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Message from the President

Stephen Hope

This edition of the newsletter has been slightly delayed by an extended overseas trip that Ourania and I were meant to have taken in 2020. In fact as I write this note

sitting in a Greek hillside village across the valley from the ancient site of Mycenae we are still a few days away from returning home.



We began our trip with a two week visit to Scotland where we were able to visit some Clan Hope related sites while doing a little informal

family heritage research mixed with general sightseeing but you can read a little more about that below.

Please consider contributing to newsletter@clanhope.org any news, events, stories, family history, recipes, etc.

This newsletter belongs to our members but relies on your participation to keep it relevant and alive. If you are a member of our Facebook group please also consider posting information there as well so we can encourage those people who aren't yet clan members to join and participate in the clan.

If you haven't renewed your membership yet please head to our website <https://www.clanhope.org> to renew online.

Let me wish you all the best for 2023, Sláinte Math - Good Health to you and your families.

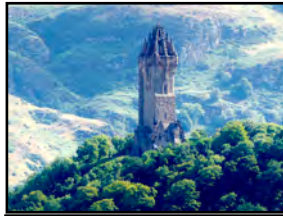
Two Weeks in Scotland, July 2023

By Stephen Hope

We arrived in Scotland on the 11th of July and immediately headed to Stirling for our first night. Home to so many pivotal events and locations it seemed the best place to begin our two



A different view of Stirling Castle



Wallace Monument from Stirling Castle

weeks travel around the highlands and then down into the Borders.

A visit to Stirling Castle is a must and we were not disappointed to begin our journey at this historic site from which I was able to take this photo of the Wallace Monument across the valley.



Looking through the trees to the remnant of wall of the former Craighall Castle

We drove across Fife to Ceres (pronounced Siries) to stay a night at Craighall Steading B&B. As you may have guessed Craighall Steading is a small farm and B&B next to the site where Sir Thomas Hope's Craighall Castle once stood. Of course there is little left to see of the castle

except this remnant of a wall in a grove above the B&B but the accommodation was lovely and dinner in nearby Cupar with a trivia night where, at my request, they added a question about Sir Thomas Hope was a wonderful and friendly evening laughing with the locals about my lack of Scottish sporting teams knowledge.



Blair Castle

From Ceres we drove up to Pitlochry and stayed in an excellent guest house at Blair Athol not far from Blair Castle. We also fitted in a whisky tasting as well at the Blair Athol Distillery.



Blair Athol Distillery



Culloden Moor Battlefield



Inverness and the Culloden Moor Battlefield were our next destination and the immersive battlefield

experience in the visitor's centre gives you an understanding of what it would have been like. However the guided tour of the battlefield itself was even more informative explaining the conditions but also breaking down the myth that this was a battle simply between the English and the Scots. It was much more than that and Scots fought on both sides during this time.

An unplanned side trip to Skye while on our way to Fort William was too good an opportunity to miss so we departed the shores of Loch Ness for the Kyle of Lochalsh before tracing our way back to Loch Ness, no sightings of Nessie were forthcoming and we continued our drive to Fort William.



Glen Coe



Eilean Donan Castle at the Kyle of Lochalsh



Ouriana Hope at Glen Coe



Highland Games at Inveraray Castle

Fort William offered the chance to ride the Jacobite Express over the Glenfinnan Arch as well as visiting Glen Coe. I now understand the ire that still exists between Campbells and MacDonalds. However the new visitors centre at Glen Coe and the recently constructed Turf House are worth visiting not just for the views.

Oban was our next port of call but we stopped in at the Inveraray Highland Games on the way.

Oban an obvious point to visit the islands of Mull, Iona, Lismore and many more of the Hebrides.



Ourania Hope at the Falkirk Wheel



The Kelpies

From Oban we drove down

by Loch Lomond to Falkirk visiting the Wheel and the Kelpies on our way to Jedburgh.

On the way we visited Linlithgow to see the statue of Sir John Adrian Louis Hope, 7th Earl of Hopetoun, 1st Marquess of Hopetoun, 1st Governor General. The statue stands in the Rose Garden just outside the palace walls.



Sir John Adrian Louis Hope, 7th Earl of Hopetoun



Jedburgh Abbey

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 Y few days at Jedburgh as it, and the nearby villages of Ancrum and Roxburgh are closely linked with my family heritage. O e hoped to be able to find some traces of the people and places we knew of through our genealogy research but

also have the opportunity to meet with Colin Hope, Clan Hope of Craighall Society's Commissioner for Scotland.



