

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?

Michael And Luna



Thank you *Scottish Banner* for featuring the story of Michael And Luna (*One man and his dog complete epic 5,000-mile rewilding trek across Canada, the Scottish Banner, January, 2022*) and what an incredible achievement this is. We have enjoyed reading about this epic adventure for an epic cause in our household and only imagine the determination Michael and his faithful companion Luna must have. Dogs truly

are man's best friend and to walk such a vast length with your best friend will provide Michael with some memories of a lifetime, and possibly some sore feet also! We so often here about what we can do for the environment and for many it is simply recycling their waste where possible and reusing bags when shopping, however for this great Scot (and surely honouring Canadian) it clearly is so much more. Canada is a land I love and one I am fortunate to travel across, however by car and plane rather than foot! I simply cannot imagine what a walk across Canada must be like on the body, mind and spirit-it must have been so hard, amazing, beautiful and lonely.

Scots are a hardy bunch and Michael has proven this tenfold. I love reading stories like this and knowing we live in an earth where so many still care.

Keep up the great work that goes into *the Scottish Banner*, the international Scottish community is so very fortunate to have it!

Alex Forsythe
Hamilton, Ontario
Canada

Royal Cousins



The year 2022 marks the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, the cousin-in-law, once removed, of our clan chief Malcolm, Lord Forbes. This celebration commemorates the 70th anniversary of the accession of the Queen on February 6, 1952. Captain Nigel Ivan Forbes, then Master of Forbes and later 22nd Lord Forbes, married the Hon. Rosemary Katharine Hamilton-Russell, in 1942. Lady Rosemary was the daughter of Gustavus William Hamilton-Russell, 9th Viscount Boyne (1864-1942) and Margaret Selina Lascelles (1883-1978). Lady Margaret's brother was Henry Lascelles, Viscount Lascelles and later the 6th Earl of Harewood (1882-1947), who married Mary, later the Princess Royal, in 1922. For the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II on June 2, 1953, at Westminster Abbey, Nigel, then Master of Forbes, carried the Princess Royal's coronet and Lady Rosemary carried her train.

Learn more here:
www.clan-forbes.org/post/royal-cousins
Clan Forbes Society

Scots Day Out Bendigo



Following considerable discussion by the Scots Day Out (SDO) committee and extensive consultation and guidance from the City of Greater Bendigo, the SDO committee reluctantly has made the decision to postpone SDO 2022 to the spring of this year. There remain COVID compliance requirements for events and meeting these extend beyond the capacity of the small SDO committee in terms of logistics, funding and implementation. Also taken into great consideration was the impact of current government requirements on the atmosphere and concept that is uniquely Scots Day Out together with the risk associated with the still rapidly changing nature of response and regulation to the COVID-19 pandemic. The risk, including financial implications would be too much for the SDO committee.

The committee has also considered that all Scottish events leading up to the original scheduled date for SDO have been cancelled for those organisers.

We are pleased to announce, however, that with the support of City of Greater Bendigo we will be presenting A Taste of SDO at the Capital Theatre on Friday 4 March, including Australian premieres from the Edinburgh Short Film Festival. Keep in touch for details at: www.scotsdayout.com
Scots Day Out
Bendigo, Victoria
Australia

Susan Boyle



I cannot tell you how happy I was to pick up *the Scottish Banner* and see Susan Boyle on the cover! I remember being transfixed when I first saw her audition all those years ago and she won me over as a fan instantly. I have enjoyed her music ever since but for me it is her story that has really struck a chord. She has remained so grounded and connected to her hometown and homeland. Fame seems to have taken a second fiddle to her roots, family and community. I would dearly love to be able to see her perform one day but being so far away I will have to get over to Scotland to see here one day. Having not heard about Susan for some time it was such a pleasant surprise to see her and on the cover of *the Scottish Banner* was the perfect place to see her again.

Our family came out to New Zealand many years ago, but we still have relatives in Fife, and I look forward to our next trip over, who knows maybe when Susan is touring!

Deb Henderson
Wellington, New Zealand

ScotlandShop coming to America



Ahead of our US base opening in Albany, New York, we wanted to give you the chance to tell us what you'd most like to see in store... Whether it's fabric & home furnishings or kilts & clothing, let us fulfil your tartan desires. Take part for your chance to win a ScotlandShop Gift Voucher! Visit: https://hubs.li/H0_RrJ90
The ScotlandShop Team

Ae Fond Kiss

Cold grey mornings loved ones crying
Onto the airport soon we'll be flying,
Back to Australia with its desert and plains
Wull ye no come back again.

Meeting old friends starts memories anew
Places we went and things we would do,
We talk of the humour but never the pain
Wull ye no come back again.

This tired old country of mountains and clans
Whisky and peat marching pipe bands,
Proud pipers playing soft haunting refrain
Wull ye no come back again.

Heads turn away as tears mist the eyes
Crying farewells as we climb to the skies
We gently hold hands settle back in the plane
Wull ye no come back again.

Time takes its toll on the weak and the strong
You've made a choice it's there you belong
We aw love ye dearly that much ye ken
Wull ye no come back again.

Davidson Harris
From the Barony of the Gorbals

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Sent to our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts-send us your photos or letters via social media (#ScottishBanner or #TheBanner):

Loch Eck



Loch Eck- A lone fishing boat on this iconic loch, 7 miles long outside Dunoon.
Ronald Stokes

Stirling



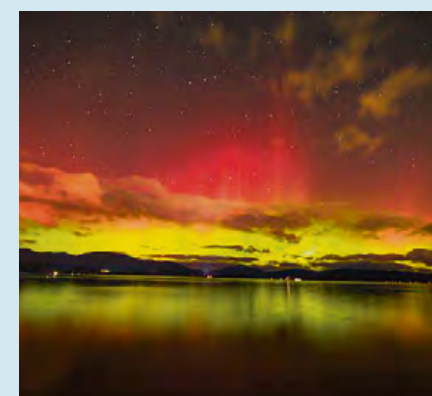
Morning across Stirling.
Scotdrone

Uist



This pot of gold leads to Uist.
Mik Coia

Aurora Borealis



Aurora at Duck Bay on Loch Lomond, at Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park.
Gerry Doherty