

Marymass Guest Book

(Messages from 2003 to the present - all genuine messages, once cleared for display, appear below)

(Most recent
at top)

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Date	Entered by	Message
27 August 2013	k carter	well done to all at the Marymass 2013 looking forward 2 2014
18 August 2013	George Barr	Among the brotherhood & friends o' Carters Society kindle friendship among us all.
11 August 2013	Tegan Kerr	Can't wait for Marymass 2013 ! it's going to be my first year racing . . hoping to win, bring it on!
09 August 2013	Emma Thurling	I am looking forward to marymass 2013 as my family the cousars are a big part in marymass and I have not been in since 2009 where two of my ponies won first and second prize in best dressed ponies one in the 14.2 which won first with my two cousins Callie Maguire and Erin Houston. The other which came second in the 13.2 which was riden by myself.
07 August 2013	Michelle Burns	Coming to Scotland for th Marymass. Looking forward to see the events with my husband who is from Irvine and my father in law.
28 July 2013	Mairi Crow	I cannot wait to come home for Marymass 2013 as I haven't been since we lived as a family at 55 Bank Street when I was in my early teens; that was in the mid-'60s. Now, I write fantasy novels set in Irvine, the first of which, Beyond the Hedge, features an annual festival called Fairymass that is based on this very festival. We have dragon racing in my Scottish fairy world, as well as horse racing!
27 April 2013	Colin Burns	Coming home from the US for Marymass this year. Haven't seen it since 1976, wife looking forward to Clydesdale races.
28 August 2012	connor bryson	done the greasy pole for the third year in a row never got it better luck next year
25 August 2012	John Mc	A great parade through the town today, I am from out of town - it was the first time I had seen it and I really enjoyed the cart horses, pipe bands also. A big 'Well done' to the Irvine Carters.
24 August 2012	Elaine Barr	Well done to Geraldine Barr riding Cavara Curly Q(Lilly) at the horse show on Sunday the 19 August 2012. Her first showing ever for the young 4 year old filly and the 15 year old Geraldine. winning with 3 x 1st and Champion for showing in hand and 1st 3 x 3rd 1 4th for ridden. well done proud mum.
16 August 2012	Samantha Sharp	Just wanted to say thankyou to Ian Clarkson for looking after Stephanie and Caitlin tonight at the Elect Ceremony. Both of you have been wonderful "Marys", never let yourself down in "Any" way. Roll on You and Caitlins "Marymass" Party!!!! Woo Woo
30 July 2012	Charles Robertson	Iwas looking through the web site the other night it brought back lots of memories for me as I was brought up in Irvine but

		<p>moved away in 1979,I do try to get home as often as I can especially during Marymass as this holds a special place for me, as my family was involved in the horse side of things and my dad was one of thhe burgh Halbiders he served the town for approximatley 20 years ,I found a photo of the three of them there names were John Doole [Town Clerk]David Dunlop[Burgh Forman] and George Robertson[Transport foreman]If you are interested in the photo[Taken 1970] could you please get in touch with me and it would be my pleasure to send it to you so as it could be entered on your site.Thank You hope to here from you soon</p>
28 June 2012	stan g	<p>Marymass used to be a great social event where families met, sat on the moor watchin the races, gettin a good drink into them, causing no hassle - these days are now gone caused by a certain few overstepping the mark and spoiling this for everyone. I'm afraid to say that it hasn't got the same appetite for most people now although i don't mean to be doom and gloom, personally i love it, but it's the horse racing part i am most involved in where most people don't know, but some of these jockeys are top notch - in fact this year a certain darren egan was racing at royal ascot in front of the queen, most folk just think these races are fixed and mickey mouse horses and jockeys, but you are a million percent wrong, these races are special in the marymass event list and should be promoted more, and made use of what we have at our disposal before the parade dwindles down to becoming a non event.</p>
19 June 2012	Elizabeth Westwood	<p>Left Irvine in 1980 to live in Wolverhampton, really enjoyed looking through the site, brought back loads of memories from my childhood My Uncle Norrie McQueen was a past Fiscal and my cousin Stuart Innes was a paig, My two uncles Norman and Billy Innes were always involved for as long as I can remember and we always got into the paddock on Marymass Saturday to see the horses, Happy Days :)</p>
19 February 2012	Colin Burns	<p>Enjoyed the site. Left Irvine in 1976 with plenty of good memories of Marymass. Sister born Marymass Saturday 1962. Looking forward to bringing my wife to experince the races.</p>
08 January 2012	Peter Sharp	<p>Just want to say a big thanks to Ian Clarkson and the Carters for taking care of the girls tonight at the annual Marymass Ceilidh. So proud of Stephanie and Caitlin - you never let us down.</p>
19 August 2011	susan wilson	<p>Well it is the night before the big day and i would like to wish my daughter Chloe Wilson the very best of luck for tomorrow. You have made us all so proud. Good luck to the other girls, Ellie, Caitlin-Jay, Stephanie and not forgetting our Queen Alanna! xxx</p>
12 August 2011	susan wilson	<p>Congratulations to Danny Kerr who was elected Captain of the Carters Society last night. The girls all looked lovely at their Sashing, cant wait now till Marymass Sat!</p>
09 August 2011	connor bryson	<p>canny wait tae dae the greasy pole :)</p>
01 August 2011	melanie gracie	<p>This year will be my 1st Marymass as im visiting family in irvine that week, really looking forward to it, I live in Ipswich england but am scottish through & through, all my family were mostly</p>

