have been outstanding, positive and supportive. We now have a difficult waiting game until Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Glasgow City Council and associated agencies have completed their investigations into the condition of the Building. We remain hopeful of as positive an outcome as possible because it is clear that the love for the Mackintosh and recognition of its importance to Glasgow and the wider world is shared by absolutely everyone".

This fire has been deemed even more destructive than the last and options for the building are now being considered and the cost of rebuilding Glasgow's much loved School of Art could be at least £100m. However some fear the globally-significant building may have to be pulled down. Restoration work was due to be completed in February 2019.

Scottish Highlands and Islands airports passengers increase



Airport executives are celebrating after passenger numbers in the Highlands jumped 7.4 per cent in a year. Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd (HIAL) said more travellers than ever before are now using its 11 sites, which include Inverness, Dundee, Stornoway and Barra.

Nearly 1.8 million people passed through its airports in the financial year to the end of March – a rise of more than 122,000. And Inverness Airport was responsible for 38 per cent of that increase after seeing its passenger numbers increase by almost 47,000.

HIAL said the rise "further illustrated the airport's popularity and increasingly important role as a driver for the Highland region and economy", adding that the continued success of its Heathrow and Amsterdam Schiphol flights had helped to boost numbers to 875,873.

HIAL managing director Inglis Lyon said: "Overall, the past year has been another of significant growth in passenger figures across the HIAL group, this highlights the customer demand for our air services and the continued support and connectivity they provide for communities. We are constantly looking at ways to attract additional business and continue to invest in our airports to further improve services and add new routes." The company's annual results for 2017/18 will be announced later in 2018.

Mercat Cross restored to its former glory





A major project to restore Edinburgh's iconic Mercat Cross has been completed by the City of Edinburgh Council. The Lord Lyon King of Arms and Lord Provost of Edinburgh led a re-dedication ceremony, celebrating the monument's return to use after three months of conservation work. The project has seen heraldic decorations restored and repainted and the asphalt roof replaced, as well as stonework repointed by local apprentices with a traditional lime based mortar.

Marking the re-dedication, the Royal Regiment of Scotland formed a guard of honour beneath the Cross before a proclamation was made by the Lord Lyon and prayers offered by the Minister of St Giles, Calum MacLeod. The ceremony was brought to a close with a fanfare sounded by HM State Trumpeters and the singing of the National Anthem.

Lord Provost Frank Ross also addressed the hundreds of spectators who had gathered on the Royal Mile to watch. He said: "The Mercat Cross has been at the heart of civic life for centuries. It has witnessed all manner of historic announcements, celebrations and proclamations over the years, including news of the end of World War II and the Queen's accession to the throne in 1952.

"It's incredibly striking to see images of it surrounded by hundreds of people, horses and carriages and the bustling trade of Edinburgh's 19th century Old Town. Now, the Mercat Cross is back at its finest after careful restoration of its stonework and repainting. The investment will help to preserve its character for many more years to come."

The Right Honourable Lord Lyon King of Arms, Joseph Morrow, added: "The restoration of the Mercat Cross has been an excellent example of collaborative work. It has been used for different types of Proclamations over a long period of time and I am delighted to be able to take this chance to celebrate the excellent work of restoration which has been done and which enhances the High Street."

Edinburgh's Mercat Cross is topped with a carved unicorn, Scotland's national animal. The plinth the unicorn sits on is thought to date to the 15th Century but the Mercat Cross in its present form, wasn't built until 1866, as a replacement to the original which was demolished in 1756.

In 1885, a new octagonal base with a raised platform was built underneath the cross, paid for by MP William Gladstone whose family hailed from Edinburgh. The Latin inscription above the door was composed by Gladstone and reads:

"This ancient monument, the Cross of Edinburgh, which of old was set apart for public ceremonies, having been utterly destroyed by a misguided hand... and having been avenged as well as lamented, in song alike noble and manful, by that great man Walter Scott, has now, by favour of the Magistrates of the City, been restored by William Ewart Gladstone."

While some other local authority areas have removed their Mercat Crosses over time, Edinburgh's refurbished Mercat Cross will continue to be used for ceremonial events, Royal proclamations and civic announcements.

Fashion designer Stella McCartney teams up with Beano and Dandy for new kids range

British designer Stella McCartney has produced a new line of kids clothes featuring characters from Scottish comic icons *Beano* and *Dandy*.

McCartney said: "The Beano was a huge part of my childhood and the rebellious and fun nature celebrated in the comic led the design process of the new collection. Following the success of the Dandy woman's range last year, we were keen celebrate the next generation of Beano fans with a sustainable and practical range for kids who still share that 'Beano' spirit of these iconic characters."

Her father, Sir Paul McCartney, had a cameo feature in *The Dandy's* final issue in 2012 after he said in 1963 it was his life's ambition to appear in the comic strip.

100 years of Scottish photography secured for the nation



n exceptional collection of historic photographs that captures a century of life in Scotland is Leto be shared with the public following a special collaboration between the National Library of Scotland and the National Galleries of Scotland. More than 14,000 images dating from the earliest days of photography in the 1840s through to the 1940s. The collection covers an expansive range of subjects - including family portraits, working life, street scenes, sporting pursuits, shops, trams, tenements, mountains and monuments. Until now, it was one of the last great collections of Scottish photography still in private hands.

The day-to-day lives of Scottish people

The collection was put together by photography enthusiast Murray MacKinnon, who established a successful chain of film-processing stores in the 1980s, starting from his pharmacy in Dyce, near Aberdeen. He said: "The collection covers the day-to-day lives of Scottish people both rich and poor, the work they carried out including fishing and farming, in order to survive, and their social life including sport and leisure. These were turbulent times what with industrialisation, shipbuilding, new forms of transport, the social upheaval caused by the First World War in Europe and the Boer War in South Africa. The discovery of penicillin and radiography heralded the development of medicine and the pharmaceutical industry in Scotland. I would like to thank all the people involved in acquiring this collection for the Scottish nation, and for their great efforts in making this acquisition possible." The photographs provide a visual record of how Scotland has changed physically, socially and economically since the 1840s.

The photographic medium

The collection contains an exquisite view of Loch Katrine by William Henry Fox Talbot, who travelled to Scotland in the autumn of 1844. Talbot was the inventor of the calotype, a negative-positive paper process that was patented around the world, but, importantly not in Scotland, allowing for free use and experimentation. As a result, early Scottish photographers, such as Hill and Adamson and Ross and Thomson, were encouraged to take up the new technology, becoming key figures in developing its potential as both document and art form within its first two decades.

As the photographic medium evolved, Scotland once again was at the forefront when, in 1883, Thomas Annan and his son James Craig Annan secured the British rights for the previously secret process of photogravure. The photomechanical process created prints in large editions, revolutionising the publication and reach of photography.

While photography is known for its reproducibility, many of the artworks contained within the collection are unique, including daguerreotype portraits and hand-made albums. One such impressive example is the Fairlie album, consisting of family portraits and photographs by known makers including Julia Margaret



Cameron. Using elements of collage, drawing and marginalia, the pages are a one-of-a-kind celebration of the Fairlie Family, from Fife. Reginald Fairlie was the architect of the National Library of Scotland building on George IV Bridge.

A major exhibition of the MacKinnon collection will be held at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery next year, with touring exhibitions around the country to follow. The entire collection will also be digitised over the next three years and made available online.

The MacKinnon collection highlights include:

- More than 600 original photographs from the pioneering days of photography featuring work from David Octavius Hill (1802-1870) and Robert Adamson (1821-1848), James Ross (d.1878) and John Thomson (d.1881), Cosmo Innes (1798-1874) and Horatio Ross (1801-1886).
- Some of the finest work of Thomas Annan (1829-1887) and his son, James Craig Annan (1864-1946) including rare examples of their original albumen prints.
- Fine examples of the work of Scotland's successful commercial photographers including George Washington Wilson (1823-1893) and James Valentine (1815-1880).
- Portraits of Scottish regiments from the Crimean War by Roger Fenton (1819-1869).
- A series of albums and prints depicting life in the main towns and cities from the late 1800s and early 1900s.
- Studies of farming and fishing communities in remote villages and hamlets.
- Scenes of shipbuilding, railways, herring fishing, weaving, whisky distilling, dockyards, slate quarries and other working environments.

Clan Arthur/MacArthur Chief John to be Honoured Guest at Longs Peak Scottish Irish Festival/Games in Estes Park, Colorado, USA

By: Michael McArthur

rom September 6th through
September 9th 2018 Clan Arthur
Chief John MacArthur of that Ilk
will be the "Honoured Guest" of
the above games. The US branch would
love to welcome Arthur/MacArthur people
from all over the globe to this exciting
event and to attend their AGM as a guest.
It is a special opportunity for them to
meet Chief John and march with Clan
Arthur/MacArthur in the Parade of Clans
on Saturday in the city of Estes Park and
also on the parade grounds at the Festival
and to stand with Clan Arthur/MacArthur
during the Kirkin' of the Tartan on Sunday.

Clan Arthur USA

Chief John will open the games, give a speech and participate as a judge for the Pipe bands. The best Pipe band will be presented with a Clan Arthur Quaich by Chief John that will be presented in perpetuity.

Estes Park, Colorado is nestled at the foot of the Rocky Mountain National Park and is a perfect site for such an event. The Long's Peak Sottish-Irish Highland Festival is one of the largest and best of its kind in the western area in USA.

Clan Arthur USA will be holding their Annual General Membership meeting at this event. Anyone interested in attending



please contact Michael McArthur, Western Regional Commissioner U.S. mikemcarthur53.mm@gmail.com

This will be great chance to meet with fellow clan members; attend the Scottish games; taste genuine Scottish cuisine; listen to the bagpipers and other Celtic and Gaelic music. You can also watch the dancers; mingle with your distant Gaelic cousins; and enjoy the spectacular and awesome vistas of the Rocky Mountains.



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 Baird Society Worldwide



Membership is open to those descended from Baird, Barde, Bard, Beard, Beaird, Brd, Bayard, Bardt, Barth and Biard or varied spellings of the name of Scottish origin

In addition to the Society newsletter and the opportunity to associate with fellow clansman members may query the Society geneologist. For information write:

Dr. Debra J. Baird, President 3491 County Road 3459, Haleyville, AL 35565

Email: djbaird4@gmail.com Regional Directors for Australia David and Patricia Benfell

Email: clanbairdsa@gmail.com website: www.clanbairdsociety.com



CLAN BELL Clan Bell North America

ordially invites membership inquiries from persons Named Bell (all bellings), their descendants and friends. Computerized Genealogical ata base available to help members in their research. Quarterly newsletter

ublished. Tents hosted at major Scotlish games from coast to coast.

Your Bell ancestry is important!

Visit our web site: www.clanbell.org

Contact our Membership Chairperson:

Pauline Bell

1513 Anterra Drive, Wake Forest, NC 27587 e-mail: debellinnc@reagan.com

Clan Blair Society Membership cordially invited from the des

Visit our Web Site at

Charles Diman Membership Chairman 3413 Sunnybrook Dr.



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 Eiglin 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 sumarne, by descent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle, Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.

Memberuhip inquiries should be directed to:

William A. Bruce, FSA Scot, President 5556 27th Ave. So. Minneapolis, MN 55417-1934 www.familyofbruce.org

Polly A. (Bruce) Tilford, Secretary 5561 Earl Young Road Bloomington, IN 47408

Clan Buchanan Society International, Inc. Invites membership of all Buchanans and of other septs:

Gibson Gilbert Gilberts Harper MacCo

MacCoubrey

OI Others
MacMorris
MacMurchie
MacMurchie
MacMurchie
MacQuattly
MacQuinten
MacWartie
MacWinter
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Masters
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Statesville, NC 28625



Clan Cameron NSW Inc.

2018 Australian Gathering

Details on website http://www.clan-cameron.org.au

President: Alistair Cameron cameron490@ozemail.com.au

Secretary: Terry Cameron jr.ta.cameron@gmail.com

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.

Diane Carey-Schmitz

1685 Casitas Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91103,

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.clandonaldvic@gmail.com Formed in 1934, with membership from many MacDonald, McDonald and Macdonald families living in Victoria. Membership available, with dance classes for Scottish Country Dance most Friday evenings in Gardenvale.

CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE

Hon Chief: Mrs Christina Milne Wilson Contact: Secretary

secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com A hereditary clan society formed by the children of Norman Hume Macdonald and Johan McKenzie Macdonald (nee Munro) who departed Scotland in 1854.

Clan Donnachaidh

Society of New South Wales Inc. Australia

Duncan Robertson Reid

People who bear any of the above names or other Sept names of Clan Donnachaidh "The Children of Duncan" are invited to join in our activities by participating in the Scottish Gatherings held in NSW.

For information & membership application, contact Gordon Robertson 58/157 Marconi Rd. Bonnells Bay NSW 2264

Membership invited to all who share the Sept names:

Duncan, Robertson, Reid, etc.

