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the Scottish Banner

A' Bhratach Albannach

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Publisher
Scottish Banner Pty Ltd.

Editor
Sean Cairney

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

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



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The Banner Says...

Celebrating the women of Scotland

by Sean Cairney

Scotland's history is incredible and it is no wonder the story of Scotland is a film producer's dream, all the gore, twists and dramatic locations. Many Scots of course have left their mark and became notable in Scottish history, and we of course hear of William Wallace, Robert the Bruce and Robert Burns, to name a few but what about the incredible contribution of women? This month, on March 8th, is International Women's Day- a celebration of women's achievement and I certainly have been brought up around strong women and grew up with many who I have no doubt have shaped who I am today.

Some may immediately think of Mary, Queen of Scots, who was beheaded for treason, as a female Scottish icon. There is no doubt that the life of Mary, Queen of Scots would rival any modern epic, but some may struggle to remember many more. That of course could be explained by women's standing in history and their achievements never being recorded or potential allowed to be fulfilled.

Elsie Inglis

Elsie Inglis was born in 1864, and studied in both Paris and Edinburgh, she went on to study medicine and become a qualified surgeon. Whilst working at hospitals in Scotland, Elsie was shocked to discover how poor the care provided to poorer female patients was. Elsie would go on to set up a hospital in Edinburgh just for women, often not accepting payment. Elsie went on join the women's suffrage campaign in 1900, and campaigned for women's rights across Scotland. In 1914 Elsie offered to take an all-female medical unit to the front lines, she was told it was ridiculous, however she dispatched the first of 14 all-women medical units to Serbia, to assist the war effort. Her Scottish Women's Hospitals went on to recruit more than 1,500 women to treat thousands of soldiers across both Western and Eastern Europe. Elsie sadly died at just aged 53 and thousands of people lined the streets of Edinburgh for her funeral. Elsie is still a hero in Serbia, with streets and buildings named after her and she appears on the Clydesdale Bank £50 note.

The Edinburgh Seven

Sophia Jex-Blake, Isabel Thorne, Edith Pechey, Matilda Chaplin, Helen Evans, Mary Anderson and Emily Bovell have come to be known as the Edinburgh Seven. They were the first group of

matriculated undergraduate female students at any British university. The women began studying medicine at the University of Edinburgh in 1869 and although they were ultimately prevented from graduating with a medical degree, they campaigned to ensure that women and men were taught the same, tested the same and if successful, awarded the same degrees. Their fight gained national attention and put the rights of women to a full and equal university education on the national political agenda. Legislation was eventually passed, seven years later, to enable women to enter both the medical profession and universities (UK Medical Act 1876). The University of Edinburgh allowed women to graduate in 1894 and the first doctors graduated in 1896.

Madge Easton Anderson

Born in Glasgow in 1896, Madge Easton Anderson became a female pioneer for her generation, becoming the first woman to work professionally as a lawyer in the UK when she qualified in 1920. Not only was Madge the first female solicitor in Scotland, but she went on to become the first woman to qualify to practise law in both England and Scotland and a partner in the first known law firm to be led entirely by women. Madge was just one of only a handful of women in her university classes, and the only female lawyer in the UK at one point, she paved the way for a profession which is, today, 51% female.

Maggie McIver

Another Glasgow woman who certainly made her mark was Maggie McIver "the Barras Queen". Her rags to riches tale read's like something out of a fictional novel. Born in Ayrshire in 1879, Maggie began life as a barrow girl selling fruits and fish. She and her husband had such success renting barrows to other hawkers that they went on to open the Barras Market in 1920, over a 100 years later it is still the place to go in Glasgow for a bargain. Maggie then went on to open the Barrowland Ballroom on Christmas Eve 1934. As legend has it, the usual place she booked for the hawkers annual Christmas dance was booked so they decided to build their own ballroom. Maggie was a multi-millionaire by the time she died in 1958 and the Barrowland Ballroom is still today known as one of the best live music venues in the UK.

Flora MacDonald

The famous Scottish melody the *Skye Boat Song*, owes its origins to the daring mission of mercy undertaken by Flora MacDonald, a young Highland woman who risked her life out of compassion for a fugitive Prince who had staked everything on a bid to win a kingdom and lost. Flora MacDonald is famously known for helping Bonnie Prince Charlie escape

from Scotland after the defeat of the Jacobite's in the Battle of Culloden in 1746. Bonnie Prince Charlie (Prince Charles Edward Stuart) led the second Jacobite Uprising of 1745 to overthrow King George II. Flora was visiting her brother in South Uist when she met Bonnie Prince Charlie, then fleeing from the Redcoats following his April defeat at Culloden. The part that Flora played in the escape 'over the sea to Skye' is immortalised in the *Skye Boat Song*, published in 1884, and a song more recently made famous in the opening of the hit TV show *Outlander*.

In this issue

Speaking of *Outlander*, this month we celebrate the launch of the new TV show *Men in Kilts: A Roadtrip with Sam and Graham*. At a time when people cannot travel internationally this show is a great escape to Scotland, from your very own armchair. Whilst readers of *the Scottish Banner* will no doubt have seen many of these topics covered in our pages over the decades, it is so wonderful to see Scotland again playing a starring role for millions to enjoy.

It is 100 years ago this month that Haddingtonshire became East Lothian. The region offers over 40 miles of stunning coastline, history, golf courses, rolling hills and historic properties and is the home of Scotland's Saltire flag (having originated in a battle fought in East Lothian). This region has much to offer and make it a stop on your next visit to Scotland.

The contribution of Scottish women

The contribution of Scottish women has often been overlooked but does not lesson the great impact they have made across Scotland, and the world. Today Scotland's leader is of course First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, who is also the Leader of the Scottish National Party and the first woman to hold either position. Scotland has moved on and Scottish women are continuing to make their mark in a variety of professions and across society. I have mentioned but just a few of the incredible women who have made a difference to Scotland and paved a path for women across the world today. And it is with no doubt that our world is a better place due to them... 🌸

Have you been inspired by a great Scottish woman (famous or not)? Do you have any comments from the content in this month's edition? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or at: www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us #ScottishBanner, #TheBanner

Gracing our front cover: *Men in Kilts: A Roadtrip with Sam and Graham*. Photo courtesy of Starz.

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Is Scotland ready for the return of lynx?



An extensive and impartial study to assess people's views about the possible reintroduction of Eurasian lynx to the Scottish Highlands has been launched by a new partnership of the charities SCOTLAND: The Big Picture, Trees for Life and Vincent Wildlife Trust.

Ecological research has shown that extensive areas of Scotland could support lynx, but the charities say returning the shy and elusive animal is less about science and more about people's willingness to live alongside a species that's become forgotten on these shores.

The year-long Lynx to Scotland consultation will impartially and accurately assess public and stakeholder attitudes around the idea of lynx reintroduction, including in rural communities.

"With a global biodiversity crisis, we have a responsibility to have open and constructive conversations around restoring key native species to the Scottish landscape – and science shows that apex predators like lynx play a vital ecological role in maintaining healthy living systems," said Peter Cairns, Executive Director of SCOTLAND: The Big Picture.

Lynx are now expanding in range and numbers across mainland Europe as hunting laws are enforced and public attitudes to large predators soften. Several successful lynx reintroductions since the 1970s have brought ecological and environmental benefits to countries more densely populated than Scotland, and in areas used for farming, hunting, forestry and tourism.

The Eurasian lynx is native to Britain but was driven to extinction some 500-1,000 years ago through hunting and habitat loss

Solitary woodland hunter

As a shy and solitary woodland hunter, lynx are rarely glimpsed and attacks on humans are virtually unknown. Research suggests the Highlands has sufficient habitat – and more than enough roe deer, the cat's preferred prey – to support around 400 wild lynx.

Steve Micklewright, Chief Executive of Trees for Life, said: "Scotland has more woodland deer than any other European country, and their relentless browsing often prevents the expansion and healthy regeneration of our natural woodlands.

By preying on roe deer, lynx would restore ecological processes that have been missing for centuries, and provide a free and efficient deer management service."

Jenny MacPherson, Science and Research Programme Manager with the Vincent Wildlife Trust, which will lead the study, said: "Reintroducing lynx would inevitably bring challenges. Lynx to Scotland will actively include stakeholders representing the full range of perspectives, in order to produce meaningful conclusions about the level of support or tolerance for lynx, and therefore the likely success of any future reintroduction."

The Eurasian lynx is native to Britain but was driven to extinction some 500-1,000 years ago through hunting and habitat loss. Lynx to Scotland runs until February 2022 and is not associated with any other previous or current initiatives to restore lynx to Britain.

For details, see:

www.scotlandbigpicture.com/lynx-to-scotland



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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?

Tartan of the Month



I just found *the Scottish Banner* this year in our local paper shop. I came to Australia in 1949 and my pen friend and have

loved living in Australia. We had three children, all grown up. I have written my life story and I do family history, which is great. I was born in Dundee and my mother's side is originally from Ireland and my dad's from Arbroath. In the August issue I was reading about the Memories of Scotland Tartan in your *Tartan of the Month* feature and got the surprise of my life when I read that Joe Rodgers designed it from Olly Bobbins. He is my great-nephew, his grandmother

was my mother and she suffered from Alzheimer's in her later days before she passed away.

I really enjoy reading your paper, especially the *Tartan of the Month*, and see the October tartan is for the nurses and my two daughters are nurses. The stories of Halloween also bring back memories of my childhood when we would have a party and have our heads dipped into water and try and pick up an apple. It was always a fun night.

Thank you again for your paper which is so very interesting.

Mary Edwards

Finley, NSW

Australia

Ed note: We are glad you found us Mary and what a great example of how tartan links us!

Dressed to Kilt 2021



We are contacting you now to let you know that we are delaying our next Dressed to Kilt (www.dressedtokilt.com) show until the summer of 2021. Many of our designers, models and supporters are still in

various stages of lockdown and restriction on both sides of the Atlantic.

We do not want to hold the 2021 show until our friends have a level of confidence and comfort about getting together once again. Fortunately, the situation is improving now that there are several vaccines that are being widely distributed and administered and several more coming online shortly. It is our belief that the politicians and bureaucrats will soon get out of the way and allow smarter people to handle this process more efficiently. We have not yet chosen a specific date as the current situation is still rather volatile. We will provide several months notice in advance of our next show.

The show will still be held at the Mill Neck Manor Estate on the Gold Coast of Long Island, about 25 miles from NYC. The benefit of holding the show during the summer is that many of the activities around the show, cocktail party, post-party, etc., can be held outdoors on the grounds of the estate in full bloom. The show will focus on "Country Lifestyle Fashion", the couture for outdoor activities and we will be live streaming the show internationally for the first time. We will be raising funds for the Navy SEAL Foundation and we will have several decorated Navy SEALs on the catwalk. Many of you are aware that we lost our friend and colleague Sir Sean Connery in 2020. We have therefore decided to celebrate and honor Sir Sean and his family with our next show. Indeed, three generations of Connerys, Lady Connery, Stephan his son and Saskia his granddaughter have together worked with our team and produced a new Sir Sean Connery Tartan that will be unveiled at this show for

the first time anywhere. The colors of the Tartan represent places that meant the most to Sir Sean. We shall invite several members of Sir Sean's family who attended and supported previous DTK events, we shall invite a number of his favorite models and favorite acts from previous DTK shows to join us and our glossy coffee table program will have numerous never before seen photos of Big Tam from previous shows. We will make this a collector's edition. As he meant so much to so many Scots around the world, we welcome your ideas and your contributions. Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all this summer!

Dr. Geoffrey Scott Carroll

Co-Founder & Chairman

New York, NY

USA

Scottish Studies Foundation Chapbook Competition



The Scottish Studies Foundation is pleased to announce its first ever Chapbook Competition. Novice, emerging and established writers are invited to submit a manuscript of between 2,000 and 5,000 words on any topic or theme with a Scottish connection. The winner will have their work published in the form of a chapbook and will receive \$500.00 [CAD] and 20 copies of the book.

The idea was inspired by the University of Guelph's collection of historic chapbooks many of which have been digitized and placed online. Chapbooks are small books typically containing ballads, poems, tales, or tracts and have a long history spanning several centuries. Sold by travelling pedlars known as "chapmen," they were the main reading material of a majority of the population, carrying news and popular culture of the day.

We are hoping that this competition will generate an enthusiastic response from all with a keen interest in Scottish history, culture, genealogy and literature.

The competition is open to everyone regardless of where they reside and as you don't have to be a member to enter please feel free to pass this information on to your friends and associates.

By entering the contest not only will you have a chance to see your story, poems or anecdotes in book form, but you'll have a chance to win \$500.

The deadline for submission is July 1, 2021, and further details including how to enter are on our website: www.scottishstudies.com

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

David Hunter

President, Scottish Studies Foundation

Canada

davidhunter@scottishstudies.com

www.scottishstudies.com

Memories that never fade

Thank you for your paper *the Scottish Banner* very good read indeed. I was most impressed with your article *Getting back to Scotland* and it brought back some lovely memories with my time in Scotland. I would like to share part with you. Born in 1929 in Glasgow and always going on our holidays to my granny's home up in the Highlands, a place called Linside just a croft not far from 'The Falls of Shin' roughly halfway between Bonar Bridge and Lairg. Oh how I used to love going there and helping out on

the croft, taking the cattle down to the field in the morning bringing them back for milking in the afternoon, collecting the eggs from the hen house and best of all going up the hills to help cut, layout and collect the peat for the fire with Uncle Rod in his horse (Polly) and cart.

I can remember that during the war a crew from a Canadian soldiers camp nearby came and cut down all the trees up in hills above our house, it did spoil the look of the place after that but I suppose the wood was wanted somewhere.

I used to think I was Roy Rogers when I was lifted up onto Polly's back to take her down to the well for her fill of water, these memories will never fade away.

During the war years my brother and I were evacuated along with many other children to the countryside, we were sent to Aberdeen-shire to a fairly large croft in a place called Jackson-Rothienornam, we stayed there for just over three years, walking to a school at Folla-Rule which was five miles away, before we ran away back to Glasgow, but that is another story.

We the whole family Dad Mum and the 3 boys all migrated out to Australia in 1949, I was very lucky and married a lovely Aussie girl in 1952 who I took back to Scotland to show her around the place.

Thank you for your great paper.

Hamish Cameron

Kincumber, NSW

Australia

Ed note: Thanks Hamish for sharing your memories of a special place and time with us.

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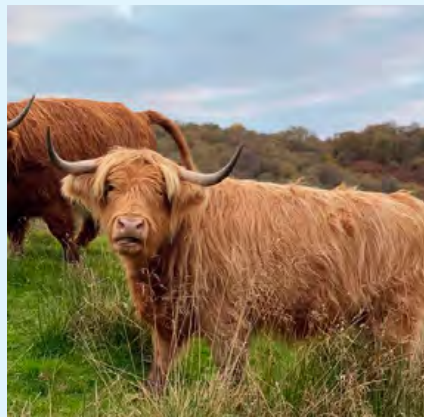
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You like my hair?

Jim Skilling

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Barra glow



Twilight on Barra, Outer Hebrides.

Debbie Neilson

Dunblane Cathedral



Dunblane Cathedral takes some beating....Happy memories for Sir Andy Murray and many others no doubt.

Gary Chittick

Scotland

The Viking woman at Broch of Gurness

This month Historic Environment Scotland shares how they uncovered the story of the discovery of a Viking burial at Broch of Gurness in Orkney.

Text and images courtesy of: Historic Environment Scotland



The broch village at Gurness. © Historic Environment Scotland.

We all know that the weather in Scotland has a bit of a “reputation”. In an effort to beat the worst of the wind and lashing rain, a lot of archaeological digs in Scotland take place in the summer months. Thanks to Coronavirus, many planned research excavations have been cancelled or delayed. To cheer ourselves up, we thought we’d take a look at this historic dig at Orkney’s Broch of Gurness instead.

