

# Scot Pourri



## Long Lost Friend

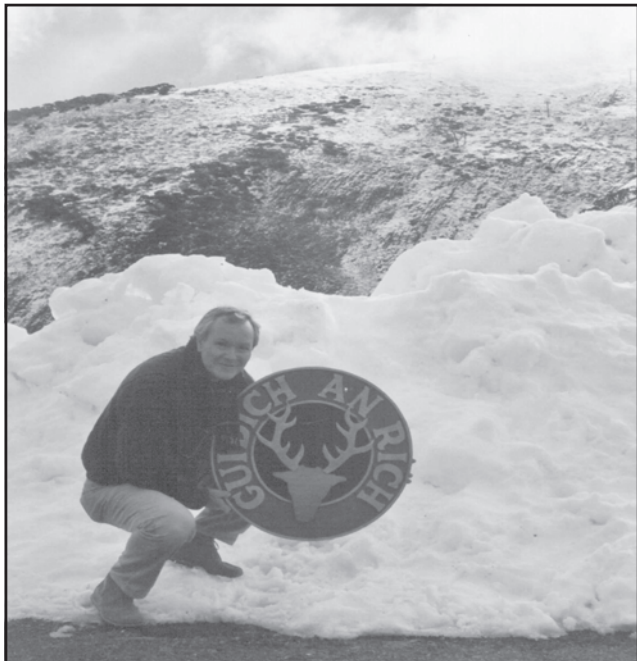
My name is Ruby Egan, maiden name Cowan and on a visit to Canada, read a copy of your Scottish Banner. Having read your Scot Pourri, thought I'd try to find my long lost friend.

I have returned to the U.K. after thirty five year in South Africa and would dearly love to hear from anyone knowing my friends whereabouts, her last known details are as follows: -

Betty Marshall  
1065 Duke Street  
Dennistoun  
Glasgow

We were together in Birmingham, Michigan during 1957 till 1959. We saw each other in Scotland after that and then lost touch. Betty has a sister, Sadie and brother Douglas. Her parents, Frank & Mattie. Any information would be gratefully received.

Contact me on:  
[rubbyegan@btinternet.com](mailto:rubbyegan@btinternet.com)  
Or: - 15 Kingsbrook  
Corby Northants  
NN18 9HY, England  
Regards  
Ruby Egan (nee Cowna)



After attending a great weekend at the Clan Mackenzie Gathering in Albury NSW (April 21-23) at the Lake Hume Resort, my wife and I decided to come home over the Great Alpine way, over the top of Mt Hotham. It was like a glimpse of Scotland when we hit the snow.

We left "Loch Hume" and headed up Mt Hotham in the "Highlands", we couldn't resist a photo with the Mackenzie Clan badge in the snow.

It was great finish to our Clan weekend. I get the Banner each month to keep up to date with the coming events and news.

All the best,  
David Mackenzie Frankston, Victoria, Australia

## Nessie Does Exist

To Rose May Aitkinhead of Palmerston North, NZ( May 06 Scottish Banner). I can assure you that "Nessie" the Loch Ness Monster is alive and well. We lived on the shores of Loch Ness for 10 years and I can assure you there is a "beast" in the loch. It was a calm day and my neighbour and I spotted a huge wash on the water, a long neck with a small head appeared out of the water and followed by two humps. I was interviewed by a naturalist from London who was very interested in what I reported. He and his crew guessed I had seen a prehistoric monster that he names "plesiosaurs". There are more than one so they are breeding in the loch and have been seen by the monks at the abbey in Fort Augustus.

Mrs E Christie  
61 Emu Creek Rd.  
Crows Nest, Queensland  
4355, Australia

## Searching for Ancestors

I have been receiving the Scottish Banner since my wife and I attended the 2005 Edinburgh Tattoo in Sydney and read with interest the many articles that appear in your paper.

William Cochrane born 15 Feb. 1820, Girvan, Scotland who immigrated to Australia is my great uncle. His father was William Cochrane born Girvan 1776 and his mother's maiden name was Margaret Dick born in Kirkoswald, Scotland 1782. As a family genealogist I would like to obtain details of his family.

If any reader has any information I would be indeed grateful.

E.T Cochrane  
14 Poplar St. Gleniti,  
Timaru 8601 New Zealand

## Medal Question

Among items left by my late father-in-law were two medals, one of which just has the letters 'R' and 'T' intertwined on the front and nothing on the back. The other has no writing on the front and is inscribed on the back as follows.

