

# Scot Pourri



## The Bride has the Scottish Touch



In response to your request for special events that involves a Scottish touch, I would like to inform you of my wedding. Enclosed is a photo of my wedding that occurred 26 November, 2005 at the Windmill Gardens in Rockbank, Victoria.

My wife Julijana Petrovic (now Ormiston) is an Australian/Croatian and our wedding was a mixture of Australia, Croatian and Scottish. In this photo you have 3 ex army pipers, myself (with my wife trying to answer the age old question of a Scotsman and his kilt), ex 5/6 Battalion Royal Victorian Regiment, my bestman Bill Ramsey (ex Royal Scots) and my piper and brother in law Ian Gould (also ex 5/6 Battalion Royal Victorian Regiment).

The tartan is Gordon (my Regiment). Our marriage celebrant was the minister Tim Costello and all the place cards had writing in English, Croatian and Gaelic. The St Andrews Cross and Croatian flags were hung above the bridal table.

I must admit I was very proud to be Scottish and thought to myself how lucky and fun loving Scots are especially when you see all the kilts dancing to a Croatian band in a replica Dutch Windmill in Australia.

Donald R Ormiston, Melton, Victoria, Australia

## To Change or Not to Change?

A terrific editorial about the Black Watch! It's a much different perspective than I've heard from other sources, and probably the one most accurate. Good research and great writing. It's only human to resist change, and our Scottish heritage almost demands that we resist change to preserve our great traditions. After all, "Nothing could be better than the way we always done things!" But we live in a world that is constantly changing and those who survive know how to change and adapt. We've seen Scottish publications come and go, but you've been able to maintain this great publication and preserve both its quality and content focus. We all must change to things that can help us move forward. I am a trustee of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, an organization familiar to you because you have attended our Highland Games, the oldest continuous such event in North America, this year celebrating our 157th year. In all that time, don't you think that we would have changed from a benevolent organization to a 501(c)(3) charity? The majority of our members have resisted this for the past four years but some of us continue to press for this status change which more appropriately reflects our mission and purpose. Another vote on the matter will be taken this year. A future article in the Banner might deal with how many such organizations have sought this charitable status. I promise to update you on this and will continue to read your great writing. Please never change the quality of the Scottish Banner!

Bob Giles  
Email: bobgiles@wowway.com, Detroit, USA

## Scottish Correspondence Wanted

I am of Scot descent and would like to exchange letters or e-mails with any Stewarts, MacFarlanes, or Campbells. My gggrandfather, Alexander Stewart was born in Balacastle, Borenick, Scotland and I can find very little on these places online. His father was Peter/Patrick Stewart born at Blair Athol, Perthshire, SCT and although I can find info on Perthshire, Blair Athol eludes me.

Alexander came to Nova Scotia in 1801 after marrying Margaret MacFarlane in 1800 and his son Peter was born at Near Pictou, Nova Scotia in 1802, and my gggrandfather Alexander Campbell Stewart was born in Nova Scotia in 1839.

So much for this branch, but, that is the reason I'd love to correspond with someone in the above areas of Scotland so I can get a feel of what it was like back then, since I can't come over to Scotland.

Thank you,  
Margaret Sessions  
1863 Maple Drive  
Fort Myers, Florida,  
33907-2326, USA

## Hunch Cuddie Hunch

During the 1930's we played a similar game at the East Perth State School W.Aust. but it was boys only as we were segregated during the School breaks. Two Captains were appointed and they took it in turn to pick their team. This ensured that the teams were fairly even in strength. We knew it by the name of "High Cock a Lorum". When a Team was in place the other Team members would then leap onto their backs as far along the team as possible. When they were in place "Riders" they would then sing, "High Cock a Lorum Jig Jig Jig have you ever seen a Monkey riding on a Pig. 1 2 3". During that time they would be vigorously trying to break the line of the Team under them. If the bottom Team held the Teams would then change places. If not then the top Team would have another go. As far as I can remember no-one was ever hurt. Somewhere in one of Europe's Art Galleries there is a painting of a typical Village scene and in the bottom right corner there are a group of Boys playing a similar game.

