



the Scottish Banner



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A' Bhratach Albannach

Volume 45 Number 9

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March 2022



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the Scottish Banner

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Distributed monthly in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the USA. ISSN 2209-8364

Australia Post Print Approved PP:100004806

Published monthly by Scottish Banner Publications
PO Box 6220, Marrickville South, NSW, 2204, Australia

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The Banner Says...

'Hopping' to stay on the Bonnie, Bonnie Banks



by Sean Cairney

Just outside Glasgow sits one of Scotland's most beautiful attractions and the largest lake by surface area in the UK (and the second largest lake by volume after Loch Ness), Loch Lomond. We of course all know the song about 'The bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond' and it boasts 22 islands and 27 islets (very small islands).

Inchconnachan

I have been fortunate to travel to Loch Lomond a few times and take in the amazing natural beauty and history of the area. On my last visit a few years ago I was on a boat and the crew were telling us about some very unique and special local residents you may not expect to find on the loch, or in Scotland. The uninhabited island of Inchconnachan, has been home to a clan of red-necked wallabies. Associated with the vast Australian landscape a Wallaby is a marsupial or pouched animal that is a member of the kangaroo family.

The name Inchconnachan comes from the Gaelic form of Innis Chonachain, meaning The Colquhoun's Island. Interestingly most of Loch Lomond's islands include 'Inch', which originates from the Gaelic word 'innis' for island. The 42-hectare island was owned by the Colquhoun family for more than seven centuries. But just how did wallabies end up on a Scottish island? Fiona Bryde Colquhoun, the Countess of Arran, brought in the wallabies from her Hertfordshire home at the end of the

Second World War. Lady Arran was passionate about animals, nature and Scotland and the couple she brought to the island soon became a colony of about 60 who survived on the island's dense oak, holly, and birch. Some also may be surprised to hear that the Countess of Arran later in life was the first person to average 100 mph in an offshore boat and became known as the 'fastest granny on water'.

Wallaby Island

In 2020 Inchconnachan, or Wallaby Island as it is also known, went up for sale and must have been considered one of Scotland's most unique property sales at the time. It sold for over £1.5 million, and the new owners now want to turn the island into an eco-holiday let island and clear out the wallaby population, who have now resided on the island for over 80 years. The new owners are keen for the animals to be relocated and an online petition (www.change.org/p/scottish-government-save-the-wallabies-of-loch-lomond) to protects both the wallabies and their habitat has begun in protest, at time of press the target of 75,000 signatures was about to be reached. People from around Scotland and the world have voiced their concerns. Whilst these animals might be more expected in the Australian outback, they have adapted to Scottish life and formed a multi-generational base and become part of the Scottish eco-system and have economic benefits as they draw tourists to the region to see the unique animal in the wild. Some wildlife experts fear the stress of relocation could be fatal to some of the wallabies and that they now play a part in the ecosystem.

While others insist, they are not native to Scotland and should be culled. There is suggestion they pose a threat to native wildlife such as grouse and capercaillie and the island should be left to them and other native species like ospreys, otters, deer, and birds. The long-term

goal for the island is to have any non-native species population be zero (or as close as possible) and this includes all species of both flora and fauna. The new owners are thankfully not supportive of culling the animals.

In this issue

Across the world this month fans of the *Outlander* television series can breathe a sigh of relief as the hit period drama returns. *Outlander* has been an incredible success for Scotland and generated much interest in Scottish history, tourism and helped create many jobs in the Scottish film and production industry. I remember being at Highland Games back in the 1990's and seeing the author Diana Gabaldon at the same events promoting her books which she could never have known would translate to a global television phenomenon, just as her books have.

This month on March 8th is International Women's Day and we likely could have filled up a few pages with some of the amazing Scots women who have blazed a trail for those who came behind them. We do however look at Bonnie Jean Cameron, she broke just a few glass ceilings as she took men to battle and was simply 'too much woman' for some. This year is the 250th anniversary of her death and we are so glad to highlight this dynamic Scot.

One of Loch Lomond's most unique residents

Could one of Lady Arran Colquhoun legacies, the 80-year residency of wallabies, soon be over on Loch Lomond? Certainly one of Loch Lomond's most unique residents could go elsewhere, and there are in fact wallabies living across the UK, but Clan Wallaby have made home on Inchconnachan. Their future lies in the hands of local government and the new owners, and it may no longer include those bonnie, bonnie banks. 🐨

What do you think should happen to the wallabies of Inchconnachan? Do you have any comments from the content in this month's edition? Share your story with us by email, post, social media or: #ScottishBanner, #TheBanner

Covid-19 is having a major impact on many of our regular advertisers, with events being cancelled and businesses suffering. The Scottish Banner is more reliant than ever on our readers helping us to provide you with our unique content by buying a copy of our publication, regardless of if by print or digital subscription or at a retail outlet.

We appreciate your support and hope you enjoy this edition.



Photo: Keven Law/Wikimedia Commons.



Gracing our front cover: The cast of *Outlander*. Photo courtesy of Starz.

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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?

Emigrant Families at Sea: Scottish migration to Canada, 1770s-1850s



I thought you might find the talk Emigrant Families at Sea: Scottish migration to Canada, 1770s-1850s by Dr. Elizabeth Ritchie of interest. Her presentation took place online on Thursday, December 16, 2021, and was one of the topics on the University of the Highlands and Islands' series of History Talks Live in which expert speakers offer their insights on a wide range of topics of interest to the historically-minded.

You can view a recording of this talk at the following link: <https://youtu.be/U0i2HbYGIY4>

In her talk, Dr. Ritchie looks at how many Scottish emigrants to Canada travelled as part of a family unit. Historians have been good at evaluating the experience of the transatlantic voyage by class and by gender, but to travel as a family also made a different experience — for men, women and children, both for better and for worse. It could lend a sense of security and a sense of purpose to the journey, but travelling with dependents also made everything slower, more expensive and more difficult. The impact of the journey

on families, on their very constitution, their daily patterns and life events could be dramatic. Shipboard life could be a liminal space where the usual gender roles became flexible, but not always. Life events — births and deaths — were even more stressful in the crowded conditions of steerage than usual. And in some cases, it was the emigration journey, intended to benefit the family, which instead broke the family unit. In this talk Dr. Ritchie considers how travelling as a family affected Scots' experience of the transatlantic voyage, and how the voyage affected their experience of family life.

Dr. Ritchie is senior lecturer at the Centre for History, University of the Highlands and Islands. She is interested in the social and cultural history of the eighteenth and nineteenth-century Highlands, with an especial focus on religion, education, land use, and the family. She is originally from Crieff, in Perthshire, and completed her undergraduate degree in History and Masters in American Studies at the University of Glasgow and gained her PhD at the Department of History at the University of Guelph, Ontario, on The Faith of the Crofters: Skye and South Uist, 1793-1843.

I do hope you enjoy the talk. Best wishes and thank you for your support.

David Hunter
President
Scottish Studies Foundation
Guelph, Ontario
Canada
www.scottishstudies.com

Burns... the Haggis

Chorus Chant... "We're nae fu' yet"...
The Haggis Cull is noo complete
All we hae' to dae... is eat
Chorus... "Ye'll ne'er tak' me alive"...

Wi' neeps `n` tatties
There`s nane... sae sweet
Chorus... "Och aye"...

When whisky chasers
Donce... the feet
Chorus... "Scots wha hae"...

The skirl o` pipes the world sae richt
When feasting on this rare... auld nicht!
Chorus... "O flur o` Scotland"...

A comment sae` Braw... ye`r` ee` tae greet
As ye toast... to "Burns" an` ...
yon "sonsie" faced meat
To Burns... for you... an` ane an` a`
Chorus... "Will ye no` come back agen"...
Heed ye a` the ca`!

THE PHANTOM POET

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George Ian Caldwell (T.P.P4)

wrote this for Burns night hope it amuses fellow Haggis hunters...

The Kilted Yogi



Thank you for your interview with Finlay Wilson. I actually saw Finlay in New York at the Tartan Day Parade and have since followed him on social media. Finlay really seems such a nice soul and really loves to show off Scotland, and what a Scotsman truly wears under his kilt, on many of his great videos. At first, I thought yoga and kilts that does not work, but amazingly it very much does. I am really enjoying all the great articles on your website and really do find your content fresh, unique and so very informative.

Thank you for all that goes into this site and your publication which I have known about now for over 10 years.

Jennifer McLeod
New Haven, Connecticut
USA

Family of Bruce International



Family of Bruce International (FOBI) had their Annual General Meeting on October 16, 2021 at the Stone Mountain Highland games in Stone Mountain, Georgia, USA. There were seven states represented with 23 members and guests present.

This was a good year for FOBI with 321 members of which 158 are life members. There were seven first time attendees to the AGM. An e-mail was sent from Charles, Lord Bruce and Lord and Lady Elgin stating warmest wishes for the AGM. All the Officers gave their reports along with Lord Elgin's Lieutenant to the Chief and High Commissioner.

Charitable Operations Officer reported that FOBI gave many donations throughout the fiscal year.

President, Don Bruce, stated "It is so great that we come here once a year to celebrate our historic and honored family. It is so great that we carry on that tradition in the name of Bruce. I am so proud to be a Bruce and I am so proud to be a part of this family and I am so proud to call all of you kin and friends".

Polly Bruce Tilford
USA

February edition



The consensus amongst the ladies is that the Scottish scenery is particularly stunning in this edition!

Keep up the good work!

Helen, South Simcoe Scottish Country Dancing
Alliston, Ontario
Canada

My Scottish Heart



You might like to dip into my collection of old Scottish songs, reimagined in contemporary settings. Look for me on Spotify.

I wrote the title track about the clearances and how it might feel to have to leave your home and country against your will.

From my Scottish heart to yours,
Evelyn Laurie
Paisley, Scotland

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



Sent to our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts-send us your photos or letters via social media (#ScottishBanner or #TheBanner):

Glencoe Lochan



Glencoe Lochan looking a lot more like Canada!

Ronald Stokes

Girvan



Coming home to Girvan Harbour.

Mik Coia

Scottish Stag



A stag at Buachaille Etive Mòr.

The Kilted Photographer
Scotland

Stirling



Wintery backdrop to Stirling Castle.

Scotdrone

The opening of the Forth Bridge

One of Britain's most iconic structures opened on March 4, 1890.



The Forth Bridge was a milestone in the development of railway civil engineering. Today, 200 trains use the bridge each day, carrying a total of three million passengers a year, according to Transport Scotland. It was the first major structure in Britain to be made of steel and its construction resulted in a continuous East Coast railway route from London to Aberdeen. The first crossing of the Forth Bridge by the railway came in 1850 when the Edinburgh, Leith and Granton Railway started the world's first 'train ferry' – a ferry boat specially designed by Thomas Bouch to take railway coaches – between Granton and Burntisland.

New design

In August 1873, the North British Railway obtained authority to build a railway bridge across the Firth of Forth and construction of a suspension bridge, also designed by Thomas Bouch, began in 1878. However, work on his bridge

across the Forth stopped immediately pending a full inquiry when Bouch's original Tay Bridge in Dundee collapsed during a storm in December 1879. His suspension bridge plans were abandoned in 1881 and the newly formed Forth Bridge Railway Company invited new designs. The bridge would cross the Forth between South Queensferry – now part of Edinburgh and North Queensferry in Fife – making use of the island of Inch Garvie.

Its design had to conform to specifications from the Admiralty, which stipulated the Forth remained a navigable channel. It also needed to satisfy the Board of Trade, which said the bridge must be rigid, stiff and able to carry the heaviest freight trains, following the recent disaster at the Tay Bridge.

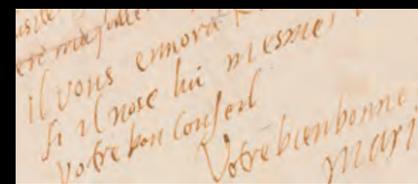
John Fowler and his partner Benjamin Baker developed a cantilevered design that accounted for these restrictions. The contract for its construction was let to Messers Arrol & Co of Glasgow in 1882 and work on the bridge started in 1883.

The Prince of Wales – later King Edward VII – formally opened the bridge on 4 March 1890. He drove home a final, gold-plated rivet and at the same ceremony knighted Benjamin Baker.

Did you know?

- The Forth Bridge has three double cantilevers with two 1,700ft suspended spans between them – at the time the longest bridge spans in the world.
- Baker and Fowler's bridge was the first major construction in Britain to be made from steel; the bridge incorporates 53,000 tonnes of the material.
- The rail level is 150ft (46m) above high water.
- Each of the towers has four steel tubes 12ft (3.7m) in diameter and reaches 361ft (110m) above high water. Their foundations extend 89ft below this into the river bed, making the total height from foundations to the top of the towers 137 metres.
- The total length of the bridge, including its approach viaducts is 2,467 metres.
- The main structure itself measures 1,630 metres portal to portal.
- It cost £3m to build and employed a workforce of 4,600 men at the height of construction.

Mary Queen of Scots letter fetches £32,500 at auction



“Votre Bien Bonne Amye Marie”, a letter from Mary, Queen of Scots to the French Ambassador to England has gone under the hammer in Scotland. Sent to the French ambassador to England less than two months following Mary, Queen of Scots' daring escape from Lochleven castle on the 2nd May 1568, this letter, signed by Mary, was one of the leading highlights in a February 2022 auction of Rare Books, Manuscripts, Maps & Photographs where it achieved £32,500. Queen Mary had been imprisoned following her forced abdication in favour of the infant James VI. Mary's escape from Lochleven was aided by George Douglas, the brother of the landowner, Sir William Douglas. George Douglas, and an orphaned cousin, William Douglas, who had also aided Mary's escape, followed her to 'freedom'. When Mary headed to England to seek refuge from her relative, Queen Elizabeth I, she was apprehended by Richard Lowther, the Deputy Governor of Cumberland, and escorted to Carlisle Castle, officially as a free woman, although she was placed under armed guard.



The Commando Memorial.

How well do you know Scotland? To test your knowledge, we have assembled ten fun questions on its geography, history and culture – but if you get stumped, the solutions can be found underneath. Good luck!

- 1) Where in Scotland would you find the memorial statue to the Commandoes?
- 2) Where is Scotland's main centre for the production of Harris Tweed?
- 3) Darvel in Ayrshire is the birthplace of Sir Alexander Fleming -- which medicine did he discover?
- 4) The town was once also famed for the production of which textile?
- 5) How long is the Scottish coastline?
 - a) 5214 miles, b) 6214 miles or c) 7214 miles?
- 6) Where is the Glenmorangie whisky distillery?
- 7) In old Scots, what does “smook” mean?

- 8) Where did Bonnie Prince Charlie first set foot on Scottish soil on July 23, 1745?
- 9) Which liner, while under construction, was known as Number 534 before it was named?
- 10) Which two Scottish towns claim to have been the site of the last burning of a witch in Scotland?

Answers

- 1) Near Spean Bridge, to the east of Fort William.
- 2) Stornoway, on the Isle of Lewis.
- 3) Penicillin.
- 4) Lace.
- 5) b) 6214 miles.
- 6) Tain, Ross-shire.
- 7) To prowl around with intent to pilfer.
- 8) The island of Eriskay.
- 9) The Queen Mary, which entered service in 1937.
- 10) Fortrose and Dornoch.

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SCOTSPEAK

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

“We’re delighted to have such an incredible line up performing across our Gaelic strand of events this year. Gaelic music, culture and language has always been an important part of the festival and we’re so glad to continue that tradition. We hope these performances will showcase the level of talent that the Gaelic music scene has to offer, and that Gaelic speakers and non-Gaelic speakers alike will enjoy the fresh and dynamic takes on traditional sounds.”

Donald Shaw, Creative Producer of Celtic Connections, said that Gaelic musicians were at the heart of the action recently at Celtic Connections. A number of exciting Gaelic strand shows took place across Glasgow during January and February for the annual music festival.

