

Comann Kidd na h-Alba

THE TREE & HORN

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION
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Welcome in 2022

Welcome to our 1st Edition of the society newsletter publication aptly named “The Tree & Horn”

The aim of the newsletter is to give an overview of what the society to date is about and what has been going on in the background, away from the face of social media.

In the 1st Edition we will give a little information on what the overall objectives have been in 2021 and, moving on into 2022 and what we can look forward to working on.

Overview 2021

The Society, so far, has been formed on a decision to create a community based around the ancient “family of names” relating to the various spellings of Kidd, Kydd, Kyd, Kyde, Kid, Kiddie, McKidd, MacKidd, McKiddie, MacKiddie, McKeddie and others, which we believe to have risen from the same source.

After some years of studying the name and ancestry origins, it became apparent that there were very few resources or community related activities that were in use for the “family of names”.

The name seemed to lack definition and online research seemed shallow with seemingly many cases of inaccurate or inconsistent information available to those researching their lineages.

Were we from Scandinavian descent, or the sellers of wood faggots, or simply frisky people named after young goats? Where did we come from is the big question?

With a bit of chat and encouragement from other Kidd’s, it was decided to begin with social media to see if it was a worthwhile endeavour.

As of 2nd July 2021, the Facebook Group was created and by the end of the year, December 31st, we had over 230 people in the Facebook Group.

Social Media

As of July 2021, we made a start to getting the social media platforms off the ground and formed a responsible administration group {admin team} to support the Facebook Group. The admin team consists of several members from all over the globe: USA, Australia, Denmark, Argentina, and Scotland, which also include some of the variant spellings of the name. So far we have Kidd, McKidd, and Kyde as admin members. The Facebook Group has formed the best interaction with people, so far, which was to be expected from all the platforms used.

We currently have a presence on the most popular social media sites: Facebook Group, Facebook Page, Instagram, Twitter and Linked In. In time these will, hopefully, all link up to the website once the design is completed. We have a Link Tree created to link all the media into one common place.

Kidd Society Worldwide Facebook Group

As of Jan 2022, we have renamed the Facebook Group “Kidd Society Worldwide,” which is attached to the Page. The idea is that the group owner is the Kidd Society page or the home of the Society with the Worldwide group a spin-off.

The Worldwide Group is aimed at allowing people from various countries and regions to connect with the “family of names” while the Page can remain a home for the Society. The Society will be based in Scotland - similar to a Clan type association.

The Worldwide Group has functioned well so far but needs further development of certain resources attached to the group to allow people who wish to trace ancestry access to links and database connecting the Kidd lineage. As the Group develops, we will hopefully see the differences between the Group and the Page become more apparent. At present it’s not so easy to see these differences. The easiest way to describe the current proposed direction of the Group is that it is aimed at genealogy and topics related to the family of names.

Kidd Society Facebook Page

As mentioned above the Page will be the home of the Society which does not interact in the same way as the Group does. The Page can connect with many other pages of similar types of interest and help promote the society in general. The Page is meant to act as an information board only and not as a discussion area even though it can carry out basic discussion functions.

Kidd Society Link Tree

The society has developed a “Link Tree” function, which provides one common link to all the social media, website, and Kidd DNA Project. This is a basic tree but provides a very simple method for people to find all the associated sites in one place.

<https://linktr.ee/KiddSociety>

Online Images

With the use of social media came the need to have licenced use of photographic material for online use. There are a few images that were secured and officially licensed to the page. These images were of the Foinns Rock, known as the “Praying Hands of Mary” which are located near Glen Lyon in the Breadalbane District of Perthshire Scotland. This image has relevance to the society and will form an iconic type of image for our use going forward. We have full licensed ownership of these images to be used on all our society online platforms and merchandise if required.

The Family of Names

It's known that the spelling of Kidd / Kydd / Kyd / Kyde and other variants, have connections at the suspected source origin of the name. The Kidd spelling is only used in the title of the Society as it has become the favoured or most popular spelling over time.

