



# the Scottish Banner



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*A' Bhratach Albannach*

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**the Scottish Banner**

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The Banner Says...

# Coming full, stone, circle



by Sean Cairney

Over ten thousand years ago the earliest inhabitants of Scotland began erecting stone monuments which have left a shroud of mystery for historians to work out their cultural or spiritual importance. Folklore and myth surround these large stone formations which can be found across Scotland, with claims of supernatural, sacred, and healing powers. Ancient stones scatter the Scottish landscape today from historic Cairn monuments, stone circles, Neolithic burial chambers and bronze age tombs.

On the Isle of Lewis sits the incredible Calanais Standing Stones. Known in Gaelic as 'Fir Bhreig' or 'false men', legend has it that they are the petrified souls of the distant past, while scientists now believe these stones were aligned to the sun and the moon.

The Ring of Brodgar in Orkney is Britain's third largest stone circle. It is believed this was a site of ritual and religious ceremony dating back thousands of years. Others feel it is a shrine to the solstice and changing seasons and even for some a place for UFO's to land from another universe.

Not far from Inverness and Culloden Moor sits the three circular Clava Cairns. This bronze-age stone built cemetery is believed to have been the burial site of a Pictish king. Clava Cairns are believed to be up to 4,000 years old and is one of the oldest well-preserved burial sites in Scotland.

**In this issue**

Speaking of stones, it was in Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* book and TV series, that led character Claire

to visit a prehistoric stone circle near Inverness, and fall through the stones—and into the 18<sup>th</sup> century—and so began an incredible journey not only for Claire but the *Outlander* franchise. We are delighted to have Graham McTavish, or as some may know as Dougal MacKenzie from the first two series of the show, speak to us about his new book *Clanlands* and soon to be released TV series *Men in Kilts* with *Outlander's* Sam Heughan. Both Graham and Sam have a true love of Scotland and its incredible story and I can think of few others that can engage so many and keep Scotland on the mind of not just Scots but a worldwide audience.

**You can often hear the saying 'If these walls could talk', well in Scotland you can also add stones to that phrase.**

The rural countryside of West Lothian was changed forever when the shale oil industry took hold from the late 1800s. Communities developed in the shadow of the oil works and began to thrive and still today have a story to tell. A new Shale Trail will educate visitors on Scotland's oil shale story and create an opportunity for both locals and visitors to learn about Scotland's shale heritage.

DNA science has been huge for those looking to find their ancestry. Researchers at the University of Strathclyde are now working on discovering the ancient MacDougall bloodline and looking for male MacDougall's, or with names derived from MacDougall such as Dougal, Dougald, Dougall, MacDougald, MacDougall, McCoull, McDougal, McDougall and McDugle. Participants may just discover what their MacDougall medieval origins are.

**The ritual of stones**

You can often hear the saying 'If these walls could talk', well in Scotland you can also add stones to that phrase.

Thousands of years of mythical stories and tales have been created and in many instances their existence still remains a mystery today. Perhaps it is the legends of these great stone monuments that is all we need to keep us fascinated. Folklore and legend have left a physical memorial in Scotland's many stone spaces and leaves us with many questions of their importance.

Scotland's connection with stones however does not always have to be with large relics. What got my mind on stones was the recent passing of an incredible lady I knew for nearly my whole life. Agnes Maxwell was brought up in a Govan tenement by the banks of the River Clyde in Glasgow.

Later Agnes would settle in Canada and raise four incredible daughters, who I grew up with. Agnes believed in the ancient Scottish ritual of stones in relation to loss and grief. Stones can stand for pain you wish to relinquish, by releasing a stone you release the pain and begin the process of healing. Stones are also a symbol of hope and you can place a stone in a special place in your home as a promise for the future.

I will now have a special stone at my house for an incredible Scottish lady who touched many, including me, thanks Aggie for all that you were!

**Happy St Andrew's Day**

This year celebrations for just about everything are not how we once knew, and that will include St Andrew's Day on November 30<sup>th</sup>. St Andrew was officially named the patron saint of Scotland in 1320 and traditional St Andrew's Day functions take place across the globe (with the exception I hope of only 2020) with a celebration of Scottish food, music, and friendship. Regardless of how you end up celebrating this year, I hope you find some way to enjoy it. 🍷

**Have you visited any of Scotland's ancient stone sites? Do you have any comments from the content in this month's edition? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or at: [www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us](http://www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us) #ScottishBanner, #TheBanner**

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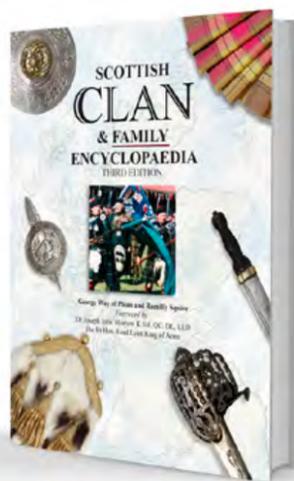


The Calanais Standing Stones. Photo: VisitScotland.

Gracing our front cover: Graham McTavish and Sam Heughan, from *Men in Kilts* and *Clanlands*. Photo: Starz.



## THE SCOTTISH CLAN AND FAMILY ENCYCLOPAEDIA



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# SCOT POURRI

Send us your inquiries on life's little question marks.

Ever wanted to know what happened to your old pal from home, how to make your favourite Scottish meal, or wondered about a certain bit of Scottish history?

## The Battle of St Valery



We just read the article in the July issue of *the Scottish Banner* regarding The Battle of St Valery, my wife Audrey's father served in the 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Division. James Jamieson was on his way to Dunkirk and was separated from his Battalion and met up with a Frenchman,

both were caught and with other French soldiers were taken prisoner and put into a French prison camp. He was given a French number, even though he told them who he was. By this time Audrey's mum was sent a telegram that he was missing and presumed dead. She then received a second telegram saying he was a prisoner and alive, the Swiss Red Cross found him and transferred him to a British POW camp. This is what he told me as he never told anyone or his family. When Audrey's mum got the first telegram she had four little girls to take care of, all under six years old. When the second telegram came, she knew he would be safe but had to wait five years to see him again. She and her children went through the Glasgow Blitz.

*Charlie and Audrey Brewer*

**Ed note: Thank you Charlie and Audrey for sharing your amazing family history and it sounds like both your Dad and Mum were hero's!**

### Remembering Valerie Cairney

On behalf of the International Association of Clan MacInnes, let me express our sympathy on the loss of Valerie Cairney, the inimitable *Banner* publisher. Some of our lucky members met her. I personally never had the pleasure, but like so many of your readers, felt as though I knew her from her writing, like a monthly chat with a friend. She made *the Scottish Banner* a premier source of information for all things Scottish and Celtic—and she will be missed.

*Donna McKinnis*

*Director of Culture & Media  
International Association of Clan MacInnes  
USA*

### The Mother of the Scottish Banner

It came as an enormous shock to read of the passing of Valerie Cairney, "The Mother of *the Scottish Banner*". I have been reading *the Banner* for the last 20 years and I thoroughly enjoy reading it, I even try my knowledge with the crossword. I pass the publication on to a friend of ours, who then passes it to a local aged care home where it is read by both staff and residents.

I remain a true and faithful reader.

*C Bruce*

*Jennings, NSW  
Australia*

### Gaelic in Auckland

Feasgar math,

I am learning Scottish Gaelic and unfortunately the Gaelic Society in Auckland, New Zealand, has closed. I am looking for a native or fluent speaker in Auckland who would be interested in helping me with conversation practice, maybe, listen to me read.

Le meas

*Briar Peat*

*Auckland, New Zealand  
Email: briar@peat.nz*

### Scotland is in my heart

I was born in Scotland, left when I was 19. Married my husband from Scotland and we were together for 62 years, he passed away last year. My son and I are planning a trip as soon as this virus is over. Scotland is in my heart and it will never leave there.

I love your postings, so keep them coming, I love them.

Sincerely,

*Letty Hampton  
Rochester Hills  
Michigan, USA*

**Ed note: We are sorry for your loss Letty and hope you can get back to the land we all love soon. Thank you for following us on social media and glad you are enjoying our content.**

### The lost songs of St Kilda

Thank you for the latest issue (*the Scottish Banner*, July, 2020), as usual it's very interesting, it makes me want to be back there but can't see that happening! The St. Kilda item was of great interest, I knew the history and I thought that you may be interested in a CD that I have. A former workmate made a copy for me and the music is gorgeous. Trevor Morrison, a resident at an Edinburgh care home, would play the piano but only when no one was around. He had been evacuated from Glasgow to the Isle of Bute where he had piano lessons from an itinerant piano teacher who told him that these were the melodies the men used to call to each other as they scaled the cliffs to look for the eggs of seabirds.

No other recordings of these songs exist, there was no sheet music and none of the original islanders are alive. Trevor passed away shortly after his friend with the aid of a three-pound microphone recorded it from the old piano onto his laptop. Evidently the songs ended up with Decca Records. There's a fair bit more on the CD liner. These haunting melodies could easily have been lost.

*Jocelyn Layton*

*Wyndham, Western Australia*

### Val Cairney

Hi Sean,

What a great loss this will be to the worldwide Scottish community. Through *the Scottish Banner* and her creativity, she brought a lot of happiness to me, and thousands of fellow Scots around the world. I have always looked forward to receiving my copy since *the Banner's* first days in Canada and now here in Australia.

Personally, I treasure great memories of your Mum and Dad, and your Uncle John, at their restaurant in Nobleton, Ontario.

So, my condolences Sean, and my deepest sympathies for your loss. With every copy of *the Banner* her memory will live forever.

Sincerely,

*Baxter Henderson  
Victoria, Australia*

### Looking for Extended Family

I'd love to get back in touch with cousins and other Scottish kin who are related to the late James and Georgina Forsyth, grandparents on my mother's side, who lived on Buchanan Street, off Leith Walk in Edinburgh. My late uncle Tom, my mother's youngest brother, emigrated to Auckland, New Zealand, so if any Kiwis recognize these names please chime in. I'm Robert Henderson, son of Donn and Mary (May). They were married during WWII and she was on the first boatload of Scottish war brides to come to America in January of 1946.

*Robert Henderson*

*E-mail: rapierpen@hotmail.com*

### Scottish lamb Gordon Lambsay



Hello, during the 1<sup>st</sup> lockdown in the UK I created a fun character called Gordon Lambsay. He has proven very popular so we decided to use his popularity to try and raise some funds for a local Scottish Amputee Charity called 'Finding your Feet' - this was established by Cor Hutton who sadly lost both her hands and feet to Sepsis in 2014. Gordon has developed a huge fan base around the world, but especially in the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. You can see his Facebook page at: [www.Facebook.com/badgordon](http://www.Facebook.com/badgordon)

*Many thanks,*

*Caroline & Gordon  
Scotland*

## FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send us your photos or letters via social media



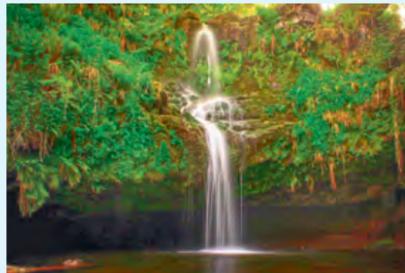
### Bluebells



The Bluebells of #Scotland.

*Charles McGuigan  
Scotland*

### Stirling Castle



A true hidden gem, Gilmours Linn (Charles cave) at Touch Cambusbarrow. Legend has it that the cave was used by Charles Edward Stuart while in hiding from British Forces following the failed Jacobite Rebellion in 1745, presumably, ended in disarray.

*Tommy Hamilton Photo  
Scotland*

### Edinburgh



Far too tired :-)) to get out with the camera tonight so here's an #Edinburgh skyline #sunset pic from last year.

*A View From My Camera  
Scotland*

### The Falkirk Wheel



Falkirk Wheel happy 18th birthday!

*Robert Gibb  
Scotland*

# Strathclyde researchers find genetic signature of ancient MacDougall bloodline



**G**enetic markers for the Clan MacDougall have been discovered by Genealogy researchers at the University of Strathclyde. The clan line they have discovered descends from Dougall, King of the Isle of Man and founder of the ancient Scottish Kingdom of the Isles and Lorn. Dougall (c1140-c1207) was the eldest son of Somerled, the ancient warrior sea-king and progenitor of the MacDonald, MacAllister, and MacDougall clans.

Somerled expelled his Scoto-Norse rivals from Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles but was himself a Norseman paternally, having a genetic signature that is more common in Scandinavia than in Scotland.

The first genetic signature for Somerled was discovered and published in 2005 by researchers at the University of Oxford, and since then, the US-based Clan Donald DNA Project has enabled thousands of present-day MacDonalds around the world to trace their ancestry back to their Scottish roots.

Alasdair Macdonald, lead researcher for the MacDougall DNA Research Project and Teaching Fellow in Genealogy at Strathclyde's Centre for Lifelong Learning, described the finding of the MacDougall DNA markers as truly significant and said that it had been made possible as a result of recent progress in commercial DNA tests. He said: "We all learned in

high school biology that only boys have a Y-chromosome that creates maleness. The direct paternal ancestors of a man pass down their Y chromosome from generation to generation and the code locked within their DNA is unique. With today's advanced DNA testing techniques, we are able to detect many more mutations in the DNA sequences of MacDougall men who are alive today. This has helped us identify ancient DNA mutations that are similar to but, importantly, different from those carried by men descended from Somerled's grandson, who was called Donald and was the progenitor of the MacDonald clan."

## One of the most powerful and influential families in Western Scotland

One participant in the study, Eddie Sweeney, was adopted and discovered the identity of his birth mother after receiving a copy of his original birth certificate; however, finding his biological father's identity proved more challenging. He worked with the nuns who managed his adoption and eventually found information that confirmed his father to have been a MacDougall man.

In parallel, Mr Sweeney took a Y-DNA test and found that his genetic marker matched that of Somerled, and that he matched many men with distant MacDonald ancestors. However, further

analysis determined that he and another match, a MacDougall man, had a common DNA marker which ultimately proved to be the marker for the ancestral MacDougall line. This discovery inspired the researchers to test more MacDougall men and now more than a dozen men who are of the ancestral MacDougall bloodline have been discovered.

At one time, the MacDougalls were one of the most powerful and influential families in Western Scotland. However, their fate was to turn in the early 1300s when the fourth clan chief, Alexander MacDougall, allied the MacDougalls with John Bailliol, in his contest with Robert the Bruce, for the prize of the Scottish Crown. Much of this story was told in recent Bruce movies such as *Outlaw King* and *The Return of the King*. Several generations later, under the clan leadership of Ewan Gallda MacDougall, much of the MacDougall lands and possessions, including Dunollie Castle near Oban, were restored to the clan. However, over the next few centuries this disruption caused a global dispersal of many MacDougall clansmen and a significant loss of power for the Clan.

**Men named MacDougall, or with names derived from MacDougall, who would like to participate in the study can go online to find more details about the project and an application form for a free test. See: [www.macdougalldna.org](http://www.macdougalldna.org)**

## Remember, Remember, the Fifth of November...



Perth lights up for Bonfire Night on November 5th.

**T**he year was 1605 and some English Catholics were angry because the King of England, James the 1<sup>st</sup>, was treating them badly. In November 1605 a group of men made a plan to blow up the Houses of Parliament (the government buildings) in London. An enormous explosion was planned for November 5<sup>th</sup>.

This was the day that the King was due to open parliament. The plan is known as the 'Gunpowder Plot' and the leader of the group was called Guy Fawkes. The men put 36 barrels of gunpowder (a type of explosive) in the Houses of Parliament and they waited for the King to arrive. The group decided that Guy Fawkes should light the gunpowder and cause the explosion. Did they succeed? No, they didn't. The police found the gunpowder before it exploded and they caught all the men involved in the plot. The men were tortured and killed.

To celebrate his survival, King James ordered the people of England to have a bonfire on the night of November 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Bonfires, Guys and fireworks

Traditionally on November 5<sup>th</sup> people remember the plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament by celebrating 'Bonfire Night'. All over Britain there are firework displays and bonfires with models of Guy Fawkes, which are burned on the fire. The Guy is made of old clothes and the clothes are filled with newspaper. The Guy is a reminder of Guy Fawkes. The fireworks are a reminder of the gunpowder that Guy Fawkes hid in the cellar of Parliament. Some people have a small bonfire in their garden on November 5<sup>th</sup>. In main towns and cities there are big bonfires and firework displays planned across the UK and Scotland will also light up the night this month.

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[www.bagpiping.org](http://www.bagpiping.org)

# SCOTSPEAK

Scotspeak is a selection of quotes which made headlines in Scotland last month on a variety of current Scottish affairs.

*“Our vision is to build a truly sustainable business that is a core economic asset for Orkney, but also a first phase in enabling a scale of investment and logistical capability for the UK which will be of international significance. We believe the time is right to maximise the incredible natural assets and geography of Scapa Flow and Orkney to ensure a long-term sustainable future for our communities.”*

Orkney Islands Council leader James Stockan said as Orkney Harbours have released a £230m plan to give the island ‘a cleaner and greener future’. Proposals include creating a £115m deep water quay at Scapa Flow, the largest natural deep-water harbour in the northern hemisphere, will create over 100 jobs for the area.



*“As the oldest purpose-built concert venue in Scotland, St Cecilia's Hall is an internationally-significant attraction offering a rare glimpse into our musical past. We're delighted to be re-opening our doors to members of the public. Rigorous safety measures will be in place to ensure the health of our staff and visitors.”*

Ruthanne Baxter, Museums Services Manager, said as Scotland's oldest purpose-built concert venue and music museum is once again opening its doors to members of the public. St Cecilia's Hall is home to the Edinburgh University's world-class collection of musical instruments, as well as a unique oval-shaped concert room. Originally built

by the Edinburgh Musical Society in the Old Town in 1762, the Georgian venue is a hidden gem, attracting thousands of visitors each year. The work of the museum includes the care and conservation of rare, often fragile, instruments.

*“Glasgow is a fantastic city with cutting-edge culture and nightlife, and right now Dennistoun is at the cutting edge of the city's cool, with independents popping up and artists brightening up the winding streets. We were really blown away by the amazing initiatives that businesses and locals started at the beginning of the pandemic – it showed there was real heart in the neighbourhood.”*

James Manning, international editor of *Time Out* magazine, said as the Glasgow suburb of Dennistoun has been rated as the eighth coolest neighbourhood in the world. Also, in the top ten were Esquerra De L'Eixample, Barcelona (in first position), Downtown LA, Bedford-Stuyvesant in New York, Wedding in Berlin and Marrickville in Sydney.



*“We know that habitat loss, climate change and urban development are among the key factors that are affecting butterfly populations. We are working with partners across Scotland on a range of projects to help our butterflies and other pollinators thrive, from habitat creation and management to promoting wildlife friendly gardening and best practice guidance for developers.”*

Simon Foster, NatureScot Trends and Indicators Analyst, said that butterfly populations have increased in Scotland, likely as a consequence of warmer summers. The latest Scottish Biodiversity Indicator published by NatureScot examines the long-term trend for butterflies since 1979. Some butterfly populations in the UK continue to shift northwards as a response to climate change.



