



the Scottish Banner



North American Edition



Years Strong - 1976-2016 www.scottishbanner.com

A' Bhratach Albannach

Volume 40 Number 5 The world's largest international Scottish newspaper November 2016

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The Banner Says...

St Andrew's Day and Armistice Day
Two Important days in November

By: Valerie Cairney



November 30th is a very important date on the Scottish calendar with Scots at home and across the world celebrating St Andrew's Day. St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland and the celebration on November 30th is often regarded as the start of the Scottish winter celebrations that take place. No doubt many readers will also take part in St Andrew's Day celebrations whether it be a large formal event or a smaller casual affair at home. Some may not be aware that nations such as Russia, Romania, Italy, Barbados and Greece also have St Andrew as their patron saint.

In the Scotland the early Picts modelled themselves after St Andrew as he was considered to have qualities and charisma they wished to emulate, qualities that seem to continue for Scots today. Though St Andrew was not born in Scotland, he was a native Bethsaida, and a fisherman of Capernaum and brother to Simon Peter. The people of Scotland became motivated by the good deeds as one of Christ's direct disciples. St Andrew was one of the Twelve Apostles (disciples of Jesus) and brother of St Peter. One story on St Andrew claims that he actually came to Scotland and built a church in Fife. This town is now called St Andrews, and the church became a centre for evangelism, and pilgrims came from all over Britain to pray there. Andrew's connection with Scotland relates to the legend that some of his remains were kept at the site that is now the town of St Andrews. A chapel was built to house the remains and became a place of pilgrimage.

St Andrew's Cross

When it comes to gifts given by saints, Saint Andrew has given Scotland a very special gift. That is the Saltire - the diagonal white cross on a blue background. St Andrew is believed to have died on a diagonally transversed cross which the Romans sometimes used for executions and which, therefore, came to be called St Andrews Cross. It is said that he believed himself unworthy to be crucified on a cross like that of Christ, and so he met his end on a 'saltire', or X-shaped cross (St Andrew's cross) which became his symbol. Strange as it may seem, our covenanting forefathers, do not appear to have had a lot of use for saints in general, yet do seem to have been very proud to have the St Andrew's cross on their banners. This particular saint also has his name used on more than fifty parishes which choose to claim him as their patron saint. The areas where his name is mainly used are most commonly in cathedrals, churches, educational institutions as well as some towns.

Yet although the parishes of St Andrew, have been greatly used in Scotland for churches, the name has been used also for parishes also. In fact one particular location, which is

Monike and is on the River Tay also claims connection with the saint's shrine. Today visitors to St Andrews can visit St Andrews Cathedral which is Scotland's largest and most magnificent medieval church. The cathedral dominated Scottish religion until 1560, as headquarters of the medieval Scottish Church. Even in its ruinous state, the cathedral remains a prominent landmark highly visible from the sea.

Armistice Day

But November is famous for more than St Andrew's Day- it has more to offer us than many other months do. For November also includes in its list of another very famous day - and that is Armistice Day. The first Armistice Day was held at Buckingham Palace, when King George 5th hosted a Banquet of Honour of the President of the French Republic during the evening hours of November 10, 1919. The first official Armistice Day events were subsequently held in the grounds of Buckingham Palace on the morning of 11 November 1919. This was to set a day of the trend for a day of remembrance for decades to come.

Some years later, in 1919, South African Sir Percy Fitzpatrick proposed a two-minute silence to Lord Milner, This has been a daily practice in Cape Town from April 1918 onward after being proposed by Sir Harry Hands, and within weeks it had spread through the British Commonwealth after a Reuters correspondent cabled a description of this daily ritual to London. People observed a one of more commonly a two-minute silence at 11am local time. It was first made as a sign or respect for the 20 million people who died in the war, and in the second minute dedicated to the living left behind, generally understood to be wives, children and families left behind but deeply affected by the conflict. Armistice Day - held on the 11th of this month - commemorates the signing between the allies and Germany at 11am on that date this month. Although hostilities continued in some areas, fighting the armistice, when it was first signed, it essentially brought an end to four years of fighting in the First World War.

Even today in Britain, it is tradition to pause for a two minute silence at 11am on this day to remember those killed in the two world wars and the 12,000 British servicemen killed or injured since 1945. Armistice was originally signed in French military commander Ferdinand Forch's railway carriage in the remote North of Paris at 5am on 11 November 1918 and came force six hours later at 11am (Incidentally, in 1940 Hitler forced the French to sign an armistice on German terms in the same railway carriage). Forch was in charge of leading the negotiations and signing the agreement which made it impossible for the German army to recommence fighting. The treaty of Versailles signed six

months later acted as the lasting peace treaty between the nations.

Remembrance Day vs Remembrance Sunday

Armistice Day is commonly referred to as Remembrance Day - they both refer to November 11th and this year will fall on a Friday. This should not be confused with Remembrance Sunday which always falls on the second Sunday in November and this year is on November 13th. This is the time when schools, offices and churches up and down the country usually take part in a two-minute silence at 11am on Armistice Day and hold services at war memorials - yet sometimes this also happens on Remembrance Sunday instead. November 11th is also marked around the world. After Second World War, many countries changed the name of the day from Armistice Day to Remembrance Day, while the United States chose to call it Veterans Day and the day is a federal holiday.

First Poppies

In the spring of 1915, shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, Canadian surgeon Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was inspired by the sight of poppies growing in battle-scarred fields so write the now famous poem *In Flanders Fields*. His poem moved American teacher Moina Michael who began making and selling silk poppies to friends to raise money for the ex-service community. Before long the poppies made their way to the UK and became the symbol of the Royal British Legion when it was formed in 1921. The first ever 'Poppy Appeal' in the UK that year raised over 106,000 pounds for war veterans. The following year a poppy factory was set up by Major George Howson MC, giving jobs to disabled former servicemen. Today the bright red poppy is regarded as a resilient flower which managed to flourish despite fields being destroyed by war.

In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
 Between the crosses, row on row,
 That mark our place; and in the sky
 The larks, still bravely singing, fly
 Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
 We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
 Loved and were loved, and now we lie
 In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
 To you from failing hands we throw
 The torch; be yours to hold it high.
 If ye break faith with us who die
 We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
 In Flanders fields.*

By: John McCrae, May 1915.



Lest we forget this November 11th.

Gracing our front cover: Scottish personality Neil Oliver. Photo: Nick Wilson/Foxtel.

The Toronto Police Pipe Band plays at the 10th Balmoral Classic



TPPB Northern Meeting winners, from left to right: Sean McKeown, 2016 double runner-up to the Gold Medallist, Ian K MacDonal 2016 Double Gold Medallist, and Nick Hudson, 2016 Silver Medallist, and winner of B-Grade MSR.

The Balmoral School of Piping and Drumming is proud to present the Toronto Police Pipe Band (TPPB) in concert this month in Pittsburgh. The concert will feature a mix of traditional pipe music and modern arrangements, many of which are composed or arranged by current musicians in the band. The concert will include accomplished soloists and full band sets with pipes, snare drums, tenors and bass, including sets with Irish whistles, keyboards, electric drum kit, and rope tension drums. "I'm very excited about this year's Concert!" says George

Balderose, Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Balmoral School. "We'll be featuring Irish and Scottish dancers and a performance by the superb Toronto Police Pipe Band, led by two pipers who came in first and second at Scotland's most prestigious solo contests this summer."

Vibrant musical organization

Contenders for the Grade One World Championship in Scotland, this vibrant musical organization, comprised of over 80 police and non-police members, is entering its second century, having celebrated its

centennial in 2012. Membership comes from all over the Greater Toronto, with members travelling from across Canada and the North Eastern US. "As an instructor for Balmoral School, as well as a member of Toronto Police Pipe Band, I'm especially excited to be a part of the concert," says award-winning piper, Nick Hudson. "The icing on the cake for me: the concert is in my home city of Pittsburgh, as the capstone event in a weekend featuring the top young pipers and drummers in North America."

The TPPB is made up of diverse talent, including youth, experienced veterans and some of the World's top solo competitors. They have recorded two albums and performed live throughout Ontario, the US, in Scotland, and in Lorient France. "The Balmoral Classic is a well-organized and high profile amateur bagpiping and drumming event that we are really looking forward to be part of," says TPPB Pipe Major, Sean McKeown. "The band will be showcasing new music with fresh approaches to the pipe band idiom, blended with traditional arrangements, played by some very fine, talented, and award-winning players. We hope to see you there!"

The Toronto Police Pipe Band will perform on Saturday night, Nov. 19, 8:00pm, at the McGonigle Theatre, Central Catholic High School, 4720 Fifth Avenue, Oakland, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. For tickets call: 1-888-71-TICKETS.

Tartan of the Month St Andrew



The Scottish Banner is pleased to be offering the Tartan of the Month series highlighting a variety of tartans from around the world and registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans in Edinburgh. Text and image use is courtesy of the Scottish Register of Tartans.

This month many readers will be celebrating Scotland's patron saint and we are pleased to feature the St Andrews tartan. Created originally as a general tartan for Bowlers and also to celebrate the Seven Hundredth Anniversary of the game at The World Championships at Northfield Park Ayr in the year 2004. It has since adopted to commemorate St Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland. The St Andrew tartan (STA ref: 26250) was designed by David McGill of International Tartans in 1999. The colours incorporate the blue and white of the St Andrew's Cross with the purple and green of the thistle. This tartan was recorded prior to the launch of The Scottish Register of Tartans.

For further information please visit www.internationaltartans.co.uk



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Record number of visitors for Isle of May



A record number of people visited the Isle of May National Nature Reserve (NNR) this year. More than 12,000 visitors came ashore to enjoy the wildlife and learn about the island's cultural heritage. The island celebrates its 60th year as an NNR this year. Staff from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), which owns and manages the island, put on a number of popular events, including a seabird weekend, family days and a seal weekend. Up to 100 grey seals can be seen around the island at any time



of year, but their numbers increase in autumn and winter when up to 4,000 seals haul themselves onto the rocky shores of

the island to have their pups and mate. This makes the Isle of May the fifth largest breeding colony of grey seals in the UK and the largest on the east coast of Scotland. Around 2,000 pups are born on the May every year. Atlantic grey seals are the third rarest seal in the world; Britain holds almost 40% of their world population, and 90% of these breed in Scotland.

The Main Lighthouse

As in previous years, the island took part in Fife Council's Doors Open Days, with the main buildings being open to the public, including Scotland's oldest lighthouse, and the Main Lighthouse which celebrated its 200th anniversary this year. On display in the Main Lighthouse was a collection of artwork depicting the wildlife of the 'May' by renowned artists Derek Robertson, Darren Woodhead and Keith Brockie. A photography competition also proved popular, with nearly 70 entries, the winners of which will be announced in November. David Steel, SNH reserve

manager, said: "We saw the end of our visitor season on October 2, the same weekend as our seal event. By the end of the day, we'd had over 12,000 visitors since we opened for business in spring. This is a record number for a summer season, and we're so glad that this many people have come to enjoy the wonderful wildlife and history that the reserve has to offer. If you missed out this year, look out for our calendar of events for 2017 and make sure you book a place on a boat!"

Bird observatory

Known locally as 'The May', this small island sits on the edge of the Firth of Forth. The island's importance for seabirds has drawn scientists to its shores for many years and the May is home to the oldest continuously running bird observatory in the UK. The May is also a regular haunt for grey seals, often seen lounging on the shoreline rocks. This island is a historical gem and it's been a place of pilgrimage for centuries with an early island monastery. The May was also the site of Scotland's very first lighthouse, built in 1636, while the current, castle-like lighthouse was designed by the engineer Robert Stevenson.

David Steele writes a blog about the island, its wildlife and what it's like to live there. It had over 65,000 hits last year and has no doubt played a part in encouraging visitors.
<https://isleofmaynnr.wordpress.com>

Images courtesy of: Scottish Natural Heritage

Inverewe House opens to public for the first time



Photo: The National Trust for Scotland.

For the first time in its history, Inverewe House, situated in the heart of the internationally renowned Inverewe Gardens, is opening to the public following a £2 million restoration and reinvigoration. The house officially opened on Thursday 1 September revealing a completely renovated, visionary and immersive 1930s house and visitor attraction. The Bothy, which provides visitors with a welcome light refreshments stop in the heart of the spectacular gardens also opened in 2016. The Bothy is stocked with locally sourced Scottish produce, making this must visit destination more inviting than ever.

The house was built by the adventurous and pioneering Mairi Sawyer, continuing

the legacy of her father Osgood Mackenzie who first established the gardens in the 1860s. Amid the rugged landscape of Wester Ross, Inverewe is an amazing paradise perched on a peninsula at the edge of Loch Ewe. This world-famous garden is one of Scotland's most popular botanical attractions and a unique spectacle at all times of the year attracting visitors from across the globe. Inverewe House is located at the heart of the gardens and is an intrinsic part of its history. This is the third transformation for the house itself, which had to be rebuilt in 1936 by Mairi Sawyer after the original hunting lodge and home was destroyed by fire.

The investment has transformed the house into one of the most unique

properties and is expected to position Inverewe as the North West of Scotland's must-see destination. Within each of the restored rooms visitors are taken on an interactive and immersive journey through time to discover the inspiring story behind Inverewe and learn more about its colourful creators. Every visitor is encouraged to explore and discover the house's hidden gems up-close and each room offers a different element of surprise and delight which will ignite the senses. You can recreate your own Inverewe garden at home at the 'pick and mix' Seed Bar in the kitchen.

Amazing garden



Created out of bare rock and a few scrub willows by the revolutionary and showman Osgood Mackenzie, the gardens at Inverewe have been sculpted carefully and thoughtfully over time. Visitors can move effortlessly between South Africa, Japan, New Zealand, Chile and many other far-flung places which inspired this amazing garden, with planting still in existence and thriving today. A generation of gardeners

have pushed the boundaries of what can be planted and what can grow within this unique climate, and visitors can explore the rich, riot of colour and captivating landscape, discovering many species seen nowhere else in the UK.

Connie Lovel, Assistant Director North, National Trust for Scotland said: "The National Trust for Scotland is committed to taking heritage and history and making it relevant for today's adventurers and travellers. Inverewe House has been regenerated with authenticity and interactive elements at its heart. We want to invite visitors into the house to immerse themselves in the eccentricity, energy and vision of Mairi Sawyer and Osgood Mackenzie. This £2million investment into Inverewe demonstrates the evolution of the Trust's portfolio."

Kevin Ball, Head Gardener at Inverewe said: "Inverewe garden is also entering its next exciting phase of development – adopting the vision, vigour and tenacity of its founder and reaching out to a whole new audience – so this is the perfect time to open the house. No two months are ever the same at Inverewe, so visitors can revisit time and time again and are guaranteed to see something new and exciting. Within the space of a few weeks petals can fall or emerge, leaves can change colour and pine needles can coat the paths, utterly transforming every inch of the gardens. We look forward to welcoming visitors from far and wide to learn, discover and be inspired by our paradise."

SCOT POURRI



Send us your inquiries on life's little question marks. Ever wanted to know what happened to your old pal from home, how to make your favourite Scottish meal, or wondered about a certain bit of Scottish history? Pose your questions on Scottish related topics to our knowledgeable readership who just may be able to help. Our letters page is a very popular and active one and many readers have been assisted across the world by fellow passionate Scots. Please keep letters under 200 words and we reserve the right to edit content and length. Letters, photos and any other items posted to *the Scottish Banner* cannot be returned. We prefer letters to be emailed to your nearest office or please visit our online Scotpourri form at www.scottishbanner.com, alternatively you may post or fax your letters to us. Please ensure you include your full contact details, when emailing it is best to include your post address for those without internet access. This page belongs to our readers so please feel free to take part! Thanks to all our readers from around the world who have made this such a special page.

Galbraith's and looking for a lost friend Elizabeth Riddoch



There have been a number of letters printed regarding the Galbraith's stores so I thought I'd add mine to them. I worked for the Galbraith's store on Sinclair Drive, Battlefield for 2 years as a grocers boy, working after school and full time during school holidays. Jim Stoddart's articles often are about the area where I lived though I've never come across an article regarding Queens Park and the battle of Langside of which the monument erected at the top of the hill to commemorate the battle, was our school badge, Queens Park Secondary. What is also interesting is that I had a Brian Stoddart in my class and I believe that his family originally came from South Africa.

When I left in 1956 to immigrate to Australia with my parents and brother I was given a glowing reference from Galbraith's head office and this I used to enter the South Australian Police Force 2 years later. I still have that reference. On retiring from the police force in early 1998, I became involved in community radio and started as a presenter on Scottish Radio Hour in Adelaide. I was there for about 3 years and I then moved to Goolwa at the mouth of the River Murray. I obtained my own program at 90.1 Happy FM and have been presenting my Scottish program for 2 hours every Thursday night at 8pm. In the past few years I've done a live interview with Tommy Scott, Joe Gordon & Sally Logan, Tom Alexander, Alasdair Gillies and others. One can listen to my program on streaming if one so desires and I use *the Scottish Banner* for news from Scotland.

I'm wondering if anyone in Canada may know a friend of mine who migrated there in

early 60's? Her maiden name was Elizabeth Riddoch and she came from Battlefield area also She would be 78 now and was a brilliant redhead. Her mother was a headmistress who lived in Ledard Road across the road from Battlefield West Church.

I was also pleasantly surprised on reading Scotspeak in the September issue of *the Scottish Banner* that Stan Laurel is going to be recognized as an historic figure who lived in Glasgow. Stan went to the same school as me, Queens Park Senior Secondary at Battlefield, and his home address was not that far from where I lived myself in that area. Not many people know that his family lived in Glasgow for a while and that he went to a local school there before he even went to USA and became a film star.

My email address is dejay709@bigpond.com should anyone wish to contact me.

**Bruce (Scotty) Scotland
Goolwa, South Australia**

Ed note: Thanks Bruce for the memories and we hope you can connect with Elizabeth.

Spooky Scotland



Hello *Scottish Banner*,

Wow, what an issue (*Scottish Banner*, October, 2016). I love spooky stories & have visited several of the mentioned places. My daughter, Karen and I have twice stayed in Edinburgh apartments overlooking Greyfriars Kirkyard which was great, especially as we overlooked McKenzie's tomb. We have done most of the ghost tours which were amazing. Karen and I stayed at Tulloch Castle twice, the first time we were informed that room 8 was the only available one and the receptionist was taken aback when we were excited as that's the haunted room. She probably thought that we were mad colonials!

The first night the room was like a furnace which was supposedly the ghost's calling card. When we awoke in the morning Karen showed me a video taken on her infra-red camera, it showed the chandelier swinging! I asked why she hadn't woken me but she thought that I may have been scared. Very disappointed. We walked along the path behind the castle, I was in front and got a cold feeling as though I wasn't alone and up ahead could hear a rustling among the trees. This would start, stop, then restart. I had an awful feeling, so turned back. Two years later we returned and requested room 8 again. This time it was my turn. I was asleep but was woken by someone/something pressing my shoulders into the mattress, it couldn't hurt me so went back to sleep, only to have the same thing happen. I think that a servant girl had suicided and there was a scandal involving the owner. I wonder if room 8 had been her room and that was the owner re-enacting his wicked way. Whatever it was I was woken twice, it didn't scare me and if anyone wants a spooky experience try room 8 at Tulloch Castle!

