

Guamannan na h-Alba

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Message from the President

Stephen Hope



The warm weather of full summer in the Northern Hemisphere and colder climes of winter in the Southern Hemisphere are now with us. Highland Games, Gatherings and Celtic Festival are in full swing.

Our Commissioner for Canada, Scott Hale, has recently been

representing the clan at the Red Deer Highland Games in Alberta, Canada. We will be doing the same at the Aberdeen Highland Gathering in the Upper Hunter Valley, NSW, Australia on 6th July. Richard Hope our High Commissioner for the USA has put a call out for members to represent Clan Hope of Craighall Society at the Stone Mountain Highland Games from 18th to 21st October, please see more information below and consider helping out with this extremely important event.

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 Math - Good Health to you and your families.



Scottish Week Sydney 2024

Each year around the end of June the Scottish Australian Heritage Council schedules a series of events for Scottish Week in Sydney.



Typically the week commences with a Scottish Dinner or Burns Supper as the first event on the Friday evening. The evening always commences with the piping in of the Haggis and the Address to the Haggis.



Our guest speaker this year was the SAHC Patron, The Right Honourable the 12th Earl of Dunmore, Malcolm Murray, an Australia-based Scottish peer who is a native born Australian and lives in Tasmania. He delivered a wonderful first hand retelling of his elevation to the House of Lords in Britain after inheriting the title from his father the 11th Earl. He made his maiden and final speech in the House of Lords in November 1998 just prior to the Blair Government passing laws restricting the number of hereditary Lords in the House of Lords in the UK.



We were also treated to some lively demonstrations of Highland Dancing and these lassies can certainly fly. Having the history of the dances explained before each performance gave the dinner audience a better understanding of the origins, purpose and meanings of each of the dances.





A surprise for me on the night was being presented with a Celtic Council of Australia honour of Duine Urramach (D Urr) *Noble Person* for my services to the Scottish and Celtic community in Australia as Commissioner for Clan Hope of Craighall Society, Clan Society President and SAHC Committee Member as Director of Media.

The rest of the program for Scottish week was followed on Saturday with visits to Scottish related venues in Sydney and its surrounds; and each evening there will be talks and presentations by guest speakers which can be attended in person or watched on Zoom.

Sunday always commences with a Kirk'n of the Tartan service followed by morning tea and then a clans and families conference with further guest speakers.

Monday is normally reserved for an inspection of the Scottish Cairn overlooking the Harbour in Kirribilli followed by a BBQ lunch provided by Mosman City Council.



With Tuesday comes the opportunity to attend a Parliamentary Luncheon in the President's Dining Room in the NSW Parliament though this year the days were swapped in the schedule to accommodate the Mayor of Mosman's availability for the Scottish Cairn inspection.

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.

Historic Houses of the Borders

Thirlestane Castle

Thirlestane Castle is a castle set in extensive parklands near Lauder in the Borders of Scotland. The site is aptly named Castle Hill, as it stands upon raised ground. The land has been in the ownership of the Maitland family





since 1587, and Thirlestane served as the seat of the Earls of Lauderdale. The castle was substantially extended in the 1670s by the first and only Duke of

Lauderdale. Further additions were made in the 19th century. The castle is now cared for by a charitable trust, and is open to the public.

Lord Maitland's son John Maitland was created the 1st Earl of Lauderdale in 1624. His son was John Maitland, Duke of Lauderdale (1616–1682), one of the most important Scottish figures of the late 17th century, being appointed Secretary of State for Scotland in 1660, a position carrying unrivalled power and influence. He employed the architect Sir William Bruce to transform the castle into a residence suitable for conducting the affairs of state. Between 1670 and 1676 the substantial alterations included the addition of the two front towers and the grand staircase, in addition to extensive internal modifications creating lavish staterooms with magnificent plasterwork ceilings. Lauderdale had Bruce retain much of the castle's earlier fabric giving it an external aura of antiquity, while the interiors met the highest fashion in seventeenth century planning and furnishing.]



By the 19th century, in more peaceful times, the castle took on the role of a Scottish country mansion for the Earls of Lauderdale.

During World War Two the castle was home to St. Hilary's, a girls' school evacuated from Edinburgh. The 15th Earl and Countess of Lauderdale lived in the north wing of the castle, while the school used the rest. The dorms were on the upper floors, while the main rooms were classrooms. The



great dining room was used as the school dining room and assembly hall. St. Hilary's remained at Thirlestane until the end of 1944 when they returned to Edinburgh.



Luxury Historic Castle Experience

Nestled in the rolling hills of the Scottish Borders, guests can discover historic battlegrounds, charming local market towns which are the heartland of distilling and textiles, outstanding areas of natural beauty and several incredible Scottish landmarks.



The South Wing at Thirlestane Castle offers spacious, luxurious accommodation for groups of up to sixteen people. Each room has been finished to a five-star standard with exceptional views of the parkland and estate.

Accommodation consists of five luxury apartments, in total offering eight luxurious double rooms, each with its own private bathroom. The rooms have been decorated in a classic, but contemporary style with items from the castle collections, including portraits and furniture.

