

## CENTRAL VIRGINIA ANNUAL CELTIC FESTIVAL

By Bill and Claudia Trimble

*This year's Central Virginia Celtic Festival and Highland Games reminded me again of how the weather can sometimes reflect Scotland's flavor more than tartan and haggis.*

The weather turned cool and rainy Friday evening while setting up and continued all day Saturday. It didn't seem to dampen the attendance though. This year seemed very well attended on Saturday. Sunday turned sunny and warmer. I think there were as many attendees on Sunday as Saturday.

Many visitors stopped by the Turnbull Clan tent, but we did not meet any new Turnbulls this year. The new marching banner made us easily recognizable during the parade of clans. During the Kirkin (outgoing) of the Tartan ceremony, Tammy Trimble's mother, Andrea DeWitt was remembered as a Flower of the Forest.

Claudia and I have decided that this will be our last year as tent hosts. John and Nicole Trimble have accepted our request to continue hosting these games and perhaps add one or two more highland games next year. The production company that sponsors the Central Virginia Games have plans to host another event in Norfolk VA next spring.

We will continue helping other clan tent hosts as much as we can. Anyone desiring to be a new tent host or if existing tent hosts are in need of advise or materials, please let us know by e-mailing [events@turnbullclan.com](mailto:events@turnbullclan.com).



*Brad and Tammy Trimble. Her mother, Andrea DeWitt, was honoured in 'Flowers of the Forest' at the Games*



*A new Bull on the Turnbull Dress Tartan*



*The well displayed Turnbull tent with all the flags*

## IT'S NOW TIME TO VOTE FOR THE NEW COMMITTEE - PAGE 3



## Author's Corner

### Norman Turnbull

*The recent launch of the 'Borders Tales and Trails' book, initially researched by the Turnbull Clan's Association 'High Schenachie' the late Norman Turnbull, is a reminder of his dedicated attachment to the Clan. The book, was being compiled by him as a permanent record of the 'Turnbull' name and it's origins.*

Norman was born in Edinburgh in 1942 and grew up in the Scottish countryside, on a farm around the Borders. Then at the age of 18, he put aside his love of the countryside for the loyalty to his country and enlisted in the Royal Air Force.



On return from his Service, he worked at several jobs around Leeds in England.

He eventually decided to return to Scotland where, in his own words, "I have, throughout my life, had a strong feeling that my surname had a part in the history of the Borders".

He was also involved in the *Turning of the Bull* monument at the Hawick Heritage Hub, and instrumental in producing a historical DVD movie; telling the history of Scotland as related to the Turnbull Clan. It included the story of the early days of Clan Turnbull from its beginnings through to the unveiling of the monument in 2009.

Sadly, in 2011, two years after he started with his research, he succumbed to cancer before the book could be completed. Bullseye editor, Kenneth Turnbull stepped up and completed the book, now available for sale.



## MEET THE TCA MEMBERS



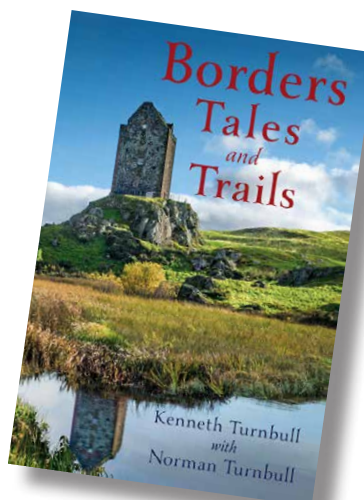
*John & Nicole Trimble and Bill & Claudia Trimble at this year's Celtic Festival and Highland Games held in Central Virginia, USA*

***Borders Tales and Trails now available on-line. A must if you are planning on visiting the Borders!***

**Amazon USA:** <http://a.co/d/5S3dI3I>

**Amazon UK:** <http://amzn.eu/d/6sdBPsp>

**Amazon AU:** <https://amzn.to/2oSLsvo>



*Illustrated with colour photographs and maps*

***For those who wish to have a personally signed book, contact the Editor via: [ktbullca@gmail.com](mailto:ktbullca@gmail.com).***

*An early reviewer's comment, "...an invaluable resource and a good read, too."*

### BULLSEYE

The Bullseye, a Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide (TCA) newsletter is published six times a year at: 5216 Tahoe Dr. Durham, NC 27713 U.S.A.

