



45

Years Strong - 1976-2021 [www.scottishbanner.com](http://www.scottishbanner.com)



# the Scottish Banner

*A' Bhratach Albannach*

Volume 44 Number 9 The world's largest international Scottish newspaper March 2021

## Men in Kilts

*A Roadtrip with Sam and Graham*

» Pg 12

**Celebrating  
100 years of  
East Lothian**

» Pg 23

**The Viking  
woman at Broch  
of Gurness**

» Pg 5

**Scotland  
for Sport**

» Pg 15

Australia \$4.50 N.Z. \$4.95



7 25286 84459 8 03

Is Scotland ready for the return of lynx? ..... » Pg 3

St Kilda-The island that time never forgot ..... » Pg 9

Clan Donnachaidh: The rescue of an ancestral kirk, and new initiatives for the future .... » Pg 17





**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



**Follow us on social media**



Distributed monthly in Australia, Canada,  
New Zealand and the USA. ISSN 2209-8364

**Australia Post Print Approved PP:100004806**  
Published monthly by Scottish Banner Publications  
PO Box 6220, Marrickville South, NSW, 2204, Australia

The publisher reserves the right to reject, discontinue or omit any advertisement or to cancel any advertising contract for reasons satisfactory to the publisher, without notice, and without penalty to either party. All advertising and reading matter is subject to Publisher's approval. Right reserved to revise or reject advertising and reading material in accordance with standards acceptable to the Scottish Banner, without notice. The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount of space paid for, whether such errors are due to negligence, copy right or otherwise. The publisher does not endorse the historical accuracy of the editorial stance of materials submitted for publication. The publisher reserves the right edit all submitted material prior to publication.

**The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher.**

Trouble getting *the Scottish Banner* each month? Use the subscription form below to subscribe, or you may contact our distributors for your nearest sales outlet.

**AUSTRALIA: Integrated Publication Solutions 1 800 606 477**  
**NEW ZEALAND: Gordon & Gotch 09 979 3018**

**The Scottish Banner**  
*Uniting Scots Around the World for 44 Years!*

**THE SCOTTISH BANNER**

**Subscribe to the worlds largest international  
Scottish culture newspaper online or use below:**

**Australia:** Print: 1 Year / \$50.00 AUD  
Digital: 1 Year / \$25.00 AUD

**Canada:** Digital: \$19.95 CDN

**New Zealand:** Print: 1 Year / \$65.00 AUD  
Digital: 1 Year / \$25.00 AUD

**U.S.A.:** Digital: 1 Year / \$19.95 USD

**Overseas:** Print: 1 Year Air Mail: AU \$ 110.00

Australia/New Zealand: T (+61) 02 9559-6348

**www.scottishbanner.com/subscribe**

*Subscription are non-refundable.*  
*Cheques, money orders, Visa and MasterCard accepted.*

**Scottish Banner Australia/New Zealand:**  
PO Box 6202, Marrickville South, NSW, 2204

*Digital subscriptions must be requested via our website only.*

**Name:**.....

**Address:** .....

.....

**Post Code:**.....

**Tel/Email:** .....

☐ 1 Year    ☐ New Subscription    ☐ Renewal

☐ Gift Subsc. From .....

**Visa/MC:**.....

..... **Expiry:**.....

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 8<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us) #ScottishBanner, #TheBanner***

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

Page 2 • The Scottish Banner • March 2021



# 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**

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](http://www.scotlandbigpicture.com/lynx-to-scotland)

## 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.



## Tartan of the Month

### New World Irish Tartan

*The Scottish Banner is pleased to be offering the Tartan of the Month series highlighting a variety of different, unique and colourful tartans from around the world which are registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans in Edinburgh. The Scottish Register of Tartans was established by an act of the Scottish Parliament in November 2008 and promotes and preserves information about historic and contemporary tartans from Scotland and throughout the world. Text and image use 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 17<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**CLANSMAN'S CREST BADGE T-SHIRTS  
STERLING JEWELRY & MORE**

Clan MacFarlane  
Clan MacGregor  
Clan MacIntyre  
Clan MacLeod  
Clan MacLennan  
Clan MacLellan  
Clan MacLennan  
Clan MacLellan  
Clan MacLennan  
Clan MacLellan

**OVER 200 CLAN DESIGNS**

**The most complete line of clan crest t-shirts on the market today!**

**STERLING SILVER JEWELRY**  
Hand-crafted .925 sterling silver

Military Badges  
Clan Badges  
Kilt Pins & Jewelry

**CELTICJACKALOPE.COM**  
A DIVISION OF ROYAL PUBLISHING, INC.  
PO Box 398 GLENDORA, CA 91740  
PHONE: 626-335-8069 • FAX: 626-335-6127  
INFO@CELTICJACKALOPE.COM  
**WHOLESALE AVAILABLE**



# SCOT POURRI

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

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

## 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](http://www.scottishstudies.com)

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

David Hunter

President, Scottish Studies Foundation

Canada

[davidhunter@scottishstudies.com](mailto:davidhunter@scottishstudies.com)

[www.scottishstudies.com](http://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.**

## FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send us your photos or letters via social media



### Bannockburn House



Bannockburn House.

The Kilted Photographer

@TheKiltedPhoto

Scotland

### Highland coo



You like my hair?

Jim Skilling

Scotland

### 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

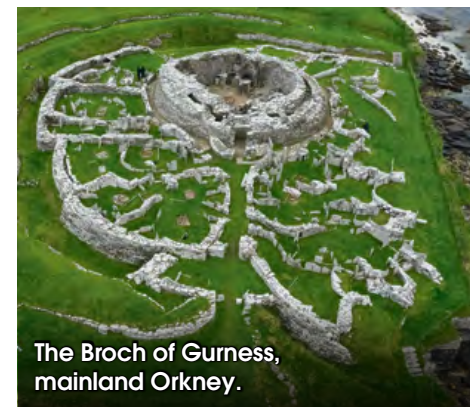
## Back to the broch

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](http://www.historicenvironment.scot)*



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

## SCOTTISH ACCESSORIES SHOPPE KILT HIRE



- Sydney’s Finest Highland Regalia Stockist.
- Kilts and Tartan skirts made to order.
- Stockists of Quality Giftware including Jewellery, Pewter Flasks, Tankards, Quaiches & Clan Badges.
- Australia’s largest supplier of authentic Tartan Scarves, Ties, Bow Ties, Caps, Sashes, Tammies and much more.
- More than 600 different Scottish & Irish Tartans on display with over 5,000 Tartan items in stock.

