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*Scottish Banner

Publisher Valerie Cairney

Editor Sean Cairney

EDITORIAL STAFF

Jim Stoddart
The National Piping Centre
David McVey
Lady Fiona MacGregor
Eric Bryan
David C. Weinczok
Judy Vickers
Nick Drainey

Offices of publication Australasian Office:

PO Box 6202 Marrickville South, NSW, 2204 Tel:(02) 9559-6348 info@scottishbanner.com

North American Office: mail@scottishbanner.com

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The Banner Says...

Keeping Scottish history alive



by Sean Cairney

ach month in the Scottish
Banner we cannot let an
issue go out without covering
a piece on Scottish history.
The story of Scotland is incredibly
complex, amazing, brutal and
layered. It really is a case that fact is
stranger than fiction when it comes
to the tales of Scotland's story.

There are of course countless books covering all the drama and intrigue of Scotland's past, as well as numerous films and television productions. The international hit show and best-selling book series, *Outlander*, certainly is helping Scotland's tourism industry with both UK and international visits up across Scotland and at the various historic sites and locations associated with the hit show and books.

Scottish history survey

However, it was surprising to recently learn many Scottish school children are not learning about the incredible story of Scotland and their very own people. A survey recently commissioned by The Edinburgh Dungeon looking into Scots' knowledge of their own history has revealed that half of 16-24 year old's in Scotland don't know William Wallace defeated the English at the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297. As thousands of school pupils across Scotland recently sat their end of year exams, the survey showed one in six Scots aged 16-24 said they didn't learn any Scottish history at school.

More than a third of respondents said they learned more about history from films, such as the recent *Mary Queen of Scots* movie, starring Saoirse Ronan and Margot Robbie. The survey probed Scots' awareness of key events and characters, with one of the questions asking respondents to match famous figures with historical facts. The report found three quarters of Scots could correctly match Mary to the fact that she was imprisoned for 19 years before being beheaded in 1587.

Despite Netflix' blockbuster *Outlaw King* streaming into homes around the globe, with Chris Pine in the title role of Robert the Bruce, when it came to naming which battle he won, just over half of the young Scots (53%), aged 16-24 did not know that Robert the Bruce led the Scots to victory against the English at the Battle of Bannockburn.

The survey also looked at where Scots get their knowledge of Scottish history from and reveals three in five Scots of all ages are learning about it from television. Ironically, when asked who invented the television, only 14% knew it was Helensburghborn engineer, John Logie Baird.

On being polled about more history being taught in Scottish schools, 82% of Scots agreed this should be the case, while four in five said it should be taught in a more engaging and interactive way.

In this issue

It is one of the most talked about television shows in the world. I may be one of the few on the planet who have yet to see *Game of Thrones*, a show where history is re-imagined as fantasy. We welcome back David C. Weinczok this month who draws on a vast array of characters, events, places, and themes from Scottish history that echo *Game of Thrones* at every dramatic turn.

The Edinburgh Playhouse is the UK's largest theatre and

celebrates its 90th birthday this year, bringing audiences the best in live entertainment in the heart of Edinburgh. The stories generated from this cultural landmark do not just come from the stage but also the building itself. The Playhouse has hosted many big names over the past nine decades from royalty to music and theatre legends. The building has been saved by a group of passionate locals who love it as much as some big names such as Billy Connolly and the resident ghost called Albert.

This month on June 21st the world celebrates Arctic Day, on what is generally the longest day of the year and when the arctic is bathed in 24hour daylight throughout the Arctic Circle. There is now also a Scottish connection to this day as a campaign to get people to wear Antarctic and Arctic tartan ribbons to raise awareness that our polar regions are warming, and the ice is melting fast. Long-time readers may recall the Scottish Banner first highlighted the Antarctic tartan back in 2000 and this month we are pleased to again highlight this great tartan and this initiative of the world's first Polar Awareness Day.

Scotland keeps enticing us to discover more

These are just some of the stories we have this month. As you work through this month's edition you will see that Scotland's history is very much making news today. The story of Scotland keeps enticing us to discover more and I can only hope that more Scottish school kids can have the opportunity to learn their own amazing history. And whilst it is great that Scotland is being featured on the big and small screen around the world, I hope Scottish kids learn their past in school accurately rather than through a dramatized version. I would have thought Scottish history would be one of the most interesting classes around, surely it must be just as exciting as any student's video game or what they are reading on their phones??!

Someone once told me Scottish history was like doing a family tree, you often find something you were not expecting, and at times can learn something you are shocked by. There are few countries I can think of that can offer such an intriguing and dramatic past, let's hope the story is never forgotten.

Do you think Scottish history should be more widely taught in Scotland or did you learn Scottish history in school? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us



Gracing our front cover: The city of Edinburgh, one of the cities ready to welcome visitors this summer. Photo: VisitScotland.



Special guests visit The Royal Conservatoire in Glasgow

cotland's national conservatoire set the stage for a right royal day in May when His Royal Highness, The Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay paid an official visit to the world-leading performing arts institution, and a famous graduate also received a welcome home. His Royal Highness, who is the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Patron, met students from a range of disciplines and saw some of their creative and performance work. The Royal Conservatoire welcomed back actor and graduate Sam Heughan, lead actor in the hit TV drama Outlander. Sam met with His Royal Highness during his tour and later hosted a Q&A session with acting students.

Celebrate the creative and performing arts

The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) is one of Europe's most multi-disciplinary arts education environments, teaching music, drama, dance, production and film. It is the only institution in the United Kingdom to offer an honours degree in Traditional Music and is the first UK institution to offer a performance degree in British Sign Language and English. Committed to widening access, RCS works in partnership with The Prince's Foundation to deliver progressive teaching in strings and modern ballet to children and young people in Ayrshire from Dumfries House.

Professor Jeffrey Sharkey, Principal of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, said: "We're delighted to have a Patron who is passionate about the value of the arts to society and is committed, as we are, to the vital importance of early access to and progression in arts education. The arts have such a crucial role to play in the current and future well-being of individuals, communities and society as whole and this visit is a chance to celebrate the creative and performing arts at the Conservatoire and the strong commitment of our Patron.

The Royal Conservatoire
of Scotland is one of
Europe's most multidisciplinary arts education
environments, teaching
music, drama, dance,
production and film.

"I'm also delighted that Sam Heughan was able to join us for this special occasion. Sam is a fantastic role model and I hope he too enjoys his visit. It's always a pleasure to welcome our graduates back home to RCS to share their experiences with current students."

Scotland's national conservatoire During his visit, His Royal Highness had the opportunity to meet students and staff and see at first hand the artistry and



creativity of the institution's professionalsin-training. He is expected to visit the Conservatoire's New Athenaeum Theatre to see the technical fit-up for an opera production and will be given a taster of a percussion masterclass.

Scotland's national conservatoire received its royal prefix in 1944 from King George V. The then-Queen Elizabeth assumed the role of Patron, a role in which she continued as Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother until her death in 2002. During her patronage, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother officially opened the Conservatoire's purposebuilt Renfrew Street building in 1987. She also received the institution's first honorary doctorate at Clarence House

on 17 November 1994 to mark her Golden Jubilee as Patron. Following in his grandmother's footsteps, The Duke of Rothesay became Patron in 2003.

Sam Heughan, who was born in Dumfries and Galloway, has enjoyed continued success on stage and screen since graduating in 2003. He is the star of hit TV period drama series *Outlander*, playing lead character Jamie Fraser, a role which has earned him a string of awards. He recently co-starred as a secret agent in the comedy *The Spy Who Dumped Me* alongside Mila Kunis and Justin Theroux and will be back on the big screen in *Bloodshot*, based on the Valiant Comics' superhero of the same name, and *SAS: Red Notice*, based on the book by Andy McNab.

Tartan of the Month-The Forth Bridges Tartan



The Scottish Banner is pleased to be offering the Tartan of the Month series highlighting a variety of different, unique and colourful tartans from around the world which are registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans in Edinburgh. The Scottish Register of Tartans was established by an act of the Scottish Parliament in November 2008 and promotes and preserves information about historic and contemporary tartans from Scotland and throughout the world. Text and image use is courtesy of the Scottish Register of Tartans (SRT).

ommissioned in recognition of, and to celebrate, The Forth Bridges, Scotland, being the only location worldwide to have a transport bridge constructed in each of the 3 past centuries.

The sett has been established as a feature of tartan to represent each of the three centuries of The Forth Bridges; the widest central white band notes a count of 20, representing the completion of the Queensferry Crossing in 2017. The widest grey bands note a count of 19 to represent the completion of The Forth Road Bridge in 1964, this section also provides a visual of the 2 towers of the suspension bridge with its central crosses. The widest red bands count 18 representing the completion of the Forth Rail Bridge in 1890. The design features the 3 colours of each of The Forth Bridges, also featured in the brand logo representing this iconic location and visitor destination. This design (SRT reference 12468) was registered in April 2019 and has been exclusively designed by Kinloch Anderson Ltd for Transport Scotland/The Forth Bridges.



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 New York 79th Cameron Highlanders





I would like any Cameron who is from Edinburgh that will be attending the Clan Cameron Gathering next year to make contact. To make it easier for you to find me I'll be wearing a replica of the New York 79th Cameron Highlanders uniform. They were an American Civil War Regiment that was made up mostly of Scots. They were a Scottish regiment that fought in the American Civil War. I include a picture of myself, my great - great



uncle General Sherman commanding general of the regiment, pre-American Civil War uniform of the regiment and the New York 79th Cameron Highlanders Battle Flag.

Jon Evans
Columbus, Nebraska
USA
Email: auchnacarry09@yahoo.com

Ed note: Thanks for sharing this Jon and we hope you make some connections for the Clan Cameron Gathering.

Creating Scotland

Weather is first. Snow, of course, and wind. Rock and gnarly pine for strength. High mountains for solitude, valleys for softer days.

Lonely crags for mystics to sit upon and dream. Wildcats for strength and pipes for soul.

Heather, gorse, and bluebells fight through thin and rocky soil, show how to drive the deep roots which hold its people here.

David Black USA

Ron Dempsey

I have been writing to Ron Dempsey for about 6-8 years about different names and things. You have had a great column which is also very interesting. I have been part of the Maclean and Glen Innes Festivals for nearly 30 years. It is good to keep in touch with the new and the past and other things with *the Scottish Banner*.

Thank you Ron for your columns. Ray Parry Lismore, NSW Australia

Ed note: Thanks for your note Ray, Ron will be missed but has certainly informed many people across the globe on genealogy.

May 2019 edition

I always look forward to each monthly publication, which I subscribe to electronically. This month however, May 2019, was particularly interesting and informative. I loved it.

Thanks, Dorothy (Munro) Scallon Canada

Ed note: thank you Dorothy for your kind feedback, and we are glad to hear you enjoyed May's features.

Victory Calls!

Hello from Tasmania, As I often enjoy reading your paper, I thought I might take the liberty of sending you a poem I wrote after hearing a pipe band on the street last year. As an old Scottish lassie, it stirred my blood a wee bit!

Victory Calls!

Hear the skirl of bagpipes, oh hear their mighty call, Throwing us back to old times, when highland men stood tall. Proud tartan clans all gathered to see their battles won. Shy deer would watch from mountains, then through the heather run. Those bagpipes once did echo, so clear across the glen, Pure and wild and rousing. They spoke to all Scots men. "Come follow us to freedom! Make your cry be heard! Stand gallant and victorious - our foes will not be spared!" Staunch kilted men stood firm, determined in their fight, To risk their lives for justice, for what they felt was right. All battled in to history - some made it home, some died. Such stories will forever be a part of Scotland's pride. How rich these pipes are calling, still lifting hearts again. Shrill and loud and joyful. Pride surges through each vein. Their sounds pervade the heavens - so glorious and strong. Surely ancient spirits hear once more, the old ancestral song!

> Irene Bale (nee Lauder) Tasmania, Australia

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send your photos or letters via social media

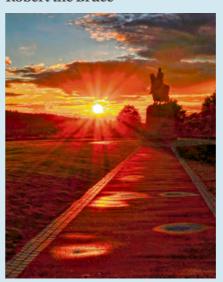


Highland locals



Caught this beauty up at Glen Etive this morning was rather wet and windy. GN Photography Scotland

Robert the Bruce



Sunset at Robert the Bruce, Bannockburn. Robert Gibb Scotland The Sir John De Graeme lion



The Sir John De Graeme lion has now returned to his place atop the Memorial Fountain. The Society of John De Graeme Scotland

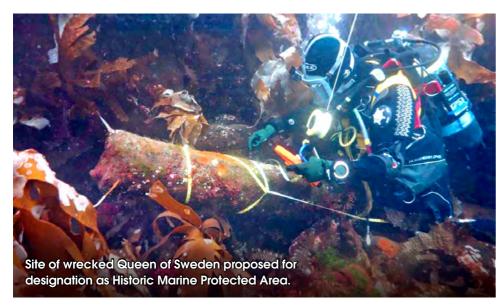
The Declaration of Arbroath Statue



The Declaration of Arbroath is a declaration of Scottish independence, made in 1320. It is in the form of a letter in Latin submitted to Pope John XXII, dated 6 April 1320, intended to confirm Scotland's status as an independent. *GN Photography Scotland*

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

Consultation launched to protect Shetland's marine heritage



consultation has been launched seeking views from the public on the designation of the site of an 18thcentury merchant ship which sunk off the coast of Shetland over 250 years ago. The wrecked vessel is believed to be the *Queen of Sweden*, a merchant ship of the Swedish East India Company which hit a rock off the headland of Knab while seeking shelter in Bressay Sound, Shetland on 12 January 1745. The remains lie close to Twageos Point, at the southern entrance to Lerwick Harbour.

Historic Environment Scotland (HES), who advise Scottish Government on the designation of historic MPAs, has recommended the Scottish Government recognise and protect this important part of Scotland's marine heritage with HMPA status. Historic MPAs aim to preserve marine historic assets of national importance, so they can be protected, valued and understood.

The wreck of *Queen of Sweden* is arguably the best preserved remains of a merchant sailing vessel of the Swedish East India Company located in waters around Scotland.

Significant event in the history of the Shetland Isles

Philip Robertson, Deputy Head of Designations at HES, said: "The sinking of the *Queen of Sweden* was a significant event in the history of the Shetland Isles, and the wreckage that remains is a marine heritage site of national importance that can greatly enhance our knowledge and understanding of the Swedish East India Company and its trading activity around Scotland's coasts during the 18th century. We believe that designating the site as a Historic MPA will promote its heritage value, and I'd like to encourage as many people as possible to take this opportunity to share their views about this important piece of our nation's priceless marine heritage."

The *Drottningen af Swerige (Queen of Sweden)* was the flagship of the Swedish East India Company, and the largest vessel in the company's fleet. During the 18th century, the Swedish East India Company played an important role in growing northern European trade with China in tea and silk.

The vessel left Gothenburg on 9
January 1745, en route to Cadiz for more supplies before heading to China. However she quickly ran into trouble a few days later as the weather deteriorated. With poor visibility and under blizzard conditions, the ship struggled to maintain course, forcing the captain to head for the safety of Lerwick. With the safety of shore in sight, she struck a rock. Luckily all the crew made it to shore safely.

The 2019 British Pipe Band Championships Paisley Inspired

The Dublin-based pipe band St Laurence O'Toole have reigned victorious at one of the world's largest piping events. The band were crowned winners of the British Pipe Band Championships in Paisley in May. The band's drum corps also took the drumming first prize at the championships. More than 120 bands and 4,000 pipers and drummers travelled from across the UK and Ireland, and as far as the United States, Denmark and Belgium to St James Playing Fields for the event. Ian Embelton, chief executive of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, said: "The British Championships are the first of our five major championships taking place throughout the summer and we saw a top-class display of piping and drumming from the world's best.'

The five major championship contests will conclude with the World Pipe Band Championships in August in Glasgow.

The Battle of Glenshiel – 300 Years On



une 10th 1719: Hanoverian Government forces under Major-General Wightman close in on a Jacobite army under the Marquis of Tullibardine in the mountainous terrain of the Western Highlands. The two armies engage that afternoon in the valley of Glenshiel, in the conclusive battle of the Rising of 1719.

June 10th 2019: 300 years on to the day, Michael Nevin, Chairman of the 1745 Association, will commemorate the anniversary of the Battle of Glenshiel by recounting the events leading up to it, and the course of the battle itself, at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. The talk will start in Gallery No 1, drawing on the paintings there to describe key events that led up to Rising, before moving on to Galley No 4 (the Wolfson Gallery), concluding with a detailed appreciation of Peter Tillemans' contemporary 1719 masterpiece, The Battle of Glenshiel.

Paintings that will be covered in the talk:

Gallery No 1:

• The Execution of King Charles I

- James Graham, Marquis of Montrose (School of Sir Anthony Van Dyck)
- James VII portrayed as a military commander by Sir Peter Liley
- Queen Anne as Princess of Denmark by Jan van der Vaardt

Gallery No 4, The Wolfson Gallery:

- James Francis Edward Stuart portrayed as a baby by Nicholas de Largillière (1691)
- Print of William, Duke of Gloucester
- François de Troy's portraits of Princess Louisa, sister of James Francis Edward Stuart (1700) and James himself (1701)
- Peter Tillemans' 1719 masterpiece of The Battle of Glenshiel

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 talks are free and open to all at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Gallery No 1 and Gallery No 4 (The Wolfson Gallery), 1 Queen Street, Edinburgh. For details see: www.1745association.org.uk

MELBOURNE TARTAN FESTIVAL JULY 12-21

PROGRAM

Friday 12th July 'Drams & Drama' - Whi

'Drams & Drama' – Whisky Tasting event and Scottish movie! - Mini British Film Festival Scottish Film advance screening - Palace Cinema Como,

South Yarra

Saturday 13th **July Genealogy Seminar** – RACV City Club, Bourke St.

'Taking Flight' - Hawthorn Pipes & Drums Concert

– Hawthorn Arts Centre

Victorian Pipers Association Championships

Presbyterian Ladies College, Burwood

Sunday 14th July "In the footsteps of Jean Redpath" with Fiona Ross

Venue to be advised

Pop-up performances – City CBD

Tuesday 16th July Mini British Film Festival Scottish Film private

daytime screening - Kino Cinema, Collins Street

Thursday 18th July Ceilidh Dance – Abbotsford Convent

Friday 19th July Genealogy Day – GSV Lvl 6, 85 Queen St. Melbourne Saturday 20th July Gala Dinner & Concert – Melbourne Town Hall

Gala Dinner & Concert – Melbourne Town Hall (Entertainment by Melbourne Fiddle Club,

Hawthorn Pipe Band, John Carlo Belotti, Glenbrae

Celtic Dancers and Claymore)

Sunday 21st July Kirkin 'O the Tartan – Scots Church, Collins Street.

Tartan Day Parade - Pipe Band Parade - Collins St.

To book events and for regular event updates visit: https://www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au

By: David McVey

The Monument on the Hill



hen you see a monument in a hilltop, you have to climb to the summit and investigate. I do, anyway. So, when I was visiting Galloway, and saw a sizeable kind of obelisk on top of Barstobrick Hill, there was only one thing to do.

Actually, let's start at the beginning, with James Beaumont Neilson (1792-1865). He's a largely forgotten figure yet he revolutionised the iron-smelting trade that was one of the drivers of the industrial revolution. Neilson was born in Shettleston, now in the East End of Glasgow, but then a village on the city's outskirts. His father was an engineer and Neilson studied chemistry, physics and mathematics at the Andersonian

The Gathering



The Gathering brings the wider community together in celebration of Celtic music, culture and performance. In the spirit of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, against the historic backdrop of Ipswich, visitors will witness the colour and spectacle of the Queensland Pipe Band Championships, featuring 250 of Australia's pipe band competitors.

A Highland dancing competition, Celtic music, lost arts and a medieval re-enactment will also feature at this annual Highland gathering of Scottish, Irish, Welsh, French, Spanish, Cornish Celtic cultures. Visitors can also sample Haggis, learn how to play the bagpipes and even participate in the strong man style Highland games, featuring the caber toss, kilted dash and tug-of-war.

Bring the whole clan along and discover Celtic heritage and historic Ipswich at The Gathering, Sunday 23 June at Ipswich Turf Club. Early bird tickets are only \$10, or a whole family can get in for only \$25 with the Clan Pass.

For details: www.gatheringfestival.com.au

Institution, now Strathclyde University. By 1817, he was manager of Glasgow's gasworks company. He was both an able manager and someone who showed an interest in caring for and developing his workforce; the company's Workmen's Institute, complete with a library and fully-equipped laboratory, was opened in 1824.

