

WINTER SOLSTICE IN SCOTLAND . . . ANCIENT TRADITIONS

Researched & compiled by Kenneth Turnbull - Editor

In 1640, the Scottish Parliament banned the celebration of Christmas. It became illegal!

New Year's Eve in Scotland is known as Hogmanay. It was during the many years when Christmas was 'banned', this ancient gathering became the main alternative celebration.

Today, Christmas is now a well-established tradition across Scotland, but for centuries (1640-1958) it was banned and frowned upon, even after Charles II had been restored to the throne in 1660.

Christmas became just another working day for many Scots well into the 20th century. But it wasn't until 1958 when Christmas on 25th December was finally recognised and declared a Scottish public holiday. That is less than 70 years ago! So, for 318 years the Scots could only rejoice with Hogmanay to welcome in the New Year as their winter festival celebration.

***Where there are thousands of years of rich history,
there are traditions . . . and Scotland has many***

Today the Scottish love to street party, sing and let off fireworks for the New Year's festivities. Yet traditions remain and the Scots people still recognise it as Hogmanay. To understand more, perhaps it is fitting to reflect on the past history and background of Hogmanay. Its beginnings date back to the days of the feared Vikings and the customs of the Celts.

Vikings landed on the northern Scottish shores in the early 8th century around the Shetland Islands. They were farmers-turned-sea-faring-pirates, raiding and looking for a warmer climate and fertile land. They subsequently settled, ruling both Orkney and Shetland



Stonehaven's Fireball Ceremony is unique way to welcome in the New Year until the 15th Century. With them, they brought the custom of celebrating the winter solstice with a pagan festival, known as Yule, the Vikings referring to it as 'Jól' (Norse for feast).

In mid 793, Vikings also attacked the monastery at Lindisfarne on Holy Island, a coastal island in Northumbria (present-day Northumberland) some 20 kilometres south of the Scottish border. This signalled the start of what is now known as the Viking Age.

'Norse' and 'Viking' refer to the same Germanic people who lived in Scandinavia during the Viking Age and who spoke Old Norse. 'Norse' refers to Norsemen who were mostly full-time traders.



Holy Island, monastery ruins today - Lindisfarne Castle is centre distance

The pagan festival of Yule was a multi-day celebration, honouring their ancestors in the darkest time of the year. This eventually became a Christian tradition. Norsemen paid particular attention to the winter Solstice or the shortest day of the year, with some serious partying.

As well, it was the Celtic Pagan celebrations of Samhain, usually around the 21st or 22nd December, in acknowledgement of the shortest day of the year. The festivities were in part, intended to brighten the dark winter days and to appease the gods to allow the return of the sun.

One of the main pagan customs practised by the Vikings, was the use of animal hide wrapped around long sticks and lit to produce a smoke that was believed to ward off evil spirits. This smoking stick was also known as a 'Hogmanay'. It is thought the word itself comes from the Gaelic 'og maidne' which means 'new morning', or a Gaelic derivation from 'haugmenn'. *Continued on Page 7*

Bliadhna Mhath Ur dhut!

Happy New Year to you all!



*Another new year is upon us!
Our TCA Newsletter has a very popular following and continues to keep its clan members and interested parties informed.
Yet it can only exist with your support.*

As Newsletter editor, my role is to inform and enlighten members with current events and achievements with the many Turnbulls throughout the world. This includes stories of relevance that don't make the newspapers.

Members interests and input with news, history, stories and places visited, has been and still is, well worth sharing. To this end, TCA invites you to take the opportunity of making a personal contribution. Your input could well be of more value and interest to others than you may think.

We welcome your stories to share with us . . . Ed

Simply contact the editor at the following:

editor@turnbullclan.com

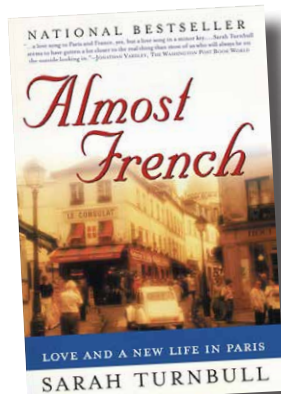
Authors Corner

Sarah Turnbull

Sarah's account of seeking her last backpacking adventure, is a compelling and captivating true story of a high-spirited young woman who seeks and finds adventure in Paris. It is also an entertaining account of what it's like being a fish out of water. Added to this, and unpredictably she finds the love of her life in the process.

