



43

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the Scottish Banner

A' Bhratach Albannach

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Highland Inspiration

Lorna Gilles

» Pg 16

Scotland's first female knight

» Pg 30



7 25286 84459 8 03

Duke and Duchess of Cambridge officially open V&A Dundee » Pg 10

Deep freeze at Newhailes House - The Newhailes Moth Project » Pg 12

The magic of snowdrops returns to Scotland » Pg 19

Climb every mountain

» Pg 14

**the
Scottish Banner**

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The Banner Says...

Celtic Connections

by Sean Cairney

This month many of our Celtic cousins will celebrate their varied identities with Wales celebrating St David's Day and the Welsh culture on March 1st, Saint Piran's Day is celebrated on 5th March as the national day of Cornwall and the widely known Irish Saint Patrick will be celebrated across the world on March 17th. What do these celebrations have to do with Scots, who have their own day in November with St Andrew's Day? Perhaps more than we realise, as Celts the link is deep and strong amongst us.

Wales
Both Scotland and Wales have two amazing, and mythical, national animals. The Welsh dragon is known the world over and proudly is shown on their flag, while Scots have the lesser known but just as unique unicorn which appears on Scotland's Royal Coat of Arms. Scots hero Sir William Wallace may also have Welsh back ground as Wallace is said to translate to Welshman. Who doesn't love a wee dance? A twmpath is Wales' own form of a ceilidh - the traditional Gaelic social gathering involving folk music and dance originating in Scotland and Ireland. The twmpath includes the familiar trad music instruments such as the accordion and fiddle. Like Scotland Wales has its own language which they are working hard to preserve, and Welsh may have originated by early Welsh settlers to Scotland, who went on to develop Old Welsh.

Cornwall
Also preserving their own language heritage are the Cornish. The language is spoken by hundreds of people in Cornwall who are working to revive and promote the Cornish language, identity and culture. Though at opposite ends of the country, Scotland and Cornwall are 'linked' by a rite of passage journey for many. The well-trodden 874 miles/1,407km journey from Land's End to John o'Groats, the most south-westerly point of Cornwall to the north-eastern tip of mainland Scotland, has inspired many to travel the length of Britain by car, bike and even on foot. Recently Cornwall was also given minority status - the same protections as the Welsh, Scottish and Irish - under European rules.

Ireland
At the closest point Scotland and the North Antrim Coast are just 12miles/19 km apart, and the migration of people between the two countries has been going on for centuries. Today a visitor to both Scotland and Ireland will pick up numerous Celtic similarities between these two great nations. One would be the use of the Gaelic language in street signs, spoken word and music. Whilst the Irish Gaelic and Scots Gaelic languages are distinct, they remain part of the same dialect and individual words and phrases remain close enough for each to understand the other. Both are great lands to try a dram as each blend their own 'juice of the barley', whether it is spelt whiskey or whisky. The aptly names 'water of life' flows as uisce beatha (Irish Gaelic) or uisge beatha (Scots Gaelic) and both nations produce world class products and are important to the local economy both as exports and for inbound tourism. Regardless of which you prefer both the Scots and Irish will raise a glass with the traditional sláinte, or cheers.

Both nations as well have seen their nationals spread across the world. The Irish and Scottish Diaspora today celebrate their land of ancestry with millions of people claiming ancestry to one, and often both.

In this issue
Scotland never seems to go out of fashion and that can also be said for the great fashion the nation produces. Tartan and tweed are so linked to Scotland and represent quality, history and fashion. This month Highland designer Lorna Gillies speaks to us about how she is using ancient cloth in a progressive way. The ancient practice of medieval combat takes place at many Scottish and Celtic festivals around the world today. Scotland now has its very first female knight who has spent a great deal of time and effort learning the sport carrying literally the weight of armour and the nation on her shoulders. Munro bagging is a past time that is uniquely Scottish. A Munro bagger is somebody who makes it their mission to conquer all of Scotland's mountains which have an elevation of greater than 3000 feet (914 metres). There are 282 mountain ranges that classify as a Munro, so those who take up this challenge certainly deserve recognition. This month marks the 100th anniversary of the death of Sir Hugh Munro who started the craze and his name literally lives today in Scotland's majestic mountains.

Special bond
It is great Scots have a strong bond with many nations around the world, especially where Scots settled. However, amongst the Celtic nations, Scotland certainly has a special bond with links between it and many neighbouring nations. There are of course seven Celtic nations and this bond runs across all of them. Though we are clearly Scots in our heritage, I know my own family can trace back to the 'Cathedral Town' of Letterkenny in County Donegal, Ireland. Millions of Scots will also have connections and bloodlines with various Celtic nations, interwoven in their family history. Celts share many cultural, historical and social identities, and whilst different to Scotland, those nations are without a doubt very much our Celtic cousins. *Do you share a connection with another Celtic nation? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us*

Gracing our front cover:
Highland Inspiration-Claire Marie
wearing Lorna Gillies designs.
Photo: Darja Bilyk.

Page 2 • The Scottish Banner • March 2019

Work begins to erect The Hill House 'Box'

Major milestone in effort to save Charles Rennie Mackintosh's iconic building as steel beams craned in to place.

After the arrival of a 100 tonne mobile tower crane in the early hours of a winter morning, the first steel beams of the 'Box' that will protect Charles Rennie Mackintosh's The Hill House from driving rain and wind were lowered in to place. The beams will form frame to carry innovative chainmail shield to create The Hill House 'Box' to allow the building to dry out after years of disintegration.

The 'Box' is part of the National Trust for Scotland's pioneering plan to save The Hill House, Mackintosh's domestic masterpiece. Preliminary sitework began

in November 2018, with two months of preparation for the installation of the steel frame of the structure. Once the frame is complete, the Helensburgh landmark will be surrounded by a fine perforated mesh, designed by award-winning architects Carmody Groarke.

Since it was built over a century ago, The Hill House has been absorbing the rain, putting the building and its unique interiors at risk. The semi-permanent enclosure will provide shelter to The Hill House, letting it dry out after years of disintegration and allowing for further conservation work to take place.



Richard Williams from the National Trust for Scotland with steel beams at The Hill House.



An artist's impression of The Hill House 'Box'.

Significant milestone

As well as protecting the building from the weather, the 'Box' will give visitors the chance to get a new perspective on The Hill House from elevated walkways looping around the building, and see conservation work in action. The house and gardens will be closed to the public during the construction of the 'Box' - being carried out by Robertson - but are expected to reopen in late spring this year.

Richard Williams, General Manager for Glasgow and West at the National Trust for Scotland, said: "Seeing the box take shape is an extraordinary feeling and a significant

milestone in our charity's rescue effort to save The Hill House. After years of planning we can really start to see the scale of what we're doing here, for the love of the building and where it stands in the history of Scottish architecture."

Thousands of people have already donated to the charity's Box the Hill House campaign which launched in February 2018. So far £1.2 million has been raised, with fundraising continuing for the final £300,000 of the target.

Donations to the appeal can be made online at: www.nts.org.uk/Campaign/Help-us-save-the-Hill-House

Mary Queen of Scots inspired fashion collection set to hit the shelves



New collaboration with fashion designer Jeff Garner sparks an exciting Mary Queen of Scots inspired collection.

Edinburgh Castle's Great Hall recently hosted its first ever fashion show, 'Women of the Crown'. Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and American fashion designer, Jeff Garner, from fashion label Prophetik, paid tribute to the original Royal fashion icon - Mary Queen of Scots. 'Women of the Crown' was a catwalk show, showcasing this exclusive collection for the first time before it travels to London Fashion Week. In conjunction with Prophetik, HES will also launch a new range of products inspired by Mary Queen of Scots.

Throughout the event, in the neighbouring Queen Anne Room there was an array of unique Scottish suppliers and brands that have featured within the show and new retail range. Kirkcaldy Linens, Lochcarron of Scotland and Knockando Woolen Mill are some of the brands included.

The beauty of fabrics to lighten the castles of Scotland

Natasha Troitino, Head of Retail for HES, said: "We are delighted to have this unique opportunity to work with an haute couture international designer to produce a capsule range of products inspired by Mary Queen of Scots. The creation of Jeff Garner's 2019 collection, based on our historic sites and the story of Mary Queen of Scots, has provided a platform to showcase the rich abundance of creative industries Scotland has to offer, something which HES is passionate about. Along with the release of the film, *Mary Queen of Scots*, Scotland continues to be celebrated internationally and secure its place within modern culture."

Jeff Garner's relationship with HES started with a chance meeting at Dressed to Kilt in Houston, Texas, where he was inspired to weave the rich history of Scotland into his new collection. HES provided Garner with historical information and resources, alongside the inspiration of their stunning properties, many of which Mary Queen of Scots visited.

Jeff Garner said: "'Women of the Crown' defines a past when young Kings had regents and strong Queens ruled countries and inspired arts. Mary Queen of Scots brought the beauty of fabrics to lighten the castles of Scotland."

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SCOT POURRI

Send us your inquiries on life's little question marks.

Ever wanted to know what happened to your old pal from home, how to make your favourite Scottish meal, or wondered about a certain bit of Scottish history?

The Stewart Society at The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo



The distinctive voice of the popular Tattoo announcer Alasdair Hutton introduced tartaned Stewarts/Stuarts/Steuarts from all over the world during the 2018 Edinburgh Tattoo led by Stewart Society President Geordie Burnett-Stuart of Crichton pictured here, front and center, in the portal of the castle's Scottish National War Memorial with the youngest members of the entourage.

Dr Donald Smith

*Commissioner for the Stewart Society
USA*

St Conan's Kirk



Judy Vickers wrote a very interesting article in February, 2019 on St. Conan's Kirk in which she mentions the timbers for the mini-cloister came from the wrecks of two famous battleships, namely, the *Caledonia* and the *Duke of Wellington*. Your readers may not know that both these ships were ships of the line. The *Caledonia* was a 120 gun ship and broken up for scrap in 1875. The *Duke of Wellington* was a 131 gun ship and was powered by screw driven steam and sail, served in Baltic sea during the Crimean War and later broken up in 1904.

Stewart Sudlow

Mary Queen of Scots and Langside

I always love to read Jim Stoddart's articles in *the Scottish Banner* and last months (Feb 2019) was no exception, as his articles are usually about the surrounding area where I lived as a boy. However I must take

issue with writers on her life as the Battle of Langside is usually sidelined or not even mentioned at all. I lived in Langside/Battlefield where I was born for 16 years before coming to Australia. It is an area full of Scottish history and a great number of streets where I lived were all named after places in Mary's life, etc Loch Leven Road, Dundrennan Road, Carmichael Road, Grange Road, Craigmillar Road and Arundel Road all in Battlefield area and Tantallon Road, Blairhall Road and Dirleton Road in Langside.

In 1887 a monument was erected at the top of Langside Hill to commemorate the battle and in the nearby Queens Park there used to be a small museum which had articles found relating to the battle. The monument is topped with a lion with his paw on a cannonball looking eastward over the battlefield.

Mary's losses have been estimated at over 100 slain and over 300 taken prisoner whilst Regent Moray lost very few of his 4,000 men. It was as a result of this battle that Mary started her long flight to her cousin Elizabeth. The monument was my school badge for Queens Park Secondary School.

As an aside the actor Stan Laurel used to live in Craigmillar Road and he went to Queens Park School but long before I did.

Hope your readers find this of interest.
*Bruce (Scotty) Scotland,
Goolwa, South Australia*

Ed note: Thanks Bruce for sharing this interesting piece of Scottish history with us.

Mary Queen of Scots



What a wonderful issue you had in February. I have always admired Mary Queen of Scots and there was some great content in this edition of one of Scotland's true heroines. It is wonderful to see a movie release to introduce Mary to a new generation of not only Scots but others who simply love to soak up amazing history. I have been to Scotland

several times and feel when I am there Mary has never been forgotten and she lives on in their history and at many historical attractions.

The story of Mary Stuart is definitely movie worthy and proves Scottish history really is a story to tell and we are all so lucky for that!

Diane Galbraith

Toronto, Ontario

Canada

Visiting Scotland in 2019

This Friday 25 we are attending a Burns Supper at the Fox and Hounds and on 26 in Ipswich. When the Edinburgh Military Tattoo was in Melbourne a couple of years back there were 20 of us and only one was not a McMurtrie but that changed with a subsequent marriage in Queensland.

This year we have 12 tickets for Edinburgh in August and all will be McMurtrie by name. Some of us wear the Stuart of Bute Modern kilt and will visit Rothesay again whilst there. Roll on August.

Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ

Queensland, Australia

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send your photos or letters via social media

Sutherland, Scotland



Wrong settings on the camera but what a scene that was! Colours were amazing!!! Ben Loyal and ruin in the snow in Sutherland, Scotland.

*A View From My Camera
Scotland*

The Wallace Monument



The Wallace Monument today with the Ochil Hills with a dusting of snow.

*Charles McGuigan
Scotland*

Shortbread ice cream



I received a box of Scottish shortbread for Christmas. I crushed some of this in a food processor, and mixed this with some ice cream and honey.

Scott McPhee

Briar Hill, Victoria

Australia

The Forth Bridge



Sometimes a bit of gloomy scotch mist helps.

Robert Gibb

Scotland

Collieston, Aberdeenshire



The gorgeous little seaside village of Collieston, Aberdeenshire.

*Chris Hughes
Australia*

Divinity Code cracked by student



University of St Andrews student Jonny Woods.

Coded religious documents, which left generations of academics baffled for centuries, have been cracked by a student at the University of St Andrews. Jonny Woods, a third-year divinity undergraduate, has become the first person in the world to read some of the hundreds of pages of shorthand notes left by famous Baptist leader Andrew Fuller.

Fuller (1754 to 1815), the son of a poor tenant farmer in Cambridgeshire, became a leader of the British Baptist

denomination and, despite minimal schooling, published a hugely influential text, *The Gospel Worthy of All Acceptation*, which changed the history of the Baptists. Such was his international standing, Fuller was later offered honorary doctorates by both Yale and the College of New Jersey (now Princeton), which he modestly declined.

An astonishing moment

Jonny said: "It is such an honour to be the first person to read Andrew Fuller's sermons and to allow people to get an

insight into this incredible man and the amazing stories he has to share. I'm excited to continue working on the vast collection of work that he has left to us, in the hope that we can understand more about his thinking and how this developed throughout his ministry."

Dr Steve Holmes, Head of the School of Divinity at the University, said:

"When Jonny told me he could read these documents it was an astonishing moment. Andrew Fuller stands as the figurehead, the 'patron saint' almost, of the church tradition of which I am a part. To be reading words of his that no-one had read since he preached them in 1782 – it's one of those moments you live for as an academic."

It is hoped that being able to finally read these crucial documents will offer insight into Fuller's meteoric rise within the Baptist denomination, by revealing the early development of his thought.

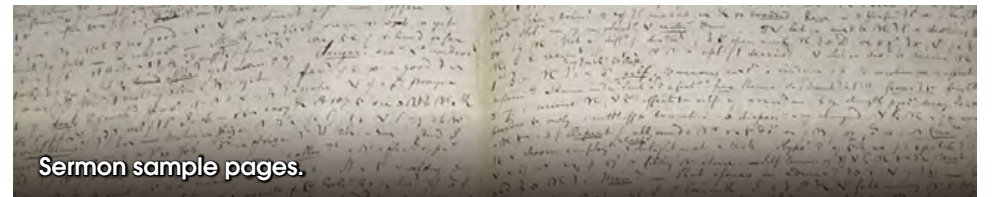
Historically significant sermons

Hundreds of pages of his sermons are held in the archive of Bristol Baptist College. On examining

them, Dr Holmes found one headed in longhand 'Confessions of Faith, Oct. 7 1783'. Knowing this was the date of Fuller's induction into the pastorate of a church in Kettering and that he would have been required to give a confession of faith as part of that service, Dr Holmes wondered if a copy of the confession printed in a biography might help him crack the code.

After discovering that the two texts were the same, Dr Holmes recruited Jonny Woods through the University's Undergraduate Research Assistant scheme to help. After just a few weeks Jonny was able to translate the shorthand, using the longhand version as a kind of Rosetta stone, allowing him to read two of the most historically significant sermons from the collection.

The translations of these two sermons are now with the *Baptist Quarterly*, the leading academic journal for Baptist studies, under consideration for publication, while Dr Holmes is continuing to edit Fuller's wider collection of sermons for a major new critical edition of his works.



Sermon sample pages.

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SCOTSPEAK

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

"I am excited by the prospect of a new release of The Glover, the iconic whisky that celebrates the life and legacy of Thomas Blake Glover, a true Scottish legend who had a profound impact upon Japan. We're not shy in saying we always wanted to make more of The Glover, though the odds of sourcing another Japanese whisky of that quality and rarity were stacked against us. We hope whisky lovers will be eager to see the return of The Glover, which we expect to be available this summer."

David Moore, Fusion Whisky director, said as a whisky honouring Scottish businessman Thomas Blake Glover who played a role in modernising Japan will be re-released to mark the anniversary of his death. Thomas Blake Glover, a merchant from Aberdeenshire, travelled to Nagasaki in 1859 and went on to co-found both Mitsubishi and the brewery that would later be known as the Kirin Group. Glover, known as the 'Scottish Samurai', was the first non-Japanese person to be awarded the Order of the Rising Sun before his death, aged 73, on December 16, 1911 in Tokyo.



"When I heard about all these soldiers having difficulty, it just seemed to me, that for many reasons, they would make perfect caddies. The great caddies have this intense loyalty about them. Never give up when you are a golfer, no matter what. They are also as tough as sled dogs. And, for the most part, they are refugees from some other life. That's exactly what soldiers are. I've already seen these boys beginning to recover the belief in themselves. Every time they are out there with a golfer you

can see it in their faces how they have changed in the short time they have been here."

Golfer and caddie Don Sydnor said as The Old Course Hotel in St Andrews launched a month-long Caddie School for former soldiers in partnership with St Andrews Legacy, a not for profit organisation that brings wounded soldiers to play golf in Scotland as part of their healing and development. The world's first residential caddie school for former soldiers from Canada, the UK and USA was held at The Duke's Course in St Andrews.

"No archaeological or walk-over survey appears to have been undertaken where ground disturbance will take place. For a glen known across the world for the infamous and high profile historic massacre – part of which occurred within the boundary of the proposed development area, I find it both astonishing and appalling that the applicant and the developer imagined this to be unnecessary. For this reason alone the application should be rejected or referred to the Scottish Government and determined by way of a public enquiry."

Iain Thornber, the deputy Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-shire, said as plans for a hydro power scheme have been sent to council for review at the site of the Glencoe massacre. 327 years after the bloody historical event involving two Highland clans. More than 38 MacDonalds of Glencoe were murdered by Government troops led by Robert Campbell of Glenlyon. The slaying followed a Jacobite uprising in the Highlands with many clans defying orders to pledge support to King William II. It is also claimed the development will have an impact on wildlife and tourism.

"I made my own homemade tattie scones, ripped the tattie scones through it, put in some extra haggis for good measure and a whisky sauce."

Sheila Gray of Fochabers Ice Cream Parlour said as the Moray ice cream business recently

launched a Burns Night themed flavour and put together a unique Scottish treat, featuring whisky sauce, haggis and tattie scones.



"It's fantastic to see more people choosing to go on the 'Harry Potter line' and experience the fantastic scenery at the Glenfinnan Viaduct, as well as the breathtaking views from Fort William to Mallaig generally. Ultimately, I would like to see more people using public transport instead of driving as it reduces congestion and its good for the environment."

Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, MSP Kate Forbes, said as a walkway is being upgraded to allow better views of the famous Glenfinnan Viaduct, which features in the Harry Potter films. The number of people travelling on the Highlands line has doubled in the last decade, according to the Office of Rail Regulation.

"Whatever you may think of the Prince's abilities or otherwise as a military commander, these portrayals are a travesty of the man he must have been. The popular picture of the Prince as an effeminate weakling is a hangover from eighteenth century Hanoverian propaganda. There is no way that such a man could have mobilised the support he did, or completed the gruelling odyssey from the Highlands to Derby and back."

Michael Nevin, Chairman of The 1745 Association said that this year's National Trust for Scotland/1745 Association Lecture, held on the eve of the annual Culloden commemoration in April, will challenge the caricature of Prince Charles Edward Stuart as the effete figure represented in the

notorious 1964 "docudrama" *Culloden* and more recently in the TV series *Outlander*. The 1745 Association is a voluntary association established in 1946 to study the Jacobite period, record and preserve the memory of those who participated in it, and endeavour to safeguard the Jacobite heritage.

