



the Scottish Banner



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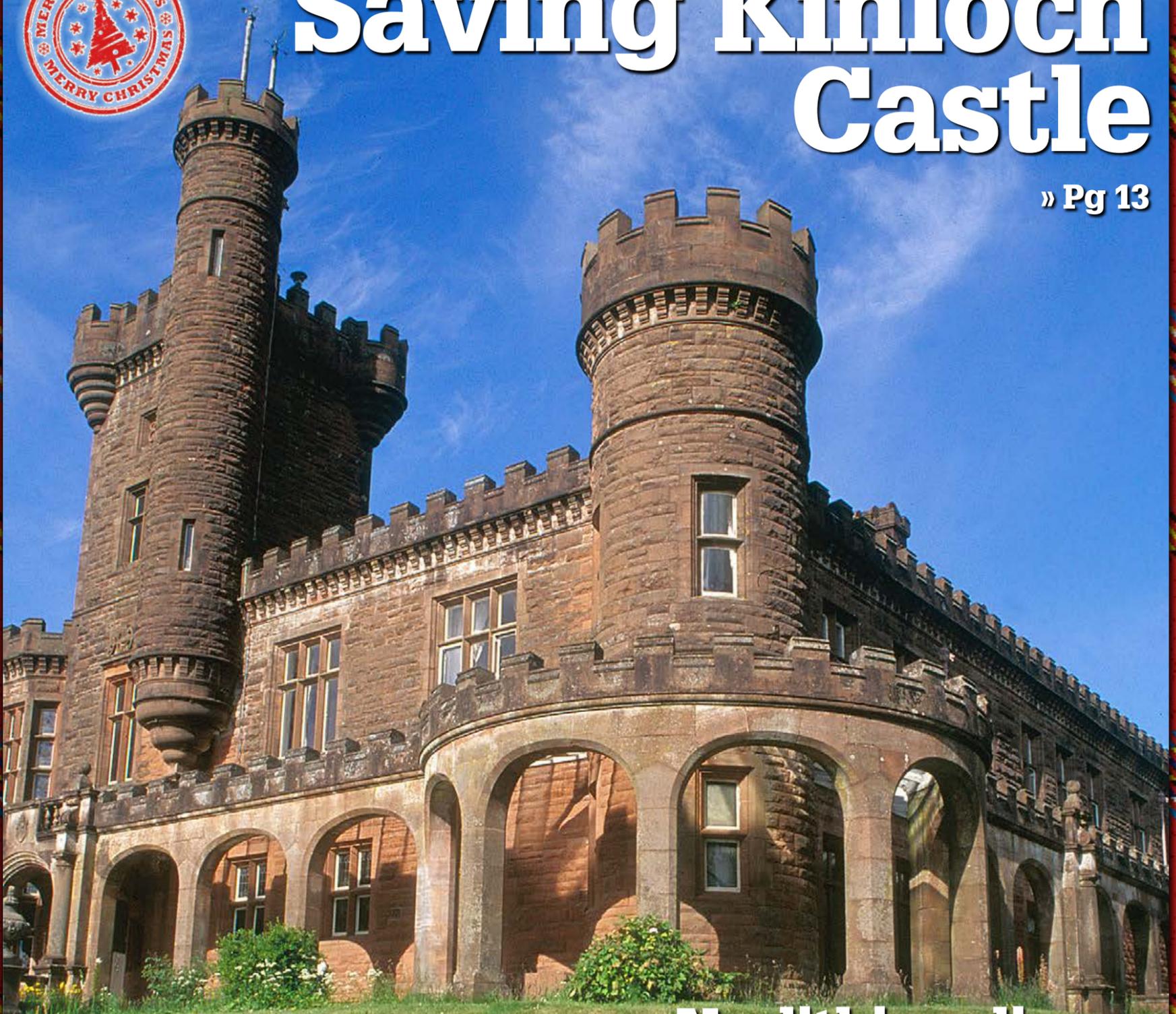
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Expiry

The Banner Says...

The cancellation of Christmas



by Sean Cairney

When most people receive this month's edition of *the Scottish Banner*, they will no doubt be looking at a busy month ahead with festive events, get-togethers with friends and family and perhaps just spending a little bit too much money on gifts, food and festive cheer. I remember as a child the excitement of going to bed on Christmas Eve and wondering what might be in some of those wrapped packages bearing my name on them. We were lucky to have as part of our family tradition the offer of opening a small gift on Christmas Eve before going to bed and getting some milk, cookies and of course carrots out for Santa and his loyal crew of reindeer.

Banning Christmas

I am glad those traditions were part of my growing up and cannot imagine not having them as part of my childhood memories. However, for many years Scottish children did not have such traditions as part of their growing up experiences. Some may be surprised to learn that Christmas was actually banned in Scotland for centuries. Christmas had its early origins in Scotland when those fierce Vikings raided the land and made communities in Scotland from the 8th century, with them they brought the custom of celebrating the winter solstice in a pagan festival which became known as yule. Yule was a multiday celebration which honoured their ancestors in the darkest time of the year, this eventually became a Christian tradition. During the Reformation years Scottish Protestant kirks broke ties with the Catholic Church and thus began to cut ties with all things Christmas.

Christmas was abolished in 1640 by the Scottish parliament as it was seen as a Roman Catholic tradition and celebrating Christmas became illegal. The law was strictly enforced, and it was even illegal to bake a yule log or sing a Christmas carol. And though you would no longer be thrown into prison for celebrating Christmas, it did become just another working day

for many Scots well into the 20th century. Whilst some of the banned period may feel like part of medieval history it was not in fact until 1958 that Christmas even became a public holiday in Scotland, that is less than 70 years ago. Even more recently, Boxing Day did not become recognised as a holiday in Scotland until 1974. In some parts of the country, December 26th was Sweetie Scone Day, when the Lord or Lady of the estate would give cakes made with dried fruit and spices to their workers and the poor (who couldn't afford these luxurious ingredients).

Christmas was abolished in 1640 by the Scottish parliament as it was seen as a Roman Catholic tradition and celebrating Christmas became illegal.

In this issue

The iconic Kinloch Castle is located on the Isle of Rum. Built in the late 1800s, the A listed Victorian mansion has quite a history and was once a playground for the rich, privileged and famous of England and Scotland. Sadly, the state of the Kinloch Castle has fallen in such bad shape it needs someone with very deep pockets to get it back on track. The small but passionate local Rum community also have their ideas on how Kinloch should be restored and managed. A buyer is needed who will be both sympathetic to the castle and the community.

Strathblane is in Stirlingshire but just outside of Glasgow making it an ideal commuter town. However, the rolling hills and green spaces that surround the area certainly let you know you are not in Glasgow. Visitors can enjoy walking and cycle trails, and picturesque drives. Not to mention the stunning hill ranges of the Campsies and a great whisky distillery. It is great we can highlight this lovely spot, and one that is quite easy to get to when you are next in Scotland.

Hogmanay

Scots of course were not completely deprived of fun and cheer during the festive period. They would whole heartedly embrace New Year's Eve, or as we all know it Hogmanay, as back



in the day Scots could not celebrate Christmas itself. Some amazing Scottish customs also have been developed over the years which still take place today. Many Hogmanay celebrations still light up the dark cold night with fire, from torchlight processions to fire ball ceremonies Scotland holds on to these unique celebrations which signify the Winter Solstice, ancestors and the rejuvenating energy of the sun.

Speaking of fire some Scots still practice the tradition of burning a twig from a rowan tree during the festive season. It is believed that burning rowan gets rid of jealousy or mistrust between family, friends and neighbours. Hundreds of years ago it was popular to burn a Yule log and the ashes were considered lucky and would protect the house for the year ahead. From this tradition some Scots today burn a candle in the window as a welcome to family, friends and even strangers.

Of course, Christmas is a joyous time for most of us today, however some will be doing it tough this holiday season. Some will be alone, some sick, some working, or just missing someone special who is not around the table this holiday season and I always think of them at this time of the year. I hope you and yours have a safe, wonderful and happy holiday season. We also thank all our readers, customers, subscribers and advertisers for all their support in 2022. Merry Christmas, or as some may know in Scots Gaelic, Nollaig Chridheil! ❄️

Do you practice any Scottish Christmas or Hogmanay traditions? 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: Kinloch Castle on the Isle of Rum. Photo: Lorne Gill/NatureScot.



Finbar, Finbarr, Finnbar, or Finnbar, in Irish Fionnbarra, is often abbreviated to this island's name.

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

- 1) 1) Where does the River Clyde rise?
- 2) Which country has received the most Scottish immigrants? a) New Zealand, b) Australia or c) Canada?
- 3) Who is the most famous member of the Bachelors' Club in Tarbolton, Ayrshire?
- 4) In which Scottish city's shipyards were the polar exploration ships of both Scott and Shackleton built?
- 5) Which 19th century Glasgow merchant controlled one-tenth of the entire world tea trade?
- 6) Bridge of Weir, to the west of Paisley, lies along which river?

- 7) Name the world's best-selling brand of Scotch whisky?
- 8) What is the Scotichronicon?
- 9) In which Scottish town is Robert Burns buried?
- 10) To which Scottish island did the missionary Findbarr of Cork give his name?

Answers

- 1) In the Southern Uplands, west of Moffat.
- 2) c) Canada.
- 3) Robert Burns.
- 4) Dundee.
- 5) Thomas Lipton.
- 6) River Gryfe.
- 7) Johnny Walker Red Label.
- 8) A medieval history of Scotland.
- 9) Dumfries.
- 10) Barra.



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).

A tartan for members of the 'Clan Claus Society' (CCS). The Society registered their first tartan over 10 years ago, Claus of the North Pole (SRT #5816), and they felt it was the right time to design a new one. The Clan Claus Society embodies the desire to preserve and perpetuate the history, ideals, traditions, family values, and heritage of the Scottish Santa Claus persona. This tartan (reference: 13111) was designed by Donald J 'Kona' Gant and registered in April, 2021. *The Scottish Banner* wishes all our readers, advertisers and friends and very happy and safe Christmas!

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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?

Thistles in the Heartland

*Like fugitives do thistles stand
Outside the law in this fair land
But purple warriors make their home
Upon the hillside where I roam*

*The lord of the land would destroy them again
Yet he sees not what lies beyond his ken
And where knife and shovel do not go
There does the outlaw thistle grow*

*The proud flowers thrive where they ought not dare
And they can be prickly beyond compare
But so lovely, so in their purple hue*

*I will forgive them the hurt that they do
And I know if he comes to take them down
They'll fight like heroes to hold their ground
For tall and mighty they are today
Against all odds the other way*

*And will not tell of their camps so near
Except in these words, which he will not hear
And a health to the wild barbarian flowers
That grace this domestic hillside of ours*

*And far afield their seeds are blown
And purple families find new homes
God speed them on their windswept way
May they live to grow another day.*

Maria Anthony
USA



Which perhaps explains why she was never as popular in Scotland, as she was in England. Unfortunately other countries, which have large populations of the Scottish Diaspora, such as in Australia, New Zealand, USA, and Canada, also mistakenly call and called her Elizabeth 11.

Alexander Sibbald
Dunedin, New Zealand

Tales of the Sma' Glen



What a charming story, *Tales of the Sma' Glen*, you had in the October issue of *the Scottish Banner*. I go back to Scotland on a fairly regular basis and am always on the lookout for something different to try when I am there. I love to hire a car and simply end up in all sorts of places, and really do prefer getting off the beaten track. The images in this article certainly make this look like the type of place I would love to see myself in.

The history of this area is also really intriguing, and I must admit I had not heard of this Perthshire gem before. I have friends and family in Scotland who are also unaware of this location and I promised them I will take them when I am next over, sometimes it takes a visiting tourist to get a local to see their very own backyard.

I also really enjoy your *Tartan of the Month* feature, I have learnt about countless tartans from *the Banner* which I had not heard of before, it really is incredible the variety of tartans that have been created over the years and the meaning behind each and every one. I must admit there so far is very few I do not like, must be the Scot in me!

I am a long-time reader of *the Scottish Banner*, there is simply nothing else like it, and for that I thank all involved.

Randy R Young
Chula Vista, California
USA

Scottish LP's

I have some very old Scottish LP's and was wondering if any readers would like to buy them? They have a few scratches, and the jackets are a bit tatty but they play well and still sound great. I remember singing along to Jimmy Shand when I was little and I'm 70 now, still brings a tear to my eyes when I hear *Auld Lang Syne*. I can't play them now as I had to downsize, but would like to see them go to someone who will enjoy them as I did, especially at Hogmanay.

I have: *Roaming in the Gloaming Favourite Songs* by Sir Harry Lauder, *Jimmy Shand's Party, Scotland on Parade with the Gordon Highlanders*, *Golden Grove Highland Fling*-The Alexander Brothers and *Scottish Sing-Along* by Ivor Raymonde. Heather Masterton
PO Box 209
Budgewoi, NSW
2262
Australia

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo



I really enjoyed reading about the Canadian and Australian pipe bands that performed at this years Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (*The Scottish Banner*, October, 2022). I adore the pipes and drums and what a great experience for those band members to be on the world stage at the Tattoo. I know several people in pipe bands and they have commented to me about some of the great experiences and friendships they have had due to being in a pipe band. I would think marching through the gates of Edinburgh Castle onto the Castle Esplanade to the cheering of thousands of people must certainly be a highlight of anyone's pipe band career. These folks must have put a great deal of time, practice and their own money to get there and they must be commended for their dedication and doing their home nations proud.

I really enjoy *the Scottish Banner* each month and always look forward to the next issue.

Janette Anderson
Brockville, Ontario
Canada

Pillar Box War

The Banner does a sterling job in reporting on issues of interest in Scotland to its diaspora readership in different parts of the world. For this reason I really enjoy reading *the Scottish Banner* each month. That is until the current October edition, in which I was very disappointed that you, and/or your editorial team, made a major historical error that is offensive to many Scots. I assume that the error was made in ignorance rather than design.

On page 1, and repeated on pages 2 and 3, the paper, in lavishing praise on the recently dead monarch, called her Elizabeth 11 when in fact there never was a Scottish Queen Elizabeth before the Union of the Scottish and English Crowns in 1603.

Only in England and Ireland was there a Queen Elizabeth prior to this time.

There was a precedent when naming the first monarch of the combined crowns. James VI of Scotland, who acceded to the English Crown upon the death of the Virgin Queen Elizabeth I of England in 1603, became King James I of Britain and Ireland. Although there had been six King James of Scotland, there had never been a King James of England.

I am old enough to remember the start of her reign in 1952, when the insignia E11R appeared on Scottish post boxes, vans, and other post office material, and thus began the Pillar Box War, in which post boxes were defaced, and some were blown up in protest at this insult. The designation Queen Elizabeth 11 was challenged in the Scottish Courts and was debated in the British Parliament. It was argued she should be known as Elizabeth 11 and 1, or Elizabeth Regina. Only to be defeated by the ruling that the sovereign was free to adopt any insignia she wanted. And that is what she did for 70 years, in spite of the Scottish opposition to it. Bear in mind that she was descended from the German House of Hanover dynasty, unlike Elizabeth I of England who was an English House of Tudor Queen.

However, the British Government relented to some extent in about 1953, when the insignia E11R was permanently removed from post office boxes and vans in Scotland to be replaced by what they called the Scottish Cypher, the Crown of Scotland. And that continues to be the case today. Indeed in 2018, a post box with the offensive E11R mistakenly appeared on a new post box in Dunoon, which met with much opposition, and was quickly replaced with the Scottish Cypher, plus apologies from the post office.

Seems strange that the late Queen, whom *the Scottish Banner* says loved Scotland and the Scots, continued to use the offensive Elizabeth 11 insignia until she died. The use of Elizabeth 11 was and is seen as disrespectful to Scotland, given that it was a union of the crowns of two independent countries, and not a conquest by England.