My grandmother was from Glasgow and

a firm believer as was my mother who was born on the stroke of midnight. If there was a haunted house around they would end up in it. I've lived in a haunted house here in Wyndham which also used to share its time between the neighbouring house and me. I wasn't the only person to have seen it. I now live on the outskirts of town and have seen jamba which are little Aboriginal spirit men. Why I should see them I don't know as I'm Caucasian. My daughters have both had experiences when visiting. I had 2 horses that would tie up anywhere except to a big boab tree, they would go crazy and break their halters. What they saw or sensed I don't know.

Jocelyn Layton

Wyndham, Western Australia

Ed note: Thanks Jocelyn for the letter which has raised the hairs on our arms!

Interesting 'bits' about Scotland



Dear Valerie,

I came across this photo taken of you and I at the New Hampshire Highland Games in 2009. It brought back memories of one of the best Highland Games I have ever been to. Thank you so much for sending me a reminder for my subscription. It would be really awful if I never got my edition of the *Scottish Banner* - I would be lost! I surely enjoy all the interesting 'bits' about Scotland that I have so long ago forgotten about today.

Lang may your lum reek Valerie,

Vera Street

**A lass from Stockbridge, Edinburgh
Scotland**

The Tartan Revival

Just a quick note to say thanks to Angus Whitson and *the Scottish Banner* on the fascinating series on tartan. I like many own a kilt and love all tartans, and what an interesting historical perspective Mr Whitson has shared with us.

The next time I wear my kilt I will be informed when speaking about tartan and of course prouder of my "cloth of a nation".

Congratulations on 40 years of *Scottish Banner*!

Greg Robertson

**Washington, DC
USA**

Inspired me to visit Scotland

Just want to drop you a line to say I love your paper. I have a friend who lends it to me and I enjoy reading it. Great articles which has inspired me to visit Scotland next year. I am gathering lots of information from your paper which will pave my way around this magical country.

Susan Brischke

Ed note: Thanks Susan and glad you enjoy the Scottish Banner so much, have a great trip to Scotland in 2017!

The Lost Songs of St Kilda

What a lovely surprise to receive a copy of this special CD. I have just collected my mail and am now looking forward to listening to the CD.

My friends at our Gaidhlig class will be very interested too. It is so exciting to know that this music still exists and that it will not be lost.

My very sincere thanks and appreciation.

Wendy Austin

**Grange, Queensland
Australia**

A highlight of each month

A highlight of each month is receiving our copy of *the Scottish Banner*. This month, following almost three weeks in the 'highlands and islands', we were delighted to read about museums in Glasgow, see mention of *The Lost Songs of St. Kilda* CD - we heard it being advertised on the television, saw artefacts of the people in museums, and the migration of some to Melbourne - and see pictures of different places we had visited. Having previously been in Scotland in the depths of winter, and mid-summer, the beginning of autumn was a great time to visit. The Undiscovered Scotland website was a big help in planning 'off the beaten track', and largely tourist free places to visit. Well worth a look if planning to travel.

Amongst many other things, we also managed to see the Fort George Military Tattoo, the Pitlochry Highland Gathering, and attend a ceilidh in Kingussie! All wonderful experiences, made even richer by the people we chatted to, especially at Fort George, where the military personnel were welcoming and generous in the sharing of their stories. Experiencing the 'dark sky', learning about the corncrakes, haunted pubs, windswept lighthouses, and numerous ferry trips all contributed to a memorable holiday.

And to top it off, just before we left, my birthday cake was the Birthday Celebration Chocolate Cake in the 40th Anniversary edition of *the Scottish Banner*. It has become the new family favourite, and we didn't taste one as nice anywhere else. Thank you for the recipes, which we enjoy trying out.

Already planning our next trip!!

Ann & Roger Key

**Grovedale, Victoria
Australia**

Ed note: Thanks for a great letter and glad you had a great trip to Scotland.

POSTED TO THE SCOTTISH BANNER FACEBOOK PAGE

Morning has broken over Crossraguel Abbey, Ayrshire.



Mark Bradshaw

**Seaton Burn, Newcastle Upon Tyne
United Kingdom**



SCOTSPEAK

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

"The north of Scotland has always done well when we've done this research. So it's no surprise that Orkney, the Shetland Islands and Western Isles remain the top three in the 2016 Bank of Scotland Children's Quality of Life Index, across both Scotland and Great Britain. Children in these areas benefit from low primary school class sizes, low pupil-to-teacher ratios in secondary schools, excellent exam results and some of the highest school spend per pupil."

Bank of Scotland economist Nitesh Patel said as Orkney and Shetland have been named the best two places to raise children in Britain for the second year running, according to the bank's annual survey. The Western Isles again came third in the 2016 Bank of Scotland Children's Quality of Life Survey. Orkney's winning formula included a high average school spend per pupil, low class sizes and little traffic. Across Scotland, Highland ranked fourth, with Perth and Kinross coming fifth.

"This success continues today across everything creative, with some of our greatest exports including the actor and star of the TV series Outlander Grant O'Rourke, contemporary artists like Ant Macari and textiles sought-after by some iconic fashion brands like Chanel, Dior and Vivienne Westwood. The area has even attracted bands as big as the Rolling Stones. We believe that all of this should be celebrated and further creative talent positively encouraged."

Mark Timmins director of the recent Creative Coathanger festival, said the Borders had a plentiful, unique and world famous creative heritage. The festival celebrated the cultural heritage and creative industries of the Scottish Borders during September and October.

"Our collections tell the story of Scotland down the centuries and we want to connect as many people as possible to the riches, knowledge and information held within them. The first thing people will see when they visit us at Kelvin Hall will be a 12-screen video-wall showing films from our Moving Image Archive that records 100 years of life in Scotland. People will also be able to use our digital collections giving them access to many rare and original items covering centuries of Scotland's history and culture. We have something for everyone and we look forward to welcoming people to the National Library of Scotland at Kelvin Hall."

National librarian Dr. John Scally said as the recently refurbished Kelvin Hall in Glasgow plays host to the new National Library premises, which sees an extension to the library's reach outside of its old home in Edinburgh. Visitors to the National Library of Scotland will have the chance to explore 100 years of Scottish life and the opportunity to view and explore manuscripts by Robert Burns and Sir Walter Scott and the last letter of Mary Queen of Scots.

"My task was to design the means of allowing a customer, and only a genuine customer, to actuate the dispenser mechanism. Eventually I designed a system which accepted a machine readable encrypted card, to which I added a numerical keypad into which an obscurely related Personal Identification Number had to be entered manually, by the customer. This pin was known only to the person to whom the card was issued. If card and keypad inputs agreed, the cash dispenser mechanism was activated and the appropriate money was fed out to the customer."

Engineer and inventor James Goodfellow said. Goodfellow invented the automated cash machine and is one of four engineers to be added to the Scottish Engineering Hall of Fame alongside telephone inventor Alexander Graham Bell, lighthouse designer Robert Stevenson and structural engineer Sir Duncan Michael. Paisley born Goodfellow received just a £10 bonus for his invention and patent of automated cash machines that used pin numbers. Today there are millions of ATM's used across the world.



2016 Golden Spurtle winner Bob Moore. Photo: Golden Spurtle/Facebook.

"I couldn't believe it when my name was announced. It is so meaningful to me to win the Golden Spurtle. I've devoted my life to eating and producing good wholegrain food."

87 year old American Bob Moore from Portland, Oregon said after becoming crowned the World Porridge Making Champion in Carrbridge in the Scottish Highlands. The oaty cook-off draws competitors from across the globe and is

awarded to the contestant who makes the best traditional porridge using just three ingredients - oatmeal, salt and water.

"Without doubt Allan Ramsay is an unsung hero of Scottish poetry. He doesn't get sufficient praise or recognition for what he achieved during his lifetime, but the impact he had on others around him at the time was monumental, and that is what this festival is all about. It is fair to say without Ramsay there would be no Robert Burns."

Prof Gerard Carruthers, of the University of Glasgow, said Allan Ramsay was a unsung 18th century poet. He wrote poetry in Scots, invented Doric and also worked to preserve the works of earlier Scottish poets and was a hugely influential figure. He was admired by Robert Burns as a pioneer in the use of Scots in contemporary poetry. A two-day festival was recently held in a pub in the Scottish Borders to celebrate the life and works and the launch of a new cultural heritage resource centre dedicated to Ramsay.

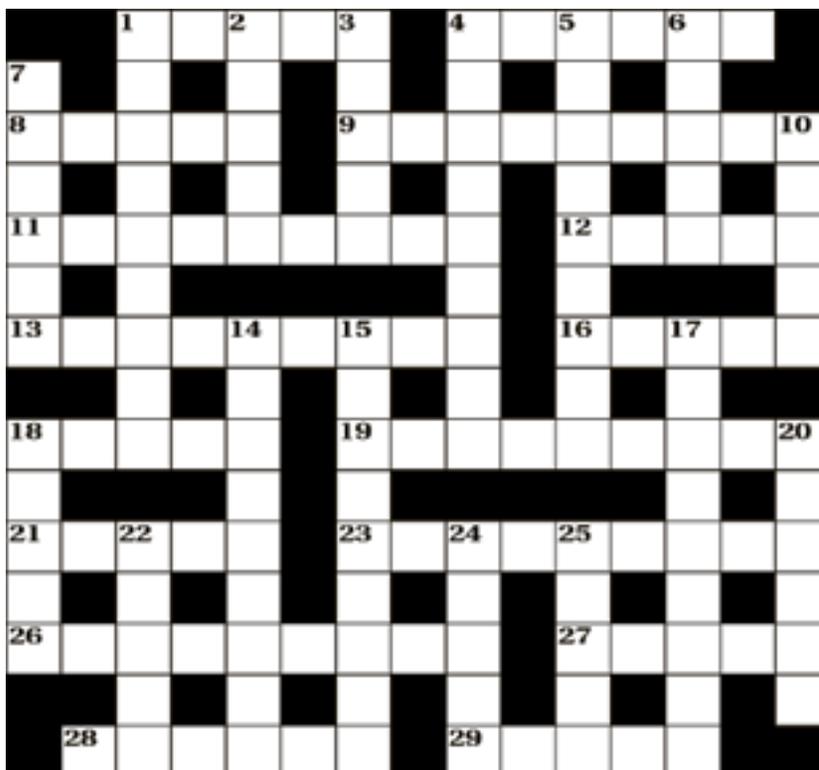
"The record price reflects the exceptional rarity of the Glenfiddich Rare Collection 1937 and its great appeal to collectors everywhere."

Auction house Bonhams Whisky specialist Martin Green said as a rare bottle of Glenfiddich whisky laid down at the Glenfiddich Distillery at Dufftown, Moray in 1937 has sold for a record price at an auction in Edinburgh. The Glenfiddich Collection 1937 fetched £68,500 at the Bonhams Whisky Sale. Bonhams said it was the highest paid at auction for a bottle of Glenfiddich and a Scottish auction house record for the sale of a single malt.

Celebrating 40 years of publication!

SCOTWORD

Here is a fun crossword for you to try with a few of the answers to be found in Scotland! If you are in doubt, you may need a wee peek at a Scots dictionary or a map. Or, if you are really stuck, the answers can be found on page 23!



CLUES ACROSS

- 1) Island below South Uist (5).
- 4) Strikes in Scotland (6).
- 8) With water it refreshes (5).
- 9) Threw them down for contest (9).
- 11) Scotland's gigantic valley (5,4).
- 12) Fruity colour (5).
- 13) Musician way out in front (4,5).
- 16) Joint below the exter (5).
- 18) A scar wound in Scots (5).
- 19) They're needed at St Andrews (5,4).
- 21) There are many on the West Coast (5).
- 23) A Scots double room! (3,3,3).
- 26) A reaper (9).
- 27) The deepest loch in Scotland (5).
- 28) They house 14 Down (6).
- 29) Try this composition (5).

CLUES DOWN

- 1) Island between N and S Uist (9).
- 2) Correct in Scotland (5).
- 3) A high messenger! (5).
- 4) Disgusted with the Scots! (9).
- 5) Big guns! (9).
- 6) A measure of gas (5).
- 7) Put on a show (6).
- 10) Tendon (5).
- 14) Clergymen (9).
- 15) Followers of James II (9).
- 17) A colourful Scottish fruit (9).
- 18) One and the other to Scots (5).
- 20) Solar skill in Lochaber area! (6).
- 22) Animal's immature state (5).
- 24) Protected the Highlander (5).
- 25) Loses the power (5).

Scottish house prices on the rise



House prices in Scotland continue to increase mainly due to a lack of homes on the market, estate agents have said. Prices have been rising since early 2013 and the trend is forecast to continue for the next 12 months. With a number of sellers reporting rising price increases of 17%, up from the 8% increase in July, according to the latest Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) UK residential market survey. The organisation said the shortage of stock for sale is the main driver behind the price rises, which also looks set to continue with 10% more respondents reporting a decline in new instructions in August. The number of sales is expected to fall in the short-term, with 10% more chartered surveyors forecasting a fall in the next

three months but projections at 12 months have now climbed out of negative territory UK-wide. RICS Scotland director Gail Hunter said: "Across the UK we are seeing confidence return following the EU referendum. In Scotland, prices look set to remain firm, in part caused by the lack of stock across the country.

Uncertainty remains over the market post-Brexit, and expected sales have declined yet again, but this week we have seen the First Minister take some very welcome steps which will help to return some much-needed stability to our property and construction sectors. The Scottish Government's programme for government 2016-17 has provided key policies and legislative proposals that could provide much-needed certainty in an uncertain world."

Archaeologists search for the Roman Army in Scotland

A team of archaeologists are in the north east of Scotland to search for traces of the Roman Army in Scotland and, in particular, Aberdeenshire, Angus and Perthshire. Although several Roman forts are known to exist in the area, including the most northerly fort in the world at Stracathro near Brechin, whose purpose is unclear and the real extent of military activity in the area is not known. Archaeologists are searching for traces of the Roman

army in Scotland in an attempt to solve a long-standing mystery. Led by Andrew Tibbs, of Durham University, the archaeologists hope finding new military sites in the north east might help solve the mystery. Mr Tibbs said: "We know that the Romans built a series of forts on the edge of the Highlands, and each fort at the entrance to the glens leads into the depths of the Highlands, but we don't know why. Was it to stop the Highlanders heading south and invading

the Roman Empire or did the Romans plan to launch their own invasion of the Highlands from these forts?"

Any new discoveries made by the team of experienced volunteers will probably be part of the Gask Frontier - a series of Roman forts and watchtowers stretching from Loch Lomond to Brechin. The research group will use a variety of non-invasive techniques to investigate potential sites occupied by the Roman Army in Scotland which have lain undiscovered

for almost 2,000 years. Mr Tibbs added: "Any discoveries are likely to be followed up with further surveys and possibly excavation in 2018. There's so much we don't understand about the Romans in Scotland, including how far north they really went. We know they built a fort at Brechin and that there were Roman soldiers up in Elgin. If we can identify new military sites in the north east, we might be able to solve the mystery of why they built these forts on the edge of the Highlands."



An artisanal Perthshire cheese made with Glenturret whisky has been a hit at farmers' markets as food and drink lovers get a taste for mixing two home-grown delicacies in one bite. Strathearn from Strathearn Cheese in Comrie is a rennet set cheese hand washed with a brine that's flavoured with a 10-year-old Glenturret malt. The brine, along with a four-week maturation process, gives the cheese a hint of a whisky that also prides itself on being hand-made. The cheese, sold in delicatessens and farm shops, has recently made an appearance at farmers' markets in Perth, Pitlochry, Aberfeldy and Stirling.

Unique pasteurised cheese

The makers of Strathearn now plan to attend the markets regularly to spread the word about their unique pasteurised

cheese. The partners behind the new cheese making business, which launched in January, said they stick to local ingredients as much as they can, which made The 10-year-old Glenturret, produced at the nearby Glenturret Distillery in Crieff, a natural choice.

Pierre Leger, co-owner of Strathearn said: "There aren't many cheeses made with whisky in Scotland and it was important for us to make something that was very local. The farmers' markets have all been excellent for us and we can't wait to spread the word about Strathearn."

At the now 240 year old Glenturret, Scotland's oldest working distillery, the stillmen still mash ingredients by hand. The distillery is thrilled when collaborations like this happen and are confident Strathearn cheese will be a delicious hit.

Shinty-Scotland's ancient sport



Text courtesy of: Scotland.org

Scotland can lay claim to the birth of many popular sports, but as far as history goes it doesn't get any more fascinating than that of shinty. The origins of shinty date back to the 6th century when the techniques used for play (a keen eye and deft throw) were used to train ancient warriors in preparation for battle.

The game might have been refined through the ages, but the determination to win is just as fierce. It's an exhilarating game to play - and watch - with league and cups fixtures running between spring and autumn.

Two of the fiercest rivals are Kingussie and Newtomore; villages that lie just three miles apart in the magnificent Cairngorms National Park. When these teams play, tournaments are always fully charged. In all senses of the word! Kingussie was named by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the sport's most successful sporting team of all time.

What is Shinty?

Shinty is a fast, physical game where players have to score using a ball and stick. In men's shinty, there are 12 players on each team - including one goalkeeper. Each player uses a caman (a curved wooden stick) to hit the small leather ball used in play. A well-struck shinty ball can travel over speeds of 100 mph. Canadian favourite ice hockey began life when the Scottish immigrant population of Nova Scotia adapted the game of shinty to be played on ice!

Shinty Cups

First awarded in 1895, the Camanachd Cup is the most coveted of in the men's trophy events. For the women's teams, the Valerie Fraser Cup is the one to win. Finals for both cups take place in September each year.

Have you played shinty or are a fan of the sport? Tell us about your shinty story.



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Have a name that has you stumped? Scottish Banner readers can send in their name queries direct to Ron via the Scottish Banner by post or email: info@scottishbanner.com. Ron will do his best to help you with your name query and may just add that extra piece to your genealogy puzzle.



Where has the year gone, it's hard to believe it's nippy November here in the north with temperature that is a harbinger of even colder weather and snow. In Britain there is Guy Fawkes day on November 5th. While this is a British event it happened under a Scottish king, James the 1st of England VI of Scotland. A group of disgruntled gentlemen were not happy with the government and decided to blow up Parliament. Their plot was uncovered and they paid for their treason. The day has been marked ever since with community bonfires and fireworks. Children have been the willing labourers in amassing combustibles to pile on the bon fire. In our neighbourhood in Scotland the search material would start in late September in anticipation of a large fire. On top of the pile was a "guy" a straw effigy with a turnip to represent the miscreant Guy Fawkes the leader of the group. The fireworks and the large inferno made for an exciting evening in the depths of a dark November night.

St Andrew's Day

Those of us in lands outside of Britain must wait until the end of the month to have a reason for us Scots to celebrate. November 30th is St. Andrew's Day, the patron saint of Scotland. This can be grand evening of a highland ball where one can partake haggis and wash it down with a wee dram of amber gold. Any excuse where one can wear the kilt is always a pleasure. November 1st is known with

some clerical circles as All Saints the day after Hallowe'en. All Saints day and the evening before the "hallowed evening" was the Christian measure to the a pagan day of dead known as Samhain. This Celtic day was the day when it was believed that the dead and the living could commune.

