

RULEWATER CHURCH CLOSURES CONCERN

Writtent by Professor Jane Bower, FRSE, Project Manager, 12 Towers of Rule programme

Bedrule Kirk and several other Kirks may soon be up for sale - unless there is an alternative solution

A group of North American Turnbull Clan members have been visiting Scotland. On Sunday 18th June, a glorious sunny day, they visited the village of Bedrule. They were joined by Jane Bower, Chair of the Campaign for a Scottish Borders National Park, and Roger Curtis, an expert on ancient buildings and local resident who has been advising the 12 Towers of Rule archaeological exploration.

They looked around the Bedrule Kirkyard, deciphering fading names on old gravestones, then admired the stained glass window in the Kirk, which had been funded by a Turnbull donation. A touching Church of Scotland service in Bedrule Kirk was conducted by Reverend Rachel Wilson, then everyone walked along the line of cottages to Bedrule Hall.

It was certainly a day to remember!

However, one worrying piece of news - Bedrule Kirk and several other small churches in the valley of Rulewater are under threat of being sold by the Church of Scotland in a few years' time. They now each hold very occasional services on a rota. The maintenance costs have become unaffordable and it has been decided to consolidate the congregations and sell buildings which are not used.

The discussions have started about alternative uses for the buildings. They hold an important place in the hearts and minds of their communities, both local and worldwide. They are part of the story of these communities. They are not suitable for conversion to houses. It might well be possible to set up a community trust and to raise enough funds to take them into it.



On an ancient site, Bedrule Kirk as a place of worship, Rebuilt in 1804

Suggestions so far seem to be focusing on tourism opportunities, possibly building on the exciting historical work of the 12 Towers of Rule Project, and on heritage for families and clans of the area, and also linking various under used churches in the Cheviots in a new circular trail for walkers and cyclists (*possibly providing simple overnight accommodation within the churches as has been done elsewhere*).

These suggestions would not necessarily preclude worship on occasions, and some valley residents also feel that a lot more could be done to develop the opportunities for weddings linked to the growing amount of accommodation in Rulewater.

Income streams such as these would be necessary to justify and cover the cost of fulfilling their new purpose, and also ongoing maintenance costs.

Turnbull Clan Members

Have you renewed your membership?

Your membership in the Turnbull Clan is a free birthright, but we do need your financial support for the clan organisation and its activities on behalf of our members. Please consider becoming a supporting member with your voluntary dues of \$24 annually from the date of your first contribution.

Additional contributions to provide our clan tents at Highland Games are also needed and very welcome. Contributions are tax-deductible and are used only to support clan activities.

Moreover, becoming a member will also give you access to some of the planned TCA activities coming in 2024.

Support your clan at: www.turnbullclan.com website.



Is there a way that they can continue to be a positive part of the story of the Valley of Rulewater and Teviotdale?

If you have any ideas or suggestions, please join the discussion with your views, and comments along to the

editor@turnbullclan.com

Bedrule Castle Cairn, in the kirkyard, dedicated in 2014 by the Turnbull Clan Association



TURNBULLS IN COMPETITIVE SPORT

How to create a world record



Our TCA clan member Pamela Turnbull recalls her success.

“Well, of course, I couldn’t do it without drama . . .

The first time the sheaf went over, it cleared the bar nicely. Then another thrower tossed after me and bent the bar, meaning that toss didn’t count towards a world record. So the bar had to be lowered, straightened out and a metal tape attached for accurate measurements. Being an old lady, in almost 100° F. weather, and near the end of the day (*I am good at excuses, eh?*) I smiled on the outside, but groaned on the inside... and stepped up.

Positioning myself, I looked over my shoulder at the bar, then focused on the toss. It didn’t go over!

A great fella who supported the Games for many years passed away recently, Bob Ham. We celebrated him on that day.