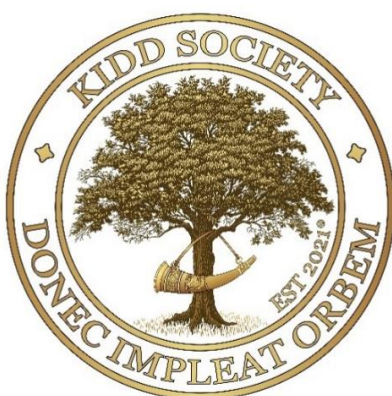
The Society and Page will remain open to all variations of spelling of the mainly recognised versions of the name. This will allow everyone a chance to join the journey of ancestral discovery as the spellings were mostly altered over time and through spelling or scribe's mistakes due to the nature of the name itself.

Variants include Kidd, Kid, Kyd, Kydd, Kide, Kiddie, Kydde, McKidd, MacKidd, McKiddie, MacKiddie, and McKeddie. Please note there are many variations not listed here.

Society Logo History

In December 2021 we began work on a specific logo for use on social media and society-based information. The logo as shown on the front page has been taken from the original Kidd coat of arms (COA). This is not meant to be a full coat of arms but a simplified version that references the original to signify a connection to the name and various branches.

The Tree & Horn has formed the central icon of the logo which was then seen in many of the branches of the family name thereafter, in Scotland and Ireland. The Boar's Head has been added to the horn to signify the story behind the coat of arms first issued.



The Motto "Donec Impleat Orbem" translated from Latin to English means "until he fills the world"

The motto and crest were part of an impressive story from the 15th century when Kyds were presented with the honours of the crest and motto from the French King Henri II at that time.

King Henri II of France

The King was on a wild boar hunting expedition when he fell from his horse while separated from the main group. He landed close to an oak tree where he shielded himself from the boar; he sounded his hunting horn to alert the main party of the danger. One of the Scots archers rushed to the King's aid and killed the boar.....was this archer a Kidd? Through the records and archives of Edinburgh and the Scots, the archer has been identified as the Kidd in question and supported in the enlisting of the "Garde Ecosaise" regiment.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_II_of_France

The below is a copy of the original COA which was found in New Zealand after being displaced from Scotland during the Plantations of Ulster. It then grew into several variations related to the Kidd branches in Ireland.



The King's Bodyguard (Garde Ecosaise) were made up of 100 Scottish Soldiers and Archers who always surrounded the King. they were the elite fighting soldiers who were entrusted as the King's own personal guard.

King Henri II of France reigned from 31st March 1547 until his death in 1559. We can see in the images below of the coin that there is reference to the "Orbem" and Fluer-de-Lys seen in the original coat of arms.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scottish_Guards_\(France\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scottish_Guards_(France))

Below are some coins produced during King Henri II reign showing the motto crest used in the Kiddcoat of arms and fleur de lys.



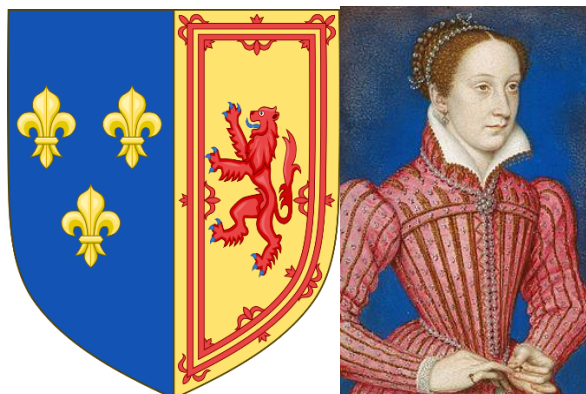
The crest or “orbem” symbol is shown below on the Kidd Clan belt buckle, which is commonly produced shows Donec Impleat which was registered to a family branch based in London, so has been altered from the original, however many online materials may be picked up and used incorrectly at times.



