

A double rainbow was seen above Buckingham Palace as hundreds of well-wishers gathered awaiting news on the Queen's health.

The rare phenomenon appeared in the sky as the clouds cleared after downpours across the capital on Thursday afternoon, September, 8, 2022.

Crowds of people began to arrive after the palace announced the beloved royal was under medical supervision, and continued to grow after her death was confirmed at 6.30pm.

**Our hearts go out to the people of the  
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Argyll also formed a key role as cradle of the new Scottish nation and of its Christian faith through the arrival of the "Scotti" from Ulster to form the *Kingdom of Dalriada* in Argyll from around 500 A.D.

With the hill fort at Dunadd in Mid-Argyll as their initial capital, they enlarged their political and spiritual kingdom with the assistance of St. Columba and the infant Celtic church at Iona until, in 843 A.D., a King of Scots (and Scotland) was created in the person of Dalriadan king, Kenneth MacAlpine.

Of significance to many of us is that it was from the ports in Argyll and Bute that ancestors set sail in the great 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century Highland diaspora, a consequence partly of clearance and improvement, which depopulated that part of Scotland scattering her people across the globe.

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# Queen Elizabeth II's Death at Balmoral Has Major Implications for Scotland

Ciara Nugent,

TIME

The eyes of the world turned to Scotland on Thursday after the death of Queen Elizabeth II at Balmoral, her Scottish summer residence.

The U.K.'s longest reigning monarch, aged 96, the Queen had suffered several years of ill-health. Her son Charles, who has immediately become King of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and his wife Camilla, now Queen Consort, have gathered with the rest of the royal family at Balmoral and will remain there until Friday, Buckingham Palace said in a statement.

Plans for the Queen's death have been held for decades by palace staff and U.K. officials, with elaborate ceremonial protocols regularly discussed and updated. But the fact that the Queen has died in Scotland—rather than in England—adds a new layer of complexity.

Her death is also likely to have political implications as Scotland's leaders push for the nation to consider independence from the U.K. in the next few years. While Scotland, with a population of 5.45 million, is part of the United Kingdom, it is a separate country from England—where London is located—and has many of its own laws, and has historically been less supportive of the monarchy.

Why was the Queen in Scotland?

Ever since her youth, Queen Elizabeth has spent most of her summers in Balmoral, a sprawling highland estate in Aberdeenshire, northeast Scotland. The castle was purchased by the royal family

in 1852 under Queen Victoria's reign. In a 2016 documentary, her granddaughter Princess Eugenie said the castle is where the Queen is "most happy."

Clive Irving, author of Elizabeth II biography *The Last Queen*, says he believes The Queen had wanted to be in Scotland for the final months of her life. "Balmoral was always the one [royal residence] that had the qualities of a real home, compared to Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace in particular, which is a soulless sort of place."

In 2022, the Queen's staff have increasingly limited her travel and engagements, citing "mobility issues". Just this Tuesday, she broke with protocol when she opted to stay in Balmoral for her formal appointment of the U.K.'s new prime minister Liz Truss. The Queen had appointed 14 previous prime ministers during her 70-year reign, and this was the first time the ceremony had taken place outside of Buckingham Palace.

Images of the meeting with Truss on Tuesday, showed the Queen looking unusually thin and frail, sparking concern in the media about her health.

How does the Queen's death in Scotland change royal ceremony?

Official protocols for the Queen's death, in place for decades, have been the subject of exten-



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# CLAN BUCHANAN

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# How a sleepy backwater in Ayrshire helped win the Battle of the Atlantic and defeat the Nazis

Sally McDonald, *The Sunday Post*

The new bombs, at first known as Fairlie Mortars, were fired ahead of the naval vessel.

From his study window on the eastern shore of the Firth of Clyde, John Riddell can see the yachts in Fairlie Bay, the defunct Hunterston coal terminal, and the ferry running up the coast to the islands of Cumbrae. For generations, very little of the vista has changed.

But as the retired chartered civil engineer gazes across the water, he can't help but picture the Fairlie of more than eight decades ago where very little happened – until “The Establishment” arrived.

In 1940, just after the Second World War broke out, the Royal Navy's vitally important Anti-Submarine Experimental Establishment covertly relocated from Portland in Dorset to the North Ayrshire village – then a quiet backwater – to escape German bombing. It stayed there for the next six years on the site of the former William Fife boatyard.

Its purpose? To carry out highly confidential, world-leading research into the acoustic detection of submarines using a device called asdic – now known as sonar – and to test submarine-killing weapons, like the Fairlie Mortar.

Run by the Royal Navy, hundreds of scientists and naval officers, along with some local men and women, worked at the base. Its experiments into new ways of sinking German U-boats were,

said Britain's wartime leader Winston Churchill, critical to winning the Battle of the Atlantic and ultimately the war. The research is still relevant to anti-submarine warfare today, but until relatively recently, Fairlie's war story was kept under wraps.

Riddell, 76, who moved to the village 50 years ago, said: “When they were testing weapons, they

came in close to the Fairlie shore and fired them onto the beach. To look out and imagine all these great explosions in the water, it's almost unbelievable.”

The father of three and grandfather to eight decided to write a book about the base after he was asked to pen

an article for his church magazine about one of the research vessels, HMS Kingfisher, and the loss of six sailors who drowned coming ashore in bad weather. Five years of research followed, resulting in a book that for the first time tells the full story of Fairlie's war and features previously unpublished material.

Riddell explained: “In the First World War, the Germans realized that if you could sink the merchant ships bringing food and raw materials into the country, in time, you could starve it into submission.

