

DECORATIVE CALLIGRAPHY

I have converted my traditional calligraphy into digital calligraphy.

Digital calligraphy has become an art form in its own right. It gives the look of conventional calligraphy, but it is arguably more versatile, being able to produce artwork which would be impossible to replicate using conventional methods.

It has a wide range of applications but is particularly suited, when combined with modern printing techniques, to produce unique works of art.

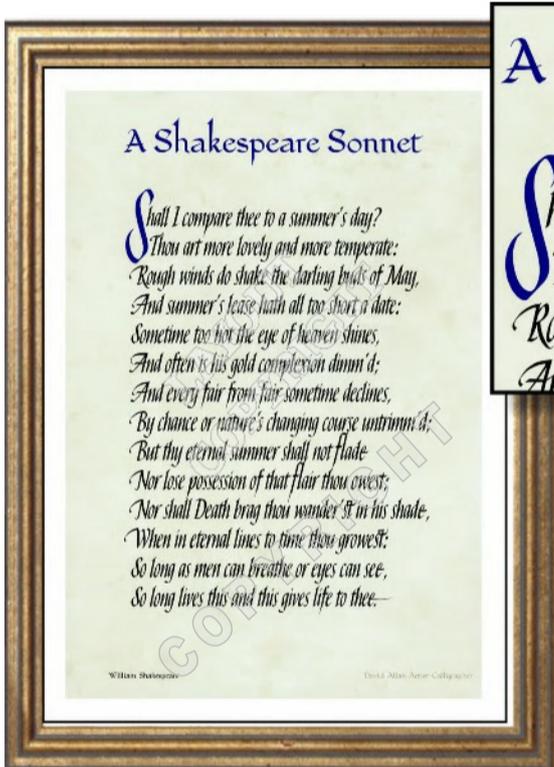
Styles vary from 6th century Celtic to Secretary Hand, through to more contemporary hands. Where necessary, the older styles have been altered slightly to make them more legible to the modern eye. **e-mail me if you wish to see the full range of 'Hands' which are currently available.**

On the following pages are illustrations based on work I have produced in the past. If you would like to commission me to create similar work, please e-mail me with the number of the illustration, and send text etc for any new artwork you wish me to create, and I shall give you an estimate of the cost.

It is also comparatively easy to add heraldry and photographs, floral borders, Scottish clan crest badges, etc. to artwork.

A proof will be sent before the final artwork is sent.

[email davidallanartist.com](mailto:davidallanartist.com)



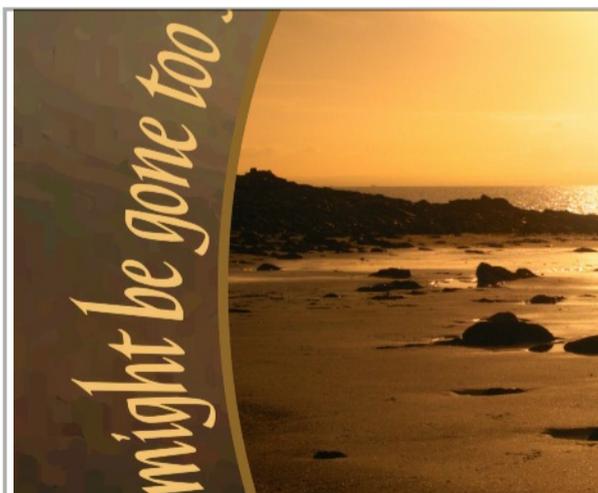
A Shakespeare Sonnet

1

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date:
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance or nature's changing course withtrun'd;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade
Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest;
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou growest:
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this and this gives life to thee.

The heading is in a decorative round hand, the text in cursive italic and laid on a background image of vellum.

An important advantage of digital calligraphy is that the colour of the text can be changed and laid over various images and backgrounds to achieve an unique print.



