

AUSSIE-SCOTS NEWS



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OUR AIM: "To collaborate with other Scottish and Celtic Groups to maintain, promote and advance the Scots culture and Heritage in Australia."

Edinburgh: The greenest place to live in Scotland

THERE is limited green space, high levels of pollution and constant traffic. But now a major report has said residents of Edinburgh city centre care more about the environment than do people from anywhere else in Scotland.

Research has revealed nearly six out of ten people living in the EH2 postcode – around George Street and Princes Street – regard the environment as important.

In contrast, Kirknewton, in West Lothian, came bottom of the list, with more than a quarter of residents not caring at all about green issues. It is the first such wide-scale study of green behaviour and attitudes. It was carried out by market information analyst CACI, which combined its own data with the results of a Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs national survey into public attitudes and the environment to draw up the rankings based on postcodes.

Those with the most eco-friendly lifestyles, who recycled or bought locally grown food, were classed as "enthusiastic greens" in the survey. And those who dismissed energy saving or green issues were "environmentally unconcerned".

In Scotland overall, an average of 18.5 per cent of residents were enthusiastic greens, which was slightly higher than England's average of 18 per cent.

7,000 teachers set to strike over 'vague' new Scots Curriculum

TEACHERS have warned they will ballot on industrial action unless the government gives "explicit guidance" and more cash for the new curriculum.

Members of the Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association (SSTA), at their annual conference in Peebles yesterday, also demanded that the introduction of the Curriculum for Excellence be delayed until books and coursework are created.

The curriculum, originally due in all schools in August this year, has already been delayed by a year after teachers said it was not ready.

Speaking at the conference, Alan Taylor, executive member of the SSTA, said the guidance so far issued on the curriculum had been "woolly" and "vague" and looked like a "rehash" of the existing curriculum.

He demanded details on how Scotland's children should be taught, rather than the current stress on teacher flexibility.

He said: "We don't need every class teacher to be making up their own courses."

Independent school headteachers, who have more freedom than state school heads, have previously said they would not introduce the system, as they believed it was not ready.

Other critics have warned parents would feel their children were being treated like guinea pigs if they were not given more information on how the changes would affect their youngsters.

The Curriculum for Excellence is being created to replace the existing guidelines for five to 14 year-olds.

The proposals will cover a wider age range, from three to 18, and usher in a change in examinations.

Standard grade exams will be scrapped and replaced by a new "General grade" from 2014. However, that has also been controversial, as critics say the form of exams must be set before a new curriculum is introduced.

Highers are expected to remain as the "gold standard" of Scottish school education.

Members of the SSTA, which represents about 7,000 members of the secondary school profession, made the calls as part of two emergency motions.

SSTA president Ann Ballinger warned teachers were already working longer hours than they were contractually obliged to, and said changes could undermine the exam system by removing external verification.

The Scottish Government said: "Curriculum for Excellence has been taken forward as a partnership with all those involved in Scottish education – including the SSTA, who are on the management board.

"So it is disappointing to see old-fashioned tactics being proposed on something as important as the future education of Scotland's young people and giving teachers the autonomy they requested

Kelburn Castle fire: Firefighters tackle blaze at historic landmark

FIRE broke out early today in a historical castle forcing it to be evacuated, emergency services said.

The fire service was called to a blaze at the 13th century Kelburn Castle, in North Ayrshire, at around 1.45am.

Flames engulfed a top-floor room and spread to the roof, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service said.

Around 25 firefighters battled the blaze for more than five hours before it was extinguished at around 7.20am.

Efforts were made to bring any valuables to safety and covers were placed on objects that could not be moved.

At least two people were evacuated from the castle, Strathclyde Police said. No-one is thought to have been injured, a spokeswoman said.

The Earl of Glasgow and his family still live in the castle although it is not known if they were there when the blaze started. "All the people are out of the house and accounted for safe and well," the spokeswoman added.

The blaze is not being treated as suspicious, she said.

A fire service spokesman said: "The fire was contained and prevented from spreading any further due to the prompt actions and hard work of the first attending crews."

