



the Scottish Banner



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A' Bhratach Albannach

Volume 42 Number 3 The world's largest international Scottish newspaper September 2018

Sir John De Graeme

The Guardian of Scotland

» Pg 16



**V&A Dundee
welcomes the world**

» Pg 6

**Celebrating
20 years of the
Wigtown Book
Festival**

» Pg 28



7 25286 84459 8 09

The Magic of the Theatre » Pg 14

The Battle of Prestonpans-Honouring
a Jacobite Rising » Pg 24

Beano Day at the
National Library..... » Pg 31



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The Banner Says...

That's what Scots do



by Sean Cairney

Many readers of *the Scottish Banner* no doubt take the chance to embrace our heritage by attending a Highland Games, whether it be near or far, to celebrate Scotland with like-minded friends old and new.

In any given month we list hundreds of Scottish events on our website, and in each edition, from around the world allowing us to have one of the most comprehensive international Scottish events listings available anywhere.

I have attended hundreds of Highland Games and Scottish/Celtic events across the world and regardless of where I am, I always am checking the weather in the lead up to the big day. I am sure that is something that many a reader can relate to. I was recently at a Highland Games which began with blue sunny skies and no wind, a perfect day for a Games. However as the day progressed the winds picked up and a dark clouds approached, as I scrambled to close down *the Scottish Banner* tent I wondered if I could get everything packed away safely.

All in it together

As one of my display items hurled across the field it hit someone's legs, thankfully not causing any injury, he brought it over to me and said; "You are going to need some help here!" He and his friend jumped into action and helped me get everything away safely with not one minute to spare before the heavens opened

as the wind whirled around us. I have witnessed this incredible act of community kindness before and am sure some readers have helped or been helped at events in the past.

On another occasion my van got bogged in the ground and I was helped by some of the heavy events men and women who pushed out my van like it was a shopping trolley. I was so thankful to them but they insisted it was no big deal and that "we were all in it together". This sums up so many people that attend Scottish events around the world, happy to help each other and look out for one another.

The international Scottish community are very fortunate to have so much on offer year round, and so many great people running, participating and attending these events.

So make sure you check our calendar of events and find a Scottish community event you can attend. You may just run into one of the many kind Scots I have, and find reason to join one of the many great Scottish organisations our community offers. The international Scottish community is very fortunate to have so much on offer year round, and so many great people running, participating and attending these events.

In this issue

Speaking of community groups, this month we speak to an re-enactment group in Scotland who are passionate about sharing the story of Scotland to the wider community. The Society of John De Graeme promote not only an important figure in Scottish history but the overall story of Scotland itself. These

passionate volunteers spend many personal hours away from family and friends to engage with people and the Society's Convener David Keith is a great example of Scots promoting their own history.

The story of Scotland has been told many times over in word with hundreds of books documenting Scotland's struggles, humour and individuals. Readers of *the Scottish Banner* no doubt love a good page turner much like those who will be visiting the 20th Wigtown Book Festival in Galloway this month. The Festival has not only become a major event for the region but also a fantastic platform for Scottish writers and has given the town of Wigtown a new lease of life. How amazing that books can have such a profound impact on a town and its people and that in itself is a story worth telling.

This month the eyes of the world will be on Dundee and the opening of the V&A Dundee (Victoria and Albert Museum), the only other V&A Museum anywhere in the world outside London. V&A Dundee will be Scotland's first international centre of design and is part of a major revamp of the city. Scotland's fourth largest city is now the capital of cool and is the UK's only UNESCO designated City of Design. Dundee has been declared Scotland's sunniest city and it will no doubt be in the spot light not only this month but for the foreseeable future.

The kindness of Scots

In last month's editorial I spoke of the passing of my father Jim Cairney. Whilst our family is still working through the sadness of this, I have been so touched by the great many comments of support I have received from people around the world. Some know me or my Dad and some of us have never met but the compassion from the Scottish community has been incredible. Though I know my Dad would say "That's what Scots do!"

It again affirms to me the kindness of Scots and the friendship that we have within the readership of *the Scottish Banner*.

To the two gents who helped pack up *the Scottish Banner* tent recently, thank you for your kindness that day, and no doubt it's simply what you do...

Have you had an act of kindness from a fellow Scot you wish to honour or recognise? Share your story with us by email, post or at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us



The Scottish Banner tent on a calm day.

Gracing our front cover: Members of The Society of John De Graeme at Callendar House. Photo: Vass Media/www.vassmedia.co.uk

International performers for The Sky's The Limit 2018



The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo celebrated their 2018 performances with a dynamic line-up of performers at this year's 'The Sky's the Limit' showcase. From Australia and Oman to Malawi and the Shetland Isles, producers have explored all points of the compass to select a world-class programme of home-grown and overseas talent to bring this year's spectacle to life between which took place in August. The 8,800 nightly audiences were captivated by a colourful cultural showcase and thrilling display of music, dance, military performance and technology, all against the backdrop of

Edinburgh Castle. This year's theme, The Sky's the Limit, was chosen in celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the Royal Air Force (RAF) and marries with Scotland's Year of Young People. Each performance, coupled with stunning projections and, in a first for the show, laser technology, took the audience on the incredible journey following man's obsession with flight, including space travel.

Brigadier David Allfrey, Chief Executive and Producer of The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo said: "It's an enthralling 90-minute spectacle that's set to be one of our best shows yet with an army of

young performers to the fore. One of the remarkable characteristics of the youthful is the optimism and their ability to not be limited by boundaries – barriers between people, communities or opportunities. This is a celebration of that mindset and we hope for the show to be an inspiration to both young and old, to keep this childlike spirit alive in all aspects of our lives from our ambitions to our interactions with others."

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier, Chief of the Air Staff (CAS), added: "In our 100th anniversary year, I'm really delighted that the Royal Air Force has the lead for this year's Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo – a very special event in a very special year. Scotland has always been a vital part of that RAF story. From one hundred years ago at Montrose Station, the first operational military airfield, to today at RAF Lossiemouth on the Moray coast, one of the RAF's principal bases, protecting UK and NATO airspace. I am also proud to say that Scotland was the start of my own personal story and RAF career. Throughout RAF100 and Scotland's Year of Young People, the greatest legacy we can build is to inspire and unlock the potential of new generations, so that together, we can help shape our next century. The theme for this year's Tattoo - "The Sky's The Limit" - could not, therefore, be more appropriate."

Tartan of the Month *Dundee 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 (SRT).

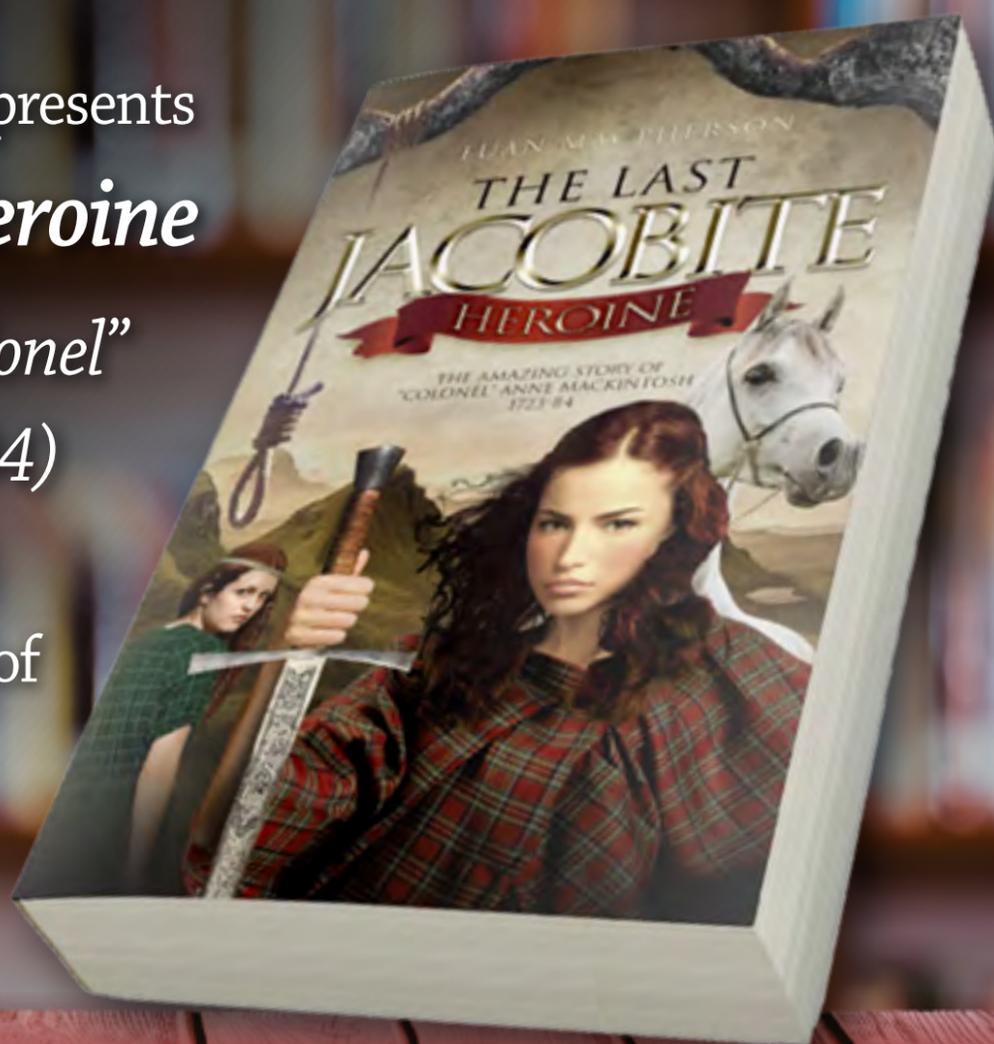
The eyes of the world will be on Dundee this month and the opening of the V&A Museum, so this month we highlight the Dundee Tartan (SRT reference: 844). Based on the design of a tartan jacket said to have been worn by Prince Charles Edward Stuart at Culloden - earliest date 1746 - now preserved in the Scottish United Services Museum in Edinburgh Castle. Wilsons of Bannockburn a weaving firm founded c1770 near Stirling. The Pattern books are in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh. Copies of the Pattern books and letters are in the Scottish Tartans Society archive.

Menzies & Wood Publishing presents

The Last Jacobite Heroine

The Amazing Story of "Colonel" Anne Mackintosh (1723-84)

By Euan Macpherson, author of *The Trial of Jack the Ripper*



Available now from www.amazon.com

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?

Jim Cairney

Dear Sean,

I was sorry to read of the death of your father, Jim Cairney, and would like to offer you my sincere sympathy. It is always lovely to read the tribute of a son or daughter to a late parent when he or she writes in such fond terms. It is apparent that you have been a member of a strong, loving and productive family which, speaking as a member of such a family on my mother's side, is all you need in life.

With sorrow for your loss.

Ann Grant
Randwick, NSW
Australia

Hi Sean,

It was with great sadness I read your latest editorial in this month's *Scottish Banner*, I'm so sorry for the loss of your Father, he was a good man and I wish to convey sincere condolences to you and your family at this sad time, one of the most comforting quotes I have ever read regarding the passing of a loved one is, "They never die who live in the hearts they leave behind."

Andy Heaney & family
Brisbane, Queensland
Australia

Hi Sean and Valerie,

I just got back from a couple of weeks in Canada and Scotland and your August 2018 copy of *the Scottish Banner* was waiting for me. So sorry to hear about your Dad, Sean. I have fond memories of him and your Mum Valerie at their Scottish restaurant in Nobleton, Ontario.



Occasionally I was the foil for your uncle John Cairney when he needed one for his Robert Burns act. After one evening's entertainment on a cold January Burns Night, we all went back to my place in Bramalea because your Dad wanted not some sumptuous meal, but plain old, believe it or not, toast and beans. He was that kind of man! My heartfelt condolences to you all.

As an aside while in Scotland, I entered the 'Old Men's Race' of the 366th running of the Burntisland Highland Games (the second oldest in the world) And I won. OK, so it is only fifty yards long, and as an 'old man' I got a ten yard handicap, but I did win. Having won £5, I am thinking of giving up retirement and taking up professional running!

Baxter Henderson
Victoria, Australia

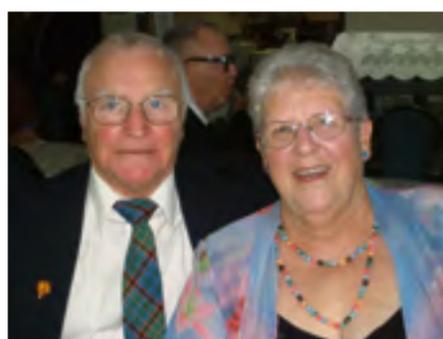
Ed note: Thank you for the many messages we have received on the passing of Jim Cairney. It is wonderful to have such thoughtful readers help you get through such sad times.

My parents, sister and brother did too and we all settled in Adelaide.

I am very eager for a reply.

Isabella Brown (Weans)
2/45 Kolapore Ave.
Largs North, South Australia
5015 Australia

Diamond Wedding Anniversary



My husband Ross and I are celebrating our Diamond Wedding Anniversary which took place on the 9th of August. As 60 years is a special occasion could it be put into *the Banner* as a surprise for him and all our friends who are regular readers of *the Scottish Banner*. Attached is a photo of our wedding day taken in our home town of Dunfermline in 1958 when Ross was serving in the RAF and also recent photo that friends will recognise.

Yours sincerely,
Jessie Nicol

Ed note: Congratulations to you Jessie and Ross on a wonderful life of happiness together.

Calling all MacRaes!

We are thrilled to announce that there will be another International Clan Gathering of MacRaes in Scotland in May of 2019 and we have planned a tour to take in all the activities. This is the opportunity of a lifetime for those who are still dreaming of going to Scotland for the tour makes



it easy for you to make the trip a reality! We hope you can join us for these Gatherings and Tours only occur once every five years! The current dates of the tour are from

May 5th through May 18th with the Clan MacRae Gathering events taking place over five days from May 8th through May 12th. The decision to hold a Clan MacRae Gathering in May of 2019 is due to the 300th anniversary of the destruction of Eilean Donan Castle by the British on May 10, 1719. We will be at Eilean Donan Castle on the actual anniversary of this event with a special commemoration.

For those interested in the tour, please let us know if you want to make the trek to Scotland with us for the 2019 Clan MacRae Gathering.

Sgurr Uaran!
Judy McRae
Director of Membership
Clan MacRae Society of North America
Judy McRae
10665 W 26th Ave
Wheat Ridge, CO
80215, USA
judymcrae777@gmail.com or 303-670-9611

Scottish placenames

Must say I am loving the digital paper; as convenient as a newspaper without the messy newsprint and clutter of old editions.

With the Scottish placenames, I grew up in a Sydney suburb called Baulkham Hills named after the Buckholm Hills in the Scottish Borders east of Galashiels, there is a ruinous Tower on Buckholm Farm, near Galashiels, supposedly haunted by Laird Pringle who murdered Covenanters. Interestingly, my Scottish family connection is to the Home/Hume family whose homelands are further east nearer Berwick. My wife and I shall visit both in 2019. We are getting a lot of ideas from *the Banner* for our Scottish holiday.

Thanking you for your excellent newspaper.

Ian Clark
Cooma, NSW
Australia

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send your photos or letters via social media

Carlsruith Castle



Another castle of my tick list today making the most of my membership I visited Carlsruith Castle. What a view over Wigtown Bay on the Galloway coast.
GN Photography
Clydebank, Glasgow
Scotland

Learned Kindred of Currie



Day two for the Learned Kindred of Currie at the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville, Ontario. Stop by and say hello. Big thanks to Jeff Croke for hosting our space.
Clan Currie

The Isle of May



When reading my *Scottish Banner*, it always brings back happy memories and the June issue was no exception. The story on May Island (*Isle of May opens for the season, Scottish Banner*, June, 2018) brought back many memories as I served on the lightship *M.V. May* who supplied keepers and supplies to lighthouses all around the top of Scotland, including May Island and the Bell Rock for the Northern Lighthouse Service. I was 16 years then and am now years and live in Australia, so thank you all at *the Banner* for bringing these happy memories back for me and the many other readers from Bonnie Scotland and around the world.

Charlie Brewer
Ringwood, Victoria
Australia

"Must see's" of Scotland & Ireland

We are planning a trip to these countries April, 2019. Besides seeing the beautiful countryside, we are interested in our heritage as well.

What can we see in Scotland and Ireland representing the culture? Tartans, dances, etc.

Gulfport, Mississippi will have a Highland Game festival this November.

Karen Tate
E-mail: karentate726@yahoo.com
Mississippi, USA

Ed note: No doubt our readers can help Karen make her 2019 trip one to remember.

Weans Bridge

I was interested in your interview with Ryan Wells in the May edition of *the Scottish Banner*. He spoke of the Weans Bridge in Edinburgh. My grandparents lived and brought up their family (my Dad included) in Edinburgh. Their surname and my maiden name is Weans. I've never heard of Weans Bridge, can anyone give me more details of it please? Where it is in Edinburgh and who put the money it. I came to South Australia from a village in Stirlingshire in 1966.

Beano Day at the National Library



Beano fans got a rare glimpse of the first ever edition from 1938 at the National Library of Scotland at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow recently. Celebrating Beano's 80th anniversary, the one-day pop-up exhibition featured highlights from the Library's extensive Beano collection – from decades-old summer specials to the latest editions. It also included a comic from 1952 that featured an early appearance of Dennis the Menace on the front cover. Despite being the most famous Beano character for many, he didn't get regular front cover status until 1974.

Original artwork by legendary artists Leo Baxendale, David Law and David Sutherland from publisher DC Thomson's archives were also on display.

Graeme Hawley, Head of General Collections at the Library said: "Beano is the world's longest-running comic, introducing much-loved and popular characters such as



Dennis and Gnasher, Minnie the Minx and the Bash Street Kids to millions of households throughout Britain. Its Scottish origins make it a particularly important title for us to collect and treasure for the nation, and we continue to collect all the latest editions. The first edition is extremely rare, with only a few copies believed to be in existence. We're delighted to be celebrating the beloved comic's birthday by offering members of the public the full Beano experience."

The world's longest running comic

Mike Stirling, Head of Beano Studios Scotland, said: "There were nearly half a million copies of the first issue of Beano printed, but less than thirty are thought to remain, mainly in private collections, so this is an amazing opportunity for as many as people as possible to encounter one of the most sought after comics on the planet. It's arguably the most important single issue of a comic in history – the very first of

billions of Beans! Something which has been passed down through generations. It's amazing to think that this was just the beginning of what has become the world's longest running comic and I hope it inspires visitors to enjoy our past and become involved in our exciting future."

The children's comic was first published by DC Thomson in July 1938 and is still put together in its original Dundee headquarters. The Beano comic continues to print in the UK, producing 75,000 comics every week. The brand reaches over 5m fans a month on its digital network, centred around multi-award winning Beano.com, featuring the hottest trends and most-loved content in a kid safe environment – from mad dance crazes and LOL-some comedy sketches to epic celebrity challenges and fresh new 'toons.

Did you know?

- Estimates vary but it is believed that between 12 and 25 copies of the first Beano have survived.
- The very first Beano cost two old pennies. Its 28 pages were a mixture of funny comic strips and text adventure stories. The cover star of the first edition (and for the first 10 years) was Big Eggo, an ostrich in constant search for his lost egg. The troubled ostrich lost his front page position to Biffo the Bear in 1948.
- The Beano was an instant success and by 1950, each issue was selling close to 2 million copies. Its popularity continues to this day with a comic sold every 17 seconds.

The National Wallace Monument to commemorate Battle of Stirling Bridge



performances from costumed actors portraying William Wallace and the Monument's architect, J.T. Rothead.

An important date in the history of Stirling

Speaking about the event, marketing co-ordinator Abby Richards says: "We're really looking forward to welcoming guests to the Monument to take part in this unique experience. Our visitors will see a completely different side to the Monument, and will gain new insights into the life of William Wallace. 11th September will always be an important date in the history of Stirling. 721 years ago the fields on either side of the River Forth became a battlefield, where a skilful Scottish army overcame its enemy, and the date also marks the anniversary of the opening of The National Wallace Monument, built to honour the Scottish leader who came to be recognised as the hero of the battle - William Wallace."

The National Wallace Monument was opened in 1869 to commemorate the life of the Scottish patriot and martyr Sir William Wallace. The Battle of Stirling Bridge took place on the 11th of September 1297 close to the site where The National Wallace Monument stands today. 2019 will mark the 150th anniversary of the opening of the distinctive Stirling attraction. The celebrations will include an extended programme of special events.