2

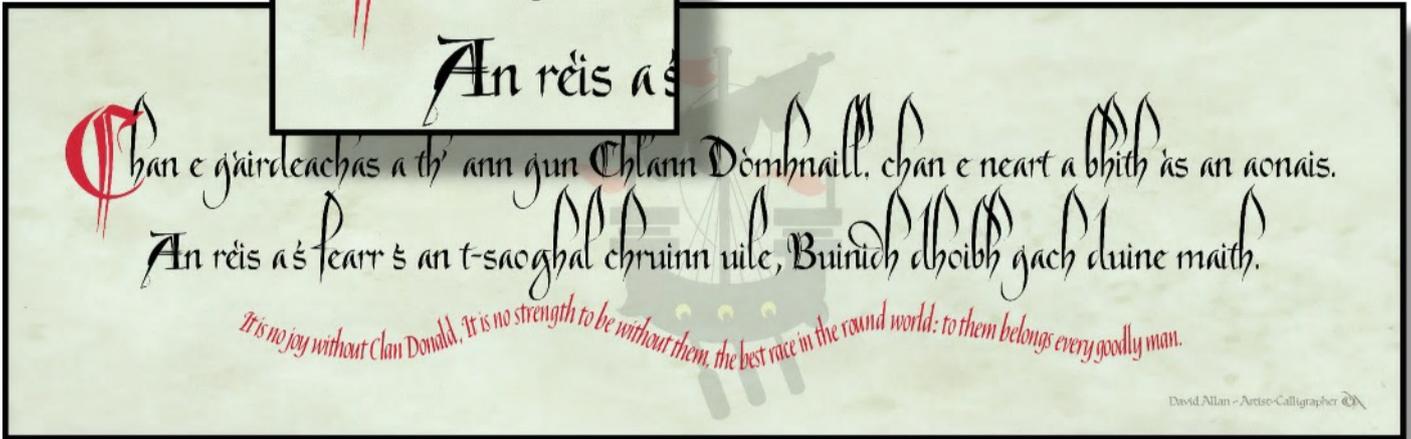
The text is in Cursive italic and combined with a photograph.

The original photograph was taken at Earlsferry, Fife, Scotland.

