

# GLOBAL WARMING TOWARDS THE BLETHER

MILLENNIUM MESSAGES OF SUPPORT FLOOD IN FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## Aloha Collieston!

Millennium Greetings from the Pacific Island of palm trees and balmy tradewinds.

Twenty-six years ago Collieston welcomed us with cheerful village smiles. We cherish our memories of all those merry folks, crashing North Sea winter waves, seagulls and moors, and mostly the spirit of Collieston. The spirit of Collieston means that even before a child or person in need can manage to ask for help, a village member is knocking at their door with a smile and warm heart.

Our Millennium Wish for your sweet village is that the nurturing spirit of Collieston continues full strength into and through the next millennium.

Cheers Collieston!

– Lynne and Rick Peterson, Kailua, Oahu, Hawaii

Give us a ring anytime

– The Bells,  
Bathgate

Close, but no cigar

– Fidel Castro,  
Havana

Who needs a man when  
you've got The Blether

– Ally McBeal,  
Boston

I do a great impression of Mick Sheehan

– Tom Jones,  
Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllanantysiliogogoch,  
Anglesey,  
Wales

Without the support of  
The Blether we wouldn't  
be where we are today

– Ebbe Skovdahl,  
Pittodrie Park,  
Aberdeen

The Blether: you've  
been my inspiration

– Jeffrey Archer,  
The Old Vicarage,  
Grantchester

There's nothing better  
for lighting the bonfire

– Kenny Bryce,  
Low Town,  
Collieston

Bonza dunnie read.  
All it needs is the  
perforations

– Sir Les Paterson,  
Brisbane,  
Australia

The Blether keeps me in  
touch with my Scottish  
roots

– Idi Amin,  
Riyadh,  
Saudi Arabia

It's handy for wrapping  
those small awkward  
items

– Santa Claus,  
Arctic Circle,  
Lapland

## LANG MAY YER PRINTER REEK

Fan I wiz jist a wee loonie, there wizna mony o' the fisher folk that wid tak the Press an' Journal (there wizna ony ither than I min') because the price – a penny a day, or wiz't three ba'bees? – wid tak a good bite out o' a family's income.

Sae they hid to depend on blether for insicht intil global issues, like whether we're gaun to hae a peacable warl' or no (dependin' on thon manny Hitler). An' 't wizna jist siclike things that the blether wiz a' about, but ithers nearer hame, like – fa wiz ga'in out on the links wi fit'n'a lassie?

An' gin a loonie wiz unobtrusive an' silent he could learn a lot about the warl and some things

nearer hame that mebbe he didna jist unnerstand in yon mair innocent days.

But now we have a Blether in print! *And have had for ten years!* Fa wid hae thocht it?

Maybe we'll never know who is going out on the links with which girl (if anyone still does such a thing, since back seats of cars offer more comfort than dewy bents and heather).

But we can all know what hours the shop is open, which boules team has the best record, and we have no excuse for not knowing what time Kirk is on Sunday, nor for failing to volunteer our help with the Gala.

LANG MAY YE TURN  
OOT THE BLETHER  
– Jock Ritchie, Florida

Ik vind het handig om gatten in het dijk te stoppen (*I find it useful for plugging holes in the dyke*)

– Pieter de Boers,  
Haarlem

**A word to the unwary – not all of the above tributes are genuine.  
In fact, I'm not even sure if the genuine tributes are genuine.**