

AUSSIE-SCOTS NEWS

NEWSLETTER , NO 129

November –December 2014

A publication of the AUSTRALIAN SCOTTISH COMMUNITY (Qld) Inc.

PO Box 3188 SOUTH BRISBANE QUEENSLAND 4101

Ph 07 3359 8195

Email editor@aussie-scots.org.au ABN 27 277 574 370

WEB SITE:

www.aussie-scots.org.au

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



Dedicated to a better Brisbane



webpage



facebook

**As this is our last issue til after December
The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc
would like to wish you all a
very Merry Christmas for 2014**



**Now look dear, I decorated the tree last year. I think it is
only fair that it is your turn this year!**



Elizabeth “Betsey” Miller. She is the first woman listed in the British Registry of Tonnage as a captain. Perhaps the most amazing thing about Betsey’s story is its date. She became the captain of a commercial sailing vessel in 1839.

1839? Victoria was Queen of England, William Peel was Prime Minister and Martin Van Buren was President of the United States. The next year Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton would attend the International Anti-Slavery Conference in London. The possession of two X chromosomes would prevent them from serving as delegates. Eight years later, in 1848, they would call the first Women’s Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York. By then, Betsy Miller had been the Captain of the Clytus and owner and manager of a small business for nearly 10 years. How could this happen?

Betsey Miller was born in 1793 in Saltcoats on the Ayrshire coast of Scotland. She was one of eight children of William and Mary Miller. William Miller was a ship’s captain and a merchant in Ayrshire. He salvaged a French sailing ship and fitted her out for use as a “coaler”, bringing coal to Ireland and limestone back to Scotland. He always planned to have his son Hugh take over his ship and his business, but fate intervened when Hugh was drowned in an accident in Androssan harbor in 1837.

Captain William continued to try to sail as Captain with Betsey beside him as a “seaman”, but his health was poor and the company’s debt mounted. By the time William became completely disabled the family’s debt had risen to a hefty 700 pounds, more than half a million dollars in today’s U.S. currency.

Many thought that a male captain should be hired, but somehow Betsey convinced her family to let her take the helm. In 1839 Betsey took over as Captain of the Clytus with an almost all male crew. Her sister Hannah served as her mate. It would prove to be the best decision the family could possibly have made.

Betsey became a much-respected mariner and was renowned in many parts of the world. Far from being disdained as a woman she was known for her fearlessness. I quote here from Ayrshire historian Joan Biggar,

“In those days, it was a custom to place lighted candles on the window sills of houses overlooking the sea. This was not for the romantic notion of guiding wandering sailors home – its purpose was practical, a way of identifying the direction of the ‘carrying wind’ and its strength.

If the wind from the sea was strong enough to blow out the candle flame, the ‘carry’ was in the wrong direction for any sailing ship heading for the coast of Ireland.

In such cases, most local captains retired to their favourite taverns and drank until the weather suited them better. Not Betsy!

She boasted: “I don’t wait for the carry!” While the more cautious masters lingered in Saltcoats, waiting for the wind to change, they were losing trade to the sturdy Clytus, a ship that had been made from scrap wood, with a woman at the helm.”

One would think that the male dominated world of shipping, the strain of trying to pull her family out of debt, and the rigors of life on a sailing ship in the North Sea would cause Betsey to become a crude, unrefined version of her earlier feminine self. Think again. Betsey prided herself on being well dressed for all occasions and is said to have worn a clean, white, frilly cap every day she sailed on the coal ship. My favorite Betsey story has several often-repeated versions. This one is again from Joan Biggar.

“On one occasion, when the ship ran into severe weather off the coast, Betsy told the crew: “Lads, I’ll gang below and put on a clean sark, for I wid like to be flung up on the sands kin’ of decent. Irvine folks are nasty biddies.”

Betsey wasn’t thrown up on the shore. She lived to clear the family’s debt and provide a good income. She retired to her house on Quay Street at the age of seventy turning the Clytus over to Hannah. Betsey died in 1864. Hannah continued to sail the Clytus for some years and died in 1890. The ship was sold and continued its runs between Ireland and Scotland until 1900.

