### TURNBULL CLAN PUBLICATION Serving Turnbulls Worldwide

Volume 24

September - October

Issue 5

# HIGHLAND BAGPIPES . . . ANCIENT ORIGINS

## The rich history of the bagpipe as a 'National' instrument

With referencess from SCOTS 'The Bagpipes' by Scottish historian Hugh Cheape

When one hears the unmistakable and soul stirring skirl of the Scottish Highland bagpipes today, the immediate reaction is to seek out where the pipes are being played, by an individual or a massed band ... perhaps a military occasion or a formal ceremony.

Whatever their attraction, their unique resonance inspires attention whenever and wherever they are played. Unlike earlier instruments, the bagpipes as we know them today, consist of a pipe which is blown into a bag for 'circular breathing' with one to three drones attached and a chanter (Latin cantare . . 'to sing') allowing the piper to play a melody.

The great Highland bagpipe actually has four reeds: the chanter reed (double), two tenor drone reeds (single) and one bass drone reed (single). Some earlier bagpipes even had two chanters. Bagpipes share a constant legato sound with no rest between notes in the music which is highly rhythmically regimented and structured and with no volume variation.

However, the bagpipes were never the sole property of one group of people or one nation. Their origins are still uncertain, but several visual clues and textures with instrument variants from many countries have shown unique culturally adopted uses over many centuries. Over time, the bagpipe has been a powerful and universal instrument used by many nations.



Medieval carving at the Cistercian monastery of Santes Creus, Catalonia, 12th century, Spain



Santa Maria, showing bagpipes with one chanter and a parallel drone. 13th Century, Spain





Piper Matt Seatle with his unique Borderpipes (14th C) at Bedrule Kirk for the TCA Cairn Dedication in 2014

the Greek 'aulos', a well-known instrument in Rome during the 1st and 2nd centuries AD, played mainly by street musicians playing a single reed held directly in the mouth. Most bagpipes share a constant legato sound with no rests in the music.

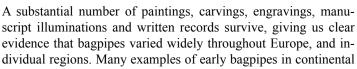
There are various tales from ancient Greece and the Roman Empire that seem to describe bagpipe-like instruments, with

suggestions that it was the 'tibia utricularis' (bagpipes) that Emperor Nero played 'as Rome burned', not his infamous fiddle. The Romans had bags added to the pipes to help with the blowing, although this was not adopted for the earlier 'shawm' instruments. Although bagpipes were being played in Scotland by the 14th century, they may have been more or less unknown in the Highlands before about 1400.

Yet it is known that Gaelic society did have its own very rich musical tradition. Bagpipes were identified as piobaireachd, which literally means 'piping', but adapted into English as piobaireachd or pibroch. So, it is most likely that the bagpipes (borderpipes) first originated among Celtic tribes in Scotland.

The Borderpipe (shown above) is a variant, that possibly has the longest continuous recorded place in Scottish history. These were commonly played around the border regions between Scotland and England and in Northumbria in northern England as early as the 14th century, if not earlier. The name itself refers to the Anglo Scottish Border region where the instrument was once common, where many towns maintained a piper. The bag is not filled by the player's mouth, but instead is supplied with air from a set of bellows strapped under the player's right arm.

Continued on Page 8





The Baghèt bagpipe was historically played in Bergamo, 14th century, Italy

Europe and found in the paintings of Brueghel and Durer.

Their origins derived from earlier and prehistoric reeded pipes such as the 'shawns' and 'hornpipes' known in the Egyptian civilisations from before 2,500 BC. The shawns were also widely played in Asia with their use surviving even to this today. The hornpipe had a cylindrical bore in the sound tube, often made of bone or similar materials. Yet the oldest form of the hornpipe was

## MINTO HOUSE HERITAGE DEVASTATION AT HAWICK

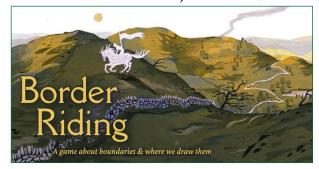
PAGE 6

# Authors Corner



Maybe a gift for the Season . . .

