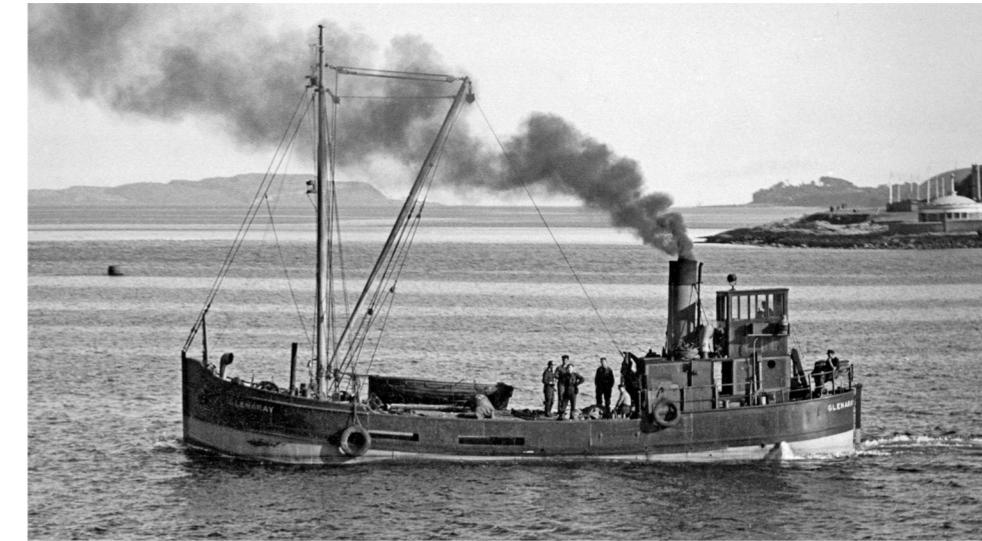


C
I
u
a
i
d
h

ÙRACHADH NA H-AIBHNE

CLYDE – A RIVER RECOVERY

Mary Ann Kennedy & Friends



The Royal National Mod
Burgh Hall, Dunoon
16th October, 2018

10. Ortha Feamainn (cont.).

The forests of seaweed which fringe our rocky shores sequester carbon as well as providing a habitat for marine life. As the seaweed washed ashore in bad weather sustained communities and families living by meagre means, enriching poor soil, so the coralline maerl beds provide vital shelter to many marine creatures, including urchins, anemones and young scallops. Maerl is fragile and slow growing. It can be damaged by dredging, heavy anchors and mooring chains. A No-Take-Zone protects Maerl beds off the coast of Arran. Maerl is expected to be adversely affected by climate change.

11. Caorann Arainn

Tha trì seòrsaichean chraobhan a tha glè ainneamh air tighinn gu bith ann an Eilean Arainn mar thoradh air tar-ghintinn eadar an caorann, gall-uinseann na creige agus an tar-sheòrsaichean. 'S e an caorann Arainneach a' chiad tar-sheòrsa a thàinig gu bith agus chan eil ach mu 400 dhiubh a' fàs. An uair sin thàinig e còmhla ris a' chaorann gus an caorann Arainneach eag-dhuileagach a thoirt dhuinn, agus thàinig sin còmhla ris a' chaorann a-rithist gus caorann Chatagail a thoirt dhuinn.

The Isle of Arran is home to three species of tree which grow nowhere else in the world. Scotland's rarest native trees are hybrids of rowan, rock whitebeam and their hybrids. The Arran whitebeam, of which there are only around 400, was the first hybrid. This then crossed with rowan to create the Arran service-tree, which crossed with rowan again to create Catacol whitebeam.

