



July-Aug 2022

# The Caledonian

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## *Haunted Castles Via Zoom* *Saturday, October 22, 2022, 6:00pm*

Everyone is invited to our October *Haunted Castles* meeting. Be sure to reserve ahead with Kevin Bogan to be put on the list to receive the Zoom link information, [kevin.bogan@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.bogan@gmail.com) or 808-778-4697

October is the month for ghost stories. This year we wondered how many Scottish castles might have ghosts inhabiting them. The answer is apparently, "Lots of them." Our plan is to find at least 6 of our members who would be willing to research and report on one haunted Scottish castle each and to tell the story of the ghost or ghosts who haunt that castle. We already have some volunteer presenters from the Council lined up, but we would like a few more.

Our current volunteer presenters are:

Karen Thompson - **Duntrune Castle**, Crinan, Argyll  
Jill Ackerman - **Leith Hall**, Aberdeenshire  
Jamie McOuat - **Alloa Tower**, Clackmannanshire  
Hardy Spoehr - **Iolani Palace**, Ghosts? Not Scottish but locally interesting

Would you be willing to join this group and introduce us, in about 10 minutes, to another Scottish castle and its ghost or ghosts? If so, please contact Lillian Cunningham, [lillianc@hawaii.edu](mailto:lillianc@hawaii.edu) or 808-538-7707 and tell her which castle you'd like to talk about at our meeting.



A few reputedly haunted Scottish castles are listed below as possible choices. *Leith Hall, Aberdeenshire, Scotland*

**Drum Castle** - old tower house, Aberdeenshire, multiple ghosts  
**Crathes Castle** - Aberdeenshire, two lady ghosts  
**Fyvie Castle** - Aberdeenshire, strange sounds & green lady, (Lilias Drummond)  
**Culzean Castle** - South Ayrshire, the Laird's piper  
**Hermitage Castle** - Borders, connected w/Mary, Queen of Scots, bloody history  
**Castle Menzies** - Perthshire, enough ghosts for a professional tour  
**Skail House** - Orkney, partially built over a pre-Norse graveyard,  
**Airth Castle** - Falkirk area, famous for many ghosts, including a ghost dog

About the castle, we might like to briefly know its location, style, age and condition, owners or families associated with it and whether it is open to visitors. And then what is the ghost story? Our computer tech people can help you find and import some pictures of the castle to include. We will want to locate your castle also on a master map of haunted castles.

### **Info on Movie night**

Be sure to put **Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar for the always popular Soup Supper & Movie Night. This will be an in-person event but time, place and movie are still to be determined.

## Chieftain's Column: From the Craig



An important role for the Chieftain is to represent our Society at functions where a Scottish presence is needed and on other occasions that warrant our input. In June I was honored to represent The Caledonian Society of Hawaii at the Platinum Jubilee in celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II held at Iolani Palace. It was truly a joyous occasion.

Sadly, my most recent role on behalf of our Society was to write words of condolence to King Charles III and the Royal Family on the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Here is what I wrote:

*On behalf of The Caledonian Society of Hawaii, we send our heartfelt condolences on a loss that touches people throughout the world. As people of Scottish heritage, we sincerely hope that Queen Elizabeth was at peace in her final days in Scotland.*

As we move through our 2022-2023 Society year, there will be many opportunities to enjoy the learning experiences that we offer and the chance to participate in presenting programs. Look forward to an in-person Burns Night celebration on January 28, 2023. Slàinte, Bruce

## Member News

**September Birthdays** Jodi Beardon, Shannon Brady, Sheryl Delsol, Carol Anne `Gordon. Tory & Kristen Laitila, Heather MacGregor, Celia Main-Anakalea, & Bruce McEwan.

