

SCOTTISH CONNECTION

It's Memphis in August, and we are observing one of our most unique events, Elvis' Death Week. Did you know that Elvis had a Scottish Connection?

In honor of the King, we are giving over our usual jocular tone in this column and have invited in a guest writer, Lea Frydman. Lea hosts several web sites dedicated to Memphis' favorite son. Here are her words, reprinted by permission:

"Various authors have researched Elvis' genealogy to varying degrees of accuracy. Although an official genealogy has not yet been complete by Graceland Archives, there is evidence that Elvis' ancestry is from several countries. His heritage includes Welsh, English, Scottish, Irish, French, Dutch, German & Cherokee ancestry.

"They say from small acorns grow great oak trees and so it was with the story about Elvis' ancestry being traced to Lonmay, Scotland. What started out as a simple PR idea by the Aberdeen and Grampian Tourist Board became a worldwide story...such is the power of the name

'Elvis Presley'. Allan Morrison had met Bill Burk in America, actually in Florida and not Memphis. Morrison read Burk's book *Early Elvis, the Tupelo Years* and was intrigued by Bill's mention of Elvis' Scottish ancestry. Being a Scotsman and having an eye for a good story, Allan started to do his own research. The mythology was that Elvis' family had derived from Paisley in Scotland and that somehow Paisley became Presley over time. It was common for emigrants to the USA to adopt the name of their home town.

"Allan spent six years researching the Scottish ancestry of Elvis Presley and traced the family to an Andrew Presley who married Elspeth Leg on August 27th 1713, at the Lonmay Church in Aberdeenshire. It was Andrew's son, also called Andrew, who was forced to flee Scotland in 1745 at the time of the Jacobite Rebellion and went to the Americas to settle in South Carolina. It was Andrew Presley who was Elvis Presley's long lost relative. Public records prior to 1700 are very had to find so it was not possible to trace the Presleys back any further.

Allan has speculated that, going way back in time, Elvis original ancestors were probably Vikings, particularly in that area of Scotland where there were many Viking raids and settlements established.

"I asked Allan why he had gone for publicity now when his book, the *Presley Prophecy* was not yet published. He said he got an early morning call from an Ian Hainey in the Aberdeen Tourist Office when some information had leaked about Elvis' Scottish ancestry. Ian had rented a jumpsuit, picked up Allan and drove to Lonmay where he invited a few press. This simple idea was picked up on TV, Radio and Press all over the world, even by a twit called 'Todd Morgan' at Graceland, who according to newspaper reports threatened little Lonmay that they can't use the name 'Elvis'. Perhaps the twit forgot I defeated EPE Inc in the UK Courts and anyone can now use the name Elvis Presley in this country. Look out for the details about the book in the near future on www.elvisly-yours.com and we will be publishing the research papers that Allan kindly loaned Elvisly Yours. "A new tar-

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(cont from pg. 1)

tan, Presley of Lonmay, has been designed to honor Elvis' connection with Scotland, discovered in 2004. The blue represents the nearby town of Peterhead. There is grey for the skies, green for the countryside grass and yellow for local cornfields.

"The pure wool kilt, in shades of blue, grey, green and yellow, comes complete with gold accessories, including a sporran engraved with thistles and a bald eagle to highlight the Scottish/American link. Launched by an Elvis look-alike, the tartan is also to be used in the refurbishment of Lonmay's only hotel, the Ban-car. Designer Mike King, Elvis fan and director of Philip King, the Aberdeen-based menswear and tartan hire company, hopes the tartan will win favor throughout the world. Anyone interested in obtaining the tartan should contact the shop:

www.philip-king.com."

To see the entire article, including a stunning portrayal of Elvis in full highland regalia sporting Byron-esque locks, is invited to go to <http://www.elvispresleynews.com/ScottishElvis.html>.

So, next time you drive by Grace-land, hear an Elvis song, watch an Elvis movie, or attend a candle-light vigil at the grave of the King, remember Elvis and his Scottish Connection.