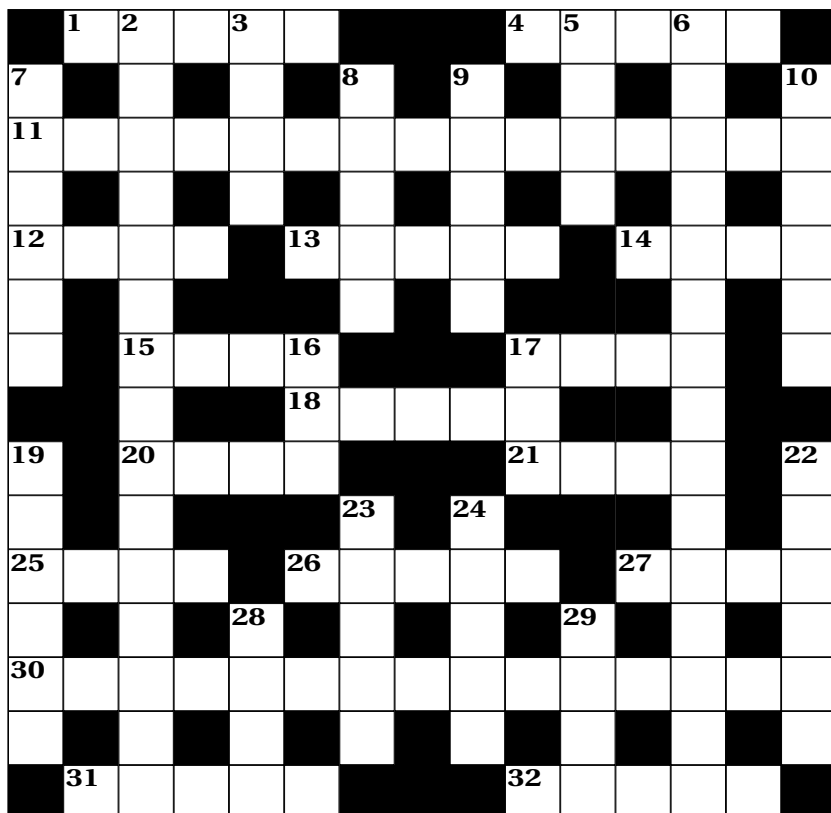


"The New Clyde Bridge is one of the hardest-working structures on our railway – carrying nearly 1,300 trains each day to and from the country's busiest station. The work we are doing will ensure this landmark bridge can continue to play its vital role in keeping Scotland's railway moving for decades to come."

Matthew Spence, Network Rail's route delivery director for Scotland, said as a two-year renovation project on the landmark railway bridge over the River Clyde on the approach to Glasgow Central is set to get under way. 'New Clyde Bridge', which was built between 1899-1905 as part of the Edwardian expansion of Glasgow Central, links Scotland's busiest station to the west coast mainline as well as routes across Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, Ayrshire and Inverclyde. The A-listed structure will undergo extensive refurbishment and repair works worth £13 million with engineers blasting off old paint, inspecting and repairing the steel beneath, before repainting the bridge in its existing colour scheme. Work will be delivered without disrupting the 1,300 trains which cross the bridge each day and the project is due for completion by December 2020.

SCOTWORD

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



CLUES ACROSS

- 1) A lively, cheerful Scot (5).
- 4) A disaster for this piper! (5).
- 11) Scots hero (3, 3, 9).
- 12) A pressing club! (4).
- 13) Part of 6 Down (5).
- 14) Family group (4).
- 15) Dancers are on them (4).
- 17) Scorch the Scots stream! (4).
- 18) Endure to a Scot (5).
- 20) Scotland's fastest flower! (4).
- 21) Great to a Scot (4).
- 25) A Scots dip! (4).
- 26) With pan their sweets! (5).
- 27) Unusual to a Scot (4).
- 30) Scots love song (7, 4, 4).
- 31) Port Ellen is its chief town (5).
- 32) Male animals (5).

CLUES DOWN

- 2) East coast delicacies (8, 7).
- 3) Scots weighing machine (4).
- 5) West coast firth (4).
- 6) A games event (8, 7).
- 7) Dull to a Scot (6).
- 8) A young salmon (5).
- 9) A crowning palace (5).
- 10) Home for Orcadians (6).
- 16) Fit for a pig (3).
- 17) Plead for (3).
- 19) A Scots refuse dump (6).
- 22) Dirty and untidy (6).
- 23) Famous Scots regiment (5).
- 24) A kilt protector! (5).
- 28) A Faroes' gull (4).
- 29) Scots fuel (4).

Clan MacEwan to get first chief in 500 years



Actor and writer Sir John McEwen, 5th Baronet of Marchmont and Bardrochat, from the Scottish Borders is hoping to be recognised as a clan's first chief in more than 500 years. Clan members, who include McEwens, McEwans, McQuins, McEwings and other spelling sept variants, will meet in June at their ancestral home at Loch Fyne to make the nomination official at a derbhfine (a Family Convention held when the identity of the Chief or Head of a historic Family or Name is in doubt). The last chief was Swene McEwen, who died in 1493.

Aberdeen academics provide a blend of science to Scottish tea growers



Could Scotland produce the perfect cuppa?

Scientists from the University of Aberdeen have joined forces with a Scottish tea growing association in a bid to support the future of local tea production. Researchers from the School of Biological Sciences were approached by tea growers 'Tea Gardens of Scotland' to assist them in carrying out a state of the art chemical analysis of their product to enable them to develop a distinctive identity in a market which is already well populated by tea imported from overseas.

In order to safeguard locally grown product it is important to provide reassurance to consumers of its location of origin, and this can only be provided by an independent authentication system combined with product labelling.

The Aberdeen team provided the Scottish tea growers with data that could be used to support the future development of a new authentication process for Scottish tea.

Green leaf was picked from various tea gardens across Fife, Angus and Perthshire and processed into a variety of black and green teas. These teas were analysed alongside other Scottish grown and world teas for the project.

Scottish tea is a high value product

Professor David Burslem, an expert in plant science, led the team carrying out the analyses and determined that Scottish grown tea is chemically distinct from tea imported from overseas, therefore consumers can be assured the product has been grown in Scotland.

Professor Burslem said: "After carrying out our tests, we were able to determine that tea grown in Scotland has distinct chemical differences to that of tea grown overseas, possibly due to differences in the soils they are grown in. The result is consistent for both black and green tea products.

"These results provide confidence that a simple chemical test can be used to authenticate the geographical origin of tea, and used to underpin a product labelling system that would reassure consumers. Scottish tea is a high value product currently grown in small quantities, therefore increased consumer confidence may help to develop the market both nationally and internationally."

Beverly Wainwright, Tea consultant and maker, added: "This study has been successful in finding a scientific test that proves the provenance of Scottish grown teas. Going forward, we hope to use this as a first step in the authentication process of Scottish grown teas. This is needed to reassure consumers and to differentiate Scottish grown teas from imported blends such as Scottish breakfast which contain no home grown tea at all. There are around 30 small scale tea growers in Scotland and a growing number in the rest of the U.K. and Europe who could potentially benefit from an accreditation scheme."

Design revealed for new Govan to Partick footbridge



Concept designs for a planned pedestrian crossing which will connect Govan and Partick have been unveiled. To be funded through the £1.13 billion Glasgow City Region City Deal, the 110m bridge across the River Clyde will renew the historical connection between the two areas. The cable-stayed swing design will be able to open to ensure that vessels such as Waverley will still be able to berth upstream. The bridge will span from Water Row in Govan on the south bank to an extended quay wall on the north bank of the river near the Riverside Museum.

Councillor Susan Aitken, leader of Glasgow City Council and chair of the Glasgow City Region City Deal Cabinet, said: "The bridge connecting Govan and Partick will see the West End and the South Side of the river reconnected, opening up new opportunities for these communities. The development of the Waterfront and West End Innovation Quarter stretching from Byres Road and the University of Glasgow over to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital will see the bridge and the areas around it at the very heart of what promises to be a key area of growth for the city."

It is hoped the bridge could be open to the public in 2021.

The Balmoral School's 2019 Summer Schools in Pittsburgh and East Stroudsburg



This summer, the Balmoral School of Piping and Drumming will hold two summer school sessions in Pennsylvania. The first will be held at Shadyside Academy in Pittsburgh, from July 7-12, the second at ESU in East Stroudsburg, July 14-19.

The Pittsburgh session guest instructors will be Andrew Carlisle and Bruce Gandy. Professor of Music and Director of Piping at Carnegie Mellon University, Carlisle has won the A Grade Strathspey and Reel at Oban, the A Grade Piobaireachd & Overall at The Cowal Highland Gathering, and three All-Ireland titles at Senior level. Gandy's solo piping awards include the Canadian Gold Medal, Gold Medal at the Northern Meeting, Gold Medal at Oban, and Bratach Gorm. He is a 3-time

winner of the MacCrimmon Memorial Cairn for Piobaireachd and is a Vancouver Indoor 6-Time Metro Cup Winner.

At our ESU session, Andrew Carlisle teaches alongside Jimmy Bell. Bell directed Parlin and District Pipe Band to a North American championship in the EUSPBA. As a solo piper, he's won the Metro Cup, Canadian Gold Medal, and EUSPBA Overall Professional Champion. He is on the Scottish Solo Piping Judges Association.

For pipers and drummers of all ages

Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Balmoral School George Balderose says, "The 2019 Balmoral Summer programs have a variety of offerings from professionals in the field that

cover all aspects of Highland Piping, from beginning to advanced pipers and drummers, including a course on playing the pipes in ensembles with other types of instruments."

Drumming instructor Gordon Bell, led Parlin & District's drum corp from 1975 through the 1980s, as the band dominated the EUSPBA pipeband scene, winning the Grade 2 North American Championship, placing them in Grade 1. In the solo field, Gordon won EUSPBA Overall Champion each year from 1979 to 1987.

Colin Bell will direct the Celtic ensemble music program at ESU, in which students who play other instruments will perform with pipers and drummers in an ensemble setting. Bell has written and arranged music for Janina Gavankar (The League, True Blood) and Questlove (drummer for The Roots and The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon).

Each weeklong session is an intensive summer program for pipers and drummers of all ages. Students, both individuals and pipe bands, in classes of five or fewer, will receive instruction on the Great Highland pipes, Scottish smallpipes, snare, tenor drum and bass drum, while making friendships that last a lifetime. Scholarship assistance available for students under 21, and significant discounts for multiple band members in attendance.

The Balmoral School of Piping & Drumming is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization founded and maintained in Pittsburgh, PA since 1979. It our mission "to raise the standard and promote the appreciation of bagpipe music in the USA by providing world class instruction, cultivating excellence in youth, presenting innovative musical events, and fostering tradition." For more details see: www.bagpiping.org

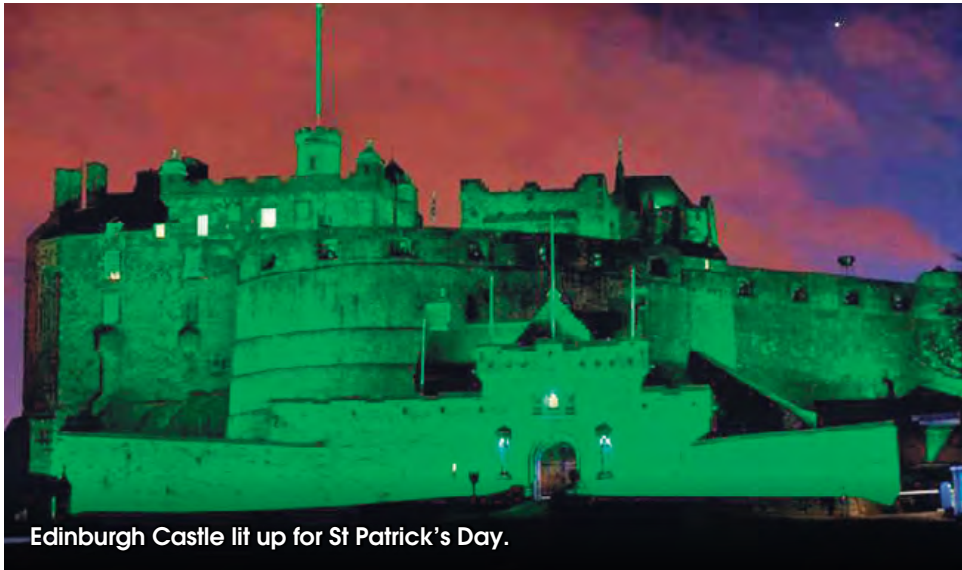


WHAT'S IN A NAME?

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.



Edinburgh Castle lit up for St Patrick's Day.

Every March we try to salute our Celtic cousins with a mention of their patron Saint days which fall in this month. March 1st is St. David's Day in Wales, while the more famous Saint Patrick of Ireland is celebrated on March 17th. St. Patrick's Day was celebrated so robustly all over the world where Irish immigrants settled, that it was only in the last few decades that Dublin and the rest of Ireland thought they better get in on the action and grab some tourist dollars on their own home turf by celebrating the day as well.

Via Google translate, I found what I hope to be greetings in Welsh and Irish: "Dydd Gwyl Dewi Sant" or Happy St. David's Day also: "Lá Shona Pádraig" for a Happy St. Patrick's Day. It naturally will be a literal translation, but I hope it keeps the subtleties, nuances and intent of the wishes.

Phimister

Mora McCallum of Milang, South Australia wrote about the name Phimister. Mora's late father was George

Phimister McCallum. The family is from Buckie in Morayshire. Their family history also has origins as farmers in the Black Isle in Easter Ross. Another thought that Ms. McCallum has is that the name is of Norse origin. On face value I would have tended to agree with Ms. McCallum's idea. Its ending is so much like the Orcadian names of Isbister and Foubister so that it seemed possible. However, Phimister also spelled Femister and Phemister has no letter "b" as in the other two names mentioned.

On research, Phimister or particularly Femister is an Old English name that comes to us from "fee master." In modern English we would think this an occupational name for one who looks after fees, rates or payments. Like so many ancient words of the language it has come down sounding like words that are different from the original meaning of the word. Such is the case here as the word "fee" is really a modernization of the old English word "feoh" referring to cattle or herds. So literally the Phimister in whatever spelling was the master of the cattle herd. The name is prevalent in the northeast of Scotland.

Hutt

One of my favourite things to do is tracing a friend's family tree when possible. To me it's like a jigsaw puzzle. Not only do you have to make the pieces fit but, in most cases, you have to find the pieces.

I took on a project this past January for a friend which helped fill in days of the subarctic like weather we have been experiencing. As with most families, there are an abundance of interesting if not unusual surnames contained within it.

This one was no different. What was particularly interesting was an uncommon surname that came up twice in the pedigree but seem totally unrelated to each other. That surname was Hutt. I was aware of the name since a co-worker of mine bore that same name so many years ago. Hutt is one of those surnames that has many origins depending from which language it originated. It happens so many times that similar sounding names from many languages end up sounding similar in modern English.

While Hutt may want one think of a modest dwelling or out building for someone who lives in one, it is not the case here. Huddle or Hudda was an Old English personal name that gave rise to one version of the name. Also, in the realm of personal names it also a variant of Hugh. From the occupational side of surnames, it may have originated in the Germanic Huth an old term for hat or hat maker. Lastly, in Middle German there was the name Houde for herdsman.

Lewis

Another name that is common enough but which I don't think I have ever addressed is Lewis. One origin is the personal name Louis a name that has come down the ages from the Frankish Germanic name Hludwig similar to

the modern Ludwig meaning "famous battle". It has been popular through the centuries as it seems to have a version in almost all modern European languages. The other source is a variation of the Welsh personal name Llewellyn meaning lion like.

Bell

I was very glad to see that he had a Scots name in the mix. That name being Bell which is a Borders name. The obvious origin would be of any three possibilities, for one who was a bell ringer. A bell founder or live by a church bell or the sign of the bell on a public house. Again, other linguistic additions to English over the centuries added more derivations for the name. One being the French word "bel" or "belle" for good or fair. We have so many patronyms or father's name for surnames but there also some matronyms where a person was known by a mother's name. Such is the case for Bel as being a short form for Isobel, the Spanish equivalent of Elizabeth.

There is a Clan Bell Society: www.clanbell.org They have a tartan entitled Bell of the Borders. Clan Badge: a roebuck feeding

Clan Motto: Signum Pacis Amor (Love is the token of peace).

The name Bell is also associated with Clan MacMillan.

Gaelic Irish names

There are a couple of Gaelic Irish names in this friend's tree and what better month to address them. One is McIlvenna. It appears to be a name from the northern part of Ireland and is from Mac Giolla Mheana, which translates as son of the follower or devotee of St. Mheana, a 7th century saint in Ireland. Anglophone clerks didn't seem to pick the slight differences in the Irish language and thus we have many variations of spellings over the centuries. They include McElvine, McIlvaney, McIlvane, Mcilveen etc.

The other Gaelic Irish surname is more commonly heard and that is Ó Hara.

It is from the Irish Ó hEaghra and means descendent of Eaghra which is a personal name of which I was unable to find a meaning. They were a large clan and the chief was granted the title Baron Trawley in 1706.

Rowling

Last in this group is the surname Rowling. Originating from the Norman French name of Rolf or Rowland meaning "famous wolf" a few diminutive names developed from it such as Rolling and Rowling. It was sometimes lumped with the surname Rawling, which has a similar derivation but differs slightly and is from the personal name Ralph. I suggested to my friend that he needs dig deeper in to the family tree and see if he is related to J.K. Rowling of *Harry Potter* fame.

Always look forward to your letters please keep them coming. Enjoy your March and remember just about every Scotsman has an Irish Granny!

Tartan of the Month

The World Wide Web 30th Anniversary



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).

This tartan (SRT ref: 12348) was registered in January, 2019. It was designed to celebrate 30 years of the World Wide Web, which was invented by Sir Tim Berners-Lee an English engineer and computer scientist, in 1989. Sir Tim is currently a professor of computer science at the University of Oxford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Significant Scots recognised through Commemorative Plaque scheme

15 influential people who lived and worked in Scotland were awarded commemorative plaques in 2018.



An example plaque from The HES Commemorative Plaque scheme.

Last year several Scots were honoured by Historic Environment Scotland (HES) by The HES Commemorative Plaque scheme. The HES Commemorative Plaque scheme, which has been running since 2012, celebrates significant figures from Scotland's history by erecting plaques on the buildings where they lived or worked. Past nominees for the scheme have included artists, scientists, inventors, philanthropists, actors, engineers, explorers, suffragettes, poets, politicians, writers and architects.

Fifteen individuals have been awarded plaques in 2018:

- Frederick Douglass, African American abolitionist and author. A former slave, Douglass spent time in Scotland organising anti-slavery campaigns. He is the first black person to be honoured through the Commemorative Plaque scheme. 33 Gilmore Place, Edinburgh EH3 9NG.
- Bram Stoker, Irish author best known for his 1897 gothic novel *Dracula*. Stoker spent time in Aberdeenshire while writing this definitive work, with Slains Castle purportedly providing inspiration. Kilmarnock Arms Hotel, Bridge Street, Cruden Bay, Aberdeenshire AB42 0HD.
- Lewis Grassie Gibbon, one of the foremost Scottish writers of the 20th century. Perhaps best known as the author of *Sunset Song*, he started his writing career in the north-east as a journalist for the *Aberdeen Journal* in 1917, before turning his hand to fiction. Arduthie Primary School, Arduthie Road, Stonehaven, AB39 2DP.
- William Lamb, Scottish artist and sculptor who fought in the Battle of Passchendaele, where he severely injured his dominant right hand and learned to draw and paint with his left hand. He was one of Scotland's leading sculptors of the early 20th Century and was commissioned to produce portraits of members of the royal family. William Lamb Studio, Trades Close, 24 Market Street, Montrose DD10 8NB.
- Lady Margaret Sackville, British poet and author whose works focussed on the brutality of war and women's social freedom. A member of the anti-war Union of Democratic Control, her pacifist views coloured her First World War poetry. 30 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh Edinburgh EH7 5AH.
- Charles Hamilton Sorley, British Army Officer and Scottish war poet, killed in action in 1915 at only 21-years-old. His letters and poetry from the early months of conflict showed remarkable talent and individuality for one so young. Powis House (now Powis Community Centre) 11 Powis Circus, Aberdeen AB24 3YX.
- Joseph Lee, Dundee-born journalist, artist and poet who chronicled life in the trenches. His sketches also depicted the prison camps of the First World War, after he was taken prisoner in 1917 and spent the rest of the war in an internment camp. 18 Airlie Place, Dundee DD1 4HU.
- Mary Symon, Scottish poet who penned several of the best-known poems telling the impact of the First World War upon the people of Scotland. Her most memorable poetry told of the enduring heartbreak of those left behind. Pittyvaich House, Old Mortlach, Dufftown AB55 4BR.
- Alexander Bain, Caithness-born inventor. He invented the chemical telegraph and the first electric current-powered clock, along with an experimental fax machine (marking the first time an image was ever transmitted from one location to another) and was responsible for installing railway telegraph lines between Edinburgh and Glasgow. He died in poverty due to the cost of multiple lawsuits relating to his patents. 21 Hanover Street, Edinburgh EH2 2DL.
- Christian Maclagan, believed to be the first female archaeologist in Scotland. Her major achievement was her meticulous collection of rubbings of Pictish era stones, and she was also a

pioneer of stratigraphic excavation and of scholarship on brochs. 19 Clarendon Place, Stirling FK8 2QW.

