

Vol. XI No. 10 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A March 2018

Rob Bell wins awards while keeping an ancient skill alive

Hedgelaying is the centuries old traditional craft of creating and maintaining the hedges that are considered a natural feature of the countryside in England, Ireland and Scotland.

Hedges improve the quality of rural life by providing effective boundaries which provide wildlife habitat as well.

Hedgerows can only survive in the long term with correct management. Rob Bell is doing his part to keep alive the traditions of hedgelaying.

Rob is a hedgelaying expert who is also a fence contractor. Based in the Lake District near the town of Kendal in the United Kingdom, Rob learned hedgelaying by taking a course offered by the Young Farmers Club, one of the largest rural youth organizations in the United Kingdom.

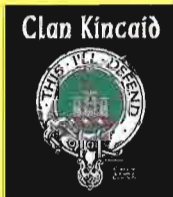
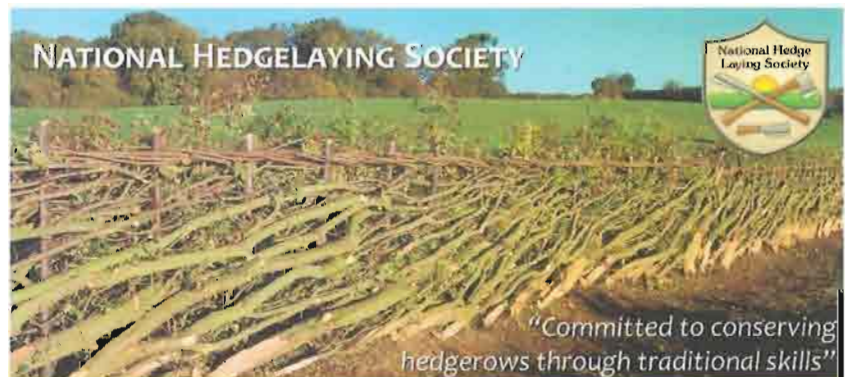
He started competing in hedgelaying competitions and came in third in the first contest he entered. Two years later, he was winning consistently, earning every

award except the Supreme Championship at the National Championship.

Last October, as part of a team of volunteer hedgelaying experts from all over the UK, Rob demonstrated his Lancashire and Westmoreland style receiving awards at the National Hedgelaying Championship held in Stourhead, England.

The participants in the competition used their skills to maintain and renovate a hedge on the Stourhead House estate. Rob received first prize in his class for transforming regrowth from last year's competition and a place on the shield award

Continued on page 31



*The Clan Kincaid Association, International
at the 2017 Royal Military Tattoo in Edinburgh*

Pages 17, 19, 21 of this section of BNFT



A letter from your editor

Be careful! Free is not always the best thing to do...

As most of you know, I do publications for several Scottish clans as well as this one, my own *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree*.

As many of you know, I've been around the Scottish community since before dirt was invented.

So, sometimes I notice things that don't seem quite right...such as "event companies" coming in to "do" Scottish Games, taking the place of Scottish community volunteers; the lack of friendliness at clan tents towards their own existing and new members, clans without newsletters or newsletters which don't come out on schedule, etc.

In the last couple of years, I have noticed that many Scottish Highland Games/Festivals do not have their own websites. Instead, they use the tourist organization in their area.

As I do the clan publications, one of the most common areas in a clan newsletter are reports from the clansmen and clanswomen who have gone and manned a clan tent which tell about who came and what happened.

So, when these folks send in their reports, I merrily embark on finding a games "logo" or design to use with the games article to make the article more interesting and attractive.

In the past couple of weeks, I'll bet I have had to invent graphics for at least half a dozen games or even more.

I wonder if this is a trend that goes along with beer companies offering to do free t-shirts for the games all over the place? The catch is, the beer companies put their own advertising on the back of the t-shirts. No longer do these games have original art done.

Now, I don't know if the beer companies have artists to do an original design for the games, but I really do doubt it. I'm thinking that this might be part of the reason for the lack of the wonderfully

inventive and wonderful Highland Games designs that we have all become accustomed to having along with our Scottish games.

Also, I don't drink beer (My grannie told me where it came from - and as much as I love horses, I don't want to drink beer that resembles something horses create that looks JUST LIKE beer - were it in a bottle or glass.).

There are many folks who do not drink beer and do not wish to wear the beer advertising.

I don't think many parents want their young people to wear t-shirts with beer advertising on the back, either. I'm told they cannot wear shirts with this kind of thing on the back to school.

If you are part of the planning of a Highland event in your own area, please don't be so quick to accept the "free" t-shirts or the "free" listing on your local Tourism Internet page.

Yes, both are less work. Work is NOT a four letter word. Anything worthwhile is worth working for - even if you have to work long and hard. Believe me, I truly know.

Just as when you get a new kilt with the pleats basted in...you now know to pull that thread out before you try to walk in your gorgeous new tartan garment. If you don't...you'll have to take TINY steps and look rather comical. We all have had to learn.

Just as you know now to wear your kilt or kilted skirt with the pleats in the BACK. We all had to learn.

By the way, friend Jim Nethery, from Clan Graham and California has started a great page called, "Post Your Highland Games" on FaceBook. Just visit <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/272634639936224/>>



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If you would like to advertise your business or activity,
please contact us for particulars.