*“Midsteeples Quarter is an innovative initiative led by the people of Dumfries. It is effective because it has collaboration at its heart – collaboration between the community, public and private sectors. The current crisis of the high street prompted us to rethink our town centre as somewhere that genuinely meets the needs of our population and using empty buildings provides us with a unique opportunity to bring creativity into the thought process of deciding their future purpose. We aspire to create a new neighbourhood with a mix of uses built on principles of local prosperity and well-being.”*

Scott Mackay, Manager of Midsteeples Quarter Project said the Midsteeples Quarter project is one of six held up in a study looking at the decline of town centre shopping in Dumfries. The community-led group has been purchased town centre retail premises to help realise its vision of a brighter future for Dumfries town centre.

*“With a drop in passengers, it just becomes a harsh reality that things can't continue, sadly. People have been very good to offer donations and crowdfunding, but honestly that wasn't what we were after. We were after people coming down to ride the railway.”*

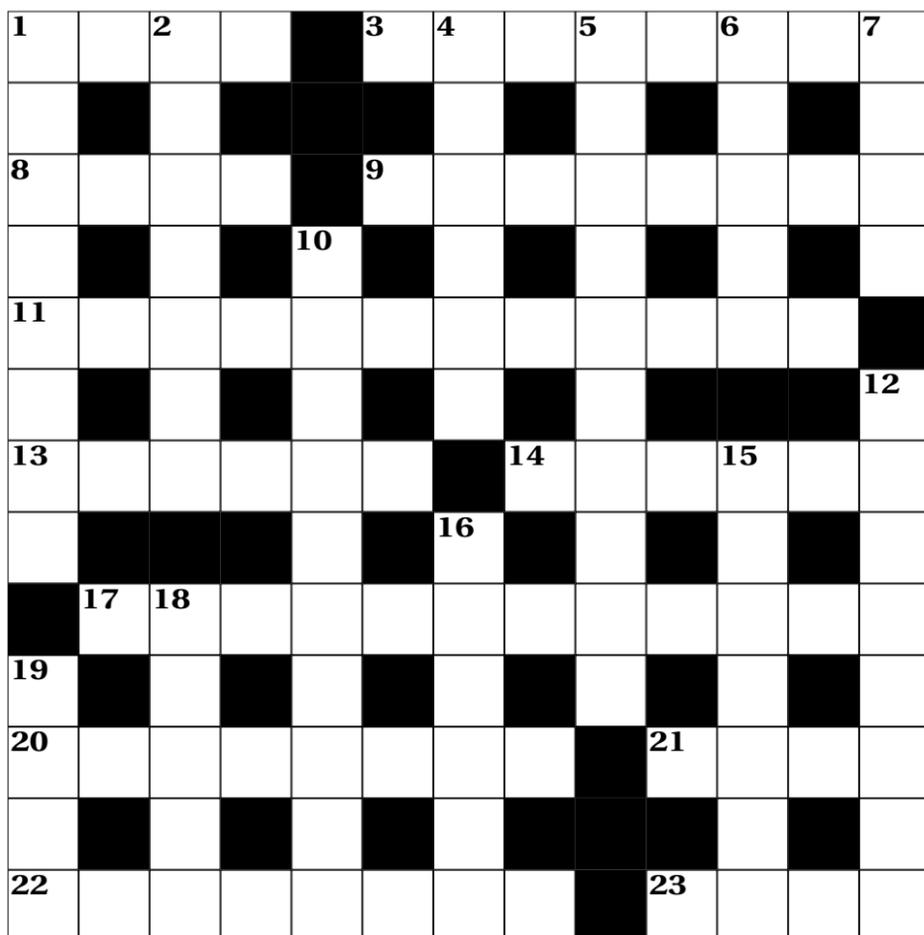
John Kerr of Kerr's Miniature Railway in Arbroath said his family business has been forced to close. Scotland's oldest miniature railway had been part of many children's fun on Arbroath's seafront since 1935. Visitor numbers in recent years have been on the decline with more children look to computer entertainment and seaside attractions across the UK close.



*“Christmas is a special time in our city and hugely exciting for individuals and families who take advantage of the city's winter offer. Whilst we understand the absence of popular events will bring some disappointment, we want to be clear that Edinburgh's Christmas isn't cancelled and our businesses right across the city will be offering their usual festive cheer for us to take advantage of. We look forward to announcing details of an innovative digital 2020 programme soon to help in these celebrations.”*

Edinburgh City Councils Adam McVey said that public events associated with Edinburgh's Christmas program have been cancelled. This includes market stalls, rides and all other attractions. Instead, the focus will move to celebrating Edinburgh's Christmas 2020 online.

## SCOTWORD



Here is a fun crossword for you to try with a few of the answers to be found in Scotland! If you are in doubt, you may need a wee peek at a Scots dictionary or a map. Or, if you are really stuck, the answers can be found on page 10!

### CLUES ACROSS:

- 1) Marshes (4).
- 3) Adequately fitting! (8).
- 8) Battle or Lochaber! (4).
- 9) “Smokie” town (8).
- 11) Central area of beauty (3,9).
- 13) Her Majesty's signature (6).
- 14) Games performer (6).
- 17) Princess Margaret's birthplace (6,6).
- 20) Acting wary (8).
- 21) Where Scots find work! (4).
- 22) Wholesaler (8).
- 23) Enterprising space journey! (4)

### CLUES DOWN:

- 1) David Livingstone's birthplace
- 2) Glen - both ways! (7).
- 4) Not substantial (6).
- 5) Road surface! (10).
- 6) Impetuous (5)
- 7) Sound return! (4).
- 10) Giant step in opening dance (5,5).
- 12) James Watt's birthplace (8).
- 15) Food provider (7).
- 16) Behind on board (6).
- 18) Hi-tech beam (5).
- 19) Was Mac the first Scot? (4).

# Discover Perthshire



Ben Lawers.

Perthshire's woodlands are hard to beat - but there is much more to 'Big Tree Country' than woods and forests. Branklyn Garden is home to an outstanding collection of exotic, rare and unusual plants. Established almost 100 years ago, this charming garden was cultivated by Dorothy and John Renton, who sourced seeds from the most eminent plant hunters of the 1920s. Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve offers a range of walks for all abilities and levels of fitness, including a child-friendly, 1 mile caterpillar trail.

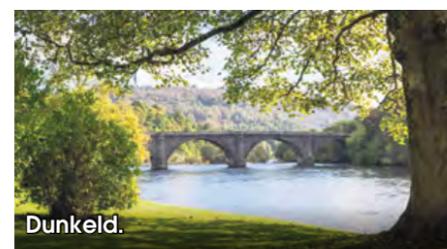
Ben Lawers itself is Scotland's tenth-highest Munro at 3,984ft (1,214m). At 407m, Craigower is considerably smaller than Ben Lawers, but the views from the summit are equally outstanding - Loch Tummel, Loch Rannoch and even Glencoe can all be seen from the top.

Situated on the banks of the River Tay, Dunkeld is one of the most picturesque towns in Perthshire. The National Trust for Scotland has sympathetically restored 20 of the historical houses in the square around the old market cross, although they are not open to the public.

On 27 July 1689, the first shot was fired in the Battle of Killiecrankie, one of the goriest clashes in Jacobite history. The visitor centre gives you all the background to the battle, as well as information about the area's geology, wildlife and history. You can also visit the famous spot where a Redcoat soldier leapt for his life across the River Garry.

Linn of Tummel is the point where the rivers Garry and Tummel meet. The circular walk takes you along riverbanks, through woods and over footbridges, providing spectacular views all the way. A 1.5 mile walk at the Hermitage leads to Ossian's Hall, an unusual folly built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century to provide a thrilling vantage point over the roaring torrent of the Black Linn Falls.

*Text and images are courtesy of the National Trust for Scotland. For more information on the Trust or to help them protect Scotland's heritage see: [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk)*



Dunkeld.

## Did you know?

- Perthshire's Fortingall Yew Tree is believed to be the oldest tree in Britain and one of the oldest in all of Europe.
- The delightful town of Dull in Perthshire is paired with both Boring in Oregon, America and also Australia's Bland Shire.
- Scotland's oldest established family record shop, Concorde music, is in Perth, established in 1967.
- The River Tay, which flows from Loch Tay to Perth and beyond, is Scotland's longest river.
- The Stone of Scotland, used for centuries in the coronations of Scottish monarchs used to be housed at the now-ruined Scone Abbey in Scone.
- The Meikleour Beech Hedge (located just outside Blairgowrie) was planted in 1745 and stands at a whopping 100ft (30m) high and 530m long, and is recognised by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the highest hedge in the world. It is thought to have been planted by men who were then called to fight in the Jacobite Rebellion, only to never return.



Ossian's Hall at the Hermitage.

## In Flanders Fields

By John McCrae, May 1915

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.*

The poem was written by a Canadian Medical Corps doctor, Major John McCrae, who was serving with a Field Artillery Brigade in Ypres. The death of one of his friends in May 1915, buried in the cemetery outside his dressing station, affected him severely and he wrote his poem as a way of expressing his anguish at the loss.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the guns of the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare during the First World War.

Wednesday November 11th marks the 102nd anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914-18). Remember those who gave their lives in the two world wars and all who have died in combat since. *Lest We Forget.*

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WHOLESALE AVAILABLE

# Autumn in Scotland



Faskally Forest, Perthshire.

*"The lazy mist hangs from the brow of the hill,  
"Concealing the course of the dark winding rill;  
"How languid the scenes, late so sprightly, appear,  
"As Autumn to Winter resigns the pale year..."  
(The Lazy Mist by Robert Burns)*

Robert Burns was certainly onto something when he wrote about autumn in Scotland and its tendency to stir the soul; it's a time for orange and red leaves, lazy afternoon walks, cosy jumpers, a warm bowl of soup, picking pumpkins (or turnips, as is the historical preference in Scotland) for Halloween, or perhaps celebrating the tradition of Samhain (pronounced *sah-wen*) on 31 October. So come discover some autumnal inspiration for the next time we can visit Scotland.

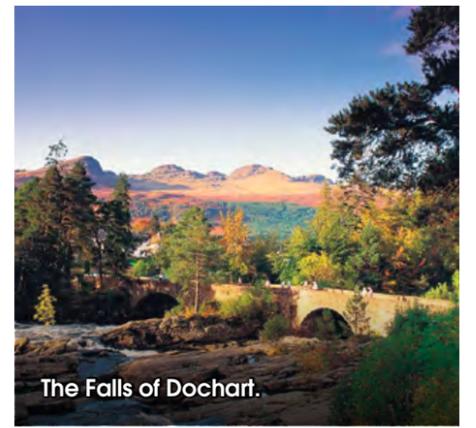
## Autumn colours

Seeing the autumn colours in Scotland should be on everyone's bucket list. With seven out of the ten largest forests in the UK in Scotland, visitors are spoilt for choice when it comes to immersing themselves in fiery scenery during woodland walks. Alternatively, check out some scenic walks in the city:

Faskally Forest, Perthshire-Take a wander around the 'forester's classroom', where some of the wide variety of tree species are over 200 years old. Within Faskally Forest and close to the car park and picnic site lies the wonderfully tranquil Loch Dunmore, with its boat house and picturesque timber footbridge.

Killin, Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park-Fuelled by the autumn rain, the Falls of Dochart make for a spectacular sound and sight as the water cascades over the rocks and under the bridge. Follow part of the 12-mile route from Killin to Ardtalnaig, along the famous Rob Roy Way, for views over the head of Loch Tay towards the Tarmachan Ridge and Ben Lawers range.

Dawyck Botanic Garden, Scottish Borders-Take in the fiery colours at Dawyck Botanic Garden as well as the autumn fruits; from acorns to crab apples, maple keys to fir cones and everyone's favourites, the conkers produced by the horse chestnut trees. The Garden is a feast for all the senses; take in the gorgeous caramel scent of the large Japanese Katsura tree.

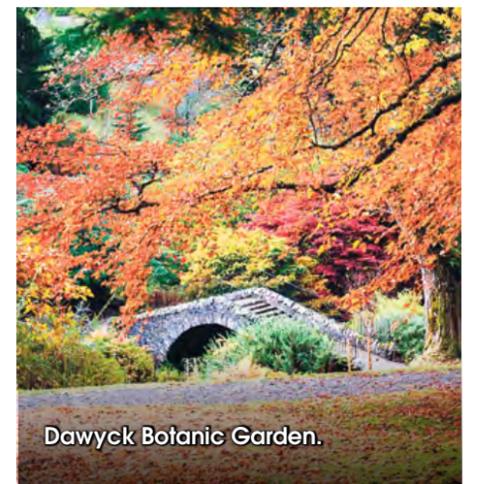


The Falls of Dochart.

University buildings, Old Aberdeen-Check out the New King's building at the University of Aberdeen in autumn for something very special indeed: watch in awe as the ivy scaling the building turns a deep shade of red early in the season. Aberdeen city and elsewhere in the region have other great spots to check out the colours of the season, including Crathes Castle, located just outside the city, and the Falls of Feugh near Banchory.



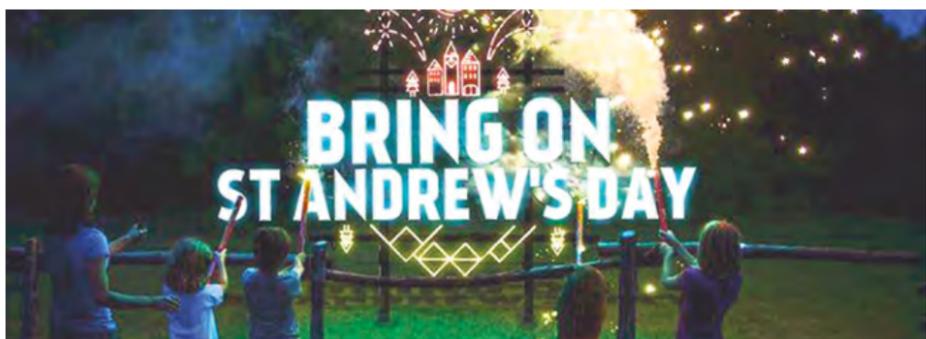
New King's building, University of Aberdeen.



Dawyck Botanic Garden.

## St Andrew's Day-Celebrating our patron saint

Text & image courtesy of Scotland.org



St Andrew's Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Scottish culture, food and dance. Initially, it was a way for homesick Scots to get together and help each other out; the first Society of St Andrews was set up in Charleston, South Carolina, on 30 November, 1729, dedicated to offering support to Scottish migrants in distress.

Nowadays, it's an opportunity for a party with Scottish dancing, singing, storytelling, bagpipes and, of course, a feast featuring haggis and whisky. And with more than 40 million people around the world claiming Scottish ancestry, that's a lot of celebration.

### Patron saint of Scotland

St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland. A Galilean fisherman, he was one of Jesus's 12 apostles, and was known for being strong, sociable and fair, encouraging people to share what they had with those in need. These are characteristics which people all over the world recognise in Scots, and of which Scots are rightly proud. On 30 November, 60AD, St Andrew is believed to have been crucified on a diagonal cross, a shape which provided

the inspiration for the flag named after him – Scotland's Saltire, which has a white diagonal cross over a blue background.

St Andrew is also the patron saint of Greece, Russia, Barbados and Romania.

### Celebrations all over Scotland

On 30 November, 1996 the Stone of Destiny, a symbolic block of sandstone that for centuries had been used in the coronation of Scottish monarchs, but was taken by the English – was officially returned to Scotland and kept safe in Edinburgh Castle. Ever since then the Castle has opened for free every St Andrew's Day so that people can see the famous stone. A number of other Historic Environment Scotland venues offer free or discounted entry on this special day as well. Visitors usually need to apply for the free tickets online.

St Andrew's Day celebrations take place all over Scotland throughout November, from special tasting menus in the Fife town named after the saint, to street food and storytelling in Edinburgh and special film screenings and other events in Glasgow.

### Fast facts about St Andrew



- St Andrew is the Patron Saint of Scotland.
- St Andrew is celebrated on 30 November.
- St Andrew's Day is a day to celebrate Scottish culture, food and dance.
- St Andrew's flag is the flag of Scotland.
- The flag is in the form of a white X on a blue background and is commonly known as The Saltire.
- St Andrew's Societies celebrate Scottish culture around the world.
- St Andrew's Day is a bank holiday in Scotland but entitlement to leave depends on the employer.
- St Andrew is also the patron saint of Romania, Greece and Russia.
- Scotland is one of the few countries to have one of Christ's disciples as their patron saint.
- St Andrew was one of the Twelve Apostles (disciples of Jesus) and brother of St Peter.
- St Andrew is believed to have died on a diagonally transversed cross which the Romans sometimes used for executions and which, therefore, came to be called St Andrews Cross.
- St Andrew's Day is connected with Advent, which begins on the first Sunday after November 26.
- St Andrew's Day marks the beginning of Scotland's winter festivals.

## Registration opens for the 2021 New York Tartan Day Parade

COVID-19 announcement from The National Tartan Day New York Committee: We know that we are being optimistic thinking that the Parade will take place as planned, and that we will be able to put 2020 behind us. We will be taking every precaution possible as outlined by the CDC, and the NY State Government guidelines. We will continue to stay up to date on all regulations.

Kyle Dawson, President of The National Tartan Day NY Committee, told *the Scottish Banner*: "We are all very optimistic that we will get through all this and be able to get back to doing what we all love so much, which is celebrate Scottish heritage and the contributions to the United States from Scottish immigrants and Scottish Americans."

So, make a plan, (don't you feel better already?), to come out, and join us to march up Sixth Avenue in New York City, wear your kilt, listen to the skirl of the bagpipes, and to the cheers tens of thousands of spectators. We admit bias when we say it is the most fun Parade in New York City, and we sorely missed it in 2020. So, join us in 2021 for pipe bands from across the globe, dancers, clans, dogs, politicians, Scottish cultural organizations, plus of COURSE, the Loch Ness Monster, in a joyous New York City celebration of Scottish pride. Let's get back to doing what we love to do; celebrate all things Scottish!

**The New York Tartan Day Parade is scheduled to take place on April 10, 2021. For details see: [www.nytartanweek.org](http://www.nytartanweek.org)**



# Lady MacGregor's Scotland By: Lady Fiona MacGregor



Lady Fiona with Rummie, the naughty Norfolk Terrier.

*Lady MacGregor of MacGregor – otherwise known as British writer and broadcaster Fiona Armstrong - works for ITV news and current affairs. Fiona's husband is the Chief of Clan Gregor, Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor. She is an active member of Clan Armstrong, so their lives are interwoven with all things tartan. The couple live in the Scottish Borderlands, although filming and writing takes Fiona all over Scotland.*



**G**reetings from Scotland – where the MacGregor and I have once again become the Children of the Mist... I write this in Highland hills. We are on the shores of a loch; the water gin clear and ruffled only when a small trout splashes near the shore; the sky bright blue as the morning sun comes up. In the distance dense black mountains have their heads in a thin white mist. It is a dramatic spot. One where pine mixes with a less romantic smell. There on the shingle, on a portable stove, the chief is busy cooking bacon and eggs...

