

THE HOMETOWN PUBLICATION FOR THE WORLDWIDE SCOTTISH COMMUNITY

Volume VIII Issue No. 11 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A April 2014

13th Annual Tartan Day on Ellis Island Delights Thousands

NY Tartan Week Opener Celebrated with New Exhibition, Music and Dance

New York, NY - "Tartan Day on Ellis Island" – the nation's largest Tartan Day celebration - returned for its 13th annual observance from March 28-30, opening NY Tartan Week. The highlight of the weekend was "Scots in the American West," a new exhibition, produced by Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, WY.

The exhibition looked at the lives of Scots and Scottish-American that shaped the American West, enduring a land with unforgiving climate and terrain further challenged by violent clashes between native Americans, feuding families and ruthless outlaws.

The 2014 edition of Clan Currie's popular program enjoyed impressive attendance records with over 20 thousand visitors from around the corner and around the world. In addition to the exhibition, a steady stream of visitors thrilled to the sights and sounds of the NY Celtic

Dancers accompanied by the Rampant Lion Pipe Band as they stepped ashore on Ellis Island. Elsewhere, John Grimaldi – the Kilted Juggler and trick roper Will Shaw delighted visitors with their skills.



Inside the exhibition area, visitors enjoyed the delightful sounds of harp, fiddle, and guitar led by 2013 US National Scottish Harp Champion, Haley Hewitt, NY Brogue featuring Glenfiddich Scottish Fiddle Champion Calum Pasqua and the NYC Harp

Orchestra.

The program also included an information table which provided a whole host of information about Tartan Day, the National Trust for Scotland and the Clan Currie Society as well as resources to look up family names and clan tartans.

Commenting on the weekend, James Kenneth Hare, Executive Director for the National Trust for Scotland Foundation – USA said, "It was wonderful to see the

Editorial and photos continued on page 21

HAPPY EASTER



Beth Gay-Freeman, LOK, FSA Scot

Editor, photographer, etc.

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Family Tree**

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1996 Atlanta Olympics Torch Run with tartan hair bits



For months before the '96 Torch Run there was a little box in *The Family Tree* asking clans to send in a little strip of pinked cut tartan to be worn on my head in the July 11 Torch Run in Moultrie, GA.

The strips were glued to a barrette and were worn during the great event.

It fell to me to make a speech on the Colquitt County Courthouse steps.

The very short talk was about my Grandmother since July 11 was her birthday.

A letter from your editor....

Happy Days are Here Again!

There are most always silver linings to things and times we suffer through. I realize that on the great scale of things a computer disaster ranks down there with being out of Ketchup or nose blowing tissue...however, when the computer disaster appears to finally be over...there are many things to celebrate.

Most of my celebrations this time come from my adventures in finishing putting away things to complete our move. I found pictures - such as the Torch Run pictures on page 2 here...and the photo of me and my dear friend, Alastair McIntyre, at one of the Moultrie Scottish Weekends (at the top of this page). I found some photos of friends and horses and dogs and cats...I found my new Lands End turquoise jacket which came at the end of last winter so that I could only wear it a few times...and then, that jacket hid itself from me. I only found it when in the depths of cleaning our closet during the break from working on this publication because of the computer explosion. (I wore that jacket every day for the last month or more...and made sure I put it away where I will be able to find it next year!)

There were a few days when there was absolutely no dust in this house anywhere and that everything was neat and clean and polished. Of course, that didn't last long. It's now back to it's normal state of mostly comfortable and not quite immaculate.

I had time to read and read...and if you know me well, you know I adore reading a good story. On the advice of a friend, I learned about the books of Dorothea Benton Frank. I had time to explore and enjoy two or three Diana Gabaldon books I had missed in her series which will be on television this summer on the Starz network. I so enjoyed being in the company of Claire and Jamie and all of their family and friends again. The seventh volume of *The Outlander* series will also be out soon! I reread a few of Lee Childs Jack Reacher books. There was finally time to read some more of Nora Roberts' books. I am always amazed that each of her books is fresh and new and always a really good read.

Something I have done for years and which I always enjoy is recycling my calendars each year into envelopes. Since I did not get to do that last year because of still moving in...I got out all of my "envelope making stuff" and twice as many calendars as I usually have (two year's worth) and just had a good time! I just figured out that I can enclose any birthday, thank you, get well cards and their

regular envelopes...and then put the whole thing in one of my calendar envelopes. This year, I even had a Budweiser calendar featuring the magical Clydesdales to play with.

My ironing is caught up for the moment.. I did polish the big silver punch bowl and cups that Tom surprised me with and my Auntie Mildred's silver service. I did polish my copper collection...my hands may never return to their natural color! I did polish all of the wood furniture in the house.

Somehow there never was time to do everything. I still have a long way to go to complete crocheting around a sizeable tablecloth I embroidered years ago. I never got to start on Tom's genealogy. He knows some about his father's family, but his mother's family is more of a mystery. I did discover by finding a small book in his mother's collection, that Tom's great uncle was a famous fellow named Karl Bitter. Mr. Bitter was known as an architectural sculptor. He did extensive work at Biltmore House in Asheville, NC including the carving of the huge library fireplace and lots more. I really do want to learn more about both the Freeman's and the Bitter family. I also learned that Tom's Stewart line originated from Mariah Stewart whose family sold their cow for her passage to the New World. Mariah was his great-great grandmother we think.

Since my return to oil painting requires an extensive visit to an art supply store, that has been postponed awhile...but I do have my easel set up downstairs in a good place. That's very high on my list of priorities.

Does anyone ever get to do all the things they want to do? I never have...but hope to get close one of these days.

Since the computer has been working properly, I have completed the re-do of Section A for March. The Clan Donald MidSouth newsletter was out on time. My work on the itinerary for the hopeful Scottish trip next September is done. The April *BNFT* will be completed when I finish this page, both sections.

I've only had about two weeks to work, so feel pretty good about accomplishing that much work in that short of a time.

It does feel good to enjoy working on the computer. You all do know, don't you, that this publication is done simply because I think it is important to have Scottish news available to all at no charge...and because I enjoy doing it so much!



BNFT is now done in a different technical manner than ever before. Your editor is still in the "learning curve" of figuring out how to do everything. So far, I have not figured out how to send the "early bird" folks their copy of BNFT.

If anyone knows how to make pdf files which are created on the scanner compress my files so that the total file of 30 or more pages is not so huge, please email me at bethscribble@aol.com.



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Celtic Music Announced for Rural Hill Scottish Festival & Loch Norman Highland Games

HUNTERSVILLE, NC: The 21st Annual Rural Hill Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games announced the musician lineup for the festival weekend April 12 & 13, 2014. The Festival's Celtic sounds include Seven Nations (*photo*), Saor Patrol, and the traditional Celtic sounds of Ed Miller, Jil Chambless, Scooter Muse, John Taylor, and the southern swagger of NC's own Thistledown Tinkers. Performances will be held throughout the weekend including the Saturday Night Concert at the Celtic Rock Stage beginning at 6:30 PM. There will also be massed Pipe Band performances on Saturday and Sunday as well as individual pipers and drummers in sanctioned competition. Complete schedules, event information and advance tickets are available online at www.lochnorman.com.

The story of Seven Nations (*photo*) is that of a truly original and determined band based in Orlando, Florida. Throw away any preconceived notions you may have about Celtic music...this is a band that has invented its own sound and attracted a prodigious national and international following. With a passionate, tender, and rollicking style that winningly veers from roots and folk to dance and fusion-rock, Seven Nations has earned a growing reputation as an adventurous band with a charismatic stage presence.

From Central Scotland and Fife, the ancient Celtic Kingdom of Scotland, Saor Patrol and their unique sound of Scotland in the 21st century, brings together the sounds of the past into the present. The energy they share with their audience during a performance, with their vibrant pipe tunes and drum rhythms, pleases and excites many a crowd from all walks of life.

