



THE BULL'S EYE BULL-E-TIN



Vol. VI No. 1
March, 1985

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING - SCOTLAND - 1985

The International Gathering in 1985 is being held in Glasgow from May 25 to June 1 and in Edinburgh from June 1 to June 8. In each city gala attractions are scheduled, features not available at other times. These include ban, violin, and harp concerts, receptions, tattoo, visits to the City Chambers to meet the Lord Provost, the opening of stately homes and buildings, lectures on Scottish affairs, to name a few, in addition to the decorations and pipe band concerts for which both cities are famous.

Glasgow can boast the unsurpassed Burrell Collection of art, housed in its own unique building opened in 1983 - a superb and unusual variety of artifacts given to the city of Glasgow. The City Museum itself contains an outstanding collection of arms and armour, organ concerts and one of the finest sales shops where all of the tourist's tastes may be satisfied. A tour to the City Chambers rewards the visitor with a sight of Victorian splendor in marble. The Opening Day Ceremony may be counted as a never to be forgotten experience.

Edinburgh. For those who have not visited it one need only mention the majesty of Edinburgh Castle surmounting the Gardens, the Royal Mile, Holyrood House, the Signet Library, the view of the city from Galton Hill, and the handfull of museums which must be visited. The shops, Roman Encampment, medieval banquet at Dalhousie Castle, Retreat Ceremonies at the Castle, the noonday parades and special entertainments will deserve attention. From The Claymore, July-Dec. 1984

THE BORDERS ARE CALLING - COME BACK TO THE BORDERS - HAWICK, MAY 31 - JUNE 2

Clan Headquarters will be in the CROWN HOTEL, Hawick, same as '81.

FRIDAY EVENING - 31 May - Cheese and Wine Reception.

SATURDAY MORNING - June 1st. - Bus Trip

SATURDAY EVENING - GRAND DINNER - Guest Speakers - both interesting and entertaining.

SUNDAY MORNING - 2nd June - Service at Bedrule Church

FAREWELLS at Horse & Hounds Inn, Bonchester.

Remember to bring camera and tape recorder to capture all the sights and sounds of narration on bus trip, speakers at dinner and the Church Service. The heraldic ceiling inside Bedrule Church merits a few pictures.

Members, Vivian & Dick Turnbull, Glendale, CA., Mary Jo & Gladson Turnbull, Oklahoma City, OK. and Marion & Bob Silva have taken the time to send along some observations gleaned from their recent trips to Scotland.

Vivian and Dick stayed in Peebles, which is convenient to Hawick but with much better facilities. The Peebles Hotel Hydro sits high on a hill overlooking the Tweed valley and river. A good sized hotel, with ample parking, a pool and excellent dining. The staff is young and charming although I was warned that I was "ruining the whiskey" by adding ice and water..

Purchases of cashmere sweaters were made at Chas. Williams in Hawick and a stop at Peter Andersons's, Galashiels for Turnbull Tartan and wall plaque.

Marion & Bob stayed at some very nice B & B's. Found the crest in Jedburgh - but not without some assistance. It was somewhat difficult to recognize - until the caretaker said - "oh yes, of course, right over here." And, she went on, "you'll want to see the one inside also!" That inside one was somewhat unusual. The grass was amazingly green, we were the only ones there that early morning and the graveyard seemed appropriately eerie. It was interesting to see so many "Turnbells" all in one spot for a change. I stood around for a while waiting for some supernatural message from the past but couldn't stir any of the dead. I guess the Turnbells are just too practical to bother with such communications. More delightful was the trip to Peter Andersons a kilt skirt was ordered which took about 8 weeks to be made and arrive. It was perfect.

We did spend the night in Galashiels, at a most delightful B & B. The rooms are fairly average but the building itself is imposing, high on a hill with a view of the valley below. The real charm of the place lies in the host, however, Squadron Leader R.G. Scott, Buckholmburn, Edinburgh Rd., Galashiels - 0896-2697. Dinner at the Red Gauntlet "in town" was nice; they have some especially unusual desserts.

Mary Jo & Gladson rented a little Ford Fiesta and stayed at B & B places. We had no reservations for these but we had no trouble at all in finding them. We spent several days in the Borders. I particularly recommend Sir Walter Scott's home at Abbotsford. The cities we found most interesting include Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Aberdeen and Inverness. Castles enjoyed were Edinburgh, Dunvegan, Dunrobin and Blair. The monuments and museums at Culloden, Bannockburn and Stirling were most impressive.

Our short visit with Myra and her mother was the highlight of our trip.

The crest which all were looking for at Jedburgh Abbey is mentioned in the following item from "AMERICAN OF GENTLE BIRTH AND THEIR ANCESTORS" by Pittman & Walker, page 160.

"William Turnbull (ancestor of Dr. Andrew Turnbull), born about the XV century, was created Bishop of Glasgow 1448 and restored several portions of Jedburgh Abbey. On a buttress of the south nave may still be found the Turnbull Arms as thus described.

