

AUSSIE-SCOTS NEWS



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OUR AIM: "To collaborate with other Scottish and Celtic Groups to maintain, promote and advance the Scots culture and Heritage in Australia."

In 1492, did Pedro Scotto sail the ocean blue?

The great navigator who opened up the American continents to Europe was Pedro Scotto - the real name of the 15th century explorer known as Christopher Columbus, according to a Spanish historian. Alfonso Ensenat de Villalonga disputes the usual opinions about the explorer's origins - that he was the son of a weaver in Genoa, Italy, or that he was from Catalonia or Galicia in Spain, or of Corsican or Portuguese origin. He was from Genoa but was "the son of shopkeepers, not weavers, and he was baptised Pedro, not Christopher," Villalonga told Spain's ABC newspaper. And his family name was Scotto, not Italian but of Scottish origin. "He had light-coloured eyes and freckles. He also had blond hair even though it quickly turned white," he said. "That's how his contemporaries described him. Nothing like the traditional images (of him), which are totally invented." Mr Villalonga cites a chronicle of Catholic kings written by Lucio Marineo Siculo, who refers in his writings to "Pedro Columbus", not Christopher. The historian also claims that the navigator once worked for a pirate called Vincenzo Columbus, and adopted that family name in order not to "expose" his relations. Mr Villalonga says his research involved combing the archives in the Genoa region along with those in the Spanish history academy and national library. - **AFP ABC news**

Cost Cutting May Silence Strathclyde Police Pipe Band
The Strathclyde Police Pipe Band traces its history back to 1883 and its existence was endorsed by an act of Parliament. But there are reports that its future is in jeopardy because of a cost-cutting drive. Restrictions are being placed on police players which could result in the inability of the band to compete at the highest level. Instead of being able to participate at the big five events in the pipe band calendar, including the Scottish, British, and European championships, the band will only be able to play at two. It's like telling Rangers or Celtic they can only play in two competitions. During its history, the band has won 21 competitions and is one of the most prolific winners of the World Pipe Band Championships.

Curtains for President Obama

A Scottish company is working flat out to complete an urgent order for material for curtains in the White House in Washington. America's new First Lady is making changes there. The high quality fabric is not tartan, however, and "doesn't scream Scotland" according to the company.

Appeal to Save Paddle Steamer Waverley

A public appeal has been launched to raise £100,000 for vital repair work on the historic paddle steamer Waverley. During last summer, a damaged paddle shaft and the wet summer combined to reduce vital income

leading to the need for the appeal. The operators don't get any government funding and all repairs have to be paid out of revenues. The Waverley is the last ocean-going paddle steamer in the world and forms an important link to the days of the traditional trips "doon the watter" of the Clyde by millions of Glaswegians.

Harris Votes For National Park Status

In an effort to stem the chronic depopulation of the island of Harris in the Western Isles, islanders have voted more than two to one in favour of asking the Scottish Government to designate their island as a national park. Having wrestled for ten years with plans to create Europe's largest coastal super quarry, the island now sees hope in conservation. The aim is a park with "call-in" powers, similar to planning powers enjoyed by Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Park. A recent study has concluded that a national park would create 100 jobs, increase tourism and give access to new funding while providing new opportunities to conserve the Gaelic culture, but not restricting crofting. The population has been in decline since 1921 and now stands at just 1,800. 35% are over the age of 60 and school rolls have fallen from 179 in 1998 to 117 in 2007. The proposal will now go to Environment Minister Roseanna Cunningham who is likely to ask Scottish Natural Heritage to consult further.

GREAT SCOTTISH ENTERTAINERS

Deborah Kerr, born Deborah Jane Kerr-Trimmer, CBE (30 September 1921 – 16 October 2007) was a Scottish stage, television and film actress. She won the Sarah Siddons Award for her Chicago performance in *Tea and Sympathy*, which she appeared in on Broadway, a Golden Globe Award for the motion picture, *The King and I*, and she was also the recipient of honorary Academy, BAFTA and Cannes Film Festival awards.

She was nominated six times for an Academy Award as Best Actress but never won. In 1994, however, she was cited by the Motion Picture Academy for a film career that always represented "Perfection, Discipline and Elegance". Amongst her most famous films were: *The King and I*, *An Affair to Remember*, *From Here to Eternity*, *Heaven Knows*, *Mr Allison* and *Separate Tables*.

