

The Customs and Traditions of Hogmanay in Scotland

Scottish Yuletide celebrations

by Kenneth Turnbull - Editor

The Scottish saying “*Hae a guid New Year to ane an’ a’ and mony may ye see!*” is steeped both in ancient customs and traditions.

Scotland’s culture has a long and rich heritage with this last day of the year event, known around the borders as Hogmanay. Historically, it is believed this tradition was inherited from the Vikings. Moreover, the name itself has several variations and is pronounced and spelt ‘Hanginay’ around Roxburghshire and in the Shetland Islands, ‘Huggeranohni’.

But the Scots in general know and spell it as Hogmanay. It can also be traced back to the Anglo-Saxon, ‘Haleg monath’, the ‘Holy Month’, or the Gaelic version, ‘oge maidne’, transcribed as ‘new morning’.

However, the Protestant Church took a dim view of this practise; *“It is ordinary among some Plebians in the South of Scotland, to go about from door to door upon New Year’s Eve, crying Haggmanne.”* - Scotch Presbyterian Eloquence, 1693.

This statement was made through the Protestant Reformation, when the Kirk portrayed Christmas as a Popish or Catholic feast. So, Christmas in Scotland was banned in the late 17th century and was not celebrated for around four hundred years until the 1950’s.

Many Scots had to work over Christmas and their winter solstice holiday was therefore at the New Year, when their family and



Celebrating the New Year with a fireworks display at Edinburgh Castle.

friends gathered for a party and exchanged presents, especially for the children.

An early Hogmanay custom was the cleaning of the house before midnight on 31st December (including taking out the ashes from the fire, in the days when coal fires were common). There is also the superstition to clear all your debts, before “the bells” at midnight.



Scots celebrations include the all important piping in of the New Year.

By tradition, New Year ceremonies of yesteryear would involve people dressing up in cattle hides and running around the village being hit by sticks. Festivities would also include the lighting of bonfires, rolling blazing tar barrels down the hills and tossing torches. Animal hide was also wrapped around sticks and ignited, which produced a smoke that was believed to be very effective to ward off evil spirits. The smoking stick was known as a Hogmanay.

Today, the celebration of fireworks displays and torchlight processions in Edinburgh and many cities around Scotland, is a reminder of the ancient custom at Scottish Hogmanay pagan parties hundreds of years ago.

The start of Hogmanay in Edinburgh is marked with a spectacular three-day event, the ‘Torchlight Procession’. It attracts thousands of participants, including massed pipes & drums and thousands of torch carriers as they illuminate the city.

One of the most awe inspiring events, is the ‘Fire Ceremony’ which takes place in Stonehaven, just south of Aberdeen on the north-east coast. Giant fireballs, weighing up to 9.5 kilograms (20 pounds) are lit and swung around on 1.5 metre (5 feet) long metal poles.

Immediately after midnight, another cultural tradition is to sing Robert Burns’ composition “Auld Lang Syne”. Today, this practice has now been adopted throughout the world, as the song to say goodbye to the old year.

An old custom, since modified, was the ‘First Footing’. That is, the first foot in the home after midnight should be a male and dark haired, bringing the symbolic coal, shortbread, salt, black bun and whisky, so as to ensure good luck for the house. Friends and strangers were also welcomed, with warm hospitality and

continued on page 2

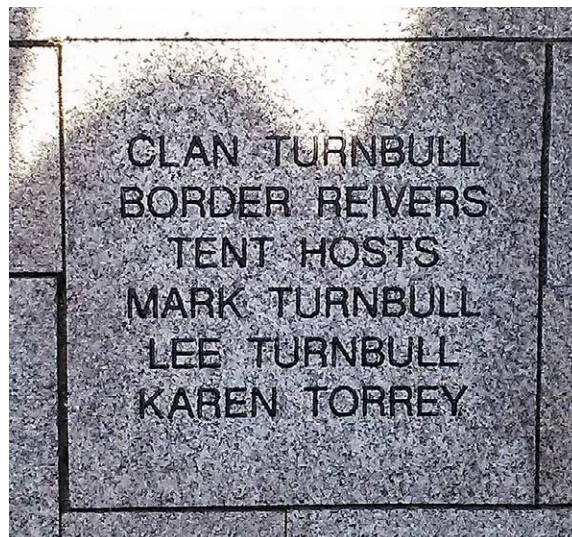
Turnbull Clan Forever a Part of Loon Mountain Highland Games

