

Lifeline ferries out for another month in Scotland

Martin Williams, Senior News Reporter



The lifeline vessel at the centre of a new Scots ferry crisis is not now expected to be back in service for another month, it has emerged.

Specialist engineers working on the *MV Loch Seaforth* have advised that they expect her to back in service by May 17 at the earliest.

CalMac's largest ferry *MV Loch Seaforth* was taken off the Ullapool-Stornoway route to be taken into dry dock for "major" engine repairs. It had been hoped the eight-year-old vessel would be back in service at the end of this month.

It is one of four vessels that have broken down in the space of three weeks.

Campaigners have described the situation as a "national scandal" and that those responsible should already have lost their jobs for the state of Scotland's ferries.

Some hauliers have contacted Pentland Ferries to find out if the *MV Pentalina* ferry could be chartered to provide freight services - as the current replacement can only take four lorries.

But CalMac said that while the *Pentalina* may be an option for a longer-term hire, she is not immediately available while the *Loch Seaforth* is being repaired.

She is only available for active service four weeks from when the required charter agreement is signed.

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The Herald



A letter from your editor...

A few things I have learned along the way

Years ago, when I rode my lovely and beloved AQHA Poco Lanette whom I always called "Sweet Thing" every morning at 7 AM with Mr. Floyd Lingle, I learned that the best way in the world to calm an excitable horse is to simply sit there and talk to both your horse and a friend. That really works with the horse and makes the friends feel nice too. The horse seldom responds to you. Sometimes the horse will "blow" when you talk to them.

Mr. Floyd was riding a young Appaloosa then. At first, the App would wiggle and squirm and sort of tap dance. He didn't like to stand still.

After a couple of months having half an hour or so of people conversation every morning to listen to and to learn it was fine for him to relax and enjoy a little time of stillness, the change in him was really surprising. He would stand as quiet and still and there was no wiggling and squirming at all.

I remember the day that Mr. Floyd asked me if I were left-handed? "No, Sir," I replied.

"Why are you using your bat in your left hand?"

"Err, err...because YOU use your bat in YOUR left hand," I said in a small and squeaky voice.

Mr. Floyd laughed and said, "I know you are watching and trying to do everything right, but, use

your bat in your right hand. It will be much easier for you."

(A bat is a long, slim fiberglass whip with a thin tail that is used to cue your western horse. You never hit with it, you simply touch with it.)



I did this painting so long ago. It's me on the left with Sweet Thing and Mr. Floyd on the right with the little Appaloosa.

When I had the priceless opportunity to ride with Mr. Floyd every morning, I had already ridden horses since I was too small to get on by myself and had to sometimes climb a small tree first.

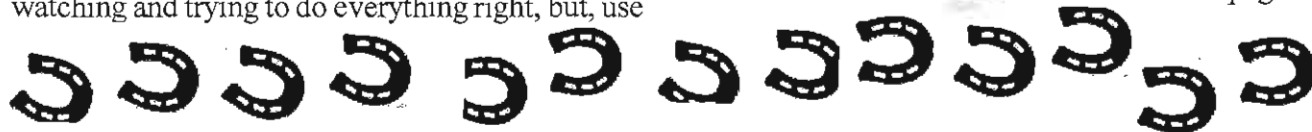
I had been a barrel racer and someone who just loved what were called "Frolics" back then. That's when you do all kinds of games on your horse. I could ride most anything and had no fear of any horse, but to learn from Mr. Floyd Lingle was a

real honor and privilege.

Mr. Floyd and I rode every morning at Buddy Barnett's barn in Kissimmee, Florida.

We rode every morning for years and years and finally, I was trained to ride as a true cowboy rides. I could have really worked on a cattle ranch. I reckon

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EST 2002

SCOTLANDSHOP

TAILORED TARTAN CLOTHING & INTERIORS

CLAN GRANT

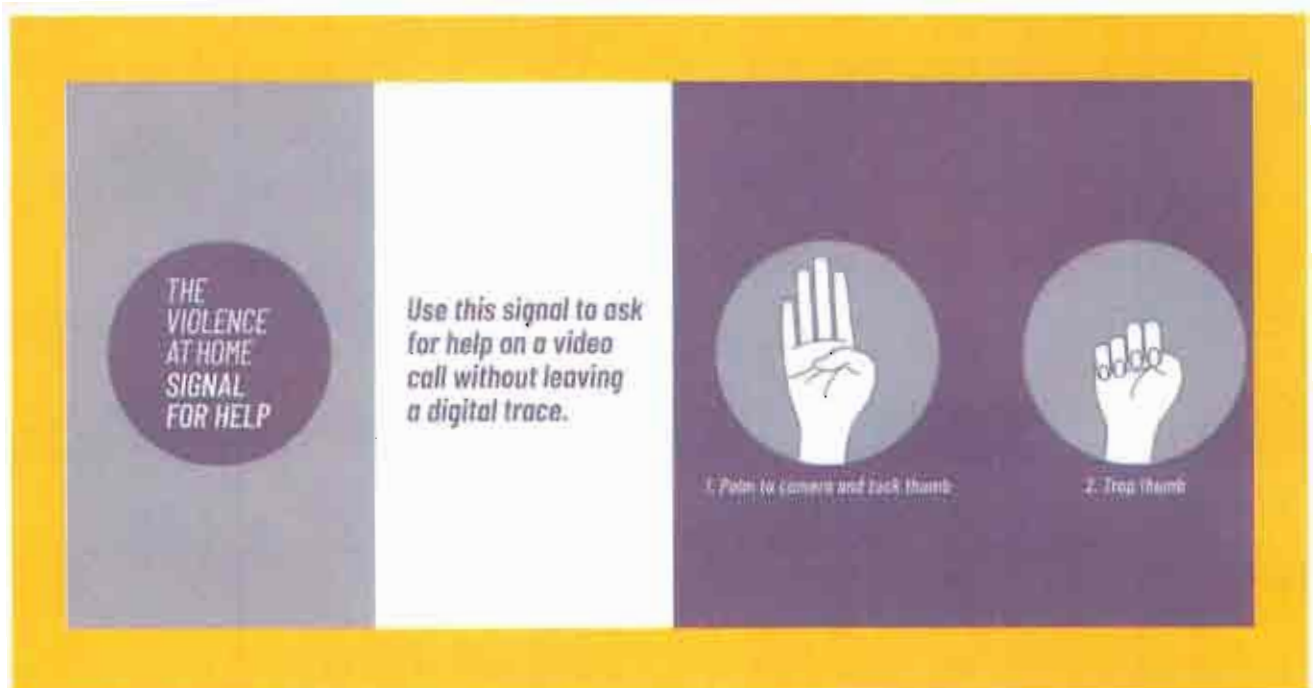


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Visit this YouTube video at:

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

With many thanks to Steve Kelley.

