SCOTTISH CLAN CONNECTION
NEWSletter
CEANGAL CHLANN NA H-ALBA

Vol. 1

Dates

- Australian Celtic Festival at Glen Innes -Thursday, May 4, 2023 5:00 PM - Sunday, May 7, 2023 6:00 PM
- Smoky Mountain Highland Games- Saturday, May 20, 2023 8:00 AM - Sunday, May 21, 2023 5:00 PM
- Victoria Highland Games & Celtic Festival-Saturday, May 20, 2023 8:00 AM - Sunday, May 21, 2023 5:00 PM
- Scottish Fest Costa Mesa California Saturday, May 27, 2023 9:30 AM - Sunday, May 28, 2023 5:30 PM
- Berry Celtic Festival Saturday, May 27, 2023 9:30 AM 4:00 PM - Berry Showgrounds, NSW, Australia
- Scottish Fest Orange County California -Saturday, May 27, 2023 9:30 AM - Sunday, May 28, 2023 5:30 PM
- Milwaukee Highland Games Saturday, June 3, 2023 9:00 AM 9:00 PM
- Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival Saturday, June 3, 2023 - 8:00 AM 4:00 PM - Central Park, Wingham, NSW, Australia

Remembering Menzies Clan Chief Captain David R. Steuart Menzies

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It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Menzies Clan Chief, Captain David R. Steuart Menzies of Menzies, who was born in 1935 and passed away in 2023 at the age of 88. Captain Menzies was a well-

and supportive member of the Menzies Clan Society Council and had a keen interest in the society's activities. He was a proud representative of his clan, and contributions to Scottish Culture will be greatly extend missed. We heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones during this difficult time, and may his memory be a source of comfort and inspiration to all who knew him.

50 Years of the Clan Campbell Association: Celebrating a Rich Heritage

The Clan Campbell Association is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, marking a half-century of promoting the history, culture, and traditions of the Campbell clan. Founded in 1973, the association has grown into a global network of members from all over the world, with branches in countries including the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.



Throughout its history, the Clan Campbell Association has played an important role in preserving and promoting the rich heritage of the Campbell clan. This includes sponsoring research, publishing historical materials, and organizing events and gatherings to bring members of the clan together. The association has also supported a range of charitable causes, including the restoration of historic sites and the preservation of traditional crafts. the Clan Campbell Association celebrates its 50th anniversary, members are reflecting on the past and looking towards the future. The organization remains committed to preserving and promoting the traditions of the Campbell clan, and to fostering connections among members the global Campbell community.

Clan MacGregor VS. Clan Colquhoun Famous Clan Feud

The feud between the MacGregor and Colquhoun clans began in the early 16th century when members of the MacGregor clan started raiding Colquhoun lands, causing tension between the two clans. Over the years, the raids intensified, resulting in the death of around 140 men, including unarmed civilians.

In 1602, the Colquhoun chief appealed to James VI of Scotland, who allowed the clan to carry arms, leading to further tension. Duncan MacGregor led a raid on Colquhoun territory, which resulted in the killing of two men and the theft of livestock. The Colquhoun clan appealed to the King again, who granted them the power to apprehend the MacGregor's.

In 1603, a large group of MacGregor's, along with members of Clan Cameron, entered Colquhoun lands. The two sides met at Glen Fruin, where the MacGregor's surrounded and divided the Colquhoun's, forcing them into disorder and ultimately leading to their defeat. The King then dismantled the MacGregor clan, abolished their name, and punished any member who did not renounce their name with death.

Over 180 years later, in 1784, the MacGregor's were allowed to reclaim their clan name and were restored to British citizenship. The feud was officially put



to an end in the early 19th century when the chiefs of the two clans shook hands at the location of the Battle of Glen Fruin, and Sir John Murray MacGregor danced a highland reel with Lady Colquhoun.

Historic Clan Castles of Scotland

Knock Castle

Isle of Skye, Scotland

Knock Castle, also known as Caisteal Chamuis, is a fascinating historical site located on the Isle of Skye in Scotland. The castle was originally constructed by the Clan MacLeod in the 15th century, but was later captured by the Clan MacDonald. The MacDonalds remodeled the castle in 1596, but it was eventually abandoned in 1689 and has since fallen into a state of decay.



The castle's history is closely tied to the rival clans that used it over the years. The Clan MacLeod, one of the most famous Highland clans in Scotland, originally built the castle as a stronghold in the 15th century. They used the castle as a base for their raids on neighboring clans, and as a symbol of their power and influence in the region.

However, the castle was eventually captured by the Clan MacDonald, who remodeled it in 1596 to better suit their needs. The MacDonalds were one of the most powerful clans in the Scottish Highlands, and they used the castle as a base for their own raids and as a symbol of their own dominance in the region.

Despite the castle's eventual abandonment and decay, it remains an important symbol of the region's history and the rivalries between its various clans. Visitors to the site can still see the remnants of the castle's original construction, as well as the changes made by the MacDonalds during their time there.

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Robert Boyd of Kilmarnock Famous Scottish Clansmen

Robert Boyd of Kilmarnock is a significant figure in Scottish history and an important ally of Robert the Bruce during the Scottish Wars of Independence. Born in the late 13th century in the Ayrshire region of Scotland, Boyd came from a family with a long history of involvement in Scottish politics and warfare. His father had been a supporter of William Wallace, and Boyd himself became a close ally of Robert the Bruce in 1306, just as Bruce was fighting to secure the Scottish throne.