Clan Turnbull has been an active part of the New Hampshire Highland Games for decades. Much of the credit belongs to TCA Vice President Mark Turnbull. Now their presence has been set in stone. The welcoming Scottish Standing Stone,

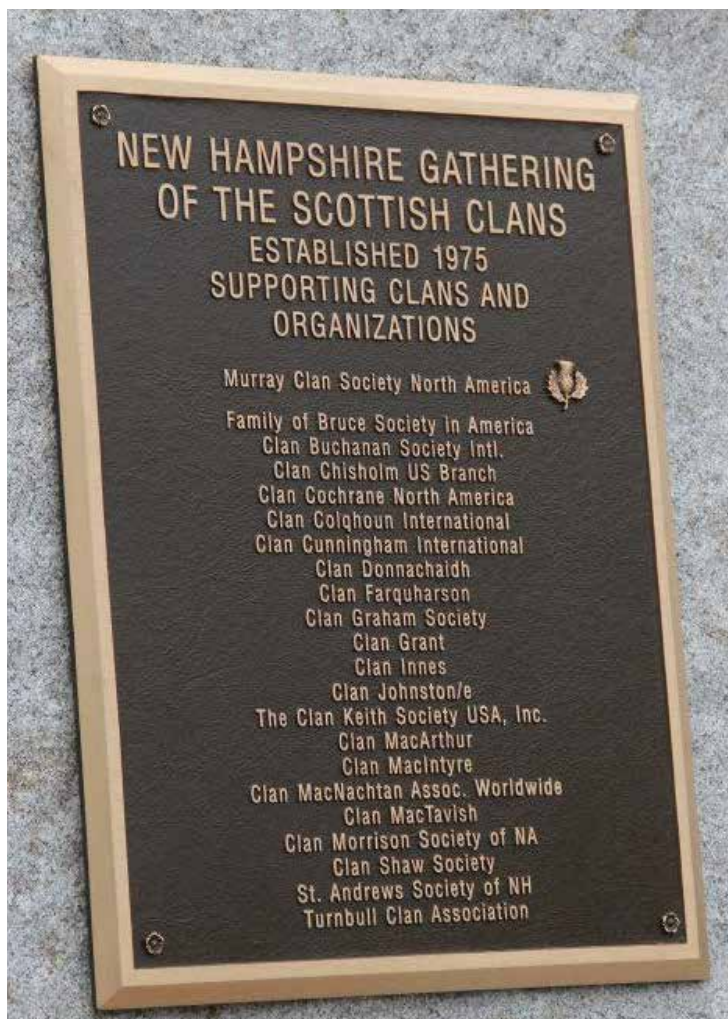
surrounded by pavers, includes one dedicated to the Clan Tent hosts Mark Turnbull, Lee Turnbull and Karen Torrey.

In addition to the paver, Turnbull Clan Association is honored to be part of the permanent bronze plaque commemorating clans

and organizations who have been a long-term and active part of the New Hampshire Gathering of Clans.



The Clan Turnbull Paver recognizes the efforts of Tent Hosts Mark Turnbull, Lee Turnbull and Karen Torrey. Below, Turnbull Clan Association will be forever remembered on the permanent bronze plaque.



Hogmanay... continued from page 1

a customary 'Guid New Year'. Today, gifts are usually only whisky and shortbread. Yet another custom, 'Handselling', was gift giving on the 1st Monday of the New Year, but this has since died out.

Worthy of note, is that the 1st and 2nd of January are recognised holidays in Scotland; to give all the people time to recover from a week of merry-making and celebration. This is all a part of Scotland's fascinating cultural legacy of ancient customs and traditions surrounding the pagan festival of Hogmanay.

Today, it has several new events added for celebrations, including one, the Scottish 'Looney Dook' and for those who are brave enough, a dip in the icy river Forth. This event also also raises money for charities.

