



~ The Clan Logan Society ~

# Our Valour<sup>®</sup>

www.clanlogansociety.com

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One Name ~ One Family ~ One Heritage

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## Clan Logan Fact Box

Did you know that Sir Robert Logan married the daughter of King Robert II?

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Produced by HIGHLANDER  
Graphics for The Clan Logan  
Society International

## The Cloth of A Nation

By Brian Wilton, Crieff, Perthshire, Scotland

"It's a great honour to be custodian of what must be the greatest international icon in the world," says Brian Wilton, Director of Operations for the Scottish Tartans Authority.

"There is no other textile design in existence which has the unique flexibility of tartan - its infinite design possibilities that can permute up to six or more colours plucked from the spectrum and then lay them out in an equally infinite number of ways.

There is no other textile design in the world which allows the wearer to celebrate and proudly proclaim that "I come from this country ; this is my family; my clan; my city; district, company, regiment, college, football team; the list is almost endless!"

Today's guardians of the 'cloth of a nation' are the Scottish Tartans Authority — established in 1995 and funded by membership subscriptions, contributions from the tartan industry and fees for the range of services it offers. Its supporters and members range from Scot-

land's largest weavers and retailers, to long-respected academics on both sides of the Atlantic and private individuals and small businesses around the globe.

Its function in life? A bewilderingly wide range of tasks epitomised by its slogan of "Preserving the past, Promoting the Future".

One of its first projects was to establish an independent national archive of tartans. In electronic form it is a huge database — the International Tartan Index (ITI) — in which are safeguarded the patterns and histories of over 6,000 tartans stretching from the Takla Makan tartan of around 1200BC to a new school tartan designed in 2006AD - last week in fact! Supplementing that are thousands of woven samples that form the largest tartan cloth collection in the world. New tartans are added each week — recent additions have come from Norway, Austria, Switzerland, Australia and of course the USA — and applicants line up to get

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## Clan Logan DNA Research

By J.J. "Jim" Logan, McLean, VA, USA

In the first installment we introduced you to the Pre1800Logans group and associated Logan DNA Project. We gave you some history and our motives. In this installment we will introduce you to DNA and its possible utility to genealogy. This will provide background helpful in interpreting the results of our ongoing project.

In describing DNA, I will use (with permission) two graphics from a tutorial available at

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## MacLennan Who?

By Frank Logan, Dartmouth, NS, Canada

What Clan do you belong to? Many Logan's have become members of Clan MacLennan, but have they joined the wrong clan?

In the last segment we covered the position of the Office of Lord Lyon, in that clan Logan was considered a clan without a Chief. We also learned that the last known Chief of that name was George Logan of that Ilk, who registered his arms in 1673 with the Public Register

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## The Cloth of A Nation

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their tartans Recorded (Registered) in the ITI and receive an illuminated certificate.

The Authority also established its highly regarded website which now attracts up to 1500 visitors a day at times, the majority of them looking for their tartan. Letters, e-mails and phone calls besiege the Authority's new Perthshire headquarters at times – asking a multitude of questions – “Where can we get this tartan? What should I wear to a Scottish Ball? Where can I buy tartan ribbon? Can you identify the tartan in this black and white photograph? Will you design a tartan for our company? Will you come and talk to our club?”

The dispensing of such free informa-

tion and advice is a very large - and welcome - part of the Authority's many tasks. It's particularly keen on education and has recently devised and delivered a programme for primary schools, which mixed history and craft to excellent effect with the end product being a new school tartan designed by the pupils.

Dealing with the tartan industry and lobbying on its behalf is another extremely important task. With cheap tartan imports threatening jobs and jeopardising the whole high-quality image of Scotland's Highland dress industry, there's plenty work for the Authority to do. That includes not only fighting the tartan forgers from poorer developing countries but also highlighting the benefits of buying the 'Real McCoy' tartan, crafted in a

Scottish mill and turned into valuable articles of heritage clothing in the hands of skilled sewers and kilt makers.

A very pleasurable function in which an increasing part is played by the Authority in it's new headquarters and showroom, is identifying and promoting small craft operators whose imagination and flair are using tartan in many innovative ways – hand-woven evening shawls to match a partner's kilt or the revival of 18<sup>th</sup> century Mauchline jewellery. “In these days of the Internet,” explained Brian, “working from a croft in some isolated community is no bar to accessing an international market. Buyers are becoming much more discerning and are willing to pay a premium for products from the ‘old country’ that have that magic touch of individual craft skills. If we can help workers in those rural communities, then we will have performed a very useful role.”

Part of the Authority's archives is an extensive library of rare books on tartan, Highland dress and clan history — an extremely valuable resource for researchers and historians. There is still much research to be undertaken according to the Authority and one of the fruitful areas is North America. “When the Scots emigrated,” said Brian Wilton, “they would take their tartans with them. Settled, far away from home, those tartans assumed a much greater significance and would be viewed with nostalgia. That resulted in

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## MacLennan Who?

