



Scot Pourri



Send us your inquiries on life's little question marks.

Ever wanted to know what happened to your old pal from home, how to make your favourite Scottish meal, or wondered about a certain bit of Scottish history? Pose your questions on Scottish related topics to our knowledgeable readership who just may be able to help. Our letters page is a very popular and active one and many readers have been assisted across the world by fellow passionate Scots. Please keep letters under 200 words and we reserve the right to edit content and length. Letters, photos and any other items posted to the Scottish Banner cannot be returned. We prefer letters to be emailed to your nearest office or please visit our on line Scotpourri form at <http://www.scottishbanner.com>, alternatively you may post or fax your letters to us. Please ensure you include your full contact details, when emailing it is best to include your post address for those without internet access.

James Dunlop

Reading the Scottish Banner I found an article regarding James Dunlop, the inventor of the pneumatic tyre.

I am wondering if anyone could help? The article states he was born in Ayrshire but did he ever live near the town of Bushmills, County Antrim, Northern Ireland and then at a later date move to Fife in Scotland?

If this is the case, did he have a sister Elizabeth and a brother James who was a medical practitioner?

Any assistance would be most appreciated.

May Wylie

135/178 Lake Road
Elernmore Vale, NSW
2287, Australia

John McDougall Stuart

Among the many remarkable Scot's and their achievements you portrait so well in the "Scottish Banner", one man is missing (and in other Scottish publications as well).

John McDougall Stuart, 7 September, 1815 (Dysart) and died London June 5, 1855.

The most successful and most forgotten explorer in Australia and it seems Scotland as well. What this man endured and achieved is incredible.

We should remember him.

Christine Milton

Unit 2, 74 Alexandra St
East St. Kilda, Victoria
3183, Australia

Island Of Coll Responses

I am taking a moment to thank all the people who wrote to me in regards to my letter query on the Island of Coll (January 2009, "Scottish Banner").

I am so thrilled how many people wrote personally and for the "Scottish Banner" itself for printing it, thank you all very much for your help, I do respect that.

All the best in 2009.

Rose May Aitkenhead
Palmerston North
New Zealand

You can view this month's and several past editions of Scotpourri online at www.scottishbanner.com and see why this is one of the most popular pages!

Family Tree Connections

Wonderful Scot Pourri has done it yet again! Well done. My letter requested information about the Moffat family. Since its publication I have received two - yes two "connections" from different branches of this family. Thank you for having this valuable service for the likes of me.

I still have not solved the problem of Jessie McCombie b.c1820-1826 Elgin Moray who married Robert Murray Moffat in St. Cuthbert's Edinburgh Midlothian on 3 June 1842.

They and their six children departed Glasgow on 5 May 1866 on board the "Maryborough," bound for Brisbane, Queensland. I would love to be able to find out Jessie's actual date of birth and who her parents were.

I initially asked for a "Wee Small Miracle" and so far you have given me two. I live in hope. Thanks again.

Betty Smeulders

Australia

betty266@bigpond.com

Memories of Three Bishop Terrace Brae

Regarding the article by Kay Lucas, Memories of Three Bishop Terrace Brae (February 2009).

My gran and grandpa live in 2 Bishop Terrace Brae. He also hired rowing boats. His names was James G. Taylor. The Kettle Drum is still in use.

Helen Braidotti

USA

Email:

hbbute@warwick.net

Scottish Program 3ZZZ Melbourne, Australia

Just a couple of snippets of interest about Program Na-Alba - The Scottish Program heard on 3ZZZ 92.3 FM on Monday nights from 11:00 pm - 12 Midnight.

In the recent annual radiothon for 3ZZZ the Scottish program received not one, but two awards for our participation. We received a certificate:-

2nd for Highest Amount raised per Hour - \$2,932 - (minimum is \$1,000 per hour) and another certificate:- 1st for Highest % increase - (98%). I would like to let the Banner know these fantastic results along with my thanks for this wonderful support from the Scottish Community to the program.

The station is having its annual membership drive in May and perhaps some people out there may like to join the Scottish program to keep it happening.

Also, if people would like to listen to the program, which is for Scots and those of Scottish heart - but don't live in or around Melbourne- they can access the program on:- www.3zzz.com.au. Scroll down to Scottish in the list and enjoy the hour.

Many thanks,

Bev Tait

Scottish Program 3ZZZ

Melbourne, Australia

Family of Duncan Gardner

I wonder if anyone can give me information on my uncle and aunt who emigrated to Edmonton, Alberta in Canada in the late 1950's. They had 2 daughters, not sure of their names. My Uncle's name was Duncan Gardner, his wife's was Josephine Gardner. I would love to know what happened to my cousins, my parent's and theirs are now both deceased. Any information would be fantastic.