Mexico * Mid-West * Northeast * Northern California * Pacific North Rocky Mountains * South * Southern California * Texas * Upper Mid-Wes

Clan Douglas Society of North America

Visit our website: www.clandouglassociety.org

Jim Morton, Secretary 4115 Bent Oak Court, Douglasville, GA 30135

Recognized as Septs & Allied Families

Spain South Africa

London & Southern Counties * Rannoch & Highlands Canada: Ontario * Western Canada

Australia: New South Wales * Victoria * Queensland * Western Australia

New Zealand: New Zealand

Arizona * Carolinas * Florida * Gulf Coast * Mid-Atlantic * New

Visit our website to learn more about Clan Donnachaidh, our History & Traditions, the Clan Museum in Scotland, the DNA Project, the new Struan Kirk Appeal, & locate a Branch near you.

http://www.donnachaldh.com/
Facebook: The Clan Donnachaidh Society
Email: ivc@donnachaidh.com

CLAN CRAWFORD ASSOCIATION CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY



Membership extended to all Crawford's of llings, worldwide. Join to preserv our legacy & receive assistance with events heraldry, highland games, forums, DNA gen-Joanne Crawford, Presiden Local Contact: Warren Crawford

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

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

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, MacDiamid, MacIver, McKellar, MacKelvie, MacRessock, MacNichol, MacTavish, MacThomas, Moore, Muir, Orr, Pinkerton,

as. Thompson

WWW.CLANCRAWFORDASSOC.ORG



Clan Cumming Society Of The United States

> 7409 Jessica Way Rowlett, TX 75089

clancumming.us

Clan Davidson Society in Australia Inc.



CHEIF: Grant Davidson of Davidston cordially CHEIF: Grant Davidson of Davidston cordiaily invites to membership all who bear one of the Clan Names, and all who can trace their descent from an ancestor bearing one of these Names: Davidson; Davison; Dawson; Davis; Davie, Davey; Davy; Day; Dye; Dyson; Dawson; Dae; Dean; Dean; Deane; Deas; Deason; Dees; Dee; Dey; Daw; Dow; Dhai; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade; MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagny; MacDhai; McKeddie.

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

Applications may be made on our website www.clandavidson.org. au or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P, P.O. Box 519 Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 dhill1@bigpond.net.au 0431 527 662

CLAN DONALD AUSTRALIA



State Commissioners

Vic

NSW Qld SA

Mr Lachlan Macdonald Mr A. Neil Macdonald

Ms Therese McCutcheon Mr Norman A Macdonald Ms Pamela McDonald

secretary.clandonaldaustralia@gmail.com There is no joy without Clan Donald

CLAN DONALD QUEENSLAND

Neil Macdonald 0412 090990 ndonaldqld@optus Web: www.clandonaldqld.org

ELIGIBILITY: Those with the name of MacDonald Macdonald McDonald McDonell. Donald, **OR** of one of the Septs of Clan Donald, **OR** with a connection through family lineage.

There is no joy without Clan Donald

Clan Dunbar of The House of Gospatric the Earl Eligible blood or marriage, all descendants of The

A DOUGLAS!

A DOUGLAS!



Gospatric: Dunbar, Clugston, Corbett, Dundas, Edgar, Grev. Hervng, Home, Knox, Nisbett. Peddie, Strickland, Washington, Wedderburn and families who were associated with The Gospatric

Chieftain David C. Dunbar 16419 Carlton Vale Ct. Tomball, TX 77377-8488

Edmonstone Clan Society



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

3 Laguna Ave, Kirwan Old 4817 61 (0)7 4755 4370 m.edmiston@bigpond.com

Clan Elliot Society, U.S.A.

Michael D.Elliott-Clan President



Welcomes membership of all who are connected with this great border family.

> Membership-Treasurer Patricia Tennyson Bell 2984 Siskiyou Blvd. Medford, OR 97504

CLAN FARQUHARSON ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA Clan Chief: Captain A.A.C.Farquharson, MC of

Membership inquiries are invited from descendants of Farquharson and descendants of Sept family names. Please contact the association by mail to:

Invercauld

The Secretary Clan Farquharson Association Australia

SPRINGWOOD, NSW 2777

or by Email to: finlaysb@bigpond.com

CLAN FERGUSSON SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA



One of the oldest Highland Clans, stretches back in history to the founder of Scotland's monarchy, King Fergus 1.

President: BJ Ferguson Please address inquiries to: B. J. Ferguson, President, CFSNA

192 Hawthorne Hill Rd, Jasper, GA USA 30143



THE CLAN FRASER SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA



The Clan Fraser Society of North America is one of the five authorized national societies operating worldwide under the authority of the Rt Hon. Lady Saltotm, Chief of the Name of authority of the Rt Hon. Lady Saltotm, Chief of the Name of Fraser, and the Rt. Hon. Lord Lovat, Chief of Clan Fraser of Lovat. Members receive a newsletter, "The Nessie' and support in doing genealogical research. All those bearing the name of Fraser, recognized Septs thereof and their descendants are cordially invited to contact the following for membership information:

Donald Brix Fraser. President cfsna.com

Kathryn Fraser,



Clan Galbraith Association

Includes name variations such as Galbreath, Calbreath, Gilbraith etc.

DNA testing project, Members Only databases, Biennial gatherings, Blog, Quarterly journal.

Join from only US\$15 p.a. www.clangalbraith.org

American Clan Gregor Society



Membership inquiries welcomed from MacGregors of all spellings and Septs

Gregor Grier MacAdams MacNish Magruder McGehee Gregory King Peter Fletcher Gregg Lecky Black and many others

Jeanne P. Lehr 11 Ballas Crt. St. Louis, MO 63131-3036

Phone: 314-432-28742, registrar@acgsus.org website: www.acgsus.org



Clan Gregor Society Australasia All MacGregors and Septs of our Clan are invited to join one of the oldest Clan Societies in Scotland Est 1822. If you live in Australia or New Zealand, please contact our clan representative in Australia;

> Frank McGregor Clan Gregor Society NORTH HOBART TAS 7002 Email: clangregoraustralia@gmail.com Web. www.clangregor.com

"Royal is my Race"

Clan Gregor Society



Great Lakes,

New England, Pacific North West, Western U.S. and Southeast Chapters www.clangregor.org

For membership contact. Inez Boothe 120 Wicksford Glen. Sandy Springs, GA 30350-5713

Clackmanshire, FK10 2NT Scot



Clan Guthrie - U.S.A., Inc. lembership Chair Larry Guthrie clanguthrieinfo@aol.com www.clanguthrie.org

Clan Hamilton Society

Hamiltons and those of Hamilton des cordially invited to join the society. Inquiries to be sent to: Sheri Lambert, Treasurer P.O. Box 5399 Vernon Hills, IL 60061

www.clanhamilton.org



www.clanhay.com

Clan Hope of Craighall Society

For all of the name and lineage of Hope



Richard Rex Hope Stephen Hope

Membership Chair:

www.clanhope.org www.clanhopeaustralia.org



Clan Innes Australia

New Memberships Welcome Innes, Thain, Mitchell Marnock, Middleton Reidford. Wilson McRob McTary, Mavor

robthainclaninnes@gmail.com

Clan Irwin Association

Chief and Patron



Contact Barbara Edelman, Chairman 65 Colonial Drive Telford, PA 18969

215-721-3955 barb3.edelman@gmail.com IRWIN • RVIN • IRVINE • IRVING • ERWIN • ERVIN Over 270 ways the name has been spelled since 325 A.D. clanirvin.org

The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

Austin, Dickson, Dixon, Falconer, Faulkner, Hackson, Harvey, Haxton, Hervey, Hurry, Hurrie, Keith, Kite, Lumgair, Marshall, MacKeith, Urie

Membership inquiries are warmly welcomed!

www.clankeith-usa.org

or email membershipclankeith@mindspring.com

CLAN KERR/CARR OF NORTH AMERICA, INC



CORDIALLY INVITES MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS FROM ALL SEPT VARIANTS OF THE NAME KERR, CARR, CARAY, CARIS, CEARR, CURR, GARE, KARR, KEIR, MCCARRY AND OTHER SEPT VARIANTS. THE CLAN ACCEPTS MEMBERSHIP FROM ALL INTERESTED IN SCOTTISH AND CELTIC HIGHLAND GAMES AND GENEALOGY. SEE APPLICATIONS ON THE CLAN'S WEBSITE AT:

WWW.CLANKERR.US

Or write: Attn: Clan President ercreek Drive, Winter Springs, FI 32701



Clan Chief: Hon Alexander John Leslie Enquiries invited from Leslies around the world. as well as the Septs of Clan Leslie: Abernethy, Bartholomew, Cairney, Lang, Moore etc in all their spellings

Contact: Malcolm W. Leslie D.Ua.

117/303 Spring Street. Kearney's Spring, Qld, 4350, Australia. Phone: +61 7 4635 8358 malncol@icr.com.au www.clanleslie.org

Clan MacAlpine Society



3061 Harbor Blvd, Ventura CA, 93001 USA Earl Dale McAlpine - President email: earlmcalpine@yahoo.com



Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.

Valerie McDougall Valerie McDoco VP Membership 505-470 Scenic Drive, London, ON NSZ 3B2

Email: Info@macdougall.org Home page: www.macdougall.org

Names Associated with Clan MacDougall of Argyll and Clan MacDowall of Galloway

MacCoul Macoual MacConacher Coyle MacCoyle MacDole MacDill MacDoua McDougal MacDougall Mcdougle MacDougald McDougald MacDugal MacDowal Macdowal McLullich McCulloch MacLintock MacKichan M'Gowall MacNamell MacLugash



Spelling Variations May Vary or Omit the Mac, Mc

Founded 1911 - Glasgow & London
Re-established - 1973 Grandfather Mountain, NC Loch Sloy! We welcome all descendants of Clan MacFarlane from around the world!

Michael R. MacFarlane, FSA Scot - President Brian I.W. Mactarlane, Vice President Richard G. Kilby, FSA Scot - Treasurer John K. Manchester - Secretary

International Clan MacFarlane Society, Inc.

PO Box 398 Glendora, CA 91740 USA

MACFARLANE.ORG

Clan MacInnes

. 學.



All spelling variants of MacInnes are welcome worldwide: (Mc)Angus, (Mc)Kinnis, (Mc)Innis, (Mc)Ginnis, (Mc)Ninch, (Mc)Neish, (Mc)Canse, (Mc)Masters, (Mc)Innes, (Mac)Masters www.clanmacinnes.org

Eric Perry, Director-Member Services 14 Jakes Lane

Dexter, ME 04930; eric@macinnes.org

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



We invite you - whether you are a clansperson a member of one of our septs, a highlander, a Scot - or just an enthusiast - to join the Society and participate in the many activities



ClanMacKenzieCA



Clan MacKenzie Society in the United States

All Mackenzies and septs, their descendants and friends are invited to join this charitable membership association.

Barbara MacKenzie, Treasurer PO Box 20454 Cheyenne, WY 82003-7011 Phone: 307-214-4817 Email: cmustreas@gmail.com Website: www.clanmackenzie.com

Clan Mackintosh

Membership in Clan Mackintosh of North America is available to all persons bearing the name of any of the clans or septs of Clan Mackintosh, Associate memberships are also available to those interested in the clan.

U.S.A. Margaret McIntosh, Secretary 301 Smugglers View Jeffersonville, VT 05464

Clan MacLanen MACLAREN MACLAURIN LAWRENCE LAWSON LOW[E]

LOW[E]RY LAW[E] PATTERSON MACPATRICK MACRORY



Chuck Lawson, FSA Scot, President 1211 Wilson Ave., Tullahoma, TN 37388 Phone: (931) 455-2925 E-mail: cglawson@lighttube.net

Clan MacLellan

Email: treasurer@clanmaclellan.net

John B. McClellan, Jr. Treasurer 6409 Knollwood Drive McKinney, TX 75070-6032

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

McLellan(d) and Gilliland. Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net

Clan MacLeod Societies of Australia

Membership is open to MacLeods, Septs (of any spelling) and descendants. Askey MacAndie MacCorkill Beaton MacAskill MacCrimmon

Bethune MacAulay MacGillechallum MacCabe MacRaild Caskie Harold MacCaig MacWilliam Lewis MacClure Norman Tolmie Williamson

NSW, ACT & Qld - Peter Macleod 02 4397 3161
Victoria & Tas - David Dickie 03 9337 4384
South Australia - Nicole Walters 0415 654 836
Western Australia - Ruth MacLeod 08 9364 6334 Email: peter.macleod@exemail.com.au



Beton Caskie Lewis Macaskill MacCallum MacCorkill MacCrimmon Mackaskill

MacWilliam

Callam Grimmond MacAllum MacAulay MacCaskie MacCorkle MacCraig MacLewis Malcolmson Normand

Beaton Callum Harold Macandie McCabe MacCaskill MacCorkindale MacGillechallum MacLure

Beaton

Caskey Harrold Macaskie MacCaig MacClure MacCorquodale MacHarold MacRaild

Bethur

We have had an ongoing Migration/Genealogy Project since 1972. For information visit the MacLeod tent at any major Scottish Festival or Highland Games or write to Anne MacLeod, Membership Secretary Re: Banner Ad annelmacleod@comcast.net

Clan Macnachtan **Association Worldwide**

Sir Malcolm F. Macnaghten of Macnaghten, Bart - Chief of Clan

Chairman - Peter McNaughton - 360-686-8451

We welcome membership from all Scots named MacNaughton or any of the Septs on our Website: Contact the Membership Secretary, Vice-Chairman or Regional Commissioners in:

Australia - Regional Commissioner - Bruce McNaught +61 7 3266 2047 bruce@brucemcnaught.com W. Canada - Regional Commissioner - Miles MacNaughton 250-999-9636 milescammac@aol.com

New Zealand - Regional Commissioner - John Macnaughtan +64 9 441 4984 macnaughtan@xtra.co.nz **USA** - Membership Secretary - Mary Nivison Burton 541-401-2613 membersec@clanmacnaughton.net

WWW.CLANMACNAUGHTON.NET

Clan MacNeil Association

OF AUSTRALIA

For all enquiries about the clan and membership contact.

