

## TCA WINS CLAN OF THE DAY AT THE DUNEDIN HIGHLAND GAMES

*Florida's oldest and largest Scottish celebration is held annually in April at Highlander Park on the eastern coast of USA in Dunedin, Florida. This year the Dunedin Highland Games & Festival celebrated its 58th annual event.*

*Features included traditional caber toss, hammer throw, pipe bands, Highland dancing, clan tents, and a kilted trail run. Clan representations were many, including the Turnbull Clan Association.*

What a brilliant weekend at the Dunedin Highland Games - kicked off in grand style with the Friday Night Parade and Party!

The Turnbull Clad proudly wore the family tartan, Sandy and Mary Turnbull, Walter and Brittany Turnbull, and Chad Turnbull with Heather Hackney and took to the streets for the festivities.

Along the way, they made fast friends with the Dunedin Highlanders, a not-for-profit Premier Pro-Developmental team representing the Greater Tampa Bay area, even meeting the charming



Nibbles - the domesticated and rescued much-loved duck of Dunedin, being cared for by members of the New World Celts, who are helping raise awareness for the appropriate care of domesticated ducks.

After the parade, the Turnbulls' and friends - gathered at the Dunedin Brewery to share a well-earned pint and a few laughs after braving the Florida springtime heat.

Saturday morning began with the Kilted Race over 5 kilometres (3.1 miles) and from there, the Turnbull tent was in fine - and very busy - form. Hosted fabulously by Walter and Brittany Turnbull, the tent welcomed a steady stream of visitors, each greeted with warmth, heritage, and a story or two.

And if you lingered a moment, you were in for a treat. Walter

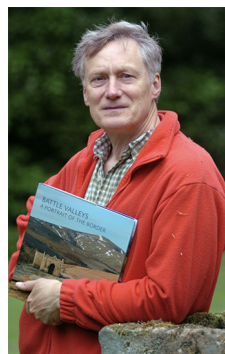
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*The clan gang representing TCA, together with the 'Bull' mascot*

# Authors Corner

## Ronald Turnbull



Ronald Turnbull is an award-winning author and photographer based in southern Scotland.

He has written over 30 walking and outdoor books, including guidebooks to various parts of the Scottish Highlands and to the Jurassic Coast of Devon and Dorset, as well as his acclaimed **'The Book of the Bivvy'** on nights out without a tent.

Each walk comes complete with easy-to-read Ordnance Survey maps, clear route descriptions and lots of images, as well as information on beauty spots and refreshment stops.

With no challenging terrain or complicated navigation, this means everyone can enjoy the walks.

**'Walking in the Scottish Borders'** covers the Tweed valley and surrounding ranges. The Scottish Borders is famed in battle and ballads, and has much to offer the walker from low-level rambles and a wide variety of gentle riverbanks, to wild moorland above the 600metre mark. Geology, history and other essential information for the hillwalker is also covered.

However, his most relevant Turnbull themed book is in fact **'Battle Valleys - A Portrait of the Borders'** which uses the authority of

the rieving surname to describe the Scottish-English border country and the local warlords who ravaged it.

Included is an account of King James's run-in with the Turnbells of Bedrule.

4.5 ★★★★★



[www.ronaldturnbull.co.uk](http://www.ronaldturnbull.co.uk)

Available online:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/stores/Ronald-Turnbull/author/B002IYV75S>

### BULLSEYE

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Editor: Kenneth Turnbull, Contributing Editor: Betty Turnbull.

All e-mail correspondence: [editor@turnbullclan.com](mailto:editor@turnbullclan.com)

**Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide** - [www.turnbullclan.com](http://www.turnbullclan.com)

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# Flowers of the Forest

Remembering

Dale Richard Hilding

15th November 1948 - 1st February 2026



Dale Richard Hilding lived a life defined by his service, community, and a deep love of people and place. Raised among the mountains and forests of Idaho, he carried that sense of curiosity and dedication throughout his life—earning the rank of Eagle Scout as a young man and later guiding generations of youth as a devoted Scout leader for more than 30 years.

After completing his education, Dale served as a U.S. Army officer, including time in the Panama Canal Zone, before beginning a long and meaningful career with the Social Security Administration. Over 35 years of federal service, he became known not only for his leadership but for his unwavering commitment to helping others.

Dale's impact extended far beyond his professional life. He was a pillar of every community he joined—volunteering tirelessly, mentoring others, supporting his church, and giving his time to countless causes. Whether serving in leadership roles, singing in the choir, or helping families in need, he showed up with generosity and purpose.

He also brought joy and spirit to everything he did. From leading Cub Scouts in laughter and song to celebrating his Scottish heritage in full armor at summer festivals, Dale embraced life with enthusiasm and heart. He and his wife Mary Kay hosted Turnbull Clan Tents for 25 years at both the Athena, Oregon and Prosser, Washington games.

Above all, Dale was devoted to his family. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Mary Kay, their children, Michael, Patrick, Kathryn, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, who carry forward his legacy of kindness, service, and love.

He will be remembered not only for what he accomplished, but for the warmth, humor, and steady presence he brought to so many lives.

## Sharing and Caring

With the sad passing of Dale Richard Hilding, the families appreciate all your thoughts and prayers.

## Answer to last month's Castle question

Yes! The answer is Stirling Castle. A great tower once stood here - The outline can be seen on the ground and on the wall.

Standing five stories high, it was built around 1500 to the Forework gatehouse. However, it fell during the siege of 1651, blasted to pieces by the English cannons.

The scars of that battle still remain and are clearly visible along the sides in the stonework.



