# Turnbulls Worldwide

Volume 25 March - April **Issue 2** 

# HUNTIGOWK DAY . . . (APRIL FOOL'S DAY)

In Scotland, the first day of April has its very own name for the day; known as Huntigowk or April Fools day. It is indeed a special day where colourful lies and tall stories can be told freely to an unsuspecting person. But, it has time limitations on how long it can be played.

Gowk refers to a Cuckoo bird which is seen as characteristic of fools, so the 'Gowk' is the butt of the joke. Gowk, is so named, as it was a common prank to lead young people into the woods to track newly born Spring cuckoos (Gowks) but always organising it too early so it would be a pointless endeavour.

Cuccoo bird 'Gawk' an emblem of stupidity

Though many may not be aware of this. The name Huntigowk comes from the saying 'Hunt the Gowk' which is interpreted as 'hunt for the cuckoo' or 'foolish person'. However, in Gaelic the alternative translation is 'La na Gocaireachd' which means 'gowking day' or La Ruith na Cuthaige, meaning 'the day of running the cuckoo'.

While most of the western world knows the day is observed by jokes and pranks, its origin remains unknown. In ancient times,

the New Year was celebrated in March. close to the Spring equinox as the month of April approached. The Gregorian calendar, however, saw the celebration moved to 1st January although some people refused to accept or were simply just confused.

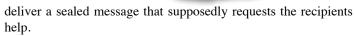
This is a theory behind why April Fool's exists, as such folks were considered fools for the misunderstanding. Scotland, just as it does with many unique words and phrases, adapted the custom to their own style with Huntigowk Day.

This special day is now celebrated worldwide.

The examples that follow may illustrate the often-tried hilarious tricks different cultures have used to celebrate this occasion.

The traditional Scottish prank consisted of asking someone to





The message in the letter, instead, reads . . .

"Dinna laugh, dinna smile. Hunt the gowk another mile"

The recipient would then reply that he can only help if he first contacts another person. He then sends the victim to the next person with an identical message, with the same result. This means the letter carrier spends as long as it takes them to realise the re-

> cipients are having them on to continue the joke.

> In the United Kingdom, an April Fool joke is revealed by shouting out 'April fool' at the recipient, who becomes the 'April fool'. The general rule is that the iokers have until midday to play pranks and jokes on their victims, after which it is themselves who become the 'April

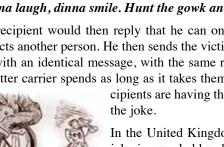
Yet another Scottish prank was made on the morning of 31st March, 1972. An eight-member team of scientists

from Flamingo Park Zoo in Yorkshire was having breakfast in the dining room of the Foyers House Hotel, on the shore of Loch Ness. The team had travelled to Loch Ness to seek out Nessie.

They claimed that they had created a hormone concoction that would attract the illusive monster. As they tucked into their breakfast, the hotel manager came running up to them. Someone had just called to report a 'large hump' floating in the loch near the hotel. Intrigued by the call, the team made their way to the lakes edge and sure enough, a large, dark object could be seen bobbing up and down in the water.

Immediately swinging into action, the team hopped in their boat to investigate and returned with the mysterious object in tow. News reporters solemnly informed their audiences that the Loch Ness Monster had been found, but was unfortunately dead.

However, when examined by a Scottish scientist, it was confirmed to be a bull elephant seal. The local zoo employee commented that the seal had been brought back from the South Atlantic Ocean to the zoo, but had died soon afterwards. He then sought its passing as a way to prank his colleagues. More pranks on Page 8



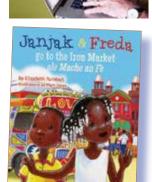
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# Authors Corner

#### Elizabeth Turnbull

After retiring from their beloved publishing imprint Torchflame Books at the end of 2023, Wally and Betty Turnbull didn't step away from the world of publishing; rather, they embarked on a new journey.