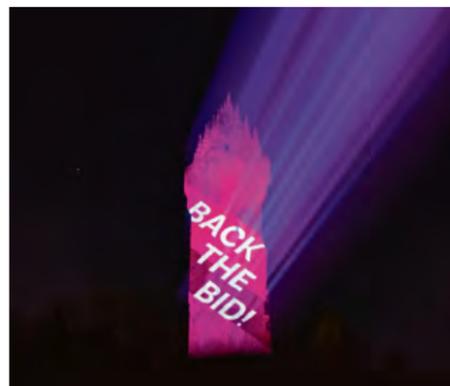


“With the inaugural Loch Ness Challenge originally planned to take place back in 2020, we are really excited to finally get going. To be able to welcome people back to this spectacular part of the world and showcase our fantastic Loch Ness 360° route will be really special after all this time. We hope the event will have a positive impact for local businesses and communities as we recover from the pandemic, and I would encourage people to get involved however they can. Taking place thanks to the support of sponsor SSE Renewables, we hope the event will provide an economic boost for the area and for the sustainability of the communities around Loch Ness this year and for years to come.”

Michael Golding, CEO of Visit Inverness Loch Ness, said that The Loch Ness Challenge, a new three-day running or cycling event which follows the Loch Ness 360° trail, is to take place between Friday 20th and Sunday 22nd May 2022. The Loch Ness Challenge covers three marathons over the course of three days, totalling 129km and an ascent of more than 3,000m along the Great Glen Way and South Loch Ness Trail around Loch Ness.

“All of our electricity is already purchased from 100% renewable sources and has been since 2018. However, the creation of the solar farm at Glasgow Airport will allow us to become self-sustaining by generating enough clean energy for both the airport and our neighbours.”

Glasgow Airport Chief executive Derek Provan said plans have been released for a solar farm at Glasgow Airport. The airport’s owners said the 30-acre site would generate enough power for the airport campus and neighbouring businesses. The project is in the early stages of development and, subject to getting planning approval, is expected to go online by the summer of 2023.



“We’re marking this major milestone in our bid journey with a unique experience that celebrates the passion and creativity that can be found in abundance here in Stirling. What has shone through is the

huge pride and deep affection people feel for their home city, communities and the local landscape. Emotions are running high. We know what a massive difference winning would make to our communities, our creative sector and our economy. We want the world to see how special Stirling is and just how much this means to us.”

Kevin Harrison, Manager of Scene Stirling, which represents Stirling’s arts and cultural partners, said as lines from a collective poem by the people of Stirling celebrating their home city were projected onto the National Wallace Monument. The digital showcase marked the official submission of Stirling’s bid to become UK City of Culture 2025; with entries from the eight longlisted cities due to be submitted to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport on Wednesday 2 February. Stirling is the only remaining Scottish city in the running for the prestigious title, with the winner set to be declared in May 2022.

“Rock crystal is unusual in itself. It is one of those materials that was greatly prized in the antique world, for its transparency and translucency, and so it’s associated with purity. So it was, I think even in its time, very, very special. And you can see from the way that the gold almost enshrines it, it’s made into a sort of relic. It’s a showcasing piece from a very high-status workshop, such as one that you might expect a bishop to have in one of his monasteries. This object is absolutely fascinating. I’ve seen a lot of Anglo-Saxon finds over the years in my professional career, some of them amazing. But this absolutely knocks them all into a cocked hat.”

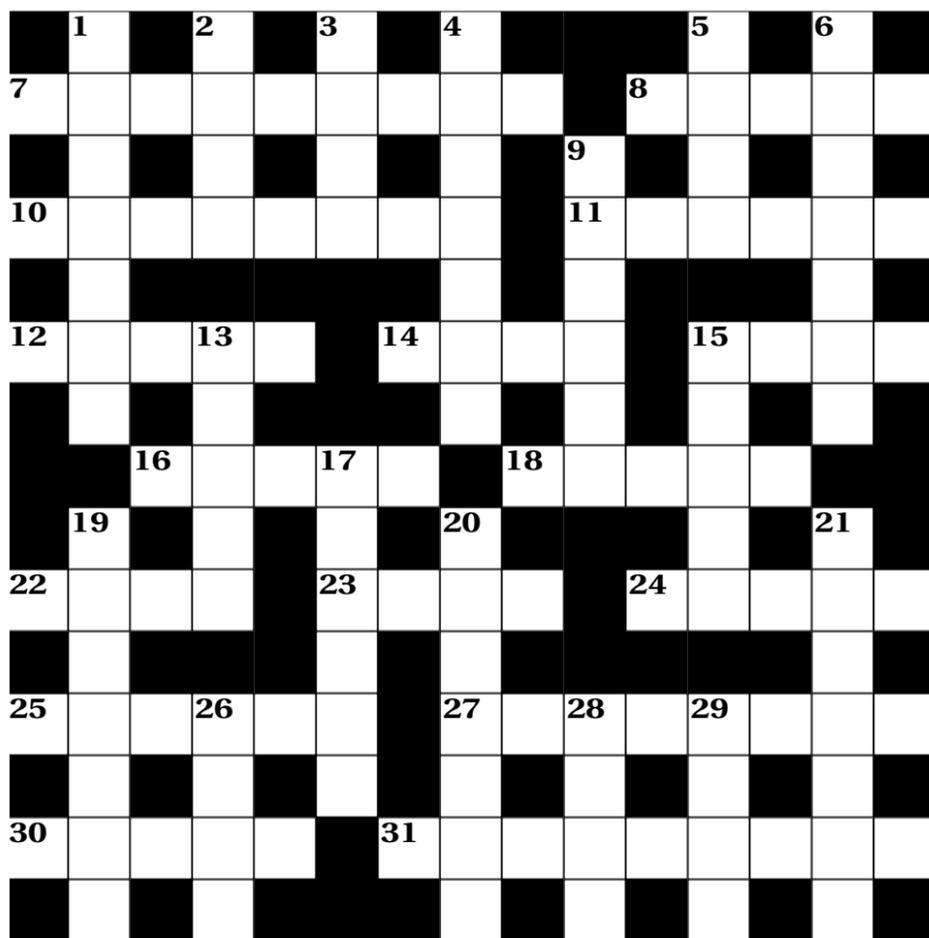
Dr Leslie Webster, former Keeper of Britain, Prehistory and Europe at the British Museum, said a rare rock crystal jar found wrapped in textiles as part of the Galloway Hoard has been conserved, revealing a Latin inscription written in gold.

The inscription says the jar was made for a bishop named Hyguald. The Galloway Hoard is the richest collection of rare and unique Viking-age objects ever found in Britain or Ireland.



“It’s not just about anti-social behaviour issues and impact on individuals, although those are hugely important, it’s about the overall housing supply in Edinburgh which has seen 10,000 residential properties taken out of residential use and put into short-term let visitor accommodation. We need to see that tide starting to turn back and more properties – particularly in the city centre that we want to remain a vibrant place – continue to be first and foremost for residents.”

Edinburgh Councillor Adam McVey said that any property being used as a holiday rental in the capital, such as Airbnb’s, will have to apply for a license from local authorities by April 2023 in order to operate. The new mandate will be nationwide and is being implemented by the Scottish Government. Over the last decade Edinburgh has seen the majority of short-term lets and is now believed to be home to around a third of all in Scotland.



SCOTWORD

Here is a wee Scottish crossword for you to try! If you’re stuck, answers can be found on page 24.

CLUES ACROSS:

- 7. Grampian fishing port
- 8. Lochaber river
- 10. Port on the Clyde
- 11. Search in Scots
- 12. Town on the River Tay
- 14. Small Scots island
- 15. Grain
- 16. Scotsmen
- 18. A young salmon
- 22. Robert Burns!
- 23. The Cross of Christ
- 24. Heard in Kirk
- 25. Inverness military fort
- 27. A dance around golf
- 30. Town east of Dumfries
- 31. It’s capital!

CLUES DOWN:

- 1. They’re picked at Blairgowrie
- 2. Relinquish
- 3. Scram!
- 4. Spiced Scottish biscuits
- 5. It’s heard at St. Andrews
- 6. Glasgow team
- 9. Bonnie Dundee!
- 13. Border river
- 15. Aberdeen suburb
- 17. Loch Lomond resort
- 19. Village south-west of 31 Across
- 20. Disclose
- 21. Adornment for fliers
- 26. Harvest the crops
- 28. Jugs
- 29. A tattie!



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HALIFAX

The Burrell Collection in Glasgow to open following major refurbishment



The Burrell Collection in Glasgow will reopen to the public on Tuesday 29 March after major refurbishment. The A-listed home of The Burrell Collection in Pollok Country Park is now a modern, greener museum that will show more of the Collection to visitors and give access to over a third more of the building. Sir William Burrell devoted more than 75 years of his life to amassing, along with his wife, Constance, Lady Burrell, one of the world's greatest personal art collections, renowned for its quality of Chinese art, exquisite stained glass, intricate tapestries as well as its breadth of fine art.

One of the greatest gifts ever made to any city in the world

The Collection is home to the Wagner garden carpet which is one of the earliest surviving Persian garden carpets in the world, and has rarely been on public display since The Burrell Collection first opened in 1983. The museum's refurbishment and redisplay means this priceless carpet will now be on long term display, accompanied by new and innovative methods of interpretation.

The Collection has 457 objects of Islamic culture including Persian piled carpets that form one of the finest collections in the UK and significant ceramic pieces which demonstrate the influence of Chinese porcelain on the pottery of Turkey. Other highlights include Chinese pottery and porcelain produced over a 5,000-year period, making it one of the most significant collections of Chinese Art in Europe; paintings by renowned French artists including Manet, Cézanne and Degas; Medieval treasures including stained glass, arms and armour and over 200 tapestries and carpets, which are among the finest in the world.

Sir William Burrell acquired spectacular Chinese bronzes from the era of the Shang and the Zhou dynasties when bronze casting is considered to have been at its height. The Collection also includes an exceptionally rare Ming dynasty

Meiping vase dating from the Hongwu era (1368–1398), one of only four known examples anywhere in the world. The Burrell Collection's medieval works include stained glass of outstanding quality and one of the largest and most significant holdings of tapestries anywhere in the world.

Sir William Burrell also had great interest in art produced by his near contemporaries. The Burrell has more works by the Glasgow Boy, Joseph Crawhall than any other museum and its 20 paintings and pastels by Edgar Degas place it among the largest groups of works by this artist worldwide. Other notable modern French artists include Boudin, Corot, Daubigny, Manet, Sisley, Gauguin and Cézanne. Sir William also acquired significant Old Masters including Giovanni Bellini's Madonna and Child which had hung for almost 500 years in the Barberini Palace in Rome. The donation of the Collection to the city was described at the time as: "One of the greatest gifts ever made to any city in the world." (Sir Hector Hetherington, Principal of Glasgow University).

One of Glasgow's greatest treasures

The Scottish Parliament passed a bill in 2014 which would allow international loans of objects from and to The Burrell Collection. Nearly 30 venues around the UK and across the world hosted art from The Burrell while its home was refurbished. Included were loans to New York's Metropolitan Museum, the Musée de Cluny in Paris and several cities in Japan including Tokyo. Over a million people were able to enjoy artworks in the Collection through the tour.

Councillor David McDonald, Chair of Glasgow Life and Depute Leader of Glasgow City Council said: "The Burrell Collection is one of Glasgow's greatest treasures which deserves much greater recognition and appreciation around the world. The refurbishment of its A-listed home, which itself, is one of Scotland's modern architectural triumphs, and the redisplay of the Collection will ensure visitors have an unforgettable experience and return time and again to appreciate the breath-taking beauty of the art on display. At the same time, the connection between the city and The Burrell Collection and Pollok Country Park will grow even stronger as a result of the museum reopening."

On reopening, the museum's gallery space will have increased by 35%, allowing important and unique objects from the Collection, which have not been seen for decades, or have never been on permanent display, to go on show. New displays will give visitors a better understanding of the international significance of The Burrell Collection's artworks and the people who made them and some of the people who have owned them. In total 225 displays will spread across 24 galleries. The displays include innovative digital elements such as video walls, interactives and hybrid systems created to help people engage with the stories behind the Collection.

The museum's environmental performance has been enhanced by greatly improving the building's exterior through a new roof, glazing and cladding, and by replacing power, heating and lighting systems with more efficient and sustainable technologies. As the world recovers from Covid-19, The Burrell is a reminder of culture's contribution to the vibrancy and international appeal of Glasgow.

The opening of The Burrell in 1983 was one of the first demonstrations of Glasgow's commitment to culture-led regeneration. By harnessing the power of its incredible cultural draw, Glasgow has positioned itself as one of the world's great cultural and creative cities, making it a must-visit destination.

For more details see: www.burrellcollection.com



Photo: Glasgow Museums and Library Collection/Glasgow Life.

Burrell Facts

- The Burrell was opened to the public in 1983 by The Queen. The Burrell Collection is one of Scotland's greatest cultural assets. Reflecting one of the world's finest single art collections, it comprises some 9,000 artworks and objects gifted by Sir William and Lady Constance Burrell to the city of Glasgow in 1944. It has been described as Glasgow's cultural passport to the world.
- The Burrell Collection displays objects from Europe and Asia representing five millennia of art and history. The focus is on late medieval and early Renaissance Europe but the collection also contains important examples of Chinese and Islamic art, artefacts from ancient civilisations and collections of fine art. William Burrell (1861–1958) was interested in contemporary art. His first purchases were of Scottish, French and Dutch late 19th century art. Particular passions were the Parisian artists Manet and Degas, the sculptor Rodin and the Hague School artists Anton Mauve and Matthijs Maris. His European paintings collection also includes a Bellini 'Madonna and Child' and a self-portrait by Rembrandt.
- The Burrell Collection closed to the public in October 2016, allowing work to commence on a £66 million refurbishment of the Grade A category building and redisplay of the collection to create a new, more modern visitor experience.
- Before the museum's temporary closure, only 20% of the exceptional collection was on display. Plans for the refurbishment and redisplay of the Burrell will see the museum's public space increase by 83% and gallery space increase by 35% with store rooms on the lower ground floor open to the public for the first time.
- A re-interpretation of treasures of the collection will also tell much more of a story about their importance and how they were collected.
- As well as improved facilities including new café and retail space, landscaped terraces will link the museum to its outstanding woodland setting.
- The Burrell Renaissance project is a crucial element of the masterplan for Pollok Park, which will significantly improve transport access to the park and wayfinding within it, connecting natural, historic and heritage attractions. It will also help to better integrate and activate the city's wider southside cultural offer. Encouraging greater crossover between park users and museums visitors, this coordinated strategy considers the entire Pollok Park estate, including the grounds immediately surrounding the Burrell Collection. The aim is to provide a world-class visitor experience at the heart of one of Glasgow's prime tourism neighbourhoods, appealing to local, national and international visitors alike.
- Pollok Park is the largest park in Glasgow and was voted Best Park in Europe in 2008. Its heritage features are significant as, in addition to the Burrell Collection, it includes another of Scotland's most important museums; Pollok House as well as a green space of national significance.
- While the Burrell Collection has been closed, Glasgow has taken the opportunity to show some of the treasures of the collection to the world through a number of international exhibitions across the UK, Europe, North America and Japan – raising the Burrell's global profile and promoting Glasgow as a leading cultural destination which is home to one of the great art museums of the world.



Photo: Glasgow Museums and Library Collection/Glasgow Life.

Historic Braemar Castle celebrates fundraising success



Braemar Community Limited celebrate breaking ground as capital works get underway at Braemar Castle with help of local 'Jacobites' Christian Chamberlain and David Torrance. Photo: Ian Georgeson.

