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A' Bhratach Albannach

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Volume 46 - Number 2

*Scottish Banner

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

Australia Post Print Approved PP:100004806

Published monthly by Scottish Banner Publications PO Box 6220, Marrickville South, NSW, 2204, Australia

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The Banner Says...

Edinburgh-Flowering of the Human Spirit



by Sean Cairney

t would have been the late 1980's when I first visited Edinburgh in August, and during the buzz of Edinburgh festival season.

That summer I managed to make it to a couple of Fringe shows and also my first Edinburgh Military Tattoo (it was not titled 'Royal' until 2010).

Though I had been to Edinburgh before, never had I experienced the buzz and energy of August.

A world leading festival city

2022 is the 75th anniversary of Edinburgh's evolution as a world leading festival city. The concept for the very first Edinburgh International Festival (EIF) began soon after World War Two finished and it was an Austrian, Sir Rudolf Bing, who had fled Nazi occupied Germany and thought that the UK should have an international cultural festival and Edinburgh was put forward. The first EIF took place in August 1947, and so too did the first Edinburgh Fringe which is today the world's largest arts festival and also the Edinburgh International Film Festival (originally called the International Festival of Documentary Films), which is the oldest continually

The Fringe however has its roots as an unplanned festival with theatre companies and performers staging shows in Edinburgh at the same time and not part of the official EIF program, these would become known as "Fringe Adjuncts" or those on the fringe of the main festival.

running film festival in the world.

These fringe acts soon became sought after by audiences and its very own festival was born. By 1950 the first Edinburgh Military Tattoo also joined Edinburgh's August program and during the 1980's the Edinburgh International Book Festival was added to the calendar.

These events now host tens of thousands of performers, who put on thousands of shows across Edinburgh for a global audience who converge on the streets of Auld Reekie just as I first did all those years ago. For those who may not know Auld Reekie is the term Edinburgh is affectionately known as. Auld Reekie is Scots for 'Old Smokey', a nickname which was given back when smoke from open coal and peat fires filled the city air like a fog. Some may also know Edinburgh as the 'Athens of the North', a term which was used more as the New Town was developed and the various monuments which followed.

In this issue

For those lucky enough to be in Edinburgh this month we feature some of the incredible and open spaces the city has to offer around Holyrood. At the opposite end of the Royal Mile to Edinburgh Castle lies some beautiful and rugged spaces. I have gone 'walkies' with friends and their dogs in Holyrood Park and also made it to the top of Arthur's Seat for some amazing views of the capital. Though the latter certainly requires some level of fitness. This month's feature by David McVey reminds us that Edinburgh does in fact rest on the remains of an extinct volcano that erupted 350 million years ago!

2022 is Scotland's Year of Stories and the activities are continuing throughout the year. Stories make up so much of Scotland's history, folklore and tradition. From that in the printed form to passed down verbal tales that help make up how Scots see themselves.

Scotland has a particularly rich heritage of stories and storytelling to spotlight and celebrate and we hear from VisitScotland who are managing this fantastic year of events. For those not visiting Scotland in 2022 remember many of the locations being highlighted will be there waiting for when you can next travel.

The Panama Canal is a 51 mile/82 km waterway that connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and is considered one of the greatest engineering feats of the 20th century. Some may be surprised, like me, that a Scottish vessel from Renfrew was a key part of its construction. This is just one other example of how 'Clydebuilt' went on to shape the world.

Edinburgh named best city to visit in the world

Just in time for the summer tourist season Edinburgh has also been ranked as the top city to visit in the world in a recent poll. The Scottish capital has topped a list of 53 cities based on interviews with more than 20,000 people about life in their hometowns by *Time Out* magazine. Edinburgh scored highly across the board, coming top for both the number of residents who thought the city was beautiful (95%) and those who deemed it walkable (93%), as well as 88% saying it is easiest to express who you are.

The very first Edinburgh
International Festival was born as
Europe healed after war and its aim
then was to 'provide a platform for
the flowering of the human spirit'.
As Scotland's capital welcomes the
world to its cobbled streets this
month and after the last couple of
years of the pandemic across the
world and as war is again on Europe's
door, its original purpose rings just
as true as it did 75 years ago.

Have you been to Edinburgh for Festival season? 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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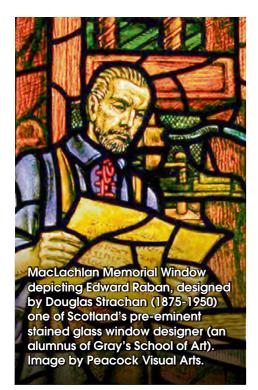
We appreciate your support and hope you enjoy this edition.



Gracing our front cover: Torin McEwan experiencing the joy of the Aberdeen Highland Games. Photo: Amanda Ray Images www.amandarayimages.com



Do you have printer's ink in your blood? Raban's descendants sought on 400th anniversary of printing



he printed word changed the world, bringing books and newspapers into circulation and providing a vehicle for sharing new ideas as well as science, history and culture. In July Aberdeen celebrated the 400th anniversary of the birth of printing in the city and experts from the University of Aberdeen and Robert Gordon University (RGU) are coming together with others from across Scotland to mark the important milestone.

A series of events and an exhibition will tell the story of Aberdeen's first printer, Edward Raban, who set up the region's first printing press in Castle Street in 1622.

Laird of Letters

As part of the celebrations, RGU's Professor Peter Reid joined the University of Aberdeen's Professor Paul Mitchell to explore new insights on Raban's life at a free seminar 'Edward Raban: Up Close'. And Professor Reid is seeking the help of the north-east public to try and track down relatives who may have the printer's ink in their blood. He explains: "Raban was both industrious and ambitious, producing one hundred and fifty titles in twenty-seven years. He called himself the 'Laird of Letters' and was engaged in the political, religious and civic questions of the day. Yet, for all that, he is an elusive figure. As part of our 400th anniversary celebrations, we are hoping to track down descendants that might still be living in the north-east. Raban is not a particularly common name so we are interested in anyone who has it in their ancestry. We also know that his daughter, Elizabeth, married Gavin Milne in Aberdeen in 1648. This is a name appears much more frequently in this region but they had four children, Isobel (b 1649), James (b 1652), William (b 1653), and Robert (b 1654). So, if any of these names appear in your family tree, we'd love to hear from you."

The innovation of printing

Raban was a well-travelled Englishman who came to Aberdeen at the invitation of Sir Paul Menzies and Bishop Patrick Forbes. He printed under the sign of 'The Townes Armes' and this continued to be the sign-board of the Aberdeen Printers for at least one hundred years. Much of Raban's output was for the University and the City, but in 1623 he produced his 'Prognostication' or Almanac, a collection of writing about the preceding year. This continued annually and became the *Aberdeen Almanac* which records a wide range of information.

Jennifer Shaw, Assistant Curator of Museums and Special Collections at the University of Aberdeen, said: "The innovation of printing enabled people to share knowledge quicker and more widely, changing the way people communicated and social relationships. Edward Raban was fundamental to bringing about these changes in Aberdeen and left a legacy that could be felt for centuries. In 2022 - 400 years on from his arrival in Aberdeen and the printing of his first material - it is fitting that we celebrate his life, legacy and the transformational influence he had on this region."

The university events form part of a wider celebration of Raban at 400 taking place across the city.

If you think you might be related to Raban please visit www.raban400.com/raban-family.html

Little Scots delight at the Children's Festival





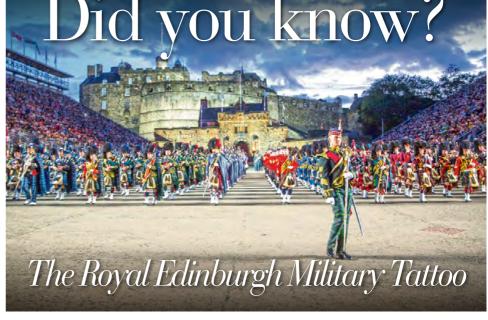
n a bright, sunny and warm Sunday, children from all over Sydney, representing communities from all over the world, shattered the gloom of Covid which has kept the vibrant Children's Festival off the agenda for two and a half years. Children, as young as three, enthusiastically sang, danced, played music, patted farm animals, jumped on rubber castles, had their faces painted, paraded in costume and played games together in Sydney's Pyrmont Bay Park, Darling Harbour. Highland dancers from the Karen McPhillips School of Highland Dance, tiny ballerinas, folk dancers, young warriors, musicians and singers all charmed the large audience in the park throughout the day. The founding President of the Children's Festival Organisaton, Thuat Nguyen AM, welcomed the crowd to the 36th festival to be staged across Sydney over the past 23 years. He told the gathering of children, parents, community leaders and spectators: "We believe that children are a starting point in building social cohesion and therefore this festival is one of the best ways to create harmony in our community, to enrich the Australian culture and to make everyone feel proud to be Australians."

Tartan of the Month The World Pipe Band Championships Tartan

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

his tartan was created to celebrate and recognise the most prestigious pipe band championship in the world, for all who participate in, visit from all over the globe and for the many who sense intense emotion when they hear the skirl of the bagpipes at 'The World's'.

The World Pipe Band Championships return to Glasgow Green August 12 and 13th. This tartan (SRT Reference: 12801) was designed by Mairi MacLeod and registered in March, 2020.



- The first Edinburgh Tattoo took place in 1950 and a performance had never been cancelled until the recent Covid pandemic. The Tattoo returns this month 5-27 August after a two-year pause.
- The word 'Tattoo' comes from the Dutch phrase 'doe den tap toe' meaning 'turn off the taps'. The phrase was a call used at closing time in 17th century bars. The stationed British army adopted the practice and it became a signal, played by a regiment's drum corps each night, that tavern owners should stop serving sweet ales so that the soldiers would return to barracks.
- 'Royal' was added to the Tattoo's title in 2010 by HM Queen Elizabeth to celebrate six decades of history.

- The show takes place at Edinburgh Castle's Esplanade and concludes with a march down the Royal Mile.
- The Tattoo is set up and run for charitable purposes. Over the years the Tattoo has raised millions of pounds for both service and civilian causes.
- Around 35 miles of cabling, the distance from Glasgow to Edinburgh, is required to power the Tattoo each year.
- It is custom that the famous anthem by Robert Burns, *Auld Lang Syne*, is sung at the end of each performance of the Tattoo.
- Each year around 200,000 people watch the live performances at Edinburgh Castle, with a further million people watching the event on television around the world.

SCOT POURRI

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

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

Scot of the Year Award 2022



The Scottish Studies Society invites you and your friends and family to its annual Scot of the Year Award event on September 9th during which we will pay tribute to this year's recipient: internationally acclaimed historian Margaret MacMillan.

The venue for this year's event will be Seeley Hall in the University of Toronto's Trinity College. It will be a magnificent evening of fine food, music and dance.

The international demands on Margaret's schedule are currently higher than ever and so this is a wonderful opportunity for us to spend time with her while she is still in Canada and before she departs to continue her assignments in the UK and elsewhere for the rest of the year.

The dress code for the evening will be formal (black tie or Highland dress) so this is your chance to dress up for one of the most sophisticated events in the Scots-Canadian calendar.

This will be our first in-person event since the onslaught of the pandemic and so we do hope you will be able to join us for this memorable evening, the proceeds of which will go to support the Scottish Studies Foundation, a registered Canadian charity established to raise awareness of the Scottish heritage in Canada through education at the university level.

For more information please visit www.scottishstudies.com

David Hunter

President, Scottish Studies Foundation

Canada

Clan Buchanan to reunite as Chief takes the 'throne' after 340 years



Help needed



I recently had the pleasure of reading your Scottish Banner, and thoroughly enjoyed it. It is the first newspaper that have actually read every article. Really an excellent paper. I am hoping you or one of your readers can help me with these attached photos In 1970 during Commonwealth Games, I worked for Ushers Breweries at a pub in Princess St, and at the entrance to the stadium. The manager gave me this and said it would be worth a lot one day. But don't know what it was used for. I have written to a museum In Edinburgh, but i never heard back from them. So I am hoping someone could tell me more about it? I believe Ushers Breweries do not exist anymore. Thanking you Fred Ericsen-Miller 17 Typha Place Elanora, Queensland 4221, Australia

My Buchanan great-great grandparents emigrated to Australia in 1853, settling in the gold mining town of Mt Blackwood in Victoria where they raised six daughters and two sons. I am a descendant from their third daughter. It delights me beyond words that the clan has a Chief again. lostredsock via Instagram

SirBilly Connolly CBE honoured with Fellowship at the 2022 Virgin Media British Academy Television Awards



Such an inspiration...and he has lifted so many hearts and minds across the planet with his profound gift to share happiness and 'awfy sore laughter'...a good guy...a

good man...and his lad Jamie (my name to) just called my old pal Ian last time I was up at Ballater...as Billy has shared that he was in the wrong queue at the Glasgow shipbuilders...the truth is there are so many on this planet that have so happily queued to experience a magical moment with Billy... *Jamie Bowers*

First saw him at Kings Buildings Union Edinburgh circa 1967/8. My face was sore laughing! I particularly remember the "Come Dancing" skit, so funny. Also enjoyed his banjo playing. Thanks for the memories Billy and congratulations on your award, well deserved.

Lois McLaren Alnwick, Northumberland

PipingLive!



I am very excited to be heading to Glasgow this August and was so glad to read about PipingLive! in the July issue. I thought how lucky was I to be going during the World Pipe Band Championships, and to now read there is a whole week of pipes and drums to be had when I am actually there is fantastic. We have family in Paisley and East Kilbride and will be with them as my

base as I get to travel around. Scotland packs in so much for me with all the great scenery, history, events and if I am lucky the weather! I love everything about it and love going to the Highland Games as well when in Scotland, also here in Canada.

The Scottish Banner definitely whet's my appetite for all things Scottish.

David Gillies

Ajax, Ontario

Canada

Scottish Identity Overseas Hello descendant Scots!

I'm Campbell, a current undergraduate student at the University of St Andrews in Scotland. This summer, I am conducting research into the Scottish identity as felt by Scottish expats the Scottish diaspora. I am circulating a survey for people whose ancestors are from Scotland or who have an affinity to Scotland. If you are a descendant Scot living overseas, I would love to invite you to get involved

with my research by filling out a short (5

min) survey about Scotland, your Scottish

identity, and how being Scottish impacts

Participation is voluntary and confidential, and if you are interested, you can find the link at the bottom of this message. If you have any questions about participation or the research in general, please reach out to me at: cm476@st-andrews.ac.uk.

See survey at: https://standrews.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bHs49ioVnC0FdnE?fbclid =IwAR3dTv3O1fKCp1F2JwU8gbeg-FtdQy5l BXAJv2syTO8rRB32KWU9WwujQLk Yours aye,

Campbell MacPherson Scotland

your life overseas.

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA (1) (2) (6)

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

Kilchurn Castle



Lovely light above Kilchurn Castle. *The Kilted Photographer*

Edinburgh



The Balmoral, No.1 Princes St. An early morning walk around Edinburgh with my camera. Paul Watt Photography

Isle of May Puffin



Breakfast, dinner and tea. *Mik Coia*

Iona



Idyllic Iona, Inner Hebrides. Debbie Neilson

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!

The Northern Meeting Piping Competition launches first-ever live stream



he Northern Meeting Piping
Competition, held at Eden Court
in Inverness and renowned as
the most prestigious piping
competition in the world, will be livestreamed for the first time ever on
Thursday 1st September 2022. Several of
the events from world's greatest



non-invitational indoor solo piping competition will be available to watch for just £15 from the comfort of your own home, including the Gold Medal and The Former Winners March, Strathspey and Reel with more events over the two days planned to be added in future years. The Gold Medal will start at 8.30am (GMT) on Thursday 1st September followed by The Former Winners March, Strathspey and Reel at around 5pm (GMT) on the same platform.

Piping is at the heart of Scotland's identity

Sir Patrick Grant, from The Northern Meeting Piping Competition, said: "We're delighted to unveil this new ticketed live stream option for this year. The piping community is international, and we hope by making this prestigious competition more accessible to everyone more people will be able to enjoy it both at home here in Scotland and abroad. Piping is at the heart of Scotland's identity and the Northern Meeting plays a key part in promoting this rich musical heritage among Scots, and friends of Scotland, across the world - we believe this will only be improved with the introduction of this live streaming element this year."

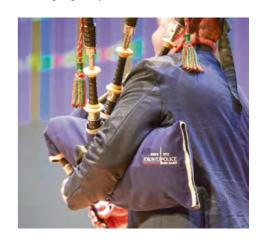
The Gold Medal for the classical piobaireachd music and the Gold Clasp for former winners are the most sought-after achievements for any piper. The honour attached to such success attracts pipers from across the British Isles, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Northern Ireland and Europe.

