



Vol. XXV No. 10 Beth's Newfangled Family Tree February 2021 Section B

A campaign group set up to save the Scottish wildcat has called for a forest in Aberdeenshire to receive official protection

A campaign group set up to save the Scottish wildcat has called for a forest in Aberdeenshire to receive official protection in a bid to protect a population of the critically endangered animals.

Wildcat Haven claims a third of the entire Scottish wildcat population could be present in the Clashindarroch Forest, near Huntly.

The group says the forest is the “last known stronghold for the iconic Scottish species”, but claims the animals are threatened from tree felling by the Scottish Government agency Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS), and the construction of a wind farm.

Director Dr Paul O’Donoghue said a submis-

sion has now been made to NatureScot, formerly known as Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), “setting out their duty to notify the site for designation as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)”.



Wildcat Haven says it has evidence of a population of at least 13 wildcats at Clashindarroch, and official protection would make it the first and only reserve for the endangered species in Scotland.

An online petition to “save the Scottish wildcat by protecting Clashindarroch Forest” has been signed by more

than 813,000 people, while a crowdfunder to fund

Continued on page 39



St. Valentine's Day Greetings from Scotland



Discover Your Scottish Heritage

VARIANTS OF THE NAME

Albain, Albanach, Albin, Ailpein, Allphin, Alpin, Alpine, Alpyn, Alpynsone, Calpin, Calpine, Culpen, Elphin, Galpin, Galpine, Gilpin, Halpin, Halpine, MacAilpein, MacAlpine, MacAlpan, MacAlpane, MacAlpeine, MacAlpeinne, MacAlpen, MacAlphine, MacAlpin, MacAlpie, MacAlpin, MacAlpy, MacAlpye, MacAlpyn, MacAlpyne, MacApline, MacCalpin, MacCalpine, MacCapie, MacCappie, MacCappin, MacCappine, MacCappy, MacCapy, MacCarpin, MacColpin, MacColpine, MacCoplan, MacCoplin, MacCoppin, MacCoppine, MacCorpin, MacCorpine, Mackalpe, MacKalpin, Makalpe, Makcalpy, Makcalpyn, Malcalpyn, M'Alpen, M'Alpin, M'Alpine, M'Alpyn, McAlpain, McAlpan, McAlpane, McAlpe, McAlpen, McAlphin, McAlphine, McAlpie, McAlpien, McAlpil, McAlpin, McAlpine, McAlpion, McAlpon, McAlpy, McAlpyn, M'Calpin, M'Calppin, M'Calpy, M'Calpyne, M'Cappe, M'Cavpy, McCalpie, McCalpin, McCalpy, McCapen, McCawpyn, McCulpen, McKelpin, M'Kalpie, Mkkalpy

For more information, email:

Earlmc Alpine@yahoo.com

Commander Michael T. McAlpin



We are
MACALPINE

Congratulations to Clan MacTavish on their brand new Cash (MacTavish) tartan

Tony Cash, MacTavish Creative Director to the Chief



After a very long wait, the Cash(MacTavish) tartan has been distributed to many of our fellow clan members. It is hard to believe that the idea to create this tartan was first presented on April 9, 2019 and the last order was shipped on December 10, 2020.

This has been a long process, however it was worth the wait.

I could not have achieved this without the help of a few people. I first presented the idea to our President, Joe Cash. His extensive knowledge of history helped guide me in the right direction to

start the design process with colors and sett patterns that had meaning behind them.

After I presented several iterations, we started the process of elimination and fine-tuned the selected possibilities. Once the selection was made and the design process was complete, we presented the tartan to Chief Steven MacTavish and asked for his blessing to register it in the Scottish Registry of Tartans. This tartan was initially presented to the registry as the "Cash/MacCaishe/MacCash/McCash" Tartan, however after the Lord Lyon reviewed it, he suggested using "Cash (MacTavish)." At this time, the Chief formally accepted the new tartan into Clan MacTavish for which I will remain eternally grateful.

If you would like information on how to join the Clan MacTavish, just visit their website at this address: <<https://clanmactavish.org/clan-mactavish-membership?v=b8a74b2fbcbb>>.

Tony Cash, above, wearing the new tartan! Here are some other MacTavish clansmen and clanswomen all dressed up and looking mighty fine! (See below.)





Chief of the Paisley Family, Duncan W. Paisley of Westerlea.

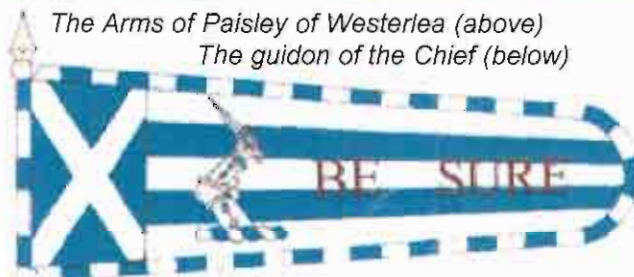


All Paisleys of the name or blood (and all spellings) are invited to join. Email: <mbrown2205@aol.com>

Paisley Family Society USA Branch, FaceBook account can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/Paisley-Family-Society-USA-branch-195070730565352/>



*The Arms of Paisley of Westerlea (above)
The guidon of the Chief (below)*



The Paisleys are a family of considerable antiquity, having been associated with Lochwinnoch and Paisley (parts of what later became Renfrewshire), with Cunningham and Kyle (North Ayrshire), Innerwick (East Lothian) and Roxburghshire, since the time of William I King of Scots, 1165-1214.

For the Paisley DNA Project, visit
<dlangsto@yahoo.com>



Paisley Family Association

of North Carolina

president: **Don Paisley**

Email: paisley47@aol.com

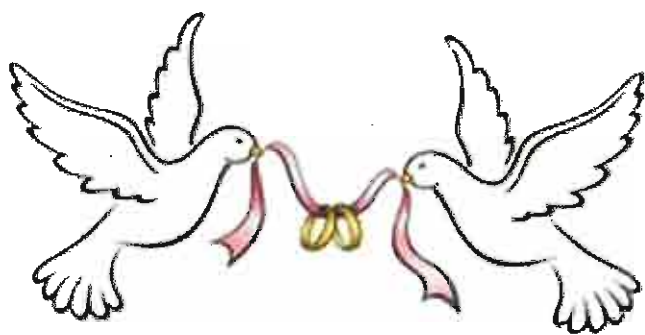
Celebrating

50 years of fellowship



Check out the
Clan Paisley Society webpage at
<www.paisleyfamilyociety.org.uk>
to see what's happening with us this
year. Contact **Martha Brown** at
<mbrown2205@aol.com>.

<https://www.facebook.com/PaisleyFamilySociety>



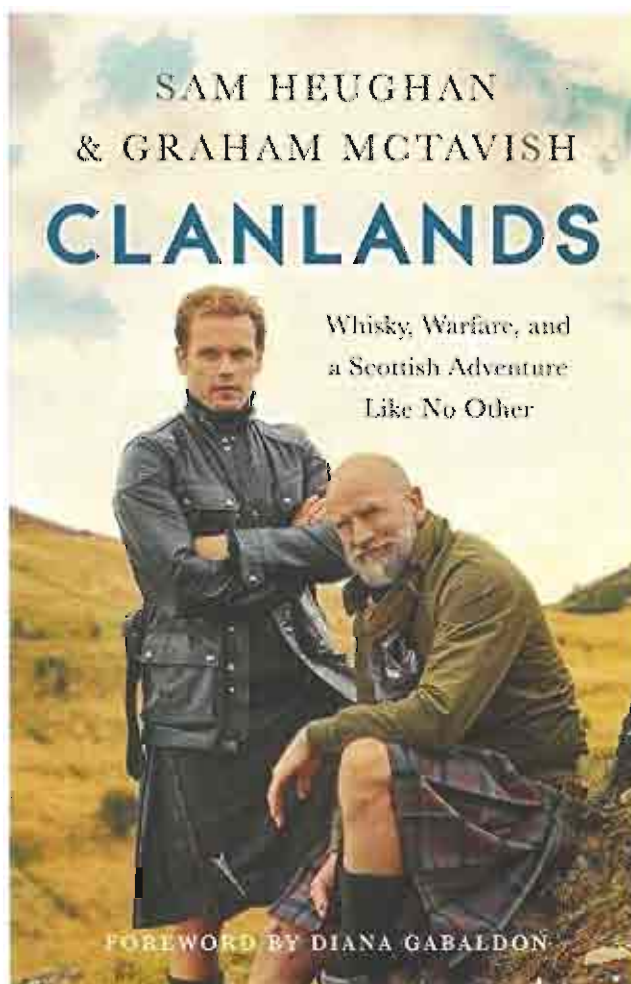
Marlene and Patrick

Patrick and Marlene Thompson celebrated their union of marriage in Cocoa Beach, Florida.

For this occasion, these members of the Clan MacTavish had the Thompson modern blue kilts made by Clan MacTavish authorized vendor Patti Smith Kiltmaker, Springfield VT. Congratulations to Patrick and Marlene!



Viewed from the left, Scott Thompson, Marlene Thompson, Patrick S. Thompson and Diane Thompson.



