

# Hawick House Holds History

By Elizabeth Turnbull

To the observant visitor the walls in the Black Tower of Drumlanrig in Hawick, Scotland tell a tale of conquests and struggles. You need only listen very carefully, and you'll hear the stories of colorful invaders: English soldiers, Scottish Patriots, wealthy nobles, weary travelers and even foreign tourists.



*Drumlanrig's Tower*

Hawick, which is strategically positioned along the Scottish-English border, has long served as an intersection of settlers, conquerors and raiding parties. As early as 1,000 B.C. Stone Age-people roamed the area, long before the Roman invasion, which left roads and fortifications as a memento of the empire's withered grandeur.

It wouldn't be until the 600's A.D., however, that the land would be settled for residence by Anglo-Saxon tribes. To protect their vulnerable village from potential invaders, they planted a long hawthorn hedge, thus giving the settlement the name Haga-wic (the hedged town) later morphed into ha-wick and pronounced "hoyk."

## Temporary Peace

The borderlands enjoyed a temporary period of peace and prosperity under the rule of the Lovels, a family of French nobles who received extensive Borderlands after the Norman invasion of Britain in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. However, the Wars of Independence in the late 13<sup>th</sup> and early 14<sup>th</sup> centuries sent the region into turmoil and the Lovels to their estates further south.

The outbreak of the Wars of Independence ushered in nearly 400 years of unrest and power struggles along the borders. The clans relied solely upon their own strength and defense for protection until the Union of the Crowns in 1603 with the coronation of the Scottish King James VI brought peace.

## Border Reivers

Raids on cattle, household goods and other supplies from one group were quickly answered with a reprisal raid by the other. This was the era of the legendary Border Reivers comprised of families such as the Turnbulls, Scotts, Douglasses and Armstrongs.

By the 1540's, James Douglas held the most substantial of Hawick's three towers. Shortly after an English force attacked and burned the three towers

in 1548, Douglas used the stones from the remains to build his legendary stronghold – Drumlanrig's Tower designed to be a silent but bold statement of power to his rivals, both English and Scottish.

## Constructed for Defense

Douglas built this tower in the latest style with a strongly fortified L-shaped dwelling. The door was impressively thick and positioned in the angle of the L to provide optimal defense. As yet another precaution, the door was protected by an outer yett, or gate.

The design of the ground-floor rooms, both of which were barrel-vaulted, made the building virtually fireproof. Though the exact use of the bottom rooms is not known, it is thought that they were likely used either for storage or as kitchens. The narrow spiral staircase leading from the ground-floor to the upper floors featured a design that would allow a skilled swordsman to ward off rivals.

The Great Hall room of the tower functioned as a space both for dining and administration. The Great Hall originally featured five large windows, each of which was fitted with iron bars. Today, a fireplace added in the 17<sup>th</sup> century also adorns the room.

The third floor of the tower housed the garret, which was used by the household servants. Outside the garret sits a parapet walkway that runs around the head of the tower.



*Side view of Drumlanrig's Tower*

The parapet served as an invaluable vantage point from which a guard could keep watch on the land below. The parapet also offered a space from which rocks, boiling oil and stones could be thrown down on enemy aggressors.

Only seventeen years after the tower was built, an English army once again attacked the borders, burning and plundering their way through Hawick. The tower would suffer a series of invasions, sieges and local struggles.

(Continued on page 6)

## From the President

by Wally Turnbull

Have you noticed how pleased we tend to be when we see the name "Turnbull" or that of one of our septs on a sign? We take note, we take pictures, and we take pride. Do other families have the same reaction? Probably, but perhaps not to the same extent. Why do we do this?



I suppose that pride, curiosity, and identity are all involved but perhaps the simplest explanation is that we are "interested." We are immediately interested and curious to know something about the person or company when we see our name on a sign, a product, a development community, a boat, or as an author's name.

The Turnbull Clan Association would like to learn about, record, and share with our members, the names and descriptions of Turnbolls in business. (We obviously mean all spellings of the Turnbull and Rule names).

