

THE TREE & HORN

Kidd Society Newsletter Publication

KYDD KEDDIE KYDE KYD KIDDIE MCKIDD MCKIDDIE MCKEDDIE MACKEDDIE

KIDD
Society



2nd Edition 2024

<https://linktr.ee/KiddSociety>

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Foreword

Wishing everyone all the very best in 2024, welcome to our 2nd edition of the “The Tree & Horn” Society publication.

The aim of the newsletter is to give an overview of what the society has been doing to date, what’s been going on in the background, away from the face of social media and what’s coming up over the next period.

The Kidd Society was formed in July 2021 with an official opening day on social media of October 26th to create a community based around the ancient “family of names”, This is a celebration of the names associated with the variants of Kidd, Kydd, Kyd, Kyde, Kid, Keddie, Kiddie, McKeddie, McKidd, MacKidd, McKiddie and many others, we believe have arisen from the same source of origin.

The KIDD spelling has become the most commonly used variant of the name today, however we are not limited by this, we are open to all lines and spellings, wherever you are located and whatever your interest be, as a name bearer, researcher or genealogist, you are all welcome.

After years of studying the name and ancestry origins, it became apparent that there was very little resources or community related activities that were in use for the “family of names” or if they were even recognised as a family of names to which we belong.

There is a lack of definition available online and research seemed thin on the ground with seemingly many cases of inaccurate or inconsistent information available to those researching their lineage.

Although the names have a high frequency of use in Scotland, we know that this is only part of a much bigger story. The group will be focused on being inclusive for all, we have great coverage from Australia to the Caribbean and beyond, a true global family has emerged and continues to grow within our online members.

Our aim is to celebrate all things associated with the names and allow families to connect with the help of DNA and social media, connecting the ancient lines.

We would like to thank all admin team and moderator’s past and present for their input, we are continually looking to grow and strengthen the team and reach of the group, in particular people from variant spellings to represent the various lines which are all of equal importance.

Feel free to chat to the Facebook Group admin team where you will find a dedicated chat room or email thekiddsociety@gmail.com for enquiries, our linktree below should help you locate the various groups pages and resources.

<https://linktr.ee/KiddSociety>

Origins

“Were we from Scandinavian Viking decent, or the sellers of wood faggots, or simply frisky people named in middle English after young goats. Were we from Angus in Scotland or the Borders regions or both.

Our names are enigmatic with many stories of possible origins, but none were definitive, where were we from?

“This was the big question, and we have set our course to answer it”

The Family of Names

The Society is based around the inclusion of all the following branches of the “family of names” with the most common versions listed below, but not restricted to.

Kide, Kydd, Kyd, Kyde, Keddie, McKeddie, MacKeddie, Kiddie, McKiddie, MacKiddie, McKidd to name a few, there is a connection at the suspected source origin of the name. We know of many other variations for example, Kidman, Kidston, Kidwelly and all are welcome.

We suspect that there is over 40 variant spellings of various forms of the name. We know through this that the name is of very ancient origins, the antiquity of the name is apparent due to the amount of variations, this demonstrates its age. The scribes at times made recordings based on the sound rather than fixed spellings, which gives us some of the branches we see today.

The Kidd spelling is only used in the title of the society as it has become the most common used spelling. Many of the original spellings have phased out over time.

The society and pages will remain open to all variations of spellings, to allow everyone a chance to join the journey of ancestral discovery as the spellings were mostly altered over time and through scribe’s mistakes due to the nature of the name itself.

Evolving Society

As of July 2021, we made a start to getting the social media platform off the ground and formed the Facebook Group, which we received a great response on. Other media platforms have been parked at the moment until we are happy with the structure to move forward.