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of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland. To flesh out the rest of the story, we must start to break down some of the persistent myths which have surrounded our two clans for some time.

The first myth surrounds the tartan which our two clans wear. First recorded in 1831 by writer James Logan (1794-1872), in his book "The Scottish Gael" (ISBN 0 85976 021 9), the name for this tartan was and still is Logan. The only known reference to this tartan beginning its association with clan MacLennan, is the MacLennan print by R. R. McLan.

McLan (1803-1856), was the mastermind behind "The Clans of The Scottish Highlands" (ISBN 0 907486 38 X) which was published in 1848. McLan, did all of the illustration, while James Logan provided all of the text. The information provided to Logan on the history of our clan pointed to an ancient link between the Logan's and MacLennan's. There was still room for other explanations, which we will cover in more depth later. The print for MacLennan, shows a fellow from this clan wearing the Logan tartan, but no name is given to it unlike every other clan tartan shown. Given the style of writing at the time and subtlety's used by both the artist and writer, this is

***“Dealing with the  
tartan industry and  
lobbying on its  
behalf is another  
extremely important  
task” -Brian Wilton***

not a surprise and allows them to pay homage to the story of the origin of MacLennan.

It should also be noted, that until the early 19th century there were no such thing as “clan” tartans, and there is a mountain of evidence to prove this for anyone who wishes to do a quick search on the subject.

It would appear that due to the sly wink by McLan in regards to the print of 1848, the Logan tartan would be by consequence claimed by the clan MacLennan.

With the subject of clan origins, the topic has become more heated, but if the facts are laid out, there can only be one

true outcome. If the stories of the MacLennan origin are taken at face value, and can be believed, this would make them a true clan in their own right.

The founder of the MacLennan's was at best the great grandson of Gilliegorm Logan (a mythical Chief of Clan Logan from circa 1372), and was far removed from the holdings of the clan Logan. The MacLennan were subservient to clans Fraser and MacKenzie at various times.

The issue of Chiefly Arms has come up as a point of contention, with the heart of the Bruce being incorporated into the Arms of the MacLennan Chief, being

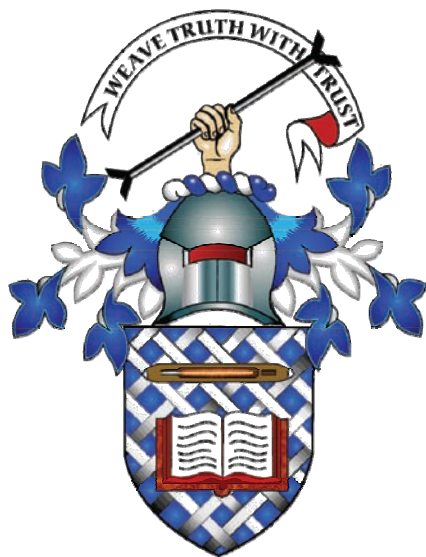
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## The Cloth of A Nation

Continued from PG 2

many of them being stored away in chests and attics, and to this day they're still re-appearing. Some of them have never been seen by modern eyes and tartan history has often had to be re-written as a result."

One of the Authority's major goals, yet to be accomplished, is the establishment of a national tartan centre. "It always amazes folk," explained Brian, "but we have official museums for this, that and the next thing, but no such facility for tartan and Highland dress. There are



tartan artifacts, fabric collections and costumes dotted across Scotland in large and small museums, but more often than not, they're in storage and hidden from view. Our aim is to attract sufficient government and private sector funding to create a major museum and interpretative centre where all those could be housed. Unfortunately, the Scots themselves have not always been the first to understand the importance of tartan's history and heritage and it's been left to that great family of 'overseas' Scots to fully appreciate the value of this 'cloth of a nation.'

If you're interested in the Scottish Tartans Authority then have a look at the website [www.tartansauthority.com](http://www.tartansauthority.com). If you have questions or found an old tartan in your attic, then e-mail them at [admin@tartansauthority.com](mailto:admin@tartansauthority.com)

## The Logan Family of Restalrig and the Gowrie Conspiracy

By Stephanie Logan Falls, Plano, TX, USA

*This article, the second in a series, will explore some of the characters implicated in the Gowrie Conspiracy of 1600. Be warned: this is dry reading.*

Known players included:

King James IV of Scotland and I of England (1566-1625)

Earl Gowrie and his brother (the Ruthvens)

Ministers and Justices

Unknown involvement until 1608:

George Sprot

Umquhile (deceased) Robert Logan, 7<sup>th</sup> Laird of Restalrig (1555-1606)

### King James (1566-1625)

The only son of Mary, Queen of Scots, and her second husband, Henry Stewart, Lord Darnley, James was proclaimed King of Scotland at the age of one year, after Mary was forced to abdicate in 1567. Due to his youth, James was nothing but a puppet for the political factions in Scotland until 1581. Scotland was at that time divided domestically by conflict between Protestants and Roman Catholics, and in foreign affairs by those favoring an alliance with France and those supporting England. In 1582 James

was kidnapped by a group of Protestant nobles headed by William Ruthven, Earl of Gowrie, and was held virtual prisoner until he escaped the next year. This is made more interesting as James was also Protestant.

