

Vol. XV No 8 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A February 2022

New Scots Makar

Scotland's national poet appointed



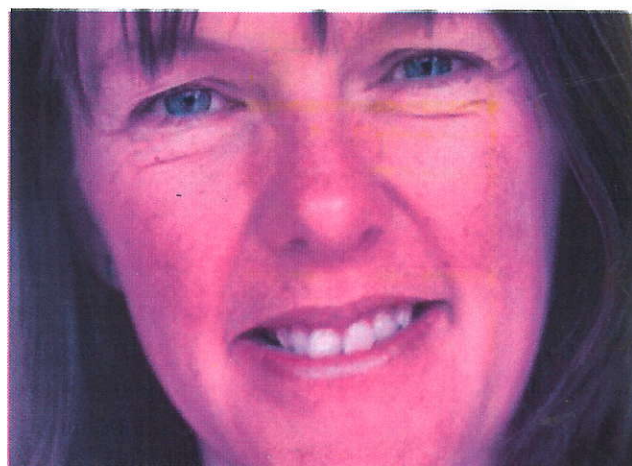
The award-winning poet and essayist Kathleen Jamie has been appointed as Scotland's next Makar, our national poet.

After a selection process altered by Covid-19 restrictions, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon formally welcomed Jamie, 59, to the role at the Scottish Poetry Library in Edinburgh yesterday.

The Makar is expected to take a leadership role in promoting poetry nationally, as well as producing work relating to significant national events.

Jamie was appointed by the First Minister for a three-year term – a change to the usual five years – on the recommendation of an expert panel representing Scotland's literary sector.

She is the fourth person to hold the role since it was established by the Scottish Parliament in 2004, following in the footsteps of the original Makar Edwin Morgan who was followed by Liz Lochhead, and



Jackie Kay.

Raised in Currie, Midlothian, and a graduate of Edinburgh University, Jamie was first published at 20. She has had numerous collections of poetry published and has also written for radio and many journals and newspapers.

Her poems have appeared on the Underground systems of London, New York, and Shanghai, and closer to home, a poem of hers was chosen by the public to be carved on a huge wooden beam on the national monument at Bannockburn.

A strong element of her background is her time as a creative writing tutor which will stand her in the

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XOXOXOXOXOXOXOX

Browse amongst the archives,
read the current issue
and others as much as you wish!

Section B is "up" on the
Internet about the
15th of each month.
Section A is "up"
a day or so before the
first of the next month.



***Happy Valentine's Day!
Beth, Tom and Alastair***

A letter from your editor

Real lessons learned the hard way about love...



This Valentine's Day, I got to thinking about some hard lessons I have learned over the span I have so far lived. I thought I would share these lessons with you in hopes that they might help you in your own life.

There must be love in your life. Humans cannot survive without it - or at least this human can't.

Sometimes the people in your life seem to have gone crazy...but I've been "saved" more than once by the love of my dogs, cats, and horses. Trixie, Katherini, Ugas, Jack...Walter, Chuckie and Ruthie...Sweet Thing, Ol' Buck, Frostie, Brendah, DooDah, Ruby Lou...Sylvester, Bicket, Peggie Hairry and Miss Narra - are just a few of the critters with whom I have shared my life and whom I have loved and always miss.

You can't always trust someone who says they love you. This one was hard for me to learn, but learn it I have.

Folks want different things out of love - many simply want another person to cook, clean, wash, iron, mow, repair, paint, scrub, work and pay for things - you get the gist.

My counselor through a very bad time told me that even though you might not personally believe in divorce - when the other person in a marriage or serious relationship ceases to "love, honor, and cherish" the other one, it's time to make tracks.

I've learned that the way a person looks has nothing to do with what they are like as a person.

I've learned that the kind of car someone has doesn't matter. Nor does how much money they have.

I've learned that you can be happy as a clam with almost nothing.

I've learned that you can be in a mess when there are material things and money.

I've learned that someone can pretend to be someone they are not - just to get that person described before who the pretending person wants to cook, clean, wash, iron, etc.

I've learned from my forty-plus-year friend,

Jackie, that there are two kinds of people in this world. There are givers and there are takers.

Jackie says that both she and I are givers. Takers zero in on givers like they had neon signs on their heads. Takers pretend to be givers just long enough to snag a giver of their own...and then they revert back to themselves.

Takers, in my experience, are NOT nice people. Run, run like the wind if one is after YOU.

I learned from my almost forty-year friend, Jeri, who sadly passed away, that your friends become the family that you have chosen from all the people in the world. I will always miss dear Jeri who was surely my family.

The great thing about this is that you continue to add to your family of friends as long as you live.

I've learned from my lifelong friend, Marti, that friends become the "constants" in your life. When all else explodes, your friends are still there.

I've learned that sometimes people will sort of pretend to be your friends - but at the first sign of trouble, they quickly evaporate. Poof!

I have also learned that you don't mourn their poofing.

I've learned to tell those whom I love that I do.

I've learned that there are as many ways of loving as there are people and you can love all of your friends - each in their own way.

I've learned that true love is made up of respect, trust, honor, laughter, shared experiences, and real friendship.

It took me until the year 2000 to find the love of my life. So, I've learned never to give up.

Nobody was more surprised, astounded, or amazed than me. It's funny, as Tom says the same thing!

Our love story: Long-time good friends. Whammy! Huh? Us? Hurrah!

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A new date for the American- Scottish Foundation Annual Burns Night Celebration



The American-Scottish Foundation® invites members and friends to join for the 27th Annual Burns Night celebration, held in association with the University Club, New York, on Friday, February 25, 2022.

All attendees must provide proof of vaccination plus booster.

The Burns Supper celebrates, in words and music, the immortal memory of Robert Burns and Scotland's heritage. The first recorded Burns celebration was held in 1801 when a group of his good friends gathered – and so was born the legendary "Burns Supper."

The evening will begin with a Reception and Whisky Tasting Selection by Whisky Ambassador Robin Robinson. After viewing the exciting Silent Auction, guests will then be piped into dinner where a traditional Burns Night Supper will follow.

Kenneth Donnelly, Chairman of the American-Scottish Foundation as The Master of Ceremonies will introduce us to the world of Scotland's most famous son, Robert Burns. With full fanfare, the piper will herald the Haggis, leading a procession comprising the chef, the orator, and the whisky bearers to present the Haggis. After circling the room in order that all assembled guests may see the magnificent Haggis, it then is placed in a position ready to be "addressed".

Our orator, Robbi Munro, will present a resounding and animated recital of Burns' "Address To A Haggis". At the appropriate time, during the line "An cut you up wi ready slight", with a flourish taking his dirk and piercing the Haggis, concluding with "Gie her a Haggis!".

We look forward to presenting plenty of music and entertainment, plus Toasts to the Lads and the Lassies for this special evening.

Musical selection throughout the evening will be provided by Noisemaker and Friends with Michael Gallant. Join us as we honor and celebrate Scotland's national bard in words and music. Reserve your tickets for a wonderful evening in true Scottish style and tradition!

The evening will conclude with enthusiastic reeling.

Robert Burns is regarded as the national poet of Scotland and is acknowledged by recent public vote to be "The Most Important Scot" by the people of Scotland. Burns was born on January 25, 1759 and died on July 21, 1796 at the age of 37.

Any Inquires regarding reservations, or more information, please call 212-729-0127.





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Can anyone help Anne C. White with her Brick wall?

