

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 online Scotpourri form at 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. This page belongs to our readers so please feel free to take part! Thanks to all our readers from around the world who have made this such a special page.

The Scottish Banner 40th Anniversary



Congratulations to *the Scottish Banner* for forty years of publication and the registering of the Scottish Banner Tartan with the Scottish Tartans Register in honour of those forty years of publication. It's a grand tartan.

Mal Edmiston
Kirwin, Queensland
Australia

Dear Valerie



WOW!!! Forty years! Let's see, twelve times per year, times 40 years-that is 480 issues and I have read every single one of them. I still remember the store in Toronto (at Queen Street and Coxwell Avenue) where I used to go to renew my subscription. I am now 90 years young and still walk to my post office to get my *Banner*. You and I met many years ago in Barrie, Ontario, at a Sons of Scotland dinner. I am enclosing a picture taken while we were at this event. We all look so young then. The lady in the middle is my wonderful late wife, Marjorie Main, and you will remember the other wonderful lady on the right (yourself). I believe the picture was taken late 1970's or early 1980's. I would like to attend the Fergus Highland Games this summer and if you are there would like to meet you again.

Thank you for great reads,
Lawrence Main
Clan Gunn
Burke's Falls, Ontario
Canada

Ed. note: Thank you so much for the letter and the photo Lawrence. Indeed it is a long time ago. The gentleman next to your wife was my husband at that time, Jim Cairney. Yes we do look quite a happy group, don't we.

Vital publication

Please accept my apologies for being unable to attend celebrations for *the Scottish Banner's* 40th anniversary - a wonderful achievement in connecting, reconnecting and sharing the love of Scots and their descendants.

The Scottish Banner is a vital publication for the Scottish community, its many clans and kindred organisations, the bands and dancers and event promoters. Your support of activities in Bendigo associated with Scots Day Out is always appreciated and acknowledged for the warm manner in which it is given. Have an extra dram for me as you celebrate and look forward to catching up very soon.

Kindest,
Chris Earl
Scots Day Out
Bendigo, Victoria
Australia

Golf family from Aberdeen

I have been an avid reader of *the Scottish Banner* for more than two decades, and I was most interested and gratified to read the articles on Aberdeen in the March 2016 edition. You see my Father was born and raised in Aberdeen just near the New Brig 'O Don heading north to Fraserburgh. My Grandfather's home and farm was just one block off the highway and took off up the rae, "hill" which is now a modern subdivision. My Dad and all his brothers were keen golfers and became golf professionals. My Father immigrated here in about 1911. He was a teaching pro here at the Evansville Country Club and also in Palm Beach, Florida in the winter until his death. He sponsored his younger brother Archie and set him up at the Clearcrest Country Club here. The older brother Willie, who I was named after went to London and settled into a Club named Addiscombe, where he taught George V1 and Edward X111 to play their games. My Grandmother attended church at St. Machers in Old Aberdeen and lived out her very long life on the bank of the Don near the Auld Brig in a wee cottage. My wife Muriel and I have visited there many times and golfed in my father's footsteps on the Royal Aberdeen links.

Aye,
William Richie, M.D.
Evansville, Indiana
USA

Remembering the Galbraith's store's

How well I remember Galbraith's Store (*Scottish Banner*, April, 2016). It was in Glasgow, on Gascube Road and North Woodside Road. My Mother was a regular customer and I remember getting home from school one day, only to be told Galbraith's had received an order of 'H.P broon sauce', and if your surname began with an 'R' you could have one free. Our family name was 'Ritchie' so....! This was during World War II and rationing was heavy. Boy did our family enjoy that treat that night with our supper. Anyone living around Possil Road will also remember the Astoria Picture House. It was located beside Oakbank Hospital and held great memories for me. Every Tuesday night, my Aunt Rose took me to the 'pictures' there and we usually ended up on the Balcony (second floor). My biggest treat was when the ice cream lady sold her ice-cream cups as Auntie Rose always bought one for her and one for me. Another thing I remember about going to the pictures was, if the

movie had started when you arrived you stayed till the picture was over, but you didn't leave until the second showing part came to the part where you came in. Those were the days, and what sweet memories they left me with.