		from New Cumnock so cant wait too visit again, my brother is flying in from Norway too and will be his 1st time visiting Scotland to meet family for the 1st time ! we're so excited and so looking forward to our 1st Marymass x
31 July 2011	Peter Sharp	Well done Stephanie, Mum,Megan,Nana,Pop and I really proud of you. Cannot wait to see you and the girls all dressed up on the day!
08 July 2011	susan wilson	Many Congratulations to my daughter Chloe Wilson, Marymass Mary 2011! Well Done to all the girls, it will be extra special canny wait!!
22 June 2011	Gerald Frew	What a disappointment for the earliest Queen Anne Mercer and her Mary's who were pushed right to the back of the seating arrangements at the Townshouse.The principal guests could hardly to be seen.I know of some who will not be back ! Who took up the front rows..... officials and councillors and their guests. I used to love Marymass and all it stood for but do not like what it seems to have become.
06 April 2011	Paul Weeks	left irvine 36 years ago lived opp the moor great memories of m mass as a kid the winton rd boys up the greasy pole etc
03 October 2010	Susan Paterson	I attended Marymass for the first time this year, i thouroughly enjoyed it thanks to Gordon and all his family and friends. I will definitely be back next year.
04 September 2010	connor bryson	a done the greasy diny get it but next year its mine
25 August 2010	terry march	well done to all who participated and turned out in the streets to make this a very spectacular event yet again this is such a great day and long may it continue six of us come up from london every year and always look forward to marymass we are booked up again for next year a special thank you goes to ANDY TREMBLE and CARMEN at the harbourside hotel for making us all very welcome see you next august ...all new and old friends ..terry and the boys .
24 August 2010	Marie Claude	Marymass Festival est une fête extraordinaire. Merci à tous ceux qui se sont impliqués dans l'organisation. Meilleurs souvenirs de Voisins-Le-Bretonneux (France) !
22 August 2010	Lauren Adams	marymass has gone for another year it was good this year shame the firestarter wasnt open but everything else was great the parade and everything cant wait till next year x
19 August 2010	Ex Captain A Tremble	I can confirm that I have 111 acceptances for former Marymass Queens and Maries for this years Reunion. They will be joining parade at Townshouse. This will be spectacular. Oldest Mary 1936 Miss Anna Smith. Oldest Queen 1947 Miss Anne Mercer. Let's give them all a big Marymass Cheer. Watch out for wonderful floats at back of parade, joining at 1100 Turf Corner. Good entry for racing. This years parade will be in the top 5 ever. Big Thank you to all Committee & Cairters who have helped this year. Ex Captain Andy Tremble
19 August 2010	Gillian Macfarlane	Well only 2 days to go until another Marymass, what can I say about Marymass. I have stayed in Irvine all my life and this is definitely the highlight of the year. In our household it has always been a big family occasion. We all get together for rolls

		and sausage in the morning, watch the parade at Thornhouse Avenue, head down to the Porthead and watch the crowning, back home for some lunch then out to the Moor for the races and the shows. My son who is in the RAF is well chuffed as he is coming home on Friday and will be here for Marymass. This really is a great day and I hope the rain stays away. I would like to thank everyone who puts this event together and would like to wish the 2010 Marymass Queen and her Marys all the very best.
17 August 2010	Susan Wilson	Well here's to another fantastic Marymass! Lets hope the sun shines down on us. I love Marymass and everything that goes with it. My family have always celebrated the festival and my daughter is carrying on the tradition of dancing in the parade. Im chair of the local Co-operative area comm and for the past 7 years we have sponsored some part of the festival. Lets hope this year is no different and I have a fantastic day. Well done Danny on being elected again as Captain, you do a fine job! And Garry you have stressed me out this year!!! Only kidding. See you all out the moor on Sat!!
17 August 2010	Jack Crichton	Born in 1946 at the top of Hill St. I Consider myself a bona fide Irvineite. Now live since 1972 on the outskirts of Toronto Can. with my wife Eleanor. Have a married 28 yr old son. First time on your site and I see your Aug4/10 message entry from Gerald Frew whoes wife Betty is my cousin. Great that you are keeping this event alive world wide.I really looked forward to the fair.Was quite proud to watch my uncle Archie McAllister when he was captain.Also 1965 queen Elizabeth Chalmers was in my class at either Bank St or Irvine Royal. Great memories.
14 August 2010	Kate Dalton	I was at the Gala Day today. I have enjoyed this fun day for many years and was surprised that Mr Kerr didn't show his appreciation to the waiting crowd by saying a few words.
14 August 2010	Michelle Aitkenhead	Marymass is a great time of the year, which brings the whole of Irvine together. I hope this year is as great as the rest. Congrats to all Past Marymass Queens and Mary's. My kids have enjoyed Marymass every year and r looking forward to it again this year. I hope the sun shines for Vicky and the other girls and the have a wicked time.
04 August 2010	Hugh Gerald Frew	My wife the former Betty Macnab,a Mary away back in 1947 is looking forward to her visit to Irvine for the celebrations on August 21st. Being away from Irvine since 1966 she hopes to meet many of the older long time Irvine residents that may remember her and of course her Queen and the other Marys from 1947 and the years around that. Her day in 1947 was blessed with great weather fortunately, as her coach was open. She hopes that 2010 will be blessed with a fabulous day for all locals and the many visitors that come for the celebrations.
26 July 2010	vicky burns	I would like to say thanks for picking me as marymass queen 2010. I can't wait til it all begins:) p.s.thanks for the best wishes comment claire williamson:)x
10 July 2010	william	i moved down south for 20 yrs, came back up a few years ago, and it seems marymass day has lost its sparkle, i am aware that we have events leading upto which are fantastic but on the actual day i was hoping that, we could bring in some family fun again, lets face it onc e the procession is done, there is little to

