



the Scottish Banner



Years Strong - 1976-2020 www.scottishbanner.com

A' Bhratach Albannach

Volume 43 Number 11/12 The world's largest international Scottish newspaper May/June 2020

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the Scottish Banner

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The Banner Says...

Finding our ScotSpirit in challenging times



by Sean Cairney

How so very much has changed since we released the last edition of *the Scottish Banner*. Corona Virus has spread across the globe and the impact to the Scottish community has been substantial worldwide with mass event cancellations. I am aware of the incredible hard work so many put in to run events such as Highland Games, Celtic festivals, concerts, Clan gatherings, just to name a few. Scots are great at coming together at events, band practices, dance classes and more and currently this is not something that can happen. However, the virus cannot stop people coming together in many other ways, with new virtual events popping up across the world in order to bring people together. Innovative communication ways have been created by so many aspects of the Scottish community, all to keep people together, regardless the physical distance that may be taking place.

Our Scottish connection

It is this spirit we hope to celebrate in this issue, and I would love to hear from groups who have plans for more of this over the coming months. The virus may have thrown many of our plans in disarray, but it will not stop us from coming together and continuing to celebrate our love of Scotland.

I am also very aware not all our readers are using social media or digital platforms to connect with the Scottish community, and may be feeling that bit more isolated from not only their own families but also their extended network of Scottish friends, or as some may feel extended family. Whilst some may be embracing technology more, I hope this issue helps in some small way to keep your connection to Scotland alive, as now is not the time to visit Scotland or the various outlets we use to honour our Scottish connection.

As we navigate the incredible changes caused by Covid-19 and due to unprecedented Scottish/Celtic

event cancellations this edition will be a May/June combined issue due to a drastic decline in advertising. A few of the regular elements you will find in each issue are currently not running, such as our events page, and we are cutting some pages. All of this is being done so *the Scottish Banner* comes through the other side of this. The next few months will be challenging but I do believe *the Scottish Banner* is needed in the market now more than ever as people look for a distraction, some sense of normality and a way to importantly remain connected to Scotland for the many whose options have drastically changed.

Many readers receive each issue of *the Scottish Banner* kindly passed on by family or friends and that is always great to hear that so many get enjoyment from a single issue, however if those in a position to do so purchased their own copy this would greatly help us to keep producing our unique content.

In this issue

Another thing the virus cannot stop is the world's love of whisky. May is Whisky Month in Scotland and though not all the celebrations that would normally occur are happening we are still celebrating the 'water of life' in this edition. We are so fortunate to speak with Charles Maclean, Scotland's preeminent whisky expert. Charles has a vast knowledge and passion for not just whisky but Scotland itself. Regular readers will also know we featured his three world-record setting sons in our March edition and the chance to feature his oldest son, Ewan, on our cover could not be missed.

We know that now is not the time to plan travel to Scotland. I am sure many would have had plans to be hitting Scotland's shores over the upcoming spring and summer months. Scotland will wait and be just as beautiful, historical and breathtaking when all this is over. We have highlighted five bucket list places to visit when it is safe to do so. I know there are so many more and urge readers to send us some of the places they would recommend to others to put on their bucket list for the next visit to Scotland.

One group who are currently welcome to visit Scotland are the ospreys at Loch Arkaig which have returned to the Caledonian pine forest to raise chicks. A sure sign

that natural life and new life is continuing, as they call Scotland home for the summer. I have jumped on the webcam and watched these magnificent birds nesting live in the glorious Scottish Highlands.

Whether it is watching osprey or perhaps learning some Scottish history, the pipes or delving into Scotland's rich historic information and images, we have also compiled just some of the ways you can keep connected to Scotland just now without leaving your own home. Whilst it may not be the same as being there or attending the many Scottish events that have been put on hold for now, I hope it helps you enjoy your love of Scotland.

The power of Scottish culture

The world as we knew may be no longer what it was a couple of months ago, but the Scottish community has risen to the many challenges. One of the hardest of course has been the mass cancellation of events across the world, some of the world's premier Scottish events have put the safety of participants and attendees first and made some tough choices, with many losing a great deal of money. When it is safe to do so, I hope all of us support as much as possible these great cultural events and also the bands, dance groups and vendors who make a living out of being part of them.

This has to be the power of Scottish culture, the very celebration we all enjoy so much across the world in being Scots. The bands may not be playing, but the music lives on, the dancers may not be performing but the reels and jigs continue, and the Clans may not be gathering, but the historic links carry on. Again, we welcome any news of what your Scottish group is doing to get through this challenging time. Share your initiative with us and help inspire others how they can remain connected with their Scottish connections and love of Scotland at: www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us or email me.

I hope you and your families and friends are all safe and healthy, I look forward to when we can all physically gather together in ScotSpirit but know that regardless we are all finding ways to continue to celebrate our great culture.

In the meantime, for those lovers of whisky and perhaps a more timely sentiment than usual, raise a glass this month to good health- Slàinte mhath! 🍷

editor@scottishbanner.com



The bands and Clans will gather again. Photo: The Glengarry Highland Games.



Gracing our front cover: Ewan MacLean from Team Broar celebrates Whisky Month. Photo courtesy of Lost Clock Productions.

HES launch Learn at Home initiative

Free online learning resources to help home educators and learners during the Coronavirus lockdown.



Historic Environment Scotland (HES) is launching free online learning resources to help support home educators and learners during the Coronavirus lockdown. The HES Learning programme helps people at all stages of their lifelong learning journey access HES sites, archives and digital resources for a wide range of learning purposes. In the last year HES engaged with over 128,000 learners through a range of access schemes and programmes, including self-led site visits, on-site activities, and outreach activities which took place in school and community venues.

Building on the success of its learning programme, Learn at Home is a new initiative from HES in response to the

current situation whilst schools remain closed. It will allow the national heritage body to support educators and parents by providing free access to digital resources through its website.

Suitable for learners of all ages, the Learn at Home resources include:
games to play
Gaelic learning
art activities
crafts to make
recipes to try
educational videos to watch

Explore historic sites and topics

Users can also choose to dive into the 'Investigate' section to explore historic sites and topics in more depth. To ensure

these resources are now easily accessible to all, a special area has been created on the Learn section of our website that will gather regularly updated digital content from across the organisation and provide links to further information. To further help and enable learning from home during this period, access to the Scran website has been made free for the next three months. This online database of images features over 400,000 images, film and audio files from archives, galleries and museums across Scotland and the UK.

Craig Fletcher, Senior Learning Manager at HES said: "Throughout this strange and stressful time, we know it can be a challenge to keep children entertained and a struggle to be productive indoors. With this in mind, we wanted to help in whatever way we could, using heritage themed materials, to support and inspire educators, parent, and learners. So, we've created a new online learning portal with digital resources that are easily accessible and updated regularly. Our goal is that these will be useful tools for anyone learning at home or looking for something different to do. These resources will allow us to engage with audiences and provide new fun ways for everyone to learn and connect with Scotland's historic environment from the safety of their home."

Children and adults can find exciting avenues for lifelong learning courtesy of the collections and sites at:
www.historicenvironment.scot/learn/learn-at-home

Plans submitted for satellite launch site in Sutherland



The latest generation of small communications satellites could be launched into Earth orbit from the northern Highlands of Scotland within the next two years. Development agency Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) has submitted a planning application for a vertical launch site, Space Hub Sutherland, that it plans to construct on the A' Mhoine peninsula, Melness, near Tongue.

If the application is approved, construction on Europe's first vertical launch site could begin later this year, with launches starting as early as 2022. In time, up to 12 launches a year could be made from Sutherland, carrying small, commercial satellites that will typically be used for Earth observation.

An economic impact assessment submitted with the planning application estimates that developing the space hub would create around 61 high quality jobs in Caithness and Sutherland, an area where the population is falling and unemployment levels are above average. Emma Floyd, commercial spaceflight director with the UK Space Agency, said: "Satellite launch from the UK is due to take another giant leap forward with the progress at Sutherland and other sites across the UK. We're committed to backing our growing space sector, which generates an income of £14.8 billion and creates thousands of high skilled jobs."

Experience the beauty of Rosslyn Chapel



Founded in 1446, as the Collegiate Church of St Matthew, Rosslyn Chapel today attracts visitors from far and wide, drawn by its unique and mysterious carvings and the beauty of its setting. The chapel took some 40 years to build and its ornate stonework and mysterious symbolism have inspired - and intrigued - artists and visitors ever since.

Today, there are countless theories, myths and legends associated with the Chapel, many of which are impossible to prove or disprove conclusively. Currently the Chapel is closed due to Covid-19 restrictions but regardless of where you are you can still take in this incredible and spiritual location, which sits just outside of Edinburgh, from the comfort of your own home.

The Chapel has also been a popular destination for visitors for generations. By the late 18th century, it was starting to appear on itineraries and its profile greatly increased after the publication of Dan Brown's novel, *The Da Vinci Code*, in 2003, and the subsequent film. Rosslyn Chapel Trust was established in 1995 to care for the Chapel and oversee its conservation and public access. In 2006, following the film's release, visitor numbers reached 176,000.

While the Chapel is closed, you can view the chapel's magnificent carved interior, which boasts incredible carved stonework, or assist with the important conservation work taking place by visiting: www.rosslynchapel.com/visit/virtual-tour.

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SCOT POURRI

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

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

Kings Castles and 'Durdy' Wee Rascals

Jim Stoddart's article about "The Black Squad" made me think about my childhood in Glasgow. I grew up in Kennoway Drive, Partick. Many of our neighbours worked in the shipyards on the Clyde in the 1950's. My fathers father worked in John Brown's as a crane operator and french polisher. My father after doing his National Service worked there in the office for two tears, as did my mother's older brother. Dad then went on to work in the offices

of various shipping agents in the city until he retired. My uncle emigrated to New Zealand, but never forgot where he came from. I can't imagine anyone who grew up 'Clydeside' could ever forget the sound of the rivets being hammered in the place.

Although I have lived in New Zealand for 47 years, I am still proud to be a Glaswegian.

Carol Mitchell
Auckland, New Zealand

Do you know this brooch?



I wonder if your paper is able to shed any light on the origin, story, folk law, design, etc. of this brooch, which came out from Scotland in the late 1800's or early 1900's?

If you have any thoughts, they would be greatly appreciated.

Brian Turner
bturner.au@gmail.com

Reading the Scottish Banner for the first time ever

Good Morning from Wangaratta, Victoria, Australia.

I'm reading the Scottish Banner for the first time ever, having discovered it in a newsagents an hour from home.

I just wanted to thank Matt Odell who, in the February edition, posted a poem written by his mother, Duella, on a visit to Scotland. It hit all the tender spots and brought tears to my eyes. How beautifully written! What a marvellous keepsake for you, Matt.

I'm lucky enough to be revisiting the country of my birth again this year in June, and needless to say, I canna wait! I'll be based in Edinburgh, but am touring Mull, Skye, and on to the Orkneys! Back to Edinburgh, then up to Fife to my family.

I'm so grateful to have found this wonderful publication. It'll be a regular paper in my household from now on.

Fiona Evans
Wangaratta, Victoria
Australia

Ed note: Thanks for your note Fiona and so glad you found us!

Creating Scotland

Weather is first.

Snow, of course, and wind.

Rock and gnarly pine for strength.

High mountains for solitude,
valleys for softer days.

Lonely crags for mystics
to sit upon and dream.

Wildcats for strength and pipes for soul.

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

David Black
Louisa, Virginia
USA

Kings, Castles & "Durdy" Wee Rascals

Hi Jim,
I read your article in the Scottish Banner not long ago about people not being able to read and write. My great grandfather was convicted at 5 years old in Cranbrook, Kent, England of taking a handkerchief out of a pocket in 1827. He arrived in Australia in 1828 at age 7 years and was sent to Port Arthur and stayed there for 20 years. The children lived on the island off the coast and they were taught to read and write and grow their own food. He was pardoned at 27 years and married in 1849. It would have been hard and cold on that island. I have got his marriage certificate, and his wife could not read or write. I think it was kept very quiet.

My great, great grandmother on the other side was a descendant from the potato famine in Ireland. That was kept very quiet as well.

All the family were fighters.
I enjoy your column each month.

All the best,
Mrs Gerry Browne
Peakhurst, NSW
Australia

Scots language Facebook group

Hello everyone! I've started a Facebook Group to help learn and promote the Scots language, in particular Gallawa (Galloway, South West Central) Scots and Borders (South) Scots.

If you would like to join and help out, please click on the link below!
www.facebook.com/groups/798737537298188
Kevin Robb

The Arab Legion Pipe Band



Just a short note with a piping story. The photo I have sent was taken in 1953/54, at what was then the shinty park in Fort William. The Arab Legion Pipe Band came to town and I clearly remember as a 10 year old that I was upset to think that the band did not wear the kilt and had odd towels on their head.

All the best,
David Mackenzie

Ed note: Thanks for sending this great photo David, which proves the pipes are truly a global instrument!

Outlander



Thanks for a great edition featuring my favourite show *Outlander* in February. I absolutely can't wait to try the great recipes from the *Outlander Kitchen* and I will be ordering the cookbook to get a even more of a taste of my favourite show. *The Scottish Banner* is packed with so much great stuff each month, if I wasn't already proud to have Scottish ancestry before, I do become very proud after reading each issue.

Looking forward to learning more about Scotland in the next issue of the Banner!

Gail McIntosh
Seattle, Washington
USA

A cack handed rock staker

Firstly, thank you for our own paper. Two articles in the April issue... Stone stacking by Nick Drainey and being a cack hander by Jim Stoddart tickled my heart and brought back memories of my first days of school (65 years ago). Slate and chalk, chalk on slate, sleeve and hand our numbers and ABC's a total mess. This I was punished for and forced to use my right hand, my mother bless her soul. Leave the lad be. Scissors were a nightmare to use, still are.

Nick Drainey's article on rock stacking, it was something I loved doing and encouraged others to have a go, mine were not so much towers as trying to make creatures and other sometimes impossible creations. Regrettably as in Nicks article some folk do not appreciate other people's dreams. My rock art came to an end through a serious back problem.

Even though I am cack handed, I am a right-handed golfer, I played school baseball right-handed (left arm pitcher) cricket the same. Thank you, gentlemen for your articles and thank you again *the Scottish Banner*.

Derek Hutton
Mount Beauty Victoria
Australia

Ed note: Thank you Derek for your note, and so glad to hear this issue brought back some great Scottish memories for you.

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send us your photos or letters via social media



Bannockburn



Beautiful sunset over Bannockburn and the statue of King Robert the Bruce.
Charles McGuigan
Scotland

East Linton



The Rocks, East Linton, East Lothian.
Ian Sutherland.
Scotland

Eilean Donan Castle



Nature's very own saltire at Eilean Donan Castle for St Andrews Day.
Gary Chittick
Scotland

The Dunbar Bear



The Dunbar Bear doing a bit of star gazing on a cold and breezy night. Great to finally pay a visit. Will be back!
A View From My Camera
Scotland

Scots' room with a view



The view from McCaig's Tower in Oban. Photo: VisitScotland.

VisitScotland is encouraging people of Scotland to spread the love of their towns, villages and cities to their neighbours, friends and visitors as part of their #AWindowOnScotland social media campaign.

The unique views from the windows of Scots have inspired a new social media campaign, launched by the national tourism organisation.

As people across the country stay at home, #AWindowOnScotland is urging residents to share online the sights they can see from their properties - creating a virtual vision of Scotland's towns, villages and cities, reminding everyone of what is waiting across Scotland when travel restrictions are lifted. From the mundane to the sublime, VisitScotland believes each

view will create an authentic picture of Scotland and hopes it will spread some joy between neighbours, friends and visitors, during these uncertain and challenging times. Twitter users are asked to take a picture of a view from their property and post it on social media using the hashtag #AWindowOnScotland and their location (i.e #Stirling, #Aberdeen, #Glasgow etc).

Diverse landscape, vibrant cities and stunning scenery

It is hoped the campaign will remind visitors, particularly Scots who holiday here and represent one of the country's most important tourism markets - of the diverse landscape, vibrant cities and stunning scenery that is waiting for them when this isolation period ends.

The campaign will carry a very clear stay at home message - but allow everyone to show their part of Scotland to the world - reminding future visitors that we will be waiting with open arms for their return.

The tourism industry is facing its toughest-ever challenge at the moment, as the Covid-19 pandemic continues to cause national and international travel restrictions. VisitScotland is closely monitoring the situation as it develops to ensure it is in the best position to work with the Scottish Government and other key partners to manage what is happening as effectively as possible.

Malcolm Roughead, Chief Executive of VisitScotland, said: "At the moment it is important we stay at home but while we can't get out, we saw an opportunity to create something that will remind people of what Scotland has to offer when this is over. When people are apart and feeling isolated, it is more important than ever to bring them together in an act of solidarity to show the warm, welcoming and friendly spirit of Scotland's people. #AWindowOnScotland will spread the love of our hometowns, villages and cities from across Scotland to our friends, neighbours and visitors and expand the window for the world during this challenging time. We hope this campaign will also offer tourism businesses an outlet to showcase their own views of Scotland and inspire visitors to see them for themselves when they can in the future."

The Scottish Highland Clans: Origins, Decline and Transformation



Looking for something to do in this time of social isolation? Explore fascinating Scottish history by learning about the Highland clans and how clanship has changed across hundreds of years. Discover the important history of the Highland clans.

The Highland, Gaelic speaking clans are a vital part of Scotland's history. They also shape how the world imagines Scotland today.

This course uses the expertise of University of Glasgow academics to explain the structure, economy and culture of the clans. It covers the centuries between the fall of the MacDonald Lords of the Isles in 1493 until around 1800, when the clans dissolved away as a result of social economic change. It then discusses how the legacies of clanship shaped global images of Scotland up until the present.

This free course is for anyone interested in Scottish History, Gaelic culture, and the way Scotland is represented in the modern world. No prior knowledge is required; all learners are welcome.

