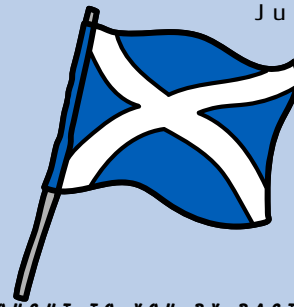


Newsletter



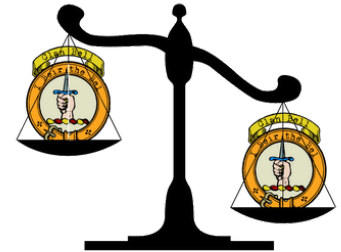
Clan Bell vs. Clan Bell: Can a clan name be trademarked?

This pivotal question is now before a federal court in Florida. Clan Bell North America has filed a lawsuit against the Clan Bell Society for trademark infringement and unfair competition under the Lanham Act. The dispute began when Clan Bell North America applied to trademark "CLAN BELL" and "CLAN BELL NORTH AMERICA" on February 15 and 16, 2023, followed by a lawsuit on February 21, 2023.

The Clan Bell Society argues that clan names, being kindred groups people are born into, should not be privately owned trademarks. They contend that clan societies, which are voluntarily joined, are distinct from the clan names themselves. If Clan Bell North America succeeds, it could set a dangerous precedent, affecting all Scottish clans and potentially hindering their community activities. Clan Bell Society is actively opposing this trademark application through

legal channels. They call for support from the Scottish community to fund their legal defense, emphasizing that they are a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

The case, "Clan Bell-Clan Bell North America, Inc. v. Clan Bell Society, Inc. and Michael A. Bell," is being heard in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, Pensacola Division, under case number 3:23-cv-04233.



<https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-fight-to-preserve-clan-names>



Scottish Clan Connect First Year Anniversary Yearbook:

May 2023 - April 2024 Hardcover – April 23, 2024

by Bagtown Clans (Author), Colby Threed (Author)

[See all formats and editions](#)

Delve into the heart of Scottish heritage with the "First Year Anniversary Yearbook" from Bagtown Clan Publishing, an all-encompassing chronicle that spans May 2023 to April 2024. This meticulously curated volume captures the essence of Scottish clan history, featuring engaging articles that celebrate the rich culture and tumultuous feuds of Scotland's storied clans. From the historic feuds between Clan MacGregor and Clan Colquhoun to the tales of the famous Scottish raider, Johnnie Armstrong, each story is steeped in drama and tradition.

Readers will explore sections on notable clan chiefs and their legacies, like Captain David R. Steuart Menzies, and significant events including the Lord Reay inauguration. The yearbook includes detailed accounts of the restoration of historical buildings such as Clan MacKenzie's Fairburn Tower and unfolds myths and legends like that of the Fairy Flag of Clan MacLeod.

This edition also highlights the ongoing efforts to preserve and digitize vital clan documents and artifacts, such as the ambitious "Lyon in Mourning" digitization project, bringing to light new insights into the Jacobite uprisings.

[View more details about this yearbook on Amazon, Kindle, Google Books, and a comprehensive list of Scottish Highland](#)

[Read more](#)

Restoring Clan Montgomery's Historic Dower House

North Ayrshire Council has approved an additional £263,420 from the Irvine Common Good fund to support the ongoing conservation of Seagate Castle in Irvine. This funding is part of a comprehensive initiative to stabilize and preserve the historic site near the River Irvine.

The conservation project began with an initial allocation but faced delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With work now resumed, significant progress has been made, including design, investigation, and preparatory efforts. The revised project scope encompasses full conservation works as detailed by conservation architects, structural protections



to ensure stability, and new underground drainage systems. Seagate Castle, located in North Ayrshire, has a rich history as a stronghold, town house, and later, a dower house for the Montgomery Clan. Overlooking Irvine's oldest street, it played a crucial role in protecting the route between the town and the old harbour at Seagatefoot.

Originally a wooden structure from

the 12th century, the castle was rebuilt in stone in the 1360s and further remodeled around 1565 by Hugh Montgomerie, the 3rd Earl of Eglinton. It served as a grand town house for the Montgomeries, a significant Scottish clan.

Seagate Castle is also historically significant due to the reputed visit of Mary, Queen of Scots, in 1563, an event celebrated annually during the Marymass festival in Irvine.

