



Vol. V No. 4 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section B September 2011

At last - 'Clan' comes home to Hermitage Castle in Scotland



Since my novel *Clan* was published in 2008, it has been on a remarkable journey, a journey I could not have anticipated when I first sat down to write it.

It had its genesis in my family history. A story that started with my father giving me a copy of *The Steel Bonnets* by the greatly

missed George MacDonald Fraser, which first introduced me to my heritage in the Borders of Scotland, to *Border Reivers* and to my own much loved Elliot Clan. I have, of course, read many other books since, but his was the catalyst. That was over 30 years ago. My father died in 1978.

The more I learned about my ancestry, the more remarkable it seemed, as legends of Scottish history, William Wallace, Robert the Bruce and my favourite villain (I'm sure much maligned and unfairly singled out by me for literary purposes), William de Soulis.

Was he really locked up in Dumbarton prison

for life for conspiring against The Bruce? Or was he truly boiled in lead on *Nine Stane Rig*? And what of his evil familiar *Robin Red Cap*, the benignly named but vile little creature who has managed to keep a number of my readers awake at night, wondering if that tapping at the window is really the wind or Robin seeking to *blood* his cap?

But always there, brooding in the background and calling me to visit whenever I am in the Bor-



ders, is Hermitage Castle, the *Strength of Liddesdale*. It is said that it has sunk 6 feet into the ground from *the weight of the iniquity* bearing down on it and it guarded the entrance to what

Continued on page 30

This publication is FREE. Just visit
<http://www.electricscotland.com/bnft>



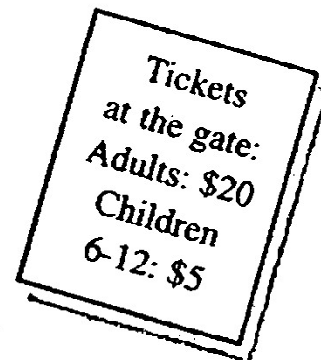
40th Charleston Scottish Games and Highland Gathering

**September 17th, 2011
Boone Hall Plantation
Mt. Pleasant, SC**

Friday, Sept. 16th – Sponsors Reception

Saturday, Sept. 17th – Games 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

- Professional and Amateur Heavy Athletic Competitions
- Piping and Drumming Competitions
- Highland Dancing Competition
- Scottish Country Dancing
- Border Collie Demonstrations
- Children's Games
- Genealogy, Celtic and Clan Tents
- Scottish Merchandise
- Scottish and American Food



Sunday, Sept. 18th – Kirkin of the Tartan

First Scots Presbyterian Church, Charleston, SC

Honored Clan: Clan MacFie

Entertainers: Stirling Bridge and Alex Beaton

Advance Tickets: Adults \$17 – Children 6-12: \$4 – Under 6: Free

Web site: www.charlestonscots.org

Clan Crawford Association

Incorporated to serve our members worldwide to preserve our legacy.
Our Associates can assist you with surname related activities including events
DNA genealogy, heraldry, surname history and more.

Ralf Smart, Director, SE
803-425-5316 or general_ly@yahoo.com or
www.clancrawford.org



Hear Rich Shader, co-editor of *Celtic Seasons* in Melbourne, Florida

If you live in Central Florida, you will have an opportunity to attend a two hour course on Celtic Christianity and Spirituality taught by the co-editor of *Celtic Seasons* newsletter, Rich Shadeer. The event will be at the Brevard Community College, Melbourne Campus on September 21 from 10 AM until noon in the Building 4 Auditorium. There is a \$6.00 fee to attend and advanced registration is required.

The course is part of the Brevard ElderLearning program, an affiliate of the Life-

long Learning Institute of Elderhostel International.

Please send your check payable to Brevard ElderLearning in the amount of \$6.00 for each person you are registering. Please give the name, telephone, street, city, state and zip and email address for each person as well.

Mail your check to:
Brevard ElderLearning
Treasurer, 250 Community
College Parkway, Building

2 -Room161, Palm Bay, FL 32909.



What do those pesky initials mean?

We thank the *Columbine Genealogical & Historical Society Newsletter* from Littleton, Colorado for the following information to help us with the meanings of initials we see all the time. Connie Strandberg submitted this.

- É APG - Association of Professional Genealogists
- É APGQ - Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly
- É BCG - Board for Certification of Genealogists
- É CCGS - Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies
- É CG - Certified Genealogist
- É CGS - Colorado Genealogical Society
- É CGL - Certified Genealogical Lecturer
- É CIG - Computer Interest Group
- É FASG - Fellow of the American Society of Genealogy
- É FGS - Federation of Genealogical Societies
- É FHL - Family History Library
- É FNGS - Fellow of the National Genealogy Society
- É FUGA - Fellow Utah Genealogy Association
- É IGHR - Institute for Genealogical & Historical Research
- É NA - National Archives
- É NARA - National Archives and Records Administration.
- É NEHGS - New England Historic Genealogical Society
- É NGS - National Genealogical Society
- É NGSQ - National Genealogical Society Quarterly
- É NIGR - National Institute on Genealogical Research
- É WISE - Wales Ireland Scotland England



Seaside Highland Games

October 8 & 9, 2011

Ventura County Fairgrounds, Ventura, California

**Second
Weekend
in October**



seaside-games.com

**Amtrak
Stops At Our
Front Gate!**

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Eric Rigler & Bad Haggis
Anita and the Yanks • Celtic Spring
Surprise Scottish & Irish Groups**

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Darts • Piping and Drumming**

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- Dance: Highland, Irish, Scottish Country

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Chief of the House of Gordon, as Special Guest for the 2011 Festival.*

**Join Us at Friday Night's Single Malt Scotch Tasting
and "A Scottish Evening" Event**

THIS YEAR'S GAMES AT LAST YEAR'S PRICES!!



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Watch the website for further updates

www.seaside-games.com

or call John & Nellie @ 818-886-4968

Scottish equine connections... past & future

With thanks to the CDUSA
Mid-East Newsletter

Editor: James Clemenko

Email: james@clemenko.net



The MacEacherns or MacEachrans (also MacEachearn, MacEachain, MacEchern) are a smaller sept of Clan Donald South that have relatively little Clan Donald history written about them. The name stems from the gaelic MacEach-thighearna which is òson of the horse lordö.