Scottish saints

Since we are talking of saints let's talk of Scottish saints. The Celtic Church arrived in Scotland when Saint Columba and his entourage arrived from Northern Ireland in the 6th century. Saint Ninian of the Church of Rome had made inroads to the Southern Picts in the 5th century, but Saint Columba and his followers brought the faith to the North. This was about the same time that the Roman church was introduced into England via St. Augustine. The Gaels of Ireland were already becoming established in the Scottish Islands and eventually the Highlands of Scotland. As the Celtic Church became established a certain amount of religious and saint names in Gaelic became a part of the evolving pattern of surnames in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. The form gill or gillie suggests a lad or servant, it is found in part of many Gaelic surnames. MacGillies from MacGill Loosely translates as son of the servant of Jesus another form being MacLiesh. Similarly Gilmour is the servant of Mary. The prolific clan MacLean belongs to this group as it derives from Mac Gill Eoin, or the son of the servant of Saint John. Son of the servant of Saint Finnan and Saint Fillan give us MacLennan and MacLellan respectively. Another sense of the word servant in this case was devotee.

The church

Offices of the church also fit this topic. MacGillespie is son of the Bishop and MacNab is son of the Abbot. MacPherson translates to son of the Parson, while MacTaggart is son of the Priest. Before you gasp at the possibility of church officials having children, the clergy in the Celtic Church didn't have to be celibate, as was the official decree of the Roman church. Dewar is from the Gaelic word for pilgrim another religious activity, the Perthshire family of this name became the holder of the relic

of Saint Fillan. The Skye name MacLure is son of the servant of the Dewar. Similarly, MacIndeor has the same origin. Surnames with the prefix "Kil" usually refer to the Gaelic word for cell or hermitage and eventually a church. Therefore the church of Saint Bridget was known as Kilbride, and Kilpatrick for Saint Patrick, and similarly the English equivalent is Kirkpatrick. With some of these names the "G" in gille can become a "K" when translated from the Gaelic to English. Consequently names like Kilmartin are really from son of the servant of Saint Martin not necessarily from the church of Saint of Martin. There are more, too many to mention at this writing but all fill a considerable section of Highland and Scottish surnames.

November 30th is St Andrew's Day, the patron saint of Scotland. This can be grand evening of a highland ball where one can partake haggis and wash it down with a wee dram of amber gold. Any excuse where one can wear the kilt is always a pleasure.

Arthur

From Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, Lauchlan David Arthur wrote to ask about his surname. Family lore has him as the eighth Lauchlan to bear the name. His father came to Canada in 1920 and his Grandfather fought in the Boer war. The story in the family was the name was originally d'Arthur and from someone who came in the train of Mary Queen of Scots when she returned to Scotland from France.

The name is a personal name that originated with the Celts as a form of "bear." sometimes with other elements. The name was known in the Latin world and so was documented in many forms. One thought is that it was from Arctucus a star known as the bear guardian near the constellation Ursa Major.

The oldest documentation is one Arthur son of Aedan mac Gabrain who died in 609 A.D. The name is known in France as a boy's name and even as Arturo in Italy. So no one can rule out the possibility of Mr. Arthur's family myth, but I am not sure how it can be proved without an extensive genealogical exploration and to hopefully find records in the 16th century to validate it. As a surname is not unknown throughout Scotland as in England like so many personal names that became surnames.

There is the highland clan Arthur which has history all on its own which is deep within Argyll. Some MacArthur may have dropped the mac in their name to become Arthur.

Stirling

Ms. Una Lelievre from Canberra, Australia wrote to ask about the surname Stirling and the associated clan. The name is a place name that translates as the "place of strife. Antique documents lists the name as Striulyn, Striveling, Stgervlen etc. The oldest of these records was written in 1136 during the reign of David I. Thoraldus Stirling held the lands of Cadder, a parish just north of Glasgow that was the most northern parish in the pre-1974 county of Lanark but now is in East Dunbartonshire. The family did well for the next few generations in that Sir John Stirling who also held the lands of Cragernard was governor of the royal castle of Dumbarton. He was knighted by James I in 1430 and was comptroller of the royal household. His son William acquired the lands of Glorat from the Earl of Lennox. Glorat is in the parish of Campsie. Like so many of the Scottish nobility William's son George lost his life from wounds received at the battle of Pinkie.

For loyalty to James IV the Stirling's received the lands of Keir. They continued to thrive for the next few centuries for their support of the Stuart dynasty. Other branches include Faskine, and Stirling of Garden. Clan Chief: Francis Stirling of Cadder. Clan Badge: a blue hart's (dee) head issuing from an antique coronet. Clan Motto: Gang Forward

Keep those letters coming and whether it is spring or autumn for you, enjoy your November.

Sea eagle numbers predicted to soar in Scotland



Photo: VisitScotland.

A new Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) report predicts that the number of white-tailed eagles, also known as sea eagles, is likely to be around 221 pairs by 2025 with potential for a much larger population by

2040. There have been three release phases to re-establish the eagles, which went extinct in 1917. Two releases occurred on the west coast of Scotland from 1975-85 (Rum) and from 1993-98 (Wester Ross), and one on the east coast (Fife) from 2007-12. There were 106 pairs of white-tailed eagles in Scotland in 2015.

The report, authored by researchers at RSPB's Centre for Conservation Science, modelled a range of scenarios to predict the potential size of the sea eagle population, including scenarios with no limits on population growth. Other scenarios included the limits of the carrying capacity of the land (suitable habitat, food and nest

sites) or other factors such as potential increased mortality. The estimate of 221 pairs by 2025 figure is considered a realistic figure. Over the longer term, the modelling predicted the population could potentially reach 889-1,005 pairs by 2040; however, the top end of the population range is unlikely to be reached, because it does not take into account the carrying capacity of the land and other factors. These values do not include juvenile birds, which typically do not pair up and breed until they are five or six years old.

Duncan Orr-Ewing, Head of Species and Land Management at RSPB Scotland said: "We can be proud that the sea eagle is once

again a key part of Scotland's internationally renowned wildlife spectacle, enthusing local people and tourists alike. Our population modelling work is showing that we can expect sea eagle numbers to gradually increase, and re-colonisation of much of the former range across Scotland will take place. Scientific evidence of this type will continue to play a critical role in determining future conservation actions."

The eagle reintroduction is an ambitious, large-scale partnership project that helped inspire many of the priority projects in Scotland's *Biodiversity: A Route Map to 2020*. The Route Map is focussed on conserving Scotland's most important wildlife.

KINGS CASTLES AND "DURTY" WEE RASCALS

Australian Jim Stoddart who was born in a Glasgow Tenement and raised in a Glasgow Housing Scheme 1943-1965. Jim will be taking readers on a trip down memory lane of a time and place that will never be the same again and hopes even if only a few people in the Scot's Diaspora have a dormant folk memory awakened, then he shall be more than delighted.



The Workshop of the Empire

The Book of Glasgow Industry and Commerce issued during the first Glasgow Civic and Empire week in 1931, for the sum of one shilling, promoted Glasgow as the 'Workshop of the Empire.' Among the photographs and information about the city's history and administration are advertisements from many of Glasgow's major industries and these give a snapshot of who was doing what amongst some of the city's major employers, North British Locomotive Company Ltd., Cowieson's, buildings and bus bodies, Stewart & Lloyd's for steel, Babcock & Wilcox, for steam engines, Carlaw's, engineering, Weir's pumps, Beardmore's, for castings, boilers, and marine engines, R & J Dick, for machine driving belts, Fleming's, for structural steelwork, The House of Stewart for furniture, ship upholstery and decoration, India of Inchinnon for tyres, Anchor Line, for sailings from Glasgow to New York and so on. As the list continues, one of the features of the city's industry and commerce becomes apparent; that is that as well as its specialist industries, Glasgow manufactured and built just about anything one could imagine.

The gateway to industrial Scotland

One particular advertisement about the port of Glasgow submitted by The Clyde Navigation Trust in 1931, paints a picture of what things must have been

like in Plantation before the Second World War and during my brother and sister's childhood. In the words of the advertising gurus of the 1930's: *The port of Glasgow is the gateway to industrial Scotland, the North of England and the North of Ireland and the natural feeder for the Scottish markets, supplying a population of 6,000,000 people. Every modern facility is available for the rapid and economic handling, dispatch and distribution of all classes of produce, fruit, grain, merchandise, machinery, coal, ore, etc. There are twelve miles of Quays, seven miles of single and double storied transit sheds, 107 public cranes up to 175 tons capacity, and up to date coaling hoists and cranes. (and added to these are private cranes installed by companies) We have modern silo and floor granaries with storage capacity up to 31,000 tons; one of the most up-to-date cattle lairages in the country for the rapid reception, handling and dispatch of cattle, and equipped with every modern facility. There is ample timber accommodation, open and covered storage, and direct railway communication to the quays We have established shipping connections (passenger and freight) to all parts of the world.*

Historical footprints lost to history

So it is no wonder that my memories of the streets around Kinning Park, Kingston and Govan are of the numerous engineering

workshops that lined those streets all the way to the river, manufacturing a multitude of components required to build and fit out a ship. These streets surrounding the busy Port of Glasgow continued to flourish until well after W.W.II. But Glasgow's docks and the community that made up Plantation, Kinning Park and Govan was doomed to be destroyed within a few decades, not by German bombs but by the requirements of shipping container ships and facilities, the demise of shipbuilding and post-war slum clearance. The new streets of the re-developed Plantation district were to retain some of the old historical names but the old community living in their four storey tenements was destined to disappear forever. The orientation of the new streets was made different and named streets that once ran north to south now run east to west, with the historical footprints lost to history. A much smaller multi-cultural community, living in modern terraced houses has replaced the mono-cultural wartime population.

Mother of all cranes

The cranes and gantries along the River Clyde's shipyards and docks once shouted out 'industrial Glasgow' and Fairfield's Shipyard at Govan once boasted the largest crane in the world, 170 feet high, with a jib 238 feet long and a lifting capacity of 250 tons. But today the visitor sees one solitary crane, the Finnieston Crane,

used over its working life to load nearly 2,000 locomotives, made in the North British Locomotive Company's works in Springburn that once employing 8,000 people. These locomotives were once loaded on to the ships that took them to the far corners of the Empire and that one crane has been left as a solitary industrial icon representing that productive era. It has been left to represent all the heavy cranes along the docks, especially built to lift 130 tons or more and well able to install boilers and large equipment into the hulls of new ships from the nearby shipyards. These steam-powered 'heavy lifts' once stood on Plantation Quay at the end of my street and were considered the 'mother of all cranes' that once lay along that part of the Clyde.



The Finnieston Crane is a permanent reminder of Glasgow's once-mighty industrial past.

St Andrew's Day tales and traditions



The baroque architecture of St Andrew's Cathedral in Kiev, Ukraine.

St Andrew's Day is celebrated by Scots around the world on the 30th November however did you know that there are many tales and traditions from across the world that exist around St Andrews Day, here are some of the most famous:

Romania - In Romania it is a time for magic rituals to ward off evil spirits and purify the land and the people. The secret weapon is garlic, eaten on the night before St Andrew's Day at a communal meal either as whole cloves or in a sauce. Cloves of garlic are placed strategically beside doors, windows and chimneys.

Poland - Many people believe that Saint Andrew is the patron saint of Poland. In fact, it is Saint Casimir Jagiellon (1458-84). However, the last day of November in Poland is a night for charming and light-hearted games where girls can search for husbands and have their fortunes told.

Bulgaria - In Bulgaria, St Andrew's Day is known as Edrei (Bear's Day). The story goes that Saint Andrew complained to God that he had no feast day, so God told him that any man who did not celebrate St Andrew's Day would have to carry his own horse! In olden times housewives would throw boiled corn onto the fire to stop the bears ruining their crops. One legend records that an evil stepmother was punished by having her daughter turned into a bear.

Ukraine - In the Ukraine, St Andrew's Day is celebrated on 13 December with fortune-telling and parties where pancakes and pastries were used for games which were supposed to help girls find a husband. It was also a time for mischievous pranks such as putting a plough on a house roof or taking a gate off its hinges - all pre-Christian traditions connected with courtship and marriage.

Germany - German folklore advises single women who wish to marry to ask for St Andrew's help. The night before the 30th, if they sleep naked, they will see their future husbands in their dreams. Young women should also note the location of barking dogs on St Andrew's Eve, as their future husbands will come from that direction.

Religious Celebrations

In churches all over Europe, the last day of November is a day to remember the Apostle who gave his life for spreading the Good News. In Patras (built on the shores of the Ionian Sea and the third largest city in Greece), the Cathedral of St Andrew close to the sea, is packed with worshippers, who then spill out into the streets for the dramatic and colourful procession where the relics (housed in a silver shrine) and the icon (holy painting) of Saint Andrew are carried, accompanied by chants and prayers.

Further west in the Mediterranean, on the southwest coast of Italy, facing the Gulf of Salerno, is the picturesque port of Amalfi. There, the Cathedral of Saint Andrew, sitting at the summit of steep and wide steps, glitters with gold mosaic. Inside, are the relics of the saint and his magnificent silver statue which is then carried out around the streets and squares of Amalfi to celebrate the Saint's day.

Today, the magnificent 18th century St Andrew's Cathedral in Kiev, with its white and pale blue walls, its green onion domes fringed with gold, stands where many earlier churches were built to commemorate the hilltop where St Andrew is believed to have put up the first Christian cross. Many wooden churches were built there, destroyed by marauding armies or simply pulled down. Here the feast of St Andrew is still celebrated every year.

Did you know?



- St Andrew is not just the patron saint of Scotland- He is the patron saint of Greece, Russia, Italy's Amalfi and Barbados. As well as other countries, he's the patron saint of singers, spinsters, maidens, fishmongers, fishermen, women wanting to be mothers, gout and sore throats. St Andrew is also the patron saint of the Order of the Thistle, one of the highest ranks of chivalry in the world, second only to the Order of the Garter.
- St Andrew was crucified on an X-shaped cross- St Andrew was crucified on 30 November 60AD, by order of the Roman governor Aegaeus. He was tied to an X-shaped cross in Greece, and this is represented by the white cross on the Scottish flag, the Saltire, since at least 1385.
- St. Andrew was not Scottish- The patron saint was born in Bethsaida, in Galilee, which is now Israel. His remains were moved 300 years after his death to Constantinople, now Istanbul, by the Emperor Constantine. While he was generally revered in Scotland from around 1,000 AD, he didn't become its official patron saint until the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320.

Glasgow University archivists find John Knox's Bible

The University of Glasgow library has discovered a Hebrew and Latin Bible in their collections that they believe once belonged to the great Scottish Reformer John Knox. Staff at the University of Glasgow Archives and Special Collections have identified a previously unknown book once owned by Scottish religious reformer John Knox. The large folio Latin and Hebrew Old Testament published in 1546 in Basel, Switzerland, appears to bear the reformer's signature dated 1561 on the reverse of the title page. It was bequeathed to the university in 1864 by William Euing as part of his collection of about 3,000 Bibles.

Printed books are inextricably linked with the Reformation: from published Scripture in the vernacular and polemical 'pamphlet wars' between clerics holding different confessional viewpoints to the large illustrated works memorialising those 'martyred' for their faith, printed books were central to those on both sides of the confessional divide. Large book collections were amassed during the sixteenth century packed with works – often annotated by their owners – tracing the controversies. Yet frustratingly for Reformation historians, all too often these libraries don't survive intact having been broken up for one reason or another. John Knox's library is just one such example; in the words of one biographer, Knox's "personal library has been largely lost to view" with just a handful of books certainly traceable to him surviving and identifiable.

John Knox was a Scottish minister, theologian, and writer who was a leader of the Reformation and is considered the founder of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

Culzean getting ready to reclaim heritage crown



Work starts soon on a £2.5 million project to upgrade the visitor experience at the National Trust for Scotland's flagship Culzean Castle and Country Park, the conservation charity has confirmed. The Trust says the investment is the first phase of a plan to massively boost visitor numbers to the historic Ayrshire estate. The project at Culzean Castle and Country Park, which has been identified as one of the Trust's priority properties, will:

- Transform the welcome to Culzean with a redesigned arrival area that sets the tone for the rest of the visit to one of Scotland's grandest heritage treasures.
- Expand its trail network, including introducing 2 new all-abilities trails, to encourage more visitors to explore more of the estate and enjoy more of the site's fascinating stories and rich heritage.
- Introduce a transport system to improve access and help visitors experience more of what Culzean has to offer.
- Reinstate areas of the historic designed landscape, protecting the environment of the Grade A listed buildings and allowing Robert Adam's original picturesque design to be better appreciated.

The project will also make improvements at Fountain Court, so that the site can host large-scale events and concerts once again, as well as upgrading and re-organising parking facilities around the estate. In addition, a fantastic play area for visitors aged 9 and up is also being created. This tree-top experience will take inspiration from the estate's rich natural heritage and encourage hi-level adventure and exploration.

One of Scotland's heritage superstars

Chief Executive of the National Trust for Scotland, Simon Skinner said: "Nowhere can compare to Culzean Castle and Country Park – its location, the stunning castle and collection, abundant wildlife, woodland walks, glorious gardens and coastline all combine to create somewhere outstanding and irreplaceable. It is a place that simply has to be experienced. This is the first instalment in a series of developments that will put Culzean back in its rightful place as one of Scotland's heritage superstars, attracting visitors from near and far, all eager to share the amazing experiences that can only be found on this Ayrshire cliff-top."

The Trust is investing £17 million over the next few years at priority properties to improve facilities and the visitor experience at Culzean, Newhailes and Brodie Castle. More properties are set to be announced in the next few months. Mr Skinner continues: "Putting money into our properties and attracting more visitors is a key focus for the Trust over the next few years. Not only is this essential to our long-term financial stability, but let's not forget that the reason the Trust exists is to share Scotland's heritage with as many people as we can. To do that, we need to be putting Trust places at the top of everyone's bucket list."

Culzean Castle and Country Park attracts approximately 140,000 visitors every year with its dramatic clifftop setting, Robert Adam architecture, fascinating history and beautiful surroundings, it's easy to see why Culzean Castle is one of Scotland's most popular visitor attractions.

Did you know?

- Culzean Castle originally belonged to the Kennedys, an ancient Scottish family descended from Robert the Bruce. There was a stone tower house here in the 16th century, and various Kennedys over the centuries made their mark on the castle with improvements and alterations.
- But it wasn't until the 1770s that it started to become the grand country seat it is today. David Kennedy, 10th Earl of Cassillis and a peer in the House of Lords, commissioned famed Scottish architect Robert Adam to design and build a castle that reflected the family's status and wealth.
- It was a no-expense-spared project, but neither Kennedy nor Adam survived to see the castle completed as they both died within months of each other in 1792, shortly before the castle was completed.
- A new phase of works started in 1877 under the 3rd Marquess. Edinburgh architects Wardrop & Reid were employed to make further improvements to the castle in keeping with Adam's style, including the additional three-storey west wing and a newly designed entrance.
- In 1945, when the castle was passed to the National Trust for Scotland, the top floor was converted into a flat for use by General Eisenhower, as a gesture for America's support during the Second World War. General Eisenhower visited on four occasions including while president of the United States of America.

Photo: Historic Environment Scotland.

Historic Hebridean library given a boost



A £100,000 grant will be used to preserve one of Scotland's most historic libraries on a tiny but significant Hebridean island.

