

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 historically important Cambuskenneth Abbey



King David I founded Cambuskenneth Abbey in about 1140, to serve the royal castle of Stirling. Most of the abbey was built in the 1200s, and much of the surviving structure dates back from then.

It was in Cambuskenneth that the nobility and clergy of Scotland swore fealty to David Bruce as the heir of King Robert in 1326 at the first parliament to include representatives of the burghs. It was also at Cambuskenneth Abbey in 1488 that James III was buried after the Battle of Sauchieburn. Of its many famous abbots, the most notable was Patrick Pantar, who became both Abbot and Secretary to James V.

In 1488 the Battle of Sauchieburn took place 3 miles south of Cambuskenneth, between the armies of James III and his son, the future James IV. James III's forces seem to have been overwhelmed, and he was killed sometime during the rout. He was buried in front of the high altar at Cambuskenneth Abbey, next to his queen, Margaret of Denmark, who had died two years earlier.

Jamie Taylor
Scotland

Not the Highland Games



Highland Games have long been a significant reminder of Scottish culture at home and abroad. Sadly, South Australia held its last Games several years ago, in Mount Barker in the picturesque Adelaide Hills. There have a few Highland Gathering, attracting perhaps 100 people, but the last of these (Glenbarr at Strathalbyn), held at a small rural holding, has closed its gates as well.

The main reasons have been that there are not enough volunteers to run the events, and they have become too expensive. All of this has been in a State where Scots have been a major force in its development. Even today, at the last Census, it was shown that South Australia had the second highest pro-rata figure of Scots born, just behind Western Australia, and nearly twice that of the next two States.

Since the devolution of the Scottish Parliament in 1999, the home country has been focusing on Heritage, History and Culture being significant factors in realising the social and economic well-being of Scotland. This acknowledged the important role of Scotland's massive diaspora.

Following two international migration symposia held in Adelaide it was decided that a research program should be initiated to look at the nature of Scottishness within SA.

This reported to Scotland in 2022, following which it was suggested that the research be extended looking at if and why there might be particular problems there which sets the State apart from other regions.

Not only does this include the problem of the Highland Games, but why the Scottish bit, in the minds of many people seems to be downplayed. The research has shown that there are some significant gaps which will be highlighted in a second report and a likely publication.

Ron Layton
Crafers, South Australia

A cinematic tribute to Loch Lomond—Honoring Scotland's legacy from California



I'm reaching out to share a cinematic tribute I've created for *Loch Lomond*—a visual journey that honors Scotland's legacy through storytelling, drone footage, and emotional framing. As a singer/songwriter and filmmaker based in California, I've long felt a deep connection to Scottish culture. This project blends visual metaphor and pacing to reflect the spirit of Loch Lomond—not just as a song, but as a symbol of loyalty, loss, and homeland. I would be honored if you'd consider featuring the video or sharing it with your readers. It's crafted to resonate

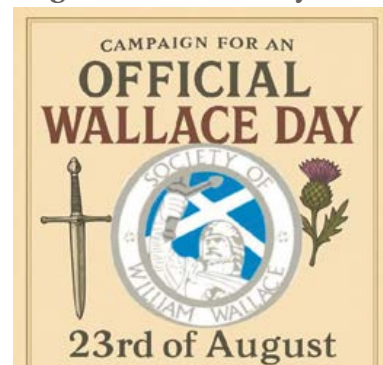
with Scots around the world and those who hold Scotland close to their hearts.

You can view my video at:
<https://youtu.be/xYDMLvt-p58>

Thank you for your time and for celebrating the global Scottish community.

Tony Liggins Singer/Songwriter & Cinematic Storyteller
Eastvale, California USA

Recognition of the 23rd of August as Wallace Day



We, the Society of William Wallace call upon the Scottish Government to officially recognise the 23rd of August as Wallace Day, National Day of Remembrance and celebration in honour of Sir William Wallace, one of Scotland's most iconic figures in the struggle for freedom.

Sir William Wallace was executed on the 23rd of August 1305 for leading the fight for Scotland's independence. His courage, sacrifice, and unyielding commitment to

Scottish sovereignty have echoed through centuries and remain an enduring symbol of national pride and resilience. While monuments, books, and films have kept his memory alive, there is no formal day set aside to honour the man who became a cornerstone of Scotland's national identity.

Why Wallace Day matters:

- It offers a moment of reflection on Scotland's long and hard-fought journey.
- It encourages historical education and civic pride, particularly among young Scots.
- It provides a focal point for cultural events, heritage tourism, and local community gatherings.
- It unites Scots across political and cultural lines around shared values of courage, resistance to oppression, and national dignity.

By officially recognising Wallace Day, Scotland would take a meaningful step toward preserving and celebrating its rich heritage—ensuring future generations understand and honour the sacrifices that shaped the nation we know today.

Let us mark August 23rd not just as a date of martyrdom, but as a National Day of Remembrance, unity, and inspiration.

Please sign the petition: www.change.org/p/wallace-day

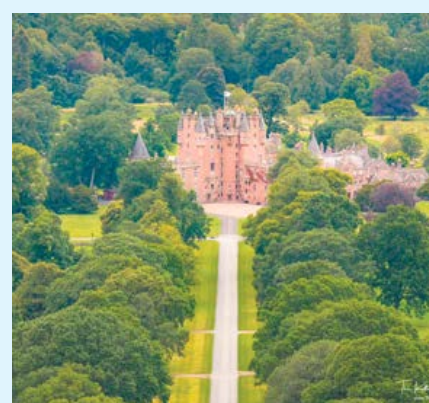
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FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



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

Glamis Castle



Glamis Castle—What a driveway!
The Kilted Photographer

Barradise



The beauty of Barra...
Derek A Grist

The National Wallace Monument



Birds eye view of the National Wallace Monument, Stirling.
Craig Duncan Photography

The Doulton Fountain



The Doulton Fountain—A Victorian masterpiece in the heart of Glasgow!
Soul of Alba Photography

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@scottishbanner.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!