Dr. George Fraser Black states that the name goes back to Old Irish when it appears as (two whitish horses) Ech-tigern. This family was also known to have been the horsemen to the Lords of the Isles.

Ptolemy in his geography circa 140 A.D. describes the Mull of Kintyre as Epidion Akron and the home of the British tribe Epidii, òthe horse folkö. This name has traditionally been associated with the MacEacherns.

During the Lordship of the Isles most commerce and travel likely was by sea, however, the Highland pony likely figured prominently in Clan Donald military campaigns conducted eastward into mainland Scotland where the sturdy ponies likely carried food or supplies.

The first MacEachern on record in Kintyre appears to be Colin MacEachern of Kilellan, who is reported by Dr. Black in 1499 as receiving his land charter from King James IV with his office declared as Mair of Fee. Dr. Black also reports that Colin was the MacEachernö chief at the time (1499).

Historically, MacEacherns ties to Kintyre, Islay and possibly Ireland but can be found through-

out the west Highlands and islands.

Since the Lord of the Isles residences at Saddell, in Kintyre and on Islay correspond to the MacEachernö home territories, it is likely that their claim to be horsemen to the Lords of the Isles is genuine.

Our modern Clan Donald Scottish equine connection in Mid-East are George and Barbara Clardy. The Clardys own eight head of only 80 Highland ponies that are in the U.S. today. This small herd represents a living piece of our Scottish heritage. George showed two of his band at the Fairhill Scottish Games in May.

Those of you who attended can attest to the even temperament and beauty that these ponies are renowned for. The Highland ponies likely assisted the MacEacherns and many of our crofter ancestors with farm chores and were bred to lug huntersödeer carcasses down the rugged mountains of the Scottish Highlands in addition to hauling timber and plowing.

Highland ponies have also been used most recently in horse trekking tours through the Highlands. Though their traditional uses continue today, the Highland ponies have moved out into the equine world where their even temperament, hardiness and versatility has made them increasingly popular as riding and harness horses ó for pleasure, showing, and fox hunting.

At between 13 and 14.2 hands, Highlands are the largest of Britainö nine pony breeds and
Continued on page 7

Clan Bell International



This old West Marche Clan, one of 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” of 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, and 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 published. Tents hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast.

President:

William H. Bell

2322 Shadow Hill Drive
Riverside, CA 92506

clanbellusa@sbcglobal.net

Visit our Web site:

clanbell.org

Membership Secretary:

Alta Jean Ginn

12147 Holly Knoll Circle
Great Falls, VA 22066

aginn@cox.net



NGS offers *Introduction to Civil War Records* study

The National Genealogical Society recently announced the release of its newest course, *Introduction to Civil War Records*, developed by renowned military expert Craig Roberts Scott, CG. I know that many of your Scottish ancestors were involved in the War between the States and this course offers everyone an ideal opportunity to improve your abilities to research into your ancestor's past.

Mr. Scott is a nationally recognized lecturer, educator, and genealogical and historical researcher with more than thirty years' experience. He is a specialist in the diverse military records at the National Archives and is also CEO and President of Heritage Books, Inc., a Baltimore based genealogical publishing firm.

Craig coordinates the Military tracks at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and Samford University Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research in Birmingham, Alabama. He has authored *The "Lost Pensions": Settled Accounts of the Act of 6 April 1838* and *Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Inventory 14* (Revised). Craig is now bringing his military expertise to NGS with the *Introduction to Civil War Records*. In this seven chapter course, Craig introduces numerous records including compiled service records, prisoner of war records, and pen-

sion files created for, during, and after the war. He provides strategies to identify and locate information on an ancestor living at the time of the Civil War.

This NGS American Genealogy Studies course is available on CD-ROM as a PDF file compatible for a PC- or MAC for \$35.00 for members and \$50.00 for non-members. For further information, or to purchase the course, visit the NGS website at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org> and click on *Educational Courses*. The NGS *American Genealogy Studies* are designed for both the beginner and the established genealogist.

These busy individuals want to learn about a specific topic and put the ensuing knowledge to work quickly. NGS courses offer the convenience of completing a genealogy study at their own pace in their home.

Founded in 1903, the National Genealogical Society is dedicated to genealogy education, high research standards, and the preservation of genealogical records. The Arlington, Virginia-based non-profit is the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian, seeking excellence in publications, educational offerings, research guidance, and opportunities to interact with other genealogists. Please visit the NGS Pressroom for further information.

Scottish Equine Connections, continued from page 5

one of two breeds native to Scotland.

The winter coat consists of a layer of strong badger like hair over a soft dense undercoat, which enables this breed of pony to live outside in all weathers. The winter coat is shed in the spring to reveal a smooth summer coat which is a range of duns, mouse, yellow, gray, cream. The ponies also come in brown, black and occasionally bay and liver chestnut with silver mane and tail.

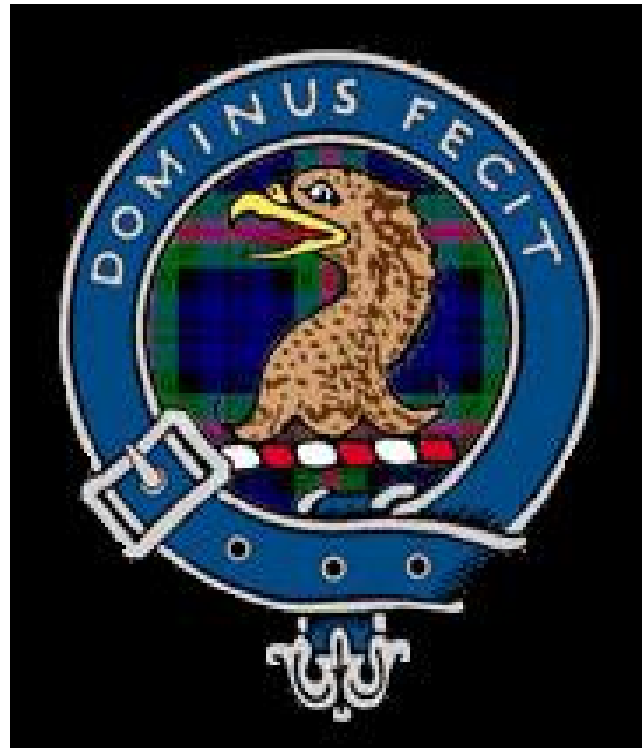
Many ponies have a dorsal stripe and some show zebra markings on legs and shoulder.