Neilson was also interested in improving the efficiency of the blast furnaces used in iron smelting. He read a paper on the issue to the Glasgow Philosophical Society as early as 1824. Later he hatched the idea of injecting hot air, rather than cold, into the furnace. This greatly increased the efficiency of the blast, and so less coal was needed to smelt a given weight of iron. The rapidly expanding (and iron-hungry) rail and shipbuilding industries loved this idea, as iron became a great deal cheaper.

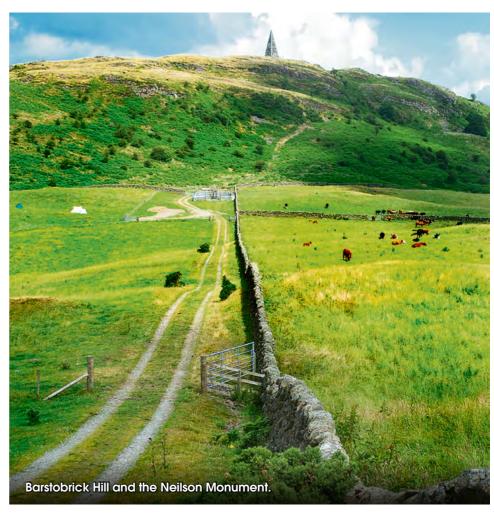
Obelisk of local stone

Neilson demonstrated the effectiveness of the new method at the Clyde Ironworks during 1828-9; it became known as the hot-blast process. He patented the idea in 1828 but had to go to court several times to defend the patent and license his invention. One of the more expensive cases, heard before a jury, was estimated to have cost £40,000 - an unimaginable sum then. Eventually, honours were heaped on Neilson; he was even elected a member of the Royal Society in 1846.

Neilson retired from the Glasgow gas company in 1847 and four years later bought the estate of Queenshall, below Barstobrick Hill near Kirkcudbright and settled there. After his death, his son raised funds to build a monument on the summit of the hill; the monument was unveiled in 1883 and there it remains, a 35ft high obelisk of local stone.

And if we've ever benefitted from inexpensive ironwork - and we all have - we should climb the hill, give the dark stonework of the memorial a friendly slap, and pay tribute to James Beaumont Neilson, an unsung pioneer of our industrial heritage.

Neilson, we're told, was 'a quiet, reflective, unassuming and earnest man, thoroughly honest... kind-hearted and fond of harmless mirth.' In 1843 he left the Church of Scotland at the Disruption and joined the emergent Free Church in protest at the patronage of local grandees in the national church. The popular stereotype of Free Kirk members is of forbidding, backward types, not pioneering men of applied science. But then, most stereotypes are misleading. The attractive picture of a modest, self-effacing and devout Neilson suggests he would have been horrified by the immensity of his memorial and its attention-grabbing position.



Inscription

There's now a Visitor Centre at the heart of the Queenshall and Barstobrick estates and the crag-girt hill looms above it. The walk is actually much easier than it looks on an easy, signposted grass path. You'll quickly reach the 588ft summit with the monument, founded on ribs of rock, looming over you and with much of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright far below your feet. The west-facing side of the monument bears the inscription;

NEILSON HOT BLAST 1828

There's a further inscription on the eastern face that runs;

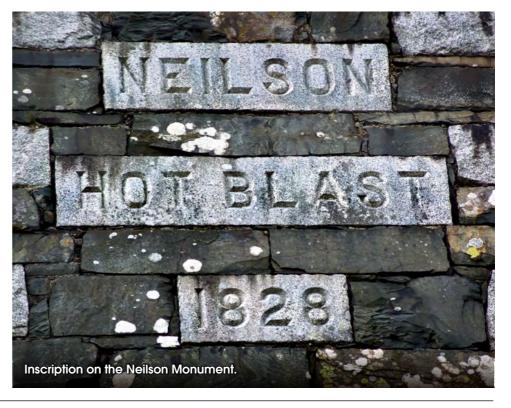
1883 W.M.N FECIT

A familiar sight

It's a monument of few words then. 1883 was the date of building, 'W.M.N' was Neilson's son William who raised the funds, and 'Fecit' is simply the Latin for 'built' or 'made'.

The hill and monument are a familiar sight for miles around; they can be easily picked out from Threave Castle, several miles to the east, for example. Yet few people know much about the man it commemorates or his achievements. A couple of times, on recent visits, I've overheard people in the Visitor Centre refer to the Nelson Monument. I suppose many must assume it's just another tribute to the Trafalgar Guy. It's not.

And if we've ever benefitted from inexpensive ironwork - and we all have - we should climb the hill, give the dark stonework of the memorial a friendly slap, and pay tribute to James Beaumont Neilson, an unsung pioneer of our industrial heritage.



SCOTSPEAK

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

"The Open Streets scheme showcases Edinburgh as a city that puts people first. Helping make the city centre more accessible to users of all abilities to walk, wheel, cycle, relax and connect. Evidence is very clear that vehicle dominance of our urban environment is a major cause of air pollution. In areas where pollution exceeds legal limits, 80% of harmful nitrous oxide gas comes from transport. Closing streets to traffic does have a big and positive impact. As an example, last year's London Marathon, which includes road closures across the city, coincided with an 89% drop in air pollution in central London. Open Streets is a great initiative to make our city centres healthier, greener and safer places for everyone."

Grace Martin, Deputy Director, Sustrans Scotland, said as Edinburgh made history last month when it becomes the first city in the UK to join the Open Streets movement. The scheme aims to replicate the success of similar events in cities like New York, Paris and Brussels, where regular car-free days have revolutionised the way people use their streets, encouraging healthy, active travel, inclusivity and cultural appreciation.



"This incredible achievement cements V&A Dundee's reputation as one of the UK's most significantly important cultural attractions and recognises more than a decade's worth of work, from initial

conception to full operation. My heart-felt congratulations to everyone involved, this is an extraordinary accomplishment. V&A Dundee has been a game-changer for Scottish tourism, propelling the East of Scotland into the global spotlight and showcasing our cultural offering to a worldwide audience. Making this prestigious shortlist will undoubtedly increase interest in the museum, which is already exceeding expectation, and continue to position Dundee as a must-visit destination. We wish V&A Dundee the best of luck at the final in July."

Malcolm Roughead, VisitScotland Chief Executive, said on the announcement that V&A Dundee has been selected as one of five finalists for Art Fund Museum of the Year 2019. The winning museum will be announced at a ceremony at the Science Museum in London on Wednesday 3 July 2019 and will receive £100,000.

"Obviously independence has got political ramifications, but it's a moral cause, that is not a political cause. This is a moral cause and so this movement, this march, is open to everybody who desires an independent Scotland, whether they are Scottish or they are not Scottish. There's people here from across the world who have travelled, and obviously from across the UK."

The All Under One Banner march organiser Neil Mackay said as up to 35,000 people marched for Scottish independence in Glasgow. The March For Independence is one of a series of events taking place across Scotland between May and October.

"Loch Vaa is a unique loch in Scotland because it is gin clear. It is a wonderful fishing loch, especially in evenings. It is a spring-fed loch, there are no tributaries, so something is happening underground. It's almost like somebody has pulled the plug." Aviemore local Brian O'Donnell said that Loch Vaa, near Aviemore has been losing millions of gallons of water since September last year, with estimates that the water level has dropped by 1.4m (4.5ft).



"It has been such a success and the number of visitors is up by 41% on this time last year, so it is clear that many people want to see this for themselves. The feedback has been very positive and we have visitors from as far afield as America and Australia, but it is the amount of schools who have booked visits and already come here which has been so pleasing. The Friends of the Gordon Highlanders have created kid-sized tunics and Glengarries, such as would have been worn by the regiment during the conflict. and the youngsters and their teachers have shown us that they really care about what happened more than 100 years ago. It's the first time we have attempted an immersive experience and the trench has clearly captured many people's imaginations."

Bryan Snelling of the Gordon Highlanders Museum said that a new trench feature to the museum has helped boost visitor numbers by more than 40%. The recreation of how life would have been like for so many soldiers throughout the First World War opened to the public in February.

"Ultimately, we have a big problem with climate change. This is an answer to utilising the true value in our forestry. It is a great natural resource. I currently lease this site, but am in the market to buy forestry for the first time. Bottling is currently contracted out, but I hope to put a facility in place on site as we progress. This is something I did first in the north Pennines, but obviously there is a lot more birch available in the Highlands. Birch syrup is much more savoury than maple syrup, which is sweet. It works well as a glaze for fish and meat and a panacotta for desserts."

Scots businessman Jim Mann said his company have "tapped" hundreds of litres of sap from almost 10,000 birch trees near Beauly. The entrepreneur hopes to offer a product is sustainable and ethical and an alternative to the popular Canadian variety.

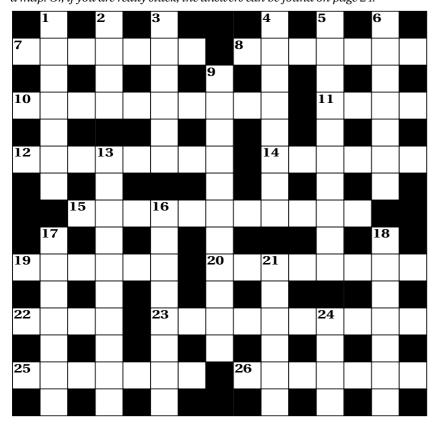


"No-one wants to limit the rights of crofters in any way. But in a world that is reducing risk it would have been good to know what the increased risk to both people and property were before returning the cows to the popular village streets."

Plockton resident Ed Stanley said as a 15-year agreement with the National Trust for Scotland to keep Highland cattle off the street and beach in Plockton came to an end. Historic land rights allowing crofters to have their cows on the main street to the common grazing on the machair were resumed last month.

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

7) Scottish road maker (7).

8) A young hare (7).

10) Best man's opposite number (10).

11) Necessity for the ballerina (4).

12) Stage driver! (8).

14) Room to move (6).

15) Village south of Aberdeen (11).

19) Craft to catch Moby (6).

20) Errors in the garden (8).

22) Employs (4).

23) Birthplace of J. M. Barrie (10).

25) Weapons store (7).

26) Deer meat (7).

CLUES DOWN

1) Country lover (7).

2) Rabble Burns (4).

3) Sounds an attractive cab (6).

4) It swings both ways (8).

5) Pipe band essential in the kitchen! (11).

6) Glasgow's main station (7).

9) Site of 1314 victory (11).

13) Village near Glamis Castle (10).

16) Village on the River North Esk (8).

17) They follow drinks (7).

18) Opposite of I Down (7).

21) Drink enhancers (6).

24) Chief seaway (4).

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Polar Awareness Tartans to help save Planet Earth



The Arctic climate is changing. Permafrost is melting, glaciers are receding, sea ice is disappearing, and sea levels rising. These climatic changes directly affect the Arctic ecosystem, the lives of the local people, and the rest of the world because the Arctic plays a special role in global climate.

une the 21st is Arctic Day, which will also be the world's first Polar Awareness Day. In six months, December 1st will be Antarctic Day, and on both days' tartan ribbons, held by a silver snowflake pin, will be worn by supporters. Why? Because they want to make others aware of what is happening at our poles, and the future devastating effects for Planet Earth. This might seem a big commitment, but these tartans are very special. The Antarctic tartan, designed in 1999, raises funds to help conservation projects in Antarctica, whilst the Arctic tartan, designed in 2000, initially raised funds for WWF before it too was given to the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust and sold online and at their post

office shop in Port Lockroy, Antarctica. Many proud tourists return home with a tartan scarf or tie, and now they can wear them on Polar Awareness Days knowing that both tartans are now a badge to raise awareness of climate change and it's devastating global effects.

Designed to help protect environments

The mirror twin tartans were inspired by two magnificent King penguins. Wildlife photographer Ben Osborne captured the majestic pair, shown on the front cover of the BBC's book *Life in the Freezer*. Their brilliant colours were the palette for the tartan sett which is based upon the

geography, fauna and flora of the vast ice covered Antarctic continent and ocean. The Arctic tartan is the reverse (there being no continent, just ocean surrounded by frozen land masses), however green – for Taiga forest, replaces yellow representing penguin plumage. Initially designed to help protect these environments, twenty years later, urgency for protecting the entire planet has brought these tartans to the fore. To wear them shows you are taking global heating, climate change, and your own personal responsibility to cut emissions, seriously – and you want others to know it.

June the 21st is Arctic Day, which will also be the world's first Polar Awareness Day.

The polar bear on the Arctic tartan is to highlight the fact that many polar bears are starving to death. The proud King penguins may suffer the same fate because there are some colonies of penguins in the Antarctic already facing starvation. The sad truth is - it's our fault because of all the carbon emissions from the coal, oil, and gas we've burned in the last 100 years, plus increasing methane from rearing beef and sheep. There are many other factors too. It is the Arctic, because it is largely sea, that is warming faster than the Antarctic which is largely land, but both are melting - fast. This polar melt will have worldwide implications which will affect us all if we don't do our best to stop temperature rise. Some may find this hard to believe, so let me give you an 'Arctic tartan' example.

Beautiful, pristine, frozen environments

Sir Wally Herbert, was in 1969, the first person fully recognised as having walked to the North Pole. He was also the first man to have a kilt made in the Arctic tartan. In retirement at his home in Inverness, Scotland, after years undertaking research at both the North and the South Poles, he painted exquisite pictures of these beautiful, pristine, frozen environments, illustrating the numerous books he'd written about his expeditions, including Across the Top of the World and Across the Arctic Ocean. But what Sir Wally Herbert achieved half a century ago just isn't possible today. To set out from a land mass and walk across the Arctic Ocean on a floating layer of ice is increasingly hazardous if not impossible. Today, when sunlight returns after three months of winter dark, the ice melts too fast, - as the second owner of an Arctic tartan kilt, discovered. Young Scottish explorer Dave Mill from Perthshire, undertook his daring solo 500-mile trek in 2002 but it ended with him having to be dramatically rescued by ski plane from a crumbling ice floe!

The Antarctic is melting too but rescue from melting ice over an ocean 15,000 feet deep won't be a hazard for another British expeditioner, but there will be many others though. Sir Wally Herbert, who wrote his book A World of Men about exploration in Antarctica, would be surprised to know about Wendy Searle, a 42 year-old mother of Scottish descent, from Salisbury. Her solo unassisted trek of 700 miles, from one side of Antarctica to the other, is over frozen terra firma. Her challenge is to haul everything she needs with her and break a record. When she starts, around December 1st – Antarctic Day, wearing around her neck an Antarctic silk scarf and hauling her kayak shaped 'pulk' over rucked ice and around crevasses, she will carry with her a 10 metre reel of Antarctic tartan ribbon. This unique ribbon, donated by the House of Tartan in Crieff, will journey by 'Wendy power' all the way across Antarctica and be sold to raise funds for her sponsored charities when she returns safely home again. With this provenance the ribbons should become collector's items. Who else can boast ownership of tartan to have journeyed so far by human endeavour? You can find out more about Wendy's record breaking challenge from www.southpole2020.com

The perfect 'polar' pin

First, however, it's Arctic Awareness Day. A word about the snowflake. Everyone knows that a single snowflake is a tiny crystal of ice. We can be like these cooling crystals and by cutting our own emissions help stop temperatures rising further. Snowflakes are the perfect 'polar' pin for these symbolically designed Polar tartans which have so much depending on them. So, will you wear them and help save Planet Earth?

If you would like to wear the Arctic Tartan ribbon with its snowflake pin, then go to the online shop of the UKAHT to purchase: www.ukaht.org/shop





Reasons to visit Scotland's Small Isles



his month marks exactly 22 years since the successful buy-out of the Scottish Isle of Eigg, located to the south of the Skye and to the north of the Ardnamurchan peninsula in the Inner Hebrides, by members of the local community. It also celebrates over two decades of Eigg as a self-sustained island (it generates virtually 100% of its electricity using renewable energy), making it a great time to visit to experience the tranquil and beautiful surroundings of the island.

However, there are always great reasons to visit Eigg, along with its neighbouring islands of Rum, Muck and Canna. All four islands are reached by ferry from Mallaig, with most having a daily service perfectly suited for day trips, ideal for cyclists and hill walkers looking to escape for the day.

Things to see and do in the region

• Escape to (almost) your own private island... and make friends with a herd of highland ponies. With a population of just 38, the island of Muck is the smallest and most southerly of the Small Isles. It has beautiful sandy beaches, rocky shores and the 452ft Beinn Airein with its panoramic view of the surrounding islands, and beyond to Skye and the mainland. It also has a high population of highland ponies which add its magical allure.

- Check out the wildlife. The Small Isles have an abundance of wildlife. Canna has designated a Special Protection Area under the EU Birds Directive, for its large population of breeding sea birds, ideal for those trepid bird watchers. Eigg is a diverse island with wildflowers and arctic• alpines, otters hunting along the coastline and birds of prey soaring high above. Seals, dolphins and minke whales are often spotted from the ferry. Eigg's current bird list totals 212 species.
- Discover island history.... Canna also major importance for the archaeology, history and culture of the Inner Hebrides and west coast of Scotland from the earliest prehistoric times to the present day. It is believed that Muck was occupied

- during Mesolithic times, and a dagger and a number of burial cairns have also been found which date back to the Bronze Age.
- Stay in a bothy. Rum also has two mountain bothies perfect for those who are getting lost in its brilliant landscape or camp out under the stars. Wild camping is also allowed on all of the Small Isles for those who want to truly be at one with nature.
- Get on your bike (or in a kayak).
 A company called Eigg Adventures
 hires out bikes and kayaks, as well as organising guided tours.
- Make friends with the locals. The Isle of Rum Community Shop is run entirely on a voluntary basis by members of the community and includes a post office so you can send a postcard to the folks back home.
- Find a favourite new ale. Eigg is home to its own microbrewery Laig Bay Brewery.
- Live the 'good life'. The Earth
 Connections Eco Centre runs residential
 eco courses and holidays to promote
 green living, which fits in well with the
 whole green ethos of Eigg.
- Try the local delicacies... Visitors to Muck are also encouraged to try Muck meat, which is famed for its succulent lamb and tender steak.
- And finally, leave the car at home. Cars are not permitted (or needed) to access the beauty and features of the Small Isles. Simply put one foot in front of the other or bring your two wheelers!

Melbourne Tartan Festival 2019



he Scots are coming to town!

The skirl of pipes will be echoing through the streets and laneways of Melbourne from 12-21st of July during the Melbourne Tartan Festival.

Pop up performances will surprise and entertain city shoppers throughout the week. You never know where one of our performers will be! Just between us, we're told on good authority to be at iconic Block Arcade, Collins Street Melbourne on Sunday afternoon 14th July. But keep it to yourself!

Ten days of activities

Opening night drinks and a Scottish film on Friday 12th July will get the festival underway followed by ten days of activities. 'Taking Flight' concert with Hawthorn Pipe Band, genealogy seminar and information sessions hosted by the Genealogical Society of Victoria, a whisky tasting event at Westin Melbourne, a high energy ceilidh dance with the Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club, Scottish film screenings at Palace Cinemas

South Yarra and Collins Street courtesy of the Mini British Film Festival, a fun Scottish themed Family Day, a grand Gala Dinner and Concert at the Melbourne Town Hall are some of the events on offer. The Melbourne Tartan Festival finale on Sunday 21st will begin with a Kirkin 'o the Tartan service at the Scots' Church Collins Street and in the afternoon a massed pipe band parade through the City CBD to close out the festival.

The Melbourne Tartan Festival takes place July 12-21st. For full details and to book tickets go to www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au





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Why you need to visit Scotland's cities this summer

ere's a quickfire guide to spending the summer in Scotland's seven cities - take your pick to discover places to eat, things to do, and what's on.

Aberdeen

Text courtesy of Scotland.org Images courtesy of VisitScotland



Spot dolphins in the harbour, admire the striking architecture and discover the cosmopolitan side to this east coast city by the sea.

A walk: Wander the cobbled streets of Old Aberdeen to admire the cathedrallike grandeur of King's College and explore Cruickshank Botanic Garden.

The food: The city's restaurants have a fantastic array of local produce to play with. Succulent Aberdeen Angus beef and fresh seafood dishes await at locations such as the Silver Darling Restaurant.

The views: Head to Torry Battery, which was used for defence during World War Two, to admire city views and see if you can spot dolphins in the harbour.

Attractions: Aberdeen Maritime Museum, Moray Firth boat trips and delightful parks and gardens await in the city. Aberdeenshire is home to over 250 castles, including Dunnottar Castle, just south of the city.