To enrol and for more details see: <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/the-highland-clans>



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

This tartan (SRT reference: 12809) commemorates the 700th anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath - 6th April 2020 - a letter in Latin submitted to Pope John XXII in 1320. Written on behalf of the earls, barons and nobles, and community of the whole Kingdom of Scotland. The letter asks the Pope to recognise Scotland's independence

and acknowledge Robert the Bruce as the country's lawful king. The 7 colour tartan visibly portrays the artefact itself; light tan with the narrow black stripes represents the document and the literary work; green and red represents the seals and signatories; the white pivot represents the recipient of the letter Pope John XXII; the scarlet pivot represents the Scots of old who died fighting for freedom; the broad black stripe becomes a memorial of remembrance for those who fell on the Scottish battlefields. The thread counts in the two opposing pivots are created from the two relevant dates: 6th April 1320 and 6th April 2020 - thus the numeracy in the tartan spans seven centuries. 32 threads in the dark red pays tribute to Robert the Bruce who was crowned king at the age of 32; 100 threads span the complete width of the light tan field, representing the famous excerpt from the Declaration of Arbroath "for, as long as a hundred of us remain alive..."

This tartan was registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans on April 6, 2020 and designed by Mr Steven Patrick Sim/ The Tartan Artisan.



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SCOTSPEAK

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



"It is the highest I have seen in 20 years. This has happened during what is likely to have been one of the driest Aprils, and after a poor winter with little snow-melt. It is pretty amazing and we might never know what is going on with the Loch Vaa."

Brian O'Donnell of Loch Vaa Fishing said as the loch located in Aviemore in the Scottish Highlands has recorded some its highest levels in years. The loch had lost millions of gallons of water a year ago and water levels were drastically low, now it has risen to one of its highest in years.

"This is a great project to be involved in and is yet another milestone in Scotland being at the forefront in leading the UK to become carbon neutral. The project is well under way and although we have been involved in similar contracts, we are still learning lessons when it comes to working on prototypes of this scale. We're looking forward to seeing the device launched successfully and sea trials beginning in the autumn."

AJS Fife managing director Raymond Imrie said as work began on a 30-tonne wave machine which is scheduled to be deployed in Orkney this autumn. The new Scottish wave energy prototype will turn the power of the ocean into electricity.



"The Corran Ferry is the second busiest route in Scotland, providing a lifeline service to the remote communities of Ardnamurchan, Morvern and Mull. The current service, operated with an ageing vessel and limited crew numbers, is no longer sustainable as demand increases. So, we need to consider the best option for upgrading the crossing of the Narrows. Doing nothing is not an option."

Regional transport body Hitrans convenor Allan Henderson said a bridge or tunnel could replace the Corran Narrows ferry crossing in Lochaber. Supporters argue a fixed link would dramatically improve connectivity and provide improved access to services and employment opportunities for those living in Ardnamurchan, Morvern and also Mull. At the same time it would reduce travel time and remove the need for travellers to pay ferry charges. The estimated construction costs would be between £42m and £50m for a bridge, and £66m to £108m for a tunnel.

"We are so pleased to be able to share this news with everyone that has supported and encouraged us over the last 16 years. Our funding target has been reached and we cannot thank everyone enough for their donations towards this project. The sculpture of Norman Collie and John Mackenzie has now been commissioned. We are now making plans for the unveiling of this iconic bronze sculpture at Sligachan."

Morag Nicolson, chairwoman of the Collie and Mackenzie Heritage Group said as they reached their £117,000 fundraising target. A sculpture celebrating, Professor Norman Collie and John Mackenzie, two famous mountaineers is to be erected on Skye. The two men are credited with creating many of the routes across the Cuillin range and are considered locally as pioneers.



"Paisley has a rich tapestry of heritage and culture, is steeped in industry and tradition, and has many major assets. We hope this exciting blueprint can create a high street fit for 21st century citizens and Paisley can become an exemplar for other large towns across Scotland."

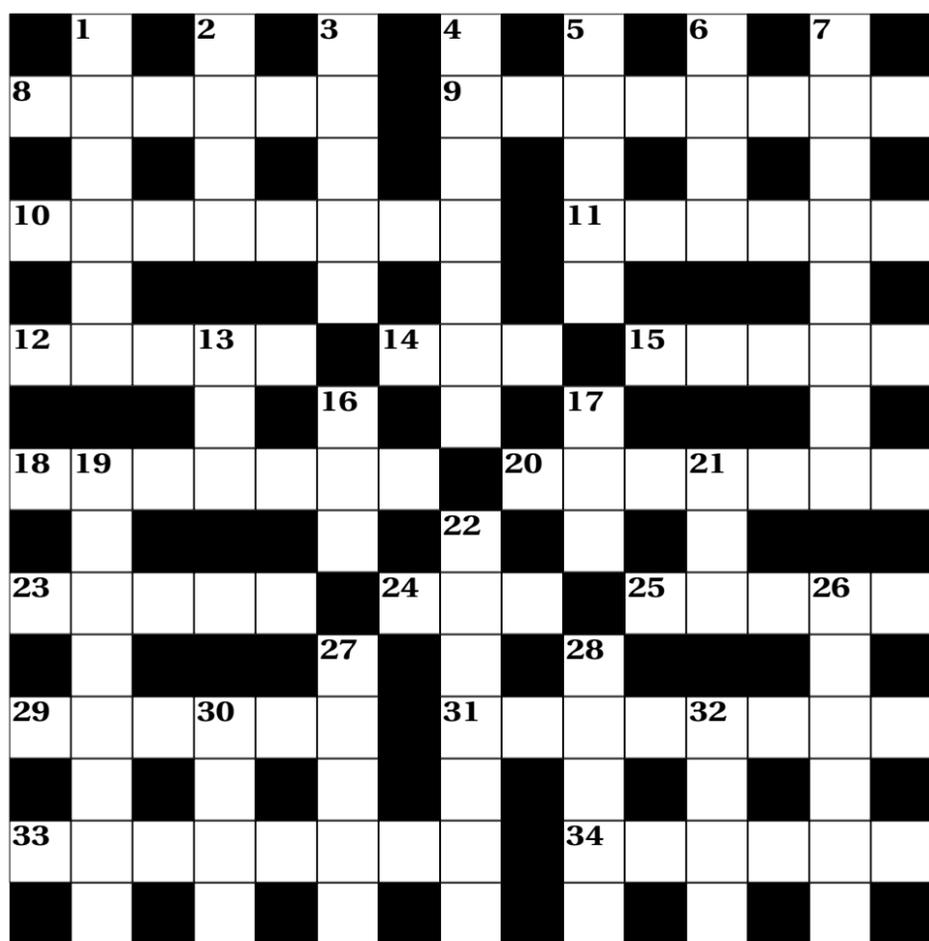
Phil Prentice, chief officer of Scotland's Towns Partnership, said as a ten-year vision with bold ideas for how Paisley could look has been unveiled. Paisley will be used as a test case for a series of bold ideas imagining how empty retail space could be better used. Situated only 10 minutes from Glasgow, Paisley is Scotland's largest town. It is home to architectural treasures, hidden gems and a vibrant cultural scene.

"There is no question Scotland needs a film studio, I could not be more excited to be involved in bringing it to fruition"

Jason Connery of First Stage Studios said as First Stage Studios has won rights to produce large-scale film and TV studio space in Edinburgh's Port of Leith. The son of Scottish acting legend Sir Sean Connery said the existing 8.6-acre site, which is being leased for up to 25 years from Forth Ports, has the potential for five soundstages of up to 100-ft in height as well as ample backlot provision.

The studio space in Edinburgh has already hosted major international productions, including *Marvel's Avengers: Infinity War*. It will benefit both the indigenous sector and Scotland's ability to attract high value international productions that work with the local sector.

SCOTWORD



Here is a fun crossword for you to try with a few of the answers to be found in Scotland! If you are in doubt, you may need a wee peek at a Scots dictionary or a map. Or, if you are really stuck, the answers can be found on page 14!

CLUES ACROSS:

- 8) People of a state (6).
- 9) It can be found in the North Sea (8).
- 10) It goes with Dumfries (8).
- 11) Scots town sounds American (6).
- 12) Perfect (5).
- 14) A Scots roll (3).
- 15) Front of a kilt (5).
- 18) Bagpipe essential (7).
- 20) Scotland's emblem (7).
- 23) Scots valleys (5).
- 24) A conical hill (3).
- 25) Call-to-arms cross! (5).
- 29) Resort near the River Earn (6).
- 31) The Granite City (8).
- 33) East-coast port (8).
- 34) A' Scots bride's dowry (6).

CLUES DOWN:

- 1) A -knight's tunic (6).
- 2) A Scots measure (4).
- 3) A Scots hilltop (5).
- 4) Follow the feline! (7).
- 5) Glasgow's flower! (5).
- 6) Bequeath (4).
- 7) Fishing port on Loch Broom (8).
- 13) Scotland's own (3).
- 16) A river from 31 Across (3).
- 17) Reserved (3).
- 19) A capital palace (8).
- 21) Scots winter pastime (3).
- 22) Castle rampart (7).
- 26) Smelt in Scotland! (6).
- 27) Gently-flowing water (5).
- 28) Grampian town on the Isla (5).
- 30) Newts (4).
- 32) 31 Across airport (4).

The return of the osprey

In the heart of Scotland's ancient Caledonian pine forest



A former First World War sniper's failed attempts to bring back ospreys to the Highlands in the 1920s has been re-told just as the well-loved birds of prey prepare to raise their chicks in Scotland this spring. Captain Charles Knight, an eccentric falconer who was awarded the Military Cross for his bravery during the war, brought ospreys from a millionaire's island off New York to Loch Arkaig in Lochaber in 1929. His attempt was a failure, despite a spectacular publicity campaign which included appearances by the Captain – known as Chas - in Trafalgar Square with the birds. However, more than 90 years later ospreys are nesting next to the Highland loch, in an ancient Caledonian pine forest.

Highlands

A webcam focused on the nest has been set up by the Woodland Trust, allowing ornithologists and interested members of the public to follow the progress of mating pair Louis and Isla. The site is close to where the last osprey was recorded before the birds became extinct in Scotland around 1916.

It is not the first time the widespread attention has been on Loch Arkaig. Capt Knight obtained two pairs of ospreys from Gardiners Island, New York. Stopping on the way to show them off in London's Trafalgar Square he then travelled to the Highlands and released one pair in Sutherland and another on a small island on Loch Arkaig. George Anderson, of the Woodland Trust, said: "He chose the release location because it had been the last nest site before ospreys disappeared from the UK around the time of the First World War."

But the lack of success was probably down to the origin of the birds. Gardiners Island lies just to the east of Long Island. It was bought by Lion Gardiner from the native Montauk chief in 1639 for "one big black dog, one gun, some powder and shot, a gallon of rum, and three Dutch blankets." It has been in the same family since and is off-limits to all but invited guests. With no natural predators the six-mile strip of land is one of the few locations in the world where ospreys nest on the ground. However, ground nesting in the Highlands is not a great idea.

Mr Anderson said: "In the Scottish Highlands such nests could attract the attention of otters, badgers, pine martens and wildcats to name just a few."

Driven to extinction

In addition, the birds would have been used to migrating to Brazil in the winter, rather than Africa, where European birds go. Therefore, they may have become lost over the Atlantic. Nevertheless, Capt Knight's ornithological exploits were not over and he and his pet eagle - Mr Ramshaw - enjoyed celebrity status. He also turned his hand to acting and in 1945 starred in the Powell and Pressburger classic *I Know Where I'm Going* in which he played Captain Barnstable, a character not a million miles from his own.

By the end of the 19th century most of Britain's ospreys had been driven to extinction, with only a handful hanging on in Scotland. The last record of them was

on an island on Loch Arkaig during the First World War. It wasn't until the 1950's that they successfully returned, to Loch Garten in the Cairngorms, and since then have enjoyed official protection which has allowed them to thrive.

But Mr Anderson said Capt Knight's legacy lives on in Lochaber. He said: "I am sure he would be thrilled to know these birds are back at Loch Arkaig. Even though his own reintroduction efforts came to nothing, his life's work promoting the conservation of birds of prey in the public consciousness has played an honourable part in the story."

The nest

Louis and Aila's first chick, hatched in 2017, and was named 'Lachlan' by webcam viewers; the name means 'from the land of the lakes'. In 2019 they had two chicks and hopes are high they will be able to raise more this year. Louis, the male, brings in all the food during the nesting season. The female does most of the egg and chick sitting, but the male usually takes over once a day to give her a short break. According to the Woodland Trust, Aila often has to tussle with Louis at times to get him to move off the nest.

When the nest is threatened it is usually the female who defends it. Webcam viewers have expressed astonishment that Louis doesn't help, but injury to him could stop him fishing which would put the life of Aila and any chicks at risk.

One of the biggest threats to the nest comes from pine martens. For that reason, the nest has been protected by the Woodland Trust - the lower part of the nest tree trunk has a slippery sleeve fitted which is covered in grease so martens cannot get a grip to climb up. In addition,

lower branches have been removed so there are no jumping-on points. Further up the trunk there is an electrified wire wrap which will give any raider a mild shock, but not enough to kill it. The nest platform also has a layer of chicken-wire through it which stops martens burrowing through.

After the breeding season is over, usually in September and October, ospreys leave Scotland, usually for the estuaries of West Africa, although they often stop for prolonged periods in Spain and Portugal.

To avoid in-breeding, male ospreys tend to return to nest in the area where they fledged, while females tend to travel elsewhere. The Woodland Trust says there have not been any sightings of the chicks Louis and Aila have raised.

To see the ospreys on webcam go to:
www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/osprey-cam

Did you know?

- Ospreys became extinct in Scotland in 1916 after being persecuted by egg collectors.
- In 1954 the fish-eating birds returned naturally after ospreys from Scandinavia nested at Loch Garten in the Cairngorms.
- Since then the numbers have risen steadily although they are still on the Amber List of at risk species because of the historical decline and low breeding numbers.
- A number of the Scottish chicks have been moved to England, where efforts to reintroduce ospreys are also having success.
- According to the RSPB there are now 200 to 250 breeding pairs across the UK.



The Caledonian pine forest.



Louise and Ailsa at rest.



The London News, August, 1929. Photo: Mary Evans Picture Library.

MELBOURNE TARTAN FESTIVAL
JULY 11 – 25 2020

PIPE BAND PARADE

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The Melbourne Tartan
2020 has been
cancelled and
rescheduled to
July 10 – 24 2021

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year.

Thank you for your
continued support

GALA DINNER & CONCERT
Saturday 25th July
Melbourne Town Hall

For all details and bookings:
www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au

The app to explore Scotland's heritage during lockdown



A free smartphone app – created by a University of Stirling academic – is helping people to experience and explore Scotland's coalmining heritage and the remnants of the industry during the current COVID-19 lockdown. Dr Catherine Mills, of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, launched the app – which enables users to follow a series of curated heritage walks using a mix of industrial archaeology, historic maps, images, and oral testimonies. Now celebrating its first anniversary, the app is proving popular with people walking the routes, as well as those who are using it to explore the environments virtually from their homes during the current restrictions.

The Landscape Legacies of Coal app launched with two routes around sites in Scotland's coalfield, with that number growing to 12 over the last year

– and a further nine in various stages of construction. The number of routes has increased as more people have engaged with Dr Mills and her team, sharing their own stories about Scotland's once-booming coalmining industry.

Central Belt coalfield

Interest has surged further in recent weeks as COVID-19 measures began, with many people now having more time to explore and engage with their immediate surroundings. With access to the outdoors partially restricted, the app's ability to allow people to 'explore from their armchair' is also providing a much needed release, while also enabling people from further afield to virtually explore the Central Belt coalfield.

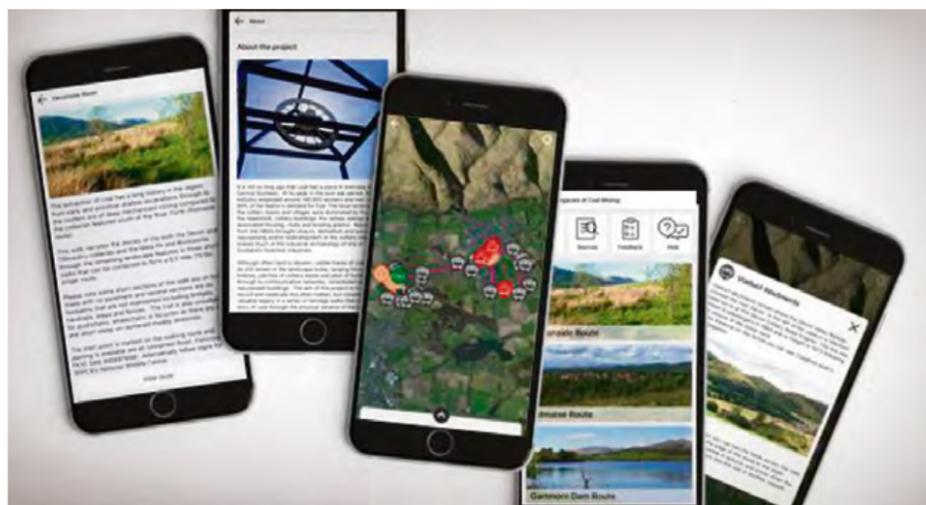
Dr Mills, Lecturer in Modern British Environmental History, said: "For many

years, coal and mining was part of everyday life in Scotland. At its peak in the post-war period, the industry employed around 140,000 workers, and when you factor in their families you realise just how many people mining touched in this part of the world. During the last year, we have been pleased by how many people have contacted us to share their memories, and provide content for the app. That community engagement has played an important role in helping us to greatly expand the number of routes and content which the app offers.

The Landscape Legacies project aims to provide a co-produced dynamic record of the rapidly disappearing landscape features and industrial archaeology of the coal industry, while increasing local cultural understanding of mining heritage, and of the social and economic significance of the industry."

The app is free to download and is available for Android and Apple devices. It features a variety of walks, including four that depict the chronological development and decline of horse-drawn coal wagon ways in and around Alloa; the story of coal mining and wider industrial history of Dollar; and, venturing further afield, an exploration of colliery housing and the associated social environment of Newtongrange in Midlothian.

The plan is to continue expanding the number of routes during the next 12 months, including the soon to be launched 'Ash Way'. This traces the route the coal ash slurry took from Kincardine and Longannet power stations to the storage lagoons at Preston Island, taking in the wider coal mining, maritime, industrial and cultural histories of Kincardine, Culross and Valleyfield.



Footprints show stegosaurus left mark on Skye

They are among the most recognisable dinosaurs ... now Edinburgh palaeontologists have discovered that stegosaurus left a lasting impression on a Scottish island.