Footnote: Despite the Kirk's ban, some Scots still celebrated Christmas.

BULLSEYE

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A brief history of the 'Turnbull Elevator Company'

A biography of Michael Turnbull, as recalled by family members



Michael Turnbull

In 1847, conditions for farm labourers were not good in Scotland, and when three boys were added to the Turnbull family, Adam, Michael and James, Father resolved they should all have an equal chance in life. Glowing accounts of Canada were in circulation' and when, by industry and economy, enough was raised for the journey, they took passage in a sailing vessel for the land of promise. With them came a younger brother of Father's - Adam, a smart young fellow, about 25 years old. [circa 1856]

Mother was so thankful to have made it safely to Canada with all her family, after crossing the great Atlantic and the long St. Lawrence River, as well as Lake Ontario, she could only think of her blessings. The house they eventually found was cold in winter and hot in summer. Three more siblings were born; Mary, Agnes and Willie. The village made cloth from Mother's wool spinning.

Father wanted each of their sons to have a good trade, so Adam was apprenticed to learn Iron Moulding. Michael was to be a Machinist, while James commenced as a Cabinet Maker. Father lived in hope of owning his own farm, and on different occasions he and Uncle Adam set out to look for land. In time and with his knowledge and skills, he changed to more adventurous endeavours.

In 1878, he formed a partnership with Andrew Leitch in a small Machine Shop, which did repair work for the many little grist mills in the surrounding district. This was seasonal work, so they began to build elevators. At first they were hand powered, then they added belt-driven machinery and later on, made hydraulic elevators for stores and public buildings.

In 1893, Father went to the World Fair in Chicago. It was an eye-opener. The leading elevator companies in the United States had many exhibits and fresh new ideas.

He returned to Hamilton with these new ideas, but met trouble. Leitch was the salesman, Father the designer and shop man. They were equal partners, with equal authority. Leitch set the prices and committed the firm to projects, which Father thought were impossible to perform and Father had trouble with some of his new schemes.

The conflicts between the two were mild at first, but continued until 1899, when the partnership was dissolved, and Father drew his share out of the business. This crippled the business.

Father was now 49 years of age, had confidence in his business and mechanical ability, and a reasonable amount of money, so he decided to go back into the elevator business. Most elevator business customers were in Toronto (population 225,000) and very little business originated in Hamilton, so he decided to move to Toronto.

Conditions were changing. Canada had been backward in industrial development, but with the turn of the century, a wave of immigration began - mostly English, some Scots and a few Irish - and trade increased.

In Canada, progress had been slow. True, Leitch and Turnbull, as well as Fensom, had built electric elevators, but they were rather primitive, the scientific knowledge of electricity was lacking.

Father was primarily a hydraulics man and a machinist and this quick transition to electricity baffled him. He was frustrated, but he persisted. Then the death of his wife in 1908, was a serious blow to him and his driving energy.

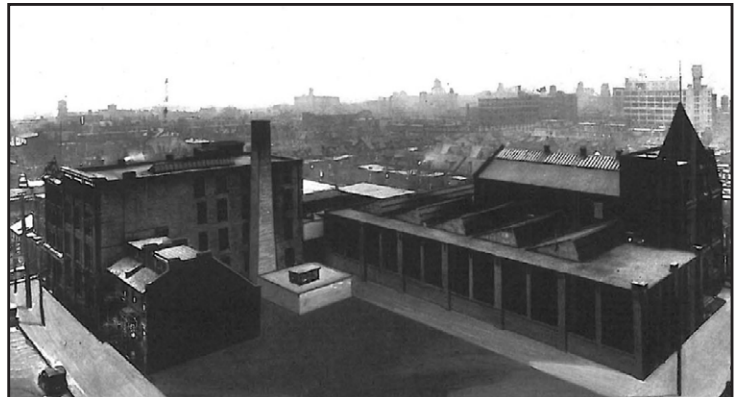
Fortunately, his eldest son, Harry, had grasped the essentials of electricity and carried the torch of progress, but he felt the limitations of practical knowledge. He knew that development would continue in the future, which would be beyond his capacity, so he persuaded Father to have his youngest son Gordon, attend university. After several years at university, he moved to the United States, then eventually returned to establish an engineering department, which became the backbone of the business.