Summer events:

Aberdeen Gin Fest 2019, 5 July Stonehaven Folk Festival, 12 July Stonehaven Highland Games, 21 July Great Aberdeen Family Run, 25 August

Dundee



Named one of the Lonely Planet's Top Ten 'Best in Europe 2018' destinations, Dundee is a UNESCO City of Design and home to the stunning new V&A Dundee.

A walk: A walk or cycle along the River Tay provides excellent waterside views and passes some of the city's top attractions. Walk further to reach Broughty Ferry, a charming seaside town.

The food: Try The Flame Tree Café for their famed rainbow bagel, Jessie's Kitchen for delightful afternoon tea, and Castlehill Restaurant for the dinner tasting menu.

The views: Scale Dundee Law to enjoy views over Dundee, across the river and beyond.

Attractions: There are plenty of places to explore the city's rich history, such as Discovery Point and Verdant Works. Performance spaces, gardens and boat trips are all on offer too.

Summer events:

Dundee Summer Streets Festival, 19-21 July Dundee Flower & Food Festival, 6-8 September

Edinburgh



Scotland's capital has recently been listed as one of TripAdvisor's Most Excellent Cities, and quite rightly. Edinburgh thrives in summertime, when the world-famous Edinburgh Festivals take centre stage.

A walk: Calton Hill is a fascinating place for a walk, home to a cacophony of monuments and the soon to be opened Collective gallery, as well as some of the finest panoramic views of the city.

The food: In Edinburgh you'll find four of Scotland's Michelin Star Restaurants, as well as plenty of other culinary delights such as The Scotch Whisky Experience, Edinburgh Gin Distillery and Six by Nico.

The views: Arthur's Seat in Holyrood Park offers a birds-eye view of the city as well as Duddingston Loch and the medieval ruins of St Anthony's Chapel.

Attractions: Edinburgh Castle, The Royal Yacht Britannia and The Palace of Holyroodhouse are a must for history lovers, while fans of a certain Harry Potter may prefer to tour sites associated with J.K Rowling.

Summer events

Big Fun Run Edinburgh, July 28 The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, 2 – 24 August

The Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 2–26 August Edinburgh International Book Festival, 10-26 August

Glasgow



Did you know that the name Glasgow actually means 'dear green place'? Home to over 90 parks and gardens, it's the perfect place to be on a summer's day and was recently listed as one of TripAdvisor's Most Excellent Cities.

A walk: Take the Heritage Trail through Glasgow Botanic Gardens and return to the tea room for refreshments.

The food: Glasgow is home to foodie institutions, such as Crolla's Gelateria, as well as reimagined pubs and bars providing a modern twist on seasonal Scottish food and drink, such as The Finnieston.

The views: Enter The Lighthouse, Scotland's Centre for Design and Architecture, to explore the exhibitions, visit the Mackintosh Centre, and take in the city from the viewing platform.

Attractions: Join a Glasgow School of Art Tour, visit Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, or follow the City Centre Mural Trail for creative insight into the city.

Summer events:

Celtic FC Festival, 26 July World Pipe Band Championships, 16 – 17 August Piping Live!, 10 – 16 August Clydebuilt Festival, 21 September

Inverness



Known as the capital of the Highlands, Inverness is the perfect base for exploring the surrounding area, and has plenty of attractions of its own.

A walk: Head upstream along the River Ness by foot or by bike and cross the footbridge to the delightful Ness Islands. Keen walkers can continue on to the Caledonian Canal.

The food: Tuck into seasonal dishes at the Kitchen Brasserie, enjoy coffee and cake at Velocity Café and Bicycle Workshop, or sit back and listen to traditional Scottish music at the award-wining Hootananny pub.

The views: The striking Inverness Castle in the city centre offers excellent 360 degree views along the River Ness.

Attractions: The city is home to the impressive Inverness Cathedral, the historic Victorian Market and Fort George. Nearby you can also visit Clava Cairns, Culloden Battlefield and Urquhart Castle on the banks of Loch Ness.

Summer events:

Piping Inverness 2019, June 29 Inverness Highland Games, 20 July Loch Ness Film Festival, 26-27 July Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival, 1-3 August

Perth



Perth is Scotland's newest city and located on the banks of the River Tay, an easily accessible city which can be reached in 90 minutes by 90 percent of Scotland's population.

A walk: Follow the River Tay Public Art Trail to find specially commissioned sculptures along the way, each inspired by the history and natural landscapes of Perth.

The food: Dine in restaurants such as The Bothy and Tabla and browse the amazing selection of goods in Provender Brown, an award-winning delicatessen.

The views: Walk through the woods up Kinnoull Hill for a variety of veiwpoints, including views across the city, and along the River Tay. The clifftop Kinnoull Tower is a particularly impressive sight.

Attractions: Perth Museum and Art Gallery, Black Watch Museum, Perth Concert Hall and Perth Theatre will keep you entertained, as well as activities on the River Tay and around surrounding Perthshire.

Summer events:

Perth Show, 2-3 August Perth Highland Games, 11 August Perth Festival of Yarn 2019, 7 September

Stirling



Stirling is a must for fans of Scottish history and lovers of the outdoors, with Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park right on its doorstep.

A walk: Dumyat, at the end of the Ochil hill range, is a rewarding short hike that offers views across the city and along the River Forth.

The food: Stirling is home to some historic pubs, including Nicky-Tams, as well as great spots for lunch, like Cisco's. Head to Port Street for the regular farmers' market to pick up some local treats.

The views: Scale the 246 steps to the top of The National Wallace Monument to be rewarded with fantastic views.

Attractions: History abounds, with Stirling Castle, the site of the Battle of Bannockburn and the Old Town Jail open to visitors. Into the National Park plenty more attractions can be found.

Summer events:

Bridge of Allan Highland Games, 4 August Stirling Highland Games, 17 August Sruighlea Stirling Summer Festival, 17 August

KINGS CASTLES AND

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 "DURTY" WEE RASCALS few people in the Scot's Diaspora have a dormant folk memory awakened, then he shall be more than delighted.





What's in a name?

What's your name? Baldy Bain. What's your ither? Ask ma mither.

Used by children as a tease or when not wanting to reveal their real names.

s in any good family mystery, as well as the missing birth certificate of my Stoddart grandfather, there appears to be a missing body or two on the Baxter side of my family. My grandmother, Jane Baxter (née Robertson), kept a record of a burial lair that belonged to the Baxter's in the Old Church, in Alloa. The original document is written in copperplate as follows.

Alloa 18 July 1850

Which day Mr. Donaldson Kirk Treas. In the name of the Kirk Session of Alloa gave to Charles Baxter Copper Smith Alloa and to his heirs residing in the Parish of Alloa a right to a burging place in the church yard of Alloa consisting of Two Lairs or Rooms bounded on the South by unpurchased ground West by ...? Cobban North by Alex.r Hogg and East by D F Lambert in the site of the Old Church.

Extracted by Mr Donaldson Kirk Treasurer.

Burial lair

In the 1970's my wife, Jean, and I with our three young children spent the best part of a day searching the library and the Old Church in Alloa to track down this burial lair, to discover more about the Baxter's. We were back on holiday from Australia, so we were working within a limited time frame, with Fiona, Niall and Craig, still youngsters in tow. We did in the end find the adjoining lairs, Cobban, Hogg, and Lambert which lie very close to a very ancient and crumbling Chapel. However, there was no headstone and no indication whatsoever that any of the Baxter's are buried there. In fact, it almost appeared as if the neighbouring lairs had all but squeezed my ancestors' place of rest out of existence. If indeed some of the Baxter's are buried there, they are certainly in a place of some historical significance and in very good company. Not only were there some very ancient headstones with the skull and crossbones, typical of 17th century graveyards in Scotland, but there were also the remains of the Earl of Mar, close by.

Little is known about the Baxter's beyond Charles Baxter, my great grandfather, but the owner of the burial lair is not him. He was still only 15 in 1850 and would have been hardly interested in purchasing burial lairs. It is undoubtedly his father, my great, great grandfather, also a Charles Baxter and also a coppersmith who bought the lair. The little that is known about him suggests that he may have owned his own copper smithing business, in Alloa, and it's likely that his son learned his trade under his father's tutelage before heading off to the Amazon in 1861.

Unfortunately, none of us ever asked my grandmother what she knew about, not only my great grandparents, but also what she may have known about my great, great grandparents, Charles Baxter and Margaret Moir. The Parochial Register for the County of Clackmannan (1820 - 1854) that Jean and I searched nearly 30 years ago provides us with some help. The Public Register of Proclamations & Marriage, (beginning 1801), in the Parish of Alloa, held at that time on microfiche in the public library, tells us that:

- Charles Baxter and Margaret Moir, both of this parish recorded their names in proclamation of bans 27th July and were married 1st August 1833.
- The Parochial registers of Clackmannan show us that they had, at least, three children; and that my Great Great Grandfather had two sisters. Their three children are recorded as follows:
- Christina, lawful daughter of Charles Baxter & Margaret Moir in Alloa, born 22nd November 1833, baptised 11th January 1834.
- Charles, lawful son of Charles Baxter & Margaret Moir in Cambus, born 24th February and baptised 22nd March 1835.
- Jane, lawful daughter of Charles Baxter & Margaret Moir in Tullibody, born 1st September, baptised 23rd October 1836.

Succeeding generations

Charles, Christina, Margaret and Jane were all names carried through to succeeding generations. These same parochial registers show a number of Baxter's and Moirs, some of whom were possibly (or very probably) related to my great great grandparents. We could dare to extrapolate from the details of their marriages and

births to make assumptions about whether they were aunts; uncles; brothers or cousins of Charles and Margaret but that could be misleading. Suffice it to say that some of the names that appear may have been passed down to later generations. I list some of these marriages and births simply for research purposes. As more and more of these records become available on the internet they may provide some pointers for further investigation by those who want to discover more.

- Jean, lawful daughter of James Baxter, stocking maker, in Alloa & Margaret Wishart, born 28th April 1804.
- John Moir & Isabella Proctice (spelling may differ) recorded names for proclamation of bans on 19thMay and married 1st June 1821.
- William Moir & Maria Douglas, married 18th August 1823.
- William McPhie of the Parish of Logie & Jane Baxter of this parish recorded their names for proclamation and were married 5th February 1833.
- James Moir & Janet Strang married 23rd September 1833.
- James, lawful son of John Moir & Isabel Proctice (spelling?).
- James Baxter & Janet Moir both of this parish recorded their names for proclamation on 4th July and were married on 24th July 1818 (especially interesting since it's another marriage between a Baxter & a Moir).
- James, lawful son of James Baxter & Jane Spyron, born 26th February and baptised 18th March 1838.
- Jean, lawful daughter of John Moir & Isabella Proctice (spelling?) born 19th December 1823, baptised 4th January 1829.
- Janet, lawful daughter of James Moir & Janet Strang, Alloa, born 15th September 1835, baptised by Rev. Peter Mcdowal 4th October 1835.
- Helen Lennox, lawful daughter of James Baxter & Jane Spyron in Alloa born 8th and baptised 28thFebruary 1836.
- Alexander, lawful son of Alexander Moir & Isabella Orr, born 16th June and baptised 10th July 1836.

Genes for longevity

On that same visit many years ago I bought a small booklet entitled Alloa and its Environs. It was a reprint of A descriptive and Historical Sketch first published in 1861, the same time that my great grandfather, Charles Baxter went off to the Amazon. The municipal Burgh of Alloa, according to its 1861 census was 6440 and the population of the parish was 8713 in 1861. Although there was no mention of any Baxter's the booklet did mention some Moirs who were holding office on the Board of Commissioners at the time. A James Moir Esq. was a Senior Magistrate and a Mr James Moir, Banker, was a Commissioner for the Burgh, the Commissioners seemingly acting in a capacity similar to a town councillor.

A volunteer Rifle Corps, gazetted as First Clackmannanshire Rifle Volunteers was formed in 1859 with officers being furnished with their commissions in 1860. A Robert Strang became colour-sergeant. I would like to think that these men may have had some family connections to my own ancestor Margaret Moir.

My older brother said to me that he had once visited a very old man residing in a care home somewhere near Stirling. Typical of a child's memory he remembers this person wearing a red hat, something like what people in an earlier age wore to bed, something like a character from a Dickensian novel. I suspect, as he did, that it may very well have been our great grandfather, Charles Baxter. My brother would have been two years old in 1932, probably as early as we can expect him to have had any memory of that occasion.

That would, however, have made Charles Baxter aged 97 in 1932 or intriguingly aged 100 if the meeting was as late as 1935, when my brother was five years old. Nevertheless, although my grandfather, Allan Baxter did not reach his 70th birthday, his sister Helen (my great Aunt Nell) reached 96 and my Aunt Peggy and Aunt Ella both lived well into their nineties.

So there are some genes for longevity in the Baxter's and we could expect a man who managed to survive for five years or more in the Amazon jungle to have had a strong constitution. I would like to think it was him who my brother met fleetingly in Stirling, a return to the area where he was born. Perhaps my descendants will be able to uncover more about these Baxter's (not any old Baxter's as my Aunts were told) from Clackmannanshire from these few clues I leave for them.



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.



am told May is a good time for photographic light. And so, the chief packs his cameras and travels up to the Highlands. He is in search of dramatic landscapes. And he will certainly find no shortage of those on the northwest coast. Up there is a treasure chest of views. From mountains, to lochs, to the sea. Above is one picture he took...

The MacGregor's absence leaves me home alone. Well, not quite alone: I do have the MacNaughties and they are good company. The terrier is not phased by any human coming or going. But the cocker spaniel is an old boy and sits patiently on the step waiting for his master to return. To add to his woes, poor Barra snaps at a buzzing insect. Dog versus wasp. You can imagine who comes off the worst...

Neil Armstrong

I cannot sit about on steps because I have work to do. Fifty years ago, in 1969, the descendant of a Scottish reiver became the first man to set foot on the moon. Three years after his epic journey the American astronaut came to Scotland. Neil Armstrong went to Edinburgh and he also visited the borderlands which is where his ancestors hail from.

Armstrong was made a Freeman of the town of Langholm and his wife Janet was presented with a shawl made from a cloth created to mark that amazing space achievement. It was called the 'Lunar Tartan' and kilts and ties were fashioned from it. And now the man who designed it is recreating it to mark the anniversary of the moon landing. We are making a film about it, so watch this space for more detail on this space tartan...

In the meantime, the weather is amazing. Far too warm for a kilt. Scotland is hot. Twenty-four degrees in Glasgow. That's a temperature in the seventies, for the old-fashioned among us. It cannot last, of course. Come summer proper and we will no doubt be wearing wellies and brandishing brollies. Such is the mystery that is the Scottish weather. Yet a touch of heat warms our bones.

It makes us move more slowly. We can relax and appreciate what is around us. Not least the bird feeding station opposite the kitchen window.

Curiously canny

The chief gave it to me one Christmas and it is a big hit with the local wildlife. Not least the pheasants – one of whom is proving to be no bird brain. She has realised – and yes, it is a female that has worked this out – that if she flies to the top, she can shake the thing so that the seed falls out of the holders and onto the ground. Which then allows her squawking family and friends to rush in and gobble up the spilled grain. It is a neat trick. And one from a species not normally known for its common sense.

If the pheasants are nicely daffy, then the red squirrels are curiously canny. They watch and wait on branches. Sizing things up before springing in to lift the lid on the nut feeder. Perhaps it is the breeding season and they are extra hungry. But in the past few days they have been very much in evidence. Chasing each other up trees. Chattering noisily at dawn and dusk.

Sadly, red squirrels are becoming a rare sight in Scotland. They are colourful and cute, and we ooh and aah when they put in an appearance. Yet this is not quite

the cuddly creature you might imagine. For the red squirrel is known for being unsociable - and even aggressive. And it is not alone in its moods.

Dogs

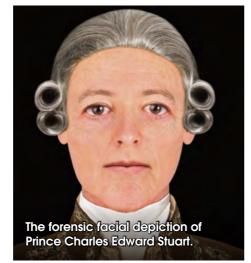
This month my neighbour shows me the cuts on her leg where her normally placid black cockerel decided to dig his spurs in. After attacking her he went on to chase a lady walker and her dog down the lane. Then he had a go at the postman. I suppose all animals guard their ground to some extent. The hippopotamus is said to be the most territorial creature in the world. And he or she is followed by the Tasmanian Devil and the saltwater crocodile.

Happily, there are not too many of those around in Scotland. But there are dogs. Around 640 thousand of them at the last count. Including two at this abode. When a delivery van or a visitor comes to the front door the MacNaughties are off. Barking and hollering. Champing at the bit. It is a right old racket and those outside must imagine there is at the very least a large Scottish Deer Hound waiting to pounce. Only to find that all that noise is coming from a tufty wee terrier and a-soft-as-butter spaniel. Their bark is definitely worse than their bite. And when the chief returns from his travels they just wag their tails.

Unmasked – Revealing a new portrait of Bonnie Prince Charlie



igh Life Highland and forensic artist Hew Morrison have collaborated to create a new digital portrait of Prince Charles Edward Stuart. Using the Prince's death mask held in the collection at Inverness Museum and Art Gallery, Hew used his skills in forensic art to create the striking new portrait. The portrait is an outcome of a larger project called *Symbolism*, Secrecy and Scottish Identity: Discovering the Highland Decorative Arts and Jacobite Collections at Inverness Museum & Art Gallery. Funded by the Esmee Fairbairn Collections Fund, the projects aims to research, conserve, catalogue and



photograph these collections and engage the public with them through activities and new interpretation.

Prince Charles Edward Stuart's image has appeared on everything from oil painting to shortbread tins but there are only a handful of portraits which he was known to have sat for. Artists of the time often sought to flatter and produced portraits that conformed to ideals of contemporary beauty, a precursor to today's photo filters, and the use of imagery as a propaganda tool to promote the Stuart claim to the throne sees a myriad of symbolism and hidden meaning conveyed in every aspect of portraiture, a

portrait may not simply reflect a physical likeness of a person but also their politics, allegiances, wealth or even the image of what a King should look like. With this in mind, can we really be sure that these portraits are a true likeness of the Prince?

Prince Charles Edward Stuart's image has appeared on everything from oil painting to shortbread tins but there are only a handful of portraits which he was known to have sat for.

A true likeness of Bonnie Prince Charlie

Hew Morrison has worked on many high profile forensic reconstructions for museums across the country. More familiar with using human skulls to recreate faces, Hew has used the death mask of the Prince held in the museum collection and the latest techniques in forensic art to create a striking new portrait of the Prince. Believed to be the first time a museum object such as the death mask has been used to create a facial reconstruction we believe this new

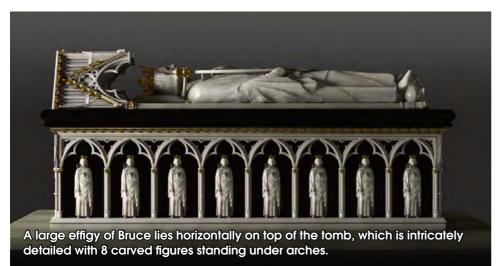
portrait is the only opportunity we have of coming face to face with a true likeness of Bonnie Prince Charlie. Hew Morrison said – "Working on this project has been a great opportunity to recreate the face of a highly significant individual from Scottish history. As the work progressed, what was revealed was the face of a curious, strong, but heavily burdened character."

The portrait is now on display in the Jacobite Gallery at the Inverness Museum and Art Gallery. For further details see: www.highlifehighland.com/inverness-museum-and-art-gallery



Lost Tomb of Robert the Bruce finds its final resting place at Dunfermline Abbey

A 3D reconstruction of the tomb of Robert the Bruce has gone on display at Dunfermline Abbey Church.



3D reconstruction of the tomb of Robert the Bruce is to go on display at Dunfermline Abbey Church. Alex Paterson, Chief **Executive of Historic Environment** Scotland (HES), presented the halfscale model of the lost tomb at an event in the Abbey Church recently. The Lost Tomb of Robert the Bruce, a collaborative project between HES's predecessor bodies and the Centre for Digital Documentation and Visualisation (CDDV) to recreate the tomb from fragments, started in 2013. The reconstruction was then exhibited

at a number of venues across the country, and will now be permanently housed at Dunfermline Abbey Church.

Among the first of its kind in Scotland

3D laser scanning was used to record all 19 known surviving fragments of the tomb. This enabled them to be 3D printed and used by an advisory board of experts as the basis for academic study and reconstruction. Their work, largely based on the forms of contemporary French royal tombs that have survived, then informed the creation of a half-scale 3D digital model used as the exhibition piece.

Dr Iain Fraser, Archives Manager at HES, said "I am delighted to see the model of the Lost Tomb of Robert the Bruce installed here in Dunfermline Abbey Parish Church. This fulfils a project that started six years ago - among the first of its kind in Scotland to use cutting edge 3D scanning. The project would have been impossible without the active and willing contribution of a wide range of partners and as a result, the public can now see what Robert the Bruce's tomb would have looked like, alongside his final resting place."

