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Volume 45 - Number 10

Scottish Banner

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The Banner Says...

A Hope for Peace



by Sean Cairney

cotland is a nation with a long, complicated, proud, and harrowing conflict past. With key historical battles such as Flodden, Bannockburn, and Culloden just some examples of the conflicts which have been engrained into Scotland's story by blood and honour. This month is the $276^{\mbox{th}}$ anniversary of the Battle of Culloden which took place on 16 April 1746 on Drumossie Moor, located just outside of Inverness, and which saw nearly 1,500 men killed within one hour. Perhaps one of Scotland's most famous and poignant battles, this was the final stand of the Jacobites and is still the last battle to take place on either Scottish, or British, soil. I have walked Culloden Moor on a misty November day and felt very moved by the ground in which I stepped on, Culloden is also said by some to still have the souls and ghosts of the dead wander the moor which they fought so hard to protect and the battle itself is forever engrained in the history and psyche of Scotland today.

By World War 1 Scots had made a reputation for themselves on the battlefields of Europe and Scottish soldiers played a significant role in the war effort. German military nicknamed the Scots as 'Die Damen aus der Hölle' or Ladies from Hell, as kilted pipers led troops to the German trenches and were considered staunch and brave warriors. The bagpipes today can still be referred to as an 'instrument of war'.

Scotland reacts to Ukraine As the world watches the terrible

events in Ukraine and witnesses war once again in Europe, Scotland has joined many other nations in



doing what it can in support of the Ukrainian people. The Scottish Government has pledged so far over £16 million to Scottish organisations and charities to assist Ukrainians fleeing their war-torn nation.

Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has announced thousands of displaced Ukrainians would be coming to Scotland and said: "Over three million people have now fled the war in Ukraine, the biggest refugee crisis in Europe since World War II. Scotland is ready to play its part to offer safety and sanctuary to those forced to leave their homes because of Russia's brutal invasion, and it is heartening to see preparations for increased support, advice and information already being put in place. We are determined to do everything in our power to give them the warmest welcome possible when people start to arrive."

Councillors in Edinburgh are preparing to grant the most prestigious honour it can bestow to the Ukrainian President and the Mayor of Edinburgh's twin city, Kyiv. In recognition of heroically standing by their country and their citizens to lead the fight against the invasion of Ukraine, Edinburgh City Council Leaders are seeking support to confer the Freedom of the City jointly to President Volodymyr Zelensky and Mayor Vitali Klitschko. The Freedom of the City is a tradition that dates back over 560 years to 1459, with Her Majesty The Queen and Sir Chris Hoy the only living individuals with the Scottish Capital's freemanship. It can only be 'bestowed upon those who are held in the highest esteem'. Some may not be aware that Edinburgh and Kyiv were twinned together back in 1989, in an agreement between the two historic capitals which was signed in Kyiv and done two years before Ukraine would leave the Soviet Union.

In Inverness the Highland Council also last month granted the Freedom of the Highlands to the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelenskyy. In addition along with Inverness, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Edinburgh and regions across Scotland are helping to raise money for those impacted by the war in Ukraine.

In the issue

Scottish scenery is known the world over for its beauty, drama and diversity. Whether you are up in the Highlands, seeing it from the water or discovering the lowlands it is simply magic. I am very much a 'travel junkie' and love not just visiting Scotland but the great and wider world. Tourism has so many benefits to so many countries, including Scotland where it brings in (pre-pandemic) billions of pounds and supported hundreds of

thousands of jobs. This month we are fortunate to speak to the Chairman of VisitScotland, Lord Thurso, on the forward-thinking initiatives Scotland is producing to sustain tourism for those of us visiting not only today, but well into the future.

Another battle that has an anniversary this month is the lesser-known Battle of Littleferry. The battle took place on April 15, 1746, during the Jacobite Rising in Sutherland, and just two days before the infamous Battle of Culloden. This month will see a Dedication Ceremony for a new Memorial Stone and also a Battle Trail launched.

Scottish landmarks that are lighting up in support

Along the Australian eastern seaboard many people have recently been ravaged by the horrendous impacts of flooding. Entire communities, businesses and people's homes have been destroyed. This month we highlight the impacts this has had on the Lismore City Pipe Band, located in what many consider one of the hardest hit places during the flood. I know what an incredible fraternity pipe bands have, and whether you are a fellow player or simply just like so many of us a fan of pipes and drums, please consider helping out a part of our community in need.

For those that follow us on social media (if you do not and have a Facebook, Twitter or Instagram account, please do!) you will notice our pages have highlighted the many Scottish landmarks that are lighting up in support of Ukraine in a sea of yellow and blue, such as The Kelpies, Eilean Donan Castle, Greyfriars Bobby, The Wallace Monument and Marischal College just to name a few. It is heart-warming to see so many of Scotland's key cultural locations lighting up in support during a very dark time in world history. I dearly hope however those lights can be turned off very soon, along with the sadness of war. 🗱

Do you have any comments from the content in this month's edition? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or: #ScottishBanner, #TheBanner.

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We appreciate your support and hope you enjoy this edition.



Gracing our front cover: Duncansby Head in Caithness. Photo: VisitScotland/Kenny Lam

World's largest Jurassic pterosaur unearthed on Scottish island



spectacular fossil of a huge flying reptile known as a pterosaur, that was found on the Isle of ► Skye, is the largest of its kind ever discovered from the Jurassic period. The giant winged creature, more popularly known as pterodactyls, lived around 170 million years ago and had an estimated wingspan of more than 2.5 metres. The fossil is the best-preserved skeleton of a pterosaur found in Scotland, experts say. The species has been given the Gaelic name Dearc sgiathanach (pronounced jark ski-an-ach), which translates as 'winged reptile' and also references the Isle of Skye, whose Gaelic name means 'the winged isle.'

The unique specimen, discovered during a National Geographic Society-funded excavation in 2017, will now be added to National Museums Scotland's collection and studied further.

palaeontology will never cease to be astounding. Pterosaurs preserved in such quality are exceedingly rare and are usually reserved to select rock formations in Brazil and China. And yet, an enormous superbly preserved pterosaur emerged

The find is described in a new paper

by scientists from the University of

the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow,

Staffin Museum on the Isle of Skye.

A superlative Scottish fossil

Lead author, University of Edinburgh

PhD student Natalia Jagielska, said:

"Dearc is a fantastic example of why

the University of St Andrews and

published in Current Biology authored

Edinburgh, National Museums Scotland,

Professor Steve Brusatte, Personal Chair of Palaeontology and Evolution, School of GeoSciences, University of

from a tidal platform in Scotland.'

Edinburgh, said: "This is a superlative Scottish fossil. The preservation is amazing, far beyond any pterosaur ever found in Scotland and probably the best British skeleton found since the days of Mary Anning in the early 1800s. Dearc is the biggest pterosaur we know from the Jurassic period and that tells us that pterosaurs got larger much earlier than we thought, long before the Cretaceous period when they were competing with birds, and that's hugely significant."

Dr Nick Fraser, Keeper of Natural Sciences at National Museums Scotland, said: "Even in the context of the amazing palaeontological finds on Skye in recent years, this one really is remarkable. To find and describe a specimen which is both so well-preserved and so significant is really special and we're delighted to add Dearc into our collection, a unique addition to the fossil record and a specimen which will be studied now and long into the future."

Amelia Penny, a PhD student at the University of Edinburgh, discovered the fossil during a field trip in 2017, led by Brusatte, after spotting its jaw protruding from the limestone layer on a tidal platform at Rubha nam Brathairean (known as Brothers' Point). She alerted colleagues who inspected and identified the head of a pterosaur. A painstaking operation ensued to extract the fossil, led by Dugald Ross of Staffin Museum, involving the use of diamond-tipped saws to cut it from the rock, all while racing against time as the tide came in. After the fossil was salvaged, it was brought to the University of Edinburgh for analysis and description.

CT scans of the skull have revealed large optic lobes, which indicate that Dearc would have had good eyesight.

The Mesozoic era

The specimen will be the subject of further study by PhD student Natalia Jagielska, which aims to reveal more about Dearc's behaviour, particularly how it lived and flew. She adds: "To achieve flight, pterosaurs had hollow bones with thin bone walls, making their remains incredibly fragile and unfit to preserving for millions of years. And yet our skeleton, ~160 million years on since its death, remains in almost pristine condition, articulated and almost complete. Its sharp fish-snatching teeth still retaining a shiny enamel cover as if he were alive mere weeks ago."

Pterosaurs were the first vertebrates to evolve powered flight, some 50 million years before birds. They lived throughout the Mesozoic era – the so-called age of reptiles – as far back as the Triassic Period, about 230 million years ago. In the later Cretaceous Period – the time of Tyrannosaurus rex and Triceratops – and immediately before the extinction event that wiped out the dinosaurs 66 million years ago, pterosaurs grew to the size of fighter jets.

However, they were previously thought to have been much smaller during the Jurassic Period. Fragmentary specimens from England had hinted at the possibility that larger pterosaurs lived during the Jurassic Period and Dearc sgiathanach is the first complete specimen to confirm this.



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).

reat Scot meticulously and respectfully designed this unique tartan to reflect Scotland's solidarity with the people of Ukraine; one sovereign nation to another. The simple but bold colour elements of both the Scottish and Ukraine flags are fused together in this strong and emotive tartan. This tartan was registered in March 2022 by Great Scot of Keith, Moray, Scotland.

Clan Arthur/MacArthur to take part in Glasgow Kiltwalk

By: Carol Budlong





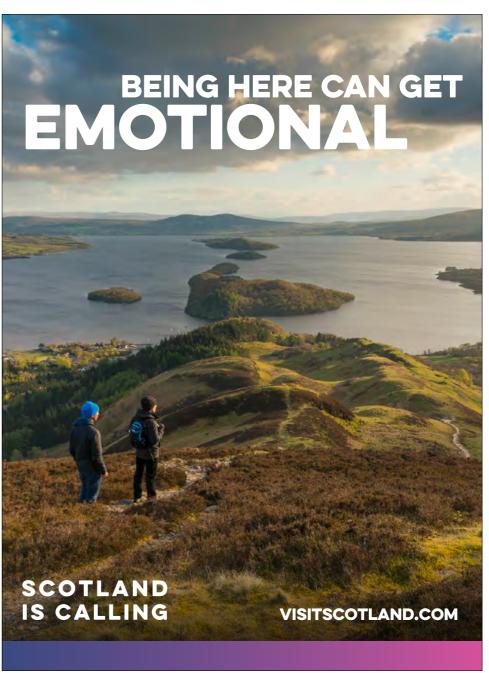
lan Arthur/MacArthur is an ancient Scottish Highland Clan with a fantastic story to tell with legendary links back to King Arthur. But it has not had a sacred place to gather its folk and objects for over 250 years. This is because its lands were seized by the ruling parties at the time or taken over by other clans. The Clan Arthur Ancestral Lands Trust (CAALT) has been founded and activated to rectify this situation by finding and acquiring a piece of land as a homeland for its clanfolk near the original clan seat on the banks of Loch Awe. The CAALT is a registered charity in Scotland.

The High Commissioner in Britain, Hugh McArthur is taking part in the Glasgow Kiltwalk alongside other Clan Arthur members on 24th April 2022. Hundreds of people participate and walk to raise funds for their chosen charity. The amount raised by each group is increased by 50% due to the generosity of businessman Sir Tom Hunter.

To find out more about the Clan Arthur ancient lands project go to website: www.clanarthur.org/caalt



Team Clan Arthur are taking part in The Glasgow Kiltwalk 2022 this month to raise funds for the Clan Arthur Ancestral Lands Trust.
To support see: www.justgiving.com/team/ClanArthur



SCOT POURRI

Australia

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?

The Koala Tartan



Just a quick note to say how great the Koala Tartan is, I bought a length of the tartan and it is lovely. I think all your readers should buy something made from tartan whether it's a scarf, wrap, shall, blanket or even a kilt or skirt. The Koala Tartan is made in Australia and a beautiful fabric. Come on Aussies please buy our very own tartan. I really enjoy the Banner, thank you. Gerry Browne Peakhurst, NSW

Calling the Clans to Kingsville **Highland Games**



Visit the Clan Village at the Kingsville Highland Games and connect with your Scottish family. Clan Societies and Clan Members will gather here to share stories and connections and to get their Scottish on. The Clans will be an integral part of the Opening Ceremonies and will follow the Honour Guard onto the Main Field to be welcomed. If you represent a Clan and would like to register for a booth in the Clan Village, register today at: https://forms.kingsville.ca/ Highland-Games/Clan-Registration Deadline for registration is April 29, 2022. Please complete the on-line registration form. If you have any questions contact kingsvillegames@gmail.com.

Kingsville Highland Games Committee Kingsville, Ontario Canada

Outlander



I just love receiving my Scottish Banner. Love the recipes, the news from around the world and particularly that you feature Outlander-and on the front page of the March edition!

Thank you,

Pat McLean Victoria, Australia Loch Lomond-A story of Culloden



Thank you for sharing such a fascinating account (Loch Lomond-A story of Culloden, the Scottish Banner, February, 2022). I've been to Culloden on a windy grey morning in October. It was bleak and sombre, and I'll never forget it. Your ancestor seems a noble, selfless man of great strength and character. Little wonder you're so proud. My ancestors (the Roberton's) were tenant farmers not far from yours. I really do hope they somehow knew such honourable people as your Robert King.

Paul Roberton Ae Fond Kiss

Cold grey mornings loved ones crying, Onto the airport soon we'll be flying Back to Australia with its desert and plains Wull ye no come back again

Meeting old friends starts memories anew Places we went and things we would do We talk of the humour but never the pain Wull ye no come back again

This tired old country of mountains and clans Whisky and peat marching pipe bands Proud pipers playing soft haunting refrain Wull ye no come back again

Heads turn away as tears mist the eyes Crying farewells as we climb to the skies We gently hold hands settle back in the plane Wull ye no come back again.

Time takes its toll on the weak and the strong You've made a choice its there you belong We aw love ye dearly that much ye ken Wull ye no come back again.

Davidson Harris

The Burrell Collection



How wonderful to see The Burrell Collection in Glasgow is now opening up again (The Burrell Collection in Glasgow to open following major refurbishment, the Scottish Banner, March, 2022). I have visited The Burrell a few times before and never leave without feeling how impressive it is Glasgow holds such a collection. Glasgow is such a great city for museums and visiting the new and improved Burrell Collection will be one of my 'must do's' on my next visit to Scotland. For anyone interested the location of The Burrell is Pollok Country Park, I believe the largest park in Glasgow, and so worth a visit as well. I so miss visiting Scotland and have enjoyed each issue of the Scottish Banner and it has helped keep my Scottish fires burning and continues to give me great information on what to do on my next trip across the pond. Thank you to all the staff and writers of the Banner!

Ann Forsyth Chicago, Illinois **USA**

Cancellation of 2022 Caledonia Celtic Festival and future Festivals



It is with regret that we announce the cancellation of 2022 Caledonia Celtic Festival and future Festivals. With the festival just getting off its feet in 2019, then COVID happening, and unable to have the last two year's Festivals, the Board of Directors have no choice but to discontinue the Caledonia Celtic Festival. COVID was not expected and continues to cause uncertainty. Therefore, we are in the process of dissolving the Caledonia Celtic Festival corporation. Our main concern was always the safety of our participants and visitors along with following public guidelines. We wish you all the best in the future and hope that you stay safe and healthy. The Board of Directors thank you for your continued support.