John McNeil 21 Laurel Avenue, Linden Park, Email kisimul@chariot.net.au



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA Invites all Macneils . . . regardless of surr spelling, some of which are listed below: spelling, some of which are listen below:
MCNEILL MACNEIL MACNEL MACNEL MCNEELY
MCNEELY NEAL NEILSON O'NEILL to join us in preserving our heritage. Contact: Rhorswyn Darby McNeil, VP, Membership, PO, Box 230693, Montgomery AL 36123-0693, (334) 834-06 E. E-mail rdmatmgm@aol.com

CLAN MACNICOL SOCIETY, INC.



For membership inquiries, contact: CANADA McNicoll

USA
Jeremy Nicholson
P.O. Box 501166
Adanta, GA 31150-1166
nacnicolsociety@bsn1.net
www.clanmacnicol.org
Jacques McNicoll
202 Berlioz Apt 203
Verdun, QC H3E 1B8 Canada
macnicolsociety@bsn1.net
www.clanmacnicollcane
www.clanmacnicolcanada.com

Clan MacNicol

Nicolson, Nicholson, Nicol, Nichol, MacNicol, Nicoll, Nicolls and similar.

Chief: John MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac

Ross Nicolson For membership 22 Bellevue Drive inquiries contact:

Carlingford NSW 2118 www.clanmacnicol.com

Clan Macpherson Association



Canada. John C Gillies

greymac@acenet.com.ai phone +61 2 4871 1123 New Zealand, Tim McPhers

phone +64 3 234 5098

Scotland. Bill Macpherson

Clan Museum. Curator hone +1 559 658 6189

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.

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

Clan MacTavish, U.S.A.



Under the patronage of Chief Steven MacTavish of Dunardry invites you to join us in celebrating our history. Cash, Holmes, MacTavish, Stephenson, Stevens, Thompson, Thomson, Todd & other variants. www.clanmactavish.org

Membership Info: Clanmactavishusa@gmail.com or PO Box 686, Milford, OH 45150-0686

CLAN MAITLAND SOCIETY



CHIEF: IAN MAITLAND THE EARL OF LAUDERDALE

WE ARE ALL RELATED! Contact your local society

Rosemary Maitland Thom rthomnyprdcan@aol.com www.clanmaitlandna.org

AUSTRALIA

Carole Maitland 4230 Colac- Lavers Hill Road Weeaproinah. 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

CLAN MATHESON SOCIETY Chief of the Clan

Major Sir Fergus Matheson of 7th Baronet of Lochalsh Invites all Mathesons/Mathiesons 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

www.clanmatheson.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

Leonard Montgomery President president@clanmontgomery.org

www.clanmontgomery.org



Clan Morrison Society of North America

Arthur G. Morrison 220 South Orchard Drive Burbank, CA 91506

June Alvarez-Fetzer

Membership-Treasurer
8516 Lookout Cliff Pass
Austin, TX 78/37-8539
www.clanmorrison.net
Membership cordially invited from those who
are connected with this great Clan, i.e., Morrison, Morison, Gilmour,
Gilmer, Gilmore, Murrison or descendants of eligible name.

Clan Munro Association, U.S.A

We are the only national organization of Munro in the U.S.A. affiliated with the Clan Munro (Association) of Scotland.

COME JOIN US!

Web site: www.Clanmunrousa.org Write: Heather Munro Daniel 4600 Lloydrownn Road Mebane, NC 27302



Murray Clan Society of North America

Applications for membership are invited from Murray's and the following allied families: Balneaves, Dinsmore, Dunsmore, Fleming, Moray, Murrie, Neaves, Piper, Pyper, Smail, Smale, Small, Smale, Smal Smeal, and Spalding.

In Canada contact: William J.M. Murray 1001 Cordero Crescent Campbell River, BC V9H 0C3

In the U.S. contact: Robert W. Murray 2000 Cambridge Ave #329 Wyomissing, PA 19610-2738

Clan Pollock

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

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



Clan Pringle Association

(North America) Membership cordially invited from Pringle/ Prindle decedents and other interested parties www.clanpringle.org.uk William L. Pringle, III

e-mail: williampringle3@gmail.com Clan Pringle Assoc. (North America) 6538 140th Ave., Holland, MI 49423



Clan Ross in Australia

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

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

Contact: Commander Des Ross at lonepiper.ross@gmail.com M 0403 830 853 Ken Duthie JP Director of Publicity M 0418 806 172



Many Names - One Clan

Liz Ross, President

Robert Aumiller, Membership Secretary cramembership@sbcglobal.net PO Box 6341 River Forest, IL 60305

www.clanross.org

Invites all Ross', septs and their descendants to join in preserving our heritage.

www.clan-ross.org ClanRossoftheUnitedStates@gmail.co

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 W: clanscottaustraliagroup.moonfruit.com

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

Info@ClanScottSociety.org • www.ClanScottSociety.org



Clan Shaw Society

Invites membership or inquires from all: Shaw, Ayson, Adamson, Esson, MacAy, MacHay, Shiach, Sheath, Sheath, Seith, Seth, Skaith, Scaith and Shay.

> Secretary 2403 West Cranford Denison, TX 75020

Clan Sinclair Australia

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



For further info contact

President Wayne Sinclair 0417 146 174

Secretary Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263

E: clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com

Clan Skene Association, Inc.



Invites membership from Skene and septs Cariston, Carney/Carnie, Currehill, Dyas, Dyce, Dyer, Hall, Halyard/Hallyard, MacGalliard,

Al McGalliard President 273 Amy Clegg Drive Gray, GA, 31032 Email: alrx95@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:

53 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2HT, Tel/Fax 0131 220 4512 www.stewartsociety.org



Clan Sutherland Society of Australia

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

Marie Hodgkinson

213 Mork (sign Street)

Toowoomba,4350 Queensland, Australia lliam.hodgkinson@bigpo http://goldenvale.wix.com/clansutherlandaus



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, Duffus, Gray, Frederith, Mowat and Oliphant.

Richard Langford 1106 Horshoe Lane Blacksburg, VA 24060 e-mail: richard@langfordmail.net

Clan Young Society Australia Inc.



Ian J Young Convenor 10 Cedric Street Parkdale VIC 3195 M: 0409 670 055 E: ivyoung@alphalink.com.au

Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia

Clan WAROLAW Association Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

P.O. Box 457 Pinehurst, NC 28370

The Robert Burns Club

of Melbourne Inc.

> Promotes interest in the works, life and

> Celebrates Scottish Culture

milieu of the Scottish Poet Robert Burns

> Conducts Annual Burns Supper, Poetry Afternoons & Pleasant Sunday Afternoon

For Membership Information contact:

Secretary: Noel Wright (03) 9306 7495

Email: noelwright@netspace.net.au

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 email: shusa@embarqmail.com (910) 295-4448

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 6355 4158 Email: alfredhcooke@gmail.com

www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

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, 420-424 William Street, West Melbourne

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



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



FOUNDED 1974 St. Andrewis Society of Vermont

P.O. Box 484 Essex Junction, VT 05453

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

Víctorian Scottísh Uníon

Umbrella group representing the interest of Scottish Clans and Societies in Victoria.

Affiliated Clans & Societies

Ballarat Highland Dancing Balmoral Highland Dancing Society Brunswick Scottish Society Clan Donald Victoria Clan Grant Clan Macdonald Yarraville Inc Clan Mackenzie of Australia Clan Maclean Australia

Clan Sinclair Association

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Geelong Scottish Dance Glenbrae Celtic Dancers Begonia City Highland Dancing Society Glenmaggie Scottish Folk Festival Kilmore Celtic Festival Maryborough Highland Society Mornington Peninsula Caledonian Society Scottish Country Dance Victoria Society The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne Warrnamhool & District Caledonian Society Warrnambool Caledonian Highland Dancing Society Robert Burns Club of Camperdown Inc

> Jan Macdonald: Secretary Victorian Scottish Union

T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930 E: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com www.victorianscottishunion.com

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and Societies

Scottish Associations

Australian Scottish Communtiy (Qld) Inc. Promoter of International Tartan Day,

Brisbane, Queensland PO Box 3188, South Brisbane 4101

Bi-Monthly Newsletter, All things

All persons of Scottish Descent welcome. www.aussie-scots.org.au,Email: secretary@aussie-scots.org.au, Ph 07 3359 8195



Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia (The Scottish Gaelic

Association of Australia) is a nonprofit organisation which supports the language and culture of Scottish Gaels.

Ruaraidh MacAonghais, Neach Cathrach (Convenor)

Phone: 04 0482 2314 E-mail: fios@ozgaelic.org Web: www.ozgaelic.org

Mail: PO Box A2259, SYDNEY SOUTH 1235

CALEDONIAN CLUB

FLORIDA WEST (SARASOTA, FL) 2017 Spring Schedule

Feb. 4: Scottish Games Mar. 25: Thistle Ball Apr. 2: Kirkin' O' Tartans May 6: Annual General Luncheon Summer Socials: TBA



Contact: Robert Howard, President 941-376-5514 Email: roberthoward200@gmail.com Web site: www.caledonianclub.org

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. Cynthia Ridings Grand Recording Secretary 2566 Galloway Road Blue Ridge, GA 30513 706-632-8510

cynthiar5@yahoo,com http://www.daughtersofscotia.org

Illinois Saint Andrew Society



Illinois' oldest, largest Scottish organization and owner of The Scottish Home. A unique "assisted living" facility located in a beautiful wooded setting.

For more information on Society membership and programs or The Scottish Home, contact Gus Noble, President

708-447-5092 or www.chicago-scots.org

Neanderthal brought back to life with help from Dundee expert



n expert in facial reconstruction from the University of Dundee has helped bring Neanderthals back to life for a major new BBC series. Dr Christopher Rynn, from the University's Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification, has featured in Neanderthals: Meet Your Ancestors alongside Hollywood star Andy Serkis, co-founder of digital performance-capture studio The Imaginarium.

The show is presented by Ella Al-Shamahi, a rising star in the field of Neanderthal research who takes a fossil Neanderthal skull found in Iraq to Dr Rynn for his expert evaluation. He was able to reconstruct the face using clues from the bone structure of the Neanderthal, known as Ned, allowing us to admire the face of one of our ancestors – one that hasn't been seen for more than 50,000 years.

A team of scientists then began the laborious process of working out what Ned's body was like, building up layers from the fossil skeleton to create a digital Neanderthal. This being completed, the same type of motion capture technology that helped Serkis star as Gollum in *Lord of the*

Rings and Caesar in Planet of the Apes was used to create the first scientifically accurate, 3D working avatar of a Neanderthal.

Much-maligned ancestors

With the help of cutting-edge CGI technology, the show's producers were able to reconstruct a Neanderthal hunt, model their voices 40,000 years after they died out and – to see how well Neanderthals would blend in to modern society – put Ned amongst commuters on a busy tube.

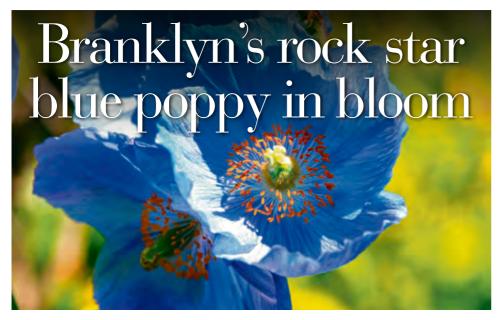
"Having reconstructed Ned's face, I am as excited as anyone to see how he looks in the final show and to see what the producers have done with him," said Dr Rynn. "I have been bursting to tell people about this since the filming took place almost a year ago but was sworn to secrecy so I'm relieved I can finally talk about the show. I was working from a plastic cast of Ned's skull, which tells a story in itself. Ned was in his 30s when he died, but the skull shows he had received a severe head injury when he was in his teens. The severity and location of the injury means he would likely have been blind and deaf on the left side, while the withered nature of the right side of his skeleton means he would have been quite severely disabled. Despite this, he lived for another 20 years after his injury and was found with other members of his family. He would have been unable to look after each other He

would have been unable to care for himself so this provided the first evidence that Neanderthals looked after each other."

Neanderthals corrects many myths about our much-maligned ancestors. According to recent scientific research, the Neanderthals are not the knuckledragging apemen of popular imagination and around 2% of most people's DNA is of

According to recent scientific research, the Neanderthals are not the knuckledragging apemen of popular imagination and around 2% of most people's DNA is of Neanderthal origin.

Neanderthal origin. While Neanderthals were smaller than modern humans they were also much stronger and faster, abilities that were used to ambush and bring down vast animals like woolly mammoths. New archaeological research is also revealing intriguing details about Neanderthals mental capacities through evidence of Neanderthal art and their penchant for dressing in vulture feathers.



blue poppy grown at the National Trust for Scotland's Branklyn Garden in Perth has taken a top gardening accolade. The plant – a Himalayan blue poppy species called Bobby Masterton - was awarded the first class certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society's Joint Rock Committee.

Named for the creator of the exceptional Cluny House Gardens near Aberfeldy, the plant is currently at its blooming best at Branklyn Garden.

The finest two acre garden in the country
The Perth garden has been described as
'the finest two acre garden in the country'
and is well-known for its fabulous
collection of meconopsis, or blue
poppies, with 5 species and 25 cultivars
on site. The species which originated in
the high mountains of Tibet, south-west

China, Bhutan, Sikkim, Burma, India and Nepal, was brought back to Britain by plant hunters in the early 20th century. They adapted readily to our Scottish climate and have thrived in the sheltered surroundings of Branklyn Garden.