Hannah was the last survivor of the Miller family. I am pleased to know their story and to share it. These women who successfully defied all stereotypes should not be forgotten, they should be a source of inspiration for a young generation of women sailors.





Clan Fraser society of Australia
www.clanfraser.org.au
 e-mail: clanfraser@gmail.com



A WEE BIT O' SCOTLAND



RADIO 4EBFM 98.1

2.15 -4.30 PM THURSDAY

GLOBAL Digital Radio

2.00 – 3.00 PM SUNDAY



Clan Donald Society of Queensland

www.clandonaldqld.org

clandonaldqld@optusnet.com.au



Clan Lamont Society of Australia

Web: [Clan Lamont Society of Australia](http://ClanLamontSocietyofAustralia)

Facebook : [Lamont Clan Society of Australia](http://LamontClanSocietyofAustralia)

email: jjburden@westnet.com.au



Clan Thompson

[Www.clanthompson.org](http://www.clanthompson.org)

Email: Ernestt481@optusnet.com.au

The Scottish Banner

The Largest Scottish Newspaper

In the World outside Scotland

A'Bhratach Albanach

SEAN CAIRNEY, Australian Editor

PO Box 6202 Marrickville South,

NSW 2204 Australia

Ph: (+61) 02 9559 6348 M: 0405 123 672

Fax: (+61) 02 8079 6671

E: info@scottishbanner.com

W: www.scottishbanner.com

ST KILDA RETAIL AUSTRALIA.

Karen Manger Kilt Maker

166 Glebe Rd, Booval Qld 4304

Ph (07) 3282 0031 Mob: 0414 265 058

Web: www.allthingstartan.com.au

Email: kiltmaker@bigpond.com.au

TARTAN DAY SPONSOR

Mobile 0418 151 508

Real Estate BUSINESS SALES NETWORK

Ian Campbell Business Broker

16 Horan Street, West End 4101

FAX (07) 3846 1754 A/H (07) 3359 8195

Email; broker@big.net.au

Business sales, appraisals & listings

The Tartan Emblem of Queensland

Queensland Tartan®

John R. Agnew Esq.

P.O. Box 1, Salisbury,
Queensland, Australia 4107

Mobile: 0438 392 189
Fax: 07 3392 1891

E-Mail: queensland.tartan@tpg.com.au
www.john@queensland-tartan.com.au

TARTAN DAY BAND

"Scotch on the Rocks"

Contact: Brian Bisset (07) 3298 6538

Mob: 0412 572 040

No. of Players : Three

Instruments: Keyboard, Accordion, Percussion and Vocals



Original & Only
Official

Scottish Terrier
Mascots
In Australia

Available for visits to
Appropriate functions
Contact

Beril Murray

Mob: 0408 874 634

Email: scottiedogmascots@aussie-scots.org.au



King James V of Scotland



During his brief lifetime, James V was a popular ruler who aimed to maintain Scotland's independence and safeguard its place on the European stage. Linda Porter describes his reign and the fraught relationship between the young king and his English uncle, Henry VIII.

In November 1531 Henry VIII issued a herald, Thomas Hawley, with the following instruction prior to a meeting with his elder sister, Margaret Tudor, Queen of Scots: 'You are to remind her of her son's possibility of succession of the Crown of England.' As Henry was still in the throes of trying to obtain a divorce from Katherine of Aragon, this acknowledgement that he had a nephew who could succeed him is revealing of his frame of mind at the time. It also opens a window on a little-known aspect of Henry's personality and his largely ineffective policy towards Scotland. Enmeshed in this was a prolonged rivalry with Margaret, whose struggles to retain power in Scotland throughout her son's troubled minority Henry had not only failed to support, but actively undermined. It must have cost him something even to admit that James V (r. 1513-42) had the best claim of any male relative to the English throne. This was not the solution to the dynastic crisis that he sought, yet it could not be entirely ignored. Though Margaret welcomed this recognition of her son's wider prospects, she knew that it might amount to nothing. It did, though a considerable rivalry between uncle and nephew developed later in the 1530s.

The Puritan War on Christmas 1642-60

'Trappings of popery and rags of the beast'. Mince-pies, mummers, holly and church services all fell victim to a determined Puritan attempt to stamp out the celebration of Christmas under the Commonwealth.