Their focus now lies on their latest venture, Li Li Books, an imprint dedicated to crafting enchanting children's stories that honour the Haiti's language, culture and heri-

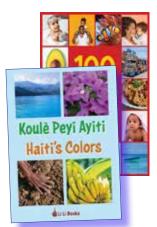


tage while nurturing essential developmental milestones

The name "Li Li Books" is an homage to the rich linguistic tapestry of Haiti. In Haitian Creole (Kreyòl), "Li li" translates to "he or she reads," a fitting tribute to the power of literacy and storytelling.

Li Li Books caters to toddlers and children, presenting tales adorned with both English and Haitian Creole text. These narratives serve as vibrant reflections of Haiti's colourful life, rich traditions, and enduring values.

Wally, who grew up in rural Haiti and spent three decades there engaged in developmental work and raising his family before relocating to Durham, North Carolina, shares the guiding principle be-



hind the Li Li Books: "Every child deserves to see themselves represented in literature that speaks their language, conveying positive uplifting messages."

The Turnbulls' commitment to Haiti extends beyond storytelling; with Li Li Books, they've devised a thoughtful way to support education in the country. For every book purchased, a corresponding book is provided to a student in Haiti, whether its one of their captivating Li Li titles or another essential educational resource.

To learn more about Li Li Books and their mission, visit their website at: https://lightmessages.com/lili-books.

#### 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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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

### GENEALOGY RESEARCH NEWS



#### ANCIENT DNA LINEAGE DISCOVERED

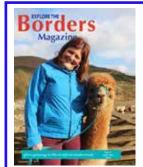
A Family Finder customer test received a Y-DNA haplogroup that led to the rediscovery of a haplogroup discovered 15 years ago. Y-DNA haplogroup E is one of the main haplogroups on the Tree of Humankind. With the highest frequency in Africa, it is found today all over the world. The two most common and well-known lineages are: E-M2 and E-M35.

A new 49,000-year-old lineage found in two men; one from the Arabian Peninsula and one from South Africa, raises some interesting questions. Has this lineage been in the Arabian Peninsula for tens of thousands of years or is it a more recent migration? More Y-DNA test results are needed to help uncover the story of this rediscovered lineage.

What used to be the E3-P2 branch was split into two branches that became known as E1b-P177 and E1b1-P2.

However, one of the first 40,000 Family Finder kits that had been assigned a Y-DNA haplogroup stood out to the FamilyTreeDNA research team. The customer was positive for the P177 Y-SNP but negative for several of the other tested branch Y-SNPs; a strong indication this customer belonged to the elusive breaker lineage!

Now that we have an idea of the lineage's Y-STR profile and that more Family Finder Y-DNA haplogroup results are on their way, more FamilyTreeDNA customers may be contacted and offered a research upgrade.



#### Helping visitors plan ahead

The free and latest April/May edition of Explore the Borders Magazine is now available . . .

https://exploretheborders.com/ welcome-to-the-brilliant-borderlands/magazine-downloads

Totalix

Turnbulls are a proud and spirited clan with a rich history in the Bor-RIBULL ders of Scotland. TotallyTurnbull

is here to help you share your passion for your Scottish heritage and Turnbull ancestry. Proceeds from sales help support projects for Turnbull Clan Association, including monument maintenance and the tent hosting fund. New stocks Page 9.

Quick links: totallyturnbull.com

Totally Turnbull Zazzle: https://bit.ly/3hlZPgD



It seesm the 2 'little bulls' were too well hidden in that no-one managed to find them in the January/February edition. They were hidden on Pages 3 and 7.

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



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK . . .

# TCA SCHOLARSHIP AWARD NOMINATIONS FOR 2024

The Turnbull Clan Association offers a \$500 scholarship to encourage members and their relatives to help with continuing education and/or learn more about Scottish tradition and heritage.

The recipient of the scholarship will be announced at the Annual General Meeting at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and in the following Bullseye.

