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the

the Scottish Banner



Years Strong - 1976-2019

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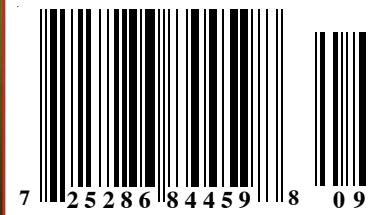
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The Banner Says...

Scotland-A land full of experiences



by Sean Cairney

As we go to press with the September issue the Edinburgh Festival Fringe has been named the UK's top experience by leading travel media company, Lonely Planet, in a new ranked list of the 500 most memorable, beautiful, surprising and compelling experiences to be had across Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands. The Fringe leads the diverse selection, which features a variety of experiences from across the UK and is one of three Scottish entries in the top 20 (the other two are at #17: Step into your own movie in Glencoe and at # 19: Catch your breath on Arthur's Seat). A total of 67 Scottish entries made the overall top 500 ranking.

The greatest show of arts and culture on Earth

The UK's four constituent countries and countless small islands comprise a powerhouse of history, culture and intrigue. Now for the first time, Lonely Planet's community of travel experts have chosen the best sights and experiences and ranked them in order of their brilliance in *Lonely Planet's Ultimate United Kingdom Travelist*. Describing the Fringe, Lonely Planet's travel experts said: "the Fringe floods the city with art and nowhere beats it for spectacle or scale... There is theatre, comedy, dance, circus, cabaret, opera, music and spoken word, and whatever the time of day, an acrobat, trapeze artist, contortionist or tried-and-tested bagpiping busker will be pleased to entertain you... Simply step through the looking glass and prepare to be dazzled by the greatest show of arts and culture on Earth."

This is of course great news for the Fringe, Edinburgh and Scotland. I have been fortunate to attend Fringe events a couple of times in the past and marvelled at what a diverse and international event it has become. The Fringe is in fact the world's largest arts festival and transforms Scotland's capital every August with music, drama, dance and performance. An event of this scale is sure to deserve such accolades, however it got me thinking what other places, events or experiences *Scottish Banner* readers think should be included in the 500 top experiences?

First-hand Scottish experiences

I can think of few demographics than our very own readers who will have first-hand Scottish experiences, as I know so many readers return to Scotland on a regular basis. These experiences go beyond famous events or attractions and could be simply meeting everyday people or perhaps discovering your families own story. Scotland is full of great experiences, places and events and whilst some may not be world famous, sometimes it is the everyday experience that stays with you forever. I remember being in a pub in the Highlands and chatting to an elderly man who must have been late eighties, or more. He told me stories of what life was like for him growing up in a poor family. He was decked out in Harris Tweed and looked quite dapper. However, he had struggled in his early years and seemed nearly glad of those struggles as he appreciated everything he had and that he had earned it. I remember leaving that pub thinking what an incredible man, not for being extraordinary but for being so very ordinary and personable. He oozed Highland charm and friendliness and made a stranger in his local pub feel like a lifelong friend or family member.

That was an experience I still think about, though I suppose that was a personal one rather than one for the masses, but it surely must be one of the many stories out there of a true Scottish experience many have.

In this issue

One of the events that oddly did not make the top 500 experiences in the UK is the World Pipe Band Championships which takes place each August in Glasgow. This is often considered the pinnacle of world pipe bands and I am not sure why it was not listed as it proves each year a hit with thousands of people across the world. We do have results of this year's event in this issue and congratulate all the bands who attended and took part in this great event. It is also fantastic to learn that so many participants (estimated 40%) are under 25 years of age, helping the future of the pipe band movement.

Lewis is the main island of the Outer Hebrides and rich in dramatic landscape, Gaelic culture, stunning coastlines, nature and history. Whether you are after some outdoor pursuits or looking to dig up some Neolithic history the island has much to offer the visitor. As the windiest spot in the UK, visitors will be blown away by the richness and beauty of the island. The island is also famous for its observance of the Sabbath where most things close on a Sunday.

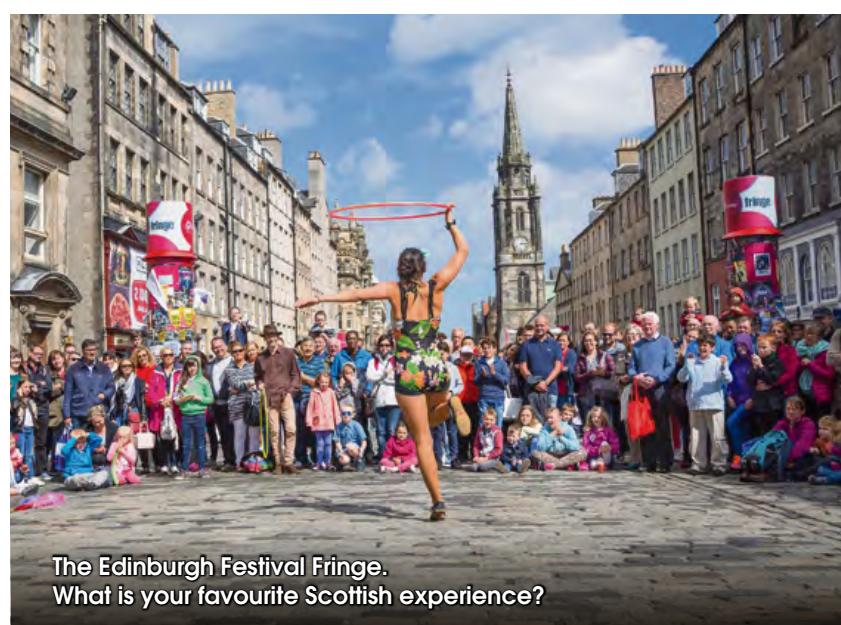
A radical act of conservation has recently taken place in Helensburgh, west of Glasgow, erecting a gigantic box around a significant work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

The Hill House was Charles Rennie Mackintosh's vision of a 'home for the future', influenced by traditional Scottish vernacular buildings. However, the Scottish weather has not been kind to the landmark building which now has a fantastic new structure built around it for the building to dry out, a task which may take up to 15 years to complete!

Scotland is full of experiences

Scotland is full of experiences from world class events to stunning scenery and history that you simply cannot make up. What memories have you come home with after a trip to Scotland? We would love to hear reader experiences of tales, memories and adventures as I am sure we could easily write our very own 500 most memorable experiences pertaining just to Scotland. The Fringe is no doubt a real celebration of Edinburgh and the diverse range of people that take part. Scotland is a celebration of her people, past and present, whose bloodlines connect across the Earth, and there must be stories in that.

Have you had an incredible Scottish experience? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or at: www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us



The Edinburgh Festival Fringe.
What is your favourite Scottish experience?



Gracing our front cover: The 2019 World Pipe Band Championships.
Photo: Glasgow Life.

Glasgow pipes up as PipingLive! Returns to the city



Glasgow Lord Provost Eva Bolander playing the pipes.

the Piping Live! Big Band marched from Blythswood Square along West George Street to George Square. Upon arrival in George Square, the Big Band saluted Lord Provost Bolander before she picked up her own pipes and joined in.

The very best piping and trad music in the world

Now in its 16th year, Piping Live! is the biggest festival of its kind, attracting over 45,000 music fans, families and tourists from all around the globe to watch more than 5,000 pipers perform at 150 events across the city. This year's programme featured performances by the very best international acts from

countries including New Zealand, Malaysia, Canada and Scotland, and saw the return of the fiercely-contested Masters Solo, International Quartet and Pipe Idol competitions.

Roddy MacLeod, Festival Director of Piping Live! said: "We are delighted to welcome so many pipers and musicians from all over the world to this year's Piping Live!. We'd like to thank Scottish Fire and Rescue Novice Juvenile Pipe Band for kicking off our biggest festival to date in style. We also thank Lord Provost Eva Bolander for not only being our Piping Live! 2019 Chieftain, but for performing alongside our Big Band, many of whom have travelled thousands

of miles for this festival. We welcome tens of thousands of people from across the globe to Glasgow to enjoy the very best piping and trad music in the world, as well as some fantastic family events.

We really do have something for everyone and can't wait to welcome you all."

The Lord Provost said at the launch of PipingLive!: "I'm looking forward to Piping Live! and the Worlds. They're marvellous celebrations of bagpipe music and bring people, from around the world, together. I'm delighted to be able to join in and have been practising furiously after a long break. It's great fun and a wonderful sight to behold pipers sporting tartan from every corner of the globe."

The 16th year of Piping Live! Glasgow International Piping Festival took place in August with a piping hot performance from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Novice Juvenile Pipe Band, featuring 11 year-old tenor drummer Emily Gormley, the youngest member of the band. The band launched this year's event with a rousing performance at the steps of Buchanan Galleries before joining the Piping Live! Big Band – this year led by Lord Provost Eva Bolander of Glasgow City Council, and Chieftain of Piping Live! 2019 festival.

Lord Provost Bolander performed *Highland Cathedral* in front of the City Chambers in George Square, after parading through Glasgow's City Centre to celebrate the launch of this year's festival. Comprised of 143 pipers from all over the world including Canada and New Zealand,



Scottish Fire and Rescue Novice Juvenile Pipe Band.



Scottish Fire and Rescue Novice Juvenile Pipe Band, featuring 11 year-old tenor drummer Emily Gormley with Roddy MacLeod (centre).

The logo for the Canmore Highland Games features a stylized, colorful design on the left. It includes a yellow and purple braided knot-like shape above the words "canmore highland games". The word "canmore" is written in a large, bold, black serif font, while "highland games" is in a smaller, black sans-serif font.

Aug 31 - Sept 1, 2019

Canmore, Alberta

AUG 31 - TASTE OF THE HIGHLANDS
SEPT 1 - THE HIGHLAND GAMES
SEPT 1 - THE CANMORE CEILIDH

A black silhouette of a person in a traditional Scottish kilt and hat, standing in a dynamic pose as if playing a bagpipe. The silhouette is positioned against a background that transitions from light grey to green at the bottom.

See you in Canmore! One hour west of Calgary in the Canadian Rockies

ONLINE TICKETS & BUNDLES AVAILABLE NOW - CANMOREHIGHLANDGAMES.CA

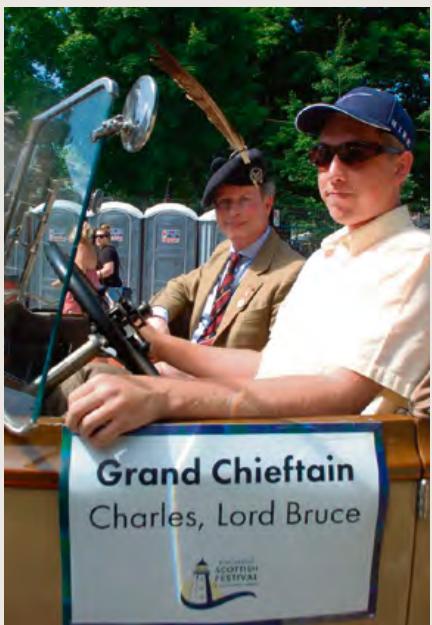
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SCOT POURRI



Lord Bruce attends Kincardine Scottish Festival and Highland Games



Charles, Lord Bruce, was the Grand Chieftain at the 20th annual Kincardine Scottish Festival and Highland Games in Ontario, Canada on 5-7 July 2019. During the opening ceremony on the 5th, Lord Bruce stated "One hundred and 70 years ago, my family first came here. My great, great-grandfather was governor general and implemented the Durham report, introducing responsible government to the country. He also introduced the maple leaf as the symbol of Canada and started the postal service."

The Clan of Honor was Bruce. Representing Family of Bruce International, Inc. USA: Kathy Bruce, President Don Bruce, William Bruce and Phyllis Bruce. *Polly Bruce Tilford*
National Secretary to Family of Bruce Inc. USA

The 2019 Clan MacRae Gathering Tour of Scotland



This past May, Clan MacRae of Scotland held a 5-day international Clan MacRae Gathering and invited all the Scattered Children of Kintail to come back to their ancestral homeland. So, 44 brave souls answered the call and travelled over the sea to participate in what became the trip of a lifetime for them! Add a few days of touring both before and after the Gathering and you have 13 awesome days in Bonnie Scotland!

The Scottish MacRaes planned this Gathering for May 2019 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the de-struction of Eilean Donan Castle by the English on May 10, 1719. The 5-day Gathering also included a hike up Arthur's Seat, a visit to the Sheriffmuir Battlefield, Receptions in Edinburgh and Dunblane, a Banquet and Ceilidh in Dornie and a Sunday worship service at Clachan Duich, the ancient MacRae church and burial ground plus much more. *Clan MacRae Society of North America*

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?

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send your photos or letters via social media

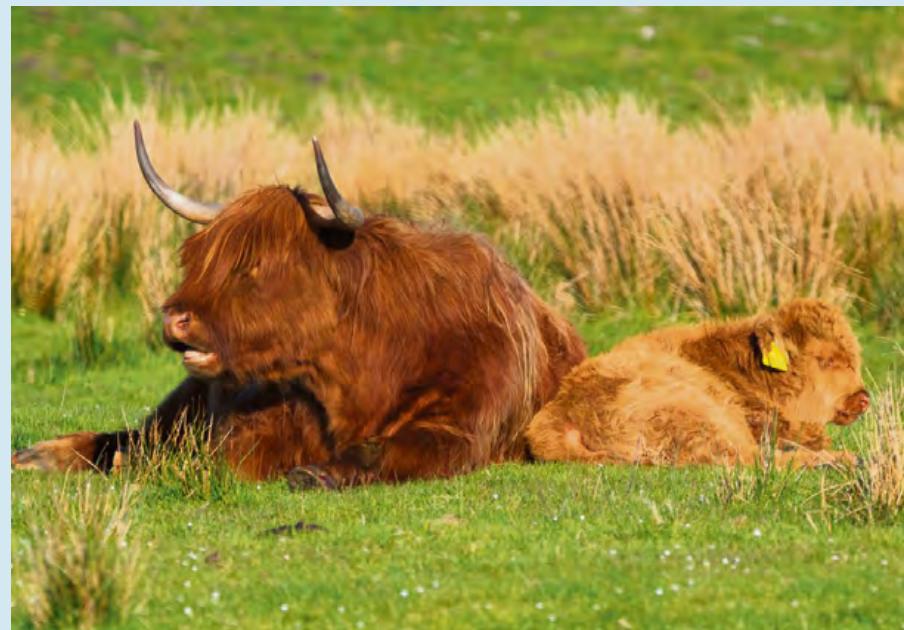


Eilean Donan Castle



The Highlands. Where Scotland takes your breath away.
Eilean Donan Castle
Scotland

Highland Coo's



Two for the price of one...
A View From My Camera
Scotland

Education Down Under

I found Mrs June Laws letter (Scotpourri, July 2019) most refreshing. Not only did Scotland develop a fine education system but it was also exported to the far corners of the earth.

South Australia was one of those places to be benefit with many schools established across the province (yes it was a province rather than a colony!) and then a small but fine tertiary system. The University of Adelaide was established as the third in Australia, almost totally with Scots funding, staff and endowments that continue through to today.

These Scots had become exceedingly wealthy but in typical Scottish fashion they were immense benefactors, demonstrating humility in a typical Scottish fashion. Their memories are perpetuated by the

University in a variety of ways including heritage events, statues, projects, artefacts, memorabilia, building names and scholarships. Several Scots descendants remain active in making sure that their beneficence remains well remembered and expanded.

A newer university, Flinders, has also seen a sound Scottish influence, mainly through an historian of immense international repute, earning his 'stripes' through thorough research to correct many of the myths around Scottish immigration. Over more recent years Eric Richards has had two international symposia held in his honour in Adelaide, well attended by eminent Scots. He died in September 2018 but his legacy marches on.

Ron Layton
Crafers, South Australia

Pose your questions on Scottish related topics to our knowledgeable readership who just may be able to help. Please keep letters under 300 words and we reserve the right to edit content and length. Letters can be emailed to info@scottishbanner.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!

Songs from centuries past bring history to life

A new audio guide to Glasgow Cathedral has been launched to help visitors to step back in time to discover the history of the site and experience centuries of unique musical heritage. Among the pieces of medieval music is one that has recently been identified as probably Scottish by Edinburgh University Early Music Historian James Cook.

The earliest piece visitors can listen to in the cathedral on the audio tour could be from as early as c.800. Featuring choral performances from the resident Glasgow Cathedral Choir and the critically acclaimed Binchois Consort, directed by Andrew Kirkman, the audio guide brings together 1000 years of religious music for the first time.

Hannah Brown, Interpretation Officer at Historic Environment Scotland (HES), who devised the audio guide said: "The new audio guide will allow visitors to find out more about the Cathedral's rich and fascinating history but also enhance their visit by taking them on a moving and evocative musical journey. With these new audio guides, visitors will be able to hear some of the beautiful choral harmonies that would have filled this awe-inspiring space over the centuries."

The only medieval cathedral on the Scottish mainland

Andrew Forbes, Director of Music at Glasgow Cathedral, said: "Visitors to services at the Cathedral frequently

comment on how much the choir adds to their visit: the power and beauty these voices in such a magnificent space can be a moving experience indeed. I'm delighted that those visiting on weekdays will now get a chance to experience this added dimension too, through the audio guide, as I'm sure it will greatly enhance their visit."

Glasgow Cathedral is the only medieval cathedral on the Scottish mainland to have survived the Protestant Reformation of 1560 virtually intact. The cathedral is dedicated to St Kentigern - or St Mungo, as he is affectionately known - the patron saint of Glasgow. A major pilgrimage

destination in medieval times, today visitors can still follow the route these pilgrims would have taken to see the tomb of St Kentigern, who is believed to have been buried on the site of the cathedral in around 612.

The new Glasgow Cathedral audio guides are now available on site in eight languages (English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Mandarin, Polish and European Portuguese) priced £3.00 for adults, £2.00 for concession and £1.00 for children. A 20% discount is available for Historic Scotland members.

Entry to Glasgow Cathedral is free.



Specialist work inside Scone Palace chapel restores historic alabaster monument

Specialist work to restore the intricate alabaster monument in Scone Palace's gothic chapel has been completed. A four week project, this is the first time the monument has undergone restoration work since 1921. The work inside the small Presbyterian chapel, which looks upon the famous replica Stone of Scone on Moot Hill, has been completed by a specialist mason after a report by a conservation architect identified a number of areas requiring restorative work on the monument.

The Italian alabaster monument depicts David Murray, the 1st Viscount Stormont, kneeling in prayer between the figures of his two great friends, the Marquis of Tullibardine and the Earl Marischal, who he brought together in friendship after a long feud. Created by Maximilian Colt, a celebrated sculptor who became the King James I's master carver, in 1618, today's renovation work has included a range of extensive cleaning and repair work to maintain the precious monument.

