



Vol. XIII No. 9 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* March 2020 Section B

Clan Colquhoun International Society to be awarded, in 2020, “Most Represented Clan” at the 2019 NYC Tartan Day Parade

The Executive Director of the Clan Colquhoun International Society, Michael Lloyd-Stern, writes, “Last year, 2019, Clan Colquhoun attended the Tartan Day Parade in New York City. Recently, the organizers contacted us to let us know that this April 2020, we will be receiving an award at the 2020 Tartan Day Parade for being 2019’s most represented Clan! Last year, we had over thirty Clan Colquhoun International Society members march in the parade.

Patrick Younger of Luss will be flying in from Scotland to attend the parade and receive the award on behalf of Clan Colquhoun. We expect an even bigger turnout of Colquhoun’s at the Tartan Day Parade this year.”



Patrick Colquhoun, Younger of Luss, the son of Sir Malcolm the Chief of Clan Colquhoun International Society. Patrick will accept the trophy this year at the parade!



Happy St. Patrick's Day 2020

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MARCH 15, 2020

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WESTMEATH, IRELAND

Kilbeggan Distillery

The oldest licensed distillery in Ireland.

With thanks to *Atlas Obscura*
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Midway between Ireland's bustling capital city of Dublin and the traditionally Irish Galway City stands the oldest licensed distillery in the country. In a warehouse of wooden casks, the golden spirits ages and transforms, just as it has for over two and half centuries.

However, the Kilbeggan Distillery was nearly lost. After a period of financial hardship it stopped production in 1954 and closed in 1957. Slowly, the building began to fall apart. It wasn't until 1982 that the local community galvanized around the distillery, repaired the buildings and reopened it as a distillery museum. In 2007 the distillery began making whiskey again.

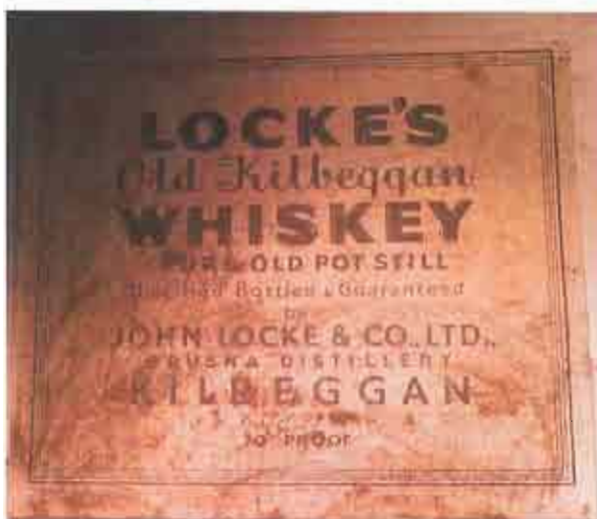
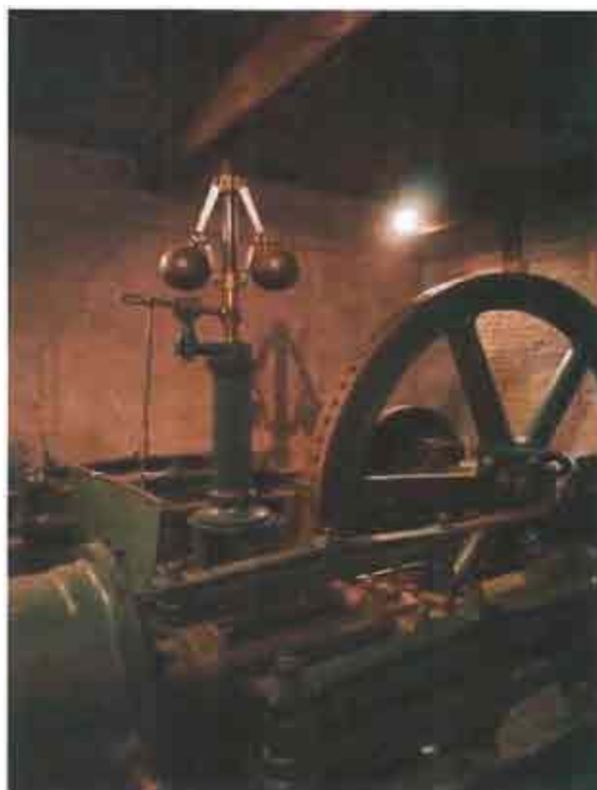
Much of the old building and equipment has been transformed into a museum, although a small copper pot still, manufactured in the early 1800s, is still continuously used and maintained. It is the oldest working pot still in the world. Other items seen on the tour are large mash tuns, grain mill stones, and a functional, although not in use, steam engine. A small section of the museum contains maps and tools illustrating the old way of life.

Snaking through the verdant landscape, the River Brosna supplies the water used in the whiskey making process. The iconic waterwheel, laden with moss, churns tirelessly (and without purpose) though it once powered the whole operation.

According to local legend, alcohol isn't only spirit dwelling within the distillery's cool stone walls. A spiritual medium was brought in and reported that the original founder, former proprietor, and final owner were all still hanging around and were pleased that the distillery had once again begun making whiskey.

Know Before You Go

Tours are offered with a guide or without, and



there are various vintages to taste and compare at the end. Park in the rear of the building. Some of the exhibit is outside, so watch the weather.



Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.

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Some of the funding Scottish Heritage USA has provided over the years:

• Culloden Visitor's Centre – media centre	\$300,000*
• The Scottish Gaelic Studies Lectureship at UNC Chapel for the academic years of 2017-20	\$185,000
• Renovation of Eisenhower Suite, Culzean castle	\$50,000*
• Scholarships for dance and piping students 2010-2019	\$50,000
• The National Trust for Scotland USA 2018-20 Corporate membership	\$35,000
• Interpretation Project at Glencoe	\$25,000*
• Renovation of Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Hill House, Helensburgh	\$20,000*
• Highland Echoes "Scotland in the Class"	\$16,900
• Scottish Tartans Museum Franklin NC	\$7,700
• Grandfather Mountain Highland Games Cultural Village 2017-20	\$6,000

*National Trust for Scotland sites



Eisenhower Suite, Culzean Castle



The Hill House, Helensburgh

PLANNING A TRIP TO SCOTLAND ?

Before you go check out the deals you get from membership in Scottish Heritage USA

- Reciprocal membership to the National Trust for Scotland Foundation, USA
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- **The Highlander** magazine (six issues per year)
- **National Trust's** magazine (three issues per year)
- **Scottish Heritage USA** Newsletter (three issues per year)

Memberships range from \$25 to \$500 and are well worth the price! – JOIN ONLINE

Come visit us at Grandfather Mountain Games July 9 – 12 2020



Scottish farmer pranks tourists by claiming sheep produce tartan wool

A cheeky farmer is winding up American tourists by spray-painting her sheep tartan - and claiming it's caused by the animals drinking popular Scottish soft drink, Irn-Bru.