Boyd's support for Bruce was a critical factor in solidifying Bruce's claim to the throne and gave him a powerful ally in the Ayrshire region. Throughout the Wars of Independence, Boyd fought alongside Bruce in a number of battles, including the decisive Battle of Bannockburn in 1314. He was also instrumental in securing a peace treaty with England in 1323,

which allowed Scotland to maintain its independence and regain control of key territories.

After the Wars of Independence, Boyd became a powerful lord and advisor to the Scottish crown. He was granted lands and titles



and served as an ambassador and negotiator for the Scottish king. However, Boyd was also involved in feuds and conflicts with rival clans, particularly the Montgomeries and the Hamiltons.

Today, Boyd's legacy is remembered in Scotland as a key figure in the Scottish Wars of Independence and a powerful lord and advisor to the Scottish crown. His contributions to Scottish politics and culture helped to shape the course of Scottish history

Scottish Clan Myths and Legend

The Outlaw Murray, Scotland's Robin Hood

The Outlaw Murray, also known as William of the Kirk, is a legendary figure in Scottish history and literature. Living during the reign of James V of Scotland, the Outlaw Murray was the lord of Ettrick Forest, an area of dense woodland and rugged terrain in southern Scotland. From his stronghold in the forest, he waged a guerrilla war against the Scottish Crown, attacking travellers and traders who passed through his domain.



Despite his reputation as an outlaw and rebel, the Outlaw Murray was admired by many Scots for his courage, cunning, and generosity. He was said to be a Robin Hood-like figure who stole from the rich and gave to the poor, as well as a champion of Scottish independence who resisted English influence in Scotland.

The legend of the Outlaw Murray has been celebrated in Scottish ballads and poetry for centuries, most famously in the "Ballad of the Outlaw Murray." This ballad tells the story of his daring raids, epic battles, and eventual defeat at the hands of the Scottish Crown.

While the historical accuracy of the legend is uncertain, the story of the Outlaw Murray has endured for centuries and continues to inspire Scots today. The figure of the rebel who stands up against authority and defends the rights of the people remains a powerful symbol of Scottish identity and resistance.

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The Battle of Drumchatt, 1501

Famous Clan Battle

The Battle of Drumchatt, a disputed event that allegedly took place in 1501 near Strathpeffer, Scotland, is a significant part of Scottish history and folklore. The conflict is said to have been fought between the Clan Mackenzie and the Clan Munro, with the Mackenzies claiming victory. The details of the battle have been passed down through the centuries, though they remain a subject of debate among historians.



According to one account, William Munro, 12th Baron of Foulis, led a group of 700 or 900 Munros, Dingwalls, and MacCullochs in an attack on Mackenzie lands, taking cattle and causing destruction. However, on their return journey, they were ambushed by the Mackenzies, who were led by Hector Roy Mackenzie of Gairloch and numbered around 140 or 180. The Mackenzies are said to have been victorious in the battle, cutting off the heads of 19 of their opponents and causing the rest to flee.

The lack of any mention of the Battle of Drumchatt in contemporary historical documents raises questions about its existence. Additionally, the fact that the earliest written accounts of the battle come from Mackenzie sources has led some to question the accuracy of the account. However, the story has become a significant part of the history and folklore of the Clan Mackenzie and Clan Munro, with the conflict referenced in Gaelic verse and the subject of numerous stories and accounts.

If the Mackenzies were indeed victorious, the battle may have solidified their hold on the region and helped to establish their dominance over their rivals. Meanwhile, the Munros may have suffered a significant blow to their reputation and influence.

Scottish Clan Artifacts

The Black Book of Taymouth

The Black Book of Taymouth is a remarkable historical manuscript that provides a wealth of information about the Clan Campbell. The book is believed to have been written by Sir Colin Campbell of Glenorchy, the clan chief at the time, in the 16th century. It has played a vital role in preserving the history and culture of the clan, and remains an important symbol of Scotland's rich cultural heritage.

The book is an intriguing mix of Gaelic and Latin text, featuring legends, genealogies, and stories about the Campbell clan. Many of these tales offer fascinating insights into the culture and beliefs of the clan, including stories of magical powers and heroic acts of bravery.

One of the most famous legends in the book is that of the Campbell's Cat, which warns of an enemy attack, leading to a Campbell victory. The book also recounts the bravery of Campbell warriors in battles and feuds, including the battle of Red Ford against their long-time rivals, the



Macdonalds.

In addition to the legends, the book contains valuable genealogical information about the Campbell clan and their relationships with other clans. This information has been instrumental in understanding the history and culture of Scotland.

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Featured Clan Crest



CREST: A raven Sable, beaked and

membered Gules

MOTTO: Salus per Christum TRANSLATION: Salvation through Christ

The Abernethy clan of non-Gaelic Pictish origin played a significant role in Scottish history, rising to prominence in the 13th century. They were involved in the murder of Duncan, Earl of Fife, and supported the Jacobite cause. The clan has a distinctive crest and coat of arms, and is represented by the Chief of the Name and Arms of Abernethy, currently Alexander Abernethy of that Ilk.

About Us:

our Scottish clan newsletter is a publication dedicated to exploring the rich history and culture of the Scottish clans. As a community of proud Scots, we are passionate about preserving and sharing our heritage with the world. We are committed to celebrating the unique character and identity of each Scottish clan, highlighting their achievements, and exploring their place in Scottish history. Whether you are a member of a clan, a descendant, or simply a lover of Scottish culture, our newsletter has something for you.