Ed Miller has been hailed as "one of the finest singers to come out of the Scottish Folksong Revival" and as "one of Scotland's best singing exports." Originally from Edinburgh, he is now based in Austin where he gained graduate degrees in Folklore and Geography at the University of Texas.

Continued on page 7

seven nations
rain and thunder

Seven Nations,
Saor Patrol.

Ed Miller,
Jil Chambless

Jil Chambless
The Ladies Go Dancing

Continued
on
page 7

William Hunter of Nansemond County and His Early Descendants

A genealogical study of an early American family of Virginia and North Carolina

By the Hunter Family Research Group

In the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century records of Nansemond County, Virginia, William Hunter is documented as an immigrant, a weaver, a militia captain, a judge of the quorum, and a prosperous freeholder. Although evidence of his exact origins has not been proved, he seems to have come out of one of the shires of northern England, likely Northumberland, Durham, or Yorkshire, where the Hunter surname and the profession of weaving were prominent in the sixteenth century and earlier.

In America the Hunters initially were identified as Virginians, but after the refiguring of the state's southern boundary in 1728, their lands lay in North Carolina. Thus the Hunters of Nansemond became North Carolinians of Chowan County. William Hunter's descendants are legion. His children left many heirs, and this book traces them through five or more generations as they migrated to other counties of North Carolina, to South Carolina, to Georgia, and beyond.

Teeming with family names and identifications, this work, researched and compiled by the Hunter Family Research Group, is an essential resource for descendants wishing to know and understand their Hunter ancestry. It features meticulous documentation, citing wills, land records, military records, census records, and family papers. Included also are genealogical trees and an index of names.

The Hunter Family Research Group, headed by Raymond Hunter, is composed of descendants of William Hunter's sons. The group members are: Raymond Hunter, Still Hunter, Rob Hunter, Richard Hunter, Thomas Hunter, Martha Rester, Hunter Cole and Tony Hunter.

8 1/2 x 11 inch., 214 pages, 60 family charts, index.

\$27 Hardcover bound in buckram.

Available Now!

Order by U.S. mail, phone or email:

Raymond Hunter, 2739 Freeman Road, Royston, GA 30662; 706-245-5682; rjhunters@bellsouth.net

Send _____ copy / copies of *William Hunter of Nansemond County and His Early Descendants* @ \$27.00 each to

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Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ (price of book(s) plus shipping to one address)

Checks only

Shipping of one package per address: 1 book, \$4.30; 2 books, \$5.20; 3 books, \$6.00

Loch Norman Highland Games music,

continued from page 5

Originally from Montgomery, Alabama, Jil Chambless now resides in Tuscaloosa and has played an active role in the Celtic music scene for more than 20 years. As singer and flute and whistle player, Jil has completed many recording projects and performed at Celtic festivals and concerts across the US as well as in Canada, Scotland, and Israel with the band Henri's Notions, guitarist Scooter Muse, Scottish singer Ed Miller, Scottish fiddler John Taylor, the band Vulcan Eejits!, the Vogt Family Contra Band, and others.

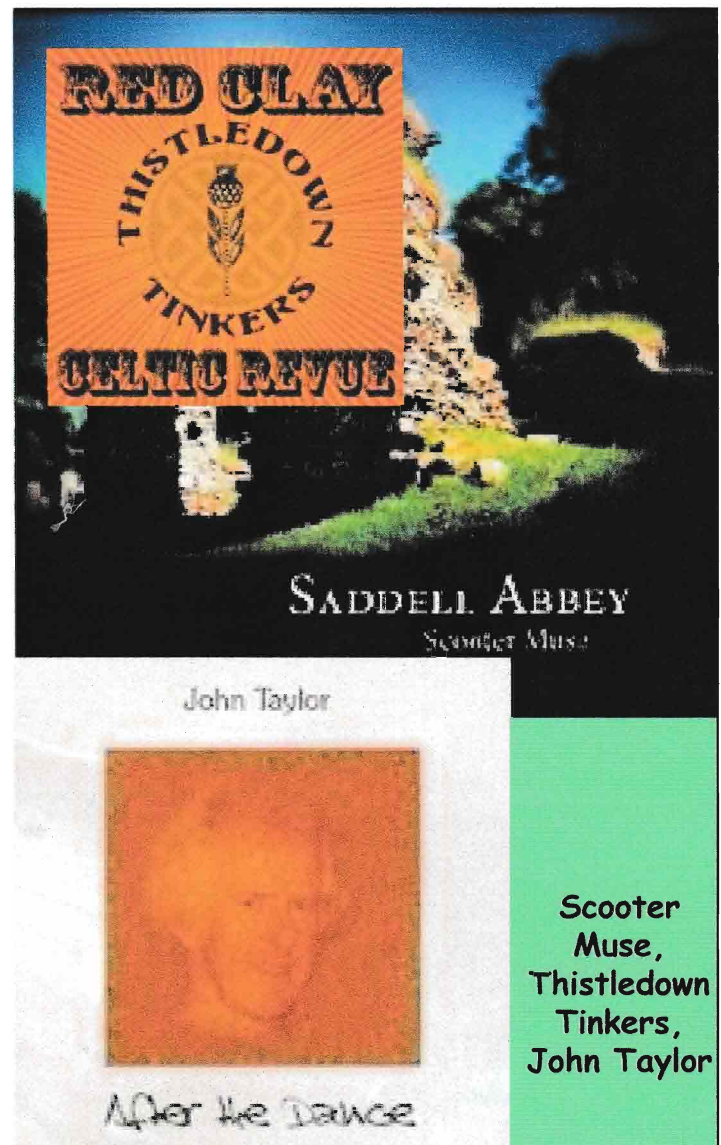
Winner of countless banjo competitions throughout the southeast including the Tennessee Valley Championships 8 times, Scooter Muse has played with bluegrass legends, Clair Lynch, Vassar Clements and a host of others as well as handling first call banjo duties for the world famous Muscle Shoals, Alabama recording industry. He founded the Full Moon Ensemble, who achieved national recognition, toured the US and Canada as well as Scotland, and recorded 5 critically acclaimed CDs. After a successful 8 year run, the FME went their separate ways and Scooter was drafted as the guitar player for the longest running Celtic band in the south, Henri's Notions. The Notions have appeared with such great artists as Bob Dylan, Paddy Obrien, Patrick Street, Brian McNeill and countless others.

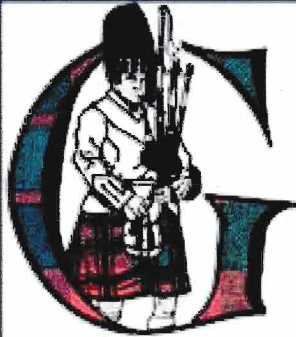
John Taylor is a fiddler and composer from Buckie in Scotland and a past winner of the Niel Gow award for

Scottish fiddling. Taylor is well known in Scottish country dance circles having appeared in many parts of the world including the USA, Canada, New Zealand and various parts of the UK. He has recorded specific country dance music CDs with Andrew Imbrie and has often appeared with Texas-based folk singer, Ed Miller. In a review of their first collaboration, *The Edinburgh Rambler*, the *Austin American-Statesman* called Taylor "brilliant."

Thistledown Tinkers, the powerful music duo featuring Trip Rogers and Tom Eure, are not the fragile, romanticized Celtic music you hear in movie soundtracks, but the kind that makes you sing along and stomp your feet. These seasoned music veterans from NC, weave traditional Scottish and Irish music with original creations while adding a southern swagger that sets the stage on fire. With an impressive arsenal of instruments including guitar, fiddle, mandolin, banjo, dulcimer, and concertina, musicianship is at the core of Thistledown Tinkers. Their stage presence creates a rebel rousing party that not only draws fans in, but makes them feel like a part of the **show**.

