

# BULLSEYE

A TURNBULL CLAN PUBLICATION

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## Turnbull Clan Honored at Missouri Tartan Day Celebration

The Turnbull clan was honored at the 2004 Missouri Tartan Day celebration with its President, Wally Turnbull, being chosen to lead the "Rathad Breacan," (Tartan Trail) parade as Grand Marshall.



*Parade Grand Marshal TCA President Wally Turnbull*

The parade marched through historic St. Charles on Saturday April 3<sup>rd</sup> when Tartan Day, officially April 6<sup>th</sup>, which honors the United States' Scots heritage, was observed in Missouri.

Keith and Therese Turnbull, who live in St. Louis and serve as regional TCA Coordinators, worked with Judie Chaboude, president of Missouri Tartan Day Festivities, to promote Missouri's Scottish heritage and the Turnbull Clan. Missouri is primarily a state of German and French ancestry so the few Scottish descendants have had to work tirelessly to promote their heritage.

The United States Government officially recognized Tartan Day with the unanimous passing of Resolution 155 proclaiming April 6, 1998 and every year thereafter as National Tartan Day. This resolution, however, left it up to each state to decide if and how to observe Tartan Day.

In 2001 the St. Andrew and Celtic Societies of St. Louis, Kansas City, Jefferson City and Springfield, MO were successful in having Governor Holden proclaim that April 6 would be celebrated as Tartan Day in Missouri. Patti York, the Mayor of St. Charles and a member of the

Sinclair clan was quick to promote her city for the first parade and subsequent Missouri Tartan Day Parades.

Tartan Day which honors the United States' Scots heritage is celebrated on April 6<sup>th</sup> because it was on that day in 1320 that Scotland's Declaration of Arbroath was signed by 38 Scottish lords asserting Robert the Bruce's claim to be king of Scotland. Later, the United State's Declaration of Independence was modeled after the Declaration of Arbroath.

The Missouri Tartan Day festivities began Friday evening with a reception for out-of-town guests and coronation of Affton's Debbie Wersching as Miss Tartan Day. The festivities continued on Saturday with volunteers hanging banners of the participating clans along St. Charles' historic Main Street which served as the main parade route. The parade formed in the parking lot of the Lewis and Clark Boat House and Nature Center moved slowly through town to First Capitol and into Frontier Park where the event dignitaries welcomed the participants and spectators.



*The proud Turnbull contingent prepare for the parade*

Parade participants included The Scottish-American musicians the Boatrights, MacFarlane Live Steel demonstrating medieval weaponry, bagpipe bands and school bands, Highland dancers, the Gateway Cabermen, athletes who specialize in Scottish games, Scottish Country Dancers, representatives of various St. Andrew societies, and the Loch Ness Monster herself, "Nessie" a favorite with the children.





Wally and Keith Turnbull under the Turnbull tartan on the "Rathad Breacan"

The 2004 Missouri Tartan Day celebration closed on Sunday morning with a moving Kirkin' of the Tartans" at St. Charles Presbyterian Church. A "kirk" in Scotland is a church and a "kirking" is a ceremony where tartans are taken to the kirk to be blessed by the minister. During the oppression of the Scots by the English when all emblems of Scottish identity such as speaking Gaelic, playing bagpipes and wearing of tartans were forbidden, Scots kept the kirkin' tradition alive by bringing a scrap of tartan cloth to church hidden in a coat

pocket and placing their hands on the pocket during the blessing. Kirkin' was brought to the United States in 1941 by Peter Marshall when he was chaplain of the U.S. Senate.

## Happy Birthday



Wally Turnbull, Sarah Snow, Fred Turnbull, Morris Turnbull, Mary Ellen Longley, Joyce Marot, Leroy Trimble, June Quevillon, Andrzej Przedpelski, John Kutzmanis, James P. Trimble, Robert

Bable, Leslie Turnbull, Janis Dairiki, Brian Turnbull, Valeria Ann Turnbull, John W. Turnbull, Maryle Samms, Sarah Turnbull, Allen Turnbull.

## Welcome

Matthew Turnbull a new Cadet sponsored by his Uncle Peter Turnbull.

## Time Flies

*By Dawn Day*

Our family lived in a small village, called Allendale, when I was young. My dad, Alf Turnbull, used to ride his pushbike around 80 kilometers to work in a pine forest, at Mount Burr. He would leave on Sunday afternoon after doing his chores in the garden. He carried his saws that he had sharpened during the weekend and his weekly food rations in a wooden box on his back. He worked in a team that felled pines all week. When the

pinces were down they carried them on their shoulders to a clearing and loaded them onto a waiting truck which took them to the saw-mill. On Friday night he would ride the 80 or so kilometers home. I was little at the time and I would watch for his coming. It would be dark by the time he came over the hill, he had a carbide light on his bike and I would be just able to see it and I would run to tell Mum. She would have time then to get his tea ready. Ah! The memories come flooding back when you start to tell your story.