The village people

Brochs are unique to Scotland. Did you know there are more than 500 of these curious Iron Age round towers? Most of them can be found in the northern and western Highlands and the islands. Most brochs stood alone, but sizeable villages often surrounded them. The broch village at Gurness is one of the most impressive. Another thing that makes it special is that it has also been excavated. This exploration has helped to give us a fascinating glimpse into Iron Age life on Orkney.

It seems that a village first sprang up here sometime between 500 BC and 200 BC. Deep ditches and ramparts defined a large area roughly 45m across. An entrance causeway was later added on the east side and a circular broch tower built in the west half. A settlement of small stone houses with yards and sheds grew up around the broch tower. The broch was abandoned and the ditches filled in sometime after AD 100. For the next 600 years, the site appears to have become a single farmstead.

Digging down

If you’d visited the Broch of Gurness in the early part of the 20th century, things would have looked very different. Although it had long been known as the site of a broch

(it featured in a list of brochs from 1866), nature had reclaimed the long-abandoned site. All that was visible was a rather shapeless grass-covered mound. The site was known as the Knowe o’ Aikerness. In the summer of 1929, the Orcadian poet and antiquarian, Robert Rendall decided to investigate the site. Working with the tenant farmer, he dug into the top of the hillock. The first thing he uncovered was a staircase.

Rendall took news of his discovery to the Orkney Antiquarian Society. Thankfully the club’s Secretary, Dr Hugh Marwick, advised him not to expand his excavation but to seek expert help. Marwick was spot on! Today, Rendall would have been breaking the law by digging on this important archaeological site. You can check out our guidance on applying for consents and how to report accidental finds online. James Smith Richardson, the first Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland, was invited to inspect the site. He visited the site in 1929 and agreed it should be excavated further.

A donation of £200 was secured to begin investigation. The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland purchased the mound and excavations began in 1930. When the full extent of the site was realised, ownership of the seemingly ever-expanding site was transferred into state care in 1932. Excavations continued on an annual basis until the outbreak of WWII. In August 1939, with the outbreak of the Second World War looming only weeks away, the archaeologists made a very exciting discovery – a Viking burial!

A discovery of grave importance

The skeletal remains were found within the entrance passageway to the broch. The grave was enclosed by small, upright slabs. They were able to determine that this was the skeleton of a woman. She had been buried with an iron knife and sickle, an iron necklet and a pair of bronze brooches, which have survived in superb condition. She was buried around AD 850–950, before the Vikings adopted Christianity. We know this because she was buried with grave goods. Other human remains found on the site suggest that she was not buried

alone – it seems that other Vikings were buried here too. As far as we can tell, people began using the site at some point between 500–200BC. When our Viking woman was buried here, the site was already at least 1000 years old.

We’re not sure why these Vikings chose Broch of Gurness as burial site. However, recent research from 2015 suggests that it may have been chosen as a visible, well-known, already historic site. This was perhaps a way for the Vikings to establish their legitimacy in a new land. Intriguingly, recent isotopic analysis of the bones suggests that this woman was not from Orkney. The results indicate that it is likely she spent her childhood on the east coast of Ireland or in south east England.

Back to the broch

Unfortunately, Richardson never managed to resume the excavations after the war. It was 1961 before archaeologists returned to this exciting site. Thankfully, it shouldn’t be such a long wait for visitors wanting to return to the Broch of Gurness. It’s currently closed but we look forward to welcoming you again in summer 2021.

If you want to visit other Orkney sites, you can find out online what’s open and when, and pre-book your tickets. All of our unstaffed sites are also open to visitors. However, quite a few of these are exterior only due to the difficulty of managing visitor safety in small, confined spaces.

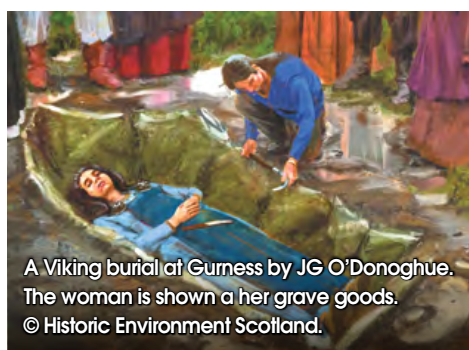


General view of the Broch of Gurness. © Crown Copyright HES.



The Broch of Gurness, mainland Orkney.

Historic Environment Scotland is the lead public body established to investigate, care for and promote Scotland’s historic environment. For more details see: www.historicenvironment.scot



A Viking burial at Gurness by JG O’Donoghue. The woman is shown with her grave goods. © Historic Environment Scotland.



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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.

"We're delighted with the news that the Stone of Destiny, the coronation stone, is to be relocated to Perthshire and will be so close to Scone Palace, the crowning place of Scottish Kings. The Stone of Destiny is an object of real historical significance, a sacred relic, and it is right that it is treated as such. This is a great opportunity for Perth, and for the wider tourism economy of this region. We're certainly hopeful that visitors to Scone Palace will see a boost as a result and we do hope that the stone will make a brief visit to its ancient seat of Scone Palace as part of a ceremonious tour in order that we may properly welcome its return after 700 years away."

William Murray, Lord Stormont, who issued a statement on behalf of Scone Palace who have warmly welcomed the news from the Scottish Government that the Stone of Destiny is to be returned to Perthshire. The ancestral home, Scone Palace, is the historical crowning place of Scottish Kings including Macbeth and Robert the Bruce and was home to the "Stone of Scone" until it was moved to Westminster in the 11th century by King Edward I of England.



"The redevelopment of Arbroath's Baltic Mill into good quality affordable apartments marks an exciting step in the preservation of a building which has been an historical icon in the town for many years. Having sat empty for so long, we're delighted to bring a new lease of life to the 158 year old building, and preserve a part of Mr Lowson's, and also Arbroath's industrial legacy."

David Zwirlein, Hillcrest director of development, said as a 159 year-old Arbroath former weaving mill has been transformed into 24 affordable homes. Built in 1861, the mill was owned by Arbroath businessman Andrew Lowson and operated as a power loom weaving factory. It wove yarn spun in the nearby Green's Mill, which burned down in 1991.

"Before the pandemic we were clear that we weren't seeking growth in tourism. Obviously things have changed in that we want tourism to return, but the core principles hold. We aren't seeking to go back to a place where residents feel overwhelmed. It's all about getting the right balance so that local communities in the heart of the city can thrive too. For better or worse, mass tourism has become the lifeblood of the Old Town, and its absence is causing enormous damage to local businesses. Nevertheless, many people who live there are hoping the lockdowns will result in a rethink over the area's future."

Edinburgh Council's housing convener Councillor Kate Campbell said the city's tourism strategy set out a balance between managing tourism and creating healthy long term communities. The Old Town now has thousands of short-term tourist rental apartments and lost much of the long term community presence. In 2019, 4.9 million people visited the capital, according to City of Edinburgh Council - and they spent £1.9bn.



"The last 19 days have instilled in us all a renewed sense of hope and optimism. Sharing our music and our culture will continue to be an essential part of our human existence and

it has been incredible to be able to facilitate this, despite the challenges. The feedback we have had really shows just how important music is to people and we are delighted to have been able to help in some way brighten up the darkest January in recent history."

Donald Shaw, Creative Producer for Celtic Connections, said as the digital-first festival was a great success with an abundance of international viewers and unprecedented number of tickets sold. Over 100 musicians took part in Glasgow's Celtic Connections 2021, showcasing their art to the world.



"The Dunrobin Attic Sale provides a glorious opportunity to purchase a piece of history from one of Scotland's grandest and most historic castles. Many of the items have been hidden away in Dunrobin Castle for generations and never been seen on the open market before. They provide a wonderful snapshot of what it was like to live both upstairs - and downstairs - in the Highlands' premier ducal palace."

Charlie Thomas, Director of House Sales, said that Bonhams will conduct the Dunrobin Attic Sale in April. Under instruction from the 25th Earl of Sutherland treasures of Dunrobin Castle will go on sale. The auction will include more than 450 lots, including paintings, portraits and historic photographs, picture frames, marble sculptures, crested dinner services, and an array of treasures from the castle's kitchen and cellar.

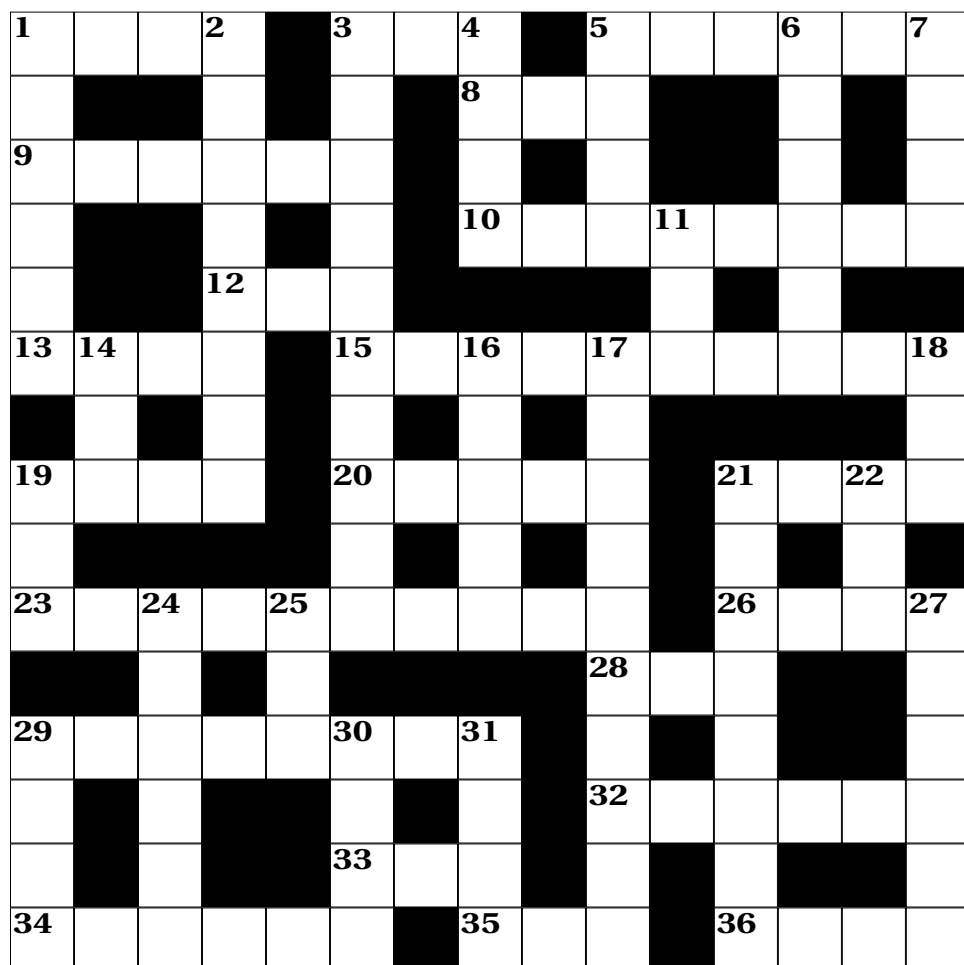
"Over the last decade healthy life expectancy has increased for males and decreased for females. However, both males and females experienced a decrease in healthy life expectancy over the latest year. The decrease in healthy life expectancy coincides with a stalling of growth in life expectancy in recent years, and has resulted in a lower proportion of life being spent in good health with 79.9% for males and 76.3% for females."

Julie Ramsay, Head of Vital Events Statistics at the National Records of Scotland (NRS), said as healthy life expectancy has decreased across Scotland. The average healthy life expectancy at birth for males at 61.7 years and 61.9 years for females, according to figures published by NRS. Healthy life expectancy at birth for males was highest in East Dunbartonshire, at 69.8 years and lowest in Glasgow City at 54.6 years. For females, healthy life expectancy at birth was highest in Orkney at 75.1 years and lowest in North Ayrshire at 56.3 years.

"Our ambition is to get through all those 4.5m adults, 18 and over, in the summer. At this point it is not very sensible to give specific dates because there are a number of unknowns, partly what the JCVI tell us and partly about supplies. But what is the case, is that our infrastructure to do that is there, and we have the vaccinators, we have the support staff, we have the local and the regional centres able to do it. As fast as we get supplies we will be vaccinating."

Scottish health secretary Jeane Freeman said that the Scottish Government is planning to vaccinate the entire adult population across Scotland by summer 2021. At time of printing 99.5% of older care home residents, 90% of staff in older adult care homes, 94% of over 80s living in community, 64% of those aged 75-79 and 26% of 70-74 year olds had already been vaccinated with their first of two doses, with most due to be getting their second within 12 weeks.

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 21!

CLUES ACROSS

- 1) Related to (4).
- 3) Jock's other nickname! (3).
- 5) Old silver coins (6).
- 8) Series of years (3).
- 9) A combination (6).
- 10) Old Scots prison (8).
- 12) Dundee's waterway (3).
- 13) A hire car (4).
- 15) Highland military depot (4, 6).
- 19) Scots fliers (4).
- 20) In competition with (5).
- 21) A tattie (4).
- 23) Central ranges (5, 5).
- 26) Monastic island (4).
- 28) With Scotch it's a game! (3).
- 29) Kirk's covered entrance (8).
- 32) Soccer side (6).
- 33) Gaelic festival (3).
- 34) Make enquiries in Scotland (6).
- 35) Agrees (3).
- 36) Farmyard animals (4).

CLUES DOWN

- 1) A Scotsman's oxter (6).
- 2) Scots goonies (8).
- 3) North-east waterway (5, 5).
- 4) Old Scot (4).
- 5) The true Scot (4).
- 6) Burns' wife, Jean (6).
- 7) Country dancer's decoration! (4).
- 11) A fogey-bummer in Aberdeen (3).
- 14) In times past (3).
- 16) Make merry (5).
- 17) Town to the north of Hawick (10).
- 18) Part of game of bowls (3).
- 19) Dynamic pair (3).
- 21) To a Scot they're baffles (8).
- 22) Vase (3).
- 24) Military bonnet decoration (6).
- 25) Chatter to a Scot (3).
- 27) Highland games are held here (6).
- 29) Scots listeners! (4).
- 30) Equips with weapons (4).
- 31) Whirlpool (4).

Historic Canongate tenements returned to former glory



Major conservation work, led by Edinburgh World Heritage, has just been completed on the last of three historic tenements on the Canongate comprising of 16 residential dwellings and 5 shops. Work was funded by the charity's Conservation Funding Programme, which is supported by Historic Environment Scotland. Edinburgh World Heritage also provided expertise, advice and support to the residents and shop owners throughout the project.

Cordiner's land

Also known as cordiner's land, 195-197 Canongate is a 17th century tenement, which, together with its neighbours, embodies an important part of the Old Town, part of the Old and New Towns World Heritage Site. The cordiners were tanners, curriers (people who prepared leather for sale) and shoemakers who derived their title from the French "Courdouanier" meaning "of Cordova", the source of the finest leather at the time. In 1825, they rebuilt the front half of the tenement and it became their meeting-place. The cordiners would also have sold their goods in the premises on the ground floor of the tenements, known as 'luckenbooths,' a purpose these tenements retain to this day. Throughout this period, the Canongate was its own royal burgh, established by King David I in 1128, and independent of Edinburgh until the two were united in 1865.

In the mid-20th century, these three tenement buildings were part of the substantial restoration of the historic Canongate Tolbooth area spearheaded by city architect Robert Hurd. His proposals respected the scale and nature of existing buildings and retained much of the original fabric of the buildings. Further conservation work, grant-aided by Edinburgh World Heritage, was completed in 2015 to 183-187 Canongate, a 300-year-old tenement, also known as 'Bible Land' after the carved stone cartouche on its frontage, and in 2019 to 189 and 191 Canongate, probably best identified by its striking red lime harling and limewash, reinstated as part of its conservation. Today, these tenements represent nearly 1000 years of Scotland's history.

