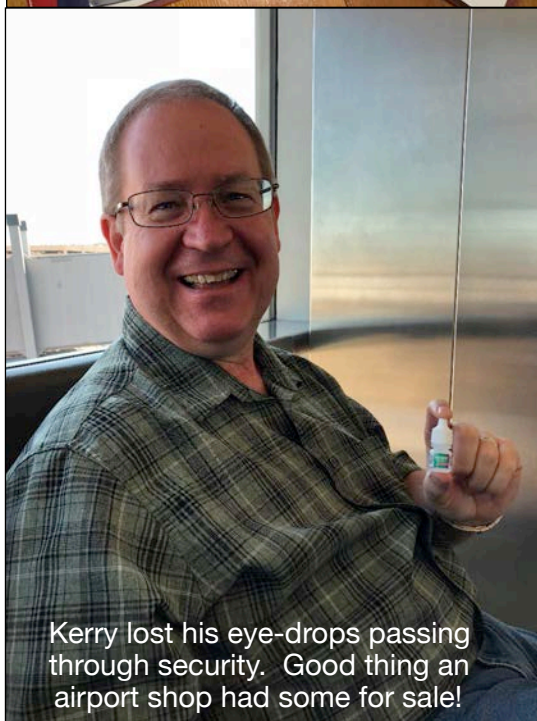
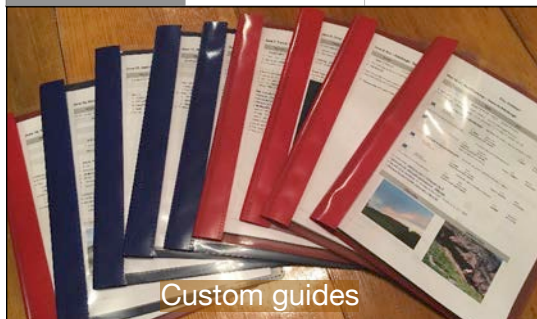




We're going to Scotland!

Wednesday, May 30 — Saturday, June 23

Travel to Edinburgh	Wake up	Arrive
	May 30, Wed	May 31, Thurs
	OKC	Edinburgh
United Airlines	11:00 a.m.	7:50 a.m.



Wed, May 30, 6:05 PM

Candace Magruder

We are in our plane to Edinburgh still on the ground in Chicago. Maybe a little delay with rain. The pilot said we will be flying over the southern tip of Greenland!

Rachel Folmar

Nice!! Thanks for the update! Praying your flight goes smoothly and you get some sleep! I love you!! 🥰💖

Thu, May 31, 6:14 AM

Thu, May 31, 8:49 AM

Hannah Magruder

Oh my goodness that picture is beautiful!!!!



Thursday 10:14 PM

It's 10 pm here and we're very thankful. Today we checked several important activities off our list: the Dynamic Earth Museum (which is one of the very best science museums I've ever seen); the Hop On bus tour; and the Salt Cave; not to mention walking around a portion of the perimeter of Holyrood Park and sharing a feast with Candace in our flat made from yummys we purchased at a nearby Sainsburys. I'm not feeling the usual effects of a long plane ride either. So now it's time to crash — and we pray that God has sustained you no matter what your day has brought you as well. Much love 🤞

Noad iPhone Robin

NR Wonderful thanks sleep well xxx

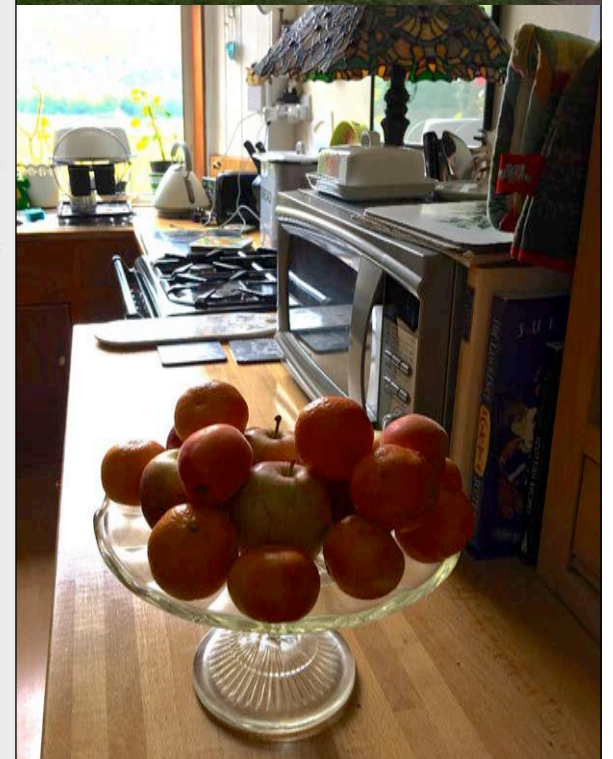




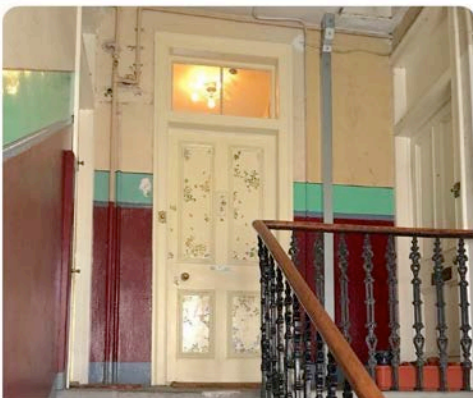
Susi's AirBnB, on the top floor of a historic tenement, had so many thoughtful touches. It was located just north of Holyrood Park, with this view of Arthur's Seat and the Salisbury Crags

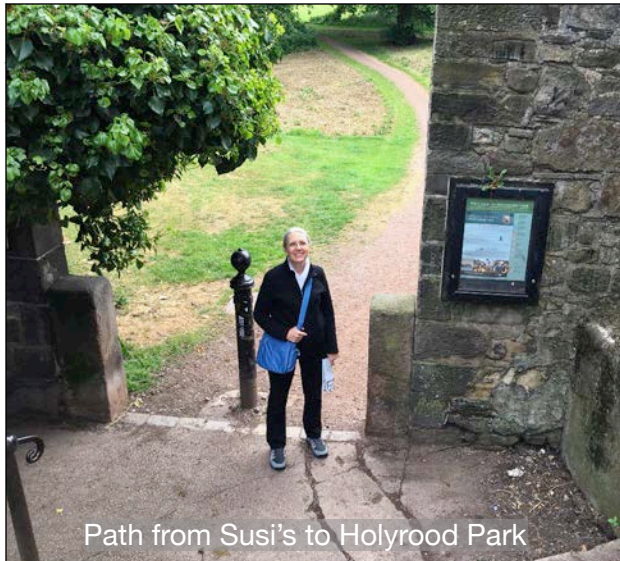


HA HA
The Mercedes parked next to the entrance is ours

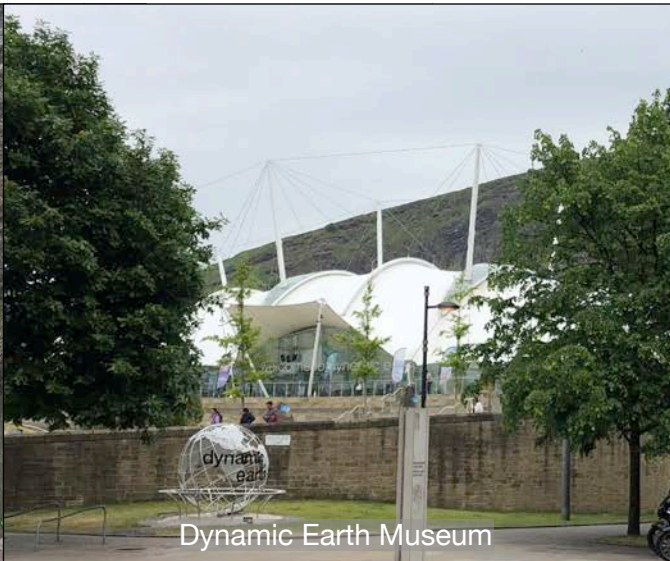


Rachel Folmar
Beautiful!!

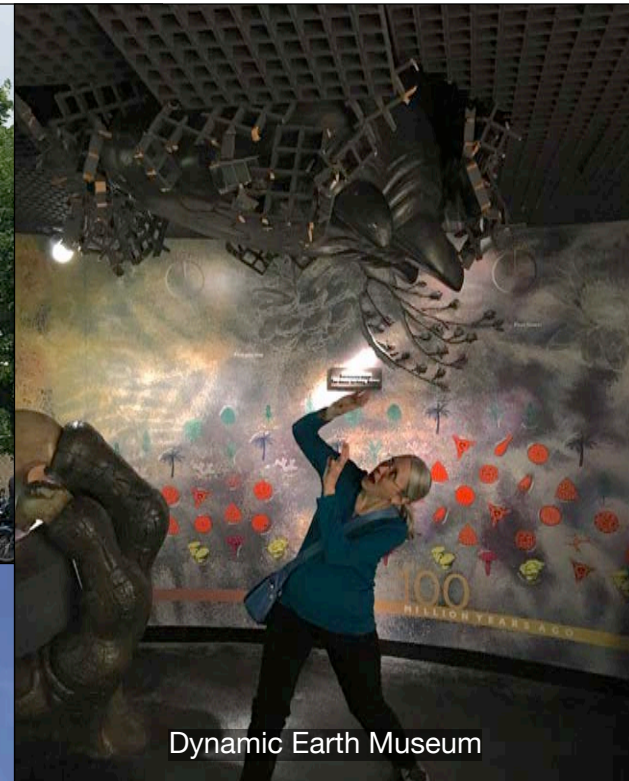




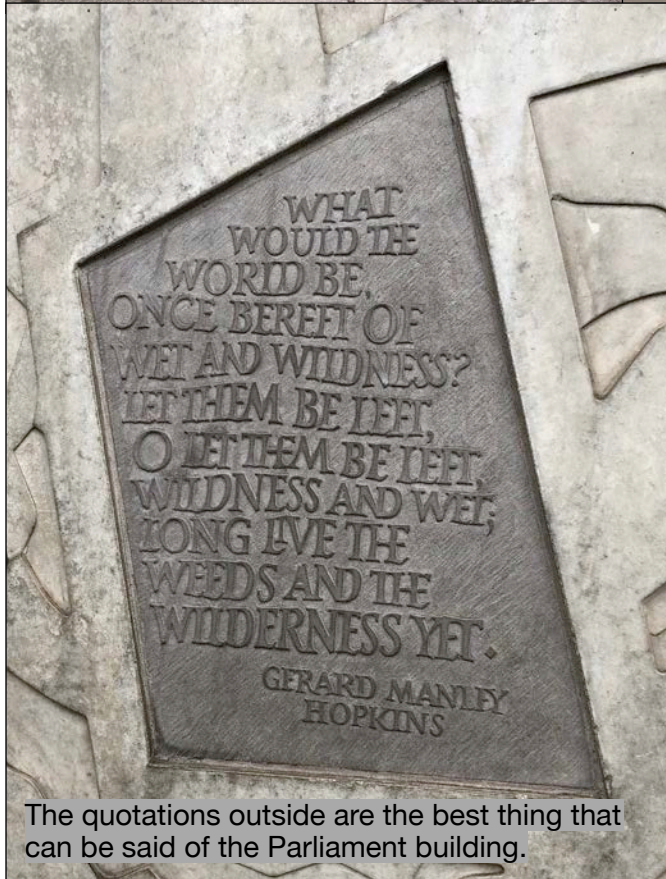
Path from Susi's to Holyrood Park



Dynamic Earth Museum



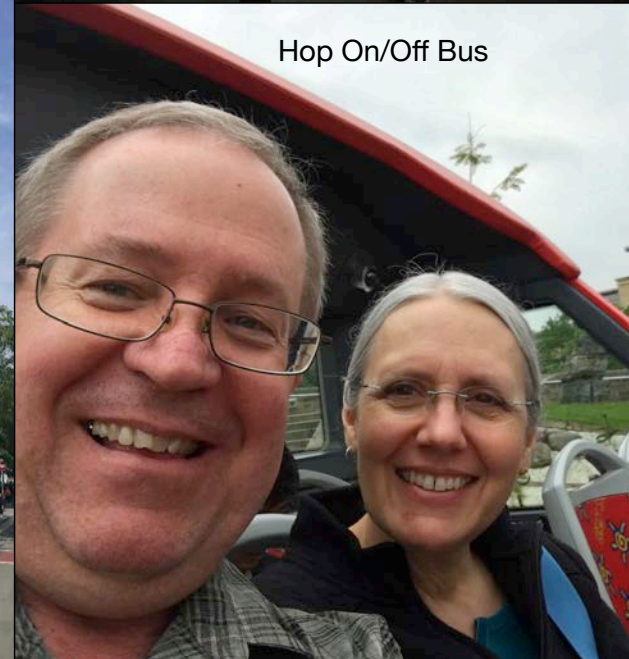
Dynamic Earth Museum



The quotations outside are the best thing that can be said of the Parliament building.



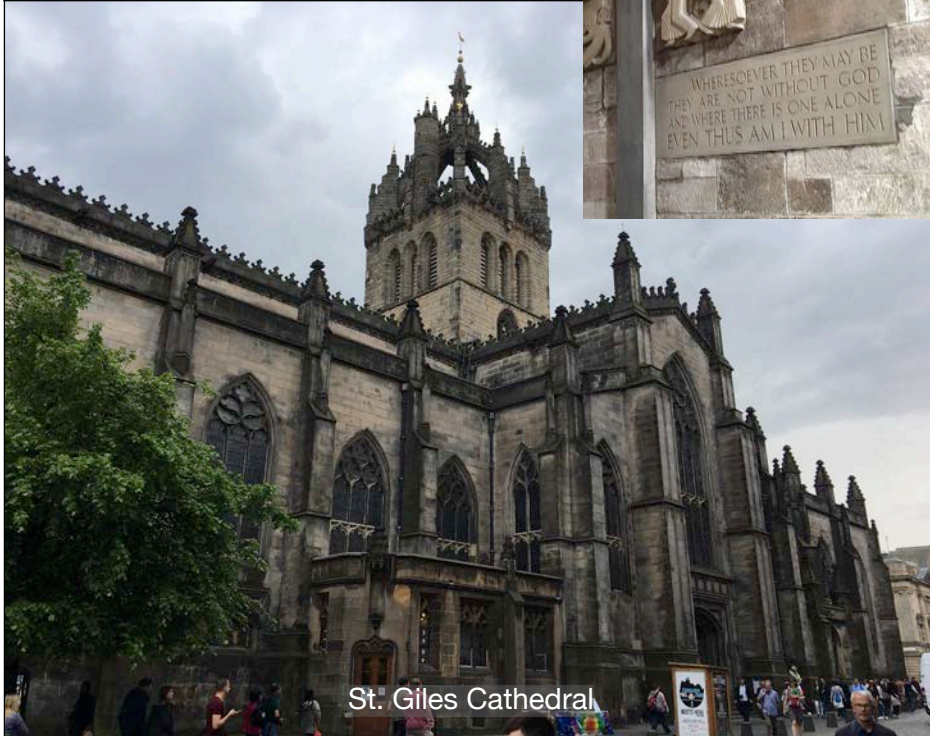
Sir Walter Scott Monument



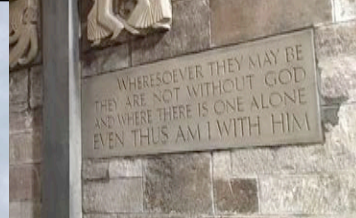
Hop On/Off Bus



Lunch at St. Giles



St. Giles Cathedral



A choir visiting from Norway

Old Town	Wake up	Sleep
Fri, June 1	Susi's B&B, Edinburgh	Susi's B&B, Edinburgh

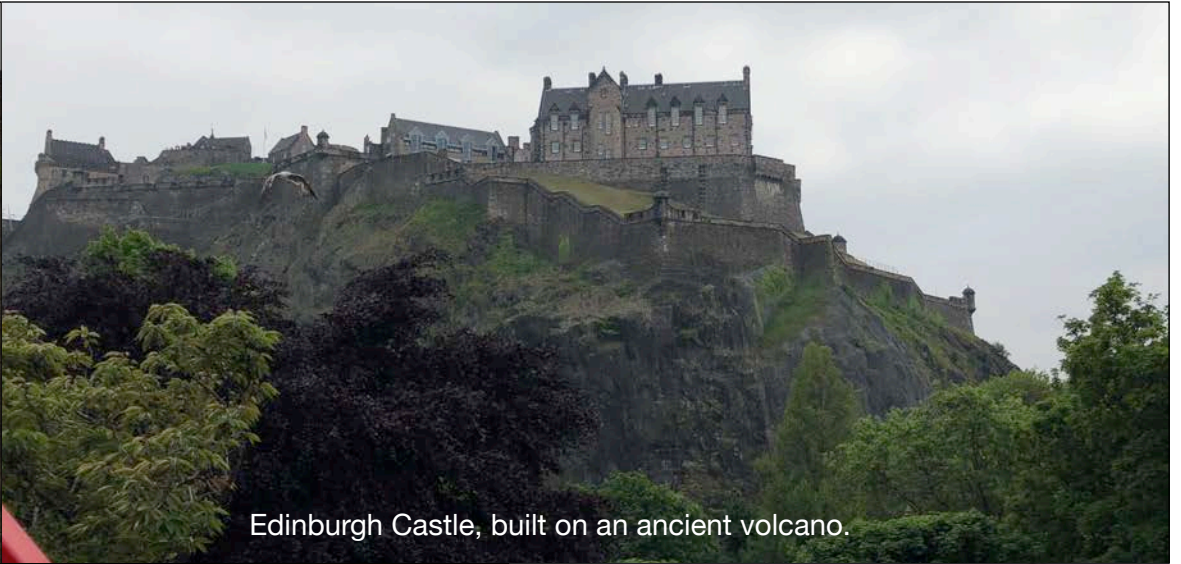


New College,
University of Edinburgh

Founded on "the Mound"
after the Disruption of
1843

Its distinguished
professors include
John Fleming,
Hugh Ross Mackintosh
and
Thomas F. Torrance

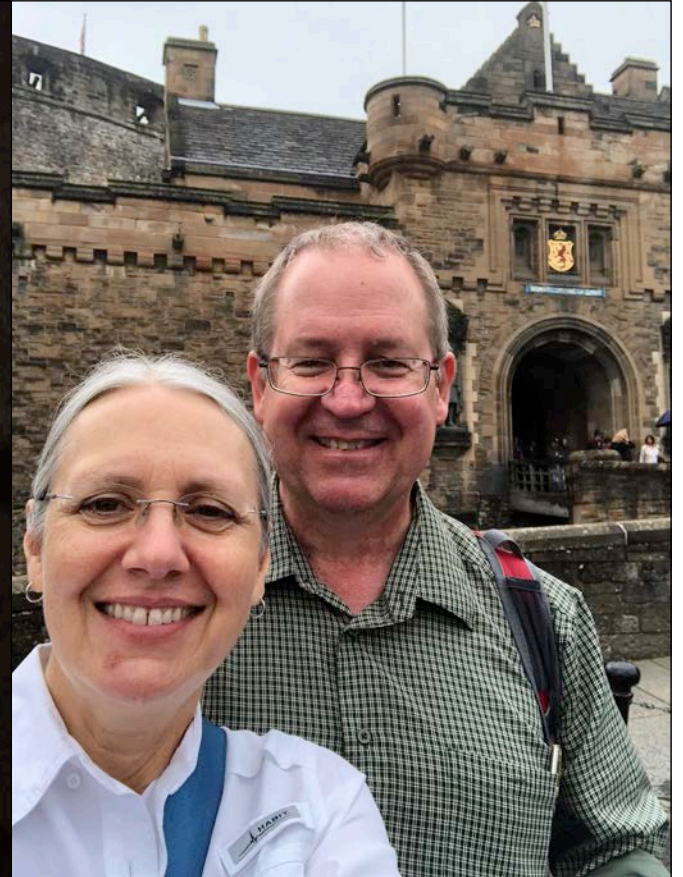




Edinburgh Castle, built on an ancient volcano.



St. Margaret's Chapel





Pete and Jackie Mills



Dinner in the Stockbridge area



On the way back to our Air B&B that evening

A damp but fun day. St. Giles Cathedral Service at noon followed by a gospel choir concert, a wet walk around Edinburgh Castle and the Royal Mile, an interesting but successful time figuring out the bus system, and dinner with a sweet couple who pastor a GCI church here. Now to bed. Love you all!





Gilmerton New Church

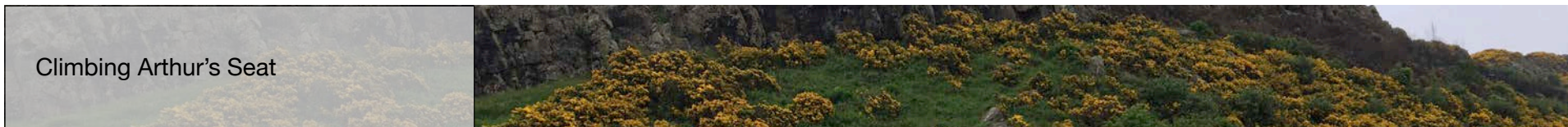


Attended a lovely little GCI church this morning (they share a building with a Church of Scotland congregation thus the Saturday service). Then we climbed to the peak of Arthur's Seat and around the Salisbury Crags that overlook the city, a four hour hike partly in rain. But we saw some amazing views and beautiful wildflowers. And this time we were dressed for the weather! Perfect day!



Holyrood Park	Wake up	Sleep
Sat, June 2	Edinburgh	Edinburgh

Climbing Arthur's Seat



St. Anthony's Chapel



View north, from Arthur's Seat

Left: Holyrood Palace, abbey.

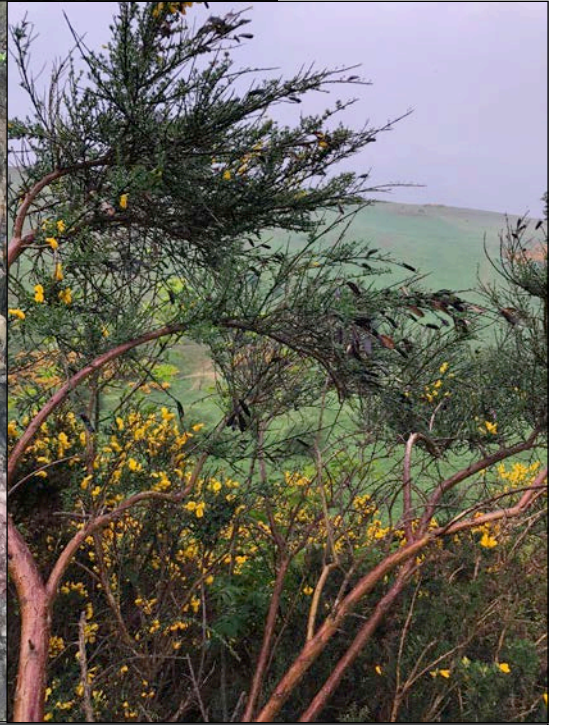
Top: Ship in the Firth of Forth.



View of Salisbury Crags, to the west from Arthur's Seat

Center, top: Edinburgh Castle, St. Giles Cathedral.