If you get to attend the Fairhill Maryland games drop by and visit with George and Barbara Clardy and check out some living Scottish history.



Clan Baird Society Worldwide

Wrex Diem, president
2200 South Osseo Road
Osseo, Michigan 49266
(517) 523-4634
alakazam@frontiernet.net



www.clanbaird.net

THE CRAWFORD SURNAME Y-DNA PROJECT

You are cordially invited to participate in the
Crawford surname Y- DNA project.

Information, listing of current results,
and signing up for testing can be accessed at —

<http://www.clancrawford.org/home.htm>

To contact the project coordinator, e-mail
Kevan Crawford, Ph.D. at:

Kevan@clancrawford.org

Upcoming Scottish events galore from Clan Sutherland's *Dunrobin Piper*

✓ **September 2 – 4:** Wisconsin Highland Games and Celtic Fling, West Allis, WI <http://www.wisconsinscottish.org/>

✓ **September 3-4:** Capital District Scottish Games Altamont, NY <http://scotgames.com/>

✓ **September 3 – 4:** Virginia Scottish Games Alexandria, VA <http://www.vascottishgames.org/>

✓ **September 9 – 11:** Longs Peak Scottish / Irish Highland Festival, Este Park, CO http://www.scotfest.com/Scottish_Festival/Home.html

✓ **September 10 – 11:** Sycamore Shoals Celtic Festival Johnson City, TN <http://www.shoalsceltfest.com/>

✓ **September 10:** Ligonier Highland Games Bethel Park, PA <http://www.ligonierhighlandgames.org/>

✓ **September 10 – 11:** Columbus Scottish Festival Columbus, IN <http://www.scottishfestival.org/>

✓ **September 17:** Celtic Highland Games of the quad Cities, IA <http://www.celtichighlandgames.org/>

✓ **September 16 – 18:** New Hampshire Highland Games Concord, NH <http://www.nhscot.org/>

✓ **September 16 – 18:** Oklahoma Scottish Festival Tula, OK <http://www.tulsascottishgames.org/>

✓ **September 17:** Charleston Scottish Games and Highland Gathering, Charleston, SC <http://www.charlestonscots.org/>

✓ **September 23 – 25** McPhersons Scottish Festival, McPherson, KS <http://www.macfestival.org/>

✓ **September 24:** Dandridge Scots ó Irish Festival Dandridge, TN <http://www.scots-irish.org/>

✓ **September 23 – 25:** Celtic Classic Highland Games and Festival, Bethlehem, PA. <http://www.celticfest.org/>

✓ September 30-October 1: St. Louis Scottish Games and cultural Festival, PO Box 6811, Chesterfield, MO 63006

✓ **October 1:** North Alabama Scottish Festival, Scottsboro, AL <http://tennesseevalleyscottishsociety.org/North-Alabama-Scottish-Festival.htm>

✓ **October 1:** St Andrews Society of Connecticut Scottish Festival <http://www.sasct.org/festival.html>

✓ **October 1:** Williamsburg Scottish Festival and Celtic Celebration, PO Box 866, Williamsburg, VA 23287

✓ **October 2:** Ocala Scottish Highland Games and Celtic Festival, 17627 SE 14th St., Silver Springs, FL 34488

✓ **October 2:** Western Kentucky Highland Games, 2028 Jeffrerson St., Paducah, KY 42001

✓ **October 7 – 9:** Seaside Highland Games, Ventura, CA <http://seaside-games.com/>

✓ **October 8:** Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival, 7043 South 150 West, Pendleton, IN 46064

✓ **October 15-16:** Stone Mountain Highland Games & Scottish Festival, PO Box 14023, Atlanta, GA 30324

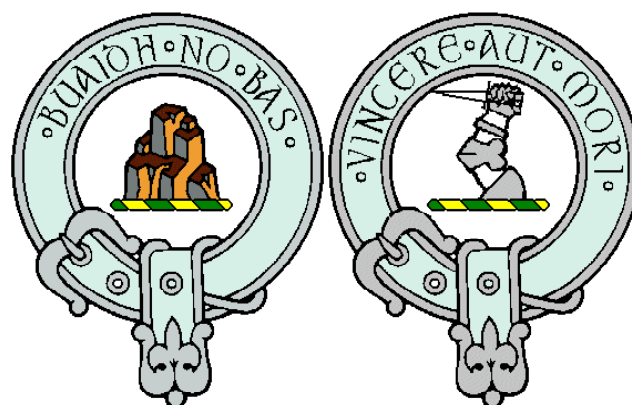
✓ **October 23-24:** Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival, PO Box 26805, Richmond, VA 23261-6805

Events in Canada can be linked to from this website:
http://web.ripnet.com/~nimmos/highland_games.html

Clan Macneil Association of America

If you are a Macneil or any of the following %Sept+ names, then you have found the clan that you are looking for.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| • Macneil | • McNeill |
| • MacNeil | • Mcneal |
| • Macniel | • McNeal |
| • MacNiel | • Mcneale |
| • Macneill | • McNeale |
| • MacNeill | • McNeilage |
| • MacNeillie | • Mcneilage |
| • Macneal | • McNelly |
| • MacNeal | • Mcnelly |
| • Macneale | • McNeally |
| • MacNeale | • Mcneally |
| • MacNeilage | • Neil |
| • Macneilage | • Neal |
| • MacNelly | • Neall |
| • Macnelly | • Neale |
| • MacNeally | • Neill |
| • Macneally | • Niel |
| • Mcneil | • Niell |
| • McNeil | • OoNeal |
| • Mcniel | • OoNeil |
| • McNiel | • OoNiel |
| • Mcneill | • OoNeill |



**“Cuimhnich Air Na Daoine
o’n D’thainig thu.”**

**- Remember the men from
whom you have come.**

President C. McNeill Baker, Jr.
6959 Almours Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32117-2628
clanmacneilua.us

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| • Oneil | • Macguigan |
| • Oneill | • McGougan |
| • Nelson | • MCGougan |
| • Neilson | • McGrail |
| • Nielson | • McGrail |
| • MacGougan | • Mcgrail |
| • Macgougan | • Mcgrail |
| • MacGrail | • McGugan |
| • Macgrail | • Macgugan |
| • MacGugan | • McGuigan |
| • Macgugan | ...and |
| • MacGuigan | • Mcguigan |

Computer doom and gloom at *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree*



Happy as a lark, I began this section for September. Maybe half an hour into getting the ads placed properly on the pages, my cursor froze.