The oldest musical competition in the world

Entry to the competition is restricted to those of the highest calibre and the bar is set high with only around 100 competitors selected to take part in the various events. These include the classic Piobaireachd, March, Strathspey and Reel and Hornpipes and Jigs. The competition also caters for younger players with around 30 to 40 young competitors each year. This year the Northern Meeting Competition will welcome young players from all over Scotland, as well as some from Canada and New Zealand. This will take be available to watch in-person on Friday 2nd September and won't be part of the live-streaming option. In-person tickets to the two-day event will be available to purchase at Eden Court on the competition days.

Held in Inverness since 1841, the Northern Meeting is the oldest musical competition in the world. It's dedicated to Scotland's unique form of theme and variations played solely on the Highland Bagpipe, known as piobaireachd or pibroch.

Live stream tickets are priced at just £15 and once purchased they will provide access live on the day and for the month of September. They are on sale now at https://piping.northern-meeting.org/competition-live-stream/.









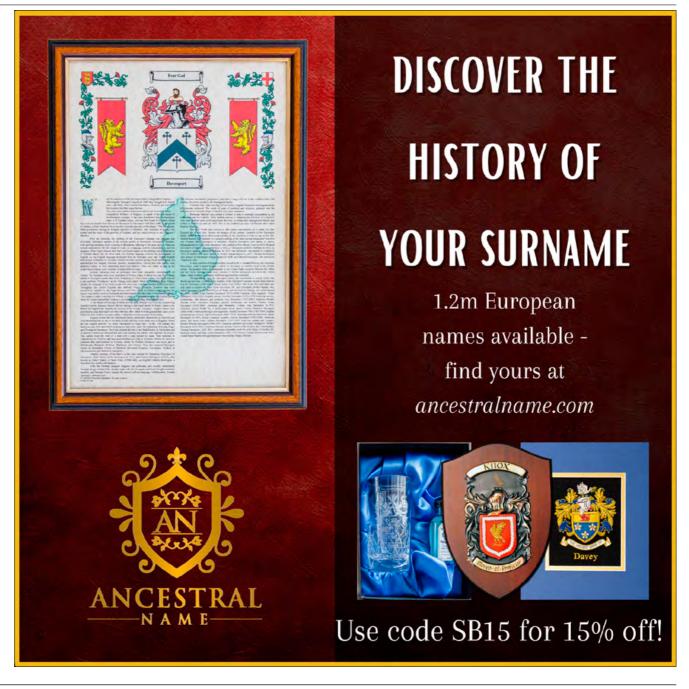
adly, the Bundanoon Highland Gathering has been cancelled for August due to ground conditions and weather, please mark your diary for the fifth attempt of the 43rd Gathering on April 1, 2023 and support this important event on the Scottish Australian calendar.

For details and tickets see: www.brigadoon.org.au





Saturday, 27th August, 2022 - 9am - 3pm CENTRAL PARK, WINGHAM NSW Clan of Honour 2022 Clan Donnachaidh (Robertson, Duncan and Reid) Email: bonniewingham18@gmail.com www.bonniewingham.com



SCOTSPEAK

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

"Studying and living in Dundee for three years allowed me to fall in love with the city and that made it easy to write about. There are many different parts to my novel, but I hope that my love for Dundee comes across to the readers. The book has had such a positive reaction here in Lithuania and that has been incredibly flattering."

Lithuanian author Aldona Tüür said she has used her experience of living and working in Dundee as a basis for her first novel, Kilt Hire. The book is set in Dundee and about a woman who worked in a kilt hire shop. After being published at the beginning of the year, the book has subsequently gone on to sell hundreds of copies in her native Lithuania, becoming one of the best-selling titles in the country. Aldona is hopeful that there may be demand for Kilt Hire to be published in English.



"I have been playing the bagpipes for twelve years now, since my dad first started teaching me. I can never say thank you enough to him as it has provided me with so many wonderful opportunities,

such as serving as the Chancellor's Bagpiper. I was appointed in November 2020 during Covid, and so my first official duty was to play in a recording for virtual graduation. It was so unique but totally worthwhile as I hope it provided a bit of normality for those graduating in such bizarre times. Since then, I have been lucky enough to play for in-person graduation ceremonies, graduation dinners, Burns suppers, and various fundraising events. This role has given me experiences and memories I will forever remember and so I would like to thank the University for providing me with this opportunity."

St Andrews graduate and the University Chancellor's Piper, Alistair Robinson from Galashiels, said as he graduated from the University of St Andrews with an MA (Hons) Modern History, then piped the procession through the town after his own ceremony. A St Andrews graduate made history today as the first student to pipe his own academic success at graduation. The Chancellor's Piper plays at official University events and graduations, leading the new graduates and academic procession from the Younger Hall to St Salvator's Quad after each ceremony.

"Glasgow is extremely well placed and should clearly be the frontrunner in the UK. However, Ukraine does still seek to host the Eurovision song contest if they are able and I think they need to be given the time and space to explore that as much as possible. Council understands

that although early discussions have taken place about the possibility of Glasgow acting as host or co-host of the 2023 contest should a replacement city be necessary, these must remain hypothetical and high level until such a time as it may be confirmed that Ukraine is not in a position to host. If that is confirmed and the UK government seeks expressions of interest from potential hosts, council instructs the chief executive to submit on Glasgow's behalf."

Glasgow City Council leader Susan Aitken said that Scotland's largest city is preparing to launch a bid to host the Eurovision song contest next year if Ukraine is unable due to the ongoing Russian invasion. Glasgow has also been named the bookies' favourite to host Eurovision, ahead of London and Birmingham which make up the second and third favourites.



"Illegal metal detecting is a serious offence which can result in significant harm and loss to Scotland's historic past. The detection and prosecution of these offences at Dunadd have been the result of a concerted effort by the Police, the Crown Office and Historic Environment Scotland, to ensure that we continue to protect that history and preserve it for generations to come."

Police Inspector Alan Dron, Police Scotland Rural Crime Coordinator and Chair of the Scottish Heritage Crime Group, has welcomed sentencing in the case of irreversible damage to Dunadd Fort in Kilmartin Glen following illegal metal detecting and excavation. Irreversible damage to one of Scotland's most important early medieval monuments occurred after metal artefacts were removed by members of the public with metal detecting instruments. Dunadd is located in the prehistoric landscape of

Kilmartin Glen which has one of the most important concentrations of Neolithic and Bronze Age remains in mainland Scotland.



"We understand the scale of the challenge and are fully dedicated to honouring this building and its place within the future of Edinburgh. We knew that one day the Jenners building would be standing vacant, and we would have the moral obligation of bringing it back to its former glory. We do hope that we can build support to fulfil this highly important task. This project seeks to secure the future of the Jenners building for generations to come. The original Jenners building will always stay and is the very DNA of our plans, with the redevelopment of a vibrant, sustainable and accessible department store being the heart of the project."

Anders Krogh of AAA United A/S said as plans have been submitted to turn the iconic Edinburgh department store location into a mixed retail and hotel space, which will include a rooftop bar. Jenners, also described as 'the Harrods of the North', has occupied the prime location on Princes Street for 184 years.

"We thought there would be lots of medieval fortifications, musket balls and things like that, but instead we found lots of Neolithic artefacts such as flints and stone arrowheads. It was really unexpected and suggests that people were sitting here making these things. These artefacts would've been used as tools, for hunting and gathering."

Archaeologist Ian McHardy said that items found during a recent archaeological dig near Stornoway, Isle of Lewis revealed people had inhabited the area early than thought. The recovered items are thought to date back to 2,000BC, which is much older than the thought earliest settlement on the island of 800AD.

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SCOTWORD

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

CLUES ACROSS

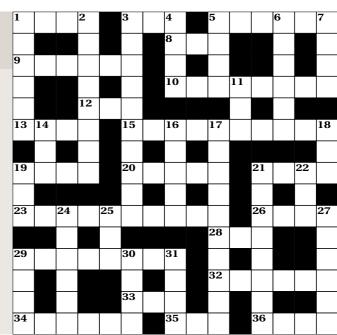
- 1) Scottish fuel (4)
- 3) A Scots bread roll (3).
- 5) Dark purple plum (6).
- 8) Whichever (3).
- 9) Pertaining to Scotland's "anthem" (6).
- 10) Scotland's top islands (8).
- 12) Distress call (3)
- 13) Over hasty (4).
- 15) A drinking hole! (10). 19) Tattie's partner (4).
- 20) A hopeful glow! (5).
- 21) Scotland's fastest river (4).
- 23) Old vessels (10).
- 26) Blairgowrie's beny (4).

- 28) A starter at St. Andrews (3).
- 29) Mrs Brown! (8).
- 32) A dram of about a gill (6). 33) Always in Scotland (3).
- 34) Annual festival (6).
- 35) Bottom of the class! (3).
- 36) Male red deer (4).

CLUES DOWN

- 1) Para Handy's craft (6).
- 2) Village (8).
- 3) January 25th (5,5).
- 4) Scottish conical hills (4).
- 5) Scots stone wall (4). 6) Wrench a joint (6).

- 7) Necessity (4).
- Dancers point it (3). 14) Loch near Dalmally (3).
- 16) She's kin (5).
- 17) They give final reports (10).
- 18) Farmer's gathering! (3).
- 19) Scotch measure (3).
- 21) Requirement of a heavy! (8).
- 22) Printer's measures (3).
- 24) Perth's two measures! (6).
- 25) In the past (3)
- 27) Measure of 26 Across (6).
- 29) Scots valley (4).
- 30) At Hampden it's loud! (4).
- 31) Stretch of territory (4).



Milestone reached as Scotland's flag centre re-opens at the birthplace of Scotland's flag



cotland's flag heritage centre has reopened in the East Lothian village of Athelstaneford the birthplace of Scotland's flag. The centre, housed in the 16th century Hepburn doocot, tells the story of the battle of Athelstaneford where legend has it a white saltire appeared above an army of Picts and Scots inspiring them to victory. The successful £100k restoration has secured the building for the future with extensive exterior repairs carried out by specialists using traditional techniques.

The project is the first in a series of major improvements planned for the birthplace of Scotland's flag. David Williamson chair of the Scottish Flag Trust said: "This has been a major project and great to see the building restored and looking its best. With the building secure we hope the public will get behind our funding drive at www.saltire.scot to radically improve the birthplace of Scotland's flag."

The St Andrew's Cross or Saltire is Scotland's national flag. Tradition has it that the flag, the white saltire on a blue background, the oldest flag in Europe originated in a battle fought in East Lothian, near the village of Athelstaneford.

Today the flag flies proudly all year round from the Saltire Memorial in Athelstaneford Parish Churchyard to celebrate this special connection. The history of the battle and the adoption of the Saltire as the symbol of Scotland is told in the Flag Heritage Centre through a unique audio-visual presentation. The Scottish Flag Trust promotes the Saltire as a welcoming symbol for all Scots whether they are Scots by birth, by choice or through their family roots.

Restoration and renewal

The Scottish Flag Trust is a registered Scottish charity which maintains the Saltire Memorial and the Flag Heritage Centre at Athelstaneford and promotes the proper use of the Saltire. The restoration and renewal project will see a new accessible pathway with interpretive timeline telling the history and adoption of Scotland's national flag from 834AD to the present. New landscaping and engraved paving around the Saltire Memorial will tell the story of St Andrew's and Scot's societies across the globe. A new immersive audiovisual experience telling the story of the Battle of Athelstaneford and the creation and adoption of Scotland's national flag.

Legend of the Saltire

The St Andrew's Cross or Saltire is Scotland's national flag. Tradition has it that the flag, the white saltire on a blue background, as the oldest flag in both Europe and the Commonwealth, it originated in an East Lothian battle which took place in the year 832AD. An army of Picts under Angus mac Fergus, High King of Alba, and aided by a contingent of Scots led by Eochaidh (Kenneth mac Alpin's grandfather) had been on a punitive raid into Lothian (then and for long afterwards Northumbrian territory), and were being pursued by a larger force of Angles and Saxons under one Athelstan.

The Albannach/Scots were caught and stood to face their pursuers in the area of Markle, near East Linton. This is to the north of the modern village of Athelstaneford (which was re-sited on higher ground in the 18th century), where the Peffer, which flows into the Firth of Forth at Aberlady forms a wide vale. Being then wholly undrained, the Peffer presented a major obstacle to crossing and the two armies came together at the ford near the present-day farm of Prora (one of the field names there is still the Bloody Lands).

Fearing the outcome of the encounter, King Angus led prayers for deliverance and was rewarded by seeing a cloud formation of a white saltire (the diagonal cross on which St Andrew had been martyred) against a blue sky. The king vowed that



if, with the saint's help, he gained the victory, then Andrew would thereafter be the patron saint of Scotland. The Scots did win, and the Saltire became the flag of Scotland. When Kenneth mac Alpin, who may have been present with his grandfather at the battle, later united Picts and Scots and named the entity Scotland, Andrew did indeed become the patron saint of the united realm. Kenneth mac Alpin, King of Scots and Picts, Ard-righ Albainn, was laid to rest on Iona in 860AD.





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19 World Records Topple at Moncton Highland Games Chieftain enlists athletes, attendees in battle against climate change



oments of reverence were found among the revelry at the 16th annual Greater Moncton ■ Highland Games & Scottish Festival, host of the 2022 SMAI Masters World Championships. The return to in-person events after a two-year hiatus touched each part of the international event with a tinge of celebration. The heavy events athletes and their fans cheered again and again as personal bests and world records were set. The crowd grew silent and touched by solemnity when Elsipogtog tradition bearer Joan Miliea welcomed them in Mi'kmaq with the Humbling Song and Honourary Chieftain Michael Yellowlees called on them to join him in the battle against climate change.



The largest Masters World Championships

Hosting the largest Masters World Championships to date was an ambitious endeavour for an organization that only had 13 full in-person Highland Games under its sporran before nowbut with true Scottish tenacity, a small and dedicated group of volunteers (with one part-time paid event manager) created a world-class event that celebrated art, music, culture, and the best of Maritime hospitality.

On one side of the complex, attendees watched as Midas Well Creations painted a reimagined Loch Ness monster while musical group after musical group took to the Lowlands Stage. Nearby, historical sword fighting techniques were tested

in competition while blacksmiths Dave Bell and Kyle Strutt showcased their craft. Across the parking lot filled with food trucks, craft beer tents, and the Highlands Stage humming with musical performances, vendors filled the spaces between Clan tents, fly tying and archery demonstrations. The workshop tent was filled with learning for two days. Sheep shearing and spinning took place nearby, and local authors read from their Scottish-inspired children's books. Enterprising families enjoyed horse & wagon rides around the property to get an overview before diving into their favourite activities.

Eight East Coast pipe bands competed, with Dartmouth & District's Grade 4 band capturing the Merrill Henderson Trophy for Band of the Day. Cameron MacNeil of the Cape Breton University band was Piper of the Day, while College of Piping's Austin Trenholm won Drummer of the Day honours. In the highland dance tent, 125 dancers competed, with local perpetual awards presented to Nara Cooke (the Ferris Leanne Tweedie Memorial Trophy) and Hannah Clarke (the Wallace & Corena Tweedie Memorial Trophy).

Scotland's Michael Yellowlees presided over the Games as Honourary Chieftain, a recognition of his journey across Canada in 2021, during which he and his canine companion, Luna, raised £50,000 for the Scottish rewilding charity Trees for Life. In true Chieftain fashion, Yellowlees used the opportunity to recruit followers for his next battle: he and Luna are again travelling across Canada, this time to raise money for the Nature Conservancy of Canada.





International World Records On the heavy events field, athletes from around the world set personal bests and brought down 18 Scottish Masters Athletics International World Records. Competing for the 10th time at the Masters, Larry Sisseck represented the 70+ class alone, setting world records in that class for the Light Hammer (88'), Weight over Bar (13'4"), Light Weight for Distance (50'3.5"), and Heavy Weight for Distance (34'4"). Hall of Famer Sue Hallen set three world records for the Women's 65-69 class, in Open Stone (24'4.5"), Heavy Hammer (61'9"), and Light Hammer (76'10"). New Brunswick's Dirk Bishop, who came out of retirement to compete, set world records in the Men's 55-59 Lightweight for Distance (64'3"), Light Hammer (109'8"), and Heavy Hammer (85'8").

In the Men's 65-69 class, Mark Buchannan set world records in Weight over Bar (16'), Heavyweight for Distance (39'1.5") and Lightweight for Distance (52'5.25"). Dale Gehman set a Lightweight for Distance record of 61"5.5" in Men's 60-64 and Mike Zolkiewicz's 22'4" in Weight over Bar set a new record for Men's 40-44. Teresa Nystrom set a new record for Heavyweight for Distance for Women's 55-59 at 44'5" and Sylvana Bomholt set an Open Stone records of 34'5.75" for Women's 45-49. Women's Lightweight saw Nicole Davis with a record-setting 18'6" in Weight over Bar, and Hall of Famer Denise Houseman set an Open Stone record of 29'3" in Women's 60-64.