“We nearly got to that position. In the Second World War, we were receiving supplies from



*Continued on page 7*



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## Backwater town, *continued* from page 5

America, and the U-boats were given the job of sinking the merchant ships carrying them. In the beginning, they were sinking them faster than they could be built. The attacks usually took place at night when they could not be seen or when the submarines were submerged, so that is when asdic was critical."

Asdic works by emitting a sound signal at regular intervals from a transducer fitted in the hull of the Royal Navy or convoy vessel carrying it. The sound waves travel through the water – in a cone-shaped beam – until they hit a solid body and bounce back as an echo, which is intercepted, then heard, and interpreted by an operator who, from its sound, can identify the vessel detected.

"At the start of the Second World War, many different types of asdic existed because of the work done at Portland," said Riddell.

"They knew how far away the U-boat was, but they couldn't determine the depth it was at. That wasn't much use because the standard method of sinking and killing a U-boat was to drop a depth charge from a destroyer or frigate set to explode at a supposed depth." If they guessed right, the U-boat would be sunk, but if they got it wrong, it got away, he said.

Fairlie's most important work was to find a solution. Riddell explained: "They developed an asdic which could pick up a submarine in three dimensions: distance, direction, and most critically, depth. That was a big advance."

But the German submarines still had a brief window of escape. As the detection vessel closed in on the U-boat, the "beam" from the asdic would sweep over the submarine, and the "bings" emitted would stop. And in that brief moment of si-

lence lasting just a couple of minutes, the U-boat had a chance to escape.

"Fairlie came up with what would today be the 'software' that decided at what point in the hunt the attacking warship should fire underwater bombs," said Riddell.

"The new bombs, at first known as Fairlie Mortars, were fired ahead of the naval vessel – instead of being dropped over the stern or rear of the

ship (as happened with the depth charge) so that it reached the water when the submarine was still in the asdic beam.

"As the new weapons were further developed, they



finally achieved a success rate of nearly 69% compared to the 5-6% success rate of depth charges." He said the work at Fairlie "did the search, find and destruction of U-boats very much more successful," adding: "That is why Churchill said it was one of the most important developments of the Second World War."

Despite the importance of their work, some of the Establishment staff made time to socialize. Commander John (Jack) Binnie was well-known and liked by locals. A First World War veteran who specialized in anti-submarine warfare and asdic training at Portland, he came out of retirement to make use of his expertise. Living locally with his wife and two daughters, he was a member of St Columba's Scottish Episcopal Church in nearby Largs.

As part of his work, Binnie made a number of Arctic voyages but died in 1945, weeks before VE Day, when the ship he was on – *HMS Lapwing*, part of the escort of one of the last Russian

*Continued on page 9*

# The Clan Skene

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## Backwater town, continued from page 7

convoys of the war – was torpedoed by a U-boat just five miles from its destination port of Murmansk.

His memorial service held in Largs was attended by Establishment staff and locals who described it as “heart-rending.” Some will have remembered happier times. Just two years earlier, a dinner dance attended by more than 100 people from the base and other guests saw the toast to “The Royal Navy” given by local physician Dr. Roberts and responded to by Commander Binnie.

Riddell reveals in the book how one scientist taught martial arts in the local school hall: “The Ukraine-born scientist Moshé Feldenkrais learned Judo during his early years in Palestine, and by the time he came to Fairlie, he had attained rare and prestigious black-belt status.

“Soon, he was encouraging colleagues to take up the sport, giving demonstrations in their homes and in the village school when he persuaded the headmaster to allow him to run classes in the evening. After finishing his day’s research work, Feldenkrais would go to the school, clear away the classroom furniture, carry heavy floor mats up from the school cellar, and then do the reverse after demonstrations and teaching. A condition of the school’s use was that local people could join his classes.”

Riddell said: “The people of Fairlie never mentioned the top-secret work carried out in their town. To this day, they refer to His Majesty’s Anti-Submarine Experimental Establishment as simply ‘The Establishment,’ and there was never a mention of Portland. Its staff was always referred to as ‘our friends from the south.’”

Fairlie’s research team played a major part in disabling the powerful German battleship Tirpitz that posed an “extreme threat” to North Atlantic

and Russian Convoys.

Lying protected from air attack in a Norwegian fjord but able to go to sea at any time, Tirpitz required the Navy to keep many of its own scarce battleships ready to react – some in Scapa Flow off Orkney.



Author John Riddell told *The Sunday Post*: “She could annihilate a convoy with the size of her guns, and they decided she had to be put out of action.”

He writes: “The Royal Navy had developed its own version of a small submersible in the form of a midget submarine known as an

X-craft.

“The plan was to use the X-craft to enter the fjord, make their way submerged to the battleship, and then place time-delayed explosive charges below her hull before retreating seaward. To do this, an asdic able to measure distance above the transducer was required, and the task was given to the scientists at Fairlie.

“The resulting Type 151 asdic had a very narrow beam and was mounted on top of the submarine’s casing. This enabled the X-craft’s commander to determine when his boat with its explosive charges was directly under the target, and the charges could be released for later detonation.”

The X-craft crew was also trained in Scotland, with the Navy training the mini submariners in the icy lochs of the west coast.

Riddell added: “To assist in passing below or through the anti-submarine nets protecting the battleship, a depth-determining asdic – the modern echo sounder – was designed and installed.

“The X-craft attack on Tirpitz took place in September 1943 and succeeded in causing enough damage to reduce her immediate threat to the convoys.”