Criteria for receiving a scholarship: Supporting membership in Turnbull Clan Association (TCA) or sponsorship as a descendent 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, email **editor@turnbullclan.com** and request an application. The application deadline for this year's scholarship is 1st June, 2024.

# IT'S OUR ELECTION YEAR FOR 2025 EXECUTIVE POSITIONS



Nominations for officers of TCA are now open for the term beginning 1st January, 2025 and ending on the 31st December 2027. Officers for the Turnbull Clan Association serve three year terms.

The President may serve two consecutive 3 year terms and must step down for at least one term. Other officers have no limits. Offices include President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Vice-President of Events, Vice-President of Communications, and International Vice-President.

If you would like to run for office or nominate someone, please send the name and office to editor@turnbullclan.com by the 31st May, 2024.

A Supporting TCA member is permitted to vote. Supporting Members include lifetime membership and those members who have paid dues for 2024. If you would like to vote, but have not paid dues, please visit the website www.turnbullclan.com.

Login and upgrade your membership to TCA Contributing Member. If you don't have a login, you may register and become a contributing member at that time.

#### **Sharing and Caring**

TCA wishes DNA Researcher, Fiona Turnbull a speedy recovery from her recent accident

## Turnbull Clan Association to Host 2024 AGM at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in Linville, North Carolina

Located 90 minutes east of Asheville and 2 hours north of Charlotte, the small town of Linville, North Carolina lies nestled in the storied Blue Ridge mountains of Appalachia, and it is here each July where thousands of people from around the world ascend the scenic, winding roads to MacRae Meadows for the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.

The majestic setting is reminiscent of the Scottish highlands, and it's no wonder that Scottish immigrants settled the area in droves in the years after the battle at Culloden. Fans of the Outlander books will recognize the inspiration for Fraser's Ridge, and the games even made an appearance in season four of the television adaptation.

Last year saw a record 103 clans and societies represented at Grandfather Mountain for the 4-day festival, and 2024 will be no exception for the much anticipated 68th edition as the event has continued to grow with each renewal.

Starting with Thursday evening's raising of the clans and torchlight ceremony, the festival continues through the weekend with Celtic rock concerts, tartan parades, whiskey tastings, professional highland games competitions, sheep herding demonstrations, highland dancing, bagpipes and drums, Scottish vendors and food - there is something for everyone and the energy and excitement will keep you coming back for years to come.

Turnbull Clan Association Vice President of Events, Katherine Turnbull, will return to the meadow for a fourth year in a row to host the Turnbull clan tent and welcome visitors to learn about the Turnbulls, their history, genealogy, and share her wide knowledge of all things travel-related in Scotland and the United Kingdom.

After hosting the 2023 annual gathering and meeting in the Scottish Borders to conclude a wonderfully successful Turnbull Heritage Tour, Katherine will host this year's gathering at Grandfather Mountain. President, Walter Turnbull, and Vice President, Jeff Trimble, are expected to be in attendance, as well as other board members, and already this is shaping up to be quite a Turnbull Clan reunion!

Details regarding the banquet dinner and meeting will be released in the coming months. Tickets and information for the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games can be purchased online at gmhg.org, and it is suggested that reservations for accommodations be made in advance.

#### This is an event not to be missed!

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: katturnbull01@gmail.com - TCA VP for Events.



# TCA is represented in Florida







So nice to see you all in Dunedin! Lilly danced the Florida Open Championship and placed Third Runner up overall. Next up for us is the Loch Norman Highland Games, then Savannah.

# TURNBULL CLAN ASSOCIATION IS LOOKING FOR NEW TENT HOSTS!

One of the most common questions asked of us is "Why isn't there a Turnbull Clan tent at an event near me?" Well, the answer is simply that we do not have a member who has volunteered to host in your area or at a particular event.

All clan tent hosts are members who have volunteered their time, funds, and love of history and Scottish traditions to represent Turnbull Clan Association at various events - mostly in the United States, though there are hundreds of Scottish festivals and highland games around the world each year, and we would love grow our presence and see more of our members actively participating!