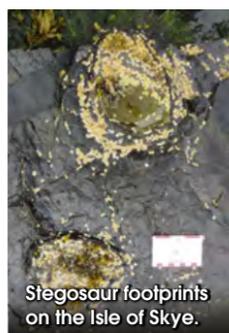


Skye Dinos.

Around 50 newly identified footprints on the Isle of Skye have helped scientists confirm that stegosaurus – with their distinctive diamond-shaped back plates – roamed there around 170 million year ago. The site on the island's north-east coast – which was at the time a mudflat on the edge of a shallow lagoon on a long-lost island in the Atlantic – contains a mixture of footprints, and reveals that dinosaurs on Skye were more diverse than previously thought.

Ancient tracks

A team of palaeontologists from the University discovered a short sequence of distinctive, oval footprints and handprints belonging to a stegosaurus, left by a young animal or



Stegosaurus footprints on the Isle of Skye.

a small-bodied member of the stegosaurus family as it ambled across the mudflat.

The discovery means that the site at Brothers' Point – called Rubha nam Brathairean in Gaelic – is now

recognised as one of the oldest-known fossil records of this major dinosaur group found anywhere in the world.

Large stegosaurus could grow to almost 30 feet long and weigh more than six tonnes.

Jurassic discoveries

Skye is one of the few places in the world where fossils from the Middle Jurassic period can be found. Discoveries on the island have provided scientists with vital clues about the early evolution of major dinosaur groups, including huge, long-necked sauropods and fierce, meat-eating cousins of Tyrannosaurus rex.

Paige dePolo of the School of GeoSciences said: "These new tracksites help us get a better sense of the variety of dinosaurs that lived near the coast of Skye during the Middle Jurassic than what we can glean from the island's body fossil record. In particular, Deltapodus tracks give good evidence that stegosaurus lived on Skye at this time."

Dr Steve Brusatte of School of GeoSciences added: "Our findings give us a much clearer picture of the dinosaurs that lived in Scotland 170 million years ago. We knew there were giant long-necked sauropods and jeep-sized carnivores, but we can now add plate-backed stegosaurus to that roster, and maybe even primitive cousins of the duck-billed dinosaurs too. These discoveries are making Skye one of the best places in the world for understanding dinosaur evolution in the Middle Jurassic."

New Zealand Pipe Band Championships 2020



Canterbury Caledonian Society Pipe Band. Photo: Facebook.

Under glorious sunny skies Invercargill, New Zealand turned on a fantastic display of pipe band performances at the 2020 New Zealand Pipe Band Championships. Over forty pipe bands descended on Invercargill from across not only New Zealand but also from Australia and the USA.

In 2018 the City of Invercargill Highland Pipe Band successfully applied to the Royal New Zealand Pipe Band Association to host the 2020 nationals and this year's event was deemed a great success and brought in thousands of band members to New Zealand's Southland region. City of Invercargill's history dates back to 1896 and was known as the City of Invercargill Caledonian Pipe Band in the early 1900s and Southland Highland Pipe Band when formed in 1896.

Grade 1

Canterbury Caledonian Society Pipe Band
Manawatu Scottish Pipe Band
New Zealand Police Pipe Band
Auckland & District Pipe Band

Grade 2

City of Invercargill Highland Pipe Band
St Andrew's College A Pipe Band
Wellington Red Hackle Pipe Band
Celtic Pipe Band (Nelson)
Scottish Society of NZ Pipe Band
Hamilton Caledonian Pipe Band
Northland Caledonian Pipe Band

Grade 3

Manawatu Scottish No2 Pipe Band
Canterbury Caledonian Society's Pipe Band
City of Tauranga Pipe Band
HB Caledonian Pipe Band
City of Auckland Pipe Band

Grade 4A

Hokonui Celtic Pipe Band
Celtic Pipe Band (Nelson)
ILT City of Invercargill Highland pipe Band
Papakura Pipe Band
Brisbane Boys College Old Collegians Pipe Band
Canterbury Caledonian Society's Pipe Band
Wellington Red Hackle Pipe Band
Balclutha Pipe Band
St Andrew's College Pipe Band
Waimatuku Southern Scenic Highland Pipe Band

Juvenile

City of Invercargill Juv A Highland Pipe Band
St Andrew's College Pipe Band
Celtic Pipe Band (Nelson)
St Andrew's College B Pipe Band
Lewis Turrell Memorial Trust Pipe Band
Canterbury Caledonian Society's Pipe Band
John McGlashan College Pipe Band
City of Invercargill Juv B Highland Pipe Band
Lindisfarne College Pipe Band

For full results and more details see:
www.nzpipebands.org.nz

You can watch the 2020 New Zealand Pipe Bands Championships at:
www.brassbanned.com/2020/03/11/new-zealand-pipe-band-championships/

Absence makes the heart grow fonder for Scotland

VisitScotland has sent a virtual hug to fans of Scotland, near and far, with a heart-warming film asking them to dream about visiting now, but to travel later.

Created by the national tourism organisation's marketing team, working from their own homes, the short film has been created to remind visitors what Scotland has to offer, trigger memories of previous visits and most importantly, remember that, while a visit isn't possible right now, it will still be here in the future.

The tourism industry is facing its toughest-ever challenge at the moment and VisitScotland wanted to send a message of hope for a future when the world is able to travel again.

Absence makes the heart grow fonder

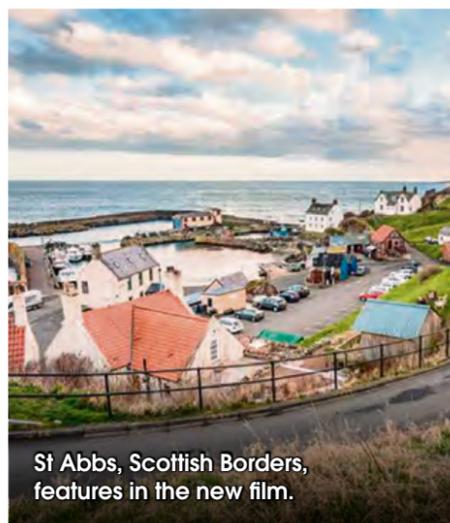
Built around the idea that absence makes the heart grow fonder, the film features stunning visuals from Skara Brae in Orkney to Loch Ken in Dumfries and Galloway, from Airlie Monument in Angus to Dunnottar Castle in Aberdeenshire amongst many others. The film is available now on VisitScotland's You Tube channel, launching ahead a traditionally busy time for the tourism industry and will have subtitles in German, Spanish, French, Dutch, Italian and Mandarin.

Vicki Miller, Director of Marketing at VisitScotland said: "While many countries are in lockdown with travel restrictions in place, we wanted to send a message of support and hope to our friends around the world.

We want to assure them that, whilst they can't visit just now, we will still be here with a warm welcome for them when the time is right. By launching this video, we are encouraging fans of Scotland to share their love for the country by posting memories of their trips here in the past and help them and others dream about their next holiday to Scotland.

We also recognise the tourism industry has been hit extremely hard by the Covid-19 situation and whilst we are already working with them to look at a recovery plan once the timing is appropriate, we're hopeful the strong emotion people have for Scotland across the globe will help a little in this very difficult time."

The full link to the film can be found at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRja3_xMo0&feature=youtu.be



St Abbs, Scottish Borders, features in the new film.



- The name whisky itself derives from the Gaelic name, uisge beatha, which translates loosely to 'water of life'.
- The first official recording of distilling stretches back to 1494, when Friar John Cor of Lindores Abbey in Fife was granted the king's commission to make aqua vitae, Latin for 'water of life'.
- To be officially classed as Scotch Whisky it must be produced in Scotland and matured in Oak Casks for a minimum of three years.
- The only whisky the US would legally import during the prohibition era was Scotch Whisky, which was prescribed to ease many illnesses.
- The 'Angel's Share' is the 2% of liquid which evaporates every year from a whisky barrel while it's stored for maturation. Rumour has it that it keeps the angels in good spirits.
- Laid end to end those bottles would stretch about 350,000kms - that's 90% of the distance to the moon!
- There are over 130 active distilleries spread across Scotland, which are split into five whisky-producing regions; Campbeltown, Highland, Islay, Lowland and Speyside.
- Whisky really is out of this world. The Islay distillery Ardbeg sent vials of their whisky to the International Space Station in 2011, where it orbited the planet on the International Space Station at 17,227 miles per hour, 15 times a day.
- 42 bottles of Scotch Whisky are shipped from Scotland to 175 markets around the world each second, totalling over 1.3bn every year.
- More than 10,000 people are directly employed in the Scotch Whisky industry in Scotland and over 40,000 jobs across the UK are supported by the industry.
- There are 2 million visits to Scotch Whisky distilleries a year, making the industry the third most popular tourist attraction in Scotland.



Being Scottish is Bags of Fun!

Ditch plastic-go Scottish!



Keep Calm and Wear Tartan Jute Bag

Show your Scottish pride with this brand new jute bag style. In a lovely purple tartan design with webbed handle.

H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



The Multi Scottie Dog Canvas Bag

The sturdy canvas bag comes with a lovely pattern of Scottish Terrier Dogs. Includes an interior key/coin pouch and strong black webbed handles.

H: 30cm, W: 40cm, D: 15cm



Scottie Dog Single Canvas Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a classic pattern of a Scottish Terrier dog with sturdy handles.

H: 30cm, W: 40cm, D: 12cm



Highland Coo Jute Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a colourful pattern of bonnie Highland coo's.

H: 20cm, W: 20cm, D: 14cm



Tartan Scottie Jute Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a tartan Scottie pattern, handle and gussets.

H: 20cm, W: 20cm, D: 14cm

Most bag styles also include a handy inside key/coin zip pouch.



Scottish Dialect Canvas Bag

The sturdy bag comes with a variety of 18 fun Scottish words. Includes a humorous word description, in case you did nae know! Quality cream canvas with black text and sturdy handles.

H: 40cm, W: 35cm, D: 20cm



Scottish Colourful Cats Jute Bag

This jute bag comes with a colourful pattern of Scottish cats, celebrating our feline friends. With blue webbed handles.

H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



Thistle Jute Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a lovely pattern of Scottish thistles. With purple tartan gusset and purple webbed handles.

H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



Westie Jute Bag

This sturdy bag comes with a colourful pattern of playful Westies, along with a solo Scottie pal. With black webbed handles.

H: 20cm, W: 20cm, D: 14cm

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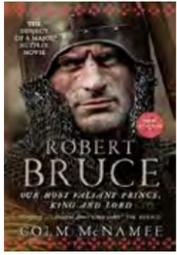
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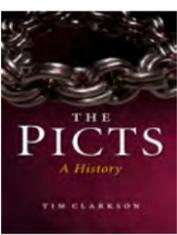
Robert Bruce: Our Most Valiant Prince, King and Lord

The life of Bruce is one of the greatest comeback stories in history. Heir and magnate, shrewd politician, briefly 'king of summer' and then a desperate fugitive who nevertheless returned from exile to recover the kingdom he claimed, Bruce became a gifted military leader and a wise statesman, a leader with vision and energy. Colm McNamee combines the most up to date scholarship on this crucial figure in the history of the British Isles with lucid explanations and context, so that readers can appreciate Bruce's enormous contribution to the historical impact not just on Scotland, but on England and Ireland too. **Price: \$29.95 + postage**



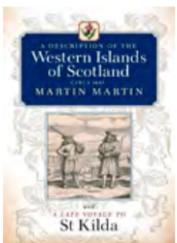
The Picts: A History

New edition of this popular history of the Picts, an ancient nation who ruled most of northern and eastern Scotland during the Dark Ages. Despite their historical importance, they remain shrouded in myth. Absorbed by the kingdom of the Scots in the 9th century, they lost their unique identity, their language and their vibrant artistic culture. It pieces together the evidence to tell the story of this mysterious people from their emergence in Roman times to their eventual disappearance. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



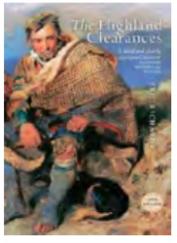
A Description of the Western Isle of Scotland: Circa 1695

It is 300 hundred years since Martin Martin's journey around the Western Isles, Orkneys & Shetlands. The 1st and one of the greatest of all travellers in Scotland, Martin is also unique in being the only native Gaelic speaker amongst them. This gives his account a unique & authoritative resonance which even today is a mine of info on the history & traditions of the Hebrides. It also casts light on the islands during a crucial period, when the old structures of society still held sway before Jacobite rebellions altered society irrevocably. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



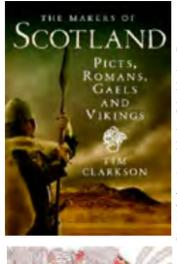
The Highland Clearances

The Highland Clearances was one of the most emotive chapters in Scotland's history. This book traces the origins of the Clearances from the 18th century to their culmination in the crofting legislation of the 1880s. In considering both the terrible suffering of the Highland people as well as the stark choices that faced landowners during a period of rapid economic change, it shows how the Clearances were one of many 'attempted' solutions to the problem of how to maintain a population on marginal and infertile land. This book offers a balanced analysis of events which created a terrible scar on the Highland and Gaelic imagination. **Price: \$29.95 Plus postage**



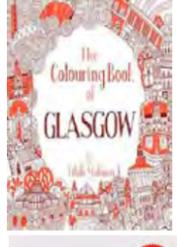
The Makers of Scotland

During the first millennium AD the most northerly part of Britain evolved into the country known as Scotland. The transition was a long process of social & political change driven by the ambitions of powerful warlords. At first these men were tribal chiefs, Roman generals or rulers of small kingdoms. Later the initiative was seized by dynamic warrior-kings. Armies of Picts, Scots, Vikings, Britons and Anglo-Saxons fought each other for supremacy. In this book the remarkable story of how ancient North Britain became the medieval kingdom of Scotland is told. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



The Colouring Book of Glasgow

Iconic views of Glasgow includes: Glasgow Cathedral, Kelvingrove Museum, Riverside Museum, Gallery of Modern Art, Pollok House, People's Palace, Ashton Lane, Museum of Transport, Science Centre, SEC Hydro and Finnieston Crane, George Square & City Chambers, Buchanan Street, Botanic Gardens, Tenement House, Kelvingrove Park, Central Station, Glasgow University. For all levels of colouring - plenty of intricate detail for those who like a colouring challenge, yet simple enough for those with less patience to create beautiful colour artwork in a short time. **Price: \$19.95 Plus postage**



Maclean's Whiskypedia: A Gazetteer of Scotch Whisky

Why does Scotch whisky taste as it does? Where do the flavours come from? The flavour of Scotch whisky is as much influenced by history, craft and tradition as it is by science. Whiskypedia explores these influences. Introductory sections provide an historical overview, and an explanation of the contribution made by each stage of the production process. Each entry provides a brief account of the distillery's history and explores the flavour and character of each make by whisky expert Charles Maclean. **Price: \$34.95 Plus postage**



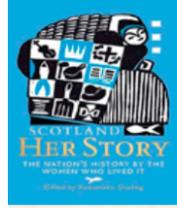
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Always up to her elbows in flour or stirring pots of homemade jam, Maw Broon has been baking cracking cakes, braw biscuits and perfect pastry for her family for years. Maw will show you how to bake a mouth watering collection of sweet favourites, from shortbread to sugar craft, from Dundee cake to Edinburgh tart, and from black bun to clootie dumpling. Beautifully designed and easy to follow. A definitive guide to traditional baking for all the family. **Price: \$29.95 plus postage**



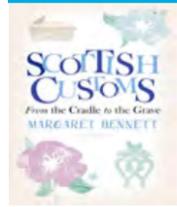
Scotland: Her Story

Scotland's history has been told many times, but never exclusively by its women. This book takes a unique perspective on dramatic national events as well as ordinary life, as experienced by women down the centuries. From the saintly medieval Queen Margaret to today's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, it encompasses women from all stations of class, fame & notoriety, offering a tantalising view of what happened to them, and how they felt. **Price: \$29.95 Plus postage**



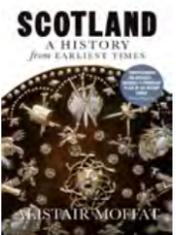
Scottish Customs: From the Cradle to the Grave

A highly readable and absorbing anthology of traditional Scottish customs and rites of passage, that draws upon a broad range of literary and oral sources. This expanded edition includes a large amount of new material. The result is a detailed and comprehensive picture of social behaviour in Scotland over the last 400 years. The book is divided into three sections, each covering a stage in the cycle of life: Childhood and infancy; Love, courtship and marriage and Death. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



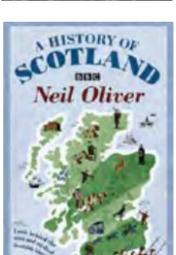
Scotland: A History from Earliest Times

From the Ice Age to the recent Scottish Referendum, historian and author Alistair Moffat explores the history of the Scottish nation. As well as focusing on key moments in the nation's history such as the Battle of Bannockburn and the Jacobite Risings, Moffat also features other episodes in history that are perhaps less well documented. From prehistoric timber halls to inventions and literature, Moffat's tale explores the drama of battle, change, loss and invention interspersed with the lives of ordinary Scottish folk, the men and women who defined a nation. **Price \$34.95 Plus postage**



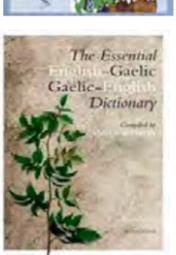
A History of Scotland

Scotland is one of the oldest countries in the world. Yet the stories and figures that dominate Scottish history - tales of failure, submission, thwarted ambition and tragedy - overshadowing the rich tapestry of her intricate past. Historian Neil Oliver presents a compelling portrait of Scottish history, peppered with action, high drama and centuries of turbulence that have helped to shape modern Scotland. He takes in iconic landmarks; debunks myths surrounding Scotland's famous sons; recalls forgotten battles; charts the growth of patriotism; and explores political developments, capturing Scotland's sense of identity and celebrating her place in the wider world. **Price: \$29.95 Plus postage**



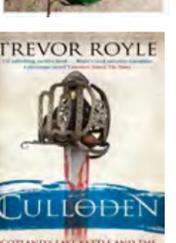
Essential English-Gaelic/Gaelic-English Dictionary

Ideal for learners of Gaelic at all levels, and its generous coverage of vocabulary from fields such as business and IT makes it a valuable tool for all those who require an up-to-date reference work. It contains a large amount of explanatory material, numerous examples of usage and idiomatic phrases and expressions. Many registers and styles are sampled, from the familiar (and occasionally the vulgar) to the formal and the literary. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