The Iona Cathedral Trust received the money

from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to rescue the little-known library, which is hidden away above the cloisters of Iona Abbey.

The two-year project will conserve hundreds of manuscripts and a digital catalogue will also be made available online through expertise shared by the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI).

The early monastery of St. Columba, founded in the 6th century, famously produced the *Book of Kells*, among other notable manuscripts at a time when libraries were a symbol of wealth and education uniquely owned by an elite few.

The current library, restored during the rebuilding of some of the Iona Abbey buildings by George Macleod and the Iona Community, includes collections of national significance. Gaelic manuscripts dating from the 19th century and examples of Celtic art among the treasures that will be restored. The oldest books in the collection date from the 17th century.

Conservators will work to restore and repair the library items over the next two years, and the project is supported by groups including Historic Environment Scotland, the Iona community, UHI and the Island of Iona Community Council.

Chairman of the Iona Cathedral Trust, Very Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald, said: "We are delighted this gem of a library can be made more accessible and our valuable heritage preserved thanks to this support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Iona Cathedral attracts many visitors, but the library is hidden away over the cloisters. Many more people will be able to enjoy it thanks to this grant."

Iona Abbey is one of Scotland's top heritage attractions, and the island of Iona regularly attracts more than 130,000 visitors each year.

A public exhibition will be created on Iona in the final year to showcase all the hard work, fun and play generated by the project before its expected completion in October 2018.



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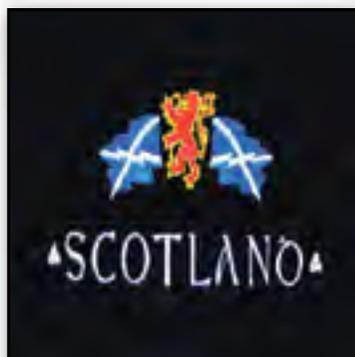
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A day at the races and "Sport of Kings". Photo: Perth Races.

Lady MacGregor's Scotland By: Lady Fiona MacGregor

Lady MacGregor of MacGregor – otherwise known as British broadcaster Fiona Armstrong. Fiona is currently news reading for the BBC. But she also leaves the studio from time to time to report on matters Scottish. She lives in Scotland with her husband, the MacGregor clan chief. Sir Malcolm is Convenor of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, and Fiona is an active member of Clan Armstrong, so their lives are interwoven with all things tartan. The couple have moved from the borderlands to the lowlands, home is now a white tower house between Perth and Dundee, although filming and writing takes Fiona all over Scotland.



Greetings from Scotland where we've had some welcome weather. It is a proper Indian summer and it has kept the leaves on the trees a little bit longer...

All this greenery now turns shades of orange and yellow and as I travel along Scotland's newest railway route, the colours are spectacular. The Waverley Line is just over a year old. It closed back in the 1960s, but it now transports travellers from the Scottish Borders right into the centre of Edinburgh. 'Waverley' takes its name from a series of novels by Walter Scott – and this rail link is well and truly helping to put his famous fairy-tale home, Abbotsford, on the tourist map. A million people used the line in its first year of operation. That is a quarter more than was originally forecast. Many use it to commute to work, but it is also key for tourism. Steam trains run on this glorious route, with glasses of champagne as vital extras.

Borthwick Castle

There is nothing so glamorous for me as I head into work in Edinburgh. I sip a cup

of tea as we pass through rolling Borders' countryside; past grey-stoned farmhouses and white-painted cottages. Scots Pines cling to hill-sides. Tartan coat-clad horses graze in fields. Ayrshires and Aberdeen Angus flick tails in fields, unruffled as the great iron horse of progress whizzes by.

Approaching Scotland's capital, I note historic Borthwick Castle, a fifteenth-century keep that once guarded the route south. The original building was erected in 1430 by Sir William de Borthwick. Its massive tower is fifteen feet-wide in places whilst the great hall is 400 feet long, complete with music gallery. Mary Queen of Scots is believed to have stayed here, allegedly fleeing the castle dressed as a male page to escape her enemies. In the seventeenth century Oliver Cromwell's forces attacked Borthwick on their incursion into Scotland. In 1810 a Borthwick of Crookston set about restoring the damage done by the English and the elements. At the start of the twentieth century more renovation work was carried out and, during World War Two, the place was used as a safe store for national treasures. Another, more recent restoration programme, followed. Borthwick Castle is now a popular venue for weddings and corporate events.

Sport of Kings

Further north, the chief and I spent a very happy day at the races this month. Horse racing is popular in Scotland. They have been doing it for centuries, often with royal backing. Not for nothing is it known as the 'Sport of Kings.' At the start of the sixteenth century, James IV is recorded as paying a jockey to ride the King's Horse at Leith. This was the biggest horse-racing event of the time, run in tandem with a fair, drawing crowds from right across society. Sometimes race-goers got too exuberant and drunkenness was common. Staying sober was sensible. It meant possibly winning the King's prize: a gold teapot made in the early-eighteenth century by one of Edinburgh's finest goldsmiths. When you visit you can see it in the National Museums of Scotland.

Back to Perth Races. This is Scotland's most northerly course and it started in 1613 when gentlemen raced their horses on parkland by the river. Bonnie Prince Charlie is said to have mingled with the crowds when he launched his ill-fated bid for the crown in 1745. A Hunt Ball was later introduced to accompany the sporting event and in Victorian times Perth Races was the social event of the year for Scotland's lairds

and their families. As the Edwardian age dawned, a drinking ban in the Fair City led to a rethink about the location. In 1906 Lord Mansfield laid out a new course in parkland by his residence of Scone palace.

All this romance had an effect on the chief. Whilst we were there the MacGregor put his hand in his sporran. He gave me five pounds (around seven dollars) to have a flutter and I put the money on a jockey with a bright pink jersey on a brown horse. It came in first and I won forty pounds (fifty dollars). I then bet that on a steed with a plaited tail and it also won. We went home with money for a good meal out – at some stage...

Not that we are gamblers. It was a piece of fun - and we were carried away and being totally spoiled in a special box overlooking the winning line. The chief wore his tweed suit and I looked the racing part in a colourful coat and hat. I was even asked if I would like to enter the 'best-dressed lady competition.' It meant parading around the ring in front of the judges. I politely declined...

Follow the MacGregor clan chief, Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor, Convenor of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, on twitter.com/theclanchiefs

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Orkney's St Andrews



The beautiful beach at Dingjeshowe.

Although many of Orkney's main attractions lie west of Kirkwall, those heading east to St Andrews will be rewarded by plenty of other special sites, away from the crowds. St Andrews is actually made up of two separate areas, Tankerness and Toab. It's also where thousands of visitors to Orkney first set foot in the islands as it hosts the slightly erroneously named Kirkwall Airport. In its former guise it was used by the RAF and the Royal Navy during the Second World War before becoming the main hub for flights to and from Orkney nearly 70 years ago. The parish is made up mainly of rich agricultural ground. Farming is the main industry in the area, but there are still places to explore for any tourist keen to get off the beaten track.

Wartime relics

The area's wartime heritage is further on show at Rerwick Head. It's a fascinating area to explore with gun emplacements,

searchlight stations and watchtowers forming part of the defence of Orkney's eastern approaches during WWII. Many of the buildings are still standing and provide a real glimpse into Orkney's past. Visitor shouldn't enter the buildings though as some have become increasingly unstable since they were built more than seven decades ago. There is a signposted walk at Rerwick that takes you past the WWII remains and includes geos, low lying cliffs and grassland. In summer it can be a beautiful, flat stroll and a small parking area is available. The nearby Tankerness Loch is a great place for bird watching and the coastline around the north of the parish can provide an excellent vantage point for spotting seals, dolphins and other marine life.

Makers in action

St Andrews is also the location of a very popular attraction, and one which is set to grow in the coming years. In

Tankerness you can find the base of Sheila Fleet Jewellery, a local company at the forefront of Orkney's jewellery industry. Sheila's distinctive designs are influenced by the rich heritage of the islands and she set up her current hub in the parish in 1995. This kirk at Sheila Fleet Jewellery is being turned into a new visitor centre. Visitors can head to the workshop as part of the Orkney Craft Trail to watch beautiful rings, bracelets, broches and much more being produced. Jewellers and enamellers work Mondays to Fridays - arrange a tour by phoning +44 (0) 1856 861 203. A new visitor centre is also being built at the site, with a major project to renovate a disused church underway. When completed there will also be an extended workshop and special exhibitions on display.

Beach life

St Andrews is home to several small but beautiful and quiet beaches. Explore the sands at the Hall of Tankerness and Mill Sands and you could see plenty of wildlife and nature. Dingjeshowe is another popular beach in Orkney, bridging St Andrews and its neighbouring parish of Deerness. It's a fantastic beach to explore with large dunes and spectacular views.

If you are looking for further information on Orkney see: www.visitorkney.com



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Remembering a Scottish soldier

This month across the world we will remember the sacrifice many made for us on November 11th. One Scottish family have never forgotten the long lost brother and uncle who went to Canada and to the First World War, the Glasgow family and have recently tracked down Uncle Ian and nearly 100 years later have erected a gravestone in his memory as Judy Vickers explains.



Ian Hector Steven.

As a boy, Harold Steven remembers the medal. "My father always kept it in a little wooden tea caddy in a sideboard in our dining room which as a child I was allowed to take out and look at. I knew it was his big brother's medal and he was very proud of it."

Growing up in Glasgow during the Second World War, Mr Steven was well aware that there was someone missing from the family. "I knew from family blethers that there had been a brother who had gone to Canada. They were a close family and even though my father was only 13 or 14 when my uncle died, there was a strong affection between them."

Never forgotten

Ian Hector Steven was the sixth of 11 children – Mr Steven's father, also Harold was the second youngest – who grew up in Partick with parents Andrew and Mary Steven. After school, Ian qualified as an electrical engineer and went to work with a firm in Scotstoun. He had emigrated to Canada shortly before the outbreak of the First World War, fought in the conflict, been injured and had died. The family knew little more but had never forgotten him. "His sisters, my aunts, had placed adverts in Canadian newspapers seeking



Harold Steven.

information but had heard nothing. They were aware their brother had married but didn't know if there was a child. During the Second World War, the family always hoped that if there was a son or daughter, that person being of military age, finding themselves in Scotland with the Canadian forces, might come looking for them. But, of course, that never happened."

Scotland's War Project

The feeling from the family was that Ian's widow had probably remarried and begun a new life, and if there was any child he or she had probably changed their name to that of their new "father". Mr Steven's father died in 1962 but his son never forgot the uncle and his father's affection for him. "On holiday in Ottawa ten years ago, with an afternoon to spare, I had visited the Parliament Buildings, taken the elevator to the top of the Peace Tower but with so little to go on, understandably I was unable to find any record of Ian Hector's name." It was only last year, with the centenary of the First World War sparking a series of articles in the press, that Mr Steven read about the Scotland's War Project. Among the project's wider remit to gather stories and memorabilia about the First World War and those who served in it for posterity were efforts to officially recognise those who had died because of their service to their country but for various reasons in those chaotic times had never been recorded and honoured as war dead.

Mr Steven decided to see if his uncle qualified. "I had very little to go on," he says. In fact, all he had was a faded Glasgow newspaper cutting, mentioning his uncle in a roll of honour and his childhood memory of the medal. But within two hours of a call to the Scotland's War researchers, Mr Steven was looking at most of Ian Hector's story on his laptop. He had emigrated from Glasgow on the SS Saturnia and arrived in Quebec on May 7, 1913. He'd worked as an electrical engineer until he'd enlisted on 24 September, 1914. He had married Evie Lacey, from Bristol in England, on 2 August, 1916 and died in Toronto on 22 October, 1918 from bronchial pneumonia following influenza, one of the thousands of victims that year of a Spanish flu epidemic.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission

With the help of another cousin, Colin Steven, the focus of the search turned to Canada, where Mr Steven said researchers and authorities were incredibly encouraging, helping the family to discover that Ian Hector was a gunner with the Canadian Field Artillery, was wounded in service in France in 1916. His right arm was shattered and he was left with shrapnel in the spine. He was discharged from the Army and returned to Canada where he died aged 25 two years later and was buried in the St John's Norway cemetery in Toronto. They also

discovered that Evie, Ian Hector's wife, had followed him to the grave just 11 days later, another victim of the flu. Her mother, Grace, had paid for the burial plot. Perhaps most crucially, though, the family found out that the medal Mr Steven remembered was the Memorial or Silver Cross which is "awarded to mothers and widows of Canadian soldiers who died on active service or whose death was consequently attributed to such duty."

He had emigrated to Canada shortly before the outbreak of the First World War, fought in the conflict, been injured and had died. The family knew little more but had never forgotten him.

Mr Steven knew that that should mean his uncle qualified as one of the war dead. He and his cousins put forward their case to the Commonwealth War Graves



Ian's CWGC gravestone.

Commission (CWGC) – and this summer a CWGC gravestone was erected. It also has an inscription added to the bottom from Mr Steven and his cousins: "fondly remembered by family in Scotland." Next year Mr Steven and his son Andrew intend to travel to Toronto for a dedication service at the cemetery, which they are hoping will take place on May 7, the same date that Ian Hector arrived more than 100 years ago. Mr Steven says: "It has been an exciting and exhilarating journey for my cousins and myself. For us as a family, 'he who was lost, has been found.'"

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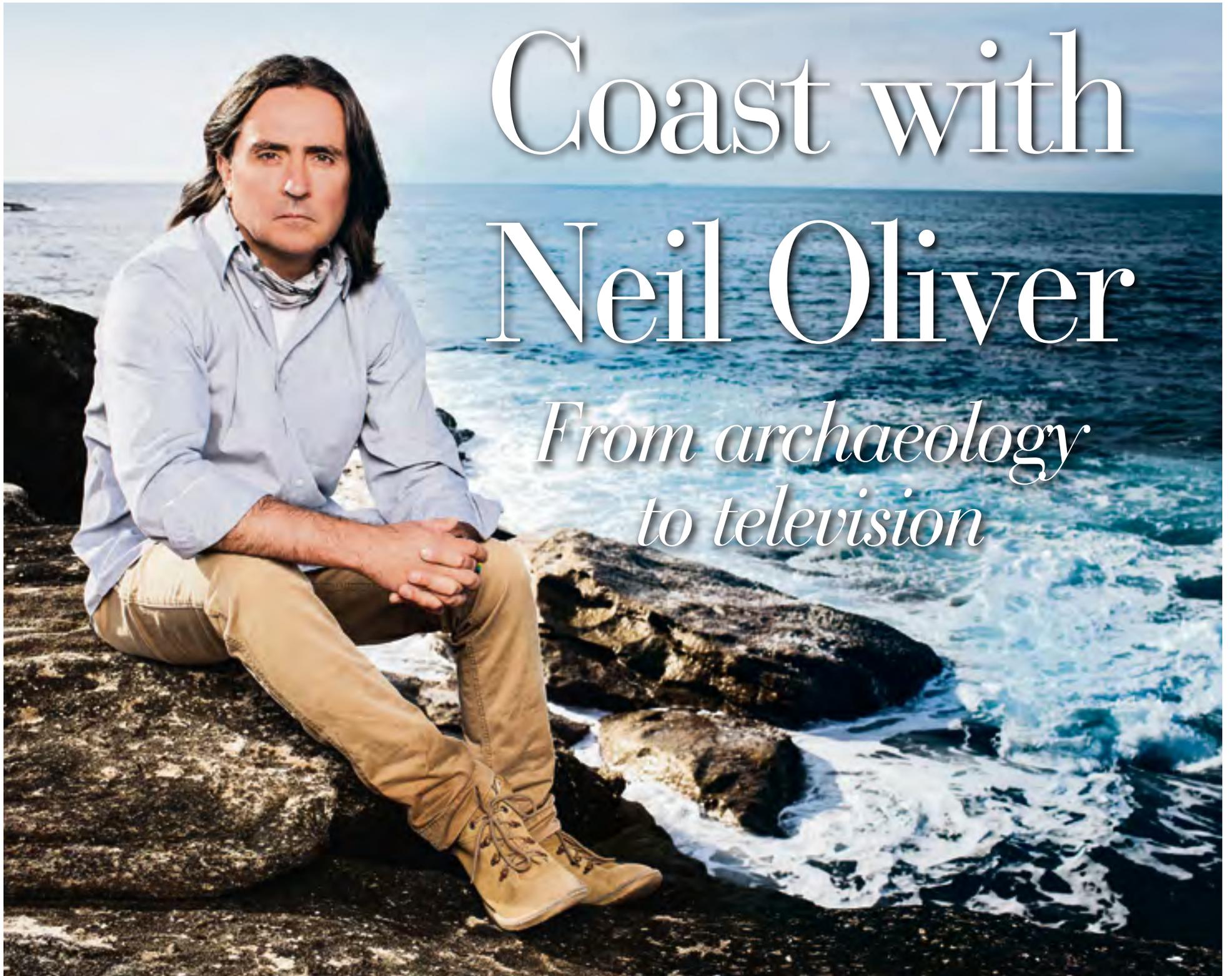
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Coast with

Neil Oliver

*From archaeology
to television*

Acclaimed historian, author and television presenter Neil Oliver trained as an archaeologist and then as a journalist before becoming known on our television screens. Neil Oliver has been the author and presenter of numerous television series and books that explore history including The History of Scotland, Vikings, The History of Ancient Britain, The History of Celtic Britain and Coast. Neil Oliver took the time to speak to the Scottish Banner's Sean Cairney on Scotland's history and how his passion for Scotland's story brought him to our screens.

SC: Neil thank you for speaking to *the Scottish Banner*. Can we begin with you telling us about your family background? Your father was a travelling salesman and your mother worked at the local council in the Scottish borders, how did you take an interest in archaeology and eventually find yourself in television?

NO: I was very interested in history from a young age and did well in the subject at school. I had always planned to do history in university. I was lucky enough to grow up in a typical working class Scottish household. My parents were big readers and we had lots of books in the house. They were also very supportive of education and enthusiastic about the opportunities of education. When I did well enough in my exams that I got the

chance to go to university and my parents were very encouraging about that. When I stayed to look at what university I would go to, it was at that time I came across archaeology as a subject and I realised as an extension of my interest in history that I wanted to go back to the earliest part of the story, the pre-history. So I studied a large part in Scottish pre-history, I was interested in how Scotland had begun since the last ice age. I had an almost romantic view of the subject and absolutely loved it. I really enjoyed my four years of university in Glasgow and after I graduated I worked as a freelance archaeologist for a number of years. You can imagine however that this was a very difficult career with work sporadic and it nearly became more of a past time. So I retrained as a journalist and

worked in newspapers and eventually became a deputy editor of a weekly paper in East Lothian outside of Edinburgh. Then I got into internet journalism and worked with BT (British Telecom) on a new web site they were doing at a time very few even had an internet site. At the same time as this I still had a very good friend who was a working archaeologist and he and I came up with a plan to go and excavate the battlefields of the Anglo-Zulu War in South Africa and see if there was anything to be found archaeologically. We managed to get that project off the ground in our spare time and that attracted the attention of television and became my first foray into TV with the series *Two Men and A Trench*. Archaeology has always been with me and it was

archaeology that unexpectedly opened the door for me to go into television.

