

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?

Emigrant Families at Sea: Scottish migration to Canada, 1770s-1850s



I thought you might find the talk Emigrant Families at Sea: Scottish migration to Canada, 1770s-1850s by Dr. Elizabeth Ritchie of interest. Her presentation took place online on Thursday, December 16, 2021, and was one of the topics on the University of the Highlands and Islands' series of History Talks Live in which expert speakers offer their insights on a wide range of topics of interest to the historically-minded.

You can view a recording of this talk at the following link: <https://youtu.be/U0i2HbYGIY4>

In her talk, Dr. Ritchie looks at how many Scottish emigrants to Canada travelled as part of a family unit. Historians have been good at evaluating the experience of the transatlantic voyage by class and by gender, but to travel as a family also made a different experience — for men, women and children, both for better and for worse. It could lend a sense of security and a sense of purpose to the journey, but travelling with dependents also made everything slower, more expensive and more difficult. The impact of the journey

on families, on their very constitution, their daily patterns and life events could be dramatic. Shipboard life could be a liminal space where the usual gender roles became flexible, but not always. Life events — births and deaths — were even more stressful in the crowded conditions of steerage than usual. And in some cases, it was the emigration journey, intended to benefit the family, which instead broke the family unit. In this talk Dr. Ritchie considers how travelling as a family affected Scots' experience of the transatlantic voyage, and how the voyage affected their experience of family life.

Dr. Ritchie is senior lecturer at the Centre for History, University of the Highlands and Islands. She is interested in the social and cultural history of the eighteenth and nineteenth-century Highlands, with an especial focus on religion, education, land use, and the family. She is originally from Crieff, in Perthshire, and completed her undergraduate degree in History and Masters in American Studies at the University of Glasgow and gained her PhD at the Department of History at the University of Guelph, Ontario, on The Faith of the Crofters: Skye and South Uist, 1793-1843.

I do hope you enjoy the talk. Best wishes and thank you for your support.

David Hunter
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Family of Bruce International



Family of Bruce International (FOBI) had their Annual General Meeting on October 16, 2021 at the Stone Mountain Highland games in Stone Mountain, Georgia, USA. There were seven states represented with 23 members and guests present.

This was a good year for FOBI with 321 members of which 158 are life members. There were seven first time attendees to the AGM. An e-mail was sent from Charles, Lord Bruce and Lord and Lady Elgin stating warmest wishes for the AGM. All the Officers gave their reports along with Lord Elgin's Lieutenant to the Chief and High Commissioner.

Charitable Operations Officer reported that FOBI gave many donations throughout the fiscal year.

President, Don Bruce, stated "It is so great that we come here once a year to celebrate our historic and honored family. It is so great that we carry on that tradition in the name of Bruce. I am so proud to be a Bruce and I am so proud to be a part of this family and I am so proud to call all of you kin and friends".

Polly Bruce Tilford
USA

February edition



The consensus amongst the ladies is that the Scottish scenery is particularly stunning in this edition!

Keep up the good work!

Helen, South Simcoe Scottish Country Dancing
Alliston, Ontario
Canada

My Scottish Heart



You might like to dip into my collection of old Scottish songs, reimagined in contemporary settings. Look for me on Spotify.

I wrote the title track about the clearances and how it might feel to have to leave your home and country against your will.

From my Scottish heart to yours,
Evelyn Laurie
Paisley, Scotland

Burns... the Haggis

Chorus Chant... "We're nae fu` yet"...
The Haggis Cull is noo complete
All we hae` to dae... is eat
Chorus... "Ye'll ne` er tak` me alive"...

Wi` neeps `n` tatties
There`s nane... sae sweet
Chorus... "Och aye"...

When whisky chasers
Donce... the feet
Chorus... "Scots wha hae"...

The skirl o` pipes the world sae richt
When feastin` on this rare... auld nicht!
Chorus... "O flur o` Scotland"...

A comment sae` Braw... ye` r` ee` tae greet
As ye toast... to "Burns" an` ...
yon "sonsie" faced meat
To Burns... for you... an` ane an` a`
Chorus... "Will ye no` come back agen"...
Heed ye a` the ca`!

THE PHANTOM POET

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George Ian Caldwell (T.P.P4)

wrote this for Burns night hope it amuses
fellow Haggis hunters...

The Kilted Yogi



Thank you for your interview with Finlay Wilson. I actually saw Finlay in New York at the Tartan Day Parade and have since followed him on social media. Finlay really seems such a nice soul and really loves to show off Scotland, and what a Scotsman truly wears under his kilt, on many of his great videos. At first, I thought yoga and kilts that does not work, but amazingly it very much does. I am really enjoying all the great articles on your website and really do find your content fresh, unique and so very informative.

Thank you for all that goes into this site and your publication which I have known about now for over 10 years.

Jennifer McLeod
New Haven, Connecticut
USA

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



Sent to our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts-send us your photos or letters via social media (#ScottishBanner or #TheBanner):

Glencoe Lochan



Glencoe Lochan looking a lot more like Canada!

Ronald Stokes

Girvan



Coming home to Girvan Harbour.

Mik Coia

Scottish Stag



A stag at Buachaille Etive Mòr.

The Kilted Photographer
Scotland

Stirling



Wintery backdrop to Stirling Castle.

Scotdrone