James was well known for his extravagant spending and by the rewards he lavished on favorites. James awarded over 200 peerages (landed titles) as, essentially, bribes designed to win loyalty, the most controversial of which was his creation of George Villiers (his closest advisor and supposed homosexual partner) as Duke of Buckingham.

James was a natural scholar. He wrote and published books on political theory and owned an extensive library. As a boy the renowned humanist and radical Protestant George Buchanan had taught him. It was through him that James received his excellent education.

Some historians have suggested that James I was not a good king. His biographers have criticized his taste for alcohol, his temper, his obsession with popular beliefs such as witchcraft, his debauched lifestyle, and his love of hunting. James was an intelligent and active monarch, not wholly unsuccessful as king, but his Scottish background failed to translate well into a changing English society.

James is best known for authorizing the King James Bible and for the failed Gunpowder Plot of 1605. Note the year

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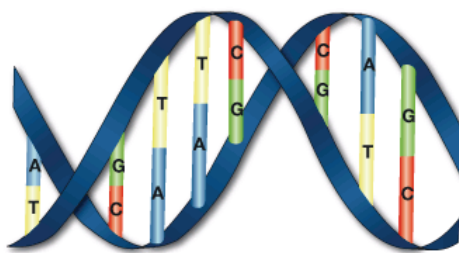


Above left; The Arms of the Authority, issued by the Lord Lyon in 2004.

Above; The home of the Scottish Tartans Authority in picturesque Crieff, Perthshire, Scotland.

## Clan Logan DNA Research

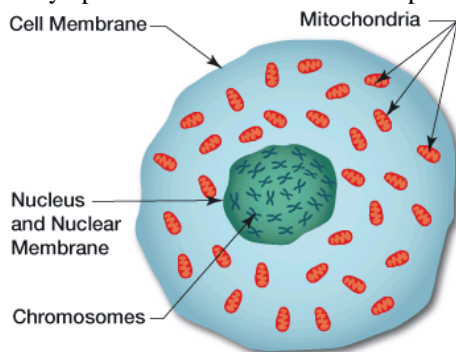
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Thymine (Yellow) = T    Guanine (Green) = G  
Adenine (Blue) = A    Cytosine (Red) = C

Family Tree DNA, our testing company. The first graphic is an artist depiction of a segment of DNA. In its normal state, DNA consists of two intertwined strands.

Each strand is actually a sequence of "nucleotides" with each nucleotide "reaching out and holding hands" with a nucleotide on the other strand. For DNA, these nucleotides come in four varieties. For our purposes, it is adequate to abbreviate chemical names by using the initials A, T, G, and C. As illustrated here, an A always pairs with a T and a G always pairs with a C. In this description



these pairs are referred to as base pairs. We can describe a particular segment of DNA by a string of these letters of either strand as if writing text. The other strand is simply the complement and this is what ultimately makes replication of cells possible.

But where do you find this DNA? The answer: in every cell of the human body. This is illustrated in the next graphic, which is a very simplified and generalized depiction of a human cell.

Within each cell there are many mitochondria and in each mitochondrion is a string of 16,569 nucleotides closed upon itself to form a ring. For a given person the DNA in each mitochondrion, called mtDNA, is virtually identical to that in each other mitochondrion and is passed from that person's maternal line. As the mtDNA is passed from the mother to her offspring, occasional changes do occur in the alphabetic sequence describing that DNA. However, these mutations, called Singular Nucleotide Polymorphisms, or SNPs, are quite infrequent and thus inferences about inheritance derived from analyses of these mutations are typically in terms of thousands of years. Several anthropological studies are currently underway using mtDNA to learn more about the recent

evolution of the human species and identify migration routes.

But DNA is also found in the nucleus of each cell. Within this nucleus there are 23 pairs of chromosomes with one of each pair derived from your father and one derived from your mother. Each chromosome contains a very long strand of DNA. In fact, over half of the chromosomes are more than 100 million base pairs in length. The total of DNA making up the human genome is about 3 billion base pairs in length. With a few exceptions, the entire genome occurs in every cell of the human body.

As a man and a woman pass their nuclear DNA down to their offspring, instead of passing 23 pairs of chromosomes, they pass only 23 with each chromosome being a composite of the pair they inherited. There is an exception for the chromosome pair 23. For males, this pair is very mismatched. The largest of the pair (about 153 million base pairs in length) come from the mother and the smaller of the two (about 50 million base pairs in length) comes from the father. These are usually designated as X-chromosomes and Y-chromosomes respectively. The female always passes an X-chromosome to

*"The total of DNA  
making up the  
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## MacLennan Who?

