



Happy National Tartan Day

Scottish
Heritage
USA

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023

ISSUE #4-2023

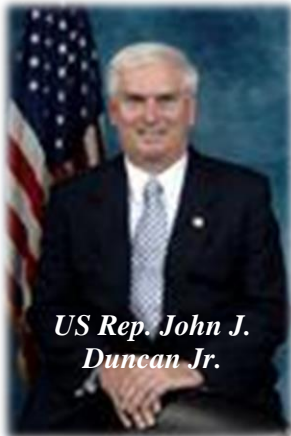
HOUSE RESOLUTION 41

House Resolution 41 (*establishing 6 April* as National Tartan Day*) of the One Hundred and Ninth Congress of the United States of America, sponsored by U.S. Representative Mike McIntyre of the 7th District, North Carolina and U.S. Representative John Duncan, Jr, was passed by Congress on 9 March 2005 by unanimous vote. Thank you, Mike and Rep. Duncan!

This year there are many events taking place all over the country to celebrate Tartan Day. In Washington DC, The Scottish Coalition is presenting the National Tartan Day Award to the Honorable John J. Duncan, Jr. (R-TN ret.) and the Honorable Mike McIntyre (D-NC ret.) for their work in supporting the National Tartan Day House Resolution. The Scottish

Coalition was instrumental in setting up a national platform for the Observance of Tartan Day in the US, through the development of a network of State representatives, organizations and key Congressional Members. The Coalition comprises six leading national organizations[†] who share the mission to further interests and common goals throughout the US through collaboration. Every year, the coalition recognizes the efforts of those individuals who help to sustain and grow the Scottish American Diaspora.

This event is held in conjunction with the Washington DC National Tartan Day Committee’s annual Tartan Day Reception. This year’s reception will include: a Color Guard, flags and anthems; Scottish entertainers; City of Alexandria Pipe band; past and present members of Congress and other dignitaries. Refreshments and light hors d’oeuvres, desserts and a whisky tasting will also take place.



US Rep. John J. Duncan Jr.



US Rep. Mike McIntyre

For tickets and more information visit: <http://www.nationalcapitaltartanday.com/2023-tartan-day-award/>.

All week long, The American Scottish Foundation (ASF) will hold events celebrating Scottish culture and heritage, such as a discussion by the Lord Lyon “A New Coat for the Bard”, Pipes and Drums on the Fountain Terrace, and a post parade gathering, culminating with the incomparable New York City Tartan Day Parade on April 15th. If you are in the area, you won’t want to miss this event! For more information and tickets visit The American Scottish Foundation at:

<https://americanscottishfoundation.com/tartanDay/index.html>.

*6 April was chosen as the date for National Tartan Day as the Declaration of Arbroath was signed on that date.

†Coalition members are: American Scottish Foundation (ASF), the Association of Scottish Games and Festivals (ASGF), Council of Scottish Clans and Associations (COSCA), Scottish American Military Society (SAMS) and, Scottish Heritage USA, Inc. (SHUSA).



Article and Pictures courtesy of American Scottish Foundation

NON-SCOTS WEARING KILTS? IS IT OK?



Question: Is the wearing of a kilt by someone who is not Scottish, cultural appropriation or cultural appreciation?

A kilt maker has said that as long as the national dress is worn correctly (*and not a joke*) it is the latter.

MacGregor and MacDuff (*kilt making company*), which describes itself and the “king of Kilts”, is courting controversy in its blog, which reports that more clients from the rest of the UK and abroad show concern about cultural appropriation.

It follows a surge in requests for kilts and their associated paraphernalia by ancestral Scots who have discovered their heritage through DNA tests and internet research.

MacGregor & MacDuff has expanded from its original premises in Prestwick to set up branches in Glasgow, Edinburgh, New York, Toronto, London and Manchester.

When it opened in 1979 with a partnership between a Scottish kilt maker and a Scots-mad American businessman, cultural appropriation was not a worry.

