



# 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.

## The Land of the Leaf- (September "Banner")

I guess the poem J. Onion seeks must be The Land o' the Leal - by Caroline, Lady Nairne - who lived from 1766 to 1845 This is the first verse - there are three more verses:

*I'm wearin' awa' John  
Like snaw-wreaths in  
thaw, John,  
I'm wearin' awa'  
To the Land o' the Leal.  
There's nae sorrow  
there, John, There's  
neither cauld nor care,  
John' The day is aye  
fair*

*In the Land o' the Leal*

Lady Nairne also wrote the better known "The Flowers o' the Forest" a tribute to the many prominent Scotsmen lost in the Battle of Flodden Her verses can be found in many popular collections - such as The Oxford Book of Verse, and The Golden Treasury

Regards to the "Banner".

Catherine St John

Address not supplied

## Searching for Information on John Honeyman

Dear Editor,

Could any of my fellow Scots, who read the "Scottish Banner" and live in the Burlington, Ontario area help me please?

John Honeyman from Burlington was my penpal for many years, then suddenly his letters stopped, six months later I was told he passed away. After many enquiries and letters to clubs etc. in Burlington who may have known him, I still don't know what happened to this cheery Scot. Could someone please tell me.

Thank your and Here's Tae Aw' Ye're Kilts"

N.Kohler

c/o PO Box 728

Maryborough 4650

Queensland,

Australia

## Re-connection Wishes

Hi! I am an expatriate Scot living in Canada. I am trying to reconnect with a dear friend who was also our best man at our wedding in 1961 at Aberdeen Scotland. His name is Jim Christie (also ex Aberdonian and ex marine engineer with B.I.S.N.Co. in 1950's) last known residence was Melbourne and was hoping he may be one of your subscribers. Would be eternally grateful for any help in locating him as we are both getting long in the tooth.

Ray and Avril Hague,  
4555, Cascade Dr.  
Vernon B.C.  
Canada V1T9K3

## Clan Maclean

I was wondering if there was a Clan Maclean in Scotland or in Australia?

I would also like to have a pen-pal in Scotland, who would like to write me?

I really enjoy the "Scottish Banner".

Gary McLean  
5/42 Cottrell St  
Werribee, Victoria  
3030  
Australia

## Clan Watson Thanks

The response to my Clan Watson letter is gratifying-Thank you to Mr. M. L. Shaw of Clan Shaw Society; to Banner Editor asking Clan Watson to contact "The Banner", and to President Jean Watson of Clan Watson Society in Canada for responding to the "Banner" request.

It pays to ask!

Also can someone tell me what the words "Caber Feidh" mean?

I have three articles from the Clan Chattan Journals. They are from a Scots soldier of W.W.1 writing about his duties and travels.

Very curious..Thank you for any help.  
Blythe Watson Gehring  
14300 Detroit Ave.#103,  
Lakewood, Ohio. USA  
44107-4441

## Oldest Games

Dear Editor

I received my first "Scottish Banner" June 2007 issue at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in Linville, North Carolina.

The editorial on page 2 asked if anyone knew of any Games older than Maxville, Ontario, which started in 1948.

My husband and I belong to the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, and we just celebrated our 158th annual Highland Games. These could be the oldest in North America! The Detroit Games are held at Historic Greenmead in Livonia, MI.

I am a Grant on my mother's side and a McEllen on my father's side.

My husband is a Sept of the McFarlane Clan.

Looking forward to next issue of "The Scottish Banner."

Thank you-

Ed and Joyce Sproul  
No address supplied

## A Great Insight

The "Scottish Banner" has been a great insight for me into my heritage My grand parents came from "The Gorbals" to Montreal, Canada in 1910-1911.

They passed away prior to my birth. My father was the only one born in C a n a d a in 1913.

I have been looking into my roots since 1981. All my aunts and uncles have passed on leaving many unanswered questions. I have the 1881 census from 106 Thistle Street, the house where they lived. They were a family of ten (10). The family name is George Wood, son of George Wood and Janet Houston. My grandfather was married to Ellen Brown Watson, daughter of James Watson and Margaret Meikle.

I would appreciate any information relating to my family, ancestors, friends or acquaintances who would have known of them or the times in which they lived.