Ten seconds later, the screen went black for maybe 10 seconds and then everything appeared normally. öYaha,ö I thought. öIt must have been a tiny break in the power.ö

Ten seconds after that, the cursor froze and the entire process repeated itself. My spirits started to sink.

A little message appeared on the screen saying some gobbledygook about my ögraphics card.ö öOh, no,ö I thought.

I called my computer guy who came over shortly thereafter. Here's where the doom and gloom begin.

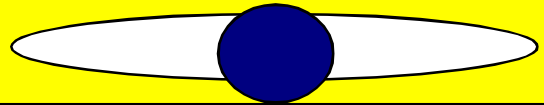
Many of the readers of this publication are newsletter editors too. I'm sure you all know that a computer does not a newsletter make. Just a few of the things I MUST have are my PageMaker6.5 program. I save things each and every day from email for the next publication on my schedule - The Clan Home *Homeworks*, *Dhomhnaill Gu Brath* for Clan Donald MidSouth, *The Victor* for my Knights Templar and several other projects I am working on. I reckon there were several hundred files saved...maybe 75 of them for September BNFT. These were saved on my AOL page, but on my PC, I thought. I need my photograph file as I have at least two bazillion photos on my system. I need my email address lists for when

Continued on page 28

Gotta Query?

Send it to
bethscribble@aol.com

If you'd like to be reminded
when a new issue of
*Beth's
Newfangled Family Tree*
is "up" here,
all you have to do is visit
[www.electricscotland.com/
maillist.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/maillist.htm)
That's Alastair's ElectricScotland
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but it is also where the new issues
of BNFT are announced!



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Clan Sutherland Society of North America



Septs and Associated Families:
Cheyne, Clyne, Duffus, Federith, Gray,
Keith, Mowat, Murray, Oliphant.

For membership information, please visit our website at
www.clansutherland.org



The Contesses Coat of Arms

You may contact
the president:
George Sutherland
9613 Highstream Court
Charlotte, NC 28269

Clan Chief,
Lady Elizabeth,
Countess of Sutherland



Have you been awarded your own Arms?

If you have been awarded your own Arms by the Lyon Court in Edinburgh, Scotland, we'd like to feature them in these pages. Just send a note telling us about how and why you were honored plus a rendering of your Arms in color (jpeg files, please) and a copy of your Achievement in any Word format.

Just send to bethscribble@aol.com and we'll honor you in the pages of *BNFT*.

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Fort Myers-Lee County Library

2011 Genealogy Family History Month Series

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Speakers:

Carolyn Ford-Lee County Genealogical Society

Bryan Mulcahy-Fort Myers-Lee County Library

Saturdays

9:30am-12:15pm

Session One: September 24, 2011

Using census records to establish an ancestor's place of residence.

Session Two: October 1, 2011

Using census substitutes to "fill in the blanks"

(city directories, newspapers, voter lists, etc.)

Session Three: October 8, 2011

Using church records to document life events

predating the compilation of vital records.

Session Four: October 15, 2011

Locating courthouse records to provide a paper trail.

Session Five: October 29, 2011

Locating wills, probate files, cemetery and funeral home records.

All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is required.
You may register online at the library website <http://library.leegov.com>, via
e-mail at bmulcahy@leegov.com, or by calling the number listed below.

Fort Myers Lee County Library

2050 Central Avenue - Fort Myers, FL

Tel: (239) 533-4626

Bryan L. Mulcahy - Reference Librarian, Fort Myers-Lee County Library

2050 Central Avenue - Fort Myers, FL 33901-3917

Tel: (239) 533-4626 - Fax: (239) 485-1160 E-Mail: bmulcahy@leegov.com

A Highlander And His Books....

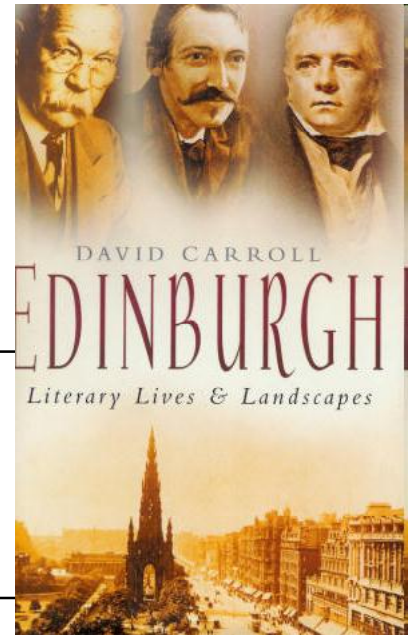
Edinburgh

Literary Lives & Landscapes

David Carroll

Reviewed By

Frank R. Shaw, FSA Scot,
Dawsonville, GA



If I reviewed books for a monthly Scottish book review club, those that are serious, not those who meet for a social hour, I'd have to put David Carroll's book at the top of the list to review next month! He has written an excellent book! Just the name "EDINBURGH" spelled in capital letters brings back great memories of the many times my wife Susan and I have walked the streets and climbed the hills of that magical city, huffing and puffing along the way. (I had a physician friend once tell me that he walked Edinburgh for half a day and saw all that was worth seeing! Pardon me, what arrogant planet does he come from?)

Add the rest of the book title, "Literary Lives & Landscapes," and I want to find my favorite Edinburgh Starbucks on Princess Street, (yes, they have them almost by the dozen), grab one of those comfortable easy chairs, enjoy my cappuccino, gaze upon the Castle, and read again some of my favorite chapters in this wonderful little epistle about some of my best friends - Walt, Rob, and Jim, to name a few. You may know them as Scott, Burns and

Barrie. Some may not know the names De Quincey, Owen and Sassoon. Let David Carroll introduce them to you. You will thoroughly enjoy meeting these new friends and spending time with some of your old ones.