"This isn't like me. I'm not the sort of girl who crosses continents to meet up with a man she hardly knows. Paris hadn't even been part of my travel plan..."

Almost French is an enchanting variation on her memoirs that takes the reader on a tour fraught with culture clashes, but loaded with straight-faced humour.



Available through Amazon
<https://www.amazon.com>
 or as an audio version via



Rated: ★★★★★



Sarah's stint in Paris was only supposed to last a week but by chance she met Frédéric in Bucharest, and on impulse she decided to take him up on his offer to visit him in the world's most romantic city. With a new life, Paris had captured her heart.

The feisty Sydney journalist from Australia does her best to fit in, even though her cultural chats, her laugh, and even her wardrobe advertised her foreigner status.

Announcing the Turnbull Clan Association Scholarship!

Apply now, deadline for applying 1 April 2023

We are very excited to announce the Turnbull Clan Scholarship. The Turnbull Clan Association is offering a \$500 scholarship to encourage members and their relatives to help with continuing education and/or learn more about Scottish tradition and heritage.

Applications will be accepted through to 1st April of the calendar year, with the award being announced on 15th May. In addition to receiving a \$500 check, the recipient will receive an additional letter recognising the honoree and a place on the Turnbull Clan website. The winner will also be announced in the Bullseye.

A donation of \$500 may be made in memory of or to honour a special person. These scholarships will be named after that person. In addition, these scholarships will be recognised in the Turnbull Clan newsletter, the **Bullseye**, along with the story of the person being honoured.

Donations to the scholarship fund may be made in any amount through the website under special projects. (<https://www.turnbullclan.com/projects>). If donating \$500.00 in memory of or in honour of someone, email scholarship@turnbullclan.com with the person's name, something about the person's life, and your name. All donations are tax-deductible in the USA. The scholarship committee will follow up for more details.

Criteria for receiving a scholarship: Supporting membership in Turnbull Clan Association (TCA) or sponsorship as a descendant of a supporting member (*child, grandchild, nephew, niece, etc.*). Education and activities the scholarship may be considered to include continuing education, college or university courses, and technical training. Highland dance lessons, bagpipe lessons, and classes about Scotland are also eligible activities.

All ages are encouraged to apply and will be considered.

To apply for a scholarship, go to: <https://www.turnbullclan.com/happenings/tca-scholarship> and follow the directions.

BULLSEYE

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

Editor: Kenneth Turnbull, Contributing Editor: Betty Turnbull.

All e-mail correspondence: editor@turnbullclan.com

Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide - www.turnbullclan.com

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

HOW DID YOU CELEBRATE HOGMANAY?



So . . . what New Year's Eve stories or images would you be willing to share with us at the end of 2022 year's festivities?

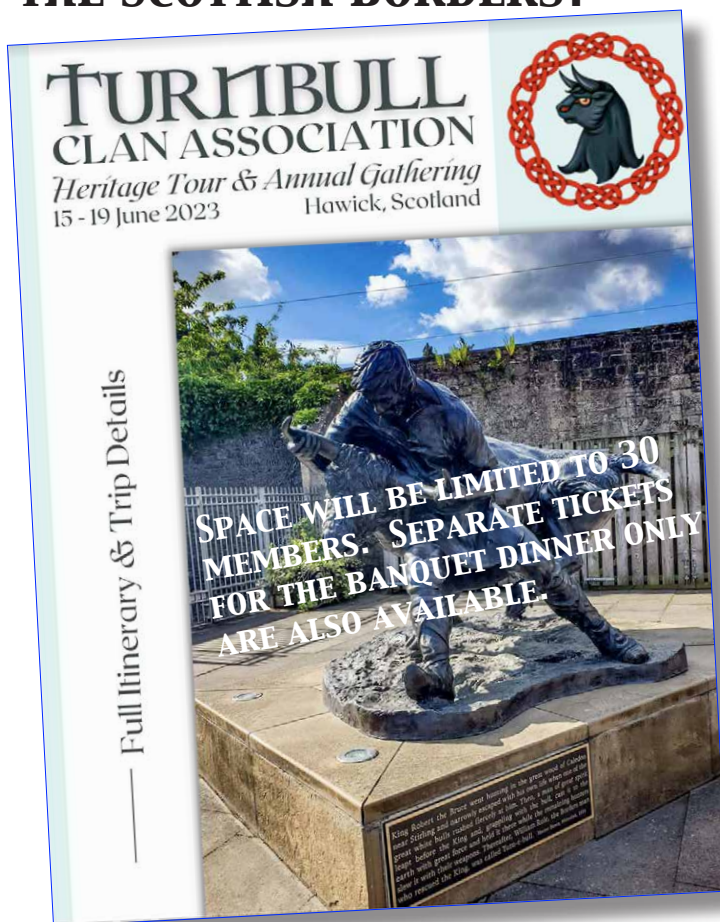
If so, please contact the editor at: editor@turnbullclan.com