Owner Maxine Scott, 62, used her skills with a spray-can to brighten up ewes April and Daisy.

Scott puts up a sign pretending that the sheep turn bright orange naturally and that their fleeces are then used to make tartan wool for kilts and blankets.

The sheep live on Auchingarrich Wildlife Centre, Comrie, Perthshire, and are decorated us-

Employment in Scotland?

* *Outlander* is looking for Scots to work on the show for season six. Trainees can work in all areas from production to costume design.

* And a casting company is on the hunt for 'good dancers' to star in a Scottish music video for a 'well-known band'.

All the contact information provided is: <scotlandnow@email.trinitymirror-news.co.uk>

Your editor is trying to figure out how to get to Scotland for long enough to get hired for either of these jobs. Mmmm...I think I could get one of the production jobs on Outlander. Perhaps even one of the costume design jobs as I am a pretty good researcher.

When I was perhaps 15, I was a pretty good tap and ballet dancer...guess I'd have to take a pretty good "refresher" course with a dance teacher for that.

I know! I could work with the Outlander horses! I did work on a thoroughbred farm for awhile a very long time ago!

If I go missing, that's where I am!



ing marker spray, used by farmers to identify sheep during lamb numbering.

A sign on their pen explains that their diet consists of "mainly grass, but are known to enjoy Irn-Bru and Scottish Tablet or shortbread".

"When we got the park, they always had tartan sheep. It was just for the tourists," said Scott.

"We just continued the tradition. The public do like it - Americans are really impressed by them.

"We have got a sign up saying the lambs come out normal, but they change as they grow older and tartan starts to develop."

The jokey sign explains, "A spectacular sight

Continued on page 7



COCKSPUR

HERALDIC SERVICES
& GRAPHIC DESIGN

Tom Freeman is a heraldic artist & graphic designer living in Northeast Georgia. He has been working in the Scottish community both in the US and internationally since 1999. He can be reached using the information shown below.



Thomas R. Freeman, Jr., FSA Scot

Mo Leannon
688 Camp Yonah Road
Clarkesville, GA 30523-4008
706-839-3881

trf@cockspurherald.com





A Scottish Breakfast!

Jim McGuire, a new member of the Scottish Society of Louisville (KY), asked, "Do you know what a traditional Scottish breakfast consists of?"

Answer: a fifth of Scotch, a big bowl of porridge, and a Collie dog.

What is the dog for?

Answer: Why, to eat the porridge, of course!

Tartan Sheep, *continued from page 5*

to see, tartan sheep were first discovered here at Auchingarrich many years ago.

"When sheared, their wool can be used to make tartan kilts, scarves and blankets.

"As a lamb they will look similar to a regular sheep, as their colours won't fully show until they are about a year old.

"Then as they get older their colours can change, so if you visit us again you may see a new tartan."

Scott bought the farm 10 years ago, and has been decorating the sheep since then.

She added, "You can buy marker spray, if they are lambing or, in a race, you would mark them with spray to identify which is which to tell if they have all been done.

"We tried hair dye, that worked quite well, but we've gone back to using the marker spray.

"Certainly American visitors seem to think it's funny."

Sat 4th April 2020 Arbroath 2020 Festival Concert tickets on sale!

Arbroath Abbey 2020 Festival Concert tickets are on sale now! Buy now!

Commissioned by the people of Arbroath to celebrate the 700th year of the Declaration of Arbroath 1320-2020. The Arbroath 2020 Festival Concert will take place in the grounds of Arbroath Abbey.

This is the premier performance of the specially commissioned choral work by renowned composer, Paul Mealor, and words written by Graham Davies.

The performance will be sung by 300 voices, drawn from Angus choirs and accompanied by the internationally celebrated Arbroath Instrumental band.

Tickets: are £7.00 each and are limited to 4 per sale.

Venue: Arbroath Abbey, Abbey Street DD11 1EG, Angus, Scotland

Tickets are available to buy online here by visiting <contact@arbroath2020.com> or in person at The Webster Memorial Theatre box office in Arbroath.





LOVE TARTAN...?

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Gaelic Place Names: 'Sìth' and 'Sìthean'

Maggie Scott Lecturer, University of Salford, Manchester, England

The Gaelic word *sìth* or *sìdh* (pronounced *shee*) can mean 'fairy' and 'hill' and in Scottish place-names is usually considered to denote a 'fairy hill'. It probably derives from the ellipsis of the Irish phrase *aos sídhe* 'people of peace'. According to medieval Irish sources such as the twelfth-century *Book of Leinster*, the *aos sídhe* were an ancient supernatural race who dwelt beneath the surface of the earth, a belief which is reflected in the fact that in Ireland a number of *sídh* sites are pre-Celtic burial mounds.

In Scotland, *sìth* is found in place-names including Glenshee 'fairy glen' or 'glen of the fairy hills', *Sìdh Beg* and *Sìdh Mòr* 'small fairy hill' and 'big fairy hill' respectively, *Schiehallion* 'fairy hill of the Caledonians', *Ben Hee* from *Beinn Shìth* 'fairy mountain' and similarly *Ben Tee* above Loch Lochy is *Beinn an t-Sìth* 'mountain of the fairies'. The same element is found in the word *banshee* (Gaelic *bean* 'woman, female' and *sìdh* 'fairy', ultimately from Old Irish *ben síde*). In Celtic folk-tales, the banshee were reputed to be the spirits of dead ancestors, whose wailing outside the home portended a death in the family.

Related to *sìth* is the term *sìthean* or *sìdhean* (pronounced *shee-an*) which also refers to a fairy hill. The *sìthein* are often small

conical hills, and in Celtic mythology they were reputed to have hollow interiors, with the fairies dwelling inside. Belief in the 'wee folk' continued into relatively modern times, with respectable gentlemen such as the Reverend Robert Kirk, a minister and Gaelic scholar from Aberfoyle writing in 1691 a book entitled *The*

Secret Commonwealth of Elves, Fauns and Fairies in which he described these creatures and their subterranean habitat in a remarkably candid manner. In rural areas, stories persisted into the early twentieth century of unwary humans being lured inside the *sìthein* at night, only to emerge the following morning and discover that decades had passed in the outside world. Other tales detailed the abduction of unbaptised babies, or doomed romances with the fairy folk, and the various ills which befell those who dared



to refuse them hospitality.

It is therefore no surprise that the Scottish countryside is punctuated with hills named simply *Sìthean* 'fairy hill' or *An Sìdhean* 'the fairy hill'. There are also many names containing *sìthean* as their generic or defining element, including *Sìthean Mòr* 'big fairy hill' on the island of Handa, *Sìdhean Dubh* 'black fairy hill' on the isle of Skye, *Sìdhean Sluaigh* 'fairy hill of the

Continued on page 25

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A court tried to force ancestry.com to open up its DNA database to police. The company said, “No.”