There were five Caber Toss scores of 12 during the Masters (Andrew Hobson, Mark Howe, John Jans, Bill Waddell, & Mike Zolkiewicz), and eight between 12:02 and 12:15 (Doug Berry, David Marble, Zechariah Whittington, Kevin Rogers, Chris Nickell, Stacy Green, Denise Houseman, and Moncton Athletic Director Bryan MacLean).

The 16th annual Greater Moncton Highland Games & Scottish Festival, host of the 2022 SMAI Masters World Championships, included 25 hours of live music over two and a half days, culminating in the American Rogues playing an acoustic set during a lobster dinner for athletes and their families where the region's seafood ambassador, Kilted Chef Alain Bossé, showed everyone how to dig into the crustacean on their plate. The event certainly made good on its promise to showcase feasts of strength and feasts of lobster!

The return of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo



his August, The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo will make its highly anticipated return with this year's show, Voices. Staged on the iconic Edinburgh Castle Esplanade, the show will be a celebration of expression, giving a stage to performers and acts from around the globe to share their voice. Voices draws inspiration from people across the globe





who, despite physical separation, continue to connect and share their voices creatively through spoken word, song, music, and dance-languages common to all.

Over 800 performers

Over 800 performers from across the globe will take part in this year's Tattoo, bringing with them incredible music, dance, and performance talents. There will be cultural showcases and musical presentations by performers from Mexico, The United States, Switzerland, Germany, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, along with homegrown talent from the UK.

Military acts will continue to play a central role in the performance, with the Army confirmed as the lead service this year. Audiences can expect to hear the legendary sound of the Massed Pipes and Drums that will echo around the Esplanade as part of Voices, supported by Tattoo Pipes and Drums, Tattoo Dancers, Tattoo Fiddlers and musicians from UK Military Regiments.

The Show will run from 5-27 August 2022. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at edintattoo.co.uk/tickets or on the phone on +44 (0)131 225 1188.

SMAI Masters World Champions 2022

Women's 40-44: Janine Tessarzik, USA Women's 45-50: Sylvana Bomholt, GERMANY Women's 50-54: Adena Robinson, CANADA Women's 55-59: Teresa Nystrom, USA Women's 60-64: Denise Houseman, USA Women's 65-69: Sue Hallen, USA Women's Lightweight: Nicole Davis, USA Men's Lightweight 40-44: Davin Boydstun, USA Men's Lightweight 45-49: Petrus Sundevail, SWEDEN (tie) Men's Lightweight 45-49: Scott Verbus, USA (tie) Men's Lightweight 50+: Chris Nickell, USA

www.monctonhighlandgames.com/results

The Joy of the Games



Did you know? **Highland Games**

Scotland's Highland Games, with the associated traditions of caber throwing and hammer tossing, are renowned throughout the world. But do you know where the world's oldest Highland Games take place, or where they toss giant champagne corks instead of the caber? Find out below in a list of Highland Games facts, courtesy of Scotland.org.

- The Highland Games held each June at Ceres in Fife, the oldest free games in Scotland, began under a Charter awarded by Robert the Bruce in recognition of the villagers' support at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314.
- The first Highland Games in the USA took place in New York in 1836.
- The Braemar Gathering which takes place during the first weekend in September, is the only Games attended annually by the British Royal Family.
- Prosser Scottish Festivals and Games in Washington, is renowned for the "Anvil Launch" wherein a blacksmith's anvil is launched into the air with a quarter-stick of dynamite! An explosive way to mark the start and end of the Games.
- At the Bellingham Highlands Games in Ferndale, Washington, you can hunt the 'Nessie eggs', where mini watermelons are hidden around the park, the lucky hunters can swap their precious Nessie eggs for prizes. Let's hope the eggs are easier to spot
- Snefj rd Highland Games in Finnmark, Norway, have hosted the most northern games in the world.
- · Hororata in New Zealand, hosts one of the most southerly games in the world.
- At some Highland Games in France a giant champagne cork is tossed instead of a
- The Caledonian Club of San Francisco hosts one of the largest Highland Games in the Northern Hemisphere.
- The world record for the biggest bowl of porridge was set at the Cupar Highland Games in Fife in 2010. The huge breakfast of 690 litres of porridge cooked could feed 2,000 people and was more than double the existing record.



cottish events are back across the world with events across Australia, Canada, Scotland and the USA all scheduled to take place this month. Many Highland Games, Celtic festivals and gatherings have struggled with uncertainty and reduced committees during the pandemic. With several forced to cancel or adapt to local regulations. 2022 has seen many return and produce excellent events for the Scottish community to enjoy and showcase our incredible culture. The Scottish Banner urges those who can to support a Scottish event near you, these events are often run by volunteers who work many months in advance of an event to bring together a great array of Scottish entertainment and tradition.





Be sure to check the events page in this month's edition or if looking for an event several months away, or further afield, please see our website: www.scottishbanner.com/events.

Aberdeen Highland Games

In July poor weather did not dampen the grounds or spirits of those that attended the Aberdeen Highland Games in Aberdeen, NSW with crowds again being entertained throughout the day with the sounds, feats and treats of Scotland. Held every year on the first Saturday in July, the Aberdeen Highland Games is one of Australia's premier Scottish events, drawing thousands of people to the township in the Upper Hunter Valley every year to enjoy the festivities.

The Games began with a spectacular parade of bands, clan representatives and others that leads into the Massed Band Salute and Chieftain's Address that officially opens the day. The event offers fun for all the whole family, including Highland and country dancing and music, Pipe Band displays, Strong man events with the Tartan Warriors, as well as tug-of-war, egg tosses, three-legged races, and the famed Kilted Dash. A multitude of stalls offering all manner of Scottish heirlooms and souvenirs, clothing and garb, as well as a variety of food and drinks were also available. The Aberdeen Highland Games is followed by a traditional Ceilidh in the evening.



Get Your Kilt On

The Games are also a great platform for pipe bands, dancers and athletes to compete and hone their skills in Scottish tradition. Clans and Scottish societies are also often represented for those looking for information on their genealogy or how to get involved with local community groups, a great way to meet new people and share your passion for Scotland. So, get out there and 'Get Your Kilt On' and enjoy a Scottish event near you, our community is better for having them and they need all our

Do you love Highland Games? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or: www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us



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IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Next steps in independence referendum set out

The next steps on securing a referendum on independence have been outlined by Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon during a statement to Parliament at the end of June. She said: "Independence is about equipping ourselves to navigate the future, guided by our own values, aspirations and interests. Now is the time - at this critical moment in history - to debate and decide the future of our country. Now is the time to get Scotland on the right path - the path chosen by those who live here. Now is the time for independence. This parliament has a clear, democratic mandate to offer Scotland that choice. The UK government, regrettably however, is refusing to respect Scottish democracy. The UK and Scottish Governments should be sitting down together, responsibly agreeing a process, including a section 30 order, that allows the Scottish people to decide. That would be the democratic way to proceed.

"The issue of independence cannot be suppressed. It must be resolved democratically. And that must be through a process that is above reproach and commands confidence. That is why I am setting out today the actions the Scottish Government and the Lord Advocate will take, in the absence of a section 30 order, to secure Scotland's right to choose. I can announce, first of all, that the Scottish Government is today publishing the 'Scottish Independence Referendum Bill'. In common with the 2014 referendum - indeed, in common with the Brexit referendum and the referendum to establish this Parliament - the independence referendum proposed in the Bill will be consultative, not self-executing. The Bill states that the question on the ballot paper should be - just as it was in 2014 - 'should Scotland be an independent country'. There has been much commentary in recent days to the effect that a consultative referendum would not have the same status as the vote in 2014. That is simply wrong, factually and legally. The status of the referendum proposed in this Bill is exactly the same as the referendums of 1997, 2014 and 2016.

The Bill includes the proposed date on which the referendum should be held. I can announce that the Scottish Government is proposing that the independence referendum be held on 19 October 2023."

The British government has rejected a request to permit a second independence referendum and as we go to press is Britain's Conservative Party is in the process of electing a new leader, after the resignation of Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Opinion poll

data shows that Scotland is almost evenly divided on the question of independence, with No narrowly ahead of Yes in most recent polls. The Scottish electorate rejected independence by a margin of 55% to 45% in a referendum held on 18 September 2014. The people of Scotland voted decisively to remain within the European Union in 2016, with Brexit now reenergising the campaign for independence in Scotland.

Dundee becomes Beanotown



The city centre streets of Dundee were recently transformed into a hive of activity for The Dundee Summer (Bash) Streets Festival. The event included fun packed programme that celebrates the legacy of comics in Dundee, and the stories and characters that have emerged from them. A highlight was a Hollywood-style sign which was unveiled over the city to mark the city's status as the birthplace of famous comic strip Beano. The temporary Beanotown sign stands at six meters high and 38 meters long and pays homage to the Beano comic series, which is the world's longest-running children's comic and is published by Dundee-based DC Thomson. The Beanotown sign was placed at Dundee Law, was erected to coincide with the Dundee Street Festival, which celebrates the city's comic and publishing heritage.

Dundee's streets were transformed into Beanotown, with free events across the city centre, and part of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022.

Legion Scotland granted Freedom of Dumfries and Galloway

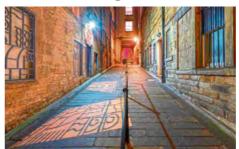


The Royal British Legion Scotland (Legion Scotland) has been granted the Freedom of Dumfries and Galloway. Councillor Archie Dryburgh, the Council's Armed Forces Champion, said: "Legion Scotland

makes a vital contribution to the lives of service personnel, veterans and their families. I'm immensely proud to be the Council's Armed Forces Champion and delighted that Dumfries and Galloway Council has granted Honorary Freeman status to Legion Scotland." 2021 was the 100th anniversary of the Legion and, In September 2021, Dumfries and Galloway Council agreed to grant Honorary Freeman status to Legion Scotland. In June 1921, Field Marshall Haig founded the Royal British Legion Scotland, now known as Legion Scotland, bringing together several charities that had been established to assist those returning from the First World War and residing in Scotland. Around the same time, the Royal British Legion was formed to assist those returning and living south of the border Earl Haig established 2 poppy appeal funds. One was organised and delivered by the Royal British Legion in all areas other than Scotland. The second was delivered by the Earl Haig Fund Scotland, now known as Poppy Scotland. When service personnel return to civilian life after service with the armed forces, some need community and friendship. This can be as a result of their experiences in the services of just because they are no longer part of the 'military family'. Legion Scotland represents and supports veterans and their families and, every day, makes a difference to the lives of veterans through its comradeship and befriending programme, by developing stronger communities, and by supporting remembrance. Legion Scotland has more than 140 branches and 60 associated clubs, with more than 20,000 members. Each branch is run by a volunteer committee, dedicated to supporting the armed forces community.

Councillor Rob Davidson, Depute Leader and Civic Head of the Council, said: "As the Council's Civic Leader, I'm very pleased that our Council agreed to Grant the Freedom of Dumfries and Galloway to Legion Scotland. Along with our Freedom for the Royal Regiment of Scotland, and our Armed Forces Covenant, it demonstrates our region's support for our armed forces."

Residents and artists breathe new life into Edinburgh's historic closes



Edinburgh World Heritage has announced the completion of the first batch of its Twelve Closes Project. Edinburgh's closes, the narrow, often steep alleyways branching off from the Royal Mile, are an important characteristic of the Old Town, and a reminder of the city's medieval origins. However, Edinburgh's closes are often perceived as being unclean and unsafe, particularly at night. This innovative co-design project aims to renew and reinterpret some of Edinburgh's most historic closes, creating safer and more attractive spaces for residents, businesses and tourists to explore.

The project partnership between Edinburgh World Heritage and the City of Edinburgh Council, working with Edinburgh Napier University, has sought to tackle local problems such as anti-social behaviour through alternative forms of street lighting; brightening and enhancing the historic alleyways. This has been achieved by bringing together members of the local community and enabling participation in the design process, supporting them in selecting themes and historic stories to interpret and present. The first batch has seen the completion of new lighting, art installations and interpretation panels in Carrubber's Close, Chessel's Court and Stevenlaw's Close as well new lighting for the community-led interpretive art project in Pirrie's Close. Fiona Rankin, Edinburgh World Heritage Project Manager, commented: "It is fantastic that each of these closes have been transformed by working in partnership with local communities and we are delighted with the finished result. The co-design process has empowered communities to tell their stories, and the alternative way of lighting historic streets complements the heritage, and will encourage more people to get out and explore the Old Town."

Final engagement on design of Glasgow's George Square



A final public consultation stage has begun in Glasgow to ask what residents think about an initial sketch for George Square that has been developed following earlier engagement on what was wanted from the Square, Glasgow's foremost civic space, in terms of use and design. The engagement will inform the final design of both the Square and around 2.5 kilometres of the surrounding streets in what is the George Square Area Project, aka Block C of the Avenues programme for Glasgow city centre, funded though the Glasgow City Region City Deal. The proposal features a large lawn and an open space with seating and cafe areas under tree canopies. Existing monuments and statues would be either retained or relocated within the square.

Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of Glasgow City Council, said: "Glasgow deserves a civic heart that reflects the great, welcoming, vibrant city that it is - and I'm pleased people from all over the city have taken their opportunity to tell us what George Square means to them and what they would like to see it become. This final engagement will not only see their thoughts on our city's most historic and loved public space take shape; but also give Glaswegians a final chance to influence the final design."

More information on the Avenues programme, the biggest of its kind in the UK, is available at: www.glasgowcitycentrestrategy. com/project/avenues.

TENEMENT TALES

By: Brian Diamond

Canadian Brian Diamond has developed a collection of short humorous stories which were written to create a book that he could give to his 13 grandchildren. The stories are 100% true and accurately portray his childhood growing up in a tenement in the industrial suburb of Springburn in Glasgow in the 1940's and 50's.

Weekend Frolics

Tell dear readers, as I start to write another chapter of *Tenement Tales*, recording for posterity my youthful experiences of growing up in Springburn, clearly the Northern jewel in Glasgow's crown, I am stating for the record yet again, that being the "good boy that I was", all the events reported here are strictly hearsay. I of course never participated in any of these nefarious activities, I am reporting them purely as an observer for the benefit of our readers, that's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Friday night was always a very special night to look forward to for the street urchins and wee rascals of tenement dwelling, it was pocket money night. A night when your father gave you money to buy candies, or if you saved up your pocket money you might have enough to buy a small toy. Remember there was no television or electronic games to play back then so kids had to use their imagination to generate their own amusement. If you were lucky, you had a good radio in your house, and the one in my home was a thing of beauty and a joy to behold.

Radio Luxembourg

It was a big Ferguson I believe, with a highly polished wooden case and enough large glowing valves inside to light up an atomic power plant. It was advertised in the store as "Hear Radio Luxembourg all day", when my parents bought it, fat chance of that ever happening, this was over marketing at its best.. We lived three up on Keppochhill Rd, and my father maintains that the best reception we ever got was when the tramcar passed the close he could hear the clippie asking for "fares please". Compound this with the steam train chugging uphill from Queen St Station and passing the tenement, the engine noise came straight through the radio, and it sounded like we had stereo sound long before stereo was invented.

The highlight of our radio life was to listen to the football results allowing my father to check his football coupon on a late Saturday afternoon. We were all told to hush as dad huddled over the radio with pen and coupon in hand, high in anticipation of scoring eight draws to win £75,000, a king's ransom in those days. Don't anyone dare to talk or even breathe out loud as the results were being announced, Raith Rovers 2, Kilmarnock ?? snap, crackle and pop as yet another tram or train passed our building. Dad would shout, "did anyone hear that result" and if you did, it was best not to say because then you would be talking over the next result, and that was bad medicine. "Radio Luxembourg all day be dammed" he would shout on these occasions, it was lucky that we lived three stories up, as on many a late Saturday afternoon the radio would have found the window during the Saturday Littlewood's pool ritual.

All three of us kids and our mother would be hysterical with internal laughter as our father strained to hear the results and we would have to leave the room to laugh out loud. The irony of this is that we always had the Saturday Pink Sports edition of the Evening Times delivered with the results posted, but oh no, that would be way too easy, we had to observe the Saturday PM radio ritual. I digress, all of this just came to me as a flash back to me when I mentioned the radio, so on to weekend frolics and what we did to amuse ourselves as kids.