The local community behind Braemar Castle is celebrating a significant milestone as work gets underway to restore the historic building and re-develop its grounds. The community management team is delighted that, thanks to their fundraising campaign and the generous response of donors alongside support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic Environment Scotland, the programme of work can now get underway. A feature of the landscape for over 400 years, since 2007, Braemar Castle has been under community management (Braemar is the first community-run castle in Scotland), and aspirations for this historic site go far beyond simple restoration.

An iconic landmark in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park, the Castle has a fairy tale aspect with battlemented towers and turrets, a star shaped curtain wall and a bottle-necked dungeon. Built in 1628 by John Erskine, 6th Earl of Mar, as his Highland hunting lodge, it was a target in the first Jacobite uprising in 1689, torched by the infamous "Black Colonel", John Farquharson of Inverey.



Following the Battle of Culloden, the Castle was used as a garrison for Hanoverian soldiers to suppress any lingering Jacobite support. Now, the Castle's future rests with the small community of Braemar, a village of just 500 residents.

Conserving the 17th century castle

The "Raising the Standard" project will enable Braemar Community Limited to advance their goal of conserving the 17th century castle as a visitor attraction. But the plans will also create a community programme so that the Castle contributes to the future welfare of the whole region. An imaginative and far-reaching programme of learning and engagement will give opportunities for schools, charities and individuals to grow through creative activities both at the Castle as well as off-site.

Chair of Braemar Community Limited, Simon Blackett says: "We are grateful to our funders for recognizing the importance of this project and for supporting us in making our vision for Braemar Castle a reality. We, as a community group, have been gearing up to this moment for over 14 years and are delighted that capital works can finally begin in 2022. Our vision for Braemar Castle is much more than simply repairing and rebuilding walls, although that is a very important element of the work, it's about breaking down barriers and reaching out into the local community and further afield, with initiatives that can help everyone, including some of society's most vulnerable.

After the impact of the past two years and the issues of uncertainty and isolation, mental health and wellbeing have never been more important. This project will achieve a visually much improved Castle with the harling repaired but it will also take on the expanded role of engaging even more people with heritage."

Braemar Castle has drawn visitors to the village since the early 50s, and since the community took over, has worked with schools and community groups on site but now a much more ambitious vision for community engagement and learning has been developed. In future, it is anticipated that the Castle team will be welcoming greater numbers to Braemar for a more diverse programme as well as engaging more broadly with communities and groups across Aberdeenshire.

Fundraising continues to ensure that, on completion in 2023, the redeveloped Castle and its outreach activities have the greatest effect and impact across the North-East.

To learn more or donate to this ambitious community project please visit www.raisingthestandard.org.uk



2022 National Tartan Day Award



Suzanne and Bob Currie.

as leading annual calendar events of the Scottish American diaspora. This together with Bob's tireless work in support of Clan Currie and promotion of gaelic culture makes him such an outstanding recipient.

In 2003 the Scottish Coalition USA which comprises the national organizations - American-Scottish Foundation (ASF), Association of Scottish Games & Festivals (ASGF), Council of Scottish Clans and Associations (COSCA), Scottish-American Military Society (SAMS).

Scottish Heritage USA (SHUSA), introduced the Tartan Day Award to recognize the efforts of those that help to sustain and grow the Scottish American Diaspora, TSC USA. Nominations are accepted from organizations throughout the United States.

Past recipients include our first recipient in 2003 - Duncan Bruce author of "Mark of the Scot", which we are told each Senator was given by Senator Trent Lott to progress the passage of Resolution 41 through Congress. In 2008 Sen. Trent Lott received the NTA, with more recently Robert McWilliam in 2016, long time board member of COSCA and SHUSA and in 2020 Bob Crighton and in 2021 to Gus Noble - the Scottish Coalition USA is so honored to be able to recognize such outstanding pillars of our Scottish American Community in such a way.

The Scottish Coalition USA (TSCUSA), announce the presentation of the 20th Annual National Tartan Day Award to Robert "Bob" Currie for his outstanding contribution as community leader and volunteer to our Scottish American community.

Presented annually, The National Tartan Day Award is presented as a part of the National Capital Tartan Day Celebrations during the April celebrations of Tartan Week. The Scottish Coalition USA member, John Bellassai, President, Council of Scottish Clans and Associations noted, "We were unanimous in our choice of awardee. Bob Currie has devoted more than 30 years to supporting and promoting Scottish-American culture in the USA, from developing the outstanding Tartan Week festival for the past 20 years at Ellis Island every year during Tartan Week to producing the Pipes of Christmas programming, both are now recognized





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IN SCOTLAND TODAY



Loganair celebrates its diamond anniversary

Loganair, the UK's largest regional airline, has marked its 60th anniversary – a major milestone for the longest-serving name in the UK airline industry. The Glasgow-based airline, which was formed on 1 February 1962, now flies over 70 routes throughout the UK, Isle of Man, Ireland, Norway and Denmark, and serves more UK airports – a tally of 34 - than every other airline put together. It marked the anniversary in true birthday style with balloons and cake, commemorative chocolates for customers on every flight and a special 60th anniversary offer for its growing band of loyal Clan Loganair frequent flyers. Jonathan Hinkles, Loganair's Chief Executive, said: "We are thrilled to be celebrating our 60th anniversary, an unrivalled milestone in the UK regional airline industry. In the time that Loganair has been serving customers in Scotland and beyond, over 50 other airlines have come and gone – yet a constant has been the commitment of Loganair to keeping communities connected. The next 60 years will undoubtedly see a different set of challenges, yet I'm already hugely encouraged by progress to develop new carbon-neutral electrical and hydrogen power sources for domestic flights. It's clear that short-haul domestic flights will be the first to benefit from these new technologies, and I fully expect that we'll see the first of these powering Loganair customers to the destination within the first six of our next 60 years."

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon commented: "For six decades now, Loganair, the oldest name in UK airlines, has made an exceptional contribution to the Scottish economy. Since 1962, the airline has helped keep the country moving, ensuring that people across Scotland are connected – particularly those living in and visiting our most remote communities. The importance of that has never been clearer than during the pandemic as the airline continued to operate, transporting patients, tests and equipment across Scotland and beyond.

Loganair's leadership in the net zero transition is also hugely appreciated and it should help ensure a very bright future for Scotland's airline."

Genetic marker discovered for descendants of Bruce clan



A distinct genetic marker, carried by descendants of Robert the Bruce's close relatives, has been identified by researchers at the University of Strathclyde. The genealogy researchers have found the marker in male line descendants of the Bruces of Clackmannan, who were related to Robert the Bruce, King of Scots from 1306 to 1329. It is in the Y chromosome DNA of two different lines of descent from Robert Bruce, 2nd Baron of Clackmannan, who lived in the second half of the 14th century.

One of the descendants who has taken a test is Rollo Bruce, a retired textile research editor from Oxfordshire. Although there are varying theories about the exact relationship between the Bruces of Clackmannan and King Robert the Bruce, there is a consensus that it was very close. In the Register of the Great Seal for 1365, a charter of King David II confirms a grant of lands in Clackmannan to Robert Bruce, who is described in Latin as "dilecto et fidei nostro consanguineo" (our beloved and faithful kinsman). This Robert is first mentioned in 1360 as the young heir of his father, Thomas Bruce. The genetic marker has been given the name FTB15831.

Graham Holton is Principal Tutor on Strathclyde's Genealogical Studies Postgraduate Programme, based in the University's Centre for Lifelong Learning. He said: "Y chromosome DNA tests taken by male line descendants of two

of Robert of Clackmannan's sons, Robert and Edward, show that they both carry the marker FTB15831. This means it may also have been carried by their close relative, King Robert. This discovery means that anyone living today who tests positive for the marker is descended from the same family as the famous King. Although the test takers from both lines carry FTB15831, one of them also has an additional genetic marker, indicating his descent from Robert Bruce, 3rd Baron of Clackmannan, who died around 1405. Further research may reveal more markers for specific branches of the Bruce family. This discovery will also allow the comparison of these results with any Y-DNA which can be extracted from supposed remains of King Robert, and thus confirm their true identity."

Strathclyde's Genealogy Team is seeking further funding to upgrade to additional DNA tests, as part of its Scottish Clans and Families project.

Revised planning application for Forth Bridge Experience



Network Rail has submitted a planning application to City of Edinburgh Council for revised proposals to install a bridge walk and visitor hub at the iconic Forth Bridge. The refreshed proposals include a single-storey reception hub to the east of the Forth Bridge, sympathetically positioned in the landscape and offering stunning views of the iconic heritage structure while minimising the impact on the surrounding environment. The submission of the full planning application follows a public engagement exercise held in autumn 2021 to gather feedback from residents which helped to inform the final designs.

The proposals will see construction of a bridge walk and reception hub on the South Queensferry side of the UNESCO World Heritage site, which will be used for preparing those heading out on the bridge walk as well as providing an access point to the structure. Groups of between 12 and 15 people will put on safety harnesses before being led out onto the bridge's south cantilever, walking up to a viewing point at the top using walkways built into the structure.

Alan Ross, Network Rail Scotland's director of engineering and asset management, said: "We have worked very hard over the past year to draw up revised proposals, making them more affordable and more sympathetic to the surrounding environment without compromising the appeal of this project. The plans we have submitted to deliver a bridge walk experience will offer the public a unique chance to explore this world-famous structure and create another exciting tourist attraction for Scotland."

The exhilarating plans are expected to attract 80,000 visitors a year to climb the 132-year-old structure.

Scotland Street lighting restored to Georgian glory



Newly installed Georgian replica streetlights were switched on in Edinburgh's Scotland Street, made famous by the Sandy McCall Smith *44 Scotland Street* series of episodic novels. The project, which was completed through a partnership between Edinburgh World Heritage and the City of Edinburgh Council, is part of a wider scheme to restore historic street lighting at sites across the city.

The first of this wave of streetlight restoration took place in Circus Lane in 2001, and since then Lynedoch Place, Belford Road, Clarendon Crescent, and Alva Street have all benefitted from the addition of historically appropriate lighting. The design for the Scotland Street lamps was based on one that stood next to the Heart of Midlothian on the High Street, as seen in a photograph from 1883. This style of lamp was used widely in Edinburgh in the 19th century, and features a conical glass cap and a large glass globe light, designed to protect the original lamps from the fierce heat of their "fishtail" burners. The present design also incorporates a rounded glass finial, which the 19th century Holyrood Glassworks Catalogue described as a "crystal knob". Much of the original research and planning for the project was provided by Andrew Kerr, a long-term resident of the New Town and former trustee of Edinburgh World Heritage.

The design process for the Scotland Street lamps began in 2011, but was held back due to the lack of original globe lamps in the city. However, one was found in a Dublin Street cellar, which was used as a model. By studying old photographs, Jonathan Knox, of the University of Edinburgh, was able to create a 3D computer rendering of how the lamps would have looked.

The streetlights were manufactured by Manchester-based Metcraft Lighting, a company that specialises in high-quality heritage and decorative lighting, and are fitted with LED lights to conform with the City of Edinburgh Council's plans to convert the city's streetlights to energy-saving LED.

Christina Sinclair, Director of Edinburgh World Heritage commented: "The new lighting's authentic design has improved the architectural landscape of the street and enhanced, in a modest way, the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site. Additionally, there is the practical benefit of improving night-time visibility for residents and road users alike. This project perfectly demonstrates how heritage and city improvement can go hand in hand, creating a more beautiful but also more liveable city for Edinburgh's residents."

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.



The Gangs of New Pollok

*If ye'r lookin' for trouble,
Ye've come to the right place,
If ye'r lookin for a fight,
I'll smack ye in the face.*

The Valley', our playground at the end of Cornalee Road, provided us with an imaginary substitute for the landscapes we needed for playing cowboys and Indians. We just loved the noise and smell of the little caps of gunpowder that cracked reliably under the hammers of our cap guns against the home-made bows and arrows made from garden canes and string, held by our temporary enemies.

This undulating wasteland, which seemed so large to us, children, was rarely entered by adults. It provided us with the makeshift forts for the 7th cavalry and hiding places for outlaws and cattle rustlers. But it often witnessed fights between rival gangs of children roaming into what my pals and I considered our territory for we Cornalee Road youngsters and the kids from Netherplace Road had territorial rights to this place. Such antagonism generally involved name-calling and stone-throwing but sometimes more constructive play and rivalry. We all belonged to various groups calling ourselves the Black-Hand Gang, the Apaches, the Comanches or whatever took our fancy on the day. The gang names often arose from what we had just seen at the matinees in the picture houses of Shawlands. Gang names often lasted only as long as it took us to save up for our next afternoon at the pictures, and an opportunity to acquire new and more imaginative ones.

No Mean City

The blight of the razor gangs of an earlier part of Glasgow's history and what had once contributed to Glasgow's 'No Mean City' image had long gone. But that said on one occasion my friends and I playing down in' the Valley' came against some real live outlaws who had surreptitiously come into our territory. On this fateful day four of us were held up by three much older

youths from a real gang calling themselves the Bundy Boys, gangland rhetoric for 'Boys United Never Die Young'. We had cap pistols with nice carved plastic handles showing horses' heads, cowboys in stetsons and long-horned peaceful cattle. We had crow feathers stuck into our bandanas and wee rubber knives with silver painted blades and black handles. The toerags who took us captive had real knives.

"Empty oot yer pockets and hand ower they guns and knives ye've got, "said their sinister-looking leader with a dark glower. "Or I'll stick this intae ye," he continued, brandishing a black-handled flick knife. With a sneer another one of the gang showed us his cut-throat razor and menacingly drew it across his throat to give us a warning. Another one collected the loot, our toy guns and any other pathetic possessions we had in our pockets. Somebody had threepence. I had two 'jauries' and some chewing gum. It was a packet of spearmint chicklets that my father had brought home from the shipyards, having probably dropped off the back of a boat at the docks. Somebody else had a yo-yo and another some unused 'dabbities'. We didn't resist but we did save some face with a few shouts, amidst our tears, as the thieves hurried off along the Barrhead Road, toward the Bundy and we ran back toward our homes.

*"All get ma big brother onto you."
"My dad will get you, he'll bash
in yer big puddin' face."
"Your deid, so ye are!"*

It was close to tea-time and after most people's workday had ended, and as we ran up the hill on Cornalee Road we quickly gathered a posse of big brothers and fathers from our street that went after the gang who had gone in the direction of 'the Bundy'. They were outraged that these boys had threatened us with weapons. Unfortunately, the outlaws were never caught; there were no hangings, no rough justice and we never saw our silver guns with the little leather holsters and sparkling sheriff stars, ever again. And, we never did find out whether the robbers really came from' the Bundy' or not. It was unlikely that they did. It seemed too petty a crime for the real 'Bundy Boys' to be involved in. After all what can you do with

a few cap guns? Sell them for a miserable pittance or give them to your own wee brothers is all that comes to mind.

The 'Bundy' was our name for South Pollok and it was an area that we usually kept well away from when youngsters. In the early days it was the place where the bus conductors punched their time cards on a clocking-in machine that stood there next to the bus stop. The immediate post war building of houses in Pollok recommenced there. It was a small housing scheme lying between the strictly more up-market 'old Pollok' and the Househillwood Estate. German prisoners of war, imprisoned at Cowglen, were used to dig the trenches for pipes and to lay the foundations for the houses and flats at South Pollok before they were repatriated to Germany. This small scheme became one of the most notorious places in the whole of Greater Pollok. It was an early example of social engineering. Some bright spark in the town planning section of Glasgow Corporation had said to himself.

South Pollock

"Hey wait a minute, lads! I've got a brilliant idea! We've got all these people nominated as having anti-social problems, living in some of the older districts of Glasgow. We need to compel them to leave their homes situated all over Glasgow because their tenements have been designated for slum clearance. We need to re-house them quickly over in the Pollok Housing Scheme. Unfortunately, some of them are

very violent and just love to have a 'rammy' on a Friday night. Others don't know how to keep a house clean or look after themselves. There are even a few of them that just love to pile up furniture in the middle of the living room on a cold night and set fire to it, especially if it's somebody else's furniture that they have stolen.