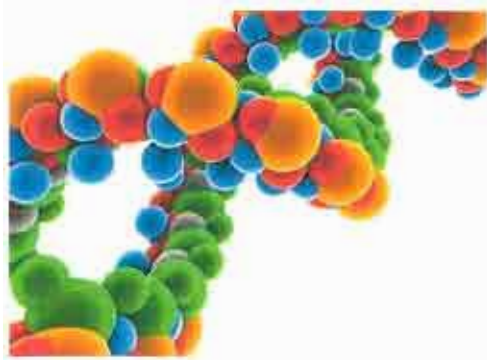
With thanks to: **BuzzFeed News**

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/>

A Pennsylvania court’s move to issue a search warrant to Ancestry.com sets off a legal struggle that could go all the way to the Supreme Court.

Ancestry.com, the largest DNA testing company in the world, was served a search warrant to give police access to its database of some 16 million DNA profiles, but the company did not comply.

“Ancestry received one request seeking access to Ancestry’s DNA database through a search warrant,”



the company revealed in its 2019 transparency report released last week. “Ancestry challenged the warrant on jurisdictional grounds and did not provide any customer data in response.”

The warrant came from a court in Pennsylvania, the company told *BuzzFeed News* by email, adding: “The warrant was improperly served on Ancestry and we did not provide any access or customer data in response. Ancestry has not received any follow up from law enforcement on this matter.”

For months, legal experts who follow investigative genetic genealogy have expected search warrants to be issued to Ancestry and its main competitor, 23andMe, which has about 10 million DNA profiles in its database. Both companies have publicly vowed to defend their customers’ genetic privacy, and say they will fight efforts to open up their databases to searches by police.

Investigative genetic genealogy is a new method used to solve crimes. It involves searching for genetic profiles that partially match DNA from crime scenes and then building family trees from these relatives to find a suspect. Until now, only two databases used by genealogy enthusiasts to research their family histories — GEDmatch, originally set up by hobbyists but now owned by the forensic genetics company Verogen, and the database run by FamilyTreeDNA — have been open to search requests from police.

Finding criminal suspects through genetic

OOPS! Did Bonnie Prince Charlie, have any military training before his Jacobite campaign?

Charles Edward Stewart, Bonnie Prince Charles, **son of uncrowned James V111**, led the Jacobites attack at Culloden, the final stand of the Highlanders against the English in 1745. He was only 24 years old and had no military training except for visiting and observing a battle with his father.

With thanks to my friend, Fraser Gordon, Scottish Blue Badge Guide, for correcting the information on the father of Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Continued on page 13



Barren River Lake State Park,
1149 State Park Rd,
Lucas, KY 42156, USA

*Don't
miss this
one!*

May 29
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AND May 31
4:30 PM

2 0 2 0

Glasgow Highland Games

Scottish Clan Tents Galore *

The Parade of Tartans *

Men and Women's

Heavy Scottish Athletics

Pipe Music * Friday Luncheon *

Vendors * Scottish food *

**Honored Society is:
The Scottish Heritage
Society of The South.**

Glasgow Highland Games Office Address:
613 E Main Street Glasgow, KY 42141
270. 651.3141 and ghg@glasgow-ky.com

Seventh Annual FSA Scot dinner in Australia 7 April 2020

The seventh Annual Dinner for Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in Australia will take place in Melbourne on Tuesday 7 April 2020, at the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria in Bourke Street, Melbourne, commencing at 6.30 pm.

The evening will be chaired by Dr. James Donaldson FSA Scot, a short talk on "The Legacies of Gilbert Innes of Stow" will be given by David Rampling FSA Scot, and a *Toast to the Society* will be proposed by Dr. Joe Johnson FSA Scot. To reserve a place, please email Dr James Donaldson at illa123@bigpond.com.

Ancestry.com, continued from page 11

genealogy is a numbers game: The more profiles you have to search, the more likely you are to find a reasonably close relative.

GEDmatch contains about 1.3 million profiles and Family Tree DNA has around 1.1 million. So if cops were to gain access to the much larger databases operated by Ancestry or 23andMe, it would make solving cases much easier.

After the April 2018 arrest in California of Joseph James DeAngelo, alleged to be the infamous Golden State Killer, there was a boom in investigative genealogy. But in May 2019, cops hit a partial roadblock when GEDmatch announced that its users would have to opt in to make their profiles visible to searches by the police. Only about 1 in 6 users have since done so.

At that time, Paul Holes, a retired investigator with the Contra Costa County district attorney's office, who led the team that solved the Golden State Killer case, said he expected warrants would be issued to search GEDmatch's database — and to access the genetic data held by the larger companies.

"Of course there are going to be legal battles," Holes told *BuzzFeed News*. "It would not surprise me, years down the road, if this could be a US Supreme Court issue."

Holes' predictions have so far proved spot on. In October, the New York Times revealed that a homicide detective with the Orlando Police Department had obtained a warrant to search GEDmatch, which quickly complied. Ancestry's new transparency report reveals that the big companies are now under pressure to open up their

databases too.

23andMe told *BuzzFeed News* that it had received no warrants to search its database as of the end of 2019. The company is expected to update its own transparency report in the next couple of weeks.

"We carefully scrutinize all law enforcement requests and have never provided any customer information to a law enforcement agency, nor do we share customer data with any public databases or with entities that may increase law enforcement access," 23andMe told *BuzzFeed News* by email.

MyHeritage, which is based in Israel and has more than 3.75 million DNA profiles in its database, said that it had also not received any warrants to search its database and would similarly fight any that were received. "Our position is that MyHeritage does not cooperate with law enforcement," company spokesperson Rafi Mendelsohn told *BuzzFeed News*.

The coming legal tussles are likely to center on the meaning of "probable cause," which historically has meant there is a particular reason to conduct a search to help solve a crime. Arguing that a database containing genetic information on millions of people is so large that it is highly likely to help solve most violent crimes stretches that definition, some legal experts argue.

"If statistical probability standing alone is sufficient to define probable cause, then probable cause is going to be virtually meaningless in an era of big data," Natalie Ram, a legal scholar at the University of Maryland who studies genetic privacy, told *BuzzFeed*.





Clan Colquhoun International

**Kilts and Cowboy Boots
Clan Gathering
April 3-5, 2020, San Antonio, TX
Clan Colquhoun. Clan MacGregor.
Clan Scott. Clan MacFarlane.**

register at clancolquhoun.com

enquiries@clancolquhoun.com +1 6197817279

Not a member of your Clan and want to attend the Event? Join Now.



enquiries@clancolquhoun.com



info@acgsus.org



clanmacfarlaneworldwide@gmail.com



ewells483@gmail.com

clan colquhoun INTERNATIONAL society



Lord Malcolm & Lady Colquhoun

You are most cordially invited to join us!