About ten years ago I began a search that has not yielded any positive result so far. My husband's uncle wrote in his memoir that his mother certainly told him that one of his **LYON** grandfathers had married an Indian woman and had a photo of the lady who certainly had an Indian appearance. (Photo now lost). No DNA evidence has been reported. The mother in question is **HELEN JOSEPHINE WARD** (1896-1975), wife of **GLENN EARL OSBORNE** (1891-1972), and the lore relates to her descendants. **HELEN'S** parents were **JOSEPH E WARD** (1869-1937) and **FLORA MARIA LYON** (1863-4/1946). **FLORA'S** parents were **WILLIAM STODDARD LYON** (1829-1909) and **MARY ELIZABETH DAVIS** (1836-1920). **WILLIAM'S** parents were **BURR LYON** (1795-1867) and **MELINDA CHURCHILL** (1801-1879). **BURR'S** parents

were **WALTER LYON** (176-1829) and **PRISCILLA REDFIELD** (1763-1836). The **LYON** grandfathers in this instance presumably refer to seven sons of **BURR LYON** and five sons plus grandchildren of **WALTER LYON**. If this Indian heritage came through **HELEN WARD**, it would seem to have also come through her mother, **FLORA**, child of **LYON** grandfathers. **FLORA'S** father **WILLIAM** was married in 1861 to his only recorded wife, **MARY DAVIS**, when **FLORA** was born in 1863-4 and raised in Walton. Four out of seven of **WILLIAM'S** available brothers were also married at that time. **WALTER LYON'S** children and grandchildren also seem ruled out by dates except for **WAKEMAN LYON** (1799-1883) whose marital status is unclear and has no children listed. However, three of **WALTER'S** other sons, **BRADLY**, **BURR** and **ZALMON**, could have had prior marriages other than those listed. Overall, the **LYON** marriages seem well documented. Further detail is needed on **WAKEMAN LYON** with marriages listed as 1st) Sept. 11, 1823, **LOUISA ADAMS**; 2nd) **LUCINDA MILLIKEN** in the **LYON** Memorial. **WAKEMAN** was employed out of state in Illinois but spent time in Walton. Possible history of a biracial marriage through **FLORA** suggests parents other than those listed: **WILLIAM** and **MARY LYON**. A first or second-generation Lyon could have produced a child whose parents were unable to provide care. **FLORA** or a needy child could have been placed with extended family members such as **WILLIAM** and **MARY** who had no other children of their own at that time. I have found no evidence of a placement of a child or indication of a Native American connection to date. This **LYON** family claims Mayflower descent through **PRISCILLA REDFIELD**, wife of **WALTER LYON**. Please contact <annecwhite2003@yahoo.com>

Kathleen Jamie, *continued from page 1*

good seat for the educational aspect of her work.

Nicola Sturgeon said: "I am delighted to confirm Kathleen Jamie as our national poet.

"Poetry is integral to Scotland's culture and history. The Makar has a central role in celebrating that legacy and preserving its future by encouraging the next generation of young writers to leave their mark.

"Kathleen is a highly accomplished poet who is known for her works in English and Scots, and the meaningful connections her writing draws between our lives and the landscape around us. I have no doubt she will continue to build on the exceptional work of her predecessors to promote Scottish poetry both here and abroad."

What does Makar mean? A Makar is a term from Scottish literature for a poet or bard, often thought of as a royal court poet, although the term can be more generally applied. It especially highlights the role of the poet as someone skilled in the crafting or making of controlled, formal poetry with intricate or involved diction and effects.

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stone mountain highland games

AND SCOTTISH FESTIVAL

The Clan Henderson Society, submitted by Suzanne Keifer

It's been 2 years since the last Stone Mountain Games, and it was wonderful to see so many familiar faces. Unlike the previous festival in 2019 (we needed an ark on Saturday), this year was glorious – cool and sunny – just how you expect October in the south to be.

Due to continued concerns for health and safety, we didn't see some of our regular attendees, but we still had a fairly steady stream of visitors on Saturday. Alan Henderson was able to wrangle a piper for our traditional Saturday Walkabout, which was well attended and appreciated by the other clans and onlookers. Sunday is typically a slower and more relaxed day, and we still were able to muster a decent contingent for the Parade of Tartans.

Twenty-four families/individuals signed our Guest book; I'm sure there were more who didn't as I don't always catch everybody to have them sign in.

Ian Carter's sons provided a lovely display to honor his memory AND provided us with some of his

world-famous Scotch eggs. I'm sure he was looking down with a big smile on his face.

The Games had re-arranged the main part of the field and that took some getting used to. They also spread out the Clan tents for health reasons; as a result, the vendors and artisans were a little further away from the clan tents. For any of you who have attended these Games before, you'll remember how "sloshy" the vendor field can be after any sort of rainy weather. They are now on solid ground; my sources tell me they had a banner weekend! The Tartan Museum measured folks for a record number of kilts and one of the food vendors actually ran out of food and had to go back home for more before Sunday.

God willing and the Creek don't rise, next year will be the 50th anniversary of these Games. We invite you to consider attending "the friendliest Games in the South", as some affectionately call them. I don't think you'll be disappointed.





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Brooches (Custom designing available – some restrictions apply). **Gold and silver rings. Earrings. Necklaces. Brooches.**



FOOD: Haggis (6+ types). **Crisps** (Mackies Haggis and Angus). **Marrow fat peas. Colman's Mustard. Confectionary** (Many types of candy bars such as Mars, Flake, Crunchie, Yorkie, Dairy Milk, Toffees and more). **Biscuits** (Tea, Hob Nobs, Ginger Nuts, Digestives, Jaffa Cakes, and Oat cakes). **Several types of tea. Shortbread** (Walkers and **Granny Fi's** – Local homemade). **Marmalades. Irn Bru** (Some restrictions apply when shipping).

CERAMICS: Tea and coffee mugs. **Tea bag holders.** Shortbread pans. **Bread warmers.** Trivets. **Coasters.**

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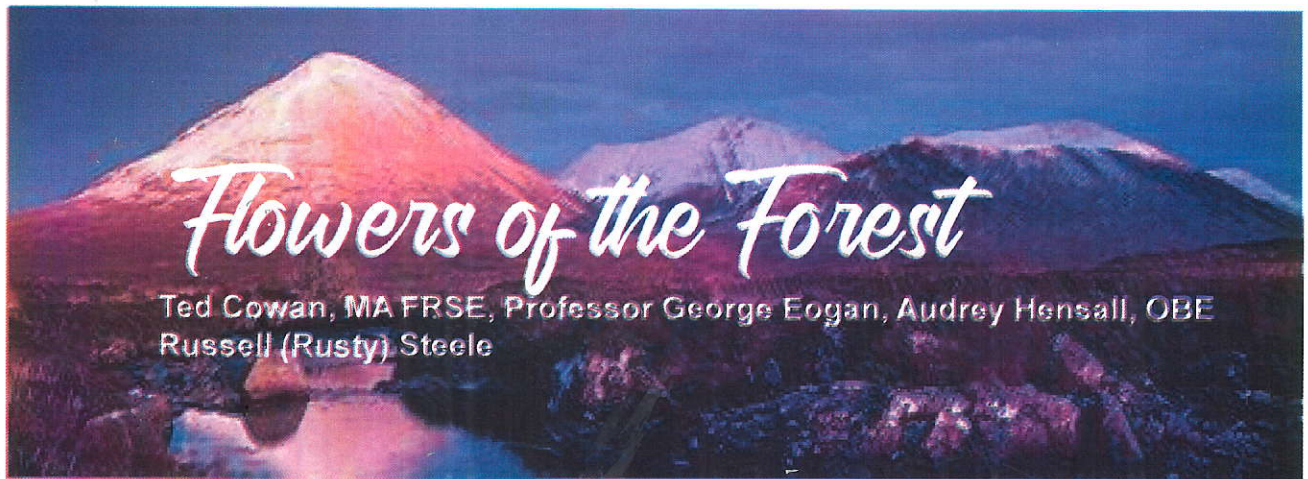
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Honorary Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, **Ted Cowan MA FRSE**, (b.1944 d. 2022) was Emeritus Professor of Scottish History and Literature at the University of Glasgow.

His main areas of research and publication included Vikings and Sagas, the Scottish Wars of Independence, and most recently research on the Ethnology of Dumfries and Galloway.

We were saddened to also hear of the recent passing of two of the Society of Antiquaries's Honorary Fellows, **Professor George Eogan**, and **Audrey Hensall OBE** at the end of 2021.

Russell (Rusty) Steele, who has died aged 75, was a character perfectly suited to the drama that was Scottish newspapers in the late 20th century and early 21st century.

He had substantial, peerless journalistic gifts and a boundless, bountiful personality. He instantly recognised a story but could wrap it beautifully on a double-page spread or in a pull-out. He had an intuitive ability, too, to know how a tale must be told.

These traits accompanied him on a journey that encompassed *The Herald*, *the Scottish Daily Express*, *the Scottish Daily News*, *Daily Record*, *the Sunday Mail*, and *the Evening Times*, among other titles. He worked, too, across news, business, features and sport. He brought talent, passion and wisdom to every newspaper, every area in which he toiled.

