

Vol. XVI No 1 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A July 2022

We travelled across the world to get married in Scotland and the airline lost our luggage!



AN AMERICAN couple who travelled to Skye for their dream wedding ended up having to wear clothes donated by kind Scots after their airline lost their luggage.

Amanda and Paul

Riesel flew over 4,000 miles from Orlando, Florida, to the UK on Monday only to find out their luggage was missing.

Amanda, 40, and Paul, 37, had spent over £12,000 on the trip which they had been planning for over two years.

They were ready to call the whole wedding off until Amanda's photographer, Rosie Woodhouse, appealed to locals to help the couple out - with just hours to spare.

In just a few hours, lady Amanda had been offered a selection of eight wedding dresses in her size, and 37-year-old Paul was given a kilt.

One local said: "Fantastic. Love the Skye community so much. Incredible story and well done to you."

Another added: "Thank you so much for posting this - it was so wonderful to see the community pulling together."

"A huge congratulations to Amanda and Paul. Truly a wedding to remember!"



Drum Major Don Bogue honored at Blairsville

Sylvia Elliott (sylviaelliott@mac.com)

Atlanta's well-known Drum Major Don Bogue passed away in 2020. He considered Blairsville his signature event. To honor him, a brand-new fancy restroom pavilion with a memorial bench & plaque was dedicated via a brief ceremony and loud *Hip Hip Hooray* by his bands at the 2022 Blairsville Scottish Highland Games.

It's the sole building on the hillside overlooking the parade field and the only air-conditioned

Continued on page 9

Happy
Birthday
America!



AN INTERNET ALL ETHNICITIES GENEALOGICAL PUBLICATION
THE HOMETOWN PUBLICATION FOR THE WORLDWIDE SCOTTISH COMMUNITY

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Beth's Newfangled Family Tree
<https://www.electricscotland.com/bnft>

Send articles,
Flowers of the Forest, questions, etc.,

<bethscribble@aol.com>

Beth's's Newfangled Family Tree **is FREE.**

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<https://electricscotland.com/bnft>

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOX

Browse amongst the archives
since 2007 or
read the current issue.

Section B is "up" on the
Internet about the
15th of each month.
Section A is "up"
the first of the next month.

JULY 2022

Holidays & Observances

★ ★ Monday July 4th
Independence Day

👤 Thursday July 7th
Father Daughter
Take a Walk Day

🚗 Saturday July 9th
Collector Car Appreciation Day

🍷 Wednesday July 13th
French Fry Day

🍒 Saturday July 16th
Cherry Day

👂 Monday July 18th
World Listening Day

♟ Wednesday July 20th
Chess Day

🚗 Sunday July 24th
Amelia Earhart Day

🎡 Monday July 25th
Merry-Go-Round Day

🥑 Sunday July 31st
Avocado Day

A Letter from your editor

How to make your own clan become known as the friendliest and nicest in the entire Scottish community!

Yes, you can make your own Scottish clan organization become known as the friendliest and nicest group in the entire Scottish community.

This is a wonderful time to “re-do” your clan’s reputation.

I’ve been around this particular group of people for a very long time. I have watched and listened and been treated badly, too.

This unpopular “break” in Scottish Games is a perfect time to really try to change the reputation of your own clan as “stuck up,” “unfriendly,” “no fun,” or most anything. You can change.

It costs nothing. It’s just a matter of attitude between your clans people and those who wish to join your group and even those who stop by your clan tent to ask a question or two.

I promise that any of the examples I give you in this article are true and real and actually happened.

Once upon a time a couple came to the tent of one of the largest clans at that time and asked about membership for one of their children. There was an individual who thought he knew everything at this games. This individual told this couple that not only could their children not be members, but they could not be members either.

(This couple were long-time members who owned a shop which sold quality Scottish clothing and just about anything Scottish you could desire. They were from several hundred miles away and happened not to know this particular gentleman.)

The gentleman said to them, “Your name is Mc - with the small “c.” That means your are Irish and you can’t join any Scottish Clan.

The couple simply walked away.

The truth of that matter is that spelling does not matter. My own family of

McXXXXX uses that spelling. I found the answer to that puzzle for myself when I discovered that when a family used to use the small “c” with two little lines under it in the days before typewriters or any of our modern writing conveniences, that was simply the abbreviation of the “Mac” without having to write the “a.”

So, be sure anyone who talks to anyone about the clan really knows what they are doing.

Just being polite and helpful, not only to potential members but to existing members, goes a long way towards your clan having a reputation of being polite and helpful.

I was a member of my clan long before I could come to games on a weekend. I was in radio and that was our busiest time with remote broadcasts just about every Saturday and/or Sunday. When I finally became free on the weekends and came to the games all happy and excited, I went to my clan tent, wearing the kilted skirt and complete tartan outfit for ladies and a big smile.

Not one person spoke to me nor acknowledged my presence. I stood there grinning for maybe 10 minutes. I tried to speak to several people, but they sort of grunted and did not speak back. Finally, I just walked away.

Make sure anyone who comes to your tent is welcomed and made to feel good about being there.

Most every clan tent has books that will help “newbies” find their clan. Please be helpful and friendly.

We’ll come back with more on this subject.



Where did this come from? I do not own a pink cowboy hat. Is that me? I really do not own a hat like this. Was I unconscious?



THE CLAN BUCHANAN

<www.theclanbuchanan.com>

Representing the Clan Buchanan Worldwide

The Clan Buchanan Society-International, Inc.

**Travel Restrictions in the UK have been lifted.
All Covid mandates in Scotland have been removed.**

In October 2022, Clan Buchanan will witness an event not seen in 370 years: the inauguration of a Chief of the Clan Buchanan. This celebration will combine ancient Scottish traditions with a modern touch.

Don't miss the once in a lifetime opportunity

to be a part of history.

All Clan Buchanan members, including all associated family names, are urged to attend.

All persons interested in Scottish history and traditions are welcome to attend and represent their clan or culture at the inauguration.

THE INAUGURATION CELEBRATION OF THE BUCHANAN



Clar Innis!

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event promises to be
an unprecedented event,
for Buchanans and
Scotland as a whole*



**Bookings are now available at
<trybooking.com/uk — Search "Clan Buchanan">**

Clan Buchanan prepares for the Inauguration of Mike Buchanan, The Buchanan

Paula Buchanan, The Lady Buchanan

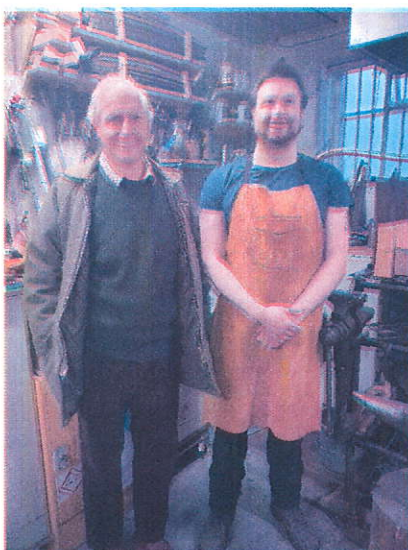
Well things are hotting up here in Scotland. Not only has the weather been dreamlike and unbelievably warm, but the preparations for the Inauguration event and the first clan parliament in centuries, along with the reeling party and dinner, have been gathering apace.

We have now created most of the different clan insignia or 'clan jewels' which will enable the new Chief's Court to carry out their historic role. Actually the clan members as just as important as the chief, as there cannot be an authentic inauguration without all those making up a chief's court. Swords, dirks, seal, a special red seal ring and white rod are some of the insignia which have been created to reflect these items importance in the ancient inauguration event. Even a stone chair with a coat of arms engraved into it has been created to symbolise the ancient use and importance of carved stones in prehistoric clan/tribal culture.

Many of the Buchanans attending will have assigned to them key ceremonial roles in the event. However everyone attending will be playing their own role in helping support the progression of the clan and also help it create its own new clan history.

Actually there has been so much interest in

this one off historic and ground breaking event that it has already attracted much media attention, including a BBC documentary about the event and the build up to it.



Here is The Buchanan on the left and Greg the swordsmith from the company 'Glittering edges' in Edinburgh who has created the blades for the new Buchanan lion sword and the bear dirk and falcon sgurian dubh.

Not only will Buchanans and those with the many Buchanan family names be coming, but there are also many people from other clans who will be there. They are looking to be part of this historical event and hopefully will use it to help them create future events for their clans.

Those from other clans and those interested in Scottish heritage and culture are most welcome, too, as their attendance is of key importance to my husband Mike who is the Buchanan Chief. He is really keen not only to support those from other clans in learning more about historical events from their own Scottish heritage, but for also helping them in their future efforts to hold similar events for their own clans.

The date of the event will be the four days from 7th of October to 10th of October 2022. The main two event days being 8th and 9th October will be held at Cambusmore near Callander, Scotland; the home of the Buchanan Chief. Tickets for the historic ceremony and tradi-

Continued on page 7

IMPORTANT

This has become known as a signal for “help me” in any situation.



**Please alert your children
and teach them to do this.
Please alert everyone.**

Visit this YouTube video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ozb1ty5KivE>

With many thanks to Steve Kelley.