Allied Families and Septs are:

**Colquhoun, Calhoun, Cowan,
MacClintock & MacManus**

Contact us at

<clancolquhoun.com>

Join us at clancolquhoun.com



Great News!
Don't know much...
but, I know this is correct.

The Scottish Government will again in 2020 offer mini-grants to clan and family societies

interested in sponsoring and leading ancestral tourism events back home in their old clan country. (These mini-grants were previously limited to \$5,000 each but this year may be more).



make your 2020 plans now for our AGM this May

2020 is the Clan MacLellan's 40th AGM. We are still finalizing the details but the AGM dates are May 15-17, 2020.

The AGM hotel is located just 4 miles from beautiful Bartley Ranch and almost directly across from the Reno-Tahoe International Airport. The Sure Stay Plus Hotel by Best Western is located at 1981 Terminal Way, Reno, NV 89502. Call 1-775-348-6370 and mention CELTIC2020 for special \$79+taxes pricing. I booked their presidential suite last year so we can gather in my room to visit.

On Friday, we will have the board meeting in the morning then a light lunch. After dinner at Campo, we are planning a DNA/Genealogy workshop for anyone who would like to know more about our DNA project and the MacLellan Database.

On Saturday, we can attend the Games then the AGM Dinner at Santa Fe Hotel. We will have a private room with a MacLellan Piper, Highland Dancers, Silent Auction and more. It is a one day festival but Connie has a great event planned for Sunday.

On Sunday, she is planning a cruise on Lake Tahoe. Let me know if you are planning to attend the Friday night dinner, DNA workshop, AGM dinner and Cruise on Lake Tahoe as well as any topics you would like discussed by the board or any questions you may have about Clan MacLellan.

Our annual meetings are always such a blessing to catch up with cousins from around the world and meet new MacLellans. Hope to see you in Reno.

The *Clan Macneil* Association of America

If you are a Macneil or any of the following "Sept Names" then you have found the clan you have been searching for.



"O'n D'thainig thu."
Remember the men from whom
you have come.

The Clan Macneil President: Kenneth McNeil,
3920 N. St. Joseph Ave., Evansville, IN 47720-1203
<mckennypam.1203@hotmail.com>

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| * Macneil | * Mcniel | * Niell | * McGougan |
| * MacNeil | * McNiel | * O'Neal | * McGrail |
| * Macniel | * Mcneill | * O'Neil | * McGrail |
| * MacNiel | * McNeill | * O'Niel | * Mcgrail |
| * Macneill | * Mcneal | * O'Neill | * Mcgrail |
| * MacNeill | * McNeale | * Oneil | * McGugan |
| * MacNeillie | * McNeilage | * Oneill | * Macgugan |
| * Macneal | * Mcneilage | * Nelson | * McGuigan |
| * MacNeal | * McNelly | * Neilson | ...and |
| * Macneale | * McNelly | * Nielson | * Mcguigan |
| * MacNeilage | * McNeally | * MacGougan | |
| * Macneilage | * Mcneally | * Macgougan | |
| * MacNelly | * Neil | * Macgrail | |
| * Macnelly | * Neal | * MacGugan | |
| * MacNeally | * Neall | * Macgugan | |
| * Macneally | * Neale | * MacGuigan | |
| * Mcneil | * Neill | * Macguigan | |
| * McNeil | * Niel | * McGougan | |



Three Lamont cousins arrive with only six weeks apart!



Just what this dog needs!



For his very first November 1, All Saints Day, dressed up in his "Every Dog Needs a Baby" shirt and puppy hat, Luis is the son of Roberto Capa Matos and Elizabeth Turnbull, Hillsboro, North Carolina. He is the grandson of Wally and Betty Turnbull.

With thanks to the *Bullseye*, publication of the Turnbull Clan. Contact them: <www.turnbullclan.com>.

(Above) Three Lamont cousins with only 6 weeks between them.

First to arrive was Fergus Lamont Garside, son to Julie Lamont and Steve Garside.

Next were the twins Duncan and Callum Lamont Mieberg born to Sara Lamont and Robbie Mieberg who live in Amsterdam, Holland.

All three are grandsons of Robert Lamont, Clan Lamont treasurer and wife Shona.

Thanks to Clan Lamont, contact them: clanlamontsociety@gmail.com

THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

'S Rioghal Mo Dhream!

Royal is my Race!

Fàilte! The Clan Gregor Society is a growing organisation with membership throughout the world. It's most active objectives are to extend the links of kinship and friendship between MacGregors, wherever they may be, and to provide a focal point for all members of the Clan and interested visitors who wish to learn more of our noble past.

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor

7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balquidder

24th Chief of Clan Gregor

Clan Gregor
has
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Ms. Ishbel McGregor,
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FK10 2NT
Scotland

Join Clan Gregor today! www.clangregor.org

Baldy hedgehog brought back from the brink by Scots animal lovers



With thanks to the **Scottish Daily Record**



A bald Scottish hedgehog is returning to the wild after being nursed back to health by animal lovers.

Ratty had lost most of his spines and fur when he was handed over to the care of the Scottish SPCA late last year.

Suffering from a severe case of ringworm, the seriously ill creature weighed just 324g, nowhere near enough to keep him alive during winter hibernation, but after months of tender loving care from the charity's dedicated wildlife team, he's been restored to full health, tipping the scales at a hefty 940g.

Wildlife assistant Claire Powell explained: "We're delighted with the progress Ratty has made during his time with us.

"He spent some time in a room in the centre to build body condition then for the past two weeks he has been outside in an aviary going from strength to strength while we waited for more spines to grow in.

The poor wee soul had only a handful of spines left when he was found.

"It's great that he's ready to go back to the wild, especially as he wishes to be ready for Hedgehog Day on 2 February next year, although it could be argued that every day is hedgehog day here."

If anyone finds a wild animal that is injured or distressed they should call the Scottish SPCA animal helpline on 03000 999 999.

A free trip to Scotland?

VisitScotland brings you the closest thing to a real visit...in just a few minutes!!

It's free and you don't even have to pack your socks. You are allowed to return again and again if you wish. Visit:

<https://youtube/FIG6tbYaA88>

The Clan Skene

Association, Inc.