Colin and Alison Hope, Clan Hope of Craighall Society's Commissioner for Scotland



Burt's Hotel, Melrose

We couldn't have been happier to meet Colin and his wife Alison have a look around Ancrum Cemetery for Hope headstones and enjoy a lovely meal at their new house in Lilliesleaf and have dinner in with them at Burt's Hotel in Melrose.

In Jedburgh I was able to find the headstone of a Hope from Hopehouse in the Jedburgh Abbey cemetery. Not a known ancestor of mine but perhaps someone else in the clan will recognise the name William Hope.



Hope	William Hope of Hopehouse, died 27.1.1847
Borthwick	aged 77, wife Agnes Borthwick died 5.1.1834
	aged 48, daughter Alison died 15.1.1832 aged
	23, Robert, Thomas and Christian died young,
	son Adam died 25.11.1871 aged 60, daughter
	Isabella died 21.4.1877 aged 65, son James
	died Jedburgh 5.6.1900 aged 72

Editor's Note: I can claim aforementioned William Hope as the brother of my g.g.g.grandfather, David Hope; they, along with other siblings, being sons to Thomas Hope (1757-1820) of Jedburgh and his wife Sophia Henderson, also of Jedburgh.

In the village of Roxburgh we had more success tracing some of my ancestral history.



L-R: Roxburgh Church and Stephen Hope

The church, which dates back to the late 12th century, has headstones of many Hopes and was the church in which my 6 X great grandparents, James Hope and Jenot Mertine were married in 1707.

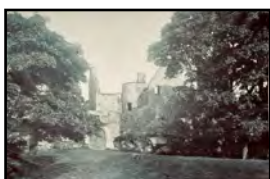
Our final day was spent back in Edinburgh tracing some Clan Hope of Craighall history. We visited St Michael's church in Inverness where the Hope Baronets and family have been buried since the late 1700s.



We were then given a guided tour of the Granton Castle Walled Garden by The Friends of Granton Castle Walled Garden. A plaque has been erected on the wall to the garden where Sir Thomas Hope, 1st Baronet of Craighall lived for some time.

Sadly, like Craighall Castle in Fife, Granton Castle no longer exists.

Our last stop was out at South Queensferry at the Hopetoun House Estate.



We had visited Hopetoun House in 2011 but the purpose of this visit was to find and photograph the only remnant of the original Craighall Castle from Fife.

A stone eagle was rescued from Craighall before it was demolished in the 1950s and is mounted on the corner of the north wall.



Midhope Castle

Of course no visit to Hopetoun Estate would be complete without seeing Midhope Castle now made famous as the fictional home of Jamie Fraser 'Lallybroch' in the Outlander TV series.



Ourania and Stephen Hope in front of Midhope Castle

We were lucky just to squeeze ourselves in just before closing time after the last bus load of tourists were embarking their bus so we had Midhope to ourselves.

It was a jam packed two weeks which we thoroughly enjoyed.

From Kilt to Quilt

By Maggie Hope Tucker



Above is a quilt made from the offcuts from the making of kilts. Apparently, after the kilt has been pleated and to reduce the bulk around the waist area; and no doubt to also reduce the weight of the kilt - the pleats are trimmed which creates small pieces of offcuts measuring approximately 3.5cm x 5ish cm, depending on the size of the kilt being made.

I obtained the offcuts from Australia's only kilt maker who is based near Ipswich, Queensland. They have a ready and steady market for these pieces of tartans, for a wide range of uses. In my case, I made a Knee Quilt (or Knee Rug) from them.

Huge thanks to Doug from St Kilda Retail.

Historic Houses in Scotland

*Grandtully Castle, near Aberfeldy,
Perth and Kinross (formerly Perthshire), SCT*

But what is the Borders connection???



In this the sixth in the series of "Houses in the Borders" one wonders what the Borders connection is,

considering Grandtully Castle is situated in what was called Perthshire at the time!

However, fear not, as there is a Borders connection through my g.g.grandfather, one of his brothers and their father (my g.g.g.grandfather) and so I am featuring it in this newsletter. The Hope family of interest, were historically from Jedburgh, Rox., SCT - which is firmly in the Borders but for a time, these members of the one family worked as Gamekeepers together, at Grandtully Castle in the late 1840s.