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given as proof of our relationship. This could however not be farther from the truth. The current Chief of MacLennan may have a heart in his Arms, but the recorded Arms of the Chiefly line of MacLennan were of a shield argent (silver or white), three piles (long points), sable (black), in chief, and in base, a cross crosslet (the same cross one sees as part of MacDonald Lord of The Isles, Arms), fitch, gules (red). The Crest was an arm and broadsword,

proper, with the Motto (same as current) Dum Spiro Spero. The Arms and Crest of the old line of MacLennan Chiefs show no regard to Logan heritage at all.

The last myth I would like to lay to rest in this issue is the common misconception that a Logan signed papers in the 1970's giving the rights to that name to the previous Chief, Ronald MacLennan of MacLennan. In correspondence with the Office of Lord Lyon, the Society has confirmed that neither of the two recent Chiefs of MacLennan incorporate Logan into their Arms.

I would also point out that a heraldic title such as clan Chief can not simply be sold. Even if one were not interested in carrying on the family tradition. The title would simply belong to the next in line by birth, and would remain vacant till such time as a new pretender laid claim.

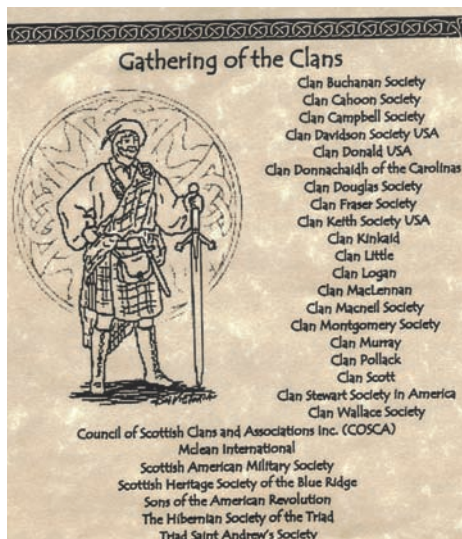
The current Chief of clan MacLennan, Ruairidh D. G. MacLennan of MacLennan, has also added to this controversy by stating that the first known of that name was Duncan MacLennan of Strathearn. Duncan is mentioned in a charter

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## Bethabara 6th Annual Highland Games

By Vernon Logan, Clemmons, NC, USA

On Saturday, May 13, 2006 Clan Logan was represented at the 6th Annual Highland Games at historic Bethabara Park in Winston-Salem, NC. There were about 1300 people or more at the gathering. When we arrived we proceeded to set up our tent. A number of representatives came by to greet us, as this is the first time we have attended such an event under the banner of Clan Logan.



The poster used to advertise the games, proudly displaying the name of Clan Logan.

Shortly thereafter came the Men's Heavy Athletic competition. Some of the events were the standard Scottish Heavy Events, and others were non-traditional. First up was the adult throwing-Stone/hammer which we found very interesting. The object of the competition is to throw a metal ball attached to a cane shaft 50 inches long. The competitor winds up several times and throws over his head, but his feet can not turn until the hammer is released. Three throws were allowed. Other competitions were the Sheaf Toss. The object is to toss a bag of straw or hay weighing 16 pounds over a crossbar using a pitchfork and not dislodge the crossbar, which is raised each time until someone is declared the winner.

There were many more games to come, but we had to return to our tent to prepare for the opening ceremonies. It



The tent for the Jamestown Pipes & Drums band from Jamestown, NC.

was, in my opinion, the highlight of the festival. We were led onto the field by the Deep River Pipes and Drums along with 14 other clans and associates. That was a proud moment for the Society when the name Clan Logan was announced over the loudspeakers. Afterwards we returned to our tent where we handed out a number of applications and newsletters, which proved so popular, that we soon had none left to hand out. Many of those who came by wished the Society well in all it's future endeavours.



The Clan tent area, neatly laid out in a row.

Our next Highland Games Festival will be in Greensboro, NC on August 18th and 19th. We hope to see some of you there.

Vernon Logan, President  
The International  
Clan Logan Society, Inc.

## Clan Logan DNA Research

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her offspring but the male randomly passes either an X- or a Y-chromosome. As a result, only males have a Y-chromosome and its DNA is passed only from father to son. It is very significant that a major portion of the DNA in the Y-chromosome, typically called Y-DNA, is derived strictly from the surname line without contribution of any of the mothers along the way.

This Y-DNA is subject to mutation in a manner similar to that of mtDNA. However, there is another type of mutation especially useful to genealogist. Researchers have identified locations within the Y-DNA, designated as markers, which are multiple repeats of short alphabetic strings. These Short Tandem Repeats, or STRs, can increase or decrease in length. Furthermore, this type of mutation changes with sufficient frequency that testing enough markers can provide estimates of closeness of genetic relationship. Father-son pairs and brothers generally test identical or near identical. Similarly, cousins will test similar but the more distant the cousin the greater can be the difference. Thus persons with an unknown common ancestors in their paternal lines can be tested and compared to provide an indication of how far back in time that common ancestor lived. Using this technique, we can construct family trees of approximate genetic relationships of our more distant past even when we do not have names and dates to go with distant ancestors.

