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Dunvegan Castle

Scotland's oldest continuously inhabited castle

» Pg 23



born aviator » Pg 30

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Scottish Banner

Publisher Valerie Cairney

Editor Sean Cairney

EDITORIAL STAFF

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

Offices of publication Australasian Office:

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

North American Office: mail@scottishbanner.com

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The Banner Says...

Celebrating St Andrew



by Sean Cairney

s 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



ew 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.

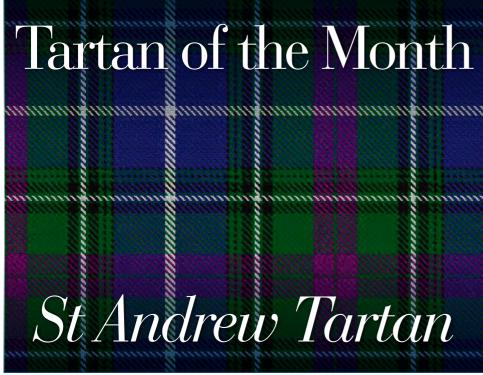
One of the most celebrated urban thoroughfares to be found anywhere in the world

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

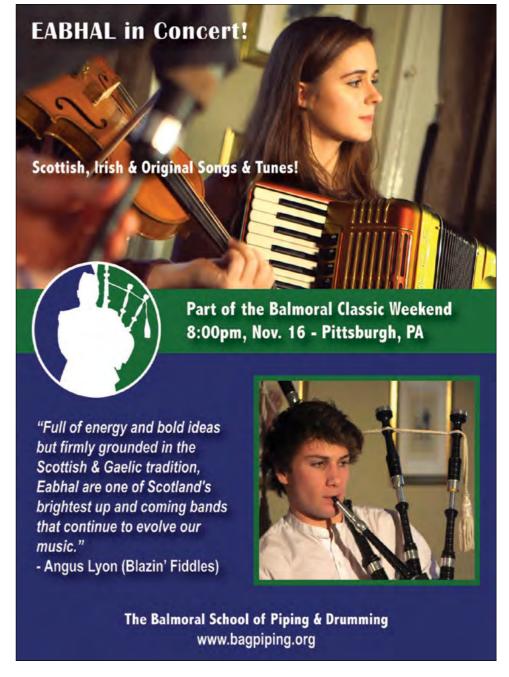
Mile -both as a distinctive place to visit and a unique area to live or work. Healthy high streets need new businesses to open and new residents to move in and, to encourage this, the Council is developing plans to reduce the dominance of car traffic as well as seeking powers to control short-term lets. 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."





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).

s 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.international tartans.co.uk



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*

Isle of Lewis

Australia



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





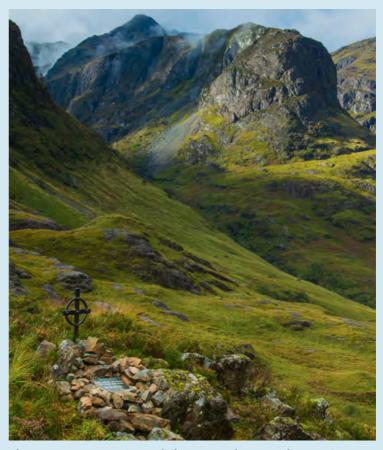


Autumn in Glasgow



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

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

US accolade for landmark Scottish attractions

wo 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 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



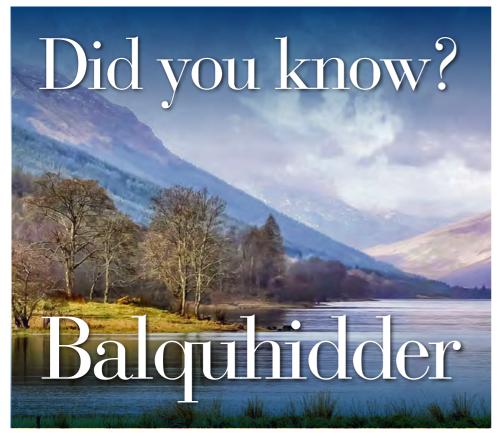
roof serves to conceal its ingenious fusion of architecture, whisky technology and an engaging experience that encapsulates the heritage and innovation of The Macallan.

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 Roughead, 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."





- Balquhidder village properly called 'Kirkton of Balquhidder' 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 Balquhidder.
- Glen Buckie, on the south side of Balquhidder 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 Balquhidder.
- Sandy Lyle, a Scottish professional golfer, born in 1958, is also linked to Balquhidder.
- In the village of Balquhidder 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.



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 veast 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."

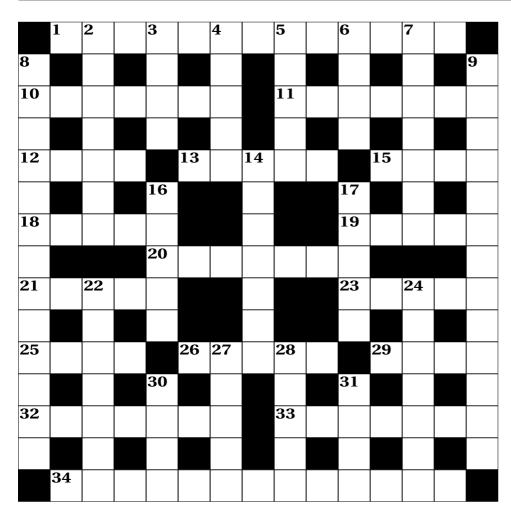
A Church of Scotland spokesperson said as the Church is suing for a share of a £2m Viking treasure trove which was unearthed on land it owns in Dumfries and Galloway. The viking treasures were discovered by a metal detector enthusiast in 2014. The National Museum of Scotland paid almost £2m for the items,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

SCOTWOR



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). 2) He digs fuel! (7).
- 10) Contrary to law (7).
- 11) Foot's end! (7).
- 12) Successor (4).
- 13) Scots sweeper (5).
- 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:

- 3) Drunken revel (4).
- 4) Edible seaweed (5).
- 5) Surpass (5).
- 6) A notion (4).
- 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



ome 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

here 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



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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The Canmore Highland Games



he Canmore Highland Games
Society once again presented the
Canmore Highland Games in
Canmore, Alberta in the beautiful
Canadian Rockies during September.
The mandate of the Society is to foster and encourage our Celtic culture and tradition in all its forms – dance, music and sports, and to establish the Canmore Highland
Games as an entertainment/cultural destination event.