John Duff, President Caledonia Celtic Festival Caledonia, Ontario Canada

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

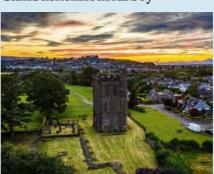
Sent to our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts-send us your photos or letters via social media (#ScottishBanner or #TheBanner):

Corpach Shipwreck



A moody day at the Corpach Shipwreck and Ben Nevis. Zen Escape Photo http://instagram.com/zenscapephoto

Cambuskenneth Abbey



Cambuskenneth Abbey, Stirling. Steeped in history and reputedly where part of William Wallace was interred. Scotdrone

Eilean Donan Castle



Eilean Donan Castle, my only image of this iconic location. Ronald Stokes

Highland Coo



Taking in the beauty of Edinburgh from the Pentland Hills. R Marr Photos

Pose your questions on Scottish related topics to our knowledgeable readership who just may be able to help. Please keep letters under 300 words and we reserve the right to edit content and length. Letters can be emailed to info@scottishbsanner.com or online at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us, alternatively you may post your letters to us (items posted to the Scottish Banner cannot be returned). Please ensure you include your full contact details should you require a reply. This page belongs to our readers so please feel free to take part!



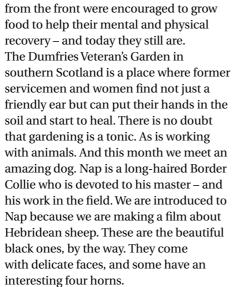
reetings from a spring like Scotland where a few frost-free mornings mean thoughts are turning to the garden. The early potatoes are in the polytunnel. Tomato seeds are sprouting on the window ledge and the raised beds are being readied for the salad crops that will come later in the year. Growing fruit and veg in Scotland is not as easy as it might be in countries with kinder climes. That could be why we have so many walled gardens; built to give shelter from the wind; the warmth of southern and western walls perfect for ripening fruit. Some walled gardens come with three walls, instead of the usual four. I am told that it is a Scottish thing; so the frost does not get trapped and can roll out in the mornings.

Gardening is a tonic

During the two world wars, these walled gardens found themselves working extra hard as the country dug for victory. The Scottish gardening guru Kenneth Cox tells us how even royal residences like Buckingham Palace had their flower beds replaced with cabbage and tattie patches. Cox also notes how wounded soldiers returning

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.



Scottish crooks and sticks are much prized and today the skill lives on.

As the name suggests, Hebridean sheep hail from the Western Isles. As such, they are hardy beasts; animals quite used to meagre rations and seemingly oblivious to the elements. In fact, it is an interesting breed all round, and one that has gone from near extinction to high popularity.

Twenty years ago, you would struggle to find large flocks of Hebs in mainland Scotland. They might be seen as curiosities on great estates, but, in the main, most of the country's sheep have been solidly white. Yet Hebrideans have a lot going for them. They are good mothers who lamb easily. They also appear to be good managers of the land, because, unlike most sheep that will eat anything in their path, this one is something of a conservationist. The Heb will steadily chew its way through invasive plants. Yet is has the sense to leave the good vegetation, like heather. What a wise breed! And what a clever dog Nap the Collie is.

Scottish crooks

And if you have a flock and a sheepdog, you'll need a shepherd's crook; its curved horn head useful for catching an errant sheep by the leg; the hooked bit at the top a handy place on which to hang a lantern. Scottish crooks and sticks are much prized and today the skill lives on. The Scottish Crookmakers Association was set up more than sixty years ago in the Borderlands by local gamekeeper, David Grant. Now it's run by David's granddaughter and her husband and at their home in the Scottish Borders Kate and Robert Eliott tell me how making a decent specimen takes skill and patience.

There is the boiling, pressing and moulding of the horn. Then there is the stick. Best is hazel wood that has been drying for a couple of years, and it must be ram rod straight.

Yes, making a decent crook is an art form. And, thankfully, it is one that appears to be enjoying a renaissance. Released from lockdown, folk want new hobbies. They are also flocking to the hills and scaling the heights means they need something sturdy to help them up.

Back at home I examine the chief's crooks with new interest. He has six, by the way – and the last one comes with a story. Back in the day the MacGregor and I were at an American Highland games, where he was kindly presented with an elaborately carved stick.

He was delighted to have another one to add to his collection - and popped it in the hotel cupboard. Unfortunately, when it came time to leave, we forgot about it. It was an expensive mistake. Two months later there we were, sitting in the kitchen when a delivery man arrived. He had in his possession one well-wrapped crook. This much welcomed gift had come across the Atlantic - and with it was a rather unwelcome bill for a hundred-and-twenty pounds tax and import duty. Yes, as with a lunch, there is no such thing as a free



- The Corryvreckan Whirlpool is located in a narrow straight situated off the west coast of Scotland between the islands of Jura and Scarba in Argyll and Bute.
- It is one of the largest permanent whirlpools on earth and is the third largest whirlpool in the world at 300 feet wide and 100 feet deep.
- The whirlpool is created by a giant rock formation on the ocean floor to almost within 95 feet of the surface.
- Tidal flow from the Firth of Lorne cause waves of over 30 feet/9metres and the roar of the resulting maelstrom is so loud it can be heard up to ten miles/16 km away.
- Corryvreckan derives from the Gaelic term Coire Bhreacain, meaning 'cauldron of the speckled seas' or 'cauldron of the plaid'.
- The waters surrounding The Corryvreckan Whirlpool are considered some of the most dangerous in the British Isles.
- Author George Orwell came close to drowning in the Corryvreckan whirlpool in the summer of 1947 whilst writing a book in Scotland.
- You can today take boat tours of the whirlpool and surrounding coast and scuba dives of the rock pinnacle are also available.



SCOTSPEAK

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

"Scotland's book festivals are a cultural treasure. Their growth has been extraordinary, and they are a powerfully positive and much-loved part of our lives. During the pandemic many were able to pivot and deliver great events digitally and online - and they achieved a huge amount at a time when people were facing tremendous challenges. But it has been a struggle for the festivals, and they have endured a serious battering, not least through the huge loss in revenues. It's clear from our survey that they have an immense impact on Scotland's culture and society, bringing hundreds of thousands of people of all ages, backgrounds and interests in contact with writers of every imaginable kind - firing imaginations, provoking discussion and strengthening the nation's love of literature."

Adrian Turpin, Artistic Director of Wigtown **Book Festival and Steering Committee** member of the Scottish Book Festivals Network, said new research reveals the immense contribution of the country's book festivals and the importance of ensuring they can return to full strength after the pandemic. A survey covering nearly half the country's 60+ book festivals shows that in 2019 they attracted audiences of almost 780,000 (410,000+ in person), featuring 2,800 authors and invested almost £6.7 million of staff, goods and services (with a wider knock on impact estimated at over £11.3 million). 2022 is Scotland's Year of Stories which will spotlight, celebrate and promote the wealth of stories inspired by, written, or created in Scotland.



"It is an honour for Edinburgh to be selected as a "Champion City" as part of The Queen's Green Canopy – this is a fantastic initiative that will not only help the environment but be a lasting tribute to the Queen's legacy. We're very proud that Edinburgh is already one of the UK's greenest cities, with more trees than people. This is another step as we strive towards our hugely ambitious target of making the city net zero by 2030."

City of Edinburgh Culture and
Communities Convener Donald Wilson
said as Edinburgh becomes a Queen's
Green Canopy 'Champion City' and 1,270
new trees were planted, including Scots
pine surrounded by meadowgrass, on 0.7
hectares of greenspace at Stenhouse.
The Queen's Green Canopy is a unique
tree planting initiative created to mark Her
Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, which
invites people from across the United
Kingdom to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'.

"Livingston is a wonderful place to live, work and do business and this is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate this important milestone within the local community. The programme is being developed to include a wide range of activities and will aim to involve as many local groups as possible. We are obviously conscious of possible Covid-19 measures, but officers will progress with a programme of events that will take place throughout the year."

Leader of West Lothian Council, Lawrence Fitzpatrick, said as Livingston prepares for its Diamond Anniversary. The New Town of Livingston will turn 60 years old in April 2022 and it is the largest settlement in West Lothian and second only in size to Edinburgh in the Lothian region.



"It feels really good, I loved it, I've come so far since my first challenge. Loch Ness is the most famous loch in the UK and one of the most famous in the world. The Highlands are beautiful anyway but it's nice to see the surrounding area from a different perspective, not many people get to see it from Loch Ness, so it was lovely. It did get a little bit hairy out there. I think I fell in more times in this challenge than I have in my whole paddleboarding career. I blame me falling in on Nessie, I reckon she knocked me in."

Paddle boarder David Haze said as he beat the World Record for the fastest paddle of Loch Ness in the Scottish Highlands.
David became the fastest person to paddle the famous loch of nearly 23 miles in length in five hours and forty-five minutes. David took up the sport after a stint in prison and now works with the criminal justice system to promote rehabilitation.

"Despite Trimontium being a wellknown site and having had a series of excavations in the past, we don't have accurate information about where some of the previous trenches were.
The high-density radar will let us relocate the excavation trenches from 1910 and allow us to use modern mapping methods to pull them all together and work out how they relate to what's beneath the ground. We are hoping, with this fantastic technology, to fill in a lot of gaps."

Dr Kayt Armstrong said a hi-tech geophysical survey will take place in the Scottish Borders of a historic Roman fort, located just outside Melrose.

The Roman fort which will be studied was built in 79AD by Roman soldiers.

This is the first time this technology will be used on a Roman site in Scotland.



"This is a hugely important improvement scheme for Stonehaven which was unfortunately postponed owing to the impact of the Covid pandemic on the construction industry. Given the deteriorating condition of the existing harbour infrastructure, this is quite simply a must-do project and timing to coincide with the summer tides and weather is equally critical. We appreciate there will be some disruption this summer, however we want the town's harbour to remain a wonderful tourist attraction and a source of economic wealth for the town for decades to come."

Philip McKay, Head of Roads and Infrastructure at Aberdeenshire Council, said a major infrastructure programme to safeguard the long-term future of the iconic Stonehaven Harbour will commence in May. The steel sheet piling at Stonehaven Harbour has suffered corrosion and pitting to the extent that there are now large voids in the existing sheet piles. This has resulted in the material behind the sheet piles being exposed and at risk of being washed out by the tidal sea waters.



SCOTWORD

Here is a wee Scottish crossword for you to try! If you're stuck, answers can be found on page 22.

CLUES ACROSS:

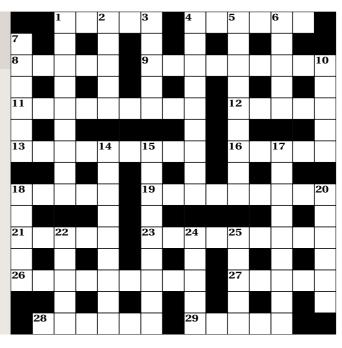
- 1) Scotsmen's shirts (5)
- 4) Upper edge of ship's side (6)
- 8) Kirk divider (5)
- 9) Impart knowledge (9)
- 11) Powerful whirlpool (9)
- 12) It's the pits! (9)
- 16) Precious stones (5)
- 18) Clay pigment (5)
- 19) Many inhabit the Herides (9)
- 21) Under the doctor (5)23)

- 23) Highlander's weapon (9)
- 26) He looks after the reserves (9)
- 27) Representation (5)
- 28) Nation across the Channel (6)
- 29) The untrue image of the Scot (5)

CLUES DOWN:

- 1) Found over the Border (9)
- 2) Smokes in Scotland (5)
- 3) Agitate in old Scots (5)
- 4) Object of games entrants (4, 5)
- 5) Got to bed in it (9)

- 6) Participate in (5)
- 7) Dark Scot on the road (6)
- 10) Scots vegetables(5)
- 14) Recognised by secret signs (9)
- 17) He's Sandy for short (9)
- 18) Wise young flier (5)
- 20) An Australian lady (6)
- 22) Shout of approval (5)
- 24) The end of a Scots thread (5)
- 25) Young wool suppliers (5)



Bronze Age women altered genetic landscape of Orkney

n international team, led by researchers at the University of Huddersfield, has used ancient DNA to rewrite the history of the Orkney islands. They have discovered that Orkney was much less insular than has long been assumed and actually experienced large-scale female immigration during the Early Bronze Age, which replaced much of the local population. The project was a close collaboration between genetic researchers in Huddersfield and Edinburgh, led by Professor Martin Richards and Dr Ceiridwen Edwards, and archaeologists living and working on Orkney.

Orkney Britain's Ancient Capital

Orkney is world-famous for its archaeological heritage. Around 5000 years ago, during the Neolithic period when farming first took hold, it was a hugely influential cultural centre. With many superbly preserved stone dwellings, temples and megalithic monuments, and a style of ceramics that appears to have spread out across Britain and Ireland, it has even been described as "Britain's ancient capital".

Over the thousand years that followed, however, as Europe moved into the Bronze Age, it has been widely viewed that somehow Orkney became left behind. Its influence dwindled and the islands became more insular. But with fewer archaeological remains to study, much less was known about this time. By combining archaeology with the study of ancient DNA from Bronze Age human remains from the Links of Noltland site, on the remote

northern island of Westray, researchers now know much more about this time than ever before, and the results have come as a great surprise to geneticists and archaeologists alike. Professor Martin Richards, University of Huddersfield said: "This research shows how much we still have to learn about one of the most momentous events in European prehistory – how the Neolithic came to an end."

Firstly, despite the supposed insularity, the team has shown that Orkney experienced large-scale immigration during the Early Bronze Age, which replaced much of the local population. The new arrivals were probably the first to speak Indo-European languages and carried genetic ancestry derived in part from pastoralists living on the steppe lands north of the Black Sea. This mirrored what was happening in the rest of Britain and Europe in the third millennium BC. But the researchers found a fascinating difference that makes Orkney highly distinctive. Across most of Europe, the expansion of pastoralists on the eve of the Bronze Age was typically led by men, with women being sucked into the expanding populations from local farming groups. But in Orkney, the researchers found exactly the opposite.

The Bronze Age newcomers were mainly women, while male lineages from the original Neolithic population survived for at least another thousand years – something not seen anywhere else. These Neolithic lineages, however, were replaced from the Iron Age and are vanishingly rare today.

Why was Orkney so different?

But why was Orkney so different? Dr Graeme Wilson and Hazel Moore of the Orkney-based EASE Archaeology, who excavated the Links of Noltland, argue that the answer may lie in the long-term stability and self-sufficiency of farmsteads on Orkney, which the genetic data suggests may have already been maledominated by the peak of the Neolithic.

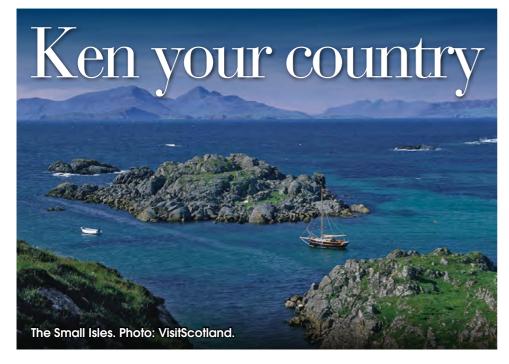
When a Europe-wide recession hit towards the end of the Neolithic, they may have been uniquely placed to weather harsher times and maintain their grip on the population as newcomers arrived. This implies that Orkney was much less insular than has long been assumed and that there was a protracted period of negotiation between the indigenous males and the newcomers from the south, over many generations.

"This shows that the third-millennium BC expansion across Europe was not a monolithic process but was more complex and varied from place to place," explained Dr George Foody, one of the lead researchers on the project from the University of Huddersfield. The results have been surprising for both the archaeologists and geneticists on the team, although for different reasons: the archaeologists did not expect such large-scale immigration, whereas the geneticists did not foresee survival of the Neolithic male lineages.

The University's Director of the Evolutionary Genomics Research Centre Professor Martin Richards said: "This research shows how much we still have to learn about one of the most momentous events in European prehistory – how the Neolithic cameto an end."



The settlement at Links of Nottland extends from the late 4th millennium BC to the mid-1st millennium BC. Over 35 buildings have so far been excavated. This house was constructed around 2900 BC. Photo courtesy EASE Archaeology (Graeme Wilson and Hazel Moore).



