

THE GRYPHON



Newsletter of the Clan Baird Society Worldwide | VOL. 52 / Issue 1 / Winter 2024



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

Visit our [website](#) to follow the renewal instructions.

Or print out the appropriate Renewal Form on pages 10 & 11 of this newsletter and mail.



As a valued member of the Clan Baird Society, we extend our warmest gratitude for your continued support in preserving and celebrating our rich history and traditions. Your membership in the Clan Baird Society plays a crucial role in sustaining our mission to honor our ancestors, and foster kinship among fellow Bairds worldwide. As we embark on another year of preserving and promoting our heritage, we invite you to renew your membership for the upcoming year.

RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARRIES NUMEROUS BENEFITS

- **Access** to Exclusive Content: Including historical documents, genealogical resources, and articles relevant to Clan Baird heritage.
- **Invitations** to Events: Receive invitations to special Clan Baird gatherings, reunions, and events, both virtual and in-person, where you can connect with fellow members and share in our collective heritage.
- **Discounts** on Merchandise: Enjoy discounted rates on Clan Baird merchandise, including tartan items, apparel, and accessories, proudly displaying your allegiance to our noble clan.
- **Contribution** to Clan Initiatives: Your membership renewal fee directly supports ongoing clan initiatives, such as preservation projects, educational endeavors, and charitable efforts benefiting our community.
- **Connection** with Fellow Members: Forge lasting connections with fellow Clan Baird members from around the globe, fostering a sense of kinship and camaraderie rooted in our shared ancestry.



UPCOMING PLANS TO CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF TELEVISION

Iain Logie Baird

On 2 October, 2025, it will be one hundred years since John Logie Baird obtained the world's first true television images. The first public demonstration on 26 January 2026. Whether you're in media, journalism, tech, advertising, science, politics, computing, or streaming it's time to ask what debt your industry has to Baird's innovation and how you might mark the Centenary.



Baird Television logo. Source: Public Domain

Iain Logie Baird has been working with the newly-formed Baird TV Centenary Charitable Organisation (based in Helensburgh, Scotland) on plans for an exciting exhibition, a cinematic offer, and more.

For regular updates on the projects, please follow our Facebook page at:

[John Logie Baird Television Centenary Trust](#)

For those with an interest in the history of photography, Iain has just had an article published regarding one of the commercial travellers who distributed photographic equipment and supplies



Baird 'Tin Box' television with its tiny screen on the right. About one thousand were sold to wealthy customers who would be able to watch Baird/BBC broadcasts between 1929 and 1935. Source: Public Domain.

in the UK over a century ago. [This was a technology which John Logie Baird was influenced by, becoming president of the photography club set up among his friends in Helensburgh.] Almost no scholarly work on such figures has been done, largely due to scarce and dispersed evidence, thus, Iain's article appears to have been the first to analyse and contextualise the career of a particular individual who worked in this profession. The journal in which the article appears, *Photographies*, is available at many university libraries. It can also be purchased online from the Taylor and Francis website (where you will also find the full abstract and more information)

Portrait of a commercial traveller (photographic):

George Jobson (1862-1925)

[Taylor and Francis Online tandfonline.com](#)

BAIRD TELEVISION

Click Here

UPDATES FROM THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF JOHN LOGIE BAIRD



The group seated at Lord John Reith's desk in BBC Scotland. TOP ROW (left to right): Henry Boswell, Luke McCullough, Paul Hughes, Alisdair Gunn, Susan Tyre, Prof Tariq Durrani. BOTTOM ROW (left to right): Brendan O'Hara MP, Iain Logie Baird, Dame Jackie Ballie MSP.

CLAN BAIRD
ONLINE SHOP



www.houseoftartan.com
HOUSE of TARTAN®
CRIEFF, SCOTLAND

Exclusive Baird Products

New Items
Added
Constantly

Product Highlights

CLICK ON PRODUCTS
TO GO TO WEBPAGE



Handmade wool Rosette Brooch in Baird tartan. Hand-made to order in Scotland. Gift boxed. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.



