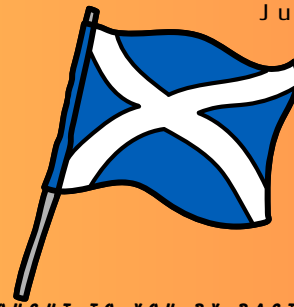


SCOTTISH CLAN CONNECTION

Newsletter

CEANGAL CHLANN NA H-ALBA



Vol. 15

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A Clan's Search for a Commander and New Name

The Clan, comprising the surnames MacAfee, MacDubhshith, MacDuffie, Macfie/MacPhee, and other cognates, is embarking on a historic quest. Currently without a Chief or Clan Commander (Ceann-Cath), the Clan has launched a global search to find a suitable candidate to fill the vacant Commander position. This individual will be instrumental in providing leadership, guiding the Clan's development, and driving the process to identify a suitable Chief. Additionally, the Clan is in the process of finalizing a new Clan name.

The Lord Lyon King of Arms of Scotland has authorized a Family Convention to be held on May 17, 2025. At this convention, nominees for the position of

Commander will be considered by eligible individuals from across the Clan. Prior to this significant date, the Clan will also finalize its new name, marking a pivotal moment in its history.

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



Controversy Over Horseracing Track Plans at Bannockburn Battlefield

The historic Bannockburn battlefield is at the center of a heated controversy due to plans to construct a horseracing track, car park, and bar/diner on the site. Submitted last October, these plans have generated significant public backlash, with Stirling Council receiving numerous complaints from concerned citizens and organizations.

The National Trust for Scotland has strongly criticized the development, emphasizing the battlefield's historical significance. The Trust argues that the landscape was instrumental in Robert the Bruce's victory over King Edward II's English army in 1314, a pivotal moment in Scottish history. They fear that the development, proposed near Whins of Milton, would disrupt the integrity of one of the last undeveloped areas of the battlefield.

Stuart Brooks, the Trust's director for conservation and policy, expressed disappointment that Stirling Council is considering the proposal. The Trust has managed the battlefield since 1943, drawing thousands of visitors annually. They are concerned that the proposed track, along with parking and noise from racing events, would disturb the sanctity of what many consider a place of pilgrimage.

The Scottish Government is being urged to intervene and pull the planning application to protect this nationally designated site for future generations. Stirling Council's planning and regulation panel will review the proposal in due course.

The future of the Bannockburn battlefield remains uncertain, highlighting the ongoing tension between modern development and historical preservation.



Clan Campbell Unveils Inveraray Distillery Project

A £25 million Scotch malt whisky distillery is planned for the grounds of Inveraray Castle, the historic seat of the Duke of Argyll and chief of Clan Campbell. Argyll Estates, in partnership with Stock Spirits Group, has submitted a planning application to Argyll and Bute Council. The Inveraray Distillery will produce up to two million litres of single malt whisky annually, enhancing the Clan Campbell blend. The project, set to create over 20 local jobs, includes a visitor centre that will attract tourists and whisky enthusiasts, bolstering the local economy. Construction is expected to begin in early 2025, with the first spirit produced by 2027, pending approval. Environmentally friendly methods will ensure the distillery operates with carbon neutrality from day one.

Torquhil Campbell, the 13th Duke of Argyll, stated, "Inveraray Castle and Clan Campbell are inextricably linked. The addition of a distillery on the grounds is a significant positive development for our community, our heritage, and our clan."



Response to the Article Clan Bell vs. Clan Bell

(From the June 2024 SCC Newsletter)

Claims by Clan Bell Society (CBS) that the case against them in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida could "set a dangerous precedent for all clans" are just wrong. It is already an established precedent that trademarks with the word "Clan" and a surname are allowed. There are already many trademarks like this that are approved in the US. This case and the clan trademark will protect Clan Bell North America (CBNA) and other legitimate organizations from splinter groups that seek to promote themselves from the intellectual property of another.

