

(3)

TITLE:- BRAW LADS GATHERING.

Picture:- The old Scottish border raids and wars spilt much blood before the Thistle bloomed in harmony with the rose. With the Standard symbolising victory over the invading English in 1337, the Braw Lad and his lassie --

--arrive at the Raid Stone and are received by the Lord Mayor. The Braw Lad and his attendants are decorated with sprigs of "scorbloom" by the lassies for their courage in repulsing the Southern enemy.

The interested onlookers now follow the principals down to the banks of the Tweed; for the mounted lads and lassies --

--have to ford the stream and visit a friend on the other side.

It's cold, but they have taken the plunge and the horses carrying their costumed riders have to press ahead vigorously as the river is almost in flood. But the Braw Lads and Lassies are not to be --

--intimidated, and despite several of the horses desiring to exhibit their paces in mid stream, the landing is accomplished successfully.

The next ceremony is at the Old Market Cross where the Braw Lads and Lassies pay tribute to the memory of those who won the royal title of borough for them.

A traditional ceremony which keeps the "Scotland for ever" spirit alive !