Great gift for the Baird in your life, tartan-wrapped soap. Handmade in Scotland. Choice of 4 lovely fragrances, each a real treat: Lavender, Scots Pine, Lemongrass & Lime and Scottish Oats & Honey.

WITH EVERY
PURCHASE
YOU MAKE A
CONTRIBUTION
TO THE CLAN



Best selling Baird Tartan Sash (extra Long Scarf). Soft Lightweight 8oz Pure New Wool. Plain Weave. Most popular tartan accessory. For Burns Night, Evening, Outdoor & Leisure Wear.



Baird Clan Crest Classic Black Baseball Cap with Metallic Gold and Silver embroidered Clan Crest.



Dog Bandana in Baird Tartan. Each washable bandana comes with a light-gauge utility collar.

CLAN GATHERINGS AND FESTIVALS

The 52nd Alexandria Virginia Scottish Christmas Walk Invitation ~Saturday, December 2nd, 2023~



The 52nd Annual Alexandria, Virginia Scottish Christmas Walk Parade was held this past December 2, 2023. Clan Baird Society USA was well represented by a lively group of family and friends from near and far. Parade organizers take great pride in the Scottish roots to their city, stating, "Alexandria was founded in 1749 by Scottish merchants and was named after Scotsman John Alexander who owned the land that became Alexandria.

Today, the city continues celebrating its heritage with the iconic Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade. Dozens of Scottish clans dressed in colorful tartans parade through the streets of Old Town, joined by pipe and drum bands, as well as terriers and hounds, community groups and more." The Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade started as a community event more than 50 years ago to highlight the city's Scottish heritage.

~Bruce Beard, 3rd Vice-President, CBS USA



Massed Bands at the Alexandria Virginia Scottish Christmas Walk Parade
photo credit: E. Pallorina



BLOG OF CLAN BAIRD
SOCIETY WORLDWIDE

Baird and Scottish Stories Traditions, and History

The Pictish Boar is a collaborative blog site featuring regular and guest bloggers about Baird and Scottish heritage. The blog is area of communication, thought, and discussion. It will look at preserving the culture and heritage which includes stories, history, and language while aiding modern communities. Areas of interest will include folklore, archaeology, traditions, the Scottish Gaelic and "Doric" Scots Languages, and current events.

**CLICK ON LOGO TO TAKE
YOU TO THE WEBPAGE**



2024 CLAN GATHERINGS AND FESTIVALS

SCOTLAND

3 August 2024
Aboyne Highland Games
Aboyne, Scotland
aboynegames.com

8 August 2024
Ballater Highland Games
Monaltrie Park, Ballater, Scotland
ballaterhighlandgames.com

17 August 2024
Helmsdale and District
Highland Games
Helmsdale, Scotland
helmsdalegames.co.uk

7 September 2024
The Braemar Gathering
Princess Royal and Duke of Fife
Memorial Park
Braemar, Scotland
braemargathering.org



July 11-14, 2024
Grandfather Mountain
Highland Games
North Carolina
gmhg.org

July 13, 2024
2024 Minnesota Scottish Fair
& Highland Games
St. Paul, MN
mnscttishfair.org

August 23-24, 2024
Jamestown Celtic Festival
Mayville, NY
jamestownregionalfestival.com

September 7-8, 2024
Middle Tennessee Highland Games
Hendersonville, TN
midtenngames.com

September 16-17, 2024
Niagara Celtic Festival
niagaraceltic.com

September 20-22, 2024
Loon Mountain Highland Games
Lincoln, NH
nhscot.org

October 5, 2024
Rocket City Highland Festival
New Market, Alabama
rocketcityscotfest.org

October 18-20, 2024
Stone Mountain Highland Games
Stone Mountain Park, GA
smhg.org