With the boom of DNA kits, many non-Scots are discovering Scottish ancestry and choosing to celebrate it and as long as the kilt is worn properly cultural

appropriation is not an issue. There are no rules on who can wear a kilt but there are correct ways to wear it.

According to experts, the pleats go in the back, the waistband should be worn around the navel and the kilt itself should hang about midway over the kneecap. Belts should only be worn when not wearing a sporran.

To appeal to younger customers some kilt makers develop University and Football Club tartans to attract alumni and footballers around the world.

Many kilt purchasers consciously avoid causing possible offence and do check to see if highland dress or specific tartans is acceptable.

The bottom line is that it is OK for non-Scots to wear a kilt and they are actively encouraged to indulge. You don't have to be a peely-wally overweight Scotsman to wear a kilt. But you do have to be careful about how far you bend over to pick up your targe!

Excerpts taken from an article by Jeremy Watson in *The London Times*, Pictures thanks to Wikipedia



WHAT DID YOU SAY?

English might be Scotland's official language, but the country also has distinct dialects and regional nuances. They include Scottish Gaelic, Scots (the umbrella term for several dialects within the language). And understanding Scottish slang? That's a whole other ballgame! Here are a few:

Dreich Day - dreary day
Puggled – exhausted
Drookit – soaking
Minging – unpleasant
It wis Hoachin' – busy

Peelie-Wally – really pale
Gie it a dook – dip in liquid
Gie it a shoogle – Shake
Gie it a laldy – give it your all
Up to High Doh - excited



Answers to This Month's Quiz

- #1. The Highland Boundary Fault,
- #2. Dunnet Head-14 miles north of John o' Groats,
- #3. Edinburgh,
- #4. A football,
- #5. University of Glasgow, founded in 1451 by Adam Smith and Lord Kelvin,
- #6. Glasgow Tower 147 meters,
- #7. Antonine Wall,
- #8. The Heeland Coo,
- #9. Donald II in 889
- #10. The Nelson Monument

Bonus:

The Melville Monument

RECIPE CORNER

PINEAPPLE MOUSSE



This recipe comes to us from the National Trust property Fivie Castle, an imposing 800-year-old fortress in the heart of Aberdeenshire. Fivie is a sterling example of Scottish Baronial architecture. Inside, the rooms are filled with antiques, armor and lavish oil paintings. The grounds contain a picturesque lake and an unusual glass-roofed racquets court.

Although the castle's Tearoom is closed, Scottish Heritage was lucky enough to procure a few recipes from the tearoom before it closed and included these recipes in the Scottish Heritage's Piping Hot Cookbook.

You are in for a real treat! Perhaps an Easter dessert?

DIRECTIONS

1. Separate egg yolks and whites
2. Whisk the yolks with the sugar and lemon rind until thick and mousse-like
3. Soak the gelatin in 5 oz. of pineapple juice
4. Dissolve over low heat; add to the yolk mixture with remaining pineapple juice, and the juice of the lemon
5. Leave in a cool place, stirring from time to time
6. As the mixture starts to thicken, whisk the egg whites stiffly and fold in
7. Pour in glass bowl or individual serving cups
8. Leave to set
9. Decorate with pineapple slices and whipped cream

INGREDIENTS

4 Eggs	2 packages gelatin
10 oz. pineapple juice	4 oz. granulated sugar
Rind and juice of	Pineapple slices
1-1 ½ lemon	Whipped cream



*Pictures courtesy
YouTube and Yahoo*

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST CORPORATE MEMBER STRACHAN CARRIAGE HOUSE



An historic vacation rental home on St. Simons Island, Georgia, with private pool and garden. Six bedrooms can sleep up to 16 with extra daybeds & trundles for kids. Spacious dining and living room work well for family meals prepared in professional grade kitchen and big outdoor grill. Yard big enough for golf putting or family tournaments of badminton or bocce ball. Easy stroll to the beach, fishing pier, the historic lighthouse, or village shops and restaurants.