The Rural Hill Scottish Festival & Loch Norman Highland Games on April 12 & 13 offer live traditional and Celtic rock music, over 65 Scottish clans and their representatives, genealogy searches, Piping, Drumming, and Highland Dancing sanctioned competitions, Scottish country dancing, massed band performances, professional heavy athletics, and the popular Saturday night Celtic Jam. Attendees can join in for the amateur heavy athletics, long bow competition, battle axe competition, as well as demonstrations, whiskey seminars, the "Kids' Zone" with children's activities, and Rural Hill's famous historic encampment. Complete information can be found at www.lochnorman.com.





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**Absolutely NO Pets
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14th Bethabara Highland Games & Celtic Music Festival

Saturday, May 10, 2014

The Celtic Music Stage: hosted by Sonny Thomas and Fiddle and Bow Society

Colleen Raney, Hanz Araki, and Joseph Carmichael - Trio from the Northwestern US featuring vocals, guitar, flute, and whistles.

Portland, Oregon's Colleen Raney is a gifted traditional singer who just released her fourth album, titled "Here This is Home" which was produced by guitarist and singer Aidan Brennan and engineered by Trevor Hutchinson over the summer of 2013 in Dublin, Ireland. Visit their websites at www.colleenraney.com.

The path of a musician is often unpredictable. One wouldn't imagine that six generations of mastery of the Japanese shakuhachi would lead to a career in Celtic music, however that is exactly how it played out for accomplished flute player and traditional singer Hanz Araki. The son of Irish and Japanese parents guaranteed a household with a broad spectrum of musical influences. Visit the website at www.hanzaraki.com.

Joseph is multi-instrumentalist playing various flutes, whistles, guitars, is best known for his percussive styled guitar.

Crann Ull - Rob Sharer on guitar, fiddle, flute and vocals. Margaret Rush on guitar and vocals. Drawing from both traditional and contemporary sources as well as penning much of their own material, Craicdown's repertoire includes both songs and instrumental pieces ranging in style from Americana to reggae-sounding vocals, from Celtic influenced jigs and reels to the music of Brazil and Argentina. Visit their website at www.craicdown.com

Matthew and Aaron Olwell - Brothers from southern Virginia featuring vocals, flute, bodhran, fiddle, concertina, and dance.

"Matthew provides perhaps the most striking contribution to the band's sound with his mesmerizing per-



Admission and Parking
to the Bethabara Games are FREE!
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FREE PARKING!

cussion, which he provides with the cajon and bodhran (drums from Cuba and Ireland, respectively), hamboning, clogging, flatfooting and dancing." -Dave Higgs, *Bluegrass Now*

Aaron Olwell is a multi-instrumentalist (flute, whistle, left-handed fiddle, concertina, banjo...) and the son of world-renowned Irish flute-maker Patrick Olwell. He plays both traditional Irish and Old-Time music, which he learned through numerous trips to Ireland and summer camps in North Carolina and West Virginia.

Visit their website at www.mattolwell.wordpress.com

The Clan Colquhoun Society in North America
is now...

The Clan Colquhoun International Society

<http://www.clancolquhoun.com>



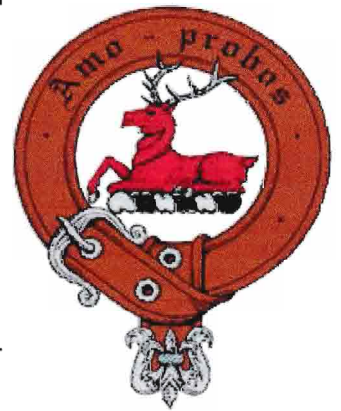
Contact Tom Hodges:
sijepuis@bellsouth.net

Allied Families and Septs of

Clan Colquhoun are:
Colquhoun, Calhoun, Cowan,
MacClintock & MacManus

Clan Blair Society

Memberships are cordially invited for Blair
descendants and other interested parties.



www.clanblair.org

President Clan Blair Society: Jim Blair
7200 S. Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120
Email: president@clanblair.org



Membership Chairman: Charles Diman
3413 Sunnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715
Email: ClanMembership@clanblair.org

The new fashion - FIREMAN'S KILT!



With thanks to Eric King from Tallahassee, Florida.

In Search of the Perretts by George Perrett available

In Search of the Perretts by George Perrett was first published in 1983 and subsequently reprinted. George, together with Peter Perrett was the founder of the P*RR*TT Society in that year.

If you would like to have a copy of the book, contact John Perrott, 11 Norman Drive, Old Sarum, Salisbury, Wilts SP4 6FP England, United Kingdom

Flowers of the Forest

On Friday last 18th September in Kernow many were shocked to be informed of the untimely passing of **Tony Piper.**

“Pipes” as he was known to so many, was an “Old Hill Boy” from Falmouth, Cornwall.

He served as a police officer and he was always an outstanding Cornish patriot.

Following his retirement he campaigned ceaselessly for Cornwall, both politically and culturally.

A Bard of Gorsedh Kernow and always to be seen at the front of processions with a huge banner Piran with a smile as big as the flag.

His love for Kernow and the other Celtic Nations was undoubted. He was a member of many Celtic organizations and a founding member of “Cornish Solidarity” and was known far and wide.

He worked tirelessly for pan Celtic cooperation.

He was a true Cornishman and a Celtic legend. RIP “Pipes.”

Mike Chappell in *Carn*, A Link Between The Celtic Nations The publication of the Celtic League.



Clan Davidson Society USA



Davidson Clansmen dominate the Parade of Tartans at the International Gathering of Clan Davidson sponsored by the Clan Davidson Society USA. The event was held June, 2011, in conjunction with the Kansas City Highland Games.

Is your name listed here? If so, then you may be interested in membership in the **Clan Davidson Society USA!**

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Davey | Davisson | Dea | Dee | Dhai | Keay | MacDade | MacDavid |
| Davie | Davy | Dean | Desson | Dow | Keys | MacDagnie | MacDavitt |
| Davidson | Daw | Deane | Devette | Dye | Key | MacDagny | MacDhai |
| Davis | Dawson | Deas | Dewis | Dyson | Keys | MacDaid | MacKay |
| Davison | Day | Deason | Dey | Kay | MacAdie | MacDavett | McKeddie |

The Clan Davidson Society USA is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit corporation recognized by the **US IRS** as a 501 c(3) Educational and Charitable organization. We are dedicated to the preservation of our rich Scottish and Clan Heritage. CDA-USA publishes an award-winning, electronic, full color newsmagazine of 40-60 pages twice a year, packed with informative articles and photos of interest both to Davidson Clansmen as well as anyone interested in the history and culture of Scotland.

The Society's On-Staff Genealogist is the Founder of the Davidson/Davison DNA Project and is available at no charge to assist the membership with their own genealogical excavations.

For more information, check out our website at [www.elandavidsonusa.com] or contact the Society's Membership Registrar at [sennachie@earthlink.net].



Lots of places to learn about genealogy - Just go and learn! Oh, and have fun, too!

Gather Your Family - Family History Conference

When: April 19, 2014

For a complete class list, please visit <https://sites.google.com/site/arkfamilyhistory/topics>. Registration is available online at <https://sites.google.com/site/arkfamilyhistory/registration>

Location: Springdale, Arkansas

Main Sponsor: Northwestern Arkansas Family History Conference

Family History Retreat in Historic Nauvoo, Illinois

From April 23 to April 27, 2014

Please visit their website for additional and/or upcoming information at <https://www.familyhistoryexpos.com/viewevent/index/68>.

Location: Nauvoo, Illinois

Main Sponsor: Family History Expos

Minnesota Technology Conference with

Thomas MacEntee

From April 25 to April 26, 2014

Please visit their website for upcoming information.