November 8-10, 2024
Salado Scottish Gathering
Salado, TX
saladomuseum.org

December 7, 2024
The 53rd Annual Alexandria Scottish
Christmas Walk Parade
Alexandria, VA
visitalexandria.com

USA

April 6, 2024
Dunedin Highland
Games and Festival
Dunedin, FL
dunedinsafoundation.com

April 6-7, 2024
San Antonio Highland Games
sahga.org

May 18, 2024
The Finger Lakes Celtic Festival
flceltic.org

June 10-11, 2024
Batavia Celtic Faire
Batavia, NY

June 22-23, 2024
San Diego Scottish Highland Games
sdhighlandgames.org

CANADA

Please see
Clan Baird Canada (page 7)
for Festivals and Games

AOTERA / NZ

December 31, 2024
Waipu Highland Games
waipuhighlandgames.co.nz

AUSTRALIA

Australia Highland
Games Listings
highlandgamesandfestivals.com





CLAN BAIRD SOCIETY CANADA

Baird Dancers Dominate Highland Dance Competitions

Young Baird and family member dancers have made the entire clan proud with their recent performances at Highland Dance competitions in Canada.

The Scottish Dance Teachers' Alliance Festival in Milton, Ontario, on February 3rd, featured three of our young dancers.

Abigail Morrison, competing in only her second dance competition, was the overall winner in the Beginner 9 and Under 11 category. She finished in 1st place in the Highland Fling, the Sword, and the Seann Triubhas dances, as well as 3rd in the Flora MacDonald's Fancy. These results also gave her the award for Overall Beginner from all groups.

Her older sister, Avery, had the misfortune of competing in a very tough group, Beginners 11 and older, which included several adults. However, Avery scored 5th place in Flora MacDonald's Fancy, and 6th in the Sword Dance.

The Primary 5 group was swept by society member Elspeth Curwood, who finished 1st in all four of her dances: the Pas



Elspeth "Elsie" Curwood

de Basques, the Pas de Basques and High Cuts, the Highland Fling, and the Sword Dance.

On January 20, ScotDance Nova Scotia held their closed competition in Truro, Nova Scotia. Emma Baird, from St. Andrews, Nova Scotia, won the overall Premier 14 & 15 years group, winning all four of her dances: the Highland Fling, the Seann Triubhas, the Highland Laddie, and the Half Hullachan.

Then, on March 2 at the Debbie Robson Memorial Competition in Alma, Nova Scotia, Emma again had many great results. She finished 6th in the Sword Dance, 3rd



Abigail Morrison

in the Scottish Lilt, 2nd in the Highland Fling, and 1st in the Earl of Errol.

The Winnipeg Scottish Festival held the Irene Baird Memorial Challenge and Prairie Provincial Choreography Competition on February 11, in honour of Irene Baird, who was a talented and award-winning dancer, teacher, and executive in Highland Dance. Fiona Tolley, from Ontario, was the big winner in the competition, winning the overall Premier 19 Years & Over group, the 17 Years & Over Solo Choreography, and the Duo/Trio Choreography - Premier 15 Years and Over, with fellow dancers Addisyn Barclay and Sienna Reilly.

*Congratulations
to all the dancers on
their successes!*



CLAN BAIRD SOCIETY CANADA

Highland Games we are currently planning to have a Clan Baird presence

June 8, 2024

Georgetown Highland Games
Georgetown, Ontario

July 13, 2024

Kamloops Highland Games
Kamloops, British, Columbia

July 20, 2024

Cambridge Scottish Festival
Cambridge, Ontario

August 2-3, 2024

Glengarry Highland Games
Maxville, Ontario

August 9-11, 2024

Fergus Scottish Festival
and Highland Games
Fergus, Ontario

These events will not have an official clan presence, but society president Cameron Curwood will be in attendance