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN

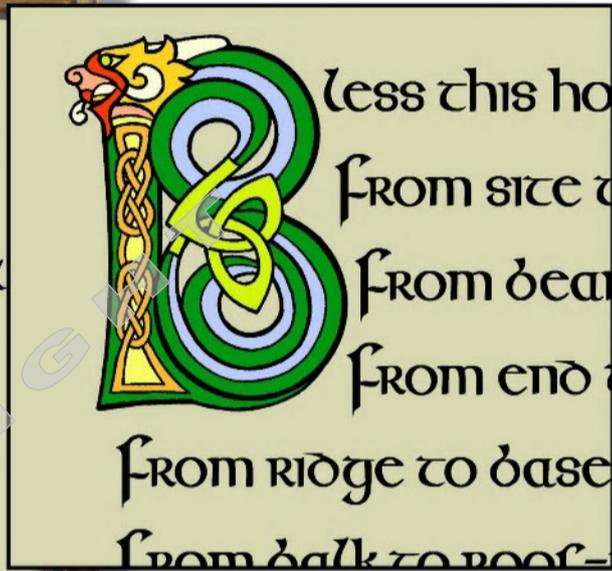
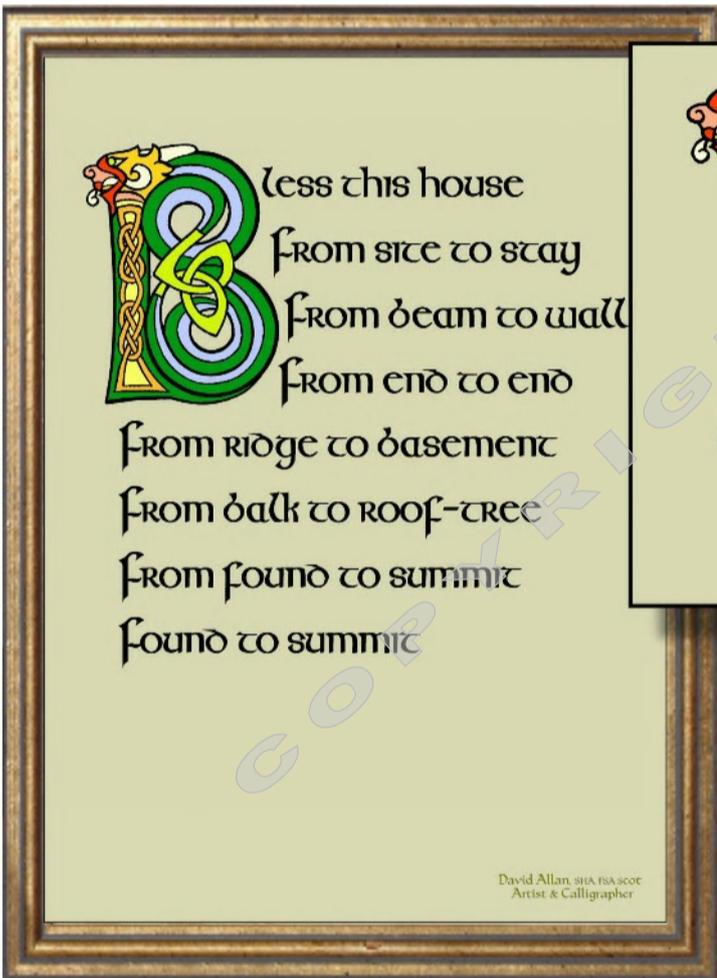
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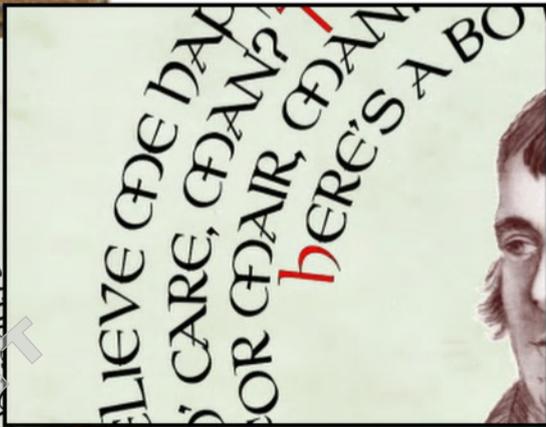
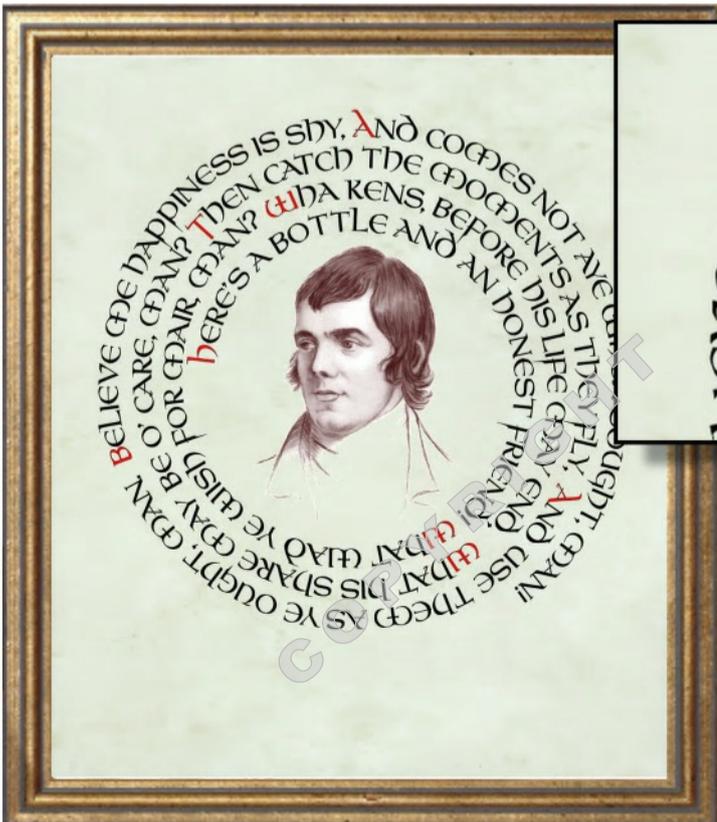
Decorative Clan MacDonald Document

Exaggerated secretary hand & Italic laid on a background image of vellum.