Come and visit our store at

**25 The Strand, Croydon NSW 2132**  
Close to Croydon Railway Station, with plenty of free parking!

**Tues-Fri 10.00am-6.00pm Sat 9.00am-2.00pm**

**MAIL ORDER TO ANY POSTAL LOCATION**

Tel: (02) 9747-8270

Email: [sales@scottishaccessories.com.au](mailto:sales@scottishaccessories.com.au)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/scottishaccessories](http://www.facebook.com/scottishaccessories)

Website: [www.scottishaccessories.com.au](http://www.scottishaccessories.com.au)





# 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

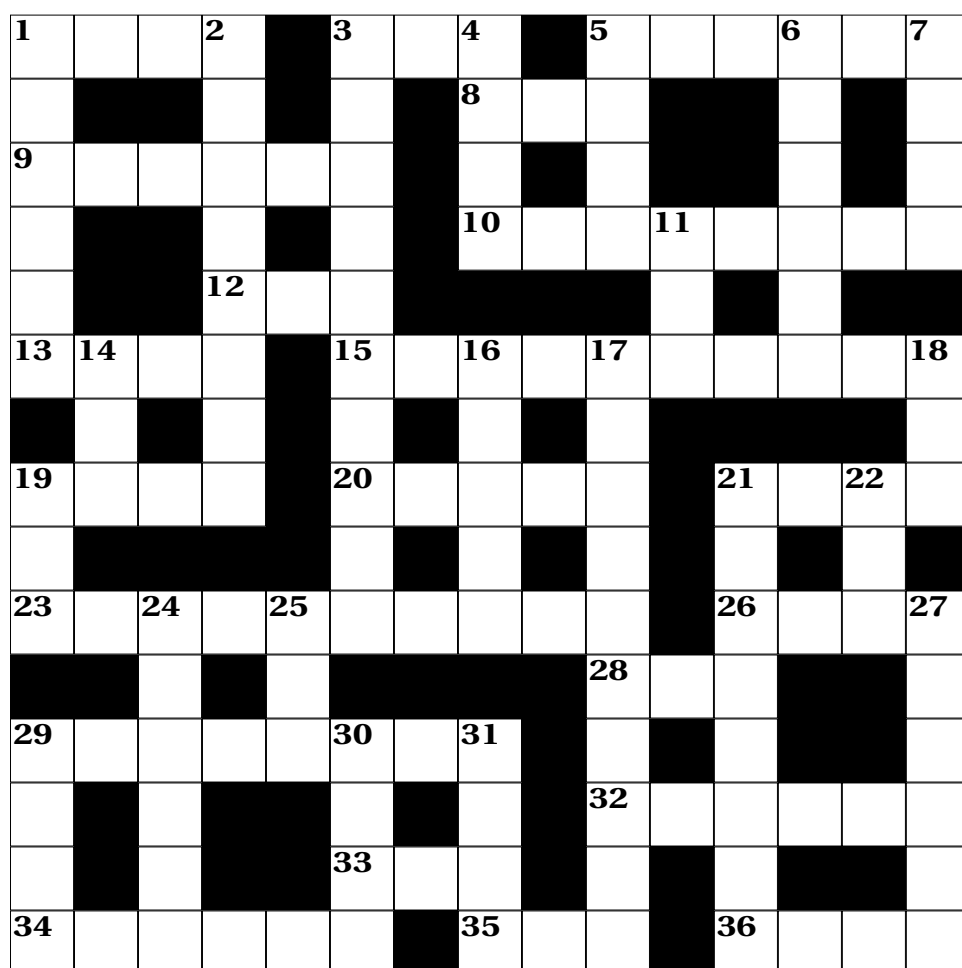
**"Over the last decade healthy life expectancy has increased for males and decreased for females. However, both males and females experienced a decrease in healthy life expectancy over the latest year. The decrease in healthy life expectancy coincides with a stalling of growth in life expectancy in 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 oter (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 17<sup>th</sup> 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-20<sup>th</sup> 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."



- 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.



## Mandarin taught to Scottish schools live from China

School pupils in Scotland are being taught Mandarin online by teachers in China during the COVID-19 pandemic. The language lessons are normally given face-to-face in the classroom by exchange students from China, but they have been unable to travel owing to global travel restrictions. Instead, lessons are being streamed live from the students' own universities to pupils in Scotland, to ensure they continue to have an insight into the language and culture of the world's most populous nation. The 10-week pilot course is being taught to primary and secondary pupils.

Along with the teaching, the primary schools participating in this project have been provided with boxes containing Chinese artefacts, including books, clothes, tea, opera masks and calligraphy sets. The pupils have, along with their teachers, been responding favourably to the classes, which are enabling them to learn Mandarin in schools where it has not been taught before.





# Towering objectives



*Dundee based writer Charlie Mill provided stories for the Scottish Banner for many years, touching on Scottish history, lifestyle and some of Scotland's truly unique characters. We recently opened the vault of Charlie's great work to share a collection of some of his favourites with readers today.*

He was the offspring of a wealthy east-coast family and spent many of his younger years visiting and re-visiting many foreign lands before returning to Scotland to find renown and glory. Sir Hugh Munro's enchantment with his country's high mountain peaks, whose exact height he gauged using barometric pressure, led to nearly 300 of the tallest peaks over 3000 feet being named Munros in his honour. This also

initiated one of Scotland's most demanding and taxing pastimes -- Munro bagging.

Sir Hugh's method was ingenious although innocent in its simplicity. Barometric pressure drops the higher one goes, so if a climber measures the pressure at the base of the incline, another measurement of the drop when he reaches the summit will allow him to work out the height. Recently the old barometer he used to calculate the heights of the mountains

for his celebrated Munro's Tables was put on general display in the Royal Museum in Edinburgh, one hundred years after his ground-breaking investigations.

**Sir Hugh Munro's enchantment with his country's high mountain peaks, whose exact height he gauged using barometric pressure, led to nearly 300 of the tallest peaks over 3000 feet being named Munros in his honour.**

Mentally exhausted with wandering from country to country, Sir Hugh came back to Scotland in the hope of unearthing a fresh challenge, and in 1889 he assisted the founding of the Scottish Mountaineering Club. For the next two years he traversed his homeland measuring mountains in an attempt to record every one which was 3000 feet or higher, and when his final table of 283 peaks was ultimately put into print the total compilation was named Munros in recognition of his workmanship.

## Munro bagging

Sir Hugh was born in 1856, the son of Sir Campbell Munro of Lindertis in Angus. When he took on the task of measuring

all the hills it was understood by the majority of those who climbed the peaks that possibly 30 or so were over the 3000-foot mark. But working with a recently-purchased Victorian barometer Munro located 283 and his studies proved to be much more accurate than measurements made by the Ordnance Survey at the time.

Since those early days the tables have been updated as the latest in measuring systems prove even more precise. A few of the initial Munros have been downgraded to tops, while others, like the second summit on Beinn Alligin, to the north of Loch Torridon in Ross and Cromarty, was upgraded as it had just been graded as one Munro. Nevertheless as a benchmark of his perseverance and preciseness, the official present-day number of Munros has fluctuated by only one to 284.

Sadly, Sir Hugh Munro never managed to capture all the tops named after him. When he died in 1919 at the age of 63 from pneumonia, he had reached the summits of all but two of the pinnacles. Only the atrocious weather defeated him from standing atop the Isle of Skye's Inaccessible Pinnacle (or the In Pin, as it's known by the climbing fraternity) each time he attempted its ascent. The other he failed to conquer was Carn Clooichmhuillin in the Cairngorms - which was soon after downgraded to a top. The first person to bag all the Munros was the Rev. Archibald Robertson, a close friend of Sir Hugh and co-founder of the Scottish Mountaineering Club.