Thanks to Jim Moffat who passed this along to us after receiving it from his friend Molly Conn in Scotland. Here are other websites hosted by Lea Frydman:

Elvis Presley News and Autographs: <http://www.elvispresleynews.com/ElvisAutographs.html>
 Elvis Presley Biography: <http://www.elvis-presley-biography.com>
 Elvis Directory: [\[ley-biography.com/elvis-presley.htm\]\(http://ley-biography.com/elvis-presley.htm\)
 Elvis Presentations: <http://www.elvispresleynews.com/PowerPoint-Elvis.html>
 Elvis Photo Gallery: <http://www.elvis-postcards.com>](http://www.elvis-pres-</p>
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TGS Genealogy and History Fair

Make plans now to attend the Tennessee Genealogical Society's Genealogy and History Fair on October 12 – 13 at the Germantown Community Center. There will be seminar speakers as well as informational and vendors' booths. M.S.S.I. will be hosting a booth. There will be a need for some volunteers to man the booth and acquaint folks with our society. For more information, contact Kathy Schultz or go to their website:

<http://www.tngs.org/>

A Kilted Elvis!



GRACE NOTES

Grace Notes is the official publication of the Memphis Scottish Society, Inc. It is published monthly. Like the Society itself, the credo of Grace Notes is "to foster education and promote understanding of things Scottish."

If you have something of interest to readers of this newsletter, please submit a typewritten manuscript to the editorial staff. If the article or notice is very brief (30 words or fewer), just use the telephone. Grace Notes will accept and publish good quality photographs (preferably black and white; no Polaroids, please).

The deadline for all submissions is the second week of each month preceding the month of publication. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with each submission, if you want the material returned.

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to foster education and
 promote understanding of
 things Scottish



Puns from Murray

1.) King Ozymandias of Assyria was running low on cash after years of war with the Hittites. His last great possession was the Star of the Euphrates, the most valuable diamond in the ancient world. Desperate, he went to Croesus, the pawnbroker, to ask for a loan. Croesus said, "I'll give you 100,000 dinars for it." "But I paid a million dinars for it," the King protested. "Don't you know who I am? I am the king!" Croesus replied, "When you wish to pawn a Star, makes no difference who you are."

2.) Evidence has been found that William Tell and his family were avid bowlers. However, all the Swiss league records were unfortunately destroyed in a fire, and we'll never know for whom the Tells bowled.

3.) A man rushed into a busy doctor's office and shouted "Doctor! I think I'm shrinking!!" The doctor calmly responded, "Now, settle down. You'll just have to be a little patient."

4.) A marine biologist developed a race of genetically engineered dolphins that could live forever if they were fed a steady diet of seagulls. One day, his supply of the birds ran out so he had to go out and trap some more. On the way back, he spied two lions asleep on the road. Afraid to wake them, he gingerly stepped over them. Immediately, he was arrested and charged with transporting gulls across sedate lions for immortal porpoises.

5.) Back in the 1800s the Tates Watch Company of Massachusetts wanted to produce other products and, since they already made the cases for watches, they used them to produce compasses. The new compasses were so bad that people often ended up in Canada or Mexico rather than California. This, of course, is the origin of the expression, "He who has a Tates is lost!"

6.) A thief broke into the local police station and stole all the toilets and urinals, leaving no clues. A spokesperson was quoted as saying, "We have absolutely nothing to go on."

7.) An Indian chief was feeling very sick, so he summoned the medicine man. After a brief examination, the medicine man took out a long, thin strip of elk rawhide and gave it to the chief, telling him to bite off, chew, and swallow one inch of the leather every day. After a month, the medicine man returned to see how the chief was feeling. The chief shrugged and said, "The thong is ended, but the malady lingers on."

8.) A famous Viking explorer returned home from a voyage and found his name missing from the town register. His wife insisted on complaining to the local civic official who apologized profusely saying, "I must have taken Leif off my census."