Sources: thirlestane castle, wikipedia, celtic castles, visit scotland

Recipe Corner

Scottish Potato, Cheese and Bacon Pie

- 1kg of Rooster potatoes which have been peeled, thinly sliced and washed
 - 15g of melted butter
 - 200g of thinly sliced streaky bacon
 - 100g of grated gruyere
 - Salt and pepper for seasoning (optional ingredient)
- Pre heat the oven to 425F/220C/Gas mark 7.



Butter a 9 inch ovenproof non stick baking dish.



Arrange the bacon slices into the bottom and the sides of the greased pan. Make sure some of the strips overhang the edge of the dish slightly.

Dry the washed, peeled and sliced Rooster

potatoes and dry with kitchen towel. Take about one third of the tatties and place these slices over the bacon. Then sprinkle about a third of the grated gruyere. Repeat this step so that two more layers of tattie and cheese are in the dish.

Now fold over the overhanging bacon onto the top layer of potatoes and cheese. Place the dish in the oven and bake uncovered for 50 minutes.



Before removing from the oven ensure it is cooked throughout by testing the tatties by piercing a knife through the pie. The potatoes should feel soft and the knife gently pass through the dish.

Note01: Other cheeses could be used for this but the harder gruyere melts at the right time with the potatoes and blends well to give a mild nutty taste.

Note02: **Rooster** is a red-skinned, yellow-fleshed cultivar of **potato**, duller in colour than the 'Désirée', with floury yellow flesh. It is uniformly roundish in shape. Source: *Traditional Scottish Recipes "just like Granny made"*

Places Named HOPE

Hope, Maine, USA



Hope is a town in Knox County, Maine, USA and is situated 7 miles from the shores of Penobscot Bay in Midcoast Maine. Hope is a thriving community of 1,698 people, according to the 2020 census.

The first Europeans settled in Hope in the 1780s, but

Europeans had been frequenting the Maine coast for at least 180 years before that.

Captain John Smith and others report on Hope's most important historical event -- the 1615-17



war in which the east Penobscot Bay Tarratines threw off the dominance of the Pemaquid Wawenocks. According to Hope tradition, the peace treaty

by which these nations literally buried the hatchet took place on the northeast slope of Hatchet Mountain near Hope Corner.

Hope was incorporated on 23 June 1804 from Barretstown Plantation, which was named for the original owner of the land in the area, Charles Barrett.

On 20 July 2024, the town of Hope will celebrate its first "Annual Hope Day" in Hope Village, on the corner of RT 235 and 105. If you're in the area, join the town in their celebrations. Events kick off at 8am and there is a full program which goes well into the evening, culminating in a Dance, featuring the "New England Blues Prophets".



Sources: hopemaine.org, [wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org), maineencyclopedia.com, [facebook: hope general store](https://facebook.com/hopegeneralstore)

Call to Arms

by Richard Hope, High Commissioner for the USA

I am calling on all Hopes in the South Eastern USA to assist with the 2024 Stone Mountain Highland games on 19-20 October 2024. The Stone Mountain Highland Festival is the premiere Scottish festival in North American, for many years Clan Hope maintained a tent at the festival but several ago we lost our representative for the Atlanta Georgia USA area and have not been able to put forth a Clan Hope presence for the festival. Our representative from Florida USA tried to represent the clan but it was to much for one person. We need 4 to 6 people to put up and man the clan tent 18-21 October. We need someone in the Atlanta area to coordinate everything for the event plus several workers to assist with setting up the Clan Hope display, manning the tent during the festival; then taking the tent down after the festival. Even an hour or two would be a BIG help. The Stone Mountain Highland festival is a bit expensive so I am also asking for donations to help defray the expenses. The cost can easily run into several hundred dollars. I live over 2000 miles from Atlanta so I cannot help directly but I will pledge \$200.00 USD to kick of the donations.

HELP your Clan

NOTE: are you aware that 90% of the people eligible for Clan Hope membership in the USA live within 500 miles of Atlanta, Georgia. Sadly, not many are members or help with Can activities.

YOU can make a difference!

Becoming Chief: The State of Scottish Chiefship in the 21st Century

The defining aspect of a Scottish clan is the Clan Chief. In Gaelic tanistry, these chiefs were elected by family heads in full assembly. However, with the encroaching French-Norman invaders in 12th century, the selection of a “chief” became more complicated. In the 21st century, becoming chief has become a much more complex process.