Culloden: Scotland's Last Battle and the Forging of the British Empire

The Battle of Culloden has gone down in history as the last major battle fought on British soil: a vicious confrontation between Scottish forces supporting the Stuart claim to the throne and the English Royal Army. But this wasn't just a conflict between the Scots and the English, the battle was also part of a much larger campaign to protect the British Isles from the growing threat of a French invasion. In Trevor Royle's vivid and evocative narrative, we are drawn into the ranks, on both sides, alongside doomed Jacobites fighting fellow Scots dressed in the red coats of the Duke of Cumberland's Royal Army. **Price: \$29.95 Plus postage**



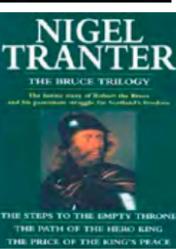
Scottish Queens 1034-1714

The lives of the Scottish queens, both those who ruled in their own right, and also the consorts, have largely been neglected in history books. One of the earliest known Scottish queens was none other than the notorious Lady MacBeth. Was she really the wicked woman depicted in Shakespeare's famous play? Was St Margaret a demure and obedient wife? These are just a few of the questions addressed by Dr Marshall in her entertaining, impeccably researched book. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



The Bruce Trilogy

King or outlaw? Discover the life of Scottish hero Robert the Bruce in this trilogy. Master storyteller Nigel Tranter tells the tale of the legendary warrior, and future King of Scots. Tutored and encouraged by William Wallace, Robert the Bruce determined to continue the fight for an independent Scotland, sustained by a passionate love for his land. This edition collects together Steps to the Empty Throne, Price of the King's Peace and Path of the Hero King. **Price: \$39.95 Plus postage**



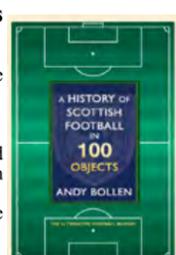
50 People Who Screwed Up Scotland

The Complete History of Scottish Disappointment. To be Scottish is to have a lot to live down, and as Allan Brown shows, this lot do the job superbly. Whether it be Robert Burns, indecipherable bard of rustic gibberish or Sean Connery, die-hard advocate of a country he refuses to live in. They're all here, and many others; a veritable embassy of bad ambassadors. 50 People Who Screwed Up Scotland is a humorous and chronologically-sequential series of essays, histories and anecdotes that consider those episodes and occurrences in Scotland's political, cultural & social story where, against all odds, defeat was plucked from the jaws of victory. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



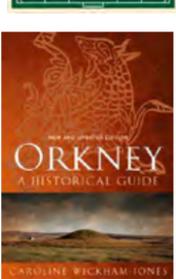
History of Scottish Football in 100 Objects

Andy Bollen has created a fantasy football museum to collect together a treasure trove of Scottish football exhibits that ranges from Jimmy Johnstone's oar to Aggie the tea lady's trolley. Learn why Puskas and Socrates should've been Scottish, the versatility of the pie and Napoleon's links to Bovril and explore all the wonders of the game north of the Border - from Arthur Montford to the phone-in, Think Tanks, Buckfast, vanishing cream for referees, Twitter, VAR technology and flares (pyrotechnics, not 1970s attire). These exhibits distill the beauty of Scottish football into an entertaining volume that will make the perfect gift for any fan. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



Orkney: A Historical Guide

Orkney lies only 20 miles north of mainland Scotland, yet for many centuries its culture was more Scandanavian than Scottish. Strong westerly winds account for the scarcity of trees on Orkney and also for the tradition of well-constructed stone structures. As a result, the islands boast a large number of exceptionally well-preserved remains, which help us to form a detailed picture of Orcadian life through the ages. In this updated edition introduces the history of the islands and provides a detailed survey of the principal places and sites of historic interest. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



Scottish Traditional Tales

All over the world traditional tales were told at the fireside until their place came to be taken by books, newspapers, radio and television. A.J. Bruford and D.A. MacDonald present an entertaining collection of the oral tales that have been passed down by generations of Scottish story-tellers, and have been recorded and collected by researchers from the School of Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh over the past fifty years. With almost a hundred tales, this is the most wide-ranging introduction available on this fascinating part of Scotland's heritage. **Price: \$ 34.95 Plus postage**



Best of Scotland: A Caledonian Miscellany

From bagpipes, haggis, whisky to The Falkirk Wheel, John Knox, Loch Lomond and Dolly the Sheep, this book is a fascinating celebration of Scotland that will appeal to visitors and locals alike. This imaginative, informative & amusing miscellany, explores some of the well-known symbols of Scottish culture (as well some of the quirkier ones) and looks beneath the surface to shatter some long-held assumptions that will surprise even the most well-informed Scotophile. **Price: 34.95 Plus postage**



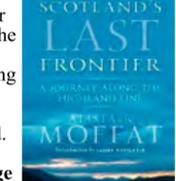
Made in Scotland

Of the wide range and diversity of British products that are now household names, the Scots can take pride in the fact that many of them began in Scotland. When people first spread Robertson's Golden Shred Marmalade, it was by courtesy of a Paisley man. How would the housewife have thickened her sauce without cornflour, produced in Paisley in 1854? Pringle of Hawick gave the world the first knitted twin-set, these are the stories behind a wide number of the best-known household names that originated in Scotland. **Price: \$34.95 Plus postage**



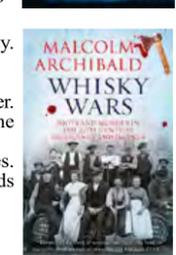
Scotland's Last Frontier

In Britain's Last Frontier best-selling author Alistair Moffat makes a journey of the imagination, tracing the route of the Line from the River Clyde through Perthshire and the north-east. In addition to exploring the huge importance of the Line over almost two thousand years, he also shows how it continues to influence life and attitudes in 21st-century Scotland. The result is a fascinating book, full of history and anecdote. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



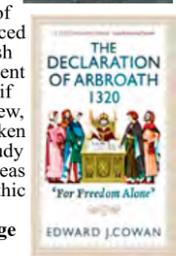
Whisky Wars

Nineteenth-century life in the Highlands was not easy. Rather than a rural idyll, the glens and moors were home to poachers and whisky smugglers, while the towns were often ready to explode into riot and disorder. Even the Hebridean seas had their dangers, while the Islands seethed with discontent. Whisky Wars goes behind the facade of romantic tartan and vast estates. Here, the hidden history of the Highlands and Islands is unearthed in all its unique and terrible detail. **Price: \$19.95 Plus postage**



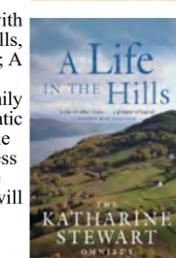
The Declaration of Arbroath 1320

The Declaration of Arbroath, 6 April, 1320, is one of the most remarkable documents to have been produced anywhere in medieval Europe. Signed by 51 Scottish nobles, it confirms Scotland's status as an independent sovereign state with the right to use military action if unjustly attacked. Quoted by many, understood by few, its historical significance has now almost been overtaken by its mythic status. This is the first book-length study to examine the origins of the Declaration and the ideas upon which it drew, while tracing the rise of its mythic status in Scotland and exploring its impact upon revolutionary America. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



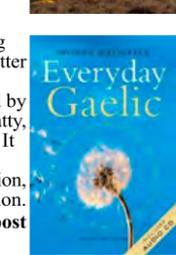
A Life in the Hills-3 novel omnibus

This omnibus gathers A Croft in the Hills together with some of Katharine's later books: A Garden in the Hills, describing a year in the life of her Highland garden; A School in the Hills, a vivid history of the school at Abriachan which eventually became the Stewarts' family home; and The Post in the Hills, which tells the dramatic story of the postal service in the Highlands, from the point of view of Katharine's later role as postmistress of the smallest post office in Scotland, run from the porch of her Abriachan schoolhouse. The omnibus will bring the grace, charm and wisdom of Katharine Stewart's writing to a new generation of readers. **Price: \$34.95 Plus postage**



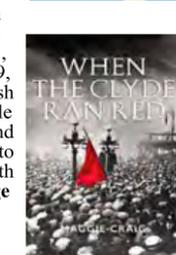
Everyday Gaelic/w Audio CD

Since English is also spoken in the Gaelic-speaking areas, communication in Gaelic is not so much a matter of necessity as of choice and interest. This book, therefore, covers more than just the phrases needed by an outsider in a foreign land - it also dips into the chatty, the personal and domestic aspects of the language. It ranges from simple words and phrases to the more complex and idiomatic. Includes imitated pronunciation, audio CD improves pronunciation and comprehension. **Price: \$24.95 book only/\$39.95 book & CD Plus postage**



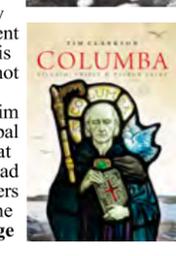
When the Clyde Ran Red

A picture of the heady days when revolution was in the air on Clydeside. Through the strike at the huge Singer Sewing machine plant in Clydebank in 1911, Bloody Friday in Glasgow's George Square in 1919, the General Strike of 1926 and on through the Spanish Civil War to the Clydebank Blitz of 1941, the people fought for the right to work, the dignity of labour and a fairer society for all. This book puts the politics into the social context of the times and tells the story with warmth & humour. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



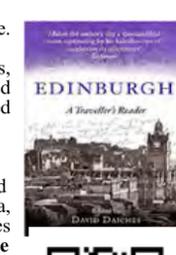
Columba: Pilgrim, Priest & Patron

Who was St Columba? How did this Irish aristocrat become the most important figure in early Scottish Christianity? This book examines the different roles played by the saint in life and death, tracing his career in Ireland and Scotland, where we encounter not only Columba the abbot and missionary but also Columba the politician and peacemaker. We follow him then to Scotland, to Iona, where he founded his principal monastery. It was from this small Hebridean isle that he undertook missionary work among the Picts and had dealings with powerful warrior-kings. The final chapters look at the evolution of the cult of Columba from the 7th century onwards. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



Edinburgh: A Travellers Reader

Edinburgh is a city whose history is written on its face. The Old Town has not significantly changed its atmosphere since the turbulent 15th & 16th centuries, when riots, processions, or public executions jammed the High Street. And the very different era that followed the bloody religious wars of the 17th century is epitomised by the elegant streets and squares of the New Town. This anthology of extracts from letters, memoirs, diaries & novels of interesting visitors and inhabitants and recreates for today's visitors the drama, history, and the life of the city in buildings and places that can still be visited. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



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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.



Born Comedians

*One more day of sin and sorrow
One more day in this old school,
We're staying home tomorrow,
No more pencils, no more books,
No more teachers' dirty looks.
One more day and we'll be free,
From this old place of misery.*

A rather pessimistic piece of doggerel for the end of term or of a final year of schooling. Little did we know that perhaps some of the best years in life would only too soon be at an end.

The purpose for us going to a special school screening of half a dozen documentaries at the Odeon Cinema in Glasgow remains more obscure than our more regular school visits to the Glasgow Citizen's Theatre. There were umpteen schools there to watch what were probably destined to be released as educational films. We were undoubtedly the guinea pigs invited to test them out before they were shown to paying school audiences or more likely screened free and sponsored by industry. On the other hand, I don't remember any of us ever being asked what we thought of them. Maybe our teachers simply needed a day out and some respite from their classrooms.

What the directors and producers of the films would have made of our reactions is anyone's guess, for there was an absolute uproar at the screenings. Glasgow has produced some great comedians over the years and it was obvious that day that everyone in the Odeon in Renfield Street thought he or she was another one.

Glasgow patter

It's not so difficult to understand why some of the best have come from Glasgow, for everyone living there tries to be a source of comedy much of the time in their everyday lives. Some are hopeless in their attempts to do so, but a lot of Glaswegians are natural comedians. School was the breeding ground for some of these up and coming Jimmy Logan's' and Stanley Baxter's and Glasgow's interesting political, social and religious mix provided plenty of rich material for the amateur as well as the professional comedian.

It was the ability of Glasgow comedians like Jack Milroy and Chic Murray to relate their jokes and stories to 'the bunnet brigade', the ordinary Glasgow working man and his wife using 'Glasgow patter'.

Their stories simply told of ordinary, everyday events, but of situations that everyone could easily recognise and empathise with. What made their humour quite brilliant was turning what might sound quite mundane in Standard English into something very, very funny when using Glasgow patter. It is that ability to use Glasgow's unique language to reach into the hearts and minds of Glasgow's citizens that Glasgow comedians exploit to bring success. Those stand-up comedians, even very talented and successful ones, who lacked that home-grown insight into the Glasgow psyche often died a death on stage in Glasgow. Glasgow patter has been described as having much of the same characteristics of a separate language.

This was exploited by Stanley Baxter to great effect in his wonderful sketches in *Parliamento Glasgow*, a parody of the BBC's real life language program *Parliamento Italiano* (let's speak Italian).

Some are hopeless in their attempts to do so, but a lot of Glaswegians are natural comedians.

Stanley Baxter, in character as a language professor, in a number of everyday situations, translates from Glaswegian into Standard English using familiar Glasgow characters and sayings to make us laugh.

There were quite a few home-grown schoolboy comedians around at the Odeon that day in the 1950s just itching to exploit both the material and the situation in true Glasgow fashion. One film in particular caught our puerile imaginations. It was called *Thirty-Two of Her Own* and the star of the film was an attractive young woman,

not much older than us. It was narrated by an insipid male actor and we read into his narration every possible sexual innuendo and double entendre imaginable.

Every time he opened his mouth and asked a rhetorical question it was met with a barrage of witty answers from us in his audience. The narration went from bad to worse, each statement inviting comments from his audience even funnier than the ones before, each comment playing and building upon another.

Spontaneous humour

Spontaneous humour is a Glasgow speciality and the best of the schoolboy comedians that day didn't rely on re-visiting the humour of the professionals, but rather on the humour engendered by the film and the situation itself.

One person fed upon the comments of another, until everyone in the cinema was splitting their sides with uncontrolled laughter. In the darkness of the cinema the teachers had no hope of influencing what was happening, and they wouldn't have been human to not have enjoyed some of what was being conjured up by their imaginative charges. It was a welcome addition to what would have otherwise been a very boring film on dental hygiene. And of course, the title of the film was simply a reference to the young woman's 32 teeth. At least that number got stuck into all our heads from that day forward and I'm sure might have proved very useful in answer to a trivia quiz question in our futures.

You could be led to believe that Glasgow humour might be genetic for on a visit, in recent years, to the People's Palace, the museum of old Glasgow, I noted that Robert Hall, 'Rab Haw', the legendary 'Glesga' Glutton' who died in 1843, and a favourite character with children like me in the 1940's, had lost his exhibit. He had gone the same way as Ba Bru, the smiling, turbaned youngster from the far reaches of the Empire who cheered us all up from the billboards on a dreich winter's day in Glasgow and who we would all have gladly made one of our gang and a friend. He too had gone the same way as the ever-popular cheery wee gollywogs found on the inside lids of Robertson's jams.

Political correctness, I guess, brought about their demise, for them to be replaced instead with a more sensitive exhibit of Billy Connolly's big banana feet. Alongside Billy's exhibit was information that said something along the lines of "In a survey of Glasgow residents it was found that 25% of Glaswegians thought they were as funny as Billy Connolly, 50% thought they were funnier and 25% thought they were Billy Connolly. I believe only the good citizens of Glasgow could have produced a result that exuded such confidence in their innate comic ability. But I think they were right in many ways for although I admit that Billy is a comic genius I suspect that I could find you a couple of others, certainly unrecognised, but around just about any corner of our city of home-spun humour.

Aberdeen City Libraries go digital and see huge surge in online usage during Covid-19 pandemic



There has been a huge upsurge in online borrowing with usage of BorrowBox increasing by 200% year on year since the temporary closures. Online registration to join the library is also up 200% on the previous year.

The many delights on virtual shelves

Fiona Clark, Libraries & Information Services Manager, said: "We have been delivering online 24/7 services for a number of years and we are continuing to develop and add online content whenever we can. In the current challenging time when our physical service is closed these are now more in focus than ever. Whether you are looking for a book to take you to a different world, ideas and resources to spark your imagination or ignite your zest for learning or just to keep the kids occupied - pop into our digital library and sample some of the many delights on our virtual shelves!"

Those users currently with titles on loan are being reassured that no fines will be charged for items that are unable to be returned during the closures and that their accounts can be managed online.

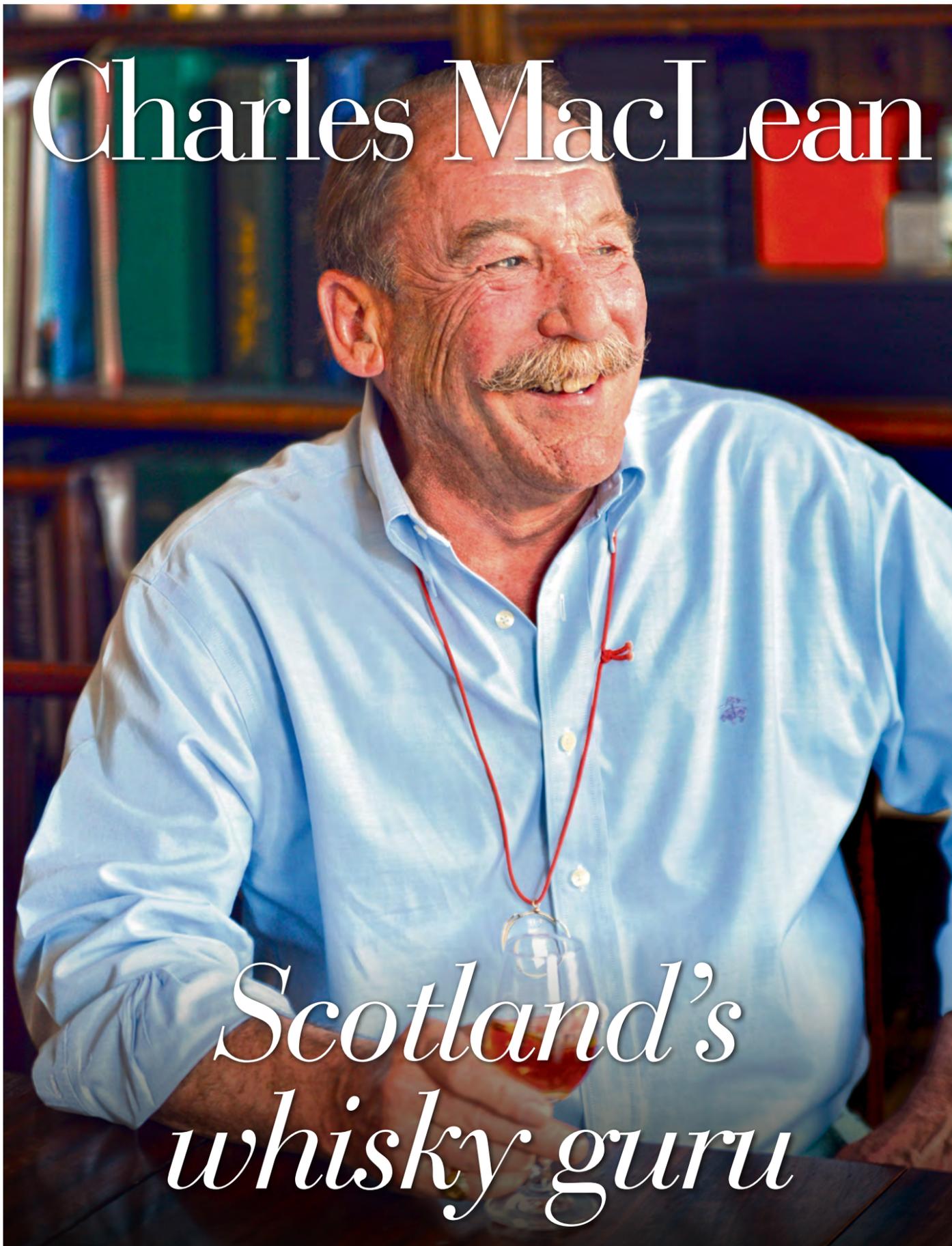
The library is also looking into ways to engage with users via its website and social media channels. This includes providing online help and reading recommendations, Bookbug sessions for children delivered over YouTube and Facebook Live, and much, much more.