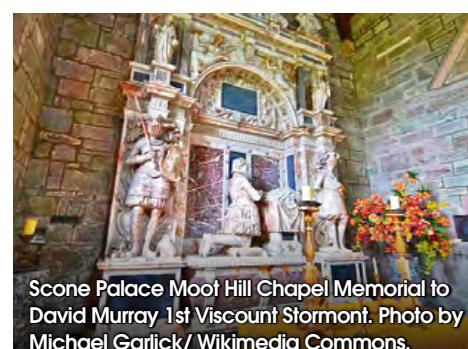
Stunning work of art

Carried out by seasoned mason Ian Russell from G Brown Stone Mason Ltd, the entire monument has been intricately cleaned using a 1/4 inch paintbrush and specialist dust extractors. Corroded dowels have been replaced where possible, broken off elements re-attached and missing elements have been sympathetically re-created. The sword on the 1st Viscount Stormont has been fixed and strengthened. The shield was also restored by



Graciela Ainsworth Sculpture Conservation in Edinburgh and re-attached.

The project has been overseen by Scone Palace's Estate Surveyor, Guy Hopson. Guy said: "The alabaster monument inside our little chapel is a stunning work of art to admire and we are delighted to have been able to restore it to its original glory. The specialist work by Ian Russell from G Brown Stone Mason has been carried out with great care and finesse. We hope visitors will continue to enjoy viewing the monument and the story of Scone Palace's 1st Viscount, David Murray."



Damage at the National Records of Scotland



Recent torrential rain caused a leak and damage to the National Records of Scotland (NRS) building in Edinburgh. Archives including birth and death certificates dating back to 1800 have been damaged, with some records likely to be destroyed.

A spokeswoman at NRS said: "A small number of marriage, death, and still birth records from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century were slightly affected by water. There was no loss of information as we have robust procedures for dealing with incidents which have the potential to affect our records and documents. These procedures, which include a team of volunteer staff being on stand-by to respond if necessary, were implemented. All records held in New Register House have been digitised and where open to public access, can be accessed online via our ScotlandsPeople website."

General Register House is one of the world's oldest custom built archive buildings still in its original use. The building was designed by Robert Adam for the Register House Trustees, and was opened to the public in 1788.

Apply Today!

A photograph of a group of young men in kilts standing in a row, likely participants in a piping competition. They are all smiling and dressed in traditional Scottish attire.

Balmoral Classic 2019

U.S. Junior Solo Bagpiping & Drumming Championships - Nov. 16 in Pittsburgh, PA

For pipers and drummers age 21 and under. Pipers compete in Piobaireachd and MSR. Drummers compete in Hornpipe & Jig and MSR.

The Balmoral School of Piping & Drumming
www.bagpiping.org



SCOTSPEAK

"I'm excited at the appointment of Niall O'Gallagher as the city's first Gaelic Poet. It demonstrates this city's commitment to the Gaelic language and culture as well as its creativity and multi-culturalism. Familiar places in Glasgow like Garscadden, Barlinnie and Garscube originate from Gaelic and Gaelic was widely spoken in the Lowlands including Glasgow but died out before the 18th century. The reintroduction of the language stretches back to the arrival of people from the Highlands and Islands who settled here during the later centuries on the banks of the River Clyde. I know everyone will make our Gaelic Poet welcome and it's great he's going to be able to welcome the Royal National here in October this year."

Glasgow Lord Provost Eva Bolander announced Niall O'Gallagher is the first Bàrd Baile Ghlaschu/ Glasgow's City Gaelic Poet Laureate. Bard Baile Ghlaschu is a municipal role with a city profile and, crucially, the Bard will be in post during the Royal National Mòd in October 2019. The post is based on the City's Poet Laureate model, which is in the gift of the Lord Provost's Office (Glasgow City Council).



"Wind energy provided a record-breaking 17% of the UK's electricity last year, an increase supported by sustained government investment which is enabling the sector to grow, now contributing £2.4 bn to the UK economy, while driving down costs."

Beatrice will support nearly 400 jobs in Scotland and today's grand opening reinforces our world-leading credentials in seizing the economic opportunities of the global shift to a greener, cleaner future."

UK Government Business Minister Lord Duncan said as The Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm, the fourth largest in the world, officially opened. The wind farm, which is situated in the North Sea, 13km off the coast of Caithness, will save around 8m tonnes of carbon emissions over 25 years. Beatrice's 84 turbines will generate 588MW of energy - enough to power 450,000 homes every year, and will play a crucial role in the UK's efforts to combat climate change over the next 25 years.

"This is the earliest record directly mentioning the apparatus for distilling aquavite, and that equipment was at the heart of renaissance Aberdeen where at this time our own university had just been founded and the educational communities of humanism, science and medicine were growing. This find places the development of whisky in the heart of this movement, an interesting counterpoint to the established story of early aquavite in Scotland within the court of King James IV. What is more, some other early references to aquavite refer to the spirit used in the preparation of gunpowder for the king. The Aberdeen still being for aquavite and rose water may suggest, by contrast, that it was for making whisky to drink. This is a very significant find in the history of our national drink. It reframes the story of Scotch whisky and suggests new layers of complexity in Scotland's urban history."

Dr Jackson Armstrong of the University of Aberdeen said that historians have discovered the earliest known reference

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

to a still for distilling Scotch whisky, suggesting its origins may lie in Aberdeen. Researchers from the University of Aberdeen found a mention of a still for making "aquavite" - which means "water of life" in Latin and is the Middle Scots word for whisky - in a document dating back to 1505 in the city's UNESCO recognised Burgh Records.



"If you want a Sopwith Camel, the only thing you can do is make one which is what we did using original WWI factory drawings. The skills involved in doing that were quite considerable and many of those skills are being lost. Not many people know how to put on the canvas covering of an aeroplane anymore."

Montrose's Air Station Heritage Centre's museum curator Dr Dan Paton said a team of volunteers have painstakingly restored a replica of a Sopwith Camel. The refurbished plane will go on display at the Montrose aviation museum. The Sopwith Camel was the most successful and famous of British fighter planes of WWI.

"The records show one of the residents is named as being the keeper of the charge house or inn. One of the buildings has got a little yard in front of it. We think that this is where people put their horses before they popped in for a drink."

Derek Alexander, head of archaeology at National Trust for Scotland said that the remains of an ancient pub have been revealed by archaeologists during an excavation project to unearth long lost settlements in the Scottish Highlands. Archaeologists have been examining the remains of three forgotten villages - Inverigan, Achnacon and Achtriochtan - in picturesque Glencoe.

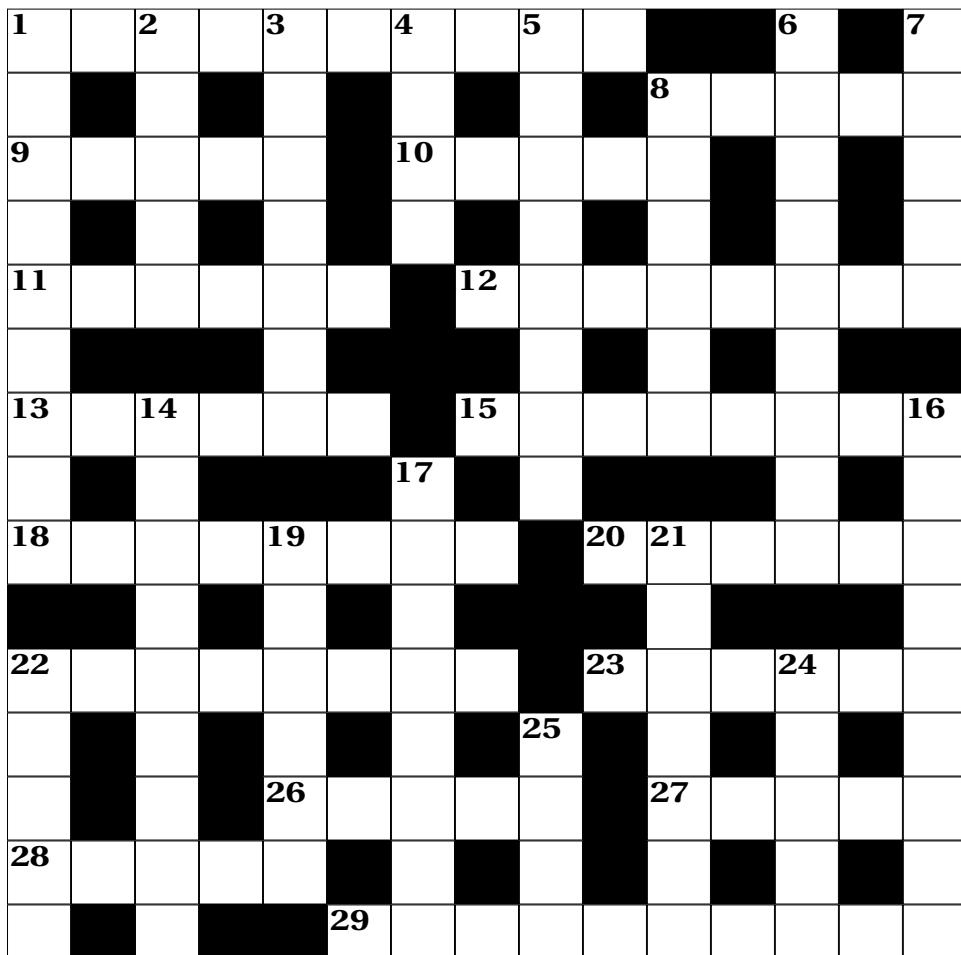


Dundas House (Head Office of the Royal Bank of Scotland) - St Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

"Leave it to the Scottish people. It is your call. You have got to make the calls on these things. We have just got to prepare as well as we can for that. There is nothing new in that for what we have to do. If you talk to the Scottish Government, they would want us to move it to England because the balance sheet size of this thing would just be too big for Scotland; £730-odd billion you can't support it."

Royal Bank of Scotland boss Ross McEwan said that the bank would be "too big for Scotland" should the nation opt for separation from the UK. He predicts RBS would move its headquarters to England if Scotland were to separate. Recent polls showed 52 per cent of Scots are now in favour of independence, compared with 48 per cent against. It also saw almost half polled – 47 per cent – say they wanted a second independence referendum to be held within the next two years.

SCOTWORD



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

CLUES ACROSS:

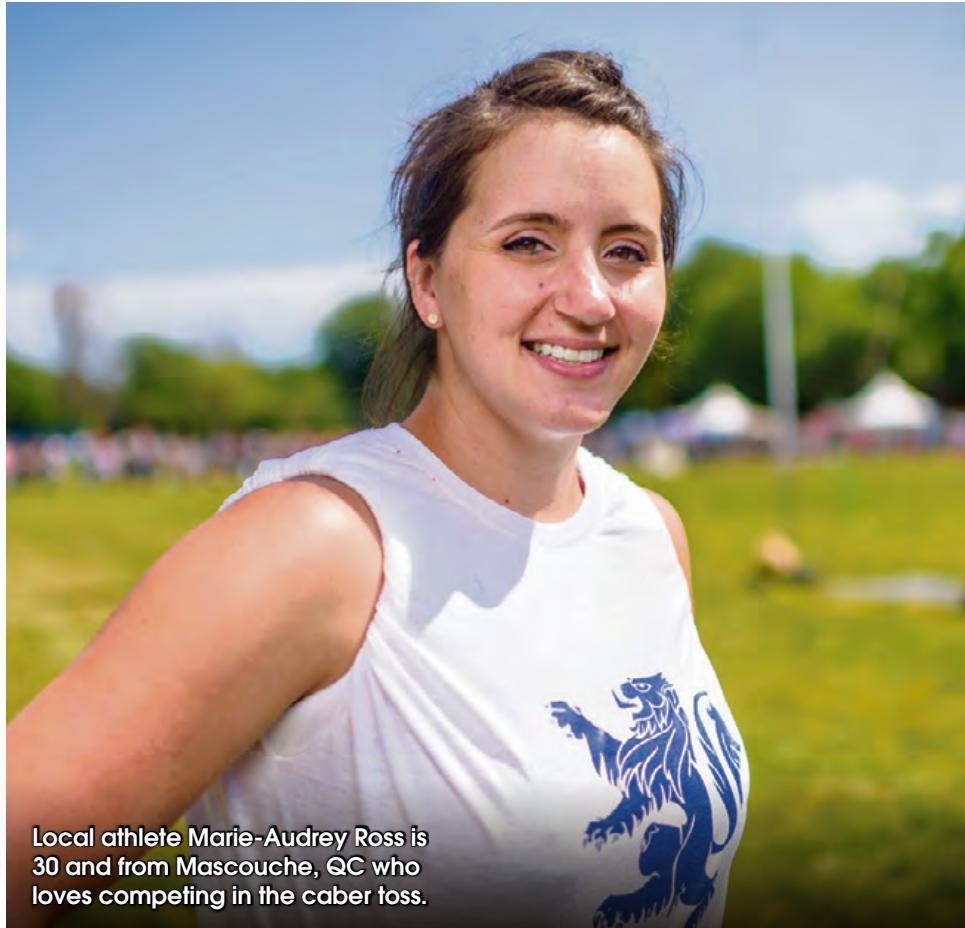
- 1) A wood to preserve the animals (4,6).
- 2) Scots cart without sides (5).
- 9) Highland town on Moray Firth (5).
- 10) Whisky producer (5).
- 11) Musical dramas (6).
- 12) Chained to kilts (8).
- 13) Scots fireplaces (6).
- 14) They mangle clothes (8).
- 15) Towards the compass point (8).
- 16) A place of refuge (6).
- 17) Can be Inner or Outer (8).
- 18) He and his regiment's for me! (6).
- 19) Sharp-eyed bird of prey (5).
- 20) Hopelessly insane (5).
- 21) Official in the kirk (5).
- 22) Town 4 miles S.W. of Coatbridge (10).

CLUES DOWN:

- 1) He's from Scotland's fourth city (9).
- 2) Banish from the country (5).
- 3) A flourish of brass (7).
- 4) It goes with Cromarty (4).
- 5) Baffles to a Scot (8).
- 6) Gaelic mouth music (4-1-4).
- 7) Bounces in Scots (5).
- 8) Two shillings in other words (6).
- 14) A kind of scone (9).
- 16) Village 3 miles S.W. of Biggar (9).
- 17) Rushed forward recklessly (8).
- 19) A young cow (6).
- 21) It's bad for your health (7).
- 22) Talk nonsense in Scotland (5).
- 24) Current movement (5).
- 25) A fairy (4).

The Montreal Highland Games 2019: Ladies lead the way

By: Marilyn Meikle
President, St. Andrew's Society of Montreal



Local athlete Marie-Audrey Ross is 30 and from Mascouche, QC who loves competing in the caber toss.

Montrealers came in droves (6500 to be more specific!) to attend The Montreal Highland Games on the grounds of the Douglas Hospital on Sunday, August 4, 2019. The sun shone, the breeze was perfect, and the sound of pipes and drums could be heard as attendees approached from afar.

For the first time in 42 years, there was a contingent of Highland Heavy Ladies in the traditional heavy weight events. Four women were invited to compete including a local Quebec athlete who had learned about the sport via The Games Highland Heavy Athletic clinics that are run each year. "It's really an honour to be there and to compete among those ladies who've been competing for years and years," said Marie-Audrey Ross. Alongside Marie-Audrey were champions Wendy McCrea, Josée Morneau, and Adena Dawn Robinson. Had the crowd read about them

in the *Scottish Banner*? Had they heard the many media interviews? Whatever the case, the ladies were welcomed with open arms and cheers galore.

These Scottish ladies weren't the only women taking on traditional male roles. The Dogue de Montreal and the Armored Combat Sports league competed against each other under the hot summer sun. Sporting medieval armour that weighed up to 80 pounds, men and women took to the list with swords, axes, and shields, to garner points that moved them up the seasonal scoreboard. This league sanctioned competition has become a favourite of many attendees at The Games.

The Celtic Mile

The Celtic Mile was in full swing with attendees browsing and buying the latest in Scottish fare, listening to the fiddle contests, meeting the Clans and learning about their heritage. The sheltered area



The joy of Highland Dance.

set aside for the pipe band competition was a popular spot, and the Highland dance competition (relocated for 2019) found its place in the shade as well. Visitors could relax away from the sun and enjoy the performances.

The Patrons' Pavilion may have been the "oasis of calm" for the afternoon, but the Ceilidh Tent truly is where #ScotlandRocks. Young and old enjoyed the music and the surprise Address to the Haggis, complete with Haggis Party, hod and pipers. Did I mention the Wee Games for the kids? They were abuzz with activity! Tiny cabers, rocks and wee hammers were being tossed by children outfitted in kilts – the perfect photo opportunity for parents of all cultures.

While fun was had by all, the Games are also proud that the Green Movement was a huge success. Single-use water bottle sales were eliminated this year. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, a water-truck was brought in for guests to refill their own bottles. Reusable water bottles were sold to raise funds for the Douglas Foundation to support mental health; a win-win. Vendors were asked to provide compostable plates and utensils and our team of Scouts and Rangers kept the area clean.

Held in collaboration with principal sponsors Pembroke Private Wealth Management and the St. Andrew's

Society of Montreal, the Games were also made possible thanks to the financial support of the City of Montreal.

Robbie Burns wouldn't know what to think of a modern Highland Games. And, we at The Montreal Highland Games, believe that is just the way it should be. Onward and upward to 2020!

The next Montreal Highland Games takes place on Sunday, August 2, 2020, for details see: www.montrealhighlandgames.com



Champion athlete Adena Dawn Robinson.

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WHOLESALE AVAILABLE

Rewilding conference signals fresh thinking for Scotland's land and seas



Against a backdrop of global biodiversity crashes and climate breakdown, a major conference in Stirling this September will examine how Scotland can reverse its widespread depletion of nature and become a world leader in restoring its land and seas to good health, so wildlife and communities can flourish.

The Big Picture Conference will explore the potential for rewilding large parts of Scotland's forests, peatlands, rivers, moorlands and seas, and the benefits this could bring for declining wildlife such as red squirrel, wildcat and capercaillie, as well as for people's health, wellbeing and employment.

Hosted by communications group SCOTLAND: The Big Picture at the University of Stirling's MacRobert Arts Centre on 21 September, the event will examine why rewilding – the repair and restoration of nature – matters.

The conference – the only event of its kind in Scotland – will focus on solutions rather than reinforcing problems. There will be inspirational presentations and examples from around the world, delivered by leading rewilding practitioners, policy makers and storytellers.

"Scotland is blessed with awe-inspiring landscapes, but huge areas have become ecologically depleted. Woodlands, wetlands

and peatlands across the country are all shadows of what they could be. But with different thinking, Scotland could become a world-leader in restoring its ecosystems to good health, for both wildlife and people. We're aiming for a great day of inspiring presentations and thought-provoking discussions," said Peter Cairns, Director of SCOTLAND: The Big Picture.

Nature's benefits

Scotland's biggest habitat restoration project – Cairngorms Connect, a land manager partnership that is enhancing habitats across a vast area of Cairngorms National Park – will feature at the event, as will Lynbreck Croft, whose owners are farming with nature.

The keynote presentation will be from the inspiring American Prairie Reserve, where three million acres of public and private lands across Montana, USA are being reconnected to benefit nature and people.