Thus a little over three years ago the Pre1800Logans group started the Logan DNA Project to help in our genealogy. Over 60 men have submitted their DNA samples for testing and we have had considerable success in organizing our families (brick walls) into clusters to better focus our research. Although a few of our members have also been mtDNA tested, the project itself has concentrated on Y-DNA testing.

In the next installment, we will look at the nature of test reporting and it's implication. In a subsequent installment we will report on some successes.



# A Look Back At The Halifax Highland



Roy Logan, late of Dartmouth, NS, in his RCMP tartan.

The re-enactors of the 78th Highland Regiment of Foot



The ever popular Royal Canadian Mounted Police Pipes and Drums on it's march past on the field.

# Games Of 2005 In Nova Scotia, Canada



formed up to be inspected by those in attendance on the Halifax Garrison Grounds.



The 78th Highlanders fire a volley showing off their prowess in 1900 century British battle drills. Photos by Frank Logan, Dartmouth, NS, Canada



## The Logan Family of Restalrig and the Gowrie Conspiracy

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because it appears significant to the timeline for the Gowrie Conspiracy.

### Ruthvens / Earl of Gowrie

Patrick Ruthven, 3rd lord of Ruthven, (1520?–1566), was a firm supporter of Protestant doctrines. A privy councillor to Mary Queen of Scots, he took a leading part in the murder (1566) of David Rizzio (French Catholic and very close to Queen Mary) in an attempt to try and control Queen Mary, and wrote a memoir of the affair, which still exists in manuscript in the British Museum. He fled to England, where he died shortly after.

Associated with him in the murder was his son, William Ruthven, 4th lord of Ruthven and 1st earl of Gowrie, 1541?–1584. He also fled to England and remained there until pardoned (1567). He was head of the group of nobles who planned and carried out in 1582 what came to be known as the raid of Ruthven, in which they seized the young King James VI (later James I of England) and brought about the dismissal of Esmé Stuart, 1st duke of Lennox. Although pardoned in 1583, Gowrie began plotting again. He was tried for high treason and beheaded. Two of his sons, John Ruthven, 6th lord of Ruthven and 3rd earl of Gowrie, 1578?–1600, and Alexander Ruthven, 1580?–1600, were involved in the mysterious Gowrie conspiracy of 1600. The two brothers were murdered at their estates in Perth by the retinue of James VI, with the king in attendance.

It is very difficult to determine if King James was seeking revenge against the Ruthven family, or if the Ruthven family was working up more Protestant plots. I tend to believe the former, since the Ruthvens and King James were all Protestant.

### The Minister and Justices of Scotland

It is very telling that collectively these men openly declared that they did not believe King James' claims, the only exception being David Lindsay; who was later greatly rewarded for his loyalty.

### George Sprot

Very little is known about George

Sprot, except it is assumed he worked for Logan. He was a notary; meaning he was trained in Roman Law. It is unclear what services he performed for Logan. Sprot was tortured for his confession and shortly after hung for his participation.

### Robert Logan, 7<sup>th</sup> Laird of Restalrig (1555-1606)

Robert Logan's father died in 1561 when Robert was but six years of age and he was raised by his step-father, Lord Home and his mother Lady Agnes Gray, along with his younger brother John. Robert's mother produced a daughter, Isobel, and a son, Alexander, with Lord Home, which made Robert and Alexander half-brothers. Robert and Alexander remained close throughout their years. Robert was a well-educated man, well aware of social events of his day, and unfortunately deeply steeped in political intrigue of the Royal Court.

As early as 1573 (at the age of 18), Logan was involved in holding the Castle of Edinburgh for Mary Stuart against the

English, alongside his stepfather Lord Alexander Home. We can only assume that Logan escaped the hanging that was due him because of his age (21 was considered having reached majority) or some deal was struck to spare Logan. Having his stepfather hung in support of the Catholic cause would certainly color his thinking, and maybe give him a cause for revenge. Thus began his life of intrigue.

Logan had been characterized by Protestant factions as being a, "debosed [sic] drunk man". He was considered the "wildest of the wild" and a very dangerous and powerful man. He has been characterized as something of a pirate, but his behavior was overlooked mostly because "he was a man of substance and of a good house" and Logan further strengthened his support by alliances. His ancestors were most noble though he held no titles himself. One can wonder if he felt slighted by this. Lord Willoughby described Logan as: "a vain loose man, a greate favourer of thefes reputed,

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## The Story Behind The Genealogy

By Peter Logan, Llangynidr, Wales

I have for over twenty years researched three family names, Logan, Porter & Wilson. Porter being my wife's maiden name and Wilson being my mother's name and during my research I have found that in the case of Logan's and Porter's, the two families have been joined in marriage twice.

I have produced an inch thick A4 book of all the three families together and their associated families with family extensions in Australia and New Zealand. There is also the possibility that Stephanie Falls the Director of Genealogy for the Society, and I maybe "cousins".