Burial cask of Robert the Bruce

On his death Bruce's heart was removed so that it might posthumously be taken to the Holy Land, it is buried at Melrose Abbey, another HES property in care. His tomb was destroyed during the Reformation (along with all the other Royal tombs in the Abbey). Fragments of it along with Bruce's remains were discovered in 1817 and excavated in 1818. The skeletal remains were reinterred beneath Dunfermline Abbey Church and the grave sealed with a thick layer of molten bitumen to protect it from interference. The existing fragments of the tomb are held with National Museums Scotland, Abbotsford House, Hunterian Museum and Dunfermline Museum.



Reverend Maryann Rennie, Minister at Dunfermline Abbey Church said "It is exciting for the congregation here to receive the model of the Lost Tomb of Robert the Bruce. It allows those visiting to connect the 19th century brass plaque to the more ancient burial cask of Robert the Bruce. We hope those visiting also experience why this site was important to Robert the Bruce and to the many pilgrims who have travelled here looking for a sense of peace and rest."



Did you know? The Isle of Skye



- Skye is the largest and most northerly island in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland.
- More than 9000 people live there, and half of the people speak Gaelic.
- The main settlement is Portree, known for its picturesque harbour, which has a population of nearly 2000.
- Skye is the second-largest island in Scotland.
- The Gaelic name for the "Isle of Skye" is An t-Eilean Sgitheanach (or Sgiathanach, a more recent and less common spelling). The meaning of this name is unknown.
- The Cuillin, or the Black Cuillin, is a rocky mountain range that dominates the Isle of Skye's dynamic landscape. The highest point, Sgurr Alasdair, looms at 3,255 feet above sea level.
- The island has been occupied since the Mesolithic period and has a colourful history. It was ruled by the Norse for 400 years, then dominated by Clan MacLeod and Clan Donald. The Highland Clearances of the 19th century caused a decline in the population from over 20,000 to around 9,200 in the early 21st century. The population has risen 4% from the census of 1991.
- Skye is almost 50 miles (80 km) long and is now linked to the mainland by a road bridge.
- · The main industries are tourism, agriculture, fishing and whisky-distilling.
- The island is renowned for its spectacular scenery, vibrant culture and heritage, and its abundant wildlife, including the Golden Eagle, Red Deer and Atlantic Salmon.



Aberdeen Highland Games coming to the Upper Hunter July 6th



his year is a big year for the Committee of the Aberdeen Highland Games, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Games with big crowds anticipated.

The event, always held on the $1^{\mbox{st}}$ Saturday in July each year, sees people travel from all parts of Australia to witness this unique event, held at Aberdeen in the Upper Hunter Valley of NSW. The event is run as a typical Highland Gathering where the crowds can expect to see the massed pipes & drums, the Kilted Warriors with their feats of strength, highland and country dancing, novelty events for the kids and the numerous stalls. These stalls include various clan societies, those with various Scottish and Celtic products as well as a variety of food outlets. We have some fourteen pipe bands booked in for the day; it will be a great spectacle.

Upper Hunter Tartan

Of note this year will be the Kilted Warriors who will be attempting to break the Australian record of lifting a weight of 225kg. They will also have the usual

Manhood stones, Sheaf Toss and the Caber toss, an event not to be missed.

The Committee, late last year, registered the new Upper Hunter Tartan. This has produced a great deal of interest in the local community as well as from other areas. Products including, scarves, shawls, rugs, ties as well as other Games merchandise will be available on the ground on the day. Our kilt maker will be on the ground and will be able to take any orders for those looking for a kilt in the new tartan as well as to supply the accessories to go with it.

There are two events following the Games. The traditional Ceilidh with meal, dancing and other entertainment will be held in Scone at the high school MPC with tickets for this online. There will also be a Quintet Competition for pipe bands and this will be run at the Aberdeen RSL Club, not far from the ground. This event is run under the banner of the NSW Pipe Band Association with the City of Newcastle RSL Pipe Band acting as hosts. For further details or entries contact the PBA or the pipe band.

Get your tickets early by visiting the web site www.aberdeenhighlandgames.com to save the line up on the day. You also save money by doing this. For further details of the day see www.aberdeenhighlandgames. com or go to the Games Facebook page. For any general enquiries either go to the Scone Visitor Information & Horse Centre or email inquiries@aberdeenhighlandgames.com









*Being Scottish is Bags of Fr



Keep Calm and Wear Tartan Jute Bag

Show your Scottish pride with this brand new jute bag style. In a lovely purple tartan design with webbed handle. H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



Tartan Stag Jute Bag

This sturdy bag features a tartan Scottish stag pattern, with red handles and tartan gussets. H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



The Multi Scottie Dog Canvas Bag

The sturdy canvas bag comes with a lovely pattern of Scottish Terrier Dogs. Includes an interior key/coin pouch and strong black webbed handles H: 30cm, W: 40cm, D: 15cm



Highland Cow and Calf Canvas Bag

A lovely design of a Highland Coo mother and calf. With sturdy black webbed handles. H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



Scottie Dog Single Canvas Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a dog with sturdy handles. H: 30cm, W: 40cm, D: 12cm



Thistle Jute Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a lovely pattern of Scottish thistles. With purple tartan gusset and purple webbed handle. H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



Highland Coo Jute Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a colourful pattern of bonnie Highland coo's H: 20cm, W: 20cm, D: 14cm



Royal Stewart Jute Bag

This sturdy bag comes in Scotland's most famous tartan design-the Royal Stewart and includes inner key purse for coins and keys. Webbed handle. H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



Tartan Scottie Jute Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a tartan Scottie pattern, handle and gussets. H: 20cm, W: 20cm, D: 14cm

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Beach to their own Townsville Tartan Day

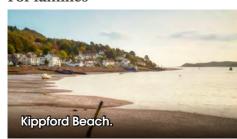


s Scotland readies for the upcoming summer season the country has so much to offer. From history, castles and stunning scenery your next visit is sure to be full of great experiences. Scotland is also blessed with some incredible beaches across its coastlines and islands. So, if heading to Scotland this summer get your toes in the sand and hear the seabirds call.

It's not just surfers who love a beach in Scotland: From the family-friendly beaches at East Lothian and Dumfries and Galloway; to a dog's dream of running up and down Luss beach in Loch Lomond or the Portobello seafront in Edinburgh; to lazy picnics on the shores in Shetland or Shandwick Bay in the Highlands; there's something for all on Scotland's beaches.

With Scotland experiencing its hottest Easter ever in 2019, and this summer set to bring even warmer days, make the most of it and head to Scotland's coasts and waters. Here is just a pick of what's on offer (and don't forget your sun tan lotion).

For families



Kippford Beach in Dumfries and Galloway is the perfect seaside retreat for families located at the friendly town of Kippford, near to Castle Douglas, on the Solway Coast. It is certainly unique as the beach is made up almost entirely of cockle shells; so plenty of gems to collect! The coastal walk from Rockcliffe to Kippford is also a great addition to any trip.

North Berwick Beach in East Lothian has long been a favourite seaside escape for families, located only 25 miles from Edinburgh City Centre. With plenty of shops, cafes and the Scottish Seabird Centre close by, a trip to the beach at North Berwick is the perfect day out. In addition, it is just a short drive to Yellowcraig Beach at Dirleton which offers a nature trail, a barbeque site and views to the lighthouse on the island of Fidra, built in 1885. It is said Robert Louis Stevenson based his map of Treasure Island on Fidra.



Dreamy beaches

Anyone looking to spend more time snoozing than building sandcastles can visit the picturesque Shandwick Bay, located between the villages of Shandwick and Balintore in Scotland's Highlands. Head to the harbour in Balintore to the north and spot the town's Mermaid of the North statue.

More lazy days can be spent lying on a deck chair at Spiggie Beach at Scousburgh in Shetland. Perhaps not as well as wellknown as some other Scottish beaches, it is still a popular spot for taking scenic pictures, with views to Rerwick Bay. In the past, Spiggie beach was famous for being lined with Yoals – salted fish was an essential part of the Shetland diet.

Pawsome shores



Pups will have great fun splashing around on the beach at Luss in Loch Lomond, with their owners having plenty of dog-friendly cafes close by to choose from, including the Coach House Coffee Shop.

All the savvy dogs in Edinburgh know to head to the city's Portobello Beach for a great run about, with two miles of sand to sniff and explore. With spectacular views off towards Fife, and plenty of restaurants and bars to visit, human friends will also be kept happy.

It might be a favourite beauty spot for humans, but Luskentyre beach is also the perfect spot for four-legged friends with beautiful sands that stretch for miles, and clear blue sea for getting paws wet.

Everybody's gone surfin'



Surfers' favourite Tiree is the most westerly island in the Inner Hebrides. Lovingly referred to as the 'Hawaii of the north', Tiree is perfectly placed to catch the swell from the North Atlantic, with year-round, consistent waves to catch. The island's many white sandy beaches face every direction, so even if the waves aren't quite right for surfing on one bay, they're likely to be ideal on another. There are also plenty of local surfing schools to cater for all levels.

Thurso in Caithness is also an ideal place to hit the waves, as the northerly tip of the Scottish mainland is known for providing the most consistent and best quality waves.

For more on Scotland's beaches, head to www.visitscotland.com/beaches



ome along to the 6th Annual Townsville Tartan Day - the day the Scots of Townsville and everyone who loves all things Scottish come together for a free community event in conjunction with the Cotters Market. Tartan Day is an International event that celebrates the lifting of the English ban that prevented the wearing of tartan from 1746 to 1782. The Honoured Clan for 2019 is Clan MacNicol and we are proud to announce that 'Scorrybreac', John Nicolson, the Chief of Clan MacNicol, will be in attendance.

Be early so you can get parking without missing the spectacle of the pipe bands coming across Victoria Bridge.

Largest display of Clan **Banners in Australia**

This event is growing each year and attracted approximately 12,000 people in 2018. The day opens with the massed pipe bands marching over Victoria Bridge from Palmer Street to Ogden Street at 9.00am where there will be a Kirkin' of the Tartans (a blessing ceremony) on the steps of Victoria Bridge. Bring your own tartan to take part in this blessing. Then move back

into Cotters Market to watch non-stop Scottish entertainment while you patronise the stalls. Get your vantage point in Flinders Street by about 10.15am for the Clan Parade that moves off at 10.30am featuring members of local and visiting pipe bands and the largest display of Clan Banners in Australia. Register in advance to join members of your clan in the Clan Parade!

Send a Facebook message, phone Marie on 0413 456 542 or email mlg7@optusnet.com.au to be put on the Townsville Scottish Community Inc. mailing list or for further details.



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The Edinburgh Playhouse is the largest theatre in the UK and hosts the top touring musicals from Broadway and the West End. The theatre has welcomed countless famous people and even has its very own famous ghost. The building was inspired by New York's Roxy Theatre and has been granted Heritage Listing status for more generations to enjoy this icon of Edinburgh, as Judy Vickers explains.



t was 2005 and the great and the good had descended on Scotland for the G8 summit. The controversial meeting of world leaders was being held at Gleneagles, but because the isolated luxury retreat in Perthshire had been cordoned off by security forces, the focus of many protests, speeches and performances was in Edinburgh. A variety performance was due to be held at the Edinburgh Playhouse with many of the celebrities now in town expected to attend. "So as you can imagine security was very tight," explains Pam Aldred, marketing manager of the Playhouse.

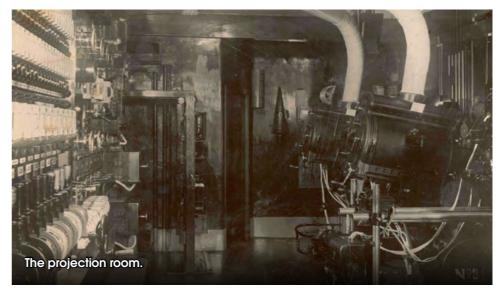
Albert

In fact, the whole of the city was on high alert, not just the Greenside Place venue, which turns 90 this year. The theatre had been swept and was given the all-clear, and a last check with sniffer dogs was being carried out when a hitch occurred.

"I was in the office when someone came in and said: 'We have an issue with level 6. The dogs won't clear the corridor, they are too spooked'," says Pam. The theatre's resident ghost, Albert, had struck again.

Luckily for the theatre, someone had the presence of mind to call up to Edinburgh Castle, which provided some local dogs, more used to spirits of the past from their ancient home, and the corridor was given the all-clear – at least of living threats!

Albert was first sighted in the 1950s. Following a suspected break-in at the theatre, the police were called. A constable investigating the claims met an old man in grey overalls on level 6 who told him he was Albert, the doorman. But when he explained this to the theatre manager of the time, he was told there was no such person.



Since then there have been numerous incidents in the cavernous venue – the UK's largest working non-sporting theatre - with its many corridors and dark corners. An invisible orchestra has played in the middle of the night, then suddenly cut off, people have reported feeling a ghostly hand or finger touch their shoulder, or seeing shadowy figures enter rooms which then prove to be empty. Lights have turned off and doors have slammed. But for Pam, Albert is always a friendly presence. "I like to think that Albert is roaming around the corridors backstage, keeping an eye on everything and looking after everyone," she says.

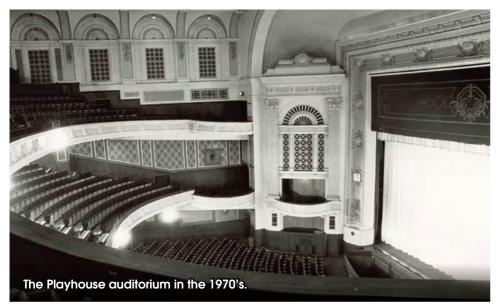


Fascinating history

The legend of Albert is just one part of the fascinating history of the theatre, which was built on the site of a medieval jousting ground. The site has also housed a tabernacle and an insane asylum run by nuns but in the 1920s, when movie-going fever was at its height, Edinburgh-based company Maguire and Lumley commissioned a giant, luxury cinema on the steeply sloping site.

The legend of Albert is just one part of the fascinating history of the theatre, which was built on the site of a medieval jousting ground.

Building started in 1927 to a design by Glasgow architect John Fairweather, said to be partially inspired by the Roxy Theatre in New York. But it was only in





1929 that the building was ready to be opened, after work to correct subsidence meant construction overran by a year and nearly bankrupted the company.

Its frontage, impressive though it is, hides the cavernous auditorium behind – it seats more than 3000 – and the slope it sits on means the grand circle is entered from street level, with stairs down to the stalls. Even though it was built as a cinema, it was still constructed originally with a large stage and several dressing rooms – which made its later conversion to a theatre easier.

The first film to be screened was *The Doctor's Secret*an adaptation of JM Barrie's short play *Half an Hour*and over the next 40-plus years the cinema played host to the biggest movies of the day – and sometimes their stars too, including Marlene Dietrich and Yul Brynner. When Laurel and Hardy visited Edinburgh as

part of the promotional tour for their film *Laughing Gravy*, police had to be brought in to control the crowds. The comedy duo made an appearance on the stage to thank the audience, before climbing onto the roof.

But by the early 1970s, cinema audience numbers were in freefall, particularly hitting the Playhouse with its vast seating. The James Bond movie *Live and Let Die* was the last film to be screened in 1973 and the cinema then closed.

Demolition was mooted but former employees Gordon Lucas and Larry McGuire set up the Playhouse Preservation Action Group and began a campaign to save the theatre. They collected 15,000 signatures for a petition and the theatre was made a category B listed building, protecting it from being bulldozed.

A special place in the hearts of its audiences

But a future use still needed to be found. In 1975 the Edinburgh Playhouse Society was formed with the idea of turning the theatre into a high-end performing arts space for ballet and opera. After years of campaigning and more petitions – and support from the likes of comedian Billy Connolly who said the stage was his



favourite in Scotland - the theatre was finally bought by the local council and it reopened in 1980 with a charity gala in aid of the Variety Club of Great Britain.

During the 1980s, it played host to some of the biggest names in rock including Elton John, Bruce Springsteen and The Rolling Stones. "It's a big theatre but it's small in comparison with some stadiums so artists like it as there is an intimate feel to it," explains Pam. A Royal Gala performance in 1985 saw the Queen, Prince Philp and Princess Anne visit.

Since 2010, it has been owned by international arts group The Ambassador Theatre Group and continues to play host to the world's biggest musicals such as *Wicked, Phantom of the Opera* and *Les Misérables – The Lion King* returns next year.

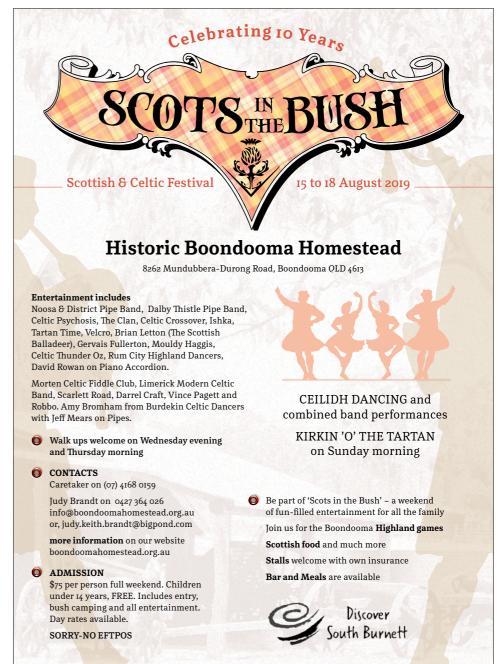
So, as it heads towards its centenary in ten years, it looks like the Playhouse will continue to occupy a special place in the hearts of its audiences.

Have you seen a performance at the Playhouse? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or at: www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us









IN SCOTLAND TODAY



UK scientific first for ancient Caledonian pine forest

The uniqueness of Beinn Eighe's ancient Caledonian pine forest has been recognised with the establishment of the National Nature Reserve (NNR) as the UK's first area designated for genetic conservation. Beinn Eighe was the UK's first NNR, and now it is hailed as a genetic first. The move reinforces the special nature of the pines at the Wester Ross reserve and the importance of protecting them for future generations. Some of the remarkable specimens at Beinn Eighe are more than 350 years old, and the genetic composition of the pinewood has been shown to be truly distinct. Research has shown that the Beinn Eighe trees colonised via a different route from pines in other parts of Scotland after the last ice-age, and recent scientific work makes it clear that these pines have a unique genetic diversity.

The Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) reserve is managed to conserve this special woodland, and now this work has been formally recognised with the registration of the site as a Gene Conservation Unit with the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme (EUFORGEN). Gene Conservation Units have been set up elsewhere in Europe, but this this step reflects a major breakthrough for genetic conservation of wild species in the UK. This new status for the NNR is a vitally important contribution to the care of the core biodiversity of Scotland. Genetic diversity is essential for resilience to pressures such as climate change and tree diseases, allowing populations to adapt as conditions change. The intention is that the designation of the Beinn Eighe pinewood will act as a beacon for the UK, leading the way for gene conservation units to be established for all tree species.

Train stations across Scotland scrap toilet charges



Rail commuters at major train stations across Scotland and the UK will no longer have to 'spend a penny' to go to the loo – after it was announced that toilet charges will be phased out. ScotRail has confirmed it is keen to scrap pay as you use toilets at all the stations it operates. While Network Rail recently took the decision to get rid

of the charges at the likes of Edinburgh Waverley and Glasgow Central.

Now following pressure from local politicians, ScotRail will follow suit with its stations including Aberdeen, Elgin, Stonehaven and Inverness as well as many more across Scotland. Most of these toilets operate with an automatic security barrier, which lifts after 20 pence is paid into a machine allowing access to the facilities.

At Network Rail stations charges can range from 30p to 50p which include the likes of King's Cross, Euston, Liverpool Street, Paddington and Waterloo – all in London – as well as Liverpool Lime Street, Leeds, Manchester Piccadilly and Glasgow and Edinburgh in Scotland. Smaller stations managed by local train operating companies may still charge for the use of facilities.

Facial recognition technology aims to detect emotional state in Scottish pigs



State-of-the-art facial recognition technology is being used in an attempt to detect different emotional states in pigs. Animal behaviourists from Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) in Edinburgh have teamed up with machine vision experts at the University of the West of England (UWE Bristol) for the study, which it is hoped will lead to a tool that can monitor individual animals' faces and alert farmers to any health and welfare problems. Pigs are highly expressive and SRUC research has previously shown they can signal their intentions to other pigs using different facial expressions. There is also evidence of different expressions when they are in pain or under stress. At SRUC's Pig Research Centre in Midlothian, scientists are capturing 3D and 2D facial images of the breeding sow population under various, typical commercial situations that are likely to result in different emotional states. For example, sows can experience lameness and could show different facial expressions relating to pain before and after being given pain relief.