Location: Brooklyn Park, Minnesota

Main Sponsor: Minnesota Genealogical Society

25th Annual Conference –

A Matter of Life and Death

When: April 26, 2014

Please visit their website for additional information at <http://www.safhs.org.uk/conference.asp>. Programme is available at <http://www.safhs.org.uk/images/2014/programme.pdf>.

Location: Halbeath, Dumfermline, Fife, Scotland

Main Sponsor: Scottish Association of Family History Societies

Say Cheese! Family History Through Photographs: Daguerreotypes to Digital

When: April 26, 2014

A picture is worth a thousand words, but what secrets do they keep?

This years keynote features Maureen Taylor, “the nation’s foremost historical photo detective,” speaking on “Say Cheese! Family History and Photography.” For information on additional speakers and topics, please visit http://www.lmhs.org/home/events/history_conference.

Location: Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Main Sponsor: Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

Colorado Genealogical Society Spring Seminar

When: April 26, 2014

Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist, will be presenting “No Person Shall... Gallop Horses In The Streets – Using Court Records to tell the Story of our Ancestors' Lives” (Friday night), “That First Trip to the Courthouse”, Property Rights and Wrongs: African-Americans at the Courthouse”, “The Ethical Genealogist”, and “No Vitals? No Problem! - Building a Family through Circumstantial Evidence”. Registration form is available at <http://www.cogensoc.us/seminar2014.pdf>.

Location: Denver, Colorado

Main Sponsor: Colorado Genealogical Society and Denver Public Library

GenEx2014 - 53rd Annual OGS Conference

From April 30 to May 3, 2014

Sessions and workshop highlights are: African American research (three full days of tracks), Beginning genealogy, Ethnic (Czech, Jewish, Nordic, Polish, Russian, Scottish), Methodology, Military, Ohio (including Midwestern and New England states), Research strategies, and Technology and DNA. Please visit their website for additional information. The conference itinerary is available at http://www.genex2014.org/uploads/1/9/2/6/19265805/ogs_2014_conference_itinerary.pdf.

Location: Sandusky, Ohio

Main Sponsor: Ohio Genealogical Society

Clan MacCord Society

Invites for membership all spelling variations and descendants of McCord (a)(e)(y).

Also McCourt, McChord, McCoard, Cord(e), McCart, McCort, Cort(e)(s) and Flynn, McFettridge and Kane.

Contact

**Ronald John
McCord**

President/Chief
1805 Mews Drive
Wilmington, NC 28405
Ph. 919-256-3798 or
rmnccord@ec.rr.com



Clan Home Society (International)

Cordially invites membership inquiries
worldwide from all HOME, HUME & SEPTS



Information about
The Clan Home Air Force,
contact aeaton@cfl.rr.com



For information and application, write to:
Camille Simmons, President
1205 Avery Way
Kernersville, NC 27284
cbsimmons@earthlink.net

Flowers of the Forest

David Ronald Best, 90, of Greensboro, died Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at Moses Cone Hospital. A memorial service was held Monday, March 31 at Saint Francis Episcopal Church by Rev. Mike Mauldin. Inurnment will follow the service in the memorial garden as well as a reception in the parish hall.

David was born May 21, 1923 in Cape Town, South Africa. At age 15 ½, he left home to join the British Merchant Marine (BMM) service. During WWII, he saw action doing Atlantic Convoy duty on freighters, tankers, and troop carriers. His ships were torpedoed three times. After 21 years with the BMM, he served on various ocean liners, tankers



and cargo vessels. He served on the *Queen Mary* for eleven and a half years, including time during WWII.

He travelled the world and had many stories of the places he visited. The only ones he never visited and wanted to see were Hawaii and Tahiti.

He was an accomplished chef and culinary educator. He taught at several culinary schools, including Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI; Hudson County Community College in Jersey City, New Jersey; and Guilford Technical Community College in Jamestown, NC. He helped to start three different culinary school programs and was an international consultant for food service equipment manufacturers following his retirement from education.

He was a Mason and belonged to Manchester Lodge in Coventry, Rhode Island. He loved to garden and experiment with food products. He was proud to be of Scot-

tish descent. He was active in promoting Scottish history in the settlement of and during the war of independence in the USA. Member of Clan Cameron and SAMS.

He is survived by his wife Genie (Stockdale) Best; daughter, Aleta Best of Sterling, VA; son, Daniel Best and grandson Christian Best, both of Altamonte Springs, Florida; and step daughter Jennifer Luffman and two step grand children of King George, Virginia.

VENI: I came to see the world

VIDI: I saw the world from East to West & North to South and all around

VICI: I conquered my ignorance when I found that there were other cultures, beliefs, and ways of living other than I had been led to believe. Online condolences may be made at

www.haneslineberryfuneralhomes.com



Clan Blair Society member #54 **John C. Vienna**, Virginia. He is survived by wife Judy. They were part of the founding membership of CBS.

Per Judy- There was no obituary for John because he did not want that nor any ceremony. His ashes will be scattered in the ocean probably next month.

He pursued his Scottish ancestry doggedly and his mother was a 1st generation Scot as well.(surname DOIG)

May 27th is International MacFie Day.

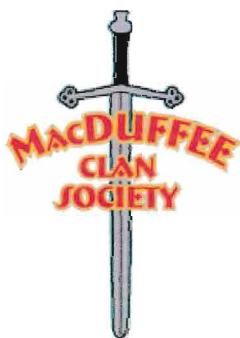
Following the worldwide rallying of Clan MacFie members, by Dr. Earle Douglas MacPhee of Vancouver, BC, the Lord Lyon King of Arms officially recognized the clan on May 27, 1981 as once again being an active clan.

In 1993, Clan MacFie met in Parliament of the island of Colonsay for the first time in 370 years.

About 129 Macfies, representing MacFie societies around the world, met on the ancestral homeland. Thus May 27th was chosen for Clan MacFie Day by the members attending that Gathering and Parliament meeting.



MacDuffie Clan Society of America, Inc. of Clan MacFie



Annual General Meeting held each year in July
at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.
You're always welcome to come.

Registrar: Marty Rosser
336-275-8619
martyrosser50@aol.com

Genealogist: Richard Ledyard
865-671-2555
rledyard@tds.net

**Treasurer: David Nathan
McDuffie**
678-557-9215
dnmcduffie@hotmail.com



In 1914 in the United Kingdom...

Cheering crowds greeted the declaration of war against Germany on 4 August 1914, but the reality of war became apparent later that month when the British Expeditionary Force met the Germans at the Belgian town of Mons.

The military skill of the British regulars held the Germans at first, but the weight of the German offensive drove back the French, leaving the British flank exposed.

The BEF was forced to abandon its positions and retreated with the French to the River Somme where the allies planned to stop the Germans rush on Paris.

It was the German advance on France through Bel-



gium which had brought Britain into the war barely a month after the heir to the Austro-Hungarian empire was assassinated by a Serbian nationalist in the town of Sarajevo.

A major report on working class housing in Dublin revealed that 22% of the population lived in one room tenement buildings in conditions of horrific squalor.

The Dublin housing enquiry began in 1913 in the hope of improving the living conditions of the working class, and later in the year Dublin Corporation set up a housing committee.