Where Old, Unreadable Documents Go to Be Understood

A transcriber on the Isle of Man can decipher almost anything.

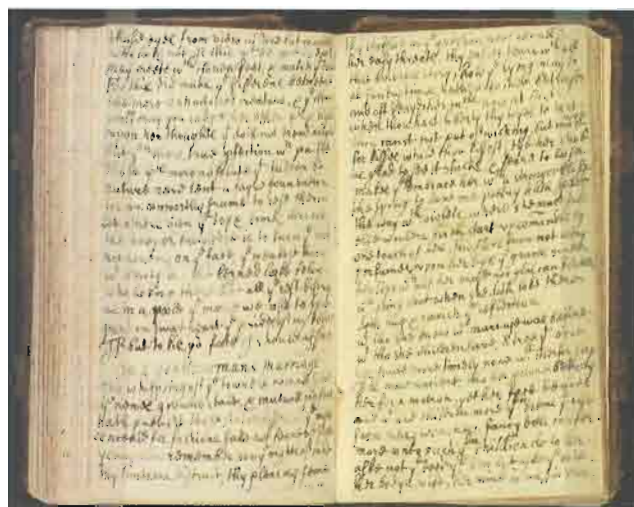
SARAH LASKOW *Atlas Obscura* (Subscribe free! Just go to *Atlas Obscura* on your browser.)

ON ANY GIVEN DAY, FROM her home on the Isle of Man, Linda Watson might be reading a handwritten letter from one Confederate soldier to another, or a list of convicts transported to Australia. Or perhaps she is reading a will, a brief from a long-forgotten legal case, an original Jane Austen manuscript. Whatever is in them, these documents made their way to her because they have one thing in common: They're close to impossible to read.

Watson's company, Transcription Services, has a rare specialty—transcribing historical documents that stump average readers. Once, while talking to a client, she found the perfect way to sum up her skills. “We are good at reading the unreadable,” she said. That’s now the company’s slogan.

For hundreds of years, history was handwritten. The problem is not only that our ancestors’ handwriting was sometimes very bad, but also that they used abbreviations, old conventions, and styles of lettering that have fallen out of use. Understanding them takes both patience and skill. “I see the job as a cross between a crossword puzzle and a jigsaw puzzle,” says Watson.

She fell into this line of work about a decade ago, when a cousin asked for help deciphering a



family will and she discovered that she has a talent for interpreting the strange, scrawling writing of the past. After this success, referrals started coming in, and she realized there is a market for this unusual skill. (The company also offers legal transcription, proofreading, and secretarial services.) Since then she’s had a steady stream of projects from amateur genealogists, grad students struggling with their long-sought primary source material, and

libraries. The British Library had the company transcribe not just Austen’s work, but also manuscripts from the Brontës, William Wordsworth, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, John Donne, and other luminaries.

“You can actually see how they have changed their manuscript—how

Jane Austen changed *Pride and Prejudice* as she’s writing it,” says Watson. “That blows my mind a bit. You see it, and you think—that’s so much better after she’s edited it than before.”

Watson has worked on the handwriting of famous authors, including Jane Austen. This is an 1800 letter from Austen to her sister Cassandra.

Most of the documents that people need to

Continued on page 7



Clan Bell International



This

old West Marche Clan, one of Border clans since the early 1100s, were retainers of the Great House of Douglas and also allied with the best border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive, and to survive, they engaged in the "rieving" of the period and participated in many battles against the English.

Declared "unruly" by the Scottish Parliament, many of the Clan emigrated to the Ulster Plantation after 1610.

After William Bell, called *Redcloak* and Chief of the Clan died in 1628, the chiefship became dormant, and without leadership, the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell International (CBI) in the United States represents Clan Bell world-wide with a coordinated network of 20 International Representatives, each representing the Clan in their own country.

CBI is a charitable organization of Scottish descendants and friends of Family/Clan Bell dedicated to the study of Bell genealogy and Scottish history and the perpetuation of family tradition.

CBI cordially invites membership inquiries from persons Named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. Quarterly newsletter published. Tents hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast.

President

David E. Bell

1513 Anterra Drive

Wake Forest, NC 27587

debellimd@aol.com

Visit our Web site:

clanbell.org

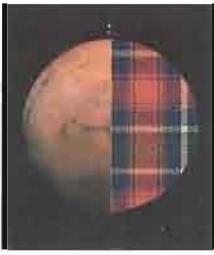
Membership Coordinator

Matthew T. Bell

5911 Braden Run

Bradenton, FL 34202

cbell99999@tampabay.rr.com



Yes, Mars has its own tartan!

Charles Cockell, professor of astrobiology at Edinburgh University, has designed and duly registered a Mars Exploration tartan.

It is red (of course) with four green lines (4th planet from the sun), blue (water rich past) and a thick white line for its polar ice caps.

It is exclusively licensed to Geoffery (Tailor) Highland Crafts of Edinburgh.



Deciphering, *continued from page 5*

understand, though, are wills and legal papers, which have their own pleasures. “The inventories I love,” she says. “It’s like someone comes to the front door and says, come on in to my house and have a look around.” They list featherbeds, high beds, low beds, folding beds, cupboards and chairs, fire irons and spits. One will mentioned a dog spit, which would have involved chains attaching a spit to a wheel turned by a dog. One man listed every book in his library. A woman described each piece of her wardrobe, down to her second-best red flannel petticoat, and specified which great-niece or -nephew should receive each item.