- Cyril Percy Ryan, developed Hydrophones for use in submarine detection while working at Hawkraig Point experimental mining station in Fife. Hawkraig Cottage, Aberdour KY3 0TZ.
- Elizabeth Sanderson Haldane, an eminent public figure, author, biographer, philosopher, suffragist, nursing administrator and social welfare worker. She became the first female Justice of the Peace in Scotland in 1920. 17 Charlotte Square, John Knox House, Edinburgh EH4 4DJ.
- Charles Lapworth, English geologist who pioneered faunal analysis using index fossils and identified the Ordovician period. He moved to the Scottish border region, where he investigated the previously little-known fossil fauna of the area. 4/6 Abbotsford Road, Galashiels TD1 3DS.
- Christian Watt, whose memoirs give insight into the lives of fishing families in the latter half of the 19th Century. Born in Fraserburgh, her four brothers, husband and 13-year-old son were all fishermen killed at sea. 72 Main Street, Broadsea, Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire AB43 9RT.
- Murdoch MacKenzie, Scottish hydrographer and cartographer. He is known for his survey of the Orkney Islands. The subsequent maps, known as the MacKenzie Charts, are still in use. He is credited with the invention of the station pointer, a navigational tool that preceded the marine sextant and chronometer. Kirkwall Flood Wall, Kirkwall, Orkney Isles KW15 1QX.

Caroline Clark, Acting Head of Grants at HES, said: "Since the Commemorative Plaque Scheme launched in 2012, we've celebrated a range of figures who have made a significant contribution

to Scotland's history – from artists to engineers; sportspeople to surgeons; politicians to poets. Not only does the Commemorative Plaque scheme honour these figures, it also highlights the important links between people and places - making the connection between the individual and the built environment that shaped their life and work."

Commemorative plaque recognises Scotland's first female archaeologist

HES has announced that Christian Maclagan, Scotland's first female archaeologist, will be honoured with a plaque for her contribution to archaeology in Scotland. Christian Maclagan was a pioneer of stratigraphic excavation and of scholarship on brochs, with her section drawings of Coldoch Broch in Stirlingshire published five years before Pitt Rivers – who is generally credited with the introduction of this field method to British archaeology. Another major achievement was her meticulous collection of rubbings of Pictish era stones, which include some of the earliest at Wemyss Caves. Maclagan also devoted much of her life to philanthropic activities, establishing a Sunday school and devoting money and time to the removal of slums in Stirling.

A lifetime champion of equality, she was a suffragist who pushed for female inclusion, herself a victim of the institutionalised sexism of the times when she was denied full membership of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland because of her gender. This rejection of full membership, and the fact she could still not formally publish with the Society - requiring a man to publish her work under his name - prompted Christian to send all her rubbings from stones to the British Museum in London.

The Plaque will be affixed to the house where Maclagan lived in Stirling, 19 Clarendon Place, which was built in 1858-65.

Nominations will open for the 2019 Commemorative Plaque Scheme soon.



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Duke and Duchess of Cambridge officially open V&A Dundee



The V&A Dundee. Photo: ©Hufon+Crow.

honoured that the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge today declared the museum officially open. V&A Dundee is at the heart of Dundee's transforming waterfront, and is a key part of the city's plans for an exciting future. Within our remarkable building, designed by Kengo Kuma, we are proud to host world-class permanent galleries and remarkable exhibitions that have already delighted and inspired hundreds of thousands of people."

Lord Lieutenant Ian Borthwick, Lord Provost of Dundee, said: "I am delighted to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge to V&A Dundee. This magnificent building is continuing to raise the city's global profile and celebrates Scotland's rich cultural heritage. Dundee is a UNESCO City of Design, a place where culture is helping to transform people's lives. This museum has already brought huge benefits to the city of Dundee."

The Duchess of Cambridge is the first Royal Patron of the V&A, continuing the museum's long-standing relationship with the Royal Family from the V&A's founding in 1852. V&A Dundee opened its doors for the first time to the public on Saturday 15 September 2018. The museum has welcomed over 380,000 visitors since opening and was recently recognised as the world's Best New Public Building by *Wallpaper*, the international design magazine.

V&A Dundee's construction and fit-out took three and a half years to complete and it stands at the centre of the £1 billion transformation of the Dundee waterfront, once part of the city's docklands. With its complex geometry, designed by Kengo Kuma and inspired by the dramatic cliffs along the north-east coast of Scotland, it stretches out into the River Tay – a new landmark connecting the city with its historic waterfront, and a new major cultural development for Scotland and the UK.

As Scotland's first design museum, V&A Dundee tells a global story, investigating the international importance of design alongside presenting Scotland's outstanding design achievements.

V&A Dundee is open 10.00 to 17.00 every day except 25 and 26 December.
For details see: www.vam.ac.uk



The Duchess of Cambridge. Photo: Michael McGurk.



The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Photo: Michael McGurk.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge officially opened V&A Dundee on Tuesday 29 January. Their Royal Highnesses visited the new international design museum and met with its architect Kengo Kuma, key members of the team who created Scotland's first design museum, and local designers, schoolchildren and young people who have worked with V&A Dundee.

The Duke and Duchess also met with members of V&A Dundee's Young People's Collective, a group of 16 to 25-year-olds from diverse backgrounds across Dundee who have created events within the museum and also played a central role in V&A Dundee's opening event, the 3D Festival, a key event in Scotland's Year of Young People.

Scottish design excellence

The Duke and Duchess toured the museum's permanent Scottish Design Galleries, which represent over 500 years of Scottish design excellence, and saw key objects including a dress designed by Christopher Kane for his Autumn/Winter 2015 collection.

At the centre of the galleries Their Royal Highnesses saw Charles Rennie Mackintosh's magnificent Oak Room, which was originally opened in Glasgow in 1908. The full tearoom interior has been meticulously restored, conserved and reconstructed through a partnership between V&A Dundee, Glasgow Museums and Dundee City Council.

After leaving the Oak Room, the Duke met with Simon Meek, V&A Dundee's first Designer in Residence and the

creator of the BAFTA-winning videogame Beckett, while the Duchess was shown an engineering drawing of the Tay Rail Bridge by a trainee tour guide from the Amina Muslim Women's Resource Centre.

Amina is a Dundee-based organisation which is working with V&A Dundee to support local women to deliver inclusive tours for black, Asian, and minority ethnic communities in their native languages, developing their confidence and employment skills.

V&A Dundee's construction and fit-out took three and a half years to complete and it stands at the centre of the £1 billion transformation of the Dundee waterfront, once part of the city's docklands.

After seeing the Scottish Design Galleries, Their Royal Highnesses watched a performance of Maiden Voyage, a fanfare for brass quintet by young Aberdeenshire composer Liam Paterson. The piece of music was inspired by the architecture and nautical spirit of V&A Dundee and commissioned jointly by V&A Dundee and RSNO, Scotland's National Orchestra, for the museum's opening last September.

To mark the museum officially open, the Duke and Duchess then unveiled a carved wooden panel which will be displayed in the museum's entrance foyer. The fabric which covered the plaque before its unveiling was inspired by the museum and designed by Eva Brown, a Textile Design student at the University of Dundee's Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design.

Scotland's first design museum

Philip Long, Director of V&A Dundee, said: "V&A Dundee is an ambitious new international museum, and we are



Their Royal Highnesses enter Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Oak Room, originally completed in 1908 and now restored in V&A Dundee. Photo: Michael McGurk

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.



The Brock Burn

*Stottie Ba', hinnie ba', tell to me,
How many bairns am I to hae? -
Yin to leeve and yin to dee'
And yin to to sit on the nurse's knee!*

*Sung by 'carefree' wee girls when
stoating a ball against a wall.*

There were no swing parks or play parks of any kind provided for Pollok's children, and on the face of it, it is indicative of a quite disgraceful lack of planning or empathy for the needs of children by people in Glasgow Corporation's planning department. But now that I have mellowed in old age I think perhaps they were really lateral and forward thinkers in the planning section, who really appreciated how children the world over will make the best of what they have at hand to make life interesting. And perhaps they even had the foresight to realise that someday in the future some people would even pay to get their children away from 'screens' to have them instead play in some mud and have some simple outdoor adventure.

Natural adventure playground

For who would have needed a swing park when we could swing just as easily across a burn on a piece of washing line attached to a tree? And when the stretch of the Brock Burn from our little stone bridge to Crookston Castle could become a natural adventure playground on any day of the week. We could get across this burn on stepping-stones or by hanging and traversing across the outside parapets of the tubular pedestrian bridge that crossed it just for the hell of it. And to make it even more exciting one of your pals might even be trying to make you fall off at the same time. And, of course, the castle itself was a place of adventure at weekends and holidays. No, with hindsight, we never needed play parks in Pollok, they might have spoiled the fun.

In the 1940's the Levern Water and the White Cart were relatively pollution free and in the spring and summer they were well stocked with tadpoles, frogs, newts, baggie minnows and red-breasted sticklebacks. There were leaches, caddis fly, pond skaters and water boatmen, whirligig beetles and water snails to look

at and to keep in our jam jars. We caught them in our nets made from our mothers' old nylon stockings and imprisoned them with a piece of pondweed for company until they were often as not forgotten and died of neglect.

**In the 1940's the Levern Water
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minnows and red-breasted
sticklebacks.**

Unfortunately, the creatures living in and along the Brock Burn and the White Cart had not yet learned that a housing scheme had encroached upon what had been for them a quiet rural existence. From now on they were at the mercy of children like us and likely to meet up with more and more interference from wee boys looking for something to do. But for a time they remained oblivious to us and went on with the important matters of feeding and reproduction and we were able to observe and enjoy the experience of watching them get on with their precarious lives.

A letter from my teacher

My mother was fair tickled one day when she received a letter from my teacher informing her that I was sometimes coming late to school. She kept the letter for years afterward and each time she came across it again it seemed to bring her some amusement to re-read it to me. It did not mean any more to me then than the fact that I was in trouble with the teacher. I have since tried to reconstruct it in my mind, to try and understand what it was that she delighted in but with little success. From memory it simply said something like...

'Jimmy is arriving late for school quite regularly. I know that he is being sent to school in plenty of time, for his friends have told me as much. I believe

he is spending some time dawdling along the Brock Burn. Will you please speak to him about it?'

Of course it may not have been the words of the letter that amused her. It may have been the look on my face when she asked me what I was doing in the mornings. It may have been my answer that I was watching the insects that lived in the swampy pools along the banks of the burn. "Mum, do you know that there are wee beetle things that can walk on the water and kind of skate along the top? And there are ones that row across the water on their backs and a different kind

that row on their bellies". Whatever it was about the letter, she wasn't angry. She gave me a big hug and explained the dangers of playing near the burn.

"Jim, that burn can be very dangerous. When it rains, there is more water in it than usual. It gets in spate. It gets deeper and faster than it is in dry weather like today. If you fell in you could drown."

"But I wouldn't go near it then."

"That's good, son."

"There wouldn't be any wee things to look at. They would have all been drowned before I got there."

Wet clothes

In reality most of the time the burn was quite safe and I never heard of anyone drowning in it. Being pushed into the burn and getting our clothes wet proved to be a more likely occurrence. That was likely to be done by our friends just as readily as our enemies. It was especially unpleasant if it happened on the way to school. Then, we had to spend the rest of the morning smelling like a wet dog while our flannel trousers and Fair Isle jumpers dried off in our body heat, much to the annoyance of our teacher and to the delight of the rest of the class. It was no wonder that most of us wore braces on our trousers. The 'long flannel shorts' were heavy enough. When they got wet they weighed a ton. I doubt that a 'snake belt' that we often wore instead of braces would have coped with the task.

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WHOLESALE AVAILABLE



Shetland ponies on the Shetland Isles.
Photo courtesy of Sir Malcolm MacGregor.

Greetings from Scotland where we seem to have escaped the 'brutal' snow and ice the weathermen were predicting. Here in the south we've barely seen a single snowflake. The Central Belt and the Highlands have not quite been as fortunate - and I probably speak too soon. Indeed, by the time you read this the chief and I may be digging ourselves out of deep drifts. I hope not. It feels a little spring-like, but we won't put the thermals back in the cupboard just yet.

Mary Queen of Scots

What the pampered Mary Queen of Scots thought when she arrived here in 1561 is anyone's guess. France had - and still has - a far kinder climate than we do. Mary was married to the heir to the French throne and came home to be the ruler of Scotland. Tall and beautiful she would find herself accused of murder and adultery, a woman with designs on the English throne. Seven years on and Mary fled Scotland to seek the protection of her cousin, the English Queen. She was just 44 when Elizabeth 1st signed her death warrant.

Lady MacGregor's Scotland

By: Lady Fiona MacGregor

Lady MacGregor of MacGregor – otherwise known as British broadcaster Fiona Armstrong. Fiona is currently news reading for the BBC, but she also leaves the studio 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.



Now, more than four centuries on, this flame-haired monarch continues to fascinate - not least in a gripping film. The thing is, Mary travelled all over Scotland and, rather like Robert Burns, wherever you go, someone will say 'oh, Mary Queen of Scots stayed here...' A whole tourism industry has sprung up around Scotland's erstwhile queen and today 'Mary Mania' shows no sign of abating.

Mary Queen of Scots is rumoured to have bathed in white wine. Then she was a queen and queens can soak in what they like.

I have seen the new movie – but not before we went up to Glasgow to interview a history professor for a film of our own. Dr Steven Reid is leading an ambitious project about Mary's life. He works at the University of Glasgow and they and their Hunterian Museum will focus on objects held in Scottish archives and national collections. Forty academics and curators will work on what could be the ultimate guide to the 'Mary Legend'.

The first known film to use camera tricks came out in 1895. It was short and not so sweet, because the subject was the execution of Mary Queen of Scots. I ask Dr Reid why this woman has been given so much screen time. His reply is that she was female. Then there is the fact that she only reigned for a short time. Had she been on the throne for decades it would have been much more difficult to tell her story in two hours...

In this latest offering Scotland is portrayed as rugged and mountainous. Yet liberties have been taken. For a start, Mary is seen meeting England's Queen, Elizabeth. That never actually happened. Mary also speaks with a Scottish accent in the film which, having been raised in France, she would not have done. It is poetic license, I presume.

Mary Queen of Scots is rumoured to have bathed in white wine. Then she was a queen and queens can soak in what they like. But most folk in the Middle Ages rarely washed. They might take an annual plunge. Because water was once considered a dangerous thing and taking a dip could suck the life out of a body.

Shetland ponies

Our doggies agree with that thought. They hate being washed and when our daughter comes home for a weekend the first thing

she does is find the MacNaughties. They run barking into her arms, and she recoils. 'Oh they smell terrible!' Yes, they smell of dog. 'Smell of dog?!' Well, they're hardly going to smell of Chanel No. 5, are they?

They are not as whiffy as the Shetland ponies that have come with their owners to live in the village. Barely two and a half feet high these are tiny creatures. They are plump and hairy and have names like Daisy and Billy. Yet they are as tough as old boots. Once they were a vital addition to the crofting family and used as work horses in the northern isles. When women were banned from working in British coal mines back in Victorian times, Shetland ponies took their place underground.

Today you are much more likely to see a Shetland grazing by the roadside in the far north of Scotland. Generally good natured they also make good pets. Although my niece did once have a sly one. He was called Micky and he came with a mean kick.

The chief was once on a photographic trip in the north and as he stopped the car on a windswept moor a shaggy Shetland ran up and stuck its head through the window. They are endearing creatures. Watch the Shetland Pony racing on YouTube and you will see what I mean. It is hilarious.

Deep freeze at Newhailes House - The Newhailes Moth Project

Large numbers of clothes moths are threatening to harm the historic collection at Newhailes House near Musselburgh.



Volunteer mothbusters wearing the specialist back-mounted vacuum cleaners at Newhailes House.

Newhailes House is undertaking a large-scale moth management project from February through mid-April to tackle an ongoing problem with webbing clothes moths. Newhailes observed a sharp rise in webbing clothes moths in 2016 and has been trying to manage the problem with localised treatment and increased, targeted deep cleaning. The Newhailes Moth Project aims to reduce the moth numbers at the House down to a manageable level and to ensure that the Trust have halted any active damage to the

precious collections with a programme to rid the House of the insatiable insects, combining a deep clean with a deep freeze.

Two industrial freezers, each the size of a shipping crate, have been installed at the property. Over the next two months, the entire textile collection – from carpets and curtains to sofas, chairs and clothing – will undergo a sub-zero treatment to freeze and destroy the clothes moth eggs and larvae. Items will be wrapped in acid-free tissue paper, then covered in polythene before being placed in the freezers where temperatures will drop to

-35C (-31F). Staff will then use specialist back-mounted vacuum cleaners to reach in to every nook and cranny of the house to clean away the clothes moths.

Protect the important collections

Now in the care of conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland, Newhailes House was once home to the influential Dalrymple family, who gave the house its library, rococo interiors and collections of paintings, ceramics and furniture.

Clothes moth numbers, and damage, have continued to increase and the organisation is implementing the freeze programme to protect the Newhailes collection.

Newhailes House was once home to the influential Dalrymple family, who gave the house its library, rococo interiors and collections of paintings, ceramics and furniture.

Mel Houston, National Preventive Conservator at the National Trust for Scotland said: "This is the biggest project that the National Trust for Scotland has ever undertaken to tackle a pest problem like this and protect the important collections here at Newhailes. In the last

year clothes moth numbers at Newhailes have exploded and we've seen a four-fold increase in how many we're finding. We're lucky to have been able to catch the problem at just the right time, when we're able to do something to control the moths before really serious damage is done. The deep freeze and deep clean gives us the confidence that we're killing off as many clothes moths as we can. We'll never get rid of them completely but we'll be able to get down to the level where they can be controlled."

A team of mothbusting volunteers has been recruited to work with the National Trust for Scotland's collection and conservation team to undertake the low temperature treatment, deep cleaning of the historic interior, and collection movements.

Over the course of the project, tours will run so members of the public can learn about the damage that the insects have caused and see the moth management programme in action.



Newhailes House brings 300 years of history to life.

Edin's Hall and the dreaded Red Etin



Aerial view of Edin's Hall Broch. Note the intramural cells.
Photo by Richard Strathie, Creative Commons.

Edin's Hall Broch, a ruin near Dun in the Borders, has at least two mysteries surrounding it: It is one of the only brochs in southern Scotland, and it has a fairy story attached to it. Most brochs – Iron Age drystone circular towers or houses – are in northern Scotland and the Northern Isles and the Hebrides. What remains of Edin's Hall are walls one to two yards high and up to six yards thick forming a diameter of about 30 yards. The broch is the main feature of a hillfort overlooking Whiteadder Water.

David Lyndsay

The fairy tale connected to the broch dates to at least the 16th century. It was told to King James V in his nursery by familiar servitor and poet David Lyndsay. Lyndsay recounted stories of Greek and Roman heroes to the boy king, but also the curious tale of the giant, 'The Red Etin', who kidnapped the King of Scotland's daughter. Lyndsay reminded James V of the story in the epistle to the king which precedes *Lyndsay's Dreme* (1528). The timing of this reminder coincided with James taking charge of his realm, suggesting that the story was perhaps pertinent to James' growing responsibilities and that it would guide or inspire him.

The tale was referred to again in 1549 in *The Complaynt of Scotland* (part of Scotland's war of words with England) as 'the taiyl of the reyde eyttyn with the thre heydis' ('the tale of the red etin with the three heads'). The story, of which there are variations, was published in Robert Chambers' *Popular Rhymes of Scotland* (1842), and in Andrew Lang's *Blue Fairy Book* (1889, the first of the Lang series of Fairy Books). Australian folklorist Joseph Jacobs (1854-1916) also collected 'The Red Etin' in his *English Fairy Tales* (1895).