Homemade fun

There was a lane that ran parallel, between the backyards of Gourlay St. and Keppochhill Rd. It ran from Millerbank St, crossed Crichton St, Morrin St and exited at Keppoch St, both sides of the lane were enclosed with middens, wash houses, and high walls. Now these lanes on a Friday evening were for many inebriated men, a short cut on the way home from their local pub. As kids, we used to rake the middens to find empty tin cans which we filled up with all manner of completely horrible disgusting stuff, I shudder to think what was in those cans. Having done this, we would then stack the tin cans three high right in the middle of the lane, and then lie flat on the dyke roofs waiting patiently for the next stumbling happy fool to come along.

It was quite amazing really, there seems to be a fatal attraction between drunk men, and stacked cans that completely defies logic...., apparently a drunk man cannot resist kicking stacked cans or so it appeared to us kids. So, there we were, lying flat on the midden or wash house roofs, watching in anticipation as our quarry takes aim with his foot and boots that cans down only to find himself covered in the mysteries that the middens, and bladders of the rascals provided. It was priceless to watch the antics of these men as they looked up in wonder at where did this stuff come from, and we on the roof could never laugh out loud for fear of being caught. This became a regular pastime on a Friday or Saturday evening, some of the men who had been caught before, would actually check inside the top two cans before kicking them. We of course had hidden the bobby crap in the bottom can which they never checked and often we managed to get the same man several times, it was like taking candy from a baby.

The next round of homemade fun came from sitting on top of the wash houses in the dark, and two of the braver urchins would attach a thread with a button at the end to the wooden window frame of the lower down house in the close. Once the set up was complete, the bobbin of thread was fed out, up to the rascals on the midden roof, and from there we could make the button tap on the glass window of the victim. They would of course come out to see who was tapping on the window, soon realise what was happening, and shout in the direction of the dyke a name of some local rascal, "John Smith, I'm going to tell your mother, or alternatively, John Smith, I'm gonna boot your a - - - when I next see you." Whether poor John was there or not was immaterial, he was a known rascal and a likely candidate for this mischief. At this point, all the perpetrators would slide silently of the roof and disappear into the darkness of the lane at the back.



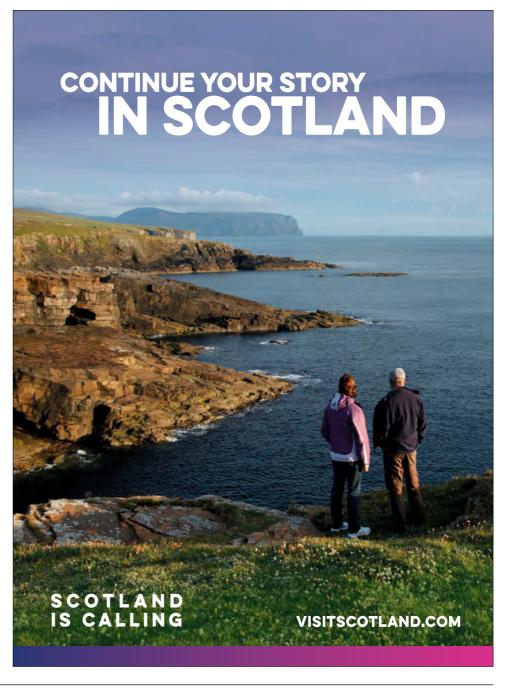
Shenanigans

A similar piece of mischief, once again instigated from the wash house roof in the dark required a little more bravado than the window/button annoyance. This entailed the acquisition of a piece of clothesline rope and after being cut to the right size, one of the bolder kids would go upstairs to the firstfloor landing. Once there he would tie the rope securely to the door handle on the left had side of the landing and then tie it to the other door handle on the right-hand side, praying all the time that no one would come up or down the stair, or someone wanting to exit the house that was being tied up. Once the handles were secured, the culprit would bang loudly on both doors and beat

a hasty retreat down the stairs to join his associates on the dyke where we could watch this through the stair head window.

The trick here was to leave enough slack in the rope so that each neighbour only had enough room to open their door about three inches, so they banged each other's doors as they were trying to open them. All these shenanigans were best observed in the dark from the safety of the midden roof where a safe escape could be made in the lane.

So, against this backdrop of mischief, it was not surprising that my mother wanted me to improve my social skills and befriend a better class of company who would keep me out of trouble, little did she know, be careful what you wish for mother...





s we are now in the midst of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022, the Scottish Banner caught up with Marie Christie, Head Of Development, Events at VisitScotland – Scotland's national tourism organisation – to hear more about this Themed Year, and how it is inspiring locals and visitors to discover more of Scotland's stories.

What are the main themes of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022?

Marie Christie: Year of Stories aims to embrace the widest range of activity and content aligned to the theme, with a focus on inclusivity and diversity. In terms of experiences, events and activity, this has been developed across five cross-cutting strands:

- Iconic stories and storytellers a celebration of Scotland's wealth of treasured and iconic stories and storytellers from classics to contemporary.
- New stories shining a light on emerging, fresh and forward-looking talent.

- Scotland's people and places our people and places have inspired the widest range of stories and storytellers across the world. The year promotes how Scotland's diverse culture, languages, landscapes and ways of life provide a source for all types and forms of stories.
- Local tales and legends every community has its distinct tales to tell; stories of now as well as those passed through the generations.
- Inspired by nature our encounters with nature are an unfailing source of stories old and new. These stories define our place in the natural world and help to create a more sustainable future

What role do stories play in attracting visitors to Scotland?

Marie Christie: The love of stories is hardwired into us all; it is one of the strongest ways we connect with one another and share our experiences. Great stories, well told, can evoke indelible images in our minds and bring contemporary and traditional cultures to life.

We know that one in five people are inspired to visit Scotland, having seen the destinations on film or TV. Every community has its own tales to tell and places to highlight as inspiration for well-known books and films, as well as visitor attractions that showcase our literary and storytelling heritage. Our Year of Stories events programme is animating places and spaces all over Scotland, creating memorable moments for visitors to enjoy.

The year is shining a spotlight on our diverse stories and creative talent, literary visitor attractions, festivals and bookshops. It's also encouraging people to explore Scotland's rich tradition as a backdrop for film and TV. New stories are being created every day and we hope that visitors to Scotland that are joining us in celebrating the Year of Stories, capture and share their own #TalesOfScotland.

It's a theme with far-reaching appeal and we hope it will resonate with locals and visitors alike, encouraging them to experience all kinds of stories for themselves.

What Year of Stories events can visitors to Scotland enjoy for the remainder of 2022?

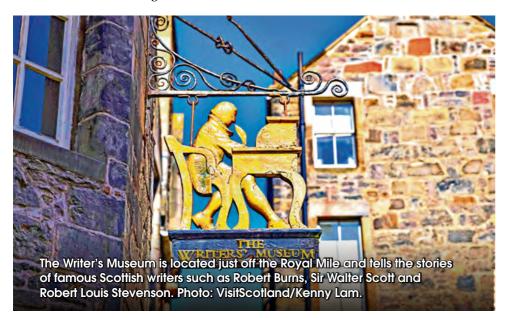
Marie Christie: There are some really exciting events taking place across the country that will bring Scotland's stories to life in creative ways. In Scotland's capital city, from 13-29 August Edinburgh International Book Festival will showcase Scotland's Stories Now with both in-person and online events. Stories take centre stage at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and the Regional Gardens at Benmore, Logan and Dawyck Botanic Gardens until 15 October where visitors can enjoy an enriched visit to the gardens through audio trails inspired by words and nature in Of Scotland's Soils and Soul.

In September, Findhorn Bay Festival runs from 23 September – 2 October in a dramatic Moray setting while in the south, Scotland's Book Town, Wigtown, is the setting for the annual Wigtown Book Festival on the same dates (as well as offering a dozen bookshops to explore).

Moving into autumn, the Northern Stories Festival from 7 to 16 October will be a spectacular celebration of the stories of the far north of Scotland, taking place across Caithness in celebration of Scotland's ancient Nordic connections and close ties to North America. The annual Scottish International Storytelling Festival, runs from 14 to 30 October, and this year it will include the Map of Stories - a specially curated project for Year of Stories with 'film ceilidhs' celebrating the most iconic voices - past and present - from Scotland's oral storytelling traditions. As the nights get darker visitors have the chance to immerse themselves in Scotland's history at Stirling Castle at the atmospheric Tales from the Castle storytelling events, taking place after hours on 21 and 22 October.

What do you expect the legacy of this Themed Year to be?

Marie Christie: The Themed Year has helped shine a spotlight on our wealth of storytelling attractions, locations, events and festivals across the country and we hope that it will encourage people to return for future visits. There are so many attractions across Scotland which all have great stories to tell and are well worth a visit during any year. As part of the Year of Stories, we have been shining a spotlight on new stories, which will be a legacy for the future. The regional Community Campfires events organised by Scottish Book Trust generated a wealth of local residents' stories, and the Edinburgh



International Book Festival encouraged people across Scotland to share Scotland's Stories Now by responding to the prompt 'On this Day'. The year has highlighted how discovering our rich stories enhances a visit to Scotland – whether that be through a tour guide with their storytelling skills and expert knowledge, or hearing about local tales and legends of the region you are visiting. As part of the Year of Stories, we have encouraged communities to share the stories that are special to them, and we hope that becomes something they can build on in years to come.

A main focus during the Year of Stories is the celebration of Scotland's iconic stories and storytellers, both past and present. Can you tell us about some of the attractions and experiences associated with them which visitors can enjoy?

Marie Christie: Ayr is where our great national Bard, Robert Burns, was born and it is home to the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum managed by the National Trust for Scotland. Visitors can explore the humble cottage where Burns was born and spent the first years of his life. The Museum houses more than 5,000 Burns artefacts including his handwritten manuscripts.

Abbotsford, the charming home of celebrated author Sir Walter Scott, sits on the bank of the River Tweed in the Scottish Borders town of Melrose, and stands as an enduring monument to the tastes, talents and achievements of its creator.

The Writers Museum, situated just off Edinburgh's Royal Mile, pays tribute to Burns, Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson, the Edinburgh-born author of such classics as Treasure Island and Kidnapped.

The TV series *Outlander* and the novels by Diana Gabaldon on which it is based have drawn worldwide attention to one of the most famous periods in Scottish history – that of the Jacobite Uprisings. As well as the real-life history locations featured in the story, visitors can explore the locations used in the show, ranging from Culloden Battlefield near Inverness and the delightful Kingdom of Fife conversation villages of Falkland and Culross to the Glasgow Cathedral, Callendar House in Falkirk, and the spectacular Drumlanrig Castle in Dumfries & Galloway.

For fans of JK Rowling's *Harry Potter* series, a range of tours are on offer, from walking tours of Edinburgh to discover the city locations which inspired the author, to atmospheric Glen Coe, and the iconic Glenfinnan Viaduct over which the Jacobite Stream Train runs between Fort William and Mallaig.

Many stories from around Scotland of course come from folklore stretching back for hundreds of years, often derived from our landscapes and seascapes, as well as the culture and ways of life that emerged from these locations. In our most northerly island groups of Orkney and Shetland, there are many folk tales of 'The Hill Folk', and the Norse history of these islands can be traced today in local place names. In the Outer Hebrides, tales of mermaids, selkies and other sea monsters were handed down in Gaelic through the generations.





Those exploring their Scottish ancestry can gain an insight into the story of how their ancestors lived and the tales they would have grown up with by visiting local history museums, or those which focus on lifestyles in years gone by. These include Auchindrain Historic Township near Inveraray, Argyll and the Highland Folk Museum

in Newtonmore at the heart of the Cairngorms National Park, both of which give an insight into Highland farming life, and touch on the story of the Highland Clearances which caused so many Highlanders to leave Scotland, seeking a new life elsewhere.

Find out more about the Year of Stories 2022 at: www.visitscotland.com/stories

Magical Harry Potter locations in Scotland



reat yourself to wonderful *Harry Potter* experiences in Scotland by visiting spellbinding film locations and immersing yourself in the wizarding world. From the famous 'Harry Potter Bridge' to the site of Dumbledore's grave, Scotland is home to lots of locations from the *Harry Potter* films. Here's a little help in planning the perfect trip for keeneyed Potter-spotters!

Glenfinnan Viaduct, aka 'The Harry Potter Bridge'

With its iconic arches and stunning Highland surroundings, the Glenfinnan Viaduct carried the Hogwarts Express to the world's most famous wizarding school. It features in three of the *Harry Potter* films, including the dramatic scene in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

where Harry and Ron land their flying Ford Anglia onto the tracks. If you time your visit right, you might see the Hogwarts Express train (in real life the Jacobite steam train) cross the bridge 30–40 minutes after it has left Fort William, leaving a trail of steam in its wake. You can also enjoy a walk down to Glenfinnan Monument on the shores of Loch Shiel; or a wander around the fascinating visitor centre, which tells the story of the Jacobite Rising of 1745.

Discover other film locations

Majestic Glencoe was used for various outdoor scenes in *The Goblet of Fire, The Order of the Phoenix* and *The Half-Blood Prince*. The Clachaig Gully, just above the Clachaig Inn, became the location for Hagrid's Hut in *The Prisoner of Azkaban*.

The hut was removed after filming, but the astonishing scenery remains. Thankfully sightings of Hagrid's three-headed dog Fluffy are rare. There are plenty of other Harry Potter locations across Scotland to explore while you're on your way to Trust places. Rannoch Moor, just a short drive along the A82 from Glencoe, was where the Death Eaters boarded the Hogwarts Express in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part I*.

Steall Falls, a little way north of Glencoe, is where Harry battled the Hungarian Horntail dragon in the Triwizard Tournament in *The Goblet of Fire*. The island of Eilean na Moine in Loch Eilt, just past Glenfinnan Monument, was used as Dumbledore's grave, before being digitally placed in a different location: Loch Arkaig. Loch Etive, to the south of Glencoe, was the setting for the camping trip in *Deathly Hallows: Part I*, and also where Harry and the gang are dropped by a dragon after fleeing from Gringotts Bank.

Edinburgh home of Harry Potter

As the place where the story of the boy wizard was first put to paper, and the home of his creator, Edinburgh is a *Harry Potter* hotspot and one of Scotland's best places for magical experiences. *Harry Potter's* creator, J K Rowling, spent time conjuring up some of her famous stories at The Elephant House, a café close to Edinburgh's Royal Mile and just a 5-minute walk from Gladstone's Land. From the upstairs windows you can look down

into Greyfriars Kirkyard, where you may spot some familiar names carved into the tombstones, including Thomas Riddell and William McGonagall.

Want to make your time in Edinburgh truly magical? You can choose from a variety of immersive Potter-themed tours of the city or test your wizarding skills at a Potter-themed escape room such as The Department of Magic. And find somewhere to stay among the crooked cobbled streets in the city's atmospheric Old Town - like the very own Gladstone's Land flats or a Potter-themed holiday apartment. Edinburgh is also home to several shops selling every kind of gift, trinket and prop that Potter-lovers could want, from replica wands to sorting hats! For extra Potter points, visit the shops on the colourful, sloping Victoria Street, which some say was the inspiration for Diagon Alley.