SC: Neil the *Coast* series has been a huge hit in the UK running for a decade and now you have been filming both *Coast Australia* and *Coast New Zealand*. What is it about this series you think resonates with so many viewers across the world?

NO: We started filming *Coast UK* in 2004 and it became hugely popular and did 10 seasons. *Coast Australia* and *Coast New Zealand* are completely separate entities and the productions here are in collaboration with both Australian and New Zealand production companies. It was very lucky for me that the production companies Great Southern and Foxtel felt it was appropriate to have continuity

with the original UK *Coast* production and include me along with local presenters as well, making it the best of both worlds. The show has proven to be equally popular here as it has been in the UK. *Coast* is beautifully made and it really is a lovely watch. The stories are told in short hand, most segments are no more than 7 or 8 minutes long. *Coast* celebrates the landscape and the people and encourages people to look again at places they may have taken for granted or forgotten about, some close to home and others that may be a bit further afield. It really has some great informative and quirky stories that really have not been told anywhere else, it is not uncommon to hear about something on *Coast* you would not hear about on any other program. We also have multiple presenters to so you don't have to buy in on liking one person for an hour, you get new faces all the time, so it really refreshes itself.

SC: Scotland is a small country with a big story and Scottish history is so rich and diverse with eras, people and events that have shaped this great nation. Why do you feel we remember certain historical events or people over others?

Events such as Bannockburn also hold a special place as it was such an unexpected result, it was like Partick Thistle beating Manchester United, a great victory for Scotland.

NO: Characters from history are sometimes brought back into the light and without a doubt *Braveheart*, Mel Gibson's film, really brought a fresh spotlight on William Wallace. There have always been people with a William Wallace tattoo but he was not always someone you learned about in school. It really depends on where you grew up as to what you got to learn about, say with the Scottish wars of independence. In some respects characters are resurrected by affection, and going back to the film *Braveheart*, it really made people interested in that period of history and the characters which were involved such as Robert The Bruce and really made people look again at the story. Events such as Bannockburn also hold a special place as it was such an unexpected result, it was like Partick Thistle beating Manchester United, a great victory for Scotland. It was also important to the church at that time because the Scottish church wanted to remain independent from the church in England. If Edward had been successful in taking Scotland as part of his kingdom, then bishops in Scotland would have been answerable to the Archbishops in York and Canterbury and they did not want that because they answered directly to the Pope in Rome. They considered themselves as Rome's special sons and daughters so it was their independence at stake and Robert the Bruce found a capable warlord to fight for that

independence for them. In the aftermath of the battle the church went to great lengths to use to persuade the Pope to recognise Scotland as a kingdom in its own right and Robert as its king. Of course the wars of independence did not stop at that point. People remember battles because they tend to leave a mark and often bring together a number of things people are passionate about such as religion, kings, and national security, things people would have really cared about. There does not always need to be logic involved as people get so passionate which at times becomes irrational.

SC: How much do you feel Scotland's history has shaped the nation Scotland is and how well do you feel Scotland is remembering its history today?

NO: It is a pertinent question at the moment, especially with the independence movement. There quite a lot of harking back to history for both sides of this debate seek to legitimise their cause and sometimes people use history as a weapon or tool which ignites a great deal of passion. When I was at school we did not get a great deal of Scottish history, I never learned about William Wallace or Robert the Bruce, we got more of a British history at school. There are some amazing gaps in what is still taught in history. I did a television series called *The History of Scotland* and while there are certain topics many Scots know about such as the Battle of Culloden, Bannockburn or people like Mary Queen of Scots or Bonnie Prince Charlie. But when we went back to tell the story of the early kings of the 8th, 9th and 10th centuries, the names are unfamiliar to them as a character in a book. So people don't always know the whole story. If you go back far enough say pre-Roman people start to get very vague. I do though think Scotland does a pretty good job about educating its people about history but I do think there is so much to our story people still need to discover.

SC: Scotland's events and stories are so great, so tragic and so many. If this question is even possible do you have a Scottish event or person who stands out for you?

NO: I am an archaeologist and I have always been fascinated by the Neolithic times and Orkney. I have been involved with excavations up there and I am fascinated by what it was that was so inspiring up there for people to build those monuments. The Orkney people were farmers and were dedicating enormous efforts to building stone circles, burial chambers and massive ritual sites. They put a huge amount of time and effort and were clearly inspired by either a religious or scientific reason and obviously thought they understood something that was so important for them to have built these monuments, which I find so fascinating. I am also drawn to pre-history of the Romans, Britain at one time would have been a patchwork of Celtic tribes, some of whom would have got on with one another and others would have been at each other's throats (literally!) and that would not have been England or Scotland but just a Celtic land. It was not until a colonising army, the Romans, made a border and build Hadrian's Wall



Photo: Nick Wilson/Foxtel.

that a separation was given and England and Scotland had a border. A border which people later were prepared and did die for. The Roman invaders called the north Caledonia and the south Britannia, it was only after the Romans that the terms Scotland and England were used so in that respect they are really relatively modern terms. Scotland, England and Wales have longer been places with no borders, than have with the borders placed on them now.

SC: You recently took a special interest in The Battle of Bannockburn, can you tell us about this?

NO: For the 700th anniversary of Bannockburn I was part of team who went out and looked for the actual site of the battle of Bannockburn-we came close to finding it but it is hard after 700 years to sometimes find anything. We did fairly reasonably job to establish around Stirling where the battle most

likely took place, which was a success for us. You have centuries and centuries of human occupation in Scotland and you dig a whole still today and just never know what you will find.

SC: Neil you were born in Renfrewshire, grew up in Ayr and Dumfries and today live in Stirling. Your work clearly has taken all over Scotland. When not working do you have a favourite part of Scotland to visit and if so why?

NO: I do, I visit a little village in Fife, Elie. It is one of string of very pretty coastal villages. A very pretty part of Scotland and we have been taking the kids to Elie since they were very young, we actually go there sometimes 2, 3, 4 times a year. We rent a cottage and stay either for a few days or a week and that's a place that is very dear to us a family. Scotland certainly is full of some fantastic places to visit and we are so lucky to have so much on our door step.

By: Nick Drainey

Flying into history

First in France replica for Montrose

November 11th is a day to reflect on the thousands of soldiers who have given so much for so many. Intrepid pilot Lt Hubert Dunsterville Harvey Kelly was the Angus-based pilot whose biplane was the first British aircraft to land in France during the First World War. Now a team of volunteers have built a replica in Montrose of the plane that has a special place in Scottish military aviation history as Nick Drainey explains.



The Replica BE2 at Montrose Air Station. Pic by Neil Werninck.



Harvey-Kelly.

A sharp turn could see the biplane's wing or tail fin fall off, it had no weapons and the engine was prone to failing. But the BE2 carried Hubert Dunsterville Harvey-Kelly from Montrose to Amiens, making him the first British pilot to land in France after the outbreak of the First World War and shortly afterwards the first to down an enemy aircraft. Now a replica of the flimsy craft has been painstakingly put together and displayed at the station in Angus where the intrepid flyer was based more than 100 years ago. The plane only had a range of 20 to 30 miles making the 1914 journey from Montrose to England and on to France protracted, as well as full of risk.

Genuinely dangerous

Myles Harvey-Kelly, Lt Harvey-Kelly's great-nephew, said: "They were genuinely dangerous, it was very new technology. Engines failed and if you tried to turn it too hard the wings or the tail would fall off, or

the engine would fall out. In the First World War far more pilots were lost on training exercises than to the enemy." The first Royal Flying Corps squadron used hot air balloons as the idea of planes was relatively new – the RAF was not formed until 1918. But No. 2 Squadron, based at Montrose, was created to use biplanes for spotting and reconnaissance. At the outbreak of war they flew to Dover before heading across the Channel, which took days. Mr Harvey-Kelly said: "The Commanding Officer, Major Charles Burke, said they would fly over in formation and he was going to be first to land in France."

However, Lt Harvey-Kelly took a short cut over woodland and landed a few minutes before his senior officer, on August 13. Although the aircraft were meant to be used in non-combat roles, it was not long before they were joining in the fighting.

Mr Harvey-Kelly said: "The Army had arrived and the new air force would arrive a few days later. It was the first time that

airpower had been considered in a war and the first time an air force had ever been deployed. They started knocking seven bells out of each other pretty much as soon as they arrived. A bomb was dropped on to the airfield about a week after they arrived and after about two weeks my great uncle was the first pilot to down an enemy aircraft."

The planes had no weapons so the encounter sounded more like something out of a silent movie than a deadly dog-fight. Mr Harvey-Kelly said his great uncle saw a German aircraft and flew at it to force it to the ground by panicking the pilot. He then landed himself before "chasing the pilot off into the woods, setting fire to his plane and flying off again." Lt Harvey-Kelly's life ended in 1917 during what the Royal Flying Corps called Bloody April, when 245 aircraft were lost. He was shot down over Germany after being left to fight eight German planes on his own when the two British aircraft he was with were knocked out of the sky. He was taken to a military hospital but died,

although his personal possessions were sent via the Red Cross to his mother in Ireland.

Maverick

My Harvey-Kelly described his great uncle as a "maverick": "My guess is he had a motorbike and drove irresponsibly which wasn't enough so he learned how to fly." He said he had a tendency to spit out of his biplane at anti-aircraft guns and one day returned to base because he said he had "no spit left". The pilot was also credited with always taking a potato and a reel of cotton with him when he went over German lines because he said if he was forced to land they would treat him well if he could offer useful and scarce goods

Mr Harvey-Kelly, who has attended tributes to his relative in Northern France as well as visiting his grave in the Browns Copse Cemetery in Roeux, said the replica plane at Montrose was a fitting tribute to the men who flew them.

He said: "It really is a beautiful machine. It looks like it has just come off the production line and it was very moving to see it."

Dr Dan Paton, curator of Montrose Air Station Heritage Centre, said the replica – built by volunteers at the centre – was "a fantastic addition to the collection at Montrose. By today's standards it looks like a precarious aircraft but in the early 20th century it was a state of the art machine. It now serves as a record of the daring exploits of our servicemen and women during the First World War and allows us to look back nearly 100 years and gain some understanding of the great risks they took.

"By involving the families of those who flew the craft, and through the work of building the replica, we are truly able to experience history."



Harvey-Kelly (right) leaning on a hay stack having a cigarette.



No. 2 Squadron Royal Flying Corps in Montrose in 1914.

Castle, churches, arts centres and the Scottish Parliament, but which will be crowned Scotland's top building?

10 great Scottish buildings have been chosen from a list of 100 as finalists in the 2016 Scotstyle - celebrating the top 100 buildings from 1916-2015. Voting is still available for the public to cast their vote for their favourite amongst the top ten. Scotland's building of the century will be announced at the Finale of The Festival of Architecture in Dundee on the 18th November. Scotstyle an ambitious exhibition, which tells the story of the 100 buildings, has been touring Scotland in three separate versions and so far has been seen by tens of thousands of people. Neil Baxter, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Secretary and co-editor of Scotstyle, commented: "This brilliant list testifies to the extraordinary quality of Scotland's buildings. The fact that so many are relatively recent demonstrates that our national architecture is in very good health. We have much to celebrate."

In date order, the top ten are:

1. 1930 - St Conan's Kirk, Lochawe, Argyll
2. 1930 - India Tyre and Rubber Factory, Inchinnan
3. 1938 - Rothesay Pavilion, Rothesay, Isle of Bute
4. 1950 - Hermit's Castle, Achmelvich, Loch Inver, Sutherland
5. 1982 - Dundee Repertory Theatre, Dundee
6. 1987 - Princes Square, Glasgow
7. 1998 - National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh
8. 1999 - Dundee Contemporary Arts, Dundee
9. 2004 - The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh
10. 2007 - Pier Arts Centre, Stromness, Orkney

Light Nights

The city of Dundee is preparing to host the 2016 Festival of Architecture finale this



St Conan's Kirk, Lochawe, Argyll.

November. Light Nights will bring together a spectacular programme of events centred around the city's family-friendly Christmas lights switch-on event. Following a theme of past, present and future, the city's historic and contemporary architectural spaces will become the focus for large-scale light installations, a torchlight procession, an architectural walking trail, art and design exhibitions and a night market. Over two nights in November, Dundee's oldest and newest landmarks will act as the backdrop for spectacular light shows. Colourful light installations will highlight the intricate construction detail of Kengo Kuma's V&A Museum of Design Dundee, creating a beacon of light on the banks of the River Tay. The Steeple, dating back to the 15th century

and home to Scotland's tallest surviving medieval church tower will become the stage for Biome Collective's newly commissioned interactive sonic light show, inviting people to make music with a building.

Lateral North's 3D timber map of Scotland, presented at the 2016 Venice International Architectural Biennale will

open at West Ward Works', a former print factory and a 16th century graveyard in the centre of Dundee will show Kathy Hinde's musical flock of Luminous Birds. Visitors to Light Nights are invited to join in with an atmospheric torchlight procession connecting two of Dundee's best loved buildings McManus Galleries and the Caird Hall, ahead of the Christmas lights switch-on ceremony in City Square.

The winner of Scotstyle will be announced at the Festival of Architecture Finale on 18 November 2016.

To cast your vote, or for more information, visit: www.foa2016.com/scotstyle



Pier Arts Centre, Stromness, Orkney.



Hermit's Castle, Achmelvich, Loch Inver, Sutherland.



National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh.

Remember Remember the Fifth of November...



Perth lights up for Bonfire Night on November 5th.

The year was 1605 and some English Catholics were angry because the King of England, James the 1st, was treating them badly. In November 1605 a group of men made a plan to blow up the Houses of Parliament (the government buildings) in London. An enormous explosion was planned for November 5th. This was the day that the King was due to open parliament. The plan is known as the 'Gunpowder Plot' and the leader of the group was called Guy Fawkes. The men put 36 barrels of gunpowder (a type of explosive) in the Houses of Parliament and they waited for the King to arrive. The group decided that Guy Fawkes should light the gunpowder and cause the explosion. Did they succeed? No, they didn't. The police found the gunpowder before it exploded and they caught all the men involved in the plot. The men were tortured and killed. To

celebrate his survival, King James ordered the people of England to have a bonfire on the night of November 5th.

Bonfires, Guys and fireworks

On November 5th people remember the plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament by celebrating 'Bonfire Night'. All over Britain there are firework displays and bonfires with models of Guy Fawkes, which are burned on the fire. The Guy is made of old clothes and the clothes are filled with newspaper. The Guy is a reminder of Guy Fawkes. The fireworks are a reminder of the gunpowder that Guy Fawkes hid in the cellar of Parliament. Some people have a small bonfire in their garden on November 5th. In main towns and cities there are big bonfires and firework displays planned across the UK and Scotland will also light up the night this month.

The Scottish Banner

The 2016 Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo



Full coverage of the 67th Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo live from the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle. The world's most spectacular military Tattoo will host a parade of talent from all around the world celebrating 'Tunes of Glory'. Set against the stunning backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, the spine-tingling presentation includes the New Zealand Army Band, Imps Motorcycle Display Team, Tattoo Highland Dancers, crowd favourites the Massed Pipes and Drums plus many more. Set against the stunning backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, the spine-tingling presentation includes the New Zealand Army Band, The Royal Marines Band Scotland, Tattoo Highland Dancers, crowd favourites the Massed Pipes and Drums plus many more.

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IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Kelpies win international canals award

One of Scotland's new great attractions the giant Kelpies sculptures near Falkirk have won a prize at the inaugural World Canals Awards. The sculptures won the Pioneer Award at a ceremony during the World Canals Conference in Inverness.

The world's largest equine sculptures, the colossal, 30-metre-tall Kelpies tower over a new section of the historic Forth & Clyde Canal and form the centrepieces of the £43m Helix project. The scheme, driven by a partnership of Falkirk Council and Scottish Canals and supported by an award of £25m from the Big Lottery Fund, has transformed 350 hectares of underused land between Falkirk and Grangemouth into a vibrant parkland, visitor attraction and marine hub with the canal and The Kelpies at its heart. More than two million visitors from all over the world have stood in the shadow of the sculptures since their unveiling in April 2014, bringing renewed vibrancy and income to the area and boosting the local economy by an estimated £1.5m per year.

The Kelpies, which were designed by sculptor Andy Scott (as featured in the September issue of *the Scottish Banner*), have won a number of design awards, and were named "Scotland's national treasure" by the National Lottery. Other attractions in Italy, Ireland and the US collected the three other awards in the ceremony.

Scots scientists win 2016 Nobel Prize

Edinburgh born Sir Fraser Stoddart of Northwestern University in the USA, has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Stoddart received the Royal Medal in 2010 from His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh at the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE), Scotland's national academy of arts and sciences. He was appointed by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth

II as a Knight Bachelor in her 2007 New Year's Honours List for his services to chemistry and molecular nanotechnology. He was elected to the fellowship of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2012 and membership of the National Academy of Sciences in 2014.

Other Scots have been awarded the 2016 Nobel Prize for Physics, David Thouless and John Kosterlitz are two of three scientists splitting the award. Professor David Thouless, who was born in Bearsden in East Dunbartonshire, is sharing half the prize for his discoveries which organisers said "opened the door on an unknown world". Professor John Kosterlitz, who is originally from Aberdeen, has also been awarded half of the prize alongside London-born Professor Duncan Haldane. Prof Thouless, who is 82, is affiliated with the University of Washington in Seattle, while 74-year-old Prof Kosterlitz is based at Brown University also in the USA.

Edinburgh-based scientist Professor Peter Higgs won the prize in 2013 for his work on the Higgs boson theory.

New Bank of Scotland plastic £5 note enters circulation



The Bank of Scotland's first plastic banknote intended for general circulation is set to be issued. The new polymer £5 note, which is slightly smaller than its paper predecessor, will be available in branches before becoming

more widely available across Scotland. It continues to feature Sir Walter Scott and The Mound on the front, and a bridge theme on the back. All existing paper Bank of Scotland £5 notes will continue to be accepted however will be gradually withdrawn. Bank of Scotland also plans to replace its £10 paper note with a polymer version next year.

The new, plastic material is said to be cleaner and more resilient to being crumpled and spilled on. In September, the Bank of England released new £5 plastic notes featuring Winston Churchill on the back. It was the first time a polymer note had been circulated by the Bank of England, but other parts of the UK have already been using the material. More than 20 countries around the world already use polymer banknotes - they include Scotland, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Royal Bank of Scotland's new £5 plastic note entered national circulation on 27 October.

Skye high for Scotland's newest airport



Passenger flights could be serving Skye again within two years after councillors backed "exciting" plans to re-open the island's airport. Hopes were raised last night that the Broadford Airstrip could finally be brought back to life, three decades after it closed to regular services.

Councillors on the Isle of Skye and Raasay committee have given their support to the proposal, after a new

business study found it could be worth up to £47million to the local economy and urged the Scottish Government to help turn the vision into a reality.

The air strip at Ashaig was opened in 1972 to serve as a gateway to the island, with Loganair operating a scheduled route to Glasgow until 1988, when the service was disbanded. But a campaign by islanders to re-open the airport has continued to gather momentum in recent years, and the new business study has strengthened their case. The analysis found that 23,800 passengers would use a service between Glasgow and Skye each year, and that operating a 19-seat Twin Otter aircraft would provide best value.