Arms: On a silver shield three black bulls' heads, erased, two and one. Crest: A bull's head erased, sable. Motto: "Audace favet fortuna" (Fortune favors the bold). Alternative Motto: "Servavi Regem." (I serve the king.)

Johnathan Trumbull (the elder), Governor of Massachusetts, familiarly known as "Brother Jonathan," claimed descent from the Turnbells and his descendants in New England use this coat of arms. (Sir Bernard Burke.)

Gladson also found the Turnbull and Hume crests on the walls at Abbotsford. Crests of other families who were among the "Defenders of the Marches" will also be found there.

In Alnwick Castle hangs a painting of Turnbull which is labelled Joseph Turnbull, Piper to the Dutchess of Northumberland 1756. This painting depicts Turnbull playing an ivory set of small pipes with a plain chanter. Among the people he taught to play the pipes was his post boy, William Cant, who later kept the Blue Bell Inn at the Head of the Side, Newcastle. Also a very interesting castle and gift shop.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN TURNBULL

As you're all aware, there will be a clan gathering in Scotland this Summer.

I'd like to take this opportunity to express what the last International Clan Gathering meant to my wife and me.

First, a little bit of background. My mother was born in Glasgow and moved to Montreal and my father was born in Calgary, Alberta. They moved to the United States in 1946 and I was born in Albany, New York, in 1947. Since my father had left home at a very early age, I had absolutely no contact with the Turnbull side of our family. I also wasn't brought up with much in the way of Scottish heritage.

In the course of my life we moved many times. We now reside in Madison, Wisconsin. Because I have a Scottish surname we received the generic mailing on the last International Clan Gathering. At the same time, due to the efforts of Dottie Turnbull Berk, we received the mailing from the Turnbull Clan USA. We decided to join the Turnbull Clan and that's how the next sequence of events started.

Having never known a Turnbull other than my father, my wife and I decided it would be fun to go to the International Clan Gathering. We informed Dottie that we would be going, and we met both Dottie and Bill in Chicago. Both Dottie and Bill treated us as if we were actual members of the family and introduced us personally to John and Myra Turnbull in Hawick, Scotland.

Words cannot describe the feeling that we developed towards the Scottish tradition and the personal friendships that we made while there. For someone who had absolutely no knowledge of Scottish heritage or tradition it was a revelation to be able to feel the compassion and longing to know more about one's ancestry. To know that everyone at the gathering had the same desires and was able to feel the warmth that was developed. To know that when you walked away from the gathering you had developed life long friendships. That is the legacy of John Turnbull. He dedicated his life to start a Turnbull Clan. Even though he touched my life briefly I will never be able to forget what he has done for my wife and myself.

John may no longer be with us, but his legacy lives on within the Turnbull Clan.

Let's make this year's gathering a tremendous success. I know you will come away with the same feelings my wife and I did.

Hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

George H. and Anna L. Turnbull

GAMES AT WHICH WE WILL BE REPRESENTED WITH A TENT

United Scottish Society HG, Orange County Fairgrounds, Costa Mesa, CA. Hosted by Dr. Fred and family -- May 25-26

Grandfather Mountain HG, MacRae Meadows, Linville, NC. Hosted by Netta and John Turnbull July 11-14

Chicago HG, Grant Park, Chicago, Ill., Hosted by Dottie Berk and Chicago area members July 27.

Rocky Mountain HG, Brooks Field, Golden, Colorado. Hosted by Velle and Morris. August 10-11

Stop by and say hello, offer to lend a hand, you will find the experience rewarding.

GENEALOGY

Bill Brookshire, 409 E. Columbia St., San Augustine, Texas 75972 writes that he has some copies of letters written by his 5th great grandfather, Alexander Veitch, of Peebles, Scotland, to his 4th great grandfather in Bladensburg, MD. (Prince George County). These letters bearing dates of 1768 - 1774 mention a John Turnbull. He says that if the descendants of John Turnbull of Prince George Co., MD., do not know how he got to MD., or his activities prior to coming there, he may be able to provide a clue. Write him.

ROXBURGH - FLOWER OF THE BORDER

Using the map on the back page of the SPECIAL ISSUE Newsletter, January, 1985, fasten your seatbelts as we journey thru the Borders, past and present.

OUR GREAT HERITAGE. Christianity came early to the Borders, with St. Cuthbert and St. Ninian first bringing the gospel; St. Mungo, they say, wrestled long and hard on the Tweeddale braes before he converted Merlin. Centuries after, the abbey-builders - masons from England and monks out of France - raised the lovely abbeys that stand ruined today. The great Border abbeys have each their own distinctive character: Dryburgh is shady and contemplative, tucked into a woody bend of the Tweed; Jedburgh rises serene and pale above the busy town; Kelso is massive, stern and fortress-like; Melrose, delicate in pink and yellow stone, is airy, light and playful. In each town and village too, there are parish kirks, simple or ornate, many as lovely and inspiring as the abbeys themselves.

As the abbeys suffered in the long years of war, so too did the great castles which guarded the border with England. Many have utterly disappeared; others, like the once great fortress of Roxburgh, are gap-toothed and chap-fallen.