Some of the documents Watson transcribes are written by a trained hand; others are scrawled by people with limited literacy, with handwriting she compares to “a spider walking across the page.” Older scripts—court hand, for instance, which was used by lawyers and clerks beginning in the medieval period (and eventually became stylized into illegibility)—have long, narrow strokes and letters jammed together to save space, making it a challenge to find where one word ends and another begins. Some styles of writing lean heavily on space-saving abbreviations: An extra flourish on a letter “p” can turn it into a “per” or “par,” a “pro” or “pre,” depending on the exact position of the extra line. Other documents rely on phonetic spelling and are impossible to understand without reading aloud. Sometimes a manuscript is damaged, or ink has bled through from one side to the other. In these cases, the clearest portions can act as a decoder for the



rest: An indistinct word might have the same shape as a legible one—a clue to puzzle out what was written all those years ago.

Since she first started specializing in old documents, Watson has expanded beyond things written in English. She now has a stable of collaborators who can tackle manuscripts in Latin, German, Spanish, and more. She can only remember two instances that left her and her colleagues stumped.

One was a Tibetan manuscript, and she couldn’t find anyone who knew the alphabet. The other was in such bad shape that she had to admit defeat.

In the business of reading old documents, Watson has few competitors. There is one transcription company on the other side of the world, in Australia, that offers a similar service. Libraries and archives, when they have a giant batch of handwritten documents to deal with, might recruit volunteers. Even today, when computers have started to excel at reading books, handwritten works escape their understanding. Scholars who study medieval manuscripts have been working on programs that might have a chance of helping with this task, but right now a trained eye is still the best and only way to make real progress.

“Some of the ones I find easier to read, the machine will probably be able to read sooner rather than later,” says Watson. “But anything slightly difficult and ... I’ve seen some documents done by the software, and they just make you laugh. I think I’m safe in my job for a good while yet.”

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	Keay	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.

Flowers of the Forest

Fois Dhut Charaid! "Rest in peace dear friend." And **Jesse Taintor**, October 24, 1943 - February 1, 2018, was a dear and steady friend. Actually every member of the St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee, Florida has been touched by Jesse through our website. He not only started our website many years ago, he even continued to pay the annual fees as his donation.

Eric King, FSA Scot, editor of the *St. Andrew's Cross*, publication of the St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee, Florida wrote, "I owe a personal debt of gratitude to both Jesse and Merry Beth. When the Highland Games were forced to take two years off to pay back debts incurred when the games were rained out, the Taintors were there volunteering at all our fund-raisers thus insuring that our creditors would be paid back."

Eric continued, "When the games were able to continue, the Taintors were on our Board and members of our planning and operations team. Before, during and after the event, Jesse made sure all the trash was taken care of—a role that many PhD faculty members would indeed eschew. Merry Beth, too, took on the job as the Keltic Kids chair. The Taintors were the first to arrive and the last to leave."

Jesse will be missed. His quiet and consistent leadership was a model for us all.



Remembering **Robert William Daigler** (1935 - 2018) aged 83, of North Tonawanda, passed away on 19th January 2018 after a long illness.

Loving husband of Loretta A. (Tromble) Daigler; father of Christine (Timothy) Nelson, Robert (Lynn), Jeffrey (Diane), Gregory (Colleen) and Daniel (Marcie) Daigler, Mary (David) Breier; grandfather of Joseph (Monica), Ashley, Sean, Jeffrey, Ryan, Amanda, Nicholas, Megan, Katie, Madison and Collin; great-grandfather of Hudson and Aniston; brother of Raymond (Mary) and Garry (Marilyn) Daigler and the late James Daigler; son of the late Raymond and Elizabeth Daigler.

Robert was a Korean Conflict Army veteran. He was an Operating Engineer with H.F. Darling Co. and a member with Madonna Council Knights of Columbus, Swormsville and Sweeney Hose V.F.C.

His daughter Christine Nelson, serves as Turnbull Clan Secretary and is one of the Turnbull Clan Association's dedicated tent hosts.

Henry (Hank) Clay Parham, 1940 - 2017, was born in Jacksonville, Florida. At the age of 20, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and started what turned out to be a career in the computer industry.

Continued on page 31



An Cìrean Ceann Cinnidh

Hear Ye, Hear Ye,

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

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

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LALLANS

The Journal o Scots Airts an Letters

Our March letter from George Watt and *The Journal o Scots Airts an Letters*

(I find if I read the Scots out loud, I can pretty well figure out what it says. It really IS great fun!)

We in the Scots Language Society/Scots Leid Associe gotten an order yestreen for twa CDs o Gaelic Poetry.

In mony ways, this shuidnae be surprisin, for thay twa CDs are excellent ensaumples o the genre an shuid be mair widely acclaimed.

Fowk raedin this micht be surprised that we hae ocht in the wey o Gaelic cultur in oor catalogue, bein ae Scot Leid Associe, but nocht cuid be further frae the truth.