The costs over a 30-year period were estimated at between £19.4million and £23.1million, while the economic benefits were projected to be about double the expenditure, at between £39.7million and £46.8million. Skye and Raasay committee chairman Drew Millar said it was a "very exciting report". He added: "The reintroduction of scheduled flights to Skye would be an enormous boost to our local economy and the cost benefit analysis clearly proves how valuable this would be."

World record for Queensferry Crossing over Forth



An artist's impression of the finished Queensferry Crossing. Image courtesy of Transport Scotland.

The Queensferry Crossing has set a new world record. The centre tower deck has been recognised by *Guinness World Records* as the largest freestanding balanced cantilever in the world. The record will not last long as it will disappear once the gaps between the towers are closed. The bridge is due to open in May 2017. It was originally hoped it could open by December 2016. The project remains within its budget of £1.35bn. Since last September each 16m, 750 tonne section of deck has been added piece by piece and the central tower deck fan is now fully complete.

Cabinet Secretary for the Economy Keith Brown said: "We can all agree the Queensferry Crossing is a modern marvel and a world-class feat of engineering. It's only fitting the bridge has been awarded a Guinness World Records title. This world-record breaking structure is all the more remarkable when you consider the extreme weather conditions often experienced out in the Firth of Forth, especially working up above the water between 60 metres and 210 metres high. It won't be long before the balanced cantilever disappears, when the small gaps between the towers are closed. But the record is still there to be beaten and the Queensferry Crossing will still be the tallest bridge in the UK and longest bridge of its type anywhere in the world."

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

1 - Bank of Scotland founded by an Act of the Scottish Parliament. **1695**

1 - Scotland made a serious bid to enter the lucrative English sea-trading market. The Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies issued a subscription list to stockholders in London. Later known as The Darien Company, £300,000 sterling was quickly raised, but London merchants saw it as a threat to their own East India Company. They put pressure on the King, and the English subscriptions were withdrawn at the behest of their government. **1695**

2 - Tom Johnston, one of Scotland's best known Secretaries of State, born in Kirkintilloch. **1881**

3 - Queen Elizabeth officially opened an underwater pipeline to bring the first North Sea oil ashore. **1975**

3 - Liz McColgan won her first marathon in a record time. **1991**

3 - The Scottish expedition to Darien landed at 'New Caledonia'. The expedition left Leith on the 12th July 1698, heading for the isthmus of Panama. The enterprise began in 1695 when the Scottish Parliament passed an Act for the establishment of the 'Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies'. **1698**

4 - Birth of King William III. **1650**

5 - Opening of the original Mitchell Library, Glasgow, now the largest public reference library in Europe. **1877**



6 - Celtic Football Club formally constituted in Calton, Glasgow, to alleviate poverty in Glasgow's East End parishes. **1887**

7 - Writer and World War Two garrison commander Eric Linklater died in Orkney. **1974**

8 - Scholar and philosopher John Duns Scotus died. His dry subtleties led to the word "Duns" or "dunce" meaning dull and incapable of learning. Beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1993. **1308**

9 - In Edinburgh, Sir James Young Simpson delivered Wilhelmina Carstairs while chloroform was administered to the mother, the first child to be born with the aid of anaesthesia. **1847**



9 - The Royal Yacht Britannia left the Clydebank shipyards to begin her speed trials. Built by John Brown's

shipbuilders, she was famously luxurious and entertained countless dignitaries in opulent style. The Britannia carried the royal family on more than 1000 visits to over 600 countries. **1953**

9 - Dorothy Dunnett, the cult Scottish novelist, died. The writer of intricate and meticulously researched historical novels, she attracted a devoted following with her multi-volume sagas. **2001**

10 - Journalist Henry M Stanley found the missing Scottish missionary David Livingstone with the classic "Dr Livingstone, I presume?" **1871**

11 - Armistice Day, marking the end of hostilities in World War I. The guns were finally silenced on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Though Scots made up only 10% of the UK population at the time, a total of 147,609 Scottish people were killed during the war, a fifth of Britain's total dead. **1918**

11 - Today is Martinmas, Scottish Quarter Day. The feast of St Martin of Tours was traditionally the day for slaughtering livestock and salting it for preservation through the winter.

12 - St Machar Day, patron saint of Aberdeen.

12 - Edinburgh University first admitted women to the study of medicine. Sophia Jex-Blake and her friend Edith Pechy were the first to attend the prestigious medical school. Though Jex-Blake passed her exams, she was not allowed to graduate as regulations prevented women from actually serving on the wards. **1869**

13 - King Malcolm III (Canmore), last of the Celtic kings was killed at the Battle of Alnwick. Succeeded by Donald III. **1093**

13 - The birth of Robert Louis Stevenson, author and poet, in Edinburgh's New Town. He died in Samoa, aged only 44. **1850**

14 - Speed limit for horseless carriages was raised from 4mph (2mph in towns) to 14mph. **1896**



15 - Statue to Greyfriar's Bobby, who stayed by his master's grave for 14 years was unveiled. **1873**

15 - The Stone of Destiny was finally returned to Scotland. Legend has it that the stone is a relic from the Holy Land and once belonged to the biblical Jacob. From an early date the kings of Scotland were inaugurated sitting on a royal chair with the stone in its base. In 1296 Edward I removed the stone and installed it at Westminster Abbey. It remained there until it was kidnapped by Scottish nationalist students in 1951. They managed to hide the stone in Scotland for four months until it was found and returned to Westminster. It was moved from there to Edinburgh Castle in 1996 amid much celebration. **1996**

16 - Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show opened in the East End Exhibition Buildings, Duke Street, Glasgow. **1891**

16 - James Macpherson, the famous fiddling freebooter, was hanged at Banff. The town clock was said to have been advanced to forestall a messenger carrying a reprieve for his hanging. Legend has it that before the notorious outlaw musician was hanged for sheep and cattle stealing he treated the crowd to one of his own compositions, *Macpherson's Rant*, and then broke the fiddle over his knee. When Burns heard of the tale he wrote the song *Macpherson's Farewell*. **1700**

17 - David Livingstone reached Victoria Falls in Africa. **1855**

18 - Sir David Wilkie who later became a well-known painter of historical and religious works as well as portraits, was born near Pitlessie, Fife. **1785**

18 - Robin Hall, the Scottish folk singer and musician, died. Hall achieved national fame in the sixties along with fellow Scot, Jimmie Macgregor, on the BBC TV show, *Tonight*. Hits included *The Mingulay Boat Song* and schoolboy favourite, *Ye Cannae Shove Yer Grannie Aff a Bus*. **1998**

19 - King Charles I born. **1600**

20 James Bruce, 8th Lord Elgin, the Scottish Liberal statesman and diplomat, died. During his career he served as Governor-General of Canada, 1847-54, and India, 1862-63 and was special envoy to China and Japan. During a visit to China he burnt down the emperor's famous Summer Palace in Beijing, destroying thousands of priceless works of art, in order to intimidate the emperor and force him to sign an unratified treaty. **1863**

21 - King James VII married Mary of Modena. **1673**

22 - Birth of Mary of Guise, the French Queen Consort of James V. She was regent of Scotland during the minority reign of her daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots. **1515**

22 - Jack McConnell elected First Minister of Scotland, succeeding Henry McLeish who had resigned. **2001**

23 - Historical novelist Nigel Tranter born in Glasgow. He was the most prolific Scottish writer of all time, writing mainly factual and fictional books related to Scottish history and was also a columnist for *the Scottish Banner*. **1909**

24 - David II (aged 7) crowned at Scone. **1331**

24 - The Scots army defeated at the Rout of Solway Moss. King James V had sent a huge force of 10,000 men into England which was defeated by an English force under the command of Sir Thomas Wharton. James died shortly afterward, and was succeeded to the throne by his baby daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots. **1542**

25 - General Tam Dalyell raises a regiment to suppress Covenanters which later became the Royal Scots Greys. **1681**

25 - Steel magnate and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie born in Dunfermline. **1835**

26 - Death of John McAdam, inventor of "macadamisation" road surface with a smooth hard surface with a camber to ensure rainwater rapidly drained away. **1836**

26 - Elsie Inglis, the Scottish nursing pioneer and suffragette, died. Inglis is perhaps best remembered for her role in the First World War, where, convinced that women could play an active role in the conflict, she led volunteer medical units of women who served in France and in Serbia, where Inglis herself was taken prisoner. Winston Churchill wrote that Inglis and her nurses "would shine in history". **1917**

27 - The greatest storm on record hit Britain with the loss of 8,000 people in 24 hours. **1703**

27 - The first deaths from an E.coli outbreak in Lanarkshire were reported. The outbreak was subsequently traced back to a butcher's shop in the town of Wishaw, and by early 1997 twenty people, mostly senior citizens, had died, making this the world's worst outbreak of E.coli poisoning. **1996**

28 - Battle of Rullion Green on the Pentland Hills, south-west of Edinburgh, in which the King's army led by Sir Tam Dalyell defeated the Covenanters. **1666**

28 - W.Oliver Brown, the candidate for the fledgling National Party of Scotland (NPS), polled 4,818 votes in the Renfrew East By-Election. In doing this he became the first NPS candidate to save his election deposit. The National Party of Scotland amalgamated with the Scottish Party in April 1934 to form the modern Scottish National Party/SNP. **1930**

29 - Margaret Tudor, daughter of Henry VII of England was born. She later married King James IV of Scotland in the "Union of the Thistle and the Rose". It was due to her bloodline that King James VI of Scotland was able to inherit the crown of England in 1603, after the death of his cousin, Queen Elizabeth I. **1489**

29 - Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons granted its charter by King James VI. **1599**

29 - Thomas Edison demonstrated the phonograph publicly for the first time. **1877**

30 - St Andrew's Day – celebrate the patron saint of Scotland.



30 - Stone of Destiny, stolen from Scone by King Edward I of England in 1296, returned to Scotland and installed in Edinburgh Castle. **1996**

30 - World's first international football (soccer) match, Scotland V England at West of Scotland Cricket Ground. Result was 0-0. **1872**

30 - HMS Vanguard, Britain's biggest and last battleship, was launched at Clydebank. **1944**



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Scottish Gaelic Choir:
Wednesdays 10:30 am to 12:30 pm during school terms at The Kildara Centre, rear of 39 Stanhope Street, Malvern.

Language Class: Wednesdays 7:00 to 8:30 pm during school terms at the Celtic Club, Cnr Queen and Latrobe Streets, Melbourne.

Contact Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277
Email: **scottishgaelicsocietyvic@gmail.com**



MURRAY CLAN SOCIETY of North America

Applications for membership are invited from Murrays and sept: Balgownie, Neaves, Dunsmore, Dunsmore, Fleming, Moray, Murrise, Piper, Pypet, Small, Small, Small, Small, Spalding

www.clanmurray.org

Stanley B. Fleming
103 Wall Street
Fergus, Ontario, N1M 2K3

Kathy Wolf
774 S. Mine Street
Lafayette, CO 80127-2021



Clan Shaw Society

Invites membership or inquiries from all Shaw, Ayson, Adamson, Esson, MacAy, MacHay, Shisch, Sheach, Sheath, Seith, Seith, Skathi, Scath and Shay.

Mike Shaw
Secretary
2403 West Cranford
Denison, TX 75020

Scottish Associations and Societies



Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc.

Promoter of International Tartan Day, Brisbane, Queensland
PO Box 3188, South Brisbane 4101
Bi-Monthly Newsletter, All things Scottish

All persons of Scottish Descent welcome. **www.aussie-scots.org.au**. Email: **secretary@aussie-scots.org.au**, Ph 07 3359 8195



SCOTTISH TARTANS MUSEUM
86 East Main Street
Franklin, North Carolina 28734
www.scottishtartans.org

The Scottish Tartans Museum is a non-profit Heritage center dedicated to the continuing Tradition of Highland Dress, featuring samples of tartan and kilts from the 1700s to today. Our gift shop offers a full line of Highland Dress, including tailor made kilts and many other gifts.

(928) 524-7472 **tartans@scottishtartans.org**



Clan Pollock

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

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



Clan Sinclair Australia
Membership and enquiries from all Sinclairs, Sinclair Septs and Sinclair descendants

For further info contact

President Wayne Sinclair (03) 9873 4761	Secretary Liane Sinclair (03) 9348 2663
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E: **clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com**



Comann Gàidhlig Astràilia (The Scottish Gaelic Association of Australia) is a non-profit organisation which supports the language and culture of Scottish Gaels.

Ruaraidh MacAonghais, Neach Cathrach (Convener)
Phone: 04 0482 2314 E-mail: **fioc@ozgaelic.org**
Web: **www.ozgaelic.org**
Mail: PO Box A2259, SYDNEY SOUTH 1235



The Society of St. Andrew of Scotland (Queensland) Limited
ABN 30 093 578 860

Invites membership of all people of Scottish descent or association.

The Secretary, P.O. Box 3233, South Brisbane, BC, QLD, 4101, Australia. **www.standrewsociety.com**



Clan Pringle Association (North America)
Membership cordially invited from Pringle/Prindle descendants and other interested parties. **www.clanpringle.org.au**

William L. Pringle, III
e-mail: **williampringle3@gmail.com**
Clan Pringle Assoc. (North America)
6538 140th Ave., Holland, MI 49423



Clan Sinclair Association, Inc. (U.S.A.)
All Sinclairs and Septs invited to join: Sinclair, Sinclare, St.Clair, Sinkler

For further info contact

President Frederic John Inkster 1490 NE Kane Street Rosburg, OR 97470 email: csales@chartr.net	Membership Secretary Alta Jean (AJ) Ginn 12147 Holly Knoll Circle Great Falls, VA 22866 email: alja.ginn@verizon.net
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Daughters of Scotia

A 100 plus year old fraternal order for women of Scottish birth or descent or married to men of Scottish birth or descent whose purpose is to keep alive our Scottish heritage and customs.

For membership information contact:
Ms. Cynthia Ridings
Grand Recording Secretary
2566 Galloway Road
Blue Ridge, GA 30513
706-632-8510
cynthiar7@yahoo.com **http://www.daughtersofscotia.org**



St. Andrew's Society of Vermont
P.O. Box 484
Essex Junction, VT 05453

Invites membership inquiries.
David Campbell - President (802) 878-8663



Ross Clan in Australia
The clan is active again in Australia for information contact Commander Des Ross (By appointment David Ross Br Chief of Clan Ross and Balgownie)

We would be pleased to hear from anyone with Ross Clan heritage and interest contact **Commander Des Ross at lonepiper.ross@gmail.com**



Clan Skene Association, Inc.

Invites membership from Skene and septs Cariston, Carney-Carrie, Carndill, Dyan, Dyon, Dyon, Hall, Halyard/Halyard, MacGilliland, Resner, and Skans.

Derna Comp
President
103 Summers Alley
Summersville, SC 29485
Email: **dker1927@yahoo.com**



Illinois Saint Andrew Society

Illinois' oldest, largest Scottish organization and owner of The Scottish Home. A unique "assisted living" facility located in a beautiful wooded setting.

For more information on Society membership and programs or The Scottish Home, contact
Gus Noble, President
708-447-5092 or www.chicago-scots.org



Victorian Scottish Union
Established 1905

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

Affiliated Clans & Societies for 2013-2014:

Balfour Highland Dancing	Geelong Highland Gathering Association
Balmoral Highland Dancing Society	Geelong Scottish Dances
Begonia City Highland Dancing Society	Geelong Celtic Dances
Brunswick Scottish Society	Honsham & District Highland Dancing Club
Clan Cameron	Kilmore Celtic Festival
Clan Donald Victoria	Maryborough Highland Society
Clan Grant	Morningside Peninsula Caledonian Society
Clan Lament Australia	Scottish Country Dance Victoria Society
Clan Macdonald Vermont Inc	St Andrew's First Aid
Clan Mackenzie of Australia	The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne
Clan Mackinnon Australia	The Royal Caledonian Society
Clan Sinclair Association	Warrnambool & District Caledonian Society
Glenelg Scottish Folk Festival	Warrnambool Caledonian Highland Dancing Society

Jan Macdonald, Secretary
Victorian Scottish Union
T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930
E: **secretary@victorianscottishunion.com**
www.victorianscottishunion.com



CLAN ROSS AMERICA
ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION MERGED

Many Names - One Clan

Liz Ross, President

Robert Aumiller, Membership Secretary
crmembership@abcglobal.net
PO Box 6341
River Forest, IL 60305
www.clanross.org



The Stewart Society

Welcomes Stewarts, however spelled, 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**



Clan Sutherland Society of North America, Inc.

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

Richard Langford
1106 Horseshoe Lane
Blacksburg, VA 24060
e-mail: **richard@langfordmail.net**



The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne Inc.

Commemorative functions to honour the Scottish National Poet and world recognized bard and to study his poems, songs, writings and philosophy have been held continuously in Victoria since the arrival of the first permanent Scots in 1836. The current Robert Burns Club was established in 1990. The club became a member of the Robert Burns World Wide Federation in 1991 and has continuously functioned from that time. The objects of the club are:

Promote the works of Robert Burns
Celebrate Scottish Culture and Dancing
Conduct monthly Social Activities
Present an Annual Burns Supper

For membership information contact:
Secretary, Bev Tate: (03) 9743 5183
www.robertburnsclubmelbourne.com.au

SCOTTISH BANNER EVENTS

Having a Clan event? Know of a highland games? Know where the pipes will be playing? Let Scottish Banner readers know of Scottish events both near and far with the Scottish Banner events page.

Send us your community event, concert, meeting or anything with a Scottish twist! Please submit events either online at www.scottishbanner.com or email info@scottishbanner.com.

Please ensure you submit your event in the exact format we use below, events not submitted in this way cannot be guaranteed to be printed. Events will run both in print and online and is a free service.

CANADA

NOVEMBER 2016

4 - 6 Kingston, ON - Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Kingston Branch 50th Anniversary Weekend Workshop & Ball
Join your dancing friends in Kingston to help celebrate the 50th Anniversary. Friday evening welcome dance, Saturday workshop, and Saturday banquet followed by an evening ball. Info: www.rscdskingston.org.

5 Vancouver, BC - The Gaelic Society of Vancouver Ceilidh
Dancing, tea, coffee, & goodies served & door prize at Scottish Cultural Centre: 8886 Hudson St. Info: www.vancouvergaelic.com

12 Toronto, ON - Toronto Scottish Country Dance Workshop and Afternoon Tea Dance
8:30 to 5:00 PM, presented by the RSCDS Toronto. Info: www.dancescottish.ca.

18 Ottawa, ON - The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society- Ottawa Branch Social
At Parkdale United Church 429 Parkdale Ave. Info: www.rscdsottawa.ca.

19 - 1 Montreal, QC - The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry
More than 300 embroidered panels telling Scots stories of migration. Info: www.scottishdiasporatapestry.org

19 Victoria, BC - Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society St Andrews Social
Scottish country dance at Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave. Info: www.viscds.ca.

19 Toronto, ON - St. Andrew's Society of Toronto Charity Ball
At Fairmont Royal York Hotel, 100 Front Street West, a highlight of the annual calendar and a tremendous opportunity to experience Scottish hospitality and revel in Scotland's rich history and traditions. The Ball is co-hosted by the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto and the 48th Highlanders of Canada in support of the charitable activities they both serve. Info: www.standrews-society.ca.

