

THE BURNETT BANNER

Burnett Newsletter
(including House of Burnett)

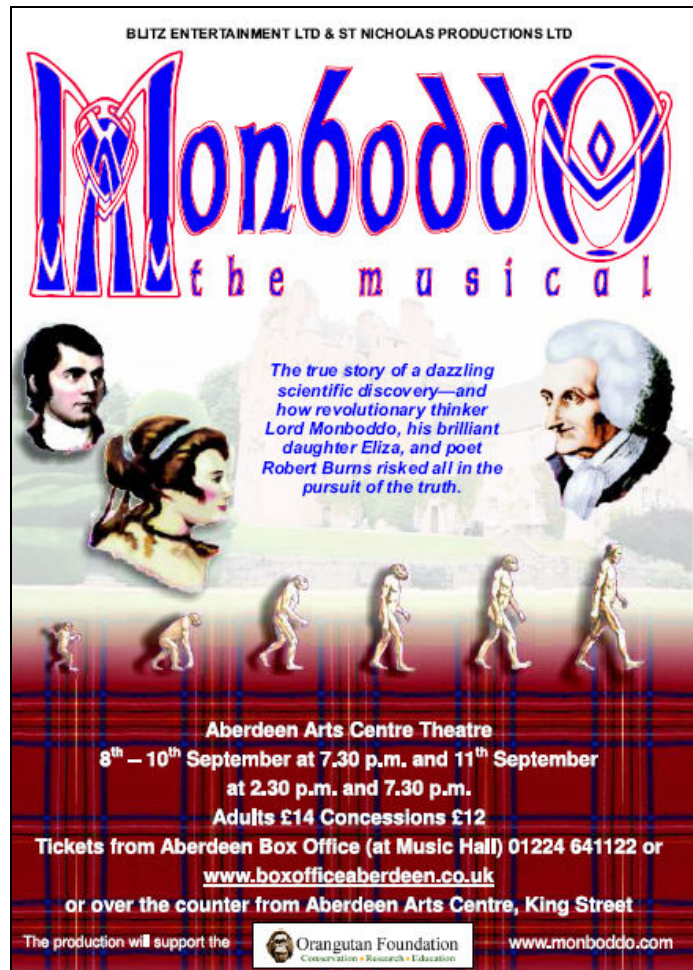
Edition No 10
June 2010

MONBODDO THE MUSICAL

Rehearsals for the production of Monboddo the Musical are well underway. Details will shortly be available on www.monboddo.com. The poster provides most of the information.

A number of good causes will be identified or supported by the production. The Arts Centre Theatre where it will be staged; The Bread Maker as supplier of catering for the evening. Woodend Arts Association in the development of the project; The National Trust for Scotland for the involvement of Crathes and The Orang Utan Foundation.

The approach of the Orangutan Foundation goes beyond that of purely protecting the orangutan. Critically it also includes recognition that orangutan habitat is unique in its richness of biodiversity and crucial for local communities, who are as dependant on the forest as is the orangutan.



In his work on the evolution of man and language, Monboddo referred frequently to the Orangutan which he described as "an animal of human form, inside as well as outside" Monboddo believed that the Orangutan was human, had a sense of ethics, was able to play the flute and differed from civilised man in his fine decorum but had not yet attained the use of speech. He argued that dispositions and affections of his mind were sufficient to denominate him a man. This must be a cause that is worthy of support.

The Editor

**BURNETT IS NOW ON FACEBOOK
WE INVITE EACH OF YOU TO BECOME A "FAN"!**

www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Burnett/134138613279417

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF BURNETT PRESIDENT

It seems hard to believe that we are coming upon the time to vote for election of officers again. The year has gone by so quickly.

Any paid member in good standing of the House of Burnett can run for office and let me encourage you to do so by letting us know your wishes in this matter. If you know someone who might be interested in any position, you may nominate a qualified person for these positions.