This is day four of the exercise and so far, we have seen no-one, and no-one has seen us. Then that was the purpose. To get away for a few days. To escape what is not quite a full lockdown, but certainly a nervous time. Obeying all the rules, we have hit the high road in a low red campervan. It is a rented beast. But, who knows, if the experience is a good one - and so far the omens are fair - we may get our own. Who knows, this could be the only means of reasonably safe travel for some time to come. To trundle along in your own wee house on wheels. A bag of food in the back. A stash of reading material in the cupboard. To go where the

fancy takes (corona rules allowing) and to stop where the heart desires. Plus, this is one voyage where the MacNaughties can come, too. And give me a dog that doesn't like adventure...

### Evocative place

Argyll and Inverness-shire are our destinations. Coming up through MacGregor country, past the Balquhiddier glen. Home of Clan Gregor, burial place of my husband's ancestors – and the legendary Rob Roy - it is an evocative place. Continuing on through the deep, dark passes of Glencoe. Where Campbells massacred Macdonald's. Then memories of more murder and mayhem as we pass Ballachulish where Stewart of the Glen was wrongly hanged for the death of Campbell of Glenure.

It is dramatic clan stuff. At Loch nan Uamh we pay homage at the place where Bonnie Prince Charlie landed with just a handful of men and very little money. Further up the road is Glenfinnan where he went on to raise his standard – and find his Highland support.

Wherever you turn gnarled evergreens tower upwards. These monster firs have survived centuries and are witnesses to ancient fights and feuds. And talking of fighting, at Loch Moidart the dogs are walked across the causeway to Castle Tioram.

This medieval ruin on a tidal island was once the operating base of Clan Ranald; folk born with their feet in the water and their sword in their hands...

**These vast areas of inhospitable terrain are where tens of thousands of soldiers came to be battle hardened before being sent to serve in the second world war.**

Now we bravely enter Cameron country. They were a feisty lot in their day – and they probably still are - but again, we meet no-one and the clan museum at Achnacarry is closed. The day is dry, and the landscape is breath-taking, so we park up near the Chia-Aig falls where water roars down a dark grey rock side.

### A land that time forgot

It is mid-autumn and, happily, the midges have gone. So, too, has the heather, but the indestructible bracken hangs defiantly on. All around the leaves are turning, and the wooded hillsides glow yellow and orange.

It was here they filmed scenes from the *Rob Roy* movie and the chief is in his element. A former military man he is also fascinated by the old commando training ranges. These vast areas of inhospitable terrain are where tens of thousands of soldiers came to be battle hardened before being sent to serve in the second world war.

Ardnamurchan point is the most westerly part of mainland UK – and we can now say that we have stood on it. There by the great stone lighthouse. In the wind and rain, gazing out across the dark waves of the Atlantic. Yet here in the west Highlands it is not all about struggle. We drive through pretty villages where sunflowers bloom in gardens and cows amble along small tracks. It is, in parts, a land that time forgot. Where life moves slowly, and Sunday's newspaper may arrive on Monday.

So, what have we learned from this, our first trip in a campervan? Well, one is to take warmer clothes: however many you have, it will not be enough. Two is not to be fussy: when the food ran out and we have to eat pot noodles for two days running, we are happy enough. Above all, you need to keep a sense of humour. Five nights in a sleeping bag is not everyone's idea of fun. But I did it – and, yes, I would do it again. Especially in Scotland...



# Did you know?

## Aberdeen

**Aberdeen's Marischal College is the second biggest granite building in the world. Photo: VisitScotland.**

- Aberdeen is known as the 'Granite City'. The centre of city boasts many granite buildings which was quarried nearby.
- Aberdeen is Scotland's third largest city.
- Aberdeen is considered the oil capital of Europe thanks to the North Sea's oil and natural gas refineries.
- Doric is Aberdeen's very own Scots dialect and has been granted official language status.
- Brig O'Balgownie in the city's Seaton Park, is the oldest medieval bridge in Scotland, it dates back to the 13th century.
- Aberdeen is one the best places in the UK to see white beaked and bottlenose dolphins, and also basking sharks and minke whales.
- The Press and Journal is Aberdeen's daily newspaper and began publishing in 1747. It is Scotland's oldest daily newspaper and one of the longest-running newspapers in the world.
- There are over 30 places across the world named after Aberdeen. Towns and cities called Aberdeen can be found in Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, USA and South Africa.

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## Scottish Christmas in North America

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# KINGS CASTLES AND "DURTY" WEE RASCALS

Australian Jim Stoddart was born in a Glasgow Tenement and raised in a Glasgow Housing Scheme 1943-1965. Jim will be taking readers on a trip down memory lane, of a time and place that will never be the same again, and hopes even if only a few people in the Scot's Diaspora have a dormant folk memory awakened, then he shall be more than delighted.



## A Viking Advocate

*Freya is the Goddess of Love and beauty. She holds dominion over war, death magic and wealth. She wears a necklace called brisingamen, which was a gift from the dwarves. When not in her cat-driven chariot, she rides the battle-boar, Hildisvini.*

The contradiction between heroic Viking seamanship, exploration and the wanton, unremitting plunder of other lands was at the root of any guilt I may have had in childhood about wanting to be a Viking. I suspect that in reality it was no stronger a guilt than children like myself might have suffered about being pirate robbing innocent sea-farers or a ranch owner usurping the land for cattle at the cost of a native Indian tribe. Children of my generation let their imaginations roam into the roles that they saw as the more exciting ones and often those that Hollywood had determined for them. And as for young boys, especially, I fear there was very often an element of violence in the roles we adopted no matter what, highwayman or bushranger we took as our temporary role model.

Like any emotive name that of 'Viking' swung between a good and bad press and the contradiction of hero versus villain was not lost upon the Vikings themselves. It was reflected in their historical writings, the Norse sagas. On the one hand they

portrayed themselves as pioneers and explorers but also confessed to being villains, especially if they saw themselves as devoting too much quality time to warfare and piracy. It appears that a Viking considered a risk-taking expedition to far-off lands such as Scotland, England or continental Europe, not only obligatory but also as a legitimate rite of passage, a not to be missed experience for a young and developing Nordic youth.

**Like any emotive name that of 'Viking' swung between a good and bad press and the contradiction of hero versus villain was not lost upon the Vikings themselves.**

Such adventurous expeditions and wanderings were considered good if they were confined especially to an early stage in a Viking career.

### Complex Viking character

Nevertheless once the Viking youth had sown his wild oats, so to speak, it was expected that he would settle down with Helga and his expanding family of children to a more peaceful life on the farmstead on the slopes of the fiord. There he was expected to sow



some domesticated oats and wheat into a rather poor soil. There can be little doubt that the Viking raiding expeditions and subsequent settling of other lands were caused in part by the constraints of feeding an expanding population from a very beautiful and scenic countryside but one that could simply provide limited arable land to support its people. Raiding brought booty, treasure and slaves to supplement limited resources at home and settlement elsewhere brought new opportunities to start a new life.

Contradiction is very evident in the saga of Egil, where Egil, a larger than life character, is found in different stages of his life, and sometimes confusingly simultaneously, expressing different facets of a man's character and nature. At various times he is seen as a kindly family man capable of love and loyalty and at other times a ruthless avenger, a man of violence and even an occasional raving lunatic. He can be a hero, a funnyman with a sense of humour and a person who defends high principles and values but can also be a rabble rouser working himself up to go berserk on Viking killing sprees. The little Lewis chessmen biting into their shields before battle provides an insight into how worked up some of these berserkers could become.

In Egil's poem, purportedly written by Egil when aged twelve but more likely to have been written much later by Snorri Sturluson, there is a romantic beginning but a blood lust to finish it showing his complex Viking character. He starts in the saga itself as a crude peasant, becomes an adventurer but later his very evident violent tendencies come to the fore. He becomes a berserker early in his career, purposely working himself up into a rage and frenzy before going into battle. He then becomes an outlaw yet was destined to finally settle down as a coloniser on a farm in Iceland. Egil's story provides a compelling trait of contradiction between violence and peaceful domesticity in the Viking character.

### Vicious predatory destroyers and hooligans

Vikings have suffered a very bad press from time to time with clerical writers such as the Venerable Bede naturally

recording the activities of these invaders from the point of view of the long-suffering victims. They had an axe to grind and naturally enough gave an unflattering picture of people they saw as vicious predatory destroyers and hooligans. And in fairness there was nothing romantic about suffering a cruel surprise attack upon your home or church. Yet the latter stages of the Norse conquests of the Scottish Isles and the Danish invasion of England were more about colonisation, settlement and trading than raiding. Within their own times the Vikings were possibly no more cruel and brutal than many internecine struggles by their counterparts in other places.

The Strathclyde Britons, the Picts and the Scots were not, of course, all peace-loving, saintly types. They once had a ferocious reputation amongst their neighbours and were not always portrayed as romantic warriors fighting against Anglo-Saxon invaders. They too were recorded as aggressors and violent people, feared for their raiding, plundering and destruction of peaceful settlements. In the 5<sup>th</sup> century St Patrick called the Picts "utterly iniquitous" and a British monk Gildas in the 6<sup>th</sup> century described "foul hordes of Scots and Picts, like dark throngs of worms... in perfect accord in their greed for bloodshed...inflicted the cruellest massacres on the Britons, in which the pitiable citizens were torn apart by their foe like lambs by the butcher." So, cruelty and violence in early times was not confined to Vikings.

The Picts of the north had defeated the Britons of Strathclyde, the Angles of Lothian and even the Scots of Dalriada but not the Viking threat. Pictish power subsequently crumbled and in 843 AD Kenneth MacAlpine, King of Scots, who luckily had Pictish blood on his mother's side deposed the last Pictish nobles and merged their kingdom into his own. In a rather roundabout way, the Vikings had helped to create the Kingdom of Scotland by uniting the whole country against them.

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**Scotword answers from page 6**

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1 Bogs	1 Blantyre
3 Suitable	2 Glenelg
8 Axes	4 Unrest
9 Arbroath	5 Tarmacadam
11 The Trossachs	6 Brash
13 Regina	7 Echo
14 Dancer	10 Grand March
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# The 17th Annual Scottish North American Community Conference will take place virtually this year on Zoom December 4th-6th

The Scottish North American Community Conference (SNACC) was formed by the Chicago Scots and American Scottish Foundation (ASF) with The Detroit St Andrews, COSCA, CASSOC and Scottish Studies Guelph completing the SNACC organization. Held annually the organizers look for it to be a way to bring organizations, clans and groups together to share best practices, ideas and practises and benefit from their shared goals and experiences. This year with nearly all heritage programming cancelled SNACC hopes to make the weekend a key focus of celebrating the Scottish North American community's heritage, culture and most of all our love of Scotland.

## How can we ensure the ongoing bonds of Scottish NA friendship- The relevance of the Scottish identity in a globalised world

The American-Scottish Foundation is leading on the planning of this year's conference - ASF had hoped to welcome guests to New York, but that is not to be, instead the weekend will be virtual, being divided into morning and afternoon sessions. The committee have been taking up various elements of the programming and John Bellasai, President, COSCA noted how Friday afternoon opens with *Exploring what connects us to our common Scottish heritage*.

As Mr Bellasai explained: "Andrew Morrison, Viscount Dunrossil, will deliver opening remarks about the nature of clanship in the modern age."

This will be followed by a panel of leading experts on genetic genealogy affiliated with Family Tree DNA of Houston, TX on their 300+ Scottish surname projects:

- Keith MacGregor, U.S. Board Member for the Clan Gregor Society, Scotland
- Prof. Rob Spencer of MIT
- Prof. Maurice Gleeson of Dublin
- And Susan Millar of the NY Genealogical & Biographical Society

They will present a half dozen case studies exploring the different ethnic roots of real Scottish-Americans, tracing their respective DNA signatures back to their Pictish, Gaelic, Saxon and Norse roots.

The day will conclude with well-known Scottish professional genealogist Dr. Bruce Durie, who will continue the conversation on how DNA research can and does complement traditional genealogy, and about how to use all the new online data sources, including Scotland's People, to facilitate genealogical research.

## Gather virtually and share ideas and hear news

The schedule on Saturday morning begins with Joni Smith, Scottish Affairs Councillor to North America, bringing greetings and sharing thoughts on where we are today.

Lord Charles Bruce will then lead on the first panel discussion: *The Enduring Resonance of the Declaration of Arbroath*:

- Lord Bruce will then discuss this with panelists
- Prof. Donna Heddle
- And Graham Mackenzie



**SCOTTISH NORTH AMERICAN COMMUNITY CONFERENCE**  
**DECEMBER 4,5,6 ONLINE**

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Rt Hon. Henry Macleish will then introduce the second panel which will explore:

- *Scotland influence on North America*, to be followed by a panel discussion.

The afternoon will then explore where we are today in this time of Covid, the new *Our virtual presence-The new normal for the Scottish NA community* exploring in three panels:

- Impact on Clans, Highland Games, organ. and the way forward - new opportunity within the challenges
- Cultural Impact of Scotland on NA - Music and the Arts in the New Normal
- Impact of Scotland on NA - Scottish Studies - on line engagement

On Sunday SNACC looks to Scotland with the Lord Lyon bringing news for the Lyon Court Lord Thurso, Chairman, VisitScotland, will then speak to looking forward to *2021 virtual Scotland-Scotland*

*open to the world* - which will be followed by film clips of leading sites in Scotland and a panel discussion.

"I really wish we were able to welcome everyone to New York for the 2020 Scottish NA Community Conference - but just because we cannot meet in person does not mean SNACC important messaging and the opportunity for us to gather virtually and share ideas and hear news and move ideas and plan for this new normal going forward. And do hope you will join us and lend your voice to the conversation, share your ideas." noted Camilla Hellman, President, American-Scottish Foundation.

**Reservation line now open: \$45 for weekend access, or \$20 per sessions. For further details of the Scottish NA Community Conference: <https://scottishleadershipconference.com>**

# HOW CAN WE ENSURE THE ONGOING BONDS OF SCOTTISH NORTH AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP? THE RELEVANCE OF SCOTTISH IDENTITY IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDE:

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020

Keynote - Clans • Families • Our Names • Our Heritage  
**Andrew Morrison, Viscount Dunrossil**

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2020

Greetings from Scotland  
**Joni Smith, Scottish Gov't Counsellor for North America**

The Enduring Resonance of the Declaration of Arbroath  
**Lord Charles Bruce**

Scotland's Influence on North America  
**Rt. Hon. Henry McLeish, Former First Minister of Scotland**

### Sunday, December 6, 2020

News From the Lyon Court  
**Rev. Dr. Joseph Morrow, Lord Lyon King of Arms**

**To Learn More & Register:**  
**[www.scottishleadershipconference.com](http://www.scottishleadershipconference.com)**

**2020 Scottish North American Community Conference**  
**December 4-6**  
 Presented Online from New York City by the American-Scottish Foundation



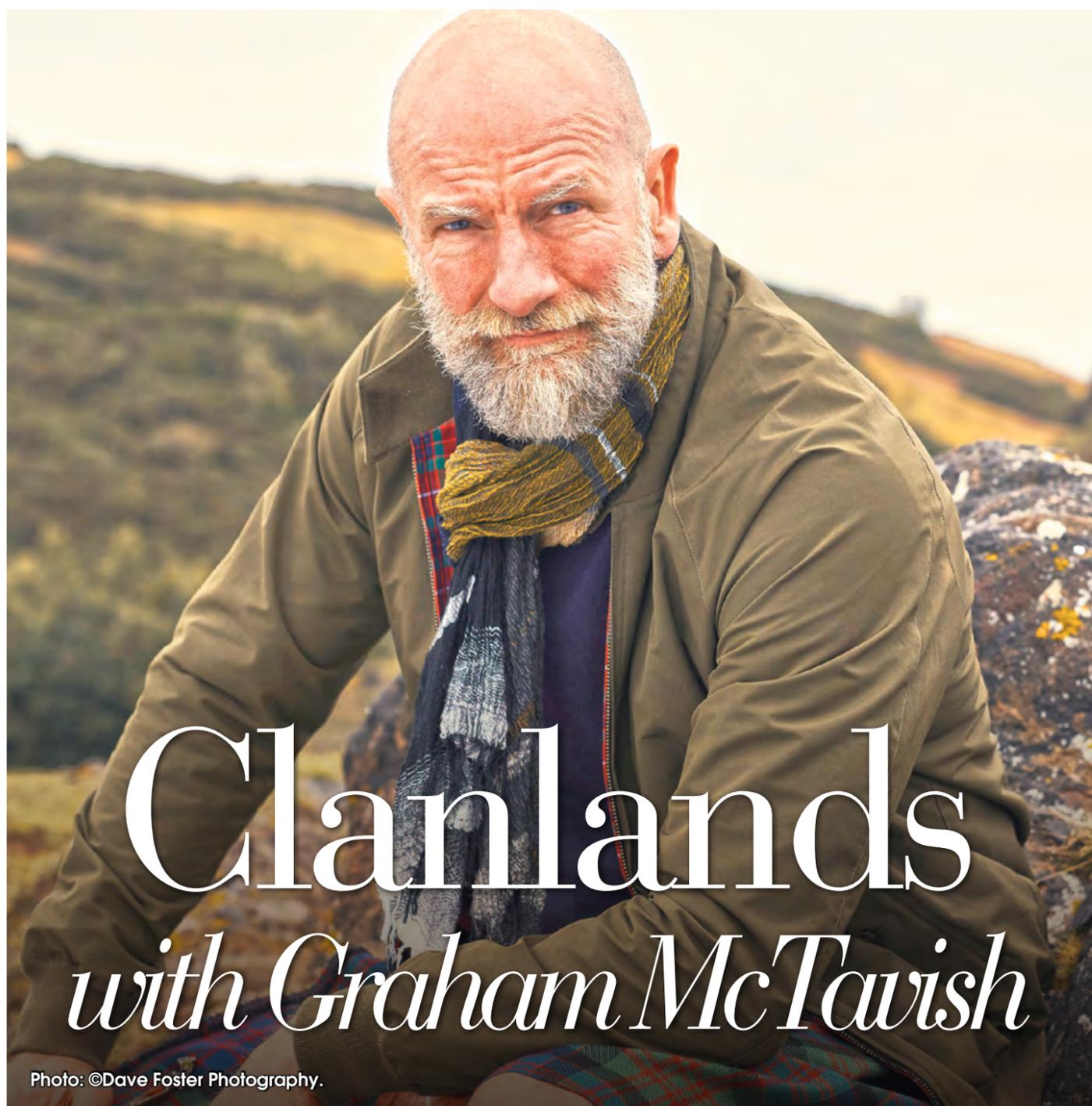


Photo: ©Dave Foster Photography.