19 Calgary, AB - 133rd Annual St Andrew's Ball
At the Polish Canadian Club, 3015 15 St NE. Info: www.rscdscalgary.org

25 Ottawa, ON - Gala St Andrew's Dinner
Presented by the Ottawa St Andrew's Society at The Ottawa Conference and Event Centre, 200 Coventry Rd. Info: Hugh Reekie 613-728-5343 or www.standrews-society.ca/wp-content/uploads

30 Halifax, NS - The Scots St. Andrew's Day Event
Celebrate Scotland's patron saint. Info: 902-406-4228 or www.thescots.ca.

30 Nationwide - Happy St Andrew's Day
Celebrate Scotland's patron saint with food, music & friends. The day celebrates the Feast of Saint Andrew and is National Scotland Day on November 30th!

DECEMBER 2016

2 Montreal, QC - The St Andrew's Society of Montreal St. Andrew's Ball
An Evening of dining, dancing and pageantry celebrating one hundred and eighty-one years of Scottish heritage in Montreal. Info: www.standrews.qc.ca.

17 Ottawa, ON - Ardbrae Dancers of Ottawa Christmas Pot-Luck & Dance
At Parkdale United Church Hall, 429 Parkdale Ave. 6-10:30pm. Info: www.ardbrae.org.

25 Nationwide - Happy Christmas
Wishing all our readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Christmas!

31 Victoria, BC - Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society New Year's Eve Social
Scottish country dance at Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave. Info: www.viscds.ca.

31 Nationwide - Happy Hogmanay
Wishing all our a readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for 2017!

USA

NOVEMBER 2016

4 - 6 Gainesville, FL - North Florida Fall Ball and Workshop
Sponsored by Gainesville Scottish Country Dancers at Ustler Hall, University of Florida, 162 Fletcher Dr. Info: 352-234-3773 or gainesvillescd@yahoo.com.

4 - 6 Moab, UT - Moab Celtic Festival
A weekend of Celtic events at the Old Spanish Trail Arena, 3641 South Highway 191. Info: 435-210-0080 or www.scotsontherocksmoab.com.

5 - 6 Austin, TX - Austin Celtic Festival
At Fiesta Gardens, 2102 Jesse E. Segovia St. Info: www.austincelticfestival.com.

11 - 13 Alexandria, VA - Argyle Weekend
Sponsored by RSCDS Northern Virginia Branch with classes and ball at St Stephen's and St Agnes Lower School, 400 Fontaine St. Info: www.argyle-weekend.org

11 - 13 Salado, TX - 55th Gathering of the Scottish Clans & Highland Games
A 3-day event filled with the skirl of the bagpipes and the wearing of the Tartan at Central Texas Area Museum, 423 S Main St. Info: www.saladoscottishfestival.com/2013-scottish-games

11 - 12 Clover, SC - Feis Chlobhair Clover Highland Games & Scotch-Irish Festival
Celebrate Celtic culture at Blue Eagle Academy. Info: www.cloversc.org.

12 - 13 West Point, NY - Jeannie Carmichael Ball Weekend
Sponsored by New York area Scottish Country Dance groups at MacArthur Ballroom, Thayer Hotel, US Military Academy, West Point. Info: 201-941-5821 or www.rscdsnewyork.org.

19 Pittsburgh, PA - The Toronto Police Pipe Band plays at the 10th Balmoral Classic
A mix of traditional pipe music and modern arrangements at the McGonigle Theatre, Central Catholic High School, 4720 Fifth Avenue, Oakland. For tickets call: 1-888-71-TICKETS.

19 McKinleyville, CA - North Coast Scottish Society St. Andrew's Day Dinner
6 pm at Six Rivers Brewery, Central Ave. Info: (707) 498-3014 or www.northcoastscots.org.

29 New York, NY - Eve of St Andrew's Day Celebration
Presented by the American-Scottish Foundation at St Andrews Restaurant 141 West 46th Street . Info: 212 605 0338 or www.americanscottishfoundation.com.

30 Nationwide - Happy St Andrew's Day
Celebrate Scotland's patron saint with food, music & friends. The day celebrates the Feast of Saint Andrew and is National Scotland Day on November 30th!

DECEMBER 2016

2 - 4 Alexandria, VA - Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend
Celebrate Scotland and support The Campagna Center. Info: (703) 549 0111 or www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend

25 Nationwide - Happy Christmas
Wishing all our readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Christmas!

31 Nationwide - Happy Hogmanay
Wishing all our a readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for 2017!

SCOTLAND

NOVEMBER 2016

3 - 6 Dunkeld, Perthshire - The Perthshire Amber Festival
Dougie Maclean's annual arts festival with concerts, open mic, workshops, talks and music sessions at various locations in Perthshire. Info: www.perthshireamber.com

3 - 6 Denholm - Denholm Folk Festival
A wee folk festival for a wee village. The weekend's programme includes evening concerts, workshops and an open stage competition. The main events are joined by continual sessions for uninterrupted foot-tapping. Info: www.scotborders-folk.org.uk.

4 Cardenden - Cardenden Community Bonfire & Fireworks Display
Bonfire and fireworks with a torch-lit children's procession. Fantastic annual bonfire and fireworks display in Wallsgreen Park. Info: www.fifedirect.org.uk.

9 - 20 Forres - The Colours of Cluny
A northern light extravaganza amidst the stunning setting of Cluny Hill. Info: www.coloursofcluny.com.

10 - 12 Lerwick - Shetland Guitar Festival
A celebration of guitar music in Shetland. Bi-annual festival of guitar music, including concerts and workshops. Info: www.shetland.org.

12 - 13 Edinburgh - Styling the Nation
At the National Museum of Scotland- a series of workshops, demonstrations, fashion shows, talks, performance and music led by a wide range of high profile artists and experts. Info: www.eventscotland.org

18 Dundee - Light Nights

A spectacular programme of events marking the finale of the Festival of Architecture 2016, centred around the city of Dundee's Christmas lights switch-on at McManus Museum. Info: www.mcmanus.co.uk.

18 - 20 Edinburgh - Scots Fiddle Festival
Scotland's biggest fiddle event promoting & sustaining traditional fiddle music. Info: www.scotsfiddlefestival.com

25 - 30 St Andrews, Fife - St Andrew's Day Celebrations in St Andrews
Where better to celebrate our Patron Saint than the town that shares his name? A host of activities on offer for young and old alike to pay homage to Scotland's patron saint. Info: www.visitstandrews.com.

30 - 3 Irvine - illumination: Harbour Festival of Light
Irvine's historic waterfront will shimmer into life this St Andrew's Day as the Scottish Maritime Museum in North Ayrshire launches the country's newest art and light winter spectacular. Info: www.illuminationfestival.co.uk.

30 Nationwide - Happy St Andrew's Day
Celebrate Scotland's patron saint with food, music & friends. The day celebrates the Feast of Saint Andrew and is National Scotland Day on November 30th!

DECEMBER 2016

9 - 11 Glamis - The Glamis Castle Christmas Market
Crafters and delicatessen shall fill the courtyard at the back of the castle and shall provide lots of festive goodies for all your Christmas shopping needs at Glamis Castle. Info: +44 1307 840393 or www.glamis-castle.co.uk.

25 Nationwide - Happy Christmas
Wishing all our readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Christmas!

30 - 1 Edinburgh - Edinburgh's Hogmanay
Highlights include the torchlight procession, the world famous Street Party, with live music stages, traditional Ceilidh dancing, famous Midnight Moment fireworks lifting from Edinburgh Castle and much more. Info: www.thisisedinburgh.com

31 Aberdeen - Aberdeen's Hogmanay
Welcome in the new year with exciting live performances from local bands before a spectacular fireworks display is fired from the rooftop of His Majesty's Theatre in the heart of the city. Info: www.aberdeeninvestlivevisit.co.uk.

31 Nationwide - Happy Hogmanay
Wishing all our a readers, advertisers and friends a very Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for 2017!

Answers to Scotword on Page 6

ACROSS -1 Barra; 4 Scarts; 8 Tonic; 9 Gauntlets; 11 Greatglen; 12 Lemon; 13 Drummajor; 16 Elbow; 18 Blain; 19 Caddycars; 21 Isles; 23 Butandben; 26 Harvester; 27 Morar; 28 Manses; 29 Essay.

DOWN -1 Benbecula; 2 Richt; 3 Angel; 4 Scunnered; 5 Artillery; 6 Therm; 7 Staged; 10 Sinew; 14 Ministers; 15 Jacobites; 17 Blaeberry; 18 Baith; 20 Sunart; 22 Larva; 24 Targe; 25 Numbs

IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN



Cullen Skink

Ingredients:

For the stock:

75g/2½oz. butter
1 tbsp. vegetable oil
2 leeks, roughly chopped
2 onions, peeled, roughly chopped
2 fennel bulbs, roughly chopped
250ml/9fl oz. white wine
500g/17½oz smoked haddock
750ml/1 pint 7fl oz. water

For the soup:

75g/2½oz. butter
1 tbsp. vegetable oil
2 leeks, finely chopped
2 shallots, peeled, finely chopped
2 garlic cloves, peeled, crushed
300g/10½oz. potatoes, peeled, chopped
500ml/17½fl oz. double cream
1 tbsp. finely chopped fresh parsley
pinch freshly grated nutmeg

Method:

For the stock, heat the butter and vegetable oil in a large pan and gently fry the leeks, onions and fennel for 3-4 minutes, or until softened.

Add the white wine to the pan and bring to the boil. Add the smoked haddock, pour in the water and bring back to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for 30 minutes, skimming off any scum that rises to the surface, until the haddock is cooked through.

Strain the haddock, reserving the cooking stock. Chop the haddock into bite-sized pieces.

For the soup, heat the butter with the vegetable oil and fry the leeks, shallots and garlic for 3-4 minutes, or until softened. Add the potatoes and the chopped smoked haddock to the pan.

Add the reserved cooking stock and bring to the boil, then reduce the heat and simmer for 10-15 minutes, or until the potatoes are tender. Stir in the cream and briefly blend the soup with a stick blender.

Serve the soup with crusty bread and sprinkle with the chopped fresh parsley and a sprinkling of freshly grated nutmeg.

Bonfire toffee

Ingredients:

75g/3oz. golden syrup
75g/3oz. black treacle
150g/6oz. light soft brown sugar
75g/3oz. butter
¼ tsp. cream of tartar

Method:

Line a 15 x 20cm/6 x 8in baking tray with non-stick baking parchment. Measure all the ingredients into a deep, heavy-based saucepan. Place over a medium heat and stir occasionally until the butter is melted and the sugar has dissolved. When the mixture is smooth and well-combined, increase the heat and bring the mixture to a fast boil.

When the mixture reaches 140C/285F, pour carefully into the lined tray. If you want even pieces, wait until the toffee is cool enough to handle, but elastic enough so that a finger pressed in the top leaves a slight indent (about 15-20 minutes depending on the room temperature). Partially cut the toffee into even pieces with an oiled knife. When it has cooled completely, break along these lines. Alternatively let the toffee cool completely, then break into shards with a toffee hammer or rolling pin. Store in an airtight container, with individual layers of toffee separated by baking parchment. If left exposed to humidity, the toffee will soften and stick together.

Bannocks



Ingredients:

1 x 7g sachet fast-action yeast
1 tsp. caster sugar
500g/1lb 2oz. strong white flour
125g/4½oz. unsalted butter, melted
250g/9oz. dried mixed fruit
50g/2oz. light muscovado sugar
beaten egg, for glazing

Method:

Mix together the yeast, caster sugar and 250ml/9fl oz. lukewarm water in a large bowl. Leave to stand for 10 minutes until the mixture is frothy.

Add the flour and butter and mix thoroughly. Tip onto a lightly floured surface and knead for about five minutes to form a smooth elastic dough.

Place the dough into a clean, lightly oiled bowl and cover with a damp tea towel. Leave to prove in a warm place for about one hour or until doubled in size.

When the dough has risen, remove the tea towel and punch the dough down. Tip onto a lightly floured surface and knead in the fruit and muscovado sugar until well combined.

Shape the dough into a round shape and place on a lightly greased baking sheet. Cover again with a damp tea towel and leave to rise in a warm place again for 30 minutes or until it has doubled in size.

Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4. Brush the bannock with a little beaten egg to glaze. Bake for 45-50 minutes until risen and a rich brown colour. If the bread is getting too dark, cover lightly with parchment paper or foil. When the bread is ready it should sound hollow when the underneath is tapped gently. Leave to cool slightly before slicing and serving warm with plenty of butter.

St Andrew's Day Menu

Celebrate this St Andrew's Day with a traditional dinner using some of the finest recipes from Scotland's natural larder. Sample some great Scottish food and drink on November 30th with your friends and family and enjoy a St Andrew's Night!

Crispy neeps 'n' tatties cake

Ingredients:

1 large swede, peeled and cut into chunks
4 baking potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
50g./1.75oz. butter
sunflower oil, for greasing
8 thin slices pancetta

Method:

Boil the swede and potatoes in salted water for about 20 mins until completely tender, then drain well. Return to the pan under a very low heat for a few mins to dry out. Off the heat, bash the veg into a chunky mash with half the butter, a touch of salt and lots of pepper.

Heat oven to 220C/200C fan/gas 7. Grease an ovenproof frying pan with a splash of oil and line the pan with the pancetta so it meets in the middle (like the stripes on the Union Flag). Press the veg into the dish (you can get up to this stage up to a day ahead and keep in the fridge). Dot with the remaining butter, then bake for about 40 mins until crisp and golden. Remove from the oven, turn out onto a board and cut into wedges.

Scottish cranachan



Ingredients:

For the cardamom honey:
1 x 250g/9oz jar clear honey
20 cardamom pods, seeds only, finely ground
For the cranachan:
40g/1½oz. medium or coarse oatmeal
200g/7oz. raspberries
400ml/14fl oz. double cream
2 tbsp. cardamom honey (from above), or to taste
3 tbsp. malt whisky
½-1 tsp. rosewater, or to taste
rose petals, to garnish (optional)

Method:

To make the cardamom honey: crush the cardamom pods in a pestle and mortar to separate the dry pods from the seeds. Discard the husks. Toast the seeds in a dry pan to release their oils so they become aromatic.

Pour half of the honey into a pan and add the crushed and toasted cardamom seeds. Gently heat through until the honey has become more liquid and starts to bubble at the edges; if you have a probe thermometer, the temperature should be 75C/165F. Remove from the heat and pour the flavoured honey back into the jar with the remaining honey. Stir gently, and leave to cool, uncovered. When cool, put on the lid and ideally store for 24 hours before using.

To make the cranachan: heat a heavy-bottomed pan and toast the oatmeal over a low heat, stirring occasionally, until it smells warm and nutty and has changed colour. This will take 10-15 minutes, sometimes as long as 20 minutes. Leave to cool.

In a bowl, crush half of the raspberries to make a rough mash. In a separate bowl, whisk the cream with the honey, whisky and rosewater until soft peaks form when the whisk is removed, then fold in the crushed raspberries.

Fold in the toasted oatmeal and two-thirds of the remaining whole raspberries. Adjust the honey and rose water to taste. Spoon the cranachan into small glasses, and garnish with the remaining raspberries and some rose petals, if using. Drizzle with a wee bit more of the cardamom honey and serve.

Vegetarian haggis

with whisky glazed turnip pearls straw potatoes with chive and malt cream sauce

Ingredients:

Individual vegetarian haggis x 6
1 whole swede
25ml/1 fl. oz. blended whisky
25g/1oz. soft brown sugar
25g/1oz. butter
2 large potatoes (peeled and cut into matchsticks steep in cold water)
200ml/7 fl. oz. double cream
25ml/ 1 fl. oz. malt whisky
1 small handful of chives chopped finely

Method:

Cut swede into quarters and bring to the boil until cooked. Using a melon baller, press into the turnip and scoop out into ball/pearl shapes. Add the whisky, butter and sugar into a shallow pan and reduce until syrupy then add the turnip pearls and cook for a few minutes until pearls are nicely glazed and golden.

Poach individual haggis for 15 minutes in light simmering water. Peel and cut the potatoes into matchsticks and rinse in cold water. Drain and pat dry, then gently fry at 170C/340F until golden (be careful as they cook quickly). Bring the double cream and malt whisky to the boil and reduce slightly. The mixture should be sticky enough to coat the back of a spoon. To serve, place a spoonful of the Straw potatoes onto plate and place the haggis in the centre. Place the turnip pearls around the haggis and drizzle the Chive and Malt Cream Sauce over the dish. (Recommend using an electric fryer.)

Mary Queen of Scots

Ingredients:

1 lemon quarter
Caster sugar
2-3 ice cubes
30ml/1fl.oz. scotch whisky
15ml/1/2fl.oz./1 tbsp. Drambuie
15ml/1/2fl.oz./1 tbsp. green chartreuse
1 cocktail cherry

Method:

Rub the rim of a cocktail glass with the lemon then dip the rim into caster sugar to coat. Allow the frosting to dry.

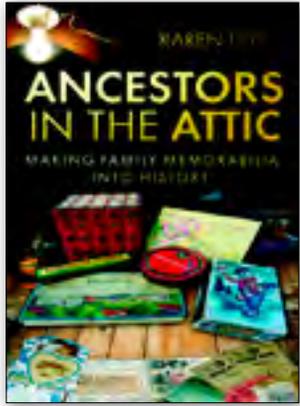
Crack the ice (but don't crush it into too small pieces) and place in a shaker together with the Scotch, Drambuie and Chartreuse.

Shake well and strain into the frosted cocktail glass. Spear the cherry onto a cocktail stick and use to decorate.