Hermitage, daunting and perfect, still dominates the road to Liddesdale; the royal castle of Newark still watches over Ettrick Forest, and Fast Castle stands in ruins above the sea. The smaller towers and castles have often survived better; Smailholm, Neidpath, Oakwood, Drochil, Hume, Greenknowe, and dozens more can still be seen.

Between the venerable house of Traquair - near a thousand years old - and the Edwardian splendors of Manderston, there are historic houses and gardens for every taste. There is Abbotsford, with its memories of Sir Walter Scott, or Queen Mary's House at Jedburgh. Bowhill, famous for its paintings, lies deep in woodland; Mellerstain has Adam's matchless interiors; Floors Castle is topped by Playfair's extravagant pepper-pot towers. On a smaller scale, we have the Black Dwarf's Cottage, or the Gypsy Palace at Yetholm - each

One is a treasure house, and all in their way show something of the riches of Border history. Our heritage, in all its richness and diversity, is here for you to discover.

OUR ROMANTIC PAST. Though monuments and settlements from earliest times are scattered throughout the Borders, we know almost nothing of the ancient Celts who built them, and so must begin the reckoning of Border history with the coming of the Romans, two thousand years ago. They were never to settle here, for even in their day, this was a troublesome area, and it was to become more turbulent still.

In the middle Ages, the long wars between England and Scotland turned the lovely Border country into a battlefield, where men had to defend themselves as best they could. From that harsh heritage came the Border Reivers and the Mosstroopers; magnificent horsemen, and superb irregular cavalry in time of war, their talents in quieter times more often turned to freebooting and banditry. Caught between two governments, they ranged back and forth across the frontier, stealing to live and living to steal. Their ancestors had troubled the Romans and halted the Danes, and these hard-riding men in their turn harried the English for three hundred years and more.

Today, in more peaceful times, the Borderer rides out, in June and July, to join the great mounted cavalcades of the Common Ridings and all the Gatherings and Festivals which are the high point of the Border year. Each burgh's festival will celebrate its people's history - a battle bravely fought, a monarch's grant of lands, the founding of an abbey. All are spectacular, and all reflect the Borderer's conviction that he "comes frae nothing sma'". (Comes from nothing small.)

Many kings and queens have loved the Borders, but few have been so long remembered as King Arthur, the Once and Future King. He is buried, the legend says, by Melrose, beneath the Eildon Hills, while his wizard Merlin lies in high Tweeddale, at Drumelzier.

Each stone and stream, the Border Ballads tell, has its own story, and Border writers have added many more. Sir Walter Scott, James Hogg, Stevenson and Macdiarmid have all drawn their inspiration from these hills and valleys. It almost seems that there are more frontiers than one in this haunted landscape; to the North East, it has been said, the Borders slide into Fairyland.

BEDRULE (pop. 34) is traditional stamping ground of the fierce and troublesome Turnbull family that controlled the Rule Valley from source to Teviot from its chief's Bedrule Castle stronghold. There are no remains of the 13th century castle which once overlooked the river from a site near the modern church - itself strikingly located above the glen - with its colorful heraldic ceiling.

BONJEDWARD was once the site of a tower where Covenanters were held imprisoned. Today, in the Old Smiddy, is an attractive Craft Centre run by Lothian Estates. Open throughout the year, work is displayed by many of the Borders' finest artist-craftsmen and Bonjedward is a must for any traveller.

BRANXHOLME CASTLE was principal setting of Scott's "Lay of the Last Minstrel", a lyrical evocation of romantic knighthood - although its burning by the Earl of Northumberland in 1532 was considerably less than romantic.

APON TREE stands by the A68 south of Jedburgh, venerable last survivor of ancient Jed forest - its name said to derive from Capuchin monks on pilgrimage to Jedburgh Abbey who sheltered beneath its branches.

CARTER BAR - on the Borderline, high on Cheviots' crest, a magnificent gateway to Scotland.

What a panorama spreads itself before, like a magic carpet of rolling hills, valleys and forests, rivers, farms and open moors rippling away to the far horizon. In the 1830's there was a scheme to tunnel through the hills and so make for an easier crossing, but at 20,000 pounds, the idea was quietly dropped.

DENHOLM (pop. 632) spreads around its spacious green which has an impressive memorial to Dr. John Leyden, (1775-1811), poet and linguist, whose thatched cottage birthplace is close by. Leyden was a shepherd's son who, qualifying as a doctor and minister, was drawn by his interest in Oriental languages to extensive travel in India and Malaysia. He became a professor in Bengal and held high office in Calcutta under Lord Minto. His meteoric career ended when, aged only 36, he died in Java of a fever. (John Leyden wrote the ballad, "Scenes of Infancy" which contains the story of how the Turnbull's got their name. His sister married a Turnbull.)