If you own a business or know a Turnbull who does, whether the business name includes the family name or not, please tell us about it. If you know of a Turnbull business whether you are acquainted with the owners or not please bring it to our attention. If you have information about the business tell us what you know. If not, tell us the name of the business and where it is located so that we may inquire.



Besides our interest in what other Turnbolls are doing, we should support Turnbull efforts. Our ancestors first came together to support each other. That practice is still good today, even if for different reasons. If we are interested in purchasing a product or service and we are able to do so from another Turnbull we not only help each other but we also increase our own pleasure in the process.

Please write to the address or email address below and tell us about Turnbull businesses and products.

### BULLSEYE - A Turnbull Clan Publication

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### Turnbull Clan Association

**Officers:** Wally Turnbull, President • Brian Turnbull, Vice-President  
Janet Turnbull Schwierking, Secretary • John G. Turnbull, Treasurer  
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**Founders:** John Turnbull, Scotland • Dorothy Berk, USA

## Meet the Member

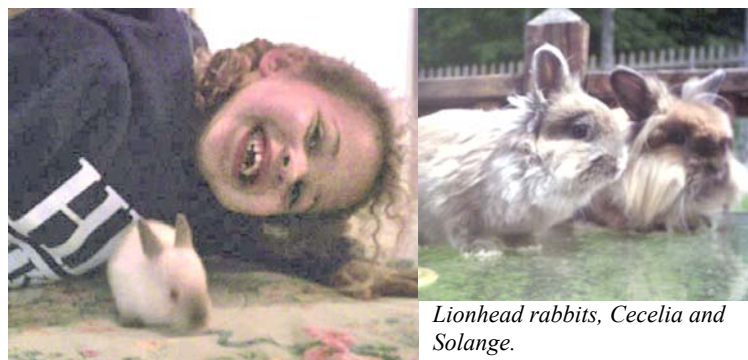
Dorinda Turnbull Wolentarski of Old Hickory, TN has been elected president of her homeowners' association. As she reports, "In typical Turnbull tradition, I have the slight reputation of being an instigator."



Dorinda, pictured with her husband and daughter, Rachel Rose.

Four years ago, I was instrumental in removing control of our homeowner's board from the developer and over to us, the landowners. I have been a member since we took over, and as of last month was elected president of Hickory Hills Homeowner's Association. It is a large association, and there are two main associations that make up our district in the city of Mt. Juliet. So we carry a lot of weight politically speaking in our district.

Once I got involved with the board, in order to help our board locally and to keep an eye on what the city commissioners were up to, I volunteered to serve on different commissions. The mayor of Mt. Juliet appointed me to the Traffic Commission and the Greenways Commission. I also sit on the Home Rule Committee, after being appointed to by one of the district commissioners who appreciated my work in the community.



Daughter, Rachel Rose, with newborn Himalayan bunny.

In an old British tradition, I raise and show pedigree rabbits! My rabbitry is called Hickory Hills Rabbitry. I am a member of ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association). I breed the "alpha and omega" of domestic rabbits including Himalayans which are known to be the oldest breed of domestic rabbit and Lionheads which are the newest breed of domestic rabbit. In fact, the Lionhead has only been in the U.S. since 1999, and is still going through the approval stages of ARBA in order to be presented at rabbit shows."





## Hawick

**Historical significance to Turnbills:** This historic and picturesque town is located in the “Turnbull region” of the borders. The oldest document in Hawick is the town charter of 1537. It was granted by Sir James Douglas. The Charter grants particles of land to the people mentioned by name. Turnbull is one the original family names who were granted land at this time.

**Interesting Facts:** Hawick is the largest town in the Scottish Borders. It lies on the Teviot River. The position of the river was important to the town’s growth. Hawick was founded by the Angles in the 600’s. It was further developed by the Lovells, a Norman family, in the 1100’s.



*The streets of Hawick with town hall.*

Hawick was often in the middle of the cross border wars between England and Scotland from the 1300’s through the 1500’s. Most of the town’s men of fighting age were killed in the Battle of Flodden, September 9, 1513. In 1514, the town was once again threatened by raiding English troops. The troops were fought off by the boys, or “callants” of the town who captured the English flag. This event is commemorated during the annual “Common Riding” each year.