When she was being promoted as a Hollywood actress it was made clear that her surname should be pronounced the same as "car". In order to avoid confusion over pronunciation, Louis B. Mayer of MGM billed her as "Kerr rhymes with Star!"

Kerr was born Deborah Jane Kerr-Trimmer in Glasgow, Scotland, the eldest child and only daughter of Kathleen Rose (née Smale) and Capt. Arthur Charles Kerr-Trimmer, a World War I veteran pilot who later became a naval architect and civil engineer. She was, however, raised in the nearby town of Helensburgh, where her parents lived at the time of her birth. Kerr had a younger brother, Edward (a.k.a. Teddy), who became a journalist and died in a road-rage incident in 2004.

Kerr originally trained as a ballet dancer, first appearing on stage at Sadler's Wells in 1938. After changing careers, she soon found success as an actress. Her first acting teacher was her aunt, Phyllis Smale, who ran the Hicks-Smale Drama School in Bristol.

Kenneth McKellar (born 23 June 1927, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland) is a Scottish tenor singer.

McKellar studied forestry at the University of Aberdeen, after graduation working for the Scottish Forestry Commission. He later trained at the Royal College of Music as an opera singer. He did not enjoy his time with the Carl Rosa Opera Company and left them to pursue a career singing traditional Scottish songs and other works. His albums of the songs of Robert Burns are considered by musicologists to be definitive interpretations.

In 1964 he toured New Zealand. On many occasions in the 1960s and 1970s he appeared on the BBC TV Hogmanay celebration programme, alongside Jimmy Shand and Andy Stewart. In 1966 BBC Television selected McKellar to represent the UK in the Eurovision Song Contest in Luxembourg. He sang five titles from which viewers selected "A Man Without Love" as the 1966 entry. According to author and historian John Kennedy O'Connor's *The Eurovision Song Contest - The Official History*, the Scottish tenor drew gasps from the audience when he appeared on stage. The song placed 9th of the 18 entries, making it the worst UK placing in the contest until the 1978 event. McKellar received scores from only two countries. Ironically, the Irish jury gave the UK song top marks, one of only two occasions the Irish have done so in Eurovision history. On 31 December 1973, the first Scottish commercial radio station Radio Clyde began broadcasting to Glasgow. The first record they played was "Song of the Clyde" sung by Kenneth McKellar. The same recording features over the opening titles of the 1963 film *Billy Liar*.

McKellar made the majority of his recordings on the Decca Records label. He also recorded several classical works, including Handel's *Messiah* alongside Joan Sutherland in a performance conducted by Sir Adrian Boult.

Robert Carlyle (born April 14, 1961) is a Scottish movie actor, who is considered by many to be one of the best British actors of the modern era.

Carlyle was abandoned by his mother at the age of four. Inspired after reading Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, he enrolled in acting class at the age of 21, at the Glasgow Arts Centre. In 1991, he and four friends founded an acting company. He first came to the attention of the public as a psychotic murderer in an episode of *Cracker* (in which he killed Christopher Eccleston among others), but was soon playing a more sympathetic role, that of Highland policeman, Hamish McBeth, in the BBC comedy-drama of the same name.

In 1997, Carlyle got married to Anastasia Shirley. In 2002, she gave birth to their first child, daughter Ava.

Carlyle is perhaps best remembered for his work in *The Full Monty*, a comedy movie about a group of men who must perform striptease to earn their living.



Scottish coo and Scottish wild cat

WILL YE NO COME BACK AGAIN?

Bonnie Charlie's noo awa',
Safely ower the friendly main.
Mony a he'rt will break in twa,
Should he ne'er come back again.

Chorus:

Will ye no' come back again?
Will ye no' come back again?
Better lo'ed ye canna be,
Will ye no' come back again?

Ye trusted in your Hieland men,
They trusted you, dear Charlie!
They kent your hiding in the glen,
Death and exile braving.

Chorus

English bribes were a' in vain,
Tho' puir and puirer we maun be;
Siller canna buy the heart
That aye beats warm for thine and thee.