12. Seachd Sgadain

Tha faisg air a' cheathramh chuid de mhucan-mara, peileagan is leumadairean na cruinne-cè rim faicinn mu thimcheall chòrsachan na h-Alba. Tha sinn air fas mòran nas bàidheile riutha thairis air a' cheud bliadhna a dh'halbh, is sinn gu seachd àraig air an sealg a chur bhuainn. Tha mar a tha iad a' cleachdadh fuaim gu sònraichte inntinneach: airson biadh a thrusadh, mar iùl, a' suirge agus a' neartachadh dàimh-threud. As t-earrach am-bliadhna, chunnacas treud mhadadh-cuain an ann Abhainn Chluaidh faisg air Dùn Omhain, is dùil ann gun robh iad a' sealg ròn no peileag. Is e seo a' chiad turas a chunnacas mucan-mara cho fada a-steach an iomadach bliadhna.

Nearly a quarter of all the world's cetaceans - whales, dolphins and porpoises - are found in Scottish coastal waters. Over the last century, our relationship with these magnificent mammals has changed significantly – from exploitation to conservation. Perhaps most fascinating of all is the way in which they use sound: to find food, to navigate, to seek potential mates and to maintain social bonds. In the spring of this year, a pod of Orca was spotted in the Clyde near Dunoon, apparently hunting seals or porpoises. It's the first time they've been seen in the Upper Clyde for many years.

13. Mo Rùn air na Maraichean

Is i Creag Ealasd, neach-glèidhidh beul Chluaidh, seann fhàsair bholcàno mhairbh. Is iad creagan-gràin Chreag Ealasd dachaigh do mhìltean mòra de dh'eòin, le 23,000 paidhir shùlaire a' gur ann. Bhon a fhuaireadh cuidhteas nan rodan air an eilean, tha na puthaidean air tilleadh dhan chreig, làimh ri eòin-dubh an sgadain, coltraichean is faireagan. Tha an t-àite beò is làn gleadhraich eun tràth dhen t-samhradh.

Ailsa Craig, which has a prominent position at the mouth of the Clyde, is the plug of an extinct, and long-gone volcano. The granite cliffs of Ailsa Craig are home to huge number of seabirds, with 23,000 pairs of gannets breeding there. Since the removal of rats from the island, puffins have made a return to the rock and can be found alongside populations of guillemot, razorbill and kittiwake. It is a noisy and vibrant place in early summer.

14. Finale & Oidhche Mhath Leibh

A' dèanamh luaidh air ceanglaichean an teaghlaich ri Cluaidh is Dùn Omhain, agus òran a bu dual a bhi seinn deireadh na h-oidhche le fear a rinn a dhachaigh ann am baile mòr Chluaidh.

The family connections with the Clyde and with Dunoon celebrated, and the classic parting glass song by a man who made the Clyde's great city his home.

Programme

I. Leis an t-Sruth

Is i a' Chluaidh an dàrna abhainn as fhaide ann an Alba le 109 mile. Tha i ag èirigh ann am Beannan Bràigh a Deas na h-Alba, a' siubhal an toiseach gu tuath agus a-rithist dhan iar-thuath, a' cromadh beagan gus an ruig i Easan Chluaidh faisg air Lannraig. Tha i a' sgaoileadh a-mach na h-inbhir faisg air Dùn Breatainn, a'leantainn oirre a-mach mu 65 mile, gu ruige eilean beag Chreag Ealasd.

The River Clyde is Scotland's second longest river at 109 miles. It rises in the Lowther Hills in the Southern Uplands and flows initially north, then northwest, dropping only gradually in height until it reaches the Falls of Clyde near Lanark. The river reaches its estuary, the Firth of Clyde, near Dumbarton, from where it extends about 65 miles to the small island of Ailsa Craig.

2. Òran don Clutha

Bha na h-aiseagan ‘Clutha’ a’ frithealadh luchd-siubhail thairis air fichead bliadhna eadar drochaid Bhictoria (drochaid an ‘Stockwell’) agus an Innis Bhàn, a’ tadhal air aon àite deug air an t-slighe. B’ e an innis seo eilean anns a’ Chluaidh bho thùs, ach chaidh e às an t-sealladh ri linn sgrìobadh agus caolachadh na h-aibhne ma choinneamh obair nan gàraidhean luingeis.

The Clutha ferries plied their trade over twenty years between Victoria Bridge (the ‘Stockwell’ Bridge) and Whiteinch, calling in at eleven landing stages en route. Whiteinch is named after the Innis Bhàn, originally an island in the Clyde, which disappeared when the river was dredged and narrowed to allow for the development of shipbuilding.

