

TCA Celebrates 30 Years – 1977-2007

The year was 1977 and the man was John F. Turnbull of Hawick, Scotland. John founded Turnbull Clan Association to reestablish a link with Turnbulls worldwide and their rich heritage. Working endlessly with his wife Myra as his personal assistant, the two wrote letters and addressed envelopes by hand, mailing to any Turnbull worldwide that they could find. They would sit in their living room and plan Turnbull events with fellow members and write to members. Then Myra would address envelope after envelope. Myra tells how she gave up her golf afternoon to work with John and promote the Clan.

John found that there was no official tartan for the clan Turnbull. Having studied design at University with an apprenticeship in the design of plaids, he decided to do something about that. John chose the main features of the Bruce and Douglas tartans to incorporate into the Turnbull tartan, both clans having an important part in the history of the Turnbulls. Because of John's efforts, there are now Turnbull tartans widely recognized and officially registered with the Lord Lyon, King of Arms.

In 1979, Dorothy Turnbull Berk, chartered a US branch of Turnbull Clan Association and began contacting Turnbulls in the US to become a part. Soon, there were branches in Australia and New Zealand. Today, with improved communications and Internet support, TCA operates as one large international clan association uniting members from Canada, Cuba, Mexico, New Zealand, Portugal, the United Kingdom, the United States, and growing.



Founder John Fisher Turnbull, Hawick, Scotland

were the first clan tent hosts. They continued to host a tent at the Golden games for many years to come. The 1979 games boasted that 29 members came from all parts of the US. From Dorothy's second newsletter; "Our two tartans made their first US, public debut, at the games." The tartans were well received by Turnbulls and other clan representatives.



Turnbull Dress Tartan, designed by John F. Turnbull *Turnbull Hunting Tartan, designed by John F. Turnbull*

A clan lay dormant for hundreds of years, but because of the dream of one man, now hundreds have become aware of and interested in their heritage and beginnings. Countless friends have been made. TCA not only has beautiful modern registered tartans, but now can boast an official Coat of Arms. In addition, with a permanent monument in the Borders, the Turnbull name will once again be recognized as a strong and vital part of the Borders and beyond.

Editor's note: Special thanks Janet Schwierking and to Sandy Turnbull, Australia for the photos used.
<http://www.members.optusnet.com.au/turnbullclan/>

Vol. I No. 1

January, 1979

TURNBULL CLAN ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

Dear Sir/Madam:

As many of you are well aware, the TURNBULL CLAN ASSOCIATION came into being May, 1977. The first Gathering was held in Hawick, Scotland that year. Since that time we have grown by leaps and bounds. Now, due to many requests, we are going to form a U. S. Branch. Your many phone calls and letters have let us know that a U. S. Branch with a U. S. Gathering is something you desire. Our Chairman, John F. Turnbull has given us the go ahead to proceed with such an undertaking. We trust you will give the U. S. Branch the same support you have given to our parent organization.

An excerpt from Dorothy Turnbull Berk's first newsletter to interested Turnbulls.

The beginnings of the USA branch of TCA concentrated on connecting with Turnbulls throughout the US using the Highland Games as a meeting place. Tent Hosts were established in key regions and annual meetings moved from one area to another, expanding friendships and acquiring new members. The first such meeting occurred on August 11, 1979 at the Rocky Mountain Highland Games in Golden, Colorado. Vella and Morris Turnbull

From the President

by Wally Turnbull

Happy New Year! Let's resolve to get to know each other better this year.

Many of our members tell us that they are seeking information about their ancestors. They look to TCA for genealogical information from clan records. Others are more interested in the Scottish games and in meeting the extended Turnbull family at those events. It is always fun to meet a distant cousin with a new spelling of the family name.

I believe that one of the best ways to help with both these objectives and have fun in the process is to talk (ok write) here in the Bullseye about our recent ancestors. We already talk (ok usually brag) about our distant ancestors and we do have a *Meet the Member* feature. Those articles will continue but this is something new, somewhere in between.

What I have in mind is this. Go back to the most distant Turnbull ancestor about whom you have information, even a grandparent. Tell us things like who he (or she) was, where he lived, how he earned his living, anything unusual about him, and how you are related to him. Tell us about his descendants, especially those in your direct line and include as much of the same information as you can about those individuals all the way up to yourself. Include photographs if you have them.