Tents are often a reflection of their host and vary in their displays - each one exhibiting a variety of Turnbull-related items: books, photographs, banners, tartan, and other memorabilia that has been collected by the host. Many events even have awards for best clan tent which usually reflects upon both the displays and hospitality of the hosts.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can become involved with TCA at an event near you, please send us a private message or email our Vice President of Events, Katherine, at katturnbull01@gmail.com

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

# One hot day at Loch Norman!



Lilly Trimble was placed well in a combined age group, coming in as fourth runner up in the Carolinas Open Championship! Thanks for all the support from Turnbull Clan Association.

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

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

With a little guidane and your own creative ingenuity, you will soon have a place known for your hospitlity, knowledge of our heritage and decorating skills! There is no better place to meet people searching for their roots, as well as family friends!

#### Turnbull Clan Association will be represented at the following Scottish Festivals & Games in 2024

14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June - Chicago Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Wheaton, Illinois IL 60187

11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> July - Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Linville, North Carolina \***TCA AGM**\*

31st August-1st Sept - Virginia Scottish Games, The Plains, Virginia 31st August-1st Sept - Caledonia Club of San Francisco's Scottish Highland Games, Pleasanton, California

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Sept. - Long's Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival, Estes Park, Colorado

18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Oct. - Stone Mountain Highland Games, Stone Mountain, 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: katturnbull01@gmail.com - TCA VP for Events.



# TCA's first Tent visit to Hawaii

By Katherine Turnbull - TCA VP for Events

It all started with an email this past January – an invitation for Turnbull Clan Association to participate in the 41st Hawaiian Scottish festival and highland games in Honolulu, Hawaii – something TCA had not done before.

While this event was not on my 2024 bingo card, the prospect of spending a few days in Polynesia was intriguing, and fueled by the encouragement of a distant Turnbull cousin who agreed to accompany me.

I began planning what turned into a week-long adventure where my mother and I flew the just under 5k miles from our farm in West Virginia, and cousin Tom joined us from his home in Florida.

The games, held April 6-7 on the grounds of the President Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, were just a few short blocks from the stunning beaches and crystal blue waters of Waikiki. With just a handful of clans represented, it was a relatively small gathering, but Scottish heritage and a strong Aloha spirit were alive and well.



TCA Tent: Katherine Turnbull, Tom Turnbull & Elaine Turnbull

Somehow, I managed to condense my normal display of Turnbull items – tartan, photographs, books, vinyl posters, coos, brochures, etcetera into just one large suitcase – and survive a very windy first day! While we did not meet other Turnbulls (or any of the septs) we did make great some new friends: Tim Cooke, the Clans Director for the Hawaiian Scottish Association, was a gracious host and most accommodating; our neighbors, Jim and Karen Buchanan, and their aspiring clan host - Lynne Horiuchi, were great fun and I enjoyed sharing knowledge and ideas with Jim (Director of the Pacific Region for Clan Buchanan).

We also had quite an engaging conversation with Kalim Smith – High Commissioner to the 15th Earl of Dundonald for the Pacific, and his wife, Kahelelani Alohikea-Smith – the Hereditary High Chiefess of Lahaina, which left me wanting to dig deeper into the history of these islands, it's culture and the people of Hawaii.

What I found most interesting during my time at the festival was learning about Scotland's connection to Hawaii. At the end of the 18th century, after the unification of the islands by King Kamehameha I, Scots began making the voyage to Hawaii. Captain James Cook (whose father hailed from the small village of Ednam, near Kelso, in the Scottish Borders) was a British explorer known for his exceptional cartography skills – having surveyed and mapped lands and coastlines in the Pacific - including the islands of Hawaii – which were not previously charted by Western explorers.

Later, sugar plantations were established in the islands, with many of the overseers coming from the agricultural college at the University of Aberdeen and surrounding areas, leading to the Hamakua Coast on the Big Island developing the nickname "the Scottish Coast" due to its large Scottish population. Twenty-six plantations were located there at one time – each managed by a Scotsman.



