

THE HOMETOWN PUBLICATION FOR THE WORLDWIDE SCOTTISH COMMUNITY

Vol. IX Issue No. 2 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A July 2014

International Ceilidhs celebrate Glasgow 2014

Angus Howarth in *The Scotsman*

A massive ceilidh was held across the world as part of the cultural celebration of the Commonwealth Games on Saturday, June 28th.

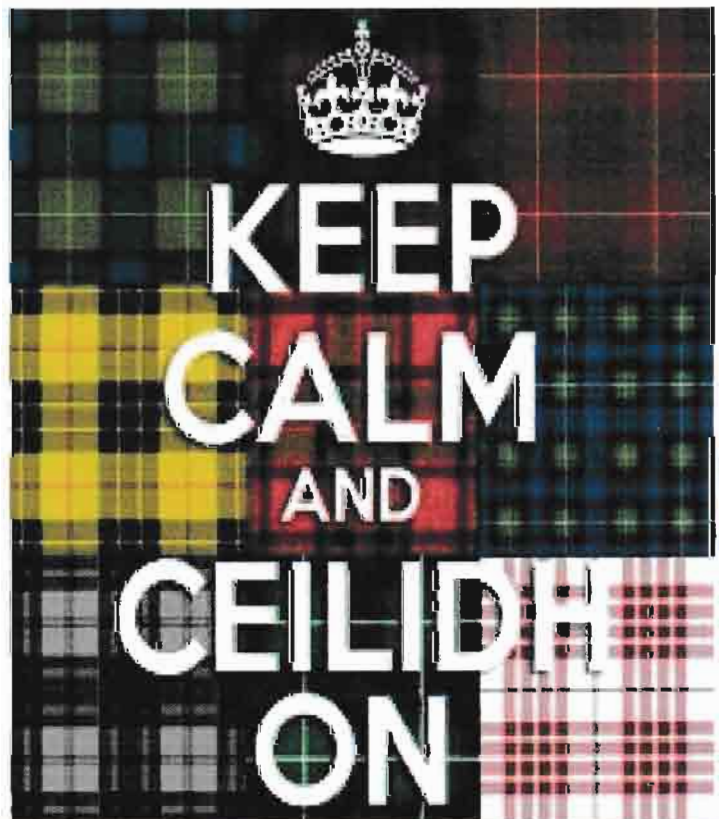
Dances took place in Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe and the US throughout Saturday, with each country performing its own take on a traditional Scottish ceilidh.

It was organised by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS) as part of the Glasgow 2014 cultural programme and the Get Scotland Dancing project.

The first dance was held in Auckland, New Zealand, at 7:30pm local time, and the international ceilidhs traveled west, with dances reaching Scotland 13 hours later and ending in Hawaii 24 hours after the first ceilidh call.

James Allenby, project manager at Get Scotland Dancing, said: "The world will join hands to celebrate Scottish dance and culture. We hope the dedicated Scottish country dance enthusiasts around the world enjoy

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Police investigate 'deplorable' vandalism at JM Barrie's grave in Kirriemuir

Major Ronnie Proctor's home looks out on to Kirriemuir Cemetery where the attack was discovered on Wednesday.

More on page 25

Here's to the red, white and blue!





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Homage to my home: Growing up in Jacksonville, Florida and Ponte Vedra Beach, there is a part of me which always longs for the ocean. I cannot count the times I spent weekends with my Aunt Mildred and would run on the shore with my camera bumping along.

Mostly, I would run barefoot so I could lope along in the shallows. This was a lovely morning.

Beth



A letter from your editor...



Has your mind ever turned to confetti?

A week ago today (Saturday, June 28) we had to rush Tom to the hospital in Toccoa, Georgia. It turned out he was suffering from cellulitis in his left leg and also several blood clots behind his left knee. After six days of the strongest antibiotics and heparin - and marvelous care by Dr. Harry C. McDonald - he is just home and doing just fine. He comes with cuomadin and diet restrictions and blood tests...but he is HERE!

Tom is home and all is right with my world once again.

Please forgive me. My mind has gone to confetti and Jello and just plain old mush.

Friend, Keets Taylor, made me aware of some wonderful daily thoughts. We do not know where they originated, but, here are some that I hope you all enjoy.

Family isn't always blood. They're the people in your life who appreciate having you in theirs – the ones who encourage you to improve in healthy and exciting ways, and who not only embrace who you are now, but also embrace and embody who you want to be. These people – your real family – are the ones who truly matter.

Here are some tips to help you find and foster these special relationships.

Free yourself from negative people. – Spend time with nice people who are smart, driven and likeminded. Relationships should help you, not hurt you. Surround yourself with people who reflect the person you want to be. Choose friends who you are proud to know, people you admire, who love and respect you – people who make your day a little brighter simply by being in it. Life is too short to spend time with people who suck the happiness out of you. When you free yourself from negative people, you free yourself to be YOU – and being YOU is the only way to truly live.

Let go of those who are already gone. – The sad truth is that there are some people who will only be there for you as long as you have something they need. When you no longer serve a purpose to them, they will leave. The good news is, if you tough it out, you'll eventually weed these people out of your life and be left with some great people you can count on. We rarely lose friends and lovers, we just gradually figure out who our real ones are. So when people walk away from you, let them go. Your destiny is never tied to anyone who leaves you. It doesn't mean they are bad people; it just means

that their part in your story is over.

Give people you don't know a fair chance. – When you look at a person, any person, remember that everyone has a story. Everyone has gone through something that has changed them, and forced them to grow. Every passing face on the street represents a story every bit as compelling and complicated as yours. We meet no ordinary people in our lives. If you give them a chance, everyone has something amazing to offer. So appreciate the possibility of new relationships as you naturally let go of old ones that no longer work. Trust your judgment. Embrace new relationships, knowing that you are entering into unfamiliar territory. Be ready to learn, be ready for a challenge, and be ready to meet someone that might just change your life forever.

Show everyone kindness and respect. – Treat everyone with kindness and respect, even those who are rude to you – not because they are nice, but because you are. There are no boundaries or classes that define a group of people that deserve to be respected. Treat everyone with the same level of respect you would give to your grandfather and the same level of patience you would have with your baby brother. People will notice your kindness.

Accept people just the way they are. – In most cases it's impossible to change them anyway, and it's rude to try. So save yourself from needless stress. Instead of trying to change others, give them your support and lead by example.

A Visit Home to Scotland With Friends

September 2 - 11, 2014

This is a trip you will never forget. It is quite a bit different from any other in that we will be lodged in beautiful Dumcrieff House Estate (<http://www.clanandersoncottages.com/dumcrieff.php>) and we will travel on a private bus small enough (Only 18 places are available on this tour.) to take us to interesting places. Our host and tour originator in Scotland is Hope-Vere Anderson. The tour is for all and covers places and events to be enjoyed by anyone of Scottish ancestry - no matter the clan affiliation.

Besides Hope-Vere, plans are for *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* editor, Beth-Gay Freeman and Heraldic Artist Tom Freeman, Jr., to accompany the tour. Plans also include interesting and informative talks by both Beth and Tom. We'll have our own ceilidh the last evening. Be sure to bring your "party pieces" and plan to participate.

The price of the tour includes EVERYTHING except your air fares to and from Scotland. All three meals per day, accommodations, the private coach, entrance fees and tickets are all included.

With a small group, if everyone is not friends at the beginning, everyone will be your friend by the conclusion of this unique adventure. Please go with us to Visit Home to Scotland this September.

This trip is a small, special group tour and it is guaranteed to take place regardless of how many people sign up. It will not be cancelled.

This is only one of the many benefits of this trip.

Tuesday, September 2, 2014 * Fly overnight to Glasgow, Scotland.