We need two members of our Board of Directors to replace two of our outgoing members. The current President, (yours truly), has expressed a desire to run again, but if there is a member who would like to take over this position, please make your wishes known. Our current Secretary, who has handled this position for the past several years, is Leland Burnett. Leland has expressed a desire to become Vice President in charge of coordinating the Festival presence for the HOB, but does not want to step down until he is certain that a capable candidate fills the Secretary position. The third Executive Officer position of Treasurer is currently held by Mike Burnett. Nominations will be considered within the next couple of months for these positions.

The House of Burnett has been busy this summer as we have been represented at several Highland games all over the US. Those of you who have put up tents and tables, please submit pictures and articles to the Banner and let us know how things went. We appreciate everyone's participation in these festivals. Having been present at earlier festivals for various organizations and now as an officer of the HOB, I realize how much work you put into this (and how much fun it is to represent the family.)

We are truly looking forward to the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in Linville, NC this year and welcoming Alexander and Vinny Burnett as the honoured guests at the games. The Games are the largest Highland Gathering on the east coast of the United States and thousands of people attend every year. This year, the games site has been plagued with storms, downed trees and other damage. But the people, and especially the Scots of North Carolina, have come out in force to volunteer their services in a huge clean up process, not to mention the dollars that have come in through donations to aid in the clean up over the past two or three months. Thanks to all of you who have helped in this endeavour.

My husband, Ronald and I are excited about embarking upon our third trip to Scotland at the end of July and where we will be spending some time with Jamie and Fiona, prior to joining the Celtic Journey's Outlander Tour. We will be taking pictures and reporting back in our next Banner.

God bless you all and remember, "Courage strengthens through adversity."

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Esler
pessler@gmail.com

NOTE FROM THE HOUSE OF BURNETT SECRETARY

Several of House of Burnett members have been showing our colours at the Highland Games throughout the US. So far this year the House of Burnett has been represented at 10 different events. Please remember to check the events page on the Burnett website for Scottish Games and Festival in your area so you can lend your support.

I would like to say welcome to the 14 new members who have signed up in the last 3 months. I hope the family connections you will find will be as important and exciting to you as it is to me.

I am appealing to the membership to think about serving in some capacity in the organization. We need new ideas. If you wish to serve let me know.

Anyone who changes their email address please let me know so I can keep you informed as to what is happening.

If anyone who is going to be at the Grandfather Mountain Games and haven't let us know, please do so.

Yours Aye

Leland L Burnett
burnett@dcwis.com

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

There are many spellings of the name Burnett. Readers are requested not to advise the editor if they observe a spelling with which they may be unfamiliar!

JUDYLYNN WEAVER - Director



Born and raised in Pennsylvania, I come from a long line of PA "mongrel" ancestry. I first joined the House of Burnett about 20 years ago, upon discovering the maiden name of my Great-Great-Great-Grandma: Sarah (Burnett)

Chesney Stone, from the Ahoghill area of County Antrim in the North of Ireland. However, unable to document this claim, I faded out of the HOB until a new-found Irish cousin found proof a few years ago. Shortly after rejoining the HOB, I volunteered to serve on the Board of Directors.

My hometown is a village outside Shamokin, Pa. I graduated from Penn State having majored in journalism and minored in sports information. Following a brief stint as a news and sports reporter for my hometown newspaper, I moved to Knoxville and the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee to spread my wings. Wanting to be closer to my genealogical resources, I returned to PA. I've spent the last dozen years working primarily as a proof reader (and often public relations assistant) at various marketing agencies from Lancaster Co. to the Philly suburbs.

I'm single, with a going-on-4 niece who's re-energized my climb of our family tree. I've contributed 80 pages of research to a book on one side of my family. My other great hobby is watching American football -- high school, college, and pro. I'm involved with several alumni associations, reunion committees, and other organizations (including Clan MacLeod and Clan Morrison). And as an avid fan of Celtic rock music, I've travelled to festivals (and renaissance fairs) from Canada to Colorado to the Carolinas to satisfy my "bagpipe habit."

Within the HOB, I would like to see a more robust system of Burnett genealogy communication, as well as increased involvement of Burnetts all over the world!