His greatest gift, though, was his generosity of spirit that extended powerfully into his private life. Rusty

was one of the good guys. In the parlance of newspapers, he was also 'a good operator': the equivalent of being designated a professor emeritus at a university or being asked to join a royal society as a surgeon.

Indeed, it may be tougher. Journalists are traditionally sparing with their praise. They were not with Rusty. He was held in particular affection and respect by younger journalists. He was a mentor before that role was recognised. He was a relentless supporter of those who worked under him. This is said with the unalloyed certainty and profound gratitude of personal experience.

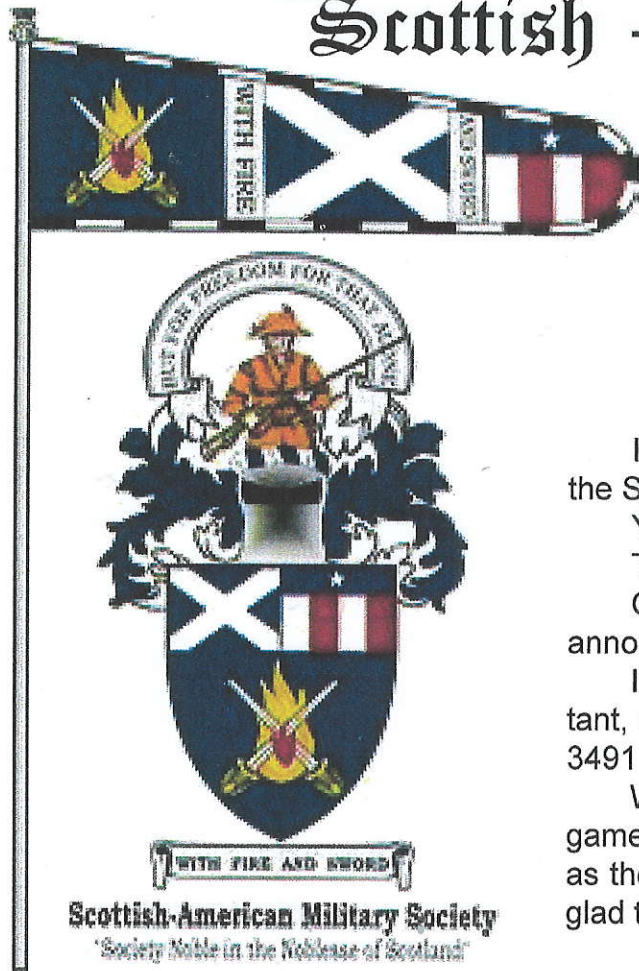
The guarantee of working under his unassuming tutelage was that one became a better journalist. The blessing was that one was exposed to the possibility – however shocking to the journalist – of becoming a better person.

His kindness never shouted. His help was never advertised. He merely took it upon himself to nurture the talent under him and promote it to the wider world. His shouting was restricted to those moments in newspapers when the drama seemed to be unmanageable and a deadline seemed unmakeable. He always coped brilliantly, of course. But it was a genuine delight to watch a Rusty explosion, one of those natural wonders that can only be appreciated with a sense of awe and should have been recorded by David Attenborough with suitably hushed tones.

The storm over, he would praise everyone – no matter how small their contribution – and invite all to toast the miracle of another edition in the nearest hostelry.

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/>>

The Celtic Invasion, Tartan Terrors coming to Tallahassee in April

The Celtic Invasion, Tartan Terrors, is coming to Tallahassee on Thursday, April 28th!

This sensational team of kilted musical talent will be appearing on stage on the FSU campus at 7:30 p.m.

The band includes singers, dancers, drummers, guitarists, fiddler/violinist, and bagpipers. This powerhouse of players will share folk, rock, and humor along with other Celtic songs which some of us will, no doubt, cheerfully recognize.

Tartan Terrors was organized in 1996 by Ellen Wilkes-Irmisch and brother, Ian Wilkes-Irmisch. The group has played for Queen Elizabeth II, Bill Clinton and other dignitaries in addition to its concerts at festivals and Highland Games throughout North America.

Past President, Bill Graham, has purchased a block of tickets in hopes that a stellar set of St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee, Florida, members and friends will Kilt up and join Bill and Shelley for this wonderful evening. Please contact Bill to get your tickets. Use <bill@wggator.com> or 561-707-0659. This invitation is absolutely made as a "first come first served" opportunity. Be aware that some of your Fellow St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee members have already gotten their tickets!

Don't procrastinate, Tartan Day 2022 is closer than you think.



May you have as much fun
as you can before
someone makes you stop.



Murdoch McGregor is the UK Sailor of the Year for 2021- aged 82

BEATING some of the biggest names in the sailing world, an Alloa, Scotland, man has captured the hearts and imagination of people to win a prestigious award.



The town's intrepid and inspiring adventurer Murdoch McGregor was last week named Sailor of the Year 2021 at the British Yachting Awards.

Stunned but immensely proud, the 82-year-old scooped the accolade in a public vote, having been nominated along the likes of the whole British Sailing Team, Vendée Globe round-the-world racers Pip Hare and skipper Tom Kneen.

Murdoch, who only started sailing 10 years ago and has been notching up achievements since, was nominated following his solo sailing trip, which saw him circumnavigate the UK earlier this summer.

As reported in the *Advertiser* at the time, many believe he may be the oldest to have achieved the feat.

Not only that, Murdoch also raised more than

Continued on page 18

The Families of Clan MacTavish Welcome You to Discover Your Scottish Heritage!



Chief Steven
MacTavish

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,
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MacComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacTaws,
MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, McTavish,
Mactavish, Mactavis, M'Tavish, MacThomas,
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant
spellings.*

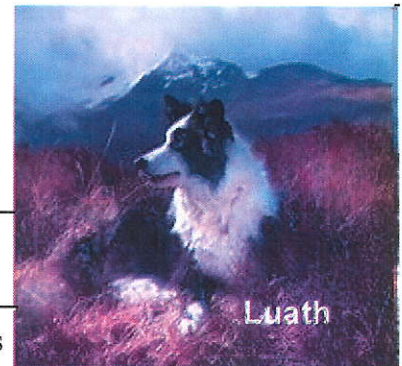
We Are Clan MacTavish!



For information about joining us email: clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com

PORTRAIT OF THE POET AS A PLOUGHMAN'S DOG

Jay Breeze, writing in the St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee newsletter, *The St. Andrew's Cross*



In 1786, the struggling 27-year-old tenant farmer Robert Burns could not be faulted for feeling frustrated and discouraged by his financial straits, the entreaties of pregnant girlfriend, Jean Armour, the strictures of disapproving church elders, and poor prospects for the future.

Early that year, Robert had mourned the death of both his father William and his favorite dog Luath, a border collie, wantonly killed by person or persons unknown. A heartbroken Robert determined to memorialize his canine companion in verse, as he did his father in *The Cotter's Saturday Night*. Robert had named his dog Luath after the faithful hunting companion of legendary Gaelic hero Cuchullin, celebrated in the ancient bard Ossian's epic poem.



In 1761, poet James Macpherson published *Fingal*, a cache of Ossian's poetry he claimed to have discovered and translated. *Fingal* became a bestseller in Scotland and a source of national pride after the disaster of Culloden, even when it later became apparent that Ossian's verse was likely a total fabrication by Macpherson. Naming his dog *Luath* was Robert's humorous nod to his admiration for the poetry of Ossian despite fellow-poet Macpherson's creative deception.


Foremost in Robert's mind, however, was the desire to escape from his native Ayrshire and all his troubles.

Offered a job as “bookkeeper” (a veiled euphemism for an overseer of slave laborers) on a sugar plantation in Jamaica through his friend Dr. Patrick Douglas, an investor in the operation, a desperate Burns readily accepted the offer and began making plans for his departure to the West Indies, taking time to compose humorously maudlin poems of farewell to his friends.

Concerned that emigration to Jamaica was not in

his friend Robert's best interests, Gavin Hamilton, a member of the local gentry who had taken an interest in the budding poet's affairs, urged him first to finalize arrangements for publication of a collection of his verse, praised by friends with whom he had shared handwritten drafts. Robert took Hamilton's advice, and the result was the runaway success of *Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect, the Kilmarnock Edition*, in 1786, followed by a second Edinburgh edition in 1787. The unknown impoverished

tenant farmer had now become the celebrated Ploughman Poet. All thoughts of emigration to Jamaica were set aside.