I have various "cousins" in Australia and New Zealand who send me updates to today's families which I maintain on PAF software and maintain their databases up to date via email. So I have done all the "serious stuff".

That is all very well, say my children

and grandchildren, if it keeps you happy, but they want to know more about the day to day lives of their immediate parents, grand and great-grand parents, some of whom have died in the last ten years, including my Mum and Dad.

So, I am writing a book called Soldier, Sailor, which is centred around two characters, my father, the soldier and myself, the sailor.

The book has about another two years work to "finish" it, but I was encouraged the other day when I let my oldest daughter have a little introduction to it and she was delighted with her numerous exclamations of, "I didn't know that!"

I have included sections on genealogy, the land of our birth, properties, family life, holidays, cars owned, gardening, hobbies, friends, achievements, fun and sorrow, with the aim of providing a historical and pictorial record of our Logan and associated families. The

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## The Story Behind The Genealogy

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prime source of memories is photographs. As a young man I was a prolific photographer and so now I am wading through my stock adding names, dates, places etc; noting differences in clothes, hairstyles, buildings etc; identifying, for example, from a string of photos a particular trip my parents took during their camping days; noting the contents of my father's sign painting case and retelling what some of the more obscure items were used for; describing some of his more notable signs he painted, like the one over the entrance to a whisky distillery or the local baker's vans.

In the case of my father I was very lucky in being able to talk at length with two of my father's ex work colleagues whose memories are still very bright, who also had related photographs. They were able to talk about work times and social times, which were very enlightening and surprising.

My father lost a leg in the Second World War and the anecdotes related

simply to his artificial leg would fill a book on its own. Playing rounders on the beach, he called me over urgently to his side. He whispered in my ear, give me your shoulder to lean on and help me over to the car, my foot has dropped off!!

The foot has become detached from his artificial leg. He of course had a spare in the boot of the car, which we managed to get changed without anyone noticing! My father did not like to advertise his disability. My father and mother won a major Valetta dancing competition, despite the artificial leg and were invited to London for the finals, however the newspapers got hold of the story of his disability. My father refused to go to the final as the exposure in the newspapers was against his wish to be and act like any ordinary person. He was a man of principle.

I was in the merchant navy and travelled all over the world taking photographs, so I have many a tale to tell. Such as a year on the China coast supporting the British forces in a privately owned

Landing Ship Tank (LST). Taking the hydrogen bomb carrier and other equipment to the Christmas Islands for the British H-bomb test. Sailing up the Niger River in Africa. Being in Philadelphia when a large fuel tank exploded in the harbour and I thankfully had my camera in my hand when it happened!

The reason for writing this article is to encourage others, who haven't already done it, to produce more than the Encarta definition of genealogy, and instead produce a storybook of your family, for your family, to be read by the family, which is in contrast to the rather dusty researcher impression that our children and grandchildren may have of our hobby, BEFORE YOUR MEMORIES DISAPPEAR. Tell them about the stuff that is not contained in a census or I.G.I.

Make sure that your family get to know "the family" and "the fun" side as well as the serious side of your family history, they will love you for it I'm sure.



## Dùrachdan o Mhinistear Iomairtean na Gàidhlig

Às leth a' Phrìomhair, an t-Urramach Ruairidh Dòmhnallach, is Ministreachd Iomairtean na Gàidhlig air a cur air bhonn às ùr, bu thoil leam meall an naidheachd agus taing a thoirt do Chomhairle na Gàidhlig, is dhan a' choimhearsnachd Ghàidhlig air fad airson na h-obrach mhóir a tha air a bhith air a dheanamh air sgàth na Gàidhlig air feadh na mór-roinne. Troimh dhuilleagan 'IcTalla, gach bliadhna, bidh puingean bheachdaidh air an toirt seachad a thaobh cànairean agus cultaran ann an dòigh no dòigh air choireigin a tha 'toirt buaidh oirnn uileadh. Mar a tha cànairean is cultar nan Gàidheal pàirt air leth de dhòigh-bheatha is de dhualchas na h-Albann Nuaidh, tha cuireadh air a thairgsinn dhan fheadhainn aig nach eil a' Ghàidhlig, ach aig a bheil fìor shùim ann an té de chànairean is chultaran dùthchasach na h-Albann Nuaidh a tha luachmhor. Le modhannan ùra a thaobh a bhith ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig a tha spòrsail is furasda, cha robh a riamh àm nas fheagarraich' ann. Tha fàilte romhaibh a bhith a' gabhail pàirt 'sna h-oidhirpean seo airson 's gum bi a' Ghàidhlig beò airson nan ginealaichean a thig.