The great problem solver might then have said "why don't we just bring all of these anti-social, hapless people together? So then they can all support each other and help solve each other's problems. They all have big problems so I'm sure they'll all get along quite nicely sharing these. We'll put them to live together in South Pollok".

The planner's supervisor at Glasgow Corporation's housing department must then have concurred. "Aye, that's a great idea, Jimmy, a wonderful social experiment, a terrific example of self-help. We'll do it". He was most probably quietly thinking to himself. Aye right, as long as it keeps them all well away from me and my family living in Giffnock. I'm sure there were some really nice people living in South Pollok in the 1940s and 50s but it must have sometimes felt like living in hell and sharing the place with some real devils and demons as neighbours. The rest of us more angelic types kept well away from the place as over the years the windows got broken and the flats became boarded up before they were finally and thankfully bulldozed away to make way for the, then new, Pollok Shopping Centre.

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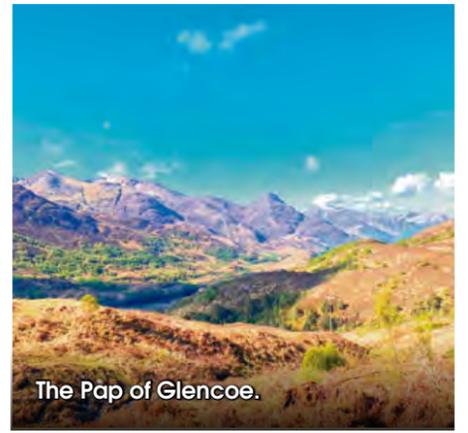
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By: Nick Drainey

The 1,000 Years Hike

Buachaille Etive Mòr.



Walking the West Highland Way

With a combined lifetime which would span a millennium, a group of sixteen friends aged sixty-plus are travelling from across the world to undertake the gruelling 96 miles of the West Highland Way. Stu's Band of Brothers, most of whom first knew each other at school in Dundee, want to walk the long-distance footpath over some of the most beautiful and mountainous terrain in the UK to raise funds for Prostate Cancer UK, following the of one of their friends Stuart Fraser.

The Way

Stuart's younger brother Garry said: "The name of our mission – The 1,000

Years Hike – derives from the sum total of our ages. We are travelling from across the world, from Scotland, England, Switzerland, Canada and Singapore. Few of us have the opportunity for regular walking in this kind of terrain, but some of the Brothers are experienced walkers with a couple who have already completed the Way." Garry is one of the more experienced of the 16-strong group. "I've done the Way twice already, both times for charity," he says. "And after the second I decided to call it a halt. You can get too much of a good thing! However, when I heard about this venture, I couldn't say no to having another crack at it. Doing it with some of Stuart's closest friends is an added bonus.

Not only that, but Prostate Cancer UK was a great help to Stuart latterly, and I know hundreds of other sufferers have benefited from their support. So it was, as they say, a 'no brainer'. I was a bit younger when I first did it, and all I really had to worry about was how to dodge midges. Now, my concentration is on dodging not only these wee beasties, but also avoiding sore knees and sore ankles! Still, we have our resident medic with us, a retired GP. I fancy he will have his work cut out!"

Stuart, originally from Dundee, passed away last September and for many of the group the challenge this May has a bittersweet feeling. Gordon Emslie was brought up in Broughty Ferry but now works in Singapore with a family home in Victoria, Canada. He says: "As an expat Scot and having been away from 'home' for forty-one years, the opportunity to walk the West Highland Way is undoubtedly a bucket list item. To have the pleasure to walk across Rannoch Moor, a place I have on many occasions remarked to be one of the most pleasurable and scenic places in the world, will be a great joy. Returning to Scotland even if only for a short time, it will be fantastic to reminisce and acquaint myself not only with my long-standing (as opposed to old) friends but also with my great desire for haggis and bagpipes. Whilst it may not be the right time of year for the haggis, I will nonetheless keep an eye open for the beasties, if only on the local menus. The downside of this great adventure is that the walk is now in honour of our good friend Stuart Fraser. I know he will be with us on the walk which means we can expect a few thunderstorms along the way as he will no doubt introduce a few challenges for us. I can already see the wry smile on his face! He was a great friend, bringing laughter and support wherever he went. He was always quick with a quip but also possessed good common sense, keeping us all grounded."

Strenuous hillwalking

Bobby McMahon also moved to Canada from Dundee. He left in 1979 and has not returned since 1992, so catching up with old friends will be a big of the challenge for him. He says: there are a number of reasons he accepted a place: "The challenge, the comradeship, reconnecting with friends that meant so much to me during the formative years (and continue to do so) and contributing to a great cause." And he is no doubt Stuart would be thrilled if he was there: "He would be looking forward to this immensely and wondering what tricks and daftness he could get up to."

The West Highland Way, from Milngavie to Fort William, is usually completed in six to eight, difficult days. As well as the mountainous terrain, the unpredictable Highland weather can often delay walkers, as well as testing their resolve. The official website warns: "The West Highland Way involves some strenuous hillwalking ... at times the route can be quite remote from roads and services. So, it is essential that you are well prepared and take the right advice."

Bobby hopes his training in Canada will put him in good stead. He says: "After living on the Canadian Prairies for over 40 years my Canadian wife and I moved to Kelowna in British Columbia last August. Within a couple of weeks we started to hike, and we have over 50 under our belts already. If we had stayed in Winnipeg all the training in the world would not have helped as the Prairies are as flat as a billiard table."

Meanwhile, Gordon Emslie has also been training but not quite as intensively. He is, however, undeterred. He says: "I am not sure how this mixed bag of aging cronies will cope with the challenge however it will be fun, and I am certainly looking forward to the 'wee saunter'. As for my fitness, apart from hacking out my own trails around golf courses I have undertaken little in the way of hiking since I was a member of the 10th Broughty Ferry Scout Group some 50 years ago. I anticipate my own personal challenge!"

To support Stu's Band of Brothers on their quest to complete the West Highland Way, and to make donation, see: www.band-of-brothers.uk



Stuart Fraser.



Garry Fraser on Conic Hill.



Bobby McMahon.



Gordon Emslie.

The Maid of the Loch - Paddle Restoration Campaign



most of the work is being undertaken by the dedicated team of volunteers involved at the ship it is possible to keep the costs at a much more manageable level.

Clyde-built ship engineering

Jim Mitchell, Industrial Heritage Director: "These funds will allow us to take the paddles to 'as-new' condition. The plan is for the ship to be returned to the Loch with all underwater work completed. This, along with the hull work will be a major leap forward towards the *Maid* sailing once more."

The *Maid* is a magnificent example of Clyde-built ship engineering. Already a much-loved feature on the bonnie banks of Loch Lomond, she attracts thousands of visitors every year and, over the last 25 years, a loyal band of volunteers has focused every available hour on her recovery and conservation.

With public support the Loch Lomond Steamship charity hope to safely steer the *Maid* to a new phase of her life, relaunching her as a fully operational paddle steamer on Loch Lomond.

If we can show public support for the paddle refurbishment then we have a pledge from a benefactor to a generous amount of £15,000. All those who contribute to the appeal will be given exclusive access to a new online virtual tour of the entire ship.

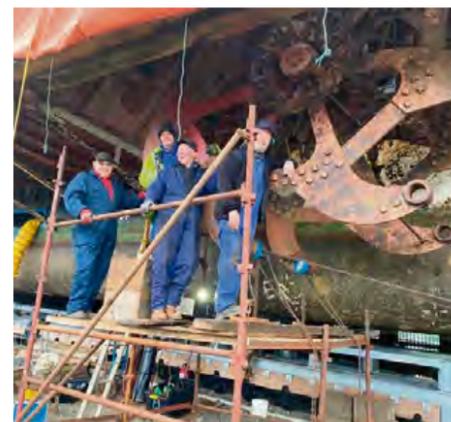
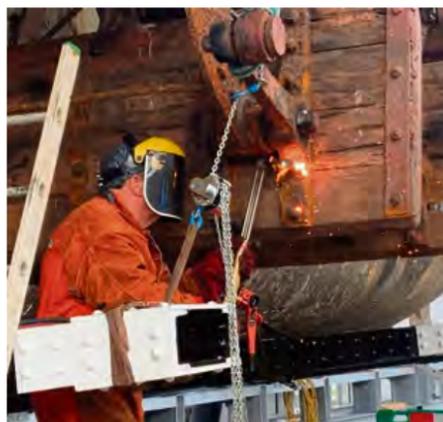
The *Maid of Loch* is the last paddle steamer to be built in the UK and on the Clyde, it is also the largest to be built for an inland waterway.

Crowdfunder campaign link and video:
<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/maid-of-the-loch---paddle-restoration-campaign>
Donations to return the *Maid* to sailing can also be made through their dedicated website, www.maidoftheloch.org/donate

A new campaign dedicated to restoring the paddles of the much loved Clyde-built paddle steamer, *Maid of the Loch* has been launched. The *Maid of the Loch* needs public support to raise funds for purchasing essential materials and equipment required to restore both port and starboard paddles. The monies raised with help procure new paddle floats, bearings and bushes as well as overhaul of the jenny nettles structure and painting of the interior of the paddle boxes. The 'Jenny Nettles' is the arrangement that makes

the paddles feather resulting in more efficient propulsion. On the port side this is misaligned and requires significant refurbishment.

Replacement of the spring beams and the addition of ending/paddle turning gear are also required and are included in the restoration campaign aspirations. The current slipping will probably be of the longest duration on the journey to the ship sailing, so it is vital that the paddle work should be done now. Repairing the paddles is one of the most challenging jobs of the restoration process, however since



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The smash-hit period drama Outlander returns



All images are courtesy of Starz.

Season Six of Outlander is back and see's Claire and Jamie fighting to protect those they love at Fraser Ridge. Set in colonial America at the edge of Revolutionary War, they must now face what happens when you become an outsider, or outlander, in your own home.



The highly anticipated Season 6 return of epic drama series *Outlander* will premiere this month, putting to an end the two year 'Droughtlander' some have been experiencing. Production in Scotland of the hit international show was delayed due to the Covid pandemic, and this season will be eight episodes, less than the average 12-13 episode seasons. Season 6 will be however launching with an extended ninety-minute episode, new episodes will then premiere weekly.

The *Outlander* television series is inspired by Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* book series whose first eight books have sold an estimated 50 million copies worldwide, with all of them gracing the *New York Times* best-seller list. The television series has already been renewed for a seventh season. *Outlander* spans the genres of romance, science-fiction, history and adventure in one epic tale. It follows the story of Claire Randall, a married combat nurse from 1945, who is mysteriously swept back in time to 1743 Scotland. When forced to marry Jamie Fraser, a chivalrous young Scottish warrior, Claire's heart is torn between two vastly different men in two irreconcilable lives.

Fraser's Ridge

Season six of *Outlander* based on Gabaldon's book *A Breath of Snow and Ashes*, picks up where the fifth season left off after Claire Fraser (Caitriona Balfe) had just escaped a violent encounter with Lionel Brown (Ned Dennehy) and returned to Fraser's Ridge. The sixth season of *Outlander* sees a continuation of Claire and Jamie's fight to protect those they love, as they navigate the trials and tribulations of life in colonial America. Claire and husband Jamie MacKenzie Fraser (Sam Heughan) now strive to maintain peace and flourish within a society which, as Claire knows all too well, is unwittingly marching towards Revolution.

They must defend their home, established on land granted to them by the Crown, not only from external forces, but also from the increasing strife and conflict in the community within their care. For the Frasers and their immediate family, "home" is more than simply a site in which they live, it is the place where they are laying the foundations for the rest of their lives. For the Frasers and their immediate family, 'home' is more than simply a



John Bell as Young Ian Murray.

site in which they live, it is the place where they are laying the foundations for the rest of their lives. If season four asked 'What is home?' and season five asked, 'What are you willing to do to protect your home?' then season six explores what happens when there is disharmony and division among the inhabitants of the home you've created:



Richard Rankin as Roger MacKenzie.

when you become an outsider, or an 'outlander,' so to speak, marginalized and rejected in your own home.

Season 7

The series lead actor Sam Heughan told Starz about Season 6, "Jamie's past almost catches up with him... or comes back to haunt him, per se. We meet some characters that come back into Jamie's life and some are good and some are more unsettling." He added, "This season, we've had the build-up to this War of Independence, this revolution, and Jamie Fraser's very much been part of that. He's been on the side of the British. He knows they're the losing side. As we get closer to that point, the stakes are higher... but also Fraser's Ridge, there's a revolution within the home as well."

Production of the seventh season was confirmed in 2021 with production yet to start. Season 7 will be based on Diana Gabaldon's novel *Echo in the Bone* and will be pleasing for fans as it will be an extended 16-part season. US writer Diana Gabaldon released the ninth *Outlander* book late in 2021 called *Go Tell the Bees That I Am Gone*, and has committed to 10 books in the *Outlander* series.

Are you an Outlander fan? Do you have a favourite character, storyline or book? Share your story with us by email, post, social media.

Outlander returns on Sunday March 6, 2022 at 9pm on Starz. Season 6 of Outlander will screen on the W Network in Canada.



Claire (Caitriona Balfe) and Jamie Fraser (Sam Heughan).



Sophie Skellon as Brianna Fraser.



Caitriona Balfe as Claire Fraser.

Scotland's booming film production sector makes a seriously safe comeback

By: Nikola Lashley

Text and images courtesy of: Scotland.org



1745 recently shot in Scotland.

The global pandemic brought film sets around the world to a standstill, plunging the entertainment industry into chaos. Whilst 2019 was a bumper year that saw filmmakers opting to shoot in Scotland, including high-ticket productions such as the *Fast and the Furious 9* and *Eurovision Song Contest: The Story of Fire Saga*, like many other industries, Scotland's thriving film sector had to wait out the pandemic. Due to Scotland's diverse landscapes,

cityscapes, coastlines and historic architecture, the film industry in the Edinburgh city region alone, generated over £14 million in 2019. Now, as the entertainment industry slowly regains its strength, Scotland is prioritizing health and safety. With filming in Scotland on the rise, and shows like *Good Omens*, rumoured to be filming season 2 in Scotland in 2022, Screen Scotland's Louise Harris says the industry is already showing great signs of recovery, she said: "Business is booming in Scotland.

Our enhanced film and tv funds, world-renowned talent, crews, studios, facilities and locations continue to bring unprecedented international interest in Scotland as a filming destination. Production Spend Figures have risen to the highest since records began and over the past decade, spend has increased more than 300%." Louise added: "Thankfully, 2021 proved to be a much better year for production, both in film and tv."

Covid training is the film industry's 'new normal'

Additional health and safety measures, such as training Covid-19 officers and quarantine guidelines for positive cases have made film production more expensive. Louise explains that, despite this, enquiries are still coming in from other parts of the UK, the US, India, and Europe and that Scotland, as a film location destination, remains competitive. "Covid costs are fairly standard across the UK, so does not affect how competitive Scotland is compared to England, Wales or N Ireland. Scotland has never been busier with productions filming on location and basing themselves here."

In coordination with Scotland's national response to Covid-19, various industry bodies; the British Film Commission and other major UK broadcasters have come together to

produce comprehensive guidance on how to work safely on film and TV productions. This guidance has been updated throughout the pandemic to reflect changes in legislation as they happen and is an excellent source of information on how to introduce best practice on set. Amongst the measures the guidance recommends are: appointing a specially trained Covid 19 Health & Safety Officer to the production, social distancing, remote working (when possible), minimising number of crew on set at any one time, enhanced hygiene, symptom checks, testing regimes.

