

This month's Minnesota Scottish news and events.



Scottish News in Minnesota



2018 TARTAN WEEK EDITION

Time to call all clans folk, be it by name, ancestry, desire, inclination or curiosity as Minnesota's own Tartan Week kicks off on the "official" National Tartan Day of April 6th. So what's so special about the sixth? Tartan Day celebrates the Declaration of Arbroath on 6th April 1620, when the Scots asserted their independence over England. Say "yes" to Independence! Tartan Week is also a week to celebrate Scottish heritage and many so Scots' contributions to the U.S.A. Did you know that the American Apollo astronaut, Alan Bean took a piece of MacBean Tartan to the moon and back? Yes, indeed. Did you know that tartans are not limited to Clans or particular places? Nearly anyone can have a tartan commissioned and registered. Yes, indeed. Minnesotans can don the Minnesota Tartan. Did you know that an "ancient tartan" is one that has been woven in lighter coloured shades, as ancient tartans were of lighter vegetable dye shades? What do you get when you mix potatoes, moss and peat? Whatever it is, time to "Get Your

Tartan On” and join the celebration!

EVENTS

Tartan Day Party – Get Your Tartan On!

Friday, April 6, 2018

FREE and Open to the Public

WHERE: O’Gara’s, 164 Snelling Ave. N., St. Paul, MN 55104. Social & Dinner 5 PM to 7 PM. Program & Ceilidh thereafter. Come for food and meet up with friends to celebrate Scotland’s contribution to the US of A

Scottish Ramble – There Can Be Only One (Our Last One)

Saturday, April 7, 2018 from 11 AM to 5 PM

Small fee and Open to the Public

WHERE: Landmark Center, downtown St. Paul

After 30+ years your [annual ramble](#) through the culture ~ music, dancing, history, food and merchandise ~ of Scotland is coming to an end. So let’s go down memory lane and recall the wonderful times families have experienced over these years.... folk dancing lessons and frivolity with performances by Laura McKenzie and Ross Sutter, Thistle Down, Royal Scottish Country dancing, Flig, three or four mass pipe bands and highland dancing competitions, whiskey tasting and Clydesdale wagon rides through downtown St. Paul. Then there were Sundays for the blessing of the tartans, entertainment for kids and elderly seniors with Ross Sutter's children's act, re-enactors, history lectures, a pipe band grand finale with plenty of time for the vendors to knock down their stalls and pack. Phew! What a run! Okay, one more time!

Macalester Pipe Band Spring Concert

Saturday, April 7, 2018 - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

WHERE: Macalester College,

Mairs Concert Hall, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, Music Building

Contact: breidenbach@macalester.edu

This event is for: Alumni, Students, Staff, Faculty, Parents and Families and Public

Admission: \$10 for Adults, \$5 for children, and free admission with a Macalester ID

Kirkin' O' the Tartans (Blessing of the Tartans)

Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 2:00 PM

FREE and Open to the Public

WHERE: St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, [519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis, MN 55403](#)

The "Kirkin' O' the Tartan," is a prayer service with a blessing for family tartans, a piper or two and grand pipe organ. "Kirkin'" from the Scottish Gaelic word kirk which means church emphasizes the heritage and the connection to how God has blessed us and our ancestors. The blessing of the tartans is open to everyone, whether of Scottish ancestry or not. During the service, families come forward to have the tartans of their clan receive a blessing. The kirkin' has its history in Presbyterian worship during a period of English domination after the Battle of Culloden in 1746. England passed laws that banned all things Scottish meaning the Scots couldn't wear their native tartans and bagpipes were banned as weapons of war. British troops would attend Presbyterian services to make sure of these restrictions; however, the Scot would sneak bits of clan tartan in under their clothes. The practice was unnecessary when the laws were repealed in 1782. The kirkin' of the tartans was revived in 1941 in the United States by Reverend Peter Marshall at a Presbyterian church in the nation's capital. Marshall later served as chaplain to the U.S. Senate. Today, the celebration is

not limited to Presbyterian churches, but is found in Episcopalian, Methodist, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and other denominations across the world.

Pub Sing and Jam Session

Tuesday April 10th, 6:30 – 9:30 PM

FREE and Open to the Public

WHERE: Merlins Rest Pub, [3601 E Lake Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55406](#)

Open stage for dancers, pipers, other instrumentalists, and singers; soloists and ensembles; to take turns leading as we like, for the rest of the house to accompany as we may.

The comment space under www.facebook.com/events/220367178704865/?active_tab=discussion is available to suggest preparation, e.g. naming a song on which for prospective accompanists to brush up, beforehand.

Scotch Tasting

Thursday, April 13th, 6:30 PM – ?

WHERE: Vom Fass, Mall of America - 3rd Floor - 345 North Garden
Bloomington, Minnesota 55425

\$60.00 ticketed event, total space limited to 45 people, reservations taken by Vom Fass - 952-426-3222.

“So what happens after Tartan Week? Time to rock it at the Hook and Ladder Theater with some Celtic Rock by TEMPEST.”

TARTAN ROCKS!

featuring TEMPEST- 30th Anniversary Concert Tour & 'Thirty Little Turns'

[CD Release Party](#)

with The Northerly Gales

Friday, April 13, 2018 at The Hook and Ladder Theater & Lounge

3010 Minnehaha Avenue

Minneapolis, MN 55406

Doors 7 PM - Music 8:00 PM - 21+

\$20 Advance / \$30 Day of Show

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)



Please verify details before attending events.

The SNIM is sponsored by the Scottish American Center. We welcome news from all variety of Celts. Please send news, announcements, questions and concerns to scottishnewsinmn@gmail.com. Please note, editorial pieces may be subject to approval by the Scottish American Center board before posting.

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Scottish American Center

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