Salisbury Crag



Hutton's unconformity at Salisbury Crag



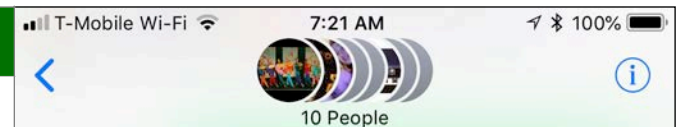
Edinburgh to Loch Lomond	Wake up	Sleep
Sunday, June 3	Edinburgh	Drymen



Pete and Jackie's home near Linlithgow



"Stop on Red" translated into Scottish: "When Stop Sign Shows Wait Here"



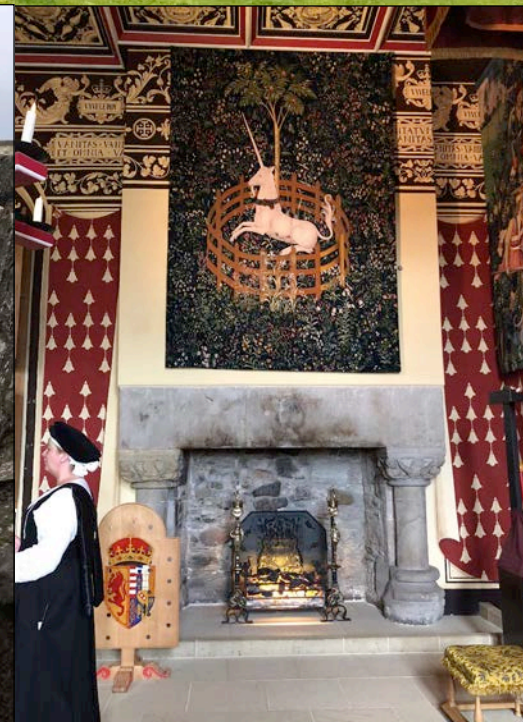
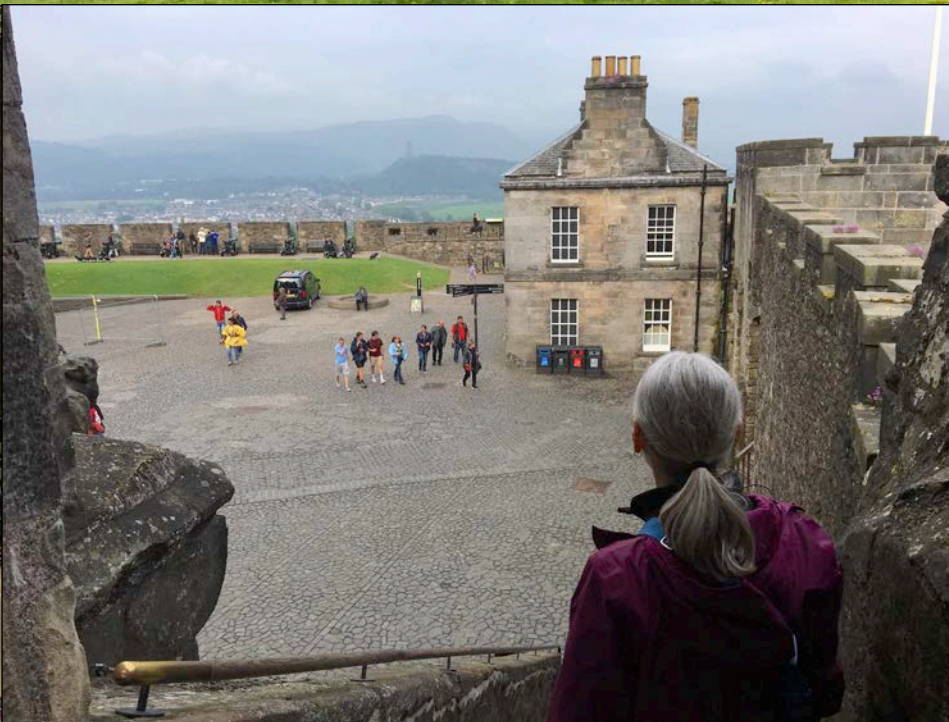
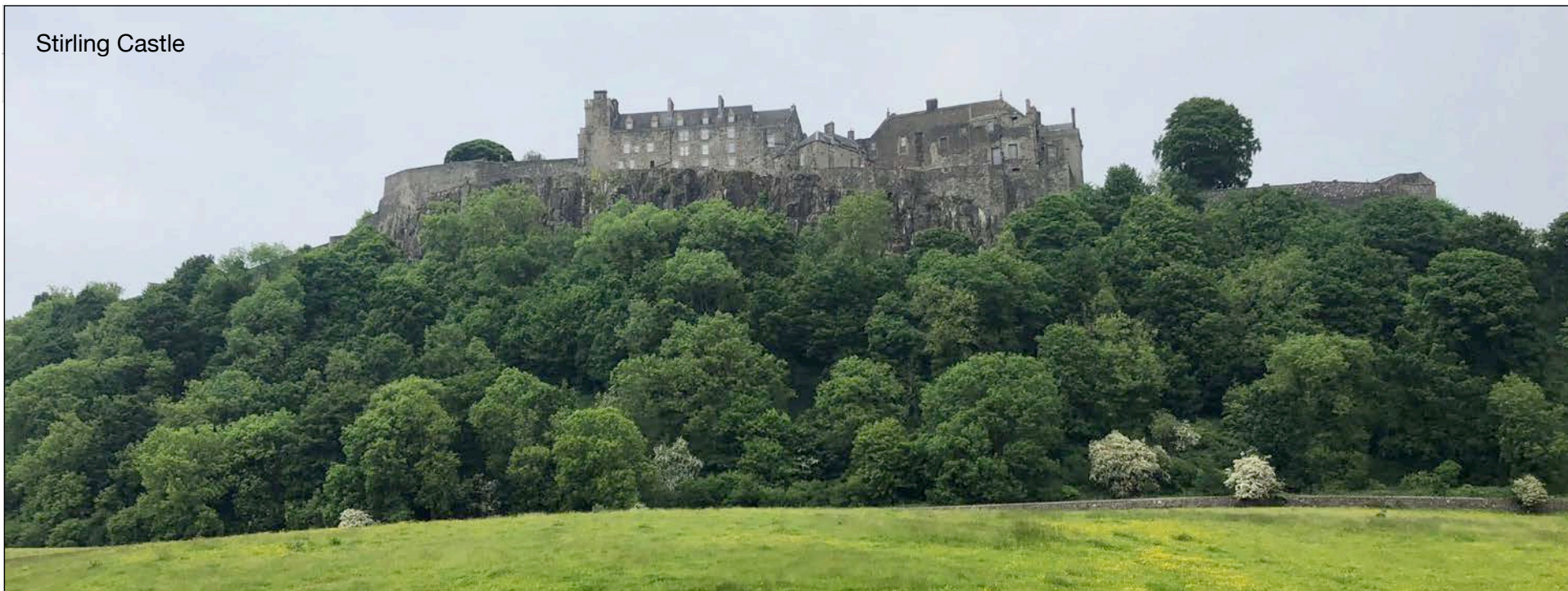
This morning we left our lovely little flat in Edinburgh near Holyrood Park. Candace says driving on the left side of the road is good for her prayer life. Yet before we knew it, we were in countryside that might as easily have been Scotland County. We made a brief stop at the home our new friends, the GCI pastors, who live in a country home about 150 years old near Linlithgow. Then a bonus afternoon at another volcano, ie Stirling Castle, where we loved the interpreters. To close off the day, we arrived at a most pleasant B&B, the Bramblewood, run by a most friendly Scot from Tanzania (yes, he calls himself a "black Scot"). We're only a few miles from Loch Lomond, in the Trossachs national forest. Tomorrow we enter the Highlands proper. All is well - allergies not yet a problem and we're not sore from yesterday's climb of Arthur's Peak. Hope you are well also!!! 🥰

Subject

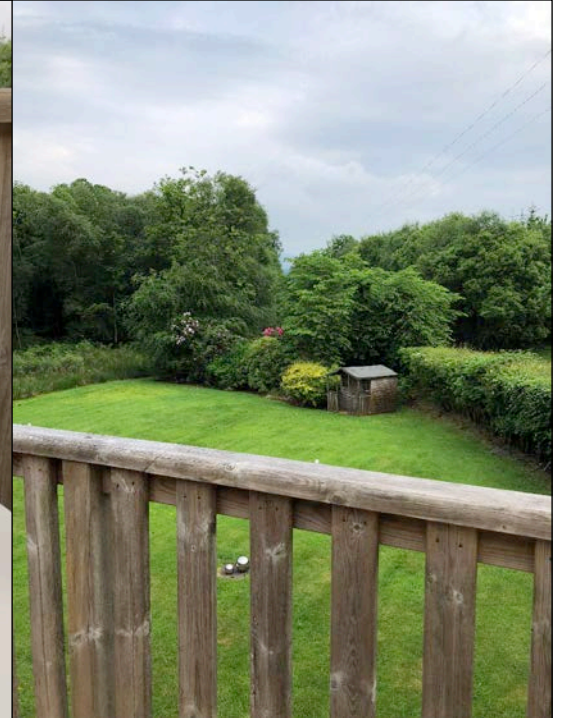
Text Message

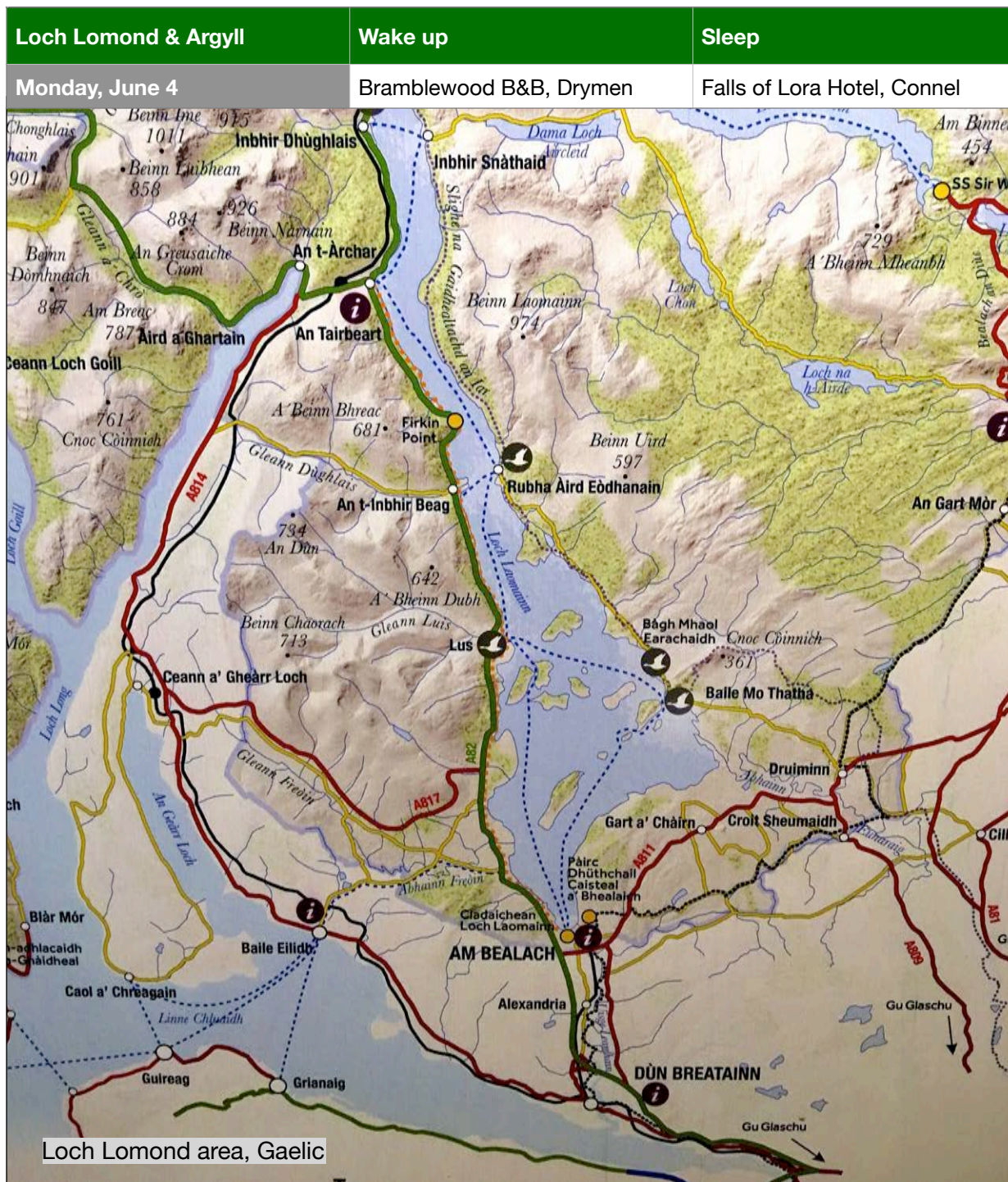


Stirling Castle



Bramblewood B&B, Drymen

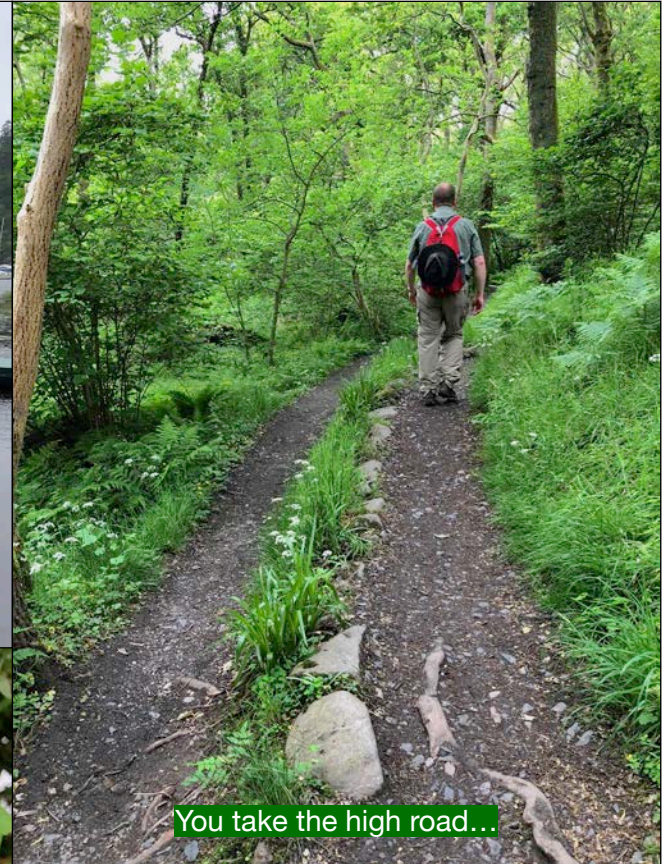




10 People



This morning we walked the Highland Boundary Fault Trail along the lush, bonny, east banks of Loch Lomond. Only 4 km, but we started in the lowlands on a "terrane" that used to lie away across an ocean. Then we crossed over the boundary of a primordial continental collision. After crossing a fault immediately after, we took our first steps in the highlands! Afterward, we made our way up Rest and be Thankful pass, between steep-sided, glacier carved mountains that seemed much like Wyoming (could understand why Helen MacInnes titled a book by that name which is set in Wyoming). Then we had a couple hours left touring Inveraray Castle, which has family connections and is the subject of a great video in the Great Estates of Scotland TV series. Finally a brief stop at the beautiful ruins of Kilchurn Castle on the shore of Loch Awe, then we arrived at the Falls of Lora Hotel with its beautiful gardens. Wow, what a difference a couple days make. Still no effects of allergies and we're both feeling well. Hope you are all well too. Love you!



You take the high road...



Conglomerate hillside



On the boundary of
the Highland Fault

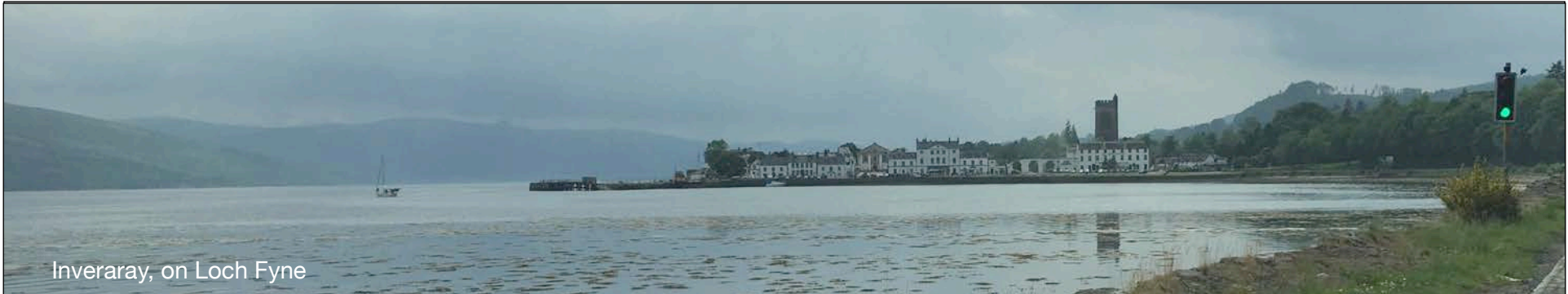


One foot in the Highlands and one in the Lowlands





Rest and be thankful were the words inscribed on a stone here by soldiers who built the military road in the 1740s. The original stone fell into ruin and was replaced by the stone around 30 metres to your right, near the top of the old road. The inscription is hard to read now, but it commemorates the repair of the road in 1768.

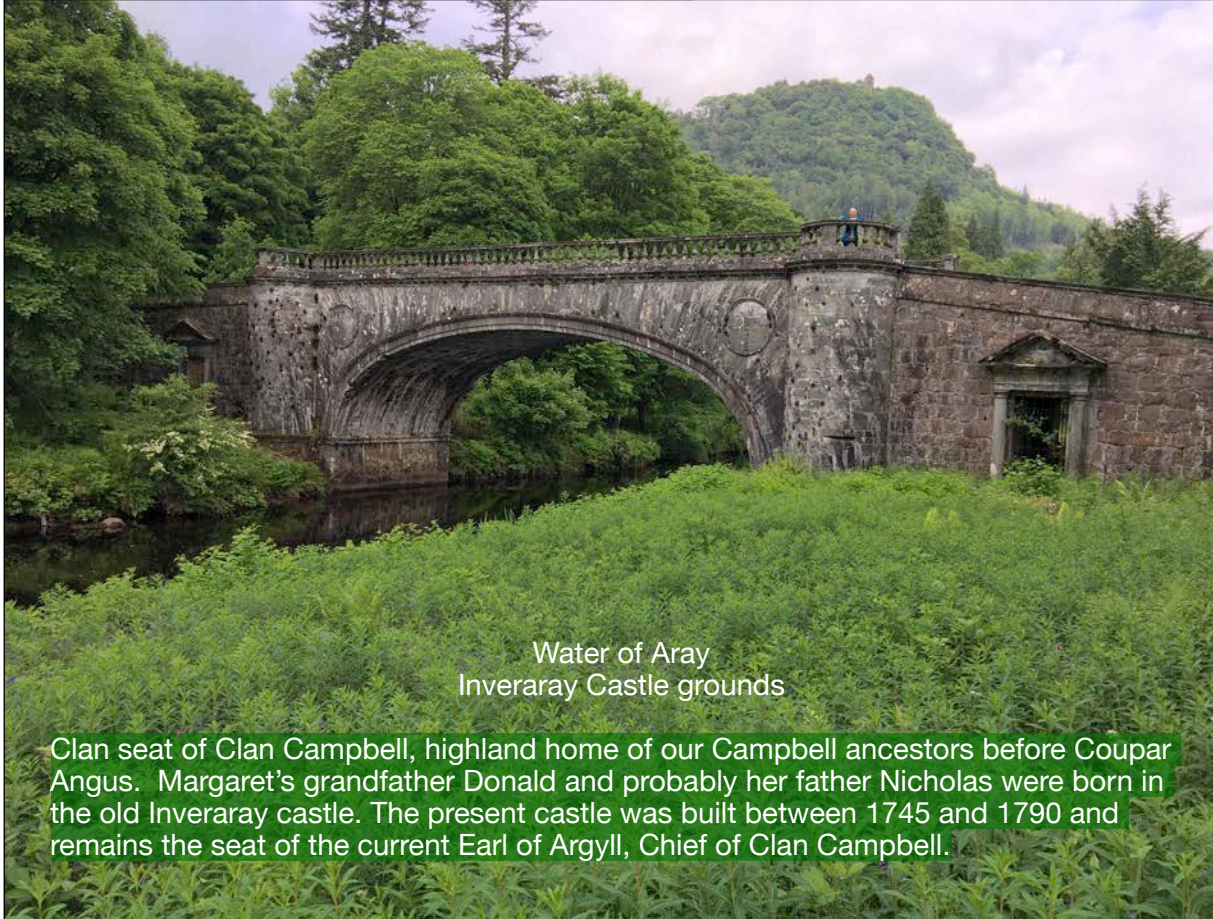




Inveraray Castle



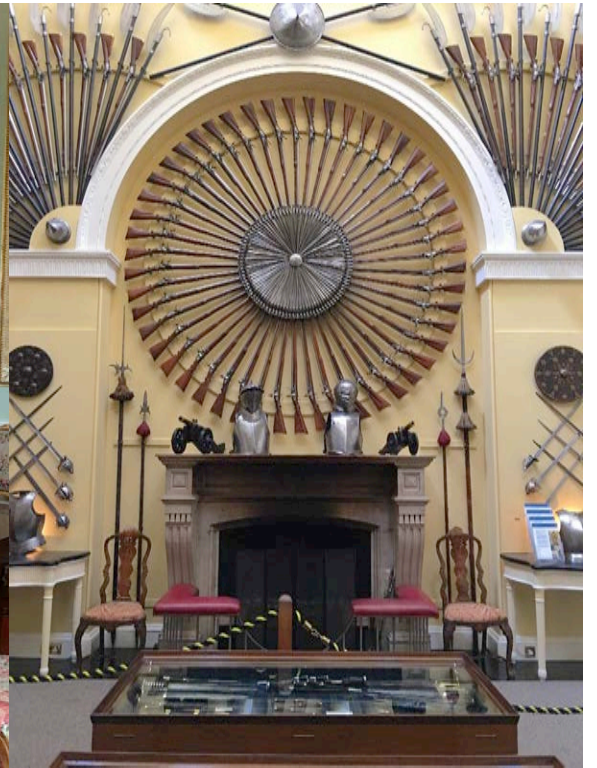
Old Inveraray Castle markers



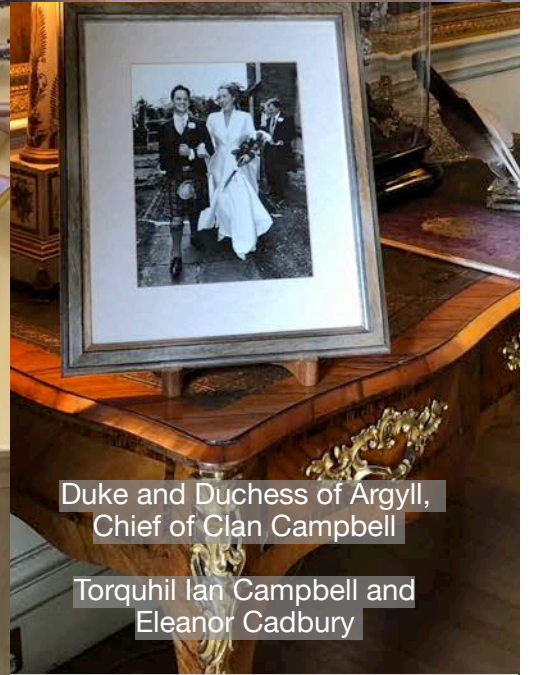
Water of Aray
Inveraray Castle grounds



Clan seat of Clan Campbell, highland home of our Campbell ancestors before Coupar Angus. Margaret's grandfather Donald and probably her father Nicholas were born in the old Inveraray castle. The present castle was built between 1745 and 1790 and remains the seat of the current Earl of Argyll, Chief of Clan Campbell.