**October Birthdays** Kalani Brady, Donna Calkins, Mary Fraser, Bill Gillespie, Jamie McQuat and John Thompson.

## Scottish Education Research Grant

The Caledonian Society's SERG is available to Hawaii students, ages 18 to 26, to help fund a Scottish-related project they might like to do during the summer or next academic year. These awards are not intended to support a student's general course of study, but to supplement a project to educate a student interested in Scottish culture or history. Applications are due in the spring. Previous winners of this Award have:

- Attended summer school at the University of Edinburgh to study Scottish history.
- Studied glass blowing at the Northlands Creative Glass Center in Scotland.
- Participated in an archeological dig in southern Scotland.
- Followed the route taken by David Balfour in Robert Louis Stevenson's novel *Kidnapped*.
- Explored the culture & lifestyle of organic farms in Scotland with the World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF).
- Studied the Gaelic at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig on the Isle of Skye, Scotland.

It's not necessary to travel outside of Hawaii for a project, although travel may be considered. An application is available on the Society webpage [www.scotsinhawaii.org](http://www.scotsinhawaii.org). Questions can be addressed to Lillian Cunningham at 808-538-7707 or email her at [lillianc@hawaii.edu](mailto:lillianc@hawaii.edu).

*Note: If your birthday is in September or October, and you don't see your name listed here, we probably don't have it in our database. We want to celebrate your special month too, so please contact Kevin Campbell Bogan at 808-778-4697 or by email at [kevin.bogan@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.bogan@gmail.com).*

## Robert Burns—The New Songs

We have been advised of a new collection of over 900 songs written by Robert Burns and sung by the songwriter/composer Eddie Cairney. Since July 2021, Cairney has released one album each week to commemorate the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Burns' death in 1796. Titled *Robert Burns—the New Songs* these songs and albums are free with unlimited streaming available. Listen online at [www.rbtns.scot](http://www.rbtns.scot).

## Remember Bart's Bulletins?



*Bart, Jr. is second from the left. Big Boy!!  
Jeannie Ferrier at the family farm in Canada.*

## King George IV Visits Scotland-- 1822

On Saturday, September 3, 2022, a group of Caledonian Society members “zoomed back” to August 1822 to retrace a two-week visit in Edinburgh by King George IV.

Led by presenters Brian Richardson and Lillian Cunningham, we learned that the king's very unusual visit, stage-managed by Sir Walter Scott, stimulated enthusiastic crowds to fill the streets of the city, encouraged the city's elite to acquire tartan Highland dress in order to be properly garbed for formal events, and eventually helped to legalize the making of whisky because the king liked a dram. Sir Walter's vision of Scotland's history turned Edinburgh temporarily into a stage, as if it were a scene from one of his popular historical novels.

The visit, with its pomp and pageantry, was a huge success, and "Credit must be given the King for his willingness to throw himself wholeheartedly into the theatrical activities planned for him." Also as a result of the visit, Scotland became much more identified as a cultural unit. "Scott probably did more than any other figure to define and popularize Scottish cultural identity." And this identity became associated with tartan and the kilt previously worn only in the rural and at the time recently rebellious Highland region.

Thanks to Brian and Lillian for this presentation including lots of pictures We hope to have a follow-up program on the kilt later this year, its history and advice on how to wear it.

### Chuckles from Billy Connolly

Never trust a man who when left alone with a tea cozy... doesn't try it on.

There are two seasons in Scotland...June and winter.

Roses are red, violets are blue, I'm a schizophrenic, and so am I.

Marriage is a wonderful invention...then again so is a bicycle repair kit.

I've always wanted to go to Switzerland to see what the army does with those wee red knives.

Bonnie Prince Charlie was the only man ever named after three sheepdogs.

## Queen Elizabeth tribute/Balmoral Castle

**Queen Elizabeth II** passed away at Balmoral Castle, west of Aberdeen, Scotland, on September 8, 2022. The castle was a favorite of the Queen who loved the quiet remoteness of the estate and could ride her horses with ease.



*Balmoral Castle, Scotland;  
Google.com; Henry Wendels, July 2022*

Balmoral Estate was bought by Prince Albert in 1852 from the Farquharson family. Soon after the estate was purchased, it was decided that the original house was too small, so the current house was built using the Scottish baronial style of architecture. Other houses in Scottish baronial style include Abbotsford and Inverary all including multi-level roofs, pepperpot turrets, crow stepped gables and dormer windows. These houses, along with Balmoral, encouraged the revival of Highland culture.

