



~ 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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Our Valour<sup>®</sup>

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Contact Our Valour

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## Clan Logan Fact Box

Did you know that the tartan for Clan Logan, was first recorded in 1831 by James Logan of Aberdeen?

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Graphics for The Clan Logan  
Society International

## CLS President's New Year's Address

Society Pres. Vernon Logan, Clemmons, NC, USA

First of all I hope that all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As the Society moves into this New Year we will be initiating many new and exciting ideas to move us toward our goals for 2008, and beyond into the next decade.

First on the agenda is membership. We will be moving to a pro-rated system. Pro-rating, rather than the current system, will reduce administration time in keeping track of which members are due for their annual fee, and insure a more fair system were as a new member in September well pay a lower fee than one who joined at the start of the year.

In regards to annual fees, we would like to remind members that this a volunteer organization, and as such, your continued membership fees are what we use to pay for things like membership cards, scrolls, web hosting, ect. If we do not receive your membership fee posted by February 1, 2008 we have no choice but to drop you from the membership roll for 2008.

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President Vernon E. Logan in his home Jan 2008

## Clan Logan Society Represented In The Land Of Oz

Steve Logan, Woombah, NSW, Australia

As the latest Director within the CLS, I thought I would take this time to introduce myself. My wife Robyn and I were both born in 1950. I was born in Sydney, and Robyn in Newcastle, and we married in 1971. Robyn is a McLeod whose line traces back to Glasgow, circa 1760. My Logans came from Sutherland, Scotland to Australia via New Zealand in the mid 1800's.

Both Robyn and myself are very proud of our Scottish heritage, our children Kim Bridie and Scott Charles, and more so to be Logan

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Steve Logan, and his wife Robyn (nee McLeod)