Many of you have already provided some of this information as TCA genealogical records but this will help us better know your families as more than names and dates. We may find out that some of us are related more closely that we knew. At the very least, by getting to know each others' families better we will know each other better.

Write to the address below or email editor@turnbullclan.com.

Sharing and Caring

Sympathies and prayers are extended to Vella Turnbull and family with the loss of her husband Morris.

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
Trustees: Keith Turnbull, Lee Turnbull, Corey Turnbull, Bill Trimble, Sarah Turnbull Snow, Dana Hume Turnbull Hoyer, George B. Turnbull, Brian P. Turnbull, Mark A. Turnbull, Sandy Turnbull
Founders: John Turnbull, Scotland • Dorothy Berk, USA



Meet the Founder

John Fisher Turnbull founded the Turnbull Clan Association in Hawick, Scotland in 1977. He died of a heart attack only 5 years later at the age of 49. In Hawick, he was the proprietor of the old family grocery and wine merchant business at 51 High Street. Educated at Drumlanrig School and George Watson's College, Edinburgh, he served a design apprenticeship with Wilson & Glenny before leaving on the death of his father, Barrie, in 1954, to take over the shop founded by his great grandfather in 1855. In addition to supplying traditional and delicatessen foods, the store also sold and exported its own brand of whisky.

John married Myra and together they had three children, Barrie, Deborah and Hamish. Myra and John knew each other growing up, but at the age of twelve John went away to boarding school.



They saw each other only occasionally. When John received his apprenticeship and returned to the area, Myra was working nearby as a secretary. She was seeing someone at the time, but John took every advantage that he could to see Myra. He invited her to a ball, an invitation she declined as she was going to a Red Cross ball the next night with her boyfriend. John showed up at the Red Cross ball and danced every other dance with Myra. As they say, "the rest is history."

In 1969, John joined the Hawick Town Council on which he served until the reorganization of the local government in 1975 at which time he continued as District Councilor until 1980. In 1977, John united hundreds of people of the same family origin when he founded the Turnbull Clan Association. It was said that John "was a man possessed by a drive to go in all directions at the same time."

John loved people and being



John with son, Barrie, in the family store High Street, Hawick

involved and getting others involved. From its simple founding in John's living room, TCA's great advancement and successes date back to his vision and dedication to join Turnbolls from around the world.

2006 in Review – A Year to be Remembered



Turnbull Clan Association

www.turnbullclan.com

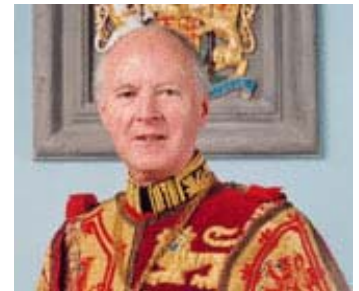


2006 was a year filled with memories and achievements. Goals and dreams became realities. **Above**, the banner is only one of many items made available to tent hosts in an effort to promote Turnbull representation at the many Highland Games.

Left, at the 2006 AGM in St. Louis, President Wally Turnbull announces Keith Turnbull is Clan Member of the Year.

The Lord Lyon, King of Arms, **below right**, grants TCA its official Coat of Arms. Once only a dream of founders and members, the Coat of Arms is becoming a reality. Heraldic artist Romilly Squire is currently painting the arms as per the official warrant.

Warrant for
Letters Patent
from
Lord Lyon
King of Arms
in the application of
TURNBULL CLAN
ASSOCIATION



The Turning of the Bull Monument will become a permanent piece of Turnbull History on the Borders in Scotland. The monument is being sculpted by one of Scotland's leading artists, Angela Hunter. Below is pictured a 9" x 12" bronze version of what will be 1.25 life size.





The Museum of History in New Smyrna Beach, Florida opened a long awaited Turnbull Colony Exhibit. The exhibit preserves the history and story of Smyrnea, a colony established by Dr. Andrew Turnbull in 1768. **Above left**, one of the displays shows the advancement of the ship arriving on the shores of what is now New Smyrna Beach.

Below, the lands and title of the Barony of Bedrule return to Turnbolls.