**From their faithful camper van stars of *Outlander* Graham McTavish and Sam Heughan recently went on a road trip with a difference, the two Scotsmen explored a land of raw beauty, poetry, feuding, music, history, and warfare. This month Graham takes time to speak to the *Scottish Banner* on his love of Scotland, history and even Sam Heughan.**

Graham you and Sam Heughan are launching the book *Clanlands* this month. This concept was originally to be a podcast, then became a TV show called *Men in Kilts* and now is also a book. Can you tell us a bit about the journey of the project?

**GM:** It kind of started a long time ago. I became very interested in Scottish history. I've always been interested, obviously, but I became particularly interested in the early 90s. So, in 1990, I wrote a treatment for an idea called *Clanlands*, which was basically focusing on the individual clans and going

all over Scotland, filming and talking about their history. In those days, the idea was that we could try and direct sell DVD's to people who were living abroad that had an interest in their Scottish heritage, but nobody was interested in working with us.

Then cut to *Outlander* and what *Outlander* opened up for not just me and Sam, but for Scotland in terms of connecting with the world in a new way. There was a huge interest again in Scotland. I think tourism in Scotland has gone up by 70 percent since *Outlander* began, so it's had a huge effect. I had always been interested in Scottish history and talked about this with Sam, and then he rang me while I was in New Zealand. I was in the kitchen and he rang and said, "Hey, mate. You know what you were talking about maybe doing some kind of documentary about Scotland. I think we should do that, we should do that together." I thought great and he mentioned we should do a podcast, and I didn't really know what a podcast was.

He thought we could just go to a pub and just talk and record it, and then about a week after that he suggested we film it with GoPro's, I thought how would that work but then a few days later he said we should get an actual film crew, and so we did.

We rounded up a group of people and we ended up with three cameras and a drone. So, it very quickly turned into something much bigger, and that's how it all started. We then recorded some stuff over a period of several weekends in Scotland with the crew and then we took it to Starz and Sony and said we would really love to make this into a show, and they agreed. So, we shot more in Scotland in August 2019.

And in the meantime, during the lockdown, Sam and I both wanted to write a book about our experiences, particularly our experiences with the first time we shot in 2019. All the people we met, all the mad things we did and all the of the lack of preparation, the spontaneity and fun. And also talk about our careers and our personal life and weave that into a story for people and hopefully they'll enjoy it in the book.

**You have a real love of Scottish history and *Clanlands* is certainly testament to that. How important do you feel it is to retell the story of Scotland?**

**GM:** I think it's very important. I think from history we learn an enormous amount and can apply it to our lives today. Scotland has always fascinated me, perhaps more than any other because it's my country. But also, I think the traditional view of Scotland, which is, I think somewhat romanticised and has been shaped in the sort of latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century into that view of Scotland. That's a bit 'shortbread tin', all these sorts of colourful tartan clad figures running around the hills having a marvelous time.

Also, the tragedy of Scotland, the tragedy of what happened to the Highlands post Culloden. I think the complexities of that story are much more interesting than the slightly airbrushed, romanticised version of it. And that was definitely something that both Sam and I were really keen to explore, both in the TV show, but even more so in the book, because we're really able to dig quite deep into that.

**You began writing as a teenager, how exciting is it for you to not only be releasing a book, but one about Scotland itself?**

**GM:** It's absolutely a dream come true. I wrote three adventure novels when I was a teenager between the ages of 11 and 14 with wonderful titles. *The Island of Death*, that was my first book and I wonder what that was about?

And then another one is called *Snow Track*, which was set in the Antarctic between the Russians and the Americans. That was when I was 12 or 13 or something.

And then *The Inca Guns* that were set in the Amazon and all of them involved the same characters, the main character was called Martin Miller. I loved action adventure novels and I was a huge fan of Alistair MacLean and Willard Price. Those were the books that were really taking a huge hold on me when I was that age. I wanted to be a writer, that was my goal. And I used to write comic sketches with my best friend, and we would perform them, only because we didn't trust anybody else to do it.

And it was through a series of accidents, really, that the drama teacher at my school, after several attempts to get me to be in



Photo courtesy of Starz.

the play, finally asked me to be in one where an actor had fallen ill. And it was only three days before the performance and he said, "Would you do it?"

And to this day, I have no idea why I did, but I did. And I learnt all the lines. It was a big part of a restoration comedy and we did the performance and people laughed in all the right places and then they clapped at the end. Actually, in fairness, with the acting, I thank my mother really because I possibly would have left it at that. I would possibly have never done it again. But the local amateur dramatics company put a little flyer through the door, and they were looking for young actors because they didn't have many young people. It was a local church hall and I remember looking at it, and I can picture it now, it was just a tiny bit of folded paper. I looked at it and I said to my mother, "Do you think I should go along and do that? Would it be interesting?" And she said, "Yes, yes, I think you should!" And I did, and then that really did lead to me becoming more and more interested and eventually taking it up as a job. But for me to have this book now coming out, this is really special for me. I can absolutely assure you that when I get a copy of this book in my hands, I will completely be that 11 year old boy again.

**You have said our coronavirus world helped you and Sam get this book out, can you tell us more?**

**GM:** I was doing a film in Prague and went back to New Zealand to see my kids and I was due to fly back to Prague after five days and then all of this madness descended. And so, I had to stay in New Zealand to ride out the lockdown. I was also due to start on another TV show about that time for Netflix and that was pushed and also Sam was due to start *Outlander* in May and that was pushed. So, suddenly we had this really big block of time from March to June, and all we did was write this book. We would speak at least twice a week and we would constantly be editing each other's documents and sending thoughts and all the rest of it. We would have these big long Zoom conversations, I had never used Zoom before, and suddenly I was using it all the time. If we hadn't been in that situation, Sam would have been shooting *Outlander* and I would have been shooting my show. It's very unlikely that we would have been able to publish this book, certainly in the time that we have managed to do it.



Photo: ©Dave Foster Photography.

And as well, even with *Men in Kilts*, we had a three week shoot to do. And again, I would have been busy with my show, and Sam with his. So, for us, 2020 so far has been the year when we've been able to write a book and make our own TV show. So that's been incredible.

**You and Sam both have an obviously genuine friendship and a great love of Scotland. How has this natural connection that you both have helped with both the filming of *Men in Kilts* and the writing of *Clanlands*?**

**GM:** It's funny I've got to know Sam much better since I finished *Outlander*, compared to when we were actually shooting it. That's partly because it was just the way the schedules were when we were filming, Sam was in almost every day and I wasn't. We would see each other on set and go out for dinner of course but our real friendship developed after *Outlander*.

We would meet up with each other, just the two of us, or sometimes with Duncan Lacroix or Caitriona for dinner. And in the case of Duncan, we'd end up going on holiday together. What's interesting and what I kind of identified, and I think Sam agrees as well, is that we complement each other very well. Sam has enormous enthusiasm and enormous energy, I also have enormous enthusiasm and a lot of energy. He is more reckless than I am, and that heightens my caution in certain situations, which sets up a very interesting dynamic in terms of a book or a TV show. If we were both exactly the same, it just wouldn't be that interesting. He brings me out of my kind of reluctant, sort of slightly grumpy view, of certain things and I help to basically educate him!

The other thing is Sam is a very easygoing person and we both love meeting people. We both loved the idea of having this as an unscripted experience. So, the conversations that we have in the TV show and the book were all spontaneous in the moment with these real people, real situations where these things unfolded in real time. So, there was a real excitement in that which I think comes through in the book and in the show.

I just can't imagine doing this with anybody else. It required a very particular combination of things for it to work and touch wood, I think it has worked. And honestly, I wouldn't have been able to say for sure that that would have been the case beforehand. But in the actual doing it, it became clear very quickly that we have a very natural way of bantering with each other that is not forced. So, yeah, it's a lot of fun.

**How special was it for you to have *Outlander* author Diana Gabaldon write the foreword to *Clanlands*?**

**GM:** Huge, it's incredibly lovely and it's a lovely foreword as well. The wonderful thing about Diana is that she is really game for anything and is a very open and engaged individual. When Sam said he was thinking of asking Diana if she'd like to do the foreword, I knew that she would agree because she's that kind of person.

It's great for us and I think the fans will love it, and she likes the book. Because of course you worry about what if she hates it? But she loved it and it is really wonderful she became part of this book.



Photo: ©Dave Foster Photography.

**Your character Dougal MacKenzie played in the first two seasons of *Outlander*. To date Dougal remains one of the series most fierce and iconic characters of the franchise. Can you remind us how much you enjoyed playing him and how playing such a role has kept your connection with *Outlander* going still today?**

**GM:** I first heard about this role while I was doing *The Hobbit*, I was in my trailer in New Zealand in my dwarf makeup and costume. My manager rang me and said, "Starz are doing a show and it's set in the Scottish Highlands. It's based on a series of books and it's set in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Is that something you'd be interested in?" And I said, "Yes, I would!"

And so, I did, and they cast me. None of us had any idea really. I read the book as all of us had to read the book, but none of us had heard of the books at that point. And so, we were coming to it completely cold. As the filming progressed, especially in the first season of a show like that, you're very much in a bubble. We knew the fanbase for the books was out there, but they might have hated the show and you feel that responsibility. But while you're in the bubble, it's actually quite a good place to be because you are only really guided by your own feelings and ideas.

Obviously, we work with the director and writers but as an actor, it gives you a certain amount of freedom. I loved how complicated he was as a character, that he was the kind of man that you could have people cheering on at one moment and then wishing dead the next moment. The way he lived his life, he had very good qualities but also some bad flaws. For me, he's been an incredible influence on me.

I can't tell you the number of people who come up to me every day and ask me about Dougal Mackenzie and take photographs with me.

And for this book *Clanlands* and the show *Men in Kilts*, I owe a great deal to that Scotsman he has been a great friend and continues to be so. For any actor it is

a great gift to have that kind of character that they wrote, and it was a great pleasure playing him.

**Outside of your screen characters, both you and Sam as people, have become really great ambassadors of Scotland. You champion what the country has to offer and are just so passionate about Scotland it really is infectious, how does that make you feel?**

**GM:** Well thank you, I hope that comes across. I feel very strongly about bringing people to Scotland and showing them what the country has to offer, not just historically, but in terms of its contemporary life-the great food, the wonderful tradition, the people, and the landscape. There's so much and that's what we try and talk about in the book and the TV show.

We try and cover all of that and as somebody who prides himself on knowing a fair bit about all of these things, I was amazed at how much I learned while we were doing all this, doing the research, working on the book and filming. Hearing just wonderful stories from traditional Scottish storytellers, from clan chiefs, from other historians, just such fabulously rich conversations with people. For example, we were lucky enough to capture a very polite argument about the location of Rob Roy's grave between the MacLaren's and the MacGregor's or a great chat with a Macleod and a MacDonald on the Isle of Skye. People can remember the dark stuff that went on between ancestors, just breathtaking violence that lasted sometimes well over 100 years. And that's one of the things that really drove into us, these people held grudges, they really did. That's why I love all this stuff about Scotland, I love those characters who are larger than life.

***Clanlands* is out in November, for details see: [www.clanlandsbook.com](http://www.clanlandsbook.com)**

***Men in Kilts* is scheduled to be released in 2021 on Starz.**

# THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

*Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past*

**1** - Bank of Scotland founded by an Act of the Scottish Parliament. **1695**

**1** - Scotland made a serious bid to enter the lucrative English sea-trading market. The Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies issued a subscription list to stockholders in London. Later known as The Darien Company, £300,000 sterling was quickly raised, but London merchants saw it as a threat to their own East India Company. They put pressure on the King, and the English subscriptions were withdrawn at the behest of their government. **1695**

**2** - Tom Johnston, one of Scotland's best known Secretaries of State, born in Kirkintilloch. **1881**

**3** - Queen Elizabeth officially opened an underwater pipeline to bring the first North Sea oil ashore. **1975**

**3** - The Scottish expedition to Darien landed at 'New Caledonia'. The expedition left Leith on the 12th July 1698, heading for the isthmus of Panama. The enterprise began in 1695 when the Scottish Parliament passed an Act for the establishment of the 'Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies'. **1698**

**4** - Birth of King William III. **1650**



**5** - Opening of the original Mitchell Library, Glasgow, now the largest public reference library in Europe and is home to one of the world's finest collections of Robert Burns materials. **1877**

**5** - The Commercial Bar in Fraserburgh receives a direct hit from a German bomb, killing over 30. **1941**



**6** - Celtic Football Club formally constituted in Calton, Glasgow, to alleviate poverty in Glasgow's East End parishes. The first Celtic Park was established on a vacant lot next to St Mary's Church. **1887**

**7** - Writer and World War Two garrison commander Eric Linklater died in Orkney. **1974**

**8** - Scholar and philosopher John Duns Scotus died. His dry subtleties led to the word "Duns" or "dunce" meaning dull and incapable of learning. Beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1993. **1308**

**9** - In Edinburgh, Sir James Young Simpson delivered Wilhelmina Carstairs while chloroform was administered to the mother, the first child to be born with the aid of anaesthesia. **1847**



**9** - The Royal Yacht Britannia left the Clydebank shipyards to begin her speed trials. Built by John Brown's shipbuilders, she was famously luxurious and entertained countless dignitaries in opulent style. The Britannia carried the royal family on more than 1000 visits to over 600 countries. Today she is moored at Ocean Point, Edinburgh. **1953**

**9** - Dorothy Dunnett, the cult Scottish novelist, died. The writer of intricate and meticulously researched historical novels, she attracted a devoted following with her multi-volume sagas. **2001**

**10** - Journalist Henry M Stanley found the missing Scottish missionary David Livingstone with the classic "Dr Livingstone, I presume" **1871**

**11** - Armistice Day, marking the end of hostilities in World War I. The guns were finally silenced on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Though Scots made up only 10% of the UK population at the time, a total of 147,609 Scottish people were killed during the war, a fifth of Britain's total dead. **1918**

**11** - Today is Martinmas, Scottish Quarter Day. The feast of St Martin of Tours was traditionally the day for slaughtering livestock and salting it for preservation through the winter.

**12** - St Machar Day, patron saint of Aberdeen.



**12** - Edinburgh University first admitted women to the study of medicine. Sophia Jex-Blake and her friend Edith Pechy were the first to attend the prestigious medical school. Though Jex-Blake passed her exams, she was not allowed to graduate as regulations prevented women from actually serving on the wards. **1869**

**13** - King Malcolm III (Canmore), last of the Celtic kings was killed at the Battle of Alnwick. Succeeded by Donald III. **1093**

**13** - The birth of Robert Louis Stevenson, author and poet, in Edinburgh's New Town. His books included *Treasure Island* and *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. He died in Samoa, aged 44. **1850**

**14** - Speed limit for horseless carriages was raised from 4mph (2mph in towns) to 14mph. **1896**



**15** - Statue to Greymfriar's Bobby, who stayed by his master's grave for 14 years was unveiled. **1873**

**15** - The Stone of Destiny was finally returned to Scotland. Legend has it that the stone is a relic from the Holy Land and once belonged to the biblical Jacob. From an early date the kings of Scotland were inaugurated sitting on a royal chair with the stone in its base. In 1296 Edward I removed the stone and installed it at Westminster Abbey. It remained there until it was kidnapped by Scottish nationalist students in 1951. They managed to hide the stone in Scotland for four months until it was found and returned to Westminster. It was moved from there to Edinburgh Castle in 1996 amid much celebration. **1996**

**16** - Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show opened in the East End Exhibition Buildings, Duke Street, Glasgow. **1891**

**16** James Macpherson, the famous fiddling freebooter, was hanged at Banff. The town clock was said to have been advanced to forestall a messenger carrying a reprieve for his hanging. Legend has it that before the notorious outlaw musician was hanged for sheep and cattle stealing he treated the crowd to one of his own compositions, *Macpherson's Rant*, and then broke the fiddle over his knee. When Burns heard of the tale he wrote the song *Macpherson's Farewell*. **1700**



**17** - Tam the Gun - the soldier who famously fired Edinburgh Castle's One o'Clock Gun for more than 25 years died. Staff Sergeant Thomas McKay, 60, lost a year-long battle against bowel cancer. **2005**

**17** - David Livingstone reached Victoria Falls in Africa. Livingstone was born at Blantyre, south of Glasgow and went on a mission to reach new peoples in the interior of Africa and introduce them to Christianity. **1855**

**18** - Sir David Wilkie who later became a well-known painter of historical and religious works as well as portraits, was born near Pitlessie, Fife. **1785**

**18** - Robin Hall, the Scottish folk singer and musician, died. Hall achieved national fame in the sixties along with fellow Scot, Jimmie Macgregor, on the BBC TV show, *Tonight*. Hits included *The Mingulay Boat Song* and schoolboy favourite, *Ye Cannae Shove Yer Grannie Aff a Bus*. **1998**

**19** - King Charles I born. **1600**

**20** James Bruce, 8th Lord Elgin, the Scottish Liberal statesman and diplomat, died. During his career he served as Governor-General of Canada, 1847-54, and India, 1862-63 and was special envoy to China and Japan. During a visit to China he burnt down the emperor's famous Summer Palace in Beijing, destroying thousands of priceless works of art, in order to intimidate the emperor and force him to sign an unratified treaty. **1863**

**21** - King James VII married Mary of Modena. **1673**

**22** - Birth of Mary of Guise, the French Queen Consort of James V. She was regent of Scotland during the minority reign of her daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots. **1515**

**22** - Jack McConnell elected First Minister of Scotland, succeeding Henry McLeish who had resigned. **2001**

**23** - Historical novelist Nigel Tranter born in Glasgow. He was the most prolific Scottish writer of all time, writing mainly factual and fictional books related to Scottish history and was also a columnist for many years for *the Scottish Banner*. **1909**

**24** - David II (aged 7) crowned at Scone. **1331**

**24** - The Scots army defeated at the Rout of Solway Moss. King James V had sent a huge force of 10,000 men into England which was defeated by an English force under the command of Sir Thomas Wharton. James died shortly afterward, and was succeeded to the throne by his baby daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots. **1542**

**24** - The high court in Glasgow imposes a minimum sentence of 27 years for Al Ali Mohamed Al Megrahi, the Libyan national convicted of bombing Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie. He was released on compassionate grounds by the Scottish Government on 20 August 2009 and died on 20 May 2012 in Libya. **2003**

**25** - General Tam Dalyell raises a regiment to suppress Covenanters which later became the Royal Scots Greys. **1681**

**25** - Helen Duncan the last person to be jailed in the UK under the British Witchcraft Act of 1735 was born. **1897**

**25** - Steel magnate and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie born in Dunfermline. Carnegie became a powerful businessman and a leading force in the American steel industry. Carnegie believed that the wealthy had an obligation to give back to society, so he donated much of his fortune to causes like education and peace. **1835**

**26** - Death of John McAdam, inventor of "macadamisation" road surface with a smooth hard surface with a camber to ensure rainwater rapidly drained away. **1836**



**26** - Elsie Inglis, the Scottish nursing pioneer and suffragette, died. Inglis is perhaps best remembered for her role in the First World War, where, convinced that women could play an active role in the conflict, she led volunteer medical units of women who served in France and in Serbia, where Inglis herself was taken prisoner. Winston Churchill wrote that Inglis and her nurses "would shine in history". **1917**

**27** - The greatest storm on record hit Britain with the loss of 8,000 people in 24 hours. **1703**

**27** - The first deaths from an E.coli outbreak in Lanarkshire were reported. The outbreak was subsequently traced back to a butcher's shop in the town of Wishaw, and by early 1997 twenty people, mostly senior citizens, had died, making this the world's worst outbreak of E.coli poisoning. **1996**

**28** - Battle of Rullion Green on the Pentland Hills, south-west of Edinburgh, in which the King's army led by Sir Tam Dalyell defeated the Covenanters. **1666**

**28** - W.Oliver Brown, the candidate for the fledgling National Party of Scotland (NPS), polled 4,818 votes in the Renfrew East By-Election. In doing this he became the first NPS candidate to save his election deposit. The National Party of Scotland amalgamated with the Scottish Party in April 1934 to form the modern Scottish National Party/SNP. **1930**

**29** - Margaret Tudor, daughter of Henry VII of England was born. She later married King James IV of Scotland in the "Union of the Thistle and the Rose". It was due to her bloodline that King James VI of Scotland was able to inherit the crown of England in 1603, after the death of his cousin, Queen Elizabeth I. **1489**

**29** - Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons granted its charter by King James VI. **1599**

**29** - Thomas Edison demonstrated the phonograph publicly for the first time. **1877**

**30** - St Andrew's Day (or in Scottish Gaelic 'Là Naomh Anndrais') - celebrate the patron saint of Scotland. St Andrew, according to Christianity's teachings, was one of Jesus Christ's apostles, the twelve followers chosen by him.



