



Guamannan na h-Alba

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Message from the President

Stephen Hope



We are already in Mid Spring in the Northern Hemisphere and Mid Autumn in the Southern Hemisphere. For both regions this means that its Highland Games, Gatherings and Celtic Festival Season.

While Clan Hope may not yet have a clan representative,

commissioner or convenor in the local area in which you live I encourage you to attend your nearest event.

To make that easy our Newsletter Editor has provided clickable links on the left so you can find out what events are happening in your region and, if you know of any we have missed write to the Newsletter Editor and we'll include them in the next issue.

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.

Sláinte Mhath - Good Health to you and your families.



Bundanoon Highland Gathering 2024

by Stephen Hope

The organisers of the Bundanoon Highland Gathering also call the event Bundanoon is Brigadoon and in the days leading up to the event the weather, at first, seemed to be doing its best to replicate some Scottish mist reminiscent of Brigadoon - that mysterious Scottish village that appears for only one day every 100 years.



We woke at the Carriage and Pony Club on the Thursday morning prior to the gathering to a misty vista with a lone carriage driver out exercising their pony in the fog.

Such a picturesque image and the sounds of the hoof beats, carriage wheels and the jingle of the reins coming out of the fog were magical sounds.

However we were also aware that the weather forecast was predicting a rain event for Friday so we thought it best to erect the Clan Hope of Craighall Society stall/tent a day earlier than normal to avoid being drenched during the process.





All set up and still quite dry we left the stall zipped up ready for the gathering on Saturday. We were fairly confident that the stall would be fine as we had had rain at events in the past and the weather forecast, though predicting rain on Friday, indicated that it would clear by Saturday morning for the commencement of the Highland Gathering. Besides Scottish heritage means I should manage a little rain regardless. Of course the weather had other ideas...

The day progressed, and the mist cleared into sunny weather so Ourania and I did some walking around the pretty village of Bundanoon. With rain predicted overnight we settled in for the evening, warm and dry.



However the rain event that had been forecast became a little more serious and overnight we experienced much more of a storm than we were expecting.

Early on Friday morning I received a message from the Clans Coordinator for the Bundanoon Highland Gathering telling me his grounds supervisor had noticed our stall roof has a little rain damage from the overnight deluge.

We immediately headed for the showground to find that the rain had actually caused the frame of our stall to snap in two places. Luckily there was no damage to the items inside and we decided to find an outlet where we could purchase a new gazebo so we would be ready for Saturday.



With a new gazebo in hand we returned to the broken stall in the rain and dismantled everything. Storing it back in our vehicle and decided that the best course of action would be to wait till Saturday morning and set up the new stall in what would, hopefully, be fine weather.



Meanwhile the rain event worsened into the heaviest rain the Sydney and Southern Highlands region had seen in decades. and before the day was out, the organisers made the only decision they could which was to cancel the whole event due to the state of the grounds.

Now while all of this sounds like quite a disheartening occurrence let me assure you that, although we could not host our stall and greet other Hope families and Clan Hope members at the Highland Gathering, we were able to get together for a meal hosted by Clan Hope members Paul and Kathryn Hope, their children Andrew and Elizabeth, cousin David Hope, a Life Member of the clan, and friends who had come to Bundanoon for the gathering. It was a lovely evening and we were pleased to end the night in the company of other clan members. We look forward to Bundanoon next year and will be at Aberdeen, NSW, in July.



Call For Expressions of Interest for Clan Committee Membership

Clan Hope of Craighall Society would like to invite members to volunteer to become committee members by offering to represent the clan in their region.

We currently have vacant positions as Clan Commissioners in the USA, Canada, Australia, England, Wales and Ireland but would be happy to hear from members in other parts of the world where we currently have no representation at all.

What do we expect a Clan Commissioner to do is a common question we receive when people are considering taking on this role.

Well the simple answer is represent the clan at Scottish and Celtic events in your region. Often the best way to commence is to attend a highland gathering, Celtic festival as a member of the public and see what other clans are doing and talk to them and the organisers about what would be involved in representing Clan Hope of Craighall Society at the event in the future.

