



## Which Scottish castle gives its name to a brand of malt whisky?

Balvenie Castle near Dufftown, a stronghold for the powerful lords of north-east Scotland for more than 500 years. The Black Comyn Earls of Buchan built this huge fortification in the fourteenth century and it later passed to the Black Douglases. The castle is now in the care of Historic Scotland and its impressive remains include remnants of the building work of all three of the families who ruled from here, including a massive curtain wall and Scotland's only iron yett gate.



Balvenie Castle was once owned by the Black Douglases

## Is it true that the Ayrshire village of Dunlop is named after John Boyd Dunlop, of pneumatic tyre fame?

Although John Dunlop was born in Ayrshire, Dunlop village isn't named after him. In fact, the settlement of Dunlop dates back to at least the mid thirteenth-century and the name Dunlop is believed to be derived from the Gaelic words *dun* and *luib*, meaning 'castle' and 'bend' respectively.

Dunlop was famed for its twice-yearly fairs and became renowned as a centre of cheese production. Locals made cheese in their own homes and sold it to visiting merchants, who took it Glasgow's markets.

## Where is Scotland's most northerly lighthouse situated?

This is Muckle Flugga, originally North Unst Lighthouse, which is situated on a rocky outcrop north of the island of Unst. The lighthouse came into use in 1858 and was designed by members of the Stevenson lighthouse dynasty. Author Robert Louis Stevenson visited Muckle Flugga with his father Thomas in 1869 and some critics believe the remote setting may have provided some of the inspiration for his novel *Treasure Island*.

## Clan Histories: Turnbull

From humble beginnings in Bedrule, the Turnbull name has regularly made the history books – for good reasons and bad. Legend has it that a man named Rule (sometimes Ruel), saved Robert the Bruce from a ferocious charging bull by turning the bull's head. Rule was richly rewarded with lands and instructed to change his name to Turnbull, assuming the motto 'I saved the King'. The facts of this legend are questionable and while some historians dispute the story, it is very much recorded.

During the fifteenth century, the clan acquired considerable lands and territories east of Berwick, in what were known as the Scottish Middle Marches. The Turnbolls became well known for their fiery temperaments, engaging in some turbulent border conflicts. Perhaps to balance some of their unruly acts on the border, the Turnbolls were very active ecclesiastics. William Turnbull became Bishop of Glasgow in 1447 and John Turnbull became Vicar of Cleigh in 1507. The Turnbolls have also distinguished themselves as scholars and scientists.

By 1603, with the union of the Scottish and English crowns, the 'unruly' clans of the borders were moved to Ireland, England or to Northern Scotland. Some clansmen looked to the New World for their futures and over the years, some branches of the clan changed their name to Trumble or Trimble. From the fifteenth century, many Turnbull's migrated to France, where they helped the king re-conquer his lands from the English. Descendants became known as 'Tournebulle'.

The clan was dormant for hundreds of years until it was revived in 1977 by the late John Turnbull of Harwick.



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### FORTY YEARS AGO

3 September 1971

Almost nine percent more divorce cases had been handled by the Court of Session over the past year than previously, with 4,809 applications processed. Cruelty on the part of husbands topped the accusations, with adultery coming second. The opposite was the case among divorce-seeking husbands who accused their wives of adultery or desertion. Only 73 of their cases involved cruelty. Three wives and two husbands secured divorces on the grounds of insanity in their partners.

### THIRTY YEARS AGO

6 September 1981

A new library in Ardrossan costing £500,000 was due to open with bare shelves sparsely stocked with old and battered books because Scottish Secretary George Younger had frozen Cunningham District Council's expenditure budget. Around £30,000 was urgently needed to equip the library with new books. Director of Leisure David Webster commented: 'It is a nonsense that a brand new library like this should have a grand opening with such a scant and old stock of books.'

### TWENTY YEARS AGO

10 September 1991

Glasgow had a growing army of 'twilight kids' sleeping rough because they had nowhere else to go. Social workers had found children as young as ten spending their nights out of doors and more than 3,000 young folk, most of them between the ages of sixteen and 25, had been to a city charity centre for the homeless in the past year to find help in getting a roof over their heads. Most were victims of a poverty trap, not having found a job or training place, whilst being disqualified from benefits.