**30** - Stone of Destiny, stolen from Scone by King Edward I of England in 1296, returned to Scotland and installed in Edinburgh Castle. The stone had previously been taken from Westminster Abbey in London by university students in 1951. **1996**

**30** - World's first international football (soccer) match, Scotland V England at West of Scotland Cricket Ground. Result was 0-0. **1872**

**30** - HMS Vanguard, Britain's biggest and last battleship, was launched at Clydebank. **1944**

# Clan Strachan comes home after 705 years

*Purchase of property in ancestral homelands marks place for heritage centre and gathering space.*



Clan Strachan is proud to announce the purchase of the Feughside Inn in the Village of Strachan. This achievement was part of a grassroots effort that marks one of the very first times that a clan has been able to re-acquire property in their ancestral homeland.

The Clan leadership wanted a place to call home for all its members around the world and this acquisition accomplishes that goal. "I am proud to announce that for the first time in 705 years, the Clan Strachan owns property in the district of Strachan," said Mr. Rob Strachan,

Clan Commander and resident in the district of Strachan. Under Mr. Strachan's leadership, the Clan was able to successfully negotiate and fundraise for the acquisition of this property. "I would very much like to thank the donors and volunteers from around the world that made this a reality," he added.

about those that came before us with their rich culture and beautiful history. More importantly though, this is about the future and the generations to come," said Steve Strachan of Englewood, Colorado, another leader of the fundraising effort.

The funds were raised by donations from contributors in not just Scotland but worldwide. Donors outside of the United Kingdom included Australia, Canada and the United States. The fundraising efforts were initiated several months ago, largely through social media and were prolific despite the global pandemic. Fundraising will continue to help finance renovations and the operations moving forward. In the short-term, the Clan intends to operate the property as a Bed & Breakfast and to create a centre for heritage, whilst considering other heritage options.

"This endeavour is years in the making and will have an impact for generations to come," said Dennis Strawhun of Carlsbad, California who is Co-Founder and Convener of the Clan Strachan Society. "I am especially proud of the work that the Clan is doing to bring people together from literally all over the world, especially in these turbulent times," Strawhun added.

The Clan Strachan Scottish Heritage Society, Inc was founded as a public benefit non-profit corporation in 2005. The Society is an international organisation open to all those interested in the heritage, culture and history of Scotland. The Clan Strachan Charitable Trust is an authorised charity since 2014, and regulated in accordance with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

*For more information on the Clan Strachan, please visit: [www.clanstrachan.org](http://www.clanstrachan.org)*

## Rich culture and beautiful history

"This successful initiative will help strengthen our Clan ties and provide a place for more Clan activities," said Martin Strahan of Queensland, Australia, who was a key driver in the fundraising effort. "We are proud of everyone who made this historic effort successful, as it truly was a team effort to provide a place, in a beautiful setting, for our Clan members to visit and learn," Strahan continued.

"This initiative is certainly about honouring our past, and learning more



# Tartan of the Month

*Here's tae us! Tartan*

*The Scottish Banner is pleased to be offering the Tartan of the Month series highlighting a variety of different, unique and colourful tartans from around the world which are registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans in Edinburgh. The Scottish Register of Tartans was established by an act of the Scottish Parliament in November 2008 and promotes and preserves information about historic and contemporary tartans from Scotland and throughout the world. Text and image use is courtesy of the Scottish Register of Tartans (SRT).*

of the country's most recognisable symbols and dates from 1222. The National Flag of Scotland - the Saltire - is, according to legend, even older. It originated in 832AD in a battle fought in today's East Lothian when an army of Picts and Scots became cornered by a superior force of Angles and Saxons. Prayers for deliverance, led by their leader King Angus, were answered by an inspirational diagonal cross of white cloud in a clear blue sky - the cross of St. Andrew.

The Picts and Scots won the day; St. Andrew subsequently became Scotland's patron saint and that cloud became the national flag - the Saltire. When printed or worn on the bias, the white cross of 30 threads - for St. Andrew's Day on 30<sup>th</sup> November - becomes the Saltire. This tartan was designed by Brian Wilton and registered in July, 2020.

**Wishing all our readers a Happy St Andrew's Day on November 30th!**

The "Here's tae us!" tartan (SRT reference: 12885) celebrates Scotland, bringing two ancient banners together in the design. The Royal Banner of Scotland or Lion Rampant, is one

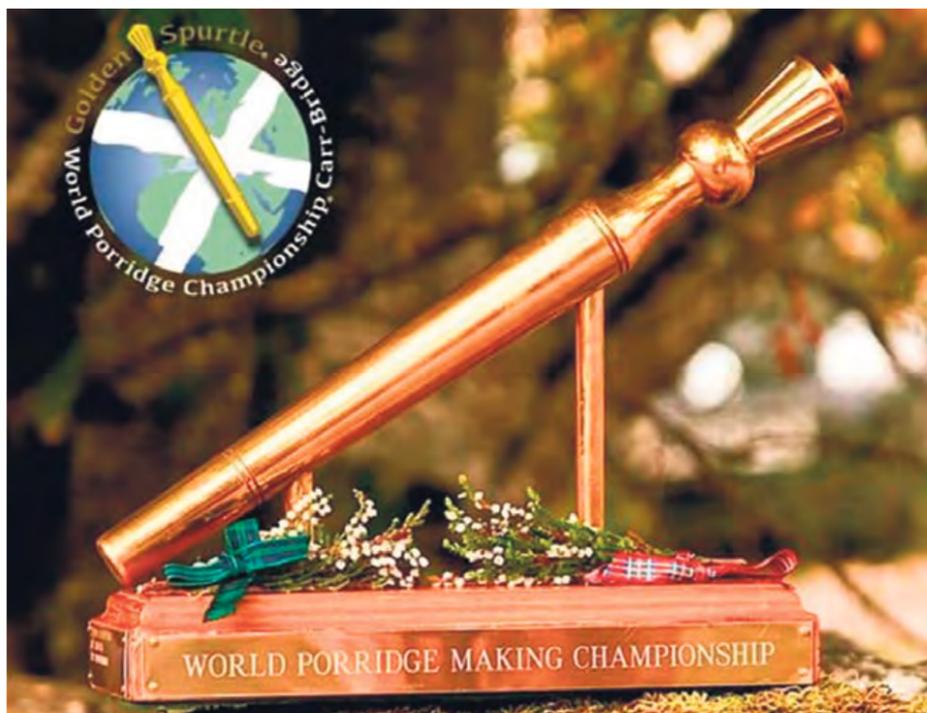
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IN SCOTLAND TODAY



# 2020 World Porridge Making Championship

The 27<sup>th</sup> World Porridge Making Championship again occurred in October in the Scottish highland village of Carrbridge. This year a speciality online competition was presented where the best entrants will be dubbed “Virtual Spurtler 2020”, won by Chris Young of Perthshire. The competition is limited to 30 competitors in the senior event and up to 8 contestants in the junior event.

Up to a dozen countries are represented and competition is fierce to be accepted as a contestant. All competitors must produce a ‘traditional’ and ‘speciality’ dish. Traditional porridge is made from oatmeal (not rolled oats or oatflakes), water and salt. No other ingredients are allowed. At the same time as cooking their traditional porridge, competitors cook their speciality dish. This too must use oatmeal, but beyond that ‘anything goes’.

According to folklore back in the day, many Scottish kitchens had a “dresser”. Some of these dressers – allegedly – had a “porridge drawer” and this drawer would be lined and cleaned out at the start of the week. The family porridge would then be made for the whole week and poured into the drawer to set and cool. The family would be given slices of cold porridge for various meals throughout the week with the process starting again on the Monday.

## Former Scottish nuclear bunker named museum of the year



Gairloch Museum, a former Cold War anti-aircraft centre on Scotland’s north-west coast, has been announced as a winner of Art Fund Museum of the Year 2020, the most prestigious museum prize in the world.

In a unique edition of the prize and in recognition of the unprecedented challenges that all museums face this year, five winning museums have been named. They will equally share the £200,000 award, a 40% rise over previous years. This year’s winning museums are: Aberdeen Art Gallery (Aberdeen, Scotland); Gairloch Museum (Gairloch, Scotland); Science Museum (London, England); South London Gallery (London, England); Towner Eastbourne (Eastbourne, England). They are awarded based on their achievements in 2019 – 20.

Dr Karen Buchanan, Curator of Gairloch Museum commented: “The recognition that comes with this award brings our small, independent museum to the national stage. With the prize money, we will be able to invest in our planned outdoor museum space and procure expertise and equipment to redesign our events and outreach programme for a sustainable, digital future. We rely on tourism to our small community. Our Art Fund Museum of the Year status will boost visitor numbers in 2021, when our must-see event will be an exhibition of the art of Alison Dunlop RSW, celebrating the rugged beauty of the Shiantis – the enchanted isles of the Minch.”

The judges, Jago Cooper (Curator of the Americas, The British Museum), Dame Liz Forgan (Trustee, Art Fund), Ryan Gander (artist), Melanie Keen (Director, The Wellcome Collection) and Jenny Waldman (Director, Art Fund), reflected: “The story of the rebirth of this truly special museum, nestled on the remote north-westerly coast of Scotland, captivated the judges; a tale of people-power, determination, and local pride. The museum’s move in 2019 to a new home – not a grand new build but a repurposed nuclear bunker – transformed a village eyesore into an important visitor attraction. It was the culmination of an 8 year, £2.4 million redevelopment project made possible by more than 120 volunteers. The redisplay of the museum’s collection which encapsulates the history, culture, beauty and character of Gairloch

and its new home have reanimated the village’s pride in its heritage, created a buzzing new community hub, and produced a sustainable cultural landmark for generations of visitors to enjoy.”

## New £15 million whisky distillery for Stirling



Proposals for a new £15 million whisky distillery near Stirling have been submitted for planning approval. The application by Wolfcraig Distillery lays out plans for a new whisky experience near Stirling that will incorporate the distillery, an interactive, education-focused family visitor attraction, private tasting room and 180-cover bistro restaurant and bar.

Wolfcraig director Michael Lunn said: “Our distillery will encourage visitors and tourists to spend more time in and around Stirling, helping to boost both the local and national economies. In addition to producing a premium Highland single malt, we want to offer a state-of-the-art immersive experience for people of all ages and knowledge levels. Our research indicates the distillery could attract around 90,000 visitors in its first year given its proximity to Glasgow and Edinburgh.”

The building will maximise its location, showcasing a stunning vista across to the iconic Wallace Monument and Stirling Castle. It will also harness the latest technologies to ensure that sustainability is at its core. The distillery will have the capacity to produce up to 1.5 million litres of spirit per year and will focus on producing premium Wolfcraig Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky in addition to a range of other associated spirits. The distillery’s interactive visitor centre will showcase tales of Scotland’s national drink, as well as bringing Stirling’s colourful past to life. In addition to tours, plans are also being made to offer a range of different experiences and masterclasses. Pending planning approval, construction is expected to begin in spring 2021 with the distillery due to open in summer 2022. The site will employ around 50 full-time workers.

## Rail services returning to Kintore after almost 60 years



The Aberdeenshire town of Kintore has seen the return of rail services after almost 60 years absence. Funded by Transport Scotland, Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans, the £15 million station was built by Network Rail and has fully accessible, step-free access between platforms via a footbridge with lifts.

The station, which will be managed by ScotRail, is also the largest electric vehicle charging location in north east Scotland, with 24 of the 168 spaces at the new transport hub fitted with charging points.

Councillor Sandra Macdonald, said: “The reopening of Kintore station has been a long-standing aspiration of the local community and the wider region. Kintore station is a welcome addition to the existing eight rail facilities across the north east. For those local to the area, it is an opportunity for convenient rail travel, better connectivity for the community and a sustainable option for local travel to and from Aberdeen. As part of the Aberdeen to Inverness improvement project, it brings benefits to the wider area, enhancing our local rail service and increasing rail capacity. The local community have been very keen to be involved right the way through the project. The historic benches and former station sign are fitting touches for the new station and it has been through working with the community that these hidden treasures were discovered and restored.”

Reopening Kintore has been made possible by double-tracking the line between Aberdeen and Inverurie, delivered as part of the Aberdeen-Inverness Improvement Project. The original Kintore station opened in 1854 but closed in 1964 as part of the Beeching cuts. Its history has been incorporated into the new facility with features from the previous station, including heritage benches and salvaged signs.

## Recovery and renewal on the Clyde



The mission to make the area around the River Clyde an engine of sustainable and inclusive growth and kick-start its economic recovery has been bolstered by the launch of a new fund. The £10 million Clyde Mission Fund is now open to applications for capital funding projects that will create green jobs and benefit communities along the Clyde. It will support economic and infrastructure developments, and improvements to buildings, facilities and the environment.

The fund will also help capitalise on the unique opportunities and competitive advantage of the river and immediate surrounding area.

Economy Secretary Fiona Hyslop said: “The river has great potential with its existing company and skills base and world-class universities on its doorstep. Despite these assets, areas around the river continue to suffer disproportionately from deprivation and have been hit hard by the pandemic. The Clyde Mission Fund will support projects that will create jobs, benefit places and communities and support Scotland’s environmental ambitions as we work with our partners to build a stronger, fairer, greener Clydeside.”

The Scottish Government has pledged £35m for Mission Clyde, a bid to facilitate the economic recovery of the area from the east end of Glasgow along the Clyde to Greenock and Dunoon.

# Devine Heritage



St Andrews Castle. Photo: VisitScotland.

*Dundee based writer Charlie Mill provided stories for the Scottish Banner for many years, touching on Scottish history, lifestyle and some of Scotland's truly unique characters. We recently opened the vault of Charlie's great work to share a collection of some of his favourites with readers today.*

By: Charlie Mill

Scotland's glorious legacy from bygone years has undoubtedly been established through its relationship with religion and the function of the Church. The country has a trio of localised buildings of interest, all under the custody of Historic Scotland and all having religious attachments, and all affording much differing visions as to Scotland's culture.

## St Andrews

With its blend of castle and cathedral, the Fife town of St Andrews underlines the political clout exercised by the church in medieval times, the end result often finishing in a bloody encounter. The castle on the A91 road was the chief quarters of the bishops, and later archbishops, of St Andrews. Their way of life mirrored their standing as the country's principal churchmen, but they always had to be alert in defending themselves and the property of the church.

The historic Fife town had, underneath it, a myriad of mines and tunnels intriguing patterns constructed during times of siege. Several tunnels around the castle were initiated during the siege of 1546-47 by invaders outside the castle walls while, at the same time, the defenders began burrowing a series of tunnels outwards in the hope of heading off the threatening onslaughts.

If anyone is bold enough to attempt entering to closely constrained lines of tunnelling, they will come across the spot where the frantic defenders took the wrong turn in trying to break through to a mine shaft and literally fell into a tunnel filled with enemy soldiers.

## King Arthur connections

A distinctly different experience at St Andrews can be found on the A94 road at Meigle in Tayside, to the south-east of Alyth, where can Christian rituals are caught in stunningly carved Pictish stones.

Most likely dating from between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries, the stones label the locality as one of the main sculptural centres of Pictland. The majority of the stones in the

Sculptured Stone Museum are cross slabs, bearing a mark freely absorbed into the Pictish carving tradition as Paganism fell to Christianity. The locals will boastfully inform the many visitors of how one of the slabs is associated with the legend of King Arthur.

On the back of the tone you'll find a figure in robes flanked by four lions which is generally considered to represent the passing of Vanora, or Guinevere, who was condemned by King Arthur to be ripped apart by wild beasts, though experts on the subject claim it is actually an illustration of Daniel in the Lion's Den. Folk tales allege that remains of Vanora were interred at Meigle and the cross slab placed on her grave.

## Scottish Declaration of Independence

The third property owes its eminence in Scotland's history as the site where the Scottish Declaration of Independence was drawn up before being signed on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1320, by Scotland's nobles. Although the Declaration of Arbroath has made the east-coast town's Abbey renowned throughout the world, a visit to the ruined structure uncovers a much wider story.

The Arbroath Abbey was a vital administrative station and the abbots were vigorously employed in the preparations leading up to the Wars of Independence and beyond. The ruins, which were founded in 1178 by King William the Lion, are claimed to be the most comprehensive of all the Tironensian houses to be found in Scotland.



Arbroath Abbey. Photo: VisitScotland.

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# Calling the Clans

Welcome to our "Clansified" listing of Scottish Clans, Societies and Clubs. If you would like to add your Clan please contact our office for full details. Our contacts are located on page 2. If you are contacting your Clan be sure to tell them you saw them in *the Scottish Banner* and please support these great community organisations.

## Clan Baird Society Worldwide

Membership is open to those descended from Baird, Barde, Bard, Beard, Beaird, Brd, Bayard, Bardt, Barth and Biard or varied spellings of the name of Scottish origin.