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 deepest inland stretch of water in Britain?
- 2) In which city was the first U.S. Burns Club inaugurated in 1847?
- 3) It lives for 60 years and can be found on the beds of several Scottish rivers -what is it?
- 4) Which Scottish hero's dying words were, "Let the piper play Return No More"?
- 5) In auld Scots what was a carling?
- 6) Which mountain dominates the Royal Estate at Balmoral?

- 7) Was Glasgow Cathedral built before or after the Reformation?
- 8) Which islands comprise the group known as the Small Isles?
- 9) Where in Scotland would you find Sodom?10) In auld Scots which part of the body is called the pow?

Answers

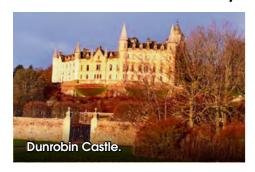
- 1) Loch Morar at 1077 feet.
- 2) New York.
- 3) The freshwater mussel.
- 4) Rob Roy MacGregor.
- 5) An old woman.
- 6) Lochnagar.
- 7) Pre-Reformation.
- 8) Rum, Canna, Eigg and Muck.
- 9) The Shetland Islands.
- 10) The head.



Commemorating The Battle of Littleferry

The Battle of Littleferry was fought, near Golspie, Sutherland on 15th April 1746. This month, on 15th April, a memorial stone is to be unveiled and a "pilot" battlefield trail launched. A history of the battle is also being written.

By: Alison Cameron



xciting plans to commemorate a previously unheralded Jacobean battle in Golspie in the Highlands – previously overshadowed by events at Culloden the following day - are accelerating. The Battle of Littleferry on April 15, 1746, between government forces and supporters of Bonnie Prince Charlie, resulted in as many as 100 being killed and twice that number injured. Now, this little-known piece of Jacobean history is to be marked later this year with the erection of a large memorial stone and garden at the site, a mile or so south west of Golspie, in memory of those who fell on both sides.

Overshadowed so much by Culloden

The small village of Golspie is in Sutherland on the eastern seaboard of the county. Littleferry, a hamlet of just a few cottages at the time, is about three miles along the shoreline. Littleferry resident Major General Patrick Marriott initiated the idea of the memorial and has gathered a project team together to take the idea forward.

He has written a full history of the skirmish, which resulted in the defeat of the rebel Jacobites, in spite of them outnumbering the government forces by perhaps as much as 2-1.

He says: "This is the first time ever that a full history of the battle has been written and is being captured by the erection of a memorial stone. Very few have really been able to research the battle before and little interest has been shown in it. Increasing digitisation and access to hitherto largely unknown primary sources has made this much easier. The battle was overshadowed so much by Culloden that it disappeared; yet how many villages in the UK have a pristine battlefield around them?"

276th anniversary

The stone will be dedicated at a special ceremony to commemorate the 276th anniversary of the battle on April 15 this year. Plans for the event to take place in 2021 on the 275th anniversary had to be postponed because of Covid restrictions. The stone itself was identified on land above Golspie and has recently been transferred to the site itself. It is believed to date back more than 400 million years and stands around 6ft high with a width of 5ft. However, such an imposing stone also presented a logistical nightmare - how to transport it to the memorial site? Weighing about 10 tons and having to negotiate mainly single-track roads it was quite a challenge for the team!



The battle started at Dunrobin Castle on the outskirts of the village, seat of the House of Sutherland. As fighting became more fierce, the Jacobites realised that despite superior numbers, they were being outflanked. They made their escape along the Littleferry road, with various skirmishes along the way, until they were surrounded at Littleferry pier with only the sea as an escape route. A few managed to board small boats but many were captured and Prince Charlie's men eventually surrendered. The fascinating Battle of Littleferry book, going into the background to the events as well as monitoring in fine detail the roll-out of the battle, will be launched on the same day as the dedication ceremony. A battlefield trail has also been created with six waymarker stones placed along the route from Dunrobin. These will eventually have QR facilities for those travelling the route to learn about its history. The trail is also incorporated within the book. Local schools are being involved and the Sutherland Schools Pipe Band have





written a special tune to commemorate the battle. Talks are being held with the Culloden Visitor Centre to have a historic link between the two sites. The Royal British Legion Scotland have agreed to hold a ceremony annually from next year, at the memorial site, to commemorate the dead on both sides.

Keep up with developments or learn more at: www.facebook.com/BattleofLittleferry



Major General Patrick Marriott has written a book on the battle and instigated the idea of a commemorative stone.

Threat to the future of Geelong's Highland Gathering



he future of one of Geelong's longest running and most popular events, the Geelong Highland Gathering, first held in 1857, is in doubt because it is unable to attract younger people to join its committee. The Gathering, held on the third Sunday in March, has led a nomadic existence since being evicted from its modern home of 53 years - Queen's Park, Newtown - in 2011. It has since been held at Fyansford, Geelong Showgrounds, Deakin University, Goldsworthy Reserve, Corio and, in 2019, at Osborne Park, North Geelong. It was not held in 2020 and 2021 because of the corona-virus pandemic and also was not held this year for the same reason.

Gathering President and Chieftain, Dr Maurice Marshall, said most committee members were in their 60s and 70s and an injection of younger blood was needed to ensure the survival of the event. "The City of Greater Geelong and Geelong Major Events Committee have been wonderful supporters of the Gathering and we hope to find a new permanent home where we can rebuild it to once again be the second largest, perhaps even the largest, Highland Gathering in Australia. But we do need a younger generation to become involved and develop a vision for the future," Dr Marshall said.

Meeting of the Clans

The first Geelong Highland Gathering was held in South Geelong, in 1857, organised by the Comunn Na Feinne Society, itself formed only a year earlier. Comunn Na Feinne, in Scottish Gaelic, means "Meeting of the Clans" which, in many respects, is what Highland gatherings are all about. The Comunn Na Feinne Hotel, on the corner of Kilgour and Bellarine Streets, South Geelong, is a reminder of the past. Geelong's gathering was the first held in Victoria and was only the second in Australia. It came to an end in 1929, due to the Great Depression, but Newtown City Council resurrected it in 1957, when looking for a showpiece event for Queen's Park.

In 1993 and 1994, with municipal amalgamation, the gathering was held under the auspices of the newly-formed City of Greater Geelong (CoGG).

The Geelong Highland Gathering Committee was formed in 1995 and took over the organising of the event with financial support from the CoGG council. The new committee, over the next 26 years, built the Gathering into one of the largest pipe band contests and Scottish events in Australia. Queen's Park became permanent home to the Victorian Pipe Band Championships, and they were also held in new Geelong sites in in 2014 and 20125 (Deakin University) and 2017, 2018 and 2019.

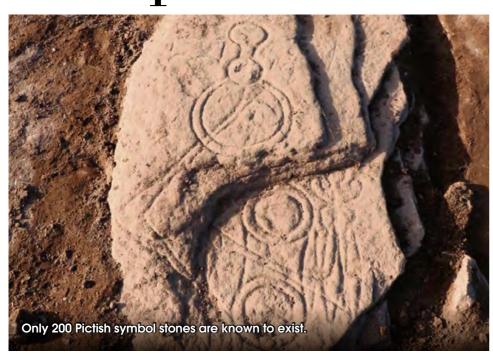
"Geelong has a great Scottish history and is close to Melbourne with its population of more than three million people. There is still room for Geelong to expand its gathering if it can rebuild its committee with younger blood and find a permanent home once again which can win over Victorian and Australian pipe band championship organisers. It has been a wonderful major event for Geelong over so many years." Dr Marshall said.

For further information about joining the Geelong Highland Gathering committee, contact: Marene Turnley, Gathering secretary, 0407 512 672 or secretary@geelonghighlandgathering.org.au





Rare Pictish symbol stone found near potential site of famous battle



rchaeologists have uncovered a Pictish symbol stone close to the location of one of the most significant carved stone monuments ever uncovered in Scotland. The team from the University of Aberdeen hit upon the 1.7metre-long stone in a farmer's field while conducting geophysical surveys to try and build a greater understanding of the important Pictish landscape of Aberlemno, near Forfar.

Aberlemno is already well known for its Pictish heritage thanks to its collection of unique Pictish standing stones the most famous of which is a cross-slab thought to depict scenes from a battle of vital importance to the creation of what would become Scotland - the Battle of Nechtansmere.

Leading Pictish research

The archaeologists were conducting geophysics surveys of the ground early in 2020 in an effort to better understand the history of the existing stones as part of the Leverhulme Trust funded Comparative Kingship project. Taking imaging equipment over the ground, they found anomalies which looked like evidence of a settlement. A small test pit was dug to try and establish whether the remains of any buildings might be present but to their surprise, the archaeologists came straight down onto a carved Pictish symbol stone, one of only around 200 known

Their efforts to establish the character of the stone and settlement were hindered by subsequent Covid lockdowns and it was several months before they were able to return to verify their find. The team think the stone dates to around the fifth or



sixth century and they have painstakingly excavated part of the settlement and removed it from its resting place - finding out more about the stone and its setting.

Professor Gordon Noble who leads the project says stumbling upon a stone as part of an archaeological dig is very unusual. He said: "Here at the University of Aberdeen we've been leading Pictish research for the last decade but none of us have ever found a symbol stone before. There are only around 200 of these monuments known. They are occasionally dug up by farmers ploughing fields or during the course of road building but by the time we get to analyse them, much of what surrounds them has already been disturbed.

Archaeologists have uncovered a Pictish symbol stone close to the location of one of the most significant carved stone monuments ever uncovered in Scotland.

To come across something like this while digging one small test pit is absolutely remarkable and none of us could quite believe our luck. The benefits of making a find in this way are that we can do much more detailed work in regard to the context. We can examine and date the layers underneath it and extract much more detailed information without losing vital evidence."

Pictish symbols

Research fellow Dr James O'Driscoll who initially discovered the stone describes the excitement: "We thought we'd just uncover a little bit more before we headed off for the day. We suddenly saw a symbol. There was lots of screaming. Then we found more symbols and there was more screaming and a little bit of crying! It's a feeling that I'll probably never have

again on an archaeological site. It's a find of that scale." Like the other stones at Aberlemno, the new discovery appears to be intricately carved with evidence of classic abstract Pictish symbols including triple ovals, a comb and mirror, a crescent and V rod and double discs. Unusually the stone appears to show different periods of carving with symbols overlying one another. The stone has now been moved to Graciela Ainsworth conservation lab in Edinburgh where more detailed analysis will take place. Professor Noble hopes that it could make a significant contribution to understanding the significance of Aberlemno to the Picts.

Dr Noble added: "The stone was found built into the paving of a huge building from the 11th or 12th century. The paving included the Pictish stones and examples of Bronze Age rock art. Excitingly the 11th-12th century building appears to be built directly on top of settlement layers extending back to the Pictish period. The cross-slab that stands in the nearby church at Aberlemno has long been thought to depict King Bridei Mac Bili's defeat of the Anglo Saxon King Ecgfrith in 685, which halted the expansion of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms to the north. The settlement of Dunnichen, from which the battle is thought to have

taken its name, is just a few miles from Aberlemno. In recent years scholars have suggested another potential battle site in Strathspey, but the sheer number of Pictish stones from Aberlemno certainly suggests the Aberlemno environs was a hugely important landscape to the Picts. The discovery of this new Pictish symbol stone and evidence that this site was occupied over such a long period will offer new insights into this significant period in the history of Scotland as well as helping us to better understand how and why this part of Angus became a key Pictish landscape and latterly an integral part of the kingdoms of Alba and Scotland."

Researchers will now be working with the Pictish Arts Society to develop a fundraising campaign for the conservation and display of the stone.





IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Capercaillie may become under threat of extinction

A new scientific review has advised on measures which could help reverse the fortunes of the iconic capercaillie in Scotland. The report from a sub-group of the NatureScot Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) advises that if perilous population declines continue the species could be lost to Scotland within two to three decades. After a thorough review of the scientific evidence, the report advises that current breeding success appears to be too low to allow recovery of the population.

Interventions that improve the survival of eggs and young chicks are especially important. These include predator control and diversional feeding; and creation of refuges around hotspots to minimise disturbance. Survival of adults would be enhanced with more work to mark or remove deer fences, which can cause injury or death to birds in flight. The review drew on a large amount of impressive past and on-going research by members of the Scottish Capercaillie Group.

Factors having the biggest impact on breeding success were identified as increased predation from foxes, pine martens and crows; as well as more disturbance due to rises in visitor numbers and recreational activities. The report highlighted the importance of further action across the core area of Badenoch and Strathspey if the population is to be conserved.

Biodiversity Minister Lorna Slater said: "Capercaillie are magnificent birds and an iconic species for Scotland, so I am deeply concerned that their population continues to decline. This underlines the need to redouble our efforts to work in partnership and at the landscape scale to reverse these declines. We will carefully consider the advice in this report and work with partners to build on the positive conservation work already happening on the ground, such as through the Cairngorms Capercaillie Project."

HRH The Princess Royal announces TS Queen Mary will sail again



HRH The Princess Royal has announced that *TS Queen Mary* will sail on the Firth of Clyde, once again. In the most

important development yet in the restoration of the ship - named after her great grandmother - The Princess Royal made the announcement on a visit to Pacific Quay, in Glasgow. It comes three years to the day since The Princess Royal became its Royal Patron and it is hoped TS Queen Mary will be back in service offering cruises by the summer of 2024. The announcement reflects a change of plan by the Friends of TS Queen Mary - tasked with its restoration - which has been "overwhelmed by the generosity of corporate donors and individuals" who are keen to see the ship restored to its former glory.

Originally, it was planned that TS Queen Mary would be permanently berthed at Pacific Quay next to Glasgow Science Centre and have a heritage and maritime training focus while connecting Glasgow and its citizens to the ship. Now it has been decided she will sail again, supporting the post-pandemic recovery and providing a boost to Scotland's tourism generally and notably Clyde coast resorts such as Rothesay and Dunoon, which were familiar destinations. Since restoration work began, Friends of TS Queen Mary have raised and invested £3.8 million of cash and in-kind support in the project. Many supporters have given generously of their time and resources. This reflects TS Queen Mary's pre-eminence and unrivalled international appeal. A number of celebrities also have pledged their support, including actor and author Robbie Coltrane OBE, who remains Patron of the charity.

During the restoration TS Queen Mary has forged strong links with City of Glasgow College which, among its many courses, offers Nautical Studies and Marine Engineering qualifications. Its cadets have already been making use of the vessel and will continue to do so when she sets sail again. This has enabled the creation of the "TS Queen Mary Skills and Training Academy" and the first UK cadet ship. Iain Sim, Chairman of the Friends of Queen Mary said the announcement that TS Queen Marywill resume cruising once again after 47 years was a "landmark day" in the proud history of a beloved ship. Iain said: "It is entirely fitting that this announcement should be made by HRH The Princess Royal given the strong family connection TS Queen Mary has not just to her great grandmother Queen Mary after whom the ship is named -

but to the wider Royal Family. While *TS Queen Mary's* incredible history can only be understood looking backwards, her legacy must be lived looking forward."

Shipbuilders of Port Glasgow sculpture assembly complete



Assembly of the giant Shipbuilders of Port Glasgow sculpture is complete in Inverclyde. The huge 10-metre (33 feet) tall stainless-steel figures by renowned artist John McKenna are now in place in the town's Coronation Park. Lighting will soon be added to illuminate the figures, which pay tribute to the people who served in Port Glasgow and Inverclyde shipyards and made the area world famous for shipbuilding. Landscaping and paving works are also to be carried out and signage added between now and the summer to finish off the project.

Councillor Michael McCormick, Inverclyde Council's convener of environment and regeneration, said: "The delivery of these sculptures has been a long time coming and much has been said about them but it's now clear to see that they are quite spectacular, and the reaction thus far suggests they are well on their way to becoming an icon of Inverclyde and the west of Scotland. These sculptures not only pay homage to our rich shipbuilding heritage and the many local people who served in our yards but will also provide another reason for people to discover Inverclyde as we continue to promote the area as a good place to live, work and visit."