3. Mother Glasgow

Mother Glasgow’s succour is perpetual, Nestling the Billy and the Tim,
I dreamt I took a dander with St. Mungo, To try to catch a fish that couldnae swim.
And the tree. And the bird
And the fish. And the bell...
Let Glasgow Flourish!

(Michael Marra)

4. Thig am Bradan às an Uisge

Mar a dh’fhàs gnìomhachas is sluagh air bruaichean Chluaidh, chuir truailleadh agus atharrachadh air cuairt na h-aibhne às dhan bhradan anns an abhainn agus a leas-shruthan. An-diugh ge-tà, tha am bradan air tilleadh ri linn glainead an uisge agus às dèidh na caraidhean a thoirt air falbh. Às dèidh fògraiddh de cha mhòr 150 bliadhna, tha am bradan na shamhla às ùr air ath-bheòthachadh na h-aibhne.

As industry and the urban population developed along the Clyde, pollution and man-made structural changes caused salmon to become extinct in the river and its tributaries. It now boasts a recovering salmon population, re-established in the rivers of the catchment as water quality has improved and weirs have been removed from the watercourses. After a break of nearly 150 years, salmon are once again to be found in this recovering river.

5. Ùir is Anam

Co-dhiù’s ann a’ suidhe aig bàrd ri lòn còmhla, no ri saoirsinneachd-eathraichean, a’ togail bhàtaichean leithid am birlinn ainmeil, an Orcuan, tha GalGael a’ tarraing dhaoine còmhla a dh’obair, a’ toirt spèis, misneachd is sgilean dhaibh, a’ neartachadh dàimh coimhairsnachd agus a’ brosnachadh dòigh-beatha aig a bheil meas do dhaoine eile. Tha GalGael cuideachd a’ dùsgadh às ùr a’ chàirdeis eadar daoine agus an abhainn: mar a thuirt aon dhen sgioba, “Thug GalGael air ais dhuinn ar n-abhainn”.

From sharing a simple meal to boatbuilding that creates iconic vessels like their birlinn, Orcuan, GalGael brings people together to work, giving them respect, skills and a sense of worth, building community and demonstrating a way of life with more humanity. GalGael also reconnects people with the Clyde – as one crew member once said, “GalGael gave us back our river”.

6. Còisir Ghàidhlig Ghrianaig – Puirte à Beul

Is iongantach mur a bheil baile Ghrianaig co-dhiù a’ cheart cho Gàidhealach ri ‘baile mòr nan Gàidheal’, Glaschu. Bha cèilidhean, ‘penny readings’ is iomadh cur-seachad Gàidhlig eile ri fhaighinn sa phort thairis air còrr is dà cheud bliadhna, am measg coimhairsnachd Gàidhealaich a bha dlùth-cheangailte ris a’ mhuiir, agus thadhail am Mòd Nàiseanta air a’ bhaile ann an 1904, nuair a chaidh còisir Ghàidhlig a stèidheachadh a dh’aoна-ghnothaich.

Greenock must surely rival ‘baile mòr nan Gàidheal’, Glasgow, as the Clyde’s most ‘gàidhealach’ town. The port and its major west coast maritime population played host to cèilidhs, penny readings and other Gaelic entertainments over two centuries and welcomed one of the early National Mòds in 1904, when their Gaelic choir was formed.

7. Maoir-Chladaich Chluaidh (Pilililiù)

Rè a’ gheamhraidh, tha inbhir uarach Chluaidh beò le eunlaith-uisge, suas ri 20,000 dhiubh, a’ tighinn beò air na beathaichean a tha rin lorg ann am fidicheadan na h-aibhne. Tha mòr-àireamh de choilich-tràgha – mu 2,000 – am bitheantas a’ cur seachad a’ gheamhraidh an Inbhir Chluaidh. Ann an Alba, tha an àireamh de dh’eoìn cladaich, an coileach-tràgha nam measg, air a bhith a’ crionadh fad nam fichead bliadhna a dh’halbh. Thathas an dùil gur e atharrachadh na gnàth-shìde as coireach gu ìre.