In addition to the Society newsletter and the opportunity to associate with fellow clansman members may query the Society genealogist. **For information write:**

**Dr. Debra J. Baird, President**  
3491 County Road 3459, Haleyville, AL 35565  
Email: [djbaird4@gmail.com](mailto:djbaird4@gmail.com)

**Regional Directors for Australia**  
David and Patricia Benfell  
Email: [clanbairdsa@gmail.com](mailto:clanbairdsa@gmail.com)  
website: [www.clanbairdsociety.com](http://www.clanbairdsociety.com)

## Clan Cumming Society of the United States

[www.clancumming.us](http://www.clancumming.us)  
[info@clancumming.us](mailto:info@clancumming.us)

c/o G. Allen Cummings  
PO Box 6888  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469-6888

## Clan Donnachaidh Society of New South Wales Inc., Australia

**Duncan Robertson Reid**  
People who bear any of the above names or other Sept names of Clan Donnachaidh "The Children of Duncan" are invited to join in our activities by participating in the Scottish Gatherings held in NSW.

For information and membership application, contact Gordon Robertson  
58/157 Marconi Rd. Bonnells Bay NSW 2264

## Clan Fraser Society of Australia

Invites all Frasers and Fraser septs to join our clan society.

All members receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter "Strawberry Leaves"

Membership enquiries to Don Chitts  
Ph: (03) 9754 5120 [donchitts@hotmail.com](mailto:donchitts@hotmail.com)  
Website: <http://clanfraseraustralia.org>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Pages/Clan-Fraser-Society-of-Australia/482236358590288>

## CLAN BELL

Invites membership inquiries from persons named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. Various resources available for genealogical research. Quarterly newsletter. Tents hosted at major Scottish games nationwide.

Website: [www.ClanBell.org](http://www.ClanBell.org)  
Online membership: <https://clanbell.org/membership.html>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ClanBell>  
Email: [President@clanbell.org](mailto:President@clanbell.org)  
Clan Bell North America  
5284 Cross Creek Court  
Acworth, GA 30102

## Clan Davidson Society in Australia Inc.

CHIEF: Grant Davidson of Davidston cordially invites to membership all who bear one of the Clan Names, and all who can trace their descent from an ancestor bearing one of these Names: Davidson; Davison; Dawson; Davis; Davie; Davey; Davy; Day; Dye; Dyson; Dawson; Dea; Dean; Deane; Deas; Deason; Dees; Dee; Dey; Daw; Dow; Dhaj; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade; MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagney; MacDhai; McKeddie. In addition we welcome into membership all who have a family association with the Clan Davidson.

Applications may be made online: [clandavidsonaus@gmail.com](mailto:clandavidsonaus@gmail.com) or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P., P.O. Box 519 Baukhams Hills NSW 1755 [dhill1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dhill1@bigpond.net.au) 0431 527 662

## CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY

Membership invited to all who share the Sept names: Duncan, Robertson, Reid, etc.

UK: London & Southern Counties \* Rannoch & Highlands  
Canada: Ontario \* Western Canada  
Australia: New South Wales \* Victoria \* Queensland \* Western Australia  
New Zealand: New Zealand  
Europe: Spain  
Africa: South Africa  
USA: Arizona \* Carolinas \* Florida \* Gulf Coast \* Mid-Atlantic \* New Mexico \* Mid-West \* Northeast \* Northern California \* Pacific Northwest \* Rocky Mountains \* South \* Southern California \* Texas \* Upper Mid-West

Visit our website to learn more about Clan Donnachaidh, our History & Traditions, the Clan Museum in Scotland, the DNA Project, the new Struan Kirk Appeal, & locate a Branch near you.  
<http://www.donnachaidh.com/>  
Facebook: [The Clan Donnachaidh Society](https://www.facebook.com/TheClanDonnachaidhSociety)  
Email: [ivc@donnachaidh.com](mailto:ivc@donnachaidh.com)

## Clan Galbraith Society

Includes name variations such as Galbreath, Culbreath, Gilbraith etc.

DNA testing project, members only databases, Biennial gatherings, blog, Quarterly journal.

[www.clangalbraith.org](http://www.clangalbraith.org)

## Family of Bruce International, Inc.

Family of Bruce International, Inc., the only such organization recognized by the hereditary chief of the Name of Bruce, The Rt. Hon. Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, is a non-profit organization established to create kinship amongst its family members and promote interest in the Family of Bruce and its history. Membership is open to persons who qualify by surname, by descent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle, Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph and Stenhouse.

Membership inquiries should be directed to:  
Donald E. Bruce Polly A. (Bruce) Tilford, Secretary  
President 5561 Earl Young Road  
1051 Eagle Ridge Trail Bloomington, IN 47408  
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082 [www.familyofbruceinternational.org](http://www.familyofbruceinternational.org)

## Clan Donald Australia

"under the patronage of the High Council of the Chiefs of Clan Donald"

High Commissioner Mr A. Neil Macdonald  
State Commissioners  
NSW Mr John Currie  
Qld Mr A. Neil Macdonald  
SA Ms Therese McCutcheon  
Vic Mr Norman A Macdonald  
WA Ms Pamela McDonald

[secretary.donaldaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.donaldaustralia@gmail.com)  
**There is no joy without Clan Donald**

## Edmonstone Clan Society

Invites membership to anyone of the surname or variations:- Edmiston/e, Edmondston, Edmanson, Edmeston, Edmonson, Edmondson, etc. Chieftain Sir Archibald Edmonstone Bt of Duntreath

Contact: Mal Edmiston  
3 Laguna Ave  
Kirwan, Qld, 4817  
61 (0)7 4755 4370  
[m.edmiston@bigpond.com](mailto:m.edmiston@bigpond.com)

## Clan Gregor Society

Established 1822, Edinburgh, Scotland  
Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor  
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balchidder,  
24th Chief of Clan Gregor

Great Lakes, New England, Pacific North West, Western U.S. and Southeast Chapters  
[www.clangregor.com](http://www.clangregor.com)

For membership contact Keith MacGregor  
P.O. Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876  
[kmac1@optonline.net](mailto:kmac1@optonline.net)  
Peter Lawrie, Secretary  
6 The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL Scotland

## Clan Cameron NSW Inc.

President: Alistair Cameron  
[cameron490@ozemail.com.au](mailto:cameron490@ozemail.com.au)  
Secretary: Terry Cameron  
[secretaryclancameronnsw@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryclancameronnsw@gmail.com)

[www.clan-cameron.org.au](http://www.clan-cameron.org.au)

## Clan Donald Queensland

Commissioner: Neil Macdonald  
Ph: 0412 090990  
Email: [clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au](mailto:clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au)  
Web: [www.clandonaldqld.org](http://www.clandonaldqld.org)  
ELIGIBILITY: Those with the name of MacDonald Macdonald McDonald McDonell, Donald, OR of one of the Septs of Clan Donald, OR with a connection through family lineage.  
**There is no joy without Clan Donald**

## Elliot Clan Society, U.S.A.

Bill Elliott-Clan President welcomes membership of all who are connected with this great border family.

Direct inquires to: Jim Dougherty  
Treasurer/Membership Chair  
Email: [elliottcommia@gmail.com](mailto:elliottcommia@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.elliottclan-usa.com](http://www.elliottclan-usa.com)

## Clan Gregor Society Australasia

All MacGregors and Septs of our Clan are invited to join one of the oldest Clan Societies in Scotland Est 1822. If you live in Australia or New Zealand, please contact our clan representative in Australia;

Frank McGregor - Clan Gregor Society  
PO Box 14  
North Hobart TAS 7002  
Email: [clangregorastralia@gmail.com](mailto:clangregorastralia@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.clangregor.com](http://www.clangregor.com)  
**"Royal is my Race"**

## THE CLAN CAMPBELL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

All Campbells or descendants of Campbells and members of Clan Septs are welcome to join the Society.

For State Branches contact the National Secretary Margaret Vallance  
Email: [libertyv93@gmail.com](mailto:libertyv93@gmail.com)  
[www.clan-campbell.org.au](http://www.clan-campbell.org.au)

## Clan Donald U.S.A. Inc.

Membership is open only to persons of the blood of Macdonald, however spelled or of the blood of a recognized associate family or is related by marriage or legal adoption to either of these write for more info and a complete Sept list.

William H. McDaniel  
High Commissioner, CDUSA  
[bill-mcdaniel@att.net](mailto:bill-mcdaniel@att.net)

## Clan Farquharson Association Australia

Clan Chief: Captain A.A.C. Farquharson, MC of Invercauld

Membership inquiries are invited from descendants of Farquharson and descendants of Sept family names. Please contact the association by mail to:

The Secretary: Clan Farquharson Association Australia  
PO Box 585 Springwood, NSW 2777  
or by Email to: [finlaysb@bigpond.com](mailto:finlaysb@bigpond.com)

## American Clan Gregor Society

Est 1909 Membership inquiries welcomed from MacGregors of all spellings and Septs

Gregor Grier MacAdams MacNish Magruder McGehee Gregory King Peter Fletcher Gregg Lecky Black and many others

Contacting our registrar, Jeanne P. Lehr  
11 Ballas Crt.  
St. Louis, MO 63131-3038  
Phone: 314-432-2842, [registrar@acgsus.org](mailto:registrar@acgsus.org)  
website: [www.acgsus.org](http://www.acgsus.org)

## CLAN CARRUTHERS SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

HEREDITARY CHIEF AND SOCIETY PATRON  
Simon Peter Carruthers of Holmains  
Chief of the Name and Arms of Carruthers

Cordially invites all Carruthers and their descendants to join us in preserving our Clan and Family heritage.

Clan Carruthers Society - International  
officially representing Carruthers worldwide  
[www.clancarrutherssociety.org](http://www.clancarrutherssociety.org)  
[clancarrutherssociety@gmail.com](mailto:clancarrutherssociety@gmail.com)

## CLAN DONALD in VICTORIA

Proudly affiliated with Clan Donald Australia, Victorian Scottish Union and Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group.  
Represented at all major Highland gatherings in Victoria.

CLAN DONALD VICTORIA  
President: Mr Norman A. Macdonald  
Contact: [secretary.clandonaldvic@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.clandonaldvic@gmail.com)

Formed in 1934, with membership from many MacDonald, McDonald and Macdonald families living in Victoria. Membership available, with dance classes for Scottish Country Dance most Friday evenings in Gardenvale.

CLAN MACDONALD YARRAVILLE  
Hon Chief: Mrs Christina Milne Wilson  
Contact: [secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com](mailto:secretary@clanmacdonaldyarraville.com)

A hereditary clan society formed by the children of Norman Hume Macdonald and Johan McKenzie Macdonald (nee Munro) who departed Scotland in 1854.

## FORBES

WEB [WWW.CLAN-FORBES.ORG](http://WWW.CLAN-FORBES.ORG)  
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@CLANFORBESSOCIETY  
@CLANFORBES1

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CONTACT: [MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG](mailto:MEMBERSHIP@CLAN-FORBES.ORG)

## Clan Hamilton Society

Hamiltons and those of Hamilton descent are cordially invited to join the society.

Inquiries to be sent to:  
Sheri Lambert, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 5399  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061  
visit our website:  
[www.clanhamilton.org](http://www.clanhamilton.org)

## Clan Hay

April Rich  
28 Oxbow Drive  
Willimantic, CT 06226  
clanhaymembership@hotmail.com

The American Branch of the First Family of Scotland welcomes inquires from descendants of: Hay(s); Hays(s); Hayne(s); Hey(s); Alderston; Arml;Ayer(s); Constable; Con(n); De La Haye; Delgatie; Delgatie; D' Ay(e); Dellah'aY; Errol(l); Garrad; Garrow; Gifford; Hawson; Haygood; Hayter; Hayward; Haywood; Haynie; Hayden; Hayfield; Hayne( s); Leask( e); Leith; Lester; MacGaradh; Peebles; Peeples; Peoples; Turriff; Tweeddale; Yester

[www.clanhay.com](http://www.clanhay.com)

## INTERNATIONAL CLAN MACFARLANE SOCIETY, INC.

The OFFICIAL Clan MacFarlane Society  
Founded 1911 - Glasgow & London  
Re-established- 1973 Grandfather Mountain, NC

**Loch Sloy! We welcome all descendants of Clan MacFarlane from around the world!**

Michael R. MacFarlane, FSA Scot - President  
Brian J.W. MacFarlane - Vice President  
Richard G. Kilby, FSA Scot - Treasurer  
John K. Manchester - Secretary

International Clan MacFarlane Society, Inc.  
PO Box 398 Glenora, CA 91740 USA  
info@macfarlane.org

[MACFARLANE.ORG](http://MACFARLANE.ORG)

## Clan MacLeod Societies of Australia

Membership is open to MacLeods and Septs (of any variant spelling), and descendants. **Recognised Septs:**

Askey MacAndie MacClure  
Beaton MacAskill MacCorkill MacWilliam  
Bethune MacAulay MacCrimmon Norie  
Caskie MacCabe MacGillechallum Norman  
Harold MacCaig MacHaigh Tolmie  
Lewis MacCaskey MacRaid Williamson

- NSW, ACT & Qld - Peter Macleod 02 4397 3161
- Victoria & Tas - David Dickie 03 9337 4384
- South Australia - Rachel Hopkins 0433 184 375
- Western Australia - Ruth MacLeod 08 9364 6334

Email: [peter.macleod@exemail.com.au](mailto:peter.macleod@exemail.com.au)

## Clan Macpherson Association

Clan Macpherson welcomes enquiries from Macphersons and members of our Associated families. For information about local activities visit our web site [www.clan-macpherson.org/branches](http://www.clan-macpherson.org/branches)

**Africa:** Derek Macpherson African.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +265 999 512 620

**Canada:** Ed Smith Canada.Chair@clan-macpherson.org phone +1 519 802 8821

**Europe:** Will Tulling Europe.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +31 655 774 425

**Scotland & Northern Ireland:** Rory Macpherson SandW.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 7525 763 765

**Australia:** John L. Macpherson Australian.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +61 409 122 141

**England & Wales:** William Macpherson EandW.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +44 7877 363 507

**New Zealand:** Tony Macpherson NewZealand.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +64 274 587 813

**USA:** Robert T. McPherson UnitedStates.Chairman@clan-macpherson.org phone +1 360 701 8133

The **Clan Macpherson Museum** is located in Newtonmore, Inverness Shire PH20 1DE, at the junction of the A86 and B9150, and is open from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> October. Ph +44 1540 673 332. See <http://www.clan-macpherson.org/museum/>

## Clan Henderson Society

The MacEanruigs, proud sons of Henry, invite you to join!

**Purposes of the Society**

- Foster Scottish culture and activities
- Promote Scottish festivals and games
- Assist in genealogical research
- Foster fellowship among kith and kin
- Promote the history of Scotland
- Promote charitable and educational activities via a scholarship fund
- Gather the Clan, as directed by our Chief, **Alistair of Fordell**

Contact: Jeff Henderson  
jeffh@bigpond.com  
0439 330 012

[www.clanhendersonsociety.com](http://www.clanhendersonsociety.com)

## Clan MacInnes Int'l Assn. of Clan MacInnes (Aonghais)

Worldwide, we welcome descendants of all spelling variations, including (Mc)Angus, (Mc)Canse, (Mc)Ginnis, (Mc)Guenis, (Mc)Inch, (Mc)Innes, (Mc)Innis, (Mc)Kinnis, (Mc)Masters, (Mc)Neish, (Mc)Ninch, and more.

Scott McInnis, Member Services: [scott@macinnes.org](mailto:scott@macinnes.org) or visit [www.macinnes.org](http://www.macinnes.org)

## THE MACLEODS RICH IN HIGHLAND TRADITIONS

FOR INFORMATION:  
[WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG](http://WWW.CLANMACLEODUSA.ORG)

A.L. MACLEOD  
3923 ROCKWOOD WAY #B  
WEST VALLEY CITY, UT  
84120-6880

## The Clan MacRae Society of Australia and New Zealand

If your surname is MacRae, or you are descended from a person having the surname MacRae (any spelling) or that of a Sept of the Clan then you are eligible to join our Society.

**Australian Contact:**  
Roslyn MacRae 0412 291 054 email: [learn@vsr.com.au](mailto:learn@vsr.com.au)

**NZ Contact:** Sue Tregoweth email: [sue.treg1@gmail.com](mailto:sue.treg1@gmail.com)

## Clan Hope of Craighall Society

For all of the name and lineage of Hope

**INTERNATIONAL & AUSTRALIA**  
President & Commissioner:  
Stephen Hope  
[president@clanhope.org](mailto:president@clanhope.org)  
[commissioner@clanhopeaustralia.org](mailto:commissioner@clanhopeaustralia.org)  
[www.clanhopeaustralia.org](http://www.clanhopeaustralia.org)

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
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[highcommissionerusa@clanhope.org](mailto:highcommissionerusa@clanhope.org)

**Membership Chair:**  
Janet Hope Higton  
[membership@clanhope.org](mailto:membership@clanhope.org)  
[www.clanhope.org](http://www.clanhope.org)

**CANADA**  
Commissioner:  
Scott Hale  
[commissioner@clanhope.ca](mailto:commissioner@clanhope.ca)  
[www.clanhope.ca](http://www.clanhope.ca)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ClanHopeofCraighall>

## Clan Mackenzie Society in Australia Inc.

Membership enquiries welcomed from Mackenzies of all spellings and Septs

Contact: N Dennis, 61 Alma Street,  
East Malvern 3145 Ph 03 9569 5716

Visit our website  
Check out your Tartan and Sept  
[www.clanmackenzie.org.au](http://www.clanmackenzie.org.au)

## Clan Macnachtan Association Worldwide

Descendants and Septs of the CLAN MACNAUGHTON are invited to join our Worldwide Association to learn and share our MacNaughton and Scottish heritage. For more info go to: [clanmacnaughton.net](http://clanmacnaughton.net) or contact Mary Nivison Burton, Membership Secretary at: [membersec@clanmacnaughton.net](mailto:membersec@clanmacnaughton.net)

New Second Edition!  
**A History of the Clan Macnachtan**  
Paperback available through Amazon.com, Amazon.co.uk, Amazon.ca

## Clan MacRae Society of North America

Granted Arms in 2008

We invite MacRaes of all spelling variations and their descendants to join our Clan MacRae Society. Learn your Scottish MacRae history and family lineage!

[www.macrae.org](http://www.macrae.org)

Need more info? Contact:  
Bruce McRae, President  
303-670-9611  
[brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com](mailto:brucewaynemcrae@gmail.com)

## Clan Irwin Association

Clan Irwin Association Patron  
Alexander Irvine of Drum  
27<sup>th</sup> Baron of Drum & Chief of the Name.  
Contact: Barbara Edelman, Chairman  
65 Colonial Drive, Telford, PA 18969  
215-721-3955 [chairman@clanirwin.org](mailto:chairman@clanirwin.org)

IRWIN • IRVIN • IRVINE • IRVING • ERWIN • ERVIN  
Over 270 ways the name has been spelled since 325 A.D.