Head Gardener Jim Jermyn said: "This is a fantastic accolade for the garden and we are proud to play our part in protecting this important plant collection for the love of Scotland. The plants are looking at their best at the moment. If you want to catch our award-winning Bobby Masterton, and our other beautiful blue poppies in bloom, it's best to visit as soon as you can."

Branklyn Garden is one of 38 gardens and landscapes under the protection of the National Trust for Scotland, the charity that is working towards a vision where Scotland's heritage is valued by everyone and protected for future generations.



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/events or email info@scottishbanner.com. Please ensure you submit your event in the exact format we use below, events not submitted in this way cannot be guaranteed to be printed. Events will run both in print and online and is a free service.

AUSTRALIA

JULY 2018

1 Fremantle, WA - Scottish Heritage Centre of WA Kirking of the Tartan

The Kirking of the Tartan church service is being held at 2pm at Scots Church, Cnr Parry Street & South Terrace This is an important event which celebrates Scottish traditions and culture. For bookings for the afternoon tea to follow in the church hall (\$5 a head), phone 08 9457 1945 (Shirley Oliver) or 08 6142 2269 (Helen Cole).

1 Nationwide - Happy Tartan Day

Celebrate your Scottish heritage and wear some tartan today on the anniversary of the Repeal Proclamation of 1782 annulling the Act of Proscription of 1747, which had made wearing tartan a punishable offense.

1 Rochedale, QLD - Piobaireachd **Group Oueensland Social**

Come along and play a tune or just listen and discuss the classical music of the Highland Bagpipe at Rochedale State High School, 249 Priestdale Rd. Info: 07 3397 4512 or www.qhps.org

2 Adelaide, SA - Adelaide Pipers' Gathering Piping event. Info: Jack Brennan brennanjack@optusnet.com.au

3 Milton, QLD - Brisbane Smallpipe Session Piping event. Info: Malcolm McLaren on (07) 3820-2902 or mrmclaren@bigpond.com

6 Hobart, TAS - CoHHPB Winter Gathering Presented by the City of Hobart Highland Pipe Band with bagpipes, whisky tasting and fun at the Hobart Function and Conference Centre.

Info: niall@hfcc.com.au or 0418 107 175. 7 Tusmore, SA - Tartan Day Celebrations

Enjoy a day of Scottish entertainment to celebrate Tartan Day. Experience Scottish music, dancing, bagpipes, haggis and more at Burnside Library, 401 Greenhill Rd. Info: 08 8366 4280 or library@burnside.sa.gov.au

7 Exeter, SA - Tartan Night

An evening of Scottish Country dancing. BYO. Shared Basket Supper at The Port Adelaide Caledonian Society Hall, 189 Semaphore Rd. Info: 0481 581 298

7 Fremantle, WA - International Tartan Day Ball Presented by The Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of WA Inc with music, food and friendship. A night where people of the community can come together as one and enjoy some Scottish traditions at the Esplanade

Hotel. Info: 0433 707 716 or www.smcfwa.com.au 7 Aberdeen, NSW - Aberdeen Highland Games Fun for all the family with Clans, Highland and country dancing, pipe bands, Tartan Warriors, Kilted Dash and more. One of Australia's top Scottish events at Jefferson Park. Info: 02 6540

7 Melbourne, VIC - City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band 120th Anniversary Gala Ball

1300 or www.aberdeenhighlandgames.com

This special event for the Band will include canapes and drinks on arrival, two course dinner with entertainment by Borderline Kaylee and the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band. Info: www.melbournepipeband.com.au

8 - 15 Shoal Bay, NSW - Australia Winter School RSCDS Hunter Valley Branch is hosting the 43rd Australian Winter School at Shoal Bay. Come and enjoy a fun filled week of Scottish country dancing with great teachers and musicians. Info: www.hvws2018.com

11 - August 2 Nationwide - The Bay City Rollers featuring Les McKeown

One of Scotland's top music exports returns for a nationwide tour of Australia as part of the World Hits Tour 2018. Info: www.metropolistouring.com

14 Mackay, QLD - Mackay Bluewater Fling 2018 Hosted by Mackay & District Pipe Band with pipe bands, highland dancers, and lots of fun at Bluewater Quay. Info: www.mackaypipeband.com.au

15 Melbourne, VIC - Celtic Piping Club Session Piping session, 3pm - 5:30pm, upstairs at The Last Jar - 616 Elizabeth Street (cnr Queensberry

St). Info: email@celticpipingclub.com 19 - 22 Melbourne, VIC - Melbourne Tartan Festival Celebrate Scottish culture at a variety of Scottish themed events across the city. Info: 0417 125 013

21 Brisbane, QLD - International Tartan Day Free event at King George Square with massed piped bands, Scottish Highland and Country dancing, music and vocalists and Scottie Dog mascots. With Clans, Scottish food & wares and more. Info: www.aussie-scots.org.au

23 Toowong, QLD - Pipers Society Jimmy **Durham Memorial Solo Competition**

or www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au

2/4 March competition for young players who have not previously won the event at Regatta Hotel. Info: www.pipebandsqld.org

AUGUST 2018

5 Ipswich, QLD - Piobaireachd **Group Queensland Social**

Come along and play a tune or just listen and discuss the classical music of the Highland Bagpipe at Ipswich Pipe Band Hall, lion & Moffat Sts. Info: 07 3397 4512 or www.qhps.org

11 Glen Osmond, SA - Seymour College Highland **Dancers and Pipe Band Scots Night**

A night of music, dancing, games and haggis tasting, featuring Celtic trio Telenn Tri in the Sports Centre, 546 Portrush Rd. Dress with a touch of tartan. Book at www.trybooking.com/389537

11 Argenton, NSW - Hunter Valley Scots Club Caledonian Night

Ceilidh night with Scottish Highland and Country dancing, music by Stringfiddle and Newcastle RSL Pipe Band at Club Macquarie. Info: Robyn Smith 02 4959 5123 or www.hvsc.org.au

16 - 19 Boondooma, QLD - Scots in the Bush The Boondooma Highland Games at historic Boondooma Homestead with Celtic music, stalls, ceilidh, Scottish food, pipe bands and Kirkin O' the Tartan. Info: 07 4168 0159 or www.boondoomahomestead.org.au

19 Novar Gardens, SA - Clan MacLeod SA Annual Luncheon

A convivial lunch with panoramic overlooking the striking greens of Glenelg Golf Course. Scottish dancers, pipe music, Clan displays, haggis and guest speakers entertain guests during the annual Clan MacLeod luncheon. Book your tickets for individuals or tables of 8 through Nicole Walters, Secretary, Clan MacLeod SA. Info: 0415 654 836 or nicoleswalters@bigpond.com or see www.cmssa.org.au/calendar-of-events.html

25 Toowoomba, QLD - Toowoomba Caledonian Society & Pipe Band Ceilidh

Come along & enjoy a night of Scottish entertainment. Listen to the pipe band, watch Highland dancing display & participate in Scottish Country Dancing. No experience required as all dancers are called. Cost of the evening is \$10pp & Under 13 free, schoolchildren over 13 \$5.00 & a plate of food for supper at Drayton Hall. Info: Margaret Bond 0429 700 217.

25 Kirwin, QLD - Barrier Reef Highland Dancing Championships

Highland dance competitions at Emmaus Hall, Ryan Catholic College, Canterbury Rd. Info: 0400 932 346.

31 Red Hill, QLD - Community Ceilidh Bring your friends and family for a night of joyful dancing to Brisbane's premiere Scottish ceilidh band at Red Hill Community Sports Club, 22 Fulcher

NEW ZEALAND

Rd. Info: www.facebook.com/CeilidhClan

1 Nationwide - Happy Tartan Day

Celebrate your Scottish heritage and wear some tartan today on the anniversary of the Repeal Proclamation of $1782\ annulling$ the Act of Proscription of 1747, which had made wearing tartan a punishable offense.

6 Auckland - Scottish Celtic Music Group

Monthly on the first Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. All instruments welcome to read through favourite Scottish tunes and dance sets. Info: John Hawthorn: john.hawthorn@xtra.co.nz.

12 - 15 Ashburton - 18 & Over and Under 18 New Zealand Highland Dancing Championships

Highland dance competition and events at Ashburton Trust Event Centre,211 Wills St. Info: www.piping-dancing.org.nz

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

13 Wellington - Whisky Tasting Evening Have a dram at the Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club, 103 Oriental Parade. Info: www.rpnyc.org.nz

20 - 21 Waipu - Art 'n Tartan Wearable Art Awards A wearable art event celebrates heritage, community, and creativity, using tartan as a symbol of connection at Waipu Celtic Barn. Info: www.waipumuseum.com

27 Auckland - Ceilidh Club

St Davids in the Fields Church, 202 Hillsborough Rd. All are welcome to play, dance, or even call ceilidh dances and certainly just to watch. Info: learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com

28 Wellington - Film: The 39 Steps (based on John Buchan's book published in 1915)

"It's not much of an exaggeration to say that all contemporary escapist entertainment begins with The 39 Steps." In 1935 Alfred Hitchcock, drawing on characters and situations created by the action novelist he adored, concocted a classic movie-thriller recipe, starring the then-current heartthrob Robert Donat, also a young Peggy Ashcroft. (B&W of course: not a 'scary' Hitchcock film!) with the Victoria University of Wellington Scottish Interest Group. Info: www.wellyscots.wordpress.com

AUGUST 2018

3 Auckland - Scottish Celtic Music Group

Monthly on the first Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. All instruments welcome to read through favourite Scottish tunes and dance sets. $Info: John \ Hawthorn: john.hawthorn@xtra.co.nz$

4 Auckland - The Bay City Rollers featuring Les McKeown

One of Scotland's top music exports live at the Powerstation as part of the World Hits Tour 2018. Info: www.metropolistouring.com

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

28 Wellington - The Dramatic story of Comrie, a beautiful village in Perthshire

Margaret Kamester, a friend in Canada, has written about this village and the WWII POW camp at nearby Cultybraggan, where a very special man, Herbert Sulzbach, achieved wonders in the de-Nazification of prisoners, and how one of them, Heinrich Steinmeyer, rewarded Comrie with amazing generosity for the humane treatment accorded to the prisoners with the Victoria University of Wellington Scottish Interest Group. Info: www.wellyscots.wordpress.com

31 Auckland - Ceilidh Club

St Davids in the Fields Church, 202 Hillsborough Rd. All are welcome to play, dance, or even call ceilidh dances and certainly just to watch. Info: learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com

SCOTLAND

JULY 2018

1 - 6 Dalabrog, South Uist - Ceòlas Summer School Expert tuition in piping, fiddle, song, dance and the Gaelic language are offered over a backdrop of community events, including cèilidhs, concerts and guided walks. Info: www.ceolas.co.uk

2 - August 24 Isle of Skye - Sabhal Mòr Summer Gaelic Courses For over 40 years Sabhal Mòr Ostaig has offered courses in the Gaelic language and in traditional music with instruction in Gaelic, Gaelic song, fiddle, button-box and accordion, photography and a range

of other specialised subjects offered by a talented team of instructors. Info: www.smo.uhi.ac.uk 7 - 8 Carham - Carham 1018 New 1000 year anniversary and re-enactment weekend of the

battle that fixed the border. Info: www.carham1018.org.uk 14 - August 22 Unst, Shetland Islands - UnstFest

Britain's most northerly festival on Britain's most northerly island is a family-friendly affair with fiddle workshops, go kart races, film screenings and live music worth travelling for. Info: www.unstfest.org

15 - 12 St. Andrews - The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Summer School 2018 Scottish country dance courses, events

and fun. Info: www.rscds.org

15 - 12 St Andrews - St Andrews Summer School Each Week of Summer School gives dancers the opportunity for classes, social dancing, a Ceilidh or two with the input of experienced teachers and great musicians, at St Andrews University. Info:

15 Stonehaven - Stonehaven Highland Games Traditional Highland games with open and heavy events, the Grampian light events championship, dancing, track events and more Info: www.stonehavenhighlandgames.com

www.rscds.org/article/summer-school-2018

19 - 21 Inverness - Inverness Summer Camp 2018 The National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland will

be bringing its young members to Inverness to conduct a Piping and Drumming Summer Camp at Millburn Academy, Diriebught Rd. Info: 0141 353 0220 or nypb@thepipingcentre.co.uk

21 - 28 Isle of Skye - 16th Clan MacLeod Parliament Clan Macleod members from across the globe descend on Dunvegan Castle. For further information, contact the Parliament Co-ordinator on: parliament@clanmacleod. org or www.clanmacleod.org/world-gatherings/ clan-parliament-2018.html To register: http://www.

