

Chief of Clan Kennedy, Marquis of Ailsa dies suddenly

News has just reached us of the sudden death of **Charles Kennedy, the 8th Marquis of Ailsa and Chief of Clan Kennedy.**

Lord Charles: 1956-2015. Lord Charles passed away suddenly while over in Florida attending Central Florida Highland Games. He was 58. As well as being Marquis he was also 19th Earl of Cassilis, 21st Lord Kennedy, 8th Baron Ailsa. He has two children; Lady Rosemary Margaret Kennedy (b. 1979) and Lady Alicia-Jane Lesley Kennedy (b. 1981)

It is understood that the title of chief will pass to the Marquess' brother, Lord David Thomas Kennedy.

The Marquis was due to be chief of Loch Norman Highland Games at Historic Rural Hill later this year.

We will bring you more information as it becomes available.

Lord Charles Kennedy was one of the great characters of the clan scene.

The unexpected and untimely passing of Archibald Charles Kennedy, 8th Marquis of Ailsa, 19th Earl of Cassillis, Lord Kennedy and 8th Baron



Marquis of Ailsa

of Ailsa has come as a great shock to the rest of the Kennedy clan, their friends and associates. With his death we lose not only a great clan chief who was tireless in his efforts to build ties between Scotland and the clan diaspora but also one of the few remaining larger than life characters of Scotland's aristocracy.

Lord Ailsa was educated in Perthshire at the Strathallan School, going on to study forestry and farming. During this time he joined the Queens Own Highlanders Territorial Regiment attached to the 82nd Army Youth Team. There he taught skiing and

Continued on page 5



FLYING HERALDRY



Thomas Freeman
tom@caberdancer.com
706-839-6612

Would you like to see news from your own Scottish Clan organization, St. Andrew's Society or Burns Club – in fact- ANY genealogical or Scottish group here in the pages of *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree*?

It's easy. It's free.

Simply have your group newsletter sent via email to bethscribble@aol.com. That's it.

If you wish to use snail mail, that's fine too....

Send to Beth at 688 Camp Yonah Road, Clarkesville, GA 30523.

Deadlines are the 15th of the month preceding publication. It's fine to send news and information in the form of an email anytime.

Did you know that Santa is a bagpiper? Here is that popular man in red wowing the crowd at the 2014 Alexandria Virginia Christmas Walk!



With thanks to *Non Oblitus*, newsletter of the Clan MacTavish. Contact them at clanmactavishusa@gmail.com



Clan Anderson Cottages

We look forward to welcoming you personally to visit any of our unique 4 Star properties in Dumfries & Galloway, South West Scotland

As a small family business we the Anderson family are the only staff we have. From Clan Chief to cottage cleaners we do it all we are the real chief cooks and bottle washers and your visit with us will be all the more special for it.

As an international member of the American Society of Appraisers determining value has always been a key priority.

Never more so than when it comes to offering our own properties to visitors from near and far.

To my mind the most important aspect of looking after guests begins before they even arrive by offering outstanding value for money. So even before you meet us you can rest assured that the quality of the properties including furnishings are of the highest order and value on offer.

*Best wishes & Stand Sure,
Hope Vere Anderson & Family*



www.clanandersoncottages.com

Tel: +44 (0)1387 850 205 | Email: info@clanandersoncottages.com

Anderson Estates, Barbeth, New Abbey, Dumfries, DG2 8DB

other mountain skill to young recruits. After graduating he transferred to the 93rd Youth Team, teaching similar skills in the Breacon Beacons in Wales. His army career ended in the Ayrshire Yeomanry which was started by one of his own ancestors 150 years previously.

After leaving the army he was involved in sales and marketing activity relating to agriculture and began his own tour company; Lord Charles Tours where he organised trips to Scotland, Ireland and Sweden.

In 2011 Lord Ailsa was involved in a terrible accident while in Hawaii to open the Hawaiian Scottish Festival. This resulted in the amputation of his lower left leg and his right toes. incredibly this awful injury did little to dampen his enthusiasm, spirit and determination.

He continued with his tour business promoting skiing sledging and snowmobile tours which included the Arctic Circle Trophy Challenge in Sweden. As a result of this he was invited last year to be the first paraplegic to snowmobile through the Swedish Arctic. He did so raising £5,500 for the Scottish Diabetes Association in the process. The 200 mile snowmobile trip almost ended in tragedy when they became trapped by the worst storms to hit the area in over 20 years. Trapped by impassible snowdrifts and winds of over 150 miles an hour Lord Ailsa and his expedition colleagues had to wait three days before rescue services could reach them.

This experience did nothing to dampen his appetite for adventure and a few months later he was in California where despite his disability he was able to complete a seven line canopy tour through a giant redwood forest and heights of up to 300 feet!



Lord Ailsa was a regular visitor to the USA, making several trips every year to attend highland games and festivals. In recognition of this he was made Chief of the Kennedy Honour Guard in Florida. His sudden and unexpected death happened while attending a Scottish festival in Florida and those closest to him have said that he died while doing something he truly loved.

His death at the age of 58 has robbed the Scottish diaspora of a great friend and advocate of Scotland's heritage worldwide.

With thanks and appreciation to Rodger Moffet and the *Scottish Clans Blog from Scotland - Bletherskite*. <<http://www.bletherskite.net/2015/01/16/chief-of-clan-kennedy-marquis-of-Ailsa-dies-suddenly>>



The new American College of Heraldry address:
David Robert Wooten, Executive Director
The American College of Heraldry
1818 North Taylor Street #312
Little Rock, AR 72207
[www:americancollegeofheraldry.org](http://www.americancollegeofheraldry.org)

The Clan Skene Association, Inc.

The Clan Skene Association, Inc., invites membership from SKENE and septs CARISON, CARNEY/CARNIE, CURREHILL, DYAS, DYCE, DYER, HALL, HALYARD/HALLYARD, MacGAILLARD, RENNIE & SKAINS.

Dorna Comp, president
103 Sumners Alley
Summerville, SC 29485
(dkc1027@yahoo.com)



The Arms of Danus George Moncreiff
Skene of Skene, Chief of the Name and Arms
of Skene

A Historical Handbook to Scotland

by Duncan MacPhail

This book is useful in EVERY Scottish clan tent!