"YOU ARE AGEING SIR ROBERT"

Readers may recall *A 'crack' at the Admiral* in the December 2009 Banner in which demonstrated the great sense of humour of that illustrious member of the family, Admiral Sir Robert Burnett. The following poem from a Kemnay archive endorses

that characteristic without which the poem would not have been written. For information, a "Springer" is a spring running salmon, the catching of which is the ultimate goal of any freshwater fisherman.

"You are ageing Sir Robert, yet do not despair
For your limbs are as supple as ever,
And the ship repair ball you keep in the air
What makes you makes you so brilliantly clever?"

"In my youth", said Sir Robert, "I followed the sea
As a "Springer" obtained my ambition,
Wrote books upon "Balls" and between you & me
Perhaps you would buy an edition?"

"You are ageing Sir Robert, in case you don't know,
Perhaps a trifle pronounced as to "tum",
Yet you juggle the ship repair ball like a "pro"
Don't you think at your age it is rum?"

"In my youth", said Sir Robert, "my studies ranged free
I at tactics was known as a snorter,
Hence to deal with these "domkops" is easy for me
If I couldn't I b-y well oughter".

"You are ageing Sir Robert, I hate to repeat
And an Admiral breezy but clever
Yet you keep up this ship repair juggling feat
Do you think you can do so forever?"

"I have answered two questions & that is enough",
Said Sir Robert with anger grown whiter,
"I am weary of ship repair balls and such stuff,
So be off you inquisitive blighter!"

Cape Town June 25th 1945 Cannan to C-in-C

The Editor

JOKE OF THE DAY

Jock was out working the field when a barnstormer landed. "I'll give you an airplane ride for £5," said the pilot. "Sorry, cannae afford it," replied Jock. "Tell you what," said the pilot, "I'll give you and your wife a free ride if you promise not to yell. Otherwise it'll be £10." So up they went and the pilot rolled, looped, stalled and did all he could to scare Jock. Nothing worked and the defeated pilot finally landed the plane. Turning around to the rear seat he said, "Gotta hand it to you. For country folk you sure are brave!"

"Aye," said Jock "But ye nearly had me there when the wife fell oot!"

CAPTAIN JOHN BURNETT JACOBITE

I recently received an enquiry from Charlotte Burnett Thrasher and her husband Jodie for any assistance in identifying one of her ancestors, Capt John Burnett, who showed up in Georgia in the early 1750's. He was a very educated man, signed land documents for relatives who could not write, was a cattleman rather than a farmer, was not listed as a loyalist or as a US war veteran, did not receive bounty land for war service, he purchased land confiscated from a loyalist, his sons were educated and two oldest served as Senators in the Georgia State legislature and third son was a county Judge in Alabama.

She had received a detailed reply from the Angus County Council archivist in Scotland, but in the absence of any information about the date and place of John Burnet's birth or the names of his parents, it was impossible to identify him with any degree of certainty. A search of the International Genealogical Index produced 119 entries for John Burnet(t) born between 1690 and 1730.

The Scottish History Society's "The Prisoners of the '45, lists two Burnetts: John Burnett of Campfield, Capt. of Artillery, and John Burnet, Ogilvy's regiment. From "Lists of Persons concerned" in the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion there was a John Burnet Esquire of Campfield a Captain of Artillery in the Rebel Service who was taken prisoner at Carlisle. The entries for John Burnet of Campfield provided the following information.

The trials of Scots officers held at Southwark on 23rd August 1746 included that of John Burnet of Campfield – he was originally sentenced to death but was reprieved. His father was a gentleman in Aberdeenshire and he is generally spoken of as a person that was very well esteemed. . John Burnet was a captain in the Rebel's Train of Artillery and took a prominent part in the defence of Carlisle as a gunner officer and it is suggested that he was a deserter.

I can advise that Captain John Burnet of Campfield, who fought in the Jacobite Rebellion of 1745-46, was sentenced to death in Aug 1746. He was subsequently reprieved and pardoned on condition that he left the country. This John Burnet then became a successful merchant in Holland (with which Aberdeen had long-standing trading links) and had returned to Aberdeen by 1751 by which time he was advertising his business as a merchant in Aberdeen. John Burnet had married & had several children before the Rebellion and succeeded

his father in the Campfield Estate in 1762. He is clearly not the Captain John Burnet(t) who is the subject of the enquiry.