Of the 36 poems in the Kilmarnock Edition, *The Two (two) Dogs, a Tale*, a memorial to Robert's canine companion Luath, takes pride of place, even before *The Cotter's Saturday Night*. But the poem is much more than a eulogy for a faithful dog. *The Two Dogs* also contains the first expression of what would become a favorite theme of Burns' poems – criticism of the injustices, lack of freedom, and social inequalities in the rigid class society of 18th century Ayrshire. The poem is a whimsical dialogue satirizing the political status quo, in which the border collie Luath and Caesar, his Newfoundland-breed friend, are the canine protagonists.

The Luath of the poet's imagination serves as Burns' alter ego in expressing his admiration for the dignity of the common man. Caesar's owner is the proud local laird, while Luath's owner is a ploughman of poor means. But, despite the chasm in social standing between their respective owners, the dogs are close friends and possess no notion of social class.

Continued on page 17



Clan Grant

Society - USA

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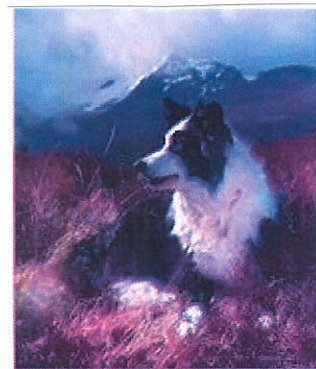


Burns describes Caesar as devoid of arrogance despite his status as the laird's dog:

<i>But tho' he was o' high degree,</i>	though he was of high degree
<i>The fient a pride, nae pride had he;</i>	not a whit of pride, no pride had he

Robert's portrait of Luath bears some resemblance to the poet's persona:

<i>The tither was a ploughman's collie,</i>	other
<i>A rhyming, ranting, raving billie, ...</i>	rhyming, boisterous, jabbering friend
<i>His honest, sonsie, baws'nt face</i>	his honest, pleasant, white-streaked face
<i>Ay gat him friends in ilka place;</i>	always got him friends in every place



Caesar asks Luath how the poor can manage living such wretched lives while an often-uncaring gentry live a life of pleasure and ease on the fruits of the working man's labor. Luath responds that the poor can endure hardships with dignity and derive comfort from the simple pleasures of family life.

<i>They're nae sae wretched 's ane wad think:</i>	not so wretched as one would think
<i>Tho' constantly on poortith's brink,</i>	though constantly on poverty's brink
<i>They're sae accusom'd wi' the sight,</i>	so accustomed with the sight
<i>The view o't gies them little fright...</i>	the view of it gives them little fright

<i>The dearest comfort o' their lives,</i>	of
<i>Their grushie weans an' faithfu' wives;</i>	their growing children and faithful wives
<i>The prattling things are just their pride,</i>	chattering children
<i>That sweetens a' their fire-side.</i>	all

Caesar then paints for Luath an unflattering portrait of some members of the gentry whose wealth and privilege lead to a life of dissipation, venality, and illicit pleasures. Luath, however, replies that, even so, the sybaritic lifestyle of the rich offers them comfort and security denied to the poor:

<i>But will ye tell me, master Caesar:</i>	you
<i>Sure great folk's life's a life o' pleasure?</i>	Surely great folks life is a life of pleasure
<i>Nae could nor hunger e'er can steer them,</i>	neither cold nor hunger can ever upset them
<i>The vera thought o't need na fear them.</i>	the very thought of it need not trouble them

Caesar's response to his friend is a surprising one. The life of the rich is not all that it's cracked up to be:

<i>Lord, man, were ye but whyles where I am,</i>	were you but sometimes where I am
<i>The gentles, ye wad ne'er envy 'em!</i>	the gentry, you would never envy them
<i>It's true, they need na starve or sweat,</i>	not
<i>Thro' winter's cauld, or simmer's heat;</i>	through winter's cold or summer's heat
<i>They've nae sair wark to craze their banes,</i>	no sore work to creak their bones
<i>An' fill auld-age wi' grips an' granes:</i>	and fill old age with pains and groans
<i>But human bodies are sic fools,</i>	human beings are such fools
<i>For a' their colleges an' schools,</i>	all and
<i>That when nae real ills perplex them;</i>	no
<i>They mak enow themsels to vex them; ...</i>	they make enough themselves to vex them



The dialogue of the furry friends concludes...

<i>When up they gat, an' shook their lugs,</i>	when up they got and shook their ears
<i>Rejoic'd they were na men, but dogs;</i>	rejoiced they were not men, but dogs
<i>An' each took aff his several way,</i>	and each took off his separate way
<i>Resolv'd to meet some ither day.</i>	resolved to meet some other day



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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

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Sailor of the year, continued from page 13

an incredible £10,000 for charity Mental Health UK and was welcomed back to Alloa by a sizeable crowd of family, friends and supporters.

Speaking after the awards ceremony, which took place at the Royal Thames Yacht Club on November 30, Murdoch told the Advertiser: "I could not believe it, I was stunned.

"Then I quickly recovered from my stunning and became so nicely elated."

Murdoch, who usually anchors at Forth Cruising Club at Limekilns where he was made an honorary member for life just the week before the awards ceremony, could not believe he was picked first from such a talented crowd.

He added: "When I've seen the list I was in – there was me, the club sailor and the rest were all legends of British sailing and some of them world sailors.

"How come I managed to beat them in this public vote?"

Whether it was his age, the fact many could identify with him as he comes from a small club, or just his infectiously inspiring personality, Murdoch has brought the award home to Alloa and is understood to be the first Scot to win the trophy.

The recipe for success was summed up by Rob Peake, group editor of *Sailing Today* with *Yachts & Yachting* magazine, which organises the British Yachting Awards.

He said: "Murdoch was a very popular winner on the night and he won the votes of thousands of our readers, who clearly admired his remarkable achievement of sailing around Britain solo, in a small yacht.

"Even the most experienced ocean navigators



speak of the round-Britain trip as one of the trickiest.

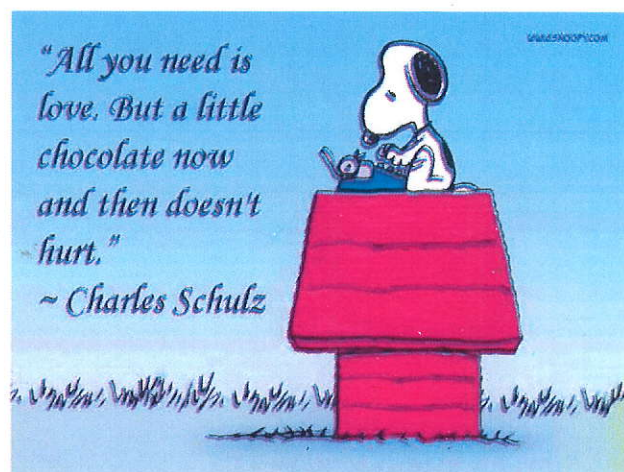
"It's a serious undertaking that requires a high level of seamanship.

"On top of that, Murdoch has done it at an age when many of us might be expecting to be looking back on our achievements, rather than notching up new ones.

"He's an inspiration for all ages. It was wonderful to have him at the ceremony."

Murdoch, who was accompanied to the ceremony by supportive wife Janice, gave thanks to all his supporters and revealed a journey to Norway is next on his list.

If you would like to share your
Beth's Newfangled Family Tree
with friends, clansfolk,
family, anyone you wish...
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OH, CANADA!



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Clan MacKinnon creates philanthropy budget to support nonprofits

The Clan MacKinnon Society has recently created a philanthropy budget line to help fulfill the mission of supporting other nonprofits. In 2021 donations were made to three projects deemed worthy of this mission:

- The Mull Museum in Tobermory, Isle of Mull, Scotland to help digitize their genealogy/history records.
- The ancient ruins of Caisteal Maol On, Isle of Skye, the ancestral home of Clan MacKinnon to repair signage and the castle access path. The Caisteal Maol trail is now complete and ready for visitors!
- The Society found a home at the Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia (GANS) for the entire treasure trove of historical documents, previously owned by Gerald Allan McKinnon, Historian for the Clan MacKinnon Society, who recently passed away.

He amassed a collection of over 350 books and articles for his research.