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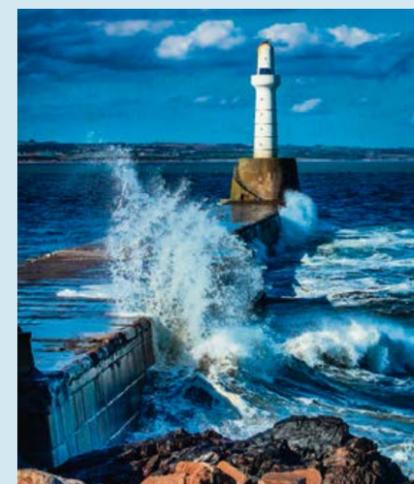
Someone's loving summer in Scotland!
The Kilted Photographer

Linlithgow Palace



Looking towards the palace from Linlithgow Loch.
Paul Watt Photography

Aberdeen Harbour



Trip to Aberdeen Harbour.
Derek A Grist

The Kelpies



Beautiful sky over The Kelpies.
Mik Coia

RRS Discovery Visitor Centre unveils visual and virtual transformation

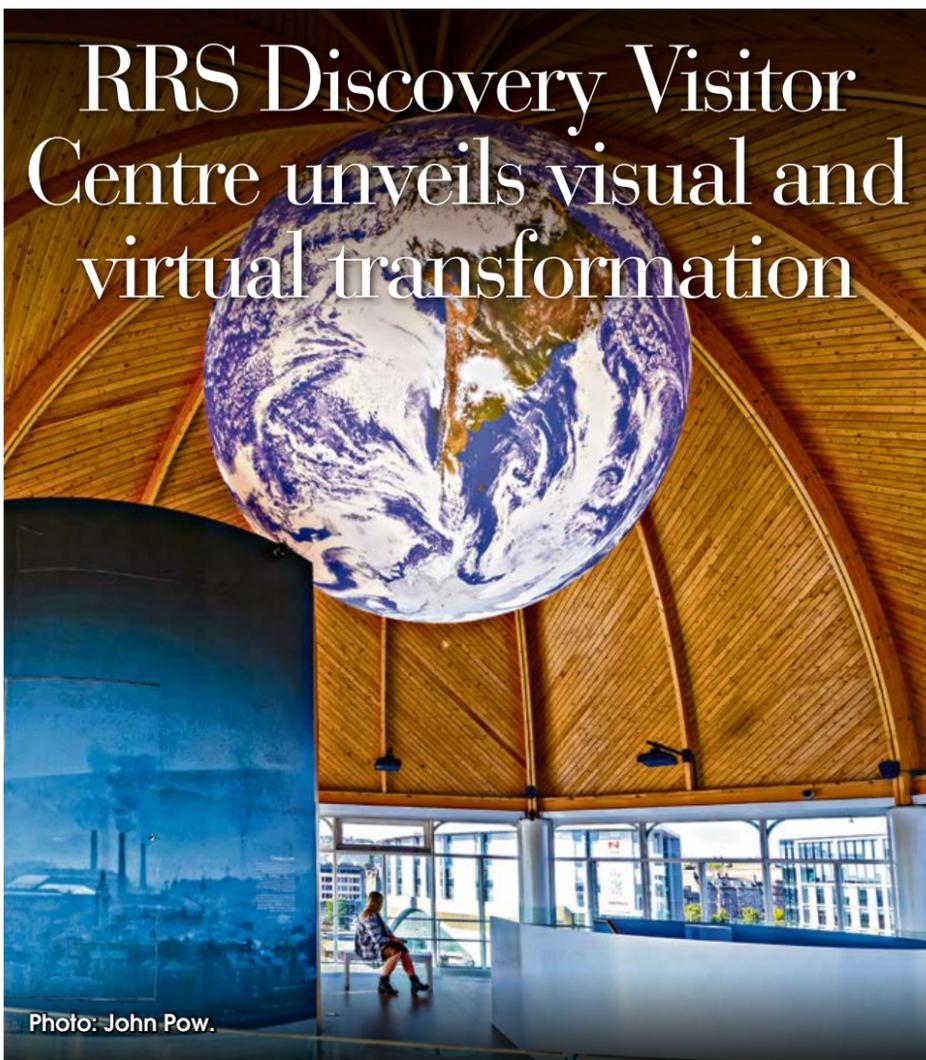


Photo: John Pow.

Dundee Heritage Trust has reopened the doors unveiling a dramatic upgrade to the gallery and previously inaccessible dome area of the iconic Riverside exhibition. The space now includes a highly visual and virtual experience, the Discovery Dome, transporting visitors through historic Dundee, with Alan Cumming's recognisable voice narrating the journey. Renovations began in Summer 2021, transforming the layout of the gallery space within the visitor centre. A well-known silhouette on the Dundee cityscape, the vaulted dome area, inaccessible until now, has had a suspended floor, elevator, staircase and impactful art installation, Gaia, installed in the upper cupola of the Discovery Point building. The investment creates a new public gallery with a 360° panoramic view over the city and the River Tay.

Embarking on an inclusive, educational experience, voiced by Scottish actor Alan Cumming, visitors are transported back to 1901, exploring Dundee's rich industrial history and recognisable landmarks through visual CGI technology. Over two million visitors have visited the Dundee landmark, the *Royal Research Ship Discovery* and the gallery's Recognised Collection of National Significance of over 150 objects since its launch in 1993. The new Discovery Dome is expected to attract a significant increase in footfall, contributing to the city's latest tourism focus. Adding to the visual experience, one of renowned British artist Luke Jerram's famous Gaia designs, which typically tours around the UK, will be permanently housed in the dome, set to wow visitors for decades to come. The National Fund for Acquisitions and Art Fund supported the Trust with the acquisition of Gaia, a 3D Globelike artwork measuring 3.75 metres in diameter and created

from 120dpi detailed NASA imagery of the Earth's surface. The artwork provides the opportunity to see the glowing planet floating in three dimensions, allowing guests to clearly visualise Antarctica and the distance of the expeditions *Discovery* made.

The first ship specifically designed for scientific research

Ali Gellatly, Operations Manager at Dundee Heritage Trust, said: "The Discovery Dome sessions are also a unique opportunity to take in panoramic views across the city, never seen before. Dome sessions last 30 minutes, and only 12 guests are permitted per session, adding to the experience, as it allows the opportunity to take in the views from all angles with an exclusive setting."

The launch of the new and improved attraction coincided with the 30th anniversary of the dry docking of the vessel when the ship was moved from the Tay into the purpose-built dry dock, where it remains on display today. Built in Dundee in 1900, the *RRS Discovery* was the first ship specifically designed for scientific research in Antarctic regions and was first launched from Dundee a year later in the first of three major scientific expeditions. Caroline Warburton, VisitScotland Regional Leadership Director, said: "It's fantastic to see further investment being made to support Dundee's vital tourism industry. *RRS Discovery* is one of the city's most popular attractions, bringing to life an important part of our history. This new upgrade will enhance Dundee's outstanding offering and adds a truly unique element to the entire experience. I am sure it will be enjoyed by visitors from across the region and beyond."

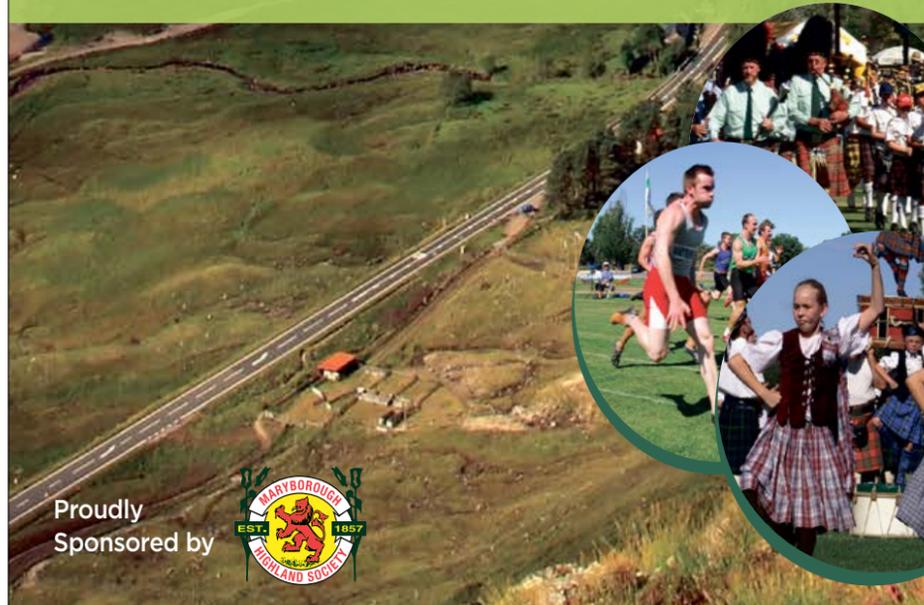
Discovery Dome sessions start at 10:15, showing 12 times per day, accommodating 12 people at a time, with the last showing at 17:15. Tickets can be booked online at: <https://accessvam.accesscloud.com/DundeeHeritageTrustBookings>

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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.

Places to Play and the Teflon Kid



Sight Hill Cemetery.
Photo: Lairich Rig. (CC BY-SA 2.0).

As an adventurous child growing up in Springburn, the school summer holidays, eight whole weeks with no school was the highlight of our young lives. Our parents never seemed to worry too much about us as there was always a neighbour on hand to monitor the back yard and make sure that all was well. Now after a while the back yard got boring and so we had to look elsewhere for adventure, looking back at some of the things that I did, God alone knows how I am still around to pen these stories.

I lived on Keppochhill Road just past the big iron gates leading into Sight Hill Cemetery, and for a child, this was positively the most magic place in the world to play games, with just a little imagination you could turn this sombre setting into anything that caught your fancy. Boys played cowboys & Indian's, hide & seek, cops & robbers, while the

girls tidied up the graves, had tea parties and rearranged the flowers, all of this with respect and never a thought of vandalism on our mind.

Forbidden place of wonder

Upon crossing the vast graveyard following the railway line, one emerged to a grass field often referred to the Rushy Park, a fascinating place to play as there was a swamp at the base of the hill. The swamp was high in reeds and bull rushes hence its name, and no matter how many time my parents warned me not to, I always had to try and cross the swamp wearing my white summer sandals, which inevitably got horribly stained, requiring a creative story to cover up, I guess that the devil made me do it. Beyond the swamp was a massive hill (a mountain to us kids) comprised of chemical waste from the nearby ICI Chemical plant, it was referred to as Jack's Mountain, or The Salt Waste.

It was another forbidden place of wonder for a nomadic kid like me, I climbed that mountain from every angle, made caves in the mountain and fearlessly slid down it sitting on pieces of cardboard and getting the chemical waste firmly lodged in my pants and shoes. Knowing that this was a definite "NO NO" I would make my way to Pinkston Power Station for a quick clean up visit to The Steamy Canal.

The water in this canal always had a mist hovering over it as it came from cooling the generators in the power plant, it was remarkably clear, lukewarm, and not at all deep, a perfect place to wash my shoes and clean my pants before heading home.

For a child this was positively the most magic place in the world to play games.

To go home I had to pass yet another place of wonder, the slaughterhouse, a must-see stopover for an adventurous kid. The smell from the place was overpowering, and the building was so old and dilapidated that one could quite easily see through the broken windows to where the animals were shot, our own local version of *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*.

Quite often, as the trucks rolled in the animals seemed to sense that this would be their last ride into the sunset and they became quite skittish., I often witnessed horses, bulls and cows make their last bid from freedom by shaking off their handlers and running for the salt mountain slopes with my best wishes that they would escape. On the other side of the mountain was another death-defying piece of the local

scenery, The Stinky Ocean, this was a large body of water which drained off the mountain to form a pond which reeked of sulphur, better known as a rotten egg smell. This pond was rather deep and could support a raft made from oil cans and wood all strapped together with wire and rope, and once you got over the smell was a great place to play.

Nomadic urchins

Now as I recite all of this, I start to wonder, what on earth was in that chemical dump? Why did my sandals rot away and the soles fall off so quickly? And what caused the backside of my pants to disintegrate earning me a thick ear for lying about where I had been. Was there ever such a thing as The EPA, also known as the Environmental Protection Agency back then?

What kind of chemical junk was I playing in? Perhaps I should have listened to my parents. Back in those days, apart from a few special local friends, nomadic urchins like me made friends with whomever they came across at whatever the activity of the day was, so against this backdrop, let me introduce Mr Clean, or as he would for sure be known today as The Teflon Kid, as nothing ever stuck to him. This is a true story which reflects fate, coincidence, the value of social networking, and the size of the world we live in.

Winner of the Glenfiddich Piping Championships crowned, making history in the process

The overall champion of the prestigious Glenfiddich Piping Championship has been named as Willie McCallum. The win marks a record ninth win for Willie, extending his record of having the most overall wins ever. Willie McCallum, from Campbeltown, went up against nine of the world's greatest solo players at the renowned 49th annual competition at Blair Castle to claim the title. Callum Beaumont was crowned runner-up and Fred Morrison was third overall.

Callum Beaumont was named the Piobaireachd winner, and the March, Strathspey and Reel (MSR) competition was also won by Willie McCallum. The 2022 Balvenie Medal Winner was Tom Brown. Tom was an inspirational piping tutor for generations of young people at Lochgelly High School. The Balvenie Medal was introduced the Glenfiddich Piping Championship in 1985 and is awarded for "Services to Piping".

Pinnacle of solo piping competition

The competition played out in front of a live audience in Blair Castle's Victorian ballroom and hundreds from around the world who watched the spectacle online. Overall winner Willie McCallum said: "It's such an honour to be taking home the Glenfiddich trophy. It was a fierce competition and everyone played their absolute best so it means a lot to have been named as the overall winner."

The National Piping Centre's Director of Piping, Finlay MacDonald, said: "It's fantastic to be back at Blair Castle

for the 49th annual Glenfiddich Championship. This is the pinnacle of solo piping competitions and all of this year's competitors upheld their reputations as the best in the world. They all should all be extremely proud of themselves, it was incredible to watch them all perform in this magnificent venue." Competitors travelled from near and far to take part, including 2021 champion Jack Lee from British Columbia, Canada, Jamie Forrester from London, the USA's Nick Hudson, Connor Sinclair from Crieff, and Fred Morrison from Renfrewshire.

The Glenfiddich Piping Championship was established in 1974 to inspire the world's finest exponents of Ceòl Mòr or Piobaireachd (the great music) and Ceòl Beag or light music (the little music). Run by The National Piping Centre, the world centre for excellence in bagpipe music, and funded through the William Grant Foundation, the event is held annually at Blair Castle in Blair Atholl, Perthshire.



Callum Beaumont and Willie McCallum.

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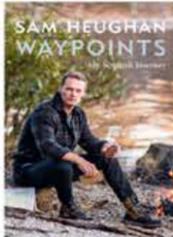
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Waypoints: My Scottish Journey

In his first full autobiography the award-winning actor and bestselling author of *Clanlands*, Sam Heughan, sets out along the West Highland Way to explore his life and reflect on the personal waypoints that define him. In this journey of self-discovery, Sam Heughan sets out along the West Highland Way to explore his heritage and reflect on the personal waypoints that define him. The result is a love letter to the wild Scottish landscape that means so much to Sam, and a charming, funny, wise and searching insight to the world through his eyes.

Price: \$32.95 Plus postage



Bake with Maw Broon

Always up to her elbows in flour or stirring bubbling pots of homemade jam, Maw Broon has been baking cracking cakes, braw biscuits and perfect pastry for her hungry family for years. Maw will show you how to bake a mouth watering collection of sweet favourites, from shortbread to sugar craft, from Dundee cake to Edinburgh tart, and from black bun to cloutie dumpling. Beautifully designed and easy to follow, Bake with Maw Broon is the definitive guide to traditional baking for all the family.

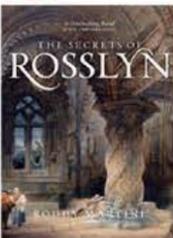
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The Secrets of Rosslyn

Ever since Rosslyn Chapel was built in the mid 15th century it has cast a mesmerising spell over all who have visited it, exuding an aura of profound mystery, as if it holds the key to some vast, unearthly secret. 600 years later it continues to confound and intrigue, inspiring stories of The Knights Templar, the Holy Grail and a myriad of esoteric beliefs. This book sifts through mounds of unfounded conjecture and fantasy to make sense of it all and lets the facts speak for themselves, showing ultimately that the truth is no less amazing than fiction.

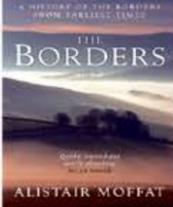
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The Borders: A History Of The Borders From The Earliest Times

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.

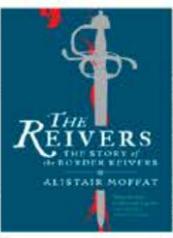
Price: \$34.95 Plus postage



The Reivers: The Story of the Border Reivers

Only one period in history is immediately, indelibly and uniquely linked to the whole area of the Scottish and English Border country, and that is the time of the Reivers. Whenever anyone mentions 'Reiver?', no-one hesitates to add 'Border?'. It is an inextricable association, and rightly so. Nowhere else in Britain in the modern era, or indeed in Europe, did civil order break down over such a wide area, or for such a long time. This book tells the remarkable story of the Reivers and how they made the Borders.

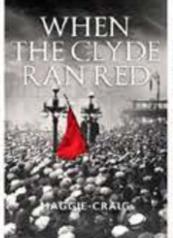
Price: \$29.95 Plus postage



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 for everyone. This book puts the politics into the social context of the times and tells the story with verve, warmth and humour.

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



Scottish Customs

This book introduces hundreds of Scottish customs associated with a huge range of topics. As well as customs associated with key events of our lives, from birth to death, it also includes customs associated with the world of work, food and drink, health, animals and nature. Extracts from written works through the ages bring these customs to life and show how important they have been in the story of Scotland for thousands of years.

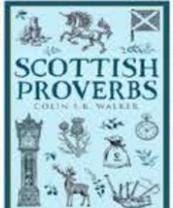
Price: \$19.95 Plus postage



Scottish Proverbs

Proverbs, once described as 'the wisdom of many and the wit of one', offer unique insights the way of life and the social mores of past generations. This book features an introduction which explores the role of proverbs in Scottish culture and over 1,000 proverbs arranged in easily accessible A-Z format. Many have been commonly used for hundreds of years, but modern sayings are also included. The addition of a comprehensive glossary will help you fully appreciate these colourful and often humorous nuggets of wisdom and advice.

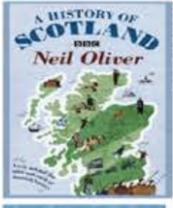
Price: \$19.95 plus postage



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 world.

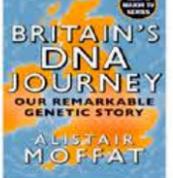
Price: \$29.95 Plus postage



Britain's DNA Journey: Our Remarkable Genetic Story

In an epic narrative, 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.

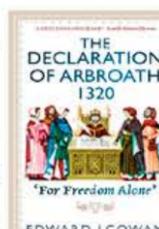
Price: \$ 24.95 Plus postage



The Declaration of Arbroath

The Declaration of Arbroath is Scotland's most famous document. The Declaration of Arbroath, 6 April, 1320, is one of the most remarkable documents to have been produced anywhere in medieval Europe. Signed by 51 Scottish nobles, it confirms Scotland's status as an independent sovereign state with the right to use military action if unjustly attacked. This is the first book-length study to examine the origins of the Declaration and the ideas upon which it drew, while tracing the rise of its mythic status in Scotland.

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



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 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, with insight & analysis.

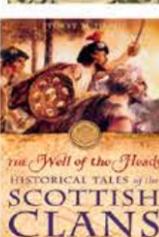
Price: \$34.95 + post



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 loyal 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.

