

SCOTTISH NEWSLETTER

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SERVING THE
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GREATER VICTORIA

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LARRY SCOTT

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kitimatlarry@gmail.com



Victoria Highland Games & Celtic Festival 2025

By Jim Maxwell — President of Victoria Highland Games Association



Photo: L. Scott

Entry of Drum Majors and Massed Band at 2024 Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival

VICTORIA — The 162nd Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival will take place on May 17 and May 18 at Topaz Park. Once again, the Games will be hosting the International Heavy Events Challenge with a full line-up of world class professional men and women competitors. We have confirmed that Simon Fraser University Pipe Band will attend, so people can witness the best pipe band in North America compete both days! Massed pipe band performances, Highland dancing and Regimental Drum Majoring on both Saturday and Sunday are but some of this year's must-see events.

Prior to the Games, on May 10, the Tartan Parade will leave Centennial Square at 11:00 am and parade down Government Street to Belleville Street. The ceremony on the Legislature Grounds will occur again this year, now that construction on the main steps is complete. Pipe bands, highland dancers, and heavy event athletes participate in the Parade along with many members of local Scottish and Celtic groups — come join us for a pre-Games spectacle!

As the longest continually running Highland Games in Canada, the Victoria event is a family-focused weekend of Scottish and Celtic arts and culture — including pipe band competitions, Scottish Highland Dancing competitions, Heavy Events (e.g. caber toss, hammer throw), Scottish country dancing, fiddling

performances, Scottish/Celtic and Folk music bands, Scottish Clan and genealogy booths and displays, falconry, historic military demonstrations and displays, Scottish/Celtic food and merchandise vendors. For adults 19 and over there is a single malt whisky school and a wine tasting school. There is also an excellent line up of local Celtic bands performing at the Celtic Music Tent. There is a large FREE children's entertainment area.

Try the selection of Lighthouse Brewing Company's craft beers and watch the various activities with a pint in hand! Nose and taste some of the finest single malt Scotch whiskies at the Whisky Tasting School and partake in an excellent selection of red, white and sparkling wines at the Wine Tasting School on site.

Purchase your tickets early and save! Discounted tickets are now available online through Eventbrite. Go to www.eventbrite.ca/e/162nd-victoria-highland-games-celtic-festival-tickets-920452747947?aff=oddtcreator



Tossing the caber

Continued on p. 2

Highland Games ... *Continued from page 1*

Tickets are available at the Games gates — cash and credit cards. Children under 12 receive FREE admission! In true Scottish fashion, the Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival takes place rain or shine.

For more information visit: www.victoriahighlandgames.com

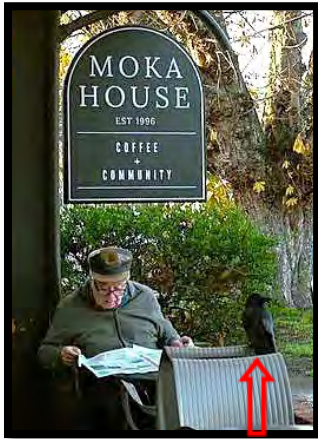
Follow us on **Twitter** @VicHighlndGames

Like us on **Facebook** — Victoria Highland Games
Ω



Victoria Gaelic Choir gets ready to sing at Pipers Club, Sergeants Mess, Victoria Armoury — 1 March 2025. The choir also sings at Highland Games. Photo: Larry Scott
Ω

Corbid Consultants to Editor



Celtic corbid helps SN editor understand comics section.



Highbrow McCrow indicates that editor should broaden his mind by reading Michael Elovak's *Transactions With the Fallen*.



McCrow couple consults on how SN editor should speed read the *Times Colonist*.



Editor obviously reads slowly. Needs help turning newspaper pages faster. Obtuse editor can then move on to feeding McCrow a peanut.