Continued on page 25

Clan Blair Society Annual Burns Dinner, February 1, 2014



Front row, L-R: Arabella Blair, Tiernan Blair Galligan, Jenna Judd, Cordylia Blair Shryack, Scout Blair, Colton Judd, Saoirse Blair Galligan, Quinnlin Blair, Meaghn Judd, Torin Bliar, Hannah Blair and Willa, Sher Zimmer 2nd row, L-R: Leslie Blair Balligher with Atia Blair, Mimi Allen, Nick Mustoe, Bonnie Blair Mustoe, Chelsea Blair with Melenie 3rd row, L-R: Anne Blair, Rebecca Sahr, Janet Perry McLaughlin, Katte Judd, Erynn Blair Shryack with Lochlann, Sara Byes, Shayla Fischer, Jim Blair



Clan Leslie Society International

Septs: Abernethy, Bartholomew,
Carnie, Laing, and More (Moore)
and other spelling variations

David Leslie White,
Chieftain



Send Inquiries To:

Linda Flowers, Treasurer

Clan Leslie Society International

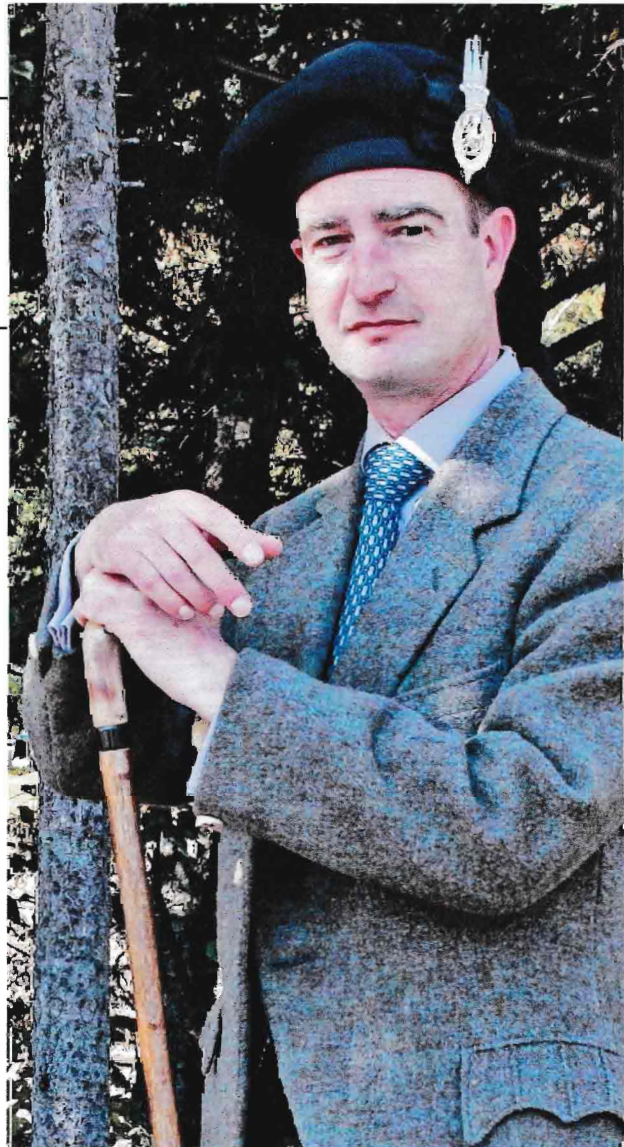
30302 SW 3rd St.

Tuttle, OK 73089

LFLOWJINGO@SBCGLOBAL.NET

www.clanlesliesociety.org

**The Hon. Alexander Leslie,
Chief of Clan Leslie**



A real murder mystery, thanks to Alastair

Hi Alastair and Friends,

Many thanks for your interesting e-mail to which I am pleased to respond. Whilst in my 80th year my memory is not 100% accurate, my notes, minutes of meetings and my memory of those dark days are as accurate now as they were twenty-nine years ago! I have tagged my take on the events of 1985+ on to the end of this short piece about Willie's murder.

Willie MacRae was born on May 18th, 1923 – assassinated by British establishment, person or persons unknown, on April 7th, 1985. He was a Scottish National Politician and a Scots Lawyer, remembered also for the mystery surrounding his death. Willie was an active member of the Scottish National Party and an anti-nuclear dumping campaigner.

He was active outside Scotland too, having served in the Royal Indian Navy and becoming active in the campaign for Independence for India. He was also the author of the maritime law of Israel and emeritus professor at the University of Haifa. After his death a forest of 3,000 trees was planted in his Honour in Israel to mark his death.

On the fateful day of his untimely death Willie left his Glasgow flat at 18:30 on 5 April 1985, to spend the week at his cottage at Ardelve near Dornie. He was not seen again until the following morning around 10:00, when two Australian tourists saw his Volvo Estate car lying on the moor a short distance from the junction of the A87 and A887 roads, about 30 yds (27 ms) from the roadway, straddling a burn. The tourists flagged down the next car to pass by, which turned out to be driven by a doctor, Dorothy Messer, accompanied by her fiancé as well as David Coutts, a Dundee SNP councillor who knew Willie MacRae very well.

It was discovered that Willie was in the car. He was not wearing a seat belt. Another car was sent to call the emergency services. Dr Messer examined Willie and found that he was still alive and breathing. She noted

that one of his pupils was dilated, indicating the possibility of brain damage, and estimated that he had been in that state for 10 hours.

Willie was removed by ambulance to Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, accompanied by Dr Messer. On arrival it was decided to transfer him to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

At Aberdeen it was realised that the incident was more than a road accident; six hours after he had been found, a nurse washing his head discovered what appeared to be the entry wound of a gunshot. An X-ray confirmed that Willie MacRae had been shot above his right ear and a bullet was detected in his head. His brain was severely damaged and his vital functions very weak.

The following day, on Sunday 7th of April, after consultation with his next of kin, Willie MacRae's life-support machine was switched off. An investigation into Willie's death was headed by Chief Superintendent

Andrew Lester of Northern CID.

Despite no weapon having yet been found, Willie's car was moved at 12:00 on 7 April. It later transpired that the police had kept no record of the precise location where the car had been found, and the position stated by them was later found to be 1 mile (1.6 km) in error, and was corrected by a witness who had been present at the scene.

A weapon was found the following day, in the burn, over which the car had been discovered, 60 ft (18 m) from the vehicle. It was a Smith and Wesson .45 revolver belonging to Willie MacRae which had been fired twice. No fingerprints were found on the gun, despite MacRae not wearing gloves when he was found.

Although it was ruled at the time by authorities that Willie MacRae's death was a suicide, the official account has been disputed, some claiming that the distance from MacRae's car at which the gun was found and the lack of fingerprints on it rendered such a verdict, not credible.

Continued on page 27





CLAN GRAHAM SOCIETY



SEPTS

Airth, Alirdes, Allardes, Allardice, Allardyce, Allerdyce, Alyrdes, Ardes, Auchinloick, Ballewen, Blair, Bonar, Bonnar, Bonner, Bontein, Bontine, Bontyne, Bountene, Buchlyrie, Buchlyry, Bullman, Buntain, Buntien, Buntin, Buntine, Bunting, Buntin, Buntyn, Buntyn, Buntyn, Conyers, Crampshee, Cramsy, Cransie, Drumaguassie, Drumagaassy, Drumaguassie, Duchray, Duchway, Dugalston, Durchray, Esbank, Fintraie, Fintray, Fintrie, Glennie, Glenny, Grame, Graeme, Grahame, Grahym, Grim, Grime, Grimes, Grimm, Hadden, Haddon, Haddin, Haldane, Halden, Hastie, Haldine, Hasty, Hastiy, Howden, Howe, Howie, Kilpatrick, Lingo, MacCribon, MacGibbon, MacGilvern, MacGilvernock, MacGilvernoel, MacGribon, MacGrime, MacGrimen, MacIlvern, MacIlvernock, MacKibben, MacKibbin, MacKibbins, MacPiot, MacPiot, MacPotts, MacRibon, MacRigh, MacRis, MacRiss, MacShile, MacShille, MacShillie, Maharg, Monteith, Monteith, Monzie, Orchille, Pitcarian, Piatt, Pyatt, Pye, Pyott, Reddoch, Reddock, Rednock, Riddick, Riddoch, Riddock, Serjeant, Sirowan, Sterling, Strowan, Strowen

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or Sept of Graham,
you are cordially
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in a proud and
noble heritage.
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Society today!*



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DUCHESS AND 8TH DUKE OF MONTROSE
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Tartan Day 2014, continued from page 1

enthusiasm that the visitors to Ellis Island had for Scotland – I think hearing the pipers playing in the distance as the excursion boats drew near the dock set a very special mood for them. I was overwhelmed by the number of people who came through the “Scots in the West” exhibition from all over the world. Tartan Day on Ellis Island truly serves as an ambassador for Scotland and the National Trust for Scotland Foundation was honored to be a part of the Clan Currie Society’s 13th annual event.”