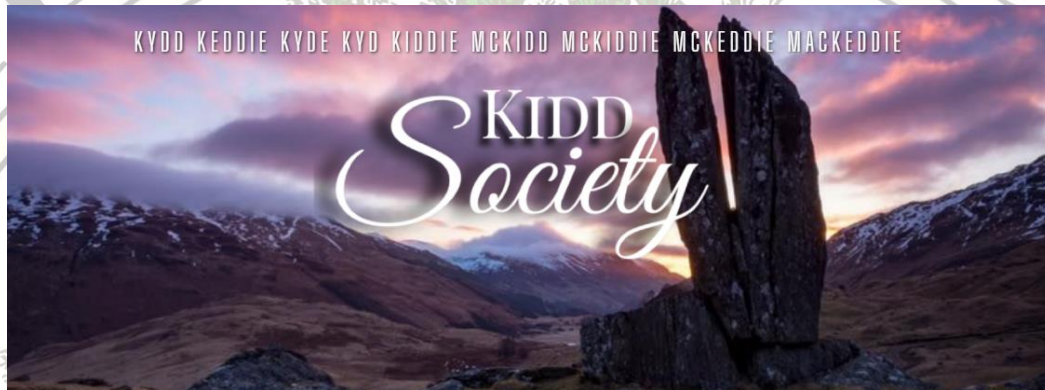
Finding a suitable structure, that fits the overall bigger picture is challenging and will take time, we are very much an evolving entity at the moment, so leaving some wiggle room is important for us to find what works best going forward. We are open to new ideas and encourage people to be heard should they want to make any suggestions to come forward with them.

We are making deliberate efforts to move away from the initial more Scottish based group to a broader version. This is to allow a more inclusive community for people to connect with their ancestry without any limitations. We would like to give some focus to attracting more members from all other countries and variations of spellings, so if you have any family based elsewhere send out the linktree and invite them into the community.

Our aspirations are to have a much larger influence from England, Northern and Republic of Ireland and Wales, the origin countries to allow DNA testing from overseas to trace ancestry and lines back to source. We would like to have members on the admin team to really strengthen the groups diversity from these areas. We expect as our conjecture on the origins of the names becomes more widespread then the perception of the Society and members will become clearer to all involved and understanding why it has been formatted in this style will become much more obvious as we go.

Our aim will be to create a community-based presence across social media platforms with focus on Facebook initially which will evolve soon, to provide a Kidd Society.

Kidd Society – Open Page delivering general information.



Kidd Connect – Closed Group with focus on genealogy and family finder. (This is the current group)



Clan Kidd Society – Open Page with focus on Kidd/Kydd's of Scottish Origin and the birth of the ancient Clan.



Happy 2nd Birthday Facebook Group

As of July 2021, we made a start to getting the social media platform off the ground and formed a group with worldwide members and admin team to support. The group is aimed at allowing people from various countries and regions to connect with their “family of names” lines. We have seen already some great examples of this working. This was the main motivating factor for the creation of the group after some family branches connected through the use of DNA testing.

On the 26th of October 2023 we passed our 2nd Birthday (unmarked) I may add as we were too busy to manage to muster up a celebration of any type. However, this is a significant date in relation to the Society. As of date of writing and publishing this edition, we have just surpassed a total number of 400 people on our group with some very good interactions and some fantastic stories of family members re connecting, this makes it all worthwhile.

There will be a section specific to this further through the document and going forward in every future edition, since this is one of the core functions of the group to allow people to connect from same family lines.

Several changes may be in the pipeline over the next period, the “Kidd Society Worldwide” Facebook Group name has changed to “Kidd Society” although the page address URL stays as “worldwide” which will remain an entirely open group for the reasons mentioned above.

There is a chat function used on the group page for “Admin Requests” which gives direct access to the Admin Team members, feel free to drop any suggestions or requests here and one of the admin team will get back to you.

Meet the Admin Team

The Facebook admin team consists of several members from various locations which also include some of the variant spellings of the names, to keep it a fresh approach, I must under pin the desire of the Society to include all other variant spellings within the admin team to have representation for each of the lines. If you are a Keddie, Kiddie or McKiddie or whatever your version and would like to help out, then get in touch, we want to hear from you and be part of the diversity of the group as it grows. We want a strong representation from all the lines. 2024 will see the start of the formation of a board team to support our work, with appointments being announced once confirmed.

Admin Team

Lisa Kidd (Aberdeen/Scotland)

Donald Kidd (Texas/USA)

Patricia Mc Kidd (Cipoletti/Argentina)

Bernie Pearson (Kentucky/USA)

Steve Kidd (Aberdeen/Scotland)

Peter Meeny (Victoria/Australia)

Danny Kidd (Torquay/England)

Amy Hall (Idaho/USA)

Governing Council

In early July a “Governing Council” was put into place to help steer the Society to meet its objectives and planned growth over the next period. With a dedicated team of five persons now in place and regular monthly meetings held connecting us globally, the council are hard at work to bring the Society to life and move forward with key objectives such as the creation and management of a website and start discussing possible a 2026 5th birthday gathering.