It seems especially fitting to have a Highland Games in Canmore, as one of the first Highland Games known was organized by King Malcolm III Canmore (1058-1093). Held at a fairly flat meadowland (the Brae O'Mar) along the River Dee, this sporting event was used for a royal contest to find the swiftest and strongest man in the kingdom with the necessary stamina to carry Malcolm's messages across the land.

Emblematic of Scotland

Certain aspects of the games are so well known as to have become emblematic of Scotland, such as the bagpipes, the kilt, and the heavy sports, especially the caber toss. While centred on competitions in piping and drumming, dancing, and Scottish



heavy athletics, the games also include entertainment and exhibits related to other aspects of Scottish and Celtic culture.

"The Highland Games have become an integral part of our community identity over the years – and a well-loved event at the end of the summer." says Mayor John Borrowman, "As well, the games continue to bring visitors here to enjoy our beautiful mountain town, and add to the sustainability of many small businesses."

The 2020 Canmore Highland Games takes place September 5-6 in Canmore, Alberta, Canada. For details see: www.canmorehighlandgames.ca









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.

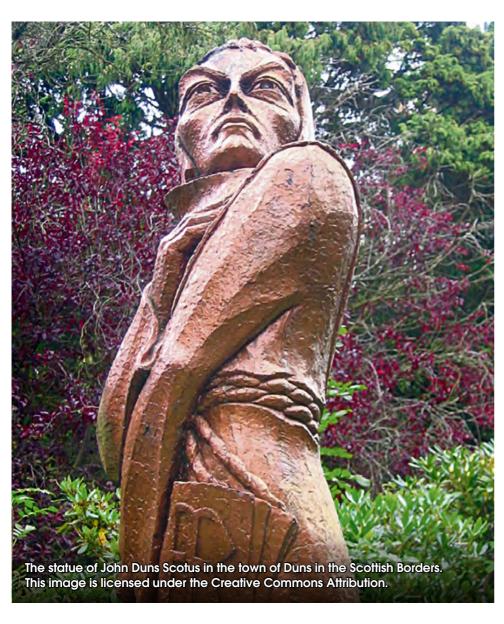
Sunday, 11 November 2019 marks the 101st anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914–18). *Lest We Forget.*



Justice for John Scotland's Smartest Dunce

By: David C Weinczok





f 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.

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

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.

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.



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.

y 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 sweeties 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.

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland delighted by extension of royal patronage



is Royal Highness, The Prince
Charles, Duke of Rothesay, has
extended his Patronage of Scotland's
national conservatoire. Welcoming
the announcement, Professor Jeffrey Sharkey,
Principal of the Royal Conservatoire of
Scotland, said: "The Royal Conservatoire of
Scotland values deeply and benefits from
The Duke of Rothesay's Patronage and we are
delighted and honoured to have this continue.
Our Patron is passionate about the value of
the arts to society and is committed, as we are,
to the vital importance of early access to and
progression in arts education."

The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland is a world leader in performing arts education and one of Europe's most multi-disciplinary arts education environments, teaching music, drama, dance, production and film. The institution received its royal prefix in 1944 from King George V. The then-Queen Elizabeth assumed the role of Patron, a role in which she continued as Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother until her death in 2002.

During her Patronage, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother officially opened the Conservatoire's purposebuilt Renfrew Street building in 1987. She also received the institution's first honorary doctorate at Clarence House on 17 November 1994 to mark her Golden Jubilee as Patron. Following in his grandmother's footsteps, The Duke of Rothesay became Patron in 2003.

Creative and performance work

The Duke of Rothesay's most recent visit to the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland was in May this year when he met students from a range of disciplines and viewed their creative and performance work. Royal Conservatoire graduate, actor Sam Heughan, star of hit TV drama *Outlander*, returned to his roots and met with His Royal Highness during his tour.

In June, students and graduates of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, including Sam Heughan, international mezzosoprano Karen Cargill and conductor Jessica Cottis performed at Buckingham Palace at a celebration for The Prince's Foundation. The Conservatoire works in partnership with The Prince's Foundation to provide specialist arts teaching for children, a relationship His Royal Highness has inspired and encouraged. A thriving programme at Dumfries House in Ayrshire currently delivers specialist strings and dance tuition, with further programmes being planned in Scotland.

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



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.

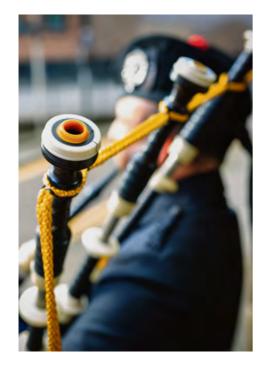
Scotland's most picturesque battlefield

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."

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.



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



Major exhibition explores the Romantic fascination with the Scottish Highlands, from Culloden to Balmoral



major exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland this summer will tell the fascinating story of how tartan, bagpipes and rugged, wild landscapes became established as enduring, internationally recognised symbols of Scottish identity and how Scotland became established in the popular imagination as a land of wilderness, heroism and history.

Wild and Majestic: Romantic Visions of Scotland spans the period from the final defeat of the Jacobites at the Battle of Culloden in 1746 to the death of Queen Victoria in 1901. The exhibition will explore the efforts made to preserve and revive Highland traditions in the wake of post-Jacobite persecution, depopulation and rapid socio-economic change. change. It will show how Scotland's relationship with the European Romantic movement transformed external perceptions of the Highlands and was central to the birth of tourism in Scotland. These developments would in turn influence the relationship between the Hanoverian royal family and Scotland, particularly George IV and, later, Oueen Victoria.