You may order, if you'd like to use a credit card, from <http://www.amazon.com>
or a USPS Money Order or Check

\$25.00 includes s/h

from Beth Gay-Freeman

688 Camp Yonah Road, Clarkesville, GA 30523

Something to do when you hit that proverbial big ol' "brick wall"

Robert Stevenson Wedding

Clan MacTavish USA National Commissioner

At some point, if you've done family history re-search long enough, you're going to hit the proverbial brick wall.

And, at some point, if you've worked on that brick wall long enough with no "breakthrough", you come to the realization that there just might not be a record/paper trail that leads to your ancestor.

At least not until every document located in that courthouse is digitized and indexed! And even then, you might find that your forbearer "slipped under the radar".

What to do?

Sit back and accept the fact that you may never know his/her origins? Perhaps not.

If you have the means, the fortitude and the patience, you might try the field of forensic genealogy.

Forensic means "relating to the use of science or technology in the investigation and establishment of facts or evidence."

In genealogy, that means using science and technology alongside the 'traditional' methods.

This most often means DNA. Records can go missing, genealogies in the past were forged, and courthouses burned. DNA is forever and doesn't lie.

However, as with any product you might "buy", Caveat Emptor – Buyer Beware. You get what you pay for. Popular web sites will do DNA tests for as little as \$100, but the test may not be extensive enough for you to determine your haplo group or provide enough information for you to continue your research.

So, be prepared to re-search on-line the different companies that provide DNA tests and determine the one that's best for you.

Once you have your results, your next step is to see who else shares your DNA and use that connection to connect with those who are also researching their family history. There's power in numbers.

The standard reference for forensic genealogy is Colleen Fitzpatrick's book by the same name, *Forensic Genealogy*.

You can read more about her book, or order it online, as well as read

more about Colleen's work at her web page at <http://www.forensicgenealogy.info>. You can learn more at the Council for the Advancement of Forensic Genealogy web site at <http://www.forensicgenealogists.org/>.



For more information regarding Clan MacTavish, please contact:

Steven MacTavish of Dunardry

Principal Office P.O. Box 93093, RPO Headon Road-Burlington, ON L7M 4A3 Canada

Clan Forrester

Society

Come - join the Forresters

Membership is available for all spelling variations of Forrester: Forrester, Forester, Forrister, Forister, Forest, Forrest, Foster, Carstarphen.



Contact: **Ben Forrester**,
Membership Chairman
1034 Blue Heron Drive
Commerce, GA 30529
Phone: 706-335-7688
Email: benbf@windstream.net



FOSTER SURNAME DNA Project

Genealogy Research on Foster / Forster / Forrester / Forester /
Forister / Forestier / Forister / Forrister / Vorster / Voster Families

**So this is where my
Grandmother got the
fabric for my dresses!**



When they realized women were using their sacks to make clothes for their children, flour mills of the 1930s started using flowered fabric for their sacks, 1939

If you would like to see news from your own clan on these pages...please put us on the mailing list of your newsletter. Either mailed or digital is fine.
bethscribble@aol.com
or Mo Leannon, 688 Camp Yonah Road
Clarksville, GA 30523



**A mortsafe
for Shaw
“Mor”
Coriaclich**

Pictured above is a mortsafe similar to the one for Shaw “Mor” Coriaclich donated by Frank Shaw of Atlanta. Shaw “Mor” Coriaclich is buried in the graveyard of the church at Rothiemurchus. It is said that “Mor” was large, bucktoothed and red haired.

The Crawford Surname Y-DNA Project

**Trace your Crawford origins.
Males with the surname Crawford
and /or descended in the Y-DNA
line are eligible.**

**Information, listing of current
results and signing up for testing
may be accessed at:**

**<http://www.clancrawford.org>
and then, click on “Genealogy.”**

**To contact the project coordinator,
email Kevan Crawford, Ph.D. at:
dr_fission@prodigy.net**





2nd Annual
**Taste of
Scotland**
February 21, 2015

8670 West State Road 56 - French Lick, Indiana 47432
Toll Free: +1 (888) 936-9360 - Fax: +1 (812) 936-2100



FRENCH LICK RESORT
FRENCH LICK & WEST BADEN • INDIANA

From the highlands to the lowlands and the lush green fescue in between, Scotland has stolen our knotted hearts. In celebration of Scotch, whiskey, Scotland and all things Celtic, French Lick Resort is hosting its second annual Taste of Scotland Highlands in the Valley event. Scotch school – also known as everything you ever wanted to know about Scotch but were afraid to ask – and tasting, Robert Burns Tribute Dinner and musical performances by Fiddle N Feet and Colin Grant-Adams are just the tip of the Nessie.

This year's event has grown and highlights more than 20 labels of Scotch and Irish whiskey – with musical performances, Scottish country dancers, highland games exhibition and merchandise for sale from vendors Celtic Corner Store and Celtic Tides. There are even kilt rentals and a Robert Burns Tribute Dinner.

So don your kilt or tartan and make plans to attend the breakout sessions, spirits parade and dinner – Haggis isn't that bad. Packages including room and event tickets are available.



Flowers of the Forest

Jo-Ann M. MacInnis (Greene) formerly of Sharon, MA, of Nottingham, N.H. passed away January 12th at the Merrimack Valley Hospice surrounded by her loving family.

Born and raised in Somerville, MA she graduated from Somerville High School and Bunker Hill Community College.

She was the secretary for the Nottingham, NH Planning Board and previously was the secretary for the Canton, MA Planning Board and Sharon, MA Planning Board and Selectman.

Jo-Ann loved spending time with her children and grandchildren and enjoyed many trips to Nova Scotia and Scotland.

Beloved wife of Norman D., mother of Robert M. Giudicianni and his wife Danielle of Mansfield, MA. Stepmother of John N. MacInnis and his wife Stephanie of Deerfield, NH, Craig M. MacInnis and his wife Jennifer of Mansfield, MA and Dawn M. Slade and her husband David of Holliston.