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree May 2021 Section A Page 5

**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.

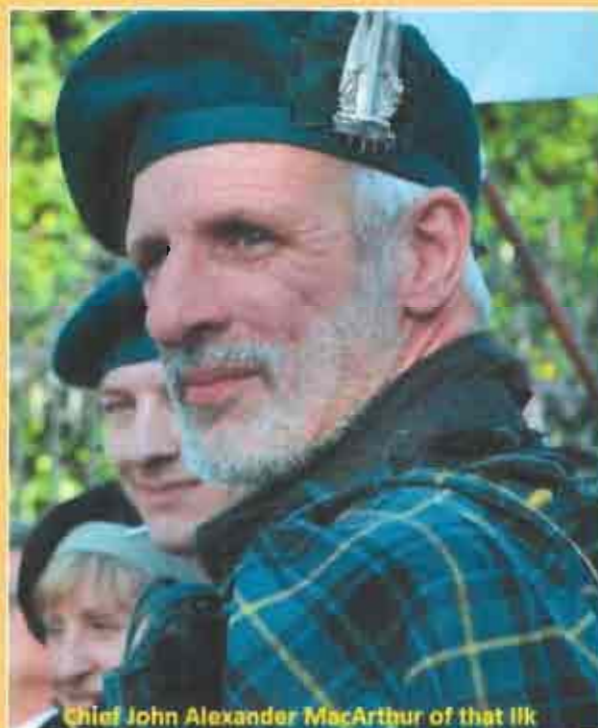
For information & how to join, see our website clanarthur.website/
Contacts:

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

USA: Joann Helmich caausamembership@gmail.com

Canada: Lloyd K. McArthur mcartld@shaw.ca

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



Chief John Alexander MacArthur of that Ilk



A letter from your editor, continued from page 3

I still could, especially if I had Sweet Thing back! (She lived to be 27 years old and died of cancer.)

Mr. Floyd told me one morning that he had worked with horses all of his life except for the time he had spent in the United States Navy.

That morning, he told me that even though he had worked with horses and building saddles almost all of his life, he would never, ever know everything about either one - horses or saddle making.

I have always remembered what he said.

Every once in a while, I meet someone who seems to think they know everything about everything.

Mmmm. I usually grin nicely and then make myself scarce.

So, all I really know is that I don't know everything about anything. I do try to learn all the time.

Mr. Floyd is still - long after he has been gone - very well known as a saddlemaker. Look him up on the Internet, Floyd Lingle.

Just for fun, I'll tell you about one of our many adventures during those years riding together.

We were at Buddy's barn and the phone rang. It seemed that some cattle of Buddy's had gone through the fence and were now roaming about on the shoulders of the road. That road was, and is US 17 and always full of fast traffic.

This morning, Buddy ran for his truck and hollered to Mr. Floyd and me, "My cows are out on the road!"

He had the horse trailer already hooked to his truck and both Mr. Floyd and I were on our saddled horses. We loaded the horses, the little Appaloosa that was still in training, and Sweet Thing. We jumped in the truck with Buddy and off we went. We were about 10 minutes from the 30-acre cow pasture of Buddy's - from whence those adventurous cows had escaped.

Buddy pulled his trailer on the shoulder of US 17 - which had bumper-to-bumper traffic and everybody was speeding it looked like to us. I had loaded Sweet Thing first, so the little Appaloosa was first out. Mr. Floyd leaped to his back and was gone, running flat out down the side of the road. That scared me so, that I also leaped to Sweet Thing's back and took off right behind Mr. Floyd, both of us breaking any horse speed limit.

We got to where the cows were munching grass within feet of speeding cars. By that time, a sheriff's deputy had arrived and could help with the traffic. Those cows were having real cow fun and were all over the road then.

However, between us and the deputy things were getting safer.

Both Mr. Floyd and me were able to get to the cows. In about half an hour we had them all back through where they had broken through.

By that time, Buddy was there with his hammer and fence nails and some extra wire. The deputy stayed until all the cows were in and the fence was fixed.

I said, "Mr. Floyd, you scared me silly running down the side of the highway like that."

He said, "Beth, you scared me silly doing the same thing."

Buddy came up to us and said, "Floyd, you and Beth scared me near about to death. Right then, I didn't care about the ???()*&*! cows. I was so worried about you two."

Nobody was hurt. No cows were hurt. Our horses thought it was great fun.

Mr. Floyd and Buddy were the closest folks I ever had to a father. I loved them both. I've never had friends who were so like family.

I have learned that they were wonderful and rare in this world. Both of them have been gone a long time, but I think of them and love them still and will forever.





Stone Mountain Highland Games, Inc.

Friends,

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

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

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

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

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

Yours Aye,

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

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



Little Finlay is growing up so fast!



As promised, we have posted some pictures of the wonderful Finlay on our website. As you will see, the promising wildcat markings he showed as a very young kitten are being carried through as he grows. You can see the clearly ringed and blunt-ended tail, the beautiful body stripes, and that the dorsal stripe stops at the base of the tail. These are all signature wildcat markings. He is just stunning and in perfect health. He has come a long way from that tiny, hypothermic, orphaned kitten that we all fell in love with only a few months ago.

He has been protected from the worst of winter and he is currently in his spring coat, but that will thicken significantly for winter. We are delighted with his progress and the way he is adapting to his new rehabilitation enclosure. He is showing a range of natural behaviors and the way he uses the cover to stalk is very encouraging. He is like a little tiger and virtually impossible to see when he moves through the vegetation cover. His striping blends in perfectly with the shadows from the trees. His behavior patterns are also changing and he is becoming almost exclusively nocturnal (these pictures were taken the day he moved in).

We have minimal contact with him now as he prepares for his return to the wild. It has been a real

privilege to have had the opportunity to watch him grow up at close quarters, but now for his sake, that contact is being reduced. We are planning to install spy cams in the enclosure so that we can monitor his progress remotely and can't wait to see him hunting successfully.

He is still only a very young cat and still has some growing to do, especially as the first few weeks of his life were so traumatic and would have slowed his early growth. However, he is making up for it now and his appetite is enormous. We really hope you enjoy seeing these pictures and we will post some videos in the coming days.

We are currently assessing suitable release sites and will provide a fuller update on our plans for him going forward.

Many thanks as always, we can't do any of this work without your continuing support. If you want to receive a wildcat adoption pack or send one as a gift to someone for a birthday, anniversary, or any special occasion, then you can do so on our website where the pictures are hosted.

The link to the pictures is here:
<www.wildcathaven.com/news/finlay-pictures>

Stay in touch and keep watching.

The Wildcat Haven Team and Finlay.