BORDER RIDING - JUST RELEASED



Border Riding is a game about maps, boundaries, borders, and the way we use rituals to maintain and shape our community.

Its author, Jo Reid, a former festival flower girl, has created a new strategy board game based on her beloved Borders Common Ridings. The game encourages players to create boundaries, as well as explore beliefs, allegiances and prejudices.

Jo said: "You can be serious and play traditionally, or go wild - in one game we ended up worshipping crocodiles."

She was inspired by the Common Riding festivals that take place every summer in the Scottish Borders; a tradition founded in war, where communities had to reassert their borders from land-stealing lords and encroaching armies. They've evolved over centuries into small town pageantry, central to each village's unique identity including the Hawick Reivers Festival.



Shipping won't be collected as part of your pledge. Instead, you will be invoiced by Peregrine Coast Press after the Kickstarter. All shipping services are untracked, to keep costs reasonable. These are our expected shipping costs:

UK — £5.00; arrives in 1-3 Business Days. Europe — £7.00; arrives in 3-5 Business Days. Rest of World — £10.00; arrives in 10 Business Days.

https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/stoutstoat/br-game

#### **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 Officers: President - Walter Turnbull • Vice-Presidents - Jeff Trimble, Betty Turnbull, Katherine Turnbull, Kenneth Turnbull • Treasurer - Sandy Turnbull • Secretary - Brittany Turnbull •

Webmaster & Genealogy - Brian Turnbull

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

## A-MUIGH IS A-MACH (OUT AND ABOUT)

The threat to sell the Kirk as it stands would be devastating, not only to the Turnbull clan, but the very heritage value it holds as an invaluable historical resource for the Scottish Borders.

Bedrule Kirk is currently a Category B listed building of regional and high local importance, linked also to Denholm and Minto churches. As far as I am aware, Sunday worship services are still conducted there on a regular basis. The kirk is maintained in good condition and contains beautiful stained-glass windows with a number of plaques including the Turnbulls' and other connected families. It also has a memorial plaque with a link to the World War II Enigma Project.

Its history goes back many years to 1479, being the earliest recorded, when James Newton was Parson of Bedrule. Recorded also, is that in 1482, James Rutherford of that ilk obtained a charter of the patronage. During the Reformation, it was attached to the barony of "Edgarstoun", and belonged to the Earl of Traquair, who had at the same time, the lands of Rutherford.

The Bedrule area is also known for its importance, as the home where Bishop William Turnbull, who founded Glasgow University was born. A mound nearby marks the site of Bedrule Castle, the 16th century seat of the Turnbulls'. This has now been linked to the 12 Towers of Rule Archaeology Heritage projects and the Scottish Borders National Parks plan, with a heritage trail currently being considered.

If the main concern is the economic costs of maintaining the Kirk, then depending on whether other kirks are also sold off in the district, these costs for Bedrule Kirk could perhaps be negotiated with the nearby local parishes and maybe include the Turnbull Clan Association where we could, where possible, donate monies toward its upkeep. That is, if it ever does come up for sale, we may even have a Clan member buy it outright!

Only time will tell.

Kenneth Turnbull Ed.

## Celebrating Halloween 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



We congratulate the winner, who has found the little bull. Bragging rights go to Evan Turnbull, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA.
• Can you find the other hidden 'Bullseye Bull' in this issue?



February 29 - March 2, 2024

**Join us at RootsTech 2024!** Register to attend this worldwide event in person in Salt Lake City or online for FREE.

#### (February 29-March 2, 2024)

- · Immerse yourself in captivating classes.
- Engage with exciting keynote speakers.
- Explore cutting-edge technology that will enhance your genealogical pursuits.
- Feel the energy that comes with family connection.

The first 1,000 people that register for Roots Tech (online or Salt Lake City attendees) will receive a limited-edition collector's item, the **Roots Tech Insider Badge.** 

https/www.familysearch.org/rootstech/?cid=EM-00011012



#### Voulube Now Available on YouTube

#### "Turnbull's Golden Dreams" W/Jim Englebrecht

In 1768, 1255 colonists arrive and begin the largest settlement ever attempted in the Americas.