Kelburn is believed to be the oldest castle in Scotland to have been lived in by the same family since its construction some 800 years ago, according to the residence's website.

GREAT SCOTTISH ENTERTAINERS

Ronald Balfour "Ronnie" Corbett, OBE (born 4 December 1930)

Corbett was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, the son of London-born Annie Elizabeth (Main) and William Balfour Corbett, master baker. He has a brother about six years younger, and a sister about ten years younger than himself. Corbett decided he wanted to be an actor while performing in amateur theatricals at a church youth club. However, his first job was with the Ministry of Agriculture. He then did his National Service with the RAF during which he was the shortest commissioned officer in the British Forces. After National Service he moved to London to pursue his acting ambition. Starting in 1952 his first foray into professional showbiz was playing schoolboy roles in films. At 5 ft 1½ in (1.56 m) tall, Corbett was ideally suited to playing younger than his years. References to his height - or lack thereof - frequently crop up in his self-deprecating humour.

He has worked in film, television and on stage since the 1950s. In his first stage co-starring appearance he was billed as Ronald Corbett, appearing at Cromer, North Norfolk in the show "Take it easy" in 1956 co-starring with Graham Stark. He appeared in Crackerjack as a regular in its early days, one episode with Winifred Atwell. He had a walk-on role in an early episode of the 1960s series The Saint (credited as 'Ronald Corbett') and made appearances in several films, including Rockets Galore (1957), Casino Royale (1967), Some Will, Some Won't (1970) and the film version of the farce No Sex Please, We're British (1973).

In the 1960s he was appearing in cabaret at Winston's, Danny La Rue's Mayfair nightclub. This was very much the 'in' place and was patronised by the show business glitterati. It was here that Corbett was first seen by David Frost who asked him to appear in The Frost Report. Corbett's appearance was made possible by a career low point. In 1965 he was in the West End playing Will Scarlett in Lionel Bart's Robin Hood musical Twang!, which was expected to be a big hit, but it was a dismal failure, and its closure meant that Corbett was free to do The Frost Report.

Corbett married the actress and dancer Anne Hart in 1965, and they have two daughters, the actresses Emma Corbett and Sophie Corbett. His first child, a son, Andrew had a heart problem and died, only weeks old at St Thomas' Hospital.

David Keith McCallum, Jr. (born 19 September 1933) is a Scottish actor and the son of concertmaster violinist David McCallum, Sr. He is best known for his roles as Illya Kuryakin, a Russian-born secret agent, in the 1960s television series The Man from U.N.C.L.E. McCallum was born in Glasgow, the second of two sons. When he was ten the family moved to London. He won a scholarship to University College School, a boys' independent school in Hampstead, London. He attended the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and became Assistant Stage Manager of the Glyndebourne Opera Company in 1951. He began his career as a bit-part actor in British films of the late 1950s and early 1960s.

A James Dean-themed photograph of McCallum caught the attention of the Rank Organisation, who signed him in 1957.

Early roles included a juvenile delinquent in Violent Playground (1957) and an outlaw in Robbery Under Arms (1957). His first American film was Freud the Secret Passion (1962), which was shortly followed by a role in Peter Ustinov's Billy Budd. He played Judas Iscariot in 1965's The Greatest Story Ever Told.

In 1962 McCallum played Eric Ashley-Pitt in The Great Escape.

Notable pre-U.N.C.L.E. television roles included parts in The Outer Limits and Perry Mason.

He was married to actress Jill Ireland from 1957 to 1967. They had three sons: Paul, Jason - an adopted son who died from an accidental drug overdose in 1989 - and Valentine. He introduced Ireland to Charles Bronson when both were filming The Great Escape. A few years later, she left McCallum and married Bronson.

He has been married to Katherine Carpenter since 1967. They have a son, Peter, and a daughter, Sophie. David and Katherine McCallum are active with charitable organizations that support the United States Marine Corps: Katherine's father was a Marine who served in the Battle of Iwo Jima, and her brother lost his life in the Vietnam War.



Friends of Toowong Cemetery Association Inc.
Present....