I believe it is safe to say that those of us who are fortunate enough to have the desire to read good books know, to some degree, about many of the great things that happened during the eighteenth century in Scotland among those inclined to take pen in hand. Welcome aboard. The writers mentioned in this book all found their way to Edinburgh. I think the author says it best, "My aim in this book is to explore the lives of many of those

writers who, over the years, have to a greater or lesser degree forged a link with Edinburgh and to demonstrate, where appropriate, how that connection influ-

enced - or was reflected in - their work."

What I love about this book is its readability and simplicity. As the author of several books, David Carroll is a talented and gifted writer, expe-

Continued on page 18

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334.501.0202 mcleod@scotpress.com



Elliot Clan Society, USA

Membership Information 2011

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

w w w . e l l i o t c l a n . c o m .

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 it allows you to meet other Elliots with similar interests who share our Scottish heritage.

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

Email: dublincollen@sbcglobal.net or write:

Patricia Tennyson Bell, Treasurer/Membership Chair

2288 Casa Grande Street

Pasadena, CA 91104

(Fortiter Et Recte)
Boldly and Rightly



rienced in the ways of a wise wordsmith. Anyone who wants an introduction to the literary giants of Scotland will find this book a "must read". I have good friends here in the States and in Scotland who have spent their lives teaching about these writers at great universities, and I've come to the conclusion after hearing them talk that giants did walk in Scotland in those halcyon days. David Carroll will let you walk arm in arm right down the Royal Mile with them! Now, how great were these writers?

Take for instance Walter Scott. Until he came on the scene, no author in history ever experienced such international acclaim and success. Sure, we have authors today who grind out a novel or two a year. Yes, we have J. K. Rowling and that guy named Brown whose book continues to remain *The New York Times* bestseller list. But I'm talking serious literature, the kind we study in our schools and universities, the books that stay with us during our lifetimes. Case in point, my eleventh grade literature book is within three feet of this computer, and I finished high school in 1957. I gave that dog-eared book to my son Scott a few years ago. But sometime later, when the withdrawal pains would not go away, I went back to him and asked if I could borrow it for the rest of my life. There are other giants in Carroll's book, and the chapters vary in length from five to fourteen pages. Some giants were not as big as others.

I regret that Carroll did not see fit to put another buddy of mine in his book. I know of him only through my good friend, Robert Burns. It is not that this young man was such a great poet. He probably was not even a good poet. Lord knows he tried. J. Bennett Nolan, himself a would-be writer, refers to my friend as "the shiftless Edinburgh poet" on one occasion and on another as "a shiftless student, the Edinburgh poet, Robert Fergusson". He is best known for what he meant to Robert Burns. Simply put, and Robert Crawford agrees with me, Fergusson was "Robert Burns's favourite Scottish poet"! Scotland's National Bard must know something the rest of us have over-

looked, including Carroll.

Tucked away in the last chapter is "An Edinburgh Review" of the seventeenth through the twentieth centuries. It is twenty-five pages on great writing and good reading about some very talented writers like Ben Jonson who came along, unfortunately for him, at the time of an even greater writer, William Shakespeare. Thus, no one remembers Jonson, even though he was Britain's first Poet Laureate. You've met Daniel Defoe but maybe not as a "secret agent man", shades of the CIA, or Marcus Philby. Then there is a Jeremy Melford who wanted so badly to be a man of Edinburgh but couldn't quite pull it off because of a squeamish stomach - "I shall be changed into a downright Caledonian" but I am not Scotchman enough to relish their singed sheep's-head and haggis! "Sir Walter Scott, who currently seems to be attracting a more appreciative and greater readership these days, liked nothing better than that favorite delicacy that turned Melford's stomach - a sheep's-head staring him in the face. But, then, Scott was a real Scotsman, not a "could have been" or a wannabe.

As I write this review, two of my friends have just returned from Scotland and two more are still there, taking in the many venues of the Edinburgh International Festival. I wish I had read Carroll's book before they left to tell them of the book's Postscript dealing with the history of the festival. That information is valuable to anyone planning a trip to the "Auld Country" anytime in the future.

You do not have to enroll on-line at the University of Edinburgh to start your learning process on these great and not so great writers. You can buy this book for a paltry £14.95 plus s/h by contacting your nearest book dealer. If they do not have it, they will get it for you, and you will always be glad they did! Give them ISBN 0-7509-3097-7, and the book from Scotland to your book dealer will be here quicker than you think, unless, being the Scotsman that you are or wannabe, you decide on surface mail which will take up to three months. God forbid!

More Frank Shaw reviews visit www.electricscotland.com.

Search for "Frank Shaw."



clankeithusa.org
Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

CLAN KEITH SOCIETY USA, INC. Cordially invites membership inquiries from all descendants of the Keiths and Clan Septs: Austin, Dickson, Falconer, Hackson, Harvey, Haxton, Hervey, Hurry, Keith, Kite, Lumgair, Mackeith, Marshall, Urie, Urry, etc. (many spelling variations)

Alice M. Hattenbrun, Secretary

The Clan Keith Society, USA, Inc.

119 South RD

Kensington, NH 03833

www.clankeithusa.org

Keiths and all our septs...

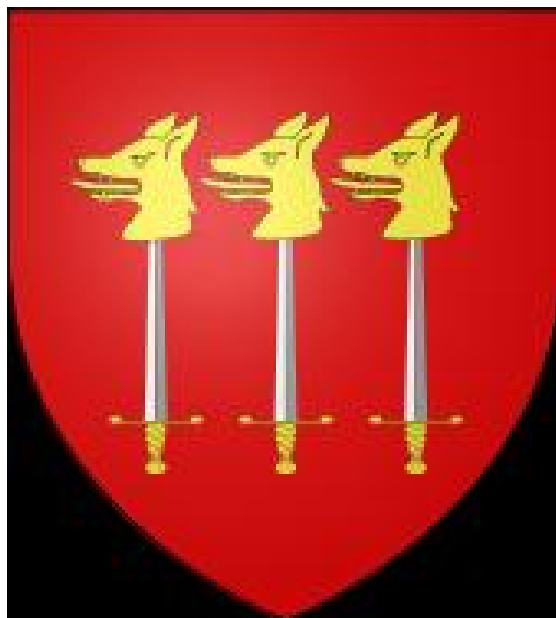
If you see the Clan Keith Society USA, Inc. tent at a Highland Games anywhere...be sure and come by to visit with all of us.