Mary Queen of Scots and Francis II

Mary Queen of Scots (b. 8th December 1552, d. 8th February 1587) was married to Francis II at the age of just 9 months old.

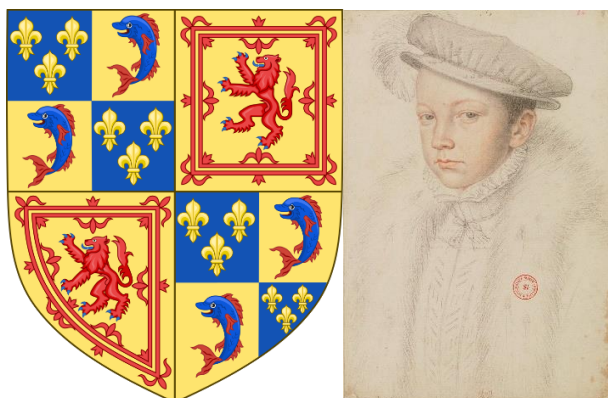
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary,_Queen_of_Scots



Mary Queen of Scots Royal Arms from the Tollbooth in Leith Edinburgh.

Below are the Royal Arms of Francis II Dauphin and King Consort of Scots he was King Henri II eldest son born 19th January 1544, who married Mary, Queen of Scots in 27th January 1548 (aged 4)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_II_of_France



These links to the Scots Guard (Garde Ecosaise) and the French Royalty show very clearly the times of the “Auld Alliance” between Scotland and France.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auld_Alliance

Projects 2022

The following section outlines some of the work currently ongoing and the various projects the society hopes to undertake over the next period.

Heart Of Caledonia

The project idea has emerged as a potential way to link ancestry back to Scotland from overseas. The initial concept came from some DNA testing that has proved an invaluable tool for connecting family branches previously unknown.

The project itself could be a basic type of database or a spreadsheet type idea with names and contacts for other members in the project, with last known names and the date of birth D.O.B of relatives. This spreadsheet may take some thought and design to be able to capture all the required fields of entry.

Society Registration

The Society can be officially registered in 2022. This is a fairly easy process to become a fully recognised body, in either incorporated or unincorporated status. This requires some consideration to setting up a formal body or committee to uphold and run any business and events, so will require a structure to be put in place.

Carved in Stone Project

In December 2021 the society has made a cash donation and pledge to the “Carved In Stone Project”

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/dungeonsonadime/carved-in-stone>

This project is based on the ancient history of Scotland’s pictish people. There will be a booklet produced by the project which will be circulated locally and internationally. The Society will have a printed recognition in it the official “Kidd Society” name in recognition of the pledge which was made to the project. Look out for this being released, more information at the link above is available.



Kidd Tartan

The Kidd Tartan has been a contentious subject for centuries since its concept design, which was carried out by Wilson's of Bannockburn in 1790. It was first produced and known as No 43 and later registered as Kidd (1409) or Caledonia.

The Kidd tartan goes largely unknown by many with the name themselves, due to a few factors the original pattern was renamed as McPherson. In 1822 there was a visit to Scotland by King George IV where there was a rush for Clans to register their tartans. At that time the Clan McPherson Chief took a liking to the Kidd Tartan and had it registered thereafter as McPherson (1410).

The Kidd Tartan was being produced and exported mainly to the colonies, West Indies and Jamaica in particular. The Kidd Clan was never registered officially with Lord Lyon of Edinburgh so, therefore, had no Chief to claim the rights to the tartan under the name. The Kidd name and Clan association is that of a sept of Clan Fergusson, we believe, from the Perthshire Tay valley area, close to the border with Angus.