Inveraray Castle

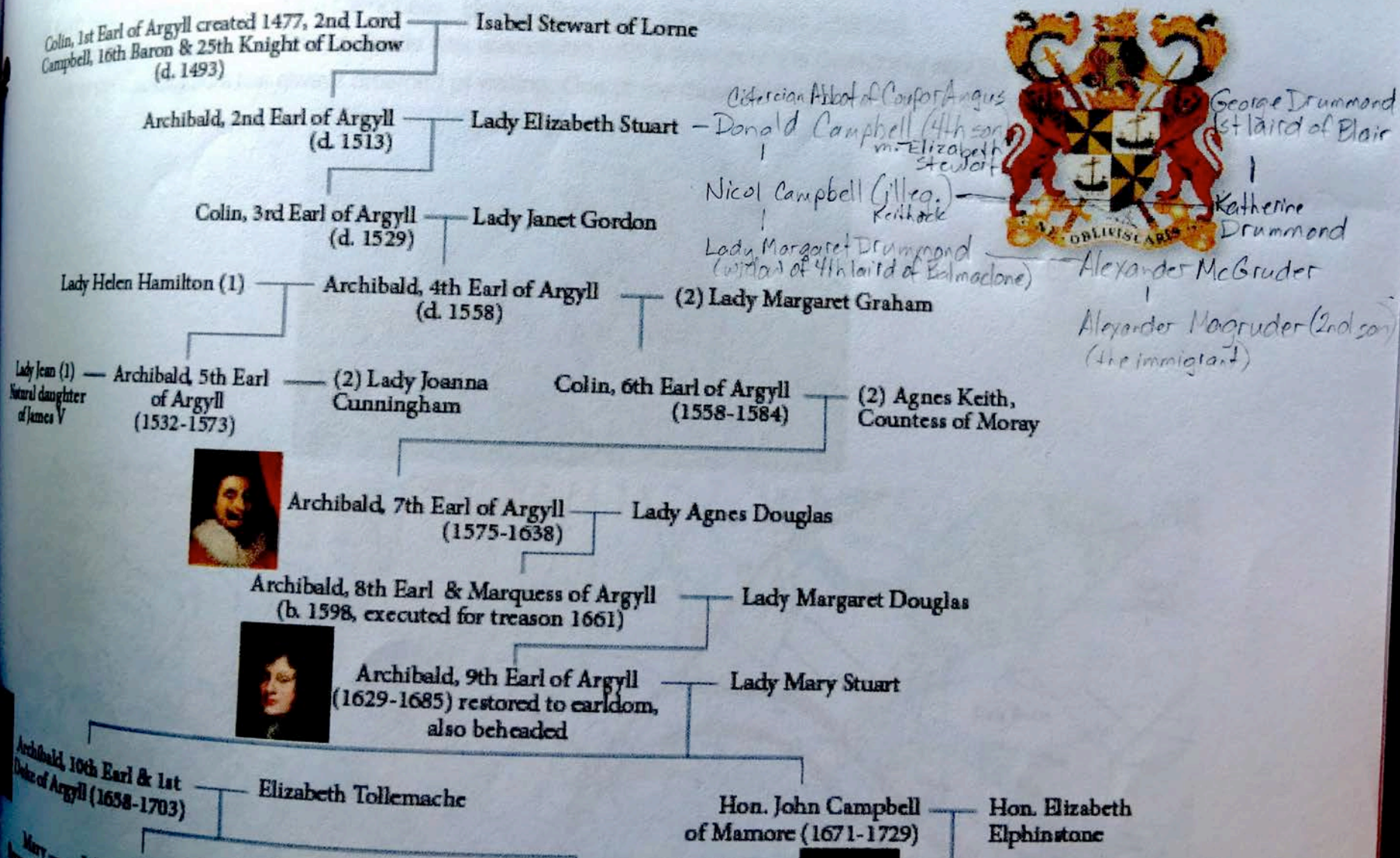


Duke and Duchess of Argyll,
Chief of Clan Campbell

Torquhil Ian Campbell and
Eleanor Cadbury

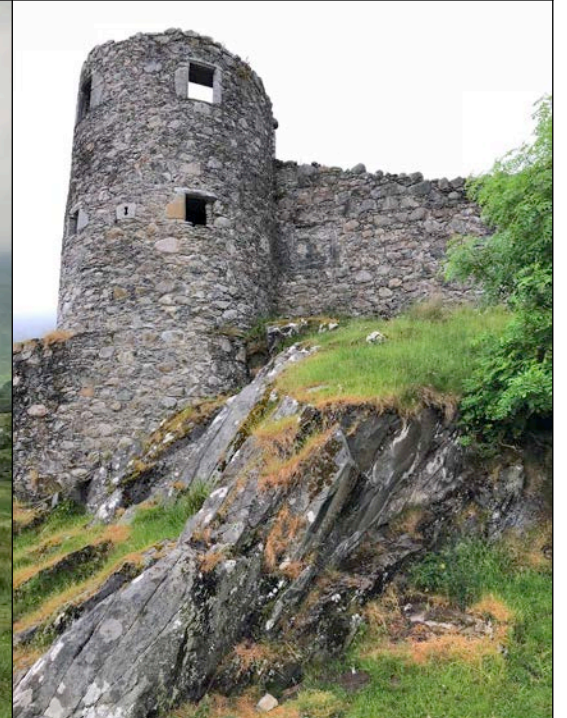
THE CAMPBELL KNIGHTS OF LOCHOW

Earls & Dukes of Argyll





Kilchurn Castle, on Loch Awe






Falls of Lora Hotel, in Connel



Iona, Staffa	Wake up	Sleep
Tuesday, June 5	Connel, Falls of Lora Hotel	Iona, Hotel Argyll



Ferry from Oban to Mull



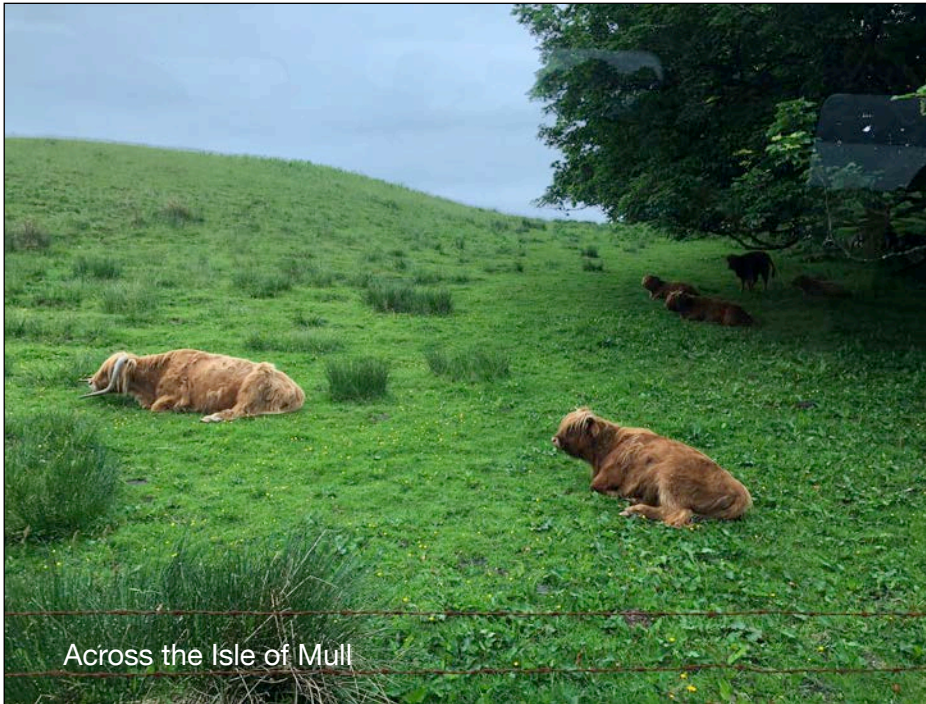
Having spent last night less than 100 yards from salt water, in an enchanting hotel in Connel (called the Falls of Lora Hotel), today we rode two ferries and stood on two islands -- crossed from Oban to the Isle of Mull and then to the Isle of Iona. Splendid weather, as we walked around the Abbey, nunnery and other remains of the ancient Celtic community of Columba -- this is the birthplace of the Book of Kells! It may be the first place the Celtic Cross was carved in stone. It's where the monks came from who established the colony at Lindisfarne. The Argyll Hotel is charming and its restaurant is spectacular. We have two nights here. No internet, and who knows when this text may get through. A peaceful evening for us, and we hope for all of you. Love, Kerry, from Candace's phone.





Duart Castle, home of Clan MacLean,
east coast of Mull





Across the Isle of Mull



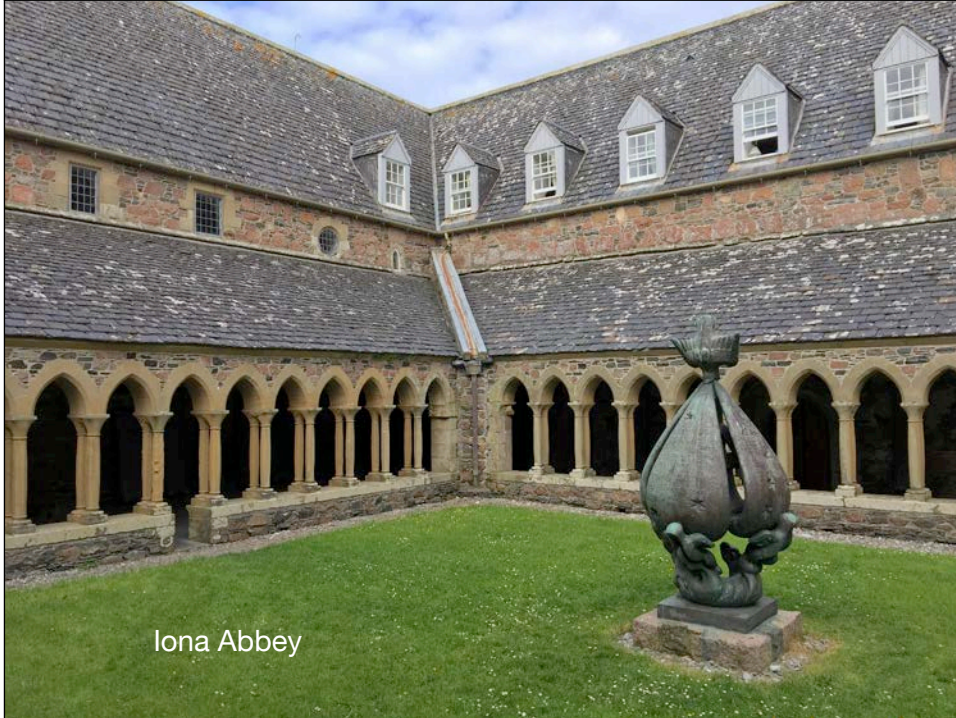
Fionnphort, on the west coast of Mull



Coming ashore on Iona



Iona Nunnery



Iona Abbey



Friendly moo of a hairy coo



Evening meal: Back at the Argyll



Staffa, Iona	Wake up	Sleep
Wednesday, June 6	Iona, Hotel Argyll	Iona, Hotel Argyll



Morning view at breakfast



GPRS

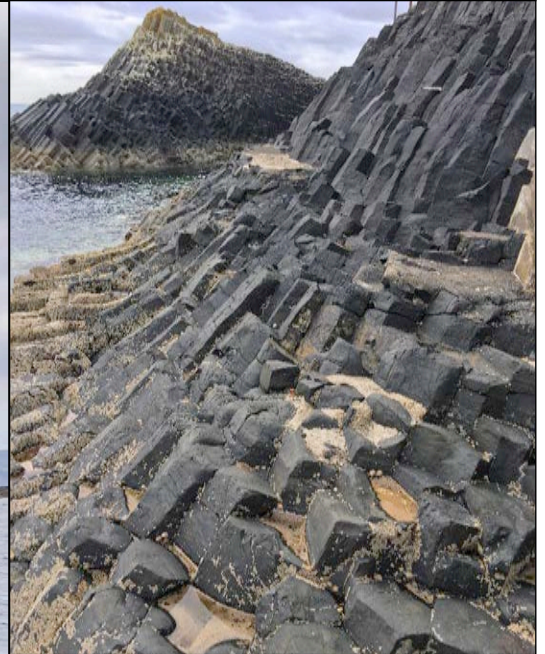
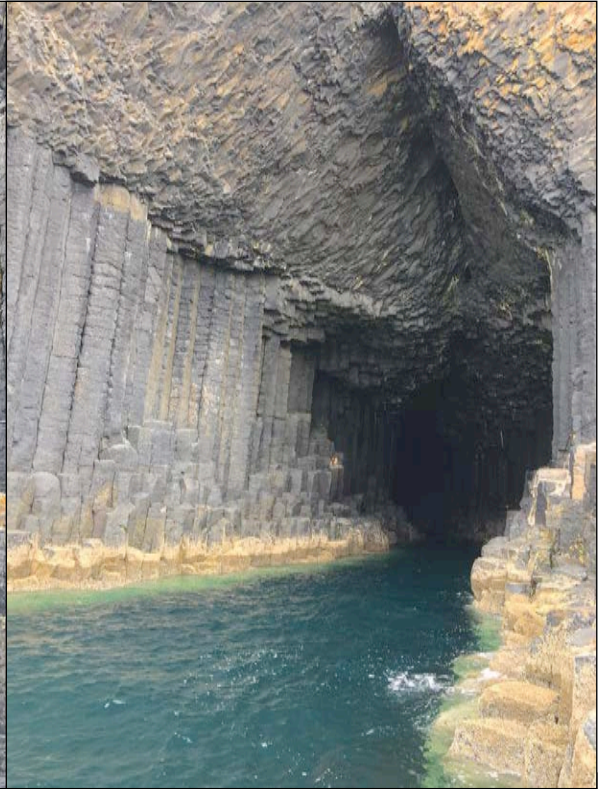
10:22 PM

10 People

Wow, where do we even begin to tell about today? The internet is out so the message from yesterday has not yet been sent, but we awakened to a beautiful morning on Iona. After a hot breakfast at the Hotel Argyll, we journeyed by boat to the island of Staffa. There we saw Fingal's Cave! And puffins! The weather could not have been better. In the afternoon, we enjoyed visiting the Abbey again, and then walking to the beach of white sand on the north end of the island. We enjoyed another exquisite dinner at the Hotel (their chef cooks like a master painter paints, and I have no words to describe it). It's now 10:20 pm, the Sun is beginning to set, and we've just walked back from the evening service at the Abbey. Hopefully this email will go out tomorrow and find you all well. Our thoughts turn to each of you with gladness as we continue this journey.

Subject

Text Message



Puffins
Isle of Staffa



Returning to Iona

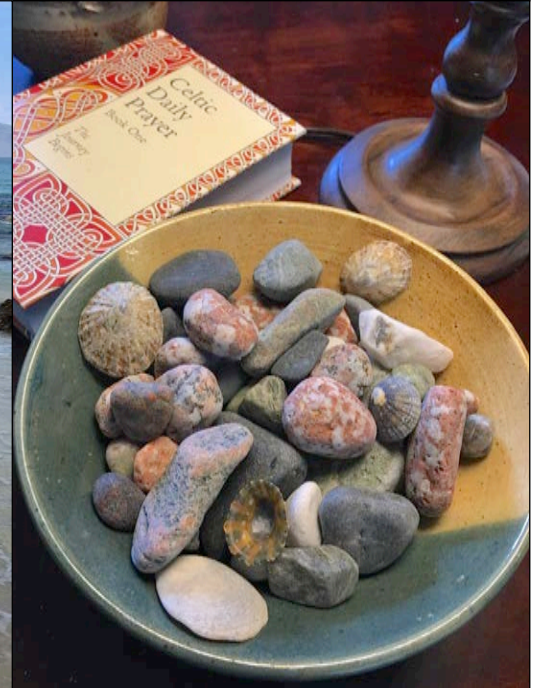


Departing Staffa





North beach, Iona





Iona Abbey, with a cross shadow cast upon the entrance to Columba's chapel





Gluten free!



Back to Iona Abbey for the evening service

Iona to Glen Coe

Wake up

Sleep

Thursday, June 7

Hotel Argyll, Iona

Camus House, Onich





Leaving Iona



Bus trip across Mull



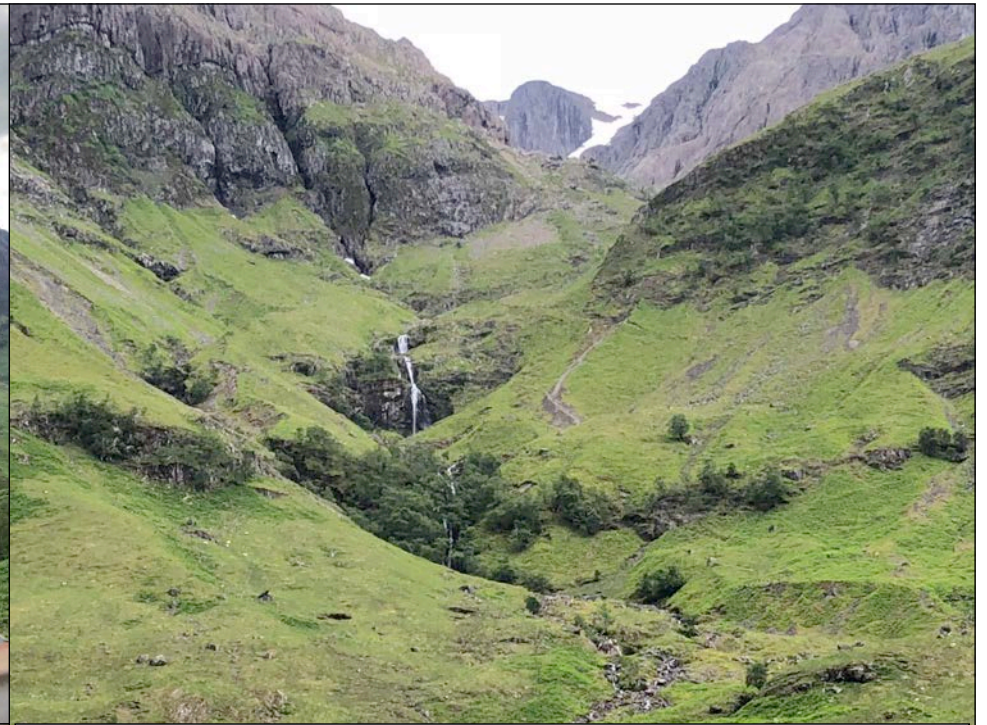
Playing lay-by chicken

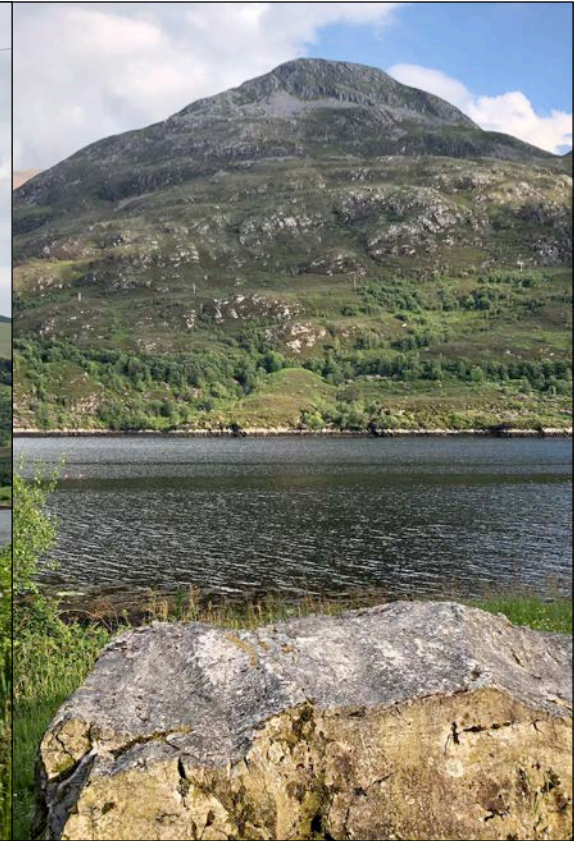


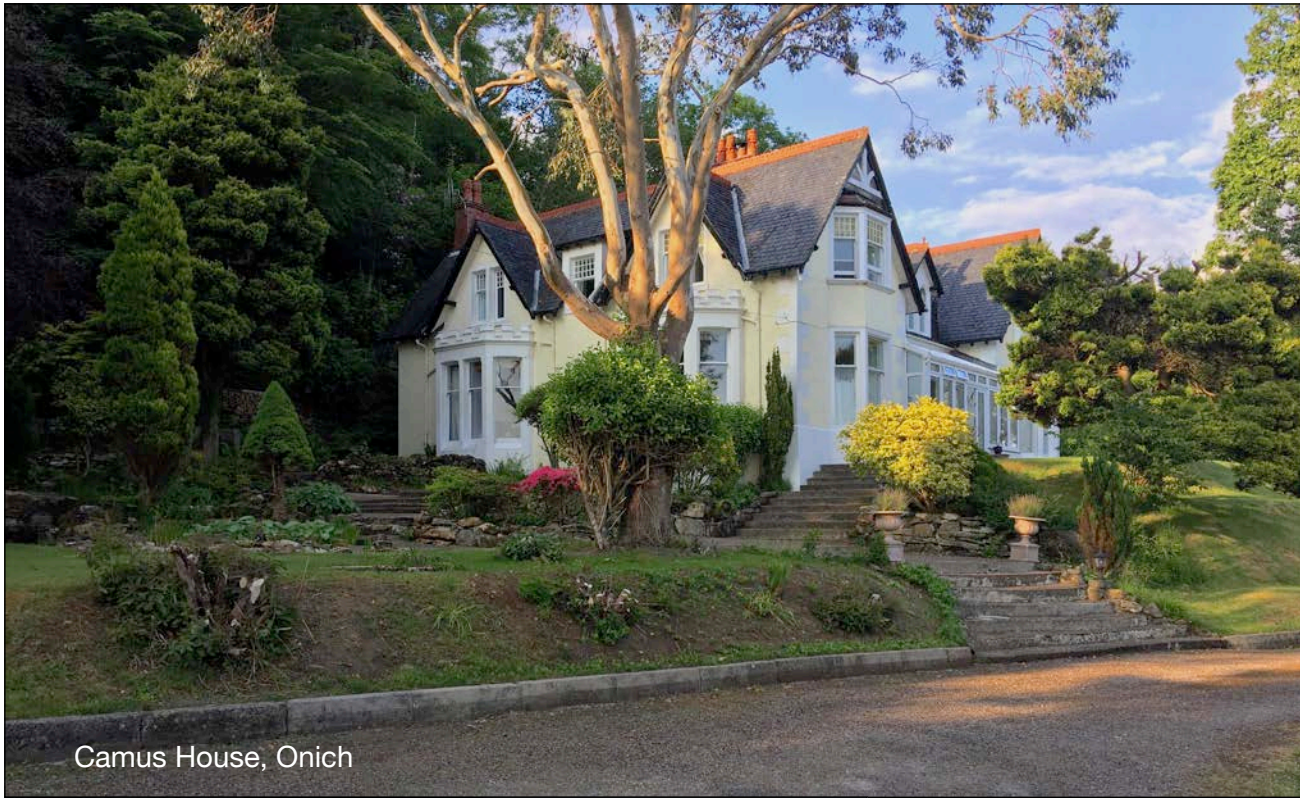
Back to Oban



Lochaber and Glen Coe
Where the idea of 'cauldron subsidence,' now called 'caldera collapse,' was born over 100 years ago








Camus House, Onich



Simon & Heather

Thursday evening: we've arrived at Camus House in Onich, on beautiful Loch Linnhe just north of Glen Coe. Alastair and Louise, who welcomed Mother, Laura and Julie here 2 years ago, have retired to Stirling. The new owners, Simon and Heather, welcomed us warmly and promised to send our photo montage on to A and L. We are happy to report that S and H have embarked on many efforts this restore the house and gardens. We began the morning by saying good bye to Iona, enjoyed the wild scenery of the Island of Mull, and then took a looping route to Camis House through Glen Coe, including the dramatic Three Sisters. This is where the concept of a gigantic caldera originated. Finally, before checking into Camus House, we were able to eat fresh Scottish seafood at the restaurant Laura recommended. Hope you all are doing well -- we think of you every step along the way.



Onich to Inverness	Wake up	Sleep
Friday, June 8	Camus House, Onich	Dunhallin House, Inverness
		
		

Inverlochy Castle

Hi everyone! Here it's Friday night in the big town of Inverness. We started out from Camus House, and made a brief stop at the old Inverlochy Castle ruins. Our major occupation for the day was one of the top three geosites of the entire trip: the so-called "parallel roads" of Glen Roy. What a remote magnificence! It seemed like a combination of Wyoming and Trail Ridge Road. This has been on the geological grand tour since the late 18th century - I learned about Charles Darwin's visit here, for example, my first semester in graduate school. While we were there, Presto was off who-knows where doing his own thing — he'll surprise us all when he eventually tells us, I'm sure. Then, after Presto rejoined us, we drove by Loch Ness, making a stop at Urquhart Castle (made of Old Red Sandstone like so many buildings here), before pulling into Inverness where we'll spend two nights. The weather turned much cooler as we moved inland from the west coast — today was the first day we felt inclined to wear our puffy jackets. There's way too much Sun and the temps are way too warm in Scotland, IMHO. 😊 hope your Saturday ends up as pleasant as ours, though!



Ben Nevis



Darwin's Rest Coffee Shop
Glen Roy: The "Parallel Roads"



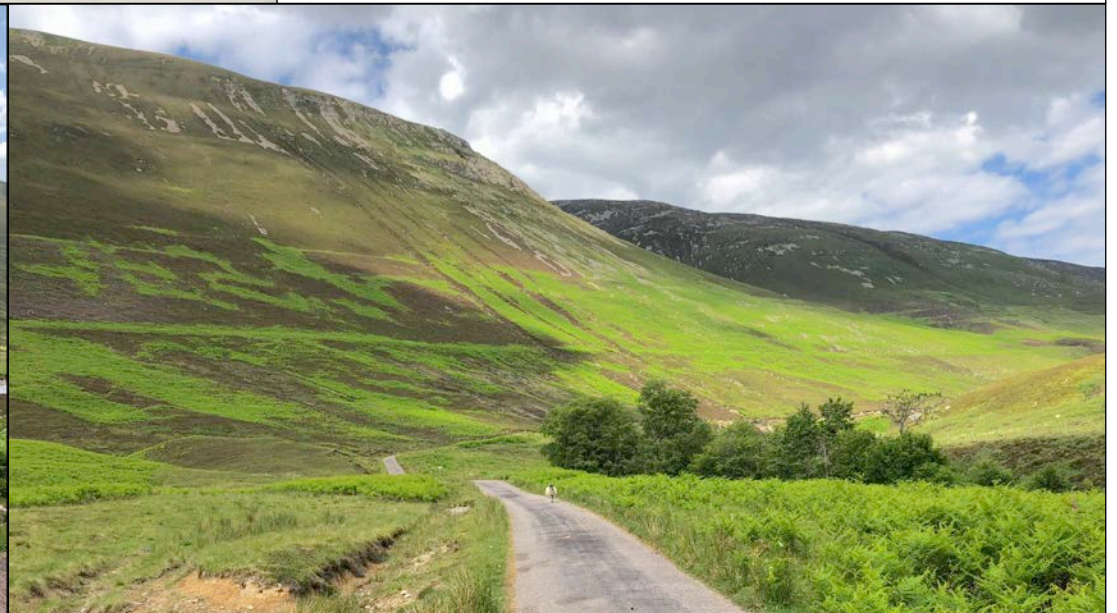
Ginger soda at Darwin's Rest
"The Parallel Roads are the shores of ice-dammed lakes..."



Sitting here 12,000 years ago
you would have had 160m of WATER
above your head...
...and just 11,800 years ago you
would have had more than
250m of ICE above you.