The Hawick Common Riding is the first of the Border festivals each year, taking place in early June. In addition to celebrating the capture of the English flag in 1514, it reenacts the custom of riding the boundaries of common land. This is an ancient custom of riding around the boundaries to make sure that no one had encroached and to remind the people where the boundaries were.

For the past few hundred years, Hawick’s industry has centered around the textile industry. To this day, many fine textiles can be found in the area.



*The Teviot River running through Hawick*

**Sights to see:** The town of Hawick offers free parking. One can park and tour many of the interesting sites and streets on foot.

Drumlanrig’s Tower, now home to the Hawick Museum & Scott Gallery, contains exhibits detailing the history of Hawick through the ages. It was originally built as a Peel House Tower and home of the Douglass family. The Tower house is located on Hawick’s High Street near the center of town.

St Mary’s Church was dedicated in 1214 and rebuilt in 1763. The Mote is a large mound which can be climbed to enjoy the wide view of the area from the top.



*St. Mary’s Church, Hawick*

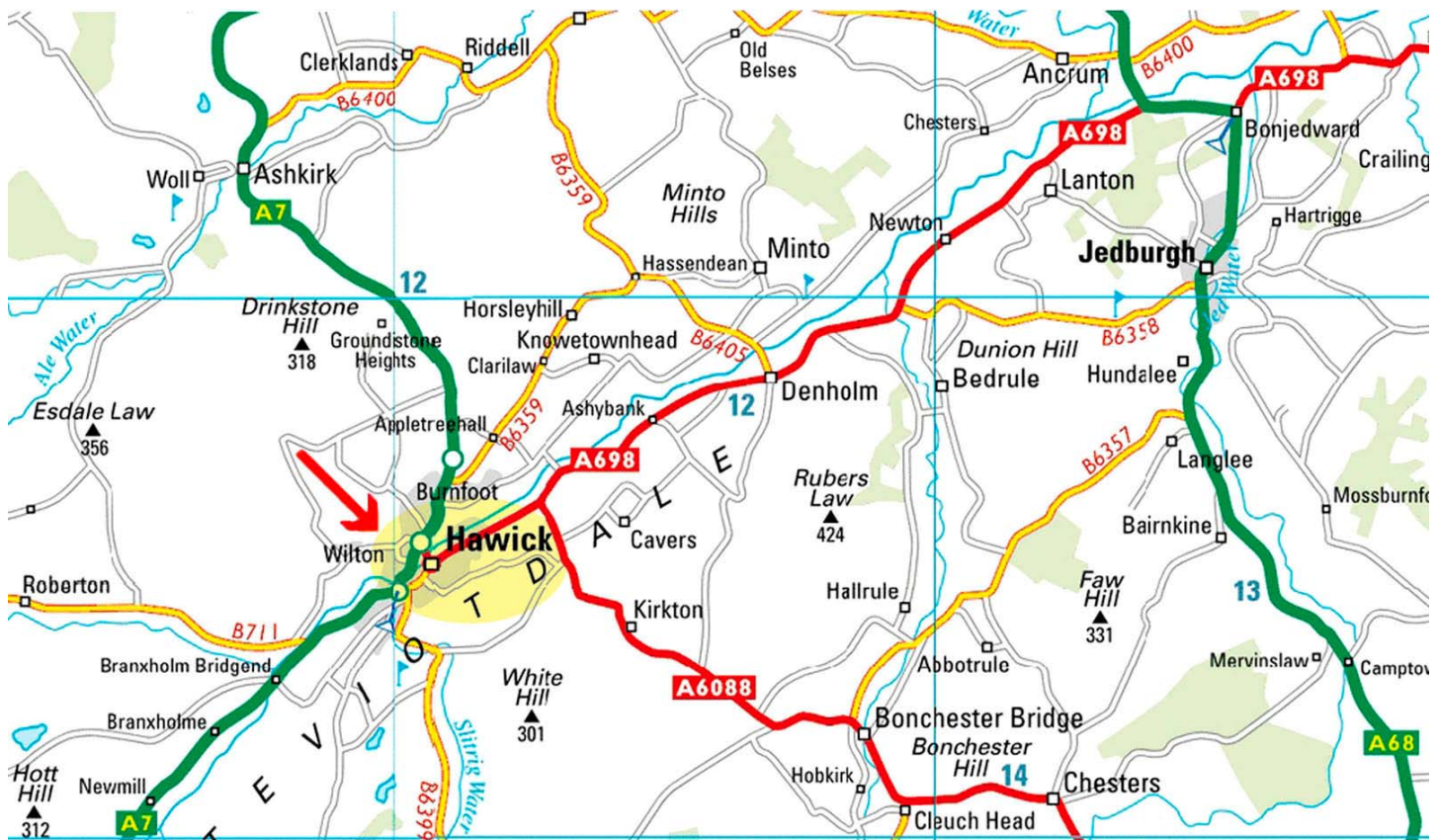
Other places of interest include the Wilton Lodge Park Walled Gardens, the Hawick Golf Club (18 hole), and the Scottish Academy of Falconry.