Piobaireachd Lives On

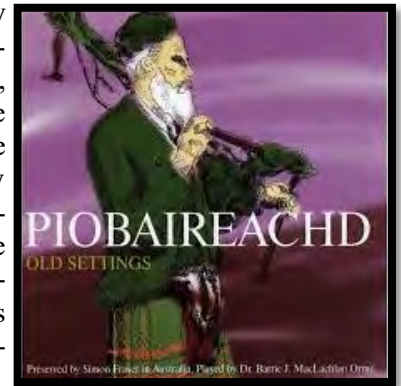
VICTORIA —In case there is ever a Trivial Pursuit invented for lovers of Scottish music, you may need some advance pointers on the section about classical bagpipe music. With the help of these pointers you could also turn up at the Bruce Knight Memorial Piobaireachd Competition held at Victoria Scottish Community Centre on 5 April 2025. (See ad on page 3.) If you are not actually a piper your presence would totally surprise the organizers, but they are open to the shock. Piobaireachd (pronounced “pea-brock”) is to pipe music as symphony music is to Pop or Country. One isn’t better than the other, but they are different genres.

Piobaireachd belongs to [Scottish Gaelic] *ceòl mòr* meaning the “great music”, to distinguish this complex extended art-music from the more popular Scottish music — such as dances, reels, marches and strathspeys — which are called *ceòl beag* or “little music”.

Pipe bands parading down the street will be playing various marches and you can easily tap your foot to the regular beat. Even if you are rhythm challenged, there is a cadre of drummers to accentuate the beat, and the bass drummer thumps with emphasis to keep everyone in step. In pipe band competitions, the marches can be quite intricate, and they are no longer recognizable Scottish folk pieces, but the structure of the music is the same. Pipe bands will also play dance music like strathspeys and reels while the band is at the halt; usually no one actually dances and these pieces are performance oriented.

Piobaireachd (or Piobroch) is different in that it is more technically difficult and is always played solo. The clusters of grace notes (movements) are longer and have names like Crunluath, Taorluath, Leumluath. They sound like warbles, and each section of the piece features a different movement, repeated very often to demonstrate the player’s mastery of that movement. Like a symphony, a Piobaireachd begins with a basic melody (Ground) and then there is a progression through a series of ever more complex variations; the music is rhythmic but not regular in beat. One Piobaireachd might last 10-15 minutes. There are changes in tempo and mood but concentration is required, both for player and listener.

You can hear a relatively short sample by a Royal Scots Dragoon Guards piper playing a piobaireachd: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzIX7ZS3TEo> There are scenes of Scotland that change as you listen to the video.



Larry Scott

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Island Pipers Club

Bruce Knight Memorial Piobaireachd Competition

6:00 pm — 5 April 2025

Victoria Scottish Community Centre, 1803 Admirals Rd

Non-members drop in charge of \$15.

Events: Novice, Open Amateur,
Former Winners, People's Choice.

Register: gordpollock1@gmail.com



Gord Pollock, President of Vancouver Island Pipers Club, presents the Former Winners Trophy to Kyle Barrie — 2024.



Tartan Day
6 April 2025



BC Pipers Association

<https://bcpipers.org/events/rspba-pacific-rim-drumming-championship/>

**92nd BCPA Annual Gathering
Indoor Meet — 2025**
April 18 & 19, 2025



North Delta Secondary School.
11447 82 Ave, Delta, BC V4C 5J6

<https://bcpipers.org/events/annual-gathering/>

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society

“Walk Scottish” Social

8 April 2025 — 1:15 pm to 3:15 pm

No charge. Everyone welcome.

City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue

Spring Fling Social

26 April 2025 — 7:30 pm

\$15 admission

City Light Church Hall
550 Obed Avenue

Spring Classes Start

Thursday — 24 April 2025

7:30 to 9:30 pm

City Light Church Hall
550 Obed Avenue

Classes run to 29 May 2025 — Cost is \$60

Visit our website: <https://viscds.ca/>



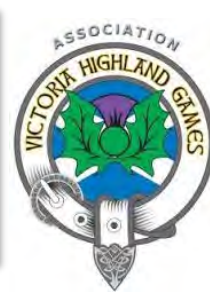
Tartan Parade — 10 May 2025

At 11:00 am
parade leaves
Centennial
Square and pro-
ceeds down
Government St.



Parade ends up on the Legislature grounds for a brief program. Wear tartan and join in the parade!

Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival on May 17-18, 2025



<https://victoriahighlandgames.com/>

Tartan Day Proclamation in BC

Reprinted from *Vol. 8: Issue 4 — Scottish Newsletter*



Minister Ian Waddell (left) presenting Proclamation of Tartan Day BC to Gerry Dunn (right) of the Victoria Joint Scottish Council in 2000. The Victoria Joint Scottish Council operated locally from 1989-2013. Photo contributed by Karen Rogers (nee Dunn).

BOTH KATIE AND GERRY DUNN worked on getting the enacting of the proclamation on 9 March 2000 by the Legislative Assembly of BC, making April 6th known in perpetuity as Tartan Day. The proclamation held by the minister (above) was signed by the then Lieutenant Governor — The Honourable Garde B. Gardom QC, in 2000.

In 2020 the Federal Government proclaimed the celebration of National Tartan Day to honour the Scottish diaspora in Canada. The day is a cultural celebration rather than a bank holiday. It is also observed in Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, the US and Scotland. In Australia and New Zealand they celebrate it on July 1st, which is the anniversary of the Act of Proscription repeal in 1782. The proscription had banned tartan-wearing [below the waist], after the Battle of Culloden. See right column, ed.

The actual Declaration of Arbroath was a letter written on 6 April 1320 by the barons of Scotland to the pope, asking him to recognise Scotland's independence and to acknowledge Robert the Bruce as the country's lawful king. Only 19 seals now remain of what might have been 50 on the Declaration. Scotland remained an independent country until it united in 1707 with England to form one kingdom called Great Britain. After 1921 (and the division of Ireland), it became the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or "the UK" for short. Since the Scotland Act of 1998, Scotland has had a separate legislature and executive, with devolved powers.

Tartan Day focuses on tartan as a symbol of Scottish identity, with a nod to a seminal event in Scotland's long political and mythic history — the Declaration of Arbroath.

Ω

Article by Larry Scott and reprinted from *Scottish Newsletter* 1 April 2023.



Declaration of Arbroath 1320. This is the oldest copy, held in the National Records of Scotland. A copy hangs in the Victoria Scottish Community Centre.

Photo: www.scotweek.com

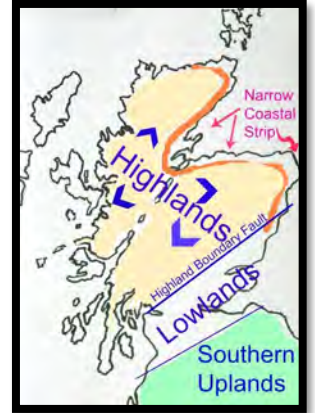
The Dress Act of 1746.

Reprinted from: <https://www.scottishhistory.org/?s=the+Dress+Act+of+1746>



A Lady in the Highlands.

Photo: www.scottishhistory.org



Highlands-Lowlands map.

Photo: MustSeeScotland

THE DRESS ACT 1746 — also known as the Disclathing Act — was a part of the Act of Proscription which was introduced by the government after the defeat of the 1745 Jacobite Rising at Culloden. Did you know that contrary to popular belief tartan, bagpipes and the speaking of Gaelic were NOT outlawed in the highlands by the government following the defeat of the Jacobites in 1746?

The Dress Act made it illegal for men and boys to wear the highland dress, including the kilt, north of the Highland line, which ran from Perth in the east to Dumbarton in the west. Women were exempt from the ban on wearing highland clothing, as too were men who enlisted with a highland regiment in the British Army. With specific regard to tartan, the Act did not ban it but restricted its use for upper coats and jackets — i.e. no tartan kilts. The suppression of highland dress did however mean that in many cases the link between highlander and tartan was broken by the time that the Dress Act was repealed in 1782. Additionally, the Act of Proscription has been falsely credited with the banning of bagpipes, the speaking of Gaelic, and gathering family members together in public. None of these was officially outlawed.