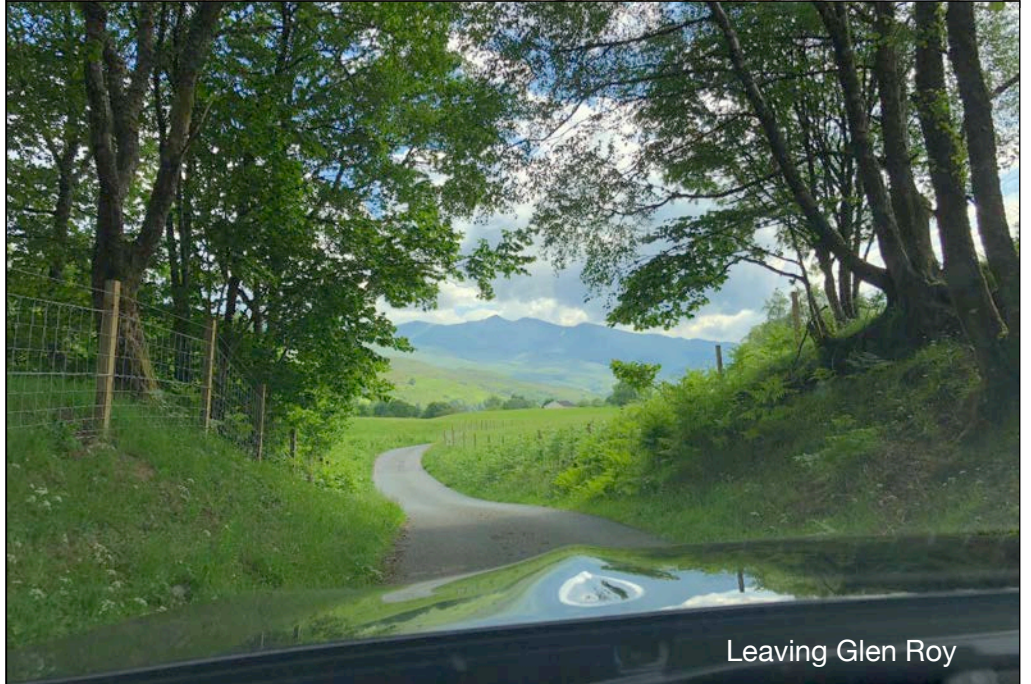


Can you see the parallel horizontal lines on the mountainside? Those are the mysterious "parallel roads" in Glen Roy.





And here's a beautiful geo-tourist standing on one of them. Good night, everyone!



Leaving Glen Roy



Urquhart Castle on Loch Ness



Hogwarts Express

Glenfinnan

Everyone, any guesses where Presto might have gone? Susanna? Hannah? Rachel? He seems to want to tell us, but to see if we can guess it first!

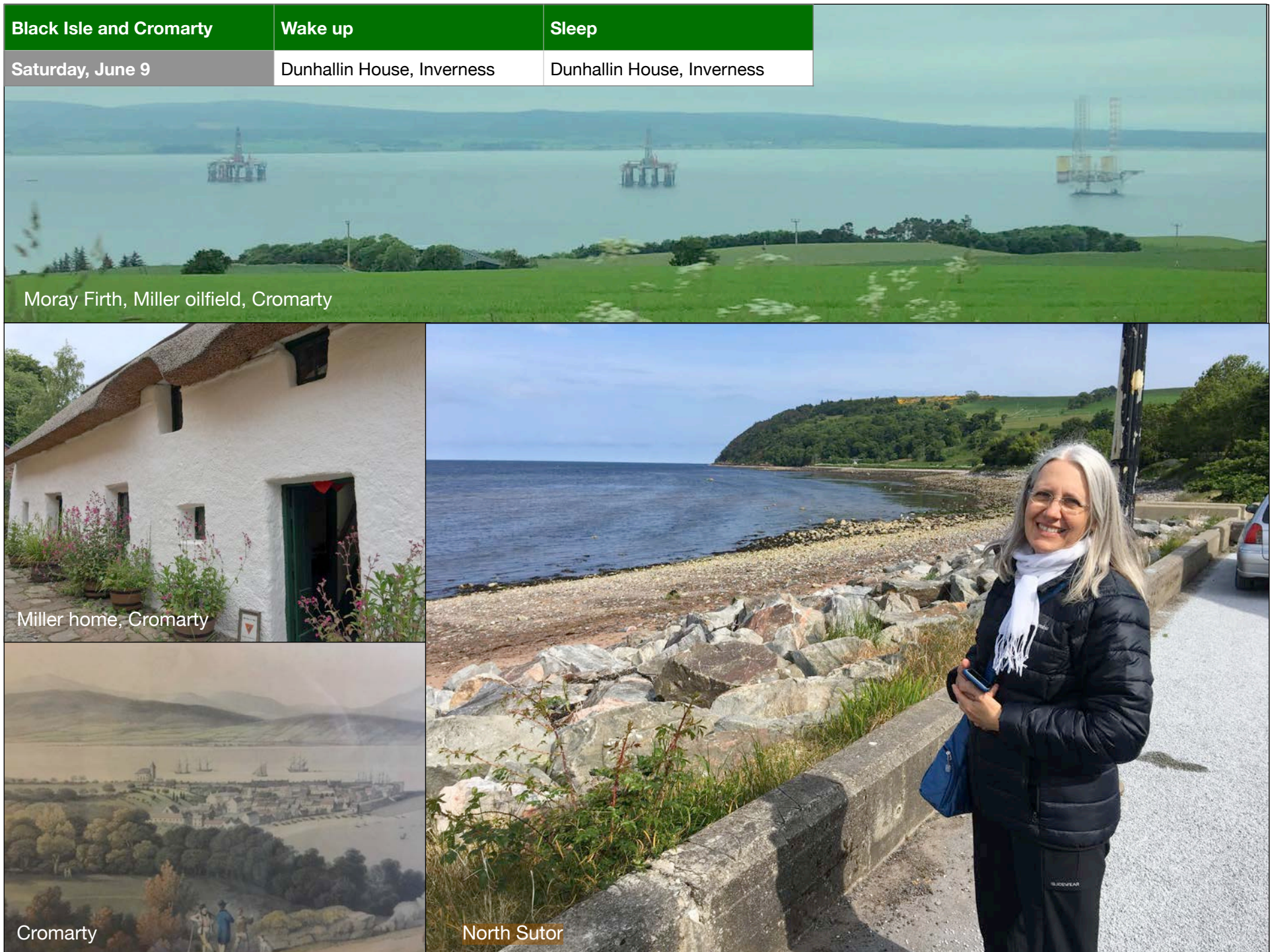
Rachel Folmar

Dad, I'm guessing Presto knows where to find other dragons in the rugged, mountainous Highlands!

Hannah Magruder

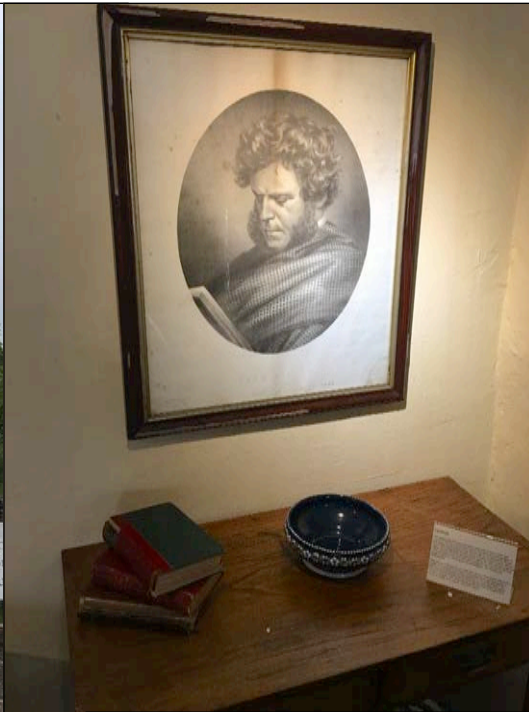
OH MY GOODNESS these are wonderful!!!!!! Love the Glen Roads, I want to hear more about them, and so good to see a picture of at least one of you! Beautiful scenery. I think Presto went to Hogwarts!!!!!!

Presto says Nessie went to Hogwarts, too, so people are looking in vain for her at Loch Ness. However, he says, in recent years she's been at the South Pole for the most part, only returning to Hogwarts from time to time, such as when old friends like Presto return there. Yet Nessie is very absent-minded, and sometimes forgets not to breathe her dragon fire (being, of course, a dragon, however poorly understood). So Nessie's return to meet up with Presto is why the weather in Scotland this past month has taken such a warm turn. And (more significantly) Nessie's move to the South Pole is the real reason behind the ozone hole and global warming of recent decades — not human-caused after all, except due to the fact that so many tourists at Loch Ness drove her away in the first place. During this trip, while they were together at Hogwarts, Presto helped her practice some coping strategies to not be so forgetful about breathing fire down there at the Pole. As a result, we expect the rest of our Scotland trip to be a bit cooler, also.





Miller home, Cromarty



Miller sundial
Ornamental stonework



Lydia Miller



Several days later in Northumberland, at the Pack Horse pub:
Stephanie Kulesza, Miller's great-great-grand daughter



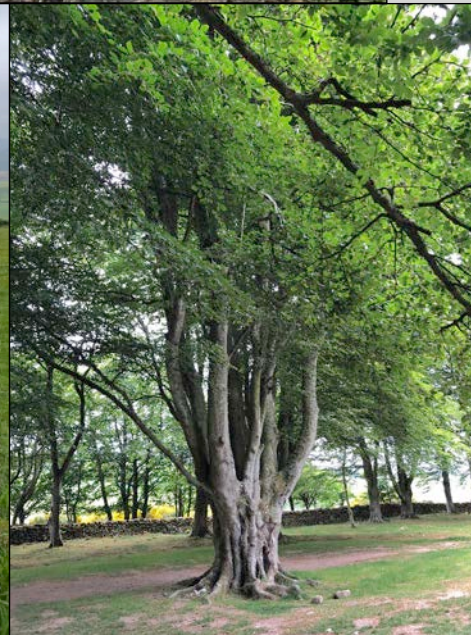
Today was a slower pace than usual. During the morning, not only did we get to catch up with Presto, but we did laundry, went grocery shopping, found an ATM and filled up with gas, all at a leisurely pace. Then we headed an hour north to Cromarty, an enchanting little village on the North Sea, where Hugh Miller grew up. Hugh Miller was a famous 19th century geologist and leader of the evangelical wing of the Church of Scotland. We both fell in love with the town, much like two people we met who are retiring there from Inverness. Then back to Inverness just in time to visit Leakey's bookstore before it closed, and then down the street to Hootenanny's, where we enjoyed a fantastic Scottish meal and traditional (but amped up) Scottish band. It is now just a few minutes before midnight, so we have a special wish we want to be the first to announce:



Through the Cairngorms	Wake up	Sleep
Sunday, June 10	Dunhallin House, Inverness	Bruach Mhor, Pitlochry

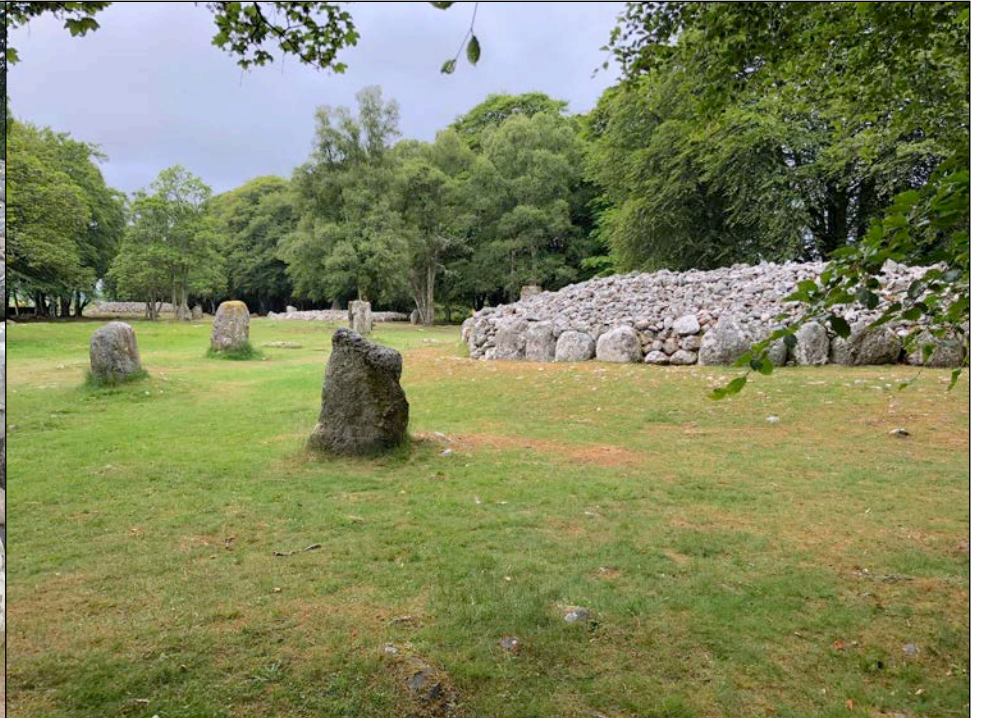


Today's itinerary is easy to summarize since the Folk Museum and the Working Sheepdogs were the main event. First thing this morning, however, we had two brief stops before leaving the Inverness area: the Culloden battlefield, and a remarkable stone circle site called Clava Cairns (will follow this post with a pic). Now we've checked in early for the night at a B&B in Pitlochry (unfortunately, no time for the distillery Laura mentioned, but we're glad to have our feet up and to be able to just relax for the evening. We hope all of you are having a leisurely Sunday evening also.





Culloden battlefield



Clava Cairns



Highland Folk Museum



Highland Folk Museum





Leault farm sheepdogs



The dogs love their work and are so attentive to the shepherd, who loves them right back. It was amazing to watch them work together. He has never sold one of his dogs, but has cared for them all of their lives. He and his wife — who has written two adorable children's books — homeschool their kids. "Nature is the best teacher" (Hugh Miller).



Bruach Mhor B&B, Pitlochry



Tracey



8:50 pm

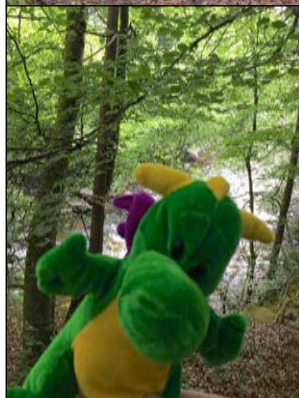


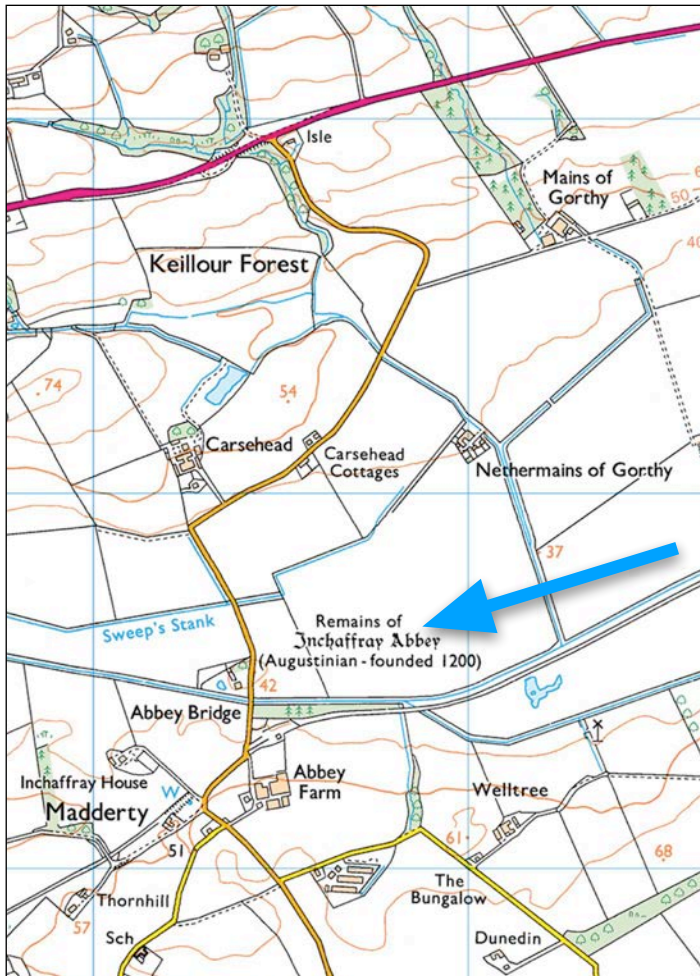
10:50 pm

Glen Tilt to Dunblane	Wake up	Sleep
Monday, June 11	Bruach Mhor, Pitlochry	Ciar Mhor, Dunblane



Glen Tilt trail







Madderty area



Road to Nether Belliclone

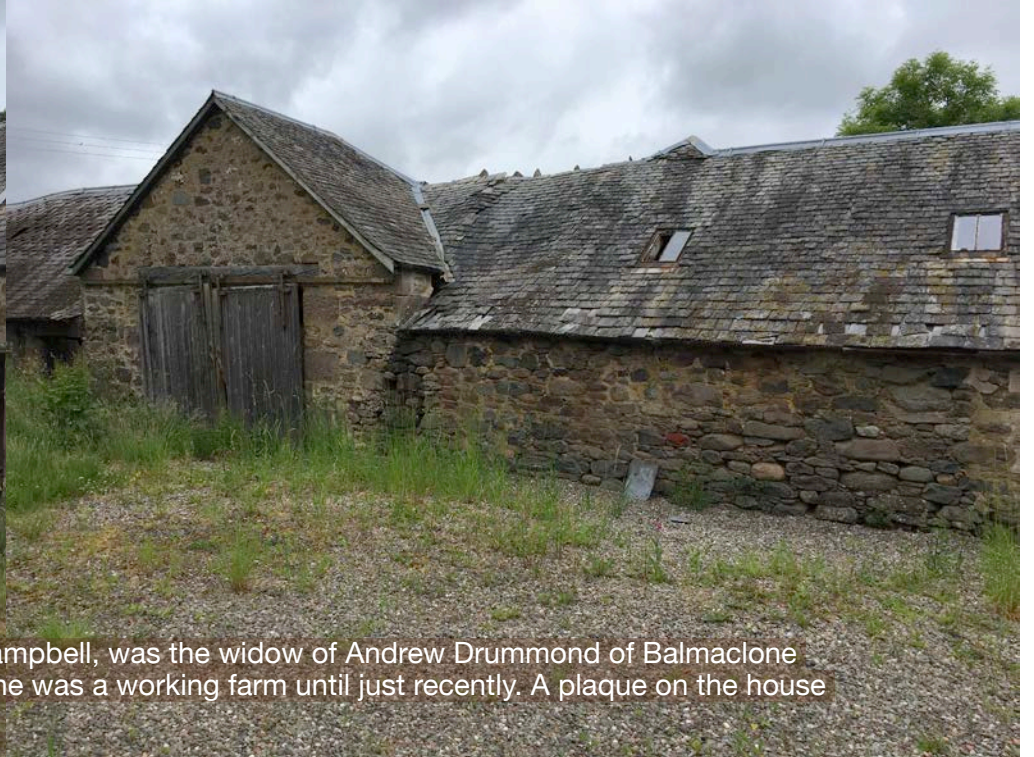


Nether Belliclone

BELLICLONE

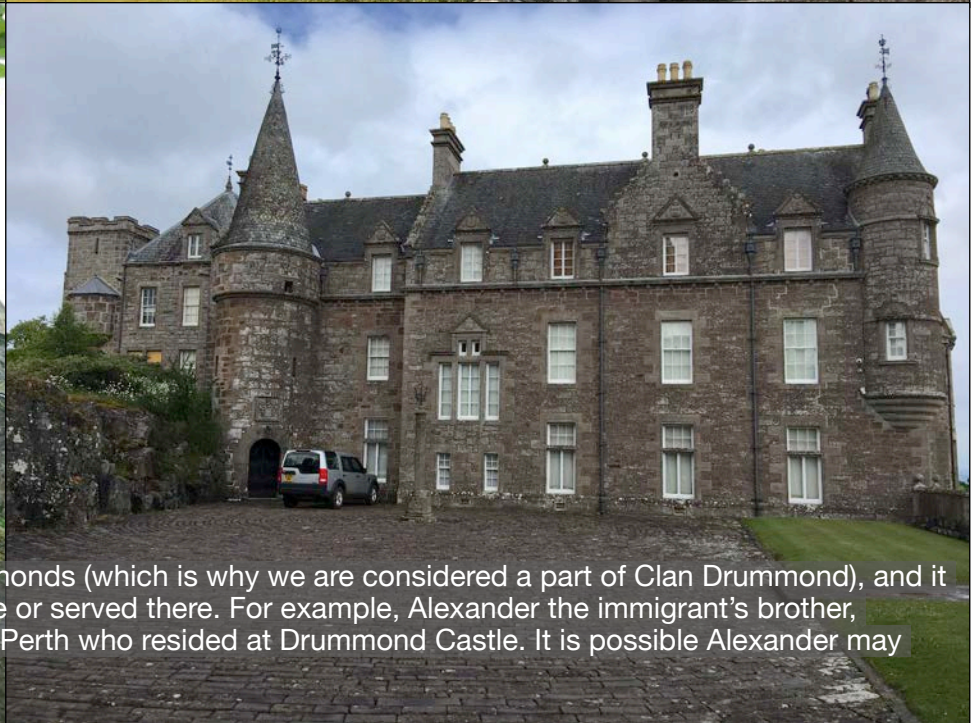
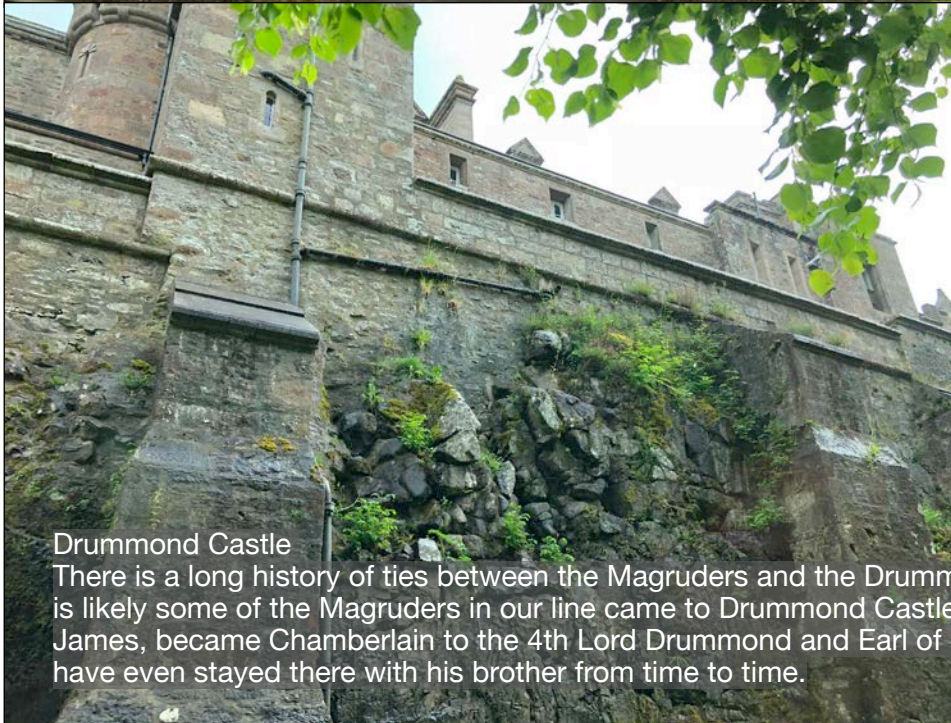
NEAR THIS SITE STOOD THE BIRTHPLACE OF ALEXANDER
MAGRUDER, BORN 1610, THE SON OF ALEXANDER MAGRUDER
AND MARGARET CAMPBELL. HE EMIGRATED TO AMERICA,
CIRCA 1652, WHERE HE BECAME A PROMINENT CITIZEN OF
THE COLONY OF MARYLAND. AS PART OF THE MACGREGOR
BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, THIS MARKER WAS ERECTED
BY THE AMERICAN CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY, FOUNDED
IN 1909, BY DESCENDENTS OF ALEXANDER MAGRUDER.

9 OCTOBER 1975



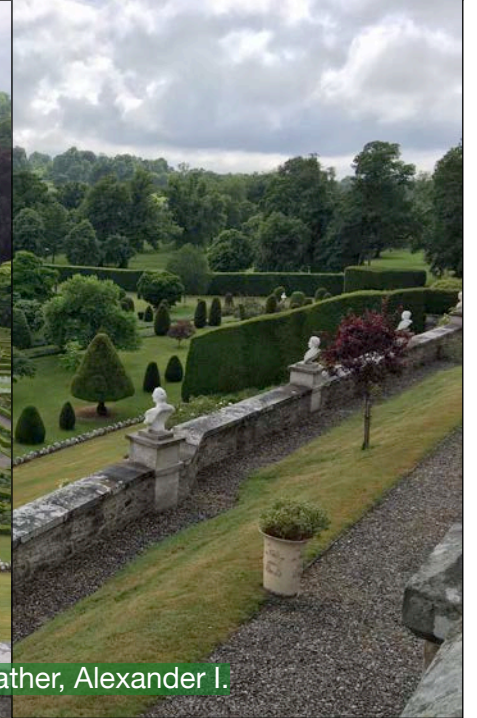
Nether Belliclone

Alexander the immigrant was born here. His mother, Margaret Campbell, was the widow of Andrew Drummond of Balmaclone (now Belliclone) and she had lifetime rights to Belliclone. Belliclone was a working farm until just recently. A plaque on the house was placed by American Magraders in 1975.