For more information see:
www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/library

Aberdeen City Libraries digital technologies to adapt to the current Covid-19 pandemic and ensure that readers of all ages continue to have access to reading material and resources, has seen a huge upsurge in online usage.

The city's libraries temporarily closed on 20 March on government advice regarding coronavirus but, having long prided themselves on their mission statement to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge and strengthen communities, this has not stopped librarians from coming up with creative solutions for serving the public. There are already signs that people are turning to reading to stimulate their imagination during this time.

The library service has increased the number of digital resources available to members. These include BorrowBox, RB Digital UK and PressReader which provide free access to thousands of eBooks, eAudiobooks, eComics and digital copies of newspaper and magazines.



Charles MacLean

Scotland's whisky guru

May is whisky month in Scotland and this month we are fortunate to hear from Scotland's leading whisky expert and author Charles MacLean. Charles talks about the history of whisky in Scotland, his love of Scotland and what a proud father he is as his sons recently broke world records rowing across the Atlantic Ocean for charity. So, pour yourself a dram and enjoy the 'water of life'.



Sheila, Jamie, Ewan, Lachlan and Charles Maclean. Photo: Lost Clock Productions.

Scotland has very long history with whisky, with production dating back centuries. Today there are over 100 distilleries in a very small country. What is it about Scotch whisky you feel has endured time and at the same time continues to evolve?

CM: The foundations of the Scotch whisky industry were really established a long time ago. Whisky was being made in Scotland from my guess, since the 1300's. Although at that time it was not necessarily a convivial product. It was more for medicinal purposes. The first written reference to the distillation of aqua vitae (Latin for water of life) in Scotland is in 1494. When King James IV ordered a

considerable amount of malt for a monk to make aqua vitae (Latin for water of life). We do not know what aqua vitae was being used for, but James IV was a Renaissance monarch and was interested in all things scientific. It may have been embalming or perhaps used for making gunpowder.

So, its origins go back into the Celtic twilight. It began to become a commodity in the in the 17th century with the first tax imposed upon the sale of whisky in 1664. Although the private distribution of whisky remained completely illegal until 1781. So, by the late 18th century, whisky was being made on a commercial basis, by several large distilleries, mainly in the lowlands with Highland distilling remaining very small. There were very few licenced premises then, and after the private distilling was banned, people continued to distil but it went underground and they carried out illicit smuggling. In the 18th century and into the 19th century, the smuggled illicit whisky had a higher reputation than the government legally made whisky.

When you buy a bottle of Scotch you are buying tradition, history, flavour and the blood of one small country. There is an awful lot more than liquor in a bottle.

A significant act was passed in 1823 which made it possible for farmer distillers who had formerly operated outside of the law to make good whisky and sell it at a reasonable price. And that was the economic foundation for modern whisky distilling. At that time whisky was little known outside of Scotland, but as distilling evolved whisky developed a more consistent flavour, and when you have got a consistent flavour in any product, you can brand it. And this is exactly what happened. It did not really take off until the late 1870's and into the 1880's. And then in particular in the 1890's, the so-called first whisky boom. Then you had the emergence of big global brands like Johnnie Walker and John Dewar & Sons for example.

The second boom came after the post-Second World War era and whisky became the drink of the free world. It became hugely fashionable not in just markets like America and Australia but in France, Germany and Italy. By the 1970's and 1980's malt whiskies were being promoted (rather than the blended whiskies which had been promoted for the previous 75 years). This was ground-breaking as consumers were being introduced to the fact that different regions were really producing quite different flavours.

And since then malt whisky is thriving in pretty much every market. In the new millennium there has also been an upsurge in interest in investing in whisky and this has continued today with whisky auctions make huge money and whisky is considered one of the most attractive alternative investments today.

Charles you were elected a Keeper of the Quaich in 1992 and in 2009 elected Master of the Quaich, the industry's highest accolade and a rare privilege. Can you tell us more about these honours and how proud you are to have been chosen to receive them?

CM: The Keepers of the Quaich is an industry invention. The whisky industry thought it was a good idea to reward or acknowledge contributions made by people not only in the trade, but also people who had done good service to the industry. When I was elected in 1992, you had to have done good service of 20 years to whisky and Scotland. It was a great honour to be invited to become a Keeper. We have our own tartan and crest and offer scholarships. You enter as Keeper and after at least 10 years of service as a Keeper you may be honoured to be invited to become a Master.

Scotland is known for whisky. However different tastes are produced across the country. With key factors affecting taste such as water, yeast and the oak cask. What do you find impacts the taste of a whisky most and is there a region in Scotland whose taste you prefer most?

CM: The flavour of whisky comes from two sources. It comes from all the complexities of production and it comes from the additional treatments developed through maturation. Some distillers would say up to 85% of the flavour comes from the wood. The selection of casts and the mixing of casks for single malt, let alone for a blend, is crucial to the flavour of the finished product. Scotland's cool and damp climate is ideal for maturing Scotch but there is no one region in the country that produces a better drop. Scotland's whiskies have an edge due to its history and culture of the product. It is the romance to some extent, but also the range of flavours available within the Scotch category and the craft. When you buy a bottle of Scotch you are buying tradition, history, flavour and the blood of one small country. There is an awful lot more than liquor in a bottle.

The whisky industry in Scotland is pivotal to the Scottish economy with thousands of people employed and billions of pounds earned in exports and tourism. Many people stay in the industry for a lifetime, with generations following in their footsteps. What is it about the whisky industry you feel is so important to Scotland both financially but also socially and culturally?

CM: Scotch whisky is the greatest ambassador for Scotland, we are a small country on the edge of Europe but known throughout the world through this product. So, if you would like, it's a gift and gives us a certain dignity in the eyes of the world. Once a taste for whisky is developed it is hugely rewarding and evokes huge passion. Whisky certainly brings joy and is a terrific ambassador for Scotland. Whisky tourism is mega and at a lot of the distilleries they are upgrading their premises and facilities to welcome tourists because people are coming from across the world. As many distilleries are in rural areas this is a great boost for local jobs from working in the distilling process, administration and at the visitor centres.



Ewan, Jamie, Charles and Lachlan at Oban Distillery. Photo: Lost Clock Productions.

You clearly have a great passion for not only whisky but also Scotland itself. What is it about Scotland you love so much, and do you have a favourite spot to visit when looking to relax and have a dram?

CM: I am passionate about Scotland. I was brought up largely in the Isle of Arran and attended university in St Andrews, Dundee and Edinburgh. I now live in Edinburgh and we have a cottage up in Assynt, in the north-west of the country. This was where we spent our holidays and I am very keen on sailing on the west coast. My work has taken me all over Scotland and I know it well. I have a strong connection to Kildonan and Drumbeig and have spent a lot of times in both places.

Recently your three sons set three incredible world records by rowing across the Atlantic Ocean for charity. How proud are you of your sons and how does it make you feel to hear that their spirit of adventure was nurtured into them by their parents?

CM: As you can imagine I am hugely proud of them. But also relieved that they are back on dry land. They were all adventurous kids and would be eager to jump off cliffs and climb trees and we let them go and run wild, particularly up north. They had never rowed in their lives before, but all three are good rugby players and are all sporty and fit. When they announced they would row across the Atlantic Ocean, both my wife and I knew it was a done deal. I never had any doubts that they could do it and they took it on in the most professional way. There were all the funds that needed to be raised, the exercise and diet regime and public relations regime-it really was like starting a business. Compared to all the planning they had to do, the row was always going to be the easy bit. All the daily tedium of life was removed and once they were on the ocean all they had to do was keep going. They lost some cables for their music and ended up singing together and very importantly talking. They got to know each other on a new level, and they are now even better friends than they were when they set off. I might say that does not happen to everyone who rows or sails together in these sorts of situations.

You are involved with blending a malt and a scotch named Maclean's Pillage and Maclean's Spillage to help raise funds for the charities your sons have worked so hard to support. Can you tell us more and how people can get involved with purchasing these whiskies whilst helping some great causes?

CM: The whisky is being sold by Royal Mile Whisky and everyone involved in this project has given their time and product for free. I think that this is amazing. There are two expressions, a blended malt, and a blended scotch. That project of collecting whiskies from other distilleries began in Islay and was first thought of in 2004 to raise money for Islay charities. I wrote to all the owners of the distilleries on Scotland's west coast from Arran to Skye and begged for whisky for the charity Feedback Madagascar, and they came up with the idea of 'whisky for water'. We are hoping the sales help us provide clean water for up to 5,000 people for life, which is an incredible achievement.

And finally, Charles you are involved with one of Scotland's oldest Gaelic clans, Clan Maclean. Can you tell us more and why being an active member of a Clan is important to you?

CM: I sit on the council of the Clan Maclean. The Clan Maclean Association really exists for the diaspora, those Maclean's in Canada,

America, Australia and around the world. It is great to know where you come from. In some people they do not know or care where they come from, for the Gaels it is very important.

Knowing your pedigree and history is very important to people, especially for expats. It is a sort of a duty to keep the Clan organisations going. We have gatherings, big gatherings every five years and small gatherings every year. Clan just means family and the extended family gives people the emotional support of being a member of a Clan, which is good thing. There is an old Gaelic saying I always hold dear, which translates to "Thank God for a Maclean I am."

Both Maclean's Pillage (Blended Malt) and Maclean's Spillage (Blended Scotch) will be available from Royal Mile Whiskies, online and in store. Every drop sold will make a difference. All funds raised will go towards life-saving fresh water boreholes in Madagascar, for more details or to place a bid see: www.broar.co.uk, or follow on social media @broaratlantic



Charles playing the spoons.



Charles at a whisky tasting.



MacLean moustaches.

Lady MacGregor's Scotland

By: Lady Fiona MacGregor



Lady MacGregor of MacGregor – otherwise known as British writer and broadcaster Fiona Armstrong - works for ITV news and current affairs. Fiona's husband is the Chief of Clan Gregor, Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor. She is an active member of Clan Armstrong, so their lives are interwoven with all things tartan. The couple live in the Scottish Borderlands, although filming and writing takes Fiona all over Scotland.



A feeding pheasant.

Greetings from Scotland. Like most places, sadly it is a shut-down Scotland. At least the sun has been shining. April was the loveliest month and we were able to get into the garden. With time on hands I have planted seeds and plan to grow all sorts of vegetables, from courgettes to sweetcorn.

At least the rhododendrons are in full bloom. Because we need some cheer at the moment. Wherever you are I hope you are safe and well. If you have been badly affected, I am so very sorry. They tell us this will pass...

Meanwhile, we are rapidly becoming Queens of Clean in our homes. And it is not just the smaller abodes. Here great castles have had to send most of their staff home for safety reasons. Which means Scotland's lairds and ladies are rolling their sleeves up.

Highland stronghold

Take the Duchess of Argyll, for example. She lives in a Highland stronghold and the newspapers report how she has now become Mrs Mop, albeit a very glamorous one. Yes, Eleanor Campbell has picked up her feather duster at Invereray Castle.

There is porcelain to polish and suits of armour to clean. There are flower beds to weed and lawns to mow – and the whole family, the duke included, are apparently mucking in.

Invereray is on the Scottish west coast and a glorious example of a Highland stronghold. Overlooking Loch Fyne, this gothic creation has been there since the eighteenth century and comes with a spectacular armoury and fabulous collections of china and tapestries. And yes, there is the odd ghost, or two. Because every good castle needs a ghost. If only they could do their bit to keep the place clean...

As far as the MacGregors and Campbells go, it is a love-hate relationship. Over the years they two clans married each other – indeed, Rob Roy's mother was a Campbell – and over the years they also killed each other. Back in the 1500s Clan Gregor and the Campbells of Breadalbane fought constantly over land. In the end, it was the Campbells who came out on top.

But back to the cleaning. Here at MacGregor Towers my lovely lady who comes into help is in lockdown with her children. So, we are also busy bees. Well, I say 'we', but the chief does not know one end of a Hoover from another. He is great on wood and log fires. Great on looking after dogs. Pretty good on shopping, too. But to the MacGregor, housework is a mystery.

Like most men he does not see dust. He has no idea how to switch on the dishwasher. Or work the washing machine. Yet for some reason he does take quite an interest in the freezer. Which, since the lockdown, we have been eating our way through. Yes, frozen pheasant and cartons of soup, bolognese and macaroni cheese; ice cream and a single orange-flavoured lolly – it has all gone. And now the only things left are five bags of last year's blackcurrants.

Which gives a good excuse to defrost the thing. Not a simple operation when the ice is an inch thick around the sides. And as you work you realise there is a reason it is called a deep freeze. Just bending in to reach the bottom is an acrobatic feat. It takes a morning, a good back, and a strong spatula. By which time the blackcurrants are soft. Still, it is another job done.

Pheasants

Meanwhile, having both humans at home, all the time, is bliss for the four-legged members of the household. The MacNaughties wake in the morning, safe in the knowledge that old jeans mean we are not going anywhere. Except to walk them down the drive. Oh joy, deep joy!

The doggies watch the world go by. One of the main entertainments is keeping an eye on the bird feeder and

there is great excitement when a spotted woodpecker helps himself to nuts, his red feathers quivering in the wind.

All is calm until the feeding station starts to shake. A fat cock pheasant has thrown himself up on the seed holder. And he has worked out that if he shakes the thing vigorously enough, grain will fall onto the floor. Where his harem waits. Six or seven hen pheasants hovering below.

Call me mean spirited, but I resent the fact that the big birds are taking food from the little ones. So, I send out the MacNaughties. Who soon disperse King Cocky and his many wives. Their job done the MacNaughties come back inside - and the pheasants return. It is no matter: the chief has his eye on that plump bird. When the emergency food cupboard is bare, he had better watch his step...



The rhododendrons in bloom.

Images courtesy of Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor.

Scotword answers from page 6

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Across: | Down: |
| 8 Nation | 1 Tabard |
| 9 OilField | 2 Gill |
| 10 Galloway | 3 Knowe |
| 11 Dollar | 4 CopyCat |
| 12 Ideal | 5 Clyde |
| 14 Bap | 6 Will |
| 15 Apron | 7 Ullapool |
| 18 Chanter | 13 Ain |
| 20 Thistle | 16 Dee |
| 23 Glens | 17 Shy |
| 24 Pap | 19 Holyrood |
| 25 Fiery | 21 Ski |
| 29 Crieff | 22 Parapet |
| 31 Aberdeen | 26 Reeked |
| 33 Montrose | 27 Afton |
| 34 Tocher | 28 Keith |
| | 30 Efts |
| | 32 Dyce |



Keep up to date with all latest events that are going ahead, postponed or cancelled at:

www.scottishbanner.com/events

Event organisers please send amendments to:
events@scottishbanner.com

History video series for children launched by The National Wallace Monument

The National Wallace Monument has launched an online video series to help young people learn about history from home. As parents struggle to maintain their children's education during school closures, the Stirling landmark, which is operated by the charity Stirling District Tourism, has developed a series of online learning videos and activities based on William Wallace and the Wars of Scottish Independence.

The video series, which is available at www.nationalwallacemonument.com, is aimed at children ages 8-12 years old. Children are encouraged to watch the videos and answer questions based on the content. For younger children, further educational resources like history-themed colouring sheets and word searches are also available.

The National Wallace Monument commemorates the life and legacy of William Wallace, patriot, martyr and Guardian of Scotland, which is managed and operated by Stirling District Tourism Limited. In 2019 the distinctive Stirling attraction marked its 150th Anniversary. As a registered charity, Stirling District Tourism is reliant on income from donations and admission fees to provide the facilities and services which are available to all visitors.

The Monument is currently closed to visitors due to the Covid-19 outbreak, and has been recently lit up in blue recently in support of NHS workers fighting the virus.

For more information on *The National Wallace Monument* see: www.nationalwallacemonument.com



The life and legacy of William Wallace

Speaking of the series, Catherine Morrison, Learning and Volunteer Co-ordinator at Stirling District Tourism, said: "Usually, I'm hosting trips for school children at the Monument, or visiting schools to teach them all about William Wallace. These are things we're not currently able to do, but we wanted to do something to support parents and keep their children learning about history. Hopefully, these resources will help to keep young people occupied, and we imagine they will be especially useful for parents who are working from home."

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Stirling Moss - When a British Formula One racing driver collided with a Tasmanian-born Scottish Earl



Malcolm Murray, the 12th Earl of Dunmore and author Charles Wooley.

Tasmanian Charles Wooley is an Australian broadcaster, journalist and writer and may be best known to the wider community as a presenter on 60 Minutes Australia. However, Charles also shares Scottish Banner reader's Scottish ancestry and passion for the land his forbearers came from.