The current conservation project, bolstered by the latest council funding, ensures that Seagate Castle will be preserved for future generations, highlighting the council's commitment to protecting Irvine's rich heritage and historical legacy.

The Loch Lomond Initiative: Uniting Scottish Clans and Preserving Heritage

The Loch Lomond Initiative, spearheaded by Michael Lloyd-Stern in early 2016, stands as a monumental effort to unite various Scottish clans with a shared heritage. This initiative was birthed from the vision of fostering camaraderie, increasing membership, and promoting Scottish traditions among the global diaspora.

Michael Lloyd-Stern, the Executive Director of the Clan Colquhoun Society, envisioned the Loch Lomond Initiative as a platform to revitalize interest in clan memberships, particularly among younger generations. Recognizing that the average age of clan society members was around 70, Lloyd-Stern aimed to inject new life into these organizations by transforming traditional rivalries into fun and engaging events.

The initiative encourages participation in a range of activities that celebrate Scottish heritage. Central to its efforts are events like the Highland Games and the "Kilts and Cowboy Boots" gatherings. These events, held in various locations including San Antonio, Texas, bring together clans such as Colquhoun, MacFarlane, MacEwen, Graham, and Buchanan. They feature traditional games, whisky tastings, cultural competitions, and opportunities for members to connect and celebrate their shared history.

A major highlight of the initiative is the 2024 Fundraising Campaign led by the Clan Colquhoun International Society (CCIS). The campaign aims to bolster the presence of Clan Colquhoun and other participating clans through increased

attendance at international events, enhanced social media engagement, and the future opening of the Clan Colquhoun Museum in Luss, Loch Lomond. Various patron levels, from \$500 to \$50,000, offer unique rewards, including VIP experiences and opportunities to meet clan leaders. The initiative is particularly newsworthy due to its ambitious plans for 2024. The upcoming year marks the 10th anniversary of the CCIS as an international society. This milestone is celebrated with a series of high-profile events, such as the Central Florida Highland Games and the Grandfather Mountain Games. Additionally, the initiative's integration into the San Antonio Scottish Games and Festival, where clan members compete in traditional sports and cultural activities, highlights its growing influence and success in engaging younger audiences.

Key figures in the initiative include Sir Malcolm Colquhoun, Chief of Clan Colquhoun, and Patrick Colquhoun, Younger of Luss, who actively support and participate in these events. Their involvement, along with that of other clan leaders, underscores the commitment to preserving and promoting Scottish heritage. The initiative also gains significant media attention, with the BBC covering events like the installation of the new Chief of Buchanan, the first in over 300 years.

The Loch Lomond Initiative continues to expand its reach, drawing together families and clans from Scotland, the United States, and around the world. It stands as a testament to the enduring spirit of Scottish clans and their dedication to preserving their rich cultural legacy for future generations.

By fostering a sense of community and shared history, the Loch Lomond Initiative not only honors the past but also ensures a vibrant future for Scottish heritage. Whether through participating in friendly clan battles, attending historical tours, or supporting the fundraising efforts, members contribute to a living legacy that spans continents and generations.

For more information and to support the initiative, visit the [Clan Colquhoun International Society's website](#) and become a part of this remarkable journey.



Clan Innes vs. Clan Dunbar Famous Clan Feud

The 16th-century feud between the Innes and Dunbar clans reached a critical point that prompted Aberdeen citizens to petition the crown for intervention. The conflict began with a notable incident on New Year's Day in 1554, when 100 Clan Innes members stormed Elgin Cathedral during evening prayers, aiming to kill Alexander Dunbar, Prior of Pluscarden, and David Dunbar, Dean of Moray. The Dunbars, led by James Dunbar, responded with seventy men, resulting in a bloody and inconclusive clash inside the cathedral, infamously dubbed "the Bloody Vespers."

A second major conflict occurred in 1577 when Robert Innes of Invermarkie led an attack on Alexander Dunbar's residence. The Innes men

brutally assaulted Dunbar's servant, vandalized the property, and critically wounded Alexander. Tragically, Alexander's 13-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, was fatally stabbed by John Innes. The Dunbars appealed to the crown for justice, leading to the indictment and fugitive status of the Innes attackers. The Innes group, while on the run, stole livestock from the Dean of Carsehillcock, prompting the King to authorize regional sheriffs to hunt them down with extreme measures.