Historic buildings

The restoration and conservation of 195-197 Canongate, a five-storeyed, six-bayed block, was carried out by David Willis at CLWG Architects, and retained the traditional features of the tenement. These include repairs to the rubble and dressed stonework, timber-framed multi-paned sash and case windows and the carved panel in one of the central bays between the first and second floors which displays the emblem of the cordiners (shoemakers).

Additional work included repairing chimney heads and gables, overhauling roofs, gutters and flashings, repairing the south external masonry wall, removing loose paint and re-painting the north elevation, and repairing rainwater goods.

Brenda Clark, the representative of the residents of 185 Canongate, said "Edinburgh World Heritage's support and expertise in the field of restoration of historic buildings was invaluable. We were delighted to see our neighbours in the tenements next door follow suit and the rear elevation of the buildings look very impressive. We are now trying to persuade our neighbours in the adjoining building overlooking Gladstone Court to tackle the repairs to their building and would encourage them to approach Edinburgh World Heritage for their help and advice."

Ray Disotto, owner of the Fudge Shop on the ground floor of 195-197 Canongate said "The generous grant offer by Edinburgh World Heritage made this work possible, and it has revived the look of the building which now blends in with rest of the Royal Mile. I'm sure it will improve business for all in the street."

World Heritage Site

Christina Sinclair, Director of Edinburgh World Heritage, said: "The Conservation Funding Programme provides invaluable support to residents and owners of traditional buildings in and around the World Heritage Site to help them organise, to provide them with expertise, and to offer practical financial support, from beginning to end. Following the success of the conservation work at 195-197 Canongate, we are exploring how to better engage communities in areas outside of the World Heritage Site."

City of Edinburgh Council Planning Convener Councillor Neil Gardiner said: "As a Planning Authority, we're ultimately the guardians of our historic built heritage and our listed buildings guidance works to protect period properties right across the city. We're very lucky to have such unique buildings in all corners of our Capital – including of course within our World Heritage Sites – and Edinburgh World Heritage provides invaluable support to keep them secure, sustainable and well looked after. As a City, we all need to play our part in making sure the listed buildings we live in can still be occupied and enjoyed for generations to come, and Edinburgh World Heritage regularly engages with property owners and tenants to preserve Edinburgh's historic built environment. The conservation work carried out in the Canongate is a perfect example of a community working together. I hope other property owners see the incredible difference it makes and feel compelled to follow suit."



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St Kilda-The island that time never forgot



Village Bay, St Kilda.

Newly published research has revealed how archaeologists discovered evidence of inhabitation over 2,000 years ago on St Kilda. Archaeological investigations were carried out between 2017–19 by GUARD Archaeology, who were contracted in preparation for the development and refurbishment of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) base on the archipelago's main island of Hirta. This resulted in the largest archaeological excavation ever undertaken on the island, which revealed traces of inhabitation on St Kilda over 2,000 years ago during the Iron Age.

The island group of St Kilda, a UNESCO designated dual World Heritage Site, is situated c40 miles west of the Outer Hebrides. The islands are all that remain of an eroded volcano that was active during plate tectonic movements and the creation of the North Atlantic Ocean around 55 million years ago. The excavations took place in the south-west of the main island of Hirta, overlooking Village Bay.

Iron Age

Radiocarbon dating of carbonised food remains adhering to sherds of pottery that had been washed into a stone channel indicates intensive inhabitation nearby at some point between the early part of the 4th century BC to almost the end of the 1st century BC. Most of the pottery recovered dates from the Iron Age, although a sherd of a possible early Bronze Age Beaker and two sherds of medieval pottery were also found. The pottery assemblage demonstrates the land in the vicinity of the excavated area was subject to occupation from at least the Bronze Age.

Alan Hunter Blair of GUARD Archaeology, who directed the excavations, said: "The recent archaeological work has revealed that the eastern end of Village Bay on St Kilda was occupied fairly intensively during the Iron Age period, although no house structures were found. The presence of large quantities of Iron Age pottery across the site suggests settlement must have existed nearby. One of the most

significant problems facing archaeologists working on St Kilda is that earlier buildings were dismantled and cleared away in order to build new ones using the old stone as a building resource. Stone was also cleared, including that in burial mounds, to increase the available cultivation area, leaving little trace of what may have been there before. The fact that any archaeological remains survived at all on the investigated area is remarkable given the location of the site on extensively used and landscaped ground. The remote island group of St Kilda has not been immune from change, but understanding what is left allows us to understand the lives of its past inhabitants in a little more detail."

Tantalising glimpses of life on St Kilda

Susan Bain, Manager, Western Isles said: "These results are very encouraging, that the evidence of very early settlements on the islands can still be identified. We have tantalising glimpses of life on St Kilda 2,000 years ago, not only from their pottery but also the remains of a souterrain, or underground store, that was discovered in the 19th century. These few clues tell us that people were well established on St Kilda as part of the wider settlement of the Western Isles."

Chief Executive of the National Trust for Scotland, Phil Long, added: "St Kilda is a place that has proved to be deeply fascinating to people the world over. Much of that is to do with the pathos of the evacuation of the last St Kildans in 1930, but we now know from these

archaeological findings that their story goes much further back in time than previously understood. This further adds to the knowledge and evidence that justifies St Kilda's special status and the need for our charity to continue to raise funds to provide for its study, conservation and protection."

The archaeological work on St Kilda was commissioned by QinetiQ working on behalf of the MoD. ARO42: Hirta, St Kilda by Alan Hunter Blair is freely available to download from the ARO website: <https://archaeologyreportsonline.com/publications.html>

Text and images are courtesy of the National Trust for Scotland. For more information on the Trust or to help them protect Scotland's heritage see: www.nts.org.uk



Overhead view of the excavated channel (© GUARD Archaeology Ltd).



General view of the site (© GUARD Archaeology Ltd).

Glengarry Highland Games See you at the Games in 2022

By: The Glengarry Highland Games Organizing Committee



It was difficult last year when we realized we had to cancel the 2020 Glengarry Highland Games. This past fall with hints of a Covid vaccine and infection numbers going down, the Games were optimistic that 2021 would see a return to the traditional Games with world class competitions, the sights and sounds of great Celtic entertainment, and in reunion with family and friends. However, as Games President Eric Metcalfe states, "I never thought we would have to make this decision two years in a row, but we do not have a choice. After much discussion, all are in agreement that this year's 2021 Games are not going to happen."

Look to the future

As everyone knows, vaccinations will still be rolling out over the summer and most likely mass immunity will not be reached that would allow for large groups to gather in August. Again this year, the Games is most disheartened to not be hosting one of the premier Highland Games in North America. In the meantime, the Games are monitoring the Covid situation and developing ideas on how the spirit of the Games can be celebrated this summer in some fashion. Keep checking back on the Games website and social media to see the plans that come up for entertaining everyone.

As President Metcalfe encourages, "While we will not be seeing you in 2021, with optimism, we look to the future. As soon as we can we will be busy planning your return to our fairgrounds and excitedly look forward to hosting a reunion like only Glengarry can!"

Until then, take care, stay Covid negative and get vaccinated as soon as possible.

The next Glengarry Highland Games will take place in Maxville, Ontario on July 29-30, 2022. For details see: www.glengarryhighlandgames.com



- The name Stirling probably comes from the Gaelic or Cumbric for "land enclosed by a stream or river" 'Sruighlea'. The origin of the name is uncertain although others claim it comes from a Gaelic or Scots word meaning "Place of battle/Struggle." It also may come from the Brythonic name for "dwelling place of Melyn."
- Stirling is the smallest city in Scotland and a former ancient burgh. The town was originally created as a royal burgh by King David I in 1130 which it remained until 1975. In 2002 Stirling was granted city status as part of the Queen's Golden Jubilee.
- The British currency term 'sterling' is derived from the town of Stirling. Originally, a mint in the town produced coins using silver from mines in the Ochils.
- Stirling was originally a Stone Age settlement as suggested by the presence of the Randolphfield stand stones and the Kings park prehistoric carvings. Stirling has always been a strategically important place in Scotland due to its defensive crag and tail hill and its position at the foot of the Ochil hills on the border between the lowlands and the Highlands.
- Stirling is dominated by the castle and the medieval old town. The city was the location of several major battles during the wars of Independence. You can still visit the site of the battle of Stirling Bridge (1297) and Bannockburn, where Robert the Bruce defeated the English in 1314, is a nearby town.
- Over half of Scotland's population lives within an hour of the city of Stirling and 80% within two hours.



A gathering of the pheasants.

Greetings from Scotland which is a rather snowy spot at the moment. Yes, the white stuff has been falling and here in the south of the country we have had our share. Up in the Highlands, the mountains are blanketed, with some roads impassable. Not that anyone is going anywhere soon in these lockdown days.

For those of a sporty nature, this is a shame. Because Scotland's ski slopes are reporting the best conditions for years. Over the years these outdoor centres have been investing in artificial snow-making machines because there simply hasn't been enough of the real stuff. This year, there's a mass of it, but government rules mean all ski runs are shut.

Feathered friends

Yet if there are few outdoor sportsmen and women around, there are still plenty of birds; and with the ground frozen and the winter berries almost gone, our feathered friends are ravenous.

By early morning the pheasants are out and drumming the ground around the bird table. They scatter when I arrive with a mix of grain and fat balls. But they are soon back, and they are proving resourceful.

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.



They have discovered that if they push the wooden platform the seed will fall to the floor.

So, this is not such a bird brain after all! With its red and purple feathers, the male of the species is a glorious sight, but this year brings an interesting addition to the pheasant pack.

Our wildlife has taken on a new importance during these lockdown days.

I have never before seen a white pheasant. And I have to say, they are rather graceful creatures. Yet we must keep the doggies well away from them because whilst the ordinary pheasant is ten a penny in the Scottish countryside, these bleached birds are rare here. In fact, they are so unusual that it is bad form to shoot them.

It may be the same with you, but our wildlife has taken on a new importance during these lockdown days. From the kitchen window I can stand and spy on the cheeky sparrows, the nippy thrushes, the cocky robin red breast, and the speckled woodpecker.

From time-to-time plump woodpigeons launch themselves from the roof. Then there

are the mean-eyed crows that sit hunched in the trees. Yes, I know they, too, need to be fed. But in their case, it is done reluctantly.

O Brave new world with such people in it...

We need definitely some distraction – and one morning we get it. Our daughter announces that she has a sore throat and temperature, and as someone in her office has been diagnosed with the virus, an appointment is booked at a testing site.

By now we are all rather glum. These lockdown days cannot be described as 'busy' ones in any sense of the word. Yet this is a crucial time. It is the week my mother is due to have her first anti-covid injection. And if our daughter does have the virus, the chief and I will also have to go into isolation. So, who will take mum to the clinic?!

My 92-year-old mother is unphased. Then the older generation has been through it before. Mum was ten when World War Two began. As a youngster she carried messages for the local fire warden during bombing raids. She was sixteen when peace was finally declared; a childhood lost to rationing and greyness.

Sure, this pandemic has rattled her. In normal times she is the one who can shop 'til she drops. Her week is not complete without a lunch at the local garden centre.

Then there is the church coffee morning and there are the neighbours to chat to...

Her world, like many, has shrunk immeasurably. But ask her how she feels, and she may well quote Shakespeare at you: 'O Brave new world with such people in it...'

Burns Night

Scotland's has its own answer to William Shakespeare, of course - and on Burns Night the chief and I put on our tartan and celebrate with a simple supper at home. I say 'simple', but the recipe I am using this year is a right royal one. It is something that Prince Charles apparently likes to eat when he comes north of the border.

In this case, haggis is mixed with beef stock and Worcester sauce. It is served in a plain pastry case with creamy mashed neeps and tatties on top – and is declared delicious. As we eat, friends text with pictures of their own Burns suppers. They are taking place in kitchens from Capetown to Canberra. From lounges in London and Los Angeles, Robert Burns is being remembered.

The MacGregor reads a poem. At twenty-five minutes long, *The Immortal Memory* is deemed too long, so we settle for *A Man's a Man for a' That*. With folk cut off from each other, *Auld Lang Syne* has never seemed so important. Stay safe...

Texas Scottish Festival & Highland Games

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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.



The People of Plantation

*Oh ye cannae fling pieces
oot a twenty storey flat,*

*Seven hundred hungry
weans will testify to that,*

*If it's butter, cheese or jelly, if
the breed is plain or pan,*

*The odds against it reaching
earth are ninety-two tae wan.*

A modern version based upon the traditional habit of mothers throwing out 'jeelie pieces' to the weans in the back courts of the Glasgow tenements of earlier times. The multi-storey flat was now in place instead of the four storey tenement with dire consequences for the survival of the 'jeely piece.' "Nae chance at a," I would add.

In Plantation, a part of the ancient borough of Govan, the oily smells of the river Clyde mixed with those of industrial Glasgow. I remember those smells. There were the 1940's smells of coal fires and horse dung from the remaining but diminishing numbers of horses drawing carts along the streets. Many were still being used to draw milk floats from the Co-operative dairy. In the backcourts there was the smell of cat pee and maybe even maybe an odd dead cat. There was the smell of household refuse mixed with the acrid smell of coal ash from the middens and on the street corners the smell of stale beer, sawdust and tobacco from the public houses that seemed to be present on every street corner. That mixed with the steam from the 'steamies', the public wash houses, to create a subtle but distinctive aroma on the streets of Plantation. There were also the more exciting and pleasant, smells, from fish and chip shops, of whelks and vinegar and roasted chestnuts, sold from hand drawn carts, and the smells from the corner grocery shops. McCall's general grocer's shop on Blackburn Street delighted the senses with its produce coming in barrels, wooden boxes, tins and jute bags for much of the food was still having to be cut to weight from large pieces of cheese, gammon, bacon and butter. My small nose was bombarded by all those rich smells from this multitude of goods from biscuits and fresh-baked bread to potatoes, spices and sweets.

A cacophony of noise

Plantation was also a cacophony of noise, the noises of commerce, of Clydesdale horses and their carts being reversed back into their cobbled-floored premises by carters, of heavily laden trucks from the docks and milk vans from the Co-operative creamery across the street from us. There were the sounds of children's roller skates and girds as these ran along the smooth and well-worn pavements and there were the sounds of windows being opened and closed and the shouts of mothers, with fat elbows on their window sills, shouting down to their children in the streets and backcourts. And some mothers really did throw 'jeely pieces', the posh ones wrapping them in greaseproof paper as you would expect. These jam sandwiches went to ever ravenous children playing far below, for it was a long way back up to the top of a four-storey tenement for a jeely piece when you were busy playing on the roofs of the middens and the brick washhouses down at street level.

It was to be many years later that a rather snooty-nosed young woman in Australia told me, in all seriousness, that on a visit to Glasgow she and her partner were shocked to see children in the streets having bread thrown to them, and behaving like noisy seagulls scrambling for some crusts. I didn't know whether to laugh or take offence. I laughed and told her that I had only ever seen that occur in Edinburgh and explained that she may have misinterpreted what she saw. I also mentioned, in passing, that from my experience discriminating Glasgow children normally didn't eat the top black crusts on plain Scottish bread, usually preferring the white bottom crusts, and that was even after our mothers had tried to convince us that black crusts would help give us curly hair.

Although I would never have admitted it to this young woman, I knew, in all honesty, that it wouldn't have been too difficult to find a child in Glasgow, of my generation, who would have been quite happy to scrounge your orange peel, your apple stump and even worse a 'sook' of your lollipop or a good second-hand chew of your chewing gum. But fighting for a crust of bread was definitely not a common or even a credible likely occurrence where I came from.