The Governing Council

Richard Kidd – (Aberdeen/Scotland) Founder/President

George Kidd – (Aberdeenshire/Scotland) Chairman

Angelo Kidd – (Virginia/USA) Vice Chairman

Dan Kerning – (NYC/USA) Director of Information & Technology

Brooke Baker – (Idaho/USA) Treasurer

Re-United in 2023

Angelo who is now onboard with us on the Governing Council as Vice Chairman who has been a member since early days on the page has reconnected with his family branches here online through the Society.

Angelo says,

Through Kidd Society Facebook Group and various DNA providers I have connected with relatives I never knew I had and have reconnected with ones I haven't “spoken” to in decades. It has been satisfying, to say the least, to be in touch with - because of being a member of Kidd Society - family members from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Caribbean as well as where I live now in Virginia, USA. Most satisfying is to share my discoveries with our group and that is we can trace without interruption the first Kidd of our branch who landed in Colonial Virginia in 1646 to the present. According to genealogist (and cousin Sandra Kidd) our Kidd branch is the only one that can do so without interruption. A final “aha” moment is when I discovered we moved to Albemarle County, Virginia which is within 15 or so miles of where my 4th and 5th Great Grandfathers once resided - basically next-door neighbours to Thomas Jefferson.

Fantastic picture Angelo & Family.



Genealogy Resources

We have built up working relationships with a couple of fantastic genealogy experts in the field and worked with others over the last period, at present this only extends as far as Scotland, but we want to build this beyond current restrictions and increase the reach of the group, if anyone has any recommendations from their own experience of these resources then we are happy to include them here for others to reference.

Scottish Indexes

Emma Maxwell (Scottish Indexes) has kindly offered her contact, tag Emma for a response in the group or go direct to FB or website. Emma has built an extensive business based in Scotland with access to archives never found online.

<https://www.facebook.com/scottish.indexes>

<https://www.scottishindexes.com>

Angus Archives

I must make a special thanks to Craig Pearson and his team at Angus Archives for the great work they undertook to get my family tree back on course and as far back as 1600's. This took some in depth work to unearth a signature from Forfar District Court cashiers book receipt records to bear fruits, from there we pieced things together.

<https://youtu.be/gfluZdW0d60?si=Puz7vJIQFHe8ngLj>

<https://angusalive.scot/local-family-history>

Online Images

With the use of social media came the need to obtain licenced photographic material for online use. There are some images that were secured, and official licenses purchased for the Society to use. These images were of the Fionn's Rock, known as the "Praying Hands of Mary" which are located near Glen Lyon in the Breadalbane District of Perthshire Scotland. This image has relevance to the society and the research which has been ongoing and will form an iconic type of image for our use. We have full licensed use of these images on all our society online platforms and merchandise if required. All rights for these images remain the property of Lee Fowlie Images.



Name Origins

We have been working on a name origin conjecture paper that would classify as a thesis case to put forward a strong argument for the origins of the family names, which include all the variants and spellings.

This work has been ongoing now for the last few years and has been partly DNA inspired and tracing genealogy and ancestry has played a part to spark the searches. We have a total experience of over 25 years' worth of combined research of the name and origins.

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

We are happy to confirm that these initial works have been completed and are now complete through the review cycle with feedback from two of our chosen panel who will run their eye over things. This is a mammoth task at best to try and prove the ancient lineage. What I would like to mention here is that no other family history that I am aware of has underwent this process, they simply state what they think and get on with business, we on the other hand want to challenge this at a high level due to the confidence of our research and findings to date. We have now completed the 1st Revision of the Origin Statement conjecture, and it looks and sounds very good. The official release of this paper may well form part of our planned website when the time comes. The work continues further detailed studies, we would like to thank Dr Carly & Oisin for their time and efforts to feedback on the detail.