When people are expelled from a family association for extensive misconduct and then create a rival association to hijack the identity of an established family association, trademark protection becomes important. Some of the misconduct that resulted in the unanimous decision by CBNA to expel Mike Bell is documented in the complaint filed with the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida in case number 3:23-cv-04233.

Publicly available facts about the US district court case and the trademark filing include: The court denied the CBS motion to dismiss, their prior lawyer withdrew from the case, and the parties have not settled. On the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) website, anyone can see that the Clan Bell trademark was approved for publication. This approval shows that the examiner at the USPTO believes that CBNA meets the legal requirements for Clan Bell trademarks in the United States. The USPTO website also shows that the Clan Bell Society opposed the trademark. The deadline for CBS to file a motion for summary judgment in the US District Court case has also passed. It is reasonable to conclude that CBS thought they had little chance of success with a summary judgment.

As documented in the complaint, Clan Bell Society took designs created at CBNA expense for use at their tents. They use this and other intellectual property created by CBNA without permission. Mike Bell also unlawfully converted a social media platform to his personal control in violation of CBNA bylaws and uses that platform to exclude and to disparage CBNA.

Mike Bell and Clan Bell Society have made various misleading appeals for money to fund their defense, claiming that the trademark of Clan Bell would make clans "lose the right to use [their] family name." The Clan Bell trademark is limited in scope to specific classes for association services and for education services in the United States. This means that individuals can identify their clan - but not as an association to compete with an established family association with a trademark.

Clan Bell North America believes that almost all clan associations do not act like the people cited in the complaint we filed against CBS and Mike Bell, so they have nothing to worry about from the case or the trademark. Most clan associations should be pleased that CBNA is defending their rights in federal court to protect them from the kind of behavior that made our legal actions necessary to preserve our heritage and family associations.

We also believe that the opposition that Clan Bell Society filed against the trademark 1) seeks to diminish what Clan Bell means to an arbitrarily restricted definition, 2) ignores the achievements of Bells outside of the clan system and unique resources developed by Clan Bell North America, and 3) ignores what Clan Bell suggests to the imagination but does not directly say. The purpose seems to be to allow Clan Bell Society to unlawfully use the intellectual property of Clan Bell North America for their personal benefit, even if that is harmful to Clan Bell by diminishing what Clan Bell means.

Joseph Bell, FSA SCOT
President, Clan Bell North America

Clan Morrison vs. Clan MacAulay Famous Clan Feud

The feud between Clan Morrison and Clan MacAulay on the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides began in the early 16th century after the murder of Donald Ban Morrison by Clan MacAulay members. This sparked retaliatory actions by John Morrison, the Morrison chief, who ordered a raid on Uig, the MacAulay stronghold. The MacAulay chief sought help from their powerful allies, the MacLeods of Lewis, who joined forces to defeat the Morrisons at the Battle of Caws of Tarbert.

After their victory, the MacAulays, supported by the MacLeods, captured the Morrison chief and imprisoned him at Rodil. Although he escaped, the MacLeods used their influence with the Crown to declare him an outlaw. In desperation, the Morrison chief kidnapped a MacLeod heiress,

hoping to exchange her for a royal pardon. While there is no record of him receiving the pardon, the heiress was released unharmed. Another account tells of a failed attempt to end the feud through marriage, which backfired when a plot to murder the newborn Morrison-MacAulay child and his mother was discovered, escalating the conflict.

In 1601, the Morrisons exploited the absence of MacAulay clansmen to raid their land and steal livestock. The MacAulay men returned and found

their cattle near Loch Eoag. Realizing the Morrisons had taken refuge in Dun Carloway, Donald Cam MacAulay scaled the broch's walls, set it on

fire, and killed all the Morrisons inside. The final clash in 1654 at Druim nan Carnan saw heavy casualties on both sides after a MacAulay cattle raid. This prolonged feud underscores the era's intense clan rivalries driven by revenge and strategic alliances.