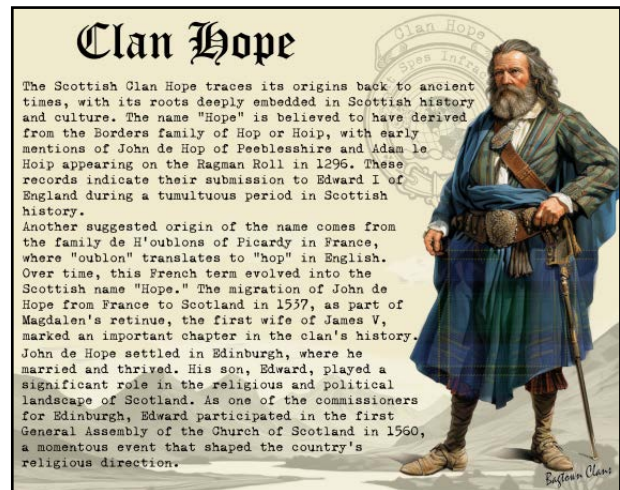
A group of Clan Chiefs

Parliament established the Court of the Lord Lyon only to grant coats of arms – and not to determine clan chiefs. In fact, the Court of Session, Scotland's supreme civil court, has ruled that the Lord Lyon King of Arms has no jurisdiction to determine rights of precedence nor to decide a disputed question of chiefship or chieftainship. While Lyon has provided “guidance” for clan and families to select a “Chief of the Name and Arms,” no clan is required by law to accept a “Chief of the Name and Arms” as its Clan Chief. Likewise, no Clan Chief is required by law to purchase a Coat of Arms.

If a clan and family group does not currently have a clan chief, it can pursue different options. For example:

Clan Oliphant had considered Laurence Philip Kington Blair Oliphant of Ardblair and Gask to be their chief. That is, until Richard Oliphant claimed the birthright of the Chief of the Name and Arms of Oliphant.

Clan Morrison established a modern chiefly line in 1967 when Lyon confirmed as Chief of the Name and Arms Dr. John Morrison of Ruchdi, brother of William Shepherd



Morrison, first Viscount of Dunrossil and Speaker of the House of Commons from 1951 to 1959.

Like the Morrisons, the **Currie** family had no records of the Curries ever having a chief and so no hereditary line could be established. Unlike the Morrisons, the Learned Kindred of Currie elected Robert Currie as Commander of the Name and Arms.

While **Clan MacAulay** initially followed the guidelines established by the Court of the Lord Lyon, it has since gone its own way by adapting the ancient tanistry tradition of electing its family heads in full assembly. In fact, they proudly proclaim that “Our Clan is based on Democracy and Meritocracy not Aristocracy and Patronage.”

Source: COSCA.scot (Council of Scottish Clans and Associations)

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.

Scotland

- Inverary (Castle) Highland Games - 16 July
- Lochcarron Highland Games - 20 July
- St Andrews Highland Games - 28 July
- Aberlour Strathspey Highland Games - 3 August
- Aboyne Highland Games - 3 August
- Perth Highland Games - 11 August
- Stirling Highland Games - 17 August
- Bute Highland Games, Isle of Bute - 24 August

Australia

Aberdeen Highland Games, NSW - 6 July
 Bundanoon Highland Gathering, NSW- 3 August
 Hunter Valley Highland Games, NSW - 24 August
 Scots in the Bush, Boondooma, Qld - 14-18 August

Canada

Antigonish Highland Games, NS - 7-14 July
 Orilla Scottish Festival, ON 19-21 July
 Sherwood Park Highland Gathering, Alberta - 20-21 July
 Fergus Scottish Festival, ON - 9-11 August

USA

GMHG (The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games),
 North Carolina - 11-14 July
 Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games, St Paul
 MN - 13 July
 Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival, Florence MA - 20 July
 Colorado Scottish Festival, Sedalia CO - 3-4 August
 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.

- ilk - territorial family designation (of that ilk), meaning same
- ilka - each
- ingle - large old-fashioned fireplace
- jimp - neat, slender, scanty
- jink - evade
- kale-yaird - kitchen garden
- keen - wail in mourning
- kye - cattle
- kyte - stomach
- lang syne - long since
- lave - wash
- lippen - rely, trust
- lum - chimney

Source: *The Guide to Scottish Tartans*

Tartan Day 2024 with Friends



Rear: Sandy and Len; Front: Norm and Maggie

It's all a bit of fun - 4 of us got together to celebrate Tartan Day on Saturday 29 June - in Australia, Tartan Day is officially celebrated on 1 July but as that's a Monday, we decided to do something over the preceding weekend.

We each wore something tartan, our hosts threw a tartan rug over the sofa, we played Scottish music, looked at a couple of Scottish travel guides on the telly, and we ate Scottish fare.

Our dinner started with Cullen Skink, followed by Haggis, Neeps and Tatties; and dinner was rounded off with a serve of Cranachan. Of course the evening was finished with a drop of pure Scottish Gold!

New Member

We welcome:

- Jennifer Meighan, San Francisco, USA



**Clan Hope
of Craighall Society**
INTERNATIONAL & AUSTRALIA

President & Commissioner: Stephen J. Hope
president@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org

UNITED STATES of AMERICA
High Commissioner: Richard Rex Hope
highcommissionerusa@clanhope.org
Membership Chair: Cynthia Hope Henderson
membership@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org

CANADA
Commissioner: Scott Hale
commissionercanada@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org

SCOTLAND
Commissioner: Colin Douglas Hope
commissioner4scotland@clanhope.org
www.clanhope.org

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ClanHopeofCraighall>

Clan Hope's latest ad for *The Scottish Banner* and other publications