June 15, 2024

Northumberland Scottish Festival
and Highland Games
Port Hope, Ontario

June 22, 2024

Kingsville-Essex Highland Games.
Kingsville, Ontario

July 1, 2024

Embryo highland Games.
Embryo, Ontario

July 7 - 11, 2014

ScotDance Canada
Championship Series
Kamloops, British Columbia

July 27, 2024

Uxbridge Scottish Festival
Uxbridge, Ontario

August 4, 2024

Montreal Highland Games
Montreal, Quebec



THE BAIRD TARTAN



ANCIENT



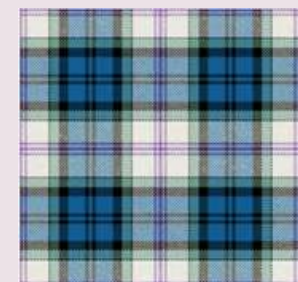
MODERN



MUTED



BAIRD DRESS/DANCE opt. 1



BAIRD DRESS/DANCE opt. 2

CLAN GATHERINGS AND FESTIVALS

151st Waipu Highland Games January 1, 2024

John Baird and Karōria Johns attended the 151st Waipu Highland Games on New Year's Day. There are 5 different Games in New Zealand each year. The Waipu Games are however the main event.



John Baird and Karōria Johns at the Waipu Highland Games

We are collecting materials and information about Bairds in Aotearoa New Zealand so we can have a stand at future events. We know some of the first Bairds arrived mid 19th Century so we have over 170 years of history to track through. It was impressive to see the amount of information some clans had about their NZ history and that gives us something to work towards.

We enjoyed the day visiting retail stands, other clans and the Games themselves. Some fantastic Haggis was on the menu.

- Baird t-shirts are from [House of Tartan](#).



Walter Cottrell and Heather Snyder manning a Clan Baird tent at the 2023 Loon Mountain Highland Games



Clan Commander Richard Baird and Brody Baird at the 2022 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games



MyPersonal Jewellery The Design Station

EXCLUSIVE BESPOKE
JEWELLERY FOR
CLAN BAIRD SOCIETY
MEMBERS

'MyPersonalJewellery' is a family run business based in the heart of Shropshire, England.

We pride ourselves in giving a bespoke personal service, and take care to ensure each jewellery piece is perfect.

For every purchase you make, MypersonalJewellery will give CBSW £20 commision per item donation to the Society

Follow these links to our bespoke Baird jewellery.

RINGS

[CBSW Member Design](#)

NECKLACE

[CBSW Member Design](#)

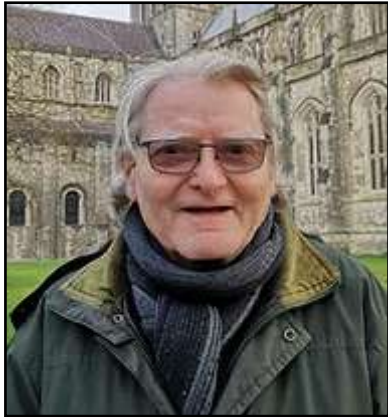
CUFF LINKS

[CBSW Member Design](#)





FLOWERS OF THE FOREST



SIR JAMES BAIRD

11th Baronet of Saughtonhall

**2ND MAY 1946 -
18TH FEBRUARY 2024**

“The Society has been advised of the recent death of Sir James Baird of Saughtonhall, we send our condolences and best wishes to his son Alexander and family.”

We sadly announce the sudden but peaceful death of Sir James Baird, 11th Baronet of Saughtonhall.

James Andrew Gardiner Baird was born in 1946 and grew up in Hertfordshire where his family had moved to from Scotland a generation earlier after the death of his grandfather, who was killed in 1914 during the First World War. He was educated at Eton College where in the latter stages he learnt to play the bagpipes.

After several years in France, working on a family estate near Dijon, where he spoke fluent French and learnt to appreciate fine food and wine, he moved to Australia for almost fifteen years. After returning to the UK he married Jean Jardine in 1984. Sir James succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his father the 10th baronet in 1997.