Wednesday, September 3, 2014 * We arrive early this morning in Glasgow where Hope-Vere will be waiting to meet us with our private coach for transport to **Dumcrieff House Estate** near Moffat. We'll unpack and refresh ourselves before lunch. *We'll visit **Abbotsford**, the historic home of Sir Walter Scott, near Kelso, which is less than an hour's drive from Dumcrieff. * We return to Dumcrieff House Estate for our Welcome Dinner.

Thursday, September 4, 2014 * Drive to **Rosslyn Chapel** for a private guided tour by a leading professor who has written the history of Rosslyn Chapel. "We will visit the **National Galleries** and meet with leading members of **The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland** (The FSA Scot Office) who will join us for lunch at the Galleries. *This afternoon, you will be at your leisure on your own for exploring or shopping in Edinburgh. *Dinner at **The Royal Over Seas Club** on Princess Street overlooking Edinburgh Castle and Princess Street Gardens.

Friday, September 5, 2014 * After a full Scottish breakfast, which will be available each morning at Dumcrieff, we will drive west to **Ayrshire** and **Burns Country**. We will arrive at **Dumfries House** for a private tour guided by the curator. * After lunch, we will visit the **Robert Burns Center** and Brig O'Doon at Alloway. * In the late afternoon, we will continue southwest to **Culzean Castle**, the jewel in the crown of the National Trust for Scotland where we

will tour the castle, including the **Eisenhower Suite**. We return to Moffat for dinner.

Saturday, September 6, 2014 *We have an early breakfast today so that we can plan to leave Dumcrieff at 7:30 AM for the drive north to the Highlands to attend the **Braemar Gathering**. The Braemar Gathering is the premier Scottish Highland Games which is held on the first Saturday of September every year and has enjoyed Royal Patronage since Queen Victoria first attended in the mid 19th century. We will arrive as the Gathering opens for the day ahead of the Royal Party who attend in the afternoon at about 2 PM. After the games close at 5 PM, we will leave about that time, but not before the Royal Party depart the field for the short drive back to Balmoral. We will then drive back south to Dumcrieff and stop for dinner enroute.

Sunday, September 7, 2014 * Today, we will visit the City of Glasgow's **Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum** and then the **Glasgow Botanic Gardens**. *As we leave Glasgow, we will drive to Helensburgh to tour the **Hill House** and the private home of **Charles Rennie MacIntosh**. *This afternoon's drive via the hills of Argyle will lead us to **Loch Lomond's Bonnie Banks**. * We will dine this evening at the historic **Drover's Inn** at the far end of Loch Lomond.

Monday, September 8, 2014 * Visit **Drumlanrig Castle** with its famous art collection and also the **Robert Burns Ellisland Farm**

Continued on next page

A Visit Home to Scotland with Friends, *continued from last page*

and then drive to **New Abbey** to visit **Sweet Heart Abbey**, **New Abbey Corn Mill** and drive through this historic village with the majestic **Criffel** and **Knockendoch Hills** on the **Barbeth Estate** as a wonderful backdrop. * We will have **Afternoon Tea** at **Barbeth**, which is Hope-Vere's home at New Abbey, where he and his wife, Erika, live with their two children, Catherine Eve and Adrian Hope Vere.

Tuesday, September 9, 2014 * This morning we will drive to Stirlingshire to visit the newly refurbished **Wallace Memorial** and the new **Bannockburn Visitor's Center** and the **Bannockburn Battlefield** itself. If there is time, we can spend some time in the city of **Stirling**. * This evening, we'll drive to the Ancient Kingdom of Fife where we will visit **Balgonie Castle** as the guests of the **Laird of Balgonie who will be happy to renew your wedding vows** for a small fee. You will be presented a handsome certificate as a souvenir of your renewal of your marriage vows. * Hope-Vere will arrange to have a **Banquet at Balgonie** in the Great Hall. **Balgonie** and his family will join us as hosts for the banquet and they are pleased to regale us all with Scottish History and the his-

tory of their Castle of Balgonie.

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 * This morning we will drive to the **Lake District of England** and visit **Lake Windemere National Park** and the **Beatrix Potter** home. It's then back to the Scottish Borders to **Bruce's Cave** which is just two miles downstream from Wyseby at Kirtlebridge which is our next stop as guests of Hope's mother, **Catherine**, for **Afternoon Tea at Wyseby House**. In the 14th century **Wyseby** was originally built as one of the seven **Peel Towers** guarding the Kirtle Water and the Western Marches. The stone wall and entrances to the tower can still be seen within the interior of Wyseby House. **The Battle of Kirtle** took place on the Wyseby Estate lands in 1484 and is still marked today by an ancient Merkland Cross. *After Tea we will drive back to Dumcreiff for our **Farewell Dinner** and **Ceilidh**.

Thursday, September 11, 2014 * Transfer to Glasgow airport this morning for the flight back to the USA today.

Payment
deadline
extended
to
1 August
2014

Land Portion of this tour is:

\$3,950.00 per person

\$1,000 deposit per person

Plus Air Fare

Payment
deadline
extended
to
1 August
2014

All monies must be paid by 1 August 2014.

To make deposits/payments, contact **Beverly Barker**, Branch Manager Southern Community Bank, Murfreesboro, TN and Hope-Vere' Anderson's American Banking Manager. Call 615-225-6150. You may also email beverlybarker@mysoutherncommunitybank.com.

For a Trip Reservation Form by email, contact bethscribble@aol.com

Contact **Judy Thompson**, Uniglobe Five Star Travel, at **404-378-1080** or email [<judy@judysctt.com>](mailto:judy@judysctt.com) or [<www.judysctt.com>](http://www.judysctt.com) for air fare information and reservations.

A valid passport is required for all Americans traveling in Europe.

Plan to dress casually and comfortably. Remember, there are laundry facilities at Dumcreiff House Estate. Layering clothing is a good idea. You may wish to bring Sunday School attire for the Banquet at Balgonie.

The weather in Scotland can be warm or cold in September.

Since everyone's needs are different, we have not included insurance in the tour price. Information will be sent to you and proper coverage is strongly suggested. You will need to advise of the coverage you select.

A Visit Home to Scotland with Friends

Reservations/Payments: A deposit of \$1000.00 per person is payable to **Hope-Vere Anderson Scottish Tours** at the time of booking. Final payment must be received no later than 1 August 2014. Tour reservations are not firm until deposit is received. Price is based on the exchange rate of \$1.65 to one British pound.

Cancellations/Refunds: Deposits are fully refundable if **Hope Vere Anderson Scottish Tours** receives your cancellation at least **90 days** prior to departure. Cancellations received 60 days - 90 days prior to departure are subject to \$500 penalty.

Mail this form to Beth Gay-Freeman, Mo Leannon, 688 Camp Yonah Road, Clarkesville, GA 30523 (706-839-6612 or bethscribble@aol.com)

RESERVATION FORM

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Passport Number _____

Name must be as it appears on your passport

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Passport Number _____

Name must be as it appears on your passport

Nickname(s) for badge(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ (Work phone) _____

Email _____

Double/Twin room _____ Sharing with: _____

Tour - Land Only _____

My deposit check to **Hope Vere Anderson Scottish Tours** will be mailed by Beth to Beverly Barker, Branch Manager Southern Community Bank in Murfreesboro, TN. Please make check payable to **Hope Vere Anderson Scottish Tours**.

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions pertaining to this tour. I understand I must obtain air transportation on my own and insurance on my own.

Signatures _____

Rosslyn Renewed

Rosslyn Chapel, the Midlothian icon founded in the 1400s by the legendary William Sinclair, has been restored to its former glory after an intense sixteen year effort by the Rosslyn Chapel Trust.