John Burnet of Lord Ogilvy's Regiment was from Ballindarg and was held prisoner at Airlie, Montrose, Dundee, Canongate and Carlisle.. He had been a basic recruit (i.e.in the "other ranks" list) in Lord Ogilvie's Regiment. He was born in 1719 and was a miller to trade. He was sentenced to death but finally reprieved and transported from Liverpool on 22 April 1747 on board the "Johnson" bound for Virginia. He apparently arrived in Port Oxford, Md on 5 August 1747. Unless he served somewhere else after 1747, he is unlikely to have had the rank of Captain although he may have "assumed" the rank.

Whatever the coincidences, it is unlikely that either of the above was the John Burnett who is the subject of the enquiry. There is a wealth of relevant information of interest for which there is insufficient space here to include but may do in a future edition. We would be pleased to receive comment.

The Editor - with gratitude for information supplied by Eileen Bailey and Fiona C. Scharlau, Senior Archivist of Angus County Council

THE OTHER JOHN BURNETT



There is one John Burnett who has been neither sentenced to be executed or transported - yet!

John was very instrumental in the early days of a Burnett society and the eventual formation of the House of Burnett.

He has acted as my Tosheador or representative and has always been an enthusiastic supporter and member of the Name and House of Burnett.

John has not managed to get to Scotland for a few years but we hope to see him here again before long. Readers will have seen reports on his family in recent Banners.

James C A Burnett of Leys

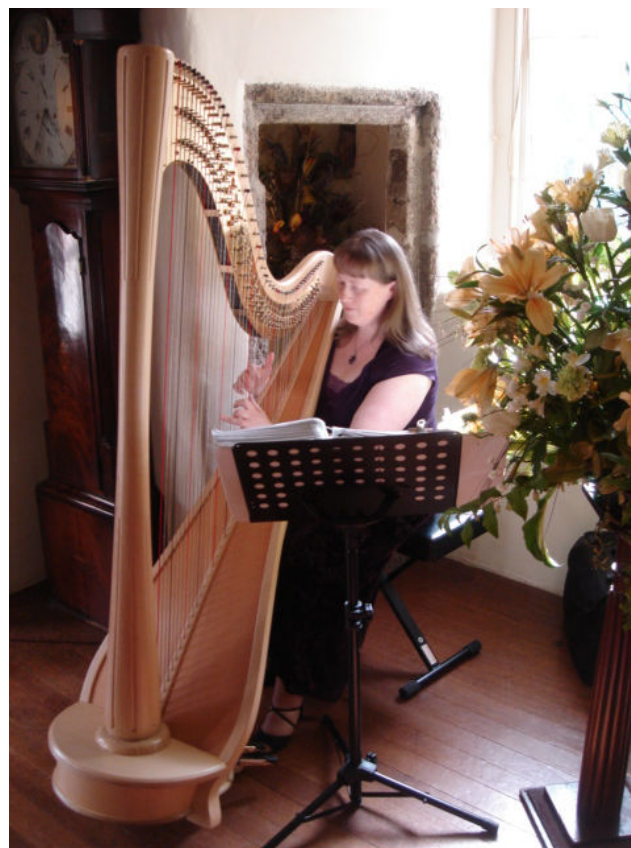


ANDREA MARIE BURNETT AND JOHN STEPHEN THOMAS



We were very pleased and honoured that Crathes was chosen for the marriage on May 26th of Andrea Marie Burnett, whose family come from Tampa, Florida and John Stephen Thomas from Edmonton, Alberta. Andrea is a director of communications with Sykes Enterprises and John is well known in Florida as anchor and newsreader with the television station WFTS. Providing some accompaniment was Marie Main on the harp.