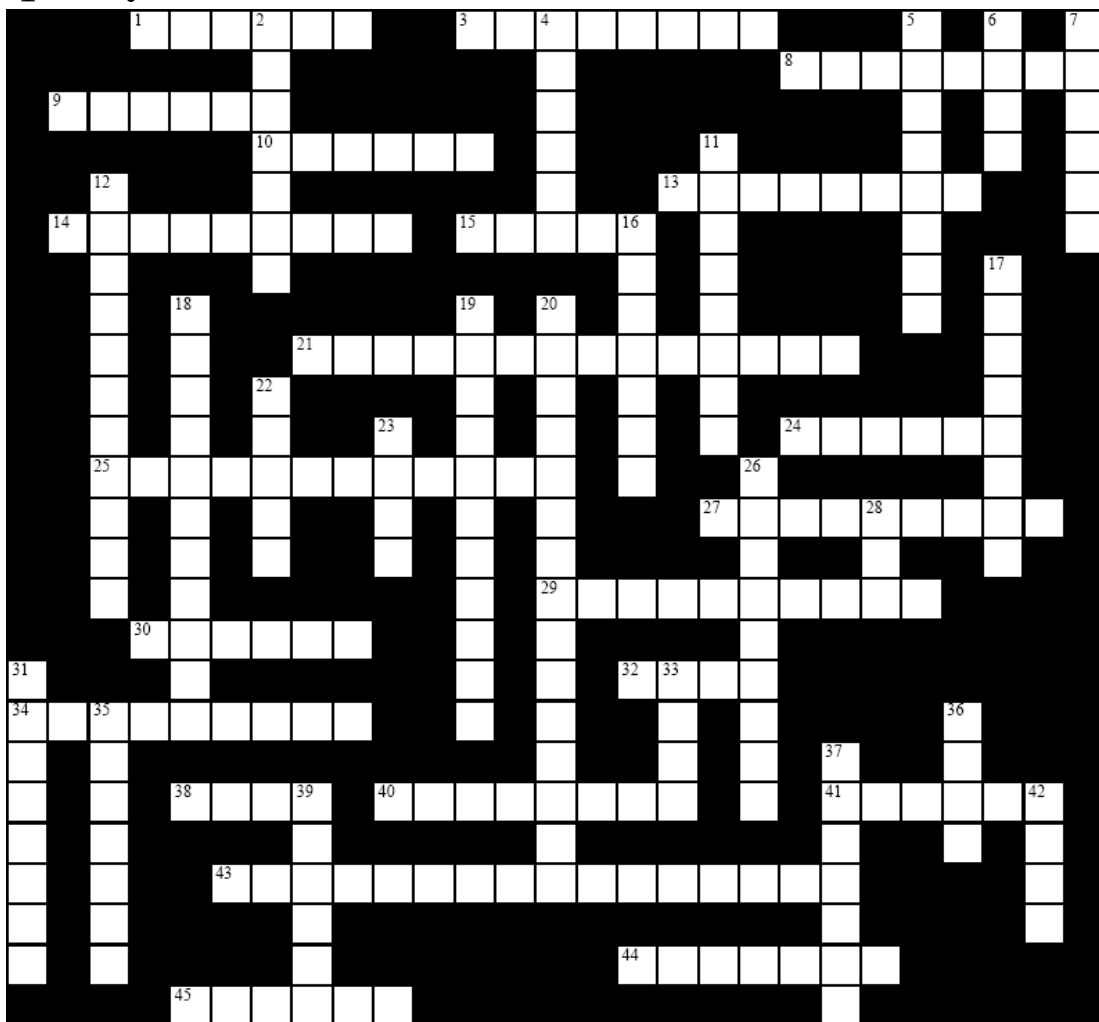
## Gilligorm's Jeopardy®

## ACROSS

1. Latin for Scotland.
3. Scottish New Year.
8. Stuart supporter.
9. Tribe of Gael.
10. Type of whiskey.
13. Home of Society.
14. Home of Sir Robert Logan.
15. Ancient northern people.
21. Exhumed for trial.
24. "Nemo Me \_\_\_\_ Lacesset".
25. John Ruthven.
27. Roman for Scotland.
29. Tallest Canadian Mountain.
30. Location of Dal Riada.
32. Scottish family group.
34. This is the valour of my \_\_\_\_.
38. Sub-group of a Clan.
40. Scottish mountain range.
41. Saint of Scotland.
43. Mother of James VI & I.
44. Site of Massacre.
45. Island group.

## DOWN

2. Spiny plant.
4. Highland language.
5. Monsters home.
6. Type of garment.
7. Colour of Furse.
11. Scottish sword.
12. Caber for one.
16. Flag of Scotland.
17. Scottish Peak.
18. "Auld Lang Syne" author.
19. Freed Scotland.
20. First Scottish King.
22. Moot Hill location.
23. Under a kilt.
26. Claims decent from Gilligorm.
28. Genealogist new tool.
31. Noise maker.
33. Rampant \_\_\_\_.
35. Son of Gilligorm.
36. \_\_\_\_ of The Isles.
37. \_\_\_\_ nail.



Answers to Gilligorm's Jeopardy® will be published in the April issue of Our Valour®

## CLS Represented In The Land Of OZ

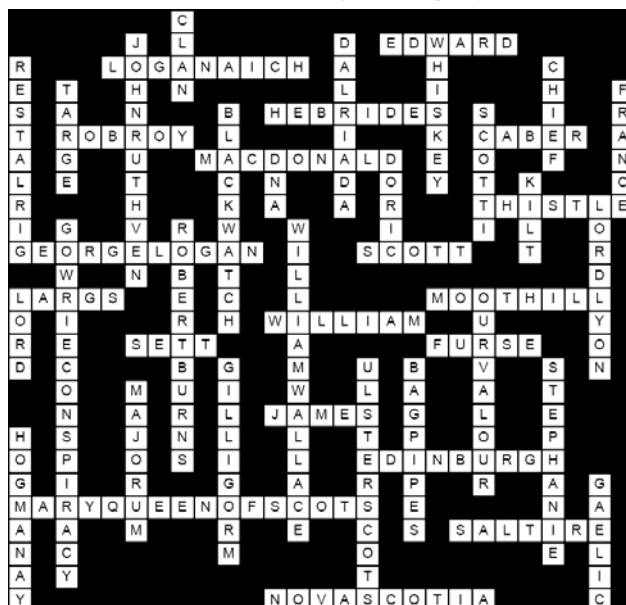
Continued from PG 1

from the Highlands of Scotland. And after a great deal of research into our ancestors, we are going "home" this coming May for 6 weeks. The croft of my 4th Grandfather Thomas Logan; born circa 1770, still stands in Airdens, Sutherland. A descendent Margaret MacKay currently owns the croft. We are overjoyed to be returning at last to walk on the soil where my ancestors did so much toil.