		do, stalls take 10 mins, and they are all the same, funfair is good, but can be expensive, so families need more things to do and i am sure, if there was more to do ,especially this year, the fun and enjoyment factor for all would be back. proposal would be look at other events, what about having a dog show, horse jumping, tug of war, football, maybe someone parachuting in, something different, bouncy castles, boot sale with no cars not enough space, so many things could be brought in, what do you all think
06 July 2010	Claire Williamson	Hellooo Just wanted To Say Congratulations To Vicky Burns (Queen - One Of the awsomest friends I'll Ever Have) Will Be watching You On Marymass Saturday And Wishing You All the best! Hope You Have A Great Time And Enjoy The memories you'll have of it!! Love Yooooou Sooo Much!! Claire xxx
26 June 2010	terry march	hi guys we are looking forward to coming up to marymass again in august and meeting up with a few old friends we have made along the way[since 1984] get the beers ready boys !!!we would like to thank ANDY TREMBLE for being not only a good host but we would like to think a good friend to all of us who travel up from LONDINIUM...every year and also thank everybody involved in putting on such a magnificent weekend of fun and pageantry hope the weather is nice and everyone enjoys themselves and to see all the usual suspects in the DELTA you know who you are !!! heres to MARYMASS AGAINterry,woody,cuddles jeff ,jim and titchmarsh..the london crew.
25 June 2010	Anne Marie Hunter	I would like to thank the Carters for Remembering our Amazing Uncle Alex Burns! "GOD BROKE OUR HEARTS TO PROVE TO US THAT HE ONLY TAKES THE BEST!!!!" God Bless you Uncle Alex you may be gone but you will NEVER be forgotten!!!! Love always Anne Marie & John Hunter in Canada.
05 June 2010	Irene Inglis	August 1984 captain Bert Gibson . I was Tranent Carters Lass 1983 and i was invited through to the marymass festival and had one of the best days of my life . i walked the parade on the saturday watched the races in the afternoon .But i think the best was watching the horses get all decorated up from the friday night through to saturday morning . i still have all my picture i took . Im going to try and get through this august with my husband and mum to watch the parade .
25 February 2010	louise mckean-bouton	i was brought up in irvine i lived there until 1984 and then moved to the usa i have been back a few time for marymass and brought my children over as well to see it i look forward to the photos on the years that im unable to get back to enjoy it keep up the good work so all expats can enjoy your site
24 December 2009	ex cpt. ANDY TREMBLE	Spent last hour browsing site, brilliant. Excellent job, Mr webmaster. Message to Captain Kerr, 2009 was a tough year, financially. Here's to 2010, I'm behind you all the way. "I'll creash ma wheel, I'll crack ma whup & help a brither oot a rut". Andy
23 December 2009	Belle Dempsey	hey guys got a great friend who grew up in Irvine Her Name Is Nickstar, and i am from Australia, so all power to you guys , you have pretty great ppl there, and i love he so so much , so it means i love you all too, maybe one day i will get there Aussie Belle

15 August 2009	Irene McIlwain	Wishing everyone involved and everyone who will be attending the festivities a very Wonderful Marymass.
07 April 2009	Michele James	I was hoping someone had some photographs from Marymass 1990. micheleaaen@hotmail.co.uk
19 February 2009	May McClelland	Hi to all and like all the readers I remember Marymass with lots & lots of fond memories. I was interested to read the entries and I recall some of the people mentioned. Gordon Black, and Sandi Mitchell were in my class at Ravenspark. I recall Linda's name but cant put a face to her. Alan Aitken now lives in Houston, myself I live in North Carlolina and hope to attend a Marymass in the next couple of years with my husband. If anyone remembers me you can contact me at maymcclelland@hotmail.com
12 February 2009	Joe Williams	I haven't attended Marymass for a few years now...but I remember many happy times at the shows on the golffields then the races the next day , and all the Auld rascals Wullie Hay,Rab Blackwood, Jimmy Affleck, Hughie Bell, Johnny McIlwain (my uncle), Rab Kerr to name but a few..maybe this year
04 December 2008	Francesca Richer	How wonderful to see the sights that have been in my memory since the early 60's. I was unlucky in being picked as a Mary in my school days at St Michael's (Irvine).However I do recall the hours I spent with various friends preparing costumes and horses for the fancy dress parades. The ' Folk club' and the excitement! The names of the children involved are obviously descendants of the friends I left behind when I left in 1965! Frankie Richer (nee Pagano)
16 November 2008	Alasdair Camlin	Being a son of Irvine, it was really good just to look through this years photographs (2008). It always brings back my many memories of Marymass, and I may yet return one August to enjoy it again..... Pottsville,NSW, Australia.
27 August 2008	Hazel	hi just wanted to say how great the parade was ... even though my shetland broke her harness we still carried on in the parade except we put her saddle on instead lol =) see youz next year =D x
26 August 2008	Derek Hextall	On behalf of myself and fellow visitors from Sanquhar, I would like to pass on my thanks and appreciation to the committee who looked after us on Marymass Saturday at the Moor. it made our visit very relaxing and enjoyable and having a committee member look after us gave us a better insight into your traditions and events - so Thank You! Special thanks to Matt Bell on a job well done looking after us! And for all of your hospitality and guidance! As with a previous comment, it is just the world we live in now where rules and red tape take some of the fun out of our festivities - but long may they continue. Congratulations and best wishes to the Captain, Queen and Marys and to the Committee on a job well done. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR! Derek (Sanquhar Cornet 2004) {Emma Herries-Cornets Lass 2000 - Laura Shankly-Cornets Lass 2002 - Alison Shankly-Ensign 2007 - Sarah Hughes-Cornets Lass 2008}
24 August 2008	Erin Houston	Hi There, Well that's Another Marymass Gone By! Glad That The Day Stayed dry & Went well. I Entered My Horse for the 14.2 and under and won 1st prize again. If it wasn't for my Papa William Cousar who is the longest running carter ever then I