Chorus

We watch'd thee in the gloamin' hour,
We watch'd thee in the mornin' grey;
Tho' thirty thousand pounds they gie,
Oh, there is nane that wad betray!

Chorus

Sweet's the laverock's note, and land,
Liltin' wildly up the glen;
But aye to me he sings ae sang—
'Will ye no come back again?'
Will ye no come back again?

Chorus

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SCOTTISH BRAGGING PAGE

Sir John Young Stewart (born June 11, 1939 in Dumbartonshire, Scotland), better known as Jackie Stewart, is a three-time Formula One racing champion representing Great Britain. He has been appointed an OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire).

Scottish-born Stewart seemed destined to become part of the world of motor cars. His father was the owner of a Jaguar garage, and his older brother was a gifted driver who raced for Jaguar.

In Formula One, Jackie Stewart began his career with the BRM team. He switched to Ken Tyrrell's team where he drove Matra during the 1968 and 1969 seasons. After a dispute with Matra concerning the use of Ford engines, Stewart drove a March until Tyrrell built its own cars.

Stewart became world champion in 1969 driving a Cosworth-powered Matra MS80. As of today he is the one and only driver to have won the championship driving a French car. He went on to win the Formula One world championship in 1971 and 1973 for Team Tyrrell.

Stewart retired in 1973, subsequently becoming a consultant for the Ford Motor Company. At the same time, he became a spokesman for safer cars and circuits in Formula One. In 1997 Stewart returned to Formula One, with Stewart Grand Prix, as a team owner in partnership with his son, Paul, and the Ford Motor Company. The team was later bought by Ford and became Jaguar Racing in 2000. More recently, Robbie Williams honored him in his song Supreme. Stewart received a knighthood in 2001.

Jim (or Jimmy) Clark OBE (4 March 1936 – 7 April 1968) was a Scottish Formula One racing driver.

He was the dominant driver of his era, winning two World Championships, in 1963 and 1965. At the time of his death, he had won more Grand Prix races (25) and achieved more Grand Prix pole positions (33) than any other driver. He also competed in the Indianapolis 500 five times, and won it once, in 1965.

He was born James Clark Jr. into a farming family at Kilmany House Farm, Fife, the youngest child of five, and the only boy. In 1942 the family moved to Edington Mains Farm, near Duns, Berwickshire, in the Borders. He was educated at primary schools, first in Kilmany and then in Chirnside, and then following three years of preparatory schooling at Clifton Hall near Edinburgh he was sent to Loretto School in Musselburgh, near Edinburgh.

Although his parents were opposed to the idea, Clark started his racing in local road rally and hill climb events driving his own Sunbeam-Talbot, and proved a fearsome competitor right from the off. On 16 June 1956, in his very first event, he was behind the wheel of a DKW sonderklasse at Crimond, Scotland. By 1958, Clark was driving for the local Border Reivers team, racing Jaguar D-types and Porsches in national events, and winning 18 races.

Then on Boxing Day 1958, Clark met the man who would launch him to superstardom. Driving a Lotus Elite, he finished second to Colin Chapman. Chapman was sufficiently impressed to give Clark a ride in one of his Formula Junior cars.

Jim Clark's drive in the 1967 Italian Grand Prix is regarded one of the greatest ever in F1. After starting from pole, he was leading in his Lotus 49 (chassis R2), when a tyre punctured. He lost an entire lap while having the wheel changed in the pits. After rejoining sixteenth, Clark then showed his genius by driving at his own limit, something which was not required when leading. He ripped back through the field, progressively lowered the lap record, eventually equalling his pole time of 1m 28.5s, to regain the lost lap and the lead. He was narrowly ahead of Brabham and Surtees starting the last lap, but his car had not been filled with enough fuel for such a performance — it faltered, and finally coasted across the finish line in third place.

In his Indianapolis 500 win, Clark carried on driving despite a collision which would have forced some drivers out of the race. He led for 190 of the 200 laps, with an unprecedented average speed of over 150 miles per hour (240 km/h), to become the first foreigner in almost half a century to win the famous race.