## Gilnockie Tower

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# Ian Fleming fanatic on realising her childhood dream to write latest James Bond page turner

Sally McDonald, *The Sunday Post*

Writer Kim Sherwood has penned the latest James Bond novel in Edinburgh and created a new style for the super-spy.

When she was just a little girl, Kim Sherwood fell in love with James Bond. The 10-year-old would play at spies but, in her games, she was not the beautiful Bond girl in need of rescue – she was the hero, Bond himself.

By the time she was a teenager, Sherwood had read all 14 of Bond creator Ian Fleming's books and lost herself in the blockbuster movies.

Fast-forward a couple of decades, and with the trademark implausibility and coincidence of a classic Fleming plot, Sherwood becomes a Bond girl – but with a difference.

The 32-year-old University of Edinburgh lecturer, with just one novel under her belt, was chosen by Fleming's estate to pen a new, fully authorised James Bond trilogy. With the first about to hit bookshops this week, the serendipity isn't lost on her.

Her late grandfather George Baker – who played Chief Inspector Wexford in ITV's *The Ruth Rendell Mysteries* – was the man Fleming wanted to play Bond in the first movie.

For Sherwood, the new role is “a dream come true” and one that would have made her grandad “smile”. She told *The Sunday Post*: “I feel incredibly grateful that my dreams have come true and

that doesn't always happen.”

Her debut 007 novel *Double Or Nothing* is a high-octane thriller that turns the traditional world of Bond on its head and hauls the hero into a diverse and inclusive modern world.

The author's reimagining sees 007's erstwhile secretary Miss Moneypenny now top dog at MI6 and makes Fleming's stable of elite spies less white and male.

Its plot? James Bond is missing, captured by a private military company and it falls to his colleagues, former lover Johanna Harwood, aka 003, the daughter of a French Algerian, Joseph Dryden, 004, a British

Jamaican, and Sid Bashir, 009, a British Asian, to find him.

Then there's the little matter of the new threat to the world, tech billionaire Sir Bertram Paradise, who claims he can reverse the climate crisis. Determined and licensed to kill, the spies are in a race to save not just Bond but humanity itself.

Sherwood said: “The two criteria the Flemings gave me was that they wanted the novels to be set in the modern day and they wanted a new wider cast of heroes. My first step was to look at the MI6 website and who they are trying to recruit.

“They are looking for people from many different backgrounds because they need them to be



*Continued on page 13*

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## New author for Bond, Continued from page 11

able to go under cover all over the world. They can't all look like James Bond because that would limit the mission. So that was my first cue.

"Then I was thinking of my love of Bond as a child and how when I would play Bond, I would be James Bond and not a Bond girl.

"That's not to denigrate the female characters in Bond. They are fantastic characters but I wanted to be the hero of the story. I didn't want to be rescued. This was an opportunity to create an inclusive set of characters that readers could identify with. It opens the door to more people."

But Bond has not had a makeover. "I love James Bond as he is," said Sherwood. "I don't want to change him. There are some essential ingredients to Bond that if you change them, he's not Bond any more so I wouldn't want to mess with the recipe.

"But the novel is set in the present day and I have looked at Bond from a modern angle. Readers will notice a difference between my Bond and Fleming's Bond in some ways but I hope they recognise that it is the same, essential character.

"I fell in love with Bond when I was under 10 years old. It was first seeing Pierce Brosnan's films on TV; that spectacular jump off the dam in the opening of *GoldenEye*. When I was 12 I told my mum I wanted to write spy fiction but I didn't know how and she said I should read some first."

The writer, who grew up in Camden in London, bought her first Bond novel from a second-hand bookshop. She remembered: "They had a copy of *From Russia With Love* in Pan Paperback and I bought it and fell in love with Fleming's writing and style."

But it wasn't until her mum gifted her a bumper guide to Bond for Christmas that she learned her grandfather had appeared in some fa-

mous Bond movies produced by Albert "Cubby" Broccoli.

"He had met Fleming at a restaurant. My grandfather was having dinner with some friends and Fleming was there having dinner with Broccoli who was casting the first Bond film. Fleming suddenly spotted my grandfather, who was a tall and handsome young man, and took Broccoli over to him and said, 'That's my Bond. That's who I want for Bond.' But my grandfather was in a picture contract that he couldn't get out of, so he couldn't do it."

He did later go on to play Sir Hilary Bray in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* (1969), was a NASA engineer in *You Only Live Twice* (1967), and Captain Benson in *The Spy Who Loved Me* (1977).

But he had no regrets about missing out on the now iconic

lead role filled by the likes of Sean Connery and latterly Daniel Craig. Baker, who died in 2011 aged 80, starred in countless TV shows including *Minder*, *Bergerac*, *I, Claudius*, *New Tricks* and *Spooks*.

He also appeared in about 30 other films including *The Dam Busters* and *The 39 Steps*. "I am thinking about him a lot at the moment and how much my writing Bond would have made him smile," said Sherwood. "He would tell me to embrace this and enjoy it all."

Sherwood had taken a decade to craft her first novel *Testament*, which was longlisted for the *Desmond Elliott Award*, shortlisted for the *Best First Novel Award*, and was winner of the *Bath Novel Award* and the *Harper's Bazaar Big Book of the Year*.

*Continued on page 15*





# CLAN GRAHAM SOCIETY



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## New author for Bond, *Continued from page 13*

Taking on Bond, she said, was “daunting” and she follows greats like Kingsley Amis, William Boyd, John Gardner, Sebastian Faulks, and Anthony Horowitz who have all followed in Fleming’s footsteps.

Sherwood, who is married to photographer, writer and editor Nicholas Herrmann, 33, said Fleming estates “wanted a new, young writer; someone who is a fan.”

