

Country of Study 2010 – Scotland

“We look to Scotland for all our ideas of civilisation” – Voltaire



Map courtesy of the University of Texas Libraries, The University of Texas

There is a fitting symmetry that we in New South Wales have chosen Scotland as the Country of Study for 2010, the Bicentenary of the beginning of Lachlan Macquarie's Governorship of the then colony of NSW. Macquarie was a Scotsman, the finest leader the state has had, according to historians. His epitaph at his mausoleum on the Scottish Isle of Mull reads, "The Father of Australia".

Location

Scotland is one of the four countries that make up the United Kingdom, together with England, Northern Ireland and Wales. It is the most northerly part of the UK and is about one-third of the UK's land mass. It is bordered on the west and north by the Atlantic Ocean; on the east by the North Sea and on the south by England.

Capital City

Edinburgh: Population 446,110.
Other major cities: Glasgow 577,980; Aberdeen 179,950; Dundee 141,930.

Language

English (99%), Gaelic (1%)

Area

78,772 sq km. There are 787 islands, of which about 130 are inhabited.

Population

5,168,500 (2008 est.)

Religion

Mostly Christian, with all denominations of that faith represented. The Church of Scotland is the national church, but is not controlled by the state. It has a Presbyterian branch, the Free Church of Scotland. Other religions represented are Muslim (2nd largest), Hindu, Judaism and Buddhism. 28% of the population claim to have no religion.

Currency

Pound sterling

Literacy Rate

99%

Life Expectancy (2008 est.)

Male: 74.2 years

Female: 79.3 years

Industry

Scotland's top five export industries and their value in Pounds sterling:

Food & Drink: 4.6 billion

Chemicals: 2.2 billion

Wholesale, Retail & Accommodation: 1.9 billion

Business Services: 1.9 billion

Office Machinery: 1.2 billion

Imports are food and raw materials, e.g. iron.

Agriculture

Three quarters of Scotland's total land mass is agricultural, with 86% is suitable only for grazing sheep and cattle. Farmers benefit from subsidies. Agricultural employs between 5 and 8% of the workforce – about

68,000 people.

Agriculture contributes around 1,800 million pounds gross annually.



Edinburgh, Scotland

National Symbols

The Flag

The Flag of Scotland, also known as the Saint Andrew's Cross or more commonly The Saltire, is the national flag of Scotland. It is also flown from Scottish Government buildings every day, with certain exceptions, from 8am until sunset.

The white saltire was first used as a symbol of Scotland in 1180, during the reign of William I, and historical evidence shows that a celestial blue background has been applied to flags depicting the Saltire since the early C16th. It's thought that the Saltire dates back to approximately 832 AD.



Photo by Alistair Williamson

The National Anthem

The National Anthem in Scotland is that of the United Kingdom — God Save the Queen. However, for many years a variety of songs have been used as unofficial anthems at events that are not matters of state, or which have a Scottish flavour. In recent years Flower of Scotland has become a kind of unofficial official national anthem, especially at sporting events. Other unofficial anthems include: Scotland the Brave, A Man's A Man, Auld Lang Syne, Freedom Come All Ye and Highland Cathedral.

Coat of Arms

The Official Coat of Arms of the UK depicts, on the left, the English Lion; on the right is the Unicorn of Scotland. When the Royal Coat of Arms is used in Scotland, the Unicorn is given pride of place on the left of the shield. The Scottish Motto also appears on this version. Scotland is also represented on the UK Royal Arms in the second quadrant of the shield. Scotland's Motto is "In My Defens God Me Defend".



National Emblem

The thistle is the National Emblem of Scotland. Every school-child in Scotland learns the legend of how the thistle, saved the country in the Middle Ages, when the Scots and Norsemen were at war. Under cover of darkness, the Norsemen managed to land unobserved on the coast of Scotland. Removing their boots, they crept on bare feet toward the unsuspecting Scottish army. Suddenly, a sharp cry of pain shattered the stillness: a Norse soldier had stepped on a thistle. Thus alerted to the surprise attack, the Scots sprang into action and drove the invaders from their shores. The thistle became the official emblem of Scotland during the reign of Alexander III in the 13th century. It was first used on silver coins in 1470, during the reign of James II and was incorporated into the country's coat of arms in the 16th century.