The clan can provide artwork for printing, information on clan history, templates for clan banners but it is up to each commissioner to provide the actual items required for a tent or stall at festivals unless the festival, as some do, provide these to participants.

If you feel you would be interested in doing this please email president@clanhope.org for more information.

Recipe Corner: Scottish Tattie Soup

Scottish Potato Soup, otherwise known as Tattie Soup, is a heart-warmingly delicious but simple recipe that is perfect for a winter's day lunch - or to enjoy in Spring, Summer or Fall.



There are so many different potato soup recipes around the world. Potato and leek is popular, as is creamy potato soup, but of course, we think Scottish Potato

Soup is the best, and we're excited to share our own Tattie Soup recipe.

We have so many Scottish recipes with potatoes, like [Stovies](#), [Tattie Scones](#), [Cullen Skink](#), and [Haggis, Neeps, and Tatties](#) of course!

Then there are the delicious sweet, chocolate-covered [Scottish Macaroons](#) – yes, they include potato, too!

It's not surprising that there are so many Tattie Soup recipes out there, passed down through generations and using whatever ingredients were to hand.

That also means there's no "definitive" Scottish Potato Soup Recipe, but lots of variations. We've compiled a simple recipe mostly made of potato but with a few extra pantry staples like carrots, onion, and leek too.



Our Tattie Soup recipe calls for store-bought stock, but you can easily substitute your own homemade stock, which we do if we have made one from bones from a chicken roast dinner or we've made a vegetable one.

Serves 4-6

- 1kg (2lb) potatoes
- 1 medium onion
- 1 large leek
- 2 medium carrots
- 25g (2tbsp) butter/oil
- 1.5 litres of vegetable or chicken stock
- Salt and white pepper
- 1 celery stick (optional)

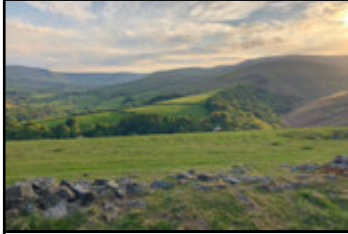
1. Peel and chop potatoes into large cubes.
2. Finely chop onion (and celery if using)
3. Chop off the green top of the leek (this can be kept for making stock; pop it in a bag in the freezer!), then halve the leek and thinly slice.
4. Dice the carrots into about 1cm cubes.
5. Add the butter/oil to a large pot and allow to melt.
6. Add in the onion, leek, and celery if using and cook for 5 minutes, allowing them to "sweat" but not brown.
7. Put the carrots and potato in the pot and cover with the stock.
8. At this point you can add some salt and white pepper if you like, and season a bit more to taste later.
9. Bring to the boil, skimming off any sort of foam/scum with a wooden spoon to get rid of as it does so. This is just the protein releasing from the vegetables, but it's nicer if you remove it rather than stir it in later.
10. Turn down to a simmer for 1 hour.
11. Use a masher or wooden spoon to break up some of the potatoes, but leave some large chunks. We like our soup a bit chunkier, so just break up a small amount of it.
12. Season more to taste and serve!

Source: ScottishScran.com

Places Named HOPE

Hope, Derbyshire, England

Nestled in the Hope Valley in the heart of the Peak District National Park in Derbyshire, Hope is one of the most beautiful and popular villages in this region. Hope



The rolling hills around Hope, Derbyshire

Village is a civil parish and is located in a valley between the intersecting point of Peakshole Water and the River Noe. The valley is named after this small parish district, and Hope Valley has become a significant tourist attraction within the Peak District. The pretty village of Hope

is situated where the River Noe and Peakshole Water meet, and has a range of hills to the north including Win Hill and Losehill.