Over 300 objects will be on display, drawn from the collections of National Museums Scotland and 38 lenders across the UK. The objects tell a story with a stellar cast, including Queen Victoria and Prince Albert; King George IV; Sir Walter Scott; Robert Burns; JMW Turner;



Henry Raeburn; Felix Mendelssohn; William and Dorothy Wordsworth; Ludwig Van Beethoven and Lord Byron, whose 1807 poem Lachin y Gair (Lochnagar) is quoted in the exhibition's title. Prominent Highlanders featured include the Ossian author-translator James Macpherson, the soldier-historian David Stewart of Garth, the clan chief Mac Mhic Alasdair (Alasdair Macdonnel of Glengarry), and the folklorists Alasdair Gilleasbaig MacGilleMhìcheil (Alexander Carmichael) and Iain Òg Ìle (John Campbell of Islay).

An ancient cultural identity

Dr Patrick Watt, exhibition curator, said: "This is a contested, complex history, and also a fascinating one. There are competing claims, still, over the extent to which those symbols of Scotland we see today are Romantic inventions, or authentic expressions of an ancient cultural identity. Using material evidence, we will examine the origins and development of the dress, music, and art which made up the Highland image. We will show how cultural traditions were preserved, idealised and reshaped to suit contemporary tastes against a background of political agendas, and economic and social change."

Through rich displays reflecting the colour and flamboyance of the Highland image, visitors will encounter key developments such as the Ossian controversy, the overturning of the ban on Highland dress, the pageantry around King George IV's visit to Edinburgh in 1822, the Highland tourism boom, and the creation of a Romantic idyll for Queen Victoria at Balmoral.

National Museums Scotland has partnered with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig College on Skye, part of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI), on the production of content for the major summer exhibition. Throughout the exhibition, the influence of Gaelic language and culture, and the impact of

these developments on it will be shown through objects, text and film. The primary exhibition text will be presented in both English and Gaelic.

The Romantic period undoubtedly coloured perceptions, both at the time and to this day to the extent that the popular images of Highland culture are sometimes dismissed as a 19th century fabrication. However, the exhibition will stress the deep historical roots underpinning the Romantic image. The heritage of clan tartans is introduced in portraiture in the extravagant dress of the Laird of Grant's piper and champion painted by Richard Waitt in 1714. The bagpiping tradition is introduced by oldest known Scottish chanter, which belonged to Iain Dall Mackay, a piper and composer born on Skye in 1656.

Following the final defeat of the Jacobites in 1746 at the Battle of Culloden, there were reprisals across the Highlands. The power of the Clans was dismantled, male civilians were banned from wearing Highland dress, and Gaelic culture was disparaged, the ban on tartan did not apply to those men who enlisted in the newly raised Highland Regiments of the British Army. The heroic image of the tartan-clad Highland soldier went on to become an icon of the military power of the British Empire, and the ideal of the heroic Highland warrior would recur throughout the nineteenth century.

In the 1760s the literary culture of the Scottish Highlands and Islands was introduced to the world. Highland schoolmaster and poet, James Macpherson, claimed to have researched, collected and translated the fragments of ancient poetry of Ossian, a legendary 3rd century Gaelic bard. Despite a raging controversy over its authenticity, MacPherson's work was translated into multiple languages and admired by many influential European writers, artists and composers. A first edition volume will be shown, as well as artwork inspired by Ossian, and the Red Book of Clanranald, one of the Gaelic manuscript sources Macpherson consulted. Robert Burns travelled the Highlands, looking for poetic inspiration. His publisher, George Thomson, commissioned major European composers to set Scottish songs to music, including a version of Burns' Highland Harry scored in the original hand of Ludwig Van Beethoven.

Traditional Gaelic culture

From the late 18th century, visitors were drawn to Scotland in increasing numbers, attracted to locations depicted in romantic paintings, prints and literature. Many artists, writers and musicians visited, often on personal pilgrimages inspired by the lasting influence of Ossian, or the fame of Burns, Sir Walter Scott and others. Works by major figures, including Wordsworth, Turner and Mendelssohn - all of whom met with Scott during their travels inspired more people to seek out the places evoked in music, art and literature for themselves., Dorothy Wordsworth's travel journal, Mendelssohn's sketchbook and his original score of the Hebrides

Overture, and a silver urn gifted from Byron to Scott after the two literary giants met in 1815 all feature in the exhibition.

Seeing change all around them, influential Highlanders made efforts to preserve elements of traditional Gaelic culture, even as they promoted a new rural economy whose human impact we now know as the Highland Clearances. The exhibition will look at the early Highland societies, and their material legacies, including the standardisation of the Great Highland Bagpipe which we know today, and the codification of clan tartans, through the first gathered samples dating to 1815. The Highland Society of London championed the image of the Highland soldier, commemorating military exploits through the commissioning of medals and trophies, and successfully campaigned for the repeal of the legal ban on Highland dress in 1782. The Repeal of the Act of Proscription was issued in both English and Gaelic, and the Gaelic version will be shown.

With the Jacobite cause extinguished as a political and military threat, the Hanoverian Royalty began to embrace and champion their own Stuart lineage, and gestures were made towards healing the divisions of the previous century. This was shown most vividly in the Highland pageantry associated with the events stage-managed by Sir Walter Scott during King George IV's visit to Edinburgh in 1822. A parade of ceremonial costume will give a flavour of this spectacular, if controversial, event along with contemporary accounts and the tartans and weaponry which Sir Walter Scott encouraged people to wear for the occasion.

It was the young Queen Victoria who took this royal fascination to new heights. Following a series of royal visits to the Highlands, the Queen and Prince Albert acquired the Balmoral estate. Later, with the death of Prince Albert, the estate became a Highland retreat from the realities of court and government for Queen Victoria. Balmoral helped to ensure that the ideal of the Scottish Highlands which emerged from the culture and politics of the late 18th century would endure, even as fashions and attitudes to history changed. Among the objects on display will be a tartan dress worn by a young Victoria, a brooch she gifted to famed piper John Ban Mackenzie and a mourning pin she had made to commemorate her Highland servant, friend and confidant John Brown.

Wild and Majestic: Romantic Visions of Scotland is being held at the National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh to 10 November 2019. For more details see: www.nms.ac.uk/wildandmajestic



By: Lady Fiona MacGregor

Lady MacGregor's Scotland

Lady MacGregor of MacGregor – otherwise known as British broadcaster Fiona Armstrong. Fiona is currently news reading for the BBC, but she also leaves the studio to report on all matters Scottish. Fiona lives in Scotland with her husband, Chief of Clan MacGregor, Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor, and is also an active member of Clan Armstrong, so their lives are interwoven with all things tartan. The couple have moved from the borderlands to the lowlands, home is now a white tower house between Perth and Dundee, although filming and writing takes Fiona all over Scotland.



lamingos in this part of the world – who'd have thought it?! Where you are, these exotic birds may well be commonplace. But here in Scotland, they are causing quite a stir. Bird Gardens Scotland is an animal sanctuary. Just south of Edinburgh, it is home to hundreds of feathered friends, many of them rare, or endangered.