In the meantime, there had been important developments. Father was a machinist and he had learned his trade in the days when a shop was complete if it had a lathe, a planer and a drill press. Then Leslie Black came into the picture. He urged the hiring of a tool-maker, R.L. Stephenson. Stephenson did some impractical things but he had some good dreams and became a valuable asset. Father (Michael Turnbull) eventually was to become the founder of the Turnbull Elevator Company.

By the age of 65 years, Father had worked very hard all his life and he was tired. Besides, he had confidence in his sons. Slowly he gave up his grip on affairs. He began to feel the loss of his wife more and more and died in August of 1928 at the age of 77 years.

The Turnbull Elevator Company Ltd. was the largest Canadian-owned elevator manufacturer in Canada. It had its plant, its head office and the Toronto Branch office at 126 John Street, in Toronto, for over 50 years.

In May of 1953, the Turnbull family's interest in the firm was sold to a holding company known as Combined Enterprises.



Turnbull Elevator Company Limited, Toronto, 1910

Issue 19

Bitty Bulls



Bitty Bull wishes you and your family a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Just a pile o' rocks?

The Scottish word **cairn** (kern) is used to describe a man-made pile or stack of stones used as trail markers or memorials and can be found all around the world. Some are small mounds and some are so large that they can be seen from a great distance. Some cairns are painted or decorated for religious reasons. Cairns have been built from very early in man's history as a way of remembering people and events or guiding people or ships to a new location.

According to Highland folklore, Highland clansmen, before fighting in a battle, would each place a stone in a pile. The survivors of the battle would return and remove a stone from the pile. The remaining stones would be used to build a cairn to honor those who died in the battle.

In July 2014 the Turnbull Clan saw the completion of a cairn in the yard of Bedrule Kirk (church) that is constructed of stones from different parts of the Borders where Turnbulls have lived or shared in significant historical events. The rounded stone on the top (capstone) is from Fatlips Castle. Inside the cairn is a stainless steel capsule that holds some items that tell the story of the Turnbull Clan's history.

Building a cairn is a grand way to mark and remember the importance of people or experiences; we can do that with our family in smaller, but equally important ways through making time capsules, keeping scrapbooks and photos, writing in journals or diaries, meeting for family reunions, and keeping unique family traditions alive.

The holiday season inspires many people to look ahead to the new year to create personal resolutions (list of things to improve in your life). *It is as important to look back and reflect on the good things that have occurred, the hard things that were persevered, and how your character has grown.* Have you been compassionate and kind? Have you been quick to listen and obey your parents? Are you developing a reputation for being a responsible and truthful student? **The choices you make can either be stumbling blocks or stepping stones that build into a lifetime of lessons and memories.**

If you were to leave a time capsule buried in your yard for someone to find 300 years from now, what items would you put in it to tell them about yourself and your family?



How many times can you find the word **CAIRN** in this word search?
Answer is on second page of Bitty Bull.
Puzzle made at www.puzzle-maker.com

Y	C	C	S	C	N	C	Q	A	N	N	N
I	A	A	A	Y	A	R	Y	G	R	R	U
N	I	I	Z	I	V	N	I	F	I	I	V
H	R	R	R	N	R	C	N	A	A	A	N
N	N	N	R	I	D	R	A	R	C	C	R
N	R	I	A	C	I	P	N	I	I	Q	I
N	A	C	V	A	Y	M	P	Y	R	A	A
C	R	V	C	J	N	R	I	A	C	N	C



Some builders placing the last stone, the capstone, on the Turnbull Cairn.



Book Nook~

We Were Here: A Short History of Time Capsules by Patricia Seibert (48 pages, ages 9+)

This book defines time capsules, covers the history of time capsules created in different cultures in different time periods, and walks the reader through the creation of their own time capsule. Many photographs of historical time pieces included.