Sister of James Greene of Greenfield, MA. and Pamela Cole of Malden, MA.

Burial private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the Nottingham Community Church 108 Church St. Nottingham, NH 03290.

Wallace K. Aiken, Jr. 85, died January 7, 2015. He was the son of Wallace K. Aiken, Sr. of Sarnia, Ontario Canada and Gertrude Cummings Aiken of Indianapolis.

Wally was the nephew of Bill Cummings winner of the 1934 Indianapolis 500.

Wally was born at Detroit, MI June 30, 1929. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Nancy Miller Aiken of Indianapolis; two sons, Wallace K. (Tracey) Aiken III of Westfield IN and Andrew B. (Jennifer) Aiken of Pasadena, MD.

He is also survived by two daughters, Jennifer Aiken (Russell) Eiler of Indianapolis, Deborah Marie (Michael) Champlin of Martinsville; as well as a sister, Sandra (Jeff) Jensen of Ontonagon MI; and a brother, Roy (Shirley) Aiken of Laramie, WY; and a sister-in-law, Mrs. Bruce Peck of Indianapolis.

Wally is also survived by five grandchildren, Sandra Elizabeth "Libby" Aiken, Andrew and Gordon Aiken of Westfield; and Barrett and Griffin Aiken of Pasadena MD.

Mr. Aiken graduated from Shortridge High School in the class of 1948. He subsequently earned a BS in Geology and an MBA from Indiana University.

Wally was a member of the Alpha Iota chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity and was an honorary charter member of the Ball State chapter. He was also in the National Geology Honor Society Sigma Gamma Epsilon.

He also served in the United States Air Force during and following the latter part of the Korean War.

He retired from Eli Lilly and Co. as the Administrative Assistant to the Assistant General Secretary in the Legal Division. Prior to his employment with Eli Lilly he was a seismologist with Chevron Oil Co.

Wally was active in the community and served on behalf of Eli Lilly as a Lilly Loaned Executive to the United Fund (Way) of Indianapolis, as Coordinator on behalf of Lilly on the 1973 N.A.A.C.P. National Convention Planning Committee, Chairman of the Advisory Council Volunteer Bureau of the Community Service Council of Metropolitan Indianapolis.

He also gave of his time to organizations of his own choosing as a member and Vice Chairman of the Board of Managers of the Jordan Y.M.C.A., as Chairman of the Little League Football Program at the Jordan Y.M.C.A., as Director of Acolytes St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Director St. Vincent's Guild St. Paul's Episcopal Church, member Tri-County Mental Health Board of Trustees, and as Chairman of Volunteer Orientation, Brickyard Crossing Senior PGA Championship at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to American Heart Association or the American Legion: c/o Fundraising PO Box 361626, Indianapolis, IN 46236 Arrangements have been entrusted to Leppert Mortuary, Nora Chapel. You are invited to send a condolence to the family at <http://www.leppertmortuary.com>



Elliot Clan Society, USA

Membership Information 2014

The Elliot Clan Society is a worldwide organization, with active branches in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. In accordance with Scottish Clan Law, Clan membership includes all Elliots, Elliots, Elliotts, those of whose mother or grandmother was so named and their spouses. This also applies to Elliots of known Scottish descent.

If you are a person of Scottish ancestry bearing the name Elliot, Elliott or Eliott (Including the spouse or descendant of such person) and wish to join the Elliot Clan Society, please fill out the membership form. Those forms may be found on the "Official ECS Website" at:

www.elliotclan.com

For US residents, please make sure that you send your completed ECS USA membership forms to the Membership/Treasurer. Once you join the Society, you will receive periodic newsletters from the ECS USA and our Parent Society in Scotland. The newsletters will inform you of Scottish festivals in your area and other announcements of importance to our Clan. Membership allows you to meet other Elliots with similar interests who share our Scottish heritage.

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

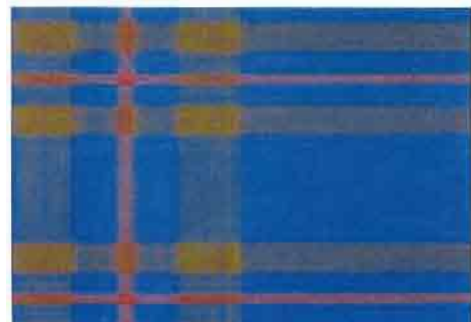
Email: dublincollen@sbcglobal.net or write

2984 Siskiyou Boulevard

Medford, OR 97504

(Fortiter Et Recte)

Boldly and Rightly





Rhind Lectures 24th April - 26th April 2015

Don't miss this year's Rhind Lectures – our key Dig It! 2015 event. *British Archaeology: its progress and demands*, was published by Rhind in 1858.

Taking this key work as the overarching theme sessions will explore a range of topics through an engaging programme of talks and panel discussions.

Speakers include **Professor Audrey Horning** FSA, Queen's University Belfast, **Professor Richard Bradley**, University of Reading, **Dr Jacqui Mulville**, Cardiff University and **Professor Ian Baxter**, Head of Suffolk Business School, University Campus Suffolk.

Thank you to AOC Archaeology Group for sponsoring the 2015 Rhind Lectures.

Dr Andy Heald, Managing Director said "AOC Archaeology Group has been committed to recording, interpreting and promoting our shared heritage for over two decades, and we are very proud to be working in partnership with the Society of Antiquaries for Scotland in delivering the forthcoming Rhind lecture series"

For more information: The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, National Museums Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF

Tel: +44 (0)131 247 4133 or Fax: +44 (0)131 247 4163 Email: info@socantscot.org



Operation Nightingale - archaeology as a recovery tool for injured service personnel

16 Feb 2015 - 17 Feb 2015

Lecture by Richard Osgood, Senior Historic Advisor, Ministry of Defence

Monday 16th February 2015 Edinburgh 6.00pm

Tuesday 17th February 2015 Aberdeen 7.30pm

Excavations at Vindolanda - the evidence for a Frontier constantly in transition

09 Mar 2015 - 10 Mar 2015

Lecture by Andrew Birley BA PhD FSA Scot, Director of Excavations for the Vindolanda Trust

Monday 9th March Edinburgh 6.00pm

Tuesday 10th March Inverness 6.00pm

Reception, 7.00pm Lecture

Continued on page 15

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.