For event producer Robert Currie, the highlight of the program was an unexpected visit by 50 students from the High School of Dundee, Scotland. “The students had heard about NY Tartan Week back home and were delighted they would be able to experience part of the two-week festivities during their trip. We had the Rampant Lion Pipe Band pipe them off the island to the strains of “Bonnie Dundee.” It was magical.”

This was the 13th observance of Tartan Day on Ellis Island produced by the Clan Currie Society. Past programs have included, “The Life and Legacy of John Muir,” “Loyalty and Exile - The Jacobites and America,” “A Celebration of Tartan,” and “An Leabhar Mòr – The Great Book of Gaelic.”

Said Currie, “Many of these exhibits are available for loan from the Clan Currie Society for use in Tartan Day programs across the country. In fact, our exhibition entitled “Scotland’s Gifts” is slated to be on display as part of the upcoming Los Angeles “Brit Week” program in Santa Monica, CA.”

“Scots in the American West” was made possible by the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Naoma Tate and the family of Hal Tate, the Clan Currie Society, the National Trust for Scotland Foundation-USA, and the Smithsonian Institute.

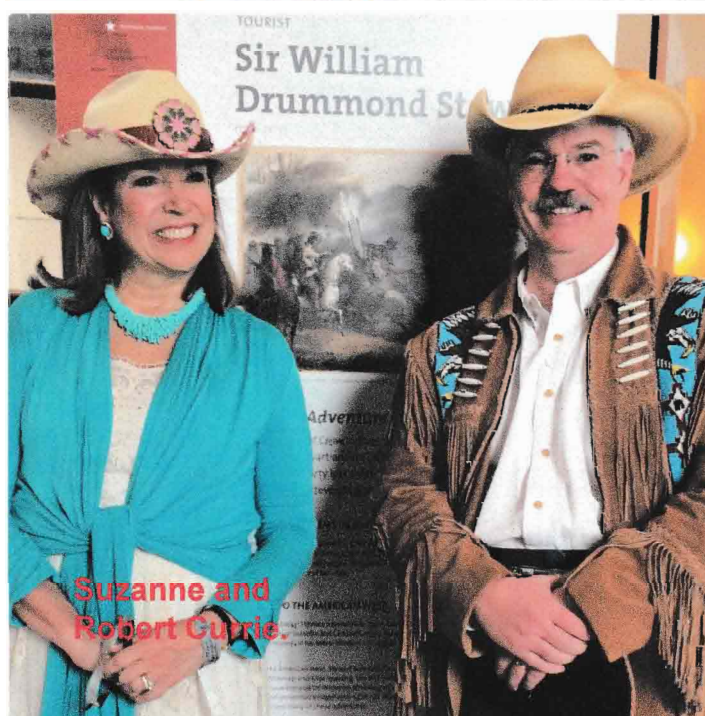
About Tartan Day on Ellis Island

Tartan Day on Ellis Island is one of the principal Scottish heritage events in the United States. Playing host to literally thousands of domestic and international visitors each day, it is the largest Tartan Day celebration in the world. Ellis Island is a fitting place to observe Tartan Day. The island and its historic buildings represent America’s “Golden Door.”

Continued on page 23



James Hare, Executive Director of the National Trust for Scotland Foundation signs up a National Trust for Scotland student member.



Suzanne and Robert Currie.



Three exhibits drew crowds from all over the world.



Roper Will Shaw catches one!

The Clan Macneil Association of America

If you are a Macneil or any of the following "Sept Names" then you have found the clan you have been searching for.



" O'n D'thainig thu."
Remember the men from whom
you have come.

The Clan Macneil President: Robert "Bob" Neill,
183 Pheasant Walk Way - Vilas, NC 28692
raneill@juno.com

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| * Macneil | * Mcniel | * Niell | * McGougan |
| * MacNeil | * McNiel | * O'Neal | * McGrail |
| * Macniel | * Mcneill | * O'Neil | * McGrail |
| * MacNiel | * McNeill | * O'Niel | * Mcgrail |
| * Macneill | * Mcneal | * O'Neill | * Mcgrail |
| * MacNeill | * McNeale | * Oneil | * McGugan |
| * MacNeillie | * McNeilage | * Oneill | * Macgugan |
| * Macneal | * Mcneilage | * Nelson | * McGuigan |
| * MacNeal | * McNelly | * Neilson | ...and |
| * Macneale | * Mcnelly | * Nielson | * Mcguigan |
| * MacNeilage | * McNeally | * MacGougan | |
| * Macneilage | * Mcneally | * Macgougan | |
| * MacNelly | * Neil | * Macgrail | |
| * Macnelly | * Neal | * MacGugan | |
| * MacNeally | * Neall | * Macgugan | |
| * Macneally | * Neale | * MacGuigan | |
| * Mcneil | * Neill | * Macguigan | |
| * McNeil | * Niel | * McGougan | |





Happy Easter
2014

Tartan Day 2014, *continued from page 21*

From 1892 to 1954, more than 12 million immigrants passed through Ellis Island. Although many Scots arrived during the colonial period of our history – helping to build the new nation - an additional half-million Scots came through Ellis Island. It has been estimated that 40% of Americans today can trace at least one ancestor’s entry into the United States through Ellis Island.

Describing the program, noted Scottish journalist and author Roddy Martine reported that of all the Tartan Day events held in the United States, the Ellis Island observance has, “stood out as a beacon of what USA Tartan Day is all about: the emigrant ancestors of ordinary Americans who over three centuries crossed the Atlantic Ocean to create the world’s greatest democracy.”

Tartan Day on Ellis Island is produced by the Clan Currie Society - one of the preeminent Scottish heritage organizations in the United States. The Clan Currie Society began its successful collaboration with the Ellis Island Immigration Museum in 2002 in the coordination and sponsorship of their first Tartan Day celebration. That year, Clan Currie and the National Museums of Scotland joined forces to host the traveling exhibit, “Home and Away: Highland Departures and Returns.”

As part of the celebrations for Tartan Day 2011, the Clan Currie Society commissioned a specially designed Ellis Island Tartan© to mark the 10th Anniversary of Tartan Day on Ellis Island. Each color in the tartan reflects upon the American immigrant experience. The blue represents the ocean that had to be crossed to reach the American shores. The copper-green is the color of the Statue of Liberty. The red depicts the bricks of the Ellis Island buildings where 12 million Americans took their first steps towards freedom. The gold is the golden door that is the United States of America and the dawn of a new life in America.

www.tartandayonellisland.com



Tartan Day
on Ellis Island





CLAN BUCHANAN SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, INC.

