

Holly Berry Bulletin

Clan Irwin Association

Mary Erwin, Chairman



August, 2023 Edition



Clan Irwin Association in Scotland

As this issue of Holly Berry Bulletin goes to press, several members of the Association are in Scotland, touring Bonshaw Tower and spending time in and around Drum Castle. They will participate in the historic 700th anniversary celebration of King Robert the Bruce granting 10,000 acres of the Royal Forest and Drum to William de Irwyn. This also included the Barony which continues today with Alexander Irvine, the 27th Baron of Drum, the patron of Clan Irwin Association.



UPCOMING GAMES: If you live near any of these places, please try to attend a game:

August 4-5

Detroit Scots / St. Andrew's Society of Detroit

CIA CONVENING
Livonia, MI

August 4-5

Glengarry Highland Games
Maxville, Ontario

August 4-6

Home - Iowa Irish Fest
Waterloo, IA

August 5

Highland Games - Home
(spokanehighlandgames.net)
Spokane, WA

August 11-13



THE CARNYX WAR TRUMPET was used between 300 BC and 200 AD to call Celtic warriors to battle. Given the height of the instrument, with joints at the jaws that allowed the animal's head to move, the enemy was greeted with a physiological nightmare. Some carnyx were as tall as six feet, allowing it to be seen and heard over hundreds of warriors' heads. It is believed that, even though the sight of the carnyx was in itself terrifying, it was the sound of the instrument that struck fear in the heart of the enemy.

Read more about this ancient instrument at [The Carnyx: Ancient War Trumpet](#), and to hear its eerie sound go to [Sound of the Celtic carnyx war trumpet](#).

FUN FACTS:

- Scotland is home to the tallest waterfall in Great Britain, named [Eas a' Chual Aluinn](#). At 658 feet, it is three times the height of Niagara Falls, just not as famous.

Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games

CIA CONVENING

Fergus, Canada

August 12

CNY Scottish Games & Celtic Festival

Syracuse, NY

August 17-20

Berea Celtic Festival

Berea, KY

August 19

ALBANY SCOTTISH FESTIVAL

Albany, OR

August 19

Maine Highland Games & Scottish Festival

Brunswick, ME

August 19-20

Bitterroot Celtic Society

Hamilton, MO

September 2

Capital District Scottish Games

Altamont, NY

September 2-3

Scottish Highland Gathering and Games

Pleasanton, CA

September 2-3

Virginia Scottish Game & Festival

CIA CONVENING

The Plains, VA

FUTURE GAMES WHERE CIA WILL BE CONVENING A TENT:

September 9-10

Middle Tennessee Highland Games

Hendersonville, TN

October 13-14

CelticFest Mississippi – Lakeshore Park

Brandon, MS

October 20-22

SMHG

Stone Mountain, GA

November 1

Richmond Highland Games

Richmond, VA

November 11-12

MS Highlands and Islands

Gulfport, MS

- Scotland has its own version of Stonehenge – the [Callanish Stones](#). You can find this mysterious ring of stone on the Isle of Lewis. It's thought this ring dates back to 3,000 BC. Much like Stonehenge, no one knows how or why the stones were erected.
- The first ever international association football game (or soccer for those on this side of the pond) was played in Scotland. This match was between Scotland and England in 1872 and was played at the West of Scotland Cricket ground in Partick. Typically, the ended as a 0–0 draw.
- The famous Highland Games where people participate in caber tossing (throwing a giant tree trunk) dates back all the way to the 11th century.

Americans support acquisition of Scottish islands by National Trust for Scotland.

American friends of Scotland's largest conservation charity have enabled the acquisition of the Treshnish Isles, an archipelago of eight uninhabited islands located in the Inner Hebrides, securing the future of this distinctive seascape.

• *The Treshnish Isles are an internationally significant seabird nesting site located in the Inner Hebrides.*

• *Their acquisition builds on decades of American support for the National Trust for Scotland's conservation initiatives across the Hebrides and beyond.*

• *The National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA granted more than \$530,000 to protect Scotland's natural beauty and heritage last year.*

Click this link to read NTSUSA's Media Release: [Treshnish Isles](#)

If you would like to volunteer to be on one of your Clan Irwin Association committees, please contact one of the following Officers:

Mary Erwin - Chairman

Craig Kleinert - 1st Vice-Chairman

Teresa Tucker - 2nd Vice-Chairman

Ken Erwin - Treasurer

Leslie Smeathers - Corresponding Secretary

John F. Ervin - Membership Secretary

If you would like to help Clan Irwin Association convene a tent at any of these locations, please

get in contact with your Regional / State Commissioner or State Convener.



Here's hoping that on July 27th you enjoyed some pipe music with a wee dram of scotch in honor of National Bagpipe Day and National Scotch Day.



DON'T FORGET — We are seeking volunteers to help index old editions of the Holly Leaf Chronicle. Once completed, there will be brief training sessions to illustrate how to get the most from this project. Contact Mary Erwin, Chairman, mary.erwin@clanirwin.org.

Please send your newsletter feedback to Teresa Tucker at teresa.tucker@clanirwin.org with your comments and suggestions for what you would like to see going forward.



Clan Irwin Association is a registered 501(c)(3) Nonprofit. All donations are tax deductible. (Dues are not considered donations.)

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