During the seventeenth century, as now, Christmas was one of the most important dates in the calendar, both as a religious festival and as an important holiday period during which English men and women indulged in a range of traditional pastimes. During the twelve days of a seventeenth-century Christmas, churches and other buildings were decorated with rosemary and bays, holly and ivy; Christmas Day church services were widely attended, gifts were exchanged at New Year, and Christmas boxes were distributed to servants, tradesmen and the poor; great quantities of brawn, roast beef, 'plum-pottage', minced pies and special Christmas ale were consumed, and the populace indulged themselves in dancing, singing, card games and stage-plays.

Such long-cherished activities necessarily often led to drunkenness, promiscuity and other forms of excess. In fact the concept of 'misrule', or a ritualised reversal of traditional social norms, was an important element of Christmas, and has been viewed by historians as a useful safety-valve for the tensions within English society. It was precisely this face of Christmas, however, that the Puritans of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century England found so objectionable.

In addition to this association with immorality and the concept of misrule, another of the central objections to the feast for the stricter English Protestants between 1560 and 1640 was its popularity among the papist recusant community. Within the late medieval Catholic church, Christmas had taken a subordinate position in the liturgical calendar to Easter. Its importance, however, had been growing and was further enhanced by the religious conflicts of the sixteenth century, for whereas the more extreme Protestants had little time for Christ's 'holy family', reformed Catholicism laid great stress on this area. The Tridentine emphasis on devotions to the Virgin Mary in particular elevated the status of the feast during which she was portrayed as a paragon of motherhood.

The celebration of Christmas thus became just one facet of a deep religious cleavage within early seventeenth-century England which, by the middle of the century, was to lead to the breakdown of government, civil war and revolution. When the Puritans took control of government in the mid-1640s they made a concerted effort to abolish the Christian festival of Christmas and to outlaw the customs associated with it but the attempt foundered on the deep-rooted popular attachment to these mid-winter rites.