The guidance also encourages all cast and crew to undergo Covid 19 awareness training, such as the free online training offered by ScreenSkills. David Taylor is an independent film location specialist and trained Covid-19 supervisor based in South Lanarkshire. He believes Scotland's film and television production industry has so far adapted well to the new normal. David said: "Things are not too different to the normal. Obviously you put in social distancing, and everything to do with keeping crews safe. I can say Scotland's film and tv sector has certainly been leading the way in terms of introducing protocols to mitigate Covid-19."

For more news and updates about Scotland's creative industries check out Creative Scotland: www.creativescotland.com

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Names & Places In The News From Today And The Past

1 - The Advocate's Library (known as the National Library of Scotland since 1925) opened by its founder, Sir George Mackenzie, the Lord Advocate in Edinburgh. **1682**

1 - Actor David Niven was born, roles included *The Pink Panther* and *Around the World in Eighty Days*. Niven had claimed several times that he was born in Kirriemuir, but according to his birth certificate, was born in London. **1910**

1 - Scots voted in favour of Devolution, but failed to reach the required 40% of the population in favour of implementing it - due to 36% of the electorate not voting. **1979**

1 - Authorities confirm the first case of the global COVID-19 pandemic in Scotland, the index case of coronavirus being a traveller having returned from Italy. **2020**

2 - King Robert II born in Paisley, the first monarch of the House of Stewart. He was the son of Marjorie Bruce, daughter of Robert the Bruce, and Walter, High Steward of Scotland. Robert acted as regent three times during the reign of his uncle, David II, and acceded to the throne in 1371. He died in 1390 and was succeeded by his son Robert III. **1316**

3 - Robert Adam, architect, died. Among his many works were Culzean Castle, Fort George, The Town House, Inveraray and Glasgow Trades Hall. **1792**

3 - Alexander Graham Bell born Edinburgh. Bell was scientist, inventor, engineer, and innovator who is credited with patenting the first practical telephone and died in Nova Scotia, Canada in 1922. **1847**

4 - Sir Henry Raeburn, renowned for painting the portraits of many of the citizens of Edinburgh, born. **1756**



4 - Forth Rail Bridge opened by Prince of Wales. The bridge spans the Firth of the River Forth to link Fife to Edinburgh by railway, was the world's earliest great multispan cantilever bridge, and remains one of the longest. **1890**

4 - Jim Clark, Formula I World motor racing champion, born Fife. **1936**

5 - King David II born. **1323**

5 - Flora Macdonald, who helped to save Prince Charles Edward Stewart during his flight after the defeat at the Battle of Culloden, died in Kingsburgh, Skye (in the same bed in which Bonnie Prince Charlie had slept during his escape). **1790**



5 - *The Maid of the Loch* paddle steamer was launched, she was built in Glasgow and was the largest ever vessel to be built for an inland waterway in Britain, this was also the last of a series of steamers to sail on Loch Lomond, dating back to 1818. **1953**

6 - King James II decreed in an Act of Parliament that there should be regular target practice and military parades and that "football and golf be utterly cried down and not used". This was the first time that the games had been mentioned in Scottish documents. **1457**



6 - Scotland's first radio broadcast took place. The broadcast took place from Rex House, 202 Bath Street in Glasgow. By the summer of 1924, stations had opened in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, and, by the eve of the Second World War, over 90% of the Scottish population were served by BBC transmitters. **1923**

7 - The world's first golf club was founded in Edinburgh. The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers held their first meeting on Leith Links and petitioned the Edinburgh Council to provide a silver club for competition. **1744**

8 - Kenneth Grahame, author of *The Wind in the Willows* born in Edinburgh. **1859**

8 - The *Oor Wullie* cartoon strip first appeared in *the Sunday Post*. **1936**

9 - David Rizzio, Mary Queen of Scotland's secretary, murdered by Lord Ruthven in the Palace of Holyrood. **1566**

9 - *Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith published. **1776**

9 - Scottish faith healer John Alexander Dowie died in Illinois, USA. Edinburgh born Downie believed in the power of prayer only for curing ailments and banned followers from eating certain food, drinking and smoking. **1907**

10 - St Kessog, the Irish missionary in the Lennox area and southern Perthshire, was killed. Kessog was Scotland's patron saint before Andrew, and his name was used as a battle cry by the Scots. Son of the king of Cashel in Ireland, St Kessog is said to have worked miracles, even as a child. **560**

10 - Birth of James Herriot, author of *All Creatures Great and Small*. **1916**

11 - The birth of Binkie Stuart, the child film actress, in Kilmarnock. Born Elizabeth Alison Fraser, she was hailed as Britain's answer to Shirley Temple and enjoyed huge fame as a child star. **1932**

11 - Sir Alexander Fleming, discoverer of penicillin, died. **1955**

12 - The last salmon was caught in the River Kelvin. The salmon population in the river had been in decline due to the rise of industrial pollution in the area. However, in February 1999, after £43 million of investment, salmon again spawned in the river and anglers were allowed back. **1852**

12 - Miner's strike at Polmaise Colliery. It is the first mine in Scotland to witness a walkout of its workers. **1984**

13 - Death of poet and historian John Barbour, author of *The Bruce* recounting the history of King Robert I. **1395**

13/15 - Blitz of Clydebank by German Luftwaffe. **1941**

14 - The birth of Scottish lawyer, Dame Margaret Kidd. Not only was Kidd Scotland's first woman advocate, but she was also the first woman King's Counsel in Britain and the first woman to plead before the House of Lords. **1900**

14 - First television programmes broadcast in Scotland. **1952**



14 - Stirling is granted city status in the United Kingdom by the Queen to mark her Golden Jubilee. **2002**

15 - Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh founded Advocates' Library "equipped with works written by lawyers". **1689**



15 - The end of two nights of heavy German bombing of Clydebank. The Clydebank Blitz, as it became known, destroyed a third of the buildings of Clydebank, leaving 35,000 people homeless. A thousand German bombers were used in the raid and the devastation of the town was so complete that only eight buildings remained entirely unscathed after the bombing. To further compound Clydebank's misery, only two enemy planes were shot down. **1941**

16 - King Robert the Bruce convened his first parliament, at St Andrews. **1309**

16 - Death of Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat, chief of the Fraser clan. He developed the Commando force in the British army and was active in the Dieppe Raid (1942) and the D-Day landings (1944). **1995**

17 - Treaty of Edinburgh between King Robert I and Edward III which recognised Scotland's independence, ending the 30 years of Wars of Independence. **1328**

17 - Scotland won Rugby "Grand Slam" at Murrayfield Stadium- the first time in 59 years. **1984**

18 - Earl of Leven raises a Border regiment to hold Edinburgh against the Jacobites. It later becomes the King's Own Scottish Borderers. In 2006, the Kings Own Scottish Borderers Regiment was amalgamated with the Royal Scots to form the Royal Scots Borderers, which became the 1st Battalion Royal Regiment of Scotland. **1689**

19 - King Alexander III died after crossing the river Forth to Fife at Queensferry. **1286**

19 - David Livingstone, missionary and explorer, born Blantyre. **1813**

20 - King Malcolm IV born. **1141**



21 - National Gallery of Scotland opened in Edinburgh. It is located on The Mound in the heart of the capital. **1859**

21 - Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh opened, becoming the home of Scottish rugby. Scotland marked the occasion by beating England 14-11 and winning their first Grand Slam. Unfortunately, the Scottish rugby team have only managed to repeat this success twice more, in 1984 and 1990. **1925**

22 - Neil Gow, first of a famous family of fiddle players and composers, born at Inver, near Dunkeld, Perthshire. **1727**

22 - Last fully public hanging in Scotland - that of Joseph Bell in Perth. **1868**

23 - The Free Church of Scotland settlement at New Edinburgh, New Zealand was founded under Rev Thomas Burns, a nephew of the poet Robert Burns. The settlement later became Dunedin, one of the largest towns in the country, and one which still retains a distinctive Scottish character. **1848**

23 - Roddy McMillan, the Scottish stage and TV actor, was born. His credits include the TV series, *The View From Daniel Pike*, and the play, *The Revellers*. However, he will be most fondly remembered for his portrayal of Para Handy, the captain of the *Vital Spark* in the much loved television series of the 1960s. **1923**

24 - Union of the Crowns of England and Scotland on the death of Queen Elizabeth I and the succession of King James VI of Scotland. **1603**

24 - An estimated one million people watched the *Queen Mary* leave the Clyde for the first time. However, the sailing did not quite go to plan: despite extensive dredging having taken place, the liner ran aground twice on the way to Gourock. **1936**

25 - King Robert I ("The Bruce") crowned at Scone. Bruce was crowned by Bishop William de Lamberton in front of the banner of the kings of Scotland, wearing royal robes which had been hidden from the English. **1306**

25 - The Commercial Bank of Scotland was founded in Edinburgh by John Pitcairn, Lord Cockburn and others. **1810**

26 - Car driving tests introduced for the first time. **1934**

27 - King Robert II crowned at Scone. **1371**

27 - King James VI died at Theobalds Park, Hertfordshire and buried at Westminster Abbey. Succeeded by his son, King Charles I. **1625**

27 - Scottish chemist Sir James Dewar, inventor of the Dewar Flask, which later became known as the Thermos flask, died. **1923**

27 - David Coulthard, Grand Prix racing driver born in Twynholm, Dumfries and Galloway. **1971**

28 - King Robert the Bruce captured Berwick on Tweed. **1318**

28 - The Scots Guards Regiment was formed when King Charles I issued a commission to the Marquess of Argyll, Chief of Clan Campbell, authorizing him to raise in Scotland a regiment of 1,500 men. The King's 'Lyfe Guard of Foot' became the Scots Guards. **1642**

29 - The Royal Society of Edinburgh incorporated by charter. **1783**

29 - Longannet, Scotland's last deep coal mine, closed, ending centuries of mining tradition. The Fife mine was put into liquidation after being flooded on the 23rd, when a dam separating old workings from new seams under the river Forth collapsed. **2002**

30 - Edward I of England sacked the Scottish town of Berwick. The English army destroyed the town and decimated the population of around 15,000. This act was retaliation for the widespread carnage perpetrated in the north of England, and what Edward considered to be the treacherous stab in the back of the Scottish-French alliance. Berwick was rebuilt by Northumbrians, and the Scottish-English border forever after remained north of this town. **1296**

30 - King James I captured by English near Flamborough Head on his way to France. **1406**

31 - General Patrick Gordon was born. Gordon led a remarkable life. Upon leaving Scotland, he entered the Russian army as a major and soon rose to become a close advisor to Russian Tsar, Peter the Great. Gordon rose to the rank of General-in-Chief and was made an admiral of the Russian navy. **1635**

31 - Scottish Regalia (crown, sceptre and sword) saved from invading army of Oliver Cromwell by James Granger, minister at Kinneff, Aberdeenshire, after they had been smuggled from Dunnottar Castle which was under siege. **1652**



31 - Buchanan Galleries shopping mall opened to the public in Glasgow city centre, part of Glasgow's Style Mile shopping precinct. **1999**

Newly restored Burns statue unveiled in Leith



Home in Leith

Councillor Lesley Macinnes, Transport and Environment Convener, said: "I'm delighted to see this much-loved Robert Burns statue returned to its home in Leith and spruced up thanks to specialist conservation work. It's fantastic that so many members of the community have been able to contribute to the new time capsule placed underneath the statue. Thanks to their input we'll be able to share an insight into Leith today with future generations, just like our 19th century forebears did when they buried the original time capsule."

In November the Trams to Newhaven project reached its two-year point and, despite challenges posed by the Covid pandemic, including a 13-week site shutdown, remains on track for opening for revenue service in Spring 2023. The entire section from York Place to London Road is expected to be completed in Autumn 2022.

Leith's iconic Burns statue has been returned to its home on Bernard Street, as Scotland prepares to celebrate the national bard. The 19th century bronze sculpture was put into storage in December 2019 to make way for Trams to Newhaven construction. It has since undergone specialist conservation work before its reinstatement at Bernard Street's junction with Constitution Street.

On the morning of Burns Night (Tuesday, 25 January), Council leaders, tram project officers and contractors were joined by conservationists and former Edinburgh Makar Alan Spence to unveil the monument. They also marked the placement of a new time capsule underneath the statue, alongside an original capsule discovered in 2019, which contained relics from both the late 19th century and the 1960s.



On Tuesday, Alan Spence read out a specially written poem, which has been added to the 2021 time capsule created for the statue's reinstatement. The capsule also contains poems and stories by Victoria Primary School pupils, a letter from the Edinburgh Burns Club, coins from 2021 and a face mask, amongst other artefacts. This has been placed in a purpose-carved socket in the plinth underneath the monument along with the original time capsule, which originates from when the statue was first erected in 1898. This was opened when the statue was moved in December 2019 and its contents include newspapers, coins and a letter from the Leith Burns Club. From 1961, there were newspapers and a letter from the people who had opened the original timecapsule.



Photo: Rab Lawrence.

- Close to Balmoral Castle, the Royal Family's summer home, are 11 historical cairns erected by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert to celebrate the marriages of their children and other key events for the Royal Family.
- The most famous of the cairns is Prince Albert Cairn which looks out to a panoramic vista of stunning and majestic Aberdeenshire landscape.
- The Prince Albert Cairn was built in 1862 by Queen Victoria following the Prince Albert's unexpected death at age 42 in 1861.
- The cairn includes individual stones which have the initials of Victoria and her 9 children, which were laid by them.
- The tablet on the cairn reads 'To the beloved memory of Albert, the great and good Prince Consort, erected by his broken hearted widow, Victoria R, 21st August 1862.'
- The cairn was made with granite and measures 41 feet by 41 feet at the base and stands at 35 feet high.
- Prince Albert's Cairn is also known as 'The Pyramid'. All 11 Balmoral Cairns, including Prince Albert's Pyramid are only accessible by foot.

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IN THE CELTIC KITCHEN



Cornish Pasty

Ingredients:

For the pastry:

500g/1lb 1oz. strong bread flour
 120g/4oz. vegetable shortening or suet
 1 tsp. salt
 25g/1oz. margarine or butter
 175ml/6fl oz. cold water
 1 free-range egg, beaten with a little salt (for glazing)

For the filling:

350g/12oz. good-quality beef skirt, rump steak or braising steak
 350g/12oz. waxy potatoes
 200g/7oz. swede
 175g/6oz. onions
 salt and freshly ground black pepper
 knob of butter or margarine

Method:

Tip the flour into the bowl and add the shortening, a pinch of salt, the margarine or butter and all of the water.

Use a spoon to gently combine the ingredients. Then use your hands to crush everything together, bringing the ingredients together as a fairly dry dough.

Turn out the dough onto a clean work surface (there's no need to put flour or oil onto the surface because it's a tight rather than sticky dough).

Knead the dough to combine the ingredients properly. Use the heel of your hand to stretch the dough. Roll it back up into a ball, then turn it, stretch and roll it up again. Repeat this process for about 5-6 minutes. The dough will start to become smooth as the shortening breaks down. If the dough feels grainy, keep working it until it's smooth and glossy. Don't be afraid to be rough – you'll need to use lots of pressure and work the dough vigorously to get the best results.

When the dough is smooth, wrap it in cling film and put it in the fridge to rest for 30–60 minutes.

While the dough is resting, peel and cut the potato, swede and onion into cubes about 1cm/½in square. Cut the beef into similar sized chunks. Put all four ingredients into a bowl and mix. Season well with salt and some freshly ground black pepper, then put the filling to one side until the dough is ready.

Lightly grease a baking tray with margarine (or butter) and line with baking or silicone paper (not greaseproof).

Preheat the oven to 170C (150C fan assisted)/325F/Gas 3.

Once the dough has had time to relax, take it out of the fridge. The margarine or butter will have chilled, giving you a tight dough. Divide the dough into four equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a ball and use a rolling pin to roll each ball into a disc roughly 25cm/10in wide (roughly the same size as a dinner plate).