To resolve the feud, an arbitration panel, including George Bishop of Moray and Robert Munro of Fowlis, was convened at Cluny Hill near



Forres. The arbitrators ruled that the Dunbars must stay east of Kilbuyak's cairn and the Innes clan out of Forres, metaphorically comparing them to "wild cats" needing separation to prevent further violence.

Historic Clan Castles of Scotland



Aberdeen Castle

Castlegate, Aberdeen

Aberdeen Castle was a medieval fortification located in Aberdeen, Scotland. It is believed to have been destroyed by King Robert the Bruce in 1308 during the Wars of Scottish Independence. The Wars of Scottish Independence were a series of military conflicts fought between the Kingdom



of Scotland and the Kingdom of England in the late 13th and early 14th centuries. The conflicts arose due to the English attempt to assert their authority over Scotland and the Scottish resistance to English rule.

Prior to its destruction, the castle had been surrendered to the English in 1295 and was used by English troops as part of their efforts to suppress the east coast of Scotland. However, in 1297, the Scots, led by William Wallace, retook the castle and drove out the English. The castle later came under the control of John Balliol, the Scottish King.

The city of Aberdeen is said to have adopted the motto "Bon Accord" after the password used to initiate Bruce's final attack on the castle. This motto is still used by the city today.

The castle was "slighted," which means it was deliberately damaged or destroyed in order to render it useless as a defensive structure. This was a common practice during times of conflict in order to prevent enemy forces from using captured fortifications.

The Abduction of Jean Fraser

The abduction of Jean Fraser in 1744 is a dramatic tale that captivates with its blend of scandal, legal drama, and social intrigue in 18th-century Inverness. Jean, the daughter of Baillie William Fraser, a respected Elder and magistrate, was forcibly taken by William Fraser, a merchant from Fort-Augustus. This audacious act occurred under the cover of night, with William Fraser and a band of men breaking into her home and carrying her off to Stratherrick, where he married her against her family's wishes.

The abduction caused an uproar, reflecting the intense social dynamics and the importance of family honor in that era. Jean's family, particularly her mother, Jean Kinnaird, vehemently opposed the marriage and pursued legal action. The case quickly escalated, involving the Justiciary Court and prominent figures like Lord Lovat, who, despite his influential status, refused to condone the abduction. The legal proceedings highlighted the significant consequences of such a bold act, threatening William Fraser and his accomplices with severe penalties.



Norman Macleod of Macleod, a powerful figure with considerable influence, was eventually called upon to mediate. Despite the prolonged legal battle and financial strain, an arrangement was finally reached in 1745, with significant costs incurred by both parties.

Despite the scandal, Jean Fraser demonstrated remarkable resilience, living well into the 19th century and managing financial and property matters. Her story, intertwined with her father's prominent role in Inverness, offers a riveting glimpse into the social and legal complexities of the time.

Scottish Clan Myths and Legends



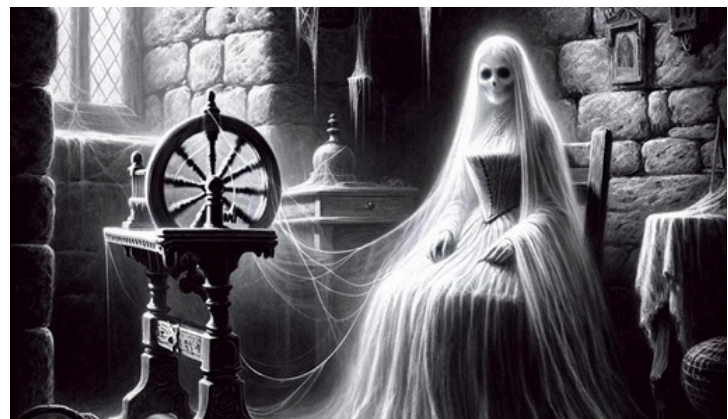
Lady Lindsay's Ghost

In the late 15th century, the tragic and eerie tale of Lady Lindsay unfolded in the shadowy corners of Inverquoch Castle in Lower Strathardle. Lady Janet Gordon, the wife of Alexander, Master of Lindsay, was a figure of noble birth, descended from King James I. Her marriage, however, was marked by turmoil. Following a fierce quarrel that left Alexander gravely wounded, Lady Lindsay, driven by dark motives, smothered her husband with a down pillow, sealing her fate as a murderer.