So, with my second attempt, I placed my fork in the sheaf, bent over and whispered to Bob. I said, ‘ok Bob, this old girl needs your help’ . . . please give this sheaf a little boost to get ‘er over that bar? Picking up the sheaf, whispering ‘lets go Bobby’ and I warmed up, getting momentum... and then TOSSSSSSSSSSING... up, up, up it went . . . kissing the bar and with a little nudge from Bob, it went over . . . so gaining a World Record at 21’ (6.4 m) for 60+ Women - Skagit Highland Games, Washington State, USA. . . . WHOOT WHOOT WHOOT”

If you want to catch up with Pam, she will be throwing at the Scottish Masters World Championships in Neuendorf, Switzerland on the weekend 26 & 27 of August, throwing on the 27th starting at 9am. Feel free to contact her: pamelagturnbull@gmail.com

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.

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HIGHLAND DANCING UPDATE – LILLY TRIMBLE



We were over in Scotland at the end of July! Lilly was placed Runner-up in the Nationals at the Banchory Show and she had great placings and some money in her other dances. She also danced at St Andrews Highland Games!

Thanks to the support of Turnbull Clan Scholarship, she is getting a new kilt outfit made at Bonnie Tartan!

Pauline Cumming

AN INFORMATIVE NEW REFERENCE FOR VISITORS



Welcome to the free ‘Explore the Borders’ – an online multi-media news magazine written and designed to help you make the most of your visit to one of the finest regions in the United Kingdom.

On-line site - <https://exploretheborders.com>

Celebrating something or an event to share?

How about submitting a photo of your celebration or an event that you’d like to share with the 2,500+ Turnbull Clan readers, please let us know. We’d love to share.

You can send photos and information or stories of your adventures to the editor@turnbullclan.com



It seems the ‘little bull’ was too well hidden as no-one was able to find it in the last edition. It’s there . . . on the Page 1 Banner. • Can you find the other hidden ‘Bullseye Bull’ in this issue?



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FamilyTreeDNA

If you have ever thought about taking a DNA test, now is the time. FTDNA has its big summer sale on until the end of August. Don't forget to join our 'DNA Project' if you do take the test!

FamilyTreeDNA.com - <https://www.familytreednacom>

SCOTTISH INDEXES CONFERENCE XXI SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Interested in tracing your Scottish genealogy? The Scottish Indexes Conference is an opportunity to learn new research skills, discover diverse records and see how others have put these into practice. If you want to trace your Scottish family tree, this is the event for you.

Registration is now open for our 21st Scottish Indexes Conference on Saturday 9th September 2023.

We are a time-zone friendly event. Although we start at 7 am UK time, you don't have to join us from the start. We show all presentations once between 7 am and 3 pm UK time, then again between 3 pm and 11 pm UK time. Each showing of the presentation is followed by a live Q&A session with the presenter. Feel free to come and go throughout the day.

This means that if you live in the United States or Canada you don't need to get up in the middle of the night to join the conference. We will post conference schedules on our website before the event so you can plan your day.

Registration is now open . . .

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4416816408113/WN_ceR-AW8tfS3iVxFWzU_hs0Q#/registration



Free online Event

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SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2023

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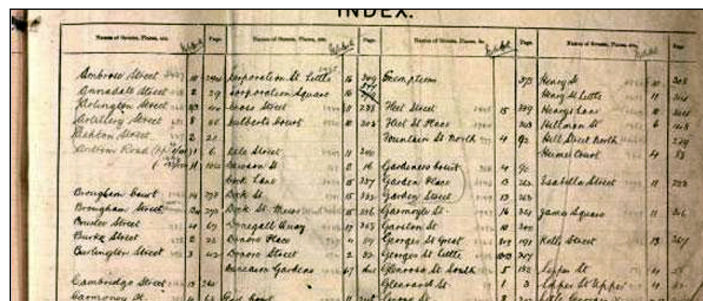
NEW DATABASE IS AVAILABLE FOR IRISH HUNTING MEMBERS

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) has unveiled a searchable database of over three million names in an innovative partnership with the high-profile genealogy online platform Ancestry. Approximately 3.2 million name indexes, relating to valuation records for the period 1864 to 1933, are now free to access with an Ancestry.com account.