To quote the preamble of the Act: "An Act for the more effectual disarming the Highlands in Scotland and for more effectually securing the Peace of the said Highlands; and for restraining the Use of the Highland Dress, and for further indemnifying such Persons as have acted in defence of his Majesty's Person and Government, during the unnatural Rebellion; and for indemnifying the Judges and other Officers of the Court of Justiciary in Scotland, for not performing the Northern Circuit in May, One thousand seven hundred and forty six; and for obliging the Masters and Teachers of Private Schools in Scotland, and Chaplains, Tutors and Governors of Children or Youth, to take the Oaths to His Majesty, His Heirs, or Successors, and to register the same." This preamble is followed by 26 more articles, which one can read at: www.scottishhistory.org/resources/act-of-proscription-1746/ Ω

Coastal Scotland



St Abb's Head, Scottish Borders, on the North Sea coast. Photo: B8



**Crovie, ↑
Aberdeenshire.**

Photo:
Sumitav Barua



Corpach shipwreck on Loch Linnhe, Highlands. Ben Nevis is behind. Photo: Karen Deaken. →



Looking back from Lossiemouth towards Cairngorms. Photo: B8-EverythingScottish.



Arisaig, Lochaber in Inverness-shire. Photo: Hope Blamire, ScottishTourism.

A Scottish Easter

Reprinted article from Jilly Wilson, *The Square Peg*
www.thesquarepegonline.co.uk/blogs/news/a-scottish-easter



EASTER in Scotland shares much in common with the festival in other countries. There are, however, a number of Easter traditions which those outside of Scotland may never have heard of. In this article we'll examine how the Scots celebrate Easter, with a particular focus on what makes an Easter especially Scottish, compared to others.

As in most Christian countries, the main meal on Easter Sunday consists of roast lamb. There are several reasons for this – some religious, some more practical. The Judeo-Christian tradition has long been enamoured with the idea of sacrifice. This goes back to the very early chapters of the bible, in which God orders Abraham to kill his son, Isaac. Later came the Passover, when God spared the Jews of Egypt the death penalty he inflicted on the firstborn son of every Egyptian. Jews celebrate the Passover at about



Roast lamb. Photo: taste.com.au

the time of the vernal equinox, by eating a meal of roast lamb. This food tradition was almost certainly continued by later Jewish converts to Christianity, whose successors ultimately migrated westward to Scotland. The history does not end there. Christian teaching refers to Christ as the 'Lamb of God' – which refers to pre-Christian customs, such as pagan rites of spring, in which lambs were traditionally sacrificed in order to ensure a good harvest. But perhaps the most important reason for eating lamb, historically speaking, is one of practicality; lamb is just coming to season during Easter time and so Easter has traditionally been used to demark the first lamb of the year.

A popular dish in Scotland away from Lamb is Roast Venison. Venison is a fantastically lean, dark meat. It is a great option for a special Easter menu, the sweetness of the root vegetables perfectly complements the rich Venison meat.



Venison cuts. YesChefCatering.

Fortunately, most Scots have access to at least a shallow incline. Those who have had the good fortune to visit rural Scotland will know that it is blessed with a profusion of rolling hills and valleys. Small wonder that the tradition of egg rolling came about in such a landscape – there are so many surfaces for an egg to roll down! Only a narrow range of slopes are appropriate for egg rolling – too steep and the egg will smash to smithereens, too shallow and it will not roll at all. Consequently, half the challenge of egg rolling consists of selecting a suitable hill. Participants in this long-established custom compete against one another to see whose egg can travel the greatest distance without breaking. Since eggs are fragile and of a slightly irregular shape, this is more difficult than it sounds! For this reason, eggs are often boiled before being rolled, in order that they retain their strength. Probably our

egg rolling was originally practiced in imitation of the movement of the sun, and in Scotland was also practiced in Beltane [Celtic] rights. In Christian times, it came to harken back to



Scottish egg roll is popular with bairns.

Photo: TheSmallAdventureCompany.

the rolling away of the stone from the tomb of the risen Christ. In many Scottish villages, almost everyone turns out to stake their claim to be crowned champion.

Eggs can be decorated according to the whims of the egg-roller in question; traditionally, this is done using different coloured paints. In bygone times, before coloured paint became widespread, eggs were decorated using onion skin, which would turn a translucent golden brown when boiled.

While egg-rolling is the most recognisably Scottish of all Easter traditions – being as it did, in all likelihood, originate in Scotland – several more widely practiced traditions have found their way north of Hadrian's wall.

Easter egg hunts, for example, have come to enjoy the same popularity in Scotland as they have elsewhere. The same is also true of competitive egg-painting. Like egg-rolling, these activities are most often enjoyed by children, but there is no reason that fully grown adults cannot also join in the fun.



