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the Scottish Banner

A' Bhratach Albannach

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Sir Jackie Stewart

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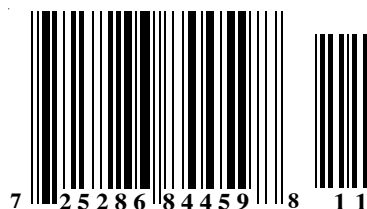


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**the
Scottish Banner**

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The Banner Says...

Celebrating St Andrew



by Sean Cairney

As we enter the second last month of this decade it appears to not be a quiet end to the year. Depending where you live things tend to either really heat up or cool down and as the festive season quickly approaches there is much to look forward to. One event of course that is particular to Scots is St Andrews Day on November 30th with celebrations by the Scottish community taking place across the world.

Patron Saint

Perhaps I should correct myself as St Andrew is not simply just the patron Saint of Scotland, in fact he is the patron Saint of Greece, Ukraine, Russia, Italy's Amalfi region, Barbados and more. Andrew is also the patron saint of singers, spinsters, maidens, fishmongers, fishermen, women wanting to be mothers, gout and sore throats. And whilst Andrew was not Scottish his connection with Scotland relates to the legend that some of his remains were kept at the site that is now the town of St Andrews.

Born around 6 B.C in a place near Galilee, Andrew was a fisherman by trade, brother to Peter and the first to sign up as an apostle – leading to him having a seat at the last supper. Legend has it that Andrew was crucified on the x-shaped cross – from which the design for Saltire sprang from – in the city of Patras, Greece, in 60 AD. The strange shape of the cross was devised at St Andrew's own request as he himself felt that he was not worthy to be killed upon the same style of crucifix as Jesus. This of course would become the inspiration of the Saltire flag we see proudly flying today.

St Andrew has been celebrated in Scotland for over a thousand years, with records showing that feasts honouring him date as far back as the year 1000 AD. In 1320 AD, when Scotland gained its own independence through the signing of The Declaration of Arbroath, St Andrew officially became Scotland's patron saint.

The town of St Andrews is named after him with many believing that some of his remains (rumoured to be a kneecap, arm and finger bone) are buried there after being brought in exile from Europe to protect them from forces looking to destroy any remnants of the original disciples.

Today, St Andrew's Day is marked with a celebration of Scottish culture with traditional Scottish food, music and dance.

There are hundreds of St Andrew's Societies spread across the world with The St. Andrew's Society of Charleston in the US state of South Carolina, founded in 1729, believed to be the oldest.

In this issue

The reach of Scotland's history was highlighted recently at the Douglas Days Festival in Teba, Spain. The festival plays homage to the 700-year-old legend about the exploits of Sir James Douglas. The Scottish knight, also known as the Black Douglas, was tasked with taking the embalmed heart of King Robert the Bruce to the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. This historic event is marked by both Scots and Spaniards and the town is now linked to both nations.

This month as we reflect on the horrors of war and the sacrifice of so many on Remembrance Day, it was great to learn about a mild-mannered Scot whose story has again surfaced out of the tragedy of war. Company Sergeant Major James Hamilton Savage persuaded the Nazis to allow him to become a beekeeper whilst being kept behind bars in a PoW camp. This fascinating Scot faced some dark days but used sweet honey to fill his days and provide some nourishment for the prisoners, this must be one of many stories of survival and I am so glad we are able to share it.

Have you ever called yourself or someone a dunce? Well I was surprised to learn the word originated from the a hugely influential but little-known Scottish philosopher, John Duns Scotus, who lived in the late 13th to early 14th centuries. Duns Scotus was an ardent internationalist who lived in Scotland, England and on the continent. He developed a philosophical justification for Scots to abandon the cause of John Balliol based on the idea of a social contract between rulers and ruled, one of the earliest articulations of a philosophy that would go on to underpin the French and American Revolutions.

A nation that is proud of its heritage

Scotland has the reputation of being a nation that is proud of its heritage. Today, St Andrew's Day is marked with a celebration of Scottish culture with traditional Scottish food, music and dance. In 2006 the Scottish Government declared November 30th a public holiday and it is also the day that marks the start if the winter festivals encompassing Saint Andrew's Day, Hogmanay and Burns Night. Many customs and folk superstitions are also connected to St Andrew's Day, perhaps the most unique being around midnight on 29 November, the night before St Andrew's Day, when it was traditional for girls to pray to St Andrew for a husband. Or a girl wishing to marry could throw a shoe at a door. If the toe of the shoe pointed in the direction of the exit, then she would marry and leave her parents' house within a year.

So regardless if you are looking for a husband or not, make sure you take part in celebrating St Andrew's Day, it does not have to be at a gala event but a nod to Scotland in any way you see fit. Perhaps wear some tartan, raise a dram, listen to the pipes, try some Scottish food or attend a St Andrew's Day function or ceilidh-just have some fun in celebrating our culture.

And whilst celebrations will no doubt be a part of this month, so too will be reflection. I will join millions of people across the world and stop on November 11th to observe the tradition of Remembrance Day on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them." 🌹

How are you celebrating St Andrew's Day? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us



Gracing our front cover:
Jim Clark's nephew Callum at the Jim Clark Museum in Duns.
Photo: Tony March.



New research highlights threats facing Edinburgh's Royal Mile



New research published by Edinburgh World Heritage concerning the authenticity of the Royal Mile reveals the threats and opportunities facing the historic thoroughfare in the heart of the Old Town. The research shows that the appeal of the famous succession of five separate streets is due to the historic character of its buildings, architecture, and streets, but that much of its local character is being lost, and that the ubiquitous gift and souvenir shops which line the Royal Mile are undermining its authenticity.

Research highlights:

- The historic buildings, Scottish architecture, setted streets, wynds and closes, are seen by visitors and residents as authentic, and are at the core of what makes the area so attractive.
- However, the Royal Mile is losing its local character. The research shows that visitors associate the area with 'being surrounded by foreigners' more than 'hearing local Scottish accents'.

- The retail sector, more specifically the gift and souvenir shops, are not seen as authentic by visitors. Additionally, discussions with shop assistants reveal that shoppers' desire to purchase high-quality Scottish products is to some extent being frustrated, both by shops selling lower-quality mass produced items, most of which are made outside of Scotland, as well as by misleading sales claims.
- Visitors from different countries react in different ways. Italian and Scottish visitors in particular did not find the gift shops authentic. However, Chinese visitors were more troubled by traffic congestion, inappropriate building works and new development in and around the Royal Mile as well as rubbish on the street.

Edinburgh World Heritage conclude the report with a wide-ranging series of recommendations including calls to strengthen efforts to conserve key buildings through grants and expert support. Specifically, the charity calls out the future Transient Visitor Levy as a potential new source of funding to help

repair and conserve buildings and streets requiring repair, or those damaged by climate change or other factors.

Other measures recommended include: strengthening and giving a more prominent voice to local communities in deciding the future of the Royal Mile, and introducing a voluntary 'Made in Scotland' scheme to help support local manufacturers. Clamping down on misleading sales techniques and claims is also recommended, as well as a more proactive approach from the city in shaping the future retail character of the street in the way some other European cities have done.

One of the most celebrated urban thoroughfares to be found anywhere in the world

Adam Wilkinson, Director of Edinburgh World Heritage commented: "The Royal Mile is one of the most celebrated urban thoroughfares to be found anywhere in the world. This research has confirmed that the extraordinary historic environment of the area is central to its appeal and must be conserved and enhanced. The findings have also confirmed what many of us have suspected: that the area risks becoming a tourist ghetto, and that the retail environment is to some extent detracting from the appeal of the Royal Mile. We look forward to working with our partners on a range of actions to secure the long-term success and resiliency of the street."

Edinburgh's Planning Convener, Cllr Neil Gardiner, said: "We all share an ambition to protect and enhance the Old Town's heritage and this timely piece of research underlines the importance of the Royal

Mile –both as a distinctive place to visit and a unique area to live or work. Healthy high streets need new businesses to open and new residents to move in and, to encourage this, the Council is developing plans to reduce the dominance of car traffic as well as seeking powers to control short-term lets. This should help the Royal Mile to be even more people and environmentally friendly, strengthening residential communities and a further enhanced pedestrian friendly public realm. We would also support a voluntary 'Made in Scotland' authentication scheme for businesses selling genuine Scottish products, as well as initiatives to widen the range of goods on offer including links to Edinburgh designers and craftspeople. Edinburgh World Heritage itself leases out a gift shop within the Tron which promotes local producers. The built landscape of the Royal Mile is like no other and is of crucial importance to Edinburgh's identity. Not all of the ideas raised by this report will be immediately feasible but others will and I'm glad to see such a debate being had. It is in all of our interests to see the Royal Mile keep and enhance its authenticity and for the area to meet the needs of current and future residents as well as visitors."



Tourists on the Royal Mile. Photo: Tom Duffin.

Tartan of the Month

St Andrew 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 we celebrate St Andrews Day on November 30th this month we feature the St Andrews Tartan (SRT ref 2625). Created originally as a general tartan for Bowlers and also to celebrate the Seven Hundredth Anniversary of the game at The World Championships at Northfield Park Ayr in the year 2004. It has since adopted to commemorate St Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland. The colours incorporate the blue and white of the St Andrew's Cross with the purple and green of the thistle. This tartan was recorded prior to the launch of The Scottish Register of Tartans and designed in August 1999 by David McGill. For further information please visit www.internationaltartans.co.uk

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SCOT POURRI

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

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

Maintaining Scottish heritage and culture

I would like to outline a few thoughts regarding the difficulties I see in maintaining Scottish heritage and culture, in this day and age.

My main concern, these days, is the lack of younger people joining clan societies and similar organisations. I know that Clan Leslie of Australia and New Zealand, Society of St Andrew and Toowoomba Caledonian Society, are finding it difficult to attract young people to their ranks, and I am sure that many other clubs have seen the same trend. In our busy communities, folk have more to occupy their time than we did 50, 40, 30 or even 20 years ago, so I know it is hard. But we must keep trying!

Australia is a multi-cultural society, and I find that a lot of attention is given to cultures which have arrived here in recent times. We must maintain interest in our Celtic cultures, and for this, I congratulate the organisers of such organisations as the Scottish Australian Heritage Council, the Celtic Council of Australia and Clans Congress, as well as the many Clan Societies out there.

In my particular case, as Commissioner for Clan Leslie, Australia and New Zealand, I feel that our Clan Society is slowly fading, and we will probably find it necessary to integrate with the Clan Leslie Society International, based in North America. While this will allow us to remain in touch with fellow clansmen, we will, of necessity, lose our local "down-under" identity, to a certain extent.

Your excellent publication keeps Scottish affairs to the fore, and through you, I would like to encourage all those of Scots descent to seek out their clan society, or their local Scottish club, join up, help out, and ensure that our great Scottish heritage and traditions are maintained.

Malcolm Leslie D.Ua.

Commissioner

Clan Leslie, Australia & New Zealand

Ed note: Thank you Malcolm for your note and this issue is being felt by Scottish groups across the world. We would love to hear how Clans, societies, bands, groups and clubs are tackling this issue and we will share experiences and initiatives so Scottish interest groups around the world can keep prospering.

Billy Connolly film release

We are so delighted to have won the tickets and can't thank *the Scottish Banner* enough. We have been buying *the Banner* since migrating to Australia in January 1999 and haven't missed a copy. The paper offers so much valuable information into the past, present and future of Scotland, you keep us in touch with the country we are so proud of.

To everybody who work at *the Scottish Banner*, thank you for all the sterling work that you do, your work is so appreciated.

Kindest regards,
Frank and Liz Keith
Sydney, NSW
Australia

Isle of Lewis



Hope you are well and surviving our cold summer unlike Scotland this year. This photo my husband David took a while ago in Lewis perhaps captures the feeling of Scots in the summer.

Trudi Mackenzie

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo



What a joy to read about The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in your October issue (*A Letter from Edinburgh-The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo*). I have been so very fortunate to attend this event and was blown away by the pageantry and spectacle of it all. The feeling of international friendship was evident on the Esplanade and amongst the guests in their seats. Scotland is rightly proud to host such an event with such an incredible history. I was interested to learn the Tattoo will celebrate 70 years next year, what an achievement and I have now decided I will return for the Tattoo's 70th which will no doubt be another amazing celebration!

Congratulations Edinburgh Military Tattoo and thank you *Scottish Banner* for a great read.

Elizabeth Whaite
Calgary, Alberta
Canada

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send your photos or letters via social media



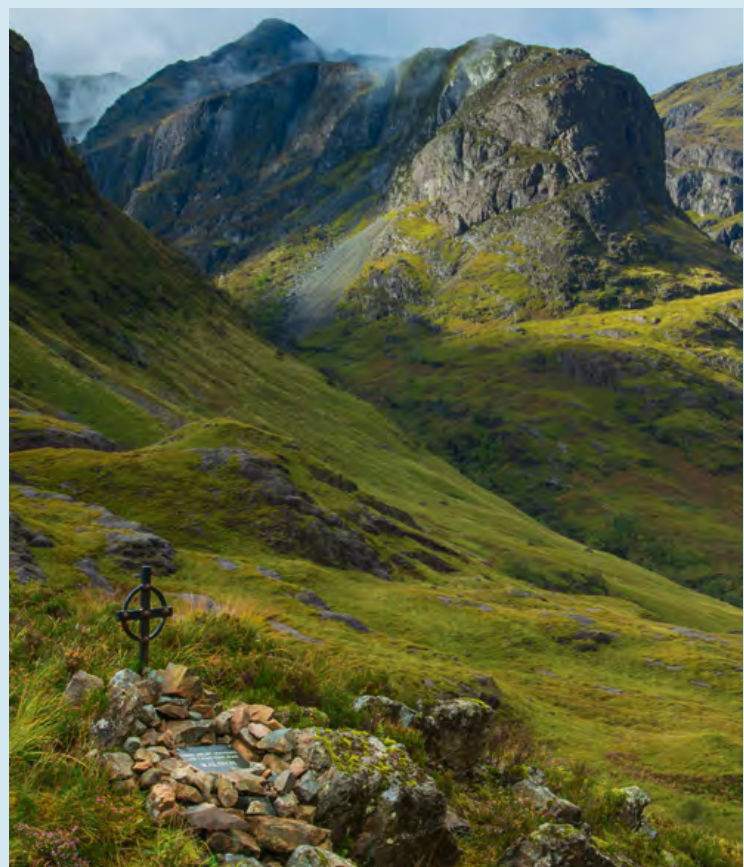
Autumn in Glasgow



Autumn is here in Glasgow, Glasgow Cathedral and The Necropolis.

GN Photography
Scotland

Ralston Cairn



These are my mountains and I have come home- Ralston Cairn.

A View From My Camera
Scotland

Newhaven



Sunset at Newhaven in #Edinburgh last night.

Shutter Bug Shots

US accolade for landmark Scottish attractions

Two of Scotland's premier visitor attractions have been named as must-see destinations for international travellers to visit this year. American news magazine, TIME, one of the most respected and informative guides to the world's events, and famous for its iconic front cover images, has revealed that V&A Dundee and The Macallan Distillery have been listed as two of *The World's Greatest Places 2019*. Part of a selected 100 global destinations to see right now, the two Scottish attractions are joined by the University Arms Cambridge, Cambridge as the only three locations to be listed in the UK.

V&A Dundee

V&A Dundee, an international centre for design for Scotland, was opened in September 2018, and has already attracted more than 750,000 people. Around a quarter of these visitors were reported to have come from the rest of the UK or overseas.

The first ever design museum to be built in the UK outside London, it was designed by internationally acclaimed Japanese architect Kengo Kuma and stands at the centre of a £1 billion transformation of Dundee's waterfront. V&A Dundee has been credited with driving visitor numbers and spend to the city according to the figures released by Dundee City Council earlier this year. Tourists contributed £187 million to the local economy in 2018, an increase of £16m on the previous 12 months, with the number of day visitors to Dundee increasing by 36 per cent to 560,000 in the same period.

The Macallan Distillery

Opened in 2018, The Macallan Distillery Experience in Speyside, is the first distillery developed by internationally renowned architects, Rogers, Stirk, Harbour + Partners and has already received a number of accolades for its innovative design. Echoing the beautiful countryside setting, the building's rolling



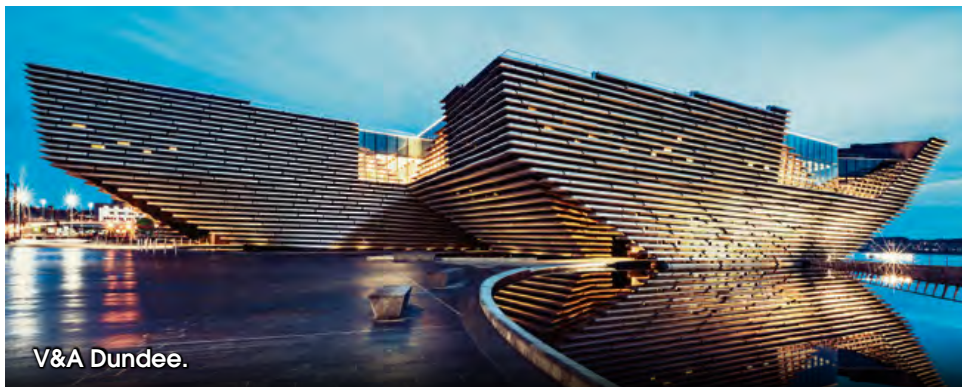
The Macallan Distillery. Photo: Damian Shields/NE250.

roof serves to conceal its ingenious fusion of architecture, whisky technology and an engaging experience that encapsulates the heritage and innovation of The Macallan.

Welcoming visitors from all across the globe, The Macallan has helped Speyside - a region with the highest concentration of whisky distilleries in the world and home to the world-famous Malt Whisky Trail - to further capture the global interest in whisky, a sector worth £3.3 billion to the UK economy.

In response to the inclusion of both attractions being included in *The World's Greatest Places 2019*, Malcolm Roughhead, VisitScotland Chief Executive, said: "The Macallan Distillery and V&A Dundee's

inclusion in this prestigious list of the top 100 places to see in the world this year is testament to both attractions' stature in the UK. I don't think anyone could go to either location and not stand back in awe at these amazing feats of architecture, bringing their surroundings to life, as well as be drawn in to the experiences they offer visitors. Both attractions have been ground-breaking for their respective city and region. They have forged reputations for innovation, creativity, learning, community engagement and unforgettable experiences, helping to elevate the unique characters of both Dundee and Moray Speyside, and of Scotland, and put them on the map as a must-see places to visit."



V&A Dundee.



Did you know?

Balquhider

- Balquhider village properly called 'Kirkton of Balquhider' takes its name from the Gaelic 'Both Chuidir' meaning 'village with fodder'.
- 9th century MacLarens owned the district for several hundred years until forced to share with the MacGregors.
- Rob Roy died here in 1734, and his grave can still be seen in the old graveyard.
- St Angus was the first to bring Christianity to Balquhider.
- Glen Buckie, on the south side of Balquhider Glen, was the scene of one of the last acts of the 1745 Jacobite rising.

- Sir James Black, the winner of the Nobel Prize in medicine and James Cameron, the Canadian film director can both trace their family origins back to Balquhider.
- Sandy Lyle, a Scottish professional golfer, born in 1958, is also linked to Balquhider.
- In the village of Balquhider there are the remains of a number of pre-historic sites including the Pudreag Stone Circle, and a Neolithic burial chamber cairn to the east.



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SCOTSPEAK

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



"I may do another gig, I don't know, I haven't cancelled that idea. But not right now, I'm not ready. I feel different, my mind works differently. I don't know if I can do it with my mind in the state that it's in. And I drool. This is a recent one. It's another gorgeous side of Parkinson's disease. There's a little surprise every month. I'm old, I'm 76 – my hearing, my eyesight, the way I walk, it's all beginning to fail. It's just about accepting what it is. You've got trouble getting into bed, trouble getting your socks on. Just deal with it. That's who you are now. You're a drooling, limping has-been! Get on with it. Enjoy it."

Scottish comedian Sir Billy Connolly said he has not ruled out returning to the stage for a live performance. 'The Big Yin' has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and he retired from live performances five years ago.

