



*Stone of Scone in Coronation chair, Westminster Abbey 1875-1885*

# Scottish Heritage USA

## NEWSLETTER

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## “LIA FAIL” TO BE USED IN KING CHARLES III CORONATION

According to legend, the Stone of Destiny (Stone of Scone), was used as a pillow by Jacob after he had a vision of angels. It then travelled from the Holy Land to Egypt, Spain, and Ireland, before finally arriving in Scotland, where it was used to proclaim new kings (*its Scottish Gaelic name, Lia Fail, means ‘speaking stone’*). Given modern research found the stone is indistinguishable from the “Scone Sandstone Formation” near Perth, none of this is actually true. However, it does make for a nice story. And, from Stonehenge to the Blarney Stone, we love tall tales about special rocks.

The Stone, often referred to in England as The Coronation Stone, is an oblong block of red sandstone that has been used for centuries in the coronation of the monarch of Scotland. Historically, the stone was kept at the now-ruined Scone Abbey in Scone near Perth, Scotland. It was seized by Edward I’s forces from Scone during the English invasion of Scotland in 1296. Following the Treaty of Union of 1707, it was used in the coronation of the monarchs of England as well as Great Britain and the United Kingdom. Monarchs used to sit on the stone itself until a wooden platform was added to the Coronation Chair in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1996, the British Government returned the stone to Scotland, when not in use at coronations, and it was transported to Edinburgh Castle, where it is now kept with the Scottish Crown Jewels.

Scientists have uncovered previously unnoticed markings on the Stone. They appear to be Roman numerals. The research, using a 3-D printed replica, confirmed tooling marks on the originals’ surface that showed it had been worked by more than one stonemason.



*Reconstruction of how Scone Abbey would look*

Traces of copper alloy were also found, suggesting it was in contact with a bronze or brass object (*possibly a relic such as a saint’s bell*), along with traces of gypsum plaster (*that could have been used to make a cast to fool Edward I*). That idea is unlikely as the Scots continued to ask for the stone’s return for some time after it was taken to London.

But there is nothing wrong with getting a bit carried away by the mystique of the Stone, given it captures both a thrilling part of our nation’s story and its rich and ancient landscape.

So, Charles III will be seated upon the throne under which the Stone of Scone (or Destiny) will make him a King.

*Article and Pictures courtesy of The Scotsman, and Wikipedia*



Visit American Scottish Foundation for recipe for a coronation quiche to enjoy at 6 am EST if you want to watch the coronation!  
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/WhctKKXwvpqbcPHQcVGdCfhvzqxcJdVpfGjwkqjpZmvSJFnxnVFzkhbldSvhFDVzwlslzjDQ>



# NATIONAL TARTAN DAY AWARDS



This award is presented in recognition of the recipient's work toward promoting and preserving Scottish culture. The Hon. John J. Duncan, (R-TN Ret.) and The Hon. Mike McIntyre (D-NC Ret.), were presented with this year's award sponsored by The Scottish Coalition, USA and presented by Camilla Hellman of the American Scottish Foundation, Peter Wilson, President, Scottish Heritage USA and John King Bellassai, President, Council of Scottish Clans, and Associations.

The Honorable Duncan and McIntyre received the award for their tireless efforts in sponsoring the House Tartan Day Resolution 41.

If you still have last month's Scottish Heritage USA's newsletter, you can read all about the award and its significance in the lead story on page one.

It was quite an accomplishment and our thanks go to Mr. Duncan and McIntyre for their achievement!

*Camilla Hellman of The American Scottish Foundation presenting award to Mike McIntyre. Peter Wilson, SHUSA President and COSCA president John Bellassai looking on*

## LOOKING FOR SCOTTISH HERITAGE AMBASSADORS

### Calling all members!

Do you attend any Highland Games? Do you enjoy meeting new people and extolling the virtues of visiting the Home Country? Then we have a job for you.