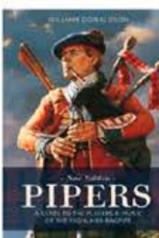
Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



Pipers: A Guide to the Players and Music of the Highland Bagpipe

Pipers takes the reader inside the world of the performer community of Scottish piping, introducing the instrument itself and the various different repertoires. 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.

Price: \$29.95 Plus postage



The Makers of Scotland: Picts, Romans, Gaels and Vikings

During the 1st millennium AD the most northerly part of Britain evolved into the country known as Scotland. The transition was a long process of social & political change driven by the ambitions of warlords. At first these men were tribal chiefs, Roman generals or rulers of small kingdoms. Later the initiative was seized by dynamic warrior-kings who campaigned far beyond their own borders. Armies of Picts, Scots, Vikings, Britons and Anglo-Saxons fought each other for supremacy. In this book the remarkable story of how ancient North Britain became the medieval kingdom of Scotland is told.

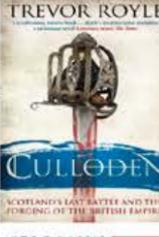
Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



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 significance.

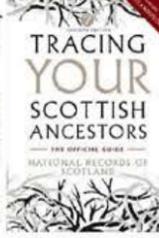
Price: \$29.95 Plus postage



Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors

Scotland has the best-maintained records and facilities of any country in the world for undertaking family research, and now that the National Archives of Scotland are available online they can be consulted by anyone from whatever country. This is the National Archives' official guide and is written in an accessible style from the unique perspective of a custodian of the records. It details all the latest internet developments, including a chapter on family history on the web. It also points to more traditional resources, explaining step by step how to research records of births, marriages and wills.

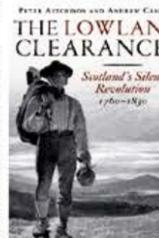
Price: \$29.95 Plus Postage



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

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

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



The White Cockade: Historical Tales of the Jacobites

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

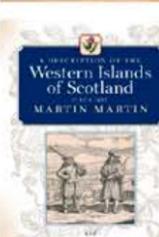
Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



A Description of the Western Isle of Scotland: Circa 1695

It is 300 years since Martin Martin's great journey around the Western Isles, Orkneys and Shetlands. The first and one of the greatest of all travellers in Scotland, Martin is also unique in being the only native Gaelic speaker amongst them. This gives his account a unique and authoritative resonance which makes it, even today, a mine of information on the history, customs, traditions and life of the Hebrides. It also casts light on the islands during a crucial period of history when the old structures of society still held sway before Jacobite rebellions altered society irrevocably.

Price: \$24.95 + postage

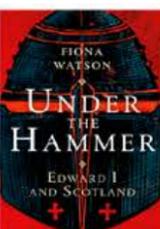


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Under the Hammer: Edward I and Scotland

Few aspects of Scottish history inspire interest as the 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 paints a vivid picture of a key period in the history of both nations.

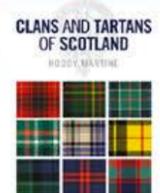
Price: \$34.95 Plus postage



Clans and Tartans of Scotland

The Scots are a remarkable race with a justifiably proud history and culture which they have successfully passed on through generations. This compact book sets out to identify the larger Scottish clan and family names, their tartans, septs (dependent family names), heraldic crests, mottos, ancestral lands and allegiances. This book features full colour photographs of each tartan as opposed to digital reproductions, allowing readers to see both the textures and patterns.

Price: \$19.95 Plus postage



Scottish Battles

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

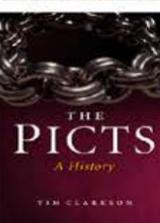
Price: \$29.95 Plus postage



The Picts: A History

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

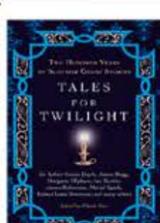
Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



Tales for Twilight: Two Hundred Years of Scottish Ghost Stories

This book offers a spine-tingling selection of unnerving tales by writers from James Hogg in the early 18th century to James Robertson, very much alive in the 21st. Scottish authors have proved to be exceptionally good at writing ghost stories. Perhaps it's because of the tradition of oral storytelling that has stretched over centuries, including poems and ballads with supernatural themes. The golden age was during the Victorian and Edwardian period, but the ghost story has continued to evolve and remains popular to this day.

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



The Highland Clearances

The Highland Clearances stands out as one of the most emotive chapters in the history of Scotland. This book traces the origins of the Clearances from the eighteenth century to their culmination in the crofting legislation of the 1880s. In considering both the terrible suffering of the Highland people as well as the stark choices that faced landowners during a period of rapid economic change, it shows how the Clearances were one of many 'attempted' solutions to the problem of how to maintain a population on marginal and infertile land. This book offers a balanced analysis of events which created a terrible scar on the Highland and Gaelic imagination.

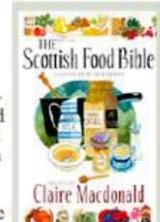
Price: \$29.95 plus postage



The Scottish Food Bible

Scottish produce is celebrated the world over. In this book Claire Macdonald celebrates the very best of Scottish ingredients – from oatmeal, dairy produce, meat and fish, fruit and vegetables and even whisky – in 60 imaginative recipes for starters, main course and puddings, as well as for sauces, dressings, baking and other treats. Recipes include: Grilled goat's cheese on stir-fried beetroot with orange and Balsamic vinegar, Chocolate oatmeal biscuits, Leed honey and whisky creams, Herb crepes with smoked salmon, creme fraiche and diced cucumber, Venison fillet with green peppercorn, ginger and port sauce.

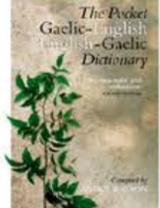
Price: \$14.95 + post



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-to-date 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.

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



The Silver Chanter: Historical Tales of Scottish Pipers

All over the world people associate the bagpipes with Scotland. In this informative and entertaining book Stuart McHardy introduces Scotland's national instrument – its history, development and repertoire – and examines the part that the piper himself has played in Highland and Lowland society over the centuries. Whether dealing with great bravery or contemptible jealousy, the supernatural or the mundane, these stories reflect the central role that the bagpipes have played, and continue to play, in Scottish traditional culture.

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



The Clanlands Almanac: Seasonal Stories from Scotland

A seasonal meander through the wilds of Scotland. From First Footing to Samhain, Fringe Festival follies to whisky lore, Sam & Graham guide readers through a year of Scottish legends, traditions, historical and contemporary events, sharing personal stories and tips as only these two chalk-and-cheese friends can. As entertaining as it is practical, this book is a light-hearted education in Scottish history and culture, told through the eyes of 2 passionate Scotsmen. The perfect escapist guide, The Clanlands Almanac is intended as a starting point for your own Scottish discoveries.

Price: \$24.95 Plus postage



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The Hayland Gathering



Morven Johnston.

world's leading junior Highland dancers, 17 year old Morven Johnston from Perth, WA. Morven was born in the small weaving village of Kilbarchan in the West of Scotland and immigrated to Perth, Western Australia in 2010 at the age of 4. She has been involved in Highland dancing from the early age of 3 and has been dancing at the Scottish Highland Dance Academy, under the watchful eye of her teacher Kerry Grosser, since she first arrived in Australia.

Throughout her dancing career Morven has won over 80 plus State, Interstate and National championships within Australia including multiple International, Grand Australasian and Australian Commonwealth Championships together with the Junior Champion of Champions. She has also regularly competed at the highest level on the international stage, notably winning 4 Scottish Championships at Cowal together with a 6th in 2018 at age 13 and a 3rd in 2019 at 14 in the Juvenile World Championship final.

Highland dancing

Unfortunately, covid stopped Morven, like many other dancers around the world, from finishing their final years in their world age groups. Although not known at the time, no one would return to Cowal until 2022. Having previously won a USIR (USA) open championship, Morven was honoured to win the 17

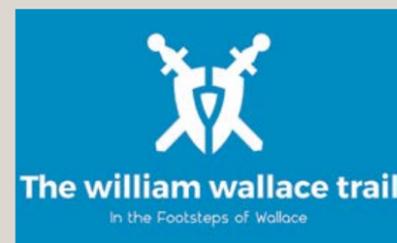
years Canadian open championship in 2022. All great achievements from a place as remote as Western Australia.

Excited to finally be back in Scotland, Morven started her 2022 campaign with a win in the Bute Championship in Rothesay, followed by a win in the Commonwealth Championship in Stirling the following week, a win in her Junior World final heat and then finishing with runner up in the Junior World Final at Cowal on the Saturday. All capping off a great year of doing what she loves "highland dancing". In parallel to her dancing, Morven has continued to develop a strong connection with her Scottish heritage by learning to play the bagpipes throughout her school career, becoming the Pipe Corporal in her final year. Morven is currently finishing her last year of school at PLC in Perth, WA.

Whilst continuing to actively compete at the highest level of competition across the globe, Morven is also keen to focus on obtaining her teaching qualification and be ready to help SHDA develop the next generation of highland dancers in Western Australia. The Hayland Gathering is delighted to have Morven join us to share her love of dance.

More information on the Hayland Gathering can be gained by following the Facebook page, emailing haylandgathering@gmail.com or contacting the Hayland Gathering convenor Kylie Kerr on 0417 052 491.

£10,000 needed to establish the Falkirk Wallace trail to tell the story of Sir William Wallace in Falkirk



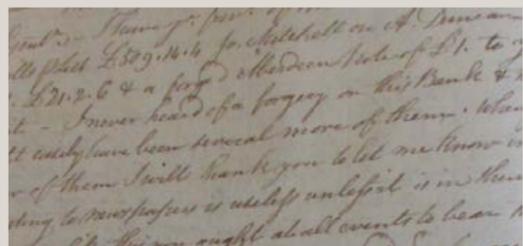
Falkirk plays a huge part in the Wallace story, from his mother's Connection to Grangemouth to his uncle preaching at Dunnipace as well as his closest friend hailing from the area. The Battle of Falkirk itself played a huge role in Falkirk's history. While Wallace would ultimately lose at Falkirk this would set up Wallace future and is grisly murder

The Wallace Trail wants to bring the multitude of stories that weave the fabric that is not only history of Falkirk but also Scotland itself. From the 600 men of Bute to the heroism of Macduff of Fife, Graeme and Stewart to the theory of betrayal. The project aims to bring schools and community groups into creating a Wallace trail that will not only bring history to life but also encourage the community to contribute and get involved on its creation.

If you can help bring history to life see: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/thewallacetrail

Photo: University of Glasgow.

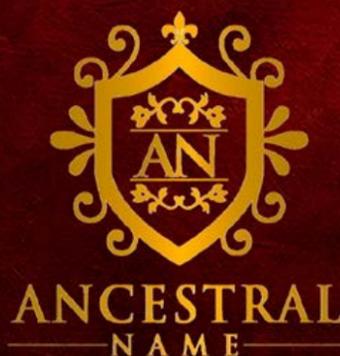
Long lost letters highlight life in the Scottish Borders in the 1800s



A collection of letters from a prominent lawyer which were first discovered in 2015, with a further discovery in 2019, will soon be published in a new book. George Craig (1783-1843), baron bailie of Galashiels, was a law agent, banker, insurance agent and factor. His clients included both Sir Walter Scott and James Hogg. The rediscovery of some Craig's letter books sheds new light on his own and other communities across the Scottish Borders in the period between 1821 and 1840. The letters are considered of historical importance due to the details and insight of border life and society in the 1800s.

Approximately 3,000 letters have been discovered which include people off all walks of life with correspondence from across Scotland, the UK and further afield to places like America, Australia and the Caribbean. John Finlay, Professor of Scots Law at the University of Glasgow, presents a series of online pages looking at different aspects of that world through a selection of Craig's letters. It is part of a project, in conjunction with Scottish Borders Archives, to make Craig a better-known figure and to recognise his formative influence on the area. The letter books form the basis of a new book, expected to be published in 2023.

If you have any information about George Craig, you can contact Professor John Finlay via email at: john.finlay@glasgow.ac.uk



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IN SCOTLAND TODAY



New 250-mile Coast to Coast cycle route gets green light

An exciting new 250 mile on-road cycle route covering the length of the South of Scotland has received the green light to progress to delivery stage. The Coast to Coast route will run from Stranraer to Eyemouth, making it one of the longest in the UK and a new challenge for experienced cyclists. Walking and cycling routes can deliver significant economic, environmental and community benefits, and early projections are that the new South of Scotland Coast to Coast route could attract up to 175,000 new visitors to the region, with a direct spend of £13.7million per year. The project is aiming to be delivered in time for the 2023 UCI World Championships in Glasgow and across Scotland. Three of the 13 Championships are taking place in the South of Scotland in August next year, allowing visitors to the South to try the new route during or after the Championships.

Riders who want to test themselves can tackle the Coast to Coast Challenge route over four days but are highly recommended to slow down, immerse themselves and enjoy more of what the South of Scotland has to offer by completing the Explorer route over eight days or more. The Coast to Coast announcement follows the launch of the first ever South of Scotland Cycling Partnership Strategy in September, which aims to ensure cycling becomes the most popular choice for shorter, everyday journeys by 2032. The Strategy also has a vision for the region to be recognised as Scotland's leading cycling destination and a world-class cycling destination of excellence. Councillor Scott Hamilton, Scottish Borders Council's Executive Member for Community and Business Development, said: "The development of this route could deliver very significant benefits to communities all the way from Eyemouth to Stranraer and we continue to work closely with the partners involved to bring it to fruition. It is through initiatives such as this that we can really build upon the region's cycling heritage and already significant reputation for cycling and truly make the South of Scotland the 'Home of the Bike.'" Tourism Minister Ivan McKee added: "The South of Scotland is already recognised as a destination that offers a wide range of experiences and activities for visitors including walking and cycling. The creation of the Coast to Coast cycling route will support the Scottish Government's ambition of delivering economic, environmental and community

benefits to our regions through sustainable tourism. The route is part of the momentum building towards the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships in August, which is bringing three of the 13 Championships to the South of Scotland and encouraging participation in cycling across the region."

Edinburgh Film Festival ceases trading



The Edinburgh International Film Festival, alongside its sister organisations - Filmhouse Cinema and Café Bar in Edinburgh and Belmont Filmhouse in Aberdeen - and parent charity, Centre for the Moving Image (CMI), have all ceased trading with the loss of over 100 jobs. CMI is facing a perfect storm of sharply rising costs, in particular energy costs, alongside reduced trade due to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic and the cost of living crisis. The combination and scale of these challenges is unprecedented and means that there was no option but to take immediate action.

The Edinburgh International Film Festival was founded in 1947 by the Edinburgh Film Guild film society and bills itself as the world's oldest continually running film festival, with 2022 marking its 75th anniversary. The board of the CMI has issued the following statement: "We have been proud to have led the CMI through incredibly challenging times, and in particular during the worst days of the pandemic. Unfortunately, the combination of sharply increasing energy and other costs, together with both the lasting impacts of the pandemic and the rapidly emerging cost of living crisis affecting cinema attendances, means that we have had no other option but to appoint administrators at this time. We would like to put on record our immense gratitude to the entire staff team whose passion for film as an artform and for the audiences and communities we work with and serve has remained undented by the challenges of recent years. We're fully aware that this will be an exceptionally stressful time for them."

Archaeologists' collaborative excavations find evidence of human habitation 10,000 years ago in Scottish Highlands



Archaeologists who have carried out excavations in the Scottish Highlands have found the earliest evidence of human habitation in the area as far back as 8,100 BC. The experts working on the project have also discovered that hunter-gatherers lived in this remote part of Britain during a period of abrupt climate change around 8,000 years ago. Excavations at sites on the Mar Lodge Estate, deep in the Cairngorms National Park in north Scotland, have yielded radiocarbon dates that have established that there was a human presence in the area around 8,100 BC. A partnership between archaeologists and environmental scientists from University College Dublin (UCD), University of Aberdeen, University of Stirling, University of Durham and the National Trust for Scotland established the Upper Dee Tributaries Project in 2013 to develop understanding of the estate's prehistory. The partnership also contributes to the management of these fragile and little understood archaeological sites.

As part of the project, a team of archaeologists from UCD, led by Dr Graeme Warren, who is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Archaeology, University College Dublin, have excavated a remote site in Glen Geldie - a broad upland valley flanked by snow-covered mountains in the area. The archaeologists excavating the site have found stone tools manufactured from flint and evidence of a fire. Radiocarbon dates from the tools show human occupation of the site at around 6,200-6,100 BC. The finds are fascinating because they coincide with the most dramatic climatic deterioration since the last ice age.

Dr Warren, who is the excavation director, said: "One of the really striking things is that the site (Glen Geldie) that the UCD team is on is very remote. From what we know during that period 8,200 years ago there was a major climate change event where the average annual temperature fell by one to three degrees. Now that might not sound like much, but three degrees is a very significant fall in annual average temperatures, especially up here in the mountains."

The National Trust for Scotland said the excavations have revealed a complex pattern of settlement, showing that people gathered by the riverside in the area thousands of years ago, possibly only a few hundred years after communities began to move back into Scotland when the ice retreated. Dr Warren said stone tools made of flint found in the Geldie Burn area nearby have also provided archaeologists with fascinating clues as to where the early inhabitants in the area originally came from and what activities they undertook. "We found a scatter of flint stone tools - they are the remains of toolkits for a variety of different uses - hunting, fishing or

maybe even drilling wood," he continued. "Flint isn't found in the Cairngorms and was probably carried with people as they moved into the mountains. The chances are that people were moving through here because it was a major communication route, or that it was used for hunting for things like red deer, and these are also some of the best rivers for salmon fishing in Scotland."

"We also have a scatter of stone tools across a hillside at Geldie Burn and within that we have a smaller cluster of around 100 artefacts scattered around a fire, including tools, broken tools and waste from making tools," he added. A high proportion of these stone tools from the Mesolithic period, which are known as microliths, often suggests a specialised function for the site, and a common interpretation of upland sites is that they are hunting locations.