		wouldn't be in the parade or interested in horses at all. My family play a big part in Marymass as some of you might know the name COUSAR. My Papa as I've already said is the longest running carter ever so far & Hopefully for many years to come. He's done so well over the past few weeks as his beloved wife Mary Burnie Cousar Recently just passed away. My Uncle is also a carter, Hugh Kerr Who was captain in 2004 & Still attends. The majority of the male members of my family are carters as you might have guessed. My Dad was a Carter & Marymass was his favourite Time Of The Year. Unfortunatley Last Year Only A Week Before Marymass He Passed Away. I Was Heartbroken & Till This Day I Still Am But I Manage To Keep GOoing & Since I Was A Little Girl I Take My Pony In To The Parade & Have only ever Got 2nd once & The Rest Of The Time I'm First. I Am Proud To Take Part In Marymass & Hope That Its Going To Get Better Due To It Getting Worse With All These Stupid Rules.
22 August 2008	LInda Carder	My cousin lives in Preswick, I in Bethany, Ont. Canada..I have visited Irvine and when she said she was going there tomorrow for a festival so i had to look it up and your web site is wonderful..i have book marked it future reference. Your Queen & her Mary's are wonderful. I have never heard of Marymass so this is something new and it certainly would bring Irvinites home for the weekend.
22 August 2008	lilaine clark	Good Luck for tomorrow Kerri-Ann and enjoy your day. lilaine arthur and the girls x
29 July 2008	Hugh Robertson, Fergus, Canada	I enjoy reading your guest book and other books on murmess as we called it then. Keep up the good work and the tradition. [Thanks for the extra info, hugh - we'll change the horse's name. (Ed.)]
03 July 2008	David Clarke	Had hoped to return to Marymass after many missed years, hope to bring a few horses with me next year for definite. maybe the Carters would consider bringing back the Gymkhana they held the Saturday before the Crowning weekend. it was held on the football pitch in the Playing fields known as Little Hampden. Come on Carters bring more horse competitions in like a Long distance race. if you do that properly you may persuade some of the Royal Family of Maktoums, that's just an idea maybe you could write an ask them to Sponsor same? Marymass was always set around horses as the Carters were. Maybe in time the Local hunt could help in bringing an Amateur hurdles race night at Bogside - just a few thoughts from an Equine lover, I did bring couple of ponies in early 90s from Ireland. David Clarke
03 July 2008	Michele James	Does anyone have any photographs from 1990? I was a Mary and none of my work colleagues believe me. [Michele, your email address did not reach us - please send it in to let us reply.]
01 July 2008	david clarke	I use to attend every year for Marymass, I can go back to captain McAllister Captain Donaldson. Last time (1992) I came over from Ireland brought 2 ponies to race, my daughters were 12. My reason for not coming back wasn't because some people thought my pony for 12-2 class was too big but because I have been in couple of car accidents, Id like to come this year but definitely 2009 and will bring Horses and Ponies. I remember Dunlop's Misty who would have thought Jim rode him an the

		<p>Bennet Brothers Alex an Jim an Mr Elliot from The East Road also the man who taught me to ride Davey McCormack a newsagent near the Station. I rode a Clydesdale in 54 or 55 when my cousin Patricia Lynch of Clarke Drive was Queen - her name was Punch - an Mr Allan The Milkman from Bank Street sponsored it. My uncle Borthor Willie Arkison who passed away in 1990 was a good friend of COUSIE Mr Cousar The Saddler at The Cross I have so many good memories of Marrymass. I look forward to coming next year with horses and Ponies and maybe this year to watch. Just remembered came in 2000 but had to head back because of the pain I was in just after the crowning. Id like to thank Carla Biagi for giving me a chair to se if I could ease pain, To The Carters Society and The Captain, I wish you a sunny day for the Parade and the Races an a peaceful and successful Day. I would love to see some of my old Classmates of St Michaels College 1957 if Carla Biagi is still in business I will make my way there before Crowning Yours Sincerely David Clarke</p>
15 May 2008	Vic Irvine	<p>Been doing a bit of genealogy. Ran across Marymass pages and I find one of the ladies in the 2006 pics on left looks very much like my 20 year old granddaughter..Red hair and freckles too. Will be placing this site in my favorites. Thanks G'ma Vic</p>
30 April 2008	mike forster	<p>my mother (now 86 and still as sharp as a tack) was one of the Marys in 1936. her name was Julia Langtry and she lived at 10 Harbour Street in Irvine. I think she is the first Mary you can see on the photograph of May Wark leaving Townhouse on the 1936 picture . Is anyone able to confirm please?</p>
25 November 2006	Graham Draper	<p>having been an exiled irvinite since 1988 it pleases me that the marymass festival is still going strong. i will return one day and once again enjoy the festivities.</p>
05 November 2006	Linda Agnew	<p>When I found out that my neice Cara Craig was going to be a MaryMass Mary, wild horses couldn't have kept me away, along with meeting up with Gordon Black and Linda Innes (nee Reid) from our days of country dancing in wee short kilts, (Gordon as the piper of course) and seeing my family was brilliant. No matter how long I have been away, Irvine will always be my home and I miss it. Aw ra best tae ye all.</p>
11 October 2006	John Mcmillian	<p>Nice to see the site online, cool to see all those old photos. I also found this site through another irvine site: http://www.irvineayrshire.org</p>
11 September 2006	Hayley Irish	<p>this years marymass was so great, and well done to everyone for making it a sucess! x hope next year is just as good!</p>
01 September 2006	Keith McFadden	<p>Just like to say thank you to the people of Irvine and area for staging such a wonderful event as Marymass and for having kept it going so long really enjoyed our second parade and met some wonderful people. Keep up the good work all the best from Ontario Parisportdover Pipe Band</p>
27 August 2006	kieran gorman	<p>i love mary mass it is the best thing all year canney wait 2 next years marymass</p>
25 August 2006	Caryn White	<p>Gosh, another year of being in Marymass. I really enjoy it and it's a good experience for me because I am doing a report of this years Marymass for History. It's going to be a good report</p>