Q150 Heritage Day

When?? Sunday 7th June 2009
10am to 2pm

Where?? Toowong Cemetery
Cnr Frederick Street
and Mt Coot-tha Road, Toowong

What's Happening???

Guided Walks
Talks
Bus Tours
Heritage Displays
Local History and Historical
Book Sales
Entertainment
Food and Drinks
Raffles
Colouring Competition for Kids

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BISCUITS. CAKES MUST BE PRE SLICED
AND INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED AND ALSO
THE SAME WITH BISCUITS.**

**WE WILL NEED ALL ABLE BODIED MEM-
BERS TO MAN (OR WOMAN) OUR STALLS
AND SELL RAFFLE TICKETS. THIS YEAR IT
IS VITAL WE SELL ALL THE TICKETS WE
CAN.**

**WE WILL BE SETTING UP TENTS FROM
11AM ON SATURDAY 4TH OF JULY. ASSIS-
TANCE WILL BE APPRECIATED AND TAKE
DOWN AT THE END OF TARTAN DAY ON
THE 5TH.**

John Dunmore Lang (25 August 1799 – 8 August 1878) Lang was born near Greenock, Inverclyde, Scotland, the eldest son of William Lang and Mary Dunmore. His father was a small landowner and his mother a pious Presbyterian, who dedicated her son to the Church of Scotland ministry from an early age. He grew up in nearby Largs, and was educated at the University of Glasgow, where he excelled, winning many prizes, and graduating as a Master of Arts in 1820. His brother, George, had found employment in New South Wales and Lang decided to join him. He was ordained by the Presbytery of Irvine on 30 September 1822. Arriving in Sydney Cove on 23 May 1823 he became the first Presbyterian minister in the colony of New South Wales. On the way back from the second of his nine voyages to Britain (1830-31) he married his 18-year old cousin Wilhelmina Mackie at Cape Town. They were married for 47 years. The Langs had ten children; only three of whom survived him and there were no grand children. Lang found the Presbyterian Scots to be a small minority, dominated by an Anglican administration and outnumbered by the Irish Catholics. There was no Presbyterian church in the colony and he commenced building one before he had applied to the Governor of New South Wales, Sir Thomas Brisbane, to provide public funds for it. Governor Brisbane refused. Lang had laid the foundation stone for the Scots Church on 1 July 1824 and it was completed with significant debt by William and Andrew Lang and opened 16 July 1826 with a Trust Deed that tied it to the Church of Scotland. Lang visited Britain 1824-25, where he successfully lobbied the Secretary for the Colonies, Lord Bathurst, to recognise the legal status of the Church of Scotland to the extent that he was allowed a stipend of £300 per annum. During this visit he was made a Doctor of Divinity by Glasgow University, and recruited Rev John McGarvie for ministry at Portland Head.

Lang resisted the claim to exclusive State recognition and support by the Church of England involved in the establishment of the Clergy and School Lands Corporation in 1826, and it was suspended in 1829 and abolished in 1833. Also in 1826 he claimed the right to perform marriages by virtue of a British Act of 1818 relating to the Diocese of Calcutta which protected Church of Scotland ministers there, and thus broke the Church of England monopoly, New South Wales then being part of that Diocese. The Church Act of 1836 gave State-aid to the Church of England, the Church of Scotland and the Roman Catholic Church on the same basis. The Methodists were added in 1839.

Lang founded the Caledonian Academy in 1826 but it soon folded. Lang made a second visit to Britain in 1830-31 and recruited several teachers as well as acquiring a library and equipment for a school he was to call the Australian College. It opened at the beginning of 1832 on land adjoining the Scots Church. It had considerable promise which was not realised due to Lang's lack of administrative ability and his failure to achieve more general support because of his own flaws of character and ability, particularly financial mismanagement. By 1840 it had only about 30 students. In 1842 the College became simply a day school for boys meeting elsewhere, and was no more by 1852. Lang dreamed of heading an educational institution of standing. Not surprisingly, he was a supporter of the Presbyterian Theological College, St Andrew's College within the University of Sydney, although he used his political influence to try and change the legislation, and hoped in 1872 to be appointed its first Principal.