Tartan

Tartan is associated the world over with the kilt, the national dress of Scotland. The origins of tartan are inextricably linked with the origins of the Scottish nation. Evidence suggests that striped and checked materials were used for hundreds of years by the Celtic peoples who lived in what would become modern Scotland. But tartan really emerges from the shadows with the arrival from Ireland of the Scoti tribe in the fifth century.

The number of stripes on the cloth came to indicate rank and the weave became associated with different clans in different parts of the country, especially the Highlands and Islands. Variations of pattern, even within the same clan, continued until the beginning of the seventeenth century when these patterns or setts became standardised.

Over the past two hundred years the number and variety of tartans has continued to grow. Many clan setts are available in different styles including ancient, modern, dress or hunting.



The Scottish Parliament has established a proper Register of Tartans. The Register is maintained by the Keeper of the Records of Scotland and housed in the country's National Archives in Edinburgh. For more info visit www.tartanregister.gov.uk

Heather is also often considered a symbol, while many maintain the Eagle and the Red Stag should also be official symbols.

Government

A Constitutional Monarchy, the Scottish Government is the devolved administration for Scotland, dealing with devolved issues independently of the UK Government. The Scottish Government has jurisdiction for Health, Education, Local Government, Housing, Planning, Tourism, Law and Home Affairs, Environment, Economic Development, Heritage, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Transport.

The First Minister for Scotland is Alex Salmond. He leads the Cabinet. The Party in office is the Scottish National Party, a minority government. Parliament meets at St Andrew's House, Edinburgh.

History — Important Dates (AD)

- 84 Romans defeat Picts, withdraw southward
- 503 Scots arrive (from Ireland)
- 563 St Columba arrives in Iona
- 843 Kenneth MacAlpin becomes King of Picts and Scots
- 1292 Edward 1 of England conquers Scotland
- 1297 The Battle of Stirling Bridge
- 1305 Execution of William Wallace
- 1306 Robert the Bruce crowned King of Scotland
- 1314 Battle of Bannockburn
- 1472 Orkney and Shetland annexed
- 1513 Battle of Flodden
- 1587 Mary Queen of Scots executed
- 1603 Union of Crowns
- 1653 Oliver Cromwell forces a Scottish/English Union
- 1660 Restoration of the Monarchy – Scottish Independence
- 1692 Glencoe Massacre
- 1707 Union of Parliaments
- 1715 Jacobite Uprising
- 1745 Charles Edward Stuart leads the last Jacobite Uprising
- 1746 Battle of Culloden
- 1820 "Radical War"
- 1885 Office of Secretary for Scotland created
- 1897 Scottish Trades Union Congress formed
- 1900 Labour Party formed. Election of James Keir Hardie
- 1928 Scottish National Party formed
- 1949 Signing of the Scottish Covenant
- 1979 Referendum on devolution
- 1996 "Stone of Destiny" returned to Scotland
- 1997 Referendum on Scottish Parliament
- 1998 Scotland Act passed by UK Parliament
- 1999 Opening of Scottish Parliament

Some Famous Scots

Saints Ninian, Mungo and Columba; William Wallace; Robert the Bruce; John Knox; Mary Queen of Scots; James VI of Scotland, I of England; Bonnie Prince Charlie; Flora MacDonald; William Paterson; Adam Smith; David Hume; Thomas Carlyle; Thomas Muir and the "Edinburgh Martyrs"; George Mealmaker; Helen Crawford; Janie Allan; Flora Drummond; Annie Fraser; Maggie Moffat; Jessie Stephens; James Keir Hardie; John MacLean; Joseph Lister; James Watt; Sir Alexander Fleming; Sir Robert Alexander Watson-Watt; John Loudon McAdam; John Logie Baird; Alexander Graham Bell; John MacDouall Stuart; J M Barrie; John Buchan; Robert Burns; Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; Kenneth Grahame; Sir Walter Scott; Robert Louis Stevenson; Robert Adam; Charles Rennie Mackintosh; Sean Connery; Robert Carlyle; Billy Connolly; Tom Conti; Ewan MacGregor; David Niven; Annie Lennox; Lulu.