Congratulations - Bragging rights go to Bernardo Turnbull of Mexico City, in Mexico, for finding the 'Little Bull'

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

# FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .



The spirit of the Borders will be alive and well this summer as the Turnbull Clan prepares for one of the largest and most celebrated Highland Games in the United States. The Pacific Northwest Scottish Highland Games & Clan Gathering, held 25th and 26th July, 2026 at the Enumclaw Expo Center and promises a weekend filled with tradition, athleticism, music, and unmistakable camaraderie of the clans.

This year, the Turnbull Clan will be proudly represented by the Clan President Jeff Trimble and Sue Trimble of Wisconsin, who will be hosting the official Turnbull Clan Tent throughout the weekend. Bill and Pat Trimble hosted these games for many years, and my goal is to try to recruit a fellow Turnbull to host the games. With the leadership and enthusiasm of hosting, this tent will continue to strengthen our clan's presence at major Scottish cultural events, and this gathering is shaping up to be one of the highlights of the season.

Visitors to the Turnbull tent can expect a warm welcome, engaging conversation, and a chance to connect with fellow Turnbells from across the country. Whether you're exploring your Turnbull heritage, sharing stories from past gatherings, or simply enjoying the festivities, the tent will serve as a home base for clan fellowship.

The Pacific Northwest Games are renowned for their vibrant atmosphere . . . featuring heavy athletics, Highland dance, pipe bands, Celtic vendors, and the iconic Avenue of the Clans. With thousands of attendees and a breathtaking view of Mount Rainier as the backdrop. It's an event that captures the heart of Scottish tradition in the American West.

We encourage all Turnbells, friends and families travelling through the region to stop by, say hello, and show your clan pride. Let's make this a memorable gathering and continue to grow the strength and visibility of Clan Turnbull.

Jeff Trimble, President

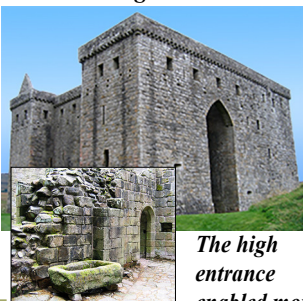
Audaci Favet Fortuna

"Fortune Favours the Bold"



## Fun Fact . . .

### Hermitage Castle



The high entrance enabled mounted horse riders inside. Inset: Courtyard and mounting steps.

Regarded as the **Guardhouse of the bloodiest valley in Britain**, the mighty **Hermitage Castle** is a formidable fortress, built around 1240, right in the heart of reiver country. If walls could talk, what tales this place would tell . . .

The era of the Reivers dates from the 14th century and continued into the late 17th century, concerns the border between the two sovereign countries of England and Scotland. In those days, this Border had all of the characteristics of a frontier, lacking law and order. Cattle rustling, feuding, murder, arson and pillaging were all common occurrences. The reiver was a skilled horseman and fine guerrilla soldier, experienced in the fine arts of arson, kidnapping and extortion. **Hermitage Castle** is the best of the medieval border castles to survive.



Notorious 'Auld Wat' of Harden Painting by Tom Scott



## Flowers of the Forest

Remembering

Paula Sperring Turnbull,

16th August 1926 - 24th April 2026

Paula Sperring Turnbull, 99, passed away on 24th April 2026 in Loveland, Colorado, surrounded by family. Born Mary Paula Francis Sperring on 16th August 1926 in Ware, Hertfordshire, England to Arthur Sperring, manager for London Transport, and Gertrude Turner, she was the third of six children. Paula grew up in Welwyn Garden City, where she and her sister Carla attended Canossian Convent School for Girls.



After the war she met the love of her life, Doug Turnbull, at a church dance, and they married 10th April 1950. Three children quickly followed and a decision was made to emigrate to America in 1956, heading first to Georgia and then to California, before returning to England in 1960 where two more children were born.

Crossing the Atlantic in 1963 aboard the Queen Mary found three more children added to family. They settled back in Georgia and later moved on the Florissant, Missouri, before returning to Georgia when Doug retired.

Paula was always passionate about life and her love for words, art, and politics shared with friends and family. She had a lifelong commitment to serving others, whether at church, through local food pantries or museums, or with organizations such as Bread for the World or Church Women United. She knew the value of a good martini and could always be relied upon to offer a cup of tea when it was needed most. Her family was the centre of her life and she will be sorely missed.

She is survived by her daughters Fiona, Helen, and Rowena and son James, along with 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Doug, sons Peter, Paul, Iain, and Rob.

Celebration of life and interment to take place at Honeyland Creek Woodlands at Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers, Georgia later this year.

Legacy giving in honour of Paula may be made to [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org),

### Sharing and Caring

With the sad passing of Paula Sperring Turnbull, the families appreciate all your thoughts and prayers.

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# TCA AT THE DUNEDIN GAMES



and Chad Turnbull held court with their bold (*and slightly mischievous!*) retelling of the legendary Turning of the Bull - spun with such flair you'd swear you were standing on the banks of the Rule Water itself.

From the skirl of the pipes to the clink of a wee dram, the spirit of the Borders was alive and well beneath bright blue Florida skies. All that energy, storytelling, and good cheer did not go unnoticed...

We were awarded with the Clan of the Day – 2026 Games! Hearty congratulations to Walter and Brittany - well done indeed, and thank you for flying the Turnbull colours with such pride.