Great base for day trips to Savannah, Jekyll Island, or the Okefenokee Swamp. Weekend and weekly rentals available year-round. Featured in Coastal Living magazine and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information visit: www.stsimonscarriagehouse.com or phone:
404-261-1352

OLDEST TARTAN IN SCOTLAND TO GO ON PUBLIC DISPLAY

The Glen Affric Tartan, believed to be the oldest in Scotland, will go on display the first of April at the V&A Dundee Design Museum. The plaid textile discovered in a peat bog in Glan Affric, in the Highlands, around 40 years ago is believed to have been created around the James I and Mary Queen of Scots era, thus dating back to the 16th century.

The Scottish Tartans Authority commissioned dye analysis and radiocarbon testing on the woolen textile to prove its age. The analysis identified four initial colors—green, brown and possibly red and yellow. It also confirmed the use of indigo or woad in the green. The potential presence of red, a color that Gaels consider a status symbol, is interesting because of the more rustic nature of the cloth. Experts say the tartan was more than likely worn as an outdoor working garment and would not have been worn by royalty.

Surviving examples of old textiles are rare as the soil is not conducive to the survival of the material. This piece was buried in peat, it had no exposure to air and it was therefore preserved.

Although Clan Chisholm controlled that area, the tartan cannot be attributed to them as it is not known who owned it.

To be able to exhibit the Glan Affric tartan is immensely important and it is hoped that visitors appreciate seeing this on public display for the very first time.

Article from the Evening Standard by Rebecca McCurdy



*The Glen Affric Tartan
55cm by 43 cm*



*Article courtesy of NTS
Picture courtesy Pisanki*

Eggs seem to be synonymous with Easter – we decorate them, hunt for them, roll them and eat them. The history of Easter eggs goes back to medieval Europe and the Anglo-Saxon pagans, who celebrated the coming of spring by worshipping the goddess Eostre. As part of their celebrations, they would supposedly bury eggs, a symbol of fertility, in the ground for bountiful crops.

Easter eggs come in many different colors and forms, but dyeing or painting is great fun. In fact, there is evidence of dyed and decorated eggs in British history dating back to 1290 when Edward I bought 450 eggs for Easter to be covered in gold leaf and shared among the ‘royal entourage’.

Easter egg hunts became popular during the Victorian era when the holiday became more family focused.

Whatever your tradition is, we hope your Easter is full of joy, love, and laughter!

SCOTTISH KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. What natural barrier separates the Highlands from the Lowlands?
2. What is Scotland’s most northerly point?
3. What Scotland city has over 4,500 listed buildings?
4. What was found behind an oak panel in Stirling Castle and dated to the early 1500’s?
5. What is the 4th oldest university in the world?
6. What is the tallest fully rotating tower in the world?
7. The Romans built two walls to contain the Caledoni, one was Hadrian’s wall. What was the other?
8. What is the oldest registered breed of cattle in the world?
9. Who was the first true King of all Scotland?
10. What monument will you find at the southern edge of Calton Hill?

Bonus: What is the name of the monument in St Andrew’s Square, Edinburgh?

Follow us on Facebook - Use the link:
[facebook.com/ScottishHeritageUSA](https://www.facebook.com/ScottishHeritageUSA)



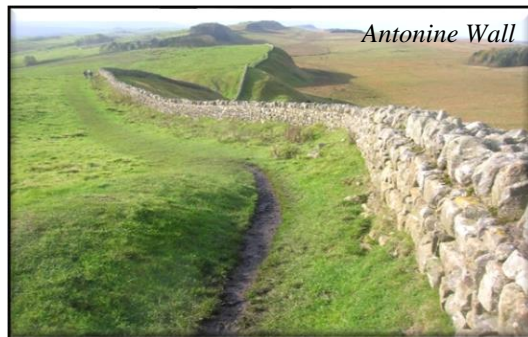
Instagram
too



Visit our website.



*Melville
Monument*



Antonine Wall