We were there to film four newlyhatched flamingo chicks. Or 'flaminglings', as they are called. Flaming-lings. It is quite a mouthful. And these tiny creatures are constantly open-mouthed. Squeaking away and waiting impatiently for the next round of milk and minced insect, or whatever delicious concoction there is in the tiny feeding tube.

They are cute and fluffy. But, disappointingly, they are not pink. For, like cygnets and swans, it will be some time before the babies take on their parents' colour.

The Scots Guards

From pink to red. Which is the colour of the tunic of the Scots Guards.

This the MacGregor's former regiment.

He is now Chairman of the Scots Guards

Association which looks after veterans and this month sees their two-yearly get-together.

At night we pack into Dunfermline Abbey to hear a concert by the regimental band and pipers. It is a stirring occasion and the music is magnificent. But the evening is memorable in other ways. Because this is where Robert the Bruce, lies – just by the altar. As the notes of *Scotland the Brave* fill the ancient place of worship, I think the King of Scots would have approved.

Scots Guards bands and pipers have been keeping toes tapping for centuries.

The next day more marching tunes await as we join a thousand former soldiers and their families at Fife airfield. Here are the old and the bold. The young and the shy. All coming together to renew friendships and remember.

Scots Guards bands and pipers have been keeping toes tapping for centuries. They entertained the troops at the Battle of the Somme in 1916 - and, boy, did those soldiers need a morale boost then.

The regiment's musicians served in the Gulf War, the Falklands and Afghanistan. And, more recently, they travelled to England to play for a youngster who was suffering from a brain tumour.



The boy had written asking for a signed photograph of a piper. He got more than he bargained for when a whole troop of them turned up at his house. As they said: 'We know what it's like to be in a battle, but none of us have faced a fight like this brave wee man...'

The Scots Guards regimental quick march is a well-known tune. Look it up on the internet and you will see that *Hielan' Laddie* is a jolly air. In fact, it is so popular that it is also attached to some Australian and Canadian regiments.

It trips off the tongue – and it stays in the head. Some weeks on and I am still humming the thing. No, more. I am whistling it at work, and I am singing it out loud in the bath.

Scientists call it the Earworm Phenomenon. The tune has gone in - and it has stuck. Like the needle on a longplaying record. At least it is a cheerful enough melody...

Coupar

And pleasant enough is an evening at the 'Beautiful Scotland' awards. Watching volunteers being recognised for their efforts in sprucing-up their communities. Meeting folk who devote time and energy to digging gardens, fashioning floral displays and dealing with litter.

All over the country people are growing and planting and tidying. It is a real tribute to these unpaid workers. But at least they do not remain unsung.

North Berwick gets roundly praised. As do places like South Lanarkshire, Dumfries and Galloway and St Andrews. But it is a wee place in Perthshire that I particularly note.

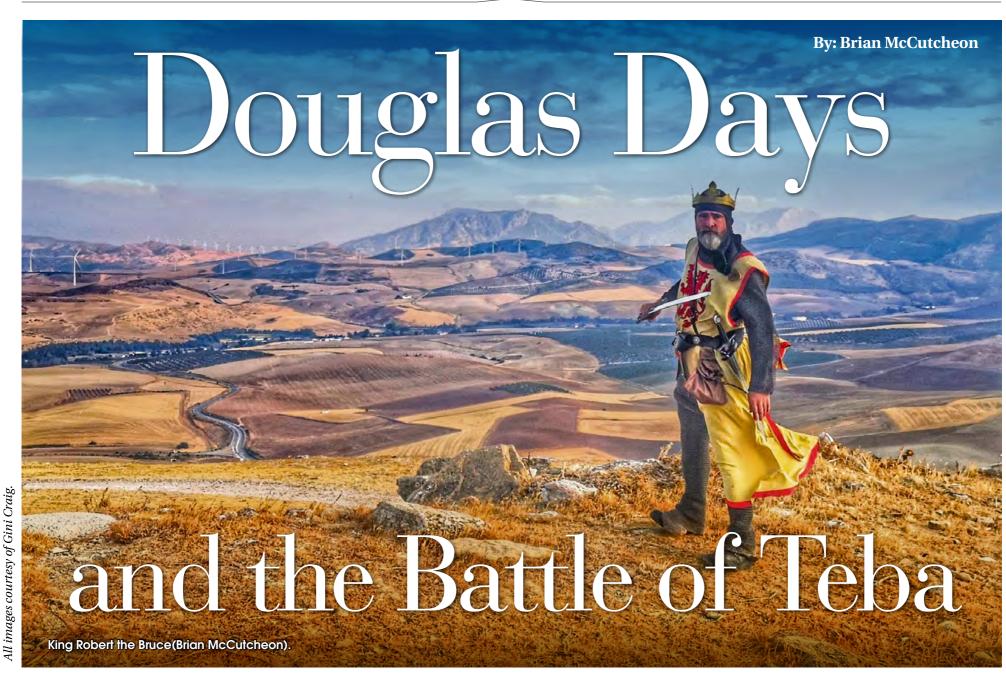
'Best Large Village' goes to Coupar Angus. And not for nothing is this community known as the Jewel of Strathmore. It is for a very good reason that it was once called the Queen of Strathmore.

For me, Coupar Angus has fond memories. Because it is where I used to walk the MacNaughties when we lived up there – all three dogs at that stage! It was always a treat to stroll round the park which was so well kept. Yes, great days. And days made all the better by the work of the 'Beautiful Scotland' volunteers...

On that subject, I must get into the garden before the weather turns. Just to tidy up the borders. In the meantime, that tune is still running through my head. *Hielan' Laddie* is an addictive air, but you can have too much of a good thing.

