

Scot Pourri



A Blether And A Wee Chat

We are expats living in Brisbane, Australia. We emigrated in 1986. We live at Buccan, but both of us are from Hamilton (Scotland).

It has been 11 years since we were back home.

We would like anybody who is interested in contacting others from the old country, to contact us so that we can have a blether and a laugh. Cheers to you,
Joe & Marion Canning
Brisbane,
Queensland
Australia
Email:
marion@antennasanywhere.com

Adam Craig

I am an avid reader of the "Scottish Banner" and thank you for an excellent paper.

We were travelling in the South of Australia on one of our many visits to your beautiful country, and before we reached Melbourne, along the road side, we noticed a sign saying 'Craig Road'.

My great grandfather emigrated to somewhere in Australia in the late 1800's, with his sister Christina.

He left his girlfriend behind as she refused to go with him. However, after he left, she discovered that she was pregnant, but she had no further contact with him and so he was not aware that he left behind a Craig son—who was my grandfather.

Unfortunately not much was known by my generation on his past in Australia.

I would be very much interested where Adam had settled in Australia and if, perchance, the Craig Road had been named after him.

Mary Craig
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Buchan Family History Book

I have been preparing the family history of my great grandmother Eliz-

abeth Buchan (1892-1973), "The Buchan Family History Book". Her cousin, Isabella Ann Taylor, (1872-1950), daughter of Mary Buchan and James Taylor, married Alexander Watson Wilson (1868-1909), at Aberdeen on 6th September 1899.

Their son, Alexander Watson Wilson (1904-1983), married Margaret Shernoff (1904-1980), 31st July 1925 at Aberdeen. They had a daughter, Isabella Taylor Wilson, born 13th May, 1932 who married Andrew George Maxwell in December 1951 at All Saints Episcopal Church, Aberdeen. They had the following children; Marilyn (1954), Andrew (1952), Mary (1954), (Vanessa, Belinda and Stewart, birth dates unknown. They moved from Aberdeen to Corby. In 1965 Andrew and Isabella and third child emigrated to Whyalla, Australia.

I would like to trace Andrew, Isabella, and their descendants to complete my Buchan Family history.

Any help or information would be gratefully appreciated.
David Stephen Rennie
69 Finlayson St.
Fraserburgh
Aberdeenshire, AB43 9JO
Scotland.

Searching for Sgt. Slaven's Family

I am searching for information regarding the family of Sgt. Slaven who originated from Aberdeenshire.

I would like to get in touch with any family members.

I lost touch with his family after the notification of his failure to return from a bombing raid in 1944. I tried locating the family through the librarian at UDN council who was very helpful but could not enlighten me as to where I could get the information.

Can't Miss My Banner

You cannot imagine my shock when I received our reminder card and thought that I might not get my "Banner".

I so look forward to it coming and would not know what to do without it. I have been a subscriber for a very long time now and sometimes life gets just too busy that we let the important things slide by.

I would just like to say that I do miss some of the article writers that I have come to know so well, however, the "Banner" is still wonderful with the new additions and all the news from the 'ole country'.

Keep up the good work "Banner"/
Dorothy Browne.
Centennial Road,
West Hill, Ontario.
Canada.

Ed. note: We too are sorry that some of our dearest writers have departed.
Molly Weir, Nigel Tranter, Charlie Mill. Gone but never, never, forgotten!

Happy St Andrews Day to all our Readers, Advertisers, and Friends.

Peebleshire Family History

Thank you for producing such a wonderfully informative newspaper.

We have been subscribing to the "Banner" for (approx) twelve months.

I really enjoy the "View From The Borderlands" because I am trying to gain a deeper understanding of my family history. Peebleshire seems to be an important start point.

I would be most grateful for any advice readers may be able to offer which might help me through the minefield of genealogists.