Long rumoured to host treasures of the Templars, a rumour no doubt given added vigor when Dan Brown's *The DaVinci Code* was filmed there several years ago, and said to host a variety of exotic religious artifacts said within its sealed crypts, Rosslyn Chapel is renowned as an example of the finest in Scottish architecture.

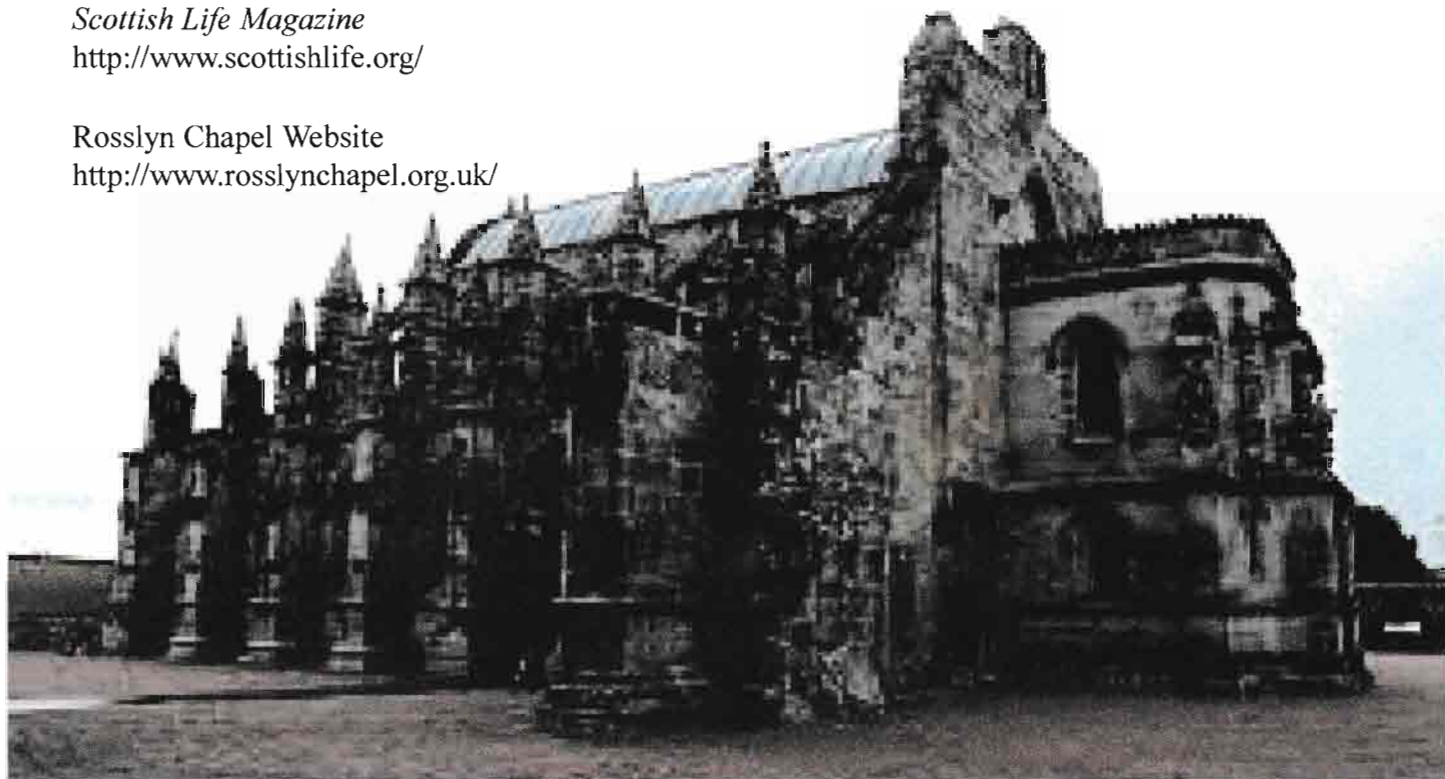
Coming up in the autumn issue of *Scottish Life* magazine, Candace Leslie will have an extensive article on Rosslyn Chapel. Look for it at your local newsstand or book store about August.

Scottish Life Magazine

<http://www.scottishlife.org/>

Rosslyn Chapel Website

<http://www.rosslynchapel.org.uk/>



Join Clan Leslie for the
2014 CLSI Biennial Gathering
in conjunction with the
Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
July 10-13, 2014

Clan Leslie will be the Honored Clan

If you haven't registered for the Gathering, be sure to
stop by the Leslie Tent at the games!

**For more information about GMHG is located
online at <http://www.gmhg.org/>**

The "Truck" System Commission Hearings and the Testimony of Henry Leslie of Gord, Dunrossness, Shetland

With many thanks to *Grip Fast Online* from Clan Leslie written by
Dr. Loren R. Leslie

The term "truck" meant payment in goods rather than money, a system which was imposed by the Scottish Lairds on the crofter fisherman tenants of the Shetlands in which they required the fishermen to sell their catches to them or their merchant agent and in turn were paid in merchandise in lieu of currency.

Of course the merchandise was more costly than would have been purchased from local vendors. This extortion resulted in an existence of debt bondage.

The Scottish government became concerned with these trading practices and an inquiry into the truck system was initiated with hearings held by the Truck Commission in Lerwick, Shetlands in 1872.

The Shetland Islands, originally a possession of Norway and later Denmark, were populated by the Picts and Norse commonly called *udals*.

In 1468, Christian I of Denmark gave the islands to James III Scotland as a part of his daughter's dowry.

Although James III annexed the islands to Scotland there was little change for almost 100 years in the lives and laws of the udals until Queen Mary allocated the islands to Earl Robert Stewart. Lord Robert extended his power over the islands and opened the lands to Scottish Lairds.

The udals became completely at the mercy of the Laird landowners who regarded their lands and rentals as a major source of income especially in the Dunrossness region of Shetland.

Dunrossness is the southern part of the islands consisting of three areas, Scousburgh, Sumburgh and Quendal, the latter on the east and west sides of the Bay

of Quendal respectively.

The Lairds of Scousburgh were the Nevens, of Sumburgh were the Bruces, and Quendal were the Sinclairs. The Leslies of Warhill were among the Scottish immigres with the families of Norman and William Leslie, the second and third sons of the first Laird of Warhill, settling in the more central Tingwall area. The marriage of Alexander, the son of William, to Katherine

Nevens, the daughter of the Laird of Scousburgh, brought the Leslies to Dunrossness.

The udal crofters were primarily farmers growing barley, oats and potatoes as well as raising livestock; however, as the population grew the crofts became smaller with the crofters turning to fishing as a

supplemental income source. Fishing became more important with years of crop failure and disease.

Initially the Lairds were uninvolved with the fishing as long as the crofters paid their rent. With declining revenues and the increasing trade of cured fish to mainland Europe, especially Germany and Holland, the Lairds began requiring the crofter fishermen to sell their catches to them or their designated merchants as a condition of their croft occupancy.

In turn, the Lairds would advance the cost of larger fishing boats and supplies ultimately owning the crofter fisherman's land, house and boat. It also became a requirement that the fishermen had to purchase all of their goods from the laird merchants' shops. Failure to do so resulted in eviction.

Most often the prices of the merchandise were greater than that received for the fish creating a debt bondage system. Eventually no currency exchanged

Continued on page 11





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*Best wishes & Stand Sure,
Hope Vere Anderson & Family*



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The "Truck" System, continued from page 9

hands, only merchandise, a practice that would come to be called the "truck" system.

As the fishing boats grew larger in order to reach more abundant, deeper offshore fishing waters more men were needed as oarsmen.

