



T H E B U L L ' S E Y E B U L L - E - T I N

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D. T. Berk, Editor

1992 MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Members who have paid their 1992 membership dues will find new membership card enclosed. Those who have yet to pay will find a renewal reminder notice.

HIGHLAND GAMES

June 19 - 21 - ILLINOIS ST. ANDREW HIGHLAND GAMES - will be held at the Polo & equestrian Club of Oak Brook, Illinois. The Games will be held on Saturday, June 20th - Hosts: Dottie and Bill Berk.

July 11 - 12 - GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES, Linville, N. C. - Hosts: Netta and John Turnbull.

October 15 - 18 - STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES, Stone Mountain Park, Atlanta, Georgia - Hosts: Barbara and John W. Turnbull. Details will be found in special flyer, please retain for future reference.

BOOKS

Michael Turnbull, Arlington Hts., Illinois sent along some information of a new book, the first any of us have seen which shows the Turnbull Tartans. "SCOTLAND AND HER TARTANS", The Romantic Heritage of the Scottish Clans and Families by Alexander Fulton, published by Gallery Books, the price at Kroch's was \$19.95.

QUERIES

Katherine P. Robinson, 5224 Doles Rd., Albany, Georgia 31705, would like more information of her Trimble ancestors, particularly JANE TRIMBLE born 1803, married WILLIAM F. SMITH. Both are buried in Lincoln County, Tennessee. Jane's father was JOHN TRIMBLE.

Cliff Turnbull, Box 403, Prescott Wiscon 54021, is searching for any information of his great, great, grandfather PETER TURNBULL who listed his place of birth as Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, SCOTLAND. Peter was born in 1821. His son PETER was born in London in 1854, and emigrated to the U. S. in 1870.

Cliff is planning a trip to Scotland this summer and would like to;

1. Find proof or evidence that PETER or his ancestors lived in the area.
2. Meet people who might be related to him and therefore me.
3. Find the house, or homesite where he and his ancestors lived.
4. Find someone who is a member of a local family history society, and interested in discussing family history with me while I am there.

Does anyone know of any maps or sources for same that would show where the boundary between England and Scotland fell, back in that time and if Newcastle really might have been in Scotland?

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

West Coast members will be saddened to learn of the death of Donna B. Turnbull, wife of Norman. Donna and Norman hosted the tents for the Games at Costa Mesa, San Diego and Chino for several years. They very reluctantly gave up those efforts when they moved to Arizona due to ill health.

I talked to Donna just a week before her death and we were commenting on Clan matters and the newsletter. Donna could not have been more proud to don her Turnbull Tartan skirt than any woman born to the name.

The Clan has lost a stalwart member and I have lost a good friend and a beloved sister-in-law.

IN MEMORIAM

God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around you
And whispered, 'Come live with Me'
With tearful eyes we watched you suffer
And saw you fading away
Tho we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Your hard-working hands put to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.
God love you and keep you dear Donna.

TRAVEL

Some of our members are planning trips to Scotland and other parts of Europe this year. Along with the Where to Go, What to Do, Where to Eat questions, the hardest question to answer is What to Buy and is it better to buy over there or shop at home. The vexing irritant is that little word VAT (Value Added Tax).

The host country offers a refund of your VAT to entice visitors to

purchase items while in their country. What they don't tell you is that it is not only a headache but a hassle, and in some cases, we have found, much is left to the shop keepers interpretation and willingness to lead you through the maze of paperwork that is involved.

The complex rules for getting a refund involve - a minimum purchase, getting the form filled out by the sales clerk, remembering the envelope, having the merchandise in question at hand for customs to inspect the purchase and stamp the form, mail in the form and wait for the check. This procedure does not apply to all countries, the point of departure is that some countries will allow you to cash the refund check while in the International area of the airport. As soon as you have the check you race for the "Duty Free" store and purchase whatever that particular amount will buy. The theory here is that you either use it or lose it.

On the other hand, if the refund is to be processed and mailed to your home address, don't be amazed to find that the check arrives in 'coin of the realm', not U.S. funds. Now the fun begins. If you take the check to a regular bank you might find that bank fees would consume the refund. What to do??? Now you must seek out an agency which deals in foreign currency.

Deak International, recently purchased by Thomas Cook's Foreign Exchange Service and has offices around the country. The one located in Chicago can be reached at 111 W. Washington St., Chicago, Illinois 60602. Phone: 312-236-0042. Another agency is Ruesch International, 70 W. Madison St., Suite 2020, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Phone: 312-332-5900. Their headquarters are in Washington, D. C. and they also have an 800 number, 800-424-2923.

