

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?

The Stewart Society at The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo



The distinctive voice of the popular Tattoo announcer Alasdair Hutton introduced tartaned Stewarts/Stuarts/Steuarts from all over the world during the 2018 Edinburgh Tattoo led by Stewart Society President Geordie Burnett-Stuart of Crichton pictured here, front and center, in the portal of the castle's Scottish National War Memorial with the youngest members of the entourage.

*Dr Donald Smith
Commissioner for the Stewart Society
USA*

St Conan's Kirk



Judy Vickers wrote a very interesting article in February, 2019 on St. Conan's Kirk in which she mentions the timbers for the mini-cloister came from the wrecks of two famous battleships, namely, the *Caledonia* and the *Duke of Wellington*. Your readers may not know that both these ships were ships of the line. The *Caledonia* was a 120 gun ship and broken up for scrap in 1875. The *Duke of Wellington* was a 131 gun ship and was powered by screw driven steam and sail, served in Baltic sea during the Crimean War and later broken up in 1904.

Stewart Sudlow

Mary Queen of Scots and Langside

I always love to read Jim Stoddart's articles in *the Scottish Banner* and last months (Feb 2019) was no exception, as his articles are usually about the surrounding area where I lived as a boy. However I must take

issue with writers on her life as the Battle of Langside is usually sidelined or not even mentioned at all. I lived in Langside/Battlefield where I was born for 16 years before coming to Australia. It is an area full of Scottish history and a great number of streets where I lived were all named after places in Mary's life, etc Loch Leven Road, Dundrennan Road, Carmichael Road, Grange Road, Craigmillar Road and Arundel Road all in Battlefield area and Tantallon Road, Blairhall Road and Dirleton Road in Langside.

In 1887 a monument was erected at the top of Langside Hill to commemorate the battle and in the nearby Queens Park there used to be a small museum which had articles found relating to the battle. The monument is topped with a lion with his paw on a cannonball looking eastward over the battlefield

Mary's losses have been estimated at over 100 slain and over 300 taken prisoner whilst Regent Moray lost very few of his 4,000 men. It was as a result of this battle that Mary started her long flight to her cousin Elizabeth. The monument was my school badge for Queens Park Secondary School.

As an aside the actor Stan Laurel used to live in Craigmillar Road and he went to Queens Park School but long before I did.

Hope your readers find this of interest.
*Bruce (Scotty) Scotland,
Goolwa, South Australia*

Ed note: Thanks Bruce for sharing this interesting piece of Scottish history with us.

Mary Queen of Scots



What a wonderful issue you had in February. I have always admired Mary Queen of Scots and there was some great content in this edition of one of Scotland's true heroines. It is wonderful to see a movie release to introduce Mary to a new generation of not only Scots but others who simply love to soak up amazing history. I have been to Scotland

several times and feel when I am there Mary has never been forgotten and she lives on in their history and at many historical attractions.

The story of Mary Stuart is definitely movie worthy and proves Scottish history really is a story to tell and we are all so lucky for that!

*Diane Galbraith
Toronto, Ontario
Canada*

Visiting Scotland in 2019

This Friday 25 we are attending a Burns Supper at the Fox and Hounds and on 26 in Ipswich. When the Edinburgh Military Tattoo was in Melbourne a couple of years back there were 20 of us and only one was not a McMurtrie but that changed with a subsequent marriage in Queensland.

This year we have 12 tickets for Edinburgh in August and all will be McMurtrie by name. Some of us wear the Stuart of Bute Modern kilt and will visit Rothesay again whilst there. Roll on August.
*Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ
Queensland, Australia*

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



Send your photos or letters via social media

Sutherland, Scotland



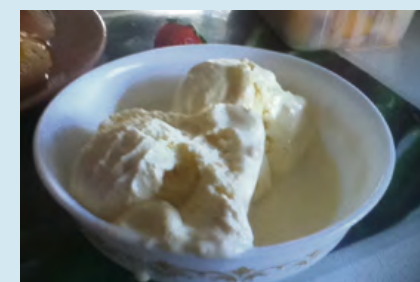
Wrong settings on the camera but what a scene that was! Colours were amazing!!! Ben Loyal and ruin in the snow in Sutherland, Scotland.
*A View From My Camera
Scotland*

The Wallace Monument



The Wallace Monument today with the Ochil Hills with a dusting of snow.
*Charles McGuigan
Scotland*

Shortbread ice cream



I received a box of Scottish shortbread for Christmas. I crushed some of this in a food processor, and mixed this with some ice cream and honey.

*Scott McPhee
Briar Hill, Victoria
Australia*

The Forth Bridge



Sometimes a bit of gloomy scotch mist helps.
*Robert Gibb
Scotland*

Collieston, Aberdeenshire



The gorgeous little seaside village of Collieston, Aberdeenshire.
*Chris Hughes
Australia*