The Inauguration of the new Clan Buchanan Chief, *continued from page 5*

tional ceilidh reeling dance and formal dinner can be ordered by anyone for the different events being held that weekend from the following website: <http://www.buchananchief.org.uk>

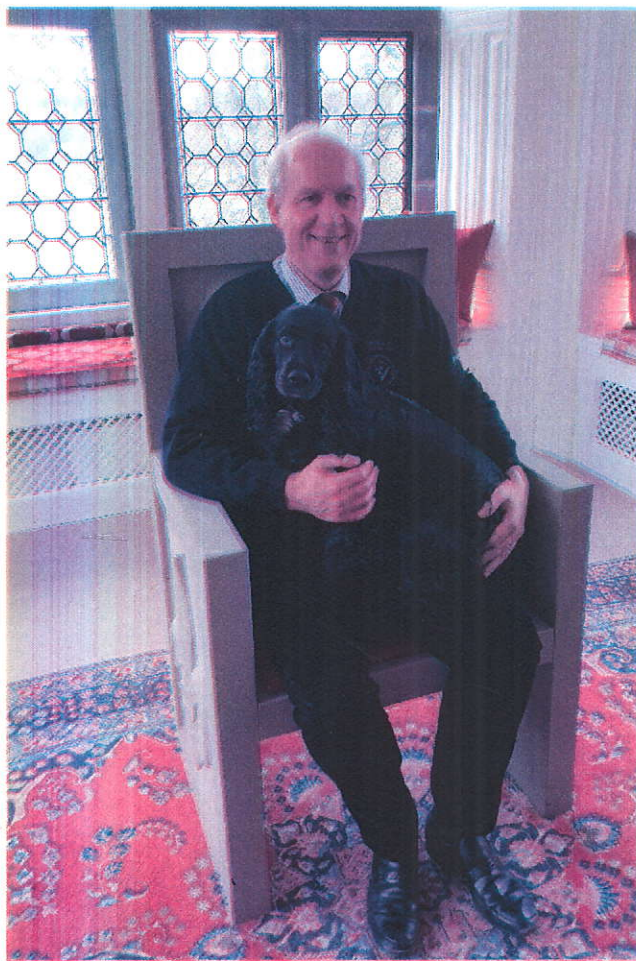
My whole family all very much look forwards to welcoming all those interested in this ancient historic part of clan culture which will be revived and interpreted to these contemporary times. We also intend to have fun doing it!

So do join us at the event itself and any, or all, of the parties too! In celebrating with us, you will also be playing a key part of these authentic joint Scottish cultural experiences which will help our Clan and hopefully others, advance confidently into the future!

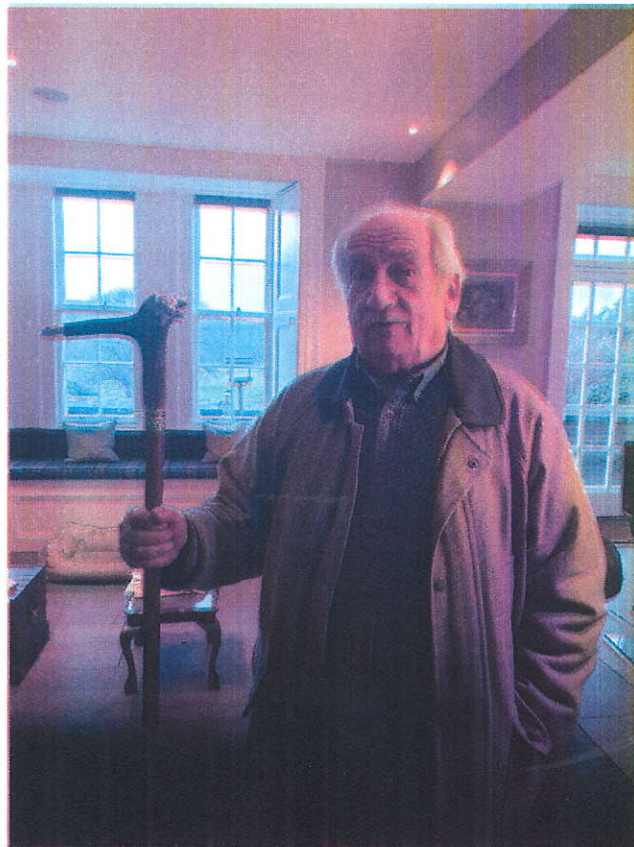
Yours aye,

Paula Buchanan

The Lady Buchanan



The Buchanan and one of his dogs, Daisy.



This is Ron the cromach maker at Cambusmore with the amazing cromach which he helped make and is now part of the Buchanan clan jewels.



Another of The Buchanan's dogs, Poppy, dreaming of her next walk.



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DRUM MAJOR DON BOGUE

May 29, 1942 – September 15, 2020



DM Don Bogue was a true patriot who believed in country, duty, honor and integrity. He served 21 years in the U.S. Air Force and flew 279 B-52 combat missions in Vietnam, earning two Distinguished Flying Crosses and 13 air medals. He retired as a Major in 1986.

In 1996, Don became Drum Major of the Atholl Highlanders Pipes and Drums USA of Stone Mountain, Georgia, leading the band until his death, including the band's two trips for performances in Scotland.

He served the Blairsville Scottish Festival and Highland Games for many years as Head Drum Major, annually devoting countless hours to selecting music, choreographing and leading the massed bands at the games.

space in the park. It features marbled quartz counters, faux denim walls, and high-tech soap dispensers.

Those soap dispensers made my heart plum-

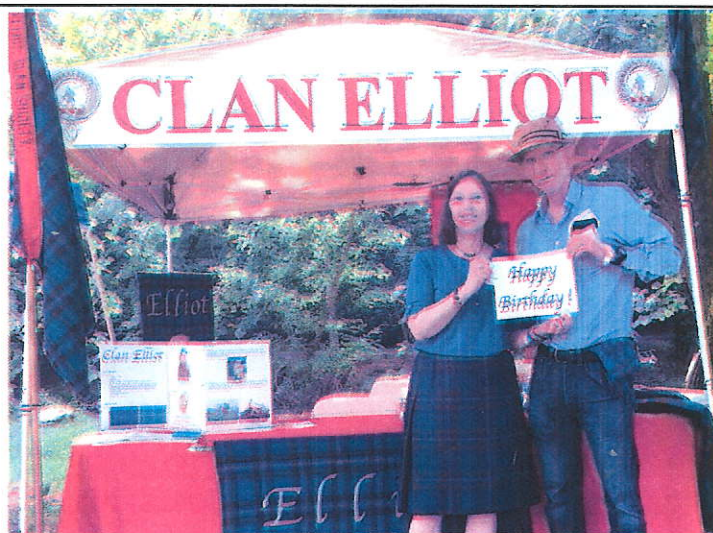
met as bright pink foam flew through the air and coated my kilted skirt. These dispensers were a source of alarm and hilarity all weekend but everyone's kilt and kilted skirt smelled good.

What a great idea!

For many years, on my birthday, which is on June 18, I have gotten a note from my friend, Sylvia Elliott, with a photo basically just like this one...Sylvia and a Clansman holding a Happy Birthday sign!

This one has just come this year.

This goes with the article on page 3 telling us all how to make our clan become known as a friendly, welcoming and just a plain "nice" clan! Thanks, Sylvia!



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

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Join Clan Gregor today! www.clangregor.org

Kinloch Castle and most of Rum could be set for new owner



BBC
NEWS

A former hunting lodge on Rum could be set for a new owner.

Kinloch Castle and most of the island are owned by public agency NatureScot.

The property was used as a hostel, but it closed in 2015 and parts of the site require restoration work.

A bid by community group Kinloch Castle Friends Association (KCFA) to take over the lodge and turn it into a 51-bed B&B with a museum was knocked back in 2019.

NatureScot said it was now in advanced talks with a businessman about buying the property and placing it into a charitable trust.

KCFA has welcomed the development and said it hoped the castle would be used for visitor accommodation, and its café and shop put back into use.

Catherine Duckworth, the association's honorary secretary, said Kinloch Castle was surrounded by construction site fencing making it look like it was in a semi-derelict state.

Kinloch Castle was built between 1897 and 1900 as a hunting lodge for Lancastrian industrialist George Bullough and he had it luxuriously furnished.

It is the only example of a house designed by Leeming and Leeming, London-based architects specialising in commercial and municipal properties.

The property fell into decline after World War I and was taken over by NatureScot's predecessor, the Nature Conservancy Council, in 1957.

It has required extensive restoration work

Continued on page 13

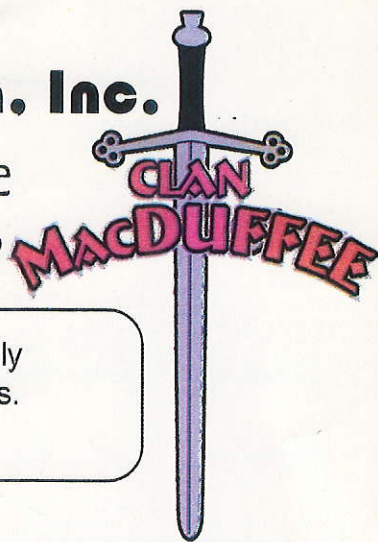
MacDuffee Clan Society of America, Inc.

of Clan Macfie



Ceud Mile Failte! 100,000 Welcomes!

Annual General Meeting held each year in July
at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.
You are always welcome to attend.



