

# Turnbull Clan Launches DNA Project

*Editor's note: TCA is introducing a new project and is very excited about the potential involved. By participating in a global DNA project, those interested in their heritage and genealogy are able to find possible connections and relatives worldwide. Robert Turnbull has taken on the task of helping make this happen. He shares the article below with us to help us understand this new adventure.*

By Robert M. Turnbull

Greetings to my fellow Clan members! First, let me say what a great time Angela and I had on the Clan Association Scotland trip (thanks for the trip of a lifetime Betty and Wally!). It was such a thrill meeting all my "brethren" and seeing the "homeland."

At the annual meeting of the members in Scotland, Wally mentioned the Clan's interest in starting a Turnbull DNA project for the members interested in genealogy and asked if anyone would be willing to coordinate such a project. Being a Biology (Zoology, Anatomy and Physiology, Environmental Biology ...) Instructor at the University of Southern Mississippi, I saw this as a great opportunity to combine my background in science with my interest in my heritage and volunteered for the job.

Long story short, a project is underway and the company that we will be using to perform the tests is Family Tree DNA (<http://www.ftdna.com>). They are a well respected company in the field and are at the forefront of DNA testing. The results of the project will be posted for you to see on the World Families.net web site (<http://www.worldfamilies.net>) and this site is where you will want to go to order your test kit (to participate in the Turnbull project and get the group prices). While I hope everyone will visit both sites (there is a great tutorial about DNA testing at the Family Tree as well as other great references including a glossary of terms) below are the answers to some frequently asked questions. Some of the answers are the ones provided by Family Tree (they can answer them better than I) while others are "tailored" to our specific situation.

## What is Family Tree DNA?

Family tree "is dedicated to helping genealogists find lost relatives when the paper trail ends and the brick wall takes its place. A painless cheek scraping is used to obtain DNA that can help accurately determine a relationship with either a 99.9% probability of YES or a 100% certainly that no near term relationship existed."

## How far back can you determine a genetic link?

All genetic tests from Family Tree DNA will provide you a probability that you and another person, who have an exact match, will have your Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA) within a range of time backwards. The 12 marker test gives you the following range: 7 generations (50%) likelihood and 29 generations (95%) likelihood. Using the 25 marker test the 50% likelihood



*Linked by marriage and not DNA, Robert and Angela Turnbull celebrate their second wedding anniversary at Loch Lomond on the 2007 AM Scotland trip..*

drops to 3 generations and the 95% to 13 generations. The 37-marker test tightens further to 2 generations (50%) and the 95% to 7 generations.

## How do I find out that I am related to someone who also did a DNA test?

After you have placed your order, a genetic test kit and instructions will be mailed to you. Upon its return your genetic sample will be processed, and the results will be entered into the secure, private and confidential non-web-based genetic library. A comparison between your specific genetic markers and those of others in the database will then be performed and you will be notified if another person matches your results perfectly.

## Why would I want to take a genetic test?

The service was created for the serious amateurs and the professional genealogists who wish to extend their family trees by confirming a link where no conventional source records exist. In some cases the tests can also be used to determine if a person is part of a larger group of people: for example, Jews will be able to confirm they are of Cohanin lineage. The tests are also perfect for individuals who want to perform Surname-based family tree reconstruction projects.

*(continued on page 4)*

## From the President

by Wally Turnbull

We know that “blood is thicker than water” means that blood (family) relationships are more important than water (friendships). A person may be your friend today but family is forever.



When we get together with others, we seek out what we have in common. Who do you know that I know? Where did you grow up? Finding something in common with another person makes us feel closer. Finding out that we are related generates a real eureka moment of excitement when an instant bond, stronger than water is created.

Of course as Turnbells, Trimbles, Trumbulls, etc, we are all certainly related by 30 or fewer generations. Given that there are perhaps as many as 800,000 of us around the world today that is a lot of family. But, just how closely are we related. Do we have a great grandfather or perhaps a GG grandfather in common?

If we can find out where our relationships are the closest we can help each other learn about our common ancestors. Some of us have had the good fortune to be able to trace our ancestors back many generations and others not. Once we know to whom we are closely related we can help each other know where to best seek genealogy information. We will have found a kinship and genealogy shortcut.