An t-Urramach Aoghnas MacÌosaig, Ministear  
Ministreachd Iomairtean na Gàidhlig  
1672 Sràid Ghranville,  
Bocsa a' Phuist 186  
Halafags, Alba Nuadh B3J 2N2  
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## Greetings from the Minister for Gaelic Initiatives

On behalf of the Premier, The Honourable Rodney MacDonald and the newly created Ministry for Gaelic Initiatives, I would like to extend congratulations and thanks to Comhairle na Gàidhlig and to the broader Gaelic community for the tremendous work that has been done for Gaelic throughout the province. Each year, through MacTalla's pages, you provide discussion points concerning language and culture that, in one way or another, affect us all. As Gaelic language and culture is a special part of Nova Scotia's heritage and way-of-life, an invitation is extended to those who don't speak Gaelic, but have a sincere interest in learning more about one of Nova Scotia's precious languages and cultures. With newly introduced methods for learning Gaelic that are easy and fun, there has never been a better time. A welcome is extended to you to take part in the efforts to ensure Gaelic is here for generations to come.

The Honourable Angus MacIsaac, Minister  
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Kindly provided by the Government of Nova Scotia, Ministry of Gaelic Initiatives

## The Gowrie Conspiracy

Continued from PG 8

yet a man of good clan, as they (the Scots) here tearme it, and a gud fellow". Considering all his irresponsible behavior, one would expect to find Logan having financial troubles and owing great sums of money to others. Oddly, we find him "putting others to the horn", in other words, he was a lender of money. There is added speculation that Logan was a Templar and that he somehow betrayed the Order.

Logan was a firm supporter of Queen Mary and the Catholic party, involving himself in numerous Catholic plots, though he was reported to be friendly to the Protestants of his day. Logan was known for lending shelter to Protestant firebrand, wild Frank Stewart, Earl of Bothwell. It is this author's opinion that Logan was loyal to those interests that best served his interests, be they Catholic or Protestant. He was not a particularly religious man. To imply that Logan's religious leanings were Catholic because he was unable to embrace the changes wrought by the Reformation would be nothing short of a guess. But the facts are that Logan was very young during the Reformation (1560), and at this time the collegiate church that his family built and supported was destroyed by the Protestant General Assembly; there were English troops (and English allies) camped all over Restalrig, his family estate, during the Seige of Leith; and his step-father had apparent ties to the Catholics. Religion, in that age, was political. Politics were different than we know it today. Intrigue and plots against the King were common. It was accepted practice to kidnap a Monarch if you wanted to forward a differing agenda.

Logan's first wife divorced him, for reasons I've not discovered, after giving him one son in 1577. His second wife reportedly produced four children in 9 years of marriage, before she died. His third, and last wife was quoted in 1601 as having said: "If it be God's will, I desire never to have a child to him (Logan)". Apparently God was not listening, as she later had a daughter with Logan. In the years prior to his death, the 7th (and last) Laird of Restalrig was acting a

bit strange. He sold off major portions of his estate; some speculate that Logan did this to keep the King from confiscating his property in the event that he was caught in some nefarious act, though there is no evidence to support this speculation other than hindsight. There is evidence that Logan did not enjoy owning property and also that he was raising capital to finance a sea voyage to the West Indies. Frankly based on what I have been able to determine regarding Logan's behavior, I would suggest that the man was mentally unstable, or at the very least, an extremely unhappy man.

Logan died at Canongate in July 1606 of plague, and left an estate worth £ 29,042 a very wealthy man. And as they say, the rest is history.



## The Steam Boat

By Frank Logan, Dartmouth, NS, Canada

Written in 1821, *The Steam Boat*, was the work of John Galt. What follows is an excerpt from this unique literary work on the authors experience hunting with the last Laird of Logan told through the character of *Thomas Duffle*.

Logan of that Ilk, the last of the Ayrshire Logan's was known as a man of singular wit, and somewhat of a expert shot. Quite a feat when one considers the weapon of the day. So here is a look at Logan of that Ilk, in the words of Thomas Duffle.

"I should here explain, that the witches, when they take the shape of hares, charm away the power of pouter and lead; so that unless the gun be loaded with silver, it will not go off, or, if it does go off, it will not kill, especially in the hands of a young sportsman; and that the best antidote to their charm, is for the sportsman, when he is an experienced hand, to put a pair of silver sleeve-buttons in his fowling piece. When he does this, and fires with effect, it is said,

*"Logan took a  
vizey, and fired,  
but his gun  
flashed in the  
pan"*



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and the fact is often well attested, the hare will never be seen again; but beyond the next hedge, some dubious carlin will, in all human probability, be found rid-dled in the hips, saying her prayers backwards. What I have to tell is an undoubted proof of this, for it happened to myself in the presence of the late Logan of that ilk, a man of singular piety, and one of the best shots in the shire of Ayr.

"Being staying with him, we one day went out to shoot. It was in the afternoon. We started nothing, and we staid late, not very content, as your Majesty may well think, with such profitless sport. But I trow we have both had cause to remember long that afternoon; for in the gloaming, as we were coursing with our dejected dogs, the which were as disappointed as ourselves, we started, as we thought, a hare out of a whin bush. It ran before us, in every gesture, lith, and limb, just like a hare, and the dogs pursued it as if it had been nothing less natural. We followed, never doubting that it was a

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## The Steam Boat

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hare.

