

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 Scottish Fiddle Orchestra



The Scottish Fiddle Orchestra will be touring from New Hampshire to Halifax and Montreal at the beginning of April, to celebrate its 40th anniversary. All welcome - please contact the venues for tickets. We're looking forward to coming.

More info at www.sfo.org.uk
David Lunt
Edinburgh, Scotland

ED note: This tour has been cancelled due to the Corona Virus, but the SFO will reschedule for 2021.

For Sale

My husband has passed, he was a former Pipe Major with the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish Regiment in Renfrew Ontario Canada. He also played competitive bands in Ottawa and Pettawawa Ontario. I have a large assortment of kilts, sporrans, shoes, trews etc all in excellent condition. I can provide a more complete list at your request. I would like to sell the items as a lot and will accept a reasonable price. Please advise if you or someone you know may be interested.

Thank you,
Margaret Mackenzie
Ontario, Canada
E-mail: rmackenzie01@hotmail.com

Remembering our Scottish history

Congratulations on your work for *Scottish Banner* – you do a fabulous job. I was delighted that you note for 15th Nov that the Stone of Destiny was finally returned to Scotland. The Stewart family were neighbours when I was growing up – one of the boys became a local hero, he was in the team who originally rescued the Stone from Westminster Abbey. And that brings me to my wee grouch!

Westminster Abbey was built by Edward the Confessor. He had brought his nearest relative from exile to become the Aetheling – we would call him the Heir Apparent. The Aetheling had three children the eldest of whom was Margaret. He died soon after arrival. On the death of King Edward, it was found he had promised the throne to various others.....and we all know the resultant story of the Battle of Hastings. But what happened now to the family of the Aetheling? They became refugees again and fled to Scotland – where the eldest child Margaret, now a young woman of 2, 0 caught the eye of

the Big Chief of Scotland – King Malcolm. The story of Margaret, Saint and Queen is well known to us, as is the chapel she had built in Edinburgh Castle; the St Margaret Chapel is seen on world-wide television when the Tattoo is filmed. She died on 16th November 1093, so that is the date on which she is remembered annually. May I humbly suggest that she is more important to Scottish History that Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show.

Mary Esslemont
Margaret River, Western Australia

Ed note: Thank you Mary for your note and our readers are a treasure trove of information and suggestions to us, and we appreciate them helping us make the Banner better.

Lions celebrating Robbie Burns



Your readers may be interested to know that the Lions Club of Warners Bay have a tradition of hosting a Robbie Burns supper each year. About 2008, two Scottish members, the late Alistair Fyfe and Angus McGregor, organised the first celebration which was so successful that it has now become an annual event on our calendar. We follow all the traditions starting with the haggis and neppes followed by a dinner, musicians, a piper, a Highland dancer, demonstrations of Scottish country dances and a few drams of whisky to keep us all going. Our recent night was hosted by Angus McGregor and Lion

Christine Fyfe and attended by 55 people. Angus recited the Selkirk Grace, the Address to the Haggis and other poems. The audience included our Lions and those from other clubs, The Hunter Valley Scots Club, the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, a regular group from St Marys church and others who recognise a good night out. The evening ended with an enthusiastic chorus of Auld Lang Syne.

With kind regards,
Lion Diana Stewart
President, Lions Club of Warners Bay
Mobile 0433128220

Alba Magna Carta or The Flying Scotswoman-A Tribute to Nicola Sturgeon

Round corners fast of Lochs and Glens, Craggy Rocks, Highland Bens, blasting storms of political midges, Heather Royal the Lassie comes steaming, gleaming, storming bridges, uniting golden fruit of ages - ancestral voices awakening Alba, puffing, pushing, pulling, finding, holding, Crowning Auld Reekie Hill with Scotland's Will. No rusty iron, but granite Lady- Burns eloquent elect-ro magnetic maiden, outstanding Thistle... fast stand's the Nation.

Destiny's - Iona's Chosen child, tried, trusted true – Heaven's Blue blows full view Jacob's, Fergus now Nicola's Stone of Scone in place, red & ready, watching,

waiting, wakening soul on soul 'Face to Face' sensing ripest blow of pipes reed, Rosslyn, Raeburn, Rae, Scott, Kirk and Croft witnessing - delivering debt by deed.

Clans Kilts, Celts, salmon, oyster, malts, oats, raspberries, breads, revised technologies delivering new tweeds, sheep, longhorn, angus, deer, grouse gather listening, talking, glistening, walking the wind...

Billy the Fringe, Jackie, Robert, Fiona Bruce, Susan, Glasgow, Davies Glennie, Golf, Gillie, Inverness & Isles, Stirling sparkling rivers revenues weaving wisdom, beauty, grace by vast con-contrast murderous MacBoreth the biggest bluffing buffer low downing clowning cunning contrickselfservative of Antique Dagger Antic & Co anon...

Och out with the old 'YES' in with the New, down with Jack, up Cross of Whitest Blue. Listen... Nicola means not of shame... a Tory, but 'Victory of the People' a Victory gathering-bestowing Leader, giving, serving, loving, living up to her Grecian name winning game ticket delivering the Happiest Hogmanay of many a sorrowful year -imprisoned day. Freedom beckons within Greater Unity, so be it may, rail no more for journeys end, Home Sweet Home, Edinburgh Station.

By @charles Mugleston
Felixstowe, Suffolk
England

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send us your photos or letters via social media

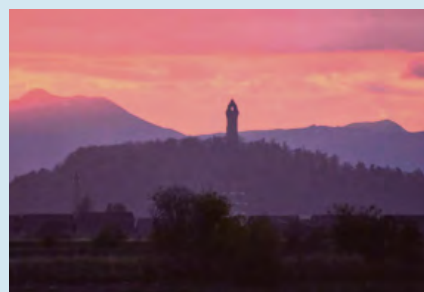


Mirror, mirror on the wall



Mirror, mirror on the wall who's the fairest of them all? Scotland of course :-)
A View From My Camera
Scotland

Stirling sunset



Sunset over Stirling looking towards the Wallace Monument.
Charles McGuigan
Scotland

Glasgow



It's a lovely morning in Glasgow.
Gary Chittick
Scotland

The Royal Mile



Royal Mile, Edinburgh.
Shutter Bug Shots
Scotland