

# 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?

## Clan remote outreach



Hello! Ciamar a tha thu! I am reaching out to connect with any folks worldwide/ throughout the Airts that are Chief's Officers or leaders of their (mostly Scotland-based) Clan Associations/ Societies. This writer is a Member of Council of the worldwide Clan Chattan Association in Scotland. CCA Council had a Zoom Meeting yesterday discussing 2021 CCA AGM and beyond. In our conversation we were wondering what other clan entities in Scotland were doing towards producing remote live events and Clan gatherings. We noted how well the Clan Farquharson Association did with its recent wonderful remote Gathering. If you are in the leadership group of your clan, I would

like to touch base with you to get an overview of best practises that you are doing in your remote outreach, digital clan events, etc. I will then present this to my own Council to noodle as we all chart a course heading and a way forward to connect with clans folk around the world and to keep the clan strong in these concerning and challenging times. Feel free to Facebook message me.  
*Tapadh Leat,  
William Shaw of Easter Lair  
Scotland*  
**Ed note: Thanks for your note William. We encourage Clan groups and leaders from across the world to share ideas, collaborate and get through the pandemic.**

### Scottishness in Modern South Australia

South Australia currently has the second highest percentage of Scots born in Australia and probably the highest rate of descendants. It has well over 100 listed Scottish organisations and many more bodies that have significant Scottish connections.

A four year academic research program conducted by academic and former senior executive, Ron Layton of Adelaide, has resulted in a report being provided for the Scottish Government as part of its provision of significant Culture Strategy for a country that regards culture as of major importance. Mr Layton has previously submitted recommendations and these have been included in the Government's 'A Culture Strategy for Scotland' that serves as the blueprint for development over the next period.

The research has also seen the publishing, in September, of the book: *Scottishness in Modern South Australia*. It has been designed to show that the Scottish development in the State was different to other parts of Australia, possibly leading to a similarly variant in current representation today. It has also shown that the 'Scottish' culture in a region where Scots have settled over the centuries is only loosely linked to the home country, Scotland. Indeed each region develops in its own manner, a function of the overall regional cultural context. Thus, what we find in SA is different from any other

part of Australia, although much of the expected key identifying elements, such as piping and dancing are similar.

Cognisant of how important culture in all its forms is to Scotland there has been increasing recognition that the immense diaspora needs to be drawn into any strategy. This relates to the wide range of what might be regarded as culture.

At the same time there has been criticism of what has been seen by some as the oversimplification and nostalgia orientation of Scottish related bodies overseas: 'Scotland is much, much more than just bagpipes, dancing and Burns!'

The study sought to explore this contention in some depth. It found, for example that most of the consideration of things Scottish was outside of the organisations, many of which are small, narrowly focused and struggling to appeal and engage people of Scottish descent or others with related interests. Whether this is a problem or not is also explored on the basis that these bodies are only a part of Scottishness within any region. However, there was some indication that there would be considerable value in at least some Scottish organisations to far better take on board the more broad cultural components.

The book is well worth examination. Copies are available through Matilda Books in Stirling, South Australia.  
*Ron Layton  
Crafers, South Australia  
Email: slayt6@bigpond.com*

### FamilyTreeDNA Forbes Surname Group



Please welcome an additional Administrator of the FamilyTreeDNA (FTDNA) Y-DNA Forbes Surname Group, Philip Stead. Philip is currently a postgraduate student at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland, in the MSc Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies Programme. His goals for the Forbes surname group are (1) helping members with understanding of their DNA results; (2) advising members on upgrade options if they wish to advance their research; (3) developing the results page with clusters of appropriate genetic groupings; (4) assisting members to create genetic links to the House of Forbes; and (5) supporting other genealogical aspects of research.  
Learn more at:  
[www.clan-forbes.org/post/new-ftdna-admin](http://www.clan-forbes.org/post/new-ftdna-admin)  
*Clan Forbes Society, Inc.  
USA*

### SS Frisia



After years of searching for the boat that my great grandfather sailed on to come to the U. S. sometime during the mid-1870's. I came across this while I was online searching for pictures of ships of the 1870's. The reason it took me so long to find the ship was because I had the name of the ship spelled wrong.

*Jon Evans  
USA*

### Placing a marker for James Fleming, Highland Games Champion, at his unmarked grave in Melbourne, Australia

As I am in Campbelltown in Scotland it's a wee bit difficult to oversee the placement of a plaque or a gravestone in Melbourne's General Cemetery, Victoria, Australia. This would be for James Fleming, 1840-1887, a Highland Games competitor. He lies in an unmarked grave which is doubly unfortunate as he was one of the Highland Gatherings best sportsmen.

If I were in Melbourne, I would be able to undertake this easily enough. Could you possibly inform me if interest could be raised to put some mark of recognition in place as this is something that I'd dearly love to make possible?  
Thank you very much,  
*Martin Campbell  
Campbeltown, Scotland  
E-mail: martin.campbell@hotmail.co.uk*

## FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send us your photos or letters via social media



### Loch Alvie



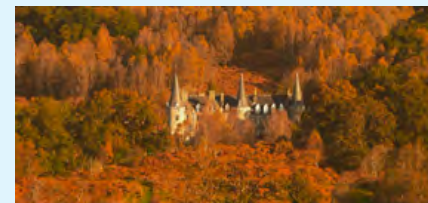
Mirror, mirror on the wall...#LochAlvie and #AlvieChurch looking stunning in autumn colours. I really love this time of year.  
*A View From My Camera  
Scotland*

### Loch Ard



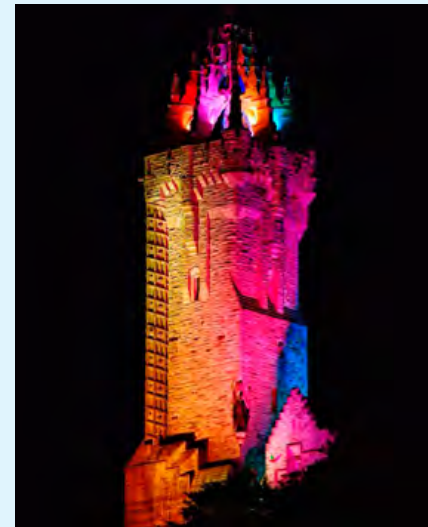
Loch Ard, you've got to love autumn.  
*Robert Gibb  
Scotland*

### Tigh Mor, Trossachs



Beautiful autumn day Tigh Mor, Trossachs, Scotland.  
*GN Photography  
Scotland*

### The National Wallace Monument



The Wallace Monument all lit up in the colours of the rainbow.  
*Charles McGuigan  
Scotland*