The Anglo-Saxon name of the village, hop, means a small enclosed valley. The name is recorded from 926 AD and in the 1086 AD Domesday Book. The Roman name of the fort Navio was later changed to the Old English word for fort, brough. Edward the Elder granted lands at Hope to Uhtred, son of Eadulf of Bamburgh. Hope is on the site of a battle won by King Athelstan in AD926. In 1086, the Domesday Survey records Hope as a royal estate, which along with Ashford and Bakewell, paid a tribute of "five cartloads of lead



St Peters Church, Hope, Derbyshire

comprising fifty slabs". Hope village was mentioned in the Domesday book as having both a priest and a church and the present church, dedicated to St Peter dates from around the 13th century and is famous for it's gargoyles, a Norman font and there is the stump of a Saxon Cross in the churchyard. The pretty village of Hope is often overshadowed by its near neighbour Castleton, but it has loads to offer visitors and provides a more peaceful village destination. It has a great range of shops, cafes and pubs, and is surrounded by the



St Peters Church and Graveyard, Hope, Derbyshire

most stunning scenery. As the name suggests it is located in the heart of the Hope Valley, overlooked by Win Hill and Lose Hill. There has been a settlement here since ancient times, with Mesolithic and Neolithic artefacts



Thorndene House, Hope, Derbyshire - a beautiful B&B.

found locally. There is also a Bronze Age barrow, known as The Folly Ring, located in the village just off Pindale Road. This Scheduled Ancient Monument is a steep-sided platform cairn with a diameter of 25.5 metres, approx 1 metre high.

The church of St Peter is situated in the centre of Hope.

The present building dates back to the 14th Century, although the village was recorded as having a church in the Domesday Book of 1086. Look out for two ancient stone crosses in its grounds, one of which is Anglo-Saxon, stands 7 feet high and is highly decorated. The village has long been a centre of industry, with the Pindale Mine producing large quantities of lead in the 19th Century. More recently, the cement factory that dominates the landscape on the outskirts of Hope was built in 1929, long before the Peak District National Park was created. It is the largest cement plant in the UK, producing around 1.5 million tonnes of cement each year, and is a major source of local employment. The present-day Hope is a lovely place to spend a few hours, with many walks starting in the village and leading off to Edale, Lose Hill and Win Hill. For refreshments before or after a walk, try the home cooking at Café Adventure. For fabulous food to take away, the lovely Hope Chest Deli is well worth a visit.

Why not try our 7 mile walk from Hope train station to Hope Cross, a medieval road marker on a packhorse route? It provides amazing views of this part of the Peak District.

Sources: Trip Advisor, Let's Go Peak District, Visit Peak District, Peak District Office



22nd Annual Tartan Day on Ellis Island Celebrates Highland Dance



The 2022 Ellis Island celebration of Tartan Day featured a *Celebration of Highland Dance* through interpretive exhibits, dance costumes, performance videos and live performances. On Sunday, April 7, over 60 dancers representing the US, Scotland, Canada, and Australia performing traditional dances and a majestic mass Highland Fling in front of the New York City skyline. Performers included members of Shot of Scotch (New York City), the OzScot Dancers (Australia), the Fling Together troupe (US and Canada), the Maloney School of Dance (New Jersey) and Scotland's Lindsay School of Dancing. Emily Ritter of Shot of Scotch served as Dance Director and piping was provided by John Loiacono.

Commenting on the experience, Debra Henry of the Lindsay School of Dance from Stonehaven, Scotland said, "Dancing on Ellis Island has been an amazing experience for our dancers with the most iconic backdrop of the New York City skyline behind the Mass Fling. We all have memories to last a lifetime."

Opening on March 27 to kick off Scottish heritage celebrations in New York, the exhibit has been extended until April 18. The program was dedicated to the memory of beloved Scottish dance teacher Mary Stewart. Stewart (1918-2001) came to America from Glasgow in 1951 and became a renowned teacher of champion Highland Dancers.

Producer Robert Currie, Commander of the Name and Arms of Currie expressed his gratitude to the entire event team, especially the incredible dancers, the US National Park Service and the Scottish Government. Additional support and coordination was provided by ScotDance USA.