Sculptor John McKenna was commissioned to create a striking piece of public art for Port Glasgow and the design was chosen following a public vote. The artist said: "When my design of the shipbuilder's sculpture was overwhelmingly voted for by the people of Port Glasgow, I was absolutely thrilled that my vision for the artwork would be realised. It was no easy task to design and complete the sculpture, a complete unique one-off, a dynamic pose, the colossal pair swinging their riveting hammers, trying to evoke working together. To see the pair finished in metal at full-size was fantastic, for so long these complex figures were all 'in my head'. That complexity and the size of the work were a huge challenge, not only in the structural design but the faceted plating that is the sculpture surface. These artworks, made in my studio in Ayrshire, are to celebrate the historical shipbuilding industry of Port Glasgow and the impact 'Clydebuilt' had on the whole world.

They were made for the people of Port Glasgow, those who had faith in my design and voted for it. Hopefully, they will cherish and enjoy these colossal giants of industry for many generations to come."

The figures measure 10 metres (33 feet) in height with a combined weight of 14 tonnes. It is thought to be the largest sculptural figure of a shipbuilder in the UK and one of the biggest of its kind in Western Europe.

Outlander Effect to support tourism recovery



As hit TV series *Outlander* returns, national tourism body, VisitScotland, has published new research on the Outlander Effect during the pandemic. 'Droughtlander', the nickname for the period between *Outlander* seasons, ended in March with the premiere of Season Six. The TV series, based on the books by Diana Gabaldon, is primarily filmed in Scotland (a filming locations map is available on visitscotland.com) and has been a boon to screen tourism in the country since its first broadcast in 2014, particularly from US and Canadian visitors.

VisitScotland hopes interest in the latest season, combined with the return of international travel, will help support Scotland's tourism recovery. New figures published by the national tourism organisation, compiled by the Moffat Centre for Travel and Tourism Business Development, show that despite restrictions and temporary closures during 2020, Outlanderrelated attractions (historic, cultural, and filming locations) saw more than 1.7 million visitors. Visitor numbers at Outlander-related attractions peaked at 3.2 million in 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a 64% drop in total visits to all attractions in Scotland between 2019 and 2020, as monitored by the Moffat Centre. Outlander-related attractions fared better, falling by 45% over the same period. Attraction figures for 2021 have yet to be released.

Jenni Steele, Film and Creative Industries Manager at VisitScotland, said: "Outlander has had a huge impact on Scottish tourism for many years, especially by visitors from the USA and Canada. Despite the devastation to the tourism industry caused by the pandemic, it's been really encouraging that fans have continued to be drawn to Scotland and our many historic and cultural attractions. With season six on our screens and international travel routes returning, we hope this inspires UK, US and Canadian viewers to plan a trip to the home of Outlander." Outlander follows the adventures of World War II time-travelling nurse Claire Randall and her relationship with 18th century Highlander Jamie Fraser.

Bay City Rollers tartan to march at New York's Tartan Day Parade



n the 1970's the Bay City Rollers were one of Scotland's hottest exports. Fans the world over were obsessed with Les, Alan, Derek, Eric and Woody and Rollermania was born. The founder members, Alan and Derek Longmuir created the band in the front room of 5 Caledonian Road, Edinburgh, after which their lives were never the same again. With their half-mast trousers and scarves tied

to wrists, they made tartan trendy and for the next forty odd years the Rollers were synonymous with tartan. When Alan passed away 2nd July 2018 there was huge outpouring of grief from fans the world over, a true legend had gone. Lesley Stirrat, a lifelong fan and traditional kiltmaker, had the idea of honouring Alan with his own tartan. The idea was run past friend and fellow fan Gillian Watkins and Alan's

wife Eileen, who both loved the idea and so the seed was sown. Working with Marton Mills, designs and colours were discussed and chosen. The colours chosen were purple for the heather, green for the Ochil Hills, blue for the Bannock Burn and pink a favourite of Eileen and Lesley. Next was the name, although Alan lived for many years in Bannockburn near Stirling, he was always first and foremost a proud son of Edinburgh and so this beautiful tartan, the Official Alan Longmuir Proud Son of Edinburgh tartan was born.

Team Tartan in the Big Apple

On 9th April 2022 Bay City Roller fans from all around the world will be taking part in the world-famous New York City Tartan Week grand finale, the Tartan Day Parade. Eileen was touched and honoured beyond words when she was told that the march, down iconic 6th Avenue into Central Park, was to be in honour and memory of Alan.

Eileen, Lesley and Gillian were so thrilled that Alan's Proud Son of Edinburgh tartan was to be the featured and showcased tartan on the day. Lesley and Gillian are beyond excited to now be able to complete the "Team Tartan" attendance Stateside and join with Eileen and 100 other fans from across the UK and around the world, at this unique and exciting fan event. For Eileen it will be especially poignant as only a few years ago Alan was asked to be

the honoured Grand Marshall of the Tartan Day parade that year, but alas was unable to do so. Perhaps with his own beautiful tartan being waved and displayed, it will almost be like him being there after all.

If folks at home the world over, who cannot attend, display their tartan at home in Alan's honour on the day, we can show the world that though he is no longer with us, Alan Longmuir, Proud Son of Edinburgh, the original Bay City Roller can still turn the world tartan.

You can follow the story, and journey to New York this month, of the Official Alan Longmuir Proud Son of Edinburgh tartan at: www.facebook.com/Alan-Longmuir-tartan-Proud-Son-of-Edinburgh-102578251193391



A Highland event not to be missed

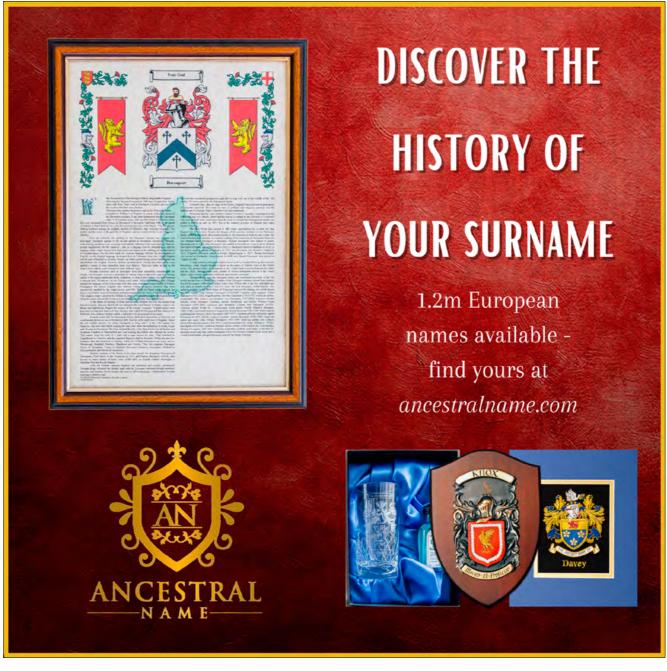


he kilts will be swirling as we welcome in the first day of June 2022 at the annual Scottish Highland Lunch. Held in "Cellos", the grand dining room of the NSW Masonic Club & Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, 169 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, NSW, this is definitely a highlight of the annual events calendar and not to be missed.

The event commences at 12:30pm, with piping by Sam Young, Pipe Major of the Pipes and Drums of the City of Sydney. A hearty three course Scottish fare is served for lunch. A highlight of the event is the parading of the Haggis by the NSW Masonic Club's President and the Whisky Ceremony with a recital of Robbie Burns poetry by the MC, Alex Parker as well as his own special Scottish humour!

The day would not be complete without Highland dancing by Elizabeth Munro and the Argyle Dancers. There are prizes for the best-dressed male & female, so book in, dress in your Scottish finest and be transported back to the bonny hills of Scotland for the day.

See www.thecastlereagh.com.au for further details or phone 02 9284 1006 to book a table for friends.







Lord Thurso was appointed as Chairman of VisitScotland in 2016 and has significant travel industry experience. Lord Thurso and the team at VisitScotland today are responsible for promoting Scotland as not only the incredibly beautiful destination so many know it is, but also a sustainable destination for many to enjoy into the future. Lord Thurso took time to speak to the Scottish Banner from his home Caithness on how Scotland has managed the tourism downfall caused by the pandemic, what is happening in Scotland in 2022 and why Scotland really is calling so many to come back when they are ready to travel again.

Lord Thurso, you have had a long and varied career in the hospitality and tourism industry. With all your many years of experience how do you feel tourism will begin to rebound, particularly in Scotland, after the last two years?

The first thing is, for me, the core elements of what makes Scotland great, have not changed. And it's a combination of all the environments: the built heritage, the natural environment, you've got the heritage and the history, and you've got fantastic people who are dying to do great things and a huge centuries long tradition of hospitality. So those core elements of why people love to come to Scotland are unchanged. I have absolutely no doubt that at a

moment, we will recover back to where we were in 2019. And actually, go beyond that.

One of the most interesting things for me to remember is that in 2019, we had approximately 3.5 million overseas visitors come into Scotland, and they represented about 43% of the spend that we had. They're incredibly valuable. Whatever it is about Scotland, that combination of things, it touches heartstrings and pulls people back, and I think that's coming back. When I look back to the first three or four months of the pandemic and lockdown, and the moment when the entire hospitality industry, every element of tourism, the whole visitor economy was basically closed, I think there was about 10%

of the industry that was open looking after key workers, but 90% closed. And I must admit, there were times that I did wonder how we will get through it. But in fact, the interesting thing was that people at home rediscovered they were in Scotland, which was tremendous.

As an example, my own little business here, I had people coming back to stay in cottages and play golf and fish and all these kinds of things and they said, "We haven't done this for 20 years, we normally go to Spain, or somewhere else. This is rather fun. I think we'll do this again." Rediscovering your own country for Scots was quite interesting. What I think will happen and I suspect it will take a year or two to build right back up, but I think there is an immense pent-up demand for people to come back. I know so many other of the diaspora Scots, that I've been in touch with who say, "we just can't wait to come back", there is still that emotional pull to come back to Scotland. And it's one of the huge advantages of brand Scotland is that people have an emotional attachment to Scotland, which is not something you say about every country. The enabler was always going to be the airlines coming back, and the ability to travel without doing umpteen million tests and all the other things and that is now beginning to happen. We're seeing flights in and out of Glasgow and Edinburgh and connecting flights up from Heathrow. We are certainly expecting this summer to see something of a

resurgence, but I suspect this year will be better than two years ago and last year, but not back to 2019 levels. I think 2023 will be close to 2019 visitor levels and I think 2024 will be exceeding 2019. So, I am hugely optimistic as to the fact that it will happen. I simply don't know quite the timing.

2022 is Scotland's Year of Stories, can you tell us more about what the year will hold for visitors to the country?

I thought it was a stroke of genius to come up with the idea of the Year of Stories, because in every part of Scottish tradition, is the tradition of telling tales. Going right back to the wonderful Celtic myths, and right back to the sagas of the Vikings. But then you add into that all the great storytellers, some of the obvious ones like Robert Burns or Sir Walter Scott, but also the modern storytellers and you've got Outlander, you've got TV, you've got films. So, there's a huge canvas which to take pictures of Scotland. For example, the National Trust for Scotland have put together a range of products based on their places where you tell tales. For example, there is the Sir Walter Scott Trail and there is an Outlander Trail. So, the Year of Stories just gives everybody an opportunity to tell a tale about Scotland, and the visitor will find that all over Scotland, people are telling tales in lots of different ways. From the wonderful peat fire with a lovely peaty whisky and a tall tale of the evening, right through to the history and to modern times, and TV and film trails, there is such a story to tell.



Scotland's tourism industry is really getting behind responsible tourism. Can you tell us more about just what that means and how visitors to Scotland can also be participants of responsible tourism?

Funnily enough, the genesis of what is now responsible tourism came from a way we began to think at VisitScotland about four years ago, so that predates a lot of what has come since. I remember saying to my colleagues I feel that the environment is something that we really ought to pay attention to, and I think it's going to come up the political scale in every country in the world.

We began to look at how do we take carbon out of what we do, because tourism essentially is a good story as tourism brings wealth in. I've always defined economic activity of tourism as being to generate the maximum wealth for the minimum environmental and social disruption.

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But on top of that, being a tremendous wealth generator for the country. It also enhances our wellbeing, and we are all understanding of mental health following two years of isolation and lockdowns. Tourism also spreads understanding and friendship and I am a huge believer in the fact that tourism is a force for good.

So internally, we've decarbonized, hugely. Interestingly, one of the things is I don't travel nearly as much as I used to, but I've learned to do things like video conferencing and much more online. We're great believers in reusing if we possibly can, and recycling if we can't reuse, and working towards a minimum waste.

We have got a couple of initiatives, one of my favorites was to encourage the use of electric cars on the touring routes, and to talk to some of our big electricity providers about putting in more electric charging points and encouraging more accommodation providers to have electric charging points. And that if you like is all about environmental sustainability, then there's the community sustainability, which is the other half of it, which is about having a positive impact in the community by supporting jobs and wealth creation and not having a negative one by trashing the place and blocking the roads or whatever it may be. And the two actually go hand in hand.

So, it's responsible tourism which is the beginning of a journey. It's about encouraging people to be responsible when they're here and encouraging businesses to offer a product that is naturally green.

Has the legacy of the recent COP26 (UN Climate Change Conference) event in Glasgow further driven how the Scottish travel industry can show the world just how tourism and sustainability can work together?

I think interestingly, the first thing I'd say is Glasgow appeared on the world stage day in day out for two weeks, and most of the coverage was fantastic. It demonstrated to the world that a major conference can be staged in Glasgow, and there's no other city in the UK that's done that. So, the knock-on effect of showing the world just how good we are at major events was a huge plus for the future and I think we will get a lot of business coming into Glasgow and Edinburgh on the back of COP26.

My sense was that for the first time probably ever in the history of COP conferences that there was a huge willingness to try and achieve something, and it was the first conference where coal was allowed to be discussed, and a kind of no coal future was part of the conference. I think that reflects the fact that really, everybody now gets that the manmade heating of the planet is not going to be a terribly good thing. And if we want to preserve the planet, in the way we like it, then we're going to have to do something about it. One of the things I learned about it was that a large chunk of it is going to be about changing behavior, but it's also going to be about technology.

I see the unbelievable advances that are taking place, literally in the space of two or three years, which is going to be a huge difference. Some of the technologies we think we're going to be able to invent, but we haven't invented yet. Scotland certainly took COP26 to its heart, and what a wonderful way to introduce people to Scotland, and Glasgow, but through one of the most important conferences for one of the most important topics that has ever taken place. So, I thought it was fabulous, and we're doing everything we can to build on that.

Last year VisitScotland became the first National Tourist Board to declare a Climate Emergency. Can you tell us why that was so important for VisitScotland to do and how you aim to play a leading role in the development of Scotland as a globally recognised responsible destination?

I am absolutely convinced that the generations that are coming along, they want to enjoy a destination, they want experiences, but they want to do it responsibly. And if they have a choice between somewhere that takes account of that and was working hard on sustainability, and somewhere else that doesn't, I think they will choose the sustainable product every time.

I think it's in part about doing the right thing, but I think it makes huge economic sense. And I think that's what really will drive this. And I'm convinced if we can say, we've created a visitor experience that doesn't use any carbon, I think that's a choice that people will make. I see it as one of the things that within the next few years will become one of our great unique selling points. Scotland is not only a beautiful place, but it's a sustainably beautiful place, and one the visitor can enjoy sustainably.

Scotland is such a varied destination with incredible natural assets, creative and vibrant cities and coastlines that transport you to another time. For a relatively small country it more than packs in much for the visitor, how easy, or hard, is it to showcase the huge variety Scotland has to offer to potential visitors?