The Editor



DIARY OF JANET BURNET 1758-1795

Janet Dyce, daughter of James Dyce of Disblair, Fintray, Aberdeenshire married George Burnet of Kemnay in 1751 as his second wife. George Burnet was a prominent agricultural improver, created large gardens and planted many trees at Kemnay House. It may be for this reason that Janet Burnet kept a diary from 1758 until 1780 in which she recorded various facts relating to the weather, the progress of vegetables and fruit in the gardens and crops on the estate. After George's death she moved back to Disblair House in 1781 to live with her sister.

In addition to its horticultural and agricultural content, the whole diary is full of fascinating information ranging from the availability of ice to fill the ice-houses to local earth tremors and lightening storms which caused loss of life. Against a background of the current pre-occupation with

predicted effects of "global warming", it is particularly interesting to read of pear & plum trees with fruit setting and strawberries in flower in April (1779), gooseberry & currant bushes in leaf and blossom buds far advanced in February (1787). This is, on average, at least a month earlier than in 21st century Aberdeenshire and yet Janet Burnet writes of many cold winters with temperatures low enough to freeze the local river hard enough to allow folks to cross and heavy snow storms.

The diary was inherited by Mowbray Pearson who, in 1994, edited it for publication as *"More Frost and Snow"*. 127pp. ISBN 1-898410-08-9. Published by Canongate Academic (Canongate Press), Edinburgh. Priced £14.99.

Eileen Bailey
Burnett Genealogist & Historical Researcher

HOUSE OF BURNETT

LOCH NORMAN GAMES

16th - 18th April 2010



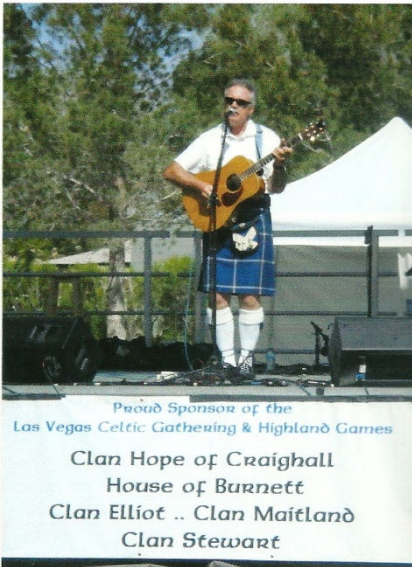
Phyllis Esler, her son John and Leland Burnett lining up for the Clan Parade



Robin Unsworth and son with the President Phyllis Esler .He recently moved to Charlotte from Scotland

LAS VEGAS GAMES

17th & 18th April 2010



They were glad to see the House of Burnett



Even the Peacocks were happy to see the Burnett's



Evelyn & Jacky at the House of Burnett Tent

KENTUCKY SCOTTISH WEEKEND

7th - 9th May 2010



The Secretary with Jeff Burnett

BETHABARA PARK CELTIC FESTIVAL

8th May 2010



Phyllis Esler at the Bethabara Park Celtic Festival that was held in Winston-Salem, NC. This is the first time that the House of Burnett has been represented at this historical site.

BURNETTS IN NEW ZEALAND

Following on from the article in Banner No 8, we are building up our records of Burnetts in New Zealand. We will be introducing these families to our website & any information relating to the history and genealogy of these Burnetts & their descendants is very welcome

BURNETT OF LEYS & BURNETT OF DALADIES

Mary Gascoigne Burnett, daughter of John Burnett, Colonial Secretary of Van Dieman's Land, & Penelope Isabella Hayes, was born in 1819 at Woodend Cottage, Banchory, Scotland & lived with her family in Hobart, Tasmania. She married Rev John Lillie in Hobart on 1st June 1838. He was born in Glasgow in 180, the son of David Lillie, Merchant. After graduating from the University of Glasgow, he was tutor to the children of the Duke of Argyll before being appointed to St Andrew's Church in Hobart in 1837. After a period of illness which forced him to return to the United Kingdom he resigned his charge in 1859. Mary & John Lillie had three daughters & a son, all born in Hobart. In 1861 they moved to New Zealand where he was involved in business connected to finance and grazing but he was also linked to the Christchurch Presbytery. John Lillie died at "Springland" in Papanui on 15th January 1866.

Further information on Mary Burnett Lillie &/or any of her descendants would be appreciated.