		and this year I hope my float wins the Best Float again! Thanks to Nan, Raymond and everyone else who has put together the floats that I have been on each year. Unluckily, this might be the last year that I take part in the Marymass, and I havent watched it since I was.. 9! Wow. But I hope this year goes well as its my 2nd year at Academy and the first time Ive been in the Marymass whilst Ive been at Irvine Royal. I do hope I can persuade Raymond to carry on making floats, but I think this time its for definite. Wish me luck! I want to stay in another year :(.. OR TWO! :)
25 August 2006	kendal xx	Hiya I really enjoy marymass it's really good i like all of the rides
25 August 2006	Cin D Turner	Visited the site through advice of a friend in Irvine. Beautiful photos and very informative. Thanks, George! TN/US
23 August 2006	Wullie simpson	loved the site, just hope i dont get to drunk and rolldown the marymass hill again like 2003 hahah
18 August 2006	Linda Putnins Cain	Gosh talk about a trip down memory lane. I only found out about this site by chance reading the Irvine Herald. I was a 'Mary' in 1970. Reading through all these pages especially those mesages from Sandy Mitchell has made me smile and remember too!. Good God I remember Sandy starting Primary School at Loudoun Montgomery. I remember Alan Aitken's band, he stayed just round the corner from me too. What a wonderful idea to have this site. Marymass was a wonderful experience for everyone involved in it . Heavens time does pass by but memories sure don't fade. This has conjured up so many memories, faces names and laughs. Eileen Martin was our queen of the time who sadly died later on the same year but I went on to work with her sister. Sandy, I remember those dances and the names you mention. Just to let you know John Humphrys now lives in London with his wife and 3 of a family. Ravenspark Academy was THE place to be at the time.
17 August 2006	tezza chelsea	been coming up since 1984 love marymass and have only missed last year will be here this year and hope to meet up with all my old mates[drinking buddies]have persuaded a few friends from the east end [london] to come up again they love it heres for a fantastic weekend cheers tezza and all the gang
17 August 2006	Nikki Muir	Thoroughly enjoyed visting your website ; very interesting. As an avid Marymass attendee since I was a tot, I'd be interested in obtaining more photos relevant from 1982-1988. Thanks
16 August 2006	mrs sandra boyle mcclelland	good website although finding it difficult to get specific pages. [There's so much stuff, but we'll do what we can. Webmaster]
16 August 2006	Deacon Convenor Don Campbell	2005 was superb.Looking forward to 2006.Lets hope the sun shines again.
14 August 2006	andrea gibb	enjoyed before hope : this year goes well
10 August 2006	Christine Innes	I was born and bred in Irvine and never missed a parade. It gets better every year. Thanks
09 August 2006	Susan Wilson	Marymass to me and my family has always been a big event. For the past three years I have been involved as a sponsor through the Co-operative Group, and I get all excited every year! Well done Irvine Carters and not forgetting our Gary!