FATLIPS CASTLE perches high on Minto Crag - once the stronghold of Turnbolls and later Elliots, now a landmark of the Borderlands. It has its origins in the 16th century, when Turnbull of Barnhill - whose own tower huddles at the foot of the crags - was reputed to have rested on the ledge still known as Barnhill's Bed; "On Minto Crag the moonbeams glint, Where Barnhill hewed his bed of flint."

FULTON TOWER, like so many Border peels, a ruin, came into possession of the Turnbull family when Margaret Hume of Cowdenknowes married William, son and heir of Thomas Turnbull of Bedrule. It features in the Queen's Ride, one of the main events preceding the Jethart Callant's Festival, when a presentation is made to the Callant at the Tower.

REDESWYRE STONE marks the spot of the last engagement ever fought between Scottish and English forces - in the summer of 1575 at a Wardens' meeting close to the Border. The Scots Warden of the Middle March, Sir John Carmichael and his English counterpart, Sir John Forster were there, each accompanied by members of the principal riding families. From north of the Border: Elliots, Armstrongs, Douglasses, Turnbolls and Scotts; and from the south; Fenwicks, Collingwoods and Shaftoes. But such short-tempered men rarely settled their disputes without trouble - one word borrowed another, blows were exchanged, a pitched battle soon broke out which seemed sure to be won by the English until, across the moors rang out the old battle cry - "Jethart's here!" - as Provost Rutherford and his men of Jedburgh stormed onto the field and won the day.

RUBES LAW dominates Roxburgh District, a rugged peak rising to 1392 ft on the summit of which the Romans established a signal station. Here Peden the Prophet - Alexander Peden (1626-86) - rested his bible and preached to the Covenanters - while lookouts kept a watchful eye for Royalist troopers. Excellent views across southern Scotland and beyond.

SMAILHOLM (pop. 59) has many historic associations, the Manor of Smailholm being mentioned as early as the 12th century. Certainly, the old Church dates from then - although it has been considerably rebuilt since. It first belonged to the monks of Coldingham, but the 13th century owner of the lands of Smailholm, Andrew of Moray, fell at the Battle of Stirling in 1297. Later, the Cranston family had an interest, as did Rutherfords, Hoppringells and Humes, - all prominent in the Berwickshire Merse and notable names in Border history. Today the simple church is enhanced by a splendid Scott Memorial Window.

HAWICK (pop. 16,584) is largest of the Border Burghs, principal town and administrative centre of Roxburgh. Long noted for its civic pride and spirit of independence, Hawick once supported a currency change while an observer recorded that "all the rest of Scotland was like to rise in arms against it." Not that Hawick is out of step, just one example of the Border character, that certain contrariness, an unconquerable courage which is only found in a people who, through adversity, refuse to accept defeat.

Gleanings from booklets and other publications produced by the Borders Regional Council.

The above is just a mere hint of what you can expect to see on your tour round "Turnbull country". There is so much more that was left out, places and times paying tribute to many of the other Border families whose lives were and are intertwined with ours thru alliances and marriages. The descriptions help to set the mood which seems to prevail when you finally stand in these hallowed spots.

If our family clan had not been dormant for these past hundreds of years, and we would have enjoyed a feeling of continuity, it is wondered if all who have made the pilgrimage would have still felt that eerie, mystical feeling which seems to come over all of us when we make that first trip to the Borders. Castles are made for ghosts, do you think we have some friendly ghosts floating round the Borders sprinkling a spell on us?

Roger Quir wrote:

From the moorland and the meadows
To this city of the shadows
Where I wander, old and lonely, comes the call I understand:
In clear, soft tones enthralling,
It is calling - calling - calling -
'Tis the Spirit of the Open from the dear old Borderland!

TRAVEL BROCHURES YOUR TRAVEL AGENT CAN GET YOU

The best and about the only way to see the Borders area is with a fly/drive program. Your agent can help you tailor an itinerary to suit your needs. Several companies have fly/drive packages using hotels, AA hotels, farm and country homes, B & B accommodations, and one using a group of 4 hotel chains.

CIE using TWA "BRITAIN", Brendan Tours using Aer Lingus "IRELAND, ENGLAND SCOTLAND & WALES". BMIT using Northwest Orient "IRELAND, BRITAIN", BRITISH AIRWAYS "FLY/DRIVE HOLIDAYS IN BRITAIN" and Passage Tours using Northwest Orient "GREAT BRITAIN".

"AA HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS IN BRITAIN" published by the Automobile Association is a book of 735 pages of information listing ratings and descriptions of hotels and restaurants bearing the AA seal of approval. Do it yourselfers should not be without this book, \$15.95 at most bookstores or orderform may be obtained from nearest British Tourist Authority. Many book stores will special order it.

"AA GUESTHOUSES, FARMHOUSES AND INNS IN BRITAIN" is also available. Check with your AAA Agency, they may be able to obtain it on special order.

T - SHIRTS WITH CLAN CREST

The T-shirts have been received and look great. In order to accomodate the special orders we had to order more than we needed, consequently, we will have extras for those who need them, or those who did not previously order. ADULT SIZES ONLY - Medium, Large, Xtra Large, color-Navy, price-\$8.00. Make checks payable to Turnbull Clan Association and send to: Dorothy Turnbull Berk, 1204 West Lonnquist Blvd., Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056.