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**Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide** - [www.turnbullclan.com](http://www.turnbullclan.com)  
Officers: Wally Turnbull - President • Bill Trimble, Claudia Trimble Mark Turnbull, Kenneth Turnbull, Betty Turnbull - Vice-Presidents • Walter Turnbull, Treasurer • Christine Nelson, Secretary • Webmaster Brian Turnbull

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



# MARK YOUR BALLOTS - IT'S TIME TO VOTE



This is an election year for TCA. The candidates and offices are below. Any TCA member in good standing is permitted to vote. Good standing includes lifetime members and those members who have paid dues for 2018. If you would like to vote, but have not paid dues, please visit [www.turnbullclan.com](http://www.turnbullclan.com). Login and upgrade your membership to TCA Contributing Member. If you don't have a login, you may register and become a contributing member at that time.

You may send an e-mail to [communications@turnbullclan.com](mailto:communications@turnbullclan.com) with your vote. State the name and office of the person you are voting for. If you prefer to use a paper ballot, you may use this page or send a note with the persons and offices you are voting for to: Chris Nelson, 29 Fremont St., Tonawanda, NY 14150-2305. Paper ballots must be received by 26th Dec.

You may write in a candidate if desired. Voting ends 28th Dec. Officers will be announced in the January 2016 Bullseye.

## Candidates:

### President:

Walter Turnbull is a civil engineer currently residing in Brandon, Florida with his newlywed wife, Brittany. He is a veteran, having served in the US Navy. Walter's hobbies include water sports, boating, recreational armory, college football, and traveling. His volunteer work includes working with Give Kids the World Village. Walter is passionate about his Turnbull and Scottish heritage. As president, he hopes to involve more millennium and generation Z members in TCA activities.



Jeff Trimble is a Quality and Technical Director, providing casings for the meat deli industry. He's married to his wife Sue for 26 years and has a daughter and a son. He's a tent host for the Wisconsin games and enjoys genealogy, fishing, hunting, and wildlife conservation. In addition to fulfilling the role duties of president, he would like to find ways to get more Turnbolls involved in the Association and in Highland Games and clan events.

*As there are two candidates for President, the runner-up will become the Executive Vice-President.*

**Treasurer:** Walter S. Turnbull resides in Auburn, AL and holds a degree in public health. When the current treasurer had to step down this year due to job commitments, Walter volunteered to fill the role for the remainder of this year. He is happy to continue as Treasurer for the next term.



**Membership Secretary:** Chris Nelson is from Tonawanda, New York. Chris is the current Membership Secretary and is happy to continue in this role. Chris and her husband are very active as Turnbull Clan Tent Hosts with several Highland Games.

**VP Communication:** Betty Turnbull currently holds this position. She was the Bullseye editor for 12 years and is now a contributing editor. She is the author of several Scotland-themed children's books. Betty lives in Durham, North Carolina with her husband Wally.



**VP of International News:** Kenneth Turnbull resides in Queensland, Australia with his wife, Patricia. In addition to serving in this capacity, he has recently taken over the responsibilities of editor of the Bullseye. He is also the author with Norman Turnbull of *Borders Tales and Trails*, a book released this year that tells of the history of Borders battles, key figures, and describes places of interest to visit for Borders clans with an emphasis on Clan Turnbull.

**VP of Events:** Bill and Claudia Trimble currently share this position and are willing to continue. They live in Northern Virginia and have been very active tent hosts. They have been instrumental in finding and providing advice and help to new tent hosts.



If you are lifetime member or registered member qualified to vote, please send your votes to

[communications@turnbullclan.com](mailto:communications@turnbullclan.com) by 26th December.