Text 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



THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

- 1 Death of Queen Anne; George I, Elector of Hanover becomes king. $1714\,$
- 1 Proscription Act introduced, banning tartan and the carrying of weapons. The penalty for a first offence was six months in jail and a second offence resulted in transportation for seven years. $1747\,$
- 1 University of Dundee which was incorporated into the University of St Andrews(as Queen's College) in 1890, constituted as a separate university. $1967\,$
- 2 Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, died in Nova Scotia. Although he is best known for this invention Bell was also well known for his work on deafness. 1922
- 3 Sir William Kirkcaldy of Grange executed, after defending Edinburgh Castle on behalf of Mary Queen of Scots from May 1568 to May 1573. $1573\,$
- 3 King James II killed by an exploding cannon at the siege of Roxburgh Castle. $1460\,$
- 3 William Wallace is captured near Glasgow. Wallace is tried in London on 23 August, then executed. 1305



- 3 The 2014 Commonwealth Games (officially the XX Commonwealth Games) closing ceremony took place in Glasgow, Scotland. $2014\,$
- 4 Birth of the entertainer Sir Harry Lauder, his hits included $\it Roamin$ in the Gloamin' and Keep Right on to the End of the Road. Lauder died in 1950 at the age of 79. 1870
- 5 James, Earl Douglas, died out of sight of his army, in a bush, at Battle of Otterburn in which Scots defeat Henry Percy, (Hotspur) but with the loss of the Earl of Douglas. $1388\,$
- **5** The Scottish Parliament established a General Post Office. **1695**
- 6 First Glasgow/Edinburgh coach service began from White Horse Inn, Edinburgh. 1678
- 6 Donald Alexander Smith later Lord Strathcona - born in Forres. A pioneer of the Hudson Bay Company in the North-West, he later championed the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway across Canada and drove the last spike at Craigellachie, British Columbia. 1820
- 6 Birth of Sir Alexander Fleming, discoverer of penicillin. 1881
- 7 Lord Kitchener, the war minister, began a mass recruiting campaign, three days after Britain declared war on Germany. By the war's end a total of 147,609 Scots had been killed, a fifth of Britain's dead from a country that made up only 10% of its population. 1914



- 7 Air services begin from Barra Airport, the only beach airport anywhere in the world to be used for scheduled airline services. 1936
- 7 The first train arrives in Fort William on the newly opened West Highland Line. $1894\,$
- $8 \hbox{ Former World flyweight boxing } \\ champion Benny Lynch died. \\ 1946$
- 8 King Edward I removed to England the Stone of Destiny on which generations of Scottish kings had been crowned. $1296\,$
- 8 King James IV married Margaret Tudor, daughter of King Henry VII of England. The marriage was known as the Union of the Thistle and the Rose. 1503
- 9 Civil engineer Thomas Telford born in Dumfries. Telford became known as 'the godfather of civil engineering'. 1757

- 9 Prestwick Airport in Ayrshire opened after David McIntyre set up Scottish Aviation Ltd. Aircraft had been flying from the area since 1913. 1935
- $10\,\text{-}\,\text{King}\,\text{James}\,\text{III}\,\text{crowned}$ at Kelso Abbey. $1460\,$
- 10 Education (Scotland) Act passed, providing elementary education for all children. $1872\,$
- 10 Perth Museum and Art Gallery opened by the Duke and Duchess of York. $1935\,$
- 11- Andrew Carnegie, the Dunfermline-born steel industrialist and philanthropist, died. Throughout his later life Carnegie established a number of foundations for education and research such as the Carnegie Foundation and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. 1919



- 12 Roy Williamson, the Scottish folk musician and songwriter, died. Williamson was one of the famous duo, The Corries, along with Ronnie Browne. 1990
- 12 A passenger train derails after striking a landslip near Stonehaven in Aberdeenshire, causing 3 deaths. 2020
- $13 \hbox{ Explorer Alexander Gordon Laing became the first Christian to reach Timbuctu, Africa. } 1826$
- 13 Birth of John Logie Baird, developer of television. 1888
- $13 \hbox{-} Scotland's first nuclear power station at} \\ Dounreay went "critical" ushering in the generation of power from atomic reactions. 1957$
- 14 King Duncan I killed in battle at Pitgavney by Macbeth. $1040\,$
- 14 King Robert III born at Scone. 1337
- $14\,\textsc{-}$ King Robert III crowned at the Augustinian abbey of Scone. $1390\,$
- $14 \hbox{- University of Strathclyde was constituted} \\ in Glasgow, based on the Royal College \\ of Science and Technology. 1964 \\$
- 15 Macbeth killed in battle by Malcolm at Lumphanan. 1057
- 15 Novelist and poet Sir Walter Scott born. Synonymous with the Scottish Borders Scott wrote classics such as *Waverley* and *The Bride of Lamermoor*. 1771



- $15 \hbox{ Foundation stone for the Monument} \\ to Sir Walter Scott laid in Princes Street \\ Gardens, Edinburgh. \\ 1840$
- 16 Birth of Carolina Oliphant (Lady Nairne), poet and author of many Jacobite songs, including *Charlie is my Darling*. Her songs are second only in popularity to Burns. 1766
- 17 Visit of George IV to Edinburgh began, orchestrated by Sir Walter Scott. 1822



17 - Death of Bill Millin, British Army soldier and piper during WWII (born 1922). Widely known as Piper Bill, he was personal piper to Simon Fraser, 15th Lord Lovat, commander of 1 Special Service Brigade at D-Day. 2010

- 17 First Edinburgh International Festival opened. 1947
- 18 The Tay Road Bridge opened, linking Dundee city centre with Fife. The Tay Road Bridge carries the A92 road across the Firth of Tay from Newport-on-Tay in Fife to Dundee. 1966
- 18 Arthur Elphinstone, Lord Balmerino, the Jacobite noble, was executed. Balmerino was captured along with Lord Kilmarnock after the Battle of Culloden and the pair were tried for treason in London and beheaded in the Tower of London. $1746\,$
- 18 45 years after forming in 1973, folk rock band Runrig performs their last show against the backdrop of Stirling Castle. $2018\,$
- 19 Mary Queen of Scots lands at Leith on her return from France, after the death of her husband, King Francis II. 1561
- 19 Charles Edward Stuart, raises his standard at Glenfinnan, at the start of the '45 uprising. $1745\,$
- 19 Scottish aviator Jim Mollinson landed after the first East/West solo flight of the Atlantic from Portmarnock, Ireland to Pennfield, New Brunswick. 1932
- 20 Ronald Ross, the first Scot to win a Nobel prize (in 1902) dissected a mosquito and established the link with malaria. 1897
- 21 Battle of Dunkeld when the newly formed Cameronians defended the town against 3,000 Highlanders. 1689
- 21 Birth of William Murdoch who pioneered the use of coal-gas lighting in 1792 in partnership with James Watt and Mathew Boulton. $1754\,$
- 21 Birth of Donald Dewar, former Secretary of State for Scotland and First Minister in the new Scottish Parliament. 1937
- 22 Battle of the Standard at Northallerton in which King David I was defeated by the English. 1138
- 22 Devorgilla, Countess of Galloway founded Balliol College, Oxford. She was mother of John Balliol (who acceded to the Scottish throne in 1292). 1282
- 22 King Charles I raised his standard at Nottingham, initiating a Civil War in England between the Royalists (also known as Cavaliers) and Parliament (Roundheads). $1642\,$
- 23 Sir William Wallace was executed in London. Wallace was captured after being betrayed by Sir John de Menteith and was transported to London. King Edward I had devised a new method of execution for one of his arch-enemies, and Wallace became the first person to endure the agonies of being hanged, drawn and quartered. $1305\,$



- 23 Work begins on the rebuilding of Eilean Donan Castle. It took until 1932 to complete. The castle is today one of the most photographed in Scotland. 1913
- 24 Berwick on Tweed finally ceded to England (Edward IV) after changing hands 12 times. 1482
- 24 The first Edinburgh International Festival of Music and Drama opened. The festival was inspired by the arts festivals organised in Salzburg before the Second World War, but has grown to become the largest event of it's kind in the world. It has also spawned a book festival, film festival and the festival fringe. The festival was also responsible for the creation of Scottish Opera and forced a greater amount of funding from the Arts Council to be given to Scotland. $1947\,$
- 25 James Watt, developer of steam power, died. Watt was known as the 'father of the industrial revolution'. 1819
- 25 Actor Sir Sean Connery born. Connery famously went from an Edinburgh milk man to global movie superstar, best known for playing James Bond 007. Sean Connery died at age 90 in the Bahamas in October, 2020. $1930\,$
- 25 Glasgow Zoo, or Calderpark Zoo, closed. The was a 99-acre (40 ha) zoological park in Baillieston, Glasgow was established in 1947 by the Zoological Society of Glasgow and West of Scotland. The zoo was located on the lands of the former Calderpark Estate, and closed due financial losses and reports of animal cruelty. 2003

- 26 Mary Queen of Scots leads an army out of Edinburgh to supress a rebellion led by her half brother James Stewart, 1st Earl of Moray, who is opposed to her marriage. She puts the rebellion to flight in what becomes known as the Chaseabout Raid. 1565
- 26 The Donibristle Mining Disaster occurred in the Fife coalfield. The disaster occurred when part of Mossmorran peat bog near Cowdenbeath collapsed on sixteen miners 360 feet underground. Four miners were lost, as was a four-strong rescue party. All the bodies were eventually recovered but some remained underground until the December of that year. 1901
- $\begin{array}{c} 27 \text{ First balloon ascent in Britain by} \\ \text{James Tytler, Edinburgh. } 1784 \end{array}$
- $27\,$ James Thomson, the Scottish poet, died. Thomson's most famous works include the anthem, $\textit{Rule Britannia.}\ 1748$
- 27 The trial began in Edinburgh for Deacon William Brodie, a cabinet-maker and member of the town council, who also was a notorious criminal. On 1 October 1788 he was hanged for theft in the Lawnmarket in front of a crowd that was the largest seen in living memory. 1788
- 28 Edward I of England held a parliament at Berwick to which he summoned all Scottish landholders to sign the Ragman Roll. 1296
- 28 The Battle of Newburn on Tyne. The battle was fought between Leslie's veteran Scottish army and a hastily assembled English force. The Scots had invaded northern England in response to the attempts of Charles I to impose an Anglican prayer book upon Scotland. 1640

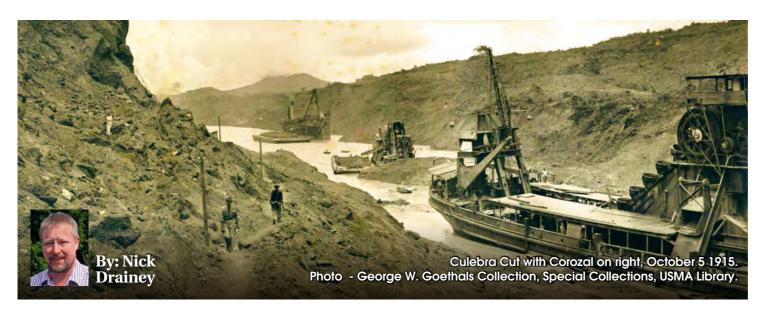


- 29 The population of St Kilda were evacuated from the island. The island was evacuated on economic grounds at the islanders own request as the population had dwindled from 73 in 1920 to only 37 in 1928. The island had been populated since Bronze Age times, but from the latter part of the 19th century, the islanders had began to lose their means of self-sufficiency and the fate of the resident population was sealed. The island was sold to the Marquess of Bute, a keen ornithologist, who bequeathed it to the National Trust for Scotland in 1957. 1930
- 30 The Royal Research Ship Discovery reaches the Falkland Islands on a mission to rescue polar explorer Ernest Shackleton, to find he has already been rescued. 1915
- 30 Birth of golf course designer Dr Alister Mackenzie; he was responsible for Augusta National and Cypress Point, among others. $1870\,$
- 30 Liz McColgan won the World Athletics Championship 10,000 metres in Tokyo by a margin of 20 seconds. $1991\,$



- 30 The Queensferry Crossing opens to traffic. The 1.7 miles (2.7km) crossing was the biggest infrastructure project in Scotland in a generation and carries about 24 million vehicle journeys a year. 2017
- 31- The first Edinburgh Film Festival opened. The festival was officially opened on this date by the Lord Provost at the Playhouse Cinema. The festival was originally known as the International Festival of Documentary, but has now grown to become recognised as one of the great worldwide film festivals. 1946

Scotland's link to the Panama Canal



Paisley Museum has unearthed the incredible story of a Scottish dredger which built the last part of the Panama Canal and its Master from the Clyde. The Corozal was the only non-American machinery which worked on the canal more than 100 years ago, as Nick Drainey explains.

he forgotten story of a Scottish dredger and its master who sailed to the Pacific Ocean in the face of diplomatic unrest more than century ago and completed the final, difficult section of the Panama Canal has been unearthed during a multi-million revamp of one of Scotland's oldest museums. In 1912 James Bartholomew Wallace sailed the *Corozal* from Simons shipyard in Renfrew, around the treacherous Cape Horn to the west side of Panama. Once there, it shifted more than 4 million cubic metres of earth from the Culebra Cut, the 12km channel on the final section of the canal as it meets the Pacific.



The Clyde

In the 17th century the River Clyde at Glasgow was a shallow body of water which could be waded across at low tide. Ocean-going ships had to load and unload at Greenock with sailing up to the city an impossibility.

By the 18th century the trade in tobacco and sugar was booming and merchants wanted to be able to get their wares into the heart of Glasgow. A huge engineering project began which would see more than 100,000 tonnes of sediment dredged out. In the 19th century steam power created a revolution in production and shipbuilding on the Clyde took off, eventually seeing an estimated 25,000 vessels built on the banks of the river.

The shipyards played a vital role during the two world wars of the 20th century but decline began in the 1960s until today when they are all but gone. Nevertheless, the industrial heritage is still a source of great pride in all the communities along the Clyde, and it echoes around the world.

Despite fierce disapproval from San Francisco shipbuilders who wanted only US machinery used, President William Taft had awarded the contract for the work to the Scottish Corozal because he saw it as better value for money (just under US\$400,000 compared to US\$874,000). The story of how James Wallace overcame arduous seas, a tough working environment and opposition is to be told when Paisley Museum, Scotland's first municipal museum dating back to 1871, re-opens next year after a £42million revamp. In preparing for the major refurbishment the museum discovered a model of the Corozal and decided to do some investigating.

Shipbuilding family

Born into a Clyde shipbuilding family in 1870 in Renfrew, Wallace left school at 14 and began a five-year apprenticeship at Simons, a move that would eventually take him across the world. His first major voyage, in 1891, took him to the Pacific Coast of Mexico, via the Atlantic and Cape Horn. If that sounds a long way from home, it was but for many of that generation it was a chance to escape the confines of the yards. Wallace's great grandson, Andy Wallace, who has made a long-term donation of family correspondence and photographs to Paisley Museum says: "He was from a shipbuilding family - he would have been an excited young man. That was their ticket to see the world and make some money."

See the world he did, taking dredgers to Russia, China, India, Malaysia and Aden. Andy Wallace adds: "It does seem from his letters that every time he lands home he is off again."



But Andy Wallace says his ancestor's strong Christian faith was always central to his life, coupled with a "get up and go spirit". And he did find time to marry Margaret Reid Phillips in Renfrew, Renfrewshire, on 24 December 1897 when he was 27 years old, and the couple had five children.

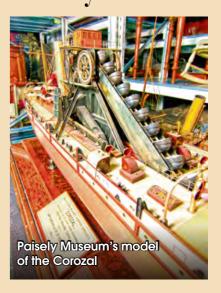
Held in high esteem

Meanwhile, 18,000 workers were toiling on the Panama Canal, hundreds perishing in the harsh conditions. William Taft had used his presidential powers to overturn a ruling by Congress that all future machinery should be USbuilt and had awarded Simons a contract to supply the Corozal. It was one of the largest dredgers ever seen at 261 feet in length and weighing 1684 tons. With James Wallace as Master, it set sail at the end of 1911, arriving in March the following year after travelling 12,000 miles during 117 days at sea. It was an impressive sight, dwarfing the other dredgers struggling to finish the final part - the Culebra Cut. By 1913 the canal was finished with the Corozal being the first vessel to pass through the final section before it was officially opened in 1914.

John Pressley, Science Curator at Paisley Museum says Wallace "must have been held in reasonably high esteem", who says his name was included in a roll call of the senior workers on the canal. Pressley said: "He would have taken the dredger over there and spend three or six months handing it over to whoever was going to be operating it."

The Corozal went to work out of Philadelphia and was eventually scrapped in 1956. James Wallace had returned to Scotland but then went back to Panama, where he died in 1915, aged just 44. Andy Wallace says the details are sketchy and he has never found a death certificate although he does know he is buried in the country. Wallace's son became a marine engineer and his grandson, Andy's father, was a diplomat. Andy Wallace is currently retraining as a marine biologist. He sees his great grandfather's legacy as one of a "family who goes around the world doing what needs to be done"

Paisley Museum



Paisley Museum was the first municipal museum built in Scotland, designed by renowned Glasgow architect Sir John Honeyman and gifted to the town by Sir Peter Coats of the Coats family, whose Paisley-based thread-making empire stretched around the world. Paisley was thriving at the turn of the 19th century thanks to the textiles industry and there was a real climate for self-improvement and intellectual curiosity growing in the town. Countless clubs and societies had sprung up, and there was a thirst for knowledge amongst the population. One such club was the Paisley Philosophical Institution which promoted education through its public lectures on a wide range of topics. They also collected scientific apparatus, objects, artefacts and books, and by 1864 were in need of a permanent home for their collection. In 1864 they decided to launch a campaign to raise the funds needed to build a free public library and museum, and by 1867 had confirmation from Sir Peter Coats that he would pay for its construction. Paisley Museum was opened to the public in April 1871

The first curator, Morris Young, was an entomologist specialising in the study of beetles - his collection of over 2,000 beetle specimens is still held by the museum. Within 10 years of the Museum opening, plans to expand the galleries and build an Observatory were already underway. And, in 1883 what is now Scotland's oldest Observatory was opened. Today, Paisley Museum is undergoing further redevelopment to improve the display of a vast range of artefacts including world-famous textiles, ceramics, over 800 paintings, sculpture, and local archives.



THE BANNER BOOK SHOP

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The White Cockade: Historical Tales of **the Jacobites** During the first half of the 18th century, Bonnie Prince Charlie and his diehard supporters, the Jacobites, almost changed the course of British history. Their attempts to drive out the house of Hanov and restore the Stuarts to the British throne is one of the great epics of history. This book retells over 40 Jacobite stories which date back to the time of the prince himself and his bitter defeat at the Battle of Culloden-featuring the exploits of real people and actual events.