As you read this, the orders are being packaged and shipped. Sorry the manufacturer took a bit longer than promised. Everyone has a problem relating to a bull with green horns, production held up until they confirm it with me. Then they ran out of the navy shirts. Hope you find them worth the wait. Good health to enjoy them.

FROM THE LAND DOWN UNDER - NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

I always look forward to letters and packets from Jim Turnbull, Organizer of the Australian Branch. He manages to find so many interesting articles and facts about the Turnbulls which he so generously shares with us.

Jim has been in touch with Pat Turnbull, organizer of the New Zealand Branch and Pat and family have had a distasteful year personally. During the floods in the Southland earlier this year their farm, which lies between two rivers, was completely inundated and some two feet of water went through their home, destroying quite a lot of personal property. Fortunately Pat reports no loss of life, but damage throughout the district running into millions of dollars.

Have received the book "TURNBULLS OF DIGBY N.S." it took almost six months to get here. The article on the "ELMIRA TURNBULLS" is most interesting. I will have to digest it more fully later. It is amazing what has been printed and published on the Turnbulls over the years and which is just startling to come to light. How much more is there that we do not know about.

Members can look forward to some of the articles in future Newsletters. The pioneering spirit of the settlers in Australia is so similar to that of the US.

HAPPY EVENTS - CONGRATULATIONS TO

Hank and Frank Rough on the birth of their sweet baby girl, Rebecca Rose Rough, born November 11, 1984, 7 lbs 14 oz - 21 inches, Virginia Beach, Virginia. Frank is a Chief Petty Officer, USN, currently assigned to a ship. We wish him many happy days in port to assist Hank with Rebecca.

Wedding bells rang out for Marion and Bob Silva. The honeymoon was the trip to Scotland. What a wonderful beginning.

NEW KERR BOOK - MAY BE OF INTEREST TO MANY OF OUR MEMBERS

From "THE BORDER LINE" Newsletter of the Kerrs: FERNIEHIRST CASTLE BOOK NOW AVAILABLE. The only book about the Kerrs -- and a very good one -- may now be ordered by mail. Entitled "FERNIEHIRST CASTLE, SCOTLAND'S FRONTIER STRONGHOLD," this 87-page book was written by Anthony J. C. Kerr of Jedburgh.

Copies of the soft-bound book may be ordered by sending a check for \$6.00 to: KERR FAMILY ASSOCIATION OF N. AMERICA, 201 Snow Building, Durham NC 27701. Copies will be ordered from Scotland and mailed, postage paid, within 60 to 90 days.

Anthony Kerr's book contains the most information on the Kerrs ever published under a single cover, and constitutes a fair and accurate account of their lives in the Borders of Scotland. For once, the Kerrs are accorded their rightful place in history. Since the Kerrs were intermarried with the other Border families, the author has included chapters in this book on the Homes, Elliots, Maxwell's, Rutherfords, Scotts, Swintons and TURNBULLS. These families were neighbors or near-neighbors of various branches of the Kerr family.

WARNING - Beatrice Bayley is working the various Clans with ads for her book which promises a Heritage Book. It is deceptive. Understand it is a printout of public records, utilities, phone listings, real estate records etc.



turnbull clan association

Coblestanes,
Wilton Park Road,
Hawick, Scotland, TD9 7JH.
Tel. 0450 73280.
March, 1985.

- NEWS-LETTER -

Dear Member,

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING AT HAWICK

31st May, 1st and 2nd June, 1985

Greetings to you all for 1985 and I am delighted to inform you that arrangements are well in hand for our **INTERNATIONAL GATHERING** this year. We are hoping for a good turnout as we have planned a full and exciting weekend.

On the Friday evening, 31st May, there will be a **Cheese and Wine Reception** with Scottish style entertainment.

A **Bus Trip** has been organised during the day on Saturday, 1st June, with Dr Michael Robson acting as our guide, followed in the evening by a **Grand Dinner** and I can assure you that our Guest Speakers will be both interesting and entertaining.

A **Special Service** will again be held at Bedrule Church on Sunday morning, 2nd June, followed by refreshments at the Horse & Hounds Inn at Bonchester.

I hope that this brief résumé is enough to whet your appetites and that you will make every effort to be with us. We are sure we have the right measure of ingredients for a tremendous weekend but the final recipe for success is in your hands, so please make a definite entry in your diaries now!

As regards the booking of accommodation, we enclose a list of local hotels giving particulars of their tariffs so that you may go ahead with your **own** reservations and, at the same time, please inform us of your arrangements so that we have an accurate list at this end. Compared to previous years, we think this will be a more efficient method.

You will observe that the Crown Hotel have given us exceptionally reasonable rates for accommodation. This is a special discount for Clan Members, so please mention the fact when booking.