# Being Scottish is Bags of Fun!

**Ditch plastic-go Scottish!**

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



**Slainte Mhath Jute Bag**  
Raise a glass to this unique whisky inspired jute bag with black handles and orange detail. The term Slainte Mhath (pronounced Slanj-a-va) is Scots Gaelic and translates to "Good health".  
H: 30 cm, W: 30 cm, D: 20cm



**The Multi Scottie Dog Canvas Bag**  
The sturdy canvas bag comes with a lovely pattern of Scottish Terrier Dogs. Includes an interior key/coin pouch and strong black webbed handles.  
H: 30cm, W: 40cm, D: 15cm



**Scottie Dog Single Canvas Bag**  
This sturdy bag comes with a classic pattern of a Scottish Terrier dog with sturdy handles.  
H: 30cm, W: 40cm, D: 12cm



**Multi Highland Cow Brown Jute Bag**  
The sturdy bag comes with a colourful pattern of Scottish Highland Cow's. With brown ribbed handles and made of durable jute.  
Size: H 30cm, W30cm, D20cm



**Royal Stewart Red Jute Bag**  
Tartan in jute, featuring a Royal Stewart design - no words needed to say Scotland with this bag! With matching red ribbed handles.  
Size: H 30cm, W30cm, G20cm.



**Scottish Dialect Canvas Bag**  
The sturdy bag comes with a variety of 18 fun Scottish words. Includes a humorous word description, in case you did nae know! Quality cream canvas with black text and sturdy handles.  
H: 40cm, W: 35cm, D: 20cm



**Scottish Colourful Cats Jute Bag**  
This jute bag comes with a colourful pattern of Scottish cats, celebrating our feline friends. With blue webbed handles.  
H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



**Thistle Jute Bag**  
This sturdy bag comes with a lovely pattern of Scottish thistles. With purple tartan gusset and purple webbed handle.  
H: 30cm, W: 30cm, D: 20cm



**Westie Jute Bag**  
This sturdy bag comes with a colourful pattern of playful Westies, along with a solo Scottie pal. With black webbed handles.  
H: 20cm, W: 20cm, D: 14cm

**From the Scottish Banner**  
the canvas and jute bag collection  
direct from Dundee, Scotland.

These great and fun bags show off your Scottish pride wherever you go and have many uses. Make shopping or going to the beach fun with these multi use carry bags. Great for yourself or as a unique gift!

\$24.95 plus \$9.50 postage or \$16 postage for multi-bag orders Australia wide (NZ orders please add \$10 airmail postage fee).

To order yours simply contact us on **02 9559 6348** or email: **info@scottishbanner.com** online at: **www.scottishbanner.com/shop**  
More bag styles available online!





A gathering of the pheasants.

**G**reetings 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...

# St Kilda-The island that time never forgot



Village Bay, St Kilda.

**N**ewly 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 4<sup>th</sup> century BC to almost the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.nts.org.uk)*



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



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



# 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.



# New edition of legendary satire launched

A new edition of one of the most influential Scottish novels of all time has been launched as the Dundee Gothic Group, on behalf of the University of Dundee, hosted a 250<sup>th</sup> birthday party for its author late January. Literary scholars at the University have produced the Dundee Edition of *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner* to mark the anniversary of the birth of James Hogg, the celebrated poet, songwriter and novelist. Hogg remains best known as the author of *Justified Sinner*, but he was also a prolific poet, songwriter and pioneering collector of Jacobite ballads and songs. While his own poems and songs were typically traditional and sentimental odes to Scotland, his prose writing was altogether bolder, more experimental and often political.

## One of the most innovative Scottish writers of all time

"Hogg deserves to be placed alongside Burns and Scott as one of the most innovative Scottish writers of all time," said Dr Daniel Cook, Reader in English at the University. "I would argue that he was certainly our greatest storyteller until the emergence of Stevenson, who was himself a disciple of Hogg. This line of influence runs right through to today. Hogg was the first major author to write short stories and long-form fiction so extensively in Scots. While others would use Scots for patches of dialogue, or to add local flavour for some characters, Hogg shaped entire works in the language and idiom that surrounded him.

"What I find particularly interesting about Hogg was this tension between the composer of polite, effortlessly charming poems and songs about nature and the restlessly experimental prose writer. In one massive body of work we see very different visions of Scotland in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. He was one of the first people to collect and publish songs from the Jacobite risings, in the 1810s – before that time editors and their publishers risked charges of treason. Many of these songs had been kept alive in the oral tradition in the aftermath of the Battle of Culloden but without Hogg many would have been lost altogether. His family had been Jacobites and he referred to himself as a sort-of sentimental Jacobite, which partly accounts for his use of Scots amid the pressures of British homogeneity. He really is an extraordinarily important figure in Scottish culture and, while he should be recognised as such, he was more than anything a born storyteller."

## Ettrick Shepherd

Innovative in its structure and use of the Scots language, *Justified Sinner* is above all else a cutting satire on the Calvinist concept of predestination that pervaded numerous communities across the country. The novel has influenced writers ranging from Robert Louis Stevenson in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to contemporary practitioners such as James Robertson. Hogg was also a favourite author of genre-bending

postmodernists, who were expressly inspired by his refusal to be constrained by literary convention, particularly in his short stories.

Mystery surrounds Hogg's date of birth, but it is generally believed to have been in December 1770, near Selkirk. Through his mother, he was immersed in the balladry of the Scottish Borders from a young age, an interest that eventually led to his in-demand career as a published author. Hogg worked as a farmhand following his father's bankruptcy while educating himself through prodigious reading.

He was known variously as the Ettrick Shepherd or the Shepherd-poet, but he was no stranger to scandal, financial troubles, controversy or literary feuds throughout his career. Upon his death in 1835, Wordsworth eulogised Hogg as "undoubtedly a man of original genius, but of coarse manners and low and offensive opinions."



Illustration of James Hogg by Monica Burns.

## 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 embrace 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 150<sup>th</sup> 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.



Get ready for autumn and winter with this great range of cosy Scottish products!

the  
**Scottish  
Banner**

Order online at:  
[www.scottishbanner.com/shop](http://www.scottishbanner.com/shop),  
by telephone 02 9559 6348  
or use the mail order coupon  
found on page 21.



**Scotland Kagoule Jacket** - Navy Blue Adult Scotland Kagoule Jacket, for wind and rain and with a handy hood, features a Scottish thistle emblem and "Scotland" lettering on the chest and down the sleeve. Ideal for keeping dry in when in rainy conditions, or when it's a wee bit blustery.

Sizes available Small-XXL. (Please note preferred size).  
**Price: \$34.95 plus \$9.00 postage.**



**The Scotland Hoody Fleece**  
Hoody Fleece Jacket, available in navy with contrasting sky trim. This fleece has a zipper running down the front and an embroidered thistle emblem on the chest.

Sizes S, L-XXL (Please note preferred size).  
**Price: \$69.95 plus \$12.00 postage.**



**Reversible Jacket** A comfortable jacket to see you through any of the changeable Scottish seasons and perfect for Aussie winter. Wear it with a waterproof shell and cosy lining to keep off the drizzle, or with the fleece to the outside for sunny days. With high quality design and embroidery, the perfect casual unisex jacket.