This year Easter Sunday is on April 20th.

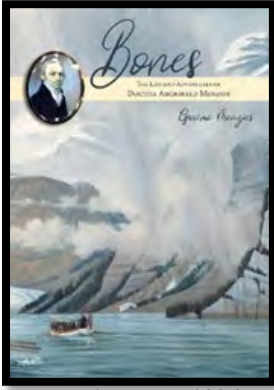
Photo: www.veteezy.com

Another, perhaps more long-standing tradition is the lighting of bonfires. Like many Christian peoples, Scots traditionally light bonfires as part of their Easter celebrations. This occurs almost always on the Saturday before Easter Sunday (and after Good Friday).

In Europe and in Scotland, an effigy of Judas was traditionally burned on the fire – but this particular practice has fallen out of favour in Britain, where it has long been supplanted by the practice of burning Guy Fawkes in November. Ω Editor: Above photos not in original article.

Bones: The Life and Adventure of Doctor Archibald Menzies

By Graeme Menzies. Reviewed by Ron Verzuh. Abridged version of revue printed below, Editor.
Full length article is in *The British Columbia Review* — <https://thebcreview.ca/2025/03/05/2468-verzuh-menzies>



Munro's Books: \$30.95
Bolen Books: \$33.50

WHEN we think about the men who came to British Columbia's western shores centuries ago, we don't imagine nice gentlemen dressed in tricorne hats and colourful uniforms that set out to be kind to the indigenous people. After all, the intent was to rob and pillage in the worldwide quest for wealth and empire. Well, Doctor Archibald Menzies (1754-1842) is here to tell us another kinder side of that story.

No, that does not mean the pillaging didn't go on relentlessly. Images come to mind of a rowdy bunch of armed marauders who are here to steal whatever they can regardless of who they encounter. We also think of the British class system with its ready supply of workers being gang-pressed into service for the Royal Navy. The job: seize land for the ever vaster British Empire.

But Archibald – author Graeme Menzies uses his given name rather than his surname – is vocally against the plundering and abuse of the First Nations his ships encountered. In fact, he befriended them during his two round-the-world voyages that brought him to the west coast of Vancouver Island. The second time it is aboard the *Discovery* captained by George Vancouver. The ship was once under the command of Captain James Cook, so it had plenty of history to share, including how Cook died at the hands of indigenous Hawaiians.



Vancouver-based author Graeme Menzies at Castle Menzies near Aberfeldy, Scotland, with a bust of Archibald Menzies.

Vancouver's mission was to map the west coast in hopes of finding a northwest passage to the trading riches of Asia. Archibald was tasked with the lesser task of collecting samples of plants, seeds, and animal and bird life through the Pacific west coast to send home to his benefactor, the redoubtable Joseph Banks. Banks, having made three world adventures with Cook in the 1780s, was Britain's chief seed and plant man of the age. He was in charge of a huge treasury of exotic snipping and plucking that made the empire richer by the shipload. It was the dutiful Archibald who helped make that possible.

It wasn't only medicine, plants, and animal species that interested Archibald, but the cultural habits of First Nations people as well. For example, he may have been the first European to describe a potlatch ceremony a practice that was banned in 1885. He also observed burial ceremonies where bodies were wrapped and preserved above ground in hoisted canoes. Rather than dismissing such habits and customs as barbaric, he was able to compare them with those of his native Scotland....



Chief Maquinna hosting British and Spanish guests at a potlatch ceremony. *Illustrator unattributed; "Macuina's House", Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Madrid, Spain.*

Of the many experiences Archibald shared in his journal, the Nootka Sound diplomatic incident between Vancouver and the suave and older Spanish commander—Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra—was perhaps the most fraught with violent possibility. In the end, he witnessed a non-violent handover from Spain to Britain, but there were some tense moments....

While this review specifically covers Archibald's sojourns to these lands, Menzies also provides accounts of the doctor's exploits in Macao and Hawaii, where Archibald befriended King Kamehameha and other Hawaiians. In the Caribbean, he was part of the British battleship fleet that defeated the French Navy at the Battle of the Saintes....