"The objective of the research is to determine how the choice of yeast contributes to the complexity of flavours found in Scotch whisky. A huge amount of attention has been given to the type of cask used for maturation, but we want to focus on the early phases of the production process. We want to see what new characteristics we can bring out in a whisky from changing the yeast alone. We believe this is a key area for innovation."

Victoria Muir-Taylor the Knowledge Transfer Partnership Associate Distiller at Port of Leith Distillery said as Heriot-Watt University and the Port of Leith Distillery are undertaking a comprehensive examination of the impact of yeast on the flavours found in Scotch whisky. The project has already identified brewing strains of yeast more commonly used for beer that possess promising characteristics for whisky production, with an ability to maintain the balance between alcohol yields and flavour. Until the mid-20th Century, many whisky distilleries shared yeast with the local brewery or used a combination of a distiller's yeast for alcohol and a brewer's yeast for flavour and mouthfeel.



"As a city we are already heading in the right direction, which is shown by having met our 2020 targets early. And we have many projects already under way that will advance our efforts to de-carbonise. What this report gives us is a route map of what we need to do to accelerate our work and to now aim for a far more ambitious target. It is clear that there is cross-party support within the council for carbon neutrality by 2030 and to reach that target date we need to turn this route map into achievable actions. This is a landmark decision on how we move forward as a city, and also an opportunity to show leadership globally."

Anna Richardson, Glasgow city convener for sustainability and carbon reduction said as a target has been set for Glasgow to become a carbon neutral city by 2030. Acceptance of the aim means a previous target of achieving net-zero emissions was brought forward by seven years for Scotland's largest city.

"Scotch Beef was the first European red meat product to be granted the coveted European Protected Geographic Indication (PGI) status which reflects the unique provenance and quality of this product, and the farming methods behind the production of Scotch Beef are very much part of our Scottish landscape and heritage. We look forward to further developing opportunities to promote and showcase Scotch Beef and Scotch Lamb in Japan."

Quality Meat Scotland chief executive Alan Clarke said as Scotch Beef is back on the menu in Japan for the first time in 23 years. Japan banned imports of British beef and lamb in 1996 following the outbreak of bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

"Way back in November 2009, I headed up Cairn Gorm to enjoy the first day of the snow sports season, never for a moment imagining that day would be the start of a record-breaking achievement. It was an epic ski season and snow lay in the mountains throughout the summer, so I decided to try to ski for 12 consecutive months by hiking up to the remaining snow patches. And then it just kind of snowballed."

Inverness skier Helen Rennie said as she has achieved 120 consecutive months skiing in Scotland's hills and mountains. Rennie managed to find enough snow to ski on every single month for the past 10 years.

"We can confirm that The General Trustees of the Church of Scotland have raised an action against Derek McLennan. As that is now a matter before the court it would be inappropriate for us to provide any further commentary at this time."

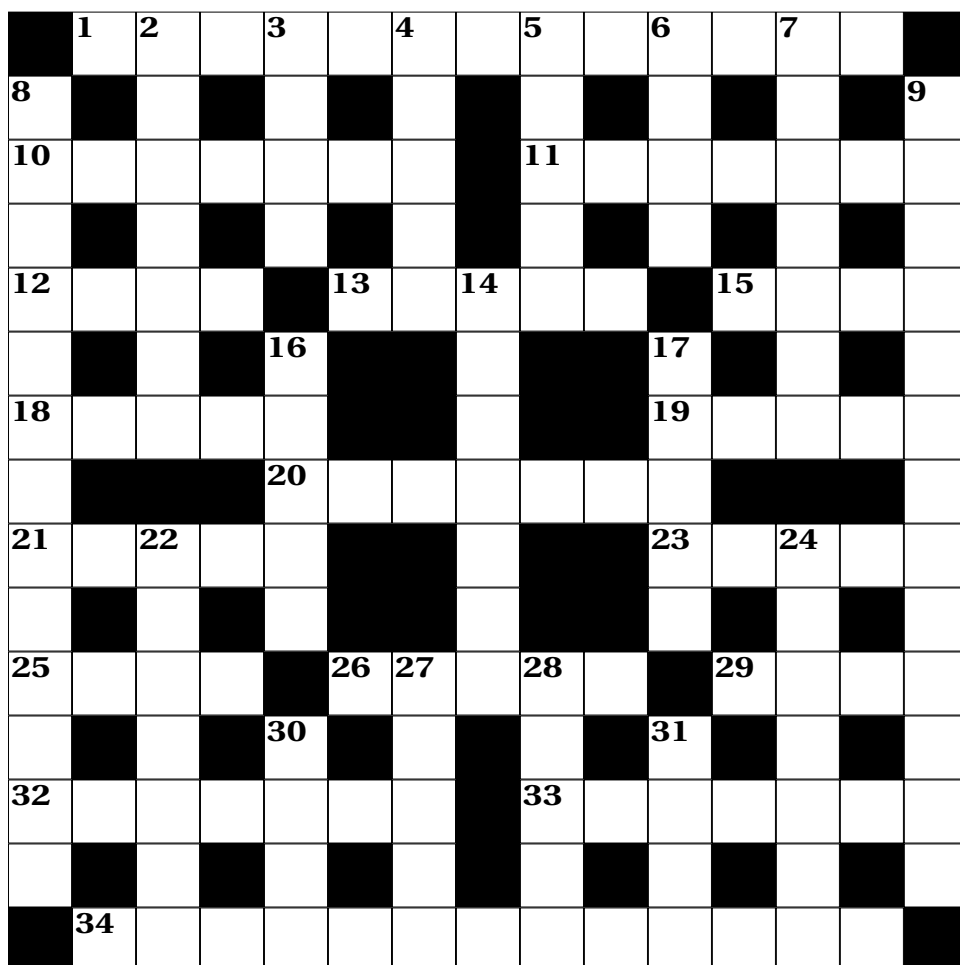
A Church of Scotland spokesperson said as the Church is suing for a share of a £2m Viking treasure trove which was unearthed on land it owns in Dumfries and Galloway. The viking treasures were discovered by a metal detector enthusiast in 2014. The National Museum of Scotland paid almost £2m for the items, which are due to tour Scotland in the next two years.



"As a brand that celebrates originality, we are always looking to break the conventions that have determined how single malt Scotch has historically been enjoyed. The Glenlivet Capsule Collection does exactly that, and we're excited to see how people react when they try our glassless cocktails."

Glenlivet director Miriam Eceolaza said as Scotch whisky company Glenlivet has launched an controversial new product: "The Capsule Collection," which sells whiskey in small, biodegradable pods that dissolve in your mouth. Each capsule contains 23 ml. of whisky cocktail in one of three flavours, described only as citrus, wood and spice.

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 any doubt, you may need a wee peek at a Scots dictionary or map -or if you are really stuck, the answers can be found on page 24. Good Luck!

CLUES ACROSS:

- 1) Jimmy Shand, Bobby MacLeod, etc. (13).
- 10) Contrary to law (7).
- 11) Fool's end! (7).
- 12) Successor (4).
- 13) Scots sweeper (5).
- 15) A Scots child (4).
- 18) Front of the kilt (5).
- 19) A flexible twig (5).
- 20) Catalogues (7).
- 21) Bagpipe part (5).
- 23) A banger (5).
- 25) Monteith is an example (4).
- 26) Abundant (5).
- 29) 6/8 dances (4).
- 32) Irritated (7).
- 33) A couple dance (7).
- 34) The class who hold power (13).

CLUES DOWN:

- 2) He digs fuel! (7).
- 3) Drunken revel (4).
- 4) Edible seaweed (5).
- 5) Surpass (5).
- 6) A notion (4).
- 7) Town east of Musselburgh (7).
- 8) Scots step it out (8, 5).
- 9) Mistaken for old weapons! (13).
- 14) An edging curve (7).
- 16) Beginning (5).
- 17) Oliver's dance (5).
- 22) Northern isles (7).
- 24) Mythical Animal (7).
- 27) Prized reward (5).
- 28) Old instruments (5).
- 30) Ancient Scottish kingdom (4).
- 31) Weaving device (4).

Wood you believe it-The Scottish Tree Festival is back



Mount Stuart Estate on the Isle of Bute.

Some of Scotland's most beautiful and unusual trees will be celebrated once again this year as the Scottish Tree Festival returns for its second year. Organised by national garden tourism group Discover Scottish Gardens and supported by VisitScotland, the Festival aims to inspire local people and tourists to take a trip outdoors and enjoy Scotland's spectacular array of diverse woodlands and gardens.

Over 70 nationwide events will be held to 1st December, from Attadale Gardens in the Highlands to Kailzie Gardens in the Scottish Borders, showcasing Scotland's heritage, exotic and champion trees.

The Festival returns after a highly successful first year with continued participation from the National Trust for Scotland (NTS), Historic Environment Scotland and Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Eight new NTS sites have joined the Festival including, Balmerino Abbey, Branklyn Garden, Drum Castle, Fyvie Castle, Glencoe Woodland, Inverewe Garden, Kellie Castle and Hill of Tarvit offering a range of guided garden and woodland walks, tree trails and tree workshops.

The important role trees play

Ann Steele, Head of Heritage Gardening (Policy) at National Trust for Scotland, said: "The Scottish Tree Festival is a

great way to take a moment to reflect on and acknowledge the important role trees play in our everyday lives. The benefits of trees extend beyond their beauty; from social and communal to economic, health and environmental benefits. Scotland is lucky to have some of the most extraordinary species, rich in heritage and diversity. We are thrilled that our involvement in this year's festival has grown with an increased number of sites taking part and we look forward to welcoming visitors of all ages to our events and activities."

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh also returns to the Festival with a host of garden guided walks and an exhibition celebrating the wonders of wood, along with its Regional Gardens Dawyck, known for spectacular autumn colour, Benmore and Logan Botanic Garden.

For those looking for something a bit different, the University of Edinburgh's Gaelic officer is offering an afternoon of storytelling under the trees in Holyrood Park as part of Historic Environment Scotland's involvement, or visitors can also explore the historic apple orchard at Aberdour Castle and Gardens and learn about the significance of apples in Gaelic culture.

The importance of the longest living species on Earth

A number of new partners have joined the Festival's second year with a range of events and activities. The Enchanted Forest, a pioneering

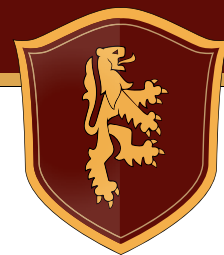
sound and light show exploring the autumn woodland of Faskally Wood near Pitlochry; Floors Castle & Gardens in Kelso with its 200 year old oak trees and Scotland's very first monkey puzzle tree; and the most northerly of Scotland's great houses, Dunrobin Castle in Sutherland, where visitors can enjoy picking apples in the garden and drinking the fresh juice.

In addition, a host of other individual garden owners, nurseries and tree-related activity organisers are also involved providing visitors with multiple opportunities to engage with Scotland's greenspaces and celebrate the longest living species on earth.

Malcolm Roughead, VisitScotland Chief Executive, said: "I am thrilled to see the Scottish Tree Festival return for its second year. With over 70 events taking place across the country this festival offers an opportunity for visitors to experience Scotland's rich autumn colours and reflect on the importance of the longest living species on Earth. Promoting events that share the tourism windfall in lesser known parts of Scotland and out with peak times of the year is key for VisitScotland. Events like this are a great way for visitors to discover new attractions and ensure the benefits of tourism are felt across the country throughout the year."

For more information and event listings for this year's tree festival, please visit:
www.visitscotland.com/blog/events/scottish-tree-festival

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Dark Sky at Night, travellers' delight

There may not be anything so wondrous as to look up to see a clear sky full of stars. In addition, seeing the Northern Lights is on many a travel bucket list. Luckily for travellers in search of stars and the Aurora Borealis, Scotland has some of the largest expanses of dark sky in Europe making it a perfect destination for eager stargazers. Scotland lies at the same latitude as Stavanger in Norway and Nunivak Island in Alaska, which means a visit there is as likely to bring a spotting of the Northern Lights as other destinations.

And with the colder, darker night's drawing in, it is the perfect time to get cosy up north and (hopefully) experience the auroral displays. From Dumfries and Galloway in the south, to the coast of Aberdeenshire further north, to the country's islands & Highlands, to Scotland's cities - a dazzling trip to Scotland is not too far away.

The Northern Lights

Head to Aberdeenshire and the Moray coast, where there are plenty of clear skies and limited pollution (essential for a chance to spot the light displays). Visit Rattray Head Lighthouse or Cullykhan Bay near Fraserburgh, or Cullen Bay.

Located over 100 miles north of the Scottish mainland, Shetland is also a magical place from which to potentially get a glimpse of the Northern Lights (known locally in Shetland as the 'Mirrie Dancers'). Stay in a lighthouse or take to Eshaness for the majestic views and history.

Visitors to Scotland's towns and cities may also be in with a chance with seeing the lights, with the potential to spot from Calton Hill or Arthur's Seat in Edinburgh, or along towards Angus and Dundee, if the aurora is very strong. Fife and St Andrews has also had its share of auroral displays on a clear night in the autumn and winter.

Star light, star bright

The best time to go stargazing is when there is no bright moon at night and when the sun has set enough so that twilight does not affect observations. Locations identified as 'Dark Sky Sites' are only dark during these times, equating to about two weeks every lunar month. Some of the best places to go stargazing in Scotland include:

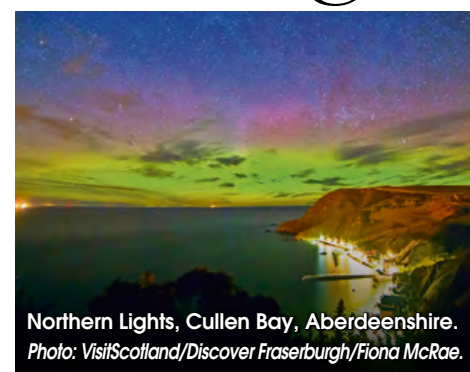
- Dumfries & Galloway, home to Galloway Forest Park, which has glens, lochs and some of the highest hills in southern Scotland. With so few buildings and very limited light pollution it was a natural choice to be the first Dark Sky Park to be named as such in the UK. A visit to the Scottish Dark Sky Observatory is a must, as is meeting with a Dark Sky Ranger at one of the visitor centres. Also head to Moffat, the UK's first Dark Sky Town.
- With the high quality of the night skies, the Tomintoul & Glenlivet - Cairngorms Dark Sky Park became Scotland's second international Dark Sky Park.
- North West Sutherland, between Kylesku and Inchnadamph, is one of the darkest sky locations in the UK and possibly Europe, ideal for taking in the wonder of the dark skies above.

- The Outer Hebrides has some of the darkest skies in the whole of the UK. Many astronomical sights can be seen through the naked eye including the Orion Nebula (over 1,500 light years away), the Milky Way Galaxy, and one of the Milky Way's companion galaxies the Great Andromeda Galaxy. The Northern Lights, Aurora Borealis, can also be seen from the islands, one of the very best spots in the UK for watching this incredible phenomenon.
- In addition, nine locations on the Isle of Skye have been officially named 'Dark Discovery Sites' after they were judged to be perfect spots for stargazing.

Dark events

If visiting Scotland, you can also participate in some dark events. As we go to press Coll & the Cosmos will be taking place on the Isle of Coll. Coll & The Cosmos is a stargazing weekend break on the Isle of Coll which makes the most of the island's incredible dark sky. The break has been specifically designed to appeal to as wide an audience as possible. No prior knowledge of astronomy is needed. A two-day astronomical voyage of discovery, with approximately 10 hours of learning and stargazing activities delivered by expert astronomers, visitors can discover the beauty of the island itself and also experience the wonders of the night sky under some of the darkest sky in Europe.

Public Astronomy Evening's will be taking place through March, 2020 at the Edinburgh Royal Observatory. Visitors can find out about the history of Edinburgh's



Northern Lights, Cullen Bay, Aberdeenshire.
Photo: VisitScotland/Discover Fraserburgh/Fiona McRae.

Royal Observatory and tour the fabulous Victorian telescope dome at one of their special Public Astronomy Evenings. These events are designed to be suitable for all ages and include stargazing should weather permit. Prior booking required. Events will involve and astronomy-related talk and stargazing and observing the skies through telescopes (weather permitting).

Now in its second year, the Hebridean Dark Skies Festival – led by An Lanntair in partnership with Stornoway Astronomical Society, Calanais Visitor Centre, Gallan Head Community Trust, Lews Castle College and new partner Uig Sands - will bring two weeks of arts and astronomy events to the Isle of Lewis. The 2020 festival will run from Friday, 7 February to Saturday, 22 February, with an ambitious and exciting programme spanning theatre, live music, film, visual art, food, astronomy talks, and stargazing.

For more information on stargazing in Scotland, visit: www.visitscotland.com/stargazing. For more information on seeing the Northern Lights in Scotland, visit: www.visitscotland.com/Northernlights



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Armadale transformed into a Scottish extravaganza



The Medieval Fair.

Over 18,000 people flocked to the heart of Armadale for the seventh Armadale Highland Gathering and the Perth Kilt Run on Sunday 6 October, celebrating all things Scottish at Minnowarra Park. Runners donned a kilt for the annual Perth Kilt Run completing either a 2.5km Classic or 5km Warrior route through the Armadale city centre.

A unique, family friendly day

City of Armadale Mayor Henry Zelones OAM, JP said the event has become the largest Scottish celebration in Western Australia, and attracts both Scottish and

non-Scottish participants and festival-goers from around the State to our wonderful city. "Whether people are attending to participate in the Perth Kilt Run or to enjoy a knees-up at the Armadale Highland Gathering afterwards, it continues to deliver a unique, family friendly day."

The first person who crossed the finish line of the Perth Kilt Run in the 5km Warrior category was Benjamin Higgins, while the first person through for the 2.5km Classic category was Bryson Miller who is only 11 years old. The sights and sounds of the Armadale Highland Gathering thrilled crowds once again, with

performances by pipe bands and highland dancers, and a heavy events competition with the arrival of Atlas Stones for this year's event, a first for Australia.

A fantastic day

"Of course, the Meet and Greet Scottish Dogs area with agility demonstrations, a fancy dress pooch parade and the celebration of Archie's fifth birthday, drew large crowds throughout the day," added Mayor Zelones. The Medieval Fair saw jousting from talented fighters with the Knights of the Free Company and The Grey Company, while representatives from six of Western Australia's clans were in attendance to help people trace their heritage. Other features included the Loch Mess Monster Upcycle Challenge involving local school children, a Hillman Imp car exhibition, as well as the traditional address to the Haggis and the popular massed pipe band procession.



Mayor Zelones at the Perth Kilt Run.



Massed bands.

"On behalf of the City, I would like to thank members of the committee who give their time in the lead up to help organise this tremendous event as well as volunteers, suppliers, competitors and those who came along. It was a fantastic day, and we look forward to receiving feedback to consider for next year's event," said Mayor Zelones.

For more details see: www.perthkiltun.com.au



In Flanders Fields

By John McCrae, May 1915

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

The poem was written by a Canadian Medical Corps doctor, Major John McCrae, who was serving with a Field Artillery Brigade in Ypres. The death of one of his friends in May 1915, buried in the cemetery outside his dressing station, affected him severely and he wrote his poem as a way of expressing his anguish at the loss.

Sunday, 11 November 2019 marks the 101st anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914-18). *Lest We Forget.*

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Alex Huang - The Tattoo Dance Company

Canadian dancer Alex Huang was the only male dancer in this year's Tattoo Dance Company which performed at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. An integral part of any Tattoo, the Tattoo Dance Company celebrates the cultural tradition in Highland Dancing. At the same time taking a great leap forward in showcasing how contemporary the art form can be. Alex took the time to answer some questions about Highland Dancing and what it was like to be part of the 1,200 strong international cast that performed Kaleidoscope 2019.



Tattoo Dance Company.

How did you get into Highland Dancing?

I told my mother, who used to be a dancer herself, that I wanted to take up the sport after watching a Highland dancing competition at a Highland

Games with my family when I was 5. She signed me up with no hesitation and I remain doing what I love fourteen years later after reaching the highest competitive level!