Over winter, the Inner Clyde estuary is alive with waterfowl, up to 20,000 of them, which feed on the invertebrates to be found on the tidal mudflats. An internationally important number of redshank – around 2000 – regularly spend the winter in the Clyde estuary. In Scotland, numbers of wintering wading birds, including redshank, have been declining for the last 20 years. Climate change is thought to be a factor.

EADAR-THAMALL INTERVAL

8. Òran na h-Ariel

De na ceithir cliopairean a’ feuchainn air urram san rëis teatha ainmeil ann an 1866, chaidh trì dhe na steud-shoithichean a thogail ann an gàradh-luingeis Raibeirt Steele an Grianaig. B’ i an Taeping a bhuinnig, leis a’ Chaitpean Dòmhnull MacFhionghuin, Dòmhnull ’ic Nèill ‘ic Dhòmnaill Ruaidh à Hianais ann an Tiriodh aig a stiùir, agus an Ariel agus an Serica goirid às a dèidh. Dh’fhàg iad Siona air an aon làn is ràinig iad Lunnainn às dèidh 99 latha - air an aon làn a-rithist. B’ ann dàna, siùblach a bha na cliopairean – chaidh gach tè aca a chall aig muir air a’ cheann thall, is cha do mhair a’ chaibidil seo de dh’eachdraidh mara ach mu dhà-fhichead bliadhna.

Of the four clippers vying for honours in the legendary Great Tea Race of 1866, three of the vessels were built by Robert Steele & Co. of Greenock. The victorious Taeping, captained by Tiree man Donald MacKinnon, Dòmhnull ’ic Nèill ‘ic Dhòmnaill Ruaidh, the Ariel, and the Serica all left China on the same tide and docked in London 99 days later – on the same tide. They were built for speed and daring – each of the clippers was ultimately wrecked and this thrilling era of sail lasted only a few decades.

9. Marbhaisg air an Òige

Bhuinneadh Clann a’ Bhacastair don Fheàrnaich - Donnchamh, Alastair, Marsaili, Màiri is Gill-Easbuig. B’ e Donnchamh a bu shine – chailleadh e nuair a chaidh a bhàthadh – agus bha Alastair fhèin math gu seinn, ach b’ ann bho chlàraighean Ghill-Easbuig a dh’ionnsaich athair a’ chlànn-nighean a tha a’ seinn a-nochd a chuid Gàidhlig agus an t-òran seo, na oidhrip leantainneach air Gàidhlig na sgìre às an do rugadh e a ghleidheadh dhan ath ghinealach.

The Baxter family – Donnchamh, Alastair, Marsaili, Màiri and Gill-Easbuig – were a Gaelic-speaking farming family from Fearnach in Cowal. Alastair in particular was a great singer, and this song comes from the family repertoire. Caoimhe and Saorsa’s father Àdhamh, who hails from Cowal, learned his Gaelic from recordings of the family, keeping the dialect of the area alive for another two generations.

10. Ortha Feamainn

Tha na coilltean feamad air iomall ar cladaichean an dà chuid a’ glacadh carbon agus nan àrainn do dh’iomadh gnè beatach-mara. Mar a bhiodh feamainn ga cur air tir rè droch shide, agus sin ga chleachadh le daoine bochda airson an talamh a mhathachadh, tha na raointean maerl mar an ceudna a’ toirt fasgadh do ghrunn chreutairean-mara, nam measg cnagaman-feannaig, ciocan-tràghad agus creachainn òga. Tha am maerl gu math brisg, agus fada gu fàs. Faodar a mhilleadh le bhith a’ sgrìobadh grunnd na mara, no le acraichean mòra is slabhraidean acraichaidh. Tha raon-diona air a chomharrachadh do na raointean maerl far chòrsa Arainn. Thathar am beachd gum bi droch bhuidh ga thoirt air a’ mhaerl ri linn atharrachadh na gnàth-shìde.