Interesting people

Plantation was populated with interesting people. 'Glesca keelies' co-existed with good, God-fearing citizens. In our next close sat an old woman at her downstairs window

selling her home-made toffee apples, whilst another woman around the corner in MacLean Street sold puffed candy and tablet from the sill of her bottom floor window. In a close entry, down towards Govan Road, used to sit an old man with a parrot on his shoulder; one that for sheer size and brilliance of colour would have put Long John Silver's to shame. This parrot didn't say "pieces of eight". Instead, it politely said "How do you do?" When we returned the compliment, it swore at us. It said, "Bugger off" much to the amusement of the children and the chagrin of unsuspecting adults. Then there was Sam Rossi's ice-cream shop. Sam was known as 'Sample Sam' because of his generous habit of giving out free samples of his ice-cream to eager samplers.

In Plantation, a part of the ancient borough of Govan, the oily smells of the river Clyde mixed with those of industrial Glasgow.

Covered from head to toe in ash were the 'midgie men', the midden men, who struggled like grey weevils with massive baskets of garbage and ash from our coal fires. They had a strap around their foreheads to help distribute the weight. They emptied our rubbish from massive square galvanized bins housed in our brick middens next to the wash houses into large close woven wicker baskets and took those from our back court to the carts at the front of our close. They came at night, so they had miner lights on the front of their heads to see their way around and they shared with our coalmen the wide metal-studded leather shoulder pads that made them look like ancient Japanese warriors – the Samurai. Covered in black coal dust were the long-suffering coal men. With their caps turned back to front and their studded, leather-padded shoulders they also looked as though they had armour or at least the exoskeletons of black clock beetles attached to their bodies. They carried and tipped their one hundredweight bags of coal into our coalbunkers which strangely enough were located in our houses. Bent over, they panted their way up three flights of stairs to the upper floors of the tenements, close by close, street by street, to deliver the precious and rationed coal.

To cope with the 'stoor' of the midden men and the coal men, there was always a housewife in her 'pinnie' down on her knees with a block of grey pipe clay in her hand and a bucket or enamel basin by her side. Each neighbour took turns to clean down the tiled walls of the close, to scrub the concrete floor and to line the sides with pipe clay. Those with an artistic flair took the opportunity to put down an individual and distinctive pipe clay design alongside the walls perhaps to say, "that wis me so it wis". It was also a matter of housewife pride to be able to say to a friend that, "we live in a wally close", that was a close with tiled walls like ours in Blackburn Street.

There was the rag and bone man with his horse and cart whose calls of "any old rags, rags for toys, rags for balloons", brought

desperate children indoors to pester their mothers for an old jersey or a cardigan so that these could be traded for a bright balloon or a small toy. These balloons seemed to be able to magically dance, bounce and float better than any of the ones bought at the shops. The balloons exchanged with the rag and bone man were special and worth every ounce of wool, cotton or linen that they had cost our mothers. The rags would eventually find their way to one of the huge rag stores located all over Glasgow and finally to mills where they would be turned into either paper or cleaned to be used as flock for bedding.

A working-class boy from Govan

The people of Blackburn Street were full of stories of local happenings and one I remember well was when Mrs. Kennedy, our next-door neighbour, supposedly went off on holiday and lost her cat. She had left her cat to be looked after by a friend's 13-year-old daughter, Jessie, while she went off on holiday with her husband during the Fair Fortnight to Saltcoats. Jessie duly arrived at Mrs. Kennedy's home to collect the cat and then headed back toward her own home several streets away in Kinning Park. Suddenly the cat jumped out of her arms and ran through a close and into a backcourt. Jessie ran after the cat and finally spotted it down by the middens. She cornered it and after a minor scuffle was on her way again holding the cat more tightly and safely. On Mrs. Kennedy's return from holiday, Jessie took the cat back to Mrs. Kennedy's single end, that is her modest tenement home. "That's no' my cat, that's no' my Blackie". Ma cats no' got their white feet, Whit's happened? Where is she then?" said a perturbed Mrs. Kennedy. Some hours later, a scrawny and bedraggled Blackie arrived at the door meowing pitifully. Mrs. Kennedy's cat had fended for itself for a whole fortnight whilst a stray, with white feet, had enjoyed its own wee holiday respite in Kinning Park.

I am sometimes perturbed by the general misunderstandings of people about the working-class Glasgow I was born into. When people hear my accent and ask me where I come from I never hide, during my discussion, the fact that I am a working-class boy from Govan. I'm sure to say to them "Plantation" would be a stretch too far for most of my enquirers. I do often see a hint of something in their eyes, however, which might suggest some surprise if not negativity toward the city of my birth. But I don't have some kind of chip on my shoulder born of an inverted snobbery as some amateur psychologists might suggest.

I'm simply proud of my parents, my extended family and the city I was raised in. The 'Ordinariness' of ordinary people can be very interesting and certainly perfectly respectable, if critics take the trouble to talk to people who have lived and been raised in Glasgow. Negative impressions might become harder to sustain. The vast majority of people in the place where I was born endeavoured hard to keep a clean house, to stay in employment, to raise their children well in the face of some limited resources, material privations and often very distant and absent Government interest. Ordinary life in places like Govan was about careful economy, hard work and in some cases for the wage earner staying away from the drink.

Do you remember sailing from the Clyde to Canada?



The Waverley under the Erskine Bridge.

In the 1950s, tens of thousands of Scots left their homes to emigrate to Canada. In the years after the Second World War, poverty was rampant in Scotland, especially along the Clyde where the old industries of steel making, and ship building were struggling. The Glasgow area, in particular, sank into depression with little chance to find work or provide for your family. Canada offered hope.

The ships of the Canadian Pacific Line were well known on the Clyde, transporting Scots to and from Canada. The company also had deeper ties, coming to the shipyards on the river for many of the fine vessels for their Atlantic and Pacific routes as well as those for coastal and lake services.

The Paddle Steamer *Waverley*, built on the Clyde in 1947 and now the world's last seagoing paddle steamer, had a role to play in this. Her job was to tender to the weekly service liners to Quebec and Montreal, boarding thousands of immigrants at Greenock's Princess Pier, as pipers played. This duty was steeped in emotion for everyone as many left Scotland forever on-board *Waverley* to start a new life far, far away.

The last of the great Clyde paddlers

Waverley Steam Navigation Company – the Scottish charity responsible for caring for *PS Waverley* – would like to hear from anyone who remembers *Waverley* from this time.

Did you take a steamer from Liverpool to Quebec and remember the little ships coming up alongside as you paused in Greenock? Or did you yourself take that journey from Greenock out to North America? If so, please drop us a line via email at info@waverleyexcursions.co.uk. We would love to see your pictures and hear your stories.

Waverley was built for the London and North Eastern Railway and entered service on 16th June 1947. She was built to replace the first *Waverley* who was sunk by enemy action at Dunkirk in 1940. The new *Waverley* was not viewed as particularly special at the time – she was not the largest of the Clyde steamers, or the most luxurious. In fact, when the Clyde steamers began to fall out of use in the 1970s, *Waverley* was not the first choice as a vessel to preserve. But as the last of the great Clyde paddlers, she was gifted to the Paddle Steamer Preservation society in 1975 for just £1. Over the past 45 years she has firmly established herself as a unique maritime attraction. She is the “Sole Survivor”.

Unfortunately, *Waverley* had to be temporarily withdrawn from service in May 2019 due to boiler issues. Following a highly successful public appeal and with support from the Scottish Government *Waverley* was reboilered, she made her triumphant return to service in August 2020.

The impact of Covid-19 has left *Waverley* lacking vital funds to meet the cost of her annual dry docking and maintenance to ensure she can return to service in summer 2021. *Waverley's Covid-19 Relief Appeal* is open, donations can be made online at: www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk



Sailing to Dunoon.



PS Waverley alongside the great trans Atlantic steamers, early 1950s.



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 are courtesy of the Scottish Register of Tartans (SRT).

This month we celebrate our Celtic cousins Ireland with St Patrick's Day taking place on March 17th. The New World Irish Tartan can be worn by anyone of Irish descent or affiliation. It features the green, white and orange of the Irish flag which are interpreted by the designer as: green is for the Republic of Ireland; orange is for Northern Ireland; and white is for peace between them. The additional black bands represent the many emigrants of Irish descent around the world. Assistance with the design concept was provided by Mark Wright from The Frugal Corner Kilt Store. This tartan (SRT reference: 10281) was designed by Colin Patrick McGuire and registered in September 2010.

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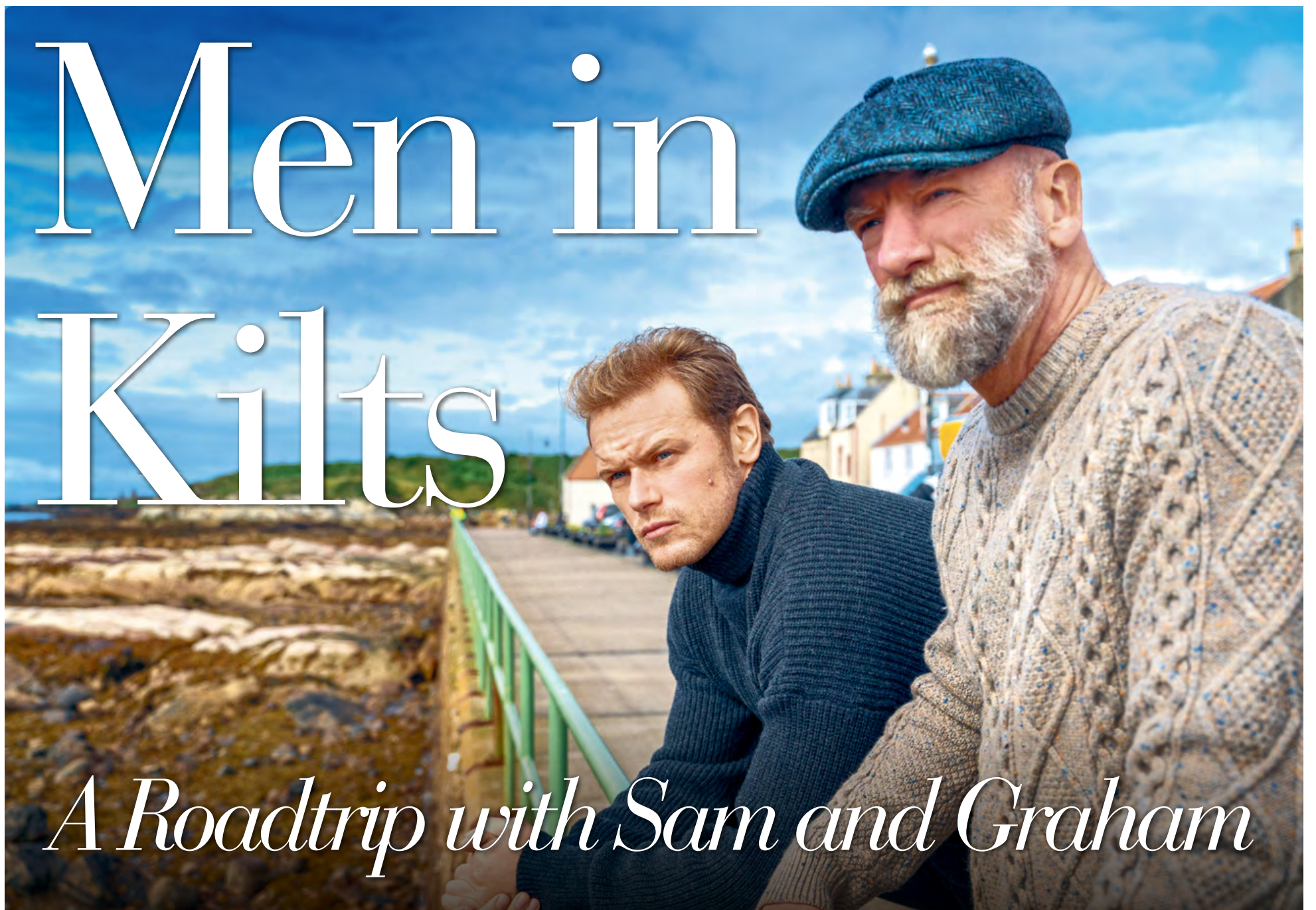
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Outlander's Sam Heughan and Graham McTavish take viewers along on their adventures, discovering the rich, complex heritage of their native country, meeting local artisans and experts, and experiencing genuine moments of awe and fascination.

Men in Kilts: A Roadtrip with Sam and Graham is a fun-filled buddy travelogue through Scotland led by *Outlander* stars Sam Heughan and Graham

McTavish. The two have reunited for an epic adventure, exploring their heritage and meeting an incredible collection of people who truly showcase what it means to be Scottish.

One-of-a-kind perspective

The half-hour, eight-episode series offers the duo's one-of-a-kind perspective on everything from Scottish clans and the Battle of Culloden to whisky tasting and folk dancing, with Sam and Graham's witty banter and hijinks leading the way.

Sam and Graham's shared love of Scotland helps make this series so special as they experience, learn and fall more in love with their very own homeland.

Whether hanging off the edge of a cliff, wrangling a flock of wild sheep or discovering the true legacy of their *Outlander* characters, both men dive head-first into each and every experience.



Sam and Graham's shared love of Scotland helps make this series so special as they experience, learn and fall more in love with their very own homeland.

Graham McTavish told *the Scottish Banner*: "I feel very strongly about bringing people to Scotland and showing them what the country has to offer, not just historically, but in terms of its contemporary life-the great food, the wonderful tradition, the people, and the landscape. There is so much and that's what we try and cover in the TV show. I was amazed at how much I learned while we were doing all this, doing the research, working on the book (*Clanlands*) and filming. Hearing just wonderful stories from traditional Scottish storytellers, from clan chiefs, from other historians, just such fabulously rich conversations with people. I always knew Scotland was full of these amazing characters, but had no idea that these sorts of people existed. We met some wonderful people filming that you could not have made up. The stories they told, the places they lived made it really a journey of discovery about the character of Scotland through the people we met."



All images (unless noted) courtesy of Starz.



Photo: ©Dave Foster Photography.



The many things Scotland is famous for

Each episode takes viewers on a journey to sample some of the many things Scotland is famous for and meet some great people. Christina Davis, president, original programming of Starz, said in a statement: “The genuine curiosity and passion that Sam and Graham have for the landscapes they visit and the stories they uncover while travelling through the heart of Scotland make this show a truly enjoyable journey of discovery for the audience. The series gives context and texture to Highland life and history, woven together, much like the tartan for which Scotland is so famous, and we look forward to taking this road trip with these two great friends.”

E 1: Scotland’s cuisine and whisky are renown throughout the world, for different reasons. Sam and Graham explore (perhaps a little too passionately) what it takes to make the world’s finest whisky and to cook “only in-Scotland” dishes like Haggis.

E 2: The duo also explores both classic and modern Scottish sport as they take on everything from lifting stones and throwing the Highland Games Hammer, to golfing at the revered St. Andrews and suiting up for a rugby lesson at Murrayfield Stadium.

E 3: Scottish music and dance played an integral role in the culture, serving as a form of celebration, communication and in certain times, rebellion. Sam and Graham set out to meet the artists who continue this tradition and try everything from sword dancing to sheepherding.

E 4: Deep belief and reverence for the supernatural characterize the culture of the Scottish Highlands. Sam and Graham take a deep dive into old superstitions, witch trials and their imprint on the country. Plus, Sam spends the episode trying to scare Graham at every turn.

E 5: Few countries on the planet rival Scotland when it comes to proud tradition. Despite centuries of British rule, remote rural communities persist in ancient rituals of craft, language and storytelling. Sam and Graham will roll their sleeves up and take part in some of the traditions that have shaped Scottish culture.

E 6: Simply put, Scotland is one of the most beautiful countries on the planet, offering rolling hills, epic mountain ranges and jagged shorelines sure to make any viewer’s jaw drop. This episode lets Sam and Graham share (and show off) the natural wonders of their home country with the world.

E 7: Scotland’s feudal clan system defined the country and still plays a massive part in the modern culture and identity of its people. Sam and Graham set out to discover how they (and their *Outlander* characters) fit into a system forged through war and peace.