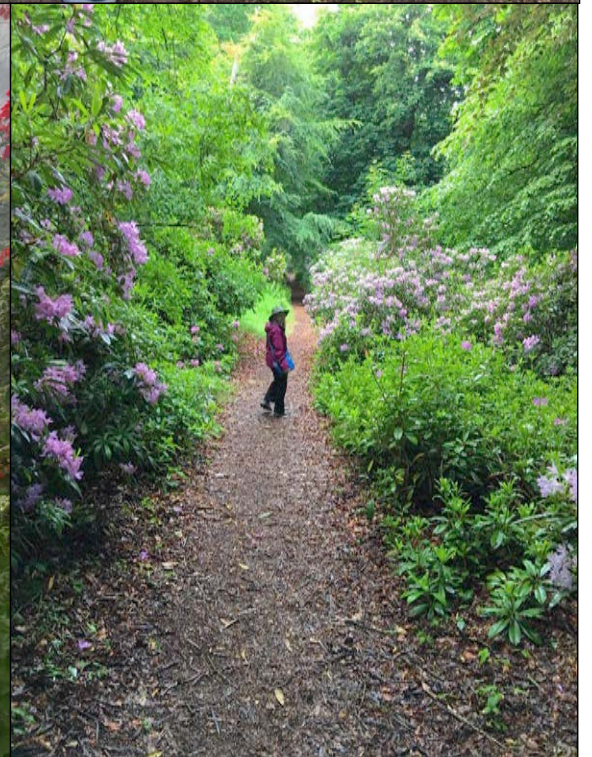
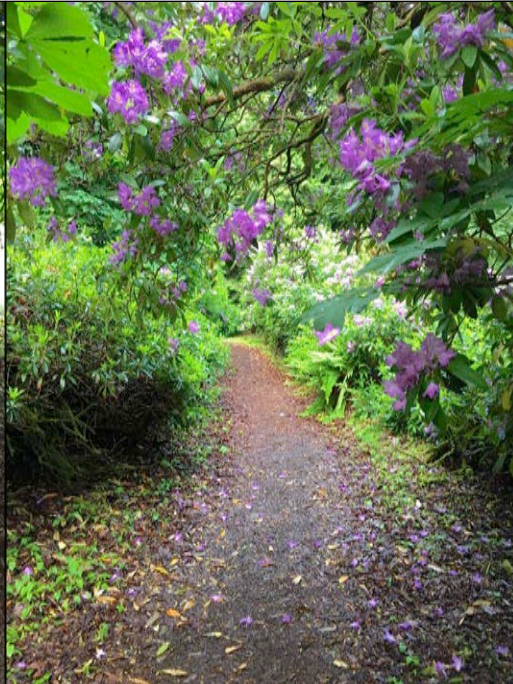


Drummond Castle

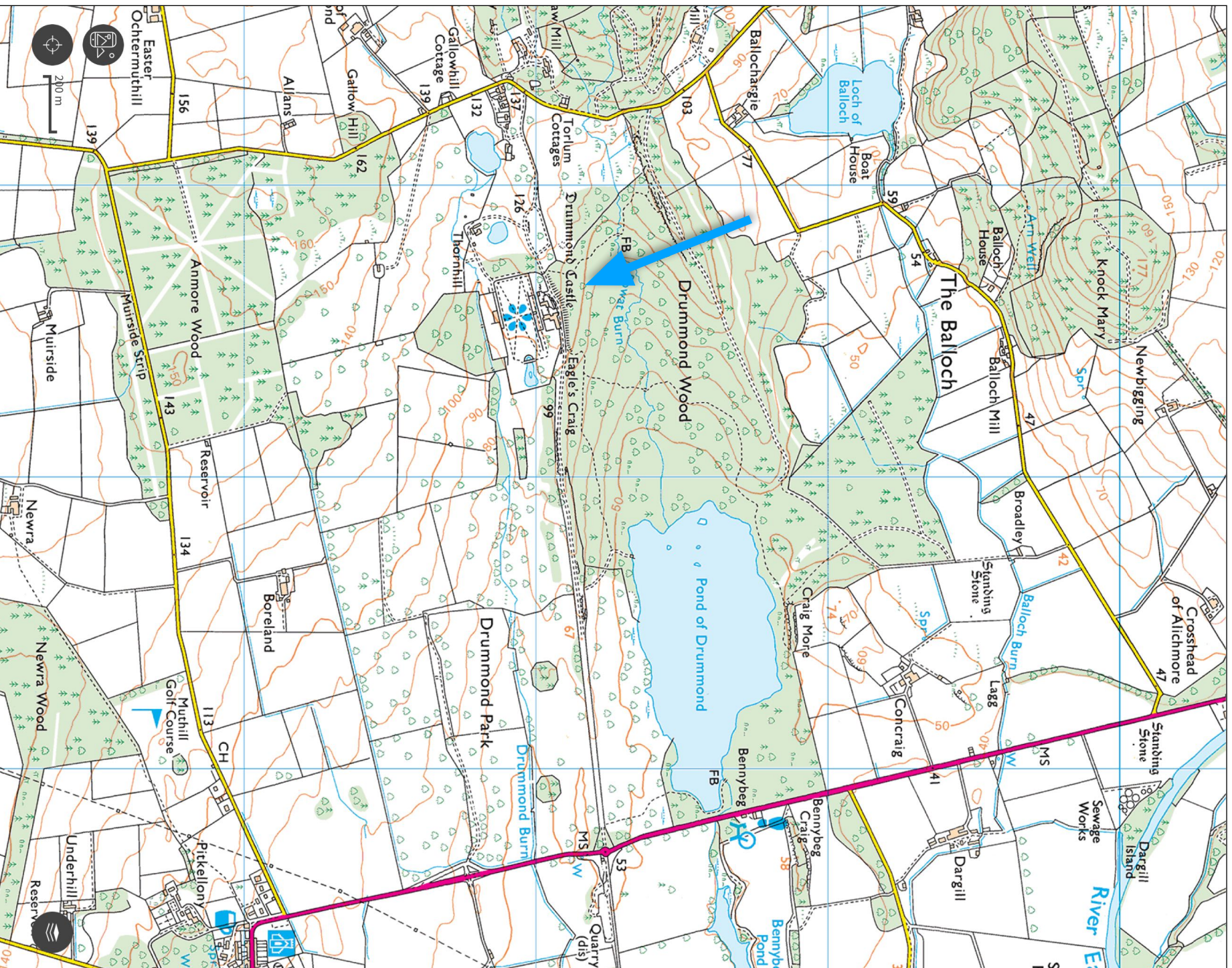
There is a long history of ties between the Magruders and the Drummonds (which is why we are considered a part of Clan Drummond), and it is likely some of the Magruders in our line came to Drummond Castle or served there. For example, Alexander the immigrant's brother, James, became Chamberlain to the 4th Lord Drummond and Earl of Perth who resided at Drummond Castle. It is possible Alexander may have even stayed there with his brother from time to time.



Drummond Castle Gardens
Previous gardens were originally laid out in the early 1600s during the time of Alexander Magruder and his father, Alexander I.



Drummond Castle Gardens





River Allan

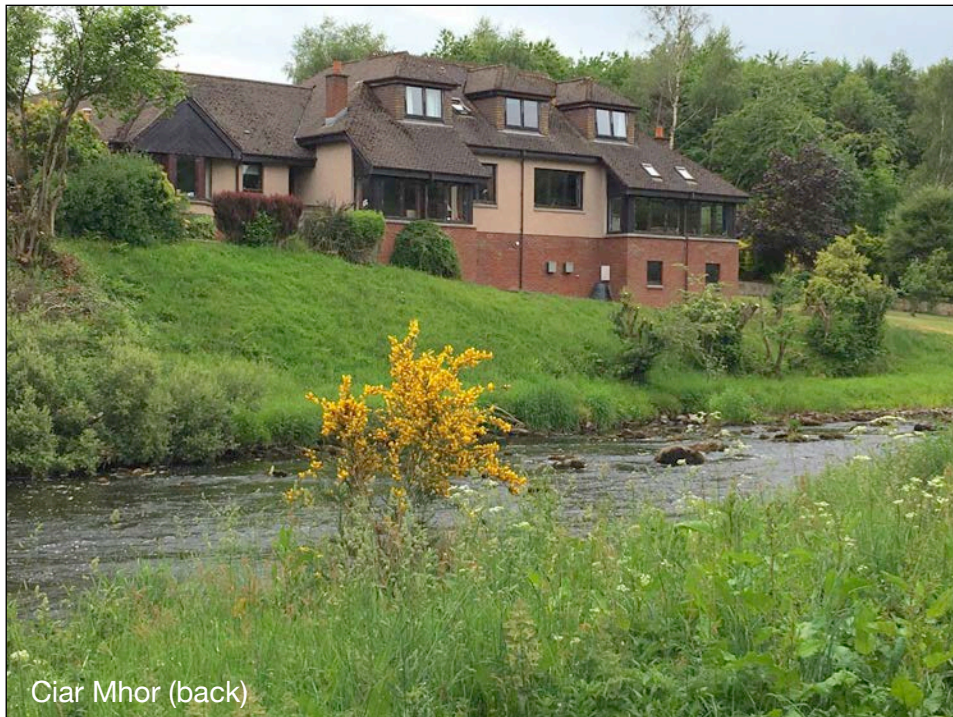


Dunblane Cathedral



Evening in Dunblane from restaurant across the street
(Old Churches House)

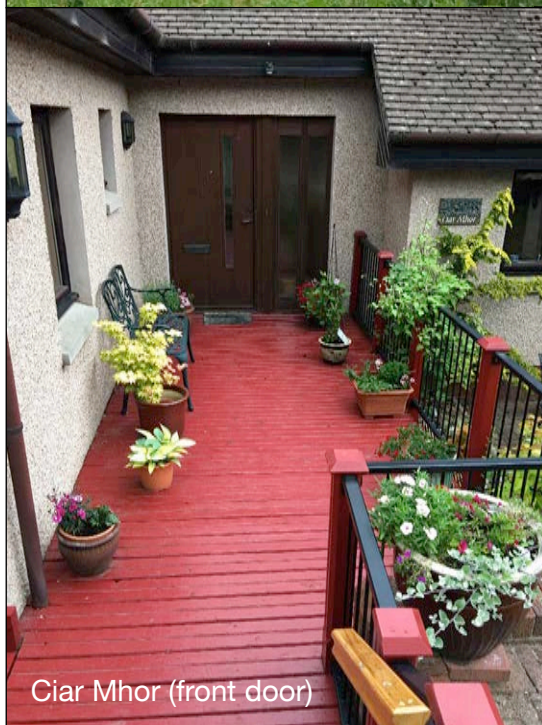




Ciar Mhor (back)



Ciar Mhor (front)



Ciar Mhor (front door)



Yum!

We left a B&B in Pitlochry this morning that was characterized by laughter, start to finish. Tracy, the proprietor, was born and raised in Ireland and has the authentic gift of storytelling. Every moment, an ironic turn in the story brought laughter to our faces; in this gift, so refreshing a welcome for weary travelers, she reminded me of Aunt Jan and of Laura. After that, however, today was the day plants ruled. First was a hike at Glen Tilt, one of the most important geo tourism sites. It was so beautiful a trail next to the river, but my allergies kicked into high gear and I spent the rest of the day recovering. (Feeling fine now, as of this writing, so I'm glad that reaction, the first of the trip, was short-lived.) Our next stops were family history locations: Inchaffrey Abbey, Belliclone house and farm, and the surrounding area. The buildings on Belliclone farm, including the house, were quite impressive, but it has fallen vacant and appears now to be in disuse except for possibly some storage of farm equipment too new to have been abandoned. After that, we made our way to Drummond Castle Gardens, where we wished for Expert commentary from Julie, Mother and Laura. And saw our first red squirrel! Finally, we made it to our B&B for the night in Dunblane, right on the river that goes through town. The river will lull us to sleep tonight, as we listen to its sounds through the open windows. Hope you all are in health and enjoying this day as well.

Glen Artney	Wake up	Sleep
June 12, Tuesday	Ciar Mhor, Dunblane	Ciar Mhor, Dunblane



Ciar Mhor



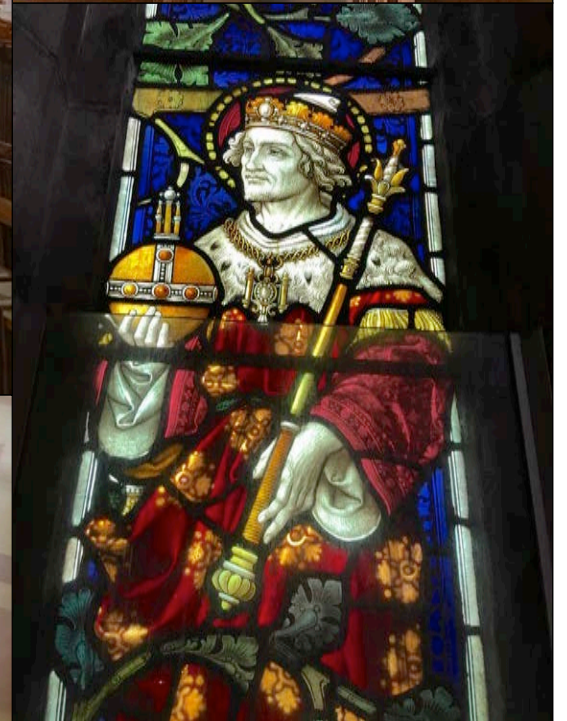
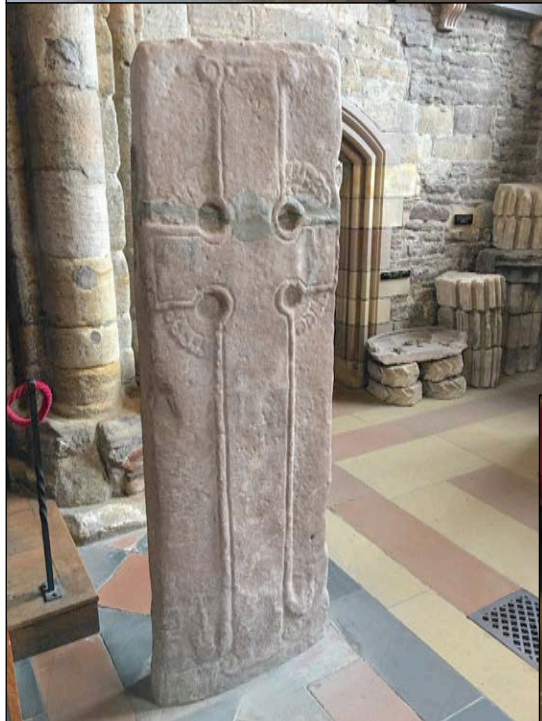
We woke up after our first of two nights in Dunblane, taking to heart the counsel of the three travelers to not be in a hurry here. The morning we spent in Dunblane itself. The Cathedral is remarkable - a living heart of the community now, with an inspiring historical mission of ecumenical reconciliation. Beautiful artwork by Helen Lamb, one of the Church of Scotland's most influential 20th century artists. A library of 4,000 rare books donated to the town by Bishop Leighton in the late 17th century for public education — including scientific and medical and linguistic works as well as theological. At an interesting community museum recommended to us by Matthew and Anna, the volunteer workers helped us find the names of Magraders who were associated with the cathedral in some manner - details to come. Then a splendid lunch at the Tilly Tea Room, another recommendation from the three travelers!

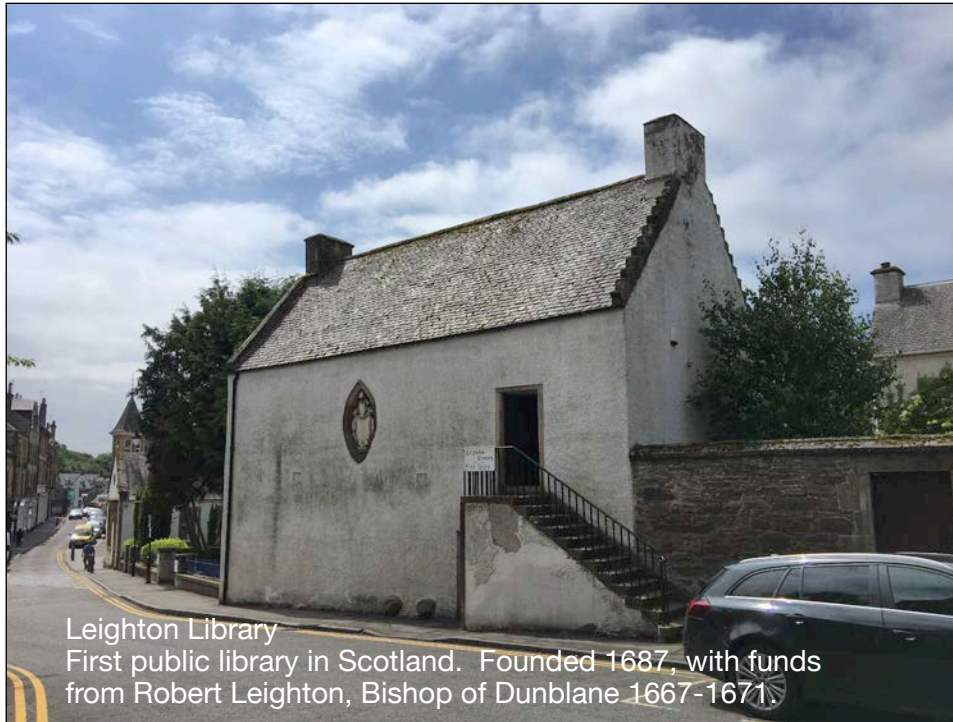
Helen Lamb artwork, Dunblane Cathedral





Dunblane Cathedral





Leighton Library
First public library in Scotland. Founded 1687, with funds
from Robert Leighton, Bishop of Dunblane 1667-1671.



Curator





Old Churches House (restaurant on top floor)

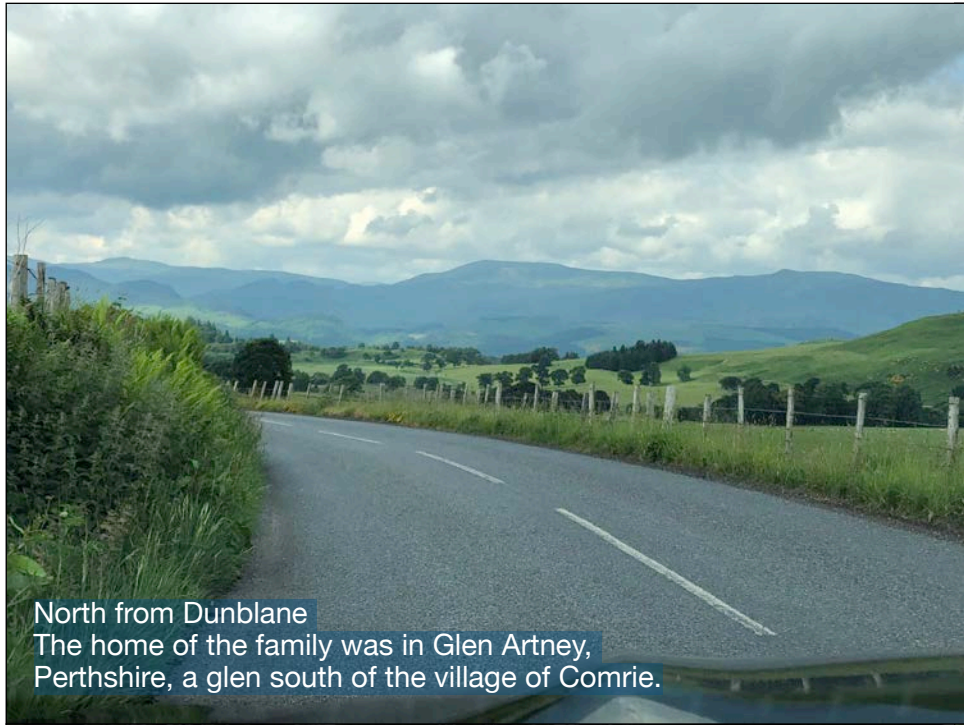


Dunblane Museum,
with Magruder
records

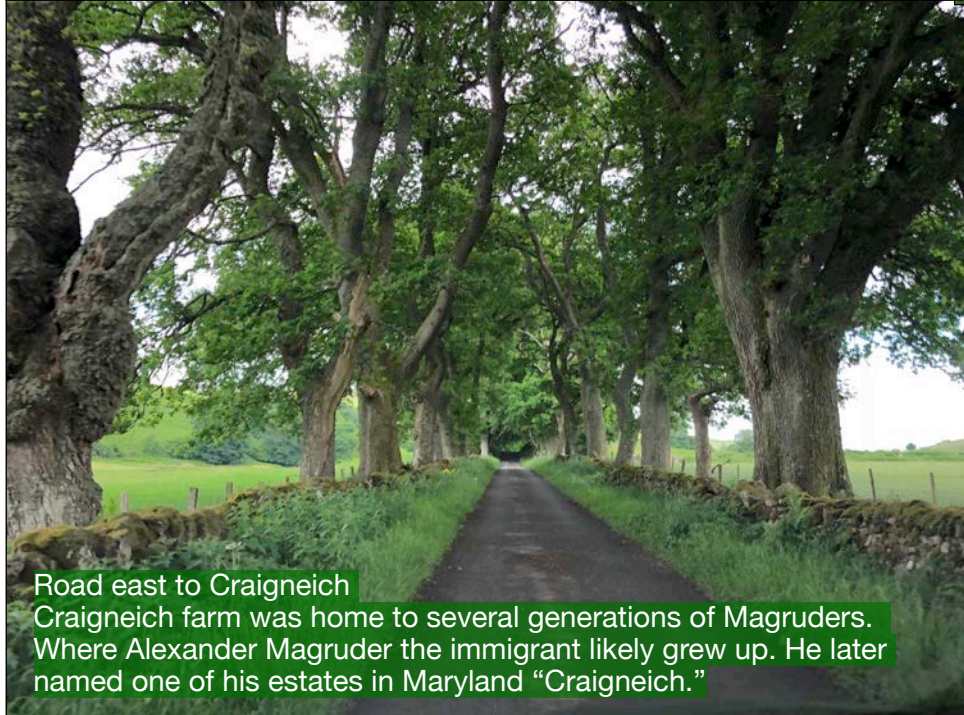


Tilly Tea Room

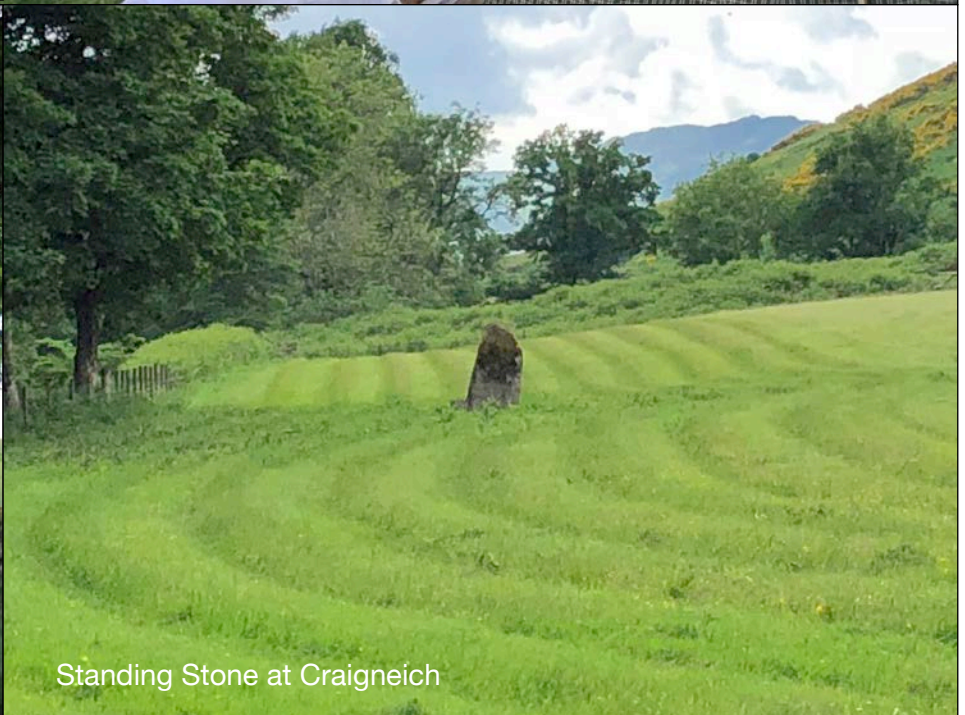




North from Dunblane
The home of the family was in Glen Artney,
Perthshire, a glen south of the village of Comrie.



Road east to Craigneich
Craigneich farm was home to several generations of Magruder.
Where Alexander Magruder the immigrant likely grew up. He later
named one of his estates in Maryland "Craigneich."