It is nae a case o thaim an us as mony fowk wuid hae it believed. Oor associe supports aa aspecs o Scots cultur, even gowf!

The poesy o Derick Thomson (Ruaraidh MacThòmais) is waeoot doot supreme in ony leid o the wurd an in mony respects shows hoo the Gaelic tung haes nae juist survived but haes blossomed ower the lest 50 year syne.

Derick Thomson is a bard o the heichtmaist ability an owersettins o his wark in baith Inglis an Scots express this fac. In his poem *An Tobar*, an aul wumman tells o a waal (well). *Ablo* is the first verse owerset intil *Scots* by Derrick McClure

*Thare a peerie-wee waal in the mids o the
clachan dernit wi girss,
Green sappy girss, theekin it close.*

*I gat wurd o't frae an auld wifie,
but she said "Thare fairns aa ower the roddin
whaur mony a time I gaed wi my cogie,
An the cogie's gizzent forbye."*



*I luik't at her crunkl't face,
an saw the fairns growein
aroun the waal o her een,*

*Dernin 't awa frae seekin, frae
greinin,
an steikin it, steikin it.*

The waal is mair than ae poem anent a wee burnie o watter camin oot o the rocks, it is kin o ae parable anent the loss o baith the cultur – the Gaelic cultur an the Gaelic leid – as weel as the loss o fowk – an especial yung fowk – frae the Heilan communities.

The yung fowk are forced tae lea the laun o thair birth tae fun wark, tae access furdur eiducation, juist tae hae a comfortable life, an the laun an the houses bide toun an deserted.

Anely the aul remain, an thay an the leid an the wey o life is dei'in.

Fit is left is bocht up by incomers faa care nocht for the wey o life, the ideals an cultur o the heilan communities. Thay kep a hous in toun, the menfowk wark in the cetie, thay pit naithin intil the local

Continued on page 13



COCKSPUR HERALDIC SERVICES & GRAPHIC DESIGN

Tom Freeman is a heraldic artist & graphic designer living in Northeast Georgia. He has been working in the Scottish community, both in the US & internationally, since 1999.

Thomas R. Freeman, KK, FSAScot
Mo Leannon
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Clarkesville, GA 30523-4008
706-839-6612
trf@cockspurherald.com



You're invited!

Clan Buchanan AGM at the Pikes Peak Celtic Fest



CBSI (Clan Buchanan Society International) will hold their 2018 AGM at the Pikes Peak Celtic Fest, June 15-17, 2018 at the Veterans Memorial Park in Colorado Springs, Co.

The AGM will be held at the Hotel Elegante, 2886 S. Circle Dr.

For reservations call 844-299-6518. A block of rooms has been set aside for CBSI.

Be sure to mention your CBSI Connection to get the special hotel rate.



Auld Scots, continued from page 11



communitie.

Frae ma ain experience I can tell ye ae wee cutty tale. The kirk fair ilka autumn the guid fowk wuid bring in jams, fruits, bakin an knittin an sic like, haun it ower tae the kirk an aa the siller made gaed intil the kirk funds.

Mony o thay fowk haed little eneuch but tae gie was mair important that tae hae.

Noo the incomers winnae dae that. Thay want tae pey £5.00 for a bourd an sell thair ain stuff an kep the siller, e'en thou thay want for nocht.

The waal is owergrown, an the aul wife's een are begrutten an dowie wi the loss.

Gin ye want tae ken mair anent oor CD catalogue luik up Scotsoun an see for yersels.

Aa the best frae a caul an wintry Scotland.



Riksarkivet

The Swedish National Archives has made an announcement at
<<http://bit.ly/2EliiYU>>
that will please many Swedish
(and Viking) descendants:
Digital collections now free!

Now, all digital collections at the
Swedish National Archives
are free to search and view.

You will find more than 100 million
digitised archival records in the
Digital Research Room.

With thanks to
Dick Eastman's
Online Genealogy
Newsletter.



Carl Peterson writes:
I'm so excited
because my book was
just nominated for the
2018 Readers Choice
Awards contest by
TCK Publishing!

Please vote for it at
<https://www.tckpublishing.com/2018-readers-choice-voting-page/>





CLAN BUCHANAN

SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, INC.

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

<http://www.theclanbuchanan.com/html/contact.html>



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



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

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



Contact Lloyd Gibson, CBSI President, at [<azbuchanan12@gmail.com>](mailto:azbuchanan12@gmail.com)

The Auld Wallace Kirkyard discovered



PLANS are being hatched to create a Friends of the Auld Kirkyard group in a bid to cash in on recent archaeology discoveries.

Earlier this year an archaeological survey uncovered the underground remains of a medieval chapel in Selkirk where it is believed William Wallace was made Guardian of Scotland.

In September enthusiasts gathered in the grounds to witness a re-enactment of the 1297 proclamation.

And a "medieval fayre" was held at the nearby Haining with several Wallace experts providing talks.

Discussions have since taken place with The

Society of William Wallace in Scotland as well as The Society of William Wallace USA over highlighting the connections between Selkirk and the freedom fighter.

Selkirk community councillor Ian King said: "Meetings about how the kirk yard should be interpreted in the future are taking place.

"The creation of a Friends of the Auld Kirkyard seems a logical step."