E 8: No moment in Scottish history helped shape the country more than the Battle of Culloden. All of the elements in previous episodes will point to this critical turning point both for the nation and the *Outlander* series. In this final episode, Sam and Graham will discover how a single hour on the battlefield forever changed a nation and its people.



Natural way of bantering

The chemistry between Sam and Graham is a natural fit to showcasing all that Scotland has to offer. Graham continued: “I just can’t imagine doing this with anybody else. It required a very particular combination of things for it to work and touch wood, I think it has worked. And honestly, I would not have been able to say for sure that that would have been the case beforehand. But in the actual doing it, it became clear very quickly that we have a very natural way of bantering with each other that is not forced. So, yeah, it’s a lot of fun.”

No doubt, like *Outlander*, *Men in Kilts* will also sell Scotland to a wider audience around the world. It is hoped when travel recommences this will translate to people looking to visit either again, or for the first time. This will of course provide a huge shot in the arm for Scotland’s tourist industry, who have been doing it incredibly tough. VisitScotland estimates that about 8% of leisure visitors to Scotland (approximately 700,000 people) came due to seeing Scotland on the big or small screen. The national tourist board released a paper in 2019 called *The Outlander Effect and Tourism* which reported that attractions that appear in the *Outlander* TV series have seen visitor numbers soar by 67% since 2013, from 887,000 to 1.5million.

Men in Kilts, which is produced by both Sam and Graham, will give viewers a snapshot of some of the country’s historic sites, culture and iconic locations in the



hopes it inspires people to take their own road trip to Scotland. There is already talk of a further series to travel not only to parts they missed in this series such as the far north and very south of Scotland but also an international version to see where the Scots have made their impact in places such as North America and Australasia.

Men in Kilts transports people across some of Scotland’s diverse locations, stopping at stunning locations such as Pittenweem in Fife, Edinburgh’s Old Town and Glencoe to name a few. For those of us that have been waiting to get back to Scotland this may just help us keep our dreams alive until we can safely travel again.

Men in Kilts: A Roadtrip with Sam and Graham is now showing on Starz in the USA or on STACKTV and the Global TV App in Canada. New episodes will air every Sunday for 8 weeks.



THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

1 - The Advocate's Library (known as the National Library of Scotland since 1925) opened by its founder, Sir George Mackenzie, the Lord Advocate in Edinburgh. **1682**

1 - Scots voted in favour of Devolution, but failed to reach the required 40% of the population in favour of implementing it - due to 36% of the electorate not voting. **1979**

1 - Actor David Niven was born, roles included *The Pink Panther* and *Around the World in Eighty Days*. Niven had claimed several times that he was born in Kirriemuir, but according to his birth certificate, was born in London. **1910**

2 - King Robert II born in Paisley, the first monarch of the House of Stewart. He was the son of Marjorie Bruce, daughter of Robert the Bruce, and Walter, High Steward of Scotland. Robert acted as regent three times during the reign of his uncle, David II, and acceded to the throne in 1371. He died in 1390 and was succeeded by his son Robert III. **1316**

3 - Robert Adam, architect, died. Among his many works were Culzean Castle, Fort George, The Town House, Inveraray and Glasgow Trades Hall. **1792**

3 - Alexander Graham Bell born Edinburgh. Bell was scientist, inventor, engineer, and innovator who is credited with patenting the first practical telephone and died in Nova Scotia, Canada in 1922. **1847**

4 - Sir Henry Raeburn, renowned for painting the portraits of many of the citizens of Edinburgh, born. **1756**



4 - Forth Rail Bridge opened by Prince of Wales. The bridge spans the Firth of the River Forth to link Fife to Edinburgh by railway, was the world's earliest great multispan cantilever bridge, and remains one of the longest. **1890**

4 - Jim Clark, Formula I World motor racing champion, born Fife. **1936**

5 - King David II born. **1323**

5 - Flora Macdonald, who helped to save Prince Charles Edward Stewart during his flight after the defeat at the Battle of Culloden, died in Kingsburgh, Skye (in the same bed in which Bonnie Prince Charlie had slept during his escape). **1790**



5 - *The Maid of the Loch* paddle steamer was launched, she was built in Glasgow and was the largest ever vessel to be built for an inland waterway in Britain, this was also the last of a series of steamers to sail on Loch Lomond, dating back to 1818. **1953**

6 - King James II decreed in an Act of Parliament that there should be regular target practice and military parades and that "football and golf be utterly cried down and not used". This was the first time that the games had been mentioned in Scottish documents. **1457**



6 - Scotland's first radio broadcast took place. The broadcast took place from Rex House, 202 Bath Street in Glasgow. By the summer of 1924, stations had opened in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, and, by the eve of the Second World War, over 90% of the Scottish population were served by BBC transmitters. **1923**

7 - Sculptor and artist Sir Eduardo Paolozzi born in Leith, the eldest son of Italian immigrants. **1924**

7 - The world's first golf club was founded in Edinburgh. The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers held their first meeting on Leith Links and petitioned the Edinburgh Council to provide a silver club for competition. **1744**

8 - Kenneth Grahame, author of *The Wind in the Willows* born in Edinburgh. **1859**

8 - The *Oor Wullie* cartoon strip first appeared in *the Sunday Post*. **1936**

9 - David Rizzio, Mary Queen of Scotland's secretary, murdered by Lord Ruthven in the Palace of Holyrood. **1566**

9 - *Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith published. **1776**

9 - Scottish faith healer John Alexander Dowie died in Illinois, USA. Edinburgh born Downie believed in the power of prayer only for curing ailments and banned followers from eating certain food, drinking and smoking. **1907**

10 - Birth of James Herriot, author of *All Creatures Great and Small*. **1916**

10 - St Kessog, the Irish missionary in the Lennox area and southern Perthshire, was killed. Kessog was Scotland's patron saint before Andrew, and his name was used as a battle cry by the Scots. Son of the king of Cashel in Ireland, St Kessog is said to have worked miracles, even as a child. **560**

11 - Sir Alexander Fleming, discoverer of penicillin, died. **1955**

11 - The birth of Binkie Stuart, the child film actress, in Kilmarnock. Born Elizabeth Alison Fraser, she was hailed as Britain's answer to Shirley Temple and enjoyed huge fame as a child star. **1932**

12 - The last salmon was caught in the River Kelvin. The salmon population in the river had been in decline due to the rise of industrial pollution in the area. However, in February 1999, after £43 million of investment, salmon again spawned in the river and anglers were allowed back. **1852**

12 - Miner's strike at Polmaise Colliery. It is the first mine in Scotland to witness a walkout of its workers. **1984**

13 - Death of poet and historian John Barbour, author of *The Bruce* recounting the history of King Robert I. **1395**

13/15 - Blitz of Clydebank by German Luftwaffe. **1941**

14 - First television programmes broadcast in Scotland. **1952**

14 - The birth of Scottish lawyer, Dame Margaret Kidd. Not only was Kidd Scotland's first woman advocate, but she was also the first woman King's Counsel in Britain and the first woman to plead before the House of Lords. **1900**



14 - Stirling is granted city status in the United Kingdom by the Queen to mark her Golden Jubilee. **2002**

15 - Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh founded Advocates' Library "equipped with works written by lawyers". **1689**



15 - The end of two nights of heavy German bombing of Clydebank. The Clydebank Blitz, as it became known, destroyed a third of the buildings of Clydebank, leaving 35,000 people homeless. A thousand German bombers were used in the raid and the devastation of the town was so complete that only eight buildings remained entirely unscathed after the bombing. To further compound Clydebank's misery, only two enemy planes were shot down. **1941**

16 - King Robert the Bruce convened his first parliament, at St Andrews. **1309**

16 - Death of Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat, chief of the Fraser clan. He developed the Commando force in the British army and was active in the Dieppe Raid (1942) and the D-Day landings (1944). **1995**

17 - Treaty of Edinburgh between King Robert I and Edward III which recognised Scotland's independence, ending the 30 years of Wars of Independence. **1328**

17 - Scotland won Rugby "Grand Slam" at Murrayfield Stadium - the first time in 59 years. **1984**

18 - Earl of Leven raises a Border regiment to hold Edinburgh against the Jacobites. It later becomes the King's Own Scottish Borderers. In 2006, the Kings Own Scottish Borderers Regiment was amalgamated with the Royal Scots to form the Royal Scots Borderers, which became the 1st Battalion Royal Regiment of Scotland. **1689**

19 - King Alexander III died after crossing the river Forth to Fife at Queensferry. **1286**

19 - David Livingstone, missionary and explorer, born Blantyre. **1813**

20 - King Malcolm IV born. **1141**

21 - National Gallery of Scotland opened in Edinburgh. **1859**



21 - Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh opened, becoming the home of Scottish rugby. Scotland marked the occasion by beating England 14-11 and winning their first Grand Slam. Unfortunately, the Scottish rugby team have only managed to repeat this success twice more, in 1984 and 1990. **1925**

22 - Neil Gow, first of a famous family of fiddle players and composers, born at Inver, near Dunkeld, Perthshire. **1727**

22 - Last fully public hanging in Scotland - that of Joseph Bell at Perth. **1868**

23 - The Free Church of Scotland settlement at New Edinburgh, New Zealand was founded under Rev Thomas Burns, a nephew of the poet Robert Burns. The settlement later became Dunedin, one of the largest towns in the country, and one which still retains a distinctive Scottish character. **1848**

23 - Roddy McMillan, the Scottish stage and TV actor, was born. His credits include the TV series, *The View From Daniel Pike*, and the play, *The Revellers*. However, he will be most fondly remembered for his portrayal of Para Handy, the captain of the *Vital Spark* in the much loved television series of the 1960s. **1923**

24 - Union of the Crowns of England and Scotland on the death of Queen Elizabeth I and the succession of King James VI of Scotland. **1603**

24 - An estimated one million people watched the *Queen Mary* leave the Clyde for the first time. However, the sailing did not quite go to plan: despite extensive dredging having taken place, the liner ran aground twice on the way to Gourock. **1936**

25 - King Robert I ("The Bruce") crowned at Scone. Bruce was crowned by Bishop William de Lamberton in front of the banner of the kings of Scotland, wearing royal robes which had been hidden from the English. **1306**

25 - The Commercial Bank of Scotland was founded in Edinburgh by John Pitcairn, Lord Cockburn and others. **1810**

26 - Car driving tests introduced for the first time. **1934**

27 - King Robert II crowned at Scone. **1371**

27 - Scottish chemist Sir James Dewar, inventor of the Dewar Flask, which later became known as the Thermos flask, died. **1923**

27 - King James VI died at Theobalds Park, Hertfordshire and buried at Westminster Abbey. Succeeded by his son, King Charles I. **1625**

27 - David Coulthard, Grand Prix racing driver born in Twynholm, Dumfries and Galloway. **1971**

28 - King Robert the Bruce captured Berwick on Tweed. **1318**



28 - The Scots Guards Regiment was formed when King Charles I issued a commission to the Marquess of Argyll, Chief of Clan Campbell, authorizing him to raise in Scotland a

regiment of 1,500 men. The King's 'Lyfe Guard of Foot' became the Scots Guards. **1642**

29 - Longannet, Scotland's last deep coal mine, closed, ending centuries of mining tradition. The Fife mine was put into liquidation after being flooded on the 23rd, when a dam separating old workings from new seams under the river Forth collapsed. **2002**

29 - The Royal Society of Edinburgh incorporated by charter. **1783**

30 - King James I captured by English near Flamborough Head on his way to France. **1406**

30 - Edward I of England sacked the Scottish town of Berwick. The English army destroyed the town and decimated the population of around 15,000. This act was retaliation for the widespread carnage perpetrated in the north of England, and what Edward considered to be the treacherous stab in the back of the Scottish-French alliance. Berwick was rebuilt by Northumbrians, and the Scottish-English border forever after remained north of this town. **1296**

31 - Scottish Regalia (crown, sceptre and sword) saved from invading army of Oliver Cromwell by James Granger, minister at Kinneff, Aberdeenshire, after they had been smuggled from Dunnottar Castle which was under siege. **1652**

31 - General Patrick Gordon was born. Gordon led a remarkable life. Upon leaving Scotland, he entered the Russian army as a major and soon rose to become a close advisor to Russian Tsar, Peter the Great. Gordon rose to the rank of General-in-Chief and was made an admiral of the Russian navy. **1635**



31 - Buchanan Galleries shopping mall opened to the public in Glasgow city centre, part of Glasgow's Style Mile shopping precinct. **1999**

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IN SCOTLAND TODAY



The world's first space haggis

To mark one of Scotland's favourite celebrations, Burns Night, Simon Howie has released special footage of the flight, which shows the UK's best-selling haggis reaching the edge of space, soaring over 20 miles (107,293 feet) above the Earth. That's equivalent to nearly four times the height of Everest, or 3.5 times higher than a jumbo jet flies. In a bid to share the spirit of Scotland far and wide, the Original 454g Simon Howie Haggis took to the skies on from Simon Howie HQ in Dunning before travelling over Stirling, Falkirk, Edinburgh, and the Pentland Hills before its safe landing in Lauder. As millions of families across the UK prepared to celebrate Burns Night, the 'space haggis' was safely transported back to the company's Perthshire headquarters, where it will be preserved for years to come as the first haggis in space. Simon Howie's mission hopes to spark intergalactic and scientific interest in young people and once the current COVID-19 restrictions are behind us will, in partnership with Stratonauts, run workshops in local primary schools to encourage more pupils into STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) related careers. Simon Howie commented: "After a year like no other, we wanted to kick off 2021 by lifting the spirits of the general public. We are thrilled to have worked with Stratonauts to take Scotland's national dish to new heights. Burns Night is one of the most important dates on the food calendar for us and we wanted to mark the occasion by sending the UK's best-selling haggis, the Original 454g, to the edge of space."

Commenting on the flight, Lewis Campbell, Stratonauts Director: "Launching from Dunning was challenging due to the winds as we needed to ensure a safe retrieval of the footage and of course the 'space haggis' itself. Having monitored the weather for weeks a window of opportunity finally presented itself, and what a window it turned out to be.

Perfect conditions! After reaching over 107,000ft with views of at least 250 miles, the haggis then fell to Earth at nearly 200 miles an hour before the parachute took over – meaning it is also probably the fastest haggis in the world too! We are delighted to have worked with Simon Howie on this flight to the Edge of Space and to fly a haggis to such great heights in celebration of Burns Night 2021."

This isn't the first time Simon Howie has taken the humble haggis to new heights having previously hosted the world's highest Burns Supper on the top of Kilimanjaro in 2010.

Scotland's largest conservation charity welcomes Council decision on Culloden application



The National Trust for Scotland, which cares for and protects the 'core' segment of the Culloden battlefield has welcomed the recent decision by Highland Councillors to reject a proposed development at Culchunaig Steading. This was the second attempt by the applicant to gain permission for the scheme, which was rejected by Scottish Ministers last year after Councillors initially gave it the go ahead. The Trust objected to the revised application last month, in light of information uncovered through new and ongoing historic and archaeological research which highlighted its importance in the battle, which marks its 275th anniversary this year. This is the second planning application to be rejected in

recent months. In December a proposal to convert the Treetops equestrian centre into a leisure resort incorporating 13 lodges built on stilts, a cafe, shop, laundry and restaurant was also turned down.

The National Trust for Scotland's Operations Manager at Culloden, Raoul Curtis-Machin said: "We are pleased that the Council have acted to protect the area's important heritage with this decision. Our charity knows how much the public value this special place and we are all concerned about the impact of encroaching development on one of Scotland's most significant battle sites. We all need to play our part in ensuring it remains for future generations."