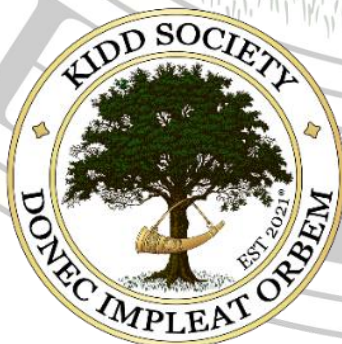
Dr Carly McNamara**Dr Oisin Plumb**

The reviews were completed springtime 2024 with no challenges to the conjecture, meaning this was well received.

[Society Logo History](#)

In December 2021 we began work on a specific logo for use on social media and society-based information. The logo as shown on the front page has been taken from one of the original Kidd coats of arms. This is not meant to be a full coat of arms but a simplified version that references the original to signify a connection. The Tree & Horn has formed the central icon of the logo which was then seen in many of the branches of the family name thereafter. The Boar's Head has been added to the horn to signify the story behind the COA first issued.

With recent review of the structure in mind, then the COA has been changed slightly removing the wording DONEC IMPLEAT ORBEM which was specific to the Scottish based Kyd family to ensure it is more generic now for its use now as a more inclusive Society for all from all countries. We will retain the picture detail for now as this is the most common feature through all the Kidd COAs to date. Our publication will be known as "The Tree & Horn" to retain this link to the Kidd families in our new worldwide outlook.



Kidd DNA Project

Over recent times DNA has become a very popular subject and venture for people to undertake, we currently have a “Kidd” and variant spellings surname project which has been attached to the family tree DNA website based in America. There are currently 213 active testers in the project with more needed from Scotland and England to establish the lineages prior to transatlantic travels.

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

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

For further details contact us direct here or via the website address above to the project co coordinators.

Website Design

The Society has plans for further development and launch of a website, at first this was proposed to be launched in 2022, however thoughts and changes to the direction means we need a re-think, as things have developed the need for the website and most importantly the functionality of the site are still under review and development.

This needs to be assessed fully to capture the requirements of the scope to design and build a site suitable to take all aspects of the Society and origins forward to the wider audience. We do not want to rush into releasing the website until we have fully reviewed the potential scope to be covered on the site and a full review of costs and funding required to support the site will be completed before action to design the site is complete. We look to potential users to have an input into the design and put forward suggestions on what they need for us to build something that is of maximum use to the community.

We have attached separately a questionnaire sheet designed to capture your thoughts and feedback on the potential site specification and design. We would appreciate your time to answer this and send back to us to help with the site design and usage.

The current time scale around this is still not clear at present but we will update everyone prior to its launch dates.

Pardon Captain Kidd Movement

What Is This Movement?

The Pardon Captain Kidd Movement is a movement working towards helping the famous seventeenth century Scottish privateer receive a pardon for crimes he did not commit.

Over 300 years ago, Captain William Kidd was hanged for piracy and became one of history's most notorious villains. During his trial, the key paperwork he requested to show before his jury – the evidence that would have disputed his guilt of piracy – conveniently disappeared.

This evidence was the French passes that he took from his captured ships, making his prizes legal captures under his privateering commission - a commission that was granted by King William III to capture any pirate and French allied ships.

Many centuries later, these passes were discovered to be misfiled in the Public Record Office in London and prove that Captain Kidd should not have been sentenced to death for piracy.

The Pardon Captain Kidd Movement is working to bring this evidence to light and petition that Captain Kidd be granted a pardon – helping rewrite history that he was a privateer to the very end, honouring his commission.

All of the Pardon Captain Kidd Movement's sources for the petition can be read on the official website: pardonwilliamkidd.com

The Pardon Captain Kidd Movement History

The original movement to help Captain Kidd receive a pardon started under Noel Young, which inspired this movement to continue where he left off. In November 2022, The Pardon Captain Kidd Movement was started by Anita Sparrow, a nautical and pirate history hobbyist.

Sources, evidence and a petition letter were written up and sent to Buckingham Palace. Since then, this movement gathered public interest and individuals to sign their own petition letters, requesting King Charles to provide Captain Kidd with a royal pardon. These letters were sent to Buckingham Palace twice each month for over one calendar year until a response was received. Other avenues that this movement has submitted a formal request on behalf of Captain Kidd is the Ministry of Justice with an application for a Royal Prerogative of Mercy. The next course of action for the Pardon Captain Kidd Movement is to submit their petition to the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC).

All of the Pardon Captain Kidd Movement's progress and updates can be found on the [official site](#) or on any of the movement's [social media](#).

