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Message from the President

Stephen Hope



Let me welcome all our Clan Hope of Craighall Society members to a New Year of Clan Hope Newsletters.

The holiday season has delayed the publishing of our newsletter while our editor and her

husband have been off on a cruise to New Zealand but Maggie can perhaps tell you more about that.

We hope to see more activity in the USA this coming spring and summer as Highland Gatherings and Celtic Festivals start to happen so, while the Northern Hemisphere is still in the depths of winter remember that the days are getting longer and soon it'll be time to think about where the nearest Scottish event is happening.

Of course January 25th is still a great opportunity to get together for a Burns Supper to celebrate Robbie Burn's birthday.

Can I remind Annual Members the Annual Renewal is now due for payment. I'd like to thank members that have already done so.

This year if we haven't receive annual renewals by the 31st January for the coming calendar year 2024 we will sadly be removing unfinancial members from the active list and that will include mail out of these newsletters . So if you are yet to renew your membership please go to the clan website

<https://www.clanhope.org>

to renew online and use the Membership Renewal link to submit your renewal and payment. We have maintained annual family membership to just \$20.00USD

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

Let me wish you all the best for 2024, Sláinte Mhath - Good Health to you and your families.

4th Cousins Unite

by Maggie Hope Tucker

As mentioned in our President's Message, my husband and I recently enjoyed a cruise around New Zealand, over Christmas and into the New Year.

One of the highlights was meeting my 4th cousins (2 sisters) and some of their families. By happenstance, one of the ports of call for this ship called into their home town. I had been in contact with Steph and mentioned that we would be in her home town on Boxing Day (26 December) and asked if she would be home. "Yes" came the reply and so we set the wheels in motion for a meeting.



*Hope 4th Cousins: Steph, Maggie & Delwyn
December 2023*

As any genealogist knows, to even know one's 4th cousin, one has to not only trace one's tree back several generations but then look at their siblings and come back down the tree to one's own generation! There's a lot of family history research going on just to get to that point. And then, one has to try and make contact with those people! And this is where DNA matches help immeasurably.

For most of us, we can barely keep up with our 1st cousins and often the first cousins of our parents and their siblings (that is, our 2nd cousins) is a task way too complex and distant to even contemplate. But being in touch with 3rd and 4th cousins are beyond normal comprehension!

In our case, our tree back to our common ancestor looks like this:

David Hope (1777-1856)

2 of David's 10 children were: Thomas Hope (my g.g.grandfather) and his sister Sophia Hope (Steph's g.g.grandmother).

Just by the by, the author of an article in our last Clan Hope Newsletter ("My Family History Journey") was

another of my Hope 4th cousins - she was Jacki, the g.g.granddaughter of James Hope, youngest sibling of aforementioned Thomas and Sophia.

Anyway, back to our meeting: our time together was certainly special - of course, neither of us knew if we'd even hit it off - after all, it was quite a loose thread that tied us together - and yet, we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and got on very well indeed. And even our spouses quickly found common ground and chatted like long-lost buddies.

All in all, while our time together was very short, given that we needed to be back on board our ship at a specific hour, the quality of that time far exceeded any of our expectations. Plans have now been made for another get-together but next time, we'll have a bit more time together. Between the sisters they have family in Australia and so when they next visit, we'll go to wherever and spend a bit more time in each others company. Yay!!!

Scottish Tradition - Hogmanay

from The Spruce Eats (Elaine Lemm)

And so we start another new year. With memories of our own New Year's Eve and Day celebrations still fresh in our minds, I thought we'd take a look at how our Scottish families have traditionally celebrated the changing from one year to another.

Hogmanay is the Scottish celebration of New Year's Eve and can last for days—no one celebrates the eve quite like the Scots! It is believed the Scots inherited the celebration of Hogmanay from the Vikings and their celebration of the shortest day of the year.



But many believe that as Christmas was virtually banned and not celebrated in Scotland from the end of the 17th century until the 1950s, New Year's Eve was a good excuse for some revelry and a reason to drink whisky and eat good food.

Many traditions surround the evening—including the centuries-old custom of First Footing—and Hogmanay involves parties and festivals across Scotland with the largest and most famous public party in Edinburgh—and traditional food and drink are a huge part of all of this.