Dedication of Commemorative Cairn



Nicola O'Driscoll, Chieftain 2019 Aberdeen Highland Games, unveiling the Cairn.

Saturday 12th October saw the official dedication of the Commemorative Cairn in Taylor Park, Aberdeen in the Upper Hunter of New South Wales. Construction of the Cairn was organised by the Aberdeen Highland Games as part of its 20th Anniversary. The Cairn, together with the Upper Hunter tartan are enduring legacies to the people of the Upper Hunter, from the Aberdeen Highland Games, helping to preserve the Scottish culture that has been such a big part in the development of the Hunter Valley as a whole.



The Commemorative Cairn after unveiling.



Fred and Marie Lawson of Crofters Weaving Mill, Spring Ridge who were responsible for weaving the initial Upper Hunter tartan for its registration.



(L-R) Caitlyn Easey, Mark Lawrence, Bill Summers, Wayne Saunders, Debbie Eveleigh and Charles Cooke of Scone RSL Pipes & Drums.

Hundreds of dancers are auditioned every year, from across the world for the Tattoo Dance Company. Can you tell us how the process works and just how that made you feel to be selected?

The audition process differs slightly depending on where each dancer is based, as dancers can join the Tattoo Dance Company from anywhere around the world. UK dancers who wish to take part travel to Edinburgh for a set date to audition in-person in front of the dance director. Dancers who are overseas, like I was, are sent performance requirements – dances, steps, etc., and are asked to film video auditions to be sent to the dance director.

Performing in The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is truly one of the most prestigious non-competitive honours that a highland dancer can receive. To be selected brings immense feelings of pride, gratitude, and excitement and I feel extremely fortunate to have been able to take part in the Tattoo for the past three years.

Can you describe the thrill of entering the Castle Esplanade each evening to perform in front of an international crowd and watched by millions of viewers?

Having performed over three summers for a combined audience of just under 700,000, the feeling is truly unparalleled. Speaking for myself, I can say that I rarely ever felt nervous before a show, especially in the moments leading up to the dancers entering the esplanade. Rather, I felt excited, maybe even anxious, but always in a good way.

Almost every Highland dancer that you'll encounter is a performer and takes pride in being such. Every member of the Tattoo Dance Company is fully committed to putting on the best show they can every night, for the audience and for themselves. It was always truly humbling, to dance out of the wings to the cheers of some 9,000 audience members.

It's also incredible to know that you are part of a team, which more often felt like a family, who support each other the whole way. Consider the international nature of both the audience AND the cast, and it's easy to see how the Tattoo has become such a global event. To be able to unite so many people through the basic human love of music, dancing, display, and culture will never be anything short of spectacular.

Alex had you been to Edinburgh or Scotland before? What were your impressions?

I've been "across the pond" to visit family in England nearly a dozen times in my life, but prior to my first time participating in The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in 2017, I had only actually been up to Scotland once. I can remember being blown away by the natural beauty, the culture, the spirit and by everything that the country had to offer.

Each year that I've participated in the Tattoo, I've been able to find new ways to further appreciate Scotland, and more specifically, Edinburgh, where I've spent most of my time. Truthfully speaking, Edinburgh is among the most beautiful cities I've had the pleasure of visiting.

Highland dance is a competitive and technical sport, what would you say it has brought to your life?

I struggle to imagine what my life would look like if I had never taken up Highland dancing. It has had more than a significant impact on my character development, my growth, maturation, and general life outlook. Seeing as the sport is so very technical and, at times, competitive, Highland dance has taught me so much, both as a sport and as an art form; it has taught me most of what I know about discipline, perseverance, resilience, creativity, expression, positivity, and independence. Equally, dancing has granted me the ongoing opportunity to travel to many different places around the world and through my travels I have gained some truly invaluable experience.

The personal connections which I've made over my time as a Highland dancer are no doubt the thing I owe the sport most, as many of the strongest relationships that I share are thanks to my involvement in Highland dancing.

What would you say to someone looking to get into Highland dancing?

Stop thinking about it, and just go for it! Learn about the history, the performance, the competition and take some time to appreciate all the work that top dancers put in. Research, and take a class! Highland, like many forms of dance, is fantastic for maintaining a high fitness level, but it is also excellent at teaching discipline, perseverance, resilience, positivity and how to push yourself to be the best version of yourself. Additionally, it's an amazing way to establish lifelong friendships and build other strong connections. Not to mention it's just plain fun. So, try it out, make some friends, have a blast, and for the peace of mind of every instructor I've ever had, PLEASE point your feet.

The 70th Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo will take place in August, 2020. For full details see: www.edintattoo.co.uk



Highland dancer Alex Huang.

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.



Dubious Family Connections

*Ma maw's a millionaire,
Blue eyes and curly hair;
Sittin' among the Eskimos,
Playin' a gemme o' dominoes
Ma maw's a millionaire.
A Glasgow Children's street rhyme.*

My maternal Aunts and my mother, the Baxter sisters, Peggy, Jenny, Chattie, Chrissie and Ella sometimes hinted of a mysterious family connection with the well-known Baxter food company. This was said light-heartedly but apparently arose from a past serious conversation my Aunts had with an old family friend when they themselves were teenagers.

This person had told the girls that they weren't just to think of themselves as 'any old Baxter's' that they should remember that their family roots were from the Baxters of Clackmannanshire, the origins of the Baxter soup company, and Clackmannanshire of course was where my maternal great grandfather and his father before him did come from. Such conversations even suggested a Robertson connection on my maternal grandmother's side to Robertson's jams.

I suspect that these dubious family connections on our family tree were no more valid than our undoubted ties to Adam and Eve.

I suspect that these dubious family connections on our family tree were no more valid than our undoubted ties to Adam and Eve.

Jock Tamson's bairns

After all we were all 'Jock Tamson's bairns' in the end. Nevertheless, it allowed me as a child to indulge myself in wishful thinking about how one day an important telephone call might come in on our new telephone sitting importantly on the chest of drawers in our hallway; and which everyone in the family put in their threepence or fourpence a call to pay for the bill. "Hello there, Mrs Stoddart, John Baxter here from Baxter's soups.

We've been trying to get in touch with you for some time but couldn't locate you until you got the phone in. We found your name in the telephone directory and of course were looking for you under your maiden surname rather than your married name. So sorry for taking so long to get in touch, but we've been keeping your share of the family fortune in a big trunk at the back of my office. It's getting pretty full now so I would like to get the money to you as quickly as possible and in time for Christmas. If you could be at home this afternoon, I'll get it delivered to you promptly. Oh aye, and in case I forget, you and your family are naturally invited to our big Baxter family reunion at the castle in Clackmananshire. I'll be sending out the invitations this week. We all hope you can come - oh and by the way, I was talking to Tom Robertson, Managing Director of Robertson's Jams. He's been trying to contact you as well! I understand your mother, Jane Robertson, has a family connection to the company and I believe he might also have some good news for you. Sorry I have to go now, and I apologise for this rushed call; my secretary will be in touch with you to arrange as to how you would like future payments to be made. Goodbye for now."

Glasgow working class family

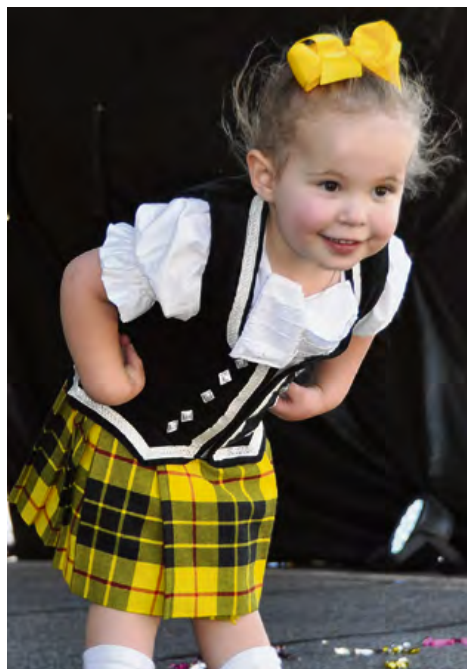
I could then imagine my mother ordering a new three-piece suit from Goldbergs or the big Co-operative store at Morrison Street.

My dad would have booked us all on a ship to New York or Montreal for a holiday and I could have looked forward to an inexhaustible supply of sweets and comics.

These connections with well-known Baxters and Robertson's could prove to be very lucrative and I wondered who else might be part of our family. There was of course Stoddart's Carpets. I saw their vans around the city often enough advertising their best quality Axminster carpets but even my dad didn't lay any claims to have any connections there. These were of course day-dreams based on snippets of family oral history. The truth was of course that we were simply an honest but humble Glasgow working class family. And as I grew older that was always enough to let me take pride in my real family.

My father and mother were not dreamers and were quite satisfied with their station in life and my siblings and myself benefited from a happy childhood which I'm sure none of us would have changed in any way at all. Nevertheless, as fate would have it, it later turns out that the Stoddart's might in fact have their own family mysteries and connections but not with the carpet people but with the aristocracy if we are to be believed. That information was to remain to be uncovered in my adulthood and I was not there yet.

Scotland shines at the 21st Children's Festival



always been Children are our future and yesterday we saw a whole new generation of little children whose enthusiastic participation guarantees the future of our festival and our hopes for the future of the Australian society," Mr Nguyen said.

Highland dancers from the Karen McPhillips School of Highland Dancing Sydney with traditional Scottish dance stole the show with their display of Scottish tradition. Singers and dancers at the 21st anniversary festival at Bankstown included performances from Chinese, Bosnian, Indonesian, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Punjabi, Filipino, Buddhist, Nepalese, Russian, Scottish and Macedonian children who also joined the grand costume parade with Cameroonian and other ethnic groups.

The next Children's Festival will be held on the 5th of April, 2020 at First Fleet Park, Circular Quay.

For more information please visit www.childrensfestival.com.au and www.facebook.com/ChildrensFestivalOrganisationInc



Dancers from the Karen McPhillips School of Highland Dancing Sydney.

The Children's Festival turned 21 years recently in a spectacular event at Paul Keating Park, in Bankstown, NSW. However, all the participants at the festival were born years after the event was founded late last century by Mr Thuat Nguyen OAM, who remains its leader. Local politicians including the Mayor of Canterbury-Bankstown, the State Member for Bankstown and the State Member for East Hills who joined the children on stage, hailed the success of the long-running event, praised its contribution to community harmony in New South Wales and thanked Mr Nguyen for his service to the community. "One of our slogans has

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300 year-old musket ball and mortar shell discovered from the Battle of Glenshiel



The area of the Battle of Glenshiel.

A team of archaeologists working at the scene of Scotland's 'forgotten' Jacobite uprising have uncovered the first historic remains of the decisive 300-year-old battle which ended James Francis Edward Stuart's ambitions to take the throne. The team, which is being led by the National Trust for Scotland, has been working at the scene of the Battle of Glenshiel and uncovered several large fragments of a coehorn mortar shell that had been fired at Lord George Murray and the Jacobite right wing on the knoll south of the River Shiel.

Jacobite battle

A musket ball fired by government forces at the Jacobites was also uncovered. The coehorn was a small squat gun that could lob shells in high arcs onto the Jacobite and Spanish positions causing noise and

explosions that must have caused disorder and panic in some of the Jacobites. One reference also suggests the grass and heather was set alight by the red-hot fragments, adding to the confusion. The Battle of Glenshiel was the first time that the device had been used on British soil, making it an exciting find for the team. The mortar shells also confirm the interpretation of a smaller fragment found on the north side of the river last year. Monday 10 June, marked the 300th anniversary of the Battle of Glenshiel where a force of over 1000 Jacobites, including troops sent from Spain, attempted to restore 'the Old Pretender' James Francis Edward Stuart to the throne of Great Britain.

To mark the anniversary, archaeologists, volunteers and people signed up for the National Trust for Scotland's Thistle Camp, working holidays which are run by the

conservation charity, have been excavating an area where the Spanish troops were positioned. The team soon picked up a signal with metal detectors and carefully dug out a flattened musket ball. "This is the first positive piece of evidence that we have found from the battle," explained The Trust's Head of Archaeology, Derek Alexander. "We were excavating just below the Spanish position, where there is quite a large outcrop of bedrock with a vertical face. We picked up a strong signal with the metal detector and, working with Historic Environment Scotland we were allowed to excavate four or five objects. The first that we looked at was the musket ball. It had been fired from below, up at the Spanish position. It hit the bedrock, flattened and fell to the ground and lay there. It was fired three hundred years ago, hit the wall and fell to the ground. Now it has been found."

Tests will now be carried out to determine the calibre of the ball and just who fired it, with government troops using a variety of muskets or carbines. Finds such as this allow historians to create a fuller picture of just what happened that day and to bring the events to life.

Scotland's most picturesque battlefield

Cared for and protected by the National Trust for Scotland, Glenshiel is often described as Scotland's most picturesque battlefield. It remains largely unchanged since the time of the battle and visitors to

the site can still see the walls built by the Jacobites as they took cover during the mortar barrage by government troops.

"Finds like this are really important," continued Derek. "They are the tangible remains of historic events, which can be quite rare. When we hold something in our hands that we know came from a single event, 300 years ago – that is incredibly powerful. In order to understand the battle better, we need to know a lot more. The understanding of battlefield archaeology can be a slow process and it's something which happens over a longer period. In the wake of the defeat the Jacobites were scattered, with several of their leaders going back into exile on the continent. The Spanish troops were captured, marched to Edinburgh Castle where they were held before eventually being released later in the year. The anniversary was marked at the weekend by a gathering of clans on the site and while the 1719 rebellion is often overlooked, compared to the risings of '14 and '45, the defeat had a lasting impact on both the Highlands and the Jacobite cause. The rising fizzled out, but it led to the arrival General Wade and his building of the road systems and garrisons in locations across the Highlands. It fixed the government's minds on the clans and the Jacobites. "It's failure also meant that there was little appetite for another uprising until Bonnie Prince Charlie and the '45. It effectively put paid to Jacobite ambitions for 30 years, which is a long time."



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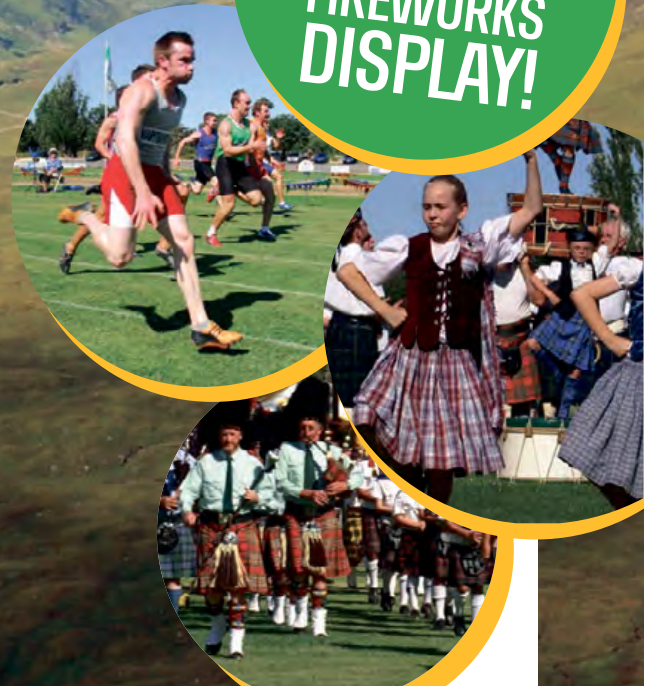


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IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Duke and Duchess of Rothesay visit Dunnottar Castle

Dunnottar Castle was delighted to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Rothesay to the spectacular ruined fortress during October. Thankfully it was a beautiful sunny autumnal day and the royal party was given a short-guided tour by the Castle owner, George Pearson.

George Pearson said "It was an honour to welcome the Duke and Duchess to Dunnottar for the first time and I had great pleasure in telling them about it's rich history and explaining the hard work undertaken by the staff to maintain and preserve the unique site and our plans to further develop the Castle with the addition of restaurant/visitor centre."

UK's first female students finally awarded degrees



Current medical students collect degrees on behalf of Edinburgh Seven.

Seven students who blazed a trail for women's access to higher education have been awarded posthumous honorary degrees, 150 years after beginning their studies. The group – known as the Edinburgh Seven – were among the first women admitted to a UK university when they enrolled to study medicine at the University of Edinburgh in 1869. The women faced substantial resistance from their male peers and were ultimately prevented from graduating and qualifying as doctors. Their campaign against such treatment gained national attention and many supporters, including Charles Darwin. It resulted in legislation in 1877 to ensure women could study at university.

Mary Anderson, Emily Bovell, Matilda Chaplin, Helen Evans, Sophia Jex-Blake, Edith Pechey and Isabel Thorne were awarded the posthumous honorary MBChB at the University of Edinburgh's McEwan Hall on Saturday 6 July. The degrees were collected on their behalf by a group of current students at Edinburgh Medical School. Simran PayaThird-year medical student, who collected an honorary degree on behalf of Sophia Jex-Blake said: "We are honoured to accept these degrees on behalf of our predecessors, who are an inspiration to us all."

The graduation is the first in a series of University events to commemorate the achievements and significance of the Edinburgh Seven. As part of the celebrations, the University would like to hear from any relatives of the pioneering group. Professor Peter Mathieson, Principal and Vice-Chancellor at the University of Edinburgh said: "We are delighted to confer the degrees rightfully owed to this incredible group of women. The segregation and discrimination that the Edinburgh Seven faced might belong to history, but barriers still exist that deter too many talented young people from succeeding at university. We must learn from these women and strive to widen access for all who have the potential to succeed."

Highland Council launches Visitor Levy Consultation



Highland Council has launched a consultation on a potential Highland Transient Visitor Levy. The Council has not yet made a decision on whether to

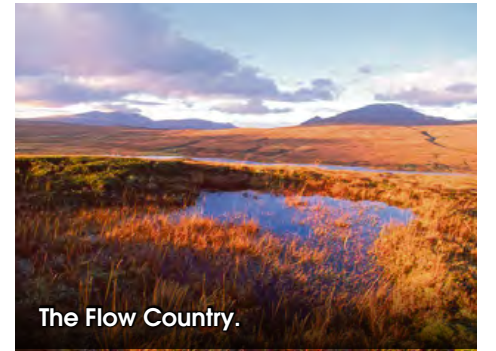
implement a Transient Visitor Levy (TVL), also known as a Tourist Tax. In December 2018 it committed to consulting Highland residents, businesses and visitors on a potential scheme. Running until Autumn 2019, the main Consultation consists of two components: an online questionnaire aimed at residents and tourism businesses, but also open to visitors; and targeted face-to-face questionnaires with visitors at locations across Highland, conducted by the Moffat Centre for Travel and Tourism at Glasgow Caledonian University. The Council has also produced a short video explaining the Council's position and the Consultation. The Scottish Highlands welcomes approximately four million overnight visitors a year, and another two million day visitors, including cruise visitors. The Council's rationale for considering a Visitor Levy is that visitors should help contribute to the maintenance and development of the free public services and infrastructure they use. In the context of the Council's unprecedented budget pressures, revenue from a Levy could be used strategically to manage the impact of tourism and help the Council invest to ensure the region continues to be a great place to live and visit.

Depending on how a scheme was designed, a visitor Levy could generate between £5 and £10 million each year to invest in Highland tourism.

Councillor Allan Henderson, explained: "Highland welcomes visitors numbering roughly 25 times our resident population every year. Whilst visitors are very welcome, some of Highland's infrastructure and services are struggling under the pressure of these additional users. Ultimately, the Council, with the help of everyone who responds to the Consultation, needs to decide what is better for our region: introducing a Visitor Levy, with its potential positive and negative impacts? – Or not implementing a Visitor Levy, avoiding potential negative impacts but limiting possible investment and therefore leaving the region with the problems we currently face."

The Scottish Government has committed to introducing legislation by 2021 that would allow local authorities in Scotland to implement a Transient Visitor Levy.

Flow Country-Scotland's largest bog bid to become a World Heritage Site



An extensive community consultation on a proposed World Heritage Site for The Flow Country has been announced. The Flow Country in Caithness and Sutherland is the largest expanse of blanket bog in Europe, covering around 200,000 hectares (it is more than twice the size of Orkney). A recent international study has described the areas as being "the best peatland of its type in the world".