On 7 April 1968, Jim Clark's life tragically ended in a crash. He was originally slated to drive in the BOAC 1000 km sportscar race at Brands Hatch but instead chose to drive in a Formula Two race for Lotus at the Hockenheimring in Germany, mostly due to contractual obligations with Firestone. On the fourth lap, his Lotus 48 veered off the track and crashed into the trees. He suffered a broken neck and skull fracture, and died before reaching the hospital. The cause of the crash was never definitively identified, but investigators concluded it was most likely due to a deflating rear tyre. Colin Chapman was devastated and publicly stated that he had lost his best friend. As a sign of respect, Chapman ordered the traditional green and yellow badge found on the nose of all Lotus road cars to be replaced with a black badge for a month following Clark's death. The 1968 F1 Drivers' Championship was subsequently won by his Lotus team-mate Graham Hill, who pulled the heartbroken team together and held off Jackie Stewart for the crown, which he later dedicated to Clark.

Jim Clark is buried in the village of Chirnside in Berwickshire. A memorial stone can be found at the Hockenheimring circuit, moved from the site of his crash to a location closer to the current track and a life size statue of him in racing overalls stands by the bridge over a small stream in the village of his birth, Kilmany in Fife. A small museum, which is known as The Jim Clark Room, can be found in Duns.

He was an inaugural inductee into the Scottish Sports Hall of Fame in 2002.

Humour

A lady from Glasgow was visiting Edinburgh's Morningside. Her hostess was determined to make the Glaswegian lady feel cheap and unimportant. "My dear," said the Morningside matron snobbishly, "here in the Capital we think breeding is everything." "Oh, really," the lady from Glasgow replied. "In Glasgow we think it's fun, too, but we try to have a few outside interests as well."

A wee bit more

Said the Englishman to the boastful Scot: "Take away your mountains, glens and lochs, and what have you got?" "England", replied the Scot.

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DIARY DATES 2009

Saturday 4th April Bundanoon Highland Gathering contact
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Sunday 5th April Rathdowney Memorial Ground environs Heritage Festival Q150. Full Aussie Scots setup . 8AM start. Finish 4PM

Saturday 18th April 3PM and 7 PM and Sunday 19th April 2PM
Ipswich Tattoo Tunes of Glory Ipswich Civic Hall cnr Lime-stone & Nicholas Sts Ipswich tickets A reserve Adults \$45 Concession \$40 students (16) \$30 groups 10+ \$40 B reserve Adults \$40 Concession \$35 students (16) \$25 groups 10+ \$35

Sunday 19th April Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Sausage Sizzle. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, 27 Josling St, Toowong. (Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, look for Aussie Scots Sign. 12 mid-day Sausage Sizzle. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary

Sunday 17th May Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Sausage Sizzle. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, 27 Josling St, Toowong. (Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, look for Aussie Scots Sign. 12 mid-day Sausage Sizzle. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary

Saturday, 20th June, 2009 Join the Redlands Sporting Club Pipe Band to celebrate the survival of the tartan at our Tartan Day Ceilidh on at the Donald Simpson Centre (Cnr., Bloomfield St., & Russell St., Cleveland). Bookings are essential through Joy (3207 0928); Gail (3286 5092) or Eileen (3207 2545). A licensed bar will be open. No B. Y. O is permitted. Adults \$10.00. Children under 16 free.

Sunday 21st June Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Sausage Sizzle. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, 27 Josling St, Toowong. (Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, look for Aussie Scots Sign. 12 mid-day Sausage Sizzle. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary

Sunday 5th July TARTAN DAY SOUTHBANK BRISBANE

HISTORIC ORMISTON HOUSE

2009 CALENDAR

MAY 10TH HERITAGE DAY AND MOTHER'S DAY

JUNE 28TH CAMELIA DAY

JULY 26TH RR Concours d'Elegance

AUGUST 9TH MB Concours d'Elegance

AUGUST 23RD SPRING GARDEN PARTY

OCTOBER 3RD "MUSIC BENEATH THE STARS"

The story is told of two Scotchmen who were conversing together one day, when one exclaimed, "I wonder what NELSON meant when he said, 'England expects every man to do his duty,' and never said a word about poor old Scotland?" "Ach," replied Sandy, "He didna require to tell the Scotchmen, for he knew they would do their duty without being told."

Warwick Argus, 'Warwick Caledonians. 30th annual reunion', 30 Dec. 1903

Many thanks to Warrick Jackes

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