

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?

Jim Cairney

Dear Sean,

I was sorry to read of the death of your father, Jim Cairney, and would like to offer you my sincere sympathy. It is always lovely to read the tribute of a son or daughter to a late parent when he or she writes in such fond terms. It is apparent that you have been a member of a strong, loving and productive family which, speaking as a member of such a family on my mother's side, is all you need in life.

With sorrow for your loss.

Ann Grant
Randwick, NSW
Australia

Hi Sean,

It was with great sadness I read your latest editorial in this month's *Scottish Banner*, I'm so sorry for the loss of your Father, he was a good man and I wish to convey sincere condolences to you and your family at this sad time, one of the most comforting quotes I have ever read regarding the passing of a loved one is, "They never die who live in the hearts they leave behind."

Andy Heaney & family
Brisbane, Queensland
Australia

Hi Sean and Valerie,

I just got back from a couple of weeks in Canada and Scotland and your August 2018 copy of *the Scottish Banner* was waiting for me. So sorry to hear about your Dad, Sean. I have fond memories of him and your Mum Valerie at their Scottish restaurant in Nobleton, Ontario.



Occasionally I was the foil for your uncle John Cairney when he needed one for his Robert Burns act. After one evening's entertainment on a cold January Burns Night, we all went back to my place in Bramalea because your Dad wanted not some sumptuous meal, but plain old, believe it or not, toast and beans. He was that kind of man! My heartfelt condolences to you all.

As an aside while in Scotland, I entered the 'Old Men's Race' of the 366th running of the Burntisland Highland Games (the second oldest in the world) And I won. OK, so it is only fifty yards long, and as an 'old man' I got a ten yard handicap, but I did win. Having won £5, I am thinking of giving up retirement and taking up professional running!

Baxter Henderson
Victoria, Australia

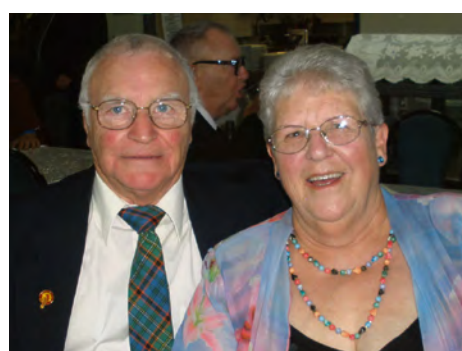
Ed note: Thank you for the many messages we have received on the passing of Jim Cairney. It is wonderful to have such thoughtful readers help you get through such sad times.

My parents, sister and brother did too and we all settled in Adelaide.

I am very eager for a reply.

Isabella Brown (Weans)
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Diamond Wedding Anniversary



My husband Ross and I are celebrating our Diamond Wedding Anniversary which took place on the 9th of August. As 60 years is a special occasion could it be put into *the Banner* as a surprise for him and all our friends who are regular readers of *the Scottish Banner*. Attached is a photo of our wedding day taken in our home town of Dunfermline in 1958 when Ross was serving in the RAF and also recent photo that friends will recognise.

Yours sincerely,
Jessie Nicol

Ed note: Congratulations to you Jessie and Ross on a wonderful life of happiness together.

Calling all MacRaes!

We are thrilled to announce that there will be another International Clan Gathering of MacRaes in Scotland in May of 2019 and we have planned a tour to take in all the activities. This is the opportunity of a lifetime for those who are still dreaming of going to Scotland for the tour makes



it easy for you to make the trip a reality! We hope you can join us for these Gatherings and Tours only occur once every five years! The current dates of the tour are from May 5th through May 18th with the Clan MacRae Gathering events taking place over five days from May 8th through May 12th. The decision to hold a Clan MacRae Gathering in May of 2019 is due to the 300th anniversary of the destruction of Eilean Donan Castle by the British on May 10, 1719. We will be at Eilean Donan Castle on the actual anniversary of this event with a special commemoration.

For those interested in the tour, please let us know if you want to make the trek to Scotland with us for the 2019 Clan MacRae Gathering.

Sgurr Uaran!
Judy McRae
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Clan MacRae Society of North America
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Scottish placenames

Must say I am loving the digital paper; as convenient as a newspaper without the messy newsprint and clutter of old editions.

With the Scottish placenames, I grew up in a Sydney suburb called Baulkham Hills named after the Buckholm Hills in the Scottish Borders east of Galashiels, there is a ruinous Tower on Buckholm Farm, near Galashiels, supposedly haunted by Laird Pringle who murdered Covenanters. Interestingly, my Scottish family connection is to the Home/Hume family whose homelands are further east nearer Berwick. My wife and I shall visit both in 2019. We are getting a lot of ideas from *the Banner* for our Scottish holiday.

Thanking you for your excellent newspaper.

Ian Clark
Cooma, NSW
Australia

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send your photos or letters via social media

Carlsruith Castle



Another castle of my tick list today making the most of my membership I visited Carlsruith Castle. What a view over Wigtown Bay on the Galloway coast.
GN Photography
Clydebank, Glasgow
Scotland

Learned Kindred of Currie



Day two for the Learned Kindred of Currie at the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville, Ontario. Stop by and say hello. Big thanks to Jeff Crooke for hosting our space.
Clan Currie

The Isle of May



When reading my *Scottish Banner*, it always brings back happy memories and the June issue was no exception. The story on May Island (*Isle of May opens for the season, Scottish Banner*, June, 2018) brought back many memories as I served on the lightship *M.V May* who supplied keepers and supplies to lighthouses all around the top of Scotland, including May Island and the Bell Rock for the Northern Lighthouse Service. I was 16 years then and am now years and live in Australia, so thank you all at *the Banner* for bringing these happy memories back for me and the many other readers from Bonnie Scotland and around the world.

Charlie Brewer
Ringwood, Victoria
Australia

"Must see's" of Scotland & Ireland

We are planning a trip to these countries April, 2019. Besides seeing the beautiful countryside, we are interested in our heritage as well.

What can we see in Scotland and Ireland representing the culture? Tartans, dances, etc.

Gulfport, Mississippi will have a Highland Game festival this November.

Karen Tate
E-mail: karentate726@yahoo.com
Mississippi, USA

Ed note: No doubt our readers can help Karen make her 2019 trip one to remember.

Weans Bridge

I was interested in your interview with Ryan Wells in the May edition of *the Scottish Banner*. He spoke of the Weans Bridge in Edinburgh. My grandparents lived and brought up their family (my Dad included) in Edinburgh. Their surname and my maiden name is Weans. I've never heard of Weans Bridge, can anyone give me more details of it please? Where it is in Edinburgh and who put the money it. I came to South Australia from a village in Stirlingshire in 1966.