



# 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.

### Keepin Scotland Alive!

I just received my copy today! I do look forward to receiving your paper each month. I am enclosing an form for a gift subscription for a Happy Birthday gift for my aunt. I know she will enjoy the paper as much as I do. My father was born in Kirkintilloch. Since he has now gone the "Banner" keeps my Scottish pride alive. The person I am ordering for now is my Dad' younger sister, and I know she will love it as much as I do. Thank you for keeping a wee bit of Scotland alive for me each month.

Maureen (Carr) Taranto,  
Windsor,  
Ontario, Canada

### Balmoral Bread

A reader was looking for information on "Balmoral Bread". Chalmers Bakery is a family run craft bakers, holding three royal warrants supplying fresh bakery products throughout the Northeast, including the famous Balmoral Bread.

You can contact:

Chalmers Bakery  
13 Auchmill Road  
Bucksburn  
Aberdeen  
AB21 9LB  
Scotland

Tel:  
+44(0)1224 712631

Email: [info@chalmersbakery.co.uk](mailto:info@chalmersbakery.co.uk)

Information called into our Sydney office by Val of Victoria, Australia.

**Ed note:** Thank you Val for helping our readers.

### School Reunion!

Would the Scottish Banner report a school re-union for old 'St Conval's' Primary School, Napier Street, Linwood, Renfrewshire, Scotland.

It is to be held on 11th July 2009.

Old scholars can contact me at the e-mail below for more details.

Pat Whelan  
Australia  
Email:  
[p.whelan@optusnet.com.au](mailto:p.whelan@optusnet.com.au)

### Scots in New Zealand

I have just had some of last year's copies of 'the Scottish banner' lent to me and I found a reference to The Souse of Traquair being 900 years old. This is where my great grandparents worked. Grandma was a maid and granddad as a gardener.. The Earl at that time (1864) paid for them to migrate to New Zealand and so began the start of the Peat Clan in NZ.

I have been part of Scottish societies in Hawkes Bay for a number of years, being Chief of the Napier Caledonian Society for some time. Scots societies in Hawkes Bay are very strong with membership in Hawkes Bay, Ingleside, Hastings and Napier. There are also Burns Nights, Haggis groups, Scottish dance nights and Hogmanay celebrations in this region. Our Napier Pipe Band has just been to Bundanoon in NSW, Australia.

My wife and I along with other couples, enjoy supporting and visiting other Scottish clubs and attending events.

D.N Peat  
18 Henderson Cres. Napier  
New Zealand

### The Name Bryson

In answer to Pam Davidson of Queensland, Australia about the name Bryson (Scottish Banner March 2008) in the Kith and Kin Book Bryson is from Clydesdale 14<sup>th</sup> century and Perthshire 15<sup>th</sup> century. The name Brice or Bryce is from Stirling in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and the tartan is MacFarlane.

Janet Maxwell  
Oatlands, NSW  
Australia

### WWII Bunker at St. Andrews.

Regarding June /08 issue Scotpourri letter by Elizabeth Donaldson. There is a cold war bunker located about 10 minutes drive from St Andrews. Information available at [www.secretbunker.co.uk](http://www.secretbunker.co.uk)  
Bill Rothney  
Scotland



### Help with war photo

For many years I have wanted to know the origin of the photo attached. My father, William Strachan, was from Montrose and he went to WW1. He passed away in the early 70's.

This is the only photo he kept of the war and I assume it is of two of his mates. He never mentioned he was in this photo.

Miraculously, sometimes through publishing such photos someone sees a connection or maybe some authority in Scotland would be able to advise me of its origin.

This is such a "long shot" but the photo is certainly well balanced and it seems a pity to just let it lie.

Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Helen Strachan  
11A Griffiths St  
Balgowlah, NSW 2093  
Australia

### Where is the 'Iron Church'?

Seeking to get past a road block. Research by my cousin Elizabeth led her to a Mary Glasgow dressmaker born in 1811.