Source: *The Scottish Banner*



The festival runs from 30 June - 30 July with the Tartan Day Parade being held on Sunday 7 July at 2pm. Over 200+ pipers, drummers and Highland Dancers will parade down Collins Street, Melbourne, Australia.

A Snapshot of Upcoming Highland & Celtic Events

Note: do check on Page 1 in the links (top left hand corner, under the heading: "Guamannan na h-Alba") for additional events.

Global

World Whisky Day - 18 May

Scotland

Gourock Highland Games - 12 May

Gordon Castle Highland Games - 19 May

The Atholl Gathering - 26 May

Australia

Celtic Folk Festival, Port Arlington, Vic - 7-10 June

Aberdeen Highland Games, NSW - 6 July

Australian Celtic Festival, Glen Innes, NSW - 4-5 May

Canada

Saskatchewan Highland Gathering and Celtic Festival - 18 May - 25-26 May

Georgetown Highland Games, ON - 8 June

Greater Moncton Highland Games and Scottish Festival, NB - 11-15 June

Northumberland Scottish Festival and Highland Games, Port Hope, ON - 14-15 June

Kincardine Scottish Festival and Highland Games, ON - 5-7 July

Antigonish Highland Games, NS - 7-14 July

Sherwood Park Highland Gathering, Alberta - 20-21 July

USA

SGAD/Fairhill Scottish Games, Elkton MD - 18 May

Ohio Scottish Games & Celtic Festival, Berea, Ohio - 21-22 June

GMHG (The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games), North Carolina - 11-14 July

Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games, St Paul MN - 13 July

Sources: *The Scottish Banner, Scots Canada*

Scottish-English Dictionary

compiled by Moultrie R. Kelsall, MA., LB

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.

- gallowses - braces for trousers
- gang - go
- girdle - circular iron plate used for baking
- gowan - daisy
- haar - sea fog
- handsel - good luck present
- haver - talk nonsense
- hindmaist - last
- hirple - to limp
- hoolet - owl
- hornie-gollach - earwig
- howk - dig out

Source: *The Guide to Scottish Tartans*

Scotland - Did You Know...

1. Scotland is home to the shortest commercial flight in the world - from Westray to Papa Westray, taking about one minute from one Scottish island to another. Hop on this 8-seater Britten-Norman islander for an unforgettable flying experience and come home with your own certificate as a souvenir.
2. Scotland has 3 languages. Hello! Halò! The official languages of Scotland are English, Scottish Gaelic, and Scots. Scottish Gaelic is an old Celtic language that developed from Old Irish, whilst Scots is a Germanic language that is close to English but is regarded as its own language.
3. Bonnybridge is the UFO capital of the world. The sleepy community of Bonnybridge is now widely recognised as the UFO centre of the world. Every year, residents of the town claim to see over 300 unidentified flying objects in the sky above them.
4. Edinburgh is one of the most haunted cities in the UK. Aside from its credibility as a cultural hub, the city of Edinburgh is also known to be one of the spookiest locations in the UK. In a country with a wealth of heritage, it's no surprise that spooky stories encompass these historic streets. Edinburgh Castle holds the status of being one of the most haunted of its kind.
5. Edinburgh has one of the highest proportions of listed buildings in the UK and Ireland.

Family Name History - Hope

With thanks to David Hope, Clan Member, Australia

The Scottish family name Hope is classified as being of habitation origin.

The phrase *habitation names* is used to describe those family names which find their origins in the location of the residence of the initial bearer. In some instances such names are derived from the name of the town or region where the original bearer was born or resided. Others refer to a geographic location of the original bearer's name.

With regard to the family name Hope, it is derived from the older Celtic languages and Old English where the word "hop" meant "A (river) in a small valley". The Hope River [sic], located in Sutherland district of the Highlands, rising north from Loch Hope [sic] into Loch Enable and hence to the Atlantic Ocean is an example of a "hop". Other Scottish place names containing the name Hope include Hopetoun House and Hope's Reservoir, both located in the county of Lothian.