Stained glass in Edinburgh depicting William Wallace



A statue of Robert the Bruce at Stirling Castle, Scotland

International Doll Competition

Conditions of Entry

- No entry fee.
- Doll must be dressed by a member or members.
- Doll size — maximum height 35cms (excluding hat).
- When dolls are being judged, it is important to note the costume is the part being judged, not the doll.
- Winning doll at State level to become property of the Association.
- Branch and Group name to be sewn on undergarment and the doll stand to be clearly marked with Group and Branch name.
- Winning Group doll to be mailed or delivered to Head Office no later than the end of February.
- First, second and third place getters will be announced during the State International Meeting at State Conference.
- All Group dolls to be displayed at State Conference.
- Group Officers to arrange for collection of dolls during last morning of State Conference. Dolls to be signed for when picked up.

General Guidelines and Judging Criteria

- Information on National costumes may be obtained from most libraries, or the state Library in Sydney. Pictorial or written reference **must** accompany the doll.
- Clothing does not have to be removable but underwear is included in the judging.
- Clothing need not to be all handmade, but must be hand finished. It is easier, because of the small size, to sew by hand.
- Shoes which come with dolls are rarely suitable for National Costume, so shoes should be handmade.
- Stockings can be knitted or made from old stockings.
- Sewing points: neatness of neck and armholes, finish of sleeves and hems, pleats facing the right direction, buttons on the correct side.
- Group International Officers to arrange judging of branch entries by a qualified judge (often a Handicraft judge).
- Dolls to be judged as follows: 50 marks — Authenticity, 30 marks — Workmanship , 20 marks — General appeal, Total = 100 marks.

International Primary School Book Competition

This competition is open to all primary school students (as individuals or as a school. The competition is particularly suitable for one or two teacher schools).

Book size: A4, maximum 20 pages.

Allocation of marks

- 5 Table of Contents and Bibliography.
- 10 Cover — should include title, arouse interest, and be attractive.
- 5 Spelling — check if uncertain as to any spelling.
- 15 Presentation — includes neatness, setting out of information in whole book, setting out of each page, balance between information and illustrations, use of margins, general effect, variety of presentation.

N.B. Each book is to be judged on its merits, therefore handwritten and computerised are equal.

Content

- 20 History — main events, important people, government.
- 20 Geography — general information, capital and large cities, important rivers, mountains, agriculture, industries, flora and fauna.

25 Culture — education, dress, food and customs, festivals, language, arts, music, literature, religions, role of women and girls.

Students are free to include any other aspects they have discovered. Originality will receive extra marks in any section.

Some advice for students:

- Allocate your space carefully.
- Be selective with information — do not try to pack in too much.
- Use your own words. Do not copy slabs of information from the internet, encyclopaedias, etc.
- Do not over-use illustrations. Label all photographs, drawings or illustrations.

Group International Officers are to arrange the judging of books. The winning book from each group is to be mailed to the State International Officer no later than 30 September so the winner may be advised prior to the end of the school year.

1st prize for a winning individual child is \$20 with \$100 going to the child's school. If the entry is from a school, the prize to the school is \$120.

International Book Competition

Conditions of Entry

- No entry fee.
- Books on the Country of Study to be compiled by a member or members and they may be done collectively or individually.
- Books can be of any type — e.g. Art, sketch, project, display — whatever is most suitable and/or available. The maximum size of the page is A3 (42x30cm), the cover may be marginally larger. It must contain no more than 20 leaves (a maximum of 40 pages in total).
- The book is more than a scrapbook. Newsprint, typing, handwriting, drawing, and all forms of pictorial representation using any medium can be used.
- The book will be judged on content and presentation.
- Group International Officers to arrange the judging of branch books.
- Winning book from each group to be mailed or delivered to the State International Officer no later than 30th November.
- First, second and third prize winners will be announced at the State International Meeting during State Conference.
- All Group Books will be displayed at State Conference.
- Group International Officers to arrange collection of books during the last morning of Conference. Books to be signed for when picked up.

Note: Write Branch and Group name on the last page or inside the back cover.

Judging Criteria and Guidelines

Cover		10
Contents	Listed by page numbers at front of book and/or index (listed alphabetically at back of book): Bibliography: Spelling: Neatness.	5
Government		5
Geography	Including area, population, major cities and towns, topography, climate, flora and fauna.	15
Economy	Including agriculture, industry, tourism, natural resources, transport, housing, etc.	15
History		15
Culture	Including language, education, religion, literature, art, architecture, music, performing arts, crafts, women and family life, cuisine, traditional festivals and customs, fashions, etc.	25
General Presentation		10
TOTAL MARKS		100