He wanted his collection deposited intact and preserved. It was to be accessible to other genealogical researchers.

Gerald authored several historical books on Scottish history including *The Small Regiment*, *The Shank Bone Papers*, and *The End of an Old Song*. His final book will be published by the Clan MacKinnon Society when editing is complete.

The Clan MacKinnon Society supported the substantial cost of shipping from British Columbia to Nova Scotia (21 boxes of research materials including the earliest published item from 1745, Vol.15 of the *Gentleman's Magazine*).

Submitted by: John McKinnon, Chairman of the Board Clan MacKinnon Society.

With thanks to *The Claymore*, publication of COSCA, the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations. For membership, visit: <<https://www.cosca.scot/join-cosca/#account/join>>



Beautiful new Cash (MacTavish) Tartan unveiled

After waiting over a year for the Cash (MacTavish) tartan to be completed, Anthony Cash finally accomplished a personal goal.

Last May 2021, Anthony and his wife, Stephanie, had professional photographs taken in their brand new Scottish finery.

Wow

Thanks to the Clan MacTavish newsletter, *Non Oblitus*.



For membership information, visit <membershipsecretary.mactavish@gmail.com>.

The Clan Skene

Association, Inc.

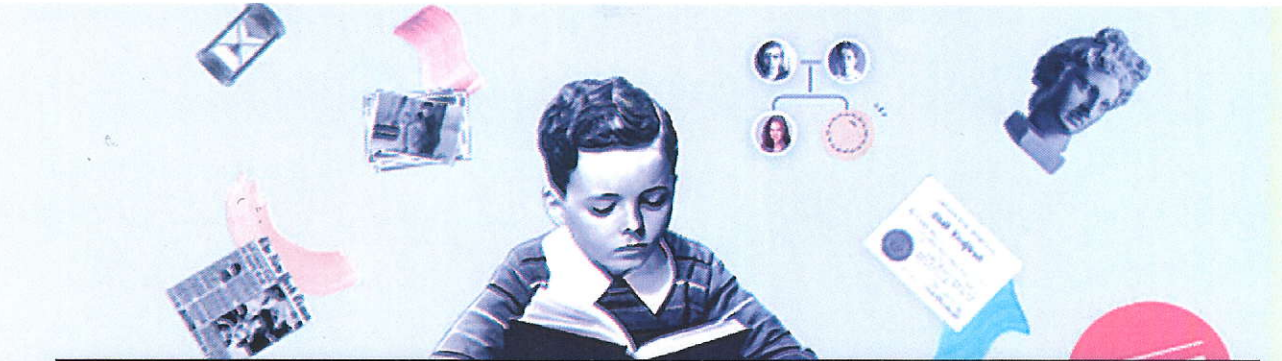


The Clan Skene Association, Inc., invites membership from SKENE and Septs Carison, Carney/Carnie, Curriehill, Dyas, Dyce, Dyer, Hall, Halyard/Hallyard, MacGaillard, Rennie & Skains



Al McGaillard,
president
PO Box 1404
Gray, GA 31032
<alsrx95@gmail.com>





The actual link to the course can be found on
<https://electricscotland.com/webclans/myheritage.htm>

New online course: Introduction to Genealogy
 education.myheritage.com
New on electricscotland.com!

I'm so excited to tell you that MyHeritage has just launched our first-ever full-length online course: Introduction to Genealogy, hosted by yours truly :) Just go to electricscotland.com and you'll see us on the opening page!

The course is a natural extension of what we've been building with the MyHeritage Knowledge Base: a free, comprehensive educational resource on genealogy. The course contains detailed lessons from a top-notch panel of experts providing a strong foundation in family history research. It's intended for people who are new to genealogy or who started in the past and are looking to pick it up again.

The Introduction to Genealogy course is hosted on the Knowledge Base, and like everything else there, it's free to all. Simply register to gain access to all the course materials and to track your progress as you move through the course.

The course focuses on 3 main areas:

- * Family trees
- * Historical records and research
- * DNA testing for genealogy.



Each section is divided into chapters and lessons that cover a wide range of topics, tools, and strategies for conducting family history research. The 40 lessons sometimes include short assignments and additional materials to help you practice and absorb what you've learned. You'll also find quizzes to test your knowledge at various points along the way. You'll be able to move at your own pace and track your progress as you go.

I invite you to check it out and share it far and wide. It's the perfect way to introduce all the budding genealogists you know to the world of family history! You can read our blog post announcement, and feel free to go to electricscotland.com and check it out!

Best regards, Daniel Horowitz
Genealogy Expert

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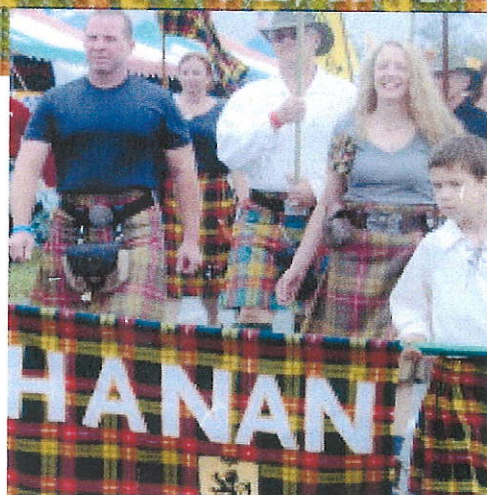
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Bohanan
Buchanan
Colman
Cormack
Cousland
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Dove, Dow
Gibb(s)(y)
Gibbon
Gibson

Gilbert
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Harper
Harperson
Leavy
Lennie
Lenny
Macaldonich
Macalman
Macandeior
Macaslan
Macaslin
Macauselan
Macauslan(in)
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Macalmon(t)
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Macdonleavy
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Morrison
(of Perthshire only)
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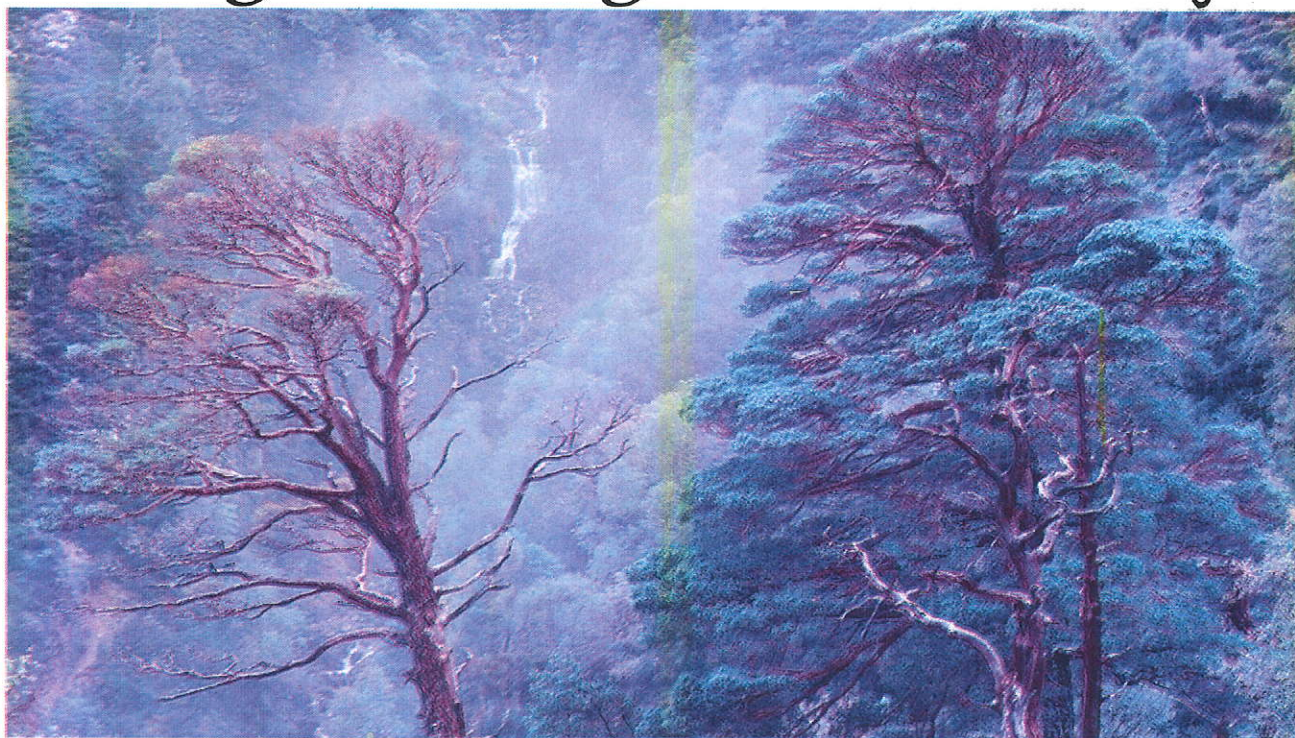


Risk
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Wool
Wule

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.