I ask advice from family and friends on how to get rid of it and the answers come thick and fast. Chew some gum. Do a puzzle. Or listen to another song. I'll let you know if any of those work...





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 is main feature of it 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.



Continued next page.

Page 16 • The Scottish Banner • November 2019

Castillo de la Estrella (Castle of the Star).

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 is main feature of it 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 of the weekend (Friday to Sunday) and has many different aspects to it from Scottish music, to a ceilidh as well 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 where 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.





England take the double at the World Porridge Making Championships

ompetitors 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 Wo rld 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!

Lisa's winning recipe was made with half Hamlyns Scottish Oatmeal and half Hamlyns 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 Hamlyns of Scotland, the Banffshire-based producer of Hamlyns Scottish Oatmeal and Hamlyns 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."

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'sOld and New Towns, Forth Bridge, Lake District, Stonehenge and the Giant's Causeway.



Calling the Clans

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

Clan Baird Society Worldwide



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

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

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

Regional Directors for Australia

David and Patricia Benfell Email: clanbairdsa@gmail.com

website: www.clanbairdsociety.com



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

Your Bell ancestry is important!

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



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Clan Donald Queensland

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

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

London & Southern Counties * Rannoch & Highlands Canada: New South Wales * Victoria * Queensland * Western Australia: New Zealand: New Zealand

Spain South Africa Africa:

USA: Arizona * Carolinas * Florida * Gulf Coast * Mid-Atlantic * New Mexico * Mid-West * Northeast * Northern California * Pacific Northwest * Rocky Mountains * South * Southern California * Texas * Upper Mid-West



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

Facebook: The Clan Donnachaidh Society

Clan Fraser Society of Australia

and Fraser septs to join our clan society.

All members receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter "Strawberry Leaves" Membership enquiries to Don Chitts Ph: (03) 9754 5120 donchitts@hotmail.com Website: http://clanfraseraustralia.org

Facebook:https://www.facebook.com/ Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/ 482236358590288



Clan Donald **North America**

High Commissioner Mr Lachlan Macdonald State Commissioners

Qld

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

Clan Davidson

Society in Australia Inc.

CHEIF: Grant Davidson of Davidston cordially invites to

membership all who bear one of the Clan Names, and all who can

trace their descent from an ancestor bearing one of these Names

MacDhai; McKeddie. In addition we welcome into membership all

Applications may be made online: www.clandavidson.org.au

Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 dhill1@bigpond.net.au 0431 527 662

or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P, P.O. Box 519

Davidson; Davison; Davis; Davie; Davey; Davy; Day;

Dye; Dyson; Dawson; Dea; Dean; Deane; Deas; Deason; Dees

Dee; Dey; Daw; Dow; Dhai; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade;

MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagny;

who have a family association with the Clan Davidson.



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



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

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

www.clangalbraith.org



Family of Bruce International, Inc.

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

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

Donald E. Bruce 1051 Eagle Ridge Trail Stillwater, Minnesota 55082

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

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

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



Edmonstone Bt of Duntreath Contact: Mal Edmiston





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**

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

Frank McGregor - Clan Gregor Society PO Box 14 North Hobart TAS 7002 Email: clangregoraustralia@gmail.com Web. www.clangregor.com "Royal is my Race"



The Clan Campbell Society Of Australia

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



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

CLAN DONALD VICTORIA

President: Mr Norman A. Macdonald Contact: secretary.clandonaldvic@gmail.com

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

CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE

Hon Chief: Mrs Christina Milne Wilson

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

Clan Farquharson Association Australia

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

Membership inquiries are invited from descendants of Farguharson 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. Bonnells Bay NSW 2264

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CONTACT: MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG

@CLANFORBES 1

WEB www.Clan-Forbes.org

@CLANFORBESSOCIETY

@CLANFORBESSOCIETY



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 Hay



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

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

www.clanhay.com

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

Clan Henderson Society



www.clanhendersonsociety.org

Clan Hope of Craighall Society



AUSTRALIA

Commissio Scott Hale nmissioner@clanhope.ca

vw.clanhope.ca





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 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



INTERNATIONAL CLAN MACFARLANE SOCIETY, INC.

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

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

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

International Clan MacFarlane Society Inc.

PO Box 398 Glenora, CA 91740 USA



MACFARLANE.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 MacLellan

John B. McClellan, Jr. Treasurer 6409 Knollwood Drive

McKinney, TX 75070-6032

Email: treasurer@clanmaclellan.net

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

Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net

Clan MacNicol

Chief: John MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac

> Contact Ross Nicolson 10/377 North Rocks Rd., Carlingford NSW 2118 www.clanmacnicol.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 Norie MacCabe MacRaild MacCaig MacWilliam MacClure Norman Harold Tolmie 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

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 Atrıcan.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +265 999 512 620

Canada. Ed Smith

Europe. Will Tulling Europe.Chairman@clan-n phone +31 655 774 425 clan-macpherson.org Scotland & Northern Ireland. Rory Macphers SandNI.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 7525 763 765

EandW.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 7877 363 507 New Zealand. Tony McPherson NewZealand. Chairman@clan-ma phone +64 274 587 813

Australia. John L Macpherson

Australian.Chairman@clan-macp phone +61 409 122 141

England & Wales. William Macpherson

USA. Xerxes Herrington UnitedStates.Chairman@ phone +1 703 341 9588

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 Mackenzie Society in Australia Inc.