"A fine har'st evening had set in, and the new moon, the sickle of Time, betokened, in the western heavens, that Nature was binding up the sheaves of our days; but, nevertheless, we followed our game, never suspecting that it was anything but a poor terrified mawkin. Logan took a vizy, and fired, but his gun flashed in the pan; I likewise presented, and, in the same moment, my hand was smitten with a cramp, or something no canny, but neither of us, for all that, entertained any doubt of the hare being what it appeared—a hare.

"Well, sir, please your majesty, Logan primed again, and I, having beaten the life into my fingers, followed the game, and fired, but missed.—This set Logan foremost, and he shortly after also fired. He might as well have whistled; and what we had at first thought a hare, continued to scamper on unhurt.

"By this time I had loaded again, and after running on some twenty paces in the track of the beast, confident I had a hare in view, I fired a second time. It was of no avail.—Logan having in the meanwhile loaded, came up to me.

"In the pursuit, we had followed the hare, as we thought it was, to the walls of an old abbey. It had been a sanctified place in the times of popery, but it was burnt down when Glencairn, at the Reformation, herit the monk's nests throughout Cuninghame. Many a sad story was told of that place. It would cradle the royal blood in your Majesty's sacred veins, were I to relate what is told and believed concerning the deeds done by the popish friars in that ruinous monastery. One day, when a farmer, whom I knew, was pulling down a piece of the wall to help to mend a dike, he found the skeleton of a human hand built in with the stones. What more he discovered he never would reveal, but from that day he was an altered man. However, to return from this digression, please your Majesty, the moon and twilight shone bright on the abbey walls, and we saw the hare,

*"We presented  
together; we  
both fired in the  
same moment"*

as we thought, as perfect as possible, cowering along the bottom of the wall. I would have fired, but Logan stopped me. He was a worthy pious man.

"Lend me your sleeve-buttons," said he. They were Bristol stones set in silver.

The manner in which he spoke was very solemn. It made the flesh crawl on my bones, and my hair to rise. I said nothing, but took the buttons from my shirt sleeves, keeping my eye steadfast on the hare, as we both thought it was. He did the same. The buttons out of my right sleeve he put into his gun. 'Put the others in yours,' said he.—I did so.—'In the name of the Lord,' cried he, 'take aim.' We presented together; we both fired in the same moment, and ran to the spot where we thought a hare had been."

"And what the devil was it?" cried the King.

"Please your Majesty," replied the doctor, "it was just a fine fat hare."

During the time of this recital, one Mrs M'Freat, a decent carlin from Oban, was particularly attentive; but at the end, when we were all laughing at King Charles's disappointment, she said, with a very serious countenance, that we were no doubt free to gaffaw as we pleased, but for her part, she had reason to know and ken that there was mony a thing in this world that required an explanation; and then she proceeded and told us how, one morning in the last summer—but I will relate what she said at full length, in her own words. - John Galt, 1821

John Galt was born in Irvine on the 2nd of May 1779. As a youth his family moved to Greenock, where he stayed till his early 20's. He later moved to London where he became acquainted with Lord Byron. He soon became known for his plays, poetry and biographies, but gained his greatest fame as a novelist. From 1827 to 1829 he acted as a managed for a settlement company working in Ontario Canada.



## MacLennan Who?

Continued from PG 4

of King Alexander II in 1217 as being the Laird of Bombie, and it is through him that the MacLellans are said to have originated (by the MacLennans only).

This is over one hundred years before the birth of the child of Gilligorm Logan,



The Chiefly Arms of clan MacLennan as recorded in 1848.

and seems to make any supposed origin from our clan moot.

This is also further complicated by the mention of Lide MacLennan and his twelve hundred men in the authenticity debated Ossianic poetry, which is purported to be 6th century. St. Adaman is also said to have recorded that they occupied Glenshiel at this time.

Other sources on MacLennan, site that the clan was at Eilean Donnan Castle before 1263 and that the MacGillafinnens, or MacLennans, were titled Lords of Loch Erne, Tairg, and Muintir Peodachain.

With all of the evidence to suggest that MacLennan is an old and proud clan, and in existence as long or longer than that of Logan, the descendantcy of the current line of MacLennan Chiefs includes none of this. They site their origin to Gille Fhinnein, grandson of Gilligorm Logan, and show no connection to any MacLennan before this time. It makes you wonder why they would mention Duncan MacLennan of 1217, as they can't be related, and you can't have your origin both ways.



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must be Logan in any of its various forms and spellings or sept names and at
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### List of Names Associated With Clan Logan

Lagan, Laggan, Leonerd, Loban, Lobban, Loben, Logane, Logan, Logen, Loggan, Loggane, Loggans, Loghane, Loghyn, Login, Logyn, Lopan, Lowgan, Lyndon

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