**UK- First Premiership home win**

It took teenager David Turnbull to kick in a wonderful strike to give Motherwell their first

Premiership home win of the season. As the game threatened to peter out into a drab, goal less draw, the young Turnbull produced the first moment of genuine brilliance to light it up. As the game played out, neither side looked in good form coming into the match. Then Turnbull made his move. Opting to shoot from distance looked like another example of poor decision-making in front of goal. But the mid-fielder caught it beautifully and it streaked past the diving Hamilton in the blink of an eye.

**Canada - Safety operation**

With the approaching holidays, police are getting ready to do their road safety blitz around Alberta. Local Sheriffs and Officers teamed up in Cochrane to keep an eye out for distracted drivers and those not wearing a seat belt. Sergeant Darrin Turnbull, Traffic Advisory NCO for RCMP Southern Alberta said "Statistics show about 95 per cent of Albertans use a seat belt, which is very good, but still means about 1 in 20 are not wearing one." The officers are hoping to spread the message that paying attention behind the wheel is the best way to protect yourself. This applies especially when it comes to distracted driving, police are just looking for cell phones. You could become distracted by a number of other things, such as a pet in the front seat, or food. Pay attention when you're driving. Things happen in front of you so very quickly."



by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor

**Australia - Top apprentices put through their paces**

It was at the Tertiary and Further Education Celebrity Chef Dinner campus at Nowra, New South Wales, that the region's aspiring young chefs were put to the test in November. This event has been held over the last 16 years, where the young apprentice chefs, who are part of the Certificate III Commercial Cookery, teamed with Diploma of Event Management students to be front and centre of a nine-course degustation dinner. Under the watchful eyes of celebrity chefs including Warren Turnbull, the teams produced and served more than 1000 dishes in the one night. Diners were treated to a night of fine dining, all delivered with silver service and all the dishes were complemented by locally produced wines. Another highlight of the evening was the annual awarding of three scholarships in event management, wine and cookery. Michelle Burnett was presented with the wine scholarship by celebrity chef Warren Turnbull.

**Ireland - Cross-Country Championship ambitions**

Gareth Turnbull has boldly expressed his "medal ambitions" for the December European Cross-Country Championships after his superb win in Margate. His victory over England's Sam Haughian, who is expected to be one of the Irishman's main rivals in Italy, has given the Belfast athlete a huge injection of confidence. "My whole confidence thing is back to the way it was before I had the problems earlier this year. Turnbull was surprised with the ease of the weekend's success when he had eight seconds to spare at the finish. "To be honest, I didn't have to reach top gear, which is very encouraging. The victory capped a brilliant year for the 30-year old Irishman.

**Nova Scotia - Women's world hockey championship**

Yet another world hockey tournament is to be played in Nova Scotia, as officials have announced that the 2020 Women's World Hockey Championships will be played in Halifax and Truro. "They have a proven track record of hosting events of this calibre and getting the chance to showcase the best female players in the world on Canadian ice is something young fans will remember for a long time." The tournament will run from late March into early April. Blayne Turnbull of Stellarton played for Canada at the Olympics last year and is expected to be on the Canadian team at the 2019 world tournament in Finland.

**New Zealand - Mini bus service**

Bus company Go Bus ride-sharing service is pulling out of Queenstown after a 12-month trial, citing a saturated local market and the opportunity to integrate with public transport elsewhere. Since then, private hire app giant Uber, has entered the resort's market, along with dozens of minicab-style operators following the government's deregulation of the taxi market. Director Russell Turnbull said: "It's gone OK ... though obviously not a raging success, but enough to give us confidence it's worth continuing elsewhere in the country." The company has a trial starting next month on the Devonport Peninsula in Auckland, the Canterbury Regional Council is also exploring the idea and a Timaru feasibility study will start soon.

**USA - Physicists Solve Structure**

Physicists has for the first time have determined the structure of t-N<sub>2</sub>, a crystallized version of nitrogen. The international team including Robin Turnbull, were able to synthesise the crystals. The team commented, "We used a high-pressure diamond-tipped anvil to squeeze tiny amounts of nitrogen at pressures half a million times that of Earth's atmosphere, while heating it to 477 degrees Celsius," they explained. "We then used specialist X-ray technology to capture an image of the resulting crystals.", Turnbull said. "We hope that our results will prompt further investigations into why relatively simple elements should form such complex structures — it's important that we keep searching for promising new lines of scientific investigation," he added.