One of the earliest references to this name or to a variant is a record of one John Hope of Peeblesshire who rendered homage in 1296. Symon de la Hope was received in the King of England's peace in 1321. John de Hope was one of the retinue of Queen Magdelne, wife of James V. The marriage of David Hope and Isobel Wilson was registered in South Leith, Midlothian on the 21st of November, 1609. The christening of Adam Hope, son of Adam Hope and Helen Dryesdaill, was registered in Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire on the 11th of January, 1656. Helen Hope and John Johnstone were married in Temple, Midlothian on the 27th of October, 1704. Agnes Hope, daughter of James Hope and Mary Smith was born in Annan, Dumfriesshire, on the 30th of March, 1734.

The coat-of-arms described below are the arms of Hope from Craighall and Pinkie Co., Edinburgh, granted 1628.

BLAZON OF ARMS: Azure, a chevron or, between three bezants - azure (blue) denotes loyalty; gold signifies generosity.

CREST: A broken globe surmounted of a rainbow with clouds at each proper end.

ORIGIN: Scotland



Scotland



England



Ireland

New Members

We welcome:

- Jessica Hope Hamilton and Mike Hamilton, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada
- Andrew Hope, Toronto, Ontario, Canada



Plaids v Tartan v Checks What's the Difference?

By Dr Nick Fiddes

The terms "tartan" and "plaid" are often used interchangeably. But technically they do have distinct meanings.

A tartan is a patterned cloth consisting of criss-crossed horizontal and vertical bands in multiple colors, typically associated with Scottish culture and heritage. On the other hand, a plaid traditionally refers to a rectangular piece of cloth, typically made of wool, that can be worn as a shawl or scarf, or used as a blanket. But nowadays the word plaid is often used in North America especially to refer generically to coloured criss-cross fabrics, including but not only tartans. Plaid designs can vary widely, but they often feature stripes or checks in multiple colors, and may or may not be associated with a particular family or clan.

So while a tartan is a specific type of patterned cloth with a cultural and historical significance, a plaid is a type of garment or textile that can feature a variety of different patterns, including tartan designs.

The Plaid in general usage

The key to understanding plaids is to know that it's an old Scottish word for blanket or wrap. This explains why the word plaid has three overlapping but different meanings:

- plaid sometimes describes the crisscross **pattern** of tartans or similar; and
- plaid can also mean the **fabrics** or cloth woven in those tartan-style patterns; and
- for Scots the plaid is mostly a type of traditional **garment** worn in various styles, such as the

belted plaid, fly plaid, arisaid plaid, shepherd's plaid, and piper's plaid or drummer's plaid.

The word plaid's use to describe a pattern also gets widely confused, again with three variations. But here too it's quite easy:

- **Plaids** are any **crisscross patterns** of two or more colours;
- **Tartans** are **plaids with a name** to identify a community;
- **Checks** are **plaids with a regular pattern**, usually of only two colours.

History and origins of the word Plaid

Pronounced 'played', and sometimes spelled plaide, the word was first recorded in Scottish Gaelic about 1505-1512 in the sense of 'blanket'. Since then its usage has expanded to include any regular or irregular woven or printed pattern with intersecting bands or stripes running both horizontally and vertically, or any fabric with such a pattern.

The history and origins of plaids can be traced back to Scotland, where they were originally worn as a practical garment by the Highland clans in the harsh, cold climate of the Scottish Highlands. The word "plaid" comes from the Scottish Gaelic word "plaide," which simply means blanket.

The traditional plaid was a large, rectangular piece of woolen cloth, often about six feet long and four feet wide, that was draped over the shoulder and fastened with a brooch or pin. It could be worn as a shawl or cloak to protect the wearer from the cold and rain, or used as a blanket for sleeping or sitting on. The colors and patterns of the plaid often reflected the clan or family affiliation of the wearer.