£21.6million impact of 'Gaelic Economy' in Glasgow outlined in new report



A new report shows the impact of the 'Gaelic Economy' in Glasgow, bringing in £21.6million to the city, as well as supporting 700 jobs. The council - supported by Bòrd na Gàidhlig - commissioned a research study into the value of the 'Gaelic Economy' in Glasgow. The aim of the study was to demonstrate the value, growth, and impact of Gaelic in Glasgow. The study considered the economic value of Gaelic, the growth in its use, and how the language and culture impacted on the wellbeing of Glasgow. The vast majority of this impact was made in three sectors: Creative Industries; Education and Learning; and Tourism, Hospitality and Events. Of the 700 'Gaelic Economy' jobs supported in the city, 58% of these are in the education and learning sector, with 23% in the creative industries, and 16% in tourism, hospitality and events.

These jobs contribute £21.6million to Glasgow's economy every year. The study examined the economic impact of festivals and events where Gaelic plays a key role (including Celtic Connections, Piping Live!, the World Pipe Band Championships, and the Scottish Gaelic Awards) and found that the overall annual economic impact of these festivals and events that can be attributed to Gaelic is estimated to be £7.2million.

The use of Gaelic was also found to contribute positively to wellbeing in a number of ways, including a greater range of job opportunities, increased engagement in physical activity, the development of local and national pride, a sense of identity, and improved mental health and happiness. Shona MacLennan, CEO of Bòrd na Gàidhlig said: "We are delighted to read the findings of this report which strengthen the fact that the Gaelic language and its culture generate opportunities across many sectors of the Scottish economy. This is of course in addition to its benefits to people's wellbeing in everyday life. As we move forward to the next national plan for Gaelic, the messages are stronger and clearer than ever - the language and the economy benefit each other."

Scots Pipe Band drummers and piper thrive on world stage



Excellence in drumming and piping.

The Scots School Albury Pipe Band is back in competition mode with a vengeance after a Covid-pause, and Pipe Major Liam Nicolson and Drum Major Damon Wright are leading the way. Wright led a trio of drummers to become among the very best in the world following their outstanding success at the World Solo Drumming Championships in Glasgow recently and Nicolson competed on the world stage for outstanding results during a tour to Scotland in August.

Wright and youngster Rollo Nickols are now ranked third in the world for drumming and Josh Niuiila eighth. Wright finished third in Juvenile Section 2 (14-and-over but under-18, NJ/G4 March), Nickols was third in the Juvenile Section 1 (Under 14, NJ/G4 March) and Niuiila was eighth in the same category as Wright.

In August, Nicolson excelled during a whirlwind tour of Highland Gatherings in Scotland. He placed fourth in the prestigious MacGregor Memorial Piobaireachd, an unofficial world championship for junior pipers. Just to be accepted to play, Nicolson had to submit a formal application, including references and results. Judges selected the tune each Piper would play for the heats and another for the final. Nicolson played Queen Elizabeth 2nd in the heat followed by MacLeods Salute in the final. The 16-year-old was the second youngest piper in the contest and youngest in the final.

During his international tour, he was successful at the Lonarch Highland Games (1st in the Piobaireachd, 1st in the 2/4 March, 1st in the Strathspey & Reel), Cowal Highland Games (1st in the MSR, 2nd in the Piobaireachd), Glenfinnan Highland Games (1st in the Strathspey & Reel, 2nd in the Piobaireachd, and 3rd in the March), Glen Isla Highland Games (2nd in the March and 2nd in the S&R), St Andrew's Highland Games (1st in the 2/4 March, 1st in the S&R), The Northern Meeting (2nd in the under 18 Piobaireachd) and finished with another win at the Braemar Highland Gathering (1st in the Under 18 Piobaireachd, 1st in the 2/4 March). Liam's international success was on the back of being named Victorian Champion C-Grade piper at the Victorian Solo Piping Championships in July.

Travel and competition

Wright also has been turning heads in Australia for his drumming. He was recently named Australian Young Drummer of the Year 2022 at a competition in Sydney and that followed hot on the heels of winning the Victorian B Grade Snare champion at the Victorian Solo Drumming Championships in Melbourne.

The pair lead a talented bunch of pipers and drummers at Scots who are preparing for the World Pipe Band Championships in Scotland next year. It will be the first time the entire Pipe Band has been to Scotland since its performance at the 2017 Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, when Nicolson and Wright were 10 years old and in Year 5. Back then, the students endured a brutal schedule of 27 night-time performances in 31 days, while keeping up their schoolwork from 9am-3pm each day. No concession was made for the students' youth and they were expected to perform consistently and without compromise alongside adult pipe bands. Overseas tours can be a tough initiation for many of the young students and to help build their perseverance and resilience for the world championships next year, Pipe Band co-ordinator Scott Nicolson recently led a tour to the Kuala Lumpur Highland Games in Malaysia. "We haven't had much opportunity for competition during Covid, so it was good to get away with the band members to KL

and just expose them to the vagaries of travel and competition," Mr Nicolson said.

The band picked up first place in the Kuala Lumpur Highland Games Champion Mini Band and a third place in the Band contest. Young pipers and drummers also excelled with the following results: 1st D Grade and Champion Piper of the Day - Jonny Coe. 1st Novice Piper - Noah Boundy. 2nd Novice Piper - Neve Harris. 1st Novice Bass - Clancy Ledger. 3rd D Grade Snare - Storm Tanuvasa. The Scots School Albury will be hosting a Highland Games at the school on Saturday 11th March 2023. This will be followed by a Tattoo. Prospective stall holders can contact the school at the number below.

More information: Rowena Newcomen: 02 6022 0000 or 0417 428 579.



Liam Nicolson.

10,000 visit the 11th Hororata Highland Games



Fletcher Walmsy crossing the finish line of the Kilted Mile.



Drumming to perfection.



Highland dancing.

Kilts swirled, drums played, bagpipes sang, cabers were tossed, and ropes tugged as 600 competitors competed in all the traditional Scottish sports at Hororata Highland Games in November. The Games, located just outside Christchurch, hosted the first Pipe Band competition in 18 months with 20 bands traveling from all over the South Island to compete. They combined to play together in the massed bands' march which brought a tear to people's eyes as the sound wave of bagpipes and drums rolled over the huge crowd.

Heavy athletes from Australia and New Zealand battled for the Oceania Heavyweight Championship over eight

disciplines including the Caber Toss and the Hororata Stones. Australian, Terry Sparkes retained the title giving him back-to-back wins, albeit with a three-year gap for this international Championship as it was last run in 2019. The Games also hosted the New Zealand Heavyweight Championship which Ashburton's Craig Manson won. The Women's Championship was hotly contested with Australian Lily Riley winning.

Strongwoman, Red Wiard travelled from Brisbane to compete in Hororata for the first time and was blown away by the event, "I am so grateful for this experience. It was a massive day. Being in the arena with 10,000 people cheering me on made me feel like a celebrity. I am going home with 2nd place, a few personal bests, new friends and a whole lot of memories."

Celebrates Scottish culture with a Kiwi twist

Have A Go is another part of the Games with people of all ages able to enter the arena to see if they can toss a caber, play the pipes or be victorious in the Tug of War.

Cindy Driscoll from the Hororata Community Trust explains that the 'have a go' element is a most popular part of the festival. "This gives people an intimate experience of the Highland Games because they don't just watch but are part of it, and then some catch the bug and end up becoming competitors."

In every corner of this festival, there is something to discover including medieval arts, sword fighting, live music and of course haggis; all combined for a rich cultural experience.

In a show of true community spirit 230 volunteers join the Hororata Community Trust to make the Hororata Highland Games happen. "The Games is unique in the way it celebrates Scottish culture with a Kiwi twist but what really makes it special is the passion people give in to making the event happen. Our community is not defined by lines on a map. A huge group coming together, bringing passion and energy for a common cause. For 11 years the Games really has become part of who we are. We are Clan Hororata," said Cindy.

Kate Foster was the 11th Hororata Highland Games Chieftain and the first local to be bestowed this honour. "The Games is very much at the heart of our community. It showcases our rural area to the world, celebrates our history, brings people together and provides a fundraising platform for groups. The Games enables the Hororata Community Trust to support the community to embark on our next project which is developing the Hororata Community Hub. This will be a modern vibrant facility that celebrates our heritage and provides for community needs now and into the future," said Kate.

The 12th Hororata Highland Games will take place on Saturday 4th November 2023. For details see: www.hororata.org.nz/highland-games



Adam Millar, Terry Sparkes, Jeremy Hogg and Craig Manson with Chieftain Kate Foster. Photo: Cindy Driscoll.



Massed bands.



Strongwoman Lily Riley.

All images unless noted: Jeremy Sim.

New green recovery trails in the home of the UK's first ever Mission Blue Hope Spot



Five exclusive new Scottish nature-based trails, featuring insider tips from the local community, have been launched to help visitors 'slow down', travel responsibly and find some unique natural discoveries at sea and in the sky along the Argyll and the Isles coast in the west of Scotland - home to the UK's first ever Mission Blue Hope Spot and four internationally recognised dark sky sites.

Part of an innovative pilot green recovery Slow Tourism initiative, the self-led Above and Below touring routes, revealed earlier this month, showcase the most unique and idyllic coastal locations in Argyll and the Isles (Scotland's Adventure Coast). The trails are designed for those who love adventure or simply want to escape the hustle and bustle of

everyday life, and feature key sites for wild swimming, snorkelling, beach hunts, sunsets and some of the darkest skies in Europe.

Natural world above and below the land

Argyll and the Isles is a unique area to explore above and below, and soak in the wonders of the sea and the stars. The region's Hope Spot, encompassing the Sound of Jura, Firth of Lorn, Sound of Mull, Loch Sunart and Loch Linnhe, has been scientifically identified as critical to the health of the ocean. Following a proposal by the local Coastal Communities Network (Scotland), Mission Blue (a global marine protection network) selected the region for its "intricate coastline of sea lochs,

peninsulas, deep water sounds, narrows and islands, encompassing existing Marine Protected Areas, Special Areas for Conservation and a host of Priority Marine Features." In addition to this, four sites in the region have been recognised as being among the best places in the world for stargazing free from light pollution - there are three Dark Sky Discovery Sites in Argyll, and the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) has officially designated the Isle of Coll as an International Dark Sky Place.

Launching the new Above and Below guides, Cathy Craig, CEO at the Argyll and Isles Tourism Cooperative said: "Located on the west coast of Scotland, warmed by the gulf stream, Argyll and the Isles is known globally for its stunning idyllic scenery, great outdoor adventure, and rare and endangered wildlife. Often referred to as Scotland's Adventure Coast, there is so much to discover here, with a wide range of experiences to suit almost every interest. Our marine environment is internationally significant, and our night skies are some of the darkest in the world. It's the perfect place to really slow down and immerse yourself in authentic local experiences and the wonders of our natural world above and below the land. With some fantastic insider tips shared by experts in our community, our Above and Below guides are designed to do just that. By following these guides and taking the time to explore the area in these ways, visitors will make a

positive impact on our local environment and gain a better understanding of how they can continue to do so elsewhere. We're delighted to have been involved in such an innovative green recovery project."

The trails were produced in collaboration with the local community, who shared insider information about the coastal sites they treasure and tales of the marine wildlife, sunsets and dark sky experiences on offer.

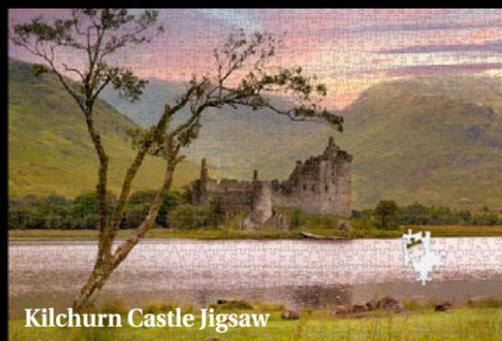
An interactive map and downloadable guide with more information can be found at wildaboutargyll.co.uk/see-do/nature-and-wildlife/above-and-below.



Piece together your love of Scotland with our range of Scottish jigsaws



Highland Cow Jigsaw



Kilchurn Castle Jigsaw

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New survey to map island connections

How do islanders maintain connections to their communities when they are living elsewhere? This is one of the questions being asked by University of Aberdeen/James Hutton Institute researcher Kirsten Gow as she explores how those with island connections could play a part in the future of island life, including through return migration. Kirsten, who is based on the Isle of Jura, is keen to hear from people who have lived on a Scottish island in the past, or who have strong links to a Scottish island but who don't live on one at the moment. As part of her research she has set up a short survey to learn more about how people stay connected to island life and whether or not they would consider living on an island in the future.

"I know from personal experience that you don't necessarily stop being part of an island community just because you move away," explained Kirsten. "I believe that it's important to pay attention to the strong connections people have with Scottish islands even when they are living elsewhere. It potentially tells us a great deal about island culture and identity, but it also might help us understand how we can make the most of these continued links to build sustainable futures for our islands."

Ongoing connection people have to islands

Kirsten's research started with looking at strategic objective one of the National Islands Plan - addressing population decline and ensuring a healthy, balanced population profile in Scotland's islands. The 2019 plan noted that the global trend for urbanisation has led to long-term depopulation and a shrinking working age populations in many island areas, highlighting that 'depopulation has an adverse

effect on community confidence and service sustainability, increasing the vulnerability of communities already experiencing higher costs of service provision and market access'. In addition, some have pointed to the cultural impact of depopulation, with the loss of Gaelic language and local knowledge threatening unique ways of life in the islands.

"Research already tells us that, if we want to make sure our islands have a sustainable future, many of them will need to maintain or increase their populations by encouraging more people to move there," explained Kirsten. "But it's not just about numbers. Return migration - people with connections to an island moving 'back' to the island - can potentially help tackle depopulation while also helping us retain the cultural and local knowledge which is a key part of building resilient and sustainable communities." In the first stage of her research Kirsten's survey is designed to help her understand the ongoing connection people have to islands, even while living elsewhere. In later stages she intends to speak to those who are actively interested in moving back to an island, and those who have already made the move, in order to understand the aspirations and realities of return.

Further information on Kirsten's research and a link to the survey can be found at <https://islandsresearcher.uk/take-part/>



Beach life on the Isle of Harris. Photo: Pearse O'Halloran on Unsplash.

Saving Kinloch Castle

Kinloch Castle on the Isle of Rum is an ornate castle which was built by George Bullough, son of a rich industrialist and friend of the Japanese emperor in the 19th century. It was once a place where the fashionable set of the day, including aristocrats and actors, would visit. Now frozen in time but slowly crumbling despite all sorts of plans over the years, including intervention by the then Prince Charles, the castle is looking for help to secure its future as a key part of the small island community as Judy Vickers explains.



Kinloch Castle on the Isle of Rum. Photo: Lorne Gill/NatureScot.



Interior of Kinloch Castle. Photo: Lorne Gill/NatureScot.

The most ostentatious shooting lodge ever

Kinloch is now the only inhabited settlement on the island of Rum (sometimes written Rhum or Rùm). The diamond-shaped island is one of the four main Small Isles of the Inner Hebrides off the west coast of Scotland. The others are Eigg, famous for its community buyout 25 years ago; Canna, owned by the National Trust for Scotland; and Muck, privately owned by the MacLean family – Lawrence MacLean, who died in May, was known as the Prince of Muck. Rum has always been at the whim of its wealthy owners.

Its opulent Edwardian interiors frozen in time, waiting for a knight with deep pockets to stop their slow decay.

When the kelp industry – used to make soda ash for explosives – dried up after the Napoleonic Wars, the island was given over to sheep farming and within less than 40 years a population of more than 400 had been cleared by the owners, the Macleans. It was then owned by a succession of wealthy landowners, when it became known as the Forbidden Island as uninvited island visitors were discouraged – there was no ferry service in those days. In 1884, John Bullough, a mill owner from Lancashire in England, became the latest of those rich landlords. He bought the castle to create a shooting pleasure park, introducing deer and game birds, and when his son George inherited it in 1891 he built perhaps the most ostentatious shooting lodge ever – Kinloch Castle.

The castle took three years to build, from 1897 to 1900, with pink sandstone imported from the island of Arran and 250,000 tons of soil for the gardens. It was state-of-the-Edwardian-art with a hydro-electric scheme, one of the first at a private residence in Scotland, allowing electric lights and air conditioning – there was also double glazing and an inter-



Interior of Kinloch Castle. Photo: Lorne Gill/NatureScot.

room telephone system, as well as a lavish interior décor with mahogany panelling, stags' heads, tiger skins and Eastern exotic treasures, many gifts from the Emperor of Japan, whom George had struck up a friendship with while sailing the world on his 221-ft yacht the Rhouma.

A special German-built orchestration, an elaborate electric pipe organ designed to simulate the sound of an entire orchestra, had originally been ordered by Queen Victoria, destined for Balmoral Castle, but her death saw it diverted to join the other extravagances at Kinloch. Outside, a domed glasshouse – which later blew down in a storm – was full of hummingbirds, turtles and alligators (the latter in heated tanks), while the walled garden was lined with hothouses containing peach and fig trees. While the scratches on the grand piano were actually made when a brass incense burner was knocked over rather than the heels of dancing London chorus girls, the castle's heyday did see parties full of bright young things fill the ballroom, billiard room, galleried hall, dining room, drawing room, morning room, squash court, bowling green or small golf course – and of course out on the hills shooting for the fashionable “Highland season”.

Opulent grandeur has been quietly decaying

It was a brief moment in the sun, however. There was little time, money or manpower for such frivolities in the aftermath of the First World War. George – Sir George from 1901 when he was knighted for turning his beloved yacht into a hospital ship during the Second Boer War – died in 1939. His widow, Lady Monica Bullough, sold the island to the Nature Conservancy Council, a forerunner of NatureScot, in 1957 “to be used as a nature reserve in perpetuity and Kinloch Castle maintained as far as may be practical” and Rum became a National Nature Reserve the same year.