Clanlands: Whisky, Warfare, and a Scottish Adventure Like No Other

Sam Heughan (Author),

Graham McTavish (Author)

Now available at Amazon.com

1000-Year Old Cross buried in Scottish Field

A spectacular Anglo-Saxon cross has emerged from beneath 1,000 years of encrusted dirt. The quality is such that whoever commissioned this treasure may have been a high-standing cleric or even a king!

It was first unearthed by a metal detectorist in 2014 from a ploughed field in western Scotland as part of the Galloway Hoard, the richest collection of rare and unique Viking-age objects ever found in Britain or Ireland.

It was acquired by the National Museums

Scotland in 2017.

The tiniest glimpses of its gold-leaf decoration could be spotted through its grubby exterior, but its stunning, intricate design had been concealed until recently. A supreme example of AngloSaxon
Continued on page 7





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Thomas Freeman,

FSA Scot

trf@cockspurherald.com

706-839-3881



1000-Year-Old Cross found, *continued from page 5*

metalwork has been revealed. The cross was created by a goldsmith of outstanding skill and artistry.

The Galloway Hoard, over 100 pieces of gold and silver items, was buried in the late 9th century in Dumfries and Galloway.

The pectoral cross has survived with its intricate spiral chain, which shows that the cross was actually worn.

Dr. Leslie Webster, former keeper of Britain, Prehistory and Europe at the British Museum, said: "It is a unique survival of high-status Anglo Saxon ecclesiastical metalwork from a period when - in part, thanks to the Viking raids - so much has been lost."

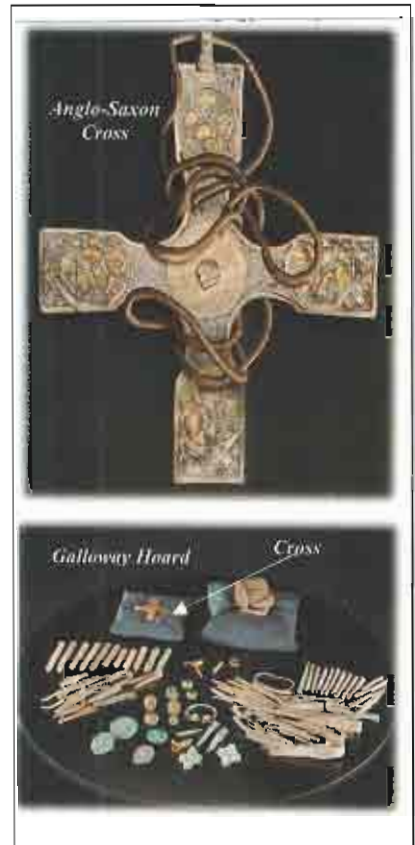
Why the hoard was buried remains a mystery. The cross now raises many more questions and research continues.

The Hoard will be exhibited at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh from 19 February – 9 May, 2021 before touring to Kirkcudbright, Dundee and Aberdeen.

With many thanks to the *Scottish Heritage USA*. Visit their website at: <scottishheritageusa.org>. Email: <shusa457@gmail.com> or phone: 910-295-4448. Mail PO Box 457, Pinehurst, NC 28370.



Scottish Heritage USA now has a presence on FaceBook. Look for SHUSA or follow: <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/6984016809>>



Were you in the marching band when you were in school?

Tom and I were both in the band and orchestra when we were students. He was a cracker jack trombonist and I played French Horn. We noticed that we both recreate our marching drum cadences all the time by tapping our fingers! Every former band member I have run across in my life recently has admitted that they, too, make the drum cadence with their fingers and don't even realize they are doing it.

Do you? Email me and tell me if you do! I don't think anyone ever asked this question before.

We just thought it would be fun to know!

Email: <bethscribble@aol.com>

I reckon there are some things we never, ever forget no matter how much time passes!



Lookie what my friend, Susan, in Australia made for their holiday dinner in 2020!

She did make it.

How gorgeous! She said it was yummy, too0!



Clan *Blair* Society

**Memberships are cordially invited
for Blair descendants and other
interested parties.**



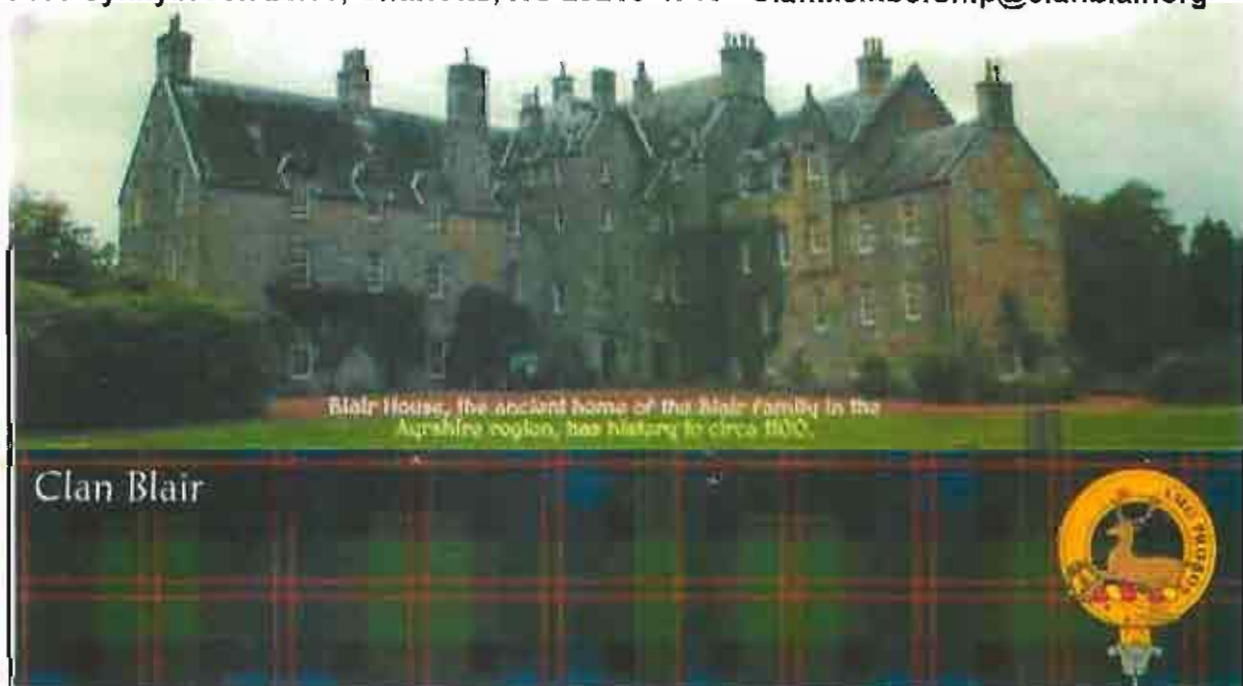
www.clanblair.org

President, Clan Blair Society
Shawn Blair
Email: <weblaird@clanblair.org>

Vice President, Jim Blair
Email: <viceprez@clanblair.org>

Membership Chairman,
Charles Diman

3413 Synnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715 ClanMembership@clanblair.org



Clan Blair

The Great Cousin Puzzle

Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS

From a genealogical research perspective, cousins are anyone with whom you share a proven common ancestor. Technically, this would mean everyone in an extended family, including siblings would qualify. From the genealogy perspective, they are called brothers and sisters.

Cousin relationships are broken down by generations. You count the number of generations back to the common ancestor then subtract one. Here is a simple example. It is two generations from you to your grandparents. Therefore, you are the first (two minus one) cousin with anyone that shares the same couple as grandparents. Terms like cousin once removed and twice removed becomes applicable when the cousins are an unequal number of generations from the common ancestor. For example, your children would be one generation further removed from your common ancestor, so they would be first cousins once removed from your common ancestor. Your grandchildren would be first cousins twice removed to your own first cousins.

Another factor that comes into play involves the concept of blended families. The legal definition of this concept is a family consisting of a couple and their children from this and all previous relationships. While some people view this as a product of the 20th and early 21st century, nothing can be further from the truth. The scenarios listed below are the result of blended families and their impact on genealogy.

Half Cousins: Half siblings share only one parent. This means that if one of Gene's parents and one of Betty's parents are half siblings, then Gene and Betty are half first cousins. The half

sibling of each of their respective parents would be their half aunt or uncle. While this is the technical and accurate terminology, in most cases they will be described as the other's cousin or aunt unless the discussion goes deeper into the genealogy research realm. Additionally, children of half first cousins are half second cousins to each other and so on because they would only share one common great-grandparent.



One - and - a Half-Cousins: This scenario occurs when two full siblings have children with two half siblings. In another twist, if a set of half siblings has children

with another set of half siblings, the resulting children would be double half first cousins and would have the same descent as full first cousins. Furthermore, if a person's half sibling marries the person's half sibling from the other parent, then the child of that couple and the child of the half sibling who is related to the married couple will be double half cousins.

Step cousins: This scenario means they are either the stepchildren of an individual's aunt/uncle or children of a step aunt/uncle. No blood relationship exists between step cousins. In the case of an adoption, there does not need to be a blood relationship between cousins. The adoptees would still be considered first cousins. First step cousins once removed would be step children of your first cousins. The second step cousin is the stepchild of your first cousin once removed.

Cousin-In-Law: This is the spouse of an individual's cousin.

