

# In focus: Scotland

Source: [www.insideout.net](http://www.insideout.net); [www.scotland.org](http://www.scotland.org)

## 1 Match a question to an answer

1. What is the capital of Scotland?
2. What's the name of the skirt that men wear in Scotland?
3. What does *loch* (as in Loch Ness) mean?
4. What's the name of the highest mountain in Scotland?
5. What is the population of Scotland?
6. What is the traditional Scottish meal made of sheep's intestines and cereal called?
7. On January 25<sup>th</sup> Scottish people celebrate the birth of their most famous poet. What is this celebration called?
8. What's the name of the famous Scot who invented the telephone?
9. The patron saint of Scotland is St. Andrew. He is patron saint of which other country?
10. In the film *Braveheart*, what was the name of the character played by Mel Gibson?



**Burns Night**

**kilt**

**Ben Nevis**

**Russia**

**5 million**

**Edinburgh**

**haggis**

**lake**

**William Wallace**

**Alexander Graham Bell**

## 2 Scotland's Winter Festival: Burns' Night

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|------------------|---|
| 1. descent-(n)   | - the origin of your parents or other older members of your family. |
| 2. exhume-(v)    | - to dig out of the earth (what has been buried).                   |
| 3. lifetime-(n)  | - the length of a life; a very long time.                           |
| 4. mausoleum-(n) | - a memorial building where dead bodies are kept.                   |
| 5. dedicate-(v)  | - commit to some purpose.   |



January 25th marks the annual celebration of Scotland's national poet Robert Burns. Here are 10 things you probably never knew about Scotland's National Bard.

1. After Queen Victoria and Christopher Columbus, Robert Burns has more statues dedicated to him around the world than any other non-religious figure.
2. J.D. Salinger's famous 1951 novel 'Catcher in the Rye' based its title from a poem by Robert Burns 'Comin' Thro' the Rye'.
3. The Soviet Union was the first country in the world to honour Burns with a commemorative stamp, marking the 160th anniversary of his death in 1956.
4. A translation of 'My Hearts in the Highlands' was adopted as the marching song of the Chinese resistance fighters in the Second World War.
5. American music legend Bob Dylan selected Burns' 1794 song 'A Red, Red Rose' when asked for the source of his greatest creative inspiration.
6. 'Auld Lang Syne' is recognised by the Guinness Book of World Records as being one of the top three most popular songs in the English language. The other two are 'Happy Birthday' and 'For he's a jolly good fellow'.
7. Burns body was exhumed in 1815 to be placed in a new mausoleum in Dumfries. Whilst his body was above ground, a plaster cast of his skull was taken for study. The skull was measured and discovered to be bigger than the average man's.
8. Burns fathered at least 12 children with four different women during his short 37 year lifetime. His youngest child, Maxwell, was born on the day of his funeral.
9. Robert Burns was the first ever person to appear on a commemorative bottle of Coca-Cola, in 2009.
10. US fashion designer Tommy Hilfiger claims direct descent from Robert Burns.

### 3 Vocabulary Quiz

1. When he dies, his body will go into the \_\_\_\_\_ with his parents and grandparents.
2. The doctor \_\_\_\_\_ her life to helping people.
3. Their friendship lasted a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. My mother is German by \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The police \_\_\_\_\_ the body to re-examine the cause of death.