Flowers of the Forest



Remembering

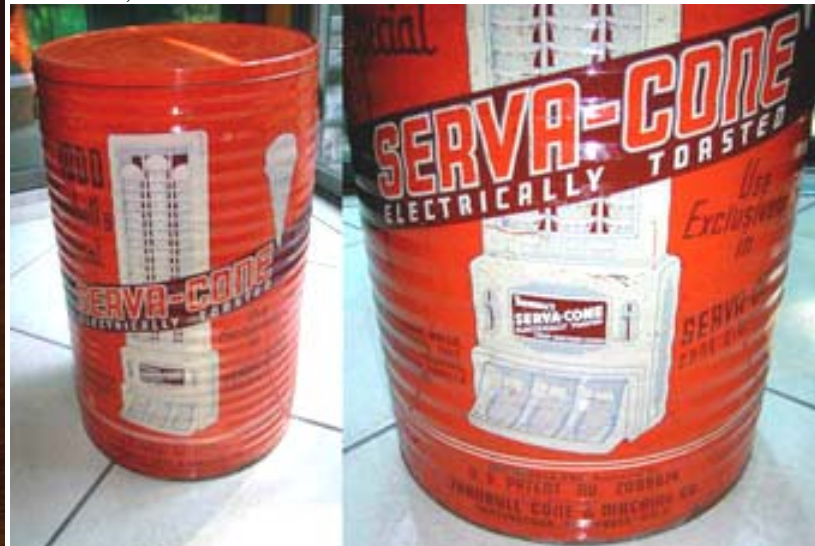
*Robert James Bable
William Morgan, Sr.
Leroy Samms
Derek Turnbull
Donald Turnbull
Morris Turnbull*

The Turnbull Virtual Museum was launched in order to record and share things Turnbull from around the world.

The virtual museum includes everything from rare photos, toys and inventions to



china, posters and advertising signs. The museum is found at www.turnbullclan.com/museum/index.html. **Above**: a replica toy moving van, **Left**: a water pitcher from Turnbull whisky, Hawick, **Below**: Turnbull Serva-Cone containers



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UPCOMING GAMES & EVENTS

USA Games – Attend one in your area! ** Look for the Turnbull Tent

****January 20**, Central Florida Scottish Games, Orlando, FL
(Bob Turnbull extends a personal welcome to the Central Florida Scottish Games and will be manning a Turnbull Tent)

Australia and New Zealand – Attend one in your area!

January 1, Fred Logan New Year's Day Scottish Gathering, Nambour, Queensland, Australia

January 1, Waipu Highland Games, Waipu, New Zealand

January 26, Australia Day Celtic Festival, Sydney, Australia

January 27, Turankia Highland Games, Turakina, New Zealand

Hawick Reivers Festival 2007 – March 23rd to 25th



On 23rd March 2007 the town of Hawick in the Scottish Borders will again step back in time to the mid 1500's and over the next few days will re-create the sites and sounds of this turbulent period – so important in the town's history.

Through drama, music and song the town will allow the visitor to experience the truth of life in the 16th century, a period of hardship

and violence, of family against family and nation against nation, a period which did much to shape the character of the modern day Borderer and his relatives throughout the world.

The Union of the Crowns brought an end to lawlessness with many of the perpetrators given the option of death or forever leaving the Borderlands. Armstrongs, Elliots, Johnstons and Turnbells to name but a few set off to settle in Ireland and further afield, making their mark on the "New World."

This year's festival, the 5th such event will coincide with the opening of a new Family History Centre in Hawick. This state of the art facility will allow access to Border archives and records, to assist the researcher (both experienced and beginner) to trace their family history in the heart of the Border Country.

If you are interested in more information about the festival please contact celliotwalker@aol.com or if you wish information on the Family History Centre visit web site www.scotborders.gov.uk/council/specialinterest/heartofhawick.

2007 AGM Trip Update

Forty people are now signed up for this once in a lifetime trip. Updates with details and information will be coming your way soon. Questions? contact Betty Turnbull by email at editor@turnbullclan.com or 5216 Tahoe Dr., Durham, NC 27713. A couple of surprises are in the works as well. We are going to have a wonderful time! Trip information is available at www.turnbullclan.com

Flowers of the Forest

Morris Turnbull passed away on Thanksgiving Day. He was 81 years old. Morris and his wife, Vella, were among the founding members of TCA. Vella and Morris hosted a Turnbull Tent at the Colorado games during the early years and played a key role in expanding the membership of TCA. Morris's hobbies included gardening, cooking and genealogy.

TCA extends the sympathies of its members to Vella and her family. Morris served his Clan well and will be missed.

Happy New Year!!!