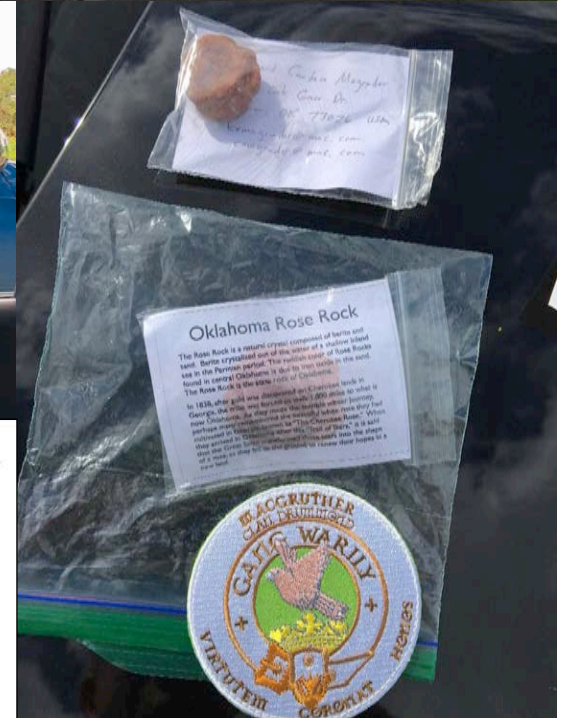
Standing Stone at Craigneich



What did we leave at the front door?



Tom Paterson
(first glimpse)



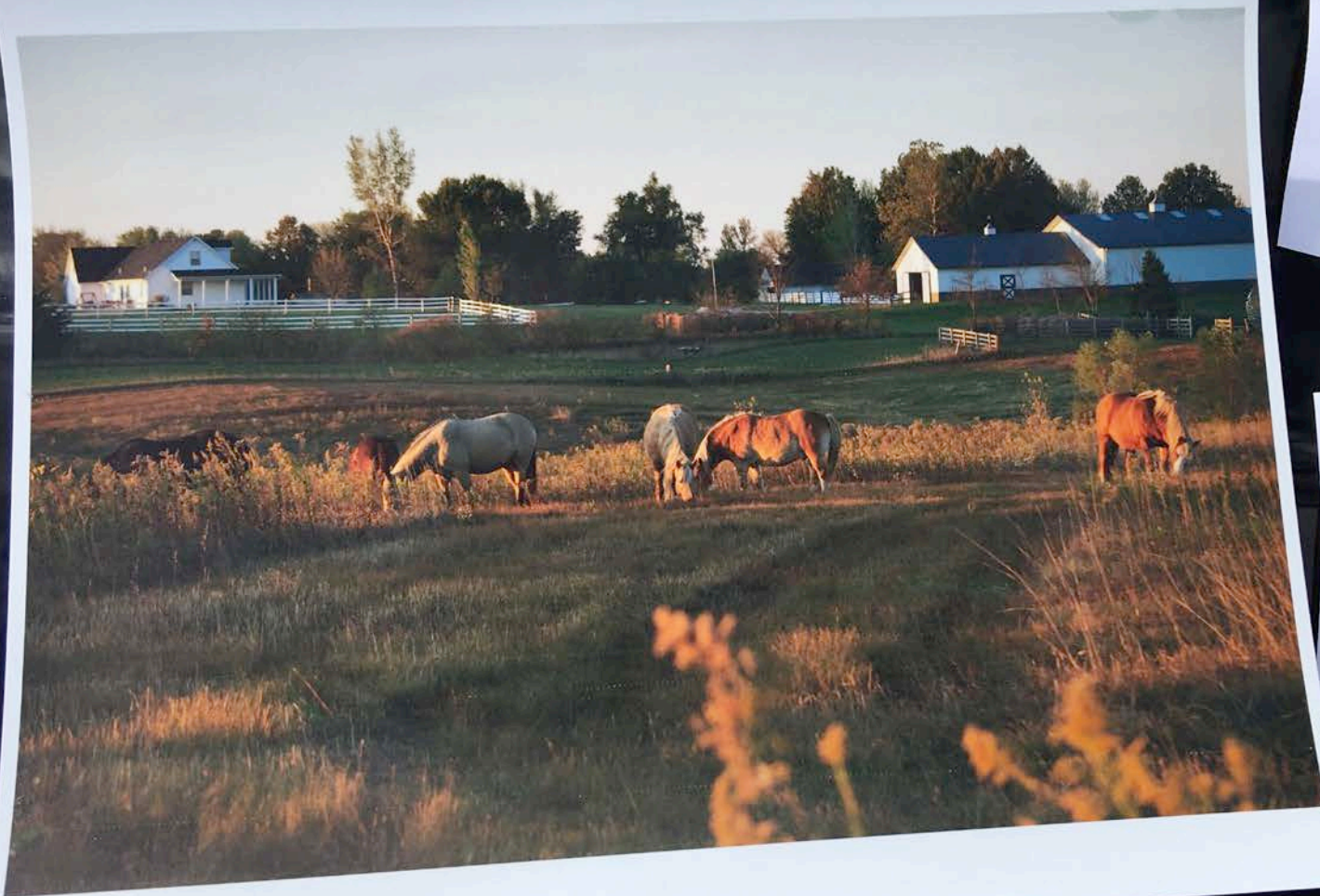
Perthshire farmer Tom Paterson wins Blackface breed accolade - The Courier
thecourier.co.uk

① Alexander Magruder grew up at Craigneich farm, then immigrated to America. Two years ago my Mother Sue Magruder, and my two sisters Julie Lochbaum and Laura Mann, visited Craigneich and met Tom Parsons - see photo montage. Sue, Laura and Julie live in Missouri in Willis Creek Ranch.



② Today's visit to Craigneich is by Kerry and Candace Magruder. We live in Norman, Oklahoma. Kerry is the son of Jack & Sue, and works with rare books, including the star atlases and the Galileo book shown in the other prints. We have three daughters; Rachel, Hannah and Susanna. They may





② Photo montage:

Tom Parsons
photo by Missouri
Magruder

Jack and Sue
Magruder's house,
Willis Creek Ranch

Jack & Sue
Magruder
Willis Creek Ranch
near Kirksville,
Missouri

Willis Creek
Ranch - horses
horse barn (right)
Laurel's house (left)

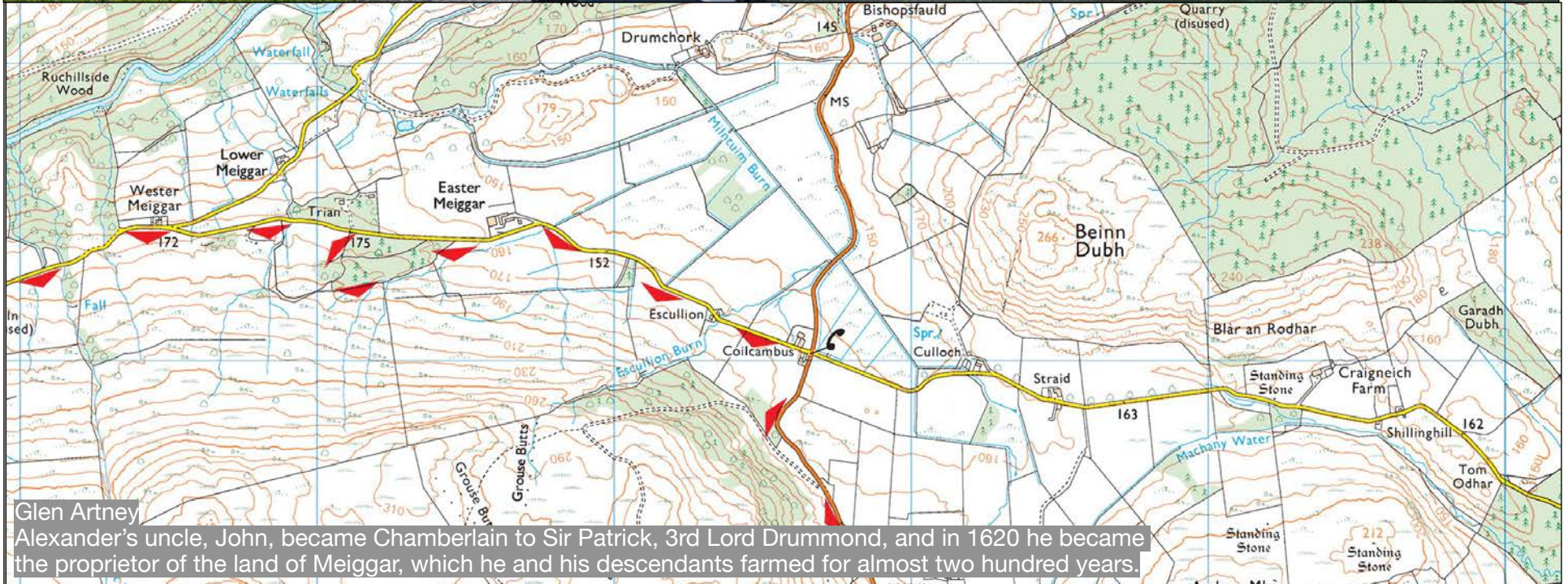
④ find their way to visit Craigiech
in future years. When Cantara walks
around our neighborhood, she picks up
a special kind of rock found only in our
part of Oklahoma. Two of these Rose
Rocks are here. Finally, Rachel designed
a crest for the Magruder family that
is included here as a patch, created by
Julie's son James. Thank you for caring
in the world of this farm, a place of so much meaning to



Glen Artney intersection (heading west from Craigneich)



Driving west toward Easter Meiggar



Glen Artney

Alexander's uncle, John, became Chamberlain to Sir Patrick, 3rd Lord Drummond, and in 1620 he became the proprietor of the land of Meiggar, which he and his descendants farmed for almost two hundred years.



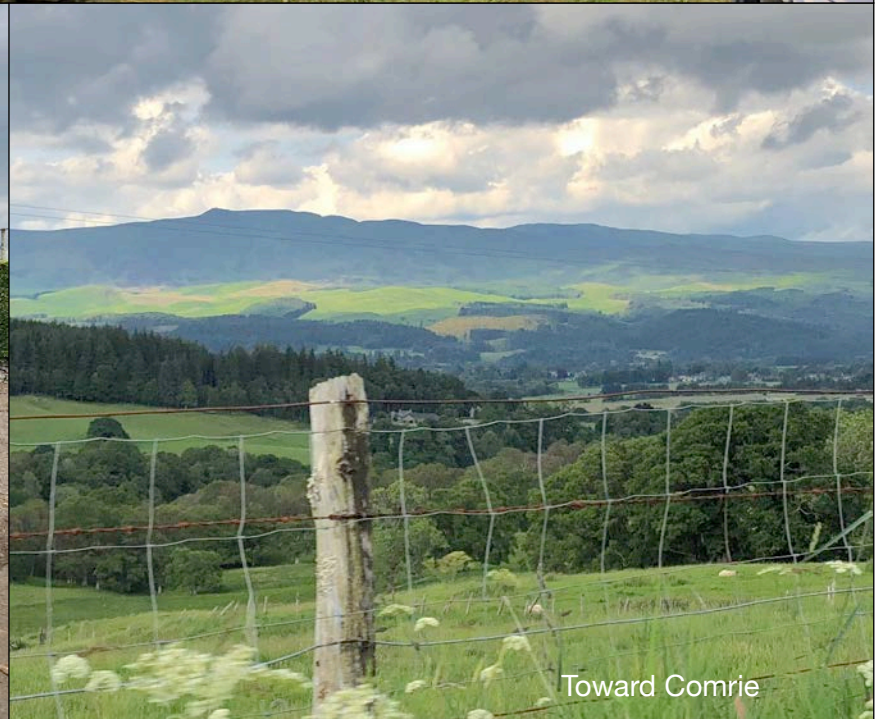
East Meiggar



Lower Meiggar



West Meiggar



Toward Comrie



The oldest indisputable record of the Magruder name is found in Comrie, a lovely town on the River Earn.

Laura, we met Tom Patterson! (Pronounced Parson with just a hint of a stutter.) He is 84 years old. His 21 year old son will soon be moving into Craigneich farm house to farm the land. We delivered the photo montage and a rose rock with a short note (before we briefly met up with him later). Robin and Karen, The three travelers 2 years ago met Tom, who farms right where Alexander Magruder grew up in the early 1660's before emigrating to America around 1660. Dad, I wish you could be here, you would love it. I was enchanted by it — mountains in the distance, no small hills all around, beautiful in every way.

For the afternoon, the drive to Glen Artney, Craigneich, and Comrie mentioned above. Now back at the B&B listening to the river. We depart tomorrow morning for Loch Tay and the conference. I plan to provide no daily updates during the conference, since our schedules will be packed.

We met another neighbor, John MacDonald, who told us it was Tom Patterson, not Parson. I asked him to spell it. When said with a Scottish brogue, they sound the same!

Candace Magruder

Kerry and I are so pooped we're not thinking straight. But here's what we've learned so far: crisps=potato chips, chips= french fries, porridge=oatmeal, biscuits=cookies, cakes= cakes unless it's an oatcake which is a cracker, tart= sweet pie (steak pies are obviously not sweet but are delicious), cullen skink is the best soup ever (smoked haddock and potato soup, not the little lizards that live in my yard), toilet=restroom, not just the thing you flush. Some toilets require you pay 20p to pee (20 pence). We're learning a lot!

Loch Tay	Wake up	Sleep
Wednesday, June 13	Ciar Mhor, Dunblane	Firbush Centre, Loch Tay
Thursday, June 14	Firbush Centre, Loch Tay	Firbush Centre, Loch Tay



On the way to Loch Tay



At Firbush



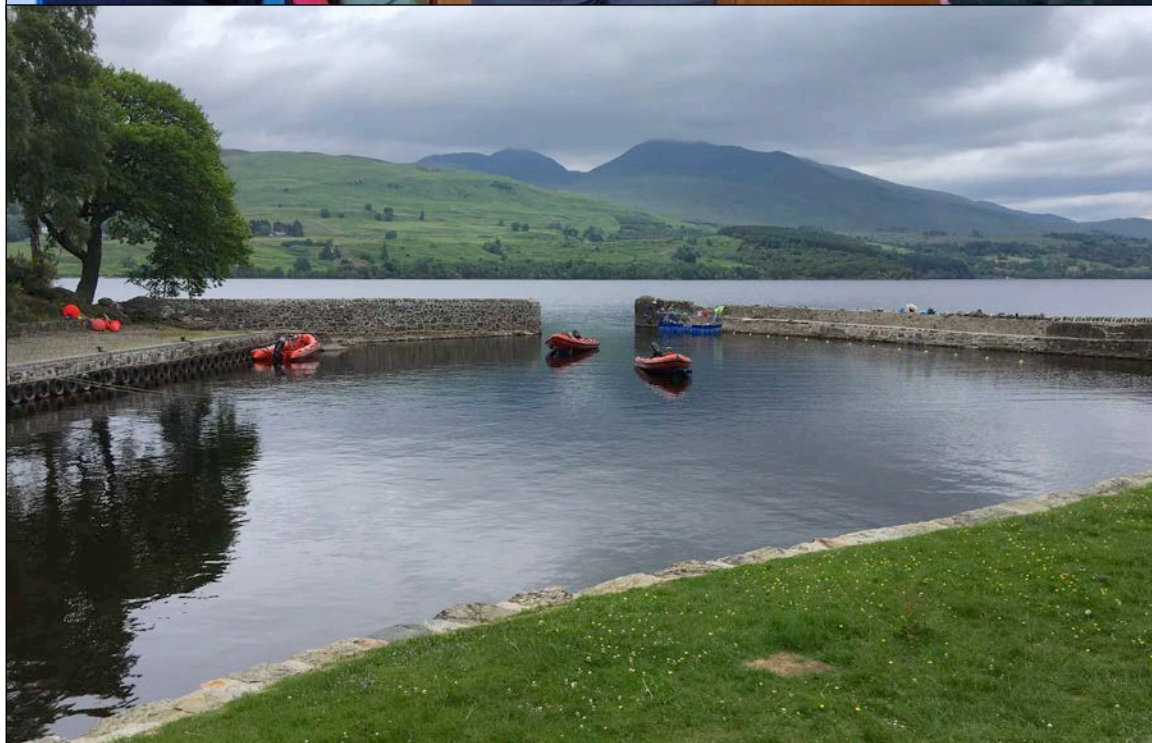
Looking outside our room window



David W. Torrance



Bob Walker, T. F. Torrance's nephew, in the study where he edited Torrance's *Incarnation and Atonement*



Away to Angus	Wake up	Sleep
Friday, June 15	Firbush Centre, Loch Tay	Druminoch House, in Angus



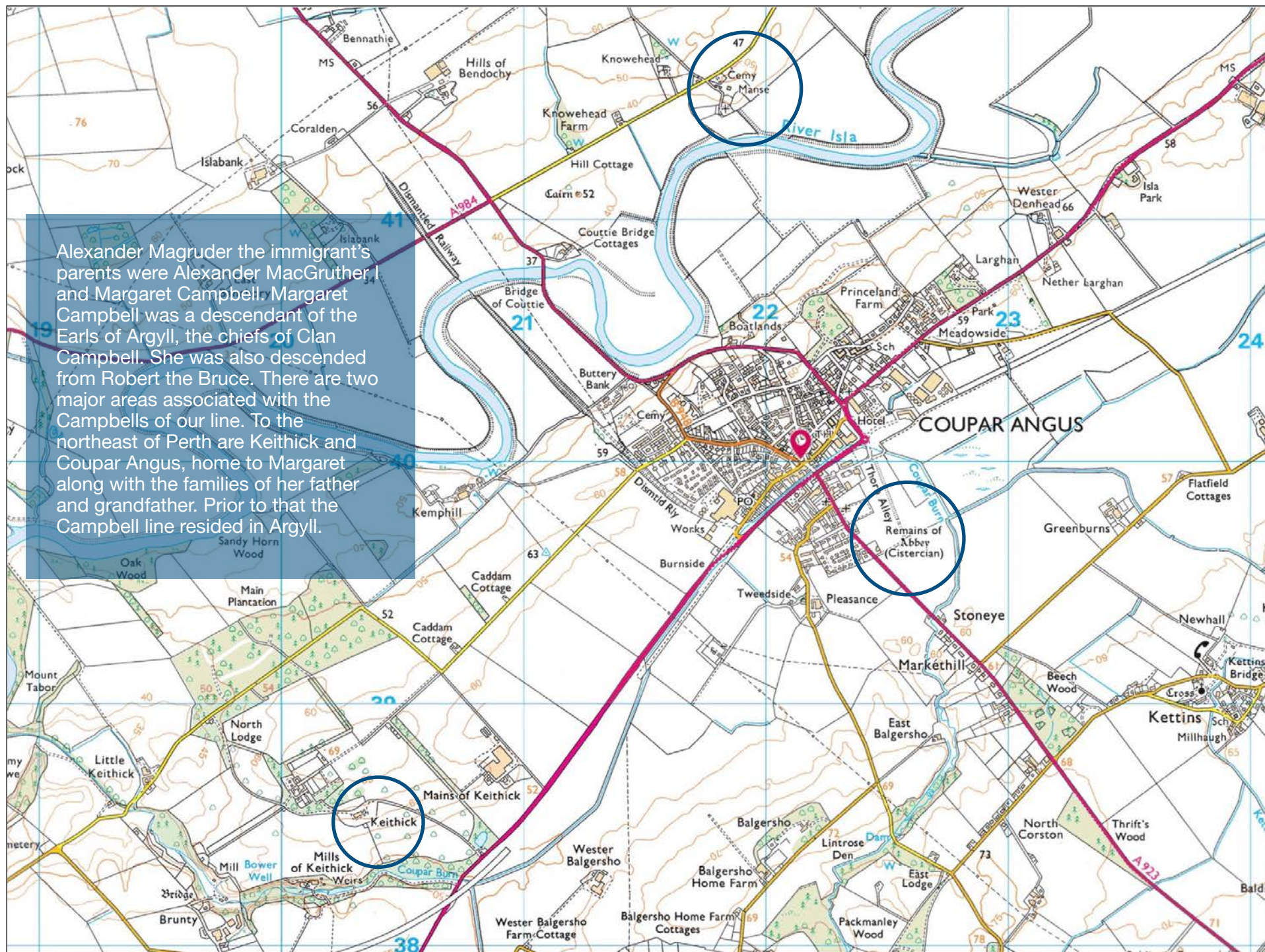
Loch Tay, 10:40 p.m.

Summary: the conference was wonderful in every way! Won't try to report on that until we're home. Left Loch Tay around 3 pm today, and drove to Druminoch House, located way out in the countryside, near Kirriemuir in Angus, where we've just been treated to a delicious feast by the most welcoming owner. Maybe the best B&B yet, whether measured by the little touches or owner thoughtfulness. On the drive here, we stopped by family sites in and near Coupar Angus (associated with Alexander's mother's side of the family). We also stopped by Thomas Torrance's old parish in Alyth, seeing his church and the manse they lived in during his years as a young minister. It's nearly 10 pm and seems as light as 6pm in Oklahoma; daylight will come before 4 am tomorrow as we near the solstice this far north — uncanny. Yet we're not in a rush, and won't even set our alarm tomorrow morning — seems almost like the first time that's true so far this trip. Still just processing all the amazing people we got to know and worship with at the conference, and the enthralling presentations on music and theology given by Jeremy Begbie. What a wonderful three days. Candace is a bit under the weather with a cold. Pray for her and Robin and Robin's mum, and hope everyone else is in good health. Love to each of you, good night!



Coupar Angus, Abbey. Gatehouse ruins. Margaret's grandfather, Donald Campbell, was the Abbot of this Cistercian monastery.

Alexander Magruder the immigrant's parents were Alexander MacGruther and Margaret Campbell. Margaret Campbell was a descendant of the Earls of Argyll, the chiefs of Clan Campbell. She was also descended from Robert the Bruce. There are two major areas associated with the Campbells of our line. To the northeast of Perth are Keithick and Coupar Angus, home to Margaret along with the families of her father and grandfather. Prior to that the Campbell line resided in Argyll.





Keithick Mains



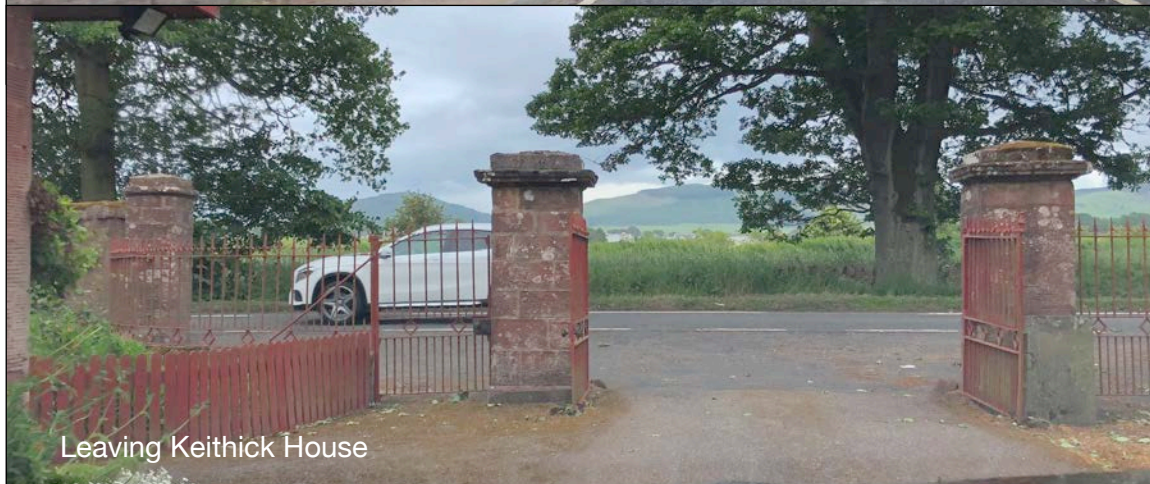
Keithick House is where Margaret Campbell was born and raised with her father Nicholas and family.



Approaching gate to Keithick House, driving northward toward Coupar Angus

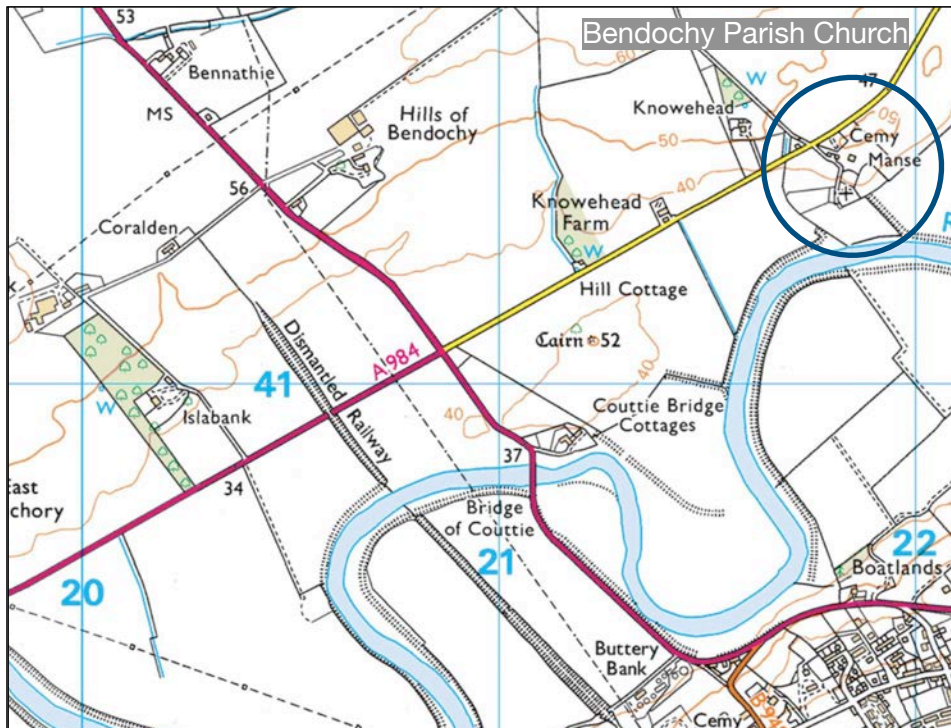


Entering Keithick House gate



Leaving Keithick House





Margaret's father, Nicholas Campbell, her uncle, David Campbell and her grandfather, Donald Campbell are believed to be buried here. There is a monumental stone inside Bendochy Parish Church with an inscription commemorating Nicholas Campbell.