The Clan Skene Association, Inc., invites membership from SKENE and Septs Carison, Carney/Carnie, Curriehill, Dyas, Dyce, Dyer, Hall, Halyard/Hallyard, MacGaillard, Rennie & Skains

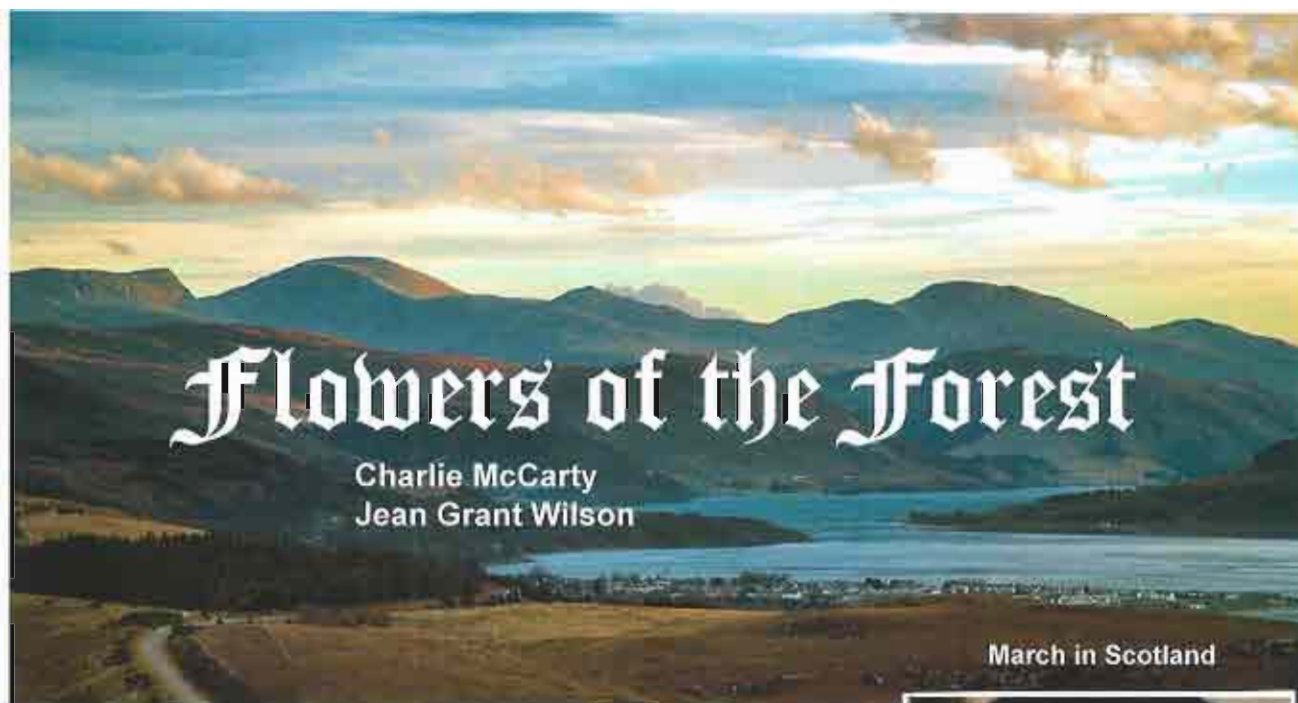
Al McGalliard,

president

273 Amy Clegg Drive
Gray, GA 31032

<alsrx95@gmail.com>





Charlie McCarty, 74, passed away on Saturday, December 14, 2019 in Anchorage, Alaska. Visitation was Thursday, December 19, 2019 in the Fireside Room at Southeast Christian Church, (920 Blankenbaker Parkway, Louisville, KY 40243). Our condolences to our Cheri Eskridge, our Scottish Society of Louisville member. Charlie was her father.



Jean Grant Wilson, 83, of Jacksonville, Florida, passed away peacefully on Monday, February 3, 2020, at home with family by her side.

Jean was born in Altrincham, England and lived in Johannesburg, South Africa and Clydebank, Scotland before her family moved to the United States in 1944. She was an avid gardener and very active in the Clan Grant Society as membership secretary, and Games Commissioner.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband, James E. Wilson, and daughter, Lorri Ann Newbill. She is survived by her daughter, Holly Wilson Floyd, her sister, Margaret Mary Lindemyer, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, as well as many dear friends. She also leaves behind her faithful little dog, Wilz, whom she loved dearly.

A private family celebration of Jean's life will be held at a later date. Her ashes will be interred at the Jacksonville National Cemetery.





The Armstrong Clan Society

Dedicated to the Armstrongs, Crosiers, Fairbairns, Grosiers, Nixons
and those interested in these surnames.

The Armstrong Clan Society was organized on October 8, 1981 and is incorporated in the State of Georgia, USA. The Society is recognized as a Section 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization and exempt from United States Federal Income Taxes. On September 24, 1984, the Lord Lyon, King of Arms in Scotland, granted warrant to the Lyon Clerk to matriculate in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in the name of the Armstrong Clan Society, Inc., the Coat of Arms in the upper left corner of this page. Our motto "Semper Invictus" can be translated as "Always Unconquered."

Objectives of the Armstrong Clan Society

1. To seek friendship and unity among all Armstrongs, its septs and associated families.
2. To provide for the preservation of all Armstrong artifacts unique to the family.
3. To serve as a genealogical and historical resource for the membership and the general public.
4. To provide news, Armstrong history, items of general interest and genealogy via our newsletter, *The Armstrong Chronicles*.
5. To establish worldwide geographic membership representation.

Membership

All Armstrongs, Croziers, Fairbairns, Grosiers and Nixons (regardless of the spelling and their descendants, are eligible for full membership in The Armstrong Clan Society. In the United States and Canada, dues are \$25 per year or \$45 for two years. All memberships are family memberships which includes two adults and all minor children. In all other countries, dues are \$35 per year. All dues are payable in US funds.

For a membership application, email Peter Armstrong at
peter.armstrong1.3@gmail.com
or download from <http://www.armstrong.org/membership.htm>.
Note: "spouse" on the application includes: spouse, domestic partner or any other adult living at the same address.

County histories and genealogical research -wonderful resources

Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS Fort Myers (FL) Regional Library

County histories can provide valuable data to help researchers extend their research back multiple generations. The term "county histories" can also include local or regional histories. The period between the early to mid-1800s through the early 1900s saw a significant number of county histories published, many of which covered the Eastern and Midwestern regions of the United States. The rise in popularity of genealogy in the 1970s triggered another spike in publishing county histories. In some cases, these were updates of earlier publications; in others, the county histories were the first ever published for a given area.

County histories typically provide useful information on the settlement patterns of the locality and origins of the early settlers. They shed light on economic, educational, religious, and social conditions. While the quality and accuracy varies, this information is important to genealogists and historians. To properly conduct research, one must know something about the past. Even if some of the details are enhanced or some unpleasant events are "sanitized", the basic facts and timelines usually are somewhat accurate.

The biggest issues with county histories usually involve the biographical sections, i.e., short historical sketches of prominent citizens and settlers. In some cases, biographical sections are long enough that they may be included in a separate volume. This can be a double-edged sword in terms of accuracy. On one hand, the information

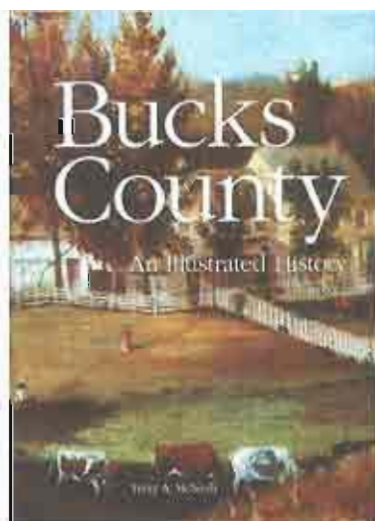
was often first-hand because it was provided by the families, close to the time the subject of the sketches was alive. The sketches were often accompanied by pictures. When accurate, this can be a bonanza of research information.