Ayrshire-born Robert Crichton Wyllie first held the position of acting British Consul to the Kingdom of Hawai'i when he arrived in 1844, and in 1845 was appointed to the roles of Minister of Foreign Affairs, Secretary of War, and to the House of Nobles legislature by King Kamehameha III – he would also serve under Kings Kamehameha IV and V in a career spanning two decades. Captain Alexander Adams, born in Arbroath, served in the British Royal Navy before later serving Hawaii – sailing the first ship under the flag of Hawaii. King Kalākaua, during his world tour in 1881 (the first royal monarch of any nation to embark on such a venture) spent a week in Scotland - visiting Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Loch Lomond.







First Turnbull Tent in Scotland, making new friends, discovering Hawaii's connections to Scotland and planning for the next one.

But perhaps the most interesting relation is that of Princess Victoria Kawēkiu Kaʻiulani Lunalilo Kalaninuiahilapalapa Cleghorn – the last heir apparent of the Hawaiian Kingdom. Her mother, Princess Miriam Likelike (sister to King Kalākaua and Queen Liliʻuokalani) had married Edinburgh-born businessman and later governor of Oahu, Archibald Scott Cleghorn in 1870, thus making the heir to the House of Kalākaua half Hawaiian, half Scottish.

However, a coup to overthrow the Hawaiian government, depose it's monarchy (then, Queen Lili'uokalani) and establish a provisional government under the leadership of Sanford B. Dole with the goal to annex Hawaii by the United States government through pro-American business interests in 1893 officially ended the Kingdom of Hawaii and established it as a United States territory before it's inclusion into the union in 1959.

At Kalim's suggestion, I ordered the book, **Hawaii's Story** by Hawaii's Queen, by Queen Lili'uokalani – I cannot wait to explore the history and culture of these islands not commonly known to us mainlanders in preparation for my hopeful return for the 42nd Hawaiian Scottish Festival in 2025!

# News from around the world

by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor

UK - Farm shop's Easter event A farm shop at Pickering hosted an Easter event to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. An Easter egg hunt and charity train rides on the miniature railway at the Thornton Road venue in Pickering. Lily Turnbull admires a new train on the 600m miniature railway, 'James Cook', for the 2024 season. It was a good, family day and great Easter egg hunt that was kindly sponsored by neighboring businesses to show where their food comes from.

#### USA - Homemade Tacos in Spring

Taco Tuesday in Durham, North Carolina was unusually slow, Elizabeth Turnbull wasn't



concerned. If the roasted pork on homemade tortillas failed to lure diners on this pollen-dusted spring evening, the 42-year-old restaurant owner could count on private parties. With Google and Apple projected to expand nearby, she expected group orders for crispy octopus choice to grow.

UK - Museum of Natural History





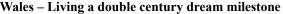
As tutor of Plant Ecology, Profes- It has been said an apple sor Linsay Turnbull at the Univer- does not fall far from sity's Department of Biology, has the tree and in Dana a new department, combining ani- Turnbull's case, the pumal, microbial and plants scienc- pil has not moved far es to deliver world class research from the school. In Mid and teaching efforts in these ar- February, Mrs Turnbull students to air their views."

#### UK - Display team all set to dazzle crowds for Canada's centenary



The RAF Typhoon display team are due to show off their aerobatic skills to crowds of more than 150,000 people as they perform in Canada for the first time. The team will perform at the Bagotville International Air Show on 22 and 23 June, as part of celebrations for the Royal Canadian Air Force's

centenary year. The team's newest pilot, Flight Lieutenant David 'Turbo' Turnbull, told Forces News: "It's awesome the RAF get to send a jet out there. "Hopefully they'll enjoy having a Typhoon there as much as me being there."