Wooden's Hall

Dating to the 2nd century AD, the broch was known as Wooden's Hall or Wooden's Castle in the 18th century, 'Wooden' referring to the Anglo-Saxon god Woden. Its later name of Edin's Hall is believed to reference the story of The Red Etin or Ettin, a three-headed giant. With 'Edin' probably deriving from 'Etin', which in Scottish lore means 'giant'; and which in

turn may derive from the Scandinavian 'aetan', also defined as 'giant', there is at least circumstantial etymological evidence for such a tradition being connected to Edin's Hall Broch.

Most brochs – Iron Age drystone circular towers or houses – are in northern Scotland and the Northern Isles and the Hebrides.

The broch is positioned in the northwest corner of the hillfort. The latter is thought to be pre-Roman and so predate Edin's Hall. The original height of the broch's walls is unknown. Nineteenth-century antiquarians discovered bones, the remains of a glass bracelet, an amber bead, a spindle whorl, and a fragment of a jet ring at the broch. The finds were donated to the National Museum of Scotland. The site was taken into state care in 1887 under the first Ancient Monuments Act of 1881. A few more bits and pieces turned up in the 20th century: In 1976 two copper ingots were uncovered, which were sourced to local copper mines, and a 1996 survey and small excavation yielded a stone spindle whorl and pottery fragments.

To go over the bare bones of 'The Red Etin' story, a young man from a poor family sets out to seek his fortune, and meets a goatherd, shepherd, and swineherd. Each of them informs the young man that The Red Etin of Ireland has kidnapped the King of Scotland's daughter, but warn him that he is not the man to rescue her.



Detail of Edin's Hall Broch wall.
Photo by Brendandh (Brendan Douglas-Hamilton), Creative Commons

The shepherd also cautions the young man about two-headed beasts with four horns growing out of each head, which he would encounter. Fearful, the man seeks refuge in a castle. An old woman there tells the man that the castle belongs to the three-headed Red Etin, and that he should flee before the Etin returns. But the man is frightened of the two-headed beasts outside the castle, so he begs the woman to hide him.

The Red Etin comes home, soon discovers the man, and proceeds to quiz him with three riddles, one asked from each of the creature's three heads! The young man fails to answer any of them, so with the strike of a mace or hammer, the Etin turns him into a pillar of stone.

The youngest brother

When the man's younger brother goes in search of him, the same fate befalls him. Because the younger brother doesn't return, the youngest brother then sets out in search of his siblings. The youngest brother encounters an old fairy woman, who advises him about what challenges he will encounter, and arms him with a magic wand. Meeting with the same herdsmen whom the oldest brother met, they tell him of the Red Etin and the plight of the daughter of the King of Scotland, and that he is the chosen man to overcome the giant. Walking confidently amongst the two-headed beasts and killing one with the wand, he proceeds to the castle. Thanks to the schooling from the fairy, the youngest brother answers the riddles the Etin asks him, and then cuts off his three heads. Using the wand, he turns the pillars of stone back into his living flesh and blood brothers, and liberates prisoners of the castle which include the king's daughter, whom he marries.

If you're wondering why only the youngest brother was favoured by the fairy, it relates to the widowed mother of the brothers, and cakes she bakes for each of them as they prepare to leave. In the case of the first/oldest brother, she asks him to fetch a pail of water for the cake, and as the pail is leaky, he returns without much water, which results in a smaller than planned cake. After the mother bakes it she tells the oldest son that he may take half with her blessing, or all of it with her curse. As the cake is small, he takes all of it with her curse. The same events befall the younger son. However when the youngest son, soon to set out, goes to fetch the water, a raven flying above his head alerts him to the leaky pail. He patches the pail, and so returns with enough water for a large cake. The youngest brother then takes half the cake with his mother's blessing, goes on his way, and soon meets with the helpful fairy.

The *English Fairy Tales* version breaks the fairy tale 'rule of three' and omits one of the brothers because Jacobs deemed his storyline to be unnecessarily repetitive, while Lang's variation in *The Blue Fairy Book* retains the third brother. According to the Jacobs version of the tale, the Red Etin's three riddles are: "A thing without an end, what's that?" "The smaller, the more dangerous, what's that?" and "The dead carrying the living; riddle me that?"

Can you solve them?



A 1514 engraving of James V, King of Scotland. Photo by Wellcome Images, Creative Commons



Edin's Hall Broch seen from the highest point to the south. Photo by M J Richardson, Creative Commons.

David Lyndsay

Sir David Lyndsay of the Mount (c.1490–c.1555) was a Scottish makar (court poet or bard). He was engaged in the Royal Household as an usher (a head tutor's assistant) to the future King James V. Lyndsay was a herald who in 1529 was appointed Lord Lyon King of Arms, and knighted. He went on diplomatic missions to France, the Netherlands and Denmark. Following James V's death in 1542, Lyndsay retained his role as commissioner for Cupar, Fife in the Scottish Parliament. *The Dreme*, an 1134-line allegorical lament about the state of the realm, is Lyndsay's earliest surviving poem.

Scottish Brochs

Most Scottish brochs had a single entrance and a spiral stairway between concentric outer and inner walls which linked to galleries. Some had intramural cells. Sections not occupied by the stairway or a cell were filled with rubble. The total combined thickness of the walls was 10 -17 feet, and the internal diameter ranged from 16-50 feet. The remains of the walls of most broch ruins are much damaged and cannibalised, but several examples survive with walls over 20 feet tall. The Broch of Mousa, Shetland, the most intact example of an Iron Age round tower, stands nearly 44 feet high. Some brochs may have had a few floors or levels. Sutherland, the Northern Isles, and Caithness have the greatest concentration of brochs, with many others on the western mainland and in the Hebrides. Radiocarbon dating has suggested that brochs were constructed in the first centuries BC and AD, with some possibly dating a century or two earlier.

Climb every mountain



Beinn Dorain.

A Munro is a mountain in Scotland over 3,000 ft/914 m and Scotland has 282 Munros across the country. Sir Hugh Munro was an original member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, and this month marks 100 years since his death. Munro bagging involves climbing any Scottish mountain over 3,000ft. and gives people an opportunity to see an incredible breadth of Scotland's outstanding and dramatic landscape as Judy Vickers explains.

More than 200 people a year complete the famous challenge he left as his legacy – despite the fact that the challenge often takes decades to finish. Yet Sir Hugh Munro, who died 100 years ago this month, never managed to climb all the Munros, the Scottish mountains over 3000 ft. which bear his name after he was the first to classify them.

A founder member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, he died in 1919

in southern France while working for the Red Cross at a canteen for French troops, still three peaks short.

Munro-bagging

By the time of his death, only one person – the Rev A E Robertson - claimed to have climbed all the Munros. But over the decades Munro-bagging has increased in popularity; more than 6000 people are now believed to have completed the “round” of 282 peaks. Munro completists, as they are known, even have their own society, and the anniversary of Munro's death is being marked by two exhibitions.

The man who began it all, Hugh Thomas Munro, was born in London in 1856, the ninth child of a family of wealthy landowners. He was brought up partly in London and partly at the family's estate of Lindertis near Kirriemuir in Angus. At 17, he travelled to Stuttgart to learn German, was introduced to the Alps and fell in love with mountains.

He served as a courier during the Basuto Wars in South Africa, then became private secretary to the governor of the Natal province before returning to Scotland to manage the family estate of Lindertis. And it was then that he began to explore the hills of Scotland. His first recorded peak was Ben Lawers in 1879 – ten years later he helped to found the Scottish Mountaineering Club.

He was asked by the editor of the *Scottish Mountaineering Club's Journal* to list all the hills in Scotland above 3000 feet. Hillwalking being a relatively new pastime, no such guide existed at that time and Munro used his own experiences, knowledge gleaned from his fellow mountaineers and data collated from two different sets of Ordnance Survey maps. His systematic list, with peaks divided into separate mountains and subsidiary “tops”, and grouped

geographically, was published in the *Journal* in 1891. The list comprised 283 separate mountains or Munros and a total of 538 tops – the number of recognised Munros and tops has been revised and changed several times over the years, including by Munro himself.

He had ambitions to climb all the Munros himself but it was not to be. The well-travelled mountaineer – he had circumnavigating the globe with his daughters – had volunteered with the Red



Sir Hugh Munro. Image courtesy of SMC Image Archive.



Sir Hugh Munro.



Ben Nevis.

Cross during the First World War. He had first worked in Malta, helping to trace refugees, and by 1918 was in Tarascon, in the south of France, running a canteen for French troops, where he died of pneumonia on 19th March, 1919. His body was returned to Scotland and was buried near Lindertis, on 2 April 1919.

Spectacular views

By the time of his death, there was already one Munro-bagger who had completed the list – Rev Robertson who climbed his final Munro, Meall Dearg on Aonach Eagach in Glen Coe, in 1901, kissing the cairn at the top in celebration and starting another tradition of making baggers’ last Munro a special one. It was 1923 before the next Munro-bagger, Rev Ronald Burn, completed the challenge.

Anne Butler, president of The Munro Society, explains: “When Munro bagging started it was the preserve of the very rich, people who could take two or three months off. They just invited themselves into crofters’ homes, they would go up to Glen Affric or the like and just stay with these people who were so poor – they would have the one egg that the family had for the week, stay in the one bed and then their man would pick them up in their carriage and take them home. A lot of early Munro-baggers would walk at night so they didn’t disturb the stalking or shooting during the day – they were the same class as the

landowners. Access was also much harder – there were glens without any roads. It took 70 years to get up to the first 100, now we have 200+ a year.”

As times and technology changed, so the hills became more accessible to ordinary people. Hamish Brown’s 1974 book, *Hamish’s Mountain Walk*, chronicling his journey around all the Munros without a break travelling by ferry, cycle and foot, helped bring Munro-bagging to the public’s attention.

Munro-bagging has increased in popularity; more than 6000 people are now believed to have completed the “round” of 282 peaks.

And, says Anne, advances such as lightweight clothing, GPS, and even increased car ownership, means Munro-bagging’s popularity just continues to rise. “I have been walking for 20 years myself and 20 years ago, you had to get a map and there was only one good guidebook on the Munros. Now you have GPS, websites.”

She says there are many reasons why Munro-bagging appeals: “The British are a nation of list tickers, we like train spotting and stamp collecting, we like to have something to aim for. It’s also a physical challenge, you have spectacular views and you get all over Scotland – on a clear day you get a view of Orkney from the most northerly. Everyone is equal on the hill, whoever you are and whatever your background, and it’s very much a community. It’s just very addictive.”

Munro compleators

The Society is open to those who have climbed all the Munros and Anne says members’ role is to give back to the mountains which have become so much part of the walkers’ lives over the years. Mountain reports catalogue the human intrusion on the landscape from litter to footpath erosion and data collected by members has been used by the likes of the John Muir Trust, Mountaineering Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage. They also support organisations which carry out work such as bridge maintenance and footpath repairs, or those training the younger generation of mountaineers.

Munro compleators can also register with the Scottish Mountaineering Club whose journal first carried Munro’s list. The club’s list of “compleators” now runs to 6468 names.

The anniversary of Sir Hugh’s death will be marked in his home town of Kirriemuir with an exhibition at the Gateway to the Glens museum.

Munro facts

- First person to climb all the Munros: Rev. A. E Robertson in 1901.
- Date that the 100th person completed a round: 1970.
- First known woman: Mrs Paddy Hirst in 1947.
- Youngest known compleatist: Ben Fleetwood aged 10 in 2011.
- Fastest known round: Stephen Pyke, 2010 in 39 days.
- Biggest known number of rounds: Steve Fallon, 15 rounds, 1st in 1992, 15th in 2012.
- Most known times a single person has climbed a single Munro: Richard Wood has climbed Sron a’ Choire Gairbh, 1227 times.
- Newest Munros: The list was revised by the Scottish Mountaineering Club in 1997 and seven new Munros were added.



Rachel Jackson, museum officer, says: “We feel privileged to have been loaned a number of photographs and objects by descendants of the Munro family for the display which illustrate Munro’s connection with Kirriemuir and the glens.”

The museum is also organising a number of events, which will take place in March, including an illustrated talk on Sir Hugh Munro by Robin Campbell, Scottish Mountaineering Club archivist and Honorary President of the Munro Society, on Wednesday 13th March and a fun family quiz ‘Munro or No’ on Wednesday 19th March.

Admission to the exhibition, which runs until June 8, is free and open on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, at the museum, High Street, Kirriemuir.

The Munro Society is hosting the Munro Legacy Exhibition at the AK Bell Library in Perth from March 5 to May 18, following which it will tour around Scotland.



The summit of Sgòr Gaoith.



Ben Lawers.

Highland Inspiration - Lorna Gilles

Claire Marie wearing Lorna Gillies designs. Photo: Darja Bilyk.

The Scottish Banner speaks to Lorna Gillies

Lorna Gillies is a unique clothing label based in the Highlands of Scotland. Lorna was born and raised in Moidart on the west coast of the Scottish Highlands, from a foundation of history, heritage and sustainability, Lorna delves into the folklore, romance and natural beauty of the surrounding rugged landscape. Lorna took the time to speak to the Scottish Banner's Sean Cairney on how Scotland has inspired her work, using quality Scottish products and how the backdrop of Scotland makes the perfect showcase for her collections.



Designer Lorna Gillies.

SC: Lorna thanks for taking the time to speak to *the Scottish Banner*. Can we begin with you telling us a little bit your journey from growing up in the Highlands to how you set up your own fashion label?

LG: Sure. I'm from Ardnamurchan which is a very rural area on the west coast of Scotland. Looking back on my childhood I see now how lucky I was, I had such freedom to run around, play, and roam the fields and hills. It was a safe place to be, but once I was of age to leave, I was eager to move to the city of Edinburgh to study. I have always had an interest in history and creating with my hands, so I studied theatre costume. This course was fascinating and gave me the practical skills to make garments and to research history. Although after I finished my studies I spent a few years working in offices, which went against the grain for me - working the 9-5 was not for me.

I gradually began making dresses for my colleagues, then from that my interest was sparked again. I went to Australia where I worked with independent fashion labels and from there I moved back to the Highlands to start my business.

SC: You have said your designs take inspiration from Scottish history and are a homage to the kilt. Can you tell us more?

LG: I love history, folklore and my homeland - these play a huge part in my work. I love the shapes and styles from different times and find it fascinating the techniques that were done by hand. I have made my own style of kilt named the Rhu Kilt which is made using Harris Tweed, is fully lined and has two wee side pockets for functionality. The landscape of the Highlands inspires me also, the colours and textures you see can be so vibrant and moody at the same time. I see these colours in tweeds.





Claire Marie wearing Lorna Gillies designs. Photo: Darja Bilyk.



SC: Tartan and tweed certainly are part of your eye-catching designs. How important is it for you to use Scottish products and create clothes that show a modern Scotland?

LG: Very important to me. I love the story behind tweed, and Harris Tweed in particular - it's part of my ethos of the garments being hand crafted in the Highlands that the cloth is made in Scotland also. I love how so many colours of wool are in a design of tweed, looking at the cloth very closely you can see many different colours intricately woven. Tartan is so unique and plays a big part of our identity. Particularly being a Highlander, the tartan you wore with pride to reflect which clan you were from. But many people wear all sorts of tartans now, and I do too - not just my family tartan!

SC: Harris Tweed has experienced an amazing revival in recent years in both fashion and home furnishings. Can you tell us what is about Harris Tweed that you like so much and why this historic cloth is so important to Scotland?

LG: It's something incredibly special and unique. Going to Harris and meeting weavers was a great trip for me - many crofters work their day job then weave in their garden sheds at night. Not only is it a beautiful cloth, the quality is outstanding. Something that a community can make together is very special indeed.

SC: Being a Scottish designer and using tartan in a modern way can raise some eyebrows. How to do mix respecting tradition with being bold with one of the most iconic symbols of national dress in the world?

LG: I honestly think people are happy to see tartan in contemporary ways, it keeps the fabric alive. I have incorporated tartan on tweed jackets, using front of the coat in tweed then once the wearer turns around the back is all tartan. Tartan is bold and grabs attention - anyone who wears it grabs the attention.

SC: Lorna you have done many photo shoots of your clothing incorporating some beautiful and dramatic Scottish landscapes as a backdrop. How important is it for you to have your pieces photographed in Scotland and how does the landscape help you show your work?

LG: It's so important - it is the inspiration, it's part of who I am and using it as a backdrop just fits beautifully with my collection. I've been lucky to work with some talented photographers in Scotland, so they really have brought the garments to life with their creative eye.

SC: And finally, Lorna what is next for you and where would you like to take your Scottish style to next?

LG: Well I am very excited to say I'll be in Melbourne Australia for the first few months of 2019. I will be using tartan and tweed and creating a one-off collection for Australia. It's going to be interesting exhibiting my work in the summer! I can't wait though, to get fresh new inspirations, and to combine with my existing style will be so much fun. So, a photoshoot in a very different environment will happen soon...stay tuned!
For more details see: www.lornagillies.com



Scotland the perfect and dramatic backdrop.



Lorna Gillies.

IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Student comes face-to-face with her great, great, great grandfather

An Australian student has fulfilled a long-held ambition of coming face-to-face with her great, great, great, grandfather who taught at the University of Aberdeen more than 150 years ago. Alison Ritchie, a pharmacy student from Perth in Western Australia, came to study for a year (in 2018) at the University of Aberdeen as part of the final year of her course.

Alison's maternal great, great, great grandfather, Dr David Rennet (1828 – 1914) from Kincardineshire, was a mathematical coach at the University until the early 20th century.

By all accounts Dr Rennet was an extremely popular lecturer who spoke in broad Doric while teaching and was skilled in helping gifted students as well as those who were not as academically accomplished. The David Rennet Gold Medal was inaugurated in 1897 and is still handed out today as the top prize for problem solving in mathematics and physics.

Alison, who moved from Inverberrie to Australia in 2004 when she was just nine, was able to see the portrait of her relative which still hangs in the Picture Gallery at Marischal College. "Looking at his portrait, he reminds me of one of my mum's uncles so there must be a familial look. He didn't have the same long beard though!" she said. "From what I've read about him, he seemed to be a very kind to his students; an approachable man with an interesting teaching style. Apparently he would only help a student once he was sure they had given it a good try on their own first. He didn't spoon-feed them the answers. It's great to finally be here and get to see the painting first hand. It's been a great experience."

Scottish areas among UK's worst for broadband speeds



West Dunbartonshire, the home to Scotland's fastest broadband.

Argyll & Bute, Moray, Orkney and the Shetland Islands are among the worst affected local authority areas for slow broadband in the UK, according to new

research by Which? The consumer group analysed speed checker data in 32 council areas across Scotland, England and Wales.

Orkney (at 3Mbps), Shetland (6.7Mbps), Argyll and Bute (7Mbps) and Moray (7.1Mbps) were recorded as having the slowest internet connections in the UK. Also lagging behind were the Highlands (8.9Mbps), Borders (9.3Mbps), Aberdeenshire (10.1Mbps), Perth and Kinross (10.1Mbps) and Na h-Eilean Siar (11.5Mbps).

The research suggests internet users in some of these areas could struggle to carry out online banking or to use streaming services due to slow internet.

The fastest local authority in Scotland, and the third fastest in the UK, for broadband speed was West Dunbartonshire, with an average 29.6Mbps. The findings suggest that downloading a film in Orkney would take around seven times longer than it would in West Dunbartonshire.

Other areas in Scotland which receive a faster connection include Inverclyde (26.9Mbps), Dundee City (23.1Mbps), North Lanarkshire (22Mbps) and East Renfrewshire (21.4Mbps). Edinburgh was said to have a typical speed of 17.1Mbps and Glasgow 16.2.

The Scottish Government said delivering high-speed broadband in rural areas was more challenging but it was making good progress.

Paul Wheelhouse, minister for energy, connectivity and the islands, said the government's ambition was to make rural Scotland "one of the best connected places anywhere in Europe". He said: "This report highlights what we already know - that it is more challenging to deliver and upgrade broadband infrastructure in rural areas. Our Reaching 100% (R100) programme is a plan to extend superfast broadband access to every home and business in the country in Scotland, and we have focussed procurement for R100 in rural areas, where it is needed most. A total of 93% of homes and businesses across Scotland already have access to superfast broadband, and we are investing £600m to go further."

Sea salt could help beat a cold, Edinburgh study suggests



A simple sea salt water solution could help to reduce the symptoms of a cold, research suggests. The homemade remedy was shown to shorten the length of a cold by almost two days and to reduce the need for over-the-counter medicines by a third, but researchers caution that more studies are needed.