Many professionals caution users to take some of the information concerning profiles of individuals and families with a grain of salt because they often paid to be included in the county history. The publisher usually included the text verbatim from what was submitted by the person or family; therefore, much of the information is considered secondary research.

Don't be upset if your ancestor doesn't appear in the text. One must remember that in most cases, individuals and/or families had to pay to have their sketches included. However, many people could not afford this luxury, and not everyone wanted to be included for a variety of reasons. All surnames that your research indicates should have been in the area should be checked, including surnames of inlaws and siblings.

County histories also include information about businesses, churches, cemeteries, civic and social groups. The names mentioned may have enough historical context to identify occupation and social status.

Contact Bryan L. Mulcahy, Fort Myers Regional Library, <bmulcahy@leegov.com>, Lee County Library System. Call 239-479-4636.



Family makes a house a home!

Clan Forrester Society

Come - join the Forresters

Membership is available for all spelling variations of Forrester: Forrester, Forester, Forrister, Forister, Forest, Forrest, Foster, Carstarphen.



Contact: **Ben Forrester**,
Membership Chairman
1034 Blue Heron Drive
Commerce, GA 30529
Phone: 706-335-7688
Email: benbf@windstream.net



FOSTER SURNAME DNA Project

Genealogy Research on Foster / Forster / Forrester / Forester /
Forister / Forestier / Forster / Forrester / Vorster / Voster Families

Royal Bank of Scotland Issues New Polymer Twenty Pound Note



Malcolm Buchanan, chair, Scotland Board, Royal Bank of Scotland, with the new £20 note

The Royal Bank of Scotland has unveiled the design of its first £20 polymer note. Featuring the image of historic Scottish entrepreneur Kate Cranston, the note was revealed at her legendary tearoom in Glasgow - Mackintosh at the Willow.

Kate Cranston, from Glasgow, made her mark for her series of tearooms across the city. Her flagship

venue at 217 Sauchiehall Street, is celebrated by architects and designers due to the interior designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

With thanks to *Branchlines*, Glasgow, West & Southwest Scotland, the publication of The Scottish Tourist Guides Association.

Contact them: <www.stga.co.uk>

Gaelic Place Names, continued from page 9

host' in Argyll, *Sidhean an Airgid* 'fairy hill of the silver' on Lewis, *Sithean a' Chata* 'fairy hill of the battle' in Balquidder, and *Sithean a' choin bhain* 'fairy hill of the white dog' in Easter Ross. *Sithean* is also found as a qualifying element in hill names including *Beinn an t-Sithean* (Ben Shian) in Strathyre in Perthshire, *Dun an t-Sitheanon Tìree*, *Meall nan Sìthean* on Lewis, and *Cnoc nan Sìthean* in Caithness. *Sithean* is harder to spot in names like *Strontian* in Argyll, which is *Sròn an t-Sithein* 'the point of the fairy hill', and in Scotticised forms such as *Sheeans* on the island of Arran, and *North Shian* and *South Shian* in Argyll.

In modern times, the terms *sìth* and *sithean* in place-names are perhaps taken less literally, with the latter sometimes glossed simply as 'hillock'. Yet these hills remain popular with walkers and tourists alike, regardless of whether they are aware of their supernatural historical context.



Clan *Blair* Society

**Memberships are cordially invited
for Blair descendants and other
interested parties.**



www.clanblair.org

President, Clan Blair Society,
Jim Blair
7200 S. Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120
<president@clanblair.org>

Membership Chairman,
Charles Diman

3413 Synnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715 ClanMembership@clanblair.org



Blair House, the ancestral home of the Blair family in the Ayrshire region, has history to circa 1100.

Clan Blair



Our Path Forward



Margo Georgiadis, Ancestry president & chief executive officer

For more than three decades, Ancestry has helped millions of people learn more about themselves by connecting them to their past so they can gain meaningful insights to impact their future. Our relentless focus on serving our customers has enabled us to sustain innovation and market leadership in both Family History and Consumer Genomics. Tens of millions of people have chosen Ancestry as the place to discover, preserve and share their story.

DNA continues to be an important way for millions of people to start their family history journey. About 30 million people worldwide have already started a DNA journey, including over 16 million with Ancestry, seeking to learn more about themselves and make meaningful new connections. And we're just starting to see the full potential for how genetics impacts health. We're only at the beginning of all that's possible.

At the same time, over the last 18 months, we have seen a slowdown in consumer demand across the entire DNA category. The DNA market is at an inflection point now that most early adopters have entered the category. Future growth will require a continued focus on building consumer trust and innovative new offerings that deliver even greater value to

people. Ancestry is well positioned to lead that innovation to inspire additional discoveries in both Family History and Health.

Today we made targeted changes to better position our business to these marketplace realities. These are difficult decisions and impact 6 percent of our workforce. Any changes that affect our people are made with the utmost care.

We've done so in service to sharpening our focus and investment on our core Family History business and the long-term opportunity with AncestryHealth™.

Looking ahead, interest in Family History remains strong and we're continuing to

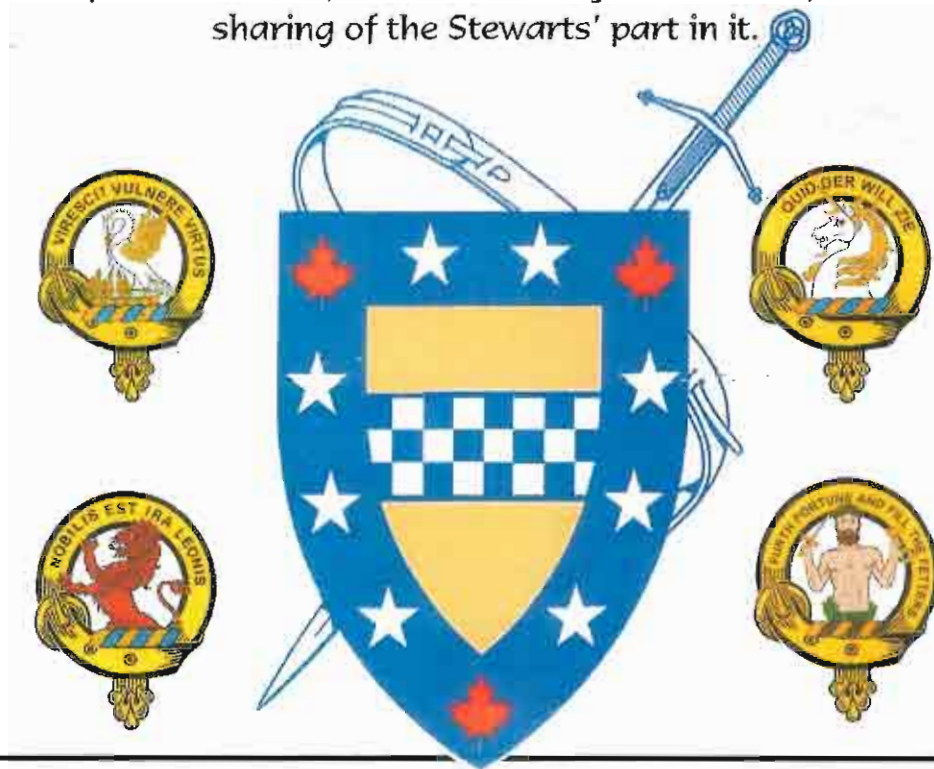
grow and invest in breakthrough solutions to help people understand their heritage and put people on the path to improved health and wellness. We're equally committed to building a brand consumers trust, helping lead the industry with best-in-class data stewardship principles and a commitment to trust and transparency, including our annual Transparency Report.