## A LETTER TO THE EDITOR . . .

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your interest. We are so excited to hear from you. My name is Tina Turnbull and my daughter is Keeley Turnbull. I am sending a picture of her winning her Silver Medal in the Junior Female Biathlon, in the 2615 Victoria Army Cadets. Although her running needs improvement, her shooting skills were perfect. We live in Newfoundland, Canada in Labrador and we are so proud of our Turnbull roots. Please feel free to contact us anytime, and thank you for caring that she won. Sometimes as a single Mom, it is nice for someone to acknowledge your child when we don't have much family.

- Tina Turnbull



Keeley with her medal



## WHAT'S A SAMHAIN FESTIVAL?

*The ancient Samhain Festival was a time where the eligible young adults would seek to find out who was destined to be their future partner. An extract from one of the Robert Burns poems shares the mysterious tasks they were to undertake.*

In order, on the clean hearth-stane,  
The lugges three• are ranged,  
And every time great care is ta'en  
To see them duly changed !

*Extract explained . . .*

• Take three dishes; put clean water in one, foul water in another, and leave the third empty. Blindfold a person, and lead them to the hearth where the dishes are ranged: he (or she) dips the left hand: if by chance in the clean water, the future husband or wife will come to the bar of matrimony a maid; if in the foul, a widow; if in the empty dish, it foretells, with equal certainty, no marriage at all. It is repeated three times; and every time the arrangement of the dishes is altered.

*To find out more, turn to the next page . .*

## HISTORY LESSON OF THE 1500's

*The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:*

There is an old Hotel/Pub in Marble Arch, London which used to have gallows adjacent. Prisoners were taken to the gallows (after a fair trial of course) to be hung. The horse drawn dray, carting the prisoner was accompanied by an armed guard, who would stop the dray outside the pub and ask the prisoner if he would like "ONE LAST DRINK". If he said "YES" it was referred to as "ONE FOR THE ROAD". If he declined, that prisoner was "ON THE WAGON".

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and they still smelled pretty good by June. However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the Bath water!"

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "Dirt Poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way. Hence: a thresh hold.

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning and death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of "Holding a Wake".

***Do you have a Christmas picture or a New Year's Eve (Hogmanay) picture to share?***

*Just e-mail it to; [editor@turnbullclan.com](mailto:editor@turnbullclan.com)*



# THE SAMHAIN FESTIVAL – (HALLOWE ‘EN’)

*The Samhain Festival is an ancient Gaelic tradition widely observed and celebrated in Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man. It is believed to be of Celtic pagan origins and one of four Samhain festivals. This Festival is based on the supernatural, though today with the spread of these traditions throughout the world, the name has been changed and widely recognised now as Halloween.*



From earliest times, the Samhain Festival celebrations have been held on the 31st October, which marks the end of one Celtic harvest year and welcomes in the new one. It also signals the end of summer and the halfway mark between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice. These ancient Celtic celebrations revolve around many rituals and beliefs, where ghosts, spirits, unique tales and the afterlife play a major role.

After the Romans conquered the Celts lands in 43 AD, these traditions continued to survive, when the Roman harvest festivals of the time were known as ‘Pomona’, and then ‘Feralia’ which were regarded by the Romans as a day of the dead. Both Samhain and Feralia festivals were celebrated at the end of October. Then in 600 AD, Pope Boniface IV created ‘All Saints Day’ and Pope Gregory later moved this day from 31st October to the 1st November, so allowing the original Pagan Festival date alternative to Christianity, remain.

All Saints Day, was called ‘All Hallow Evening’ and shortened to ‘All Hallow Eve or Even’. This eventually became ‘Hallowe ‘en’.

From ancient times, the Celts Festival was the night of the supernatural, to play its part with witches and warlocks engaging in devilish practises. It was the night when the souls of the dead would freely roam the houses. Moreover, in those times it was customary to leave a plate of food and an empty chair for these invisible guests. The bewitching hour, one hour before midnight, was when these guests returned to the natural world. At midnight there was dead silence. Bonfires were lit to keep the un-dead away. Lanterns were caved out of turnips (and still are) however, carved pumpkins are now more popular.