The Matchbox Diary by Paul Fleischman (40 pages, ages 5-9)

A great-grandfather shares memories of his childhood immigration from Italy to America with his great-granddaughter through objects he saved in matchboxes. A tender story about shared family history. Beautifully illustrated.

Make Your Own Snow Globe

Answer:15



Supplies:

- empty baby food jars or glass jars of varied sizes
- mini fake trees or small plastic toys
- Goo Gone
- Glycerin
- Glass & Bead glue OR Epoxy
- Glitter (colored chunkier glitter works best. Don't use clear or fine glitter)
- Gold spray paint (or whatever color you want)
- distilled water

1. Remove the labels off the jars and clean off the glue with Goo Gone.
2. Spray paint the lids gold (or desired color).
3. Put a little glue on both the inside of the lid and the bottom of the fake tree or toy item. Stick together and allow to dry for 24 hours.
4. Add about 1 teaspoon of glitter into each jar.
5. Fill with distilled water and add 5 drops of Glycerin. Screw the lid (with the tree or toy) onto the top and flip over.

Reprinted with permission from: <http://www.craftaholicsanonymous.net/baby-food-jar-snow-globes-tutorial>

Variations:

Make your own mini cairn snow globe -- collect shells or special small rocks from a favorite location (Grandma's, vacation location, your backyard, etc) and glue into a tiny tower onto the jar lid. Follow directions above.

You can also tie a ribbon around the lid or glue sequins or glitter around the lid to make a festive base for your snow globe.



Time Capsule Ornament

1. Buy clear ornaments from the craft store.
2. Write or type favorite memories from this year on strips of paper and loosely place into ball.
3. Using Modge Podge or similar craft adhesive, glue a photocopied picture of yourself onto the outside of the ball.
4. Using a craft pen, write the year on the back of the ball.
5. Tie with a ribbon and hang on the tree. Add a new ornament to the collection each year as a way of remembering milestones.

Include details such as: favorite teacher and name of school, favorite vacations, achievements, height and weight, first and last name in your own handwriting, favorite movies, colors, snacks, list of chores and responsibilities that you have for this year, special friends, and things and people that you are thankful for.

It will be fun for you and your parents to look back on each one as you grow and remember together!

Reprinted with permission from:

www.cleverlyinspired.com/2010/11/time-capsule-ornament

Scotland - Turnbull's is tops



Turnbull's cafe and delicatessen is the winner of this year's Hawick Welcome Shield. Pictured from left are: Jack Yallop, Ross Turnbull, Christine Graham and Vicky Currie. Visitors to the town this summer consistently commented on how much they enjoyed the service and welcome offered by staff at Turnbull's. Welcome Initiative host, Jack Yallop, commented that "The Hawick Hosts welcomed almost 7,000 visitors to the town this summer, with overwhelmingly positive reports of an enjoyable visit. More buses visited the town this year and being able to drop off in the High Street was a big asset." Visitors included the Turnbull Clan Reunion members and guests from around the world in July.

USA - Churches get help with bookkeeping services



Mary Lou Turnbull, owner of Columbus-primarily based Steeple Accounting Services, assists churches in finding and maintaining their books. Turnbull's business is a two-year benefactor of the Girls' Compact Company Accelerator in Westerville. Churches are a unique group in the monetary globe, for a few causes, Turnbull stated. Since of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, churches are not essential to provide an annual report. Churches also operate using volunteers as opposed to paid employees members.

Scotland - Rare Dutch painting found worth £8,000

A painting of skaters which was stashed in a cupboard in Aberdeen for more than a decade, has been identified as a 224-year-old Dutch artwork worth £8,000. The owner inherited the picture from her mother and put it away for safekeeping, then forgot about it until earlier this year. She took it to a valuation event at a stately home run by auctioneers Lyon and Turnbull, whose experts immediately identified it as a rare work by Dutch painter Hendrik Meyer the Younger, dating back to 1790. The artist's work features in world collections.



by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor

New Zealand - Library acquires world's largest Atlas



project. It is so big that it arrived at the Alexander Turnbull Library in a crate weighing more than a quarter of a tonne. Two people are needed to turn a page of the book, of which only 31 have been made. The original plates were destroyed, meaning no more copies can be produced. The maps show geographic features with an usually high amount of detail that is not possible to be shown on an ordinary scale map, including wee villages and mountain footpaths, and, for some odd reason, the location of shipwrecks! OK, this is HUGE! This is the world's largest Atlas, beating the previous contender by more than a foot (30cm). It's 6 feet high (1.8metres) and about 9 feet (2.7metres) across when opened up, and is the brainchild of Gordon Cheers.