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Commander Michael T. McAlpin

VARIANTS OF THE NAME

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

For more information, email:

Earlmc Alpine@yahoo.com

We are
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The bees are returning to Scotland!

The SUNDAY POST

Tracey Bryce

She's always been sweet on sustainability and Suzie Millar is buzzing about her new career as queen of bees.

It's been three years since she quit her career as a chiropractor for a mission to protect our pollinators.

And life has been a hive of activity ever since. The 38-year-old and husband Iain are the brains behind the Scottish Bee Company.

As well as producing honey, the firm has vowed to increase the country's bee population.

And its sister charity, Repollinate, aims to protect all types of pollinators through wildflowers spaces and education programmes across Scotland.

"It's been chaotic and a big challenge, but I am absolutely loving it," Suzie said. "Ever since I was young, I wanted to do something a bit different and felt a pull to doing something socially-responsible and environmentally-friendly."

Honey bees collecting pollen, pollinating the plants as they do so are so important to our agriculture. Unfortunately, bee numbers have fallen dramatically in recent years.

Three years ago, Suzie and financial services worker Iain developed a fascination with bees.

"The truth is bees are so good – and so important – for the environment," Suzie said.

"Most of the food we eat relies on their pollination. We wouldn't be able to survive without them."

The couple, who live in East Lothian, conducted some research and soon realised there was a deficit of bees in Scotland.

"The stats suggested the UK was about 150,000 hives short," Suzie said. "And pesticides were killing bees off. We thought we had to do something about it."



The Millars adopted some bees, hired a team of expert bee farmers and brought them together in the heather covered hills of Scotland.

Along with dwindling bee numbers, they were also astonished to find how much honey consumed in the UK is imported from around the world. They felt strongly that we needed more, homegrown, bee-friendly honey.

It soon turned into a honey production business, with hundreds of hives throughout the Lothians, Dumfriesshire, Stirlingshire, Fife and Aberdeenshire.

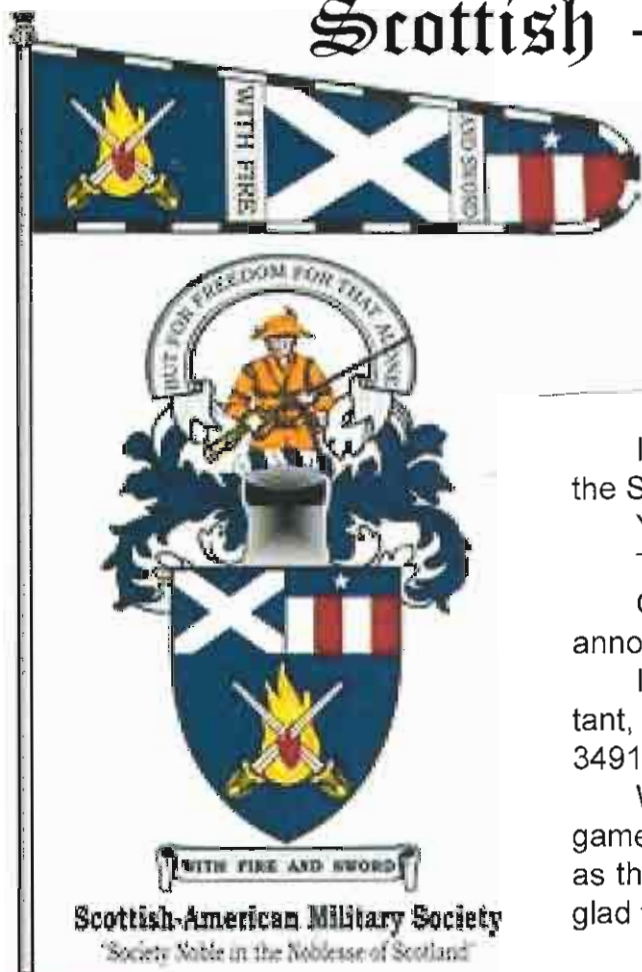
And the project has already resulted in tens of millions more bees in our Scottish skies. In fact, in the height of the summer, the Scottish Bee Company has around 24 million bees under its wings.

Suzie has become an expert in honey, after attaining honey sommelier status just before the pandemic hit. "I was getting so into the bee side of things

Continued on page 13

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/>>

Lifeline ferry service interrupted,

continued from page 1

CalMac, the publicly funded ferry operator, had said that the *MV Isle of Arran* - which normally runs - on the Ardrossan to Brodick route - will be temporarily taking over the overnight freight run on the Stornoway-Ullapool route.

And the *MV Isle of Lewis* has been taken off its usual route between Castlebay on the Isle of Barra and Oban in Argyle to support the Loch Seaforth run.

The spin off effect has meant disruption to other services in the ferry network as other vessels cover for the loss, including the busy Ardrossan to Brodick service.

But while the 380ft-long *MV Loch Seaforth* which cost £42m can carry up to 143 cars, 700 passengers and 30 articulated lorries, the replacement *Isle of Arran* can only take four lorries and the *Isle of Lewis* can take 13.



Who was the first known Scottish immigrant to come to the new world?

***The first known Scottish immigrant
was Robert Sprout who sailed to
America on the Mayflower 1620!***

With thanks to John Gibson, president of the Tallahassee (Florida) St. Andrew Society.

Bees return to Scotland, *continued from page 13*



that I realised I didn't know enough about honey," she said.

The Scottish Bee Company's heather honey is amongst the world's top manganese-containing food products. Manganese is an essential mineral. As well as its high antioxidant qualities, it plays a role in helping make and activate enzymes in the body involved in protecting tissues from damage and in the metabolism of nutrients. It also helps maintain healthy bones.

The discovery that The Scottish Bee Company's honey contains 10 times more manganese than rivals across the globe has even seen it dubbed the world's latest superfood.

And the honey is following in the footsteps of Scotland's national drink, Irn-Bru, after cracking the Far East market in Japan and Singapore. It's great news for Suzie, whose newfound nose for honey means she can ensure the honey is of the highest quality.

"A lot of honeys out there are counterfeits. Quite a few only have 40% to 50% actual honey. Many are adulterated, filled with sugars, glucose, dextrose," Suzie explained.

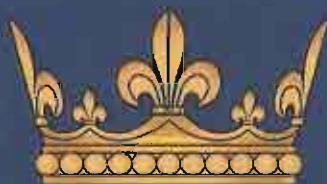
"The sommelier course was life-changing. Of course, it's about spotting a good honey, but it also taught me how to identify a bad honey. Small things like smoke getting into the honey or it being stored in the wrong container and how that can affect the quality.

"To be honest, I didn't really eat much honey before, but I eat it all the time now. Well, someone has to taste it!"

With the bee season starting later this month, Suzie is hoping for a busy summer.