CLAN BAIRD SOCIETY WORLDWIDE FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Clan Baird Society Worldwide Foundation, Inc.
is classified as a 501(c) 3 charity.
Founded in 2020

For more information,
financial reports and
updates on the foundation,
please read our
quarterly newsletter.



RENEWAL



USA MEMBERS ONLY **MEMBERSHIP FEES RENEWAL** *for Clan Baird Society Worldwide*

Date: _____

First, Middle (Maiden), Last Name: _____

Type of Annual Renewal Individual ____ (\$20.00) Family ____ (\$25.00)

Change me to Lifetime Dues Up to age 50 ____ (\$400.00) 51 and Above ____ (\$275)

Changes in Address and Contact Information:

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E- Mail: _____

Please send this renewal sheet with a check/money order for dues in the amount you have chosen,
OR you may renew online at www.clanbairdsocietyworldwide.co.uk under **Membership Renewal**.

**** Membership include subscription to the clan quarterly newsletter – *The Gryphon*****

Make check payable to:

Robert G. Beard, Jr., Treasurer
Clan Baird Society Worldwide
3432 Hawks Hill Trail
Tallahassee, Florida 32312



RENEWAL



U.K. AND OTHER COUNTRIES MEMBERSHIP FEES RENEWAL *for Clan Baird Society Worldwide*

DATE: _____

First, Middle (Maiden), Last Name: _____

Type of Annual Renewal Individual ____ (£20.00) Family ____ (£30.00)

Change me to Lifetime Dues Up to age 50 ____ (£300.00) 51 and Above ____ (£200)

Changes in Address and Contact Information:

Street: _____

City: _____ Country: _____ Post Code: _____

Phone: _____ E- Mail: _____

Print and mail this Renewal Form with a **Sterling Cheque** and in **U.K. pounds only**.
payable to: CLAN BAIRD SOCIETY WORLDWIDE in the amount required to the address below.

Mail to: J. Ross Baird, UK Commissioner
Clan Baird Society Worldwide
14 Balmoral Place
Aberdeen, Scotland, UK
AB10 6HR

OR you may renew online at clanbairdsocietyworldwide.co.uk under **Membership Renewal**.

** Membership includes subscription to the clan quarterly newsletter – **The Gryphon****

Please email Ross Baird with any questions
ross@balmoralbooks.co.uk





CEUD MÌLE FÀILTE!

(100,000 Welcomes)

We welcome the following to Clan Baird Society Worldwide

NEW MEMBERS 2024

Audra Baird, Florida

John Baird, Scotland

Elizabeth Caskey, Washington, DC

Stephen Hale, Arkansas

Joel Leonard, Virginia

Jacqueline O’Galligan, England

Neil Richards, South Carolina

Brianna Smith, Georgia



Clan Baird Society Worldwide- YouTube

CBSW has an official YouTube channel. Please stay tuned as we prepare more videos for your viewing pleasure. Learn about Clan Baird and Clan NaeSmyth, the 50 year history of CBSW, our Commander, and events concerning CBSW membership.

Please consider sending pictures and videos of Baird and NaeSmyth related events, such as reunions, weddings and birthday celebrations, historical commemoration events, walks through cemeteries, castles and ruins, renditions of family lore, piping and dancing, etc. Include some details describing the event and include any credits to be given.

Send submissions to:
bairdbranton@gmail.com

Baird and Naesmyth DNA Study

CLAN BAIRD SOCIETY WORLDWIDE

HOSTED BY: ANCESTRAL SPOTLIGHT AND BRANCHES IN TIME GENEALOGY

Please consider joining our Baird and NaeSmyth DNA Study!