R.I. B.T.  
2ND PRIZE WON BY  
D. WEBSTER 1916  
He was born in 1905 so would have been 10 or 11 when he won it and probably living in the Falkirk area. Has anyone any idea of its significance?  
Joyce Webster, Australia  
Email: [bottlesquash-scotland@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bottlesquash-scotland@yahoo.com.au)

## Need your help Ron!

Dear Mr. Dempsey,  
I'm a long time subscriber to the Scottish Banner and have always enjoyed your column. So interesting, all those names and origins. It's a great paper and I always look forward to its arrival and then pass it on to my daughter.

I've been promising my family for a long time that I would ask you about a couple of family names. I hail from the county of Angus and my maiden name was ESPLIN. It doesn't sound Scottish and my mother's maiden name was HOVELL. Can you give me any information on the origin of these names? I

will watch your column for any results. Keep up the good work.

Mrs. Chris Donaldson  
76 Brock St. South  
Perth, ON K7H 2A1  
Canada

## Searching for Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association

I am wondering if any reader of your great paper may be able to assist me with the address of the Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association. I am told that Dane Love, the president lives near Cumnock, Ayrshire.

My ancestor William Riddell was in the Battle of Bothwell Bridge 22nd of June 1679, he is on the list of wanted for treason, but his fate remains a mystery-and that of his family.

Any information would be great.  
Geoff Riddell  
17 Mill St.  
Kyneton, Victoria  
3444, Australia

## Wee Dundonians Wanted

I'm a senior and hope this makes it for DUNDONIANs out there who were at PARKPLACE PRIMARY SCHOOL 1940-47. Mr. Bell was Headmaster & classmates included :Brian Donaldson/David Gibson/Dora Wishart/Joyce Smart.

S.HURT  
363 Melanie Ave.  
Kingston, Onatrio  
K7M 8B4 CANADA  
E-MAILnhurt@cogeco.ca

## Old School Chums Sought

I would love to contact old school chums who went to Garnethill C o n v e n t School, Glasgow from 1932 to 1934. I'm coming back to Bonny Scotland in September to celebrate my 86th Birthday and could contact them if still living in Glasgow. Love your paper which my daughter receives.

Thank you.  
May Callaghan  
1478 Church Street  
San Francisco, CA  
94131, USA  
Email:  
[mariamaysie@aol.com](mailto:mariamaysie@aol.com)

## 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](mailto:mail@scottishbanner.com) or Aus./NZ at [info@scottishbanner.com](mailto:info@scottishbanner.com), or visit [www.scottishbanner.com](http://www.scottishbanner.com).

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

## Rainbow Over Glen Innes

On looking at your photographs regarding the highland gathering at Glen Innes this year and on the front cover the Ring of Brodgar in the Orkney's, I was reminded about what happened at last years festival at Glen Innes. In the middle of the Standing Stones the ceremony of the Kirkin of the Tartans or the blessing of the tartans was taking place on the Sunday after noon and an Irish priest invited everyone to say the lords prayer in what ever language they wanted as there were lots of different celts there from different countries. It was a lovely bright sunny



Rainbow around the Sun at the Glen Innes Standing Stones in Australia

day and warm for that time of the year especially in Glen Innes, all the tartans had been placed in the middle of the stones, the flags of every Celtic nation were fluttering in a light breeze, but as everyone had their heads bowed saying the prayer a fine mist came rolling up the hill putting a light blanket of mist over the whole scene. At the completion of the prayer I looked up as did most other people and we were amazed to see a complete ringed rainbow around the sun immediately over the standing stones. It was a very moving moment for all of us there, the hairs on the back of my head stood up on end and I know from the comments around me so did most folks feel that god was surely with us that day.

I took my camera out and placed my sunglasses over the lens to take the picture as I did not have any filters with me but was still pleased with the photo I had taken, I have included the photo in this letter. I was surprised that it was not mentioned in the Banner after the games as it made a special event even more special for all who witnessed it.

I don't know if god is a Celt or not but after that experience I know he must like us.

Yours Aye  
Jim McGregor  
Australia

## Searching for Morrisons

I need help in finding out if I am of Scottish decent or not. I can trace my ancestors to a Thomas Morrison who swore allegiance to the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1777 in Henry County. Beyond that, it just speculation. Through the Clan Morrison Society DNA project, I have discovered two "cousins" in Colorado. Their names are Beth Morrison Eha and Clinton Norman Morrison. They can trace their ancestors to William Morrison who lived in Frederick County, Virginia and was born about 1768. Before these dates, we have no hard information. If anyone can help us make a connection beyond that, we would appreciate it.

Reply to Wade Morrison, 4609 Hillbrook Dr. Annandale, Virginia 22003, USA, email [wade22003@msn.com](mailto:wade22003@msn.com)