Experts say the method could be a cheap treatment for the cold and provides evidence that this traditional tonic could be effective. Most adults in the UK suffer at least one cold every year. Families with school-age children of contract up to 12 annually.

There is no treatment for the common cold. Its symptoms are usually minor and short-lived, but the cold has a substantial impact on the economy, causing many people to take time off work. The small pilot study – known as the Edinburgh and Lothians Viral Intervention Study, or ELVIS – recruited healthy adults within two days of them contracting an upper respiratory tract infection – commonly known as a cold.

Participants in the trial kept a diary of their symptoms for up to two weeks. Doctors also collected swabs to measure the amount of cold virus they were carrying. The participants were divided into two groups with one group asked to gargle and clear their nose with a salt solution as they felt necessary. Those who did nasal irrigation and gargling with the salty solution had a shorter cold, were less likely to pass it on to their family, had faster viral clearance and were less likely to use medicines from a pharmacy.

Scientists led by the University's Usher Institute of Population Health

Sciences and Informatics carried out the trial to test the safety and feasibility of the study. Researchers say sea salt may work by boosting cells' antiviral defence that kicks in when they are affected by a cold. Dr Sandeep Ramalingam at the NHS Lothian said, "We are very encouraged by these suggestions from our pilot study that the misery caused by a cold can be effectively reduced with such a simple and cheap method."

Diageo submits plans for Johnnie Walker centre in Edinburgh



Drinks company Diageo has submitted plans to convert a building in the heart of Edinburgh's shopping district into a visitor centre for its blended Scotch whisky brand Johnnie Walker. The drinks giant has stated that the new visitor attraction will be the "focal point" of its £150 million investment to boost Scotch whisky tourism. The plans for the conversion of 146 Princes Street into a seven-floor visitor experience, including a "multi-sensory, immersive visitor experience" over three floors, covering the brand's 200-year history as well as the art of whisky production.

The building will also include a "flexible events space" capable of staging arts, music, theatre and community events; a bar academy which will be home to Diageo's Learning for Life programme that provides hospitality training for the unemployed; and a "significant retail space" inspired by the Johnnie Walker retail store in Madrid.

Diageo hopes that the new attraction, which will also boast roof-top bars, will create between 160 and 180 full-time jobs and boost the tourism spend in Edinburgh by around £135 million.

As part of the project, the building, along with its many heritage features, will be restored and incorporated into the new development where possible. This includes the refurbishment of the clock on the corner of Princes Street and Hope Street, which traditionally acted as a meeting point for Edinburgh dwellers.

David Cutter, chairman of Diageo in Scotland, commented: "We are incredibly excited to be able to submit our plans for the Johnnie Walker visitor experience in Edinburgh. The location is one of Edinburgh's most exceptional landmark buildings and we plan to restore it to its former glory as a cornerstone of the city and a thriving part of its cultural and social life. We have the most passionate and skilled whisky-makers in the world here in Scotland and we want to celebrate their craft and everything that is great about Scotland and whisky."

Four of Diageo's distilleries – Glenkinchie, Cardhu, Caol Ila and Clynelish – will be directly linked to the visitor centre and will represent "the four corners of Scotland" with respect to regional flavour variations and blending.

The magic of snowdrops returns to Scotland



A snowdrop at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Scotland's finest gardens, woodlands and estates have opened their gates for the 13th year of the country's most popular flower festival. Signalling the end of winter and the promise of spring, the Scottish Snowdrop Festival is showcasing some of Scotland's most beautiful snowdrop collections until 11 March 2019. More than 60 events are taking place nationwide in celebration of the classic winter flower, including snowdrop walks and talks, guided tours and open days for all the family.

The wonders of Scotland's gardens

Organised by garden tourism group Discover Scottish Gardens and supported by VisitScotland, the Festival aims to encourage locals and tourists to enjoy the wonders of Scotland's gardens during the snowdrop flowering period and highlight the country's diverse collections.

The Festival attracts organisations including the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and the National Trust for Scotland and will showcase an array of events across the breadth of the country, from Dunvegan Castle in the Isle of Skye to Dryburgh Abbey in the Scottish Borders.

Catherine Erskine, chair of Discover Scottish Gardens and founder of the Snowdrop Festival in Scotland, said: "Over the years, more of us are falling in love with the dainty winter flower and very much look forward to the Festival as gardens open up again for the new year. We are very lucky in Scotland to have some truly stunning sites to visit, many of which open their doors for the Snowdrop Festival, showcasing another spectacular side to their gardens. As the Festival grows in popularity, we encourage the younger generation to discover the world of snowdrops for themselves, as well as Scotland's stunning landscapes and historic sites."

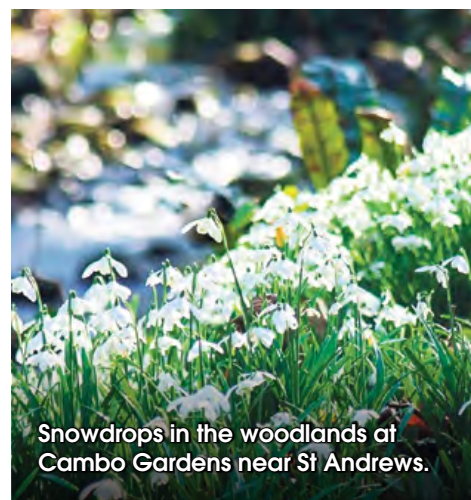
Galanthus

There are currently around 20 species of the herbaceous plant, scientifically known as *Galanthus*, and over 2,500

named varieties. Its versatility and hardiness allow it to thrive in Scotland's climate. Cambo Gardens in Fife, which has more than 350 varieties of snowdrops on show, was one of the first snowdrop gardens to appear in Scotland, attracting visitors since 1934. The most significant snowdrop to be found in the country is *Galanthus woronowii* 'Elizabeth Harrison', with shiny green leaves and yellow-marked petals. Festival visitors can discover these unique flowers at Cambo.

Malcolm Roughead, VisitScotland Chief Executive, said: "The Scottish Snowdrop Festival is always a highlight on the annual event calendar, heralding the start of another year and encouraging visitors to get out and about in Scotland during the quieter winter months. Snowdrops are not only beautiful flowers, but they are a welcome sign that spring is around the corner. I hope that as many people as possible will make time to appreciate this seasonal sight around some of the country's most popular outdoor locations. The Festival provides a welcome boost for attractions during a traditionally quieter period of the year and helps raise awareness of Scotland's most stunning gardens and estates."

For festival highlights visit
www.visitscotland.com/snowdrop



Snowdrops in the woodlands at Cambo Gardens near St Andrews.

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CALLING THE CLANS

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



Clan Davidson Society in Australia Inc.

CHEIF: Grant Davidson of Davidston cordially invites to membership all who bear one of the Clan Names, and all who can trace their descent from an ancestor bearing one of these Names: Davidson; Davison; Dawson; Davis; Davie; Davey; Davy; Day; Dye; Dyson; Dawson; Dea; Dean; Deane; Deas; Deason; Dees; Dee; Dey; Daw; Dow; Dhair; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade; MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagny; MacDhai; McKeddie. In addition we welcome into membership all who have a family association with the Clan Davidson. Applications may be made online: www.clan davidson.org.au or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P. P.O. Box 519 Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 dhill11@bigpond.net.au 0431 527 662

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

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

UK: London & Southern Counties * Rannoch & Highlands
Canada: Ontario * Western Canada
Australia: New South Wales * Victoria * Queensland * Western Australia
New Zealand: New Zealand
Europe: Spain
Africa: South Africa
USA: Arizona * Carolinas * Florida * Gulf Coast * Mid-Atlantic * New Mexico * Mid-West * Northeast * Northern California * Pacific Northwest * Rocky Mountains * South * Southern California * Texas * Upper Mid-West



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

<http://www.donnachaidh.com/>
Facebook: [The Clan Donnachaidh Society](https://www.facebook.com/TheClanDonnachaidhSociety)
Email: ivc@donnachaidh.com

Clan Baird Society Worldwide



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

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

Dr. Debra J. Baird, President

3491 County Road 3459, Haleyville, AL 35565
Email: djbaird4@gmail.com

Regional Directors for Australia

David and Patricia Benfell
Email: clanbairdsa@gmail.com
website: www.clanbairdsociety.com



Clan Cameron NSW Inc.

President: Alistair Cameron
cameron490@ozemail.com.au

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

www.clan-cameron.org.au

Clan Donald Australia

"under the patronage of the High Council of the Chiefs of Clan Donald"

High Commissioner Mr Lachlan Macdonald

State Commissioners

NSW
Qld
SA
Vic
WA

Mr Lachlan Macdonald
Mr A. Neil Macdonald
Ms Therese McCutcheon
Mr Norman A Macdonald
Ms Pamela McDonald

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



Clan Douglas Society of North America

Recognized as Septs & Allied Families

Agnew	Crockette	Harkness	Pringle
Bell	Dalyell	Home	Rowell
Blackadder	Dalzell	Hume	Rowle
Blackett	Deal	Inglis	Rule
Blacklock	Dick	Kilgore	Rutherford
Blackstock	Dickey	Kilpatrick	Sandilands
Blackwood	Dickson	Kirkpatrick	Sandlin
Blaylock	Dixon	Kirkland	Simms
Breckinridge	Drysdale	Lockerby	Soule
Brown	Forest	Lockery	Sterrett
Brownlee	Forrester	Lockhart	Syme
Carmichael	Foster	MacGuffey	Symington
Carruthers	Galbraith	MacGuffock	Troup
Cavan	Galpatric	Maxwell	Turnbull
Cavers	Glendinning	McKittrick	Weir
Cleland	Glenn	Moffat	Young
Cledenon	Hamilton	Morton	Younger

Visit our website: www.clan douglassociety.org
Jim Morton, Secretary
4115 Bent Oak Court, Douglasville, GA 30135



Clan Bell North America

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

Your Bell ancestry is important!

Visit our web site: www.clanbell.org
Contact our Membership Chairperson: Pauline Bell
1513 Anterra Drive, Wake Forest, NC 27587
Email: debellinn@reagan.com



The Clan Campbell Society Of Australia

The Society exists for the benefit of all its members. All Campbells or descendants of Campbells and members of Clan Septs are most welcome to join the Society. For information on State Branches contact the National Secretary, Margaret Vallance
Email: libertyv93@gmail.com
www.clan-campbell.org.au



Clan Donald Queensland

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



Clan Dunbar of The House of Gospatric the Earl

Eligible blood or marriage, all descendants of The Gospatric: Dunbar, Clugston, Corbett, Dundas, Edgar, Grey, Heryng, Home, Knox, Nisbett, Peddie, Strickland, Washington, Wedderburn and all spelling variations of each name. Also all other families who were associated with The Gospatric.

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



Clan Blair Society

Membership cordially invited from the descendants of all Blairs.

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



Clan Campbell Society (North America)

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

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



Clan Donald U.S.A. Inc.

Membership is open only to persons of the blood of Macdonald, however spelled or of the blood of a recognized associate family or is related by marriage or legal adoption to either of these write for more info and a complete Sept list.

William H. McDaniel
High Commissioner, CDUSA
bill-mcdaniel@att.net



Edmonstone Clan Society

Invites membership to anyone of the surname or variations:- Edmiston/e, Edmondston, Edmanson, Edmeston, Edmonson, Edmundson, etc. Chieftain Sir Archibald Edmonstone Bt of Duntreath

Contact: Mal Edmiston
3 Laguna Ave
Kirwan, Qld, 4817
61 (0)7 4755 4370
m.edmiston@bigpond.com



Family of Bruce International, Inc.

Family of Bruce International, Inc., the only such organization recognized by the hereditary chief of the Name of Bruce, The Rt. Hon. Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, is a non-profit organization established to create kinship amongst its family members and promote interest in the Family of Bruce and its history. Membership is open to persons who qualify by surname, by descent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle, Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

Donald E. Bruce	Polly A. (Bruce) Telford, Secretary
President	5561 Earl Young Road
1051 Eagle Ridge Trail	Bloomington, IN 47408
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082	www.familyofbruce.org



Clan Crawford Association

Membership extended to all Crawford's of various spellings, worldwide. Join to preserve our legacy & receive assistance with events, heraldry, highland games, forums, DNA genealogy, surname history, quarterly newsletter and more.

Joanne Crawford, President
Local Contact: Warren Crawford
wcrawford84@hotmail.com
www.clancrawfordassoc.org

CLAN DONALD in VICTORIA

Proudly affiliated with Clan Donald Australia, Victorian Scottish Union and Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group.
Represented at all major Highland gatherings in Victoria.

CLAN DONALD VICTORIA

President: Mr Norman A. Macdonald

Contact: secretary.clandonaldvic@gmail.com

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

CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE

Hon Chief: Mrs Christina Milne Wilson

Contact: secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com

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



Elliot Clan Society, U.S.A.

Judith M. Elliott-Clan President welcomes membership of all who are connected with this great border family.

Direct inquires to: Membership-Treasurer
Patricia Tennyson Bell
2288 Casa Grande South
Pasadena, CA 91104



Clan Buchanan Society International, Inc.

Invites membership of all Buchanans and of other septs:

Bohanon	Leavy	MacCoubrey	MacMorris	Murchison
Coleman	Lennie	MacCubbie	MacMurchie	Richardson
Cormack	Macaltonich	MacCubbin	MacMurphy	Risk
Cousland	Macalaman	MacDonleavy	Macneur	Rusk
Dewar	Mancadeoir	MacGeorge	MacQuat	Spittal
Donleavy	Macaslan	MacGibbon	McQuattley	Walter
Dove	Macauselan	MacGilbert	MacQuinten	Wason
Dow	MacCalman	MacGreusich	MacWattie	Watson
Gibb	MacCalmont	MacGubbin	MacWhirter	Watters
Gibby	MacCammond	MacInally	MacWhorter	Watt
Gibbon	MacCasland	MacIndeor	Masters	Weir
Gibson	MacCruiter	MacIndoe	MacWhitty	Yule
Gilbert	MacColman	MacKibb	Morrice	Yuill
Gilbertson	MacColwan	MacKinlay	Morris	Zuill
Harper	MacCormack	MacMaster	Morrison of Perthshire	
MacCommon	MacMaurice	Murchie	and other spellings	

Graeme Paul Watson, Mem. Secretary,
128 Oak Haven Drive, Statesville, NC 28625



Clan Cumming Society of the United States

www.clancumming.us
info@clancumming.us

c/o G. Allen Cummings
PO Box 6888
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469-6888



Clan Donnachaidh Society of New South Wales Inc., Australia

Duncan Robertson Reid

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

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



Clan Farquharson Association Australia

Clan Chief: Captain A.A.C. Farquharson, MC of Invercauld

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

The Secretary: Clan Farquharson Association Australia
PO Box 585
Springwood, NSW 2777
or by Email to: finlaysb@bigpond.com



**The Clan Keith Society
USA, Inc**

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

www.clankeith-usa.org
or email membership@clankeith@mindspring.com



Clan MacInnes

International Association of Clan MacInnes (Aonghais)

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

www.clanmacinnes.org

**Eric Perry, Director-Member Services 14 Jakes Lane,
Dexter, ME 04930; eric@macinnes.org**

**Clan Fraser Society
of Australia**

Invites all Frasers
and Fraser septs
to join our clan society.

All members receive a copy of our quarterly
newsletter "Strawberry Leaves"

Membership enquiries to Don Chitts
Ph: (03) 9754 5120 donchitts@hotmail.com
Website: <http://clanfraseraustralia.org>
Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/)
[Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/](https://www.facebook.com/Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/)
482236358590288

Clan Hay

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

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

www.clanhay.com



Clan Kerr/Carr Of North America, Inc


Cordially invites membership applications from all
sept variants of the name Kerr, Carr, Caray, Caris,
Cearr, Curr, Care, Karr, Keir, McCarry and other sept
Variants. The Clan accepts membership from all
interested in Scottish and Celtic Highland Games
and Genealogy. See applications on the Clan's
website at: www.clankerr.us
Or write: Attn: Clan President
679 Silvercreek Drive, Winter Springs, Fl 32708

**Clan Mackenzie Society
in Australia Inc.**

 Membership enquiries
welcomed from Mackenzies
of all spellings and Septs 

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

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



Clan Galbraith Association

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

DNA testing project, members only
databases, Biennial gatherings,
blog, Quarterly journal.

www.clangalbraith.org

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

Clan Henderson Society


Purposes and Goals of the Society

Culture: promote Scottish culture and activities
Games: promote Scottish festivals and games
Genealogy: assist in genealogical research
Fellowship: promote fellowship and friendship among its men and kin
History: maintain and promote the history of the clan and Scotland
Awards: promote charitable and educational activities with a scholarship fund
Gather the Clan: as directed by our Chief, Alastair of Fordell

Some other surnames of the proud sons of Henry:

D'Henderson, Eanrig, Eanrig, Enderson, Endherson, Endrisonse, Henders, Henderson, Hendersonse, Henderson, Hendrisonse, Hendry, Hendrisonse, Hendrisonse, Hendrie, Hendrisonse, Hendry, Henderson, Hennesonse, Henrynson, Henderson, Henrynson, Henrynson, Henrynson, Henrynson, Henrynson, Hendrie, Henry, Henrynsson, Henrynson, Henrynson, Kendrick, Kendrick, MacCannig, MacCannig, MacEanrig, MacEnrick, MacEnrick, MacHendrie, MacHendrie, MacHenry, MacHennie, MacHennie, MacHendrie, MacKanning, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKerrick, Makanny, Mahteny, McHenry, McKendrie, McKendrick, McKendry

www.clanhendersonsociety.org



CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY

of Australia and New Zealand

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

Contact: **Malcolm W. Leslie D.Ua.**
 117/303 Spring Street.
 Kearney's Spring, Qld, 4350, Australia.
 Phone: +61 7 4635 8388

Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada

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



Website: www.clanmackenziecanada.ca



Clan Gregor Society
Established 1822, Edinburgh, Scotland

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balghidder,
24th Chief of Clan Gregor

**Great Lakes,
New England,
Pacific North West,
Western U.S.
and Southeast Chapters**

www.clangregor.org

For membership contact Keith MacGregor
P.O. Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876
kmac1@optonline.net

Peter Lawrie, Secretary

6 The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL Scotland



Clan Hope of Craighall Society

For all of the name and lineage of Hope

INTERNATIONAL & USA

President: Richard Rex Hope
president@clanhope.org

Membership Chair: Janet Hope Higton
memberships@clanhope.org

AUSTRALIA

Convenor: Stephen Hope
convenor@clanhopeaustralia.org

www.clanhope.org www.clanhopeaustralia.org



Clan MacAlpine Society

3061 Harbor Blvd, Ventura CA, 93001 USA
Earl Dale McAlpine - President
Email: earlmc Alpine@yahoo.com



Clan Mackenzie Society in the United States

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

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



Clan Gregor Society Australasia

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


Frank McGregor - Clan Gregor Society
PO Box 14
North Hobart TAS 7002

Email: clangregoraustrialia@gmail.com
Web. www.clangregor.com


“Royal is my Race”



Clan Innes Australia
New memberships welcome
 Innes, Thain, Mitchell, Marnock,
 Middleton, Reidford, Wilson,
 McRob, McTary, Mavor
Email robthainclaninnes@gmail.com



Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.



Valerie McDougall
VP International

MacDougall

505-570 Scenic Drive, London, ON
N5Z 3B2

Home page: www.macdougall.org
www.facebook.com/clanmacdougall

MacDowall

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



Clan MacLaren

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

Mark A. McLaren, President
611 Indian Home Rd.
Danville, CA 94526
(925) 838-8175
boarsrock@earthlink.net



American Clan Gregor Society

Est 1909



Membership inquiries
welcomed from MacGregors
of all spellings and Septs

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

**Contacting our registrar, Jeanne P. Lehr
11 Ballas Crt.**

St. Louis, MO 63131-3038

Phone: 314-432-2842, registrar@acgsus.org
website: www.acgsus.org

Clan Irwin Association

Chief and Patron

David Irvine, Baron of Drum, Chief of the name.
Contact: Barbara Edelman, Chairman
65 Colonial Drive
Telford, PA 18969

215-721-3955 barb3.edelman@gmail.com

IRWIN • RVIN • IRVINE • IRVING • ERWIN • ERVIN

Over 270 ways the name has been spelled since 325 A.D.

www.clanirwin.org

**INTERNATIONAL
CLAN MACFARLANE SOCIETY, INC**

The OFFICIAL Clan MacFarlane Society
Founded 1911 - Glasgow & London
Re-established - 1973 Grandfather Mountain, NC

**Loch Sloy! We welcome all descendants of
Clan MacFarlane from around the world!**

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

International Clan MacFarlane Society, Inc.
PO Box 398 Glenora, CA 91740 USA
info@macfarlane.org

*Arms of the International Clan
MacFarlane Society granted by Lord
Lyons, King of Arms, 16 February, 2009*



MACFARLANE.ORG

Clan MacLellan

John B. McClellan, Jr.
Treasurer
6409 Knollwood Drive
McKinney, TX
75070-6032
Email: treasurer@clanmaclellan.net

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

Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net

The crest is circular with a decorative border. Inside the circle, a thistle is positioned vertically. The word 'Think' is written in a curved path along the left side of the thistle, and the word 'on' is written along the right side. The thistle has a long stem with two leaves at the base.