BURNETT OF LEYS & BURNETT OF SAUCHEN

Catherine Burnett, daughter of Robert Burnett of Leys & Sauchen & Jean Reid, was born about 1746. She married David Scott, factor of Craigievar Estate, at Cluny on 1st May 1774. Their grandson, William Scott, son of John Scott & Elizabeth Cruickshank, died on 19th May 1882 aged 70 & was buried at Paterangi, New Zealand. He had previously moved from Scotland to Ontario, Canada, & emigrated from there to New Zealand in 1865. William Scott arranged to have his gravestone manufactured from granite in Aberdeen, Scotland, & shipped to New Zealand.

BURNETT OF MONBODDO, BURNETT OF PARK & KEPPLESTONE

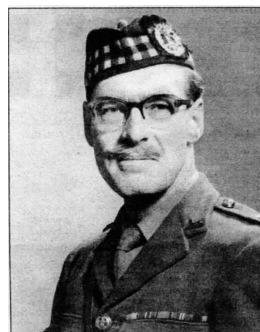
William Farquharson Burnett, son of Thomas Burnett & Mary Gardyne, was born on 18th February 1815 in Aberdeen. He became a Captain in the Royal Navy and was appointed Commodore

of the Australian Station. William drowned when his ship the "Orpheus" was shipwrecked on the Manukau bar off the coast of New Zealand on 7th February 1863.

Eileen A. Bailey
Burnett Genealogist & Historical Researcher

COLONEL MOUBRAY BURNETT OBE TD

The death on March 21st was recently announced of Colonel Moubray Burnett.



From a childhood dogged with sadness and ill health, Moubray Burnett went on to survive the harshness and cruelty of the infamous Burma Railway and to live a fulfilled life. He died aged 94 in Argentina where he spent his last 17 years.

Moubray Burnett was the son of Thomas Leslie Forbes Burnett and grandson of John Burnett the 7th Laird of Kemnay. On his grandmother's death and with his parents divorced, he was brought up by his aunt and uncle at Barra Castle and Straloch House in Aberdeenshire. After studying agriculture, he went to Assam in India in 1938 to become a tea planter. At the outbreak of the war, he joined the 2nd Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders in Singapore. At the fall of Singapore, he spent three and a half brutal years as a prisoner of war of the Japanese, working on the notorious Burma Railway. After the war, with his new wife, Mary, he returned to England and then to Aberdeenshire to farm near Kemnay.

He rejoined the Gordon Highlanders TA regiment and eventually became commanding officer of the 3rd Battalion. He was subsequently made Honorary Colonel and was awarded the OBE in 1977. He was an inspiring leader and highly regarded by all ranks. On the death of his wife, he moved to Argentina where he continued his passion for gardening until his last few months and created a magnificent garden on his daughter's fruit farm. A proud family man of great charm, he is survived by his daughter Victoria and sons Nigel and Sandy, grandchildren and great grandchildren in Scotland, Australia and Argentina

James C A Burnett of Leys

"BURNETT, DERN IT, CAN'T YOU LEARN IT!"

BURNETTS IN FLORIDA & THE PRONUNCIATION OF THE NAME

A recent enquiry from Dan Mikell into the correct pronunciation of the name of Burnett introduced me to some interesting family history.

His mother is Bonnie Faye Burnett and the family has been in Florida for about 4 generations having moved there from Georgia after the American Civil War. Their heritage probably extends to Scotland but the sure links end in South Carolina in the late 1700's. His mother always pronounced the name as 'Burnett' with the accent on the first syllable. When asked about the difference she said that her father once taught her a humorous way to correct someone who might mispronounce the name: You say, "Burnett, dern it, can't you learn it!"?

Bonnie Faye is right inasmuch as the correct pronunciation throughout Scotland is with the accent on the first syllable. Personally, when I travel abroad, including England, I sometimes accentuate the second syllable if it is for the purpose of allowing the recipient to write it down as it saves repeating or spelling it. I suppose it cannot be wrong for those with the spelling of Burnette to pronounce it accordingly – but they can always change their surname.

