

Belly Up! Bulletin

January 2021

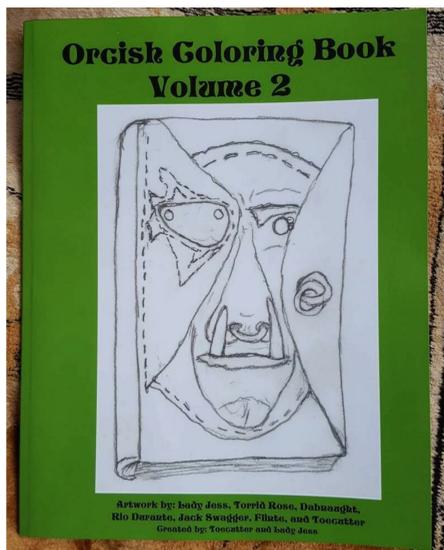
A note from the editor:

It's a new year, time to start afresh. Did you make a New Years Resolution this year? I didn't. I'm not proud to admit that I always manage to fail when I make resolutions. I'm more of a do the day-to-day kind of person. And that's my plan for this year as well. Do the day-to-day. Work my job (which I am blessed to still have), keep OBI up and running despite the inability to hold events, try to eat healthy, drink water, take my vitamins, listen to my doctor. You know, all that stuff. How are you planning on making it through 2021?

--Rio Durante, Editor

Did you make a New Years Resolution?

Featured Item of the Month



Orcish Coloring
Book Vol 2
\$25

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Why do Scottish Highlanders wear kilts?

The Scottish kilt, which may look like a plaid skirt for men, was created as a useful multipurpose piece of cloth, some fifteen feet long by five feet wide, called a philabeg. It was folded lengthwise, wrapped around the waist, and then belted in place. The remainder of the cloth was thrown over one shoulder and pinned. This skirtlike apparel gave the men of the Highlands unrestricted movement of their limbs while traversing its rugged terrain. Its creation, however, was actually a result of the poverty of the people and a scarcity of wool. The old kilts were very versatile, since they could be pulled over the head and shoulders during inclement weather or used as a blanket when sleeping outdoors. While we might think of a kilt as a "skirt," women never wear them. The Scotsmen, however, are not shy about wearing their kilts.

Today, a kilt is like a knee-length pleated skirt, with a separate matching plaid or blanketlike mantle, which is worn over the left shoulder and fastened with a brooch. The kilt has seven yards of wool and the plaid has four. The kilt should never be worn below the middle of the knee.

Included in this festive regalia is a purselike pouch, known as a sporrán (the kilt has no pockets). There are also rules governing the use of sporrans. No fashion-conscious Scotsman would be caught wearing his day bag, which is made of leather during the evening, when only a fur bag will do.

Other parts of the costume

January Birthday's

Jason Leighton - January 2
Morgan Roy - January 4
Man Zilla - January 8
Brian Hilton - January 9
Faith Pierce-Gooding - January 11
Michael Plymale - January 12
Noah Zephyrin Lassus - January 13
Sara Goodman - January 15
Carly Fonk Hilton - January 21
Charm Luna Serenia - January 21
Johnathan Miller - January 22
Alicia Webb - January 23
Kathryn Lundgren - January 27
Fred Wilcox - January 29
Gary Peterson - January 30



Upcoming Events...



include a doublet (jacket), a bonnet (cap), brogues (shoes), and knee high stockings. To complete the ensemble, a decorative pin is worn so the kilt does not come open and reveal the wearer's undergarments or lack thereof. The more macho kilt wearer may place a knife in his sock, as Scottish soldiers once wore kilts in battle. The most important part of the costume is, of course, the tartan or plaid (pronounced played) cloth pattern. The differing designs of stripes and colors, on wool cloth, came to represent the different family clans of the Scottish Highlands. As all the valleys in Scotland were people settled were isolated from one another by the surrounding hills, the inhabitants of each area became known as a clan and each had its own "sett" or tartan. Tartans date back to the 1200s and were also worn by the Irish, and the Celts of Europe.

The British outlawed the wearing of tartans and kilts in Scotland, in 1745 after the Jacobite Rebellion. Many tartan patters were lost before the ban was lifted in 1782. The Scottish military was, however, allowed to continue to wear their tartan, and they do so today. Today, Scottish descendants around the world carry on the traditions of old, wearing Highland dress at parades, weddings, and ethnic celebrations.

Ask a Scot if wearing skirts, brooches, and handbags is dignified for a real man, and they will say of course. Do they wear underwear beneath their woolen kilts? Conventional wisdom says yes, but to each his own. At least they don't have to shave their legs.

--The Book of Totally Useless Information
by: Don Voorhees