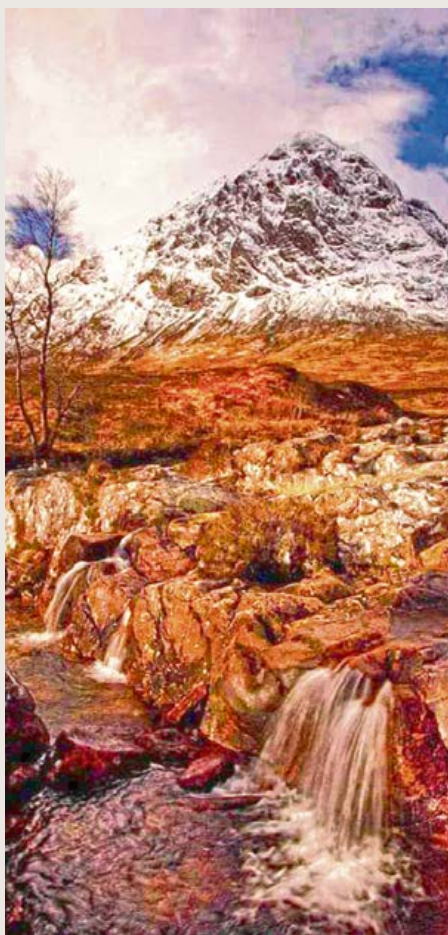


SCOT POURRI

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?

Memories



The land I love, will always be
a part of me forever
it's been too long, since I have walked
your hills of purple heather

the years have passed, but still I yearn
to once more see the Clyde
the days and months, away from you
can't quell my Scottish pride

I long to see my homeland,
once more before I die
the beauty of the mountains,
in a Scottish Highland sky
I know I'll stay forever, forever in my mind
I long to see my homeland,
to say my last goodbye

Your glens so green, and mountains bold
I've never seen your kind
nowhere on earth, will memories hold
like you will, in my mind

Glencoe's the place, my heart remains
forever through the years
the one true place, in all the land
my heart will drown in tears

By: Scott Carscadden
Canada

Ed note: Thank you Scott for
sending us this lovely poem, which
I am sure will speak to many.

Anthony Jenkins who served as editorial cartoonist, caricaturist and writer with the *Globe and Mail* for four decades.

Please visit our website at:
www.scottishstudies.com for more information and to obtain your signed copy of this captivating new book. Best wishes and thank you for your support.
David Hunter
President, *Scottish Studies Foundation*
Guelph, Ontario
Canada
www.scottishstudies.com

Queen Elizabeth

I was interested in the letter by Alexander Sibbald of Dunedin in December's edition of *the Banner*. He quite rightly states that there was never a Queen Elizabeth 1 of Scotland, and his historical facts are correct.

Having said that, Elizabeth 11 was dearly loved in Scotland, and as a former native of Edinburgh I remember well the excitement when she made a visit. Her attachment, particularly to Balmoral, was significant as she decided to spend her last days there where she died.

My dear husband was a regular guest to The Queen's garden parties at Holyrood House due to all his public works, and I used to listen avidly to his description of these on his return home.

May our dear Queen rest in peace. We will never forget her.

June Laws
Little Mountain, Queensland
Australia

I was interested in reading Alexander Sibbald's letter in the December issue of *the Scottish Banner*. Clearly not a monarchist himself, which is of course fine, he may consider some of the context of why the late Queen Elizabeth 11 was titled the second across the globe. Mr Sibbald is quite correct that there had never been an Elizabeth I on the throne in Scotland, but there was one in England.

Back in the 1953 the then Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Hector McNeil who was Secretary of State for Scotland agreed to create a system where whichever nations regnal number was higher the reigning monarch would adopt that number. Winston Churchill said in parliament: "I think it would be reasonable and logical to continue to adopt in future whichever numeral in the English or Scottish line were higher." Thus, Queen Elizabeth used the second, and it was agreed to by Scotland. I am sure Mr Sibbald may have noted his local media also used the same references as *the Scottish Banner* did, as did BBC, CNN, ABC, CBC, *The Scotsman*, Scottish Television (STV), the Scottish Parliament and numerous Scottish councils and a multitude of government organisations the world over.

Mary Sinclair
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada

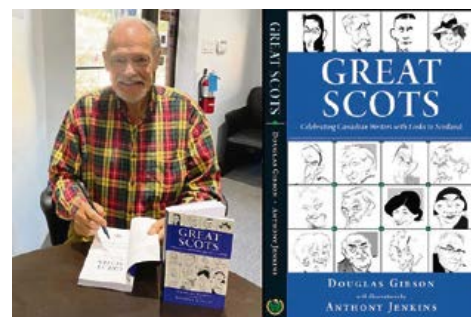
Reasons to visit Scotland in 2023



Wishing all the great writers and my fellow readers a wonderful 2023!
Claire Hunter
Christchurch, New Zealand

Ed note: Thanks for your letter
Claire and wishing you and all our readers and wonderful year ahead and have a great trip to Scotland!

GREAT SCOTS: Celebrating Canadian Writers with Links to Scotland



Earlier this year, former publisher-turned-author Douglas Gibson donated the rights to have his latest book *GREAT SCOTS: Celebrating Canadian Writers with Links to Scotland* published by the Scottish Studies Foundation to be used as a fundraiser for the Scottish Studies program at the University of Guelph.

We are excited to have received the first batch of books from the printer, all of which have been carefully inscribed by Doug. The book is full of fascinating anecdotes from his research and his career in publishing. It features 35 writers with links to Scotland, from Sir Alexander Mackenzie to Joseph Boyden, and is illustrated by co-author

Thank you very much for your listing of the 10 reason to visit Scotland in 2023 (*the Scottish Banner*, November, 2022). I try to get to Scotland every 3-5 years and that obviously has not been possible recently, but I am fired up to return in 2023! There are certainly a couple of suggestions I would be more than happy to try next year such as the Tartan exhibition at the V&A Dundee, visiting Dunfermline (I have heard the Abbey is outstanding) and I really think I will look to spend a few nights in a unique accommodation option-I am most interested in a farm stay.

The Scottish Banner is great wee paper and packs a punch of great reading each month, I echo what many of your readers no doubt feel when I say I love it from cover to cover.

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



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

The Falkirk Wheel



The Falkirk Wheel is a rotating boat lift in Tamfourhill, Falkirk, in central Scotland, connecting the Forth and Clyde Canal with the Union Canal. It reconnects the two canals for the first time since the 1930s. It opened in 2002 as part of the Millennium Link project.
The Kilted Photographer

Heather



The Pentlands heather in full bloom.
Paul Watt Photography

Sailing down the Clyde



PS Waverley passing Port Glasgow.
Mik Coia

The Scott's View - Scottish Borders



Recently I revisited the borders as there was forecast for a promising sunrise with fog and I was missing the rolling hills of the Borders. Well, what can I say, the Borders delivered, again! The colours were amazing and the fog rolled in quickly and it was almost a perfect morning.
ZenscapePhoto

Pose your questions on Scottish related topics to our knowledgeable readership who just may be able to help. Please keep letters under 300 words and we reserve the right to edit content and length. Letters can be emailed to info@scottishsbanner.com or online at www.scottishbanner.com/contact-us, alternatively you may post your letters to us (items posted to the Scottish Banner cannot be returned). Please ensure you include your full contact details should you require a reply. This page belongs to our readers so please feel free to take part!