How do we do this? We do it with DNA testing but for the process to work we must actually do the test. It costs something but the results are priceless. Please ask the oldest male in your Turnbull family line to contribute his DNA to the Turnbull Clan database. Assure him that there is no health, privacy, or security danger involved. Only the rewards of family ties will result from our participation.

## Sharing and Caring

**Please remember Karen Torrey and her stepfather as he goes for medical tests.**

### BULLSEYE - A Turnbull Clan Publication

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### Turnbull Clan Association

**Officers:** Wally Turnbull, President • Brian Turnbull, Vice-President  
Janet Turnbull Schwierking, Secretary • William Trimble, Treasurer

**Trustees:** Keith Turnbull, Lee Turnbull, Corey Turnbull, Kim Trimble, Sarah Turnbull Snow, Dana Hume Turnbull Hoyer, George B. Turnbull, Brian P. Turnbull, Mark A. Turnbull, Sandy Turnbull

**Founders:** John F. Turnbull, Scotland • Dorothy Berk, USA

## Meet the Member

By Cynthia Parham

Hank and I discovered TCA from a relative, Ann Weller, after she told us about the TCA trip to Scotland.

I was born in Mobile, Alabama. My mother is Mary Turnbull the G.G.G. Granddaughter of John Turnbull of Louisiana. His history is included in the Turnbull Who's Who section of the TCA web site. He is listed as John Turnbull (Indian trader). My mother is 91 years old and resides in Mobile, AL. I was reared in Mobile by a combination of Turnbull relatives. My mother, my aunt Virginia Turnbull, and my uncles



*Cynthia and Hank dress for the Turnbull farewell dinner, Scotland, June, 2007.*

Martin and Duncan Turnbull all told me about our clan, how the name began, and how proud they were of our family history.

Henry (Hank) is from Jacksonville, Florida. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1960 and started what turned out to be a career in the computer industry. We met while he was stationed in Mobile at Brookley Field. Forty years and six moves later he opted for early retirement from the NCR Corporation as a computer service manager for the southeastern Louisiana area.

After retirement we joined the Caledonian Society of New Orleans to learn more about our Scottish Heritage. We enjoy sharing history with our fellow members. We started taking Scottish country dance lessons and this expanded to include antebellum and regency style dancing. We often dance with the Crescent City Historic Dancers and The Louisiane Vintage Dancers of Baton Rouge. We are invited to demonstrate the antebellum and regency dances at plantations and historic events in this area. (see page 6) I also enjoy sewing, my doll collection and playing tennis. Hank likes photography and computer graphics.

Hank and I have three daughters. Laurie Corrington resides in Memphis, Tennessee, Jennifer Hardy in Jackson, Mississippi, and Mary Camille Parham in Tunica, Mississippi.

Jennifer is the mother of our grandchildren, and I have to admit they are the most adorable grandchildren in the world. The grandchildren, Courtney (8) and Keifer (4) Hardy, will be attending a Scottish Country dance workshop this summer.

My cousin, Emily Turnbull has written an excellent history of our direct Turnbull family. With her permission I will share more information and photos of our family in the future.



## UPCOMING GAMES & EVENTS

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

#### \*\* Look for the Turnbull Tent!

**September 2-3**, Pleasanton Highland Gathering , Pleasanton, CA

**September 6-9**, Long's Peak Highland Festival, Estes Park, CO

**September 9**, South Dakota Highland Festival , Scotland, SD,  
Westminster Scottish Festival, Youngstown, OH

**September 14-15**, Fresno Scottish Festival & Games, Madera, CA

**\*\*September 21-23**, New Hampshire Highland Games , Loon Mt, NH

**September 22**, Treasure Valley Games and Celtic Festival, Boise, ID.

### Canada – Attend one in your area!

**September 1**, Calgary Highland Games , Calgary, AB, Canada

**September 2**, Canmore Highland Games , Canmore, AB, Canada

**September 9**, Trenton Scottish/Irish Festival, Trenton, ON, Canada

**September 14-15**, Owen Sound Celtic Festival, ON, Canada

**September 15**, The Beach Celtic Festival, The Beach, ON, Canada

### Australia– Attend one in your area!

**September 22-23**, Toodyay Highland Games , West Australia

For a complete list of games worldwide visit:

<http://www.usscots.com>



*Athena, OR games were hosted once again by Dale and Mary Kay Hilding. "Our clans today bring rich tradition to Athena in the love of the gathering, good music, dancing, friends, food and stories. In ancient times, clans sought to establish land rights, ownership, protection and to build strength in feuds. Clans always had music and enjoyed a ceilidh with good food, family, music and stories. Identity with a clan today means to share a surname, associate with a particular territory, wear a particular tartan, and acknowledge a clan chief, coat of arms and clan society" from [www.athenacaledoniangames.org](http://www.athenacaledoniangames.org)*

## TCA Represented at Enumclaw Highland Games

By Bill and Pat Trimble

Once again Scotland came to the Pacific Northwest, when the Seattle Scottish Highland Games and Clan Gathering took place at the Enumclaw Expo Center (formerly the King County Fairgrounds) the weekend of July 27-29, 2007. The Rising of the Clans, Flaming Saltire, and Ceilidh were held Friday evening.



Above: Lynn Lenz and Pat Trimble await visitors under our new banner with the newly granted TCA coat of arms.

Right: Our most popular display.



Saturday morning started with a light mist which cleared, giving us a beautiful sunny day. Our Turnbull tent was at the south end of the field, in the shade of two large trees. Several people visited us, admiring our new Turnbull banner

and the items we purchased in Scotland while on the 2007 AGM trip—especially the bottle of Turnbull Scotch!

We visited the Clan and vendor tents, the Scottish farm animals and the dogs, then joined the other clans gathered on the parade field to watch the Massing of the Bands and take part in the Parade of the Clans. There were Seventy Clans represented this year! We also recruited a new member to TCA and want to welcome Alfred Turnbull from Monroe, WA into the family!

Saturday afternoon, on the way back to our hotel we just had to stop at Wally's Drive-In for one of their great Wally Berry Shakes! (It couldn't help but remind of us of Wally and Betty's visit two years ago!)



A favorite place for locals of Enumclaw, WA and area for shakes, malts and burgers.

When we awoke Sunday morning, we thought we were back in Scotland again because the weather had turned cold with a heavy mist falling. By mid-morning, the mist turned to rain, and when it didn't dissipate it was announced that the Massing of the Bands would still take place on the parade field; however, the Parade of Clans would march through the Expo Halls—not out on the field.



Kathy Chase, Bill Trimble, Emma Lenz, Kim Trimble & Lynn Lenz

The clans gathered on the sidewalk then paraded down the middle of each hall then outside, where they dispersed.

Overall, it was an interesting and fun-filled weekend, and we look forward to going again next year!

## Turnbull Clan DNA Project

(continued from page 1)

### What are the costs of the Family Tree DNA tests?

Since this is a surname (Turnbull) project, the test that will be used is the "Y-DNA" test (remember your high school biology? The Y chromosome is the one passed from father to son). The cost will vary depending on the number of "markers" you wish to look at. Terry Barton, one of the other group administrators for the Turnbull project, provided this response to which test you may want to choose.

"If you are trying to match to a different surname without a paper trail - I always recommend 37 markers as a minimum but 67 can be helpful in establishing extended family relationships."

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 12 markers \$99  | 37 markers \$189 |
| 25 markers \$148 | 67 markers \$269 |

Upgrades from one test to the next cost \$49. (37 to 67 is a two step increase which costs \$99)

TCA requests that each family have the oldest male in the Turnbull line do a 37 marker DNA test. Because one test will serve all family members the cost per person is not high.

\*\*\*\*Please note that since this is a "Y-DNA" test, only males will be able to submit their DNA for this particular project as only males have a Y chromosome. If a female member wishes to participate, she can send in a sample from a close male relative (brother, father, etc).