Congratulations go to Wendy Everett, (Turnbull) of Red Wing, Minnesota, USA, who has earned the bragging rights as the first to find the little bull.

• Can you find the other hidden 'Bullseye Bull' in this issue?



THE 2023 TURNBULL CLAN ASSOCIATION HERITAGE TOUR AND ANNUAL GATHERING IN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS!



This is an adventure not to be missed!

Join us for the 5th Turnbull Clan Association heritage tour and annual clan gathering in the beautiful Scottish Borders!

We will be blending sites seen on previous tours with several new ones. This will be a tour unlike any other. Immerse yourself in the history of this great country while discovering your Turnbull roots and creating life-long friendships.

The tour will include: coach transportation, 3 lunches and a banquet dinner, a local expert guide on Day 3, and tickets to the attractions. Tips for the coach, guides, and restaurants are encouraged.

TOUR COST: \$650.00 US

DURATION: 5 days

AGE: 10 years and up

Those interested can contact Katherine Turnbull at kattturnbull01@gmail.com for the registration forms and direct you to an online payment portal to secure your space on the tour.



Heritage Tour Itinerary

Our tour will be based from the city of Hawick in the Scottish Borders



DAY 1

Selkirk, Hawick

It's the start of an adventure! After a meet and greet at 8:30am, our coach will visit the famed Loch carron of Scotland in Selkirk to a tartan cloth manufacturing Mill. Then on to the Philiphaugh Estate - lands that were once part of the original grant given to William O' Rule by King Robert the Bruce, plus several other sites on the day.

DAY 2

Glasgow, Stirling, Falkirk

We will be making the trek to Glasgow, to take in a historical tour of the Glasgow University and we will lunch there. It was founded in 1451 by Bishop William Turnbull. Next destination, to a tour of Stirling Castle! Then a stop in Falkirk to visit The Kelpies.

DAY 3

Minto, Denholm, Melrose

We will meet Borders historian and tour guide, Mark Nicol, who will share facts and stories of the Borders and the Reiver families. Then to Minto, where we will hike to the top of Minto Crags to see Fatlips Castle, once a Turnbull stronghold. We will also have the rare opportunity to go inside the tower, and experience the views from the top. Afterwards, Barnhills Tower and Minto Kirk. Next, we visit the historic Melrose Abbey, where the heart of King Robert the Bruce is buried and on to a short stop at Scotts View.

DAY 4

Bedrule, Jedburgh

Off to Bedrule, where we will be attending a church service by Reverend Rachel Wilson, and see the Turnbull stained glass window in the kirk followed by a tea in the Bedrule Village Hall prepared by the kind people of the parish. See the Bedrule Cairn and the site where Bedrule Castle once stood. Then visit the market town of Jedburgh, where you can explore Jedburgh Abbey, Jedburgh Castle Jail, and the Mary Queen of Scots Visitor Centre.

DAY 5

Berwick-upon-Tweed, Alnwick, Hexham

Our first destination will be to visit Halidon Hill Battlefield, outside the coastal village of Berwick-upon-Tweed. We will then leave Scotland to explore south of the border, beginning with a stop for lunch in Alnwick at the Turnbull's of Northumbrian Food Hall. Afterwards, we will continue our journey south to visit the Housestead's Roman Fort and Hadrian's Wall, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will then return back to Scotland.

Mansfield House Hotel, Hawick

To finish out our whirlwind 5-day adventure, Mansfield House will once again be host to our annual gathering dinner. The 19th century, 4-star luxury hotel is set just outside of Hawick with wonderful views overlooking the town and countryside.