Sizes available: M-XXL (Please note preferred size).  
**Price: \$79.95 plus \$12.00 postage.**



**Scotland the Brave Hoody** - Navy/Grey Keep warm and stylish with this unisex zipped hooded sweatshirt-extra soft, embroidered with cosy fleece lining, hood with drawstring, and a front pocket.

Sizes available: M-XXL. Please note size in order form preferred size. Grey/Maroon also available in Large-XL.  
**Price: \$49.95 plus \$9.00 postage.**



## Saltire Blue White Lion Waterproof Jacket

A handy light weight coat, perfect for wet or windy days. Includes mesh lining, interior and exterior zip pockets for storage. Saltire blue with a white Lion Rampant and Scotland text.

Sizes available: Large-XXL (apologies other sizes now sold out). Please note in order form preferred size.  
**Price: \$39.95 plus \$9.00 postage**



**Clan Scarves**, made in the Scottish Borders by Ingles Buchan and available in over 100 Clan tartans! Soft lambs wool are comfortable and elegant, suitable for any occasion and anyone. 100% new wool. Most major tartans available. Ask us for your tartan today!

**Price: \$44.95 plus \$9.00 postage.**





***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.***

**M**en 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 Neon/SKY TV in New Zealand and coming soon to Foxtel in Australia.***





# 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 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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**



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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 Guinard 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.



## 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 275<sup>th</sup> 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.

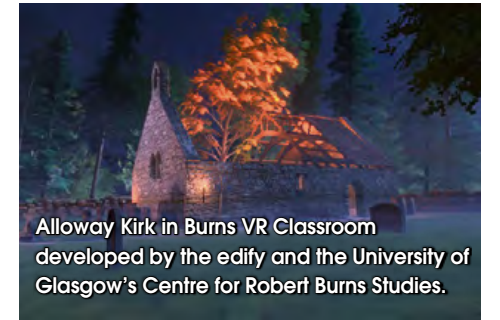
In the early 1800s Tradeston was developed as a manufacturing district by Trades House, which was a union of Glasgow's craftsmen including bakers, tailors, weavers, joiners, coopers, hammermen and maltmen. The project team researched as far back as the 1500s to find inspiration and local historical references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

## 21<sup>st</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 80<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.donnachaidh.com)



## Flowers of the Forest Chief of Clan Macpherson



*The Scottish Banner is saddened to hear of the passing of the 27<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:djbaird4@gmail.com)

**Regional Directors for Australia**  
David and Patricia Benfell  
Email: [clanbairdsa@gmail.com](mailto:clanbairdsa@gmail.com)  
website: [www.clanbairdsociety.com](http://www.clanbairdsociety.com)



Website: [www.clancumming.us](http://www.clancumming.us)  
Email us: [info@clancumming.us](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.ClanBell.org)  
Online membership: <https://clanbell.org/membership.html>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ClanBell>  
Email: [President@clanbell.org](mailto: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](mailto:clandavidsonaus@gmail.com) or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P. P.O. Box 519 Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 [dhill11@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dhill11@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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:m.edmiston@bigpond.com)

## Clan Gregor Society

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

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

[www.clangregor.com](http://www.clangregor.com)

For membership contact Keith MacGregor  
P.O. Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876  
[kmac1@optonline.net](mailto: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](mailto:secretaryclancameronnsw@gmail.com)  
[www.clan-cameron.org.au](http://www.clan-cameron.org.au)

## Clan Donald Queensland

Commissioner: Neil Macdonald  
Ph: 0412 090990  
Email: [clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au](mailto:clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au)  
Web: [www.clandonaldqld.org](http://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](mailto:elliottcommia@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.elliotclan-usa.com](http://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](mailto:clangregoraustalia@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.clangregor.com](http://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](mailto:libertyv93@gmail.com)  
[www.clan-campbell.org.au](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:registrar@acgsus.org)  
website: [www.acgsus.org](http://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](http://www.clancarrutherssociety.org)  
[clancarrutherssociety@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://WWW.CLAN-FORBES.ORG)  
**f** @CLANFORBESSOCIETY  
**ig** @CLANFORBESSOCIETY  
**tw** @CLANFORBES1

#CLANFORBES #CLANFORBESSOCIETY  
#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](http://www.clanhamilton.org)





# Clan MacNicol

**Chief: John MacNeacail  
of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac**

Contact Ross Nicolson  
10/377 North Rocks Rd.,  
Carlingford NSW 2118  
[www.clanmacnicol.org](http://www.clanmacnicol.org)

# Clan Macpherson Association



Clan Macpherson welcomes enquiries from Macphersons and members of our Associated families.

For information about local activities visit our web site [www.clan-macpherson.org/branches](http://www.clan-macpherson.org/branches)

**Africa.** Derek Macpherson  
African\_Chairman@clan-macpherson.org  
phone +265 999 512 620

**Canada.** Denise Legundin  
Canada\_Chairman@clan-macpherson.org  
phone +1 519 507 4465

**Europe.** Will Tulling  
Europe\_Chairman@clan-macpherson.org  
phone +31 655 774 725

**Scotland & Northern Ireland.** Annie Le Roy-Lewis  
SandN.I.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org  
phone +44 7793 317 387

**Australia.** John L Macpherson  
Australian\_Chairman@clan-macpherson.org  
phone +61 408 122 141

**England & Wales.** William Macpherson  
EastW.I.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org  
phone +44 7877 363 507

**New Zealand.** Tony McPherson  
NewZealand\_Chairman@clan-macpherson.org  
phone +64 274 587 813

**USA.** Robert T McPherson  
UnitedStates\_Chairman@clan-macpherson.org  
phone +1 360 701 8133

The **Clan Macpherson Museum** is located in Newtownmore, Inverness Shire PH20 1DE,  
at the junction of the A86 and B9150 It is open from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> October.  
Ph +44 1540 6732 332. See <http://www.clan-macpherson.org/museum/>



# The Clan MacRae Society of Australia and New Zealand

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

**Australian Contact:**

Roslyn MacRae 0412 291 054 email: [learn@vsr.com.au](mailto:learn@vsr.com.au)

NZ Contact: Sue Tregoweth email: [sue.treg1@gmail.com](mailto:sue.treg1@gmail.com)



# Clan MacRae Society of North America

*Granted Arms in 2008*

We invite MacRaes of all spelling variations and their descendants to join our Clan MacRae Society. Learn your Scottish MacRae history and family lineage!

**[www.macrae.org](http://www.macrae.org)**

Need more info? Contact:  
Bruce McRae, *President*  
303-670-9611  
[brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com](mailto:brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com)



# Clan Maitland Society

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

**North America:** Rosemary Maitland Thorn  
rthomnvprrdcan@aol.com [www.clanmaitlandna.org](http://www.clanmaitlandna.org)

**Australia:** Carole Maitland carole\_maitland@yahoo.com.au  
4230 Colac - Lavers Hill RoadWeeaprainah. VIC. 3237

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

We welcome all with Maitland, Lauderdale, Maitlen and similar name spelling. See the entire list and your family history at:  
**[www.clanmaitland.org.uk](http://www.clanmaitland.org.uk)**



# Clan Munro Association, U.S.A

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

## COME JOIN US!

Web site: [www.Clanmunrousa.org](http://www.Clanmunrousa.org)  
 Write: Heather Munro Daniel  
 4600 Lloydrownn Road  
 Mebane, NC 27302



## OLIPHANT CLAN & FAMILY ASSOCIATION of North America



The only home  
for all Clan Oliphant  
in the Americas.