Continued on page 11



Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

Founded 1965

Putting pride in your heritage to work for you
Become a member today

A Non-profit Organization providing student scholarships for highland dance and bagpiping and making charitable donations to the National Trust for Scotland and other non-profit organizations that promote Scottish tradition, history, crafts and culture here in the United States and Scotland

Email us: <shusa457@gmail.com>

Some of the funding Scottish Heritage USA has provided over the years:

• Culloden Visitor's Centre – media centre	\$300,000*
• The Scottish Gaelic Studies Lectureship at UNC Chapel for the academic years of 2017-20	\$185,000
• Renovation of Eisenhower Suite, Culzean castle	\$50,000*
• Scholarships for dance and piping students 2010-2019	\$50,000
• The National Trust for Scotland USA 2018-20 Corporate membership	\$35,000
• Interpretation Project at Glencoe	\$25,000*
• Renovation of Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Hill House, Helensburgh	\$20,000*
• Highland Echoes "Scotland in the Class"	\$16,900
• Scottish Tartans Museum Franklin NC	\$7,700
• Grandfather Mountain Highland Games Cultural Village 2017-20	\$6,000

* National Trust for Scotland sites



Eisenhower Suite, Culzean Castle



The Hill House, Helensburgh

PLANNING A TRIP TO SCOTLAND ?

Before you go check out the deals you get from membership in Scottish Heritage USA

- Reciprocal membership to the National Trust for Scotland Foundation, USA
- **Free Admission** to all (over 70) National Trust for Scotland properties
- **The Highlander** magazine (six issues per year)
- **National Trust's** magazine (three issues per year)
- **Scottish Heritage USA Newsletter** (three issues per year)

Memberships range from \$25 to \$500 and are well worth the price! – JOIN ONLINE
Come visit us at Grandfather Mountain Games July 9 – 12 2020

The Great Cousin Puzzle,

continued from page 9

Figuring out these cousin relationships can be very confusing, even for experienced genealogists. One of the easiest ways to overcome these challenges is to invest in one of the many genealogy software products on the market that makes the process of inputting collected data easy. The features in most enable the researcher to select two individuals in the compiled research in your database and identify whether they are related by blood and what the nature of the relationship is if applicable. Here is an example of a link for 2020 that contains reviews. <https://www.smarterhobby.com/genealogy/best-genealogy-software/>



For more information on the topic of cousins, I recommend the following links:

Ancestry Support – Understanding Kinship Terms <https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Understanding-Kinship-Terms>

Family Search Wiki – Cousin

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Cousin Dowell, David – DNA and Cousins – Multiple Links](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Cousin_Dowell,_David_-_DNA_and_Cousins_-_Multiple_Links) <<https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/local/2014/02/15/dna-testing-used-to-dig-up-family-roots/5499539/>> <<http://blog.ddowell.com/>>

NOTE: David Dowell has also written an excellent book entitled *Crash Course in Genealogy*. Chapter Two, Pages 27-29 contains an excellent detailed article on the topic of Cousins.

Grimaud, Jessica – **Family Search Blog – Cousin Chart: Family Relationships Explained** – July 23, 2019 <<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/cousin-chart/>>

Feel free to contact me with any questions or feedback. Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian
Fort Myers Regional Library <bmulcahy@leegov.com>

CLISH-CLASH

The e-newsletter of the Scottish Local History Forum

With thanks to *Clish-clash* via the Scottish Society of Indy <scot.soc.indy@gmail.com>

From Scotland: Loch Ard Local History Group and the Strathard Community Trust have recently launched a local web site focussing on the area's history and heritage.

In development over the past two years, it includes contributions from several local historians as well as a significant collection of local post-cards.

The site is here <<https://strathardheritage.org/>>

WEBSITES: Elephind <<https://www.elephind.com/>> is a new web site that provides an opportunity to search historic newspapers worldwide. It features collections from the USA, Australia and New Zealand.

BBC Scotland has a new series called *Time Travels*, presented by SLHF-member Susan Morrison and exploring the rich and sometimes murky depths of Scotland's past. Episodes cover such topics as a *Bad Husband* and *Scottish Songs*...interesting: <<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000kg56>>

Completely Burns is a series from 2010 which is still available with over 300 poems recorded by actors from all generations: <<https://tinyurl.com/y425x9np>>

'Clish-clash' means repeated gossip, so do email your local history news & information to <scottishlocalhistoryforum@gmail.com> (or via our website contact form <http://slhf.org/contact-slhf>)

Clish-clash is sent to all members who have provided a valid email address. To opt out, choose 'Newsletter' on the website contacts page. Clish-Clash is also freely available on our website. Go to <<https://www.slhf.org/newsletter>>

Scottish Local History Forum

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The Thistle Chapel

Clan Henderson's Tom Henderson writes, "Give me Scotland or I die," said John Knox, Scottish Reformer, whose statue is located both in St Giles and larger statue on a plinth in Edinburgh, New College courtyard.

1000 years of history lie within the walls of St Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh.

The Cathedral was built in 1120.

Pictured here is The Thistle Chapel within the Cathedral. It will simply take your breath away! Not everyone who comes to St Giles Cathedral finds this Chapel. I asked could I look in?

I found a helpful member of staff, who produced the largest key I have EVER seen, to unlock and swing open a heavy wooden door.

What I saw inside - well just look...breathtaking

The Great Canadian

Kilt Skate

Home Edition

Open to anyone anywhere in Canada!

December 31 - February 28

The Scottish Society of Ottawa

#SCOTLAND IS NOW

Who will be the Kilt Skate Capital of Canada?

The Great Canadian Kilt Skate - Home Edition, encourages everyone to create their own, socially-distanced, bubble-protected, safe and healthy kilt skate.

Wear your tartan. Wear your kilt. Take to the ice on your backyard rink, on your community rink, or the pond down the road. Stay socially distanced.

For more information and a list of communities who are already participating in the contest visit: kiltskate.com

Add your community's name to the kiltskate2021 (name of your community) hashtag and website all 1 hashtags to get your skate counted

#kiltskate2021
#OttScot
#ScotlandIsNow

On Facebook:

[@greatkiltskate](https://www.facebook.com/greatkiltskate)

Our faces may be masked, but our knees will be bare!

The Great Canadian Kilt Skate is indelibly Scottish and undeniably Canadian. Kilt skating is a phenomenon that is spreading beyond Canada as a way to celebrate the contributions the Scots have made around the world. This pandemic winter, we are still soldiering on, finding ways to celebrate winter and Scottishness in challenging times.

This event is open to everyone. It's a chance to

nurture your inner Scot. You don't have to be Scottish. You don't even have to wear a kilt. Just come to the party with a spirit of Scottish fun and fortitude and wear Canada's favourite colour – tartan!

How did it begin? To mark the bicentennial of Canada's first prime minister, the Scottish Society of Ottawa launched the first kilt skate on

Continued on page 19



An Círcán Ceann Cinnidh

Hear Ye, Hear Ye,

**All MacEanruig's
are invited to explore the
Clan Henderson
Society**

Alistair of Fordell, our Chief, has tasked the
Society to help him "Gather My Kinsmen."

Proudly, We do it all

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History, Art, Literature, and Scholarships.

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www.clanhendersonsociety.org

**INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY
EXCHANGE: NO PROBLEM!**

More than 3.1 million people have watched the drone swarm film created to underline Edinburgh's claim to be "the home of Hogmanay."

Brian Ferguson



The figure of 3.1 million people was announced as organisers released the full 15-minute film, which was inspired by a new three-part poem, commissioned to mark the end of 2020 and herald the arrival of 2021 from Scots Makar Jackie Kay.

The three parts of the film, which featured special effects created using 150 drones, are said to have been viewed in more than 50 countries around the world so far.

The drone sequences filmed on an estate in the Highlands were superimposed into iconic views of the city, including Edinburgh Castle, Calton Hill, The Mound and Arthur's Seat.

A symbol of a handshake appeared above Murrayfield Stadium, the home of Scottish rugby, while the drone effects included a newborn baby, a stag and an eagle.

The finale, which was broadcast on the Edinburgh's Hogmanay social media channels and website at 7pm last night, was shared almost immediately by astronaut Tim Peake with his 1.5 million Twitter followers.

Underbelly, the events firm which produced the film on behalf of Edinburgh City Council and the Scottish Government, released the film in three parts between 29 December and Hogmanay.

The company, which normally stages a three-day festival in Edinburgh over Hogmanay, said the



film had already been viewed in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, India, Iraq, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the UAE, the USA, Uruguay and Uzbekistan.

Continued on page 17



Confido "I trust."