Support the Pardon Captain Kidd Movement

During the last response from the Ministry of Justice, one of the reasons for denying the petition was that they claimed there was not enough public interest to make it worth their limited budget and resources – therefore, the movement can only benefit from being shown public support. The Pardon

Captain Kidd Movement has many social media pages to follow and show support as well as posts to engage with:

[PardonCaptainKidd @ Instagram](#)

[PardonCaptainKidd @ tumblr](#)

[PardonCptnKidd @ X.com](#)

The Pardon Captain Kidd Movement also has a [GoFundMe.com page](#). All donations are used to fund the purchases of letter supplies, postage and other means to mail physical petitions.

And last, but certainly not least of all, you can contribute your own name on a future letter that will be used to petition for the pardon of Captain Kidd. To do so, simply fill out our contact form on our site [pardonwilliamkidd.com](#). We request that you use a full name, however, you can specify in the form if you want your name to remain anonymous on all Pardon Captain Kidd social media and posts. This is the **most effective and helpful thing** you can do to support this movement! The more names we have on these petitions, the better we can make our case on behalf of Captain Kidd.



Clan Kidd Society

In late June 2024 the birth of the “Clan” page on Facebook was initiated. The Clan page will focus on the Kidd/Kydd/Kyd name only and be specific to this spelling variants, unlike the main Kidd Society pages and the family of names. All are welcomed to follow and participate in the Clan development and watch as this takes shape. Anyone who has an interest in Scottish roots or ancestry are welcome to participate as we attempt to take this to the next level. The family has never been an official Clan as such within the Scottish Clan framework with no official Chief of the name, this lead to the Kidd tartan being claimed by McPherson. This is an area we would like to look into further over time to see what possibilities may lie ahead for us, we will be working closely with the Lord Lyon Court in Edinburgh, they are the issuers of Scottish Arms.

The Clan Crest and motto were reproduced in Kidd Tartan (Lochcarron 16oz strome) with the words “Donec Impleat Orbem” emblazoned on the Clan Crest Buckle. These items along with others will be available soon for worldwide shipment through the Clan page and online outlets.

We have recently been working with Electric Scotland to add detail to the dedicated Kidd/Kydd page which we will be building on in time. <https://electricScotland.com/webclans/htol/kidd.html>



Clan KIDD

ARMS

A silver shield with a green tree and on the branches a gold bugle horn; on a blue chief, three silver stars.