For more details see: www.nationalwallacemonument.com

An exclusive evening event will take place at The National Wallace Monument in Stirling to commemorate the Battle of Stirling Bridge anniversary on 11th September. The 'Knock on History's Door' event will give visitors the chance to see the Monument in a new light as they explore the building. Guests will be invited to explore the Monument's galleries and exhibitions and take in the beautiful views from the crown.

As they climb the 246 stairs to the Monument's summit, they will learn about William Wallace, his role in the Battle of Stirling over 700 years ago, and the legacy that the Monument commemorates. The evening event will also feature informative

CELTIC GENEALOGY CRUISE MAY 4 - 16, 2019



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- Belfast (consultations with Ulster Historical Foundation, Titanic Centre)
- Glasgow (Mitchell Library)
- Inverness (Highland Archives, Culloden Moor)
- Edinburgh (ScotlandsPeople Centre)

Other ports of call: Southampton, Guernsey, Le Havre, Cobh

www.celticgenealogycruises.com

Highland Games cancelled in Scotland due to heatwave



One of Scotland's traditional Highland Games has been forced to cancel their event due to weather, not however for rain or wind but heat and sunshine. The recent heatwave that has hit all of Britain over the last couple of months has forced the Invercharron Highland Games in Sutherland in the Highlands to cancel this month's event.

A statement on the Games website said; "It is with severe regret that the Invercharron Highland Games has had to be cancelled this year. The farmer, whose field we use, grows his winter feed hay crop in the field and because of the exceptionally dry weather we have had, the crops are growing too slowly and as a result he will not be able to harvest before the games and the feed is urgently needed. There is not enough time for us to find another field nor apply for a new Public Entertainment licence so we have no alternative other than to cancel this year."

The Games plans to be back on track in 2019.

Koala flies in to Edinburgh Zoo



Passengers on a plane from Dusseldorf were surprised to be sharing the cabin with a koala bound for Edinburgh Zoo. Tanami, a 19-month-old Queensland koala who had his own seat on the flight to Edinburgh Airport, travelled over 700 miles from Duisburg Zoo in Germany to join Scotland's only koalas as part of a conservation breeding programme.

Darren McGarry, Head of Living Collections at RZSS Edinburgh Zoo, said: "Koalas are very sensitive animals,

so special care needs to be taken when transporting them. They travel in the plane's cabin and not in the hold so keepers can easily make sure everything's okay during the flight. We are very excited to have Tanami join us here at the zoo. Koalas are a real favourite among our visitors and it's great to see him settling in well and enjoying his new surroundings."

Tanami is trading places with Toorie, Edinburgh Zoo's young male koala, who has returned to Duisburg Zoo. McGarry

added: "Toorie will be missed by everyone here at Edinburgh Zoo, but we are proud to see him playing his part in the conservation of the species."

Koala numbers are in decline throughout the Eastern coast of Australia where they naturally occur. The eucalyptus forests that koalas depend upon for survival are disappearing to make way for roads and housing, and when koalas move from one tree to another on the ground, they are very vulnerable to predators, including wild and domestic dogs, and many are hit by cars. As well as being members of the managed breeding programme for Queensland koalas, the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland makes regular contributions to support conservation projects in Australia that help to rehabilitate sick and injured koalas and release them back into the wild. Viewing will be restricted while Tanami settles into his new home but visitors can look forward to seeing him in the coming weeks and months.



V&A Dundee welcomes the world



This month the first visitors to V&A Dundee will pass through the doors. But what are they going to see when they open on 15 September? Join us on a whistlestop tour of what you can expect when you visit V&A Dundee.

First up: exhibitions. The Scottish Design Galleries will be the heart of our new museum and will explore Scotland's design landscape, past, present and future. 300 amazing objects across a range of disciplines will explore the everyday relevance of design, as well as the processes which underpin it. V&A Dundee is kicking off their ambitious international programme of touring exhibitions, showcasing the very best of design from around the world, with *Ocean Liners: Speed and Style*. The first major V&A show exhibited in Scotland, it re-imagines the golden age of ocean travel. You will be able

to experience what it would have been like to step on-board one of these great 'floating palaces' of the past.

Scottish design

The Michelin Design Gallery will showcase contemporary design talent through fast-changing installations by emerging designers and creative projects developed through our programme. The first of these will be a Scottish Design Relay exhibition, presenting design prototypes created by young people in communities across Scotland from Orkney to Govan during the pre-opening national project. Temporary exhibitions and permanent galleries will be complemented by exciting new commissions and installations, supporting and showcasing emerging creative talent. A new work by Turner Prize-nominated artist Ciara Phillips will welcome visitors as they

reach the upper floor of the museum. A response to the V&A's remarkable collections of Scottish design, Ciara's site-specific installation will draw on research into textile histories and Scottish ceramic production.

Alongside all of this, a visit to V&A Dundee could also include dropping into the dynamic learning spaces, designed to accommodate visitors of all ages and backgrounds to learn from and participate in design creativity; a design residency studio where designers will share work-in-progress with visitors; a multi-purpose auditorium for conferences, design jams and community events; a café and shop; and a restaurant with spectacular views from its open terrace over *RRS Discovery* and the River Tay.

3D Festival

Legendary Scottish rockers Primal Scream will headline the 3D Festival,

a free two-day celebration of design, music and performance that will mark the opening of V&A Dundee. The festival will continue on Saturday 15 September with a day dedicated to celebrating great creative talent from across Dundee, with performances from up-and-coming Dundee musicians, a mass participation choral collaboration, and specially designed hands-on makerspace workshops. Gary Clark, former Danny Wilson frontman, will also join the 3D Festival line-up with a very special performance. The Saturday event is free and not ticketed, giving everyone the chance to get involved in the celebrations.

Up to 20,000 people from Dundee, Scotland and around the world are expected to attend the two-day festival which will take place next to V&A Dundee in the city's waterfront park space, Slessor Gardens.

V&A Dundee opens on Saturday 15 September 2018, for details see: www.vandadundee.org





SCOTSPEAK

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

"These record figures are great news for the industry and great news for Scotland. Scotch whisky distilleries have invested - and continue to invest - hugely in providing world-class visitor facilities at their sites all over Scotland, and they are collaborating in establishing new whisky trails and finding new ways of telling the story of Scotch to British and foreign visitors alike. We will continue to work closely and collaboratively with tourist organisations, local councils and the Scottish Government to ensure that Scotland's tourists have a memorable time visiting our country and experiencing all it has to offer."

Karen Betts, Scotch Whisky Association chief executive, said that record numbers of people are visiting Scottish whisky distilleries. 2017 figures are up over 11% with 1.9 million people visiting a Scottish distillery during their stay in Scotland. Visitors came from across the UK and the world with the highest international numbers coming from Germany, USA, India, China and Japan. Scotland has 122 Scotch distilleries across the country.



"When passengers step on board this first train they'll find it light, spacious and modern with loads more seats - up to 130 extra compared to the existing diesel trains. And there is more to come. Our UK factory is working tirelessly to deliver the rest of the fleet, which will allow the current

51-minute journey time from Edinburgh and Glasgow to be cut by up to a fifth. Thanks to their high-quality Japanese engineering, these trains have the best 0-60mph acceleration of any in Scotland."

Karen Boswell, managing director of Hitachi Rail Europe, said as the first of a new batch of electric ScotRail trains started running on the busy Glasgow to Edinburgh route. Manufacturer Hitachi is building a total of 70 new class 385 trains for the rail operator. The trains are greener, light, spacious and modern and will cut travel time down on Scotland's busiest rail route to just 42 minutes while also adding a boosted capacity by more than 17,200 seats a day.



"This nomination is a huge vote of confidence in Edinburgh Castle's high-quality exhibitions, fascinating history, professional staff and incredible views of the city. If we were to win, this award would build on a fantastic year for the castle - we have experienced another record-breaking season, with more people coming through the castle gates than ever before."

Edinburgh Castle Executive Manager, Nick Finnigan, said as Edinburgh Castle was nominated for UK's Best Heritage Attraction award. Voting has opened for

the 2018 British Travel Awards (BTA) and Edinburgh Castle is again in the running to claim the title of the Best UK Heritage Attraction. Edinburgh Castle is the number one paid-for visitor attraction in Scotland. Last year for the first time, over 2 million people visited; a record 15% increase on the previous year. The castle has been nominated for a BTA before and previously won four times in a row, in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. The deadline to cast votes is 30 September 2018. The 2018 BTA Winners will be announced in London on 28 November 2018.

"It came with a little note saying 'I thought you might want this back because it's slightly overdue'. We put it online and the story has been shared far and wide. There was a lot of excitement from our staff. It's not a first edition, it's a 14th edition, but it's by J.M. Barrie, the author of Peter Pan. If it inspires a couple of more people to return slightly overdue books then who knows. It would be fascinating to know where the book's been all that time - perhaps it's gone from family to family and eventually ended up in this charity shop. It's just fate that's made it its way back here after all this time. At the moment it seems in Scotland that we might hold the record, but if anyone has any older returned books then we'd love to know about it."

Dallas King, events and programme officer at Aberdeen Central Library said a copy of *A Window in Thrums* by Peter Pan author, J.M. Barrie was returned after 64 years. It is believed to be the most overdue book returned in Scotland, beating an overdue book returned last year to a Orkney library 43 years later. The book was found in a charity shop in London and posted back to the Aberdeen Central Library.

"If the Ascension can be recovered and the whole scheme restored, it will give us back a work of art that has a central place in the

evolution of modern art. Reinstating the whole of the original decorative scheme so far as is possible, relighting it and providing interpretation will also celebrate and provide public access to a historic moment in the history of toleration in Scotland and of the nation's churches."

Edinburgh University art historian Duncan MacMillan said as delicate work on the ceiling of St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Edinburgh to uncover a 200 year old work. The Ascension of The Lord, painted in 1774 by Alexander Runciman, is considered one of the most significant works of the Scottish Enlightenment and is slowly being uncovered at the church off the city's historic Royal Mile.

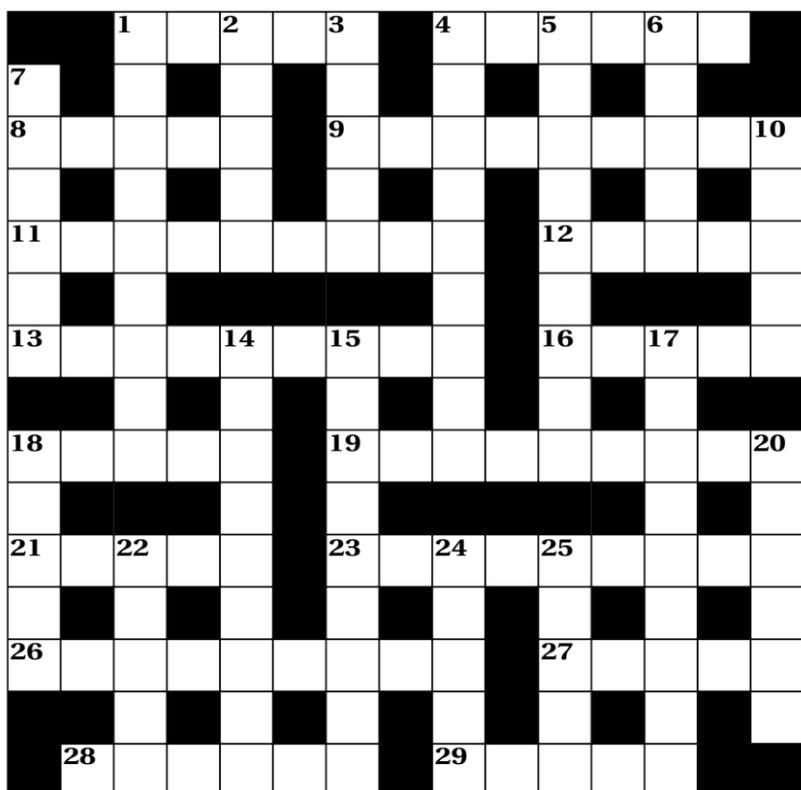


"A name change immediately identifies the airport with one of the biggest draws to the region for tourism. Loch Ness is iconic across the globe."

Stewart Nicol, Inverness Chamber of Commerce chief executive, said as Inverness Airport considers changing its name to Inverness Loch Ness Airport. The suggestion has been put forward by some community tourism and business leaders who want to associate the airport with the iconic Loch Ness and help generate interest from international tourists, especially from Asia.

SCOTWORD

Well that's a puzzle! In our August issue the incorrect crossword map was placed in error. Please find the complete and correct one this month. If you are really stuck, the answers can be found on page 23!



CLUES ACROSS

- 1) Scotsmen's shirts (5)
- 4) Upper edge of ship's side (6)
- 8) Kirk divider (5)
- 9) Impart knowledge (9)
- 11) Powerful whirlpool (9)
- 12) Most westerly Island of Inner Hebrides (5)
- 13) It's the pits! (9)
- 16) Precious stones (5)
- 18) Clay pigment (5)
- 19) Many inhabit the Hebrides (9)
- 21) Under the doctor (5/23)
- 23) Highlander's weapon (9)
- 26) He looks after the reserves (9)
- 27) Representation (5)
- 28) Nation across the Channel (6)
- 29) The untrue image of the Scot

CLUES DOWN

- 1) Found over the Border (9)
- 2) Smokes in Scotland (5)
- 3) Agitate in old Scots (5)
- 4) Object of games entrants (4, 5)
- 5) Go to bed in it (9)
- 6) Participate in (5)
- 7) Dark Scot on the road (6)
- 10) Scots vegetables (5)
- 14) Recognised by secret signs (9)
- 15) Auld Reekie (8)
- 17) He's Sandy for short (9)
- 18) Wise young flier (5)
- 20) An Australian lady (6)
- 22) Shout of approval (5)
- 24) The end of a Scots thread (5)
- 25) Young wool suppliers (5)

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WHAT'S IN A NAME?

By: Ron Dempsey



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.



Scotland's love of horses, which can be found on our surnames.

Depending on where you live in this world, September brings in the Spring or Autumn season. It is a time of climate transition and the evenings can be cool and there's nothing like a wool throw to wrap around one's self to take away the chill. A throw that is tartan and made in Scotland are the only acceptable choice for one to feel even warmer. My dear

wife and I have a little den where we like sit in our easy chairs to read, listen music or watch a little television and each of us has a throw. Hers is a Camel Thomson and mine is a Royal Stewart. We don't like the idea of the coming cold season but do like the idea that we can wrap our throws around us if needed. It's always good to have another reason to wear tartan.

New evidence of ancient settlements spotted from Scotland's skies



Heatwave reveals Scotland's past through crop marks.

Crop marks showing ancient settlements and Roman fortifications, which are otherwise hidden under the plough soil, are being documented by Historic Environment Scotland (HES). Newly discovered sites revealed by HES' aerial survey team during the recent warm weather include Iron Age souterrains in the Borders – a rare find in this part of Scotland – and a Roman temporary camp. The camp was discovered within the known Roman complex of sites at Lyne near Peebles and adds to the significance of the complex, which already includes two forts and two additional temporary camps.

The extensive marks form as the crops respond to dry conditions and have allowed the team to document known sites that have not been visible for many years. Iron Age burials, Neolithic pits and prehistoric settlements are all marked out

in the fields, against a backdrop of long-infilled rivers and streams which tell the story of Scotland's landscape.

New archaeological sites

Dave Cowley, Aerial Survey Project Manager at Historic Environment Scotland, said: "Aerial surveys of Scotland have been carried out since the 1930s, with each year usually adding a little more to the patchwork of our knowledge. We depend on dry years to bring out the buried remains in the crops, so we are currently out hunting for new clues from the skies while the good weather lasts. The conditions this year are showing us many sites that we knew were there, but may not have seen in recent damp summers, as well as revealing new archaeological sites that add to our ability to see into the past to tell Scotland's story."

Historic Environment Scotland's aerial survey team search Scotland from the sky in order to understand and record Scotland's historic environment, and have discovered and recorded more than 9,000 buried sites to date.



A souterrain or Iron Age underground passage.

There are interesting historical events that happened in every month of the year and September is no different. Here are three that stand out for me.

On the 9th September, 1513, the infamous Battle of Flodden was fought where James IV was killed with a goodly amount of the Scottish nobility, who became known as the flower of Scotland. James led his army against troops of Henry VIII of England. Since Henry had invaded France, James thought that this was a good time to show the French support of the Auld Alliance that Scotland had with France. The outcome was disaster. An interesting side note to this event was that James's widow was Margaret Tudor, sister of Henry VIII.

Thirty years later to the day, James IV's granddaughter Mary Queen of Scots was crowned as Queen of Scotland at Stirling Castle in 1543.

Lastly, a sombre event a little closer to our memories was the Auchengeich mining disaster, where 47 men lost their lives September 18, 1959. There have been many horrendous mining events and disasters over the centuries in Scotland but this one was a little closer to home for me. This colliery was near Chryston in Cadder parish just outside Glasgow. Although, I was small boy at the time, what made this event so poignant was an adjacent colliery nearby known formally as Western Auchengeich. The locals knew it as the Lumloch for the community it was situated. My father worked at the Lumloch and would have probably known many of those men that were lost.

Not to take anything away from the solemnity of this event, I have to say I have always loved the sounds of Lumloch and Auchengeich. I mean they are such a good Scottish sounding names in the same ranks as Ecclefechan and Auchenshuggle.

Mouat

An interesting email was received from Marina Farrell of Perth, Western Australia. Marina has an unusual ancestry in that she is both Burmese and Scottish in her background. Family stories has her great grandfather James Mouat thought to be from the Shetlands travelling to Burma to purchase teak. There he met and married a Burmese lady, Marina's great grandmother. Now Marina would like to know more about the Mouat name.

Spellings of the name include Mowat, Mowatt, and Mouatt. The surname arrived in Scotland in the 12th century in the train of David I, when he returned from England. First of the name was Robert de Mont Alto. It is of Norman French origin and was originally Monthault or high mountain. It was written in Latin as Montealto, this Robert held lands in Angus shire. His progeny flourished under subsequent Scottish kings, for the next few centuries. The name seems to have moved north to Caithness and the Orkneys and the Shetlands.

The Shetlands was the origin of Ms. Farrell's great grandfather, where local dialect pronounces it as "Mode."

Clan badge: A golden battlement of a castle. Issuing from there a demi warrior all in natural colours, in his right hand holding sword with a hilt and golden pommel, while his left hand holds a green fringed flag with an antique golden crown.

Clan motto: Monte alto meaning on a high mountain.

There is a Mowat tartan.

Horses

Looking at today's highways and byways, we see so many vehicles all of descriptions and with so many purposes. They include containers trucks or lorries, vans, sport utility vehicles right down to the family car. The size of the vehicle indicates the amount horsepower needed in the engines. Going back one hundred and twenty years and even more recently, horsepower had a different meaning in that it was really a horse or horses that supplied it.

Horses and ponies were the main means of conveyance and cartage throughout Scotland. Everything from the big horses pulling the drays from breweries to pony pulling the ragman's cart. More well to do families may have had a carriage to travel about the country, while a country farmer travelled with a pony and cart.

Horses were such an integral part of daily life and commerce so much so that they made their impact on Scottish names. Anything to do with horses, their care and their accoutrements often showed in surnames.

The obvious one was Smith and a variety names from that name, Smithyman, Smithson. The smith or blacksmith was an iron processor who made shoes for the horses to protect their feet on long journeys. The rest of horse furniture and pieces, which included bits, spurs and stirrups were manufactured by a lorimer. Lorimer, sometimes Lorrimer is a surname that has been recorded in Scotland since the twelfth century under the reign of William the Lion (1165-1214).

An obvious horse profession would be the saddler, for the person who made saddles, again a name of great antiquity in Scotland. A Michael Saddeler of Roxboroughshire received a royal grant in 1330.

Lastly, place names honouring horses are found in surnames. Horseburgh, from lands in Peebleshire. Horsley, an ancient family in Lanarkshire, which probably originated from a place named Horsley in Northumberland. These are two prominent ones that go back to the 13th century.

Associated trades and consequently surnames that were a result of vehicles pulled by horses included Carter, Waggoner or Wagner. Persons who made those vehicles were Wainwright and even more specialized Wheelwright.

With this impressive list of names, it is an indication of the many things we owe to the noble horse.

We hope you enjoy your month and as always we love hearing from you.

Designed for the Senses

Food and drink in Scotland's Tayside Country



The East of Scotland is set to become the most talked about UK destination of 2018, when the first V&A museum anywhere in the world outside London opens in Dundee. Stretching along the gentle banks of the Tay to the foothills of the Highlands, taking in the neighbouring regions of Dundee, Angus, Fife, Perth & Kinross – this is an area collectively rich in identity and culture, history and heritage and outstanding scenery. Visitors can look forward to experiencing a stimulating clash of culture meets countryside, from

buzzing cultural cities to revitalising beautiful beaches and serene silent glens.