Her agent remembered Sherwood saying: “One day I want to write James Bond” and tweeting *Testament* on a bookshop shelf beside one of Horowitz’s novels with the words: “One step nearer to my dream of writing Bond.”

The agent sent the tweet to the Flemings with the message: “Maybe this is the writer for you.”

The novel, written in over a year and during lockdown, was kept secret and delivered to deadline despite its writer being twice hit by Covid during its creation.

“Bond appears in the novel in flashbacks and people’s memories. I can’t tell you if they find him at the end because someone will come along and kill me,” she laughed.

“Money Penny is there. I thought that she had been secretary long enough and she is now head of MI6 and the 00 section and drives an electric Jaguar.”

Sherwood is already writing the second in the trilogy and is in a WhatsApp group with the Fleming family so that she can keep them abreast of developments, but says they “trust” her judgement.

Would Fleming himself think them justified? “I hope he’d be pleased,” she smiled. “I can’t write like Ian Fleming, I can only write like me, but I

have thought about ways our writing might have a shared DNA because he influenced me so young. I have tried to take my cues from him in terms of the mechanics of the novel.

“I have taken a third-person, omniscient point of view so that I can write from multiple perspectives. He has a very vivid way of writing, using very visual language with uncanny imagery and I have tried to resonate with that in my own style.

“I have tried to bring in his vision of Bond and then put that into dialogue with these new, modern characters. And I hope if he could read it that he would recognise himself in it, as well as it being something new and fresh.”

Sherwood, who moved to Scotland last year to take up a role as lecturer in creative writing, said: “I always

wanted to live in Edinburgh. It’s a fairytale city and a dream to live here. Because of Ian Fleming’s connection to Scotland (his father and grandfather were Scottish) this feels like a very special place to be writing these novels. I live close to Fettes College, where James Bond went to school.”

In the novel *You Only Live Twice*, Fleming revealed that, as a boy, 007 attended Fettes, while the iconic setting for Bond’s family estate in the 2012 movie *Skyfall*, starring Craig and with a title song by Adele, was inspired directly by *On Her Majesty’s Secret Service*, in which Bond revealed his father was from Glencoe.

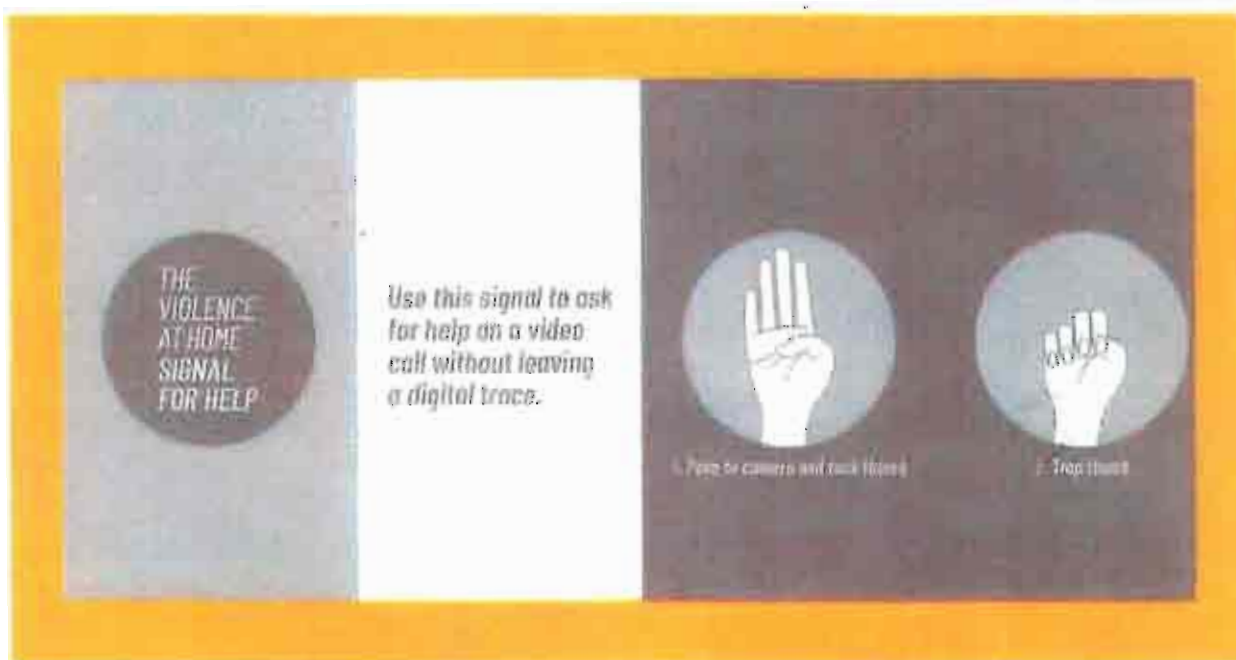
Sherwood revealed her own personal pilgrimage to the historic valley: “Recently we went up to ‘the Skyfall road’. I had just received my first proof of the novel. I took it there and offered it up to the mountains which felt very special.”

And with a wry smile, she added: “I was singing Adele in the car much to everyone else’s delight.”





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*With many thanks to Steve Kelley.*



# flower of the forest

*William Spears Latimore*

**William Spears Latimore, Jr.**, 97, passed to the Lord on July 7, 2022. He was preceded in death by his parents, Mary Belle Thomas and William Spears Latimore, his aunt, Kate E. Thomas, and his wife of 58 years, Alice Seagle Walton.