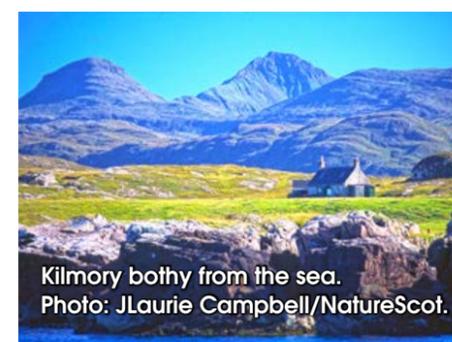
Rock details on the summit of Askival, Isle of Rum. Photo: John MacPherson/NatureScot.

Only the family's mausoleum remains in their ownership. The island's natural assets have since thrived – sheep and cattle were taken off the island and the natural woodland scrub allowed to return.

The island's famous red deer now form part of an internationally important study and eagles, both white-tailed and golden, as well as otters, dolphins and basking sharks are among the wildlife frequently spotted on land, sea and air. The introduction of the Small Isles ferry in 2004, complete with a new pier on Rum at Kinloch, means the once forbidden isle is now popular with tourists keen to hillwalk the Rum Cuillin, wildlife spot or enjoy its quiet beaches.

Even the population, which dwindled from 100 in 1900 to 28 in 1951 and remained at just over 20 for many years, has seen an increase in recent years. The Isle of Rum Community Trust has seen some of village transferred to community ownership and has built new homes, successfully attracting new families in 2020 and boosting the population to around 40.

But the last half a century has not been so kind to the castle and, despite some restoration by NatureScot, its opulent grandeur has been quietly decaying. The servants' quarters were used as a hostel up until 2015 but now even that is closed and leaks, with dry rot and woodworm having taken hold. The castle's appearance on the 2003 TV programme *Restoration* highlighted its plight and there were various schemes proposed including one from The Prince of Wales's Regeneration Trust. But all have come to nothing so far. NatureScot has warned the public purse cannot afford its upkeep and a solution must be found soon. So will Mr Hosking, a noted railway enthusiast who has funded many steam heritage projects, be the saviour this sleeping beauty castle has been searching for, with the islanders' fears over access roads and energy supplies overcome? Only time will tell.



Kilmory bothy from the sea. Photo: JLaurie Campbell/NatureScot.



Loch Scresort and Kinloch in autumn light. Photo: John MacPherson/NatureScot.

In fairy tales when a knight in shining armour arrives at a castle for a rescue, it's generally a princess locked up inside who needs his assistance.

In real life, however, on the Hebridean island of Rum, it's the castle itself which needs help – and the knight in shining armour isn't being welcomed by everyone.

The castle in question is next to the island's tiny village of Kinloch. It is a pink-stoned turn-of-the-century crumbling pile owned by NatureScot, Scotland's government-owned nature agency which has been trying to find a buyer and secure a viable future for it for years. The knight is multi-millionaire businessman Jeremy Hosking, who is said to be willing to buy it, stump up the millions to restore it and put it into a trust in order to open it to the public.

The news of Mr Hosking's involvement earlier this year was welcomed by politicians, heritage experts and the campaign group Friends of Kinloch Castle. But some of those living in Kinloch aren't so keen on the prospective new owner and have convinced a government minister to put a hold on the sale.

It's just the latest twist in the tale of the castle which was once a playground for the rich with Gaiety Girls allegedly dancing on the grand piano and hummingbirds filling the conservatory but which is now more of a castle under a spell, its opulent Edwardian interiors frozen in time, waiting for a knight with deep pockets to stop their slow decay.

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

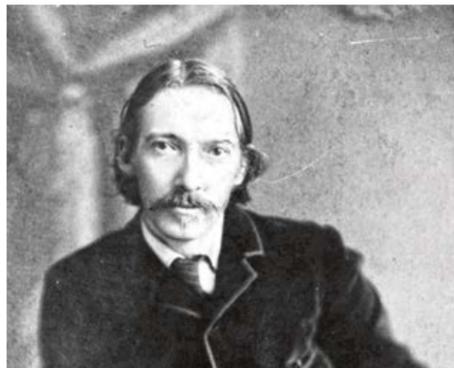
1 - The first volume of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* was published in Edinburgh, edited by William Smellie. **1768**

1 - First lighthouse in Scotland opened (at Kinnaird Head, Fraserburgh). It was built by Thomas Smith and Robert Stevenson. **1787**

1 - English writer Jo (JK) Rowling moves to Edinburgh where she works on her first *Harry Potter* novel. **1993**

1 - Report of discovery of fossilised dinosaur footprints on the Isle of Skye. **2015**

2 - Mary Slessor, West African missionary, born in Aberdeen. Slessor was adopted by an African tribe, who called her "ma". **1848**



3 - Robert Louis Stevenson died in Samoa. The Edinburgh born author penned classics such as *Treasure Island* (1883), *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* (1886) and *Kidnapped* (1886). **1894**

3 - His Majesty's Theatre in Aberdeen opened and soon became the city's leading centre of entertainment. **1906**

4 - King William I (Lion) died at Stirling and was succeeded by his son Alexander II. **1214**

4 - Treaty of London, releasing James I from his 18 years captivity in England. **1423**

4 - Essayist and historian Thomas Carlyle, best known for his *History of the French Revolution* born in Ecclefechan. **1795**

4 - Cartoon character Desperate Dan first appeared in the *Dandy* comic. **1937**

5 - King Francis II of France, husband of Mary Queen of Scots, died. **1560**

5 - Death of Sir Robert Watson-Watt, the Brechin-born inventor of radar. **1973**

6 - King Alexander II crowned at Scone. **1214**

6 - The Battle of Dryfe Sands took place near Lockerbie, Scottish Borders, resulting in many casualties, it was a battle between the clans of Clan Maxwell and Clan Johnstone. Many were wounded by downward sword strokes known as "Lockerbie Licks". **1593**

6 - Charles Edward Stewart's entry into Derby. A reluctant Charles and his Jacobite army was forced to withdraw from Derby only two days later. **1745**



6 - The last 12 permanent residents leave the Island of Stroma. **1962**

7 - The birth of Henry Stewart, Lord Darnley, the Anglo-Scottish aristocrat and second husband of Mary, Queen of Scots. Mary married Henry, her first cousin, on the 29 July 1565, to be the uncrowned "King Henry". Darnley was the second husband of Mary and father of King James VI of Scotland and James I of England. He was assassinated in February 1567 by person unknown, although Mary's third husband James, Lord Bothwell, was seriously implicated in the murder. **1545**

8 - Mary, Queen of Scots, born Linlithgow Palace. The only surviving child of James V and Mary of Guise, Mary ascended to the Scottish throne following her father's death when she was only six days old. Mary Queen of Scots was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle in England for her complicity in a plot to murder Queen Elizabeth I at the age of 44 years. **1542**

9 - King Malcolm IV, King of Scotland, died at Jedburgh Castle. **1165**

10 - The death of Duncan Forbes of Culloden, the Lord President of the Court of Session. As a prominent Whig, like many Scots Forbes supported the Hanoverian cause and used his influence to dissuade a number of clans from joining the Jacobites. **1747**

10 - 1928 - Designer and architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh died. Known for his 'Glasgow style' with works such as the House for an Art Lover, the Scotland Street School, and the Glasgow School of Art. **1928**

10 - King Edward VIII abdicated and King George VI acceded to the throne. **1936**

11 - David Brewster, inventor of the kaleidoscope born. **1781**

11 - Architect and artist Charles Rennie Mackintosh died. **1928**

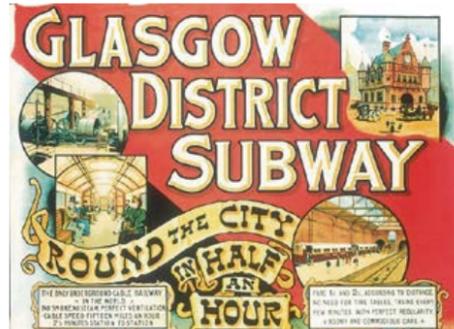
12 - Anne of Denmark, wife of King James VI, born. **1574**

13 - William Drummond, poet, born. Drummond was one of the first notable Scots poets to write exclusively in English after the Union of the Crowns in 1603. **1585**

13 - The death of Thomas Glover, an industrial pioneer in Japan. Born in Fraserburgh, he is considered a national hero in Japan. Fraser brought the first steam train to Japan, and created the shipyard in Nagasaki which would eventually form the Mitsubishi Corporation. **1911**

13 - New Lanark is designated as a World Heritage Site. The New Lanark cotton mills opened in 1786 and are one of six UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Scotland. **2001**

14 - James V died at Falkland Palace. Mary Queen of Scots succeeded him. **1542**



14 - Glasgow District Underground opened, powered by electricity. **1896**

14 - Will Fyfe, comedian, died. **1947**

14 - University of Stirling instituted by Royal charter. **1967**

15 - The Zoological Society of Glasgow was founded on this day. **1936**

16 - Oliver Cromwell becomes Lord Protector of England, Scotland and Ireland. Cromwell was the only invader of Scotland to conquer the whole country. **1653**

16 - Thomas Blake Glover, founding father of Japan's industrialisation (including Mitsubishi) and Japanese Navy, born Fraserburgh. **1838**



16 - Scotland's largest airline, Flyglobespan, goes into administration. The airline flew routes from Scotland to Europe and North America. **2009**

17 - Marriage contract between James IV and Margaret Tudor signed by King James. **1502**

17 - Lord Kelvin, scientist and inventor, died. **1907**

17 - Petrol rationing was imposed following the Suez crisis and the closure of the canal. **1956**

18 - Many Scottish historical records were lost when the ship *Elizabeth of Burntisland* sank off the English coast. The records had been taken to London by Oliver Cromwell and were being returned to Edinburgh. **1661**

18 - Society of Antiquaries founded and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1783, the Society's purpose is "to investigate both antiquities and natural and civil history in general, with the intention that the talents of humanity should be cultivated and that the study of natural and useful sciences should be promoted". **1780**

18 - Death penalty for murder was formally abolished in Britain. **1969**

18 - Inverness was awarded city status. It was one of three regions in the UK to become a city marking the new millennium and the Queen's Golden Jubilee. Prior to Inverness Dundee was the last Scottish town to receive the distinction in 1889. **2000**

19 - *The Scotsman* newspaper moves to new offices at North Bridge in Edinburgh, remaining there until 1999. **1904**

20 - First General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. **1560**

20 - Entertainer Andy Stewart was born in Glasgow. Stewart is perhaps best known for his STV show, *The White Heather Club*, which began in 1960, and his songs *Ye Canna Shuv Yer Granny Off A Bus* and *Donald Where's Yer Troosers*. He died in 1993. **1933**

20 - Aberdeen beat European Cup Winners Hamburg 2-0 to become the first Scottish club to win the UEFA Super Cup. **1983**

21 - Robert Liston, who was born in Linlithgow in 1794, performed the first operation in a British hospital using anaesthetic (ether). **1846**

21 - A Pan Am 747 blew up and crashed at Lockerbie, Dumfries, killing 243 passengers, 16 crew and 11 Lockerbie residents. The Pan American jumbo jet bound for New York was blown out of the sky by a terrorist bomb and crashes onto the Scottish town of Lockerbie killing all 259 passengers and 11 people on the ground. **1988**

22 - James Edward Stuart, the Old Pretender, son of James II, the deposed Catholic King of England, arrived at Peterhead in north-east Scotland to lead a Jacobite rebellion. **1715**

22 - Pop star Madonna married movie-producer Guy Ritchie at Skibo Castle, putting Dornoch into the media spotlight. The couple has since divorced but helped create a Scottish wedding boom. **2000**

23 - Major outbreak of cholera in Scotland. **1831**

23 - Fife born accordionist Jimmy Shand died. Shand's recordings are famous throughout the world due to his distinctive playing style on the button accordion, and later on the BBC with *The White Heather Club*. **2000**

24 - King William I (Lion) crowned at Scone. **1165**

24 - Edinburgh Castle surrendered to Oliver Cromwell. **1650**

24 - General George Wade was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the British army in Scotland after he had reported on the need for military roads in the country. **1724**

25 - Stone of Destiny removed from Westminster Abbey. Used as the coronation stone of the Scottish kings from the 10th century, the stone was removed by four Scottish university students whose story became a book and movie. The ringleader Ian Hamilton is a former contributor to *the Scottish Banner*. **1950**



25 - Christmas Day becomes a public holiday in Scotland. It was abolished in 1640. **1958**

25 - The Jacobite army reached Glasgow. The military campaign to return a Catholic Stewart king to the throne in place of the Hanoverian Protestant King William III. **1745**

26 - Alexander III, the King of Scots, was married to Margaret, the daughter of Henry III, King of England, in York. **1251**

27 - King Charles I, imprisoned at Carisbrooke Castle, reached an agreement with the Scots who offered military aid in exchange for a promise to establish Presbyterianism in England (but only for three years). **1647**

27 - Premiere of J M Barrie's play *Peter Pan* at the Duke of York Theatre, London. Barrie was born in Kirriemuir in 1860. **1904**

28 - James IV who liked to gamble played 'bylils' (similar to billiards) with a man described in records as "John Anderson that wantis the feit and handies". There's also a note mentioning that the king gave Anderson 14 shilling. **1501**

28 - Scotland's famous outlaw, Rob "Roy" MacGregor, died. He was immortalised in Sir Walter Scott's novel, *Rob Roy*. **1734**

28 - The Tay Bridge disaster occurred. 75 passengers were killed when the structure collapsed under a train during a storm. **1879**

29 - Charles Macintosh, who patented waterproof fabric, born in Glasgow. **1766**

29 - William Ewart Gladstone, UK Prime Minister on four occasions, born 1809. **1809**

30 - Rangers' first match at their new Ibrox Stadium, with capacity of 75,000. It was a 3-1 victory over Hearts in the Inter-City League. **1899**

30 - The Albion Motor Company was established. At first the firm made motor cars and commercial vehicles, but from 1913 concentrated on the latter. **1899**

31 - Prince Charles Edward Stewart, The Young Pretender, was born in Rome. Known as "Bonnie Prince Charlie", after the Gaelic pronunciation of his name, he led the 1745 Jacobite attempt to overthrow the Hanoverian monarchy. Bonnie Prince Charlie or the Young Pretender, was the son of James, the Old Pretender. **1720**

31 - 72 killed at Glen Cinema Fire, Paisley. **1929**



31 - The farthing coin (a quarter of an old penny) ceased to be legal tender. **1960**

Neolithic culinary traditions uncovered



One of the first pots to be discovered, an Unstan Bowl from Loch Arnish. Photo: Chris Murray.

A team of scientists, led by the University of Bristol, has uncovered intriguing new insights into the diet of people living in Neolithic Britain and found evidence that cereals, including wheat, were cooked in pots. Using chemical analysis of ancient, and incredibly well-preserved pottery found in the waters surrounding small artificial islands called crannogs in Scotland, the team were able to discern that cereals were cooked in pots and mixed with dairy products and occasionally meat, probably to create early forms of gruel and stew. They also discovered that the people visiting these crannogs used smaller pots to cook cereals with milk and larger pots for meat-based dishes.

Cereal cultivation

Cereal cultivation in Britain dates back to around 4000 BCE was probably introduced by migrant farmers from continental Europe. This is evidenced by some, often sparse and sporadic, recovery of preserved

cereal grains and other debris found at Neolithic sites. At this time pottery was also introduced into Britain and there is widespread evidence for domesticated products like milk products in molecular lipid fingerprints extracted from the fabric of these pots. However, with exception for millet, it has not yet been possible to detect molecular traces of accompanying cereals in these lipid signatures, although these went on to become a major staple that dominates the global subsistence economy today.

Previously published analysis of Roman pottery from Vindolanda (Hadrian's Wall) demonstrated that specific lipid markers for cereals can survive absorbed in archaeological pottery preserved in waterlogged conditions and be detectable through a high-sensitivity approach but, importantly this was 'only' 2,000 years old and from contexts where cereals were well-known to have been present. The new findings reported now show that cereal biomarkers can be preserved for thousands of years longer under favourable conditions. Another fascinating element of this research was the fact that many of the pots analysed were intact and decorated which could suggest they may have had some sort of ceremonial purpose. Since the actual function of the crannogs themselves is also not fully understood yet (with some being far too small for permanent occupation) the research provides new insights into possible ways these constructions were used.

Culinary traditions of early farmers

During analysis, cereal biomarkers were widely detected (one third of pots), providing the earliest biomolecular evidence for cereals in absorbed pottery residues in this region. The findings indicate that wheat was being cooked in pots, despite the fact that the limited evidence from charred plant parts in this region of Atlantic Scotland points mainly to barley. This could be because wheat is under-represented in charred plant remains as it can be prepared differently (e.g., boiled as part of stews), so not as regularly charred or because of more unusual cooking practices. Cereal markers were strongly associated with lipid residues for dairy products in pots, suggesting they may have been cooked together as a milk-based gruel.

The research was led by Drs Simon Hammann and Lucy Cramp at the University of Bristol's Department of Anthropology and Archaeology. Dr Hammann said: "It's very exciting to see that cereal biomarkers in pots can actually survive under favourable conditions in samples from the time when

cereals (and pottery) were introduced in Britain. Our lipid-based molecular method can complement archaeobotanical methods to investigate the introduction and spread of cereal agriculture." Dr Cramp added: "This research gives us a window into the culinary traditions of early farmers living at the north-western edge of Europe, whose lifeways are little understood. It gives us the first glimpse of the sorts of practices that were associated with these enigmatic islet locations."

