



THE BULL'S EYE BULL-E-TIN



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D. T. Berk, Editor

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS - AUSTIN, TEXAS - NOVEMBER 8 - 16

Plan on meeting your "Clan cousins" at the TURNBULL GATHERING in Austin, Texas, Games and Clan tents in Zilker Park November 15-16. See enclosed flyer for the full weeks program.

In an ongoing effort to please the members, our Gatherings have been held at various Games across the country. We are a very small Clan and sparsely spread out. The International Gathering in Austin is held in conjunction with the Texas Sesquicentennial Celebration which also pays tribute to the large number of Scots who played a significant role in Texas' independence. More than half of the defenders of the Alamo were of Scottish descent. The choice of this site for our Gathering gives the members an opportunity to participate in a grand celebration and to visit an area where we have not held a previous Gathering.

Most of the chain motels and hotels are represented in Austin. Request list of accommodations and map of the area. Address all inquiries to Texas Scottish Clan Gathering Assn., 3405 Shinoak Dr., Austin, Texas 78731.

ALLIANCE OF BORDER SCOTS

Clan Armstrong along with TCA will be co-hosting a tent for the Alliance of Border Scots at Austin. Come swell the crowd, enjoy a grand week/weekend of Scottish activities, all planned for your pleasure and participation. Hope to see you there.

For those not yet acquainted with the purpose of ABS, the following is a reprint of a letter which is handed out to all inquirers at the tents.

"The Alliance of Border Scots is primarily a confederation of already organized Clans and Families Organizations, or Societies, which trace their origins to that geographic region of Scotland known as the "Borders" and "The Marches".

The purpose of the organization is to collect and disseminate knowledge of the history, genealogy, culture, and other information relating to the Marcher and Borderer Peoples and their descendants. It is organized to pool Clan and Family talents and resources allocated to the Alliance for the mutual benefit of all member Clans and Families. Another purpose of this organization is to promote fellowship and sociability among all of Scottish descent, Scot-Irish descent, name, and heritage. The Alliance seeks out and encourages others of this heritage to join and support the Clans and Family organizations of their forefathers. Individual members of already organized Clan and Families thus already have an inherent membership in the Alliance of Border Scots and are welcomed to attend meetings and engage in other activities and functions of the Alliance.

Persons who are of a surname for which there is no known organized Clan or Family organization of that name may be entitled to membership in the Alliance; provided that their surname, or the surname of an ancestor, is a surname recognized as a surname distinctive to the Border and Marches of Scotland".

TCA members are also members of ABS. A portion of your TCA membership dues, \$25.00 per Clan plus 25¢ per member, is paid to ABS.

GRANDFATHER MTN. - CHICAGO GAMES REPORTS

Netta and John Turnbull hosted the tent at GMHG. John reports that the Thursday nite Torchlight ceremony provided great atmosphere and a good start to the Games. Our tent was again on the outer row. Bob Foster was a real help. On Sunday the Kirkin' was delayed because of high winds which had come through in the morning and took down half of the tents. The insurance company made GMHG officials take down the rest. With the tents down, it was indeed an "Ill wind that-----". Now we could see what was happening on the field. The wind had chased a lot of spectators away. With the chiefs tent declared unsafe - we had to lunch at Eseoia Lodge (what a hardship.) Netta really loved this part. The bus ride down and back, the fellowship, the lunch, the constructive criticism meeting after lunch.

We had a grand time. Thanks for giving us the chance to help.

Bob Foster sent a great letter with snapshots for the Clan Album which visitors to the tents always enjoy.

CHICAGO GAMES: Couldn't have asked for a nicer day, sunny and bright with a cool breeze off Lake Michigan. Judging by the crowd, the 5th Annual Chicago Highland Games were a success. A scarcity of Turnbells but a lot of folks interested in who and what we are.

We represented the Alliance of Border Scots and helped a few to find their family organizations. Others were assured that ABS would endeavor to serve their needs.

UPCOMING GAMES AT WHICH WE WILL BE REPRESENTED

Sept. 13 - Fresno HG, Coombs Ranch, Fresno, CA.
Sept. 28 - San Diego HG, San Diego State College, San Diego, CA.
Oct. 4-5 - Clans of the Highland Gatherings, Chino Fairgrounds, Chino, CA.

All hosted by Donna and Norman Turnbull. The ABS will also be represented at all three Games at our tent.

To all of the hosts and members who have manned the tents and added to the success of these endeavors, we give a huge THANK YOU.

GENEALOGY - QUERIES

WANTED: Information concerning the children of Duncan McCorquodale and Janet Turnbull of Blackburnfoot, Castletown Parish, Roxburghshire, Scotland, around 1741. Reply to: Jack W. Taylor, 825 Pearson St., Apt. 3A, Des Plaines, Ill. 60016

TURNBULL, WILLIAM C., Born Nova Scotia 1826. Blacksmith. Married Jane Maria Beach of New Jersey. Emigrated to New Haven, Connecticut. Had one son, George Robert. William died November 7, 1895 in New Haven. Need birthplace and information of William's family and Scottish origin. William C. Turnbull had two grandsons, Rupert Beach and Raymond Wright. Wright was a family name on William's side of the family, and may be the key to my search. Any information of a connection between the Wright and Turnbull families would be greatly appreciated. Reply to: Byron G. Turnbull, 754 Old Jonas Hill Road, Lafayette, CA 94549.

BOOK - "O VALIANT HEARTS" by John N. Butz.

John has sent along some stats on his book: 166 illustrations, 149 of them photos; a five page Bibliography, Sources section; a 50 page section of family letters dating back to 1834. With the index it will run about 225 pages. Price: \$30.00.