He is survived by his sons and their wives, Thomas Walton Latimore (Lynne) and William S. Latimore, III (Kaye).

Bill received his education at The Bright School, McCallie, and Georgia Tech before graduating from the University of Illinois.

He served in the Navy during World War II.

He then worked for several years as a structural engineer with TVA before joining his uncle, Daniel W Latimore, in his real estate appraisal business. He practiced in that profession for the remainder of his life.

Bill was active in the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers, attaining their MAI designation. He served as vice president of the national organization and president of the Tennessee chapter, which presents an award in his name.

He was also a member of the Society of Real Estate Appraisers and the Real Estate Counselors.

Alice and Bill were married in 1947 and, after a few years in St. Elmo, moved to Lookout Mountain, where they lived for over half a century. They were active in the work of the Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church, where Bill served as an elder.

He spent several years as a coach in the Dixie Youth baseball program.

Late in life, Alice and Bill moved to the Windstone community in North Georgia to be

closer to their sons.

Bill's entire family was active in the Scottish community throughout the Southeast. They enjoyed frequent visits to various highland games across the country and were regulars at both Grandfather and Stone Mountain.

He served as treasurer of Clan Maxwell and as president of Clan Keith, which offers an award named for him.

Bill also supported the work of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Bill and Alice were avid Scottish country dancers for many years.

He was a longtime member of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, a Christian benevolent organization dedicated to providing aid to Christian churches and scholarships to young Christians in the Holy Land.

Bill served as Prior of the Priory of The Holy Rood (covering Georgia and Florida). He attained the order's highest rank and was named to the Order of Merit.

Bill spent years collecting bank notes drawn on the Bank of Chattanooga during the 1860s.

Alice and Bill had fun building collections of Native American "Old Pawn" as well as antique Scottish jewelry.

Over the years, Bill also compiled a collection of single malt whiskeys from over 100 different Scottish distilleries.

Bill's favorite activities included Scottish country dancing, shooting pool at the Mountain City Club, doing nothing much in Hawaii, and walking the beach at Kiawah Island, S.C.



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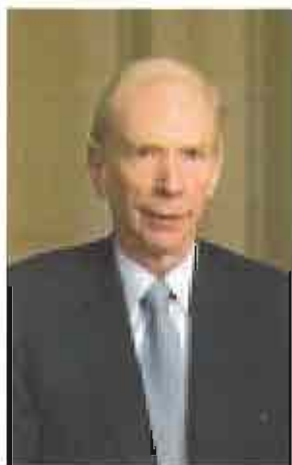
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# FLOWER OF THE FOREST

David Alexander Cospatrick Douglas - Home



**David Alexander Cospatrick Douglas-Home**, 15<sup>th</sup> Earl of Home, KT, CVO, CBE November 20, 1943 – August 22, 2022, died aged 78.

Lord Home, seated at The Hirsell, Coldstream, Berwickshire, was Chief of the Name and Arms of Home.

David Douglas-Home, son of the former Prime Minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home (Lord Home of the Hirsell), was a banker, a director of Morgan Grenfell, & sometime chairman of Coutts & Co (until 2013).

David Alexander Cospatrick Douglas-Home was born on 20 November 1943. His father, Alexander Frederick (Alec) Douglas-Home, KT, PC, then styled Lord Dunglass (born 2 July 1903), was Conservative MP for Lanarkshire and PPS to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain 1935-40.

Dunglass succeeded his father on 11 July 1951 as 14<sup>th</sup> Earl of Home (Peerage of Scotland, cr 1605) and Lord Dunglass (cr Scot, 1605), 4<sup>th</sup> Baron Douglas of Douglas (the UK, cr 1875), and 19<sup>th</sup> Lord Home (Scot, cr 1473).

He held senior Cabinet posts in the Churchill, Eden, and Macmillan administrations (Foreign Secretary 1960-63). The 14<sup>th</sup> Earl renounced his peerages of life on 23 October 1963 and was elected

as Sir Alec Douglas-Home, Conservative MP for Perthshire and Kinross-shire, and appointed Prime Minister and 1<sup>st</sup> Lord of the Treasury, a post he held until his defeat to Harold Wilson at the 1964 General Election.

He was the leader of the Opposition, 1964-65, and Foreign Secretary in the Heath government, 1970-74. In 1974 he was created a life peer as Baron Home of the Hirsell.

David Douglas-Home's mother was Elizabeth Hester Alington (1909-90), whose father had been headmaster of Eton.

David Douglas-Home succeeded to the peerages disclaimed by his father on the death of Lord Home on 9 October 1995, and was elected to the House of Lords in 1999, and served for some time on the Conservative front bench.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Earl was appointed CBE in 1991 and CVO in 1997. In 2014 he was appointed a Knight Companion of the Order of the Thistle and was installed at St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh.

He married 10 October 1972, Jane Margaret Williams-Wynne (born 20 February 1949), the second daughter of Colonel John Francis Williams-Wynne, CBE, DSO, of Peniarth, Tywyn, Gwynedd, by whom he had issue, a son, Michael, and two daughters, Lady Iona (born 1980) wife of Viscount Lifford's heir, and Lady Mary (born 1982). The son, Michael David Douglas-Home, styled Lord Dunglass, who was born 30 November 1987, succeeds as 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Home.

*Article courtesy of Peerage News:*



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# Intrepid polar explorer dives in to chart some of Scotland's wildest water

Sally McDonald, *The Sunday Post*



*'Blue Scotland: The Ultimate Guide to Exploring Scotland's Wild Waters'* by Mollie Hughes. (Photographs by Rachel Keenan) is a book that will be enjoyed by anyone who loves Scotland.