President: Thomas P. McDuffee

tpmjjm@aol.com

Treasurer: David M. McDuffie

dnmcduffie@gmail.com

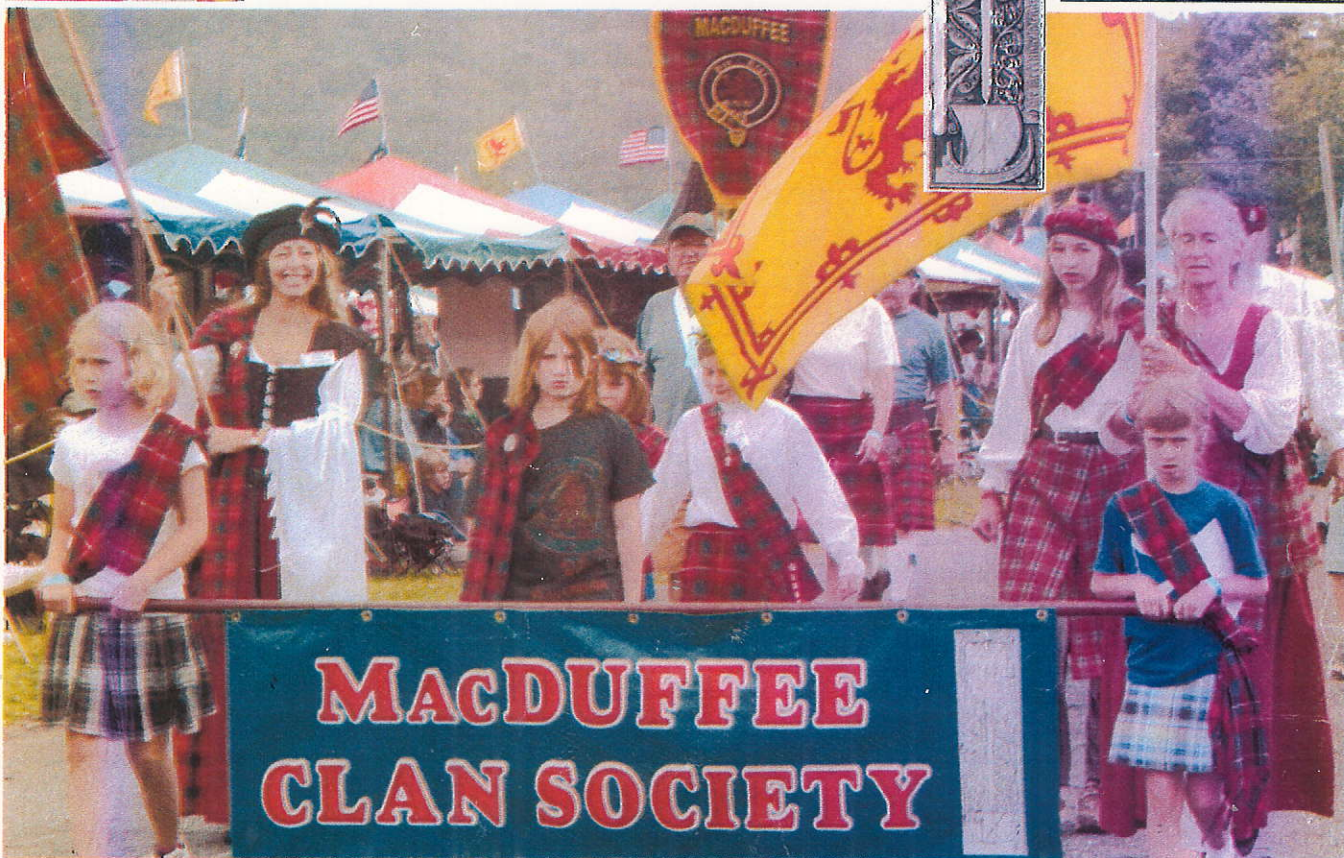
Genealogist: Richard Ledyard

865-671-2555

rledyard@tds.net



**MacDuffee
Clan Society
of America**





Scientists to harness DNA technology in battle to save the Eriskay pony

Patricia-Ann Young

SUNDAY POST

Kinloch Castle, *continued from page 11*



over the years.

Local councillor Angus MacDonald and Kate Forbes, SNP MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, have welcomed the anticipated sale.

Robbie Kernahan, NatureScot's director of green economy, said: "Kinloch Castle is a fantastic asset, but it isn't a good fit for NatureScot with our strong focus on protecting and restoring Scotland's nature.

"So we're delighted that a new sustainable future for Kinloch Castle has been found and that the castle will continue to play an integral role for the community on Rum."

Rum is in the Small Isles, south of Skye.

The island is well known for its large red deer population, which has been the subject of research since the 1950s.

It's an ancient breed and icon of Scotland's wild places but, still, the Eriskay pony remains in peril.

Advancements in technology during the industrial revolution almost meant the loss of the pony but, today, new technological advancements will be harnessed to pull the breed back from the brink.

A bold breeding programming over the last 40 years has seen a small blossoming of the Eriskay pony population, which consisted of only 20 horses in the 1970s. Now the population is comfortably into the hundreds, but it is still considered critically endangered by The Rare Breeds Survival Trust.

Due to their small numbers, the Eriskay has a narrow studbook, meaning there is a high chance of illness and disease developing from inbreeding, despite the best efforts from breeders to avoid it when pairing mares and stallions.

Now, a new and innovative DNA-analysis technology is being used to assess the ponies' health on the deepest of levels, giving Eriskay owners fresh insight into the general health of the breed. While it will provide enthusiasts with invaluable information about the breed in general, it will also act as something of a matchmaker for the ponies, alerting owners to the suitability of breeding and pairing.

Continued on page 15

The Armstrong Clan Society

**Dedicated to the Armstrongs,
Crosiers, Fairbairns, Grosiers, Nixons
and those interested in those 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 the 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 to the right of this paragraph. 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 include two adults and all minor children. In other countries, dues are \$35 per year. All dues are payable in US funds.



For membership application, email **Janet Armstrong** at <jdumeyer@hotmail.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.

To contact the Armstrong Clan Society president, **Chris Armstrong** at <chrisarmys@gmail.com>. Ceud Mile Failte (100,000 welcomes) to you!

Once a staple of Scottish island life, the Eriskay pony was used by families, especially women and children, to help with chores and transportation while the men were away fishing or working away from home. Yet when cost-cutting, low maintenance technologies began to be more widely available, breeding efforts soon fell to the wayside.

Mary McGillivray, who has bred Eriskay ponies with her husband for more than 40 years, explained why the breed declined. She said: "Each croft on the island would have its own pony, or a couple of ponies, and they would use them for carrying out any of the croft jobs required and they would be used for carrying peat or seaweed, too. They were family-orientated ponies, but they were used for work, not leisure. So when things like tractors came along, unfortunately the ponies were needed less. You could put a tractor in a shed, and you didn't have to feed it over the winter.

Over the years, the breed became increasingly rare, dwindling to levels so low that eventually there was only one remaining Eriskay stallion left, called Eric. His son, Balachan, was lent to the McGillivrays and brought over from the islands to help grow their herd, and his son, Braincroft Mayflower, eventually sired over 54 foals, which went a very long way in saving the Eriskay from extinction.

The small number of Eriskay stallions, and all coming from the one bloodline, of course had potential drawbacks. Breeders became concerned that their herds would suffer from the negative consequences of inbreeding, such as the increased likelihood of certain heredity diseases becoming commonplace in future offspring as a result.

To protect their beloved breed from dying out, The Eriskay Pony Society battled hard and eventually won funds from the Horserace Betting Levy

Board to partner with genetics experts at Nottingham Trent University and the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, with the hope that the research undertaken will help bolster breeding programmes.

DNA samples from Eriskay ponies across the country will be sent to labs at Nottingham Trent University for analysis. There, scientists will use cutting-edge genome technology to sequence the DNA of each pony involved in the study, using the results to inform future breeding practices and to unlock previously inaccessible insights into the Eriskay ponies' genetic coding, going far beyond what standard breed analysis systems currently used could find.

Dr Samuel White, one of the scientists involved in the project, told The Post how the technology worked. He said: "Being able to use genotyping and sequencing can provide the molecular picture of the genetic health of the breed. What we are looking to do initially is to get an assessment about the diversity of the population as it exists right now. From there, we can look at the results

and propose breed management tools based on the genotyping conducted within the study."

The project is further helped by Nottingham Trent's use of the revolutionary Oxford Nanopore Sequencing technology. Traditionally, DNA sequencing has been painstakingly time-consuming work, but this method allows for much quicker, and much more accurate, results.

White said: "It uses a next-generation sequencing approach. We can perform whole genome sequencing, whereas classically, you would be sequencing one DNA strand at a time. This technology uses nanopores, and over a platform we would have over 100 nanopores, and each one of them of



Mary MacGillivray and one of her Eriskay ponies.

Continued on page 17



FLYING HERALDRY



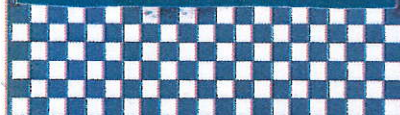
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Thomas Freeman,

JSA Scot

trf@cockspurherald.com

706-839-3881



Eriskay ponies, *continued from page 15*

those will be simultaneously sequencing the DNA. It's a lot quicker, and we can actually sequence longer fragments of DNA at a time, then, when we build the genome and get things in the correct order, the results can be much more reliable."

While their legacy has been neglected for the last few hundred years, Eriskay ponies will now benefit from the very best science has to offer to preserve their future. McGillivray is excited about this innovative new push. She said: "I think it's excellent. We didn't have these facilities before and there was no way of testing DNA like this in the early days. All these new advances in science are absolutely wonderful. We will both find out so much more about the ponies. Eventually we'll find out if there are any deleterious traits – hopefully



not too many – but if there are, new possibilities for helping the breed are possible once the DNA testing is complete."

The goal of the DNA project is not just to save the breed, but also to promote it. Despite their place in Scottish history, the National Pony Society still does not recognise the Eriskay pony as a native breed, making it difficult for breeders to show their ponies at events like The Royal Highland Show. This prevents them from getting the word about these special ponies out to potential buyers.