Savoury Foods to Serve at Hogmanay

Hogmanay food includes all the traditional foods of Scotland, so expect to find hearty warm dishes as befits this time of year. Up at the top of this list is haggis, sheep organs mixed with oats and seasonings and boiled in a sheep's stomach. But there will also be other classics such as a cock-a-leekie soup (chicken soup) and hearty, substantial fare like venison pie with a



side dish of either Rumbledethumps (potato and vegetable bake) or delicious traditional tatties and neeps (potatoes and turnips). All of these recipes are easy to make and will bring an authentic touch to your New Year's Eve celebrations.

Classic Sweet Dishes to Serve at Hogmanay

For those with a sweet-tooth, shortbread (a buttery, crumbly cookie) is always present at Hogmanay and sometimes served with cheese. There will also most certainly be Scottish Cranachan— toasted oatmeal with Scottish raspberries and cream—or a tipsy laird trifle, which is similar to a classic British trifle but is doused in



whisky instead of sherry.

Hogmanay Drinks

When it comes to liquor in Scotland, it has to be whisky. Scotch whisky (which is spelled without the "e") is world-renowned and what better time to drink it than Hogmanay. Nobody knows exactly when the art of distilling was first practiced in Scotland, but belief is it was the Ancient Celts who first made whisky. The Celts call it uisge beatha—the water of life—which evolved into Scotch, a drink made only in Scotland but enjoyed around the world.

Of course, you can drink Scotch whisky neat (no ice or mixer), on the rocks (with ice), or as part of a cocktail, like an Affinity, a Scotch Manhattan.

If beer is more your speed, there are plenty of Scotch and Scottish ales to choose from. The two are both dark beers but are quite distinct from each other in flavour.

First footing - 1st January

For New Year's Eve, a house planned its first footing, or First-Foot, so that a tall, dark and handsome man bearing cakes or coins would be the first after midnight to walk through the door. Such a man planting a "first foot" in the house meant good luck for the year. To ensure good luck for the house the first foot should be a dark-haired male, and he should bring with him symbolic pieces of coal, shortbread, salt, black bun and a wee dram of whisky.

Burns Night

There are many things that Scots do incredibly well. Celebrations and whisky are two of them. Burns Night combines both of these to pay tribute to Scotland's National Bard.

Known in medieval Celtic culture as a story teller, verse maker and composer, the word 'Bard' has become synonymous with the world's greatest poets. However, few are as celebrated as Scotland's own "National Bard", Robert Burns.



Burns Night itself marks the anniversary of Robert Burns' birth on 25 January 1759 and the traditional Burns Supper is an evening event that celebrates his life and work.

History can trace its origins back to nine of Burns' close friends who held a dinner to celebrate his work and mark the fifth anniversary of their friend's death. The get-together took place at Burns Cottage in Alloway and consisted of a meal, performance of Burns' poetry and a speech.

Nowadays, celebrations on Burns Night often include music, dancing, and other forms of entertainment but the food, the whisky and the recitals of Burns' work are still always at the heart of the festivities.

Burns' Night is a time to enjoy Scottish traditions and celebrate the renowned poet Robert Burns with a classic combination of haggis, neeps, tatties, some reciting of poetry and maybe even a warming dram. It's also an opportunity to celebrate Scotland's enduring legacy of creativity.

Join us as we raise a toast to the immortal words of Burns. Immerse yourself in a tradition that transcends time and discover the extraordinary talent that defines Scotland. It's a place where the past and the present come together and create a celebration that resonates with the spirit of Scotland.

What are Burns Night Traditions?

Piping in the Guests

Large-scale Burns Night celebrations begin with a piper playing as a welcome to guests. But if you don't have someone willing to perform at your front door as friends and family arrive, some traditional music will work just as nicely. To get the festivities started, you could offer a whisky cocktail once guests have settled. Something on theme, like the Full Scottish Marmalade, would go down a treat.

The Selkirk Grace

After the host of the evening has welcomed everyone and revealed what the evening's entertainment will be, The Selkirk Grace is recited. This is a short but important prayer that is said before the Burns Night Supper commences.