Last week's community council meeting was told that signs and benches within the Auld Kirkyard had been cleaned.

And the railings and gates were in line to be refurbished and repainted in the coming months.



Davidson clanswoman, Chrislyn Kay, joins the Air Force in San Antonio

As this *BNFT* edition is being readied for the Internet, a young lass has wended her way to the start of her USAF Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Chrislyn Kay is the daughter of Clan Davidson Society - North America Lifetime Member, Don Kay, and niece of Don's twin, Dan Kay, also a Lifetime Member of Clan Davidson Society - North America. Both of these guys are retired career members of the US military, so Chrislyn is following in her family's boot-steps.

Needless to say, we all in Clan Davidson, wish Chrislyn great success as she starts her career in service to our country. **OoooRah!** *With thanks to Dave Chagnon, Clan Davidson editor and sennachie.*

Clan Rattray



Clan Rattray Society

29th Clan Rattray Chief
Lachlann Rattray
Blairgowrie, Scotland

Visit our clan at:
clanrattray.com

Our Motto: "Super sidera votum" which means "My desires extend beyond the stars."
The name "Rattray" is taken from the barony of Rattray in Perthshire, Scotland.

Contact our Canadian Representative:

Carole Rattray Nickels
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Septs: Brewlands, Dalrulzion, Drimmie, Lude, Persie, Rannagulzion.



The Clan Kincaid Association, International

at the 2017 Royal Military Tattoo in Edinburgh



These photos are compliments of
Ian Georgeson Photography, Edinburgh.

To see all the photos of The Clan Kincaid Association, International, visit
<http://www.iangeorgesonphotography.co.uk/>



Glencoe School of Scottish Highland Dance

770-934-3016

glencoehighlanddancing@yahoo.com



Mary Wilson Recknagel

**- BATD Fellow Highland & Scottish Nationals -
SOBHD Adjudicator**



The Clan Kincaid Association, International

at the 2017 Royal Military Tattoo in Edinburgh



These photos are compliments of
Ian Georgeson Photography, Edinburgh.

To see all the photos of The Clan Kincaid Association, International, visit

<http://www.iangeorgesonphotography.co.uk/>

After ten years work! **The Third Edition**
of *Scottish Clan and Family Encyclopaedia*
by George Way of Plean and Romilly Squire



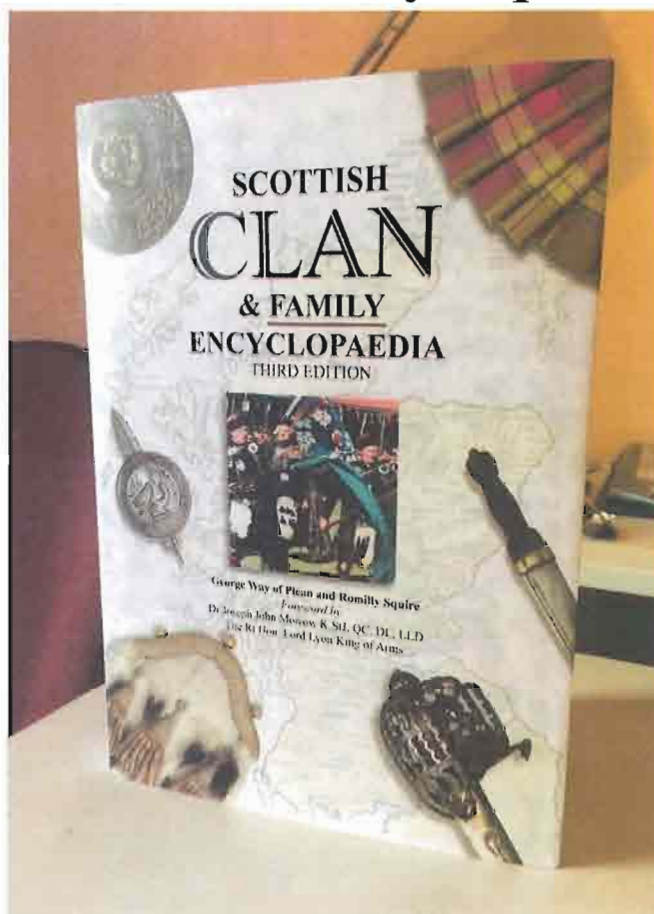
Every person interested in their own Scottish clan or interested in Scottish history needs a copy of The Third Edition of the *Scottish Clan and Family Encyclopaedia*. Authored by George Way of Plean and Romilly Squire.

In this new and expanded version of the other two editions you'll find extended or updated academic essays - including a hitherto neglected subject: the lowland dimension.

The format is now alphabetical (not two sections); all entries have been revised and updated to early 2017.

For the very first time, every single name has a heraldic illustration by Romilly.

The book is very lavishly illustrated with photographs of the Lyon Court, clan



chiefs, et al.

Revised and updated to reflect changes in clan society since its original publication in 1994, the *Scottish Clan & Family Encyclopaedia* is the definitive single-volume reference work on the Scottish Clans as well as the lowland dimension and Romilly Squire's heraldic illustrations.