Dr. Andrew Turnbull held fast to his "Golden Dreams", however, after 9 years of extreme hardships, misfortune, mismanagement, and mistreatment of the settlers, the settlement collapsed.

The story, told through family oral history, and written about by scholars has been expanded though the letters found in the Duncan archive in Scotland.



From recruitment to rebellion, Jim Englebrecht gives a full account of how Andrew Turnbull's golden dream of building wealth in the British colonies came to a tragic end back in 1777.

Captured in July, here is the video link to this engaging program. View Video Here: https://youtu.be/ZFbfhjWGAOk

## TURNBULL SCOTTISH DOLL ON OFFER

Adriana (a Turnbull) would like to part with the Scottish doll dressed in Turnbull tartan. It could make a nice addition for a tent host.

Adriana has had it mounted so that it can be hung.

It measures 22" (58 cm) tall and 12" (30 cm) wide. The doll is free and she is willing to ship free of charge within the USA.

If you are interested in this rare offer, contact editor@turnbullclan.com



#### GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN YOUTH GAMES



The Turnbull Clan was represented in the Youth Games at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in July by Luke Trimble, who won three medals in Caber Toss, Sheaf Toss, and Stone Put. Congratulations, Luke!

More images of TCA at the Highland Games events . . Page 5

## Looking for a child's gift this Season?

## Children's stories . .

The author of several Scotland themed children's books. Her stories set in the real past of Scotland, adds a dimension of interesting history and a beginning understanding of heritage.

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

Available: <u>TotallyTurnbull.com</u> and Amazon.com



## by Betty Turnbull



# News from around the world

by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor

#### Scotland - Vintage rail poster

A 1928 lithographic poster by Henry George Gawthorn's poster, The Forth Bridge, offered at Lyon & Turnbull. The poster was in mint condition and sold for £12,600. This railway bridge, Scotland, had the world's longest span when it opened in 1890. It ert Turnbull, is planning to remains one of the greatest cantilever trussed bridges and continues to carry passengers and freight.

#### Australia - Walking on a Dream

Tourism booming in Western Australia with a record A\$14 billion (US\$9.3 billion) spend, its highest ever.



This is partly attributed to the strength of the Singaporean outbound market. Caroline Turnbull said it was a key contributor and influencer in our whole tourism international strategy. "Singapore was one of the international markets that the Walking on a Dream brand was launched, and it was well received both by the media and trade partners.

#### **UK - New Sporting coach trainer**



Turnbull

sprint squad. A few weeks later, by a suicide bomber attack on 16th good team".

#### Australia - Local 'bull' makes history with a record marathon



Chris 'The Bull' Turnbull, a 39 year old engineer and father of two, has completed an ultra marathon run between Perth and Sydney. He started on the 8th August, and completed the run six weeks later on the 16th September, with a world record for

the fastest run, breaking the 18 year record by Frenchman, Serge Girardat 43 days. He covered the 3,856 km. journey in just under 40 days, running more than two marathons a day overall. He said "I do runs like this to feel alive. It's an adventure, and life has too few adventures these days.". He also loves exploring new places and meeting new and diverse people.



Chris Turnbull

#### crossing the Forth estuary in Scotland - Devoted grandad to scale 9 Scottish mountains

West Lothian grandfather Rogclimb nine of Scotland's highest peaks in an effort to raise a fund for his grandson, who has a rare genetic condition. His grandson two-year-old Harris

VER THE FORTH WID TO THE NORTH



Turnbull, from Whitburn, has 1P36 deletion syndrome which causes global development delay and severe epilepsy. He is unable to sit unaided, is non-verbal and tube-fed. His family would like to take him for intensive physiotherapy at Footsteps Centre in Oxford during this summer, where he would have two hours of therapy every day for two weeks. "What I've decided to do is indeed daunting and at times physically challenging, but actually it's nothing in comparison to what Harris and his family goes through every day."

#### Australia - Multiple trophies at the 2023 Eiesteddfod



Ava and Lyla Turnbull were pleased with their performances in the 2023 Bathurst Eisteddfod. Together they each took home multiple trophies. This year's competition has marked years eight and four respectively for Ava and Lyla Turnbull, who have participated in the annual event since they were two years old.