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Flowers of the Forest

Jeffrey Allen Lockhart, 64, of Crestwood, Kentucky passed away Thursday, August 4, 2011 at Norton Brownsboro Hospital, Louisville, KY.

He was founder and past president of American Clan Lockhart Society. He was a Knights Templar in the Bailiwick of the Scots.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Arlene Lockhart; and brother, Scott Lockhart.

He is survived by his wife, Susan Tyler Lockhart; daughters, Sara Devere (Jamie), Jennifer Bailey (Brian); sister, Lora Lockhart; brother, Bruce

Lockhart; grandchildren, Maura and Mason Devere and soon to come, Ella Grace Bailey.

Funeral service was at Stoess Funeral Home, Crestwood, with burial to follow in Chenoweth Run Cemetery.

Jeff was always ready to laugh and joke. He and Susan never failed to offer cold water or sodas...and always their friendship. Your ed.

Olive Lance McCaskill Bell was born in Greenville, Mississippi, on December 22, 1915 and died 26 July 2011.

She studied journalism at Southeastern Louisiana University and worked as the

society reporter for the California Democrat in California, where she was sent on assignment to interview Saul Bell. Saul and Olive were married in August of 1937 and left for California on their honeymoon. When they hit the mountains of New Mexico, Olive insisted that they stop and settle there. They made their home in Albuquerque, where they raised nine children and shared 59 happy years of marriage.

Olive was a gifted and captivating storyteller, an avid reader, and a lifelong learner with an unquenchable thirst for adventure. Her love of life extended to many creative pursuits: she was an accomplished seamstress and knitter, ceramic artist, woodcarver, glassworker, and gardener.

She inspired her loved ones with her passionate approach to living.

In 1949, she graduated from the Gemological Institute of America—the only woman in her class. For her 60th birthday, she took flying lessons, pursuing a lifelong desire to be a pilot.

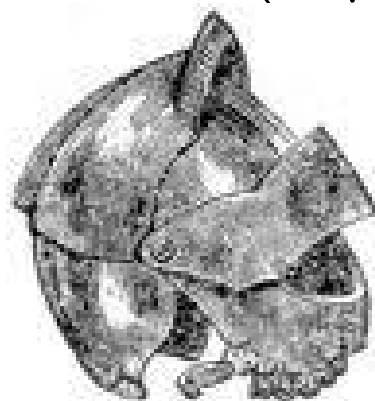
In her eighties, she built a cottage in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, where she spent ten happy summers.

She was co-founder and chairman of

Continued on page 27



Clan Home Society (International)



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**Ronald John
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Ph. 919-256-3798 or

rmnccord@ec.rr.com



Family Reunions & Genealogical Research - a mini how-to for you

Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian, Fort Myers-Lee County Library

Many families enjoy getting together periodically at a designated place for family reunions. Some families hold annual reunions on the same date and at the same location. Others vary their dates and locations.

Reunions can have a variety of themes. For those wishing to highlight the history of a family, a typical reunion invitation list may include grandparents and great-grandparents, as well as parents, siblings, and cousins. Many family reunions are sponsored by family organizations or associations.

The principal goal should be to encourage discussion and pride in the history and achievements of family members, both past and present. Reunions are one of the best times to encourage members of the older generations to share their memories and stories. These memories and stories will often answer many questions concerning deceased family members and the events that impacted their lives. Successful reunions encourage interaction among all age groups.

Pre-reunion planning for activities is of utmost importance. The most successful reunions, from a historical and/or genealogical perspective, are those that allow family members to spend as much time as possible with each other while they are together. In the 21st century, it is a rare occasion when all members of a family gather in the same venue for any length of time. The event planner should design activities that necessitate hav-

ing family members do things together, but give participants opportunities to talk quietly among themselves, rather than over planning the activities.



There are numerous books and Internet sites devoted to family reunions. They cover every aspect of the planning process and most include a listing of activities that are specifically designed to ensure maximum levels of personal interaction. Both book and Internet sources will provide greater detail for each of the options, and usually feature illustrations, instructions, and other information. The

following list includes some of the most popular family reunion ideas and activities.

1. Family history skits and/or re-enactments of major events.
2. Family stories
3. Family scavenger hunts
4. Family tree wall chart
5. Memorabilia display board or table display
6. Memory T-shirts
7. Oral history interviews (preferably recorded and transferred to DVD or Blu-Rays)

Come to think of it, what is the biggest "family reunion" you ever saw? A Highland Games most anywhere.

If you have not joined your clan (family) do so asap. It's fun. It's educational. It's enriching.

One O'clock Gun celebrates 150th anniversary at Edinburgh Castle

Its loud boom has startled many a visitor to Scotland's capitol city. Generations of Edinburgh locals have set their watches by it. Now, Edinburgh's historic One O'clock Gun recently celebrated its 150th anniversary.

The historic gun fires daily except on Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day from Edinburgh Castle at precisely 13:00 (1 PM). It was first fired on June 7, 1861 and has continued ever since, except during the two World Wars.

The gun is timed to coincide perfectly with the Time-Ball, a large black ball (It used to be white before renovation work

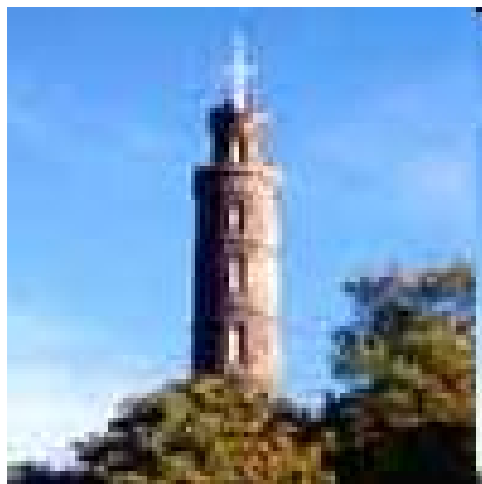
several years ago) which is raised above the Nelson Monument on Calton Hill that drops at exactly one o'clock. The Nelson Monument ball was useless for ships in Leith Harbour two miles away when the weather was foggy.

The Nelson Monument on Calton Hill was built between 1807 and 1816 to commemorate Admiral Horatio Nelson who died at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805.