Archibald married in his late 40s. He and his wife Janet lived happily in financial security. The couple had no children and he outlived her by many years. In retirement, he saw many events unfold in the nineteenth century, among them the deaths of Captain William Bligh of HMS *Bounty* and his friend King Kamehameha, to name but two.

In many ways, his biggest legacy was his enduring belief in equality. Author Menzies does much speculating about what Archibald might have thought, but his speculation about his subject's sense of justice was sound. "Archibald would have been affronted by the post-Confederation Indian Act . . . which essentially made indigenous people wards of the state and alienated them from direct control of their land, rights and culture."

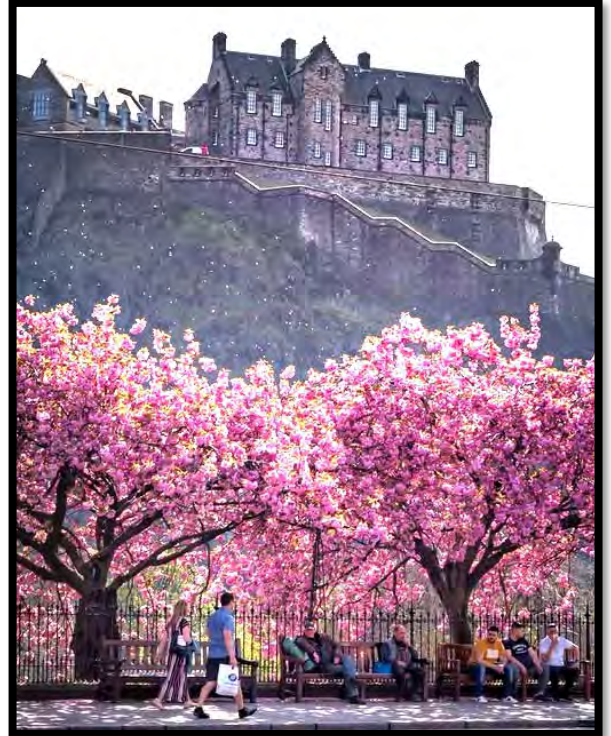
His [Archibald's] memory is preserved in BC with some artifacts held at the *Royal BC Museum and Archives* in Victoria and by a bronze bust that can be viewed at the *VanDusen Botanical Gardens* in Vancouver. Ω

Ron Verzuh is a writer and historian.

Spring flowers in Scotland ... and a nod to England!



Daffodils by ruins of Dunskey Castle — 12th century tower house — near Portpatrick in Galloway, in the south-west of Scotland. *Photo: JustDive.*



Cherry blossoms below Edinburgh Castle. *Photo: BeautyOf Scotland.*



A bit of scenic heresy — Dean Park beside Yorkminster, North Yorkshire. This is a tad outside Scotland! *Photo: John Wellock.*



Spring flowers looking towards Eilan Donan Castle, Kyle of Lochalsh, Scotland. *Photo: Sylvia Dodart.*

Stone of Scone

Abridged from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stone_of_Scone



The Stone of Scone being carried out from Edinburgh Castle in preparation for its use at the coronation in 2023 of Charles III.

Photo: Wikipedia.

EDINBURGH — The Stone of Scone (/ˈskuːn/; Scottish Gaelic: *An Lia Fàil*, meaning Stone of Destiny, also called *clach-na-cinneamhuinn*; Scots: *Stane o' Scone*) is an oblong block of red sandstone that was used in the coronation of Scottish monarchs until the 13th century, and thereafter in the coronation of English and later British monarchs. The Stone measures 26 by 16.7 by 10.5 inches (66 cm × 42 cm × 27 cm) and weighs approximately 335 lb (152 kg; 23.9 st). A cross is roughly incised on one surface, and an iron ring at each end aids with transport.



Stone of Scone, showing iron rings on both ends.

Photo: www.danjones.substack.com

Monarchs sat on the Stone of Scone itself, until a wooden platform was added to the Coronation Chair in the 17th century. [See photo on upper right.] The artefact was originally kept at the now-ruined Scone Abbey in Scone, near Perth. In 1296, the forces of Edward I of England captured it during Edward's invasion of Scotland. The Stone was subsequently used in the coronation of English monarchs and British monarchs for over 500 years.