In connection with the poet's visit to the seat of the Earl of Selkirk, it is stated that at one of the meals there, Burns was asked to say Grace, and he delivered what is usually styled 'The Selkirk Grace':

Some folk hae meat that canna eat,
And some can eat that want it;
But we hae meat, and we can eat,
So let the Lord be Thanket!

Address to the Haggis

The haggis is the star of any Burns Night meal, and it is usually brought to diners on a silver platter by a procession of people including the chef. During the haggis' journey to the table, guests clap in time to the music. Once placed down, the music stops and everyone takes their seat.

A chosen person then recites Address to a Haggis, which was written by Burns to show his love for the food. As the line 'His knife see Rustic-labour dight' is spoken, the person cuts the casing of the haggis along its length to reveal the deliciously savoury insides.

The Meal

A traditional Burns Night supper follows. As people eat, chat, and laugh, music is played gently in the background.

Drinks

After the meal, guests usually enjoy sampling a range of whiskies as provided by the chair of the evening. If, as the host, you want to offer something other than neat tipples, there is a range of great whisky cocktails that are sure to delight guests like 'Whisky Sour', 'Hot Toddy' or 'Old Fashioned'.

Entertainment

Entertainment is a key part of any Burns Night celebration, often it will be a singer or musician performing Burns' songs like 'A Red, Red Rose' or 'Rantin, Robin, robin'. There may also be moving renditions of his poems as 'To a Louse' or 'Tam o'Shanter'. If you and your guests aren't up to putting on a concert, there are plenty of wonderful covers available online that you can play and enjoy.

A Toast to the Lassies

One of the essential speeches of any Burns Night party, the toast to the lassies and their subsequent reply pokes fun at the stereotypes of gender differences and praises the role of women in today's society.

A Vote of Thanks

As the night closes in, the chair of the evening gives a final thanks to all attendees and those who have contributed to making the night a success.

Auld Lang Syne

Last but not least, the evening culminates with all guests belting our Auld Lang Syne as they join hands and form a circle. If you want to offer one last cocktail to coincide with this, the 'Auld Alliance' is sure to help you finish the night with a flourish.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
And the days of auld lang syne?

For auld lang syne, my dear
For auld lang syne
We'll drink a cup of kindness yet
For the sake of auld lang syne

And surely you will buy your cup
And surely I'll buy mine!
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
For the sake of auld lang syne

We two have paddled in the stream
From morning sun till night
The seas between us Lord and swell
Since the days of auld lang syne

For old acquaintance be forgot
And never brought to mind
Should old acquaintance be forgot
For the sake of auld lang syne?

For old acquaintance be forgot
And never brought to mind
Should old acquaintance be forgot
In the days of auld lang syne?

For auld lang syne, my dear
For auld lang syne
We'll drink a cup of kindness yet
For the sake of auld lang syne

Sources: theglenlivet.com, sco.wikipedia.org, scotland.org, bbcgoodfood.com

Scottish Recipe Corner

Burns' Cottage Pie

Ingredients:

1 tbsp. olive oil
1 large onion, chopped
2 carrots, chopped
560g/1 1/4lb. beef mince
400g can of tomatoes
290ml/10fl oz. beef stock
1 bay leaf
1 sprig fresh thyme, leaves stripped
2 tbsp. tomato purée
salt and freshly ground black pepper



For the topping
750g/1 1/2 lb. potatoes,
peeled and chopped
225g/8oz. parsnips,
peeled and chopped
2 tsp creamed
horseradish
75g/2 1/2oz. butter
55ml/2fl oz. milk

Method:

Preheat the oven to 190C/170C Fan/Gas 5. Heat the oil in a large pan. Add the onion and carrot and cook over a medium heat for 5 minutes, or until soft. Add the minced

beef and cook for 3 minutes, to brown. Add the tomatoes, purée, beef stock, bay leaf and thyme.

Cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Season. Meanwhile, to make the topping, boil the potatoes and parsnips in water until soft. Drain and mash with the butter and milk. Stir in the horseradish and season with salt and pepper. Spoon the meat into an ovenproof dish. Top with the mash and bake for 30 minutes, or until golden brown.

Source: *The Scottish Banner January 2024*

Another Scottish Tradition or Two

Burning of the Clavie - 11th January.