#### Morpeth USA - Blind veteran finishes the 10-mile Crim race

Hamish Jon Turnbull of Gaylord, celebrated had with family and friends after crossing a big boost to the finish line in the 10-mile race durhis career in ing the HAP Crim Festival of Races in sprint cycling late August in downtown Flint. While when he re- deployed in Manbij, Syria, now retired cently moved into the GB senior Army Major Jon Turnbull was injured



former Olympic Champion, Sir January, 2019. The explosion killed four Americans and 19 Jason Kenny took over the squad Syrians and left Turnbull without vision in both of his eyes. He as team coach. "At first it was su- completed his first Crim 10-mile race with two of his cousins per intimidating" said the 23 year and sister-in-law. "Finishing showed that no matter how bad old. "It's tough but all you can do things get, you can overcome, and not just overcome, but triis try hard and we've built a really umph" Turnbull said. "It wasn't about winning in the sense of number numerical values; it's about winning in life."

#### **USA - Mayor's accomplishments**

At a recent meeting of the Northville community, a variety of major projects and accomplish-



ments, were announced by Northville Mayor Brian Turnbull and two other supervisors. Multi-million-dollar and years-long projects such as the redevelopment of Northville Downs, and individual-level efforts like adding a goldendoodle therapy dog to help people in difficult moments. "There's plenty of exciting things happening in the community of 6,000 people." he added.

#### Isle of Man - Wish Upon A Dream



As part of the Isle of Man Post Office' 50th Anniversary celebrations, the team has collected and donated monies for Manx registered charity 'Wish Upon A Dream'. The members of the 50th Anniversary Committee presented a cheque for the sum of £1,335.00 to Lesley Turnbull (centre) Founder and Director of 'Wish Upon A Dream'. The charity is completely independent and the funds raised by the charity are solely for children living on the Isle of Man. The aim of the charity is to grant wishes for sick and terminally children living on the Isle of Man.

# TCA IN ACTION AT 2023 HIGHLAND GAMES EVENTS

The Turnbull Clan has been well represented at several Games events Thanks to all who came out and represented Turnbull Clan!































HISTORIC SCOTLAND AROUND THE BORDERS ...

# HERITAGE DEVASTATION OF MINTO HOUSE AT HAWICK

Half a mile north-east of Minto village, there once stood a fourstorey V-shaped mansion that read like an inventory of Scottish history and architecture.

Minto House incorporated elements of several earlier buildings dating back over half a millennia, served as a seat of the Elliot family from 1703 until the early 20th century, and was destroyed in piece-meal fashion during a regretful 25 year period.

The original house was a tower built by the Turnbull lairds of Minto in C.1440, with five feet thick walls and a thatched roof. They had already erected Fatlips Tower atop Minto Crags in the second half of the previous century, and would go on to establish Barnhills Castle and other defensive strongholds during the 16th century.

Minto Tower was destroyed by the Earl of Hertford's men in 1545 and rebuilt thereafter. This barrel-vaulted replacement formed the core of what would later become the mansion-house. It was still in use as the Earl's wine cellar until the 1970s, during which time it was found to contain the altered remains of slit windows.

The tower was extensively rebuilt and extended in 1738-43 to designs by William Adam, creating a V-shaped mansion-house. At that time,

William was Scotland's foremost architect; Floors Castle, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, Robert Gordon's College, and Hopetoun House are among his best-known works, although he also introduced the country's first Venetian window and Palladian villa.

Plasterwork by Thomas Clayton from this period survived until the demolition. Minto House is thought to have reached its full extent by the mid-18th century, when its top floor contained a private museum displaying artefacts related to the Elliot family.

However, the house was abandoned by the Elliot family shortly before the Second World War, and then used in the war effort. In 1952 it was leased (at £250 per annum) to Craigmount School, a girls' boarding-school (originally for boys) founded in Edinburgh

in 1874. The school was previously located at Scone Palace but moved to Minto following the summer term in 1952. The move required whole scale conversions to provide classrooms and accommodation, and the estate's stables were turned into a gymnasium.