Mrs Elizabeth Donnelly
Brampton, Ontario
Canada

Ed. note: Thank you for these memories Elizabeth, you made us feel we were with you.

Use it or Lose it

The Scottish Heritage Centre of W.A. Inc. was formed to be a central organisation in this state dedicated to the conserving and promotion of Scottish culture. This includes the huge amount of music, songs, poems, and historical stories which are seldom heard now. There are however, three excellent Scottish Fiddle groups and some singers and musicians who have a vast knowledge of Scottish music and songs. SHC has been trying to publicise them through holding music sessions which, though truly superb, did not get much support from the Scottish community.

Luckily, Highland Dancing, Country Dancing and piping are well catered for and are secure. The W.A. Genealogical Society has a strong Scottish branch for family research, but Scottish arts and crafts have no organised groups. Scottish Heritage Centre would like more members to join so that it will be possible to promote all aspects of our culture and keep it secure here. Membership is \$20 per year, and 4 newsletters are published annually. Our website is called ScotsHubWA.com. Contact phone number is (08) 9457 1945.
Shirley Oliver
Secretary, The Scottish Heritage Centre of W.A
Perth, Western Australia

Landing on Barra



Yes, I have flown to Barra from Glasgow in September 2012. I spent a couple of interesting days on the island, albeit - very windy!
Maureen McLeod (Formerly Edinburgh)
Mississauga, Ontario
Canada

Celtic Thunder

Many thanks for the two tickets to see Celtic Thunder. A tremendous show was enjoyed by all at the full house crowd.
Mrs I Brown
Largs North, South Australia

The Proclaimers

Wow! What a concert! Thoroughly enjoyed The Proclaimers April concert at the Sydney Opera House. Thanks so much for the tickets I won from *the Scottish Banner* competition. The Concert Hall was packed-don't think there was an empty seat except for the audience standing and being part of the concert. The ambience was great!
Thanks again,
Shirley Smith
Kanhooka, NSW
Australia

Love Scotland

I am sorry my subscription renewal is late, as due to illness I had to get my son to write it for me. Now I want to thank those of you who collect and saves all the information about 'the Bonnie Scotland' I love so much. Thanks to all you wonderful folk for what you bring to us each month. These thanks are from my heart to yours. I believe Scotland is the best.
Ann Houston
Waterbury, Connecticut
USA

Descendants of Catherine Kidd

I am trying to track down descendants of Catherine Kidd, who married James Jack in 1839 in Lasswade, Midlothian, Scotland about the family tree and history. Catherine and James had 6 children: James, Alexander, Mary, Christine, George and Margaret Jack. One of Catherine and James' daughters, married a Mr McLennan and had daughters Charlotte and Christina McLennan. Christina corresponded with Tasmanian Kidd family and lived on McNeil Avenue, Loanhead, Midlothian, Scotland, while corresponding - she married but had no children. She went by "Chris McLennan."

Her sister, Charlotte McLennan, married a Mr. Stuart, and had a son, Charles Stuart, who was aged 60 in 1961. Charles lived in Dunfirmline, Scotland. His wife was Elizabeth. Charles and Elizabeth had a son who went to Toronto; a son who was living in Dunfirmline & was an artist and two daughters. Names all unknown.

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POSTED TO THE SCOTTISH BANNER FACEBOOK PAGE

Images of Ben Nevis



Looking up to the summit and North Face Ben Nevis this evening. Fresh snow fell today here in Lochaber. Definitely living up to the old Scottish saying: "Never cast a clout till May's out". From sea life, to high life. Please see the attached image taken on the summit of Ben Nevis on Friday night of a Snow Bunting.
Bill Cameron
Fort William, Scotland

The Flying Scotsman



Even when you are forced to shoot without getting the name of the engine in the shot because people were just in your way, you know that you just have to take that picture. The Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway on Monday where the Flying Scotsman was on display. A once in a lifetime moment resulting in a picture which had an atmosphere that could have been taken 50 years ago. I call it - PROUD.
Ken Windsor
Glasgow, Scotland