



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.

Bonnie Prince Charlie

After reading the April edition of Scot Pourri, re "Bring Mary Home", it reminded me of a movie.

I have just returned from a holiday in Vancouver, BC, in March 09 where I went to the movies there and saw the movie "Stone of Destiny" where the Scots brought the "Stone" back to Scotland from England. It was educational, funny and romantic.

It said at the end the "Stone" will stay in Scotland until the next coronation, I don't think so.

When I was on holiday in Rome, I stopped by where the Pope was laid to rest and just a short distance away I was really surprised to see the coffin of Bonnie Prince Charlie, where he was laid to rest and facing his mother's coffin was.

Here is a photo that I have taken where he is laid to rest. It says on his coffin his name. Eideard Stiubairt Tearlach, he was born in Rome.

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(born in Glasgow)
Adelaide, South Australia
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John McDougall Stuart

In reply to Christine Milton of East St Kilda in the April 2009 Edition Scot Pourri, Re: John McDougall Stuart:

I clearly remember learning about Stuart in primary school as being one of Australia's greatest explorers. Indeed there is a major highway, 'The Stuart Highway', which runs from Adelaide to Alice Springs- then on to Darwin which basically means it goes from top to bottom of Australia. It is 3,200 kilometers long "John McDougall Stuart, one of the most important people associated with South Australian exploration, was born in Dysart, Fifeshire, Scotland, on 7 September 1815.

Educated in Edinburgh, he attended the Scottish Naval and



Coffin of Bonnie Prince Charlie

Military Academy and graduated as a civil engineer. He arrived in South Australia in January 1839 and soon found work as a surveyor. Within a short time he bought his own instruments and horses and started out in business for himself.

In 1843 he became a farmer but already was an excellent bushman and restless adventurer. After a year of farming he was glad to join Stuart's 1844 expedition. During this expedition they were stuck in the desert for six months. James Poole died and Stuart became second in command, drawing most of the maps as Stuart was almost blind. It was eighteen months later when they reached Adelaide again.

Stuart's greatest achievement was the south-north crossing of the continent and back in 1861-62. The party, which included, among others, 19 year old John William Billiatt and Stephen King, left Adelaide on 26 October, 1861, and reached the Indian Ocean on 24, July, 1862.

As a result of this journey, the opening up of the Northern Territory was made possible, and a route discovered for an Overland Telegraph Line linking South Australia

with England and the rest of the world in 1872.

The name Alexandra Land, which Stuart would have liked for the Northern Territory, was never used. The transcontinental highway still bears his name. Stuart Terrace, Stuarts Well, Stuart Town, Stuart Park, Stuart Caravan Park and Central Mount Stuart are all named after John McDougall Stuart. Stuart is buried in the Kensal Green Cemetery, London, England.

L Webb
Greystanes, NSW
Australia

Ed note: Thank you for your input and insight into some great Scottish Australian history.

Great Uncle Poona

While researching my ancestors, I found some mysteries, which perhaps some "Scottish Banner" readers may help unravel.

Great grandma Julia Kennedy West was born in Jamaica. Went to Edinburgh in 1869 to marry Robert Napier. They had 11 children. The eldest girl, my Grandma married David Scott., he had a brother born 1872 and called Poonamallee Rahjagopal. He grew up to be a lawyer and changed his name to Paul

(as one would).

Any news on either great grandma's family or descendants of Great Uncle Poona would be greatly appreciated.

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Important New Find in Caley Archives

In the 19th century there was fierce competition for places at the Schools ~ with an interesting way of filling them.

Wealthy Scots in Scotland and London became Guardians by donating 10 guineas (£10.50 of today's currency but worth a great deal more than that now) and could then both nominate pupils and vote on which should be accepted. We have recently located copies of many of these 19th century Petitions which contain very interesting information not only of those nominated but also for those who were not accepted. We estimate that we now have

important information on a further 250 Scottish children who were nominated but not admitted.

The Caley holds comprehensive records dating back to 1825, including the files of nearly all students who attended the Schools from 1825 to 1996 and we are gradually cataloguing the collection - which means more information of help to genealogists. We now have a member of staff who specializes in this type of enquiry and she has already produced a database with the names and attendance dates of over 3,500 scholars from 1825-1996.

We ask for a donation of £25 towards the costs of our visiting Bushey Museum where the archives are stored, and for copying and supplying copies. But first contact Jo Parish, who deals with these enquiries, stating exactly what you are looking for. Her email address is Jo@rcst.org.uk.
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Colne Way, Watford, Herts
WD24 7ND, England
Tel: + 44(0)1923 215350
Email: admin@rcst.org.uk
Website:
www.rcst.org.uk

Scots of the World Unite!

In a unique initiative Trees4Scotland has teamed up with The Gathering 2009 to plant a new woodland in Scotland's central Highlands.

Not only will this fantastic project become a living monument to The Clan Gathering (www.thegathering2009.com) and a legacy of the 'Year of Homecoming' but will also enhance Scotland's natural landscape and help in the fight against global warming!

With trees from only £10 it could not be easier to get involved and anyone planting five trees

or more will get their name placed up on the onsite honours board.

Our ultimate aim is for every visitor to Scotland take a positive action and plant a tree. So far we have been massively encouraged by the support that we have received - especially from the many Clan groups and societies in all parts of the world."

All of the trees planted will be native varieties such as oak, birch, ash and rowan as this project aims to restore part of Scotland's landscape back to its natural woodland state. This in turn will encourage the regeneration of wildlife habits, and have the additional benefit of combating climate change.

For further information please visit www.teaghlachwood.com
Angus Crabbie
Trees4Scotland
Teaghlach Wood,
Highland Perthshire,
Scotland

Thanks Ron!

First of all thank you to Ron Dempsey for the explanation of the Proudfoot name. I will surely pass it on to my neighbor.

Thanks for publishing a most informative newspaper about Scotland. I've learned so much about my parents homeland, and the paper has brought together many of my unknown cousins. Next Saturday, May 16th, my "boys" (young men) and I will be attending in Fair Hill, MD, The Delaware Highland Games. We are praying for a clear day, as we've had a deluge of rain every day since Sunday.

Being a true Scot, we'll go in the rain anyway!

Thanks again,
Mary Blackhall White
USA

Ed note: Thanks for taking the time to write Mary. Our resident name hunter Ron Dempsey loves getting reader inquiries from around the world, so if any other readers are stumped about a surname and its origins please write to Ron care of the "Scottish Banner". Ron's article *What's in a Name* proudly appears in the "Scottish Banner" each month.

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!