

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?

Atholl Gathering



Photo: Derek Maxwell.

Sarah Muir celebrates being declared overall winner at the Atholl Gathering. On a wet and windy day at Blair Castle, Sarah from Campbeltown, won the Piobaireachd and the March, Strathspey and Reel.

She was placed second in the March, Strathspey and Reel. This piping event is sponsored by the William Grant Foundation.
Derek Maxwell
Scotland

Ron Dempsey

I wish to add my warmest thanks to Ron for his great work uncovering *What's In A Name* over the years. My usual practice, when I received *the Banner* was to read the Editorial and then straight to Ron Dempsey's article, which I always enjoyed reading.

I have corresponded with Ron over the years, particularly with regard to Clan Donnachaidh.

I wish Ron a very happy retirement.

Regards,

Gordon Robertson

Secretary Clan Donnachaidh Society New South Wales Inc.

Australia

Thank you Ron

I wanted to write to *the Scottish Banner* after reading Ron Dempsey has written his last column of *What's In a Name*. I thoroughly enjoyed his monthly column and have learned so much about so many unique names. I often would read about a friend or co-workers surname and surprise them with a tid bit of information of their own name, which often was met with great surprise and thanks. I also hope Ron and *the Banner* knows this column has given me a passion for genealogy and looking into where I came from all those generations ago. Ron as you hang up your keyboard please do so with pride knowing you have brought a great deal of interest to so many.

I continue to enjoy *the Scottish Banner* every month, a link to the land of my ancestors- as I have confirmed through my own genealogy journey.

Kaye Robertson

Toronto, Ontario

Canada

Scottish education

I was interested in the article *The Scottish School System* (*the Scottish Banner*, April, 2019), as I am one who has benefited from the system.

One must remember that Scotland had five universities at a time when England had only two, Oxford and Cambridge, and entry to them for some time was restricted to members of the Church of England. London University was founded in the mid nineteenth century.

Scotland's first University, St. Andrew's, was founded in the fourteenth century quickly followed by Aberdeen. Then in 1452 Glasgow was founded, followed by a second university in Aberdeen and then Edinburgh University followed.

Bursaries and scholarships were often available from the local authority, who also helped with travelling expenses, and Andrew Carnegie, the Scottish American philanthropist created bursaries too. They were available to children on a meritocracy basis, and my late husband was a fortunate recipient of one.

We must not forget Scotland's contribution to the world via its excellent education system.

At present my great grandson is in his second year at Glasgow University, where he is one of some thirty odd dating from 1910 who have graduated from this august establishment, covering many disciplines.

Yours,

Mrs June Laws

Little Mountain, Queensland

Australia

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send your photos or letters via social media



Loch Restil



Loch Restil, Argyll Saturday morning the light was amazing.

GN Photography
Scotland

Wallace Monument & Stirling Bridge



Wallace Monument & Stirling Bridge.

Robert Gibb
Scotland

The Society of John De Graeme



In May 1296 as Wallace rose up against English occupation in the south Sir Andrew De Moray raised the Standard at Avoch, today its known as the Northern Rising
P Jamieson & C Halliday