CREST MOTTO

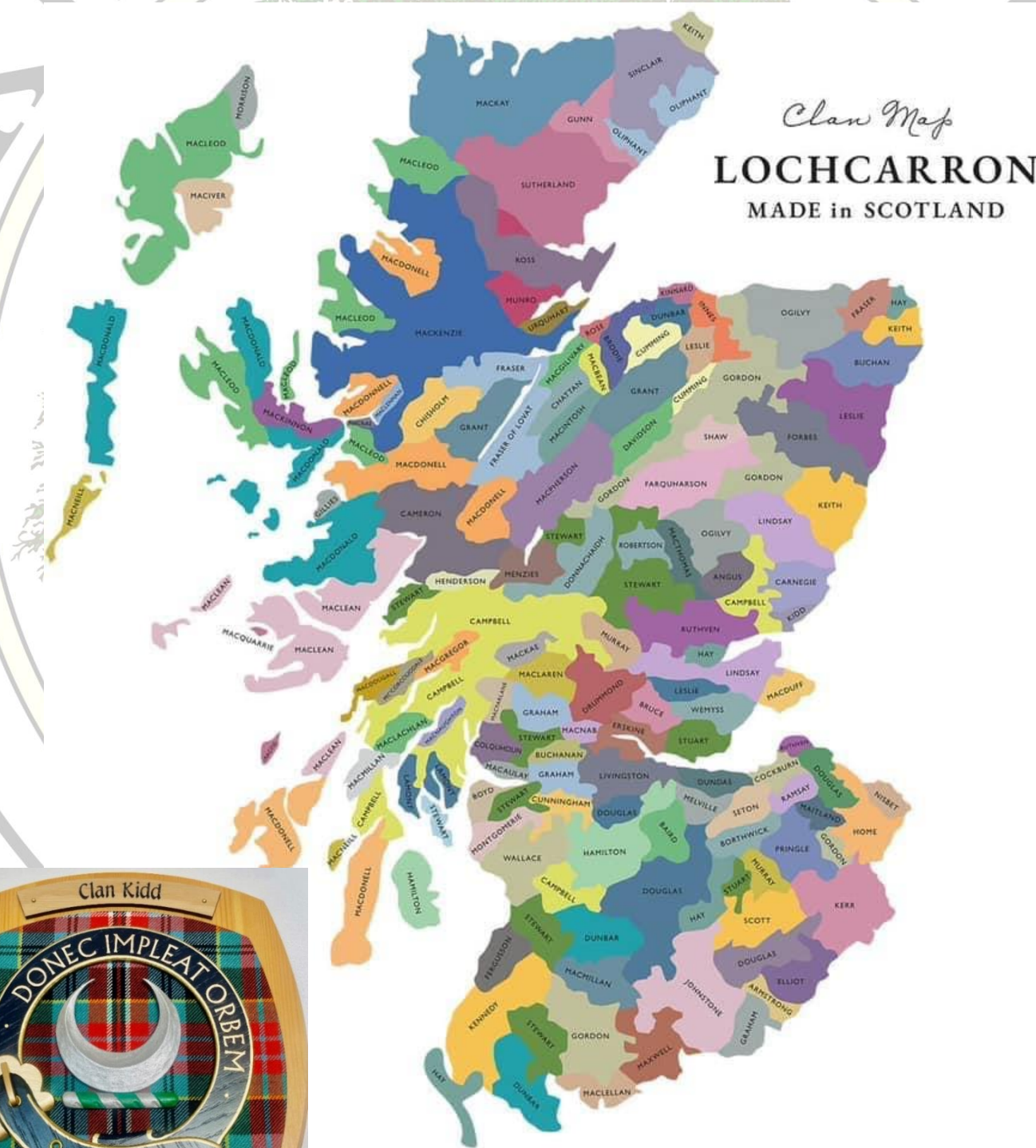
Not available

Donec impleat orbem (Until it fills its orb).

KID, KIDD, KYD, KYDD. An old Angus surname in Dundee and Arbroath. (1) It may be from OE. *Cydd(a)* or *Cydd(i)*. Cf. Gilchrist Kide who held land near river Nethan, 1180-1203. (2) The name, however, is more probably a diminutive of Christopher. Robertus Kyd de Dundee is mentioned in 1357. The seal of Andrew Kyde is appended to instrument of 1473. Sande Kid and Thome Knd ‘callit Balty Kid’ were summoned to attend an inquest at Forfar, 1450, and John Kyd and Nychol Kyd appear in Brechin in same year.

Cristiane Kydde, son and heir of Roger Cissor, held part of the land of Langforgrunde in the sheriffdom of Perth, 1470. Alexander Kyd held a land in Aberdeen, 1492. The Kyd family appears repeatedly in the burgh records of Dundee from 1520 up to the present day. Alexander Kid was ‘chanoun of our Soueran Lordis chapell’ in Stirling, 1530. William Kyd was burgess of Perth, 1563, Robert Kyd was protioner of Nethermaines, 1571, and William Kyd was retoured heir of Robert Kyd, son of Master James Kyd of Craigie, in lands in the parish of Alloa (*Inquis.*).

This map was recently released by Lochcarron the tartan manufacturer to show the lands of Craigue in the Angus area near Dundee as the Kidd Clan lands, these are defiantly correctly located to some of the name bearers as far back as the 15th century, however we will look to further our understanding of the timings of any movements around AD1100 (Norman Conquest) The Kidd name may have been present here in the Angus area for many centuries prior to this time or there may have been some migration here from Borders areas. One thing for sure we know the Kidd/Kydd/Kid/Kyd name has been very frequent in this area for a long time. More will be revealed as we improve our understanding through modern day DNA testing provided by our partners the Kidd Project on ftDNA site.



Setting the record straight on Kidd Tartan

It has been a contentious subject for centuries since its concept design was carried out by Wilson's of Bannockburn in 1790 one of the main weavers of military tartans in the country, at that time. Key Pattern Book (KPB) was published with the exact details of weave to be used which are retained in the "National Records of Scotland" in Edinburgh.