The Trust's Culloden 300 consultation highlighted the importance that the public, locally, nationally and internationally, place on the site of Culloden, and there is strong support for its protection from the ongoing threat of piecemeal development. Three thousand people contributed to the consultation which was intended to establish how people wanted the battlefield to look in 2046, 300 years on from the conflict. Of the participants, 68% came from Scotland, showing a strong national concern for the future of the battlefield, with a significant response from the UK (11%) and the wider world (21%). Almost 40% of respondents specifically highlighted the issue of development in the area of the battlefield, with many expressing concerns about its long-term impact.

Barclays' campus of the future pays tribute to Glasgow's heritage



Barclays has unveiled the names of the streets and buildings at its state-of-the-art Glasgow Campus, the latest milestone for the flagship financial services development that is bringing thousands of new jobs to the city. The bank has worked closely with Professor Murray Pittock and his team at the University of Glasgow to uncover and pay tribute to the rich industrial heritage of the Tradeston area after Barclays Scotland staff voted to name the campus buildings in recognition of the city's heritage.

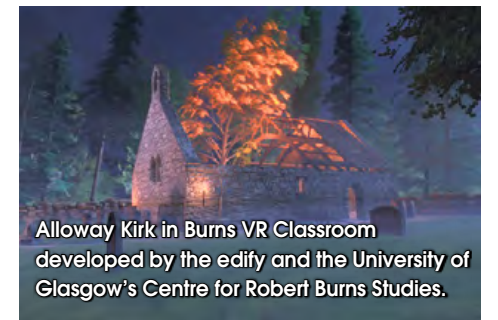
In the early 1800s Tradeston was developed as a manufacturing district by Trades House, which was a union of Glasgow's craftsmen including bakers, tailors, weavers, joiners, coopers, hammermen and maltmen. The project team researched as far back as the 1500s to find inspiration and local historical references for the names of the five buildings which form the campus.

Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of Glasgow City Council, said: "Glasgow cherishes its heritage. We live with it in our everyday lives. The street and building names of Barclays' Glasgow Campus have been chosen well, reflecting Tradeston's role in our history and development.

We can all look forward to the campus contributing to Glasgow's economic renewal, and becoming a symbol of the regeneration of both Tradeston and the ongoing return of life to the Clyde."

The Barclays Glasgow Campus will comprise over 500,000 square feet of office space when complete and will include retail and community amenities. The development will be able to accommodate up to 5,000 people making Barclays one of Glasgow's largest financial services employers.

21st century technology delivers history lesson on Scotland's national bard



Ever thought how marvellous it would be to drop into one of Robert Burns' poems to see part of the story unfold? Or get a live lesson from the comfort of your armchair on one of Burns' iconic poems from a leading expert on Scotland's national bard? Or how about travelling back in time to Alloway Kirk in the 18th century on a strange haunted night similar to the one encountered by Burns' popular character, Tam o' Shanter? Now thanks to new virtual reality (VR) education platform edify developed through a partnership between the University of Glasgow and Sublime you will soon be able to do just that.

Dr Pauline Mackay from the University of Glasgow's Centre for Robert Burns Studies has worked with edify VR experts to create a virtual lesson on Scotland's national bard.

Dr Mackay is now able to teach live lessons about the material culture that has been generated by Burns' fame - and specifically by his supernatural epic *Tam o' Shanter* - to an international audience from her virtual classroom at Alloway Auld Kirk in Ayrshire, Scotland.

Dr Mackay said: "Edify's immersive technology will enable a host of relevant objects from disparate locations to be brought together and examined in the context of Burns's most iconic poem, *Tam o' Shanter*, in the environment that inspired the work, Alloway Auld Kirk, complete with the resplendent imagery of the poem. In a sense, it enables us to create a comprehensive 'site of memory', which is a real game changer in terms of the way we teach memory studies, and for the way people learn about the legacy and commemoration of important literary and historical figures. The possibilities for the implementation of this model in education, culture and heritage are limitless."

As well as being able to take part in a lesson on *Tam o' Shanter* from the virtual Alloway Auld Kirk, students will also be able to discover more about the growth of the popularity of Robert Burns and his poetry, after his death, through their memorialisation in material culture (everything from relics, to souvenirs and domestic objects).

Clan Donnachaidh: *The rescue of an ancestral kirk, and new initiatives for the future*



Three years ago, *the Scottish Banner* carried a report on the upcoming International Gathering of this oldest of Scotland's clans. It's the only one which still uses its original Gaelic name: Clan Donnachaidh, or the Children of Duncan. Robertsons, Duncans, Reids, and proud bearers of the many other sept names, came from around the world to the clan's Highland Perthshire home for a week of celebrations to mark the 80th birthday of their Chief, Gilbert Robertson of Struan. Gatherings in the Clan's homeland have been a regular annual event for a long time now. Progress with easing of current pandemic-related travel restrictions permitting, another is planned for August 2021.

Ancient historical lands

It had been Clan Donnachaidh's unwavering support of the Jacobite monarchy through the 17th and 18th century Risings which accelerated the process whereby, by early in the last century, the clan had lost almost all its ancient historical lands. These had at one time covered more than a thousand square miles, including Lochs Tay and Tummel, and stretched as far as the gates of Perth. Yet the pride of Clanspeople across the globe in their history had remained unquenched. The result of this unquenchable spirit was first the vigorous and international renaissance of the Clan Donnachaidh Society after World War II, and then in the 1970s the raising of substantial funds to construct a Clan Donnachaidh Centre, including what was Scotland's first purpose-built Clan Museum, at Bruar in Perthshire, very close to the Chiefs' historical base at Struan.



Fifty years later, another dream took shape. That too has now come to fruition. It was at the time of that 2018 Gathering that clan members launched another fundraising drive: this time, for money to support an ambitious plan to purchase, from the Church of Scotland, the place where a thousand years of their ancestors lie at rest: Struan Kirk. Their dream has now been realised. A new Trust was formed, the purchase completed, and the Trust now owns the Kirk with a mandate to preserve this place of peace and beauty in perpetuity.

Over the past two years, a programme of substantial repairs to roof, doors, windows and entrance porch has been carried out to safeguard the building's future as a place both of worship and of gathering. Challenges ranging from Highland winters to rare bats requiring protection under the law, and from commissioning and installing fine new stonework to dealing with serious issues around heating, ventilation and water needs, have been faced and successfully overcome. While less radical than the entirely new church building which had been constructed some two centuries earlier, this rescue of what the Clan has always regarded as its own spiritual home was the second time in a very long history when Robertsons and other Clan Donnachaidh names had stepped in to save this special part of their heritage.

A sacred site

To understand the significance of the place where this happened, we have to go back some 1300 years -- before Picts and Scots had united into one people -- to when Christianity first came to Highland Perthshire. The point where the River Garry meets Errochty Water, where the kirk stands, was likely to have already been a sacred site when a tonsured monk, from Iona in the Hebrides, chose this spot as the place where he would preach the gospel in Perthshire for the first time. Errochty means assembly place in Gaelic, and Struan means stream or the place of streams. A succession of church buildings were erected there over the centuries,

wooden initially, the first one dedicated to St. Fillan, a legendary Scottish Saint originally from Ireland, and later built of stone. An 8th century bronze handbell known as St. Fillan's bell, now in Perth Museum, was quite possibly one which marked the calling to prayer and the rituals of early worship at Struan.

The pride of Clanspeople across the globe in their history had remained unquenched.

By the 15th century, Struan was absolutely at the core of the Clan's extensive lands, and the churchyard had by then become the burial place of the early chiefs, as of members of the local cadet houses and indeed of many others of the Clan. A Highlander laid great store by letting his dust mingle with that of his ancestor. The parish of Struan was in due course united with Blair Atholl and others locally, some time before 1638. About two hundred years after that, the then Duke of Atholl, with support from the Dunkeld presbytery, proposed the kirk's suppression, partly because of its very poor state of repair. The Clan would have none of it. 1,500 heads of household in the area signed a petition that 'Struan shall be rebuilt on the old ruins, preserving what will always be very dear to them, the stance of their ancient altar and the graves of their kindred and friends.' The heritors went to law and appealed their way to the Lords of Council and Session, the highest court in the land. Its decision was that Struan Kirk could not be closed. Led by Duncan Robertson of Kindrochit, plans for a new church were submitted by Clan members in 1826, and construction was completed in 1828.

Spiritual home of the Clan

Some remodelling of the interior was carried out in 1938, and further improvements in the 1960s, partly funded

by the Clan Society, included a new baptismal font. It was this 19th century building and spiritual home of the Clan which has now been rescued for posterity.

Clan Donnachaidh continues to look to the future with new initiatives, but always with an eye to and a connection with its history. One such is the Clan Donnachaidh Youth Award, launched in 2018 to coincide with Scotland's Year of Young People. The award is given annually to a youngster living in Perth and Kinross -- chosen by the Clan from nominations put forward by teachers, parents or peers -- who has shown exceptional courage and determination in overcoming disadvantage or difficulty. The award was inspired by Clan Donnachaidh's first chief's legendary ancient friendship with King Robert the Bruce, and by the old story of how Bruce, on the run from the English redcoats and hiding in a cave at the lowest ebb in his fortunes, watched a spider refuse defeat and "try, try and try again" before finally succeeding in spinning its web across the cave.

The accompanying shot of one of its young Clansmen climbing in the Grampians illustrates the sort of courage and determination of which the Clan is so proud.

For more information on Clan Donnachaidh and its Society visit:
www.donnachaidh.com



Flowers of the Forest Chief of Clan Macpherson



The Scottish Banner is saddened to hear of the passing of the 27th Chief of Clan Macpherson, Sir William Alan Macpherson of Cluny and Blairgowrie, TD. Wishing his family and all Clan MacPherson members across the world our sincere condolences.

Calling the Clans

Welcome to our "Clansified" listing of Scottish Clans, Societies and Clubs. If you would like to add your Clan please contact our office for full details. Our contacts 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

Website: www.clancumming.us
Email us: info@clancumming.us
See us on Facebook

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.
Email: gord7@bigpond.com

Clan Fraser Society of Australia

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

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

Membership enquiries to Don Chitts
Ph: (03) 9754 5120 donchitts@hotmail.com
Website: <http://clanfraseraustralia.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/482236358590288>

CLAN BELL

Invites membership inquiries from persons named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. Various resources available for genealogical research. Quarterly newsletter. Tents hosted at major Scottish games nationwide.

Website: www.ClanBell.org
Online membership: <https://clanbell.org/membership.html>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ClanBell>
Email: President@clanbell.org
Clan Bell North America
5284 Cross Creek Court
Acworth, GA 30102

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; Dhaj; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade; MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagny; MacDhai; McKeddie. 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/The-Clan-Donnachaidh-Society)
Email: ivc@donnachaidh.com

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

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

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.clandonaldaustralia@gmail.com
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 Balgiddie,
24th Chief of Clan Gregor

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

www.clangregor.com

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

Clan Cameron NSW Inc.

Celebrates those who trace their ancestry to Clan Cameron or are connected to the Clan through marriage or partnership or are from families acknowledged as Septs of Clan Cameron.

President: Alistair Cameron
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

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.elliotclan-usa.com

Clan Gregor Society Australasia

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

Frank McGregor
PO Box 14 NORTH HOBART TAS 7002
Email: clangregoraustalia@gmail.com
Web: www.clangregor.com
"Royal is our Race"

THE CLAN CAMPBELL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

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

Clan Farquharson Association Australia

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

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

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

American Clan Gregor Society

Est 1909 Membership inquiries welcomed from MacGregors of all spellings and Septs

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

Contacting our registrar, **Jeanne P. Lehr**
11 Ballas Crt.
St. Louis, MO 63131-3038
Phone: 314-432-2842, registrar@acgsus.org
website: www.acgsus.org

CLAN CARRUTHERS SOCIETY -INTERNATIONAL-

Clan Chief Peter Carruthers of Holmains
(Honorary Society President)

Bi-Annual Journal, Weekly Blog, Clan Merchandise, DNA/Genealogy project etc.

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: Mr Thomas R. Macdonald
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.

FORBES

WEB WWW.CLAN-FORBES.ORG
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tw @CLANFORBES1

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#GRACEMEGUIDE #LONACH

CONTACT: MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG

Clan Hamilton Society

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

Inquiries to be sent to:
Sheri Lambert, Treasurer
P.O. Box 5399
Vernon Hills, IL 60061
visit our website:
www.clanhamilton.org

	Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.	
	Valerie MacDougall VP Membership	
MacDougall	505-470 Scenic Drive, London, ON NSZ 3B2	MacDowall
Email: info@macdougall.org Home page: www.macdougall.org		
Facebook: www.facebook.com/clanmacdougall		
<i>Names Associated with Clan MacDougall of Argyle and Clan MacDowall of Galloway</i>		
Coul	MacCoul	Maccaul
Conacher	MacConacher	
Coyle	MacCoyle	
Dale	MacDale	MacDill
Doual	MacDoual	MacDougal
Dougal	MacDougall	MacDougald
Dougle	McDougle	MacDougald
Dugal	MacDugal	MacDugle
Dowall	MacDowall	MacDowall
MacDowell	Macdowell	MacDowell
Lullich	McLulich	MacCullich
MacCulloch	McCulloch	MacCullagh
MacClintock	MacClintock	McClintock
MacHale	McHoual	MacHeuile
MacHowell	McGowan	McGown
MacKichan	McGowall	MacNameill
MacLucas	MacLugash	MacLuke
<i>Spelling Variations May Vary or Omit the Mac, Mc</i>		

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

The logo for the Clan Munro Association, U.S.A. is located in the top left corner. It features a circular emblem with a thistle in the center. Above the thistle, the words "DEAD GO" are written in a curved banner. Below the thistle, there is a small shield with a cross. To the right of the emblem, the text "Clan Munro Association, U.S.A." is written in a large, bold, serif font. Below this, a paragraph of text reads: "We are the only national organization of Munro in the U.S. A. affiliated with the Clan Munro (Association) of Scotland." At the bottom of the advertisement, the text "COME JOIN US!" is written in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below this, the website "Web site: www.Clanmunrousa.org" is listed, followed by the contact information "Write: Heather Munro Daniel" and the address "4600 Lloydrownn Road" and "Mebane, NC 27302".

OLIPHANT CLAN
& FAMILY ASSOCIATION
of North America

The only home
for all Clan Oliphant
in the Americas.

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Olifant - Olifent
and all descended

ClanOliphantMembership@gmail.com
www.OliphantOfNorthAmerica.org



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

Scottish Associations and Societies



THE AMERICAN-SCOTTISH
FOUNDATION, INC.

Through our platform of projects and events ASF helps share and strengthen the heritage and cultural message of Scotland's past and future. A bridge between the United States and Scotland.
www.americanscottishfoundation.org



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
E: info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au



www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.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



The Stewart Society

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

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



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

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 Ross America

Representing the great Highland Clan of Ross since 1976.



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



Clan Sutherland Society in Australia Incorporated

Contact: M Hodgkinson
212 MacKenzie Street

Toowoomba 4350 (07 4632 8559)
william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au
<http://goldenvale.wixsite.com/clansutherlandaus>
Facebook: Clan Sutherland Society in Australia



Caledonian Society of WA Inc.

Promotes Scottish Culture and Traditions in Perth, Western Australia

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

www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER



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

Invites membership of all people of Scottish descent or association

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



Clan Ross of The United States

David Ross of Ross, Baron Balnagowan, Chief of the Clan invites all Ross', septs and their descendants to join in preserving our heritage.

www.theclanross.com

clanrossoftheunitedstates@gmail.com

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



Clan Sutherland Society of North America Inc.

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

Email: Secretary@ClanSutherland.org
Website: www.ClanSutherland.org



Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc

Promotes and supports all forms of Scottish culture in Newcastle, Hunter Valley and surrounding areas.

Members and interested people are welcome to attend activities such as Burns Night, Caledonian Night, St Andrew's Day, and other social functions.