4

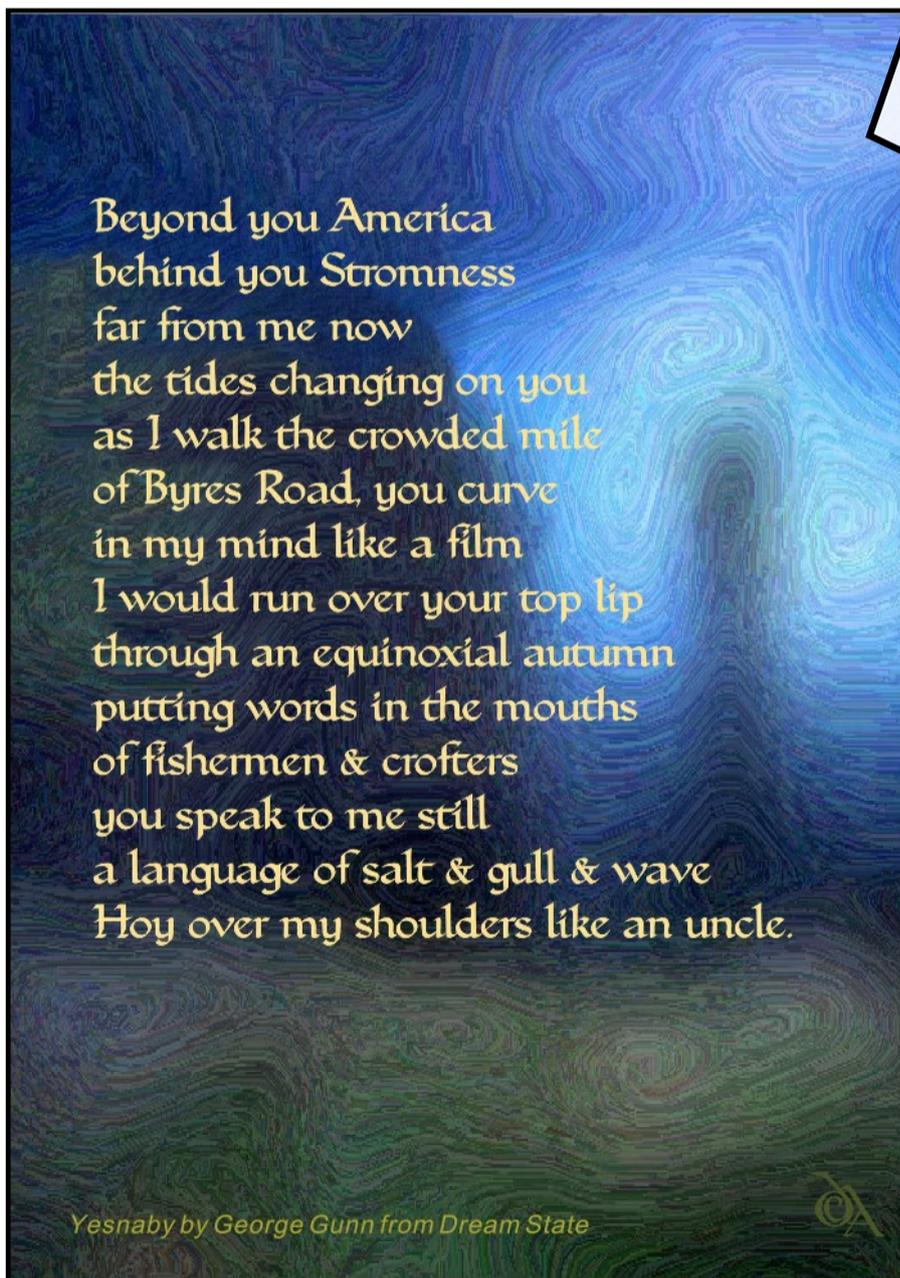
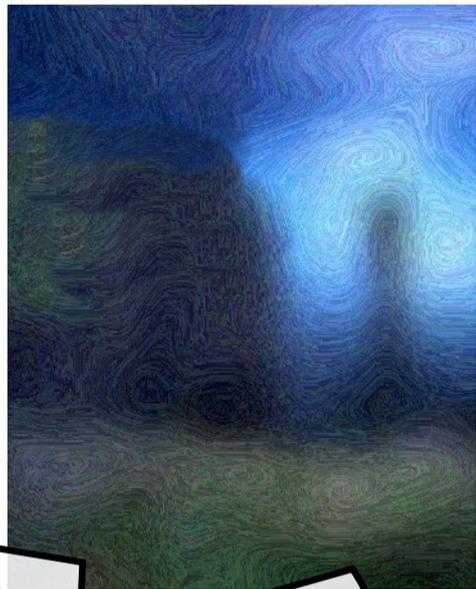
Lettering inspired by
the Book of Kells (c. 800 AD)



5

Modern Uncial in a roundel
laid on a background image of vellum.

Capturing the essence from a photograph and adding a poem ...