I really would like to make contact with people within the County who might have more than just a mercenary interest. Kind regards to all,
Neville Horsburgh
Australia
Email:
nevillehorsburgh@ozemail.com.au

Hunting for Hunters

I have been trying for sometime now to complete most of my family tree by tracing my Grandfather's lineage. His name is Thomas Hunter and he was born in Belfast, Ireland in 1878 and died in Glasgow, Scotland in 1933. I believe he is buried in Glasgow's Craighton Cemetery.

My Grandmother Margaret Hunter (nee Kane) was born in Beith or Kilbirnie, in Ayrshire in 1879 and died in 1904. She is buried in Kilbirnie. Grandmother Hunter had a brother named Alex Kane who lived in Chicago, Illinois and another brother who lived in Woodstock, Ontario, Canada. Grandfather Hunter re-married after my Grandmother died. Two sons, Tom and Robert, were born from this marriage. Tom was a Galvanizer to trade and died in 1955/56. Tom's wife's name was Betty. Robert was in the Cameron Highlanders and died in 1945.

Any information that

John Bennie .
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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.

would help me continue my search would be greatly appreciated.

Norman Hunter
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Thanks for the Banner!

Dear Valerie,

I am so glad to have the Scottish Banner arrive at my house.

We are surrounded by Scots - Irish here in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of South Western North Carolina.

You and the Scottish Banner were instrumental in my wife, Sally, and myself meeting Lady Colquhoun several years ago, a very lovely and gracious Lady.

Your readers from all over the world have helped a lot also, and we have enjoyed reading the many letters from all over.
George Cowan.
Lake Toxaway,
North Carolina, USA.

Ed. note: Thank you George - and we love bringing you the "Banner" each month. It's a wonderful world of 'Scottishness' that we all share. So glad you enjoyed meeting Lady Colquhoun!

More About Midges

It was interesting to hear a reader mention the "Midges"

Another one of the same ilk is "The Wee Kirkudbright Centipede", the only ones I have heard singing that is "Steam Jenny", it's a real 'stottar'.

However, back to the

The Story of Greyfriars Bobby

Gracing our cover this month is Greyfriars' Bobby, one of the most famous of Edinburgh's 'street people' through the ages.

Bobby was a famous police dog who refused to leave the gravesite of his master John Gray when he died.

John Gray was a constable who died in 1858 while policing a Wednesday Market in Edinburgh. Bobby stayed at his master's grave in Greyfriars Cemetery for 14 years waiting for his return. Throughout his

Midges. The song was written by Kenneth McKellar. He was once giving a concert in Oban, Scotland, and was bemused by the Piper [Torquil, a giant of a man] playing at the door of the hall to welcome the audience. Apparently he was trying to play the pipes one handed, using the other to swat off the Midges. I am not sure if the Midges won, but the concert was a great success.

David Keith
Bendigo, Victoria
Australia

Can You Help?

Can your readers help me locate Mary Alexander's sisters' family who immigrated from Scotland to Australia?

Mary Alexander married Andrew Morrison, (my great grand-parents.)

The sister, Marion Alexander, (born 1835), married James Logan. I believe their children were John., James, Robert, William, Bruce, Jessie, and Mary.

In 1914, a Jamie Logan, wrote to my grandfather. In his letter he refers to Marion as his mother. This James Logan has children named Marion James, Mary Jessie, Minnie, May, Colin. Although the handwriting and the names are unfamiliar. I believe the address is Holidow, Toowamba, Queensland, Australia.

Thank you for your interesting newspaper - such a cohesive method of keeping the descendants of immigrant Scots connected.

Lois Kerslake
Calgary,
Alberta. Canada

long wait for his master, Bobby was fed by locals. As the years went by, the word went around about the wee dog.

As the word grew, so more of the locals took it upon themselves to feed him. Bobby eventually died, and there is now a statue at nearby George IV Bridge to commemorate the loyal wee dog. His statue attracts many guided tour groups visiting the city from all over the world.

This month marks the anniversary of Bobby's death. **Photo: S. Cairney**