Historic Clan Castles of Scotland

Kinnaird Castle

Brechin, Angus

Kinnaird Castle, located near Brechin in Angus, Scotland, is a historic stronghold that has been the residence of the Carnegie family, the Earls of Southesk, for over six centuries. Constructed with pale pink-brown freestone from the estate, the castle features greenish Westmoreland slates



and intricate iron railings. The north entrance opens into an oak-fitted gallery, 80 feet long, adorned with hunting trophies and leading to a staircase and a vermilion-painted corridor. The principal suite includes a dining room with family portraits, drawing rooms with valuable Italian and Dutch paintings, and a library housing 8,000 rare volumes. The second floor contains bedrooms, while the ground floor comprises offices, cellars, a billiard room, and a smoking room. Positioned fifty feet above a valley on a gravel plateau, the castle offers views of the Carcary and Bounyton ranges to the south, the Grampian mountains to the north, and the extensive woods of Monrommon Moor to the west.

Kinnaird Castle's history dates back to the 14th century, with charters indicating a mansion on the property. In 1409, the estate was granted to Clan Carnegie. Following the Battle of Brechin in 1452, the castle was burned by Alexander Lindsay, 4th Earl of Crawford, due to Clan Carnegie's support for King James II of Scotland. The castle hosted notable royal visitors in the 17th century.

The Poisoning of John Sutherland

John Sutherland, born in 1506, rose to prominence as the 11th Earl of Sutherland, earning the title of the "Good Earl." His noble birthright in the esteemed Sutherland family saw him groomed in the arts of governance, diplomacy, and warfare. His education and sense of duty set him apart, and he became known for his fairness and dedication to his clan and Scotland during a time marked by political turmoil and clan conflicts.

The Earls of Sutherland were key figures in maintaining stability amidst the violent clashes and fleeting alliances of the Scottish clans. John Sutherland was no exception, skillfully navigating these treacherous waters while safeguarding his family's interests and pledging allegiance to Scottish monarchs. However, his life took a tragic turn due to a sinister conspiracy led by Isobel Sinclair, who was married to his uncle, Gilbert Gordon of Gartay.

Isobel Sinclair, driven by the desire to secure the Earldom for her son from a previous marriage, devised a plan to eliminate John Sutherland. She concocted a plot to poison the rightful heir. The details remain



mysterious, but it is believed she laced his food or drink with poison.

The fateful day arrived during a banquet, where John, unsuspecting, partook in the meal. As the gathering progressed, the poison took its toll. John's jovial demeanor turned to agony, and those present could do nothing to alleviate his suffering. Despite frantic efforts to find a remedy, including summoning physicians, the poison proved fatal. Lady Jean Gordon, his countess, could only watch in despair as John succumbed to the poison. His death marked a profound loss for his family, clan, and Scotland.



Scottish Clan Myths and Legends

The Spell of Cadboll

Castle Cadboll, perched on the cliffs of Easter Ross, is wrapped in the legend of Lady May and its mysterious enchantment that prevented death from entering its walls. This ancient fortress was once a sentinel along Scotland's east coast, protecting its inhabitants from external threats.

In the centuries past, the castle was ruled by the stern Roderick MacLeod, who lost his wife shortly after the birth of their daughter, Lady May. As Lady May matured, her heart was claimed by Hugh Munro, a young chief from Ben Wyvis. However, her father had other plans, arranging her marriage to the Macrae chief, Inverinate, to secure a powerful alliance.

Lady May and Hugh Munro's forbidden love led to secret nocturnal meetings until Inverinate discovered them. A fatal confrontation ensued, with Munro killed and Inverinate severely wounded. Lady May, heartbroken, endured fifty years of suffering, paralyzed and confined within the castle walls due to the spell that barred death.



Desperate for release, Lady May's attendants finally carried her out of the castle. As she crossed the threshold, the spell broke, and she passed away peacefully, her spirit reunited with Hugh.

Castle Cadboll's origins are tied to a dramatic tale of its founding by Norwegian adventurers. The legend tells of one brother who, in a desperate bid, severed his hand and threw it ashore, claiming the land and establishing the MacLeod clan.

Today, the ruins of Castle Cadboll stand as a poignant reminder of its storied past, where life was bound by fate, and death waited just beyond its walls.