Queen Victoria said she had a great affinity for Scotland, decorated Balmoral in tartan, enjoyed Highland Games at Braemar, and visited Balmoral often, especially after the death of Prince Albert (1861). Her royal enthusiasm for things Scottish, added to the earlier work of Sir Walter Scott, was a major factor in promoting the adoption of Highland culture by Lowland Scots. Queen Victoria made her last visit to Balmoral 3 months before her death in January 1901.

Balmoral Estate today is 50,000 acres including grouse moors, forests, farmland, mountains, sheep, ponies, deer, and Highland cattle. It is owned privately by the monarch, not part of the Crown Estates. As an adult, Queen Elizabeth traditionally spent the months of August through October at Balmoral, where she had lived for some years with her family as she was growing up. Approximately 50 full time and 50 to 100 part time staff manage the estate. One room of Balmoral, the ballroom, has been open to the public between April and July, when the Queen was not in residence.

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### The Caledonian Newsletter

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### Consolidated Celtic Calendar

<https://goo.gl/mCnvsU>

## Caledonian Society Events 2022-2023

As proposed at the August Society planning meeting.

Subject to change

- 10.22.22 Haunted Scottish Castles via Zoom
- 11.19.22 Soup Supper and Movie TBD
- 11.30.22 SASH – Kirkin' of the Tartans
- 12.29.22 Pre-Hogmanay via Zoom
- 01.28.23 Burns Night
- 02.25.23 Scottish Gardens
- 03.18.23 Scottish Whisky
- 04.12.23 HSA - Scottish Festival
- 04.29.23 Arbor Day - Scottish Woodlands
- 05.27.23 Travels in Scotland
- 06.24.23 Annual General Meeting

## In Scotland, Trick or Treaters Sing (And Tell Jokes) For Their Candy

The Halloween holiday has deep roots in Scotland. Starting out as the Celtic festival of Samhain, it marked the end of the summer and the harvest, and the coming of the dark winter. Over the years, Samhain developed into Halloween and spread around the world.

But the Americanization of Halloween—through television, films, and both-ways immigration—means that Scottish children wear *Toy Story* costumes and carry plastic pumpkins to gather sweets from their neighbors. There is, though, still one big difference between Scotland and the rest of the world: here, trick-or-treating is not a one-way transaction.

Children knock at the houses in their villages, apartment block towers, or housing estates. When the tenant comes to the door, the children each perform a “turn”: they tell a joke or sing a song. They are then rewarded for their performance with a chocolate or sweet. No turn, no reward.

This custom is called “guising.” The word dates back to the 13th century, and meant “to dress fantastically,” with the same word root as “disguise.” Guising has been a tradition in Scotland since at least the 16th century. Julian Goodare, professor of history at Edinburgh University, notes that it used to take place at a very different time of the year. “In the 16th and 17th centuries, guising in the sense of dressing up and visiting houses mainly happened during the 12 days of Christmas,” he explains, “though there were also local celebrations at other times of year.”

*Editor's Note: This article was taken directly from “Atlas Obscura” [atlasobscura.com](http://atlasobscura.com). Written by Jemma Beedie, October 5, 2022. Read the full article at:*

[https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/scottish-halloween?utm\\_source=Atlas+Obscura+Daily+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=d1fac2dae7-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2022\\_10\\_10&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_f36db9c480-d1fac2dae7-71043089&mc\\_cid=d1fac2dae7&mc\\_eid=813a6bde9b](https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/scottish-halloween?utm_source=Atlas+Obscura+Daily+Newsletter&utm_campaign=d1fac2dae7-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_10_10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f36db9c480-d1fac2dae7-71043089&mc_cid=d1fac2dae7&mc_eid=813a6bde9b)

*Lillian Cunningham (and Susan MacKinnon) remembers her father's insisting that costumed Halloween visitors at their door perform a "trick" before they could receive a "treat." She does not know if this practice was his own idea or whether it came from her father's Scottish family background several generations earlier.*