*Ye did the clan proud!*

## SCOTTISH GAELIC LANGUAGE

*Scottish Gaelic or Scots Gaelic, is an ancient Celtic language native to Scotland and classed as an indigenous language. Today it is spoken mainly in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.*

*As one travels through the Gaelic heartlands, having a few basics mastered may come in very useful, even if it is only to charm local native speakers. Here's how to exchange a few pleasantries in Gaelic. Have fun learning the following:*

### Greetings and introductions . . .

<b>Madainn mhath</b> – Good morning	<b>Fàilte</b> – Welcome
<i>Pronounced: Mateen vah</i>	<i>Pronounced: Fal-tche</i>
<b>Ciamar a tha thu?</b> -- How are you?	<b>Is mise...</b> – My name is...
<i>Pronounced: Ci-mar a ha oo?</i>	<i>Pronounced: Is meesha</i>

### Some useful phrases . . .

<b>A bheil Gàidhlig agad?</b> – Do you speak Gaelic?	<b>Cait a bheil thu ‘dol?'</b> – Where are you going?
<i>Pronounced: A vayle Ga-lig ag-at</i>	<i>Pronounced: Catch a vell oo doll?</i>
<b>Tha, beagan</b> - Yes, a little.	<b>Alba</b> – Scotland
<i>Pronounced: ha, beck-un</i>	<i>Pronounced: Al-abba</i>

### More useful words . . .

<b>Uisge-beatha</b> – Whisky	<b>Ma ‘se ur toil e</b> – Please
<i>Pronounced: Ooshka bay-ha</i>	<i>Pronounced: Mah he hoor tul-leh</i>
<b>Slàinte mhath!</b> – Good health!	<b>Tioraidh</b> – Bye
<i>Pronounced: Slan-tche vah!</i>	<i>Pronounced: Cheer- ee</i>

*The roots of the language are closely connected to nature and the ancient Scottish landscape. There are over 100 words for ‘mountain’ and 40 for ‘bog’.*



*A junior competitor practising the challenging sword dance*

## TURNBULL CLAN TENT CONVENER SPOTLIGHT

*What's a clan tent convener? Well, for those who are unsure, a convener is the volunteer who sets up, hosts, and runs the Turnbull clan tent at Highland Games and heritage festivals - welcoming visitors, sharing Turnbull history, promoting membership, and making sure everyone feels at home. In this spotlight series, we're featuring our conveners and the experience of being the friendly face of Turnbull Clan on the field.*



**Convenor,  
Richard Dalton  
NEVADA, USA  
TCA host for 4  
years!**

**2024 Turnbull Clan  
Member of the Year**

***Could you see yourself welcoming visitors under the Turnbull banner at a local Highland Games or Celtic festival near you?***

I was introduced to the Turnbull Clan Association through a distant cousin, Nancy Van de Velde, who had done extensive work documenting Turnbull genealogy from records in Stark County, Illinois. Through her research and passion, she pointed me toward TCA, and that's how my connection began. ***What originally drew you to get involved with the clan rather than just attending events as a visitor?***

Several years ago, I attended the Pleasanton Scottish Highland Games and noticed there was no Turnbull Clan tent. When I asked about it, I was told that Turnbull hadn't been represented there for over ten years. That really stuck with me.

Instead of just wishing it were different, I decided to do something about it. I started asking questions - how do you host a tent, what's involved, what do I need? I reached out, gathered information, and made a plan to bring Turnbull Clan back the following year.

***What first made you consider hosting a clan tent?***

It all came from that same moment - realizing our clan wasn't represented and deciding it was time to change that.

***How long have you been hosting, and which Highland Games do you usually attend?***

I've been hosting for three years now, and this will be my fourth. I regularly host at the Pleasanton Highland Games in California and the Great Basin Scottish Games - usually held in Sparks, Nevada, though this year they'll be in Virginia City, just about 40 minutes from my home.

***What's been the most rewarding or memorable moment you've had as a tent host?***

The most rewarding moments are when the Turnbulls' or Turnbull descendants come up to the tent and express how happy they are to see the clan represented. There's a genuine sense of joy and relief in finding that connection. It brings me joy - and the opportunity to build new relationships with Turnbulls, Trimbles, and others who share that connection.

I especially love listening to people share stories about their Turnbull families - those conversations are heartfelt and meaningful every time.

***How important is it for Turnbull Clan to be represented in regions where there isn't already a presence?***

Representation truly matters. People come to these games hoping to connect with their clan - whether it's genealogy questions, travel advice for Scotland, or simply a sense of belonging. Being there gives them that opportunity.

***Clan tents are made possible by volunteers just like you. If you're interested in learning more, please contact our Vice President of Events.***

***Katherine Turnbull, at katturnbull01@gmail.com How did you first discover the Turnbull Clan Association?***

## *Why not visit us here at Linville with this year's Grandfather Mountain Games?*



**Turnbull Clan Association will be represented in USA at the following Scottish Festivals & Games in 2026**

26<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> June - Ohio Scottish Games & Celtic Festival, Berea, OH

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> July - Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Linville, North Carolina

25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> July - Pacific Northwest Scottish Highland Games & Clan Gathering Enumclaw Expo Center, Washington

5<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> September - Virginia Scottish Games, The Plains, Virginia

11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> September - Long's Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival, Estes Park, Colorado

12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> September Middle Tennessee Highland Games, Hendersonville, TN

16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> October. - Stone Mountain Highland Games, Stone Mountain, Georgia



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

***We can only grow with our clan 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!***

***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.***



## Watch for the 2026 Scholarship Winners to be announced next issue. You Can Honour a Loved One . . .

*Are you looking for a meaningful way to honour someone special while investing in someone's future?*