The exciting development, which will benefit genealogists across Northern Ireland, the island of Ireland and the wider Irish diaspora, is a key component of PRONI's 100-year anniversary dating back to its establishment in June 1923.

Acting Director of PRONI, David Huddleston hailed the release of searchable names by the Public Record Office as an "invaluable substitute" for pre-1901 census records which were destroyed in the Four Courts fire during the Irish Civil War in June 1922.

He added: "The new data set of searchable name indexes will also provide a rich genealogical source for those interested in tracing their ancestors."



These indexes represent a major enhancement to existing digitised records which have been available on the PRONI website, but were previously only searchable by geographic location.

We have been delighted to work with Ancestry to make these indexes freely available to local communities and the wider Irish diaspora."

Rhona Murray, Senior Content Acquisition Manager of Ancestry, said: "Ancestry is excited to be involved in making the Valuation Revision Books 1864-1933 searchable by name for the first time, building on the previous imaging work done by PRONI."

The Valuation Revision Books are an invaluable census substitute for those looking to trace their Northern Ireland roots and will act as an alternative source to the missing 19th Century Census for the area.

"With the valuation revisions of property conducted annually, the documents record a change in ownership of the land, which may be indicative of land being passed down from one generation to the next as a result of a death in the family, or perhaps land being sold as people emigrate, helping to build stories and pinpoint major events in a person's family tree."

The indexes and images are freely available on the Ancestry website in celebration of the centenary of the creation of PRONI."

Research records are available online @ www.irishgenealogy.ie

Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide

News from around the world

by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor

USA - Happy 100th Birthday

On your 100th birthday, what do you do? Howard Turnbull had planned this day months in advance. He called his hairdresser and asked if she would give him a haircut on his 100th birthday. So, Howard started the day calling his 95-year-old brother, then got into the car and drove to see Suzie so he could get his haircut. Born on 24th May, 1923 and raised in Garrettsville, New York State. Howard feels blessed to have been married more than 68 years to his wife, Priscilla.



UK - Cool factor at the festival



In Glastonbury south-west England Gareth Turnbull walks amongst a crowd of 200,000 music fans and some of the biggest names in rock and pop at Glastonbury. He is arguably the coolest of all. It's not because of his rock 'n' roll credentials, but he is providing walk-in fridges, freezers and pop-up cold rooms for the world-famous festival.

USA - At the County Fair



Saige Turnbull guides her horse near the rail of the ring during a walk in late July at the Walk Trot Equitation event at the Bedford County Fair in Pittsburgh. Turnbull won the competition, earning an award from the Veterinary Medical Center.

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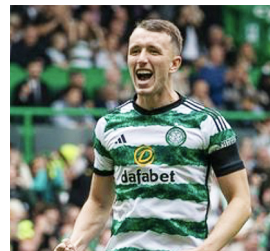
UK - Clear Communication strategy has now become a priority



Greig Box Turnbull, founder of Fortitude Communications, explained why a clear communications strategy is key for events at risk of high-profile protests. High-profile disruptive protests have now become commonplace across the events industry. Including The Ashes, Wimbledon and even the RHS Chelsea Flower Show have been targeted by eco-warriors and animal rights protestors. It's reached crisis point. Organisers are doing an excellent job of managing the issue, however there is more to consider than the obvious factors such as security. One element is communications. The worst thing an event organiser can do is fail to provide clear updates. Turnbull's advice to event organisers is to be proactive, ensure you have a plan and deliver clear, strategic messages regularly.