"Covid has meant we've had to pause, and the bees are dormant in the colder weather, but we're hoping 2021 will be a good and exciting year.

"We have lots of projects planned, it is just a case of waiting to see if things will open up enough for us to be able to do them."



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Sarah Ruth Sinclair Stribling, 75, passed away Saturday, January 30, 2021. Born in Union, SC.

She was owner and operator of Cosenza's Pizzeria in Cedar Springs.

She was a member of First Baptist Church North Spartanburg, Clan Sinclair USA Association and loved sewing, crafts and her grandchildren.

Survivors include two daughters, Lisa Stribling Burns and Claire Stribling Wells; two sisters, Betty Farr and Jean Stewart; three grandchildren, Heather Leigh Saxe, Robert Dean Burns and Sarah Rebecca Burns; two great-grandchildren, James Franklin Saxe, III and Jerry Lee Saxe. She was predeceased by Robert "Bobby" Marion Stribling.



The Fort Myers Regional Library lost one of its most valued volunteers this past week.

Carolyn Ford passed away on Easter Sunday. Carolyn served the genealogy department from July 1996 through March 2020. While her main emphasis was on genealogy, Carolyn assisted library staff and library administration with a variety of education and publicity related activities.

These projects fit perfectly with her pre-genealogy career in public education and her experiences in editing civic documents and correspondence as a volunteer in the courthouse located in her place of residence in Ohio.

Carolyn also was active in crafts and specialized in making teddy bears. I still have the teddy bears

she made for my wife and me in 1998.

Shortly before Carolyn retired from education and editing in 1995, she was ready for a new challenge. Carolyn had the goal of finding an outlet that would keep her active and quench her thirst for educational opportunities. That new outlet came in the form of her introduction to genealogy. Carolyn was attracted to the collection at Fort Myers-Lee County based on comments from several of her friends in Ohio who were regular visitors to the SW Florida region. Many of them had talked about using the various regional collections. Several mentioned the Fort Myers-Lee County Library collection as one of the best. Carolyn visited the library one day and met with Jessie Hooper and me. Jessie had been our genealogy volunteer since 1974. The conversation Carolyn had with Jessie would lay the groundwork for Carolyn taking over for Jessie after her health declined.

During her 24 years of service to the library system, Carolyn conducted on-line searches for patrons, assisted with or conducted seminars on a variety of topics, and worked tirelessly as the library liaison with the Lee County Genealogical Society to help promote the library system. Carolyn was also active in many local and regional civic organizations. Carolyn Ford was a pillar of genealogical knowledge and integrity for over 22 years. Our local and regional genealogy community suffered a tremendous loss. Thank you Carolyn for your faithful and efficient service. There was and will always be only one Carolyn Ford. Because Carolyn was a very private person, we have no further information about her final wishes at this time.

Bryan L. Mulcahy

Continued on page 19



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



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

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



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



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

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

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



Paisley Family Association

of North Carolina

president: **Don Paisley**

Email: paisley47@aol.com

Celebrating

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

Something we don't get to see very often, the French Musette

Robert Worrall

The French Musette can be seen as a logical explanation for the evolution or refinement of the instrument into a number of examples of chamber pipes (i.e. those that operate via the use of bellows rather than the traditional bags as a reservoir).

Examples of different forms of such chamber pipes can be found throughout Ireland, France and England. The Northumbrian region of England has been a "hot-bed" for bagpipe evolution. It has not only witnessed the emergence of its indigenous shuttle pipes, but also its own small pipes, half longs and great war-gathering pipes.

Likewise, Ireland has experienced the evolution of its own Uilleann (chamber/bellows pipe) and war pipe of (Brian Boru). The evidence exists to substantiate the belief that pipes may have been common throughout the remainder of Britain prior to their emergence upon the Scottish landscape. Nevertheless, there is no question that the Bagpipe was very popular throughout England.

Middle Ages Pre-Reformation churches reveal carvings of bagpipes. Chaucer refers to the Miller playing pipes in *The Miller's Tale*. Documents from the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland (1498 and 1506) refers to payments to the English piper. Shakespeare's *Henry IV* refers to the "Drone of a Lincolnshire Bagpipe."

The Irish are believed to have played pipes for Edward I at Calais in 1297 and at the Battle of Falkirk in 1298.

In fact, both Henry VII and Henry VIII are be-

lieved to have enjoyed pipers.

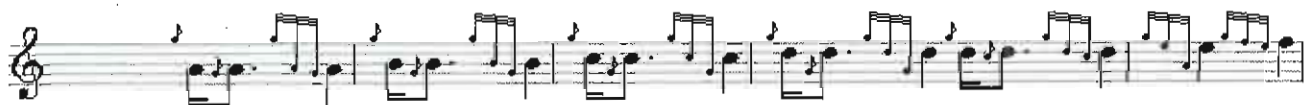
Questions remain as to when and where the first, second and third drones were added to the "piob-mhor" along with the questions as to when and where the bagpipe entered Scotland. However, the fact remains that this is an instrument whose growth and



movement parallel civilizations and early history. It is a musical instrument, which not only reflects our early history, but also the evolution of culture through history.

Robert Worrall, a piping adjudicator throughout North America, resides in Burlington, Ontario. He was a seven-time winner of the North American Open Professional Championships. In 1977 he won the March, Strathspey and Reel competition at Inverness, Scotland. He recorded his first solo album, *The Classic Bagpipe* in 1982.

With thanks to *Yours Aye*, the publication of the Clan Sinclair Association, Inc. (USA). For information about a membership in Clan Sinclair Association, Inc., (USA), visit: <www.clansinclairusa.org>



