



# International Clan MacDougall Gathering 2019

## Activities and Information



Included below is all the information you need to know before booking onto your activities for the week.

All events and activities are listed alphabetically.

### **“Am Bráiste” – “The Brooch” A Musical Performance by Rachel Walker**

**Where:** Corran Halls, Oban

**When:** Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 7pm for 7:30pm

**Ticket Price:** £13.50

Gaelic singer and composer Rachel Walker will bring the story of the Brooch of Lorn to life through music and song in an evening of entertainment. With stories dating back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century and King Robert the Bruce, the brooch weaves its way in and out of the fate and fortunes of the Clan MacDougall.

Rachel will be joined by highland illustrator Maureen Shaw, who will narrate and illustrate the story of the Brooch and MacDougall Clan, with original artworks and photographs.

This piece was initially supported and enabled by Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds as part of “Fasanta: Festival of Textiles and Fashion” in 2016. Creation of the performance included research from Dunollie’s archives, which hold much of the fascinating history behind the beautiful Brooch which is one of the most iconic assets within Dunollie’s ancient collections.

**About The Venue:** Within easy walking distance of Oban Town Centre. Bus stop is located directly outside. Car Parking also available.

### **“Castles of Argyll – Past and Future Excavations”**

**Archaeology Talk with Roddy Regan (Part of Dunollie’s Living History Day)**

**Where:** The Marquee, Front Lawn, Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 2.30 pm (duration approx.. 1 ½ hours)

**Ticket Price:** £5\* (\*Activity price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds)

Only a few of Argyll’s many castles have been subject to some form of excavation. What have these excavations told us and how can further excavation work help us understand and interpret the past?

Roddy Regan is an archaeologist based at Kilmartin Museum, however Roddy has also worked on the recent conservation works here at the Dunollie Castle Ruin. This talk will be followed by a walk up to the castle to see the site of the previous digs.

**Please Note:** The hill up to the castle path is fairly steep and so relevant fitness will be required for access to the ruin.

## Clan MacDougall Gathering Dinner Dance

**Where:** The Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Oban

**When:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August from 6pm for 6:30pm (finishing approx. 12 – 12.30 am).

**Ticket Price:** £60

Come along for an evening with fellow clan members to celebrate the International Gathering of the Clan MacDougall. Included within your ticket will be a welcome drink, delicious 3 course meal, complimentary nip of Oban Malt, an evening of entertainment by “The Midgies” and tea, coffee and sweet treat’s provided by Dunollie’s Kettle Café.

A great occasion to dawn your finest MacDougall apparel. There will also be the opportunity to purchase a special souvenir image of you with your family to take home.

**About the Venue:** Within easy walking distance of Oban Town Centre and surrounding accommodation. On-street parking available.

## Clarsach Workshop with The Clarsach Society

**Where:** The Marquee, Front Lawn, Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August, 12 pm to 1 pm

**Ticket Price:** £5

A group of local players will be providing a short talk on the musical history of Clarsach and harps at Dunollie, accompanied by tunes associated with this ancestral Clan seat and surrounding areas.

There will also be the opportunity to try your hand at the Clarsach. The group, who consists of a range of abilities and experiences will also be available for a chat and to answer any questions you may have.

## Cruachan Power Station and Dam Tours

**Where:** Cruachan Power Station is situated near Loch Awe, a 30 minute drive from Oban. A bus will be provided for attendees which will depart from Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds.

**When:** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August departing Dunollie at 10 am with tours at 11 am & 12 pm with return to Dunollie at 1.30 pm or 12 pm bus leaving Dunollie with tours at 1 pm & 2 pm and return to Dunollie at 3.30 pm

**Ticket Price:** £20 (this includes price of return bus trip to and from attraction)

Take an informative guided tour deep inside the Hollow Mountain, where you can see the mighty Machine Hall. Expert Guides will tell you all about the Power Station, from its history and construction to how it works as well as its current role generating up to 440MW at times of peak demand on the National Grid.

A Café and Gallery is also available onsite if you would like to stop by for a refreshment or sweet treat when waiting for the bus back to Dunollie.

**Please Note:** Unfortunately, these tours are not suitable for wheelchair users and may be unsuitable for persons with limited mobility or need for weight bearing walking aids (frames, crutches, etc) as the tour route requires participants to walk along an up-hill walk way with a number of steps.

**About Cruachan Power Station:** Situated amongst some of Scotland's most beautiful scenery, lying deep within Ben Cruachan is one of the country's most amazing engineering achievements. Here, you can discover one of the hidden wonders of the Highlands: a power station buried one kilometre below the ground.