CHRISTMAS IN SCOTLAND ST LOUIS HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

Merry Christmas from Glasgow Cathedral - 2022!

The most complete medieval cathedral on the Scottish mainland has an extra sprinkling of magic at this time of year. The 12th C. Glasgow Cathedral, seat of our forebear William Turnbull, Bishop of Glasgow from 1448-1454 and founder of Glasgow University.



Why should I consider joining the 2023 Heritage Tour?

by Betty Turnbull

I have had the privilege of leading four TCA tours to the Scottish Borders. I remember back to Wally's and my first visit in the 1990s. We didn't have the advantage of the Turnbull Clan website and extended family interaction through social media. We'd done our research and knew that the Turnbells were a Border Clan and we knew a few places we should be sure to visit like Hawick and Bedrule. Other than that, we were pretty ignorant. We also weren't keen on driving, not ever having driven on the "other" side of the road. We hired a taxi driver, who pointed out a few things from the car, with little time to stop and visit. How we wish we'd had the opportunity to join a group of fellow Turnbells and discover our rich heritage together.

I am so excited that TCA is once again offering a heritage tour of the Borders. Katherine Turnbull, Vice President of Events, has done an EXCELLENT job in planning this year's tour. Having done this several times, I can assure you that she has put many selfless hours into making sure that no one will be disappointed.

Whether this is your first time visiting the Borders or you've been before, there is something for you. Highlights of this tour include a visit to Glasgow University, founded by Bishop William Turnbull. This piece of the tour has not been repeated since the first 2007 tour. It is an incredible experience with rich Turnbull history. Certainly to be a highlight with a personal tour guide and special lunch in the Turnbull room.

Halidon Hill, Falkirk, and Hadrian's Wall have never been included in previous tours and will definitely add adventure and fun.

If you've been considering a visit to your homeland, this is the time to do it. Whether for the first time or a repeat visit, when you step onto Borders land, a sense of family and belonging will be yours forever more. My advice is, if you are able, do this. You will never regret it.

Over the Christmas holiday, former St. Louis Blue (USA) Perry Turnbull received his letter welcoming him to the St. Louis Amateur Hockey Hall of Fame!

With his many years involved in the Hockey Community in both Ice and Roller hockey, Perry Turnbull is a 2023 St. Louis Amateur Hockey Hall of Fame Inductee.

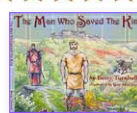
Perry helped to introduce thousands of kids over the years to Roller hockey which as expected helped when these same kids started playing Ice Hockey.

Congratulations Perry on your Induction!!!!

Children's stories...

by Betty Turnbull

★★★★★



The author of several Scotland-themed children's books, Her stories are set in the real past of Scotland, adding dimensions of interesting history & a beginning understanding of heritage.

In addition, each book has a positive impact of self-worth through her characters and lessons learned.

Available: TotallyTurnbull.com and through Amazon.com

Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide

News from around the world

by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor

Scotland – New senator for the College of Justice



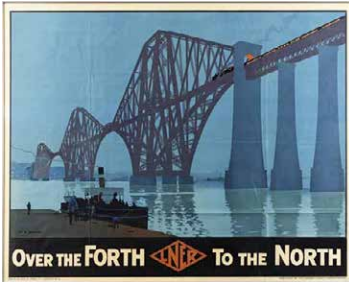
Sheriff Principal, Craig Turnbull has been appointed as a senator of the College of Justice in one of a number of judicial appointments made by His Majesty The King, on the recommendation by the first minister. He will take up the post on 17th May. Judges are known as senators of the College of Justice.

Virgin Islands - System balance

The Minister of Labour, Melvin 'Mitch' Turnbull said the shake up of the Labour Department will see systems and people being put in place to bring change to the department. When Turnbull was first appointed as minister in May, he said there would be a major shakeup in the jobs market. "It is our job to beef up our communication aspect, the customer service aspect of it, the information that we have for what is required when we change jobs or for new employment."