<https://www.tartanregister.gov.uk/tartanDetails?ref=1957>



Over the years the Kidd tartan has been changed by many mills offering slight changes to the original set pattern, which is commonplace from different mills. The Society has engaged with the National Museum of Scotland to retrieve the original woven pattern of the Kidd Tartan. Several of the ancient pattern books from Wilsons and other sources have been pulled from the archives to compare the differences between the Kidd No 43 (1409) and the later registered McPherson (1410) as this was

essentially the same tartan at that time. Research is ongoing and will be published at a later date. We believe the mills have created slight differences to make the Kidd and McPherson tartans look different for a modern market.

The goal would be to produce as close as possible to the original weave and to extend the current range of Kidd Tartan to include the variations for Ancient, Modern, Reproduction and Rock & Wheel to give a full range of tartan for all occasions.

Clan McPherson

The office of James Brodie McPherson of Cluny, Clan Chief of the McPhersons, been contacted to discuss the history of the Kidd No 43 Tartan. His office has been most supportive to date and were completely unaware of the history of the tartan that they inherited.

In the quest to discover the ancient thread patterns and likeness to the current McPherson Tartan to be able to reproduce as close as possible, a copy of the authentic tartan was discussed with the Clan McPherson whom we have informed we intend the use of the tartan again as Kidd Tartan.

Some mills currently still sell tartan under the Kidd name while they also sell a version of McPherson. They look close in design but ultimately are different. We have enjoyed good communications so far with Clan McPherson and would be delighted to continue in this way and receive their support claiming the rights to the "Ancient Kidd" Tartan with the blessing of Clan McPherson Chief to support our intentions. We see this as an important steppingstone to re-establishing the family name and tradition.

<https://www.clan-macpherson.org/>

Kidd DNA Project

Over recent times DNA has become a very popular subject and venture for people to undertake. We currently have a "Kidd" and variant spellings surname project which has been attached to the family tree DNA website based in America.

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/kidd/about/background>

We have several members who have used the service and we do highly recommend for this for anyone interested in their Kidd, Kydd, Kyd, McKidd etc lineage. This is to date, this is the only Kidd project available and has run successfully for many years. We are happy to assist people with enquiries and results to better their knowledge of DNA and their origins. For any assistance, contact our admin team or the email address for the society.

Website Design

The Society has currently purchased a website domain for further development and launch. At first this was proposed to launch in 2022. There is still a general aim for this to be the case. As things have developed in other areas the need for the website and functionality of the site is still growing.

This needs to be assessed fully to capture the requirements of the scope to design and build a site suitable to take all aspects of the Kidd Family and origins forward to the wider domain. We do not want to rush into releasing the website until we have fully reviewed the potential scope to be covered on the site. A full review of costs and funding required to support the site will be carried out before any action to publish the site.

www.kidd-society.com

Deep Ancestry Origins

We have been working on papers that would classify as a thesis case to put forward a strong argument for the Kidd family name origins. This work has been ongoing now for the last few years and has been partly DNA inspired and tracing genealogy. Ancestry has played a part to spark the searches. We have a total experience of over 20 years of combined research of the name and origins.

There is a very strong case being built to prove the origins of our family name and engage with professionals in the field to assess the work and have a platform to objectively look over what has been done to date. We are under no illusion that this will take time and effort to have a case reviewed by professionals in the arena. We have made initial communications with several key persons that we feel are best placed to look objectively at our work to date.

These people are of the highest standing in the country. They are as follows:

Dr Carly McNamara



<https://twitter.com/medievalcarly?lang=en>

Professor Thomas Clancy



<https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/humanities/staff/thomasclancy/>

Dr Oisin Plumb



<https://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/research-enterprise/cultural/institute-for-northern-studies/staff/dr-oisin-plumb-ma-hons-msc-fhea-fsa-scot>

Author Gilbert Markus



<https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/humanities/staff/gilbertmarkus/>

We encourage anyone with interest in this field to contact us to discuss the wider projects that involve some very interesting works.

Contact Details

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Link Tree: <https://linktr.ee/KiddSociety>