The Samhain Festival history evolves from such writers as Shakespeare with his imagined witches in ‘Macbeth, to the real ‘Salem Witches’ who were burned because they were accused of working with the devil. Robert Burns was also a prolific writer of these ancient beliefs. These traditions persist and have helped to keep the pagan past of these Samhain Festival traditions alive.

Festival customs began with children dressing up in old clothes or they made out they were an evil spirit. Their aim was to blend in with the supernatural spirits. So, when the children approached a house and knocked on the door, any offerings handed out would be to keep evil spirits away. Parties for the children are still considered an important event for Halloween as well. Games are played, such as apple dookin’ (dunking). This is where a fork on a string is dropped into a bucket of water with floating apples or blindfolded to try and eat a scone covered in treacle hanging from a string. A messy challenge.

However, some customs have changed. One example is the popular practise of Trick or Treat. This is a recent addition to Scotland where children dress up in very colourful clothes as witches or spooky spirits and expect to be rewarded. Halloween as it is known today, is celebrated over many parts of the world. In Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man these strong supernatural

beliefs persist to ensure that these remain in their culture.

However, throughout the world there are variations. In the United States of America for example, Halloween is celebrated without the emphasis on witches and evil spirits, but more on the dressing up and being with friends. There are hints of the supernatural where haunted houses and vampire costumes are a part of the evening. To them, Trick or Treat is just a saying, as they the children are almost always given gifts, usually a few sweets instead of tricks.

***Elizabeth Turnbull  
with her husband  
in Minnesota, USA.***

***Elizabeth is dressed  
for the American  
Halloween night in  
the theme of Red  
Riding Hood.  
Their dog Smokey,  
is dressed as the  
‘Big Bad Wolf’.***



## ROBERT BURNS – AN ODE TO HALLOWEEN

### HALLOWEEN \*

Upon that night, when fairies light,  
On Cassilis Downaus<sup>1</sup> dance,  
Or owre the lays, in splendid blaze,  
On sprightly coursers prance:  
Or for Colean the rout is ta’en,  
Beneath the moon’s pale beams;  
There, up the Cove<sup>2</sup> to stray and rove  
Among the rocks and streams,  
To sport that night,

*\* Is thought to be a night when witches, devils, and other mischief-making beings are all abroad on their haneul mid-night errands; particularly those aerial people, the fairies, are said, to hold a grand anniversary.*

<sup>1</sup> *Certain little romantic, rocky, green hills, in the neighbourhood of the ancient seat of the Earls of Cassilis.*

<sup>2</sup> *A noted cavern near Colean-house, called the Cove of Colean, which, as well as Cassilis Downans, is famed in country story for being a favourite haunt of fairies.*

## REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PAST . . .

## OUR SECOND YEAR AS A CLAN ASSOCIATION



turnbull clan  
association

51 High Street  
Hawick  
Scotland

- NEWS-LETTER, 1978 -

Dear Member.

It is some time since you heard from HQ on the state of The Clan now that we are a year older. The past twelve months have seen some most heartening developments in the furtherance of our Association and it gives me great pleasure to report as follows:

### 1. MEMBERSHIP

Our membership to date stands at 188 members throughout the world, a considerable achievement. I think, you will agree. The Committee in Hawick ran a membership drive in the winter months which concentrated solely on the area around Newcastle-upon-Tyne. This was done by circular and although we received many replies, we have found that letters to Scottish type magazines do just as well and at considerably less cost!

At the same time during the Winter, our American cousins, namely Dottie Berk of Chicago and Byron G. Turnbull of Lafayette, California, were doing a similar exercise which has resulted in an American membership of seventy-six - an achievement of which they can be justly proud.

Our next experiment will be to circularise a city in Australia through their telephone directory addresses and I am assured that a heavy response is practically guaranteed. This project will be under the command of Mr W. Spratt of Geelong, Victoria, who has kindly offered his services in the search for members.

Whilst on the subject of membership I am sure you will be interested to know that the Turnbells are strong in religious matters, having six ministers of religion so far.