Get a taste for the region's food and drink

Dining differently in Dundee: You won't find an identikit high street in Dundee. The thriving, contemporary food and drink scene is largely made up of independent home-grown businesses, from cultured cafes that double up as art and design boutiques to Michelin recommended fine dining and pop-up street food markets. A new beer brewery and award winning

gin distillery are the latest additions to the city's food and drink offer.

The Unique Arbroath Smokie: The Arbroath Smokie is one of Scotland's best loved traditional fish delicacies. Taking its name from a fishing town in Angus it has been on the menu for a thousand years. Arbroath Smokies are hot-smoked, making them ready to eat straight from the smoker. A culinary delight exclusive to Arbroath, the Smokie is protected under European Law as a 'Protected Geographical Location' with the same regard as that maintained for Parma Ham and Champagne.

Fife – a food lover's paradise: Blessed with a fabulous natural larder, Fife offers an entire menu from coastline to countryside and boasts two Michelin star restaurants: The Cellar and The Peat Inn. Visit and you'll enjoy a feast of award-winning food and drink including Anster cheese and of course freshly caught seafood from the East Neuk. Lindores Abbey Distillery & Visitor Centre have opened on the site of the first record of whisky distillation - 1494.

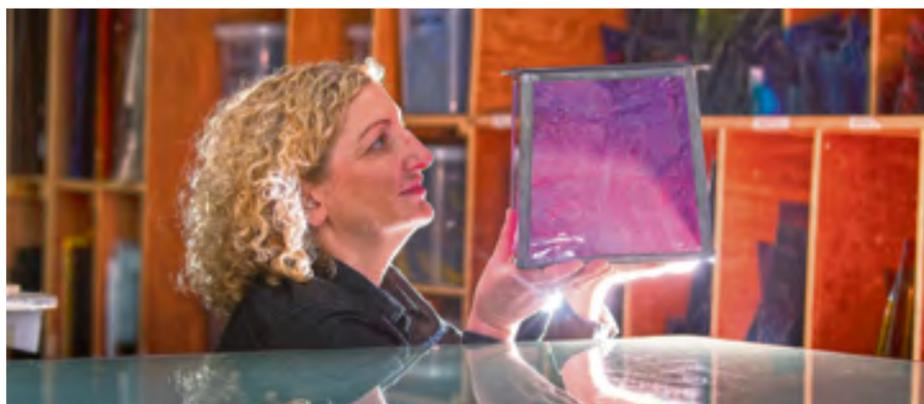
Perthshire's Larder: From the shores of Loch Leven to the heather-hued uplands of the southern Highlands, Perthshire is a region with deep traditions of good food and drink. From the days of the cattle drovers and the first whisky distilleries to ground-breaking innovations in crop

research, food and drink has a place not just in the agriculture and business of Perthshire, but also its culture. The area has nurtured a number of Scotland's top chefs and led to the rebirth of the country's farmers' markets over a decade ago, providing a vital showcase that has allowed local producers to flourish and grow.

Gin from the Glens: The award-winning Gin Bothy is distilled by hand in the glorious glens of Angus by Kim Cameron and her small team following an ethos that's grounded in the Slow Food movement. The seasonal production calendar starts with Raspberry and Blueberry gins, then moves into Rhubarb, Chilli (made from Fife grown capsicums) and their extremely special Amaretto and Mulled gin. Their fruit is sourced less than five miles away, in an area famous for the berries that are grown on its fertile land - and the botanicals and grain spirit come from Glamis, just seven miles along the road.



Charles Rennie Mackintosh project funding boost



Moira Malcolm, Director of Rainbow Glass Studio, holds a replica glass lamp created for the Oak Room in V&A Dundee. The company's work was based on the remaining glass from Mackintosh's original tearoom.

The project to conserve, restore and redisplay a complete Charles Rennie Mackintosh tearoom interior in V&A Dundee has received a major funding boost, thanks to Art Fund and the Scottish Government. V&A Dundee and Dundee City Council are working in partnership with Glasgow Museums, which rescued the Oak Room interior from destruction in 1971 and took the disassembled interior into Glasgow City Council's museum collections. The project will preserve this historic lost interior for generations to come, having last been used as a tearoom in the early 1950s.

Worldwide significance

Philip Long, Director of V&A Dundee, said: "The project to conserve and restore an entire interior by Charles Rennie Mackintosh, unseen for nearly 50 years, has been one

of the most exciting parts of creating V&A Dundee. As a designer, architect and artist, Mackintosh is of worldwide significance. He has been an inspiration to very many designers from the moment his work was first seen through to today, including the architect of V&A Dundee, Kengo Kuma. When we set about developing galleries for the new museum telling the story of Scotland's design history, it was vital Mackintosh was represented in a major way. Now, with the aid of the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Art Fund, the Scottish Government and others that has been made possible."

The Oak Room was the largest Charles Rennie Mackintosh interior for Miss Cranston's Ingram Street Tearooms in Glasgow. The 13.5 metre-long, double-height room, designed by Mackintosh in 1907 and completed in 1908, is acknowledged as one

of his key works, informing his design ideas for the Glasgow School of Art Library, which was completed a year later in 1909. When the tearooms were removed from their original Ingram Street premises each room was numbered, each wall given a reference, and each piece of panelling coded. Plans and elevations of the rooms were drawn to show how everything fitted together.

Between 2004-5, with the help of this information, Glasgow Museums quantified and documented all surviving Oak Room panelling. This earlier developmental stage, funded by the Scottish Government, helped inform the work now taking place to recreate this breath-taking interior, lost to public view for generations.

The Oak Room will be displayed at the heart of V&A Dundee's Scottish Design Galleries, a permanent display which will showcase the significance and relevance of design with a particular focus on Scottish achievement. The new museum will bring touring exhibitions from the V&A and other international museums to Scotland, as well as curating its own exhibitions in future years.

The Ingram Street Tearoom interiors

The interiors of the Ingram Street Tearooms designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh between 1900 and 1911 are unique. They are the only surviving suite of interiors from a tearoom complex dating from the early twentieth century. In Glasgow, they are the most important work of undiscovered Mackintosh. Designed for tearoom entrepreneur Miss Catherine Cranston, Mackintosh's suite of interiors

was shop-fitted into the ground floor and basement of a Victorian warehouse and office premises at 205-17 Ingram Street. They were one of four city-centre tearoom premises Mackintosh worked on for Miss Cranston – the others being on Buchanan Street, Argyle Street and Sauchiehall Street (The Willow Tea Rooms).

The Ingram Street premises remained in use as tearooms until 1951, after which they were used as shops and storage spaces. The interiors were documented and removed in 1971 to enable the building to be converted into a hotel, and are now part of Glasgow City Council's Museums' collection, managed and cared for by Glasgow Museums, Glasgow Life. Since 1984 small sections of the tearooms have been on display in Glasgow. Funding grants received between 1998 and 2007 from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Scottish Government enabled Glasgow Museums to continue to research, care for, conserve and restore these internationally important tearoom interiors.

V&A Dundee opens on Saturday 15 September, when Mackintosh's Oak Room will be revealed. V&A Dundee will be an international centre for design, housed in a world-class building created by Japanese architect Kengo Kuma at the heart of Dundee's revitalised waterfront. It will hold major exhibitions, celebrate design heritage, inspire and promote contemporary talent, and encourage future design innovation. June 7th was the 150th anniversary of the birth of Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

100 years a Scot-Ella Wooley (MacGregor)

Tasmanian Charles Wooley is an Australian broadcaster, journalist and writer and may be best known to the wider community as a presenter on 60 Minutes. However Charles also shares Scottish Banner reader's Scottish ancestry and passion for the land his forbearers came from. Recently Charles' mother celebrated 100 years and has lived through much, and been one of the many Scots whose story has helped shape the nation of Australia, as her son explains.



Ella celebrating 100 amazing years with Frank McGregor, her son Charles and Gordon Brown.

On a stormy night, on the other side of the earth from where she lives now, a hundred years ago in an entirely different world, Eliza Wilson Small, blond and piercingly blue-eyed from her distant Viking ancestors, was blown into the world. It was the second of March 1917 and early spring in the ancient, grey stone, Scottish town of Paisley. As far as I can tell, her arrival was of little importance in the greater process of history, but of vital importance to me. Ella Wooley (nee Small) is my mum and amazingly, she is still around, at the age of one hundred.

"Och!" She declares in an accent that belies the seventy years she has spent out of Scotland, "These days I wake up in the morning and I say, 'Oh God. I'm still here!'"

But it's not like that. No one makes it to such a prodigious age without having an almost unseemly, greed for life. Despite her protestations, clearly the old girl is not yet ready to go. If you've got a fierce old Scottish mum, like mine, then I'm not telling you anything you don't already know.

Old Scots warrior

I'm taking her for a ride in my wife's small convertible. It's the only car we have that she can infirmly clamber into without too much grumbling. It's a nice day so I put the roof down. The machinery whirrs, but doesn't drown out my mother's complaints. "What are you doing? The sun's too strong. I'll get skin cancer!"



"Pretty long term concern for a woman who doesn't want to live another day" I observe archly, but she's probably not listening. The ancient, protest too much, I remind myself. They don't rack up all those years without trying, even though they know from cruel experience, the unpleasant realities of living too long. I remember my mum as a robust woman who climbed the mountains of her beloved Arran and then the peaks of remote Tasmania. Well into her eighties could still walk ten miles without effort. Suddenly the old Scots warrior is a grumpy old dear, tottering along to lunch in a walking frame. But if the flesh is weak the spirit is still strong.

"And don't drive so fast. I don't want to end up in hospital again. There was no bed and I had to sleep in the corridor. I would've died if they hadn't discharged me back to the nursing home. And will you wind up the car window! The draft is freezing cold and I'm getting a stiff neck."

"If you don't die soon, you are going to outlive me and then where will you be?" I mutter, but she doesn't hear.

Now you're probably wondering if I'm in trouble for writing this. I might well be, because my mother still has all her marbles. She's an avid reader and she has a great memory, as sharp for the detail of yesterday as for ninety years ago. But there is one marble that has rolled away, somewhere. The one that tells her that she's already told me many times, that perfectly recalled story.

"I wouldn't have chosen to live to this age, but I realize that I have been very lucky. I've kept my wits, more or less. I live in a lovely caring place twelve thousand miles from Scotland but with a very Scottish view of the beautiful Huon River, and I can still enjoy a good meal and a conversation."

A survivor

When Ella was born, the armies of the Great War were, bogged down in the mud of France. The death toll was approaching

sixteen million with twenty million wounded, and no end in sight. Yet that was a merely the beginning of the dark history of Ella's century-to-come, in which an estimated seventy-seven million people would die in wars.

My mum is indeed a survivor. In the Second World War she fought Hitler and won. As a Corporal, armed with only a bucket of water and a foot-pump, she was stationed at night on the rooftops of blazing wartime Edinburgh. Her orders were to extinguish the Luftwaffe's incendiary bombs. It was a heroic but a futile action.

"It might be old-age speaking, but I think what I've seen over the years has made me pessimistic. When I was a young girl, I was growing up in a world of damaged men. I remember in Paisley and Glasgow, wheelchairs everywhere and men with missing limbs, young men horribly disfigured. It was such a common sight at the time, the horror of what had happened to a whole generation didn't strike me until I was older.

"Then, in my war, the second one, we learned about the atrocities of the Nazi death camps. It was beyond all belief.

"Today, it gets no better. I watch the news from the Middle East and I just feel sad. We are now trying to fight awful people, who are just beyond reason. How can any good come of that?"

Ella's not just part of the Scottish diaspora, she is also part of the story that created the Australian nation. Mum's generation built modern, post-war Australia. As part of that mass migration of millions of people from the other side of the world, she came with my dad, Charlie, and a legion of capable Scots engineers to work on dams and power stations high on Tasmania's wild and remote Central Plateau. I grew up, a 'Hydro-kid', in a dramatic place of snowstorms and bushfires, wearing (Ella remembers and I don't) company-issued jodhpurs, even on the hottest days, as a protection from snakebite.

MacGregor despite them

Charles MacGregor Wooley formerly of the Isle of Arran, her husband of almost seventy years, died eight years ago at the age of ninety-two. But Ella it seems goes on forever. We gathered the clan and wore the MacGregor tartan for her birthday lunch. My friend Frank MacGregor is the clan Chief's representative in Australia. He read a letter of congratulations from Sir Malcolm MacGregor, which delighted her. She remembered whenever my Dad might have been homesick or dispirited in the New World she would encourage him with words from the Old. "I would say, come on Charlie, buck up and remember your clan motto, 'MacGregor despite them'. And he would."

So after two world wars and a depression, a long marriage and exile and the vantage point of great age, how much influence does she think the ordinary person has over, if not the world, at least their own life. Her answer is brave but not very reassuring.

"I don't think we really are the captains of our own destiny, as much as we would like to believe," she said. "It seems to me that we are blown along by events. I've lived through a century of huge and terrible calamities, two world wars and an awful depression that people now couldn't even imagine. I've lived through amazing changes and upheavals and somehow like so many dispossessed Scots I've washed up in a nice place at the ends of the earth.

Ella's not just part of the Scottish diaspora, she is also part of the story that created the Australian nation.

But I think I've just been lucky. All I really want to see now is Home Rule for Scotland, but I'm running out of time so they better get on with it."

She is living her last years in a kindly nursing home in a small riverside town, on an island at the bottom of the world and I tell the staff there, that if Ella makes it to one hundred and ten years, despite her apparent readiness to check out now, I shall hold them entirely responsible.

Neither of us is religious, so when it comes to the impending finality of it all, I can only joke with my mother about death. She insists, she really is ready to go, anytime now, "But I wake up and I'm still here." And I tease that she is a stubborn old Scot who will only go kicking and fighting but she should realize that I am now far too old to have a mother to worry about.

"Son, you will miss your mother, when she's gone," she always chides, in the third person, as if that grammatical distance makes her point seem less like emotional blackmail and more a matter of accurate fact. "You will miss her more than you realize."

She's right of course. I will.



KINGS CASTLES AND "DURTY" WEE RASCALS

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



Dergbuaich

Leaving those men, whose hearts are hearths that have no fire,

My greetings westward go to lovely long Kintyre.

'Kintyre', Wind on Loch Fyne (1948) by George Campbell Hay.

We were all ushered into Dergbuaich to have a meal with Jean's family and to be told the history of the house. The earliest record of the little settlement of Dergbuaich dates from 1472 and was mentioned on an inventory of Lamont papers at that time. In the 15th century there were very few stone buildings in Scotland apart from churches, castles and the homes of the rich. Up until that time the settlement of Dergbuaich would have consisted of some very basic houses and structures, mainly built of turf. Dergbuaich's associated lands at that time reached down to the shore and along the adjoining path that we had just walked up along. The two surviving cottages, including this cottage of the Simpsons, dated from a much later time, around 1700.

Stone built houses

An exact date was unknown but small villages and townships of stone built houses generally came into existence in Scotland between 1700 and 1750. This cottage, called Lower Dergbuaich in documentation, had original features such as a large open hearth, very thick walls of stone, taken from the surrounding hillside, and was built much like a 'dry stane dyke' with no mortar used and the stones filled in with soil and clay. That indicated that it must have dated from the start of the 18th century. After Culloden the infamous Duke of Cumberland commissioned a new military map in order to acquaint his armies with the lie of the land and better deal with any future uprisings by dissidents and rebels. Every settlement and possible hiding place where insurgents might find succour and respite were recorded and Dergbuaich appears on that map.

We then learned how the Simpson family came into possession of the cottage. They first went on holiday to Strathlachlan, 'the valley of the Lachlan's' in 1926. Argyll was chosen for its clean air as David Simpson, the brother of Frank, Mae, Cathy and twin sister Margaret, suffered from asthma. We don't know what it did for David's breathing

but we do know that he got sunburned and that Granny's remedy and cure was to cover his skin in sour milk and that Davie was not impressed with his treatment. The following two years were spent on holiday in a cottage at Ascog and then for four years in one of the cottages down the hill at Portavadie. It was there that Granny Simpson heard about Dergbuaich being available to rent on an annual basis.

When they first saw the little crofter's cottage, the house and byre was still built of uncovered stones and had a floor of soil and a roof of tar and pitch with thatch on the byre, but they knew that this was the place where they wanted to spend their summers in their retirement. The water supply for cooking and washing was taken in buckets from a natural spring that lay behind the cottage and there was water that ran into a rain barrel to a small chemical toilet attached to the gable of the byre. In 1933 the cottage was rented as a holiday home for an annual rent of one pound and ten shillings and a visitor's book was begun to record everyone's first night's stay at Dergbuaich.

Ancient human activity

Then began many years of hard work to make further improvements to the basic cottage. Jean's uncle, David Simpson, was a slater and plasterer by trade and he mortared the house and byre inside and out. Another uncle, Tommy McLaren, and David Simpson laid a concrete floor in the kitchen and main room using sand from the shore. Much of the carpentry work was done by Jean's grandfather, Thomas Simpson, a shipwright by trade, who worked in Scott's shipyard in Greenock and her Uncle, Tommy McLaren, a pattern maker. The tar and pitch roof was replaced by a new corrugated iron one, often painted over the years by Jean's dad, Cecil, who also kept the damp at bay by clearing out the ditch behind the house. Everyone had jobs to do when they came to the cottage.

Many building materials had to be brought from Greenock, the Simpson's home town, by steamer. For example, the wood for the new roof was bought from the Co-operative shop in Greenock. The six pieces measured 3"x2" and were 32 feet long. These were apparently carried on the men's shoulders from the shop to the boat in Gourack, then from the pier at Tighnabruaich and all the way over to Dergbuaich. Next the bedroom was floored with wood and a permanent stair built up to the loft and a

workshop added to one end of the house. A fireplace and a range were packed and shipped from Greenock in a wooden box and drawn up the hill to Dergbuaich by Archie Munro's horse, along the same steep path that we had just climbed.

Apparently the installation of the fireplace proved to be more difficult than envisioned when a large stone proved impossible to be cut or chipped away and had to be removed instead. It was thought by the more fainthearted in the family that the stone's removal might weaken the structure of the wall so that the house might fall down. Jean's granny, for one, could not bear to watch as she held her breath while the stone was carefully removed. Nevertheless, all went well and at a later date a wood burning fire was brought and fitted into the bedroom.

Even in 1959, when I first went there, men and boys staying at the house went to the hills for the toilet and left the chemical toilet for the women to use. The males washed in the clean waters of the burn that ran a few yards in front of the cottage as people inhabiting this place must have done for hundreds if not thousands of years before. I say that because evidence of very ancient human activity at Dergbuaich was very much close by.

Bronze Age stone

Outside the cottage and behind the seat where Thomas Simpson and Jeanie Campbell, Jean's grandfather and grandmother, took in the fine

views of Loch Fyne and watched for the 1 o'clock steamer beating its way up to Inverary, lay a large stone with a cup marking scribed on it. It was most probably the top half of a fallen standing stone, the other broken half very likely to have been used at a later date as part of the foundation of the cottage. About 500 yards from the cottage and on the right of the path to Ascog lay another ancient Bronze Age stone, at least 3,000 years old. This stone had thirty-one small cups and one large ring marking scribed upon it.

Practically nothing is known about the purpose and significance of these cup and ring markings, (they are abundant in Cowal), except that it has been noted that these and various standing stones cluster around Kilfinnan, Ardmarnock and the Ardlamont areas on the East side of Loch Fyne, where copper occurs naturally in the ground, and across from the Kilmartin region which was pre-eminent in Bronze Age times. On later walks during our fortnight's holiday, we were to visit a pair of standing stones near Low Stillaig which have been found to line up with a particular hill across Loch Fyne in Knapdale. When we stood next to them and looked around it was easy to see, that no matter what their mysterious purpose might be, there was a significance in the siting of these and other such ancient monuments down at this beautiful place, Portavadie, Argyll.

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By: Lady Fiona MacGregor

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.



Frank McGregor Lieutenant and High Commissioner for Australia being presented with the Chief's flag by Sir Malcolm MacGregor of Macgregor at the Loch Awe Hotel in Argyll.

Menzies Castle in Perthshire is a former ruin. The seat of the Chiefs of Clan Menzies for 500 years, it was bought for a few hundred pounds in 1957 by the Menzies Clan Society and is real testament to what a determined clan society can do.