Clan *Blair* Society

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



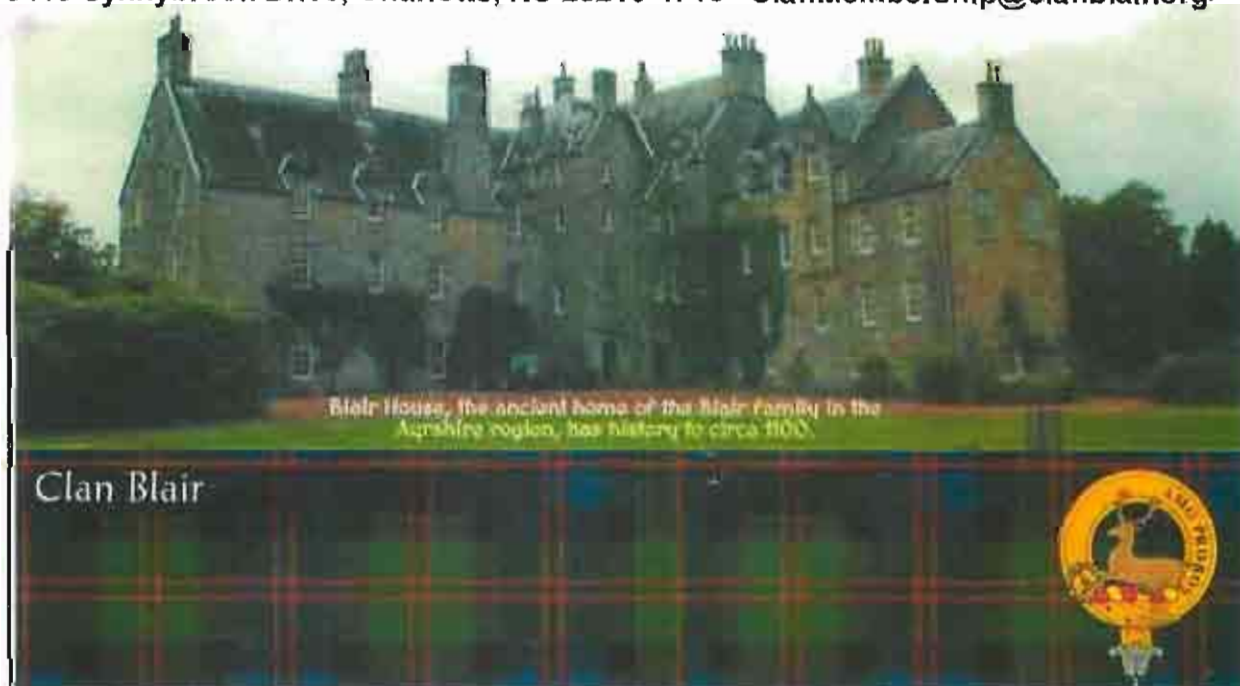
www.clanblair.org

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



Flowers of the Forest, *continued from page 15*

Tributes have been paid to renowned Fife photographer **Graham Harris Graham** after he died in a mountaineering accident.

The professional landscape photographer and experienced climber and walker from Culross, died while out climbing on Ben More in the southern Highlands, near Crianlarich, on Thursday.

His family had raised the alarm at 8.30 pm, after the 56-year-old failed to return home on Wednesday evening.

An emergency search and rescue operation was launched after his car was found close to Ben More but his body was recovered from a ledge the following day by members of the Killin Mountain Rescue Team.

Graham owned a gallery at the Town House in Culross to showcase his work.

Heartbroken wife, Lora Graham, described her husband as a "loving and caring man" who will be "deeply missed" by many who knew him around the world.

She added: "Graham had deep love for his country and of its dramatic countryside and was a committed and experienced climber which helped him to achieve the level of landscape photography that he was renowned for.

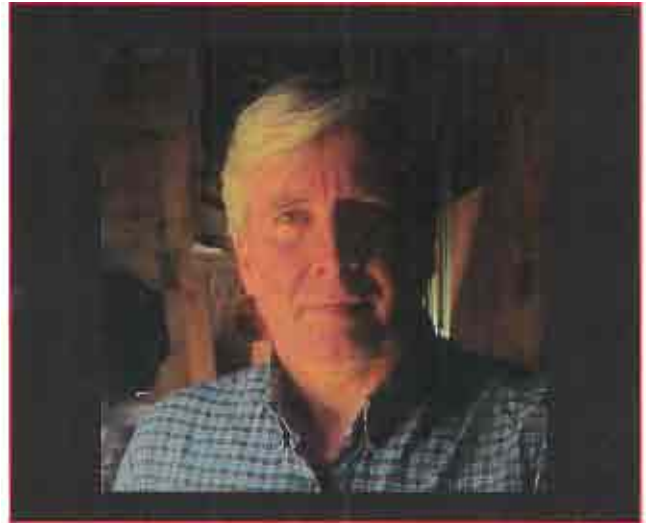
"He was passionate about photography and opened his gallery at the Town House when we moved to Culross from Houston in America 12 years ago."

The couple, who met online, had recently celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary.

Born in Glasgow, he graduated from Strathclyde University with an electronics and engineering degree before pursuing a career in manufacturing in America, eventually gaining dual UK and US nationality before the couple decided to relocate to Fife.

Aside from his photographic achievements, Graham was fluent in French and would use his knowledge of a number of languages to engage with visitors to his gallery in Culross.

Paying tribute, close family friend, Lynne Smith, said: "Graham was always busy tinkering with some-



thing, be it cars or whatever, but always had time for everyone.

"He always had a friendly ear and never missed an opportunity for a chat and a smile for those he came into contact with."

His wife Lora also thanked those who had been involved in the emergency rescue efforts.

"I have the upmost admiration and appreciation for the many brave people from the two rescue teams who risked their own lives as part of the emergency operation," she said.

"Their dedication and dignity in which they have conducted themselves in returning Graham has been of great comfort."

A spokesperson for Killin Mountain Rescue Team, said: "During the week the team were called to reports of a walker who hadn't returned from Ben More.

"The team searched in full winter conditions with snow and ice at the summit.

"The walker was traced, however, the outcome wasn't a positive one.

"Team members were honoured to return him to his family. Our thoughts are with his family and friends at this sad time."

Funeral arrangements have not yet been arranged.

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Charlie Brown gang on how legendary cartoonist's Scots trip inspired new book

The
SUNDAY POST

Craig McDonald

The team bringing Charlie Brown to Scotland has told how the adventure was inspired by the creator of the cartoon icon enjoying a holiday here 30 years ago.

The forthcoming book, *Scotland Bound, Charlie Brown*, tells how the put-upon hero and friends, including canine sidekick Snoopy, cross the Atlantic after he strikes up a friendship with penpal Morag.

However, it has been revealed the story has its roots in a holiday creator Charles M Schulz, known as Sparky, took with his wife in 1991. They visited locations including St Andrews, Braemar and Culloden, and Schulz would later use the experience as a basis for a comic strip he wrote in 1997.

He died in 2000, aged 77, and the story remained in the Schulz museum vaults in the US for years. Its recent rediscovery led to the creation of a full-length graphic novel in which the Peanuts gang retrace many of the trips taken decades earlier by their creator.

Lex Fejardo, editorial director at California-based Charles M Schulz Creative Associates, revealed its inspiration and said the Scots project was initially intended as a feature animation. He said: "Sparky took a trip to Scotland with his wife in 1991 and the things they did and the experiences they had certainly influenced him.

"A few years later, he started to weave together a Charlie Brown storyline featuring a penpal named Morag and it led to a strip entitled *Will Ye No Come Back Again, Charlie Brown*. It was never fully produced as an animated spread but the story boards remained in the vault.

"When we were looking to do a new graphic



novel, we thought it would be a good idea to go back to this. It was intended for animation but has instead become a graphic novel.

"These books are a big studio effort and a lot of work goes on behind the scenes that people do not get to see, so it's nice to get to share a bit of this."