SCOTLAND: The Big Picture says rewilding could provide employment, especially in the Highlands and Islands, where otters, deer, puffins and sea eagles already support a growing nature tourism economy. Nature's benefits also include beavers reducing flooding, trees providing food, and peatlands soaking up carbon. Increasingly, studies show how nature boosts people's health, and is good for children.

The organisers hope to encourage debate and discussion, and also cooperation between different groups. They say rewilding can co-exist well with farming, forestry and recreational activities.

Anyone can attend the conference, which is sponsored by The Woodland Trust and Ecosulis. Tickets can be purchased at www.scotlandbigpicture.com/conference. SCOTLAND: The Big Picture is Scotland's first organisation wholly dedicated to rewilding advocacy and communications. Its mission is to help drive transformational change towards a vast network of rewilded land and sea, where wildlife and communities can flourish. See www.scotlandbigpicture.com.



Glenfeshie is at the heart of Cairngorms Connect, a 600 square-kilometre habitat restoration project in the Cairngorms National Park. Image © www.scotlandbigpicture.com

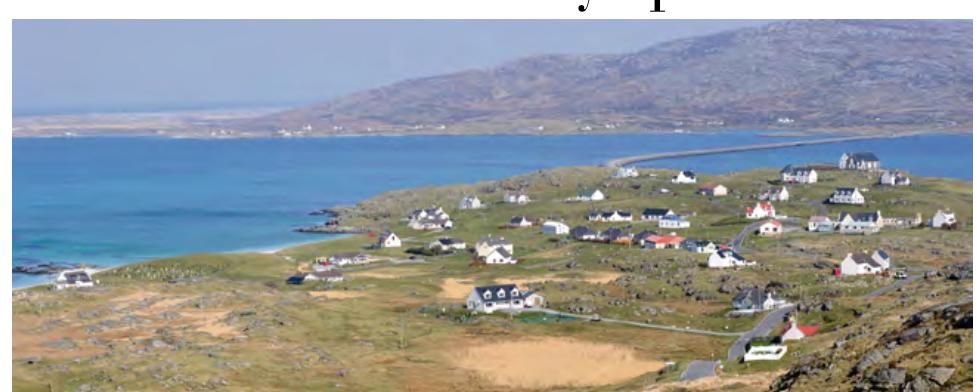
Did you know?



- Aberdeen is Scotland's third largest city. It is situated in northeast Scotland, where the Dee and Don Rivers flow into the North Sea.
- Nicknamed 'The Granite City' Aberdeen is famous for its locally quarried granite stone, which was used to build London's Houses of Parliament, Waterloo Bridge and the Forth Rail Bridge.
- Aberdeen Harbour Board, founded in 1136, is Britain's oldest running business. Nestled in Scotland's western shore, it has seen all major world events pass by, in its 900-year history.
- The local dialect of the English language is 'The Doric' and is spoken across the North East of Scotland.

- Aberdeen has the only medieval granite cathedral in the world.
- Aberdeen has 300 castles in the area, more per acre than anywhere else in the British Isles.
- Water polo began around 1863 on the River Dee in Aberdeen.
- The self-seal envelope was invented by an Aberdonian.
- The Brig o'Balgownie near Seaton Park is Aberdeen's and Scotland's oldest bridge. Construction started in the late 13th century and was completed in 1320.
- There are over 30 places called Aberdeen across the globe. Towns and cities called Aberdeen can be found in Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, South Africa and the USA.

A celebration of Eriskay's place-names



A staggering 300 Eriskay place-names feature in a new bilingual booklet from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).

The new Gaelic and English guide has been produced in collaboration with Aimmean-Àite na h-Alba (AÀA), the national advisory partnership for Gaelic place-names in Scotland, and Ceòlas, one of Scotland's leading Gaelic culture, heritage and arts organisations, based in Uist. Most of the place-names gathered relate to the coast and surrounding waters and reflect the island's stories, past-times and daily routines. Many of the names have never appeared in print before.

The project is indebted to all those who voluntarily contributed their knowledge of Eriskay, and hope that the booklet will encourage further reminiscences and discussion about the places.

The preservation of Scotland's Gaelic place-names

Eilidh Scammell of AÀA added: "We are delighted to have been a part of this project, helping preserve these

names for the future generations of Eriskay. The preservation of Scotland's Gaelic place-names and understanding the connections between the language and the land is very much at the heart of AÀA."

Liam Crouse, Gaelic Media and Communications Officer at Ceòlas, said: "Eriskay remains a Gaelic-speaking island, which has led to the retention of a great number of place-names. If place-names are not used, or have no use, they are forgotten. The place-names of Eriskay clearly continue to have relevance to the island's population."

The booklet can be downloaded from SNH's website at www.nature.scot/information-hub/information-library and a limited number of printed copies are available from pubs@nature.scot or +44 (0)1738 444177.

Hidden interior design gems revealed at Holmwood House

Widely regarded as the finest residential example of Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's architectural vision and his interior designs, Holmwood House in Cathcart - to the south of Glasgow - reopened to the public recently after a three month project to recreate the property's original stencilled paint schemes. Completed in 1858, the house was created for paper magnate James Couper. Conservation charity, the National Trust for Scotland, took ownership in 1994 and in the course of renovation discovered Thomson's original decorations surviving intact under layers of wallpaper and paint, applied over the years by the house's former owners. The Trust began an extensive programme of research and investigation to uncover these original schemes and is re-creating the splendour of Holmwood as it was designed by Thomson. These highly colourful and intricate stencilled walls are rare examples of Thomson's interior design schemes.

Visitors will not see anything else like it in Scotland

They are the most complete and most detailed of his work known to have survived, showing Thomson's whole house approach to architecture and design. The latest phase of this project has recreated the scheme in the main entrance hall, interior stairway and large central cupola, based on surviving evidence. Visitors can see samples of the original nineteenth century work, where conservators have scraped back the years of paint, and the re-created schemes show how Thomson intended the spaces to look.

Emma Inglis, Curator (Glasgow & West) at the National Trust for Scotland said: "The transformation of the hall and stair is amazing. We always knew Thomson's scheme for this area was beautiful, if the paint scrapes were to be believed, but now that it has been recreated throughout the space it reinforces just how good Thomson really was. Visitors will not see anything else like it in Scotland." The team has taken a fully reversible approach to the redecoration, scraping back layers of wallpaper and paint to reveal 'windows' into the original schemes to allow them to understand how the designs work. These 'windows' have been left visible for visitors to understand how the conservation process worked. The remainder of the walls were then covered in lining paper and the newly created decoration added on top. The process of peeling back layers of decoration to reveal the original paint schemes is very slow, with wall painting conservators using scalpels to peel back one layer of paint at a time. The redecoration work has been carried out by restoration painting specialists Robert Howie & Son who have previously worked on Holmwood's entrance hall and dining room.

Traditional decorator's skill

The Mauchline-based team used the 'windows' to trace the stencil designs and then cut their own stencils by hand. The colour mixing of the paint is all done on site based on the original colours. Paint layers of melted rabbit skin glue on the cupola provide a natural and reversible barrier between the old paint layers and the new, and some elements of the cupola are gilded in gold leaf – another traditional decorator's skill.



As well as using the 'windows' to see the original designs, the Trust's researchers used a number of sources to reproduce Thomson's schemes as accurately as possible. Samples of paint have been sent for lab analysis to give a clear understanding of the layers that have built up over time and the sequence in which they occur.

Photographs of other Thomson interiors, such as St Vincent Street Church, and paint scrapes in other Thomson buildings, including his own house, add to the Trust's understanding of the way he combined colour and pattern and his frequently used motifs. The evidence being found is supported by information published by Blackie & Son in

Villa and Cottage Architecture, approximately 10 years after Holmwood was built, which includes a detailed description of the house along with design plates for all the principle spaces. Karen Cornfield, Operations Manager at Holmwood House said: "We are delighted to share our progress in bringing Holmwood back to its former glory with our visitors and members, many of whom have been loyal supporters of this project." The investigation and research at Holmwood is ongoing and the Trust hopes to return more rooms to their original schemes.

Holmwood house is open Friday to Monday, for details see: wwwnts.org.uk/visit/places/holmwood



Tartan of the Month

Brittany National Walking 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).

As autumn begins to reach parts of the Northern Hemisphere this month, we highlight the beautiful Brittany National Walking Tartan (STR ref: 2961). Closely based on the Brittany National (STR ref: 364). There is a club for Breton kilt wearers called the Breizhlander Association which appears to organise a Tartan Day in Paris each year - an inter-Celtic festival with Cornish, Welsh, Irish, Manx and Scottish tartans. This tartan was recorded prior to the launch of The Scottish Register of Tartans and designed by Richard Duclos in January, 2003.

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Stunning video shows how ‘earliest Pictish fort’ could have looked

A stunning video, based on research by the University of Aberdeen, has revealed what one of the earliest known Pictish forts may have looked like. Archaeologists investigating a substantially eroded sea stack near the site of the ruined Dunnottar Castle, which itself was a later Pictish power centre, uncovered evidence of a third or fourth century promontory fort. The new video illustrates how the fort may have looked if the sea stack, called Dunnicaer, was still connected to the mainland. The archaeologists required help from experienced mountaineers to scale Dunnicaer, a rocky outcrop which measures at most 20 x 12 metres with sheer drops on all sides. The team discovered partial remains of houses on the cliff edge, which shows that much of the settlement had fallen into the sea. They found turf and timber structures and preserved floor layers and hearths. Some of the hearths were built on top of one another which also suggests space is likely to have always been restricted on the site. The inhabitants had connections to the Roman world with Roman pottery and glass found on site. It appears the site was abandoned in the late fourth or early fifth century. The settlement may have shifted to Dunnottar, which was an elite centre of Pictish society by the seventh century.

Site of major significance

The site came to prominence in 1832, a group of youths from Stonehaven scaled the sea stack and found a number of

decorated and carved Pictish symbol stones, some of which they had thrown into the sea and had to be recovered. Pictish symbol stones are a unique tradition of carving that may have denoted high status names. The radiocarbon dates for the settlement suggest that these stones may be amongst the earliest in the carving tradition. Professor Gordon Noble said: “We always knew that Dunnicaer was a site of major significance but carrying out an archaeological survey was hampered by the inaccessibility of the site. Thanks to the help of mountaineering experts, we were able to carry out some extreme archaeology! It is plausible that,

although already in an eroded state, the outcrop would have been significantly bigger in the time of the Picts, making it a suitable site for a settlement. This video helps to fully visualise how the fort may have looked in the fourth century which we think helps to further bring to life the lives of the Picts, who are so poorly understood because of the lack of historical records. We’re so glad we have been able to do the dig on Dunnicaer at this time. Coastal erosion is a huge threat to archaeological sites of this kind and the remaining stack will continue to erode.”

You can view the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rGLFr8cXb6Q>



2019 Silver Chanter



Left to right: Jack Lee, Stuart Liddell, Iain Speirs, Finlay Johnston, Jamie Forrester and Callum Beaumont.



Jack Lee holds the Silver Chanter after winning this prestigious event held at The National Piping Centre in Glasgow. Playing at the 53rd Silver Chanter Piobaireachd Competition, Jack becomes the first Canadian to win this major piping prize.

The event has been held at Dunvegan Castle since 1967, and now takes place at The National Piping Centre in Glasgow.

Photos: Derek Maxwell.

Community spirit brings distilling back to Dingwall

One Scottish Highland distillery is using the wind, rain, and sunshine to produce whisky, gin, and jobs.



The Dingwall area, in Ross-shire, has a history of distilling dating as far back as 1690, before the coming of the Great Depression saw both local distilleries, Ben Wyvis and Glenskiach, close their doors in 1926. For some people, that would have signalled the end of the town's whisky story, but history didn't take account of local man, John McKenzie. He was a man with a dream, a dream of bringing the art of distilling back to the area. McKenzie, a farmer and former RAF helicopter pilot, had big ambitions; to relaunch the town's distilling industry.

In 2015, he launched a record-breaking open share offer, which saw more than 3,000 like-minded people invest in his GlenWyvis dream, to create the first ever 100% community-owned distillery.

Duncan Tait, a near 30-year veteran of the Scotch whisky industry, was one of those first investors. When he saw the new distillery advertising for a manager, he leapt at the chance of coming home. Duncan said: “My mum and dad live just down the road from the distillery, so it felt like the right thing to do. It's very rarely you get the opportunity to be in at the birth of a new distillery”.

Although the first whisky proper is still a wee bit off, and much of the first bottling will be going straight to the investors, Duncan knows what he wants from the GlenWyvis Distillery. He wants the whisky to pay homage to the town's old distilleries. The whisky, the jobs the distillery creates, the

training he gives the next generation, and the supplies and services they source locally will be his legacy.

Circular economy benefits all

Today, the state-of-the-art facility uses its own solar panels, wind turbine, biomass boiler, and hydro dam system to power production. The GlenWyvis team raised £3.5m from crowdfunding to set up the distillery as a community benefit society, with almost two thirds of the shares being bought by local people. Work began on site in 2015 and the distillery officially opened its doors in November 2017.

John McKenzie says: “Thousands of people have come together to create GlenWyvis. Together, we are all part

of one community. If we can create something that inspires even the smallest of like-minded actions, where people unite behind a common cause so they too can achieve their dreams and build a more sustainable world, then we will have realised ours — a local spirit that inspires the world”.

The boutique nature of the distillery's output means GlenWyvis will be able to charge a premium price for their malt whisky, meaning a bigger return for both investors and the local community. Although the first GlenWyvis malt won't be ready to drink until 2021, the team is already producing their own ‘Goodwill’ brand gin, using local botanicals to flavour the spirit, which is already on sale in Scottish Co-op stores.

*Text courtesy of Scotland.org.
You can read more about the GlenWyvis story at: glenwyvis.com*



Distillery manager Duncan Tait.

KINGS CASTLES AND "DURTY" WEE RASCALS

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



Shipyard workers in the 1950's.

"Hey Jimmy"

*Wee Willie Winkie ran thro' the toon,
Upstairs and doonstairs
in his nicht-goon,
Keekin' at the windaes,
chappin' at the doors,
Tellin' bairnies tae get tae bed,
for its past eight o'clock.*

Our family version based on William Miller's rhyme written in 1863.

To the uninitiated if you ever wanted to call up some help in Glasgow, perhaps to ask for directions to someplace, then you simply had to shout out "hey Jimmy" and you would have been surprised at how much assistance would have been made available to you- almost immediately. More recently a shout of "Hey Jim" might have got almost as good a response. You could have tried shouting out "hey John" a few times but I would have recommended you take a seat for you might be waiting a wee while. I would not go for "hey Julian" if I were you. You could try it if you must but you might end up with a sore throat waiting a long time before anyone responds. Glasgow, of course, is confusingly full of Jim's, Jimmy's and James's and whenever anyone is unsure of a name "Hey Jimmy" can come in handy. The odds are, and the truth is, that a born and bred Glasgow man will answer to that address even if he is in fact called Clive, a quite amazing Glasgow phenomenon.

Saint James

My father was often called Jimmy or probably more often James. He was Christened James and that was how he was usually addressed by his brothers and sisters and his brothers and sisters-in-law. My mother tended to call him Jimmy and so did many of his friends. He was never called Jim. Although as his second son I was also Christened James but was always called Jim. I guess that was to differentiate my father from me when my mother was calling either of us up for any reason at all. To make that same differentiation I was never called Jimmy by my siblings or my extended family, young or old. But I did have one teacher at primary school who did call me Jimmy.

I suggest we can blame Saint James and a number of King James's in the Stewart dynasty for much of that popularity of one name in particular threading its way through Glasgow's nomenclature. And, of course, in Scotland there was a habit at

that time of naming children of first-born grandchildren after grandparents. My older brother Charles got that one after his Stoddart grandfather and my cousin Allan Marshall, older than me by a few months, got our maternal grandfather's first name. So, I got my father's name.

Near the end of his career in the shipyards my father, Jimmy Stoddart, got a job as a foreman at Harland & Wolff Ltd., for a year or two, but this was short-lived for these were the dying days of shipbuilding on the Clyde and he was made redundant about 1957. He had nearly always managed to find work and as far as I know was rarely, if ever, on the dole. But he was still too young to receive his old age pension. For a time he got a job as a rivet checker, a much lighter job at another yard, which pleased my mother, but for the life of me I wonder with hindsight why anyone would still have been checking rivets on a ship's hull when even he had become a welder at the end of his career.

Glasgow, of course, is confusingly full of Jim's, Jimmy's and James's and whenever anyone is unsure of a name "Hey Jimmy" can come in handy.

When work for him finally ran out at the yards he worked at a steel stockist's warehouse at the Broomielaw. The place was secreted like a dark cavern under the arches of the railway lines running into Glasgow Central Station and its air was charged and heavy with the smells from the bonded warehouse next door. His work included moving heavy steel plates and steel rods off and on to delivery trucks all day long. It was heavy and dirty work and a bit of a comedown for a man who was proud to have called himself a riveter and a shipyard worker in Glasgow's one time premier industry. The only advantage would have been the fact that his bus home to Pollok would have sat literally across the street waiting for him at the close of his work day.

Storyteller

Eventually he got himself a lighter job as a cloakroom attendant and general handyman at the Highlander's Institute. And he enjoyed the day to day interaction with both the staff and the club members. At a much later time when living for a while with my brother's family in Boxburg, South Africa he worked as a barman at a club for a time – an interesting choice for a teetotaller. There again, the social interaction would have been the attraction for him and his innate honesty, that for the employer. Yet in spite of his loss of status I never once heard him complain. My dad was a storyteller and I think he still derived satisfaction and stimulation from simple happenings to the people he found around him, no matter how seemingly mundane that environment might seem to others.

The Broomielaw was the terminus for the numbers 23, 39 and 48 buses to the Pollok housing scheme and on the odd occasion when as a young adult I rolled up from my workplace to his workplace to say hello to him he was always cheerful. He would proudly introduce his son in the three-piece suit with the clean hands to his workmates, the son who worked in an office at the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, that imposing edifice on St. Vincent Street. I felt a little embarrassed and ashamed to see him working so hard, in such an awful workplace. I was the one who should have felt very proud of him.

A wanderer

Thirty years later, when Alzheimer's disease had taken a dreadful toll upon his mind, my dad ended up in full-time care in a care home in Queensland, Australia. That was simply because he was living with my brother and his family when he became completely unwell. Up until then he had lived in turn with my sister and myself and our families in Melbourne and Canberra. But now he had become 'a wanderer' heading off for adventure whenever an opportunity arose no matter whether he knew where he was going or how to get back. Even so, unlike some other poor souls around him, he still greeted his visitors with the same positive outlook of his better days and he still had a tale or two to tell us. These had become very imaginative.

He spoke of the pipe bands that played stirring music as they came across the lawns of the care home and passed by the big windows of the recreation room every day.

As a throwback to his time in South Africa, he whispered about the goings on at night at the home, after the visitors had gone.