Membership enquiries welcomed from Mackenzies of all spellings and Septs

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

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

Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada

We invite you - whether you are a clansperson

Website: www.clanmackenziecanada.ca

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

MACLEODS RICH IN HIGHLAND

TRADITIONS FOR INFORMATION:

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

WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG

84120-6880

The Clan MacRae **Society of Australia** and New Zealand

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

Australian Contact:

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

Clan Macnachtan Association Worldwide Sir Malcolm F. Macnaghten of Macnaghten, Bart - Chief of Clan

Chairman - Peter McNaughton - 360-686-8451 We welcome membership from all Scots named MacNaughton or any of the Septs on our Website: Contact the Membership Secretary, Vice-Chairman or Regional Commissioners in:

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

We are all related! Contact your local society North America: Rosemary Maitland Thorn rthomnvprdcan@aol.com www.clanmaitlandna.org

Australia: Carole Maitland carole maitland@yahoo.com.au 4230 Colac- Lavers Hill RoadWeeaproinah. VIC. 3237 New Zealand: Judette Maitland judette@xtra.co.nz

33 Disley Street, High bury, Wellington 6012. NZ We welcome all with Maitland, Lauderdale, Maitlen and similar name spelling. See the entire list and your family history at: www.clanmaitland.org.uk



505-470 Scenic Drive, London, ON NSZ 3B2

Associated with Clan MacDougall of Argyll and Clan MacDowall of Galloway



Clan MacLaren

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

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



Clan MacNeil **Association of America**

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

Contact: Rhonwyn Darby

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



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

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

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

1001 Cordero Crescent Wyomissing, PA 19610-2738



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

> Secretary: Mike Shaw 2403 West Cranford Denison, TX 75020



Clan Wardlaw Association

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

'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

descendant of Pollock, Pollok, Pook, Polk, Polke, Paulk, Poalke, Poulk, Poolke, Pogue - you are cordially invited to contact:

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



Clan Sinclair Australia

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

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

www.clansinclairaustralia.com



Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

P.O. Box 457 Pinehurst, NC 28370

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

> Write or phone for our free brochure. www.scottishheritageusa.org email: shusa@embargmail.com (910) 295-4448



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

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

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



The Stewart Society

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

Please inquire: The Secretary 53 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2HT, Tel/Fax 0131 220 4512 www.stewartsociety.org



Australian Scottish Communtiy (Qld) Inc.

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





Founded at a meeting held in Sydney 18 June 1981 Welcomes membership from all Australians of Scottish descent. Applications for membership can be obtained from: The Hon Secretary, SAHC Susan Cooke tel: 02 6355 4158 Email: alfredhcooke@gmail.com

www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

Clan Ross America



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



Clan Sutherland Society in Australia Incorporated Contact: M Hodgkinson

212 MacKenzie Street Toowoomba 4350 (07 4632 8559)

william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au http://goldenvale.wixsite.com/clansutherlandaus Facebook: Clan Sutherland Society in Australia



Chicago Scots

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

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

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

www.scottishgaelicsocietyvic.org Founded in 1905

Scottish Gaelic Choir:

Wednesdays 10:30 am to 12:30 pm during school terms at The Kildara Centre, rear of

39 Stanhope Street, Malvern.



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

Contact Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277 Email: scottishgaelicsocietyvic@gmail.com



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

Mall: PO Box A2259, SYDNEY SOUTH 1235



The Society of St. Andrew of Scotland (Queensland) Limited ABN 30 093 578 860

Invites membership of all people of Scottish descent or association

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



Clan Scott Australia Group

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

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

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

CLAN YOUNG AUSTRALIA



For those affiliated with the Young surname

> Ian J Young Convenor

Membership inquiries: Clan Young Australia 10 Cedric Street Parkdale VIC 3195

membership@clanyoungaustralia.com.au

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



Caledonian Society of WA Inc.

Promotes Scottish Culture and Traditions in Perth, Western Australia For further details contact John: 0427 990 754

Email: caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

Victorian Scottish Union Inc

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

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

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

Chief: Ms Ceilidh McKinna Robertson President: Mr Douglas Pearce Secretary: Mrs Jan Macdonald

T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930 E: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com www.victorianscottishunion.com



t 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 multiphased 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 inhouse, 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.

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 $18^{\rm th}$ 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.

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 Torquil). 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.





SCOTTISH BANNER EVENTS

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

CANADA

NOVEMBER 2019

09 - Corbyville, ON - The Celtic Kitchen Party at Signal Brewing Company

Boasting a diversity of talent The Celtic Kitchen Party plays a mix of their own originals as well as traditional and contemporary East Coast, Irish and Scottish Celtic Music with just the right dash of Pop, Classic Rock and Country at Signal Brewing Company, 86 River Rd. Info: www.celtickitchenparty.com

09 - Kimberley, BC - Road to 2020 Ceilidh

Join the Kimberley Pipe Band and the Liela Cooper and Hail Duncan Highland Dancers for an evening of music, food and fun all with a Celtic twist at the Kimberley Conference & Training Centre, 301 North Star Blvd. Info: www.kimberleypipeband.ca

16 - Brandon, MB - Taste Of Scotland

Come join the Westman Scottish Association for a night of tasting Scotch, our scotch expert will take you on a tour across the country of Scotland with your taste buds at the Brandon Riverbank, 545 Conservation Dr. Info: www. facebook.com/events/423644028261154

16 - Ottawa, ON - Scotland Tonight Concert

The Sons of Scotland Pipe Band present their 18th annual showcase of Celtic talent in Scotland Tonight, being held on Saturday, November 16 at the Shenkman Arts Centre in Ottawa. Show starts at 2 pm and includes free refreshments at intermission - tickets are \$25.00 plus fees, and this year's show features the MacCulloch Dancers, the Champagne School of Dance, the Katharine Robinson School of Highland Dance, and the Chamber and Children's Choirs of the Ottawa Catholic School Board. The band hopes you can join them at Scotland Tonight - tickets onsale at: www.shenkmanarts.ca

16 - Regina, SK - SHGCF Ceilidh

A ceilidh in support of the Saskatchewan Highland Gathering & Celtic Festival. There will be ceilidh tunes and dancing, pipe bands, Highland dancing, Scottish food and of course a cash bar at St Martin de Porres Parish, 4720 Castle Rd. Info: www.saskhighland.ca

17 - Toronto, ON - St. Andrew's Society of Toronto Annual Church Parade

At the historic Glenview Presbyterian Church. The service commences at 10:30am, but assemble in the Church Hall at 10:00 am. Info: www.standrews-society.ca

22 - Montreal, OC - The 2019 St. Andrew's Ball Join Peter McAuslan and Ellen Bounsall, our Guests

of Honour, for an evening of dining, dancing and pageantry celebrating one hundred and eightyfour years of Scottish heritage in Montreal at the The Marriott ChA¢teau Champlain Hotel, 1 Place du Canada. Info: www.standrewsball.com

23 - Ottawa, ON - Scottish Genealogy Group (Special Interest Group)