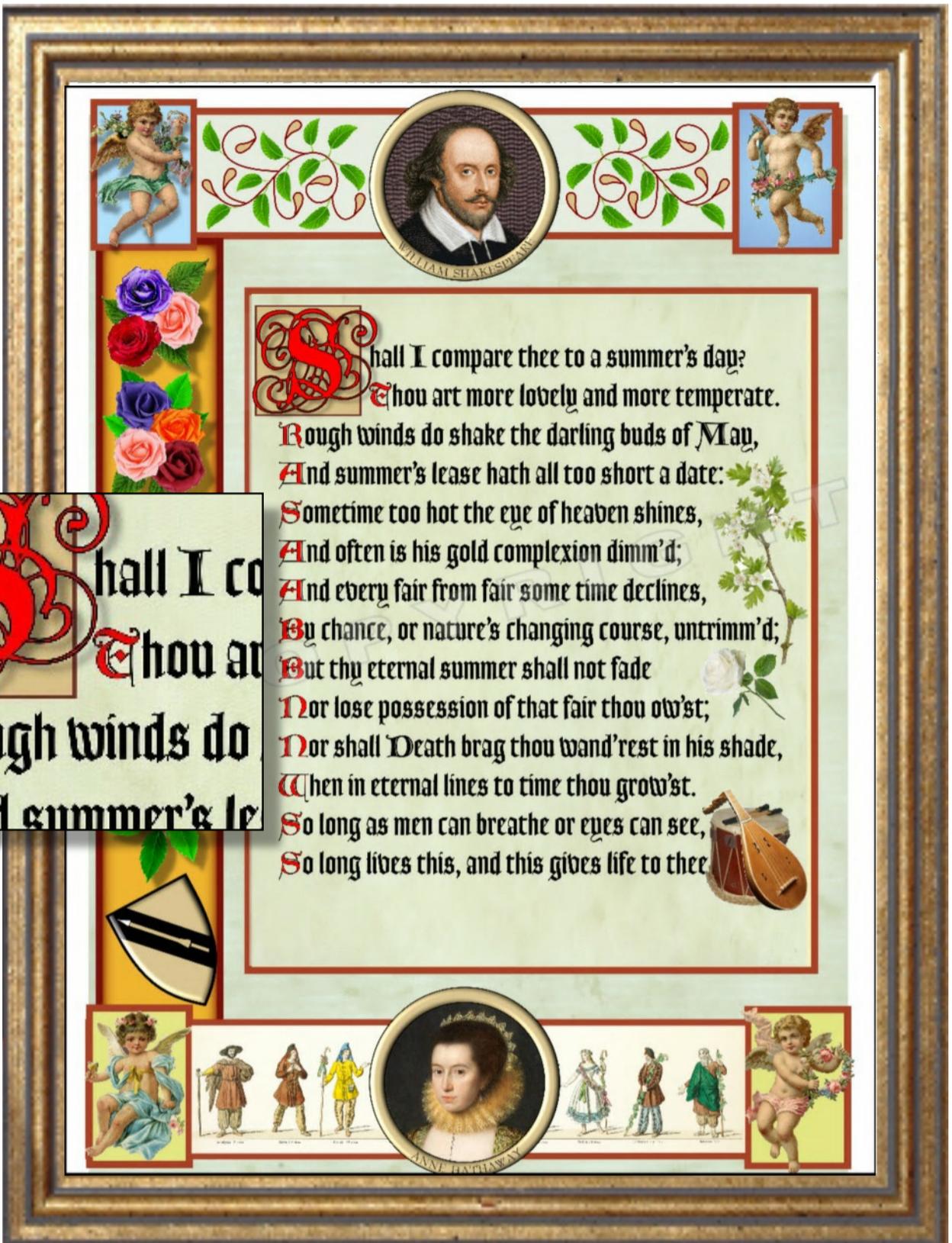


6

Text in Foundation hand.

Inspired by a mediaeval manuscript...

7



Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
 Thou art more lovely and more temperate.
 Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
 And summer's lease hath all too short a date:
 Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
 And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;
 And every fair from fair some time declines,
 By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimm'd;
 But thy eternal summer shall not fade
 Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;
 Nor shall Death brag thou wand'rest in his shade,
 When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st.
 So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
 So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

Initial letter Lombardic decorative, the text in Black Letter.