07 August 2006	jackie wade	looking forward to another parade
24 April 2006	Linda Rahim (nee Lang)	Thoroughly enjoyed your website. I lived in Irvine from 1960 until 1982 when I moved to Canada. I've got fond memories of Marymass and the great times. The photos on your website are brilliant. Thanks!!
23 January 2006	Linzi Affleck	hi there just to say that the site is brilliant and that i cant wait till august for the next one well can i give a big shout out to the queen that has done IRVINE ROYAL ACADEMY PROUD and to her four marys i am proud of the lot of yous thanx lv linzi affleck
11 January 2006	Gordon Black	Just to let everyone know that the Marymass name is well known over here in Ontario, Canada. I am bringing the Paris Pipe Band back this year (2006) and we are all looking forward to it. Noticed an entry on the guest book from Sandi Mitchell, if she reads this then please get in touch (I was the piper that they used to dance to at Ravenspark Academy) Looking forward to seeing some old friends in August.
06 January 2006	Christine Hay	Hi just visited your web pages and really enjoyed..ashamed to say that I had never heard of Marymass until I started doing geneology. Found out family were Carters in Irvine long time ago. But will definitely be at it this year! Excellent
12 December 2005	Linzi Affleck	The site is looking very good and can't wait till next year big shout out to Stephanie McCallum the queen you have done irvine royal proud xoxoxo
06 December 2005	Linzi Affleck & kimberley Kerr	Hi there the site is smashing and well done to all the marys for 2005 and the big one and only Stephanie Mc Callum you have done well and you have done us all proud even the school hope you enjoy the rest of your time Lvyas Linzi & kimmy XOXOXOX
04 November 2005	Ailey McAllister	I'd just like to say thank you to everyone who made my experience as a Marymass Mary so special! It has been an experience of a lifetime!! Thank you to Queen Stephanie and the other Marys and to Ian and JP (John.) Also to this year's fantastic Captain, John!! A big thanks to everyone!!!
22 September 2005	xx:-aynz-:xx	I FINK THIS SITE IS OK I GOT ALL OF MA RESEARCH STUFF AFFY THIS SITE BYE LUV YA FAE AYNZ X X X X X X X X X X X X
07 September 2005	Xx Stephanie McHallam xX	Big thank you to everyone involved in marymass!!! It has been an amazing experience!!! Also a thank you to the 4 beautiful marys for being brilliant friends!!! Hope to see our photos on the site soon!!! hopefully i will see yous all soon!! loadsa luv Queen Stephanie xXxXxXx LoLoLoL!!!!
30 August 2005	siobhan mcdonald	hiya every1 just like to say i had a great time during the period of marymass and if I was asked I would do it all over again. I would like to say a big thank to Gepetto and iain for making it so easy for all of us and john is a really good captain and i would like to see him stayin captain for more years to come
22 August 2005	stephanie tomnay	just want to say thanks to everyone involved. We had a great day and will remember it for ever, thanks to Iain and JP(john!) and to everyone else it was great! lv fae stef (marymass mary 2005!)
	Kimberley McLean	

21 August 2005		What a day!!! Well done to stephanie and her for marys, they all looked wonderful!!! The weather was fantastic. I'm looking forward marymass 2006 already!! xxx
20 August 2005	Linzi Fae Irvine	Hullo there fae America! Good luck with the Marymass in 2005! Site looks great, a pleasure to read fae far away. I wish I was there an dI hope everybody has a good time!
19 August 2005	John Matthews	Well done Ian - site looks really good - Johnny
19 August 2005	James Black	Good Luck To Everybody Connected With 'Marymass' & I Hope The Sun Shines For Everybody. It's A Great Day Out For All 'Irvinites' & 'interlopers'!!!!!! , The Only Day You Can Have A Swally Outside In The Sunshine!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!. Hope The 'Auld Firm' Game Doesn't Spoil The Attendance.
17 August 2005	xx Carla Baird xx	Well dun tae aw the Marys n the queen!! Big shout oot tae Abbigail Welsh well dun daw! Hope yoo huv a great day. See u soon luv ya lotz fae Carla x x x x x
14 August 2005	Campbell Malone	Greetings from New Zealand. Have a great Marymass week. We have many awesome memories, particularly the greasy pole. The Malone family
12 August 2005	emma mckinnon	good luck to Captain Rorison. he will be a brill captain of the carters. have fun everyone for this year
12 August 2005	Emma McKinnon	your website is brill. i have been brought up in the marymass tradition. my dad has been a part of marymass since he was a teenager. now he is in the society. hoping to become fiscal next year. keep up the good work in making marymass such a special and brilliant time of year.
11 August 2005	Andy Baird	To Sandi Mitchell Fletcher - hi Sandi, just read your entries. I was the vocalist in Timor Mortis (sorry!), along with Alan Aitken, Davie Stafford, Ian Parker & Mub McKinnon! Alan married my wife's sister, so is now my brother in law. They live in Houston Texas, via Aberdeen. Don't know where Davie is. Ian P is married in London and plays keyboards for the Hollies! Mub lives in the States on the east coast, Boston or Philly or somewhere like that, still drinks LOTS of beer, but managed to visit Alan recently! I'm still in Kilwinning. Nice to hear from someone who remembers us. I've never been called awesome before!!! Alan & I had a jam session in my house just two weeks ago.
10 August 2005	~!*!~ Siobhan McDonald ~!*!~	Hiya everyone. I would just like to say well done to the Queen this year stephanie and the other marys. Lets hope it's a good day and hope us will enjoy it a know i will x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x
07 August 2005	Siobhon Rocks xoxox	Would like to say well done tae all the Maryz and the Queen this year. Big shout out tae Siobhan McDonald ma best pal. Well done, hen. Luv u hunnerz n Stephanie Tomnay. XOXOX
06 August 2005	pat carrigan	If you have a comment or a funny story about the marymass you can catch Pat and Sean who are making a short film about the Festival Past, Present and the future. We are on the street, in the pubs and at the festival. Don't be camera shy and be part of the History of the Marymass. viva la Marymass. Pat And Sean.
03 August 2005	kazmax04	