Scotland - Open-door chance to consolidate performance

Scottish soccer player David Turnbull, has benefited most from the change to the Celtic club with the recently appointed new coach, Brendan Rodgers in June. Celtic had paid Motherwell £3.25m for Turnbull in 2020, but his injuries and the competition for places at a club like Celtic restricted the impact that the Scotland mid-fielder has made so far. The new coach added, "The door is open for David Turnbull with regards a new contract if he strings together a consistent form. Maybe he hasn't played as much as he would like, but that's his responsibility." This is all positive, as he is in the last year of his contract. The next few months are now critical for him, as he's at the crossroads in his Celtic career.



SNS Group photo

Australia - Reaping benefits at Off-road Championships

The Kempsey Macleay Off-road club is reaping the benefits of a hard-fought race as Kempsey's Mat Huxley and Tobi Turnbull #16 claimed a podium finish as they continued their strong opening to 2023 by securing a powerful victory at the June Colo Park Challenge, Round 3 of the Hunter Rivmasta New South Wales Off-road Championship, hosted by the Sydney Off-road Racing Association. *Kempsey Macleay Off-road Club photo*



Scotland - Young Fife girl wins Scot Award for 2023

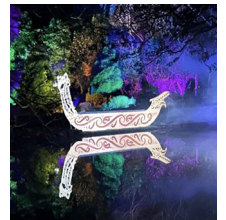


A Fife girl, Molly Turnbull, has been crowned 'Young Scot of the Year' in recognition of her resilience and dedication to supporting other young people to overcome adversity. At 18 years of age, Molly is going to Heriot Watt University in September, has just returned from a gruelling trek to Everest base camp in April, where she hiked to nearly 18,000ft to raise money for a charity that transformed her life. The Polar Academy work with "invisible" children who are the victims of bullying, abuse or those crushed by a lack of self-esteem. Molly said: "The Polar Academy came around at a time when I needed it most. It changed me and my life to a much more independent person,"

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New Zealand - An event lights up

In mid-July, Invercargill's Queens Park was lit up with art installations, Toi Māori and storytelling to celebrate Matariki with entertainment and about 15 light installations set through the park. Among them were glass panels created by local children and an 11-metre-long waka created by local artist Matthew Turnbull which was placed at a pond in the park. Projections and storytelling allowed attendees to learn more about the special date. Matariki means a time of remembrance, joy and peace.



Scotland - Old tradition continues

In keeping with an old Scottish tradition, the annual Blanket Preaching Service at St. Mary's Kirkyard has its roots in the history of southern Scotland and the centre of the Presbyterian Covenanter movement in the 17th century. Covenanters preachers and their followers were forbidden to attend church services and so were forced to worship outdoors, often huddling in blankets for protection from the elements. It commemorates this period, which is known to historians as "the Killing Time". Lone piper Colin Turnbull encouraged people as they made the short walk up the hill to the historic graveyard.



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TCA AT THE HIGHLAND GAMES EVENTS



The Turnbull Clan was well represented in July at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in Linville, North Carolina! One of 103 clans at the games, the Turnbull tent proved to be quite popular. Thanks to all who came out and represented Turnbull Clan!



UPCOMING GAMES EVENTS



Stone Mountain Games - 2022

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 and your own creative ingenuity, you will soon have a place known for your hospitality, 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!

We are looking forward to meeting many Turnbolls/Trimbles

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

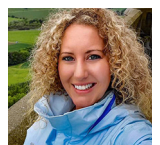
2nd - 3rd September - Caledonia Club of San Francisco Highland Gathering - Pleasanton, California

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.*



TCA'S CONCERNS ABOUT BEDRULE KIRK CLOSURE

Concerns continue to mount with the news of the possible sale of Bedrule Kirk. Already several TCA members have reacted to this news. Betty Turnbull together with former President Wally Turnbull (honorary chief of Turnbull Clan Association) have submitted the following response . . .