All male family members were bonded to this service. Any son who left to work elsewhere in the islands resulted in the entire family being evicted. Only if they left to serve in the Navy or immigrated from Shetland could their release be purchased.

Even then the Lairds found their revenues declining with the Nevens of Scousburgh selling their holdings to Bruce of Sumburgh.

Many Dunrossness Leslie descendants either returned to Scotland, the Orkneys, or became crofter fishermen themselves settling primarily in the Quendal estates held by the Sinclairs especially in the villages of Garthbanks, Hillwell and Brake and the crofts of Gord and Upper Gord. Five generations of my Leslie ancestors were crofter fishermen, first under the bondage to the Laird of Quendal, John Sinclair, and later of the Scottish Laird James Grierson when the Quendal estate was sequestered and sold in 1790.

Grierson took little interest in the operations of the Quendal estate and as such turned its management over to a tackman fish merchant who exerted even more repression on the fishermen tenants.

Later, the Hay and Co. was engaged to operate the truck system merchandise venue at Garthbanks, but in 1860 the Grierson grandson Andrew assumed the management of the fishing operations and truck system practice in Quendal.

The Scottish government finally took notice of the exploitation of the tenant fishermen and in 1872 established the Truck Commission.

Among the crofter fishermen who testified before

the Commission hearing on January 9, 1872 was my great-great grandfather, Henry Leslie of Gord. His testimony was recorded in the proceedings of the commission as follows:

You are a fisherman and a tenant under Mr. Grierson at Gord?

I am.

You have heard the evidence of Flaws and the others?

Yes.

Do you agree with it as far as you know?

Yes.

You know the facts that have been stated by them to be true?

Yes.

Have you been a long time tenant on that estate?

Yes, for 50 years at any rate.

At the commencement of that period were you free to fish to anyone you liked?

No, there has always been a bond on that estate to fish to Mr. Grierson or to anyone to whom fish were let. That has been the case all my

time and I have more than sixty years there.

Have you fished to anyone else during any part of the time?

No, it was always to him. There were three years when Mr. Bruce and Mr. Grierson were in company together.

But before that time were you not free?

No, I never knew a time when we were free all the time I have been there.

Who did you fish to before that?

To Mr. Grierson and to his father. I fished to the present Mr. Grierson's grandfather as I was at the beach to him.

Was he a fish curer and fish merchant also?

Yes.

Continued on page 13





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I would like to order _____ CHAF shirts in sizes _____ at \$22.00 each _____ enclosed

I would like to order _____ sets of CHAF Flight Officer's Wings at \$22.00 each _____ enclosed

Mail to: Air Marshall Albert C. Eaton, PO Box 530054, Orlando, FL 32853-0054

The “Truck” System, continued from page 11

Was that property ever set in tack to a fish merchant?

Yes, but that was before my day.

Has the obligation to fish always been a part of the condition on which you held your land?

Yes.

Were you present at the time when young Mr. Grierson intimated to the tenants that he was taking fishing into his own hands?

Yes, I and every man and boy on the estate were all assembled in the same room and we all heard the same agreement read over.

Was not that the beginning of the present state of things under which you are now bound to fish?

Yes.

Then were you free before that?

No, we were not free but we wrought upon a different scale.

Were you bound at that time to fish for Mr. Grierson?

Yes.

Have you been getting meal from Mr. Grierson’s store?

No, I have got none there for the past 2 years. I required none during that time.

Have you had plenty to supply you from your own ground?

Yes, or I had bought it at a ramp when other people were going out.

Henry’s testimony was similar to other crofter fishermen of

Quendal and Sum burgh although the majority of the tenants feared eviction or the raising of their rents if they appeared before the commission. Grierson himself testified and stated that he increased his rents if the tenants were not fishing for him and that he expected the sons of the tenants to fish or serve on the beach. They had to supply young boys when they had them suitable for the purpose of curing the fish. He also admitted that he would exact liberty money for those male family members who left and worked elsewhere.

Little was accomplished by the Truck Commission

as far as change in the system until 10 years later when the Napier Commission came to investigate the state of affairs in the Shetlands.

Following their report, the Scottish parliament in 1886 passed the Crofter Act establishing the rights for crafting; however, it had become apparent to the Lairds that the Truck Commission itself was going to change the way they conducted the fishing business.

In 1876 Grierson abandoned fishing as a source of revenue, evicted the fishing tenants of Garth banks, Garth, Corston, Quam and Neflan, a total of 27 families converting the southern half of the Quendal estate into a sheep farm. Fifty crofters remained on the rest of the estate around Uendal Mill, Gord, Upper Gord, Hillwell and Brake, but were no longer bonded to fish for Grierson.

In his book, *The Dunrossness Story*, James W. Irvine quotes the crofters’ lawyer’s statement before a newly formed Crofters Commission in 1889.

“Shetland is the chosen home of the truck system in its worst and most oppressive form. It is likewise the last resort of the exploited doctrine of the divine right of landlords. The relationship of the laird and tenant in Shetland is undoubtedly the dark chapter in the history of Scottish landlordism having resulted in only two classes in Shetland, a dominant class and a servant class”.

Prior to Henry’s testimony in 1872, his son Magnus, my great grandfather, had purchased his liberty from Grierson and in 1866 immigrated along with two sibling sisters to Canada.

As a result of Henry’s testimony, he and the remainder of his family were evicted from the croft at Gord and joined Magnus in Wellington County, Canada. He died in Guelph, Ontario in 1881.

I never heard my grandfather, Henry, speak about the plight of his father and grandfather in the Shetlands. He never admitted to his Scottish ancestry which was undoubtedly the result of the residual animus between

Concluded on page 15



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

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,
MacComb, MacComble, MacComich, MacComish,
MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacLaws,
MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, McTavish,
Mactavish, Mactavls, MTavish, MacThomas,
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant
spellings.*



Chief Steven
MacTavish

We Are Clan MacTavish!

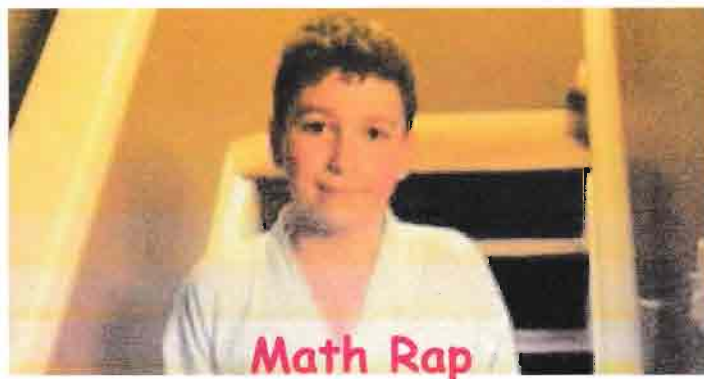


For information about joining us email: clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com

Liam Leslie's Innovative Math Memorization Rap!

Hi - below is a forward of an email about William (Liam) Leslie - the sixth (in Canada we are unable to use numerals after our names due to Commonwealth tradition), my son and grandson of William of Orillia, ON (son of Sara Leslie Leslie, my wife - yes, 2 Leslies in one name - that's another story). He is an inceptor member of the Clan Leslie Society and we live here in Stony Plain, Alberta where he is in Grade 7. Thought you might enjoy it for consideration on submission to the *Grip Fast*. Liam is 12 and is a Blue belt/Red Stripe in Taekwondo.

Thanks! Will Leslie



Let me tell you a tale about
the math whiz code
About how to remember
mean, median and mode

Firstly we must learn about mean
And this little rap will make you feel very keen
To find the mean you must add all the numbers
But try to stay awake
because you might fall into slumber
Next you divide by the digits in the set
And then mean is exactly what you'll get!