The Kidd tartan goes largely unknown by many of the name themselves, due to a few factors the original pattern was renamed in 1822 and the confusion over which version is Kidd or Caledonia which it was also known as.

We decided to have the records recovered and investigate to shed some further light on the subject.

The original KPB was referenced for the details we have acquired; the book which was re published in 1985 by Peter MacDonald. (Tartan Historian)

When it was first produced by Wilson's it was known as simply pattern No 43 as were most tartans of that time, number rather than Clan or family, most became Clan affiliated around this period in the 1800's, however some Clans did own the patterns at this point already, there was a shift or process underway of Clans and families owning the patterns or putting their names against them.

No 43 Kidd, STR (Scottish Tartan Register) 1409 or Caledonia as it was also known is one of three others very similar in design and colour, all named Caledonia as shown below. No #43 was known as the Kidd sett. Both other patterns No 3 & No 155 have subtle differences as you can see.

Wilsons Caledonia range of Tartans



In 1822 there was a visit to Scotland by King George IV where there was a rush for Clans to register tartans, at that time the Clan McPherson Chieftain took a liking to the Kidd No 43 Tartan, with no official Kidd Clan or Chief to contest this then it was adopted by Clan McPherson, from then it was STR Ref No (1410) and sold as McPherson and given a new STR 1410 number.

Extracts from the 1819 Key Pattern Book (KPB) and Pittendrich MacGillivray's "Tartans of the Highland Clans" were received from the National Records of Scotland archives, where they had been stored and recorded from the original manufacturer of the No #43 Kidd or Caledonia tartan.



Lot 109
Attributed to Joseph Bartholomew Kidd, R.S.A. (1808-1889)

A darker past to the Kidd Tartan was that it was being produced and exported mainly to the West Indies, the shipping of the Tartan mainly went to sugar plantations in Jamaica, where Mr Thomas Patrick Kidd was a merchant in Falmouth at the time and owned land in the Parish of Trelawny.

His elder brother made several regular visits to the area, he was a distinguished artist of the period and created many works some of which are retained in Jamaican National Museums.

Description: A sugar plantation in Jamaica.

Marchioness of Huntly's do	38
Tartan of Ross	39
Menzies Tartan	39
Farquharson do	41
Chisholm do	42
Mac Neill do	42
<hr/>	
MERINO, or SOFT TARTAN	
No 1 Page 5 4 . . No 2	54
- 3 5 5 . . - 5	56
- 4 5 5 . .	
No 73 or Prince Charles	57
No 43 or Kidd	57
Royal Stuart	59
Mac Duff	58

The tartan was mainly produced for a Mr Kidd from the Angus area. We would suspect that if there are many Jamaican cousins who still bear the Kidd name this may have been partly due to this time and the associations to the plantations and work there.

Over the years the Kidd tartan has been changed by many weavers and mills offering slight changes to the original sett pattern.

The Society has engaged with the National Museum of Scotland to retrieve the original woven pattern of the Kidd Tartan. Several of the ancient pattern books from Wilsons and other sources have been pulled from the archives to compare the differences between the Kidd No 43 (1409)

The tartan riddell continues as we have now found 3 different pattern thread counts listed all claiming to be the original pattern.

Many of the online companies have copied patterns listed on various sites claiming to be the Kidd No 43 pattern which are incorrect, with all this in mind we have a job ahead to set the record straight, that's not to mention the multiple coats of arms out there that have been mixed up into the bargain.

Research is ongoing and will be published at a later date.

1790 example of Kidd No 43



2024 example of Kidd



We made direct contact with Clan McPherson to inform them of the history of the Tartan which was well received, they had no idea of the history and that it was Kidd prior to 1822. We hope in the future to have the endorsement of Clan Chieftain Jamie McPherson on our mission to re assert our claim to the pattern once we have managed to collect and review all the data.

The below images are saved against many of the official tartan registries as Kidd No 43. So you can see from original samples to registered and what we have on sale today, there are nearly as many variants to this as we have to the family of names.

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

STR Registered example of Kidd 1409**Mailing List**

We are continually updating our mailing list to include as many individuals, research and family history societies and services as possible, if you want your address added or removed from our distribution list then please contact the Kidd Society info address.

Please also note that we are keen to include any additional material from any variant spellings such as Keddie etc. This is not limited to Kidd only.

thekidsociety@gmail.com