The cover features Charlie and friends Linus, Lucy and Schroeder, alongside Snoopy clad in tartan and playing the bagpipes, arriving in a small boat in a misty Scotland.

Schulz was a keen, and extremely adept, golfer and the game also features in the book, with character

Continued on page 23



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Snoopy is coming to Scotland! *Continued from page 21*

Lucy depicted teeing off at St Andrews. Another of the gang, Linus, becomes infatuated with the Loch Ness Monster and becomes determined to get a photograph of the mystical creature.

Widely regarded as one of the most influential cartoonists of all time, Schulz launched his *Peanuts* comics, featuring long-suffering Charlie, in the 1950s, the series becoming hugely successful. Critics have described the latest book as “delightful, funny and touching”.

Discovered in the archives of the Schulz Studio, *Scotland Bound, Charlie Brown* is an original graphic novel adaptation of an unproduced, feature-length special, storyboarded by Charles M. Schulz and Bill Melendez; written by Jason Cooper and with art by Robert Pope.

Writer Jason Cooper, who says he is of Scottish descent, said: “The story sees Charlie Brown setting up a car wash to try to raise enough money to come to Scotland. The girl who hosts Charlie and his friends when they get to Scotland actually appeared in the original storyboards. We wanted her to be a nice, kind character – the sort of Scottish tour guide they would need and hopefully someone the readers would like.

The book also features sheep and ‘coos’ based on Highland cows, which I just found adorable.

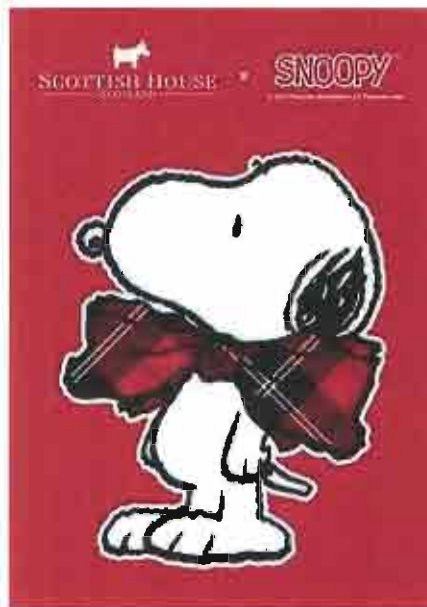
“There are locations such as Culloden, the scene of the final Jacobite uprising, and somewhere I would

want to go to when I hope to visit Scotland. I know Schulz’s military service meant a lot to him and he was really interested in military history and I wanted to include a place like that.”

Illustrator Robert Pope said: “The characters really evoke Schulz. For their tour guide, I just started noodling around with sketches of pigtails and borrowed freckles from another character as I thought they suited her. We gave her the friendliest face of six designs we originally came up with. Jason kept calling me and telling me how important the coos were. I

wanted a lot of fun to come through them. There is also a big arts and music festival based in Edinburgh and we researched the relevant architecture to try to come up with designs for the theatre.

“The book is a travelogue of Scotland. We used reference books and Google images and I have a travel agents within walking distance of my home, so it was fun to go there and find out all I could about Scotland.”





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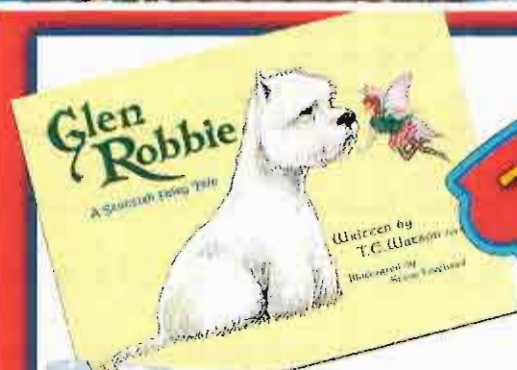
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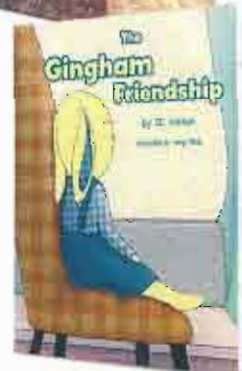
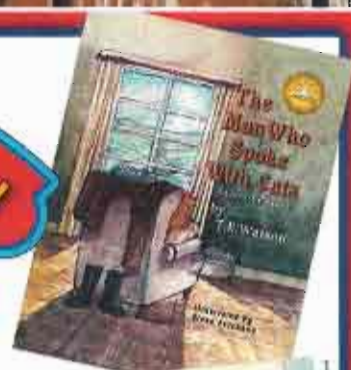
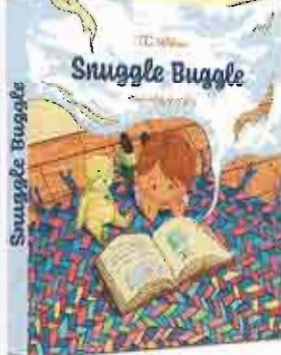
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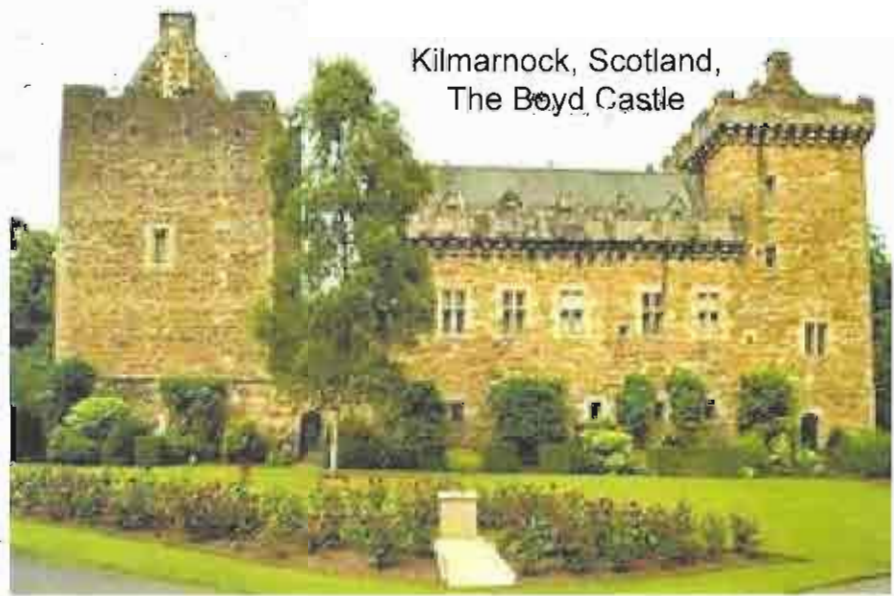


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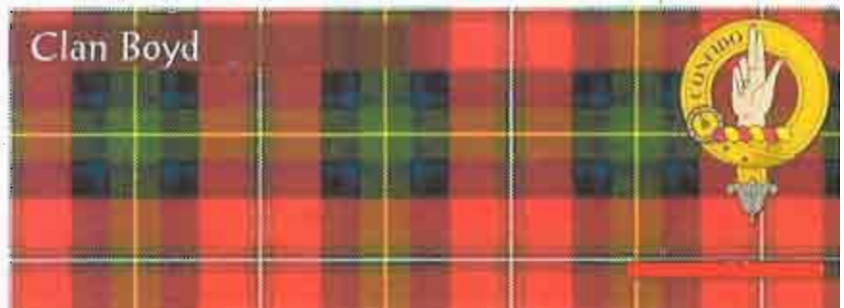
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Remaining in Scotland

Spring has arrived in Scotland and you can tell because the snowdrops are in bloom in all of our gardens.