In 1962 the school purchased Minto House for £20,000 but closed just four years later due to financial difficulties. The estate was then liquidated at auction and bought in April 1972 by 'Gibbie' Elliot-Murray-Kynynmound, Viscount Melgund (later the 6th Earl of Minto), who outbid Robin Jell by £2,000. Mr. Jell had successfully pioneered a number of private country house restorations in Scotland without grant funds.

At that time, Minto House was a Category B listed building. As such, it could not be demolished, extended or altered without special permission from Roxburgh County Council.

In October 1972, demolition consent was granted after the Viscount wrote an emotive six-page letter assuring the Council that Minto House could not be restored. Robin Jell's offer to restore the house at his own cost fell on deaf ears.



Postcard image of Minto House, Hawick - circa 1910

In the knowledge that demolition would take place before February 1973, Historic Scotland resurveyed the site. They recorded blocked-up windows and a vaulted cellar dating to the 16th century, the dramatic circular stairwell rising two storeys to a glazed coffered dome, the richly-decorated drawing room, and more recent additions like iron dormitory beds ranged beneath Chinese wallpaper.

Sadly, all fixtures and fittings were stripped from the house, the roof was removed, and some areas partially collapsed as a result of weathering.

A three-year hiatus followed and demolition consent lapsed in 1977. In that same year, Historic Scotland de-listed the house based on bizarre assumptions that (1) it would eventually be demolished, (2) it probably already had been, and (3) after being placed under considerable pressure by the Elliot family.

Fast forward to 1986 and the 6th Earl's election to Borders Regional Council, where he was kicking keen to serve on the planning committee! In July 1987, Mr Lauder-Frost of Duns sought financial support to restore Minto with the help of a building preservation order. Unsurprisingly, this offer was rejected with several others rebuffed.

'The Minto Scandal' as it was now christened by the press, took an unexpected turn in March 1991 when a deal was announced to transport the mansion brick-by-brick to Japan, to be rebuilt there as a country club. This deal fell through on August 20, 1992, as a result of the recession that precipitated Japan's 'Lost Decade'.

That very same day, the Earl announced his intention to demolish the house.

This article was first published in the August 31, 2018 edition of The Hawick Paper, and was written by Alastair M. Redpath. Permission granted.

#### The final destruction of a once proud historic mansion

In 1992 legal measures were started to prevent demolition, but the building was quickly burned and demolition carried out, to the dismay of heritage institutions and preservation-minded individuals.

These events were repeatedly cited when legal pressure was considered by those seeking the restoration of Fatlips Castle which is also a listed building and designated as a monument of national importance. It is not believed that the current *(new)* Lord Minto would have ever done such, as well demonstrated by his happy willingness to work with Historic Scotland to restore Fatlips.

# HIGHLAND BAGPIPE ORIGINS

#### Continued from Page 1

One clan claims to own a set of bagpipes that was carried at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314. While the borderpipes had been widespread in the 18th century, by the late 19th century they were no longer played.

But the first clear reference to the use of the Scottish Highland bagpipes is through French history, where mention is made of their use at the Battle of Pinkie in 1547. It is also known for certain that they must have been there by 1400, as records of the Battle of the North Inch in 1396, describe 'warpipes' being played.

The first bagpipes to be verified for Ireland were similar, if not identical, to the Scottish Highland bagpipes, known as the "Great Irish



'Happy brothers. Their Poor Mother!' - painting detail. The painting shows four intoxicated youths who have been drinking all night walking rowdily and led by a piper through their village around dawn and waking all their neighbours. Artist; Uroš Predić. 1887 Serbia

The two-holed 'Faery' chanter (restored in 1880) is believed to have been played on the fields of the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314



This set of bagpipes is said to be the first with two holes. The 'Faery' bagpipes of Kinlochmoidart, made by a MacIntyre piper more than 800 years ago thought to be the oldest sets of bagpipes in existence.

Warpipes". In Irish and Scottish Gaelic, this instrument was called the píob mhór ('great pipe').

However, the playing of bagpipes was initially banned in Scotland in 1560 and a second time by the loyalist government after the Jacobite Rising of 1745. They were classified as an instrument of war. But within the clans they were kept alive in secret. The ban was eventually repealed in 1785.