Scotland - Vintage rail poster



An eye-catching Art-Deco style vintage railway poster depicting the Forth Bridge sold for over £12,000 at auction. The striking poster of the rail bridge was designed in 1928 by commercial artist Henry George Gawthorn. It was the centrepiece of the sale of seven Scottish posters which went under the hammer at an online auction in October. The event was hosted by auctioneers Lyon & Turnbull,

Scotland - 18th century Wedgwood medallion auctioned

A rare Henry Webber designed medallion made in 1789 from clay dug up at Sydney Cove, now known as Sydney Harbour went to auction. The 18th century medallion was produced to commemorate the founding of modern Australia. The clay collected was sent back to the UK in a box to Sir Joseph Banks and given to British potter and industrialist Josiah Wedgwood to experiment with the new clay. The resulting artifact was linked to The First Fleet, sailed under Captain Arthur Phillip and marked the beginning of the European settlement in Australia. Sold for (\$44,600 USD, \$64,060 AUD, \$69,000 NZD) as part of Lyon & Turnbull's Five Centuries sale last November.



Australia - Families pose for 'All Together' images in art

The 'All Together' project was an interactive exhibition at Shepparton Art Museum in Victoria, mid-January. It was hosted by artists Meredith Turnbull and Ross Coulter. The aim was to explore how we as humans interpret and represent family through a series of free family portraits of volunteers. Meredith's daughter, Roma Turnbull-Coulter also explored some of the old cameras.



Australia - Twin Kangaroos found on Tea Gardens area



Residents at a Sherwater Estate in New South Wales, recently woke up to find a very rare set of twin kangaroos being cared for by their mother on their Tea Gardens acreage. It's a known fact that kangaroos don't have twin joeys, but they can have joeys nine to twelve months apart. "Twins are a rarity in the kangaroo world and I have only heard of three other sets in my 25 years as a wildlife carer," said wildlife carer of the area John Turnbull. "It is a very rare event, and sadly in the wild it is very unlikely that the twins would be able to survive,"

UK – Daughter to run London Marathon in memory of her father



year. "I wanted to have a purpose this year and to remember dad in the most purposeful way possible," she said. Flora has set up an online page to raise money for the charity, which funds research, awareness and support. Her father, Bill Turnbull appeared on BBC Breakfast from 2001 until 2016, then joined Classic FM and hosted Saturday and Sunday programmes. He passed away aged 66 years. So far, Flora has raised £5,000 for the charity.

Flora Turnbull the daughter of former BBC Breakfast presenter Bill Turnbull will run the London Marathon on 23rd April in memory of her father. She said she wanted to raise awareness of prostate cancer after her father's death from the disease on 31 August last



UK - Butchers' charity auction

The local Northumberland butchers and farmers have helped to raise much needed finances for rugby legend Doddie Weir's fund raising foundation. He was an outstanding player who unfortunately succumbed to MND (Motor Neurone Disease) An auction was held at the St. Boswells mart where an Aberdeen Angus heifer, bred directly from Weir Stock, was up for sale. The hammer fell on £3,000 (US \$3,600, AU \$5200, NZ \$5600) The auction was attended by sixth-generation butcher Daniel Turnbull who took part in bidding.



USA - A Pumpkin Carving event



Valerie Turnbull is a practising nurse from Minnesota by day, yet somehow as a mother of three, she has been finding time to organise community events for families. Her latest was a successful free community pumpkin carving activity in mid-October. If the thought of as many as 40 children at one time wielding small knives seemed scary, the pumpkin carving tools had blunt edges with rough serrations.

AN AUSTRALIAN CHRISTMAS PERSPECTIVE



Christmas in Australia occurs in the hot summer months with many families celebrating outdoors, either around beach coastlines, rivers or in the hills. This was a light hearted emoji family scene set at a farm gate in South-east Queensland, near Beaudesert. *Ed.*



HAWICK REIVERS FESTIVAL

24th - 26th March 2023

Spectacular 20th Anniversary Festival – bigger and better than ever before! –

Step back in time to the mid sixteenth century when the Borderlands were an area of constant feuding – when loyalties were to kinship rather than king and country and when “Reiving” was a means of survival.

Through music, drama and re-enactments experience what life was really like for the men and women in the Border Marches.

Hawick Reivers Festival aims to help visitors and townsfolk alike Experience, Explore and will endeavour to Explain day to day life in this violent and turbulent period of our history.

Fiercely loyal and independent, hard-working and prepared to fight for what they believed in these men and women of the 1500's did much to shape the character of the modern day Borderers.

Website: <https://www.hawickreivers.com>



HIGHLAND GAMES EVENTS



Stone Mountain Games - 2022

Have you ever considered hosting a Turnbull Clan tent at a Scottish Highland Games or Celtic Festival?

