



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.

Thanks Ron!

I would like to thank Ron Dempsey for his swift reply to my question about our family name of Bryson.

My grandmother's father came from Lanarkshire and not a lot of family history has been recorded, so I am doing my best to try and put bits and pieces together for our current and future family members.

I will now return to the local library to try again for Brice history, clans and Tartans.

Keep up the good work, there are many of us out there who are very interested in our histories and really need that helping hand every so often.

Pam Davidson
Queensland,
Australia

Clans and Tartans

I have a question or two for Matthew Newsome if I may regarding family ties.

After receiving a reply from Ron Dempsey regarding the family name of Bryson, I then spent a considerable time at our local library searching through the Scotland Section to find out about the name of Brice. Nowhere can I find any reference to this name, clan, tartan, mottoes etc., so I was wondering if Matthew could perhaps shine a little light on this area for me please?

I am trying to put together some family history or our younger family members and would at least give them something about the past family members as well as current. My maternal grandparents came from Glasgow (grandmother nee Bryson) Grandfather came from Maryport (family Beeby).

It would assist me greatly if some details on the Bryson name could be given so that this can either be further researched or at least explained.

Thank you to all for the interesting and informative Scottish Banner.

Regards
Pam Davidson
Queensland, Australia
fas@stjohnqld.com.au

Thanks for the Memories

I recently received your excellent publication (fourth hand I believe) from my parents. Mum enjoyed the extract from John Cairney's book about Williamson Street as she had an Aunt who lived there. I was only nine when we emigrated from Glasgow to Australia in 1958 but I still retain a lot of memories of my birth place. We lived in Malcolm Street, Parkhead off Springfield Road, unfortunately it no longer exists as Bars (the makers of the Iron Brew) extended towards Celtic Park and three or four streets have disappeared.

Last year I was doing a DVD for my sister's 50th birthday and wanted some photos of the Tenement buildings that we lived in, couldn't find the ones with the oriel windows. Having a computer I did a Google search and came across a wonderful web site Glesga Pals <http://www.glesga.ukpals.com/index.htm> photos, stories, recipes and more. In this site I found one of my old school photos and from that I now have contact with school chums in Canada and Scotland and now 50 years later we have started our own blog site for Newlands Primary School on Springfield Road <http://newlandsprimary.blogspot.com/> with old and new photos of Parkhead and stories.

If any of your readers have internet access I do recommend the above sites.

I will also be passing the Banner onto a local lady who was born in Lennox Castle.

Slainte
Stewart Merrilees
78 Bullcamp Road
Nanango
Qld 4615
Australia.

Scottish Romantics

Just read your article, Joyce, and thought you might be interested in this little episode that happened today. My husband is in a nursing home with dementia and today they had a game of bingo (free, with chocolate bars for prizes). Anyway, he won and on getting his prize, he immediately turned and gave it to me, saying 'that's for you darlin'. We've been married 52 years this year and are both in our 70's, but he's never forgotten me and thanks me every time I visit. I should add he's partial to a bit of chocolate himself.

Do so enjoy the Banner, keeps us all in touch with 'back hame'...we've been in Canada 44 years.

Yours aye,
Grace Macgregor
Canada
Formerly Stockeree Edinburgh
Email: Grace.Macgregor@shaw.ca

Glen Pennant/Glen Tulloch

I really enjoy your newspaper so much I have decided to take out a 1 year subscription. I am wondering if anyone can help on some queries I have. My Gr Grandfather had a property named "Glen Pennant" and Grandfather had one named "Glen Tulloch", these two property names sound very Scottish and I am wondering where the names are from? Are there any places in Scotland with these names?

I would also like any information on the family names Blechynden (sometimes styled as Blenchynden of that ilk) and Harrison? Blechynden has origins in the Kentish area of the UK, but also seem to have a Scottish feel about it as well.

Diane Marshall (nee Bax-Blechynden)
19 Lion St
Mt Melville, Albany
6330, Western Australia

Get The "Banner" Delivered!