According to my father, the nurses, the doctors and the other carers pushed back the beds, rolled up the carpets and climbed down a big shaft to secretly mine gold and diamonds all through the night. And he sounded very, very convincing. One day I talked to the nursing sister on my way out after one of my visits to the home and said that I didn't think he really knew who any of us were anymore. That was mainly because he had just asked me whether I had a girlfriend. I had laughed and said that I had done even better than that – that I even had a wife and three children. She said, "Well, here he comes now, let's test him out." As my dad shuffled up the corridor towards us, she called out to him, "Jimmy, who was this man who you've just been talking to?" He looked me over with his greyish blue eyes and with just a hint of confusion he shook his head and admitted that he didn't know.

Nevertheless, only half an hour before that, whilst I was chatting to him, I had run my own test. I had asked him who he was and where he used to work. There was just a little hesitation. "Jimmy Stoddart. I was a riveter, in the shipyards in Glasgow," he replied. He sadly no longer knew who we were, but he was still quite sure who he was, and what he had been. Perhaps that's all that really mattered in the end.

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By: Charlie Mill

Isle of Tranquillity



Dundee based writer Charlie Mill provided stories for the Scottish Banner for many years, touching on Scottish history, lifestyle and some of Scotland's truly unique characters. We recently opened the vault of Charlie's great work to share a collection of some of his favourites with readers today.

On the north-western reaches of Scotland, lying just over two hours sailing time from the mainland, the Caledonian-MacBrayne ferry from Ullapool will transport you to a world of magnificent scenery, deserted beaches and complete tranquillity. OK, so you can fly to the Isle of Lewis from Edinburgh in less than an hour, but if you're looking for a slow, placid, away-from-it-all break then the gentle departure from Ullapool's picturesque bay puts you on course for the gateway of Lewis.

The lovely island is a captivating blend of old and new — its residents holding fast to its age-old customs while embracing present-day life in many ways. One of the first traits

the visitor to Lewis will have to master is the local dialect — but that just adds to the enchantment. And as you cross the island the language blends with the aroma of peat fires uncovering a passageway through the mists of the past. No matter where you travel, the islanders attend to the fields of peat, stripping huge turfs for their fires.

Human sacrifices

But the visitor can't experience the western isle without paying a visit to the unfathomable standing stones at Callanish. Akin to the Stonehenge pillars, no-one knows exactly why 53 slabs of solid stone were placed in a circle and, like an immense compass, the circle is intersected by miniature streaks of local stone.

Local folklore experts claim that the peoples of yesteryear arranged a giant lunar circle resembling an astronomical observatory. But the discovery of human remains in the circle's centre provoked the suspicion of human sacrifices and underground tombs — but no-one knows for certain!

And as you stand amid the stones and take in the stunning scenery the atmosphere is intensified by the circling custodians — the enormous sea eagles who swoop and glide by the neighbouring lochside, where seals and sea otters cavor and play as they hunt the salmon. In the quaint hamlet of Carloway you'll be able to visit the Gearrannan Black House Village — an ideal base for any stopover on Lewis.

It was constructed with the help of lottery finances and a great deal of effort from the islanders and is a classic collection of thatch-roofed, stone-built houses dating from 1700 — but outfitted with up-to-date interiors. But to give the visitor an idea of how life was on the island in those bygone days, a couple of the houses have been constructed as they would have been in the Thirties.

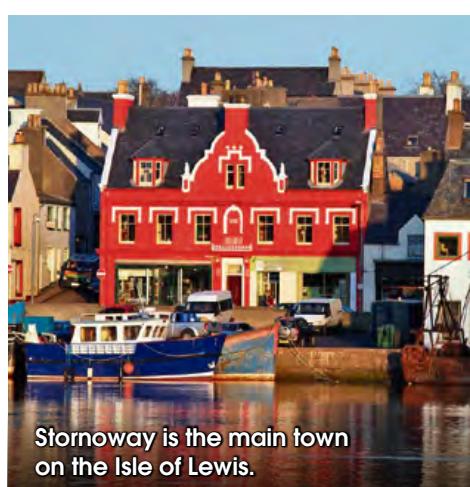
Keen to say hello

Lewis is a haven for the outdoor types, its rocky coastline being dotted with idyllic coves and beaches, while the explorer in you will be fulfilled by the abundance of Viking and Highland history that stretches right across the island. The true Scottish hospitality is shown to its fullest when you cross the North Minch to Lewis as you'll spend most of your time waving to the islanders who are all keen to say hello and have a chat. But throughout this island of serenity there's one word that for years has caused arguments between families and friends — that word being SUNDAY!

Cliff views

Many centuries of fire and brimstone has arisen from the Free Church and old-fashioned Presbyterian values to maintain the Sabbath as God's day of rest. In fact, the recent arrival of Sunday flights to the island's capital Stornoway earlier this year caused disruption among the peaceful God-fearing islanders enough to take to the streets in protest.

A must for the energetic amongst us is to pack a picnic and head for the Butt of Lewis on the northernmost point of the island and absorb the majestic cliff views and superb beaches — and consider why possibly resting on the Sabbath isn't such a bad idea after all! But no matter what day you decide to cross over to Lewis you're assured of peace, tranquillity and a quality of life that has been passed down through the centuries by generations of friendly island people.



There's nothing quite like the Glengarry Highland Games



Highland dancers wow the crowd.

The 72nd version of the Glengarry Highland Games on August 2 and 3 had a little bit of everything – something old, something new, some upsets and some records. It had it all. An upset occurred in the North American Pipe Band Championships when the 78th Frasers were named top band to later disappointingly find out that a calculation error took away their victory and handed it to a shocked but delighted City of Dunedin (Florida) Pipe Band. Fifty pipe bands competed at this year's Games and filled the infield for the much-anticipated Massed Bands. Pipe bands came from eight states and seven provinces.

The Professional Men's Heavyweights saw a Games record set in the sheaf toss at 37' 2" by Josh Goldthorp of Chilliwack, BC. while in the Women's Morgan Palmer from Aurora, New York upset last year's winner Susie Lajoie of Middleton, Nova Scotia. Highland dancing had a record 250 plus dancers competing including a group of dancers from Scotland who came to Canada to celebrate a milestone in their dance school.

Thursday's Tartan Ball was another sold-out affair where the men outshone the women with their Scottish finery.

The Ode to the Haggis and many toasts of drambuie along with a succulent meal was capped off with Glengarry's own MacCulloch Dancers and the Glengarry Pipe Band. Then Stewart's Glen took to the stage and the dance floor filled until the wee hours of the morning.

Celtic entertainment

Scottish Broadsword was a new event for the Games and brought together some of the top fencers in the field to conduct workshops, to compete and to capture a huge crowd of new fans for the sport. The fencing competition will certainly be a continuing part of the Games. The Canadian Reserve Highland Regiment Tug of War which has become another Games favourite saw the Essex and Kent Scottish regiment upset the perennial winners, the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa.

The Friday Night Tattoo welcomed back the Next Generation Leahy after their rained-out show from two years ago. The sell-out crowd cheered the young performers from the first note to the last. The Leahys packed the Metcalfe Centre the next day with so many people that the audience was standing room only. Celtic entertainment is a

large part of the Games and Glengarry is blessed to be the home of some of the finest Celtic bands around. Glengarry's ambassadors, The Brigadoons, not only performed throughout the Games but were also this year's Guests of Honour. After four decades of entertaining for

their dedicated fans, it was certainly fitting to celebrate their contributions to Glengarry at home and abroad. The Brigadoons are well-known performers in the Highland Games and festivals circuit as well as having played on over twenty Scottish cruises.

Blessed with great weather, huge crowds, excellent competitions, and a spectacular closing Massed Bands, everyone left the Games with special memories that will keep them through the months until next August when the quiet farming village of Maxville again erupts into a city of twenty-thousand for the Games.

For more details on the Glengarry Highland Games see: www.glengarryhighlandgames.com



The Brigadoons.

Visitors urged to discover the unique landscape of the North West Highlands

A popular tourist route has been given a makeover to help visitors explore its unique landscape and geology. New road signs have been installed throughout the North West Highlands UNESCO Global Geopark to encourage people to slow down and discover the Rock Route. The interpretative trail guides visitors between Ullapool and Loch Eriboll, with a series of 14 panels giving a flavour of the landscape and geology.

Using the distinctive Geopark logo of a Celtic knot, the long-established route is now clearly marked throughout the Geopark. In addition to the new signs, a number of 'GeoPods' have been installed to give local tourist information at Strathcanaird and Rhiconich. As visitors have increased to the Geopark, most recently through the popularity of the North Coast 500 tourist trail, the Rock Route aims to encourage travellers to stop more to enjoy and learn more about the astonishing landscape of the north-west.

Unique landscape

Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve, north of Ullapool, which is on the Rock Route, is owned and managed by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). In 2018, this remarkable site saw the highest number of visitors in 15 years.

Reserve Manager Sue Agnew said: "While we welcome this increase in visitors to our National Nature Reserve, we really want to encourage people to stop a while and explore the surrounding countryside.

SNH established the Rock Route through the Geopark in 2001, and upgraded and extended it in 2013, but some of the stops were actually quite difficult to find. Working with the Geopark on this project the sites are now more clearly sign posted, making them much more accessible for all to stop and enjoy this unique landscape."

Peter Harrison, who led the project on behalf of the Geopark, said: "We hope everyone will appreciate this newly signposted route. It takes in some of the best viewpoints in the Geopark, including Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve and the Rock Stop Geocentre at Unapool near Kylesku which is the home of the Geopark. You can learn more about the landscape in the area here, whilst having a cup of tea! We have also sign-posted our GeoPods which give more local information on where to visit in the Geopark, and how the landscape has developed to what we see today."



Poetry carved on to rocks at Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve ©Lorne Gill SNH.



Massed bands.

Robot cameras reveal secret lives of basking sharks in UK marine conservation first

Basking shark feeding ©Alex Mustard 2020VISION.

An autonomous 'SharkCam' has been used in the UK for the first time to observe the behaviour of basking sharks in the Inner Hebrides. The ground-breaking technology is set to reveal the secret lives of the world's second largest fish - a species that little is known about, despite being prevalent in the waters off the west coast of Scotland. Scientists hope the stunning images captured by the autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) will reinforce the case for creating the world's first protected area for basking sharks in this part of the sea.

The team used the AUV to follow basking sharks below the surface of the water and collect high-quality oceanographic data and wide angle high-definition video of their behaviour from a distance. Initial footage from the innovative REMUS-100 metre rated SharkCam Robot deployed off the coast of Coll and Tiree last month shows the sharks moving through the water column, potentially searching for food, feeding near the surface and swimming close to the seabed.

It is hoped that further analysis of the many hours of video footage from the AUV, as well as visuals from towed camera tags attached to the sharks and the deployment of advanced sonar imaging, will uncover more about the underwater behaviour, social interactions, group behaviour and courtship of the species. Fieldwork for the

project took place in July in the proposed Sea of the Hebrides Marine Protected Area (MPA) – one of four possible MPAs currently under consultation by the Scottish Government. MPAs are specially designated and managed to protect marine ecosystems, habitats and species, which can help restore the area for people and wildlife.

The area is one of only a few world-wide where large numbers of basking sharks are found feeding in the surface waters each year.

The area is one of only a few world-wide where large numbers of basking sharks are found feeding in the surface waters each year. It is suspected that basking sharks may even breed in Scotland - an event that has never before been captured on film. Dr Jenny Oates, WWF SEAS Programme Manager, said: "Our seas and coasts are home to some incredible wildlife. As our oceans come under increasing pressure, innovative technology like the REMUS SharkCam Robot can reveal our underwater world like never before and

help to show why it must be protected. It is essential that we safeguard our seas, not just to enable magnificent species like basking sharks to thrive, but because all life on earth depends on our oceans."

Iconic Scottish species

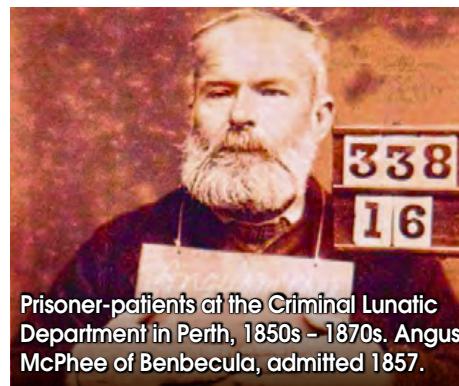
Dr Suzanne Henderson, Marine Policy and Advice Officer at Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), who has worked on the basking shark tagging and research project run by SNH and the University of Exeter since 2012, said: "These giant fish are spectacular and watching them

feed gracefully at the sea surface is such a special and memorable experience. This year's collaboration has allowed us to use a combination of camera technologies and given us a glimpse of basking sharks' underwater behaviour – a real first and very exciting. The footage has already made us reassess their behaviour, with the sharks appearing to spend much more time swimming just above the seabed than we previously thought. It really brings home why it's so important that the species and its habitat are protected by designating the Sea of the Hebrides as a Marine Protected Area."

Dr Matthew Witt, of the University of Exeter, said: "This year saw the culmination of a decade of work at Exeter to support the conservation of this species. In collaboration with SNH, we have deployed state of the art equipment over several years to learn of the behaviours of these elusive animals. This year, our collaborative efforts expand with exciting new partners, to bring advanced video techniques to help reveal even greater detail on the underwater lives of these animals. Our efforts and resulting information highlight why the proposed MPA is important for securing a more positive conservation future for this iconic Scottish species".

Footage gathered by the REMUS SharkCam technology will help support and promote basking shark conservation work by demonstrating how important this area is for the life cycle of the species, adding weight to the case for the MPA designation and providing a better understanding of measures which might help protect this iconic species and its habitat.

Prisoners or Patients-Hidden histories of prisoner-patients in Victorian Scotland



Prisoner-patients at the Criminal Lunatic Department in Perth, 1850s - 1870s. Angus McPhee of Benbecula, admitted 1857.

occasionally dangerous, often vulnerable but always severely disturbed – who experienced mental health problems and impairments in the most extreme circumstances.

The exhibition examines how those labelled at the time as criminal lunatics and afflicted by mental health issues were treated and recorded in the Victorian era. As such, it uses the medical and social terminology and references the practices of that time.

Paul Lowe, Chief Executive, NRS said: "Professor Houston and NRS archivists have brought together a collection of fascinating items that tell a compelling story about people furthest from public sympathy with great dignity and humanity. It shows how historical and cultural treasures within the archives of National Records of Scotland can bring the past to life."

Guest curator Professor Rab Houston of the University of St Andrews has selected an array images and objects from the trials of people accused of murder and other serious crimes at the High Court of Justiciary and the Criminal Lunatic Department in Perth – including photographs, personal notes and petitions of prisoner-patients, a prison register, crime scene map, court papers and medical reports.

Historic penal policies

Prisoners or Patients provides an insight into historic penal policies and the infancy of psychiatry, revealing the stories of people –



Elizabeth (Eliza) Sinclair or Clifton of Ayrshire, admitted 1871.



The team at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), prepare to deploy their AUV.

Thriving future for Edinburgh's parks thanks to new national fund award



Scotland's Capital has been announced as one of eight urban areas to share in £11 million worth of funding to secure the future of the UK's parks and greenspaces. The new Future Parks fund is a pioneering programme designed to find sustainable ways to manage and fund parks and open spaces across entire towns and cities.

Across the UK, the Future Parks initiative is investing more than £6m of National Lottery and government funding, and £5m worth of advice and support from some of the country's leading experts in conservation, fundraising, volunteering and green space management from the National Trust. In Scotland the programme is being supported by the National Trust for Scotland.

Edinburgh was one of 81 councils and communities from across the UK to apply for the funding and is the only Scottish city to be successful, with an award of £899,500.

Alongside the Council, bid partners were: greenspace scotland, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust, University of Edinburgh and the Edinburgh Green Spaces Forum (the umbrella group for Edinburgh's friends of parks groups).

The UK's greenest city

The funding will be used to work collectively and collaboratively with numerous partner organisations, community groups and members of the public to develop an ambitious 30-year strategy for the city's parks and greenspaces so that they continue to flourish well into the future.

Aligned with the Edinburgh 2050 City Vision, the aim of the strategy is to arrive at a new way of working to ensure parks and greenspaces' ongoing enhancement, protection and care.

Other places which have been successful are: Birmingham, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, Bristol, Cambridgeshire, Islington and Camden, Nottingham and Plymouth.

City of Edinburgh Council Parks Leader Councillor Karen Doran said: "Edinburgh is already a wonderfully green city – the UK's greenest, in fact – and we want to ensure it remains that way for generations to come. Thanks to this much-sought-after funding we'll be able to tackle this challenge

directly with the public, together with our partners on the bid, to explore what it means to be a thriving green city. Our work will determine how we change and adapt the ways in which we manage our parks and greenspaces, to ensure that they continue to play an active role in delivering benefits in areas such as health and wellbeing, active travel, biodiversity, recreation and social cohesion. We know our parks and greenspaces offer solutions for many of the environmental and

social challenges we face today, and this funding offers the opportunity to ensure that these benefits are experienced by as many of our residents and visitors as possible for generations to come. Thriving Green Spaces promises to be an exciting, challenging and rewarding project for everyone who gets involved and we can't wait to get cracking."

Edinburgh was named the UK's greenest city in a nationwide study in January 2019.

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The 2019 World Pipe Band Championships



The World Pipe Band Championships returned to Glasgow Green in August for two days of competition in what is considered the pinnacle of the piping calendar, welcoming the world's best pipers and drummers to Glasgow to battle it out to be crowned champions of this spectacular event. Inveraray and District Pipe Band were crowned World Pipe Band Champions 2019 in front of thousands of spectators.

The win is Inveraray's second victory at The World's in three years. 2019 showcased the extraordinary ability of 195 pipe bands bringing around 8000 pipers and drummers from New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Austria, Switzerland, Eire, USA, Belgium, England, Spain, Malaysia, Northern Ireland and Scotland take part. Over 30,000 people attended over two days to watch the championships.



2019 World Pipe Band Champions, the Inveraray and District Pipe Band.

In the premier Grade 1 event, it took Friday and Saturday, two MSR performances, two Medley performances and sixteen adjudicators to crown Inveraray and District from Scotland the 2019 World Champions.

Highest standards

Ian Embelton, Chief Executive of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association said: "The World Pipe Band Championships is the event all the bands work towards and they have once again excelled. The competition continues to drive the highest standards and everyone who came to watch and listen has enjoyed some brilliant performances. Thanks to the bands, the spectators and to everyone who came."

The World Pipe Band Championships as we currently know them have been staged since 1947 although the Grade 1 Pipe Band Competition winners at the annual Cowal Highland Gathering were recognised as World Champions as far back as 1906. The Worlds now regularly attracts 200 bands with more than a quarter coming from overseas.

The event regularly receives entries from 15 or more countries. The record entry is 239 bands. The bands are placed in 9 different competition grades according to ability and results. As many as 40% of the pipers and drummers taking part each year are 25 and under.