21 Inverness - City Of Inverness Highland Games Traditional events in the world's oldest Highland games stadium. Info: www.invernesshighlandgames.com

clanmacleodparliament.org/2018-booking.html

25 Traigh, Arisaig - Arisaig Highland Games & Clan Donald Gathering

Traditional Highland games with piping, dancing, heavy and field events. Info: www.visitfortwilliam.co.uk

28 Halkirk - The Halkirk Highland Games

Traditional Scottish Highland games, started over 100 years ago and are now one of the most popular sporting events in the area. The games also host the annual gathering of Clans Gunn and Sinclair. Info: www.halkirkgames.co.uk

29 St Andrews - St Andrews Highland Games Watch all the Cabers and stones fly across the field

at one of the top Highland Games in Fife at Station Park. Info: www.standrewshighlandgames.co.uk

AUGUST 2018

 $3-25\ Edinburgh-The\ Royal\ Edinburgh\ Military\ Tattoo$ Experience one of Scotland's greatest events staged on the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle. Info: Telephone: +44(0)131 225 1188 or www.edintattoo.co.uk

3 - 27 Edinburgh - Edinburgh Festival Fringe The largest arts festival in the world at venues across Edinburgh. Info: www.edfringe.com

3 - 27 Edinburgh - Edinburgh International Festival The International Festival present a programme featuring finest performers and ensembles from the worlds of dance, opera, music and theatre. Info: www.eif.co.uk

5 - 18 Perth - Clan Oliphant Gathering & Conference 2018

Oliphant Clan Gathering & Conference will intersperse presentations and visits to places of historic Clan interest from around Perthshire to the Borders. The programme will include presentations by Ivon court and a leading genealogist as well as lectures, discussions and break-out sessions on Clan history. Info: www.new.clanoliphant.org

8 - 12 Campbeltown, Kintyre - Mull of Kintyre Music Festival

Traditional and contemporary Scottish and Irish music. Info: www.mokfest.com

8 Portree, Isle of Skye - Isle of Skye Highland Games Don't miss out on this traditional Highland Games with some of the finest piping talent in Scotland and from around the world. Info: www.skye-highland-games.co.uk

10 - 19 Pitlochry - Clan Donnachaidh Society 2018 AGM & Gathering

Clan Donnachaidh (the Robertsons) are holding a $special\,Gathering\,in\,their\,Perthshire\,heartland\,with$ a variety of events. Info: www.donnachaidh.com

Scottish Genealogical Research

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Ron Dempsey General Delivery Udora, Ontario LOC 1L0, Canada

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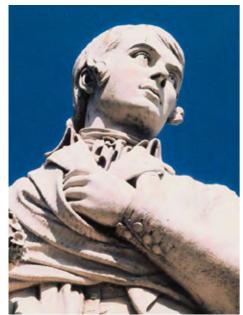
www.scottishbanner.com/events

Scotword on Page 7

Across: 8) Nation, 9) Oilfield, 10) Galloway, 11) Dollar, 12) Ideal, 14) Bap, 15) Apron, 18) Chanter, 20) Thistle, 23) Glens, 24) Pap, 25) Fiery, 29) Crieff, 31) Aberdeen, 33) Montrose, 34) Tocher.

Down: 1) Tabard, 2) Gill, 3) Knowe, 4) Copycat, 5) Clyde, 6) Will, 7) Ullapool, 13) Ain, 16) Dee, 17) Shy, 19) Hollyrood, 21) Ski, 22) Parapet, 26) Reeked, 27) Afton, 28) Keith, 30) Efts, 32) Dyce.

University of Glasgow research suggests Robert Burns may have had bipolar disorder



esearchers at the University of Glasgow suggest Robert Burns may have had bipolar disorder, according to a paper published in The Journal of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. More than 800 letters and journals have helped the academics to analyse the mental state of Robert Burns. The project also looked beyond Scotland's national bard's correspondence to his relationships and day-to-day life in a bid to establish if he had a psychiatric disorder.

Now the Glasgow academics carrying out the four year project, which started

in 2015, say they have some evidence to suggest that Burns may have suffered from bipolar disorder, with the Bard's moods cycling between depression and hypomania. This might explain the writer's periods of intense creativity, temperamental personality and unstable love life. The research looked at blocks of letters across four separate time frames over nine years from 1786 to 1795, testing the use of the poet's letters as a source of evidence relating to his mental health.

Blue devilism

Moira Hansen, the principal researcher on the project, said: "Blue devilism was the term Burns used to describe periods of depression which he suffered, periods which affected his life and his work - not something you would automatically expect of someone with a worldwide reputation for knowing how to enjoy himself - and something that our project is properly studying for the first time. During his lifetime and since his death, Burns has often been viewed as a tortured poetic genius which helped to explain his reputation as a lover of life, women and drink. But it is only in the last two decades that it has been mooted he may have suffered from a mood disorder. She added: "This project is using modern day methods to track and categorise the bard's moods and work patterns. The work published in this article shows that

we can use Burns's letters as a source of evidence, in place of having the faceto-face interviews a psychiatrist would normally have. We have pinpointed evidence which showed bouts of increased energy and hyperactivity, and periods of depression and a withdrawal from day-to-day life. Further work to take account of the conventions of letter writing in the 18th century, who Burns was addressing his letters to and the different activities he was involved in at the various stages of his life is still being carried out. But we now believe Burns may have had what we would recognised today as bipolar disorder. We will carry out further in-depth analysis to create a mood map of his life to chart these highs and lows linking it to what was happening both in his private and public life to judge how it impacted on his writing."

Complicated man

Professor Daniel Smith, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Glasgow, said: "Today there is greater awareness of the importance of mental health issues and we hope our project can be part of this debate. Carefully assessing the mood and behaviour of one of Scotland's iconic figures, using both medical and literary expertise, is a new approach that helps to paint a picture of his mental health and how it affected both his life and writing. Obviously

it hasn't been an easy task given our subject has been dead for more than 200 years. We hope that the possibility that Scotland's national bard, a global icon, may have had bipolar disorder will contribute to discussions on the links between mental illness and creativity. This work might also help to destigmatise psychiatric disorders such as bipolar disorder and depression."

Professor Gerard Carruthers, Co-Director of the University's Centre for Robert Burns Studies, said: "Robert Burns was a complicated man, with an amazing catalogue of work produced in a short lifetime before he died at 37. Today he holds a fascination not just for Scots but a worldwide audience. The fact that Scotland's national bard may have had bipolar disorder is part of the telling and understanding of all aspects of the bard's story to reveal a more accurate picture of the real Robert Burns."

The project called *Melancholy and low spirits are half my disease: Physical and mental health in the life and works of Robert Burns*, officially started in October 2015 and is due to be completed in 2019. It considers three main sections. The first examines the personal writing of Burns – his letters, journals and notebooks – looking at the evidence which relates to his physical and mental health, as well as taking account of testimony from those who knew him in life.

Scotch whisky industry raises its glass to renewable targets



he Scotch Whisky industry has reached its target for increased renewable energy use four years ahead of schedule. The Scotch Whisky Association (SWA) revealed it now sources more than 20% of its energy consumption from green sources – up from 3% in 2008.

That has led to a 22% fall in greenhouse gas emissions – with global exports of £4.37 billion, the sector said it accounts for 20% of all UK food and drink exports but is only responsible for 10.7% of the energy use. Its latest Environmental Strategy Report added 44% of its product packaging is now made from recycled materials, also surpassing its 2020 target and water use has been reduced by 29% – the equivalent of more than 1,800 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

SWA CEO Karen Betts said the scotch whisky industry takes sustainability "extremely seriously". She added: "I am

delighted that the industry has made significant progress in a number of areas and particularly that we have reached our target for the use of non-fossil fuel four years early. The fact that we have done so is a testament to the industry's significant progress in helping to protect Scotland's natural resources and environment." Roseanna Cunningham, the Scottish cabinet secretary for the environment, climate change and land reform, said that the achievements of Scotch producers are "an example we would encourage other sectors to follow and will feed into Scotland-wide environmental targets which will help make Scotland a cleaner and greener place to live."

The ultimate aim is for 80% of all Scotch to be made with renewable energy recourses like wind farming and solar power by 2050.



Scotland: The Board Game - From 2 to 5 players aged 8 and up can play this delightful board game which takes you on a trip through 2000 years of Scotland's history, travelling through its landscape from Melrose to the Orkneys and featuring 30 of its most famous citizens in its history! Try to visit the most important locations on

the map before your opponents, find out whether Nessie is willing to help or hinder you, and be the first player to move their (Highland Cattle) piece to the end of the Time Track, -which will

This board game is fun for the whole family and has been designed by one of the UK's most talented young designers.

The contents: 1 game board • 5 Highland Cattle movers • 15 Cabers • 20 Location tiles 110 cards: 5 Player cards • 35 Location cards • 50 Character cards • 20 Nessie cards • 1 set of rules

Price: \$49.95 plus \$18.00 postage Australia wide.

To order: Scottish Banner: PO Box 6202, Marrickville South, NSW, 2204 P: 02 9559 6348 or www.scottishbanner.com/shop

IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Scotch pancakes

Ingredients:

115g/4oz. self-raising flour 2 free-range eggs 100ml/3½fl oz. milk 2 tbsp. icing sugar, sifted sunflower oil, for brushing 115g/4oz. blackberries, to serve maple syrup, to serve

Method:

Preheat a large heavy-bottomed frying pan. Place the flour into a bowl and make a well in the centre. Break in the eggs and whisk, adding a little milk as you go, to form a smooth batter, then whisk in the icing sugar. Brush the pan with a little oil then add large spoonfuls of the batter. Cook for 1-2 minutes, until small bubbles appear on the surface, then turn over and cook for another 1-2 minutes, until lightly golden. Divide the pancakes between two warm serving plates. Top with the blackberries, drizzle over the maple syrup and serve.

Tattie Scones



Ingredients:

500 g/1lb. potatoes (cooked and mashed)
30 g/1 oz. butter (melted plus extra for greasing)
½ tsp. salt
1 medium egg
125 g/4 oz. flour (plus a little extra for rolling out)
1 tsp. baking powder.

Method

Preheat the oven to 395 F/200 C/Gas 6. Place the mashed potato in a large baking bowl and add all the other ingredients to form a sticky dough. Roll out the dough on a floured surface to approximately 1/2-inch thickness.

Cut into saucer sized rounds then score a cross into the dough to mark 4 equal wedges. Grease a baking sheet with butter and bake the scones for 15 minutes until golden brown and risen. The scones can also be cooked on the stove top on a griddle or heavy-based frying pan. Cook the scones 5 minutes on either side until golden and risen.

Crispy herbed salmon



Ingredients:

600g/1¼lb. salmon fillet, with skin
4 lemons
splash white wine
2 tbsp. thyme leaves
2 tbsp. rosemary leaves
2 tbsp. dill fronds
300ml/½ pint olive oil
2 tbsp. chopped parsley
Maldon sea salt and cracked black pepper

Method:

Cut salmon in four and score the skin. Put in a non-metal dish. Zest and juice two lemons. Halve remaining lemons. Combine zest and juice with wine, thyme, rosemary, dill, one-third of the oil and half the parsley. Season. Preheat oven to 180C/350F/Gas~4.

Pour marinade over salmon and leave for 30 minutes. Remove salmon, drain off marinade and fry, skin side down, for 1 minute. Turn and seal other side. Lay salmon, skin side up, in a roasting tray, sprinkle with salt and roast for about 10 minutes or until just cooked through. Put on serving dish, drizzle with remaining oil, sprinkle with remaining parsley and serve with lemon halves.

Burns Cottage pie



Ingredients:

1 tbsp. olive oil 1 large onion, chopped 2 carrots, chopped 560g/1¼lb. beef mince 400g can of tomatoes 290ml/10fl oz. beef stock 1 bay leaf Depending where you are July is either midsummer or midwinter, so spoil yourself with these tasting treats.

1 sprig fresh thyme, leaves stripped 2 tbsp. tomato purée salt and freshly ground black pepper For the topping 750g/1½ lb. potatoes, peeled and chopped 225g/8oz. parsnips, peeled and chopped 2 tsp creamed horseradish 75g/2½oz. butter 55ml/2fl oz. milk

Method:

Preheat the oven to 190C/170C Fan/Gas 5. Heat the oil in a large pan. Add the onion and carrot and cook over a medium heat for 5 minutes, or until soft. Add the minced beef and cook for 3 minutes, to brown. Add the tomatoes, purée, beef stock, bay leaf and thyme.

Cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Season. Meanwhile, to make the topping, boil the potatoes and parsnips in water until soft. Drain and mash with the butter and milk. Stir in the horseradish and season with salt and pepper. Spoon the meat into an ovenproof dish. Top with the mash and bake for 30 minutes, or until golden brown.

Oatcakes



Ingredients:

110g/4oz. medium oatmeal, plus more for dusting
110g/4oz. plain flour
55g/2oz. lard, dripping or poultry fat
1 level tsp salt
cold water
For the glaze
1 egg
1 tbsp. milk
1 tsp. sugar

Method:

Mix the oatmeal and flour in a bowl. Rub in the fat, add the salt and mix in just enough cold to form a soft but not tacky dough. Roll out the dough on an oatmeal-strewn board. Cut out circles with a scone cutter. Alternatively, cut out a dinner-plate round, and quarter it. Mix together the egg, milk and sugar to form a glaze. Cook the oatcakes on an ungreased mediumhot griddle, without turning them. The moment the first batch are in place, brush them over with glaze - it will turn to a shiny coating as they cook. When fully cooked, remove. Store in an airtight box.

Red Scotch

Shake together 25ml/1fl. oz.measure of Scotch Whisky, tomato juice, juice of half a lemon, dash of Worcestershire sauce, dash of Tabasco sauce. Fill a glass with ice and pour the mixture over and decorate with freshly ground black pepper.

Homecoming for Harry Benson at Pollok House exhibition



mages by Glasgow-born photojournalist, Harry Benson CBE have gone on display at Pollok House, featuring some of his most iconic photographs of world history and rarely-seen shots of his home city. Harry Benson first travelled to the USA with The Beatles in 1964, during their inaugural tour of the country. His pictures have since appeared in *Life, Vanity Fair*, and *The New Yorker*, while he has also taken more than 100 cover shots for *People* magazine.