Bendochy Parish Church, Church of Scotland





Alyth, Church of Scotland





Angus countryside



Druminoch House, Maggie Hart



Thoughtful touches: gluten-free brownies, Pukka tea, and hand-made Scottish tablet – yum, yum!

Right: 3-course gluten-free dinner with wine & hand-made chocolate. Starter: Butternut squash, sweet potato, and coconut soup. Main course: Oven roast salmon fillet. Desert: Apple and raspberry crumble.



East Lothian	Wake up	Sleep
Saturday, June 16	Druminoch House, in Angus	Millieure House, North Berwick



Entrance to Kinnordy House, Charles Lyell Estate, in Kirriemuir



At Glamis Castle, we enjoyed the outdoor activities most





Crossing the Firth of Forth from Angus into Edinburgh



On our way to our B&B in North Berwick, our first glimpse of Berwick Law, a volcanic hill in North Berwick



On the Firth of Forth in Portobello later that evening, 9:20 p.m.



At the Floether's in Portobello



Jenny Floether, Bob Walker, Eckart Floether



On the Firth of Forth at Portobello

Good evening! It's just after 10:00 pm here and we've been enjoying a spectacular sunset over the Firth of Forth. We're now at our B&B in North Berwick (east of Edinburgh) where we'll spend the next two nights. This evening we had a lovely time with three new friends from the conference: Bob Walker, and Eckhart and Jenny Floether. We had dinner at the Floether's 200-year old home near the seaside in Portobello. More about them later in person... but for now suffice it to say that we feel refreshed and encouraged by their wonderful stories and hospitality. Early this morning, after sleeping in and getting a late start, we still managed to drive by the estate of Charles Lyell (near last night's B&B) and a quick visit to Glamis Castle on our way back south to the Edinburgh area. Hope your Saturday is going well for you, too. Love and best wishes!

East Lothian

Wake up

Sleep

Sunday, June 17

Milleur House, North Berwick

Milleur House, North Berwick



North Berwick, Church of Scotland



North Berwick





Bass Rock, North Berwick
Bass Rock is basalt. The white coloration is seabirds.



Seabird Centre, North Berwick



Berwick Law, North Berwick



Jock Stein, Haddington



Siccar Point trail
Starting point



Siccar Point trail



Siccar Point trail



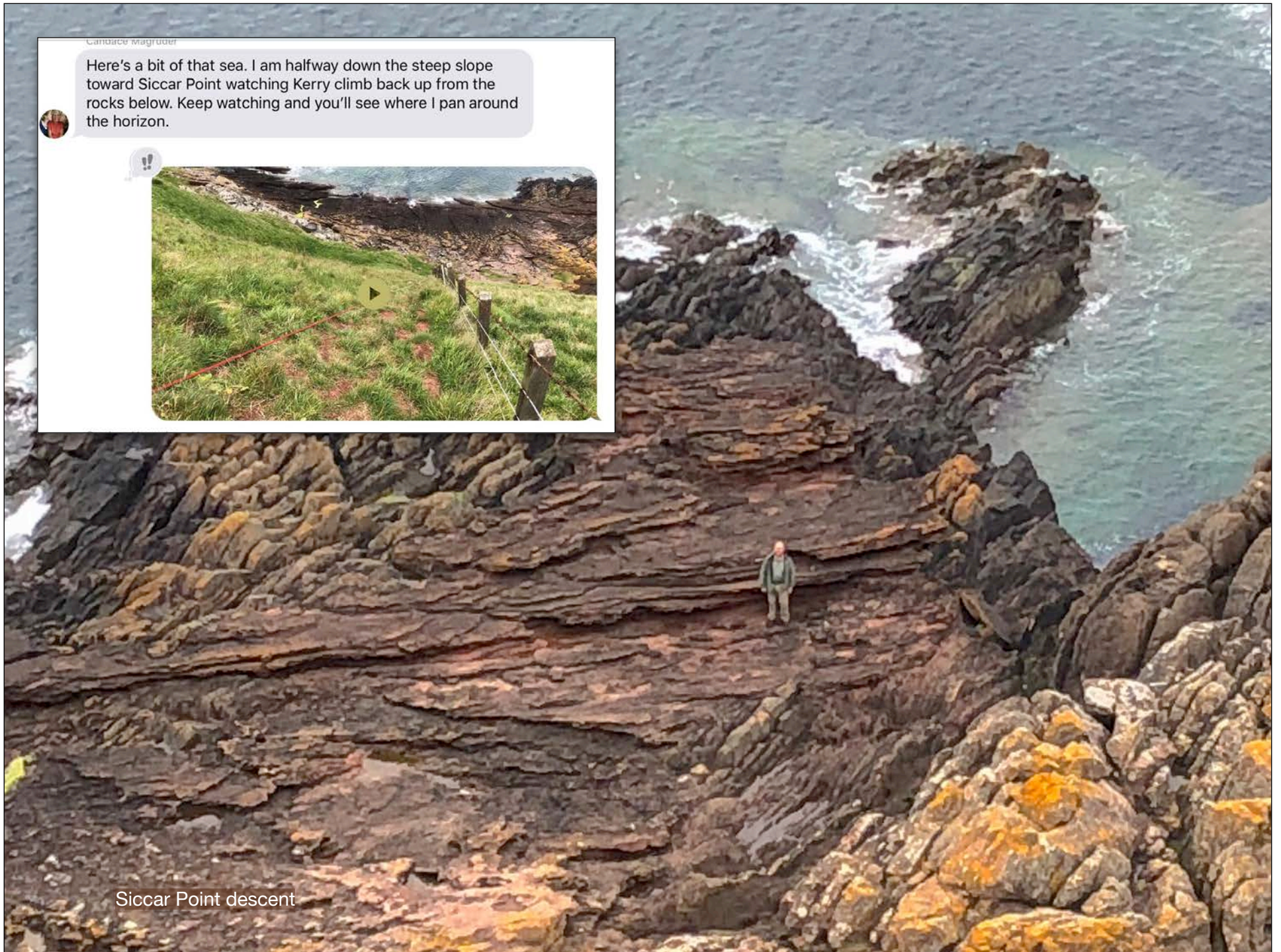
Sure glad they had that rope! (As Sam would say.) Stephen would have bounded up the incline fast as Legolas without it though.



Siccar Point descent

Candace Magruder

Here's a bit of that sea. I am halfway down the steep slope toward Siccar Point watching Kerry climb back up from the rocks below. Keep watching and you'll see where I pan around the horizon.



Siccar Point descent



The view from standing on Siccar Point



Shoreline at Siccar Point



Berwick Law and Bass Rock, from Siccar Point trail



Trail back to car



Nice bull

Hi everyone! It's only a little past 7 pm, and we are back at our B&B early this evening, with a chance to relax and organize for our last week of the trip. Sorry to mention that, Susanna! Tomorrow we turn in the rental car that has carried us all around Scotland since our arrival 18 days ago, so this marks the close of the Torrance/Loch Tay segment of the trip. (The first segment being structured around Edinburgh, and the second consisting of the geo-tour from Loch Lomond to Iona and through the Highlands.) This morning we worshipped at the Church of Scotland here in North Berwick where David Torrance goes, and while there met his daughter. Then we went to the Seabird Centre here and trained binoculars and telescopes on the various birds that live on the volcanic islands just offshore in the Firth of Forth. North Berwick is the home of John Muir, btw, as well as an interesting geosite. Then we enjoyed an afternoon visit at the home of Jock Stein, a longtime collaborator with Torrance, who lives nearby in Haddington in a house surrounded by gardens, full of books, and adorned with original art. After that, our last geohike of the trip: we made our way past a friendly bull, across a couple large fields, and down a steep shoreline incline to Hutton's famous exposure of horizontal strata superimposed directly on vertical strata at Siccar Point. We could not have done it if it were raining; so it feels good to have success in one of the two most important geosites of the entire trip. Combined with the Torrance-related visits last night and today, I'm just ecstatic over what this trip has accomplished so far. Now the amazing news is that tomorrow we have the joy of meeting up with Robin and Karen!!! So as we leave Scotland tomorrow for Northumberland, the final segment of the trip will be as stellar as the others!!!! Praying for blessings upon you all. Love from Scotland!



Siccar Point

Presto knows the true explanation for the tilted strata at Siccar Point. He won't tell us the story, but we've pieced together from what few clues he's given us that dragons did it.

Our last night in Scotland. Last night in a B&B. Last night with a car. But tomorrow with personal tour guides!!!



Borders and Northumberland	Wake up	Sleep
Monday, June 18	Millieir House, North Berwick	Jeff & Jill Sutheran, Seahouses



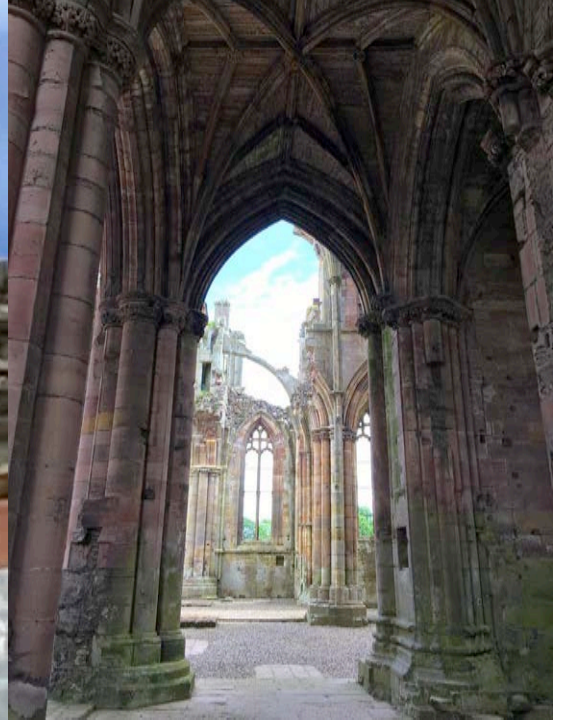
Melrose Abbey

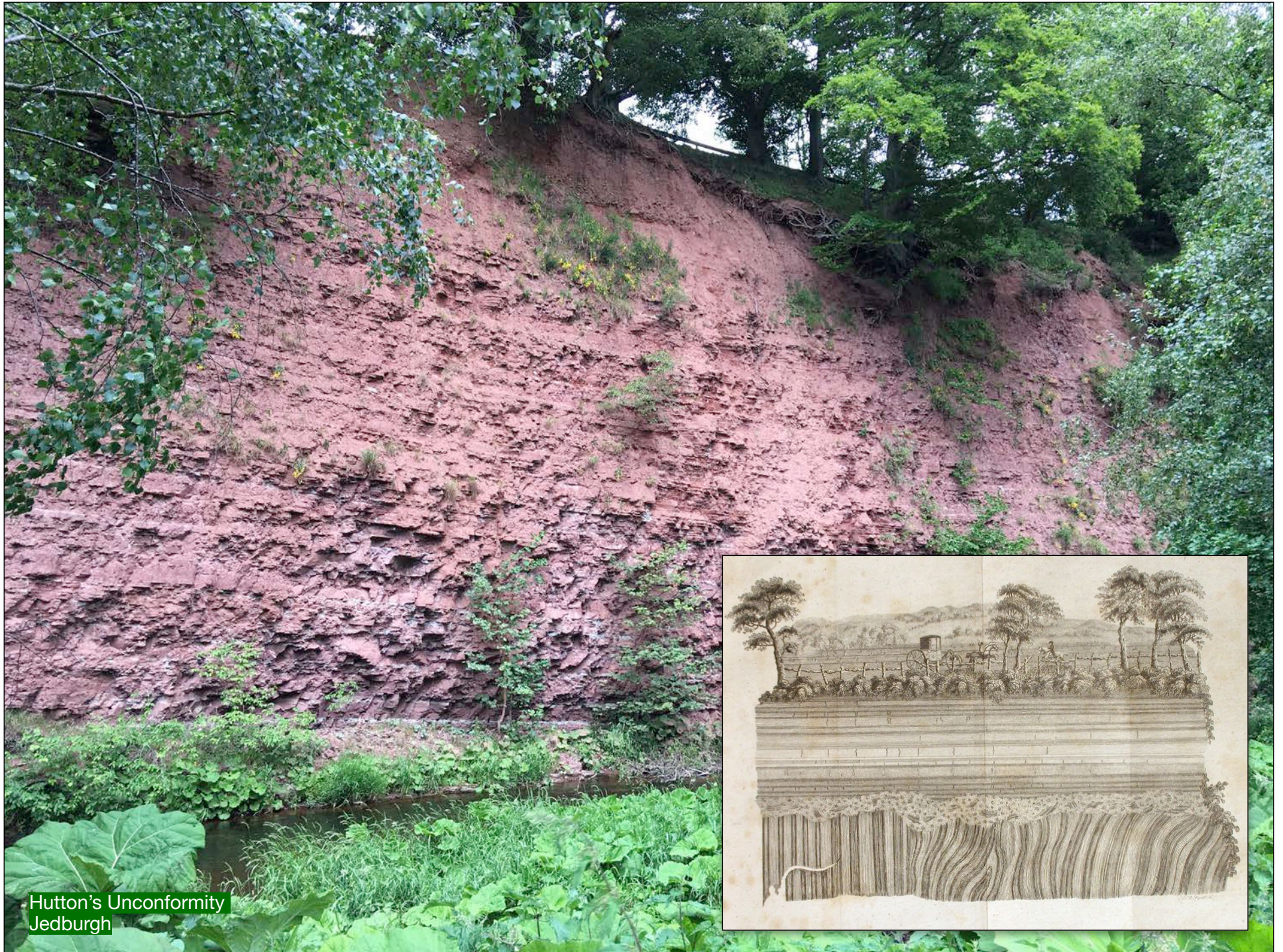
Here we are, about a stone's throw from the sea, a few miles from Holy Island, in the quaint town of Seahouses, at the home of Robin and Karen's friends. Nearly 11 pm, with the sky still twilight, Robin and Karen are walking on the shore as I'm getting ready to settle in for a long and welcome sleep. We left North Berwick this morning and headed straight for Melrose Abbey, where we met up with Robin and Karen. Then on to a brief look at "Hutton 's unconformity" in Jedburgh, our last stop in Scotland. We passed over the high country into Northumberland, entering England just about 5pm sharp. We feel we're in James Herriot country now. After turning in our rental car at Newcastle upon Tyne, with barely 10 minutes to spare, we headed a little ways west in Karen and Robin's car to Hadrian's wall, touching history as old as Italy. At a pub for dinner we sat next to a direct descendant of Hugh Miller, whose home we visited in our farthest point north, Cromarty. Amazing coincidences abound when traveling! But so good to be in Merry England with Robin and Karen as our own personal guides! Hope you all are well!





Melrose Abbey





Hutton's Unconformity
Jedburgh



Northumberland

In 1801 the saltire of St Patrick (patron saint of Ireland) was combined with the cross of St George and the saltire of St Andrew. The Union Flag or Union Jack, is the national flag of the United Kingdom.



Scottish Flag
(St Andrew's Cross)



Union Flag



English Flag
(St George's Cross)



First moment in England



Crossing the border



Looking back at Scotland



Hadrian's wall

With Robin and Karen Noad



Cuthbert's House B&B



Jeff & Jill's home

Karen Noad iPhone



We LOVE this beach with Bamburgh castle! We used to take walks here often when we lived up here. Sigh....happy!!



Jack and Sue Magruder

Beautiful

Northumberland	Wake up	Sleep
Tuesday, June 19	Jeff & Jill Sutheran, Seahouses	Jeff & Jill Sutheran, Seahouses



Barter Books, Alnwick

So this morning we woke up in the home of Jeff and Jill — Robin and Karen's good friends from their days in the Northumberland Celtic Christian community. Robin and Karen showed us some of the places here that were most meaningful to them, including their small cottage in the Community, and the charming town of Alnwick, with its historic shopping district, remarkable castle, and — wait for it — the largest secondhand book store in the UK! Yet the centerpiece of the day was our visit to Holy Island, as mentioned above. Finally, we just returned from a lovely dinner with Jeff and Jill and feel like we can add their names to a growing list of friends here in the UK. What a wonderful day — and a privileged be able at celebrate all day on Karen's 40th birthday!!!

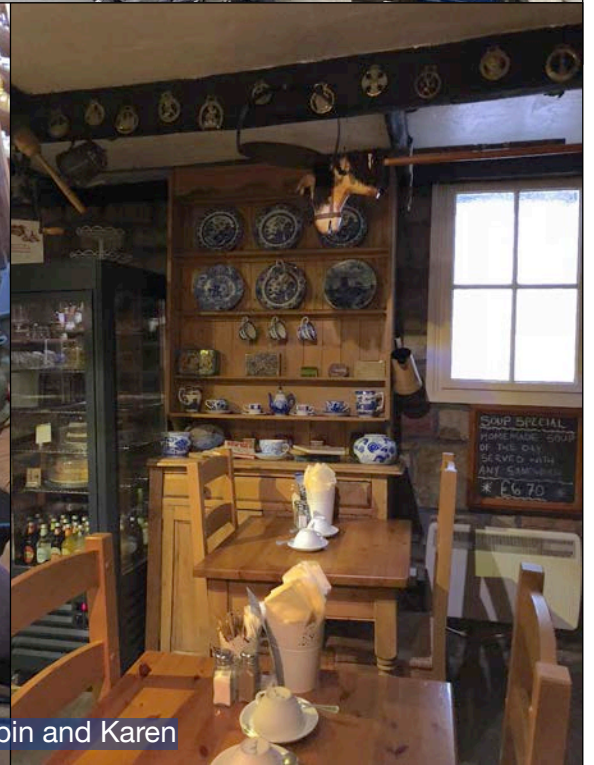


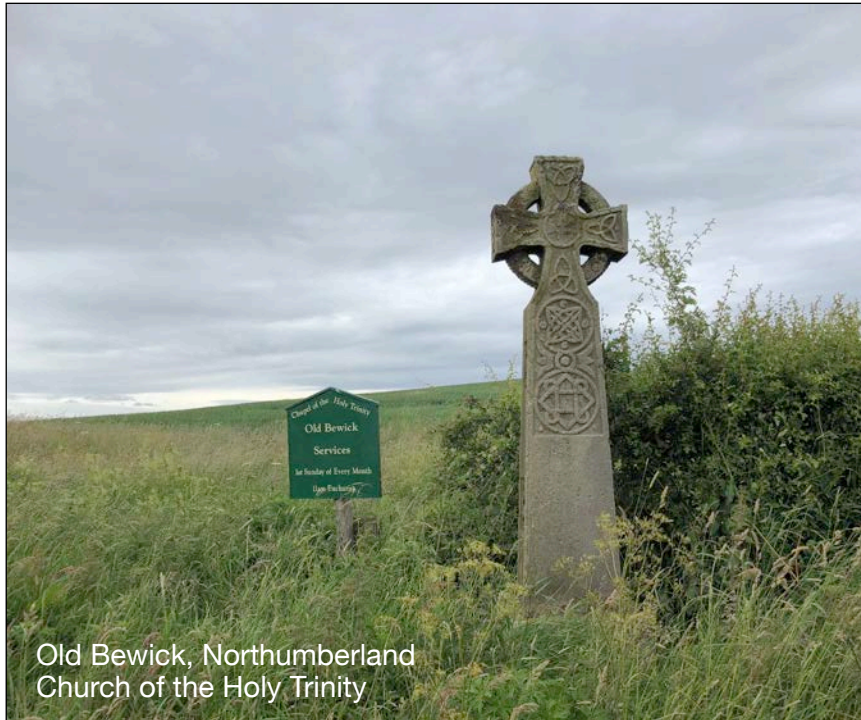


Entering Alnwick

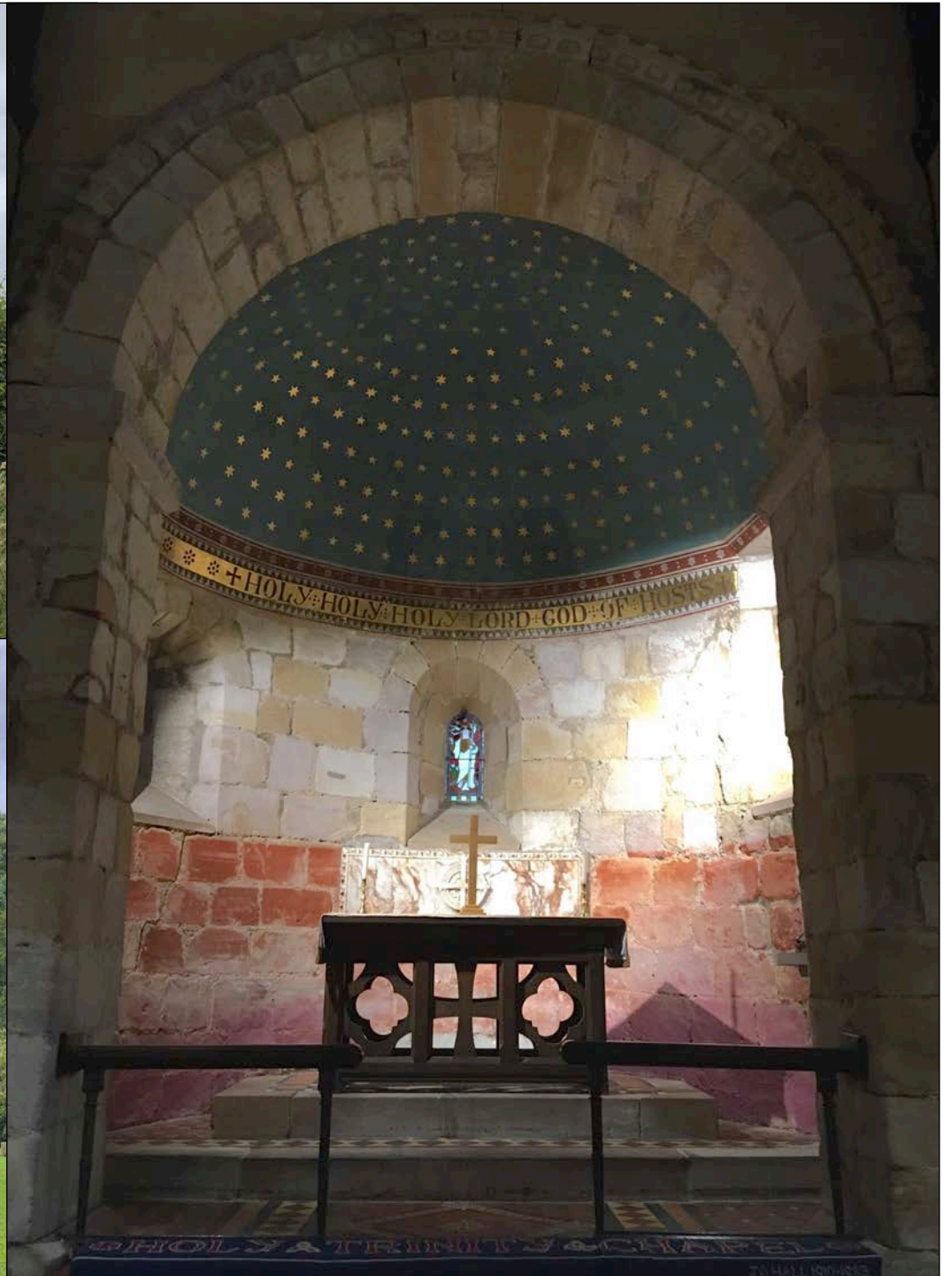


Grannies: a favorite tea house of Robin and Karen





Old Bewick, Northumberland
Church of the Holy Trinity





Robin and Karen's former cottage at Hetton Hall



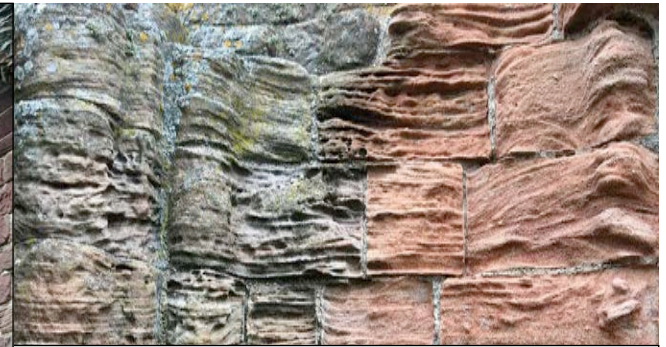
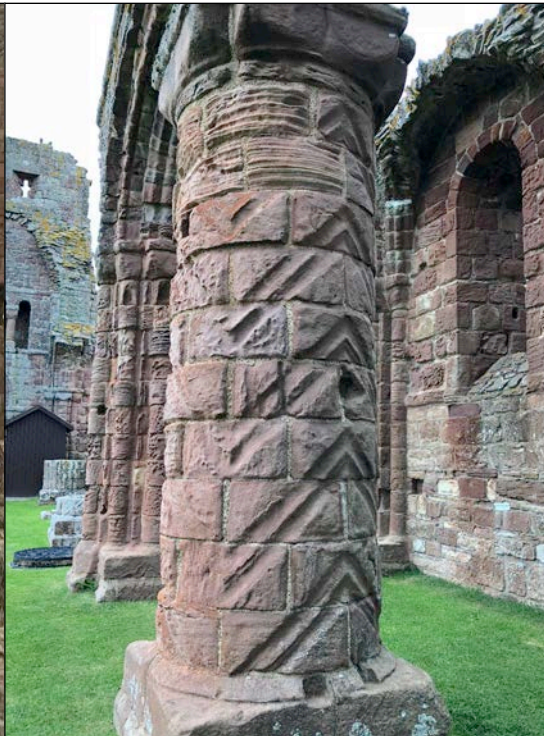
Location of the Northumbria Community when Robin and Karen lived here



St. Cuthbert



Lindisfarne Abbey, Holy Island

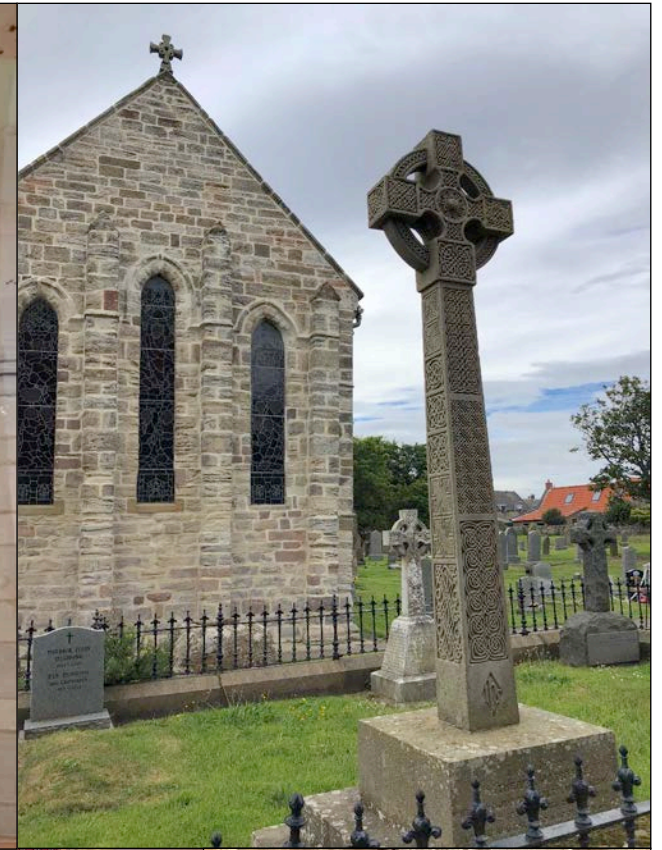


It was done by dragons. That's why there are all these tiny passageways in the Abbey of Lindisfarne, where the beautiful Lindisfarne gospels were made. The signs don't explain the real story of how it was made, but history requires us to read between the lines, so to speak.