Well, the wonderful starting point is that virtually everybody in the world is heard of Scotland. All across the world in Africa and Asia and beyond armies have regiments with pipes and drums. It's one of those extraordinary exports that exists. There is a reach from Scotland, that goes right across the world that very few other countries have. Are problem to a certain extent is that reach is bagpipes, shortbread, and Edinburgh Castle.

The great thing is to look at that hook of the fact people know something about Scotland and give them the rest of Scotland. That plays into our current campaign, Scotland is Calling, which is all about understanding that there is emotion involved, and it is about appealing to people's emotions and appealing to how people feel about Scotland.

What you appeal to is the sentiment, what you appeal to is the sense of experience. If we offer an experience that's clearly got emotion behind it and feeling, we get far more hook into people.

You come from Caithness in the north of Scotland, an area often untouched by tourists. Can you tell us a bit more about this special region and perhaps why visitors should consider it on their next visit?

The first thing I'd say is Caithness is an example of lots of bits of Scotland which are slightly off the beaten track. I have had the privilege as Chairman of VisitScotland to visit huge amounts of Scotland that I had never seen before and there really is just so many different places that offer something different. So, I would encourage people to come to Caithness but also to lots of different parts, for example if you go into Dumfries and Galloway and locations like that, as there's huge, wonderful places off the beaten track. I visited several spots in the country that are such a pleasure to see like across Aberdeenshire or visit the whisky trail. Scotland offers a rich smorgasbord of experiences for everybody to enjoy.

Caithness is a wonderful county; several writers have described it as being beyond the Highlands. The names up here are mostly Norse, and we have a huge amount in common with the Orkney Islands and people often describe Caithness as an island that didn't manage to get through. I think we have spectacular coastal landscapes, stunning sea birds, and then right up butting up against these beautiful Heather headlands.

Then, in the middle of the county, you have the blanket bog, known as the flow country, which is taken from a Norse word meaning wet boggy place and the flow country of Caithness and Sutherland is the largest blanket bog in the world. There are more carbons sequestered in the peat of Caithness and Sutherland than in the entire Amazonian rainforest. It's a stunning world class environment and we are very hopeful it will become a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Of course, I happen to think that the people of Caithness are among the most special of Scots and we have a reputation for very warm hospitality.

The international Scottish community has always been a strong driver of inbound tourism to Scotland.

How important does this market continue to be for Scotland and what message do you have for the Scottish Diaspora now getting ready to make plans to come back 'home' for a visit?

My message is we're here with open arms ready and willing to look after you. It's Haste Ye Back, but when it's safe, and you're comfortable to do so. I think that level of comfort is coming this year and so what we always say to everybody is, is that "Scotland is Calling", we're calling out to you, we are here, we love you, we remember you, and we're ready to look after you as and when you are ready. But do it when you're comfortable. So hopefully across the globe, the Scottish diaspora is getting ready to come back and when people feel they'd like to, we're ready to welcome them. It's always good to see the diaspora coming back and we so appreciate how much they amplify the sound of Scotland in their communities and teach non-Scots what fun it is to come and be in Scotland. I'm hugely grateful for the fact that all the organisations across America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the rest of the world, do such a really great job in helping us promote Scotland.

If Scotland is Calling you, plan your trip at: www.visitscotland.com



THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

- 1 Hunt the Gowk Scottish equivalent of April Fool's Day (gowk is a cuckoo).
- 1 The birth of Sir William, Mr Justice MacPherson of Cluny, the noted Scottish jurist and the 27^{th} Chief of Clan Macpherson. Cluny passed away in February, 2021. $1926\,$
- 2 The College of New Aberdeen was founded. The college was founded by the Earl Marischal of Scotland, George Keith of Inverugie, and became known as Marischal College. Marischal College was the second university in Aberdeen, following the foundation of King's College in 1495 by Bishop William Elphinstone. The two universities were united in 1860 as the University of Aberdeen. 1593
- $\begin{array}{c} 2 \text{ Tartan Day is officially proclaimed} \\ \text{in the Canadian province of Prince} \\ \text{Edward Island.} \\ 1992 \end{array}$
- 3 Murder of Duke of Rothesay, heir of Robert III. 1401
- **3** King James VI travelled to London to take up the English throne. James moved his court to Whitehall Palace in London, where they settled around the palace in an area which became known as "Scotland Yard". On his way to London he knighted 300 people, and in the space of four months in England had knighted more people than Queen Elizabeth had in her entire reign. James returned to Scotland only once, in 1617, and he liked to boast that he now ruled his northern kingdom with a stroke of his pen. **1603**
- 4 Parliament held by King Robert II at Scone, resolved that his son, the Earl of Carrick should succeed his father as King (as Robert III although he was baptised John). 1373
- 4 King Robert III died and James I ascended the throne (but was not crowned until 1424 as he was a prisoner of the English). 1406
- $4 \hbox{ John Napier, inventor of logarithms,} \\ died in Edinburgh. \\ 1617$
- $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{5} \text{ Birth at Lesmahagow of composer Alexander} \\ \text{Muir, creator of Maple Leaf Forever. } \textbf{1830} \end{array}$
- $\bf 5$ Disaster at a England vs. Scotland football match at Ibrox Stadium when part of the flooring collapsed, killing 25, injuring over 500. $\bf 1902$



6 - Declaration of Arbroath - "For we fight not for glory nor for riches nor for honour, but only and alone for freedom, which no good man surrenders but with his life", was drawn up by the monks of Arbroath Abbey. The Declaration of Arbroath is widely regarded as being the inspiration behind the American Declaration of Independence in 1776. 1320



- 6 Nova Scotia officially proclaims Tartan Day. Started originally as "Tartan Day in Nova Scotia," founder and *Scottish Banner* reader Jean Watson approached every provincial Legislative Assembly in Canada, as well as other Scottish-cultural societies across Canada, to help get such a date established. 1987
- $\begin{tabular}{ll} 6 Tartan Day is officially proclaimed in the Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta. 1992 \end{tabular}$
- 6 Tartan Day is officially proclaimed in the Canadian province of Newfoundland & Labrador. 1995
- $\bf 6$ The U.S. Senate declared April 6 to be National Tartan Day to recognize the contributions made by Scottish-Americans to the United States. $\bf 1998$



- 7 Jim Clark, Duns farmer, twice World Motor Racing Champion, killed in crash, Hockenheim. The Jim Clark Motorsport Museum opened in the historic market town of Duns in the Scottish Borders in 2019. **1968**
- 7 The Scottish National Party was founded. The SNP was created out of the merger of a number of parties; the National Party of Scotland, formed in 1928 from an amalgamation of a number of small parties following the rejection of a Home Rule bill, and the Scottish Party, a breakaway section of the Cathcart Conservative Association. The party enjoyed its first success in 1945, when Robert MacIntyre was elected to represent Motherwell. 1934
- 7 The last native person born on the island of St Kilda, Rachel Johnson, died at the age of 93 at a care home in Clydebank. 2016
- 8 Radical prisoners were taken from Paisley to Greenock jail under escort. The citizens of Greenock fought their escort, the Port Glasgow Militia, until they reached the jail. Still coming under attack, the Militia opened fire on the stone-throwing crowd. Eight were killed, including an eight year old boy, and ten wounded, before the militia retreated from Greenock. In the evening, the angry Greenockians stormed the jail and freed the prisoners 1820
- 9 Second Treaty of Durham in which David I is recognised as King of an independent Scotland by King Stephen of England. 1139
- 9 Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat, the leading Scottish Jacobite rebel was beheaded on Tower Green, London. Lovat has the unwanted notoriety of being the last man to be publicly beheaded in Britain. It is said his last words said were in Latin: "Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori" or "It's sweet and seemly to die for one's country". 1747
- **10** King James V born. **1512**
- 10 Sandy Lyle becomes the first Scottish (and British) golfer to win the US Masters tournament. 1988
- $\begin{array}{c} 11 \text{ Scottish settlement in Darien,} \\ \text{Panama, abandoned.} \\ 1700 \end{array}$
- 11 Scotland won the final Five Nations Rugby Championship. Scotland became champions by default when Wales beat England 32-31 at Wembley. If England had won the last game of the championship they would have been the champions. Both teams had won the same number of games, but Scotland won the title on points scored. The last time they won the championship was in 1990. The following season, Five Nations became Six when Italy joined the competition. 1999
- 11 The wedding of Scottish tennis star Andy Murray to his long-term partner Kim Sears takes place in Dunblane. 2015



- 12 Union flag adopted as the flag of England, Wales and Scotland. 1606
- 12 The SNP won their first electoral victory. Dr Robert D. MacIntyre won the Motherwell and Wishaw by-election in a straight fight with Labour by a majority of 617 votes. MacIntyre later became Provost of Stirling. 1945
- 12 The Cromarty Bridge opens. The road bridge joins a junction with the B9163 to the south in Ross and Cromarty with a junction with the A862 to the north at Ardullie Point. It became part of the A9 in 1982. 1979

- 13 The Stone of Destiny, which had been removed from underneath the Coronation Chair by Scottish nationalists on 25 December 1950, was returned to Westminster Abbey after being found at Arbroath Abbey. 1951
- 13 Scots entertainer, actor and comedian Jimmy Logan died. 2001



- 14 University of Edinburgh founded. 1582
- 14 Aberdeen Football Club was founded. 1903
- 15 Prof Joseph Black chemist, researcher, teacher, first to identify carbon dioxide, died. 1799
- 15 Actor and comedian Rikki Fulton born in Glasgow. He was best known for his double act with Jack Milroy as Francie and Josie and as the Rev I M Jolly in Scotch and Wry. 1924
- 15 Infamous passenger liner the *RMS Titanic* sank in the Atlantic Ocean after hitting an iceberg. Several Scots died on the ship including musician Jock Hume who played as the ship sank, First Officer William Murdoch, and several staff members. 1500 people perished on the maiden voyage to New York. 1912
- 16 Royal Yacht Britannia launched at John Brown's shipyard, Clydebank. The Britannia opened as a visitor attraction in Edinburgh in 1998. 1953



- 16 The Battle of Culloden took place at Culloden Moor, where British troops defeated the Scottish Jacobite army for the final confrontation of the 1745 Jacobite Rising. It was the last ever battle to be fought on British soil with over 1500 Scottish fatalities. 1746
- 16 Livingston in West Lothian is officially designated as a New Town. It was the fourth postwar new town to be built in Scotland. 1962
- 17 A British record attendance at a football match was set when 149,547 watched Scotland play England at Hampden Park, Glasgow. Until 1950, this was a world record. 1937
- 17 Alexander Mackenzie, the Scottishborn Canadian statesman, died. Mackenzie was the first Liberal Prime Minister of Canada, serving from 1873-78. 1892
- $18 \hbox{-Remains of David Livingstone} \\ \hbox{interred in Westminster Abbey.} \\ 1874$
- 18 Harbourne Stephen, the Scottish World War II fighter pilot, was born. Stephen was a Battle of Britain fighter ace who went on to forge a career for himself as a newspaper executive. On his way to a tally of 23 registered kills (though it was almost certainly higher) he shot down five enemy aircraft in a single day in August 1940. 1914
- $19 \hbox{ Robert II, grandson of Robert the} \\ Bruce, died at Dundonald Castle. \\ 1390$
- 19 Jim Mollison, the pioneering Scottish aviator, was born. Mollison held many individual records for distance, endurance, and speed flying, he became the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic from East to West. 1905
- 20 The first public meeting of the Scottish National Party was held. The meeting was held in the Central Hall, Tollcross, Edinburgh. The Scottish National Party was formed by the amalgamation of The National Party of Scotland and The Scottish Party. 1934
- 21 John Muir, the Scottish-born American naturalist, was born in Dunbar. Muir was responsible for the creation of Yosemite and Sequoia national parks in California. The 550-acre Muir Woods National Monument is named after him. 1838

- 21 Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act passed by the Scottish Parliament, the first piece of legislation in the UK to give formal recognition to the Scottish Gaelic language. It aims to secure Gaelic as an official language of Scotland, commanding "equal respect" with English, by establishing Bòrd na Gàidhlig within the framework of the government of Scotland. 2005
- 22 Captain John Paul Jones (born and raised in Scotland), Commanding Officer of the Continental Warship Ranger, led a raid on the town of Whitehaven, England. The first raid on England in over a hundred years and the last time England was attacked on its own shore. No one was hurt and the damage was minimal but the fear created in England played a huge part in the American victory. 1778
- 23 King Alexander I died at Stirling Castle, succeeded by David I. 1124
- $23 \hbox{ Blackout restrictions lifted as World} \\ \text{War II heads to a conclusion. } 1945$
- 24 15 year old Mary, Queen of Scots, married French Dauphin, Francis Valois (aged 14) at Notre Dame in Paris. They had no children and Francis died in 1560, ruling France for just eighteen months. 1558
- 24 Novelist R M Ballantyne, who wrote 90 books, the best known of which was *The Coral Island*, was born in Edinburgh. 1825
- 25 Malcolm III (Canmore) crowned. 1058



- 25 The Royal Navy's last battleship, *HMS Vanguard*, was accepted for trials by the navy. The ship was built at John Brown's in Clydebank. It was originally intended to be part of the Far Eastern Fleet fighting the Japanese but was not completed until after the war, and so became the only British battleship never to fire her guns in anger. 1946
- 26 Philosopher David Hume born. 1711
- 27 The Scottish army was routed in the Battle of Dunbar by Edward I, King of England. Hostilities started when the King of the Scots, John Balliol, renounced his allegiance to the English Crown. The battle became known as the "Dunbar Drave". 1296
- $27\,$ James Bruce, the Scottish explorer, died. Bruce became the first European to discover Lake Tana, the source of the Blue Nile, in 1770. $1794\,$
- 27 The population of Scotland reaches a record high, standing at 5,404,700. 2017
- 28 Henry Dundas, powerful politician, known as "Uncrowned King of Scotland", born. $1742\,$
- 28 Glasgow Garden Festival opened by Prince Charles and the Princess of Wales on the south bank of the River Clyde. The festival would welcome 4.5 million visitors over five months. 1988
- 29 Stephen Hendry, aged 21, becomes the youngest world snooker champion by beating Jimmy White 18-12 in the final. $1990\,$
- 29 Lonnie Donegan, the Scottish skiffle singer, composer and guitarist, was born. Considered by some to be Britain's first pop superstar, James Anthony Donegan burst onto the scene in the mid-1950s with a distinctive, lively sound called skiffle. 1931
- 30 Royal Bank invents first overdraft, William Hogg overdraws by £1,000 (over £75,000 at today's money). 1728
- $30\,$ David Livingstone, the renowned Scottish missionary and explorer, died. Born in Blantyre, Livingstone was famed for his exploration of central and southern Africa. He was the first European to see Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. $1873\,$
- 30 An Comunn Gaidhealach was formally instituted as a vehicle for the preservation and development of the Gaelic language. 1891

Spring: Highlights of the season

Puffins arrive to nest

In April, puffins start to arrive on Dun Mor, the chunky sea stack south of Canna and Sanday. Around 350 pairs breed here, laying their eggs in burrows during May and June. The eggs are incubated for about 40 days and each pair hatches just one young puffling a year, which is fed by the parents for around 50 days until it's ready to set off into the Atlantic. With their colourful beaks and charming waddle, puffins are known as the 'clowns of the sea', and a group is known collectively as a circus. Puffins often mate for life.

Singing as the sun rises



The spring dawn chorus starts an hour or so before sunrise, when the first male songbirds burst into song. Choose a day with clear, calm weather and head out to enjoy the music. For adventurous walkers, upland areas like Ben Lomond and Mar Lodge Estate are wonderful places to hear the piping call of the meadow pipit or the complex song of the skylark. Or head to Killiecrankie, or the Hermitage near Dunkeld in Perthshire, to listen to robins, wrens, warblers and thrushes.