Earth Platinum, the World's Largest Atlas, just published in a limited edition of 31 copies, at \$100,000 each, is pictured with Gordon Cheers, who spearheaded the 4-year

Australia - 16-year-old catcher



The Reds signed Australian catcher Jake Turnbull in the middle of October this year. The 16-year-old is one of the youngest players in the organisation and won't be 17 until February, but despite his age he was added to the Perth Heat roster in the Australian League that started at the end of October. At his age, I didn't expect him to get more than a few at-bats throughout the season as the average age of his own Perth Heat is 25-years-old. If you remove him the age jumps up another half-of-a-year. That's a large gap between Turnbull and the rest of the league, especially considering that this is also his first professional experience as an Australian League competitor.

Hawaii - Harmony in Sculpture

Sculptor, Steve Turnbull, creates a symphony of line that flows in harmony with nature, using various woods from all areas, not just Hawaii. Through his work Steve hopes to educate, and motivate next generations to really see and to preserve the beauty of our environment. He strives to enhance our environment by capturing the natural beauty within the medium, bringing form to life. Steve hopes to enrich his viewers lives with his Maui sculptures.



Canada - Women's hockey team



Canada's Blayre Turnbull, at left, of Stellarton, puts Hannah Brandt of the United States into the boards during the gold-medal game of the Four Nations Cup women's hockey tournament in Kamloops, B.C., on Nov. 8. The exhaustion was apparent on the other line. Blayre Turnbull had just played nearly a week's worth of intense, international hockey with Team Canada at the Four Nations Cup in Kamloops, B.C. "I'm wiped," Turnbull, a senior at Wisconsin, said in a phone interview

UK - Enjoying his County time

JORDAN Turnbull (*on left*) has played every minute of every game this season and is in no doubt that his development has sky-rocketed after joining Town on loan from Southampton. The 20-year-old defender followed in the footsteps of fellow Saints youngster Jack Stephens by making his own switch to SN1 and has reaped the benefits in Mark Cooper's back three.



HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS?

We Asked, You Answered...



Editor's Note: What fun it was to hear from how our extended family celebrate around the world. There is very definitely one thing that is important to us all - Love of Family! From all of us at the Bullseye and your TCA officers - May you have a very blessed Christmas and Happy New Year with your family and loved ones!

Jim Turnbull - (Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada) Since I married a French-Canadian girl 30 years ago, our Christmas has been celebrated on December 24th - starting with Midnight Mass, then a humongous meal including tourtiere and ragout, followed by the opening of family presents and capped off with Christmas Cheer and card games. We usually get home in the wee hours of the morning (5:00 - 6:00 AM) - just in time to set up for Santa's arrival for our own kids and a fast couple of hours snooze. Needless to say, Christmas Day was often very quiet!!

Keith Mullen - United Kingdom Penciled in are 3 nights from Dec 27th at one of my favourite hotels just north of Newcastle, with a trip to Dumfries (weather permitting to watch Queen of the South play their Boxing Day fixture). As regards the religious festival I will be at Mass on the Christmas Eve & on the morning of Christmas. Being single I share Christmas Day with my brother & round it off on the evening with a generous glass of an Islay Malt (usually Bowmore)..."Slainte "!

Robert C Turnbull Jr. - Tallahassee, Florida, USA - With lots of family.

Teresa Reynolds Nee Turnbull - Hutt City, New Zealand - We spend it with family and friends - eating turkey, trifle and the usual trimmings.

Ann Stephen - South Africa - We go to the Western Cape for our holiday 4 weeks ...and do just what we want to do with no hassle..

Victoria Turnbull - Ottawa, Ontario, Canada - Family, food, food, and food.