Next we will find the median
Don't laugh at this rap I am not a comedian
Organize the numbers from lowest to highest
The number in the middle
will try to act the slyest
If there are two numbers in the middle
Add them then divide it by half of a fiddle
The modes are the numbers
that occur the most

It is so easy you'll have time to eat toast
Now you know the code my brothers and sis'
And you can brag to all
the misters and misses!



With thanks to the Clan
Leslie Society International
Grip Fast!

The "Truck" System, *continued from page 13*



the exploited, bonded crofter fishermen of the Shetlands and their Scottish Lairds.

Yet in retrospect the bravery of men like my great-grandfather, who placed themselves and their families at risk by appearing before the Truck Commission, is to me the quality of heroism.

All that remains are ruins of Garthbanks, Dunrossness, Shetlands. Once an important fishing station, all that remains are the walls of the Hays & Company warehouse from which they conducted the truck system business with the crofter fishermen.

For more information on
Clan Leslie Society International,
please contact Linda Flowers at
lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net.

We encourage everyone who is interested in the great Clan Ramsay to join the **Clan Ramsay Association of North America**. Contact David Ramsey: davidf.ramsey@verizon.net



Become a part of Clan Ramsey's DNA Project!

What is it? DNA testing is a new and exciting tool for genealogists. It enables people to get an idea of how closely they are related to those of the same last name. The Ramsey/Ramsay DNA Project focuses on testing males of the last name **Ramsey** or **Ramsay**. The results are compiled together with the results from other Ramsey/Ramsay males and we get an idea of who is related to whom, and ultimately we can link different lines together. But to do that, the project needs lots of people to participate.

The Clan Ramsay Genealogy Project

The Clan Ramsay Genealogy project's mission is to foster the spirit of kinship and pride existing among all who have Ramsay ancestry, regardless of spelling. Clan family names include: Ramsay, Ramsey, Dalhousie, Ramsay of Bamff, Ramsay of Balmain, Maule, Brecheen, and Brechin. The clan genealogy database was established in 1997 to provide a clearinghouse for Ramsay family data and history.

The Clan Ramsay genealogy database was created using The Master Genealogist, Wholly Genes, Inc.; 5144 Flowertuft Court, Columbia, Maryland 21044; 410-715-2260. <http://www.whollygenes.com>

Sister Associations of Clan Ramsay in Australia, Nova Scotia and Finland!

Quarterly Newsletter - *The Ramsay Report*

is available to all members!

Clan Ramsay represented at Scottish Games & Events all over the country

Clan Ramsay is represented all over the United States at Scottish Games, Gatherings and Events. See us at The Loch Norman Highland Games in NC; Iron Thistle Scottish Heritage Festival and Highland Games in OK; AGM of the Clan Ramsay Association of

Carl Bailey the founder of Clan Ramsay Association of North America and Clan Chief James Hulbert Ramsay Lord Dalhousie.



Clan Ramsay needs YOU!

There are openings available in the state/region commissioners roster where you would be most welcome. Contact David Ramsey at davidf.ramsey@verizon.net for full information and details about The Clan Ramsay Association of North America.



Nova Scotia; Smoky Mountain Highland Games in TN; Gallabre - Greenville Scottish Games, SC; Glasgow Highland Games, KY; Chicago Highland Games, IL; Monterey Scottish Games, CA; Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, NC; Colorado Scottish Festival and Rocky Mountain Highland Games, CO; Virginia Scottish Games, VA; The Caledonian Club of San Francisco, Annual Scottish Highland Games, CA; Columbus Scottish Festival, IN; Charleston Scottish Games & Highland Gathering, SC; Ligonier Highland Games, PA; Scotland County Highland Games, NC; Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games and Festival, IN; Stone Mountain Highland Games, GA; and The Scottish Christmas Walk of the Clans, VA.





With thanks to The St. Andrews Cross,
a publication of the St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee, Florida

Scotland's Gifts to America

The Mark of the Scots by Duncan A. Bruce compares two Scottish documents, “The Declaration of Arbroath” (April 6, 1320) and “The National Covenant” (1638) with our own Declaration of Independence (1776) and the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States (1787).

Declaration of Independence 1776

- all men are created equal
- certain inalienable rights, life, liberty
- we mutually pledge our lives
- deriving just power from the consent of gov.
- ...the right to alter or abolish...
- ...history of repeated injury, death, desolation
- ...sent...swarms of officers to harass our people
- A prince whose character...may define a tyrant
- merciless Indian savages
- ...plundered our seas...burnt out towns
- ...destruction of all ages
- ...absolved of all allegiance to the British Crown
- appealing to...Supreme Judge...for the rectitude...
- ...with a firm reliance on the protection of

Declaration of Independence 1776

- usurpations...direct object...tyranny
- with firm reliance...of Divine Providence
- we mutually pledge to each other
- our lives, our fortunes

Preamble to the Constitution of US 1787

- We the people
- in order to form a more perfect union
- establish justice
- insure domestic tranquility
- provide for the common defense
- promote the common welfare
- ...secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity
- do ordain and establish this Const. of US

Declaration of Arbroath 1320

- nor distinction Jew, Greek, English or Scot
- we fight for liberty alone which no good man loses but with his life.
- we will maintain even to the death
- must reign...due consent of us all.
- ...expel him as our enemy...subverter of our rights
- perpetrated...injury, slaughters, deeds of violence
- ...unfriendlywise harassed our Kingdom
- this prince perpetrated...these evils innumerable
- the most savage tribes
- plundering, burnings
- sparing no age or sex
- For so long as a hundred remain alive, we will never ...be subject to the domination of the English
- to Him, as the Supreme King and Judge
- (by the help of) Divine Providence Divine Providence

The National Covenant 1638

- usurped authority of...all tyrannous laws
- we call on the Living God to witness...and bless
- to the mutual defense...everyone...to another
- with our means and our lives

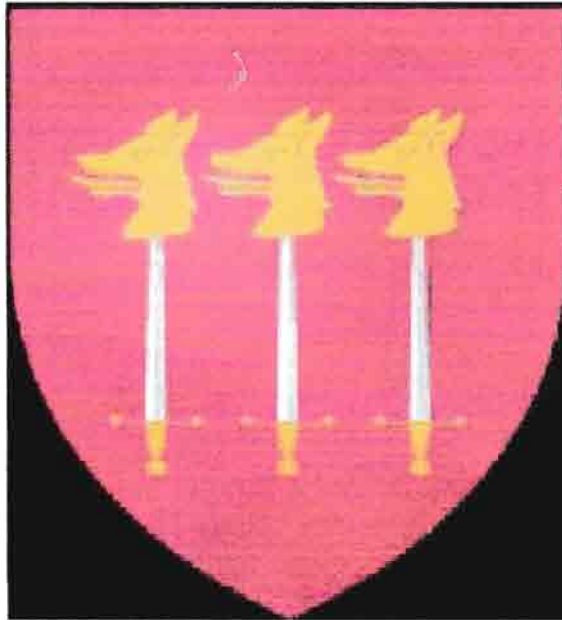
National Covenant & Ordaining Act 1638-9

- we noblemen, barons, gentlemen, burgesses, ministers and commons
- considering the great happiness...and perfect union
- judicatories...established...among us
- procure true and perfect peace
- stand to the mutual defense
- for the common happiness to conduce for so good ends and promote the same
- secure liberties to ourselves/our posterity
- do ordain the Covenant and Constitution of this Kingdom

The Clan Skene Association, Inc.

The Clan Skene Association, Inc., invites membership from SKENE and septs CARISON, CARNEY/CARNIE, CURREHILL, DYAS, DYCE, DYER, HALL, HALYARD/HALLYARD, MacGAILLARD, RENNIE & SKAINS.