In the 1960s policemen everywhere, would bail up speeding drivers to ask, "Who do you think you are? Stirling Moss?" British Formula One racing driver Stirling Moss who died aged 90 in April after a long illness (unrelated to the present plague) always described himself as happy to be regarded as, "The greatest Formula One Driver never to win the world championship."

In 1955 Moss at 25 made his claim on world pre-eminence by winning the famous Mille Miglia. For those of you not into motor racing it is a spectacular 1600km road race through some of the most beautiful country in Italy. Moss finished way ahead of the field beating the world-famous Argentinian, Juan Manuel Fangio by a sensational thirty minutes. You might have heard of Fangio. His was another name invoked by traffic cops everywhere. As in "Pull over Fangio. Do you know how fast you were going?"

I met Moss once in the eighties in London. A short, slight man, balding and charming, he was with a beautiful young woman who gave every

impression of being bedazzled by his charisma and devil-may-care attitude. As were many. "If you are not trying to win at all costs," he would often say, "Then what on earth are you doing out there." Consequently, the playboy racing driver had as many accidents as girlfriends. He broke both his legs, severely damaged his spine and injured his brain. He suffered lasting nerve damage and impaired eyesight.

Sensibly he quit young, giving up motor racing for a successful business career in property development. He once said, "I knew if I didn't get out, I'd kill myself and maybe someone else."

A tale about colliding worlds and random chance

And with that thought (having exhausted the sum-total of my knowledge of motor racing) comes the time to shift gear to the year 1992 and a tale about colliding worlds and random chance. For you never know who you might run into on a Sunday drive on a quiet country road in the northwest of Tasmania.

This is the scene as two quite different motor vehicles are closing on one another in peaceful rolling farmland near the tiny town of Moriarty.

One vehicle, a souped-up Ford Falcon is travelling at high speed, past blurred hedge rows and flashes of chocolate brown soil, roaring uphill and down through the green landscape this fine day in early March. The driver of the Ford is Stirling Moss. He is too intent on memorizing every twist and turn of the narrow bitumen road to notice a familiarity of scenery: how much this pleasant land resembles his own English countryside. At 150 kilometres an hour on an unfamiliar winding road he's not here for the scenery. He is here to win an upcoming race and for that he needs to practice. In the coming days he will need to know every twist and turn.

Moss has been in Tasmania only a few hours, having flown from London and is likely tired and jetlagged and in need of rest. But always he has that rule; "If you are not trying to win at all costs then what are you doing here?"

The other oncoming vehicle, a modest Toyota Corona (again unrelated to the present plague) is travelling at a much more sedate speed. The driver who is only five minutes from home is accompanied by his wife. They have enjoyed a rare weekend away together without the kids and are in no hurry to get back.

The Corona is doing only 80 kilometres an hour, almost half the speed of the Falcon but the closing speed of the two vehicles is 230 kilometres per hour. The head-on collision destroys both cars. But it is the occupants of the smaller Toyota Corona who are most seriously injured.

Stirling Moss's premonitions about what might happen if he continued to race have almost come true.

The Earl of Dunmore

Moss was in Tasmania for the 1992 inaugural Targa Tasmania which he was fully expecting to win, driving the not yet released new Ford Falcon XR8. It was to be a great coup for Targa Tasmania and even bigger for his sponsor Ford Australia. But the grand plans suddenly ended with a car crash.

The driver of the Corona, Malcolm Murray told me, "No one knew Stirling was

here, least of all me. It was all supposed to be a big surprise. A secret marketing strategy. Out of nowhere Stirling Moss would win Targa and the XR8 would be launched with a huge fanfare. At least that was the plan."

Malcolm Murray, to this day has no recollection of the accident from which he and his wife took years to recover. Malcolm was a local electrical engineer and a pilot-instructor, married to wife Joy and with two kids. "But," as they say in the steak-knife commercial, "There is more!"

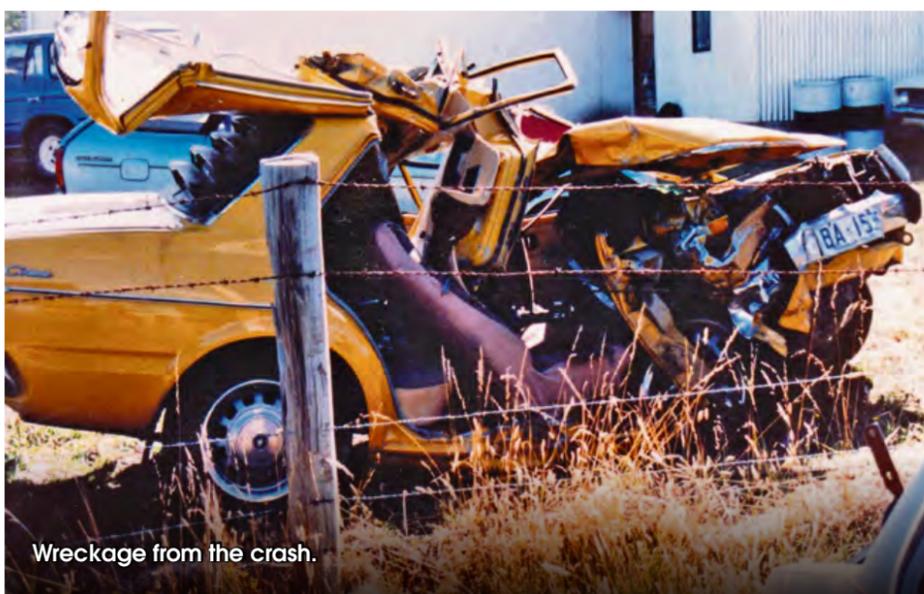
The bloke Stirling Moss cleaned up that sunny March day on Bonney's Hill at Moriarty also turned out to be the Rt Hon Malcolm Kenneth Murray, High Commissioner of Clan Murray in Australia and New Zealand and the twelfth Earl of Dunmore. Tasmanian born Malcolm inherited a Scottish peerage which entitled him to sit in the House of Lords in Westminster. Accordingly, his wife Joy became the Countess of Dunmore.

In political reforms during the Blair era the British Government abolished hereditary seats in the House of Lords. Malcolm retained his titles but lost his seat after making only two speeches in the House; one when he took his seat, the other when he gave it up. Joy's death five years ago was unrelated to the motor accident but according to Malcolm she never fully recovered. "Whenever we were out driving and a car approached, she became alarmed that we were going to have a head on."

For his part, Malcolm considers himself lucky. "I don't remember a thing about the accident. I'm a pilot and when I woke up in hospital all strapped up, the first thing I asked was 'Whose plane did I crash?' Malcolm was unconscious when the police arrived and had to be cut out of the wreckage. But he does remember and believes to be true, the wonderful story that did the rounds at the time. The crash scene told the whole truth. It was clear the Ford was on the wrong side of the road and travelling much too fast. So, the indignant traffic cop approached the driver of the XRB and asked the classic question.

"Mate, who do you think you are? Stirling Moss?" The driver sheepishly replied, "Well actually"

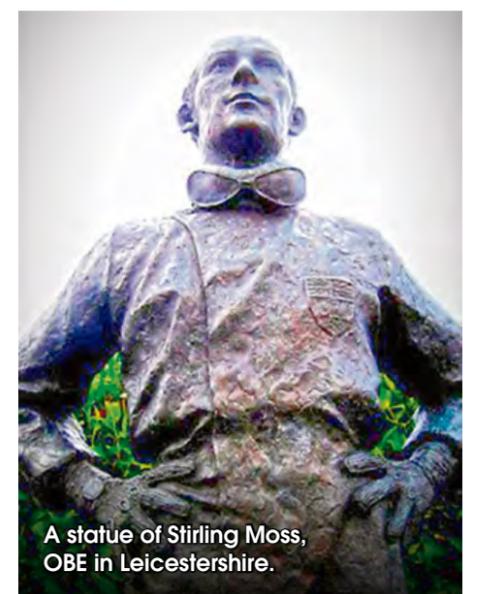
Later in court Stirling Moss had a conviction recorded for failing to keep to the left. He never returned to Tasmania.



Wreckage from the crash.



Learning to walk again.



A statue of Stirling Moss, OBE in Leicestershire.

IN SCOTLAND TODAY



UK's only koala joey is a girl

The UK's only koala joey has had her first health check at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland's (RZSS) Edinburgh Zoo. Staff at the wildlife conservation charity have confirmed that the youngster, born in July last year, is a girl and currently weighs 759g. Keepers will now choose an Aboriginal inspired name for the young joey, as they did with her sister who was born in 2018 and named Kalari, meaning 'daughter'.

Lorna Hughes, team leader for koalas at Edinburgh Zoo, said, "We are thrilled our youngster is doing well after her first health check. Like all young koala joeys, she spends most of her time clinging to her mum, so we gave her a soft toy to hold on to while she was being weighed. At nearly eight months old, she's now almost too big to fit inside mum Alinga's pouch and has started to venture outside and onto Alinga's back more regularly."

As well as being part of the international breeding programme for Queensland koalas, RZSS supports conservation projects for the species in Australia. In January keepers at the zoo held a fundraiser for Science for Wildlife who worked to rescue koalas in the Blue Mountains region following wildfires that swept the country earlier this year. The campaign raised £1,790 and gave those who donated the chance to win one of three original framed paw prints from the zoo's koalas.

The Blue Book of Contemporary Bagpipe Music



Paul M Brown of Kingdom Thistle Pipe Band Supplies has gathered composers from the four corners of the world for one reason, to help raise funds for the NHS in Scotland. *The Blue Book of Contemporary*

Bagpipe Music features around 50 compositions which are upbeat, melodic and ideal to be added to any repertoire with varying levels of skill. This book features over 35 composers, more than 65 compositions and representation from, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Ireland, Scotland, Canada and the USA. Included are brand new compositions that have been written either specifically for this collection, or during the "lockdown". Including a tune called *The Heroes' Hornpipe* by Fred Morrison, *Written in Rage* by Chris Armstrong, and *Time on Lockdown* by Alen Tully. Some of the compositions contributions come from piping greats such as: Ross Ainslie, Greig Canning, Stuart Cassells, Michael Grey, Lincoln Hilton, Lorne MacDougall, James Duncan Mackenzie, Robert Mathieson, Ross Miller, Fred Morrison, Kyle Rothschild, Gareth Rudolph, Scott Wallace and more.

The book is being produced in a limited edition run and is now available from www.kingdomthistle.com

University of Glasgow leads Covid-19 research response in Scotland



The MRC-University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research (CVR) is at the heart of COVID-19 research response in Scotland and the UK. Covid-19 is a new disease in humans, caused by a member of the coronavirus family of viruses. Thought to have originated in bats, it was first recorded in humans in China in late 2019, and can cause a fever, cough and breathing problems. Experts currently think around 80% of cases are mild, however a small portion of infected people go on to have complications such as pneumonia, and require a period of hospitalisation.

Scientists at the CVR are working in partnership with colleagues across the UK on a range of research areas related to the new coronavirus, including working closely with colleagues in Public Health England to understand linkages across the UK in an effort to shut down ongoing transmission in real-time. Research areas include fundamental studies to understand the nature of SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus which causes COVID-19, genomic sequencing and bioinformatics analyses of the virus from patient samples, and the identification of potential therapies.

Professor Massimo Palmarini, Director of the CVR, said: "The CVR and its scientists are at the centre of Scotland's – and the UK's – response to the current coronavirus outbreak. As the largest group of virologists in the UK with the facilities to handle samples from infected patients, we are well placed to conduct pivotal research into emerging diseases such as COVID-19. In the coming weeks and months, our scientists will continue to work in collaboration with NHS Scotland, sequencing the virus, as well as conducting further research into SARS-CoV-2, its mechanisms of action and potential therapies."

Hibernian FC Announce NHS Thank you



Hibernian FC has announced that the club will proudly bear the words "Thank You NHS" on the front of their new shirts when next season does get underway. The club decided to take the opportunity to express the thanks of the entire Hibernian and football community to our magnificent health service for the heroic, selfless and dedicated efforts of its staff during the coronavirus pandemic.

The club are further delighted to announce that our first home league game will be "Thank You NHS Day" and we will welcome hundreds of NHS staff along as our guests.

The club is planning further fundraising throughout the season and expects to hand over a six-figure donation to the NHS charity by the end of the season. In addition, the club is donating a minimum of 100 tickets to NHS staff for all of our home matches, with fans being invited to participate in fundraising to help fund more.

Ronald Gordon, Hibernian Chairman, said: "In sport we celebrate our heroes and our stars. The NHS have shown they are our true heroes and our stars – they have valiantly cared for and nurtured us through the most difficult and challenging health crisis of our lives. Their efforts on behalf of all of us, which still continue today, have been magnificent and Hibernian wants to say thank you and celebrate them in the most meaningful way that we can".

Green light for Forth Bridge visitor centre and bridge walks



Plans for a Forth Bridge visitor centre and bridge walk experience has moved a step closer with the approval of planning from the City of Edinburgh Council. Network Rail submitted its proposals for the new hub at the iconic Forth Bridge – which celebrated its 130th anniversary in March – to the local authority last September. Under the plans, the public will be able to access the world-famous structure and explore its heritage as well as the outstanding views from 367 ft (110m) above sea level. The proposals will see construction of a bridge walk and reception hub on the south side of the UNESCO World Heritage site, which will be used for preparing those heading out on the bridge walk as well as providing an access point to the structure.

Groups of between 12 and 15 people will put on safety harnesses before being led out onto the bridge's south cantilever, walking up to a viewing point at the top using walkways built into the structure. Up to three groups an hour will be permitted on the bridge, with each tour expected to last around two and a half hours. It is estimated the bridge walk experience could attract around 85,000 visitors, bringing real benefits to the local community and creating around 35-40 jobs.

Longer-term plans to create visitor facilities at the north end of the bridge are also under development and could see future access to the top of the north cantilever, via a lift.

Alan Ross, Network Rail Scotland's director of engineering and asset management, said: "We are pleased to have secured planning consent for the project. The bridge walk experience will offer the public a unique and memorable visit to one of Scotland's most loved structures and bring extra tourists to the town."

#StayAtHome and virtually sail through Scotland's Coasts and Waters

This year is all about celebrating the very best of Scotland's Coasts and Waters – from our natural environment and wildlife, history and cultural heritage, to activities and adventure, and food and drink. Whilst we're all staying at home, our beautiful waters, rivers and seas still continue to flow and can still inspire creativity, wellness and virtual exploration. There are lots of ways to stay connected with Scotland's natural seascapes and waterways through the wonders of technology and virtual experiences, which can transport you from the comfort of your home. Everything from arts, music, culture, educational tools to help with home-schooling and activities, wildlife and culinary ideas are a great way to keep inspired, entertained and mindful while engaging with Scotland's rich coastal and inland water heritage.

Dive into the arts

Scottish waterscapes have always been a source of artistic inspiration, and thankfully artists, performers and musicians have adapted their work for the digital age. From photography to poetry, there is plenty of cultural activity online to keep you in touch with the Year of Coasts and Waters.

Following the success of StAnza, Scotland's International Poetry Festival, in early March, it is continuing to celebrate water with a digital installation. Publishing one poem a day from its Coast Lines project, it brings together poets from Scotland and Scandinavia, responding to the seas and water around them.

Feel inspired by this theme? Get creative whilst you #StayAtHome and submit a 'tile' to the Northern Lights Festival, run by Lyth Arts Centre. All you need to do is make a five-inch square piece of artwork which will be put together as a Marine Mosaic. The end result will be displayed as part of the festival later this year.

To celebrate the Year of Coasts and Waters, a selection of images from Historic Environment Scotland's (HES) 'Harnessing the Power of Water' exhibition will now be available online. The exhibition explores early watermills, spa resorts, fountains, the construction of hydroelectric schemes and much more, drawing on historic photographic collections, manuscripts and drawings and modern digital photography from HES's archives. To view the exhibition which will be live later this month, visit: www.canmore.org.uk

For junior artists try the North Link Ferries colouring sheet, drawn up especially to celebrate our coastal connection. Share your masterpiece on its Facebook channel as part of the Selkie Story Colouring Competition, with a surprise goody bag prize for the best entries! The Scottish Coastal Rowing Society also have a colouring sheet of their skiff, available to accompany its Virtual RowAround Scotland. Maid of the Loch, Loch Lomond's only Paddle Steamer, has also launched a 'Rainbows and Reflections' competition, challenging entrants to come up with their best rainbow above a special place near water pictures for a virtual exhibition. This isn't the only creative competition going online, though.

For the more-musically oriented, use your time in isolation to listen to some of the amazing live music produced in Scotland. The Nevis Ensemble – whose June performances, as part of the Year of Coasts and Waters programme, have been postponed – has brought its celebration of our natural environment online with the musician's Musical Postcards project. The orchestra is asking members of the public to share photos, paintings, poems and stories to demonstrate their own love of Scotland's islands, rivers, lochs and sea. Their composers will then use this as the inspiration for a new piece of music to be broadcast online, so get your submissions in by 20 April to be in with a chance of seeing your work included.

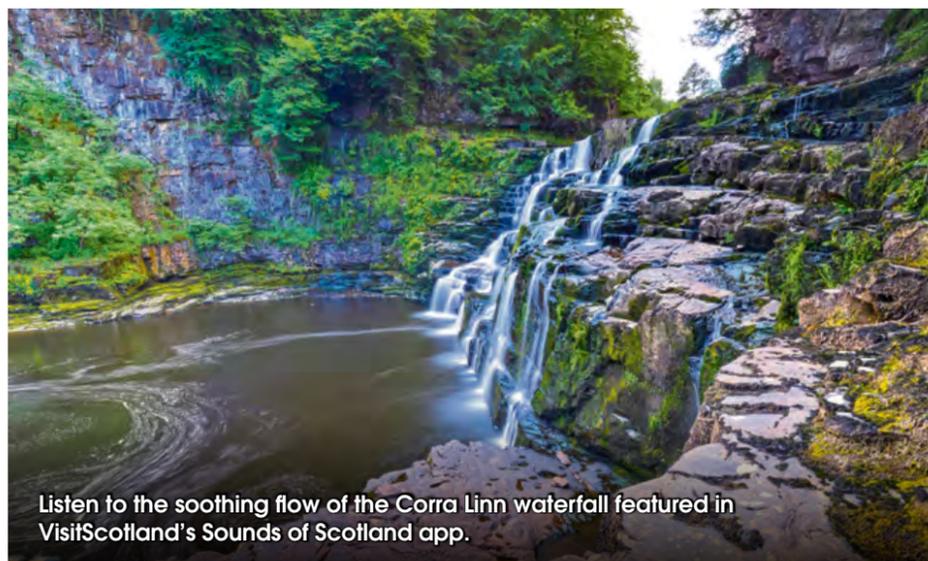
Scottish National Heritage (SNH) is also inviting musicians of all genres to compose new music as part of a high-profile national composition and song writing project called 'In Tune with Nature'. To celebrate Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters, artists aged 16+ are invited to write new music inspired by one of ten National Nature Reserves (NNRs) across the country featured in a short video. Entrants should submit the following by the 31st May deadline. Make sure you also check out SNH's beautiful Message in a Bottle video for inspiration, with traditional music by Ingrid Henderson and animation by Cat Bruce, and fall into another world.