### What is done with the results of the tests?

Results will be placed in the secure, private and confidential database. Once a person's test result has been entered into the genetic library, a connection can be made whenever another related person chooses to have their DNA tested. See the Privacy & Confidentiality statement for more information. The DNA extracted from your sample is kept by the lab for a period of 25 years for your exclusive use. It is important to note that Family Tree DNA adopts a "double safety net" in regard to your sample: Arizona Research Labs at the campus of the University of Arizona keeps the DNA associated to a number and not a name, while Family Tree DNA offices keep the database with no access to the actual sample.

### How is this test different from a paternity test?

Family Tree DNA's primary test attempts to determine if 2 people thought to be unrelated actually had a common ancestor. The specific purpose is to help recreate lost family links. The test is for genealogy NOT for paternity, alimony or other legal purposes

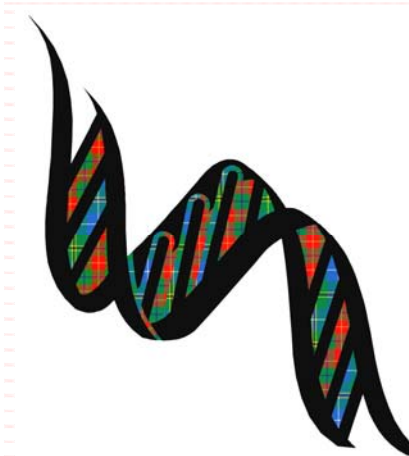
### How is the test performed?

Your genetic test kit consists of a cheek scraper and a collection tube. In about five minutes, you will be able to read the instructions and perform a painless cheek scraping.

The effect of using the scraper is about the same as brushing your cheek with a soft bristle toothbrush. A backup scraper & tube is included to insure that a good sample is obtained by the lab. The lab intends that you use them both!

### How long will it take for me to get my results?

From the time you return the two specimens to the lab it will take approximately seven weeks to test your DNA sample, analyze the specimens and compare the results to data in the existing genetic library.



### What's in a DNA test kit?

The Family Tree DNA test kit consists of two cheek scrapers and two collection tubes---designed for a single person's use. Each tube contains a fluid designed to arrest bacteria growth, so you can scrape your cheek and return your kit in

any type of weather (hot or cold). The freshness of your sample will remain intact for months.

If you are interested in participating in the project, again I recommend visiting both the Family Tree and World Families' web sites to further familiarize yourself with the process. If you decide to participate, go to the World Families site and do a Surname search for Turnbull. Once you are taken to the Turnbull project homepage, there will be a place to order your kit and select which marker test you are interested in. Again remember that even if you only choose the 12 marker test (the cheapest one, \$99.00) you can always do upgrades to that test in the future (see previous section on pricing).

I will be the group administrator for the project for the Clan Association so if you have any questions about the tests, or analyzing the results, don't hesitate to contact me at [Roroule@charter.net](mailto:Roroule@charter.net) or [Robert.Turnbull@USM.edu](mailto:Robert.Turnbull@USM.edu). Like any project of this kind, the more members that take part the better and I hope that you each of you will consider joining with us in exploring our Turnbull roots.

Please ask the oldest male in your Turnbull line to order a 37 marker DNA test as soon as possible from [www.worldfamilies.net](http://www.worldfamilies.net) – search *Turnbull* or by phone from:

Family Tree DNA - Genealogy by Genetics, Ltd.  
1919 North Loop West, Suite 432  
Houston, TX 77008, USA  
Phone: (713) 868-1438



## Memories...

*What was most memorable about your trip to Scotland?*

By Dawn Day



Since my G-G-Grandfather, James Turnbull, was born, raised and married in the Borderlands of Scotland I was very interested when it was announced that the AGM for 2007 would be held there. My family encouraged me to attend and I must say I didn't need

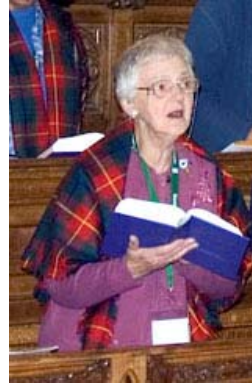
much urging! My plan was to not only visit the Borderlands but to travel through the district of Cromarty where James had worked as a shepherd. From there I would go to Oban where he & his family boarded the migrant ship Glen Huntly for Glasgow. I wanted to push out to sea on a ferry and try to capture some of their thoughts and feelings as they watched their homeland disappearing before their eyes knowing they would probably never return. In Glasgow I wanted to visit Greenock on the Clyde, for it was from there they finally set sail on that fateful journey to Australia.