Clan MacLeod Societies of Australia

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

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

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



Clan MacNicol

Chief: John MacNeacail
of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac

Contact Ross Nicolson
10/377 North Rocks Rd.,
Carlingford NSW 2118
www.clanmacnicol.com



CLAN MATHESON SOCIETY

Chief of the Clan
Major Sir Fergus Matheson of
Matheson

7th Baronet of Lochalsh

Invites all Mathesons/Mathiesons or Kin
to join our Clan Society.
Contact the Chief's Lieutenants in USA

U.S.A.
Malcolm Matheson, III
P.O.Box 307, The Plains, VA 20198
Tel: (540) 687-6836, Fax: (540) 687-5569
clanmathsn@aol.com
www.clanmatheson.org



Clan Pringle Association

(North America)

Membership cordially invited from Pringle!
Pringle decedents and other interested parties.

www.clanpringle.org.uk

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



THE MACLEODS

RICH IN HIGHLAND
TRADITIONS

FOR INFORMATION:

WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG

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



Clan MacNicol Society, Inc.

Member of The Highland Clan MacNeacail Federation welcomes
persons of the names Nicolson, Nicol, MacNicol in all spellings

For membership inquiries, contact:

USA: Jeremy Nicholson
P.O. Box 501166
Atlanta, GA 31150-1166
macnicolsociety@bsn1.net
www.clanmacnicol.org

Canada: Jacques McNicoll
202 Berlitz Apt 203
Verdun, QC H3E 1B8 Canada
Email: mcnicollclan@videotron.qc.ca
www.clanmacnicolcanada.com



Clan Moffat Society

Madam Jean Moffat, Chief of the Name
and Arms of the Family of Moffat,
welcomes Moffats of all spellings.

Spouses and those legally adopted by
Moffats are also eligible for membership.

Website: <http://www.ClanMoffat.org/>



Clan Ross in Australia

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

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

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



Clan Macnachten Association Worldwide

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

Chairman - Peter McNaughton - 360-686-8451

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

Australia - Regional Commissioner - Bruce McNaught

+61 7 3266 2047 bruce@brucemcnaught.com

W. Canada - Regional Commissioner - Miles MacNaughton

250-999-9636 milescammac@aol.com

New Zealand - Regional Commissioner - John Macnaughtan

+64 9 441 4984 macnaughtan@xtra.co.nz

USA - Membership Secretary - Mary Nivison Burton

541-401-2613 membersec@clanmacnaughton.net

WWW.CLANMACNAUGHTON.NET



Clan Macpherson Association

Clan Macpherson welcomes enquiries from Macphersons
and members of our Associated families. For information
contact your local representative, our web site
www.clan-macpherson.org/branches or the 'Official Clan
Macpherson Association' Facebook page

Australia: John L Macpherson
greymac@acenet.com.au
phone +61 2 4871 1123

New Zealand: Tim McPherson
daimore@xtra.co.nz
phone +64 3 234 5098

USA: Ken Croker
ckcroker@sti.net
phone +1 559 658 6189

Canada: John C Gillies
jcgillies@rogers.com
phone +1 705 4460 280

Scotland: Bill Macpherson
bill.macpherson@glenfeargach.co.uk
phone +44 1577 830 430

Clan Museum: Curator
museum@clan-macpherson.org
phone +44 1540 673 332
(1 April to 30 October)



Clan Morrison Society of North America

Christopher L. Gillmore
Email: cgillmore@gmail.com

June Alvarez-Fetzer
Treasurer/Membership
8516 Lookout Cliff Pass
Austin, TX, 78737

www.clanmorrison.net

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

Clan Ross America

Representing the great Highland Clan of Ross since 1976.



Paul D Ross, President
Verge Bumann, VP Membership
1015 Archer St. San Diego, CA, 92109
membership@clanross.org
info@clanross.org
www.clanross.org



Clan MacNeil Association of Australia

For all enquiries about the clan and
membership contact: John McNeil

21 Laurel Avenue,
Linden Park, SA 5065
Email kisimul@chariot.net.au



The Clan MacRae Society of Australia and New Zealand

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

Australian Contact:

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



Clan Munro Association, U.S.A

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

COME JOIN US!

Web site: www.Clanmunrousa.org

Write: Heather Munro Daniel
4600 Lloydrown Road
Mebane, NC 27302



Clan Ross of The United States

David Ross of Ross, Baron Balnagowan,
Chief of the Clan invites all Ross', septs and their
descendants toto join in preserving our heritage.

www.clan-ross.org

clanrossoftheunitedstates@gmail.com

Contact L. Q. Ross
105 S. Graham Ave, Orlando, FL 32803



Clan MacNeil Association of America

Invites all MacNeils, regardless of
surname spelling, some of which are listed:
McNeill MacNeil MacNeal MacNiel, McNeely, Neal,
Neilson and O'Neill to join us in preserving our heritage.

Contact: Rhonwyn Darby

McNeill VP, Membership, P.O. Box 230093, Montgomery
AL 36123-0693. (334) 834-0612 Email rdmatmgn@aol.com



Clan MacTavish, U.S.A.

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

www.clanmactavish.org

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



Murray Clan Society of North America

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

In Canada contact: William J.M. Murray

2000 Cambridge Ave #329
Campbell River, BC V9H 0C3

In the U.S. contact: Robert W. Murray

1001 Cordero Crescent
Wyomissing, PA 19610-2738



Clan Scott Australia Group

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

Membership welcome from Scotts and Septs:
Balwearie, Harden, Laidlaw, Geddes & Langlands.
Info: Secretary, PO Box 320, Maclean, NSW, 2463

E: heatherdesylva@bigpond.com

W: clanscottaustaliagroup.moonfruit.com



Clan Maitland Society

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

North America: Rosemary Maitland Thorn
rthomnvrdrdcan@aol.com www.clanmaitlandna.org

Australia: Carole Maitland carole_maitland@yahoo.com.au
4230 Colac- Lavers Hill RoadWeeaprounah. VIC. 3237

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

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



Clan Pollock

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

A. D. Pollock, Jr.
PO Box 404

Greenville, KY 42345

e-mail: apollockis@comcast.net



Clan Scott Society

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

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

Share your Clan news, photos
and events with us so we can
share with our readers and online.

Please contact us at:

info@scottishbanner.com,

www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us

or add your upcoming events at:

[www.scottishbanner.com/events/
submit-an-event](http://www.scottishbanner.com/events/submit-an-event)



Clan Shaw Society

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

Secretary: Mike Shaw
2403 West Cranford
Denison, TX 75020



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

Worldwide organization for all Wardlaws or related
families. We invite you to join us.

Email: clanwardlaw@yahoo.com

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com

Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

CALEDONIAN CLUB OF FLORIDA WEST (SARASOTA, FL)

2017 Spring Schedule:

Feb. 4: Scottish Games

Mar. 25: Thistle Ball

Apr. 2: Kirkin' O' Tartans

May 6: Annual General Luncheon

Summer Socials: TBA



Contact: Robert Howard, President 941-376-5514

Email: roberthoward200@gmail.com

Web site: www.caledonianclub.org

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

www.scottishgaelicsocietyvic.org

Founded in 1905

Scottish Gaelic Choir:

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



Language Class: Wednesdays 7:00 to 8:30 pm
during school terms at the Celtic Club, 420-424
William Street, West Melbourne.

Contact Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277

Email: scottishgaelicsocietyvic@gmail.com



Clan Sinclair Australia

Membership and inquiries 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

www.clansinclairaustralia.com

Scottish Associations and Societies

The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne Inc.



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

For Membership Information contact:

Secretary: Noel Wright (03) 8333 0973

Email: noelwright@netspace.net.au

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER



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

ABN 30 093 578 860

Invites membership of all people of
Scottish descent or association

The Secretary, P.O. Box 3233, South Brisbane, BC,
www.standrewsociety.com



The Stewart Society

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

Please inquire: The Secretary

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



Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc.

Promoter of International Tartan Day,
Brisbane, Queensland

PO Box 3188, South Brisbane 4101

Bi-Monthly Newsletter, All things Scottish

All persons of Scottish Descent welcome.

www.aussie-scots.org.au Ph 07 3359 8195

Email: secretary@aussie-scots.org.au,

Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

P.O. Box 457
Pinehurst, NC 28370

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

Write or phone for our free brochure.

www.scottishheritageusa.org

email: shusa@embargmail.com

(910) 295-4448

FOUNDED 1974



St. Andrews Society of Vermont

P.O. Box 484

Essex Junction, VT 05453

Invites membership inquiries.

David Campbell - President (802) 878-8663

Website: www.sasvt.org



Clan Sutherland Society in Australia Incorporated

Contact: M Hodgkinson

212 MacKenzie Street

Toowoomba 4350 (07 4632 8559)

william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au

<http://goldenvale.wixsite.com/clansutherlandausa>

Facebook: Clan Sutherland Society in Australia



Chicago Scots

Established in 1845, the Chicago Scots (aka Illinois Saint
Andrew Society) is the oldest 501c3 in Illinois. The Chicago
Scots organise programs and events to educate, entertain and
nourish Scottish identity. The Chicago Scots operate Caledonia
Senior Living, a unique retirement community located in the
forest preserve a few miles west of downtown Chicago.

Tel: 708-447-5092

W: www.chicagoscots.org

The Scottish Australian Heritage Council



Founded at a meeting held in Sydney 18 June 1981

Welcomes membership from all Australians of Scottish descent.

Applications for membership can be obtained from:

The Hon Secretary, SAHC

Susan Cooke tel: 02 6355 4158

Email: alfredhcooke@gmail.com

www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

Victorian Scottish Union Inc

Established 1905

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

Affiliated Clans & Societies

Ballarat Highland Dancing	Geelong Scottish Dance
Balmoral Highland Dancing Society	Glenbrae Celtic Dancers
Begonia City Highland Dancing Society	Kilmore Celtic Festival
Brunswick Scottish Society	Maryborough Highland Society
Clan Donald Victoria	Mornington Peninsula Caledonian Society
Clan Grant	Scottish Country Dance Victoria Society
Clan Macdonald Yarraville Inc	The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne
Clan Mackenzie of Australia	Robert Burns Club of Camperdown
Clan Maclean Australia	Warmambool & District Caledonian Society
Clan Sinclair Association	Warmambool Caledonian Highland Dancing Society
Clan Sutherland Australia	

Chief: Ms Ceilidh McKinna Robertson

President: Mr Douglas Pearce

Secretary: Mrs Jan Macdonald

T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930

E: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com

www.victorianscottishunion.com



Clan Sutherland Society of North America Inc.

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

Richard Langford

1106 Horseshoe Lane

Blacksburg, VA 24060

e-mail: richard@langfordmail.net



Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia

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

Ruaraidh MacAonghais, N each Cathrach (Convenor)

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

Web: www.ozgaelic.org

Mail: PO Box A2259, SYDNEY SOUTH 1235



Caledonian Society of WA Inc.

Promotes Scottish Culture and Traditions
in Perth, Western Australia

For further details contact John: 0427 990 754

Email: caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com

www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

CLAN YOUNG AUSTRALIA



For those affiliated with
the Young surname

Ian J Young
Convenor

Membership inquiries:

Clan Young Australia

10 Cedric Street

Parkdale VIC 3195

membership@clanyoungaustalia.com.au

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/

Clans and Scottish organisations

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

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

MARCH 2019

1 - 3 Belleville, ON - Belleville Scottish Country Dance Weekend

The Belleville Scottish Country Dance Society cordially invites you to our Annual Ball Weekend at the Masonic Temple. Info: David Aston david.aston@kos.net

6 Calgary, AB - Bruichladdich Whiskey Dinner

A Bruichladdich Whiskey pairing dinner with one of Bruichladdich's award winning, unique and often hard-to-find whiskeys at Cilantro, 338 17th Ave SW. Info: cilantromanager@crmr.com

6 Aurora, ON - The Celtic Concert

The music and dances of Scotland and the world are front and centre in this first Celtic Concert. The boys of St. Andrew's College present an evening recital of pipes, drums, voice, dance, and ensembles in the intimate setting of the St. Andrew's College Wirth Theatre. Settle back, tap your feet, and enjoy the rich sounds and rhythms of traditional and contemporary music at St. Andrew's College - Wirth Theatre, 15800 Yonge St. Info: tickets@sac.on.ca

8 Calgary, AB - The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie

Workshop Theatre Society presents The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie. Jean Brodie is a free-spirited teacher at a Scottish girls' school during the 1930s. She encourages her young pupils to embrace romantic ideals, educating them about love and art rather than hard facts. At The Pumpthouse Theatre, 2140 Pumpthouse Avenue Southwest. Info: Please contact us by phone (403)253-2002 or info@workshoptheatre.org

9 West Vancouver, BC - Celtic Ceilidh

A fun evening, with live music by 'Kilbirnie Station' that will make you want to dance all night. No need to know the steps - our Caller will take you through each dance. Come on your own or bring your friends at Caulfeild Cove Hall, 4773 Piccadilly St. Info: www.caulfeildcovehall.ca

10 Nationwide - International Bagpipe Day

This is a day initiated by The Bagpipe Society to celebrate the world's many bagpipes and piping traditions. Every March 10th you are invited to go out and play your pipes – anywhere, anyhow to anyone!

16 Ottawa, ON - Scottish Society of Ottawa 2019 St. Patrick's Parade Scots & Scottish Dogs

Join the Scottish Society of Ottawa and our Celtic cousins at our Scots and Scottish breed doggies Marching Group at the 37th Annual St. Patrick's Parade. Don your kilts, tartans, tweeds and tams, and bring along your Scottish-breed dogs (Note: dogs not essential - everyone is welcome). Scottish-themed dog wear is encouraged at Ottawa City Hall. Info: https://ottscot.ca/

16 Montreal, QC - Curling for Dummies

Presented by the St Andrew's Society of Montreal at the Montreal West Curling Club. All of the curlers, whether experienced players or complete beginners, can have a great time shooting and chasing the rocks over the ice. Info: www.standrews.qc.ca

16 Vancouver, BC - CelticFest Vancouver Ceilidh 2019

The Beating Heart of CelticFest Vancouver featuring some of Vancouver's finest Celtic performers! Join Blackthorn and friends for a full night of music, dance and craic, featuring: Traditional Irish Session, BC Regiment of Irish Pipes and Drums, Eire Born Irish Dance Company, Shot of Scotch Vancouver Company (Scottish Dance Troupe) at Scottish Cultural Centre, 8886 Hudson St. Info: www.blackthornband.com

23 Winnipeg, MB - Winnipeg Scottish Festival

Piping events and more. Info: www.winnipegscottishfestival.com

23 - 24 Vancouver, BC - Heather Ball and Musicians' Workshop

RSCDS Vancouver proudly presents the Heather Ball with Scottish music and dancing and workshops at Scottish Cultural Centre. Info: www.rsdcsvancouver.org/dance/the-heather-ball

23 Brampton, ON - West End Workshop and Tea Dance

Full day workshop and tea dance for Scottish Country Dancers in the Toronto area at Turner Fenton Secondary School. Lunch and afternoon tea included. Pre-registration is required. Info: www.dancescottish.ca

APRIL 2019

5 Winnipeg, MB - Family Friendly Ceilidh

All are welcome to join the St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg's family friendly Ceilidh at Crescentwood Community Centre, 7pm to 1:00 am Live music, Scottish dancing, pipe band, food & bar and more. Info: standrevssocietywpg@gmail.com

6 Edmonton, AB - Edmonton Youth Pipe Band 90th Anniversary Celebration

Since 1929, the Edmonton Youth Pipe Band organization has been inspiring, mentoring and tutoring youth bagpipers and drummers from around the greater Edmonton area. Celebrate 90 years of helping kids realize their full potential through the magic of the Scottish arts with dinner and entertainment at Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex 9615 153 Avenue Northwest. Info: www.eypb.ca

6 Ottawa, ON - Scottish Day with the Sens

Celebrate Tartan Day with the Scottish Society of Ottawa and the Ottawa Senators, includes pipe bands and Highland dancing at the Canadian Tire Centre, 1000 Palladium Dr. Info: https://ottscot.ca/

6 Winnipeg, MB - Tartan Day Dinner

Hosted by the Ena Sutton Highland Dancers of Winnipeg and St. Andrews of Winnipeg Grade 4 Pipe Band. With Scottish fare, music and dance at St James Civic Centre, 2055 Ness Ave. Info: www.facebook.com/events/2173351702687004

6 Toronto, ON - A Scottish Evening

The Guthrie School of Dance students invite you to a Scottish Evening in support of their trip to Scotland in July 2019, where they will represent Canada among some of the best dancers of the world! Grab your ghillies and a bit of tartan and come out to Brunswick Beirworks for some fabulous drinks and wonderful entertainment on International Tartan Day. Info: 647-606-3699 or www.guthriedance.ca

6 Nationwide - Tartan Day

Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage on April 6, the date on which the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in 1320. Wear some tartan with pride today!

7 Ottawa, ON - National Tartan Day

Celebrate Tartan Day with the Sons of Scotland Pipe Band at Parliament Hill 12 to 1:30 pm. Info: www.sospb.com

13 Vancouver, BC - SFU Pipe Band: In Concert

Simon Fraser University Pipe Band with The Robert Malcolm Memorial Pipe Band live at the Vogue Theatre, 918 Granville St. Info: info@voguetheatre.com

USA

MARCH 2019

1 Norwood, MA - Scottish Cultural Celebration

Come taste your way through a palate pleasing selection of some of Scotland's most exciting exports. With an industry expert on hand to help guide you through the history, distillation process, and bouquet of flavors that we'll have the opportunity to sample at Orient Lodge 76 Day St. Info: Rick Cushing rcushing@partners.org or 508-259-2675.

2 - 3 Phoenix, AZ - 55th Anniversary

Phoenix Scottish Games

Presented by The Caledonian Society of Arizona at Steele Indian School Park, highlights include: Genealogy tent, traditional and modern Scottish tunes, competitive highland dancing, pipe bands, heavy athletics, country dancing, historical re-enactments, vintage British car exhibitions and more. Info: 480-788-6694 or www.arizonascots.com

2 Plantation, FL - Southeast Florida

Scottish Festival & Highland Games

Celebrate Scotland at Plantation Heritage Park with pipe bands, Clans, Scottish dance and more. Info: www.sassf.org

8 - 10 St. Augustine, FL - St. Augustine

Celtic Music & Heritage Festival

Celtic artisans, Celtic food, and more in America's Oldest Celtic City at Francis Field, 29W Castillo Dr. Info: www.celticstaugustine.com

8 - 10 Sonora, CA - Sonora Celtic Faire

A full weekend of Celtic fun, including the International Ultimate Jousting Championships at Mother Lode Fairgrounds, 220 Southgate Dr. Info: www.sonoracelticfaire.com

10 Bellevue, WA - Scottish Folk and Baroque

Scotland's natural beauty and rich heritage has inspired musicians for centuries. Internationally acclaimed fiddler and violinist Brandon Vance joins harpsichordist and guitarist Henry Lebedinsky invite you to explore the interplay between art and folk music in 18th century Scotland. Sonatas by Oswald, MacLean, Munro, and Marshall dance alongside traditional reels, Strathspeys, jigs, and marches in this unique and wonderful program. Info: www.pacificmusicworks.org/underground

10 Nationwide - International Bagpipe Day

This is a day initiated by The Bagpipe Society to celebrate the world's many bagpipes and piping traditions. Every March 10th you are invited to go out and play your pipes – anywhere, anyhow to anyone!