We can only grow with our presence at these events through our members volunteering to host tents! The festival season is about to begin and TCA would love to help get more people involved in hosting . . . and sharing our rich heritage!

With a little guidance you will soon have a place known for your hospitality and knowledge of our heritage and decorating skills!

There is no better place to meet people searching for their roots, as well as family and friends!

Turnbull Clan Association will be represented at the following Scottish Games in USA, 2023

1st April - Dunedin Highland Games & Festival, Dunedin, Florida

1st April - New Smyrna Heritage Day Festival, New Smyrna Beach, Florida

15th - 16th April - Loch Norman Highland Games, Huntersville, North Carolina

3rd June - Milwaukee Highland Games - Franklin, Wisconsin

6th - 9th July - Grandfather Mountain Highland Games - Linville, North Carolina

2nd - 3rd September - Virginia Scottish Games, The Plains, Virginia

8th - 10th September - Longs Peak Scottish Festival, Colorado

20th - 22nd October - Stone Mountain Highland Games, Georgia

If you need more information or know of any other upcoming Highland Games where TCA can tent host, please contact Katherine Turnbull at the following:
kattturnbull01@gmail.com - TCA VP for Events.



CANADA POST RELEASES NEW STAMPS



Wallace Rupert Turnbull features on one of them. - Canadian Inventor and aviation pioneer has another stamp dedicated to him! He was born and raised in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada. He had developed his most notable invention, the variable pitch propeller that is used widely throughout the world today.

SCOTS KNOW HOW TO CELEBRATE AT HOGMANAY . . .

Continued from Page 1



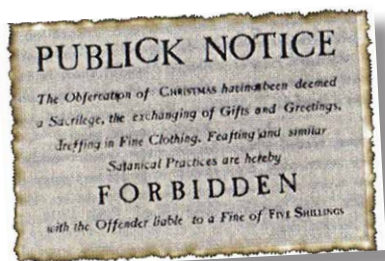
Roberto Ricciuti/Getty image

Men dressed as Vikings mark the start of Hogmanay in Edinburgh

Links between fire and the Hogmanay stick continues to this day, with torchlit processions (*most notably the Stonehaven Fireball Ceremony - image Page 1*) all laden with pagan symbolism. Fire represented warmth, vitality and protection to the ancient Vikings and Celts, as the bright fire light consumed evil spirits during the darkest time of the year.

Celebrating Christmas risked imprisonment

The banning of Christmas in Scotland dates back to the 16th century, when Scotland officially split from the Papacy and the Catholic Church. This period was acclaimed as the Scottish Reformation in 1560. While the Church of Scotland traces its roots back to the earliest Christians in Scotland, its identity was principally shaped by the Scottish Reformation. The values reacted with the powerful Kirk frowning upon anything related to Roman Catholicism and established a predominantly Calvinist national Kirk (*church*) which was strongly Presbyterian in its outlook.



The Dunfirmline Kirk notice banning all Christmas festivities

The text: PUBLIC NOTICE - The observance of Christmas having been deemed a sacrilege, the exchanging of Gifts and Greetings, dressing in Fine Clothing. Feasting and similar Satanical Practices are hereby FORBIDDEN with the Offender liable to a Fine of Five Shillings

Many in the then Church in Scotland, broke with Rome in a process of Protestant reform, led by among others, John Knox. The Reformation was a turning point in Scottish history signifying the end of five hundred years of dominance by the Roman Church.

Consequently in 1640, Scotland was officially banned by the Scottish Parliament from celebrating 'Christ's Mass' revelries, as it was seen only as a Roman Catholic tradition. Celebrating Yule and anything related to it, became illegal, thus breaking ties with the Catholic Church and all things Christmas. Anyone found celebrating Yule or anything connected with it, even carol singing or the

baking of Yule cakes, risked imprisonment. The law was strictly enforced, meaning that New Year revelling to celebrate the solstice, was the only outlet. This is why Hogmanay and New Year celebrations in Scotland became so important.

Many of the Celtic customs for revelling continue to this day, especially in the older communities of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

First-footing is perhaps the most widely practiced ritual. The moment the clock strikes midnight, lads and lassies across Scotland start heading for the homes of loved ones to be the first-footer. Custom says that the first-footer sets the precedent for the new year, and is always welcomed with traditional Scottish hospitality – a wee dram of whisky.