Despite remarrying twice and escaping immediate justice, Lady Lindsay's crimes caught up with her. In 1500, she was condemned to perpetual imprisonment atop Craig-an-Fhithiche, the Raven's Rock, a towering cliff above the river Ericht. Her daily punishment was to spin a thread long enough to reach the river below before receiving any food. This arduous task continued even after her death, her ghostly form bound to the rock, spinning eternally.

For centuries, locals spoke of the ghostly thread

descending from the cliff, glistening eerily in the moonlight. Anglers along the Ericht would often see the spectral thread touching the water, a chilling reminder of Lady Lindsay's penance. It wasn't until the Jacobite rising in 1746 that her spirit found peace. Neil of the Trouts, a Fergusson fleeing English soldiers, was caught in a deadly flood. Grasping at the ethereal thread hanging from the Raven's Rock, he saved himself. This act of redemption released Lady Lindsay's tormented spirit, her ghost vanishing forever, having saved a life in atonement for the one she had taken.



The Sandside Chase 1437

Famous Clan Battle

The Sandside Chase, a violent confrontation in 1437, occurred between the Clan Mackay and the people of Caithness, led by Clan Gunn, in northern Scotland. The clash happened approximately six miles west of Thurso. The conflict was triggered by depredations committed by the people of Caithness on the eastern parts of the Reay country, prompting



Clan Mackay to seek retribution.

Neil Mackay, the 8th of Strathnaver and chief of Clan Mackay, led the raid into Caithness, accompanied by his brother John-Abrach and their men. Their advance from Strathnaver towards Thurso faced resistance at Dounreay, but they managed to push the Caithness men back to the Forss Water. Despite this initial success, the arrival of Caithness reinforcements forced the Mackays to retreat to Sandside. There, they regrouped with additional forces stationed at Drum Hollistan to protect their rear.

At Sandside, the Mackays successfully defeated the Caithness defenders. The surviving Caithness forces were chased back to Dounreay. The battle's aftermath included around 60 stones, believed to mark the graves of the fallen, which have since disappeared.

The Sandside Chase is also known by several other names, including the Chase of Sandside, the Chase of Sansett, Ruoig-Hansett, and Ruaig Handside. Historical accounts of the battle appear in several records, such as the "Conflicts of the Clans," published in 1764, and Sir Robert Gordon's manuscript from 1813. The traditional Mackay perspective was documented by Robert Mackay in his 1829 book, "History of the House and Clan of the Name Mackay."

Scottish Clan Artifacts



Sir Ewen Cameron's Boots

The boots worn by Sir Ewen Cameron, the illustrious 17th Chief of Clan Cameron, have been preserved for over 300 years and are on display at the Clan Cameron Museum in Achnacarry, Scotland. Sir Ewen, a key Jacobite leader during the late 17th century, famously led his clan at the Battle of Killiecrankie on July 27, 1689. This battle was a significant conflict during the first Jacobite rising, where Highland clans loyal to the deposed King James VII fought against government forces supporting William of Orange.

Sir Ewen's boots hold historical significance as they are said to be the only pair worn among his men during the battle. At a critical moment, Sir Ewen removed these boots because they were hindering his movement, and he charged

barefoot along with his men into the thick of the fight. This act symbolizes the determination and resilience of the Highland warriors during this tumultuous period. The preservation of these boots provides a tangible connection to the past and offers insight into the personal experiences of those who fought in the Jacobite risings.

The Clan Cameron Museum houses numerous artifacts related to the history and heritage of the Cameron clan,

including items from the Jacobite era and relics from more recent times. The display of Sir Ewen's boots not only commemorates his leadership and bravery but also serves as an educational piece for visitors interested in the rich history of the Scottish Highlands