Altogether, this corner of Scotland holds more than 400,000 hectares of blanket bog, making it the largest expanse of this remarkable, wild habitat in Europe. Blanket bog only forms in cool places with plenty of rain. The few plants that can grow here don't rot away, but build up to form deep layers of peat. The Flow Country's bogs have been growing for over 10,000 years, ever since the glaciers melted away at the end of the last Ice Age, and the peat is now up to 10 metres deep.

Joe Perry, the Peatland Partnership's World Heritage Site's Project Coordinator said: "A Flow Country World Heritage Site would not only be an enormous accolade for the area and the many organisations, land managers, crofters and farmers who have maintained this land for generations but it could also bring many positive development opportunities and undoubtedly some challenges too. The purpose of the consultation is to find out what our local communities think about this idea and to see if we can help meet some of their aspirations through developing a World Heritage Site that meets their needs as well as recognizing the global importance of this vast peatland."

Independent chair of The Flow Country World Heritage Site Working Group, Mrs Frances Gunn of Tongue said: "It's really amazing to think that we have something right on our doorstep that ranks in global importance alongside the Great Barrier Reef, The Grand Canyon and The Pyramids! Who would have thought it? World Heritage Sites are an internationally recognised brand and might bring a number of opportunities for local people and any budding entrepreneurs out there."

If a bid currently under way is successful, it could become the UK's 33rd World Heritage Site, along with UK icons Neolithic Orkney, St Kilda, Edinburgh's Old and New Towns, Forth Bridge, Lake District, Stonehenge and the Giant's Causeway.

Lady Fiona taking in the spectacle of The Scots Guards.

Lady Fiona taking in the spectacle of The Scots Guards.

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Lady Fiona meeting Scotland's very own flamingos.

By: Brian McCutcheon

Douglas Days

and the Battle of Teba

King Robert the Bruce (Brian McCutcheon).

All images courtesy of Gini Craig.

The Battle of Teba

In 1329 Robert 1st King of Scots, more commonly known as Robert the Bruce died in his bed at Manor house in the modern-day village of Renton in the parish Cardross near Dumbarton. On his death bed he requested his heart be taken to the church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.

His request was 2-fold, 1. To make amends for the many who had died during the wars of Independence with England, and to fulfil a desire to go on crusade which the Wars of Independences has made impossible. He requested his most trusted Captain and friend undertake this most solemn act, that Captain was Sir James

Douglas Knight Baronet and Lord of Douglas. Whilst reports vary it was the Sir William de St Clair, Sir William de Keith, the brothers Sir Robert Logan of Restalrig, Sir Walter Logan, John de St Clair (younger brother of Sir William), Sir Simon of the lee (also known as Lockhart) Sir Kenneth Moir, Sir Allan Cathcart, among others who accompanied the Guid Sir James on this task. Whilst on route to the holy land in 1330 their ship put into harbour in Spain where Sir James was approached to assist King Alfonso XI of Spain in his battle to remove the Saracen presence from his Kingdom of Spain.

After much persuasion Sir James relented and agreed that the Scottish Knights would "on this day let loose the lion of Scotland on the plains of Teba". According to different sources during the battle Sir William de St Clair fell battle,

North of Malaga in the mountains sits the small town of Teba with its main feature of its castle, Castillo de la Estrella (Castle of the Star) and below the plains where the battle of Teba took place and one of Scotland's greatest heroes died.



Castillo de la Estrella (Castle of the Star).



Members of the Strathleven Artizans.

Continued next page.

England take the double at the World Porridge Making Championships



Nick Barnard, winner of the speciality trophy and Lisa Williams, winner of the Golden Spurtle.

Competitors from England have won the coveted World Porridge Making Champion title and Speciality Porridge Champion title after the World Porridge Making Championships took place in October in the Highland village of Carrbridge. Lisa Williams, who runs a social enterprise and a community cafe for adults with learning disabilities in Trimley St Mary in Suffolk, was crowned World Porridge Making Champion, and Rude Health founder, Nick Barnard took the speciality title.

Oatmeal, water and salt

The coveted World Porridge Making Champion title is awarded to the contestant deemed to have made the

best traditional porridge using just three ingredients – oatmeal, water and salt.

Lisa said: "I am surprised and thrilled to win the World Porridge Making Championships. I discovered the Golden Spurtle in 2015 and immediately fell in love with the competition. In 2016 I made it to the final six and have been chasing the dream ever since. I absolutely love the competition. From the moment you step into the hall you are welcomed like family. It's hard to describe but from the flags and the tartan, to the people from the village who organise everything, the ladies who serve the porridge, the volunteers who wash up our equipment, the porridge parade, the bagpipes – its just magical!

Sir James Douglas rallied the Scottish knights and according to folklore threw the casket containing the heart of the king towards the Saracen army and called "lead on braveheart as thou has often lead and we shall follow".

The group then rode into battle and died. The Saracens finding the dead Scottish Knights returned their remains along with the shields and colours to King Alfonso stating that had they know the Sir James Douglas "the most famous lance in Christendom" they would never have killed such a knight.

Douglas Day Teba Andalusia Spain

North of Malaga in the mountains sits the small town of Teba with its main feature of its castle, Castillo de la Estrella (Castle of the Star) and below the plains



where the battle of Teba took place and one of Scotland's greatest heroes died. Every year for the last 15 years the town has held a festival to honour Sir James Douglas and the other Scottish Knights who fought and died there. The whole town comes together to welcome visitors and put on a festival to rival any. The Strathleven Artizans (aka Kings of Scots, Robert the Bruce Society) have the privilege of being asked to attend and represent Scotland and pay homage to a hero.

The event takes place over the weekend (Friday to Sunday) and has many different aspects to it from Scottish music, to a ceilidh as well as a procession with people in period clothing and the procession with the effigy of Sir James Douglas to the Plaza de Douglas. The whole town is involved with many parts of the town decorated with either Saracen or Christian attire offering the period food and drink as you walk. This year the Strathleven Artizans were honoured by the attendance of American actor and film director David Lockhart, a Lockhart back in Teba after nearly 700 years, where we presented him with a tabard bearing the arms of Sir Simon of the Lee (aka Sir Simon Lockhart) and a replica of the Lee Penny.

If you have any interest in Scottish history then I would say visit The Douglas Day festival in Teba and have an experience that will be hard to equalled anywhere in the world, including Scotland. If you wish to experience it then the dates for Douglas Days 2020 are 27th to 30th August where I look forward to seeing you there.

Lisa's winning recipe was made with half Hamlyn's Scottish Oatmeal and half Hamlyn's pinhead oatmeal, along with Maldon Sea Salt. "I didn't use to use salt in my porridge, but I saw Nigel Slater using it years ago and have been doing the same ever since" she said.

A love of porridge

As well as the traditional porridge competition, there is also a speciality category for oatmeal combined with any other ingredients, leading to a wide variety of sweet and savoury entries. This year's speciality winner was Rude Health founder, Nick Barnard, whose Maple Pecan Porridge included Rude Health oatmeal, pecans from Roux Farm in South Africa and Guernsey Cream from Hurdlebrook Farm in Somerset.

The World Porridge Making Championships is organised by Carrbridge Community Council, and is sponsored by Hamlyn's of Scotland, the Banffshire-based producer of Hamlyn's Scottish Oatmeal and Hamlyn's Scottish Porridge Oats. Charlie Miller from the organising committee said: "This year's competition attracted competitors from 11 different countries including Sweden, Canada, Germany, France, Poland and from across the UK. It has been a fantastic weekend celebrating a mutual love of porridge. Congratulations to our winners, well done to all competitors, and thanks to our sponsors and to everyone who came to watch them battling it out."

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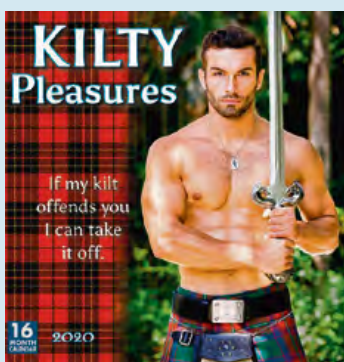
The Scots Magazine Calendar 2020



Seasons come and go, but Scotland's magical beauty is timeless. The Scots Magazine Calendar 2020 includes a great spread of photographs from all over Scotland from Sutherland to Stirlingshire. This spectacular calendar makes a wonderful gift for everyone who loves Scotland.

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Indulge in a little kilty pleasure with these handsome Highland hunks! Each month features a different luscious lad showing off his finely sculpted physique, and his favourite tartan, of course. Paired with tongue-in-cheek sayings about men in kilts, if these images don't get your heart racing, you may want to check your pulse! Spend the year with these hunky men and find yourself dreaming of Kilty Pleasures.

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Scotland is home to a staggering array of wildlife, from the iconic red deer and Highland cow to the magnificent sea eagle and bottle-nosed dolphin. This calendar features not only a beautiful selection of animals themselves but also their natural habitats, which are some of the most magnificent scenery in the world.

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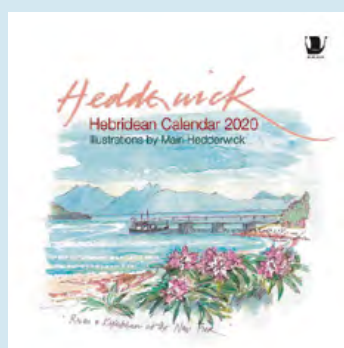
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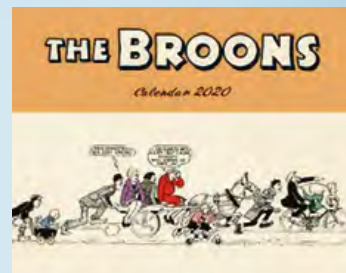
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This calendar features distinctive full-colour paintings by one of Scotland's best-loved authors and artists and is a wonderful celebration of the extraordinary natural beauty of the Hebrides throughout the seasons. Mairi Hedderwick's drawings, produced over a period of more than forty years, expertly capture the unique character and diversity of Hebridean land and seascapes, from wind-swept moors and dramatic cliffs to rolling hills and secluded woods.

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Justice for John Scotland's Smartest Dunce

By: David C
Weinczok



The statue of John Duns Scotus in the town of Duns in the Scottish Borders. This image is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution.

If anyone has ever called you a 'dunce', there is a historical argument to be made that they were inadvertently paying you a compliment. The insult is derived from a medieval philosopher named John Duns Scotus, who lived from approximately 1266 to 8 November 1308. If a caricatured image of a town fool comes to mind due to the modern connotations of 'dunce', banish the thought - John was in fact one of the sharpest minds of his time. That was no small feat given that his contemporaries included men whose names and ideas are still taught in universities around the world, including Thomas Aquinas, Saint Bonaventure, and William of Ockham, the latter of which gave us the philosophical principle of Occam's (or Okham's) Razor.

Scotus

So, why the unfortunate attribution? Firstly, John's name is a composite. John was his given name, while 'Scotus' is not a surname but a signifier of his Scottish origins while living abroad. John studied in England, France, and the Holy Roman Empire, all places where variations of 'John' would have been quite common. The likelihood of there being two Scottish Johns in any one place was significantly less. Duns is a family name that also serves to identify his place of birth, the village of Duns in Berwickshire. Surnames amongst the non-aristocratic population in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, when not derived from a person's occupation, were often little more than a home town marker. To most of the people he would have conversed with he would simply have been John, though most modern historians refer to him as Duns Scotus.

Duns Scotus' academic and ecclesiastical CV would be enough to earn him tenure at any of today's leading institutions. He commenced formal studies at Oxford in 1288, where he remained until 1301. On 17 March 1291 he became an ordained priest of the Franciscan Order of Saint Andrew's Priory in Northampton, at the youngest possible age for ordination at 25. He took up a teaching position at the prestigious University of Paris in 1302, which doubtlessly would have been marked by distinction had he not been expelled along with eighty other friars for backing Pope Boniface VIII in a high-profile dispute with France's King Philip the Fair. By 1304 all was forgiven, and upon his return to Paris he was made Franciscan Chair in Theology.

His final venture was to the University of Cologne in October 1307, where he died a mere year later. He was apparently susceptible to comas, and one story (likely a myth) has John being buried alive during one such bout in the absence of his servant who alone knew of his condition. His epitaph celebrates his internationalism: *Scotia me genuit. Anglia me suscepit. Gallia me docuit. Colonia me tenet.* "Scotland brought me forth. England sustained me. France taught me. Cologne holds me."

Pre-Enlightenment contribution

This litany of intellectual accomplishments has led to Duns Scotus being hailed as one of the four great minds of High Scholasticism. He was especially rigorous in his attention to detail, deploying highly technical arguments in his analyses of metaphysics and theology. His meticulousness was such that he earned the epithet of 'Subtle Doctor', about the farthest thing from a 'dunce' as one can imagine.

It was not until the Protestant Reformation in the late sixteenth century that 'Duns' became associated with ignorance. Scotists, as his posthumous disciples were known, argued against Renaissance humanism which made them targets of ridicule for the reformers who saw them as enemies of learning.

This was when duns, or dunce, became an insult. Things were markedly different in Catholic Europe, where Scotism peaked in popularity in the seventeenth century with Scotist chairs at universities including Paris, Rome, Salamanca, Padua, and others.

If anyone has ever called you a 'dunce', there is a historical argument to be made that they were inadvertently paying you a compliment.

One can also make the case that Duns Scotus provided the foundation for Scotland's most profound pre-Enlightenment contribution to Western political theory. While resident in Paris in 1302, John was sought out by William Lamberton, Bishop of St Andrews, during a time of existential crisis for Scotland. The nation had largely been conquered by Edward I of England, beginning with the atrocious sack of Berwick in 1296 in which over 8,000 men, women, and children were put to the sword. William Wallace had been defeated at Falkirk in 1298, and those left standing in that battle's wake were torn between surrender to Edward, trying to restore John Balliol to the Scottish throne, or finding a new way forward. Lamberton put his faith in the third option, yet lacked a justification for abandoning the cause of Balliol. And so, he consulted one of the greatest minds of the day to parse the fog and steer Scotland on a course to freedom.

Scotland's Magna Carta

The answer he received would shake the foundations of political power to this very day. John argued that although Balliol was by right the King of Scots, he had proven himself unable to champion Scotland's cause and as such had lost the faith of many of his subjects. The authority of a king, Duns Scotus proclaimed,

came not from any right of birth but from the consent of the subjects of the realm. Should that consent be justifiably withdrawn, they would be king no longer. Satisfied with this answer, Lamberton returned to Scotland and, four years later, would throw the weight of the Church in Scotland behind the man he thought could unite the realm: Robert Bruce.

Duns Scotus' rationale would be set in ink upon the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, a document - sometimes known as Scotland's Magna Carta - which declared in no uncertain terms that a king's power was derived from consent. This in turn would provide the philosophical framework for two of the most definitive historical events in the Western world, the American and French Revolutions. At least one third of the signatories of America's Declaration of Independence were born in Scotland or to Scottish parents, and had educations which highlighted Duns Scotus' works.

Duns Scotus may yet get his due. Pope John Paul II beatified him on 20 March 1993, setting him on the path to sainthood; perhaps a more widespread understanding of Scotus' intellectualism will follow. At the very least, you can now reply to anyone who calls you a dunce that, to the contrary, they have simply mistaken your genius.

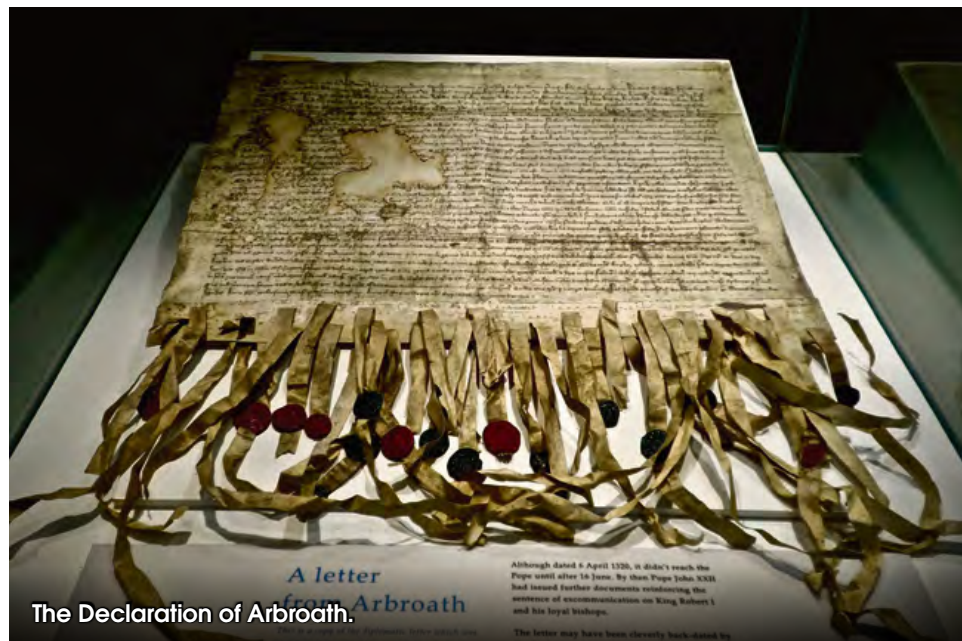
Hunter Valley Highland Games



Saltire Estate will be hosting the Inaugural Hunter Valley Highland Games on Saturday 30 November. The day promises to be a celebration of all things Scottish including a The National Highlander Championships which will include 5 events to test the abilities of both male and female athletes. The championships will include crowd favourite, the caber toss as well as stone shot put and stones of strength using natural stones source from the estate.

Come enjoy displays from local highland and country dancing groups and hear the call of the pipe bands. There will be premium Saltire wine available on the day as well as catering from local food trucks and vendors. This event has something for the whole family with retail stalls, crowd participation strength events and blacksmithing! The kids can have a go on the jumping castle and enjoy a child-friendly nachos from The Crafty Pit.

Tickets are available now from www.huntervalleyhighlandgames.com.au so head there now before it sells out!



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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.

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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 Gospatric the Earl

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

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



Clan Galbraith Association

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

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

www.clangalbraith.org



Family of Bruce International, Inc.

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

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

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



Clan Donald Queensland

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



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

Clan Gregor Society

Established 1822, Edinburgh, Scotland

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balgihider,
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 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



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: clangregoraustalia@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: secretary.clandonaldivic@gmail.com

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

CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE

Hon Chief: Mrs Christina Milne Wilson

Contact: secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com

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



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 McGehee Gregory King Peter Fletcher Gregg Lecky Black and many others

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

St. Louis, MO 63131-3038

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



Clan Cumming Society of the United States

www.clancumming.us
info@clancumming.us

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



Clan Donnachaidh Society of New South Wales Inc., Australia

Duncan Robertson Reid

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

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



FORBES

WEB WWW.CLAN-FORBES.ORG

@CLANFORBESSOCIETY

@CLANFORBESSOCIETY

@CLANFORBES1

#CLANFORBES

#GRACEMEGUIDE

#CLANFORBESSOCIETY

#LONACH

CONTACT: MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG



Clan Hamilton Society

Hamiltons and those of Hamilton descent are cordially invited to join the society.

Inquiries to be sent to:

Sheri Lambert, Treasurer

P.O. Box 5399

Vernon Hills, IL 60061

visit our website:

www.clanhamilton.org

Clan MacLellan

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

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

Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net

The crest is circular with a decorative border. Inside the circle, a thistle is positioned vertically. The words "Think" and "On" are written in a stylized font, curving around the top of the thistle. The thistle has a long stem with two leaves at the base.