The 2019 World Pipe Band Championships results

Grade 1

- 1 Inveraray & District (Scotland)
 - 2 Field Marshal Montgomery (Northern Ireland)
 - 3 St. Laurence O'Toole (Ireland)
 - 4 Scottish Power (Scotland)
 - 5 Simon Fraser University (Canada)
 - 6 Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate (Scotland)
 - 7 Police Scotland Fife (Scotland)
 - 8 Shotts & Dykehead Caledonia (Scotland)
 - 9 Glasgow Police (Scotland)
 - 10 Johnstone (Scotland)
 - 11 78th Fraser Highlanders (Canada)
 - 12 Canterbury Caledonian Society (New Zealand)
 - 13 Lomond & Clyde (Scotland)
 - 14 Glasgow Skye Association (Scotland)
 - 15 Police Service of Northern Ireland
- Drumming: St. Laurence O'Toole (Ireland)

Grade 2

- 1 St. Thomas Alumni (USA)
 - 2 Closkelt (Northern Ireland)
 - 3 Pipeband Club (Australia)
 - 4 Celtic Nelson (New Zealand)
 - 5 Peel Regional Police (Canada)
 - 6 Uddingston Strathclyde (Scotland)
 - 7 Mannorunningham (Ireland)
 - 8 Worcester Kiltie (USA)
 - 9 Royal Burgh of Annan (Scotland)
 - 10 Ravara (Northern Ireland)
 - 11 Los Angeles Scots (USA)
 - 12 Portlethen & District (Scotland)
- Drumming: Ravara (Northern Ireland)

Grade 3A

- 1 St. Joseph's (Ireland)
- 2 Stockbridge (Scotland)
- 3 St. Mary's Derrytrasna (Northern Ireland)
- 4 City of Inverness (Scotland)
- 5 Beinn an tuirc Kintyre (Scotland)
- 6 The Highlanders 4 Scots (Scotland)

Grade 3B

- 1 Tullylagan (Northern Ireland)
 - 2 Oban High School (Scotland)
 - 3 MacNeilstown (Northern Ireland)
 - 4 Kilmarnock (Scotland)
 - 5 Dunbar Royal British Legion (Scotland)
 - 6 Belgian Blend (Belgium)
- Drumming: Williamwood (Scotland)

Juvenile

- 1 Dollar Academy (Scotland)
- 2 George Watson's College (Scotland)
- 3 George Heriot's School (Scotland)
- 4 St. Thomas Episcopal School (USA)
- 5 Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Juvenile (Scotland)
- 6 Prestonlodge High School (Scotland)

Grade 4A

- 1 Glenrothes & District 2010 (Scotland)
 - 2 Methil & District (Scotland)
 - 3 Edradour Pitlochry & Blair Atholl
 - 4 McDonald Memorial (Scotland)
 - 5 Augharan (Scotland)
 - 6 Lower Clyde (Scotland)
- Drumming: Glenrothes & District 2010 (Scotland)

Grade 4B

- 1 Sri Dasmesh (Malaysia)
 - 2 Coulter & District (Scotland)
 - 3 Camelon & District (Scotland)
 - 4 Vale of Atholl (Scotland)
 - 5 Mountjoy (Northern Ireland)
 - 6 William Kerr Memorial (Northern Ireland)
- Drumming: Sri Dasmesh (Malaysia)

Juvenile A

- 1 North Lanarkshire Schools (Scotland)
 - 2 West Lothian Schools (Scotland)
 - 3 George Watson's College Novice (Scotland)
 - 4 Dollar Academy (Scotland)
 - 5 Stirling & District Schools (Scotland)
 - 6 Lochalsh Junior (Scotland)
- Drumming: North Lanarkshire Schools (Scotland)

Novice

- 1 Capital District Youth (USA)
 - 2 Renfrewshire Schools (Scotland)
 - 3 North Lanarkshire Schools (Scotland)
 - 4 Kintyre Schools (Scotland)
 - 5 Lochgelly High School (Scotland)
 - 6 Bucksburn & District Novice (Scotland)
- Drumming: Capital District Youth (USA)



IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Image of dinosaur footprint.
Photo: Colin MacFadyen SNH.

Dinosaur sites on Skye to be given official protection

Internationally-recognised Jurassic sites on Skye, containing rare evidence of how dinosaurs and early mammals lived many millions of years ago, have been granted greater legal status, to help ensure their protection for future generations. Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment, Mairi Gougeon, signed a Nature Conservation Order (NCO) at Staffin Museum, home of dinosaur bones and footprints found nearby. The key aim of the NCO is to prevent rare vertebrate fossils from being damaged through irresponsible collection and removal from Skye's globally important fossil sites. Importantly, the NCO aims to encourage local people and the wider public to take an interest in and report any potentially important fossil finds.

In the past, important fossil discoveries have been damaged by hammering, with specimens taken from the island and moved to private collections. In 2016 an attempt to take a plaster cast of a dinosaur footprint at An Corran risked significant damage to a feature that has become an important tourist attraction.

Known as the Dinosaur capital of Scotland, the rich Middle Jurassic fossil fauna of Skye is gradually being revealed with new discoveries continuing to be made. These include some of the first fossil evidence of dinosaur parenting.

Housed at Staffin Museum, a rock slab shows the footprints of baby dinosaurs, together with the print of an adult. It is expected that Skye is also home to fossil remains of flying reptiles, and confirmation of this will firmly place the island in the international dinosaur hall of fame.

Minister for the Natural Environment Mairi Gougeon said: "Skye lays claim to the most significant dinosaur discoveries of Scotland's Jurassic past and this Nature Conservation Order is a vital step in

protecting and preserving this important part of our natural heritage for future generations. The Order gives extra legal protection to these special sites whilst providing for important artefacts to be collected responsibly for science and public exhibition, as Dugald Ross of the Staffin Museum has been doing since his first important discovery in 1982. I hope the Order gives even greater awareness of the significance of these important sites, and the important and valuable role everyone has in helping protect them."

SNH geologist, Colin MacFadyen said: "This vital extra legal protection is important to ensure Skye's unique dinosaur heritage is available for everyone to learn from and enjoy. The NCO covers areas of coastline where 165 million year old Middle Jurassic sedimentary rocks are gradually being eroded by the sea. It is crucial that the footprints and actual skeletal remains of dinosaurs and other vertebrates, that are being revealed by nature are protected. These fabulous fossil finds can help answer crucial questions about ancient ecosystems and pave the way for exciting advances in our understanding of vertebrate evolution."

Artificial tongue could have whisky counterfeiting licked



An artificial 'tongue' which can taste subtle differences between drams of whisky could help cut down on the

trade in counterfeit alcohol, scientists say. In a new paper published in the Royal Society of Chemistry's journal *Nanoscale*, Scottish engineers describe how they built the tiny taster, which exploits the optical properties of gold and aluminium to test the tipps. Sub-microscopic slices of the two metals, arranged in a checkerboard pattern, act as the 'tastebuds' in the team's artificial tongue. The researchers poured samples of whisky over the tastebuds – which are about 500 times smaller than their human equivalents – and measured how they absorb light while submerged.

Statistical analysis of the very subtle differences in how the metals in the artificial tongue absorb light – what scientists call their plasmonic resonance – allowed the team to identify different types of whiskies. The team used the tongue to sample a selection of whiskies from Glenfiddich, Glen Marnoch and Laphroaig. The tongue was able to taste the differences between the drinks with greater than 99% accuracy. It was capable of picking up on the subtler distinctions between the same whisky aged in different barrels, and tell the difference between the same whisky aged for 12, 15 and 18 years.

Dr Alasdair Clark, of the University of Glasgow's School of Engineering, is the paper's lead author. Dr Clark said: "We call this an artificial tongue because it acts similarly to a human tongue – like us, it can't identify the individual chemicals which make coffee taste different to apple juice but it can easily tell the difference between these complex chemical mixtures."

We're not the first researchers to make an artificial tongue, but we're the first to make a single artificial tongue that uses two different types of nanoscale metal 'tastebuds', which provides more information about the 'taste' of each sample and allows a faster and more accurate response. While we've focused on whisky in this experiment, the artificial tongue could easily be used to 'taste' virtually any liquid, which means it could be used for a wide variety of applications. In addition to its obvious potential for use in identifying counterfeit alcohols, it could be used in food safety testing, quality control, security – really any area where a portable, reusable method of tasting would be useful."

Sale of goose meat from Orkney extended across Scotland



Greylag geese grazing on a cereal crop in Orkney. Photo: SNH/Lorne Gill.

Greylag goose meat from the Orkney Resident Greylag Goose Project is now available for sale Scotland-wide, announced Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). Wild goose meat from the project is available for sale from Orkney, where sustainable control of resident greylag geese populations is licensed to safeguard agricultural crops. A key aim is to encourage the use of fresh, seasonal, wild goose meat and help boost local businesses. Sales will be licensed until 31 October 2019. This short trial period takes advantage of the European Commission's approval for Scotland-wide sales.

Claudia Rowse, SNH's Head of Natural Resource Management said: 'We are delighted to announce Scotland-wide sales of resident greylag goose meat for a short trial period. Now, licensed sellers from Orkney will have a chance to develop the market for their product and people can try goose for themselves, on Orkney, and across Scotland. Wild geese are an important part of Scotland's nature, but their rapid rise in numbers has been challenging for farmers and crofters. Striking the balance between conservation, farming and hunting can be difficult. Our goal is to give farmers and crofters the tools they need to safeguard their crops, enabling them to control goose numbers sustainably, and sell goose meat for profit.'

Until now, meat generated by the Orkney resident greylag goose project could only be sold locally by retailers based on Orkney. SNH is working to secure longer term arrangements for the sale of resident greylag goose meat in Scotland. The overall number of geese will be maintained at a healthy, sustainable population.

By: Jean Campbell

Remembering the Lewis Land Raiders

After their return from the horrors of World War I, ex-servicemen were denied crofting land promised by the government. Their condition increased the tensions within the community and highlighted the problems of land usage. In March 1919, some of the biggest land raids took place at the farms of Gress & Upper Coll. Land raiding continued throughout Lewis until 1921. The government eventually kept their promise and the people won the right to the land.



Upper Coll on the Isle of Lewis.

The historic struggle of a group of Lewis crofters to secure a scrap of ground to feed their families has been remembered, 100 hundred years on. Frustrated by the government procrastination and its broken promises, coupled with the oppression of wealthy landlords, a group of landless servicemen seized Gress farm, dividing it into crofts in the spring of 1919.

Great grandchildren - brought up in the village - of these men planted potatoes - the staple crop grown by their forebears. A similar event took place by the Land Raiders' monument in nearby Upper Coll, a farm raided in 1921.

A plaque on the memorial notes: "Each croft and house in Upper Coll is situated on that land. We, their descendants, are indebted to them forever for their courageous actions."

Fought to secure the land

A spokesperson for Back Historical Society which organised the commemorations said: "100 years ago the founding members of Col Uarach and Gria (Upper Coll and Gress) gathered in peaceful protest and planted potatoes to mark the land of these villages as theirs. Now their descendants gathered together to commemorate the "efforts of those men who fought to secure the land and homes fit for heroes they were promised after the fighting of World War One came to an end."

Forty years of government policy to resettle landless people in rural Scotland had achieved little in Lewis by the early 20th century. Former island owner, Major Duncan Matheson blocked plans to split up farms including Gress in 1913, assisted by the outbreak of the First World War which resulted in land agitators heading off fighting in the four year long conflict. As 1919 dawned, war was over and many island servicemen had perished in the hostilities. Further pain was inflicted on the island by the loss of over 200 returning navy men on the *HMY Iolaire* which sank in a gale at the approaches to Stornoway Harbour on New Year's Day.

By now, the government had twice failed to grasp opportunities of buying the whole Lewis estate, which ended up being purchased by multi-millionaire soap baron, Lord Leverhulme, for the knock-down price of £167,000. Islanders had a right to land under the law but, bolstered by a short burst of investment by the new landlord, Scottish Secretary Robert Munro shied away from purchasing the contentious farms using compulsory powers introduced to help landless cottars.

Uncompromising

The uncompromising William Leverhulme - who never understood the psyche of the Hebridean - detested the crofting system, condemning it as the antithesis to his vision of regenerating the local economy centred around a heavily industrialised major fishing centre. Local opinion was split with the then fledgling *Stornoway Gazette* and the town folk of Stornoway backing the new proprietor.

Nearly 1,000 people attended an open-air showdown in March 1919, where Leverhulme denied the ex-service men the land. They took matters into their own hands and occupied the farm in a peaceful protest. Nowadays, the communities of Gress and Upper Coll, along with other land-raided farms across Lewis, hold larger populations of people than similar swathes of rural Scotland.

£70m Edinburgh Biomes project gets the green light



The proposed new Glasshouse.

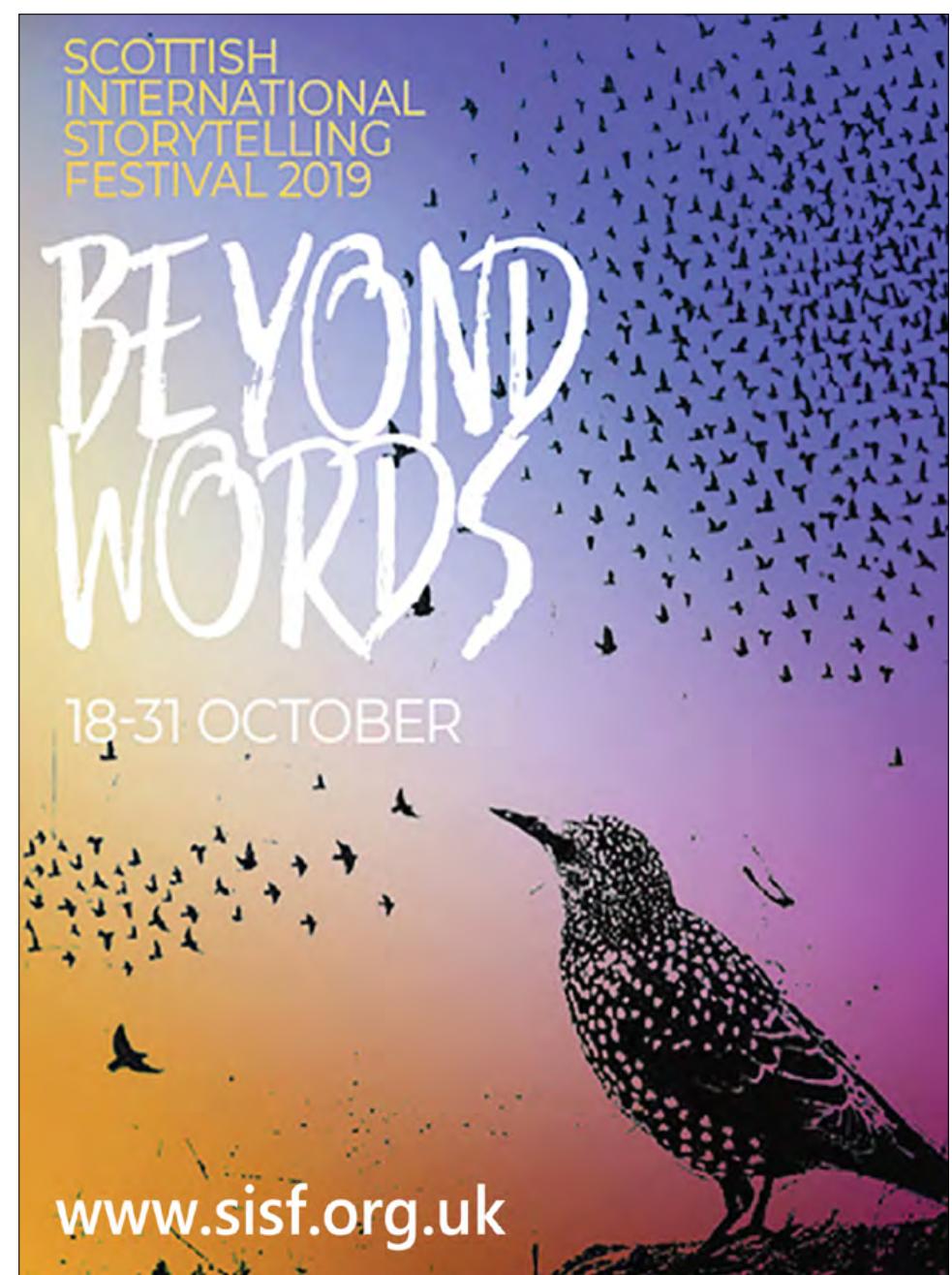
and deliver world-leading facilities that will protect the work of this national institution for the future.

Details of the project come at a time when the Garden's existing Glasshouse facilities - including the Grade A listed Victorian Palm Houses, and the 1960's 'front-range' and research Glasshouses - require extensive refurbishment. It will ensure the Glasshouses continue to provide a safe environment for the Garden's plant collection. Comprising over 13,500 plant species, RBGE's collection includes many plants that are endangered or extinct in their native habitats.

For visitors, the most visible change will be the addition of a stunning new Glasshouse linking to the Front Range houses. Its initial purpose will be to provide temporary accommodation for the thousands of plants being decanted for the refurbishment of the public Glasshouses. Ultimately, it will become the point of welcome to a considerably rejuvenated Glasshouse Experience, taking visitors through the modernist Front Range and Victorian Temperate and Tropical Palm Houses.

Planned to take shape through a progression of stages over seven years, Edinburgh Biomes will include new research facilities dedicated to combating the increasing numbers of plant pathogens damaging the environment, commerce and gardens big and small.

Edinburgh Biomes, the most significant project in the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) history, will protect RBGE's unique and globally important plant collection for the future. The Edinburgh Biomes project, which has won the support of city council planning, aims to secure the Garden's work for future generations and provide a spectacular new visitor experience for the public. It will bring together RBGE's research, horticulture, education and infrastructure facilities and significantly restore and rebuild its Glasshouses. Arguably the most ambitious undertaking of the Garden's 349-year history, Edinburgh Biomes will avoid the catastrophic loss of up to 4,000 species in the public and research glasshouses,



Calling the Clans

Welcome to our "Classified" 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 Baird Society Worldwide

Membership is open to those descended from Baird, Barde, Bard, Beard, Baird, 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 clansmen members may query the Society genealogist. **For information write:**

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David and Patricia Benfell

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website: www.clanbairsociety.com



Clan Davidson Society in Australia Inc.

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

UK: London & Southern Counties * Rannoch & Highlands

Canada: Ontario * Western Canada

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

New Zealand: New Zealand

Europe: Spain

Africa: South Africa

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

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

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

<http://www.donnachaidh.com/>

Facebook: [The Clan Donnachaidh Society](#)

Email: ivc@donnachaidh.com

Clan Fraser Society of Australia

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

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

Membership enquiries to Don Chitts

Ph: (03) 9754 5120 donchitts@hotmail.com

Website: <http://clanfraseraustralia.org>

Facebook:<https://www.facebook.com/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: debellinc@reagan.com

Family of Bruce International, Inc.

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

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

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

Clan Donald Australia

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

High Commissioner

Mr Lachlan Macdonald

State Commissioners

NSW

Mr Lachlan Macdonald

Qld

Mr A. Neil Macdonald

SA

Ms Therese McCutcheon

Vic

Mr Norman A Macdonald

WA

Ms Pamela McDonald

secretary.clandonaldaustralia@gmail.com

There is no joy without Clan Donald



Clan Dunbar of The House of Gospastrict the Earl

Eligible blood or marriage, all descendants of The Gospastrict: 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 Gospastrict.