Jane Fisher nee Gardner

Australia

Email:

janemax@netspace.net.au

Doig Family Society Gatherings

The Doig Family Society (founded 2004) has regular gatherings our next one is in Edinburgh, Scotland 24th -26th July 2009 On the 24th at 10am -10pm at St. John's Church Hall Princes Street, Edinburgh and on the 25th & 26th at The

Gathering in Holyrood Park including the pageant.

Next year we will be in Perth, Ontario, Canada, we have many Doigs in the U.S.A and Canada and we have two websites www.doig.net and www.doigsden.co.uk I would be grateful for a mention in The Scottish Banner.

Doig Motto -Yield Not To Adversity (Na gèill do chruaidh-chas).

John A. Doig

Secretary of the Doig

Family Society

Scotland

Email: John@doigsden.co.uk

Ness Family Search

I would like to find out about my father's friend John or Robert (Bob) Ness.

Mr. Ness was in the Cameron Highlanders with my father Tommy Bone. He was much younger than my father.

My father Tommy was friendly with the Ness family and I imagine that Mr. Ness would be in his late 70's. He lived in Dumfermline, Fife in 1940. The only address I have for him is that he lived in a group of houses near the old greyhound track, opposite the road to Dollar Saline. I think there was a co-operative store on the junction and it was opposite the milk distribution centre. My father's kilt, opened out, covered Mrs. Ness's double bed, there was seven yards of material. My father died in 1971 at Kilmichail, Scotland. I am hoping someone remembers the Ness family. Any information can be sent to:

Thomas Bone

4 Keen Ave

Warrandyte, Victoria

3113, Australia

E m a i l : jameson@bigblue.net.au

or Tel: 613 9844 3972.

Bring Mary Home

I am so glad to read in my "Banner" that there is a movement to bring my heroine, Mary Stewart home. I have always objected to her being in England amongst her enemies. James (her son) didn't do much in his mother's favour, this included.

Queen Mary should be re-interred at the Falklands Palace amongst her kin. Poor Mary was manipulated by all the wrong people from the day she was born.

My home town is only a few miles from Linlithgow Palace. As a child I used to play there around the loch.

Please, please let's get this movement going. I am going home this June-July. You know what they say "you can take the girl out of Scotland but you cannot take Scotland out of the girl". Aye, that's the truth!

Keep up the good work. I love my "Banner" and I pass it on to an old Scottish lady friend.

Elizabeth(Snedden)O'Keefe

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San Diego, CA 92120 USA

National Service

It seems we all have different opinions on when conscription ended.

My apprenticeship, April the 6th 1960, I got my call up papers about the end of April. I went to Catterick on the 1st of September and was supposed to be Demobed on the end of August 1962 but ended up with an extra six months when they started putting up the Berlin wall. A guy in my Troop was one of the last National Servicemen called up and his call up date was the end of October 1960. Most of the guys in my troop were national service. I was in the Royal Signals, and in a town called Hertford by a river called the Weser. I know it was not a dream and I am absolutely sure it ended at the end of October 1960.

Cameron Gill

Canada

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teeupgolf@sympatico.ca

Sept Tartans

Please, if you could, I'm looking for affirmation that the information I've collected, all from very reliable sources, is correct. It concerns the history of the tartan, and how they came to be. I know the tartan, itself, has been around for hundreds of years. But I also know, and have been

told many times, that the sept tartans were not actually part of the distant past, but recent. That not until the 19th century were those sept tartans chosen and registered as such by the clan chiefs. (I am not speaking of regimental tartans, at all. But Clan....sept tartans.)

In fact, I've been told that most of the chiefs just chose a pattern and colour that they, themselves, often wore and enjoyed, then attached their seal to make it official, all in the early part of the 19th century.

If any reader has any information on this I would appreciate it.

Thank you so much!

Nadine Alldridge

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Chatto Family

I was reading Lady Fiona Mac Gregor's page from "The Borderlands" in the February issue of The Banner. I noted with interest that there was mention in the last column on page 5, of reiving names celebrations and a gathering of Border Clans in the town of Langholm.

My niece has been doing some family research on the name of "Chatto" for some time. In addition I have a copy of the book, "Blacks Surnames of Scotland" which states that the name is old in Scotland and goes back to the 12th century in The Borders near Langholm. There are place names of "Nether Chatto" and "Upper Chatto". The name Chatto is also listed as a place name in "The AA Road Atlas of Scotland".

I have searched the 1829 Census of Scotland and found a family of Chatto living in Glasgow and several others of the same name, living in Ayrshire. I am wondering if anyone may be able to advise any further information on the name Chatto.

Any assistance or advice would be sincerely appreciated.

Allan Chatto

Sydney, NSW, Australia

Email:

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