A little humour for xmas



- How many Englishmen does it take to batter down a castle gate? 10,000, 100 to hold the ram and 9,900 to move the castle back and forth.
- Caller to BT Directory Enquiries: "I want a knitwear company in Woven" Operator: "Woven? Are you sure?" Caller: "Yes, That's what it says on the label. Woven in Scotland."
- Little boy called Jamie asked father, called Wallace, "what will my name be when I grow up?" Father said "Jamie of course". Little Jamie said "do you mean to say I will have a little boy's name when I'm a grown up man?"
- rudeness - someone who keeps talking while your are trying to interrupt.
- Lady, at pedestrian crossing, waiting to cross the road saw the little Green Man and heard the audible sound so duly crossed over to the other pavement. An American visitor asked what was the purpose of the audible sound. On being told it was for blind people said, 'Oh, we don't let them drive in America' !!
- The Scots have an infallible cure for sea-sickness. They lean over the side of the ship with a ten pence coin in their teeth."
- "In some Scottish restaurants they heat the knives so you can't use too much butter."
- McTavish broke the habit of a lifetime and bought two tickets for a raffle. One of his tickets won a 1,000 pound prize. He was asked how he felt about his big win. "Disappointed" said McTavish. "My other ticket didn't win anything"
- McDougal walked into a fish and chip shop. "I want 10 pence worth of chips, please. I want lots of salt and vinegar on them and two pence worth of pickled onions. And wrap the whole lot in today's newspaper".
- You should be careful about stereotyping the Scots as mean. There was a recent letter to a newspaper from an Aberdonian which said "If you print any more jokes about mean Scotsmen I shall stop borrowing your paper."
- Have you heard the rumour that the Grand Canyon was started by a Scotsman who lost a coin in a ditch?
- As a Christmas present one year, the Laird gave his gamekeeper, MacPhail, a deerstalker hat with ear-flaps. MacPhail was most appreciative and always wore it with the flaps tied under his chin to keep his ears warm in the winter winds. One cold, windy day the Laird noticed he was not wearing the hat. "Where's the hat?" asked the Laird. "I've given up wearing it since the accident," replied MacPhail. "Accident? I didn't know you'd had an accident." "Yes. A man offered me a nip of whisky and I had the earflaps down and never heard him."
- Scotsmen hate to see waste, no matter where it is. So when Jock saw the Niagara Falls for the first time he said it was a waste of water - and a plumber in Dundee could fix them in half an hour.
- A Scottish prayer - "Oh Lord, we do not ask you to give us wealth. But show us where it is!"
- When a bus company was prevailed upon to increase the concessionary fare to frequent travellers so that they got six journeys instead of four for a pound, one elderly gentleman, renowned for his frugality, even in a community where frugal folk are common, was still unhappy. "It's all dam' foolishness," he declared. "Now we've got to walk to town six times instead of four times to save a pound!"
- Did you hear about the Scotsman who got caught making nuisance telephone calls? He kept reversing the charges.
- McNab had become a bit hard of hearing but he didn't want to pay for a hearing aid. So bought a piece of flex, put one end in his top pocket and the other end in his ear. It didn't help his hearing but he found that people spoke to him more loudly.
- McTavish took his girlfriend out for the evening. They returned to her flat just before midnight and as she kissed him goodnight she said: "Be careful on your way home. I'd hate anyone to rob you of all the money you've saved this evening."
- By mistake, Sandy put a 50 pence coin instead of 5 pence on the collection plate at church. Despite his entreaties, the minister refused to give it back to him. So for the next nine weeks, when the plate was passed round, he passed it on saying "Season ticket."
- "Sandy suggested a candlelit dinner last night" Jessie reported to her friend the next day. "That was dead romantic" said her friend. "Not really. It just saved him having to fix the fuse."
- Jock asked the bus conductor how much it would cost to travel into town. "80 pence" said the conductor. Jock thought this was a bit steep so he decided to run after the bus for a few stops. "How much now?" he asked. "Still 80 pence". Jock ran after the bus for another three stops and, panting, he asked "How much now?" The conductor replied "90 pence. You're running in the wrong direction!"
- MacDonald was awarded 10,000 pounds for injuries received after a traffic accident and his wife got 2,000 pounds. A friend asked how badly injured his wife had been in the accident. MacDonald replied "Och, she wasn't injured but I had the presence of mind to kick her in the leg before the police arrived."
- Sign at a Scottish golf course: "Members will refrain from picking up lost balls until they have stopped rolling."
- Why are so many Scottish churches circular? So nobody can hide in the corners during the collection.
- Letter to the editor: "Sir, if you print any more jokes about Scotsmen I shall cease borrowing your newspaper."
- Jock McTavish." A Scotsman decided to get married so one morning he sent messages to three of his girlfriends, proposing marriage. Two phoned immediately to say "yes" while the third phoned that night to say the same. He married the third girl saying, "The lass for me is the one who waits for the cheap rates."





A SCOTTISH XMAS



SCOTTISH MEERCATS AT STIRLING



EDINBURGH



Historic Ormiston House
 277 – 287 Wellington Street, Ormiston
 4160 *CALENDAR*

Open for inspection and Devonshire Teas

Sundays - 12 noon to 4pm

Now 12 months of the year

Admission: Adults \$5.00/Child \$1.00

Devonshire Teas \$5:

Tea/Coffee Biscuits \$3: Tea/Coffee \$2:

Recognised as the birthplace of the Australian sugar Industry, Historic Ormiston House with its spacious grounds overlooking Moreton Bay is regarded as one of the finest examples of colonial architecture in Queensland.

Organize a picnic, enjoy a Devonshire Tea and inspect the House which is a treasure trove of early Australian history. A leisurely walk through the magnificent gardens with heritage trees and shrubs, many of which have been in place since the 1880's, will delight visitors.