To order the *Scottish Clan and Family Encyclopaedia*, visit:
<www.stkildapublications.com>

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The Clan Kincaid Association, International

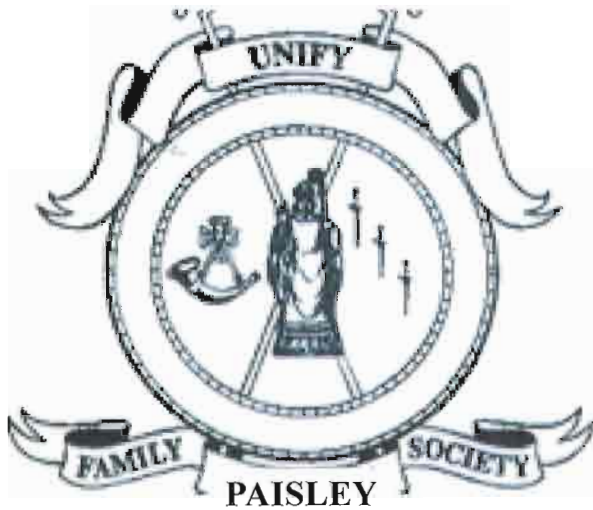
at the 2017 Royal Military Tattoo in Edinburgh



These photos are compliments of
Ian Georgeson Photography, Edinburgh.

To see all the photos of The Clan Kincaid Association, International, visit
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The Chiefly Arms of Paisley of Westerlea

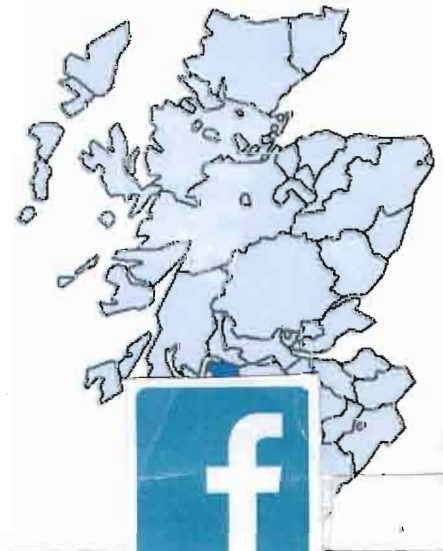


Duncan W. Paisley of Westerlea, Chieftain of the Paisley Family

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.

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.



Check out the **Paisley Family Society** webpage at www.paisleyfamilyociety.org.uk to see what's happening with us in 2017. Contact Martha Brown at mbrown2205@aol.com. For the Paisley DNA Project, visit dlangsto@yahoo.com



AGM & Spring Gathering 2015 at Ardtalla, Scotland



Goodies to be found at the Society of Antiquaries!

* **The Society for Medieval Archaeology** is delighted to announce a special virtual issue of *Medieval Archaeology*. This is a digital collection of papers released for free in celebration of the 60th anniversary year.

See <<http://explore.tandfonline.com/content/ah/ymed-medieval-archaeology-vsi>> .

This selection includes articles by several Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, including separate articles by Prof Bruce Proudfoot and Edwina Proudfoot.

* ***A Lake Dwelling in its Landscape***, by Graeme Cavers and Anne Crone, and published by Oxbow Books, presents the full results of excavations at an important, short-lived crannog site of the 5th century at Cults Loch, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland and explores both the relationship between the crannog and its social and physical landscape and the wider role and function of crannogs. More information from: <<https://www.socantscot.org/shop/>>

* ***Northern England and Southern Scotland in the Central Middle Ages***

Eds. Keith J. Stringer & Angus J.L. Winchester, this is the first full-length survey of the fluid relationship between these two areas at a time of rapid change.

This book contains 27 b/w illus.; 384pp, HB,

£60, Boydell Press.

Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland can save 35% and pay £39 plus £3.70 p&p.

Order online at <<https://boydellandbrewer.com/northern-england-and-southern-scotland-in-the-central-middle-ages-hb.html>> and enter code BB546 when prompted at the checkout.

Alternatively please call Boydell's distributor, Wiley, on 01243 843 291 quoting the same code.

If you have any queries please email Boydell at <marketing@boydell.co.uk>

This book asks how "middle Britain" came to be divided between two separate unitary kingdoms and how the different governments were exercised and experienced? It provides the first comprehensive analysis of the development of northern England and southern Scotland.

The contributors include Richard Britnell, Dauvit Broun, Janet Burton, David Ditchburn, Philip Dixon, Piers Dixon, Fiona Edmonds, Richard Oram, Keith Stringer, Chris Tabraham, Simon Taylor, Angus J.L. Winchester.

A more detailed description can be found on its webpage at <<https://boydellandbrewer.com/northern-england-and-southern-scotland-in-the-central-middle-ages.html>>.

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Sir Walter Scott's home - Abbotsford House - very near the ruins of Melrose Abbey



The best way, perhaps, to really understand a writer – to gain insight into their tastes, peruse their personal library – is to visit their home. This is particularly true of Abbotsford, which was built in the 1820s by Sir Walter Scott, the author of such classic historical novels as *Ivanhoe* and *Rob Roy*. Scott, who was not only a literary pioneer, but also vastly influential in Scottish politics, was involved in every aspect of the home's creation. He designed it to reflect his interests in history, antiquities, and the occult. Today, Abbotsford is open to visitors, and it offers an intimate glimpse into the wonderfully creative mind of Scott.