"O Valiant Hearts" is a genealogy and pictorial record of the Dickson - Turnbull - Lyon Heritage of Shirley Jean Dickson, compiled by John Newton Butz, 135 Eastern Pkwy. Apt. 6L, Brooklyn, New York 11238.

JOHN TRUMBULL - THE PAINTER

"While vacationing in Myrtle Beach, I learned that there was a portrait of George Washington by John Trumbull in the Charleston, South Carolina Town Hall. Eventually I found it on the second floor of the Town Hall where the Town Council hold their meetings. There is a story attached to the painting, perhaps reflecting somewhat on the character of said John Trumbull.

It seems that the Council commissioned Trumbull to do a painting of Washington, who had visited Charleston for a few days. This Trumbull did, but unfortunately not to the liking of the city fathers who wouldn't pay up and requested Trumbull to get it right the second time (in 20th century idiom.) Well he added a horse as the city fathers suggested but as you can see from the enclosed photograph, he painted the horse his way, to show the council members that he was kind of displeased with the way they had treated him." Ed note: The photo shows a large portrait of Washington and to the viewers right is the head of a horse with head bent, to the viewers left, directly under Washington's outstretched arm is that part of the horse which goes over the fence last, full moon view with tail raised. Gives you the giggles when you know the story. Submitted by John Turnbull, Charlotte, N.C.

THE LAST TURNBULL CHIEF??????? - TURNBULL (OF FENWICK).

"Turnbull of Bedrule was, without doubt, the chief of this famous Border clan, and the stronghold of this family was Bedrule Castle, although the Turnbulls of Mynto likewise occupied an important position amongst the great Border families. Not a vestige now remains of the castle; even the foundations have been removed; and a few stones bearing a bull's head, the crest of the family, still surviving in the churchyard of Bedrule, are the only memorials left now to mark the seat of this well-known and turbulent race. In the exchequer rolls, 1501 and 1528, it is noted that king grants certain fines, etc., to Thomas Turnbull, son and heir apparent of George Turnbull of Bedroule. The king confirmed to Heler Rutherford of that ilk the half merk lard of Bethiroull, in the town and territory of Bethiroull, near the parish church of the same, held in tack by Herbut Turnbull, with the advocacy of the parish church, which she, with consent of her husband, Andrew Rutherford of Hunthill, sold to Andrew Ker of Ferniehirst and his heirs. In the privy council records, 1553-4, frequent mention occurs of Thomas Turnbull of Bethieroule, knight, in bonds of assurance between the Kers on the one side, and the Rutherfurds, Turnbolls, and Ormistonnes on the other.

By these extracts it becomes apparent that the Turnbulls at a very early date became involved in difficulties, and in 1528 a portion of the estate was conveyed to the Kers. It was not, however, until 1623 that the whole of Bedrule passed into the hands of this family, and with it the Turnbolls lost their leader and their chief.

Bedrule remained in the family of Carre of Cavers (Carres of Cavers, formerly Ker, are descended from the family of Ferniehurst.) until 1801, when it was sold by auction, and purchased by Mr. Elliot of Wells. In 1894 Bedrule was sold, with the estate of Wells, to John Usher of Norton for 39,600 sterling. Many of the name of Turnbull claim descent from the original stock, but none can prove a direct descent from father to son.

The family of Turnbull, known as that of Fenwick, have for a long period been connected with the district of Hawick." From "Annals of a Border Club" by George Tancred pp 474-5.

The above gives credence to the assumption that the Clan has been dormant for a few hundred years. To those who have asked about this subject, it is the first recorded information to come to hand.

In the "Introductory Chapter" written by W. J. Stavert, Hoscote, 10th May, 1898, he writes: "The Turnbells are an ancient family, which seems to have been at the zenith of its power and to have exercised a preponderating influence in the district at the end of the fifteenth century. Their castle of Bethiroule, or Bedrule, was a place of great strength, and at one time most of the land in the valley watered by the Rule was in the possession of the family. In 1561 Thomas Turnbull of Bedrule is recorded to have borrowed money, his surety being John Stewart of Traquair, and his son Walter in 1591, his surety being James Douglas of Cavers. In 1623 the lands of Bedrule and Fulton passed into the hands of the Kers, and shortly afterwards the Turnbells were left without an hereditary chief. The castle has been entirely destroyed, and although the name is often met with among farmers in the old district, there are very few Turnbells who now own land in the Border counties; and if some of them believe that they are descended from the old stock they would find it in most cases impossible to give an accurate account of the connexion."

UNHAPPY NEWS

Mike Turnbull, Clan Secretary, had a very painful accident, grease burns to his hands. When we last talked with Mike he was undergoing therapy and the need for a skin graft was looking slimmer. Mike volunteered to pursue the article mentioned in our last newsletter re Dormant and Vacant Clan Chiefships. Mike, our prayers are for a very speedy recovery, with no further complications.

HAPPY NEWS

Congratulations to the George Turnbull's of Orange, Ca. on the birth of their second grandson, Kevin Thomas Bredehoft. Born July 9, 1986.

Congratulations also to the Robert Turnbull's of Orange, Ca. on the birth of their first grandchild, a girl, Amanda Elise McKinney. Born August 26, 1986. Her grandfather's birthday is August 23rd, what a wonderful birthday gift.

Please send us your news, articles you wish to share, queries, names of books with items pertaining to the Turnbells whatever you feel the members might enjoy.

"WHEN THE WAYS OF FRIENDS CONVERGE, THE WHOLE WORLD LOOKS LIKE HOME." Herman Hesse
Will look for you in Austin.