*Maybe you could consider gifting a scholarship in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a milestone anniversary or birthday, or to pay tribute to someone who has made a lasting impact . . . by helping open doors for another person's future.*

*With a \$500 donation, you provide a scholarship to a Turnbull Clan member to pursue continuing education or explore their Scottish heritage. Each scholarship is awarded in the name of the person you designate, ensuring their name and story live on through opportunity and learning.*

*This scholarship makes a perfect alternative to traditional gifts . . . ideal for remembering a loved one, celebrating a living person's birthday or an anniversary, or giving children and grandchildren a gift that truly matters.*

*Celebrate heritage. Honour a life. Help provide an opportunity that could change a life.*

**Gift a scholarship online at:**

<https://www.turnbullclan.com/index.php/clan/contribute>

## SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CHAMPION



**Lilly Trimble is now the 2026 Southeast Regional Champion in the 15 & U16 group when she competed at the Smoky Mountain Highland games in May. She will be travelling to Dallas this summer (USA) to compete in the national championships against all the United States qualifiers in her age group. We are so proud of her.**

## Why the kilt is worn

*A kilt is not chosen for fashion alone.  
It is worn as a reminder of where a man comes from,  
And what he chooses to carry forward.*

*Before it was a ceremony, it was necessity.  
Before it was pattern, it was belonging.  
Cloth woven not just for warmth,  
But for identity in a land that asked to endure.*

*A kilt holds a memory.  
Of names spoken before ours.  
Of ground walked, defended, and left behind.  
Of traditions carried quietly, even when they could not be worn openly.*

*To wear a kilt is not to look back in nostalgia,  
But to stand in recognition.  
To accept that heritage is not something completed in the past,  
But something continued in the present.*

*The weight of it is international.  
It asks the wearer to stand a little straighter.  
To remember that he is part of a line, not an exception to it.*

*Some wear it to honour blood.  
Some to honour choice.  
Both are valid.*

*What matters is not how often it is worn,  
But why.  
A kilt does not make a man.*

*But it reminds him that he belongs to something larger than himself.*

### SCOTTISH TRIVIA - THE 'PENNY DAINTIE'



*The Penny Dainty is explained in the Dictionaries of the Scots Language (DSL) as, "a sweet, specifically a large piece of flavoured toffee, sold for a penny".*

*In 1989, lexicographers at DSL recorded an Edinburgh resident's complaint that "Penny dainties aye get stuck in yer teeth".*

*Moving on to the twenty-first century, these sweets are still very much alive in the national memory. The Scotsman provided the following example in a May 2003 piece on McCowan's: "Their Highland toffee, fizzy Wham bars and 'penny dainties' have long been tuck shop favourites with Scotland's children".*

*In January 2025, an Edinburgh resident points out: "Then there are wee things such as McCowan's toffee, their tartan wrapped wee penny dainties were perfect - for taking out fillings!".*

# BETTY TURNBULL CELEBRATES NEW BOOK RELEASE 'THE HIGHLAND GAMES ADVENTURE'



*Award-winning author Betty Turnbull is pleased to announce the release of **The Highland Games Adventure**, the sixth book in her beloved Papa and Billy children's series.*

This newest installment continues the heartwarming adventures of Papa and his grandson Billy while introducing young readers to the rich traditions and heritage of Scotland's famous Highland Games.

In this exciting story, Papa takes Billy to his very first Highland Games, where the sounds of bagpipes fill the air and colourful clan tents line the festival grounds. As they explore together, Billy learns about Scottish history and traditions, watches impressive feats of strength, and enjoys a fascinating sheep-herding demonstration.

The day takes an unexpected turn when a powerful storm suddenly sweeps across the games. Amid the driving rain and strong winds, a little lamb becomes separated from its flock. While many people rush to find shelter, Billy's concern for the missing animal leads him into an adventure that tests his courage and compassion.

Like the previous books in the series, *The Highland Games Adventure* combines entertaining storytelling with meaningful lessons about kindness, family, and helping others. Turnbull's warm and engaging style introduces young readers to Scottish culture while highlighting the special bond between generations.

Fans will have an opportunity to meet Turnbull in person this summer as she appears as a featured author at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, 10th–12th July. She will be signing copies of *The Highland Games Adventure* as well as the other books in the popular Papa and Billy series. Visitors can stop by to meet the author, learn more about the inspiration behind the stories, and purchase signed copies.



The Papa and Billy series has delighted families with stories that celebrate character, community, and heritage. This latest adventure continues that tradition, offering an engaging tale that parents, grandparents, and children can enjoy together.

*The Highland Games Adventure* is now available wherever books are sold and is a wonderful addition to family libraries, classrooms and anyone interested in sharing Scottish traditions with the next generation.

For a limited time, signed copies are available at a special discounted price from [Bedrule Books](https://www.bedrulebooks.com).

Also available at Amazon:  
<https://a.co/d/0bQZs5TQ>

# Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide

## News from around the world

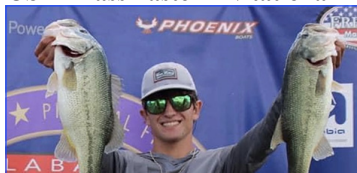
by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor



**Canada - Fundraiser for three-year-old**  
Derek Turnbull, explained that a fundraiser was held in May in support of his son, Mavrik Turnbull, a 3½ year old who has been battling high-risk neuroblastoma, a type of cancer, since October of 2024. After completing his treatment, he

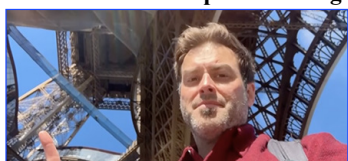
then relapsed the day we were coming home and they found a new tumor growth off his right kidney. The Prince George community has shown up in a major way for the Turnbull family as a recent impromptu fundraiser held in late May, netted a whopping \$36,000. Turnbull said that it was a massive financial relief for his family. Derek's treatment is ongoing at this stage.