Nestled in the heart of the Scottish Borders, the quaint village of Bedrule holds a hidden gem of historical significance: the Bedrule Kirk. This humble place of worship not only serves as a symbol of spiritual sanctuary but also stands as a testament to the region's vibrant past.

From the esteemed origins of one of the Borders most influential people, Bishop William Turnbull, to its ties with prominent families and international connections, Bedrule Kirk deserves to be preserved for generations to come.

Bedrule Kirk boasts a deep-rooted connection to Scottish intellectual heritage through its association with Bishop William Turnbull, the esteemed founder of Glasgow University. Turnbull rose to prominence through his remarkable contributions to education and the arts. His friendship with James II and appointment as Keeper of the Privy Seal further exemplify his influence and the respect he commanded. Preserving Bedrule Kirk ensures that this significant historical figure and his contributions to Scottish academia continue to be honored and remembered.

One of the defining features of Bedrule Kirk is its stunning stained glass windows. These intricate artworks not only add aesthetic charm, but also serve as a visual representation of the region's border history. Preserving these precious stained glass windows ensures the preservation of an invaluable artistic and cultural heritage that connects Bedrule to the world beyond its borders.

CURRENT SCOTTISH HERITAGE FACTS

Bedrule Kirk is currently listed as Category B: 'Buildings of special architectural or historic interest which are major examples of a particular period, style or building type.'

A 'Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland' was established in 1990 by Historic Scotland, with the purpose of raising awareness of the threats to Scotland's built heritage. The register is continuously updated: newly identified 'at risk' buildings being added; while others are removed either due to restoration or demolition.

Listed building consent must be obtained from local authorities before any alteration to a listed structure.

Buildings are considered to be 'at risk' if they are under threat from demolition or neglect. The following criteria are among those used when considering buildings for inclusion:

- Vacant with no identified new use
- suffering from neglect and/or poor maintenance
- suffering from structural problems
- fire-damaged
- unsecured and open to the elements
- threatened with demolition"



The well-kept Bedrule Kirk interior at the recent service held by the TCA on tour in July of this year.

The panels bearing the arms of local families, including the Douglas, Elliot, Ogilvie, Oliver, Rutherford, Turnbull, and Usher clans, are a poignant testament to the rich tapestry of Bedrule's past. Each family represented on these panels carries with it a unique narrative that reflects the social, political, and cultural history of the Scottish Borders.

Preserving Bedrule Kirk becomes essential in honoring and celebrating the diverse local families who have contributed to the village's vibrant heritage. The presence of a memorial plaque to Anthony Fasson within Bedrule Kirk reinforces its role as a site of remembrance and gratitude. Fasson, a native of nearby Lanton, showcased exceptional bravery during World War II as First Lieutenant of the HMS Petard. He received a posthumous George Cross for his heroic actions in retrieving vital Enigma codebooks from a sinking German U-Boat in 1942. Preserving Bedrule Kirk allows us to pay homage to Fasson's sacrifice ensures that his remarkable story of courage continues to inspire generations to come.

Bedrule Kirk, with its historical connections to Bishop William Turnbull, ties to prominent families, and international significance through stained glass windows and memorial plaques, stands as a proud testament to the Scottish Borders' rich and diverse heritage. Preserving this sacred place ensures that future generations can immerse themselves in the stories of the past, fostering a sense of pride, identity, and appreciation for the remarkable individuals and events that have shaped Bedrule and its surrounding communities.

By safeguarding Bedrule Kirk, we honor the Border clans who played a significant role in not just Borders history but the history of Scotland. It would also celebrate the Borders culture and create a lasting legacy for the generations.

I believe that Border clans worldwide organizations would support preserving Bedrule Kirk. I believe that I can speak on behalf of the Turnbull Clan Association that Bedrule Kirk has a significant place in our history, and we would be proud to be part of the campaign to preserve its history.

Is there a way that they can continue to be part of the story of the Valley of Rulewater and Teviotdale?