Over the years this dedicated group has raised the money to help restore this spectacular sixteenth century stronghold. The banqueting hall, in particular, is magnificent. The massive stone walls and staircases remind us of how the place was built for defence. A charitable trust now runs the castle which contains a clan museum. And now, along with the Menzies memorabilia, there are items of MacGregor history. Yes, at long last, the MacGregors have found a home for their treasures – and at mighty Menzies Castle, too.

A special ceremony takes place during our clan week. Frank McGregor is the chief's representative in Australia. He is the Lieutenant and High Commissioner for Clan Gregor down under - and this involves presenting him with the chief's flag, or 'pinsel'. He will be able to fly this at Highland Games when the chief is not present – and here you can see the other Australians that came over with Frank for this year's gathering. Particular thanks go to the younger ones who helped Clan Gregor hold its head up during the Lochearnhead Games tug of war! We didn't win, but you did a great job.

Lieutenant James Tait

Later in the month there is a more poignant task in my role as Lord Lieutenant – and that is to attend the unveiling of a commemorative stone to a heroic soldier. Lieutenant James Tait was born in Dumfries in 1886. He trained as a civil engineer and married Jessie Spiers Aitken from California. In February 1916 he joined the Canadian Expeditionary force, serving with the 78th (Winnipeg Grenadiers) Battalion during World War One. In August 1918 he died in action in France.

'For conspicuous bravery and initiative in attack' James Tait was awarded the Victoria Cross. He dashed forward to disable an enemy machine gun. Then, inspired by his example, his men rushed German positions and captured twelve machine guns and twenty prisoners. Although mortally wounded by a shell James Tait continued to aid and direct until his death. His V.C is held in Glenbow Museum Calgary, Canada.

The pipes play. Wreaths are laid. There is a prayer for peace. Then the Canadian Army Liaison officer. Lt. Colonel Timothy Partello, unveils the stone to show this lasting tribute to one of Scotland's brave sons.

And finally, to the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. For we have been to that, too. Invited as guests; first to a banquet in the Royal Gallery. Then taken into the Royal Box to watch the show. 'The Sky's the Limit' is the theme – and we are treated to drummers from Switzerland and dancers from Mexico. The Czech Armed Forces are there, as are the Omani pipers. And not forgetting the massed pipe bands. Sheer brilliance, all of it. All in all, a busy Scottish month...

Greetings from Scotland where the rain is back on. Yes, we spoke too soon and perhaps complained just a little too much about

plants needing water! However, the wet weather does not seem to have deterred the nearly half million people attending the annual Edinburgh Festival.

This iconic arts event – now in its 71st year – goes from strength to strength. Visitor numbers to The Fringe, as it's known, just seem to keep rising which is great news for the Scottish economy. But you have to plan your trip. The chief and I travel up the Scottish capital to soak in the atmosphere and meet friends for lunch and there is not a spare seat on the train...

Did you know? Callendar House



Photo: VisitScotland/ Paul Tomkins.

- Callendar House dates from the 14th century.
- Mary, Queen of Scots, Bonnie Prince Charlie, and Oliver Cromwell are just some of the historical figures who have stayed here.
- Callendar House was the seat of power in the Falkirk area for almost a thousand years.
- The House is located in the middle of the 170 acre Callendar Park in Falkirk.
- The Roman Antonine Wall runs directly in front of the House.
- Callendar House at one time had more glass in its facade than any house in Scotland.
- The stone walls of the House were made with lime mortar, reusing Neolithic oyster shells.
- Callendar House has featured in the hit TV series *Outlander*.
- The House's permanent displays are The Story of Callendar House, a history covering the 11th to the 19th centuries, The Antonine Wall, Rome's Northern Frontier, and Falkirk: Crucible of Revolution 1750-1850, tells how the local area was transformed during the first century of the industrial era.
- Callendar House spent 20 years empty, boarded up and neglected, but in the 1980s it was given a new lease of life as home to Falkirk Council's museum service.

The four-yearly MacGregor Gathering has come and gone, with more than a hundred clansmen and women arriving in Scotland from all over the world.

Still, we are youngish (!) – and we can stand for the hour or so it takes to get there. You need stamina because Edinburgh buzzes at this time of year. There are thousands of shows at hundreds of venues with performances taking place in swimming pools and shops, porches and parks. Just walk down the street and you'll see a feast of fun: jugglers and living statues, pavement artists and folk on stilts. The Fringe is one of the most exciting arts events in the world. But come with sensible walking shoes – and perhaps an umbrella.

MacGregor Gathering

It has been a busy few weeks. The four-yearly MacGregor Gathering has come and gone, with more than a hundred clansmen and women arriving in Scotland from all over the world. They base themselves in Argyllshire and from there, visit the islands, Iona and Staffa. There are the Lochearnhead Games to attend - and there is a fabulous dinner at Menzies Castle.

Glasgow pipes up as Piping Live! returns to the city



Roddy McLeod, Director of Piping Live! with the Fountain Trust Pipe Band.

Piping Live! Glasgow International Piping Festival officially kicked off in August with a special performance from the Fountain Trust Pipe Band who travelled over 3,600 miles from Ohio to take part in the festival. The US pipe band, who hail from Covington, Indiana, a small town with a population of 2,500, wanted to attend the world's biggest week of piping before celebrating their 20th anniversary next year.

They launched the festival's 15th year with a piping hot performance at the steps of Buchanan Galleries before joining the Piping Live! Big Band – a 120-strong group

of pipers and drummers who marched from Blythswood Square to City Chambers in aid of the Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH).

Piping Live! Glasgow International Piping Festival attracts over 40,000 music fans, families and tourists to the city from across the globe - including Oman, Canada, New Zealand and USA - to enjoy 140 events and 8,000 performers. This year's programme brought some of the biggest names in trad music to Glasgow, with acts including Breabach, and Ross Ainslie, Finlay MacDonald topping the bill and many more. The programme also saw performances by the very best international

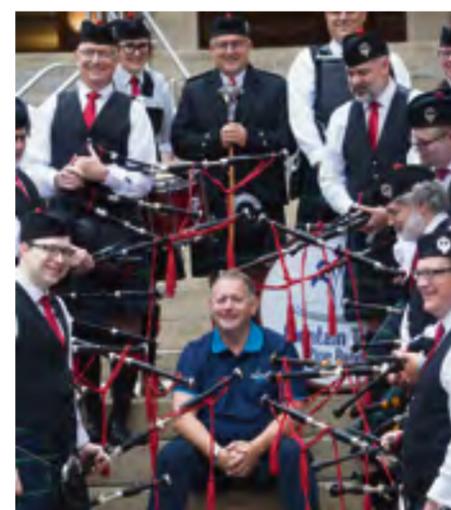
acts and numerous events including the fiercely contested Master Solo, International Quartet and Pipe Idol competitions.

The world's capital of piping

Fountain Trust Pipe Major, Campbell White said: "We're delighted to be part of Piping Live! It's our first time in Scotland and to be here to participate in an event of this calibre is a huge honour. It's definitely worth travelling across the world for - I'm sure it'll be a festival to remember."

Roddy McLeod, Director of Piping Live! said: "Piping Live! one of the biggest event's in Scotland's cultural calendar and we're thrilled to be celebrating our 15th year with such a stellar line-up, including the Fountain Trust Pipe Band, who are joining us for the first time. We've got a fun filled week of entertainment and activities for everyone, with headline performances from trad heavyweights and first-time performers to the fiercely contested Masters Solo Piping Competition and our come and try sessions at The National Piping Centre. We've also added new events to our programme this year, such as the Ceòl nam Piobairean, a celebration of the music of the highlands at Drygate. And as always, we'll be ending our celebrations on a high note with the After Worlds Shindig."

The World Pipe Band Championships also returned to Glasgow Green in August and welcomed 214 bands who fought it out for the ultimate title of World Champions. Bands came from as far afield as New Zealand, Australia, Canada, USA, and



South Africa as well as from across Europe to compete. The first ever World Pipe Band Championships was held at Murrayfield in Edinburgh in 1947. The event was first held in Glasgow in 1948 and has been staged in the city continuously since 1986.

As we go to press during the World Pipe Band Championships, full coverage will be in our next issue.



Caerlaverock Castle hosts annual jousting tournament



Spectacular Jousting returned with medieval knights, family-friendly activities and a falconry display.

Noble knights battled it out at Caerlaverock Castle this summer as Spectacular Jousting returned. Visitors heard the thunder of hooves and the clashing of lances at the jousting tournaments. As well as exploring the living history camps and meeting medieval soldiers, visitors watched a falconry flying display, visited the horses in the stables and tried their hand at archery.

Gillian Urquhart, Events Manager at HES, said: "We're really excited to bring Spectacular Jousting back to Caerlaverock Castle after the success of last year's event. The medieval Caerlaverock Castle is the perfect setting to watch the knights recreate the signature sport of the Middle Ages and promises to be a great day out for the whole family."

The stunning Caerlaverock Castle, one of over 70 staffed Historic Scotland attractions managed by Historic Environment Scotland, is the epitome



of a medieval stronghold, featuring a moat, twin-towered gatehouse and lofty battlements.

Unique among British castles

Caerlaverock's triangular shape is unique among British castles. A walk around the castle gives a sense of its strength, economy of form and pleasing geometry. Three lengths of defensive curtain wall are linked at their three angles by high corner towers. On the north side is an impressive twin-towered gatehouse, where the Maxwells had their private rooms.

The Maxwells repaired and upgraded Caerlaverock over the years. The impressive machicolations (slotted defences) at the top of each tower date from the late 1300s or early 1400s – by which time the Wars of Independence with England had taken their toll. Inside the castle walls is the remarkable Nithsdale Lodging, built in the 1630s by Robert Maxwell, 1st Earl of Nithsdale.

Its attractive façade, with its ornate Renaissance stone carvings, is a sharp contrast to the severe castle walls.

Tale of two sieges

Caerlaverock was besieged and captured on numerous occasions, but two sieges in particular stand out.

The first, in July 1300, involved Edward I himself. The small garrison surrendered within two days of facing the full might of the English king's army. A contemporary account of the siege is one of the most fascinating recorded for any castle in the British Isles.

The second siege, in 1640, was the castle's last. It was brought about by Lord Maxwell's loyalty to Charles I during his struggles with the Covenanters. The garrison held out for 13 weeks before surrendering.

Afterwards the castle was stripped of valuable fixtures and fittings and its great south curtain wall demolished so that Caerlaverock could never again be used as a place of defence.

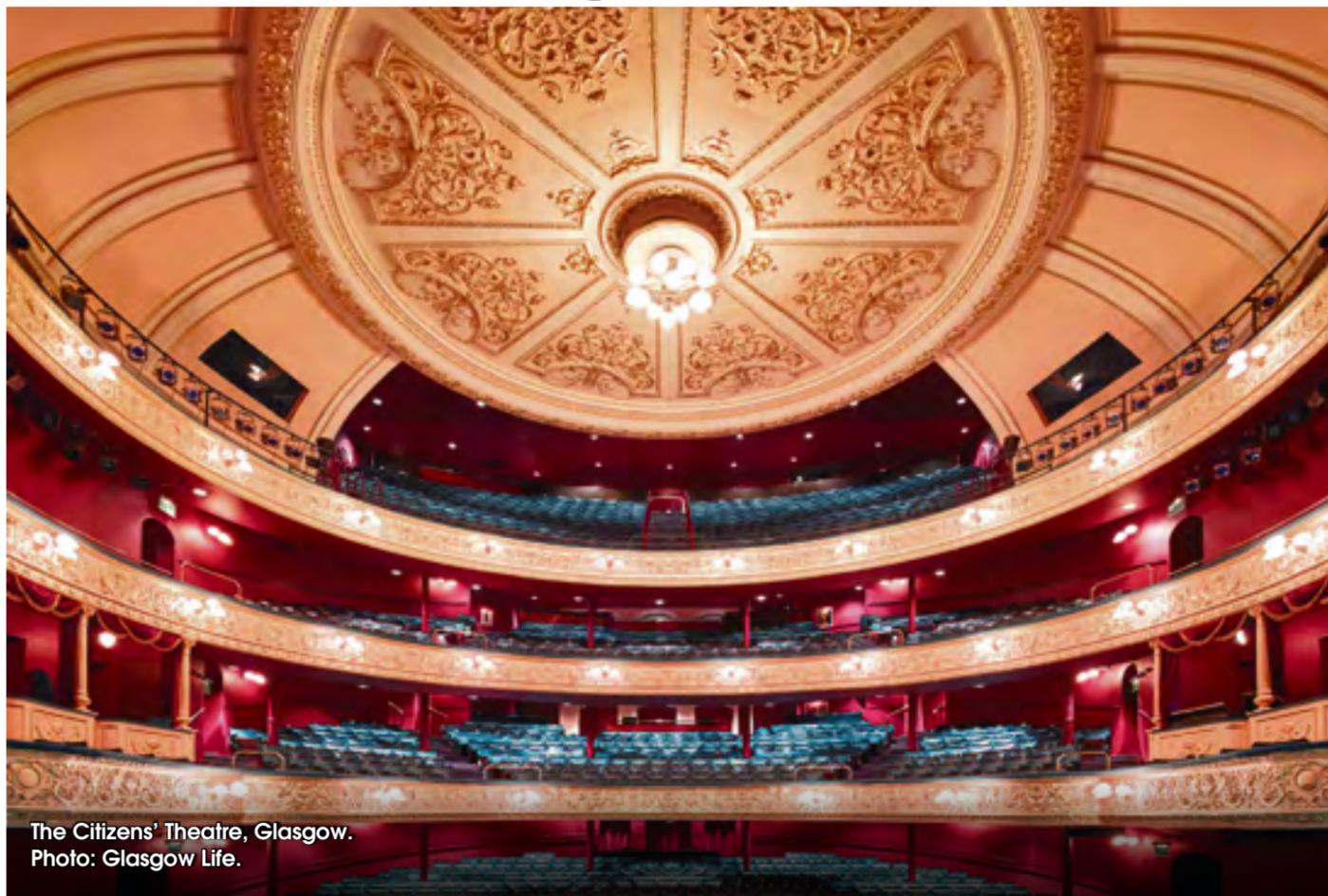
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The Magic of the Theatre



The Citizens' Theatre, Glasgow.
Photo: Glasgow Life.

Theatres are magical places. My first theatre experiences were both at the King's Theatre in Glasgow; *The Magic of Francie and Josie* with Jack Milroy and Rikki Fulton as the eponymous Glasgow chancers and then a touring production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* which featured Linda Thorson - Tara King from *The Avengers!* Another part of the magic is the theatre building. Some modern theatres in spectacular locations do impress - think of the rep theatres in Pitlochry or just over the border in Keswick - but it's the older buildings that really move us.

Glasgow

Glasgow has lost many historic theatres, none more missed than the much-loved variety venues, the Alhambra and the Empire. The Empire had a fearsome reputation amongst visiting English comedians. But Glasgow audiences were

not ignorant savages who liked chucking things at the English; rather, they were used to the best. Danny Kaye, Gene Kelly, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby and many other US legends (often drawn to Scotland by its golf courses) were familiar to Glasgow audiences. A new English comedian who thought he was the business, but wasn't, had no chance. However, the likes of Morecambe and Wise were always warmly received in Glasgow, and the late lamented Ken Dodd was a particular favourite. When the Alhambra closed in 1969 (six years after the Empire) the last act to appear was Cilla Black. If English acts were good, they had nothing to fear in Glasgow.

By my teenage years both the Alhambra and the Empire had been replaced by hideous office blocks but, more recently, thanks to the efforts of volunteers, a forgotten gem has been rediscovered. The Britannia Music Hall in Argyle Street was

the location of Stan Laurel's first public performance. It opened in 1857, closed in 1939 and until recently was almost forgotten, yet it remained largely intact and is believed to be the world's oldest surviving music hall. An energetic trust run the venue and hold various events there, including open days. Go and see!

Among the surviving theatres in Glasgow are the King's, the Theatre Royal and the Pavilion. The Citizens' Theatre, perhaps Scotland's leading producing theatre, is neither historic nor lovely from the outside; it looks like a larger version of the nearby Bridge Street Underground Station. Yet the theatre dates back to 1878; it was known as Her Majesty's and then the Princess Theatre before becoming the Citizens' in 1945. The present exterior dates only from 1989 but happily the interior of the theatre is largely intact. Statues of Burns, Shakespeare and the Four Muses, formerly on the original facade, are now in the foyer. The Citz has perhaps Glasgow's biggest bag of theatre ghosts (for theatres *do* seem to be haunted hotspots). The best-known Citz spook is said to be a female front-of-house manager from its early years, who committed suicide by jumping from the dress circle. Of course, similar stories cling to just about every theatre.

If you leave the Citz for the handy Bridge Street Underground Station, and get an inner circle train, by the time you're travelling between Buchanan Street and Cowcaddens Stations, you are actually rumbling beneath the Theatre Royal. If you're at a play in the theatre you will often hear the rumbling of a train during quieter spells in the drama. No doubt actors used to London's West End take this in their stride. There's been a theatre of some kind here since 1867 but the original was destroyed by Glasgow's curse, fire, in 1879.

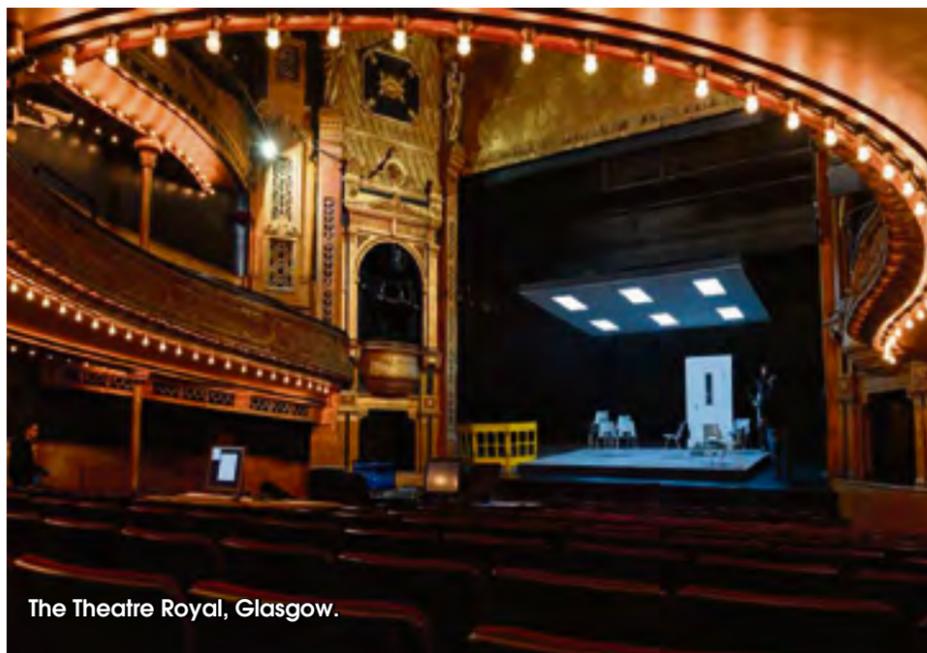
The present building itself suffered fires in 1895 and 1970. By the third conflagration, the building was in use as the studios of Scottish Television but over 1974-5 the building was transformed back into a working theatre designed as the new home of Scottish Opera, which it remains today. The Theatre Royal is also home to Scottish Ballet and many prestigious touring theatre productions. It's a hotchpotch of a building now, after its many remodellings but the auditorium has wonderful ornate plasterwork. The front of house is nearly brand-new, bright and welcoming, and includes heritage and history displays. Its best-known ghost, who moans eerily in the upper circle, is known as Nora and is said to have been a former cleaning lady who longed to be an actress. If that sounds like a character in a play, it probably is; a character of that name featured in a play called *A Life of Pleasure* here in 1894. Perhaps, as tales grew in the telling, Nora simply decided to stay.

Yes, theatres have a touch of magic and they need it given the ever-present threat of fire and competition from cinema and TV and gaming and the internet. Yet as we've seen, there are some remarkable theatres out there still, they are changing, improving and in some cases re-opening after being left for dead.