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

Clan Gregor Society

Established 1822, Edinburgh, Scotland

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

Great Lakes, New England, Pacific North West, Western U.S. and Southeast Chapters www.clangregor.com

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

Peter Lawrie, Secretary

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

Clan Gregor Society Australasia

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

Frank McGregor - Clan Gregor Society PO Box 14

North Hobart TAS 7002

Email: clangregoraustralia@gmail.com

Web. www.clangregor.com

"Royal is my Race"

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 U.S.A. Inc.

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

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

Edmonstone Clan Society

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

Contact: Mal Edmiston

3 Laguna Ave

Kirwan, Qld, 4817

61 (0)7 4755 4370

m.edmiston@bigpond.com



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 Australasia

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

Frank McGregor - Clan Gregor Society PO Box 14

North Hobart TAS 7002

Email: clangregoraustralia@gmail.com

Web. www.clangregor.com

"Royal is my Race"

The Clan Campbell Society Of Australia

The Society exists for the benefit of all its members. All Campbells or descendants of Campbells and members of Clan Septs are most welcome to join the Society.

For information on State Branches contact the National Secretary, Margaret Vallance

Email: libertyv93@gmail.com

www.clan-campbell.org.au

CLAN DONALD in VICTORIA

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

Represented at all major Highland gatherings in Victoria.

CLAN DONALD VICTORIA

President: Mr Norman A. Macdonald

Contact: clandonaldvic@gmail.com

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

CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE

Hon Chief: Mrs Christina Milne Wilson

Contact: secretary@clamacdonaldyarraville.com

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

Clan Farquharson Association Australia

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

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

The Secretary: Clan Farquharson

Association Australia

PO Box 585

Springwood, NSW 2777

or by Email to: finlaysb@bigpond.com

American Clan Gregor Society

Est 1909

Membership inquiries welcomed from MacGregors of all spellings and Septs

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

Contacting our registrar, **Jeanne P. Lehr**

11 Ballas Cr.

St. Louis, MO 63131-3038

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

website: <a

The logo for the International Clan MacFarlane Society features a heraldic crest. The crest is shield-shaped with a red background. It features a golden lion rampant on the left and a golden unicorn rampant on the right. A golden sword is positioned diagonally across the shield. Above the shield is a golden helmet. A banner or scroll is draped over the top of the shield, with the words "THIS WEll DEFEND" written in gold lettering. The entire crest is surrounded by a decorative border.

Clan MacLellan

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



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

Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net

Clan MacNicol

**Chief: John MacNeacail
of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac**

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

www.clanmacnicol.com

Clan MacInnes
International Association of
Clan MacInnes (Aonghais)

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

www.clanmacinnes.org

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

Clan MacLeod
Societies of Australia

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

<i>Askey</i>	<i>MacAndie</i>	<i>MacCorkill</i>
<i>Beaton</i>	<i>MacAskill</i>	<i>MacCrimmon</i>
<i>Bethune</i>	<i>MacAulay</i>	<i>MacGillechallum</i>
<i>Caskie</i>	<i>MacCabe</i>	<i>MacRaill</i>
<i>Harold</i>	<i>MacCaig</i>	<i>MacWilliam</i>
<i>Lewis</i>	<i>MacClure</i>	<i>Norie</i>
	<i>Norman</i>	<i>Tolmie</i>
		<i>Williamson</i>

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 Association

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



THE MACLEODS

RICH IN HIGHLAND TRADITIONS

FOR INFORMATION:
WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG

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



A slide with a green, blue, and white plaid background. The title "Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada" is centered in large, bold, black font. Below it, the text "We invite you – whether you are a clansperson a member of one of our septs, a highlander, a Scot, or just an history enthusiast – to join the Society and participate in many activities" is displayed. To the left is the Clan MacKenzie crest featuring a lion rampant holding a sword, with a banner below it. To the right are icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. At the bottom left is a small Canadian flag icon.



Clan Macnachtan Association Worldwide

Sir Malcolm F. Macnaughten of Macnachtan, 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 McNaughton
+61 7 3266 2047 bruce@brucemcnaughton.com

W. Canada - Regional Commissioner - Miles MacNaughton
250-999-9636 milesccammac@aol.com

New Zealand - Regional Commissioner - John Macnaughtan
+64 9 441 4984 macnaughtan@xtra.co.nz

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

WWW.CLANMACNAUGHTON.NET

**Clan MacRae Society
of North America**

Granted Arms in 2008

We invite MacRaes of all spelling variations and their descendants to join our Clan MacRae Society. Learn your Scottish MacRae history and family lineage!

www.macrae.org

Need more info? Contact:

Bruce McRae, *President*
303-670-9611
brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com

CLAN LESLIE
SOCIETY
of Australia
and New Zealand

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 MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.	
MacDougall	Valerie McDougall VP Membership 505-470 Scenic Drive, London, ON N5Z 3B2	MacDowell
Email: Info@macdougall.org	Home page: www.macdougall.org	Facebook: www.facebook.com/clannmacdougall
<i>Names Associated with Clan MacDougall of Argyll and Clan MacDowell of Galloway</i>		
Coul	MacCoul	Maccaul
Conacher	MacConacher	
Coyle	MacCoyle	
Dole	MacDole	MacDill
Dougal	MacDougal	MacDougal
Dougle	MacDougle	MacDougal
Dugal	MacDugal	MacDugle
Dowall	MacDowal	MacDowall
MacDowell	MacDowell	MacDowell
Lullich	McLullich	MacCullich
MacLachloch	McClachloch	MacCullagh
MacLainstock	MacLainstock	MacLainock
Machale	McHoule	Mactheul
MacHowell	MacCowan	McCown
Macklichall	M'Gowall	MacNamell
MacLucas	MacLughash	MacLuke

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

**Clan Munro
Association, U.S.A.**

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

COME JOIN US!

Web site: www.Clanmunrousa.org

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

Murray Clan Society of North America

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

In Canada contact: William J.M. Murray
2000 Cambridge Ave #329
Campbell River, BC V9H 0C3

In the U.S. contact: Robert W. Murray
1001 Cordero Crescent
Wyomissing, PA 19610-2738



Clan Shaw Society

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

Secretary: Mike Shaw
2403 West Cranford
Denison, TX 75020



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

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

Email: clanwardlaw@yahoo.com

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com

Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

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



Clan Pollock

Among the most ancient families of Scotland. If you are a descendant of Pollock, Pollok, Pook, Polk, Polke, Poulk, 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: Wayne Sinclair 0417 146 174
Secretary: Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263
E: clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com
www.clansinclairaustralia.com

Scottish Associations and Societies

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@embarqmail.com
(910) 295-4448



Clan Ross in Australia

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

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

Contact: Commander Des Ross at
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.stewartsoociety.org



Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc.

Promoter of International Tartan Day, Brisbane, Queensland

PO Box 3188, South Brisbane 4101
Bi-Monthly Newsletter, All things Scottish
All persons of Scottish Descent welcome.
www.aussie-scots.org.au Ph 07 3359 8195
Email: secretary@aussie-scots.org.au,

The Scottish Australian Heritage Council



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

Applications for membership can be obtained from:
The Hon Secretary, SAHC
Susan Cooke tel: 02 6355 4158
Email: alfredcooke@gmail.com

www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

Clan Ross America

Representing the great Highland Clan of Ross since 1976.



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](mailto:wiliam.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.chicagoscents.org

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

www.scottishgaelsocietyvic.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: scottishgaelsocietyvic@gmail.com

Clan Ross of The United States

David Ross of Ross, Baron Balnagowan, Chief of the Clan invites all Ross', septs and their descendants to 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

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER



The Society of St. Andrew

of Scotland (Queensland) Limited

ABN 30 093 578 860

Invites membership of all people of Scottish descent or association

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



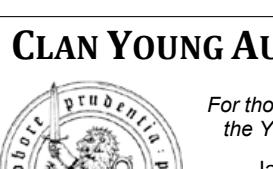
Clan Scott Australia Group

Clan Chief: The Duke of Buccleuch KT, K.B.E

Commissioner: Heather de Sylva

Membership welcome from Scotts and Septs:
Balwearie, Harden, Laidlaw, Geddes & Langlands.

Info: Secretary, PO Box 320, Maclean, NSW, 2463
E: heatherdesylva@bigpond.com
W: clancottaustraliagroup.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: caledoniansocietyofwaiinc@gmail.com
www.caledoniansocietyofwaiinc.com

Victorian Scottish Union Inc

Established 1905

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

Affiliated Clans & Societies

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

Chief: Ms Ceilidh McKinna Robertson
President: Mr Douglas Pearce
Secretary: Mrs Jan Macdonald
T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930
E: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com
www.victorianscottishunion.com

New University of Glasgow course shines a spotlight on Scotland's iconic Clans



The Scottish Highland clans are one of the most immediately recognisable parts of Scotland's history. Yet centuries of misrepresentation and Romanticisation have created a range of persistent myths and stereotypes. Now a new free online three-week course from the University of Glasgow called The Scottish Highland Clans: Origins, Decline and Transformations, on the FutureLearn platform, hopes to debunk some of these misconceptions to provide a critical overview of how the clans functioned in Scottish society.

It emphasises the need to see clans as highly sophisticated social communities, with complex economic functions and a rich, unique language and culture.

Gaelic language

Dr Andrew Mackillop, a Senior Lecturer in Scottish History at the University's College of Arts, who has led the creation of the Clans course said: "It has been a wonderful experience helping to bring this course together. The College of Arts here at the University of Glasgow has world-class levels of expertise on all aspects of Scottish society, language, history, literature and culture. One of the most exciting aspects is the inclusion of Scottish Gaelic material

in the form of songs and poems. Making these unique historical sources more accessible is a key objective. Learners will be able to engage with Gaelic but will also have full English translations – so there is no need to worry if you have no Gaelic! The course explores the nature and function of clans from the fall of Clan Donald's Lordship of the Isles in 1493 until clanship broke apart in the final decades of the eighteenth century. Then it explores how literature, art and social trends such as Highland Clubs and Games 'reinvented'

The Scottish Highland clans are one of the most immediately recognisable parts of Scotland's history.

clanship. Novels, films and programmes such as the TV series *Outlander* ensure the process of reimagining continues to the present day. Learners taking the course with get a unique, multi-disciplinary perspective as well as an accessible introduction to some of the very latest research on the Highland clans."

Designed and delivered by the College of Arts, it draws on the expertise of academics, from across a number of Arts and Humanities research disciplines including Archaeology, Celtic & Gaelic, History and Literature, to bring the story of Scotland's iconic clans to life. Professor Roibeard Ó Maolalaigh, Vice Principal and Head of the College of Arts, said: "This exciting new course exemplifies the breadth of knowledge and world-class research being undertaken in the Arts and Humanities at the University of Glasgow in the broad area of Scottish history and culture. We drew on this vast expertise for the course's creation to give

the best and most up to date picture of Scotland's iconic clan system. As Professor of Gaelic, I am also delighted to see that the course reflects the central importance of the Gaelic language in Scotland's history – and many of our songs, poetry, historical legends and tales are still alive today thanks to the clans' Gaelic bards and seanchaids ('tradition-bearers, storytellers'). I hope that the many disciplines being showcased in the Clan course will whet the appetite for our online learners and encourage them to engage in further education and study opportunities in Scottish history and culture."

Clan

The word 'clan' is derived from the Gaelic clann meaning 'children, family, offspring'. According to the Historical Thesaurus of English the word was introduced into English around 1425, as a label for the nature of the society of the Scottish Highlands. Taking place over three weeks, the online course will explore how clans functioned as communities and created strong bonds

as well as how religion, feuding and war shaped positive and negative stereotypes. Filmed in locations from Glencoe, Lochaber, Glenlyon to the Isle of Lewis, University of Glasgow academics show how the clan family system impacted on Scottish history and key historical events.

The course visits some of Scotland's most stunning locations to tell the story of the rise of the clans to see them take high-profile roles in the Scottish and British wars of religion in the 1630s to 1650s and the later Jacobite revolts from 1689 to 1746 and assesses their decline and end of clanship by the 1800s. The course includes a range of activities and materials to bring the clans to life and encourage learners to consider how the clans continue to have a far reach right up to the present-day portrayal in TV and films including the *Outlander* series.

The Scottish Highland Clans: Origins, Decline and Transformation course is now open for registration. To join to explore more about the history of Scotland's clans via www.futurelearn.com/courses/the-highland-clans

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SCOTTISH BANNER EVENTS

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

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

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

CANADA

SEPTEMBER

01 - Canmore, AB - Canmore Highland Games

In the beautiful Canadian Rockies just minutes from Banff. A full weekend of Scottish music, events and fun. Info: www.canmorehighlandgames.ca

06 - 08 - Québec, QC - Festival Celtique de Québec

Gather at the Domaine de Maizerets to discover and celebrate your "Celtitude" - a heritage shared by both Quebecers and neighbouring populations. Info: www.festivalceltique.com

07 - Quinte West, ON - The Trenton Scottish Irish Festival

The festival is a celebration of all things Celtic, filling Centennial Park with music and dance, art, jewelry, clothing & costumes, ancestry, and heavy events competition. Info: www.trentonscottishirish.com

07 - Truro, NS - Colchester Games & Gathering

Colchester Games & Gathering is a multifaceted event for the whole family combining a traditional Highland Games (Heavyweights, Pipe Bands, Highland Dancers) with an array of entertainment for everyone at Bible Hill Ball Fields. Info: www.colchesterhighlandgames.com

13 - Winnipeg, MB - Whisky's of the World 2019: British Pub Edition

The British quality of Whisky, Beer, Gin, Rum and Cider produced over the years, is world renowned. Pair that with inspirational Pub Grub, with a friendly welcoming atmosphere, and a good time will be had by all at the Whisky's of the World 2019: British Pub Edition, at Winnipeg Winter Club, 200 River Ave. Info: whiskysoftheworld@gmail.com

21 - Montreal, QC - Annual Golf Tournament Tee off in tartan!

Every year the St Andrew's Society hosts a golf tournament. Grab your kilt or your tartan trews for 9 holes of golf at Golf Dorval, followed by a delicious buffet meal at Golf Dorval, 2000 Av. Reverchon. Info: www.standrews.qc.ca

21 - Victoria, BC - Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas Concert

The musical partnership between consummate performer Alasdair Fraser, "the Michael Jordan of Scottish fiddling", and brilliant Californian cellist Natalie Haas spans the full spectrum between intimate chamber music and ecstatic dance energy. Over the last 20 years of creating a buzz at festivals and concert halls across the world, they have truly set the standard for fiddle and cello in traditional music at First Church of Christ Scientist, 1205 Pandora Ave. Info: www.alasdairandnatalie.com

21 - 22 - Halifax, NS - Nova Scotia Harp Festival 2019

Friday evening Opening Concert 7:30pm. Saturday all day Classes at the BMO Room Halifax Central Library. Sunday noon - 5 The Old Triangle. Info: www.nsharp.ca

OCTOBER

01 - Montreal, QC - Fish and Chips Supper

Join the St. Andrew's Society of Montreal and catch up with some old friends, meet some new friends at Lord William Pub, 265 Rue des Seigneurs. Info: www.standrews.qc.ca

11 - 19 - Cape Breton, NS - Celtic Colours International Festival

For nine days in October, Cape Breton Island is alive with music, energy and excitement as people celebrate Celtic cultures. Info: 1-888-355-7744 or www.celtic-colours.com

18 - Montreal, QC - Taste of Scotland

- Whisky Tasting Night

The St. Andrew's Society of Montreal would like to invite all members, their friends and anybody else interested in fine whisky to our annual Taste of Scotland Whisky Tasting Night. This ever popular event will allow guests to sample over 25 different brands of whisky and enjoy a buffet featuring a variety of delectable Scottish dishes at Officer's Mess, Black Watch Armoury, 2067 Bleury St. Info: www.standrews.qc.ca

18 - 20 - St Thomas, ON - 2019 Clan Donald Canada Annual General Meeting

Clan Donald Southern Ontario is thrilled to welcome Clan members for their AGM, with ceilidh, formal dinner and friendship. Info: www.clandonaldcanada.ca

19 - Vancouver, BC - Pipes & Drums-A Whisky Tasting Experience

presented by the Vancouver Police Pipe Band with performances, whisky tasting, haggis and more at The Roundhouse Arts and Recreation Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews. Info: 604.717.9998 or www.vpdpipeband.ca/pipes-drums

25 - 27 - Dartmouth, NS - Re-Jigged Festival

Re-Jigged is a Celtic Music and Dance Festival with concerts, workshops and a ceilidh. Info: www.rejiggedfestival.com

27 - London, ON - Kirkin' O'The Tartans Service

St. George's Presbyterian Church, 1475 Dundas Street, will be hosting its annual Kirkin' o' the Tartans Service at 10:30am. There will be wonderful music, an inspiring sermon, and Scottish fare to follow. Wear your tartan with pride. Ample Parking. Info: The Rev. Keith McKee: stgeorge@execulink.com

USA

SEPTEMBER

01 - Pleasanton, CA - The Caledonian Club of San Francisco's Scottish Highland Gathering and Games

Labor Day Weekend to celebrate Scottish culture, competition, cuisine and entertainment at its very best at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Info: www.thescottishgames.com

05 - 08 - Edinboro, PA - 26th Annual Edinboro Highland Games & Scottish Festival

Scotland has proud traditions of independent and innovative thinking, and the Edinboro Highland Games celebrates that heritage, featuring exceptional music, dance, athletics, art, food, and family gatherings, the festival offers fun for all ages. Info: www.edinboro.edu/events/highland-games

05 - 08 - Estes Park, CO - Longs Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival

Celebrating Over 40 Years in the Celtic Capital of North America with Celtic music, vendors, entertainment and more. Info: (800) 903-7837 or www.scotfest.com

06 - 07 - Buffalo, MO - 17th Annual Southwest Missouri Celtic Heritage Festival & Highland Games

Celebrates the heritage of the Buffalo Head Prairie by the immigrants that settled in the area and created Buffalo, Missouri at Dallas Country Fairgrounds. Info: www.buffaloareachamber.org/celticfestival

07 - Dundee, NY - Dundee Scottish Festival

Celebrating Scottish heritage with pipe bands, Clans, dancing kilts and more. Info: www.dundeescottishfestival.com

07 - Quarryville, PA - 6th Annual Covenanter Scottish Festival

Held on the grounds of the Octoara Covenanter and Middle Octoara Presbyterian Churches. Entertainment performed throughout the day. Athletes will be competing in the Penn's Wall Highland Games, pipers will participate in solo pipe competitions and Highland dancers will be competing. Info: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/901923783221601>

07 - 08 - Nashville, TN - Middle Tennessee Highland Games & Celtic Festival

Athletes, Clans, vendors, coos, black faced Scottish sheep being herded, huge kids zone Irish & Highland dance, piping competition, numerous music acts, roving pipe bands & entertainers, food, beer, Scotch tasting etc. at Percy Warner Park, Hwy 100 W @ Old Hickory Blvd. Info: www.midtenngames.com