In 1996, the stone was returned to Scotland, and kept in Edinburgh Castle with the Honours of Scotland. The stone remains property of the Crown and is transported to London for use at coronations. Since March 2024, it has been on permanent public display in Perth.... Various theories exist on where the stone was, before being located at the monastery of Scone, three kilometers north of Perth... For several hundred years, the Stone of Scone was placed in the Coronation Chair at Westminster Abbey. [Again, see photo on the upper right].

In 1914, the stone was broken in half by a suffragette bombing. In 1296, during the First Scottish War of Independence, Edward I of England took the stone as spoils of war and removed it to Westminster Abbey, where it was fitted into a wooden chair – known as the Coronation Chair or King Edward's Chair – on which most subsequent English and then British sovereigns have been crowned. Edward I sought to claim the status of the "Lord Paramount" of Scotland, with the right to oversee its King. The Westminster Stone theory posits that the monks



Stone of Destiny inside the coronation chair at Westminster Abbey.

Photo: Sean Dempsey, PA Images/Getty Images.

at Scone Palace hid the real stone in the River Tay, or buried it on Dunsinane Hill, and that the English troops were tricked into taking a substitute. Some proponents of this theory claim that historic descriptions of the stone do not match the present stone...

The possibility that the Coronation Chair could be damaged or destroyed by German air raids during the Second World War resulted in it being moved to Gloucester Cathedral for the duration of the war. Concerns about the propaganda implications of the Stone falling into German hands led to it being hidden behind ancient lead coffins in a burial vault under Abbot Islip's Chapel, situated off the north ambulatory of the abbey... On Christmas Day 1950, a group of four Scottish students — Ian Hamilton, Gavin Vernon, Kay Matheson, and Alan Stuart — removed the stone from Westminster Abbey, intending to return it to Scotland. During the removal process, the stone broke into two pieces. After burying the greater part of the Stone in a Kent field, where they camped for a few days, they uncovered the buried stone and returned to Scotland...

On 3 July 1996, in response to a growing discussion around Scottish cultural history, the British Government announced that the stone would return to Scotland, 700 years after it had been taken. On 15 November 1996, after a handover ceremony at the border between representatives of the Home Office and of the Scottish Office, the stone was transported to Edinburgh Castle. An official handover ceremony occurred in the Castle on 30th of November 1996, St Andrew's Day, to mark the arrival of the stone. As of 30 March 2024, it resides in the new Perth Museum.



Copy of Stone of Scone in front of chapel at Scone, built much later. Photo: Wikipedia.

Scottish memes reign supreme!



Haggis With Curlers. Alan Collier,
WildHaggisAnimalDiscoveryGroup.



A Wee Bit of Bovine Smalltalk. @BovineSmalltalk



Love Den.

Clive Francis, WildHaggisAnimalDiscoveryGroup (WHADG)



Sheep Smile.

MadeInScotland.



Haggsplore Airporter Bus. *ScottishAye.*



Haggis Gang Hijacks Whisky. Colin Stewart,
WildHaggisAnimalDiscoveryGroup.*



Nanny Whoppins and Her Faroe Haggles.
Arden Walker, WHADG.*



Haggis duo at Bus Shelter.
ScottishAye.

For many of the websites listed, you will need to copy them into your browser, as the PDF format of the newsletter does not preserve the original link. The web address or email is correct but sometimes the automatic link is broken. Sorry for inconvenience. Editor.

Scottish Culture:

Saltire Society of Victoria: The current Provost is Bob Williamson. saltireofvictoria@gmail.com

Victoria Gaelic Choir: The group sings in both Gaelic and English. vicgaelicchoir@gmail.com

Victoria Highland Games Association: President is Jim Maxwell. www.victoriahighlandgames.com

Victoria Scottish Community Centre is available for use: <https://vicscotcentre.ca/bookevent>

Websites:

The Celtic Connection: Burnaby-based tabloid, publishing since 1991. Online at celtic-connection.com

The Scottish Banner is a digital download subscription service. View at: www.scottishbanner.com

Bruce Knight Memorial Piobaireachd Competition <https://www.facebook.com/bruceknightmemorial>

Rampant Scotland is a site begun in 1996 and written by Alan Scott www.RampantScotland.com/letter.htm

Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners. Did you ever work in the UK? You may be eligible for a pension. info@britishpensions.com or www.britishpensions.com

Dance Instruction:

Brentwood Scottish Country Dancers: Contact Janet Mitchell at mitchel5@telus.net for more detailed information. Classes happen at the Brentwood Centre.