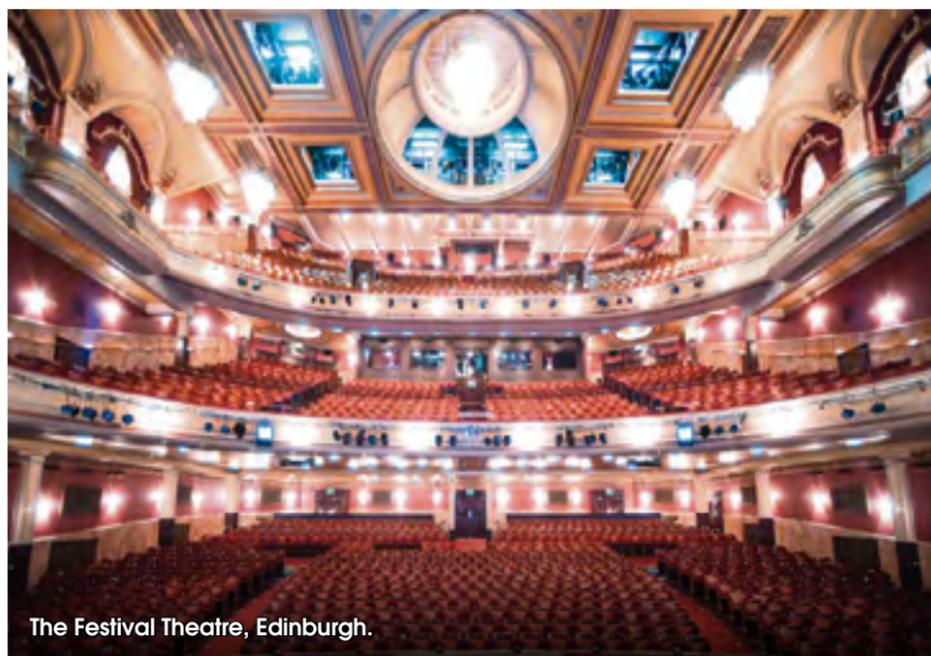
Glasgow's King's Theatre nowadays is best-known for musicals and larger-scale amateur productions, but when it was new it specialised in Shakespeare and dramatisations of the works of Sir Walter Scott; hence both of these playwrights appear as heads carved in relief on the building's exterior. The King's dates from 1904 and was designed by the theatre architect *par excellence*, Frank Matcham. Its interior is wonderfully ornate and performing in front of the three horseshoe tiers was memorably described by Billy Connolly as 'like singing inside a wedding cake'.

Edinburgh

In Edinburgh, for a month of the year, virtually anywhere in the city can be turned into a theatre. Year-round, though, its best-known theatres are the King's and the Festival Theatres. The King's hosts mainly touring productions (often picking them up where Glasgow's Theatre Royal left off) and is a charming and off-beat building with lots of odd corners and byways, including a curious near-underground café/bar. It could be one of the older, more characterful corners of London's West End.



The Theatre Royal, Glasgow.



The Festival Theatre, Edinburgh.

The King's (Edinburgh version) opened in 1906 (a year earlier, at the ground-breaking, no less a figure than Andrew Carnegie was present). Originally there were four levels of seating (another wedding cake, then) but this was reduced to three in the 1950s. It was originally largely a variety theatre but drama and musicals rule the roost now. The painting on the domed ceiling was commissioned from the famous Scottish artist and playwright John Byrne, and dates only from 2013.

The Festival Theatre is a top venue for events during the *official* Festival (rather than the Fringe) and hosts many top touring plays and musicals during the rest of the year. It looks like a relatively modern arrival with its shiny glass

exterior. As you go inside the impression continues, with a bright, clean front-of-house area with a pleasant café. But once you enter the auditorium, you step right back into the history of theatre, a space of red and gold beauty.

The Festival Theatre began life as the Empire Theatre in 1928 - but was built on a site that had been a theatre of sorts for more than a century. Its immediate predecessor was a Frank Matcham construction, the Empire Palace of Varieties. In 1994, the façade of the Empire was demolished and the modern facilities, including the ultra-modern glass frontage, substituted, but at the same time the auditorium was also restored with attention to detail and authenticity. You can always tell people

who are at the Festival Theatre for the first time; they pass through into the auditorium, expecting a bland, soulless modern space and it shows in their faces when they see something quite different.

Dumfries

The Theatre Royal in Dumfries opened in 1792 and among the people who wrote pieces for performance in its early days was a local lad called Robert Burns. Yes, *that* one. Edmund Kean acted on its stage and JM Barrie, no mean playwright in his maturity, regularly attended the Theatre Royal when he was at school in the town. In due course it became a cinema but that closed its doors in 1954. However, the

Theatre Royal was bought by the Guild of Players in 1959 and restored as a working theatre. The building has been renovated and repaired and extended so that it's now a marvellous mixture of the traditional and the up-to-date. But it's a genuine Georgian theatre still and there aren't many of them around.

Yes, theatres have a touch of magic and they need it given the ever-present threat of fire and competition from cinema and TV and gaming and the internet. Yet as we've seen, there are some remarkable theatres out there still, they are changing, improving and in some cases re-opening after being left for dead.



The Theatre Royal, Dumfries.

Jacobites descend on Fort George for Outlander inspired event



A Jacobite stands at the entry to Fort George.

Kings and Clansmen transports visitors back to 17th and 18th century Scotland.

Jacobites descended on Fort George in August as the *Outlander*-inspired Kings and Clansmen event took place for the first time. The Jacobite soldiers shared their stories based on the tales that inspired the *Outlander* novels. Visitors travelled through the history of the risings as they visited the three living history camps, starting in 1689 at the Battle of Killiecrankie, before moving through to the Battle of Sherrifmuir in 1715 and the infamous Battle of Culloden in 1746.

Visitors also learned Jacobite songs, poetry, and secret Jacobite symbols, handled a real Claymore sword and watched the fearsome Highland charge. Claire the Herbalist was also on hand to explain which herbs were used for healing on the battlefield during Jacobite times. There was an action-packed 'Age of the Jacobites' arena performance, inspired by *Outlander*, where visitors

watched the Highland lass try to escape the clutches of the redcoat captain.

Fort George

Fort George, one of over 70 staffed Historic Scotland attractions managed by Historic Environment Scotland (HES), was built in the wake of the Battle of Culloden as a secure base for King George II's army. It is one of the most outstanding fortifications in Europe and has served the British Army for over 250 years.

Gillian Urquhart, Events Manager at HES, said: "The Jacobite Risings played an important part in Scotland's history, and where better to host Kings and Clansmen than the fortress that was built as a defence against the Jacobites? This event promises to be a great day out for families, history buffs, and *Outlander* fans alike as they hear stories from the soldiers, meet Claire the herbalist and watch the Jacobites take on the rival redcoats for control of the land."

Outlander Season 4 premieres later this year.

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Sir John De Graeme

Images courtesy of Vass Media www.vassmedia.co.uk and The Society of John De Graeme.



The Guardian of Scotland

The Society of John De Graeme is a non-profit group set up to promote and educate people on the role Sir John De Graeme played in the Wars of Independence. David Reid is the Convener at The Society of John De Graeme and took the time to speak to the Scottish Banner's Sean Cairney on just why Sir John De Graeme is pivotal to Scottish history, his role in the life of Sir William Wallace and why the story of Scotland is so important to tell to people today.

SC: David thank you for taking the time to speak to *the Scottish Banner*. Can we begin with you telling us who John De Graeme was and how the Society was created?

DR: Sir John De Graeme was a thirteenth century knight who was descended from Sir William De Graeme who was reputed to be a Norman and was given lands by King David I. Sir John was one of those figures who's involvement in the Wars of

Scottish independence has been cast into the shadows by historians in general as he is seen as more of a passing character rather than a pivotal one.

After many years living in Falkirk and thinking someone should do more to promote Sir John De Graeme more, and after attending the annual commemoration to mark the battle of Falkirk 1298 organised by The Society of William Wallace many times, I thought

that someone had to be me and in 2016 the very basic ground work for the society was laid.

SC: Many people the world over will know of William Wallace. Can you tell us why John De Graeme is a large part of the William Wallace story?

DR: Sir William Wallace and indeed King Robert the Bruce are national patriots and rightly so, but great leaders are only great because of the men who follow them.

Sir John De Graeme in a professional and military capacity was Wallace's second in command, and a viciously loyal man he was by Wallace's side, as his advisor and trusted commander through some of the toughest times in Wallace's military campaign. But more than that he was Wallace's closest friend. Scots in this time were notorious for not documenting things so we have no official record of when the two became friends, we do know Wallace spent some time being taught by his uncle the Priest of Dunipace. The church or chapel in which Wallace's uncle preached was the closest religious chapel to Graeme's Castle so it's possible the two knew each other for a long time but there is no factual evidence to back it up with.

SC: Sir John died with many other Scots fighting King Edward I's invasion of Scotland at the Battle at Falkirk on the 22nd of July 1298. Can you tell us more and how William Wallace brought him to his resting place?

DR: Graeme with the Bright Sword as he is known sometimes was killed during the battle of Falkirk on the 22nd of July 1298.

The legend goes that both Wallace and Graeme were close to each other in the fray of battle and Graeme had dispatched an English knight when another English knight snuck up on the Graeme from behind and exploiting an exposed part of the Graeme's armour, that had not been fastened, the knight stabbed Graeme in the back. Some say with a sword and others say with a pike. Graeme was mortally wounded but had enough strength to kill the knight before falling himself. Wallace who was nearby saw the ordeal and with his friends demise descended into a rage using his claymore. He cleaved men killing left and right to the point Wallace's own men had to drag him off the battlefield.

They made for Torwood where no English cavalry could venture due to the denseness of the wood. Wallace returned to the battlefield later to find the body of his friend and upon finding the Graeme he fell to his knees and wept where after



Sir John De Graeme sword on display at Callendar House.

he carried him to The Faw Kirk (now Trinity Church) and left him in the care of the priests who laid him to rest in the grounds of the church along with his fellow commander Sir John Stewart of Bonkyl.

SC: In Scotland there are moves to initiate a William Wallace Day in August. Can you tell us anymore about this and does The Society support such a move?

DR: Ironically Wallace Day has always existed and in August. The Society of William Wallace annually hold their Wallace Day in August close to or on the date of Wallace's execution (August 23rd) and it is their biggest event but either due to political pressure from one side or another it's not really nationally Promoted or backed which is strange since he is Scotland's national patriot, but we all aim to change that. This year The Edinburgh Dungeon have been actively advocating a Wallace Day by doing various publicity stunts to draw attention to the fact that we have no national day to celebrate and commemorate the life of Wallace. We whole heartedly support any and every move to create a day to celebrate Scotland's national hero but we should never forget those who have been advocating for such a day for a long time and that is The Society of William Wallace.

Sir John was one of those figures who's involvement in the Wars of Scottish independence has been cast into the shadows by historians in general as he is seen as more of a passing character rather than a pivotal one.

SC: The historic 14th century Callendar House is exhibiting Sir John De Graeme's original sword and several other items relating to the 720th anniversary of The Battle of Falkirk of 1298. Can you tell us more and how tourists to Scotland can visit places that tell the story of Sir John De Graeme?

DR: Yes the Masonic Lodge (St John Lodge) Auchterader have been a massive help by loaning the sword, of which they are the custodians, the sword will be on display till the end of August and is free to view. Callendar House is a mere ten minute walk from Falkirk town centre and the Falkirk area has various train stations. Callendar House itself is a massive piece of history in its self from Romans to Wallace, to the Jacobite's and beyond so well worth a visit.

The tomb of Sir John De Graeme is located in the very heart of Falkirk within the Trinity Church and a member of the Society can made available to give tours of the tomb and kirk yard as well as paint the story of the men's life (to arrange a tour of the kirk yard contact can be made by email or via the Facebook page).



The Battle of Falkirk commemoration at Callendar House.

There is also a Commemorative Fountain marking the spot where Graeme fell but it was recently vandalised and is due to undergo redevelopment to bring it back to a more fitting state.

Sir John is also linked to The Battle of the Bell o the Brae which took place in Glasgow's High Street area and a fantastic monument was erected by The Society of William Wallace and designed by the late Andrew Hillhouse can be visited in the old Glasgow Necropolis.

You can also visit the Graeme Castle located at the western tip of the Carron Reservoir in the Carron Valley to get there use the B818 Road from Denny to Fintry. The castle was a rare square motte and Bailey style castle of which there are few examples of in Scotland but not much remains at the site except the mound, however at the eastern end of the reservoir lies Duncarron Medieval Fort and village run by the Clanranald Trust for Scotland and gives a fantastic view of what you could see when Graeme's Castle was standing.

The Wallace stone at the top of a hill just outside Falkirk is now where the village

of Wallacestone lies, and was one of the then oldest monuments to Wallace erected by the Free Colliers in 1810. It marks the spot where Wallace and his commanders watched the approaching English Army before the Battle of Falkirk 1298. All these sites and many more relating to Wallace can be found listed on Google maps.

SC: Scottish history is filled with a cast of characters that Hollywood would be hard pressed to create. With releases such as Robert the Bruce's *Outlaw King*, *Mary Queen of Scots* and of course *Outlander*, being based on Scottish history, are you finding more interest in the story of John De Graeme or Scottish history overall?

DR: Indeed we are finding growing interest in our history in general as time passes films like *Braveheart* opened a door that took a while for other productions to follow and by doing so helped people realise how rich our own history is and how it can be brought to the world. We look forward to *Outlaw King* due to some of our members being in the film but also as it is a story that

needs told and with it will come many more people encouraged and hungry to learn more about Scotland's story.

SC: And finally David, The Society of John De Graeme are passionate about telling the history of Scotland. Can you tell us how important it is for members to be able to teach and share with Scots and visitors of all ages the incredible story of Scotland?

DR: It's essentially what we are here for. Recently we were involved with The King Robert the Bruce Heritage Centre (located in Renton, West Dunbartonshire) at their Scone Palace event where we brought not only the characters to life, but the stories, weapons and so much more to people most of whom were international tourists which was a joy to do as we were able to see the wonder in kids eyes and amazement in adults voices. It's what makes it all worthwhile. We highly encourage folk to get off the beaten track our heritage, which can be found in the strangest places.

For more information on The Society of John De Graeme see: www.the-society-of-john-de-graeme.weebly.com



David Reid as Sir John De Graeme.

IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Based at the University of Edinburgh, the programme will capture and analyse data from OMS' planned constellation of 40 satellites – each about the size of a large shoebox. These missions will include the first launch of the recently announced UK spaceflight programme, using the planned spaceport on Scotland's north coast. The technology will be equipped with sensors to gather quarter-hourly updates on global conditions such as temperature, humidity and atmospheric pressure. The resulting data stream will be interpreted and delivered to clients across the world to enable near real-time decision making and high-value forecasts.

Professor Mark Parsons, Associate Dean for e-Research, University of Edinburgh, said; "Our expertise in data science means we are perfectly placed to support the sophisticated production of regular and reliable weather information for recipients around the world."

Scotland's population 2017



Scotland's population is growing and ageing, according to a report published by National Records of Scotland. Scotland's Population 2017 - the Registrar General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends is a compendium of statistics published throughout the year which paint a picture of modern Scotland. The Review has been published since 1855, and this is the 163rd edition.

Key trends identified in this year's review include:

- Scotland's population is at its highest ever at 5,424,800 in 2017. Migration is the main reason for Scotland's population increase over the past 10 years, although population growth has slowed.
- Overall, Scotland's population is projected to rise and age, but with some areas projected to face depopulation.
- Life expectancy has increased over the past 3 decades, but has stalled in recent years. Life expectancy varies within Scotland.
- There were just over 5,000 more deaths than births in 2017.

Amy Wilson, Director of Statistical and Registration Services at National Records of Scotland said: "The Registrar General's Annual Review, published every year since 1855, gives us a chance to reflect on our changing population and demographic trends. This year's review shows that while the population of Scotland is at its highest ever, at 5.42 million, and has grown by 5% over the last decade, this growth rate has slowed. Over the latest year, Scotland's population has grown at a slower rate than on average over the past 10 years. This is because of reduced migration levels as well as an increase in the number of deaths and decrease in the number of births. However, Scotland's population is still projected to increase to 5.58 million in 2026, and to continue rising to reach 5.69 million in 2041. We expect this growth to be entirely reliant on migration, as the number of deaths are projected to continue to be higher than the number of births."

Funding for UK's first spaceport in Sutherland

Plans to launch micro satellites into space from the northern Highlands of Scotland have taken a major step forward with Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) announcing further funding to develop the space sector. The UK Space Agency (UKSA) has announced £2.5m grant funding to support a project led by regional development agency Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) that aims to create the UK's first spaceport and support around 400 jobs.

Over the next 18 months, HIE will prepare a planning application to the Highland Council, which is expected to be submitted late next year. At the same time, the development agency plans to consult widely with the local community, both to share details of its plans and to invite feedback that will inform the package of community benefits it expects to be delivered.

The funding will enable HIE to develop detailed plans and, subject to planning and other regulations, build a vertical launch site for a new generation of small rockets to launch micro communication and earth-observation satellites at The Moine, on the Melness Crofting Estate near Tongue in north Sutherland.

Once the site is developed, it is expected that the Sutherland site could host up to six launches each year, with the first rocket possibly taking off early next decade.

Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work, Derek Mackay MSP, said: "The development of a small-satellite launch facility at the Moine, Sutherland is a significant first step towards stimulating space sector activity across the whole of Scotland and beyond. The significant investment, supported by HIE, and an estimated 400 jobs is a welcome boost to the local community and wider Scottish space sector which we are committed to see grow. Scotland is already punching above its weight in the global space sector and with this announcement we stand ready to support the sector as it takes this exciting step forward."

Sutherland was one of three potential spaceport locations that submitted outline business cases to the Board of HIE earlier this year. The others were in Scolpaig on North Uist, and Unst in Shetland. All three were assessed by independent consultants with specialist knowledge of the space sector. Each one met key criteria, including the ability to stage north facing launches over the sea into both polar and sun-synchronous orbit.

Archaeologists race against time to save ancient handprints



A group of archaeologists are working against the tide to excavate a Pictish copper smith's workshop located on an Iron Age settlement on the Island of Rousay. The site located on the Orkney Islands has revealed a sooty imprint of what is believed to be the smith's hands and knees, which could potentially be 1500 years old.

Dr Stephen Dockrill, Senior Lecturer in Archaeology, University of Bradford explains: "Analysis of crucible fragments and the floor deposits demonstrated that a copper smith worked in the building. The analysis of the floor enables us to say with confidence where the smith worked, next to a hearth and two stone anvils. The biggest surprise came when we lifted the larger stone anvil and cleaned it; we could see carbon imprints of the smith's knees and hands."

Dr Julie Bond, Senior Lecturer in Archaeology, University of Bradford added: "This is an extremely exciting find and we are doing all we can to gather as

much information on the site before it is destroyed by the sea. A handprint is so personal and individual that you can almost feel the presence of the copper smith and imagine what it must have been like working in there all those years ago."

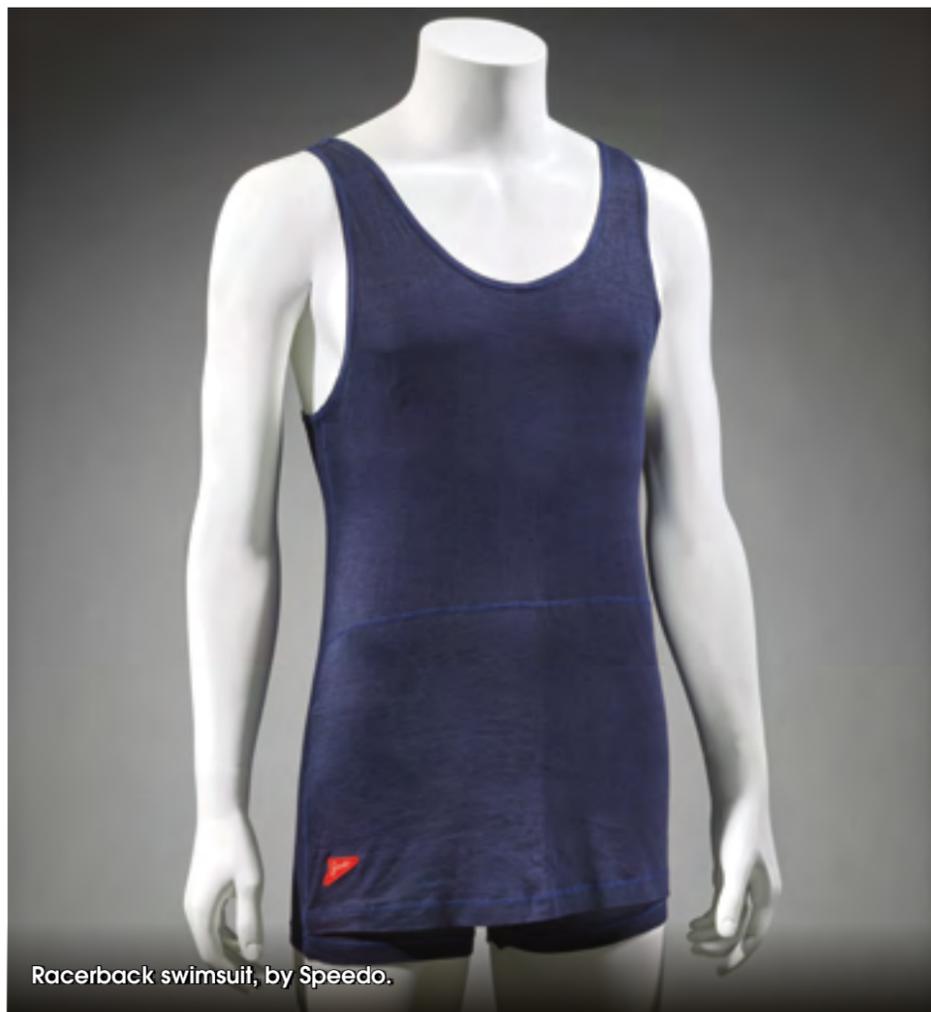
The small cellular building, dating to a period between the 6th to 9th century AD, was semi-subterranean. It was entered via steps and a curved corridor, which would have minimised the amount of light entering the smithy, allowing the smith to assess the temperature of the hot metal based on its colour. A door would have separated the workshop from the corridor. Many of the stone fittings - the pivot stone, door jamb and bar hole - remained intact. The centre was dominated by the hearth, with a set upright stone on the doorward side protecting the hearth fire from drafts. Scientific analysis at Bradford will reveal what was on the smith's hands to produce the prints and explore reasons for their remarkable preservation.