13 - Broken Arrow, OK - Scotfest

Celebrating 40 years in Green Country. Oklahoma's Flagship Celtic Music Festival & Highland Games. Info: www.okscotfest.com

14 - 15 - Ligonier, PA - 61st Ligonier Highland Games

An annual celebration of Celtic traditions at Idlewild Park, Route 30. Info: www.ligonierhighlandgames.org

14 - 15 - Lockport, NY - Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival

A weekend of Celtic celebration at the Niagara County Fairgrounds. Info: www.niagaraceltic.com

20 - 22 - Lincoln, NH - The New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival

One of the largest and most diverse Highland Games held in North America at Loon Mountain Resort. Info: www.nhscot.org

27 - 29 - Bethlehem, PA - Celtic Classic

Dedicated to preserving and promoting the Celtic heritage through education, musical presentations, and traditional competitions in athletics, piping and dance. Info: www.celticfest.org

28 - Dandridge, TN - Dandridge Scots-Irish Festival

A celebration of Celtic culture with music, dance and friendship. Info: www.scotsirishfestival.com

28 - 29 - Prescott Valley, AZ - Prescott Highland Games & Celtic Faire

A weekend of Celtic fun and events at Granville Vista Point Event Center, 4401 Tuscany Way. Info: www.prescottareacelticsociety.com

OCTOBER

04 - 06 - Mount Vernon, WA - Autumn Smallpipes & Fiddle Workshop 2019

Both Smallpipers and Fiddlers enjoy intimate, small-group classes taught by fantastic instructors at the Littlefield Celtic Center. Info: www.celticarts.org

04 - 06 - Troy, MI - Scottish North American Leadership Conference 2019

Hosted by the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, an opportunity for those in the Scottish-North American community to share views, values, experiences and best practices at the Kilgour Scottish Centre. Info: www.scottishleadershipconference.com

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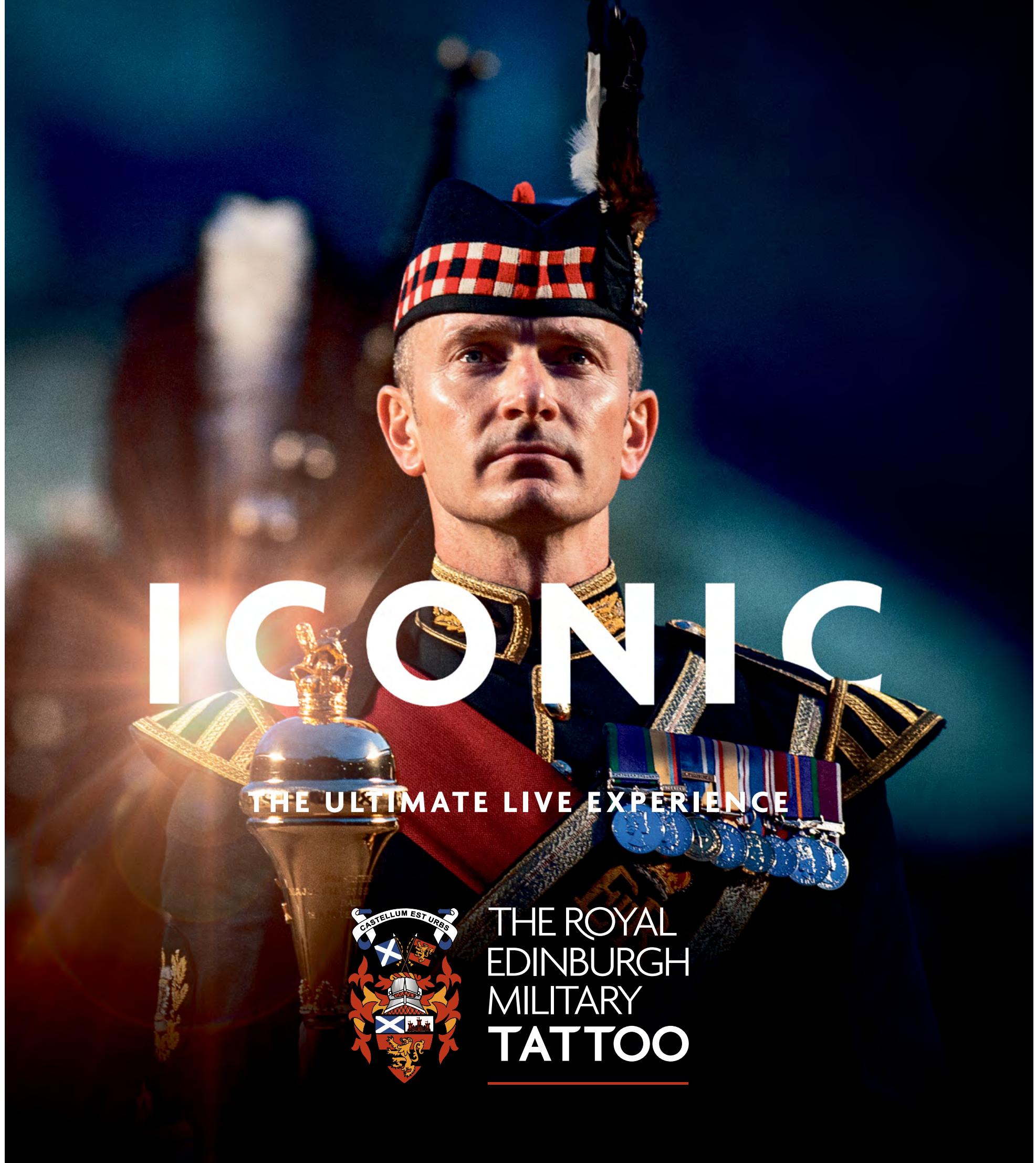
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05 - Bordentown, NJ - Kilt Fest NJ

Kilt Fest is a Highland Games and Medieval Celtic festival featuring live bands, axe throwing, sword fighting, vendors, beer and food. Info: [www.eventbrite.com/e/kilt](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/kilt-fest-nj-tickets-66940218997)



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IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Rustic smoky bacon quiche

Ingredients:

For the pastry:

150g/5oz. unsalted butter (cut into cubes)

250g/9oz. plain flour

1 free-range egg

pinch of salt

For the filling:

80g/3oz. smoked bacon, cut into matchsticks

2 garlic cloves

1 white onion, finely chopped

20g/1oz. unsalted butter

60g/2oz. strong Scottish cheddar, grated

250ml/9fl oz. single cream

2 free-range eggs

2 free-range egg yolks

Method:

For the pastry, preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4.

In a large bowl, rub the butter and flour together to a breadcrumb texture using your fingers. Add the egg and salt to bring the pastry together. Wrap in cling film and chill in the fridge for 10 minutes. Remove the pastry from the fridge, and roll out to fit a deep 18cm/7in loose-bottomed tart tin. Place the pastry-lined tin in the fridge for 10 minutes to firm up. Place a piece of greaseproof paper into the tart shell and fill with baking beans or dried pulses. Bake for 10 -15 minutes and then remove greaseproof and beans. Leave in oven for a further 10 minutes so that the pastry is dry and crisp. For the filling, in a frying pan fry the bacon, garlic and onion together in the butter until softened and golden-brown. Drain off any excess fat.

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

Tomato soup

Ingredients:

2 onions, peeled and chopped
1 carrot, peeled and diced finely
1 clove garlic, peeled and crushed
1 stick celery, finely chopped
2 tbsp olive oil
450g/1lb. fresh ripe tomatoes, halved
1 litre/1¾ pints vegetable stock
1 tsp. sugar
salt and freshly ground black pepper
handful fresh basil, shredded (optional)

Method:

Heat the oil in a large saucepan and add the onions, carrot and celery and garlic. Cover and cook gently for 10 minutes until soft.

Add the sugar, salt, pepper and tomatoes. Stir and cook for another 5 minutes.

Add the stock, bring to the boil and simmer for 10 minutes. Liquidise until smooth. If using the basil, stir in at the end.

Vegetable stew

Ingredients:

1 tbsp olive oil
1 onion, finely diced
2 leeks, split lengthways up to the root several times, washed under running cold water then sliced thickly
2 carrots, cut into 1cm/½in dice
2 garlic cloves, finely diced
1 tsp. sweet smoked paprika
½ tsp. dried thyme
2 potatoes, peeled, cut into 1cm/½in dice
600ml/21fl oz. vegetable stock
½ head cauliflower, cut into small florets
200g/7oz. fine green beans, cut into 2cm/¾in pieces
1 x 400g/14oz. tin baked beans
2 tbsp roughly chopped flatleaf parsley
crusty bread, to serve
salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method:

Heat a large frying pan or saucepan until medium hot, add the olive oil, onion and leeks and cook gently for 5 minutes until just softened.

Add the carrots, garlic, paprika and thyme and stir to combine. Cook for 5 minutes.

Add the potatoes and vegetable stock and bring to the boil. Turn the heat down and simmer for 5 minutes until the potatoes are just softening then add the cauliflower and simmer for another 5 minutes.

By now, all the vegetables should be nearly cooked. Add the green beans and baked beans and cook for 3 minutes then stir in the chopped parsley and season well with salt and pepper.

Serve with plenty of crusty bread.

Ginger Oat Biscuits



Ingredients:

150g/5½oz. butter, diced if cold
1 tbsp. golden syrup
175g/6oz. granulated sugar
75g/2oz. self-raising flour
50g/1¾oz. semolina
100g/3½oz. porridge oats
2 tsp ground ginger

Method

Preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan/Gas 4. Line 3–4 baking trays with baking paper or silicone baking mats, or line 2 trays and cook in batches.

Measure the butter, golden syrup and sugar into a large saucepan. Heat gently until the sugar is dissolved and everything is well combined.

Remove from the heat and add the flour, semolina, oats and ginger. Stir until well incorporated, then tip onto a baking tray, flatten out and leave to cool for 10 minutes.

Scoop up teaspoonfuls of the mixture (which will be quite crumbly and buttery) and roll into 36 little balls. Place on the prepared baking trays, well-spaced apart and push down slightly to flatten. Bake for about 15 minutes, or until lightly golden-brown.

Leave to cool on the baking trays, then store in an airtight container when completely cold.

Dornoch Dreams

Ingredients:

50g/2 oz. butter or margarine
125g/4 oz. plain (all-purpose) flour
175ml/6 fl oz. water
3 eggs
375g/12oz. raspberries (whole or lightly crushed)
25g/4oz. clear honey
2 tbsp. Drambuie
300ml/½ pint of double (whipping or heavy) cream
Icing sugar for decoration

Method:

Place the butter (or margarine) and water in a saucepan and heat until the fat has melted. Remove from the heat and stir in the flour. Beat until the mixture forms a ball (and leaves the edges of the pan cleanly). Beat the eggs and slowly add them, a little at a time, beating well between each addition. Spoon the pastry mixture into a large piping bag with a plain nozzle and pipe 12 round cakes onto a lightly greased baking sheet (cookie sheet). Bake in the centre of a preheated oven at 200C/400F/Gas Mark 6 for 20/30 minutes until golden brown. Remove from the oven, pierce to allow the steam to escape and then leave to cool. Mix the raspberries and honey. Stir the Drambuie into the whipped cream. Split the buns and fill with the raspberries and cream. Dust with the icing sugar (frosting) and serve immediately.

Glasgow punch



Ingredients:

1 large wedge fresh lime
50ml/2fl oz. aged rum
1 lemon, juiced and zested, mixed with 2 tsp. caster sugar
4 small chunks fresh pineapple
1 pinch fresh nutmeg

Method:

Place all the ingredients in a cocktail shaker with a handful of ice and shake hard.

Strain the cocktail into a small wine cup and garnish with a pinch of nutmeg and serve.

By: Brian Diamond

A Good Wee Boy

Canadian Brian Diamond has developed a collection of short humorous stories which were written to create a book that he could give to his 13 grandchildren. The stories are 100% true and accurately portray his childhood growing up in a tenement in the industrial suburb of Springburn in Glasgow in the 1940's and 50's.

September 1948, I am about to start school at five years old and "I really don't want to go". I am not going I say to my mother, "Aye you are going" says she. "I'm sick" I say, "to bad" she replies, as she is dragging me out the door, "I need to go to the toilet", "there is one in school, you can go there". So, there I am, hanging on to the door handle for dear life, tears blinding me, and she drags me off to the tram car where I roared all the way to school. She left me there and when they let us out for playtime, the gate was open, no lock down then, and I was off. I followed the tram lines all the way home and arrived home with a great big smile at my achievement. That's when I got my first lesson about being 'A good Wee Boy'. This is the introduction to the following Tenement Tales of trying to grow up a good wee boy in Springburn, and other observations of my youth..

A day of fun and adventure

It was in August 1950/51, I was 7 or 8 years old, school had finished weeks ago, the sun was up, and another wonderful day was about to dawn, or so I thought. Today, with my mother's approval, I am going to Springburn Public Park with my friends for a day of fun and adventure, and somewhere around mid-morning we set off. We went bird nesting looking for eggs, fished in the duck pond, got on the paddle boats, played football in the grass with visions of Hamden Park in our heads. I took off my shirt revealing my natty string vest and lay down on the grass to try to get a suntan, no one ever told me that fair skinned, red headed kids don't tan well. It was mid-afternoon, the sun was scorching, and within minutes I was blissfully asleep having used up so much energy in the course of the day. When I awoke, I was quite surprised to see that my skin was red and starting to tingle some, none of this was quite as bad as the crisscross pattern that I had over the front of my body, so we all laughed and off to play more football. I don't remember eating much, but the day seemed to pass in a flash and suddenly hunger and sunburn pain kicked in, time to go home. I had no idea of time, who had a watch? Even then I doubt if some of us could tell the time, so off home I went, a sore but happy camper looking for a mother's sympathy and a hot supper, fat chance of that.



Glasgow school kids, 1950's.

I lived three stories up at 184 Keppochhill Rd, I ran up the stairs, got to my door and knocked to get in. In a blinding flash of movement, the door opened, a hand shot out and grabbed me, while the other hand cuffed me solidly on the ear. Seeing stars, I yelled, "what was that for" only to hear the motherly reply "Do you know what time it is" followed rapidly by "and where have you been all day". I was playing in the park all day I cried, the pain in my ear rapidly replacing the pain on my crisscross chest, clearly sympathy was on short call tonight. I don't know what time it is I say, it's still day light outside, I was just playing in the park and never done anything wrong I say. Now this is the point in the story where my motto "the truth always wins" becomes applicable. "You are telling a lie" my mother says, "no it's the truth, I was at the park all day", "no, you were not" was the curt reply from my mother, "I was, I was, I was" I say. At this point my mother says "You were not at the park because your father went up there looking for you and the park gates were locked, so your father started to climb over the gates and the police came, caught him doing this (awful thing) and arrested him, he is now in jail because of you, gag." So I was packed off to bed, nothing to eat, certainly no sympathy, crying my eyes out that my father was a jailbird because of me, and all through this I had told the truth, done nothing wrong and was consumed with the injustice of it all.

The truth always wins

Little did I know that mother had lied to me, my father of course was not in jail, he was working the night shift at the Caley, hence his absence from the house. If only I had been smart enough to realize this, I could have avoided my second ear bashing which was yet to come, but who would ever have thought that your mother would lie to you. After a disturbed night's sleep picturing my father in jail, I got up the next morning determined to be a 'Good Boy'. I wanted to get back in mother's good books so I was receptive to doing anything that my mother asked without question. She asked me to go down to Mrs. Davidson's, the shop at the close and buy rolls and milk for the family breakfast, I was up and down the three flights of stairs like a shot returning with the messages as she called them. At this point I should provide the readers with a little background on Mrs. Davidson. Mrs. Davidson was Springburn's answer to the Spanish Inquisition, she was super nice to kids and had an MBA in extracting nuggets of information from unsuspecting kids and broadcasting the news simultaneously.

In today's world, Mrs. Davidson would have been bigger than the internet, Facebook, and Twitter combined, at that time she was bigger than the BBC, her only competitor. You can no doubt see where this is going, no redemption for this 'Good Boy'.



Springburn Public Park.

About now, my mother was starting to feel a little sorry for me, I was just so contrite and clearly repentant for sending my father to jail, so in place of the frosty faced thousand yard stare that I had been getting, my mother started to talk to me." Did you sleep well?", "no, well don't worry everything will be just fine your dad will be coming home today OK son." At this I brightened up considerably, "so did you meet anyone when you were out for the rolls" she asked, "no only Mrs. Davidson" I reply. "What was Mrs. Davidson saying this morning" she asks, "nothing much" I replied. "She asked me why I was looking so unhappy as I was generally such a happy cheery wee boy, so I told her that my father was in jail", "AHHHHHHHHHHH you did WHAT!!!" screams my mother, smack, there goes my other ear. My mother then

impersonates a rocket launch by doing a vertical lift off from her chair and bounds down three flights of stairs three at a time, I was impressed as I never would have guessed that my mother was that agile. Straight into Mrs. Davidson's wee shop she runs to explain the faux pas "he's not in jail, he's working the night shift, I only did it to frighten Brian etc., etc." "Sure, sure" says Mrs. Davidson, alas, sadly, mother was too late, the broadcast had already been sent and at least half of Keppochhill Rd by now knew that Matt Diamond was a jailbird, my mother was mortified. Later in life she would laugh hysterically at this with me and although sad at the time it is still a fond memory that I wanted to share with all you younger parents out there, don't make up stories that could haunt you in the future, 'the truth always wins'.

A Dram fit for a King

A new blended whisky from the homeland of Robert the Bruce has been crowned the official dram of Netflix's epic take on the life of the Scottish legend. Outlaw King, named after the film, has been created by Annandale Distillery in Dumfries & Galloway to celebrate the 14th century monarch, the 7th Lord of Annandale who grew up in the region and became one of Scotland's greatest historical figures.

The new blend was unveiled at an exclusive one-off event at Annandale Distillery last month. The special open day was attended by *Outlaw King* stars James Cosmo and Tony Curran, director David Mackenzie and producer Gillian Berrie, and co-producers Danny McGrath and Brian Coffey. The distillery reopened in 2014 following an extensive restoration project to bring whisky production back to Dumfries & Galloway after almost 100 years. The Outlaw King whisky features premium Single Malt and Grain Scotch whiskies, including Annandale's peaty, smoky Single Malt, Man O'Sword.

Two of Scotland's biggest industries

Outlaw King was released globally on Netflix, which has 130 million paid memberships in more than 190 countries, on 9 November. Shot entirely in Scotland (according to the borders of 1320) it is the largest production to be made in the country to date.

The film charts the story of Robert the Bruce (played by Chris Pine), from defeated nobleman in 1304 to victorious King of Scots at the Battle of Loudoun Hill in 1307.



Annandale Distillery.

Paula Ward, VisitScotland Regional Leadership Director, said: "The launch of this new whisky brings together two of Scotland's biggest industries. Film tourism is booming in Scotland, with Netflix's *Outlaw King* one of the most recent films to feature the country on-screen. Whisky tourism also plays an important role in the visitor experience, particularly for our international visitors, with one in five visiting a distillery as part of their trip and many more sampling it in our bars and restaurants. We're delighted to support this event in Dumfries & Galloway which brings the region's connections to Robert the Bruce and our national drink to the fore."