With all this background and through the expansion of the British Empire, the fame of the great Highland bagpipes spread worldwide as a symbol of Scottish pride and identity, with its rich history and cultural significance deeply intertwined within the fabric of Scottish life.

\*More details on the 'Faery' pipes next edition\*

## SCOTLAND'S HERALDRY HERITAGE - THE ARMORY BACKGROUND

Extract from 'SCOTS' Magazine - by Charles J. Burnett, Ross Herald at the Court of the Lord Lyon

Scotland enjoys a system of heraldry recognised as being the purest and best-regulated in existence. A brilliant fusion of fact and fancy, myth and manner, romance and reality . heraldry is an exhuberant union of family, art and history.

Human beings have at all times dared to identify with powers felt but unseen around them and, in symbols, have systematically attempted to draw and bind those unseen powers to them.

We give them signs that we may invoke and understand them. We then adopt and wear those signs that we may acquire the identity, strength, virtue or protection they may afford us. We are the only creatures to use symbols and them lavishly. Be it religious, political, occupational, traffic or trademark, we are every day surrounded with a web of cultural imagery, a wide ranging vocabulary of shared, immediately recognisable signs and symbols.



An early Turnbull Crest - 1642

One detailed system of symbols, the laws and usage of coats of arms and their accessories, is called armory, the science of heraldry. It is a system developed from a medieval knightly to totenism, the identification of family and fief with certain symbols passed down from generation to generation, or passing on to the successor lords of a

territory. The system burst forth almost complete at its inception as part of the great cultural expansion of the 12th century and the triumph of the feudal system across Europe.

In its simplest form, heraldry is the custom of identifying one warrior by a device or symbol, his arms, painted on his shield, his banner, and often on his tunic -his coat of arms. Of itself, this was not new; what distinguished the developing practice as heraldry was the rise by the end of the 12th century of a common European system of conventions and symbols and the fact that these designs were inherited.

As they were heritable they had also to be shared out between a knight's sons or passed through his daughters, and regular systems of differencing the basic arms were devised so each son might be seen to be both his father's son and his own man. If possession and display of arms indicate status and rank, the loss of one can result in the loss of the other.

# SCOTTISH INVENTIONS - THE MOTOR CAR SPEEDOMETER

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.

Sir George Keith Buller Elphinstone

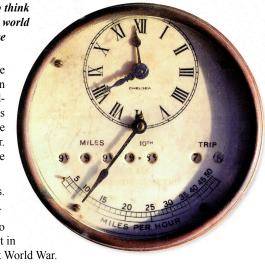
One of the most useful and successful early developments made Sir George (Keith) Buller Elphinstone a Scottish electrical engineer, was his innovation of the motor car speedometer. He was born into an aristocratic family in Edinburgh. At an early age, he became very interested in following the family's

trait of electronics. His uncle, Lord Elphinstone, was a partner in the Electro-Dynamo Machine Company, where he began work with them for two years as an electrical and mechanical engineer. He continued to develop his skills by moving around several other electrical companies to gain more experience in his innovative skills.

In 1886, Keith became a student member of the Society of Telegraph Engineers and Electricians. Then in 1891, he purchased Elliot Brothers, an Electrical Instrument Makers Company in London.

As an industrious innovator, he patented several of his inventions over the next two decades. He also specialised in electrical and mechanical instruments for transport in trains, early aircraft equipment in warplanes, control systems for naval gunners as well as creating fire control equipment in the First World War.

In 1909, he jointly designed an accelerometer for testing road and rail transport, irrespective of gradient or track curvature. However, his most successful achievement overall was the car speedometer, despite the attemps of several international rival 'speed clock' inventors in the early1900's.





# Did you know that Turnbull Clan Association features on Amazon Smile?



Amazon Smile donates ½ percent of every purchase to the non-profit organization of your choice. You can choose the Turnbull Clan Association! It is free; you don't pay a penny more than you normally would! To participate, do your shopping at smile.amazon.com instead of the normal Amazon site, and choose Turnbull Clan Association as your charity!