Flowers of the ancient woods

In the Pass of Killiecrankie, the flowering of star-shaped wood anemones signals the arrival of spring. These gentle white flowers

enjoy the sun, so they flower early in the season to make the most of the dappled sunshine before the canopy above fills out with leaves. Wood anemones spread slowly, expanding their territory through their roots, so finding large areas of these pretty white flowers is a good indicator of the ancient vintage of the woodland in which you're wandering.

Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve is renowned for its wide range of arctic and alpine plants. The first to bloom in spring is the richly coloured purple saxifrage, its flowers opening as the snow melts, sometimes as early as February. This incredibly hardy plant flowers at some of the highest altitudes and most northerly locations in the world. Take your binoculars and look out for it on the crags of Grey Mare's Tail, one of the UK's highest waterfalls, which plunges into Moffat Water Valley in Dumfries & Galloway.

Return of the osprey



From March, ospreys migrate from Africa to breed in southern Scotland. Once extinct in this country, since 2008 these fish-eating birds of prey have been nesting at Threave Estate in Dumfries & Galloway, where we worked with a local tree surgeon and raptor expert to encourage them to breed here.

for Scotland (NTS) places, as the coasts, islands, mountains and moorlands all spring back to life. As the days lengthen and warm, it's a lovely time of year to spot some of the seasonal visitors to Scotland, as well as some much-loved resident species.

en March and September, you can different species, but bats can be seen at

Spring is a magical time to visit Scotland and some of the favourite National Trust

Between March and September, you can visit our viewing platform on the estate, where our knowledgeable volunteers can tell you all about the ospreys. In between visits, keep an eye on the Friends of Threave Osprey Facebook page for regular reports from the nests.

Wheatear

They may be small, but wheatears have plenty of stamina! One of the earliest migrants to arrive at St Abb's Head in the spring, male wheatears seem to stake their claim on breeding territory in late March, followed by females in April. These mainly ground-dwelling birds have travelled a very long distance – all the way from sub-Saharan Africa, the longest migration of any small bird in the world. The male has a grey back with black wings and an orange front. The female sports more muted shades of buff, grey and brown. Both have a distinctive white rump, seen in flight.

Bats



Bats start to emerge from hibernation in March, becoming fully active in April and May when they emerge to feed most nights. Threave Estate has Scotland's first dedicated bat reserve and is home to eight different species, but bats can be seen at many different Trust places, including our historic buildings and natural heritage sites. Several countryside rangers, ecologists and building surveyors are specially trained to care for bats, inspect roosts and look after any strays. The NTS also conduct surveys to learn more about bat behaviour and ensure that our maintenance work doesn't disrupt their homes.

Black grouse



In the heart of the Cairngorms, the ancient pinewoods of Mar Lodge Estate are home to the rare black grouse. Early mornings in springtime provide the best opportunity to see their famous, swaggering courtship displays known as leks, which take place in open areas away from the woods.

This fascinating show of prowess by the male birds sees them fan out their white tail feathers, emit courtship calls and perform energetic displays. This builds into a frenzy of activity before the females eventually decide on a partner with which to mate.

Text and images 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

Broch-t back to life

A millennia-old, 'new-build': first look at archaeological group's 'grand design' for ancient monument.

rchaeological charity
Caithness Broch Project
(CBP) has unveiled their
impressive vision for the
first broch to be built in Scotland in
2,000 years. Brochs - tall, doublewalled, drystone towers found only
in Scotland - were once common
features in the Iron Age landscape
across the Highlands and Islands,
and Caithness can lay claim to have
more brochs than anywhere else.





CBP now want to recreate one as a thriving visitor attraction for the county. The visuals, created by digital reconstruction artist Bob Marshall, showcase the ambitious aims of the charity, who seek to construct the monument using tools and techniques only available to their Iron Age counterparts. The broch, designed by CBP co-founder Iain Maclean, reflects the wider architectural repertoire of brochs across Scotland, incorporates a number of flourishes such as triangular doorway lintels, cells built into the broch itself, and a series of outbuildings such as wags, wheelhouses and blockhouses.

Broch construction from all over Scotland

"We wanted to capture a variety of features found in Broch construction from all over Scotland, so the design isn't a carbon copy of any individual Broch but instead is a kind of chimaera of elements chosen for a number of reasons, ranging from structural robustness, health and safety, or purely because they were interesting. features." said co-founder and director Iain Maclean.

Maclean also noted that there were "elements of the design such as

the roof and the construction of the floors that had to be figured out with a degree of educated guesswork and speculation given that none of these survive in archaeological record", remarking that their broch vision was "as honest an interpretation of what a Broch looked like as we may ever arrive at."

It is hoped that the project will become an important visitor attraction for the region of Caithness, which has recently been projected to lose over 20% of its population over the next 20 years. "This project will be a hugely important one for the county," remarked CBP director Kenneth McElroy, "not only do we want this to become a sustainable and successful contribution to the economy of Caithness, but it could become an icon for the county too."

Caithness Broch Project hope to acquire land for the construction of the broch within the next year, with funding sources from a variety of sources. By 2023 it is hoped they can begin their project in earnest, involving a wide range of skilled heritage craftspeople.

For more on Caithness Broch Project, visit www.thebrochproject.co.uk To view more of Bob Marshall's work, for both, visit: https://bobmarshall.co.uk





IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Beef and Onion Pie with **Cheese Crust**

Ingredients:

For the pastry: 225/8oz. plain flour, plus extra for dusting 75g/23/4oz. chilled butter, cut into cubes, plus extra for greasing pinch salt 75g/2¾oz. mature cheese, or similar mature crumbly cheese, grated 4 tbsp. water 1 free-range egg yolk For the filling: 1-2 tbsp. vegetable oil 250g/9oz. beef mince 1 onion, peeled, chopped 1 carrot, peeled, finely chopped 1 celery stalk, trimmed, finely chopped 1 tbsp. tomato purée 1 tbsp. Worcestershire Sauce splash bitter ale 1 free-range egg, beaten To serve:

brown sauce Method:

mashed potatoes

For the pastry, blend the flour, butter cubes and salt in a food processor until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add the cheese, water and egg yolk and continue to blend until the mixture comes together as a dough. Turn out the dough onto a lightly floured work surface and knead lightly for 3-4 minutes, or until smooth and elastic. Wrap the dough in cling film and chill in the fridge for at least one hour. Meanwhile, for the filling, heat the oil in a frying pan over a medium heat. Add the beef mince, in batches if necessary, and fry for 6-8 minutes, turning once, or until browned all over. Remove from the pan and set aside (keep warm). Repeat the process with the remaining batches of beef mince. Add the onion, carrot and celery to the pan used to fry the mince. Fry for 3-4 minutes, stirring well, until softened. Return the mince to the pan and stir in the tomato purée, Worcestershire Sauce and bitter ale. Bring the mixture to a simmer and cook, stirring regularly, for 8-10 minutes, or until much of the liquid has evaporated. Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/

Gas 6. Grease a 20cm-25cm/8-10in pie plate with butter. When the dough has chilled, divide it in half. Roll out one half onto a lightly floured work surface until slightly larger than the pie plate. Carefully line the pie plate with the pastry, pressing it into the edges of the plate. Spoon the filling into the pie case. Roll the remaining dough out onto a lightly floured work surface until it is slightly larger than the pie dish. Brush the rim of the pie case with a little of the egg wash. Place the pastry disc on top of the pie and press the edges together. Brush the pie lid all over with the remaining beaten egg. Prick the pastry all over several times with a fork. Bake the pie in the oven for 35-40 minutes, or until the pastry is crisp and pale golden-brown. Serve with mashed potatoes and brown sauce.

Pork Chops with **Apples and Cider**

Ingredients:

4 pork chops, good thick ones with lots of fat salt and freshly ground black pepper a good glug fruity olive oil 1 large onion, or 2 small ones, peeled, chopped a couple of eating apples, each cut into 8 wedges, and at least 3 eating apples left whole a few fresh sage leaves a few juniper berries, squashed using the back of a knife a good glass of dry cider

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Season the chops well with salt and freshly ground black pepper. In a large shallow ovenproof pan, heat the olive oil and fry the rind of each chop for a good head start to get them crisp. Then lightly fry each side for a minute or so to get the outside crusty and golden brown and remove from the pan. Add the onion to the same pan with the pork juices and brown a little before adding in the apple wedges and sage leaves (add only a few as sage can overpower the dish) with the juniper berries. Add the chops back into the pan, and nestle them among the apples and onions, along with the remaining whole apples. Pour over the cider, enough to just cover the ingredients, season to taste and place in the oven for about half an hour, or until the pork and apple are cooked.

Highlander Soup

Ingredients:

2 cups dried lentils or peas 3 lbs./1.3kgs. ham or beef bone ½ cup diced celery 1 small onion, diced 1 cup cut carrots 2 tablespoons flour 2 teaspoons salt 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Method:

Wash lentils, or peas, and soak overnight in cold water. Drain. Add the recipe water & bones. Heat to boiling. Simmer 2 hours. Add greens (celery) and carrots and simmer until lentils or peas are tender. Skim all fat from soup. Remove bones, cut off any meat, dice it, & return diced meat to the soup. Sauté onions, then add flour, salt and pepper. Mix well. Slowly add one cup hot soup stock to onion mixture, cook until thick & smooth & return thickened mixture to rest of hot soup.

Aberdeen Butteries



Ingredients:

1 lb/.45kgs.plain flour 1 oz. yeast or ½ tablespoons dried yeast 1 tablespoons sugar 1 cup butter ½ cup lard 11/2 cup water at blood heat pinch of salt

Method:

Mix sifted flour and salt in basin. Cream yeast with sugar. When it bubbles, add to flour with water. Mix well, cover, set in warm place until bulk doubles; about 1/2 hour. Cream butter and lard together, divide into three parts. Put dough on floured board, roll out into long strip. Dot first third of fats on top third of pastry strip. Fold over like an envelope as when making flaky pastry. Roll out, repeat with other strips until all butter mixture is used up. Roll out, cut in small oval shapes or rounds. Lay on floured baking sheet, leave 2 inche between each to allow for expansion. Cover as above, let rise 34 hour. Bake for 20 minutes at 375°F/160°C-400°F/205°C.

Flora MacDonald

Ingredients:

2 Parts Dry Vermouth 1 Part Gin 1 Part Whisky/Honey Liqueur

Method:

Fill a mixing glass with ice cubes. Add all ingredients. Stir and strain into a chilled cocktail glass.

Chocolate and Raspberry Brownies



Ingredients:

350g/12oz. dark chocolate (55-60% cocoa solids) 250g/9oz. unsalted butter 3 free range eggs 250g/9oz. dark muscovado sugar 110g/4oz. plain flour, sifted 1 tsp baking powder pinch of salt 175g/6oz. fresh raspberries

Method:

Preheat the oven to 170C/325F/Gas 3. Butter a 23cm/9in square cake tin. Melt the chocolate and butter together, then cool slightly. Whisk the eggs until thick, then gradually add the sugar and beat until glossy. Beat in the melted chocolate mixture, then gently fold in the flour, baking powder and salt. Pour just over half the mixture into the prepared cake tin. Scatter over the raspberries, then cover with the remaining mixture. Bake in the preheated oven for about 40 minutes or until the surface is set. It will be cooked when a skewer into the middle comes out with just a little mixture adhering. Remove the cake to a wire rack and allow it to rest for about 20 minutes. Cut the cake into squares and remove them from the tin when cold.

Glazed Chestnut **Rice Pudding**

Ingredients:

250ml. milk 320ml. cream 90g. sugar 6 egg yolks 1 vanilla pod chestnut purée vanilla foam sprinkle of caster sugar

Method:

Place all the ingredients, apart from the chestnut purée and egg yolks into a pan and bring to the boil. Simmer until the rice is soft. Add the egg yolks and the chestnut purée and cook until it starts to thicken and remove from the heat.

Just before serving, sprinkle with caster sugar and place under a hot grill until the caster sugar is golden brown and caramelised.

Science behind the sword

By Debbie Reid Visitor Services Manager: Culloden Battlefield

The 276th anniversary of the Battle of Culloden (April16,1746) takes place this month and we highlight one of the battles weapons of choice.



t Culloden we are fortunate enough to have several weapons from the battle on display in our museum including canons, muskets and the famous basket-hilted broadsword. This sword was an essential piece of kit for any Jacobite soldier, but what made it so deadly? With the growing use of firearms in battle, the basket-hilted broadsword was designed to be quick and light and wielded with one hand whilst the other held a targe (a round shield) and dirk (a long-bladed dagger). Don't confuse it with the larger two-handed Claymore sword, which was used earlier in history such as at Bannockburn in 1314. The broadsword itself consisted of two main parts: the blade and the basket.

The blade of the sword was a single piece of sharpened steel. It was designed to slice through the enemy in front of you with ease and be strong enough not to bend or snap. Often both sides of the blade were sharpened to inflict maximum damage. In order to make the sword light enough to be wielded with one hand, a channel – or fuller – ran down the centre of the blade.

Some believe that this was a 'blood groove' to allow fluid to flow out of the body so the blade did not get stuck, but this is not true. The fuller is actually there to keep the weight of the sword lower without compromising on strength. It works much the same as I-beams used in supporting structures.

To give someone a good pommelling

The basket kept the users hand protected whilst serving as an excellent knuckle duster! On the base of the basket sat a pommel weight. This weight not only balanced the sword but also acted as a fierce tool for knocking someone over the head with. The term 'to give someone a good pommelling' comes from this very action. Swords would have been used for fast movements in close hand-to-hand combat and so good grip was essential; no one wants to lose a sword in the heat of battle because it slips out of your hand. To combat this, special material was used to wrap the handle of the sword. Typical swords used leather banded with wire or even sharkskin to increase the friction between the handle and the hand. By increasing this friction, it reduced the chance for the sword to slip or move about, and allowed more power to transfer into each stroke.

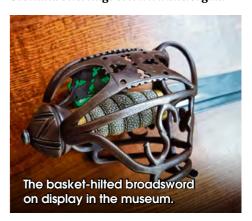
The basket and pommel were designed to balance the weight of the blade, but why is this important? Well, it all depends on what you want your sword to do. If the point of balance is nearer the basket, then the user will be able to move the sword with much more ease and control. However the power of the sword is reduced as all the focus is down at the hilt. Shifting the balance out towards the point of the sword results in more cutting power, but it will be much harder to control. Either way, shifting the balance is a compromise and there is no clear-

cut answer on where the perfect point of balance should be. Typically, swords were made with the balance within 2–5 inches of the hilt to create the best combination of power and control.

Here in the museum at Culloden you can see beautiful ornate swords such as the Brodie sword, which was designed as a display piece alongside battle weapons from the day of the battle. We also have replica weapons which you can see outside of the cases to get an even better idea of the science behind their power.

Culloden is 5 miles east of Inverness and the richly researched, stimulating and sensitive Culloden Visitor Centre, which stands beside the battlefield, features artefacts from both sides of the battle and interactive displays that reveal the background to the conflict.

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



Trust pieces together Lady Grange's secrets



onservation charity the National Trust for Scotland is piecing together the story of one of St Kilda's most notable residents after winter storms caused the collapse of the stone 'cleit' believed to be built on the site of Lady Grange's House. This particular cleit - a circular stone structure with a unique St Kildan turf roof - is thought to date from the mid-19th century, but may incorporate elements of the building where Rachel Chiesley was held from 1734 – 41. Lady Grange was sent to St Kilda by her husband James Erskine, a Jacobite supporter who feared his wife would expose his sympathies to the UK Government.

St Kilda's main island Hirta has more than 1200 similar cleits which undergo an ongoing programme of monitoring and maintenance to keep them standing against the elements in this remote and exposed location, 40 miles west from the Isle of Lewis. The highest wind speed recorded in the archipelago was 144 miles per hour. Repairing the damage to Lady Grange's House will be one of the most challenging tasks faced by the Trust in over half a century of conservation work on St Kilda, according to archaeologists.