Highland Games and Festivals

June 2024

Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival

June 1
Central Park Wingham Isabella St, Wingham, New South Wales
Australia

Garrett County Celtic Festival

June 1
Friendsville Community Park Old River Rd., Friendsville, MD
United States

Port City Highland Games

June 1
3600 Burnt Mill Dr., Wilmington, NC
United States

Bellingham Scottish gathering

June 1
200 Marine Drive, Blaine, WA
United States

Milwaukee Highland Games

June 1
9100 S. 76th Street, Franklin, WI
United States

Cornhill Highland Games

June 1
Cornhill,
Scotland

Helensburgh & Lomond Highland Games

June 1
June IRhu Rd Higher, Helensburgh
Scotland

Markinch Highland Games

June 2
JMarkinch, Glenrothes
Scotland

Gathering of the Scots

June
JPPerth-Andover, New Brunswick
Canada

National Celtic Folk Festival

June 7
J87 Newcombe Street, Portarlington, Victoria
Australia

Blairsville Scottish Festival & Highland Games

June 8
490 Meeks Park Rd., Blairsville, GA
United States

Carroll County Celtic Festival

June 8
706 Agriculture Center Drive, Westminster, MD
United States

Georgetown Highland Games

June 8
Georgetown, Ontario
Canada

Bearsden & Milngavie Highland Games

June 8
Glasgow Rd. Milngavie,
Scotland

Strathmore Highland Games

June 9
Glamis Castle, Strathmore
Scotland

Greater Moncton Highland Games & Scottish Festival

June 11
Moncton Moncton, New Brunswick
Canada

Utah Scottish Festival and Highland Games

June 14
Utah State Fair Park 155 1000 W, Salt Lake City, UT
United States

ScotFestBC

June 14
Town Centre Park 1299 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam, British Columbia
Canada

Northumberland Scottish Festival and Highland Games

June 14
Port Hope Agricultural Park 62 McCaul Street, Port Hope, Ontario
Canada

Chicago Scots: The 38th Annual Scottish Festival & Highland Games

June 14
DuPage County Fairgrounds 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton, IL
United States

Bressuire Highland Games

June 15
BRESSUIRE
France

Helena Valley Highland Gathering

June 15
Helena Helena, MT
United States

Prosser Scottish Fest & Highland Games

June 15
Prosser Wine and Food Park 2880 Lee Rd, Prosser, WA
United States

West Virginia Wild and Wonderful Celtic Festival and Highland Games

June 15
4H Camp Pioneer 38 Pioneer Circle, Kings Run Rd, 26253, WV
United States

Oldmeldrum Sports & Highland Games

June 15
Oldmeldrum Pleasure Park Oldmeldrum
Scotland

No Fame Games

June 15
Fino Field Summer St, Milford, MA
United States

Water Valley Traditional Celtic Folk Festival

June 15
Water Valley Water Valley, Alberta
Canada

Aberdeen Highland Games

June 16
Hazelhead Park Hazelhead Park, Aberdeen
Scotland

Holland Celtic Festival and Highland Games

June 21
Window on the Waterfront Park, Holland, Michigan
United States

OHIO SCOTTISH GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL

June 21
19201 E Bagley Rd., Middleburg Heights, OH
United States

OHIO SCOTTISH GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL

June 21
19201 E Bagley Rd., Middleburg Heights., OH
United States

Highland Games Innerschweiz

June 21
Brunnen Brunnen
Liechtenstein

Cortez Celtic Fair

June 22
Parque De Vida Park 400 N. Mildred Avenue, Cortez, CO
United States

53rd Annual Tacoma Highland Games

June 22
Frontier Park 21718 Meridian Ave E, Graham, WA
United States

56th Manitoba Highland Gathering

June 22
Legacy Park East Selkirk, Manitoba
Canada

Kingsville-Essex Highland Games

June 22
6155 Arner Townline, Kingsville, Ontario
Canada

Drumtochty Highland Games

June 22
Drumtochty Castle Grounds Laurencekirk,
Scotland

San Diego Highland Games

June 22
Brengele Terrace Park 1200 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista, CA
United States

Edmonton Scottish Society Highland Gathering

June 23
Edmonton Scottish Society Edmonton, Alberta
Canada

Alaska Scottish Highland Games

June 29
Alaska State Fairgrounds 2075 Glenn Hwy, Palmer, AK
United States

Braemar Junior Highland Games

June 29
THE PRINCESS ROYAL AND DUKE OF FIFE MEMORIAL PARK Braemar,
Aberdeenshire
Scotland

Ceres Games

June 29
1 The Bow Butts St Andrews Rd, Ceres
Scotland

The Festival at Fort Four & Highland Games

June 29
The Fort at Number 4 267 Springfield Rd., Charlestown, NH
United States

July 2024

Kenmore Highland Games

July 3
Kenmore Sports Field 5 Aberfeldy Rd, Kenmore
Scotland

Penticton Scottish Festival

July 3
Kings Park 550 Eckhardt Avenue West, Penticton, British Columbia
Canada

Almonte Celtfest

July 5
Victoria Park Kincardine 310 Durham Market St N, Kincardine,
Ontario
Canada