Welsh regional rugby player, Josh Turnbull has reached another notable milestone with his 200th appearance for Cardiff Rugby in their home clash with Leinster. The 35-year-



old who turned 36 on 12 March, became the fourth player to reach a double-century of games for the capital city side. In 2021, he became the fourth player to make 200+ appearances in what is now the BKT United Rugby Championship. "I've enjoyed every minute of my career, and I'm grateful for everything I've achieved in this region, the boys I've played with," said Turnbull. "I've lived the dream and it's been one hell of a journey.

#### UK - Seven-vear-old inspires many with her selfless act



A spirited seven-year-old from Hetton, Olivia Turnbull has undertaken an 8 kilometre swimming challenge. Her aim was to support Great Ormond Street Hospital. She was moved by the desire to lessen the suffering of

hospitalised children, Olivia and her mother were inspired to act after they came across a media post about the challenge. This young swimmer's determination has not only brought her personal challenge into the spotlight, but an awareness on the broader issue of child health and philanthropy. Olivia Turnbull has set a powerful example of selflessness and determination to inspire many for years to come.

#### New Zealand - Former pupil returns as School Principal



eas. The tutorials are based upon was welcomed with a 'mihi whakatau' to East Gore School speak at the Regional Council meeting small numbers of highly person- where she started school as a 10-year-old and is now the prin- on behalf of herself and an entire comalised undergraduate students, cipal. It is not the first time she has worked at the school. She munity. The young girl would like to the cornerstone of teaching and joined the staff as assistant principal in 2004 and several years see city council move forward with the learning experience at Oxford. "A later became the deputy principal. "It's been absolutely lovely construction of an elevator to make the tutorial should be a chance for the reconnecting." Dana liked to tell the children she had been in waterslides more accessible for people the same class as their parents, but as their teacher.



**Scotland - Challenging 24 Munros** 

Jason Turnbull, a brave Renfrewshire man has embarked on a year-long climb for charity. He challenging himself to climb Munros throughout 2024 to raise funds for



Sight Scotland Veterans. The centre officer and driver at the charity's Hawkhead Centre in Paisley will direct all proceeds towards improving the quality of life for these veterans, ensuring they receive the care and support they need. He said, "I want to combine this passion to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who have served our country. Climbing 24 Munros in a single year is no small feat."

#### Canada - 5 yr old's waterslide pitch



Five-year-old Blake Turnbull who has Spina bifida and uses a wheelchair, hopes to one day be able to ride the waterslides at the newly renovated Wascana Pool. She waited in the gallery for hours before getting her chance to like herself. Photo: Blake with Mother Turnbulls in Business

## FASHION FEVER HITS THE FAR NORTH ... OF QUEENSLAND

Cairns in Far North Queensland, Australia is set to become the focal point for designers, models and style enthusiasts in July 2024 with the return of a five-day style fashion showcase.

Following the success of the inaugural event last year, organisers are now aiming to establish it as an annual showcase that will put Tropical North Queensland on the fashion week map and draw interstate and international visitors to Cairns.

In a significant boon for the region, the newest fashion week to hit Australia will showcase international, national and up-and-coming local designers in a week of festivities. Get ready for the biggest fashion event ever to hit Cairns in Far North Queensland.

At its helm, director Jade Turnbull is passionate about curating premium events, particularly fashion, and is excited to be hosting the event. "This is like nothing anyone has ever seen in Far North Queensland," she said.

She initially thought of the idea a couple of years ago, however, she had to wait for the right time to execute the event due to Covid. "Just over 2 years ago I was in my studio in Cairns, talking to my staff and mentioning how it is so hard to access fashion events being in a regional area," she said. "If you want to go to a fashion show you need to fly to a capital city. So, she created one up here in Cairns! She commented, "We live in a global tourist destination. Let's put Cairns on the world map for fashion."

In the ever-evolving landscape of fashion, one trend is making a resounding comeback, capturing the hearts of style enthusiasts worldwide – the Modern Vintage Revival.