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

Clan Henderson Society

Purposes and Goals of the Society

Culture: foster Scottish culture and activities
Games: promote Scottish festivals and games
Genealogy: assist in genealogical research
Fellowship: foster fellowship and friendship among kith and kin
History: maintain and promote the history of the clan and Scotland
Awards: promote charitable and educational activities via scholarship fund
Gather the Clan: as directed by our Chief, Alistair de Fotherill

Some other surnames of the proud sons of Henry:

Henderson, Eaning, Eangig, Endson, Enderson, Endrisonse, Endrione, Henderson, Hendersonse, Hendersonsen, Hendersonise, Hendry, Hendrise, Hendrisons, Hendrie, Hendriseuse, Hendry, Henersoun, Hennesrouse, Hennyrson, Henresoun, Hennreytoun, Henniesoun, Hennison, Hennieson, Hennrisoun, Hennisseuse, Hennyserson, Hennryson, Hennrisson, Kendrick, Kennick, MacHenry, MacCannik, MacEunrigg, MacErnick, MacHendrick, MacHendrie, MacHendry, MacHenricke, MacHenrick, MacHenry, MacKarrig, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKendrick, MacKenrick, MacKenrick, MacKenry, MacKendrie, MacKendrick, MacKenrick, Mackenry, Mackehy, McHenry, McKendrie, McKendrick, McKendry

www.clanhendersonsociety.org



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:*

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

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



Clan Macpherson Association

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

Africa. Derek Macpherson African.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +265 999 512 620 Canada. Ed Smith Canada.Chair@clan-macpherson.org phone +1 519 802 8821 Europe. Will Tulling Europe.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +31 655 774 425 Scotland & Northern Ireland. Rory Macpherson SandN.I.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 7525 765 765	Australia. John L Macpherson Australian.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +61 409 122 141 England & Wales. William Macpherson EandW.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 7877 363 507 New Zealand. Tony McPherson NewZealand.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +64 274 587 813 USA. Xerxes Herrington UnitedStates.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +1 703 341 9588
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The **Clan Macpherson Museum** is located in Newtonmore, Inverness Shire PH20 1DE, at the junction of the A86 and B9150, and is open from 1st April to 31st October. Ph +44 1540 673 332. See <http://www.clan-macpherson.org/museum/> for more details.

Clan Hope of Craighall Society
For all of the name and lineage of Hope

INTERNATIONAL & USA
President:
Richard Rex Hope
president@clanhope.org

Membership Chair:
Janet Hope Highton
membership@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org

AUSTRALIA
Commissioner:
Stephen Hope
commissioner@clanhopeaustralia.org
www.clanhopeaustralia.org

CANADA
Commissioner:
Scott Hale
commissioner@clanhope.ca
www.clanhope.ca

 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ClanHopeofCraighall>



**Clan Mackenzie Society
in Australia Inc.**

Membership enquiries
welcomed from Mackenzies
of all spellings and Septs

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

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

 **THE** 
MACLEODS
RICH IN HIGHLAND
TRADITIONS
FOR INFORMATION:
WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG
A.L. MACLEOD
3923 ROCKWOOD WAY #B
WEST VALLEY CITY, UT
84120-6880



The Clan MacRae Society of Australia and New Zealand

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

Australian Contact:

Roslyn MacRae 0412 291 054 email: learn@vsr.com.au

NZ Contact: Sue Tregoweth email: sue.treg1@gmail.com

Clan Irwin Association

Chief and Patron

David Irvine, Baron of Drum, Chief of the name.
Contact: Barbara Edelman, Chairman
65 Colonial Drive
Telford, PA 18969
215-721-3955 barb3.edelman@gmail.com
IRWIN • RVIN • IRVINE • IRVING • ERWIN • ERVIN
Over 270 ways the name has been spelled since 325 A.D.
www.clanirwin.org

Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada

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

Website: www.clanmackenziecanada.ca



Clan Macnaughtan Association Worldwide

Sir Malcolm F MacNaughten of
Macnaughten, Bart - Chief of Clan

Chairman - Peter McNaughton - 360-686-8451

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

Australia - Regional Commissioner - Bruce McNaught
+61 7 3266 2047 bruce@brucemcnaught.com

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

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

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

WWW.CLANMACNAUGHTON.NET



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

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



Clan Mackenzie Society in the United States

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

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



**Clan MacNeil Association
of Australia**

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

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



Clan Maitland Society

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

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

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

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

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



Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.

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



MacDougall

MacDowall

Email: info@macdougall.org Home page: www.macdougall.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/clanmacdougall

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

Coul	MacCoul	Macoual
Conacher	MacConacher	
Coyle	MacCoyle	
Doie	MacDole	
Doual	MacDoual	MacDill
Dougal	MacDougall	MacDougall
Dougle	McDougale	MacDougall
Dugal	MacDugle	MacDugle
Dowall	MacDowall	MacDowall
MacDowell	MacDowell	McDowell
Lullich	MacLulich	MacCullich
MacCulloch	McCulloch	MacCullagh
MacClintock	McClintock	McLintock
MacHale	McHoual	MacHeual
MacHowell	MacCowan	McCown
MacKichan	M'Gowall	MacNamell
MacLucas	MacLugash	MacLuke

Spelling Variations May Vary or Omit the Mac, Mc



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 MacNiell, 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 rdmatmgm@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 inquires from all:
Shaw, Ayson, Adamson, Esson, MacAy,
MacHay, Shiach, Sheach, Sheath, Seith,
Seth, Skaith, Scaith and Shay.

Secretary: Mike Shaw
2403 West Cranford
Denison, TX 75020



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

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

Email: clanwardlaw@yahoo.com

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com

Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

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, Paulk, Poalke, Poulk, Poolke, Pogue - you are cordially invited to contact:

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



Clan Sinclair Australia

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

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

Scottish 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.stewartssociety.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: alfredhcooke@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

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

Facebook: Clan Sutherland Society in Australia



Chicago Scots

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

Tel: 708-447-5092
W: www.chicagoscots.org

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

www.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 toto join in preserving our heritage.

www.clan-ross.org

clanrossoftheunitedstates@gmail.com

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



Clan Sutherland Society of North America Inc.

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

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



Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia

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

Ruaraidh MacAonghais, N each Cathrach (Convenor)

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

Web: www.ozgaelic.org

Mail: 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: clanscottaustraliagroup.moonfruit.com



CLAN YOUNG AUSTRALIA

For those affiliated with the Young surname

Ian J Young
Convenor

Membership inquiries:

Clan Young Australia
10 Cedric Street
Parkdale VIC 3195
membership@clanyoungaustalia.com.au

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



Caledonian Society of WA Inc.

Promotes Scottish Culture and Traditions
in Perth, Western Australia

For further details contact John: 0427 990 754
Email: caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com

www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

Victorian Scottish Union Inc

Established 1905

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

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

Chief: Ms Ceilidh McKinna Robertson

President: Mr Douglas Pearce

Secretary: Mrs Jan Macdonald

T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930

E: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com
www.victorianscottishunion.com

By: Judy Vickers

Dunvegan Castle

Scotland's oldest continuously inhabited castle

It is the only Highland fortress to have been continuously occupied by the same family for 800 years and over that time it has seen some wear and tear. But a decade-long restoration programme has seen Dunvegan Castle return to its former glory, driven by the vision of the current laird, Hugh Magnus MacLeod of MacLeod, Chief of Clan MacLeod.

Rebuild of the clan seat

He inherited the castle following the death of his father, John MacLeod of MacLeod, in 2007 and knew straight away he had a major project on his hands. Water had been leaking into the historic building for many years which meant a simple repair job was not an option. Instead, a major renovation, from the roof down, was begun, with a final cost of £4 million.

His career as a successful film and TV director and producer, including documentaries for the BBC, had to be scaled back as he embarked on the multi-phased repair and rebuild of the clan seat.

Earlier this year the prestigious Historic Houses Restoration Award went to Dunvegan with judges saying it was "both a home and a major visitor heritage attraction, drawing tourists from all over the world, to the benefit of the local and national economy".

It is, however, a home with a proud history, dating back to the 13th century when the site of a Norse fort was protected by a curtain wall on the rocky promontory above Loch Dunvegan. From those beginnings it grew over the centuries, most notable in 1500 when the 8th clan chief added the Fairy Tower and in 1840 when the whole site took on a Baronial design.

Skye proof

In 2008, when the restoration work began, the lead roof was the priority and major rebuilding of the structure meant it became properly "Skye-proof" for the first time in generations. However, it was not just the roof that needed protection from the encroaching wild weather of the Misty Isle. The castle's windows and masonry were in poor repair and all the rusting iron window lintels in the South Wing had to be replaced.

The luxurious interiors, including curtains, carpets and furniture were also restored with an overall remit of removing some poor later additions to the interior and exterior of the house and revealing more of the original features.

Clan chief Hugh MacLeod of MacLeod said the whole estate pulled together to complete the work, which finally ended in 2018. "All the restoration works we have undertaken at Dunvegan over the last ten years have been largely accomplished in-house, with the help of a fantastic team of dedicated external contractors."

He also praised his father when receiving the Historic Houses Restoration Award: "I would like to dedicate this award to my late father who had the vision to see that in order to 'Hold Fast' (the clan MacLeod motto) in the modern world, Dunvegan had to adapt from being a medieval fortress designed to keep people out, to a place focused on welcoming people in."

"Since those early make or break days in the 1960s, our dedicated team have extended a warm Highland welcome to millions of visitors, which has had the beneficial ripple effect of underpinning many Skye businesses that rely on this crucial visitor spend. Annually the estate contributes an average of £900,000 through a combination of employment and purchase of local goods and services. Since 2008 alone, it has contributed £8.3m to the Skye economy and over £12m to the Scottish economy."

"This award will help us to continue to 'Hold Fast' to our goal of preserving, developing and sharing the unique heritage of Dunvegan Castle and the MacLeod Estate for future generations to enjoy."

The historic fabric of a Highland fortress

If the castle was originally designed to repel invaders, it is actually the modern day visitors who now pose the biggest threat. Even though a thriving number of tourists benefit the castle's coffers, Hugh said the "high visitor numbers create additional pressures for not only our team, but also the historic fabric of a Highland fortress that was designed to be impregnable." However, he added: "These challenges have been largely addressed thanks to a rolling programme of major capital investment across the estate, totalling £4 million since 2008."

But it was not just the castle which received a grand makeover, the gardens were also restored. In 1773 the 23rd clan chief's mother complained to Doctor Johnson and Boswell that "there was not and never could be a good garden at Dunvegan." She was wrong and one of the finest in the Highlands and Islands was established.

Who are the Clan MacLeod?

There are two main branches of the clan: the MacLeods of Dunvegan, Harris and Glenelg whose chief is MacLeod of MacLeod (known in Gaelic as Siol Tormoid); the MacLeods of Lewis, Assynt and Raasay whose chief is MacLeod of The Lewes (known in Gaelic as Siol Torquill). Both branches of the clan descend from Leod, the son of a Norse king.

The idea of clans enjoyed something of a comeback about 100 years ago and for the MacLeods this really came to prominence in 1956 when the Queen attended a Clan MacLeod Parliament. Clan gatherings have been held at Dunvegan Castle ever since and clansfolk return from all over the world every four years to celebrate their shared ancestry.

The current clan chief used his expertise in film and photography to improve the design and landscaping with the help of head gardener David MacLean and sculptor Hamish Horsley. This included the layout of the Water, Rose and Walled gardens along with new paths in all areas of the garden policies.

The scope of works ranged from removing some poor design features and replacing them with ornaments, herbaceous borders, paths and a design aesthetic which more faithfully reflects what is essentially an early 18th century garden with some formal French influences. The aim was to make the new water lily pond, Glass House, Garden Museum, Regency Urn, Water Garden bridges, the Memorial Gazebo, a 2.7 tonne giant rotating Carrara marble sculpture and other new design elements blend in seamlessly and feel like they had always been there.

Although by no means resting on his laurels, the clan chief is pleased with what has been accomplished. "As one of the largest private sector employers on Skye, I am very proud of what we have achieved since I took over management of the estate in 2008," he says.



Historic Dunvegan Castle. Photo: VisitScotland.



Dunvegan Castle. Photo: Neil McLeod.

67th Daylesford Highland Gathering

Victoria Park, Daylesford, Victoria
Saturday December 7th, 2019

- * Highland Pipe Bands *
- * Highland Dancing *
- * Clan Tents * Scottish Craft Stalls *
- * Grand Massed Band Parade *

A WONDERFUL FAMILY SCOTTISH DAY OUT

Info: Cameron Telfer
Ph: 0437 659 148
Email: ctelfer@bigpond.com
www.daylesfordhighland.com

SCOTTISH BANNER EVENTS

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

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

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

AUSTRALIA

NOVEMBER 2019

02 - Adelaide, SA - Silver Chanter Competition
Piping competition presented by the R U Brown Piobaireachd Society. Info: www.rubrown.org.au

02 - Brisbane, QLD - 2019 Highland Ball
Bring your friends for a night of Scottish food, music and dancing with the members of the BBC Old Collegians' Pipe Band. A fun-filled night including the address to the haggis, toe-tapping pipe band displays and community dancing at Mercure Brisbane. Info: www.facebook.com/events/466214110615323

02 - Wallsend, NSW - Gathering of the Celts
A night of Scottish music with Highlander rock band, Scotia Highland Dancers, Miners pipe band and more at Wallsend Diggers. Info: www.wallsenddiggers.com.au

03 - Adelaide, SA - Clan MacLeod Society South Australia AGM
Clan MacLeod Society South Australia AGM. Held at Powell residence, Semaphore Park. Info: Trevor Powell 0419 819 834 or www.cmssa.org.au/calendar-of-events.html

03 - Gosford, NSW - Central Coast Scottish Spectacular
This Scottish Highland Gathering will be held at The Entertainment Ground and will feature the NSW Pipe Band Championships, and the Central Coast Scottish National Dancing Titles. Pipe bands, Drum Majors, the Tossing of the Caber, Tug O'War, Scottish stalls, food, and much more. It is a great day out for the whole family. Info: www.scottishspectacular.com

03 - Ipswich, QLD - Ipswich Solo Drumming Championships
Ipswich's own solo drumming competition held at the City of Ipswich Pipe Band Hall. Info & entries: www.ipswichpipeband.com/solos

08 - Sydney, NSW - Celtic Council of Australia's Annual Awards Dinner
If you have Scottish, Irish, Cornish, Welsh, Breton, Manx or any other Celtic nation's blood, you should certainly enjoy attending this event at The Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, 169 Castlereagh Street. A tasty 2 course dinner will be served in an iconic setting. Lively entertainment with Irish duo Hooper & O'Toole. Guest speaker will be Dr Marjorie O'Neill, MP for Coogee Cost \$70 p.p. Cash bar. Please contact Suzanne on (02) 4784 2255 or Carol on (02) 9389 1440 for further information or to book.

08 - 10 - Beechworth, VIC - Beechworth Celtic Festival
Once again the Beechworth Celtic Festival is set to attract the crowds of Celtic lovers to Beechworth with the Beechworth Old Gaol Tattoo again featuring on the Saturday Night. The theme of the Tattoo is the celebration of Armistice Day in World War 1 - music and selected stories from the era re-enacted through the eyes of a family between 1914 and 1918. It's the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day on the Sunday. Info: www.beechworthcelticfestival.com.au

09 - St Lucia, QLD - Queensland Highland Pipers' Society-Julie Appleton-Seymour Memorial Contest
Hornpipe and Jig competition at Emmanuel College, Sir William MacGregor Dr. Info: www.qhps.org

09 - Warwick, QLD - Pipes and Drums Concert
The SCOTS PGC College Pipes are calling! Our Pipes and Drums will be performing in the Warwick Town Hall from 4pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to witness some of our talented pipers and drummers in action. Info: www.facebook.com/events/398789717442395

16 - Brunswick, VIC - Brunswick Scottish Society's Ceilidh
Join the Brunswick Scottish Society and learn how to do fun dances, eat a potluck dinner, and have some BYO drinks. Don't worry if you don't know how to dance-the lovely people will teach you. Info: www.facebook.com/BrunswickScottishSociety

17 - Fremantle, WA - Champion of Champions Solos
Solo piping competition presented by the Highland Pipers Society of Perth at Fremantle Sailing Club. Info: www.pipebandswa.com.au

17 - Mitcham, SA - Adelaide Scottish Fiddle Club Annual Concert
Toe tapping jigs & reels and haunting slow airs at the Mitcham Institute. Info: www.adelaidescottishfiddleclub.com.au

23 - 24 - Castle Hill, NSW - A Celtic Affair
Two shows featuring the Governor Macquarie Pipe Band with singer & violinist Eileen McCann at Pioneer Theatre, 12-14 Pennant St. Info/tickets: 0426 134 058 or www.trybooking.com/BFXWD

24 - Forrest, ACT - St Andrews Day - Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service
Kirkin' o' the Tartan, 9:30am - St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, State Circle, all welcome. Clan Banner bearers, please arrive in time to marshal. Info: Susan Cooke info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au 24 - Henley Brook, WA - Festival of Strength @ Elmar's in the Valley Featuring an exciting mix of strength sports competitions including Scottish Heavy events, displays and market stalls. Elmar's in the Valley will be serving traditional Scottish and German food and beers including a special event brew - Highlander Ale at 8731 West Swan Rd. Info: www.highlandgames.org.au

24 - Sydney, NSW - St Andrews Day - Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service
Kirkin' o' the Tartan, 10am - St Stephen's Uniting Church, Macquarie St, all welcome. Clan Banner bearers, please arrive in time to marshal. Info: Susan Cooke info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

24 - Sydney, NSW - Family Ceilidh [RSCDS]
Fun-filled Ceilidh dance social for families and non-dancers supported by more experienced dancers. Afternoon tea included. Music by James Gastineau-Hills. All Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult, at Leichhardt Town Hall, Leichhardt. Info: sydney@rscds.org.au or https://rscds.org.au/attachments/Family_ceilidh_24Nov2019.pdf

24 - Toulkey, NSW - St Andrews Day - Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service
Kirkin' o' the Tartan, 9:30am -A St David's Presbyterian Church, Victoria Ave, all welcome. Clan Banner bearers, please arrive in time to marshal. Info: Susan Cooke info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

25 - Toowong, QLD - Jack McCandlish Memorial Contest
6/8 competitions for Juniors (4 parts) and Seniors (8 parts) presented by the Queensland Highland Pipers Society at The Walrus Club, 543A Coronation Dr. Info: www.qhps.org

29 - Perth, WA - St Andrew's Day Ball
Celebrate with the Saint Andrew Society of Western Australia, with food, music and dance at Pan Pacific Hotel. Info: www.saintandrew.org.au

30 - Inglewood, WA - Caledonian Society of WA November Ceilidh
Come sing and dance to Heel n Toe Ceilidh band on St Andrews Day. Listen to our Piper. Finger food supper supplied BYO alcohol. Children free enter. \$20 non members. Info: John 0427 990 754.

30 - Nationwide - Australia - Happy St Andrew's Day
Saint Andrew's Day is Scotland's official national day. Celebrate St Andrew's Day (or in Scottish Gaelic 'LÀ Naomh Anndrais'), Scotland's patron saint!

30 - Paralowie, SA - GSSHD Annual Concert
Annual dance concert presented by the Garrick Stewart School of Highland Dancing at The Parks Recreation and Sports Centre. Info: garrickstewarthighland@hotmail.com

30 - Rothbury, NSW - Hunter Valley Highland Games
Come experience the very first Hunter Valley Highland Games in beautiful Wine Country. This event promises displays from local pipe and drum bands, Highland dancing, heavy events and of course - fine wine. These games celebrate the deep connection between Australia and Scotland at Saltire Estate, 113 Wilderness Rd. Info: www.huntervalleyhighlandgames.com.au

30 - Sydney, NSW - St Andrews Day Dinner
Traditional Scottish evening with food, drink, dance and piping not to mention haggis, with a Thai twist with Governor Macquarie Memorial Pipe Band. Get your tickets today for this culture adventure at Thai Rock, 28 Bayswater Road. Info: www.trybooking.com/545883

30 - Toowoomba, QLD - St Andrew's Night
Toowoomba Caledonian Society Pipe Band Inc. is celebrating St Andrew's Night in the Drayton Hall commencing at 7pm with the Pipe Band. Come along & enjoy a night of Scottish entertainment. Lots of community Scottish country dancing (all dances are called). Cost of the evening is \$10 Adults pp. School-aged children Over 13 \$5.00 & under 13 free & a plate of food for supper. Contact Marg 0429700217 for large group bookings.