2007 Membership renewal may be done online or by check. Primary membership is \$20.00. Spouses and children are \$10.00 each. To renew online, go to www.turnbullclan.com. Enter the site and click on the yellow renew box at the top of the page. To pay by check, make check payable to Turnbull Clan Association and mail to: Janet Schwierking
2020 Schuettig Rd.
Poteet, TX 78065

Janet will send you a new 2007 membership card and password to the website. She has asked that you let her know if you don't receive these within a couple of weeks.



Happy Birthday to

Florence Kuntz, John D. Turnbull, Lynn Turnbull McConkey, JoAnne Turnbull, B. Walton Turnbull, Norman Turnbull, Kim Trimble, Charlotte Turnbull Forsyth, Nelson Weller, Charles Delaney, Mary A. Turnbull, Daniel J. Turnbull, Sarah Turnbull, Betty Jean Turnbull, Paul Forgette, and Stephanie C. Turnbull, Leonard Quevillon, Avril Turnbull

Ronald Turnbull - A Real Life James Bond

With the present popularity of a new James Bond and movie, it is interesting to note that Ronald Bruce Turnbull lived a real James Bond life. Turnbull was born in Edinburgh on May 29, 1914. He attended Fettes College and won a scholarship in History to Cambridge in 1935. After suffering a rugby injury and no longer able to play, Turnbull spent a summer at Copenhagen University where he assisted Danes studying English literature and learned Danish in return.



Turnbull on his wedding day in 1943



Turnbull photographed in 1993, age 72

Turnbull was a good looking man with many charms. He was an amateur actor and good with languages. When the war broke out he was recruited by the newly formed and covert Special Operations Executive. Turnbull began a life of espionage using brains not brawn. He didn't have the advantages of made for the movie gadgets. He broadcast news on the BBC and was sent as a press attaché to what is now the British Embassy in Copenhagen. This would be his cover for gathering intelligence and news. Shortly after his arrival he awoke to the sound of aircraft flying overhead. German bombers were flying over the city. Denmark was helpless at this time.

Turnbull returned to London by train through Germany and Belgium where he married. His next assignment sent him to Stockholm to build up the resistance movement in Denmark and eventually supervise political and special operations for Northern Europe. His trip to Stockholm became an adventure as he and his very pregnant wife left Liverpool, sailed to Cape Town then to Cairo, crossing the Suez Canal in a row boat. They then drove across the Holy land to Ankara, took a train to Istanbul where his wife gave birth to a son. The three then journeyed via a Russian ship across the Black Sea to Odessa. From Odessa they went by train to Moscow before flying to Stockholm. Lord Haw-Haw mocked the round about journey in one of his propaganda radio broadcasts.

Once in Stockholm, Turnbull began setting up a Special Operations outpost. From here he made contact with Denmark which led to the first 3 man Danish Resistance team, trained in England. His task of coordinating the efforts of the Danish Intelligence with London's own efforts was beginning to take shape. Danish Resistance and sabotage increased. The Danish Freedom Council was formed to prepare for liberation from Germany.

Of the many things Turnbull accomplished was persuading Nobel Peace Prize winner, Niels Bohr, to escape Denmark and join the British and American scientists working on the atom bomb. He also obtained, with the help of the Danish Resistance, drawings of the V-1 bomb. These drawings were in London hands about 10 months before V-1 attacks began.

Turnbull's life was often in danger. He and his wife were in a motor accident resulting in the death of his wife. Turnbull never believed this was an accident, but rather a revenge attack on his life. After the war, he received many awards and recognitions, among them the OBE, the American Medal of Freedom. He was described as having the ability to diplomatically be a liaison between Danish Resistance and London, avoiding breakdowns in communications but able at the same time to forcefully argue his stand.

Ronald Bruce Turnbull died at the age of 89 on March 2, 2004 in East Lothian, UK.

Turnbulls in the News

Dr. Jeffrey Turnbull, chairman of the Department of Medicine at the University of Ottawa and the Ottawa Hospital, has been elected president of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

The college regulates the practice of medicine by issuing certificates of registration to doctors, monitoring and maintaining standards of practice,

investigating complaints on behalf of the public and disciplining doctors who have been accused of committing professional misconduct or incompetence.

Dr. Turnbull, whose recent work on health projects for the homeless have resulted in numerous national and international grants and awards, has served on the College Council for six years as the University of Ottawa representative. He is considered a leading authority in the field of medical training. *Ottawa Citizen, Canada.com*



Dr. Jeffrey Turnbull