Why 11th January? This is the date of the Burning of the Clavie, a fire festival unique to Burghead, Scotland, which greets the New Year. The significance of the 11th January dates back to the 1750's, when the Julian calendar was reformed in Britain. The new Gregorian calendar was introduced. People rioted, demanding back their 11 days - but not in Burghead. Brochers decided to have the best of both worlds, by celebrating New Year twice - on 1st January and the 11th January.

Therefore, every 11th January the flaming Clavie (a barrel full of staves) is carried round the town followed by a large crowd. The final destination of the Clavie is on the Doorie Hill on the ramparts of the ancient fort, where it is firmly wedged and after refuelling is allowed to burn out and fall down the hill when still smouldering embers are eagerly gathered. Possession of a piece of the Clavie is said to bring good luck for the coming year and pieces are sent around the world to exiled 'Brochers'.

The Burning of the Clavie dates much further back than the 1750s, of course. Like many other fire festivals, its origins are lost in the mists of time.

Original New Year - 25th March.

It might just feel like another day, but for hundreds of years **Scotland** was celebrating **New Year** on March 25.

Sources: wikipedia.org, burghead.com

Upcoming Highland & Celtic Events - a Snapshot

Scotland

Scottish National Whisky Festival, Glasgow - 27 January, 2024

Celtic Connections (Music Festival), Glasgow - 18 February, 2024

Dunedin Highland Games & Festival - 5-6 April, 2024

Australia

Society of St Andrew of Scotland, Brisbane Qld 2024 Burns Supper - 25 January, 2024

Burns Supper, Campbelltown, Tasmania - 25 January, 2024

Uraidla Ceilidh Bush Dance and Burns Night, Uraidla SA - 25 January, 2024

Highland Gathering, Mienna, Tasmania, Australia - 23-25 February, 2024

Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival, Croydon Victoria - 24 March 2024

"Brigadoon" at Bundanoon, NSW - 4-6 April, 2024

Canada

St Andrew's Society of Toronto Burns Supper - 19 January, 2024

Rabbie Burns Supper, Oakville ON - 19 January, 2024

Burns Supper, The Scottish Society of Ottawa - 20 January, 2024

St Andrew's Society of Montreal Burns Supper - 25 January, 2024

Greater Moncton Scottish Association NB, Robert Burns Dinner - 27 January, 2024

The Sounds of Celebration, Okanaganata Tattoo, Vernon BC - 25-26 May, 2024

USA

46th Central Florida Scottish Highland Games, Winter Springs - 13-14 January, 2024

Nevada Society of Scottish Clans, Reno NV, Robert Burns Dinner - 27 January, 2024

The Caledonian Society of Cincinnati OH Rabbie Burns Supper - 27 January, 2024

Tallahassii Highland Games FL - 3-4 February, 2024

Mount Dora Scottish Highland Festival, Mount Dora FL - 17-18 February, 2024

Asheville Celtic Festival, Fletcher NC - 17-18 February, 2024

30th Anniversary Panama City Beach Scottish Festival, Florida - 2 March, 2024

St Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage Festival. St Johns County Florida - 9-10 March, 2024

Virginia International Tattoo, Norfolk, VA - 18-21 April, 2024

Bellingham Scottish Gathering, City of Blaine, Washington - 1 June, 2024

NOTE: subscribe to the Scottish Banner for a full list of all events, past, present and future.

www.scottishbanner.com/subscribe - digital subscriptions must be requested via the website only.

New Clan Hope Commissioner South Australia

Clan Hope of Craighall Society is thrilled to announce that as of January 2024 **Maggie Hope Tucker** will become the Commissioner for South Australia, Australia.



Maggie and Norm Tucker
Christmas 2023

Maggie's portfolio will be "Newsletter Editor".

This is wonderful news, in particular for all South Australians, as Maggie will be on hand to serve the Hope community in your area.

Much of South Australia was first settled by the Scots,

especially in the area of her family's heritage in the South East of South Australia (and far Western Victoria), where the combination of terrain and weather reminded the new settlers of their homeland and where even today, their Scottish heritage is still front and centre.

Scottish-English Dictionary compiled by Moultrie R. Kelsall, MA., LB

I received a booklet from a good friend who is excited that I have been appointed as Newsletter Editor for Clan Hope. She is Scottish herself and often gives me bits and pieces to include as "an interesting article". This is one of many. As she gave it to me, she said that looking through it brought back so many wonderful memories of life with her parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and neighbours - many words she had forgotten until now.