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society: www.viscds.ca Weekly classes for various levels of ability. Further information may be had from Kathryn Knowles, viscdspresident@shaw.ca

Bon Accord Highland Dancers: Lynne Griffiths. Tel. 250 479-7804 BonAccordDancers@shaw.ca

Glengarry Highland Dancers: Carolyn Phillips-Cusson. Tel. 250 758-0208 or email for information to info@celticperformingarts.com

Kathleen Laurie School of Highland Dance: Tel. 250 213-9627 dancehighland@gmail.com

Kathy White's Island Highland Dance Academy: kathywhitedance@hotmail.com Cell 250-710-0837

Katie Dean School of Highland Dance: H 250-920-3513 cell 250-514-8110 kdean@shaw.ca

O'Brien School of Irish Dancing: Teachers — Mairead O'Brien/Crystal van Boven. www.obrienirishdance.com Tel. 604 340-2370.

Victoria Highland Dance Association. Sponsors competitions, etc. Contact at www.vhda.weebly.com

Victoria School of Irish Dance: www.victoriairishdancers.com Contact Alison Paladini at 250 888-9421 or alisonpaladini@icloud.com

Mary Ross — Accordionist, Instructor, Scottish Country Dance Musician. Tel. 250 383-8877 or email midimaryross@gmail.com

Victoria Area Pipe Bands:

BC Pipers' Association serves solo Highland Bagpipers, Scottish Drummers and Pipe Bands in British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon. www.bcpipers.org

Canadian Scottish Regimental Association Pipe Band www.canadianscottishregiment.ca

Capital City Pipe Band for youth: www.vicscotcentre.ca

Castle Cary Pipes and Drums. For band info go to: www.castlecarypipesanddrums.ca

Cowichan Pipes and Drums. Contact Joel Bailey, band manager, at jo3@shaw.ca

443 Squadron RCAF Pipe Band. P/M Stephen Kelly Stephen.kelly@forces.gc.ca or stevekelly@live.ca

Greater Victoria Police Pipe Band. www.gvppb.com Pipe Major Warren Fells; Drum Major Randy Evans.

Pipe Band of the Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's). Drum Major Glen Ereat, contact at Glen.Ereat@forces.gc.ca

Saanich Peninsula Pipe Band. Pipe Major Doug Foster. <https://www.sppb.ca>

78th Fraser's Highlanders Pipe Band. Contact Pipe Major Dave Hjalmarsen at nordicsword@hotmail.com

2136 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps Pipes and Drums. www.2136cadets.ca

VanIsle Caledonia Pipe Band. Contact Pipe Major Richard Findlay at www.vanislecaledonia.com

Local Businesses With Celtic Flavour:

Bard and Banker Scottish Pub, 1022 Government St, Victoria www.bardandbanker.com

Caledonia Meats. Haggis makers. colegriffiths11@gmail.com or 250 857-5260.

Craigdarroch Castle, 1050 Joan Cresc, Victoria. Built by Scottish coal baron Robert Dunsmuir. <https://thecastle.ca/>

Fraser Orr's Butcher and Deli, 108-1931 Mt. Newton Cross Rd., Saanichton. Haggis, Scotch pies, etc. www.fraserorr'sbutcher.com

Irish Linen Stores, 655 Fort St, Victoria www.irishlinenvictoria.com

Irish Times Pub, 1200 Government St, Victoria www.irishtimespub.ca

Lion Rampant Scottish Pub, 6777 Beaumont Avenue, Duncan. www.lionrampant.ca

Macaloney's Island Distillery & Twa Dogs Brewery does tours and events. www.victoriacaledonian.com

North of Hadrians Kilts and Celtic Clothing, 102-318 Wale Rd, Victoria. 778 406-2243 www.northofhadrians.com

Out of Ireland Irish Importers, 1000 Government St., Victoria www.outofireland.ca

The Tartan Guild: Tartan roses and other tartan touches at www.thetartanguild.com or 250 880-8484.