8

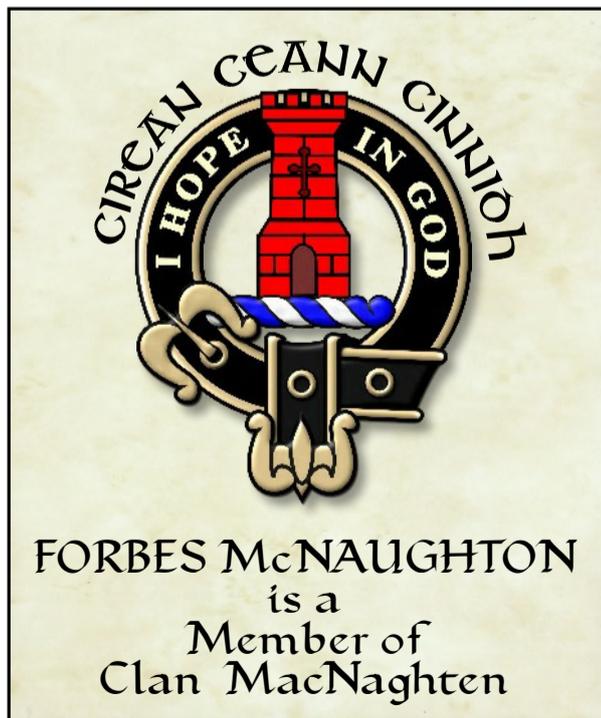
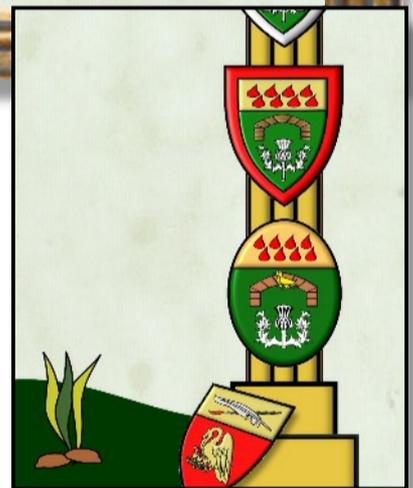
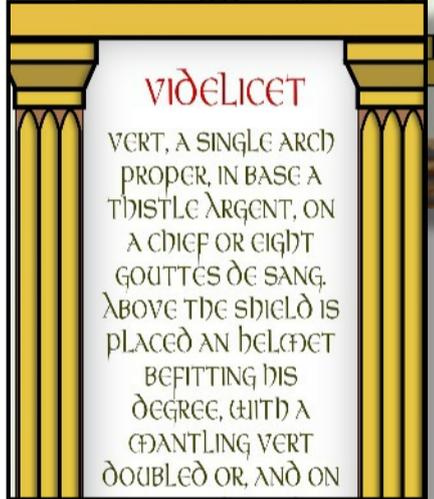
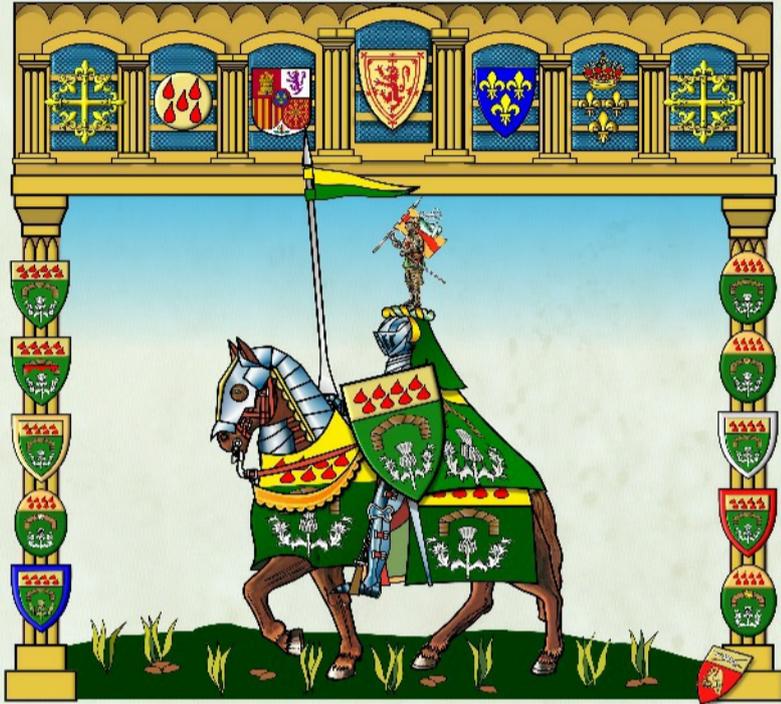
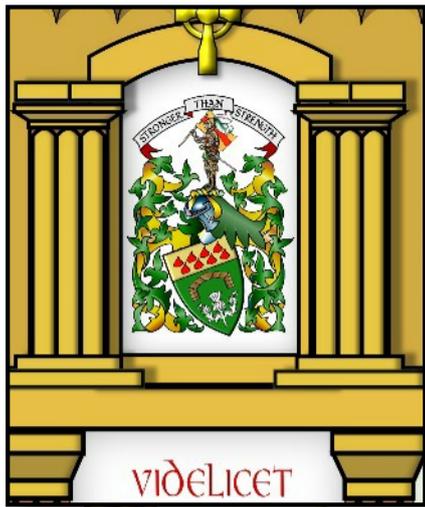