Harlan D. McCord

President/Chief

4403 Vickery Ave East
Tacoma, WA 98443-2016

Email:

cmccord1234@msn.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

Yount - Thompson



On March 30, 2014, Clan MacTavish President Michael Thompson and his wife Libby welcomed a new member to their family. On that cold, wet day the end of March, their son, Alex, married his sweetheart of five years, Catherine Yount.

Alex and Catherine chose to have a celebration that incorporated both of their heritages, his Scottish and her German backgrounds.

Alex, his best man, and his father wore MacTavish kilts. In addition Mike's wife wore the Hunting plaid and Alex's best friend wore a Thompson Blue kilt.

Thistles were incorporated into the Bride's bouquet and the couple used red, black and white for their colors.

The bride wore a ballerina length gown reminiscent of the 1960s. And her sister, the maid of honor, chose

a red lace dress to round out the theme.

It was a small wedding with family and close friends in attendance at the appropriately named Phoenix Park hotel in Washington, DC.

The rehearsal dinner was held there in the Dubliner Pub the evening before.

Michael's niece, an ordained minister, performed the wedding ceremony, carrying on the tradition of marrying her two cousins. She had previously married Alex's sister five years ago.

The ceremony included vows written by the bride and groom and a hand fast.

During the reception, toasts were made using a Nuremburg cup to celebrate the bride's background and continue a tradition passed down in her Mother's family.

A toast was also made using goblets that Michael and his wife and their daughter and her husband had used. The goblets were presented to Michael on the occasion of his marriage.

The new couple, their families and friends had a wonderful afternoon and are enjoying married life in Fairfax, VA.

Society of Antiquaries Scotland,

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Antiquaries and archaeologists in the depiction of the hard edges of time

13 Apr 2015 - 14 Apr 2015

Lecture by Stratford Halliday BSc FSA Scot,
University of Edinburgh

Monday 13th April Edinburgh 6.00pm

Tuesday 14th April Aberdeen 7.30pm

The Rhind Lectures 2015: British Archaeology, its progress and demands

24 Apr 2015 - 26 Apr 2015

Friday 24th to Sunday 26th April 2015

Royal Society of Edinburgh, George Street,
Edinburgh EH2 2PQ

Archaeological Research in Progress

30 May 2015 - 31 May 2015

Saturday 30th May 2015

Royal Society of Edinburgh, George Street,
Edinburgh

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

Free Beginning Genealogy Classes start February 7, 2015 in Fort Myers, Florida

Our annual February Beginners Series is coming up. All four sessions are free and open to the public. Study guide handouts will be provided to all



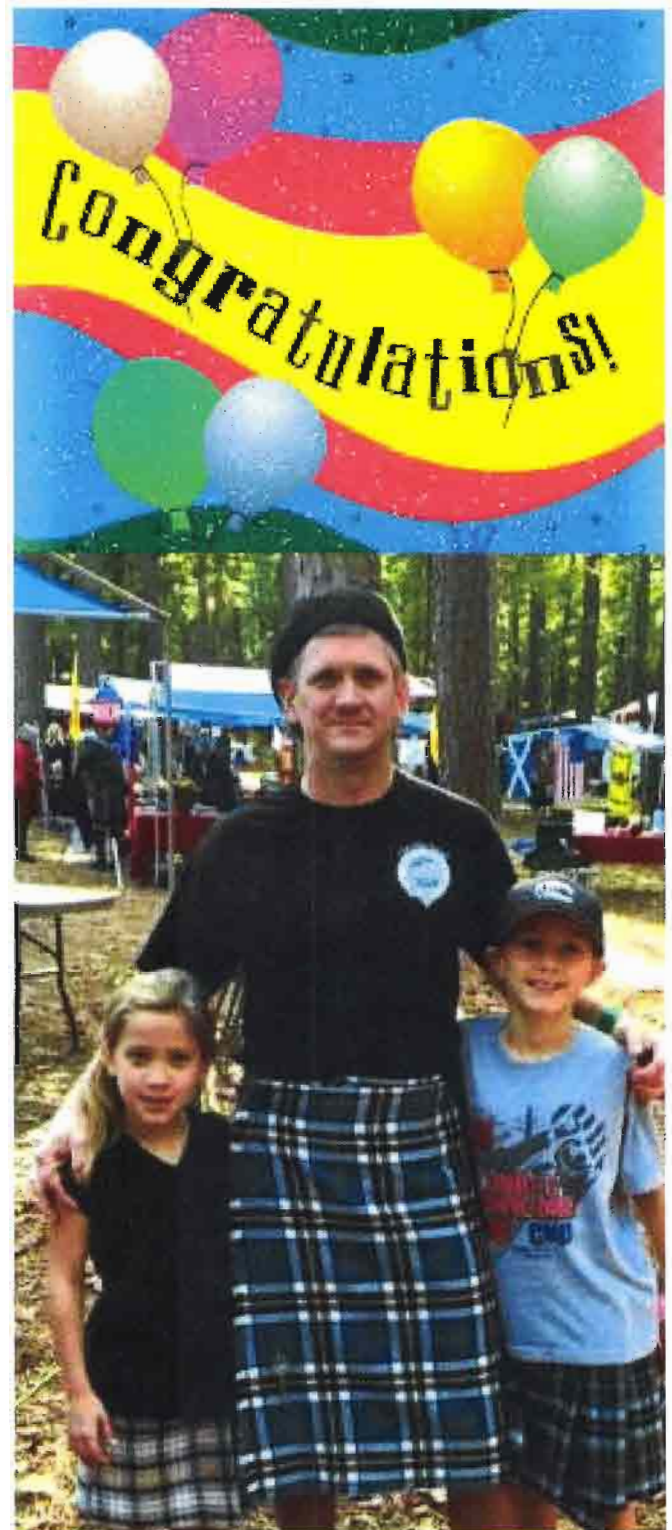
attendees. Patrons may register for the classes using one of the following methods: Our annual February Beginners Series is coming up. All four sessions are free and open to the public. Study guide handouts will be provided to all attendees. Patrons may register for the classes using one of the following methods:

1. Telephone: Call **239-479-4636** and select the option for registering for programs. 2. Telephone: Call Bryan L. Mulcahy at **239-533-4626** and leave your contact information. 3. E-Mail: Contact Bryan L. Mulcahy at bmulcahy@leegov.com.

