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- o Garage sales
- o Local Community Links
- o Cochrane Calendar
- o Cartoon by Elston
- o Obituaries
- o About Us
- o Contact
- o Advertise
- o Eagle Archives
- o Photo Archives

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- o **Sat 8/11/2012:** Water Valley Days
- o **Sat 8/18/2012:** SpringHill annual Show and Shine
- o **Sat 8/25/2012:** Cochrane & District 44th annual Old Tyme Country Fair
- o **Sat 8/25/2012:** Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary & College 25th Anniversary Celebration
- o **Fri 8/31/2012:** Slimdor Ranch Rodeo

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Fraid Knot brings edge to Celtic music

January 25, 2012

By: **Lindsay Seewalt**



Fraid Knot

The feisty fivesome known as Fraid Knot, will be bringing their eclectic Scottish-Celtic-rock sound from Calgary to Cochrane on Jan. 28 to entertain the haggis-bearing, kilt-wearing scotch-drinkers who will be dancing until the wee hours of the following morning.

"We're not super heavy by any means — we tailor it from show to show," said lead guitarist, mandolin and bouzouki player, Glenn Webster.

Each member of the band comes steeped in rich musical experience and history — but only one member comes dressed.

"I'm the only one who wears a kilt and even that depends on my mood," laughed Webster.

The final eve of 2011 marked 11 years as a solid unit for Fraid Knot, who released their second full-length album last St. Patrick's Day, *A Pint O' Trad*, and is gearing up to release their third this coming March 17.

"It's done really well for us — it's getting good media coverage and radio play," said Webster of their 2011 release, adding that being a Celtic band and releasing an album on the annual day dedicated to green beer certainly did them some favours.

Their sound covers the traditional elements of Celtic sounds — including instrumentation such as the accordion, bouzouki, mandolin and tin whistles — but can get edgier and rockier than many of the folk-rooted Celtic groups on the market.

A self-proclaimed 'rocker from way back', Webster settled on Celtic music as his favorite to play, not only because it's a challenging genre — played very fast and with guitar progressions that are opposite from other genres, such as blues, country or rock — but also because of its ability to strike a chord with so many.

"It's really fun and up-tempo," explained Webster. "I like the international ties and the way it almost brings people home. I've had people come up to me at shows with tears in their eyes and tell me how homesick they are."

With the recent addition of bassist Norm Rooke, who replaced their former bass player (who retired a couple months ago), the band will continue to perform with no end in sight.

"It's a fantastic event," said Webster of playing for Cochrane's Robbie Burns Night. "It's one of our favourite gigs of the year."

Robbie Burns Night takes place at the Cochrane RancheHouse on Jan. 28; doors open at 6 p.m.

Learn more about the band at fraidknot.ca.

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