Mary had three sons, Alexander 1826, William 1829 and Peter 1827 all three sons were typefounders employed in Edinburgh. Peter became pastor of the "Iron Church".

Does anybody know if the church still exists?

Where is it located?

David Dunn  
London, Ontario  
Canada

e-mail: [dandbdunn@sympatico.ca](mailto:dandbdunn@sympatico.ca)

### Need help on Country Dancing

I wonder if anyone can help? I am interested in learning Scottish dancing, I have newly emigrated to New Zealand and would love to learn. I am hoping to find a group within the Auckland region can anyone help?

Stephen Downie-Fribbens  
Auckland  
New Zealand  
Email: [steviedf@hotmail.com](mailto:steviedf@hotmail.com)

### Looking for Scottish Foods in Ottawa

Where in the Ottawa or Kingston area could I buy some Scottish fare such as black pudding, tatty scones, sliced sausage etc.

There was a woman in the West end of Ottawa who used to advertise in the Scottish Banner, she sold orders out of her home - any ideas? Or any shops or distributors you know of?

Thank you so much - and for all your other work. My mum is a happy subscriber (Gladys Smith) to the Banner.

Cheers,  
Elizabeth Smith  
E-mail: [esmith0731@rogers.com](mailto:esmith0731@rogers.com)  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

### Help with Cooper

I am an 18-year old from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada with a strong interest in genealogy and my family history. I have been compiling my family tree for several years now, and although most my family are fairly recent arrivals from the British Isles (about an equal mixture of Scottish, English, and Irish forbears), I have a question regarding my surname. As an avid reader of your column in the Scottish Banner, I'm hoping you can shed some light on the matter. My paternal great-grandfather, whose forename and surname I share, indicated on his 1911 census entry that he was of Scottish ethnicity, and another document revealed his own grandparents to be Scottish settlers. While other names present in his family are unmistakably Scottish (Duncan, McLaren, etc.), it is the Cooper name which, while certainly the most significant to me, is the one I find puzzling. Previously under the assumption that it was a typical English name, I was able to determine the Cooper's to be a sept of Clan MacDuff, but I have had no luck in tracing this line of my family beyond my great-great-great-grandfather, aside from determining that he was born somewhere in Scotland and came to Canada in the mid-19th century. I am sorry to forward such a long-winded letter, but I would be most grateful if you could share some of the history of the Cooper name in Scotland.

Sincerely,

William Cooper

Hamilton, Ontario

Canada, Email: [suntzu1md@hotmail.com](mailto:suntzu1md@hotmail.com)

### What Standard Was Raised?

I know, that somewhere out there in your vast readership, there is someone who knows the answer to my question.

I have always heard that Bonnie Prince Charlie, raised his Standard at Glenfinnan on August 19, 1745. But what I want to know is, "What was the Standard that he raised?" Exactly what was the flag that was used, on that occasion?

I'm certain I shall get many replies. Thanks,

John A.D. McLean, Belleville Ontario  
My name and address are: John A.D. McLean  
294 Moira Street East  
Belleville  
Ontario  
K8P 2T1, Canada.

### Reflecting on Scottish Pride

I was very moved by the July editorial of the Banner. That might sound a bit strange to some. The words caused me to reflect on my Scots pride and how the Banner is a way of connecting us with our heritage. I am embarrassed to admit that I have not read the Banner very often. I was more aware of the Celtic Connection. Sorry about that. This editorial mentioned the likes of Andy Stewart and his encouragement to keep the "Banner" going.

This in turn caused me to think of my parents. Both are gone now. They were very proud of being Scottish and have passed this on to me and my siblings. We have in turn passed this on to our grandchildren. I now look forward to teaching my grandchildren one day about being Scots.

I look forward to reading the "Banner" and making it a regular source of my Scottish resources. Thank you so much for the perseverance of highlighting we, who are Scottish.

Bye for now,

Alan Anderson,  
Canada

Email: [alanterry@shaw.ca](mailto:alanterry@shaw.ca)