Dorna Comp, president
103 Sumners Alley
Summerville, SC 29485
(dkc1027@yahoo.com)



The Arms of Danus George Moncreiff
Skene of Skene, Chief of the Name and Arms
of Skene

A Historical Handbook to Scotland

by Duncan MacPhail

This book is useful in EVERY Scottish clan tent!

You may order, if you'd like to use a credit card, from <http://www.amazon.com>
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\$25.00 includes s/h

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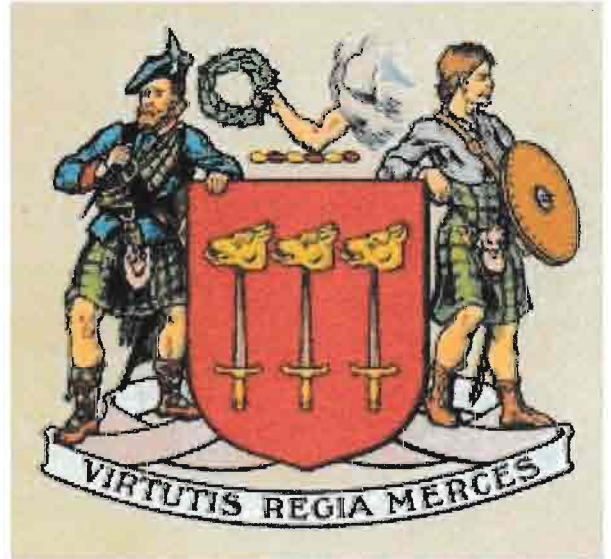
Clan Skene Honored Clan at 2015 Smoky Mountain Highland Games, Maryville, TN

The Clan Skene has been tapped to be the Honored Clan at the 2015 Smoky Mountain Highland Games held near Knoxville, Tennessee at Maryville College in Maryville. Those games are planned for May 15-17, 2015.

You might wish to visit the games website at: www.smokymountaingames.org for information.

If you would like more information on the Clan Skene Association, please contact president, Dorna Comp at 843-871-1239 or <Dkc1027@hotmail.com>

Clan Skene is sponsoring tents at the following games in 2014: Grandfather Mt. Jul 10-13; Stone Mountain Oct 18-19 and Charleston, SC Sept. 20.



St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee, Florida



If you have not already done so, check us out on **Facebook**. Cut and paste this URL on your browser: www.facebook.com/standrewtallahassee?ref_type=bookmark

THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

'S Rioghal Mo Dhream!

Royal is my Race!

Fàilte! The Clan Gregor Society is a growing organisation with membership throughout the world. It's most active objectives are to extend the links of kinship and friendship between MacGregors, wherever they may be, and to provide a focal point for all members of the Clan and interested visitors who wish to learn more of our noble past.

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor

7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balquidder

24th Chief of Clan Gregor

Clan Gregor
has
Great Lakes,
New England,
Pacific
Northwest,
Western
United States
and
Southeast
Chapters



For membership,
contact:
PO Box 393
Stone Mountain,
GA 30083

Ms. Ishbel McGregor,
Secretary
5 Alloa Road
CAMBUS by Alloa
Clackmannanshire
FK10 2NT
Scotland

Join Clan Gregor today! www.clangregor.org

Bannockburn, and the Fading of British-ness

It's an interesting time to be a Scot. 24 June is the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn, celebrated as the event which assured Scotland's position as an independent kingdom.

18 September is the date set for the referendum in which Scotland's people will be invited to answer Yes or No to the question "Do you think that Scotland should be an independent country?"

You would think that these two dates would somehow reinforce each other.

Campaigners in the independence referendum should surely be appealing to the spirit of Bannockburn to fire up the Scottish people to assert their identity.

Alternatively, awareness of Bannockburn should surely be helping the world-wide Scottish community to focus on the debate about Scotland's future that has been triggered by the referendum.

Neither seems to be happening.

Referendum campaigners are determined not to be seen to play the "Braveheart card", invoking a Scotland that lies in the past. And the world wide community seems determined to ignore the momentous choice that we face.

For them, it is more interesting and more fun to celebrate Bannockburn. There were indeed Skenes at Bannockburn.

Two years ago I wrote about the possible "end of Ukania". Looking over what I wrote then, it still makes sense to me. The more ancient kingdoms of Scotland and England have survived 400 years of combination in King James political experiment of "Great Britain".

Those kingdoms are proving to have a stronger identity and appeal to their people than the modern political form of Britishness – "the United Kingdom".

The role and purpose of the UK is being questioned. But even though British identity is fading, it has not gone. Many are still alive who recall the "British Empire" when it still spanned the globe. Many fought in British wars, from World War II to Korea and Malaya and Iraq and the Falklands.

A Scots lad I once taught was killed in Afghanistan

not long ago. These things build and reinforce loyalties.

So I still think as I did two years ago that the independence referendum will result in a No. The question has come ten or twenty years too early to assure a Yes success, and it is not because Scots are not patriotic.

It is because many of them also still consider themselves to be British. (The issue in England is a little different. There, the larger English nation simply fails to distinguish most of the time between Englishness and Britishness.)

But things are changing. The future of the "United Kingdom" will remain in question when almost half the people of one of the kingdoms do not want to remain in the union, and do not recognise, let alone honour, the flags and other symbols of Britishness.

The Bannockburn celebrations will confuse outsiders. The events will not spark widespread involvement by Scots on the scale that you might expect.

Meanwhile, the UK government is sponsoring a modern "Armed Forces Day" in the city of Stirling, where Bannockburn is, on the same weekend.

This is deliberate politics to counter the pro-independence implications of Bannockburn with a demonstration of Britishness.

Visiting Americans and others have every right to be confused.

Something in me is close to offering apology to overseas Scots for the indecision and confusion that has surrounded Bannockburn preparations.

And I know that COSCA and others in the USA are more than a little upset by what they see as inadequate celebration, even though a significant new visitor centre is being inaugurated at Bannockburn with a day of Clan Village and other events.

I shall not be going, and that has a lot to do with this extraordinary Scottish year.

It might be less complicated if you all come over for the Ryder Cup!

Have a great summer! Danus Skene of Skene

With thanks to: The official Publication of the Clan Skene Association, Inc., *The Skene Scene*



Clan Forrester

Society

Come - join the Forresters

Membership is available for all spelling variations of Forrester: Forrester, Forester, Forrister, Forister, Forest, Forrest, Foster, Carstarphen.



Contact: **Ben Forrester**,
Membership Chairman
1034 Blue Heron Drive
Commerce, GA 30529
Phone: 706-335-7688
Email: benbf@windstream.net



FOSTER SURNAME DNA Project

• Genealogy Research on Foster / Forster / Forester / Forester / Foeister / Forester / Forster / Forrister / Vorster / Voester Families.

Flowers of the Forest

Lucille Skeens McComas, age 78, a long time member of the Clan Skene Association, passed away Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at Mt. Carmel Medical Center.

Born August 9, 1935 in Maysburg, West Virginia, daughter of Algie and Nellie Lambert Skeens.

On November 4, 1953, Lucille and John McComas were married and were together for forty-seven and a half years. John passed away June 2, 2003.

After moving to Columbus, Lucille was employed with RG Barry, Weatherhead, Timken and the State of Ohio as a corrections officer from which she retired in 1999.

Past Regent and present Registrar for the Columbus Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, Lucille considered being on the team of four members who placed a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier as one of her finest moments in the Columbus Chapter DAR.

Survived by four daughters, Leslie (Pat) Eley, Angela Wynn Smith, Rhonda (Anthony) Wilkins and Teri (Tim) Booher; ten grandchildren and seven great grandchildren and her sister, Imogene Nelson and brother, Marvin Skeens.