		Congrats to my Neice Siobhan McDonald for being chosen to be a Marymass Mary GOOD LUCK FOR THE DAY AND REMEMBER TO ENJOY YOURSELF XXX LOVE AUNT KARON XXX
29 July 2005	George Barr	I think a festival should have entertainment between races on the moor in the afternoon and ban all drinking while in charge of a horse and carriage at pubs
23 June 2005	n@t@lle emm	i would like to say hi to ma wee pal sean in the 1st page lol
23 June 2005	Shauna Lidington	Hi to all the mary's and all the queens good luck
20 June 2005	john blakely	very nice site very interesting historical facts just found ure site in search was at the top:) keep up the good work all the best
18 June 2005	Jennifer Greenshields	Congratulations to Stephanie McHallen this years Marymass Queen, hope you have a nice day.
15 June 2005	Ashley m x	Good luck to siobhan mcdonald and abbie welsh
07 June 2005	Blair G	just 2say well done to my we star linzi love u so much 4 eva xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
06 June 2005	fiona wotherspoon	Congratulations Siobhan McDonald on becoming one of the Marys. I am so proud of you love mum and Martin
26 May 2005	Linzi affleck	I would like to say that your website is very good and that you can see that you have put loads of effort into it
18 May 2005	Robin Parker	Looking for information on James Parker, the Captain of the Carter's Society of Irvine in 1851-52. Am a decendant of a James Parker, Carter of Irvine
30 April 2005	Byron Campbell	It was great to find you on the web,My family emigrated in 1957, My mothers family was the Dunlops/Grandpa Duncan,David,Andrew,Mary,Susan and Ina,It was really great to see a little about my home of long ago Thank you Sam campbell
25 March 2005	martin pollock	a bunch of neds getting drunk and trying to climb a pole, wot a festival!!!!. Only in Irvine
01 March 2005	Sandi Mitchell Fletcher	I just posted a message on the board, but after reading some of the other messages, I realized that I recognized some of the names. I also went to Irvine Royal Academy back in the late 1960's, in fact, I was there when they built the new school, Ravenspark Academy. I have since learned that they have changed the name back (good choice!). I believe Linda Putnam and Myra McClelland were in the MaryMass Court if my memory holds true. The greasy pole was my favorite event and there use to be this mystery person that would wander around the crowds and if you guessed who he was you would get a prize. The low green was where everyone hung out in the summer time and we'd walk to the fish n chip shops in the winter. Would REALLY love to hear from anyone who was around back then - John Humphreys, Sean Scott, Carol Quinn, Myra McDonnell, Beth Hume - anyone! We use to have weekly dances at the school and the band was called Timor Mortis and they were awesome! Those were the days!!!!!!
01 March 2005	Sandi Mitchell Fletcher	I loved seeing the photos and remembering when I lived in Irvine and some of my best friends were in the Court. I sooo wanted to be in it also, but it wasn't allowed because I wasn't

		Scottish. The best years of my life were the years I spent growing up with my friends in Irvine. Never take for granted the importance of the wonderful history of Irvine and Scotland and all of your wonderful traditions. I miss it all so.
16 October 2004	natalie lynn	I was a marymass mary in 1997 and I had the time of my life. Kerry, Gemma, Laura, angela and of course Andy you were all great.I now have a daughter and I would love for her to be a mary or a queen in the years to come, and hope she would have as much fun as I did.
06 October 2004	Mrs Moira Bettaney (nee Kerr)	Still glad to see the Marymass traditionally being carried on. Keep up the good work from captain James Kyle (past captain of the carters) great great granddaughter.
03 October 2004	Provost Drew Duncan	As a brother Carter and Provost of North Ayrshire I congratulate everyone involved for a tremendous 2004 Marymass. I look forward to 2005 Marymass.
28 September 2004	amanda gemmell	hiya!!! marymass is gr8 i think the best event is tha greasy poll its soooo funny but messy thats all im gonna say !!!!
27 September 2004	kirsteeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!	hey marymass chaps and chapesses! hows ya all? just to let u know i wudnt have swapped marymass for the world and galz (siobhan, emma, linzi, colette) we rocked! and iain,tinks i love yoooooooooooooooooobyeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
27 September 2004	Linzi n Colette	We've ad a fab time bein Mary's this year.(2004) Hope the rest of the years r as excitin. We'd like tae say a big, big hiya to the other mary's Emma n Kirsty n a big, big hiya to Siobhan, the queen. Buh bye c ya's x x x
02 September 2004	nicola gilmour	marymass is great, it is good fun and all the events tht take place it brightens up my year thanks to all the carters for setting up the events and marymass saturday. from xxnicolaxx
27 August 2004	Alan Whitelaw	Many years since I left Irvine and your web page was great to visit to see the old traditions are still in place and to bring back memories of the 60's when as a small boy this was a magical event Remember well the 1976 event and my girlfriend Angela McDaid, hope she is doing well.
26 August 2004	Emma McKinnon	I think the website is great. I am just waiting for the 2004 photos to see if my dad is in one (Robin McKinnon he was on Prince). The Parade this year was excellent with all the bright colours. I hope it is as good next year.
23 August 2004	Rebecca Kerr	Hello, my name is Rebecca Kerr, I'm 12 years old and I'm from Irvine. I have seen Marymass 12 times and I have enjoyed it so much!! But I have a suggestion, the Marymass Queen's and Mary's should be on horseback, the crowds would be able to see them much better. Could you please reply, thankyou.
20 August 2004	Gordon Brown	My wife, Margaret Lauder, was a Mary in 1971 and took part in the parade, with the former Queens and Marys, last year and in 2000 and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the parade again on both occasions. We're looking forward to seeing the Canadian pipe bands again this year. Keeping our fingers crossed for the weather tomorrow !
16 August 2004	Big Scott	Lets hope the weather great again this year, not very good down they moors if its pouring.....