Simple greetings card in Cursive and Cursive Italics.

Inspired by a mediaeval manuscript...

9

A document showing the Armiger's Full Arms and the Shields of his wife and children. The knight on horseback shows how his arms would have been used in mediaeval times. Other pertinent heraldry and symbols have also been added. His blazon, the heraldic description of his arms, is depicted in Modern Uncials.

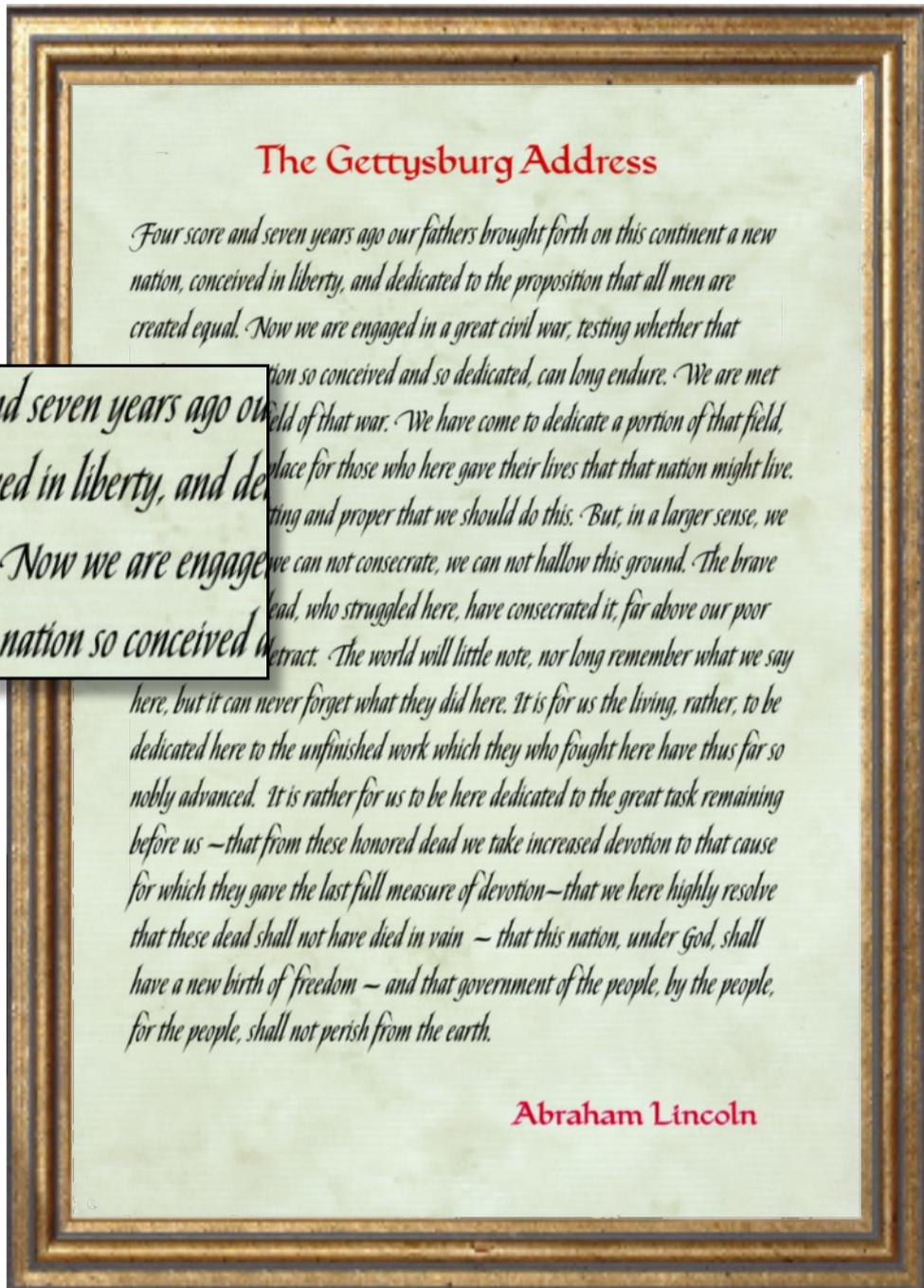


10

A Clan Crest badge from the Decorative Clan Map. The Gaelic tag is depicted in 'Kells', the text and the caption in Foundation Hand.

Written a cursive italic...

11



Four score and seven years ago our nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure.

Written in Secretary Hand...

12

BE IT KNOWN BY THESE PRESENTS

That We, John James MacScotia, Chief of Clan MacScotia,
Baron of the Canongate
are well satisfied of the qualifications and abilities of our Trusty and Well-beloved
MARY ROBERTA SCOTIA
to be one of Our Commissioners for Clan Scotia in Australia,
NOW BE IT KNOWN that in pursuance of the powers vested in Us by
the High Council of Clan Scotia We appoint the said
Mary Roberta Scotia to the said Office of Commissioner,
subject to the conditions of the said Office.

Date.....



Signed.....

A digital seal has been added

The BREVIS

Ah! fredome is a noble thing!
 Fredome mayss man to half lik
 Fredome all solace to man giffis.
 He levys at ess that frely levys!
 A noble hart may half hane ess,
 Ha ellys nocht that may him pless,
 Gyff fredome failyhe: for fre liking
 Is yharmyc our all ochir thing.
 Ha he, that ay hass levyc fre,
 May nocht knaw weill the propyrt,
 The angyr, ha the wrechyc dome,
 That is couplyc to foule thyrdome.
 Boc gyff he had assayc ic,
 Than all perquer he suld ic wyg;
 And suld think fredome mar to pryss,
 Than all the gold in world that is.

JOHN BARBOUR

©Artwork David Allan, SHA, FSA Scot
 Artist & Calligrapher

BREVIS

Fredome is a noble th
 dome mayss man to
 dome all solace to m

Half uncials on a
 blurred image of
 a thistle.

13

