



turnbull clan association

October, 1980

- NEWS-LETTER -

Dear Member,

It is some time since you received a News-Letter and the reason for this is the increasing size of our Association. I know that you will be delighted to hear that we now number approximately 550 world-wide.

To those members, old and new, I would thank them for their unbending support and the mail, which arrives every week, makes fascinating reading for myself and the Committee. The many interesting details, contained in these letters, are being gradually processed, so that in time, a full genealogical picture of the TURNBULLS will be built up.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership received a massive boost with the last Gathering in October 1979, due to the publicity we received through newspapers and radio—not only on a national scale, but also internationally. All this was most exciting and most of the winter was spent consolidating our position and generally servicing our new members' needs and enquiries.

It was at the Gathering in Hawick in October that we had the pleasure of meeting our Australian Branch Secretary, Jim Turnbull of Sydney, who had flown the globe to be with us on that auspicious occasion. How rewarding that meeting has been, as is shown in the tremendous amount of work that Jim has put into the Australian Branch in the past few months, and we heartily congratulate him upon reaching 140 members "down under."

Accompanying this News-Letter is our first Membership List, which I am sure you will find interesting as well as informative. It has proved to be a difficult exercise deciding how to present the list so that it could be added to with incoming lists of new members. However, finance has had the final word and we will simply issue additional lists from time to time.

Now that branches have been established successfully in Australia and the United States, we have found, in consultation with their organising secretaries, that the best way in which to run our financial affairs is to have dual membership down the line. This means that dues for parent and branch should be remitted to the branch, where one exists, who in turn will remit to the parent organisation, thus saving in money orders, etc.

For the benefit of new members, the following are our official organisers and secretaries who have been doing such a super job for which we say a big thank you :

1. **U.S.A. (Secretary)**—Mrs Dorothy Turnbull Berk, 1204 W. Lonquist Blvd., Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056.

2. **AUSTRALIA (Secretary)**—Mr S. Jim Turnbull, 2181 The Grandstand, Erskine Park, N.S.W. 2759, (P.O. Box 375 St. Mary's, N.S.W. 2760). Telephone 02-670-1624.

3. **U.S.A. (West Coast) (Councillor)**—Dr Byron G. Turnbull, 754 Old Jonas Hill Road, Lafayette, California 94549.

4. **U.S.A. (Councillor)**—Mr Michael G. Turnbull, 338 Granville Ave., Bellwood, Illinois 60104.

5. **AUSTRALIA (Councillor)**—Mr Walter Spratt, 7 Grant Street, Newtown, Geelong, Victoria 3220.

6. **SOUTH AFRICA (Secretary)**—Col. James Turnbull, Victoria Club, P.O. Box 277, Pietermaritzburg, Natal.

Meanwhile, for the future, the opening up of New Zealand is being actively pursued by Jim Turnbull in Sydney. This move has been accelerated by the information that we are not the only Turnbulls with this idea. Should anyone have any information please contact Jim and so combine any effort that may be about to happen. I am sure we will have a tremendous response and soon will have laid the cornerstone of yet another branch.

THE GATHERING AT HAWICK IN 1979

This was voted by all a tremendous success and the only blot on the weekend was the weather, which was simply awful. Ninety or so delegates attended over the two days and many new friendships were formed. The Rev. Harry Dodd of Denholm provided a superb finish to the weekend when he preached a superb sermon about the Turnbulls in no less a place than our own Kirk at Bedrule, the only tragedy being that nobody had had the forethought to record it for posterity! We were too carried away by the superb oratory.

To give our overseas members an idea of what the Grand Dinner was like, I hereby append the Menu for that memorable occasion :

MENU	TOAST LIST
Chilled Melon	Grace The Rev. Harry Dodd, B.D.
Cock-a-Leekie Soup	Chairman's Remarks John F. Turnbull, Esq.
Haggis	" Border Clans " Sir Arthur Elliott of Stobs, Bart.
with Champed Neeps and Tatties	Reply Ex-Cornet George Turnbull
Venison Pie a la Bedrule	" The Turnbulls " R. E. Scott, Esq.
with Roast and Duchesse Potatoes	Reply G. P. Turnbull, Esq.
Sprouts and Mixed Vegetables	" Our Guests " Hon. Provost F. T. Scott, J.P.
" Cloutie " Dumpling	Reply S. J. Turnbull, Esq.,
(Prince Charlie's Recipe)	New South Wales, Australia
Coffee and Cream	" Towards 1981 " Lt.-Col. H. C. Paterson,
	Scottish Tourist Board

The outcome of the whole weekend was indeed a major success and everyone who attended left with the resolve to return again in 1981, when the Turnbulls again would gather and take their proper place within the framework of " The Year of the Scot 1981."

FINANCE

Postage and Printing costs are rising alarmingly but I am glad to say that we are in the "black" to the tune of £300 which will be more or less consumed by this mailing. The great thing in our favour, however, is that the small profit we make on the Tartan, etc., is a real boon. May I make a plea for all U.K. members to pay by Bankers Order where ever possible. Also when a reply to correspondence is required, stamps would be most appreciated. Therefore, the general position is that we are managing, but any extra donations would certainly be welcomed.