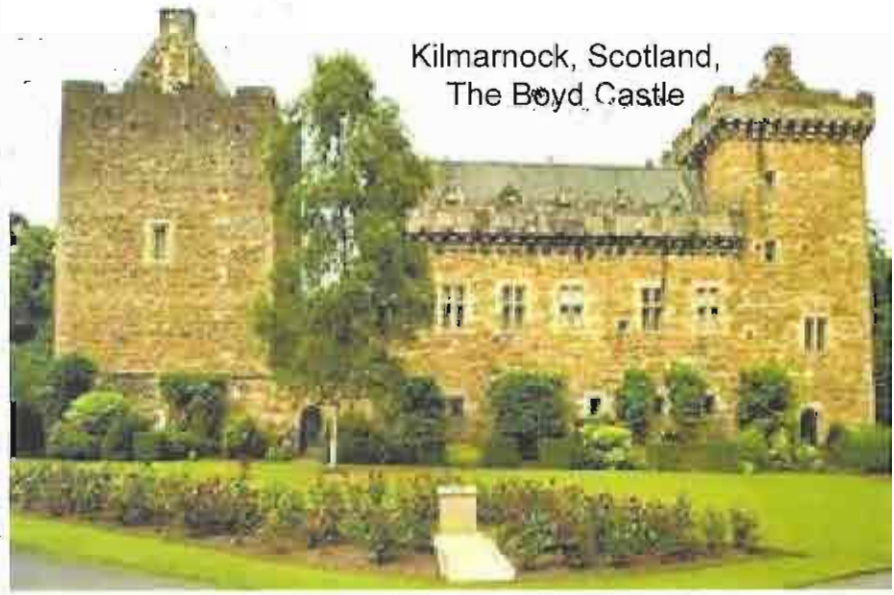


*Come join us
anytime.*

*Celebrate your own Scottish heritage with
us by joining the House of
Boyd Society.*



House of Boyd Society



Kilmarnock, Scotland,
The Boyd Castle

<http://www.clanboyd.org/joinus.shtml>

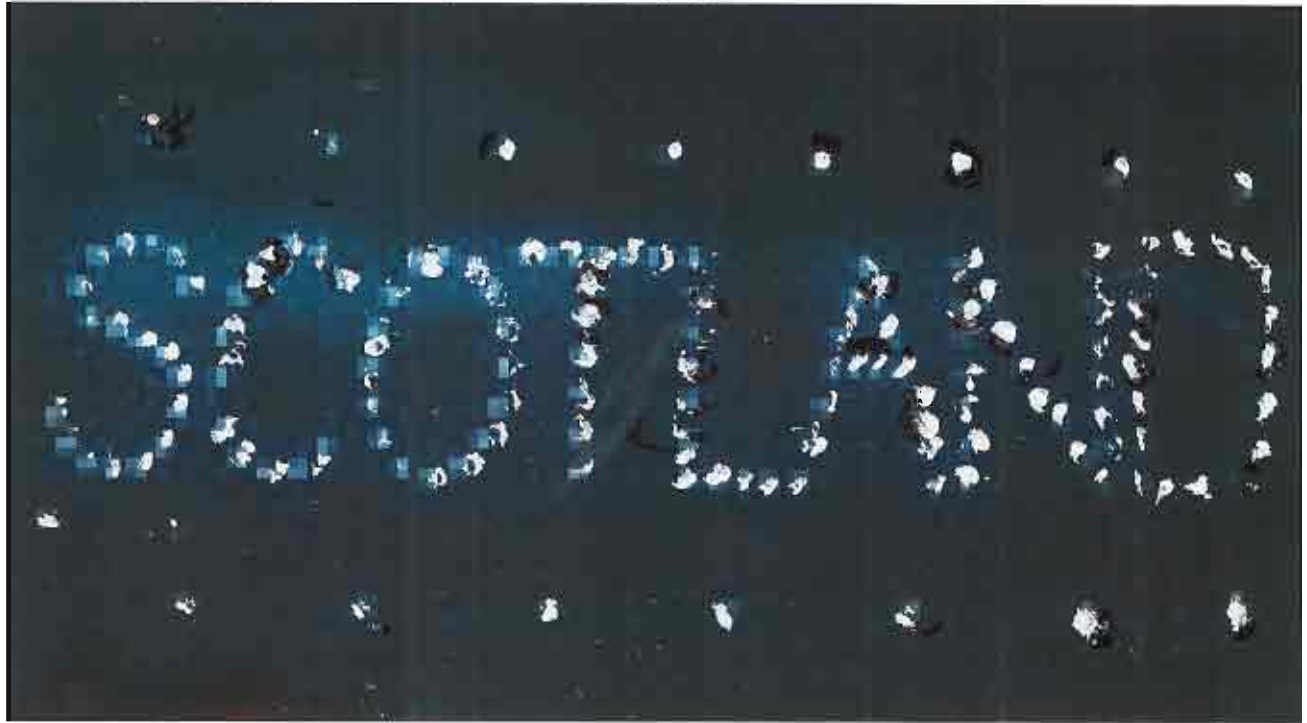
Visit our FaceBook site:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/7644244762>



Clan Boyd
Plant Badge,
The Laurel





The project was instigated after the government and the council, which put more than £1 million into Edinburgh's celebrations each year, ruled out the staging of any live events in the city. However they instead pledged to support an online project aimed at keeping the city and the country in the global spotlight.

A spokeswoman for Edinburgh's Hogmanay said: "Edinburgh's Hogmanay concluded last night, with 3.1 million people so far tuning in directly to watch the series of broadcasts on Edinburgh's Hogmanay's channels.

"Many millions more saw the films and clips on media channels around the world and those figures will be collated and released in due course."

Underbelly directors Ed Bartlam and Charlie Wood said: "More than 3.1 million people have watched the online incarnation of Edinburgh's Hogmanay celebrations so far.

"We've been blown away by the response from the millions and millions of people who've watched the films or seen clips around the world.

"Fireworks didn't seem the right response to the end of 2020 and we think we got the right tone

for Scotland of reflection, innovation and imagination, putting Scottish artists to the fore. Here's to a better 2021."

Posting on his *Twitter* page, Peake said: "Where poetry, art & culture meet science & technology. Thank you for creating this visual feast for us to marvel at, enjoy & reflect on."

City council leader Adam McVey said: "Gie this a watch. Our Capital's Hogmanay pulls together the beauty of our city and the artistic talent that is so much of who we are."

Murrayfield Stadium was among the famous Edinburgh landmarks to feature in the 15-minute film.

Writer and broadcaster Lesley Riddoch said: "Such a beautiful, poignant & hopeful film by Edinburgh's Hogmanay folk. Fareweel to the old year and as it happens, to our old friends in Europe. But auld acquaintance is not forgot. We'll be back." Edinburgh's Hogmanay film is seen by three million people in more than 50 countries around the world

More than 3.1 million people have watched the specially-created drone swarm film created to underline Edinburgh's claim to be "the home of Hogmanay."

If you will enter "Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2020" on your browser, you can find it to watch.

Please do see it. It is beautiful in sight and sound.

You can also see it on *The Scotsman's* newspaper digital edition, which is where I saw it.



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January 31, 2015. Other cities joined in. This year, we're expecting even more cities across Canada, in the United States and on the other side of the Atlantic to celebrate the contribution of the Scottish diaspora with bare knees and ice.

Want to get your community involved? Have a look at this website <<https://www.kiltskate.com/>>, read our blogs, and contact us.

Here's a list of events:

- ◆ Home Edition, December 31, 2020-February 28, 2021
- ◆ Ottawa, Home Edition 2021 #kiltskate2021OTT
- ◆ Glengarry, January 23, 2021 #kiltskate2021GLEN
- ◆ Calgary, February 7, 2021 #kiltskate2021CGY
- ◆ Fergus, February 7, 2021 #kiltskate2021FSF
- ◆ Toronto, February 27, 2021 #kiltskate2021GTA
- ◆ Winnipeg, February 28, 2021 #kiltskate2021WPG
- ◆ Montreal, Home Edition 2021 #kiltskate2021MTL
- ◆ Saskatoon, Home Edition 2021 #kiltskate2021YXE
- ◆ Dublin, January 11, 2020
- ◆ Boston, February 1, 2020
- ◆ New York City, February 1, 2020
- ◆ Lethbridge, February 1, 2020



Scottish Society of Ottawa





Clan Grant

Society - USA

Become a part
of your Clan Grant
extended family!

Stand Fast, Craigellachie!

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of Clan Grant**

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M(a)cgilroy · M(a)cilroy
McKerran · M(a)cKieran
M(a)cKessock · Pratt · Suttie

**IT'S GREAT TO BE A
GRANT!**

www.clangrant-us.org



Clan Henderson family has a masked 2020 Christmas!



All garbed in Clan Henderson tartan masks, the Bossart family: front row kneeling, l to r, Bruce (me), Bryan (son), Jane (daughter-in-law), Bruce, Jr (son), and my wife, Jo (Clan Henderson #4481). Back row: Nathan (grandson), Leah (granddaughter-in-law) holding our first great granddaughter, Ada Jo, Jami (daughter-in-law), Oscar (grandson), Kylee (granddaughter-in-law), Austin (grandson), and Jackson (grandson).

I'll let you in on a little secret, Nathan, Leah, and Ada Jo were photoshopped into the photo above. They actually live in Seattle, but sent us their pictures to here in Southern Illinois to add to ours. Better living through chemistry (or photography).

The family Bossart is constructed thus; Jo and I are the old folks, son Bruce Jr is married to Jane and they have two sons, Nathan (married to Leah) and their daughter Ada Jo, and Austin (married to Kylee).

Our other son, Bryan is married to Jami and they have two sons, Oscar and Jackson. You can't tell the player without a program!



Petrified wood



Clan Sinclair Commissioner of the Year!



Clan Sinclair Texas Commissioner, Stacey Brown, who signed up 16 new members even in the last year, was recently honored with the distinction of being the 2020 Clan Sinclair Commissioner of the Year!

With thanks to *Yours Aye*, the publication of the Clan Sinclair Association (USA).



clankeith-usa.org

Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

If you have genealogical ties to the surname Keith (Including alternate spellings such as Keeth.) or any of Clan Keith's Sept family names, you were born into the Clan Keith!