I am always available to help any other Logan's or their descendants in Australia & New Zealand whether for research or just kinship please feel free to make contact.



Solution to October's issue of Gilligorm's Jeopardy



## The Clan Logan Society Grows With New Director of Information

By Carol Snowden, Director of Information, Kernersville, NC, USA

As many of you know already, I am your new Director of Information Officer. My name is Carol Snowden. Here is a little background information on myself.

I was born in Mansfield, Ohio. I spent a few years living in Evans City, Pennsylvania where both my parents' family were from. My grandfather purchased a summer fishing resort on Middle Bass Island, Ohio where my parents moved to when I was 6 years old. My parents ran the resort. Middle Bass Island is one of only seven islands in Lake Erie.

When I say island, I mean completely surrounded by water. I learned to swim at the age of 6. I went to a one-room schoolhouse. It is still there but not operational. It is one of only a few left in the country. Living on an island, transportation to the mainland was by private boat, flying on an airplane or riding the car ferry.

Once I graduated from the 8th grade I then had to go to the High School

on Put-in-Bay Island. How did I get from one island to another you ask? Well, during the spring and fall I had to get to high school by private boat and during the winter (once the lake froze) I had to get there by airplane. What a school bus, wouldn't you say? Of course, when the weather was bad, either the lake was too rough by boat or the visibility too low to fly I didn't go to school. Sometimes I got there but couldn't get home that night. In that case, I would stay with friends whose parents offered me a place to spend the night. Sometimes in the winter when the lake was frozen I even went to school across the ice on a snowmobile or open topped car. Needless to say growing up on an island and getting back and forth to school was an everyday adventure. It was an experience like no other and I will cherish those days all my life.

And for some of you history buffs, one of the airplanes that I flew to school on was a Ford Tri-motor, which

was sold in the 1980's to Walt Disney World in Florida. It is now used to give tourists rides over Walt Disney World.

As a child growing up we didn't have movie theatres, malls, or fast food joints to go to or hang out at. In the summer we went swimming, boating, fishing, and water skiing. In the winter when the lake was frozen, we went ice skating, played ice hockey, went snowmobiling and ice fishing.

I graduated from Put-in-Bay High School in 1979 with the second highest graduating class of thirteen. My class still to this day remains the second highest in all the graduating classes of Put-in-Bay High School history.

After graduation, I worked for different employers on the islands and then moved to the mainland. Over the next several years I continued to work on the islands during the summer and worked in factories and offices on the mainland as my fulltime jobs.

I moved to North Carolina

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## Scotland Becomes Electric On The World Wide Web

By Alastair McIntyre KTJ FSA Scot, Chatham, ON, Canada

Thanks to Frank Logan for the invitation to write about the start and history of the Electric Scotland web site for Our Valour® the CLS Newsletter.

I will say that it almost didn't get off the ground. When I first considered doing a web site about the history of Scotland I pretty much had decided there weren't enough Scots around that would visit the site. At the end of the day the site had to earn me a living, albeit some years down the road, but Scots aren't that interested in their own history.

I then read an article which said that while there were 5 million Scots in Scotland there were probably around 50 million people of Scots descent around the world. That was the turning point. I now decided there was enough of a market out there to make me a living if I did a good enough job.

All this came about as I was



running a BBS (Bulletin Board Service) prior to the Internet (Almac BBS). It had grown to be the largest such service in Europe but the explosive "discovery" of the web was starting to hit such services very hard indeed. In those days we didn't have the luxury of local call access. This meant that if you were in the USA and

wanted to connect to my BBS then it was an International call which was expensive. The thing about the BBS business is that most of your time was spend offline and so you only connected to exchange messages and download files. And once that was done you disconnected and read everything offline. With the web, as you will know, you have to be online all the time.

