

English:

Hogmanay (English)

Hogmanay is the Scots term for New Year's Eve. This is celebrated across Scotland, and of course the rest of the world, on the 31st of December each year.

Some of the traditions have melted away now, but when I was a little girl they were still going strong.

One of the traditions I know of, and experienced a lot when I was a child, is first-footing. First-footing refers to the practice of welcoming a visitor into your house after midnight. So, technically, the first-footer is literally the first person to set foot in your house on New Year's Day. The tradition is that your first-footer should be a tall man with dark hair. So, when I was little, we would stay in the house until after 'the bells' - which is what we called the ringing of the bells of Big Ben in London, which we watched on the television - and then we would head out to visit friends and neighbours. In other words, we wouldn't wait for someone to first-foot us, we would go out first-footing ourselves. My father, being the only man within my household, would be the first person to knock on our neighbour's door and he would also be the first person to step over their threshold into their house.

Another thing about first-footing is that the person who goes into your house first would usually bring you a small present. Some people would bring a lump of coal, said to mean that your house would be kept warm all year round. But, when I was growing up in the 1980s, most people had already done away with their coal fires and had gas or electric ones. So we would take food or drink to help welcome in the New Year. If you were really traditional you would take some black bun, or some cloutie dumpling, but we would normally take something much easier to get, like shortbread. My mother was not one for spending a lot of time in the kitchen, you see, so she would not have had the time nor the inclination to make something like cloutie dumpling.

And it has to be said that my father would not have dreamt of going first-footing without providing a drink for people. So - he would take his own bottle - at least one bottle - of whatever he was drinking, like whisky or rum, and he would make sure that his friend or neighbour had at least one good measure out of his bottle before he would take one.

And finally - one thing to be aware of is the tradition of singing 'Auld Lang Syne'. While we would always watch people singing this on the television, and we were all familiar with the song - at least the first verse, anyway - we would not link arms and sing it ourselves. I've never been at anybody's house that *does* do that at the bells, or just after them. The only time I've ever done that to celebrate the beginning of New Year is when I've been out at a bar or restaurant.

Simplified Chinese

Hogmanay (英语)

Hogmanay 是苏格兰人对新年前夜的称呼。每年 12 月 31 日，整个苏格兰，当然还有世界其他地方都会庆祝这一节日。

一些传统现在已经消失了，但当我还是个小孩子的时候，那些传统仍然很强大。

我小时候就知道并经历过的很多传统之一就是“新年第一访客”。新年第一访客是指在午夜之后欢迎访客进入你家的做法。所以，从意义上讲，新年第一访客实际上是元旦那天第一个踏入你家的人。传统是你的第一脚应该是一个黑头发的高个子男人。所以，当我还小的时候，我们会一直待在家里，直到“钟声”之后——这就是我们所说的伦敦大本钟的钟声，我们在电视上看到的——然后我们就出发去拜访朋友和邻居。换句话说，我们不会等别人先踏足我们，我们会先踏出自己的第一步。我父亲是家中唯一的男人，是第一个敲邻居家门的人，也是第一个跨过门槛进入他们家的人。

另一个关于新年第一访客的事情是，第一个走进你家的人通常会给你带来一个小礼物。有的人会带一块煤，寓意你家一年四季都暖和。但是，当我在 1980 年代长大时，大多数人已经摆脱了煤火，而开始使用燃气或电火。所以我们会带食物或饮料来迎接新年。如果你真的很传统，你会吃一些黑面包，或者克鲁蒂饺子，但我们通常会吃一些更容易制作的东西，比如脆饼。你看，我妈妈不是一个喜欢在厨房里花很多时间的人，所以她没有时间，也不愿意做像克鲁蒂饺子这样的食物。

不得不说，我父亲做梦也不会想到作为新年第一访客，不为人们提供酒水。所以——他会自己拿一瓶酒——至少一瓶——他喜欢喝所有酒饮，比如威士忌或朗姆酒，他会确保他的朋友或邻居至少拿出一瓶好酒。

最后 - 需要注意的一件事是唱“Auld Lang Syne”的传统。虽然我们总是会在电视上看到人们唱这首歌，而且我们都熟悉这首歌——至少第一节，不管怎样——我们不会手挽手地自己唱。在我去过的所有人家中，没有一家会在钟声响起或之后这样做。我唯一一次这样做是在酒吧或餐馆庆祝新年开始的时候。

Traditional Chinese

Hogmanay (英語)

Hogmanay 是蘇格蘭人對新年前夜的稱呼。每年 12 月 31 日，整個蘇格蘭，當然還有世界其他地方都會慶祝這一節日。

一些傳統現在已經消失了，但當我還是個小孩子的時候，那些傳統仍然很強大。

我小時候就知道並經歷過的很多傳統之一就是“新年第一訪客”。新年第一訪客是指在午夜之後歡迎訪客進入你家的做法。所以，從意義上講，新年第一訪客實際上是元旦那天第一個踏入你家的人。傳統是你的第一腳應該是一個黑頭髮的高個子男人。所以，當我還小的時候，我們會一直待在家裡，直到“鐘聲”之後——這就是我們所說的倫敦大本鐘的鐘聲，我們在電視上看到的——然後我們就出發去拜訪朋友和鄰居。換句話說，我們不會等別人先踏足我們，我們會先踏出自己的第一步。我父親是家中唯一的男人，是第一個敲鄰居家門的人，也是第一個跨過門檻進入他們家的人。

另一個關於新年第一訪客的事情是，第一個走進你家的人通常會給你帶來一個小禮物。有的人會帶一塊煤，寓意你家一年四季都暖和。但是，當我在 1980 年代長大時，大多數人已經擺脫了煤火，而開始使用燃氣或電火。所以我們會帶食物或飲料來迎接新年。如果你真的很傳統，你會吃一些黑麵包，或者克魯蒂餃子，但我們通常會吃一些更容易製作的東西，比如脆餅。你看，我媽媽不是一個喜歡在廚房里花很多時間的人，所以她沒有時間，也不願意做像克魯蒂餃子這樣的食物。

不得不說，我父親做夢也不會想到作為新年第一訪客，不為人們提供酒水。所以——他會自己拿一瓶酒——至少一瓶——他喜歡喝所有酒飲，比如威士忌或朗姆酒，他會確保他的朋友或鄰居至少拿出一瓶好酒。

最後 - 需要注意的一件事是唱“Auld Lang Syne”的傳統。雖然我們總是會在電視上看到人們唱這首歌，而且我們都熟悉這首歌——至少第一節，不管怎樣——我們不會手挽手地自己唱。在我去過的所有人家中，沒有一家會在鐘聲響起或之後這樣做。我唯一一次這樣做是在酒吧或餐館慶祝新年開始的時候。