THE BRANCHES

U.S.A.—Dottie Berk has had a very busy Turnbull Year and led The Clan when attending the Orlando Games in Florida in January of this year. Her report was indeed great to read and we all felt very proud that the Turnbells were represented and had such a good time. More recently, I understand that Velle Turnbull from Denver has kept the flag flying at the Games at Golden. A big thank you to both from all of us and keep up the good work.

In Dottie's most recent letter I understand that she hopes to host a tent in Orlando in January 1981, so please take note.

Last, but by no means least, we send greetings to Perry Turnbull in Arkansas, who held his own Gathering recently but, as yet, no information has come to hand on the results.

Meanwhile in California Dr Byron Turnbull has not been idle and we understand he is our representative T.C. member on the Scottish Lowland Clans and Families Society of North America Committee which has been recently formed in California. No doubt we will hear more of this Society once it gets going.

Australia—This Branch, under the leadership of Jim Turnbull, has made extremely good progress and is beginning to think of having a Gathering of its own. As I mentioned earlier, it now boasts a membership of 140 and growing steadily. Jim has been successful in producing some nice souvenirs for his Australian members, i.e., Lapel Pin, Commemorative Spoon, Australian Badge and Key Fob. These are all very smart and we intend to run them on our new Order Form for all members.

Jim, like Dottie and Mike in U.S.A., is receiving enquiries about "The Year of the Scot '81" and The Turnbull Gathering in '81, all of which is tremendously encouraging and we can assure you, most sincerely, of a great welcome to those who are willing to travel so far to be with us next year.

Dr ROBSON'S REPORT—Turnbells of Standhill

Can anyone give information on the Turnbells of Standhill? The small estate of Standhill was on the western edge of the parish of Ancrum, Roxburghshire, and in the seventeenth century was possessed by a Turnbull family. In 1676 Thomas Turnbull, a leading supporter of the Covenanting movement, attended a field meeting near Selkirk at which the preacher was John Blackader, later to be imprisoned on the Bass Rock. The Sheriff appeared to break up the meeting and to do so sought the help of two leaders, Thomas Turnbull and Robert Bennet of Chesters. Blackader made his escape through the night to Edinburgh under the guidance of Thomas. There is no doubt that Turnbull of Standhill was a prominent figure in these religious disputes. He was a regular listener to the preaching of John Livingstone at Ancrum by whom he was converted, attended many covenant meetings and coventicles often with sword in hand, and was persecuted by military forces who removed most of his possessions. He fought at Bothwell Bridge, and escaped from the battlefield with Walter Turnbull of Bewly. Sentenced in his absence to be executed Thomas was never captured and he eventually returned to Standhill. He had two sons, one of whom became a soldier, the other deputy-governor of Dumbarton Castle. News of any records of this family would be very welcome.

THE GATHERING and THE YEAR OF THE SCOT 1981

As most of you will know, The Year of the Scot is a National enterprise in bringing home Scots from all over the world. Every Clan in Scotland will be doing many things throughout the year for their "ain yins." We, in Hawick, have made the decision that the Turnbells will gather on 23rd May, 1981, for the weekend at least. This date coincides with the "Capital Week" in Edinburgh, which is jam-packed with events and functions. So the Turnbull delegates will have a great choice of programme before them in Edinburgh after the Turnbull programme.

It is yet too early to say what the weekend will have in store for delegates, but I can assure our members it will certainly be memorable. Branch Secretaries will receive full programmes for The Year of the Scot as soon as possible—we understand they are expected to be in circulation any day. To those members who intend visiting us, please give early warning to the committee.

TARTANS AND CLAN GOODS

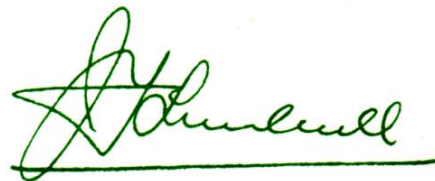
You will observe from our new price lists that all our items have risen due to the ever-present inflation. You will see that our new Pin, Spoon and Key Fob are from Australia and provide a very nice addition to the range. We have been asked to obtain a Wall Plaque, depicting the Coat of Arms, and this we are currently pursuing. We also have some photographic prints available of the Old Manuscript from which we obtained the Crest on our letter heading, and would gladly supply any member with a print. Unfortunately, we have no price at this time but feel sure it will not be expensive.

In closing this News-Letter may I ask those amongst the members who are keen on stamp collecting who it was who asked us to save ordinary G.B. stamps—for the life of me I cannot find the letter with the request and the collection is really building up! Incidentally, we get quite a few requests for new issues, etc., and if any member would like to form a Stamp Section please do not hesitate to let me know.

In conclusion, dear friends, The Clan is in good shape and marching on steadily, especially towards 1981, when I hope many of us will gather in May.

May I take this opportunity of thanking you for your support and wish you health and happiness where ever you are in the World.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. F. Turnbull', written over a horizontal line.

JOHN F. TURNBULL.

AUDACI FAVET FORTUNA