Spoon a quarter of the filling onto each disc. Spread the filling on one half of the disc, leaving the other half clear. Put a knob of butter or margarine on top of the filling.

Carefully fold the pastry over, join the edges and push with your fingers to seal. Crimp the edge to make sure the filling is held inside – either by using a fork, or by making small twists along the sealed edge. Traditionally Cornish pasties have around 20 crimps. When you've crimped along the edge, fold the end corners underneath.

Put the pasties onto the baking tray and brush the top of each pasty with the egg and salt mixture. Bake on the middle shelf of the oven for about 45 minutes or until the pasties are golden-brown. If your pasties aren't browning, increase the oven temperature by 10C/25F for the last 10 minutes of cooking time.

Welsh Lamb Burgers

Ingredients:

120g/4½oz. hard sheep's cheese coarsely grated
 800g/1lb 12oz. coarse lamb mince, fattier the better
 1 red onion, finely chopped
 4 anchovy fillets, finely chopped
 8 small gherkins, finely chopped
 4 tsp capers, drained
 salt and freshly ground black pepper
 2 tbsp. olive oil
 4 burger buns

Method:

Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4. Divide the cheese into four piles, and roll each one into a tight ball. Set aside.

Place the lamb mince in a large mixing bowl. Add the onion, anchovies, gherkins and capers and season with salt and

freshly ground black pepper. Mix the contents of the bowl together, ideally by hand. Divide the mince mixture into four.

One by one flatten each pile of mince into the palm of your hand, leaving a little well in the centre. Place the cheese ball in the well and mould the mince around the cheese to form a tight, plump burger shape that is almost spherical.

Heat the olive oil in a frying pan over a moderate heat and brown the burgers.

If the panhandle is ovenproof, transfer the pan to the oven to bake. If not, carefully transfer the burgers to an oven tray and bake for 30 minutes.

Slice the buns and when the burgers are cooked, soak the cut side of the bread in the pan juices. Fill the buns and serve.

Irish Rarebit

Ingredients:

150ml/5fl oz. whole milk
 1½ tbsp. plain flour
 400g/14oz. Irish cheddar cheese, grated
 160g/6oz. breadcrumbs
 1 tsp English mustard powder
 120ml/4fl oz. stout
 2 free-range eggs, yolks only
 4 spring onions, finely chopped
 6 slices toasted soda bread

Method:

Warm the milk in a saucepan and whisk in the flour. Keep stirring and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat to a simmer.

The milk should thicken slightly.

Add the cheese and stir over a low heat until it has melted. Add the breadcrumbs, mustard and stout. Continue stirring until the mixture comes together, it should leave the sides of the pan.

Remove from the heat and tip into a bowl, leave to cool slightly. Once cooled add the egg yolks and beat vigorously with a wooden spoon until the egg is thoroughly mixed in. Add the chopped spring onions.

Spread the rarebit on toasted soda bread and place under a hot grill until bubbling and golden-brown.

Irish Champ



Ingredients:

1.35kg/3lb potatoes, well-scrubbed and left whole in their jackets
 290ml/½ pint milk
 85g/3oz. butter
 salt and white pepper
 1 large bunch spring onions, finely chopped

Method:

Boil the potatoes in salted water until soft. Drain and remove from the pan. Leave until just cool enough to peel. Mash thoroughly.

We celebrate our Celtic cousins of Cornwall, Wales and Ireland who will be celebrating St David's St Piran's and St Patrick's Day this month. People in Wales and those of Welsh origin celebrate the life of their patron saint, St David, and the Welsh culture on March 1st. Saint Piran's Day is celebrated each year on 5th March as the national day of Cornwall. The Irish Saint Patrick will be celebrated across the world on March 17th by the Irish community, a toast for St Patrick's Day, "May the roof above us never fall in, and may we friends beneath it never fall out."

Boil the milk and add to the potato, together with the spring onions.

Season and stir well.

Pile into a serving dish.

Make a well in the centre and add the butter. Serve immediately.

Traditional Welsh Cakes

Ingredients:

225g/8oz. self-raising flour
 110g/4oz. salted butter, diced
 85g/3oz. caster sugar, plus extra for dusting
 handful of sultanas
 1 free-range egg, beaten
 milk, if needed
 extra butter, for greasing

Method:

Sift the flour into a bowl and add the diced butter.

Rub with your fingertips, or pulse in a food processor, until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs.

Add the sugar, sultanas and beaten egg and mix well to form a ball of dough, using a splash of milk if needed.

Roll the dough out on a floured board to a thickness of about 5mm/½in.

Cut into rounds with a 7.5–10cm/3–4in plain cutter.

Rub a bakestone or heavy iron griddle with butter, wipe away the excess and place on the hob until it is heated through.

Cook the Welsh cakes a few at a time for 2–3 minutes on each side, or until golden-brown.

Remove from the griddle and dust with caster sugar while still warm.

Black Velvet



Ingredients:

125ml/4fl oz. Guinness
 125ml/4fl oz. champagne

Method:

Add Guinness into a champagne flute to halfway. Fill the remainder of the glass with the champagne, pour slowly.

Sharing stories since 565AD, when Columba first discovered Nessie



Culloden Battlefield.

Visit Inverness Loch Ness launches promotional video to aid area's Covid-19 recovery.

Visit Inverness Loch Ness has launched a promotional video for Inverness, Loch Ness and the surrounding area inspired by tales of the legendary Loch Ness Monster. As part of VisitScotland's Year of Stories, the Tourism Business Improvement District has created the video to encourage visitors to come and spend time in the area and discover its stories, including the legend of Loch Ness, and aid the area's recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The launch of the video follows 16 official sightings of the Loch Ness Monster in 2021, just short of the 2019 record of 18. Proving that the Loch Ness Monster's popularity is as strong as ever. The video is filmed across 13 locations with locals sharing stories about Nessie sightings, some of them passed down through generations. All the stories combine into one big tale that captivates the viewer, who is left wondering if they too will get a glimpse of Nessie this time.

You can't beat a good story

Everybody who stars in the video is local, from local businesspeople to families, and it features some of the area's most iconic locations.

Among the stars of the video are Jo de Sylva, Chair of Visit Inverness Loch Ness, and local family vloggers Family is our Thing.

Jo de Sylva said: "Inverness, Loch Ness and the surrounding area have so many stories, legends and myths to tell, so it's great to have this video to encourage people to come and discover the stories for themselves. From the history of Culloden Battlefield and Urquhart Castle to the beauty of Loch Ness and the great activities and attractions in the area, this video is the perfect way to bring them all together to showcase what we have to offer, as well as our sense of humour!"

Johan Sikkema from Family is our Thing added: "You can't beat a good story and we have one of the best ones on our doorstep! Nessie is such a star in Inverness and around the world so why shouldn't we tell stories about her? The video is such a fun way to do this, and we are so excited to be involved."

Filming locations include Culloden Battlefield, Ness Islands, Dores Beach, Urquhart Castle, MacGregor's Bar, Loch Ness by Jacobite, Ancarraig Lodges, Cameron's Tea Room, City sightseeing bus by D&E Coaches, Loch Ness Clansman Hotel, The Malt Room and kayaking on Loch Ness by In Your Element.

Michael Golding, CEO at Visit Inverness Loch Ness, said: "Come for Nessie, stay for the history, beauty and numerous activities and attractions. Inverness and Loch Ness are so much more than just Nessie, but she is the star of the show and our new video, which we are delighted to launch. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to star in the video and allowed us to film at their business. By pulling together, we give ourselves the best chance of recovery from the pandemic. I really hope the video brings a sense of pride for locals while showcasing the area and its beauty to visitors, acting as a steppingstone for people to discover our stories."

The video can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reXa7-stcFY>



Dores Beach.



Paddling on Loch Ness.

Tartan of the Month

Celtic Nations 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 are courtesy of the Scottish Register of Tartans (SRT).

This month we celebrate our Celtic cousins with Saint David's Day the patron saint of Wales on 1st March, Saint Piran's Day the national day of Cornwall on 5th March every year, and of course Ireland's Saint Patrick's Day 17th March.

The inspiration for this tartan was taken from the flags of seven Celtic nations: Brittany, Cornwall, England, Ireland, Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales. This is a universal tartan designed for anyone with Celtic blood flowing through their veins.

A woven sample of this tartan (SRT reference: 10411) has been received by the Scottish Register of Tartans for permanent preservation in the National Records of Scotland. The tartan was registered in 2011 and designed by William C Roeger III.

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WHOLESALE AVAILABLE

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 clansmen 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

Regional Directors for Australia

David and Patricia Benfell

Email: clanbairds@gmail.com

website: www.clanbairdsociety.com



Clan Cumming Society of the United States

Website: www.clancumming.us

Email us: info@clancumming.us

See us on Facebook



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. Email: gord7@bigpond.com



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

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

Online membership: <https://clanbell.org/membership.html>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ClanBell>

Email: President@clanbell.org

Clan Bell North America

4676 Emerald Willow Drive

Acworth, GA 30101



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; Dhai; Kay; Keay; Key; Keys; MacDade; MacDaid; MacDavid; MacDavett; MacDagnie; MacDagny; 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 or contact the Hon. Secretary Mr Dennis Hill, J.P., P.O. Box 519 Baulkham Hills NSW 1755 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



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



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

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

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

Clan Gregor Society

Established 1822, Edinburgh, Scotland

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balgibbider,
24th Chief of Clan Gregor

Great Lakes,
New England,
Pacific North West,
Western U.S.
and Southeast Chapters

www.clangregor.org

For membership contact Keith MacGregor
PO Box 56, Redding Ridge, CT 06876
kmac1@optonline.net

Peter Lawrie, Secretary

6 The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EL, Scotland



National Clan Cameron Australia Inc.

Celebrates those who trace their ancestry to Clan Cameron or are connected to the Clan through marriage or partnership or are from families acknowledged as Septs of Clan Cameron.

President: Alistair Cameron

Secretary: Terry Cameron

secy.nationalclancameronaus@gmail.com

www.clan-cameron.org.au



Clan Donald Queensland

Commissioner: Neil Macdonald

Ph: 0412 090990

Email: clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au

Web: 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

Website: www.elliotclan-usa.com



Clan Gregor Society Australasia

All MacGregors and Septs of our clan are invited to join the Clan Gregor Society Est 1822. If you live in Australia or New Zealand, please contact our clan representative:

Frank McGregor

PO Box 14 NORTH HOBART TAS 7002

Email: clangregoraustalia@gmail.com

Web: www.clangregor.com

"Royal is our 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

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



Clan Farquharson Association Australia

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

www.clanfarquharsonaus.weebly.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

Contact our registrar: Jeanne P. Lehr

11 Ballas Crt.

St. Louis, MO 63131-3038

Phone: 314-432-2842, registrar@acgsus.org

website: www.acgsus.org



CLAN CARRUTHERS SOCIETY -INTERNATIONAL-



Clan Chief
Peter Carruthers of Holmains
(Honorary Society President)

Bi-Annual Journal, Weekly Blog,
Clan Merchandise,
DNA/Genealogy project etc.

www.clancarrutherssociety.org

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

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: Mr Thomas R. Macdonald

Contact: 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.



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CONTACT: 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



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

Write: Heather Munro Daniel

4600 Lloydrown Road

Mebane, NC 27302



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



Clan Wardlaw Association

Founded 2004

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

Email: clanwardlaw@yahoo.com

'Wardlaw ivermair!'

www.clanwardlaw.com

Wardlaw Tartan and Ancestry Books

The Scottish Australian Heritage Council



Membership is welcome from all of Scottish descent.

For information please contact members@scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au



www.scottishaustralianheritagecouncil.com.au

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ClanOliphantMembership@gmail.com

www.OliphantOfNorthAmerica.org



Clan Sinclair Australia

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

For further info contact

President: WayneSinclair 0417 146 174

Secretary: Liane Sinclair 0410 045 263

E: clansinclairaustralia@hotmail.com

www.clansinclairaustralia.com



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



The American-Scottish Foundation

Scottish Gaelic

Language Classes:

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

Faraday Street, Carlton and on Zoom.

Contact: Maurice Fowler 0408 223 277

Email: scottishgaelicvictoria@gmail.com

Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria

Founded in 1905

<https://www.scottishgaelicvictoria.com>



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



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



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

www.caledoniansocietyofwainc.com

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Contact Raghnaid NicGaraidh
rachel.hay@iinet.net.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 M 0403 830 853

Ken Duthie JP Director of Publicity M 0409 322 374



Clan Sutherland Society in Australia Inc.

Contact: M Williams, Secretary

PO Box 1166

Park Ridge QLD 4125

genealogist_clan_sutherland_australia@hotmail.com

<http://goldenvale.wixsite.com/clansutherlandaus>

Facebook: Clan Sutherland Society in Australia



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 Email: 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 352, Mt Gravatt, QLD 4122

www.standrewsociety.com

Clan Ross America

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Paul D Ross, President
Virg Bumann, VP Membership
1015 Archer St, San Diego, CA, 92109
membership@clanross.org
info@clanross.org
www.clanross.org



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

Website: www.ClanSutherland.org

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

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@scotsofaus.org.au

Website: <https://scotsofaus.org.au>

Facebook: facebook.com/ScotsofVictoria



Clan Ross of The United States

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

www.theclanross.com

clanrossoftheunitedstates@gmail.com

Contact L. Q. Ross

105 S. Graham Ave, Orlando, FL 32803



YOUNG Clan Young Australia

Invites membership from all those with the surname Young or with ancestral ties or connection to the surname.

Convenor: Ian J Young AM FSAScot

10 Cedric Street, Parkdale VIC 3195

E: membership@clanyoungaustralia.com.au

www.facebook.com/groups/youngsofaustralia/

Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

P.O. Box 457
Pinehurst, NC 28370

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www.scottishheritageusa.org

email: shusa457@gmail.com

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Victorian Scottish Union Inc

Established 1905

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Clan Grant	Scottish Country Dance Society of Victoria
Clan Hay	Robert Burns Scottish Festival Camperdown
Clan Macdonald of Yarraville	The Robert Burns Club of Melbourne
Clan Sinclair	Warrambool & District Caledonian Society
Geelong Scottish Dance	Warrambool Highland Dance

Chief : Mr Grant McKinna
President Norman Macdonald
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WHAT'S ON - SCOTTISH EVENTS

The international Scottish event community worldwide has been greatly impacted by event postponements, scaled down presentations and cancellations due to restrictions related to COVID-19. We are listing both events taking place and that have been cancelled/postponed. Please check direct with event contacts for the most up to date information. You can also see our latest updates (including events across Scotland and Australia/New Zealand) or add your event at: www.scottishbanner.com/events

Canada

MARCH 2022

The Gaelic Society of Toronto Ceilidh 18, Virtual event

A Ceilidh is all about community and coming together! If you have a story, a song, or an instrument you play, we invite you to contribute – skill level is not the important thing at a Ceilidh, so simply join and tell, sing or play! Most of all, we invite you to contribute with your presence and join us via Zoom. Info: gaelictoronto@gmail.com or www.gaelicsocietytoronto.com

Kilted Culture for Year of Stories 19, Virtual event

Join us for a virtual conference in support of VisitScotland's Year of Stories #YS2022. We will have 4 speakers on Emigration from Scotland. Info: www.genealogyvic.com/ MARCH-KILTCDKULTURE-CONFERENCE

CelticFest Vancouver 2022 19-20, Vancouver, BC

A celebration of Celtic culture. Info: www.celticfestvancouver.com

APRIL 2022

Tartan Day Pub Night 2, Toronto, ON

The St. Andrew's Society is pleased to announce an evening of Scottish-Canadian hospitality. The room will be filled with foot-stomping tunes courtesy of band members from Old Man Flanagan's Ghost at Dora Keogh Pub This event is open to the public so please invite anyone interested in a night of Celtic music, culture and fun! Info: www.standrewstoronto.ca

Tartan Day 6, Nationwide

Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage on April 6, the date on which the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in 1320. Wear some tartan with pride today!