Feisean nan Gaidheal, an organisation that supports the development of community-based Gaelic arts tuition festivals throughout Scotland, is also continuing to participate in the themed year, with weekly Twitter postssharing their music. Follow them @fngaidheal.

Get your daily dose of vitamin sea

Just because we're staying at home doesn't mean we can't enjoy the new sights and sounds of spring, thanks to plenty of web cameras across the country showcasing Scotland's stunning nature and wildlife. Keep in touch with the North Sea with live footage from Shetland, including scenes from the harbour and epic views from the island cliffs – you may even be able to spot a puffin or two if you're lucky! This is also a great time of year to see the fish-eating Osprey – get right into their nest with a live cam from the Woodland Trust in the ancient Caledonian pine forest by Loch Arkaig in the Highlands. Or see them on Loch of the Lowes in Perthshire, thanks to the Scottish Wildlife Trust. Scottish Natural Heritage are also #bringingnaturetoyou via their Twitter feed everyday at 1pm with a wildlife moment @nature_scot.

Recognising the benefits of being by the coast for our mental wellbeing, the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) is bringing the ocean indoors with a number of online resources. Engaging in ocean optimism on social media, the charity is sharing the sights and sounds of the sea for people to enjoy and escape to whilst in lockdown via #OceanIndoors, alongside helpful tips on how to keep engaged with the ocean from afar. MCS will also be launching a webinar series as part of its Cool Seas work with topics ranging from 'Going Plastic Free' and 'Aliens of the Deep', to engage young people with whilst schools are closed.



Listen to the soothing flow of the Corra Linn waterfall featured in VisitScotland's Sounds of Scotland app.

Make sure you check out VisitScotland's overview of web cams across the country to add to your watery wildlife fix. It includes the Loch Morlich Watersports webcam in the Cairngorms, the Seacroft Marine webcam at Aberdeen Harbour and the great view of Oban from the lighthouse webcam to name just a few.

The sound of seascapes

Launched last month, VisitScotland's Sounds of Scotland offers the perfect backing-track for your working from home environment, or switch off and meditate with these sets of soothing acoustics inspired by Scotland's landscape and wildlife. Whether it's the rushing Corra Linn waterfall, or the hypnotic rhythm of the North Sea at Kinnaird Head Castle Lighthouse, these sounds immerse the senses and transport you virtually into their scenic getaways.

Delve deeper into Scotland with the 100,000 welcomes podcast, hosted by Neil Roberstson from Travels with a Kilt. Topics to keep you connected with Scotland's coasts and waters include features on wild swimming in Loch Morlich, whisky tasting at Clydeside Distillery and the rejuvenation of Scottish seafood with an interview from fishmonger Stuart Wilson. Nature, culture, adventure, food and film inspire the episodes of the podcast, so there's something for everyone to keep in touch with Scotland whilst day-dreaming from home.

Immerse yourself

For those itching to see the sea again, make sure you check out Sail Scotland's 360-degree virtual reality experience. The videos have been shot in seven places along the west coast and in the north and puts you directly in the middle of the action!

You can also step into Scotland with the incredible new Augmented Reality app, Portal AR. The app allows you to go travelling from the safety of your home, with 360-degree experiences to directly connect you with our coasts and waters. You can ride a motorbike along the iconic North Coast 500 route, see first-hand inside a whisky distillery and much more! Whilst you're stuck at home there is nothing to stop you dreaming about and immersing yourself in all that Scotland's natural landscapes has to offer.

The volunteers at Save Wemyss Ancient Caves Society (SWACS) have come up with

a way to share the experience of touring the caves without anyone having to leave their house. It's Wemyss Caves 4D website allows anyone to navigate their own tour of the caves online, but the big idea is to use the 3D models of the caves to give you the full live guided-tour experience. Via Facebook @SaveWemyssAncientCavesSociety, the SWACS guide will take you inside the caves and shine a virtual torch on the carvings while explaining lots of interesting historical detail. There will also be assistants on hand waiting to answer your questions on Facebook Chat.

Deepen your knowledge

Whether you're keeping little ones entertained or looking to stimulate your own brain cells, there are plenty of activities and programmes online to help the inquisitive learn about Scotland's coastlines, wildlife, food and more. The Royal Life-Saving Society has created online tools to teach kids about water safety, with activity sheets, games and quizzes to keep it fun and interactive. Marine Scotland also have lots of educational ideas online, including their fishy facts, Lego vessels, pirate crosswords and more.

Meanwhile, although it won't be going ahead as planned this year, the Edinburgh Science Festival has launched a digital #EdSciFest. Sticking with its original 'Elementary' theme, keep your eyes peeled for online entertainment, curated articles, and downloadable resources covering all your Science Festival favourites. In particular, check out the 'Pale Blue Dot: Water for Life' for some exciting materials, diving into our relationship with rivers and oceans and why they need protecting.

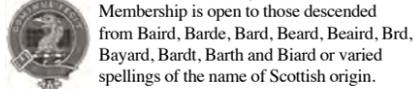
Cook your way around Scotland with this handy eBook on some of the best produce, recipes and history of cuisine across the country. Learn about the legendary Arbroath Smokies and get inspired by the seafood or whisky trail. Why not also immerse yourself in Scotland's thriving gin scene, joining a virtual cocktail club with Boë Gin, finding new recipes with Edinburgh Gin, taking an online class with Pixel Spirits or hang out with the folks at Brewdog at their online bar – packed with online events.

There are plenty of online activities and experiences to explore virtually on VisitScotland.com for all those looking for some at home escapism.

Calling the Clans

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

Clan Baird Society Worldwide



Membership is open to those descended from Baird, Barde, Bard, Beard, 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 genealogist. **For information write:**

Dr. Debra J. Baird, President

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

Regional Directors for Australia

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



Clan 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



WEB WWW.CLAN-FORBES.ORG

Facebook: @CLANFORBESSOCIETY

Instagram: @CLANFORBESSOCIETY

Twitter: @CLANFORBES1

#CLANFORBES #GRACEMEGUIDE #CLANFORBESSOCIETY #LONACH

CONTACT: MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG

Clan Bell North America

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

Your Bell ancestry is important!

Visit our web site: www.clanbell.org
Contact our Membership Chairperson: Marian Bell Jaeger
5284 Cross Creek Court
Acworth, GA 30102
Email: Membership@ClanBell.org

Clan Davidson Society in Australia Inc.

CHIEF: Grant Davidson of Davidston cordially invites to membership all who bear one of the Clan Names, and all who can trace their descent from an ancestor bearing one of these Names: Davidson; Davison; Dawson; Davis; Davie; Davey; Davy; Day; Dye; Dyson; Dawson; Dea; Dean; Deane; Deas; Deason; Dees; Dee; Dey; Daw; Dow; Dhai; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade; MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagny; MacDhai; McKeedie. In addition we welcome into membership all who have a family association with the Clan Davidson. Applications may be made online: clandavidsonaus@gmail.com or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P., P.O. Box 519 Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 dhill1@bigpond.net.au 0431 527 662

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

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

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

Visit our website to learn more about Clan Donnachaidh, our History & Traditions, the Clan Museum in Scotland, the DNA Project, the new Struan Kirk Appeal, & locate a Branch near you.
<http://www.donnachaidh.com/>
Facebook: [The Clan Donnachaidh Society](https://www.facebook.com/TheClanDonnachaidhSociety)
Email: ivc@donnachaidh.com

Clan Fraser Society of Australia



Invites all Frasers and Fraser sept 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

Family of Bruce International, Inc.

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

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

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

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

High Commissioner	Mr A. Neil Macdonald
State Commissioners	
NSW	Mr John Currie
QLD	Mr A. Neil Macdonald
SA	Ms Therese McCutcheon
Vic	Mr Norman A Macdonald
WA	Ms Pamela McDonald

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

Clan Dunbar of The House of Gospatric the Earl

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

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

Clan Galbraith Society

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

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

www.clangalbraith.org



Clan Cameron NSW Inc.

President: Alistair Cameron
cameron490@ozemail.com.au
Secretary: Terry Cameron
secretaryclancameronnsw@gmail.com

www.clan-cameron.org.au

Clan Donald Queensland

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

Edmonstone Clan Society

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

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

Clan Gregor Society

Established 1822, Edinburgh, Scotland
Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balgihudder,
24th Chief of Clan Gregor

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

For membership contact Keith MacGregor
P.O. Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876
kmac1@optonline.net
Peter Lawrie, Secretary
6 The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL Scotland



All Campbells or descendants of Campbells and members of Clan Septs are welcome to join the Society.

For State Branches contact the National Secretary Margaret Vallance
Email: libertyv93@gmail.com
www.clan-campbell.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.

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

Direct inquires to: Jim Dougherty
Treasurer/Membership Chair
Email: elliottcommia@gmail.com
Website: www.elliottclan-usa.com

Clan Gregor Society Australasia

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

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

CLAN CARRUTHERS SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

HEREDITARY CHIEF AND SOCIETY PATRON
Simon Peter Carruthers of Holmains
Chief of the Name and Arms of Carruthers

Cordially invites all Carruthers and their descendants to join us in preserving our Clan and Family heritage.

Clan Carruthers Society - International
officially representing Carruthers worldwide
www.clancarrutherssociety.org
clancarrutherssociety@gmail.com

CLAN DONALD in VICTORIA

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

CLAN DONALD VICTORIA
President: Mr Norman A. Macdonald
Contact: secretary.clandonaldvic@gmail.com
Formed in 1934, with membership from many MacDonald, McDonald and Macdonald families living in Victoria. Membership available, with dance classes for Scottish Country Dance most Friday evenings in Gardenvale.

CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE
Hon Chief: Mrs Christina Milne Wilson
Contact: secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com
A hereditary clan society formed by the children of Norman Hume Macdonald and Johan McKenzie Macdonald (nee Munro) who departed Scotland in 1854.

Clan Farquharson Association Australia

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

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

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

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); Hays(s); Hayne(s); Hey(s); Alderston; Arml;Ayer(s); Constable; Con(n); De La Haye; Delgatie; Delgatie; D' Ay(e); Dellah'aY; Errol(l); Garrad; Garrow; Gifford; Hawson; Haygood; Hayter; Hayward; Haywood; Haynie; Hayden; Hayfield; Hayne(s); Leask(e); Leith; Lester; MacGaradh; Peebles; Peeples; Peoples; Turriff; Tweeddale; Yester

www.clanhay.com



Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.

Valerie McDougall
VP Membership
505-470 Scenic Drive, London, ON
N5Z 3B2

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

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

Coul	MacCoul	MacCoul
Conacher	MacConacher	MacCoul
Coyte	MacCoyte	MacCoul
Dole	MacDole	MacDill
Doual	MacDoual	MacDougal
Dougal	MacDougal	MacDougal
Dougle	MacDougle	MacDougle
Dugal	MacDugal	MacDugle
Dowall	MacDowall	MacDowall
MacDowell	MacDowell	MacDowell
Lutlich	MacLutlich	MacLutlich
MacCulloch	MacCulloch	MacCullagh
MacClintock	MacClintock	MacClintock
MacHale	MacHale	MacHale
MacHowell	MacHowell	MacHowell
MacKichan	MacKichan	MacKichan
MacLucas	MacLucas	MacLucas

Spelling Variations May Vary or Omit the Mac, Mc



Clan MacLaren

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

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



CLAN MACNEIL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

invites all MacNeils, regardless of surname spelling, to join us in celebrating our heritage!

website: ClanMacNeilUSA.us
Find us on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram
@ClanMacNeilUSA




Clan Henderson Society

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

Purposes of the Society

- Foster Scottish culture and activities
- Promote Scottish festivals and games
- Assist in genealogical research
- Foster fellowship among kin and kin
- Promote the history of Scotland
- Promote charitable and educational activities via a scholarship fund
- Gather the Clan, as directed by our Chief, **Alistair of Fordell**

Contact: Jeff Henderson
jeffh@bigpond.com
0439 330 012

www.clanhendersonsociety.com



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. Kibby, FSA Scot - Treasurer
John K. Manchester - Secretary

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

MACFARLANE.ORG



Clan MacLellan

John B. McClellan, Jr.
Treasurer
383 Ash Brook Lane
Sunnyvale, TX
75182-3250

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 Hope of Craighall Society

For all of the name and lineage of Hope

INTERNATIONAL & AUSTRALIA
President & Commissioner:
Stephen Hope
president@clanhope.org
commissioner@clanhopeaustralia.org
www.clanhopeaustralia.org

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
High Commissioner:
Richard Rex Hope
highcommissionerusa@clanhope.org

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

CANADA
Commissioner:
Scott Hale
commissioner@clanhope.ca
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ClanHopeofCraighall>



Clan MacInnes

International Association of Clan MacInnes (Aonghais)

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

www.clanmacinnes.org

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



Clan MacLeod Societies of Australia

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

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

- NSW, ACT & Qld - Peter Macleod 02 4397 3161
- Victoria & Tas - David Dickie 03 9337 4384
- South Australia - Rachel Hopkins 0433 184 375
- Western Australia - Ruth MacLeod 08 9364 6334

Email: peter.macleod@exemail.com.au



Clan Macpherson Association

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

Africa: Derek Macpherson
African.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +265 999 512 620

Canada: Ed Smith
Canada.Chair@clan-macpherson.org
phone +1 519 802 8821

Europe: Will Tullin
Europe.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +31 655 774 425

Scotland & Northern Ireland: Rory Macpherson
SandNI.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +44 7525 763 765

Australia: John L Macpherson
Australian.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +61 409 122 141

England & Wales: William Macpherson
EandW.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +44 7877 363 507

New Zealand: Tony McPherson
NewZealand.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +64 274 587 813

USA: Xerxes Herrington
UnitedStates.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +1 703 341 9588

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 Irwin Association

Chief and Patron
Alexander H. R. Irvine, 27th Baron of Drum - Laird of Drum
Chief of the Name and Arms of Irvine of Drum.

Contact: Barbara Edelman, Chairman
65 Colonial Drive, Telford, PA 18969
215-721-3955 chairman@clanirwin.org

IRWIN • IRVIN • IRVINE • IRVING • ERWIN • ERVIN
Over 270 ways the name has been spelled since 325 A.D.

www.clanirwin.org



Clan Mackenzie Society in Australia Inc.

Membership enquiries welcomed from Mackenzies of all spellings and Septs

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

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



THE MACLEODS

RICH IN HIGHLAND TRADITIONS

FOR INFORMATION:
WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG

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



The Clan MacRae Society of Australia and New Zealand

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

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

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



CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY of Australia and New Zealand

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

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



Clan Mackenzie Society of Canada

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

Website: www.clanmackenziecanada.ca



Clan Macnaghten Association Worldwide

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

Chairman - Peter McNaughton - 360-686-8451
+61 7 3266 2047 bruce@brucemcnaught.com

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 Macnaghtan
+64 9 441 4984 macnaghtan@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 MacAlpine Society

102 Rainbow Drive #48
Livingston, TX 77399-10020 USA
Earl Dale McAlpine - President
Email: earlmacalpine@yahoo.com



Clan Mackenzie Society in the United States

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

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



Clan MacNeil Association of Australia

For all enquiries about the clan and membership contact: John McNeil
21 Laurel Avenue,
Linden Park, SA 5065
Email kisimul@chariot.net.au



Clan Maitland Society

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

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

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

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

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



Clan Munro Association, U.S.A

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

COME JOIN US!

Web site: www.Clanmunrousa.org

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



Clan Scott Australia Group

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

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

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



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

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

Email: clanwardlaw@yahoo.com

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com

Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

The Scottish Australian Heritage Council



Membership is welcomed from all Australians of Scottish descent.

For information please contact
The Hon Secretary SAHC, Susan Cooke
Ph: 0411097724
Email: alfredhcooke@gmail.com



www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au



Murray Clan Society of North America

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

In Canada contact: William J.M. Murray
1001 Cordero Crescent
Campbell River, BC V9H 0C3

In the U.S. contact: Robert W. Murray
2000 Cambridge Ave #329
Wyomissing, PA 19610-2738



Clan Shaw Society

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

Secretary: Mike Shaw
2403 West Cranford
Denison, TX 75020



Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc.

Promoter of International Tartan Day, Brisbane, Queensland

PO Box 3188, South Brisbane 4101

Bi-Monthly Newsletter, All things Scottish
All persons of Scottish Descent welcome.

www.aussie-scots.org.au Ph 07 3359 8195
Email: secretary@aussie-scots.org.au,

Scottish Associations and Societies

Scottish Gaelic Language Classes:



Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 pm
during school terms

420-424 William Street, West Melbourne.

Contact: Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277

Email: scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

Founded in 1905

<https://www.scottishgaelicvictoria.com>



Clan Pollock

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

A. D. Pollock, Jr.
PO Box 404
Greenville, KY 42345

e-mail: apollockis@comcast.net



Clan Sinclair Australia

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

For further info contact

President: Wayne Sinclair 0417 146 174

Secretary : Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263

E: clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com

www.clansinclairaustralia.com



Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia

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

Ruaraidh MacAonghais, N each Cathrach (Convenor)

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

Web: www.ozgaelic.org

Mail: PO Box A2259, SYDNEY SOUTH 1235

Còisir Ghàidhlig Bhiocòirìa Scottish Gaelic Choir of Victoria

www.facebook.com/ScottishGaelicChoirofVictoria

Do you live in Melbourne? Are you interested in Gaelic and its music, or do you simply enjoy singing? Why not join us?