UK's oldest national nature reserve being left to regenerate naturally



BBC
NEWS

The rainforests on the UK's oldest national nature reserve in Wester Ross are being left to regenerate naturally for the first time in its history.

New woodlands have been planted every year on the Beinn Eighe reserve near Kinlochewe since it was established in 1951.

They link small remnants of the ancient Caledonian pinewoods which once dominated Scotland's landscape.

NatureScot, which manages the reserve, now intends to leave it to grow and expand without human interference.

The final 20,000 locally grown trees will be planted out in Glen Torridon towards the end of the year.

Reserve manager Doug Bartholomew said: "The planted woodlands now link together all the fragments of ancient woodland on the nature reserve, creating a much more resilient environment for wildlife and to help combat climate change.

"For the next 70 years, our vision is to see the wood expand even more through natural processes, with a flourishing western pinewood supporting a range of healthy habitats and a rich variety of species."

Much of the site's ancient temperate rainforest was felled during World War Two to supply timber as part of the war effort.

Scotland's rainforest, also known as Atlantic Woodland and Celtic Rainforest, comprises native woodlands found in parts of the west coast.

Beinn Eighe was the first to be given national nature reserve status after a new law was enacted in 1949.

The expanded forest mainly made up of native Scots pines, has become a corridor for wildlife like crossbills and golden eagles which allows them to move more freely across a larger area.

About 551 acres (223ha) of the forest has now

Continued on page 27



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House of Boyd Society



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The Boyd Castle

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Clan Boyd
Plant Badge,
The Laurel



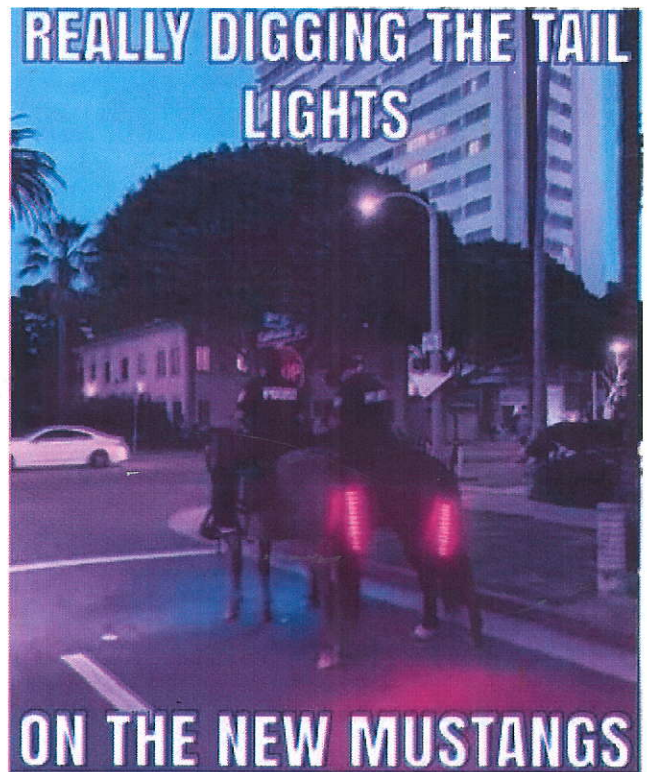
Here's our "Lexophile" for this time!

Did you hear about
the fellow whose entire
left side was cut off?

He's all right now.

With thanks to Martha Brown!

"Lexophile" describes those that have a love for sentences such as, "You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish," and, "To write with a broken pencil is pointless."



Beinn Eighe, continued from page 25 —————

been established compared with 390 acres (158ha) when the reserve was designated.

Conservationist Peter Cairns told *BBC Scotland*: "Woodland that regenerates of its own accord is much more species-rich, much more structurally diverse, which provides a greater range of niches for a greater range of species.

"Planting trees, with the best will in the world, doesn't replicate the natural evolution of a woodland."

NatureScot estimates that about 800,000 trees have been planted and although most are Scots pine the woodlands also contain birch, holly, oak, rowan, and aspen.





Clan Anderson Cottages

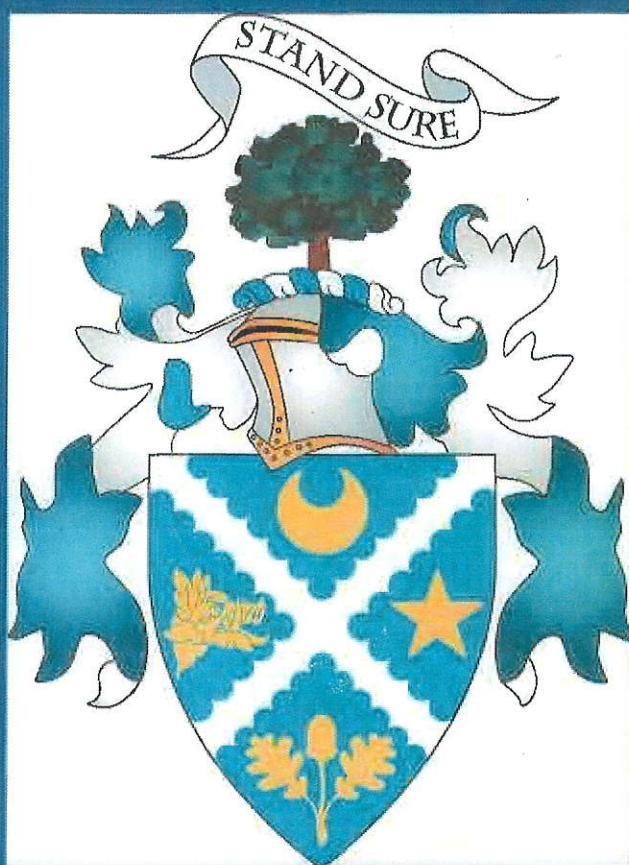
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Marischal College, Aberdeen. By the way, one foot off the ground in a statue means that the rider was injured in battle but died later.

VisitScotland

Scottish cities sure know how to impress. With so many new things to enjoy, you might need to make yourself at home in one of our cities' neighborhoods so you have time to discover it all.

Don't miss some of these exciting goings-on: In Edinburgh, shop all the trends or grab a bite to eat in the food hall in the new St James' Quarter before visiting a classic Edinburgh attraction. The Scotch Whisky Experience on the Royal Mile is a wonderful way to learn about whisky and the Royal Yacht Britannia in Leith is always a fun day out.

Over in Dundee, the waterfront is the place to be. Enjoy the feeling of the sand between your toes at the new city beach or

pop into Discovery Point Dundee, located on the shoreline and beside V&A Dundee, to discover the Antarctic research vessel Captain Scott's RRS Discovery. Book a night at one of the coolest hotels, Sleeperz, which has one of the city's best views of the waterfront and River Tay.

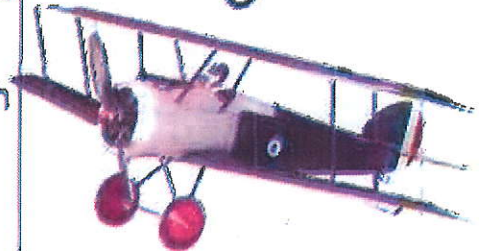
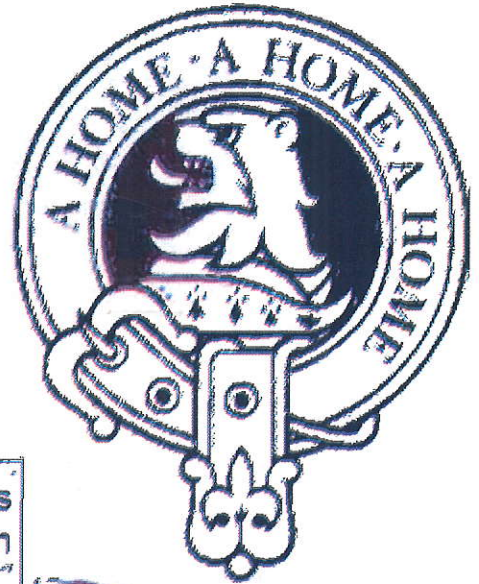
Aberdeen's Provost Skene's House is one of the city's oldest buildings and has been transformed into a museum featuring interactive displays of the life and achievements of well-known faces from the north-east of Scotland. Footballer Denis Law, singer Annie Lennox, and football manager Sir Alex Ferguson along with many others, will feature in the Hall of Heroes. Not to be missed!