David Thomson, co-owner of Annandale Distillery, said: "Annandale Distillery is located at the very heart of Bruce's lands in Annan. It is therefore only fitting that our Man O'Sword peated Single Malt should be at the very heart of Outlaw King Blended Scotch Whisky, giving it an edge that's as keen as the blade of Bruce's great sword."

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



By: Eric Bryan

The shores of Loch Linnhe at Onich, Scotland. Ad Meskens, Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported licence.

Born in 1836 in a small, isolated house on the shores of Loch Linnhe at Kingairloch, Argyll, John Gregorson Campbell was one of that unconventional breed of Scottish churchmen who had a curious interest in Celtic folklore. Indeed, rather than condemning such archaic beliefs and traditions of their parishioners, these Scottish men of the cloth took great care to collect them from the mouths of Highland storytellers, commit them to paper, and preserve them through publication in magazines and books.

Campbell was the second son and fourth born of Helen MacGregor and Captain Campbell, officer of the vessel *Cygnet*. According to a memoir drawn on material from Campbell's sister (published in 1895), their father's ancestors were cursed by what Campbell described as a fairy washerwoman, or Bean Shith, who had proclaimed that the Campbell progeny should "grow like the rush and wither like the fern". This colourful and frightening family inheritance played a part in fuelling Campbell's preoccupation with Celtic myth and legend.

In about 1839 the Campbell family moved to Appin, where the young Campbell attended the local parochial school until he reached the age of 10 years. Here he walked to and from school over a hillside and through a valley, experiences which instilled in him a deep and lifelong love for and understanding of nature. He then moved on to a school in Glasgow, and finally to the University of Glasgow. Campbell chose to study law, but folklore was his real interest. Appointed Secretary to the Glasgow University Ossian Society, in 1858 Campbell obtained a licence to preach from the Presbytery of Glasgow. Ill health however prevented him starting work in this capacity, but he made productive use of his recuperation time by starting his compendium of Celtic folk matter.

In 1861 the Duke of Argyll appointed Campbell a Free Church clergyman of the united parishes of Coll and Tiree. Though there were initial objections from some Tiree parishioners that Campbell's sermons were less than sparkling, he served as minister of both parishes for 30 years. Despite his church duties, Campbell remained dedicated to the collection of Celtic folk material, an activity that took him across the Highlands and the

Hebrides, and which was greatly assisted by his fluency in Scottish Gaelic and knowledge of a number of other languages.

Celtic lore

Campbell meticulously took down the tales as the storytellers narrated them, only occasionally interjecting his own observations. Though other Scottish clergymen were dismissive of their parishioners' folk beliefs, some regarding them as pagan superstitions, Campbell remained respectful of the illiterate storytellers who dictated the old tales and ballads to him. He considered these people highly intelligent, and valued them for retaining and providing a valuable cultural resource. Throughout the late 19th century, in parallel with his ministerial work, Campbell continued to cheerfully add to his cache of Celtic lore. Some of the stories which Campbell collected were published in March 1881 in the premiere issue of the quarterly *Scottish Celtic Review*, and more followed in the three subsequent volumes of the Review. From 1888 – 1892, the Gaelic Society of Inverness published more tales supplied by Campbell. His work also appeared in *Celtic Magazine* and *Highland Monthly*.

When you consider what knowledge of Celtic heritage might have slipped a way and been forgotten without Campbell's commitment, it becomes clear that his achievement deserves our gratitude.

Campbell's first compendium was *The Fians*, a combat-themed collection of verse and tales, published in 1891 as Volume IV of the *Argyllshire Series Waifs and Strays of Celtic Tradition*. The author however was not to witness the publication of the book. Campbell's health had been declining – a process which accelerated after his mother died at Tiree in 1890 – and he passed away on 22 November 1891.

Collections of Campbell's work continued to be published posthumously. His second compilation, *Clan Traditions and Popular Tales of the Western Highlands and Islands* (Volume V in the Argyllshire Series) appeared in 1895. *Superstitions*

of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and *Witchcraft and Second Sight in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland* were published in 1900 and 1902, respectively.

The Fians contains traditions, poems and tales of Fionn mac Cumhaill (often spelt 'MacCool' in English) and his warrior band. Fionn was a warrior and hunter who figures prominently in Irish mythology, but also in the folk traditions of the Isle of Man and Scotland. The literature of Fionn and his followers (called Fianna) make up the Fenian Cycle. The narrator of much of the work is the character Oisín, a poet who is also Fionn's son.

Folktales and fables

Clan Traditions and Popular Tales of the Western Highlands and Islands' six chapters cover such subjects as legendary history, fairies and games, and include folktales and fables. The volume also has an appendix which contains letters from fellow folklorist Campbell of Islay, 'A Tradition of Morar', some lines of verse mentioning the Campbell clan, and an anecdote on how Port-nan-long (Newtonferry) got its name. Campbell's sister Jessie Wallace was responsible for the selection of the materials in this collection.

Superstitions of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland is made up of 12 chapters. The book's topics include fairies, water-horses, premonitions and prophecies, and the Devil. Using the words 'Elfin' and 'Fairy' interchangeably, Campbell here noted that fairy legends from one district tended to agree and mesh with those of another. Aspects of fairies explored in the book include their size, dwellings, food and occupations. Also covered are fairy theft, changelings, 'Circumstances under which Fairies are seen', fairy raids, elfin cats and protection against fairies.

Witchcraft and Second Sight in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland's six chapters cover black and white witchcraft, second sight, hobgoblins, the Celtic calendar and other subjects. The white witchcraft chapter comprises various charms and cures, and includes descriptions of the healing properties of trees and plants such as mountain ash, pearlwort, St John's Wort, juniper and yarrow. The black witchcraft chapter lists what forms such witches could take, notes some supposed famous witches, and helpfully offers 'Counter-Charms' and 'How to Detect Witches'.

Described as having been a tall man with rich, lively blue eyes, Campbell was known for his kindly manner and shrewd, caustic wit. His education in law enabled him to assist in settling many disputes amongst his parishioners. In executing this office, he was evidently for the most part much respected and trusted by the members of his flock. Though his death at age 54 or 55 appears to follow the Bean Shith's family curse, in a way Campbell triumphed over the fairy's condemnation through his collection and publication of volumes of Celtic lore. Campbell's works continue to be printed to this day, being widely available in conventional book format, e-book and online. When you consider what knowledge of Celtic heritage might have slipped away and been forgotten without Campbell's commitment, it becomes clear that his achievement deserves our gratitude.

Campbell of Islay

John Francis Campbell (1821 – 1885), also known as Campbell of Islay or Young John of Islay in reference to his birthplace in Argyll, Inner Hebrides, was a Scottish scholar of Celtic studies. Regarded as an expert on the Gaelic peoples and Celtic folklore, he corresponded with John Gregorson Campbell about their shared interests and knowledge of the subjects.

Conversant in eight languages besides English, Campbell of Islay journeyed throughout the Highlands, bringing along scribes to take down the West Highland stories, Fenian ballads, anecdotes, verse and charms which he collected from storytellers along the way. He authored *Popular Tales of the West Highlands*, published in four volumes in 1860–62; and *The Celtic Dragon Myth*, which George Henderson edited and contributed to, published posthumously in 1911.

In 1874 Campbell went on a world tour, travelling through America, Japan, China, Java, India and Ceylon. He also invented the Campbell-Stokes recorder, an instrument which notes the number of hours of bright sunshine each day. The device, sometimes called a Stokes sphere, is noted for its simplicity in design and ease of operation, and remains in use today.



'The Intruder', by Ernest Griset from *The Fians*, depicting the Fianna and their hounds awakened from a subterranean enchanted slumber by an interloper. Public Domain



A beach on Tiree. Milady G, Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported licence.



The shore of Loch Breachacha on Coll, with the old (at right) and new castles in the distance. Euan Nelson, CC BY-SA 2.0.

National Trust for Scotland opens multimillion pound rescue project to save Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Hill House



The National Trust for Scotland has also built a new café and visitor centre, meaning even more people can experience the house and learn about Charles and Margaret Mackintosh and the Blackie family whom the house was built for.

Simon Skinner, Chief Executive Officer of National Trust for Scotland said: "The box is incredibly impressive in itself and being able to see the house from angles that Mackintosh could only dream of takes your breath away. But it's more than that. We've completely rethought how the house and its history is presented and when people come to the Hill House they'll see how a house like this became a home to a family. There are surprises at every turn and no two visits will be the same. It's an active, evolving conservation project and there's nothing like it anywhere else. The Hill House is an exceptional place and our approach to rescuing it is as unique as Mackintosh's vision. What we're doing at The Hill House is really what the Trust is about. We're taking a radical approach to conservation and making sure that what we love about Scotland is here for future generations."



out and let conservators begin their work rescuing this iconic home. The total cost of rescuing the Hill House will be in the region of £4.5 million. Of this, £3 million is being drawn down from the National Trust for Scotland's reserves with the remaining £1.5 million coming from donations to the largest single fundraising campaign ever undertaken by the charity. In addition, the Getty Foundation made a grant of £95,000 in 2015 through its Keeping It Modern initiative towards finding a solution to the house's problems. Donations came from many generous benefactors as part of the Trust's largest ever appeal, including the National Trust for Scotland USA Foundation.

Mackintosh's all-encompassing approach to design

It may take up to three years for the house to dry out fully before conservation work can begin in earnest. The National Trust for Scotland will then need to develop a long-lasting solution, and implement it. This means the Hill House Box may have to stay in place for between seven and ten years. The Hill House Box's design includes several walkways around the upper levels and over the roof. These will provide a totally new way to experience the house and Mackintosh's design, as well as offering stunning views over the Clyde estuary.



Charles Rennie Mackintosh was at the peak of his architectural career when he was commissioned to create the Hill House. He had just finished the first half of the Glasgow School of Art a few years earlier and, working together with his wife Margaret Macdonald, he produced a design masterpiece. The Hill House stands out amongst other Arts & Craft and Art Nouveau houses in the UK because it has survived intact for so long. The house has original furnishings, fixtures and fittings in situ – all of which were part of Mackintosh's all-encompassing approach to design. Both the interior of the Hill House itself and the Box will be accessible to the public over the course of the rescue process and they will be able to watch conservators at work.

Did you know?

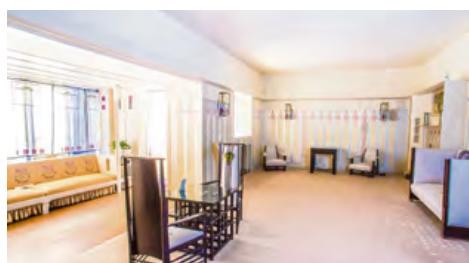
- Charles Rennie Mackintosh, the son of a police superintendent, was born in Glasgow on 7 June 1868. (He was christened McIntosh but, like his father, adopted the 'Mack' later).
- He enrolled at Glasgow School of Art in 1884. After completing his apprenticeship in 1890, he met his future wife Margaret MacDonald, her sister Frances and, together with his friend, Herbert McNair, they became known as 'The Four' who created the 'Glasgow Style' of architecture and interior design.
- The Glasgow publisher Walter Blackie commissioned Mackintosh to design the house in 1902 and construction was complete in 1904 at a cost of £6,652. Mackintosh also designed the furniture for the main rooms, fittings and decorative schemes, while his wife, Margaret Macdonald, contributed fabric designs and a unique gesso panel.
- Mackintosh made use of a then new material – Portland cement – to form a smooth layer of render. The once-experimental finish has allowed extensive moisture ingress from the day it was first applied.
- The Hill House proved to be incredibly influential in Europe, becoming especially inspiring to the German Bauhaus school and architectural/design movement, which in turn inspired much mid-late 20th century architecture.
- The Hill House Box is a semi-transparent shelter around the main house, consisting of a steel roof and a frame encased in chainmail, completed in June 2019.
- The Hill House Box uses 165 tonnes of steel.
- The chainmail is made in Germany and primarily used in safety clothing including bullet-proof vests. It has never been used on this scale before.
- The structure is fully demountable, reusable and recyclable.

Wrapped in the world's largest chainmail structure, with walkways snaking over the chimney pots, the National Trust for Scotland has opened the doors to its most ambitious conservation project yet. Owned by the Trust since 1982, the Hill House in Helensburgh is considered to be the finest example of domestic architecture by Charles Rennie Mackintosh. However, Mackintosh's experimental design, combined with his trial of new materials has meant that the house has been soaking up water like a sponge for over 115 years.

Iconic home

Battered by around 190 days of rain a year, the long-term survival of the building is in doubt and there is a real danger of its priceless, Mackintosh-designed interior being lost forever. The Hill House Box is the National Trust for Scotland's innovative solution to the problem of water damage at the Hill House and to permanently save the property and its irreplaceable collection. Designed by award-winning architects Carmody Groarke, the Hill House Box is a vast semitransparent shelter around the main house, consisting of a 165 tonnes steel frame swathed in chainmail made up of 32.4million rings, themselves weighing 8.3 tonnes.

The Box acts as a giant shield covering the entire building. It will protect it from the rain while allowing the house to dry



Student reveals the face of Iron Age female druid



Karen Fleming coming face to face with Hilda.

A University of Dundee student has revealed the face of one of Scotland's oldest druids, believed to have been more than 60 years old when she died during the Iron Age. Karen Fleming, an MSc Forensic Art & Facial Identification student, has recreated the head of a woman believed to have been from Stornoway, on the Isle of Lewis. The 3D wax reconstruction depicts a toothless female, nicknamed 'Hilda', believed to have been well into her 60s, an impressive feat itself. Karen says Hilda, although thousands of years old, displays many physical attributes that remain recognisable today.

Karen, from Edinburgh, said, "Hilda was a fascinating character to recreate. It's clear from the skull she was toothless before she died, which isn't too surprising considering the diet of folk back then, but it was impressive how long she lived. A female's life expectancy at this time was roughly 31 years but it is now thought

that living longer during the Iron Age is indicative of a privileged background. It's impossible to know for sure when she died as we were unable to carbon date the skull, but assuming the information in the journal from 1833 is correct, Hilda passed away anytime between 55BC to 400AD and was of Celtic origin. I think she looks like many older women I've met in my life and I'm proud of that."

Ancient skull

Painstakingly reproducing features in wax, Karen said this year's heatwave almost melted Hilda before she had been brought back to life.

"It's funny to say it now but I had to keep parts of Hilda, like her wax modelled ears, in the fridge for most of the summer. As a mature student who commutes from Edinburgh, I often had to keep her cool in the car, strapped up in the passenger seat. I'm sure that's a sight passers-by won't forget seeing."

Hilda was recreated from an ancient skull held at The University of Edinburgh's Anatomical Museum and is described as one of six 'Druids of the Hebrides' skulls presented to the Phrenological Society of Edinburgh in 1833.

The MSc Forensic Art & Facial Identification course began in 2007 and covers a wide range of subjects, notably facial anthropology and identification, such as two and three-dimensional facial reconstruction, craniofacial superimposition, post-mortem depiction, composite art and age progression. Students on the course are taught by specialists from scientific backgrounds and experienced forensic art supervisors from the Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification (CAHID) and Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design (DJCAD). Potential careers in forensic art and facial identification exist within the police force and overseas law enforcement, as well as with private companies and in research.



A digital reconstruction of 'Hilda' by MSc Forensic Art student Karen Fleming.

Fort George marks 250th anniversary



Festival at the Fort took place in August to mark the 250th anniversary of Fort George. The event featured a programme of family-friendly activity, historical re-enactment, music, dance and song. Re-enactment performances told the story of the Jacobite risings and the building of Fort George. Visitors met costumed characters in the history encampments and hear the stories of Jacobites as well as those who were involved in the construction of the fortress. There was also a 1940s/Second World War zone, with tents and vehicles teaching visitors about the important role Fort George played as a training base.

Gillian Urquhart, Events Manager at HES, said: "Fort George is one of the most outstanding fortifications in Europe. This is a fantastic chance for anyone who has never visited before to discover why and how it was constructed and find out more about its present-day use."

Fort George is one of over 70 staffed Historic Scotland attractions managed by HES. It was built in the wake of the Battle of Culloden as a secure base for King George II's army and is one of the most outstanding fortifications in Europe.

By: Colin Dewar, Chieftain

The Thistle Club The online club for all Scots



Chieftain Colin Dewar.

As a born and bred Scotsman (Fife) and now living in the USA, I am constantly amazed by the amount of people I meet who tell me they too are Scottish and who speak of Scotland with such great enthusiasm and pride.

The reason for my amazement is that most of these people have never set foot in Scotland (and they certainly don't have the cool accent) but they love to tell me the story of their family history or the origin of their last name.

I realized that we share a common passion for our country and I wanted to create an online platform where we can connect with other like-minded Scots who have their roots either planted firmly in Scotland or growing somewhere else around the world. It is impossible to explain why we are such a patriotic bunch, but only Scots will understand that.

Scotland was born in us

We do not have to be born in Scotland - because Scotland was born in us! The obvious choice was to create a Facebook group, I did that and soon amassed over 1,000 members but it was obvious that these were a dime a dozen (and I did not want to be just another Scottish Facebook group) so even though I had no experience, I decided to create a dedicated website and thethistleclub.com was electronically born. The website has a community forum where every Scot around the world can ask and answer questions on all Scottish related topics and an interesting blog page where we are happy for guest bloggers to contribute.

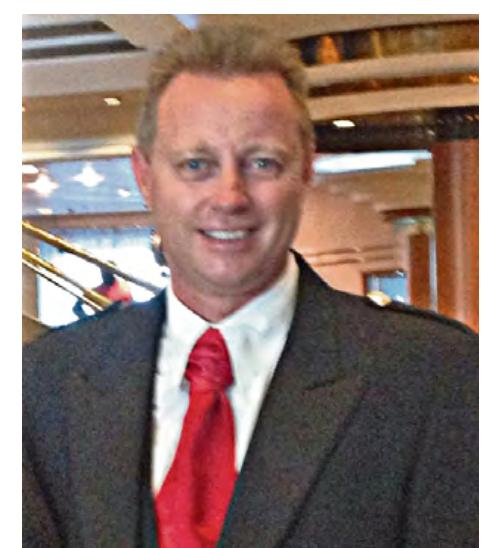
It was also very important to me to create an opportunity for us all to be able to contribute back to the country we love, and I am delighted and proud to say that we



chose Keep Scotland Beautiful as our partner charity. This is the charity for Scotland's environment and you can see more information about their great cause and activities at www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org

In these modern social media times where the world is obsessed with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc it is great to know that there is a place that was created by a Scot, for Scots and I invite everyone with Scottish heritage or just a love for Scotland to join the club.

For details on The Thistle Club see: www.thethistleclub.com



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- GLEN OF THE CLANS 100 Clans
- IRISH STEP DANCING
- SOCCER TOURNAMENT
- RUGBY & SHINTY TOURNAMENTS
- CHILDREN'S GLEN
- SHEEP DOG TRIALS
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