Fiona Misselbrook, an Eriskay breeder based outside of Edinburgh, explains why this is a problem for the ponies. She said: "We have to be recognised by the National Pony Society to enter



showing classes, but they won't accept us as a native breed which puts us at a great disadvantage."

Misselbrook, whose latest foal was born only last Monday on June 6, remembers a time last year when a mare she had rescued was pregnant with her first foal.

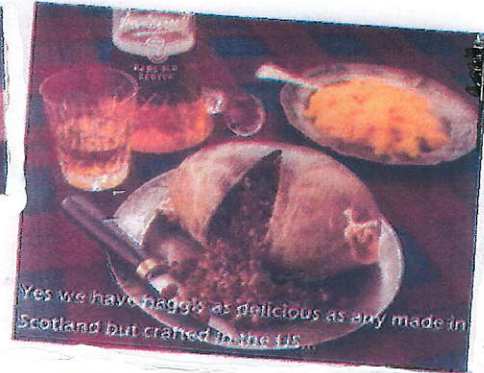
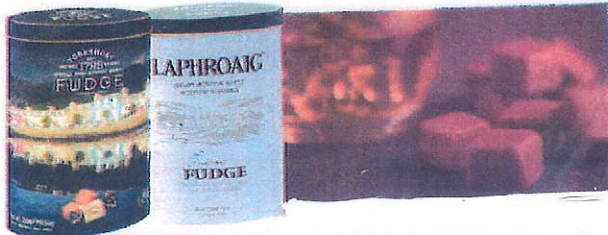
"She had a bit of a troubled past, and I was worried about how I was going to bond with the new foal if her mother was apprehensive and protective. So, I just sat in the field with her, and actually she was just so chuffed, and wanted to show her new foal off.

"They can be strong minded sometimes, but they really are fantastic, remarkable, and lovely animals."



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Our house, our ruffle and our farm

I talk about it so much, I thought you all might enjoy seeing it even though to get it all in one photo took some magic - although I'm not so good at that.

The ruffle is across the front and is green things and a few flowers - although there are many which are not blooming yet. There's not but an inch or two of soil there so most everything is in pots. If it comes up as a "volunteer" and is green and fluffy and healthy-looking, I love it and keep it..

On the right side of the house, you'll see two tables of 10 GrowPots each. Between the two tables is the sidewalk which is how Tom gets downstairs to our rather huge bedroom and back upstairs.

There are also 8 former holders of kitty litter containing Piper's (the donkey) very own watermelon plant and seven pots of sweet potatoes. Other things growing are yellow squash, zucchini, tomatoes, eggplant, cucumbers, carrots, beans, okra, and shallots. This farm is easy to care for...well, except when it is hot and you have to keep the water reservoirs filled. I'm out here at daybreak every morning with the water hose, hopefully before it gets too hot.

We have eight acres in the woods. Piper has one of those acres for hers and most of the rest is in wild things. It only takes me about half an hour

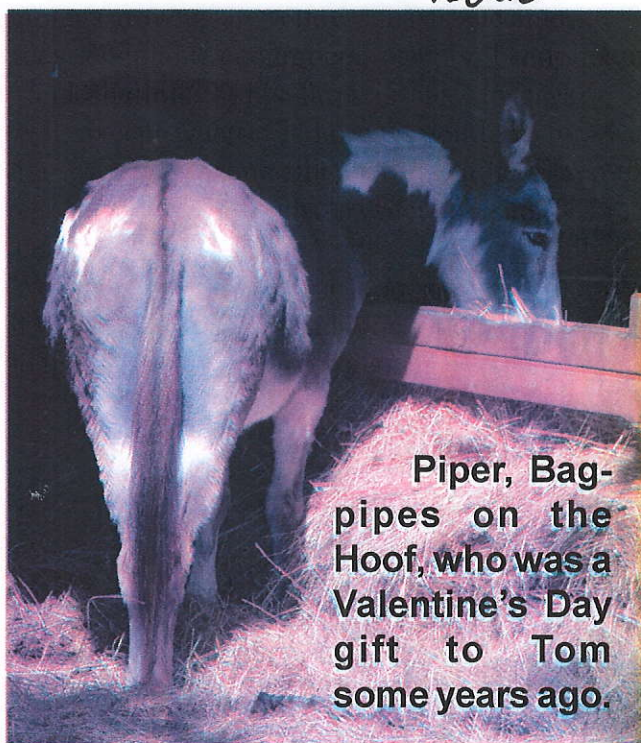
to mow the yard part on the riding mower, so most are in the woods.

Wild critters who live here with us include all the little things - possums, raccoons, plus wild hogs, bears, all manner of hawks and owls, and the fat-test squirrels in the world, I bet.

Our parking pad has surely been great for the last 14 months as Tom has been in bed, ordered by his doctor, with a pressure ulcer, and has had to travel via ambulance. He is nearing the end of all this as his wound is healing very well.

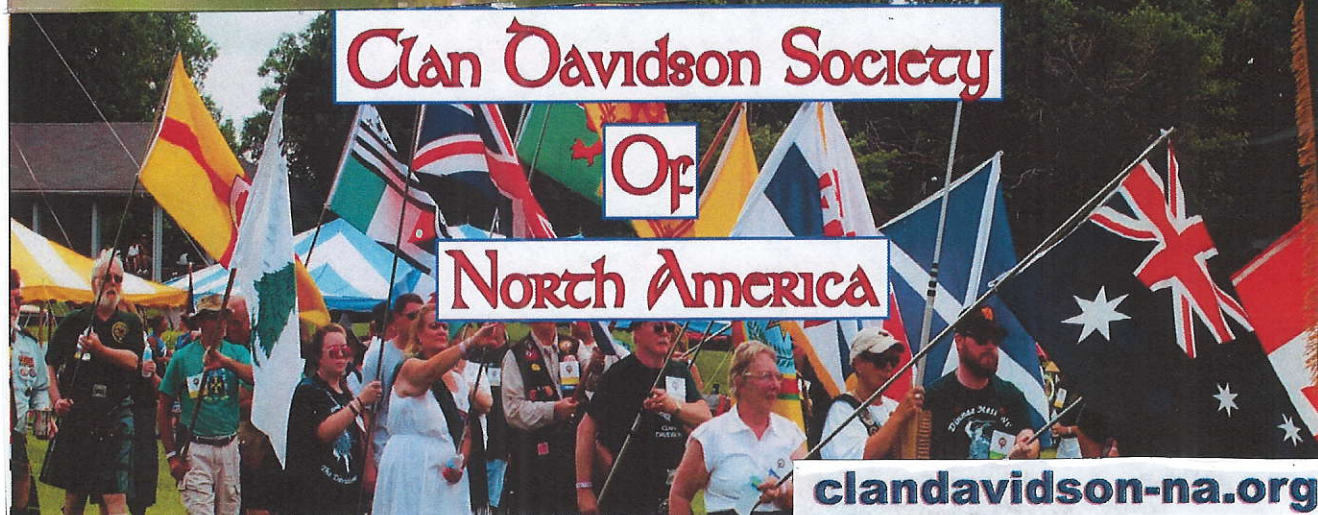
We've lived here - and that actually is in Hollywood, Georgia, although our address is Clarkesville - since 2012 and Tom named our little place "Mo Leannon." That is Gaelic for "My Beloved," which is ME! Whee. *Beth*

It's not my age that bothers me; it's the side effects.



Piper, Bagpipes on the Hoof, who was a Valentine's Day gift to Tom some years ago.

Clan Davidson Society of North America



Is your name listed here? If so, then you may be interested in membership in the **Clan Davidson Society of North America**.

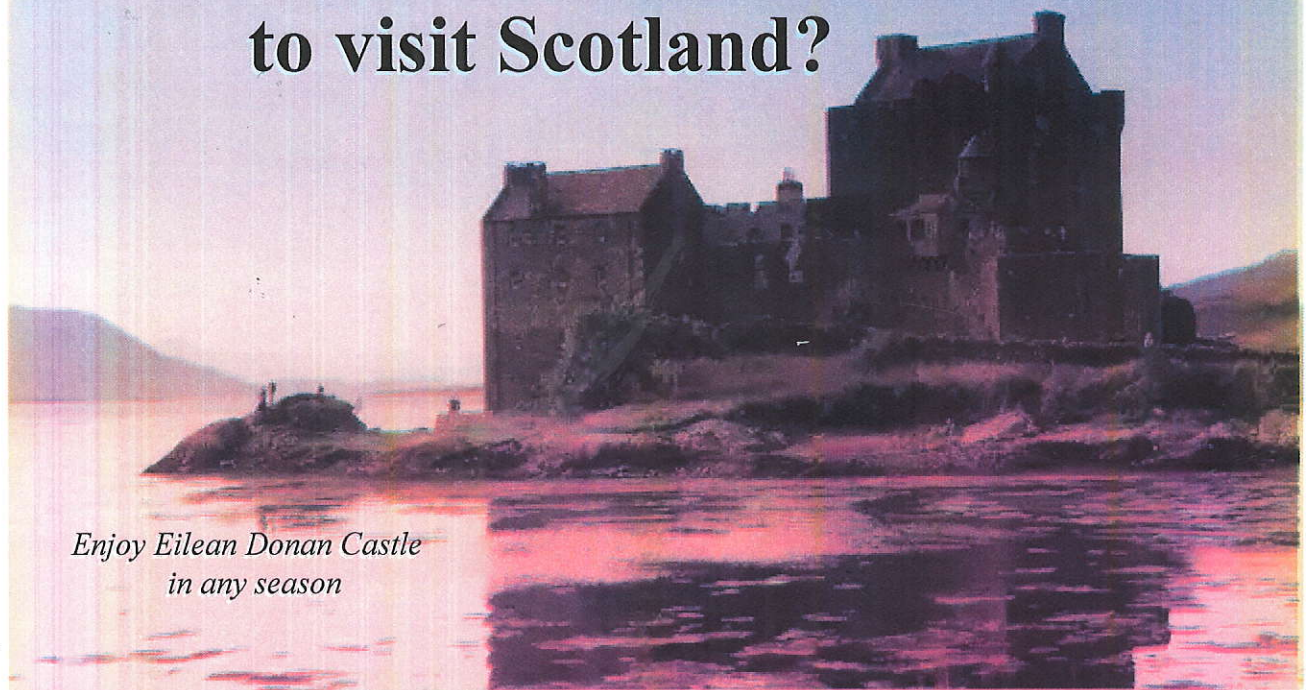
Davey	Davisson	Dea	Dee	Dhai	Key	MacDade	MacDavid
Davie	Davy	Dean	Desson	Dow	Keys	MacDagnie	MacDavitt
Davidson	Daw	Deane	Devette	Dye	Key	MacDagny	MacDhai
Davis	Dawson	Deas	Dewis	Dyson	Keys	MacDaid	MacKay
Davison	Day	Deason	Dey	Kay	MacAdie	MacDavett	McKeddie