16 Dothan, AL - Southeast Alabama Highland Games

Family friendly Highland games at the Houston County Farm Center at: 1701 E Cottonwood Rd. Info: www.wiregrasshighlandgames.com

23 - 24 Washington, PA - 38th Annual Highland Ball

The 38th Pittsburgh Highland Ball and Workshop will once again be at the Washington Elks Lodge Ballroom. Excellent music will be provided by Highland Square. Info: www.pscds.org

23 - 24 Sherman, TX - Sherman Celtic

Festival & Highland Games

Celtic music, Pipe Band Competition, Celtic dogs, Scottish athletics and more at 2190 Fallon Dr. Info: www.shermancelticfest.com

29 - 31 Madison, WI - Madison Scottish

Country Dancers Ball Weekend

Madison Scottish Country Dancers are thrilled to welcome A Parcel of Rogues back to the shores of Loch Mendota at the University of Wisconsin Memorial Union's newly renovated Great Hall their 41st Scottish country dance ball. Info: www.madisonscottishcountrydancers.org

29 - 30 Jackson, MS - CelticFest Mississippi

A celebration of Celtic culture at the MS Agriculture & Forestry Museum, I-55 & Lakeland Dr. Info: www.celticfestms.org/wp

30 - 31 Gonzales, LA - The Louisiana

Highland Games & Celtic Festival

Scottish entertainment, Clans and athletics at Lamar Dixon Expo Center. Info: www.lahgcf.com

30 Troy, MI - Pub Night With Greater Midwest Pipeband

Come see the 2015 North American Champions, Greater Midwest Pipeband for a night of Pipes and Drums featuring Greater Midwest Pipeband at Kilgour Scottish Centre of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit. Info: www.greatermidwestpb.org

APRIL 2019

4 - 7 Cayce, SC - 9th Annual Tartan Day South Celebration

A four day event honoring Celtic heritage with an array of different events at many different venues featuring unique sports, incredible music, great foods and interactive as well as interesting exhibitions. Info: www.tartandaysouth.com

6 New York, NY - New York Tartan Day Parade

Celebrate Tartan Day in the Big Apple. The Parade starts at 2.00pm at West 45th Street and marches up 6th Avenue to 55th St. Info: www.nytartanweek.org

6 - 7 Helotes, TX - San Antonio Highland

Games & Celtic Music Festival

A kilt-filled weekend for all ages at Helotes Festival Grounds, 12210 Leslie Rd. Info: www.sahga.org

6 Fremont, CA - Ardenwood Tartan Day Scottish Faire

The pipes are calling, and the bold Scottish tribes will gather once again for the annual Tartan Day Scottish Fair at Ardenwood Historic Farm, 34600 Ardenwood Blvd. Info: 510 544-2797.

6 - 7 Bakersfield, CA - 24th Annual Kern

County Scottish Games and Gathering

This event has something for every member of the family. Experience the rich culture and history of Scotland firsthand through an array of authentic activities, athletics, dancing, entertainment, and cuisine at Kern County Fairgrounds. Info: Email info@kernscot.org or call 661-865-8890.

6 Bethel Park, PA - Pittsburgh Tartan Day 2019

The members of the St. Andrew's Society of Pittsburgh will host visitors between 10:00 AM and 4:30 PM at Bethel Presbyterian Church. The event is free to the public. There will be entertainment from bagpipers, fiddlers, and dancers. Food, raffles, Celtic workshops, and a variety of gifts can be purchased. Info: www.standrewspittsburgh.org

6 San Diego, CA - House of Scotland Pipe Band Tartan Day

There will be music, dancing, children's activities, shopping, bagpipers, bagpipe competitions, pipe bands, Highland dancers, country dancers, stage entertainment, traditional foods including haggis, meat pies, and more at Balboa Park. Info: www.hospb.org

6 Dunedin, FL - Dunedin Highland Games & Festival

Pipe bands, Scottish dancing, entertainment, athletics and more at Highlander Park. Info: www.dunedinhighlandgames.com

Answers to Scotword from page 6

Across: 1) Canty, 4) Alpha, 11) Robroyamacgregor, 12) Iron, 13) Fling, 14) Clan, 15) Toes, 17) Burn, 18) Thole, 20) Spey, 21) Guid, 25) Dook, 26) Drops, 27) Unca, 30) Eriskaylovelilt, 31) Islay, 32) Stags

Down: 2)Arbroathsmokies, 3) Tron, 5) Lorn, 6) Highlanddancing, 7) Dreich, 8) Smelt, 9) Scone, 10) Orkney, 16) Sty, 17) Beg, 19) Midden, 22) Clarty, 23) Greys, 24), Apron, 28) Skua, 29) Peat

6 Nationwide - Tartan Day

Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage on April 6, the date on which the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in 1320. Wear some tartan with pride today!

12 - 14 Huntersville, NC - Loch Norman Highland Games

The Loch Norman Highland Games at Rural Hill is a family friendly event presented by Historic Rural Hill, 4431 Neck Rd. Info: www.ruralhillscottishfestivals.net

20 Parkersburg, WV - Scottish & Celtic Heritage Festival

The festival will feature day long entertainment with Scottish, Irish bands, Highland dancers, bagpipers, raffles, Celtic ware vendors, crafters, genealogy, local history and more at the City Park Pavilion. Info:scotlandceltfest@att.net

25 - 28 Norfolk, VA - Virginia International Tattoo

Mounting a mighty spectacle that changes every year, the Virginia International Tattoo summons more than 1,000 performers including fife and drum corps, bagpipers, military bands and precision drill teams at Scope Arena. Info: www.vafest.org/tattoo

SCOTLAND

MARCH 2019

6 - 10 St Andrews - StAnza

StAnza, Scotland's Poetry Festival, is held every March in St Andrews, Scotland's oldest university town. With readings, exhibitions, performances, music, and film. Info: www.stanzapoetry.org

9 Cupar - Fife Whisky Festival

The Fife Whisky Festival brings over 30 distilleries and independent bottlers from all over Scotland to showcase their whisky wares at Cupar Corn Exchange, St Catherine St. Info: www.fifewhiskyfestival.com

10 Nationwide - International Bagpipe Day

This is a day initiated by The Bagpipe Society to celebrate the world's many bagpipes and piping traditions. Every March 10th you are invited to go out and play your pipes – anywhere, anyhow to anyone!

14 - 31 Glasgow - Aye Write! Glasgow's Book Festival

Aye Write! remains committed to celebrating Scottish and international writers and writing. Info: www.ayewrite.com

14 - 31 Glasgow - Glasgow International Comedy Festival

Glasgow's comedy festival birls back into your life, getting ever more impressive with each outing. For 2019, you're looking at a lineup of Craig Hill, Janey Godley, Julian Clary and more. Info: www.glasgowcomedyfestival.com

15 - 17 Dunkeld & Birnam - Niel Gow

Annual Scottish Fiddle Festival

Now a breeding ground for traditional music talent, the festival runs a selection of workshops, performances and events each year. Established in 2004 to celebrate the life of Perthshire fiddle legend Niel Gow, this festival is held in his home village of Dunkeld & Birnam each year. Info: www.niel-gow.co.uk

16 Innerleithen - Rat Race Mighty Deerstalker

An evening obstacle course where tweed is actively encouraged followed by the Mighty Beerstalker Party with food, ales and live bands. Legend tells of a cult running event deep in the Scottish Borders. This is probably the hardest off-road-Tweed-clad-pipe-lit-plus-four-and-headtorch-wearing run that exists at Traquair House. Info: www.mightydeerstalker.co.uk

16 Stirling - Sounds from Stirling

Castle: A Military Concert

Performances in aid of the service charity Erskine and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Museum Trust,. At Stirling Castle a magical evening of military performances featuring: The Band of The Royal Regiment of Scotland, The Military Wives Choir and The Pipes, Drums and Dancers of Queen Victoria School. Info: www.historicenvironment.scot

22 Glasgow - An Evening of Traditional Music

An exuberant evening of traditional music featuring students from Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Info: www.rcs.ac.uk

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Clan MacLeod at Stone Mountain Highland Games and Scottish Festival 2018



Franklin Wyatt III, Weedon Nichols, President CMSUSA, Liz of Raasay, John of Raasay, Tim Batten MacLeod of the MacLeod Pipes and Drums.

It is quite amazing to consider how fast time flies. It was Parliament 2014 that John Norman, then President Clan Macleod Society of the United States of America (CMSUSA), and Franklin Wyatt III asked me if I would be guest of honour at the Stone Mountain Games, 2018, supported by Clan Macleod being the host Clan for that year. An honour indeed with only one sensible answer: yes.

Clan Macleod Society of the United States of America

Fast forward four years, very fast, just after returning from Clan Macleod Parliament 2018 for Liz and I to head off to Atlanta for the Stone Mountain Games. Liz and I are truly grateful to Clan Macleod Society of the United States of America and the Stone Mountain Games organising committee for inviting us and generously hosting our attendance. I gather that Clan Macleod has been at these Games almost every year since its inception.

Compared with that which I have experienced at other highland games events, I was stunned by the magnitude of the Games organisation: a significant

games committee, numerous patrons and sponsors, several distinguished Clan guests, including Donald MacLaren of MacLaren, Convenor of the Standing Council; of Scottish Chiefs, over a hundred Scottish Clans and an army of five hundred volunteers (not all on one day of course).

All this was held together by the experienced Games committee chairman, Norman Livermore, a larger than life man, with an excellent group of dedicated committee members. With so many Clans attending, the chance for a Clan to be host with their Chief does not happen often. Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod was guest of honour many years ago. Outside the direct Games activities and official duties, CMSUSA Vice President, John William and Ann were wonderful and welcoming hosts in meeting us, ferrying us around, taking us out for meals and sightseeing and meeting all the Clan and Games obligations. We appreciated John, Franklin and Ann allowing us to help, or perhaps meddle, in the preparations for the Clan MacLeod tent which gave us an opportunity to understand all the work that goes into the preparations for Games activities.

Being on site during the preparations for the Games allowed us to understand the huge amount of work that goes on behind the scenes, both for the Clans and the Committee and had allowed us to join in. And it was fun! During this preparation period, at one of the volunteer's lunches, Norman presented Liz and I each with a volunteers tee shirt, which was a highlight and a great memory of the fun. However, while we may well have met the criteria of being on site for the required number of days at set up, we did feel a little phoney in accepting them. Apart from the days prior to the games weekend, there were several official dinners and functions to attend and speak to and then to open and close the actual Games days, Saturday and Sunday.

Athletic competitions, highland dancing, piping and band competitions took place over the two days with vendor tents, sheep dogs, falconry, children's activities, musical entertainment and the all-important Clan tents surrounding the main arena.

But like all outside functions such as this, weather does play a large part in its success. The first day, with warm, damp conditions, did not stop any of the planned activities but resulted in a less than expected crowd.

Clansfolk

Athletic competitions, highland dancing, piping and band competitions took place over the two days with vendor tents, sheep dogs, falconry,

children's activities, musical entertainment and the all-important Clan tents surrounding the main arena.

Outside the official duties of opening and closing speeches, Liz and I met many Clan MacLeod people, at the MacLeod host tent situated next to the main arena. We also toured around the other Clan tents meeting and chatting with many of the Clansfolk who were exhibiting at the games. There was a competition for the best Clan tent based on a range of criteria including design of the area, quality of information, appropriate highland dress and Clan materials for sale. The winner for the best Clan tent was Clan MacLaine of Lochbuie.

Perhaps the most memorable and unexpected display for me at the Games was the parade of tartans on Sunday. With over a hundred Clans present, and Scottish Societies, each with an entourage of two to twenty members, filled the arena. In my opening remarks for Sunday, I commented that I was "blown away" with the event and the opportunity to lead the parade with the host Clan, Clan MacLeod. Ann Macleod took lots of photos and presented us with a photo diary that will be a permanent reminder of the great time we had, and the importance that the Clans play at the Games in today's world.

The Games committee presented me with a cromach, as each guest of honour receives, with wonderfully carved detail of my crest and other elements that is another perfect reminder of a fabulous Scottish event. It was indeed an honour and a pleasure, with the support of the Clan Macleod Society of the United States of America and the Stone Mountain Games organising committee inviting us to attend. The honour was to represent and lead the Clan and to undertake my official Games duties, and the pleasure was everything else, including meeting and greeting so many people, MacLeods and others, that we met around the site and at the functions.

The Scottish Banner thanks John Macleod of Raasay for his contribution and for sharing his thoughts with our readers.



John of Raasay, Liz of Raasay, John Macleod VP, CMSUSA with competitors at the games.

IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Colcannon

Ingredients:

500g/1lb2oz. floury potatoes, cooked
250g/9oz. cabbage, shredded
and lightly steamed
2 tbsp cream (optional)
salt and black pepper
1 large or 2 small onions, sliced thinly
a little bacon fat, beef dripping or other oil,
for frying

Method:

Sieve or mash the potatoes and mix with the cabbage and cream. Season well with salt and pepper.

Fry the onion in the fat over a moderate heat until it is soft and beginning to brown.

Using a spatula, press half the potato and cabbage mixture in an even layer on to the onion and fry for 4-5 minutes until it is well browned and crispy underneath.

Cut the mixture into 4 quarters with the spatula or palette knife and turn them over carefully so that the crispy bit is uppermost. Press the remaining potato and cabbage mixture on to the first layer and after a few more minutes, cut and turn again.

When the bottom is again browned, you will have a crispy top too, a crispy bottom, and a crispy layer in the middle.

Welsh Rarebit

**Ingredients:**

50g/2oz. flour
50g/2oz. butter
250ml/9oz. strong beer, warmed
250g/9oz. strong cheddar, grated
2tsp. English mustard
2 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
black pepper
4 large slices granary bread

Method:

In a small saucepan melt the butter and make a roux with the flour. Cook for a couple of minutes, stirring to prevent the roux from burning. Stir in the warm beer by degrees, until you have a thick but smooth

sauce. Add the grated cheese and stir until melted. You should now have a thick paste. Mix in the mustard and Worcestershire sauce and season well with black pepper.

Lightly toast and butter the bread, then pile up the cheesy mixture on each slice. Cook under a hot grill for a few minutes, until browned and bubbling.

Classic Cornish pasty

**Ingredients:****For the pastry:**

500g/1lb 1oz. strong bread flour
120g/4oz. vegetable shortening or suet
1 tsp. salt
25g/1oz. margarine or butter
175ml/6fl oz. cold water
1 free-range egg, beaten with a little salt (for glazing)

For the filling:

350g/12oz. good-quality beef skirt, rump steak or braising steak
350g/12oz. waxy potatoes
200g/7oz. swede
175g/6oz. onions
salt and freshly ground black pepper
knob of butter or margarine

Method:

Tip the flour into the bowl and add the shortening, a pinch of salt, the margarine or butter and all of the water.

Use a spoon to gently combine the ingredients. Then use your hands to crush everything together, bringing the ingredients together as a fairly dry dough.

Turn out the dough onto a clean work surface (there's no need to put flour or oil onto the surface because it's a tight rather than sticky dough).

Knead the dough to combine the ingredients properly. Use the heel of your hand to stretch the dough. Roll it back up into a ball, then turn it, stretch and roll it up again. Repeat this process for about 5-6 minutes. The dough will start to become smooth as the shortening breaks down. If the dough feels grainy, keep working it until it's smooth and glossy. Don't be afraid to be rough – you'll need to use lots of pressure and work the dough vigorously to get the best results.

When the dough is smooth, wrap it in cling film and put it in the fridge to rest for 30–60 minutes.

While the dough is resting, peel and cut the potato, swede and onion into cubes about 1cm/½in square. Cut the beef into similar sized chunks. Put all four ingredients into a bowl and mix. Season well with salt and some freshly ground black pepper, then put the filling to one side until the dough is ready.

Lightly grease a baking tray with margarine (or butter) and line with baking or silicone paper (not greaseproof).

Preheat the oven to 170C (150C fan assisted)/325F/Gas 3.

Once the dough has had time to relax, take it out of the fridge. The margarine or butter will have chilled, giving you a tight dough. Divide the dough into four equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a ball and use a rolling pin to roll each ball into a disc roughly 25cm/10in wide (roughly the same size as a dinner plate).

Spoon a quarter of the filling onto each disc. Spread the filling on one half of the disc, leaving the other half clear. Put a knob of butter or margarine on top of the filling.

Carefully fold the pastry over, join the edges and push with your fingers to seal. Crimp the edge to make sure the filling is held inside – either by using a fork, or by making small twists along the sealed edge. Traditionally Cornish pasties have around 20 crimps. When you've crimped along the edge, fold the end corners underneath.

Put the pasties onto the baking tray and brush the top of each pasty with the egg and salt mixture. Bake on the middle shelf of the oven for about 45 minutes or until the pasties are golden-brown. If your pasties aren't browning, increase the oven temperature by 10C/25F for the last 10 minutes of cooking time.

Cornish Heavy (Hevva) Cake

**Ingredients:**

500g/1lb 1oz. Self-raising flour
250g/9oz Butter
360g/13oz. Mixed dried fruit
180g/6oz. Sugar
100ml.3.5 fl oz. Milk

Method:

Preheat the oven to 190°C/375°F. Line a medium, square cake tin.

Rub the butter into the flour until it's the texture of fine breadcrumbs. Add the sugar and fruit and mix well. Add the milk and mix to a soft, stiff dough.

Press into the cake tin, pushing down firmly in the corners. Score the top of the cake with a sharp knife, making criss-cross diagonal lines.

Place in the middle of the preheated oven and bake for 35-40 minutes, or until golden brown and a skewer inserted in the middle comes out clean.

Remove from the oven and while still warm, brush with milk and give a generous sprinkling of granulated sugar. Allow to cool and cut generous slices.

In the Celtic kitchen

We celebrate our Celtic cousins of Wales, Cornwall and Ireland who will be celebrating St David's, St Piran's and St Patrick's Day this month. People in Wales and those of Welsh origin celebrate the life of their patron saint, St David, and the Welsh culture on March 1st. Saint Piran's Day is celebrated each year on 5th March as the national day of Cornwall. The Irish Saint Patrick will be celebrated across the world on March 17th by the Irish community, a toast for St Patrick's Day, "May the roof above us never fall in, and may we friends beneath it never fall out."

Irish Champ

**Ingredients:**

1.35kg/3lb potatoes, well-scrubbed and left whole in their jackets
290ml/½ pint milk
85g/3oz. butter
salt and white pepper
1 large bunch spring onions, finely chopped

Method:

Boil the potatoes in salted water until soft. Drain and remove from the pan. Leave until just cool enough to peel. Mash thoroughly.

Boil the milk and add to the potato, together with the spring onions.

Season and stir well.

Pile into a serving dish.

Make a well in the centre and add the butter. Serve immediately.

Bara Brith

**Ingredients:**

450g/1lb. dried mixed fruit
250g/9oz. brown sugar
300ml/½ pint warm black tea
2 tsp. mixed spice
450g/1lb. self-raising flour
1 free-range egg, beaten

Method:

In a large bowl soak the fruit and sugar in strained tea and leave overnight.

Next day preheat the oven to 170C/325F/Gas 3. Line a 900g/2lb loaf tin with baking parchment.

Mix the remaining ingredients into the fruit mixture and beat well.

Pour the mixture into the loaf tin and bake the oven and bake for 1½ hours or until a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean.

Sir Billy Connolly Announced as NYC Tartan Day Parade Grand Marshal



Sir Billy Connolly. Photo courtesy of New York Tartan Week.

Globally-renowned comedian, artist, musician, presenter, actor and artist, Sir Billy Connolly, will be the 2019 Grand Marshal of the New York City Tartan Day Parade, taking place on the 21st anniversary of the official Tartan Day this April.

The Glasgow-born icon will lead this year's procession along Manhattan's Sixth Avenue on Saturday April 6th – with 1,500 participants including solo pipers, drummers, full pipe bands, Highland dancers, Scottish clans and the ever-popular Scottish dogs, in tow.

Billy Connolly, Grand Marshal of the 2019's NYC Tartan Day Parade, said: "I'm thrilled to be this year's Grand Marshal of the New York City Tartan Day Parade. I can't wait to hear all those bagpipes echoing off the skyscrapers and to see Sixth Avenue awash with thousands of swaying kilts. It's going to be brilliant."

Scottish-American's contribution

The famous NYC Tartan Day Parade takes place Saturday April 6th, the official National Tartan Day in the United States. With around 30,000 spectators set to watch 1,500 participants march from 45th Street to 55th Street up Sixth Avenue. And of course, our famous parade pups are set to make their annual appearance and the beloved competition will be judged by internationally acclaimed psychologist and wife of Billy Connolly, Dr. Pamela Stephenson.

Kyle Dawson, President of the New York Tartan Day Committee, said: "We're beyond delighted to announce that Billy Connolly will join us as Grand Marshal of this year's New York City Tartan Day Parade this April. For over half a century, he has entertained us all through his work and, because of this, he is beloved on both sides of the pond. We look forward to enjoying a big year with the Big Yin. See you all in April."