The ball weighs approximately 1,675 pounds.

The Time-Ball predates the One O'clock Gun by nine years.

Continued on page 25



Welcome baby Elsa Hasenjager Nicholson



Michael and Katrin Nicholson are happy to announce the arrival of Elsa this last May 17. She is a sister to Jessica and Naomi.

Michael has been a Clan MacNicol of North America - Member of the Highland Clan MacNeacail Federation member for many years and was a Commissioner for Canada. Congratulations to Katrin and Michael!

With thanks to *Scorrybreac, Journal of the Clan MacNicol of North America*. For membership Information, contact Jeremy D. Nicholson at clanmacnicol@bsn1.net

With the gun, the ships had a second time source to synchronize their chronometers.

Does the significance of dropping a ball to announce the time sound familiar?

The best example of an American time-ball is the one that drops at midnight on New Year's Eve in New York's Time Square.

Together, the One O'clock gun and the Time-Ball provide a time signal for shipping in the Firth of Forth and the Port of Leigh.

Because sound travels relatively slowly at about 768 miles per hour or one mile in five seconds and because the Scots were sticklers for accuracy, they produced maps in the 1860s to show the actual time when the sound of the gun was heard at various locations in Edinburgh.

Time guns are more common than you might think. You will find them in South Africa, Singapore, Canada, Australia, Russia France and Melita.

Sometimes other devices than guns provide the correct time: In Jacksonville, Florida Big Jim announces noon and midnight. Big Jim is a huge and very loud whistle/siren located at the main power station downtown. That sound is one of my earliest memories. I wonder if it is still going? Does anyone know? Please let us know - bethscribble@aol.com. Your ed.

Did you know that Edinburgh's fa-

mous dog, Greyfriars Bobby, was said to have used the One O'clock gun as a dinner signal?

Originally an 18-pound muzzle loading cannon which needed four men to load and fire was fired from the Half Moon Battery at Edinburgh Castle. A 25 pound how-

itzer which entered service in 1939 was only replaced by a more modern 105mm light gun in 2001. It fires an eight ounce blank



shell.

The One O'clock gun is the only remaining military time gun in use in Britain.

The longest-serving District Gunner, Staff Sergeant Thomas McKay, MBE, nicknamed "Tam the Gun" fired the One O'clock gun from July, 1970 until his retirement in January 2005. He published a book entitled *What Time Does Edinburgh's One O'clock Gun fire?*

The current District Gunner, the 27th man to fill the post, is Sergeant Jamie Shannon, nicknamed "Shannon The Cannon."

With thanks to Rich and Rita Shader, editors of *Celtic Seasons - from the Streams of Celtic Consciousness*.

If you would like to receive *Celtic Seasons*, send your name, address and any monetary donation to offset costs to: Rich Shader, 2593 Chapparral Drive, Melbourne, FL 32934.



Thirteen CDUSA Regions cover the United States

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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>

Flowers of the Forest, continued from page 21

the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games, which is still going strong 23 years later.

She founded The MacAskill Sept Society of the U.S. and Canada and co-founded the Clan MacLaren Society of North America.

She has been an officer and very active member of the Clan MacLeod Society for more than 30 years.

Olive marveled at the world and modeled an attitude of curiosity and passion for her children and grandchildren. She embodied a spirit of adventure and boldness, and gave each of her descendants a deep appreciation for their family history.

She passed away peacefully in her home, surrounded by her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Olive was preceded in death by her husband Saul Bell and her son Mandel Bell. She leaves behind a nephew, Jamie McCaskill, and 36 direct descendants including her eight living children: Elizabeth, Hugh (Margaret), Eddie (Pam), Neil, Alan (Audrey), Martin (Paula Crevoshay), Molly (Charles Springer), Bruce (Darcel); 13 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

We cherish our memories of her and will pass her stories on and on.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Olive's name to the New Mexico Library for the Blind

(1209 Camino Carlos Rey, Santa Fe, 87507-5166), a great program that provided her pleasure and sanity for over 17 years, or Open Space Alliance (P.O. Box 91265, Albuquerque, NM 87199), because Olive valued the preservation of New Mexico's beautiful open space and enjoyed seeing the bright green of their sorghum field from her south garden.



A memorial celebration of Olive's life will be held on Sunday, September 18, 2011, from 10am-1pm in the Olive and Saul Bell Plaza of Bosque School (4000 Learning Rd., Albuquerque, NM 87120).

It is with sadness that I report the passing of **William Bell (Willie) Campbell**, a fixture and icon in the southern California Scottish community for many years.

Most of you will have known Willie from Clans of the Highlands, and many of the Games for years, but also from the Queen Mary Scottish Festival where he delivered the *Address to the Haggis* each day at the Festival, every year.

A memorial remembrance event is scheduled for Saturday, August 13th at 2:00 PM at the Buchanan arms Restaurant in Burbank.

Flowers of the Forest obituaries are published here at no charge. If you have a friend or loved one pass away, please send their obituary in whatever form you have to bethscribble@aol.com.

Doom and Gloom, *continued from page 11*

I send this publication to Alastair and a few folks who have asked to get the sections as they are done. (This is mixed blessing, as sometimes strange things happen in the transmission of big files like this is.)

I wasn't too scared as I have an external hard drive which is supposed to back up in the middle of each night.

My computer guy went to much trouble to get all of my BNFT files on a flash drive - and to make accessible my backups on the external hard drive.

The short term fix was to move me upstairs to Tom's office and share his computer for awhile. He has a lovely almost brand new work computer...and it uses Windows 7 Home. PageMaker6.5 won't load on Windows 7 Home. My program is now sort of antique. PageMaker7.0 WILL load on Tom's computer with Windows 7. So, I am, at this moment on a 30-day free trial of PageMaker7. (I have a PageMaker7.0 disc I purchased several years ago...but where is it?) I have 27 days in which to find my PageMaker7.0.

I will have to tell you that I have moved all of my things to storage upstairs here at Tom's. There are 3 very large rooms packed ceiling high with my things I moved from my house when I needed to vacate there. I moved a bunch of things myself but had a lot of volunteers and even some paid help to get everything from there to here. My

PageMaker7.0 program is somewhere in all that. There's not any chance at all I can find ANYTHING at this time. I have discovered that my laptop power cord and bits and pieces are also carefully placed somewhere in that mess.