Crannog sites in the Outer Hebrides are currently the focus of the four-year Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded 'Islands of Stone' project, directed by two of the papers' authors (Duncan Garrow from the University of Reading and Fraser Sturt from the University of Southampton) along with Angela Gannon, Historic Environment Scotland. The next stage of the research at the University of Bristol is an exploration of the relationship between these islets and other Neolithic occupation sites in the Hebridean region and beyond as well as more extensive comparative study of the use of different vessel forms through surviving lipid residues.

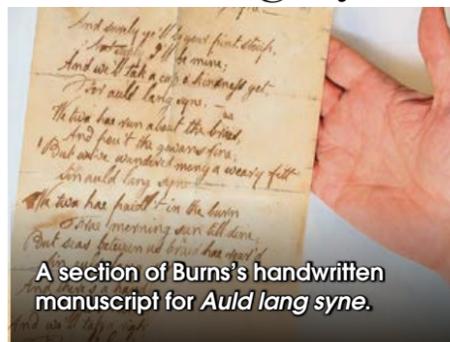


Aerial view of the crannog at Loch Langabhat. Photo: Fraser Sturt.



Photo reconstruction of a pot from Loch Langabhat. Photo: Mike Copper.

Auld lang syne



A section of Burns's handwritten manuscript for *Auld lang syne*.

Perhaps Burns's most famous song, these lines are sung across the world on Hogmanay. However, this is not Burns's original work. It was one of the traditional ballads he heard as he travelled around Scotland, and he wrote it down (with the music) in 1788. Burns reworked the piece (quite how much is unknown) and sent it to George Thomson in 1793 to be published in *A Select Collection of Original Scottish Airs for the Voice*. In a letter to Thomson, Burns described 'the old song of the olden times, & which has never been in print, nor even in manuscript, until I took it down from an old man's singing.' An earlier version of the song also appeared in Jame Johnson's Scots Musical Museum.

One of Burns's greatest legacies (in addition to his own works) was this transcription of hundreds of traditional ballads, which may otherwise have been lost. *Auld lang syne* roughly translates as 'for old time's sake', a fitting song to be sung at the end of the year and other big occasions such as Scottish ceilidhs, weddings and, of course, Burns Suppers.

It has become traditional in Scotland to hold hands in a large circle for the first five verses and then, at the end of the fifth verse, singers cross their arms (still holding their neighbours' hands!) and run into the middle of the circle.

Auld lang syne

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne?*

Chorus:

*For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne!*

*And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp!
And surely I'll be mine,
And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne!*

Chorus

*We twa hae run about the braes,
And pou'd the gowans fine;
But we've wander'd mony a weary fit,
Sin' auld lang syne.*

Chorus

*We twa hae paid'd in the burn,
Frae morning sun till dine;
But seas between us braid hae roar'd
Sin' auld lang syne.*

Chorus

*And there's a hand, my trusty fere!
And gie's a hand o' thine!
And we'll tak a right gude-willie waught,
For auld lang syne.*

Chorus

Handy glossary: pint-stowp = tankard of ale; pou'd = pulled; gowans = daisies; braid = broad; fere = companion; gude-willie waught = good hearty swig.

Text and image 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

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Glazed Christmas ham

Ingredients

For cooking the gammon

2-4kg/4lb 8oz.-9lb unsmoked boneless gammon joint, tied
2 onions, halved
2 carrots, unpeeled, cut into 5cm/2in pieces
2 celery stalks, cut into 5cm/2in pieces
4 bay leaves

12 black peppercorns
small handful cloves

For the glaze

4 tbsp. runny honey
4 tbsp. English mustard

Method:

Place the gammon joint into a large, lidded saucepan, cover with cold water and bring to the boil over a high heat. Drain the water from the saucepan, add fresh cold water, add the onions, carrots, celery, bay leaves and peppercorns and bring to the boil once more. Reduce the heat, cover with a lid and simmer the gammon and vegetables gently for 20 minutes per 500g/1lb 2oz. (If your pan is not quite large enough to cover the joint completely, turn the gammon over halfway through the cooking time.)

Remove the gammon from the water and set aside to cool for fifteen minutes. (The cooking liquid can be strained and reserved for making soup for another time.)

Pre-heat the oven to 200C/400F/ Gas 6 and line a large roasting tin with aluminum foil.

Use a small knife to remove the rind from the gammon joint, leaving as much of the fat intact as possible. Score the fat in a diamond pattern and push a clove into the centre of each 'X'.

Place the gammon into the foil-lined roasting tray, ensuring that the sides of the foil come halfway up the joint to contain any roasting juices.

For the glaze, mix the honey and mustard together and brush half of it evenly over the gammon, including one side of the joint. Roast in the centre of the oven for ten minutes, then take the joint out and brush the top and remaining side with the rest of the glaze. Return the gammon to the oven for a further 10-15

minutes, rotating the roasting tin so that the opposite side of the gammon faces the back of the oven.

The gammon is ready when the fat on top is glossy and golden brown. Cover loosely with foil if the top begins to look too brown. Remove the gammon from the oven and set aside to rest for 15 minutes before carving.

Pour any juices that have collected in the aluminum foil into a small pan, and warm through gently.

Carve the gammon, serve on a large platter and spoon over the warmed juices.

Festive roast potatoes



Ingredients:

10 large King Edward potatoes, peeled, cut into large chunks
50g/1¾oz. lard, dripping or vegetable oil
2 pinches sea salt

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6.

Simmer the potatoes in a large pan of salted boiling water for 4-5 minutes, or until the outside of the potatoes are beginning to soften.

Thoroughly drain the potatoes and briefly shake them around in the colander or pan to roughen up the edges.

Melt the lard in a deep flameproof roasting tray on a high heat and fry the potatoes on each side until they begin to brown.

Sprinkle with salt, to taste, and roast for 30 minutes, or until starting to colour.

Turn the potatoes and return to the oven for a further 20-30 minutes, or until golden-brown and crisp

Christmas carrots

Ingredients:

9 medium carrots, peeled, topped and tailed
250g/9oz. butter
150g/5½oz. sugar
3 tsp salt
4 star anise

Method:

Use a clean scourer to smooth the carrots and remove any peel marks (optional).

In a pan combine 400ml/14fl oz. of water, the butter, sugar, salt and star anise. Bring to the boil, then reduce the heat to a gentle simmer and add the carrots. Cook until the carrots are tender (approximately 45 minutes) and the volume of liquid has reduced by half.

Serve the carrots as a side dish with the reduced cooking liquid poured over.

Sherry trifle



Ingredients:

1 packet trifle sponges, broken into 5cm/2in pieces
½ packet of amaretti biscuits or 150g/5oz macarons or ratafias
150ml/5fl oz. sweet sherry
1 tbsp cognac
4 tbsp blackberry or raspberry jam
450g/1 lb. fresh blackberries
450g/1 lb. fresh raspberries
85g/3oz toasted flaked almonds
600ml/1 pint ready-made custard

For the syllabub topping

125ml/4fl oz. sherry
2 tbsp brandy
1 lemon, juice only
55g/2oz. caster sugar
425ml/15fl oz. double cream
freshly grated nutmeg

To garnish

2 oranges, grated zest only
85g/3oz. flaked almonds

Method:

Lay the sponge pieces and biscuits in the base of a deep glass dish. Spoon over the sherry and cognac and leave to soak in for a few minutes.

Warm the jam until it is runny then pour over the soaked sponge and biscuits. Sprinkle the fruit and flaked almonds on top then pour over the custard.

To make the syllabub topping, place the sherry, brandy and lemon juice into a bowl and stir in the sugar until it dissolves.

Pour in the cream with a pinch of nutmeg. Whisk together using a wire balloon whisk until it holds its shape. Don't over-whisk, or whisk too vigorously, as the cream may split.

Spoon the syllabub over the trifle and chill, preferably overnight.

Just before serving, scatter with the grated orange rind and/or flaked toasted almonds.

Black Bun

Ingredients:

For the pastry:
300g/10½oz. plain flour
75g/3oz. lard, cubed
75g/3oz. butter, cubed
pinch salt
½ tsp baking powder
1 free-range egg, beaten, for glazing
For the filling:
200g/7oz. plain flour
300g/10½oz. raisins
300g/10½oz. currants



This month gather friends and family around and eat perhaps a bit more than you should and celebrate Christmas and Hogmanay with a great range of food and drink. From our table to yours-Happy Holidays!

½ tsp. ground ginger
½ tsp. ground cinnamon
½ tsp. ground allspice
½ tsp. mixed spice
¼ tsp. ground black pepper
100g/3½oz. dark muscovado sugar
100g/3½oz. mixed peel, chopped
½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
2 tbsp. whisky
1 free-range egg
3 tbsp buttermilk

Method:

For the pastry, sift the flour into a bowl and rub in the lard and butter until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add the salt, baking powder and four tablespoons of cold water and mix to a soft dough. Turn out and knead into a ball. Wrap in cling film and leave to chill in the fridge while you make the filling.

Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4 (fan 160C).

For the filling, mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl.

Line a 900g/2lb loaf tin with baking parchment. On a lightly floured surface, roll out two thirds of the pastry to a rectangle large enough to line the tin. Drape into the tin and press up against the sides. Spoon the filling into the tin, pressing down to compress.

Roll out three quarters of the remaining pastry to a rectangle large enough to cover the tin. Dampen the edges of the pastry with water and press the pastry lid on top to seal. Trim the edges and crimp using the tines of a fork. Roll out the remaining pastry, along with any trimmings, and use to make a bow to decorate the top, then attach with a little water.

Glaze with beaten egg and bake for two hours. Remove from the oven and leave to cool in the tin before turning out.

Spiced mulled wine

Ingredients:

½ bottle red wine
1 cinnamon stick
2 star anise
2 cloves
1 orange, sliced
1 lemon, sliced
50g/1¾oz. brown sugar

Method:

Place all of the ingredients into a saucepan and simmer gently for 6-8 minutes, without boiling. Alternatively, place the ingredients in your slow cooker and cook on low until warm (1-2 hours, depending on your slow cooker).

To serve, pour the mulled wine into heatproof glasses.

Share a Story about Rosslyn Chapel



People around the world are being invited to share a story about Rosslyn Chapel, as part of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022, with the aim of adding a variety of personal reminiscences to the Chapel's archive.

Rosslyn Chapel, which was founded in 1446, has featured in a number of stories, most notably Dan Brown's novel, *The Da Vinci Code*, which led to a large increase in visit to the Midlothian site. The Chapel has, though, attracted visitors for generations, with early visitors recording their stories in travel journals. In one of the earliest, Thomas Kirk describes the story of the Apprentice Pillar in his *Tours in Scotland*, dated 12 August 1677. Now, Rosslyn Chapel Trust is looking to add stories and memories of more recent visits to its archives.

Ian Gardner, Director of Rosslyn Chapel Trust, said: 'We often hear stories and memories about Rosslyn Chapel and now we want to record these for the future as part of our archive. This year, designated Scotland's Year of Stories 2022, provides the perfect opportunity for us to do that. Whether you have visited in the past, or attended an event,

a church service, wedding or concert, please share your story with us so that we can pass it on to future generations.'

Stories can be emailed to learning@rosslynchapel.com or shared through Rosslyn Chapel Trust's Facebook page. A selection of stories will be published on the Chapel's website.

Rosslyn Chapel was built for Sir William St Clair and was incomplete when he died in 1484. The beauty of its setting and the mysterious symbolism of its ornate stonework have inspired, attracted and intrigued visitors ever since. The Chapel came to worldwide prominence when it featured in the novel *The Da Vinci Code* and the subsequent film. The Chapel is open to visitors daily and tickets can be booked on the Chapel's website www.rosslynchapel.com

Led by VisitScotland, the Year of Stories 2022 sustains and builds upon the momentum of preceding Themed Years, showcasing a nationwide programme of major events and community celebrations. Scotland's Year of Stories 2022 spotlights, celebrates and promotes the wealth of stories inspired by, written, or created in Scotland.

Castle of Light returns to the capital this winter with all new illuminated trail



Edinburgh Castle will transform into a 'Kingdom of Colours' this winter as the capital's most iconic landmark is illuminated with state-of-the-art projections to highlight stories from Scotland's history. Guests can expect a truly immersive experience as Edinburgh Castle is brought to life once again through spectacular light and sound displays to brighten up the darker months. Bursting with colour and spectacular illuminations, the Kingdom of Colours theme promises to offer visitors the chance to see the castle in a whole new light this winter. Set to showcase the castle's stories as 'defender of the nation', the historic moments dating back 800 years will be displayed through many thematic zones.

Drawing inspiration from kaleidoscope patterns, this year's projections include a mix of geometric designs depicting stories from Scotland's past, transforming the castle with light, sound and wonder like never before. Stephen Duncan, Director of Marketing

and Engagement at Historic Environment Scotland, which operates Edinburgh Castle, said: "We're excited to be back for another year but this time we're bringing together even more storytelling, music and extraordinary displays to build our biggest show to date. We felt it was important that we continued to bring light and joy to the capital during the darker months. We hope that much of the community and visitors to the city are able to experience the wonder of Castle of Light in 2022."

Castle of Light is now on until Friday 30 December 2022. For more information visit: www.castleoflight.scot.



Scottish Murders Podcast presents Scottish Collaboration

Podcasts, in 2021 it was reported that there were between 850,000 and 1 million active podcasts, and over 48 million total podcast episodes out there, with the majority of podcasts coming from the United States of America. However, just like with the breath-taking scenery and mouth-watering food, Scotland too boasts some fantastic podcasts and content.

One such podcast is *Scottish Murders*, which is hosted by Scottish sisters Dawn and Cole, and have been releasing regular podcast episodes since July 2021. *Scottish Murders* is a podcast dedicated entirely to murders of Scottish people or murders that have taken place in Scotland. While *Scottish Murders* covers some truly barbaric murders and highlights a darker side to Bonnie Scotland, it also ensures to showcase some good points about the area where a murder took place too.

Dawn, one of the hosts of *Scottish Murders*, had the idea to bring together as many Scottish podcasters as possible and for them to collaborate together, to really showcase some fantastic Scottish podcasts from genres such as comedy, sport, news, society and leisure, television and film, education, arts and of course true crime. The Scottish Collaboration is an online event that has been organised to take place from

Monday 5th December to Sunday 11th December 2022. However, once Dawn had begun the journey of contacting Scottish podcasters to bring them together for this event, the scope broadened slightly, and now small Scottish businesses and musicians will also be taking part in the event so their products and talents can also be showcased.

All information about the Scottish Collaboration as well as details of all participants taking part, can be found at www.scottishmurders.com/collab and a full daily schedule of what's happening on each podcast will be available there closer to the event taking place. Follow *Scottish Murders* on social media or check out #scottishcollab to ensure you don't miss a thing.





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Welcome to our "Clansified" listing of Scottish Clans, Societies and Clubs. If you would like to add your Clan please contact our office for full details. Our contacts are located on page 2. If you are contacting your Clan be sure to tell them you saw them in *the Scottish Banner* and please support these great community organisations.

Clan Baird Society Worldwide

Membership is open to those descended from Baird, Barde, Bard, Beard, Beaird, Brd, Bayard, Bardt, Barth and Biard or varied spellings of the name of Scottish origin.

In addition to the Society newsletter and the opportunity to associate with fellow clansman members may query the Society genealogist. **For information write:**

Dr. Debra J. Baird, President

3491 County Road 3459, Haleyville, AL 35565
Email: djbaird4@gmail.com

Regional Directors for Australia

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



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

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President: Mr Norman A. Macdonald

Contact: secretary.clandonaldvic@gmail.com

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CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE

Hon Chief: Mr Lindsay McDonald

Contact: secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com

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



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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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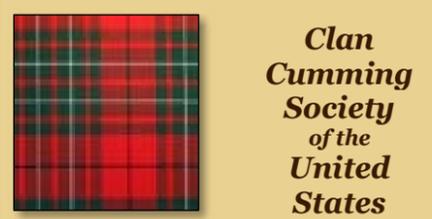
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Clan Donnachaidh Society of New South Wales Inc., Australia

Duncan Robertson Reid

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

For information and membership application, contact Richard Harvey, Secretary
Email: c2100575@uon.edu.au

Clan Fraser Society of Australia

Invites all Frasers and Fraser sept 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

Family of Bruce International, Inc.

Family of Bruce International, Inc., the only such organization recognized by the hereditary chief of the Name of Bruce, The Rt. Hon. Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, is a non-profit organization established to create kinship amongst its family members and promote interest in the Family of Bruce and its history. Membership is open to persons who qualify by surname, by descent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle, Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.

Membership inquiries should be directed to:

Donald E. Bruce President 1051 Eagle Ridge Trail Stillwater, Minnesota 55082	Polly A. (Bruce) Tilford, Secretary 5561 Earl Young Road Bloomington, IN 47408 www.familyofbruceinternational.org
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Clan Davidson Society in Australia Inc.

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

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

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

UK: London & Southern Counties * Rannoch & Highlands
Canada: Ontario * Western Canada
Australia: New South Wales * Victoria * Queensland * Western Australia
New Zealand: New Zealand
Europe: Spain
Africa: South Africa
USA: Arizona * Carolinas * Florida * Gulf Coast * Mid-Atlantic * New Mexico * Mid-West * Northeast * Northern California * Pacific Northwest * Rocky Mountains * South * Southern California * Texas * Upper Mid-West

Visit our website to learn more about Clan Donnachaidh, our History & Traditions, the Clan Museum in Scotland, the DNA Project, the new Struan Kirk Appeal, & locate a Branch near you.
<http://www.donnachaidh.com/>
Facebook: [The Clan Donnachaidh Society](https://www.facebook.com/TheClanDonnachaighSociety)
Email: ivc@donnachaighd.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

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

Clan Donald Australia

"under the patronage of the High Council of the Chiefs of Clan Donald"

High Commissioner Mr A. Neil Macdonald

State Commissioners
NSW Mr John Currie
Qld Mr A. Neil Macdonald
SA Mr Michael Murphy
Vic Mr Norman A Macdonald
WA Ms Pamela McDonald

secretary.clandonaldustralia@gmail.com

There is no joy without Clan Donald

Edmonstone Clan Society

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

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

Clan Gregor Society

Established 1822, Edinburgh, Scotland
Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balghidder,
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
PO Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876
kmac1@optonline.net
Peter Lawrie, Secretary
6 The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL Scotland



THE CLAN CAMPBELL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

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

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

Clan Donald Queensland

Commissioner: Neil Macdonald
Ph: 0412 090990
Email: clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au
Web: www.clandonaldqld.org
ELIGIBILITY: Those with the name of MacDonald Macdonald McDonald McDonell, Donald, OR of one of the Septs of Clan Donald, OR with a connection through family lineage.
There is no joy without Clan Donald

Elliot Clan Society, U.S.A.