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

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The loss of two British ships crammed with American soldiers bound for the trenches of the WW1 brought the devastation of war directly to the shores of the Scottish island of Islay. 8 months later an armed merchant cruiser collided with another troopship, throwing 600 men into the water. Just 19 survived. Based on the harrowing personal recollection of survivors and rescuers newspaper reports, and original research this tells the story of these terrible events, painting a vivid picture which also pays tribute to the astonishing bravery of the islanders.. Price: \$24.95 Plus postage

When the Clyde Ran Red: A Social History of Red Clydeside This book paints a vivid picture of the heady days when revolution was in the air on Clydeside. Through the bitter strike at the huge Singer Sewing machine plant in Clydebank in 1911, Bloody Friday in Glasgow's George Square in 1919, the General Strike of 1926 and on through the Spanish Civil War to the Clydebank Blitz of 1941, the people fought for the right to work, the dignity of labour and a fairer society. right to work, the dignity of labour and a fairer society for everyone. This book puts the politics into the social context of the times and tells the story with verve, warmth and humour.

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Scottish Queens 1034-1714

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

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Scotch

Scotch whisky is beloved around the world. This comprehensive guide to Scotch whisky history, production, and appreciation will help you navigate the world of Scotch with confidence. Along with an overview of its intricate production process and tips for visiting your favorite distillery, Scotch features profiles of more than 200 whiskies, from popular blends to coveted single malts, with a special focus on bottles you're likely to find with ease. Price: \$39.95 plus posta

A History of Scotland

Historian Neil Oliver presents a compelling new portrait of Scottish history, peppered with action, high drama and centuries of turbulence that have helped to shape modern Scotland. Along the way, he takes in iconic landmarks and historic architecture: debunks myths surrounding Scotland's famous sons; recalls forgotten battles; charts the growth of patriotism; and explores recent political developments, capturing Scotland's sense of identity and celebrating her place in the wider Price: \$29.95 Plus postage

Britain's DNA Journey: Our Remarkable Genetic Story

In an epic parrative, sometimes moving, sometimes astonishing, always revealing, Moffat writes an entirely new history of Britain. Instead of the usual parade of the usual suspects - kings, queens, saints, warriors and the notorious – this is a people's history, a narrative made from stories only DNA can tell, which offers insights into who we are and where we come from. Price: \$ 24.95 Plus postage



Omnibus This book gathers A Croft in the Hills with some of Katharine's later books: A Garden in the Hills, describing a year in the life of her Highland garden; A School in the Hills, a vivid history of the school at Abriachan which eventually became the Stewarts' family home; and The Post in the Hills, which tells the dramatic story of the postal service in the Highlands, from the To order please see us at www.scottishbanner.com/shop of the smallest post office in Scotland, run from the porch of her schoolhouse. Price: \$34.95 Plus postage

The King Over the Water: A Complete History of the Jacobites

Spanning more than a century, the Jacobite cause is one of the epic stories of history. They may have failed in their aim to restore the house of Stuart to the British throne, but in that failure the Jacobites changed the terrone, but in that failure the Jacobies changed the course of history. Intrigue, espionage, corruption and betrayal, as well as constancy to the cause in the face of terrible risks are all ingredients of this extraordinary tale. Few novels can boast such a colourful cast of characters, not to mention one of the most well-known historical figures of all time and brings them to life in this vivid, sweeping narrative, full of insight, anecdote and analysis.

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



community of Scottish piping, introducing the instrument itself and the various different repertories. It also discusses piping techniques as well as information on some of the great piping dynasties and individual pipers. Dr Willie Donaldson shows how 'traditional music' is the creation of gifted individuals operating in a sophisticated and vigorously ongoing enterprise, their story offers fascinating insights into the whole traditional music and song repertoire of Scotland.

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The Finest Road in the World: The Story of Travel and Transport in the Scottish

Highlands Trains and stagecoaches stuck in the snow, wild storms driving sailing ships off course, traffic pile-ups on so-called 'killer' highways - stories abound about the horrors of travel in the Highlands and Islands, and have done for as far as the records go back. James Miller tells the dramatic and sometimes surprisingly humorous story of travel and transport in the Highlands

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Culloden The Battle of Culloden has gone down in history as the last major battle fought on British soil: a vicious confrontation between Scottish forces supporting the Stuart claim to the throne and the English Royal Army. But this wasn't just a conflict between the Scots and the English, the battle was also part of a much larger campaign to protect the Britain from a French invasion. This book looks afresh at the period and unveils its true Price:\$29.95 Plus postage

Scotland: The New State of an Old Nation

This book covers recent aspects of Scottish politics, Scottish society and Scottish life, strongly underpinned by contemporary research. It provides insight into the foundations and structures of modern-day Scotland. There is a growing interest in Scotland's constitutional future and in Scottish issues, both nationally and internationally, but there are very few up-to-date books to which readers can refer. This work provides just such an analysis and will be of interest to a range of readers both within and beyond Scotland. The book includes chapters on Scottish identity, politics, education, employment, gender, ethnicity, class, art, culture and sport, as well as looking at Scottish societies in the UK & overseas. Price: \$44.95 Plus postage

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

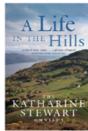
The Highland Clearances are a well-documented episode in Scotland's past but they were not unique. The process began in the Scottish Lowlands nearly a century before, when tens of thousands of people significantly more than were later exiled form the Highlands. These Clearances shaped the appearance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

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage

After Brexit Pressure for independence remains a major force in Scotland, but the case for it has changed substantially since the referendum of 2014. In the 2016 Brexit referendum, 60 per cent of the Scottish electorate voted to remain part of the European Union - the only part of the UK to reject Brexit so unequivocally. This new analysis takes into account a host of economic issues including deficit, debt, currency, energy (including North Sea oil and gas), pensions, mortgages and the financial sector. It weighs up the advantages of rejoining the EU single market, , with the disadvantages of a hard border with the rest of the UK. Price: \$19.95 Plus postage

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wars with England. Explore how Edward I attempted to bring the Scottish kingdom under his control during the late 13th and early 14th centuries. Despite England's overwhelming military might, victory was by no means inevitable, and Scotland's leaders proved able to create a successful front to repel a far more powerful enemy. Packed with detail, description and analysis, it paint a vivid picture of a key period in the history of both Price:\$34.95 Plus postage Putting the Tea in Britain: The Scots Who Made Our National Drink Offering a 'nice

HAMMER

IN BRITAIN

cup of tea' has been a stock British response to a crisis. But tea itself has a dramatic, and often violent, history. That history is inextricably interwoven with the story of Scotland. Scots were overwhelmingly responsible for the introduction and development of the UK's national drink, and were the foremost pioneers in the development of tea as an international commodity.Les Wilson brings the story right up to date, with a look at the recent development of tea plantations in Scottish Price: \$34.95 Plus postage hills and glens.

Scottish Battles

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

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

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River of Fire: The Clydebank Blitz

Clydebank was an obvious target for the attentions of the Luftwaffe. On 13 March 1941, the authorities first detected that Clydebank was 'on beam' - targeted by the German bombers – no effort was made to raise the alarm. This tells the story of the Clydebank Blitz and the terrible scale of death & devastation, speculating on why its incineration has been forgotten and its ordeal denied any place in national honour. With reference to written sources and the memories of those who survived the experience this tells the story of the Blitz and the terrible scale of devastation. Price:\$29.95 Plus postage

Scotland Her Story

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

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Everyday Gaelic has been compiled by an author with years experience in teaching the language to adults & children. In addition to basic words and phrases, it also includes more complex and idiomatic material, all arranged thematically and covering topics such as meeting and greeting, travelling, the weather and more. There are also clearly explained sections on grammar and imitated pronunciation for all Gaelic words and phrases. The result is a useful book which will be of benefit to all levels & ages of learners. Price: book only \$24.95 also available with Book/CD (improves pronunciation and comprehension) for \$39.95.

Gaelic-English/English-Gaelic Dictionary Latest soft cover dictionary is ideal for learners of Gaelic at all levels, and its generous coverage of vocabulary from fields such as business and IT makes it a valuable tool for all those who require an up-todate reference work. It contains a large amount of explanatory material, numerous examples of usage and idiomatic phrases and expressions. Many registers and styles are sampled, from the familiar (and occasionally the vulgar) to the formal and the literary

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This book has been written both as a self-tuition course for beginners and also for use within the classroom. You may want to learn Gaelic because of a general interest in Celtic or Scottish history and culture, or because it was the everyday language of your ancestors. Each lesson in the book contains some essential points of grammar explained and illustrated, exercises, a list of new vocabulary (with a guide to pronunciation, using the International Phonetics Alphabet), and an item of conversation. This edition comes complete with 3 audio CDs to help make learning even easier and more fun. Price: \$49.95 Plus post(book only available \$29.95)

Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors

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

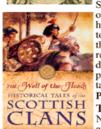
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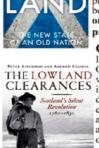


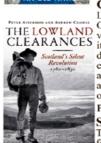




















Everyday













QUEENS

SCOTCH

SCOTLAND'S WHISKIES





IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Chilled tomato pipers bisque

Ingredients:

1 slice white country bread, crusts removed and broken into large crumbs 2 tsp sherry vinegar ½ garlic clove, peeled and finely chopped 1 tsp caster sugar ½ red chili, seeded and finely diced 30ml/1fl oz. extra virgin olive oil 225g/8oz plum tomatoes, peeled and seeded 2 tsp tomato ketchup 200ml/7fl oz. tomato juice 2 spring onions, finely sliced ½ red pepper, roasted or grilled, peeled, seeded and diced

1/4 large cucumber, peeled, seeded and roughly diced 2 tsp pesto salt and freshly ground black pepper frozen olive oil cubes (place olive oil

in ice cube moulds and freeze)

Method:

Place the bread in a food processor or blender. With the machine running add the vinegar, garlic, sugar and chili, and blend until smooth.

Add the extra virgin olive oil until the bread will absorb no more then, a little at a time, add the tomatoes, tomato ketchup, tomato juice, spring onions, red pepper, cucumber and pesto. Continue to blend to form a smooth emulsion. Season to taste with salt and black pepper. Serve with frozen olive oil cubes.

Aberdeen post-war multi-storey flats listed at Category A



istoric Environment Scotland (HES) has awarded eight multistorey flats in Aberdeen category A listing status because of their outstanding architectural and historic interest. Following consultation with residents, local stakeholders and members of the public, HES has listed Gilcomstoun Land, Porthill Court, Seamount Court, Virginia Court, Marischal Court, Thistle Court, Hutcheon Court, and Greig Court in the city centre, at Category A, meaning they are of outstanding importance.

These eight towering examples of post war architecture, which have dominated the skyline of the granite city for 60 years, help tell the story of post-war Scotland. Aberdeen was earmarked by the UK government for significant economic growth and the city then embarked on an ambitious programme of civic regeneration.

The flats are some of the finest examples of social housing in Scotland, and were designed by the Aberdeen City Architects Department, under the supervision of George McIntosh Keith, Chief Architect for the city of Aberdeen. Most buildings of this type were factory-made system-built schemes and Aberdeen unusually took a different approach which involved innovative town planning and high-quality individual designs by their own architects.

Part of what makes the Aberdeen flats so important is the number of them. All eight multis were planned as part of the original scheme and all eight survive, making their value and interest as a group unique in Scotland, which has been reflected in the listing.

Elizabeth McCrone, Head of Designations at HES, said: "Listing is a way of recognising buildings and structures that create Scotland's distinctive character, and through which we can discover more about the stories of our past. The Aberdeen flats tell us much about how the city and its architects responded to the challenges of housing large amounts of people in the city centre during the 1960s - a time of relative prosperity, low unemployment and optimism for the future. Exceptional architecture has always been built in Scotland and the Aberdeen flats should be celebrated as a key part of our 20th century heritage, which help us understand the ambitions and aspirations of the city at that time."

The proposal to list the buildings came from Miles Glendinning, a professor of modern architecture who was contacted by residents. Professor Glendinning said: "I'm a great admirer of the Granite City, and these buildings fit into its fabric, both in material (using granite in their construction) and in how they've been built into the historic and modern urban pattern. In architectural terms, these buildings stand out because architecturally and socially, they are a continuation of the civic-mindedness and pride of previous generations of great Aberdonians. They are also a social success, which for me is just as important as the architectural interest."

Snare drummers lobster baked potato



Ingredients:

1 red rooster potato 1 tbsp olive oil 200ml/7fl oz single cream 1 heaped tspn Dijon mustard 1 lemon, zest and juice of half 2 free-range yolks 35g/11/40z grated parmesan 2 tbsp chopped fresh basil salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 x 500g/1lb 2oz lobster, meat removed, diced

For the salad:

1 cucumber, peeled, seeds removed, diced 2 tbsp chopped fresh flatleaf parsley 200g/7oz cherry tomatoes, quartered 1 red onion, finely sliced 3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil 1 lemon, juice only

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6. Bake the potato for 1-11/4 hours or until tender. Remove from the oven and set aside to cool slightly. Cut the potato in half and scoop out the flesh.

Heat the cream, Dijon mustard, lemon zest and lemon juice together in a pan until boiling.

Whisk in the egg yolks until well combined, then stir in half the parmesan and all of the basil. Season, to taste, with salt, sugar and freshly ground black pepper and continue to cook until the sauce thickens. Stir in the lobster meat.

Increase the oven to 225C/450F/Gas 8. Spoon the lobster mixture into the potato shells, sprinkle over the remaining parmesan and bake for 3-4 minutes.

Meanwhile for the salad, mix all of the ingredients together in a bowl until well combined. Serve a spoonful of salad alongside the potato.

Flying Scotsman

Ingredients:

5 fresh chicken fillets

1 haggis

1 tbsp. whisky 100ml/3.5fl oz. double cream 100ml/3.5fl oz. of chicken stock

2 tsp. corn flour

2 tbsp. whisky

Knob of butter

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°c/350F/Gas 4. Clean and flatten the chicken. Place the haggis in a bowl, pour the whisky over and leave to marinate for a few minutes.

Make a patty of haggis per portion and wrap with chicken and bacon.

Drizzle with olive oil / butter, then place on a baking tray and cook at 180°C/350F/Gas 4 for 40 mins.

Whilst the haggis is cooking, make the sauce. Add the corn flour to the stock and slowly bring to the boil until it thickens. Add whisky and simmer for 5 minutes.

Slowly add cream over a low heat. Serve with the whisky sauce in a jug, with neeps and tatties.

Bass Drum Shortbread



Ingredients:

125g/4oz butter 55g/2oz caster sugar, plus extra to finish 180g/6oz plain flour

Method:

Heat the oven to 190C/375F/Gas 5. Beat the butter and the sugar together until smooth. Stir in the flour to get a smooth paste. Turn on to a work surface and gently roll out until the paste is 1cm/1/2in thick. Cut into rounds or fingers and place onto a baking tray. Sprinkle with caster sugar and chill in the fridge for 20 minutes. Bake in the oven for 15-20 minutes, or until pale golden-brown. Set aside to cool on a wire rack.

Edinburgh Tattoo Fog

Ingredients:

1 cup/8oz. or ½ pint double cream 28g/1 oz. castor (fine granulated) sugar 56g/2 oz. small macaroon biscuits Almond essence Drambuie liqueur to taste 28g/1oz. flaked almonds

Method:

The cream should be whipped until it is stiff and the sugar added to your own preference. Crush the macaroon biscuits and mix well with the cream. Add a few drops of almond essence and Drambuie liqueur (or rum, whisky or brandy) to taste. Serve well chilled as a luxury dessert.

The Lone Piper

Ingredients:

1 tsp lemon juice 35ml/1fl oz. blended whisky 15ml/0.5fl oz. peach liqueur 20ml/0.7fl oz. pressed apple juice cream soda peach and apple wedges, to garnish

Method:

Mix the lemon juice, scotch, peach liqueur, apple juice in a mixing glass with a handful of ice.

Strain the mixture into a highball glass and top with cream soda. Garnish with the peach and apple wedges.

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



CHISHOLM

Clan Chisholm **Society of Australia Inc**

Membership is invited from Clan Chisholm descendants of all spellings of the name (Chisholm, Chisolm, Chism, Chisum, Chisam, etc) Contact: Kim Polley OAM

PO Box 84, Longford, Tasmania, 7301

Email: kim.polley13@gmail.com www.clanchisholmsociety.org/ public/AUSmembership.php



Clan Cumming Society of the United **States**

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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

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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

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www.familyofbruceinterna



Clan Davidson Society in

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; Dhal; 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 of New South Wales Inc., Australia**

Duncan Robertson Reid

People who bear any of the above names or other Sept names of Clan Donnachaidh

contact Richard Harvey, Secretary Email: c2100575@uon.edu.au



and Fraser septs

to join our clan society. All members receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter "Strawberry Leaves Membership enquiries to Don Chitts Ph: (03) 9754 5120 donchitts@hotmail.com

Website: http://clanfraseraustralia.org Facebook:https://www.facebook.com/ Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/

482236358590288



Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.