February Beginners Series

Saturday February 7, 14, 21, and 28 Speaker: Gina Hamister – Western Reserve Historical Society, New England Historical Genealogical Register Board of Directors Time: 10:00am - 12:15pm South Building 1651 Lee Street Meeting Rooms A & B. **Session One:** Using Home Sources and Organizing Your Research **Session Two:** Finding Your Family in the United States Census **Session Three:** Using Court House Resources and Vital Records **Session Four:** Using Alternative or Hidden Resources for Locating Ancestors.

Thanks to: Bryan Mulcahy, M.L.S. Reference Librarian | Ft. Myers Regional Library.



Proud father Mike Thompson with his daughter, Shayley, and son, Dylan at the 2014 Stone Mountain Highland Games.

Shayley and Dylan represented Clan MacTavish in the kilted mile races and won their respective classes. This was the first time a brother and sister won first place in their classes at Stone Mountain.



clankeith-usa.org

Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

If you have genealogical ties to the surname Keith (including alternate spellings such as Keeth) or any of Clan Keith's Sept family names, you were born into the Clan Keith!

Septs and spellings include: Achindachy - Astine - Aston - Austen - Austin - Cate(s) - Dick - Dickson - Dicson - Dixon - Dixson - Falconer - Faulkner - Harvey - Harvie - Hackston - Haxton - Hervie - Hervey - Hurrie - Hurry - Keath - Keech - Keeth - Keith - Keyth - Kite - Lum - Lumgair - MacAustin - MacDick - MacDicken - MacDickie - MacDeetch - MacKeeth - MacKeitch - MacKeith - Marshall - Urie - Urry

The Clan Keith Society would be delighted for you to join us as a member. For more information, please email membershipclankeith@mindspring.com or call 404-539-5222.



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

Please plan to attend your local Highland Games and, if you see our tent, please come by for a visit. The tent convener will have information about Clan Keith's fascinating history as well as membership information. Membership in the Clan is not expensive but one of the finest investments that you will every make. Hope to see you soon!

The Address to the Haggis

In Scots

Fair fa' yer honest, sonsie face,
Great chieftain o' the puddin'-race!
Aboon them a' ye tak your place,
Painch, tripe, or thairm.
Weel are ye worthy o' a grace
As lang's my arm.

The groaning trencher there ye fill,
Your hurdies lik a distant hill,
Yer pin wad help to mend a mill
In time o need,
While thro your pores the dewes distil
Lik amber bead.

His knife see rustic labour dight,
An cut ye up wi ready slight,
Trenching yer gushing entrails bright,
Lik onie ditch;
And then, O what a glorious sight,
Warm-reekin, rich!

Then, horn for horn, they stretch an strive:
Deil tak the hindmaist, on they drive,
Till a' their weel-swallow'd kytes belyve
Are bent like drums;
Then auld Guidman, maist lik tae rive,
'Bethankit' hums.

Is there tha' owre his French ragout,
Or olio tha' wad staw a sow,
Or fricassee wad mak her spew
Wi perfect scunner,
Looks down wi sneering, scornfu view
On sic a dinner?

Poor de'il!
See him owre his trash,
As feckless as a wither'd rash,
His spindle shank a guid whip-lash,
His nieve a nit;
Thro bloody flood or field tae dash,
O how unfit!

But mark the Rustic, haggis-fed,
The trembling earth resounds his tread,
Clap in his walie nieve a blade,
He'll mak it whistle;
An legs an arms, an heads will sned,
Lik taps o thrissle.

Ye Pow'rs, wha mak mankind yer care,
And dish them out their bill o fare,
Auld Scotland wants nae skinking ware
That jaups in luggies:
But, if ye wish her gratefu prayer,
Gie her a Haggis!

With thanks to *The St. Andrew Cross*, publication of the St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee, Florida, Eric King, editor

In English

Fair and full is your honest, jolly face,
Great chieftain of the sausage race!
Above them all you take your place,
Stomach, tripe, or intestines.
Well are you worthy of a grace
As long as my arm.

The groaning trencher there you fill,
Your buttocks like a distant hill,
Your pin would help to mend a mill
In time of need,
While through your pores the dewes distill
Like amber bead.

His knife see rustic labor wipe,
And cut you up with ready slight,
Trenching your gushing entrails bright,
Like any ditch;
And then, O what a glorious sight,
Warm steaming, rich!

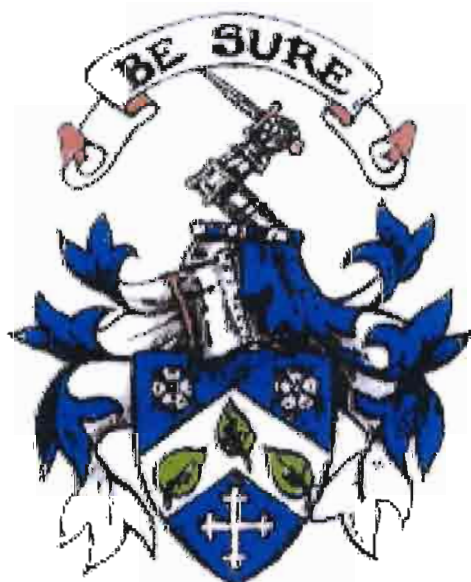
Then spoon for spoon, the stretch and strive:
Devil take the hindmost, on they drive,
Till all their well swollen bellies by-and-by
Are bent like drums;
Then old master of the house, most like to burst,
'The grace!' hums.

Is there that over his French ragout,
Or olio that would sicken a sow,
Or fricassee would make her vomit
With perfect disgust,
Looks down with sneering, scornful view
On such a dinner?