Burns Supper 7, Montréal, QC

Join the St. Andrew's Society of Montreal's annual event that celebrates Robert Burns who came to fame as a poet when he was 27 years old, and whose lifestyle of wine, women and song made him famous all over Scotland. Share a wee dram with friends, enjoy a traditional Scottish meal (with a gourmet flair) and raise your glasses in a toast to the lads and lassies at L'Espace Canal at L'Ambroisie, 4020 Saint Ambroise St. Info: www.standrews.qc.ca

National Tartan Day 24, Ottawa, ON

Join the Sons of Scotland Pipe Band on Parliament Hill to celebrate Tartan Day. Info: www.sospb.com

MAY 2022

Saskatchewan Highland Games and Celtic Festival 21-22, Regina, SK

A celebration of Scottish culture, music and sport at Victoria Park. Info: www.saskhighland.ca

159th Victoria Highland Games & Celtic Festival 21-22, Victoria, BC

Scottish music, dance and more at Topaz Park. Info: www.victoriahighlandgames.com

WhiskyFête 2022 26, Montréal, QC

The St. Andrew's Society of Montreal is proud to announce the return of an evening of unique and rare whiskies in aid of the Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital at Mount Royal Club 1175 Sherbrooke Street West. Info: www.whiskyfete.org

USA

MARCH 2022

Phoenix Scottish Games 4 - 6, Gilbert AZ

New location is the Gilbert Regional Park, at Queen Creek Rd. and Higley Rd. (3005 E. Queen Creek Rd) Info: www.phoenixscottishgames.com

Southeast Florida Scottish Festival & Highland Games 5, Plantation, FL

A celebration of Scottish culture at Plantation Heritage Park, 1100 S. Fig Tree Lane (W 63rd Ave), presented by Scottish American Society of South Florida. Info: www.sassf.org

36th Annual Celtic Heritage Celebration 11 - 13, Angels Camp, CA

The largest Celtic event on the West Coast at Calaveras County Fairgrounds, 2465 Gun Club Rd. Info: www.celticheritagecelebration.com

The St. Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage Festival 12 - 13, St. Augustine, FL

Find the Celt in you at America's oldest Celtic city at the multi-award winning St. Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage Festival, a weekend of great Celtic entertainment. Info: www.celticstaugustine.com

Ceili at the Roundhouse Celtic Festival 18-19, Evanston WY

Traditional Celtic music, entertainment, Highland dancing, workshops, food, pub, and more at Evanston, Wyoming's Historic Roundhouse & Railyards Complex. Info: www.evanstoncelticfestival.com

Sherman Celtic Festival and Highland Games 19-20, Sherman, TX

Join us for our 5th annual festival! Celebrating all aspects of the Celtic culture with dance, music, Highland games, Vikings, and more at 3200 Canyon Creek Dr. Info: www.shermancelticfest.com

Tartan Day South 31 - April 3, Cayce, SC

A celebration is a four-day event honoring Celtic heritage, featuring unique sports, incredible music, great foods and interactive as well as interesting exhibitions. Info: www.tartandaysouth.com

APRIL 2022

The Wallace Award 1, New York, NY

The American-Scottish Foundation introduced the Wallace Award in 1970 to recognize the extraordinary diversity of contribution that Scots

have made to the world - and, in particular, to recognize one or more living citizens or residents of the United States of Scottish descent for their individual contributions to the wellbeing of this country. Held at the University Club. Info: www.americanscottishfoundation.com

Dunedin Highland Games & Festival 2, Dunedin, FL

Highland dance competitions as well as Pipe Band and Heavy Athletics contests. Food, craft beer, Celtic merchandise and more at Highlander Park. Info: www.dunedinhighlandgames.com

Pittsburgh Tartan Day 2, Bethel Park, PA

The members of the St. Andrew's Society of Pittsburgh will host visitors between 10:00 AM and 4:30 PM at Bethel Presbyterian Church. The event is free to the public. There will be entertainment from bagpipers, fiddlers, and dancers. Food, raffles, Celtic workshops, and a variety of gifts can be purchased. Info: www.facebook.com/pittsburghtartanday

San Antonio Highland Games & Celtic Music Festival 2-3, Helotes, TX

A weekend of Scottish celebration and culture at Helotes Festival Grounds, 12210 Leslie Rd. Info: www.sahga.org

Tartan Day 6, Nationwide

Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage on April 6, the date on which the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in 1320. Wear some tartan with pride today!

Loch Norman Highland Games 8-10, Huntersville, NC

Come and experience all the fun with Highland dancing, pipe bands, Highland athletics, a Giant Kid's Zone, Scottish merchants, Haggis, Celtic rock and traditional performers, historic re-enactments, Scottish Country Dancing and more at Historic Rural Hill, 4431 Neck Rd. Info: www.lochnorman.com

24th Annual NYC Tartan Day Parade 9, New York, NY

The swirl of kilts, the skirl of bagpipes and the cheers of thousands of spectators await. This beloved celebration of Scottish-American culture promises to be extraordinary in scope, talent and turnout as we gather in person for the first time since 2019. Info: www.nyctartanweek.org

Houston Highland Games 9, Humble, TX

A celebration of Scotland at Humble Civic Center Arena & Expo Building, at 8233 Will Clayton Parkway. Info: www.houstonhighlandgames.com

Las Vegas Highland Games 9-10, Las Vegas, NV

A festival for the community presented by the Las Vegas Celtic Society, featuring Celtic music, food, vendors, and athletics at Floyd Lamb Park. Info: www.lasvegascelticsociety.org

A Celebration of Scotland's Treasures 14, New York, NY

Join the National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA for an evening of Scottish music, dining and dancing with presentation of the Great Scot Award to Diana Gabaldon, The New York Times bestselling author of the Outlander series, at The Metropolitan Club. Info: www.ntsusa.org/about-us/celebration-gala

Ormond Beach Celtic Festival 23-24, Ormond Beach, FL

Live music, traditional Celtic food & vendors, Celtic clans, Highland Games, and plenty of activities for the wee ones. Info: www.ormondbeachcelticfestival.com

Southern Maryland Celtic Festival 24, Saint Leonard, MD

Music, dance, vendors, crafters, living history, genealogy, clans and societies, Highland athletics, the pipes and more at Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum. Info: www.cssm.org

The 2022 Virginia International Tattoo 28-May 1, Norfolk, VA

The Tattoo will return to its long-time home at Scope Arena in Downtown Norfolk; international performers will be back with a renewed desire to share their music, culture and traditions; and the free preshow Tattoo Hullabaloo will once again wow crowds for hours every day. Info: 757-282-2800 or www.vafest.org/tattoo

MAY 2022

Texas Scottish Festival & Highland Games 6-8, Decatur, TX

The sounds of bagpipes and Celtic music will fill the air at the 36th Annual Texas Scottish Festival & Highland Games celebrate everything "Scottish" at the Wise County Fairgrounds, 3101 FM 51, in Decatur, Texas. #TEXASSCOTS. Info: www.texasscottishfestival.com

Savannah Scottish Games and Celtic Festival 7, Savannah, GA GA

A full Scottish Games at The Bethesda Academy. Info: www.savannahscottishgames.com

Springtime at Fraser's Ridge-A North Carolina Scottish Experience 19-21, Ferguson NC

The event is a celebration of the Scottish history of North Carolina and the traditions of Scottish culture in the backcountry of North Carolina inspired by the books and series, Outlander. This is a 3-day immersive event that will include Scottish culture-focused workshops, music, dancing, food, living history encampment, clans, and vendors at Leatherwood Mountains Resort. Info: www.ncsassenachtours.com/springtime-at-frasers-ridge

Stirling Classic Scottish Festival 20-22, Yukon, OK

Vendors, Clans, pipe bands and Highland Games at Mollie Spencer Farm. Info: www.thestirlingclassicsf.com

Fair Hill Scottish Games 21, Elkton, MD MD

A day of athletics, music, dancing, food, and arts celebrating Scottish and Celtic culture at Fair Hill Fair Grounds, 4640 Telegraph Rd. Info: www.fairhillscottishgames.org

Smoky Mountain Scottish Festival & Games 21-22, Townsend, TN

Come celebrate all things Scottish - family friendly and pet friendly weekend event - music - food - highland games and dancers at the Townsend Visitor's Center, 7906 E. Lamar Alexander Parkway. Info: www.smokymountaingames.org

Eugene Scottish Festival 28, Eugene OR

A celebration of Scotland at Irving Grange, 1011 Irvington Dr. Info: www.eugenescottishfestival.com

Scottish Fest 28-29, Costa Mesa, CA

Memorial Day Weekend at the Orange County Fair & Event Center www.scottishfest.com

Greenville Scottish Games 28-30, Greenville, SC

A series of activities bringing the best of Scotland and rich Southern heritage together for your enjoyment at Furman University. Info: www.gallabrae.com

Scotword answers from page 6

Across:	Down:
7 Peterhead	1 Berries
8 Morar	2 Cede
10 Greenock	3 Shoo
11 Reenge	4 Parkins
12 Perth	5 Fore
14 Inch	6 Rangers
15 Corn	9 Graham
16 Celts	13 Tweed
18 Smelt	15 Cults
22 Bard	17 Taret
23 Rood	19 Balerno
24 Psalm	20 Confide
25 George;	21 Plumage
27 Foursome	25 Reap
30 Annan	28 Urns
31 Edinburgh	29 Spud

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Bonnie Jean Cameron

By: Judy Vickers

This year is the 250th anniversary of the death of Jean Cameron. Jean led 300 men to the raising of the Jacobite standard at Glenfinnan in 1745, even though she was a woman. Anti-Jacobites started many rumours about her, including that she was Bonnie Prince Charlie's mistress, she had a wooden leg, she died of poverty in a stairwell in Edinburgh, and she wore men's clothes, all to blacken her name and that of the Jacobites. In fact, after the failure of the '45, she moved to near what is now East Kilbride and though a devout Catholic, supported the local Presbyterian school, and it was said helped many poor Highlanders who visited her there as Judy Vickers explains.



Jean Cameron. Photo: National Library of Scotland/Wikimedia Commons.

She was, some claimed, a wanton debauched hussy, thrown out of school while still a youngster for her scandalous behaviour, who fathered children out of wedlock, and who became the mistress of a prince. Others said she was a mannish Amazonian, who wore male clothes, enjoying fighting duels and marched into battle at the head of her forces. In fact, it is just possible that Jean Cameron of Glendessary was a dignified noblewoman and a Jacobite loyalist whose biggest crime was to bring 300 men to Glenfinnan when Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard in 1745 at a time when many thought women should stay at home and stay quiet.

This month marks International Women's Day on March 8 with a call to break down gender stereotypes – historic stereotypes which Jean paid a heavy price for due to her bravery in answering the call by clan chief Cameron of Lochiel to support the Young Pretender, as, in the absence of her brothers John and Allan, she was factor of the family estates in Morvern.

The Jacobite cause

In the years following the '45 uprising, when Charles Edward Stuart, grandson of King James VII (II of England) attempted to take back the throne of Britain which his family had lost to William of Orange in 1688, her reputation was dragged through the mud – plays, ballads and books were written about her, mostly for anti-Jacobite propaganda and the details of her life became more lurid with each retelling.



Bonnie Prince Charlie. Photo: Allan Ramsay/Wikimedia Commons.



Glenfinnan, Loch Shiel. Photo: J. Drevel/Wikimedia Commons.

In fact, following the ill-fated rising's defeat at Culloden in 1746, Jean – often called Jenny or Jeanie – bought an estate in Lanarkshire and opened a school for orphaned children, living quietly until her death in 1772, 250 years ago this year.

Her death is one of the few definite facts known about Jean despite the outpouring of words about her, leading her to become a byword for all that was wrong with the female sex in the 18th century.

It is believed that she was born around 1698 into a lesser branch of Clan Cameron, although through her mother she was related to the Cameron of Lochiel, the hereditary clan chief. Her immediate family held land in Morvern and were well-known supporters of the Stuart cause – her father had joined the 1715 uprising. According to one account she was sent to school in Edinburgh but became embroiled in a sex scandal while still a teenager and had to be sent to a convent in France by her family. But her behaviour there did not improve and she ended up being returned to Scotland. The account, however, is found in James Ray's *Complete History of the Rebellion from its rise in 1745 to its total suppression*. He was a staunch Hanoverian who followed the Jacobite army from Carlisle to Derby in 1745 so that he could provide information to the Duke of Cumberland, leader of the British forces.

Other accounts say that she was married to a distant member of the Cameron clan and was widowed, or wed to an Irish officer called O'Neill who treated her badly and from whom she fled back to her childhood home. Whatever the truth, she was back in Scotland, looking after the family's estates as her brothers John and Allan had travelled abroad before the prince called on the Highlands to rise in his cause.

She is said to have ridden at the head of 300 men, the Glendessary estate's quota of men required to turn out at the command of their clan chief, Donald Cameron of Lochiel who supported the Jacobite cause.

Accounts strongly differ as to her appearance at the prince's camp, though. According to Archibald Arbuthnot in *A Brief Account Of The Life And Family Of Miss Jenny Cameron: The Reputed Mistress Of The Pretender's Eldest Son*, she arrived in a "sea-green riding habit, with a scarlet lapel, trimmed with gold, her hair tied

behind in loose curls with a velvet cap and scarlet feathers . . . instead of a whip, she carried a naked sword in her hand. A female officer was a very extraordinary sight, and it being reported to the young chevalier, he went out of the lines to meet this supply; Miss Jenny rode up to him without the least concern, and gave him a soldier-like salute."

A lady of distinguished family, character and beauty

However, Aeneas MacDonald, one of the seven men of Moidart, captured after Culloden and exiled, later described her arrival rather differently; "Among the rest was the famous Miss Jeanie Cameron, as she is commonly, though very improperly called, for she is a widow nearer fifty than forty years of age. She is a genteel, well-looking handsome woman with a pair of pretty eyes and hair as black as jet. She is of a very sprightly genius and is very agreeable in conversation." According to his account Jean didn't accompany the army and was only with the prince "in public when he had his court in Edinburgh."

Nevertheless, the idea of female soldier was a gift to the anti-Jacobite propagandists. In 1746 a musical play was performed at Drury Lane called *Harlequin Incendiary or Columbine Cameron* and popular ballads were written about her including Bonnie Jean Cameron, which included the line: "She prayed to the saints and bade the angels defend her, and sank in the arms o' the Young Pretender." Arbuthnot's account also claimed she had had several children out of wedlock. She was also often mixed her up with another Jenny Cameron, who was taken prisoner by government forces in 1746 – this Jenny Cameron was in fact a milliner from Edinburgh. Whatever the truth, her name had become a byword for notoriety in the aftermath of the defeat at Culloden and the suppression of the Highlands.

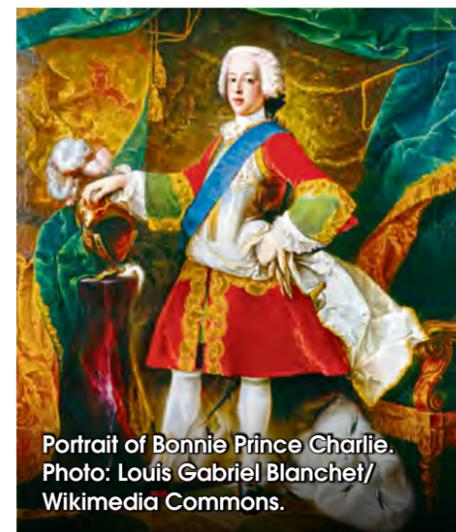
A collection of memoirs printed almost ninety years after Culloden has a tale of a shopper buying snuff in Edinburgh when a beggar entered. Without speaking a word, the shopkeeper handed the beggar a coin, which was taken silently and the beggar left. The customer, however, having noticed the elegant hand of the beggar, asked the shopkeeper for more details and was told it was Jean Cameron

who had followed the prince to France but been cast off, then rejected by her family on her return to Scotland.