So all this meant that my very profitable BBS business was going downhill fast and I was going to have to invent a new business. Seeing as a large chunk of my life had been spent online and I had introduced the web through the BBS service I did know something of it and decided this was to be my new business.

My BBS had just been a general service and so nothing Scottish about it other than being based in Scotland. Creating a new web business gave me the

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## The Sobieskis and Vestiarium Scoticum

By Brian Wilton, Crieff, Perthshire, Scotland - From 'Tartans' his recently acclaimed book written for the National Trust of Scotland

Around 1820 there appeared on the Highland scene two young men, the brothers John and Charles Hay Allan. Undoubtedly charming and talented, their passport among the Highland aristocracy however, was the widely held belief that they were the legitimate grandsons of Prince Charles Edward Stewart - Bonnie Prince Charlie.

It wasn't long before the two brothers - who were by then, calling themselves the Sobieski Stewarts - let it be known that they had in their possession an ancient manuscript which gave precise details of all the old Clan tartans.

In 1842 they published the *Vestiarium* which was seized upon by Clan Chiefs and the weaving industry with equal fervour. No-one thought seriously to question the claims and it wasn't until almost 140 years later that an analytical study of the book was



Woodcut of the infamous Sobieskis Brothers

undertaken. The conclusion was that talented and ingenious though they were, the Sobieskis had perpetrated a fascinating and monumental hoax upon a gullible society and the vast majority of 'old' clan tartans came only from the fertile imagination of brother Charles who was the illustrator.

The book jacket for that analytical study by D C Stewart and J C Thompson entitled "Scotland's Forged Tartans" says: "Despite the misgivings of a few, but potent, authorities, these tartans were eagerly accepted by a public desperate to wear its "authentic" clan tartans and a trade equally desperate to sell them and they have remained with us, highly respected and totally unauthenticated. . . . beyond all doubt, the *Vestiarium* and its background material are complete forgeries."

Best wishes,  
Brian



## CLS President's New Year's Address

We have a new toll free contact number for the society now replacing the old one. If you have any complaints or suggestions for the Society now is your chance. You may also go to the member's page and send an email. I would like to hear from the membership on how we can improve the society. Remember this is your clan and we always need your help, suggestions and guidance on the direction and form the Society should take. At this time the toll free number will be for USA members only. As we grow worldwide we will be incorporating other member benefits. We will keep you updated. As spring and summer approaches in the US and around the world we are looking for members who can volunteer to work the Scottish festivals and games. Currently the Society is unable to pay for the tent space, as revenue from membership is barely enough to cover our basic expensive. We are hopeful that membership will spread the word that the Clan Logan Society is alive and well.

We are also starting an eBay

store to help the Society become self-sufficient. We will post items on the member's board before we post them on eBay. This will give the members the first opportunity to purchase the items for sale. I would like to thank Carol Snowden, our new Information Director for all her hard work and efforts in getting this project off the ground.

I would also be remiss in thanking Frank Logan for all his hard work in the past year. Frank is our Webmaster and editor of "Our Valour". Outside of all that he is the Vice-President of the Society. I wish that you would take a moment and send an email to Frank to let him know how much you enjoy the newsletter.

Some members of the Society have been asked to serve on a special advisory board that answers to the President. This board will be very important to the Society in the near future. We will soon be sending out surveys to these members with questions on how they think we can improve the Society. All of the members who I have

asked to serve on this board have said they would be honoured. I would like to thank these members for taking the time to help improve the Society.

We are also in the mists of starting a new organizer program. Organizers membership will be free, but to keep that status the organizer must recruit at least two new members in a 12-month period. If you would like to become an organizer in your area you may contact the Information Officer with any questions you may have.

As many members may you know, I had open-heart surgery in October of last year. As of now, I am in physical therapy and feel that this is helping a great deal. But I am still having problems from a year and a half ago with the accident that crushed my ankle. I am thankful that I am alive to see another sunset, and the continued efforts of the Society to promote Scottish heritage around the world.