Rehearsal times:

Thursday 7-9pm during school terms,

Term 1 2020 beginning 6th February

at The Kildara Centre, rear of

39 Stanhope Street, Malvern.

Contact Raghnaid NicGaraidh

rachel.hay@iinet.net.au



Clan Ross in Australia

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

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

Contact: Commander Des Ross at

lonepiper.ross@gmail.com M 0403 830 853

Ken Duthie JP Director of Publicity M 0409 322 374



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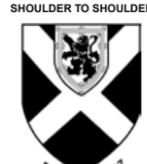
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For further details contact John: 0427 990 754

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Clan Sutherland Society in Australia Incorporated

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Supporting the Scottish Community in Victoria

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West Melbourne VIC 3003

E-mail: resource_centre@scotsofaus.org.au

Website: <https://scotsofaus.org.au>

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Clan Young Australia

Ian J Young AM
Convenor

Membership inquiries:

Clan Young Australia

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Parkdale VIC 3195

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T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930

E: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com
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IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Whisky and honey porridge

Ingredients:

150g/5½oz porridge oats
3 tbsp. double cream, plus extra to serve
250ml/9fl oz. milk
1 tbsp. soft brown sugar
dash whisky
1 tbsp. clear honey, to serve

Method:

Place the oats, cream, milk, sugar and whisky into a small saucepan and cook over a gentle heat for 6-7 minutes, until thickened and smooth.

To serve, pour the porridge into a bowl and drizzle with honey and cream.

Beef with whisky and mushroom cream, wilted spinach and potatoes

Ingredients:

For the beef:

3 tbsp. black peppercorns, coarsely ground, sieved, dust discarded
4 x 175g/6oz. fillet steaks, cut in half
4 tsp Dijon mustard
freshly ground sea salt and freshly ground pepper
2 tbsp. sunflower oil
50g/2oz. butter
200g/7oz. fresh cep (porcini) mushrooms, thickly sliced

For the potatoes:

450g/1lb. new potatoes, scrubbed, boiled until tender
50g/2oz butter
salt and freshly ground white pepper
3 tbsp. chopped flat leaf parsley

For the spinach:

25g/1oz. butter
500g/1lb. 2oz baby leaf spinach
3 tbsp. water
salt and freshly ground white pepper

For the whisky sauce

50ml/2fl oz. whisky
50ml/2fl oz. beef stock
50ml/2fl oz. double cream

Method:

For the steaks, spread the coarse black pepper pieces over a small plate.

Coat all sides of the steaks with the Dijon mustard and then press them into the crushed peppercorns to coat.

Heat a large frying pan until very hot and add the sunflower oil. Season the steaks with salt, then add to the pan to cook for 1-2 minutes. Turn once to brown both sides (don't move the steaks around once they are in the pan or the peppercorn crust will fall off - cook to achieve a good crusty coating on each side.) Add the butter and allow it melt and turn nut-brown in colour, but don't let it burn.

Add the mushrooms and stir in the butter. As the mushrooms start to absorb the pan juices, turn the steaks again and allow them to cook for 3-4 minutes on each side, or until cooked to your liking.

Remove the steaks and place onto a baking tray and leave to rest in a warm place.

For the potatoes, place the potatoes into a large mixing bowl. Add the butter and gently crush each potato with a fork until it just splits. Season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground white pepper, and add the parsley. Mix until all the butter has been absorbed, but don't over-mash the potatoes.

For the spinach, heat a medium frying pan or wok until hot. Add the butter and the spinach and stir-fry for one minute, then add the water. Continue to stir until the spinach has wilted. Remove from the heat, season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground white pepper and set aside until ready to serve.

For the whisky sauce, add the whisky to the pan used to cook the steaks, and cook over a very high heat for one minute to boil off the alcohol. (CAUTION: the whisky may catch fire, which is perfectly acceptable, but if this worries you, have a large lid handy to place onto the pan to prevent the flames. And make sure you have your extractor fan turned off.) Add the stock and boil to reduce the liquid volume, until thickened, then add the cream. Boil to reduce the liquid volume again, scraping and stirring to loosen the stuck bits from the bottom of the pan.

Pour any juices released by the resting steaks into the sauce and stir well.

To serve, place a chefs' ring into the centre of each of four plates. Fill with the crushed potatoes and carefully remove the ring. Place a small pile of spinach onto the potatoes, and arrange two medallions of steak on top of each pile. Spoon the sauce and the mushrooms over the steak, and serve.

Whisky and nut baked camembert

Ingredients:

2 x 250g/ ½ lb. Camembert cheese
4 rosemary sprigs, torn
4 thyme sprigs, torn
50g/2 oz. mixed nuts, chopped
2 tbsp. Scotch whisky
3 tbsp. maple syrup
Preferred bread or sourdough, to serve (optional)

Method:

Heat the oven to 220C/425 F/Gas 7. Chop the cheese into chunks and divide between eight ramekins. Mix the herbs with the nuts. Splash the whisky over the cheese, then top with nuts and drizzle over the maple syrup. Put on a baking sheet and bake for 15-20 mins or until soft. Serve with preferred bread or toasted sourdough, if you like.

Whisky and prawns

Ingredients:

2 limes, 1 juice and zest, 1 juice only
90ml/3½fl oz. whisky
180g/6½oz. soft light brown sugar
20 raw tiger prawns, peeled, deveined
1 red chilli, seeds removed, finely chopped
1 tbsp. vegetable oil

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Heat the lime juice, whisky and sugar in a saucepan over a medium heat, stirring gently, until the sugar has dissolved. Once the sugar has all dissolved, stop stirring, turn up the heat and boil for 5-7 minutes, or until the mixture becomes syrupy and thickens. To tell if it is ready, dip a wooden spoon in the mixture and tap off the excess - some glaze should still stick to the spoon, but it will not be as thick as honey. (Sometimes the whisky catches alight and you will see a blue-orange flame coming from the pan. Just take it off the heat and the whisky will burn itself out).

Stir in the finely grated lime zest, then remove the pan from the heat and set aside.

Put the prawns in a shallow ovenproof dish and sprinkle over the chilli. Brush the prawns with the oil and then with the glaze. Bake in the oven for 10-15 minutes, or until the prawns turn opaque. Remove from the oven and brush with more glaze, reserving any extra glaze for dipping, and set aside to cool slightly before serving.

Cranachan with raspberries, whisky and cream



Ingredients:

3 tbsp. soft brown sugar
75g/2½oz. porridge oats
250ml/9fl oz. double cream, whipped until soft peaks form when the whisk is removed
75g/2½oz. cream cheese
1 tbsp. plain yoghurt
1 tbsp. icing sugar
dash whisky
50g/1¾oz. dark chocolate, chopped
30g/1oz. fresh raspberries
sprig fresh mint, to garnish

Celebrate Whisky Month in May with these recipes which add a splash of flavour using "the water of life". You can of course omit Whisky if preferred, enjoy and Slainte mhath! Your very good health!

Method:

Gently heat the sugar in a frying pan until golden and completely melted.

Add the oats and stir well, then pour the mixture onto a non-stick baking sheet and leave to cool. When completely cooled, break into small pieces.

Place the whipped cream, cream cheese, yoghurt, icing sugar and whisky into a bowl and mix well, then fold in the chocolate.

To serve, place half of the caramelised oats into the bottom of a serving glass. Top with half of the cream mixture, then half the raspberries. Repeat the layering with the remaining oats, cream mixture and raspberries and garnish with a sprig of mint.

Hebridean Sunset



Ingredients:

1 shot Scotch whisky
1 shot Grand Marnier
½ shot Cointreau
½ shot lemon juice
1½ shots orange juice
Dash of Grenadine
Twist of orange

Method:

Fill glass with cubed ice. Prepare Orange Twist. Fill shaker with ice (metal section). Put orange juice, lemon juice, grenadine in shaker (glass section). Add Scotch whisky, Grand Marnier & Cointreau to shaker (glass section). Shake for 1 minute. Strain into glass. Squeeze orange oil from twist over drink & rub round rim of glass. Put orange twist into glass & place straw next to it

MacDaddy

Ingredients:

dash whisky bitters
1 strip orange zest
25ml/1fl oz. Scotch whisky
25ml/1fl oz. ginger liqueur
lemon zest, to garnish

Method:

Place all the ingredients into a cocktail shaker with a handful of ice and stir to mix. Strain into a whiskey tumbler over ice, garnish with lemon zest and serve.

Getting back to Scotland



Five bucket list places to visit when we can

The magic of Orkney. Photo: VisitScotland

Whilst everyone's travels plans have been changed in 2020, this is not a permanent change, and Scotland will be ready to welcome visitors again. This month Nick Drainey looks at five unique and great locations to add to your next visit, making that next trip to Scotland's shores even more special.



Orkney coast. Photo: VisitScotland.

The coronavirus lockdown has affected every corner of Scotland – making trips and holidays distant memories. But it is always a good idea to look forward and bear in mind that the restrictions will end (and already are doing in some places around the world). So, now is a time for planning, reminiscing or simply dreaming of some of the stunning places which still be there when all this is over. Here are five great spots in Scotland that have long been among the best in the world and will remain so in the future.

St Kilda – The islands at the edge of the world

40 miles off the Outer Hebrides - were inhabited for more than 4,000 years by Gaelic-speaking residents who survived on seabirds plucked from cliffs and sea stacks more than 1,000ft high and subsistence farming. However, in 1930 they asked to be evacuated when greater intrusion from the mainland and disease meant their way of life was unsustainable. The last 36 left on 29 August of that year.

Now, it is looked after by the National Trust for Scotland as a dual UNESCO World Heritage Site for its natural and cultural significance. The islands are home to nearly 1 million seabirds, including the UK's largest colony of Atlantic puffins. St Kilda also has its own unique wren, as well as a sub-species

of mouse which is twice the size of a British field mouse. The village which was abandoned 90 years ago can still be seen as can hundreds of cleits - drystone structures which look like large beehives and were used to store food. A visit by boat from Leverburgh on Harris is an adventure in itself with a three-hour, seasickness-inducing trip leading taking you out to the islands, But for me the highlight was not on the islands, it was a pod of orca swimming around them.

Orkney

The Orkney islands are visible from the mainland but the cultural change when you step on to them is immediately noticeable. This still retains the feeling of being a Neolithic and Viking stronghold and at every turn it appears there is an ancient settlement, burial tomb or monument to explore. This history is surrounded by wonderful scenery from sweeping sandy beaches to high cliffs, rolling hills to rich farmland, full of birdsong.

If you arrive by boat from Scrabster to Stromness, the Old Man of Hoy is a highlight of the voyage. The formidable sea stack standing 450 feet tall off the island of Hoy is only for the serious climber but a viewpoint on the island cliffs is a vertiginous.

On the Mainland, the Ring of Brodgar is a stone circle like Stonehenge, but without the large crowds. It has that untouched feeling despite dating back to the third millennium BC. A guided walk at dusk to explore the site, and the



The Ring of Brodgar in the Heart of Neolithic Orkney. Photo: VisitScotland.



Mull of Galloway. Photo: VisitScotland.



Shoreline below Fidden Farm, south west Mull.



St Kilda main street.
Photo: National Trust for Scotland.



St Kilda gannets.
Photo: National Trust for Scotland.



By: Nick Drainey

Those people are missing a treat; this is a place just as wild as the country's other, more famous, remote spots. You can lose yourself in ranges of high hills, along stunning coastlines or in the history which covers the area.

On the natural side, the reintroduction of red kites in Galloway has been a great success and in some areas around Loch Ken the birds seem to be as plentiful as crows. The bird of prey was once present in towns and cities but by the middle of the 19th century had been hunted to extinction. Things have now gone full circle in south-west Scotland with more than 100 breeding pairs in the region and many more across the rest of the country. The economic benefit of having such stunning wildlife is also apparent and the Galloway Kite Trail, set up in the area in 2003, attracts thousands of visitors each year.

Lovers of the cult 1973 film *Wicker Man* also flock to the area for St Ninian's Cave which features in the movie when *Sergeant Howie*, played by Edward Woodward, enters it and is ultimately caught and then burned inside the giant effigy. The beach below it saw Lord Summerisle, played by Christopher Lee, give a barrel of beer to the god of the sea. St Ninian's Cave is also said to be the place where Christianity arrived in Scotland when St Ninian landed in 397AD and founded a church at Whithorn and the Whithorn Way long-distance path now also brings in many visitors.

For an even more "away from it all" feel the Galloway Hills are as remote as any in Scotland.

The Merrick, the highest point in the Southern Uplands at 2,766 feet, dominates this land of fantastic names such as the Awful Hand Range (which it sits on), Curleywee and the Rig of the Gloon. All around is Galloway Forest Park, a real gem in its own right – and a good place for stargazing. History abounds as well and the site of the Battle of Glentworth, where Robert the Bruce, with only a small force, defeated 2,000 English soldiers in 1307, seven years before Bannockburn, is a lovely spot to sit and picnic in a peace and tranquillity the Bruce could only dream of.

Readers should not travel until government advice says it is safe to do so.

Further to south west is Fionnphort and a lovely campsite at Fidden Farm; only basic facilities but it is right on the beach meaning sunsets from the tent or motorhome are a regular attraction. Iona is an island just off the south-west tip of Mull and a place of religious significance since the arrival of St Columba in the 6th century (missionaries left here and spread Christianity across Scotland and northern England). It is also blessed with stunning white-sand beaches, perfect for a picnic and a paddle.

So, now is a time for planning, reminiscing or simply dreaming of some of the stunning places which still be there when all this is over.

The capital of Mull, Tobermory, is a bustling place and a good place to stock up as well as admire the pretty harbour with the brightly painted buildings along the quayside – there is also a rather good distillery.

Galloway

Galloway is tucked away in the south-west of Scotland, often missed by those heading for the ferry to Ireland or heading north to the big cities and the Highlands.



Tobermory, The Isle Of Mull. Photo: VisitScotland.

array of wildflowers that grow there was a wonderful way to round off a day. Nearby Skara Brae, a 5,000-year-old farming settlement which was uncovered by a violent storm in 1850, is one of the popular visitor attractions and below it is the Bay of Skaill with a lovely beach.

This was the scene of much body boarding with my children last summer – something of a contrast to the historical sites. Beaches abound on Orkney and maybe the name Sanday gives a clue to which island has some of the best stretches of white sand to be found anywhere.

Cairngorms

If you like your Scottish mountains to be big then the Cairngorms are for you. A huge sub-Arctic plateau is home to an array of plant life as well as some the highest peaks in the country. A night camping up here in summer when the weather is clear is a magical experience and one which allows you to claim the 4,000ft-plus Ben Macdui before breakfast.

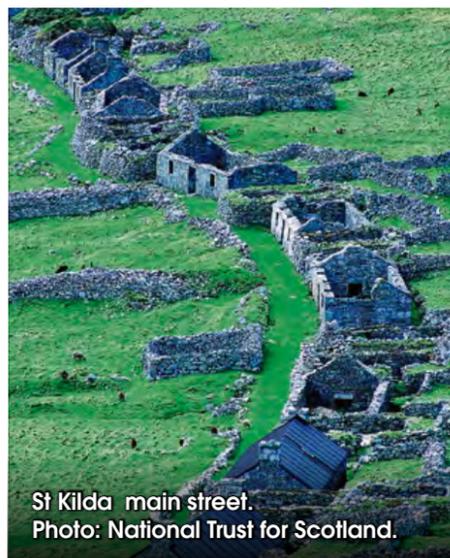
The Lairig Ghru – a huge chasm which splits the Cairngorms - is another good place for a spot of wild camping, and even a starting point for a detour up the mighty Braeriach the next day. Below the mountains, nestled in Glenmore Forest is Loch Morlich – a haven for watersports lovers.

Looking at the mountains from the summit of Cairn Gorm one day my daughter was more interested in the stretch of water below. It meant my dreams of her becoming a keen hillwalker like her dad had been slightly dented, but the positive side meant I discovered the joy of paddle boarding.

But, as well as adventure, this is also a place for wildlife; pine martens thrive in the forests while ospreys soar overhead. Spend time too looking out for the resident herd of reindeer, the only one running wild in the UK.

Mull

Mull is a huge island and many visitors are shocked at how long it takes to drive around it. This is in part because most of the roads are single track but that is no bad thing as it slows the pace and allows the stunning views of mountains and coast to be savoured. On a drive with the family to a hide built for spotting white tailed sea eagles, we saw one of the majestic birds of prey swooping and gliding above the slopes of Ben More. A happy half hour was spent gazing up at it – at the hide we didn't spot any but that didn't matter, such was the beauty of the surroundings.



St Kilda main street.
Photo: National Trust for Scotland.

Clans, Bands out in record numbers for Scots Day Out



Clans on display.

Clans with pipe bands from Victoria and NSW had started the day with their march down View St where the large crowd took up available vantage points.

The parade was led by 2020 Chieftain Scott Middleton, the Bendigo actor who starred at last year's Edinburgh Fringe, escorted by Glen Lachlann Estate College of Arms. GLECA, Gullsborg Dark Ages Society and Swordcraft engaged the crowd with medieval villages and sword displays as people wandered between Scottish stalls and more than 25 clan and diaspora tents, enjoying non-stop performances by pipe bands and Celtic music groups over more than five hours.

A large contingent of owners and their dogs from the Scottish Terrier Club of Victoria and Scottish Deerhound Club of Victoria were also huge hits with the crowd. Bendigo's annual celebrations were again kicked off the previous evening with the Australian premiere of highlights from the Edinburgh Short Film Festival that this year celebrates its 10th anniversary.

Pipe band results: Grade 2: Hawthorn. Grade 3: Victoria Scottish. Grade 4A: Haileybury. Grade 4B: City of Melbourne No 2.

The 2021 Scots Day Out will take place on February 27, 2021, for further details see: www.scotsdayout.com



Family fun.



Chieftain Scott Middleton.

Bendigo's Scots Day Out (SDO) attracted more than 6000 people to the city's Rosalind Park in the largest celebration yet for the event in its eight years. A record number of pipe bands and clans infused SDO 2020 with colour and enthusiasm, people travelling from across Australia and from overseas for their taste of contemporary and traditional Scottish enthusiasm Australian style. President of Scottish Australian Heritage Council Malcolm Buchanan conducted a Clan Recognition ceremony immediately before the massed band finale.



Pipes on parade.



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