A fascinating structure

The National Trust for Scotland's Western Isles Manager Susan Bain said: "This is a fascinating structure, with a really interesting history and we now have an unparalleled opportunity to discover so much more about it. Over the coming months, we'll not only be investigating the cause of the collapse, but we'll also be able to analyse the building techniques and materials. We'll also be able to get a really good look at the roof and take soil samples that will help us understand so much more about how the St Kildans created these unique buildings. We hope too to discover whether there are any elements of the earlier structure, where Lady Grange spent her time on Hirta incorporated into this cleit.

Our records suggest that it has never previously been repaired but we'd love to hear from anyone who may have images of the structure that could shed light on its more recent history. It's never good when a structure sustains damage, but the Trust and our talented contractors are very experienced in dealing with these issues on St Kilda and making repairs on an ongoing basis. Without our work to protect and restore the buildings here, very few would still be standing. We are very grateful to everyone who supports our charity for helping make our work to conserve the UK's only dual World Heritage Site possible."

UK's only dual UNESCO World Heritage Site

St Kilda is the UK's only dual UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to nearly 1 million seabirds, including the UK's largest colony of Atlantic puffins. After 4,000 years of human presence on the island, St Kilda was evacuated on 29 August 1930 after the remaining 36 islanders voted to leave as their way of life was no longer sustainable. As well as more than 1200 stone cleits, there are also blackhouses and cottages, drystone enclosures, a church, schoolroom and manse, which are all designated as Scheduled Monuments.

As well as seeking information from the public, the conservation charity is accepting donations to help with the cost of this investigation, analysis and subsequent repairs. Contributions can be made at www.nts.org.uk/caring-for-st-kilda.





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 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 geneologist. For information write:

Dr. Debra J. Baird, President 3491 County Road 3459, Haleyville, AL 35565 Email: djbaird4@gmail.com

Regional Directors for Australia

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



Clan **Cumming** Society of the United **States**

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



Clan Donnachaidh **Society of New South Wales Inc., Australia**

Duncan Robertson Reid

People who bear any of the above names or other Sept names of Clan Donnachaidh "The Children of Duncan" are invited to join in our activities by participating in the Scottish Gatherings held in NSW.

For information and membership application, contact Gordon Robertson. Email: gord7@bigpond.com

Clan Fraser Society of Australia

and Fraser septs to join our clan society.

All members receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter "Strawberry Leaves" Membership enquiries to Don Chitts Ph: (03) 9754 5120 donchitts@hotmail.com Website: http://clanfraseraustralia.org Facebook:https://www.facebook.com/ Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/

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

Website: www.ClanBell.org Online membership: https://clanbell.org/membership.html Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ClanBell Email: President@clanbell.org Clan Bell North America 4676 Emerald Willow Drive



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

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

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

London & Southern Counties * Rannoch & Highlands Canada: Ontario * Western Canada

Australia: New South Wales * Victoria * Queensland * Western Australia New Zealand: New Zealand

Africa:

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, ou History & Traditions, the Clan Museum in Scotland, the DNA Project, the new Struan Kirk Appeal, & locate a Branch near you. http://www.donnachaldh.com/ Facebook: The Clan Donnachaidh Society Email: ivc@donnachaidh.com



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

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

www.clangalbraith.org



Acworth, GA 30101

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 decent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

Donald E. Bruce 1051 Eagle Ridge Trail Stillwater, Minnesota 55082

Polly A. (Bruce) Tilford, Secretary 5561 Farl Young Boad Bloomington, IN 47408 www.familyofbruceinternational.org

"under the patronage of the High Council of the Chiefs of Clan Donald' **High Commissioner** Mr A. Neil Macdonald **State Commissioners**

Clan Donald

Qld SA Vic

Mr John Currie Mr A. Neil Macdonald Ms Therese McCutcheon Mr Norman A Macdonald Ms Pamela McDonald

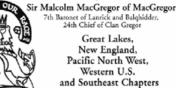
secretary.clandonaldaustralia@gmail.com There is no joy without Clan Donald



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





www.clangregor.org For membership contact Keith MacGregor P.O Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876 kmac1@optonline.net.

Peter Lawrie, Secretar 6 The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL Scotland



National Clan Cameron Australia 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

secy.nationalclancameronaus@gmail.com www.clan-cameron.org.au



Commissioner: Neil Macdonald Ph: 0412 090990

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



Elliot Clan Society, U.S.A.

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

Direct inquires to: Jim Dougherty Treasurer/Membership Chair Email: elliotcommia@gmail.com

Website: www.elliotclan-usa.com



Clan Gregor **Society** Australasia

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

PO Box 14 NORTH HOBART TAS 7002 Email: clangregoraustralia@gmail.com Web: www.clangregor.com

"Royal is our Race"



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

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



Clan Donald

Membership is open only to persons of the blood of Macdonald, however spelled or of the blood of a recognized associate family or is related by marriage or legal adoption to either of these write for more info and a complete Sept list.

William H. McDaniel **High Commissioner, CDUSA** bill-mcdaniel@att.net



Clan Farquharson **Association Australia**

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 www.clanfarquharsonaus.weebly.com



Est 1909

welcomed from MacGregors of all spellings and Septs

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

Contact our registrar: Jeanne P. Lehr 11 Ballas Crt. St. Louis, MO 63131-3038

Phone: 314-432-2842, registrar@acgsus.org website: www.acgsus.org



CLAN DONALD in VICTORIA

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

CLAN DONALD VICTORIA

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

CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE

Hon Chief: Mr Thomas R. Macdona Contact: secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com

itary clan society formed by the children of Norman Hume Macdonald an Johan McKenzie Macdonald (nee Munro) who departed Scotland in 1854.



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CONTACT: MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG



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

clancarrutherssociety@gmail.com

Clan Hay Australia



name variants, descendants, and supporters. Clan Hay looking for new members to



Alderston; Ayer; Bagra; Beagrie; Conn (Aberdeenshire only); Constable; Delahaye; Delgaty; Du Plessis; Dupplin; Errol; Garrow; Geary; Gifford; Hayden; Haye; Hayes; Hayle; Haynes; Hays; Hayton; Hayward; Hey; Hye; Kinnoul; Laxfirth; Leask*; Leith; Locherworth; Logie; Macara; MacGaradh; McKeste Peebles; Phillips (Aberdeenshire only); Slains; Turriff; Tweeddale; Yester; Zeste

For more information, please contact: Australian Clan Hay convenor, Chris Hay McMor Fairbank PO Box 70, Darrinallum, Victoria, 3325, Australia E: clanhayAustralia@outlook.com

clanHayAustralia@Facebook.com



Commander: Michael T. McAlpin

DISCOVER YOUR HERITAGE!

Contact: Membership@MacAilpein.com Website: https://macailpein.com/



Clan MacLaren

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

Mark A. McLaren, President President@clanmaclarenna.org



CLAN MACNEIL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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

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





Clan Hay



28 Oxbow Drive Willimantic, CT 06226 clanhavmembership@hotmail.con

The American Branch of the First Family of Scotland welcomes inquires from descendants of: Hay(s); Haye(s); Hayne(s); Hey(s); Alderston; Armll; Ayer(s); Constable; Con(n); De La Haye; Delgatie; Delgatie; D' Ay(e); Dellah'aY; Errol(I); Garrad; Garrow; Gifford; Hawson; Haygood; Hayter; Hayward; Haywood; Haynie; Hayden; Hayfield; Hayne(s); Leask(e); Leith; Lester; MacGaradh; Peebles; Peeples; Peoples; Turriff; Tweeddale; Yester

www.clanhay.com



Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.

Valerie McDougall VP Membership



John B. McClellan, Jr. Treasurer 383 Ash Brook Lane

Sunnyvale, TX 75182-3250

Email: treasurer@clanmaclellan.net

Invites all MacLellans and their descendants regardless of surname spelling to join in preserving our heritage. Various family names are MacLellan(d), McClellan(d), McLellan(d) and Gilliland.

Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net



Chief: John MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac

Contact: Secretary Mal Nicolson PO Box 243 **GYMEA NSW 2227**

www.clanmacnicol.org

The MacEanruigs, proud sons of Henry, invite you to join! **Clan Henderson Society**

Purposes of the Society

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

Alistair of Fordell

Contact

Jeff Henderson jeffh@bigpond.com 0439 330 012



www.clanhendersonsociety.com



Clan Hope of Craighall Society For all of the name and lineage of Hope

President & Commissioner: Stephen J. Hopopresident@clanhope.org www.clanhopeaustralia.org

land@clanhope.org nope.org

f https://www.facebook.com/groups/ClanHopeofCraigha



INTERNATIONAL

MACFARLANE.ORG

(Aonghais)

Worldwide, we welcome descendants

of all spelling variations, including

(Mc)Angus, (Mc)Canse, Mc)Ginnis, (Mc)Guenis,

(Mc)Inch, (Mc)Innes, (Mc)Innis, (Mc)Kinnis,

(Mc)Masters, (Mc)Neish, (Mc)Ninch, and more.

Scott Mcinnis, Member Services: scott@macinnes.org

or visit WWW.macinnes.org

Clan MacLeod Societies of Australia Membership is open to MacLeods and Septs (of any variant spelling), and descendants. Recognised Septs.

Askey MacAndie MacClure

MacWilliam Beaton MacAskill MacCorkill Bethune MacAulay MacCrimmon Norie Caskie MacCabe MacGillechallum Norman Harold MacCaig MacHaigh Tolmie Lewis MacCaskey MacRaild Williamson

- NSW, ACT & Qld Peter Macleod 02 4397 3161 Victoria & Tas - David Dickie 03 9337 4384
- South Australia Alex McLeod 08 8327 0925
- Western Australia Ruth MacLeod 08 9364 6334 • Email: peter.macleod@exemail.com.au



RICH IN HIGHLAND TRADITIONS

FOR INFORMATION: WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG

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

Clan Macpherson Clan Macpherson welco

For information about local activities visit our web site www.clan-macoherson.org/branches Africa. Derek Macpherson Australia. John L Macpherson

Canada. Denise Lagundzin Canada.Chair@clan-macph

phone +1 519 507 4465

Europe. Will Tulling Europe. Chairman@clan-r phone +31 655 774 425

NewZealand.Chairman@clan-macp phone +64 274 587 813 Scotland & Northern Ireland. Annie Le Roy-Lewis SandNI.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 7793 317 387 UnitedStates. Chairman@cl phone +1 360 701 8133

Australian.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +61 409 122 141

England & Wales. William Macpherson EandW.Chairman@clan-macpherson

phone +44 7877 363 507

New Zealand. Tony McPherson

at the junction of the A86 and B9150 It is open from 1st April to 31st October Ph + 44 1540 673 332. 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 NZ Contact: Sue Tregoweth email: sue.treg1@gmail.com



Clan Irwin Association

Chief and Patron

Alexander H.R Irvine of Drum,

27th Baron and Laird of Drum, Chief of the Name

Contact: Susan Irvine McRae, Chair

5607 Bryar Rose Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363

susan.mcrae@clanirwin.org

www.clanirwin.org

IRWIN • IRVINE • IRVIN • IRVING • ERWIN

And the many other spellings of the Name



Clan Mackenzie Society in Australia Inc.



Membership enquiries welcomed from Mackenzies of all spellings and Septs

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

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



CLAN MACNAUGHTON are invited to join our Worldwide Association to learn and share our MacNaughton and Scottish heritage. For more info go to clanmacnaughton.net or contact Mary Nivison Burton, Membership Secretary at: membersec@clanmacnaughton.net

New Second Edition! A History of the Clan Macnachtan Paperback available through Amazon.com, Amazon.co.uk, Amazon.ca



Clan MacRae Society of North America

Granted Arms in 2008

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

Need more info? Contact: Bruce McRae, President 303-670-9611

brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com



CLAN LAMONT SOCIETY AUSTRALIA invites membership from Sept names refer to Web Site www.clanlamontaustralia.com

Clan Chief Peter Lamont of that Ilk resides in Sydney Australia

> For all enquires about the Clan and Membership contact: President Ian McLucas.

mobile 0448 778 799



MacLaren Clan Labhran

Clan MacLaren Society of Australia

Information about the Clan and application for CMSA membership is available on the website or via the email address below.

Membership is open to MacLarens (all spellings), Septs, individuals and families with an association to the Clan.

> https://clanmaclarenau.org/ clanmaclarenau@gmail.com



Clan MacNeil Association of Australia

For all enquiries about the clan and membership contact: John McNeil

21 Coopers Avenue Leabrook, South Australia 5068 Phone: 08 833 33990 Email: kisimul@chariot.net.au



Clan Maitland Society

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

North America: Rosemary Maitland Thom rthomnvprdcan@aol.com www.clanmaitlandna.org Australia: Amanda Maitland clanmaitland@yahoo.com.au

6/1 Hinemoa Ave. Normanhurst, NSW, 2076 New Zealand: Judette Maitland judette@xtra.co.nz 33 Disley Street, Highbury, 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

OLIPHANT CLAN & FAMILY ASSOCIATION of North America



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ClanOliphantMembership@gmail.com www.OliphantOfNorthAmerica.org



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

www.clansinclairaustralia.com



Scottish Associations and Societies



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



The American-Scottish Foundation

Scottish Gaelic Language Classes:



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

Faraday Street, Carlton and on Zoom. Contact: Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277 Email:scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

Founded in 1905

https://www.scottishgaelicvictoria.com

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

> A. D. Pollock, Jr. PO Box 404 Greenville, KY 42345 e-mail: apollockis@comcast.net



The Stewart Society

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

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



Caledonian Society of WA Inc.

Promotes Scottish Culture and Traditions in Perth, Western Australia For further details contact John: 0427 990 754 Email: caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com

www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

Còisir Ghàidhlig Bhioctòiria **Scottish Gaelic Choir of Victoria**

www.facebook.com/ScottishGaelicChoirofVictoria Do you live in Melbourne? Are you interested in Gaelic and its music, or do you simply enjoy singing? Why not join us? Rehearsal times:

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Contact Raghnaid NicGaraidh rachel.hay@iinet.net.au

Clan Ross in Australia

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

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

Contact: Commander Des Ross at lonepiper.ross@gmail.com M 0403 830 853 Ken Duthie JP Director of Publicity M 0409 322 374



Clan Sutherland Society in Australia Inc.

Contact: M Williams, Secretary PO Box 1166 Park Ridge QLD 4125

genealogist_clan_sutherland_australia@hotmail.com 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 Email: hunterscots@gmail.com P.O. Box 34, Kotara NSW 2289





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 352, Mt Gravatt, QLD 4122 www.standrewsociety.com

Clan Ross America



Michael Ross, President Nancy Ross-Anderson, VP Membership 15244 El Centro St., Hesperia, CA 92345 membership@clanross.org info@clanross.org

www.clanross.org



Clan Sutherland Society of North America Inc.

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

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

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

Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group Supporting the Scottish Community in Victoria

ottish Resource Centre Level 1, 420 – 424 William St. West Melbourne VIC 3003

E-mail: resource_centre@scotsofaus.org.au Website: https://scotsofaus.org.au Facebook: facebook.com/ScotsofVictoria



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

www.theclanross.com

clanrossoftheunitedstates@gmail.com

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



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@clanyoungaustralia.com.au

Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

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President Norman Macdonald Secretary Jan Macdonald Contact details:

Email: secretary@victorianscottishunion.com Mobile 0438 584 930 Address: PO Box 116, Cobden, Victoria 3266 www.victorianscottishunion.co

Clan Scott Australia Group

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

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

E: heatherdesylva@bigpond.com



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

Worldwide organization for all Wardlaws or related families. We invite you to join us. Email: clanwardlaw@vahoo.com

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

The Scottish Australian **Heritage Council**



Membership is welcome from all of Scottish descent.

For information please contact members@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

Facebook

www.scottishaustralian heritage council.com. au

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

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

The show must go on!