Detecting positive emotional state is more novel but sows are highly food motivated and appear calm and content when satiated. They hope this mood could be reflected in sows' facial expressions.

Images are then processed at UWE Bristol's Centre for Machine Vision, where various state-of-the-art machine learning techniques are being developed to automatically identify different emotions conveyed by particular facial expressions. After validating these techniques, the team will develop the technology for on-farm use with commercial partners where individual sows in large herds will be monitored continuously.

Dr Emma Baxter from SRUC said: "Early identification of pig health issues gives farmers the potential to improve animal wellbeing by tackling any problems quickly and implementing tailored treatment for individuals. This will reduce production costs by preventing impact of health issues on performance. By focussing on the pig's face, we hope to deliver a truly animal-centric welfare assessment technique, where the animal can 'tell' us how it feels about its own individual experiences and environment. This allows insight into both short-term emotional reactions and long-term individual 'moods' of animals under our care."

Exciting future ahead as Galashiels regeneration gets underway



The next exciting development in the regeneration of Galashiels is a step closer as work gets set to start on creating the Great Tapestry of Scotland visitor attraction, which tells the story of Scotland through one of the world's largest tapestries created by 1,000 people from across the country. Work is expected to start in the coming weeks at the town centre site, which will be transformed with the creation of the new building. It has been designed by one of Scotland's leading architectural practices, and will kickstart a new future for Galashiels, alongside a number of other projects which will provide a host of benefits for the town and the Scottish Borders. These include the new town trail which will include a sculpture dedicated to Galashiels sweet seller Robert Coltart who wrote the world-famous children's lullaby Coulter's Candy (Ali Bali Bee). Significant improvements to the town centre are currently being taken forward in partnership with community groups, and a masterplan which aims to transform Galashiels and encourage investment in the wider Borders economy is being progressed.

Councillor Mark Rowley, Executive Member for Business and Economic Development said: "This is a hugely exciting time for Galashiels and the Scottish Borders. Heritage and culture experts predict the centre will attract over 50,000 people to Galashiels each year once opened, as well as create 16 new jobs at the facility. The Tapestry is the first stage of a wider masterplan to regenerate Galashiels, which is starting to see encouraging developments. With the Jim Clark Museum set to open this year, a £1.3million Hawick Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme

being announced this month and continued investment in key Scottish Borders events, there are more and more reasons for people to come to the Scottish Borders."

Alistair Moffat of the Tapestry Trustees "The Great Tapestry of Scotland is an object not only of great beauty and power, it will also act as an engine for renewal. As large-scale retail moves to the periphery of towns and cities, it is magnetic cultural attractions like the Tapestry that will bring back life to the centres of these beautiful places. The huge success of the V&A in Dundee, attracting 500,000 visitors in six months, doubling estimates, is only the latest example of how well this strategy works."

14th century Kirkwall Castle walls unearthed during roadworks in Orkney



A team from ORCA Archaeology unearthed sections of wall and cobbled surface this week while undertaking a watching brief for an Orkney Islands Council infrastructure project in the centre of Kirkwall. To date, three walls in total have been uncovered during the works. One substantial wall set back from the road junction is built using immense stone blocks and lime mortar indicating that it is part of the now demolished fourteenth-century Kirkwall Castle. The castle itself was built without royal consent in the late fourteenth century by Earl Henry Sinclair while Orkney was still ruled by Scandinavian kings and was said to be one of the strongest castles in the realm. In the early seventeenth century the castle saw action when it was defended by the rebellious Stewart Earls against the Scottish King's forces under the Earl of Caithness. The structure was so strong that cannon balls were said to "split like wooden golf balls against the walls".

Following the siege, an order was given by the Scottish King James VI to dismantle the castle in 1615 so that it could not be used again as a centre of rebellion.

This process of destruction was completed in 1865 when the remaining structure was demolished to make way for Castle Street.

There are now no visible signs of this immense fortification to be seen above ground, although previous building works in the 1980s revealed massive stone walls close to the present site which most likely were the foundations of the castle.

While the ORCA Archaeology team continues to dig the fascinating and substantial finds, the road project continues. Pete Higgins, Senior Project Manager ORCA Archaeology commented, "This is an area of the city that we know was the site of the castle and it is exciting to see the remains of the possible curtain wall and part of the fourteenth-century Kirkwall Castle in situ." The whole site will be recorded, added to the historical archive and covered over again so that the infrastructure works can progress without delay.

Victorian-era water pioneer pictures inspiring £12.5m Katrine Aqueduct Refurbishment



forgotten treasure trove of Victorian photographs showing the construction of parts of one of Scotland's most important pieces of infrastructure has been unearthed. The Katrine Aqueduct, which takes water to treatment works that supply 1.3 million people in Glasgow and west central Scotland, was built in the Victorian era to help transform the health of citizens and continues in full use to this day.

As modern-day engineers are starting a multi-million pound refurbishment project on part of the aqueduct, the recently-discovered photos provide a fascinating insight into the mega-structure which was officially opened by Queen Victoria almost 160 years ago in October 1859. The glass photograph slides, which have not been seen before by Scottish

Water experts with decades of experience of working on the local water network, were recovered from a skip along with some books and drawings when the utility was closing one of its offices.

Remarkable images

They include remarkable images of pioneers boring through rocky mountainsides with drills during the construction of the 23.5 mile-long second aqueduct which began in 1885 and was completed in 1901 to increase capacity and meet demand as the population of Glasgow burgeoned to more than one million.

The aqueduct scheme, comprising the two aqueducts, takes water by gravity from Loch Katrine to the Milngavie and Balmore water treatment



works before it is distributed to customers across a large swathe of Glasgow and west central Scotland.

The first aqueduct includes tunnels through mountainous terrain in the shadow of Ben Lomond and bridges over the valleys. The second aqueduct was constructed to accommodate the rapid expansion of Glasgow in the late 19th century. The two are as much as six miles apart on some stretches.

Historical value

Steven Walker, a leakage field technician with Scottish Water who discovered the photographs with a colleague, said: "I found these fragile glass slides from the construction of mainly the second aqueduct in a skip when we were moving to new offices. I suspected they were of interest but their true historical value was only confirmed when a colleague who works for us in the Loch Katrine area analysed them. The pictures give a fascinating insight into the construction of the second aqueduct and some of the methods used which might appear archaic, and even dangerous, to us now but were the 'new technology' of the day at that time. I like to think that the heart of Glasgow is not George Square or somewhere else in the city centre but 8.5 miles to the north in Milngavie where the two aqueducts end.

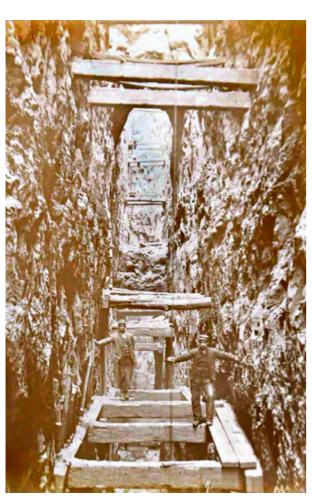
"The boom in shipbuilding that helped Glasgow 'flourish' was able to happen only because of the two amazing aqueducts that bring water from Loch Katrine to the two reservoirs at Milngavie and the water treatment works there. It's remarkable to think that the first aqueduct was so successful, and Glasgow grew so quickly, that within 30 years they had to repeat the process and build a second aqueduct to double the output. These pictures are an important part of that story and I'm delighted we were able to save them."

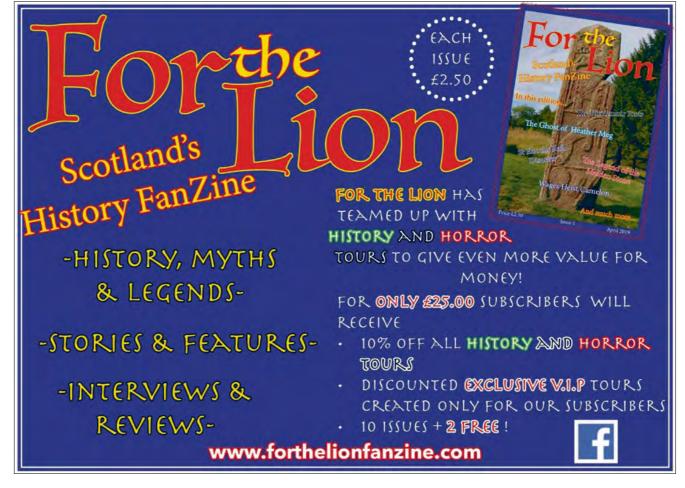
Legacy of those Victorian engineers

In the construction of the second aqueduct, the engineers were able to take a more direct line because they had available improved boring and blasting equipment. When the second aqueduct was constructed, the pneumatic drill and gelignite were available and progress was much more rapid than during the first aqueduct, increasing from 35 to 44 yards per month. The possession of more efficient plant enabled the engineers, by tunnelling, to take a straighter line through the hills in the construction of the second aqueduct. This meant only eight bridges were required on the second aqueduct compared with 22 on the first.

Mr Jon Rhodes, the refurbishment project manager, said: "We have just started this major project to refurbish part of the aqueduct and the discovery of these spectacular old images will be an inspiration to my 50-strong project team to ensure our 21st century work builds on the legacy of those Victorian engineers and enables the aqueduct to perform to its optimum for many years to come."

The entire Katrine Aqueduct scheme cost £3.2m to build which would be about £320m in today's prices, and he current refurbishment project on the Katrine Aqueduct is expected to be completed in 2020.





Calling the Clans

Welcome to our "Clansified" listing of Scottish Clans, Societies and Clubs. If you would like to add your Clan please contact our office for full details. Our 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 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



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CONTACT: MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG

Clan Fraser Society

of Australia

Clan Baird Society Worldwide



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

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

Dr. Debra J. Baird, President 3491 County Road 3459, Haleyville, AL 35565 Email: djbaird4@gmail.com

Regional Directors for Australia David and Patricia Benfell

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



Clan Davidson Society in

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 Na Davidson; Davison; Dawson; Davis; Davie; Davey; Davy; Day; Dye; Dyson; Dawson; Dea; Dean; Deane; Deas; Deason; Dees Dee; Dey; Daw; Dow; Dhai; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade: MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagny; MacDhai: McKeddie. In addition we welcome into membership all who have a family association with the Clan Davidson. Applications may be made online: www.clandavidson.org.au or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P. P.O. Box 519 Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 dhill1@bigpond.net.au 0431 527 662

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

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

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

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

Africa: USA: Arizona * Carolinas * Florida * Gulf Coast * Mid-Atlantic * New co * Mid-West * Northeast * Northern California * Pacific Northwest * y Mountains * South * Southern California * Texas * Upper Mid-Wesi

> r website to learn more about Clan Donnachaidh, ou & Traditions, the Clan Museum in Scotland, the DNA the new Struan Kirk Appeal, & locate a Branch near you. http://www.donnachaidh.com/ acebook: The Clan Donnachaidh Society

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

482236358590288



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: debellinnc@reagan.com

Clan Donald Australia

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

State Commissioners

High Commissioner

Qld SA Vic

Mr Lachlan Macdonald

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

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



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 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

Family of Bruce International, Inc.

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

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

Donald E. Bruce 1051 Eagle Ridge Trail

Polly A. (Bruce) Tilford, Secretary 5561 Earl Young Road Bloomington, IN 47408 Stillwater, Minnesota 55082 www.familyofbruce.org



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



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



Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor Great Lakes New England, Pacific North West, Western U.S.

and Southeast Chapters

www.clangregor.com or membership contact Keith MacGregor P.O Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876 kmac1@optonline.net.

Peter Lawrie, Secretary ide, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL Scotland



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

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



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 Gregor Society

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: clangregoraustralia@gmail.com Web. www.clangregor.com

"Royal is my Race"



The Clan **Campbell Society**

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 in VICTORIA

Proudly affiliated with Clan Donald Australia, Victorian Scottish Union and Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group. ented 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 classe

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Clan Farguharson ^{*}Association Australia

Clan Chief: Captain A.A.C. Farguharson, 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



American Clan Gregor Society

Est 1909

Membership inquiries welcomed from MacGregors of all spellings and Septs

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

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 Hamilton Society

Hamiltons and those of Hamilton descent are cordially invited to join the society. Inquiries to be sent to: Sheri Lambert, Treasurer P.O. Box 5399 Vernon Hills, IL 60061 visit our website: www.clanhamilton.org



CLAN 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 8358 malncol@icr.com.au www.clanleslie.org



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



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, PO. Box 230093, Montgomery AL 36123-0693. (334) 834-0612 Email rdmatmgm@aol.com





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

www.clanhay.com



Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.

Valerie McDougall VP Membership

Clan MacLellan John B. McClellan, Jr. Treasurer

Email: treasurer@clanmaclellan.net

6409 Knollwood Drive McKinney, TX 75070-6032

Invites all MacLellans and their descendants regardless of surname spelling to join in preserving our heritage.

Various family names are MacLellan(d), McClellan(d),

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



Clan MacNicol

Chief: John MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac

> **Contact Ross Nicolson** 10/377 North Rocks Rd., Carlingford NSW 2118

www.clanmacnicol.com

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

Clan Henderson Society



www.clanhendersonsociety.org

INTERNATIONAL CLAN MACFARLANE SOCIETY, INC

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



MACFARLANE.ORG

Clan MacLeod Societies of Australia

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

MacAndie MacCorkill Askev Beaton MacAskill MacCrimmon Bethune MacAulay MacGillechallum MacCabe MacRaild Caskie MacCaig MacWilliam Harold

Tolmie MacClure Norman 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 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 Macpi greymac@acenet.com.a phone +61 2 4871 1123

Canada. John C Gillies

phone +64 3 234 5098

USA. Ken Croker croker@sti.net one +1 559 658 6189 Scotland. Bill Macpherso

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

membership@clanhope.org **AUSTRALIA**

Convenor: Stephen Hope convenor@clanhopeaustralia.org www.clanhope.org www.clanhopeaustralia.org

Clan Mackenzie Society in Australia Inc.



Membership enquiries welcomed from Mackenzies of all spellings and Septs

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

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

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TRADITIONS

FOR INFORMATION:

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

WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG

84120-6880

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 Innes Australia

New memberships welcome Innes, Thain, Mitchell, Marnock, Middleton, Reidford, Wilson, McRob, McTary, Mavor

Email robthainclaninnes@gmail.com



Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada



Clan Macnachtan **Association Worldwide**

Sir Malcolm F. Macnaghten of Macnaghten, Bart - Chief of Clan Chairman - Peter McNaughton - 360-686-8451

We welcome membership from all Scots named MacNaughton

or any of the Septs on our Website: Contact the Membership Secretary, Vice-Chairman or Regional Commissioners in: Australia - Regional Commissioner - Bruce McNaught

+61 7 3266 2047 bruce@brucemcnaught.com W. Canada - Regional Commissioner - Miles MacNaughtor 250-999-9636 milescammac@aol.com New Zealand - Regional Commissioner - John Macnaughtar +64 9 441 4984 macnaughtan@xtra.co.nz

USA - Membership Secretary - Mary Nivison Burton 541-401-2613 membersec@clanmacnaughton.net WWW.CLANMACNAUGHTON.NET



Clan Maitland

Chief: lan Maitland, The Earl of Lauderdale! We are all related! Contact your local society North America: Rosemary Maitland Thorn

rthomnvprdcan@aol.com www.clanmaitlandna.org Australia: Carole Maitland carole_maitland@yahoo.com.au 4230 Colac- Lavers Hill RoadWeeaproinah. 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



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



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 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



Clan Munro Association, U.S.A

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

COME JOIN US!

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

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Murray Clan Society of North America

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

> In Canada contact: William J.M. Murray 2000 Cambridge Ave #329 Campbell River, BC V9H OC3

In the U.S. contact: Robert W. Murray 1001 Cordero Crescent

Wyomissing, PA 19610-2738



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

Worldwide organization for all Wardlaws or related families. We invite you to join us. Email: clanwardlaw@yahoo.com

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www.clanwardlaw.com Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

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

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 Sinclair Australia

Membership and inquiries from all Sinclairs, Sinclair Septs and Sinclair descendants.

For further info contact President: WayneSinclair 0417 146 174 Secretary: Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263 E: clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com

www.clansinclairaustralia.com



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



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

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

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



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.stewartsociety.org



Australian Scottish Communtiy (Qld) Inc.

Promoter of International Tartan Day. Brishane Oueensland 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,





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

Clan Ross America



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

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



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 Sutherland Society of North America Inc.

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

Richard Langford

1106 Horshoe Lane Blacksburg, VA 24060

e-mail: richard@langfordmail.net



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

Mall: PO Box A2259, SYDNEY SOUTH 1235

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



Clan Scott Australia Group

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

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

E: heatherdesylva@bigpond.com W: clanscottaustraliagroup.moonfruit.com

CLAN 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@clanyoungaustralia.com.au

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



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

Victorian Scottish Union Inc

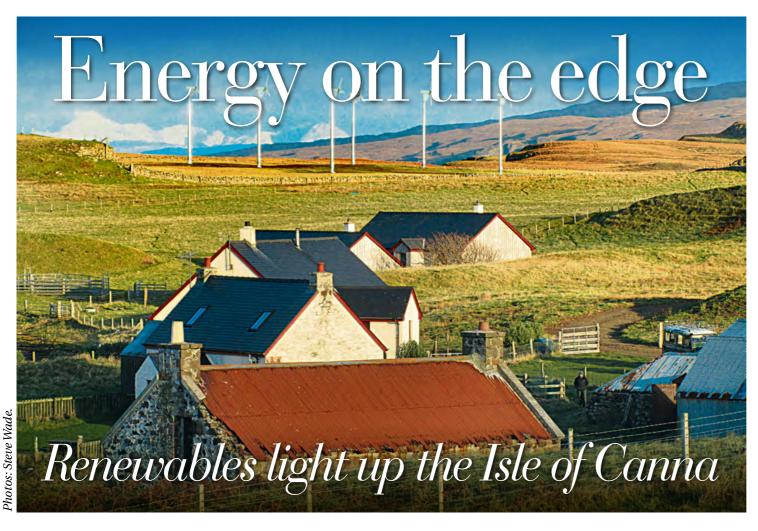
Umbrella group representing the interest of Scottish Clans and Societies in Victoria. Affiliated Clans & Societies

Ballarat Highland Dancing Balmoral Highland Dancing Society Begonia City Highland Dancing Society Brunswick Scottish Society Clan Donald Victoria

JIERT S. A SOUCHTES
Geelong Scottish Dance
Glenbrae Celtic Dancers
Klimore Celtic Festival
Maryborough Highland Society
Mornington Peninsula Caledonian Societ
Scottish Country Dance Victoria Society
The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne
Robert Burns Club of Camperdown
Warrnambol & District Caledonian Society
Marrnambol & District Caledonian Society

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



he Isle of Canna Community Development Trust (IoCCDT) has announced the formal launch of its new, environmentally-friendly energy generation system, following a bedding-in period that saw it meet 98% of residents' energy needs. For almost 20 years, Canna and Sanday's 18 residents have had to rely on three diesel generators for power, as the islands are not connected to the National Grid. As a result of a community venture, Canna Renewable Energy and Electrification Ltd. (CREEL), power is now generated through wind and solar and linked to a battery storage system, which relegates the old generators to occasional back-up use.

CREEL owns and operates the new equipment, construction of which finished in October 2018. Since then,

it has produced a reliable, 24-hour, environmentally sustainable power supply. All profits from the sale of electricity used by Canna residents and businesses are ploughed back into running the system.

Geraldine MacKinnon, CREEL Director said: "We're delighted that our energy project is now completed and the turbines are making good use of this winter's Atlantic gales! As well as minimising the noise and pollution from the generators, the new scheme gives us the capacity to build additional houses on Canna, so that new families can make their home on this beautiful island. We're very grateful to all of our funders for their support in this vital project, and especially to Jamie Adam of Community Energy Scotland who managed the scheme and kept us on track through all of the complexities involved."

Transformational for the island
Canna is owned and cared for by
conservation charity the National Trust
for Scotland, which works in partnership
with the IoCCDT. It's Operations Manager
(Islands), Alan Rankin said: "I am
absolutely delighted that this communityled initiative has been so successful. The
Isle of Canna Community Development
Trust is to be congratulated and we were
delighted to be able to offer our support.
The advent of renewable power can truly
be described as transformational for the
island and this is definitely the way of the
future for sustainable island communities."