Dan Mikell's grandparents were all Primitive Baptists by the time they arrived in Florida. They moved South as land became available and some fought in the wars that displaced the native Americans. They arrived in wagons to live in the pine forests, they worked in saw mills, tapped the pines for resin to sell to the turpentine distilleries, built their own houses and barns, created farms with family gardens, corrals for cattle and pens for hogs and chickens. On Sundays, perhaps every third Sunday when the circuit preacher was there, they would load the wagon with supplies for the outing and a covered dish to share their best cooking with others at the dinner on the ground between the church and the creek.

His great grandfather, John Burnett, was a successful business man. In addition to maintaining his own farm he opened a hardware store in Sanderson and purchased a cotton gin, bought raw cotton to process and bale for shipping via rail to Jacksonville. His wife Mittie was a devout Primitive Baptist and he was a Master Mason. Their children invested in small-town business ... a gas station in Sanderson, a Western Auto in MacLenny ... or

moved to the big cities for jobs ... a painting-supplies salesman in Tampa, a municipal fleet manager in Miami.

His great-aunt Aline Burnett was the first in the family to attend a college, the Florida State College for Women which is now Florida State University.

She became a flight-stewardess, one of the first, for Pan American Air Lines out of Miami.

His ancestry goes back to South Carolina to a Richard Burnett who married a woman named Lucy. Records which may have been useful were destroyed at the end of the American Civil War when General Sherman scorched his way to the sea. It is thought that Richard may have moved to South Carolina from Virginia.

His cousin, John Albert Burnett, is trained as a historian and has generated a genealogical study entitled "Families Remembered" which includes the descendants of our common progenitor, Richard Burnett. Although he moved West to Utah and has been out of contact for a while he probably updates his Gedcom file at the World Connect site as

<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=intoroots1&id=I0397>.

The family's Annual Burnett Family Reunion will come around again this year. The location can vary but the first Sunday in October has been traditional for a long long time. The last one was at the Community Center in Maxville, FL and below is a photograph of the 2008 occasion. Dan's mother, Bonnie and her two sisters, Jewel and Doris are seated in chairs in the center of the picture with their cousin Earl Burnett to the right of Dan's partner Martha who hails from Spanish Honduras.



Dan is absent being the photographer

BURNETT ART GALLERY

Patricia Burnett-Stuart

After studying Fine-Art at the Sorbonne in Paris, French born Patricia Burnett-Stuart left France at the tender age of 21 to live in Aberdeenshire with her husband Geordie B-S.

A teacher and practicing painter, Patricia finds inspiration in colour, from the cool and vivid palette of the Scottish landscape to the vibrant hues of Provence, where the Burnett-Stuarts spend part of the year.



*Pine Trees in a field at
Barbeville in Provence*

Patricia Scholey

"Yew in the Landscape" came about after making several drawn studies of various sections of the Yew Hedge cut back a few years ago. The tree-like forms had a mysterious, almost alien appearance and Patricia decided these strange yet majestic shapes would fit well into another imagined, slightly edgy landscape.

"Naked Ilex" The very tall holly tree growing by the raised lawned water garden is very singular in form. She was interested in the way it had been drastically cut back -stripping bare one whole side of the tree, giving it a sense of , on the one hand, vulnerability and on the other, a statuesque power and strength. She has tried to represent this paradox in her painting.

From 1963 Patricia Scholey (née Burnett) studied at the Camberwell school of Art, London and

obtained a Diploma in Art and Design Textiles/Fashion and Rug Weaving. In 1968 she attended the Brighton College of Art and then taught Art full-time at school in East Sussex and ran a small gallery, drawing courses for adults and undertook various commissions. From 1972-1974 she was an art teacher in charge of an International School in Tehran and then lived and travelled in Bolivia before teaching in Kent until 1977 when she moved to Aberdeen helping a weaver friend to run a weaving workshop in Aberdeen, joined Grampian Guild of Spinners and Weavers. She exhibited Tapestry at Aberdeen Art Gallery to teach before moving back to Kent. In 2008 she gained a B.A.(hons) in Painting at the Gray's School of Art, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen. Since returning to Scotland after bring up a family, she has exhibited in various galleries and have shown work in group exhibitions, including Aberdeen Artists' Society



Yew in the Landscape



Naked Ilex

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH RECIPES

PORRIDGE

Oatmeal was once described as "the backbone of many a sturdy Scotsman". Porridge was one of the main ways of eating oats, in days gone by. There is a lot of mystique about making porridge and lots of traditions associated with cooking and eating it (most of which can be ignored). The important thing is to obtain good quality medium-ground oats (rather than rolled oats) and to keep stirring it to avoid solid lumps.