Todd Turnbull - Portland, Oregon, USA - Snowboarding Christmas Day because the slopes are empty. New Years Eve candlelight parade down the slopes at Skibowl in Oregon.

Kay Lynn Turnbull - Douglassville, Georgia, USA - With grandparents and warm mugs of Russian tea, while tearing into gifts as soon as we wake up.

Nancy Howell - Houston, Texas, USA - Our daughter & her husband come to visit. Brad & I make a few traditional family dishes, have supper, watch football (american). If the weather is nice, we have a cup of hot chocolate on the porch. (down here, we never know is the weather will be 40 degrees or 70!). a pretty mellow holiday for we empty nesters! (we're enjoying it-grandchildren are just a few years away!)

Kristen Delaney Casino, NSW, Australia - My family, parents, children, their partners and in-laws gather for a big lunch. We usually have cold meats, chook, ham seafood etc, and salads. Deserts are also cold, Pavlova, trifle, cheese cake. Out summers are quite hot, anywhere between 35 to 40C, much too hot for a traditional hot meal. Tea is usually left over Christmas lunch - if you are hungry that is.

Colin Turnbull - Shelby, North Carolina, USA - With family at our house. The grandchildren make Christmas!

Mark Turnbull, Calgary, Alberta, Canada - We host family and friends at our home in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, so yes we have snow. Christmas eve is appetizers and music, Christmas Day we celebrate the reason for the season, and have our traditional Turkey and Ham dinner. For New Years we host a fondue of broth, oil, cheeses, raclette, cooking everything you can imagine, and we always invite any of our friends and family who are in the area, and find others who want to be in the area to participate with us. We've had anywhere from 10 to 30 folks in. This is the 26th year for the Fondue!! We have a lot of Fun!

Bob Turnbull, Blue Knob, Northern NSW, Australia - At the beach (lower, and not commercial end of the Gold Coast). We, and my SIL and BIL, rent a house or unit and we and as many of our 10 kids (5+5) that can make it, stay there. The place is within spitting distance of water. Christmas Lunch is a mixture of seafood and salad and (lord knows why but) turkey and roast veggies.... (30 degree plus heat...) presents are opened Christmas morning, providing Santa has successfully negotiated the change of address.

Heather Turnbull, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - Christmas Eve is family time, going to church and then doing a walk about the neighbourhood to look at the lights on homes. Christmas morning sees presents from Santa (and stockings of oranges and candy), followed by brunch (bacon, biscuits, quiche) and a nap. Lots of time outside building snow forts and snowmen and sledding (temperatures of anywhere from +5C to -30C, depending on the year). Dinner with the whole family has turkey, cranberries, dressing, brussel sprouts, turnips, candied carrots, and many pies and sweets - often repeated at several gatherings over multiple days. New Years Eve we go to one of the many free concerts to ring in the New Year - Niagara Falls at the top of the tower for fireworks is a favourite!

Lesa Moore, Sydney, Australia - If I'm not working, which is rare, we usually have a barbecue with family and enjoy the weather. If I'm at work, everyone usually brings in food and drink, hams, chicken, salad etc and we have the centre decorated. It makes working during Christmas a bit of fun.



Congratulations to Robert and Caroline Turnbull. Leicester, UK

La Breith Sona!



Wishing a muckle
celebration to
all our Birthday
members!

TotallyTurnbull

TotallyTurnbull.com has a new look and many new items made especially for Turnbolls. The site specializing in household items and gifts, will soon be one of the most complete places to buy goods made from Lochcarron woven Turnbull tartans. The site will feature kilts, scarves, kilted skirts, blankets and throws. A full line of kilt accessories will also be available. All of the tartan garments and items are made in Scotland at the world famous Lochcarron Mills in Selkirk.

The new sister site, www.clanscotlandgifts.com, offers a wide range of t-shirts and hoodies. The site has one of the largest collections of Scottish and Gaelic garments in addition to having a page dedicated to Turnbull clothing.

Proceeds from these sites go to help with special Turnbull Clan Association projects, like the new Bedrule Turnbull Cairn.



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