Abbotsford is as an early, and noteworthy, example of Scottish Baronial architecture, a style inspired by old Medieval châteaux. This is evident in the home's castle-like exterior and

suits of armor and other historical curiosities. The next rooms in the house are Walter Scott's study and his extensive personal library, which includes many rare and invaluable books. Other highlights are the armoury, which displays Scott's extensive collection of antique weapons (including fabled pieces, such as Montrose's sword, and Rob Roy's gun). You will also get to experience and see the exquisitely decorated drawing room.

The property is near the ruins of Melrose Abbey, along the Borders Abbeys Way, a network of walking paths and trails that winds its way through the Scottish countryside. It's a natural landscape, dotted with ancient ruins, so charming — and haunting — that it's easy to see how it so richly inspired Walter Scott's writing.

And, since the reopening of the Waverly Route of the Borders Railway in 2015, it's easy

to to get to Abbotsford from Edinburgh. Take the train from Waverly Station to Tweedbank, which is just about an hour, through the pastoral Scottish countryside. Once in Tweedbank, you can walk to Abbotsford (it's about 1.3 miles on foot), but be sure to consult a map — the route is not clearly indicated from the train station.

With many thanks to *Atlas Obscura!*

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Sir Walter Scott.



the main entry hall, which is captivating. Richly paneled, the hall is filled with



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A “jewel” from Dave Chagnon, Clan Davidson’s sennachie and editor....thanks, thanks, Dave! “Cheap Tartan” is today’s jewel.



Doug Young is looking For Information re **DAVISON** Relatives in Indiana, USA. I am looking for any **DAVISON (DAVIDSON)** relatives I may have in Indiana. I am descended from **WILLIAM DAVISON**, born in County Armagh, Ireland in 1812. His older brother, **RICHARD DAVISON (SR.)** born 1809, was the first to immigrate to North America in the 1830s.

He first lived in Northern New York State, but eventually moved to Union Township, Montgomery County, Indiana. **WILLIAM**, the younger brother, was fiercely loyal to the Crown and moved to Canada in the 1850s and would not move to the US (rebels all ... ha... he was as Orange as they come, but a Methodist). **WILLIAM'S** oldest son, **ROBERT**, moved his family to Coal Creek Township, Montgomery County, Indiana in the 1890s.

His brothers, **WILLIAM, JR.** and **RICHARD (Jr.** named after his uncle and possibly his grandfather) stayed in Canada. As far as I know

Dave writes, “A few months ago, I received an email from one of our members asking me for a source of “cheap” tartan which could be made into a valance for a large window.

“Cheap” tartan? Ain’t no such creature! Wool tartan goes for around a hundred bucks a yard, and polyviscose (if you can find it) maybe half that. So, I did what I almost always do when faced with a critical need for information, I hit the Internet.

And, in the spirit of the lines from the Broadway play *The Matchmaker* (Matchmaker! Matchmaker! Make me a match! Find me a find! Catch me a catch!), I did indeed find a find!

I tripped across a website for a company by the name of Spoonflower, Inc. Headquartered in Durham NC, this company will print anything on

Continued on page 29

there has not been any contact with our American branch of the family since the 1890s. There seemed to be some friction between Robert, the brother who left, and **RICHARD** (the youngest). **WILLIAM, SR.** and **WILLIAM, JR.** had both passed away before **ROBERT** left with his family for Indiana.

ROBERT was the first, and the only one that I am aware of, to spell his name “**DAVIDSON**”. He lived with his cousin and her husband, **LEVI THOMAS**, until he purchased some land east of New Richmond, Coal Creek Township, Montgomery Township, Indiana. His uncle, **RICHARD DAVISON, SR.**, an enthusiastic Mason, died in the 1860s. We looking to have a reunion and meet up with our American relatives, if there are any left.

If anyone has any information about this family, please contact **Doug Young** <clanyoung@hotmail.com>.

FREE GENEALOGICAL QUERIES HERE!
Email <bethscribble@aol.com> anytime.

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tional Conference on June 13-16 in

the Adams Mark Hotel, Buffalo, NY. Titled "Willkommen
to Buffalo - Gateway to a New Heimat (home)," the confer-
ence will feature a variety of nationally known speakers in-
cluding John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. and Baerbel K. Johnson,
AG.

Registration information is available on our
website now. (www.palam.org)

Cheap Tartan, continued from page 27

nearly any fabric or paper you can imagine, includ-
ing Davidson Tartan on cotton, canvas, gift wrap
paper, whatever. Check out this page on their
website <<https://www.spoonflower.com/fabric/4487113-davidson-tartan-by-weavingmajor>>

*A note from your editor: You also might wish
to check with <sales@greatscotintl.com>
which is Peter Wilson in Charlotte, NC. They usu-
ally have all manner of tartan in all manner of
fabrics.*

*Sometimes, individual clans have yardage of
their tartan made in cotton. Be sure and check the
clan who uses the tartan you wish and see if they
have some available. (I'm looking at a Clan
Donald regular tartan valance in cotton over my
office window, as I write.)*

*We found Gordon tartan in a drapery catalog
at \$4 a yard - very nice and heavy fabric (not
wool) and bought a bolt for living room and din-
ing room curtains, tablecloths, napkins, table run-
ners, curtains for our glass doors, etc., (a la' For-
est Gump). I'm an Honourary Gordon and both
Tom and I are Stewarts as well - so figured we could
use the beautiful Gordon and the Stewart.*