Are you interested in your Scottish roots? In discovering who your Scottish ancestors were and how they lived? The Scottish Genealogy Group is made up of people who share these interests. At our informal meetings we share information and resources and discuss our successes and our brick walls. All of us, beginners and experts alike, learn from and encourage each other at Room 115, City of Ottawa Archives, 100 Tallwood Dr. Info: www.bifhsgo.ca

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

29 - Winnipeg, MB - The St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg 149th Annual Dinner

This is the most prestigious event on the Society's calendar that celebrates and raises funds for Scottish culture and heritage groups and activities in Manitoba. The Queens Own Cameron Highlanders will also provide wonderful Scottish tunes at Hotel Fort Garry. Info: www.standrewssocietywinnipeg.com

30 - Cambridge, ON - Feast of St. Andrew

The Officers of the Royal Highland Fusiliers of Canada celebrate St. Andrew's Day with a Feast. The Feast of Saint Andrew is a formal, black tie, 6 course Mess Dinner. The Feast features the traditions and customs of a Highland Regiment Officers' Mess. It also includes the participation of the Regimental Pipes and Drums. Info: www.rhfc.ca/feast-of-st-andrew.html

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

30 - Toronto, ON - St Andrew's Society Toronto Charity Ball A celebration of Scotland with music, dance and food presented by the St Andrew's Society of Toronto. For the first time since 1929, the St.Andrew's Charity Ball will take up its new residence at Toronto's Liberty Grand. Info: www.standrewscharityball.ca

30 - Dec 01 - Wallacetown, ON - Scottish & Irish Christmas Dinner in the Museum

Celebrate Christmas in the museum with a Scottish & Irish dinner on either November 30 and December 1. Enjoy a multi course meal and historical tidbits served by costumed volunteers. Arrive at 3:30 with dinner to begin at 4pm at Backus-Page House Museum, 29424 Lakeview Line. Tickets \$100/person with a charitable tax receipt of \$50 in return. Info: 519-762-3072

DECEMBER 2019

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

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

31 - Ottawa, ON - 8th Annual Hogman-eh!

A free New Year's celebration Scottish style, featuring Ceilidh and Highland Dancing, food and entertainment at the largest Hogmanay celebration outside Scotland at the Aberdeen Pavilion, Landsdowne Park. Info: www.ottscot.ca/hogmanay

USA

NOVEMBER 2019

01 - 03 - Moab, UT - The 2019 Moab Celtic Festival Celebrate the heritage and culture of Scotland, Ireland, England and Wales, just as it's been done for centuries... with lots of great music, dancing, athletics and good fun, good food, good drink, and great friends. Info: www.scotsontherocksmoab.org

01 - 03 - Tucson, AZ - The Tucson Celtic Festival and Scottish Highland Games

Includes 19th Annual Scottish Master's Athletics Heavy Events World Championship and full Highland Games at Rillito Raceway Park, 4502 N. First Ave. Info: www.tucsoncelticfestival.org

02 - Mount Pleasant, SC - The 50th Anniversary

of Murray Clan Society of North America
The Murray Clan Society of North America will be celebrating their 50th anniversary at the 2019 Charleston Scottish Games & Highland Gathering. The Murray's will be the honored Clan and the honored guest of the Games will be Michael B.J Murray (The Most Hon) The Marquis of Tullibardine. He is the eldest son of Bruce G.R Murray, His Grace, The 12th Duke of Atholl and Chief of Clan Murray. Info: www.clanmurray.org

Scotword answers

Down:

2-Collier

3-Orgy

4-Dulse

5-Outdo

7-Tranent

14-Scallop

16-Onset

17-Twist

22-Orkneys

24-Unicorn

27-Medal

28-Lutes

30-Alba

31-Loom

8-Highland Fling

9-Blunderbusses

6-Idea

from page 6

1-Accordionists

Across:

10-Illegal

11-Toe Nail

13-Besom

15-Wean

18-Apron

20-Syllabi

21-Drone

23-Squib

25-Lake

29-Jigs

26-Ample

32-Needled

33-Twosome

34-Establishment

19-With

02 - Mt Pleasant, SC - Charleston Scottish Games

Drawing visitors from around the country and abroad, the Games brings in over 6,000 guests, immersing visitors in Scottish heritage and history at Boone Hall Plantation & Gardens. Info: www.charlestonscottishgames.com

${\bf 08 - New \, York, NY - The \, Wallace \, Awards}$

The Wallace Awards recognize those of Scottish descent who have made exceptional contributions in the fields of Heritage, the Arts, and Culture. Info: www.americanscottishfoundation.org

09 - 10 - Gulfport, MS - Celtic Heritage and Music Festival

Featured Bands: Highland Reign, Kracker Dan, Red McWilliams, and more musicians. Featured Activities: Jousting, Clans, Vendors, Children's Activities, Irish Dancing, Highland Cows, Bagpipe Bands, Sheep Herding, Artisans, Authentic Food, and more. Heavy Athletics on Sunday Only.

Event Times: Sat. 9-5 and Sun 9-4 Adults-\$10; Senior & Military-\$8; Weekend pass-\$15; 12 & under-FREE at Harrison County Fairgrounds, 15321 County Farm Rd. Info: www.mshighlandsandislands.org

15 - 16 - Mount Dora, FL - 7th Annual Mount Dora Scottish Highland Festival

Enjoy Scottish bands and musicians performing thorughout the weekends as well as an afternoon of Highland Games in Gilbert Park on Saturday from 10 AM-5PM. Info: Parks and Recreation Department at 352.735.7183 or visit MountDoraEvents.com

16 - Florence, SC - Swamp Fox Highland Games A celebration of Celtic culture and history. It is a fundraiser for Heaven's Hope Home for medically fragile children at Columns Plantation, 5001 Rankin Plantation Rd. Info: www.swampfoxgames.com

16 - Pittsburgh, PA - The Balmoral Classic An annual event held In Pittsburgh each Fall, featuring the US Junior Solo Bagpiping and Drumming Championships, plus an Evening Concert with internationally recognized Celtic performance ensemble Eabhal. Info: www. balmoralschoolofpiping.org/balmoral-classic