Brian L Wood  
389 Dubord, St Eustache  
Quebec, J7P 2B8 Canada.  
E m a i l :  
brian\_wood@sympatico.ca

## Belties

I have your June edition of the "Banner" and read again with interest the column "View from the Border". This used to be only Dumfries and Galloway but in the June edition on page 13, Fiona Armstrong describes the Belted Galloway cattle as white with a black band.

This must be a printing error, all Galloway cattle are black but those known as Belties have a white band around their m i d d l e . Enjoy your paper

## Ma Cuppa and a read"

Hello Valerie,

Enclosed is my check for another subscription and another year of good reading. Just like all the rest of us transplanted Scots, I wait for our "Banner" to come, then I make a cuppa tea and then I sit doon and read ma "Banner"!

Thanks,  
Vera Street,  
Rushville, Ill. USA.

## Black Watch?

The Scottish Banner Vol 31 Number 2, had the headlines Black Watch, "The Show is coming ". The pipe band shown on the front page I believe is the Royal Scots ( The Royal Regiment). Both the Black Watch pipers and the Royal Scots wear the Royal Stewart tartan, but the Black Watch wear full feather bonnets with the famous Red Hackle.

Thank You

Douglas McGregor Grant

Ed. note: Yes it was the Royal Scots on the cover.

## A fascinating memory

I love reading the letters and the stories in the "Scottish Banner", - especially about bye-gone days. Maybe your readers would be interested in this memory and the sequel which followed many years later. I was on holiday from Canada when I spent four days in London, and then sailed across the Atlantic.

Betty Leigh, Cambridge,  
Ontario, Canada.

Ed. note: Bettys' memoirs are on page 21

## Glasgow Coat of Arms

I have been a regular reader now for just over five years and enjoy the "Banner" very much. I look forward to it every month so keep up the good work.

My question is about J Brown (James, John) he is the person who designed the coat of arms for Glasgow. That is all I can find on him, under The Glasgow Coat of Arms, on the internet. The design is described to the last detail, but it says nothing of the artist.

There is a story passed down through our family that a G,G,G Grandfather was an Artist and designed the Glasgow Coat of Arms. Unfortunately all the older family members have passed on so I can't confirm this.

My research in to the family tree, tells me my G,G grandfather George Fleming married Janet Brown, I have not been able to connect with Janet . George and Janet had a son called James, who was my G Grandfather and possibly called after Janet's Father the Artist. Is it possible I might hear a wee bit about the designer of the Glasgow Coat of Arms? I would be very grateful for any information concerning this long lost relation.

George Fleming  
52 Mahogany Drive  
Halls Head Mandurah, 6210  
Western Australia

## Was it a Fishy Story?

First let me say how much I enjoy reading the "Banner" every month.

However, reading your editorial in the May issue, I can only conclude that the Fisheries Minister you spoke to was, however, either incompetent or imagining things.

To explain the reason that North Sea Oil Revenues go to London has nothing to do with the oil field location. All revenues in the UK are paid to the Exchequer and as Scotland is still part of the UK that is the reason the oil revenues go south. As to the boundary at sea, I have enclosed some printed sheets which illustrate how Westminster have tried to twist the demarcation line even though it was agreed, Internationally, during the Law of the Sea discussions that latitude 55 north would be the dividing line, despite their attempts to claim some oilfields, they have to admit that 90 to 98 percent of the oilfields are in Scottish waters. I hope this makes it a bit clearer for you, it is only a little part of the murky waters that Westminster has poured on the people of Scotland since the bribery and corruption used to obtain the joining of the two parliaments in 1707. I for one feel that there is a Question of Legality on that one as it was not a democratically elected Scottish Parliament, furthermore the people of Scotland, at that time, expressed their extreme disapproval. Hope this is of some use to you. Still The Heart is Highland

Allan S Beaton M.S.S. T  
8 Junction Road  
Paeroa 3600  
New Zealand

## Hello My "Banner" Friends

I recently sent you a Poem that I wrote for my friend Lord Twynehame, of The Baronial House of Twynehame (A Scottish Feudal Barony). I have just received news that Daniel, (Lord Twynehame), passed away at 1pm Sunday, our time New Zealand, (6pm Saturday in California). There is to be a private Funeral & Cremation, but a Memorial Service will be held in the near future. I have been asked to attend in my capacity as Standard Bearer. Hopefully you can find space to publish this poem for his family and friends.

Leslie B. Jones, GCR KGSM.,(Chevalier)  
New Zealand Standard Bearer to The Baronial House of Twynehame. Ed. note: See Poem on Page 21