The building is part of a substantial Iron Age settlement which is being destroyed by the sea. Work this year has centred on the Pictish workshop and a Neolithic Chambered Cairn which is also being eroded.

Scottish satellite system to improve weather forecasts

Experts are developing a satellite-based system to vastly improve monitoring and forecasting of extreme weather and natural disasters anywhere in the world. The newly formed International Center for Earth Data (ICED) – involving small satellite technology provider Orbital Micro Systems (OMS) and the University – will gather, process and deliver weather information from public and commercial sources for researchers, governments and commercial enterprises around the world. The ICED will enable near real-time monitoring and improved forecasts for sectors such as insurance, agriculture, aviation, and shipping.

First Speedo swimsuit to be displayed in V&A Dundee



Racerback swimsuit, by Speedo.

V&A Dundee will display one of the first Speedo swimsuits in its Scottish Design Galleries when the museum opens on Saturday 15 September. The Racerback, which caused moral outrage when it was first revealed in the 1920s and was banned from some beaches for being too revealing, revolutionised the swimwear industry. The hydrodynamic design allowed swimmers more freedom of movement and reduced drag, quickly becoming a favourite of Olympic record breakers.

It was also the swimsuit that made Speedo, an Australian company founded by Scottish immigrant Alexander MacRae, a household name and paved the way for future controversial innovations. MacRae, born in 1888, grew up in a small fishing village near Loch Kishorn in the West Highlands, before moving to Sydney, Australia in 1910, and setting up a hosiery company called MacRae Knitting Mills in 1914. The firm was known for supplying the Australian Army with socks during the First World War before branching out to cater for the growing popularity of beach

sports. At the time swimsuits were made of wool and had sleeves to protect the wearer's modesty. Instead, the Racerback had straps that crossed at the back and was made of cotton or silk, which absorbed less water. Both the radical design and these materials enabled freer movement for the swimmer and so greater speed.

The design was also significantly more tight fitting than other swimwear available at that time and included the distinctive Speedo tick logo. In 1936 Speedo, under the leadership of MacRae, caused yet more controversy when it dressed the Olympic men's Australian team in swimming shorts instead of the traditional one-piece during the Berlin Games. Meredith More, V&A Dundee Assistant Curator, said: "We are delighted to be able to include such an early Speedo swimsuit in our Scottish Design Galleries. Alexander MacRae was one of many Scottish entrepreneurs who moved abroad to make his fortune. Capitalising on Australia's growing beach culture, he created a ground-breaking swimsuit design that appealed to competitive swimmers and sunbathers

alike. The Racerback's revealing back straps challenged moral codes in the 1920s, when mixed bathing was only just becoming acceptable, but nobody could deny his hydrodynamic design allowed swimmers to achieve faster times."

Scottish Design Galleries

Swedish swimmer Arne Borg, who won five Olympic medals and broke 32 world records, was one of those who embraced the daring new design and he featured in several Speedo advertisements. Speedo also designed swimsuits for women. In 1932 Claire Dennis was almost disqualified from the Olympics in Los Angeles, California, for wearing a Speedo deemed to show too much shoulder. It was not just athletes who were won over by the new design, which was also marketed to surfers and sunbathers. A Speedo catalogue described the Racerback design as giving "maximum body exposure" making it the ideal choice for those in search of a tan.

A Racerback swimsuit will be loaned to V&A Dundee by the Leicestershire County Council Museums Service and it is believed to be the only one in a UK collection. It will be displayed in V&A Dundee's Scottish Design Galleries which will include around 300 beautiful



Alexander MacRae, founder of Speedo.

and innovative objects from the V&A's world-famous collections of art, design and performance, together with objects from other lenders. The galleries, which will be free to enter, will explore what is unique about Scotland's design landscape, historically and today, and will represent a wide range of design disciplines from the decorative arts – including furniture, textiles, metalwork and ceramics – to fashion, architecture, engineering and digital design.

V&A Dundee will also feature an ambitious international programme of changing exhibitions showcasing the very best of design from around the world as well as new design commissions and fast-changing installations.

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For Membership Information contact:
Secretary: Noel Wright (03) 9306 7495
Email: noelwright@netspace.net.au



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220 South Orchard Drive
Burbank, CA 91506

June Alvarez-Fetzer
Membership-Treasurer
8516 Lookout Cliff Pass
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www.clanmorrison.net

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

Clan Scott Society
PO Box 13021
Austin, TX 78711-3021
USA
Info@ClanScottSociety.org • www.ClanScottSociety.org

Scottish Associations and Societies



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



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, Small, Smale, Small, 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 Shaw Society

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

Mike Shaw
Secretary
2403 West Cranford
Denison, TX 75020



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www.scottishgaelicsocietyvic.org
Founded in 1905

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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



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



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



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

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



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



Clan Pringle Association (North America)
Membership cordially invited from Pringle/ Prindle descendants and other interested parties.
www.clanpringle.org.au

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



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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
212 MacKenzie Street
Toowoomba, 4350
Queensland, Australia
e-mail: william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au
http://goldenvale.wix.com/clansutherlandaus



Clan Sutherland Society of North America, Inc.

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SCOTTISH BANNER EVENTS

Having a Clan event? Know of a highland games? Know where the pipes will be playing? Let Scottish Banner readers know of Scottish events both near and far with the Scottish Banner events page.

Send us your community event, concert, meeting or anything with a Scottish twist! Please submit events either online at www.scottishbanner.com/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.

CANADA

SEPTEMBER 2018

1 - 2 Canmore, AB - Canmore Highland Games
Thrill to the sounds of the pipes in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains. Info: www.canmorehighlandgames.ca

1 Calgary, AB - Calgary Highland Games
One of the premier Highland Games in Western Canada at Springbank Park for All Seasons. Info: www.calgaryhighlandgames.org

2 Toronto, ON - 27th Annual Tall Ship Cruise
Once again, the crew of the Empire Sandy, Canada's tallest sailing ship, will be hoisting the sails for the Scottish Studies Foundation, with Highland dancers, folk music and the pipes. Info: www.scottishstudies.com

6 - 9 Quebec City, QC - Quebec City Celtic Festival
The biggest francophone Celtic festival in North America. Info: www.festivalceltique.com

8 - 9 Toronto, ON - The Beach Celtic Festival
Steeped in tradition held in the beautiful setting of Kew Gardens, with Celtic music, dance and fun. Info: www.thecelticfestival.com

8 - 9 Bible Hill, Colchester County, NS - Colchester Highland Games & Gathering
A multicultural event uniting the peoples of our country in one event. A traditional Highland Games with a twist at NSPEC Complex, Ryland Ave. Info: www.colchesterhighlandgames.com

8 Quinte West, ON - Trenton Scottish Irish Festival
A celebration of all things Celtic at Centennial Park. Info: www.trentonscottishirish.com

16 Oakville, ON - Scottish Country Dance Class with Deb Lees
Deb Lees is a long time teacher of the Advanced/ Demonstration Class in Newcastle Upon Tyne, England. She will mainly teach dances from Newcastle and Dunedin/New Scotland (Edinburgh University) at the Dance Studio in Queen Elizabeth Park Community & Cultural Centre, 2302 Bridge St. Info: Alma Smith: asmith26@cogeco.ca

28 - 30 Moose Jaw, SK - RSCDS Saskatchewan Workshop Weekend
Saskatchewan Scottish country dance events including: Welcome Ceilidh, Workshop Classes Saturday (for specific levels), followed by a Banquet and Ball Saturday evening. Info: Mike Blanchard 306-690-5182 or micblanchard@sasktel.net

28 - 30 Halifax, NS - Nova Scotia Harp Festival
The first Harp Festival in Nova Scotia, will be opened by the Poet Laureate of Scotland, Lewis MacKinnon, the first who is not from Scotland but from that far flung colony-Nova Scotia. Queen of Harps, Ann Heymann and her musician husband who also sings in Gaelic, will be the headliners. Aimed at the scholar, the harper and the tourist this promises to be full of fun and a real success. Info: www.nsharp.ca

28 - 30 Ottawa, ON - 24th Annual BIFHSO Family History Conference
Scottish Family History, DNA—an' a' that at Ben Franklin Place, 101 Centrepointe Dr. Info: conferenceregistrar@bifhso.ca or 613-234-2520.

OCTOBER 2018

5 - 13 Cape Breton, NS - Celtic Colours
For nine days in October, Cape Breton Island is alive with music, energy and excitement as people come from far and wide to celebrate our rich culture. Info: www.celtic-colours.com

12 - 14 Ottawa, ON - RSCDS Ottawa Workshop Weekend
A special workshop weekend of Scottish country dance events. Info: www.rscdsottawa.ca

19 - 21 Halifax, NS - Re-Jigged Festival
Featuring workshops, master classes, sessions, three concerts and a late-night ceilidh, Re-Jigged is about learning, sharing and enjoying the best "new trad" Celtic music and dance. Info: www.rejiggedfestival.com

USA

SEPTEMBER 2018

1 - 2 The Plains, VA - Virginia Scottish Games
Celebrate Scotland Labor Day weekend at Great Meadow. Info: www.vascottishgames.org

1 - 2 Altamont, NY - Capital District Scottish Games
Something for every Scot at Altamont Fair Grounds, 129 Grand St. Info: www.scotgames.com

6 - 9 Estes Park, CO - Long's Peak Scottish/Irish Highland Festival
The best in Celtic music at Estes Park. Info: www.scotfest.com

7 - 9 Estes Park, CO - Clan Arthur Chief's visit to Longs Peak Scottish Irish Festival with Clan reunion and AGM.
Chief John MacArthur, of that ilk will be an "Honored 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. Info: mikemcarthur53.mm@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/groups/2221538694/

7 Nashville, TN - A Celtic Evening featuring "The American Rogues"
North America's premier Celtic band, The American Rogues in concert at The Hermitage. The 5 pm performance also features The Secret Commonwealth & Nashville Celts—a great start to the 4th Annual Middle TN Highland Games. Info: www.midtenngames.com

8 - 9 Columbus, IN - Columbus Scottish Festival
A weekend of Scottish entertainment, competition, history and more at Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, 750 W 200. Info: www.scottishfestival.org

8 Nashville, TN - The Middle Tennessee Highland Games
Music, dancing, exhibitions, games, competitions, as well as food & craft vendors at Andrew Jackson's Hermitage. Info: www.midtenngames.com

14 - 16 Prescott, AZ - Prescott Highland Games
A weekend of Celtic celebration at Loch Watson. Info: 928-642-0020 or www.prescottareacelticsociety.com

14 - 15 Kalispell, MT - Flathead Celtic Festival
Music, history, ancestry, language, food, crafts and more celebrating Celtic nations at Herron Park. Info: www.flatheadcelticfestival.com

14 - 16 Tulsa, OK - ScotFest
Oklahoma's premier Celtic music festival & Highland Games. Info: www.okscotfest.com

14 - 15 Davenport, IA - Celtic Festival and Highland Games of the Quad Cities
Celebrate Celtic culture at Centennial Park on the Davenport Riverfront. Info: www.celtichighlandgames.org

21 - 22 Big Stoen Gap, VA - Big Stone Celtic 2018
A celebration of the traditions of the Celtic Nations music, song, stories, food, crafts and dance. Info: www.bigstoneceltic.com

21 - 23 Lincoln, NH - The New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival
Don your tartans and enjoy the Loon Mountain Resort with an impressive mix of sights and sounds of a Scottish Highland Games & Festival. Info: 1-800-358-7268 or www.nhscot.org

22 Ligonier, PA - 60th Ligonier Highland Games
A celebration of Scotland at Idlewild Park, Route 30. Info: www.ligonierhighlandgames.org

25 New York, NY - Historic Scottish Gardens and Scots Influences on the Early Gardens of New York
Presented by American Scottish Foundation & National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA in association with the Burns Society of New York. The ASF will speak on the influence of Scots on the early gardens of the United States including the Alexander Hamilton home The Grange and the heather gardens at Fort Totten. Info: www.americanscottishfoundation.com

28 - 30 Bethlehem, PA - Celtic Classic Highland Games and Festival
A celebration of all things Celtic and five stages of continuous entertainment. Info: 610-868-9599 or www.celticfest.org

28 - 30 Grass Valley, CA - KVMR Celtic Festival
Includes eleven performance areas including five musical and six demonstration stages and a weekend-long youth arts instruction that has included Celtic music, magic, dance and songwriting. Info: www.kvmrcelticfestival.org

28 - 29 Chesterfield, MO - St Louis Scottish Games & Festival
Bagpipes, Clans, Scottish events and more at Spirit Airpark, West Drive. Info: www.stlouis-scottishgames.com

29 Dixon, CA - Dixon Scottish Highland Games & Gathering
Lots of Scottish fun, music and more at Dixon Fairgrounds, 655 South First St. Info: www.scotsindixon.org

OCTOBER 2018

6 - 7 Aztec, NM - Aztec Highland Games and Celtic Festival 2018
The Four Corners region's premier event celebrating Celtic culture through traditional athletic competitions, music and dance performances, clan representation, and more at Riverside Park. Info: www.aztechighlandgames.com

6 - 7 Reno, NV - The 27th Annual Reno Celtic Celebration
Celtic music, fun and friendship at Bartley Ranch Regional Park. Info: www.renoceltic.org



The Scottish Banner has one of North America's most comprehensive Scottish events listings available! With hundreds of Scottish events listed from around the world and updated weekly. See our most up to date listings and add your event anytime at: www.scottishbanner.com/events

13 - 14 Ventura, CA - Seaside Highland Games
The premier Scottish event on the central California Coast at Ventura County Fairgrounds 10 W Harbor Blvd. Info: www.seaside-games.com

19 - 21 Stone Mountain, GA - 46th Annual Stone Mountain Highland Games
In the meadows of the Stone Mountain Park with Clans, pipe bands, Scottish dancers and more. Info: www.smhg.org

19 - 21 Troy, MI - Scottish North American Leadership Conference 2018
Utilizing panels and the presentations of experts in the genre SNALC will listens for the blended voices of our speakers, our attendees, and our younger guests hosted by participating organizations at Kilgore Centre. Info: www.scottishleadershipconference.org

26 - 28 Pacific Grove, CA - Asilomar Scottish Country Dance Weekend & Workshop
A weekend of Scottish country dancing, classes, and lots more. Celebrating 60 years since the very first Scottish Country Dance event was held at Asilomar Conference Grounds, 800 Asilomar Ave. Info: www.asilomar.rscds-sl.org

26 - 27 Sarasota, FL - Sarasota Celtic Music Festival
A weekend of Celtic music and fun at Nathan Benderson Park. Info: www.celtoberfest.org

27 Hollywood, FL - Scottish American Society Of South Florida Fall Halloween Ceilidh
Entertainment includes pipe & drumming, the fine fiddles & more at the Church of the Little Flower, 1805 Pierce St. Info: www.sassf.org

SCOTLAND

SEPTEMBER 2018

1 - 16 Nationwide - Scottish Food & Drink Fortnight
Annual celebration of Scotland's fantastic larder offering more than 200 events around the country. These range from cookery demonstrations to festivals, farmers' markets and tasting events. Info: www.fooddrinkfort.scot

1 Braemar - Braemar Gathering
Traditional Highland games with piping, Highland dancing and strong events, the event has regularly welcomed royalty including Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh. Info: www.braemargathering.org

2 Blairgowrie - Blairgowrie and Rattray Highland Games
Traditional highland games with highland dancing, piping and sports. Info: www.blairgowriehighlandgames.co.uk

7 - 10 Portpatrick - Portpatrick Folk Festival
A weekend festival in a picturesque seaside village, with Celtic & folk concerts at the village hall and sessions at harbourside pubs on the Friday and Saturday. Info: www.portpatrickfolkfestival.org

8 Pitlochry - Pitlochry Highland Games
Traditional Highland games featuring dancing, pipe band competitions and, of course, heavy events and track & field. Info: www.pitlochryhighlandgames.co.uk

15 Bonar Bridge - Invercharron Highland Games
Traditionally the final Highland Games of the year, a thrillingly tense event where many of the Scottish Highland Games Association league are decided. Info: www.invercharrongames.co.uk

15 Kirkcaldy - Scotch Whisky Festival
Bringing together distillers and whisky enthusiasts from around the country for an experience to savour and remember for years to come at Adam Smith Theatre, Bennochry Rd. Info: www.scotchwhiskyfestival.com/fife

15 Kirkcaldy - Kirkcaldy Waterfront Beach Highland Games
Highland games on Kirkcaldy Waterfront, the only Highland Games to be staged on a beach. Info: www.kirkcaldy4all.co.uk

16 Edinburgh - Walking Tour: Robert Louis Stevenson and Edinburgh's New Town
Starting with a short talk in the Victorian Heroes and Heroines exhibition at the Portrait Gallery, our afternoon walk takes us to the northern New Town, Greenside and Calton Hill, as we explore Robert Louis Stevenson's Edinburgh at Scottish National Portrait Gallery, 1 Queen St. Info: pginfo@nationalgalleries.org

21 - 23 Isle of Jura - The Jura Music Festival
A fantastic weekend of traditional Scottish music in a beautiful, remote island setting. Info: www.juramusicfestival.com

21 - 22 Strontian - Three Lochs Book and Arts Festival
With a strong literary focus, this tiny festival in the remote village of Strontian on the shores of Loch Sunar. Info: www.threelochs.co.uk

21 - 30 Wigtown - Wigtown Book Festival
The festival marks the 20th year since Wigtown became Scotland's National Book Town with the largest and most diverse programme ever. Info: www.wigtownbookfestival.com

22 - 30 Shetland - Shetland Wool Week
Shetland's textile industry celebrates the sheep that catapulted it to fame masterclasses, workshops and events led by professionals from the textile and design industry, along with a makers market and exhibitions. Info: www.shetlandwoolweek.com

OCTOBER 2018

4 - 7 Inverness - Ness Book Fest
Inverness based book festival that features emerging voices as well as big names in a free programme of events. Info: www.nessbookfest.wordpress.com

6 - 14 Strathearn - Crieff & Strathearn Drovers' Tryst Walking Festival
Celebrates the life, work and play of the people who made Crieff the cattle-droving crossroads of Scotland in the 1700s. Info: www.droverstryst.com

11 - 14 Portree, Isle of Skye - Clan MacNicol World Gathering
Join members of the worldwide Highland Clan MacNeacail Federation on Skye for a variety of events and kinship. Info: www.scorrybreac.org/2018-clan-gathering.html

11 - 15 Shetland Islands - Shetland Accordion & Fiddle Festival
Visiting and local acts join together in a Shetland knees-up to warm up the October evenings with fine trad music. Info: www.shetlandaccordionandfiddle.com

12 - 20 Dunoon - The Royal National Mòd 2018
Scotland's premier Gaelic festival provides opportunities for people of all ages to perform across a range of competitive disciplines including Gaelic music and song, highland dancing, instrumental, drama, sport and literature. Info: www.ancomunn.co.uk/nationalmod

19 - 31 Edinburgh - Scottish International Storytelling Festival
A celebration of live storytelling, oral traditions and cultural diversity, with Scottish and international storytellers and musicians at the Scottish Storytelling Centre. Info: www.tracscotland.org/scottish-storytelling-centre

20 - 28 Gtrentress, Scottish Borders - Tweed Valley Forest Festival
A celebration of the rich woodland culture of the Borders in a variety of locations around the beautiful Tweed Valley. Info: www.forest-festival.com

25 - 28 Orkney - Orkney Storytelling Festival
A four-day programme of walks, talks, story sessions and workshops with renowned storytellers from Scotland and beyond. Info: www.orkneystorytellingfestival.co.uk

27 Blair Atholl Perthshire - The Glenfiddich Solo Piping Championship
Established in 1974 to inspire the world's finest individual pipers and to seek the best overall exponents of ceol mor or piobaireachd (the great music) and ceol beag or light music (the little music) at Blair Castle. Each year, 10 competitors qualify to play at this prestigious event through placing in one of a series of qualifying events. Info: www.thepipingcentre.co.uk

27 Perth - Perth All Scotland Accordion and Fiddle Festival
The 69th annual festival of its kind. Kicking off with a ceilidh, the event takes in competitions and championships during the day before finishing with the Senior Scottish Championship and performances by some of Scotland's top musicians. Info: www.perthaccordionfestival.co.uk

Answers to Scotword on Page 6

- Across:** 1) Sark, 2) Gunnel, 8) Aisle, 9) Enlighten, 11) Maelstrom, 12) Tیره, 13) Coalfield, 16) Opals, 18) Ochre, 19) Islanders, 21) Locum, 23) Battleaxe, 26) Treasurer, 27) Model, 28) French, 29) Miser.
- Down:** 1) Sassenach, 2) Reeks, 3) Steer, 4) Gold Medal, 5) Nightgown, 6) Enter, 7) Tarmac, 10) Neeps, 14) Freemason, 15) Edinburgh, 17) Alexander, 18) Owlet, 20) Sheila, 22) Cheer, 24) Thrum, 25) Lambs.