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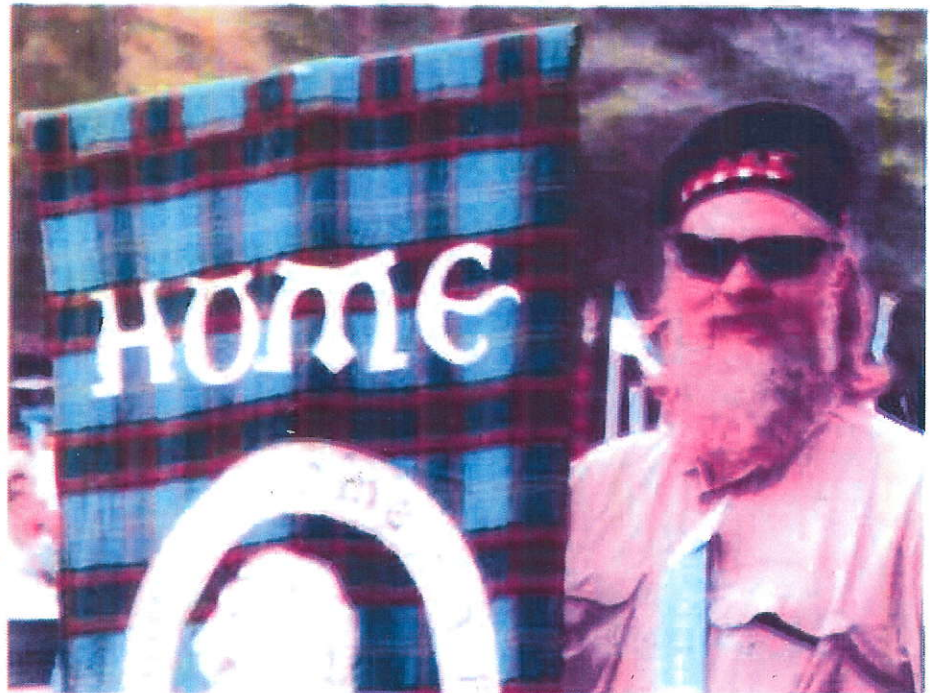


Rodney Green,
president

317 Oak Ridge Drive
Moody, AL 35004
205-368-5286



<lawnmower391@gmail.com>





One of Scotland's most loved outdoor agricultural events

The annual Royal Highland Show celebrates the best in farming, food and rural industry across Scotland. For four days in June (23-26 June 2022), it offers fun for all ages including opportunities to get up close to farmyard animals, sample delicious and often locally produced food and drink, and experience rural living as never before.

Put on by the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland and launched in 1822, the show initially moved around visiting different towns and regions of the country. In 1960, it settled in Edinburgh with the Royal Highland Centre in Ingliston becoming a permanent home. 2022 marked the 200th anniversary for the Royal Highland Show and the return to a normal event after a two year hiatus because of Covid.

At each event day attendees can expect to see the finest livestock, witness incredible feats of skill and

bravery in the forestry arena, feel the heat of the hot coals at the farrier displays, enjoy countryside pursuits, view spectacular show jumping, learn

about rural crafts and inspect the vast lots of farm machinery across the showground as well as enjoying a line-up of live music and entertainment to captivate the whole family. In addition, shoppers are always spoiled for choice with a huge selection of country wares on offer, ranging from pet accessories and jewellery to art and garden furniture.

In 2019, the Royal Highland Show attracted nearly 200,000 people and boasted more than 5,000



Continued on page 33

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VARIANTS OF THE NAME

Albain, Albanach, Albin, Ailpein,
Allphin, Alpin, Alpine, Alpyn,
Alpynsone, Calpin, Calpine, Culpin,
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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,
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McCawpyn, McCulpen, McKelpin,
M'Kalpie, M'Kkalpy

For more information, email:

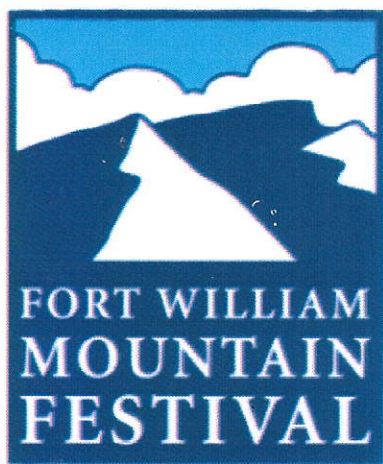
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We are so excited that the Fort William Mountain Festival will be back to live events for 2022 after going online last year. With so many events planned there really is something for absolutely everyone. Check out the programme on the Internet at: <<https://mountainfestival.co.uk/tickets/events/>> and get your tickets booked!

And while you wait for February to roll round we have a selection of films, podcasts and articles from Finlay Wild, Patagonia and Ellis Brigham for you to enjoy right now. So on those dark, damp winter evenings you can still get your fix of outdoor inspiration.

For more information: <<https://mountainfestival.co.uk/>>

Royal Highland Show, *con't* from page 31

animals – including 2,128 sheep, 2,200 horses and 1,101 beef and dairy cattle – competing for over 280 trophies and £170,000 in prize money.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic the Royal Highland Show was cancelled in 2020 and 2021, with a focus instead on bringing together the most-loved parts of the live show to take place behind closed doors at the showground and be livestreamed around the world.

In June 2021, organisers confirmed the Royal Highland Show would return from 23 – 26 June 2022 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the event's launch.



ROYAL
HIGHLAND
SHOW





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Hear Ye,**

**All MacEanruig's
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The Adventures of Alistair MacLean: How Scots author invented the thriller

The
SUNDAY POST

Murray Scougall

Told at breakneck speed, featuring wild action, high body counts, claustrophobic settings and black-hearted treachery, to his fan, Alistair MacLean invented the modern thriller.

The son of a Presbyterian minister from the Highlands, he would become one of the 20th Century's most read authors and novels like *The Guns Of Navarone* and *Where Eagles Dare* were destined to become big screen blockbusters starring Clint Eastwood and Gregory Peck.

But MacLean never rated himself as an author, and believed he would have been a better novelist had he written in his first language, Gaelic, rather than English.

Patronised by literary critics, but adored by the public, he sold 150 million books and 18 of his 28 novels were made into movies, yet he boasted of how much he detested writing, and would churn out books in a matter of weeks because he disliked the process so much that he wanted it over and done with.

As the centenary of his birth approaches in 2022, a new BBC Alba documentary examines the life of a complex man who entertained millions, yet who was a brusque character around family and friends.

"Alistair thought of his novel writing as a formula. I think that's to diminish his ability," said Ian Chapman, whose parents, Ian and Marjory, discovered MacLean. Ian Senior worked with Scottish publisher William Collins and persuaded them to sign him after the couple fell in love with a short story he wrote for a newspaper competition.

"He was a storyteller," Chapman continued. "He was great on character, great on story. He never thought of himself as a good writer. On occasion he

said he would prefer to write in Gaelic or even Spanish than in English. He didn't feel his English was good enough, which is clearly nonsense."

MacLean was brought up in Inverness-shire, but when his dad died at 49, his mum took her three youngest sons to Glasgow, where her eldest boy was studying. Alistair hated the city, and volunteered for the Navy during the war, serving on two Arctic convoys. At the end of his service, he went to university

and became an English teacher, writing short stories in his spare time.

His first novel, *HMS Ulysses*, based on his experience of war, was a huge success, as was his second book, *The Guns Of Navarone*, so he gave up teaching,

left Scotland behind, and became a millionaire novelist and screenplay writer, penning scripts for four of his movies.