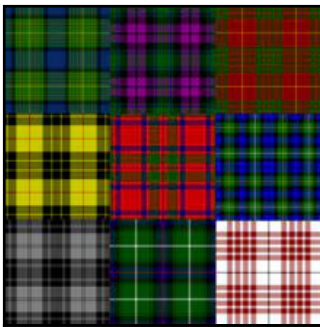
During the 18th and 19th centuries, plaids became more fashionable and were adopted by non-Scots as well. The design of the plaid also evolved, with different patterns and color combinations becoming popular over time. In the United States, the term "plaid" is often used to refer specifically to the Tartan pattern, which is closely associated with Scottish heritage.

Today, plaids continue to be a popular design choice in fashion and home decor, and can be found in a wide variety of colors, patterns, and fabrics. They remain a symbol of Scottish culture and heritage, as well as a versatile and practical garment for anyone facing cold weather.

Plaid vs tartan vs check - different criss-cross patterns

The word plaid is most commonly used worldwide to describe a crisscross pattern. In North America, plaid and tartan are used more or less interchangeably. Meanwhile in Scotland some checks are recorded by the [Scottish Register of Tartans](#).





A selection of tartan fabrics

The simplest way to disentangle and remember this is that the word plaid can describe almost any criss-cross pattern. Within the broad heading of plaids, [tartan fabrics](#) should always have a pattern with a recognised name or history, and are typically irregular. A tartan doesn't have to

be formally registered, and someone's personal creation in CLAN Scotweb's online [tartan designer](#) is spiritually just as much a tartan. [Check fabrics](#) are also plaids but usually (not always) have a regular pattern. Also, while most tartans have multiple shades, checks are typically only two colours. Okay, a check might also have an overcheck of a different shade or some other detail, but you get the idea.

At CLAN Scotweb, we refer to [plaid fabrics](#) in a distinct way. We follow Scottish tradition which sees tartan as a pattern with a recognised name, associated with a clan, family, or other community. So plaid is useful as a term to identify all the other tartan-like patterns that have no such association or heritage.



A selection of Plaids

Plaid as a synonym for tartan fabric or material

As well as describing the pattern of coloured lines, the word plaid is also commonly used to mean fabrics made with those patterns. In other words, plaid is both a kind of design that is woven into or printed onto materials, and also the cloth itself that can be turned into clothing or homewares.



A selection of Check fabrics

In this sense it becomes an abstract noun. So when heading for the fabric store you'd talk about buying "some" plaid, not "a" plaid. But it's the cloth you're ordering, not the pattern. And while on the subject, let's just

mention that the [CLAN Scotweb fabric finder](#) has by far the world's largest range of plaids, including of course tartans and checks.

Speaking of tartans, it's a curious fact that the meaning of this word too has shifted over the centuries. The Scottish plaid was traditionally woven from wool or a wool/linen mix, and it's this cloth or material that the word tartan first described. The culture was to weave in stripes of various colours using natural dyes. When done in both directions (on both the warp and weft) it

produced a check. Each locality would have had its own favourite designs, even reflecting local plant-life for dyes. And this might be helpful to tell friends apart from foes in battle. That's what became known as tartan. But the formal system associating these tartans with clans came only later still, in the nineteenth century. And that's how we still think about tartan today.

It's a little ironic that the word tartan used to mean a material, but now mostly describes a pattern. But the word plaid originally meant a garment, but now means, oh, all sorts of things! At least now you should be clearer about all the ways the word is used.

Plaid as a garment or blanket

The third meaning of the word plaid, and the primary usage in Scotland, is to describe a garment, usually part of a traditional costume. Examples include

- the belted plaid
- the fly plaid
- the arisaid plaid
- the shepherd's plaid
- the piper's plaid and
- the drummer's plaid.

Source: <https://clan.com/help/what-is-tartan/plaid-versus-tartans-or-checks#:~:text=Plaids are any crisscross patterns,usually of only two colours.>

The Hope Easter Bunny

With thanks to Marty Hope, inaugural President and founder of Clan Hope of Craighall Society, for this beautiful Easter Bunny decked out with the Hope tartan, as an Easter welcome to their home.

Sadly, Easter had been and gone for 2024 before I received the photo of this great piece of handiwork but how could we let this pass us by for another 12 months before he gets a guernsey in our newsletter?