How would you like to represent Scottish Heritage at a Highland Game near you? All you have to do is call the office and volunteer. We will set you up with brochures and talking points to help **YOU** bring new members into the fold.

This is your society. Every new membership will help to grow our organization and support our charitable endeavors in Scotland and the US.

Email us now and sign up! [admin@scottishheritageusa.org](mailto:admin@scottishheritageusa.org)



## SHUSA MEMBERS RECEPTION

**JOIN US FOR A BUFFET SUPPER AND MEET OUR SPECIAL GUEST FROM SCOTLAND, FIONA MACKENZIE**

**When:** Sunday, July 9, 6:30 – 8:30 pm (after the games)

**Where:** Best Western Hotel, 1615 Tynecastle Hwy, Banner Elk, NC

**Menu:** Roast Pork Loin, Shrimp & Grits, Sweet Potato, Haggis, Fruit Salad and Shortbread, Complimentary glass of wine or beer. Soft drinks free.

**Cost:** Members & Members' Guests: \$35 per person \$60 per couple  
Non-Members: \$40 per person \$75 per couple

*Cash Bar, Wine, Beer, Spirits and Scotch (Credit Cards not accepted, ATM available in lobby)*

Reservations may be made on-line at:

[www.scottishheritageusa.org](http://www.scottishheritageusa.org), or contact the office at: (910) 296-4448

Scan code for Events Page and Registration Form →



### boots! Answers to This Month's Quiz

- #1. An illiterate baker who became the pioneer of herbal medicine in Edinburgh
- #2. No, by law the monarch automatically succeeds on the death of their predecessor
- #3. The coronation spoon, first recorded in 1349 and considered an antique at that time
- #4. It is thought to come from Eiddyn. A hillfort named Din Eiddyn used to stand where Scotland's capital now sits
- #5. It can mean foolish or stupid but when combined with "wee" it means loved one.
- #6. A sitooterie is an open back porch or conservatory.
- #7. Edward I of England
- #8. The Isthmus of Panama
- #9. James MacPherson
- #10. The Romans in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century

**Bonus:**

**The Kingdom of Great Britain**



# RECIPE CORNER

## CHICKEN STEWED IN CHAMPAGNE WITH STRAWBERRIES

The Old Leannach Cottage survived the battle of 1746, which was fought around it on Culloden Moor and is the only remaining building on the Moor.

It is maintained by the National Trust and was reopened to visitors in 2019. The cottage was originally built in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century but has seen many changes since then.

The traditional thatched cottage was lived in until 1912 but fell into disrepair shortly afterwards.

The cottage was later restored and served as the first visitor center for people coming to see Culloden Battlefield.

Thatching on the cottage was made from heather that was collected from the battlefield and then crafted together by local tradesmen, the walls are a mixture of stone and turf.

*This recipe comes from Ross Mackenzie, former Property Manager, Culloden Moor, Scotland,*



*Perhaps this is the cottage where Jamie and the other Culloden survivors were held!*



### INGREDIENTS

4 skinless chicken breasts	2/3 cup heavy cream
Olive Oil & s/p to taste	1/2 lb. fresh strawberries
12 small onions, finely chopped	3 Tbs. all-purpose flour
1/2 cup brandy	4 Tbs. Butter
1/2 bottle champagne	

### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350°

1. Heat olive oil in large pan and add chicken breasts. When they begin to brown, add the onions.
2. Heat brandy and add to pan. Set alight and season s/p to taste.
3. Add champagne to pan.
4. Cover and bake in oven for 20 minutes.
5. Remove chicken from oven and keep warm.
6. Strain sauce and set aside.
7. Make roux: melt butter in a saucepan and stir in flour.
8. Slowly add the sauce from the chicken and the heavy cream, stir until thickened (*do not boil*).
9. Prepare strawberries: (small ones can go in whole, larger ones should be halved). Pour over chicken and simmer for 2-3 minutes.

Serve with fresh green salad & rice – AND CHAMPAGNE!