I approached the first part of my journey feeling a little apprehensive at joining a company of complete strangers, but it wasn't long before I felt part of that great family - the Turnbull Clan. It was like 'a coming home' - a feeling of belonging - something like I imagine Heaven will be like - surrounded by family, the pipes playing and the 'laddies' looking handsome in their kilts - what a joy!

I had the time of my life. I will never forget it Betty! Thanks to your great talent for organization. Thanks to both you and Wally, for making me feel accepted, safe and special just as real-life parents would do. You are great leaders!

I have always been proud of being a Turnbull and this experience made me feel even prouder. I will always remember the flag raising ceremony and the chance I had to speak to the piper afterwards. Then there was the privilege of having noted people join us for dinner and who dropped in on us on other occasions. Our visit to the Hawick Heritage Centre to have a look at the Sculptor's conception of the "Turning of the Bull" memorial stands out in my memory. Angela Hunter sat beside me and I was able to ask her who modeled William Rule for her. The singer who taught us the fun song, 'Fa's yowes are they?' and the fiddler who performed for us were just so entertaining. And then there were the people who joined our coach, as we visited the Turnbull sites, and shared with us their knowledge of the countryside and its history. There were a host of local folk who looked after us and helped us in so many ways making us feel part of the Borderland family. I will never forget the

family members who helped haul me up to Fatlips Castle and down again over the protruding rocks and slippery pathway, I would never have made it on my own.



*Dawn Day at a special service for the Turnbull clan at Glasgow University.*

God surely was with us during that week and so it was fitting that we gathered on two separate occasions, at two very different and special Kirks, to give Him thanks & praise, not only for our present day circumstances but for the way He has led His people, in particular our people, in the past.

My heart sings with pride when I begin thinking about the Turnbull Clan Association's 2007 AGM; it was the thrill of a lifetime to have been there.

Lang may ye lum reek! *Dawn*

By Ned and Janis Dairiki

We have very warm memories of our Turnbull trip to Scotland. One of the best memories is that of meeting so many new "relatives," both those on the trip and those in Scotland. So many Turnbells – so little time to really get to know them!



Getting up to Fatlips Castle (whatever the origin of the name!) was a real highlight. It is a tower with character and it is good to know there is a serious effort to restore and maintain it.

We had visited Bedrule Church and the graveyard before, but had never been inside the church. It is lovely – and so full of Turnbull mementos. Discovery of the nearby castle mound was also new to us.

We were well aware that Bishop William Turnbull founded the University of Glasgow, but we were certainly not aware that there are so many Turnbull coats of arms on display. The visit to the chapel and the opportunity to hear the chapel choir, with those great acoustics, were very special.

We enjoyed staying in the Borders. Melrose is a lovely little village. We also enjoyed exploring Edinburgh and its pubs, including the Oxford Bar, the favorite of Inspector Rebus and his creator, Ian Rankin.

All in all, a great trip! It was very fast paced and by the end we were exhausted, but very happy!