The new power system also benefits existing local businesses as well as allowing for further expansion and investment. There are around 10 local businesses at present including guest houses, a



cafe, campsite and crofts. Reliable and affordable power is vital in helping these businesses thrive and expand.

Geraldine MacKinnon added: "A reliable power source will certainly help increase visitor numbers but also has potential to lead to more investment in new facilities, such as a community hub and bunkhouse providing accommodation, electric showers and laundry facilities. The community and the National Trust for Scotland are currently undertaking a feasibility study for these facilities, all of which would depend on the additional electricity capacity the CREE project has delivered."

The new system is expected to substitute the use of over 36,000 litres of diesel fuel each year, equivalent to 96.6 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions (in direct emissions only, excluding the embodied energy involved in extracting, refining and transporting the diesel). Over a period of 25 years, the scheme could prevent over 2,400 tonnes of carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere. Canna is the westernmost of the Small Isles archipelago, in the Scottish Inner Hebrides. It is linked to the neighbouring island of Sanday by a road and sandbanks at low tide. The island is 4.3 miles (6.9 km) long and 1 mile (1.6 km) wide.

Canna Renewable Energy and Electrification Ltd (CREEL) is a non-profit distributing Company Limited by Guarantee with voluntary directors and members from the Isle of Canna. The project builds on years of preparation by the Isle of Canna Community Development Trust, a registered Scottish Charity (Charity No. SC046276) which also runs the community shop and moorings. For further details see: www.theisleofcanna.com





SCOTTISH BANNER EVENTS

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

AUSTRALIA

JUNE 2019

2 Ipswich, QLD - Piobaireachd Group Queensland Social Piping event at Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band Hall, cnr Lion & Moffat Sts. Info: 07 3398 4659.

2 Malvern, SA - Welcome to Winter

Clan MacLeod SA invites members and friends to bring along a dish to share with others as we welcome Winte at the Walters residence. Info: Nicole Walters 0415 654 836 or www.cmssa.org.au/calendar-of-events.html

5 Sydney, NSW - Scottish Highland Day Lunch Celebrate the cultural delights of Scotland, enjoy a delicious 3-course lunch of Scotland's finest fayre, whilst the Highland

Dancers perform to the Pipe Band at NSW Masonic Club. Info: 02 9284 1006 or www.nswmasonicclub.com.au 7 - 10 Portarlington, VIC - The National Celtic Festival

Over the three day long weekend event each June with a diverse range of Celtic music and events at the Village Stage, Celtic Club, Wine Bar, and Celtic Markets, Info: www.nationalcelticfestival.com

7 Elizabeth Bay, NSW - Curious Caledonians Concert Come join at Elizabeth Bay House for an evening of late 18th and 19th century Scottish music with world-leading early music performers coming together from Glasgow Melbourne and Sydney. Musicians include members of the Evergreen Ensemble (Australia), Concerto Caledonia (Scotland) and Neal Peres Da Costa and Daniel Yeadon (Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney) at Elizabeth Bay House, 7 Onslow Ave. Info: Sydney Living Museums 02 9356 3022 or www.sydneylivingmuseums com.au/events/curious-caledonians-concert

12 Teralba, NSW - Hunter Valley Scots Club Social Night 7pm at Teralba Community Hall, Cnr Margaret St & Anzac Pde. Info: hunterscots@gmail.com

14 - 18 Sydney, NSW - Scottish Week 2019

A variety of Scottish themed events held across Sydney presented by The Scottish Australian Heritage Council with honoured guest Dr Joseph Morrow, Lord Lyon in conjunction with The Australian Heraldry Society. Highlights are two history talks on Friday 14th June & Mon 17th June and a luncheon and historical tour of Old Government House, Parramatta on Sat 15th June, Info: www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil. com.au or ring Nea on 040 899 0413.

15 - 16 Boonah, QLD - The Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular

Includes the Fassifern Highland Games with Clydesdale and horse events, Scottish pipes & drums, Scottish cuisine, Clydie Spectacular Woodchopping Title and more at Boonah Showgrounds. Info: www.boonahshowsociety.org.au

15 Townsville, QLD - Townsville Clansmen's Ceilidh Enjoy Scottish Country Dancing to music by the Black Bear Duo, supported by available pipers and

drummers at the Carlton Theatre, Carlyle Gardens, Condon. Tickets at www.Townsvilletickets.com.au

16 Townsville, QLD - Townsville Tartan Day Enjoy the pipes and drums, the Black Bear Duo (Iain Mckenzie, accordion and Emma Nixon, fiddle), plus Brian Bisset the Scottish tenor from Brisbane, Scottish dancing, and get tips for your family history search.

Watch the strongman demonstration by Valhalla Strength. Add your clan to the Clans in Townsville Tree at the Cotters Markets, Flinders St. Info: Marie 0413 456 542.

22 Mount Pritchard, NSW - Scottish Ball

Scottish Dancing Association of Australia & Associates presents the Scottish Ball and Presentation of Debutantes at The Starz Auditorium, Mounties Mount Pritchard Community Club. Info: Diane Banks: associates@sdaa.org.au or 02 9824 0860 or Karen McPhillips: president@sdaa.org.au or 0438 810 960.

22 Mitcham, SA - Winter Ceilidh

Dance Scottish at the Mitcham Village Cultural Institute Hall, 103C Princes Rd. Musicians will be Telenn Tri. Info: www.rscdsadelaide.org.au

23 Ipswich, QLD - The Gathering

A celebration of Celtic music, culture and performance, including the Queensland Pipe Band Championships at Ipswich Turf Club. Info: www.gatheringfestival.com.au

24 Toowong, QLD - Queensland

Highland Pipers Society Social

At the Walrus Bar, Regatta Hotel. Info: 07 3397 4512. 28 - 30 Kilmore, VIC - The Kilmore Celtic Festival A celebration of the early settlers who came

here from Ireland, Scotland, Cornwall & Wales with Celtic music and events in historic Kilmore Info: www.kilmorecelticfestival.org.au 29 Sydney, NSW - Scots on The Rocks - Chaotic Ceilidh

Featuring music by ARIA Award winning Chris Duncan & Catherine Strutt, it will be a night of energetic and popular dances. Includes supper (BYO alcohol). Tickets \$35pp in The Rocks. Info: www.sotr.org.au/chaos or 0435 154 433.

29 Wongawallan, QLD - Tartan Day Tattoo-Gathering of the Clans

The Act of Proscription August 1, 1747 marked the banning by the British Empire the wearing of Tartan. Punishable by gaol. This event we recognise the significant sacrifices made by the Scots to protect their land and families and features the Brisbane City Pipe Band at the Fox and Hounds Country Inn, 7 Elevation Dr. Info: www.foxandhounds.net.au

29 Inglewood, WA - Caledonian Society of WA June Ceilidh Sing and dance to Heel N Toe Ceilidh band. Listen to our Piper. Supper supplied at the Bob Daniels Community Centre, 895 Beafort St. Info: 0427 990 754

30 Fremantle, WA - The Kirking Of The Tartan

Scottish Heritage Centre of W.A. is holding The Kirking Of The Tartan church service at 2pm at Scots Church, South Terrace. The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, Rev. William MacRae, will be officiating. All are welcome, and there will be an afternoon tea to follow (for \$5 per person). Info: Patricia Hatch 08 9384 6332 or p.hatch2@bigpond.com, or Shirley Oliver 08 9457 1945 or olivetree@westnet.com.au.

IIIIY 2019

1 Nationwide - Tartan Day

An international event that celebrates the lifting of the English ban that prevented the wearing of tartan from 1746 to 1782. Wear some tartan today with pride today!

3 - 7 Camperdown, VIC - Robert Burns Scottish Festival With great music, guest performers, and lecture series coordinated by the Camperdown Historical Society, Highland Dancing, poetry, Golf Day, Pipes and Drums. New events will include music workshops and master classes, in-schools music program, dinner at the Masonic Lodge with haggis and Toast to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns, music and dancing. Info: Chris Maguire 0428 346 165 or www.camperdownburnsfestival.com.au

6 Aberdeen, NSW - Aberdeen Highland Games

Throughout the day there will be fun for all the family - there will be Highland and Country Dancing, Pipe Band displays, Strong Man events with the Tartan Warriors to enjoy as well as tug-of-war, three-legged races, and the famed Kilted Dash to participate in. The 2019 Games will be a very special event marking the 20th Anniversary of the Games Info: 02 6540 1300 or www.aberdeenhighlandgames.com

6 Fremantle, WA - Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of WA Tartan Ball

Celebrate International tartan Day in Scottish style with an Address to the Haggis, Perth Metro Pipe Band and Heel and Toe Ceilidh Band at the Esplanade Hotel. Info: 0433 707 716 or www.smcfwa.com.au

7 - 13 Parkville, VIC - 44th Australian Scottish Country Dance Winter School

The Melbourne & District Branch extends a warm invitation to all dancers to meet at University College College Drive, University of Melbourne, for a fun filled week of Scottish Country Dancing with great teachers and musicians. Info: www.melbourne2019ws.com

7 Ipswich, QLD - Piobaireachd Group Queensland Social Piping event at Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band Hall, cnr Lion & Moffat Sts. Info: 07 3398 4659

12 - 21 Melbourne, VIC - The Melbourne Tartan Festival A diverse of range of Scottish events across Melbourne including: Ceilidh Dance, Gala Dinner, Genealogy Day, Pipe Bands and more. Info: 0417 125 013

or www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au 13 Hawthorn, VIC - Hawthorn Pipe Band: Taking Flight Hawthorn Pipe Band, the Grade 2 Australian Champions, present Taking Flight, a night of top-quality Australian piping and drumming. Taking Flight is a

nod to their upcoming journey to the World Pipe Band Championships in Scotland and promises to be a night of Scottish music at its finest at Hawthorn Arts Centre, 360 Burwood Rd. Info: www.hawthornpb.com

20 - 21 North Adelaide, SA - Musica Scotland

Celebrate Scotland's music. Includes: Musician Workshop for musicians who play fiddle, accordion and keyboard/ piano and are interested in learning how to play for dancing. The RSCDS Ball is on the Saturday evening. A Concert of Scottish Music will be held from 2pm until 430pm, with tributes to Burns. Events at the Estonian Hall, 200 Jeffcott St. Info: www.rscdsadelaide.org.au

20 Morley, WA - The Celtic Shindig

Perth Metro Pipe Band is hosting a Christmas in July event as part of the 2019 Celtic Shindig. It promises to be a great night, filled with music, dancing, games and prizes. Info: https://www.trybooking.com/BAPME

20 Argenton, NSW - Peter Adams Caledonian Night Bob McInnes Band and lots of dancing with the Hunter Valley Scots Club at Club Macquarie 7.00pm. Info: www.hvsc.org.au

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events in Australasia!

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events listed from around

the world and updated

weekly. See our most up to

date listings and add your

event anytime at:

www.scottishbanner.com/events

20 Brisbane, QLD - International Tartan Day

King George Square, 9am to 4pm. A free day of family entertainment Pipe Bands, Highland Dancing, Scottish Country Dancing, Celtic Choir, Family History and Genealogy and much more. Info: www.aussie-scots.org.au or 07 3359 8195.

22 Toowong, QLD - Queensland **Highland Pipers Society Social**

Jig contest at the Walrus Bar, Regatta Hotel. Info: 07 3397 4512.

27 Inglewood, WA - Caledonian Society of WA Xmas in July Ceilidh

Put on your Santa hat and sing and dance to Heel N Toe Ceilidh band. Listen to our Piper. Supper supplied at the Bob Daniels Community Centre, 895 Beafort St. Info: 0427 990 754.

NEW ZEALAND

JUNE 2019

1 - 2 Dunedin - Otago Centre Queen's **Birthday Competition**

Highland dance competitions and events at Kings and Queens Performing Arts Centre. Info: www.piping-dancing.org.nz

7 - 8 Christchurch - Canterbury West Coast **Highland Dance Competition**

Highland dance competitions and events at Middleton Grange Performing Arts Centre. Info: www.piping-dancing.org.nz

7 Auckland - Scottish Fiddle Club Night

7:30 PM - 11:00 PM at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub 7 Auckland - Scottish Celtic Music Group

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

8 Wellington - Ceilidh

Hosted by the Wellington Gaelic Club (Communn Gaidhealach Wellington) at Pipe Band Hall cnr of Stoke and

29 Auckland - Auckland Region Ball Scottish country dance event and ball. Info: www.aucklandscd.org.nz

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6 Tauranga - Tauranga Performing Arts **Highland Dance Competition**

Highland dance competitions and events at Graham Young Youth Theatre, Tauranga Boys College, 664 Cameron Road. Info: Mrs Helene Karton 07 544 2024 or hidance@slingshot.co.nz

7 Christchurch - Tartan Day Lunch

Presented by the Canterbury Scottish Heritage Council. Celebrate Tartan Day. Info: resarf@paradise.net.nz

12 Auckland - Scottish Fiddle Club Night

7:30 PM - 11:00 PM at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. Info: www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub 13 - 14 New Plymouth - New Zealand

Highland Dancing Championships

Highland dance competitions and events at The Devon Hotel, 390 Devon Street East. Info: www.scotdancenz.co.nz

19 - 20 Waipu - Waipu Museum Art'n Tartan

Wearable Art is for everyone. Celebrate the migration of the Scottish settlers to Waipu, and revel in the vibrant multi-cultural Waipu of today. The designers' creations will be front and centre, as Art'n Tartan continues to develop its reputation as a very creative wearable arts event at Waipu Celtic Barn, 47 The Centre. Info: 0800 BUY TIX (289 849) or www.waipumuseum.com/art-n-tartan

20 Palmerston North - Robert Burns' Winter Dinner An evening of fine tradition that is Robert Burns'

Winter Dinner hosted by the Manawatu Scottish Society. Enjoy the fantastic three-course traditional meal, superlative entertainment, lively speakers and unique warmth of atmosphere at Manawatu Scottish Hall, 52 Princess St. Info: Neil Doherty or Brent Le Quesne on 06 354 2370 or 027 289 8711 respectively.

27 Wellington - Gaelic Ball 2019

Scottish music, food and dance hosted by Wellington Gaelic Club (Communn Gaidhealach Wellington). Info: www.wellingtongaelicclub.org.nz

SCOTLAND

JUNE 2019

1 Kirkwall, Orkney - Kirkwall City Pipe Band Parade A street parade by Kirkwall City Pipe Band. The band - which will be celebrating their 100th birthday in

2019 - parade along Broad Street for the entertainment of locals and visitors, performing a selection of marches and sets. Info: www.kirkwallcity.com 2 Markinch - Markinch Highland Games

Events include Grand Pipe Band contest, solo piping, Highland dancing contest, running, cycling, heavy events, children's races, fun fair and trade stalls. Info: www.shga.co.uk

6 - 8 Hawick - Hawick Common Riding Festival commemorating the capture in 1514 of an

English flag by a Hawick youth, and the ancient practice of riding the borders of the common land. The first of the Border festivals and celebrates both the capture of an English Flag in 1514 by the youth of Hawick. Info: www.hawickcommonriding.co.uk

9 Inverness - Highland Garden Fest 2019

The very first Highland Garden Fest - the only gardening festival in the Highlands! Whether you are a novice gardener or a gardening enthusiast this is a must visit and a fun day for all of the family at Inverness Botanic Gardens. Info: www.highlandgardenfest.co.uk

15 Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire -

Lesmahagow Highland Games Pipe band contests, heavy events, road race, haggis hurling competition, children's football tournament final, athletics and more at Glebe Park. Info: www.lesmahagowhighlandgames.com

16 Aberdeen - Aberdeen's Highland Games Traditional Highland Games events with pipe band, dance and heavy events at Hazlehead

Park. Info: cityevents@aberdeencity.gov.uk

20 - 23 Edinburgh - The Royal Highland Show Part agricultural show, part food festival, part family fun day out, with everything from motor, equine and craft programmes to food and drink and children's activities. Celebrating its 179th year. The Royal Highland Show is one of Scotland's most iconic events, showcasing the very best of farming food

and rural life. Info: www.royalhighlandshow.org 22 - 23 Portsov, Aberdeenshire - Scottish **Traditional Boat Festival**

Engages the local region, bringing together boats, music, crafts, food and drink to celebrate the region's rich cultural heritage. Info: www.stbfportsoy.org

29 Inverness - Piping Inverness

The European Pipe Band Championships will be held in Bught Park, with food and drink, traditional craft stalls and live entertainment, will make it a fun-filled family day out. Info: pipinginverness@lcclive.co.uk

Solutions from

ACROSS — 7 Macadam; 8 Leveret; 10 Bridesmaid; 11 Tutu;

20 Bloomers; 22 Uses; 23 Kirriemuir; 25 Armoury; 26 Venison.

4 Pendulum; 5 Kettledrum; 6 Central;

Scotword page 7

12 Coachman; 14 Leeway; 15 Cammachmore; 19 Whaler;

DOWN — Patriot; 2 Bard; 3 Hansom; 9 Bannockburn; 13 Charleston;

16 Marykirk; 17 Chasers; 18 Traitor; 21 Olives; 24 Main.

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New digital model allows users to explore Glasgow's prehistoric past



istoric Environment Scotland (HES) has published a new 3D digital model of Fossil Grove in Glasgow, allowing users to explore the city's ancient forest from a unique perspective. The interactive model, available to view online via Sketchfab, has been created through a combination of 3D laser scanning and photogrammetry. This process involves taking hundreds of overlapping images which are then

combined to create a 3D model, enabling users to explore the site in detail from a range of different angles.

Fossil Grove, situated in Glasgow's Victoria Park, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest comprising the spectacular fossilised remains of 11 Carboniferous Lycopod trees, which are around 325 million year old. The site was discovered in 1887, and has been a popular visitor attraction from the Victorian era to the present day.

Fossil Grove is the only site in the world where such trees have been preserved in their growth positions, and is considered one of the world's first examples of geoconservation.

Fossil Grove, situated in Glasgow's Victoria Park, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest comprising the spectacular fossilised remains of 11 Carboniferous Lycopod trees, which are around 325 million year old.

As well as allowing a new way to explore the site, the digital model will also play an important role in protecting Fossil Grove for the future. HES has been working with The Fossil Grove Trust and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to ensure the long-term conservation of the fossils.

Geological gem

Sarah Hamilton, Conservation Scientist at HES, said: "Fossil Grove is a unique geological gem, and we've been working with partners over the past few years to support efforts to conserve and protect the site with the service and expertise of our Conservation Science and Digital Documentation teams. Recently, water penetration into the Victorian building that houses the fossils has caused discolouration and decay to some of the exhibits. We have undertaken 3D laser scanning and mineralogical analysis to help gain a better understanding of the site and these issues. As well as being a fantastic tool for interpretation, this new digital model is going to be of huge value to our work at Fossil Grove, as it's allowing us to access even more detailed base information to create our risk map of the surface condition, which will help inform where we focus conservation efforts."

Andy MacGregor, SNH Operations Officer, said: "This 3D modelling technology is bringing to life part of Scotland's prehistory, hundreds of millions of years old. It is an invaluable way to understand our fascinating fossils, and conserve them for generations to come."

The 3D model of Fossil Grove is available to view on Sketchfab. HES's Conservation Science and Digital Documentation teams are based at the Engine Shed, Scotland's dedicated building conservation centre.

Clan Farquharson Chief celebrates his Centenary

n 1st May 2019, Clan Chief of Clan Farquharson, Captain Alwyne Compton Farquharson MC, 16th of Invercauld, celebrated his Hundredth Birthday at a Family Gathering in Norfolk. The Clan plans also to celebrate the Chief's 100th at the Clan's annual Gathering, Deeside, early in August 2019, when the Ballater Highland Games, of which he has been Patron and its Chieftain for 71 years, will take place during Royal Deeside's Victoria Week.

Farquharson Clanspeople from around the world are very much looking forward to joining in the celebration of this special milestone with their Chief, who is universally so greatly admired among them. This follows the enthusiastic and well-attended Victoria Week celebration in 2018 of his 70th year as Chieftain of the Ballater Games. Alwyne Farquharson, also the longest serving Farquharson Chief, has inspired and led his people and Clan, with an understanding and compassion stemming from the touchstone, as he is wont to remind us all, of the familial ties that bind its members in amity and friendship to the Clan and to each other.