[www.clanirwin.org](http://www.clanirwin.org)

## Clan MacLaren Clan Labhran

Clan MacLaren Society of Australia (includes New Zealand members)

[www.clanmaclarenau.org](http://www.clanmaclarenau.org)  
[clanmaclarenau@gmail.com](mailto:clanmaclarenau@gmail.com)  
0422 223 161

## Clan MacNeil Association of Australia

For all enquiries about the clan and membership contact: John McNeil  
21 Coopers Avenue  
Leabrook, South Australia 5068  
Phone: 08 833 33990 Email: [kisimul@chariot.net.au](mailto:kisimul@chariot.net.au)

## Clan Maitland Society

Chief: Ian Maitland, The Earl of Lauderdale!  
We are all related! Contact your local society

**North America:** Rosemary Maitland Thorn  
[rthomnvrpcan@aol.com](mailto:rthomnvrpcan@aol.com) [www.clanmaitlandna.org](http://www.clanmaitlandna.org)

**Australia:** Carole Maitland [carole\\_maitland@yahoo.com.au](mailto:carole_maitland@yahoo.com.au)  
4230 Colac- Lavers Hill RoadWeeaprounah. VIC. 3237

**New Zealand:** Judette Maitland [judette@xtra.co.nz](mailto:judette@xtra.co.nz)  
33 Disley Street, High bury, Wellington 6012. NZ

We welcome all with Maitland, Lauderdale, Maitlen and similar name spelling. See the entire list and your family history at: [www.clanmaitland.org.uk](http://www.clanmaitland.org.uk)

## Clan MacAlpine Society

102 Rainbow Drive #48  
Livingston, TX 77399-10020 USA  
Earl Dale McAlpine - President  
Email: [earlmacalpine@yahoo.com](mailto:earlmacalpine@yahoo.com)

## Clan MacLaren

MacLaren MacLaurin Lawrence Lawson Low[e] Low[e]ry Law[e] Patterson MacPatrick MacRory

Mark A. McLaren, President  
611 Indian Home Rd.  
Danville, CA 94526  
(925) 838-8175  
[boarsrock@earthlink.net](mailto:boarsrock@earthlink.net)

## CLAN MACNEIL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

invites all MacNeils, regardless of surname spelling, to join us in celebrating our heritage!

website: [ClanMacNeilUSA.us](http://ClanMacNeilUSA.us)  
Find us on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram  
@ClanMacNeilUSA

## Clan Munro Association, U.S.A

We are the only national organization of Munro in the U.S.A. affiliated with the Clan Munro (Association) of Scotland.

**COME JOIN US!**  
Web site: [www.Clanmunrousa.org](http://www.Clanmunrousa.org)  
Write: Heather Munro Daniel  
4600 Lloydrownn Road  
Mebane, NC 27302

## Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.

MacDougall VP Membership 505-470 Scenic Drive, London, ON N5Z 3B2

Email: [info@macdougall.org](mailto:info@macdougall.org) Home page: [www.macdougall.org](http://www.macdougall.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/clanmacdougall](http://www.facebook.com/clanmacdougall)

**Names Associated with Clan MacDougall of Argyll and Clan MacDowall of Galloway**

Coil	MacCoul	MacDoual
Conacher	MacConacher	MacDoual
Coyle	MacCoyle	MacDoual
Dole	MacDole	MacDoual
Doual	MacDoual	MacDoual
Dougall	MacDougall	MacDoual
Dougle	MacDougle	MacDoual
Dugal	MacDugal	MacDoual
Dowall	MacDowall	MacDoual
MacDowell	MacDowell	MacDoual
Lutlich	MacLutlich	MacDoual
MacCulloch	MacCulloch	MacDoual
MacClintock	MacClintock	MacDoual
MacHale	MacHale	MacDoual
MacHowell	MacHowell	MacDoual
MacKichan	MacKichan	MacDoual
MacLucas	MacLucas	MacDoual
MacLuke	MacLuke	MacDoual

Spelling Variations May Vary or Omit the Mac, Mc

## Clan MacLellan

John B. McClellan, Jr.  
Treasurer  
383 Ash Brook Lane  
Sunnyvale, TX  
75182-3250

Email: [treasurer@clanmaclellan.net](mailto:treasurer@clanmaclellan.net)

Invites all MacLellans and their descendants regardless of surname spelling to join in preserving our heritage. Various family names are MacLellan(d), McClellan(d), McLellan(d) and Gilliland.

Visit our website: [www.clanmaclellan.net](http://www.clanmaclellan.net)

## Clan MacNicol

Chief: John MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac

Contact Ross Nicolson  
10/377 North Rocks Rd.,  
Carlingford NSW 2118  
[www.clanmacnicol.org](http://www.clanmacnicol.org)

## OLIPHANT CLAN & FAMILY ASSOCIATION of North America

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and all descended

[ClanOliphantMembership@gmail.com](mailto:ClanOliphantMembership@gmail.com)  
[www.OliphantOfNorthAmerica.org](http://www.OliphantOfNorthAmerica.org)



## Clan Pollock

Among the most ancient families of Scotland. If you are a descendant of Pollock, Pollok, Pook, Polk, Polke, Paulk, Poalke, Poulk, Poolke, Pogue - you are cordially invited to contact:

**A. D. Pollock, Jr.**  
PO Box 404  
Greenville, KY 42345  
e-mail: [apollockis@comcast.net](mailto:apollockis@comcast.net)



## Clan Sinclair Australia

Membership and inquiries from all Sinclairs, Sinclair Septs and Sinclair descendants.

For further info contact  
President: Wayne Sinclair 0417 146 174  
Secretary: Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263  
E: [clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com](mailto:clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com)  
[www.clansinclairaustralia.com](http://www.clansinclairaustralia.com)

### Scottish Associations and Societies



THE AMERICAN-SCOTTISH FOUNDATION, INC.

Through our platform of projects and events ASF helps share and strengthen the heritage and cultural message of Scotland's past and future. A bridge between the United States and Scotland.

[www.americanscottishfoundation.org](http://www.americanscottishfoundation.org)



The American-Scottish Foundation

## The Scottish Australian Heritage Council



Membership is welcomed from all Australians of Scottish descent.

For information please contact  
The Hon Secretary SAHC, Susan Cooke  
Ph: 0411097724  
Email: [alfredhcooke@gmail.com](mailto:alfredhcooke@gmail.com)



[www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au](http://www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au)



## Clan Ross in Australia

for information contact Commander Des Ross  
(By appointment David Ross Bt Chief of Clan Ross and Balnagowan)

We would be pleased to hear from anyone with Ross Clan heritage and interest.

Contact: Commander Des Ross at  
[lonepiper.ross@gmail.com](mailto:lonepiper.ross@gmail.com) M 0403 830 853  
Ken Duthie JP Director of Publicity M 0409 322 374



## The Stewart Society

Welcomes Stewarts, however spelt, by name, birth, or descent, from all over the world. Annual Gathering in historic, Stewart-related properties in Scotland. Newsletter. Annual magazine.

**Please inquire: The Secretary**  
53 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2HT,  
Tel/Fax 0131 220 4512 [www.stewartociety.org](http://www.stewartociety.org)



## Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia

(The Scottish Gaelic Association of Australia) is a nonprofit organisation which supports the language and culture of Scottish Gaels.

Ruaraidh MacAonghais, N each Cathrach (Convenor)  
Phone: 04 0482 2314 E-mail: [fios@ozgaelic.org](mailto:fios@ozgaelic.org)  
Web: [www.ozgaelic.org](http://www.ozgaelic.org)  
Mail: PO Box A2259, SYDNEY SOUTH 1235

## Scottish Gaelic

### Language Classes:

Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 pm  
during school terms

420-424 William Street, West Melbourne.

Contact: Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277

Email: [scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com](mailto:scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com)

## Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

Founded in 1905

<https://www.scottishgaelicvictoria.com>



## Clan Ross America

Representing the great Highland Clan of Ross since 1976.



Paul D Ross, President  
Virg Bumann, VP Membership  
1015 Archer St, San Diego, CA, 92109  
[membership@clanross.org](mailto:membership@clanross.org)  
[info@clanross.org](mailto:info@clanross.org)  
[www.clanross.org](http://www.clanross.org)



## Clan Sutherland Society in Australia Incorporated

Contact: M Hodgkinson  
212 MacKenzie Street

Toowoomba 4350 (07 4632 8559)  
[william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au](mailto:william.hodgkinson@bigpond.com.au)  
<http://goldenvale.wixsite.com/clansutherlandaustralia>  
Facebook: Clan Sutherland Society in Australia



## Caledonian Society of WA Inc.

Promotes Scottish Culture and Traditions in Perth, Western Australia

For further details contact John: 0427 990 754  
Email: [caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com](mailto:caledoniansocietyofwa@gmail.com)  
[www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com](http://www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com)

## Còisir Ghàidhlig Bhiocòiria

### Scottish Gaelic Choir of Victoria

[www.facebook.com/ScottishGaelicChoirofVictoria](http://www.facebook.com/ScottishGaelicChoirofVictoria)

Do you live in Melbourne? Are you interested in Gaelic and its music, or do you simply enjoy singing? Why not join us?

Rehearsal times:

Thursday 7-9pm during school terms,  
Term 1 2020 beginning 6<sup>th</sup> February  
at The Kildara Centre, rear of  
39 Stanhope Street, Malvern.

Contact Raghnaid NicGaraidh  
[rachel.hay@iinet.net.au](mailto:rachel.hay@iinet.net.au)



## Clan Ross of The United States

David Ross of Ross, Baron Balnagowan, Chief of the Clan invites all Ross', septs and their descendants toto join in preserving our heritage.

[www.theclanross.com](http://www.theclanross.com)

[clanrossoftheunitedstates@gmail.com](mailto:clanrossoftheunitedstates@gmail.com)

Contact L. Q. Ross  
105 S. Graham Ave, Orlando, FL 32803



## Clan Sutherland Society of North America Inc.

The Society cordially invites membership of all Sutherlands (however the name is spelled) and of the associated families: Cheyne, Duffus, Gray, Frederith, Mowat and Oliphant.

Email: [Secretary@ClanSutherland.org](mailto:Secretary@ClanSutherland.org)  
Website: [www.ClanSutherland.org](http://www.ClanSutherland.org)



## Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc

Promotes and supports all forms of Scottish culture in Newcastle, Hunter Valley and surrounding areas.

Members and interested people are welcome to attend activities such as Burns Night, Caledonian Night, St Andrew's Day, and other social functions.

Web: [hvscots.org](http://hvscots.org) Email: [hunterscots@gmail.com](mailto:hunterscots@gmail.com)  
P.O. Box 34, Kotara NSW 2289

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER



The Society of St. Andrew of Scotland (Queensland) Limited

ABN 30 093 578 860

Invites membership of all people of Scottish descent or association

The Secretary, P.O. Box 3233, South Brisbane, BC,  
[www.standrewsociety.com](http://www.standrewsociety.com)



## Clan Scott Australia Group

Clan Chief: The Duke of Buccleuch KT, K.B.E  
Commissioner: Heather de Sylva

Membership welcome from Scotts and Septs:  
Balwearie, Harden, Laidlaw, Geddes & Langlands.

E: [heatherdesylva@bigpond.com](mailto:heatherdesylva@bigpond.com)

## Clan Young Australia



Ian J Young AM  
Convenor

Membership inquiries:  
Clan Young Australia  
10 Cedric Street  
Parkdale VIC 3195

[membership@clanyoungaustralia.com.au](mailto:membership@clanyoungaustralia.com.au)

[www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/)

## The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne Inc.



- > Promotes interest in the works, life and milieu of the Scottish Poet Robert Burns
- > Celebrates Scottish Culture
- > Conducts Annual Burn Supper, Poetry Afternoon & Pleasant Sunday Afternoon

For Membership Information contact:  
Secretary: Noel Wright (03) 8333 0973  
Email: [noelwright@netspace.net.au](mailto:noelwright@netspace.net.au)

## Scots of Victoria Coordinating Group

Supporting the Scottish Community in Victoria  
Scottish Resource Centre  
Level 1, 420 - 424 William St.  
West Melbourne VIC 3003

E-mail: [resource\\_centre@scotsaufaus.org.au](mailto:resource_centre@scotsaufaus.org.au)  
Website: <https://scotsaufaus.org.au>  
Facebook: [facebook.com/ScotsOfVictoria](https://facebook.com/ScotsOfVictoria)



## Clan Shaw Society

Invites membership or inquires from all: Shaw, Ayson, Adamson, Esson, MacAy, MacHay, Shiach, Sheach, Sheath, Seith, Seth, Skaith, Scaith and Shay.

Secretary: Mike Shaw  
2403 West Cranford  
Denison, TX 75020



## Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

Worldwide organization for all Wardlaws or related families. We invite you to join us.

Email: [clanwardlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:clanwardlaw@yahoo.com)

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[www.clanwardlaw.com](http://www.clanwardlaw.com)  
Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

## Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

P.O. Box 457  
Pinehurst, NC 28370

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[www.scottishheritageusa.org](http://www.scottishheritageusa.org)  
email: [shusa457@gmail.com](mailto:shusa457@gmail.com)  
(910) 295-4448

## Victorian Scottish Union Inc

Established 1905

Umbrella group representing the interest of Scottish Clans and Societies in Victoria.

Affiliated Clans & Societies  
Ballarat Highland Dancing Geelong Scottish Dance  
Balmoral Highland Dancing Society Glenbrae Celtic Dancers  
Begonia City Highland Dancing Society Kilmore Celtic Festival  
Brunswick Scottish Society Maryborough Highland Society  
Clan Donald Victoria Mornington Peninsula Caledonian Society  
Clan Grant Scottish Country Dance Victoria Society  
Clan Macdonald Yarraville Inc The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne  
Clan Macdonald of Australia Robert Burns Club of Camperdown  
Clan Maclean Australia Warrambool & District Caledonian Society  
Clan Sinclair Association Warrambool Caledonian Highland Dancing Society  
Clan Sutherland Australia

Chief: Ms Ceilidh McKinna Robertson

President: Mr Douglas Pearce

Secretary: Mrs Jan Macdonald

T: 03 9360 9829 M: 0438 584 930

E: [secretary@victorianscottishunion.com](mailto:secretary@victorianscottishunion.com)  
[www.victorianscottishunion.com](http://www.victorianscottishunion.com)

# Majestic collection showcased on global stage

Scotland's oldest surviving book still in a Scottish collection is among the historic artefacts showcased in a new free online experience.

All images courtesy of University of Edinburgh, Special Collections.



The 11th century Celtic Psalter.

The University of Edinburgh has joined the British Library, the Louvre and others in collaborating with Google Arts & Culture to make their collections more accessible to a wider audience. The magnificent Celtic Psalter, which has been described as Scotland's Books of Kells, is one of a series of objects which can be viewed on the Google Arts & Culture website and app. The pocket-size book of Psalms – dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> century and most likely produced at the monastery of Iona – is one of more than 150 images from the collection housed in the University Main Library which will be accessible on the free digital platform.

Celtic Psalter - An 11<sup>th</sup> century Psalter, or Book of Psalms, in Latin probably produced in a monastery on the west coast of Scotland. Inchcolm Antiphoner – A page from an Antiphoner, a book of anthems. It is a rare example of Celtic plainchant that would have been sung in monasteries around Scotland. Patrick Geddes Collection- Lawnmarket and High Street, Edinburgh, from the Outlook Tower. Violin – This 19<sup>th</sup>-century violin belonged to the Scottish fiddler James Scott Skinner (1843-1927). The Scott Monument – Image by pioneering Scottish photographers D. O. Hill and Robert Adamson depicts the Scott Monument in Edinburgh's Princes Street Gardens. Dermatome man model, Anatomy Collection - This late 20<sup>th</sup> century anatomical model is made from papier-mâché. The dermatome is the area of skin supplied by a single, specific spinal nerve root. Lung resin cast model - To create this anatomical model



Lawnmarket and High St, Edinburgh.

polymer resin was injected into the air passages inside the lung, known as the bronchial tree. One Pound Coin, 2017, by Lara Hirst - Exploring material and perceptions of value, Hirst transforms a single pound coin by recasting it into a perfect cube. Anatomical Museum in the University of Edinburgh Medical School, Teviot Place. Designed by Robert Rowand Anderson, the museum opened in 1884.

### Sharing stories

The story of the University's Special Collections, Museums and colleges will be told through themes relating to the University's heritage and Scotland's culture, past and present. Among the attractions are photographs from the archive of Sir Patrick Geddes – the so-called father of modern town planning – who is famed for regenerating Edinburgh's Old Town. Objects from the University's world-class collection of musical instruments also feature, including a violin from the 19<sup>th</sup> century played by James Scott Skinner – one of Scotland's most famous fiddlers.

Elsewhere, the story of the University's international reputation in medicine and 500 years of medical teaching will be told through items from the anatomy collection and the Lothian Health Services Archive – which holds a wealth of historically important records of NHS hospitals.

Also included are engravings and photographs from the Corson Collection – an archive relating to the travels of renowned, novelist, poet, historian, lawyer and alumnus, Sir Walter Scott.

Daryl Green Head of Special Collections said: "The University's Collections play an important role in object-based learning, research and inspiration. This challenging year has brought the need for online engagement into sharper focus and we are delighted to be able to work with Google Arts & Culture to share the stories behind the collections more widely."

The platform allows users to zoom in on objects in detail and read about the stories behind the artefacts. Connections// Collections: Sharing Scotland's Stories with the World will feature artwork by Edinburgh College of Art Graduates, purchased by the University of Edinburgh Art Collection which can be viewed on the Google Arts & Culture Platform. The exhibition is open and free to the public.

### International reputation

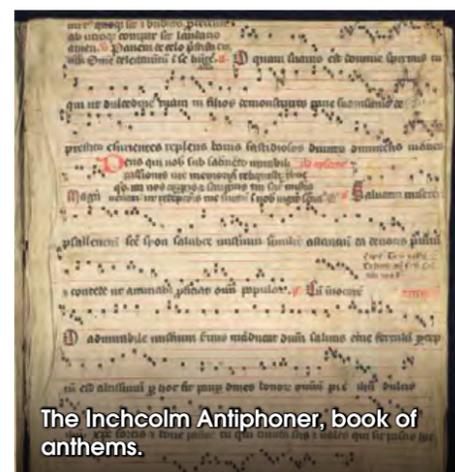
The University of Edinburgh's Museums and Special Collections contains a vast range of rare and unique material including manuscripts and archives, rare books, musical instruments, works of art and photographs. It houses an estimated 35 kilometres of historic material – much of which cannot be found anywhere else in the world, along with a rare book collection of around 400,000 volumes.

Google Arts & Culture puts the collections of more than 2,000 museums at people's fingertips. It is an immersive way to explore art, history and the wonders of the world, from Van Gogh's bedroom paintings to the women's rights movement

and the Taj Mahal. The Google Arts & Culture app is free and available online for iOS and Android.