Great Books From Banner Shop-at-Home

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Ancestors In The Attic

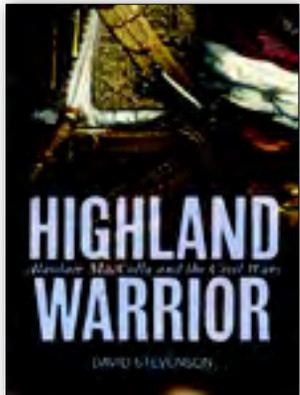


By: Karen Foy

A guide to a fantastic and often overlooked resource to learning more about ancestors' everyday lives. Much family history focuses on digging around archives and web searches, but this book shows that attics and closets can often hide a treasure trove of personal documents and ephemera. Boxes full of photographs, hastily written notes, old tickets, postcards, ration books, a soldier's hat, a bundle of letters, perhaps a diary, are all invaluable sources of information about family history. **Paperback 208 pages, IPG 4282, \$27.95 USD/\$27.95 CDN + S/H**

Highland Warrior

Alasdair MacColla and the Civil Wars

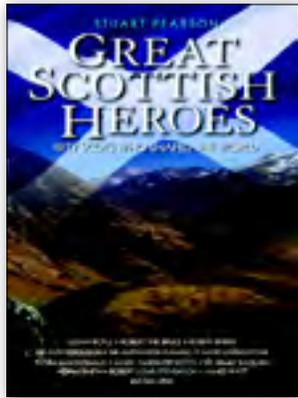


By: David Stevenson

In 1644 James Grahame, the Marquis of Montrose, stormed his way into legend with a series of astonishing victories over the Covenanters. At his side stalked a shadowy but terrible ally, Alasdair MacColla, who had a far more ancient agenda of his own. MacColla's aim was nothing less than the effective destruction of the power of Clan Campbell and its replacement by the older overlordship of the Macdonalds. This work argues that it was in fact MacColla, and not Montrose, who was the true architect of the "Year of Victories," and that without his Highland ally, Montrose's blunders would have doomed him to disaster, thus presenting a compelling and radical reappraisal of Scottish history during the crucial years of the 1640s. Superbly written, *Highland Warrior* is a compelling and dramatic sweep through some of the most eventful years in Scottish history. **Paperback 336 pages, IPG 1941, \$21.95 USD/23.95 CDN + S/H**

Great Scottish Heroes

Fifty Scots Who Shaped the World

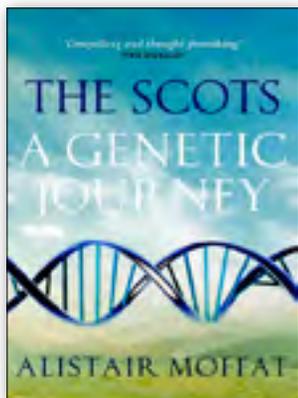


By: Stuart Pearson

Celebrate 50 of Scotland's most exceptional and influential individuals with biographies noting how they helped to change the world. Which Scottish anti-slavery campaigner lost a son in a Confederate prisoner-of-war camp during the American Civil War? Was the enemy of Scotland's first "freedom fighter" not England, but ancient Rome? What was the laboratory accident that led to one of the greatest discoveries in modern medicine? How did the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320 influence the legal foundation of the greatest superpower the world has ever seen? The answers to these and many other questions can be found in *Great Scottish Heroes*, covering 2,000 years of Scottish history and encompassing outstanding leaders in a broad range of pursuits, including the arts, exploration, medicine, sports, religion, and politics. **Paperback 288 pages, IPG 3752, \$15.95 USD/\$18.95 CDN + S/H**

The Scots

A Genetic Journey



By: Alistair Moffat

History has always mattered to Scots, and rarely more so than now at the outset of a new century, with a new census appearing in 2011 and after more than ten years of a new parliament. An almost limitless archive of our history lies hidden inside our bodies and we carry the ancient story of Scotland around with us. The mushrooming of genetic studies, of DNA analysis, is rewriting our history in spectacular fashion. In *The Scots: A Genetic Journey*, Alistair Moffat explores the history that is printed on our genes, and in a remarkable new approach, uncovers the detail of where we are from, who we are and in so doing color vividly a DNA map of Scotland. **356 pages, INT-9411, PB, \$16.95.95 USD/\$18.95 CDN +S/H**

Angels of Mercy

Nurses on the Western Front

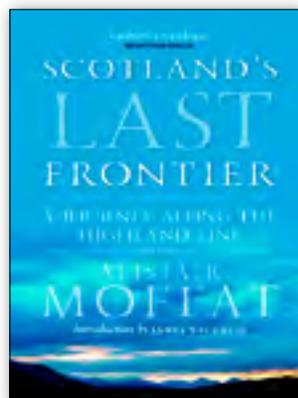


By: Eileen Crofton

Drawing on their diaries and letters, this is the little known story of the gritty and free-spirited women who, in 1914, put aside their fight for the vote to set up a hospital in an abandoned French abbey to treat the appalling injuries sustained on the Western Front. The Scottish Women's Hospitals unit offered their services to France and opened a hospital in the ancient Abbey of Royaumont, near Paris. Uniquely, the hospital was staffed entirely by women—from the doctors, surgeons, nurses, bacteriologists, and radiographers to the orderlies and ambulance drivers. The hospital operated from 1915 to 1919 and became famous for its nursing care, cleanliness, and efficiency, recognized by the French authorities as a key wartime hospital. **320 pages, IPG-0638, paperback, \$17.00 USD/\$18.00 CDN +S/H**

Scotland's Last Frontier

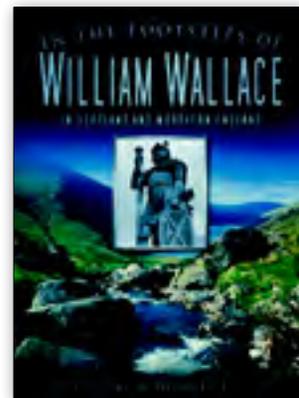
A Journey Along the Highland Line



By: Alistair Moffat

The Highland Line is the most profound internal boundary in Britain. First recognized by Agricola in the first century AD (parts of its most northerly portion mark the furthest north the Romans got) it divides the country both geologically and culturally, signalling the border between highland and lowland, Celtic and English-speaking, crofting and farming. In *Scotland's Last Frontier* best-selling author Alistair Moffat makes a journey of the imagination, tracing the route of the Line from the River Clyde through Perthshire and the northeast. In addition to exploring the huge importance of the Line over almost two thousand years, he also shows how it continues to influence life and attitudes in 21st-century Scotland. The result is a fascinating book, full of history and anecdote. **Paperback 288 pages, IPG 3310, \$12.95 USD/ \$15.95 CDN + S/H**

In The Footsteps of William Wallace



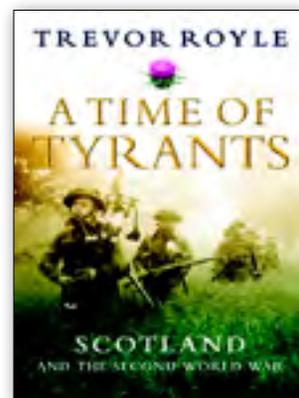
By: Alan Young,

Photographs By: Michel J. Stead

A superbly illustrated journey through the landscape and events of the life of the iconic Scottish knight who was brought to life in the film *Braveheart* For nearly 700 years debate has raged over the true nature of William Wallace and his role in Scotland's turbulent history—was he the Braveheart of Blind Harry's legendary account, the bold, but savage, hero of the Scottish wars, or, as some contemporary chroniclers attested, was he nothing but a villainous thief and vagrant fugitive? It traces Wallace's journey from his modest upbringing in southwest Scotland and his first victory as a "guerilla" leader and military commander at Stirling Bridge to his painful death seven years later, including his "invasion" of Northumberland and Cumberland. This is an essential traveling companion for a journey through Wallace's kingdom and to learn more about the myth and the man. **Paperback 208 pages, IPG-6386, \$24.95 USD/27.95 CDN + S/H**

A Time of Tyrants

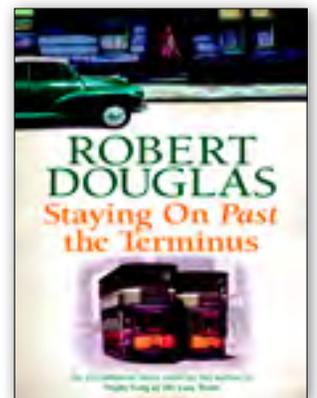
Scotland and the Second World War



By: Trevor Royle

Trevor Royle examines Scotland's role in the Second World War from a wide range of perspectives. The country's geographical position gave it great strategic importance for importing war material and reinforcements, for conducting naval and aerial operations against the enemy, and for training regular and specialist SOE and commando forces. **416 pages, IPG-0645, paperback, \$16.00 USD/\$17.00 CDN +S/H.**

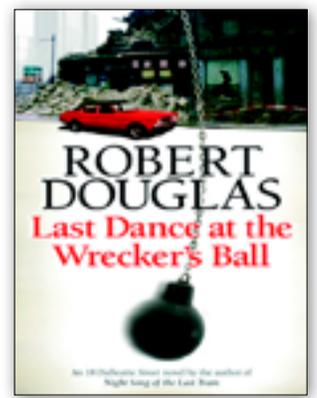
Staying On Past the Terminus



By: Robert Douglas

Glasgow 1961. It is ten years since we last visited the close at 18 Dalbeattie Street in Maryhill. The stalwarts are still there...Ella, Drena, Rhea and Granny Thomson (86). Irma the German war bride speaks fluent Scots nowadays. Well, fluent if you were brought up in the same close as *The Broons* and *Oor Wullie*. Glasgow's beloved trams still run on the Maryhill Road. But not for long. There will not be a tramcar left in Glasgow by the end of next year. The new tenant, Frank Galloway knows all about this - he's a driver. The other new arrival is Ruby Baxter who impresses no one with her attitude - as Granny Thomson says she's no better than she ought to be, that yin! Robert Douglas brings his usual blend of laughter and tears to this latest novel and his many fans will not be disappointed. **416 pages, IPG-0299, paperback, \$12.95 USD/\$12.95 CDN +S/H,**

Last Dance at the Wrecker's Ball



By: Robert Douglas

Glasgow, 1971. The old way of life is under threat for the tight-knit community in Dalbeattie Street, Maryhill. The shadow of the wrecking ball looms large over their homes, and they must face the choice of moving to a new estate or dispersing throughout the city. But powerful friendships refuse to be broken; these characters have gone through too much together to be destroyed by some measly planning scheme. They all face this with the same inimitable Scottish humor and strength of spirit that have carried them through other tough times. Douglas' vivid portrait of 1970s Glasgow recreates, in glorious detail, a particular time and place, but at its heart are the universal themes of love, friendship, and community. **416 pages, IPG- 0312, \$13.95 USD/\$13.95 CDN + S/H.**

Cluny Hill set to light up the skies with Colours of Cluny



Forres Features Community Interest Company have revealed that a spectacular sound and light show set to highlight the beauty of Cluny Hill with a blaze of colour will be called Colours of Cluny. The show, which is being produced by a team of creatives who are also behind the success of Perthshire's multi-award-winning Enchanted Forest, will be lighting up the night skies this November and expected to attract thousands of visitors to the area.

Kate Bonney, Creative Director of Colours of Cluny, commented: "We are incredibly excited to introduce Colours of Cluny, a vibrant light and sound experience in to Forres later this year. Plans are now well under way to create what we believe will be a truly spectacular show that will show off the natural beauty of the area. We expect it will be a spectacle that will prove to be a must-see both for the local community and visitors whom we hope will venture to Northern Scotland to see the skies light up around Cluny Hill."

For further details see: www.coloursofcluny.com

Gaelic-speaking Wikipedian sought *Gaelic gets new lease of life online*

The ancient Gaelic language of Scotland is being supported by one of the modern world's most popular websites in an ambitious initiative to develop it online. A Gaelic speaker is being recruited to work with groups all across Scotland to develop Uicipeid, the Gaelic Wikipedia.

It is a partnership between the National Library of Scotland and Wikimedia UK, the charity that supports and promotes the free online encyclopaedia Wikipedia. It aims to improve knowledge, understanding and use of Gaelic for current and future users. The initiative is being supported with funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the agency responsible for promoting Gaelic language throughout Scotland and internationally, and Wikimedia UK.

It will involve the recruitment of a Gaelic Wikipedian whose role will be to support Gaels to write and translate content for Uicipeid. It is hoped the initiative will encourage more people to practice and use their language skills and share their knowledge of Gaelic culture, heritage and community.

Passion for the language

The search for the Gaelic Wikipedian began in October as the National Mòd — the annual celebration of Gaelic culture — opened in Stornoway.

It is a part time role funded for 12

months and will involve designing, managing and delivering a programme of activities for Gaelic speakers. This will be directed at helping them learn how to edit Uicipeid and create new or improve existing Wikipedia articles. All training will be provided.

"This is a unique and exciting opportunity for someone fluent in Scottish Gaelic who has a real commitment and passion for the language," said Gill Hamilton, Digital Access Manager at the National Library of Scotland.

Development of the use of Gaelic

The Wikipedian will work with the National Library, Wikimedia UK and Gaelic agencies and organisations to identify groups to engage with. These will include young people between the ages of 16 and 25, community groups and those active in areas such as music, local history, literature etc.

"We are flexible about where the Wikipedian will be based because we realise that he or she will need to deliver training in the Western Isles, Highlands and central Scotland," said Gill. "We hope there will be a lot of interest in this really exciting initiative that holds great promise for the continuing development of the use of Gaelic."

Lucy Crompton-Reid, Chief Executive of Wikimedia UK, said: "As the national chapter for the global Wikimedia movement



UICIPEID
An leabhar-eòlais saor

we believe that open access to knowledge is a fundamental right, and a driver for social and economic development. We are delighted to be working with the National Library of Scotland on this important project, which will see the Gaelic Wikipedia becoming an increasingly important source of information created by and for Gaelic speakers, with better online coverage of Scottish Gaelic history, culture and heritage.'

The National Library has been working hard in recent years to digitise Gaelic material including books, papers and historic documents and make them available online. These help to demonstrate the key role played by Gaelic in Scottish history and culture.

Rare trees found at the Palace of Holyroodhouse



Tree experts have been excited by the "discovery" of two mature specimens – until now thought to be extinct in Britain – within Her Majesty The Queen's garden at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, a stone's throw away from Edinburgh city centre. The 100ft-tall Wentworth elms (*Ulmus 'Wentworthii Pendula'*) were spotted by Dr Max Coleman of the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (RBGE) when he visited the garden to collect some cuttings. "Such a discovery when the trees in question are just shy of 100 feet and in plain sight does sound rather odd," Dr Coleman said. "It is

very likely the only reason these rare elms have survived is because Edinburgh City Council has been surveying and removing diseased elms since the 1980s. Without that work many more of the thousands of elms in Edinburgh would have been lost. The success of this programme may be partly demonstrated in the way two rare trees have been preserved."

Alan Keir, Holyrood Park and Gardens Manager for Historic Environment Scotland (HES), who maintain the Palace Gardens said: "When RBGE got in touch to ask if we could facilitate a walk round the gardens to find cultivars for propagation,

we were happy to help - but certainly didn't expect them to find these rare specimens hidden in plain sight! The HES gardens team have undertaken careful maintenance of these specimens over the past several years, including crown reduction and limb bracing works, and we're proud to help look after the only remaining examples of these trees in Britain."

Element of mystery



An attractive cultivar with a "weeping" habit of growth and large glossy leaves, the Wentworth elm was probably introduced to cultivation in the late 19th century. But, while Dr Coleman's research has been conclusive in determining what they are, where the Wentworth elms came from retains an element of mystery. Now, the detective work is being extended to include research by curators and archivists at the

Royal Household, RBGE and beyond. And the likeliest suggestion, in another bizarre twist, is that the trees arrived at Holyrood from RBGE – and survived while their Botanic Garden sibling died.

The archives have revealed that three Wentworth elms arrived at RBGE from Germany in 1902, after which all subsequent records refer to a single tree at the Garden. The single Wentworth elm died in 1996 when it succumbed to Dutch elm disease. "It is very tempting to speculate that the Wentworth elms at the Palace are the two missing trees from RBGE", surmised Dr Coleman. "There is anecdotal evidence that the young trees could have come in to RBGE then been grown-on before planting-out in their final positions. Certainly, there was a close relationship between the Palace and the Garden in the early 20th century and the head gardener at Holyrood, William Smith, had trained here. And, although we have no record here of elms going out, we know that a large number of ivy plants went from here to Holyrood to plant round the abbey ruins."

Whatever the true provenance of the Holyrood Wentworth elms, the story is not yet set to end. The potential of propagation is being considered, with horticulturists now keen to take the story forward into a new era. Should that go ahead and be successful, this majestic weeping tree would be secured for future generations to appreciate.

Scotland's thatched buildings recorded for the first time

New field survey work charts over 300 traditionally thatched roof buildings across the country.



All 305 of Scotland's historic, traditional thatched buildings have been recorded for the very first time as part of a unique field work project, which lasted 18 months. *A Survey of Thatched Buildings in Scotland* is a full-colour photographic survey of every thatched building across the country, from the Shetland Islands to the Scottish Borders. This new resource helps to build a full picture of this important part of Scotland's vernacular built heritage. As well as containing locations, photographs and information on the type of thatch, the different techniques and its condition, it also offers an insight into the building itself, with details and stories from the owners or occupiers being featured in a number of the records. This initiative, the first of its kind, is a partnership between The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), who carried out the

survey, and Historic Environment Scotland, who grant funded the project. SPAB is Britain's oldest building conservation body. It was set up by William Morris in 1877 to oppose the destructive restorations of the Victorian era and promote the alternative of "conservative repair".

Iconic part of our heritage

Thatch was the first roofing material used in Scotland, and the country has one of the most diverse ranges of thatching materials and techniques found in Europe. Locally distinctive thatching practices and materials vary due to weather conditions and availability of natural materials including rye, heather, reed, and marram grass amongst others. In some areas, thatching continued up until the start of the 20th century. However, factors including maintenance due to its perishable nature, changes in land use, loss

of skills and other roofing materials such as corrugated iron and slate becoming widely available, led to thatched buildings largely disappearing from the Scottish landscape.

Colin Tennant, Head of Technical Education and Training at Historic Environment Scotland, said: "Thatched buildings are an iconic part of our heritage and Scotland's wider historic environment, particularly in our rural areas. They form a unique part of our diverse built heritage and culture, providing a real insight into



the craft skills and traditional practices of our past. These new findings allow us to identify Scotland's surviving thatched building stock and will also inform discussions with our partners in the sector on how we can help conserve these buildings for future generations, whether that be through skills training, technical advice or different funding approaches."

Quintessentially Scottish

It is hoped that the findings from *A Survey of Thatched Buildings in Scotland* will help contribute towards a better understanding of thatch traditions, its survival and protection, whilst promoting the craft skills involved in the process and overall helping to inform the future of thatched building conservation in Scotland. Matthew Slocombe, Director of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, added: "These buildings are quintessentially Scottish and their historic value is immense. Yet perhaps because they are humble working structures or perhaps because of the very way they were built - lying low to protect and shield their former occupants - we have allowed them to slowly vanish from the radar. This survey will pay an important part in helping to safeguard and understand these valuable and iconic buildings."

A Survey of Thatched Buildings in Scotland is available to view and download for free online at: www.historicenvironment.scot

St Andrew's Day launch for Scotland's newest winter light spectacular



Irvine's historic waterfront will shimmer into life this St Andrew's Day as the Scottish Maritime Museum in North Ayrshire launches the country's newest art and light winter spectacular, illumination: Harbour Festival of Light. Highlights of illumination, which will take place along Irvine Harbourside and at the nearby Scottish Maritime Museum, include a free firework display celebrating St Andrew's Day and a free water-themed sculpture trail by international light artists Aether & Hemera, who are exhibiting in Scotland for the first time. Illumination will also feature breath-taking aerial acrobatic performances within the Museum, a community lantern parade and closing fireworks on Saturday 3rd December.

The four day festival, which also celebrates the Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design 2016 will run from dusk to 10pm daily, will begin on St Andrew's Day on Wednesday 30th November when the Saltire blazes across the night sky in a stunning, free

pyrotechnic display over Irvine Harbour. The launch night fireworks will mark Scotland's national day, designed to celebrate the country's history, culture and heritage with people both at home and abroad.

Created by the trailblazing art and design collective Aether and Hemera, 'Voyage', 'On the Wings of Freedom' and 'Dreamt Vessels' will twinkle along the River Irvine and within the Museum courtyard. The hundreds of brightly coloured and handcrafted origami boats and butterflies explore freedom, imagination and travel. These and illuminated boats and buildings along the Harbourside will take visitors on a magical journey between 4pm and 10pm each day. Nearby, at the Harbourside Museum, the colossal façade of the A Listed Linthouse will be animated for the first time in its 150 years with pulsating colours for the illumination Light and Aerial Art Spectacular.

For more information, visit www.illuminationfestival.co.uk

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