Regards,  
Vernon



Continued from PG 1

## Etymology Of The Logan Name?

By CLS Vice President Frank Logan, Dartmouth, NS, Canada

From time to time I come across some information which pertains to either Clan Logan, or the surname itself. I recently took it upon myself to look into some of this information, which tends to make the rounds on some of the family and genealogy sites and find out what's really in a name.

One of the first things I noticed was the tendency of people to publish bad information collected from the many sites which claim to know your coat of arms by surname. I have spotted many family sites with pictures of the arms of Robert Logan of Restalrig. And as we all know, a man's Arms are his own, and they belong to no one else, little lone a clan. And if this were bad enough, some people have removed the crest from the arms and claimed it is the Irish Logan crest.

This however could not be further from the truth. But the Irish question continues to haunt all of those involved in Scottish clan and family societies through misinformation. People claiming that their clan hails from Ireland

would be the same as someone proclaiming that they are from the American Clan Logan. No one would do this of course, because a Scottish Clan is a Scottish Clan, how could it be anything



but. So why do so many people think that there is an Irish Clan Logan complete with crest?

It is safe to say that we can thank the multimillion-dollar arms and family history industry. Many people want to know their family history and just do not know where to look. Before the Internet, these companies would seek out people at fairs, Highland Games and the like. And it was here; for a price, that you could go home with a history of your clan or family name; or at least you thought you did. With the advent of the Internet, these companies can now swindle people 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Now that people have their false family history, they proudly display it on the wall, and tell everyone about what their family is famous for. This also includes printing what they have been given on their personal family web sites, which no doubt gets picked up on by others researching that surname, and continues to get published and passed around as fact. And why wouldn't they,

Continued on PG 9

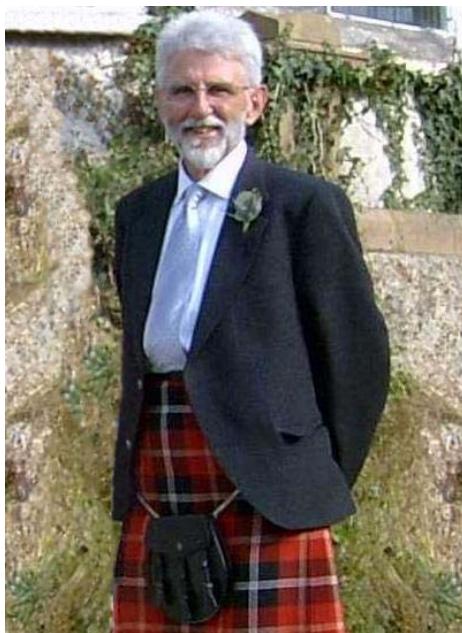
## The Collector of Malabar

By CLS Advisory Board Member John Logan Marjoribanks, Gavinton, Berwickshire, Scotland

The car juddered to a halt in a cloud of dust. The driver turned to me incredulously and said, "Do you mean to tell me I am sitting in the same car as the great grandson of William Logan?" "Well, yes", I replied, surprised by the reaction to my casual remark of a few moments earlier.

It was February 1996 and we had been driving along a dusty road in Maharashtra, India, to visit an agricultural project, which my host for the day was taking me to see. He had mentioned that he had previously been an officer of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS). His last post had been as Collector of Calicut (now Kozhikode) in Kerala, southern India.

"That's interesting", I'd said, "My grandmother was born near there.



Her father was the Collector of Malabar in the 1870s. I wonder if you ever saw his name in the records? He was called William Logan." And that's when the brakes slammed on!

But why, I wondered, should an administrator of the British Raj 120 years ago cause such a reaction in 1996? Clearly I would have to find out more.

William Logan was the son of a tenant farmer in Berwickshire, Scotland, raised on the farm of Ferniecastle in the rolling arable land of the Merse, lying a few miles north of the River Tweed and the border with England. He was a bright lad, sent off to study at Musselburgh Academy near Edinburgh, where he became Dux (top scholar) at the age of 15 in 1856. I still have his heavy silver 'Dux' medal.