## **Dunollie's Dance Academy with Sue Porter**

**Where:** The Marquee, Front Lawn, Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Tues 30<sup>th</sup> Jul, Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Jul, Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Aug, Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug at 4 pm (duration approx. 1 hr)

**Ticket Price:** £3\* (\*Activity Price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds).

Why not try learning one of Scotland's traditional country dances in time for Saturday's Ceilidh?

Lead by RSCDS qualified Scottish Country Dance teacher Sue Porter, this class is suitable for all ages and abilities, from absolute beginners to a simple refresher of the steps for those already familiar with the dances.

Comfortable footwear recommended.

## **"Faeries & Folklore" Children's Workshop**

**Where:** Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 12pm (duration approx. 1 hour)

**Ticket Price:** £5\* (\*Activity price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds)

A selection of local stories from Argyll with some magical faerie crafts.

Recommended for 8 years and under. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

This will be an outdoor workshop so make sure to dress for the weather.

## **Gaelic Taster Workshop with Duncan MacNeil, Furan Gaelic Centre**

**Where:** The Marquee, Front Lawn, Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 9.30 am & 12 pm (duration approx. 1½ to 2 hours)

**Ticket Price:** £8\* (\*Activity price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds)

Join our resident Gaelic Tutor, Duncan MacNeil, to learn some traditional Gaelic words and phrases. During the workshop you will also discover more about Gaelic culture throughout History and it's place in modern Scotland as well as hearing performances from local Gaelic musicians and artists.

Tea, Coffee and shortbread will be included with the session.

## **"Jacobite's" Children's Workshop**

**Where:** Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 11 am (duration approx. 1hr)

**Ticket Price:** £5\* (\*Activity price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds)

Discover more about how Dunollie was involved in the Jacobite times and join in with a heritage inspired craft activity.

Recommended for 4 - 12 year olds. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

This will be an outdoor activity so make sure to dress for the weather.

## **Kerrera Walking Tours with Oban Walking Tour Guides**

**Where:** Departing Gallanach Ferry Terminal\*

**When:** Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 10.35 am (Morning Tour Departing Gallanach Ferry Terminal 10.35 am, return to mainland at 14.30 pm) & 2.05 pm (Afternoon Tour Departing Gallanach Ferry Terminal 14.05 pm, return to the mainland at 17.55 pm – last ferry to the mainland).

**Ticket Price:** £15 (This price is for tour only and does not include Ferry Price)

Join Yellow Badge Guides from Oban Walking Tours on the beautiful Isle of Kerrera. A brilliant walk with lots of beautiful views and chances to see wildlife in the air, on land and on the shore. The guides will provide history and local stories, and as one of the guides resides on Kerrera, you can expect a very local and intimate tour.

The walk is for able bodied walkers only; the narrow road can be rugged, the track to Gylen Castle can be very muddy and the grass slopes leading to the castle can be slippery. Make sure to wear appropriate outdoor clothing and comfortable walking footwear.

There should be sufficient time for a short breather at the lovely Kerrera Tea Garden, or feel free to bring a packed lunch along with you on the day.

**Important Information:** Attendees must make their own way to the Gallanach Ferry Terminal and arrive at least 20 minutes before the ferry is due to depart. This is an extremely busy ferry port and so it is important to arrive in good time to make your correct ferry.

Attendees can purchase their own tickets for the ferry (£4.80) at the terminal – ticket price is for the tour only and does not include the ferry.

The Gallanach Ferry Terminal is a 50 minute walk from the Oban Station Square (Train/Bus/ Taxi Station). You will also be able to get a local taxi to the Ferry which is a 10 minute drive. Make sure to arrange your travel so you arrive at the ferry port in good time.

## **Living History Day**

**Where:** Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 10 am to 5 pm (Advised last entry 3.30 pm)

**Ticket Price:** Adults £6.00 Child (3-15): £3 Under 3's: Free

Dunollie will be celebrating local heritage with a fun filled Living History day, which will include a variety of events for all ages. The First Captains Company - Erskine Regiment, one of the most experienced 17th century re-enactment groups in Scotland will be joining us.

Erskine's will be running a living history camp, which will represent that of a 17th century army. Members of the team will showcase the uniforms and weaponry of that period, including musket, pike, dirk and broadsword. Visitors will have the chance to handle equipment and see the muskets and cannons being fired.

Displays will feature the battles, sieges and massacres of the MacDougall Clan in the 17th & 18th century

during one of the most turbulent times in Scottish History.

A Heritage Tent will be based in the Marquee on the front lawn of Dunollie House, A selection of delicious local produce will also be available onsite.