Poor devil!
See him over his trash,
As feeble as a withered rush,
His thin legs a good whip-lash,
His fist a nut;
Through bloody flood or field to dash,
O how unfit.

But mark the Rustic, haggis-fed,
The trembling earth resounds his tread,
Clap in his ample fist a blade,
He'll make it whistle;
And legs, and arms, and heads will cut off
Like the heads of thistles.

You powers, who make mankind your care,
And dish them out their bill of fare,
Old Scotland wants no watery stuff,
That splashes in small wooden dishes;
But if you wish her grateful prayer,
Give her a Haggis!



**The Chiefly Arms of Paisley
of Westerlea**



**Duncan W. Paisley of Westerlea,
Chieftain of the Paisley Family**

PAISLEY FAMILY SOCIETY

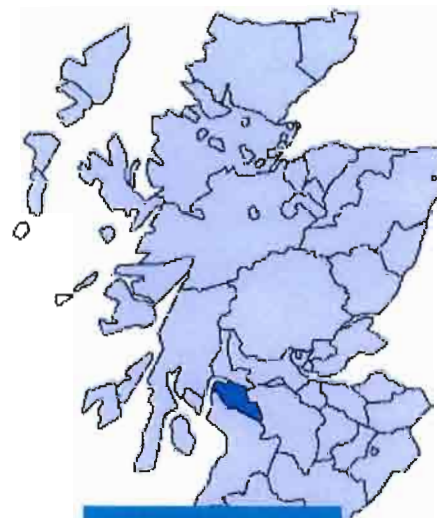
All Paisleys of the name or blood (and all spellings)
are invited to join. Email: mbrown2205@aol.com



The Paisleys are a family of considerable antiquity, having been associated with Lochwinnoch and Paisley (parts of what later became Renfrewshire), with Cunningham and Kyle (North Ayrshire), Innerwick (East Lothian) and Roxburghshire, since the time of William I King of Scots 1165 - 1214.

William I Paisley (died ante 28 September 1171) and William II Paisley (killed in battle ante 1218) were prominent in the following of the first three hereditary stewards of Scotland, while William II Paisley is also noticed attending the itinerant court of the King of Scots during 1179 - 95.

Separate and quite distinct branches of the family had already developed at Lochwinnoch and Paisley and in the Roxburghshire barony of Hawick before the end of King David Bruce's reign in 1371 and the beginnings of others are found in records for Edinburgh and the three Lothians from 1389 onwards and at Dunrod near Borgue (Kirkcudbrightshire) in still Gaelic speaking Galloway from 1585.



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June of 2014!**

Email **Martha Brown** at mbrown2205@aol.com
for more information

Wanna join the Paisley Family DNA Project?
Contact **Diane Langston**
diangsto@yahoo.com

Mons Meg cannon at Edinburgh Castle to have an thorough exam

Mons Meg, the world's most famous medieval gun, has left Edinburgh Castle for the first time in 30 years to have an "MOT".

The six tonne cannon was lifted from the castle by crane ahead of specialist restoration and conservation work.

It has been moved off-site and will be examined by Historic Scotland conservation experts.

It is hoped the cannon will be back on display by the end of February.

Richard Welander, head of collections for Historic Scotland said: "Mons Meg undergoes regular 'health checks' each year and is lifted off its carriage every five years for a closer inspection.

"This time it's getting a major service, which means it must leave the castle for the first time for 30 years."

"The last time Mons Meg left was in March 1985, when she went to the Royal Armouries research establishment in Kent for a short technical examination."

He added: "We'll be using state-of-the-art equipment to examine the cannon and carriage inside and out, to assess their condition. Then we'll commence with treatment and restoration, which is a delicate and specialist task."

"We're hopeful that she'll be back on display at the castle by late February."

Over the next few weeks, the cannon will be subject to a laser scan and 3D examination.

The existing paintwork will be removed by high pressure water and bead blasting. The iron surface that is revealed will then be examined, cleaned and dried, before being repainted using a protective paint system.

The oak carriage that Mons Meg sits on will also undergo some conservation and repair works. The carriage was built in 1934 and cost the Lord



Provost of Edinburgh £178 at the time.

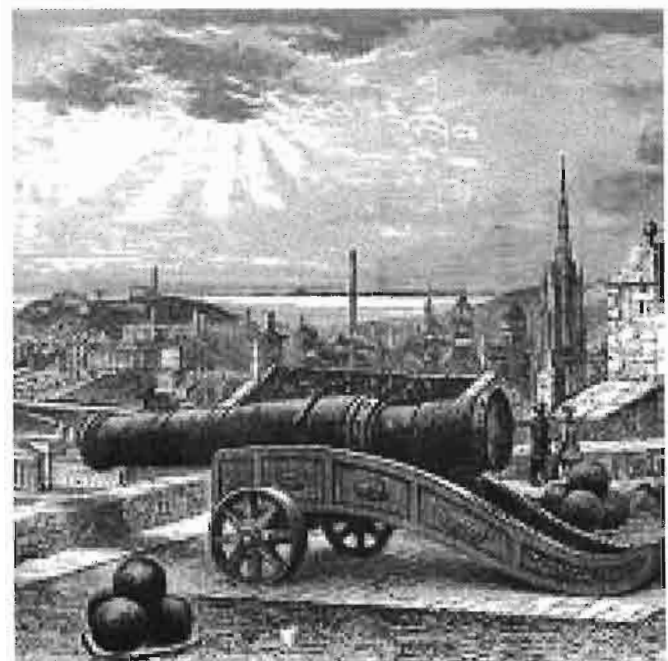
The Historic Scotland team will also use the time off site to uncover the truth behind some of Mons Meg's mysteries.

Mr Welander added: "Obviously in the past we didn't have the technology which we have today, so there are now a number of techniques that can be applied which could potentially reveal different aspects of Mons Meg's story.

"This gives us the opportunity to gather and verify more evidence on Mons Meg's past, which is an exciting prospect."

Despite many people believing that Mons Meg is fired each day at 13:00, it is in fact a modern military cannon used for this.

Visitors to the castle will therefore still be able to see and hear the one o'clock gun at Edinburgh Castle.



THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

'S Rìoghal Mo Dhream!