The Battle of Lochaber, 1429

Famous Clan Battle

The Battle of Lochaber, fought in 1429 in the Scottish Highlands, was a significant conflict between Alexander of Islay, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, and the Royalist forces of King James I of Scotland. This battle was part of the broader



struggle between the powerful Macdonald clan and the Scottish monarchy. In the 14th century, the Macdonalds began asserting their control over the Highlands, often at the expense of the Scottish kings in Edinburgh. In 1429, Alexander of Islay claimed the Earldom of Ross through inheritance from his mother, Margaret, Countess of Ross. King James I disputed this claim and arrested Alexander and other northern notables at a Parliament in Inverness Castle in 1428.

After his release, Alexander assembled an army of around 10,000 men, including his clansmen and allies such as the MacLeods and MacIntyres. The Royalist army consisted of both Lowland Scots and Highlanders loyal to the King. The two forces clashed at Lochaber, resulting in a decisive victory for the Macdonalds.

The aftermath of the battle saw the Macdonalds solidify their control over the Highlands, while King James I suffered a significant defeat. This victory allowed the Macdonalds to continue defying the Scottish monarchy, leading to ongoing conflict and instability in the region. The Battle of Lochaber thus marked a crucial moment in the power struggle between the Scottish kings and the Highland clans, with long-lasting implications for Scotland's future.

Scottish Clan Artifacts



Clan MacPherson's Green Banner

Clan MacPherson's Green Banner, "Am Bratach Uaine," is a symbol of the clan's rich heritage and unwavering loyalty. This banner, carried during the 1745 Rising, is known for its intricate design, which stands out compared to the simpler battle standards of the era. The banner features the clan motto, "Touch Not the Cat But a Glove," and the Latin phrase "PRO REGE, ET PATRIA" (For King and Country), emphasizing the clan's fierce nature and loyalty to their monarch.

Historically, the MacPhersons have been dedicated supporters of the House of Stuart, engaging in numerous significant battles. The Green Banner is believed to bring victory and protection, as legend states that success was assured when the clan fought under it. The coat

of arms on the banner, granted by Sir Charles Erskine in 1672, along with two heraldic supporters, ties the banner to the clan's legacy. These figures are depicted as they might have appeared at the Battle of the Shirts in 1544, further linking the banner to the clan's storied past.

Today, the Green Banner is preserved in the Clan MacPherson Museum in Scotland. It serves as a cherished artifact, embodying the clan's enduring spirit and significant role in Scottish history. This banner is more than a symbol; it is a testament to the MacPhersons' resilience and martial prowess.



Highland Games and Festivals

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
Washenaw 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
Macalester 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

Cambridge Scottish Festival

July 19
Churchill Park 200 Christopher Drive, Cambridge, Ontario
Canada

Orilla Scottish Festival

July 19
J.B. Tüdhope Memorial Park 450 Atherley Road, Orilla, Ontario
Canada

Sherwood Park Highland Gathering

July 20
Broadmoor Lake Park Sherwood Park, Alberta
Canada

Balquhiddy, Lochearnhead & Strathyre Highland Games

July 20
Lochearnhead village, Perthshire
Scotland

Lochcarron Highland Games

July 20
Attadale Estate Strathcarron
Scotland

Tomintoul Highland Games

July 20
Tomintoul Public Park Tomintoul
Scotland

The Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival

July 20
Look Park 300 N Main St., Florence, MA
United States

Stonehaven Highland Games

July 21
Mackie Academy Playing Fields Slug Rd. Stonehaven
Scotland

Ailsa Craig Highland Games

July 26
155 Annie Ada Shipley Street, Ailsa Craig, Ontario
Canada

New Brunswick Highland Games

July 26
51 Woodstock Rd, Fredericton, New Brunswick
Canada

Durness Highland Gathering

July 26
Shore Park Durness
Scotland

Pacific Northwest Scottish Highland Games

July 27
45224 - 284th Avenue SE, Enumclaw, WA
United States

Uxbridge Scottish Festival

July 27
Elgin Park 180 Main St S, Uxbridge, Ontario
Canada

Airth Highland Games
July 27
North Greens Park Falkirk,
Scotland

Aboyne Highland Games
August 3
Aboyne Green Aboyne
Scotland

Goderich Celtic Roots Festival
August 9
168 West St., Goderich, Ontario
Canada

Dufftown Highland Games
July 27
Mortlach School Sports Field Dufftown
Scotland

Inverkeithing Highland Games
August 3
Ballast Bank Playing Fields Inverkeithing
Scotland