Eric Graham  
Merriwa, Western Australia

## Bagging Munros of the Genealogical Kind

Donald Munro born 1844 in Tain, Scotland, went to New Zealand and married Catherine Gee. Their family included George, Kenneth, James, William and Anne Menzies Munro. Donald's second marriage was to Mary McIvor in 1885 in Blenheim. Their family was Janet, Dick, Katrina and Robert. Donald's parents were Kenneth Munro and Anne Menzies. Siblings were Margaret, George, Catherine, Jemima, Caroline, Kenneth, Anne and William, all born in Tain. I am descended from George who came to Canada in 1892. I would be interested in corresponding with descendents of any member of this family by email at sherlockjj@sympatico.ca or by mail at;

Jean Olajos  
R.R. #4, 1719 -6th Line  
Peterborough, ON, Canada  
K9J 6X5

## Looking for Old Scots Friends

I Left Scotland in 1949, attended Larbert High School till then. Thereafter lived in Hong Kong and travelled greatly about the globe before settling in Australia at, now, Bonnells Bay in New South Wales.  
Any old Scots friends out there?

Bill (Billy) McCall Bonnells Bay, Australia Email:  
wmcalls@aapt.net.au No Address Supplied

## 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.

## About Beethoven (In Scotland Today Dec 05)

It would be over 50 years ago, but one day I was walking across the quad at my grammar school in Auckland and through a window I could hear somebody playing a Scottish air. I had been raised on Scottish jigs, reels and strathspeys by my Scottish father, and was rather curious why one of our teachers would play such a piece. I went to the assembly hall to investigate and discovered the teacher was playing an "Eccossaise" by Beethoven. It would be many years later when I studied music myself, and became a piano teacher and learned more about composers and their music and looked to find out more about Eccossaise. My Penguin Dictionary of Music tells me Eccossaise (French) is a sort of country dance cultivated by Beethoven and other composers. Although meaning Scottish, it apparently is not of Scottish origin.

Nonsense! Beethoven has captured the Scottish lilt perfectly in his dances, and I am sure the learned professors who write these dictionaries have, this time, got it wrong. If the teenager I was at that time felt the familiar flicker in her heart, and rhythm in her head that Scottish music always gave her, without being aware that the composer was who he was, Beethoven must indeed have had a feeling for Scottish music and for this I respect him all the more.

Alison Masters  
Rotorua  
New Zealand

## Heathrow, D-Throw!

In reference to the "Fly to Braveheart Scotland (?)" article in "In Scotland Today" April 2006 issue, Scottish MP Tommy Sheridan wants to rename Glasgow International Airport to William Wallace International Airport.

As a bagpiper, I suggest the airport be renamed D-Throw Airport.

Yours aye,  
David Inglis  
Pointe Claire, Quebec  
Canada

## "The Ballad of the Deluge"

Much to my shame, I have only recently discovered "The Scottish Banner".

I have lived in Australia for over 43 years now, and although I have tried various places in Scotland, e.g. the Mitchell Library in Glasgow, I have been unsuccessful in finding the words of what I consider to be a wonderful 'Scottish Poem'.

The title of this Poem is "The Ballad of the Deluge", and it was taught to me by my Great Aunt around the late 1930's to the middle 1940's. I would greatly appreciate any help I could get from your Readers who might know the poem and the words. In an effort to help, the first verse begins thus :-

"The Lord took a staw at Mankind,  
a righteous and nataral scunner,  
for they were neither tae haud nor tae bide,  
and were frichted nae mair wi his thunner.

They had pitten his Saints tae the sword,  
They had broken il edict and Law,  
They had worshiped faus idols oh stane,  
"I will thole this nae mair" said the Lord.

This is all I can remember of the Poem, and I'm not all that sure of the accuracy of my spelling, however I hope there is enough information there to help a prospective supplier to help me.

Many thanks for your assistance.  
Bill Smillie, Australia

Gracing our cover, the Ring of Brodgar, Orkney,  
Courtesy of Britain on view