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

30 - Parker, TX - Celtic Festival at the Farm

Spend a beautiful fall day with us on a working farm, where Celts and Celts-at-heart will gather to enjoy live bagpipe music, Scottish and Irish dancing, faire food, gift vendors, kids' games and crafts, historic costumes, silent auctions, Outlander fan meet-up at Jacob's Reward Farm, 4308 Church Lane. Info: www.facebook.com/metroplex.united

DECEMBER 2019

06 - 07 - Alexandria, VA - 49th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend & Parade

The Campagna Center presents the 49th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend & Parade. Thousands will join us for a full lineup of festivities that will celebrate the rich Scottish heritage of Old Town Alexandria. Info: www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend

14 - Minnetonka, MN - Minnesota **Scottish Gaelic Conversation Class**

A group for anyone interested in learning Scottish Gaelic and in practicing Scottish Gaelic conversation. All levels welcome at Bylerly's Creations Cafe, Ridgedale Dr. Info: www.meetup.com/Scottish-Gaelic-Conversation

of the bagpipes and the harmonious blending of brass, strings and percussion, to the poetic and lyrical words that complement them, the Pipes of Christmas is a festival for the soul at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, at 921 Madison Avenue (at 73rd Street). Tickets: www.brownpapertickets. com or info at: www.pipesofchristmas.com

14 - New York, NY - The Pipes of Christmas

 $21st\ anniversary\ concert-from\ the\ bold\ sounds$

15 - Summit, NJ - The Pipes of Christmas

21st anniversary concert-from the bold sounds of the bagpipes and the harmonious blending of brass, strings and percussion, to the poetic and lyrical words that complement them, the Pipes of Christmas is a festival for the soul at Central Presbyterian Church located, 70 Maple St with performances at 2 and 7PM. Tickets: www.brownpapertickets. com or info at: www.pipesofchristmas.com

17 - New York, NY - Scottish Christmas Celebration

Carols and holiday cheer with the American Scottish Foundation and the Burns Society of New York at the Union Club. Info: www. americanscottishfoundation.com

21 - 22 - Atlanta, GA - Celtic Christmas

A cast of international and regionally renowned artists weaves a spellbinding performance of Irish, Scottish, Welsh and Appalachian music, dance and humor in an evocative, inspiring show that will warm the soul with the music and dance of the ages. Info: https://events. rial to center. gsu. edu/on line/article/celtic christmas

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

31 - Nationwide - USA - Happy Hogmany 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 'LÃ Naomh Anndrais'), Scotland's patron saint!

Scottish Genealogical Research

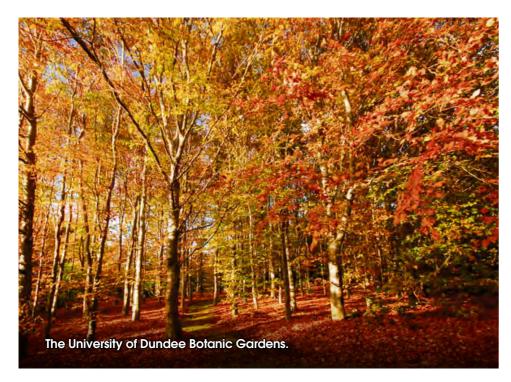
Let us build your Scottish Family Tree!



Ron Dempsey General Delivery Udora, Ontario LOC 1L0, Canada

For details email: dempseyrand@gmail.com

Fall for Scotland's autumn colours



Il 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-akind 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, starryeyed 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!

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.

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.





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 34pt 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.

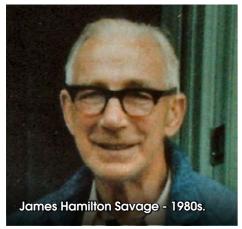
By: Nick Drainey

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.





he 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 Valery 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.



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 Valery 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."





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.



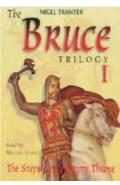
- 12 Edinburgh University first admitted women to the study of medicine. Sophia Jex-Blake and her friend Edith Pechy were the first to attend the prestigious medical school. Though Jex-Blake passed her exams, she was not allowed to graduate as regulations prevented women from actually serving on the 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
- $14 \hbox{ Speed limit for horseless carriages was raised} \\ from 4mph (2mph in towns) to 14mph. \\ 1896$



- 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
- ${\bf 25} \mbox{ General Tam Dalyell raises a regiment} \\ to suppress Covenanters which later \\ became the Royal Scots Greys. {\bf 1681} \\$
- 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
- $30 \hbox{ -} \textit{World's first international football (soccer)} \\ \textit{match, Scotland V England at West of Scotland} \\ \textit{Cricket Ground. Result was 0-0.} \\ 1872$
- **30** *HMS Vanguard*, Britain's biggest and last battleship, was launched at Clydebank. **1944**

Sir Jackie Stewart opens Jim Clark Motorsport Museum





ormula 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."

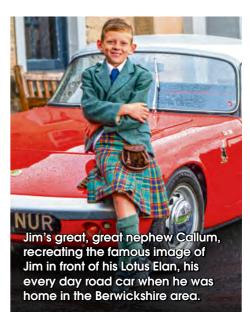
The museum, operated by charity Live Borders, includes two of Jim Clark's race cars, new image galleries, film footage, interactive displays and a simulator. There is also expanded exhibition space showcasing memorabilia and the trophy collection. The facility was designed by SBC's architects and delivered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





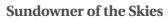


n the early morning of 16 October 1930, my father, Oscar Garden, taxied his tiny second-hand Gipsy Moth across the Croydon aerodrome in the grey light and – with a wave of his hand to the only person there to farewell him – took off to Australia. He had carpet slippers on his feet and a packet of sandwiches 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.



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.

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 intodepartments for drapery, groceries and so forth which serviced Orkney, Shetland and the north of Scotland.



Page 30 • The Scottish Banner • November 2019



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 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. 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

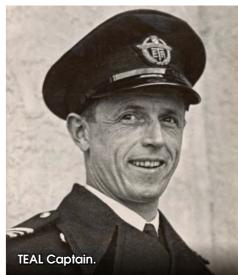
It has been a long journey writing this book. For some years I even tried to give up on it, but it wouldn't leave me alone. It didn't help that I kept getting emails from people waiting to read it. I was letting them down! In 2006, Mark from Sydney had written to say he had been delighted to read my 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 Scottishborn 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 www.marygarden.com.au





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