When Mollie Hughes hauled her 105kg sled solo across 700 miles of frozen wilderness to the South Pole, she could not have anticipated she'd face any greater isolation. Back home in Scotland, she did.

Hughes, 32, was dubbed "the new Scot of the Antarctic" after she skied into the Guinness Book of World Records by crossing Antarctica alone and unsupported for 58 days – eight of them in perilous crevasse territory and white-out conditions with storm force winds and temperatures plummeting to minus 45C. She finally reached the Pole on January 10, 2021, aged just 29, the youngest woman ever to do so.

Shortly after her return to Edinburgh, Hughes found herself alone again, this time locked down in the pandemic, with nothing but the four walls of her small flat for company. But a new adventure was to spring out of her isolation; one that, when restrictions allowed, plunged her into a water world that was practically on her doorstep.

Hughes, who in 2017 had already become the youngest woman to climb Mount Everest from both its north and south sides, said: "I am used to being

in big, wide spaces and suddenly I was in my little flat in the middle of Edinburgh. I was longing to be out there and exploring, but I was also thinking a little bit more about what is closer to home.

"My adventure ambitions have looked so far from our shores like the Himalayas or the frozen continents. But when I was here in Scotland – which I realised wasn't a bad thing – my vision changed."

The woman who grew up partly on the Dorset coast set her sights on Scottish waters. From rivers and canals to water-filled quarries, remote coastal idylls and freezing mountain lochs, she explored more than 60 wild locations to swim, kayak, surf and paddleboard.

Touring Scotland in a campervan and accompanied by award-winning Glasgow photographer Rachel Keenan and other pals, Hughes, Scouts Scotland's first female president, discovered not only the best spots to make a splash but also the

*Continued on page 23*





# OH, CANADA!



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## The Ultimate Guide to Exploring Scotland's Wild Waters, continued from page 21

physical and psychological benefits being in "blue spaces" can bring. The result is a new book, *Blue Scotland: The Ultimate Guide To Exploring Scotland's Wild Waters*, graded for everyone from novice to expert, out on September 15.

She explained: "It started off as a lockdown idea. Rachel and I used to work together and had been friends for a while. When I came up with this book I knew the photography had to be great and Rachel sprang to mind. She is the kind of person you want to spend a year with, travelling around Scotland in a campervan.

"She is tough in a modest way and her photography is amazing. I would be going off swimming but Rachel was there with a camera, balancing on a paddleboard or a kayak taking pictures, thinking about angles, and about how she was going to charge her batteries at night in a tent."

The author, who is a director of Ocean Vertical, an East Lothian outdoor centre leading ethical adventures into Scotland's mountains and seas, added: "I have always had a sense of calm and wellness around water. A lot of studies show that



blue spaces are better for us than green spaces, like countryside and forest. It doesn't matter where the blue space is, they all have beneficial effect. You can have amazing spaces like Luskentyre on the

Isle of Harris but you can also find that sense of well-being in an inner city blue space – like on the Clyde.

"They are all different according to what day you go. They are all wonderful mini adventures."

This book is available at Amazon.com about the middle of September.



Jim Abbott has a large cattle farm and this is his field corn for silage. Never has he seen it this high and it won't be ready for another three weeks! Jim is 6 feet tall!

We've had just the right amounts of rain and heat to grow some spectacular crops this year. Jim says the corn stocks are very brittle now and he just snapped that one off at ground level. From the tassel to where he broke it off at ground level measures 13 feet! Jim owns Abbott Cattle Co Limited and has farmed just outside Carman, Manitoba for many, many years.

With many, many thanks to my friend, TimyC!

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# Beginners Level Article

## Tracing Immigrant Origins – Locating Place Names

Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS

There are four significant challenges confronting researchers seeking the specific place of origin while tracing immigrant ancestors. Finding the long-sought place name in a document or record and then learning that such a town does not exist in the native country. When looking in various records, the entry for place of origin simply says the name of country as in “Ireland” or “Germany,” which provides few, if any, useful details. When locating the entry line, the writing is illegible or the spelling is incorrect. Boundary changes over time have also resulted in place name changes, and often in ancestral places being located in entirely different counties, provinces, states, and countries.

Many places have also been known by more than one name historically. Place names have changed when foreign invaders attacked and took control of surrounding (or distant) weaker groups, which often resulted in boundary changes, as well as linguistic changes, which led to replacement of traditional place-names. Some name-changes were for political reasons. For example, because of rampant anti-German feeling caused by World War II, many cities changed their names.

Some sources are more likely to give an accurate place of origin than others. Historical maps, atlases, and gazetteers are important resources for

genealogical research. Please note I emphasize the term “historical.” These resources are available in print and online versions. They can provide useful clues in searching for places of residence that are critical for accessing records. Often you will need to use geographical landmarks and boundaries, such as harbors, rivers, lakes, mountain ranges, etc., to link

the historical and modern place-names. Many name changes in the United States, Canada, and Europe were impacted by the aftermath of both world wars.

Another excellent source to supplement these print and online

reference tools is *Family Search Wiki*. Here are a few select *Family Search Wiki* link examples:

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Germany\\_Gazetteers](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Germany_Gazetteers)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Italy\\_Gazetteers](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Italy_Gazetteers)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Czechia\\_Gazetteers](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Czechia_Gazetteers)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Identifying\\_Place\\_Names\\_in\\_German\\_documents](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Identifying_Place_Names_in_German_documents)

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Maps>

Some prime examples of information that may be found using these resources include:

Political and historical facts

*Continued on page 27*





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## Bring Scotland Home this Spring

According to *Vogue Magazine*, vibrant colours and bold patterned fabrics are on trend for interiors this Spring, and what could be better to introduce either of these trends into your home than tartan? Especially as there's over 500 colourways to choose from!