Sebastiaen wears 'St Ballentine' - Jasmine wears 'Sonlia' - Audrey wears 'Murrii'



Director - Jade Turnbull

It also has the potential to create an avenue for local fashion designers, models, and talent to pursue and be involved with the fashion industry.

Targeting both designers and spectators, the five-day itinerary includes workshops and symposiums led by industry experts to drive inspiration, innovation and engagement.



## APRIL FOOLS DAY ANTICS

Continued from Page 1

Sweden

Another example was the Swedish furniture sales outlet IKEA, posting an advertisement in Australian papers apologising to customers who had received left-handed allen keys with a product. "To exchange your incorrect key," the ad said, "we'll provide a swap box at the store entrance." The illustration on right shows the difference between an "erroneous left-handed allen key" and a "correct right-handed allen key."



#### Australia

However, in one of Australia's most convincing April Fools' jokes, entrepreneur and adventurer Dick Smith announced he was towing an iceberg from Antarctica to Sydney Harbour in 1978. The iceberg



was purportedly to provide more fresh water for the city.

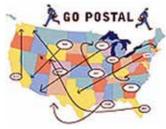
But the iceberg was merely a barge covered in plastic sheets, fire fighting foam and shaving cream. Many were caught out.

#### USA

In USA, National Public Radio's All Things Considered reported that the U.S. Post Office was introducing a new portable zip codes (Postal

codes) program that would allow individuals to take their zip code with them when they moved.

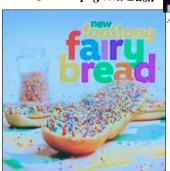
The program was inspired by a recent FCC ruling that allowed people to retain the same phone number wherever they moved or whatever service they switched to.



'April Fools Day' antics from around the world . . .



New species Spaghetti Bush



Special Subway offer



Halley's Comet landing



# **QUEENSLAND'S PIPE BANDS** SUPPORT FRUIT FESTIVITIES



In south-east Queensland, the Stanthorpe Apple & Grape Harvest Festival is held every two years and celebrates the harvest of all produce grown from the Granite Belt Region. The Festival is one of Queensland's longest running and most successful Australian celebrations. There's also a main street parade and that's where the local south-east Queensland Scottish bands show their skills.



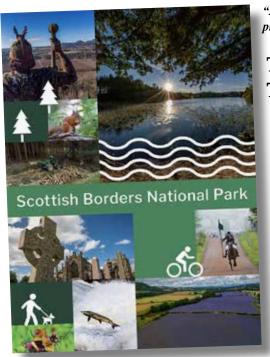












https://www.scottishbordersnationalpark.com/the-bid

#### Proposed National Park boundaries . . .

The southern boundary is near Carlisle at this point following the Anglo- Scottish Border. To the north and east, the hills are cleaved by the watercourses of the Tweed catchment, spawning ground of the Atlantic salmon, which drain to the North Sea.

On the west, the hills form the watershed with a watercourses descending westwards towards the Solway. The area is rich in archaeological evidence of its varied past, from Neolithic times onward.

An oceanic climate, northerly location and the geodiversity of the Southern Uplands have created a range of unique habitats, reduced now in biodiversity, but with vast potential for nature restoration over the proposed area.

The peaty hills, scoured by glaciers and topped by volcanic plugs, extend to the horizon. There are species-rich patches of ancient woodland, increasing areas of young native woodland, and also large areas of commercial conifer forestry.

The lower reaches of the eastern river valleys are fertile arable land. In the past, the great rivers provided the power for the woollen mills which processed the wool from the sheep on the hills.

The proposed National Park is bisected by the A68, which follows the line of Roman Dere Street from York to Edinburgh. From the great viewpoint at Carter Bar on the Border, the road descends through the heart of the proposal passing Jedburgh Abbey.

Continuing north on the A68 in the steps of the Roman Legions, passing Melrose, the site of the vast Newstead Roman Fort and the hills of Trimontium, we cross the proposed National Park boundary near Tweedbank, the terminus of Border Rail.