Oliphant - Olyphant - Oliphint  
Olifant - Olifent  
and all descended

ClanOliphantMembership@gmail.com  
www.OliphantOfNorthAmerica.org



## 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](mailto:clanwardlaw@yahoo.com)

**'Wardlaw ivermair!'**

[www.clanwardlaw.com](http://www.clanwardlaw.com)

**Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books**

## The Scottish Australian Heritage Council



Membership is welcomed  
from all Australians of Scottish descent.

For information please contact  
The Hon Secretary SAHC, Susan Cooke  
Ph: 0411097724

E: [info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au](mailto:info@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au)



[www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au](http://www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au)



## Clan Pollock

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

**A. D. Pollock, Jr.**  
**PO Box 404**  
**Greenville, KY 42345**  
**e-mail: [apollockis@comcast.net](mailto:apollockis@comcast.net)**



## Clan Sinclair Australia

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

For further info contact

President: WayneSinclair 0417 146 174

Secretary : Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263

E: [clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com](mailto:clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com)

**[www.clansinclairaustralia.com](http://www.clansinclairaustralia.com)**



## Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia

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

Ruaraidh MacAonghais, N each Cathrach (Convenor)

Phone: 04 0482 2314 E-mail: [fios@ozgaelic.org](mailto:fios@ozgaelic.org)

Web: [www.ozgaelic.org](http://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](mailto:scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com)

## Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

Founded in 1905

<https://www.scottishgaelicvictoria.com>



## 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](mailto:lonepiper.ross@gmail.com) M 0403 830 853  
Ken Duthie JP Director of Publicity M 0409 322 374



## The Stewart Society

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

**Please inquire: The Secretary**  
53 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2HT,  
Tel/Fax 0131 220 4512 **[www.stewartssociety.org](http://www.stewartssociety.org)**



## 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](mailto:caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com)

**[www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com](http://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.standrewssociety.com](http://www.standrewssociety.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](mailto:membership@clanross.org)  
[info@clanross.org](mailto:info@clanross.org)  
**[www.clanross.org](http://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](mailto:william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au)

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

Facebook: Clan Sutherland Society in Australia



## 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](http://hvscots.org) **Email:** [hunterscots@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:resource_centre@scotsofaus.org.au)

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

Facebook: [facebook.com/ScotsOfVictoria](https://facebook.com/ScotsOfVictoria)



## 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](http://www.theclanross.com)**

[clanrossoftheunitedstates@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:Secretary@ClanSutherland.org)**

**Website: [www.ClanSutherland.org](http://www.ClanSutherland.org)**

## 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](mailto: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	Glenbrae 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
Warramboul & District Caledonian Society	Warramboul 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](mailto:secretary@victorianscottishunion.com)**

**[www.victorianscottishunion.com](http://www.victorianscottishunion.com)**



## Clan Scott Australia Group

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

Membership welcome from Scotts and Septs:  
Balwearie, Harden, Laidlaw, Geddes & Langlands.

**E: [heatherdesylva@bigpond.com](mailto:heatherdesylva@bigpond.com)**



## Clan Young Australia

Invites membership from all those with the  
surname Young or with ancestral ties or  
connection to the surname.

**Convenor: Ian J Young AM FSAScot**

10 Cedric Street, Parkdale VIC 3195

E: [membership@clanyoungaustalia.com.au](mailto:membership@clanyoungaustalia.com.au)

**[www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/)**

## 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](http://www.scottishheritageusa.org)**

**email: [shusa457@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:info@scottishbanner.com),  
[www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us](http://www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us)  
or add your upcoming events at:  
[www.scottishbanner.com/events/  
submit-an-event](http://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](http://www.scottishbanner.com/events)*

## Australia

### MARCH 2021

#### A Celtic Adventure

March 5 - March 10

Adelaide, SA

Be mesmerised by the unique soundscape of 8 harps playing together as the SA Celtic Harp Orchestra takes you on a journey through the folk music of Scotland and Ireland. Featuring guest performances by acclaimed Adelaide Celtic duo Telenn Tri and harpist-singer Emma Horwood, this is a feast for the senses at Carclew House, North Adelaide. Info: [www.adelaidefringe.com.au](http://www.adelaidefringe.com.au)

#### Liverpool Plains Military Tattoo

March 6

Quirindi, NSW

The annual Military Tattoo is held every 1st Saturday of March in the town of Quirindi's Longfield Park on the Liverpool Plains of NSW. The event is free entry and open to patrons of all ages with the aim to showcase military bands in both a competition and exhibition format, and pays homage to the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Info: [www.liverpoolplainsmilitarytattoo.com.au](http://www.liverpoolplainsmilitarytattoo.com.au)

#### Warwick Caledonian Society 150th celebrations

March 6

Warwick, QLD

The Warwick Caledonian Society turns 150 in 2021, and will celebrate the milestone in true Celtic style, with an afternoon Pipe Band Muster with 10 pipe bands and an evening Scottish gala dinner at the Warwick Showgrounds. Info: [wsc.sec@outlook.com](mailto:wsc.sec@outlook.com) or 0401 846 445.

#### 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](http://www.bagpipesociety.org.uk)

#### 2021 Geelong Highland Gathering

March 21

Geelong, VIC

PLEASE NOTE THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED-One of Victoria's largest and top Highland Gatherings, presented by the Geelong Highland Gathering Association. Info: [www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au](http://www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au)

#### Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh

March 27

Inglewood, WA

All ages welcome. Music by the Heel n Toe ceilidh band. Come and enjoy a really fun night out at Bob Daniels Community Centre, 895 Beaufort St. Info: John: 0427 990 754 or [www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com](http://www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com)

#### Ringwood Highland Games and Celtic Festival

March 28

Wantirna, VIC

Postponed to October- A venue for Celtic culture, music, dance, kinship and Celtic crafts at J W Manson Reserve, Selkirk Ave. Info: [www.ringwoodhighlandgames.org.au](http://www.ringwoodhighlandgames.org.au)

### APRIL 2021

#### 116th Maclean Highland Gathering

April 2 - April 3

Maclean, NSW

Easter weekend with bagpipes in Australia's "Scottish town", with Scottish dancers, stalls and more. Info: [www.macleanhIGHLANDGATHERING.com.au](http://www.macleanhIGHLANDGATHERING.com.au)

#### The Australian Pipe Band Championships

April 10 - April 11

Maryborough, VIC

PLEASE NOTE THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED-Pipe Bands Australia diamond jubilee year Australian Pipe Band Championships are expected to attract bands from across the country and overseas with a full program of events which include Highland dancing and Scottish stalls. Info: 03 5461 1480 or <https://highlandsociety.com.au/index.php/about-us/2020-australian-pipe-band-championships/>