One of the nicest aspects of the Clan is the pleasure we are accorded when one of the Association is visiting Hawick, an aspect from which I am sure we will all benefit once full lists have been circularised to all members. As this is a fairly large task the Committee have been pondering upon the best way of producing the List of Members, once we have grown a little larger.

### 2. FINANCE

I am glad to say that the revenue from subscriptions, Brooches, etc., has been sufficient to sustain all projects, i.e. mailings and Tartan development, leaving a cushion in the bank of approximately £100.00. We are sure that the launching of the Tartan will bring in further funds which will allow the subscription to remain at £2.00 and \$5.00 respectively.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

Many of you have written asking for this and it is with pleasure that we enclose your Certificate with this letter.

### 4. TARTAN

We are sorry that this project has taken so long to bring to finalization, but we are assured by the manufacturers that stocks will be ample to satisfy initial demand. The Committee hope also that you are pleased with their choice and that the historical explanations of the marrying of the Douglas and Bruce Tartans is to your liking, and that you will show your approval by your orders.

As members in the U.K. will be aware, we have had our own personalised Whisky available for consumption in the U.K. This, of course has been made possible by our Chairman, who is a Whisky Blender to trade. We only wish we could extend this offer to our members abroad, but this is not possible, unless any of our members are in the Liquor Importing line!

### 5. KNITWEAR PROJECT

The Town of Hawick being in the fore of World Hosiery Design and quality we have been pursuing "project to have ladies' and gents' pullovers available with our own motif (i.e. the Bulls' Heads Crest) embroidered on the front of the garment. This has been done and looks very smart indeed. However, as yet, we have no costs, but we shall be in touch when they come through. Meanwhile, should anyone be interested please write separately.

### 6. THE GATHERING

Your Committee have had discussions upon this subject and are committed to a full Gathering in 1979. The venue has been giving a little trouble, as we feel that the Manse at Bedrule is now no longer available, because Mrs Jeffrey (past owner) has retired to the North of Scotland. Notwithstanding that, we feel that with the success of the last Gathering, the next will be a much larger affair altogether and we shall report our findings in due course. Having heard from Dottie Berk in Chicago recently I do know that she was hoping a small Gathering may be arranged this summer somewhere in the States. We, in Hawick, held a small soiree-type of evening in a local hotel and were most pleased with the result.

### 7. GENEALOGY

In many of your letters there are some most interesting pieces of information which are most welcome. These are being recorded and kept and it is hoped through time to build up a fascinating picture of the Turnbells. Dr Robson at the Hawick Museum is always most interested in your queries and does his best to answer them.

In closing this News-Letter, the Committee and I thank you for all your support and hope that the Tartan is a great success and that we shall all do our bit to ensure that our fellow Turnbells throughout the world get to know about our Association.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Turnbull', with a stylized flourish at the end.

# SCOTLAND'S INVENTIONS – THE FALKIRK WHEEL

Compiled by Kenneth Turnbull



*One of Scotland's many unique inventions includes the unusual design of the Falkirk Wheel. It is an exciting example of thinking outside the box, so to speak. Located in central Scotland and named after the town of Falkirk, it has now become a major tourist attraction.*

The contemporary design concept by architect, Tony Kettle came about by experimenting with his young daughter's Lego. The landmark idea was to design an "organic flowing thing like the spine of a fish". As a working sculpture the end result was inspired as seven bones of a whale's rib-cage.



Opened in 2002, it was built to reconnect Scotland's canals from Glasgow to Edinburgh, linking the River Forth to the Union Canal. It is the world's only rotating boat lift. Each caisson or gondola can hold up to four 66 feet long (20 metre) canal boats. As well, it is economically powered by ten hydraulic motors which use only 1.5 kilowatt-hours a half turn, which is approximately the same as boiling eight jugs of water. The wheel has an overall diameter of around 115 feet (35 metres).

The boats are raised 24 metres after they have been through two existing lower locks. Originally, there were eleven locks where boats could take most of the day just to pass through the flight. The Falkirk Wheel image has also been featured on the obverse side of the Scottish £50 note.

Turnbull Clan Association  
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