If you have the name "Buchanan" in your family or any of the allied family/sept names below, you are invited to join your cousins and Buchanan kin. Just send an email for a membership form and/or information to

<http://www.theclanbuchanan.com/html/contact.html>



Pres.
Ken

- | | | |
|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Bohanan | Gilbert | Macgilbert |
| Buchanan | Gilbertson | Macgreusich |
| Colman | Harper | Macgubbin |
| Cormack | Harperson | Macinally |
| Cousland | Leavy | Macindeo(r) |
| Dewar | Lennie | Mackibb |
| Donleavy | Lenny | Mackibbon |
| Dove, Dow | Macaldonich | Mackinlay |
| Gibb(s)(y) | Macalman | Mackinley |
| Gibbon | Macandeior | Macmaster |
| Gibson | Macaslan | Macmaurice |
| | Macaslin | Macmorris |
| | Macauselan | Macmurchie |
| | Macauslan(in) | Macmurphy |
| | Macausland | Macneur |
| | Macauslane | Macnuir |
| | Macalman | Macquat |
| | Macalmon(t) | Macquattie |
| | Macammond | Macquattiey |
| | Macasland | Macquyer |
| | Macchruiter | MacQuinten |
| | Maccolman | Macwattie |
| | Maccolwan | Macwhirter |
| | Maccormac(k) | Macwhorter |
| | Maccommon | Masters |
| | Maccoubrey | Masterson |
| | Maccubbin | Morrice |
| | Maccubbing | Morris |
| | Maccubin | Morrison |
| | Macdonleavy | (of Perthshire only) |
| | Macgeorge | Murchie |
| | Macgibbon | Murchison |
| | | Richardson |



- Risk
- Rusk(ie)
- Ruskin
- Spittal
- Spittle
- Walter
- Walters
- Wason
- Sasson
- Waters
- Watson
- Watt
- Watters
- Weir
- Wuill
- Wool
- Wule

The CBSI was formed in 1970 as the Clan Buchanan Society in America. It was founded at the Grandfather Mountain Games in North Carolina. The name was later changed to the Clan Buchanan Society International Inc., to reflect our society's expanded purpose and membership.



You're welcome to email the Pres.
ken.buchanan@TheClanBuchanan.com

The report found that many houses were served by merely one water tap in the yard. The basement rooms had little light or ventilation and inspectors found human excrement scattered about the yards and in the passages of houses.

Some 118,0000 people lived in the Dublin tenements and their conditions were comparable with some in Calcutta.

The report acknowledged that the high mortality rate in the Dublin area was a direct result of poor housing. Death from tuberculosis was the highest of any city in the United Kingdom.

The swirling lines of the rivers in northern France had by October given away to a new type of warfare, with lines of opposing trenches stretching from the English Channel to the Swiss border.

Fierce struggles were going on for strong points along this line with the BEF holding onto the Flanders town of Ypres (always known to the troops as “Wipers”).

Aircraft, zeppelins and submarines had all played roles in the fighting to a greater or lesser degree. Paris had been bombed and a German submarine sank three British cruisers. British aircraft had raided the German Zeppelin sheds.

In January, successful treatment of cancer with the use of radium was claimed by doctors at the Middlesex Hospital in London.

From May, higher taxation was announced in the budget. Income Tax, now began at 4 p (modern money) in the £ on £1,000 income.

Leading British and Irish politicians failed in July to agree the future of Ireland at a conference held at Buckingham Palace with King George V in the chair.

He had been criticized for intervening by Irish Nationalists but did so with the government’s support. He told the party leaders, “For months we have watched with deep misgivings the course of events in Ireland. Today, the cry of civil war is on the lips of my most responsible and sober minded citizens.”

However, his royal plea for “generous compromise”

failed to end the crisis. A Home Rule Bill before Parliament in 1914 suggested allowing countries to vote on staying out of Home Rule for six years, until there had been two British General Elections.

This proved unpopular with the “loyalists” who opposed any exemptions.

In September, the imminent threat to Paris by the Germans was averted. They were stopped at the River Marne and started to retreat. It was however, a close run thing. At one stage, 600 Paris taxis were commandeered to rush troops to the front.

One French general, Ferdinand Foch, under severe pressure, reported, “My centre is yielding, my right wing is giving way. An excellent situation. I attack tomorrow.”

The BEF played a vital part in the battle, crossing the river into a gap between two German armies, threatening to outflank them and forcing them to abandon the battlefield.

British losses were heavy. Posters saying “Lord Kitchener needs you” started to appear,

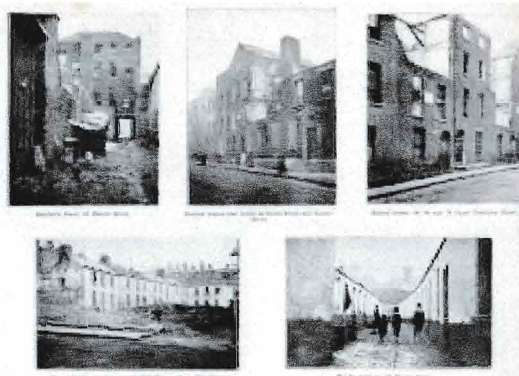
aimed at recruiting the 500,000 German born citizens under the wide emergency powers of the Defence of the Realm Act.

Emmeline Pankhurst was among fifty-seven women who were arrested on May 22 after clashing with police guarding Buckingham Palace. They were attempting to deliver a petition to the King in support of their campaign for the vote.

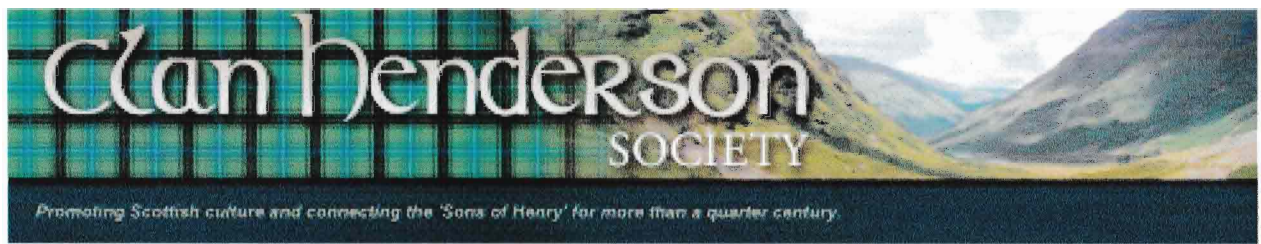
Another franchise bill had been defeated earlier in the month as the protests by the suffragettes continued unabated. Some of the year’s actions had however alienated their own supporters.

There had been attacks on paintings in the National Gallery and the Royal Academy. Bombs had been hurled at a London church and the pier at Great Yarmouth. There were arson attacks on private houses as well as public buildings.

These tactics were opposed by Emmeline Pethick Lawrence, one of the early leaders of the Women’s Social and Political Union which was founded by Mrs. Pankhurst.



1914 Dublin housing report



ALISTAIR OF FORDELL, CHIEF OF THE NAME AND ARMS OF HENDERSON

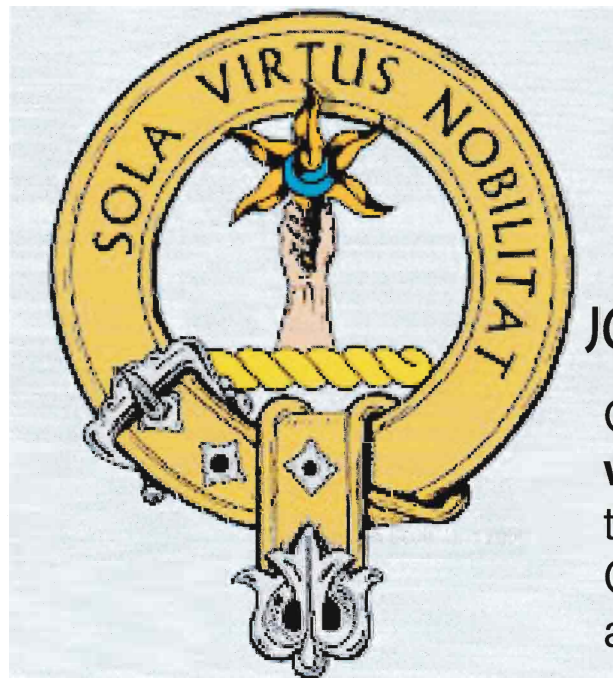
INVITES YOU TO HELP "GATHER" WITH YOUR COUSINS BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE CLAN HENDERSON SOCIETY

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As a member of the society you will:

*** Encourage Scottish cultural activities including the perpetuation of Scottish dress, traditions and customs** * Promote Scottish festivals, games and gatherings * **Assist in genealogical research** * Promote fellowship and friendship among kith and kin and other Celtic clans **Promote the history, arts and literature of Scotland** * Promote charitable and educational activities * **Assist in "gathering the Clan" from around the world.**



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Hamish Watt, a Scottish Member of Parliament from 1974 to 1979, has been quoted as saying that Willie MacRae was assassinated for his too-extensive study of NATO activities in Scotland.