James Gilliam, MA, MBE. (Edinburgh) Peacefully, at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, on Monday, June 23, 2014, James, loving husband of Sheila, much loved dad of Simon and Paul and devoted granddad of Sophie, Mark and Jonathan. Service at Warriston Crematorium, Cloister Chapel, on Tuesday, July 1, 2014, at 11.30 am.

Peter Mallan (Glasgow) Singer, Broadcaster and Teacher. Suddenly, but peacefully, at Glasgow Victoria Infirmary, on June 20, 2014, Peter, aged 80 years, dearly loved husband of Helen, ever loving father of John, the

late Jennie and to son-in-law Lindsay and a very devoted papa to his beloved grandchildren Heather and Thomas. Funeral service at Linn Crematorium, Lainshaw Drive, Glasgow, on Friday, June 27, at 3 pm.

Keri Holdsworth (Edinburgh) As the result of an accident, on June 14, 2014, Keri (former Scotland Int. Rugby, dedicated Watsonian Player and Physio), beloved sister of Fiona, James and Tom, daughter of Maureen and sister-in-law of Chad. Sadly missed by her family and



many friends. Service of remembrance was at St Cuthberts RC Church, Slateford, on Monday, June 30, at 10.30 am, followed by cremation at Mortonhall Crematorium, Main Chapel, at 12 noon, to which all are welcome. Family flowers only please, donations in her memory will be available on retiral in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance. Club colours most welcome.

David Marwick Leslie, BEM (Orkney / Shetland) Peacefully, at home, on Sunday, June 15, 2014, Davie (proud retired lighthouse keeper), beloved husband of Cathie, much loved dad of Colin, Lillian and Graham and a loving father-in-law, grandad, great-grandad and uncle. A funeral service was held at Warriston Crematorium, Cloister Chapel, on Monday, June 23, at 4.30 pm. Family flowers only, please.

Donald Macaulay (Lord Macaulay of Bragar) (Edinburgh) Peacefully, at home, in Joppa, on Thursday, June 12, 2014, with his family at his side. Donnie husband of Mary, father of Donna and Joanne and grandpa to John, Beth, Angus, Donald and Stella. Much loved and missed by all. Service at 2 pm, on Thursday, June 19, at Warriston Crematorium, Lorimer Chapel, Edinburgh, to which all friends are warmly invited.



Clan Elliot Society, USA

Membership information 2014

President Michael D. Elliott

The Elliot Clan Society is a worldwide organization, with active branches in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. In accordance with Scottish Clan Law, Clan membership includes all Elliots, Elliots, Elliotts, those of whose mother or grandmother was so named and their spouses. This also applies to Elliots of known Scottish descent.

If you are a person of Scottish ancestry bearing the name Elliot, Elliott or Eliott (Including the spouse or descendant of such person) and wish to join the Elliot Clan Society, please fill out the membership form. Those forms may be found on the "Official ECS Website" at:

www.elliotclan.com

For US residents, please make sure that you send your completed ECS USA membership forms to the Membership/Treasurer. Once you join the Society, you will receive periodic newsletters from the ECS USA and our Parent Society in Scotland. The newsletters will inform you of Scottish festivals in your area and other announcements of importance to our Clan. Membership allows you to meet other Elliots with similar interests who share our Scottish heritage.

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

Email: dublincollen@sbcglobal.net or write

2984 Siskiyou Boulevard

Medford, OR 97504

(Fortiter Et Recte)

Boldly and Rightly



International Ceilidh, continued from page 1



the Commonwealth ceilidh and that a new generation of dancers will be inspired to try this fun and social dance.”

A series of modern dances made up by ceilidh, hip hop and Indian dancing were performed at events in Scotland, and each ceilidh was “unique to its location”, organisers said.

Creative Scotland chief executive Janet Archer said: “Ceilidhs are at the heart of so many celebrations across Scotland. It is perfect that this global ceilidh should be held as part of the cultural celebrations for the Commonwealth Games.

“The exciting new dances created especially for the occasion by the RSCDS along with leading dance organisations are a fantastic addition to the rich heritage of the well-known ceilidh dances, which will also be danced on Saturday night as the Commonwealth ceilidh crosses the world.”

Former Commonwealth athletes and organisers were involved in the dances.

Despite their nations not competing in the Commonwealth Games, country dancing clubs in Colorado, South Charlotte and Hawaii in the US took part in the event, as there was such huge demand from people with Scottish relatives and ceilidh lovers.

David Williamson, president of the RSCDS New Zealand branch, is excited to be starting the ceilidh. He said: “It will be a momentous occasion. Being the first in the world to see the light provides NZ dancers with the privileged position of opening the Commonwealth ceilidh.

“To take part in an exciting international event is a great opportunity to showcase traditional Scottish culture.”

JM Barrie, continued from page 1

A vandalism attack on the Angus grave of Peter Pan creator JM Barrie has been condemned by a local councillor.

Major Ronnie Proctor’s home looks out on to Kirriemuir Cemetery where the attack was discovered on Wednesday.

Stones were removed from the graveside and moved to another part of the cemetery – an act described as “disgusting” by a local police officer.

Barrie’s grave is a popular visiting place for people from outwith the town and Major Proctor said the desecration was “deplorable”.

He said: “There are a lot of good young people in the town but it’s always the case that the minority spoil it for the majority.

“It’s a senseless act. It is an iconic place where many tourists come to visit. Something like this could have a negate people from coming to visit.

“That in itself would have a detrimental impact on the town.”

Born in Kirriemuir in 1860, JM Barrie is most remembered for the creation of Peter Pan and

the world of Never Land.

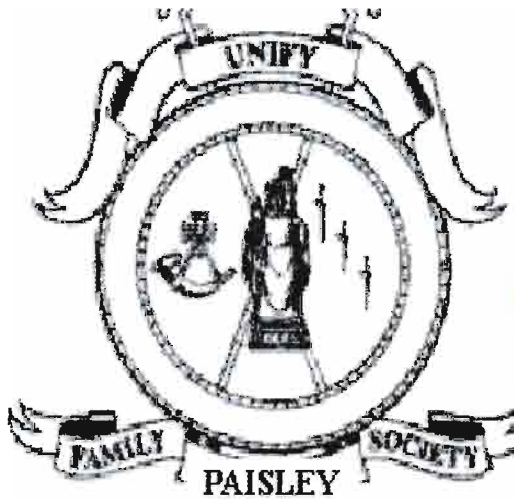
At his request, Barrie was buried in the family burial plot in Kirriemuir Cemetery and his name was simply added below the names of those who had gone before him.

Kirriemuir PC Gail Beattie appealed for witnesses to the grave vandalism.

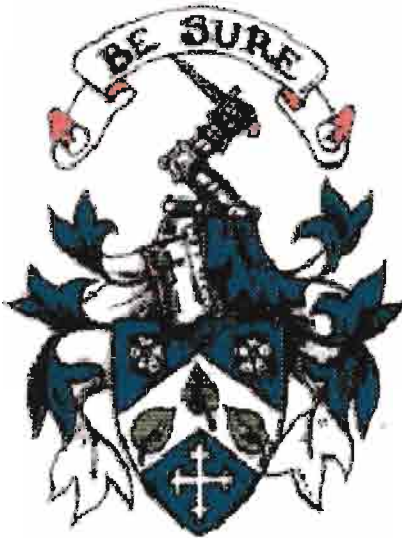
She Tweeted: Disgusted to be appealing for witnesses to a vandalism to the grave of JM Barrie.