The Clan Davidson Society of North America is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit corporation recognized by the US IRS as a 501 c(3) Educational and Charitable organization. We are dedicated to the preservation of our rich Scottish and Clan Heritage. CDS-NorAm publishes an award-winning, electronic, full color newsmagazine of 40-60 pages twice a year, packed with informative articles and photos of interest both to Davidson Clansmen as well as anyone interested in the history and culture of Scotland.

The Society's on-Staff Genealogist is the Founder of the Davidson/Davison DNA Project and is available at no charge to assist the membership with their own genealogical excavations.

For more information, check out our website at <clandavidson.org> or contact the Society's Membership Registrar at <sennachie@earthlink.net>.

When is the best time of year to visit Scotland?



*Enjoy Eilean Donan Castle
in any season*

history
SCOTLAND

What is the best season to plan a trip to Scotland? Our travel guide takes you through the four seasons, looking at the pros and cons of each - and celebrating the best of spring, summer, autumn and winter in Scotland.

Spring in Scotland

From March to June, the temperatures in Scotland are rising and the daylight hours getting longer. If you prefer to explore without the crowds, spring is a great time to come to Scotland. Most visitor attractions that close for winter reopen in March or April but visitor numbers are usually lower than in summer.

Spring flowers are in bloom and there are several festivals celebrating the new season and Easter, including the Scottish Snowdrop Festival. Now is a good time to take a ferry trip to one of Scotland's many islands and you could also plan a trip to a castle - see our springtime castles guide.

Summer in Scotland

Summer usually sees the best of Scottish weather with sunshine (and maybe some showers) and the highest temperatures of the year in July and August. This is the height of the visitor season, giving you the pick of festivals, living history events, tours, clan gatherings and Highland Games. Top of the bill for many visitors is the Edinburgh Festival and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. For inspiration, see our Ultimate Edinburgh history & travel guide.

Autumn in Scotland

Celebrate the season by enjoying autumn in Scotland - the crowds have got smaller, visitor attractions are still open and the cooler weather makes exploring a pleasure. See autumn colours and look out for seasonal events including the Speyside Whisky Festival and the Doors Open

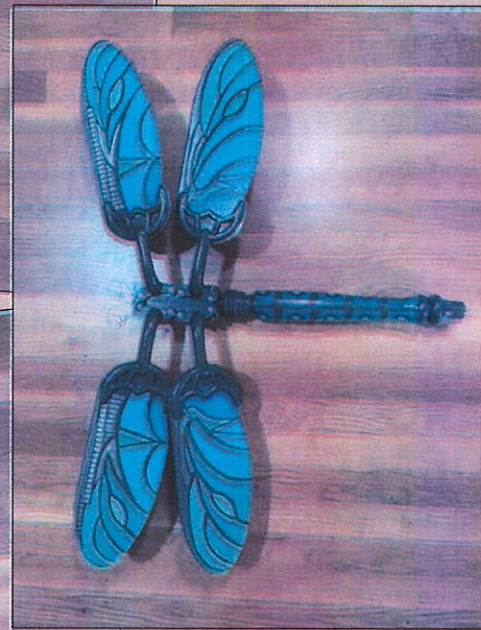
Continued on page 23

For artwork with a quirky sense of humor... Call Keets

Currently offering Dragonflies in two sizes 49 5/8 x 30 inches and 32 1/2 x 29 1/2 inches acrylic on fan blades and repurposed table leg. Purchase Dragonflies or commission your inspirational dragonfly in the artwork and colors that are meaningful to you. Background may vary by commission; showing here Plum Brown, Chocolate Brown, and Black.

The amazing dragonfly can hover and pivot in place as well as fly forward, backward, sideways, and upside-down. It symbolizes the transformational powers of imagination and adaptability. They remind us to "seize opportunity and live life to the fullest."

One of a kind artwork. Interior or sheltered installation recommended.



In response to a commission request to develop a smaller dragonfly for smaller apartment living ... voila ... at 2/3 the size, we have this sweet little 32 1/2 x 29 1/2 inch cutie.

Clan Stewart was in Decatur, Texas, for the Texas Scottish Festival and Highland Games

Dan Stuart

We had a five hour drive with our trailer to the Friday set-up in Mid-afternoon with great wether. It was warm with a little bit of a breeze and intermittent 10-15 mph gusts.

We had two new 10 x 10 undercover tents with a different sidewall mounting system that had to be figured out. It took a few hours to complete, with the help of Rayanna Meyer. It was Saturday morning ready with just a few touch-ups that morning.

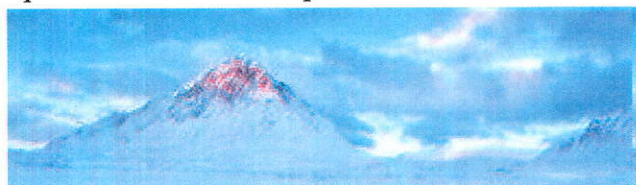
Saturday, the festal began at 9 AM with an immediate flow of visitors at the gate. Again, no coffee was to be found anywhere!

We had lots of traffic all through the day with many Clan Stewart Society of America visitors and the majority of our new members signing up on

When is the best time to visit Scotland?

Continued from page 21

Days Festival, when attractions around Scotland open their doors to the public.



Some might find winter cold and dark but here in Scotland there's still plenty to enjoy - it's just about looking for things to see and do that either allow you to revel in the colder weather... or cosy up indoors. There will be some real travel bargains to have in the weeks before Christmas and New Year (when prices go up) and you can enjoy winter festivals, Christmas fairs, skiing & snowboarding or toast yourself in front of a roaring fire in your cosy holiday cottage.

New to the visitor scene is the Cairngorms Snow Roads route, offering 90 miles of adventure.



Saturday.

We were located in viewing range of the athletic field events with no shade and about a 10 mph breeze flowing through to keep the nearly 90 degree temperature bearable.

We bootlegged some electricity and had a battery operated fan and a larger 110 volt fan.

Opening ceremonies for Clan Stewart consisted of Max and Stephanie Barney, Pauline Dusek (95) and her daughter-in-law who powered the wheelchair and me in the parade while Fred Stewart (former CSSA president) manned the tent.

The Stewart tent always has ample "spirits" on hand to toast new members or old friends.

Clan Fraser had offered up their own Scotch Blend for sale at the games at a very reasonable price.

The vendors were very busy most of the day with the food vendors swamped during lunchtime.

Shannon Brewing Company was the adult beverage sponsor and seller.

Music vendors ran until 9:30 PM on Friday night and 10:30 PM Saturday.

Athletics ended about 8 PM on Saturday. Elissa Van Vleck, CSSA sponsored female athlete, was competing in the field and was doing so very well as usual.

Sunday started at 10 AM, but because of the heat and that it was Mother's Day, there was low traffic coming through Clan Village and the athletics only saw a small audience.

We had 17 new memberships, sold 10 CSSA shirts and 5 posters over the weekend.

See you there next year!

**Are you an Arthur, Carter,
MacArthur, McArthur or similar
name? If so, you can become a member
of the Clan Arthur Association!**



Clan Arthur is worldwide with branches in UK, USA, Canada & Australia. Our leader is **Chief John MacArthur of that ilk.**

We welcome new members who are of "Arthur" decent or those interested in our clan who are prepared to be loyal to our Chief. Membership includes a quarterly magazine which is full of stories about the Clan around the world, articles on current events, ancestry & history. Members also receive ongoing newsletters & updates on local happenings within their community.