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# Special Photo Journey Through



Clockwise from left: Clach an Truseil, the tallest standing stone in Scotland; broken grave marker in Kilmuir, Skye; Skye Museum of Island Life; grave of Flora MacDonald; Calanais I standing stones, Isle of Lewis; view between Uig & Staffin, Isle of Skye; broch Dun Carloway; carin to the Pairc Deer Raiders. Look for more in later issues.

Photos by Frank Logan, Dartmouth, NS, Canada



# Scotland And The Isles, Part 2 Of 4



## Scotland Becomes Electric On The World Wide Web

Continued from PG 3

opportunity to decide what to do with the rest of my life. I do have a passion for history and as I had never got much in the way of the history of Scotland at school I decided that this was where I'd like to spend my time. In some ways it was like turning a hobby into a full time business.

The aim was to turn the web site into a full time income for me within a five year period. I had done my research and discovered that some 85% of business over the Internet would be business to business. Some 8% was thought to come from business to consumer and the other 7% would be content. I thus decided that my business would be content based. I felt that in the long term it would be stable. I thus aimed at generating income from advertising.

So having decided to make this my new business I got myself a domain. That was also an interesting project in its own right as all the domain names I wanted had already gone. A definition of Electric also meant (a) Emotionally exciting; thrilling: gave an electric reading of the play. (b) Exceptionally tense; highly charged with emotion: an atmosphere electric with suspicion. (c) affected by emotion as if by electricity; thrilling. And so I hoped that by building the history of Scotland would be those things I went with [electricscotland.com](http://electricscotland.com) and I thus registered this in 1997 and thus the web site was born.

So now all the decisions had been made it was now up to me to find the content for the site. I figured the best way to get things off to a good footing would be to acquire a significant work on Scottish history that would be out of copyright and that I could transcribe onto the web. I went to James Thin Booksellers, Edinburgh and explained what I was after. They said to give them a few weeks and they'd get back to me. Six weeks later they phoned to say they'd found a 6 volume publication of the History of the Highlands, Highland Clans and Highland Regiments. Well that sounded just what I was after and so hot footed over to Edinburgh to view the publication.

I found right away that I enjoyed reading it. It wasn't an old dusty

dry history, but one that read well and got the emotions going. I decided it would make a fantastic start to the site and paid out the \$320.00 to purchase it.

I then spent the next two years typing it in onto the site. I didn't find the early OCR software of much use as it didn't recognise a lot of words so I just typed the material in.

Over this period I found that more modern books on Scottish history contained a great deal from these older books and so I decided that I would continue to find good antiquarian books to put on the site. I probably spend at least \$10,000 each year just buying books for the site.

As the site became better known, I did start to get some historical articles sent to me and this helped add additional content. In fact things were going so well that after just two years I was making a full time income; albeit a frugal one. Problem then came with the dot com bust!

Almost overnight my income dropped by 80% which meant of course I was no longer making a living from it. I had to do some web design work and consultancy to make up for the difference, but I figured if I stuck to it the income would eventually come back. It did, and it's now some time since I have done any outside work. Now my days are spent 100% working on the web site and have expanded it beyond the core general Scottish history.

I decided to expand out from the general Scottish history to more specific histories of clans and families, areas of Scotland and the Scots emigrants around the world. Today I am working on filling gaps in our knowledge. For example, we often hear how Scottish education helped the Scots emigrants well as they settled in lands all over the world. Well I have just completed a history of Scottish education which will go up on the site shortly. I have also acquired a very good book on the history of Scottish medicine. I have also just completed a book called "The Scottish Weekend" which gives information on old Scots poems and songs, indoor and outdoor games, and many other aspects of Scottish Life. I've acquired old copies of the "Celtic

Monthly" produced around the end of the 19th and start of the 20th centuries.

From the above I hope you can see how the site had developed over time and to which I've added a load of children's stories, music, poetry and stories, travel information, and lots more.

For the future I also intend to do some histories of other countries to tie in with the history of the Scots emigrants. For example, lots of Scots emigrated to the USA. I think it would be interesting to know a little of the history of the early USA so that we can better understand the conditions that the Scots would have experienced when arriving there. To that end I recently acquired a 16 volume publication on the Southern States of America, and while I certainly don't intend to put the whole work up, I am looking at doing the early history of each of the featured States.