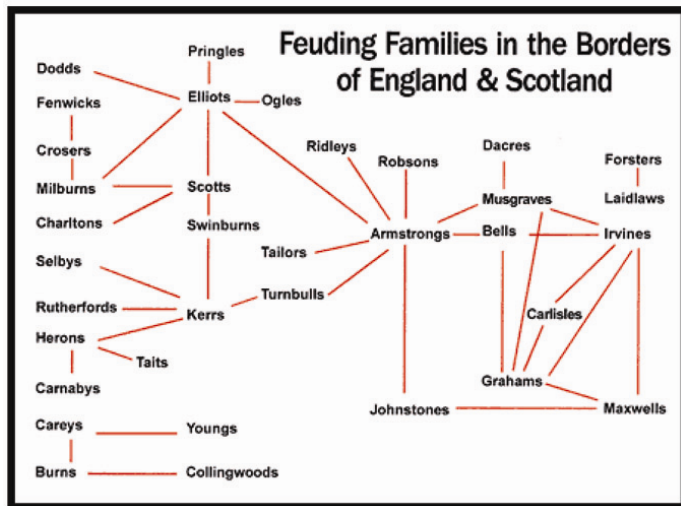


# CD!

## Turnbolls Where?

We know Turnbolls have lived in Scotland, England, Canada, Australia and even in Mexico, but Holland? A. clan detective has a clue as to whether one of our relatives lived in the Netherlands or not. The Clan's office has received a request from a mysterious correspondent requesting a translation of a very tantalizing document. It is full of beautiful drawings in color. The only graph in English appears here. There are 9 pages in all. We have ascertained that the document is in Dutch. Now, the question is who amongst our members would be willing to play detective and at the same time help the rest of us learn more about our relatives in the Netherlands? Please if you can translate Dutch, or know someone who can assist, reply within the next two weeks at [detective@turnbullclan.com](mailto:detective@turnbullclan.com)

“De plaatselijke bevolking trok zich weinig aan van de Engelse of Schotse kronen en het was daarom gemakkelijk om van de één naar de andere over te lopen. Zo ging het ook met bondgenootschappen met andere families: die werden gesmeed en even gemakkelijk verbroken als het zo uitkwam.



De rooftochten over en weer leidden tot vetes. Die bestonden zowel tussen groepen aan weerszijden van de grens, als tussen verschillende *Surnames* uit hetzelfde land. Er was niet veel voor nodig om een vete te beginnen, wel om die weer te laten ophouden. Ze konden dan ook generaties voortduren.

De meeste diefstal kwam voor tussen *Lammas* (1 augustus) en *Candlemas* (2 februari). De oogst was dan al binnen en de veestapel goed gevoed. De duisternis van de vroege avond bood goede bescherming en de gerechtshoven waren in reces.

Until the next “how interesting,”

A. clan detective

Contributions to this column are welcomed at [detective@turnbullclan.com](mailto:detective@turnbullclan.com)

## Period Dance in Louisiana

Members Henry and Cynthia Parham belong to the Louisiana Vintage Dancers in Baton Rouge, LA and the Crescent City Historic Dancers in New Orleans. The groups teach and do



Henry and Cynthia perform at Rosedown Plantation, home of Daniel Turnbull

demonstrations of dance from the Regency and Antebellum periods. The goal is to promote an interest in music and dance of this era. The photos were taken at Rosedown Plantation in St. Francisville, Louisiana, the home of Daniel and Martha Turnbull. Rosedown Plantation is one of the most intact examples of a domestic plantation complex in the South. Daniel was the son of John and Catherine Rucker Turnbull and Cynthia's G.G. Great uncle. Rosedown is now a state owned museum and historic site.



Cynthia next to portrait of Daniel Turnbull



Henry and Cynthia, Rosedown Plantation.

### Happy Birthday



Nancy Mykel, Norma Cummm, Jean Woodcock, Adele Turnbull, Mavis Lockwood, Marilyn Jennings, John C. Turnbull, Edith Turnbull, Angela Vachetta Turnbull, Tommy Dean Trimble, Kathy Jean Chase, Kenneth B. Wolentarski, Grady Scott Turnbull, Silvia Turnbull, J. N. Trimble, Ian Stewart Turnbull, Miguel Costa Pinto Turnbull,

Kathleen M. Turnbull, Elizabeth Rose Turnbull, Maxwell Gordon Day, Bly E. Schwierking, Rachel Delaney, John K. Rule, Theodore E. Blake, II, Catharine Turnbull, Dorinda D. Wolentarski, Margaret Trimble, Keith Turnbull, Brigitte Jane Wardwell, Turner B. Turnbull, H. Rutherford Turnbull, Martin Cohen, Yvonne Turnbull, Betty J. Turnbull, Gail Rule, James Norman Turnbull