Assynt Highland Games
August 9
1 Culag Gardens, Lochinver
Scotland

Halkirk Highland Games
July 27
Halkirk Recreation Park Halkirk
Scotland

Mey Highland Games
August 3
John O'Groats Caithness
Scotland

Sparta Celtic Festival
August 9
152 N. State Street, Sparta, MI
United States

St. Andrews Highland Games
July 28
Station Park St. Andrews
Scotland

Newtonmore Highland Games
August 3
Newtonmore
Scotland

Albany Scottish Festival and Highland Games
August 10
900 Price Rd SE, Albany, OR
United States

ARISAIG HIGHLAND GAMES
July 31
Traigh Farm Arisaig,
Scotland

Colorado Scottish Festival
August 3
6359 Airport Road, Sedalia, CO
United States

Aberfeldy Show & Games
August 10
Wades Park Aberfeldy
Scotland

August 2024

Montreal Highland Games
August 4
6875 Boulevard LaSalle, Verdun, Quebec
Canada

North Berwick Highland Games
August 10
Recreation Park North Berwick
Scotland

The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit Highland Games
August 2
Greenmead Historical Village 20501 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI
United States

Bridge Of Allan Highland Games
August 4
7 Airthrey Ave., Bridge of Allan, Stirling
Scotland

Strathpeffer Highland Gathering
August 10
Castle Leod Strathpeffer
Scotland

Glengarry Highland Games
August 2
34 Fair St., Maxville, Ontario
Canada

Isle Of Skye Highland Games
August 7
6 Bayfield Rd., Portree
Scotland

Perth Highland Games
August 11
South Inch Perth
Scotland

Dornoch Highland Gathering
August 2
Meadows Park Dornoch
Scotland

Killin Highland Games
August 7
Breadalbane Park Killin
Scotland

Tain Highland Gathering
August 11
Glenmorangie Ground A9, Tain
Scotland

Spokane Scottish Highland Games
August 3
404 N. Havana St., Spokane, WA
United States

Ballater Highland Games
August 8
Monaltrie Park Ballater Ballater
Scotland

Maine Highland Games & Scottish Festival
August 17
Thomas Point Beach Rd, Brunswick, ME
United States

Aberlour Strathspey Highland Games
August 3
Alice Litter Memorial Park Aberlour
Scotland

Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games
August 9
550 Belsyde Ave E, Fergus, Ontario
Canada

Bitterroot Celtic Games & Gathering
August 17
Daly Mansion 251 Eastside Hwy., Hamilton, MT
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 Gregor
 July 14-21, 2024
 Loch Awe Hotel
 Argyll, Scotland

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



Clan Lamont
 July 20, 2024
 Location: TBA

<https://clanlamontsociety.co.uk/clan-gathering/>



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

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



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

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



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

<https://www.clanmacnicol.org/news/clan-macnicol-international-clan-gathering-oct-2024>



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



Clan Matheson
 July 20, 2024
 Atterdale, Scotland



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



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



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

If you know of an upcoming Clan Gathering (not already on this list), please let us know at: bagtownclans@gmail.com

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BAGTOWNCLANS@GMAIL.COM

Featured Clan Crest



CREST: A lion passant guardant Sable

MOTTO: Vincit veritas

TRANSLATION: Truth prevails

The name "Baxter" originates from the Scottish occupation of baking, an essential role in households due to the significance of bread. Baxters on Scotland's west coast were linked to Clan Macmillan, while those in Fife gained prominence independently, with notable historical mentions in the 13th century. Baxters in Forfar possibly served royal households, highlighting their importance. The name remains prominent in Fife, known for the baronial Earls Hall castle, and symbolizes proud Scottish heritage and history.

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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