Grandtully Castle is an historic building in Grandtully, Perth and Kinross, Scotland. It is a Category A listed building dating to 1560. An earlier castle stood around 1 mile east and dates from 1414; but only its foundations remain.

An impressive, substantial and well-preserved fortress, Grandtully (pronounced 'Grantly') Castle consists of a 16th-century Z-plan tower house of three storeys and a garret with 17th-century alterations and extensions. To this was added a large mansion in the same style in 1893. The tower may incorporate older work as the walls are very thick.

The tower consists of a rectangular main block and square towers, projecting at opposite corners, with a tall round stair-tower rising in one re-entrant angle. Conical-roofed bartizans crown several of the corners.



From a postcard dated 1890, showing the adjoining Chapel

The entrance, at the foot of the stair-tower, is flanked by a guardroom with a pit-prison. The basement is vaulted, and the old kitchen is in one of the square towers. The hall, on the first floor of the main block, was panelled.

The castle is prominently marked on Pont's map of the Upper Tay as 'Garntully', and is depicted as a large castle with several tall towers with conical roofs, in an enclosed and wooded park.

Grandtully was a property of the Stewarts from the 14th century, and Thomas Stewart of Grandtully is mentioned in 1587, then Sir William Stewart in 1612 and later.

The castle is in a strategic position and was used by the Marquis of Montrose, General Mackay, Argyll, the Earl of Mar in the Jacobite Rising of 1715, and Bonnie Prince Charlie in the 1745 Rising. Murthly Castle was the chief messuage for the barony of Grandtully, but Grandtully was restored and reoccupied by the Stewarts in the 1920s.

After defeat at the Battle of Killiecrankie, a soldier killed an officer in one of the bartizans, the blood staining the floor and said to be permanently visible.

According to the Laird (Mr H Stewart Fotheringham, Grandtully Castle) a family charter of 1414 states that the castle originated as a square keep about 1400. Further records and dated stones within the fabric of the castle signify that it was rebuilt on the L-plan about 1525. It was again improved in 1626 and substantial additions made in 1893-6. The remains of a fortified gatehouse (shown on MacGibbon and Ross' sketch) provided with oval gunloops with circular perforations survives at the entrance to the drive. It seems likely that this dates from the early 17th century and was the gatehouse to the castle courtyard since demolished.

The Fotheringham family owned the property from 1400-1979 when it passed into the hands of Mr R D Finlay. The Castle continues to be a private home.

From Aberfeldy Museum Facebook: Thanks again to Charles Hay who spotted this very rare photograph of Grandtully Castle on ebay recently.



It shows the adjoining chapel which was demolished prior to 1890 to make way for an extension which was built around

then. Charles tells

us that the first photograph (1890 or before) is the only one he has ever seen of the building at this stage. The second, from a later date, (1894 or after), shows the completed work.

Sources: Wikipedia, The Castles of Scotland, Canmore, Aberfeldy Museum Facebook,



Recipe Corner: Scotch Broth

Because any time is Scotch Broth time



- 1 ham hock or small ham joint, 800g-1kg (smoked or unsmoked, depending on your preference)
- 1 ham stock cube (optional)
- 50g yellow split peas (rinsed thoroughly and soaked for 4 hours), drained
- 100g red lentils, rinsed thoroughly
- 100g pearl barley, rinsed thoroughly
- 2 leeks, finely chopped
- 2 carrots, finely diced
- ½ tsp white pepper
- Crusty bread and salted butter to serve (optional)
Tart

Put the ham in a large pan and cover with cold water. Bring to the boil, then drain. Rinse the ham to get rid of some of the salt. Cover again with 2-3 litres of cold water and bring to the boil. Add the stock cube (if using), soaked split peas, red lentils and pearl barley, then simmer gently for 3 hours on a low medium heat, skimming any foam from the top as it cooks.

Remove the ham and set aside to cool slightly. Add the leeks and carrots to the broth, then cook for a further 20 minutes until tender.

Once the ham is cool enough to handle, shred half of it into bite-size pieces and add to the broth. Add the white pepper and some salt (if needed – it's usually salty enough).

I serve the broth with thick buttered sliced bread and extra ham on the side, like granny did.

Source: *Delicious UK* (<https://www.deliciousmagazine.co.uk/recipes/scotch-broth/>)

Found on Facebook



World Archaeologists Hunt for Lost Palace in Scottish Borders

An international effort is being made to identify a medieval palace in the Scottish Borders.