A wee story of the above publication might amuse you. When I saw the collection in Florida it had a price tag of \$160.00, which I took to mean each volume was priced \$160.00. So I went to the cash desk and asked if I might just purchase three of the volumes. Well the person did some math and said that would be \$10.00 a volume but she wasn't sure if the owner was prepared to sell individual volumes. Well I said... "perhaps I'll just purchase the set."

And so that's how I got started and some of the background to building the site. I hope eventually to earn sufficiently from the site to have one full time assistant which will help add even more to the site. This would also give me the chance to take some days off to go visit places of interest so I can do story and picture boards on places of Scots descent to put up on the web site.

I'd just finish by saying that I am always interested in receiving articles about Scots families and their descendants. So if you have a story to tell of your Logan family please consider typing up an article and sending it into me to place on the site and you can also include any photographs. Please note however that you need to be careful about posting up data on people that are still living.





## Etymology Of The Logan Name?

Continued from PG 4

these people have pride in their heritage and want to show others their proud history as we all do.

Most of the false information tends to revolve around the name itself. The etymology, or morphing of a given surname over time involves years of research into changes in language, affect of different spelling, the meaning of the word the name was associated with, changes through document recording, emigration, etc. With the surname Logan we find many other surnames associated with it, mostly based off of spelling variations. But are these names really to do anything with Logan?

The most common names variations have been recorded as being name changes through censuses records, but even some of these have been proven through research to also be un-associated surnames in their own right; Lobban for example seems to be both of these. The Irish name group however seem to be the oddest. The reason being that there are no Irish versions of Logan.

With the Norman conquest of Ireland in 1169, and the direct rule of the Crown in London, the clan system that evolved in Scotland did not develop. That does not mean that a type of family system did not, but nothing like in Scotland. During the conquest, and

centuries after there was no end to those from England, Wales, and Scotland who would migrate to Ireland for better opportunities, including many Logan's. The most famous migrations however were during the plantations of 16th and 17th centuries in counties Munster and Ulster. Those groups would become known as Scot-Irish or Ulster-Scots in North America. But in Ireland and Scotland they would still be called Scots. And why not, that is where they came from. It is from here that we start to develop a concept of Irish clans with Scottish names.

Along with the dubious Irish Logan crest, there also appears a long list of names, many in Irish Gaelic, a very different language than it's Scottish cousin. The most common etymology includes: O'Leochain, O'Leoghain, Lohan, Loghan, Loughan, Lothchain, O'Luachain, O'Luachair, and O'Louchan. These names appear nothing like the recorded Scottish Gaelic translation for Logan, which is Lòganaich. But they are claimed to be Irish Logan name variations. I took a look into some of these names and was not surprised to find that many of them pre-date the Norman conquest of Ireland, around the same time that surnames were first beginning to take shape in the British Isles, and

after the surname Logan was recorded.

Taking a look at some of these, we find in Petty's 1659 Census of Principal Irish names and other works published by the Celtic and Archaeological Societies in Ireland that the ancient Irish name O'Luachair, became the modern name of Rushe; O'Lorcain, became Larkin, and Larcom; O'Lochain, became Longhan, and incorrectly translated as Duck; O'Luachduibh, became Loody, and Ludy; and O'Luachain, became Price. There was also Cuan ua Lothchain (ua is an early form of Ó, meaning grandson), writing in 1007 CE as an Irish Poet.

With a little research it was easy to find that these surnames have nothing to do with Clan Logan, but have a great history all their own and deserve to be honoured the same way we do ours. It is a shame that people with these names do not know their own history and unfortunately are under the belief that they share one with our Clan. The crime in all of this, is that misinformation into family histories is continuing to proliferate through poorly researched web sites, and the arms for sale companies all to the unsuspecting masses whose only crime is wanting to reconnect to their past.