Textile places include Peter Scott & Co Ltd, Wrights of Trowmill Ltd, and the Hawick Cashmere Company.

The Hawick Rugby Football Club plays in Mansfield Park. Be sure to send an extra cheer for player Alistair Turnbull.

**Getting there:** The nearest train station is in Lockerbie, 33 miles to the SW. Edinburgh is 50 miles to the north. London is 350 miles to the south. Approaching *from the north*, take the A7. Turn left onto the B6399 and enter Hawick.

Coming *from the south*, go north on the M1 and merge onto the M6. Take the M6 to exit 44 or the A7. Continue on the A7 for 40 miles and turn right onto the B6399 and enter Hawick.



## Places to stay:

### In Hawick:

Mansfield House Hotel Weensland Road, Hawick, TD9 8LB.  
(Tell Ian you are with the Turnbull Clan for special treatment.)  
Cavers Garden Farm Cavers, Hawick, TD9 8LN.  
The Coppice Borthwickbrae, Hawick, TD9 7NA.  
Ellistrin Bed & Breakfast, 6 Fenwick Park, Hawick, TD9 9PA.  
Elm House Hotel, 17 North Bridge Street, Hawick, TD9 9BD.  
Wiltonburn Farm Hawick, TD9 7LL

### In Denholm:

The Fox and Hounds Inn Main Street, Denholm, TD9 8NU.  
Glenteviot Park Hassendeanburn, Denholm, TD9 8RU.

### In Selkirk:

The Garden House, Whitmuir, Selkirk, TD7 4PZ.  
The Glen Hotel Yarrow Terrace, Selkirk, TD7 5AS.  
Heatherlie House Hotel Heatherlie Park, Selkirk, TD7 5AL.

**Nearby Attractions:** Middle Marches Guided Walks - Riversdale, Slitrig Crescent - Hawick, Bedrule Parish, Ruberslaw, Jedburgh Woolen Mill, Ancrum Village Green and Market Cross, Ancrum Old Parish Church, Leyden Monument in Denholm, Jedforest Deer and Farm Park, Drumlanrig Castle and the Queensberry Estate, Minto Chapel

## Places to eat:

La Torre Restaurant, 6 Bourtree Place, Hawick  
Kings Restaurant, 23 North Bridge Street, Hawick  
Shugonda Balti House, 4 Dovemount Pl. Hawick  
Sergios Diner, Bridge House, Sandbed, Hawick  
The Castlegate, 26 Castlegate, Jedburgh  
Simply Scottish, 8 High Street, Jedburgh  
The Chefs Grill, 31 High Street, Jedburgh  
The Wayfarer, High Street, Jedburgh  
The Chatterbox, 31 West Port, Selkirk  
Coach-House Restaurant, Ettrick Terrace, Selkirk

**Nearby Historical Sights:** Jedburgh Abbey, Jedburgh Castle Jail and Museum, Mary Queen of Scots house, Melrose Abbey, Kelso Abbey, Hermitage Castle, Barnhill Tower, Fulton Tower