And so over a few newsletters, I'll include a few words for your interest and information.

Preamble (from the booklet): The English language has been shared by Scotland and England for generations, and the majority of words in it are common to both countries. Nevertheless both English and Scottish speech have individually adopted many words from other tongues, and these are often peculiar to either Scottish or English. The following words are still in fairly common use in Scotland, yet are not immediately recognisable to those unfamiliar with Scottish speech. Words derived from Gaelic, French, Scandinavian, Flemish and other sources are included in the selection, as are some which have a common origin with English words but which have developed somewhat differently.

It does not, however, include words which, while not identical, differ so slightly in pronunciation and spelling that the alert listener or reader should experience no difficulty in recognising them. For example, hoose (house), lang (long), broon (brown), coo (cow), het (hot), mair (more), name (none), noo (now), oot (out), sair (sore), sodger (soldier) or whaur (where).

cairn - unmortared stone pyramid

ceilidh - highland social gathering with impromptu concert

chanter - melody part of bagpipes

chap - knock

chuckie-stane - small pebble

clarty - mucky

cutty - short

darg - day's work

dauner - stroll

douce - soft, sedate, modest, gentle

drookit - soaking wet

dubs - mud

dwaibly - feeble, unsteady on legs (ill not drunk)

Source: *The Guide to Scottish Tartans*

The New Queen of Denmark

Mary Donaldson, the soon-to-be crowned Queen of Denmark will be proclaimed on 14 January, 2024.



Amidst all the excitement in Denmark other conversations are being had in both Australia and Scotland as both countries vie to claim Mary as their own.

Headlines capture their respective audiences proudly stating that Mary is their child. Could both be correct?

Mary was born in Tasmania, Australia to her Scottish-born parents John Donaldson and his wife Henrietta Horne.

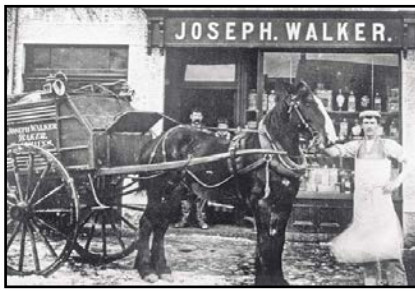
It seems Australia can rightfully claim her as their's, as she was clearly born in Australia and is and always was an Australian citizen. However, Mary's heritage is definitely 100% Scottish and so why would Scotland not also want to be a part of her story?

BUT there's a third contender who might also want a piece of the pie - and that's Texas, USA! For a short time during her childhood Mary and her family lived in Houston while her father worked at the Johnson Space Centre.

Can all 4 countries lay their own justification to call Mary Donaldson their daughter and thus reap whatever love and joy from her position as the Queen of Denmark?

Walker's Shortbread Celebrating 125 years

From a £50 loan and a small Scottish village bakery, to an iconic multinational household brand, the Walker's Shortbread family business continues to grow as they celebrate 125 years of their original recipe. In the last



financial year, the business recorded a 16% rise in turnover as export revenues boosted by almost 10%. Australia has played a

significant role in the growth of the business since its inception in the market in 1972, with Australians consuming the most shortbread per capita outside of Scotland, three times as much per capita than the US. The Scottish Banner spoke to Sir Jim Walker CBE, Director and third generation of Walker's Shortbread about the iconic product, brand and his love of Speyside.

"I think it is the simplicity of shortbread that makes it so loved."


Source: The Scottish Banner January 2024

Making Membership Even Easier

Using the QR reader on your phone, this link will take you straight to Clan Hope's Membership page.

Try it for yourself and then start signing up your kith and kin.

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>

Ways to Spend \$US20

*Message from Clan Secretary
Cynthia Hope Henderson*

- Get a tattoo; or
- Lotto ticket; or
- Add to your stamp, coin, shotglass or frog collection; or
- Designer coffee (one cup); or
- Pay your annual dues by January 31, 2024 to Clan Hope of Craighall Society

←hint: best answer

...or better still, upgrade to Lifetime Membership thereby becoming immune to future requests.