9.) There were three Indian squaws. One slept on a deer skin, one slept on an elk skin, and the third slept on a hippopotamus skin. All three became pregnant, and the first two each had a baby boy. The one who slept on the hippopotamus skin had twin boys. This goes to prove that the squaw of the hippopotamus is equal to the sons of the squaws of the other two hides.

10.) A skeptical anthropologist was cataloging South American folk remedies with the assistance of a tribal brujo who indicated that the leaves of a particular fern were a sure cure for any case of constipation. When the anthropologist expressed his doubts, the brujo looked him in the eye and said, "Let me tell you, with fronds like these, who needs enemas?"

(By the way, the guy who wrote these 10 puns entered them in a contest. He figured with 10 entries, he couldn't lose. As they were reading the list of winners, he was really hoping one of his puns would win, but unfortunately, no pun in ten did.)

Murray is Murray Shoolbraid, our friend from north of the border in Canada, who has been a frequent contributor to our *Grace Notes*. This a touch of his lighter side.



Flowers of the Forest

It is with great sadness that we report that John William "Johnny" Wright, son of John and Margo Wright passed away on July 23, 2007. He was 36. We extend our deepest sympathies to John and Margo.

John, Margo, and Johnny had returned from a trip to Scotland, visiting family and seeing friends, just the previous week.

Score One for the Badger-Huggers

Sporran wearers may soon need a license. Kilt wearers could face prosecution if they do not have a license for their sporran under new legislation which has been introduced in Scotland.

The laws are designed to protect endangered species like badgers and otters, whose fur used to be favored by sporran makers. The legislation applies to animals killed after 1994. Applicants must prove that the animal was killed lawfully before they will be able to get a license.

The conservation regulations were designed to close a number of loopholes and bring Scotland into line with other EU members. They also apply to other vulnerable animals like deer, wildcats, hedgehogs, bats, lynx, moles, seals, whales, dolphins and porpoises.

The regulations require anyone who owns any part of a protected animal to obtain a license. The maximum penalties for breaking the law are a fine of £5,000 and six months in prison

Hamish Husband, spokesman for the Association of Tartan Army Clubs, said the legislation could affect fans

who follow their national football team. "Are the police going to take DNA samples from the sporran of every kilted supporter who walks into Hampden?" he asked. "If that's the case, we will need to look into obtaining a license to cover the entire Tartan Army."

The new rules will also cover fishing flies made from animal hair.

A Scottish Executive spokeswoman said the new rules had been put in place to bring Scotland into line with existing European legislation designed to protect vulnerable species.

"The license will allow people who possess artifacts made from these species in circumstances compliant with earlier laws to keep them," she said.

"This could be family heirlooms of various descriptions.

"Having a license for such an artifact, proving it was obtained legally, will ensure they will not be prosecuted or have it taken from them under the new regulations."

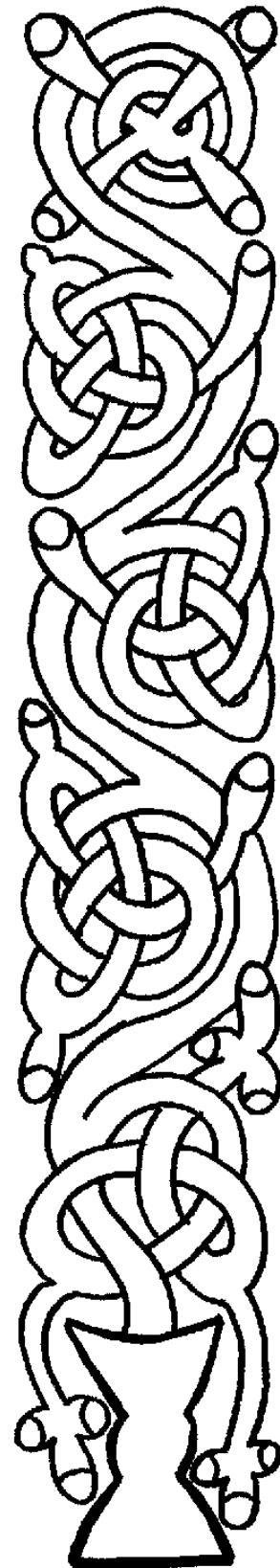
Thanks to John Schultz for passing this along from the BBC website.