You will be fascinated to learn that pipe music has been composed for **THE TURNBULL'S MARCH**. Our own Dottie Turnbull Berk has sent over a copy from America with the permission of the composer, Donald Varella, and our Piper is busy rehearsing it for the Gathering!

Now a few words about 1984 — the year was filled with many visiting Turnbulls from overseas. It is really quite amazing how many make a special effort to call in and it is so gratifying to know that the establishment of our Association has struck such a personal chord with Turnbulls all round the world. It seems to have given them a sense of identity and a feeling for the rich tapestry of Scottish history in which the Turnbulls have played a proud role.

A few words about our Gathering last October—although it was a most informal weekend I know that I speak on behalf of all those who attended when I say how much we enjoyed ourselves. The bonds of friendship become stronger with every visit and my sincere thanks are conveyed to those loyal members who support us at every function.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are due on 1st April, 1985 (£5.00). Members who have Standing Orders should now send them to The Bank of Scotland, 7 High Street, Hawick.

We will be anxiously awaiting your reply, with all the relevant information we need. To those members who have never attended a Gathering before, I can only say "You don't know what you are missing." Turnbulls en masse are a "sight to behold!"

The stage is now set and a very warm welcome awaits all Gathering Turnbulls in Hawick '85.

Very sincerely yours,

MYRA TURNBULL.

Name

Address

.....

.....

Telephone No.

I/We will be attending the undernoted
functions (YES or NO) :

Number

Cheese and Wine
Reception

Bus Run

GRAND DINNER

CHURCH SERVICE

I/We have booked accommodation for
..... persons at

Hotel, Hawick, for Nights.

**Please return this part of the leaflet, fully
completed, by Friday, 3rd May, 1985 to :**

Myra Turnbull,
Coblestones,
Wilton Park Road,
Hawick, Scotland, TD9 7JH.
Telephone 0450 73280.

I enclose Cheque/Postal Order for £5.00
in payment of Subscription for 1985-86.

Name

Address

.....



TURNBULL CLAN GATHERING

Hawick : Scotland

May 31st, June 1st, 2nd 1985

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 31st MAY, 1985

8.00 p.m.

Registration at Clan Headquarters (The Crown Hotel).

Cheese and Wine Reception with Scottish style entertainment.

SATURDAY, 1st JUNE, 1985

Morning

Shopping and leisure time.

11.30 a.m.

Departure of Bus Tour. Dr Michael Robson, as our guide, will conduct us through the Turnbull Country, along with other places of interest, arriving back in Hawick at approximately 4.30 p.m.

8.00 p.m. for 8.30 p.m.

GRAND INTERNATIONAL DINNER to be held in the Crown Hotel Ballroom.

SUNDAY, 2nd JUNE, 1985

10.30 a.m.

TURNBULL CHURCH SERVICE at Bedrule Church.

12 noon

Return via the Horse & Hounds Inn, Bonchester, for refreshments and farewells.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

(Bed and Breakfast)

CROWN HOTEL

High Street, Hawick (Tel. 0450-78787)

£12.00 per person—Single Room

£13.00 per person—Single Room with Bath

£20.00—Twin-bedded Room

KIRKLANDS HOTEL

Hawick (Tel. 0450-72263)

£20.00 per person—Single Room

£23.50 per person—Single Room with Bath

£33.50—Double Room

£35.00—Double Room with Bath

£36.00—Weekend Breaks
(Half Board, 2 Days)

ELM HOUSE HOTEL

17 North Bridge Street, Hawick

(Tel. 0450-74175)

£10.00 per person—Single Room

£15.00 per person—Single Room with Bath

£18.00—Double Room

£24.00—Double Room with Bath

MANSFIELD HOUSE HOTEL, Hawick

(Tel. 0450-73988)

£17.25 per person—Single Room

£19.27 per person—
Single Room with Bath or Shower

£22.20—Double Room

£25.30—Double Room with Bath or Shower

(This Hotel's quotation is for Continental Breakfast)

1616: February 3.—(Licet, near end of volume).—Registration of Contract, dated at Edinburgh, 2nd August 1614, between John Ainslie, called Goodman burgess of Edinburgh, and William Ainslie, his son and apparent heir on the one part, and Patrick Turnbull of Templehall on the other part, and Margaret Turnbull, his daughter, for the marriage of the said William Ainslie and Margaret Turnbull. Thomas Turnbull, son of the said Patrick, is cautioner; and the tocher is 1000 merks. Witnesses—William Turnbull, fiar of Bedrule, Robert Turnbull, his father's brother, and George Turnbull there.—(Hay Office, vol. ccxlv.)

1616: October 21.—Bond by Robert Turnbull in Bedrule to Joseph Tennent, minister of Bedrule, for £12; dated at Bedrule, 13th January 1614. Witnesses—Mark Trumble in Bedrule, and Robert Stevin, notary.—(Vol. ccclv.)

1616: November 1.—Bond by William Scott of Todrig to Mark Turnbull, son of Hector Turnbull in Hartisheuch, for £140, and 10 merks, dated at the Grange, 14th May 1616. Witnesses—Adam Turnbull, called of the Wowly, and Thomas Young, schoolmaster at Hopkirk.—(Vol. ccclv.)