During his illustrious career, Harry has chronicled some of the most important moments in modern history. He has photographed every U.S. President from Eisenhower to Donald Trump, was feet away from Senator Bobby Kennedy the night he was assassinated, was in the room with President Richard Nixon when he resigned,

witnessed the Berlin Wall being built and taken down, and was on the Civil Rights James Meredith March with Martin Luther King Jr. The exhibition is the first to take place in a newly-created gallery space within Pollok House, which is already home to an impressive art collection. The gallery project received grant funding from Museums Galleries Scotland and the Foyle Foundation. Among the pieces on display at Pollok House will be Harry's photographs of President Bill and Hilary Clinton, President John F. Kennedy and Charles de Gaulle, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Eddi Reader, and a variety of scenes from Glasgow. Part of the collection is on loan from the Scottish Parliament.

Defining moments of modern history Fritha Costain, Business Manager for Glasgow and West said: "Harry Benson's work is seminal. He managed to pre-empt important events in world history and capture them in his inimitable style through his photographs. Harry really got under the skin of his subjects, tapped into their spirit, and had an uncanny ability to be in the right place at the right time. This exhibition is a celebration of Benson coming home to Glasgow. There hasn't been a display of Harry's work in his home town for years, and we're excited to host this event at Pollok House in the months ahead."

The Scottish Parliament's Presiding Officer, the Rt Hon Ken Macintosh MSP, said: "Scotland's own Harry Benson has captured many of the defining moments of modern history. From JFK, to Bill Clinton and Donald Trump, his images have without doubt shaped the way we look at the world.

"I can vouch that the *Harry Benson:* Seeing America exhibition was one of the most popular ever to take place at the Scottish Parliament and I am delighted that part of this exhibition will now be shown at Pollok House."

Harry Benson: From Glasgow to America will take place until the end of the year and is being held in areas of Pollok House previously inaccessible to the public. Sections of the property that were staff accommodation have been transformed into gallery space, which will be used for temporary exhibitions of art, history, and stories about Pollok House. The exhibition of Harry Benson's work will be the first in a regular series.

Glasgow gets a new piece of street art to mark Mackintosh anniversary



adisson RED has commissioned Art Pistol Projects and famed street artist Rogue-one, A.K.A Bobby McNamara, to create a photorealistic mural dedicated to the city's favourite son, Charles Rennie Mackintosh. A gift to the people of Glasgow to mark the opening of the hotel and the 150th anniversary of the famous architect, designer, and artist, the new mural is set to become a mustsee for anyone visiting the city. The artwork has been painted on a 60ft by 40ft wall overlooking the city's Clutha Bar, it features a portrait of Mackintosh looking through a stained-glass window.

In recent years there has been an explosion in 'graffiti style' murals created by talented spray paint artists. The array of vibrant street murals can be found on walls, gable ends, and hoardings across the city. Back in 2008, Glasgow Council decided there was a need to 'rejuvenate streets and revitalise buildings and vacant sites that looked a bit tired'. The first piece of artwork was commissioned that year and the city's street art offering has increased rapidly ever since.

Newly digitised images tell story of rural Scotland in 1970s



wo extensive surveys of rural Scotland undertaken during the 1970s are now more accessible to the public after a project by Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to digitise their archives. The Scottish Countryside Commission and the C-listed buildings surveys give an insight into life in Scotland during the 1970s and early 1980s. The surveyors were originally sent out to record architecture, however, the backdrop to their work is life in rural Scotland.

Between 1978 and 1981 the Countryside Commission for Scotland undertook a survey of the buildings in the Scottish landscape. It aimed to identify traditional building character in Scotland while classifying regional and local characteristics. Carried out by a team of fieldworkers and coordinated by Robert J Naismith, of Sir Frank Mears and Partners, the conclusions were published in Buildings in the Scottish Countryside, 1985. The List C Survey was commissioned after a review of C-listed buildings with a view to re-categorisation. Previously, all C-listed buildings had no legal protection but in 1974 a new category C(S) was created that provided some protection. It was decided to survey the buildings which had no statutory status in order to create a record of their existence and perhaps later review their status. The buildings were surveyed by 'vocational students', starting in June 1975.

A time machine

Both of these projects returned their objectives but inadvertently recorded a snapshot of Scottish culture in photographs. Lesley Ferguson, Head of Archives and Engagement at HES, said: "Making these two collections available

online will make them significantly more accessible to the public so that more people can enjoy them. They are like a time machine that takes us back to bell-bottoms, the Bay City Rollers and Ford Capris. Although these surveys were commissioned to document buildings, they recorded so much more. We would urge the public to have a look at these collections online by visiting Canmore, where we have created a gallery of some of our favourite images from both surveys. This is a fantastic introduction to the Scottish Countryside Commission and C-Listed Buildings surveys. From there, they can also search through both collections and experience this time capsule.'



The digitisation of the Scottish Countryside Commission and C-Listed buildings survey are part of a significant investment by Historic Environment Scotland over the last financial year to increase the volume of historic photographic material accessible online.

To view the collection see: www.canmore.org.uk

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THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past



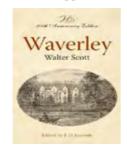
1 - The reconvened Scottish Parliament was officially opened. After a devolution referendum showed resounding support for the reconvening of the Scottish parliament, plans were put into motion for the creation of such a body. The parliament would sit in the Church of Scotland Assembly Hall in Edinburgh. Elections were held on May 1 1999 and the first sitting of the body took place on May 12 of that year. The official opening on July 1 saw the Queen transfer full constitutional powers to Edinburgh. 1999



- 1 Seal granted by Edinburgh Town Council to the Incorporation of Barbers and Surgeons to practise their craft. The organisation is now known as the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. 1505
- 1 Proscription Act Repealed, thus allowing again the wearing of tartan and the carrying of weapons (banned as a result of the 1745 Uprising in support of Bonnie Prince Charlie). 1782
- $\bf 2$ Treaty of Perth, Norway renounces claim on the Hebrides. $\bf 1266$
- **2** Dumfries reached a temperature of 32.8C (91F), the highest recorded. **1908**
- 2 Scottish architect Sir John Burnett died. His most famous commissions include the Royal Institute of Fine Arts; the Alhambra, and the Athenaeum, all in Glasgow, and the North front of the British Museum, the Institute of Chemistry, and the extension to Selfridges, all in London. $1938\,$
- **3** John Logie Baird transmitted first colour television. **1928**
- **3** The Clyde shipyards suffered their worst accident when the *SS Daphne*capsized at her launch. The packet steamer had been built by the Linthouse yard of Alexander Stephen and Sons and immediately sank into the River Clyde, taking the lives of the 195 workmen on board. It was later discovered that the 460-ton ship had little stability when it was launched, and rolled over forty-five degrees, taking huge amounts of water through a large deck opening. **1883**
- 4 Lanarkshire-born James Keir Hardie became the first socialist to win a seat in the UK Parliament. 1892
- 5 Final run of the Edinburgh to London mail coach (a route which was taken over by rail). 1847
- **5** Border reiver, John Armstrong of Gilnockie, and 50 of his men were hanged for blackmail by James V. Armstrong was a well-known laird in the Borders area, and although a frequent marauder in England, he is not known to have attacked in Scotland. However, his wealth and power in a

troublesome region brought the resentment of James V. Armstrong was tricked into attending a royal hunt only to be seized on his arrival. He faced the king, and volubly remonstrated with him that he had "asked grace at a graceless face". Legend has it that the trees at Carnlanrig, where Armstrong and his followers were hanged, withered, and none have grown there since. **1530**

- **6** John Paul Jones, hero of the US Navy, born Kirkbean, Dumfries. **1747**
- **6** The Piper Alpha oil platform in the North Sea was rocked by a huge explosion. Blasts continued on the platform throughout that night, and by morning 167 men had died. **1988**
- 7 John Knox became the first Protestant minister appointed in Edinburgh. 1559



- 7 The novel *Waverley*, by Sir Walter Scott, was published. *Waverley* was Scott's first novel, and written mainly as a way of proving himself a superior literary talent to Byron. Although it was published anonymously as a safety net against its failure, it was an open secret who the author was. Scott needn't have worried: the book was a runaway success and Scott became regarded as the leading author in Europe. **1814**
- $oldsymbol{8}$ King Alexander II died on Isle of Kerrara, Oban Bay. $oldsymbol{1249}$



- **9** Queen's Park Football Club, first senior football (soccer) club in Scotland formed. **1867**
- **9** Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat, the Chief of Clan Fraser, Scottish aristocrat and soldier was born. Fraser, a Second World War hero, played a key role in the development of the commandos and was actively involved in both the Dieppe Raid, 1942, and D-Day landings, 1944. **1911**
- 10 King James III born at Stirling. 1451
- 10 Glasgow Rangers signed Maurice Johnston. One of the last bastions of Scottish Protestant sectarianism, Rangers shocked many of its supporters when the club, under manager Graeme Souness, signed Maurice Johnston from the French club, Nantes, for £1.5m. Johnston had not only played for arch-rivals Celtic, but was the first well-known Roman Catholic player to sign for Rangers in modern times. 1989
- 11 Robert the Bruce born at Turnberry Castle, Ayrshire. After the death of William Wallace, Bruce led the campaign to regain Scottish independence, culminating in his stunning victory at the Battle of Bannockburn in June 1314. 1274
- 12 Darien expedition left Leith for Panama. 1698

- 13 King Alexander III crowned at Scone. 1249
- 14 Scottish National War Memorial opened. 1927
- 14 Cavalry units from the Scottish Engager army clashed with Lambert's Parliamentarian cavalry at Penrith. The Engager forces were commanded by the Duke of Hamilton, who made several mistakes in planning and executing his advance south, and quickly made themselves unpopular with the local population for their plundering and excesses. 1648



- 15 National Portrait Gallery forScotland opened in Edinburgh. 1889
- 16 David II, son of Robert I (the Bruce) married Joan, sister of Edward III (he was 4, she was 7). 1328
- 16 13th Commonwealth Games opened in Edinburgh. 1970
- 16 A Shetland fishing tragedy occurred leaving 105 fishermen dead as their boats got lost at sea. 31 Shetland sixern boats perished leaving devastation to the island community. 1832
- 17 Bank of Scotland, first bank to be established by an Act of the Scottish Parliament, opened. 1695
- 18 John Paul Jones, naval hero of the American Revolution, died; he was born in Kircudbrightshire in 1747. 1792
- 18 Birth of Jim Watt, Scottish boxer. After a successful amateur career, Watt turned professional in 1968 and quickly rose to the top of the lightweight division before adding British and European titles to his collection during the 1970s. 1948
- 19 Battle of Halidon Hill in which Sir Archibald Douglas (guardian of David II) routed by Edward Balliol and Edward III. Scots losses were nearly 600, English losses 14. 1333
- 19 A.J Cronin, the Scottish novelist, was born. Cronin is most fondly remembered as the creator of the hugely popular character, Dr.Finlay. 1896
- 20 Battle of Inverkeithing. Royalist force supporting Charles II failed to halt advance of army of Oliver Cromwell heading for Perth. 1651
- 21 Robert Burns dies in Dumfries, aged 37. The cause of death appears to have been heart failure, probably brought on by the hard physical work done in his youth. His widow, Jean Armour, gave birth to a son on the day of her husband's funeral. However, Maxwell, named after Burns's doctor, died in infancy. 1796
- **22** The army of the English King Edward I, using longbows for the first time, defeated the Scots led by Sir William Wallace at Battle of Falkirk, **1298**
- 23 Charles Edward Stuart landed on Eriskay at the start of the 1745 campaign. 24 1567 - Mary Queen of Scots abdicated and the young James VI acceded to Scottish throne. The Earl of Mar was appointed regent. 1745



- 24 The Princess Royal formally opened the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park, Scotland's first national park. 2002
- June 24 The Battle of Harlaw took place at Inverurie. Nearly 2000 Highland and Crown soldiers fought over an area of land called the Earldom of Ross. 1411
- 25 King James I born. 1394
- 25 Charles Macintosh, inventor of the plastic mac, died. Macintosh discovered the first rainproof cloth in 1818, by joining two sheets of fabric together with dissolved indiarubber. Although Macintosh is best known for his eponymously titled coats, he made significant advances in many fields of chemistry. As well as inventing a revolutionary bleaching powder with Charles Tennant, he also discovered a fast method of using carbon gases to convert iron to steel, and devised a hot-blast process which produced high quality cast iron. 1843
- 26 James IV responded to pleas for assistance from France and declared war on England. Aside from assisting the French, who had been invaded by an English army, James was also aggrieved at England's seizing of two Scottish ships and the non-payment of part of the dowry for his wife, Margaret Tudor. 1513
- 27 Battle of Killiecrankie in which Graham of Claverhouse (Bonnie Dundee) leading an army of Highlanders in support of the Jacobite cause, defeated King William's army under General Hugh Mackay. 1689
- 28 The Royalist Marquess of Montrose beat General Baillie in a skirmish which was part of the English Civil War at Dunkeld, Perthshire. For a war of positions the Highlanders had neither aptitude nor inclination, and at Dunkeld the greater part of them went home. 1645
- 29 Mary, Queen of Scots, married Lord Darnley. 1565
- 29 King James VI (aged 13 months) crowned at the Church of the Holy Rude, beside Stirling Castle, following the abdication of Mary, Queen of Scots, five days earlier. 1567



- **30** First edition of the long-running *Beano* comic was published. **1938**
- 30 The beginning of the work-in at John Brown's Clydebank Shipbuilding Yard, organised by stalwart Socialist, Jimmy Reid. This was in response to the Ted Heath Tory government's plans to liquidate the yard Reid exposed these as unethical. 1971
- 31 Cigarette advertising banned on television in Britain. 1965
- **31** The first edition of Robert Burns' poems, *The Kilmarnock Edition*, was published by John Wilson of Kilmarnock, under the title of *Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect*. It cost three shillings and the entire print run of 612 copies sold out within a month. **1780**

Piping Live! rolls out the tartan carpet to welcome fans from around the world



The world's biggest week of piping is set to host 40,000 fans in Glasgow this summer.

bespoke tartan carpet transformed Glasgow's Buchanan Street recently to unveil the headliners of this year's Piping Live! Glasgow International Piping Festival



and The World Pipe Band Championships, which both return to the city 13-19 August 2019. Now in its $15^{\hbox{th}}$ year, Piping Live! is the biggest festival of its kind – each year attracting over 40,000 music fans, families and tourists from around the globe to watch more than 5,000 pipers perform at 150 events across the city.