For information, weekday Club, Coach or School tour

bookings: Ph: 0457 675 137

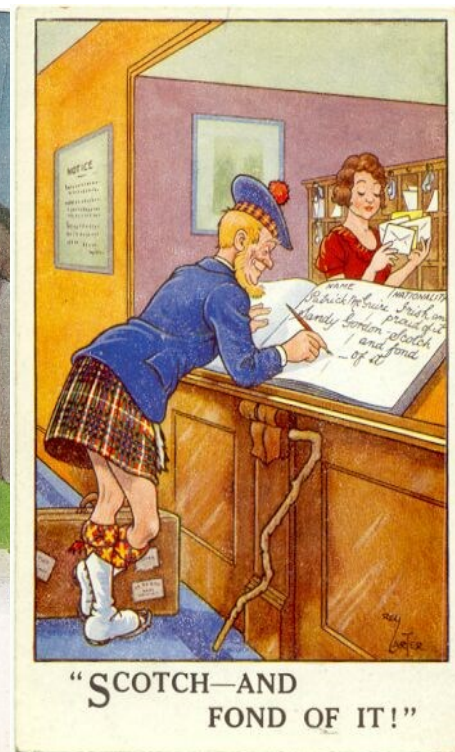
Ormiston House (07) 3286 1425

Redlands Visitor Info Centre 07 38210057

Postal address PO Box 1091, Cleveland 4163

e-mail: ormiston.house@bigpond.com

'Special Event Days' House and grounds open
 10.30am to 4.00pm



**HIGHLAND HOUSE
 AUSTRALIA**

102 CAIRNS TCE, CNR
 HAYWARD ST.

PO BOX 280 RED HILL 4059

PH (07) 3369 4014 (07) 3369

4644 FAX (07) 3217 5892

mail@highlandhouse.com.au

www.highlandhouse.com.au

**HEATHER
 MIXTURE**

RADIO 99 FM

Lawrie Whitson

Sundays

12 noon to 3.00pm

Beginners Scottish Gaelic Class 2014

Location:

Brisbane Square Library

266 George Street

Brisbane 4000

Community Meeting Room (Ground Level).

There are tea/coffee making facilities in the community Room, just bring along a tea/coffee bag. Some people find the parking expensive.

To cut down on expense, some drive to a suitable train station and then catch the train to Central Station and walk up the Mall to the library.

Contact: Diane Lingard (07) 3269 1761/0407 158 781
 or email: dianelingard@optusnet.com.au

The classes are designed for people with no exposure to the

Gaelic who would like to be able to use some Gaelic phrases and make a little conversation in the language.

This is an initiative of the Scottish Gaelic Association of Australia

SEE DATES AND TIMES TO RIGHT →

**The 'SOUNDS of
 SCOTLAND'and'IRELAND'.**

on THURSDAY evening

Burnett River Radio 91.5FM

7pm to 9pm

Broadcasting to Gayndah and

the Central Burnett

Stn Ph (07) 4140 8915

(4th Sunday of

month)

Sundays:

25 May 2014,

22 June 2014,

27 July 2014,

24 August 2014,

28 September 2014,

26 October 2014,

**FREEMAN'S HIRE
 SERVICE**

FOR FUNCTION AND PARTY
 HIRE

(SUPPLIERS FOR TARTAN DAY)

Unit 2/23 Dividend Street

Mansfield Qld 4122

Ph 07 3343 4600 Fax 33495997

Email: freehire@bigpond.net.au

23 November 2014,

and 21 December 2014.

Beginners: 10:30am -12noon

Continuing: 12:30pm - 2:00pm



Scottish Australian or Australian Scottish



According to the 2011 Australian census 130,204 Australian residents were born in Scotland, while 1,792,600 claimed Scottish ancestry, either alone or in combination with another ancestry. This is the fourth most commonly nominated ancestry and represents over 8.9% of the total population of Australia.

The ties between Scotland and Australia stretch back to the first British expedition of the *Endeavour* under command of Lieutenant James Cook who was himself the son of a Scots.

The first Briton known to die on Australian soil was a Scot; Forbey Sutherland from Orkney, an able seaman died on 30 April 1770 of consumption and was the first to be buried in tis land by Captain Cook, who named Sutherland Point at Botany Bay in his honour.