1616: November 1.—Bond by Andrew, *alias* David Turnbull, flesher, burgess of Jedburgh, to James Turnbull called of Bedrule, and Mark Turnbull in Hartisheuch, for £38; dated at Jedburgh, 16th November 1616.—(Vol. ccclv.)

1617: December 11.—Bond by James Turnbull of Westleyis and William Turnbull, his son and apparent heir, to James Haswell, chirurgion, burgess of Jedburgh, for £46; dated at Jedburgh, 8th January 1616. James Rutherford, notary, burgess of Jedburgh, witness.—(Vol. cclaviii.)

1618: February 17.—Registration of Bond by Walter Turnbull of Bedrule to George Rutherford, younger in Abbotreull, in name and behalf of William Schevill of Fodderlie, for two bolls cherittie meal, of the met and measure of Jedburgh, which he promises to repay; dated at Jedburgh, 28th October. Witnesses—Robert Turnbull in Bedrule, Leonall Turnbull in Hartisheuch, Robert Stevin, notary, and George Turnbull, son of the said Walter Turnbull of Bedrule.—(Vol. cclxx.)

1618: March 6.—Bond by Walter Turnbull of Bedrule, and Helen Lilico, my spouse, to Adam Turnbull, called of Tounheid of Abbotreull, for £80; dated at Abbotreull, 30th October 1617. Witnesses—James Ainslie, burgess of Jedburgh, James Lorane in Appotsyde, Thomas Turnbull, son of William Turnbull, fiar of Bedrule, Patrick Turnbull in M'Syd, and Adam Turnbull in Bonchester tounheid.—(Vol. cclxx.)

1618: March 26.—Registration of Bond by James Jamesone in Lassudden to James Turnbull, brother german to Walter Turnbull of

Bedderreull, for £40, 18s. 8d.; dated at Jedburgh, 24th November 1617. Witnesses—William Rutherford, notary public in Jedburgh, and Robert Rutherford his servitor.—(Vol. cclxx.)

1619: February 27.—Bond by Walter Turnbull of Baddiruill, and Helen Lilico his spouse, to Robert Ker of Ferningtoun, for 200 merks; dated at Jedburgh, 24th February 1618. Witnesses—Robert Freissill of Orton, Robert Turnbull, brother of the said Walter John Ker, eldest son of the said Robert, and others.—(Vol. cclxxxii.)

1619: May 24.—Bond by Walter Turnbull of Bedrule, narrating that William Turnbull, fiar of Bedrule, his son, has been wardied at the instance of George Ker, apparent of Cavers, for not finding caution of lawburrows to him, and promising that in respect of his liberation at his request he will re-enter him on 15th April next in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh, under the penalty of £1000; dated at Jedburgh, 15th March 1619. Witnesses, David Turnbull, flesher, burgess of Jedburgh, Adam Rutherford, son of the deceased James Rutherford, one of the brothers of Littleheuch, and others.—(Vol. cclxxxii.)

1619: December 23.—Bond by Adam Turnbull in Bonchester tounheid to his good friend, Walter Lorane in Gattascot, for £30; dated at Jedburgh, 4th January 1619. Witnesses—Mr. Samuel Cockburn, minister at Minto, and Robert Rutherford, servitor to William Rutherford, notary public.—(Vol. cclxxii.)

1620: January 26.—Bond by Adam Turnbull of Bullerwell, with George Turnbull, his son and apparent heir, to John Halyburton of Mertoun, for 100 merks; dated at Bullerwell, 26th March 1619. Witnesses—Thomas Stewart, Andrew Turnbull 'my brother,' and David Scott, miller at Mames, and Peter Gooff.—(Vol. cclxxii.)

1620: May 16.—Bond by Thomas Turnbull in Rowllspittle to Robert Pringle, servitor to Sir Gideon Murray of Elibank, for 100 merks; Mark Turnbull in Hartisheuch and Thomas Allensone, bailie of Jedburgh, are cautioners with him; dated at Jedburgh, 29th April 1619. Witnesses—John Scot, brother to Robert Scot of Tuscholaw; William Allensone, burgess of Jedburgh; Thomas Robsoun, burgess there; Robert Turnbull, brother to the Laird of Balderuill; and William Kerr, sheriff-clerk depute of Roxburgh.—(Vol. cclxxvi.)

1620: June 12.—Bond by Thomas Turnbull, lawful son of Robert Turnbull, called of Bedrule, to Sir Walter Scott of Quhairsaid, knight, for £224. With him as cautioners are Thomas Turnbull in Kewcastill, and John Turnbull his brother; dated at Jedburgh, 2nd February 1619, Robert Turnbull, called of Bedrule, being a witness.—(Vol. cclxxvi.)