Go to:

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/baird-naesmyth-dna-study/about>

Any questions, comments, or genealogical queries, please email Crystal T. Davis at AncestralSpotlight@gmail.com

Clan Baird Society Worldwide Financial Statement

Fourth Quarter - 2023
Oct. 1 through Dec. 31, 2023

Income:	
Dues Received	770.00
Donation	
Coat of Arms donation to date: \$46.00	

Total Income for Period: 770.00

Expense:	
Advertising	50.00
Website Services - 3 months	123.00
Scholarship	
Genealogy	
Gryphon	300.00
Games	580.00
Ties & Scarves - UK	
PayPal fees	14.90

Total Expenses for Period: 1,067.90

Net Income or (Loss) for Quarter: (297.90)

Cash in Bank - Last Report: 4,338.32

Cash in Bank/ Available Funds: 4,040.42

Submitted by:
Robert G. Beard, Treasurer for Clan Baird Society Worldwide

SOCIETY OFFICERS AND STAFF

Richard Baird
Commander and President
Member-At-Large, CBSW Foundation
commander@clanbaird.org

Debra J. Baird
Convenor CBSW Standing Council
1st Vice President, CBSW Foundation
3rd Vice President CBS USA
djbaird4@gmail.com

Ross Baird
Treasurer, CBSW Standing Council
Member for Scotland, CBSW Committee
UK Commissioner, CBS USA
2nd Vice President CBSW Foundation
ross@balmoralbooks.co.uk

Isaac S. Baird
Member for USA, CBSW Committee
Convenor, CBS USA
Official CBSW Historian
iandsbaird@outlook.com

Heather (Baird) Snyder
CBSW Standing Council Publicist
Clan Baird Publicist, CBS USA
CBSW Foundation member
The Gryphon Editor
clanbairdpublicist@yahoo.com

Branton Baird
Liaison to the President and Commander
President and Treasurer, CBSW Foundation
brantonbaird@icloud.com

Cameron Curwood
Member for Canada, CBSW Committee
clanbairdcanada@gmail.com

David Radley
Member for Canada, CBSW Standing Council
clanbairdcanada@gmail.com

John Baird
Member for New Zealand, CBSW Committee
New Zealand Commissioner for CBS USA
CBSW Foundation, Member-At-Large
John.baird@acl.org.nz

Nea MacCulloch
Member for Australia
CBSW Standing Council

Dr. James Baird Pape
Member for South Africa, CBSW Committee
james@clanbairdsocietyafrica.com

Laura Lynn Kerner
Member for USA, CBSW Standing Council
Secretary, CBSW Foundation

Bruce Beard
3rd Vice-President, CBS USA
bdbeard@comcast.net

Crystal Toronyai Davis
Secretary CBS USA
ancestralspotlight@gmail.com

Robert G. Beard, Jr.
Treasurer CBS USA
beardrobert@msn.com

Penny Carpenter
Member-At-Large Northwest Region
CBS USA
Pennycr65@gmail.com

Brittany Moore-Bedell
Member-at-Large Midwest Region CBS USA
Branchesintimegenalogy@gmail.com

WHERE TO FIND US

clanbairdsocietyworldwide.co.uk

[The Pictish Boar Blog](#)

FACEBOOK

Clan Baird Society Worldwide

Clan Baird Society USA

Clan Baird Society Australia

Clan Baird New Zealand

Clan Baird Society Africa

NaeSmyth of Posso

Clan Baird Society Worldwide
Foundation

INSTAGRAM

Clan Baird Society Worldwide

YOUTUBE

Clan Baird Society Worldwide

TWITTER

Clan Baird Society Worldwide



NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Spring 2024 Issue
Deadline May 1st

Summer 2024 Issue
Deadline July 1st

Autumn 2024 Issue
Deadline Oct 31

Winter 2025 Issue
Deadline February 1

Please submit
newsletter articles to:

Heather Snyder at
clanbairdpublicist@yahoo.com

or mail to:

Heather Snyder
63 Northview Dr.
Northfield, VT 05663
USA

Electronic file formats
accepted are
Microsoft Word documents
Adobe Acrobat (PDF)
Any photo images,
JPG, TIFF, GIF

©2023 All Rights Reserved