**Allendale** according to the nice booklet sent by



Dawn, is south of Mount Gambia and is famous for its cave in the middle of the main street.

The road divides and goes around the cave. Allendale sinkhole was once a watering point for stock and horses. There were attempts to fill the sinkhole to no avail. Legend has it that the sinkhole swallowed up a horse and carriage along with its driver and that ghostly figures appear over the water near Port MacDonald, which is considered as an exit of the underground water systems. Qualified divers can obtain diving permits to explore the sinkhole.

## Folklore: King Arthur and the mysterious places.

Adderley Edge is located near Macclesfield, Cheshire, Northern England. The Edge was probably the home of the earliest inhabitants in this area. Primitive tools found there suggest that man lived in the caves perhaps as far back as 6,000 years ago. Pristine wooded area with sandstone cliffs and caves provides two miles of beautiful scenic view.

As the fable goes, deep in the woods there is a sandstone cliff behind which Merlin the wizard hid King Arthur and his sleeping men. Now mind you there are two stories which we are going to look at, you can believe or not which ever one seems most logical.

So, the local story is as follows: A farmer on his way to the Macclesfield market to sell his white

horse, when he meets a stranger who wants to buy the horse, the farmer refuses the price that was offered thinking he could get more for it at market. The horse is over-looked at the market and on his way back home the farmer again meets the stranger, this time the farmer accepts the money offered for his horse. The stranger tells the farmer to follow him into the woods so he can get the bag of gold for the horse. When they arrive at a sandstone cliff face the rock parts with a loud roar revealing a huge cavern. Inside the cavern lay rows of sleeping warriors, and standing by every warrior is a horse. The stranger pays the farmer his bag gold but before he leaves the stranger tells the farmer,



"Should danger ever threaten the country side, the warriors would awaken to protect all by turning away the danger". The farmer leaves and can never again find the sandstone cliff.

Now, there is a natural spring in the woods just below a cliff, the cliff is carved with a bearded face and the following words." Drink of this and take thy fill, for the water falls by the wizards will". The carving date and artist are unknown, and it is has been used as a wishing well.

Notes: We've all heard the legend of King Arthur, and it is thought that the legends started around the 6<sup>th</sup> century AD, following the withdrawal of the Romans. The next giant step in the legend appears in "The History of the Kings of Britain, written in 1136AD by Geoffery of Monmouth. It seems to form the backbone of the different versions we now read and hear about. Arthur appears in many places and countries, his role of the hero filled the darkest hours of need, with victory.

Our next version of the cave legend appears with Canobie Dick.

In the Borders region, Canobie Dick was a horse cowper (trader), who was admired and widely known for his fierce courage. While traveling over the Bowden Moor in the moonlight near the west side of Eildon Hills, he encountered a stranger. [The scene prophesies by Thomas the Rhymer].

Canobie Dick has a brace of horse that did not sell at the market that day. On this moonlit road he runs into a stranger dressed in centuries past clothing. The stranger asks the price of the horses, they barter, then the stranger promptly pays Camobie Dick in gold coinage from the same period as the clothing. The stranger asks

if they may meet again, which they did, and on the third such visit Canobie Dick, his curiosity over flowing, gets the stranger to take him to his abode. The stranger warns Canobie Dick that if he were to lose his courage at what he was to see, he would rue it all the rest of his life.

The stranger took Canobie Dick down a narrow path in an area called Lucken Hare, a famous witches meeting place. They entered an opening in the hillside which led into a cavern passage way. The stranger asked Canobie Dick if he wished to turn back and with a shrug of his shoulders Dick urged the stranger to continue. Moving forward they came upon rows of horse stalls in each stood a coal black horse, lying next to each horse was a knight in jet black clothing and full armor. All were sleeping holding a drawn sword in their hand.

At the back of the cavern bathed in soft light was a large oak table and on the table was a sheathed sword and a horn. The stranger (Thomas of Ercildoun) turned to Canobie Dick saying." The man who shall sound the horn and draw the sword shall, if his heart does not fail him, be King over all Britain. But all depends on courage and the taking of the horn or the sword first." Seized with supernatural terror, thinking that by taking the sword first he would offend the powers of the mountain, Dick took up the horn, put it to his lips and let out a feeble blast that echoed in the cavern like thunder. Suddenly there was a terrible clatter of armor as the knights rose out of their slumber. The fearful army before him terrified Dick who tried to free the sword from the scabbard, as an awesome voiced boomed in the cavern.