**USA - Bassmaster Invitational**



Thomas Turnbull, while a senior at Evangel Christian School, accumulated several impressive finishes. Notably, Turnbull won a \$40,000 scholarship to Western Kentucky University by winning the 2024 BassTactix AllStar Invitational. He is always willing to put in extra time to improve," said Robert Leonard, coach of the Evangel Bass Fishing Team.

**France - Urban suspended bridge**



Video image: Alex Turnbull

The temporary attraction allowed visitors to walk between the monument's east and west pillars of the Eiffel Tower, suspended on a 40-meter-long, 60-meter-high netted bridge accessible from the first floor of Paris' most famous landmark. Alex Turnbull braved the heights.

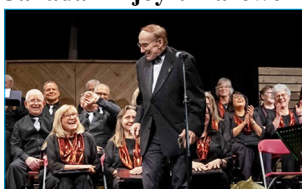
**Australia - Historic landmark for sale, the first time in 35 years**

The Turnbull family who have owned Rockhampton's oldest pub, The Criterion Hotel and have decided to retire. Ryan Turnbull comments, "In 1991, my father was a hotel broker, and came up to 'The Cri' and live here for a bit, then sell it. We got up here, and mum loved the joint, and here we are." Originally known as The Bush Inn,



it was the first hotel built when Rockhampton was declared a city. Over time, 'The Cri' has hosted notable identities including former Australian prime minister Sir Robert Menzies, Dame Nellie Melba and Charles Kingsford Smith, Sir Donald Bradman, touring English cricket sides, Artie Beaton and Wally Lewis. It is said to be haunted by ghosts, as historian Mr Hore explained.

**Canada - A joyful farewell to Founder & Music Director**



Tempus Choral Society presented a spring concert titled 'When You're Smilin' as a celebratory farewell for the Oakville organisation's founder and long-time music director, Brian Turnbull. It marked his last performance following the concert. "It has been the privilege of my life to bring joyful, uplifting music to Oakville audiences," stated Brian. "This final concert isn't a goodbye to music, it's a thank you. A thank you to every singer that trusted me, every audience member who believed in us, and every moment when the room filled with stellar sound and I thought: "Yes, this is why we do it. Tempus has been a huge part of my life's work."

**Canada - Cardiac Rehabilitation program**



Kinesiologist Nolan Turnbull is on the Morden-Winkler My Health team with the Pembina Valley Cardiac Rehabilitation (PVCRC) program. This is an education and exercise program designed to support recovery after heart disease, heart surgery, or heart attack. For those who take part, they learn skills for long-term heart health through regular supervised exercise, heart-healthy nutrition, medication management, stress management and lifestyle education and counselling. "My job is to help with physical activity and counseling." Turnbull explained. "I'm a clinical exercise physiologist technically, and so my training is to help people exercise safely regardless of their chronic disease or health status."

**New Zealand - Spotlight promotion on women winemakers**

Chef Helen Turnbull is making an effort to promote women in the wine industry through pairing wines made by women with her meals at her Paraparumu Restaurant approximately 60 Km north of Wellington. A good food and wine match is like teamwork, chef Helen Turnbull says - with both parts making the whole stronger. Wellington, Turnbull has made an effort to pick wines made by women winemakers to accompany her meals. She offers a wine-pairing accompaniment to the set menu, which consists of six or nine courses. Currently, half the wines on the list are by women makers.



Photo: Monique Ford/The Post

**Scotland - Awarded life membership**



Gala Rugby in Galashiels, Selkirkshire, proudly hosted our Ex-Players Day, welcoming the South for a special exhibition fixture as part of our 150th anniversary celebrations. The memorable occasion was filled with pride and recognition, as Gala RFC Select XV secured a hard-fought victory. Three stalwarts of Gala Rugby Club were awarded life memberships for their years of service. Tommy Turnbull, was one of them who received the honours during the Ex-Players Day.

**UK - Hope for return of swim rafts**



Two swimming rafts that were removed by a seaside council in 2025 and disappointed campaigners are now hoping for their return. These rafts were removed from the sea off Greenhill beach, south-east England by Weymouth Town Council, stating they were outside the new operation zones of lifeguards and could not be insured. However, cafe owner Iain Turnbull has offered to take over the insurance, after reporting a steep fall in trade from beach goers. An online petition calling for the rafts to be reinstated. Currently the Town Council is reviewing the new proposal.

# CHAMBER OF CLOUDS

By Ronald Turnbull



*"About Mountains" - walking across them, climbing and writing about them*

## BEN NEVIS

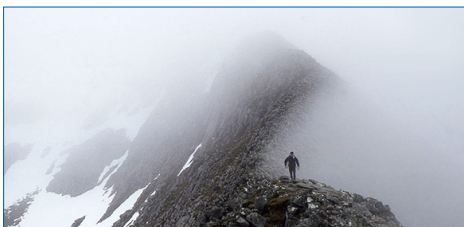
The only mountain ever to have earned a Nobel Prize

*I will clamber through the Clouds and exist.*

*John Keats, letter to Tom Keats 1818*

In which category might Ben Nevis be winning any Nobel Prize? Peace, perhaps – there is that Peace Cairn at the top, an untidy intrusion it is too. But then, the Ben is celebrated in the history of climbing, from the Victorians up the long rock ridges of its great North Face to the likes of Tom Patey poking their ice axes into the rime ice – despite its small size, Nevis is one of Europe's hotspots for winter climbing.