Ingredients (sufficient for two people):

One pint (half litre) water; some people use half water and half milk
2.5 ounces (2.5 rounded tablespoons) medium-ground oats
Pinch of salt

Method:

Bring the water (or water and milk) to a good rolling boil, preferably in a non-stick pan. Slowly pour the oatmeal into the boiling liquid, stirring vigorously with a wooden spoon all the time. Keep stirring until it has returned to the boil again, reduce the heat, cover the pan and simmer very gently for 15 minutes, stirring frequently. Add the salt at this point and simmer and stir for a further 5/10 minutes (time depends on the quality of the oats). It should be a thick but pourable consistency. Serve hot in wooden bowls if you have them.

Traditions:

Stirring the porridge should always be clockwise (though going in different directions probably mixes more efficiently).

Porridge used to be served with separate bowls of double cream. A spoonful of porridge (in a horn spoon) was dipped into a communal bowl of cream before eating.

Porridge is eaten standing up. While some people have suggested that this is out of respect for the noble dish, it probably arose from busy farmers doing other things while eating their morning porridge - or as an aid to digestion.

While some people frown at the idea of sugar on porridge others not only approve but suggest a tot of whisky. Each to their own!

Porridge used to be poured into a "porridge drawer" and, once it had cooled, it could be cut up into slices. These were easier to carry than brittle oatcakes.



RASPBERRY AND WHISKY CHEESECAKE

Here's a simple cheesecake which uses two ingredients for which Scotland is well known - whisky (of course) and raspberries. Two thirds of the raspberries grown in Britain come from Scotland, many of them from Blairgowrie. Instead of raspberries, you can use other soft fruit such as blackcurrants or loganberries. The quantities below should provide six portions of cheesecake.

Ingredients for the Base:

4 ounces butter
8 ounces digestive biscuits (also known as Graham crackers in some parts of the world)
1 tablespoon Scotch whisky

Ingredients for the Filling:

8 ounces cream cheese
2 ounces caster sugar (granulated sugar in North America)
10 fluid ounces double cream (Note that 8 fluid ounces = One cup or half a US pint)
1 tablespoon Scotch whisky

Ingredients for the Topping:

8 ounces raspberries
2 tablespoons honey
3 fluid ounces (6 tablespoons) Scotch whisky
3 level teaspoons arrowroot
1 level teaspoon caster sugar (granulated sugar in North America)
5 fluid ounces whipping cream
1 tablespoon Scotch whisky

Method:

Melt the butter in a non-stick pan, add the tablespoon of whisky, crush the digestive biscuits (Graham crackers) and add to the pan. Mix well and then press into a greased, loose-bottomed 8-inch cake tin and chill for about half an hour in the refrigerator.

Beat the cream cheese and sugar together. Whip the double cream and whisky until softly stiff and fold into the cream mixture. Spread over the biscuit base and chill.

Soak the raspberries in the honey and whisky for about 30 minutes. Strain the raspberries. You will need about 4 fluid ounces of juice and you may have to top it up with whisky if necessary. Take two ounces of juice and the arrowroot and mix to form a paste. Heat the rest of the juice with the sugar until almost boiling and then stir in the arrowroot paste and continue stirring over a low heat until the glaze is thick. Then stir the raspberries into the glaze and leave until cool.

Spread the raspberries and glaze over the base. Whip the cream mixed with a tablespoon of whisky until softly stiff and then decorate the cheesecake. Finally, sprinkle a tablespoon of malt whisky over the top just before serving.