*We also bought all of the Stewart tartan fab-
ric (also \$4 a yard) that they had, I think 12 yards.
We have Stewart triangular valances and Gordon
drapes...which we think are gorgeous!*

*As always, **thank you to Dorna Comp** for
crawling around on the floor to measure for the
above drapes and cutting them out. Dorna also
did most of the sewing.*



Clan Anderson Cottages

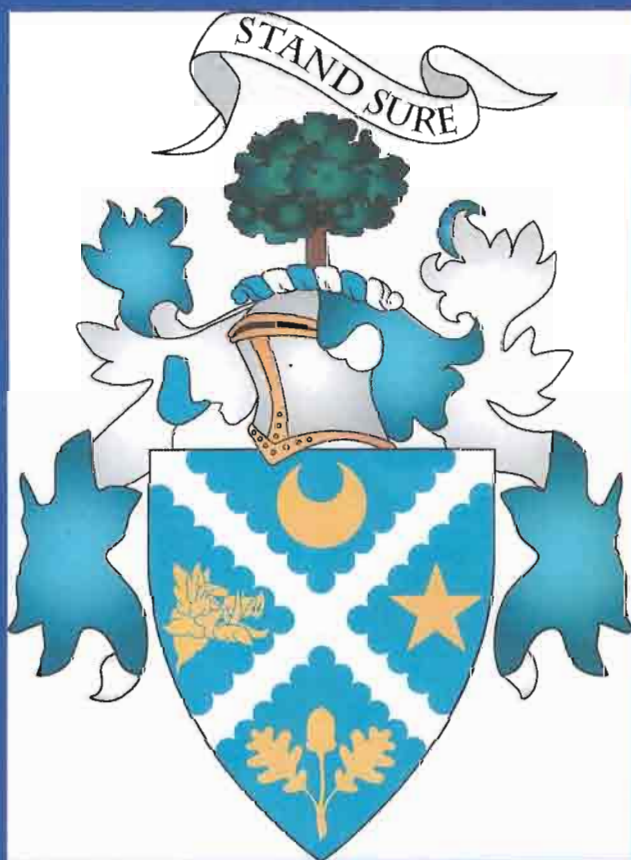
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Rob Bell wins awards, *continued from page 1*

for a class win at the competition.

It is with great pride that Rob Bell keeps this ancient skill alive.

How do you keep an age-old craft alive? By recognizing the contemporary importance of the skills involved and by creating enthusiasm for the practice. You also add a healthy dose of competition.

First, you might ask why hedges are important in the modern world of barbed wire and chain link?

Hedges are considered a natural feature of the countryside in the United Kingdom with an estimated 435,000 miles in Great Britain alone, and according to <www.hedgeline.org> many of the hedgerows in the UK are hundreds, some even thousands, of years old.

How are these miles of sometimes ancient hedges maintained? The age-old skill of hedgelaying is the method of creating and maintaining these man-made boundaries of growing plants.

Each line of hardy, thick, woody bushes thrive throughout the year, dividing fields and gardens while keeping animals in or out. Without regular management, hedgerows cannot survive as the vi-



able barriers and iconic features of the landscape that they have been for time out of mind.

Humans have been planting hedges as barriers and boundaries for thousands of years, but after World War II, the centuries old traditional skill of laying and maintaining a hedge was in danger of dying out. Pressured by factors as labor shortages, mechanization of hedge cutting, the introduction of wire fences and emphasis on increased production in agriculture, this valuable skill was in profound decline.

In the late 1970s, three of the remaining hedgelaying experts decided they had to do something to reverse the downward spiral.

Valeria Greaves, Clive Matthew and Fred Whitefoot came

up with a plan to revive interest in the centuries old skills of hedgelaying and hedge management.

These three specialists organized the National Hedgelaying Society “to promote hedgelaying, encourage men and women to develop “hedgerow management skills through training and competition and to encourage the conservation and positive management of hedgerows.” They moved forward with their plan of documenting and promoting the skill of hedgelaying and organizing competitions all over the UK to put the learned skills to the test.

These local challenges would culminate in an annual national competition.

More recently government sponsorship through Countryside Stewardship grants from National England and the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme in Ireland are augmenting this drive to preserve hedgerows and the skills by which to maintain them.

With thanks to *The Clan of the Bells*, official publication of Clan Bell North America, Inc.

Membership information? Contact Michael Bell, Membership Chair at <Mikeb1350@yahoo.com>

Flowers of the Forest, *continued from page 9*

He met his wife, Cynthia (nee Turnbull), while stationed in Mobile, Alabama at Brookley Field.

Forty years later he retired from the NCR Corporation as a computer Service Manager for the southeastern Louisiana area.

With his interest in Scottish heraldry, he joined the Caledonian Society of New Orleans and shared history with fellow members before joining the Turnbull Clan Association.

He is survived by Cynthia, his wife of 55 years, daughters Laurie Corrington, Jennifer Hardy (Kenneth Hardy) Mary Parham, and two grandchildren, Courtney and Keifer Hardy, as well as many nieces and nephews.



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