



# An Sceala is nua

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**Tours of Ireland, Scotland and the UK**

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**Coming Events and Dates to Remember**

**Reno Celtic Celebration**  
Oct 3 and 4  
Bartley Ranch

**EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT**  
traditional Celtic Music Seisiun at MURPHY'S IRISH PUB, 787 Emerald Bay Road, South Loch Tahoe (45 seconds from the "Y" on Highway 89 toward Camp Richardson)

**NVSSC ANNUAL PICNIC**  
Mills Park, Carson City  
8/21  
Potluck meal with the Society furnishing beverages, plates, plastic- ware, etc. Just come prepared for a great time. The Sierra Highlanders will be on hand; and, of course, there will be a fantastic raffle, including a pair of tickets to the 2011 Robert Burns Dinner

## ALL TEE SHIRTS AND RUGBY SHIRTS ARE 30% OFF



Our Sports Kilt sales are going well. The ladies mini kilt is becoming quite the sensation!

### MEAT PIES

We have changed some of our meat pies.

We have changed to Morrison Meat pies. We put them out for people to taste at the party last week and the response was excellent.

The new shipment will be in next **Thursday**.

### Latest News

The **3 year Anniversary** was a HIT! Thanks to the Sierra Highland Pipers, Dominic Martin (our champion Irish Dancer), Michelle Pappas for her beautiful renditions, and all the participants.

We could not have made it these past three years without all the help and support from the community. We hope to be here another 30 years if we can!!

**High Tea has been a great success, especially now with the garden open.**

**Come join us this Sunday!**

*Picture of The Sierra Nevada Celtic Society luncheon in The Isles Garden*



## Welsh Love Poem

In was sweet,  
sweetheart, a while  
Beneath the  
birchgrove's shade to  
live.  
To cuddle up was  
even sweeter,  
In the wood's retreat  
close hidden,  
Wandering hand in  
hand along the sea  
shore  
Lingering hand in  
hand along the wood  
shore...  
Lying beside each  
other in the grove,  
Mutually shunning  
folk, complicit in  
complaint,  
Living together with  
kindness, quaffing  
mead,  
Resting in each other's  
love, one heart,  
Keeping tryst with  
love's secret.

by the Welsh love-  
poet Dafydd ap  
Gwilym (1320-70)

## The Irish and the Scots Are From the Same Tribe

Ireland used to be divided up into five parts, *the five fifths*. There was a northern fifth, *Ulster*, a western fifth, *Connaught*, a southern fifth, *Munster*, an eastern fifth, *Leinster* and a middle fifth, *Mide*. Click [here](#) to see a map of the five fifths.

The Ulster Cycle is a set of stories which are grounded in the five fifths. Indeed, they are primarily concerned with **Cú Chulainn**, the Ulster hero and his king, **Conor Mac Nessa** in their wars against the king and queen of Connaught, **Ailill** and **Maeve**. These figures play a prominent role in the what may be the greatest story of the Ulster Cycle, the **Táin Bó Cúailnge**, *The Cattle Raid of Cooley*.

Sometime after 300 AD, Ulster became steadily less important in status among the five farthings and the ruling family of Mide, the **Uí Néill Sons of Niall** started to take over large parts of Connaught and most of Ulster. A similar move was made in Munster by the ruling family of Munster, the **Eoganachta** family. Thus was Ireland divided almost entirely into two halves.

The people of Ulster were pushed to a small coastal strip bordering the Irish Sea. The kingdom changed its name to **Dál Riata**. Yet eventually Dál Riata fell under the rule and influence of the Uí Néill. This family, not content with the boundary presented by the sea, launched colonies across the Irish Sea into then Pictish Britain. Thus was Scotland founded, for it was these Uí Néill that the Romans called **Scotti**, not the original Picts.

Indeed, it was this Irish Expansion which led to Christianity in Scotland in 563 AD. **St. Columba**, the patron saint of Scotland, was a member of a powerful family in Dál Riata and in order to keep his ties in Ireland he settled on an island that was close to both Scotland and Ireland, **Iona**. Of course, even more bizarre is the fact that **St. Patrick**, the man responsible for bringing Christianity to Ireland in the first place, was from Wales.

<http://www.ibiblio.org/gaelic/celts.html>

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