If you have any ideas please join the discussion.

www.scottishbordersnationalpark.com

SOME OF AUSTRALIA'S TOP COASTAL MARINE ANIMAL PICKS

By John Turnbull, UNSW, Emma Johnston, UNSW & 'The Conversation'

Turnbulls in Business

Australia has one of the longest coastlines in the world. And it's packed with life of all shapes and sizes – from lively dolphins leaping offshore, to tiny crabs scurrying into their holes.

Dr. John Turnbull, a Marine ecologist and social scientist, who specialises in social-ecological systems, stewardship and marine protected areas, shares his collection of information and images around the Australian marine coast.

Here is just some of the diverse coastal life you might expect to see in the summer, if you spend some time at the water's edge.

We're fortunate to have 15 species of dolphin (and one porpoise!) living in Australian waters. The large bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops spp.*) are relatively common and can be spotted all the way around our coast. You might just see them playing in the waves, jumping out of the water, or even surfing among humans.

Turtles are less obvious, but can be spotted as they bob their heads out of the water to breathe. Australia's coasts are home to six of the world's seven sea turtles (all listed as either vulnerable or endangered).

The more common green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) can be found everywhere except in the coldest southern waters. In summer, the turtles travel north to the tropical waters of Queensland, N.T. and W.A. to reproduce – laying their eggs in the warm sand.



All photos: John Turnbull

Weedy Sea Dragons are reliant upon kelp forests for habitat.

You're much less likely to see another common crab; the Sand Bubbler. But you might see the results of its industrious activity on flat, wet and sandy areas.

Sand bubblebers live in underground burrows, emerging during the low tide to filter sand through their mouthparts looking for food. In this process, they end up making little pea-sized sand balls. When the tide starts to rise again, they return to their burrows and wait in a bubble of air they use to breathe, until the tide recedes.

In the case of the octopus, this may be due to having nine "brains", including a donut-shaped brain in the head and a mini brain in each tentacle, allowing the tentacles to operate somewhat independently.



The Striped Anglerfish can be found sitting perfectly still on the shaded seafloor below Sydney's wharfs, occasionally waving a lure attached to the front of its head.



Many are masters of disguise, deception and defence. Two Mourning Cuttlefish displaying their gender specific body patterns. The male is left, the female on right.



Tasmania's elusive red handfish with its seemingly oversized hands; this species is one of the rarest and most endangered fish in the world.

Another reptile you might encounter in the eastern coastal areas is the water dragon (*Intellagama lesueurii*). You'll find them hovering around beach-side picnic areas, looking for tasty treats such as flies, ants, bugs, native fruits and flowers. As with all native animals, it's important not to feed them.

If you cast your eyes upward, you'll see many coastal bird species soaring above. Two of our favourites are the protected White-bellied Sea Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) and the Sooty Oystercatcher (*Haematopus fuliginosus*). Both rely on marine animals for food, and nest in coastal areas right around Australia.

Many a creature will run for cover as sooties (and humans) approach, including the swift-footed crab (*Leptograpsus variegatus*). With mostly purple body is sprinkled with flecks of olive and orange.

The species lives among the rocky shores around southern Australia, from Western Australia to QLD., and even Tasmania.

Australia has several octopus species, from the gloomy octopus (*Octopus tetricus*) on the east coast, to the Maori octopus (*O. maorum*) in the south. The potentially deadly blue-ringed octopus (*Hapalochlaena sp.*) are found right around Australia.

Anemones are also related to jellyfish, and come in many shapes and colours – from the bright red waratah anemone (*Actinia tenebrosa*) found in all states, to the multi-coloured shellgrit anemone (*Oulactis muscosa*) found from South Australia to QLD. They use their tentacles to sting and catch prey, but have no impact on humans.

Many anemones live among the rocks and rock pools in the intertidal area, although some species, such as the swimming anemone (*Phlyctenactis tuberculosa*), live as deep as 40m. (131ft) underwater.