Interest and growth of overseas Clan Farquharson Associations

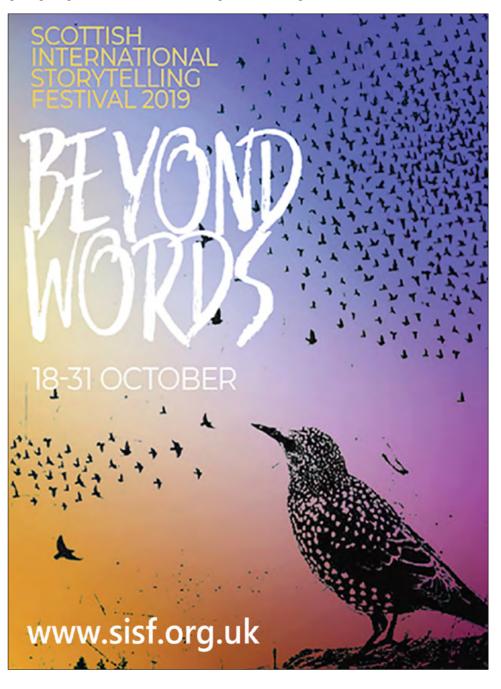
Born in 1919, Alwyne Farquharson was educated at Eton and Oxford, and served in WW II with the Royal Scots Greys.

He was awarded the Military Cross in 1944 in action in France where he was also severely wounded. He was confirmed as the Chief of Clan Farquharson, 16th of Invercauld, by the Lord Lyon, King of Arms in 1949, following the death in a London air raid in 1941 of the previous Chief, inheriting the Invercauld Estates of over 100,000 acres which extend high into the Cairngoorms.

An environmentally important area of Scotland, the estate including the fortified castle at Braemar, and baronial residence, Invercauld House, became a Trust in the 1990's.

From 1949, Alwyne Farguharson and his first wife, Frances, enthusiastically immersed themselves in local community service, Frances in promoting the local Scottish culture: music, drama, and dance, Alwyne in public service as Justice of the Peace and County Councillor over many years for Aberdeenshire, and District Councillor for Kincardine and Deeside. Over the years also, as Chief, he fostered the interest and growth of overseas Clan Farquharson Associations in US, Canada, Australia and Argentina, corresponding extensively with interested members. Following the untimely passing of Frances in 1991, Alwyne was re-married in 1993, to Patricia, his present wife, and is now resident in Norfolk UK. Despite his advanced age the Chief and Madam Farguharson remain physically active and involved in the Clan and the Estate Trust, as well as a large and active extended family.





IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Potato Salad

Inaredients:

2 tbsp. walnut pieces (optional)

1 tbsp. tarragon or cider vinegar

2 tsp. Dijon mustard

2 tbsp. olive oil

2 tbsp. walnut oil

1 tsp. runny honey

flaked sea salt and freshly ground black pepper 900g/2lb. new potatoes, such as Jersey Royals or Charlotte, washed or scrubbed

1 tbsp. chopped fresh tarragon leaves

1 large shallot, finely chopped

2 tbsp chopped cornichons or gherkins (optional)

Method:

If you're using the walnuts, place in a hot oven (about 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6) for a few minutes until beginning to colour slightly. This gives a fresher, less bitter flavour to the nuts.

Place the vinegar, mustard, oils, honey and salt and pepper in a screw-top jar or in the bowl of a small hand blender. Shake or blend well until creamy. Add more seasoning if preferred.

Cook the potatoes in boiling salted water for about 15-20 minutes, until just tender. Drain well and, when just cool enough to handle, cut into halves or quarters, if quite large.

Place the potatoes in a mixing bowl with the tarragon, shallots, cornichons or gherkins and walnuts, if using, and toss in as much or as little of the dressing as you want. Serve just warm or, if you're not eating straight away, refrigerate and return the salad to room temperature before eating.

Method:

Preheat a barbecue or griddle pan to hot. Season the steak with lots of black pepper, drizzle with oil and place onto a hot barbecue or griddle pan for five minutes, turning half-way through. To make the dressing, put the chilli, palm sugar, garlic and a teaspoon of salt into a pestle and mortar. Grind for 1-2 minutes, then add the coriander and mint and grind for another minute. Mix in the fish sauce, soy sauce, lime juice and zest.

Cut the lettuce into six wedges and place in a bowl. Top with the sugar-snap peas, radishes and a few coriander leaves. Pour the dressing over the salad and toss to coat. Slice the beef and lay it on top of the salad

Highland Salad

Inaredients:

1 x 300g/10½oz. sirloin or fillet steak salt and freshly ground black pepper 25ml/1fl oz. rapeseed oil

1 red chilli, finely chopped

1 tbsp. palm sugar 2 garlic cloves, sliced

2 tbsp. fresh coriander, plus extra for the salad

2 tbsp. fresh mint

1 tsp. fish sauce

1 tbsp. soy sauce

1 lime, juice and zest

1 round lettuce

50g/1¾oz. sugar-snap peas, halved 6 radishes, sliced

Scotch Pies



Inaredients:

For the filling: 600g/1lb 5oz. mutton mince 1/4 tsp ground mace 1/4 tsp nutmeg 5 tbsp. gravy or stock salt and white pepper For the hot water crust pastry: ½ tsp salt 120g/4¹/₄oz. lard 360g/121/2oz. plain flour 1 free-range egg yolk, beaten, for glaze

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6 and line a baking tray with baking parchment. Cut four strips of greaseproof paper, about 5cm/2in deep and 25cm/10in long, to wrap around the pies. You'll also need four pieces of cook's string to secure the paper. For the filling, mix all the ingredients together in a bowl and season generously with salt and white pepper. Work the liquid into the meat, divide into four portions and mould into balls. Refrigerate while you

make the pastry. To make the pastry, heat 160ml/51/2fl oz. of water, salt and lard in a saucepan until just boiling. Meanwhile, put the flour in a mixing bowl. Pour the hot liquid onto the flour and mix together with a spoon. Once cool enough to handle, tip onto a floured surface and knead until you have a smooth dough. Working as quickly as you can, cut off a quarter of the pastry and set aside. Divide the remaining dough into four equally sized balls. Roll out each ball to an 18cm/7in circle, about 5mm/¼in thick. Roll out the remaining pastry and cut out four circular lids, 10cm/4in in diameter. Place a ball of filling on each large circle of pastry. Gather the pastry around the meat and bring up the sides to form the shape of a pork pie. Keep stretching the pastry so it comes above the meat by around 2cm/1¾in. Dampen the edges of the pies with water and press the lids on top of the filling. Seal the edges together using your fingers. Wrap a strip of greaseproof paper around each pie and secure with string (to make sure the pie holds its shape when cooking). This is much easier if you have someone to help you. Put the pies on the baking tray and cut a steam hole in the centre of each. Brush with beaten egg yolk and transfer to the fridge to rest for 30 minutes. Bake for 35-40 minutes, or until golden-brown. Serve hot.

Rumbledethumps



Ingredients:

600g/1lb 5oz. large potatoes, peeled and chopped into large chunks 400g/14oz. swede (known as turnip in Scotland), peeled and chopped into large chunks

75g/2¾oz. unsalted butter 250g/9oz. savoy cabbage or kale, finely sliced salt and freshly ground black pepper 25g/1oz. cheddar cheese, grated

Dundee Lamb Chops

Ingredients:

Four leg of lamb chops 75ml/2.5 fluid oz. or five tablespoons

Half teaspoon ground ginger 4 tablespoons marmalade 4 slices orange for garnish 60g/2 oz. or half stick butter 75ml/21/2 fluid oz. water Half teaspoon paprika Salt and pepper

Method:

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

Method:

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

Farthing biscuits

Ingredients:

225g/8oz. plain flour, plus extra for dusting 225g/8oz. self-raising flour 1 tsp table salt 1 tsp caster sugar 85g/3oz. lightly salted butter,

plus extra to serve 85g/3oz. lard

Method:

For the biscuits, preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4. In a bowl, mix the dry ingredients together. Rub in butter and lard so that mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Add just enough cold water to bring the mixture together to form a stiff dough (about 5-6 tablespoons). Refrigerate for 15-20 minutes. On a lightly floured work surface, roll out the dough to a thickness just less than a £1 or thick coin. Using a 9cm/3½in round cutter cut out biscuits from the dough. Prick the top of the biscuits all over to decorate, leaving a plain 5mm/1/4in border around the edge. Transfer to wire racks or baking mesh. Place the racks/mesh on baking trays and bake for 14-16 minutes, or until the biscuits are dry but not browned. Set aside to cool completely. Serve the biscuits with chilled butter.

Scientists to study health and genetics of reintroduced red squirrels in Highlands

he health and genetics of red squirrels reintroduced to woodlands in the Scottish Highlands by conservation charity Trees for Life are to be studied by scientists at the University of Edinburgh.

Trees for Life will send hair samples from relocated squirrels for analysis by researchers at the university's Conservation Science Group at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, as part of the scientists' research into Scotland's wild red squirrels.

"Learning more about diseases, parasites and genetic variability is vital for ensuring a long-term future for the UK's red squirrels. The research may also shed light on how genetic diversity is distributed across Scotland and how red squirrel populations disperse into available habitat," said Alan McDonnell, Trees for Life's Conservation Manager.

Wildlife conservation in Scotland

Dr Rob Ogden, Director of Conservation at the university's vet school, said:
"The University is very happy to be providing scientific support to Trees for Life's red squirrel reintroduction programme. We are committed to ensuring that wildlife conservation in Scotland has access to the latest scientific techniques, to increase the chances of project success over the long term."

Only an estimated 120,000 reds remain in Scotland, their numbers decimated by habitat loss and persecution.

Despite restoration of good habitats in certain areas, reds can't return to isolated woodlands on their own, because they avoid crossing large open spaces – so the species is missing from many suitable Highland woods.

Only an estimated 120,000 reds remain in Scotland, their numbers decimated by habitat loss and persecution.

Since 2015, Trees for Life has relocated 140 red squirrels from strongholds in Inverness-shire and Moray to isolated fragments of forest where reds would once have lived – at Shieldaig, the Coulin Estate near Kinlochewe, Plockton, Inverewe, the Reraig peninsular, Attadale, Letterewe and Gairloch.

There have been positive signs of these populations establishing at all the reintroduction sites, including successful breeding. Young squirrels have already been seen at Letterewe and Gairloch, Trees for Life's 2018 release sites.



The reds are also dispersing well. A population has become established at Torridon, some 15 kilometres from the release site at Shieldaig – a greater dispersal distance than expected.

Red squirrels are also threatened by disease and competition from introduced non-native grey squirrels. Greys spread squirrel pox virus, to which they are immune but which is lethal to reds.

Through its The Reds Return appeal, Trees for Life is seeking funding for more reintroductions at six woodlands on the Morvern peninsula and north of the Dornoch Firth, at sites to be confirmed. This will further extend the squirrels' range, in areas safe from diseasecarrying grey squirrels and squirrel pox. It will also help pine forests to naturally expand, because reds plant new trees by forgetting where they have buried their winter stores of nuts and seeds.

To support the red squirrel reintroductions, see: www.treesforlife.org.uk/appeal

The 2019 Robert Burns Festival



he Camperdown Robert Burns
Scottish Festival Committee are
pleased to announce that Eric
Bogle will be the headline act
for this year's festival. Eric was born in
Scotland, as was Robert Burns, and that
he, Eric, has a unique ability with words,
music and songs, just like Burns and
making him Eric, a most worthy modernday version of or successor to, Burns. Eric
Bogle will headline at the Camperdown
Robert Burns Scottish Festival this year.

The Festival Chairperson Dr John Menzies OAM said that "Eric Bogle will perform in Camperdown over the festival weekend with a dedicated Eric Bogle in Concert at the Theatre Royal on Saturday July 6th." Eric Bogle is an internationally known and respected songwriter. For nearly 40 years he has toured the world with his music. Eric has said "he has been inflicting his songs on innocent bystanders from outback Australia to the streets of New York and many places between" During those forty years he has embarked on eight tours of North America, 11 tours of Europe and many tours of Australia, with 4 tours of New Zealand thrown in.

A refreshed festival

Eric has performed at many major folk and music festival around the globe, including Port Fairy, Woodford and the National in Australia, Philadelphia, Mariposa and Vancouver, Canada, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland and the Celtic Music Festival in Lorient, France, as well as treading the boards in countless folk, footy, bowling and social clubs and arts theatres all around the world.

In 1987 Eric received an OAM from the Australian Government for his services to the entertainment industry and in 1986 he received the United Nation Peace medal for his contribution, through his music, to the cause of peace. Although he has now stopped touring overseas, Eric is still doing the occasional concert and festivals in Australia as the 'spirit moves him', which he hopes to keep doing until he finally falls over, which he further hopes will be around 2045AD.

"Securing Eric Bogle and his band is a real coupe for the 2019 Camperdown Robert Burns Scottish Festival run by community committee members. The festival program is shaping up to be a refreshed festival with top line performers coming to the festival and new elements in the program that is promised to offer variety, inclusiveness and new experiences for the community and patrons", said Dr Menzies.

For further information please contact Secretary Chris on 0428 346 165, the Festival Co-ordinator Catherine O'Flynn on 0407 056 126, or see: www.camperdownburnsfestival.com.au







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THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

- 1 Dr Henry Faulds, who established the uniqueness of fingerprints, born in Beith, Ayrshire. $1843\,$
- 1 First Tay Rail Bridge opens. It was to collapse 18 months later in the Tay Bridge Disaster. $1878\,$
- 2 Prince Henry St Clair (Sinclair) reputed to have landed in Nova Scotia, having sailed from Orkney. 1398
- $\begin{array}{l} 2 \text{ James Douglas, } 4^{th} \text{ Earl of Morton,} \\ \text{beheaded in Edinburgh Grassmarket, accused} \\ \text{of the murder of Lord Darnley. } 1581 \end{array}$
- 2 Clothes rationing introduced as a war-time



- measure. The British government needed to reduce production and consumption of civilian clothes to safeguard raw materials and release workers and factory space for war production. It was not lifted until 1949. 1941
- 3 James Hutton, founder of modern geology, born. 1726
- 3 Poet Robert Tannahill born in Paisley. 1774
- $\bf 3$ The company formed by John Logie Baird televised the Epsom Derby which was then transmitted by the BBC. $\bf 1931$
- $\begin{array}{lll} 4 \text{ First recorded inter-club golf match -} \\ \text{between Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society} \\ \text{and Bruntsfield Links Golf Club. } 1818 \end{array}$
- 4 London's Wembley Stadium was vandalised by jubilant Scottish fans after a thrilling 2-1 victory over the Auld Enemy. Following the match, Scottish supporters invaded the pitch and caused an estimated £15,000 worth of damage. $1977\,$
- 5 An Act of the Scottish Parliament came into force "concerning the Office of Lyoun King of Armes and his brether Heraldis" creating the best regulated system of armorial bearings in Europe. 1592
- **5** Adam Smith, author of *The Wealth of Nations* born Kirkcaldy. **1723**
- $\begin{array}{l} 5 \text{ Referendum held on British Membership} \\ \text{ of the European Community. In Scotland} \\ \text{ the vote was "Yes" 1,332,286; "No" 948,039.} \\ \text{Turnout was 61\%. Only Shetland and Western} \\ \text{Isles had majorities against. } 1975 \\ \end{array}$
- 6 Thomas Blake Glover, founding father of Japan's industrialisation (including Mitsubishi) and Japanese Navy, born Fraserburgh. 1838
- **6** Sir John A MacDonald, the Scottishborn Canadian statesman, died. MacDonald was considered to be the architect of the Confederation of Canada and served twice as the first Prime Minister of the unified Dominion, between 1867-73 and 1878-91. **1891**
- 7 Robert the Bruce died, at Cardross Castle, Dumbarton, aged 54. Bruce's heart was then taken to Melrose Abbey, with his body having earlier being buried at Dunfermline Abbey. 1329
- 7 Sir James Young Simpson, pioneer of anaesthetics and chloroform, born. $1811\,$
- 7 Charles Rennie Mackintosh, the celebrated architect, painter and designer, was born. Regarded as one of the foremost British figures in the art nouveau movement, and as the principal exponent of the "Glasgow Style", Mackintosh was born in the Townhead area of the city. $1868\,$



- 8 Robert Stevenson, engineer, who constructed 18 lighthouses around Scotland, born Glasgow. $1772\,$
- 8 -The Earl of Seaforth raised a regiment for the American War from the MacKenzies and MacRaes of Ross-shire and Sutherland. $1778\,$
- 9 St Columba died on Iona. Columba founded a monastery on Iona which was to become one of the leading centres of Christianity in Western Europe, and the base from which Columba launched his successful mission to convert the Pictish nation. 597

- 9 First US troops (over 10,000 men) disembark from *Queen Mary* on the River Clyde. 1942
- 10 James Francis Stuart born. In honour of the "Old Pretender", this is known as "White Rose Day" in Jacobite circles. 1688
- 10 Battle of Glenshiel, Jacobites with Spanish assistance, and government forces clashed. $1719\,$
- 10 Death of King George I and accession of George II. $1727\,$
- 10 Construction of the Forth and Clyde canal started. It was to take 22 years to complete. 1768



- 10 The floral clock in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, began operation initially driven by clockwork and with only an hour hand. But it was the first of its kind in the world. 1903
- 10 Sir Jackie Stewart, three-times world motor racing champion, born in Dunbartonshire. 1939
- $11\,\textsc{-}$ Marie of Guise, widow of King James V and Queen Regent of Scotland, died. $1560\,$
- 11 Battle of Sauchieburn during which King James III died attempting to subdue a group of rebel barons, 1488
- $11\,\textsc{-}$ First oil pumped ashore from British oilfields in the North Sea. $1975\,$
- 12 Sir David Gill, Scottish astronomer, was born. Gill was noted for his measurements of solar and stellar parallaxes, which accurately revealed the distances of the Sun and other stars to Earth. He was also a pioneer in the use of photography to map the heavens. 1843
- 13 Birth of James Clerk Maxwell, first Professor of Experimental Physics at Cambridge University. He created the electromagnetic theory of light. $1831\,$
- 13 Rate of price inflation reached 25% in the UK. 1975
- 14 Queen Mary, Aquitania, Empress of Canada, and Empress of Britain arrive in the River Clyde with the first contingent of Australian and New Zealand troops. 1940
- $14\,\text{-}$ John Logie Baird, inventor of the first television, died. $1946\,$
- 15 *Queen Mary* leaves Greenock, taking nearly 15,000 GI's home to US. 1945
- 16 Siege of Dunbar Castle by the English was raised. $1338\,$
- 16 Henry McLeish, Scottish Labour politician, was born. McLeish began his working life as a footballer for East Fife, but soon entered the political arena, serving from 1987 as MP for Central Fife. His career reached its zenith with his appointment as First Minister of the Scottish Executive, succeeding Donald Dewar. 1948
- 16 'Old Tom Morris', one of golf's first professional players and 4 time Open Champion, was born in St Andrews. 1821
- $17 \operatorname{-Wolf} \operatorname{of} \operatorname{Badenoch} \operatorname{burns} \operatorname{Elgin} \operatorname{Cathedral}. \ 1390$
- $17 \hbox{- Charles Macintosh patented the waterproof cloth he was using to make raincoats. } 1823$



- 17 Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned at the island fortress of Loch Leven Castle. She eventually escaped, never to step foot in Scotland again. $1567\,$
- 18 Pacification of Berwick, Charles I forced to withdraw from Scotland and recognise an independent Scottish Parliament. 1639

- 18 Flora MacDonald met Prince Charles Edward Stuart and persuaded him to wear women's clothes as part of the escape plan from the Outer Hebrides to Skye. 1746
- 19 Mary Queen of Scots gives birth to the future King James VI of Scotland and I of England. $1566\,$
- 19 Coronation of King Charles I at Holyrood. 1633
- 19 "Day of Public Thanksgiving" on Restoration of Charles II as king. $1660\,$
- 19 Earl Haig, Commander in Chief of British forces 1915-18, founder of British Legion, born. $1861\,$
- 19 Sir J M Barrie, author of Peter Pan died. 1937
- $20 \hbox{ -} Adam Ferguson, philosopher, historian, "Father of Sociology" born Logierait, Perthshire. \\ 1723$