Royal is my Race!

Fàilte! The Clan Gregor Society is a growing organisation with membership throughout the world. It's most active objectives are to extend the links of kinship and friendship between MacGregors, wherever they may be, and to provide a focal point for all members of the Clan and interested visitors who wish to learn more of our noble past.

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7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balquidder

24th Chief of Clan Gregor

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Join Clan Gregor today! www.clangregor.org

The story of all the Royal names

Many British Royals have multiple names. The most widely used title for Prince William is His Royal Highness Prince William. His surname? Mountbatten - Windsor. His full Christian name? William Arthur Philip Louis. Now Prince William has four additional titles.

Prince William and Kate are to take the titles Earl and Countess of Strathairn, linking them to the country where they first met. The pair began their relationship eight years ago while students in St. Andrews, Fife, which is close to the Perthshire region of Strathairn. The royal groom was given the title by the Queen to mark his marriage.

Strathairn, which means Valley of the River Earn, stretches from the Central Lowlands to the Highlands. The region has had royal connections since Robert Stewart, High Steward of Scotland, was created Earl of Strathairn in 1357. It was last used in a royal title in 1943 by Queen Victoria's great grandson, Alastair Windsor, who was known as the 2nd Duke of Connaught and Strathairn. The picturesque area of Perthshire, which once belonged to Queen Victoria's father, lies near the middle of mainland Scotland and includes the towns of Crieff, Auchterarder and

Comrie.

The royal couple is also known as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge as well as the Baron and Baroness Carrickfergus.

The additional titles link the prince to each country in the United Kingdom. Genealogist, Charles Kidd, editor of *Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage*, a reference book of the aristocracy, said the Cambridge title also had a Scottish link.

He said "It goes right back into the medieval years of the royal family. Richard, Earl of Cambridge, was grandfather of Edward IV. The first Duke of Cambridge was the seventh son of George III and a chancellor of St. Andrews University in Scotland where William and Kate met. It's also good that the Prince became Earl of Strathairn and Baron

Carrickfergus - as he is Prince William of Wales, which means everyone is included."

With thanks to *Celtic Seasons from the Streams of Celtic Consciousness* the publication done by Rich and Rita Shader.

(Subscribe by sending a monetary donation to Rich and Rita at 2593 Chapparral Drive, Melbourne, Florida 32934.) Also with thanks to the British Broadcasting Company.





The Armstrong Clan Society

Dedicated to the Armstrongs, Crosiers, Fairbairns, Grosiers, Nixons and those interested in these surnames.

The Armstrong Clan Society was organized on October 8, 1981 and is incorporated in the State of Georgia, USA. The Society is recognized as a Section 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization and exempt from United States Federal Income Taxes. On September 24, 1984, the Lord Lyon, King of Arms in Scotland, granted warrant to the Lyon Clerk to matriculate in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in the name of the Armstrong Clan Society, Inc., the Coat of Arms in the upper left corner of this page. Our motto "Semper Invictus" can be translated as "Always Unconquered."

Objectives of the Armstrong Clan Society

1. To seek friendship and unity among all Armstrongs, its septs and associated families.
2. To provide for the preservation of all Armstrong artifacts unique to the family.
3. To serve as a genealogical and historical resource for the membership and the general public.
4. To provide news, Armstrong history, items of general interest and genealogy via our newsletter, *The Armstrong Chronicles*.
5. To establish worldwide geographic membership representation.

Membership

All Armstrongs, Croziers, Fairbairns, Grosiers and Nixons (regardless of the spelling and their descendants, are eligible for full membership in The Armstrong Clan Society. In the United States and Canada, dues are \$25 per year or \$45 for two years. All memberships are family memberships which includes two adults and all minor children. In all other countries, dues are \$35 per year. All dues are payable in US funds.

For a membership application, email Peter Armstrong at peter.armstrong1.3@gmail.com or download from <http://www.armstrong.org/membership.htm>. Note: "spouse" on the application includes: spouse, domestic partner or any other adult living at the same address.

Pete & Wendy's UK Adventure



Back to the Borders

On Christmas Day we departed Indianapolis to begin our UK adventure, landing in Manchester on Boxing Day (British holiday the day after Christmas where the tradition is to give the servants and the poor “boxes” of goodies left over from the Christmas feast). We picked up our Vauxhall Astra rental car (cute and sporty but not built for people over 6 feet tall) and headed north to the Scottish Borders. Last year we made friends in Denholm when we attended a 5 day folk music festival that occurs here every year on New Year’s week, and we have been



What a treat we have for BNFT readers!

Through the Scottish Society of Indianapolis, we have secured permission to print “UK Adventures” for you to enjoy.

Dr. Pete Hylton is a Fulbright Award Recipient for 2014 & 2015. He will be in the United Kingdom for quite awhile and will be sending his “Adventures” back home. He has kindly given us permission to print his stories! He is Dr. Pete Hylton, Ed.D., Associate Professor & Director of Motorsports Engineering and Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis.



looking forward to returning ever since we got word of the Fulbright Award. We are staying at Lurden House, which is all that remains of a 200 year old estate. Only the factor’s house and the carriage house are still standing. A lovely retired couple lives in the factor’s house and they maintain the carriage house as a holiday cottage for tourists.

We attended Sunday services with the Church of Scotland in Denholm (built 1823) and afterwards had coffee and tea with the pastor and some interesting parishioners. One pastor handles two parishes,

sharing 5 village churches, rotating the location of Sunday services between the different village locations.....Quite an interesting arrangement. The sermon was inspired by the 1850s Christmas carol “Good King Wenceslas” and its connection to Saint Steven. We learned a great deal about both the saint and the song, all imbedded in a powerful message about caring for each other.

After church we took advantage of a lovely day to take a 4 mile walk along a portion of a trail called

Continued on page 27



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the Abbey Way. It stretches all the way from Kelso to Hawick, passing most of the historic abbey ruins in the Borders. Our walk skirted along the side of the Teviot, one of the major Borders' rivers.