30 - Townsville, QLD - Saint Andrews Gala Event
Tribute to St Andrews with pipes and drums, Parade of Clan Banners, Highland dancing, Scottish food and more at Rydges Hotel, 23 Palmer St. Info: 0427 047 862 or rlspipebands@v@gmail.com

30 - Wongawallan, QLD - St Andrews Dinner
Enjoy outstanding performances by the Brisbane City Pipe Band. An event of over 20+ pipers and drummers celebrating St Andrews Day over 3 course dinner including haggis at Fox and Hounds Country Inn, 7 Elevation Dr. Info: 07 5665 7582 or www.foxandhounds.net.au

DECEMBER 2019

07 - Daylesford, VIC - Daylesford Highland Gathering
Gathering includes a captivating Street March in the Main Street of Daylesford and then a full days Drumming, Piping and Dancing at the picturesque Victoria Park, located at the southern entrance of Daylesford. Info: www.daylesfordhighland.com

15 - Adelaide, SA - Mighty Mini MacLeod end of year event
The Mighty Mini Macleods end the year on a high at The Beachouse Swimming Centre. We will have fun, plan next year's activities and start the school holidays. Meet in the foyer at 3:00pm near the ticket office of The Beachouse, 4 Colley Terrace, Glenelg Beach. Cost from \$20.00. Info: Nicole 0415 654 836 or www.thebeachouse.com.au

25 - Nationwide - Australia - Happy Christmas
Wishing all our readers and friends a very Happy Christmas and festive season!

31 - Inglewood, WA - Caledonian Society of WA Hogmanay Ceilidh
Come sing and dance to Heel n Toe Ceilidh band. Listen to our Piper. Finger food supper supplied BYO alcohol. Children free enter. \$20 non members. Info: John 0427 990 754.

31 - Nationwide - Australia - Happy Hogmanay
The Scottish Banner wishes all our readers and friends a very Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2020!

NEW ZEALAND

NOVEMBER 2019

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

02 - Auckland - Auckland Biannual Ceilidh
Featuring the talented live band The Chias, be prepared for a wild night full of fun and laughter with ceilidh dancing for all, no matter your age, stage or dancing ability! All dances are called (taught) at 595 Te Atatu Rd. Info: www.facebook.com/events/1376532139161529

02 - Carterton - Carterton Annual Dance
Scottish country dancing at Carterton Events Centre. Info: www.lowerhuttscd.org.nz

02 - Feilding - Ceilidh
The cheerful melodies of Scottish music will make you want to dance, so get ready for a night to remember! While traditionally 'ceilidh' was a term used for any kind of social gathering with informal entertainment like music, storytelling and dance, these days the main element of a ceilidh is usually dancing. Although similar to the more formal Scottish country dancing, it's easier to pick up. At Caledonian Hall, 55 Weld St. Info: www.eventfinda.co.nz/2019/ceilidh/feilding

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

09 - Hororata - The Hororata Highland Games
The event attracts over 300 competitors who compete in Highland Dancing, Piping and Drumming, Tug O' War and the Oceania Heavyweight Championship (professional Scottish heavy athletics). 100s of stalls from Clans to crafts with thousands of visitors, a great Scottish day out. Info: Cindy Driscoll 021 366 606 or www.hororatahighlandgames.org.nz

09 - Wellington - Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh
Come dance with the Wellington Gaelic Club at Wellington City Pipe Band hall on the corner of Hanson and Stokes Street, Newtown. Info: www.wellingtongaelicclub.org.nz

16 - Whangarei - Marua Scottish Dance
An evening of Haggis, bagpipes, whiskey tasting and music by special guests Kurfew at Marua Community Hall 752 Marua Rd. Info: maruacommunity@gmail.com

23 - Auckland - The Auckland Highland Games & Gathering
The region's largest celebration of Scottish heritage with pipe bands, Clans, entertainment and more at the Ellerslie Event Centre. Info: www.ahg.org.nz

28 - Wellington - VUW Wellington Scottish Interest Group
A friendly group for all interested in all facets of Scottish life - history, culture, etc at the Victoria University of Wellington Law School, Old Government Buildings, Lambton Quay. Info: www.wellyscots.wordpress.com

29 - Dunedin - St Andrews Day
Dugald Robert Mackay will be onsite to mark St Andrews Day complete with bagpipes to bring life to Dunedin's Scottish heritage as he pipes his way through the galleries at Toituo Otago Settlers Museum, 31 Queens Garden. Info: www.toituosm.com

30 - Nationwide - New Zealand - Happy St Andrew's Day
Saint Andrew's Day is Scotland's official national day. Celebrate St Andrew's Day (or in Scottish Gaelic 'LÀ Naomh Anndrais'), Scotland's patron saint!

DECEMBER 2019

01 - Wellington - New Zealand - Shetland Society of Wellington Christmas Party
Christmas Party and Members' Afternoon Tea. Info: www.shetlandwellington.org.nz

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

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

14 - Christchurch - Christmas Celebration with a Celtic Spirit
Celebrate the holiday's with a Celtic spirit at Nut Point Centre, 703 Old West Coast Road /222 Langdales Rd. Info: 03 342 1033.

14 - Palmerston North - 40th Jenny Mair Highland Square Day
Upwards of 20 Highland Pipe Bands and scores of contestant solo bagpipers and solo drummers will converge on The Square, with an extra special element this year in celebrating this milestone. Info: A Brent Le Quesne on 027 289 8711 or blequesne@gmail.com.

14 - Wellington - Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh
Come dance with the Wellington Gaelic Club at Wellington City Pipe Band hall on the corner of Hanson and Stokes Street, Newtown. Info: www.wellingtongaelicclub.org.nz

25 - Nationwide - Happy Christmas
Wishing all our readers and friends a very Happy Christmas and festive season!

28 - Wellington - VUW Wellington Scottish Interest Group
A friendly group for all interested in all facets of Scottish life - history, culture, etc at the Victoria University of Wellington Law School, Old Government Buildings, Lambton Quay. Info: www.wellyscots.wordpress.com

28 - January 05 - Cambridge - 2019-20 RSCDS New Zealand Branch Summer School
Scottish country dance classes and events at St Peters School. Info: <https://ss2019.waibopscd.org.nz>

31 - Nationwide - Happy Hogmanay
The Scottish Banner wishes all our readers and friends a very Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2020!

SCOTLAND

NOVEMBER 2019

02 - 04 - Perthshire - The Perthshire Amber Festival
A variety of music events across Perthshire with Dougie Maclean and friends including; music sessions, a triple Cabaret Amber, a big Dougie concert at Perth Concert Hall, and a Farewell Concert/Event. Info: www.perthshireamber.com

03 - Hamilton - Festival of Remembrance
Ceremony in remembrance of the members of the armed forces who sacrificed their lives for our safety, featuring dramatic and musical performances. Info: www.sllcboxoffice.co.uk

09 - December 31 - Glasgow - Glasgow Loves Christmas
Magical events, shopping and festive fun in the heart of the city. Info: www.glasgowloveschristmas.com

14 - Edinburgh - The Lost Medieval Towers of Edinburgh Castle
Edinburgh Castle is one of the most iconic of world monuments with almost 2 million visitors every year, and yet its medieval form has remained a mystery. This lecture will focus on how recent historical research and archaeological investigations have begun to reveal how different the Castle looked to Robert Bruce and the Stewart kings. Info: www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk

15 - 17 - Edinburgh - Scots Fiddle Festival
This exciting, fiddle-fuelled weekend returns in 2019 with concerts, recitals, workshops, talks, stalls, sessions, festival clubs, and ceilidhs. Info: www.scotsfiddlefestival.com

16 - January 04 - Edinburgh - Edinburgh's Christmas
Edinburgh's Christmas is a spectacular, six-week season of festive entertainment in the heart of the city centre and also a Christmas Market. Info: www.edinburghschristmas.com

25 - December 01 - East Lothian - The Saltire Festival
There will be exciting events marking St. Andrew's Day taking place across East Lothian from Monday 25th November - Sunday 1st December bringing together the very best of Scotland in the Home of the Flag. Info: www.visiteastlothian.org/the-saltire

26 - Edinburgh - The Making of a 21st century Edinburgh Castle - Fortress, Barracks, Monument and Commodity
The lecture traces the multiple fascinating episodes in history that made Edinburgh Castle the tourist attraction it is today, at Lauriston Castle. Info: www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk

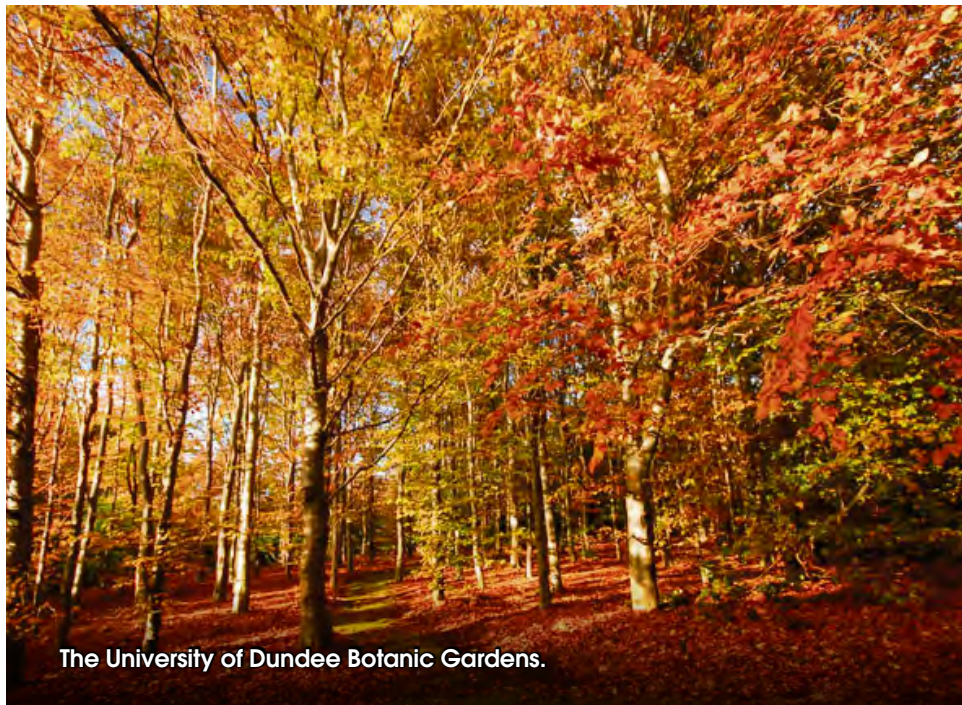
30 - Dumfries - Drambusters Whisky Festival
A festival celebrating the water of life. Meet the makers and celebrities of the whisky world and have a wee dram of a range of malts and other spirits. Info: www.drambusters.com

30 - Nationwide - Scotland - Happy St Andrew's Day
Saint Andrew's Day is Scotland's official national day. Celebrate St Andrew's Day (or in Scottish Gaelic 'LÀ Naomh Anndrais'), Scotland's patron saint!

Scotword answers from page 6

Across:	Down:
1-Accordionists	2-Collier
10-Illegal	3-Orgy
11-Toe Nail	4-Dulse
13-Besom	5-Outdo
15-Wean	6-Idea
18-Apron	7-Tranent
19-With	8-Highland Fling
20-Syllabi	9-Blunderbusses
21-Drone	14-Scallop
23-Squib	16-Onset
25-Lake	17-Twist
26-Ample	22-Orkneys
29-Jigs	24-Unicorn
32-Needled	27-Medal
33-Twosome	28-Lutes
34-Establishment	30-Alba
	31-Loom

Fall for Scotland's autumn colours



The University of Dundee Botanic Gardens.

All senses come alive during autumn in Scotland. From the satisfying sounds of leaves crunching beneath our feet, the smell of crisp air and seeing captivating landscapes all around, autumn is the perfect time to take a holiday break to spectacular Scotland.

VisitScotland has rounded up one-of-a-kind autumn break suggestions from light shows in an Enchanted Forest to seeing the changing colours of Old Aberdeen, both chosen by *Lonely Planet's Ultimate United Kingdom Travelist*.

Leaves

Scotland is beautiful every time of year, however the striking woodland landscapes of red, orange and yellow are something everyone must experience at least once in their lifetime.

With seven out of the ten largest forests in the UK in Scotland, visitors will be spoilt for choice when it comes to immersing themselves in fiery scenery during their woodland walks. One of these forests is Tay Forest Park, a perfect oasis for forest bathing and mindfulness. Be sure to wander to the famous Queen's View overlooking the scenic Loch Tummel. In 1886, Queen Victoria visited the breathtaking site and believed it was named after her when in fact it was named after Robert the Bruce's first wife, Isabella, 500 years earlier.

Lonely Planet recently released their *Ultimate United Kingdom Travelist*, ranking the top 500 experiences in the UK which includes seeing the changing colours of Old Aberdeen as one of their picks. Stroll through Seaton Park, one of the city's largest open green spaces and treat yourself to an autumn picnic by the Brig o' Balgownie, which may be Scotland's oldest bridge. Lucky visitors may catch the Aberdeen Football club training in the park! Explore the outstanding architecture amongst the colourful trees at University of Aberdeen and don't miss the historic 15th century King's College Chapel before you leaf, leave.

Lights

A fun fact is that northern Scotland lies at the same latitude as Stavanger in Norway and Nunivak Island in Alaska. This means those visiting Scotland in autumn or

winter have a good chance of seeing the 'Mirrie Dancers' and can cross watching the northern lights off their travel bucket list! Some of the best places to spot them include Shetland, Orkney, Caithness, Moray Coast, The Cairngorms and Lewis, Harris.

Scotland makes stargazing easy with its multiple Dark Sky attractions. Galloway Forest Park is Britain's largest forest park and was named the first Dark Sky Park in the UK. Visitors can marvel at the illuminated sky of over 7,000 stars and planets visible to the naked eye and can enjoy a new show every night because as the earth rotates, we get a different view of the sky! An hour outside the park, starry-eyed wanderers can visit Moffat, a historic spa town and Europe's first Dark Sky Town.

For those looking for a truly off-the-grid destination, head to Isle of Coll a small Hebridean island ten kilometres west of Mull. Famous for its sandy beaches

and turquoise waters, another star of this island is the sky. With a population of under 165, this small island has no street lights and because of its geographic isolation it became the first official Dark Sky island in Scotland.

Halloween can trace its beginnings to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhuinn which celebrates the end of harvest season and beginning of winter. Traditionally during this time, the Celtic people would light large bonfires to ward off malevolent entities. The Samhuinn Fire Festival held in Edinburgh on 31 October is an exciting event where Calton Hill will be lit up with fire-dancing, wild drumming, acrobatics and more.

Another exciting event taking place from 3rd October to 3rd November is the multi award-winning event Enchanted Forest which has been named UK's Best Cultural Event, Best Outdoor Festival, Scotland's Best Large Event and joining the likes of walking old Aberdeen, secured a spot in *Lonely Planet's Ultimate UK Travelist*. Walk through this magical forest in Pitlochry and immerse in an incredible outdoor sound and light show. Before arriving in Pitlochry, hunt for aliens in the UFO capital of Scotland, Bonnybridge. With over 300 UFO sightings every year, this town gets more sightings than anywhere else on earth!

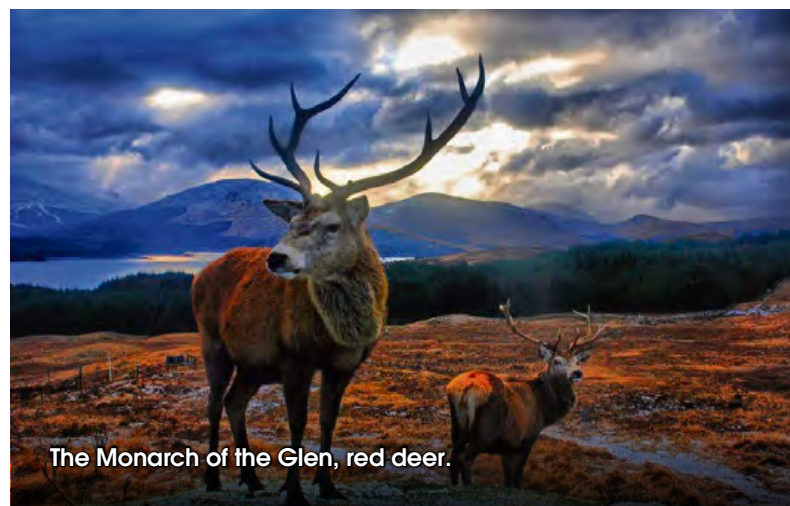
Life

Amongst the vast forests and sea is a plethora of wildlife to spot. Autumn is an especially good time to witness salmon leaping. As wild salmon make their journey back to the ocean, head to the Philiphaugh Salmon Viewing Centre near Selkirk in the Scottish Borders. Here, visitors can witness the salmon experience and go to the visitor centre dedicated to the fish. For the best sightings, go in the early morning or evening in October and November as the fish tend to be more active.

Between late September and late November, grey seal pups stay ashore until they've finished weaning and moulting. Tour the Moray Firth for a good chance to see them as well as bottlenose dolphins. For larger marine life, follow the Hebridean Whale Trail, a first of its kind in the UK. This trail has developed 25 whale-watching and whale heritage sites across the west coast of Scotland.

In the isles of Arran, Jura and Rum it will be hard to miss the UK's largest land mammal, red deer. Every autumn, the male stags battle each other to win the right to mate with the females. Be careful and only view the sight from a distance. Scotland boasts the most redheads in the world, including the adorable red squirrel which is the UK's only native squirrel species. With less than 150,000 left they are under threat due to their grey American cousins and can be found in the conifer forest of Cairngorms National Park and Galloway Forest Park. In the western highlands see if you can spot the world's fastest animal – the Peregrine falcon who can fly up to 2000 miles an hour!

Eating local and seasonal has been proven to be healthier and better for the environment. There are dozens of edible wild mushrooms in Scotland and autumn is the best time to pick them. For those who may not be as familiar with picking their own food, join a foraging stay at Gartmore House in Stirlingshire or join a mushroom foraging course in Perthshire with Monica Wilde Foraging. There are also about 10 different edible berries found in Scottish woodlands growing largely in Perthshire, Fife, Aberdeenshire, the Highlands, Arran, Ayrshire and the Scottish Borders. Be sure to do your research before foraging and do not pick any food if you are not certain what it is.



The Monarch of the Glen, red deer.



The Enchanted Forest in Highland Perthshire.

Auckland Highland Games

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IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN - ST ANDREW'S DAY MENU



Cullen Skink

Ingredients:

1 tbsp. olive or vegetable oil
1 leek, well-rinsed, chopped and cut into rough 2cm cubes
1 litre fish stock
200g waxy potatoes, peeled and cut into roughly 2cm cubes
300g undyed smoked Scottish haddock fillet
1 bay leaf
Freshly ground pepper
2 tbsp whipping cream
Chives, roughly chopped

Method:

Warm the oil in a pan. Add the chopped leek, cover and gently cook for a few minutes until soft. Add the stock, bay leaf, potato and haddock. Season lightly with black pepper. Bring to the boil and simmer for 15 minutes.

Remove the haddock from the pan with a slotted spoon. When the fish is cool enough to handle, remove any skin and bones, then flake the haddock back into the pan.

Blend a ladle full of the soup in a liquidiser and return to the pan. Stir in the double cream and simmer for another 2-3 minutes. Add more black pepper if necessary, then sprinkle with the chopped chives and serve.

Serve with chunks of fresh wholemeal or granary bread.

Neeps & Tatties

Ingredients:

8 large baking potatoes, washed, peel left on and cut into 2cm x 4cm chunks
6 tbsp. light olive oil or sunflower
1 swede weighing about 675g/1½ lb, peeled and roughly chopped
50g/1.5oz butter, plus extra for serving

Method

The day before you want to serve, preheat the oven to fan oven 200C/390F or conventional 220C/425F/gas 7. Put the potatoes into a pan of lightly salted water, return to the boil and cook for 5 minutes. Drain the potatoes, put them back into the pan and place it back on the heat for a couple of minutes to dry out.

Pour the oil into a large roasting tin (you may have to use two) and heat it in the oven until smoking hot. Now stir the potatoes into the hot oil and return to the oven to roast, turning occasionally, for 55 minutes.