The legislation is designed to protect animals like badgers.



Kilt owners may have to seek a license for their sporran.



Calendar of Events

Mondays

Caledonia Chorale 7 pm
Church of the Holy Communion,
Walnut Grove at Perkins,
272-7159 for info.

Thursdays

Sgt. W.K. Singleton Pipes & Drums
6:30-8:30 at Bethel Pentecostal
Church, Stage Road in Bartlett;
call 386-2052 for info.

Wolf River Pipes & Drums,
6:30-9:30 at St. Luke's Lutheran;
Germantown Parkway. 753-9494
for info.

Monday, August 13

Regular monthly meeting,
Holiday Inn Express, Poplar @
I-240.

Dinner reservation required
by August 9th; call 757-4200 or
online at memphisscots.com.
6:00 pm Dinner & 7:00 pm
Program: John Simmons on
"Contemporary Jacobites"

Thursday, August 30

Board Meeting at Perkins at
1340 S. G'town Rd. 5:30 pm.

Fridays

Dancing: 7:30-10 pm, Idlewild
Pres.; 1750 Union Ave,
West Entrance
1st, 3rd & 5th Friday
Contra Dancing. 278-1216.
2nd & 4th Friday
Scottish Country Dancing.
274-1889

Scottish/Celtic RadioMusic

Sundays, 6-7 p.m.

"The Thistle and Shamrock"
WKNO-FM 91.1

Saturdays, 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

"Strands of the Celtic Knot"

Robert Campbell, host
WEVL-FM 89.9

Sun and Mon 6 p.m. and Fridays,
7 p.m.

"The Thistle & Shamrock,"
WMAV-FM 90.3

the Thistle & Shamrock®

in 2007 as it brings together musicians from different parts of the world that have been involved with Dougie MacLean over the years. We hear more highlights from Fiona Ritchie's festival chat with legendary names in Scottish music and more exclusive highlights from their reunion concert.

August 16, 2007 | A Broader Canvas

We shift the spotlight away from Scottish and Irish music this week to illuminate the rich Celtic traditions of Cornwall, the Isle of Man, Galicia, Asturias, Wales and Brittany.

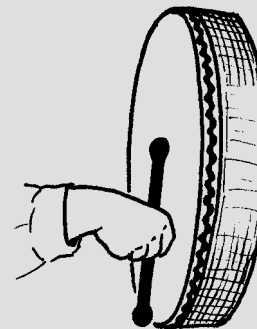
August 23, 2007 | Live and Kicking

Live performances electrify this hour of music with Donal Lunny,

Jim Malcolm, and Capercaillie.

August 30, 2007 | Two Shoogles -- Luke Plumb and Angus Grant

Meet the mandolin player from Tasmania and the West Highland fiddler, both of whom are active on the session scene between their recordings and tours with the globetrotting band Shooglenifty.



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Hmmm, Looks Mighty Familiar...

See this link for the flags of Nashville: <http://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/us-tn-dv.html> The old city flag at the bottom is the one of interest. It has the St. Andrew's cross on a red background. I wonder if the fact that the designer's name was Duncan had



anything to do with it. The old Nashville flag was the city flag until the advent of metropolitan government in 1963. It was designed by Harville H. Duncan and was adopted by the City Council sometime after 1952.

Larry Pryor, 13 May 2003.

Thanks to John Simmons for this little morsel.

Next Monthly Meeting - August 13th - Dinner Reservations by 08/09, 757-4200 or online www.memphisscots.com - Holiday Inn , Poplar and I-240; Dinner at 6:00, Program at 7:00.

Board Meeting, Thursday, August 30th at 5:30, Perkins @ 1340 S. Germantown Rd.

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