The LORD'S PRAYER IN SCOTS

UOR FAXDER QUHILK
 BEEST IN HEVIR.
 HALL SWIT WEIRD THYNE FAXM
 CUM THYNE KIRIK
 BE DUNE THYNE WULL,
 AS IS IN HEVIR. SVX PO YERD.
 UOR DXILIE BREID
 GIF US THILK DXY.
 AND FORLEIT US UOR SKXCHS.
 AS WE FORLEIT THXAM
 QUHX SKXCH US.
 AND LEED US FAX INTEL TEMXTION.
 BUTXH FRE US FRA EVIL.

AMEN

IN SCOTS

UOR FAXDER QUHILK
 BEEST IN HEVIR.

Modern
 cursive uncials.

14

David Allan SHA, FSA Scot
 Artist & Calligrapher

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do you want the information? Send me a **sketch** of what you would like to achieve. If you want me to create similar work to that shown in my illustrations, please include the number of the illustration, include any text and photographs you would like me to use, and I shall give you an estimate of the cost.

Will I see a proof before I get the files? **YES**, a proof will be sent before going to final artwork.

How will I receive the artwork? The artwork is sent as a high-res PDF. This gives you the opportunity to print multiple copies at any size. You can of course print the artwork on your home printer but, for a really stunning result, we recommend that you take it to a professional print shop, or access one on line and have it printed as a Giclée fine art print on a specialist paper of your choice. Giclée prints are produced using a combination of pigment based inks and special papers, which the manufacturers attest will last for 300 years!

How will I receive the files? These files can usually be attached on to an email, but if the file is too large it can be sent by a cloud service such as OneDrive, Dropbox or Google Drive.

e-mail me if you wish to see the full range of 'Hands' which are currently available.

If you are sending copy, please do not send original material as documents may get lost in the post.

Contact email davidallanartist.com

*David Allan SHA, FSA Scot
Umquhile Heraldic Artist & Calligrapher
in the Court of the Lord Lyon
Scrivener and Heraldist to the
Clan Cameron Association Scotland
email davidallanartist.com*