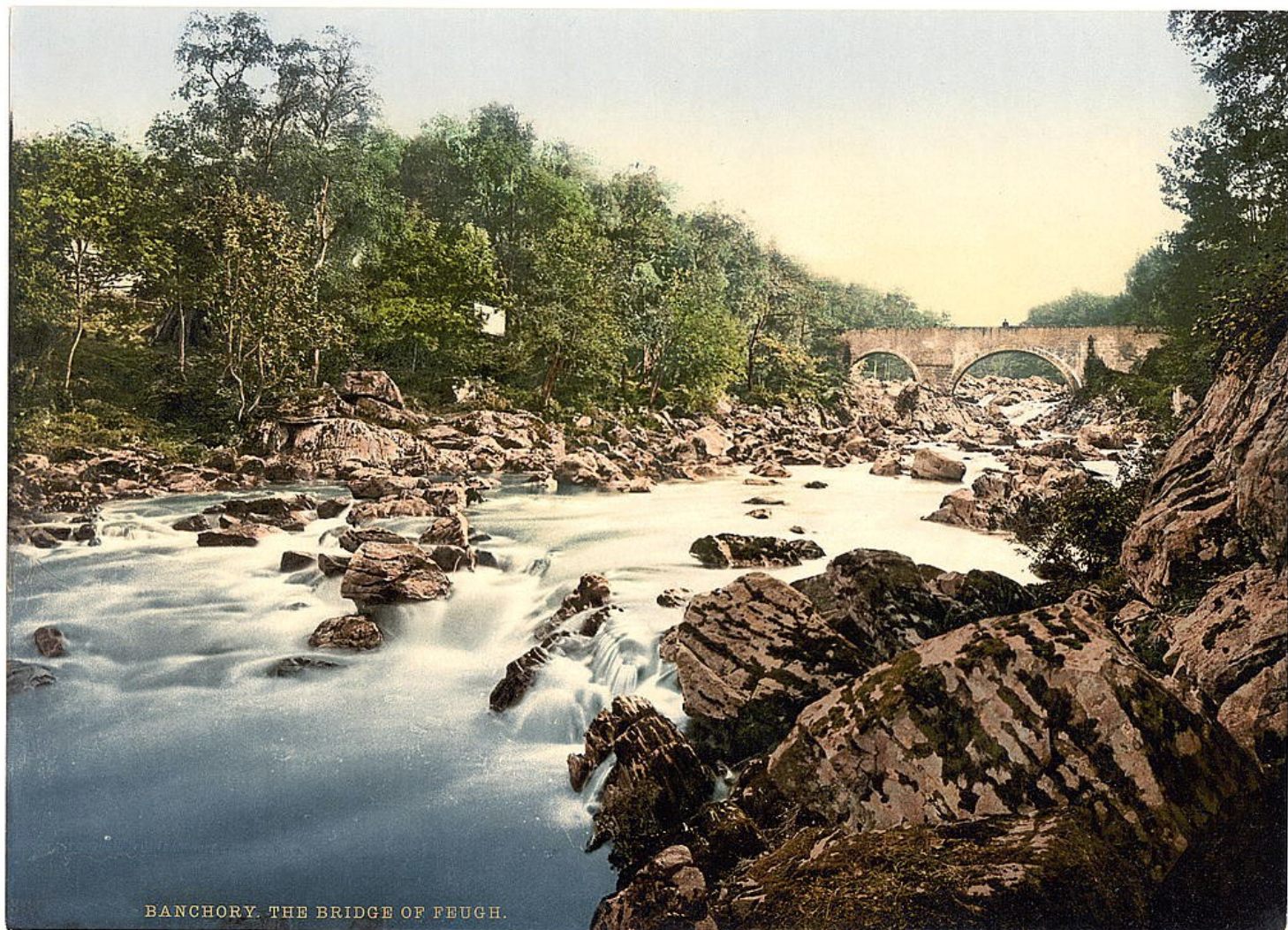
The first Scottish settlers arrived in Australia with the First Fleet in 1788, including three of the first six Governors of New South Wales John Hunter, Lachlan Macquarie (often referred to as the father of Australia) and Thomas Brisbane. The majority of Scots arriving in the early colonial period were convicts: 8,207 Scottish convicts, of the total 150,000 transported to Australia, made up about 5% of the convict population. The Scottish courts were unwilling to punish crimes deemed to be lesser offences in Scots Law by deportation to Australia. Scottish law was considered more humane for lesser offences than the English and Irish legal systems.