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

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

Website: www.elliotclan-usa.com

Clan Gregor Society Australasia

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

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

CLAN CARRUTHERS SOCIETY -INTERNATIONAL-

Clan Chief
Peter Carruthers of Holmains
(Honorary Society President)

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

www.clancarrutherssociety.org
clancarrutherssociety@gmail.com

Clan Donald 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 Farquharson and descendants of Sept family names. Please contact the association by mail to:

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

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

Clan Hamilton Society

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

CLAN 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

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

THE MACLEODS

RICH IN HIGHLAND TRADITIONS
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WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG
A.L. MACLEOD
3923 ROCKWOOD WAY #B
WEST VALLEY CITY, UT
84120-6880

Clan Hay Australia

A' Hay A' Hay
A callout to all Hay's and our name variants, descendants, and supporters. Clan Hay looking for new members to join our illustrious Clan. All descendants and supporter's welcome.
Alderston; Ayer; Bagra; Beagrie; Conn (Aberdeenshire only); Constable; Delahaye; Delgaty; Du Plessis; Dupplin; Errol; Garrow; Geary; Gifford; Hayden; Haye; Hayes; Hayler; Haynes; Hays; Hayton; Hayward; Hey; Hye; Kinnou; Laxfirth; Leask*; Leith; Locherworth; Logie; Macara; MacGaradh; McKester; Peebles; Phillips (Aberdeenshire only); Slains; Turriff; Tweeddale; Yester; Zester
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](https://www.facebook.com/clanHayAustralia)

Clan Little Society, Inc.

Welcoming Little/Lyttle/Lytle and the like.
• Promoting our Scottish heritage
• Hosting tents at Scottish games
• Connecting our families
• Maintaining our genealogy and DNA
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MacLaren

Clan Labhran
Clan MacLaren Society of Australia
Information about the Clan and application for CMSA membership is available on the website or via the email address below.
Membership is open to MacLarens (all spellings), Septs, individuals and families with an association to the Clan.
<https://clanmaclarenau.org/>
clanmaclarenau@gmail.com

Clan Macnachten Association Worldwide

Descendants and Septs of the 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!
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Paperback available through Amazon.com, Amazon.co.uk, Amazon.ca

Clan Hay

April Rich
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); Hays(s); Hayne(s); Hey(s); Alderston; Arml; Ayer(s); Constable; Con(n); De La Haye; Delgatie; Delgaty; D' Ay(e); Della'h'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.clanhay.com

McAlpin/e

and variant spellings
Commander: Michael T. McAlpin
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Website: <https://macalpein.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 Henderson Society

The MacEanruigs, proud sons of Henry, invite you to join!
Purposes of the Society
• Foster Scottish culture and activities
• Promote Scottish festivals and games
• Assist in genealogical research
• Foster fellowship among kith and kin
• Promote the history of Scotland
• Promote charitable and educational activities via a scholarship fund
• Gather the Clan, as directed by our Chief,
Alistair of Fordell
Contact: Jeff Henderson
jeffh@bigpond.com
0439 330 012
www.clanhendersonsociety.com

Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.

Valerie McDougall
VP Membership
505-470 Scenic Drive, London, ON
N5Z 3B2
Email: info@macdougall.org Home page: www.macdougall.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/clanmacdougall
Names Associated with Clan MacDougall of Argyll and Clan MacDowall of Galloway
Coul MacCoul MacCoul
Conacher MacConacher MacCoyler
Dole MacDole MacDill
Doual MacDoual McDougal
Dougall MacDougall MacDougald
Dougle McDougle MacDouglid
Dugal MacDugal MacDugle
Dowall MacDowall MacDowall
MacDowell MacDowell MacDowell
Lulich MacLulich MacCullach
MacCulloch MacCulloch MacCullagh
MacClintock MacClintock MacClintock
MacHale MacHoul MacTheul
MacHowell MacHowan MacCowan
MacKichan M'Gowall MacNameil
MacLucas MacLugash MacLuke
Spelling Variations May Vary or Omit the Mac, Mc

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- Highland Games
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www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com

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, Twitter, & Instagram
[@ClanMacNeilUSA](https://www.instagram.com/ClanMacNeilUSA)

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
High Commissioner: Richard Rex Hope
highcommissionerusa@clanhope.org
Membership Chair: Cynthia Hope Henderson
membership@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org
CANADA
Commissioner: Scott Hale
commissioner@clanhope.ca
www.clanhope.ca
SCOTLAND
Commissioner: Colin Douglas Hope
commissionerscotland@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ClanHopeofCraighall>

INTERNATIONAL CLAN MACFARLANE SOCIETY, INC

The OFFICIAL Clan MacFarlane Society
Founded 1911 - Glasgow & London
Re-established - 1973 Grandfather Mountain, NC
Lugh Slay! We welcome all descendants of Clan MacFarlane from around the world!
Michael R. MacFarlane, FSA Scot - President
Richard G. Kilby, FSA Scot - Treasurer
John K. Manchester - Secretary
International Clan MacFarlane Society, Inc.
PO Box 359 Eldersburg, CA 91740 USA
info@macfarlane.org
Arms of the International Clan MacFarlane Society granted by Lord Lyon, King of Arms, 16 February, 2000
MACFARLANE.ORG

Clan MacLellan

John B. McClellan, Jr.
Treasurer
383 Ash Brook Lane
Sunnyvale, TX
75182-3250
Email: treasurer@clanmaclellan.net
Invites all MacLellans and their descendants regardless of surname spelling to join in preserving our heritage.
Various family names are MacLellan(d), McClellan(d), McLellan(d) and Gilliland.
Visit our website: www.clanmaclellan.net

Clan MacNicol

Chief: John MacNeacail
of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac
Contact: Secretary Mal Nicolson
PO Box 243
GYMEA NSW 2227
www.clanmacnicol.org

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 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 Septs:**
Askey MacAndie MacClure
Beaton MacAskill MacCorkill MacWilliam
Bethune MacAulay MacCrimmon Norie
Caskie MacCabe MacGillechallum Norman
Harold MacCaig MacHaigh Tolmie
Lewis MacCaskey MacRaid 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

Clan Macpherson Association

Clan Macpherson welcomes enquiries from Macphersons and members of our Associated families. For information about local activities visit our web site www.clan-macpherson.org/branches
Africa: Derek Macpherson
African.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +265 999 512 620
Australia: John L. Macpherson
Australian.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +61 409 122 141
Canada: Denise Lagundzin
Canada.Chair@clan-macpherson.org
phone +1 519 507 4465
England & Wales: William Macpherson
EandW.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +44 7877 363 507
Europe: Will Tulling
Europe.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +31 655 774 425
New Zealand: Tony McPherson
NewZealand.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +64 274 587 813
Scotland & Northern Ireland: Annie Le Roy-Lewis
SandN.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +44 7793 317 387
USA: Robert T. McPherson
UnitedStates.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org
phone +1 360 701 8133
The Clan Macpherson Museum is located in Newtonmore, Inverness Shire PH20 1DE, at the junction of the A86 and B9150 It is open from 1st April to 31st October.
Ph +44 1540 673 332. See <http://www.clan-macpherson.org/museum/>



The Clan MacRae Society of Australia and New Zealand

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

Australian Contact:

Roslyn MacRae 0412 291 054 email: learn@vsr.com.au
NZ Contact: Sue Tregoweth email: sue.treg1@gmail.com



Clan Ross in Australia

for information contact Commander Des Ross
(By appointment David Ross Bt Chief of Clan Ross and Balnagowan)
We would be pleased to hear from anyone with Ross Clan heritage and interest.

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



Clan Sutherland Society 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 Scottish Australian Heritage Council



Membership is welcome from all of Scottish descent.

For information please contact
members@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au



www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au



Clan MacRae Society of North America

Granted Arms in 2008

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

www.macrae.org

Need more info? Contact:
Bruce McRae, President
303-670-9611
brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com

Clan Ross America

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

www.clanross.org



YOUNG

Clan Young Australia

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

Convenor: Ian J Young AM FSAScot

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

www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/

Scottish Gaelic

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during school terms at

Faraday Street, Carlton and on Zoom.

Contact: Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277

Email: scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

Founded in 1905

<https://www.scottishgaelicvictoria.com>



Clan Maitland Society

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

North America: Rosemary Maitland Thom
rthomnvprdcn@aol.com www.clanmaitlandna.org

Australia: Amanda Maitland clanmaitland@yahoo.com.au
6/1 Hinemoa Ave. Normanhurst, NSW, 2076

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

We welcome all with Maitland, Lauderdale, Maitlen and similar name spelling. See the entire list and your family history at:
www.clanmaitland.org.uk



Clan Scott Australia Group

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

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

E: heatherdesylva@bigpond.com



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

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

Email: clanwardlaw@yahoo.com

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com

Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

Còisir Ghàidhlig Bhiocòiria

Scottish Gaelic Choir of Victoria

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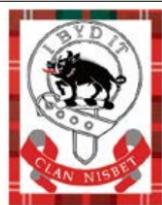
Contact Raghnaid NicGaraidh

rachel.hay@inet.net.au

NESBITT - NISBET SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

Clan Nisbet, a Borders family, welcomes new members worldwide. Whether you're a Nesbit, Nisbet, or one of the many other spelling variations, we encourage you to inquire.

Head to our official website to learn about our proud heritage. Our must-read section, "Notable Nisbets" chronicles Alexander Nisbet, Scotland's famous author of heraldry and other renowned ancestors.



www.nisbet.org

NISBET@NISBET.ORG



Clan Sinclair Australia

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

For further info contact

President: WayneSinclair 0417 146 174

Secretary : Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263

E: clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com

www.clansinclairaustralia.com



Caledonian Society of WA Inc.

Promotes Scottish Culture and Traditions in Perth, Western Australia

For further details contact John: 0427 990 754

Email: caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com

www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER



The Society of St. Andrew of Scotland (Queensland) Limited
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www.standrewsociety.com

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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.stewartociety.org



Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc

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

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

Web: hvscoats.org Email: hunterscoats@gmail.com
P.O. Box 34, Kotara NSW 2289

Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group

Supporting the Scottish Community in Victoria

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

E-mail: resource_centre@scotsofaus.org.au

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

Facebook: facebook.com/ScotsofVictoria



Clan Pollock

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

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



Clan 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

The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne Inc.



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

For Membership Information contact:

Secretary: Noel Wright (03) 8333 0973

Email: noelwright@netspace.net.au

Victorian Scottish Union Inc

Established 1905

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

Affiliated Clans & Societies

Brunswick Scottish Society	Glenbrae Celtic Dancers
Clan Donald Victoria	Maryborough Highland Society
Clan Grant	Scottish Country Dance Society of Victoria
Clan Hay	Robert Burns Scottish Festival Camperdown
Clan Macdonald of Yarraville	The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne
Clan Sinclair	Warrambool & District Caledonian Society
Geelong Scottish Dance	Warrambool Highland Dance

Chief : Mr Grant McKinna
President Norman Macdonald
Secretary Jan Macdonald

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

Highland Games in heart of Scotland to showcase the future of 5G TV production

Highland Games in the heart of Scotland is at the forefront of a pioneering project trialling future television production in remote locations using 5G and involving world-leading broadcasters. While this year's Pitlochry Highland Games in Perthshire took place in September, some of the action was transmitted live using a local private shared spectrum 5G network to the International Broadcasting Conference (IBC) in Amsterdam – where an estimated 40,000 dedicated technologists and engineers from the worldwide media community attended the show.

The breakthrough project aims to demonstrate just how portable and flexible a private 5G 'Network in a Box' can be for live television production use cases, by taking it to some truly remote global locations, as well as to the IBC show itself. The project is trialling production over 5G for broadcasters, including BBC Research & Development, BT Sport, BT Media & Broadcast, TV2, Paramount, Olympic Broadcasting Services and RTÉ. The private 5G stand-alone network has been designed and engineered and integrated by local technology spin-out, Neutral Wireless Ltd, working alongside the University of Strathclyde's Software Defined Radio (StrathSDR) engineering team and the Scotland 5G Centre rural testbed project.

Celebration of Scottish identity

The technology will be housed in an unassuming box with antenna, situated in a corner of the balcony at the main event



A hammer thrower at the Highland Games.

pavilion. As dancers perform to bagpipes and cabers fly through the air, the games will be provided with a dedicated bandwidth using shared spectrum, with no interference or capacity issues affecting the quality of transmission - even in big crowds where many consumers and visitors are using their mobile phones and the local WiFi.

Paul Coffey, CEO of The Scotland 5G Centre said: "It is great to see that 5G capability can communicate the celebration of Scottish identity at the Pitlochry Highland Games to our broadcast colleagues in Amsterdam. This is a significant use case from our partners at the University of Strathclyde as it demonstrates the portability of a private 5G standalone 'network-in-a-box' and opens up numerous possibilities for future use of 5G technology in live television broadcasts."

Mark Smith, Head of the IBC Accelerator Media Innovation Programme, added: "Pitlochry will help us show that 5G remote production can happen anywhere. We are trialling in four remote areas of the world, in Ireland, in Kenya, New Zealand, as well as Pitlochry, which provides the perfect opportunity to focus on a private 5G network, relaying the learnings to the worldwide media & entertainment technology community."

The Maryborough Highland Gathering *A new year celebration like no other*



Girl on the Drum.

There aren't too many events in Australia that can claim to have thrived and survived for over 150 years and after a two-year hiatus, the Maryborough Highland Gathering is back for its 160th instalment this New Year's Day. Maryborough's Highland Gathering was originally formed by Scottish squatters and businessmen in an attempt to recreate the New Year celebrations of their native home.

Today, the Highland Gathering attracts people from all across the country – athletes, dancers, musicians, and those who just want to soak up the incredible atmosphere of piped bands and traditional Scottish culture. The program has something for everyone.

A great way to celebrate the new year

A piped band street parade, all-day athletics, highland dancing on two stages all day, Highland games and traditional strongmen event. Track events on the day range from 70-metre sprints to middle-distance races over 1500 metres. There are events for both men and women, including veterans.

The athletics program culminates with the running of the \$15,000 Max Martin Memorial Maryborough Gift, contested over 120 metres; now one of the country's most prestigious footraces. Anyone who's attended the event over the past 35 years will have a lasting memory of the Girl on the Drum spectacular that has become a highlight of the New Year celebrations. It features a highland dancer atop a base drum, lifted to the shoulders of three burly Scots. Flanked by a full piped band and other traditional dancers, it really is a sight and sound spectacular not to be missed. There is plenty to keep the kids entertained too, with games, sideshows and rides happening throughout the day. The day concludes with a free evening concert and fireworks display – a great way to celebrate the new year.

The Maryborough Highland Gathering takes place on January 1st, 2023 in Maryborough, Victoria. Entry to Princes Park is \$16 for adults, \$8 for seniors, with children under 16 free. For more information call 03 5461 1480 or visit www.highlandsociety.com.au.

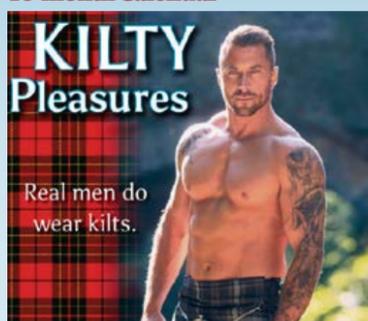


The tradition of the pipes and drums.

2023 SCOTLAND CALENDARS

Let Scotland into your home or office and enjoy the view each month with these great Scottish themed calendars. A great gift for loved ones and that includes yourself! Titles can sell out before Christmas so please order early to avoid disappointment.