By GRAEME STRACHAN, 26 June 2014





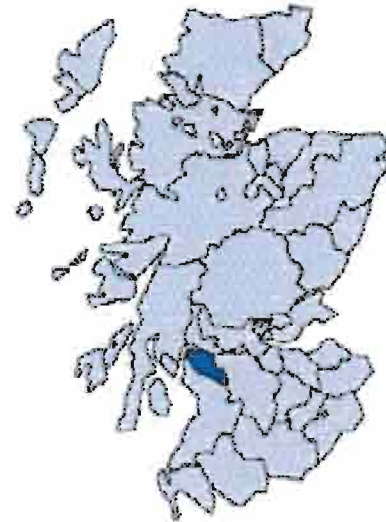
The Paisleys are a family of considerable antiquity, having been associated with Lochwinnoch and Paisley (parts of what later became Renfrewshire), with Cunningham and Kyle (North Ayrshire), Innerwick (East Lothian) and Roxburghshire, since the time of William I King of Scots 1165 - 1214.



The Chiefly Arms of Paisley of Westerlea

William I Paisley (died ante 28 September 1171) and William II Paisley (killed in battle ante 1218) were prominent in the following of the first three hereditary stewards of Scotland, while William II Paisley is also noticed attending the itinerant court of the King of Scots during 1179 - 95.

Separate and quite distinct branches of the family had already developed at Lochwinnoch and Paisley and in the Roxburghshire barony of Hawick before the end of King David Bruce's reign in 1371 and the beginnings of others are found in records for Edinburgh and the three Lothians from 1389 onwards and at Dunrod near Borgue (Kirkcudbrightshire) in still Gaelic speaking Galloway from 1585.



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

The Paisley Family Society **WILL** be participating in the festivities at Bannockburn this summer. If you'd like to go...or would like to join The Paisley Family Society, please contact Martha Brown at mbrown2205@aol.com.



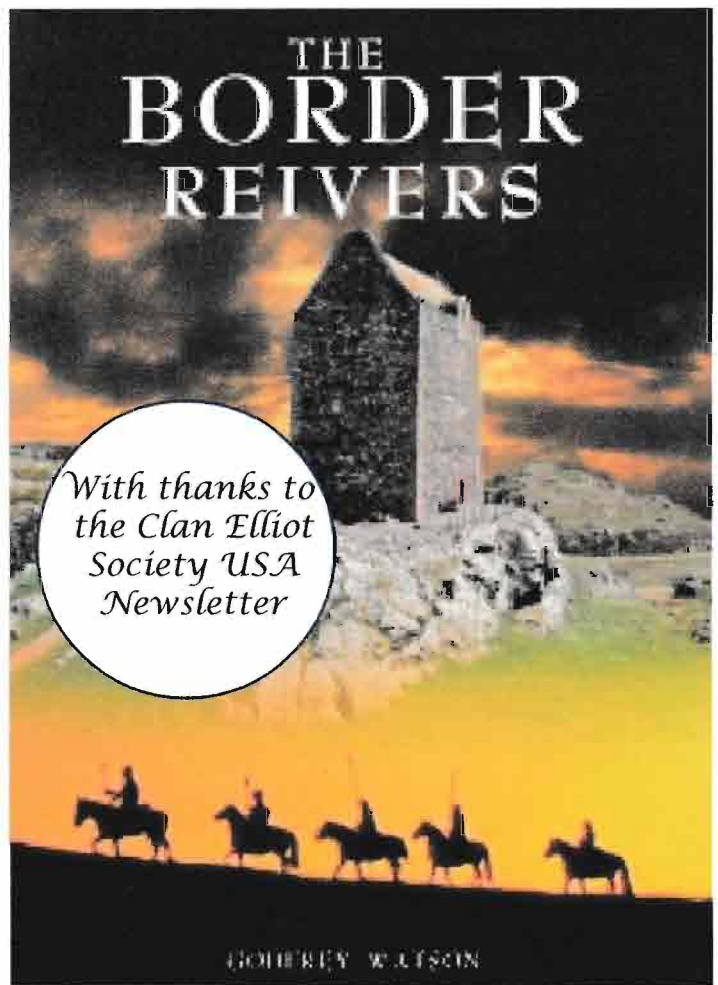
Happy Engagement

The engagement is announced between Kate Frances Elliott and Nic Verbij of Haarlem, The Netherlands.

Kate is the daughter of Margaret Elliott of Redheugh and the late Anthony Vaughan-Arbuckle.

Both Kate and Nic now live in Haarlem, The Netherlands.

Elliot Clan Society, USA
is now
Clan Elliot Society, USA



The Border Reivers by Godfrey Watson has been reprinted in paperback form by The Sandhill Press Ltd. Re-issued due to popular demand, this book gives a fascinating insight into sixteenth century Border Life.

Against a background of robbery and violence, of hangings and excommunication, of Border Law and Border Ballads, stalk the legendary figures of Wat o' Harden and the Bold Buccleuch, of Johnny Armstrong and Kinmont Willie, of Hobby Noble and Jock o' the Side, and the Warden of the Marshes whose unenviable task it was to try and restrain them.

The American College of Heraldry address is:
David Robert Wooten, Executive Director
The American College of Heraldry
1818 North Taylor Street #312
Little Rock, AR 72207
Web: www.americancollegeofheraldry.org



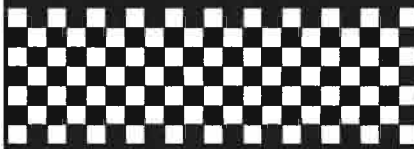


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 706-839-6612





The Armstrong Clan Society

Dedicated to the Armstrongs, Crosiers, Fairbairns, Grosiers, Nixons and those interested in these surnames.

The Armstrong Clan Society was organized on October 8, 1981 and is incorporated in the State of Georgia, USA. The Society is recognized as a Section 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization and exempt from United States Federal Income Taxes. On September 24, 1984, the Lord Lyon, King of Arms in Scotland, granted warrant to the Lyon Clerk to matriculate in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in the name of the Armstrong Clan Society, Inc., the Coat of Arms in the upper left corner of this page. Our motto "Semper Invictus" can be translated as "Always Unconquered."

Objectives of the Armstrong Clan Society

1. To seek friendship and unity among all Armstrongs, its septs and associated families.
2. To provide for the preservation of all Armstrong artifacts unique to the family.
3. To serve as a genealogical and historical resource for the membership and the general public.
4. To provide news, Armstrong history, items of general interest and genealogy via our newsletter, *The Armstrong Chronicles*.
5. To establish worldwide geographic membership representation.

Membership

All Armstrongs, Croziers, Fairbairns, Grosiers and Nixons (regardless of the spelling and their descendants, are eligible for full membership in The Armstrong Clan Society. In the United States and Canada, dues are \$25 per year or \$45 for two years. All memberships are family memberships which includes two adults and all minor children. In all other countries, dues are \$35 per year. All dues are payable in US funds.

For a membership application, email Peter Armstrong at peter.armstrong1.3@gmail.com or download from <http://www.armstrong.org/membership.htm>. Note: "spouse" on the application includes: spouse, domestic partner or any other adult living at the same address.



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!

Septs and spellings include: Achindachy - Astine - Aston - Austen - Austin - Cate(s) - Dick - Dickson - Dicson - Dixon - Dixson - Falconer - Faulkner - Harvey - Harvie - Hackston - Haxton - Hervie - Hervey - Hurrie - Hurry - Keath - Keech - Keeth - Keith - Keyth - Kite - Lum - Lumgair - MacAustin - MacDick - MacDicken - MacDickie - MacDeetch - MacKeeth - MacKeitch - MacKeith - Marshall - Urie - Urry

The Clan Keith Society would be delighted for you to join us as a member. For more information, please email membershipclankeith@mindspring.com or call 404-539-5222.



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 every make. Hope to see you soon!