Web: hvscots.org **Email:** hunterscots@gmail.com
P.O. Box 34, Kotara NSW 2289



Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group

Supporting the Scottish Community in Victoria

Scottish Resource Centre
Level 1, 420 - 424 William St.
West Melbourne VIC 3003

E-mail: resource_centre@scotsofaus.org.au
Website: <https://scotsofaus.org.au>

Facebook: facebook.com/ScotsOfVictoria



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.

E: heatherdesylva@bigpond.com



Clan Young Australia

Ian J Young AM
Convenor

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

membership@clanyoungaustralia.com.au

www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/

The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne Inc.



- > Promotes interest in the works, life and milieu of the Scottish Poet Robert Burns
- > Celebrates Scottish Culture
- > Conducts Annual Burn Supper, Poetry Afternoon & Pleasant Sunday Afternoon

For Membership Information contact:
Secretary: Noel Wright (03) 8333 0973
Email: noelwright@netspace.net.au

Victorian Scottish Union Inc

Established 1905

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

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

Chief: Mr Barry Grant
President: Mr Norman Macdonald
Secretary: Mrs Jan Macdonald
T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930
E: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com
www.victorianscottishunion.com



Clan Shaw Society

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

Secretary: Mike Shaw
2403 West Cranford
Denison, TX 75020



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

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

Email: clanwardlaw@yahoo.com

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com
Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

P.O. Box 457
Pinehurst, NC 28370

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

Write or phone for our free brochure.

www.scottishheritageusa.org
email: shusa457@gmail.com
(910) 295-4448

Share your Clan news, photos and events with us so we can share with our readers and online.

Please contact us at:
info@scottishbanner.com,
www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us
or add your upcoming events at:
www.scottishbanner.com/events/submit-an-event

WHAT'S ON - SCOTTISH EVENTS

The international Scottish event community worldwide has been greatly impacted by event postponements and cancellations due to restrictions related to COVID-19. Please check direct with event contacts for the most up to date information. You can also see our latest updates or add your event at: www.scottishbanner.com/events

Canada

MARCH 2021

International Bagpipe Day

March 10

Nationwide

March 10th every year: a day initiated by The Bagpipe Society to celebrate the world's many bagpipes and piping traditions. www.bagpipesociety.org.uk

Scottish Studies Foundation Virtual Seminar

March 24

Virtual event

Prof. Tanja Bueltmann (Strathclyde University) will present the Annual McKenzie Lecture which she has titled: Global Scotland: Migration, ethnic association and the making of the Scottish Diaspora. Tanja is a German historian and academic, who holds the Chair in International History at the University of Strathclyde. She specializes in the history of migration and diaspora and is also a citizens' rights campaigner and founder of the EU Citizens' Champion campaign. Info: www.scottishstudies.com

West End Workshop and Tea Dance via Zoom

March 27

Virtual event

Plant some Spring into your step with splendid Teachers: Sue Porter (Oban, Scotland) and Fiona Miller (Lethbridge, Alberta) Tea Dance Musician: Don Bartlett Programme: Sign In at 12:15; Two Classes (attend one or both as desired): 1st class for Basic/Intermediate and 2nd class for Intermediate/Advanced, Tea Dance at 3:00 p.m and Socializing Time between events. Venue: Suitable space in your home. BYO tea & treats! Registration fee: \$5.00 per person. Please register early as the number of device connections is limited.

Registration and other information at dancescottish.ca under What's on Near.

APRIL 2021

Tartan Day

April 6

Nationwide

Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage on April 6, the date on which the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in 1320. Wear some tartan with pride today!

Scottish Studies Foundation Virtual Seminar

April 13

Virtual event

Prof. Timothy Shannon (Gettysburg College) will present The Curious Career of Peter Williamson, or How a Scottish Indentured Servant in America Became Edinburgh's King of the Indians. Timothy won last year's Frank Watson Prize for his book Indian Captive, Indian King which tells the story of "Indian Peter," the Aberdeenshire boy taken to Philadelphia and sold for £16 in 1743. Info: www.scottishstudies.com

Scottish Studies Foundation Virtual Seminar

April 27

Virtual event

Amy Beingsner (University of Guelph) will present Highwaymen, Scandal and Haggis: Recipes from the Cleikum Inn. Amy is PhD candidate in History and Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph. Amy's current research engages with early modern interpretations of stone monuments in Scotland. Her work explores the ways in which interpretations of ancient history were shaped by the socio-political environment of the long eighteenth century, and how they have influenced modern histories of The North. Info: www.scottishstudies.com

MAY 2021

World Whisky Day

May 15

Nationwide

World Whisky Day is a global celebration of world whiskies. Info: www.WorldWhiskyDay.com

Saskatchewan Highland Games and Celtic Festival

May 21 - May 23

Regina, SK

The Saskatchewan Highland Games and Celtic Festival regrets to announce that the 2021 outdoor event has been cancelled. This event will return May, 2022. Info: www.saskhighland.ca

USA

MARCH 2021

Southeast Florida Scottish Festival and Games

March 6

Plantation, FL

With deep regret and a heavy heart we must announce the cancellation of the 2021 Southeast Florida Scottish Festival & Highland Games, save the date for March 5, 2022. Info: www.sassf.org

International Bagpipe Day

March 10

Nationwide

March 10th every year: a day initiated by The Bagpipe Society to celebrate the world's many bagpipes and piping traditions. www.bagpipesociety.org.uk

2021 St. Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage Festival

March 13 - March 14

St Augustine, FL

Romanza's Board of Directors has made the very difficult decision to cancel the 2021 St. Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage Festival, the event will return in 2022. Info: www.celticstaugustine.com

West Texas Celtic Fair

March 13 - March 14

Midland, TX

A celebration of Celtic culture at at the Horseshoe Pavilion. Info: www.westtexascelticfair.com

Scottish Heritage Weekend

March 20

Virtual event

St. Andrews University/Scottish Heritage Center presents the 31st Annual Charles Bascombe Shaw Memorial Scottish Heritage Symposium online. Info: www.sa.edu/scottish-heritage

Tartan Day South

March 25 - March 28

Cayce, SC

After considerable deliberation, it is with a heavy heart that we announce the cancellation of Tartan Day South 2021. We look forward to returning March 31st through April 3rd, 2022. Info: www.tartandaysouth.com

APRIL 2021

Tartan Day

April 6

Nationwide

Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage on April 6, the date on which the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in 1320. Wear some tartan with pride today!

250th Anniversary of Sir Walter Scott

April 7

Virtual event

Join us as we explore the life and legacy of Sir Walter Scott – 250th Anniversary - 6pm - 8pm, Zoom Event presented in association with Abbotsford Trust, with insight from Professor Caroline McCracken Flesher. Professor McCracken-Flesher is a past Convenor of the International Association for the Study of Scottish Literature, an honorary fellow of the Association for Scottish Literary Studies, and holds the Order of the Stag from the Clan Scott Society. Info: www.americanscottishfoundation.com or www.facebook.com/americanscottish

Sounds From Scotland

April 9-10

New York, NY

Join as the American Scottish Foundation, in association with Bryant Park, on the Fountain Terrace for "Sounds from Scotland" – bringing musicians and dancers together as a part of the Celebration of New York Tartan Week – Free for the community to enjoy. This event will follow social distancing protocols and masking up. Friday April 9th – Tartan Day Observance readings & music honoring the 23rd Anniversary of Tartan Day. Saturday April 10th – Sounds from Scotland performances. Info: www.americanscottishfoundation.com

New York City Tartan Day Parade

April 10

Virtual event

This event has been cancelled and back for 2022, however a virtual celebration will still take place. Info: www.nyctartanweek.org

Dressed to Kilt

April 10

Long Island, NY

This event has been postponed to summer 2021, please see website for more details. The largest and most prestigious Scottish fashion show in the world honoring Sir Sean Connery at the Mill Neck Manor Estate on the Gold Coast of Long Island. Info: www.dressedtokilt.com

Virginia International Tattoo

April 15 - April 18

Norfolk, VA

The Virginia International Tattoo scheduled for April 2021 is being rescheduled for June 2021. The Tattoo will honor the Greatest Generation in an emotional and unifying celebration of our World War II Veterans. Join us as we reignite the Virginia International Tattoo Tradition in 2021 with an unforgettable Salute to the Greatest Generation at Scope Arena. Info: 757-282-2800 or www.vafest.org/tattoo

ScotWeek

April 16 - April 17

Virtual event

ScotWeek will host virtual events promoting Scottish heritage, contemporary culture and charity to provide opportunities for education and scholarship. Info: www.scotweek.org

Woodland Celtic Games & Festival

April 24 - April 25

Woodland, CA

This event has been cancelled due to Covid, and back in 2022. Info: www.woodlandcelticgames.org

The Texas Scottish Festival

April 30 - May 2

Decatur, TX

The skirl of the Pipes, the cheers of encouragement for the Athletic events, and the swirling of the Highland Dancers reminds all Scots of our rich and glorious heritage at Wise County Fairgrounds. Info: www.texasascots.com

MAY 2021

Savannah Scottish Games

May 1

Savannah, GA

In light of the continued spread of the virus, the Games Board of Directors must cancel the 2021 event and look forward to being able to hold our 44th Savannah Scottish Games and Celtic Festival in May 2022 on the beautiful grounds of The Bethesda Academy. Info: www.savannahscottishgames.com

Smoky Mountain Scottish Festival & Games

May 15 - May 16

Maryville, TN

East TN's premier celebration of Scottish culture and heritage at Maryville College. Info: www.smokymountaingames.org

World Whisky Day

May 15

Nationwide

World Whisky Day is a global celebration of world whiskies. Info: www.WorldWhiskyDay.com

Alma Highland Festival and Games

May 29 - May 30

Alma, MI

Due to reasons involving the Covid pandemic this event has been cancelled for 2021. Info: www.almahighlandfestival.com/www.facebook.com/almahighlandfestival

Scottish Fest

May 29 - May 30

Costa Mesa, CA

Southern California's largest Scottish Highland Games and Gathering. Annual Scottish and Celtic American Festival held every Memorial Day Weekend at OC Fair & Event Center, 88 Fair Dr. Info: www.scottishfest.com

Here's looking at Coo



Highland cattle in Dumfries & Galloway and Edinburgh are aspiring social media influencers in a new VisitScotland video wishing future international visitors a 'happy coo year'. The video was promoted on the national tourism organisation's social media channels during January and has been viewed more than 90,000 times. Captured on VisitScotland's own "coo cam", the animals were filmed throughout November enjoying their day-to-day lives against the breath-taking backdrop of Kitchen Coos and Ewes near Newton Stewart and Swanston Farm in the Scottish capital. VisitScotland hopes the footage will provide a moment of light relief for the many international travellers whose trips to Scotland were disrupted or cancelled last year by the pandemic, and as we stay at home.

Coosday

Highland cows are a major talking point on the national tourism body's social channels which is reflected in the popularity of the weekly Coosday posts published every Tuesday. Scottish farm life is a major part of the appeal of agritourism. The tourism trend, which

includes farm visits and food and drink experiences, had its first virtual conference in November and could grow in popularity in the wake of the pandemic, as visitors seek a more rural-focused experience. The conference was hosted by Scottish Agritourism, the membership organisation for agritourism businesses in Scotland which sits within the umbrella of the national Scottish Tourism Alliance.

Malcolm Roughead, Chief Executive of VisitScotland, said: "Highland cows have long been the stars of our social media channels and we hope our coo cam will provide a much-needed smile to those travellers who have been unable to visit due to the pandemic. We look forward to a better year ahead for our industry and visitors, and we will continue to provide support and inspiring content as we celebrate Scotland's Coasts and Waters in 2021." All footage was captured on a GoPro Hero 8 by experienced farm professionals who care for and look after the cattle daily. VisitScotland advises that visitors do not approach Highland cattle when exploring the country, so as not to alarm them. The video can be viewed across VisitScotland's social media channels.

Scotland claim historic win over England

Scotland's national rugby team recorded a historic result at Twickenham last month, beating England on their own patch for the first time since 1983. The only try of the game was scored by Duhan van der Merwe, with Finn Russell kicking the rest of the points in a 11-6 win.

Scotland Head Coach, Gregor Townsend was delighted with his side's performance and said that he had a feeling they could do something special. He said: "There was a calmness and togetherness about the way we played and the effort level was superb. We've had a good feeling the last couple of weeks, the way the players have trained and the way the players have bonded that we would play well, but it's the first game of the championship and we had a couple of debuts, but they performed so well. This most historic of fixtures against England is a great start to the 2021 Guinness Six Nations and a challenge

we will fully embraced with the objective of playing to our potential and ultimately lifting our supporters in these difficult times."

Scotland faced England in the opening round of the 2021 Guinness Six Nations, in the 150th anniversary year of the first ever international match which was played between the two sides. To mark the occasion each Scotland player in the starting XV had the corresponding name from the 1871 team embroidered onto their shirt to connect with the side which faced England at Raeburn Place in Edinburgh 1871.



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IN THE CELTIC KITCHEN



Irish Colcannon

Ingredients:

500g/1lb2oz. floury potatoes, cooked
250g/9oz. cabbage, shredded and lightly steamed
2 tbsp cream (optional)
salt and black pepper
1 large or 2 small onions, sliced thinly
a little bacon fat, beef dripping or other oil, for frying

Method:

Sieve or mash the potatoes and mix with the cabbage and cream. Season well with salt and pepper.

Fry the onion in the fat over a moderate heat until it is soft and beginning to brown.

Using a spatula, press half the potato and cabbage mixture in an even layer on to the onion and fry for 4-5 minutes until it is well browned and crispy underneath.

Cut the mixture into 4 quarters with the spatula or palette knife and turn them over carefully so that the crispy bit is uppermost. Press the remaining potato and cabbage mixture on to the first layer and after a few more minutes, cut and turn again.

When the bottom is again browned, you will have a crispy top too, a crispy bottom, and a crispy layer in the middle.

Welsh Bara Brith



Ingredients:

450g/1lb. dried mixed fruit
250g/9oz. brown sugar
300ml/½ pint warm black tea
2 tsp. mixed spice
450g/1lb. self-raising flour
1 free-range egg, beaten

Method:

In a large bowl soak the fruit and sugar in strained tea and leave overnight.

Next day preheat the oven to 170C/325F/Gas 3. Line a 900g/2lb loaf tin with baking parchment.

Mix the remaining ingredients into the fruit mixture and beat well.

Pour the mixture into the loaf tin and bake the oven and bake for 1½ hours or until a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean.

Leek and potato soup

Ingredients:

1 tbsp vegetable oil
1 onion, sliced
225g/8oz. potatoes, cubed
2 medium leeks, sliced
1.2 litres/2 pints vegetable stock
150ml/5fl oz. double cream or crème fraîche
salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method:

Heat the oil in a large pan and add the onions, potatoes and leeks. Cook for 3-4 minutes until starting to soften.

Add the vegetable stock and bring to the boil. Season well and simmer until the vegetables are tender.

Whizz with a hand blender or in a blender until smooth. Reheat in a clean pan, stir in the cream or crème fraîche, heat through and serve.

Cornish Heavy (Hevva) cake



Ingredients:

500g/1lb 1oz. Self-raising flour
250g/9oz Butter
360g/13oz. Mixed dried fruit
180g/6oz. Sugar
100ml.3.5 fl oz. Milk

This month we celebrate our Celtic cousins of Cornwall, Wales and Ireland who will be celebrating St David's, St Piran's and St Patrick's Day. People in Wales and those of Welsh origin celebrate the life of their patron saint, St David, and the Welsh culture on March 1st. Saint Piran's Day is celebrated each year on 5th March as the national day of Cornwall. The Irish Saint Patrick will be celebrated across the world on March 17th by the Irish community.

Irish Kitchen Prayer: Bless us with good food, the gift of gab and hearty laughter. May the love and joy we share be with us ever after. Amen.

Method:

Preheat the oven to 190°C/375°F. Line a medium, square cake tin.

Rub the butter into the flour until it's the texture of fine breadcrumbs. Add the sugar and fruit and mix well. Add the milk and mix to a soft, stiff dough.