For information and how to join, see our website: [<https://clanarthur.org/>](https://clanarthur.org/)

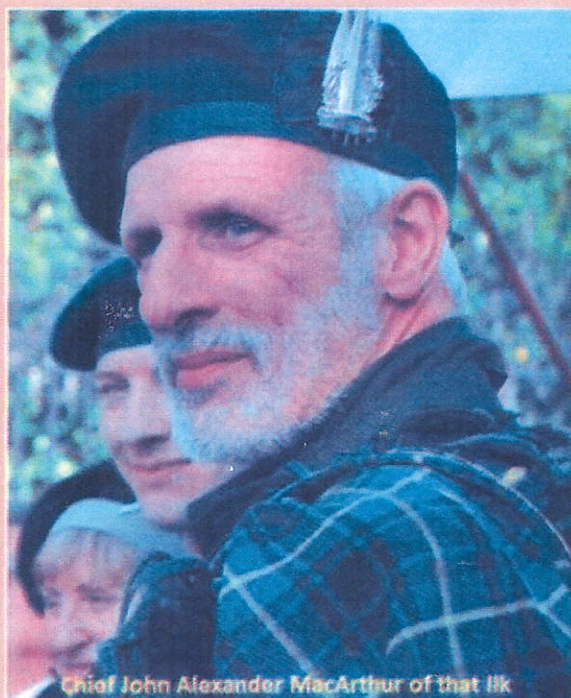
Contacts:

UK: Chief John & Lorraine MacArthur arthurofthatilk@btinternet.com

USA: Joann Helmich causamembership@gmail.com

Canada: Lloyd K. McArthur mcartld@shaw.ca

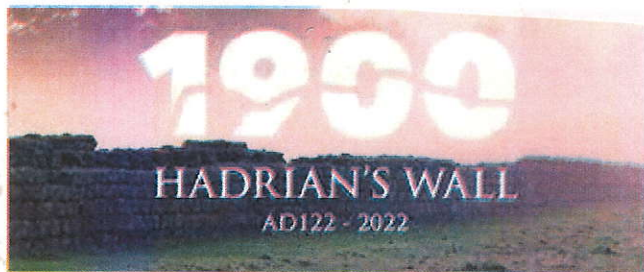
Australia/NZ: Carol MacArthur Budlong carolmcarthur18@gmail.com



Chief John Alexander MacArthur of that ilk

Hadrian's Wall

1900 Year Celebration



At the height of the Roman Empire, when it had been extended all the way to north Britain, Emperor Hadrian oversaw the building of a stone wall, running the entire width of the island, about 70 miles. Its purpose was to keep the barbarians (Picts and Scotia tribes) in the north, away from the civilized Roman territories in the south. There were forts spaced periodically along the wall, and watch towers, known as Milecastles, essentially every mile, to maintain line-of-sight security along its entire length. This became known as Hadrian's Wall, and some of it still exists today, roughly along the border between England and Scotland. When it was fully intact, it must have looked a lot like the Great Wall of China, ranging between seven and nine feet thick, and about ten feet tall.



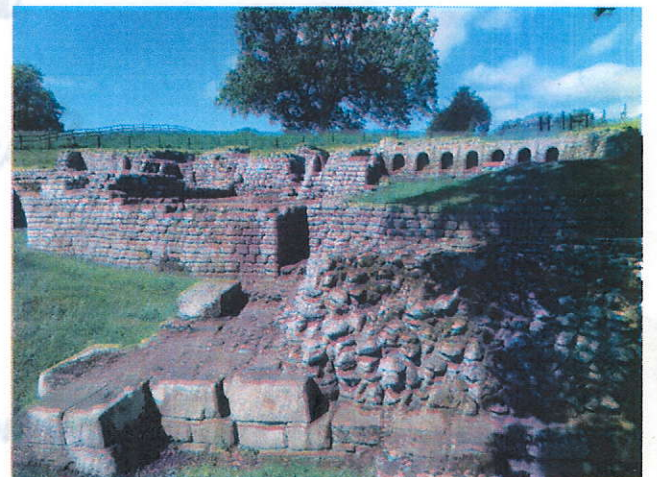
This year is the 1900th anniversary of the building of Hadrian's Wall. So, when we had to make a trip south to Durham we allocated a day to stop and explore some of the ruins. Specifically, we stopped at Chesters Roman Fort. The first photo is of the foundations remaining at one of the gates to the fort. I took this picture specifically because of the clear view of the water channel. These ran throughout the fort ruins. The next photo is of the foundations of the barracks. The soldiers slept in one row of buildings and their horses were stabled in the adjacent row. The third photo is of the bath house, which was outside the walls of the fort, down by the riverside. Bathing was a particularly popular activity during free time. There

were ovens underground, so that both a steam sauna and warm bathing water were available.



Dr. PETE HYLTON, ED.D.

Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy
Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology
Fellow of the Antiquaries of Scotland
Fullbright Scholar



In the museum adjacent to the ruins of the fort, a number of items uncovered during the excavation are on display. In the first photo you see two altars. The one on the left is to the Fortuna who was the goddess of good fortune. It was found in the bath house, where the soldiers would have spent free time gambling,

Continued on page 27

Clan *Blair* Society

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



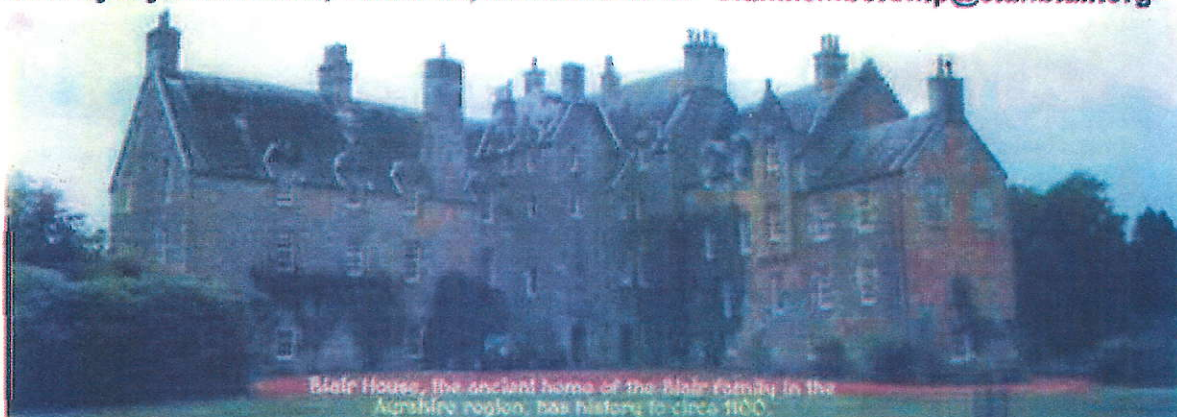
www.clanblair.org

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

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

Membership Chairman,
Charles Diman

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



Clan Blair



Hadrian's Wall 1900 Year Celebration, *Continued from page 25*

rolling dice, etc. So good luck was desirable. The one on the right is to Minerva, a goddess associated with the supernatural.



The next photo is an archway from one of the buildings. It is dedicated to the god Mars.



Not everything uncovered during the excavation was large. This photo is of a very detailed small metal dog statue. Finding something like this must be hugely exciting when engaged in an excavation. I plan to participate in one later this summer, and hope I uncover something cool.



The Roman Soldiers worshipped many gods. The ones mentioned above you may recognize as traditional Roman gods and goddesses. However, a few miles away from the fort, was a completely separate structure, a temple to the god Mithras. Mithras was worshipped by soldiers coming from the eastern end of

the Roman Empire, in what would now be the Slavic nations. The altars have been left in the ruins



The Mithras mythology claimed that the god had wrestled with a mighty bull inside a cave.

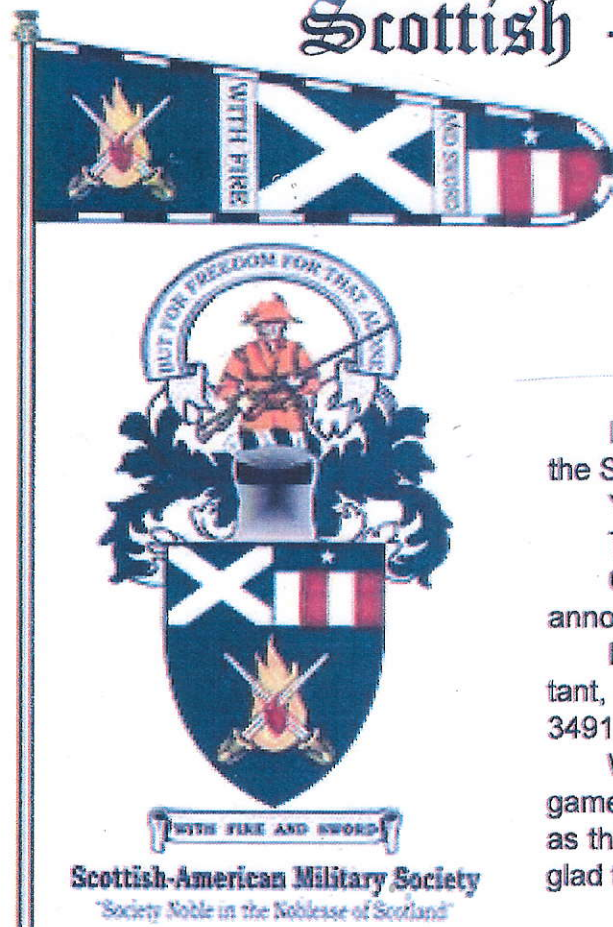


So, the temple would have been constructed to resemble a cave inside, and kept dark during ceremonies, lit only by small torches. Participants in the ritual moved up through progressive levels, similar to

Continued on page 29

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/>>

Hadrian's Wall 1900 Year Celebration, *Continued from page 27*

the levels that Freemasons move through in their journey.

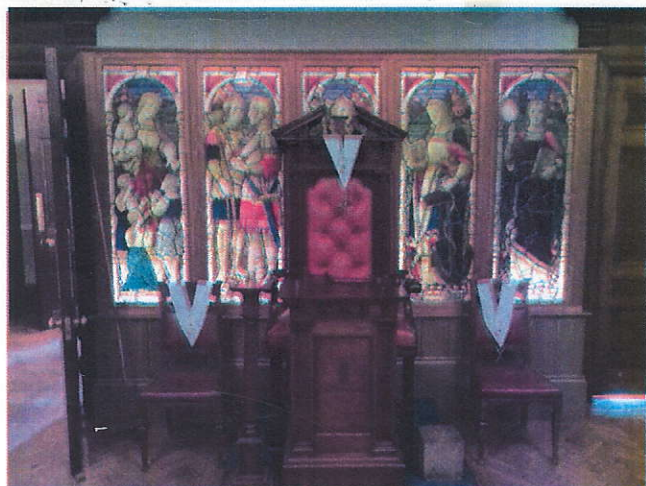
Our trip to Durham was for the annual European Masonic Association spring meeting. We met in this iconic Victorian era hotel.