Or Literature, for it has the only the Scottish Mountaineering Club area guidebook devoted to a single hill, not to mention a summit sonnet by John Keats who climbed it in 1818.



No, it wasn't any of these. Indeed, they haven't so far even come up with a Nobel Prize in climbing. The prize turns out to be the one awarded in 1927 for Physics – shared with the mountain's human collaborator, Mr. CTR Wilson, for their joint work with the Wilson Cloud Chamber.

The thing that links Keats with CTR Wilson as well as with all that fabulous rime ice is of course the weather. The sea brings damp warm air, and damp warm air rises up the great North Face, cools, and condenses into cloud. Except that sometimes, unpredictably, it doesn't cloud up at all – which, ten paragraphs further down, is going to be the whole point of the story.

Sixty-five years after Keats's climb, those earnest Victorians thought they'd build a weather observatory up there. For 20 years and 4 months it was manned in summer and winter. The present-day 'Mountain Trail' was its Pony Path taking up building materials.



The inmates measured the wind and the rain and amused themselves with games of 'Who Can Find the Deepest Snowdrift'. In the autumn of 1894, CTR Wilson, a Scotsman from the heart of the Pentland Hills, arrived for a fortnight – standing in for one of the regular weather men.

Looking at clouds isn't so boring as you might suppose

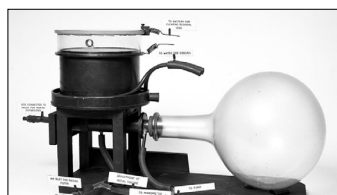
Not if you're Keats, putting together some fun rhymes and a thumping moral. Meanwhile Mr Wilson spotted a Brocken spectre. Well, that's what the stories say, but I bet what he was really interested in was the glory, the glowing circles of coloured light which form around the head of your cloud shadow if the water droplets happen to be small enough and of uniform size – and which can only be explained by sophisticated application of Maxwell's four equations of electromagnetism.



A fortnight, it turned out, wasn't nearly enough. Back in Cambridge – and Cambridge is the most mountain-deprived place in the entire United Kingdom – he decided to build his own Nevis North Face, desktop size, right there at the Cavendish Laboratory.

In summer, the moist Atlantic air sweeps into Coire Leis, whose name translates as the Bowl of Dreams. It condenses into cloud, and then rain. Each droplet forms around a 'nucleation centre' such as a speck of dust or ice. Perfectly clean air can become super-saturated: it has more than enough moisture, at a chilly enough temperature to form clouds, but it can't because no specks to condense around.

When moist air rises up Ben Nevis it expands due to the drop in pressure. As it expands it cools, eventually allowing the water droplets to appear. In Wilson's cloud chamber, the pressure drop is achieved with a bicycle pump working backwards.



Imagine his surprise when he saw straight-line streaks of condensation, randomly through his home-made cloudscape. The streaks looked exactly like the trails of very tiny jet aeroplanes, or would have done if only aeroplanes existed back then. What he was seeing was, in fact, the trails left by the newly discovered Roentgen 'rays'. Alpha particles, which are actually helium nuclei (two protons two neutrons), and beta particles, which are just electrons.

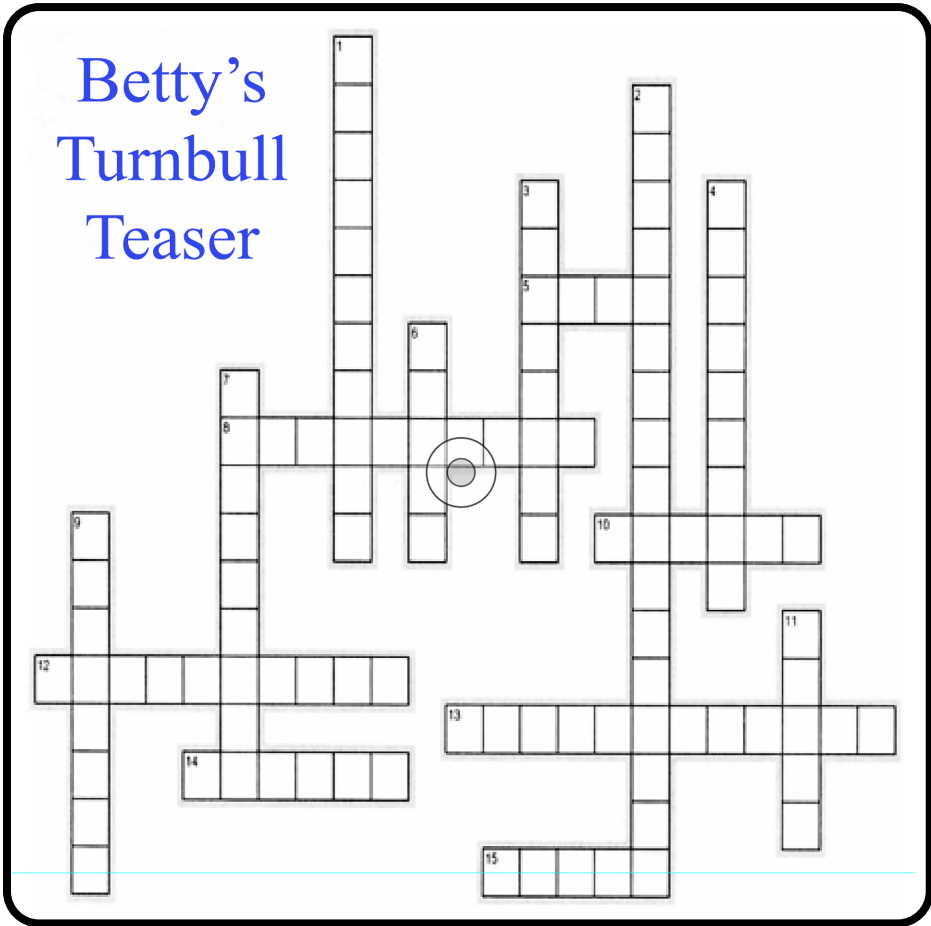
High-speed 'cosmic ray' particles given off by the sun zip down through the air. As they pass they knock electrons out of our gas molecules, and leave them electrically charged. These charged molecules form the condensation centres for visible droplets to immediately form.