**Related websites:** <http://www.hawick42.freemove.co.uk/>  
<http://www.hawickrfc.co.uk/>, <http://www.hawickcashmere.com/>  
<http://www.hawicktoday.co.uk/>  
<http://www.scot-borders.co.uk/About/Hawick.htm>  
<http://members.optushome.com.au/aussiebulls/minto.htm>  
<http://www.geo.ed.ac.uk/scotgaz/towns/townhistory754.html>  
<http://www.electricscotland.com/>, <http://www.mansfield-house.com/>



## UPCOMING GAMES & EVENTS

For a complete list of games in your area log onto  
[http://www.turnbullclan.com/main/coming\\_events.htm](http://www.turnbullclan.com/main/coming_events.htm)

### USA Games – Attend one in your area!

**Aug. 6** Detroit Highland Games, Livonia, MI  
 Whidbey Island Highland Games, Seattle, WA  
**Aug 6-7** Monterey Highland Games, Monterey, CA  
**Aug 7** Celtic Harvest Festival, Lughnassadh, Houston, TX  
**Aug 12-14** WV Highland Games & Festival, S. Charleston, WV  
**Aug 13** Central NY Scottish Games & Celtic Festival, NY  
**Aug 19** Olympia Scottish Games Festival, Olympia, WA  
**Aug 20** Jackson Hole Scottish Festival, Jackson, WY  
 Maine Highland Games, Portland, ME  
**Aug 20-22** Celtic Feis, Geneva-on-the-Lake, OH  
**Aug. 27** Celtic Highland Games of the Quad Cities, Davenport, IA  
**Aug 27-28** Scottish Clans Heritage Festival, Bethel, MD  
**Aug 30-31** Capital District Scottish Games, Altamont, NY

### CANADIAN Games – Attend one in your area!

**Aug 5-7** Celtic Root Festival and College, Goderich, ON  
**Aug 7-10** Caledonian Club Highland Games, Eldon, PE  
**Aug 10-14** The Hector Festival, Pictou, NS  
**Aug 12-14** Montreal International Celtic Festival, LaSalle  
**Aug 19** Saskatoon Highland Games, Saskatoon, SK  
**Aug 20** North Lanark Highland Games, Almonte, ON  
**Aug 19-20** Sarnia Highland Games, Sarnia, ON  
**Aug 28** High River Highland Games High River, AB

### SCOTLAND Games – Attend one in your area!

Aug 5-27 Edinburgh Tattoo, Edinburgh  
 Aug 25-27 Cowal Highland Gathering, Dunoon

### AUSTRALIAN Games – Attend one in your area!

Toukeley Gathering of the Clans, New South Wales

## Turnbull Reunion Celebrates Triple 80<sup>th</sup> Birthdays

July 8-10, the Wallace Turnbull family combined a family reunion with a triple 80 birthday celebration at this year's Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, NC. Four generations came together from the Gulf Coast to California to Montreal to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays of Wallace, his wife, Eleanor and sister-in-law, Louise Holdeman, some meeting for the first time and others reuniting after 30 years. Joining fellow Turnbull friends at the Highland Games made it even more enjoyable and festive.



*Eleanor Turnbull, Louise Holdeman, and Wallace Turnbull admire their family crests-birthday cake.*

As Eleanor reflects on the evening's celebration, "Looking around that room I was drenched with the feeling of great riches. Wonderfully wealthy – because people and family are our riches. Gathered in that room were 4 generations all of the same family blood lines. They had come from across the continent to know and to share with each other and to make the triple 80 or '240 years' birthday party a special occasion. I remember the Bible verses in Genesis about how the head of each generation begat his sons, and God's plan to teach to thy sons, and to thy sons' sons... I was

thankful for this time to be with our sons and our sons' sons and to know that our family was growing and going forth as God had intended.

"The birthday cake was as beautiful as it was delicious. It had both the Turnbull and Holdeman coats of arms, celebrating our heritage as well as individuals. The Highland Games made the perfect place for gathering with the great mountain setting, beautiful weather, keen competition at the games, and bagpipe music adding to our party atmosphere and providing an opportunity of renewing our "commitment to unity and steadfastness to God's command of 'generation to generation.'

"Our words to the younger ones 'the first 80 years are the hardest.' We wish for you to continue to 'begat' and are thankful for the family that God has blessed us with."