John Turnbull - Marine ecologist and social scientist, specialising in social-ecological systems, stewardship, marine protected areas and remote areas.

BEDRULE KIRK CLOSURE CONCERNS – COMMENTS AND REACTIONS

The following comments have been added to show and share several concerns with this scenario . . .

Yes, Church of Scotland is trying to cut costs by consolidating congregations which may lead to several fine churches up and down Rulewater may be sold in a few years' time.

I sent the following over to the local paper and hope it will carry a wee story together with one of your lovely photos.

The buildings hold an important place in the hearts and minds of their communities, both local and worldwide, but as they are not suitable for conversion to houses, alternative uses need to be found. To date, discussion has centred on tourism opportunities such as building on the exciting historical work of the 12 Towers of Rule Project, and on heritage events for families and clans of the area.

There is also potential to link the under-used churches in the Cheviots in a new circular trail for walkers and cyclists, who could perhaps benefit from simple overnight accommodation within the churches as offered elsewhere.

Income streams, perhaps from developing opportunities for weddings linked to Rulewater's growing accommodation provision, would need to be identified to justify and cover the cost of fulfilling the buildings' new purpose and their maintenance costs.

Can these fine kirks continue to be a positive part of the story of the Valley of the Rule and Teviotdale? If you have any ideas, please join the discussion on the following site:

www.scottishbordersnationalpark.com

Kind regards

Marion SBNP (Scottish Borders National Parks)

I am happy to make some calls and e-mails to gather as much information as I can on the proposed downsizing of the Church of Scotland. I am also curious what a property like that one might be worth with it's limited uses. I know there have been several weddings held there over the last year.

I agree that Bedrule is a destination for Turnbells, and that an effort should be made to preserve the church and it's surrounding areas.

If anyone has ideas, I welcome you to share them.

Regards,

Katherine Turnbull (VP of Events)

My email: kattturnbull01@gmail.com

A few months ago Wally and I were made aware that the Church of Scotland is proposing the closing of Bedrule Kirk and some of the other small parishes in the Borders. This is due to small attendance and cost of upkeep.

Talk now is of actually selling it for commercial purposes. (I do not know what Scotland's law is pertaining to cemeteries, but in the US the cemetery could not be destroyed.) Katherine may have updated news on this front.



Bishop William Turnbull's plaque installed in the north transept of Bedrule Kirk. The University of Glasgow was founded 572 years ago and was the second institution of its kind in Scotland and just the fourth university to be established in the English-speaking world.

Bedrule Kirk, as you all may know (*I think all of you have been there*) holds significant value in the history of the Turnbull Clan (*as well as other border clans like Douglas*). It is a beautiful spot and part of the Turnbull heritage destination.

What if TCA, inviting other border clans to participate, took the lead of international organizations to try and convince the Church not to sell the property, perhaps obtaining some historical site status? We might start with a petition from worldwide members as to its significance. (*Bishop Turnbull for one.*)

I do think we should all be aware of what is likely to happen if someone or something doesn't intervene.

When Wally and I first visited Scotland in 1999 with Elizabeth, nary a soul could tell you much about the Turnbull Clan or sites to see. We had a tour guide for a day who drove us along the road with a distant view of Fatlips and said that he thought it had something to do with the Turnbells. He took us to Bedrule Kirk because of Bishop Turnbull, but that was it.

Wally determined at that time that Turnbells needed a destination and something to see when they got there. It took some time before he could work on anything, but 20 years later everyone has the *The Turning of the Bull* Monument on their bucket list.

And now the Turnbull name means something to most Borderers and they know about the Turnbells across the pond. Your Thoughts are invited.