The folk festival always starts on the 29th with a concert in the evening, another concert the next evening, a Hogmanay Ceilidh on New Year's Eve, a Herds Supper with music on the evening of January 1st, and another concert on the night of the 2nd. There is an open session at a different local pub in the afternoon every day except New Year's Day. On New Year's Day there is a mid-day group walk to help everyone sober up from the night before. These pub sessions are just as enjoyable as the concerts, as a variety of musicians and singers take turns playing their favorites or experimenting with new pieces. And the other musicians join in as the song goes along. It is all acoustic folk music, with guitars, fiddles, pipes, etc. By the way, I should explain that Hogmanay (New Year's Eve) is the biggest holiday in Scotland.....far exceeding Christmas. It is celebrated with music, dancing, food and drink amongst friends....which is sort of the definition of a Scottish ceilidh.



On the way to the last event of the festival in Melrose, we passed an obscure site that you find listed in only a few tourist books....the

Rhymer's Stone. It is in the shadow of the Eildon Hills, which are 3 rounded peaks under which the myths say that King Arthur and his knights await the call that will bring them back to save Britain in its moment of greatest need.

It is also the home of Thomas the Rhymer, who legend says in the early 1200s received the gift of prophecy after falling in love with the Fairy Queen (who also lives under those hills – must be crowded). Thomas supposedly left behind some convoluted rhymes that have been interpreted by some as predicting the future.....he would be sort of a Scottish version of Nostradamus. The stone marks the site of the original Eildon Tree under which he supposedly met the Queen of the Fae, joining her for 7 years under the hills, before returning to produce his prophecies.

One of his prophecies was that one day a bridge over the River Tweed would be seen from the Eildon Tree. However, the river is so low in the valley that the prophecy was not likely to come true. Until a 19 span railway viaduct was constructed in the 19th century, to carry the trains over the entire valley....and guess what....it is so high that it can be seen from the site of the Rhymer's Stone. Thus the prophecy came true centuries after Thomas rhymed it. Those fairies must be pretty sharp!

Next week we relocate to Lancashire, where we will live for 7 months.....but we also have a side trip scheduled next week to visit another university that has expressed an interest in my helping them with some curriculum development. More adventures!



The Families of Clan MacTavish Welcome You to Discover Your Scottish Heritage!



Chief Steven
MacTavish

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,
MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish,
MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacLaws,
MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, McTavish,
Mactavish, Mactavis, M'Tavish, MacThomas,
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant
spellings.*

We Are Clan MacTavish!



For information about joining us email: clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com



Fatlips Restoration Completed!

Fatlips Castle left to right: As it stood in 1857; 2004 with roof deteriorating and parapet badly damaged; 2012 during restorations, roof first to be repaired; 2013 Restoration Complete; Note similarities between 1857 and today.

Fatlips Castle, a 16th century pele tower of rectangular stone was founded by the Turnbells of Barnhill. It is located at the top of Minto Crag in Roxburghshire, Scotland.

The entrance to the tower leads to a vaulted basement with a spiral stair in one corner giving access to the other two stories and a garret. A round caphouse found at the garret leads to Ruberslaw can be seen from the parapet. The tower is 8.15 meters from north to south and 9.83 meters from east to west.

Fatlips was acquired by Sir Gilbert Elliot in 1705, whose family became the Earl of Minto. The castle was extensively restored in 1857 by Sir Robert Lorimer. The interior was further renovated in 1897-1898. It was used as a shooting lodge and private museum until about 1960.

Since that time until very recently, the building was in ruins, worsening each year. It was to the point that there was not much roof at all left and the door was cemented closed to prevent people from entering and being injured.

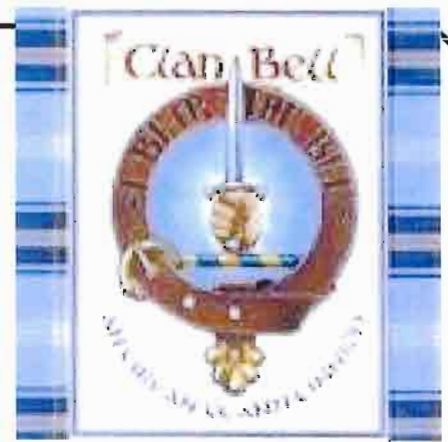
How Fatlips got its name has several theories. One is that the Turnbells had a child with Down Syndrome, and he lived in the castle away from others. Another goes back to a supernatural being known as Fatlips, named so by a disturbed woman who lived in castle shadows during the day and wandered about at night. When asked how she survived and found food, she said that the spirit Fatlips provided it.

Perhaps the most common acceptance today for the name is said to have come from the male members of the Turnbull household greeting house guests. It is suggested that they were more forward than what was accepted for the times, with the gentlemen kissing the ladies upon entering the castle.

Fatlips Castle has long been a destination point for Turnbells of the Borders and visiting Turnbells. It has been a dream that the castle be restored and saved from destruction. Many years ago, Gemma (honorary Turnbull) Barnard set about informing people of Fatlips peril and to bring awareness of its need for restoration. Gemma's love for the castle stems from her childhood. Growing up in the Bedrule area, she used to climb the crags to the castle frequently, where she could play and look out across the beautiful Borders. It hurt to see how each year, Fatlips fell into more disrepair.

Her efforts paid off. Local attention brought about National attention and even International attention. In November of 2011, Historic Scotland with the Minto family took on the task of restoring Fatlips. The recognition that Fatlips was in need of restoration and was worthy of restoration is a result of Gemma's vigilance to the project. The community of the Borders and Turnbells worldwide are deeply indebted to Gemma (Hon Turnbull) Barnard for her efforts to make and keep Fatlips in the forefront of Borders heritage.

Clan Bell North America, Inc.



This old West Marche Riding Clan, one of the Border Clans from the early 1100s, were retainers of Clan Douglas and also allied with the best Border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive. To survive on the often invaded Borders, they engaged in the "rieving" of the period and participated in many battles against the English.

Declared "unruly" by the Scottish Parliament, many of the Clan were "encouraged" to emigrate to the Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland after 1610.

After William Bell, called "Redcloak" and Chief of the Clan died in 1627, the chiefship became dormant. Without leadership, the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell North America 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.

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

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