

Scot Pourri



SEND US YOUR INQUIRIES ON LIFE'S LITTLE QUESTION MARKS...

We enjoy them, the readers enjoy them, and some lasting friendships have been made from corresponding through our columns. Please keep your letters brief (under 150 words) to enable us to publish as many requests sent to us as we can. We do reserve the right to edit the content and length of original letters. Letters, photos and other items cannot be returned.

Drop us a line at any of the addresses on page 2, or email to mail@scottishbanner.com or Aus./NZ at info@scottishbanner.com, or visit www.scottishbanner.com.

When e-mailing, remember to include your postal address also, for those who don't have a computer.

I read with some trepidation your article (another one) on Glencoe and the questionable facts as you described them. Firstly, there was no written documentation about the event over 300 years ago save the orders given Capt. Robert Campbell by Major Duncanson. These were found on a bar room table after Capt. Campbell had become drunk again. He was 65 years old, and alcoholic and bankrupt because the Maclans had burned his tenement houses and run off his cattle ergo his reason for being in the military. The orders were very clear that he was to start the carnage at 05:00 and lay to sword everyone under the age of seventy. Failure to obey these orders would be an act of defiance against the Crown and the same would befall him. Secondly, this was as you point out a military operation with the orders initialed twice by King William. It was in NO way a clan vs clan engagement. Lastly, the incident, as many in those barbaric times would never have been an issue had not word of the massacre reached the ears of the Jacobite press some time later in Europe (Spain I believe) and the word got back to the Crown. To do damage control, the local spin doctors of the day concocted a fanciful tale that put the blame on the Campbells and made it look like a clan vs clan incident.

Yours truly
Bruce Campbell
Vancouver, BC
Canada

My great grandparents Peter & Isabella Davidson (nee Gladstone) and their five children all came from Roxburgh, Scotland. They sailed on the 29th July, 1857 on the Victory and arrived in Victoria, Australia on the 4th of November, 1857 in Melbourne and came to Penola, South Australia and lived in Penola all their lives. Isabella died 1884 and Peter Nov 4, 1891.

I would like to hear from any of the Gladstone families who came to Australia.

I do enjoy the Scottish Banner. Keep up the good work, and please find enclosed my subscription for one year.

James Davidson
1 Kilsby Place
Mt. Gambier, South Australia 5290

I am writing to ask for possible pen pals from any reader of the Banner, or from Scotland or Ireland. I am an active pensioner in my late 70's and a widower. My activities are writing (short stories, articles, reviews, letters to pen friends), philosophy, sharing news of the customs, culture, history and music of other countries. I will reply to all letters.

Donald Young
4 Golden Wattle Dr.
Maryborough, Victoria
3465, Australia

Just a note to thank the "Scottish Banner" for the number of items recently in reference to Rosslyn Chapel and some information on the updating and restoration which is under way.

I have fond memories of Rosslyn as I and my wife, Beverly, received the Templar accolades there in the early 1990's from the Grand Prior of Scotland. Please continue to update the progress for at the age of 88 there will be no chance for a return visit for some of us.

James W. Bell, KCTD
Live Oak, Florida. USA

Re: Scot Pourri January 06.

In the January edition, T.J. Erskine asks a question regarding a royal personage for Scotland, entitled "passing through".

I felt inclined to remind readers of the "Banner" that many lads (and lassies) of Scottish origin have risen to leadership away from home.

One of note being James the sixth who went south to re-direct the 'English Problems' developed within the family, but it is my understanding that George of Hanover was a great-grandson of James. of Scotland, and thus a Stewart.

This makes "Good Queen Bess the second," a Stewart also. Furthermore her mother was of purely Scottish origin.

Thus Scotland still has a sovereign seated on what was the English throne (the UK throne nowadays). It is located in London, but she is the Queen of Scotland also.

James Campbell Scott,
Madison Hts.,
MI. USA

On page three of the March "Banner" is an inquiry concerning the Deacon Brodie Tavern in Edinburgh. The answer to the question is "Yes", the Tavern is named for the infamous 18th century Deacon Brodie/thief. Four years ago, I visited the Tavern with my daughter and son-in-law. Around the inner walls is a mural strip pointing out the whole(?) story of The Deacon's life, including his double life, a sure indication that the tavern IS the deacon's namesake. Incidentally the Tavern serves excellent food, also!

Thank you for the opportunity to be of assistance to the questioner, and for the "Scottish Banner" en toto.

Angela Barclay Arnold,
Tullahoma,
Tennessee USA.

I have been given your name in response to an enquiry about my gt aunt, published on a Scottish forum

I am searching for Effie Colven (nee Grant) she married Thomas Colven, he died in 1901 in Ruchill Hospital from Typhoid and I am trying to find out what happened to Effie, where did she go, and also where and when she died.

Is it possible you can help me with this enquiry?

Maud Jarvis.

Ed.note: Any reader with information on this, should send to the Scottish Banner as address was not received with enquiry

As a baby my parents moved to a small area of Scotland called Balinbreigh, by Avonbridge. As a child our parents and took us children on picnics to Wallaces Cave.

To get there we had to go through cow pasture. over railway tracks and a beautiful spot called Wallaces' Cave. This is where he is supposed to have hid from the English soldiers. There was a small cottage there (but n' ben), where my great grand parents lived. Also my grand parents and my dad were born there. I still have to go to that spot every time I go back to Scotland.

The names of my family members are Viviers and Hamilton. My father and brother were named after William Wallace.

To get to the cave you had to come through Westfield first left after the round about. There is a path that takes to the River Avon. The cave is on the left before you cross the bridge. We were taught our Scottish history very well at school. I have been lucky to tour most of Scotland but my heart still loves the history of the lowlands.

My father's family were all coal miners. I am a Scottish war bride. I love Canada - but there is a part of my heart still in Scotland.

J. Hoyum,
Ponoka, Alberta.
Canada.

May I first tell you how much I enjoy getting the "Banner" every month. To a homesick Scotsman it is a treasure.

I would be very interested in finding out if, among your readers, there is anybody from Cowdenbeath in Fife. I myself was born and bred there. In case there is anyone out there who reads this, I was brought up as James Wilson by foster parents, but on joining the Air Force at 17 had to revert back to my birth name of Hunter. It would be nice to share memories with someone from my part of God's country.

Jim Hunter
3/349 Westbury Rd.
Prospect, Tasmania
7250, Australia

Can anyone please tell me what the Clan badge is on Golly's bonnet in the Monarch of the Glen television series? I have one identical in my collection of Clan badges and it has the motto "Pro Rege Et Patria", For King and Country.

Any information most appreciated.

Tony Taylor
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