And in Robert Chambers' *Traditions of Edinburgh*, published in 1825, an even more tragic picture was painted: "Jeanie Cameron, the mistress of Prince Charles Edward, was seen by an old acquaintance of ours standing upon the streets of Edinburgh, about the year eight-six. She was dressed in men's clothes and had a wooden leg. The celebrated and once attractive beauty, whose charms and Amazonian gallantry had captivated a prince, afterwards died in a stair-foot somewhere in the Canongate."

In fact, in 1751, Jean bought the estate and mansion of Blacklaw near what is now the town of East Kilbride and renamed it Mount Cameron. Writing twenty years after her death, a local minister said she was remembered as "a lady of distinguished family, character and beauty". She was also said to be "informed, intelligent and graceful". Another said many poor Highlanders came to visit her in her new home and she was said to have opened a school for Highland children orphaned in the '45.

Why she left her beloved Highlands isn't known although her notoriety and the repressive measures inflicted on the areas loyal to the prince may have been the cause. She asked to be buried back near her childhood home but her grave is at Mount Cameron. It now lies in an open area in a suburb which has built up around it but is marked by a cairn built in 1995 of stone brought from Acharn in Morvern.



Portrait of Bonnie Prince Charlie. Photo: Louis Gabriel Blanchet/Wikimedia Commons.

Taming the wolves? *Rethinking medieval Scottish politics*

By: David C Weinczok



Tantallon Castle. Photo: David C. Weinczok.

“Treachorous and vile wolves”. That’s how Walter Bower, writing on the island haven of Inchcolm in the Firth of Forth in the 1440s, described the Scottish nobility. In contrast, the crown – at the time worn by James I – was a bulwark against the self-interested, anarchic nobility. If any noble got too high and mighty, the king would lay siege to their castle, pry them out of their stone shells, put them in their place, and peace would return to the land. The knives were always out, and pointed in all directions.

At least, that is the version of late medieval Scottish history that many students have been taught to accept. It’s a top-down view, one in which the institution of the crown is the ultimate, and rightful, authority. In most conventional historical narratives, the crown is always presented as a force for stability, and the nobles always a force for ambition and chaos who need to be tamed like wild beasts.

Primitive state

It’s an enduring narrative, and there are numerous incidents that seem to support it. The alleged treason and subsequent execution of Murdoch, Earl of Albany, in 1425. The infamous ‘Black Dinner’ of 1440 resulting in the murder of the Earl of Douglas at Edinburgh Castle, and the murder by the king’s own hand of another Douglas Earl suspected of treachery at Stirling in 1452. The rebellion of the Darnley Stewarts in Renfrewshire in 1489, which required the king’s army to come calling with a royal artillery train in tow. James IV’s unsuccessful siege against Archibald ‘Bell the Cat’ Douglas at Tantallon Castle in 1491. On and on the list goes, full of examples of revenge, treachery, jealousy, violence and the rebalancing of power in favour of whoever sat on the throne.

It may surprise you, then, to learn that between 1341 and 1469 there were twice as many rebellions and three times as many civil war battles in England than there were in Scotland. Three times as many English magnates were killed for political reasons

than their Scottish counterparts (even though the magnate class in each country was comparable in size). Looking further afield, we find that political violence in late medieval Scotland was no more rife, and in some cases markedly less so, than in other European kingdoms. So, why do we still think of that period, in Scotland specifically, as an especially venomous viper pit?

Many historians, especially during the mid-20th century when disciplines like castle studies flourished, were stuck on the idea that Scotland was an irredeemably warlike nation.

Many historians, especially during the mid-20th century when disciplines like castle studies flourished, were stuck on the idea that Scotland was an irredeemably warlike nation. This is partly due to the firmly pro-Union politics of the era, in which the unquestioned orthodoxy was that the Union of the Crowns in 1603 and the Act of Union of 1707 had a ‘civilising effect’ on Scotland. This was accompanied by fervent support for the modern monarchy. From this perspective, the alleged anarchy of medieval Scotland was a natural consequence of its more ‘primitive’ state, one that was tamed by a unified central authority based in London rather than Stirling or Edinburgh.

Another factor was that many of the most prominent historians of the mid-20th century had experienced first-hand the terror of one, if not two, world wars. Understandably, those experiences deeply shaped their perspectives and

convinced them that Britain was a place constantly under siege by enemies outwith and within its borders. This trickled down in interesting ways, such as the now-rejected concept of ‘bastard feudalism’. This was the idea that medieval lords in their castles lived in constant fear of their soldiers and mercenaries rebelling. As a result, they designed their residences to keep their fickle retainers separate from themselves and their families.

Relationship between the nobility and the crown

As ever when studying history, taking into account the biases and perspectives of the historians who write it is just as important as understanding the events themselves. Not just modern historians, either. When Walter Bower deemed the nobility “vile wolves” in the 1440s, he knew it would go down well with his intended audience: the king. Along with the epic poem *The Brus* written by John Barbour in the late 14th century, Bower’s *Scotichronicon* was part of a suite of ‘royal propaganda’ intended to legitimise the Stewart dynasty’s right to rule. While *Scotichronicon* did levy some critiques against king James I, it nonetheless presented the crown as the ultimate source of legitimacy and authority. When historians in the late 19th and 20th centuries read these

medieval sources they found a worldview sympathetic to their own, leading many to adopt it uncritically.

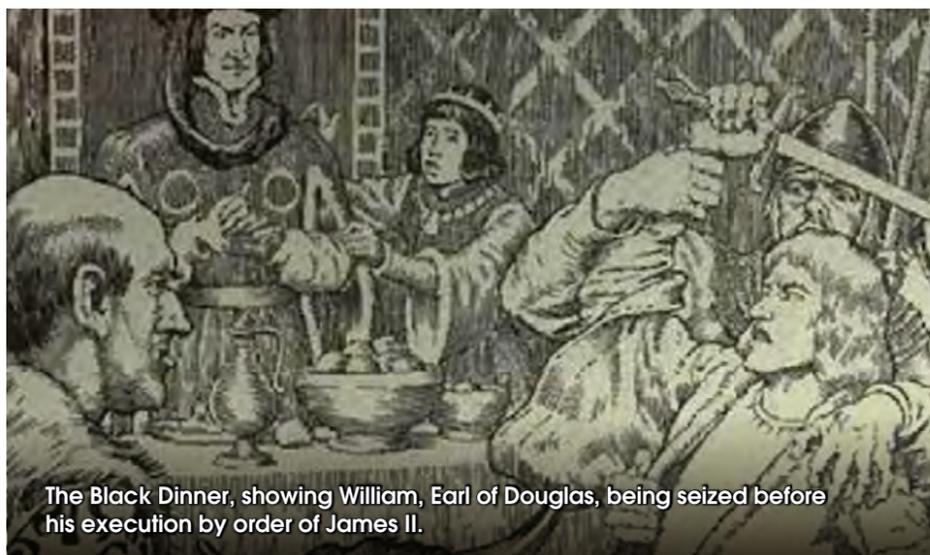
More recent research by scholars such as Katie Stevenson, Jennifer M. Brown and Alexander Grant emphasises a more complex relationship between the nobility and the crown. For example, Hugh Montgomerie, a late 15th century Ayrshire nobleman, was able to act with extraordinary impunity: he had the leaders of two rival families, the Boyds and Crawfords, assassinated, and utterly destroyed the Cunningham stronghold of Turnielaw. By any definition this was a disruption of the peace and a power grab by Montgomerie. Yet because he took the side of the future king James IV at the Battle of Sauchieburn, that king was content to forgive these transgressions. A noble’s ambition, it seems, was not a bad thing in itself. So long as you show up the for crown when it counted, the iron fist of the king’s justice would land somewhere else.

This vision of a more symbiotic relationship between nobles and the king is just one way that the narrative of a uniquely violent and adversarial medieval Scotland is being deconstructed in recent decades. Whenever we are presented with theories for how a society worked (past or present), it is a good idea to bear in mind the adage of the late Canadian political theorist, Robert Cox: “theory is always for someone and for some purpose”.

The more blood-drenched image of Scotland made sense to an overwhelmingly pro-Union generation of historians scarred by the horrors of industrial warfare. The more nuanced reality may not be as salacious a story as one in which nobles and kings constantly vied for power in a zero-sum game, but I believe it hits closer to the mark of truth. And that, ultimately, is what good faith historical revisionism is all about.



Portrait of James IV, King of Scots. Public domain/Wikimedia Commons.



The Black Dinner, showing William, Earl of Douglas, being seized before his execution by order of James II.

The 2022 Virginia International Tattoo Marches On in 2022



The largest spectacle of music and might in the United States, The Virginia International Tattoo will MARCH ON April 28 - May 1 with a triumphant return to Scope Arena in Norfolk, Virginia. Celebrating its 25th anniversary season, the 2022 Tattoo features an all-new international cast, a musical tribute to "March King" John Philip Sousa, and an emotional celebration of the resilience of the human spirit.

Bringing together hundreds of performers from not only across the USA, but internationally, must be quite a challenge, can you tell us more this year's cast and participating countries?

VIT: Highlights of this year's Virginia International Tattoo (VIT) include: Band of the Netherlands Mounted Arms Regiment – "The Bicycle Band" – in their 4th appearance at Virginia International Tattoo, WWI Era uniforms and history of Dutch bicycle cavalry and modern brass band excellence. Pipes and Drums of the Highlanders, 4th Battalion, Royal Regiment of Scotland will make their second trip to the Tattoo. One of the most historic Pipe Bands in the world. Pipe Major CSgt Peter Grant served as the lone piper at the funeral of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Pipe Major CSgt Grant serves alongside his brother Drum Major Sgt Ruairidh Grant, the first siblings to hold the appointments of Pipe Major and Drum Major at the same time in the history of The Royal Regiment of Scotland Jordanian Armed Forces Band and Jordanian Armed Forces Pipes and Drums return to the Tattoo as they Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Kingdom of Jordan. A strong British influence remains strong from the Transjordan Mandate of the early 1920s when the British helped set up and train the protectorate's army following WWII.

Virginia International Tattoo Dance Company – A total of 32 dancers from 3 nations. Led by Aileen Robertson, a well know Highland Dance instructor from

Scotland, whose first Tattoo was the Virginia International Tattoo in 2006, went on to become the director of Highland Dance at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. During that process we wrote a letter of recommendation with a contingency, that she could come back to Virginia! We are thrilled that Aileen is returning to lead our first ever Virginia International Tattoo Highland Dance Group.

The U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps is the only unit of its kind in the U.S. Armed Forces. The musicians of this unit recall the days of the American Revolution as they perform in uniforms patterned after those worn by the musicians of General George Washington's Continental Army. Musicians of the highest calibre, the Corps uses 10-hole fifes, handmade rope-tensioned drums and single-valve bugles, which bring to life the exciting sounds of the Continental Army.

U.S. Marine Forces Reserve Band will return with pulse pounding music and their signature re-enactment of the Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima is an iconic photo of U.S. Marines raising the U.S. flag atop Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima in the final stages of the Pacific War. All members of the band are trained riflemen and fulfill Corps-wide physical fitness and combat training requirements, just like any other active-duty Marine. The band is prepared to "Fight Tonight" and can be called upon to provide security, both domestically and overseas, by order of the Commander, Marine Forces Reserve.

Andy Carlisle's Tartan Army is a gathering of many of top solo pipers and drummers in the United States, many who have won national championships, as well as awards at international competitions. The majority are students and contemporaries of Highland Bagpipe Soloist Andrew Carlisle, who has been with the Virginia International Tattoo for over ten years. Recruiting pipe bands during a pandemic proved challenging so Carlisle invited some of his students and former students to come and form a "pick-up" band to enhance the Tattoo Massed Pipes and Drums. All embraced the opportunity and are sure to be a very strong musical ensemble.

U.S National Scottish Fiddle Champion Seán Heely is one of the most creatively versatile and captivating young artists of his generation. He is as well as an award-winning Irish Fiddler and singer in the folk and Gaelic traditions of Scotland and Ireland. Seán holds a degree from University of South Carolina in Classical Violin Performance and has performed in Scotland, Ireland, and at across the United States.

Additional U.S. Military performers including the U.S. Air Force Heritage of America Band, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Herald Trumpets, U.S. Marine Corps FAST Company and U.S. Navy Fleet Forces Band.

The Tattoo also has its very own tartan, can you tell us more?

VIT: The Virginia International Tattoo is embracing Scottish Tattoo tradition with its own tartan design. The tartan is the inspiration of Virginia Arts Festival Board Chairman, Jim Hixon and therefore named the Virginia International Tattoo Hixon Tartan.

The tartan was designed in Scotland by Alastair Dunn, award winning bag piper and Pipe-Sergeant of nine-times World Champions Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band. The fabric was loomed by R.G. Hardie & Company, Ltd in Glasgow, Scotland.

Tartan is a pattern consisting of crisscrossed horizontal & vertical bands in multiple colors. The tartan is particularly associated with Scotland. The colors of the Virginia International Tattoo Hixon Tartan, steeped in tradition and bound to its roots, perfectly demonstrate the rich heritage the Tattoo celebrates and the great state in which it resides. The dominate blue, "Festival Blue", embodies the Virginia Arts Festival and pays tribute to those who bring the arts to life. The red, white and blue threads intricately woven throughout the tartan symbolize the patriotic themes and the heart-stirring performances synonymous with the Tattoo. The Virginia Flag and the Norfolk Seal are illustrated by the blue hues interlacing the tartan. And the grey stripes proudly guarding the red, white and blue remind of us the massive grey hulls that guard our harbor and the mighty jets whose presence overhead keep us ever mindful of the men and women who sacrifice for our freedom.

The Tattoo is really an all-ages event, with a great school outreach program, and offers something for the whole family. How rewarding is it to host an event that crosses generations and brings in people to Virginia from across the country and the world?

VIT: The Tattoo has the ability to connect across generations.

One of our guests wrote about the Tattoo, "This was the first time in our family's history that we were able to sit through an ENTIRE performance with ALL eyes watching, ALL mouths smiling, ALL minds engaged, ALL fingers and feet at peace, ALL hearts happy. Thank you for this special night. It is now our family's annual favorite event!"



Can you tell us about the Tattoo rehearsal process? Is it very difficult because of the large amount of participants?

VIT: There are some unique rehearsal challenges for the Tattoo. Musical rehearsals are relatively straight forward. All of the performers receive music well in advance and we can usually get the music polished up in one rehearsal. The overall choreography is what is most difficult. Getting every person, musical instrument, microphone, lighting instrument, video camera, and Flag in the right place at the right time is a very involved process. I rely on a production team of more than 100 to help make it happen.

How do you prepare yourself for each performance?

VIT: We do a production meeting following each rehearsal and student matinee to review any and all production challenges that need to be addresses. It is important to address any changes with the entire team because one person deciding on their own to "improve" something seemingly innocent can affect a lot of other people in ways that they can't imagine. From the moment that meeting ends until the next performance begins the team is trusted to implement the changes as discussed.

Is there anything else you want to share about the 2022 Virginia International Tattoo?

VIT: The 2022 Virginia International Tattoo – our Silver (25th anniversary edition)– will be an extraordinary homecoming for all involved. The Tattoo will return to its long-time home at Scope arena in Downtown Norfolk, Virginia; our international performers will be back with a renewed desire to share their music, culture and traditions; and the free preshow Tattoo Hullabaloo will once again wow crowds for hours every day.

The Virginia International Tattoo will take place April 28-May 1st at Scope Arena in Norfolk, Virginia. Tickets and Information: www.vafest.org or by phone at 757-282-2822.



Jordanian Armed Forces Pipes and Drums.



The Grant brothers from the Royal Regiment of Scotland.

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