## DOUNE CASTLE – FAVORITE FILM SPOT?



Doune Castle has featured in Game of Thrones as Winterfell, in Outlander as Castle Leoch, and in various scenes in Monty Python and the Holy Grail.

Recent research has shown that the castle was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century and probably damaged during the Scottish wars of independence before being rebuilt in its present form in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century by Robert Stewart, Duke of Albany.

The castle has survived several wars including the Jacobite uprisings of the late 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries. By 1800, the castle was ruined but restoration work was carried out in the 1880's prior to its passing into the care of Historic Environment Scotland.

# CORPORATE MEMBER STRACHAN CARRIAGE HOUSE - HISTORY

It started in 1885 with a handshake at the Cotton Exchange in Savannah, Georgia. A young boy who had run away from his family farm in Gamrie, Aberdeenshire, Francis Garden Strachan was a master of clipper ships in the Far East trade and captain of steamships delivering grain and coal to the Middle East. Now, in America he and George Walker started a shipping company that would be a player on the East Coast and overseas for decades to come.

As shipping brokers Strachan and his son Francis Duncan McPherson Strachan (FDMS) viewed the ocean as the highways of all nations. Strachan and Co shipped timber, cotton, and naval products to Europe, brokered the first shipment of Florida citrus to Europe, and during WWI made sure soldiers and supplies reached the Allies. During its heyday, the Strachan Line covered more destinations than any other individual shipping company in the nation. During Prohibition FDMS's steam yacht Roamer was seized for carrying 41 quarts of whisky. As a yachtsman he raced his Herreshoff designed yacht Monsoon against his fellow members and business titans of the New York Yacht Club. His family called him "The Old Pirate." In the business world FDMS was considered a man of "firm integrity and honesty of purpose" and he was recognized for his shrewd judgement. His investments in the streetcars, icehouse, power stations, banks, land, harbor, and docks made his home port city of Brunswick, Georgia what it is today. And made him Glynn County's first millionaire.

In the early 1900s FDMS and his wife built a summer cottage on the south end of St. Simons Island, GA. Today the former four-bay garage with servants' quarters is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and The Strachan Carriage House is offered as a vacation rental for multi generations and friends needing six bedrooms, a large pool, a 52 ft veranda, and a stroll to the village voted the most favorite beach village by Travel and Leisure magazine.

For more info, go to [www.stsimonscarriagehouse.com](http://www.stsimonscarriagehouse.com) or call 404-261-1352.



*Cotton Exchange*

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

### SCOTTISH KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. Who was Duncan Napier?
2. Does King Charles III need a coronation?
3. The anointing oil for the coronation of the British monarch is held in what?
4. How did Edinburgh get its name?
5. What does the word 'Tumshie' mean?
6. What would I mean when I say I'm going to the sitooterie?
7. Who was the 'Hammer of the Scots'?
8. Where was the proposed colony called the Darien Scheme to have been established?
9. Who was the first Scottish literary figure to gain an international reputation?
10. Who wrote the first recorded history of Scotland?

**Bonus:** The Acts of Union (1707) united Scotland and England into what?

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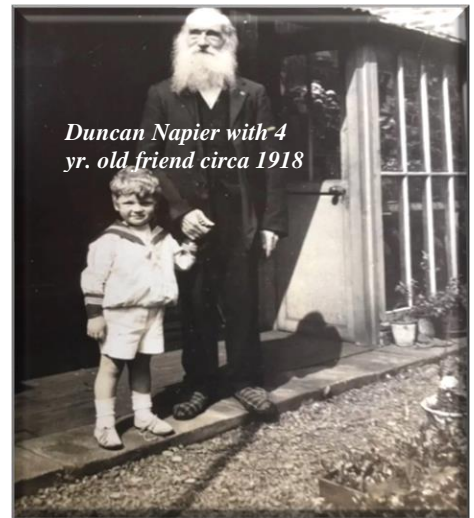


Instagram  
too



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*Duncan Napier with 4  
yr. old friend circa 1918*



*Coronation spoon*