Some of the hottest names in traditional music are set to perform, including Finlay MacDonald, Anxo Lorenzo and Ross Ainslie. Also joining the bill will be thrilling folk five-piece, Breabach, who are fresh from an Australian and UK tour and are set perform a blistering set at the BBC's Biggest Weekend. The programme

will feature performances by the very best international acts, from countries including New Zealand, Oman, Canada and Scotland and will also see the return of the fiercely contested Master Solo, International Quartet and Pipe Idol competitions. In addition, there will be daily performances, family fun and the hugely popular Street Café will return to The National Piping Centre for the week.

Diverse sound of pipes

The World Pipe Band Championships are the pinnacle of competitive Pipe Band competition and are organised on behalf of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association by the City of Glasgow. The current World Champions are Inveraray and District Pipe Band. The first ever World Pipe Band Championships were held in Edinburgh in 1947. The event was first held in Glasgow in 1948 and has been staged in the city continuously since 1986. So far over 140 bands have already declared they will take part with entries remaining open until 4 July. Tickets for the World Pipe Band Championships, which are being held at Glasgow Green on 17 and 18 August, are on sale now.

Roddy MacLeod, Festival Director of Piping Live! said: "For the last 15 years we have celebrated the diverse sound of pipes by bringing the very best musicians from across the world to Glasgow. We're thrilled



that the festival has continued to grow and gain momentum year in, year out – something we're keen to build on for 2018. There really is something for everyone at Piping Live! - we have a week packed with incredible performances and family fun, which is why we're inviting everyone to enjoy the electric atmosphere of the festival first-hand. See you there!"

Finlay MacDonald, performing at this year's Piping Live!, said: "There is a real passion for folk music in Scotland and there's no better place to perform than on home soil at the biggest celebration of piping in the world."

For further details and tickets for Piping Live! visit: www.pipinglive.co.uk



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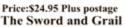
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Celtic: The Official History

Celtic is a club like no other. Its story is a unique one, of a football club founded to raise money to help alleviate poverty within the predominantly Irish immigrant community of Glasgow's East End. Yet, from its inception, Celtic has been a club open to all. From those humble and charitable origins, Celtic have gone on to become one of the most famous names in world football. The story of Celtic continues - of success on the field, backed by a strong organisation off it, and all underpinned by a commitment to remain true to the charitable roots of the club, this is just the latest chapter Price:\$29.95 Plus postage



New edition of this popular history of the Picts, an ancient nation who ruled most of northern and eastern Scotland during the Dark Ages. Despite their historical importance, they remain shrouded in myth. Absorbed by the kingdom of the Scots in the 9th century, they lost their unique identity, their language and their vibrant artistic culture. It pieces together the evidence to tell the story of this mysterious people from their emergence in Roman times to their eventual disappearance.



Andrew Sinclair searches for the understanding of the discovery of America, but also of the origins of the Freemasons and their role in world history. Based on stunning archaeological evidence, this book details the part played by the Order of the Knights of the Templar. The tomb of their St Clair Grand Master, with the Grail carved on his stone, lies in Rosslyn, the core chapel of the Masonic movement.

Price: \$19.95 Plus postage

The Highland Clearances

The Highland Clearances was one of the most emotive chapters in Scotland's history. This book traces the origins of the Clearances from the 18th century to their culmination in the crofting legislation of the 1880s. In considering both the terrible suffering of the Highland people as well as the stark choices that faced landowners during a period of rapid economic change, it shows how the Clearances were one of many 'attempted' solutions to the problem of how to maintain a population on marginal and infertile land. This book offers a balanced nalysis of events which created a terrible scar on the Highland and Gaelic imagination.

Price: \$29.95 Plus postage

The Makers of Scotland

During the first millennium AD the most northerly part of Britain evolved into the country known as Scotland. The transition was a long process of social & political change driven by the ambitions of powerful warlords. At first these men were tribal chiefs, Roman generals or rulers of small kingdoms. Later the initiative was seized by dynamic warrior-kings. Armies of Picts, Scots, Vikings, Britons and Anglo-Saxons fought each other for supremacy. In this book the remarkable story of how ancient North Britain became the medieval kingdom of Scotland is told. Price: \$24.95 Plus postage

Mary Queen of Scots: A Study in Failure Unlike biographics of Mary predating this work, this masterly study sets out to show Mary as she really was – not a romantic heroine, but the ruler of a European kingdom with far greater economic and political importance than its size or location would indicate.Her extraordinary story has become one of the most colourful and emotionally searing tales of western history, and it is here fully reconsidered by a leading specialist of the period.

Price: \$34.95 Plus postage

Dundee: A Short History In this absorbing and comprehensive history meet the women who hijacked the Reformation, the sisters who terrorised Winston Churchill, the martyred George Wishart who kept only his hat, the whalerman James McIntosh who ate his to survive, and witness Shackleton's remarkable expedition to far-north Dundee, and the flights of fancy surrounding Preston Watson. Alongside significant events like Monk's massacre and the Tay Bridge disaster, there are also controversial views about the very fabric of the city, like what went wrong with the Waterfront, why was the old Overgate demolished, and why is Tayside House still standing?

Price: \$17.95 Plus postage Maw Broon's But An' Ben Cookbook

A cookbook with a difference, this nostalgic collection of recipes dates back to 1940 and is entirely different, but just as good as, the first Maw Broon cookbook. Funny, inventive and full of humour and comic strips from "The Broons", with witty comments from the family members throughout, this second cookbook has more balance with both sweet, traditional, recipes as well as recipes with lighter, healthier ingredients

Price: \$29.95 Plus postage

Maggie's Mittens

Maggie really doesn't like wearing her mittens. Perhaps on her trip around Scotland she'll find a way to get rid of them without Mum noticing. She throws, flings, and catapults the mittens towards a number of potential new owners on their way to Granny's house. But mittens are made to be worn by a child, not a lobster, or the Loch Ness Monster! As the weather turns, Maggie realises that her mittens are useful after all. But is it

too late? Age range 3+ Price: \$14.95 Plus postage

Oor Wullie Colouring Book

Oor Wullie has been delighting since 1936. This beautiful book, packed with classic illustrations from the Oor Wullie archive, gives readers the chance to add a bit of colour to the Wullie clan's lives. This book's a fair wee smasher so grab your pencil tins, line up your crayons and pit yer feet up. It'll put you in touch with your artistic side and gie you a richt guid laugh too! Price: S19.95 Plus postage



of the Scottish nation. As well as focusing on key moments in the nation's history such as the Battle of Bannockburn and the Jacobite Risings, Moffat also features other episodes in history that are perhaps les well documented. From prehistoric timber halls to inventions and literature, Moffat's tale explores the drama of battle, change, loss and invention intersperses with the lives of ordinary Scottish folk, the men and women who defined a nation. Price \$34.95 Plus postage

The Hebrides

CELTIC

SWORD

SCOTLAND

Paul Murton has spent half a lifetime exploring some of the most beautiful islands in the world – the Hebrides. In this book Paul visits each of the Hebridean islands in turn, introducing their myths and legends, history, culture, and extraordinary natural beauty. He also meets the people who live there and learns their story. He has met crofters, fishermen, tweed weavers, Gaelic singers, Clan chiefs, artists, postmen and bus drivers – people from every walk of life who make the islands tick. This blend of the contemporary and the traditional creates a vivid account of the Hebrides and serves as unique guide to the less well-known aspects of life among the Price:\$39.95 Plus postage

Essential English-Gaelic/Gaelic-English Dictionary

Ideal for learners of Gaelic at all levels, and its generous coverage of vocabulary from fields such as business and IT makes it a valuable tool for all those who require an up-to-date reference work. It contains a large amount of explanatory material, numerous examples of usage and idiomatic phrases and expressions. Many registers and styles are sampled, from the familiar (and occasionally the vulgar) to the formal and the literary. Price:\$24.95 Plus postage

Adventures in the Golden Age: Scotland in the World Cup Finals 1974-1998

The 2018 World Cup Finals in Russia mark 20 years since Scotland last qualified for a major football tournament. It's a poignant, painful reminder of the state of thefootballing nation. Qualification has never been easy, of course, but the golden age of many memorable and nail-biting nights are well worth remembering – in the hope that one day they may come again. Archie Macpherson commentated on all 18 of Scotland's World Cup matches during that purple patch from 1974 to 1998, and now in his Adventures in the Golden Age, he tells the story of the matches and the men that raised and dashed hopes in almost equal measure at the greatest

The Broons Jokebook

The Broons are billed as 'the happy family that makes every family happy'. The Broons fair enjoy a good laugh. So the family have all pitched in to compile their favourite funnies. Each joke has a Scottish flavour - a bit like haggis flavoured crisps. There are quick-fire gags, funny stories and lots of classic Broons illustrations Price: \$14.95 Plus postage

Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors

With 5 million people in Scotland, and over 30 million of Scottish descent scattered over the globe, it is not surprising that research into Scottish family history is so popular?especially now that huge amounts of information on family origins are available online. If you are one of those who wish to trace their roots in Scotland, this major new edition of the official guide is the one book you must have. Price:\$29.95 Plus postage

The Finest Road in the World: The Story of Travel and Transport in the Scottish

Highlands Trains and stagecoaches stuck in the snow, wild storms driving sailing ships off course, traffic pile-ups- stories abound about the horrors of travel in the Highlands and Islands, and have done for as far as the records go back. James Miller tells the dramatic and sometimes surprisingly humorous story of travel and transport in the Highlands. This thoughtprovoking book will appeal to all who like stories of travel and transport, and are interested in how changing modes of transport have affected the ways of life in the Highlands and remain crucial to the modern life and the future of the region. Price: \$29.95 Plus postage

Dark Encounters: A Collection of Ghost

First published in 1963 by Harvill Press, Dark Encounters is an elegantly spine-tingling collection of ghost stories set in the brooding landscape of Scotland and often referring to real people, places and objects. From a demonic book that brings its readers to an early death to the murderous spectre of a feudal baron, these tales are a welcome addition to the long and distinguished canon of Scottish ghost stories. For those who seek the unnerving and the inexplicable, Dark Encounters is guaranteed to raise the hairs on the back of your neck

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage

Giants of the Clyde: The Great Ships and the Great Yards

There is barely a corner of the five great oceans where Clyde-built is not recognised as the ultimate shipbuilding accolade. As late as the 1950s, around a seventh of the total of the world's sea going tonnage was built on the Clyde. From the many yards on its banks, north and south, en route from the gentle hills of Lanarkshire to the Firth of Clyde, came engineering innovation and fabled names in shipping vessels. This is the fascinating, often turbulent story of a great river, its great ships, and the folk who built them. Price: \$24.95 Plus postage

The Drowned and the Saved

The loss of two British ships crammed with American soldiers bound for the trenches of the First World War brought the devastation of war directly to the shores of the Scottish island of Islay. The sinking of the troopship Tuscania by a German U-Boat on 5 February 1918 was the first major loss of US troops in in the war. Based on the harrowing personal recollection of survivors and rescuers, newspaper reports, and original research, Les Wilson tells the story of these terrible events, painting a vivid picture which also pays tribute to the astonishing bravery of the islanders, who risked their lives pulling men from the sea, caring for survivors, and burying the dead.

Price: \$ 24.95 Plus postage

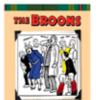
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Scotland's Last Frontier In Britain's Last Frontier best-selling author Alistair Moffat makes a journey of the imagination, tracing the route of the Line from the River Clyde through Perthshire and the north-east. In addition to exploring Hebrides the huge importance of the Line over almost two thousand years, he also shows how it continues to influence life and attitudes in 21st-century Scotland. The result is a fascinating book, full of history and anecdote. Price: S24.95 Plus postage Great Scottish Journeys Great Scottish Journeys is a stunning collection of photographs from all over Scotland, taking in some of

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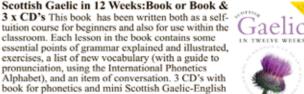
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The Scots: A Genetic Journey

History has always mattered to Scots. An almost limitless archive of our history lies hidden inside our bodies and we carry the ancient story of Scotland around with us. The mushrooming of genetic studies, of DNA analysis, is rewriting our history in spectacular fashion. This new editionexplores the history that is printed on our genes, and in a remarkable new approach, uncovers the detail of where we are from, who we are and, in so doing, vividly paints a DNA map of Scotland. This edition takes into account recent developments in DNA science and Celtic gene markers. Price: \$29.95 Plus postage

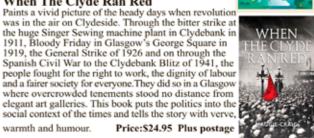














When The Clyde Ran Red

Orkney lies only 20 miles north of mainland Scotland, yet for many centuries its culture was more Scandanavian than Scottish. Strong westerly winds account for the scarcity of trees on Orkney and also for the tradition of well-constructed stone structures. As a result, the island boast a large number of exceptionally well-preserved remains, which help us to form a detailed picture of Orcadian life through the ages. In this updated edition of her best-selling book, Caroline Wickham-Jones, who has worked extensively on Orcadian sites for many years, introduces the history of the islands and provides a detailed survey of the principal places and sites of historic interest. Price: \$24.95 Plus postage

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the most iconic routes around the country. This is Scotland as it should be seen, in all its glory, and is a

Whiskies Galore: A Tour of Scotland's

Island whiskies have long held a fascination, their

place, he provides a special treat for all who love the islands' magical drams. Price: \$39.95 Plus postage

with The Scots Magazine, Keith Fergus has



As an outstanding exponent of Art Nouveau and leader of the 'Glasgow Style', Charles Rennie Mackintosh's buildings, designs and paintings are known the world over. In this book Eilidh Muldoon shares her passion for one of the twentieth-century's artistic giants. From Mackintosh's most iconic buildings, such as the Glasgow School of Art, The Cranston Tearooms and Hill House to furniture, stained glass and fabric designs, these drawings are an ideal way to explore his artistic world, and by adding colour, adding your own personal stamp.