It is hard to believe that it has been a year since Scotland went into Covid Lockdown the first time and we had to decide whether to dash back to America or remain here in the isolated North Highlands. We opted to stay, and have not regretted it as the precautions taken in Scotland, coupled with the remoteness of our location, have kept things relatively quiet. And folks locally are following the safety guidelines and also helping each other whenever possible. All in all, it is like being in small-town America a couple of generations ago, with folks doing whatever it takes to carry on and get each other through.

In a sense, people are approaching it with a bit of war-time mentality. We have come to understand just how hard it was on the British in the two world wars. The sacrifices were substantial and the resilience that it took to carry on must have been amazing. So, dealing with yet another lockdown (all non-essential shops in Scotland were closed from March 2020 until April 2021) has gone down easier with the stoic Highlanders than I read about in American newsfeeds.

The dog and I still get out and take our walks, frequently at the local windfarm, but occasionally a bit further afield. Recently, when I took the car to a garage in a nearby small village of Reay for its annual MOT (Ministry of Transportation) inspection (required annually for all cars more than 3 years old), we explored the local cemetery.



Entry was not the easiest thing in the world, as it is surrounded by a stone wall, and the steps are a bit awkward, as you can see.



Fortunately, there was also a small gate, since the dog couldn't do those steps very well. There was a small mausoleum, which I naturally had to explore.

The memorials inside crossed the ages. There was a tiny memorial to a 5 year old child who died in 1877 and a giant one that took up an entire wall, dedicated to a military officer who died in 1790.



Continued on page 29



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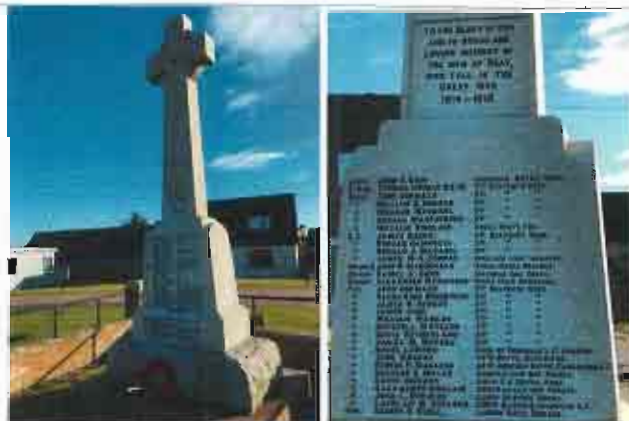
There was one from 1691 and another one for which the date was obscured, but which the sign on the wall indicated was from the 15th century.



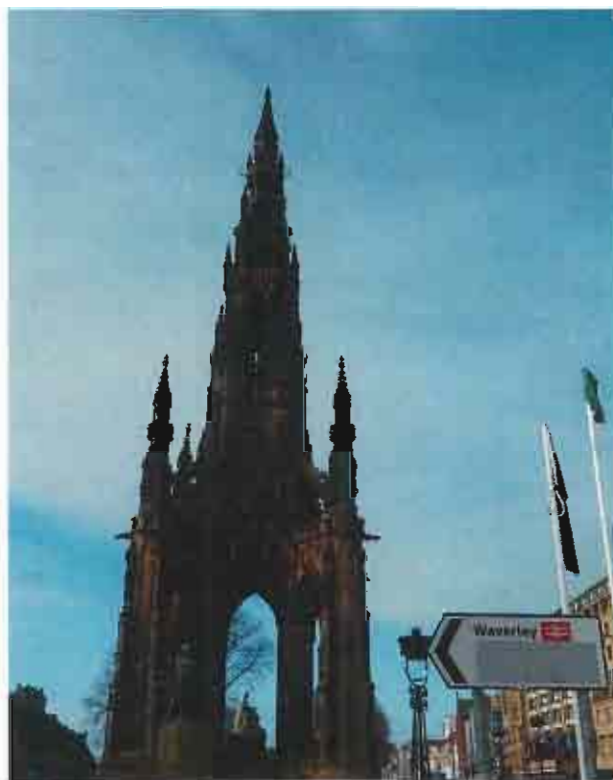
But the oldest memorial was a stone carved with a Pictish Cross, which would place it from about the 9th century. The stone obviously pre-dated the cemetery, but was from this location, indicating that it had been a burial ground for a very long time. It had been included in the walls of the mausoleum for safe keeping.



Like many villages around the Highlands, Reay, was devastated by losses in the world wars. Although never more than a couple hundred in population, look at the long list of names on the village's war memorial from WW1 alone.



Although we have just finished five years in Scotland, we had never been to downtown Edinburgh. That changed, even with lockdown, as Her Majesty's Immigration and Customs office requested our presence. So, we rode an empty train right to Waverley Station in the heart of old Edinburgh. Our visit afforded us an afternoon of wandering about a bit, visiting notable sights (all outdoors, since indoor venues like museums are all closed under lockdown). The memorial to Sir Walter Scott was a must. He is famous for not only his novels, but for convincing the English crown to again permit Scots to celebrate their national traditions, which had been banned for a hundred years.



Continued on page 31



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Pete Hylton, continued from page 29

I mentioned we arrived at Waverley Station, which is the only train station in the world named after a novel – one of Scott's. The intricate carvings on the monument include 64 characters from Scott's novels.



Downtown Edinburgh, particularly around Princes Street Gardens, features many lovely old buildings, statues, and memorials.



The architecture is really quite impressive, as are the monuments and fountains.

Continued on page 33



clankeith-usa.org

Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

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

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

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



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

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



And Edinburgh castle sits atop Castle Rock, watching over it all. The watchtower at the very right of this photo is actually only a few meters away from where I stood to take the photo and was built to allow watchers to view the graveyard below during the nighttime hours to keep grave robbers from performing their intended thefts.