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By: Judy Vickers

The Battle of Prestonpans



Bonnie Prince Charlie and his lifeguard.

Honouring a Jacobite Rising

On 21st September 1745 the Battle of Prestonpans took place between the Jacobite and Government armies and was the first major conflict of the 1745 Uprising. This month the East Lothian town of Prestonpans will see history come to life as some dramatic re-enactments will relive one of the most critical points in British history as Judy Vickers explains.

At 6am on a misty September morning, just under 1500 Jacobite rebels let loose their blood-curdling war cries and, to the sound of the skirl of the pipes, charged at a force of Government Redcoats – and so took their place in one of the most celebrated and romanticised battles in Scottish history.

1745 Jacobite rising

The Battle of Prestonpans was the first major battle of the 1745 Jacobite rising and saw the army loyal to the Stuart claimant



Redcoat camp at Prestonpans.

to the throne, James Francis Edward Stuart, win a dramatic victory over the Redcoat army of Hanoverian King George II. The battle was over in just ten minutes with hundreds of Redcoat troops killed, wounded or taken prisoner – out of 2300 men, just 170 managed to flee – while the Jacobites, led by James' son, Bonnie Prince Charlie, suffered less than 100 fatalities or injuries.

The event has captured the imagination of many of Scotland's writers, from poet Robert Burns to novelists Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson, and more latterly the television series *Outlander* immortalised the event.

And next month a major re-enactment of the battle will take place, as part of one of the biggest ever living history events, to mark the anniversary.

Arran Johnston, director of The Scottish Battlefield Trust, one of the organisers, said: "This battle has become so iconic because firstly out of all the Jacobite battles, this was the only occasion when there was a decisive Jacobite victory. It was the moment which really made the reputation of Bonnie Prince Charlie."

The East Lothian Battle Weekend will take place across two days and will

include a series of dramatic re-enactments including a recreation of the Raising of the Standard; the Redcoats' General Sir John Cope's war council at which the officers plan their strategy; a cavalry display explaining the role of the horsemen of the battle; the Redcoat soldiers being put through their paces; Prince Charlie's War Council; and ultimately, the spectacular

re-enactment of The Battle of Prestonpans itself. As the event is supporting Scotland's Year of Young People, there will be children's crafts and a chance for youngsters to train as junior Jacobites.

Visitors will be able to explore the Jacobite and Hanoverian camps and talk to the re-enactors, who will remain in character throughout, as well as being able



Battle of Prestonpans.



Prestonpans redcoats.

to handle historic weapons, witness camp life, enter the Royal Enclosure to meet Bonnie Prince Charlie and see an 18th century printing press in action.

Important cultural legacy

The event will also see the launch of two books about the period; *Better is the Proud Plaid* by Jenn Scott examines the battle and the myths surrounding it by examining the clothing and weapons of the combatants; and *The Lilies and the Thistle* by Andrew Bamford which looks at new

create a unique model of the rival armies. Also on display will be dramatic paintings of the battle by Andrew Hillhouse. And the Prestonpans Tapestry, a 105-metre long embroidered depiction of the story of the battle, will be on show at Cockenzie House in Cockenzie from September 1 to September 23. The tapestry was designed by local artist, Andrew Crummy and stitched by hundreds of volunteers from across Scotland.

The Battle of Prestonpans took place on September 21st, 1745, in fields between Prestonpans, Tranent, Cockenzie and Port Seton. The Redcoats had the advantage of a good position with marshy ground in front of them, meaning a frontal charge by the Highlanders would quickly flounder and become bogged down. But the Jacobite army was led through the night over the marshes by a local from their ranks who knew the paths and at 6am they charged the surprised Redcoats.

Mr Johnston explained: "Our understanding of the battlefield has been increasing in terms of what happened and where." Archeological work in 2009 revealed that the actual site where the forces clashed was further east than previously believed. "But that doesn't diminish the importance of the traditional area," Mr Johnston added. "That is still the area where troops slept and deployed in the morning, and later where many men were wounded and killed as they fled."

The victory was a huge morale boost for the Jacobites and led to many more recruits swelling their ranks. By December, Bonnie Prince Charlie had led them deep into England before their fortunes changed, leading to their ultimate defeat at Culloden.

But the battle has left a deep and important cultural legacy and recent years

have seen a campaign to safeguard the site and make it more of a visitor attraction, said Mr Johnston. "Three or four years ago there was anxiety about the western half of the battlefield. The land was owned by Scottish Power and, with Cockenzie Power Station closing, the land came up for sale and there was talk of industrial parks being put on the battlefield. That has passed – just this year the land has come into the ownership of East Lothian Council which has commissioned a masterplan together with the community."

Connection to history

He said there was much enthusiasm from the local community to develop a visitor centre and develop interpretation at the site and the Battle of Prestonpans Heritage Trust is working on ideas, boosted by a recent Heritage Lottery grant. The weekend's events will also see the dedication of two new memorials to honour those who died as part of a memorial parade taking place through the town of Prestonpans, which has many streets named after those who fought in the battle. The new memorials are stone tables, bearing the names of the regiments of each army and sculpted by local artist Gardner Molloy. They will be the first memorial to all those who fell and were buried on the field of battle. The procession will include members of the clans that fought for the Jacobite cause in the battle alongside members of the British army, representing the Redcoats, and school children with banners.

Mr Johnston said such events helped to raise the profile of battlefields which were often neglected compared to solid monuments such as castles. "An enactment is a big visually exciting moment and brings a lot of people together but we want

to use this as an opportunity to stimulate interest and massage that interest into the rest of the year. Battlefields are a huge challenge in conservation terms –there can often be people, sometimes hundreds of people, living within the area and there is no legal framework to protect them. Even high-profile places such as Culloden and Sherrifmuir have seen major threats in recent years and there is housing happening on the core of the Pinkie battlefield. It's not about trying to stop any sort of progress or development but recognising that battlefields are very valuable. People often feel a real connection to history standing in the place where such sacrifices were made. We owe it to our ancestors to preserve the places where those sacrifices were made in the past but we also owe it to future generations not just to selfishly destroy them."

The re-enactment weekend takes place on September 15 and 16, 11am to 5pm, at Greenhills, Prestonpans. For more information on the Battle of Prestonpans Re-enactment event and East Lothian Battle Weekend visit: www.eastlothianbattles.com



Prestonpans 2015.

The Battle of Prestonpans was the first major battle of the 1745 Jacobite rising and saw the army loyal to the Stuart claimant to the throne, James Francis Edward Stuart, win a dramatic victory over the Redcoat army of Hanoverian King George II.

evidence of the role of the French and their contribution to Bonnie Prince Charlie's cause. Two linked exhibitions will also take place during September; the *Paper Soldiers* exhibition at Prestoungrange Gothenburg in Prestonpans runs from September 8 to September 23 and is a display of more than 5000 miniature paper model soldiers created by artist Peter Dennis. Every soldier of every company, every clan and every regiment has been hand crafted to



Battle of Prestonpans.



Battle of Prestonpans.

Photos: Gordon Fraser.

IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Minestrone soup with pesto

Ingredients:

3 tbsp. olive oil
40g/1½oz. butter
2 large onions, finely chopped
1 leek, halved lengthways and thinly sliced
250g/9oz. potatoes, peeled and finely chopped
3 sticks celery, finely chopped
150g/5oz. savoy cabbage
2 litres/3½ pints beef or vegetable stock
400g/14oz. can Italian chopped tomatoes
salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 tbsp. green basil pesto

Method:

Heat the oil and butter in a large pan. Add onions, leek and potatoes and cook for about five minutes, until starting to soften, stirring from time to time. Add the celery and cook for a few minutes more. Meanwhile cut the half cabbage in quarters. Remove central stalk from cabbage and discard. Cut leaves across the wedge shape in short shreds. Pour stock and can of tomatoes into the pan with the cabbage. Bring to the boil and gently simmer for about 30 mins. Add pesto for the last 5 mins, and check the seasoning before serving.

Beef and onion pie with cheese crust



Ingredients:

For the pastry:
225/8oz. plain flour, plus extra for dusting
75g/2¾oz. chilled butter, cut into cubes, plus extra for greasing
pinch salt
75g/2¾oz. mature Lancashire cheese, or similar mature crumbly cheese, grated
4 tbsp. water
1 free-range egg yolk
For the filling:

1-2 tbsp. vegetable oil
250g/9oz. beef mince
1 onion, peeled, chopped
1 carrot, peeled, finely chopped
1 celery stalk, trimmed, finely chopped
1 tbsp. tomato purée
1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
splash bitter ale
1 free-range egg, beaten

To serve:

mashed potatoes
brown sauce

Method:

For the pastry, blend the flour, butter cubes and salt in a food processor until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add the cheese, water and egg yolk and continue to blend until the mixture comes together as a dough. Turn out the dough onto a lightly floured work surface and knead lightly for 3-4 minutes, or until smooth and elastic. Wrap the dough in cling film and chill in the fridge for at least one hour. Meanwhile, for the filling, heat the oil in a frying pan over a medium heat. Add the beef mince, in batches if necessary, and fry for 6-8 minutes, turning once, or until browned all over. Remove from the pan and set aside (keep warm). Repeat the process with the remaining batches of beef mince.

Add the onion, carrot and celery to the pan used to fry the mince. Fry for 3-4 minutes, stirring well, until softened.

Return the mince to the pan and stir in the tomato purée, Worcestershire sauce and bitter ale. Bring the mixture to a simmer and cook, stirring regularly, for 8-10 minutes, or until the majority of the liquid has evaporated. Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Grease a 20cm-25cm/8-10in pie plate with butter. When the dough has chilled, divide it in half. Roll out one half onto a lightly floured work surface until slightly larger than the pie plate. Carefully line the pie plate with the pastry, pressing it into the edges of the plate.

Spoon the filling into the pie case. Roll the remaining dough out onto a lightly floured work surface until it is slightly larger than the pie dish. Brush the rim of the pie case with a little of the egg wash. Place the pastry disc on top of the pie and press the edges together. Brush the pie lid all over with the remaining beaten egg. Prick the pastry all over several times with a fork. Bake the pie in the oven for 35-40 minutes, or until the pastry is crisp and pale golden-brown. Serve with mashed potatoes and brown sauce.

Dundee Lamb Chops

Ingredients:

Four leg of lamb chops
75ml/2.5 fluid oz. or five tablespoons vinegar
Half teaspoon ground ginger
4 tablespoons marmalade
4 slices orange for garnish
60g/2 oz. or half stick butter
75ml/2½ fluid oz. water
Half teaspoon paprika
Salt and pepper

Method:

You will need a frying pan with a heavy base and a close-fitting lid. First, brown the chops in the butter. Sprinkle the ginger, paprika, salt and pepper over the chops and add water and vinegar. Place a generous tablespoon of marmalade on the top of each chop. Bring to a slow simmer and cook for 45 minutes on a very low heat. If required, add a little extra water. Serve with a twist of orange on top of the chops and with boiled potatoes and fresh vegetables.

Method:

Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4. Cook the potatoes and swede in a saucepan of salted boiling water until tender. Drain well and return to the pan. Heat 50g/2oz. butter in a pan and gently cook the cabbage for a few minutes, until the cabbage is tender but retains its colour. Add the cabbage to the pan with the potatoes and swede. Add the remaining 25g/1oz butter and mash together using a potato masher. Season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Place the mashed vegetables into an ovenproof lidded dish and top with the cheese. Cover with a lid and bake in the oven for about 30 minutes, then remove the lid and continue to cook for a further 15 minutes, or until piping hot and golden-brown on top.

Rustic smoky bacon quiche



Ingredients:

For the pastry:
150g/5oz. unsalted butter (cut into cubes)
250g/9oz. plain flour
1 free-range egg
pinch of salt
For the filling:
80g/3oz. smoked bacon, cut into matchsticks
2 garlic cloves
1 white onion, finely chopped
20g/1oz. unsalted butter
60g/2oz. strong Scottish cheddar, grated
250ml/9fl oz. single cream
2 free-range eggs
2 free-range egg yolks

Method:

For the pastry, preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4. In a large bowl, rub the butter and flour together to a breadcrumb texture using your fingers. Add the egg and salt to bring the pastry together. Wrap in cling film and chill in the fridge for 10 minutes. Remove the pastry from the fridge, and roll out to fit a deep 18cm/7in loose-

bottomed tart tin. Place the pastry-lined tin in the fridge for 10 minutes to firm up. Place a piece of greaseproof paper into the tart shell and fill with baking beans or dried pulses. Bake for 10-15 minutes and then remove greaseproof and beans. Leave in oven for a further 10 minutes so that the pastry is dry and crisp. For the filling, in a frying pan fry the bacon, garlic and onion together in the butter until softened and golden-brown. Drain off any excess fat.

Mix the cream and eggs together in a bowl until well combined. Layer the cheese with the bacon and onion mixture in the cooked pastry case and pour over the egg mixture. Top with some more cheese and trim the crust if needed. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until the filling is just set in the middle. Serve in slices while still hot.

Dundee Cake



Ingredients:

175g/6oz. softened butter, plus extra for greasing
175g/6oz. soft light brown sugar
3 tbsp. orange marmalade
3 free-range eggs, beaten
225g/8oz. self-raising flour
25g/oz. ground almonds
1 heaped tsp ground mixed spice
400g/14oz. mixed dried fruit
75g/3oz. glace cherries, halved
2 tbsp. whisky or milk
40g/1½oz. blanched almonds to decorate
1 tsp granulated or caster sugar, to decorate (optional)

Method:

Preheat the oven to 150C/300F/Gas 2. Grease and double-line a 20cm/8in loose-based deep cake tin with greaseproof paper. Beat the butter and sugar in a food processor for 3-4 minutes, or until very light and fluffy. Add the marmalade and mix for a few seconds more. Slowly add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the flour, almonds and spices to the batter. Mix slowly until well combined, then stir in the mixed dried fruit and cherries with a large metal spoon. Add the whisky or milk and mix until well combined. Spoon the mixture into the cake tin, smooth the surface and carefully arrange the blanched almonds in circles on top. Bake for 1½-2 hours, or until well risen, firm and golden-brown. (Test the cake by inserting a skewer into the centre. If the skewer comes out clean, the cake is done.) Leave the cake to cool for 10 minutes then remove from the tin, peel off the lining paper and set aside to cool on a wire rack. Sprinkle with granulated sugar. Store in a cake tin and eat within 4-5 days.

Bannockburn Cocktail

Ingredients:

1 nip whisky (whisky, bourbon)
1 dash worcestershire sauce
1 dash tomato juice
slice lemon

Method:

Pour into a cocktail glass and garnish with a slice of lemon.

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

4 - The Queen has officially opened the Queensferry Crossing. She was accompanied by Prince Philip as she cut the ribbon on the £1.35bn road bridge - exactly 53 years after she opened the Forth Road Bridge. The 1.7 miles (2.7km) structure is the longest three-tower, cable-stayed bridge in the world. **2017**

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

11 - Battle of Stirling Bridge, Wallace (as famously portrayed by Mel Gibson in *Braveheart*) and Andrew de Moray led Scotland to victory against the forces of England's King Edward I. **1297**

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

27 - Scotland's first passenger railway, between Glasgow and Garnkirk, opened. The formation of the Glasgow to Garnkirk line stemmed from that need for transporting industrial goods. However, the success of the line was due to its having been specially constructed to also carry passenger traffic. **1831**

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

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

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

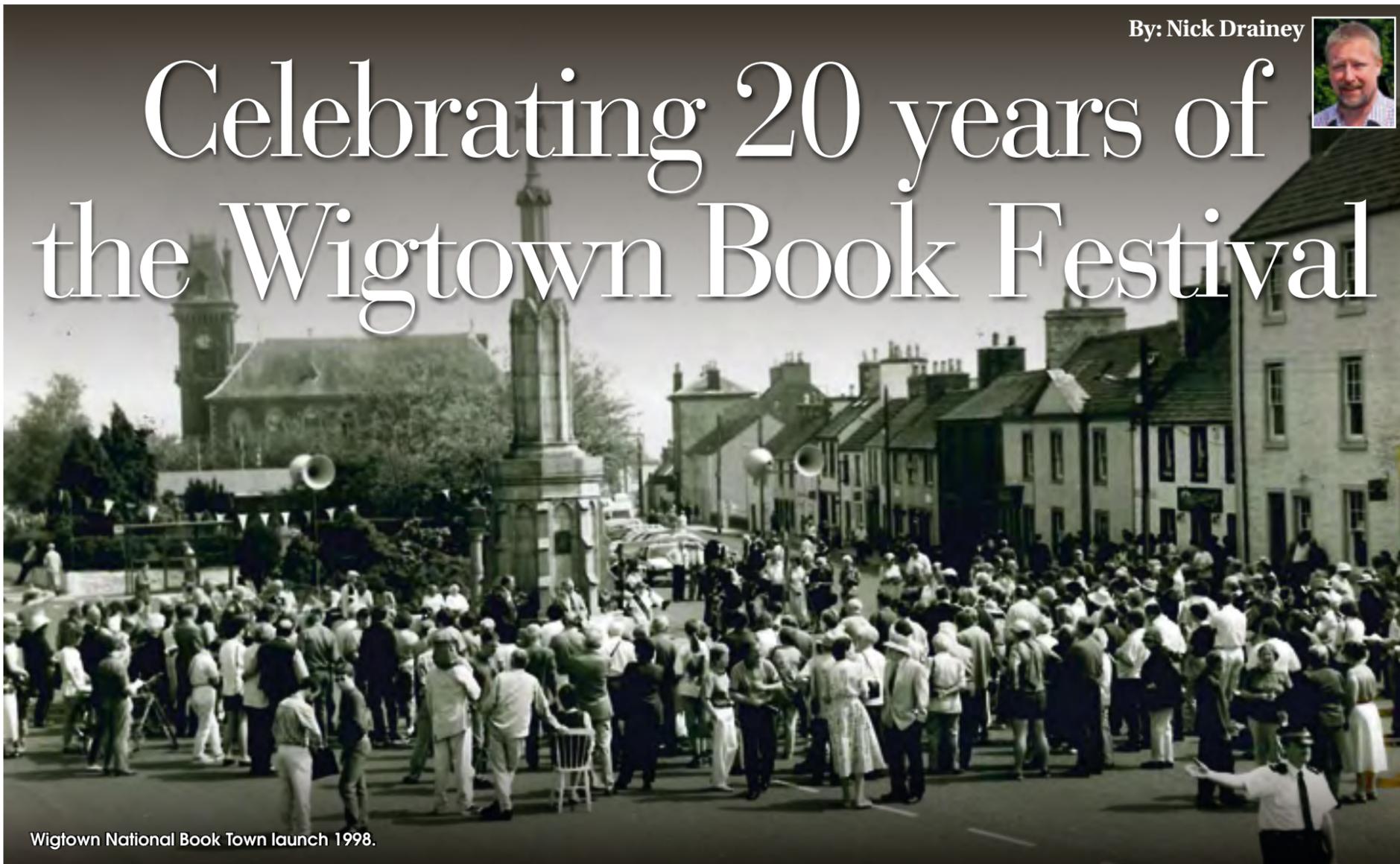
30 - Announcement of the discovery of penicillin by Ayrshire-born Sir Alexander Fleming. **1928**

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

By: Nick Drainey



Celebrating 20 years of the Wigtown Book Festival



Wigtown National Book Town launch 1998.