- 20 New Tay Rail Bridge opened, the longest in Britain. 1887
- $20\,\textsc{-}$ First announcement of the discovery of high-grade crude oil in the North Sea. $1969\,$
- 21 Robert Napier, regarded as the "father of Clyde shipbuilding" was born. He died on 23 June, 1876. $1791\,$
- 21 Scottish explorer Mungo Park reached the source of the river Niger in Africa. 1796
- 21 More than 50 German warships were scuttled at Scapa Flow, Orkney. It was the single greatest loss of warships in history, and the sailors killed that day were the last fatalities of World War One. 1919
- $22 \text{ Malt Riots, Glasgow against higher} \\ \text{taxes imposed on Scottish malt. } 1725$
- 22 At the Battle of Bothwell, the Covenanters were defeated by royal troops led by the Duke of Monmouth near Glasgow. Ideological differences among the Covenanters factionalised them, and the resulting disorganisation contributed to the ease of the Royalists' victory. Although deaths on the field were few, 200 were killed later. Of the 1400 captured or surrendered, another 258 were shipwrecked while being transported in The Crown of London. The battle features in fictional form in Sir Walter Scott's novel *Old Mortality*. 1679
- ${\bf 23}$ Charles II sailed into the estuary of the river Spey and signed the Covenant before going ashore. ${\bf 1650}$
- 23 Singer Kenneth McKellar born. McKellar died of pancreatic cancer, at the age of 82 in 2010. 1927
- 24 The birth of Admiral Sir John Ross, Scottish Polar explorer. In 1818 he went in search of the Northwest Passage but turned back after exploring Baffin Bay. 1777
- 24 Robert the Bruce defeated Edward II at Battle of Bannockburn. The battle was one of the most famous events in the wars of independence. It saw the Scottish king, Robert the Bruce, win a key victory over the English forces of King Edward II, despite being outnumbered two-to-one and facing what was regarded as the finest army in the medieval world. $1314\,$
- 25 David Douglas, explorer and botanist, born at Scone, Perthshire. In addition to the Douglas Fir, he brought back to Europe lupins, phlox, penstemmon, sunflowers, clarkia, Californian poppy, mimulus, flowering currant, rose of sharon and mahonia. 1799
- 25 Wallace statue unveiled at the Wallace National Monument, Stirling. 1887
- 25 Lord Boyd Orr, biologist and Nobel Prize Winner, died. $1971\,$
- 25 Seven Scots, including John Stuart Forbes, were in the US 7^{th} Cavalry with General Custer at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. $1876\,$
- 25 The first Sherlock Holmes story by Edinburgh-born author Arthur Conan Doyle was published in the *Strand* magazine. 1891
- 26 James IV crowned king at the age of 15 at Scone. He reigned until 1513 when he fell with the flower of Scotland's nobility at the Battle of Flodden Field. 1488

- 26 Darien Company formed to set up a Scottish colony in Panama. 1695
- 26 King George IV died, aged 67 (and William IV ascended the throne). George IV is reckoned to be Britain's fattest king. His favourite breakfast was two roast pigeons, three beefsteaks, a bottle of white wine, a glass of champagne, two of port and one brandy. 1830
- 27 King James VI (aged 8) escaped from Castle Ruthven. $1583\,$
- 27- Robin Hall, Scottish folk singer and musician, was born. Hall achieved national fame in partnership with fellow Scot, Jimmie MacGregor, on the BBC TV show, Tonight. His hits included The Mingulay Boat Song and Ye Cannae Shove Yer Grannie Aff a Bus. 1937
- 27- The Royal Navy's new aircraft carrier leaves its home port for the first time. HMS Queen Elizabeth one of two new carriers being built at Rosyth dockyard in Fife at a cost of more than £6bn is to begin sea trials. The ship passed under the Forth Bridge just before midnight. It is the largest warship ever built for the Royal Navy. The flight deck alone is the size of three football pitches. The ship can operate with a crew of 1,000 and 40 aircraft. The 65,000 tonne warship was the Royal Navy's first aircraft carrier since HMS Illustrious was scrapped in 2014. 2017
- 28 Queen Victoria crowned at Westminster Abbey. 1838



- 28 The Forth and Clyde Canal opened. The 35 mile course from Bowling to Grangemouth is the longest of the Lowland canals. It was formally abandoned in 1962. Its re-opening in 2001 was part of the Millenium Link scheme, allowing waterway travel from Edinburgh to Glasgow by linking to the Union canal via the remarkable Falkirk Wheel boat lift. 1790
- 28 Flora MacDonald and Bonnie Prince Charlie set sail from Benbecula to Skye. After Culloden, the Prince had a high price on his head. He came to Benbecula, and Flora helped him escape to Skye by disguising him as her Irish maid, Betty Burke. 1746



- **28-29** Bannockburn Live celebrated in Stirling. Commemorating the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn and celebrating the best of Scottish folk music, food and drink attracted visitors from around the world and a key event of Homecoming. **2014**
- 29 Scottish actor Ian Bannen, was born. Bannen appeared in more than 60 British and American films. These include The Flight of the Phoenix (1965) for which he received an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actor. He died in 1999, aged 71. 1928
- 30 Start of trial for murder of Madeleine Smith who was eventually found "Not Proven". The daughter of a Glasgow architect, James Smith, this most eligible of society ladies was accused in 1857 of murdering her alleged former lover, Emile L'Angelier. $1857\,$
- 30 James Loughran, Scottish conductor, was born in Glasgow. Loughran first came to notice when he won the Philharmonia Orchestra's Conducting Competition in 1961, and soon became principal conductor of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. 1931

The History Behind Game of Thrones How Scotland's Story Mirrors the World of Westeros



The world's most talked about television show has millions of people captivated by its tale of medieval fantasy. Over the course of eight years the show has become an unprecedented international phenomenon which has changed the television landscape, and has a special connection to Scotland's very own history as David C. Weinczok explains.





he seed of *Game of Thrones* was planted with a visit to a historic site, albeit one just south of the border. In 1981 George R. R. Martin was visiting a friend in the north of England and a trip to the ruins of Hadrian's Wall was on the itinerary. To the classical mind this wall represented the very frontier of civilisation and barbarism, the line between life and death itself, with the sixth century Byzantine historian Procopius proclaiming that "if any man crosses this wall and goes to the other side, he dies straightaway." Standing upon those ancient ramparts with 2,000 years of accumulated lore whirling through his head, Martin imagined what it would be like for a Roman legionary to stand guard upon it not knowing what godforsaken horrors would come screaming out of the unknowable North at him.

Martin admitted in an interview with John Hodgman that, "what tended to emerge...was Scots, and we couldn't use that." So, in his signature fashion, Martin changed their name, added some fantastical flourishes, and so were born the Wildlings. To me, this origin story encapsulates the power of Game of Thrones to stimulate an interest in Scottish history, and history more generally. Martin took real history, mashed it together, inflated it, called it fantasy, and captivated the imaginations of millions across the globe.

Scottish history

The reverse is also possible. My book, *The* History Behind Game of Thrones: The North Remembers, takes Martin's fantasy and reverse-engineers the history from it to show people that if they want tales of conflicted heroes, complex villains, climactic battles, dynastic dramas, and a healthy dose of lore

and legend, they need look no further than the story of Scotland. Ideally that means engaging with history first-hand, just as Martin did in 1981, and a great deal of The History Behind Game of Thrones is dedicated to enticing readers to visit Scotland's castles, battlefields, ancient monuments, and atmospheric neuks for themselves.

Game of Thrones draws on a vast array of histories, but Scottish history is especially close to its heart. There are two main ways to talk about its historical parallels. The first is the direct inspirations: the events, characters, and locations that Martin has said, on the record, made it into his tale. These are the sorts of factoids that will score you points in a Game of Thronesthemed pub quiz. The other approach is more thematic, looking at the way that the broader patterns and ultimate causal forces in Scottish history are echoed in Westeros. These include questions like 'how has geography effected settlement and conquest?', 'why are certain types of castles found in Westeros and not others?', or 'what does Game of Thrones teach us about the brutal realities of medieval warfare?'. Here are a few select examples from the book of how Scotland stacks up to Westeros.

Red Weddings and Black Dinners

Game of Thrones' most shocking scene, and there is plenty of competition for that title, was the Red Wedding. Many of the show's protagonists are murdered while staying as guests within one of Westeros' great castles, a treacherous act that casts an ignominious pall over all involved in its execution. Martin was directly inspired by two bloody events in Scottish history, the Massacre of Glencoe in 1692 and the Black Dinner of 1440. In both events the sacred principle of 'guest right', in which a guest and host are guaranteed safety from each other, was brutally betrayed. In the case of the Black Dinner the main victim was the 18 year-old Earl of Douglas, a headstrong leader of a mighty faction only two years older than Game of Thrones' Robb Stark was at the Red Wedding.

A Narrow Neck of Land

Westeros' most fundamental divide is between north and south, and the middle ground between those extremes is a place called The Neck, a deadly boggy morass that extends for hundreds of miles and is traversable only at a single point along an old road. In terms of defensive value The Neck is equal to a million men, for any army wanting to invade the North from the South or vice versa must reckon with it. Countless armies have been broken at The Neck, allowing the North to retain its independence from the rest of the Seven Kingdoms - at least until the Targaryen dragons arrived and simply flew over it.

Scotland's own geographical crucible is Stirling. Punctuated by a mighty castle upon a crag, Stirling stands at the boundary between Highlands and Lowlands. Until the 19th century the boggy ground that still percolates through alongside the River Forth was far more expansive, and all overland travel had to follow the thin thread of the Roman Road or else become hopelessly mired.

Game of Thrones draws on a vast array of histories, but Scottish history is especially close to its heart.

The nation-defining battles of Stirling Bridge, Bannockburn, Sauchieburn, and Sheriffmuir were fought for control of this vital choke point. Like Westeros' The Neck, he who holds Stirling can effectively strangle the kingdom, all due to a conspiracy of geography hundreds of millions of years in the making.

A Real-World Winterfell

Winterfell is the ancient seat of House Stark in the North and is the centrepiece of much of the action in Game of *Thrones* right from the very first episode (which, incidentally, used Doune Castle near Stirling to represent Winterfell's courtyards). It is built upon a small rocky crag, and its earliest edifice is a ruinous central tower around which myriad courtyards, adjuncts, and defensive walls were gradually raised. Winterfell has its godswood, where sacred trees with carved faces in them watch over the Starks with the power of the Old Gods.

While there is no castle exactly like Winterfell in Scotland, Craigmillar Castle in Edinburgh is a Winterfell in miniature, a parallel that Martin himself lent support to on his Twitter account. Though not nearly so old as Winterfell, Craigmillar is also built upon a small rocky bluff with a great tower as its nucleus. Courtyards with domestic space radiate out on three of four sides from the keep, and just like Winterfell Craigmillar is defended by two curtain walls, the inner wall being higher and mightier than the outer wall. Architecturally it is a near-perfect match, but the atmosphere it evokes is at least





as comparable. As you emerge into Craigmillar's innermost courtyard you are flanked by two yew trees, speculated to be up to 500 years old. It only takes a sliver of imagination to envision the Starks at home here - Bran scrambling up Craigmillar's now-ruinous walls, Ned sharpening his greatsword beneath the yew trees, Arya practicing archery in the surrounding fields, and Jon sulking somewhere on the ramparts. Castles play a central role in Westeros, and so a good deal of my book is concerned with them and directing readers to the best ones to visit to feel as though you have been magically transported into the depths of Martin's world of ice and fire.

That, at the end of the day, is the power of fantasy. Indulging in it imbues our daily realities with a sense of adventure. It appeals to the inner child in all of us, who still yearn to find a dragon's cave somewhere in our neighbourhood. As Martin himself stated beautifully, "we read fantasy to find the colours again". It is my hope that my book will help to light a spark for history, both for readers in Scotland and those around the world, whose flames are fanned through firsthand discovery, imagination, and the desire set out and find the wonders of our past and on our doorsteps. Westeros, it turns out, does not expire when the tv show ends or the last pages of Martin's saga are written - in Scotland, at the very least, it is all around us.

The History Behind Game of Thrones: The North Remembers is available now through Pen & Sword Books and Amazon. The author can be contacted at david@castlehunter.scot and is on social media as @TheCastleHunter.



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dinburgh's Real Mary King's
Close, one of Scotland's
foremost visitor attractions,
has released exclusive new
research delving further than ever
before into the fascinating lives of
women in Scotland's capital hundreds
of years ago. The research, carried out
in collaboration with a teaching fellow
at the University of Edinburgh, cements
the Close's relevance in Scottish history,
and sets the scene for Mary King as an
inspirational and pioneering woman,
who broke socially constructed norms
ahead of her time.

Understanding of early modern women

In the 17th century, at a time when women had very little status in society, and when most known females were either royalty or aristocracy, Mary King utterly disrupted this rule of convention. This shows how important Mary King's Close is for our understanding of early modern women. Mary King's Close had a high number of female property owners for the time, says University of Edinburgh academic Dr Aaron Allen, who compiled the research for the award-winning visitor attraction.

The few studies that have been carried out suggest that about one in five of a town's householders might have been women. Aaron says: "Of course there were many women in the closes and streets of Scotland's towns, but most were under the headship of husbands, fathers or brothers. The 20 percent who headed their own independent households often faced suspicion in a society where everyone was expected to be under someone else's authority."

Mary King was one of them, and her Close bucked the trend. Of the four closes which make up the visitor attraction, two women owned three-quarters of the properties, while Mary King's Close was "a haven for independent women" with 45 percent of the properties having a female head of household.

Aaron explains: "Of Mary King's Close's thirty-three properties, twentynine householders are named in the 1635 tax record. Of these twenty-nine, thirteen householders were women, or 45 percent of the Close. Mary King's Close is one of only a few streets to reference a seventeenth-century woman. It also appears to have been somewhat of a haven for independent women. That's more than double the expected level of female householders."

Defied convention

Historians have suggested that in Mary King's time, women generally had very little status in society and there were many restrictions on them, from selling property to making wills, and being able to take people to court. Mary King and her neighbours defied convention.

In the 17th century, at a time when women had very little status in society, and when most known females were either royalty or aristocracy, Mary King utterly disrupted this rule of convention.

The team at The Real Mary King's Close, would like to think that Mary would embrace International Women's Day with passion, and have plenty to say about equality. A legacy that continues to this day with the female Chief Executive of Continuum Attractions. Leading a portfolio of nine attractions, of which The Real Mary King's Close is one, Juliana Delaney has been recognised as both a merchant Adventurer of York and one of the top 100 women in tourism.

Commenting on this new research, Juliana said: "Discovering the high percentage of female-led households on our Closes, gives us a platform to delve into the women who helped to create the foundations of the city we know today. Highlighting the real stories that are so often left out by history is at the core of what we do at The Real Mary King's Close. It remains a privilege to reveal these amazing stories in such a memorable place and provide a platform for them to live on."

To find out more visit: www.realmarykingsclose.com

Famous Annie's doll stolen



campaign to return a 'Tartan Barbie' doll to its ghostly owner at The Real Mary King's Close attraction has gone viral, attracting attention from social media fans across the globe. Since devilling deeper into the disappearance of the doll, it has been found to be part of the iconic fashion designer, Mary Quant's daisy doll airline collection.

The doll and its story have been a popular feature of The Real Mary King's Close award-winning history tour since it was left there by the Japanese psychic, Aiko Gibo in 1992. Gibo reported that she felt the spirit of a young girl while visiting one of the 17th century households within the Mary King's Close site.

According to Aiko Gibo, the young girl, called Annie, was left to die in this building after her parents abandoned her during the plague, a common tale on the 17th century Close. The spirit was lifted from the room when the psychic returned with a gift of the 'Tartan Barbie' that she bought on the Royal Mile.

A shrine to Annie's spirit

Now the hunt for the doll has gone international, capturing the hearts and minds of visitors from all over the world.

Paul Nixon, General Manager of The Real Mary King's Close, said: "It's not a surprise to me that we have thousands of people from all over the world getting in on the search for 'Tartan Barbie'. Over the years many visitors have left all sorts of mementoes - including several badges from Police Officers has a mark of respect - in what has become a shrine to Annie's spirit. As a team, we are shocked at the theft of the doll, and it's especially hard for our guides who tell our stories with the utmost integrity — the story of Annie, Aiko Gibo and 'Tartan Barbie' have been a significant part of our history for 26 years. It's disappointing and incredibly frustrating that someone would take it without any thought for the meaning it has for so many. All we can do is hope that someone can help track her down and the Barbie is returned to the Close."

Paul and the team at The Real Mary King's Close have launched an appeal to find Tartan Barbie on social media, with a "no questions asked" policy if she makes her way home.



Unique history found in the paintings at Scone Palace





eghan, Duchess of Sussex, has made headlines over far more than her recent nuptials to Prince Harry and the birth of their first son, baby Archie Harrison. Chief among the topics of discussion has been race. But as Royal commentators have ruminated over whether British society is ready for a mixed race Royal, it's worth remembering another woman who caused a similar stir more than 200 years ago. Dido Elizabeth Belle was the mixed race daughter of an African slave and Sir John Lindsay, a British naval officer who was later knighted. Sir John's uncle and aunt, the Earl and Countess of Mansfield, brought up Dido as a free, educated woman in England after her father brought her back here.

Dido, just six when she moved to Britain, grew up on the Mansfields' estate at Kenwood House, Hampstead with Lady Elizabeth Murray, the Earl and Countess's niece. The Earl and Countess were said to have treated her like their own. The Earl of Mansfield went on to become Lord Chief Justice and took steps to abolish slavery in Britain – no doubt influenced by Dido.

Scone Palace

Dido is famously represented in a painting which now hangs in Scone Palace, Perthshire, run by the present-day Earl and Countess of Mansfield. The image depicts Dido with Lady Elizabeth sitting on a bench, Dido seemingly pointing to her face and holding a bowl of fruit. The painting draws interested crowds at the Palace, now one of Perthshire's most popular visitor attractions, especially given the popularity of the film about her life, Belle, released in 2013.

Lady Mansfield said: "The painting hangs in our Ambassador's Room here at Scone Palace and never fails to fascinate our visitors, and me. Art critics have asked why Dido is pointing to her face. Whatever the story is behind it, the painting is iconic in that it represents a mixed race woman who both made her mark and ruffled some feathers in late 18th century Britain."

Extraordinary history

Scone Palace is also exhibiting two new paintings, which are on loan from the Stewart Society. The paintings, by John Singleton Copley, depict Duncan Stewart and his wife Anne, a couple with an extraordinary history. Duncan Stewart of Ardsheal came from a famous Highland family which supported the Jacobite case in the rising of 1715 and 1745. He was the eldest surviving son of Charles Stewart, the commander of the Appin regiment at the Battle of Culloden. Educated in

Stirling, Duncan emigrated to the USA and became a collector of customs in Connecticut. During the American War of Independence, he supported the government against the rebels.

In 1767 he married Anne Erving, daughter of the governor of Boston. A family story relates how, during the War of Independence, Anne stole the keys of the city prison from under her father's pillow so that her husband could liberate two Scottish prisoners.

After Culloden, Duncan's father Charles Stewart spent time hiding in the hills before fleeing to France, and his estates in Ardsheal, Argyll were confiscated by the government. The estates were finally returned to Duncan in 1785 and he and Anne settled back in Ardsheal where he inherited the chieftainship of the Clan of Appin.

More information on Scone Palace is at: www.scone-palace.co.uk

Mystery revealed



The long-running mystery surrounding the famous portrait of Dido Belle was resolved recently after a BBC investigation attributed the Scone Palace painting to Scots artist

In a compelling episode of the popular TV series *Fake or Fortune?*, art expert Philip Mould looked into the history of a painting which had long been attributed to German artist Johann Zoffany.

David Martin

Piecing together evidence from paint samples, x-ray imagery and his own studies of other paintings at Scone Palace, Philip revealed that Anstrutherborn David Martin was the artist behind the commission.

Martin painted hundreds of portraits in his lifetime, among them Benjamin Franklin (an image which hangs in the White House), David Hume and William Murray, the 1st Earl of Mansfield. It was the Earl of Mansfield who brought up Dido Belle, the mixed-race daughter of an African slave, after her British naval captain

father, Sir John Lindsay, brought her to the UK. The Murrays were already guardians to their niece, Lady Elizabeth Murray and brought up Dido as a free, educated girl at their home at Kenwood House, Hampstead.

The portrait was painted at Kenwood in about 1779 and sees St Paul's Cathedral in the background. It features Lady Elizabeth and Dido Belle sitting on a bench, Dido seeming to coyly point to her face and holding a bowl of fruit.

Extraordinary journey

Philip Mould drew similarities between the Dido painting and one hanging in the private drawing room of Lord and Lady Mansfield at Scone Palace. The portrait of Lady Marjory Murray is strikingly similar, with the same attention to the fabric, flowers in her hair, the colour of her lips and, tellingly, a finger resting on her face – much as Dido is portrayed.

The Palace, which now has 10 paintings by David Martin, has formally attributed the painting to Martin by attaching a new plaque on the portrait.

Lady Mansfield said: "This was an extraordinary journey and I'm so grateful to the team at *Fake or Fortune?* for taking the time to look into this. The painting is very precious to us as a family and admired by the many visitors to Scone Palace. I can't believe the clue to the mystery painter – the portrait of the Lady Marjory Murray – has hung in our drawing room for years, quite literally staring us in the face!"