We had a group visit to the Beamish Historic Park. Beamish has various villages from the 1820s to the 1950s. The most interesting thing for me, personally, was this Masonic Hall. It was originally located on the Hylton estates in nearby Sutherland, before being moved to Beamish. I had previously visited the ruins of my family's historic castle, now I got to explore this hall from my ancestral heritage.



The next photos are taken inside.



Other features at Beamish included this chemist's shop (pharmacy).



There was an interesting motorcar repair shop, shown in the next photo.



Continued on page 31

The Clan Macneil Association of America

If you are a Macneil or any of the following "Sept Names" then you have found the clan you have been searching for.



"O'n D'thainig thu."

Remember the men from whom you have come.

The Clan Macneil President: Kenneth McNeil,
3920 N. St. Joseph Ave., Evansville, IN 47720-1203
<mckennypam.1203@hotmail.com>

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| * Macneil | * Mcniel | * Niell | * McGougan |
| * MacNeil | * McNiel | * O'Neal | * McGrail |
| * Macniel | * Mcneill | * O'Neil | * McGraill |
| * MacNiel | * McNeill | * O'Niel | * Mcgrail |
| * Macneill | * Mcneal | * O'Neill | * Mcgrail |
| * MacNeill | * McNeale | * Oneil | * McGugan |
| * MacNeillie | * McNeilage | * Oneill | * Macgugan |
| * Macneal | * Mcneilage | * Nelson | * McGuigan |
| * MacNeal | * McNelly | * Neilson | ...and |
| * Macneale | * McNelly | * Nielson | * Mcguigan |
| * MacNeilage | * McNeally | * MacGougan | |
| * Macneilage | * Mcneally | * Macgougan | |
| * MacNelly | * Neil | * Macgrail | |
| * Macnelly | * Neal | * MacGugan | |
| * MacNeally | * Neall | * Macgugan | |
| * Macneally | * Neale | * MacGuigan | |
| * Mcneil | * Neill | * Macguigan | |
| * McNeil | * Niel | * McGougan | |



Hadrian's Wall 1900 Year Celebration, *Continued from page 29*



There were many interesting street scenes and also period transportation for those who did not want to walk.



This final photo from Beamish shows a thatched roof house and a small church from the 1820s village.



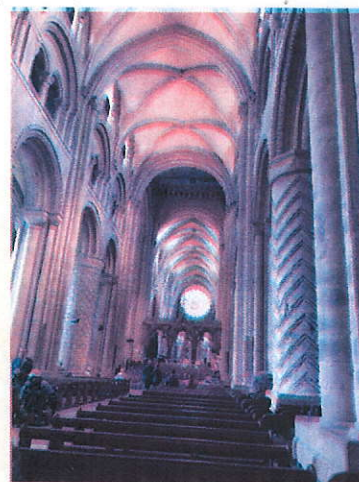
We also took a group trip to Durham Cathedral (actually the Cathedral Church of Christ, Blessed Mary the Virgin and St Cuthbert of Durham), one of the best maintained Norman cathedrals from the 11th century.



The door at one entrance to the cathedral carries this knocker. In the middle ages, people who had committed a "great offence" could use the knocker and be admitted and granted sanctuary for 37 days, during which they had to decide between trial or voluntary exile.



Inside, the arches of the cathedral are quite impressive.



While impressive, the walls of the cathedral are much of one single color: gray. However, when built it would have been colorfully painted, as can be seen in a few places where restoration has uncovered colors under layers of plaster, as shown in the next photos.

Continued on page 33

WOULD YOU LIKE FOR YOUR OWN CLAN TO BE FEATURED IN THIS PUBLICATION?

It's easy. It's possible. It's FREE.

Just send news of what your clan is doing.
New projects or honors bestowed upon members are
perfect items to send to <bethscribble@aol.com>.
Send anything interesting and it will appear in these
pages, along with how to join your clan.



Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

Founded 1965

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enrichment of Scottish traditions, history and culture. We foster strong ties with the people and places of Scotland.

Membership Benefits

- ✓ You enable support for scholarships in piping, drumming and Highland dance
- ✓ You provide grants for historical treasures owned by the National Trust for Scotland
- ✓ You receive a subscription to "Scotland" magazine (6 issues)
- ✓ You receive a subscription to the National Trust for Scotland magazine (3 issues)
- ✓ You receive 10 Scottish Heritage USA e-newsletters
- ✓ You gain FREE admission * to all (over 70) National Trust for Scotland Properties **

* Including a reciprocal membership to the National Trust for Scotland USA and FREE admission to National Trust sites in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

** AND FREE admission to sites owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation USA

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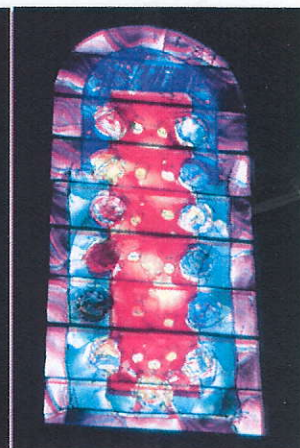
PO Box 457, Pinehurst NC 28370-0457 * shusa457@gmail.com *

www.scottishheritageusa.org * 9102954438

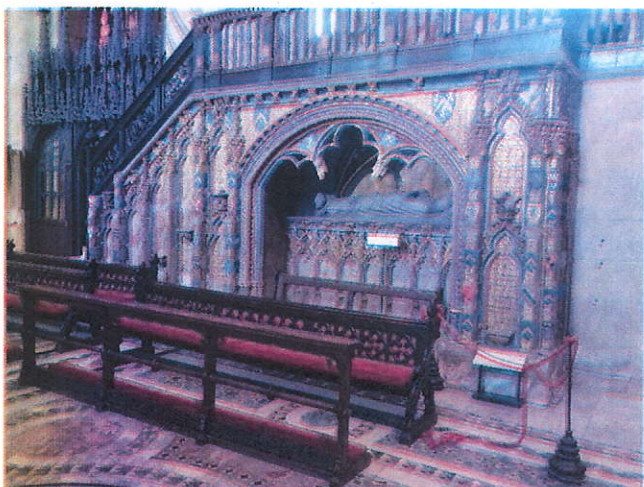




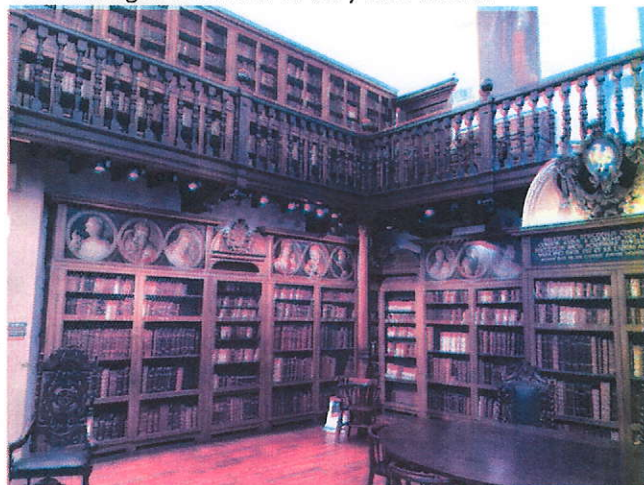
Next are photos of two pulpits. The gold one is the pelican pulpit, created to represent the story of pelicans opening their own flesh to release blood to feed their young. This, of course, is used to represent the sacrifice of Christ. Following that is a photo of the royal box.



A final interesting photo from Durham is of the castle library. It is full of many very old and unique books. The most prized, is a first folio of Shakespeare. But looking through the protective screens, you can see an amazing assortment of very rare books.



The stained glass windows of the cathedral are quite interesting, because they come from many different eras. The first photo shows (left) an original window from the Norman era. The one to the right is from a couple of centuries later. The next two were created in the 20th century, so have a much more modern look.



On our way back home to the far north, we encountered a typical Caithness traffic jam, on one of the main roads into Thurso.

Continued on page 35

The Scottish Tartans Museum and Heritage Center, Inc.