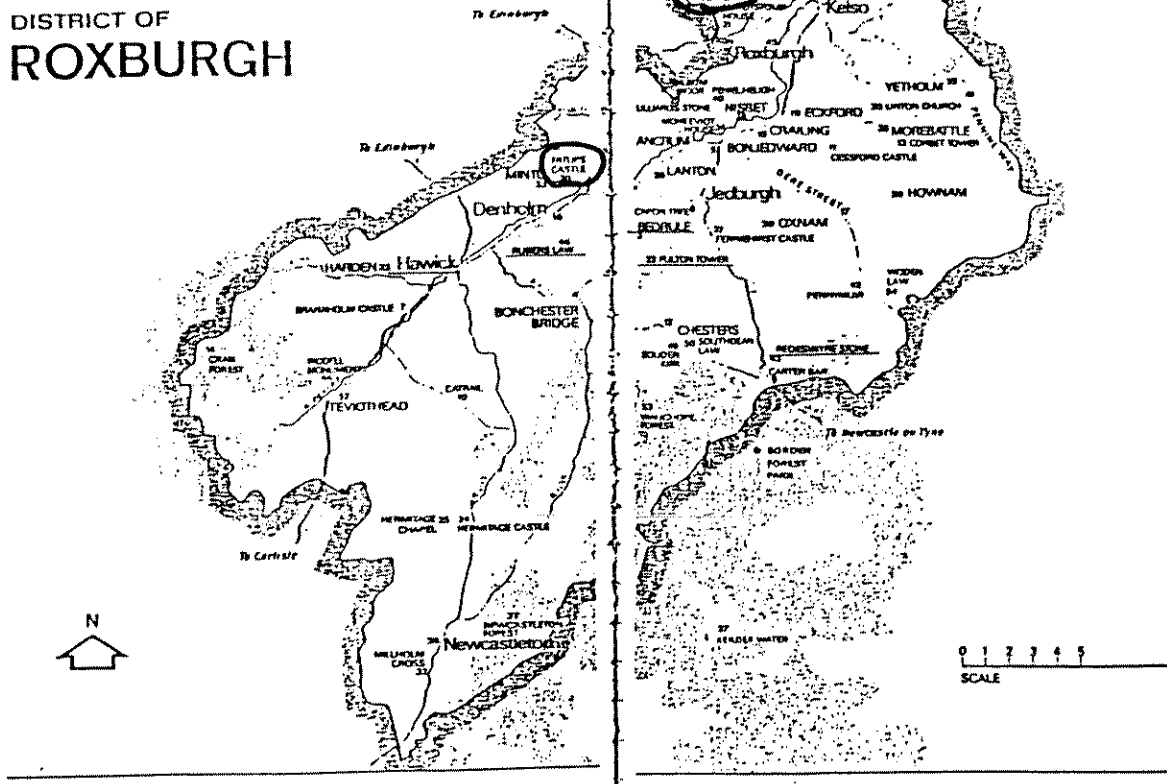
If the store will accept a credit card and agrees to apply the VAT as a credit to the card, the refund should come thru in dollars.

Now what happens if you decide to purchase the item and want to have it shipped? NORMALLY, the VAT is deducted but then you also have to pay shipping charges, wait weeks for item to arrive, then be greeted by a Customs Duty charge (all unaccompanied merchandise is subject to Duty). In other words, when you shop overseas you must calculate all these charges into the price to determine whether it is better to buy there or at home. Also, don't forget to tally in money conversion rates and exchange fees.

Now don't let all of the above spoil your shopping fun. There are many, small and one-of-a-kind items which can only be obtained at the spot you are at the time. Indulge yourself, after all this is your vacation and you may not have the opportunity to visit the area again.

THE BRITISH TOURIST AUTHORITY is offering a free brochure, "Britain", a 46 page brochure which gives advice on lodging and dining, VAT refunds and suggestions for trips from London through Wales and the islands of Scotland.

DISTRICT OF ROXBURGH



FATLIPS CASTLE

Fatlips Castle is one of the Towers, among many, which once stood on every knoll, bearing witness to the stirring deeds that live today in the history and ballads of the Borders of Scotland.

Fatlips has its origins in the 16th century, when Turnbull of Barnhill - whose own tower is at the foot of the crags - was said to have rested on the ledge still known as Barnhill's Bed:

"On Minto Crags the moonbeams glint
Where Barnhill hewed his bed of flint."

Turnbull of Barnhills was a noted freebooter in reiving times. Fatlips stood for a long time in a ruined condition, but was restored towards the end of the nineteenth century. All of the building below the corbelling is very old, that above of more recent times.

A narrow wheel staircase takes you to the parapet and the magnificent views. During the old fighting times, Fatlips along with Smailholm Tower and others in the area would receive warning beacon signals. At the first red flicker of a flame, the voice of the sentinel would boom through the still night to rouse the men to action.

"Ho! below! The Southron is ower the Marches! The Jedwater beacons are a-lowe. Fatlips is kindling, and a' the towers o' Teviot and Ale! Rouse ane and a'!"

Reference source: "BRAVE BORDERLAND" by H. Drummond Gault.