It's roughly the same process as a high-altitude aeroplane leaving a vapour trail rather larger than itself – with one difference. The scaling up factor is enormous.

Do the beauties of the Universe lose it when you explain the science-y stuff? Or does the physics make it all even wonderfuller?

**Ronald Turnbull, a professional writer and photographer specialising in hiking and mountains, lives in Nithsdale, south-west Scotland. This piece is taken from his weekly newsletter 'About Mountains' located on Substack ([aboutmountains.substack.com](http://aboutmountains.substack.com))**

# ANOTHER SCOTTISH CROSSWORD TEASER . . .



## Betty's Turnbull Teaser

### Down

1. First used by James Simpson, an Edinburgh physician, to help alleviate the pain of childbirth
2. Scottish physician, Alexander Wood, with Charles Pravay, a French physician are credited with this invention making Sir Alexander Fleming's penicillin injectable (two words)
3. Hand husking grain was replaced with this mechanical \_\_\_\_\_ machine, invented by Andrew Meikle in 1784.
4. Joseph Black was regarded as the "Father of Quantitative \_\_\_\_\_."
6. Scotsman William Symington was the first man to propel a boat using this.
7. A Dundee importer found himself with a shipload of oranges too bitter to sell so turned them into this popular orange preserve.
9. James Young, a chemist, was the first to market this as a lighting and heating oil.
11. This automobile line is named after David \_\_\_\_\_, a Scot who is credited with discovering a method to bond enamel to cast iron and with patenting a carburetor.

### Across

5. John Roebuck invented the lead chamber process for the distillation of sulfuric \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Joseph Lister found carbolic acid to be this, thus changing forever the way operating rooms functioned.
10. An Edinburgh man was the first to publish the idea that consuming fruit would cure or prevent this disease, a plague found particularly on board sailing ships.
12. Mackintosh's raincoat would be harder to store without a Scottish company's production of this invention.
13. William Nicol used two Nicol prisms to discover the \_\_\_\_\_ of light, finding that when rotated 90 degrees, one ray of light would cut off the other.
14. This scale of temperature was named after Lord \_\_\_\_\_, a professor at Glasgow University and a specialist in the field of thermodynamics.
15. The first breech-loading one of these was invented by Patrick Ferguson.

## Answers to the March/April edition crossword Scottish Innovations and Inventions



Answers to these will be in the  
July/August edition

# FOR THE YOUNGER TURNBULLS . . .

Issue 9

## Bitty Bulls



Ahoy, mates! Learn some interesting facts about a famous Scottish author, entertain your friends with some silly jokes, and create your own map for treasure hunting around your house. Happy summer!



### Robert Louis Stevenson

Robert Louis Balfour Stevenson was born on November 13, 1850 in Edinburgh, Scotland. An only child, Stevenson was thin and sickly and had a hard time making friends with other children. He missed much school from illness and although he didn't learn to read until he was seven or eight, he composed many stories in his head. Later he wrote many of them down. His father enjoyed his stories and paid to have his first book published at sixteen. He went on to study engineering at the University of Edinburgh. During vacations he would travel to different islands to help his father repair lighthouses. Those travels gave him ideas for stories about pirates. Stevenson gave up his engineering studies and decided to continue writing. The rest of his life was spent traveling to different climates to improve his health. He eventually lived the last years of his life in the Samoan islands with his wife and two stepchildren, caring for the land, helping the Samoans, and writing. He died at the age of 44.

### Pirate Jokes



What do pirates like to eat?

**BARRRbecue!**

How much did the pirate pay for his peg leg and hook?

**An arm and a leg!**

Why do pirates carry a bar of soap?

**So, if they are shipwrecked they can wash themselves to shore!**

How much does it cost a pirate to get earrings?

**A Buccaneer!**

Help the pirate find his treasure or you will have to walk the plank!