Press into the cake tin, pushing down firmly in the corners. Score the top of the cake with a sharp knife, making criss-cross diagonal lines.

Place in the middle of the preheated oven and bake for 35-40 minutes, or until golden brown and a skewer inserted in the middle comes out clean.

Remove from the oven and while still warm, brush with milk and give a generous sprinkling of granulated sugar. Allow to cool and cut generous slices.

Soda bread

Ingredients:

170g/6oz wholemeal flour
170g/6oz plain flour, plus extra for dusting
½ tsp salt
½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
290ml/10fl oz buttermilk

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6. Tip the flours, salt and bicarbonate of soda into a large bowl and stir. Make a well in the centre and pour in the buttermilk, mixing quickly with a large fork to form a soft dough. (Depending upon the absorbency of the flour, you may need to add a little milk if the dough seems too stiff but it should not be too wet or sticky.)

Turn onto a lightly floured surface and knead briefly. Form into a round and flatten the dough slightly before placing on a lightly floured baking sheet.

Cut a cross on the top and bake for about 30 minutes or until the loaf sounds hollow when tapped. Cool on a wire rack.

Irish coffee



Ingredients:

A good measure of Irish whiskey
1 tsp. brown raw cane sugar
1 heaped tbsp. whipped cream
hot strong coffee to fill the glass

Method:

Use warmed coffee glasses and add the whiskey. Add the sugar and dissolve in the whiskey. Add the coffee and stir well. Float the whipped cream on top and serve.

Irish beef stew



Ingredients:

1½kg/3lb 5oz. stewing beef, cut into cubes
175g/6oz streaky bacon
3 tbsp. olive oil
12 baby onions, peeled
18 button mushrooms, left whole
3 carrots, cut into quarters or 12 baby carrots, scrubbed and left whole
salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 tbsp. chopped thyme
2 tbsp. chopped parsley
10 cloves of garlic, crushed and grated
425ml/15fl oz. red wine
425ml/15fl oz. chicken or beef stock

For the roux

50g/2oz butter
50g/1¾oz flour
champ, to serve

Method:

Brown the beef and bacon in the olive oil in a hot casserole or heavy saucepan. Remove the meat and toss in the onions, mushrooms and carrots, one ingredient at a time, seasoning each time. Place these back in the casserole, along with the herbs and garlic. Cover with red wine and stock and simmer for one hour or until the meat and vegetables are cooked. To make the roux, in a separate pan melt the butter, add the flour and cook for two minutes. When the stew is cooked, remove the meat and vegetables. Bring the remaining liquid to the boil and add one tbsp. of roux. Whisk the mixture until the roux is broken up and the juices have thickened, allowing to boil.

Replace the meat and vegetables, and taste for seasoning. Sprinkle with chopped parsley and serve with champ.

By: Nick
Drainey

Celebrating 100 years of East Lothian

In March, 1921 Haddingtonshire became East Lothian. An ancient kingdom, home of the Saltire flag and some incredible history. Today, the region is a world centre for golf with some of the best beaches in Scotland, as Nick Drainey explains.



Seton Collegiate Church.



Gosford House.

One hundred years ago this month (March) Haddingtonshire was no more, renamed East Lothian in a move which ended centuries of recognition as an important part of Scotland, bounded by the capital and the border counties.

The old county had its origins in the 12th century when it was mentioned in a charter by King David. Before that ancient Britons called the area Gododdin and when it had been taken over by the Angles in the 7th century it became part of the kingdom of Bernicia.

In the past millennia, as Haddingtonshire, it has seen more than its fair share of battles between Scotland and the auld enemy but it has also enjoyed relative prosperity and is now a place of peace and tranquillity amid glorious scenery.

In 1975 the bureaucrats placed East Lothian into the "Lothian Region" but in 1994 it returned in its own right as one of the 32 modern council areas of Scotland.

History

But what's in a name? Well, a tour of East Lothian reveals its long and sometimes violent history intertwined with some of the best coastline in Scotland, golf courses and rich farmland – all backed by rolling hills.

Perhaps the best place to start would be Traprain Law above East Linton. The first people on the law were the fort builders of Iron Age and Roman times but it was in the 6th century that life got really interesting. King Loth, from whose name Lothian was derived, is said to have had his daughter thrown off a cliff on the law when she became pregnant. But she somehow survived and was put in a boat on the Firth of Forth and left to drift.

Eventually, she reached land and gave birth to a son who became St Mungo, the founder of Glasgow. However, others say St Mungo was actually born on Traprain Law. What is not disputed is its place in history for at least a couple of thousand years.

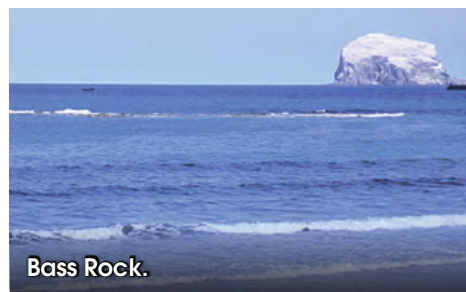
At nearby Athelstaneford the country's flag was born in the 9th century. During a fierce battle King Angus - leading an army of Picts - prayed for help in defeating a larger force of Saxons, led by Athelstan. He saw the Saltire (a white cross on which St Andrew was martyred) in the sky and when he was victorious, he created Scotland's national flag, as well as installing its patron saint in tribute.

When King David made Haddington a Royal Burgh in the 12th century it cemented its position as a town of high importance. Two centuries later this was further emphasised with the building of St Mary's Church next to the River Tyne. The largest parish church in Scotland, it was restored in 1971 after centuries of ruin.

Prayer was arguably more important than bureaucracy for many centuries and this can be seen at Seton Collegiate Church, established by Lord Seton in 1470 because he wanted a college of priests to pray for his family. The earthly concerns of man eventually caused its downfall, and it was ransacked following the 1715 Jacobite Rising after the Setons had supported James Edward Stuart.

Maritime heritage

Perhaps the grandest building in East Lothian is Gosford House, home to the Earl of Wemyss and March. Its ornamental grounds add to the aura of majesty, making it feel like something out of a period drama. It has had recent fame when it appeared in the hit US TV drama *Outlander*, as did Preston Mill – which was in use until 1959 and was the county's last working watermill.



Bass Rock.



Traprain Law.

No historical tour in Scotland would be complete without Mary, Queen of Scots. At the top of Carberry Woodland she surrendered to the Confederate Lords, only after she had secured the escape of her third husband, the Earl of Bothwell. Despite the major significance of the site, there is only a simple memorial stone to mark the dramatic scenes of 1567 and little else, except a fine view to the Firth of Forth emptying into the North Sea.

A tour of East Lothian reveals its long and sometimes violent history intertwined with some of the best coastline in Scotland, golf courses and rich farmland – all backed by rolling hills.

The coast of East Lothian is normally bustling with visitors, especially in summer, whether it is for the wonderful beaches or a round of golf on one of the world-class courses. But there is also a proud maritime heritage to celebrate which dates back longer than buckets and spades and ice cream vans.

Fisherrow on the edge of Musselburgh has a picturesque 18th century harbour which is still home to the odd fishing boat, amid the plethora of yachts and dinghies. It lies near a much older haven, established by the Romans. Just along the coast are examples of recent industrial history – ash



East Linton - Preston Mill.

lagoons once used to dump waste from the now demolished Cockenzie Power Station and now a breeding ground for birds.

Next to them is Musselburgh racecourse and in the middle of that is Musselburgh Links Old Golf Course. Dating from 1672, it is the oldest golf course still being played anywhere in the world.

Ancient roots of Scotland

There are so many natural delights along the coast. Aberlady Bay was Britain's first Local Nature Reserve, designated in 1952 because of the plants, animals and geology found there. Gullane boasts one of the best family beaches while from Yellowcraig you can gaze out to the island of Fidra and its lighthouse – which inspired Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island.

North Berwick is a traditional Victorian seaside town with beaches, ice creams and the wonderful visitor attractions, the Scottish Seabird Centre. Its heritage can also be seen on top of the hill behind it all – a whale bone arch has stood on top of North Berwick Law since 1709. The current one is a replica as, thankfully, whales are no longer hunted. Below the law are beech trees planted at around the same time as the arch was first erected – to mark the union of England and Scotland in 1707.

Out to sea lies the unmistakable bulk of Bass Rock with its white colouring from the 100,000 gannets which nest on the rock each year. In the 8th century the missionary St Baldred lived as a hermit on the rock for a time before building a monastery at Tynninghame. On the other side of the Tyne estuary is John Muir Country Park, named after the environmental pioneer John Muir who spent his early years in Dunbar before emigrating with his family to North America, where he established the world's first National Parks.

Dunbar itself is a working town with a lovely old harbour, showing the history of this county is still with us, evolving and changing but always there as a reminder of the ancient roots of Scotland.



Aberlady Bay - Gullane Sands.



Fisherrow Harbour .

By: David McVey

Scotland for Sport

Scotland has a long history of developing new sports, and then spreading them around the world. It's a pity we often end up being less good at them than we might wish.

The obvious example is golf. It's generally assumed to be a Scottish invention; certainly, the first recorded mention of golf comes in 1457 when the Scottish Parliament expresses its displeasure that young men prefer to play golf rather than practice archery. James IV (who reigned from 1488 until his death at the Battle of Flodden in 1513) is understood to have played a version of the game, while Mary Queen of Scots is said to have been playing golf when she was notified of Lord Darnley's death in 1567. James I, for his part, included a set of clubs in his luggage when he swapped Edinburgh for London in 1603.

If we didn't invent golf, or can't prove that we did, then Scottish history has a striking number of early references to it, particularly amongst our royals. The Royal and Ancient Club, fittingly, was formed in St Andrews in 1754, and is now the game's supervising body. However, ten years earlier the Gentleman Golfers of Edinburgh had put forward the first codified rules of the game for a competition they ran at Leith. The R&A borrowed the Leith rules for a competition organised shortly after their formation.

Football

Curling is a sport that Scotland can make a strong claim to creating. Curling needed winters cold enough to freeze ponds and lochs and enough local rock to fashion stones from, so Scotland had it all. Famously, Ailsa Craig, the granite island in the Firth of Clyde, supplied much of the world with curling stones. There are records from 1541 of a form of curling taking place in Paisley and the world's first club dedicated to The Roaring Game was formed in Kilsyth in 1716. It still exists and the town's original curling pond also survives, though not used for the game anymore - the wildlife has first dibs, now.



The ancient sport of Shinty.
Photo: VisitScotland.

Michael Goodfellow, a member of Kilsyth Curling Club, has represented Scotland in European and World Championships, and played at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi.

Forms of football have been played in Scotland for centuries, and some of those original games survive. The Ba Game is played twice over Christmas in Kirkwall, Orkney. Literally hundreds in each team - the Uppies and the Doonies - try to move the ba towards goal. The games can last for hours. A similar game takes place in Jedburgh and there used to be others, suggesting that it was probably a common pastime in the medieval era (that mournful Scottish Parliament of 1457 also complained of the distraction of football). Stirling's Smith Art Gallery and Museum holds perhaps the world's oldest football, found among rafters in Stirling Castle in 1981. It's believed to date from the 1540s and was probably lost when thrown or kicked too high during a rumbustious ba game.

Football was tamed and codified in the 19th century, taking forms like soccer, rugby (union and league), American Football and Aussie Rules. Soccer wasn't invented in Scotland, but Queen's Park FC, formed in 1867, played an important role in defining and refining the game. In 1872, at the West of Scotland Cricket Ground in Glasgow, QPFC provided all the players for the Scotland team in the world's first international match, against, inevitably, England. It finished 0-0. QPFC and the cricket ground are both going strong, and Scotland and England will again lock horns in June's European Championships, Covid permitting.

Scots also played their part in spreading the soccer word. Alexander Watson Hutton was one of a number of Scotsmen responsible for introducing soccer to Argentina; Hutton helped form the Argentine Football Association in 1893. The first league title there was won by a team of expatriate Scots! Argentina are one of the world's great soccer nations, so a successful Scottish mission, then. In 1966, lowly Stirling Albion FC were the first UK and first professional soccer team to tour Japan. Their visit culminated in a 4-2 victory over the Japan national side. Albion's visit helped to boost the game in Japan, and Japan's national side is now a formidable outfit.

The Scottish connection

Shinty is perhaps the most Scottish of sports, though its ancestor came from Ireland. Irish texts from 1000 years ago mention a game called camanachd which eventually migrated to Scotland along with other aspects of Gaelic language and culture.

Camanachd was a winter pastime. Often, hundreds of players would take part, with few rules and no quarter given. The modern Irish sport of hurling initially developed as a summer variant of camanachd, and Scottish shinty is now arguably the purer descendent of the original. Just like football, shinty was standardised and codified in Victorian times. Early attempts to tame shinty were made by exiled Highlanders in London who held matches, amidst broader celebrations of Gaelic culture, at Blackheath, Islington, Wimbledon Common and Alexandra Palace. The players wore full Highland dress and were accompanied by pipe bands, so you can only wonder what the locals made of it.

The rules formulated by those London Highlanders were superseded by others drafted closer to home. The Camanachd Association took control of the game and the first Scotland-wide Camanachd Association Challenge Cup was contested in 1896, with Kingussie the first winners. Over 100 years on, the Camanachd Cup remains the sport's blue riband, and Kingussie are still a dominant force in the game.

A lesser-known Scottish invention is credited to William Wilson, a swimming teacher from Glasgow. In 1883 he published a book, *The Swimming Instructor*, which was ground-breaking in advocating a rigorous scientific approach to the training of competitive swimmers. While working at Glasgow's historic Arlington Baths Club (still in existence). Wilson derived a game he called 'aquatic football'. The first demonstration match came in 1877 in Aberdeen, not in a pool

but in the River Dee. The demonstration sparked wider interest and in 1885 the Swimming Association of Great Britain revised and adopted Wilson's rules and renamed the game 'water polo'. Of the two names, Wilson's is surely the better, though 'water handball' would perhaps be more accurate; but 'water polo' it is.

And finally, there's basketball. Yes, the game was invented in 1891 as a winter, indoor game for PE students at a YMCA college in Springfield, Massachusetts. And, yes, the inventor, Dr James Naismith, was born in Canada. However (his surname is a clue) Naismith's parents were Scottish migrants, so it's another sport we can claim. I used to go to basketball training in my early years at Kirkintilloch High School but the Scottish connection was never explained to us. When Scotland's men's basketball team won a famous and unexpected 78-65 victory over England at the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, I suspect the ghost of Naismith nodded in quiet approval.

Scotland is a minor player in most world sports, but more than just winning matters. Our little nation has played a huge role in bringing some great sports to the world.



For centuries curling has been a favourite game in Scotland.
Photo: VisitScotland.



Thurso in Caithness.

How well do you know Scotland? To test your knowledge, we have assembled ten fun questions on its geography, history and culture but if you get stumped, the solutions can be found underneath. Good Luck!

- 1) Name the most northerly town on the Scottish mainland?
- 2) The Duke of Atholl is clan chief of which clan?
- 3) What, apart from whisky, is the key ingredient in a Whisky Mac?
- 4) King Robert the Bruce died of leprosy — true or false?
- 5) Where was Rob Roy born?
- 6) Which place is known as the Honest Toon?

- 7) What is so peculiar about the sand at Gruinard Bay?
- 8) What is a clarsach?
- 9) How high is Ben Nevis? a) 4206 feet, b) 4306 feet or c) 4406 feet?
- 10) Which river runs through Dumfries?

Answers to Ken your country:

- 1) Thurso.
- 2) The Murray's.
- 3) Green ginger.
- 4) True.
- 5) Glengyle, at the head of Loch Latrine.
- 6) Musselburgh.
- 7) It's pink.
- 8) It's a small Celtic harp.
- 9) c) 4406 feet.
- 10) The River Nith.