

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?

Tartan of the Month



I just found *the Scottish Banner* this year in our local paper shop. I came to Australia in 1949 and my pen friend and have

loved living in Australia. We had three children, all grown up. I have written my life story and I do family history, which is great. I was born in Dundee and my mother's side is originally from Ireland and my dad's from Arbroath. In the August issue I was reading about the Memories of Scotland Tartan in your *Tartan of the Month* feature and got the surprise of my life when I read that Joe Rodgers designed it from Olly Bobbins. He is my great-nephew, his grandmother

was my mother and she suffered from Alzheimer's in her later days before she passed away.

I really enjoy reading your paper, especially the *Tartan of the Month*, and see the October tartan is for the nurses and my two daughters are nurses. The stories of Halloween also bring back memories of my childhood when we would have a party and have our heads dipped into water and try and pick up an apple. It was always a fun night.

Thank you again for your paper which is so very interesting.

Mary Edwards

Finley, NSW

Australia

Ed note: We are glad you found us Mary and what a great example of how tartan links us!

Dressed to Kilt 2021



We are contacting you now to let you know that we are delaying our next Dressed to Kilt (www.dressedtokilt.com) show until the summer of 2021. Many of our designers, models and supporters are still in

various stages of lockdown and restriction on both sides of the Atlantic.

We do not want to hold the 2021 show until our friends have a level of confidence and comfort about getting together once again. Fortunately, the situation is improving now that there are several vaccines that are being widely distributed and administered and several more coming online shortly. It is our belief that the politicians and bureaucrats will soon get out of the way and allow smarter people to handle this process more efficiently. We have not yet chosen a specific date as the current situation is still rather volatile. We will provide several months notice in advance of our next show.

The show will still be held at the Mill Neck Manor Estate on the Gold Coast of Long Island, about 25 miles from NYC. The benefit of holding the show during the summer is that many of the activities around the show, cocktail party, post-party, etc., can be held outdoors on the grounds of the estate in full bloom. The show will focus on "Country Lifestyle Fashion", the couture for outdoor activities and we will be live streaming the show internationally for the first time. We will be raising funds for the Navy SEAL Foundation and we will have several decorated Navy SEALS on the catwalk. Many of you are aware that we lost our friend and colleague Sir Sean Connery in 2020. We have therefore decided to celebrate and honor Sir Sean and his family with our next show. Indeed, three generations of Connerys, Lady Connery, Stephan his son and Saskia his granddaughter have together worked with our team and produced a new Sir Sean Connery Tartan that will be unveiled at this show for

the first time anywhere. The colors of the Tartan represent places that meant the most to Sir Sean. We shall invite several members of Sir Sean's family who attended and supported previous DTK events, we shall invite a number of his favorite models and favorite acts from previous DTK shows to join us and our glossy coffee table program will have numerous never before seen photos of Big Tam from previous shows. We will make this a collector's edition. As he meant so much to so many Scots around the world, we welcome your ideas and your contributions. Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all this summer!

Dr. Geoffrey Scott Carroll

Co-Founder & Chairman

New York, NY

USA

Scottish Studies Foundation Chapbook Competition



The Scottish Studies Foundation is pleased to announce its first ever Chapbook Competition. Novice, emerging and established writers are invited to submit a manuscript of between 2,000 and 5,000 words on any topic or theme with a Scottish connection. The winner will have their work published in the form of a chapbook and will receive \$500.00 [CAD] and 20 copies of the book.

The idea was inspired by the University of Guelph's collection of historic chapbooks many of which have been digitized and placed online. Chapbooks are small books typically containing ballads, poems, tales, or tracts and have a long history spanning several centuries. Sold by travelling pedlars known as "chapmen," they were the main reading material of a majority of the population, carrying news and popular culture of the day.

We are hoping that this competition will generate an enthusiastic response from all with a keen interest in Scottish history, culture, genealogy and literature.

The competition is open to everyone regardless of where they reside and as you don't have to be a member to enter please feel free to pass this information on to your friends and associates.

By entering the contest not only will you have a chance to see your story, poems or anecdotes in book form, but you'll have a chance to win \$500.

The deadline for submission is July 1, 2021, and further details including how to enter are on our website: www.scottishstudies.com

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

David Hunter

President, Scottish Studies Foundation

Canada

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www.scottishstudies.com

Memories that never fade

Thank you for your paper *the Scottish Banner* very good read indeed. I was most impressed with your article *Getting back to Scotland* and it brought back some lovely memories with my time in Scotland. I would like to share part with you. Born in 1929 in Glasgow and always going on our holidays to my granny's home up in the Highlands, a place called Linside just a croft not far from 'The Falls of Shin' roughly halfway between Bonar Bridge and Lairg. Oh how I used to love going there and helping out on

the croft, taking the cattle down to the field in the morning bringing them back for milking in the afternoon, collecting the eggs from the hen house and best of all going up the hills to help cut, layout and collect the peat for the fire with Uncle Rod in his horse (Polly) and cart.

I can remember that during the war a crew from a Canadian soldiers camp nearby came and cut down all the trees up in hills above our house, it did spoil the look of the place after that but I suppose the wood was wanted somewhere.

I used to think I was Roy Rogers when I was lifted up onto Polly's back to take her down to the well for her fill of water, these memories will never fade away.

During the war years my brother and I were evacuated along with many other children to the countryside, we were sent to Aberdeen-shire to a fairly large croft in a place called Jackson-Rothienornam, we stayed there for just over three years, walking to a school at Folla-Rule which was five miles away, before we ran away back to Glasgow, but that is another story.

We the whole family Dad Mum and the 3 boys all migrated out to Australia in 1949, I was very lucky and married a lovely Aussie girl in 1952 who I took back to Scotland to show her around the place.

Thank you for your great paper.

Hamish Cameron

Kincumber, NSW

Australia

Ed note: Thanks Hamish for sharing your memories of a special place and time with us.

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Send us your photos or letters via social media



Bannockburn House



Bannockburn House.
The Kilted Photographer
@TheKiltedPhoto
Scotland

Highland coo



You like my hair?
Jim Skilling
Scotland

Barra glow



Twilight on Barra, Outer Hebrides.
Debbie Neilson

Dunblane Cathedral



Dunblane Cathedral takes some beating....Happy memories for Sir Andy Murray and many others no doubt.
Gary Chittick
Scotland