*Turnbull clan members gather at Grandfather Mountain games. Back left to right: Claude Snow, Sarah Turnbull Snow, Catharine Turnbull McKenty, Wallace Turnbull, Betty Turnbull, Eleanor Turnbull, Nikki Turnbull, Elizabeth Turnbull, Sarah and Vivian Turnbull, Mary Turnbull, Netta Turnbull, John Turnbull, Front left to right: Roberto Copa-Matos, Walter Turnbull, Wally Turnbull, Rhet Turnbull, Andrew Turnbull*

## Drumlanrig Tower

(Continued from page 1) In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, family life replaced feudalism and the Scots began to turn toward the English standards of comfort and elegance. The duchess Anne Scott returned to Scotland in 1701 and decided to convert the now dilapidated tower into a home fit for a “mighty princess.”

Under Anne’s guidance, the tower underwent a thorough renovation. The building was enlarged by filling in the angle of the original L shape to add a room on each level. A new wing was constructed, extending the building further up the High Street.

During the first Jacobite uprising in 1715, the tower again witnessed occupation and rebellions. After Anne’s death in 1732, her grandson, Francis, the second Duke of Buccleuch, inherited the estate. By this time, however, provincial townhouses had fallen out of fashion and Drumlanrig Tower sat virtually unused.

The last great invasion of the tower was one of an enemy much more destructive than soldiers. The torrential rains of 1767 flooded the town of Hawick, and the river swept away 15 houses, the corn mill and part of the Auld Brig. Trees, packs of wool and household furniture were also carried over the tower wall. But even this final deadly attack was not enough to destroy the mighty tower.

Since the Buccleuchs no longer used the Tower of Drumlanrig as a home, in 1773, they decided to convert the tower into an inn. The Tower Inn was noted for its comfortable rooms, good dinner and privacy not usually awarded to guests at other inns. With its strategic location along the turnpike road between Carlisle and Edinburgh, the Tower Inn also served as a posting establishment.

The inn soon became a popular gathering place for unofficial political meetings and even served as the hustings, or locale, for elections so that voters could obtain refreshments.

Eventually, the Tower Inn was renamed the Tower Hotel and remained the hub of Hawick’s social life for nearly 200 years until it was closed in the 1980s. Still, the tower would accept neither defeat nor abandonment. It was refurbished once more and reopened in 1995 as Hawick’s visitor center.

Today, the visitor’s center provides historical and cultural information about the region ranging from the Romans to the reivers to local history. You’ll even encounter the occasional art exhibit featuring local artists. And if you find a quiet place to sit with your ear against the wall, perhaps you’ll hear the rumblings of past conquests and sieges.

For additional information see *Early Settlers in the Borders* and *Warfare and Fortifications in the Borders* by the Scottish Borders Council and the March/April 2005 issue of *Highlander* magazine.

### August Crypto Puzzle

Cryptograms are texts that have been coded by substituting each letter by a different letter. For example, if t=a, h=b, and e=c, then the word “the” would appear as “abc” throughout the puzzle. A letter never equals itself.

I g k n b u z g r w

J c t p g

r y

Q u t r h m' y

Q c k y p

c l

Q r y j c g o

*Hint:* In this issue

**G=R**

Answer in the September issue

### Crypto Puzzle answers from the July issue

“I saved the King” is something Turnbolls are often heard saying.

#### Editor’s Reminder:

Please remember to send us your information on any family events such as weddings, graduations, reunions, and birthday celebrations. We also welcome any stories “Turnbull” that you think would be of interest to fellow TCA members. You may email or send by postal mail. Any photos sent will be returned.

[Editor@turnbullelan.com](mailto:Editor@turnbullelan.com)

5216 Tahoe Dr.

Durham, NC 27713

### Happy Birthday

Adriane Black, Mary Kathryn Dollar, Melinda D. Turnbull, J. Robert Turnbull, Jr., John Turnbull, Eleanor Turnbull, Paula Turnbull, Louis Todd Marot, Jimmie Jean Bowman, Jan Swinton, William Ledgerwood, Janet C. Schwierking, Adriana Rosado Bonewitz, Peter William Rule, Mary Regina Turnbull, John Turnbull, III, Kathryn Maercker Hunt