Our team at Ancestry has maintained our leadership position for decades through game-changing product improvements and compelling storytelling and we remain focused on continually innovating to deliver even greater value to those we serve.



Clan Stewart Society in America, Inc.

501(c)(3) Not For Profit Organization dedicated to the preservation of Scottish Heritage and History and the sharing of the Stewarts' part in it.



The Stewart dynasty descended from King Robert I's daughter and her husband, Walter the Steward. Despite early unrest and weak government caused by several Stewart kings succeeding as minors, the dynasty flourished for over three centuries.

During this time, Scotland moved forward to become a modern and prosperous nation. Stewart monarchs such as King James IV and VI were Renaissance patrons of artistic, scientific, commercial, religious and political endeavour, sponsoring figures including the poet, Robert Henryson, and humanist, George Buchanan.

Also of significance was the arrival in the mid-sixteenth century of the Reformation movement, bringing about the replacement of Catholic Mary Queen of Scots by her son King James VI.

It was through the Stewart dynasty that the two thrones of England and Scotland - and later the governments - came to be united.

The 'Marriage of the Thistle and the Rose' took place at Stirling Castle in 1503 between King James IV and Princess Margaret Tudor, daughter of King Henry VII of England.

This union of the Scottish and English Royal families eventually led in 1603 to the succession of a Stewart (now with a change of spelling) to the throne of England.

CSSA is represented at approximately 40 Scottish/Celtic events around the country each year. We are always looking for folks with our passion to volunteer to start more.

We also have a presence on the Internet with a website, <clansstewart.org> (official) and a Facebook page listed as *Clan Stewart Society in America* (unofficial).

Though we have maintained our low annual \$25 membership, we are still able to sponsor trophies for dance, drums and pipes and establish scholarships for institutions providing cultural Scottish curriculums and we also sponsor the competition of a record-holding female athlete.

For CSSA membership information: <clansstewart.org> (You may pay your dues at that site, too.)



<[http://
www.electric
scotland.com/
familytree/
cookbook/
index.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/cookbook/index.htm)>

A gift for you

You'll have to be patient and copy the pages, but I am so delighted to have found my cookbook I wrote in 1993 or so. We sold 1000 copies of this to benefit the publication I did for the library...at \$10.00 a copy.

It was called *Kissin' Cousins Cookbook* and is made up of recipies from my family and also many really good friends. I wrote a little something about each person who sent along a recipe..and, I've been told it was fun to read...besides goodies to eat.

Just go to the address at the left...and there it is. It was before I knew much more than how to turn the computer on...and before we knew how to make a book...so, each page is individually saved.

It's not so hard to read the pages...so you may read and only save those you wish to keep. Enjoy! Beth

Kissin' Cousins Cookbook

Scottish words that're fun to know and even to use!

Rumple-bane - the lowest bone of the spine.

Crouse - merry, lively, brisk, bold, from the Gaelic 'craos' meaning greedy, gluttonous, eager for any pleasure of the senses.

Gunzie - a derogatory name for the nose or mouth, possibly applied originally to the snout of a hog in reference to the grunting noise of the animal.

Muslin-kail - a name applied by Burns to a purely vegetable soup without animal ingredients of any kind and made up of mainly

barley, greens and onions.

Sook - a drop, sip, or taste of liquor.

Blaud - to lay anything flat with violence, as the wind or rain does the corn.

Athol Brose - whisky with honey, taken as a morning drop; a powerful and indigestive mixture that no one but a Highlander out in the open air and in active exercise during the whole day can safely indulge in.

Bap - a small wheaten cake or roll, sold in Scotland for breakfast when porridge is not used.

The Families of Clan MacTavish Welcome You to Discover Your Scottish Heritage!



Chief Steven
MacTavish

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,
MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish,
MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacLaws,
MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, McTavish,
Mactavish, Mactavls, M'Tavish, MacThomas,
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant
spellings.*

We Are Clan MacTavish!



For information about joining us email: clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com

Six of Scotland's Most Enchanting Standing Stones

These ancient monuments have captivated the imagination

Atlas Obscura, subscribe for free: <atlasobscura.com>

Kerry Wolfe

Throughout Scotland, strange clusters of stones spike up from the earth. Unlike England's Stonehenge, you can walk right up to these megalithic marvels and stand in their shadows. Built thousands of years ago, their purpose and significance remain lost to time, transforming the stones into monuments to mystery. They may not transport you to 18th-century Scotland like the fictional Craigh na Dun in the *Outlander* series, but these seven sites still maintain their magic, making it easy to imagine you've slipped into the distant past.

1. OUTER HEBRIDES, SCOTLAND, Callanish Stones. The mysterious megaliths have enchanted and intrigued visitors for thousands of years.

2. NORTH Ayrshire, SCOTLAND,

Machrie Moor Standing Stones. More stones than Stonehenge, all scattered within a windswept landscape sure to enchant "*Outlander*" fans.

3. LUNDIN LINKS, SCOTLAND. Lundin Links Standing Stones. A trio of giant megalithic stones in the middle of a golf course.

4. ORKNEY, SCOTLAND, Ring of Brodgar. The true age of this ancient stone circle is unknown, but its stunning vista isn't in question.

5. OUTER HEBRIDES, SCOTLAND. Clach an Truseil. The 5,000-year-old megalith is believed to be Scotland's tallest standing stone.