Location of bordering towns and rivers

Historical boundary changes caused by war or lesser conflicts

Regional ethnic and religious demographics

Important local geographical features that impacted life decisions and migrations

After information about an immigrant's place of origin is discovered, you will need to interpret the findings. In order to determine the accuracy of the place name you have located, you must understand foreign spellings and then evaluate if you have found the correct place name that is mentioned in the source.

Foreign place names have often been misspelled in American records because the clerks who wrote it did not know the foreign spelling or sound system of the original language. Another issue is caused by the lack of standardized spelling in the foreign location itself, so many variations may exist. Some common spelling errors include:

Phonetic spelling. Some letters have a different sound in other languages.

Misreading. Handwritten or gothic printed letters can be misinterpreted either by you or by a previous reader.

Special characters. Many languages use special symbols, often called diacritics, which indicate changes in sound, and sometimes the phonetic value of the letters.

English variations. The proper spelling of town or city names in English may be quite different than the spelling in the native language.

Once you have found an actual town name, it may still be difficult to identify the town. Often there was more than one town in a country with the same or similar names. For example, there are ninety-six places named Newton or New Town in Great Britain and at least ten towns (and dozens of hamlets) named Lindenberg in Germany. Scotland

has four Kildonans. While the city of Hoorn is well known in the Netherlands, there are also six villages and hamlets with that name, while another town and two hamlets are named Horn. This is why it is so important to know more about the area the immigrant came from, such as the name of the state, province, or county. It is also helpful to know of nearby cities and geographical landmarks, as these do not change with time.



By far the most common mistake that many researchers make, even some experienced ones, is jumping to the conclusion that the place name they have found in their research is the very town where the immigrant ancestor lived. In many cases, they have found a legitimate foreign location, but

it is not the immigrant's home. It may be the name of the country, state, or region where the immigrant lived, but the researcher is not familiar enough with the country to identify it as such. In other cases, it may be the name of a city that is not the immigrant's home since, in many cases, the nearest large city or the port of departure was recorded as the home. In other cases, the name of the city is also the name of the state or province.

For more information on this topic, I have compiled four additional detailed study guides to supplement the information provided in this article. Each of the study guides includes a listing of online and print resources available at the Fort Myers Regional Library genealogy collection.

Maps, Atlases, and Gazetteers in Genealogical Research

Ship Passenger Lists – Fast Facts

Tracing Immigrants Origins – Locating Place Names

Immigration and Naturalization Records

Compiled by Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference/ Genealogy Librarian, Fort Myers, Florida, Regional Library, USA. 8/20/2022

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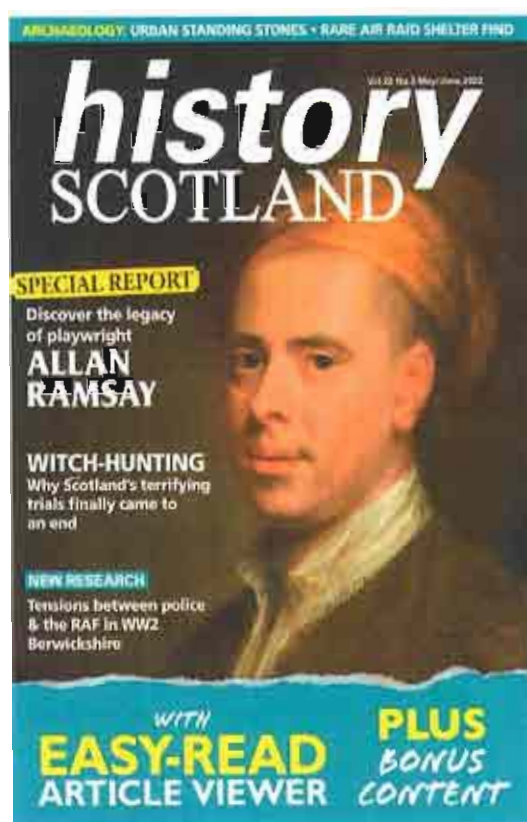
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## The Queen's Death in Scotland, *continued from page 3*

sive leaks in the U.K. media over the years. The overarching plan is known as "Operation London Bridge," and includes rules for everything from how the Prime Minister will be informed ("London Bridge is down"), to how King Charles III will address the nation, and what will happen to the Queen's body.

That last part is more complicated since the Queen died in Scotland, a scenario that activated so-called "Operation Unicorn." The Queen's body will need to be moved from Balmoral to Holyroodhouse, her residence in the Scottish capital of Edinburgh, to lie in rest for a short time. The body will then be carried in a procession up the Royal Mile, a central avenue, to St. Giles Cathedral for a reception service.

Afterwards, Queen Elizabeth II's body will be taken to London on a royal train from Edinburgh's Waverley Station. Crowds are expected to meet the coffin

at several points along the journey to throw flowers, according to The Guardian, with another locomotive following behind to collect debris. If a train journey is not possible, the coffin will be taken to London via plane ("Operation Overstudy").

The coffin will be welcomed in the capital by the prime minister, and taken to Buckingham Palace. The Queen will receive a state funeral at London's Westminster Abbey ten days after her death (business in parliament will be suspended after confirmation of her death for the preparations.) She will then be buried at Windsor Castle.

What does the Queen's death mean for Scotland's relationship with the rest of the U.K.?