Author Mairi Kidd said: "The thing about his writing in general is it is very visual. He writes as if he is writing a film anyway, and I think his novels I like the most are very similar to watching a film. There's a lot of fun, a lot of action, and they're moving quickly, and I think that was a strength to work on something and see it in his head as a film."

Shona MacLean is Alistair's niece and a successful author in her own right, having published nine novels. She remembers many of the encounters she had with her uncle as she was growing up.

I remember the first time I met him, being really surprised that this person who was a name on TV and in books was just this very ordinary looking man who dressed like my dad, was a wee bit smaller, and was very quietly spoken," she said.

Continued on page 37





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"One time I was on holiday with my sisters visiting Uncle Alistair in Dubrovnik and we were out on his boat. I was reading a Neil Gunn novel and he looked at me and said, 'How many of my books have you read?', and I said none, so he gave me a copy of *HMS Ulysses* and said, 'Have the first hundred pages of that read by tomorrow or you're sacked as my niece'.

"He had quite a dry, particularly Highland, sense of humour, which he shared with my dad and their brothers. There's a kind of underlying sarcasm which you can see in the books with the way men speak to each other. He didn't suffer fools gladly and he didn't like a lot of the hyperbole that I suspect was in the publishing and film worlds."

MacLean's first marriage, to a German woman called Gisela Heinrichsen, ended in divorce, but not before he decided to give up writing in 1963, after publishing 10 novels, to become a hotelier.

He would return to fiction three years later, however, and would write a further 18 books. He married his second wife, Mary Marcelle Georgius, a French aspiring movie producer, in 1972, but they divorced five years later.

MacLean, by this point was drinking heavily, and he died in 1987, aged 64, after a series of strokes, shortly before his final book, *Santorini*, was printed.

Although his sales might not be what they once were, his influence remains strong, with John Wick screenwriter Derek Kolstad citing MacLean and Stephen King as two of his primary influences.

"I think if critics dismissed him they were probably missing the point, offered his niece. "It must have

been very frustrating for them, because he had these huge sales but actually, when you read the books, the writing is exceptionally good and he deals with human emotions, he deals with human potential, and human weaknesses."

And she believes more 21st Century readers should be discovering the joy in the nail-biting suspense of an Alistair MacLean novel.

"I think the ones who haven't read him and who enjoy a good adventure story would enjoy them very much," she added.

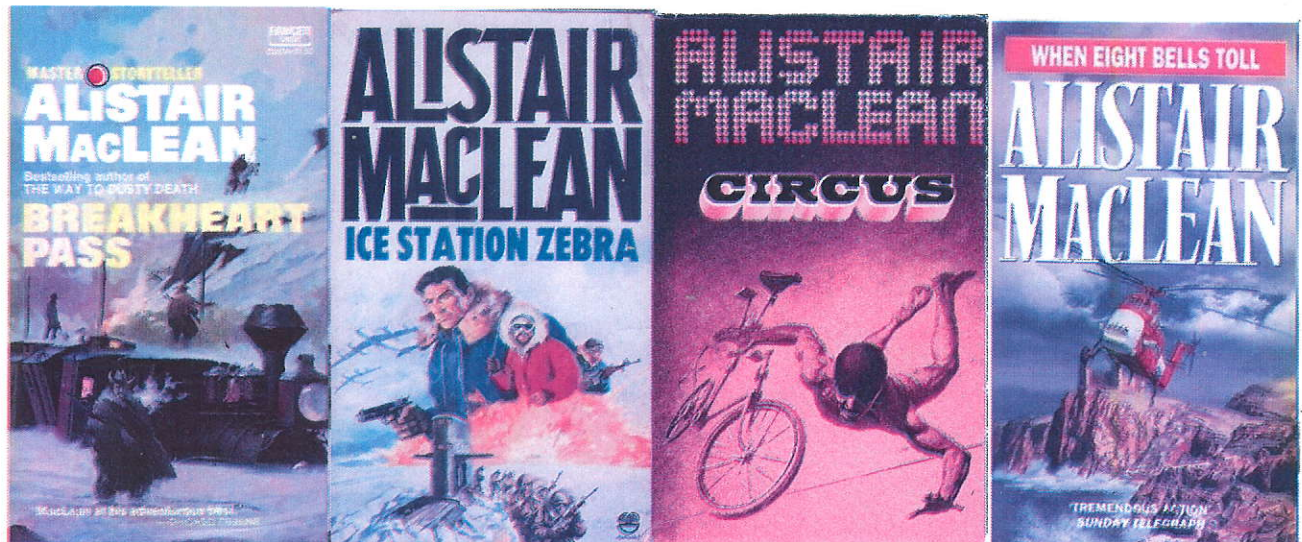
They were two of the biggest names in their fields in the '70s, they were both Scottish, and they planned to make a movie together.

Best-selling author Alistair MacLean and his friend and Formula One champion Jackie Stewart announced they were going to team-up for the filming of MacLean's *The Way To Dusty Death*.

In an archive interview with the two men, shown in the new documentary, Stewart said: "I'm looking for something to replace motor racing in a way, and I'm sure this is one of the reasons Alistair has written this for me.

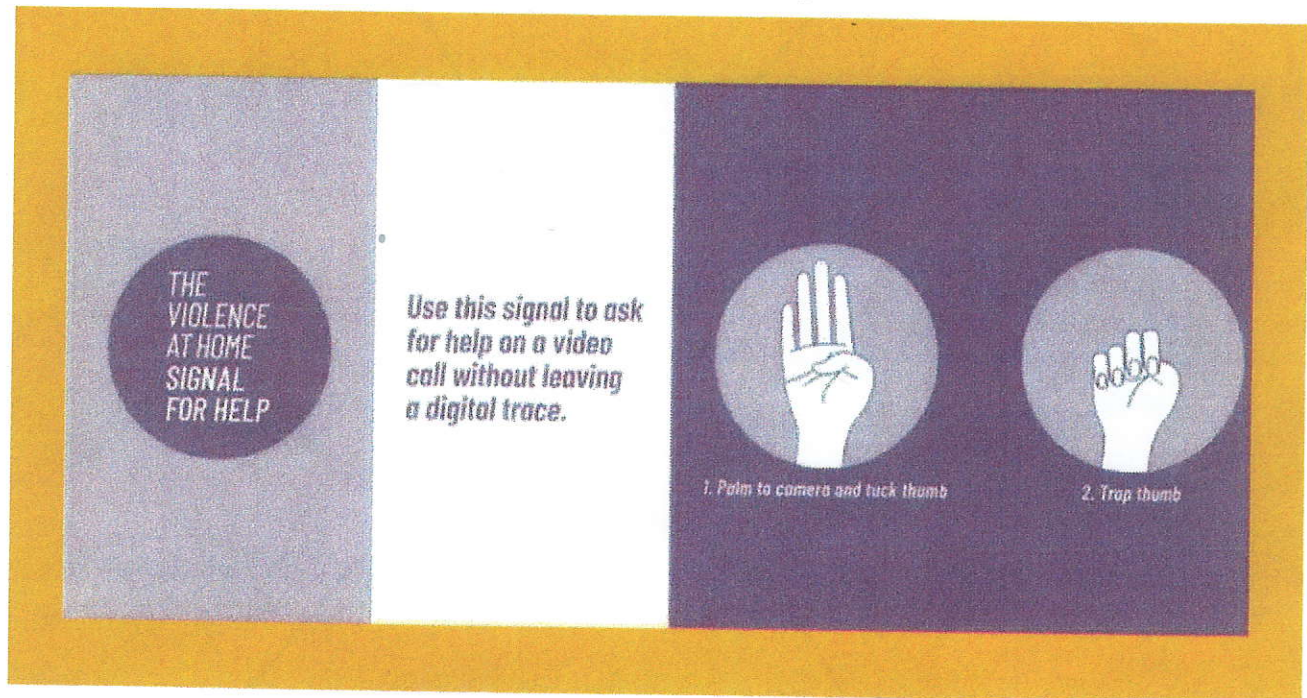
"If I found myself being able to do this film, I would then have a reason to stop motor racing, to take up something else I could be excited by, and could replace the pleasure and excitement that motor racing gives me."

The film failed to get off the ground, but it was eventually made as a TV movie in 1995, starring *Falcon Crest* and *Casualty* star Simon MacCorkindale in the lead role.



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