

## THE BANNERFIELD

### DID YOU KNOW?

In the years before the 1745 Jacobite uprising, any signs of Jacobite allegiance were suppressed. Jacobites had to meet and plot in secret. Because of this, a number of secret Jacobite symbols emerged, which revealed to those 'in the know' who was on their side. These included:

- The White Rose – Used on its own it symbolized the exiled King James but it could be present with one bud symbolizing Prince Charles or two symbolizing Prince Charles and his brother Henry.
- Oak leaf and acorns – The oak was an ancient Stuart badge and an emblem of the Stuart Restoration. Charles II hid in an oak in the grounds of Boscobel House during the English Civil War, and in 1660 he wore oak leaves as he returned from exile in France to assume the throne. In a withered or 'stricken' form frequently with the motto 'revirescit' (it revives, it grows green again, it shoots again) the oak is a symbol of restoration and regeneration.
- Sunflower – a symbol of loyalty as the head of a sunflower constantly follows the sun
- Butterfly – known for its spectacular hatching from a chrysalis may symbolise hope for the Stuarts' grand return from exile.
- Bundles of sticks – representing strength in numbers.
- Medusa head – the name Medusa in Greek translates as 'protector' or 'guardian'
- Thistle – representing the Stuarts' claim to the Scottish throne. The thistle surmounted by a crown was an ancient badge of Scotland.

Tradition has it that a gilt ball on top of the flagstaff which was raised on the Bannerfield was dislodged by a high wind and fell to the ground, seen by many as an ill omen and recorded in the old verse:

*"But when the standard was set up,  
Sae fierce the wind did blaw, man,  
The golden nit, upon the tap,  
Down to the ground did fa', man,  
The Hielandmen looked unca glam,  
They didna' like't at a' man,*

*And second-sichtet Sandy said,  
We'd do nae good at a' man".*

The Earl of Mar had a nickname - "Bobbing John," probably because he was known keep changing his mind about which side he was going to support.

Some of the Jacobites became cattle thieves or Caterans in order to survive.

The Black Watch regiment was created in order to prevent smuggling and cattle rustling following the Jacobite Rising of 1715.