86 East Main Street Franklin, North Carolina, 28734

825-524-7472

www.scottishtartansmuseum.org

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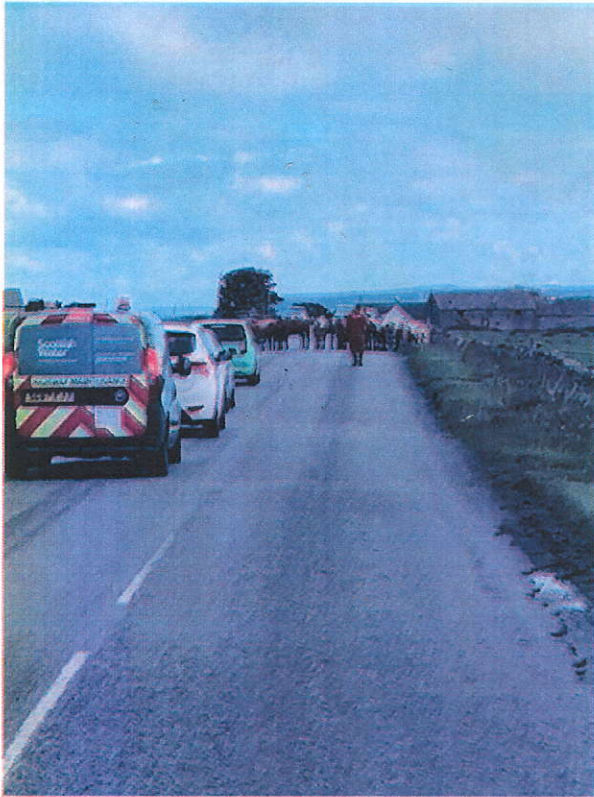
\$2.00 plus tax
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Museum in the U.S."*





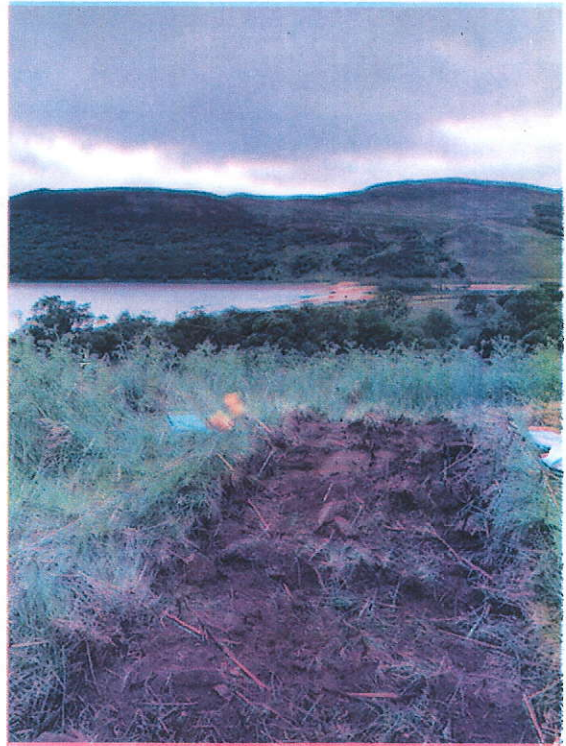
I said earlier that I was going to participate in an archeological dig. It was an excavation of a former longhouse at Greeanan, in the Strathbrora – the valley of the River Brora, west of the village of Brora, in Sutherland, just south of Caithness.

Amongst the inhabitants of the building was a minister of the parish of Clyne, from 1776 to his death in 1825. He supposedly took a rented plot of land at Greeanan, and spent summer months there, preaching to the local population being a gentleman farmer. He was also notoriously rumored to have stored smuggled spirits in his church. Later inhabitants at Greeanan were newlyweds 79-year-old John Mathieson and his 27-year-old bride Isabella Baillie.

Following are a 200 year old photo of the site, and photos of the dig while I was participating.



This was the trench I worked most of the time. With a lovely view of the River Brora.



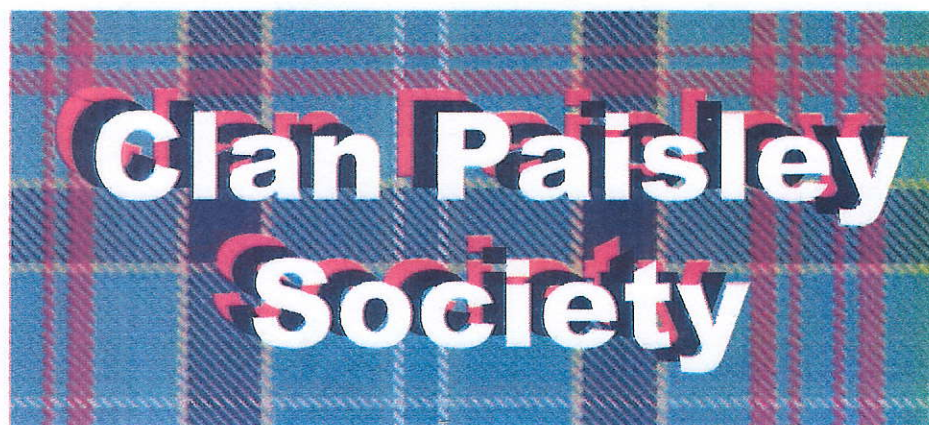
I uncovered the threshold for the front door of the croft. The decorative tiles would have been quite ostentatious for a croft house of that era, so indicate that the Reverend was at the upper end of the social ladder of the time.....or perhaps that hiding whisky was a profitable sideline.



Continued on page 37



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

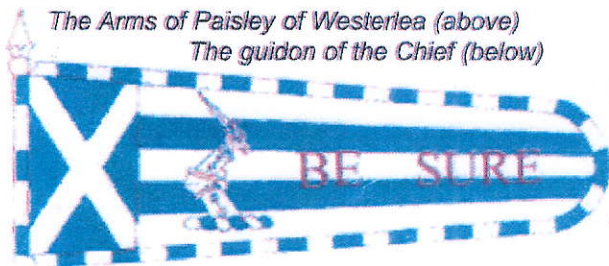


All Paisleys of the name or blood (and all spellings)
are invited to join. Email: <dlangsto@yahoo.com>

Paisley Family Society USA
Branch, FaceBook account
can be found at [https://
www.facebook.com/Paisley-
Family-Society-USA-branch-
195070730565352/](https://www.facebook.com/Paisley-Family-Society-USA-branch-195070730565352/)



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



Paisley Family Association
of North Carolina

president: **Don Paisley**

Email: paisley47@aol.com

Celebrating

50 years of fellowship



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

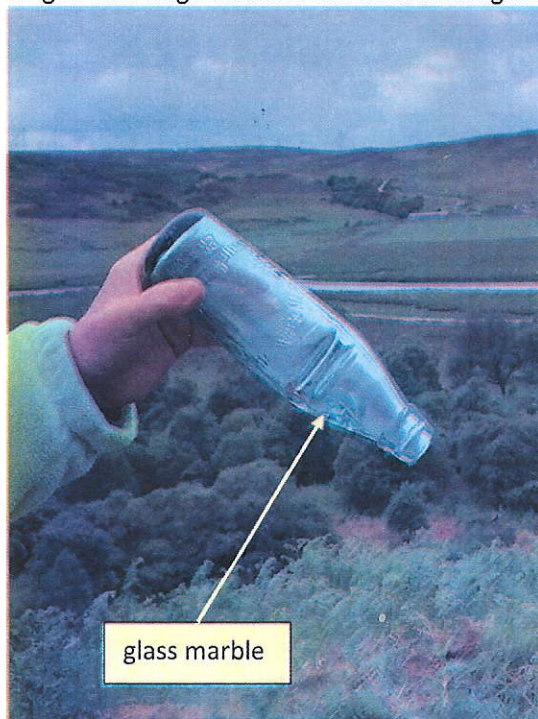
For the Paisley DNA Project, visit
<dlangsto@yahoo.com>

Check out the
Clan Paisley Society webpage at
<www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk>
to see what's happening with us this
year. Contact Diane Langston at
<dlangsto@yahoo.com>

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

Hadrian's Wall 1900 Year Celebration, *Continued from page 35*

Another interesting find was the remains of a Codd bottle. I had never heard of these ingenious self-sealing bottles from the 1870s. A glass marble inside the bottle was pushed to the top by the effervescence of the fizzy drink, and formed a seal that kept the liquid inside until such time as the marble was pushed down and lodged on a ridge cast into the neck of the glass.



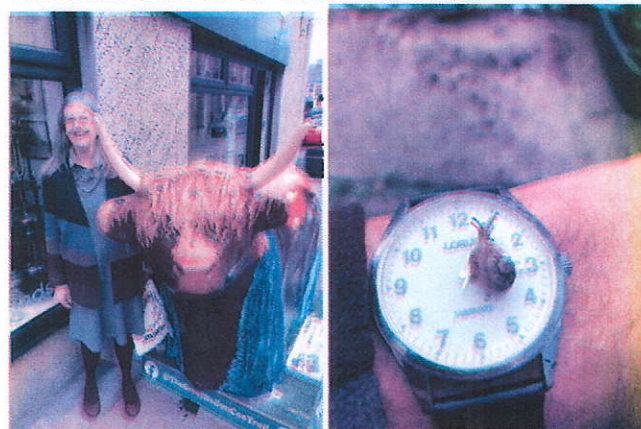
We also uncovered a nest of slow worms in the trench. These wee beasties are not considered snakes, but rather legless lizards. Don't ask me what the difference is.




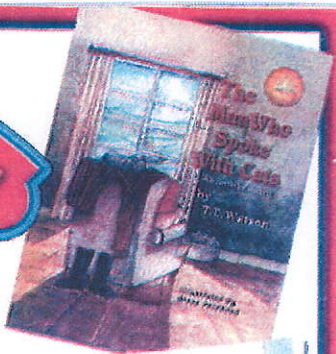
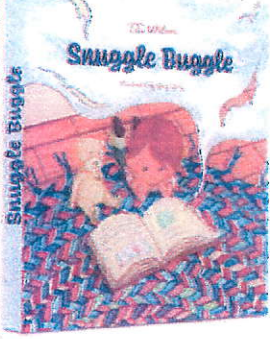

Our last bit of news is that we are now dual citizens of both the USA and UK. Here is a photo of us being congratulated and presented with our citizenship papers by the Lord Lieutenant of Caithness, Viscount Lord Thurso.



Naturally we celebrated with a night on the town with some of our Caithness friends.



"Did not strong connections draw me elsewhere, I believe Scotland would be the country I would choose to end my days in." Benjamin Franklin

Author
T.E. WATSON

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