Associated Family Surnames (Septs) with Mac or Mc prefixes and spelling variants include: Septs and spellings include: Austin, Cate(s), Dick, Dickie, Dicken, Dickson, Dicson, Dixon, Dixson, Falconer, Faulkner, Harvey, Harvie, Hackston, Haxton, Harvey, Hervey, Hurrie, Hurry, Keath, Keech, Keeth, Keith, Keitch, Keithan, Keyth, Kite, Lum, Lumgair, Marshall, Urie, Urry.

The Clan Keith Society would be delighted for you to join us as a member. For more information, please email secretary@cksusa.org or jkeith417@aol.com. Call 256-270-8967.



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

Please plan to attend your local Highland Games and, if you see our tent, please come by for a visit. The tent convener will have information about Clan Keith's fascinating history as well as membership information. Membership in the clan is not expensive, but one of the finest investments that you will ever make. Hope to see you soon!

THE RIGHT HONORABLE MALCOLM SINCLAIR, EARL OF CATHNESS, HEREDITARY CHIEF OF CLAN SINCLAIR

...writing in the latest issue of *Yours Aye*, publication of the Clan Sinclair
(Your editor was so impressed by the wisdom of this column,
she thought we all might benefit.)



Thanks to the wonders of modern technology, John Thurso organised a Zoom meeting last weekend with your President Tom, Secretary/Treasurer Mary Raye and me to discuss the date for the next International Clan Gathering following the postponement of the one due to have taken place this year.

We were joined by Roger, President of the Clan in the Canada, Luke the Vice President and Wayne, President of the Clan in Australia.

Despite the good news of the imminent arrival of vaccines against Covid, and the indication that life could start to return to a more normal pattern in late spring/early summer next year we all agreed that there were still too many risks attached to trying to organise a Gathering in July next year as we had hoped to be able to do.

It will take some time for airline schedules to get back to normal to Edinburgh and Glasgow and even longer to Inverness (BA are not flying to or from there at present and Easyjet are no longer offering a daily service).

What it will be like in July is still a guess, but it would be a costly mistake to make financial commitments that have to be cancelled.

From the evidence received by the Presidents, a lot of people are wary of flying next year as many would like to do other things in the UK and Europe besides the Gathering and those plans cannot yet be made. It was agreed that we would not do anything next year but plan to hold the Gathering, in the same format as

planned, over the last week-end of July-2022.

The Halkirk Games will be held on Saturday 30th so the Gathering will start with a reception event on Friday 29th evening and close with a farewell event on the night of Monday 1st August.

The Gathering in Australia has also been delayed a year and will now be held in 2023.

Zoom meetings are beginning to play a significant role in the clan and are an important part of our future. It is a great way to keep in touch and 'see' people but not as good as meeting face to face.

I joined the USA Association AGM meeting recently and we are planning some themed discussion events for the forthcoming year. Several other clans are following the same route and, although the International Gatherings and attending local Highland Games will remain the focus for most of us, they can be complemented by Zoom meetings.

I always enjoy reading *Yours Aye* (The Clan Sinclair publication) and looking at the list of 'New Members'. I know your Commissioners go to a lot of time and effort recruiting people and I felt this should be recognised more formally. I talked with Tom and he agreed that we should have an annual award for the 'Commissioner of the Year'.

In the last eighteen months Mike and Debbie Croft in Arizona and Keith and Susan Sinclair in Tennessee have done really well in signing up seven new members.

However, I was pleased to announce at the AGM that way out front was your Commissioner for Texas, Stacey Brown, who has signed up sixteen new members and therefore is "Commissioner of the Year" this year. Many thanks and congratulations to Stacey.

Best wishes,



THE CLAN BAIRD SOCIETY WORLDWIDE

You're Invited

to become a part of our family!



If your name is Baird, Bard, Barde, Baard,
Bayard, Beard...and many more...

YOU ARE PART OF US! Join today!

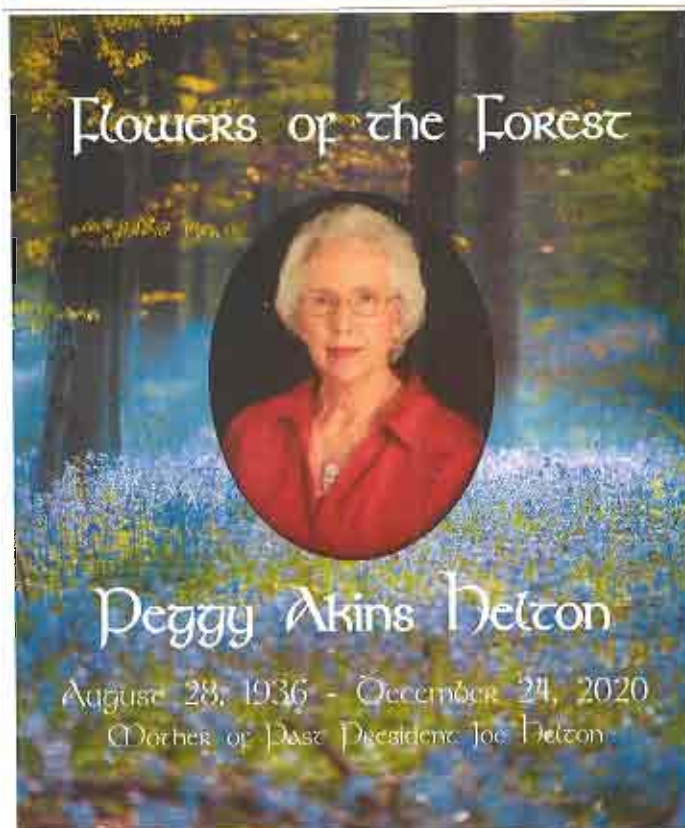
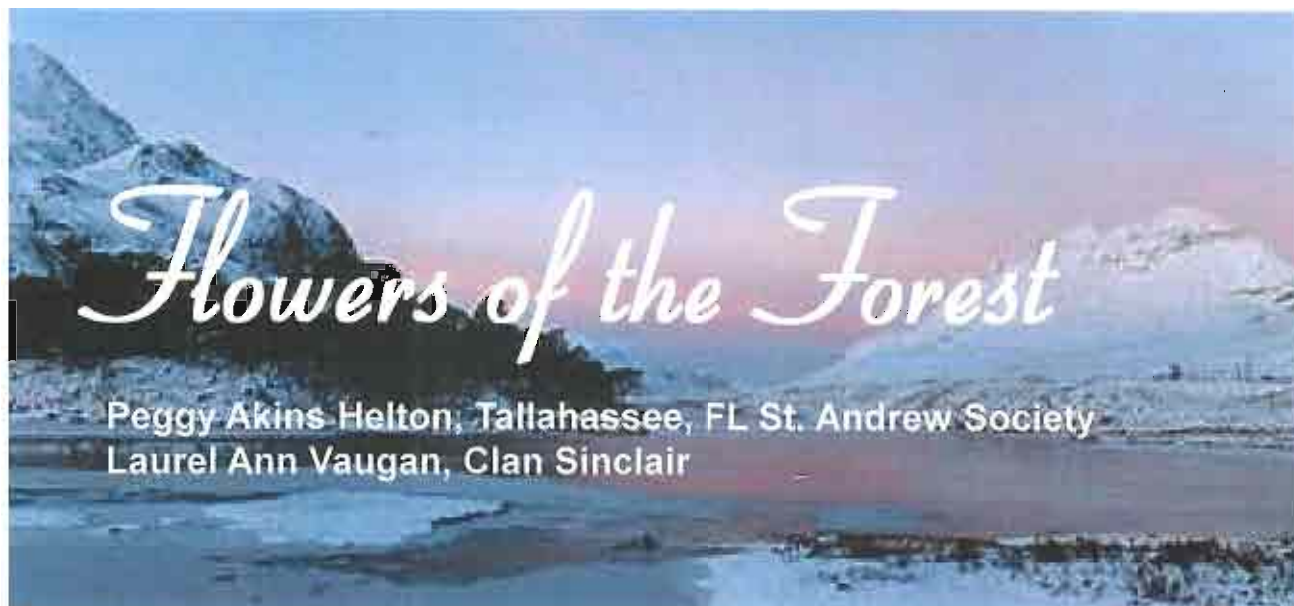
Contact: Dr. Debra Baird, FSA Scot, President, Clan Baird
Society Worldwide, Inc., email: djbaird4@gmail.com

Come visit us at: www.clanbairdsociety.com

Clan Baird

Clan Baird takes its name from the ancient lands held by the family, near the town of Biggar in South Lanarkshire. A popular traditional tale is that the lands were given to the first Baird clansman after he saved King William the Lion from a wild boar.





Laurel Ann Vaughan, Clan Sinclair Association (USA) member died September 20, 2020. Laurel was called home to the Lord on the evening after long illness. While she had endured much in the past few months, she was blessed to have passed peacefully in her sleep.

She is survived by her husband, Roy L. Vaughan. Daughter to Walter and Barbara Buttkus. Sister to

Ellen Begley, Christine Hunt, Cathleen Samborski, Patricia Collins, and Mark Buttkus. Mother of Christine Ferro of Kingston, Joseph Ferro and his wife Rachel of Weymouth, and Andrew Casasanto-Ferro and his wife Julia of Marlborough.