This month is the 20th Wigtown Book Festival, one of the UK's best-loved literary events, with over 200 events and activities for all ages, including music, theatre, food and visual arts. The story is one of transformation as the town when it started was in crisis with a local creamery and distillery closing which meant big levels of unemployment. The Book Town status and festival have, however, seen it pull itself out of the doldrums as Nick Drainey explains.

Twenty years ago, the sleepy backwater of Wigtown on the Galloway coast saw a transformation from a down at heel place experiencing increasing levels of unemployment to a thriving destination on the literary world stage. In May 1998 it was officially designated Scotland's National Book Town, joining a global network of other literary hotspots across the world.

The next year the first Wigtown Book Festival took place, an event that will celebrate two decades of being a major date in the literary calendar this month (September 21 to 30), despite its geographical isolation. The event now attracts thousands of visitors and brings in much needed

spending of more than £2million to the local economy. This year, authors ranging from comedian Susan Calman and TV presenter Clare Balding to actress Ruth Jones and novelist John Boyne will be appearing.

Here, three figures central to those beginnings and still involved to this day recall their memories of this turnaround in a town's fortunes.

Anne Barclay, Operational Director at the Wigtown Book Festival

Anne Barclay was 13 when the book festival came to her home town for the first time. Anne said; "Part of my remit at the first festival was with the local guide unit to hand

out programmes - my memory is of going up and down the street in Wigtown and being excited at the fact that all these people were suddenly flooding into a town that had previously felt quite like a ghost town."

She attended Mairi Hedderwick's appearance at what is now the library but at the time was a courtroom. "It was a bit surreal because I had grown up on Katie Morag stories and she was a household name. It was incredible to see her in our town engaging with the primary schools and telling her stories."

Anne remembers when, earlier in 1998, the news came through that the town was going to become Scotland's National Book

Town - a designation which led to the festival. "The whole town was involved in that process and when they were waiting for the phone call (to let them know if they had been successful), members of the public were congregated on the street outside. The agreement was that as soon as they knew they would open the window and let everybody know. It was a special and important moment and a moment that anybody in the town could be involved with."

The town was in need of a pick-up following the closure of a railway line and subsequent demise of a creamery and distillery. Anne says Wigtown was "really was on its knees." She adds: "Everybody wanted to continue to live here but you can't really do that when there is no way of earning a living, or your basic amenities disappear."

Things would be less rosy in Wigtown without the Book Town status and resulting festival which have brought many visitors to the town, helping hotels, B&Bs, restaurants and pubs. Anne says: "The Book Festival and Book Town go hand in hand - a big part of the draw is coming to a town built on books; there are 14 bookshops and book related business to visit. Things would look very, very different now had we not won Book Town status 20 years ago. There are lots of different things to keep the town vibrant, and a place to be proud of."

Anne returned to the town after studying events and entertainment management at Caledonian University in Glasgow. She joined the Book Festival company and is now the operational director.



Anne Barclay, Operational Director at the Wigtown Book Festival.



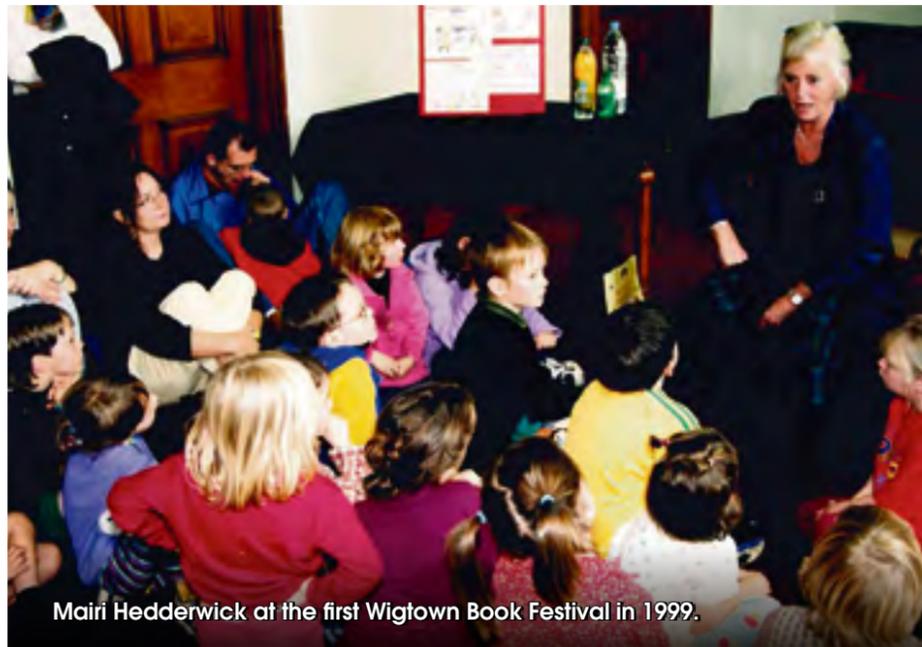
Shaun Bythell.



Liz Niven, poet.



Wigtown Book Festival 1999 - event at the first book festival.



Mairi Hedderwick at the first Wigtown Book Festival in 1999.

She says: "I wanted to come back here after I graduated because I am really proud of where I come of pride too, and in lots of people who support the town in other ways that aren't directly linked to us – whether it is going out at seven in the morning and picking up litter or maintaining the flower borders in the town so it looks beautiful. Overcoming challenges is part of the love of the job – for instance at the moment one of the challenges is having enough accommodation."

Anne says they have worked with the local community and one solution has been a number of residents opening their homes to visitors, as well as a campsite.

Shaun Bythell, owner of The Book Shop in Wigtown, Scotland's largest second-hand bookshop

Shaun Bythell was brought up on a farm just outside Wigtown and says the beginnings of the festival were less organised than today, and involved a lot of partying. He says: "Upstairs, my drawing room, becomes the green room for the writers so there is always some sort of party. My favourite memories of the early years are that there was always some sort of anarchy about the whole thing – four o'clock in the mornings most nights. It was brilliant fun."

He adds: "The early days of the festival were fun in a different way because it was just a handful of people doing everything; from organising it to moving chairs. We made our own ramshackle marquee out the back, out of sheets of tarpaulin. Now its purpose is to get people to come to the town and raise the profile of the town and it does it far better now than it did then."

Mr Bythell, who bought his bookshop in 2001, says not everyone was sure about the book festival at the start. "A few were (keen on the idea of a festival) but on the whole the locals who had been here for generations probably thought that this was some fanciful idea that a load of incomers had put together and because they felt it was being imposed on them they weren't in support of it. But I think you would be hard pressed now to find anyone who isn't supportive of it. Even those who would have opposed it at the start can see what it has done for the town."

Twenty years ago, the sleepy backwater of Wigtown on the Galloway coast saw a transformation from a down at heel place experiencing increasing levels of unemployment to a thriving destination on the literary world stage.

Without the Book Town status or the festival Mr Bythell says it was hard to know what Wigtown would look like but he believes they are better now. He says: "The gardens in the middle of the town, that are now in the traditional Georgian layout, were a horrible reconstituted concrete, raised rose garden and no one

went in there – it was just a horrible mess. So, that was one of the first things to happen but there were still a lot of shops closed and semi-derelict buildings. If you walked into this town in 2001 and walked into it today you would feel they were very different places – while it is not exactly opulent nowadays at least it looks vaguely prosperous whereas back then it didn't. The Book Town enabled us to access funding for building renovation ... I think people still think we exist on grant funding, we don't, we all have to run as businesses."

And despite the festival only being held in September, visitors are flocking to the town and its plethora of bookshops in the summer as well as for other events such as the Big Bang science festival in February. Mr Bythell says: "The summer is fantastic – winter turnover is about a quarter, at the most, of the summer turnover but what we make in the summer is enough to see us through the winter."

Liz Niven, poet and writer

Poet and writer Liz Niven says the designation of National Book Town status was vital for both the book festival, and Wigtown itself. "It could have just drifted into being a small, low-key, not widely-publicised little festival, if it even got to keep going at all. A major reason for that success is achieving National Book Town status which brought a huge amount of publicity and international support because there are book towns in a lot of countries."

The Book Town status is still important today. Liz says: "A couple of years ago I was invited over to Clunes, Australia's Book Town just outside Melbourne. I gave a presentation along with a South Korean writer, an Australian writer and a Norwegian writer and they were all highly aware of Wigtown. They saw it as a good model for their own Book Towns and I got the impression that Wigtown was on the map."

The first festival was not quite as slick as the one running this September, according to Liz. "It was a sleepy wee village and there wasn't a huge amount happening and it wasn't formulated as a full festival at the start. The first festival was very low key, there wasn't a huge amount of local engagement, people were still wondering if it was going to work."

But the slow beginning did pick up the pace, according to Liz who lived nearby in Newton Stewart at the time. "Local people began to become interested and involved and started to participate both as audiences and as hosts for people

needing accommodation. But there had to be discussion about how to host an author – give them space, you don't crowd people, they are not there to entertain you. It also took a while setting up local people collecting authors from trains, buses and even airports as it became more international."

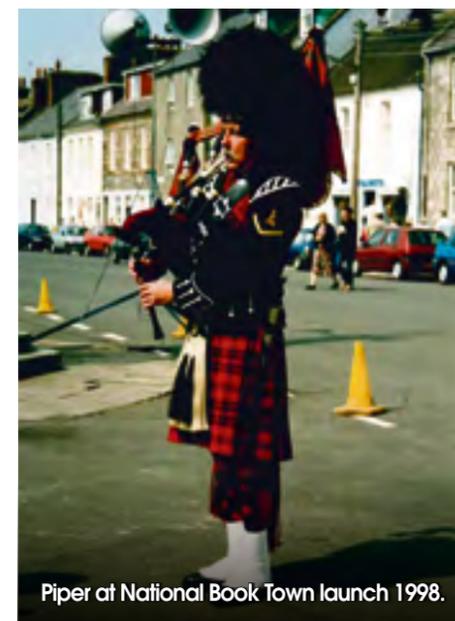
Now it is almost unrecognisable from those beginnings. Liz says: "It has been a terrify learning curve but highly successful. There is a network, a programme and a planning desk; everything is souped-up so much better now." Even in an age of Kindles and other e-readers the role of book festivals, including Wigtown, is growing. Liz puts this down to people anting human contact.

She says: "They have become much more successful prominent and there is a calendar of festivals. It is like the opposite of the e-book and the isolationism in your own house of social media – people need to come out and have the chemistry of talking to other humans. The need is there to meet other people who share an interest in books. There is also a celebrity culture as well. To me it should be about books but I can see the attraction and it brings in loads of people, it is a form of cultural tourism boosting the local economy."

Liz says Wigtown is now a place to go for a break at all times of the year, despite people seeing it as remote. "The town is much sparkier, it has much more shops than it would have had. Apart from bookshops there are gift shops and galleries that tourists will come to. Lots of the townspeople are also more engaged with this cultural tourism around the year."



Wigtown National Book Town launch 1998 - plaque unveiling.



Piper at National Book Town launch 1998.

A box of delights to rescue Mackintosh's Hill House

Images courtesy of the National Trust for Scotland.



Conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland has developed an inspired, cutting-edge plan to quite literally save the Hill House for the nation. The Trust plans to build a colossal yet sublime enclosure (designed by architects Carmody Groarke) over Charles Rennie Mackintosh's renowned Helensburgh landmark to protect the building and keep the elements out. This will give skilled conservation teams the time needed to find long-term solutions that will secure the building's structural integrity.

Home for the future

The Hill House was built as a domestic dwelling for publisher Walter Blackie between 1902 and 1904. Mackintosh was determined to give his client a 'home for the future', dispensing with fussy Victorian and Edwardian-style external detailing in favour of a shockingly plain exterior. To achieve this Mackintosh made use of a new material – Portland cement – to form a smooth layer of render. The result was much admired and controversial in equal measure to his contemporaries. The trouble is that the once-experimental

finish has allowed extensive moisture ingress from the day it was first applied.

Decades of driving west coast wind and rain have saturated the walls of the Hill House – and threaten the building's long-term survival, including the bespoke interior finishes and designs that Mackintosh and his wife, Margaret MacDonald, created for his client. Over many years, solutions have been attempted but none have solved the problem. The Hill House's current owner, the National Trust for Scotland, is now taking action to ensure that, for once and for all, one of Scotland's most important buildings will remain as a beacon of one of its greatest son's design genius.

Simon Skinner, the National Trust for Scotland's Chief Executive said: "As our President, Neil Oliver, put it, the Hill House is in danger of 'dissolving like an aspirin in a glass of water.' We are building what amounts to a shield around and above the Hill House to keep wind and rain out and give the building a chance to dry. The structure is effectively a porous cage, albeit a beautifully designed one, that still allows some movement of air and

a degree of moisture penetration – this is essential to ensure the walls do not dry out too quickly and crumble as a result. While the Hill House is being protected from the elements, our conservation and architectural heritage teams can start work to find solutions that will respect the historic and design integrity of the building, meet the standards and obligations required by its listed status and ensure that this precious place will survive to inspire future generations. The temporary enclosure is see-through, which means that the building will still be visible from the outside, despite its respite from the elements after a century of being drenched."

Mackintosh's masterpiece

The Trust also revealed that the enclosure, which could be in place for a number of years, will do more than act as a refuge from the weather.

Simon Skinner added: "Not only will the structure allow us to keep the Hill House open to the public while our conservation teams are at work restoring the building to its original condition, it will become accessible to them like never before. Within the enclosure, visitors will be able to climb stairs and gangways for a bird's eye view of Mackintosh's masterpiece and to get up close and personal to the genius of his design. As a bonus, visitors can watch the restoration work as it progresses and then turn around to enjoy stunning views out over the Firth of Clyde."

Did you know?



- Charles Rennie Mackintosh, the son of a police superintendent, was born in Glasgow on 7 June 1868. The 150th anniversary of his birth will be marked in 2018.
- He enrolled at Glasgow School of Art in 1884. After completing his apprenticeship in 1890, he met his future wife Margaret MacDonald, her sister Frances and, together with his friend, Herbert McNair, they became known as 'The Four' who created the 'Glasgow Style' of architecture and interior design.
- In 1902, the publisher Walter Blackie purchased a plot of land at the top of a hill in Helensburgh for which he planned a new home with views over the Gareloch and the Firth of Clyde.
- Blackie already had an interest in the Glasgow Style and Mackintosh was recommended to him.
- Mackintosh was heavily influenced by the traditional plain style of historic Scottish towns and villages and disliked the then current vogue in architecture which copied Tudor, Gothic and Classical detailing. It was a meeting of minds with Blackie.
- At a cost of £5,000, Mackintosh, along with his wife Margaret MacDonald, oversaw the design and construction of every detail of the Hill House, which was completed in 1904.
- The Hill House proved to be incredibly influential in Europe, becoming especially inspiring to the German Bauhaus school and architectural/design movement, which in turn inspired much mid-late 20th century architecture.
- In 1953, the property was sold to Mr T Campbell Lawson. In 1972 it was sold to the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS) and by 1978 the Landmark Trust took over a specially converted top flat for holiday-letting.
- The total cost of the Hill House project will be in the region of £4 million.



An artists impression of the enclosure.

The Glengarry Highland Games



As the Saturday evening sun glistened on the pipes and drums of 1449 pipers and drummers playing Scotland the Brave to the overflowing and enthusiastic crowd, the 2018 Glengarry Highland Games came to a close. With the last notes fading on the air, the crowd cheered not only for the bands' breathtaking performance but also for the memory of another wonderful Games and celebration of all things Scottish.

This year's Games was certainly a celebration of all things Scottish, but it was also a celebration of Glengarry and how as a small rural area of Ontario, everyone comes together at the Games either as competitor, performer, volunteer or spectator and for two glorious days in the middle of summer, just has a great time.

The competitions this year were fierce especially in the men's heavyweights as defending champion Matthew Doherty from Antigonish just squeaked out first place in the Professionals beating Ottawa's Lorne Colthart by half a point in the overall standings. In the Women's Professionals, Perth's Sultana Frizell took the honours over Victoria's Susie Lajoie by two points overall.



In the coveted North American Pipe Band Championships, the 78th Fraser Highlanders gained the most overall points in the Grade 1 events and were named the winners over the 78th Highlanders (Halifax Citadel) and the Toronto Police. In the Piobaireachd competition, Derek Midgley from New Jersey won both the Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal (Canada) and the Bar to the Gold Medal completing a rare double Gold.

Special memories

In the Highland Regiment Tug of War, the long-standing champs Ottawa's Cameron Highlanders were upset by the First Toronto Scottish Regiment.

Seventy-two runners competed in the Kilt Run through the cornfields with Andrew McCormick winning in a time of 18:23 for the 5K run. Highland Dancing results are still being tabulated and will be available with other full results on the Games website, glengarryhighlandgames.com.

Everyone has their own special memories of this year's Games and certainly among them will be the Official Ceremonies on Saturday with the thunder rumbling and lightning flashing in the surrounding skies. The skies stayed sunny as Rae MacCulloch's son, Lindsay, the 2018 President, welcomed one and all to the Games. The rain stayed away as Captain Bob Pearson, pilot of Canada's Gimli Glider, captured the audience's hearts with his wit and warmth about his accomplishment, his love of Glengarry and his Campbell heritage. Only with the Party seated in the grandstand and the first wave of the massed bands entering the field, did the clouds open up with the downpour. As the rain poured and then quickly moved away, the pipers and drummers never missed a beat.



Friday night's Tattoo was another magical moment with perfect skies for an outdoor performance. Starting with the massed fiddlers and the MacCulloch dancers, Glengarry showed their great appreciation for these two groups that signal that the Games are really here. The skydivers came down with their flags and another Games' moment was the rendition of O Canada by the Campbell singers. The crowd's enthusiastic appreciation of The MacLeod Fiddlers showed that that young group could perform on any stage. The RCMP Pipes, Drums and Dancers thrilled the audience with their vision of pageantry and grace as they performed on the infield.

Heritage

The Clan Buildings were busy all day Saturday as fans searched out their clansmen or checked to see if they could find out more about their heritage. Popular high energy band, Kilts, Ruffs and Spurs kept the music flowing for entertainment as well. Noon hour's Clan Parade grows each year and this year was a large enthusiastic gathering of the Munros, MacLeods, MacMillans and MacDonalds to name a few clans marching around the infield with their banners proudly waving.

The entertainment venues were warm but it certainly didn't keep the crowds from gathering to dance and listen to Glengarry's finest. One of the highlights from Saturday night was the Ceilidh in the Metcalfe Centre where the combined bands kept the dance floor filled.

The Games flew by this year leaving the haunting notes of the pipes on the air and the grass on the grounds baked dry by feet and sun. Sunday morning on the grounds,

it was like there had never been 25,000 and more sharing the Games experience. Signs were down, tents were gone and there wasn't a plastic cup or a piece of garbage to be found. Committee volunteers were out in force cleaning up their areas and the grounds crew were watering the gorgeous floral displays to keep them blooming in the heat. Like the fictitious town of Brigadoon, the 2018 Glengarry Highland Games has slipped off into the Glengarry mists until it comes out in full glory once again next year on August 2 and 3, 2019. See you next year at the Games! Moran Taing.

Visit the Glengarry Highland Games website, www.glengarryhighlandgames.com and their Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages for photos, posts and information.

North American Pipe Band Championships

The Glengarry Highland Games are home of the North American Pipe Band Championships. The Grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Band Competitions results were as follows:

Grade 1
78th Fraser Highlanders
78th Highlanders (Halifax Citadel)
Toronto Police

Grade 2
City of Dunedin
Worcester Kiltie
Peel Regional Police
MacMillan
400 Tactical Helicopter Squadron
Hamilton Police
College of Piping

Grade 3
Toronto Police Grade 3
Ottawa Highlanders
Fredericton Society of St. Andrew
Guelph
Rob Roy
Glengarry

Grade 4
8 Wing RCAF 12 Wing Pipes & Drums Shearwater Niagara
Regional Police Ryan Russell
Memorial Dartmouth &
District Hamilton Police Grade 4

Grade 5
Kevin Barry
Peel Regional Police Grade 5
College of Piping Grade 5
Guelph Grade 5
Glengarry
Paris/Port Dover





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