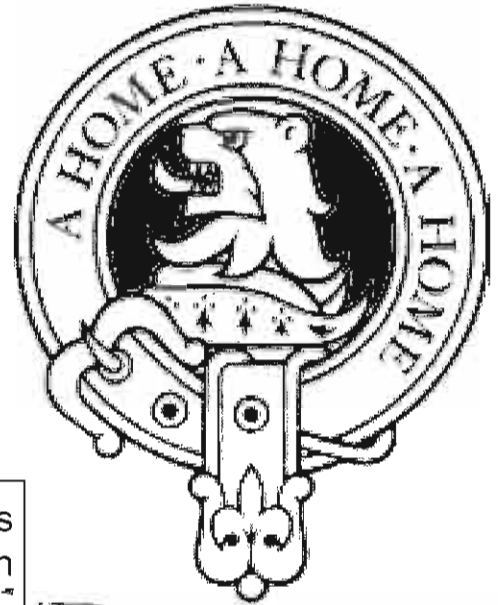
6. ORKNEY, SCOTLAND. The Stones of Stenness. Possibly the oldest of Britain's ancient henges is also one of its most stark.



Callanish Stones, Outer Hebrides

Clan Home Society, International

The Clan Home Society,
International cordially invites
membership from all HOME
and HUME and allied families.



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Rodney Green, president

317 Oak Ridge Drive
Moody, AL 35004
205-368-5286



<lawnmower391@gmail.com>





Clan Home Member, David Hume, participated in archaeological field work at Hume Castle

“David Hume writes, “Had a great time this week (August 2018) in the Scottish Borders volunteering in the archaeological field work at Hume Castle and the cemetery of what centuries ago was the Church of St. Nicholas of Hume. Both were destroyed by order of Oliver Cromwell.

The cemetery (known as kirkyard in Scotland) is located downhill from the castle.

It was built before 1127 as a gift from Gospatric, Earl of Dunbar, my 25th great-grandfather, and was dedicated to St. Nicholas by Robert, Bishop of St. Andrews in 1147”.

The Contextualising Hume project, which began in 2018, continues running from Summer 2020 to Spring 2021.

The project is being facilitated by the Hume Castle Preservation Trust and has been funded by grant funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and the Fallago Environment Fund. The project will provide a range of archaeological activities over the course of three years, to research, excavate, and record, Hume Castle and its surrounding landscape, including the former surrounding village and associated graveyard.

Each year will consist of a series of workshops, and a central, two-week field project to be held during the summer. The project will engage with members of the local community, school children, and local interest groups in order to provide opportunities to learn more about the history of Hume, and to develop and learn new skills.

The archaeological work for the project will be delivered by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice.

The project, through publicity and public engagement, will improve awareness of the importance of Hume Castle and its landscape, with a key aim to provide a stimulating volunteer and visitor experience by making archaeology and history more accessible through practical engagement.

This will be fulfilled by hands on archaeological experiences (surveying, digging, recording, finds washing, cataloguing of finds, photography) as well as providing new links to heritage through non-traditional means, with a key focus on crafts.



For information on joining The Clan Home, visit <w.clan-home.org>

MacDuffee Clan Society of America, Inc.

of Clan Macfie

Ceud Mile Failte! 100,000 Welcomes!

Annual General Meeting held each year in July
at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.
You are always welcome to attend.



President: Thomas P. McDuffee

tpmjjm@aol.com

Treasurer: David M. McDuffie

dnmcduffie@gmail.com

Genealogist: Richard Ledyard

865-671-2555

rledyard@tds.net



MacDuffee
Clan Society
of America



Storm Ciara causes chaos across Scotland with burst river banks and 80mph winds



Police are urging drivers to avoid the road that looks onto the River Nith in the Whitesands area of Dumfries after it burst its banks during the early hours of the morning.

A river in Dumfries has burst its banks as Storm Ciara continues to batter much of the country.

Water from the River Nith has spilled onto the streets of the Whitesands area of the town during the early hours of Sunday morning.

The road that sits along the river has been closed to drivers as it remains submerged in flood waters.

Police revealed that the flood waters had

Dumfries & Galloway means minor river flooding impacts are likely with significant impacts possible. Avoid driving or walking through flood waters.

"For the latest information on regional flood alerts and local flood warnings, or to sign up to Floodline call 0345 988 1188 or visit www.floodlinescotland.org.uk."

The Met Office is anticipating up to 80mm of rain to fall while wind gusts of up to 80mph are expected to cause chaos of drivers and commuters.



The River Nith burst its banks at Whitesands flooding the surrounding roadway

grown in the area at around 12.30pm on Sunday.

Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) has issued 58 flood warnings and 15 flood alerts in Scotland for Sunday.

Nigel Goody, SEPA's Duty Flood Manager, said: "Storm Ciara has arrived with a dangerous combination of high tides, high storm surge & high inshore waves across coastal areas. Avoid crashing waves and follow the advice of emergency services and local councils.

"As well as coastal impacts, increased confidence in heavy rainfall cross Borders and

Scotrail has already moved to cancel a number of West Highland and Kyle of Lochalsh services for today.

Crosscountry has also warned rail users not to travel while cancelling all trains between Scotland and York on Sunday.

Traffic Scotland has also moved to shut off access to Scots bridges for high sided vehicles as a safety precaution.

Cromarty, Dornoch, Erskine, Forth Road, Friarton, Kessock and Skye Bridge have all been

Continued on page 37

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FOR THE
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CLAN DONALD ALASKA IN THE CDUSA NORTH PACIFIC REGION IS ACTIVE MOST ALL THE TIME!

The St. Andrews Dinner was a fun night in Alaska! Always great to see the kilts and watch the knobby knee judging.

We are having a Clan Coinneachadh every month. Our goal is to get more and more people interested in our events. Our first meeting was in



November in Anchorage. Our second meeting was a brunch in Wasilla. Our next meeting will be back in Anchorage.

Anyone interested, please contact Dottie at 907-715-2285 for more details. Hogmanay was January 4th at Reilly's Irish Pub in Anchorage.

Storm Ciara wreaks havoc with Scotland, *continued from page 35*



closed to high sided vehicles.

A 30mph speed limit has been put in place on Clackmannanshire and Kincardine Bridges while also being completely inaccessible for large vehicles.

Queensferry Crossing and Tay Road bridges have been shut off to double decker buses.

CalMac ferries heading to and from Arran, Barra, Coll and Tiree, Lewis, and North Uist are among many services to be cancelled due to the weather on Sunday.

Yellow weather warnings for rain and wind will remain in place for large parts until around midday on Sunday.

A further warning for wind and snow has been put in place by the Met Office from midnight on Monday until 11.59pm on Tuesday.

Weather forecasters are anticipating around 20cm of snow in some of the highest regions in Scotland.

The Scottish Government has urged people to take care when travelling over the next few days.

Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity Michael Matheson said: "The Met Office is telling us that we are facing a prolonged period of adverse weather, with Storm Ciara bringing strong winds and rain to most of Scotland this weekend.

"We're also being told to expect snow and high winds throughout Monday and on Tuesday morning, so there is the potential for significant disruption on the trunk road network, as well as other modes of transport.



OH, CANADA!



<https://electriccanadian.com>