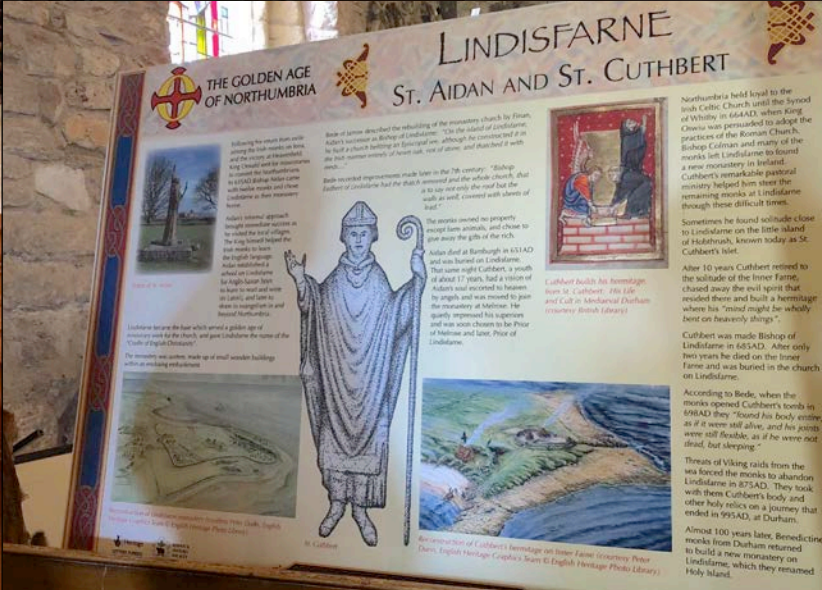




Lindisfarne Abbey



St. Mary's Church, Holy Island



St. Margaret of Scotland



Happy birthday, Karen!



Jeff, Robin, Kerry

Dinner at the Warren House

Candace, Karen, Jill

Durham	Wake up	Sleep
Wednesday, June 20	Jeff & Jill Sutheran, Seahouses	Jen & Alf Hinds, Bradford on Avon



Durham Cathedral



St. Nicholas Church, Durham



Bath overlook



Our summer home...



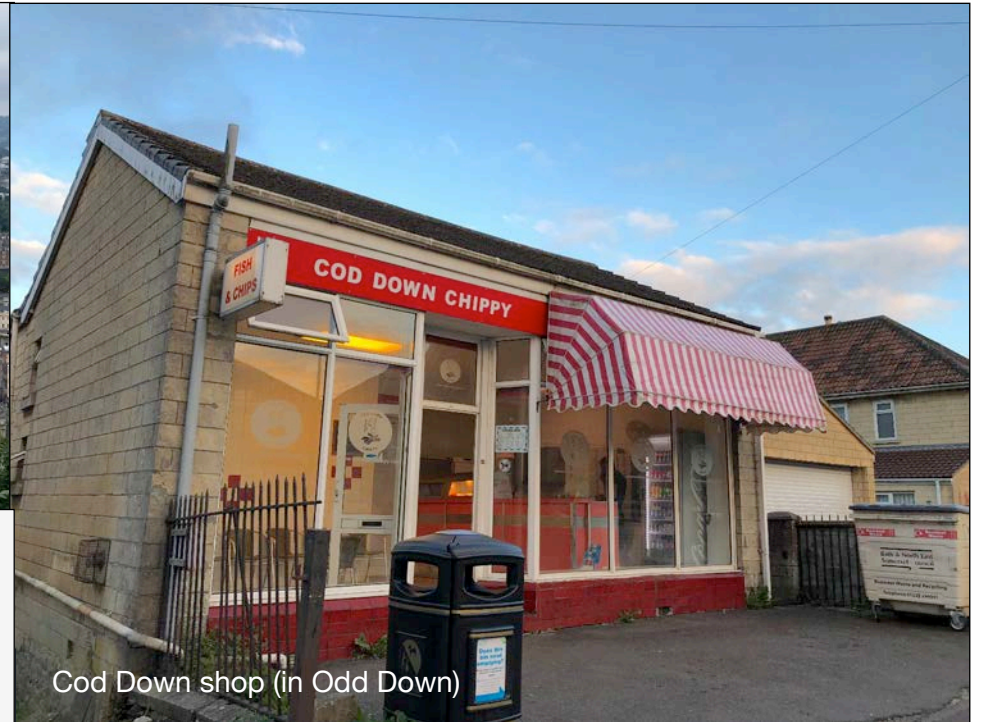
Ha, actually this is called the Royal Crescent! 😊



Kerry Magruder V.



I'm sure there's royalty in that family tree somewhere!



Cod Down shop (in Odd Down)



At Robin's Mum's



Noads Corner, Odd Down



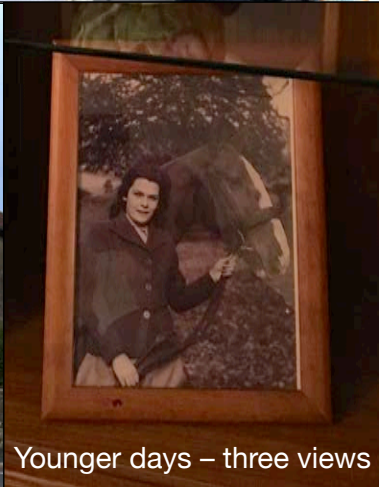
Robin and his Mum



95 years old!



Robin's boyhood home, Odd Down



Younger days – three views

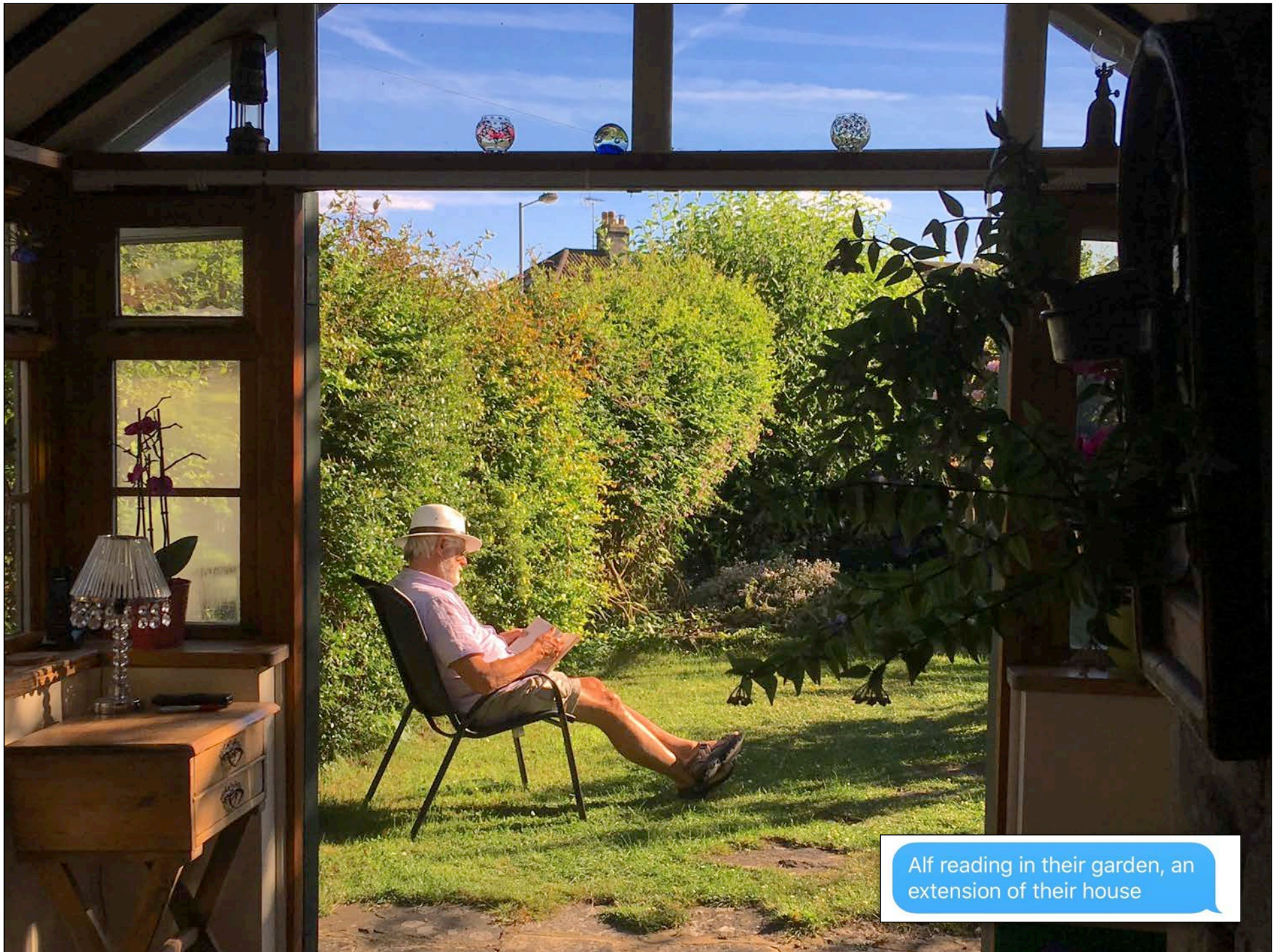




Siblings: Martin, Graham, Andy, Jenny, Robin, Stuart

It's Bath time!!! 🛁 Today was a Travel day where we enjoyed the scenery along a journey south more than 350 miles through the English countryside. Thanks to Robin and Karen for doing ALL of the driving! And leaving us free to watch the passing landscapes. We also stopped for an hour at Durham cathedral, one of the most historic of England's cathedrals. Just as Columba's bones were removed from Iona to Ireland, so Cuthbert's body was taken from Lindisfarne to Durham. We arrived in Bath with the waning Sunlight shining upon the beautiful golden stone that makes up all of its buildings. If we began our trip in Auld Reekie then we are concluding it in with a cleansing Bath. Ok, sorry. 😊 The best thing is that we are seeing these places, whether Northumberland or Bath, through the eyes of Robin and Karen. We enjoyed fish and chips at Robin's Mum's home before arriving at the home of Alf and Jen, their

longtime friends, where we will enjoy their hospitality for two nights. Places — and most of all, people — we've long heard about through Robin and Karen are now becoming more real and significant to us also. This is their home.



Alf reading in their garden, an extension of their house



Jen (Robin's sister) and Alf

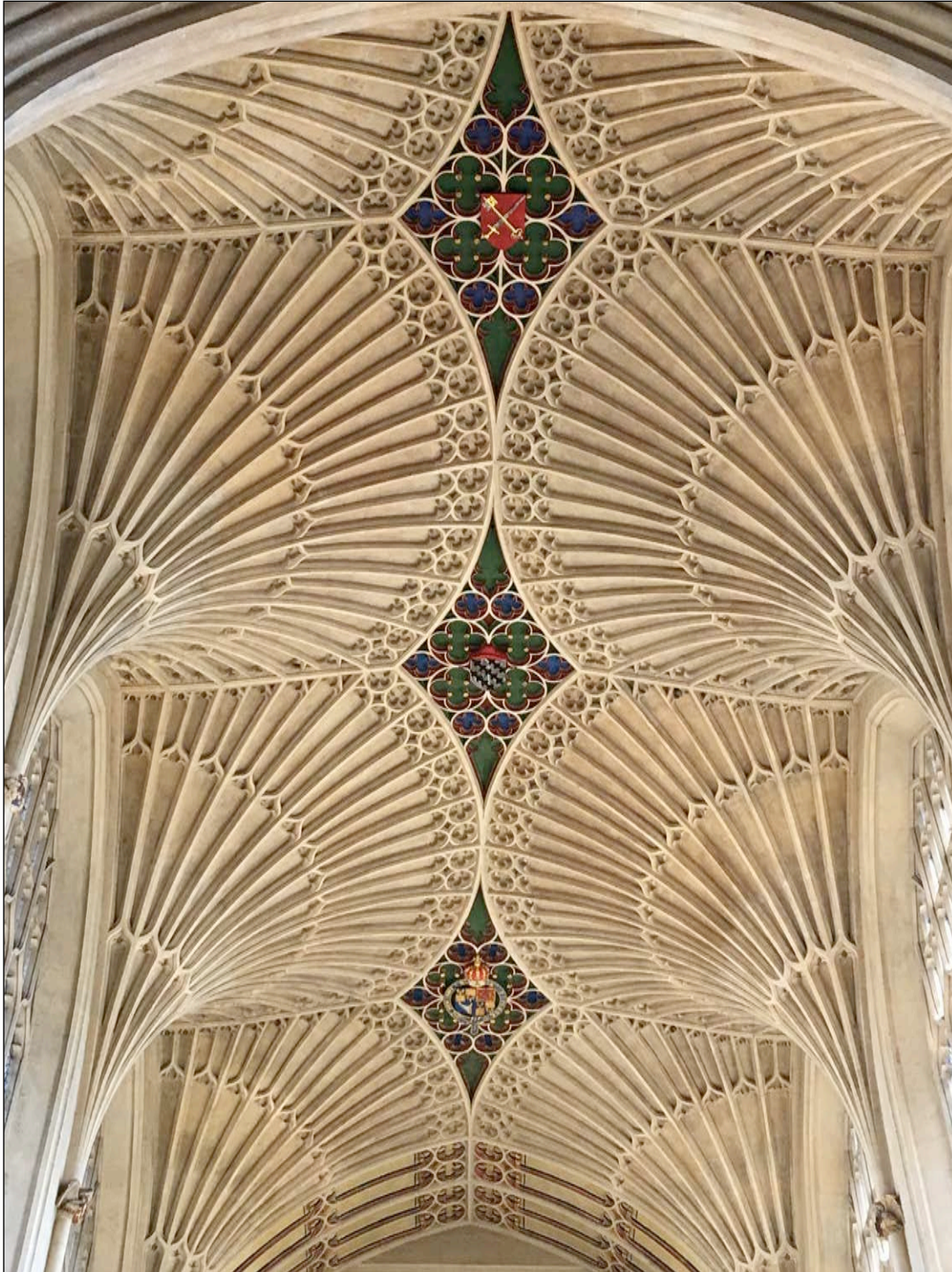


Bath	Wake up	Sleep
Thursday, June 21	Jen & Alf Hinds	Jen & Alf Hinds, Bradford on Avon



Bath Abbey





Bath Abbey



Pump Room



Robin and Karen's first date



Scone with clotted cream & jam

English tea



Candace Magruder

Doesn't he just take the biscuit?
(His bag says it all.)

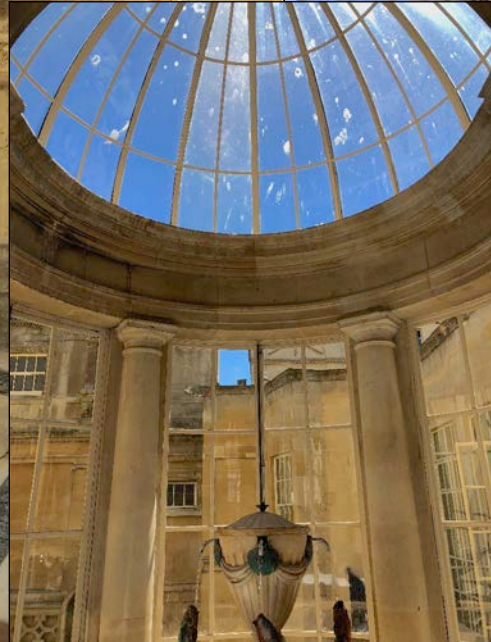


Candace Magruder

Oh, and Harry and Meghan asked if they could have their photo taken with me. I thought it only proper to oblige.



Bath bun

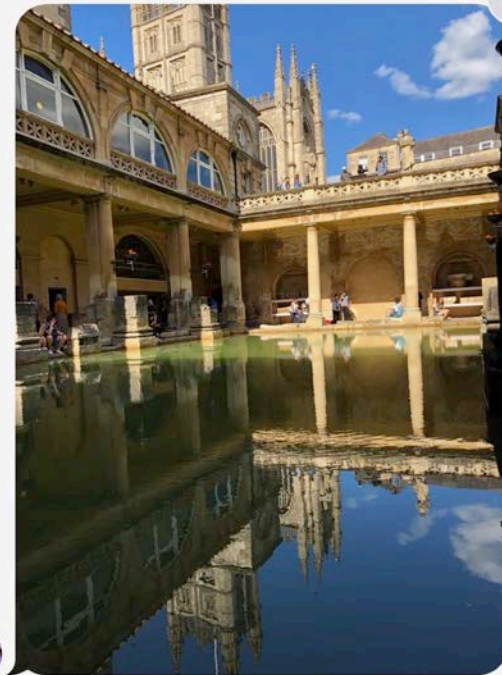


Pump Room



Roman bath

Candace Magruder



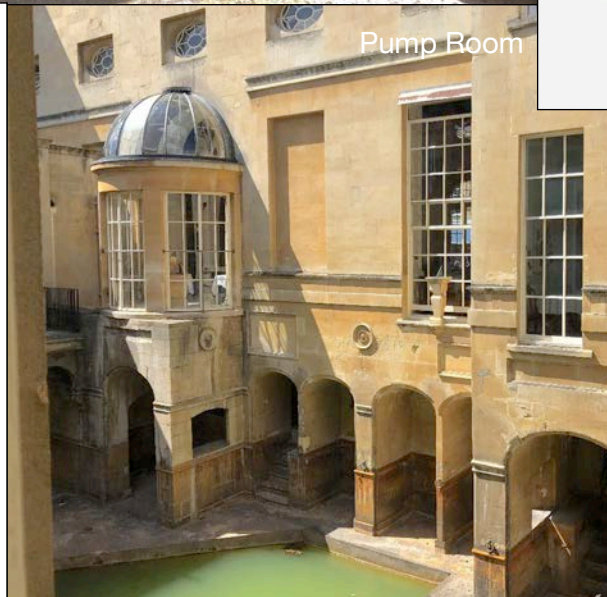
The Roman Bath with Bath Abbey reflected in the water.

The symmetrical sky, above and below, is beautiful in that picture

Magruder Hannah

Oh my goodness these are wonderful!!! The ceiling is BEAUTIFUL, the picture of the water with the cathedral reflected is perfect, I love that there were interpreters, I want a house that just opens up outside like that (and weather that makes it feasible!), and I ALWAYS IMAGINED DAD WEARING ONE OF THOSE HATS!!!!!! ONE OF MY DREAMS HAS LITERALLY COME TRUE NOW!!!!!! IT FITS HIM PERFECTLY!!!!!! YAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAY!!!!!! !!!

Pump Room





Roman bath





Candace Magruder

Thank you everyone. I'm so happy
to celebrate 32 wonderful years
with my soulmate Kerry.



Jen, Karen, Candace

Our anniversary!

Kerry, Robin, Alf

Gluten-free fish & chips!



Steak & Ale Pie with mash!



Thank you, Mother and Dad, for the anniversary wishes!!!

Kerry Magruder V.

Thank you, Mother and Dad, for the anniversary wishes!!!

Jack and Sue Magruder

WHAT A PRIVILEGE-THANKS FOR THE CALL-HAVE A GREAT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION! LOVE, MOTHER AND DADDYO

Thursday 12:08 PM

Everyone on this list: our anniversary prompts continual thoughts of thanksgiving for each one of you. Thank you for the difference each of you makes to our lives!!! ❤️

Jack and Sue Magruder



Thursday 2:03 PM

Rachel Folmar

Happy anniversary, Mom and Dad!!!!!! 💖 🥰 🍷 🥰 💖

Laura Mann

Happy anniversary!! What a way to celebrate!! 😊



Homeward bound	Wake up	Sleep
June 22, Friday	Jen & Alf Hinds, Bath	Holiday Inn, London
June 23, Saturday	Holiday Inn, London	Home sweet home, Norman



Robin and Karen just dropped us off at our hotel near Heathrow airport. We fly out tomorrow morning so we have an easy rest of the day in London. Thank you, R and K for the superb chauffeur service right to the hotel curb. What a lovely week we've had! 🥰🇬🇧

Magruder Jack

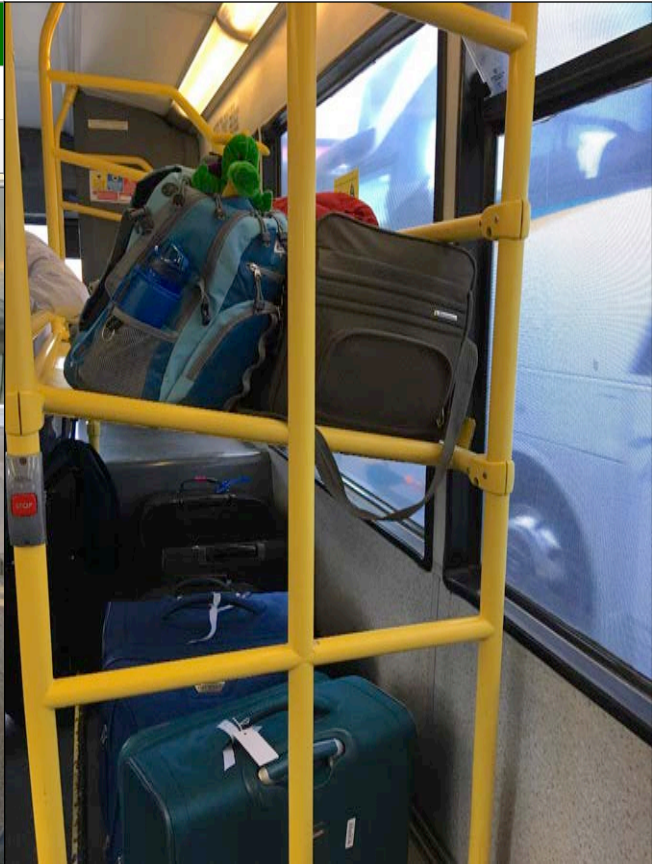


Wonderful. Enjoy a safe journey home! Love, Mother and Dad ❤️

MJ

Presto can't wait to see Susanna!





Yesterday 10:35 PM



We're home, sweet home! Climbing into bed. 🥰

Today 7:20 AM

Jack and Sue Magruder