Donald E. Bruce

Stillwater, Minnesota 55082



NSW Qld

Mr A. Neil Macdonald **State Commissioners**

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

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

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

ndon & Southern Counties * Rannoch & Highlands Canada: Ontario * Western Canada Australia: New South Wales * Victoria * Queensland * Western Australia

New Zealand: New Zealand Europe: Spain South Africa

Arizona * Carolinas * Florida * Gulf Coast * Mid-Atlantic * New
† 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, Wistory & 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

Clan Galbraith Society

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

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

www.clangalbraith.org



Clan Donald 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

Council of the Chiefs of Clan Donald" **High Commissioner**

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

Edmonstone Clan Society

Invites membership to anyone of the surname or variations:- Edmiston/e, Edmondston, Edmanson, Edmeston, Edmonson, Edmundson, etc. Chieftain Sir Archibald Edmonstone Bt of Duntreath

> **Contact: Mal Edmiston** 3 Laguna Ave Kirwan, Qld, 4817 61 (0)7 4755 4370 m.edmiston@bigpond.com

Clan Gregor Society

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor 7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balqhidder 24th Chief of Clan Gregor Great Lakes, New England, Pacific North West,

Western U.S. and Southeast Chapters

www.clangregor.org for membership contact Keith MacGregor P.O Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876

6 The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL Scotland



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 Queensland

Commissioner: Neil Macdonald Ph: 0412 090990 Email: clandonaldgld@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

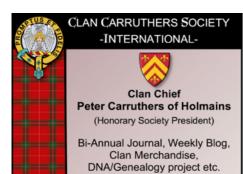
Website: www.elliotclan-usa.com



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"





Clan Donald U.S.A. Inc.

Clan Donald USA is a nationwide organization of over 2,000 families who trace their ancestry to any of the branches of Clann Domhnaill. We embrace all the MacDonalds and other surnames that are recognized as branches or adherents of the greatest of the Highland clans.

www.clandonaldusa.org



Clan Farquharson **Association Australia**

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

The Secretary: Clan Farguharson **Association Australia**

PO Box 585 Springwood, NSW 2777 or by Email to: finlaysb@bigpond.com www.clanfarquharsonaus.weebly.com



American Clan Gregor Society

Est 1909

Membership inquiries welcomed from MacGregors of all spellings and Septs

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

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

www.clancarrutherssociety.org

clancarrutherssociety@gmail.com



Hamiltons and those of Hamilton descent are cordially invited to join the society. Inquiries to be sent to: Sheri Lambert, Treasurer P.O. Box 5399 Vernon Hills, IL 60061 visit our website: www.clanhamilton.org



CLAN 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 Email ianandbevmclucas@bigpond.com

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

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

clanmaclarenau@gmail.com



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 Hay Australia



A callout to all Hay's and our name variants, descendants, and supporters. Clan Hay

looking for new members to illustrious Clan. All descendants and supporter's Alderston: Aver: Bagra: Beagrie: Conn (Aberdeenshire only): Constable: Delahaye; Delgaty; Du Plessis; Dupplin; Errol; Garrow; Geary; Gifford; Hayde Haye; Hayes; Hayle; Haynes; Hays; Hayton; Hayward; Hey; Hye; Kinnoul;

Laxfirth; Leask*; Leith; Locherworth; Logie; Macara; MacGaradh; McKester; 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@gmail.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 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 Hay



28 Oxbow Drive

Willimantic, CT 06226 clanhaymembership@hotmail.com

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(l); 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.clanhav.com

The MacEanruigs, proud sons of Henry, invite you to join!



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John B. McClellan, Jr.

383 Ash Brook Lane

McLellan(d) and Gilliland.

Sunnyvale, TX 75182-3250

Treasurer

www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com

Clan MacLellan

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),

Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net



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 Henderson Society

Purposes of the Society

- Foster Scottish culture and activities
- 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 Chief

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 INTERNATIONAL & AUSTRALIA President & Commissioner: Stephen J. Hope president@clanhope.org www.clanhopeaustralia.org UNITED STATES of AMERICA sionerusa@clanhope.org Membership Chair: Cynthia Hope Her membership@clanhope.org www.clanhope.org CANADA Commissioner: Scott Hale commissioner@clanhope.ca SCOTLAND ner: Colin Douglas Hope



MACFARLANE.ORG

Clan MacInnes Int'l Assn. of Clan MacInnes (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 Sep Askev MacAndie MacClure

Beaton MacAskill MacCorkill MacWilliam Norie Bethune MacAulay MacCrimmon MacGillechallum Norman Caskie MacCabe 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



Chief: John MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac

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

www.clanmacnicol.org

Clan Macpherson Association

an Macpherson welcomes enquiries from Macphersons and members of our Associated familie For information about local activities visit our web site www.clan-macpherson.org/branches Australia John I Macoberson

Africa, Derek Macpherson phone +265 999 512 620

phone +1 519 507 4465

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

phone +44 7877 363 507 New Zealand. Tony McPherson

Scotland & Northern Ireland. Annie Le Roy-Lewis USA. Robert T McPherson SandNl.Chairman@clan-machherson ord United States Clairman@clan-macherson ord United States Clairman SandNI.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 7793 317 387 phone +1 360 701 8133

Australian.Chairman@clan phone +61 409 122 141

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

The Clan Macpherson Museum is located in Newtonmore, Inverness Shire PH20 1DE, at the junction of the A86 and B9150 It is open from 1^{st} April to 31^{st} October Ph + 44 1540 673 332. See http://www.clan-macpherson.org/museum/







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



TRADITIONS FOR INFORMATION: WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG

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



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 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 bruce waynem crae@gmail.com



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 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



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

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

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

Scottish 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.



The American-Scottish Foundation



www.americanscottishfoundation.org





Clan Maitland Society

Chief: lan Maitland, The Earl of Lauderdale! We are all related! Contact your local society North America: Rosemary Maitland Thom rthomnyprdcan@aol.com www.clanmaitlandna.org Australia: Amanda Maitland clanmaitland@vahoo.com.au

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

6/1 Hinemoa Ave. Normanhurst, NSW, 2076

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



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

The Scottish Australian

Heritage Council

Membership is welcome

from all of Scottish descent.

For information please contact

members@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

Scottish Gaelic

during school terms at

Language Classes: Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Faraday Street, Carlton and on Zoom.

Contact: Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277

Email:scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

https://www.scottishgaelicvictoria.com

Founded in 1905

Find us on Facebook

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



descendant of Pollock, Pollok, Pook, Polk, Polke, Paulk, Poalke, Poulk, Poolke, Pogue - you are cordially invited to contact:

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



Clan 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



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 of North America Inc.

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

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 Scottish Resource Centre

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

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

Clan 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



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

Convenor: Ian J Young AM FSAScot

10 Cedric Street, Parkdale VIC 3195 E: membership@clanyoungaustralia.com.au

www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/

Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

P.O. Box 457 Pinehurst, NC 28370

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Victorian Scottish Union Inc

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

Clan Donald Victoria Clan Hay Clan Macdonald of Yarraville Geelong Scottish Dance

Glenbrae Celtic Dancers Maryborough Highland Society Scottish Country Dance Society of Victoria Robert Burns Scottish Festival Camperdown The Robert Rurns Club of Melhourne Warrnambool Highland Dance

Chief: Mr Grant McKinna resident Norman Macdonald Secretary Jan Macdonald

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

Within 60 minutes from Edinburgh

f you're coming to Scotland's capital, Edinburgh, to enjoy one of its many festivals this month, you'll soon see why it's a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as well as one of Britain's greatest foodie and nightlife hotspots. And with gorgeous beaches, romantic castles and the vibrant buzz of Glasgow all only an hour away, you'll be able to experience the country's diverse landscapes, history and culture too, all within easy reach of a day trip.

The Borders



Picturesque coastlines in the east and rugged hills and moorlands in the west greet you at the Scottish Borders (bordering northern England), all of which is easily reached thanks to the Borders Railway, which connects Edinburgh and the Borders town of Tweedbank in less than an hour. Have your camera at the ready on this lovely rail journey as you pass by iconic architectural gems such as the Lothian bridge and Redbridge viaducts. Alight at Tweedbank to visit Abbotsford House, the home of famed writer Sir Walter Scott. This romantic mansion was built during the early decades of the 19th century and very much reflects the tastes of one of this era's most prominent authors. Close by is the attractive town of Melrose, which is not only the home of the magnificent 12th century Melrose Abbey, but also to two National Trust for Scotland gardens. Priorwood Garden houses Scotland's only dedicated dried flower garden and Harmony Gardens features a beautiful walled garden with breath-taking views over the abbey and the nearby Eildon Hills.

Glasgow



Did you know that Edinburgh, the capital, and Scotland's largest city, Glasgow, are only an hour apart? A lively, creative city, Glasgow is renowned for its mighty industrial heritage and world-class shopping as well as its vibrant arts, culture and music scene; it's even a designated UNESCO City of Music!

Discover why it won this status on a Glasgow Music City Tour, while fans of street art should check out Glasgow's first dedicated tour to the genre, the City Centre Mural Trail. Football lovers can take tours of the world-famous Rangers and Celtic Football Clubs, while you can discover the city's artistic and industrial legacy at a host of inspirational museums such as the Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum, the Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery at the University of Glasgow and the Riverside Museum of Transport and the Tall Ship on the banks of the River Clyde.

North Berwick

In just half an hour by train you can swap Edinburgh's cityscapes for coastal relaxation. North Berwick and its stretches of golden sands are spectacular - and if it's glorious views you've come for, you won't be disappointed. Sweeping vistas look out to Bass Rock, home to the world's largest northern gannet colony, and to the Forth Islands. Take a boat trip out to the islands for an even closer inspection, while bird lovers should also pay a visit to the town's Scottish Seabird Centre. Alternatively, if you fancy a game of golf overlooking these wonderful coastal scenes, tee off at either of the town's excellent links courses, the Glen Golf Club and the North Berwick Golf Club.

The town itself is home to a fine collection of cafés, bars and shops, from vintage-style tearooms to stylish coffee shops...also make sure you hit the fish and chip shops and ice-cream parlours, it's tradition at a British seaside resort! For heritage seekers, don't miss the 14th century fortress Tantallon Castle and Dirleton Castle, which houses some of the oldest castle architecture in Scotland.

Stirling



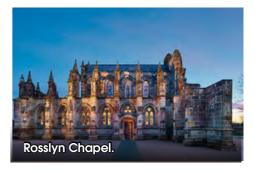
If you've ever watched the film Braveheart, you'll want to visit Stirling. The iconic National Wallace Monument, which overlooks the scene of Scotland's victory at the Battle of Stirling Bridge, gives a fascinating insight into the world of Scottish hero William Wallace. History pulsates through every inch of Stirling; explore the streets of the medieval old town, encounter intriguing royal history at Stirling Castle, and even see the world's oldest football at the Smith Art Gallery and Museum. Perhaps one of the most absorbing attractions that tells the stories of the area's past is the Battle of Bannockburn Experience.

This 3D, immersive exhibition takes you into the heart of one of Scotland's most historic battles, ending with a visit to the Battle Room where visitors can take part in the interactive battle game. And, if you're a fan of the hit TV show *Outlander*, take the time to visit Doune Castle. Located around 15 minutes out of town, multiple scenes from the popular series were filmed at this splendid castle, as they were for *Game of Thrones* and *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*.

Peebles

South of Edinburgh, on the banks of the River Tweed, lies Peebles, a small, attractive town with a distinctly artistic vibe, that's framed by gorgeous countryside scenery. Scottish novelist John Buchan, author of *The Thirty* Nine Steps, made his home here and a picturesque 13-mile walking route is named after him, the John Buchan Way. Alternatively, head out hiking in Glentress Forest, which is also brilliant for mountain biking, as its trails are one of Scotland 7stanes (seven mountain biking centres in southern Scotland). Despite its size, Peebles boasts a number of art galleries and studios and its historic past is prevalent on every corner; ancient relics are dotted across town, from the ruined Cross Kirk to an old Mercat Cross (which depicts a town's right, granted by a monarch or baron, to hold a regular market).

Don't forget



Rosslyn Chapel - Discover intricate carvings and unique stonework at one of the most intriguing places of worship in Scotland, in the village of Roslin, 30-minutes' drive from Edinburgh. Discover its story from its founding in the 15th century to its depiction in the novel and subsequent film *The Da Vinci Code*.

Musselburgh - Step into the past at this historic market town that derives its name from the mussel beds found on nearby shores. It's also home to the oldest racecourse in Scotland – which hosts many race meets throughout the year – as well as to the historic ninehole Musselburgh Links golf course, which has royal connections going back to the early 16th century.

Linlithgow Palace - Explore royal history at the birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots, a palace that was once a stopping point for royalty enroute between Edinburgh Castle and Stirling Castle. Visit in the summer to enjoy its annual jousting spectacle.

Craigievar Castle closure – autumn 2022 to spring 2024



By: Murray Hope

he iconic slender skyward form and distinctive pink tones of Craigievar Castle will be covered up this September until spring 2024 as the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) undertake a major conservation project. However, there is plenty of time still to explore the castle this summer before the scaffolding goes up and our collections are carefully 'put to bed'. With impressive collections of art, armour and weaponry in a unique setting, Craigievar makes a wonderful day out.

William Forbes purchased Craigievar in 1610 and extensively remodelled it in the Renaissance style. In 1824, Sir John Forbes instructed architect John Smith to make a report on the building. Smith recommended a change from the existing off-white harling to a pale pink, in order to match the colour of the Aberdeenshire granite mouldings.

Harling

Harling is the traditional Scottish protective layer applied to buildings. It is made up from a mix of lime, aggregate and water, and is applied by hand. The conservation works will reinvigorate the pink tones of Craigievar's walls with multiple coats of a 'special recipe' of limewash. NTS will also repair some of the highlevel areas of harling. In addition, maintenance to interior plasterwork, conservation of the barmkin wall and further repair projects will be carried out during the closure of the castle.

Annie Robertson, Chartered Surveyor at the National Trust for Scotland, said: "The shape of Craigievar, being an L-Plan tower house, means that getting safe access to the roof-top areas is challenging. The free-standing scaffold (it will not be fixed to the building, thus preventing damage to the stonework) will take 3 months to erect but it will allow expert teams to maintain the harling and carry out discreet adaptions to details, to better protect the vulnerable edges of the harling. This will help to future-proof the building against the effects of climate change."

The target date for completing these critical repairs and re-opening the castle is spring 2024. NTS will regularly update on the progress of the project as well as offer behind-the-scenes insights into the painstaking conservation work. Look out for special hard hat tours during the works, too!

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

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

AUGUST 2022

Caledonian Castaways Concert

5, Melbourne, VIC

The Caledonian Castaways are a group of ex-pat Scots drawn from Melbourne's Blues/Roots scene singing amusing and heart-warming songs about Scots in Australia and back 'hame', at Collingwood Town Hall. Info: www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au

Bundanoon Highland Gathering 6, Bundanoon, NSW

Cancelled due to ground conditions/weather, the next Bundanoon is Brigadoon will be April, 1, 2023.. Info: www.brigadoon.org.au

City of Hobart Highland Pipe Band 75th Anniversary and Winter Gathering

City of Hobart Highland Pipe Band extend an invitation to you to join us in celebrating our 75th anniversary at the Hobart Function & Conference Centre, featuring guided whisky and gin tasting, The Kitchen Piper Cup, a buffet dinner, and music from CoHHPB and the Iain McLeod Ceilidh Band. Info: www.cohhpb.com

A Braw Scots Dinner & Ceilidh Under the Stars 6, Mareeba, QLD

Atherton Tableland Caledonian Society will be celebrating all things Scottish-Highland dancing, pipes and drums, music by Iain Mckenzie (accordion player), enjoy singing your favourite Scottish tunes alongside the Scottish bass-baritone Brian Bisset, a delicious 2 course meal and of course lots of ceilidh dancing at Mareeba Turf Club. Info: 0417 541 126.