Google Arts & Culture has been an innovation partner for cultural institutions since 2011 to develop technologies that help preserve and share culture and allow curators to create engaging exhibitions online and offline, inside museums.

To view Connections//Collections: Sharing Scotland's Stories with the World see: <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/university-of-edinburgh>



The Inchcolm Antiphoner, book of anthems.



The Scott Monument, taken by early Scottish photographers.

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IN THE SCOTTISH KITCHEN - ST ANDREW'S DAY MENU



*Celebrate this St Andrew's Day with a traditional dinner using some of the finest recipes from Scotland's natural larder. Sample some great Scottish style food and drink on November 30th with your friends and family and enjoy a St Andrew's Night!*



## Cullen Skink

### Ingredients:

#### For the stock:

- 75g/2½oz. butter
- 1 tbsp. vegetable oil
- 2 leeks, roughly chopped
- 2 onions, peeled, roughly chopped
- 2 fennel bulbs, roughly chopped
- 250ml/9fl oz. white wine
- 500g/17½oz smoked haddock
- 750ml/1 pint 7fl oz. water

#### For the soup:

- 75g/2½oz. butter
- 1 tbsp. vegetable oil
- 2 leeks, finely chopped
- 2 shallots, peeled, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled, crushed
- 300g/10½oz. potatoes, peeled, chopped
- 500ml/17½fl oz. double cream
- 1 tbsp. finely chopped fresh parsley
- pinch freshly grated nutmeg

### Method:

For the stock, heat the butter and vegetable oil in a large pan and gently fry the leeks, onions and fennel for 3-4 minutes, or until softened. Add the white wine to the pan and bring to the boil. Add the smoked haddock, pour in the water and bring back to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for 30 minutes, skimming off any scum that rises to the surface, until the haddock is cooked through. Strain the haddock, reserving the cooking stock. Chop the haddock into bite-sized pieces. For the soup, heat the butter with the vegetable oil and fry the leeks, shallots and garlic for 3-4 minutes, or until softened. Add the potatoes and the chopped smoked haddock to the pan. Add the reserved cooking stock and bring to the boil, then reduce the heat and simmer for 10-15 minutes, or until the potatoes are tender. Stir in the cream and briefly blend the soup with a stick blender. Serve the soup with crusty bread and sprinkle with the chopped fresh parsley and a sprinkling of freshly grated nutmeg.

## Skirlie mash



### Ingredients:

- 1kg/2.2 lbs. floury potatoes
- 85g/3oz. butter
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 50g/1.76oz. pinhead or medium oatmeal (not flakes)
- 6 tbsp. double cream
- handful curly parsley, chopped

### Method:

Boil the potatoes until very tender, about 20 mins. Meanwhile, make the skirlie. Heat the butter in a frying pan, add the onion and cook for 10 mins until golden and soft. Add the oatmeal and stir until the butter is absorbed and the mix looks dry. Continue cooking until the skirlie is toasted, stirring (skirling round the pan) all the time for 5 mins, but do not let it catch and burn. Remove and keep warm. Drain the potatoes, return to the hot pan and mash really well. Beat in the cream, parsley and skirlie, then season to taste. Serve immediately before the skirlie softens.

## Stovies

### Ingredients:

- 3.5 lbs./1.6 kg. of peeled potatoes chopped into approximately 1 in./2.5 cm. cubes.
- 1-1.5lb./ 450-675g. of onions chopped reasonably finely. If you like a stronger onion flavour, add more.
- 1 lb./450 g. of Lorne sausage (or a square shaped flat sausage,) chopped into approximately 1inc./2.5 cm squares
- Salt to taste - traditionally a generous amount of salt would be added.

### Method:

Bring a large pot of water to the boil. Add the onions, potatoes, sausage and salt. Allow to boil without a lid for as long as it takes for the potatoes to become soft and mushy. If required, add more boiling water from a kettle. For the tastiest of results, allow the stovies to burn slightly and stick to the pot before scraping the sticky, burnt parts back into the stovies.

## Bannocks



### Ingredients:

- 1 x 7g sachet fast-action yeast
- 1 tsp. caster sugar
- 500g/1lb 2oz. strong white flour
- 125g/4½oz. unsalted butter, melted
- 250g/9oz. dried mixed fruit
- 50g/2oz. light muscovado sugar
- beaten egg, for glazing

### Method:

Mix together the yeast, caster sugar and 250ml/9fl oz. lukewarm water in a large bowl. Leave to stand for 10 minutes until the mixture is frothy.

Add the flour and butter and mix thoroughly. Tip onto a lightly floured surface and knead for about five minutes to form a smooth elastic dough.

Place the dough into a clean, lightly oiled bowl and cover with a damp tea towel. Leave to prove in a warm place for about one hour or until doubled in size.

When the dough has risen, remove the tea towel and punch the dough down. Tip onto a lightly floured surface and knead in the fruit and muscovado sugar until well combined.

Shape the dough into a round shape and place on a lightly greased baking sheet. Cover again with a damp tea towel and leave to rise in a warm place again for 30 minutes or until it has doubled in size.

Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4. Brush the bannock with a little beaten egg to glaze. Bake for 45-50 minutes until risen and a rich brown colour. If the bread is getting too dark, cover lightly with parchment paper or foil. When the bread is ready it should sound hollow when the underneath is tapped gently. Leave to cool slightly before slicing and serving warm with plenty of butter.

## Crispy neeps 'n' tatties cake

### Ingredients:

- 1 large swede, peeled and cut into chunks
- 4 baking potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
- 50g./1.75oz. butter
- sunflower oil, for greasing
- 8 thin slices pancetta

### Method:

Boil the swede and potatoes in salted water for about 20 mins until completely tender, then drain well. Return to the pan under a very low heat for a few mins to dry out. Off the heat, bash the veg into a chunky mash with half the butter, a touch of salt and lots of pepper.

Heat oven to 220C/200C fan/gas 7. Grease an ovenproof frying pan with a splash of oil and line the pan with the pancetta so it meets in the middle (like the stripes on the Union Flag). Press the veg into the dish (you can get up to this stage up to a day ahead and keep in the fridge). Dot with the remaining butter, then bake for about 40 mins until crisp and golden. Remove from the oven, turn out onto a board and cut into wedges.

## Scottish cranachan



### Ingredients:

- For the cardamom honey:
- 1 x 250g/9oz jar clear honey
- 20 cardamom pods, seeds only, finely ground

#### For the cranachan:

- 40g/1½oz. medium or coarse oatmeal
- 200g/7oz .raspberries
- 400ml/14fl oz. double cream
- 2 tbsp. cardamom honey (from above), or to taste
- 3 tbsp. malt whisky
- ½-1 tsp. rosewater, or to taste
- rose petals, to garnish (optional)

### Method:

To make the cardamom honey: crush the cardamom pods in a pestle and mortar to separate the dry pods from the seeds. Discard the husks. Toast the seeds in a dry pan to release their oils so they become aromatic.

Pour half of the honey into a pan and add the crushed and toasted cardamom seeds. Gently heat through until the honey has become more liquid and starts to bubble at the edges; if you have a probe thermometer, the temperature should be 75C/165F. Remove from the heat and pour the flavoured honey back into the jar with the remaining honey. Stir gently, and leave to cool, uncovered. When cool, put on the lid and ideally store for 24 hours before using.

To make the cranachan: heat a heavy-bottomed pan and toast the oatmeal over a low heat, stirring occasionally, until it smells warm and nutty and has changed colour. This will take 10-15 minutes, sometimes as long as 20 minutes. Leave to cool.

In a bowl, crush half of the raspberries to make a rough mash. In a separate bowl, whisk the cream with the honey, whisky and rosewater until soft peaks form when the whisk is removed, then fold in the crushed raspberries.

Fold in the toasted oatmeal and two-thirds of the remaining whole raspberries. Adjust the honey and rose water to taste. Spoon the cranachan into small glasses, and garnish with the remaining raspberries and some rose petals, if using. Drizzle with a wee bit more of the cardamom honey and serve.

## Clansman's Coffee



### Ingredients:

- 1 measure of scotch
- Dash of Sambucca
- Black coffee
- Whipped cream

### Method:

Wipe the rim of a goblet with a piece of lemon and dip it in brown sugar. Pour the spirits and coffee into the glass, add sugar to taste and float the whipped cream on top. Decorate with grated chocolate.

# How you can help identify Scotland's archives

*Thousands of Scotland's historic archives are now available to view online.*



Fyrish Monument, Highlands in 1981.

**H**istoric Environment Scotland (HES) has asked the public to help identify over 5,000 archive images which are now available online for the first time. In 2019-20, over 170,000 archive items from the HES archives were digitised, with the images now being added to Canmore – the online catalogue of HES archives.

The new online records include digitised copies of photographic negatives and printed photographs from the Scottish Development Department (SDD) which was formed in 1962. The archives showcase rural and urban Scotland in the 1970s and

1980s, from crofts in the Highlands and farms in Orkney to large estates in Fife and tenements in Glasgow.

### What life was like throughout Scotland

The collection gives a rare insight into what life was like throughout Scotland at that time with pub interiors, fashion trends and interior design choices all documented. There are also extensive records of Glasgow and Edinburgh and nearby locales, as well as Scotland's new towns. Over 5,000 images of locations and building exterior and interiors are currently unidentified as part of this collection, with HES aiming to

identify as many as possible with the help of the public. Also digitised this year were prints relating to significant archaeological digs including images of excavations at historic sites such as Skara Brae in Orkney and Edinburgh Castle. Approximately 14,000 prints were also digitised from personal research and work by prominent archaeologists such as Dr Euan Mackie, Roger Mercer and Vere Gordon Childe, with the oldest image dating from around 1927.

### Scotland's past

Lesley Ferguson, Head of Archives at HES, said: "These archives give a unique perspective on civic planning in the 20<sup>th</sup> century including the development and growth of Scotland's new towns, while the images of excavations showcase the sites that helped archaeologists unlock the secrets of Scotland's past – from the Neolithic to the Middle Ages. Unfortunately, we don't know where some of these historic photographs were taken and that's why we are asking for the public's help. Perhaps there's a photo of your street, or your local pub, or even the flat you lived in as a student. Help us discover more of Scotland's past by visiting Canmore and letting us know if you recognise any of the places documented in these archives. Over 1 million archives documenting Scotland's archaeological sites, buildings, industry and maritime heritage are currently available on Canmore."

Lesley continues: "By digitising our archives, we're able to make them available to even more people. Digitisation helps us make heritage accessible to all as well as ensuring the long-term preservation of these important documents and photographs."

*To provide HES with details or locations of its archives, please email [archives@hes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:archives@hes.scot.nhs.uk) to view the images in the Canmore collection (the online catalogue to Scotland's archaeology, buildings, industrial and maritime heritage) see: [www.canmore.org.uk](http://www.canmore.org.uk)*



This image of Sauchiehall Street in Glasgow is part of the Scottish Development Department Collection.



Berneray, Harris in 1983.



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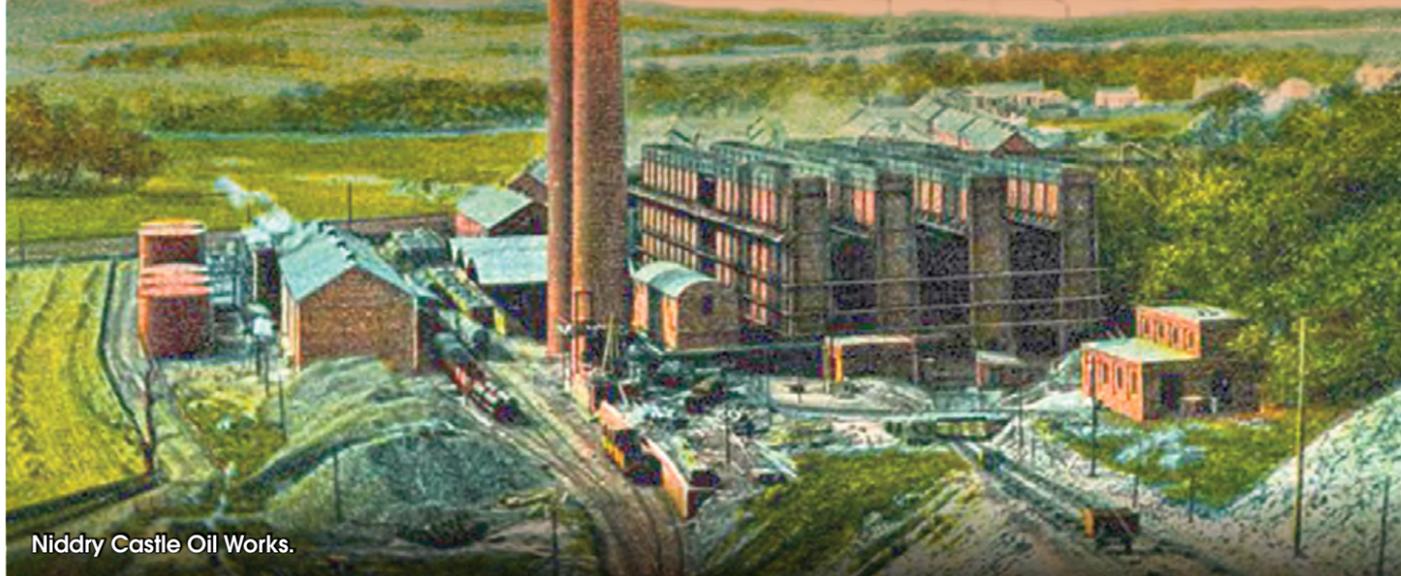
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Images courtesy of the Museum of Scottish Shale Oil Industry.

# Scotland's first oil rush



Niddry Castle Oil Works.

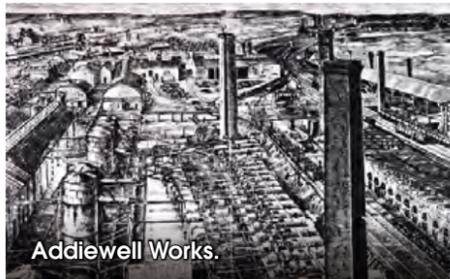
***During the late Victorian times oil works were established across much of West Lothian and new villages were built to accommodate the workforce, and new communities developed in the shadow of the bings. The industry competed successfully against cheaper imported petroleum for many years, and continued in operation until the 1960s. The Shale Trail is a new 16 mile trail across West Lothian to celebrate this part of Scotland's industrial heritage, as Nick Drainey explains.***

The Five Sisters, so-called because of the number of mounds of shale outside the village of West Calder, looks something akin to Uluru in Australia. Despite the aesthetic qualities it is actually the result of heavy industry and is a Scheduled Monument, of national importance because of the role it played in the production of oil. Huge mounds of discarded rock, known as bings, rise more than 200 metres across the West Lothian countryside, monuments to an oil boom which laid the foundations of the modern-day petro-chemical industry.

The Five Sisters were built from discarded shale from which oil had been extracted at the nearby Westwood Oil Works but it is one of many bings only found in this part of Scotland. The origins of the shale oil boom are widely held to have been production at nearby Inchcross, close to Bathgate, where James Young produced oils - but from coal. This was before the US had seen any wells drilled.

## Oilshale

From 1851 Young's pioneering technique saw the coal heated until the oil could be driven off using steam. At first the oil was used to light homes and the process was patented and sold across the world. But in the 1860s a new source for the oil had to be found after supplies of the oil-rich "cannel coal" began to run short and large amounts of American petroleum began to be imported. Young started using oilshale – a different rock from coal but found beneath a lot of West Lothian and in 1860 he established Young's Paraffin Light and Mineral Oil



Addiewell Works.

Company and a huge complex consisting of an oilworks, refinery and candleworks at a new village, Addiewell – one of many communities which sprang up at the time.

Dr. Robin Chesters, Director of the Almond Valley Heritage Trust which runs the Museum of the Scottish Shale Oil Industry, says over time West Lothian was transformed. "Beforehand, the industries focused on market towns and water power. It was basically a rural area until the shale took off. When the shale works started people came from all over Scotland, the Highlands, from Ireland and other places. It was a time of boom and bust, people didn't stay in the same place for very long because there was always the changing fortunes of these companies – responding to the changing market price of oil."

Many new companies began trading including the successful Broxburn Oil Company and the Pumpherston Oil Company. As with better known oil rushes across the world there were some financial disasters as well and firms such as the Linlithgow Oil Company went bust while others prospered.

With the influx of workers came the need for housing, and the growth of new communities on sites which had once been farmland. At first living conditions for some were not great, but things did improve. Dr Chesters says: "It was an industry that was thrown together in a hurry; houses were flung up as cheaply as they possibly could in the first instance. A lot of that housing stock survived until the 1920s and 1930s and got into a really dreadful condition."

## A pride that people were enterprising

However, when limited companies began to be formed in the 1880s owners realised that "to attract the best class of man you should offer the best class of housing". Dr Chesters adds: "There were some enlightened proprietors at that time and certainly by the time the industry was at its zenith in the first

decade or so of the 20<sup>th</sup> century some of these were really model workers houses – three four rooms built with inside toilets, wash houses and so forth."

The companies were producing a wide range of products, not only the oil for lighting which had started it all off. Dr Chesters says: "Basically it was crude oil they produced from the shale and it just depended on what you wanted to do when you came to refine that crude oil, what products you wanted." Paraffin and lubricating oils are the well-known products but there was also a lot of wax in the oil, meaning a number of candle works sprang up. And ammonium sulphate fertiliser, produced as a by-product of the extraction process, provided another good source of income for the companies.

The beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was when shale oil was at its peak and demand was high. According to the Museum of the Scottish Shale Oil Industry over 12,000 were employed and output accounted for about 2% of the world's oil production before the outbreak of the First World War.

However, after the First World War the British had began working on oil in the Persian Gulf, meaning imports became cheaper. There was a small upturn



The Five Sisters. © Copyright Thomas Nugent.

By: Nick Drainey



during the national effort of the Second World War but by the beginning of the 1960s the shale oil industry had died, a victim of the international trade in oil.

Nowadays, our eco-friendly, modern society is far removed from the industrial age of shale oil, but that is not a reason to forget it, according to Dr Chesters.

He says that a few decades ago "there was a pride that people were enterprising" but now the industrial past, and shale oil, can be seen as wrong. But he adds: "You need to go backwards to see where we have come from and how much we have progressed – looking after the environment and our health. You need that perspective to appreciate how well off we are."

## The Shail Trail

West Lothian has now developed a Shale Trail – a walking and cycling route through the former industrial heartland. Covering 16 miles, it tells the shale oil story through information panels and access to sites such as the Five Sisters bing, while passing through some reclaimed countryside.

Heath Brown the Shale Trail heritage manager said it is a great way "for people to get involved and learn about the history, wildlife and lives of the people who worked in the industry".

Councillor Tom Conn, West Lothian Council Executive spokesman for the Environment added: "The shale trail is another welcome addition to the visitor experience in West Lothian but can also be used by local residents to get out and about and explore their local heritage and environment."



Oilbank village in 1910.



Refinery staff.