

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 Waters o' Dee

There are beautiful rivers in Britain,
And grander by far o'er the sea,
But my heart flies to rest like a bird to its
nest near the beautiful waters of Dee.

It flows by the heather clad mountain,
And gurgles its way to the sea,
Its music so sweet
Often lulled me to sleep
Oh, beautiful river of Dee.

Though far from my home I may wander
To lands that lie over the sea,
My thoughts will return
And my heart will still yearn
For a sight of that river of Dee.

Oft on its banks I have wandered
With the one who was dearest to me,
Now she lies asleep
While my vigil I keep
Near my beautiful river of Dee.

Author Unknown.



I found this poem in my uncle's belongings and thought it would be appreciated by *Scottish Banner* readers.

Our family is from various parts of Aberdeenshire and the River Dee is loved by all the family. The name Dee comes from the Roman word Deva, which means goddess.

Keep up the great work of the *Scottish Banner*.

Alex Urquhart
Houston, Texas
USA

Drum Castle 700th anniversary



Thank you for the lovely article in the December issue about *RRS Discovery* and Discovery Point. What makes this article about *Discovery* special is that Lieutenant William Robinson Colbeck was the grandfather of Alexander Irvine, 27th Baron of Drum, and the Patron of Clan Irwin Association. He was Second Officer and Navigator on this ship when it sailed both voyages of the BANZARE Antarctic Expedition of 1929-1931. (For more information click here: <https://www.antarctica.gov.au/about-antarctica/history/exploration-and-expeditions/banzare-1929-31/>) He was a son of famous Captain William Colbeck (1871-1930) great grandfather of Alexander Irvine, an Englishman and an Antarctic Explorer, Seaman and Ship's Captain

William Colbeck Senior served firstly in the Merchant Navy. However, in 1889 he was awarded a Navy Reserve commission and joined Norwegian Carsten Egeberg Borchgrevink on the 'Southern Cross Expedition' to the Antarctic. Next, he went south to the Antarctic in Command on

the *Morning* to resupply Captain Robert Falcon Scott's *Discovery* trapped in the ice at McMurdo Sound. In 1904 he was again the Captain on the *Morning* going south to the Antarctic with Scott still trapped in the ice. There was a fortunate result however when the ice conditions shifted and the *Discovery* was freed.

There are some artifacts that have been donated to this prominent attraction by Carolyn Colbeck Irvine, daughter of Lieutenant Colbeck and mother of Alexander Irvine, Chief of the Name and Arms of Clan Irvine and 27th Baron of Drum.

2023 marks the 700th anniversary of Drum Castle being given to Clan Irvine by King Robert the Bruce, along with 10,000 acres of the Royal Forest. Clan Irwin Association is sponsoring a trip to Scotland to participate in the 700th anniversary celebration of Drum Castle. We will visit *Discovery* and Discovery Point where we will have a guided tour by Chief Alexander Irvine.

There will be some celebratory activities the first week of August in Aberdeenshire leading up to the Aboyne Highland Games on August 5. In addition, the Burnett Clan, neighbors and good friends of the Irvines, is celebrating 700 years of Crathes Castle.

Mary Erwin
Chairman, Clan Irwin Association
USA

Ed note: It sounds like a fantastic trip is planned for this year Mary, and please keep us posted on how it goes.

A Brewing Storm: Alewives in sixteenth-century Inverness



A recording of our January Zoom Talk (with a very lively Q&A session) has now been posted on YouTube and can be accessed

here: <https://youtu.be/ofa-gIjd0gk>.

The talk, *A Brewing Storm: Alewives in sixteenth-century Inverness* by Dr. Elizabeth Ewan, looks at the lives of the brewsters and alewives as they appeared in the surviving town court records of Inverness, 1556-86, and examines what they can reveal more generally about women's contributions to urban society. It describes the colourful life of Elspeth Barnet, a domestic servant who went on to spend her adult life in the brewing trade.

From earning her living and breaking the rules while doing so, brawling with customers and other townspeople, assisting other brewsters, supporting her husband when he also got into trouble, and even being banished from the town on occasion, Elspeth Barnet demonstrates the assertiveness and agency of women in early modern Scottish towns.

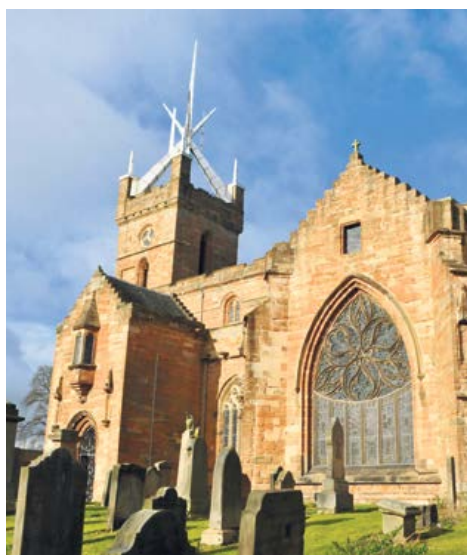
David Hunter, President
Scottish Studies Foundation
Ontario, Canada
www.scottishstudies.com

Caldwell House

I really enjoy reading *the Scottish Banner* each month. I have been waiting to read about places in Ayrshire like museums, castles and places. My great-grandfather Francis Earnest Power was born November 19, 1865 at Cardwell House in Ayrshire, Scotland. He died October 24, 1944 at Fairview Mullum Road in Ringwood, Victoria. I would appreciate any information on Caldwell House.

Ivy Weston
129 Herbert St
Bowen, Queensland
4805
Australia

St. Michaels, Linlithgow



It was with great interest that my wife and I read your article on the spire of St. Michael's Church in Linlithgow (*Crown of thorns-Saving the iconic symbol of Linlithgow, the Scottish Banner*, February, 2023). We were both christened there (unfortunately not in the same font as Mary Queen of Scots) in 1939, met again first day at high school, and have been together ever since.

We have a most beautiful tapestry of the stained glass window in St. Katherine's aisle, done by a friend from Linlithgow. Having left for Australia in 1961, we did not see the "new" spire until our first visit home....mixed feelings at first, but after several visits we have become accustomed to it.

We wish the Aspire Campaign every success, and hope that their efforts bear fruit.

Flora & Tom Blackwood
Denmark, Western Australia

Ed note: Thanks Flora and Tom for your letter and glad you enjoyed the article. For more information on the campaign, visit: www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/aspirelinlithgow

FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



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

Dean Village



Dean Village, Edinburgh in the snow.
Paul Watt Photography

Rannoch Moor



Winter on show at Rannoch Moor.
Mik Coia

Monarch of the Glen



First trip of the year. Hopefully the first of many. Absolutely love this place in the snow, although the road home was quite scary as it snowed heavily, and my car struggled keeping grip. Got home safe though.
AJ Landscape Photographer

Linlithgow Palace



This is Linlithgow Palace, Linlithgow Loch and St. Michael's Church. The name Linlithgow means 'the loch in the damp hollow'.
The Kilted Photographer