So, I went to use my backup files from the external hard drive. Doom and gloom. Not one of my saved files is there. Nothing from the last 3 months is there. I guess when the computer was repaired about 2 months ago, they forgot to hook up the automatic back up. DOOM AND GLOOM.

■ So, if you have sent me anything recently for publication here, please resend it to bethscribble@aol.com.

■ If you get the sections as they are done, please write me at the same email address and give me your email address.

■ If you have sent me anything for any of the publications I do, please resend it.

■ If I am supposed to do something for you - please tell me again what it is.

You might send me boxes of chocolate covered cherries -my treat is ONE Chocolate Covered Cherry each Christmas...but I feel chocolate covered cherry craving coming on fast.

At the moment, the computer guy is performing emergency surgery on the poor old computer. We don't know if it will work, but now is not the time for me to buy another computer. I promise.

So, I don't know what will happen except that we will figure out a way to be sure your BNFT publications roll around as they are supposed to do.

On top of everything else, Tom's keyboard is a very small thing...and I am accustomed to using an ergonomic keyboard. I cannot type worth a toot on this thing. And, the trial PageMaker7.0 program does not have Spell Check.

Maybe the Butterfinger candy folks will take pity and send me a pickup load of Butterfingers! Or Reese's Cups. With the CCCheries, they are all medicinal!

Thank you for your patience. I'll let you know if my computer was saved...

As one of my heroines says, "It won't matter in 100 years. Heck, it barely matters now!"

I am famously stubborn. Little things like all of these won't stop BNFT!

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Several long-standing and stalwart Clan MacNicol members have passed away: **Karl Stellmacher** of Nordenham, Germany; **Jeanie Nicol England** of Cheshire, Connecticut; **Gordon Riess** of Beverly Hills, California and **Barbara Doe Nicoll**, MA, mother of Dick Nicoll.

Agnes (Nan) Nicol (nee Goldie) died on Saturday, February 5, 2011. Born in Hurlford, Ayrshire, Scotland on July 16, 1928, Nan is survived by her husband of sixty-two years, Andrew Angus Nicol and her two children, Deborah and Stuart.

Nan's greatest joy in life was her music, having been an award-winning singer since her youthful days in Scotland. She studied at the Royal Conservatory in Toronto and competed in many music festivals.

Upon retirement and moving out to British Columbia with her husband, Nan became a member of the Malaspina Choir and joined the Order of the Eastern Star.

Jack Nicholson of York Beach, Maine, has passed away. He was brother of Bob Nicholson of Scottsdale, Arizona and father of Bill Nicholson of Natick, Massachusetts who are also Clan MacNicol members. Jack's two other brothers, William F. Nicholson, Jr., and Donald J. Nicholson predeceased him.

Jack was eighty-seven years old and had formerly lived in Reading, Massachusetts. He was born in Dorchester, Massachusetts, the son of William and Sarah Nicholson. He grew up in Roslindale.

He served in World War II. He was a graduate of Boston University and Boston University School of Law. He worked for Amica Mutual Insurance Company for thirty-two years.

Jack enjoyed running and was an avid Boston sports fan, particularly of the Boston Braves, Red Sox and Boston College.

He was a member of St. Christopher's Church and sang in the choir.

Jack was proud of his Scottish and Irish heritage and frequently attended Scottish Games in New Hampshire and Maine.

The Clan MacNicol offers sincere condolences to Jack's wife of fifty-three years, Barbara J. Szczepanek Nicholson, and his family.

Fred Malcolm Nicolson, brother of Clan MacNicol Canadian Commissioner, Mary Lou

Nicolson Klimek, died last April 19th after a brief battle with cancer.

Fred worked for British Columbia Telephone for most of his career.

Fred was proud of his Scottish heritage and helped Mary Lou at the Kamloops Games for the past three years.

He attended the last International Gathering in Vancouver in October 2010 with his companion Evelyn Zant.

Fred's sons, Brent and Erron, are also Clan MacNicol members, along with Mary Lou's children, Mike and Kim - quite a contingent from Western Canada.

Clan MacNicol wishes heartfelt condolences to Evelyn, Mary Lou and family.





was once known as 'the bloodiest valley in Britain' Hermitage is the picture that always I see first in my mind's eye, whenever I think of 'Clan'

'Clan' has put me in touch with friends and family all over the world, with readers in 15 countries - at least that I know of. It has become an audio book, has been translated into German and is finding a great new audience over there; it seems the Germans love Scotland!

Above all, though, it has given me the opportunity to make friends all over the World, wherever Scottish blood, however diluted, flows in the veins of men and women. I have made friends and found family.

It would be iniquitous to mention anyone by name. By naming one and not another I insult people who are deeply important to me, but take it from me, everyone who has ever connected either per-

sonally or through 'Clan' you are friend or family.

But I'm sure you will forgive me if I do single out one person, a very special person: our Clan Chief Madam Margaret Elliott of Redheugh. Before 'Clan' was published, I forwarded a copy to her and spent a very worrying time waiting to hear her thoughts. I'm not sure what would have happened had she hated it - but fortunately it seems she didn't, and her comments now proudly grace the cover of the book.

So there we are, 15 countries, from Scotland to Australia, the USA to Brazil, Canada to New Zealand, Germany to Israel - 'Clan' has travelled.

I am proud to say, courtesy of our Chief, it sits in 'The Elliot Clan Museum'. It also is available in the Liddesdale Heritage Centre and Hawick Museum in the borders.

But there has always been one place it has never been: The one place which is its spiritual home, the one place above all others it should be, and that is at Hermitage Castle itself.

But that is about to change.

The guardians of Scottish heritage, 'Historic Scotland' have decided that 'Clan' deserves a place within Hermitage itself and they will be making it available for sale to visitors to the Castle.

I couldn't be prouder. When I first opened my copy of 'The Steel Bonnets' and started a remarkable journey of discovery, it would have been sheer fantasy for me to consider that one day it might be on a shelf at Hermitage alongside it!

'Clan' is finally home.

Congratulations to David Elliot!

*You read about "Clan" here before
it was released for sale...and you've read
about "Clan" since 2008 when it was
released. David Elliot's dream has
come true!*