Cook the swede in boiling salted water for 50-55 minutes, or until very soft. Drain and add to the roasted potatoes. Roughly mash everything together, keeping quite chunky, then cool, cover and keep in a cool place.

To serve, preheat the oven to fan 180C/350F conventional 200C/390F/gas 6. Uncover the potatoes and swede, dot with the butter and put in the oven to reheat for 25-30 minutes, stirring now and again until piping hot. Serve with lots of butter.

Rosemary Roasted Scotch Lamb

Ingredients:

Leg of Scotch Lamb weighing 1.8kg
A couple of stems fresh rosemary
6 baking potatoes about 1.4kg, peeled
1 onion, sliced
2 cloves garlic, sliced
1tbsp olive oil
¾pt lamb stock

Method:

Preheat the oven to 240°C/475°F/Gas 9. Season the lamb with freshly ground pepper and roast in a medium roasting tray in the preheated oven for 15 minutes. Lower the heat to 180°C/350°F/Gas 4. Remove the lamb from the tray and pour off the excess fat.

While the lamb is roasting, heat the oil in a pan, add the onions and cover and cook for 5 minutes till soft. Remove the cover from the pan, add the garlic and rosemary and cook for a further 5 minutes. Remove the onions from the pan.

Lay a layer of potatoes into the roasting tray and lightly season with black pepper. Lay 1/3 of the cooked onions onto the potatoes, repeat this process until you have three or four layers of potatoes and onions.

Bring the lamb stock to the boil and pour over the potatoes, press down with a spoon till the potatoes are all submerged.

Place the lamb on top and return to the preheated oven and continue to cook for 3 hours.

The lamb should be meltingly tender and the potatoes and onions should have absorbed the stock and lamb juices.

Skirlie mash



Ingredients:

1kg/2.2 lbs. floury potatoes
85g/3oz. butter
2 onions, finely chopped
50g/1.76oz. pinhead or medium oatmeal (not flakes)
6 tbsp. double cream
handful curly parsley, chopped

Method:

Boil the potatoes until very tender, about 20 mins. Meanwhile, make the skirlie. Heat the butter in a frying pan, add the onion and cook for 10 mins until golden and soft. Add the oatmeal and stir until the butter is absorbed and the mix looks dry. Continue cooking until the skirlie is toasted, stirring (skirling round the pan) all the time for 5 mins, but do not let it catch and burn. Remove and keep warm. Drain the potatoes, return to the hot pan and mash really well. Beat in the cream, parsley and skirlie, then season to taste. Serve immediately before the skirlie softens.

Cranachan

Ingredients:

570ml/1 pint double cream
85g/3oz. porridge oats
7 tbsp. whisky
3 tbsp. honey
450g/1lb. raspberries
fresh mint, to garnish

Method:

Toast the oats in a frying pan, being careful not to burn them.

Lightly whip the cream until it reaches the soft peak stage, then fold in the whisky, honey, oatmeal and raspberries.

Serve in dessert glasses garnished with a few raspberries and mint.



Celebrate this St Andrew's Day with a traditional dinner using some of the finest recipes from Scotland's natural larder. Sample some great Scottish food and drink on November 30th with your friends and family and enjoy a St Andrew's Night!

Oat Biscuits



Ingredients:

2 cups of Scottish oats
1½ cups of plain flour
4 oz. of margarine or butter
1 generous tbsp. of honey
½ cup of sugar
1 flat tsp of baking soda
1 tbsp. of water
Pinch of salt
Powdered sugar

Method:

Mix the ingredients:
Add flour, baking soda, sugar and salt to a mixing bowl
Hand mix until blended
Add Scottish oats, melted butter and honey
Hand mix the mixture
Add water if the mix is a wee bit dry
Bake the biscuits:
Hand roll the mixture into small balls
Place balls on a baking sheet
Press down on each ball with a fork
Bake at 350 degrees for 10-15 minutes
Final presentation:
Remove from oven and let cool for 5 minutes
Transfer biscuits from the baking sheet to a plate
Sprinkle with powdered sugar Enjoy!

Scottish Berry Brulee

Ingredients:

450g/1lb. strawberry
225g/8 oz. raspberries
112g/4 oz. blueberries
2 tablespoons caster sugar
1 orange, juice of, and zested
200g/7 oz. Greek yogurt
200g/7 oz. creme fraiche
3 tablespoons soft brown sugar
1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Method:

Place all berries in an ovenproof dish, sprinkle over 1 tbsp. caster sugar and the zest and juice of the orange. Mix together the yoghurt, creme fraiche and remaining caster sugar and spread over the fruit and leave in fridge for 2 hours.

Sprinkle the soft brown sugar over the top and dust with the cinnamon, place under a hot grill until the sugar melts. Serve immediately.

By: Nick Drainey

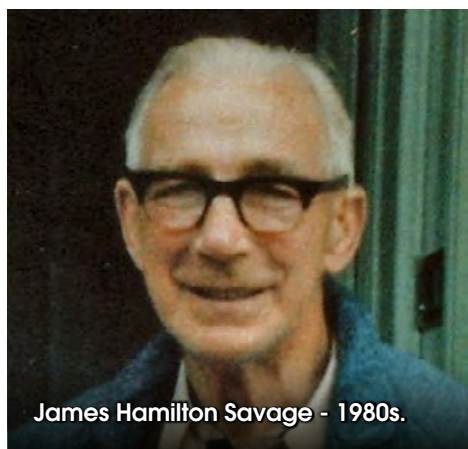


Behind Enemy Lines - A Scottish Beekeepers Story

Every year on November 11, millions of people pause in a moment of silence to honour and remember the men and women who have served, and continue to serve during times of war, conflict and peace. Company Sergeant Major James Hamilton Savage persuaded the Nazi guards in Stalag 383 to allow him to set up beehives behind the barbed wire fences of war. Allowing Savage to cultivate sweet honey amongst the dark horrors of war, as Nick Drainey explains.



Stalag 383 - CSM James Hamilton Savage holding honey while watched by camp guard.



James Hamilton Savage - 1980s.

The long-forgotten story of a beekeeping Scottish prisoner of war has been unearthed by researchers pouring over the archives of Scotland's Rural College. Despite refusing to "slave" for Hitler and being forced to endure a bitter march across Europe after his capture, Company Sergeant Major (CSM) James Hamilton Savage persuaded the Nazi guards in Stalag 383 to allow him to set up beehives behind the barbed wire fences.

His incredible story came to light after librarians discovered a record of the former head of beekeeping at the West of Scotland Agricultural College, now the SRUC. CSM Savage was captured and taken Prisoner of War in St Valéry en Caux in northern France in 1940 after the 51st Highland Division were left behind following the Dunkirk evacuation.

There followed a forced march across Europe to Poland, where he and hundreds of other non-commissioned officers (NCOs) refused to work for Hitler. They ended up being moved to Stalag 383 near Hohenfels in Bavaria, where his love of bees flourished.

In 1942 the Captive Drones Association was started by CSM Savage – he had first learned beekeeping from his father in Ayrshire but was able to get books through the Red Cross. President of the association and close friend was Captain (Rev) Kenneth Grant who went on to become Bishop of Argyll and the Isles after the war.

His grandson, Trevor Pocknell, who lives in Northamptonshire says the Nazi's "could have just shot him" when he refused to work for Hitler. "It ended up being 10s and then 100s of NCOs who the Germans just couldn't get to slave for them. They completely refused and went through all sorts of ordeals – being chained up and thrown into prison but they wouldn't change their minds. They ended up being put into Stalag 383 in Bavaria – a prisoner of war camp for NCOs who refused to work for the Germans."

A barbed wire university

But they ended up keeping bees in the rather unusual camp. "They organised themselves very well – it has been called a barbed wire university because all sorts of education went on. They talked the Germans into providing things in exchange for cigarettes and things from their Red Cross parcels.

The long-forgotten story of a beekeeping Scottish prisoner of war has been unearthed by researchers pouring over the archives of Scotland's Rural College.

My grandfather was taken out to meet a beekeeper in the neighbouring village of Hohenfels. The beekeeper wasn't impressed to start with because grandad was a soldier but when he realised he was a knowledgeable beekeeper they got on like a house on fire. In fact, the German provided the first hive and bees", Trevor said.

The first hive came from the village and his grandfather began making hives from Red Cross crates sent to the camp and when bees swarmed above the camp CSM Savage caught some to put in the subsequent hives.



Stalag 383 - CSM James Hamilton Savage bottom left outside his hut at PoW camp FL-R Savage Adams X Vincent ML-R Loizou Redford Chartry Bacon Davey BL.

Trevor continued, "He would have learned from his father and he further educated himself because they were able to get books through the Red Cross and the YMCA. The British Beekeeping Association helped them in every way they could including in examinations - my grandfather was teaching the other beekeepers." He and others were also able to take British Beekeeping Association certificates as the membership of the group reached the hundreds and the number of hives rose to 12 – kept on a small hill away from the main buildings of the camp.

The prisoners, however, only got to taste a little of the honey with their meagre rations. Most of it stayed with the bees to help them survive winter and the PoWs gave some of their sugar rations to them as well. Rather than a source of food, beekeeping was something to keep them occupied, says Trevor. "It was keeping them interested in something rather than mulling over their situation. They were basically in there for the whole of the war."

When war ended it was recorded that he hid in a coal heap with other PoWs, worried about reprisals from the Germans. "The Germans were running scared and they moved everyone out of the camp. The prisoners would have been worried about their fate."

He left the military after the war and went to West of Scotland Agricultural College where he was employed as a lecturer in beekeeping, eventually becoming the Head of Beekeeping.



James Hamilton Savage - 1950s beekeeping.

His work there was informed by his experiences in Stalag 383. Trevor says: "He not only learned these things, he developed new ways of separating queen bees and building hives. He passed that on to his students."

The family tree

Trevor said the wider family only became aware of the exploits of CSM Savage when he began researching it long after his death. Born in Kirkoswald, Ayrshire in 1901, he had actually joined The Queens Own Cameron Highlanders in 1922 and was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in Palestine in the 1930s - despite chest and knee injuries in an ambushed lorry accident he covered Capt. C.S. Clarke in a counter-attack, using a Lewis gun. Trevor says: "The reason I got into it is because my grandad did a brain dump of the family tree which my mum wrote on to a piece of paper. It is that piece of paper with grandad's memories which is what started me. I found the odd error in his memory but largely he was correct – very clever man."

Although he died in 1986, aged 85, his grandson still has fond memories of him and says despite the horrors of war which he endured, particularly the capture at St Valéry and cruel march across Europe, he was "soft spoken and never had an angry word". He didn't, however, talk about his experiences in the war. "I have met veterans of the war and they often don't talk," said Trevor. He added: "He came across as a very loving, family man – always happy and always friendly. He was always very clever and intelligent; he could make things with his hands, he could do everything."



James Hamilton Savage - 1936 Company Quartermaster Sergeant in the 2nd Battalion of the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders.



Stalag 383 Capt (Rev) Grant (l) & CSM James Hamilton Savage (r)

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

1 - Bank of Scotland founded by an Act of the Scottish Parliament. **1695**

1 - Scotland made a serious bid to enter the lucrative English sea-trading market. The Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies issued a subscription list to stockholders in London. Later known as The Darien Company, £300,000 sterling was quickly raised, but London merchants saw it as a threat to their own East India Company. They put pressure on the King, and the English subscriptions were withdrawn at the behest of their government. **1695**

2 - Tom Johnston, one of Scotland's best known Secretaries of State, born in Kirkintilloch. **1881**

3 - Queen Elizabeth officially opened an underwater pipeline to bring the first North Sea oil ashore. **1975**

3 - The Scottish expedition to Darien landed at 'New Caledonia'. The expedition left Leith on the 12th July 1698, heading for the isthmus of Panama. The enterprise began in 1695 when the Scottish Parliament passed an Act for the establishment of the 'Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies'. **1698**

4 - Birth of King William III. **1650**



5 - Opening of the original Mitchell Library, Glasgow, now the largest public reference library in Europe and is home to one of the world's finest collections of Robert Burns materials. **1877**



6 - Celtic Football Club formally constituted in Calton, Glasgow, to alleviate poverty in Glasgow's East End parishes. The first Celtic Park was established on a vacant lot next to St Mary's Church. **1887**

7 - Writer and World War Two garrison commander Eric Linklater died in Orkney. **1974**

8 - Scholar and philosopher John Duns Scotus died. His dry subtleties led to the word "Duns" or "dunce" meaning dull and incapable of learning. Beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1993. **1308**

9 - In Edinburgh, Sir James Young Simpson delivered Wilhelmina Carstairs while chloroform was administered to the mother, the first child to be born with the aid of anaesthesia. **1847**



9 - The Royal Yacht Britannia left the Clydebank shipyards to begin her speed trials. Built by John Brown's shipbuilders, she was famously luxurious and entertained countless dignitaries in opulent style. The Britannia carried the royal family on more than 1000 visits to over 600 countries. Today she is moored at Ocean Point, Edinburgh. **1953**

9 - Dorothy Dunnett, the cult Scottish novelist, died. The writer of intricate and meticulously researched historical novels, she attracted a devoted following with her multi-volume sagas. **2001**

10 - Journalist Henry M Stanley found the missing Scottish missionary David Livingstone with the classic "Dr Livingstone, I presume" **1871**

11 - Armistice Day, marking the end of hostilities in World War I. The guns were finally silenced on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Though Scots made up only 10% of the UK population at the time, a total of 147,609 Scottish people were killed during the war, a fifth of Britain's total dead. **1918**

11 - Today is Martinmas, Scottish Quarter Day. The feast of St Martin of Tours was traditionally the day for slaughtering livestock and salting it for preservation through the winter.

12 - St Machar Day, patron saint of Aberdeen.



12 - Edinburgh University first admitted women to the study of medicine. Sophia Jex-Blake and her friend Edith Pechy were the first to attend the prestigious medical school. Though Jex-Blake passed her exams, she was not allowed to graduate as regulations prevented women from actually serving on the wards. **1869**

13 - King Malcolm III (Canmore), last of the Celtic kings was killed at the Battle of Alnwick. Succeeded by Donald III. **1093**

13 - The birth of Robert Louis Stevenson, author and poet, in Edinburgh's New Town. His books included *Treasure Island* and *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. He died in Samoa, aged 44. **1850**

14 - Speed limit for horseless carriages was raised from 4mph (2mph in towns) to 14mph. **1896**



15 - Statue to Greyfriar's Bobby, who stayed by his master's grave for 14 years was unveiled. **1873**

15 - The Stone of Destiny was finally returned to Scotland. Legend has it that the stone is a relic from the Holy Land and once belonged to the biblical Jacob. From an early date the kings of Scotland were inaugurated sitting on a royal chair with the stone in its base. In 1296 Edward I removed the stone and installed it at Westminster Abbey. It remained there until it was kidnapped by Scottish nationalist students in 1951. They managed to hide the stone in Scotland for four months until it was found and returned to Westminster. It was moved from there to Edinburgh Castle in 1996 amid much celebration. **1996**

16 - Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show opened in the East End Exhibition Buildings, Duke Street, Glasgow. **1891**

16 - James Macpherson, the famous fiddling freebooter, was hanged at Banff. The town clock was said to have been advanced to forestall a messenger carrying a reprieve for his hanging. Legend has it that before the notorious outlaw musician was hanged for sheep and cattle stealing he treated the crowd to one of his own compositions, *Macpherson's Rant*, and then broke the fiddle over his knee. When Burns heard of the tale he wrote the song *Macpherson's Farewell*. **1700**



17 - Tam the Gun - the soldier who famously fired Edinburgh Castle's One o'Clock Gun for more than 25 years died. Staff Sergeant Thomas McKay, 60, lost a year-long battle against bowel cancer. **2005**

17 - David Livingstone reached Victoria Falls in Africa. Livingstone was born at Blantyre, south of Glasgow and went on a mission to reach new peoples in the interior of Africa and introduce them to Christianity. **1855**

18 - Sir David Wilkie who later became a well-known painter of historical and religious works as well as portraits, was born near Pitlessie, Fife. **1785**

18 - Robin Hall, the Scottish folk singer and musician, died. Hall achieved national fame in the sixties along with fellow Scot, Jimmie Macgregor, on the BBC TV show, *Tonight*. Hits included *The Mingulay Boat Song* and schoolboy favourite, *Ye Cannae Shove Yer Grannie Aff a Bus*.

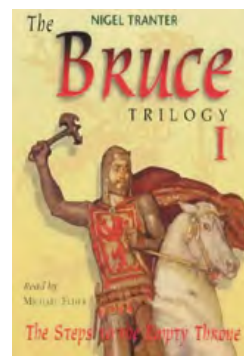
19 - King Charles I born. **1600**

20 James Bruce, 8th Lord Elgin, the Scottish Liberal statesman and diplomat, died. During his career he served as Governor-General of Canada, 1847-54, and India, 1862-63 and was special envoy to China and Japan. During a visit to China he burnt down the emperor's famous Summer Palace in Beijing, destroying thousands of priceless works of art, in order to intimidate the emperor and force him to sign an unratified treaty. **1863**

21 - King James VII married Mary of Modena. **1673**

22 - Birth of Mary of Guise, the French Queen Consort of James V. She was regent of Scotland during the minority reign of her daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots. **1515**

22 - Jack McConnell elected First Minister of Scotland, succeeding Henry McLeish who had resigned. **2001**



23 - Historical novelist Nigel Tranter born in Glasgow. He was the most prolific Scottish writer of all time, writing mainly factual and fictional books related to Scottish history and was also a columnist for *the Scottish Banner*. **1909**

24 - David II (aged 7) crowned at Scone. **1331**

24 - The Scots army defeated at the Rout of Solway Moss. King James V had sent a huge force of 10,000 men into England which was defeated by an English force under the command of Sir Thomas Wharton. James died shortly afterward, and was succeeded to the throne by his baby daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots. **1542**

25 - General Tam Dalyell raises a regiment to suppress Covenanters which later became the Royal Scots Greys. **1681**

25 - Helen Duncan the last person to be jailed in the UK under the British Witchcraft Act of 1735 was born. **1897**

25 - Steel magnate and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie born in Dunfermline. Carnegie became a powerful businessman and a leading force in the American steel industry. Carnegie believed that the wealthy had an obligation to give back to society, so he donated much of his fortune to causes like education and peace. **1835**

26 - Death of John McAdam, inventor of "macadamisation" road surface with a smooth hard surface with a camber to ensure rainwater rapidly drained away. **1836**

26 - Elsie Inglis, the Scottish nursing pioneer and suffragette, died. Inglis is perhaps best remembered for her role in the First World War, where, convinced that women could play an active role in the conflict, she led volunteer medical units of women who served in France and in Serbia, where Inglis herself was taken prisoner. Winston Churchill wrote that Inglis and her nurses "would shine in history". **1917**

27 - The greatest storm on record hit Britain with the loss of 8,000 people in 24 hours. **1703**

27 - The first deaths from an E.coli outbreak in Lanarkshire were reported. The outbreak was subsequently traced back to a butcher's shop in the town of Wishaw, and by early 1997 twenty people, mostly senior citizens, had died, making this the world's worst outbreak of E.coli poisoning. **1996**

28 - Battle of Rullion Green on the Pentland Hills, south-west of Edinburgh, in which the King's army led by Sir Tam Dalyell defeated the Covenanters. **1666**

28 - W.Oliver Brown, the candidate for the fledgling National Party of Scotland (NPS), polled 4,818 votes in the Renfrew East By-Election. In doing this he became the first NPS candidate to save his election deposit. The National Party of Scotland amalgamated with the Scottish Party in April 1934 to form the modern Scottish National Party/SNP. **1930**

29 - Margaret Tudor, daughter of Henry VII of England was born. She later married King James IV of Scotland in the "Union of the Thistle and the Rose". It was due to her bloodline that King James VI of Scotland was able to inherit the crown of England in 1603, after the death of his cousin, Queen Elizabeth I. **1489**

29 - Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons granted its charter by King James VI. **1599**

29 - Thomas Edison demonstrated the phonograph publicly for the first time. **1877**

30 - St Andrew's Day (or in Scottish Gaelic 'Là Naomh Anndrais') - celebrate the patron saint of Scotland. St Andrew, according to Christianity's teachings, was one of Jesus Christ's apostles, the twelve followers chosen by him.