1623: November 5.—Bond by Walter Turnbull of Beddereull, for the good service done to him by his good friend George Deanes, servitor to Mr. Thomas Nicolson, younger, advocate in Edinburgh, disposing to him yearly two bolls cherittie beir of the present

measure of Jedburgh, to be uplifted from his lands called the 'hynd aiker hil' in the barony of Badiereull, presently possessed by Andro Lilico and Thomas Turnbull, indweller in Newtoun; dated at Jedburgh, 30th October 1623. Witnesses—Mr. Joseph Tennent, minister at Badiereull; Thomas Tennant in Rowcastell; and William Rutherford, son to Adam Rutherford, called of Littillfurde, bailie and burghess of Jedburgh.—(Vol. cccxlix.)

1624: January 19.—Registration of Contract, dated at Hopkirk, 28th December 1618, between Janet Sinclair, widow of James Brydden, and now spouse to Mr. Thomas Thomson, minister at Hopkirk, and Andrew Brydden, son and heir of the said deceased James Brydden and lawful son of the said Janet Sinclair, on the one part, and Hector Shevill of Kirknow with consent of Bessie Turnbull, on the other part, whereby for 300 merks paid to them the latter wadset to the former two acres of land with a day's wark of meadow adjacent thereto lying in the Kirkhauch beside the kirk of Hopkirk. Witnesses—David Henderson, flesher, burghess of Jedburgh; Lyell Turnbull in Hartishauch; William Rutherford, schoolmaster at Hopkirk; Robert Rutherford, servitor to William Rutherford, notary public, and others.—(Vol. cccliv.)

1624: May 12.—Registration of Bond by Adam Turnbull of Abbotrewill, with William Turnbull of Tour as his cautioner, to John Scott, lawful son of the deceased Walter Scott of Chamberlain Newton, for 400 merks; dated at Hawick, 4th February 1619. Witnesses—William Scott, fiar of Quthauch; John Douglas, called of Toftis; James Burne, bailie of Hawick; and Walter Scott, called of Altoun.—(Vol. ccclvii.)

THE OLIVERS

Oliver is a name spelt and pronounced in various ways, and it is to be found in many countries. In France, Spain, Italy, and in certain parts of Germany, the name crops up; but it is the Scottish Borders that have perhaps the strongest claim to be the home of the family. Oliver is to this day one of the commonest names in Roxburghshire. The extensive lands of Jedforest and those adjacent to it have been and still are occupied by many Olivers. In an old list dated 1669 of the tenants in the Forest, the name very frequently occurs. The farms were very small at that time, and these holdings were occupied by several families. Their frugality must have been extreme, their wants few, and their manner of life of the plainest and rudest description. However, they lived, and no doubt enjoyed life in their own homely way: they married and were given in marriage, and multiplied to such an extent that the chamberlain to the Marquess of Douglas thought it advisable to reduce the number of the tenantry in the Forest. This design proved difficult to accomplish, and was very

unpopular, as the tenants had a strong attachment to their old homesteads. Although the Olivers proved themselves brave defenders of the Borders when occasion demanded, and though now and then they were guilty of inroads into Northumberland yet as a clan they were hard-working and industrious. No record has come down of barons, knights, or considerable laird of the name of Oliver who gave them a lead in the day of battle or held them together in times of peace; and when emigration became possible they doubtless took advantage of it, as members of the clan are to be found in all our colonies.

It is believed by some writers of old Scottish history that Oliphant and Oliver, or as formerly spelt Olipher, are the same name. Oliphants have been Oliphants since the time when Sir William of Aberdalgie defended Stirling Castle against the English army under Edward I., and they have always taken special pride in their name and in their connection with King Robert Bruce. It is possible that Oliphers at some early date might have adopted the name of Oliphant in a few instances, but the true Border Olivers are not likely to have made any such change. I do not consider the spelling of the name on a tomb stone of any account.

The Oliphers of Jedforest were all tenants and vassals of the Douglasses, and many of the farms in the Forest were occupied by them. At Chesters, on the upper waters of the Jed, are to be found the remains of several peels, and at Ashtrees are the foundations well defined of a small fortress. These forts were evidently erected as a defence to the Carter Fell and its Border line of march. Four of these peels are still in a fair state of preservation—Soudan, Mervinslaw, Westerhouses, and Cleslee Dykeraw might have been in the same state, but the stones were made use of for other purposes.

As vassals the Olivers did not possess in fee any lands in Jedforest except the farm of Ashtrees, which was held by an Oliver who had proved himself able to lead in a foray or to gather the clan in an emergency. Thomas Oliver, the last of Ashtrees, died in 1739 and left it to his only child and daughter, Helen, the wife of John Scott. It has remained in the possession of this family ever since. The present proprietor is Major Robson-Scott, late 3rd Hussars. The quaint and romantic old burial-ground that surrounds the ruins of the pre-Reformation church at Chesters, near Southdean farm, was the burial-place of the Olivers, and here lies the first laird of Dinlabvre, whose family for several generations farmed Luxruther. The person who informed Sir Walter Elliot of this pointed out where his grave was situated. 'Old Sourhope,' as he was called, William Oliver by name, was one of the last buried there. He was a great