This will be an outdoor event so make sure to dress for the weather.

## **“My Kingdom For A Horse: Lame John and loyalty at the court of Edward II”**

**A talk on the Bronze Horse by Catherine Gillies**

**Where:** The Marquee, Front Lawn, Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 2.30 pm (duration approx.1 hour)

**Ticket Price:** £5\* (\*Activity price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds)

Much has been discovered since the fabulous Bronze Horse was found in the attic at Dunollie in 2012, and at last we think we know the story.

At its root loyalty; between kinsmen and clansmen, and above all to a king. We will explore this remarkable tale and consider the power and glory of a Chief in exile.

## **Oban Distillery: Whisky Tasting and Tours**

**Where:** Oban Distillery, Stafford St, Oban

**When:** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 11 am, 12pm, 6pm, Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 11am, 12pm, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 11 am, 12 pm, 6 pm and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 11am, 12pm (duration 1 hour 40 mins)

**Ticket Price:** £35

A warm welcome awaits you at Oban Distillery. Join a knowledgeable guide who will explain the ancient craft of distilling, and after sample a range of Oban Single Malt Whiskies at the 1794 bar. (Are they putting on a special tasting for the gathering?)

The Distillery also houses a gift shop and exhibition area.

**Please Note:** This activity is suitable for over 18's only. Participants may be asked to present ID in line with the United Kingdom's Challenge 25 policy for alcohol consumption or purchase.

**About the Distillery:** Oban Distillery is one of the smallest in Scotland and has not changed its recipe since 1794. There are only 4 rooms within this Distillery that are used to make whisky. Much of the distillery's roof is made of slate and is detachable in order to move machinery in and out.

The Distillery is situated in the heart of Oban and is in short walking distance to the town centre. Car parking can be sparse outside the Distillery, it is recommended to use one of the public car parks in the town.

## **“Of Jacobites, MacDougall's and Drams” An Evening with Colin MacDougall and Paul MacDonald**

**Where:** The Marquee, Front Lawn, Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July

**Ticket Price:** £25 (with a dram), £10 (without a dram)

Join Colin MacDougall (Clan MacDougall Association) and Paul Macdonald (Macdonald Armouries and Academy of Arms) as they tell the tales of the four Jacobite Risings and the MacDougall involvement in each, from 1689 and the Battle of Killikrankie, to the siege of Dunollie in 1715/16, onto the 'Wee Rising' of 1719 and the Battle of Glenshiel and culminating in the 45 with the Bonnie Prince. A different dram for each of the risings, with a soft drink option also available from non-dram drinkers.

*The tales told will be different as will the drams from the sold-out talk on the Thursday evening.*

### **“Paint Dunollie” – Art Workshop with Fiona Bárcenas**

**Where:** The marquee, Front Lawn, Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 10 am to 2 pm

**Ticket Price:** £35\* (\*Activity price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds)

This workshop will work towards creating an art image closely related to the Clan MacDougall's History. You will be working with travel suitable canvas board, in a size selected to fit in your luggage so you can bring your personal and one of a kind souvenir home.

**What is included:** All art materials will be included. This workshop will be suitable for absolute beginners right through to more advanced artists.

Tea and Coffee will be provided. There will be a break for lunch, although lunch is not included in ticket.

### **“The Role of The Ancient Bard in Scottish Clans”**

**With award winning Gaelic Singer/Songwriter Griogair Labhruidh**

**Where:** The Marquee, Front Lawn, Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds

**When:** Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 2.30 pm (duration approx. 1 hr)

**Ticket Price:** £5\* (\*Activity price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds)

The Highlands of old harboured a class of wordsmiths known by various names; the Aois-Dana, The Filidhnenan, The Baird, The Luchd-ealaidh, whose knowledge and skills stretched back into the mists of time stemming from pre-Christian belief systems. The power of the poets and their words could make or break kings and lavish sums were paid by Clan Chiefs for praise poetry.

Griogair will be introducing the poetic art forms celebrated within the Clan system and will give some examples showing how these skills have come down through the ages. There will be particular reference to MacDougall poets and Griogair will explain how he is finding a way to express this tradition in a new modern context.

### **“Viking's” Children's Workshop**

**Where:** Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds

**When:** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 10:30am (duration approx 1 hr)

**Ticket Price:** £5\* (\*Activity price only, ticket does not include entry to Dunollie Museum, Castle & Grounds)

Do we know if there was once Vikings at Dunollie? Find out in our special Viking workshop which includes a heritage inspired craft activity.

Suitable for ages 4 to 12. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

This workshop will be outdoors so make sure to dress for the weather.