### Book Nook~

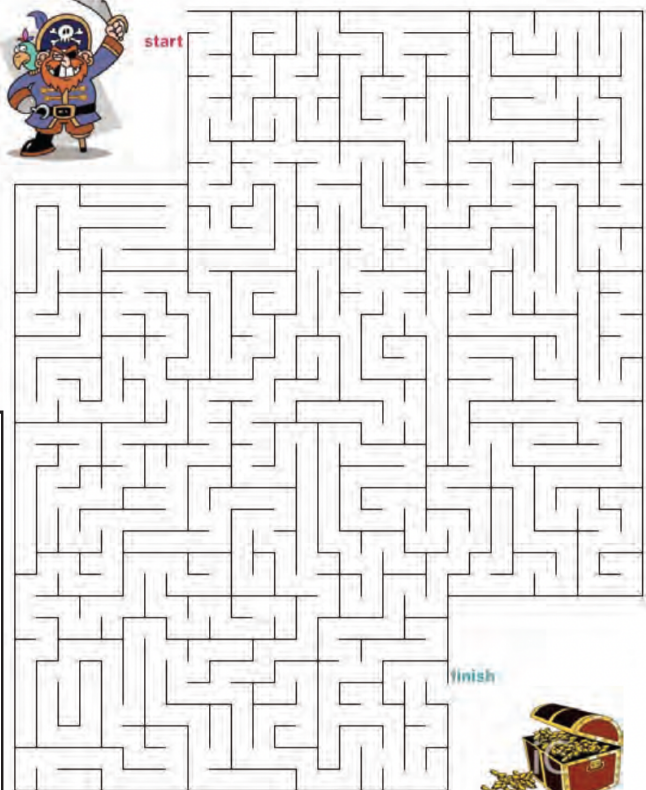
Dive into some fun books by Robert Louis Stevenson

**Classic Starts: Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde** (160 pages, ages 7+) A good doctor's experiments end horribly wrong and create one person with two personalities--good and bad.

**Classic Starts: Treasure Island** (160 pages, ages 7+) Jim Hawkins finds a treasure map and unknowingly sets sail aboard a pirate ship to find the treasure. Adventure and surprises, including a meeting with Long John Silver, await Jim.

**A Child's Garden of Verses** illustrated by Tasha Tudor (67 pages, ages 4+) Beautifully illustrated book of poems about childhood memories and pleasures that will delight readers of all ages.

**Kidnapped (Oxford Children's Classics)** (Hardcover, 320 pages, ages 9+) Young orphan David is betrayed, imprisoned, and shipwrecked. With a fellow survivor (and criminal), David sets off on a dangerous adventure to find justice.



### Well, shiver me timbers... I didn't know that!

- \* There is no evidence that pirates made victims **walk the plank**. Instead, the usual method of punishment was to tie ropes to the feet of the person and drag them under the boat (keel-hauling).
- \* Pirates did not **bury their treasure** in a secret location. Instead, they most likely spent it right away in order to enjoy what they stole since they probably did not live long lives.
- \* Pirates really did not go around growling and saying "arrrrr" and "matey" all the time. Movies gave us that idea.
- \* There are still **pirates today**. Most are in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and are just as bad--stealing ships, kidnapping, and killing.
- \* Living life as a pirate was dangerous. Many did have **wooden legs** or **eye patches** after receiving injuries.



**Did You Know?**  
Mining the Turnbull Clan Web

*Welcome back to our series that invites you to connect to the rich legacy that links us all through the Turnbull name.*

*Turnbull Clan website is a remarkable gateway—home to hundreds of articles, historical accounts, and fascinating facts. We invite you to explore.*

## WALLACE RUPERT TURNBULL: CANADA'S FORGOTTEN AVIATION PIONEER



Among the many accomplished members of Clan Turnbull, few left a mark on the modern world as profound as Wallace Rupert Turnbull (1870–1954). Although his name is not widely known today, his pioneering work in aviation helped shape the future of flight and earned him a place among Canada's most important inventors.

Born in Saint John, New Brunswick, on 16th October, 1870, Turnbull graduated in mechanical engineering from Cornell University in 1893 and later pursued advanced studies in physics in Germany. At a time when powered flight was still considered a dream, Turnbull was already convinced that the airplane would soon become a reality. His belief in aviation began before the turn of the twentieth century, years before the Wright brothers' historic flight.

In 1902, Turnbull returned to his home in Rothesay, New Brunswick, where he built Canada's first wind tunnel using nothing more than an old packing crate. It was one of the earliest wind tunnels in the world. There he conducted experiments on airfoils, propellers, engines, and lift devices, laying the groundwork for many principles that still influence aircraft design today.

Over the next several decades, Turnbull devoted himself to solving the challenges of flight. He published influential research, earned patents for aeronautical inventions, and worked alongside some of the leading aviation thinkers of his era. During World War I, he served in Britain, contributing to the development of aircraft technology, bomb sights, and other military innovations.

His greatest achievement, however, was the invention of the variable pitch propeller. Early aircraft used fixed-pitch propellers, forcing pilots to compromise between takeoff performance and cruising efficiency. Turnbull's revolutionary design allowed pilots to adjust the angle of the propeller blades during flight, greatly improving acceleration, fuel efficiency, and payload capacity.

After years of development and testing, Turnbull's variable pitch propeller successfully flew for the first time at Camp Borden, Ontario, on 6th June, 1927. The results were remarkable and demonstrated a breakthrough that would transform aviation worldwide. The ability to change propeller pitch in flight became a critical advancement in aircraft performance and remains a milestone in aviation history.

Turnbull held 17 patents during his lifetime and pursued many other interests, including hydroplanes, tidal power, and engineering research. Yet aviation remained his greatest legacy. In 1942, the University of New Brunswick awarded him an honorary Doctor of Science degree, and in 1951 he was named an honorary member of the Engineering Institute of Canada.



*In 2022 Canada honored Turnbull with a postage stamp.*



Although often better known abroad than at home, Wallace Rupert Turnbull is now recognised as one of Canada's earliest and most influential aviation pioneers.

His ingenuity, perseverance, and scientific curiosity exemplify the innovative spirit that has long been associated with Clan Turnbull.

His contributions continue to be felt every time an aircraft takes to the skies.

**Now you know!**

*If you know someone who you think should be added to Who's Who, contact: [editor@turnbullclan.com](mailto:editor@turnbullclan.com).*