#### Clan MacLeod World Gathering

April 14 - April 18

McLaren Vale, SA

The anticipated April 2021 Clan World Gathering at McLaren Vale near Adelaide South Australia has been cancelled by the South Australian Regional Clan Society due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Info: [www.cmssa.org.au](http://www.cmssa.org.au)

#### Brigadoon-The Bundanoon Highland Gathering

April 17

Bundanoon, NSW

Australia's largest Scottish celebration with pipe bands, heavy events, Scottish dancing & entertainment, Clans village, stalls and much more. A great day for the entire family in the beautiful NSW Southern Highlands. Info: 02 4883 7471 or [www.brigadoon.org.au](http://www.brigadoon.org.au)

#### Caledonian Society of WA ANZAC Ceilidh

April 24

Inglewood, WA

All ages welcome. Music by the Heel n Toe Ceilidh Band. Come and enjoy a really fun night out at Bob Daniels Community Centre, 895 Beaufort St. Info: John: 0427990754 or [www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com](http://www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com)

### MAY 2021

#### Australian Celtic Festival

May 1-2

Glen Innes, NSW

In 2021 join us for the first Australian Celtic Fringe Festival, with a free Celtic market area and 5 Concert Sessions in a ticketed space. Info: [www.australiancelticfestival.com](http://www.australiancelticfestival.com)

#### World Whisky Day

May 15

Nationwide

World Whisky Day is a global celebration of world whiskies. Info: [www.WorldWhiskyDay.com](http://www.WorldWhiskyDay.com)

#### Berry Celtic Festival

May 22

Berry, NSW

A celebration of Celtic culture at Berry Showgrounds, with pipe bands, entertainment, stalls and more. Info: [www.berryrotary.org.au/celtic-festival](http://www.berryrotary.org.au/celtic-festival)

#### The Gathering

May 23

Ipswich, QLD

A celebration of Celtic music, culture and performance. In the spirit of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, against the historic backdrop of Ipswich, visitors will witness the colour and spectacle of the Queensland Pipe Band Spectacular, featuring 250 of Australia's pipe band competitors. A Highland dancing competition, Celtic music, lost arts and a medieval re-enactment will also feature at this annual Highland gathering of Scottish, Irish, Welsh, French, Spanish, Cornish Celtic cultures at Ipswich Turf Club. Info: [www.gatheringfestival.com.au](http://www.gatheringfestival.com.au)

#### Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh

May 29

Inglewood, WA

All ages welcome. Music by the Heel n Toe Ceilidh Band. Come and enjoy a really fun night out at Bob Daniels Community Centre, 895 Beaufort St. Info: John: 0427990754 or [www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com](http://www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com)

## New Zealand

### MARCH 2021

#### Scottish Celtic Music Group

March 5

Auckland

Monthly on the first Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. All instruments welcome to read through favourite Scottish tunes and dance sets. Info: [www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub](http://www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub)

#### Canterbury Centre Piping Contest

March 6 - March 7

Christchurch

The annual Centre Contest will be held at Innovation Park, 185 Kirk Road, Templeton, Christchurch. Full music events and a Street March. Info: Kim Robertson 0272227330 or [kim.robertson@outlook.co.nz](mailto:kim.robertson@outlook.co.nz)

#### 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](http://www.bagpipesociety.org.uk)

#### Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Night

March 12

Auckland

St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd, Auckland 7.30pm - 10pm. Info: [learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com](mailto:learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com)

#### 2021 New Zealand Pipe Band Championships

March 19 - March 20

Hawke's Bay

Pipe Bands from around New Zealand will gather to compete in a variety of music and pipe band events. The Champion Band in each grade is decided over two music events while all bands will take part in the stirring Street March. Info: [www.nzpbchamps.nz](http://www.nzpbchamps.nz)

### APRIL 2021

#### Scottish Celtic Music Group

April 2

Auckland

Monthly on the first Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. All instruments welcome to read through favourite Scottish tunes and dance sets. Info: [www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub](http://www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub)

#### Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Night

April 9

Auckland

St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd, Auckland 7.30pm - 10pm. Info: [learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com](mailto:learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com)

### MAY 2021

#### Scottish Celtic Music Group

May 7

Auckland

Monthly on the first Friday at St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd. All instruments welcome to read through favourite Scottish tunes and dance sets. Info: [www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub](http://www.freewebs.com/aucklandscottishfiddleclub)

#### Ngaio Annual Dance - 50th Anniversary

May 8

Wellington

Scottish country dance event at Ngaio Town Hall, Ottawa Road, Ngaio. Info: [www.wellingtonscd.org.nz](http://www.wellingtonscd.org.nz)

#### Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Night

May 14

Auckland

St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd, Auckland 7.30pm - 10pm. Info: [learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com](mailto:learnScotsfiddle@gmail.com)

#### World Whisky Day

May 15

Nationwide

World Whisky Day is a global celebration of world whiskies. Info: [www.WorldWhiskyDay.com](http://www.WorldWhiskyDay.com)

## Here's looking at Coo



Highland cattle from Kitchen Coos and Ewes star in the social media video.

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.

## Listen to Scottish Radio S.A.



Tuesdays: 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Saturdays: 5:00pm – 6:00pm

5EBI 103.1 fm

Digital EBI World:  
[WWW.5ebi.com.au](http://WWW.5ebi.com.au)

## Scotword answers from page 6

<b>Across:</b>	<b>Down:</b>
1 Akin	1 Armpit
3 Mac	2 Nighties
5 Groats	3 Moray Firth
8 Era	4 Celt
9 Merger	5 Gael
10 Tolbooth	6 Armour
12 Tay	7 Sash
13 Taxi	11 Bee
15 Fort George	14 Ago
19 Doos	16 Revel
20 Rival	17 Galashiels
21 Spud	18 End
23 Ochil Hills	19 Duo
26 Iona	21 Slippers
28 Hop	22 Urn
29 Lych Gate	24 Hackle
32 Eleven	25 Lig
33 Mod	27 Arenas
34 Speirs	29 Lugs
35 Yes	30 Arms
36 Sows	31 Eddy

THE SCOTTISH BANNER ORDER FORM			
The Scottish Banner, P.O. Box 6202, Marrickville South, NSW, 2204, Australia Ph: 02 9559 6348, Email: <a href="mailto:info@scottishbanner.com">info@scottishbanner.com</a> We accept: Visa, Mastercard, Cheques and Money Orders. Use this coupon or visit <a href="http://www.scottishbanner.com/shop">www.scottishbanner.com/shop</a>			
QTY	TITLE / DESCRIPTION / SIZE	PRICE EACH TOTAL	
Name: .....		SUBTOTAL	
Address: .....		POST CHARGE	
..... Post Code: .....		TOTAL	
Tel:..... Email:.....		Plus Postage, please add	
Visa/MC .....		Books: \$9.50/Multi order \$16.00	
Expiry:..... Signature:.....		Clothing: \$9.00 small item \$12.00 large item	
		Bags: \$9.50 (multi orders: \$16.00)	
		(NZ Orders in AUS. Please add \$10.00 to above for air mail)	
Please note that these are speciality items imported from the U.K allow, at times, approx 4 weeks for delivery. Thank you for using the Scottish Banner mail order service. For more offers or to see our full range and terms please visit <a href="http://www.scottishbanner.com">www.scottishbanner.com</a>			