Price: \$22.95 Plus postage Scottish Battles

Scottish history has been shaped and defined by a series of great battles. John Sadler gives the first full military history of Scotland for many years. From Mons Graupius to Culloden, he shows how terrain and

politics shaped the campaigns and decisive engagements we still remember today. This new paperback edition includes detailed battle plans and eyewitness accounts where possible, and sections on the development of warfare – tactics, equipment and styles of fighting. Price: \$29.95 Plus postage

Glasgow: The Autobiography

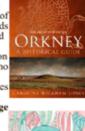
The story of the fabled, former Second City of the British Empire from its origins as a bucolic village on the rivers Kelvin and Clyde, through the Industrial Revolution to the dawning of the second millennium. Arranged chronologically this vivid portrait of one of the world's great cities in all its grime and glory - a place which is at once infuriating, frustrating, inspiring, sensational and never, ever dull.

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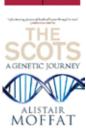
























Celebrating 120 Years at the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band

his year, the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band celebrates its 120th anniversary, having originally been established as the South and Port Melbourne Thistle Society Pipe Band around 1897-8. It is also the centenary of the band gaining independence from the Society, forming the Melbourne Highland Pipe Band in 1918. In its early years, the Band catered to recent Scottish migrants wishing to continue their national traditions in their new city, with players recruited as they landed at the Port of Melbourne. The band achieved many successes early on, becoming the most successful competition band in Victoria in the early 20th century. Yet this would all change come 1914.

The Great War had a significant impact on the band. Of the 26 members, 22 enlisted. Seven did not return home. One such member was Corporal Gordon Inglis. Just that January, Inglis was lauded by the Footscray Chronical for winning the Dewar Trophy in the New Year's Day Highland Gathering in Sydney; the success earned the 22-year-old the title of Australian Amateur Champion. He was deployed to Gallipoli in 1915. It was there on 26th April that Inglis suffered a terrible injury, particularly for a piper: a bullet wound to his left lung and arm. He died the following year in a British hospital, a piper playing over his grave in fulfilment of his passing wish. Amongst his recorded possessions was a complete set of bagpipes.

Back home in Melbourne, the Thistle Society playing group remained active and continued its achievements even with severely diminished numbers. In October 1915, the Port Melbourne Standard recorded the band's win in the South Street Pipe Band and Military Contest, also noting how 11 members at the time were at the front.

Crucially however, as the war progressed, the band became accepting of women willing to support the remaining players. *The Herald* wrote on March $14^{\mbox{th}}$, 1918 of how three women from the Thistle Society, "would march at the head of the Society's male band in the St Patrick's Day procession on Saturday".

Celebrating 120 years

This relationship with female pipers was to become a significant factor in

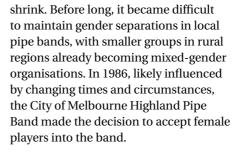


the development of the band in the following decades. It was not traditional to include women in a pipe band, and indeed it may have been the decision of the Thistle Society to create an all-female piping group that led to the existing band breaking away. Minutes from a 1924 meeting of the new Melbourne Highland Pipe Band in fact outline their strong objection to ladies being involved.

Today, the City of Melbourne
Highland Pipe Band has 2
bands competing at Grade
3 and Grade 4 levels, plus a
development group. It boasts
55 members, 15 learners and
many guest and social players.

Regardless, the newly christened group maintained its successes well into the middle of the century. The late 1950s – early 60s saw the Band peak, with further National and State Championship victories at Grade 1 level. The band became affiliated with the City of Melbourne in 1978, adopted a new name, the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band, and was granted the right to use the city's coat of arms.

However, the period after saw a gradual decline in the scale of pipe band music in Australia. The emergence of new, alternative recreational and musical options meant player numbers began to



The band today

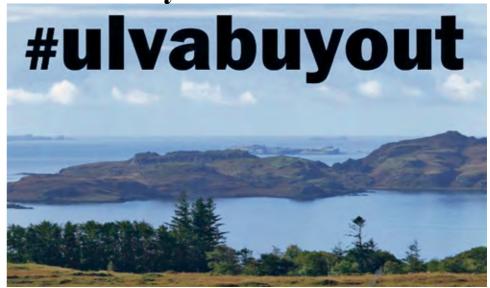
Today, the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band has 2 bands competing at Grade 3 and Grade 4 levels, plus a development group. It boasts 55 members, 15 learners and many guest and social players. The current membership includes members from a variety of ethnicities, including: Greek, Dutch, Thai, South African, Filipino, French, Chinese, British, New Zealand and Australian backgrounds. The ages of members range from 10 years old to some in their 70s, and both men and women are welcome.

The Band proudly wears the MacLennan tartan, in honour of Mr Lewis McLennan who was Pipe Major of the Band from 1919 until 1934. The Band has maintained its long historical links with the Royal Australian Regiment Association (Vic), continuing to play at their annual ANZAC reunion.

On Saturday July 7th, 2018, the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band will celebrate its 120th anniversary with a Gala Ball to be held at the Collingwood Town Hall in Melbourne. Readers are invited to come and join us in celebrating this auspicious event. Tickets are available for purchase from the band's website, or by phoning the Band.

For information: Lyn Vanos 0400 588 921 or www.melbournepipeband.com.au





By: Rosalind Jones

cottish Banner readers will be pleased to learn that the Ulva Buyout campaign was successful! Impressed with the Mull campaigner's business plans for the Isle of Ulva, in addition to the £37,224 they'd raised, the Scottish government awarded them £4.4 million from the Scottish Land Fund. This generous grant enabled the campaigners not only to offer to buy Ulva from owner Jamie Howard but also bid for Ardulum House, Howard's home, used as a hostel for holidaymakers and not originally included in the buyout.

Incredible achievement

The campaign, led by the North West Mull Community Woodland Company (NWMCWC), which already owns part of neighbouring Mull as a community enterprise, aims to repopulate Ulva and regenerate its local economy after decades of depopulation. The campaign attracted global interest and future would-be Ulva residents are already, hopefully, applying. Symbolically the longest day, 21st June, was chosen for the handover of ownership. A day of light in which to celebrate an incredible achievement.

Against the odds, the beautiful Isle of Ulva has been saved for all to enjoy. Thanks are given to *Scottish Banner* readers who supported the Ulva Buyout. You have helped change Scottish history!

For more details: www.facebook.com/ulvabuyout



The Shoreline Project Reconnecting Edinburgh to the coast



Think Edinburgh and its castle, Royal Mile or Old and New Towns, however many be surprised it also boasts 27km of coastline. A new project is being launched this summer to celebrate Edinburgh's water heritage with conservation projects, nature trails and an exhibition at the city's Botanic Gardens as Judy Vickers explains.

hink of Edinburgh and what springs to mind? The Festival when the city's streets are thronged with performers from all over the world during the month of August? The beautiful architecture of both the Old and New Town which has gained Edinburgh the title "the Athens of the North"? It's fascinating history as a medieval stronghold of kings and queens and a pioneer of the Enlightenment?

A coastal city

Scotland's capital is, of course, all these things and many more. But it is also a coastal city, a fact which is often overlooked by both visitors and locals alike. In fact, Edinburgh has a surprising 27 km of shoreline from Port Edgar to Joppa.

Now a new project, Shoreline, aims to change all that. Schools, community groups and individuals are joining together to regenerate natural habitats along Edinburgh's coastline. By connecting with scientists and conservationists, people who live, work or play close by have been given the chance to celebrate the area's relationship with the sea, and the plants and animals to be found along the coast.

Over the next 12 months, they will search for little-known species, explore rock pools



and mudflats, and undertake practical conservation work and much more.

Communities will tell their own stories, including at a major summer exhibition at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

The Shoreline project has been developed by Karen Chambers, vice chair of Scottish Wildlife Trust; historian and researcher Elspeth Wills, and Leonie Alexander, urban biodiversity project officer at RBGE who wanted to see Edinburgh's profile raised as a coastal city. It is now being headed-up by RBGE and its partners in Edinburgh Living Landscape (ELL). The Shoreline's ultimate aim is to deliver a legacy for the human, animal and plant communities along the way to Joppa.

The Edinburgh shoreline

Project manager Charlotte Johnson, based at RBGE, explained: "Over many decades, Edinburgh's relationship with the sea has weakened, to the detriment of its citizens, landscapes, plants and wildlife. Our coast is now a strange mix of areas of dereliction, industry, forgotten beaches, with new developments and fresh possibilities. Rather than just another initiative laid out by the professionals, this is an opportunity for Edinburgh's coastal communities to work with scientists, artists and filmmakers to explore and celebrate the rich cultural and natural heritage. It will consider the omnipresent relationship of the shoreline with the city and to forge new openings for a greener future. The role of RBGE and its partners will be to support communities in developing their own ambitions for this coast."

She explained that the Edinburgh coastline starts from Port Edgar by South Queensferry, along to the privately owned Dalmeny Estate, then to Cramond, Silverknowes, Granton, Newhaven, Leith, Seafield, Portobello and finishes at Joppa in the east. "And all these areas are so incredibly different. There are areas there which are quite affluent, such as

Portobello, where people flock for day trips, good coffees and nice meals, and there are others, the area between Silverknowes and Granton in particular, which is an area of multiple deprivation, where there are derelict and brownfield sites, and there are the sewage works at Seafield. The challenge of the project is to get people to think of them as one joined-up Edinburgh shoreline."

The Edinburgh shoreline was first settled by people 10,000 years ago at Cramond. Industries such as herring fishing - there were once 1000 boats at Newhaven with a population of 4000 - flourished along with populations of oysters. "We once had very rich oyster beds at Newhaven which we have lost because of the water quality," said Charlotte. Leith Docks excelled at shipbuilding and the port was key to Edinburgh's prosperity. Other industries abounded, such as the gas works at Granton, the tower of which is still a landmark. Leisure was also important families flocked to Portobello beach with its heated outdoor swimming pool which only closed in the 1970s. "The wealthy people of Edinburgh who wanted to get away from the grime of the city built their summer homes there," explained Charlotte.

And the area is still rich in wildlife. Leonie Alexander said: "There is so much to discover along the Edinburgh coast, from the rich bird life to amazing rock pools, sea grass beds, remnant coastal plants hanging on to sea defences and pink grasshoppers. There is also the potential for so much more."

The coast's culture, history and biodiversity

An exhibition, also called Shoreline, opens at the Botanics this month (July). Running until September, it will feature six projects running along the Edinburgh shoreline as well as displays on the coast's culture, history and biodiversity. It will also feature inspiring

examples of coast regeneration from around the world such as the Billion Oyster Project from New York Harbour in the United States.

The projects spotlighted in the exhibition include the Greenferry Trust's work in South Queensferry to transform an "eyesore" area known as Vennel Park or Hawthorn Bank into a community garden and a project to restore the walled garden of Granton Castle. "The castle was built in the 1470s, but was demolished in the 1920s. The walled garden remained but was earmarked for demolition and development. This group saved it from development and turned it into a community garden. They've got lots of volunteers and hold open days, and it's become a wildlife haven so it's really a story of what a community can do," said Charlotte.

Another group featured is the Wardie Bay Beachwatch. "Wardie Bay is a very small beach near Granton Harbour and here volunteers have been collecting statistics on what's washed up, in particular plastic pollution." Plastic from a mass public rubbish pick was used to spell out a giant SOS on the beach, which was filmed by a drone and will feature in the exhibition. At Newhaven, the tradition of fishwives' singing will be celebrated with recordings of ancient songs by a choir. "The Newhaven fishwives' choir was actually once very popular," said Charlotte. "They toured the UK and used to sell out town halls. Their songs were about fishing and their work. The Newhaven Community Choir is recording some upto-date versions of these songs. They will be part of the exhibition and we also hope to have some performances at the Botanics and down by the shoreline."

Designs for a mural along an 80ft rundown graffiti-covered coastal wall in Seafield will also be on display – the actual mural, celebrating Edinburgh shoreline, will be created over the coming months. And groups from right along the shore, including schoolchildren, are creating knitted, felted and crocheted sea creatures, from herring to seaweed. "We are hoping to have hundreds of different species for the exhibition," said Charlotte.

And she said she hoped the 12-month project would inspire more projects that would give the shoreline as vibrant a future as it has a past. "The history and heritage is so rich but at the moment you can't even cycle the whole shoreline, it's so disjointed. One day it would be wonderful if we could have something like the Fife Coastal Path and really be able to celebrate this amazing asset."