The majority of immigrants, 'free settlers', in the late 18th century were Lowlanders from prominent wealthy families. Engineers like Andrew McDougall and John Bowman arrived with experience in building corn mills, while others were drawn to Australia by the prospects of trade. William Douglas Campbell, Robert Campbell, Charles Hook, Alexander Berry Laird of the Shoalhaven, were some of the first merchants drawn to the colonies.

By 1830 15.11% of the colonies' total population were Scots, which increased by the middle of the century to 25,000, or 20-25% of the total population. The Australian Gold Rush of the 1850s provided a further impetus for Scottish migration: in the 1850s 90,000 Scots immigrated, far higher than other British or Irish populations at the time. Literacy rates of the Scottish immigrants ran at 90-95%. By 1860 Scots made up 50% of the ethnic composition of Western Victoria, Adelaide, Penola and Naracoorte. Other settlements in New South Wales included New England, the Hunter Valley and the Illawarra. Brisbane and the surrounding areas were also appealing to the Scots. At one time Fortitude Valley was almost a Scottish enclave.



ISLE OF SKYE



BANCHORY. THE BRIDGE OF FEUGH.



BRIDGE OF ALLAN. FROM ABBEY CRAIG.



DIARY DATES 2014

Sunday 19th October 2014 Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, Josling St, Toowong. Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, 12 mid-day BYO lunch. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary 0435 326 206

Sunday 16th November 2014 Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, Josling St, Toowong. Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, 12 mid-day BYO lunch. Meeting starts 12.30 pm. As it is also our AGM and finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to 0435 326 206

Sunday 14th December 2014 XMAS PARTY Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, Josling St, Toowong. Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, 9AM to 5PM XMAS PARTY, RSVP NEEDED 0435 326 206 BY 17TH NOVEMBER.

Sunday 18th January 2015 Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, Josling St, Toowong. Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, 12 mid-day BYO lunch. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary 0435 326 206

Sunday 15th February 2014 Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc. Toowong Community Meeting Rooms, Josling St, Toowong. Benson Rd end of Perrin Park, 12 mid-day BYO lunch. Meeting starts 1 pm. Finishing time must be 3.00 pm. Apologies to the Secretary 0435 326 206

1. No matter how much you applaud the juke-box, you have to put another quarter in for an encore.
2. A little bit of disagreement keeps the talk long. (Too much agreement kills a conversation.)
3. He who marries a chicken soon gets hen-pecked.
4. Man proposes, God disposes.
5. Better be the lucky man than the lucky man's son.
6. Hang a thief when he's young, an he'll no' steal when he's auld.
7. Him that's born to be hanged will never be drowned.
8. She spends money like a woman with no hands!
9. Like the wife's tongue, often better meant than timed.
10. Marriages are all happy--it's having breakfast together that causes most of the trouble.

A Scotsman was playing golf with a church elder. On the last hole the Scotsman missed a six-inch putt which cost him the match but, out of deference to his playing partner's status, he said absolutely nothing. "That," said the elder, "was the most profane silence I have ever heard."

Why are Scotsmen so good at golf? They realise that the fewer times they hit the ball the longer it will last.

**TOUCH OF TARTAN
SKYLINE BUSINESS CENTRE
UNIT 3/119 MURIEL AVENUE
MOOROOKA QLD 4105
PH: (07) 3255 9037
FAX: (07) 3255 9036**



*Our grateful thanks for the support of the
Brisbane City Council who have made
available King George Square for the
biggest free Scottish event in Australia*

Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Disclaimer The Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc Newsletter is produced for the information of the members of the association and kindred Scottish organisations. It has been compiled with due care and in good faith from sources that are not necessarily the views of the executive and/or members of the Australian Scottish Community (Qld) Inc, and no responsibility attaches to the association.

**“RAISING THE STANDARD”
The Scottish & Celtic Magazine “The
best and inexpensive way
to get your Message Across.”
Write to: ALBA Publications,
P.O. Box 8024, Wynnnum North,
4178 or Ph:
(07) 3396 9025**

Photocopying provided by the office of Norm Wyndham-Councillor, McDowall Ward
Phone: 3403 7690 Fax: 3403 7693
Email: mcdowall.ward@ecn.net.au