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 5<sup>th</sup> March as the national day of Cornwall. The Irish Saint Patrick will be celebrated across the world on March 17<sup>th</sup> 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.  
aReplace 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

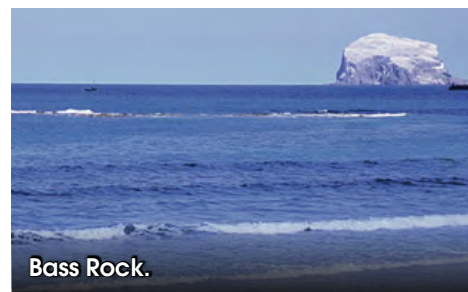
At nearby Athelstaneford the country's flag was born in the 9<sup>th</sup> century. During a fierce battle King Angus - leading an army of Picts - prayed for help in defeating a larger force of Saxons, led by Athelstan. He saw the Saltire (a white cross on which St Andrew was martyred) in the sky and 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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.



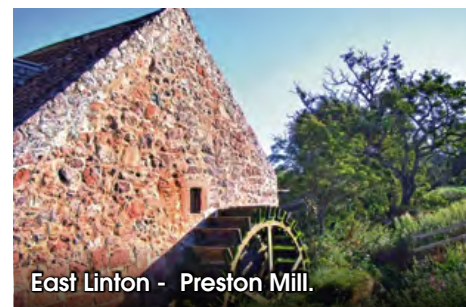
Traprain Law.

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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 .



# THE BANNER BOOK SHOP

To order please see us at [www.scottishbanner.com/shop](http://www.scottishbanner.com/shop) call us, or use our order coupon found on the page 21.

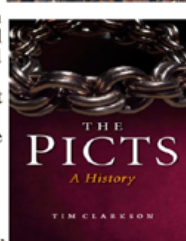
## Clanlands: Whisky, Warfare, and a Scottish Adventure Like No Other

A road trip book with a difference. Stars of Outlander Sam Heughan & Graham McTavish—explore Scotland, a land of raw beauty, poetry, feuding, music, history & warfare. From their faithful camper van to boats, kayaks, bicycles, and motorbikes, join stars of Outlander Sam and Graham on a road trip with a difference, as two Scotsmen explore a land of raw beauty, poetry, feuding, music, history, & warfare. **Price: \$32.95 Plus postage**

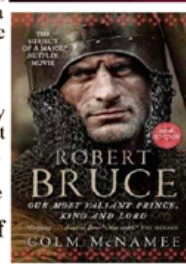


## The Picts: A History

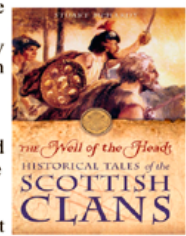
New edition of this popular history of the Picts, an ancient nation who ruled most of northern and eastern Scotland during the Dark Ages. Despite their historical importance, they remain shrouded in myth. Absorbed by the kingdom of the Scots in the 9th century, they lost their unique identity, their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



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



**The Well of the Heads: Historical Tales of the Scottish Clans** The origins of the Scottish clans go back over a 1000 years and for centuries these networks of families dominated life in the Scottish Highlands & Islands. The warriors of the clan, fiercely loyal to each other and to their chief, were well known for their courage and military skills. These stories illustrate the dynamism of a society which lived close to nature, had little material wealth but which boasted a remarkable treasure house of stories that were passed down over generations. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



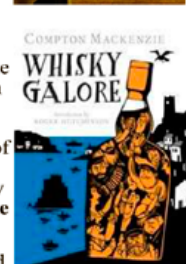
## The Makers of Scotland

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



## Whisky Galore

It's 1943 and the war has brought rationing to the Hebridean islands of Great and Little Todday. When food is in short supply, it is bad enough, but when the whisky runs out, it looks like the end of the world. Morale is at rock bottom. George Campbell needs a wee dram to give him the courage to stand up to his mother and marry Catriona. The priest, the doctor and, of course, the landlord at the inn are all having a very thin time of it. There's no conversation, no jollity, no fun, until a shipwreck off the coast brings a piece of extraordinary good fortune. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



## Scottish Queens 1034-1714

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



## Bake with Maw Broon

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



## Maw Broon's Afternoon Tea Book

Maw Broon and the Glebe Street Afternoon Tea Ladies bring you the best of their Scottish recipes for fancy cakes and dainty savouries. They've also written their very own (idiosyncratic) advice on the etiquette of afternoon tea for their friends and family, at home and abroad in the Commonwealth and Empire. This is the perfect gift, full of Broons humour and delicious Scottish recipes to enable you to host your own afternoon tea party – or just conduct yourself with manners when you're in a posh tearoom. All the main recipes are braw! **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



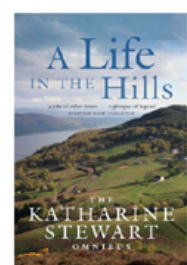
## Scottish Customs: From the Cradle to the Grave

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



## A Life in the Hills: The Katherine Stewart Omnibus

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



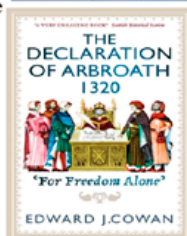
## A History of Scotland

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



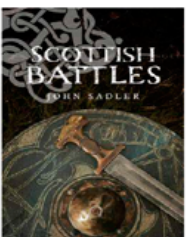
## The Declaration of Arbroath 1320

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



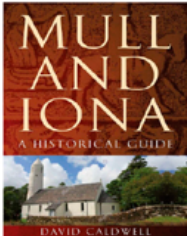
## Scottish Battles

Scottish history has been shaped and defined by a series of great battles. John Sadler gives the first full military history of Scotland for many years. From Mons Graupius to Culloden, he shows how terrain and politics shaped the campaigns and decisive engagements we still remember today. This new paperback edition includes detailed battle plans and eyewitness accounts where possible, and sections on the development of warfare – tactics, equipment and styles of fighting. **Price: \$29.95 Plus postage**



## Mull and Iona: A Historical Guide

This book provides a history of the islands from the time of their earliest human inhabitants to the present. The gazetteer lists all the places of interest from all periods in the islands' history, from the world-wide renowned churches and graves on Iona and the magnificent restored Duart Castle on Mull, seat of the Clan Maclean, to the planned village of Dervaig, the townships in the Ross of Mull and Ardmearach which were cleared during the 19th century and more. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



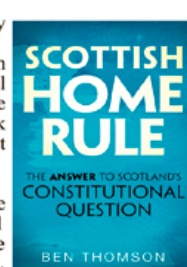
## Columba: Pilgrim, Priest & Patron Saint

Who was St Columba? How did this Irish aristocrat become the most important figure in early Scottish Christianity? This book examines the different roles played by the saint in life and death, tracing his career in Ireland and Scotland, where we encounter not only Columba the abbot and missionary but also Columba the politician and peacemaker. We follow him to Scotland, to Iona, where he founded his principal monastery. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