At the time of his death, he had been working to counter plans to dump nuclear waste from Dounreay into the sea and on land at Mulwharcher in South Ayrshire. Due to his house being burgled on repeated occasions prior to his death, he had taken to carrying a briefcase containing copies of documents relating to all of his work. The briefcase was kept with him at all times. However, his briefcase was never found following his death, and all other sole copies kept in his office were stolen when it was burgled, no other items being taken.

In 2005, Fergus Ewing MSP requested a meeting with Elish Angiolini, the Scottish Solicitor General to discuss allegations that have persisted that Willie MacRae was under Secret Service surveillance at the time of his death. The request was rebuffed, with Angiolini claiming that he had not been under surveillance and that she was satisfied that a thorough investigation into the case had been carried out. However, in July, 2006 a retired police officer, Iain Fraser who was working as a private investigator at the time of Willies death claimed that he had been anonymously employed to keep MacRae under surveillance only weeks before he died.

The death of Willie MacRae received further attention when the events surrounding it formed the basis of a broadcast of the STV show *Unsolved*, originally broadcast in November 2006.

In November 2010 John Finnie, the SNP group leader on Highland Council and a former police officer, wrote to the Lord Advocate urging her to reinvestigate Willie MacRae's death and release any details so far withheld. Finnie's request was prompted by the release the previous month of further details concerning the death of David Kelly. In January 2011 the Crown Office requested the files on the case from Northern Constabulary.

Ends here. Whats here. What follows are my personal recollectionsof those days.

My recall of the events of those dark days are as clear today as though they had happened yesterday, and, for what I trust, are obvious reasons to the reader.

What has not been properly placed on the public record may be best explained as to the reasons Willie was enroute to spend a weeks business and celebratory pleasure holiday at his cottage in Ardelve, Dornie, the weekend of his murder. Perhaps I may be allowed to explain, for what I hope are obvious reasons. Here is my take on the events leading to the untimely passing of a good friend, fellow PPC for the SNP, colleague and family Lawyer. So here goes. From my recall of those dark days Willie McRae was not in a suicidal mood, far from it.



My one and only daughter was to be married on Friday the 12th of April in St Duthacks Catholic Church in, Dornie, on the shores of Loch Long as it feeds into Loch Alsh.

The reception was arranged to be in the Balmacara Hotel also on the shores of Loch Alsh near Dornie. The wedding was to take place on Friday April 12th 1985 with celebrations going on all week in a traditional

Highland wedding format.

Among the invited guests, Willie McRae would have been there, but for his untimely death.

My daughters wedding was the reason Willie McRae was scheduled to be in his crofters cottage at Ardelve a few minutes drive over the bridge to St Duthacks Church and the Balmacara Hotel, just down the road from the church. And so the scene was set for a great week of celebrations. However, Willie McRae and I were due to have discussions on some issues we regarded as sufficiently important to take some time off from the fun and games of a Highland wedding. I will keep my explanation of these issues as brief as possible. Suffice to say the reader will understand the depth of

Continued on page 29



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Clan Donald USA

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highcommissioner@clan-donald-usa-org



Membership Secretary
Marion Schmitz
1685 Casitas Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91103
626-398-6343
zb4ms@juno.com

To see the many names on the Clan Donald sept/allied family list, please visit:

<http://www.clan-donald-usa.org>

importance these issues were and indeed are still so to this day.

Apart from attending my daughters wedding Willie was due to speak at the reception, but more importantly we were due to discuss those issues in which he and I were involved.

Issues under discussion.

Willie was the Lawyer for our Campaign against Dumping Nuclear Waste on Mulwharcher in South Ayrshire of which I was the elected "campaign leader". We persuaded The Local Council not to allow planning permission and we won the argument and stopped Nuclear Dumping taking place.

Some weeks later I was driving towards Glasgow to work, it was a Monday morning, when, just 100 yards north of what was then, the Fenwick slip on/off of the old A77, when my car, a 2.0L Saab, was struck by a high velocity bullet just in front of the rear outside tyre tearing a hole in the wheel arch forcing me off the road. I know this to be true because the local Road Traffic Police towed me to Pitt Street Police Station in Glasgow. At Pitt Street I and my car were transferred, escorted by Police Forensic Scientists, to a Police low loader and transported to Helen Street Police Garage, where those Police Forensic Scientists examined the car for four hours before reporting to me that in their opinion the damage to my car was caused by a high velocity projectile, probably by a Deer Hunters Sporting Rifle. (Deer hunting in Fenwick?) I asked for a written report but needless to say, to this day, that report never materialised.

The Helen Street Police Garage returned my car at 5PM that day to my place of work, Miller Textiles, Castlemilk. My car had been expertly repaired. I was advised that "there is no need to report this accident to your insurance company".

This issue was also being investigated and pursued by Willie MacRae.

However the bombshell Willie had in his briefcase that weekend was this.

He had incontrovertible evidence from a source

within the M.O.D that plans were in place to build an underwater burial casement offshore at Applecross, to store all of the United Kingdoms Nuclear Waste. Willie was beside himself and was due to publicise his findings that weekend.

These and other Scottish Political issues of those days were in his briefcase, never out of his sight, because of a series of unsolved break ins to his office in Buchanan Street in Glasgow. He trusted no one but his closest politically active associates. After his Volvo Estate was recovered from the so called "accident" site, his brief case was never found.

Here I have to leave the scene of Willie MacRae's assassination to say that on that fateful day I telephoned the Police at Kyle of Lochalsh, The Sunday Post and the Herald, giving each my input to the story. I also 'phoned the SNP. I then confirmed my evidence in writing to all those telephone contacts. None of my "witness information" was ever published. I was never interviewed by Police involved in the "investigation". End of story?

As far as the SNP was concerned I was utterly disgusted by their negative attitude and my relationship with the SNP ended. I have been involved in Scotland's National politics since 1948, so my departure was not easy.

To this day I have not heard from any of those institutions mentioned nor were any of my letters to the press ever published nor acknowledged on the matter of Willies death. It was as though my old "D" Notice had been resurrected by the British establishment.

Alastair and friends,

I hope this wee contribution of mine is of some help to THE CAUSE. I do not seek personal publicity, (I want to celebrate a YES victory)! My 80th birthday is on the 17th of September and I want to be free to celebrate YES & 80 years at one and the same time.

Yours Aye.

John.

PS One of the better attempts at an expose of the subject appeared in The Herald on 27th March 1995!

Alastair

With many thanks to Alastair McIntyre of Electric Scotland.com for this sad and fascinating story. It IS an unsolved murder. Just look the story up on the Internet for more fascinating reading.

Clan Bell International



This old West Marche Clan, one of the Border Clans since the early 1100s, were retainers of the Great House of Douglas and also allied with the best Border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive, and to survive, they engaged in the “rieving” if the period and participated in many battles against the English.

Declared “unruly by the Scottish Parliament, many of the Clan emigrated to the Ulster Plantation after 1610.

After William Bell, called “Redcloak” and Chief of the Clan died in 1628, the chiefship became dormant. Without leadership the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell International (CBI) in the United States represents Clan Bell world-wide with a coordinated network of 20 International Representatives, each representing the Clan in their own country.

CBI is a charitable organization of Scottish descendants and friends of Family/Clan Bell dedicated to the study of Bell genealogy and Scottish history and the perpetuation of family tradition.

CBI cordially invites membership inquiries from persons named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. Quarterly newsletter is published. Tents are hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast in the USA.

President:

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