

Brigadoon



Bundanoon Oval, Erith Street,
Bundanoon, NSW 2578, Australia



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PLUS

**GRANDFATHER
MOUNTAIN**

Heritage Games 2025

BRIGADOON

The Bundanoon

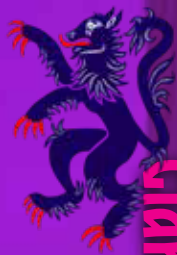
44th Annual Highland
Gathering

PLUS

The Last Grove of Alba

Paganism and Everyday Life

Death of Paganism in Scotland



Clan Fleming Scottish Society

SEPARATED BY OCEANS - UNITED BY HERITAGE

THE DEED

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COVER IMAGE

*Illustration for the Death
of Paganism in Scotland
of the Callanish Stones*

DEED DESIGN

Ian Fleming

Let the deed shaw...

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5 APRIL 2025

Brigadoon



Bundanoon Oval, Erith Street,
Bundanoon, NSW 2578, Australia



BUNDANOON'S 44TH ANNUAL HIGHLAND GATHERING

by **Jim Fleming**

A large crowd flocked to the 2025 Bundanoon Highland Gathering on 5 April in the New South Wales Southern Highlands, the 44th time that the town has transformed into the legendary Brigadoon for this one day of the year.

At 9am the 800-metre route along Erith Street was lined three and four deep on both sides for the traditional Street Parade featuring nearly thirty bands of pipes and drums interspersed between sixteen clan societies. Several thousand people then streamed into the town's main sporting complex for the massed band display led by Drum Major Chloe Cusack of the Manly Warringah Pipe Band.

This year's Chieftain of the Day officially opened the Gathering.

**Sir Michael Grant
of Grant, Lord
Strathspey,
Baronet Nova
Scotia and
34th Chief
of Clan Grant**

spoke about the importance of promoting Clan traditions throughout the world, thus strengthening bonds for this generation and the next. His pride in Clan Grant history was recently demonstrated with the reintroduction of the Grant 1714 tartan, one of the earliest on record.





Image courtesy of Bundanoon Highland Gathering Inc. Photo by Meg Nurse

The organizing committee, led by President Peter Rocca, curated a diverse program of events throughout the day. They were blessed with favourable Autumn weather, a much-appreciated change after two recent cancellations due to COVID-19 and two more due to prolonged periods of inclement weather. Spectators enjoyed displays of Scottish Country Dancing and traditional Highland Games such as the caber toss, hammer throw, and stone put for both serious athletes and those seeking a fun challenge. In addition, there were numerous participants in less traditional games such as the wellie wang, brigaball, water toss, hay toss and the kilted dash.

The Manly Warringah Pipe Band won the traditional Band of the Day award, its Pipe Major (Russell King) won the inaugural solo pipers competition and Flynn O'B won the inaugural solo drumming award. In the field events, Rob Melin was crowned as the 2025 Australian Heavyweight Champion. Younger clan members participated in activities including a bonnie bairns highland dress competition, grannies' story-telling, and theatrical swordplay.

The grounds featured displays by the Scottish Australian Heritage Council and sixteen clan societies (but, sadly, no Clan Fleming), while the crowd browsed through over seventy merchandise and food stalls.

Most spectators remained throughout the day until Lord Strathspey presented the winners' awards, followed by another massed bands display and closing ceremony. The stayers kicked on that evening at the ceilidh hosted by the Bundanoon Community Association in the Soldiers Memorial Hall.

forthcoming highland gatherings in Australia

05 Jul 2025 Aberdeen Highland Games, NSW

23 Aug 2025 Hunter Valley Highland Games, NSW

01 Jan 2026 163rd Maryborough Highland Gathering, Qld

29 Mar 2026 Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival, Vic

Apr 2026 121st McLean Highland Gathering, McLean NSW

Image courtesy of Bundanoon Highland Gathering Inc. Photo by Meg Nurse



THE DEED



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Clan Fleming
SCOTTISH SOCIETY
UNITED BY HERITAGE

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TOUCH**

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