08 August 2004	Sadie Stewart	Great site, have put it in my favourites. I have loved 'Murmuss' since I was a kid whe I used to go and watch my grandfather - 'Wee Boabbie Smith' (whom I am sure many people remember) - play the drums in the pipe bands, flute bands and accordion bands over the years. I even walked in the parade several times as a member of the young Covenanters Accordion Band, Killwinning, from 1968 - 1971 and again in 1995 when I came out of retirement to walk with the Silver Star, Irvine, in their last Marymass parade before they disbanded. I had forgotten what a long 'walk' it was and just how heavy an accordion can be, but it was fun to do it one last time. I wish the queen and her marys aw ra best for this year.
08 August 2004	david cowan	fantastic to see marymass still going i remember 1971, At the time i was at irvine royal (spent 18 months there)
04 August 2004	Chris Robertson & Jodie Scott	Just a message to wish Colette Robertson all the luck in the world for Marymass 2004! We are both so proud of you in being a Mary this year!! Can't wait to come back home in a fortnight to see you on the big day!!! CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU!!!
05 July 2004	Benedicte Shek	I left Irvine in 1988 and have been meaning to come back for Marymass in ages and want to bring my son and partner to see what a great event it is. The last one I remember going to must have been in 1986/87when I was a bitty disappointed when I didn't get picked as one of the Marys! My first memories was having a shot on one of the Clydesdales when I was a little tot with a dear friend John, my old next door neighbour in Mill Crescent. My favourite though, was definetly the pipe bands who always made me feel really proud. I'll endeavour to return this year. Great website and thanks for providing some good nostalgia!
15 June 2004	Brian Mitchell	just found your site and it brought back memories of my younger years when my father, David Mitchell used to leave the house on a Friday night to dress the clydesdale horses for the show.I think he was quite successfull at this.I remember he used to dress horses for i think Noble of crossgates farm?If anyone remembers him or has any pictures they would like to share please contact me.
13 June 2004	Siobhan King	Hiya!Im this years Queen,i want to say thanks 4 pickin me!The website is really good,im looking 4ward to all the events!
13 June 2004	Hayley Cole	Hiya to ma wee marymass mary Emma robertson. Shes done fab n shes a mary this year well done emz luv ya loads xxxxxxxx
06 June 2004	cassandra green	hi i have entered for the marymass queen and think this site is great for finding out information and i love looking back at all the other queens and marys
06 June 2004	Eilidh Houston	Hi i have entered to become a marymass mary this year. I found out alot from this site and im sure it will come in handy. Thanx
06 June 2004	Nicola Byron	Hey, I have entered in to be the Marymass queen and i'd like to say that this website has given me all the necessary information i need thanx
19 February 2004	DShearman	Hi folk hoz u all daeing? I was the top man in 2003 G.P and won. Along wae Tam Turner, Wee skinny Gordon, Davy Cambell, Rab Davidson and Tams uncle Wully. I promised my self that i would b there on 21st of Aug 2004 but it looks like i won't be there compete. With any luck i'll be in irvine in 05 to get covered in

		grease, covered in Miller and hopefully be able to hold my head up high with Ham in Hand. No promises though. just want to thank the boys and wish them all the best for their effort, their guts and determinedness. cheers!!! Toodaloo
22 October 2003	Ian Middleton	Left Irvine in 1968 to join the Army. Now nearing retirement from the Fire Service. Still travel from West Dunbartonshire to see my Mother (82) and my sister but still like to remember the town as it was. Remember the lorries trying to get round the Cross at Cousars the Saddlers shop? Remember the Shows going to the Go'Fields for the Marymass Fair? That was the Town I was born in and grew up in. Not the same now. Not sorry I left all these years ago. It is not the same town I grew up in.
16 October 2003	Donald Miller	I left Irvine 20 years ago to seek fame and fortune in England. Alas I found neither and looking at this site makes me very homesick. Keep up the good work for the future
01 October 2003	David James Shearman	We climbed up that big greasy pole. We won over that big greasy pole and next year we're gonnae beat that big greasy pole again.
18 September 2003	lawrence	hi just like to say hi to ma wee marymess mary ma girlfriend marissa gemmel she looked lovely bye bye
26 August 2003	Gerry Ward	Congratulations on another successful Marymass this year (2003) and I must compliment you on a very impressive and professional website, your webmaster deserves a raise. I am looking forward to taking part next year with the Canadian Massed Pipes and Drums. Wishing you continued success, Gerry Ward, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 66 Pipes and Drums, Toronto. http://members.rogers.com/2001jamesward/index.html
24 August 2003	claire main	has marymass changed over the years and how
21 August 2003	Stephanie	Hiya this is a kool website am usinit to do my Marymass project. It tells u everything I am lookin for.
19 August 2003	Eilidh Houston	Hi there I love marymass having been in it for 9 years this year. My family have been in it loads of times and I like all the rides and lead up events. CYA
17 August 2003	anon	3am in the morning, what do I do a search on?? "Marymass" of course :) nice site you got going here, Im looking forward to this years photo additions.
11 August 2003	Ann Hollas	had a browse and love it all the best for 2003
04 August 2003	Edith Burnett	I no longer reside in Irvine, but when i view you web pages, it brings back lots of fond memories. Keep up the wonderful work.
12 June 2003	Stacey Kavanagh	Congratulations to this years Queen elect Jennifer and the four marys I wish you all the the best of luck and I hope you enjoy the whole experience as much as the marys and me. Remember to keep smiling and have fun !
11 June 2003	Natalie Timothy	Great web site. one of my best friends is the mary this year. (marissa gemmell) and im so happy for her.
10 June 2003	leanne brown	I was a Mary in 2001 the experience is brilliant and I had a very good time, sad that it is all over but I wish this years Queen

		Jennifer and her Marys all the best ps remember to keep smiling and enjoy yourselves
04 June 2003	Garry Hamilton	Excellent website and facility for promoting the events programme
20 May 2003	Alexander Irving	Good page full of useful and interesting facts, keep up the good work.
10 May 2003	Helen Flack	Best wishes for 2003 from an Irvineite in Sheffield. Hope to be back again this year.