By: David McVev

The Royal Highland Show began in 1822 and is today one of Scotland's largest and most loved outdoor agricultural events. The annual event celebrates the best in farming, food and rural industry across Scotland in the Scottish capital, as David McVey explains.





hink of an event that lasts for four days near the end of June and which attracted between 170,000 and 180,000 people pre-Covid. It sounds like I'm talking about the Glastonbury music festival but the event I have in mind is very different, has better toilets and catering and you won't need wellies. This is the Royal Highland Show, Scotland's largest outdoor event.

For such a major event, the show doesn't have a massive profile for tourists. Rather, it tends to attract people from Scotland, the North of England and Northern Ireland who are interested in farming, food or rural life - or who just want a different day out. Of course, the Royal Highland Show has suffered during Covid. A curtailed event did go ahead in both 2020 and 2021, but with only online spectators. The 2022 version will admit visitors, though in reduced numbers. But, in some form, it will go ahead; because this is its 200th anniversary.

Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland

The show is run by the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS) which works to improve Scottish agriculture, rural life and industry. It was formed in 1784 and held its first show in 1822. The first show was held in the grounds of Queensberry House in Edinburgh's Canongate. Queensberry House survives today, incorporated into the Scottish Parliament complex. MSPs now congregate where livestock once paraded. Make of that what you will.

The show has always had strong royal links. In 1859, the Prince of Wales, the future Edward VII, visited the show. In 1872 his mother, Queen Victoria, asked to be enrolled as an ordinary member of the society. The society and show both acquired 'Royal' status in 1948, granted by George VI. His daughter, the present Queen, became patron of the show in 1984 and visited as recently as 2009. The show tends to clash with Royal Ascot.

Each year the show used to be held in a different venue; for example, it travelled to Alloa in 1929, Dundee in 1933 and

Inverness in 1948. The last host location of the itinerant years was Aberdeen in 1959. Since 1960, the Royal Highland Centre at Ingliston has been the show's established home. The site is squeezed between Edinburgh Airport and the busy A8 road. The heart of the site is a large grandstand by the main showing rings where equine showing classes, showjumping and agricultural champions' parades are held. A highlight is the parade of brewers' drays from across the UK, the vehicles exquisitely decorated and hauled by magnificent Clydesdales and Shires that smell faintly of shampoo. Scott Brash from Peebles has often competed in the showjumping events; he has been toprated showjumper in the world and is an Olympic gold medallist. His every clear round brings the house down.

200 years

Not far away from the main arena are the sheep and cattle showing rings, and there are other, more distant showjumping and showing arenas. Much of the vast site is given over to shopping villages and showrooms where you can buy a pair of stirrups or a tractor or a sack of horse feed

or a punnet of strawberries or a sturdy tweed jacket. The food exhibition features demonstrations by celebrity chefs and stalls where you can sample the produce of quality food companies from throughout Scotland and beyond. The RHASS have, in recent years, tied to promote quality among the dozens of on-site catering outlets - local sourcing, sustainability and so on. The Royal Highland Show is all about Scottish food and farming; do your duty and eat as much as possible.

This is the Royal Highland Show, Scotland's largest outdoor event.

At the show, city folk (like me) get to see prize bulls and cows and goats, watch sheep being sheared, experience the sounds and smells of farriery, and visit food stands that explain how goodies get from farm to shop to kitchen. The Royal Highland Educational Trust (RHET) arranges visits for young people to farms and provides educational resources on food and farming. At the show, the RHET runs a special facility where young children can learn about farming and farm animals. The RHET, and the show itself, do their bit to ensure people know where their food comes from.

But there's more for visitors than an insight into farming and rural life. The Countryside Arena hosts falconry demonstrations, gundog displays, terrier racing and duck-herding. One year there was an exhibition of ferret-racing which was my highlight of the show. The Forestry Arena offers even more dramatic entertainment, with pole climbers spidering up 100ft tree trunks, axes being hurled at archery targets and mountain bikers performing jawdropping leaps and bounds.

A surprising feature of the show is its eclectic selection of musical entertainment, from traditional pipe bands to buskers. I once saw the legendary Alexander Brothers belying their years to wow the crowds. A different take on Scottish traditional music was provided by Clanedonia, an alarming-looking bunch with straggly hair and beards, like battle extras in Braveheart. They perform high-octane music with six drummers, a piper and the energy of a fight outside a pub. One year a schools' pipe band from West Lothian bravely toured the site playing stirring stuff, defying the miserable conditions of a soggy summer. In another, drier, year the musical headliners were the Red Hot Chili Pipers. The confused announcer introduced them as The Red Hot Chili Peppers. The American rockers would have been a real coup for the show.

The site is served by vast car parks and during the four show days special double-decker buses roll in regularly from Edinburgh. In 2012, the attendance over the four days dropped to 161,000 owing to unremitting rain. Yet the Royal Highland Show can cope with wet, thanks to its permanent buildings and network of tarmac roads and paths. This year will be quieter than usual, but visitors will return. After 200 years, the show must go on.

The Royal Highland Show returns June 23-26th at Ingliston in Edinburgh. For more details see: www.royalhighlandshow.org







WHAT'S ON - SCOTTISH EVENTS

Enjoy Australia and New Zealand's top Scottish event listings in the Scottish Banner. Please check direct with event contacts for the most up to date information. You can also see our latest updates (including events listed across Scotland and North America) or add your event at: www.scottishbanner.com/events

Australia

APRIL 2022

Bundanoon Highland Gathering 2, Bundanoon, NSW

Australia's largest Scottish gathering with pipe bands, entertainment, Clans, dancers, parade and stalls in the beautiful NSW Southern Highlands. Info:www.brigadoon.org.au

Brisbane Boys' College Highland Gathering 2, Toowong, QLD

BBC Scottish Highland Gathering is a great free and fun event located at Brisbane Boys' College. It has pipe bands, dancers, Drum Majors, Scottish stalls and food and drink. Info: www.facebook.com/ScotlandHG

R U Brown Piobaireachd Society of South Australia | Ernest Dowler Memorial Competition 3, Adelaide, SA

Every year in April, the Society conducts a piobaireachd competition to honour the late Pipe Major Ernest Dowler OAM. Ernie was a long standing member of the Society and former Pipe Major of the Adelaide University Regiment Pipes and Drums at Payneham RSL, 360 Payneham Rd, Payneham. Info: www.rubrown.org.au

Champion of Champions 2022 9-10, Launceston, TAS

International Highland dancing event hosted by Highland Dance Tasmania for the ABHDI. This elite Highland Dancing Event is open to all levels of Highland Dancers from Australia and the World. Info: www.highlanddancetasmania.com

Maclean Highland Gathering 15-16, Maclean, NSW

Listen to the stirring sounds of the pipes and drums and a variety of solo competitions. Highland dancing, Scottish stalls and more at Maclean Showground Easter weekend. Info: www.macleanhighlandgathering.com.au

Queensland Piobaireachd Meeting 24, Ipswich, QLD

The Queensland Piobaireachd Group is a monthly gathering of pipers and piobaireachd enthusiasts who play, listen to, and enjoy the ceòl mór at City of Ipswich Pipe Hall Limestone Park, Selwyn Edwards Dr. Info: www.pipebandsqld.com

Australian Celtic Festival 28-May 1, Glen Innes, NSW

A weekend of Celtic music, spirit and friendship at the Australian Standing Stones. 2022 celebrating the Year of Brittany, Cornwall and Wales. Info:www. australiancelticfestival.com

Scotword answers from page 6

Down:
1) Sassenach
2) Reeks
3) Steer
4) Gold Medal
5) Nightgown
6) Enter
7) Tarmac
10) Neeps
14) Freemason
15) Edinburgh
17) Alexander
18) Owlet
20) Sheila
22) Cheer
24) Thrum
25) Lambs

Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh 30, 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

MAY 2022

Clan Campbell Braw Scots Dinner & Ceilidh 14, Brisbane, QLD

An amazing night with your fellow Scots, includes Ceilidh, Braw Scot Dancers, dinner and Ishka Celtic band at Riverside Newfarm. Info 07 3376 5749 or www.surveymonkey.com/r/ GCP9YLS

Redlands Highland Gathering 15, Wellington Point, QLD

Pipe band competition at Redlands Sporting Club. Info: www.pipebandsqld.com

Hunter Valley Scots Soup and Damper Lunch

15, Teralba, NSW

Join the HV Scots Club at Teralba Hall. Info & bookings: 0490 419 570 or hunterscots@gmail.com

World Whisky Day 21, Nationwide

World Whisky Day invites everyone to try a dram and celebrate the water of life. Slàinte Mhath!

The Gathering 21-22, Ipswich, QLD

The Gathering brings the wider community together in celebration of Celtic music, culture and performance at Ipswich Turf Club. Info: www.gatheringfestival.com.au

Berry Celtic Festival 28, Berry, NSW

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

Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh 28, 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

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SCOTS CORNER CORNER With David Keith On106.7 Phoenix FM Monday 2:30 to 4:30pm Traditional, Folk & Gaelic Music Scottish News Views & Blethers Live Streaming www.phoenixfm.org.au

JUNE 2022

Scottish Highland Day Lunch 1, Sydney, NSW

Enjoy a delicious 3-course lunch of Scotland's finest fayre, whilst Scottish Highland Dancers perform to the Pipe Band, at in Cellos Grand Dining Room at Castlereagh Boutique Hotel. Book online through Eventbrite. Info: 02 9284 1006 or admin@thecastlereagh.com.au

Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival 4, Wingham, NSW

The Manning Valley Historical Society presents the annual free community event, Clans from all over the country descendto enjoy the Festival. The Clan of Honour for 2022 will be Clan Donnachaidh. Also pipe bands, entertainment, Scottish dancers and stalls. Info: www.bonniewingham.com

The National Celtic Festival 10-13, Portarlington, VIC

Australia's largest and most diverse celebration of Celtic music, arts and culture ,held over the June long weekend in beautiful Portarlington, on the Bellarine Peninsula, Victoria. Info: www.nationalcelticfestival.com

The Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular 11-12, Boonah, OLD

A 2 day Clydesdale & Heavy Horse Experience featuring a Scottish Highland Gathering at Boonah Showgrounds, 8 Melbourne St. Info: 1300 259 343 or www.clydesdalespectacular.com.au.

Westin Whisky Dinner 17, Melbourne, VIC

Join the Melbourne Tartan Festival for the highly anticipated annual Whisky dinner. Sit-down to a five course menu created by the Westin's Executive chef, Apoorva Kunte, matched to five premium Single Malt Whiskies from some of the worlds finest distilleries, including the Macallan, Bruichladdich and Australia's own Nant Distillery. Info: www.melbournetartanfestival. com.au/whisky-tasting

Townsville Tartan Weekend 17-19, Townsville, QLD

Presented by Townsville Scottish Community Inc. with events including: Heavy Games Competition, Tartan Social, Clansmen's Ceilidh and Townsville Tartan Day. Info: Marie Gibson-0413 456 542 or mlg7@optusnet.com.au

Williamstown Highland Celtic Gathering 18, Williamstown, VIC

A Celtic celebration at Seaworks Williamstown. Info: www. melbournehighlandgames.org.au/ williamstown-highland-celtic-gathering



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Kilmore Celtic Festival 25-26, Kilmore, VIC

All day non- stop live Celtic music. Evening concert until 11pm. SUN -The Celtic Banquet with fantastic live music accompaniment. Info: 03 5782 2636 or www.facebook.com/Kilmore-Celtic-Festival-102868380457

Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh 25, 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

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New Zealand

All of New Zealand is currently under the Red Light setting of the Covid-19 Protection Framework.

APRIL 2022

Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Night 8, Auckland

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

The Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh 9, Wellington

A ceilidh is held in the City of Wellington Pipe Band Hall, corner Stoke and Hanson Street Newtown, from 8.00pm - 12.00am. We are a very family-oriented organisation and we encourage participation by all ages and encourage the opportunity for you to wear some tartan. Info: www.wellingtongaelicclub.org.nz

Te Anau Tartan Festival 16-17, Te Anau

PLEASE NOTE THIS EVENT IS CANCELLED-A fantastic family festival in Te Anau, Fiordland celebrating the south's Scottish roots. Info: www.teanautartanfestival.co.nz

MAY 2022

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Lismore City Pipe Band marching on despite devastating flood damage



ate on one steamy February afternoon, alerts started to reach the residents of northern New South Wales, sounding the alarm that the unusually heavy rain that had been hammering Southeast Queensland was now bearing down their way.

Knowing that their gear could be in danger, members of the Lismore City Pipe Band sprung into action as soon as they heard the news. As one of those nowrare bands that own their own practice hall, they moved quickly to pack up and shift everything of value - uniforms, instruments, memorabilia, supplies and equipment - to higher ground in the



reassured that everything was carefully stored away as securely as possible, and well above the 1974 flood line - the highest levels that water had previously reached.

Then just a few days later, they watched on in horror as their town was almost completely submerged by a staggering 14.4 metre floodwater peak - a new record, at more than two metres higher than any previous flood on record. The roaring floodwater caused devastating damage to a region that was already struggling after the consecutive blows of 2020's catastrophic bushfires followed by the global pandemic. The band's hall was entirely inundated, only the very top of the roof was visible when the floodwater peaked at an estimated 5.5 metres - and several band members' houses and business were also severely impacted by the disaster.

The band remains stoically optimistic

"The local community have been coming together with flood rescues, accommodation, food, clothing and other assistance," said Pipe Sergeant and Acting Secretary Scott Cameron, who's been a member of Lismore City Pipe Band for more than 40 years. "We've also been so grateful for how so many people from the pipe band community have reached out to us and offered support."

Since the floodwaters receded, band members have cleaned down the hall

itself and salvaged any uniforms and instruments that they could, while also helping band members and other residents reclaim what they could of their homes and livelihoods. "We've been lucky to have saved most of our uniforms and drums, but we've lost a lot of other equipment, including tenor and bass drumsticks, a few sets of bagpipes, and our drum cases, plus some other stuff we're not sure yet whether we can restore," Scott said. "The worst was probably throwing out 75 years of ruined records and photos. You think this stuff is totally safe and secure in your hall, and then the unexpected happens. Totally heartbreaking, but had to be done."

The hall itself is still structurally sound but has suffered significant damage inside, and with limited opportunities for performance income and fundraising over the last few years, the band was already finding it difficult to sustain the cost of building maintenance and running the organisation. Now, even while working through the adversity of trying to replace expensive equipment, pay for repairs, and



rebuild the organisation, the band remains stoically optimistic. "It will be a tough few weeks and months, but we're hoping to have a band on the street for Anzac Day for our community," Scott said.

Pipe Bands Queensland is supporting Lismore City Pipe Band to get back on their feet and into the circle - they will be collecting gold-coin donations at all association-run competitions during the 2022 season, working with local businesses to secure equipment donations, offering tutoring and instructional support for the band and its players, and helping the band set up an online fundraising website to collect donations from well-wishes who live further afield. Please visit the Pipe Bands Queensland website for more information on how you can help: www.pipebandsqld.com



Hats off to Scotland! Cover Yer Heid with this great range of Scottish baseball and beanie hats. All hats one size fits all adult and are \$19.95 plus \$9.50 postage. To order contact the Scottish Banner (contacts can be seen on page 2). Many more styles are available online at www.scottishbanner.com/shop. Go on, wear your Scottish pride on yer heid!



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Scotland Saltire Code: C3076E



Glasgow Scotland Code: C3032E



Scotland Jersev Saltire Code: C3218E





Lion Rampant Black Watch Tartan Code: C3002E



Saltire Scotland 2 Lines -





Scotland 3D Navy Code: C3228E

Scotland 3D Glitter - SKY

Code: C3185E-SKY





Code: CNV3000-MAR



Edinburgh Scotland Code: C3075E-NA



Scotland 3D Royal

Navy - Code: C3059E-NA Maroon Code: C3018J-MA



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