In The Colonist Lang agitated for the end of transportation, for the separation of the Moreton Bay Colony (later Queensland) and the Port Phillip District (later Victoria) from New South Wales, and for the establishment of representative government and the reduction in the powers of the British-appointed Governors.

He published *Queensland, Australia* in 1861 to promote the northern colony. Lang Park in Brisbane is named after him in recognition of his work promoting the colony.

"Lang considered opposition to harmful errors of Catholicism part of his duty as a minister but he consistently championed the cause of Irish and Catholic civil liberties and deprecated any incitement to Protestant-Catholic or Anglo-Celtic disturbances." He visited Archbishop Polding when the Roman Catholic leader was dying in 1877.

Lang died in August 1878 following a stroke. His funeral, on 10 August, was the 'largest ever seen in Australia' - a funeral procession over a mile in length, led by 500 Chinese, with perhaps 70,000 people lining the streets. His wife died in 1888, and the last of his children in 1934. There were no grandchildren.

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DIARY DATES 2009

Saturday 30th May Hill's Carnivale Full Aussie Scots set up Leslie Patrick Park Oleria St Arana Hills 12noon to 6.30pm

Saturday 6th June Ipswich Pipe Band Championship Limestone Park Full Aussie Scots setup 9am to 3pm

Sunday 7th June Q150 Heritage Day at Toowong Cemetery see ad page 3

Saturday, 20th June, 2009 Join the Redlands Sporting Club Pipe Band to celebrate the survival of the tartan at our Tartan Day Ceilidh on at the Donald Simpson Centre (Cnr., Bloomfield St., & Russell St., Cleveland). Bookings are essential through Joy (3207 0928); Gail (3286 5092) or Eileen (3207 2545). A licensed bar will be open. No B. Y. O is permitted. Adults \$10.00. Children under 16 free.

Sunday 21st June Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Sausage Sizzle. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, 27 Josling St, Toowong. (Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, look for Aussie Scots Sign. 12 mid-day Sausage Sizzle. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary

Sunday 5th July TARTAN DAY **SOUTHBANK BRISBANE**

Sunday 19th July Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Sausage Sizzle. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, 27 Josling St, Toowong. (Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, look for Aussie Scots Sign. 12 mid-day Sausage Sizzle. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary

Calling all seniors to join the Redlands Sporting Club Pipe Band for an Afternoon Tea as part of a seniors week celebration on Saturday, 15th August, 2009 at the Donald Simpson Centre (Cnr., Bloomfield St., & Russell St., Cleveland). Bookings are essential through Joy (3207 0928); Gail (3286 5092) or Eileen (3207 2545). A licensed bar will be open. No B. Y. O is permitted. Cost \$2.00.

Sunday 16th August Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Sausage Sizzle. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, 27 Josling St, Toowong. (Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, look for Aussie Scots Sign. 12 mid-day Sausage Sizzle. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary

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HISTORIC ORMISTON HOUSE

2009 CALENDAR

JUNE 28TH CAMELIA DAY

JULY 26TH RR Concours d'Elegance

AUGUST 9TH MB Concours d'Elegance

AUGUST 23RD SPRING GARDEN PARTY

OCTOBER 3RD "MUSIC BENEATH THE STARS"

HUMOUR

Wullie was having his appendix out and was driving the doctor mad with questions. "Will Ah be able to play the bagpipes after ma operation?" he asked. "Of course you will!" snapped the doctor. "That's amazing!" marvelled Wullie. "Ah couldna play them before!"

In a London street, two Highlanders stood looking at the imposing front of a large building. The corner-stone bore the date in Roman characters, "MCMIV." "Look at that, Jock," said Sandy proudly, "Ah don't know what clan he came from, but he's got his name on one of the finest buildings in London. You canna keep oor boys doon, can ye?"

NEW WEBSITES

www.find-it-in-scotland.com

www.scotster.com

www.guesthousebandbscotland.com

www.rampantscotland.com/colour/supplement081011.htm

www.changinglight.co.uk

www.yourscottishsearch.com

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