I enclose a cheque for a 1 year subscription. I love the Banner and have been getting it since it first came to Australia, but now worry my old legs will not always want to get to the newsagents in time, so will be good to have it sent to me. I am from Aberdeenshire in Scotland and thank you all for my monthly taste of "home".

Catherine Hay
Cromer Heights, New South Wales
Australia

Is Burns Night Still For Men Only in Scotland?

I thoroughly enjoyed reading the January issue of the Scottish Banner which devoted many words to honour Robert Burns.

The picture of the gentleman addressing the haggis looked familiar. I is possible it was Larry Marshall of the "One o' Clock Gun" fame?

I have fond memories of my late husband attending many of these Burns Suppers in Scotland where he was the guest soloist. The memories I have are of course, second-hand as I was not allowed to attend. In those days - the 50's and 60's - ladies were not invited, and any knowledge I have was given to me by my husband.

I had become so accustomed to this fast, that, when I came to Canada and discovered that ladies were in attendance, and often did the organising. My reaction was one of disbelief and horror. I eventually changed my thinking and now look forward to going to a Burns Supper every year.

When I last talked to my friend in Scotland, she said that the men at our Golf club still hold a Burns Supper as they have done for many years, and now the ladies retaliate by having a ladies only Scottish Night during the week before the 25th of January. Does anyone know for a fact that it is still men only in Scotland? Or is this a hold-out from the olden days?

Betty Leigh,
Cambridge,
Ontario, Canada.

Ed. Note: We look forward to readers responses on this popular question. Please send in mail c/o The Scottish Banner, address on page 2

Keep The Banner Coming

I look forward to receiving my Scottish Banner each month. My parents were born in Scotland and immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1923. During the depression we moved to Canada. Then in 1939 WW Two was declared and my father enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He was a WWI member of the Royal Scots Greys Regiment (1906-1921). He was a true patriot!

I have been able to visit this magnificent country several times and feel a deep sense of pride. Please continue to add joy to an 83 year old lady with this fact filled monthly issue of the Scottish Banner. Sincerest wishes for continued success,

Margaret "Allan" Cisneros.
Ontario
Canada.

Ed. Note: Thank you Margaret. Rest assured we intend bringing the "Banner" to you for many years to come!

Wonderful Memories

I want to thank A.M. Woodruff of Trenton for sending you "Dae Ye Mind". I thought it was wonderful.

I am from Aberdeen so I know of all the places very well. They brought back lots of memories. Thanks so much for publishing it.
A.C. Robinson
1640 Maple Grove
Caledon Village, ON L7K 1B3, Canada

Culloden Gaelic Conversation Group

Tha Buidheann Còmhraidh Chùil Lodair ann do dh'fhileantaich 's luchd-ionnsachaidh a tha ag iarraidh an cuid Gàidhlig a chleachdadh ann an suidheachadh neo-fhoirmeil. Thathar ga chumail a h-uile Disathairne eadar 10m agus 12f ann an Leabharlann Chùil Lodair, Rathad na Ceapaich.

If your Gaelic's not getting enough exercise at home give it a workout at the Culloden Gaelic Conversation Group which is suitable for learners and native speakers. The group meets every Saturday morning between 10 and 12 at Culloden Library on Keppoch Road.

For further information phone CLÌ Gàidhlig on + 44 (0)1463 226 710.

Culloden Gaelic Conversation Group
Culloden, Scotland

Selkirk Grace

I read with interest the Scottish grace in the Banner dated Feb 08. I thought I must put pen to paper and send for your readers sake the correct wording of the "Selkirk Grace". On a visit to the Earl of Selkirk, Burns was asked to say the grace the words the poet spoke as follows and have gone down hence forth as the

"Selkirk Grace":
"Some ha'e meat, and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it;
But we ha'e meat, and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thank it."

Thank you for a great publication, the Scottish Banner.
R. A Ballie
Prospect, Tasmania
Australia