Regards,

Betty Turnbull, TCA Vice President of Communications

Your views, comments or suggestions to editor@turnbullclan.com

SCOTTISH INVENTIONS – TELEPHONE, ALEXANDER G. BELL

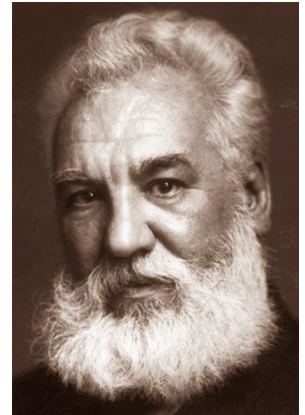
Researched and compiled by Kenneth Turnbull

Scottish entrepreneurs, geniuses and eccentric inventors and their ability to think outside the square, have helped to change our everyday lives throughout the world for the better. Here is another example of Scottish ingenuity with imaginative foresight that ultimately influenced the developing world.

The transmitter became a reality through a radical and free-thinking inventor, Alexander Graham Bell, a Scotsman, who was born in Edinburgh in 1847. In the modern world today, communications would not get very far without this remarkable invention. The telephone had the beginnings a hundred and forty seven years ago and is arguably the most important of his many and varied inventions since the wheel.

The start of his endeavours began with his profound belief in the importance of communication. Both his father and grandfather were elocutionists who had developed an advanced system of 'visible speech' using symbols which taught deaf people how to speak.

Illustrated is a set of 'visible speech' symbols carved into wooden blocks to spell out - 'Teacher of the deaf'



Alexander Graham Bell



The liquid telephone that transmitted the first complete sentence over a wire on 10th March, 1876

In 1863, he became fascinated in artificial sound and the importance in communicating clearly and effectively with others. Through his many experiments, he began to realise that sound could be made to resonate when an electrical current was introduced to his invention.

Tragically in 1867, four of the family succumbed to tuberculosis, causing the remaining family members to move from London to the outskirts of Brantford, Ontario in Canada. It was here in 1874, and through his 'visible speech system' teachings, at the Boston University, he built a machine that responded to sound, known as a 'phonograph' listening to deaf people and recording, using an ear of a dead man.

Receiving money from Business interests, he then hired a gifted assistant, Thomas Watson. Then in June 1875, they had a breakthrough, when they stumbled on a two-way sound through plucking a faulty reed they had been using. He had finally established the basis of a primitive telephone.

With this discovery, they quickly set about building a new machine called a 'Gallows'. He introduced a diaphragm or membrane in the earpiece, producing electrical impulses which transmitted along a wire to the other end.

Then on 10th March, 1876, when Bell spoke into the machine with the words "Come here, I want to see you", Watson who was listening in another room, could hear him clearly. It was now a working reality. He quickly drew up a patent which was granted in March 1876. Later, in 1915, Bell and Watson made the first trans-continental telephone call between New York and San Francisco. His invention ultimately made them very wealthy. He was a true pioneer of the 'great age of inventions'. The word 'decibel' was also named after him.

TURNBULL CLAN TENT ON DISPLAY IN OREGAN WITH ANGUS

For the 22nd year in Athena, the Turnbull Clan had a booth in the City Park at Athena. The only year we missed was 2021 due to the COVID virus.

We also used to set up the display in Prosser, Washington State for 8 years and helped with the tent where the Trimble used to show the TCA flag in Enunclaw, around 10 years ago in Washington State. However we haven't done a display at this site for the last 4 years.

This year, Mary Kay, Dale and son Patrick Hilding set up the display and once again marched in the Parade with our dog, Blue.

Dale usually wears a 15th century chain mail and armour, but this year was just too hot at 95 degrees Farenhihte.

Poor Angus, our booth guardian (and honorary Life-time Clan member) stood out in the sun all day wearing the armour. Yet many people stopped to take his picture! A large crowd enjoyed the piping, dancing, music, heavy games, and sheep dogs.

Five other Clans had booths this year; a much better display than last year when we were the only Clan. Like many other Games, we are all rebuilding.



Mary, Dale and son Patrick with his dog as well as Angus the Reivers manequin with their display at Athena