30 - Stone of Destiny, stolen from Scone by King Edward I of England in 1296, returned to Scotland and installed in Edinburgh Castle. The stone had previously been taken from Westminster Abbey in London by university students in 1951. **1996**

30 - World's first international football (soccer) match, Scotland V England at West of Scotland Cricket Ground. Result was 0-0. **1872**

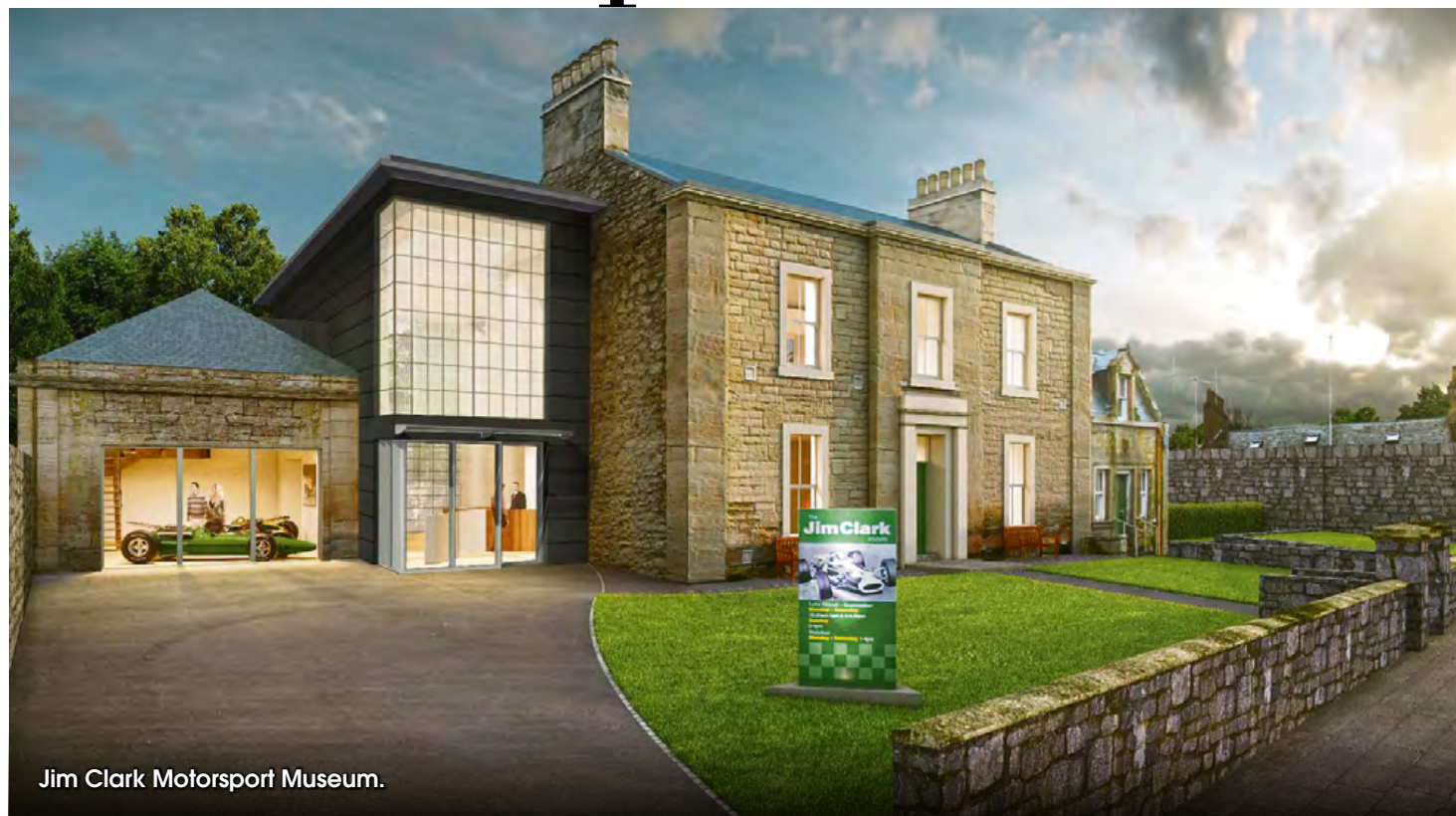
30 - HMS Vanguard, Britain's biggest and last battleship, was launched at Clydebank. **1944**

Sir Jackie Stewart opens Jim Clark Motorsport Museum

Photos: Tony March.



Sir Jackie Stewart.



Jim Clark Motorsport Museum.

Formula One legend, Sir Jackie Stewart OBE, has officially opened the new Jim Clark Motorsport Museum in Duns, Scottish Borders. Speaking about the new Jim Clark Motorsport Museum, Sir Jackie said: "I would like to congratulate everybody who is responsible for being able to bring together enough money to do something as nice as this. Really, you should all be very proud of it and I think a lot more folk are going to come to Duns to see it. Because this goes round the world: Formula One is a global sport and therefore anybody who knows anything about it knows the name Jim Clark, so I think you are going to attract all those people because it is so well done – it is beautiful. I think you are going to have a great success from it. I'm sure everybody in Scotland will be pleased that they have something as important as this in the Scottish Borders."

Sir Jackie added: "When Jim Clark was racing, he was my hero and forever will be. He was certainly the best racing driver I ever raced against, we had a great life together and he was an

enormous help to me and taught me so much about the business. The manner in which he drove racing cars was just different to everybody else, so I had somebody very good to learn from."

Jim Clark is still considered one of the greatest ever racing drivers and remains to this day one of Scotland's most admired sporting heroes.

The museum, which opened to the public in mid-July, has already welcomed more than 5,000 visitors in that time. It honours and charts the life and racing career of the Scottish Borders farmer and double Formula One World Champion Jim Clark, a close friend of Sir Jackie.

One of the greatest ever racing drivers

Euan Jardine, Scottish Borders Council's Executive Member for Culture and Sport, said at the opening: "Today's event marked the culmination of the efforts of so many people from various organisations over a significant period of time. Having Sir Jackie here along with other Jim Clark Trust Patrons, Jim's family, friends and racing compatriots was fitting to not only officially unveil this outstanding new museum but also reflect on Jim's enduring legacy and the inspiration he has provided, and continues to do so, to so many people."

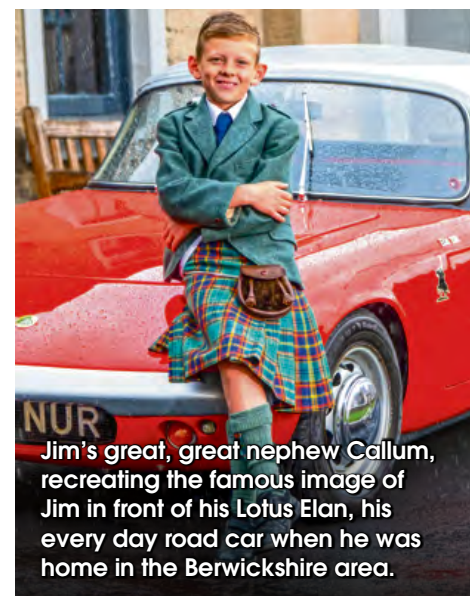
The museum, operated by charity Live Borders, includes two of Jim Clark's race cars, new image galleries, film footage, interactive displays and a simulator. There is also expanded exhibition space showcasing memorabilia and the trophy collection.

The facility was designed by SBC's architects and delivered by local company James Swinton and Co, with many local sub-contractors also supported. Ewan Jackson, Chief Executive Officer of charity Live Borders, said: "We are absolutely honoured that Sir Jackie made the special trip to Duns today to see the new museum and carry out the official opening. The visitor numbers and the feedback from them has been fantastic and we look forward to welcoming many more visitors, from near and far, to this must-visit attraction."

Jim Clark won the Formula One championship in 1963, becoming the then youngest ever World Champion. He followed it up with victory again in 1965 and in the same year won the prestigious Indianapolis 500 in America. He remains the only driver to have won both the Formula One and Indy 500 titles in the same year. Clark tragically died at Hockenheim in Germany at the age of just 32. He was much admired for his modesty and humility alongside his

remarkable natural ability in all forms of motor racing. He is still considered one of the greatest ever racing drivers and remains to this day one of Scotland's most admired sporting heroes.

For more information, visit www.jcmm.org.uk



Jim's great, great nephew Callum, recreating the famous image of Jim in front of his Lotus Elan, his every day road car when he was home in the Berwickshire area.



Border Reiver's celebrate the public opening of the new Jim Clark Motorsport Museum.

By: Mary Garden

Oscar Garden

A Scottish born aviator

In the early morning of 16 October 1930, my father, Oscar Garden, taxied his tiny second-hand Gipsy Moth across the Croydon aerodrome in the grey light and – with a wave of his hand to the only person there to farewell him – took off to Australia. He had carpet slippers on his feet and a packet of sandwiches on his lap. On the day he left, *The Sun* newspaper wrote ‘Aerodrome officials have no idea where he came from’.

He had only learnt to fly a few months before and had a mere 39 flying hours under his belt; his longest flight had been five hours. Miraculously, he survived the 12,000-mile (20,000 km) journey in spite of several forced landings, including a spectacular crash in central India. For up to 16 hours a day he had flown with no navigational aids except a compass, hunched up with no protection from the weather, as he weaved his way through turbulence, lightning, storms and thick clouds, over mountains and across deserts and oceans.

His 18-day-flight was the third fastest after veteran aviators Bert Hinkler and Charles Kingsford Smith. When he landed at Wyndham, the northernmost town in Western Australia, no one was expecting him.

And yet, enormous crowds had greeted his predecessors, Hinkler, Amy Johnson and Kingsford Smith who all made landfall at Darwin. When my father was putting together his own maps for the flight and marking out distances, he noticed that the over-water distance between Koepang (now Kupang in Indonesia) and Darwin was further than if he flew direct to Wyndham. So that is where he had headed.

Sundowner of the Skies

A Sydney journalist dubbed him ‘Sundowner of the Skies’. In Australian folklore, ‘sundowner’ describes an itinerant swagman who arrives unexpectedly out of nowhere on sundown, and disappears the next morning. The name suited my father, as he was forever on the move. His flight captured the world’s imagination. With a lack of fanfare, he had given the impression he had just been setting out on a short pleasure trip, instead of the most formidable feat in aerial navigation. All the countries where he had lived wanted to claim him as their own: he was variously called the Manx, Aussie, New Zealand or Scottish aviator!

However, my father would have considered himself a Scottish aviator. Even though he was to live in New Zealand most of his life, he always considered himself a Scot, and, more importantly, a Highlander. Our Gardens have been Highland Scots for centuries! My father was born in 1903 in Tongue, a small village of about 500 people

in the far north of Scotland. His parents Robert and Rebecca moved to Tongue in 1897 as Robert’s father, Robert Snr, had arranged for him to be the manager of one of his stores. Robert and Rebecca also lived in *Dunvarrich*, a magnificent house made of local granite that Robert Snr had got built in 1894.

Author Mary Garden writes beautifully and honestly of her father, Oscar Garden, a hero from the golden age of aviation when intrepid men in tiny biplanes crossed the globe in flights that startled the world.

The story of Robert Snr is a real ‘rags to riches’ tale. Born into poverty in 1846 in Rayne, Aberdeenshire, at the age of 10 he went to work as a herdy boy, tending cattle and sheep. In 1873 he sailed to Orkney and by the end of the century had become a wealthy trader earning himself the moniker ‘Merchant Prince of Orkney’. As well as horse-drawn wagons set up as ‘travelling shops’, he established a string of stores. His most brilliant idea was ‘floating shops’ – boats converted into departments for drapery, groceries and so forth which serviced Orkney, Shetland and the north of Scotland.

In 2005, after Scotland’s *Northern Times* published one of my articles, I received an email from an Allan Burr who subscribed to that newspaper online. He was a doctor living in Buderim, on Queensland’s Sunshine Coast, a short distance from where I live. Incredibly, he had been born in Tongue and spent summers working in the store. After the breakdown of Robert and Rebecca’s marriage in 1913, Allan’s grandfather, Peter Burr, moved from Orkney to Tongue to manage the store and live in *Dunvarrich*. Allan said the thing that struck him more than anything else was



that a pioneer aviator could have sprung from Tongue. Tongue, of all places. To this day there are no airports in Sutherland.

Remarkably, my father was one of the few survivors of those early years of long-distance flying and was one of a handful who went on to a career in commercial aviation. He ended up at the helm of Tasman Empire Airways (TEAL), the forerunner of Air New Zealand, flying the majestic flying boats between Auckland and Sydney. He left suddenly in 1947, three years before I was born, and never flew a plane again.

Famous aviator

In 1948 he married my mother who hailed from the West Coast of the South Island of New Zealand. They eventually settled in Tauranga in the Bay of Plenty, where my father became a renowned tomato grower. My mother said ‘he grew tomatoes as he flew a plane. A born perfectionist. He was excellent at everything he did: at being a pilot, growing tomatoes, but not a father or husband!’

When I was growing up, I knew little about my father’s former life as a famous aviator. He seldom talked to me about anything, except to bark orders. He commanded our family as if he was still the captain of a flying boat. As well as being authoritarian and harsh, he was puritanical which some put down to his Scottish upbringing. His family were staunch Presbyterians and religion played a central role in their lives.

I couldn’t wait to leave home and get right away from my father! I left New Zealand in 1973 and only saw him on a few occasions after that. So, it is quite remarkable that I have written a book about him, albeit warts and all, but also honouring his legacy. It has been quite a healing journey. After his death in 1997, a book seemed out of the question, but when I became a freelance journalist, I decided to write an article about his 1930 flight. With the little material I had on hand, I thought that was all I could manage.

Sundowner of the Skies – *Mary Garden takes flight with her father* was published in 2005 in the *Australian Financial Review’s* (AFR). I was stunned at the response, with emails from people all over the world. Deepak Somar, a retired pilot for Air India, said, ‘I consider your father’s solo flight from England to Australia in 1930 the single most sustained feat of courage in aviation, since he had little flying experience, he did the maintenance himself, and navigated with just an old-fashioned compass. It would make a good movie.’ I became hooked and began to dig up his past and write more articles.

Continued next page.



Aviator Oscar Garden.



Mary and her father Oscar.

The bewildering world of buying bagpipes – *what to look for in your new set*

Want to buy bagpipes, but not sure where to start? Let The National Piping Centre give you a guide on what to look for.

With the variety of different bagpipes and prices on the market, a new set of bagpipes can seem a daunting process. Today, there are a great number of manufacturers and most are producing excellent instruments. That makes the job of selecting which pipe to buy a difficult one for the prospective purchaser. This guide will help you in that process and give you an insight into what to look for when purchasing your next set of bagpipes.

Sound

Whether you wish to buy a set with or without a pipe chanter, the first consideration is the instrument's most important function: sound. The job of the drones is to project and amplify sound harmonically. The width of the bore can have an effect on producing a satisfactory sound. Most – if not all – drones made in the modern era have a slightly narrower bore than those of yesteryear and the width is fairly uniform regardless of the manufacturer. Variances in bagpipe construction are minor with the differences really only being cosmetic. Engraved silver/nickel mounts look great but they're heavier and more expensive. The factors that will influence you here are price and taste. Just remember: the sound is produced inside. Outside is simply decoration.

You should listen very carefully to the sound produced by the instrument. Does it sound right to your taste? Do you prefer a sound that's sweet and quiet yet still harmonic or one that's harmonic but louder and deeper? Some of our leading solo pipers play old instruments but many do not. Make it a priority to listen to those that play modern instruments and are having success with them. Listen to them and compare their sound. Which sound do you prefer?

The bag

Another key element is the bag. The size of your bag is a crucial factor, it is the length of your upper arm that determines the width of the bag for you, not the length of your forearm. When you play, your wrist should not be squeezing the bag. Rather, it should be free. If your wrist is squeezing the bag then the bag is too large for you and your playing will suffer. So, take advice on which bag size will suit you best. Then there are the varieties of pipe bag – sheepskin or synthetic. This can be personal preference, or determined by your band. Again, ask for advice if you are unsure on which direction would be best for you.

The length of the blow stick is also important. Too short and you will stoop and develop a pain in your neck and back. Too long and your marching may be affected and the chances are you'll also develop a sore neck. It needs to be of a comfortable length for you.

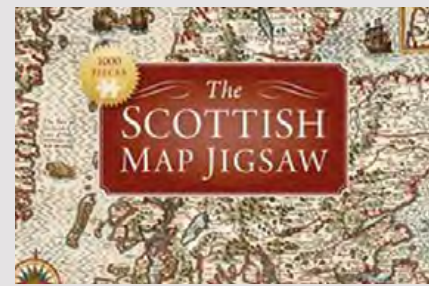
Lastly, another important aspect to consider is type of drone reed. Ask about the differences between cane and synthetic reeds, as with the bag, this is personal preference and can influence the sound and more. They should be airtight, steady, and harmonic.

We would recommend trying a set from your preferred brand in advance if you can. But, if not, you should always try to obtain impartial advice. This can be difficult to come by but The National Piping Centre in Glasgow, Scotland is the best place for this. The staff play pipes made by a variety of manufacturers and they are extremely knowledgeable about the variations from product to product. The staff will offer completely impartial advice, that's right for you.

Order a new set of pipes from The Bagpipe Shop at The National Piping Centre, Glasgow, Scotland – in stock bagpipes ready to be delivered in time for Christmas – www.thebagpipeshop.co.uk

Find out more about the international home of the Great Highland Bagpipe, The National Piping Centre at www.thepipingcentre.co.uk

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The map was created by John Speed (1552–1629), known after his death 'the English Mercator', was one of the best-known mapmakers of his time, and also a noted historian. His atlas *The Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain* (1612) is his most well-known work, which he produced to accompany his monumental History of Great Britain, which was published in 1611.

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TEAL flying boat.

For a while, I felt as if I had entered Aladdin's Cave. As well as discovering gems from my father's flying days, there was a treasure trove of his own family history.

Unique Scottish spirit

It has been a long journey writing this book. For some years I even tried to give up on it, but it wouldn't leave me alone. It didn't help that I kept getting emails from people waiting to read it. I was letting them down! In 2006, Mark from Sydney had written to say he had been delighted to read my article in the *AFR* and had been told I was writing a full account of my father's life and where could he get copies. He wrote again in 2012: 'It is now sometime since I wrote to you regarding the book you were writing on your Father. Are you at a stage of completion yet?'

When the book was published, I rushed a copy off to Mark. A few days later he replied: 'Oscar has arrived. What a triumph. A searingly honest, raw and expressive narrative. He is no longer forgotten and his unique Scottish spirit intact.'

Sundowner of the Skies has now flown all over the world and I've had some wonderful feedback and reviews, including this from Grantlee Kieza, bestselling author of *Bert Hinkler: The Most Daring Man in the World*:

'What a marvellous book. Author Mary Garden writes beautifully and honestly of her father, Oscar Garden, a hero from the golden age of aviation when intrepid men in tiny biplanes crossed the globe in flights that startled the world. In a deeply personal study of a gloriously flawed adventurer, secrets are laid bare and raw emotions are set aflame. This is an important book about a fascinating character and an extraordinary time in aviation history.'

A retired Qantas pilot wrote: 'I have just finished reading your fabulous book and enjoyed it immensely. It is a story that really needed to be told. The other pioneer aviators between the wars, such as Hinkler, Kingsford-Smith, Mollison, Johnson, Batten etc are all well known, but nothing about your father. It must have been a terrible wrench for him to walk away from TEAL at his peak. Your book shows painstaking research, including your family tree, and it is all very well written. The story needed to be told, so well done!!'

My father, Oscar Garden, the Scottish-born aviator, is no longer forgotten. And I can get on with my life.

Sundowner of the Skies: The story of Oscar Garden, The Forgotten Aviator (New Holland) is available from book shops, or direct from the author (postage free in New Zealand or Australia) www.marygarden.com.au

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