Archaeologists and students from Australia, the USA, Canada and the Netherlands have descended on a field outside the village of Ancrum.

Earlier digs have identified a "substantial" medieval building, without establishing its purpose.

Archaeologist Ian Hill said: "We are now trying to determine exactly what the building was."

Documents show that the Bishop of Glasgow, William de Bondington, had a summer residence at Ancrum, near Jedburgh, from the 1230s until his death in 1258.

The palace entertained Scots royalty with at least three charters being signed there by Alexander II in 1236.

Through the centuries, a substantial building on the Mantle Walls hillside was gradually lost, with stone being taken to build parts of the neighbouring village.

Local folklore continued to locate the bishop's palace at the site, and ploughing of the land regularly threw up pieces of medieval and post-medieval pottery, as well as human bones.

In the 1990s Alistair Munro, who lives nearby, walked Mantle Walls several times with the dowsing rods he used for locating underground water sources.

His initial discovery of substantial areas of stonework beneath the harvested field led to historians and archaeologists taking interest.

Following a geophysical survey in 2011 - which corroborated much of Alistair's mapping - excavations were carried out the following year and again in 2019. Through finds, including medieval ironwork and substantial stone walls, archaeologists are confident that Mantle Walls was the residence of the Bishop of Glasgow.

But defining proof has yet to be found as much of the collapsed walls had been taken by builders in the 17th and 18th centuries, and metal-detectorists are known to have targeted the fields for many decades.

Mr Munro said: "Ever since I came here to try out my dowsing rods and found some structure, getting to the truth about this site has been a passion of mine.

"With each survey and dig we get more information, and hopefully over the coming weeks we'll be able to get closer to being able to say for definite what was here.

"We have archaeologists and students from all over the world helping us, which shows how much interest there is in getting the answers we're looking for."

The previous archaeological surveys and digs have provided enough evidence for Mantle Walls to become a scheduled monument of national importance.

This latest dig, which will last until 16 September, will concentrate on three or four pits surrounding the main protected area.

Ian Hill from HARP Archaeology is leading the excavation.

He said: "While a substantial medieval building has already been identified we don't know the extent of the site or if there were more buildings.

"We would love to be able to say for sure what the site was, and hopefully boundary walls and other outlying structures will enable us to do that."

Fourteen archaeology masters students from across the world signed up to take part in the two-week project.

Cambridge University student Sully Newman travelled from London with his trowel.

He said: "It is great to be here with students and archaeologists from all over the world to gain experience of working on such an important dig.

"We are learning about medieval history in this part of the world and how this building would have fitted in to the landscape of that time."

Source: BBC Scotland, 8 September 2023



Upcoming Events in Australia

Clans on the Coast Celtic Festival - Raymond Terrace, NSW Saturday 23rd September, 2023



Stephen and Ourania Hope will be representing Clan Hope at this not to be missed event.

The Celtic festival is held in the Port Stephens Region at Raymond Terrace, NSW, Australia.

We have everything from Scottish Pipe Bands, Celtic Bands, Variety and Celtic Stalls, Food Stalls, Caber Toss, Tug-Of-War, Celtic Dancers, Highland Dancers, Irish Dancers, Rusty Harper Irish Folk Band

Historic Re-enactment Guild.

EAST COAST STRONGMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Followed by Ceilidh Dinner Dance and Entertainment at the Raymond Terrace Bowling Club

Canberra Highland Gathering Saturday 7th October, 2023



Stephen and Ourania Hope will be representing Clan Hope at the Canberra Highland Gathering again in 2023.

The Highland Gathering is a fun family event, with something for everyone. there is a dedicated kids area with a range of activities we're sure everyone will enjoy.

If you are a gathering veteran or you are looking for something new, we look forward to seeing you in October.

Making Membership Even Easier

Clan Hope now has its own QR Code for membership.

Clan Hope of Craighall



Crest: A broken terrestrial globe surmounted by a rainbow issuing out of a cloud at each end all Proper

Motto: At Spes Infracta (Yet Our Hope is Unbroken)

Surnames: Hope, Hop, Hob, Hoip, Hoep, Hoop, Hoppe, Haupt, De Hope

Hope-Vere/Weir #2 (ancient), chosen by Hope Clan Society




<https://www.clanhope.org/membershipapp/memberapp.html>

Using the QR reader on your phone, this link will take you straight to the Clan's Membership page. Try it for yourself and then start signing up your kith and kin.