Luss Highland Games

July 6
Luss
Scotland

Forres Highland Games

July 6
Grant Park 2002 Clovenside Rd, Forres
Scotland

Kachemak Bay Highland Games

July 6
KAREN HORNADAY PARK 475 W Fairview Ave, Homer, AK
United States

Aberdeen Highland Games

July 6
Jefferson Park New England Hwy, Aberdeen, New South Wales
Australia

Antigonish Highland Games

July 7
20 Main Street, Antigonish, Nova Scotia
Canada

The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

July 11
MacRae Meadows Blowing Rock Hwy, Linville, NC
United States

Saline Celtic Festival

July 12
Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds 5055 Ann Arbor Saline Road, Ann
Arbor, MI
United States

Payson Scottish Festival

July 12
Parkview Elementary 360 S 100 E, Payson, UT
United States

Highland Games Angelbachtal

July 12
Angelbachtal Castle Park
Germany

Alva Highland Games

July 13
Johnstone Park West Stirling Street, Alva, Scotland
Scotland

Loch Lomond Highland Games

July 13
Moss o' Balloch Park Balloch
Scotland

Inverness Highland Games

July 13
Bught Park Bught Road, Inverness
Scotland

Minnesota Scottish Fair & Highland Games

July 13
Macaléster College 1600 Grand Ave, St. Paul, MN
United States

Burntisland Highland Games

July 15
Burntisland Links Kirkbank Rd. Burntisland,
Scotland

Inveraray Highland Games

July 16
Inverary Castle Inverary
Scotland

Mull Highland Games

July 18
Erray Park Tobermory,
Scotland

Maine Celtic Celebration

July 19
Steamboat Landing and Boathouse 34 Commercial St., Belfast, ME
United States

Upcoming Clan Gatherings



Clan MacLennan
July 4-8, 2024
Ben Wyvis Hotel
Inverness, Scotland

<https://www.clanmaclellan.worldwide.com/clan-maclellan-2024-gathering/>



Clan MacKinnon
June 18, 2024
DoubleTree by Hilton
Edinburgh, Scotland

<https://www.themackinnon.com/scotland2024.html>



Clan Lamont
July 20, 2024
Location: TBA

https://clanlamontsociety.co.uk/clan_gathering/



Clan Gregor
July 14-21, 2024
Loch Awe Hotel
Argyll, Scotland

<https://www.clanregor.com/post/clanregorinternationalgathering>



Clan MacAulay
August 7-10, 2024
Baddeck, Cape Breton
Nova Scotia, Canada

<https://clanmacaulay.org.uk/2024-clan-gathering-announcement/>



Clan MacDougall
July 30 - August 4, 2024
Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds
Oban, Scotland

<https://www.dunollie.org/clan-macdougall-gathering-2024>



Clan MacInnes
July 11-14, 2024
Grandfather Mountain
Highland Games



Clan MacNicol
October 3-6, 2024
Portree
Isle of Skye, Scotland

https://www.clanmacnicol.org/news/clan-macnicol-international-clan-gathering_oct_2024



Clan Hunter
July 26, 2024
Hunterston Castle, West Kilbride,
Ayrshire, Scotland



Clan Matheson
July 20, 2024
Atterdale, Scotland



Clan Chattan
August 1, 2024
The Kingmills Hotel,
Inverness, Scotland



Clan Grant
August 9, 2024
Nethy Bridge,
Strathspey, Scotland

WEBSITE:

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CONTACT:

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Featured Clan Crest



CREST: A dexter hand and arm in armour embowed the hand holding a wreath of heather all proper

MOTTO: Ne quid nimis

TRANSLATION: Not Too Much

The name MacKinlay, derived from the Gaelic MacFhionnlaigh meaning “son of Finlay,” is a distinctly Scottish name also found among descendants of the Scots Plantation of Ulster in northern Ireland, especially in Antrim. Tracing back to ancient Gaelic clans, variations like M’Finlay and McIndlay appeared in the 16th and 17th centuries. Prominent in Glenlyon and Balquhiddar, notable figures include Gillaspyk M’Kynlay and Sir John Finlosoun. The clan’s legacy extends globally, with descendants like U.S. President William McKinley. Today, MacKinlays preserve their heritage through clan gatherings, tartans, and genealogical research, celebrating their rich history and traditions.

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



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