Cleaning the house from top to bottom has long been a New Year's Eve ritual to rid the house and its inhabitants of any unwanted burdens. Clearing any debts before midnight is also advisable.

The giving of gifts, each with their own specific meaning, are a token of good luck. Common foodstuffs given as gifts vary from yet more whisky, a black bun (*a traditional type of fruit cake*) or some authentic Scottish shortbread.

However, the most fascinating tradition with Hogmanay occurs in the Moray area. It is the 'Burning of the Clavie' in Burghead to bring good luck. This ancient Scottish custom takes place every year in this small fishing village, located around 50 miles (*80 kilometres*) north-east of Inverness and brings in people from all over the world.

In the 1750s, the Julian calendar (*prominent in the Roman Empire*) was reformed and the Gregorian calendar (*now used worldwide*) was introduced. With this change, people rebelled over their loss of 11 days – but the Burghead people (*Brochers*) decided that they would take this opportunity to celebrate New Year . . . twice!

Consequently, every year on the evening of the 11th of January (*if a Sunday, it would be the 10th*) people gather in the North East to witness the spectacular event. The 11th of January was New Year's Eve, or Hogmanay in Scotland . . . by the Julian calendar.

The Clavie is made up of split wooden casks, then lit like a bonfire. One of the casks is joined together by a huge nail and filled with tar, then set alight. The charcoal of the Clavie is also collected and placed up cottage chimneys to keep spirits and witches from forcing their way down and into people's homes.



When the clock chimes midnight, and the moment arrives where the old year turns into the new, the words of Robert Burns song 'Auld Lang Syne' (*'for old time's sake'*) resonate across Scotland. Indeed, this tradition continues today and these lines are now sung across the world on Hogmanay or to many . . . New Year's Eve.

MEET YOUR TURNBULL COUSINS . . .

JOYCE TURNBULL . . . U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

I am now almost 71 years old and I joined the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary almost 20 years ago.

At first, it involved a large amount of training.... and learning such things as nautical knot-tying, weather, tides, first aid, and the mastering of boat handling.....which made me Boat Crew Qualified.

All this was so new to me. I was A Chief Financial Officer for the third largest Pet Food Distributor in the USA.

I help the coast guard where ever they need help. Sometimes I handle the radio at Station Cape Cod Canal. Other times I am a helmsman on a boat. While we are on the boat we check Patons (*which are buoys' and day markers etc.*) to make sure they are in their proper places based on the nautical chart.



The Sea Eagle is used as a training ship for Coast Guard Academy cadets and officer candidates.



Wikimedia Commons

Coast Guard Auxiliary Training ship 'Sea Eagle' under full sail

Sometimes a storm will move them and, if that is the case, we have to call in a work-order to have them re-set in place. With my other Auxiliarists, we assist boaters, we help with rescues, we handle searches for lost boaters (*which meant I had to learn the grid method of conducting searches*) or downed aircraft, we verify that all warning lights and signals are working on nautical markers and bridges.

We sometimes tow boats to safety that have lost power. That is if SeaTow Inc. is unavailable.

We also do safety inspection of boats and conduct "safe boating" classes. We attend and participate in emergency drills at Boston Logan Airport and receive FEMA and first aid training.

We patrol areas and report if we see any chemical spills or hazards that would impact boaters. During boat races, we patrol the safety area to prevent someone from getting hit by a boat that is racing.

Sometimes we man the lighthouses. We also help with endangered species and sometimes walk the beaches to check on endangered animals and birds such as Piping Plovers.

Occasionally the US Coast Guard needs help on one of their boats.. We learn how to use beacon locator devices for downed aircraft emitting an emergency beacon signal.



Joyce Turnbull

We sometimes just help cooking in the gally or alternately, we get a chance to be part of the crew on the US Coast Guard's training sailboat . . . the Sea Eagle. I am also my flotilla's webmaster.

. . . INCLUDING ARTISCIC DRAWING SKILLS

In addition to that, I am also a very busy artist. I draw people's pets for them. I have been doing it for years and have drawn over 500. I recently was asked to draw a special Eagle that the Colorado Eagle Sanctuary had rescued. Here are some of my drawings . . .



Three of the many drwings by Joyce Turnbull