Also was survived by many grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Laurel loved her family deeply and was overjoyed with her grandchildren. She worked with special needs children in classrooms for years where she made a positive impact on those in need of help and compassion. She contributed her time to charity whenever possible and tried her best to walk in the presence of the Lord.

Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you."

Laurel became a member of Clan Sinclair USA just under a year ago and was of great help at the Loon Mt. Highland Games, NH. She will be missed by many.

There is absolutely no charge for Flowers of the Forest mentions in BNFT.

Just send your information to: <bethscribble@aol.com> anytime.



CLAN BUCHANAN

SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, INC.

If you have the name "Buchanan" in your family or any of the allied family/sept names below, you are invited to join your cousins and Buchanan kin. Just send an email for a membership form and/or information to

<info@theclanbuchanan.com>



Bohanan	Gilbert	Macgilbert
Buchanan	Gilbertson	Macgreusich
Colman	Harper	Macgubbin
Cormack	Harperson	Macinally
Cousland	Leavy	Macindeo(r)
Dewar	Lennie	Mackibb
Donleavy	Lenny	Mackibbon
Dove, Dow	Macaldonich	Mackinlay
Gibb(s)(y)	Macalman	MacKinley
Gibbon	Macandeior	Macmaster
Gibson	Macaslan	Macmaurice
	Macaslin	Macmorris
	Macauselan	Macmurchie
	Macauslan(in)	Macmurphy
	Macausland	Macneur
	Macauslane	Macnuir
	Macalman	Macquat
	Macalmon(t)	Macquattie
	Macammond	Macquattiey
	Macasland	Macquyer
	Macchruiter	MacQuinten
	Maccolman	Macwattie
	Maccolwan	Macwhirter
	Maccormac(k)	Macwhorter
	Maccommon	Masters
	Maccoubrey	Masterson
	Maccubbin	Morricc
	Maccubbing	Morris
	Maccubin	Morrison
	Macdonleavy	(of Perthshire only)
	Macgeorge	Murchie
	Macgibbon	Murchison
		Richardson



Risk
Rusk(ie)
Ruskin
Spittal
Spittle
Walter
Walters
Wason
Sasson
Waters
Watson
Watt
Watters
Weir
Wuill
Wool
Wule

The CBSI was formed in 1970 as the Clan Buchanan Society in America. It was founded at the Grandfather Mountain Games in North Carolina. The name was later changed to the Clan Buchanan Society International Inc., to reflect our society's expanded purpose and membership.



Rosslyn Chapel Trust during Covid time

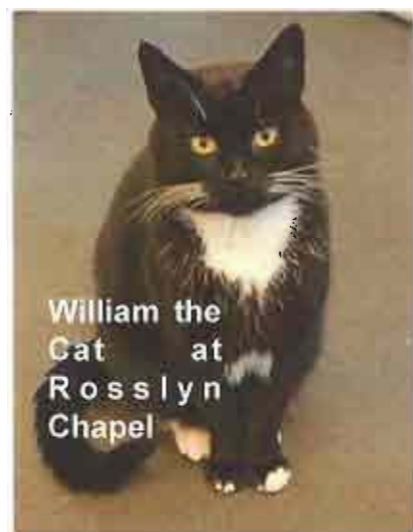
Ian Gardner, Director, Rosslyn Chapel Trust

At the end of my contribution to the spring edition of *Grapevine*, the Chapel congregation's newsletter, I said that 'the current situation with coronavirus means that, inevitably, there will be some uncertainty but – all being well – we look forward to another busy year ahead.' When I wrote that on 6th March, who could have predicted what was lying ahead?

We took the decision to close the Chapel from 18 March, as tight restrictions looked imminent. Bookings at Rosslyn Castle and Collegehill House, our two nearby properties which are available for self-catering holidays, were also suspended from then and church services stopped.

Most of the Trust team were furloughed, with just a few of us working from home and one of our Security Officers stayed for the duration of lockdown at Collegehill House and kept a close watch on our buildings and provided company – and food – for William the Chapel Cat!

The Chapel was among the first heritage sites to reopen on 15 July with a suite of new measures



in place to keep visitors and staff as safe as possible. Perhaps not surprisingly, the main differences since re-opening have been changes in the profile of visitors, with a very significant reduction in overseas visi-

tors and higher proportion of locals, and the huge drop in

numbers – in August 2019, we welcomed 29,983 visitors and in August 2020, we welcomed just 4,383.

Each day is now split into different timeslots, each giving visitors 90 minutes to enjoy the Chapel and visitor centre and helping us to manage the numbers on site throughout the day and provide enough space for physical distancing.

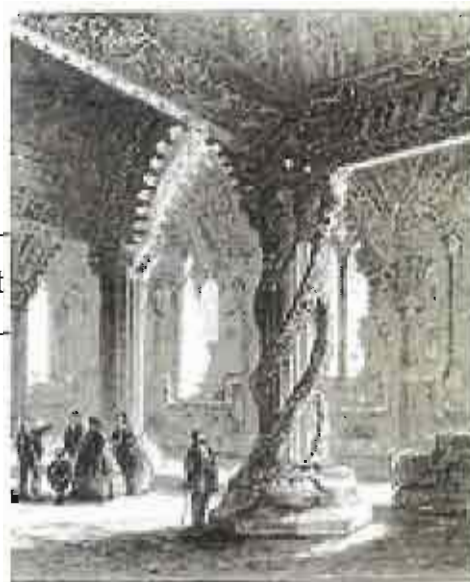
Encouragingly, the feedback from visitors has been very positive; it's a really good time to visit, with numbers reduced so much, and it has been great to see Sunday services starting up again in the past few weeks.

Looking ahead to winter, we are doing a few things differently such as holding a weekly evening visit to enjoy the Chapel by Candlelight, transferring our Junior Guide programme with the local primary school to the website and offering talks to local groups via zoom.

You can keep up-to-date with our activities by following us on Twitter and Instagram (@RosslynChapel) or Facebook (@RosslynChapelTrust) and we may even see you at a zoom tour in future!

After my closing line in that March newsletter, I'm not going to predict how the next few months will be but I'm sure that they won't be easy for any of us.

We look forward to welcoming back Clan members from across the world, in due course and,



Continued on page 29



OH, CANADA!



www.electrccanadian.com

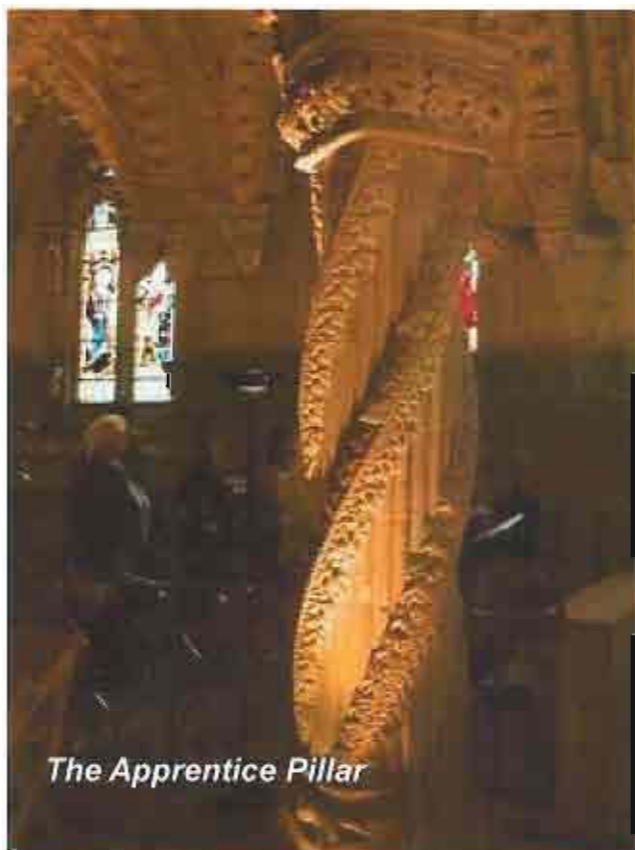


Rosslyn Chapel, continued from page 27

in the meantime, if you are able to help, you can make a donation via our website (www.rosslynchapel.com) and browse through our selection of books and gifts in our website shop, where most things have been produced specially for the Chapel.

Every purchase supports the Trust's work to conserve Rosslyn Chapel, Rosslyn Castle and Collegehill House for future generations to appreciate.

In the meantime and, as we get used to new ways of living and working, keep safe and stay well.



The Apprentice Pillar



**Rosslyn Chapel, Rosslyn, Scotland
which is near Edinburgh,
Scotland**



Those who guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

With thanks to Steve Kelley

All of you who read this have the "option" of forwarding this on. Some of us do not consider it an "option" but consider it an "honor" to share this information by forwarding this email every time we receive it. We're proud of our men and women who have served, who do serve and who will serve no matter where they may be! Amen.

On *Jeopardy*, the final question was "How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns?" All three contestants missed it! This is really an awesome sight to watch if you've never had the chance.

The answer to the question is: 21 steps: It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

Question 2. How long does the guard hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why?

The answer to the question is: 21 seconds for the same reason as answer number one.

3. Why are his gloves wet?

The answer is: His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.