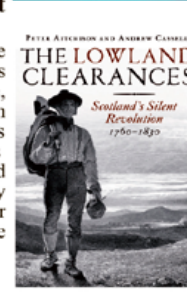
## Scottish Home Rule

Home Rule is not widely understood being seen by many Unionists as the slippery slope to Independence and by Independence supporters as a Unionist proposal to retain sovereignty over Scotland. It is however a strong proposal in its own right with a separate history from Independence and a more likely stepping-stone to Federalism. This book is a statement for the merits of Scottish Home as the best solution for Scotland. It covers the history and support for the Home Rule option from 1860s, a clear structure for what Home Rule is and how Home Rule could improve both Scotland as well as a framework for constitutional reform across the UK. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



## The Lowland Clearances: Scotland's Silent Revolution 1760 – 1830

The Highland Clearances are a well-documented episode in Scotland's past but they were not unique. The process began in the Scottish Lowlands nearly a century before, when tens of thousands of people significantly more than were later exiled from the Highlands. These Clearances shaped the appearance of the Scottish landscape as it is today as they swept aside a traditional way of life. Based on pioneering historical research, this book tells the story of the Lowland Clearances, establishing them as a wider part of the process of Clearance which affected the whole country and changed the face of Scotland forever. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



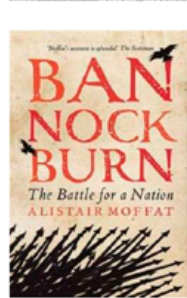
## The Colouring Book of Scotland

The first colouring book dedicated to the beautiful landscapes and landmarks of Scotland. A unique Scottish colouring book suitable for adults as well as children featuring 20 of the country's most iconic places, including: Edinburgh Castle • Forth Rail Bridge • HMS Discovery, Dundee • Balmoral Castle • Loch Ness/Urquhart Castle • Orkney • Skara Brae • Callanish Standing Stones • Lewis Castle, Lewis • Highland Games • Eilean Donan • Duart Castle • Tobermory, Skye • Kelvingrove Museum • Caerlaverlock Castle • Rosslyn Chapel • Falkirk Wheel • Stirling Castle and more. **Price: \$19.95 Plus postage**



## Bannockburn-The Battle for a Nation

As 8,000 Scottish soldiers, most of them spearmen, faced 18,000 English infantrymen, archers and mounted knights in June 1314 near the Bannock Burn, many would have thought that the result a foregone conclusion. But two days later, the English were routed, Edward II fled to the coast and took ship for home, and few English and Welsh soldiers escaped from Scotland unhurt. This emphatic victory was the moment that enabled Scotland to remain independent and pursue a different destiny. In this book offers fresh insights into one of the most famous battles in history, yet one which is surprisingly little understood that led to a stunning and unexpected Scottish victory. **Price: \$ 19.95 Plus postage**



To order: [www.scottishbanner.com/shop](http://www.scottishbanner.com/shop) Or call us or use the order form found on pg 21.

## Best of Scotland: A Caledonian Miscellany

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



## Made in Scotland

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



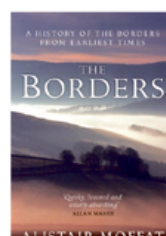
## Tea at Miss Cranston's

Anna Blair recreates a bygone era through the recollections of countless Glaswegians who shared their memories with her during extensive interviews. Nostalgic yet never rose-tinted or bitter, they offer a candid picture of the joys and hardships as well as of the mundane and everyday occurrences of past times. This omnibus edition of her much acclaimed books is a feast of history and together provide a fascinating glimpse into the vibrant and intimate sides of a great city in years gone by. **Price: 14.95 Plus postage**



## The Borders

This is the story of an ancient place; where hunter-gatherers penetrated into the virgin interior, where Celtic warlords ruled, the Romans came but could not conquer, where the glittering kingdom of Northumbria thrived, the place where David MacMalcolm raised great abbeys, where the Border Reivers rode into history, and where Walter Scott sat at Abbotsford and brooded on the areas rich and historic legacy. **Price: \$29.95 Plus postage**



## The White Cockade: Historical Tales of the Jacobites

During the first half of the 18th century, Bonnie Prince Charlie and his diehard supporters, the Jacobites, almost changed the course of British history. Their attempts to drive out the house of Hanover and restore the Stuarts to the British throne is one of the great epics of history. This book retells over 40 Jacobite stories which date back to the time of the prince himself and his bitter defeat at the Battle of Culloden. Featuring exploits of real people & events, this book opens a window into a remarkable world and features a huge cast of colourful characters. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



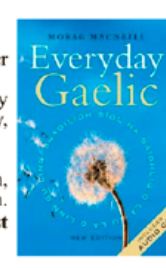
## Scotland Her Story

Scotland's history has been told many times, but never exclusively by its women. This book takes a unique perspective on dramatic national events as well as ordinary life, as experienced by women down the centuries. From the saintly but severe medieval Queen Margaret to today's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, it encompasses women from all stations of class and notoriety, offering a tantalising view of what happened to them, and how they felt. Drawing on court and kirk records, exchequer rolls, treasurer's accounts, diaries and memoirs, newspapers, government reports and eyewitness statements, it brings to life the half of history that has been hidden or ignored. **Price: \$29.95 + post**



## Everyday Gaelic/w Audio CD

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



## The Scots: A Genetic Journey

An almost limitless archive of our history lies hidden inside our bodies and we carry the ancient story of Scotland around with us. This explores the history that is printed on our genes, and in a remarkable new approach, uncovers the detail of where we are from, who we are and, in so doing, vividly paints a DNA map of Scotland. This edition takes into account recent developments in DNA science and includes recent findings on early farming, the royal Stewart lineages, and physical characteristics. **Price: \$29.95 Plus postage**



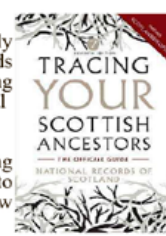
## Scotland's Last Frontier: A Journey Along the Highland Line

The Highland Line is the most profound internal boundary in Britain. First recognised by Agricola in the first century AD (parts of its most northerly portion mark the furthest north the Romans got) it divides the country both geologically & culturally, signalling the border between Highland & Lowland, Celtic & English-speaking, crofting & farming. Take a journey of the imagination, tracing the route of the Line from the River Clyde through Perthshire & the North-east. In addition to exploring the huge importance of the Line over almost two thousand years, he also shows how it continues to influence life in 21st-century Scotland. **Price: \$24.95 Plus postage**



## Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors

New edition of the bestselling guide to this increasingly popular pursuit. Scotland has the best-maintained records and facilities of any country in the world for undertaking family research. This is the National Archives' official guide and is written in an accessible style from the unique perspective of a custodian of the records. It details all the latest internet developments, including a chapter on family history on the web. It also points to more traditional resources, explaining step by step how to research records of births, marriages and wills. **Price: \$29.95 Plus postage**



Please note: Books are specially imported from the UK and delivery can exceed 4 weeks, we appreciate your understanding. All titles are in stock at time of print. Many more book titles are available at: [www.scottishbanner.com/shop](http://www.scottishbanner.com/shop) or contact us for a free mail order catalogue to be sent to you.