The transition of monarch from Elizabeth to her son, King Charles III, arrives at a tumultuous time for the union of the United Kingdom. Scotland's semi-autonomous government is controlled by the Scottish National Party (SNP), which

advocates for Scotland to become an independent country.

SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon has argued that the U.K.'s departure from the E.U., which Scottish voters opposed, means it is time for a new referendum on Scottish independence. (Scots voted down an independence referendum in 2014). Sturgeon insists a new poll should take place in 2024—though Truss, the new prime minister, has said she will block efforts to hold one.

So far, the SNP has said it would keep the monarchy as head of an independent Scottish state. That made sense under Elizabeth, whose often-

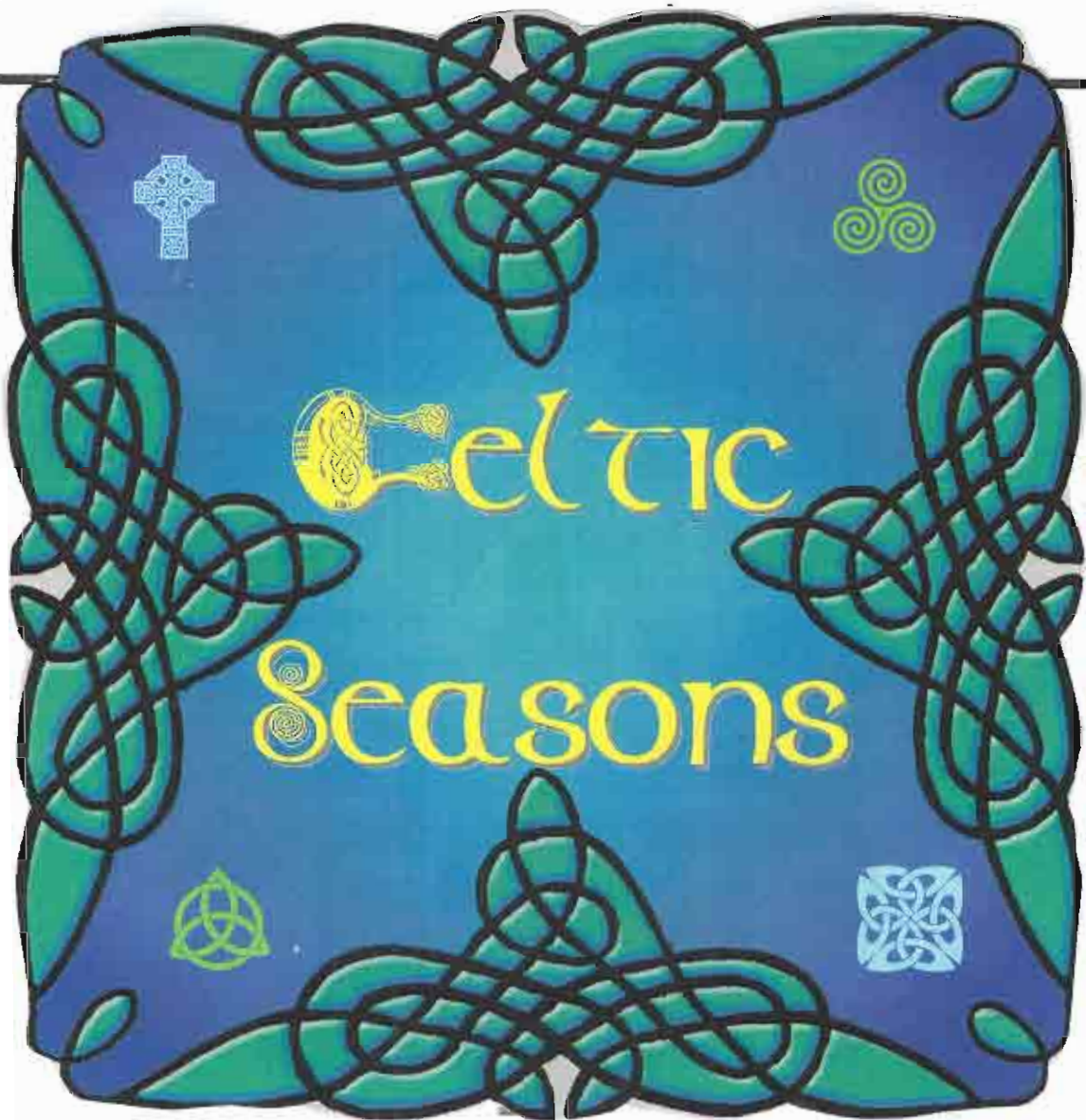
stated love of Scotland has been relatively well reciprocated. A Yougov poll published this May found 75% of Scots think the Queen did a good job in her role (compared to 84% in the U.K. as a whole.)

But the monarchy overall has always been viewed with slightly greater hostility north of

the border than in England or Wales. A poll by the think tank British Future, ahead of the Queen's platinum jubilee this May, found that more than a third of Scots said the end of the Queen's reign would be the right time to abolish the monarchy and become a republic, compared with a quarter of Brits overall. Prince Charles is less popular than his mother in Scotland: per Yougov, only 52% of Scots predicted he would do a good job as king (compared to 57% in the U.K. overall). Irving, the biographer of Queen Elizabeth II, says the SNP's commitment to the monarchy "will expire" with the Queen's death.

If Charles proves an unpopular ruler, it may even weaken the Scots' commitment to the union, he adds. "Having been on the throne for so long, she represented a depth of degree and continuity that can't be replicated," Irving says. "The Queen held everything together."





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