"Woe to the Coward, that ever he was born, who did not draw sword before he blew the horn."

All of a sudden supernatural wind blasted Canobie Dick from the cavern and deposited him outside the entrance. Dick was found the next morning by passing shepherds with his last breath he blurted out his tale.

Notes: In Adderley Edge the stranger was Merlin the magician and in Lucken Hare it was thought be Thomas of Ercildoun, both tales supposedly reported in some manner by Thomas the Rhymer who was a known famous Scottish prophet, also known by the names of True Thomas, Thomas of Ercildoun, and Lord Learmount. There are documents signed in the thirteenth century by him as Thomas Rymour

de Ercieldoune. There is no doubt that he was a real person living in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Story has it that one day he walked away from the castle into the woods followed by some animals and was never seen again, thought by many to have returned to the ethereal realm to serve as a mediator between this world and the other.

Anyone who has a story they would like to see published here, please send it to Janet.

## Reminder

You are invited to attend the New Hampshire Scottish Games September 24, 25, and 26<sup>th</sup> 2004, the place for the 2004 TCA Annual General Meeting and also the second annual meeting of the TCA officers.

## Signs of the times:

**Get Well Wishes:** Brian Turnbull, our webmaster, a speedy recovery from his recent knee surgery. Now he has no excuses for a bad day on the golf course. Speedy recovery!!!

**Scotland visit:** TCA President Wally Turnbull has just returned from a week's visit to the Scottish Borders. Wally met with George Turnbull, the head of TCA Scotland, to promote a greater level of international TCA activity and collaboration. They also discussed the deplorable condition of Fatlips Castle and options for restoring and maintaining the ancient Turnbull monument. Additionally, plans were made for the petitioning of the office of the Lord Lyon by TCA for a grant of Turnbull arms. We will keep you informed in these pages as plans and details evolve.

**Clan Crest jewelry:** We appreciate the interest of those members who placed tentative orders for Turnbull Clan crest jewelry. Unfortunately not enough people wanted the items to enable a special casting. This means that we will not be able to order or supply any of the items at this time.

We are continuing to work with suppliers of clan crest jewelry to see if we can have these items produced for sale by vendors at Highland Games and by mail order. We will let you know if this works out. Thank you again for your support of TCA and the proud Turnbull name. Wally Turnbull, President TCA

## What is this thing called Curling?

In or about 1500 there was a game started to deacease the boredom of winter, using rocks slithering along the frozen ponds and lakes in Scotland. The Dutch may have founded this game, the French-Canadians used cannonballs melted down in 1759-60, and the Canadians are responsible for the growth of the game known as Curling. Smith Institute has a stone, inscribed "St. Js B

Stirling 1511", the first such rocks weigh about 2-3 Kg, designed like a hand and were called, "loofies". The biggest recorded was the Jubilee stone weighing a hefty 58.5 kg. The object of the game was to propel the rock across the ice from a starting point, towards a target at the other end with 2 sweepers equipped with brooms to guide the stone by sweeping the ice



to reduce the friction of the stone in forward movement.

In present time the game is sophisticated, has rules, teams, competitions, and is played around the world. It is a medaling sport of the winter Olympic Games, as of 1998 in Nagano, Japan. Competition is between two teams of four persons (rinks) and consists of 8-10 ends (innings) which last approximately 15 minutes each. Each player has two stones per end. The object is to place your stones the closest to the center of the house (bull's eye) at the farthest end of the ice. Play begins by the first team standing in the hack (foot support starting block) and sliding the 42 pound (approx. 20 kg) granite stone down the ice towards the far end of the ice.

The skip (team captain) standing at the other end can assist by giving directions or a spot to aim at. If the skip requests it the leads teammates will then assist the progress of the stone by sweeping in front of it. This sweeping can influence the direction and speed of the stone's progress. When the last stone comes to rest, points are counted, then it is the opposing sides turn. Only one team scores in an end, points awarded by being the closest to the center. Team members can try to get a better position or attempt to displace the other player's stone position. The second attempt makes the game more enticing by attempting to displace those closest to the center of the house. It is of course a game of skill and cunning, each team having a great deal of understanding and knowledge of curling and its possibilities. The team with the most points at the end of the game wins, they buy the drinks for their teammates, while the losing team cleans the ice for the next round of games. The name comes from an old English verb to curr (to grumble), which is the sound the stone makes as it covers the ice.