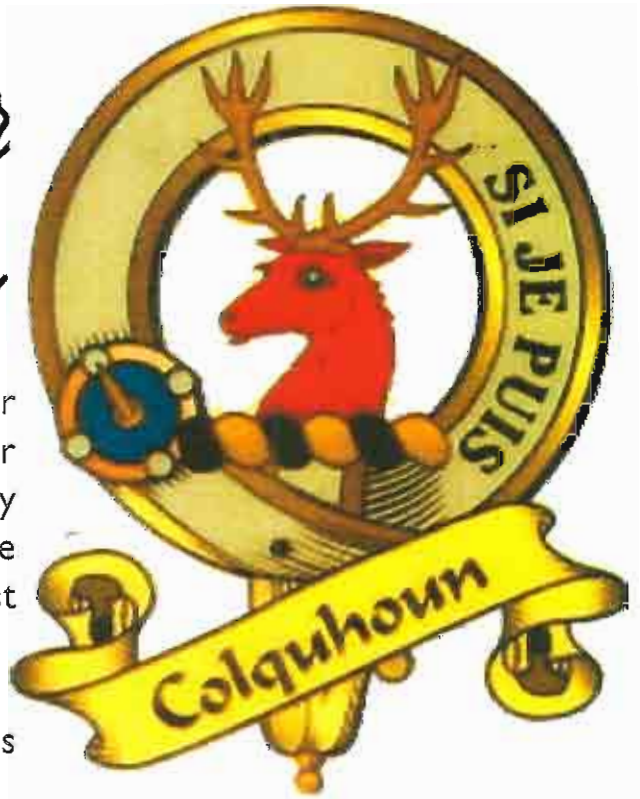
4. Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time and, if not, why not?

The answer to this question: He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After

Continued on page 33

Become a member of Clan Colquhoun

Our goal is to promote, protect, and preserve our clan's history and heritage. Regardless of how our members spell their name, or from which sept they come, we are all tied to the Village of Luss on the bonnie banks of Loch Lomond – some of the most beautiful land in the world. I encourage you to join us as we continue to build an organization that brings our history into the present and safeguards our legacy for future generations.



[<enquiries@clancolquhoun.com>](mailto:enquiries@clancolquhoun.com)



CLAN COLQUHOUN

INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY



Lord Malcolm & Lady Colquhoun



You are most acordially invited to join us!

Allied Families and Septs are:

**Colquhoun, Calhoun, Cowan,
MacClintock & MacManus**

Contact us at

[<enquiries@clancolquhoun.com>](mailto:enquiries@clancolquhoun.com)

Ceud Mile Failte! 100,000 Welcomes!

Zoom Annual General Meeting of The Scottish Tartans Authority on Friday 29th January at 3 pm

Dear Colleague,

I do hope that you and your family remain safe and well during these exceptionally difficult times for all. For many people and businesses, the last year has been one of great hardship and this is particularly the case for all those involved in the tartan and Highland Dress industries. My thoughts are with everyone associated with The Scottish Tartans Authority as we approach the festive holiday period and, hopefully, a time to rest and reflect on the past year.

March 2020 seems like such a long time ago and it was then that we had originally planned to hold an Annual General Meeting where the 2018 Annual Accounts would have been presented and, at the time, this was designed to fit in with a progress report on one of our key projects - "the best laid plans...." springs to mind! At that point we were all thrown into turmoil and we have all been dealing with the ever-changing restrictions and economic uncertainties that continue to unfold across the globe.

We all hope that 2021 will see us return, eventually, to some form of normality and routine. We therefore intend to hold an Annual General Meeting of The Scottish Tartans Authority on Friday 29th January at 3 pm. This meeting will be held virtually via the Zoom platform and members wish-

ing to attend should 'register' by replying to this email by 15th January 2021 (chairman@tartansauthority.com). A Zoom invitation will then be sent to those who have regis-

tered in due course. Following on from the AGM, our Head of Research and Collections, Peter MacDonald, will deliver a short presentation about a recent addition to the STA Collection.

The formal Notice and Agenda for the AGM is attached to this email.

Item 6 on the Agenda relates to the Election of Trustees and members should note that up to two Elected Trustees (Personal Members) and one Technical Trustee (Business Members) are due to be elected. Nomination forms are attached for both the Elected Trustee and Technical Trustee vacancies. Separate correspondence will follow for Technical Electoral College members and in the case of Elected Trustee nominations, the form should be completed by two members (excluding members of the Technical Electoral College) and the candidate before returning to chairman@tartansauthority.com by Friday 22nd January 2021.

Please note that the Annual Accounts for 2018 and 2019 may be found by following this link to



There are four documents mentioned in this article that you need for the AGM at the end of January. Just email [<bethscribble@aol.com>](mailto:bethscribble@aol.com) and I'll send you those documents via email. Space restrictions kept me from printing them here.

Continued on page 33



Stone Mountain Highland Games, Inc.

Friends,

2020 - and all of the canceled highland games nationwide - are now behind us. With great hope we look forward to the 2021 season of games and festivals.

While we are saddened to have canceled the 2020 games for the health and safety of our guests, we are delighted that our dedicated volunteers were able to provide our guests with a 2020 Virtual Stone Mountain Highland Games. Now a permanent fixture on the internet, our virtual games can continuously be enjoyed by all until we can all get back on the field and gather for what is internationally known as the "friendly games."

We are looking forward to hosting and seeing you in **2021** as we present the **49th Stone Mountain Highland Games and Scottish Festival** **October 16th and 17th** in the meadow at **Stone Mountain Park, GA**. Information about 2021 tickets and events will be posted on our website sometime in January.

Until then relive the 2020 Virtual Stone Mountain Highland Games on our website.

Once again, we look forward to 2021 and safely gathering with you, our friends, at the games. See you there!

Yours Aye,

Norman P. Livermore
President - Stone Mountain Highland Games, Inc.

www.SMHG.org
P.O. Box 384 - Marietta, GA 30061
770.521.0228





Companies House. THE SCOTTISH TARTANS AUTHORITY

We are aware that some members will have experienced problems in accessing all elements of the STA website over a number of months. Unfortunately, our website platform is 'creaking' due to old age and so we intend to make this our number one priority for 2021 - we thank everyone for showing patience in this regard. Please note that we also intend to hold a further AGM in September / October of 2021 as this will ensure that we get back on track in what will hopefully be, by then, a post-Covid and restriction-free world.

With my sincere and very best wishes,

John

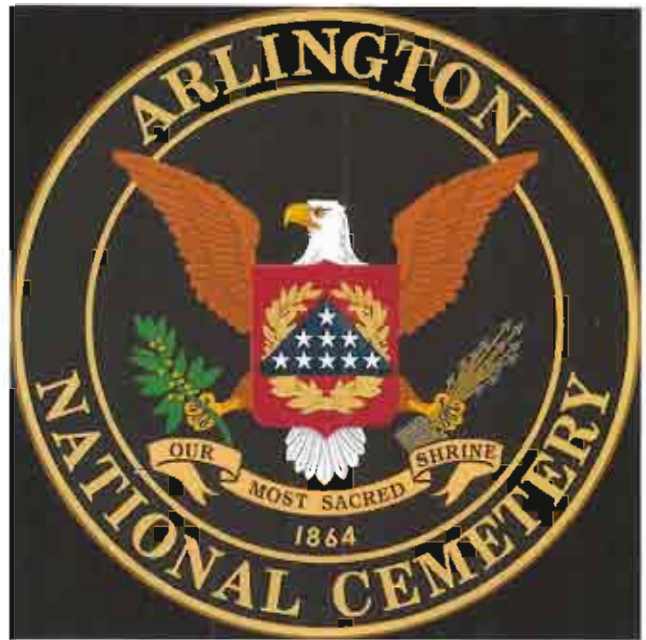
John McLeish

Chairman - The Scottish Tartans Authority

07884 234743

chairman@tartansauthority.com

There is no sweeter music on St. Valentine's Day than the melodious sounds of the pipes! If you are a piper, go outside and play to your heart's content!



Those who guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, *continued from page 29*

march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.

5. How often are the guards changed?

The answer: Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

6. What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?

Here is this answer: For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he must be between 5' 10" and 6' 2" tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30.

They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way.

After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt.

There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the

Continued on page 35

Scottish - American Military Society

General Elijah Clark Post #60



If you are a veteran of Celtic heritage, you can join the Scottish - American Military Society.

You can visit our webpage for more information.

The webpage is <<http://www.s-a-m-s.org/>>

Our meeting times, dates and places are to be announced as soon as it is possible.

In the meantime, please contact Rick Conn, Adjutant, General Elijah Clark Post #60. Call 1-676-873-3491 or visit his email at <rickconn@bellsouth.net>

When the Scottish Games start again, visit a games and look for the SAMS unit, which usually acts as the flagbearers for the event. Any of them will be glad to talk to you.



Scottish - American Military Society



If you would like information on joining the Scottish - American Military Society, please contact: **Rick Conn**, Adjutant, General James Jackson Post #60, 2683 Brocklin Drive, Grayson, GA 30017 -1432. Telephone **678-873-3491**. Email: <rickconn@bellsouth.net> <<http://www.s-a-m-s.org/>>

Those who guard the Tomb of the
Unknown Soldier, *continued from page 29*



uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone nor watch TV.

All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred. Among the notables are: President Taft, Joe Lewis (the boxer), Medal of Honor winner Audie L. Murphy, the most decorated soldier of WWII and of Hollywood fame.

Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty.

ETERNAL REST GRANT THEM O LORD
AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON
THEM.

In 2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington, DC, our US Senate/House took 2 days off with anticipation of the storm. On the ABC evening news, it was reported that because of the dangers from the hurricane, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined the offer, "No way, Sir!" Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment, it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person. The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

God Bless and keep them.



You're not going to believe
what I'm about to tell you.



I ask for readers to send in their
genealogical queries all the time. I
opened my computer and saw that I
had a query! Hurrah!

Then I read the query and my
socks fell off!

I promise all of this is true!

Re: I need information on **ROBERT JOHN BISHOP** born 8 December 1826 in Barnwell, SC and died 1 December 1856 in Madison, Florida. His father was **JOHN TILLERY BISHOP** and his mother was **CYNTHIA RUSSUEL/RUSSELL**. He married **ADELINE E. HILL** who was born 1835 and died 1905. Children were **ROBERT JOHN BISHOP** and **LOUIS B. BISHOP** 1856-1913. Any information, please,

I have no direct information about the subject person. However, I have a great deal of knowledge about the **BISHOP OF NORTHAMPTON** who is the only person named Bishop identified in the *Great Domesday Book of 1087*. He has living descendants today in the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand etc.

That knowledge is contained in *Doomsday Revenge*, a book I wrote four years ago and is available on Amazon.

Kent Bishop, Doomsday Revenge LLC,
P.O. Box 550891, Atlanta, GA 30355.

Call (404) 751-7416 .
<www.doomsdayrevenge.com>

Now, here is my reply to Mr. Bishop:

Hi. I am related to all those folks in your query. I do have one more generation from George Tillery and Cynthia Russell.

Continued on page 37

The Ancestral Home
of the
Clan Armstrong



Gilnockie Tower

The 16th Century

Ancestral Home
of the Clan Armstrong



The Ancestral Home
of the
Clan Armstrong



Gilnockie Tower is on the A7 Edinburgh to Carlisle route, details on our website.:

www.gilnockietower.co.uk

All Border Reiver Families made more than welcome at our tower.

We are open 10.00 AM until 4.00 PM 7 days 1st April to end October 2019. We are open 11.00 AM until 3.00 PM daily end October 2019 until end March 2020.

Johnnie Armstrong of Gilnockie Coffee Bar now open.

Please check our website for unforeseen changes to our opening times. : www.gilnockietower.co.uk

Our E-store now open on
www.gilnockietower.co.uk

[https://twitter.com/
GilnockieTower/](https://twitter.com/GilnockieTower/)



[https://www.facebook.com/
gilnockietower/](https://www.facebook.com/gilnockietower/)

Gilnockie Tower _____ Phone: 01387371373
Clan Armstrong Centre _____ Mobile: 07733065587
Hollows _____ Phone Intl: +44 13873 71373
Canonbie _____ Mobile Intl: +44 7733 065587
Dumfriesshire _____ Website: www.gilnockietower.co.uk
Scotland _____ Email: gt@gilnockietower.co.uk
DG14 0XD _____ Newsletter: www.gilnockietower.co.uk

That generation was George Bishop who lived 1765 - 1830 and was married to Molly ? who lived 1774 - 1825. Then comes John Tillery Bishop 1774 - 1842 and Cynthia Russell 1787 - 1869. The next generation was Robert John Bishop who married Adeline E. Hill and they had Robert L. Bishop, Jr., (1856- 1913) who married Mariah F. Henderson (called Molly).

Robert L. Henderson has an interesting story. He lived in Madison Co., Florida and was one of the first to bring purebred cattle into that part of the area. His neighbour had a pack of dogs who killed some of Robert L.'s calves. Robert L. went next door and told his neighbour, "If your dogs kill another calf I am going to shoot them all." A little bit later, Robert L. came up to the neighbour's house again with a dead calf in his wagon and the dogs yipping behind. The neighbour came out and Robert L. said, "I am here to shoot your dogs." The neighbour said, "Shoot my dogs, you're going to have to shoot me first." Robert L.'s gun said, "Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!" The dogs AND the neighbour were shot dead.

Robert L. went back home and that afternoon took a ferry across the Gulf of Mexico to Texas. He settled in Austin, Travis County, Texas. His wife and their hired man sold the livestock on their farm and followed Robert L. not long after. A while later, a few years, we think, Robert L. was killed in a shoot-out in a saloon there. His wife, who was expecting a baby then, came back to their farm in Madison, Madison County, Florida. Months later, Robert Benjamine Bishop was born. He lived 1885 - 1912 and died of a kidney infection we'd just take a pill for today and go back to work tomorrow. Robert B. had married Annie Roberta Macdonald. They had loved each other all of their lives.

(I have a story about that and it is in one of my papers. The story was also printed in one of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books a few years ago.)

Robert Benjamine and "Berta" had 2 daughters, Mildred Lois Bishop and Elizabeth Clyatt Bishop...my mother. Mildred lived to be 107. My mother lived just past 80 and was very ill with dia-

betes.

Another story, sad this time, when Robert Benjamine died, he had still not made his insurance to his wife, it was still made with the beneficiary his mother. His mother kept the insurance money and did not share it at all with his wife and family. My grandmother "sewed on black cloth" with her fingers to support her girls. She cried about this, if she was reminded of it until she died, she was so hurt. Robert Benjamine and my grandmother called each other "Boy!" Theirs was a true love story.

I reckon we're cousins, Mr. Bishop! That's great. I have absolutely zero family nowadays.

All of the information I have about Robert Benjamine was told to me by my beloved Grandmother, Annie Roberta Macdonald.

BTW, diabetes runs in my family. Get checked even if you don't think you have it. I have Type II, but, take care of it and so, I'm fine.

I haven't been able to find out more about the Bishops. My complete maiden name was Elizabeth Bishop Palmer. My grandmother started my interest in genealogy before I could write.

Also BTW my family are ALL creative. All of my life I made my entire living from ideas.

Auntie Mildred (My mother's sister) was a Lifetime Flower Show Judge and travelled all over the country giving seminars and teaching flower arranging. She was Mildred Bishop White from Live Oak, Florida.

My mother did the most exquisite needlework I have ever seen anywhere. She made all of my baby clothes from Irish handkerchief linen and did drawn work, tatting, smocking, fine embroidery everywhere. I still have those beautiful things and treasure them. My mother also used a crochet hook like an artist, which she was.

My grandmother was a marvellous seamstress. I would go to the fancy stores in Jacksonville, Florida (Levy's, Purcell's, Cohen's, etc.) and draw the clothes I liked - and she and I would go to Phelps, a wonderful fabric store, and get the cloth and I would soon have something lovely. She made quilts. I sleep under one of my grandmother's quilts today.

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a legal fight to stop logging in the forest has raised more than £41,000.

Dr O'Donoghue said: "The Clashindarroch is the best site in Scotland for the wildcat and the population we have found there is utterly priceless and offers great hope for the future of the species.

"The support for our plans to get SSSI status for the Clashindarroch is simply unprecedented and cannot be ignored by the government.

"The people have spoken and the message is clear. Save the wildcat in the wild where they belong."

The Scottish wildcat, also known as "the Highland Tiger", is the only wild member of the cat family to survive in Britain.

They have been all but wiped out due to hybridisation with feral and domestic cats, as well as historical and accidental persecution, disease and collisions with vehicles on roads.

It is estimated there may be only 35 Scottish wildcats left.

Wildcat Haven describes itself as "the only conservation group focused solely on saving the Scottish wildcat in the wild where it belongs".

Dr O'Donoghue said that, while there are multiple sites in Scotland designated for species such as the great crested newt and capercaillie, there was not currently one for the wildcat.

He said: "The wildcat has been ignored for decades and it is now on the brink of extinction. The lack of protected habitat for them is a major contributing factor.

"There is simply nowhere safe for them to live and breed. That needs to change immediately, otherwise we will lose the wildcat forever which is simply unthinkable."

The Aberdeenshire wildcat population in-

cludes a specimen nicknamed the "Beast of Clashindarroch", estimated to measure more than 4ft (1.2m) from nose to the tip of its tail.

Wildcat Haven's petition warns that "logging will tear the wildcat population apart, and threaten many other rare animals that live in the forest alongside them".

Susan Shaw, founder of Living Law, a specialist environmental law firm working for Wildcat Haven on the Clashindarroch project, said: "This is a population find of national and, indeed, international importance. That is why we have made the case unequivocally that the Scottish government and its agencies have a duty to now designate this site for protection.

"If the case can be made, and we believe it overwhelmingly has been, then there is now no discretion on this matter, designation must happen."

NatureScot yesterday confirmed it had received correspondence from Living Law, on behalf of Wildcat Haven, "making a number of claims regarding Clashindarroch forest".

A Spokesperson said: "We have not been provided with any scientific evidence to support the claims of Wildcat Haven on the numbers of wildcats at Clashindarroch or more widely.

"Extensive research in the area by our partnership has found that the number of suspected wildcats at the site is low and genetic testing suggests that the majority are likely to be hybrids.

"We are working closely with FLS, which is undertaking careful management of the site to ensure protection of any wildcats present."

If you would like to learn more and help the wild cats and please visit the Wild cat Haven at <https://www.wildcathaven.com/donations-page>



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Chief John Alexander MacArthur of that Ilk