Kilty Pleasures 2023 16-month Calendar



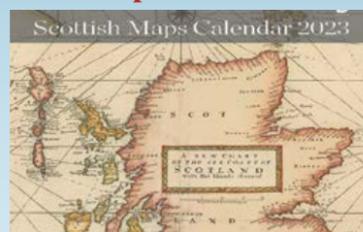
Indulge in a little kilty pleasure with these handsome Highland hunks! Each month features a different luscious lad showing off his finely sculpted physique, and his favourite tartan, of course. Paired with tongue-in-cheek sayings about men in kilts. **\$24.95 plus \$13.50 postage.**

Majestic Scotland Calendar 2023



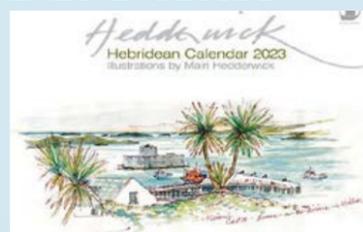
Featuring Highland coos, castles, the Kelpies, lochs, the Highlands, coastlines and more. Enjoy a stunning Scottish view every month! Beautiful colours and practical calendar, lots of room for notes on 250 GSM paper, A4 wire bound, opening to A3. **\$19.95 plus \$5.50 postage (for up to 2 calendars).**

Scottish Maps Calendar 2023



Produced in collaboration with the National Library of Scotland., this calendar features more of the most beautiful maps of Scotland ever made. From the very earliest representations of Scotland in the second century AD, through the first printed maps of the 16th century and the achievement of the Ordnance Survey in the 1920s and 1930s to the most recent satellite imagery, these images tell the story of a nation. **\$24.95 plus \$13.50 postage.**

Hebridean Calendar 2023



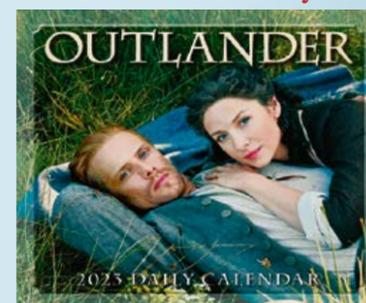
Features distinctive full-colour paintings by one of Scotland's best-loved authors and artists and is a wonderful celebration of the extraordinary natural beauty of the Hebrides throughout the seasons. Mairi Hedderwick's drawings, produced over a period of more than forty years, capture unique character and diversity, from wind-swept moors and dramatic cliffs to rolling hills and secluded woods. **\$24.95 plus \$13.50 postage.**

Outlander 2023 16-month Wall Calendar



The Outlander series is loved by fans around the world, and this calendar is filled with gorgeous images of your favourite characters. Based on the popular book series by international best-selling author Diana Gabaldon, photos of the characters from the TV series are featured in this captivating calendar. **\$24.95 plus \$13.50 postage.**

Outlander 2023 Boxed Daily Calendar



In season five of the popular Outlander TV series, Jamie & Claire fight for their family and home amidst the birth of America and the Revolutionary War, encountering danger, romance, time travel, and historical drama! Filled with gorgeous photos and trivia you flip thru daily from all six seasons. **\$19.95 plus \$10.00 postage.**

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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

DECEMBER 2022

St Andrew's Day Ceilidh Dance 1, Melbourne, VIC

What better way to have a St. Andrew's Day celebration than with a high energy Ceilidh Dance! Gather some friends for a fun night out with music by Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club with new dance set tunes & some old favourites at 140 Hoddle St, Abbotsford. Info: Book now at <https://www.trybooking.com/CDFDF> or see www.melbournetartanfestival.com.au

Daylesford Highland Gathering 3, Daylesford, VIC

This Gathering includes a captivating Street March in the Main Street of Daylesford and a full days Drumming, Piping and Dancing at Victoria Park, also a variety of Scottish Clans and clubs, stalls and more. The end of the day is heralded spectacularly with the Massed Bands, which is a spine-tingling experience. Info: www.daylesfordhighland.com

Caledonian Society of WA Ceilidh 3, Inglewood, WA

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

Hunter Valley Scots Club Christmas Function 7, Teralba, NSW

Join the Hunter Valley Scots Club and celebrate the festive season at Teralba Hall. Info: hunterscots@gmail.com

"At the Tattoo" with Glenbrae 10, Hallam, VIC

We haven't been able to go to Scotland for the Tattoo so we have decided to bring some of the Tattoo to you. Scottish and Irish Dancing Displays, Marching Groups and more at Hallam Community Theatre. Info: www.trybooking.com/CCNIE

Scottish Country Dancing 15, Darwin, NT

The Arafura Scottish Dancers meet every Thursday evening from 6pm - 8pm at the Masonic Hall, Stokes St, Parap. Beginners welcome. Info: Mara 0438 842 138.

A Celtic Christmas 15, Melbourne, VIC

Featuring Claymore, Saoirse, The Glenbrae Celtic Dancers, Hawthorn Pipe Band and special international guest Manus McGuire all the way from Slaigo in Ireland at Chapel Off Chapel. Info: www.chapelloffchapel.com.au/show/a-celtic-christmas

Happy Christmas/A Blithe Yule/Nollaig Chridheil 25, Nationwide

Wishing all our readers, advertisers and friends a very happy and peaceful Christmas!

Happy Hogmanay 31, Nationwide

The Scottish Banner wishes all our readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2023!

Caledonian Society of WA Hogmanay Ceilidh 31, Inglewood, WA

Bring in the new year with us, all ages welcome. Music by the Heel n Toe Ceilidh Band. Come and enjoy a really fun night out at Bob Daniels Community Centre, 895 Beaufort St. Info: John: 0427990754 or www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

Hogmanay Ceilidh 31, Home Hill, QLD

A Scottish and Irish themed party celebrating New Year's Eve at Burdekin Memorial Hall, 77 Ninth Ave. Info: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/966969

JANUARY 2023

Maryborough Highland Gathering 1, Maryborough, VIC

Australia's oldest continuous running sporting event, with pipe bands, Scottish dancers, stalls and more. Info: www.highlandsociety.com.au/highland-gathering

Scottish Weekender 20-22, Glenworth Valley, NSW

Burns Supper and Ceilidh in the Valley. Info: www.scottishweekender.com

Happy Burns Night 25, Nationwide

Celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Scottish poet Robert Burns. The tradition of the Burns Night Supper was first held in 1801 by the poet's friends, five years after his death.

2023 St Andrew's Burns Supper 25, Perth, WA

Celebrate the Bard with the Saint Andrew Society of Western Australia at the Pan Pacific Hotel, 207 Adelaide Terrace. Info: www.saintandrew.org.au

Happy Australia Day 26, Nationwide

Wishing all our readers a wonderful Australia Day!

New Zealand

DECEMBER 2022

St Andrews Day Ceilidh 2022 3, Tawa

Craic n Ceilidh and the Red Hackle Pipe Band biannual ceilidh. Get on your dancing shoes, grab a partner and join for a night of dancing and music at Pipe Band Hall, Redwood Railway Station. Info: www.facebook.com/WellingtonRedHackle

St Andrew's Day Piping Recital 3, Parnell, Auckland

Clan Cameron Auckland invite you to a piping recital with Finlay Cameron at Parnell Cricket Club, 5pm. Info: www.facebook.com/ClanCameronNZ

The Kilmarnock Edition: Embracing a Scottish & Irish Spirit 4, Christchurch

The group features mainly Scottish and Irish songs; serious and amusing, harmonies and instrumentals are a feature, with audience participation welcomed. The band members perform in their kilts at Christchurch Folk Music Club, 29 Domain Terrace, Spreydon. Info: www.folkmusic.org.nz/kilmarnock-edition

Wellington Gaelic Club Ceilidh 10, 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

Jenny Mair Highland Square Day 10, Palmerston North

The day begins at 8.30am with bagpipe and drum solos ranging from novice to A grade and attracts some of New Zealand's best musicians. Info: www.manawatuscottishsociety.com

Happy Christmas/A Blithe Yule/Nollaig Chridheil 25, Nationwide

Wishing all our readers, advertisers and friends a very happy and peaceful Christmas!

RSCDS Auckland Summer School 28- January 5, Auckland

Summer School is a fantastic opportunity to improve your Scottish country dancing, attend amazing evening events and meet dancers from across NZ. All ability levels welcome. Celebrate the New Year in traditional Scottish Country Dancing style. Info: www.dancescottish.org.nz

Happy Hogmanay 31, Nationwide

The Scottish Banner wishes all our readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2023!

JANUARY 2023

Waipu Highland Games 1, Waipu

One of the longest-running Scottish gatherings in the Southern Hemisphere, offering fierce competition, spectacular entertainment and a full day of family-friendly fun. Info: www.waipuhighlandgames.co.nz

Royal New Zealand Pipe Bands' Association Summer School 11-15, Christchurch

The RNZPBA Summer School is the perfect opportunity to learn from world class tutors, alongside your mates and showcases some of the best talent New Zealand has to offer. With international and domestic tutors across all disciplines, this is the best way to kick start your piping or drumming year held at St Andrew's College. Info: www.rnzpba.com/summer-school

Happy Burns Night 25, Nationwide

Celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Scottish poet Robert Burns. The tradition of the Burns Night Supper was first held in 1801 by the poet's friends, five years after his death.

Boozy Burns Night 25, Wellington

Celebrate the life and poetry of Scottish poet Robert Burns with a Boozy Burns Night. A night of tributes, songs, haggis bites, music, comedy, and whisky at Secret Secret Club, 4 Bond St. Info: www.eventfinda.co.nz/2023/boozy-burns-night/wellington

Turakina Highland Games 28, Turakina

A festival celebrating all things Scottish with activities and entertainment for all ages. There will be Highland & National dancing, pipe bands, solo piping and drumming competitions and traditional Scottish Field Events, a range of local market stalls with crafts, food and refreshments. Info: www.turakinahighlandgames.co.nz

Scotland

DECEMBER 2022

The Proclaimers Scotland Tour 1-17, Various venues

Scottish twins Craig & Charlie Reid aka The Proclaimers tour Glasgow, Kilmarnock, Edinburgh, Perth, Inverness and Aberdeen. Info: www.theproclaimers.co.uk/the-gigs

The Edinburgh Christmas 10k Walk 3, Edinburgh

Join in the festivities of Edinburgh's annual Christmas festival by taking part in this charitable 10k walk. This event is for any age and any ability, since it is all about having fun, getting in the Christmas spirit and raising money for charity. Info: www.letsdothis.com/gb/e/the-edinburgh-christmas-charity-festival-10k-walk-2022-189717

The 20th Anniversary MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards 4, Dundee

The 20th annual MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards returns to the Caird Hall, showcasing and celebrating Scottish traditional music at its very best to folk fans from across the country. Known as the Folk Oscars, the 2022 MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards will feature performances from some of Scotland's leading Scottish musicians and singers. Info: <https://projects.handsupfortrad.scot/scotstradmusicawards>

Eddi Reader - 40 Years Live 5, Aviemore

Celebrating almost half a century of music, the 40 Years Live tour will see Eddi bring her signature vocals to Macdonald Aviemore Resort. Info: www.eddiereader.co.uk/gigs

Hoolie in the Hydro 17, Glasgow

The world's biggest ceilidh will feature some of the top musicians on the Scottish and Irish traditional music scene, at The Ovo Hydro. Info: www.sec.co.uk/events/detail/hoolie-in-the-hydro

Happy Christmas/A Blithe Yule/Nollaig Chridheil 25, Nationwide

Wishing all our readers, advertisers and friends a very happy and peaceful Christmas!

Hear! hear the plains are calling

11th March 2023 Hay, NSW

HAYLAND GATHERING

haylandgathering@gmail.com **0417 052 491**

Scotword answers from page 6

Across:	Down:
1 Clype	2 Lammermuir Hills
4 Carse	3 Pubs
11 Campbeltown Loch	5 Anne
12 Neep	6 Scottish Thistle
13 Roots	7 Scones
14 Stot	8 Alloa
15 Mull	9 Forth
17 Oats	10 Shotts
18 Elgin	16 Lea
20 Iona	17 Ony
21 Yett	19 Breeks
25 Echo	22 Midden
26 Wrath	23 Drams
27 Gird	24 Stays
30 Kildrummy Castle	28 Brae
31 Ashot	29 Kale
32 Leven	

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With David Keith

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Monday 2:30 to 4:30pm

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Scottish News Views & Blethers

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www.phoenixfm.org.au

Edinburgh's Hogmanay 30-January 1, Edinburgh

Hogmanay is one of the big celebrations in Edinburgh and a bucket list experience for people from around the world. With celebrations including ceilidhs to the street party, fireworks and Loony Dook on 1 January, it's the ultimate way to say goodbye to the old and welcome in the new year. Info: www.edinburghshogmanay.com

Happy Hogmanay 31, Nationwide

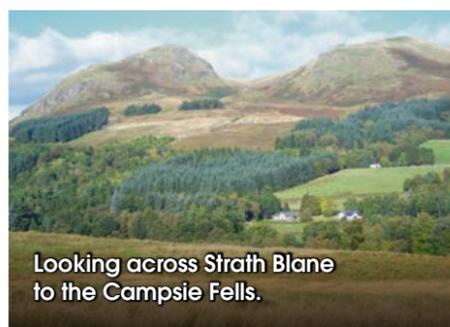
The Scottish Banner wishes all our readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2023!

Strathblane-Between the Ranges

Words and images by: David McVey



Glengoyne Distillery.



Looking across Strath Blane to the Campsie Fells.

I grew up in Kirkintilloch. Until the 1980s the town had a two-hourly bus service to Strathblane. In half-an-hour it swept us from our declining post-industrial hometown, westwards along the wooded lower slopes of the Campsie Fells, to a prosperous rural village squeezed between two hill ranges. To the west were the Kilpatricks, to the east, perhaps the most impressive face of the Campsies. In every direction there was promise for outdoor enthusiasts. I was a regular on the Strathblane bus. It was my escape to adventure.

In 1933, the prolific travel writer Ian C Lees wrote that 'The rich valley of the Blane... is the finest place for trampers within easy reach of Glasgow.' It was true then; it was true in the 1980s and it is true now. And I wish we still used the word 'tramper'. Today, though, it is perhaps easier to find peace and quiet there than in the 1930s, as the real enthusiasts hurtle north in their cars to Glencoe, the Trossachs or Arrochar.

A word about names. Blanefield (the ultimate destination of that bus from Kirkintilloch) and Strathblane are conjoined villages that straddle the A81 between Aberfoyle and Glasgow. Strathblane is the village; the valley is Strath Blane, drained by the Blane Water, a river that finally runs via the Endrick into Loch Lomond.



The Pipe Track.

An outdoor paradise

At the heart of Strathblane, where the A891 joins the A81, is the Kirkhouse Inn. It is said to date from the 17th century and happily has survived Covid. When the Kirkhouse was new, Strathblane, protected by a belt of high ground to the south, must have felt especially remote. However, in the 1860s the arrival of the railway brought the village into the Glasgow commuter belt. Owing to that high ground to the south, the trains arrived circuitously, via Kirkintilloch and Lennoxton, and the line eventually extended to Balfron and Aberfoyle. The railway lost its passenger service in 1951 and was closed completely in 1959 (our bus from Kirkintilloch, now also gone, originated as its partial replacement). But, as we will see, it's still an important travel route today.

Just north of Strathblane/Blanefield is Duntreath Castle, the home of the Edmonstone family who remain significant landowners here. The castle is private though its gardens are sometimes open to the public. In 1909 crowds flocked to Blanefield Station when King Edward VII arrived there for a visit to Duntreath. He was greeted by Sir Archibald Edmonstone of Duntreath and the Duke of Montrose. Crowds also turned out to see the King when he attended Strathblane Parish Church on the Sunday. Edward had visited Duntreath before, when he was Prince of Wales. There's speculation that he may have made other, more clandestine visits; Mrs Alice Keppel, with whom he had a long affair, was Sir Archibald's sister. Duntreath had its own small railway siding, and it has been suggested that Edward travelled on ordinary service trains and had them stop here so that he could make secret visits to Mrs Keppel at her birthplace. I am sceptical about this; the king, travelling on a humble local train that stops unexpectedly in the middle of nowhere so that he can hurry away? That would surely attract attention, not avoid it?

Nowadays the trackbed of the railway east of the village is a walking and cycle path that runs all the way to Kirkintilloch while the West Highland Way also follows the railway north-west through Strath Blane. The John Muir Way uses the path from Kirkintilloch to Strathblane and then climbs up to Mugdock before continuing through the Kilpatrick Hills. These routes all help to make Strathblane an outdoor paradise. Mugdock is also home to a much-loved country park. And then there's The Pipe Track.

Feels remote, even though it is not

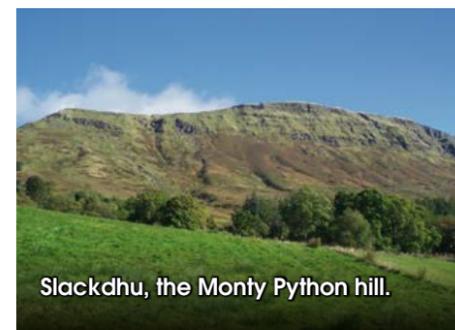
The Pipe Track begins as a quiet suburban drive, climbing steeply from Strathblane's War Memorial. A couple of hours on the track, with spectacular views ahead to the hills around Loch Lomond, will take you to the village of Killearn, from where you can take a bus back to Strathblane. But on the walk you will notice some odd stone towers and bridges. These are associated with the Loch Katrine Aqueduct which takes sweet fresh water from the Trossachs to reservoirs at Milngavie. This astonishing civil engineering project was carried out in the 1850s with the intention of providing Glasgow with clean water. Today, with an extension dating from the 1870s, it still does. The Pipe Track was originally a service road for the building of the aqueduct.

The farm of Blairquhosh, just beyond Blanefield, was famous in the early days of Scottish tourism for its Muckle Tree - sadly no longer with us except as a sad roadside stump. Further on is a current tourist draw, the Glengoyne Distillery, famous for its single malts. It is a picturesque facility with the peak of Dumgoyne towering above. Many visitors must think they are in the Highlands. The B10 bus serves Glengoyne from Glasgow and Strathblane and you can walk there using either the West Highland Way or the Pipe Track.

Returning to Strathblane's War Memorial, just across the road are some rows of cottages that were built for people

who worked in a massive now vanished calico works that once dominated the area. In 1941, during the Second World War, two landmines fell on the village. The Clydeside Blitz was raging, and it is probable that the German bombers were simply shedding their loads before heading for home. One of the landmines landed just across the road from the war memorial and destroyed a block called 'Sunnyside'. Four people were killed, including a mother and her two children who had been evacuated from Clydebank to avoid air raids. A plaque near the parish church commemorates the tragedy.

The Campsies are the dominating feature of Strathblane, with the pointy green alp of Dumgoyne and the mighty crags of Slackdhu. If Slackdhu seems familiar, it may be because you are a Monty Python fan. They stood in for South Africa in the Zulu sequence of *Monty Python's Meaning of Life*. You would not ever really mistake Strathblane for the veldt. Yet it feels remote, even though it is not.



Slackdhu, the Monty Python hill.

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