The town of Jedburgh lies within the proposed NP. Melrose, Kelso and Hawick lie on the boundaries. The villages of Newcastleton and Denholm lie within the proposed National Park.

"A National Park is both entirely feasible and provides an imaginative but entirely practical means of addressing various pressing needs in the Southern Borders."

- Professor Jane Bower

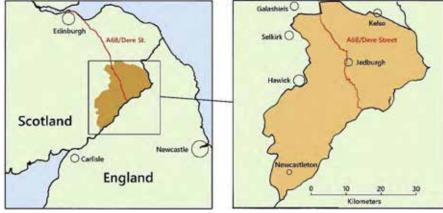


# THE SCOTTISH BORDERS NOW IN THE RUNNING TO BE SCOTLAND'S YOUNGEST NATIONAL PARK

In the Southern Borders, horses feature heavily in the written histories of the area: there is a recurrent, striking and dynamic image of horses and skilled horse-riders down the ages. Today, the horse retains a very special place at the heart of our rural communities. For many Borderers – including those without a horse of their own – owning shares in race horses, laying bets at Kelso Races, or joining the Ridings, continues the great tradition of the horse in the Borderlands. From fierce Borders tribesmen. riding to resist the Roman armies, Borderers fighting wars and enemies recalled in ballads, down from the depths of the past, and now on into an unknown future, ghostly restless figures on horseback are always galloping across the back of Borderers' minds.

# The proposed Scottish Borders National Park lies at the heart of the Southern Uplands and is one of five bids on a shortlist.

The area's unique geology was created when the two ancient continents of Laurentia and Avalonia collided and thrust upwards, creating the Iapetus Suture and the range of mountains known today, well worn down over the intervening years, as the Southern Uplands1. The area proposed is based on the old County of Roxburghshire, within Scottish Borders local authority, and at 1722 km2, is average for a UK National Park (NP), smaller than Cairngorms' 4528 km2 or LL&T's 1865km2. A larger area would be quite feasible.





Minister for Green Skills Circular Economy and Biodiversity Lorna Slater (left) meets CSBNP team leader Professor Jane Bower during the Scottish Government's New National Park's team visit in March, showing the region's planned cultural heritage trails.

# SCOTTISH INVENTIONS - ALEX BAIN, THE ELECTRIC CLOCK

Researched and compiled by Kenneth Turnbull

frictionless pivot

nassless rod



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 has ultimately influenced the developing world.

The world's first practical electric clock was invented and patented by a Scottish inventor, Alexander Bain. It was built around 184 years ago by Alexander Bain, a watchmaker from Caithness. Before Bain came along, clocks had relied on a wind-up mechanism to keep going.

Alexander Bain All that changed when Bain, a crofter's son and bright young scholar whose first job was as an apprentice to a watchmaker in Wick, left his parents and ten siblings to move to Edinburgh and then London in I 837. While continuing to hone his practical skills as a clockmaker, Bain attended lectures on the theories and possible applications of electrical science. This new science gave Bain the inspiration for a

clock which used electricity to drive its pendulum, and therefore would never have to be wound up.

First constructed in 1840, it worked by swinging a pendulum between two electric coils, through which currents were passed. The electric currents compensated for the energy lost in the home through friction in the pendulum and clock mechanism, thereby keeping the pendulum swinging evenly and in perpetuity. The timed impulses of current in each coil required to move the pendulum between the two sides were controlled by a sliding contact, driven by the action of the pendulum itself.



Bain's Electric clock

equilibrium position

Bain's "Simple gravity pendulum" model assumes no friction or air

resistance, thus keeping it moving.

amplitude 6

Bain showed his invention to Charles Wheatstone, professor of physics at King's College who tried to claim it was his invention. However, Bain had already applied for a patent for his technology, which was granted in 1841. Wheatstone was forced to withdraw his so-called invention. Alexander Bain is duly remembered as 'the father of electrical horology'. Another of Bain's key inventions was the fax machine, but that's another story for the next edition.