In 1998 the U.S. Senate declared April 6th to be National Tartan Day to recognize the Scots, and Scottish-American's contribution to building America. In 1999, two pipe bands and a small but enthusiastic group

"I'm thrilled to be this year's Grand Marshal of the New York City Tartan Day Parade. I can't wait to hear all those bagpipes echoing off the skyscrapers and to see Sixth Avenue awash with thousands of swaying kilts. It's going to be brilliant."

of Scottish Americans marched from the British Consulate to the UN --the first New York Parade. Since then, the parade has grown to include hundreds of pipers, thousands of marchers and many more thousands cheering from the sidelines.

For details see: www.nyctartanweek.org

Saint Andrew's Society of Los Angeles Burns Supper

Images courtesy of the Saint Andrew's Society of Los Angeles.



The Saint Andrew's Society of Los Angeles recently held their annual Robert Burns Supper on January 26th and it was the best attended in the history of the Society with over 200 guests enjoying the traditional celebration. The Society was honoured to welcome back Deputy Scottish Counsellor for USA Rory Hedderly as the guest speaker. In addition twenty-two members of Edinburgh University Alumni Association joined the festivities, as well as alumni from Oxford University. 17th Squadron



based at Edwards AFB was represented by Wing Commander Jonathan Smith, Capt. Kingslee Gourrick, and Warrant Officer Brad Ableby and his wife Donna.

The purpose of the Society is to promote Scottish history, traditions, and culture by developing educational and charitable undertakings that nurture relations between the Society, the people of Los Angeles and the greater community.

For more information on the Saint Andrew's Society of Los Angeles see: www.saintandrewsla.org

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past



1 - The Advocate's Library (known as the National Library of Scotland since 1925) opened by its founder, Sir George Mackenzie, the Lord Advocate in Edinburgh. **1682**

1 - Scots voted in favour of Devolution, but failed to reach the required 40% of the population in favour of implementing it - due to 36% of the electorate not voting. **1979**

1 - Actor David Niven was born, roles included *The Pink Panther* and *Around the World in Eighty Days*. Niven had claimed several times that he was born in Kirriemuir, but according to his birth certificate, was born in London. **1910**

2 - King Robert II born in Paisley, the first monarch of the House of Stewart. He was the son of Marjorie Bruce, daughter of Robert the Bruce, and Walter, High Steward of Scotland. Robert acted as regent three times during the reign of his uncle, David II, and acceded to the throne in 1371. He died in 1390 and was succeeded by his son Robert III. **1316**

3 - Robert Adam, architect, died. Among his many works were Culzean Castle, Fort George, The Town House, Inveraray and Glasgow Trades Hall. **1792**

3 - Alexander Graham Bell born Edinburgh. Bell was scientist, inventor, engineer, and innovator who is credited with patenting the first practical telephone and died in Nova Scotia, Canada in 1922. **1847**

4 - Sir Henry Raeburn, renowned for painting the portraits of many of the citizens of Edinburgh, born. **1756**



4 - Forth Rail Bridge opened by Prince of Wales. **1890**

4 - Jim Clark, Formula 1 World motor racing champion, born Fife. **1936**

5 - King David II born. **1323**

5 - Flora Macdonald, who helped to save Prince Charles Edward Stewart during his flight after the defeat at the Battle of Culloden, died in Kingsburgh, Skye (in the same bed in which Bonnie Prince Charlie had slept during his escape). **1790**



5 - *The Maid of the Loch* paddle steamer was launched, she was built in Glasgow and was the largest ever vessel to be built for an inland waterway in Britain, this was also the last of a series of steamers to sail on Loch Lomond, dating back to 1818. **1953**

6 - King James II decreed in an Act of Parliament that there should be regular target practice and military parades and that "football and golf be utterly cried down and not used". This was the first time that the games had been mentioned in Scottish documents. **1457**



6 - Scotland's first radio broadcast took place. The broadcast took place from Rex House, 202 Bath Street in Glasgow. By the summer of 1924, stations had opened in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, and, by the eve of the Second World War, over 90% of the Scottish population were served by BBC transmitters. **1923**

7 - Sculptor and artist Sir Eduardo Paolozzi born in Leith, the eldest son of Italian immigrants. **1924**

7 - The world's first golf club was founded in Edinburgh. The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers held their first meeting on Leith Links and petitioned the Edinburgh Council to provide a silver club for competition. **1744**

8 - Kenneth Grahame, author of *The Wind in the Willows* born in Edinburgh. **1859**

8 - The *Oor Wullie* cartoon strip first appeared in *the Sunday Post*. **1936**

9 - David Rizzio, Mary Queen of Scotland's secretary, murdered by Lord Ruthven in the Palace of Holyrood. **1566**

9 - *Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith published. **1776**

9 - Scottish faith healer John Alexander Dowie died in Illinois, USA. Edinburgh born Downie believed in the power of prayer only for curing ailments and banned followers from eating certain food, drinking and smoking. **1907**

10 - Birth of James Herriot, author of *All Creatures Great and Small*. **1916**

10 - St Kessog, the Irish missionary in the Lennox area and southern Perthshire, was killed. Kessog was Scotland's patron saint before Andrew, and his name was used as a battle cry by the Scots. Son of the king of Cashel in Ireland, St Kessog is said to have worked miracles, even as a child. **560**

11 - Sir Alexander Fleming, discoverer of penicillin, died. **1955**

11 - The birth of Binkie Stuart, the child film actress, in Kilmarnock. Born Elizabeth Alison Fraser, she was hailed as Britain's answer to Shirley Temple and enjoyed huge fame as a child star. **1932**



12 - The last salmon was caught in the River Kelvin. The salmon population in the river had been in decline due to the rise of industrial pollution in the area. However, in February 1999, after £43 million of investment, salmon again spawned in the river and anglers were allowed back. **1852**

13 - Death of poet and historian John Barbour, author of *The Bruce* recounting the history of King Robert I. **1395**

13/15 - Blitz of Clydebank by German Luftwaffe. **1941**

14 - First television programmes broadcast in Scotland. **1952**

14 - The birth of Scottish lawyer, Dame Margaret Kidd. Not only was Kidd Scotland's first woman advocate, but she was also the first woman King's Counsel in Britain and the first woman to plead before the House of Lords. **1900**

15 - Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh founded Advocates' Library "equipped with works written by lawyers". **1689**



15 - The end of two nights of heavy German bombing of Clydebank. The Clydebank Blitz, as it became known, destroyed a third of the buildings of Clydebank, leaving 35,000 people homeless. A thousand German bombers were used in the raid and the devastation of the town was so complete that only eight buildings remained entirely unscathed after the bombing. To further compound Clydebank's misery, only two enemy planes were shot down. **1941**

16 - King Robert the Bruce convened his first parliament, at St Andrews. **1309**

16 - Death of Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat, chief of the Fraser clan. He developed the Commando force in the British army and was active in the Dieppe Raid (1942) and the D-Day landings (1944). **1995**

17 - Treaty of Edinburgh between King Robert I and Edward III which recognised Scotland's independence, ending the 30 years of Wars of Independence. **1328**

17 - Scotland won Rugby "Grand Slam" at Murrayfield Stadium - the first time in 59 years. **1984**

18 - Earl of Leven raises a Border regiment to hold Edinburgh against the Jacobites. It later becomes the King's Own Scottish Borderers. In 2006, the Kings Own Scottish Borderers Regiment was amalgamated with the Royal Scots to form the Royal Scots Borderers, which became the 1st Battalion Royal Regiment of Scotland. **1689**

19 - King Alexander III died after crossing the river Forth to Fife at Queensferry. **1286**

19 - David Livingstone, missionary and explorer, born Blantyre. **1813**

20 - King Malcolm IV born. **1141**



21 - National Gallery of Scotland opened in Edinburgh. **1859**



21 - Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh opened, becoming the home of Scottish rugby. Scotland marked the occasion by beating England 14-11 and winning their first Grand Slam. Unfortunately, the Scottish rugby team have only managed to repeat this success twice more, in 1984 and 1990. **1925**

22 - Neil Gow, first of a famous family of Fiddle players and composers, born at Inver, near Dunkeld, Perthshire. **1727**

22 - Last fully public hanging in Scotland - that of Joseph Bell at Perth. **1868**

23 - The Free Church of Scotland settlement at New Edinburgh, New Zealand was founded under Rev Thomas Burns, a nephew of the poet Robert Burns. The settlement later became Dunedin, one of the largest towns in the country, and one which still retains a distinctive Scottish character. **1848**

23 - Roddy McMillan, the Scottish stage and TV actor, was born. His credits include the TV series, *The View From Daniel Pike*, and the play, *The Revellers*. However, he will be most fondly remembered for his portrayal of Para Handy, the captain of the *Vital Spark* in the much loved television series of the 1960s. **1923**

24 - Union of the Crowns of England and Scotland on the death of Queen Elizabeth I and the succession of King James VI of Scotland. **1603**

24 - An estimated one million people watched the *Queen Mary* leave the Clyde for the first time. However, the sailing did not quite go to plan: despite extensive dredging having taken place, the liner ran aground twice on the way to Gourrock. **1936**

25 - King Robert I ("The Bruce") crowned at Scone. Bruce was crowned by Bishop William de Lamberton in front of the banner of the kings of Scotland, wearing royal robes which had been hidden from the English. **1306**



25 - The Commercial Bank of Scotland was founded in Edinburgh by John Pitcairn, Lord Cockburn and others. **1810**

26 - Car driving tests introduced for the first time. **1934**

27 - King Robert II crowned at Scone. **1371**

27 - Scottish chemist Sir James Dewar, inventor of the Dewar Flask, which later became known as the Thermos flask, died. **1923**

27 - King James VI died at Theobalds Park, Hertfordshire and buried at Westminster Abbey. Succeeded by his son, King Charles I. **1625**

27 - David Coulthard, Grand Prix racing driver born in Twynholm, Dumfries and Galloway. **1971**

28 - King Robert the Bruce captured Berwick on Tweed. **1318**

28 - The Scots Guards Regiment was formed when King Charles I issued a commission to the Marquess of Argyll, Chief of Clan Campbell, authorizing him to raise in Scotland a regiment of 1,500 men. The King's 'Lyfe Guard of Foot' became the Scots Guards. **1642**

29 - Longannet, Scotland's last deep coal mine, closed, ending centuries of mining tradition. The Fife mine was put into liquidation after being flooded on the 23rd, when a dam separating old workings from new seams under the river Forth collapsed. **2002**



29 - The Royal Society of Edinburgh incorporated by charter. **1783**

30 - King James I captured by English near Flamborough Head on his way to France. **1406**

30 - Edward I of England sacked the Scottish town of Berwick. The English army destroyed the town and decimated the population of around 15,000. This act was retaliation for the widespread carnage perpetrated in the north of England, and what Edward considered to be the treacherous stab in the back of the Scottish-French alliance. Berwick was rebuilt by Northumbrians, and the Scottish-English border forever after remained north of this town. **1296**

31 - Scottish Regalia (crown, sceptre and sword) saved from invading army of Oliver Cromwell by James Granger, minister at Kinneff, Aberdeenshire, after they had been smuggled from Dunnottar Castle which was under siege. **1652**

31 - General Patrick Gordon was born. Gordon led a remarkable life. Upon leaving Scotland, he entered the Russian army as a major and soon rose to become a close advisor to Russian Tsar, Peter the Great. Gordon rose to the rank of General-in-Chief and was made an admiral of the Russian navy. **1635**

Research reveals Scotland's west coast as global cetacean hotspot

Images courtesy of the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust.



Common dolphin.

Scotland's west coast seas are a global hotspot for cetaceans and basking sharks, and need better protection, said Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust as it released a new marine atlas capturing key discoveries made over the past 15 years. The first Hebridean Marine Mammal Atlas showcases findings by the charity's scientists and citizen science volunteers during annual research expeditions on its specialized yacht *Silurian*.

The findings highlight the region's extraordinary biodiversity and shed new light on its whales, dolphins and porpoise – collectively called cetaceans – and basking sharks.

"This pioneering research is transforming our understanding of the Hebrides' remarkable cetaceans, while offering new insights about trends and changes in the marine environment," said Dr Lauren Hartny-Mills, Science and Policy Manager at Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust.

The atlas also celebrates the contribution of over 700 paying volunteers who have joined one of 200 research expeditions on *Silurian*, making the surveys possible year after year.

A truly special place for cetaceans and basking sharks

Television presenter Liz Bonnin, patron of the trust, said: "It is increasingly clear that the Hebrides is a truly special place for cetaceans and basking sharks, and that we need to do far more to protect them and their environment. I had the great pleasure of sailing on *Silurian* and I am thrilled to be able to lend my support to such an outstanding organisation which works directly towards these goals."

So far, 23 cetacean species – a quarter of all known globally – have been recorded in the Hebrides. Since 2002, *Silurian* has travelled more than 100,000 kilometres – the equivalent of sailing two and a half times around the world – and 30,000 animals have been recorded.

Discoveries include the Hebrides being a vital feeding ground for minke whales and basking sharks, and that the region is one of the most important areas for harbour porpoise in Europe. The trust's evidence was used to identify the boundary of Scotland's first protected area for harbour porpoise, approved by the Scottish Government in 2016.

The research has also established that the Hebrides supports the UK's only resident population of killer whales or orca

– a group of eight individuals called the West Coast Community, which is likely to go extinct within a generation as no calves have ever been seen.

Biological richness

The trust's researchers were also the first to suggest that bottlenose dolphins live year round off Scotland's west coast.

Human impacts on the marine environment – including entanglement, marine litter, and underwater noise – are also monitored on the surveys. The scale of such threats is often still unclear. With sea temperatures rising in the Hebrides, climate change may be a cause of a 20-fold increase in common dolphin sightings, as this species is generally found in warmer seas. Ongoing research is vital for monitoring such trends.

The trust's unique citizen science programme always uses the same rigorous methods, with annual variations in survey effort accounted for – ensuring findings are comparable between years. This provides long-term data on species' distributions, populations, and behaviours, which is crucial for identifying important areas, and trends and changes in the marine environment.

A long, complex coastline, strong ocean currents, variety of habitats and the influence of the Gulf Stream all boost the area's biological richness. West of the Outer Hebrides a deep-water basin called Rockall Trough is a 'migration highway' for large whales like blue whales, and deep-diving species such as sperm and northern-bottlenose whales.


The trust is recruiting volunteers to work on board *Silurian* for one to two week surveys in 2019. Fees cover boat expenses, accommodation, training, food and insurance, and support the research. Contact volunteercoordinator@hwdt.org, call 01688 302620, or visit hwdt.org/silurian. The Hebridean Marine Mammal Atlas can be downloaded at www.hwdt.org/hebridean-marine-mammal-atlas.



The *Silurian*.

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Scotland's

first female knight

A portrait of Leonie Leaver - First female Scottish knight.

In 2018 thousands of people attended the Medieval Combat World Championships at Scone Palace in Perthshire. Teams from around the world took each other on in full-contact medieval battles, duelling, team fights and archery during the four-day event on the palace grounds and it was the first time the championships had ever been staged in the UK. For one Scottish mother the event sparked a great interest and with a lot of sacrifice, she is now Scotland's first female knight as Nick Drainey explains.

Her armour and weapons weigh more than a third of her own body weight and it took three months of back-to-back shifts to earn the money for them (in between looking after her seven-year-old daughter and training twice a week).

So, when Leonie Leaver steps into the arena to fight, it is moment of pride. The same emotion goes for her team, the Scottish Knight League, as she is the first woman to fight under their banner.

Medieval combat is unrecognised as a sport in Britain but is huge in other parts of the world, particularly in Russia

and Eastern Europe. It is not the same as historical re-enactments; the swords might be blunted, stabbing might be against the rules but the blows and force are real.

The International Medieval Combat Federation

Unknown in Scotland until seven years ago, the sport here was given a huge boost last year when the biggest event in the sport's calendar, the International Medieval Combat Federation's (IMCF) World Championship, took place at Scone Palace in Perthshire. And it was there that 35-year-old Leonie, who lives in Perth, fell in love with the sport.

"My partner, David, saw an advert for the IMCF last year and wanted to go along. I thought it was going to be so boring and so geeky. But then I was sitting watching them and thinking: 'I really like this'."

She got in touch and ended up at a training session in Crieff where her local group meets, initially training in padding with a padded sword and shield. "I used to play ice hockey so I'm used to being padded up and wearing a helmet. We had a little bash around and it just felt right. It clicked this was the sport for me."

But after a couple of months, she was keen to try out armour, initially working with pieces borrowed from the men. "It was a shock to the system at first because you just don't contemplate how heavy it is – it's 20-40kg – but you adjust very quickly. And after a few hits you realise you can hear it but you aren't going to feel it so you're not going to get hurt. You learn to trust your armour as it's built to do this sport."

But there was a drawback: "Borrowing armour is absolutely magnificent but being a woman, I am an entirely different body shape. I was so determined I was going to get my own armour. My day job is cleaning but I was also at a bar in a nightclub so it was three months of working back to back." And this was on top of trying to make the school run for her daughter, Cali, and get to training twice a week.

"I went through hell! How those boys put up with me at the training sessions I don't know, I was so tired," she laughs. Her daughter often also accompanied her to training, where the men play fought with her on their knees so they were the same height. "She loved it," says Leonie.

Medieval tournament

Her reward was being able to order her own armour, which she will this year wear at Scone Palace. The Russian-made mail order titanium armour cost her £1,600



Jacob Potheary, Euan Campbell and Sven Miller take on the English at the world championships in Denmark, 2017. Photo: Caroline Walsh.



Scott Miller. Photo: Caroline Walsh.



Scott Miller tackling an opponent. Photo: Caroline Walsh.



Scottish captain Euan Campbell at Tournament of Destiny, Scone, 2017.

and comprises a brig or main body part, front and back greaves to protect the shins, pieces for the knees and thighs, pauldrons for shoulders, and pieces to protect the arms. “Steel would have been cheaper but titanium is lighter. I bought them from Russia as there is no one in Britain who makes them,” she says. She also picked up a second-hand helmet online from Ireland for £300.

Leonie fights in two categories; sword and shield duelling and a group fight called a bohurt. “The sword and shield event are mostly on points, a bohurt is more of a last man standing,” she says.

Tournaments, massively popular across Europe in the Middle Ages, were designed so that knights could practise combat as well as win prizes and entertain the local populace.

While Leonie is the only Scottish woman taking part in the sport, she is far from the only female worldwide. “It’s seen as a male dominated sport but it’s not at all. There are plenty of ladies who do this all over the world. But in Britain as it’s not recognised as an official sport so people don’t know it exists.”

Tournaments, massively popular across Europe in the Middle Ages, were designed so that knights could practise combat as well as win prizes and entertain the local populace. “They would have arrived in town, put on a show, then gone out socialising afterwards,” says Scott Miller, vice-chairman of the Scottish Knight League. “We are doing nothing different today. They were the sportsmen of their day, some of them only ever fought in tournaments.”



Scottish captain Euan Campbell (Sword and Shield) v an English fighter at the Tournament of Destiny, Scone, 2017.



Tournament of Destiny, Scone, 2017.

There are nods to the 21st century – safety, says Scott, is paramount and marshals keep a close eye on any chinks in armour opening up – and it’s handy being able to nip to Wickes for extra screws for the list fencing, which has to be strong enough to withstand two large men in armour crashing into it “I am about 150kg in my armour,” says Scott. But he adds: “It’s the modern-day successor of a medieval tournament, everything you see you would have seen in a medieval period just everyone lives in the 21st century.”

Comradeship

And the fighters come from very 21st century professions – among the ranks at Scone last year were engineers, chefs, undertakers and students. Injuries, say the fighters, are few. “We reckon the injury rate for this is far less than rugby,” says Scottish captain 24-year-old Euan Campbell. And mostly, they say, this is because they are enclosed, firstly in a centimetre-thick padded jacket called a gambeson, then in armour. The armour’s period can range from 13th to 16th centuries and geographically from Western or Eastern



A portrait of Leonie Leaver - First female Scottish knight.

Europe, the Middle East or Japan. These are no antiques; however, most send their measurements out to Eastern Europe to have a metal suit whipped up.

But any anger is restricted to the arena. “You’ll see a lot of hugging before and after, people congratulating each other, there is no bad sportsmanship,” says Scott. The former RAF serviceman adds: “I was in the first Gulf War and it does feel like going back into a combat situation, it’s the closest you can get. But it’s also like having that military family, you have that comradeship.”



Liam McKenzie Lynch (with flag) leads the Scottish team in at the Tournament of Destiny, Scone, 2017.



Scotland’s Jacob Potheary. Photo: Caroline Walsh.



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