Scots on The Rocks - August 2022 Course for Beginners 8 - September 26, Sydney, NSW

This course is for new dancers who wish to learn steps and basic dance formations that are the building blocks of Scottish Country dancing. You will be introduced to ligs and Reels and will learn a series of lively, beginner friendly dances. Eight Week Course (8 August – 26 September 2022) at Fort Street Public School (temporary location) Wentworth Park, Wattle St, Ultimo. Info: 0435 154 433 or www.trybooking.com/BYVYN

Scots in the Bush 2022

18-21, Boondooma, QLD

A celebration of the contribution of the Scottish people in opening up much of Australia with Celtic music, entertainment and more. Camping on site at Boondooma Homestead. Info: 07 4168 0159 or www.boondoomahomestead.org.au

Winter Ball Weekend 2022 19-21, Hobart, TAS

Winter Ball Weekend 2022 with musicians Chris Duncan and Catherine Strutt. Friday evening, choose between a tour of the historic National Trust property Runnymede or walk through some of the dances for Saturday evening's Ball. Saturday evening is the gala event at the beautiful historic Hobart Town Hall. Sunday, picnic lunch at Richmond village. Info:tascaldance@gmail.com

Peter Adam's Caledonian Night 20, Teralba, NSW

Join the Hunter Valley Scots Club at Teralba Hall. Info & bookings: 0428 618 313 or hunterscots@gmail.com

Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival 27, Wingham, NSW

The Manning Valley Historical Society presents the annual free community event, Clans from all over the country descend to 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

Society of St Andrew of Scotland Queensland 75th Anniversary Ball 27, Brisbane, QLD

A night to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Society of St Andrew of Scotland Queensland. The evening will be filled with live entertainment, the finest food, and wonderful company hosted in the famous Brisbane City Hall. Info: 0477 447 927 or https://event.standrewsociety.com

2022 SMCFWA Annual Gala Ball

27, Perth, WA

Presented by the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of Western Australia at the Duxton Hotel beverages, traditional and contemporary dancing as well a performance from the Perth Metro Pipe Band. Info: 08 9330 8870 or www.smcfwa.com.au

Queensland Piobaireachd Meeting 28, 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

SEPTEMBER 2022

The Celtic Shindig

10, Perth, WA

Come along and enjoy a two-course buffet dinner, and a night filled with entertainment by Gallus Ceilidh Band and the Perth Metro Pipe Band at Wellington Room, Morley Sports and Recreation Centre 12 Wellington Rd Morley. Book your tickets online at www.trybooking. com/CAKBH or for details: www.perthmetropb.com.au

Scottish Country Dancing

14, Atherton, QLD
Scottish Country Dancing. No partner is required. Suitable for beginners or experienced dancers at St Joseph Church Hall. Info: Kylie 0417 007 432.

September 17

Clans on the Coast 17, Nelson Bay, NSW This year's event has been postponed. Info: www.clansonthecoast.com.au

Spring Ceilidh

17, Bathurst, NSW

Celebrate the Spring Equinox in Bathurst with pipes and drums, kilts and traditional dancing. This Scottish night starts with the loan piper on the ramparts at Abercrombie House. Info: 02 6331 4929 or www.abercrombiehouse.com.au

Oueensland Piobaireachd Meeting

25, 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

45th Australian Winter School 25 -October 2, Muresk, WA

The RSCDS WA Branch invites you to join us for the 45th Australian Winter School. The Scottish Country Dance School will be held at the Muresk Institute in the Avon Valley, 96km east of Perth. Info: www.wawinterschool.com

OCTOBER 2022

2022 Australian Pipe Band Championships 1-2, Sydney, NSW

Hosted by the New South Wales branch of Pipe Bands Australia and held at Pittwater Rugby Park. Info: www.championships.pipebandsaustralia.com.au

Southern Fling – Youth Scottish Country Dance Weekend

7-9, Sydney, NSW A Scottish Country Dance youth weekend (aimed at 18-40 year old's). Meeting other young dancers is one of the great things about Southern Fling. Eat, drink and make merry after the evening dance to make connections with like minded people. All classes and socials will take place at North Ryde School of Arts, Coxs Rd, North Ryde, or Mahboba's Promise, Agincourt Rd, Marsfield. Info: www.rscds.org.au/southern-fling.html

Canberra Highland Gathering

8, Kambah, ACT

ACT's largest Scottish event with a full day of Scottish entertainment with pipe bands, Scottish dance, Clans, stalls and more. A free community event. Also an evening ceilidh will be held at the Canberra Burns Club, Kett St. Info: www.canberragathering.com.au

Armadale Highland Gathering & Perth Kilt Run 9, Armadale, WA

Celebrate all things Scottish at the largest Highland Gathering event held in Western Australia at Minnawarra Park. Pipe bands, Scottish dancers, Clan Village and the Perth Kilt Run - the only charity fun run in Australia that's done in a kilt! Info: www.perthkiltrun.com.au

Illawarra Scottish Fair 16, Kanahooka, NSW

Pipe band competitions, Scottish dancing, food and stalls at Dandaloo Hotel. Info: Illawarra Pipe Band, James: 0422 699 513 or www.facebook. com/Illawarra-Pipe-Band-131465760252032

Glenbarr Highland Gathering

30, Strathalbyn, SA A celebration of Scotland at Glenbarr Homestead, 1400B Paris Creek Rd. Glenbarr was originally a home for Scottish pioneers and was one of the first buildings in Strathalbyn built in c1842. Info: www.glenbarr.com.au

Queensland Piobaireachd Meeting 30, 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

New Zealand

At time of press all of New Zealand is currently under the Orange Light setting of the Covid-19 Protection Framework.

AUGUST 2022

Tartan Night 1. Lower Hutt

Get dancing with the Lower Hutt Scottish Country Dance Club at Epuni Community Hall. Info: www.lowerhuttscd.org.nz

Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club Night 12, Auckland

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

The Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh

13, 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

Papakura Pipe Band Ceilidh 20. Auckland

Dust off those dancing shoes and get ready for an awesome night out. The Papakura Pipe Band Ceilidh at Karaka Hall is back again for 2022. Tickets are available online fromwww.papakurapipeband.co.nz/ceilidh

Scots College Pipe Band Ceilidh 2022

20, Wellington

The College Pipe Band and friends are looking forward to welcoming the Scots College community to celebrate the 50th Pipe Band Ceilidh. A night of Scottish music and dancing from a great Celtic band 'Steamin', an address to the haggis, exciting raffles and cash bar available, a fabulous supper and of course there are many laughs along the way. Info:www.scotscollege.school.nz/ceilidh

69th Annual Kapiti Caledonian Society Highland Ball 27, Waikanae

Put on your best formal dress and join for supper and a live band at Waikanae Memorial Hall. There will also be a live display from the Kapiti Pipes & Drums. Ticket enquiries: Dorothy:0272294660 or kapitiscots@outlook.com

SEPTEMBER 2022

Ashburton Highland and National Dancing Competition

3. Ashburton

Canterbury West Coast Centre Championships, South Island Championship at Ashburton Trust Event Centre, 211 Wills St. Info: The Competition Secretary- highlandashburton@gmail.com.

The Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh

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OCTOBER 2022

New Zealand Young Piper of the Year

1. Nelson

Piping competition at the Nelson Centre of Musical Arts, 48 Nile St. Info: www.facebook.com/NZYoungPiper

The Kilmarnock Edition

1, Christchurch

Julian Anderson, Murray Compton, Dayle Hadlee, Ross Blanks, Erin Callanan sing Scottish and Irish songs at Nut Point Centre, 222 Langdales Rd. Info: 03 342 1033 or www.nutpoint.org

Highland Games Heavy Events Training Day

1. Hororata

Train in the unique Scottish Heavy Athletics; which require a mix of strength, athleticism and sheer willpower. Including: Caber Toss, Hammer Throw, Stone Putt, weight for distance and Sheaf Toss. Receive expert coaching from 18 times New Zealand Highland Heavy Events Champion, Pat Hellier and Olympic Games athlete (Javelin 1992). All levels of ability are welcome. You do not need to have had any experience. You do need a good level of fitness for the day. Info: www.hororata.org.nz/ event/highland-games-heavy-events-training-day

NZ Highland Dancer of the Year

Presented by Piping & Dancing Association of NZ: Marlborough Nelson Centre at Nelson College, 67 Waimea Rd. Info: entries.nzhd@gmail.com

The Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh

8, 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

Scotland

AUGUST 2022

Isle of Skye Highland Games

3, Portree, Isle of Skye Traditional Games at The Lump.

Info: www.skye-highland-games.co.uk

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The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

5-27, EdinburghThe Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is set to return to Edinburgh Castle Esplanade once again. The Tattoo is an unforgettable event that combines military precision, live music, breath-taking lighting and special effects and fantastic entertainment. Info: www.edintattoo.co.uk

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 5-29, Edinburgh

Experience Scotland's capital come alive with wibrant colours, shows and events to suit everyone at the single greatest celebration of arts and culture on the planet. Info: www.edfringe.com

Dundonald Highland Games

6, Kilmarnock-ScotlandOne of Ayrshire's premier cultural events. It is unique in capturing traditional Scottish heritage and strong community spirit within the picturesque setting of Royal Dundonald Castle. Info:www.dundonald-games.org.uk

6-14, GlasgowThe Glasgow International Piping Festival, with a weeklong celebration of piping culture from across the world. Info: www.pipinglive.co.uk

75th Edinburgh International Festival

6-28, EdinburghThe EIF brings Edinburgh's theatre venues to life with the very best music, theatre, opera and dance from around the globe. Info: www.eif.co.uk

Bridge of Allan Highland Games

Colourful pipe bands, elegant highland dancers, huge strongmen tossing the caber. A multitude of other events, stalls and entertainments

spread out in a picturesque and historic setting. Info: www.bofagames.com

ScottFest

12-14, Melrose, Roxburghshire

Celebrate Sir Walter Scott's birthday with a weekend of fun for all the family at Abbotsford, the historic home of novelist and poet Sir Walter Scott in the Scottish Borders. Info:www.scottsabbotsford.com

The World Pipe Band Championships 12-13, Glasgow

Two days of piping competitions across all grades at Glasgow Green. Info: www.theworlds.co.uk

Edinburgh International Book Festival 13-29, Edinburgh
A stellar line-up of hundreds of writers, artists and thinkers from around the globe share their ideas and

stories for a changing world. Info: www.edbookfest.co.uk Stirling Highland Games 20, Stirling

One of central Scotland's great annual cultural sporting events, at Stirling Sports Village.
Info: www.stirlinghighlandgames.com

Crieff Highland Gathering 21, Crieff, Perthshire

A full programme of traditional Highland games competitions, Highland Dancing, Heavyweights, Light Field, and Tug o War and also showcase several Piping performances throughout the day at Market Park. Info: www.crieffhighlandgathering.com

Cowal Gathering 25-27, Dunoon, Argyll

Featuring a full programme including the World Highland Dancing Championships, the Cowal Pipe Band Championship and the Cowal International Heavy Athletics Championship at Dunoon Stadium. Info: www.cowalgathering.com

Largs Viking Festival and Festival of Fire

27-September 4, Largs
The festival commemorates the Battle of Largs in 1263 when the Norse (Vikings) were defeated. Info: www.largsvikingfestival.co.uk

St Andrews Highland Games

29 Victoria

32 Noggin

33 Aye

35 Ass

36 Hart

34 Easter

28, St Andrews

One of the top Highland Games at Fife Station Park, in front of the Old Course Hotel. Info: www.standrewshighlandgames.co.uk

Scotword answers from page 6

Across: Down: 1 Peat 1 Puffer 3 Bap 2 Township 5 Damson 3 Burnsnight 9 Flower 5 Dyke 10 Shetland 6 Sprain **12 SOS** 7 Need 13 Rash 11 Toe 15 Nineteenth 14 Awe 19 Neep 16 Niece 20 Gleam 17 Tombstones 21 Spey 18 Hay 23 Privateers 19 Nip 21 Strength 26 Rasp 28 Tee 22 Ems

24 Inches

27 Punnet

25 Ago

29 Vale

30 Roar

31 Area

Square Mile of Magic



lext and images by: David McVe

hen someone from Glasgow tells you something good about Edinburgh, it must be really good. And there's no denying that the hills of Edinburgh are very special. Popular tradition gives Edinburgh, like Rome, seven hills;

- · Castle Rock,
- Calton Hill,
- Arthur's Seat,
- · Corstorphine Hill,
- · Blackford Hill,
- The Braid Hills, · Craiglockhart Hill.

Summits

Some of the hills are now mostly urban: Castle Rock has the world-famous castle on top, and while Calton Hill has plenty of open space, it's also home to several tourist attractions, including the unfinished National Monument. Its summit has a breath-taking view along Princes Street towards the castle, a glorious cityscape - although Glaswegians like me will tell you the University of Glasgow seen from Kelvingrove Park is even better.

The celebrated Arthur's Seat is actually one of several peaks within the miniature range of hills that is Holyrood Park. It's a glorious place, about a mile square with its own summits, lochs, glens, crags, ridges and small burns. Arthurs Seat (251m/822ft) is always busy but other parts of the park are less so. Salisbury Crags is the rampart of cliffs that guards Arthur's Seat from the city centre. A walk along the edge of the crags keeping an eye on any children in the party - on well-beaten paths is a marvellous experience. The highest point of the crags (174m/570ft) is a summit in itself and is always less busy than Arthur's Seat.

Other summits in Holyrood Park include Whinny Hill (177m/583ft) and the two peaks nearest to Arthur's Seat, the bouldery Crow Hill (238m/780ft) and Nether Hill (237m/779ft). Keen walkers could spend an enjoyable half-day bagging the tops, and everywhere there are echoes of history. If you enjoyed your visit to Arthur's Seat, so did Burns, Scott and Stevenson. James Hogg set a terrifying episode of *The Private* Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner on the summit.

A name and a history

Every bump and hollow and corner in these hills has a name and a history: what about the Galloping Glen, the Gutted Haddie, Hunter's Bog and Haggis Knowe? Hunter's Bog is the glen enclosed by Arthur's Seat and the Salisbury Crags. On the orders of Mary Queen of Scots, it was once dammed to create a small loch. Later it was drained but is now becoming boggier again and there is often open water there; I've seen a heron fishing in the shallows.

There are many ways to the summit of Arthur's Seat: a favourite of mine is by the Lang Rig, an airy ridge thought to be the remains of a lava flow. From Hawse, the pass between Arthur's Seat and the Salisbury Crags, you can take a lungbursting zig-zag path up the hollow known as the Gutted Haddie. You emerge on a plateau just below the hill's rocky crown. A longer route from Hawse follows the Piper's Walk, which runs through some of the woodland above Hunter's Bog and deposits you at the top of the Lang Rig route to the summit. The slopes between Hunter's Bog and the Piper's Walk are surprisingly wooded, adding to the park's



Watch as you move around the summit of Arthur's Seat; the rock outcrops are shiny and slippery with the passage of many feet. It isn't a place for quiet contemplation as thousands reach the top on a good day. But then, Holyrood Park has a long history of human occupation. There's evidence that people lived in the park area as long ago as 8000 BC. Some features traceable on the ground, including four hill forts, probably date back as far as the Iron Age.

Nothing can take away the magic of Holyrood Park's magnificent square mile.

A great bite has been taken out of the Salisbury Crags at their south-eastern end by quarrying. It was in this quarried section that the pioneering geologist James Hutton found evidence that enabled him to demonstrate the volcanic origin of the rock, preparing him for his seminal work Theory of the Earth which appeared between 1785 and 1799. Part of the quarried area is still known as Hutton's Section.

Magnificent square mile

Nowadays the park is managed by Historic Scotland and is an island of nature in the city, yet it's amazing that any creatures live here given the sheer mass of humanity that sometimes crowds in. During the 1745 Jacobite Rising, Charles Edward Stuart's army camped in the park and exercised in Hunter's Bog. Exactly 200 years ago, the visit of George IV to Edinburgh was commemorated by cannon fire from Salisbury Crags and a bonfire and musketry on Arthur's Seat. An estimated 200,000 people crowded onto the high ground to watch Queen Victoria review volunteer troops in the park in 1860.

The track that runs along the foot of the Salisbury Crags is known as the Radical Road. It was built by unemployed weavers under a pioneering welfare-towork scheme in 1820, and its name comes from the weavers' reputation for being in the vanguard of campaigns for social and political justice. Sadly, it is currently closed and fenced off owing to recent rockfalls. This is a shame as it's a fine walk in itself; I understand that Historic Scotland need to care for visitors but surely crags are always going to be prone to this?

Holyrood Park's peaks, like all of Edinburgh's hills, are eastern outliers of the Pentlands which start tumbling to sea level on the outskirts of Edinburgh. If you take Edinburgh's No. 4 bus to its terminus (the appropriately named Hillend) you'll find yourself at the home of Edinburgh's own ski resort, the Midlothian Snowsports Centre. From these slopes, the hills of Edinburgh, even Arthur's Seat, begin to look a little modest.

But nothing can take away the magic of Holyrood Park's magnificent square mile.





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