Continued on page 35



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

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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.



My favorites were the statue to James Maxwell (how often does one see a major city monument to a scientist and engineer) and the monument to British hero Admiral Horatio Nelson. It is designed to look like an inverted spyglass of the type that ship captains would have used to scan the horizon in Nelson's day. What appears to be a cross at the top, is actually, upon closer observation, a mast and yardarm as would be found on an old sailing ship.



Dr. Pete Hylton, Ed.D.

**Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy
Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology
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I mentioned that we had to make the trip because of a customs and immigration issue. That was because we had been here long enough that we were eligible to apply for an Indefinite Leave to Remain (the

UK version of what in America would be called Permanent Residency). AND IT WAS GRANTED !!!

So now we are at liberty to remain in the UK without an ongoing string of visas. You are all welcome to enjoy a wee dram of your finest Scotch Whisky in celebration with us. We certainly did.

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

A Small Story of Hope

It was a cold and rainy day in early November when we decided to put up the Christmas Tree. We had decided "why not." The news stories were all speculating about how Covid would begin to spread again due the relaxing of restrictions over the impending Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays in America and what we in Scotland simply call the Festive Period. It was becoming obvious that our hoped-for trip to America for Christmas was going to be cancelled, just like our planned spring trip had been. Once again, our hopes for a holiday and a visit to the kids in Indiana were going to be undone by the pandemic. So "why not" decorate for Christmas.

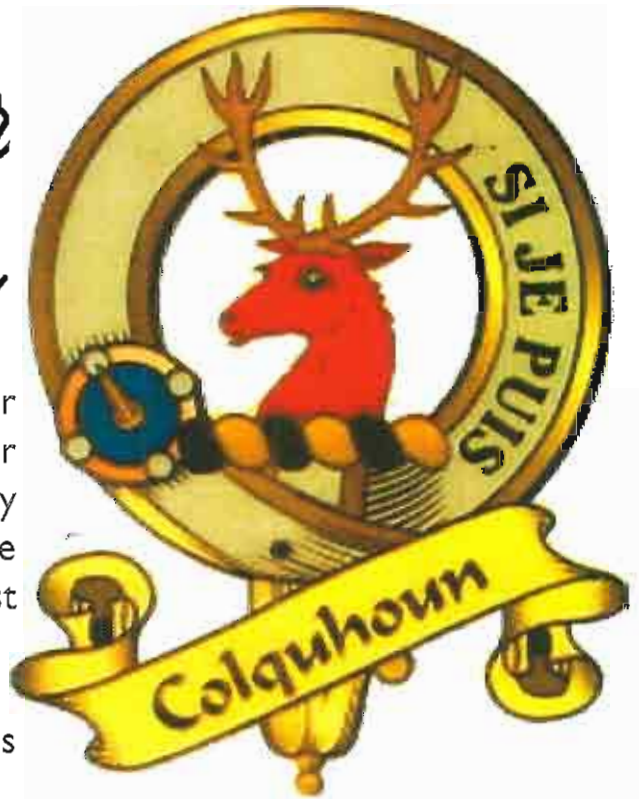
And thus, the boxes of ornaments and decorations came in from the garage and the tree went up in the conservatory. Somewhere between setting up the tree and hanging the tinsel, I noticed a brown splotch near the top of one of the full-height windows. I assumed it was a spot of bird poop, as the bird feeders in the front garden are kept religiously felled, so as to keep the cats entertained as they watch from the conservatory windows. So, bird poop on our windows is not an uncommon occurrence.

Once the tree was up and the shelf decorations placed about the house, I performed the task of what Scots refer to as "hoovering the carpet." I once again noticed the brown splotch and decided to clean it off the glass. So, once the house was done and dusted, I stepped outside with a towel to clean the windows. Afterall, the house has just been cleaned and decorated, why not the windows too. However, upon my arrival outside, I discovered that it was not a bit of

Continued on page 37

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bird residue, but rather a wee snail that had apparently climbed high up the glass during the recent rains, and had attached itself when the temperatures plummeted.



In five years living here in the far north of the Scottish Highlands I had learned quite a bit about snails. Here in Caithness, land snails are very common. A day working in our garden, usually uncovers dozens. Turn over a rock, or pull up a weed, and expect to discover a snail hiding underneath it. I have come to appreciate the wee beasties. I have spent many relaxing moments watching one explore a potted plant or examining the most recent addition to the compost pile. Observing them extrude themselves from their shell, extend their antennae and begin their slow exploration of their surroundings is quite calming. They also have interesting and lovely shells. I have quite a collection of vacated shells that I have picked up around the garden or on my walks.

Having become enamored with our local snails and having proved to my wife that they were not eating her Hostas, I have negotiated a truce between them and thus snails now have free roam of our property. Thus, it was only a mild surprise to find Dasher, the Christmas snail, at the top of our window. We had recently had torrential rains and land snails can drown in very little water. So, finding them climbing to dryer ground is not unusual. And in cold weather, land snails attach themselves to a seemingly safe surface and seal

themselves against it, hibernating until warm weather returns.

I pondered removing him and relocating him to the family of snails that I knew to be hibernating attached to the back side of mulch that was leaning against the side of the garage. But I was afraid that breaking his seal from the glass after he entered hibernation, might leave him dangerously exposed. So, we decided that Dasher could stay on the window if he wished.

From his perch he watched us have Thanksgiving dinner. And Christmas dinner. And holiday zoom calls with the kids in Indiana. He joined us in watching BBC discuss the aftermath of the US election results and the unbelievable night of the attack on the US Capital Building. He shared our concern over the rising coronavirus numbers in both countries and our optimism when the vaccines were released. He observed the impact of Brexit and the controversy over Prince Harry and Megan. I doubt that any snail on the planet had so much exposure to world news and current events. Wendy taught her math classes and I taught my engineering ones from the table in the conservatory. So, Dasher was exposed to everything from the Pythagorean Theorem to Newton's Laws of Motion. He seemed to quietly take it all in.

Dasher clung to that window as the grass turned brown in winter's cold and green again come spring. The snowdrops bloomed beneath him in the garden. He did not move as the Caithness winter winds topped 80 miles per hour, as they usually do in the bleakest parts of the year.

As spring began to arrive and I started to see other neighborhood snails make a reappearance, I began to think that maybe Dasher had not survived the winter, despite the warmth radiating through the glass. Then, one day I noticed that the brown splotch was gone from the glass. I went outside to see if perhaps his seal had finally broken and he had fallen to the garden below. But upon closer observation, I noticed a thin trail of slime indicating that he had made his way down the glass to seek a spring breakfast in the garden.

Life had gone on. Despite Covid. Despite lockdown. Despite government in turmoil. Despite everything. Sometimes it is the small things that give you hope for a better tomorrow.



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