## The Clan Logan Society Grows With New Director of Information

Continued from PG 3

permanently in October of 1996. I met my husband in December of that year. We were married in Kernersville, North Carolina on September 26, 1998. My husband and I were not blessed with children, but have 3 dogs who are every bit our children. We have a 12-year-old female corgi mix, which is the ruler of the roost; we have a 7-year-old male German shepherd, and a 12-year-old chow mix. They are all indoor dogs and are a handful. But, my husband and I would not give them up for anything.

My extra curricular activities include bowling; I am on three bowling leagues (one of which I bowl with my husband and am the secretary). I also participate in many bowling tournaments



Carol Snowden, Director of Information

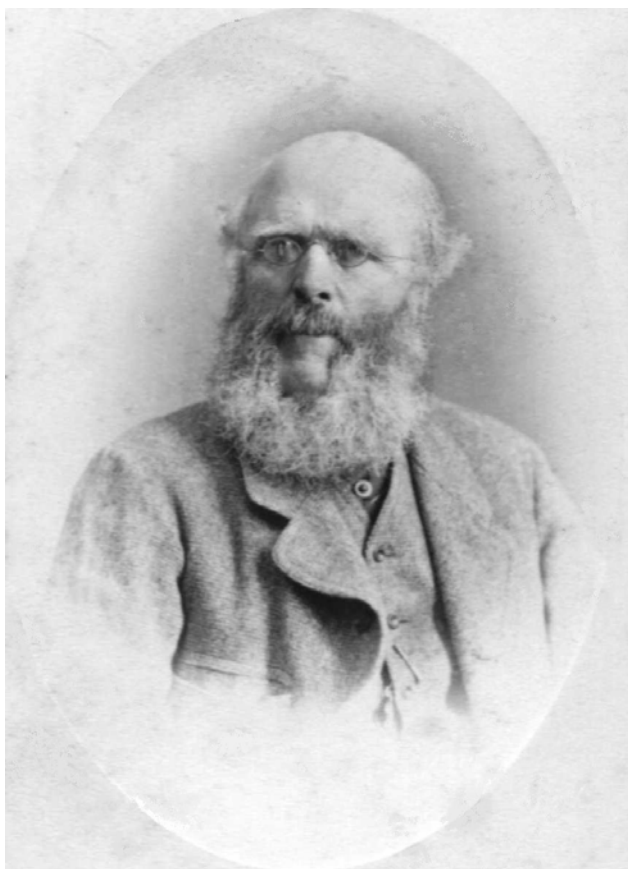
both local and nation wide. Recently, I have been asked to be a volunteer coach to a high school bowling league. I coach them on their one afternoon a week league and one afternoon for them to practice. I also enjoy making hand crafted items and gifts.

And last but not least, I am very excited to be the new Director of Information. I have been working very closely with President, Vernon Logan, and am very excited about the upcoming year and the things we are working on to make the Clan Logan Society more exciting, eventful and successful. And of course, all of your help and support is extremely important and needed to make these things happen.



# The Collector of Malabar

Continued from PG 5



Upper left;  
David Logan  
(1803-1870),  
father of William  
Logan, Collector  
of Malabar.  
David farmed at  
Ferniecastle  
(now spelt  
Ferneycastle).



Upper right;  
Elizabeth Logan  
(1806-1887),  
mother of  
William Logan.



Opposite Page;  
William Logan  
(1841-1914),  
Collector of  
Malabar.

Bottom left;  
Anne Selby  
Burrell Wallace  
(1851-1925),  
Wife of William  
Logan.



Bottom right;  
Mary Ord Logan  
(1873-1946),  
daughter of  
William Logan  
and Anne Selby  
Burrell Wallace.



## The Collector of Malabar

Continued from PG 10

The following year, when he enrolled at Edinburgh University to read Science, events were stirring on the other side of the world that would have a profound effect on his life. That was the year of what was to become known to the British as the Indian Mutiny, when sepoys in the Indian Army rebelled against their officers. What had started with a rumour that the new powder cartridges were greased with pig or cow fat (anathema to Muslims and Hindus respectively) escalated into a major rebellion against the British Raj. When the fighting was over, the British undertook a major review of their administration of India. Out went the rule of the East India Company and in came official Government administration. Out went the purchase of commissions and in came open competition for the new Madras Civil Service.

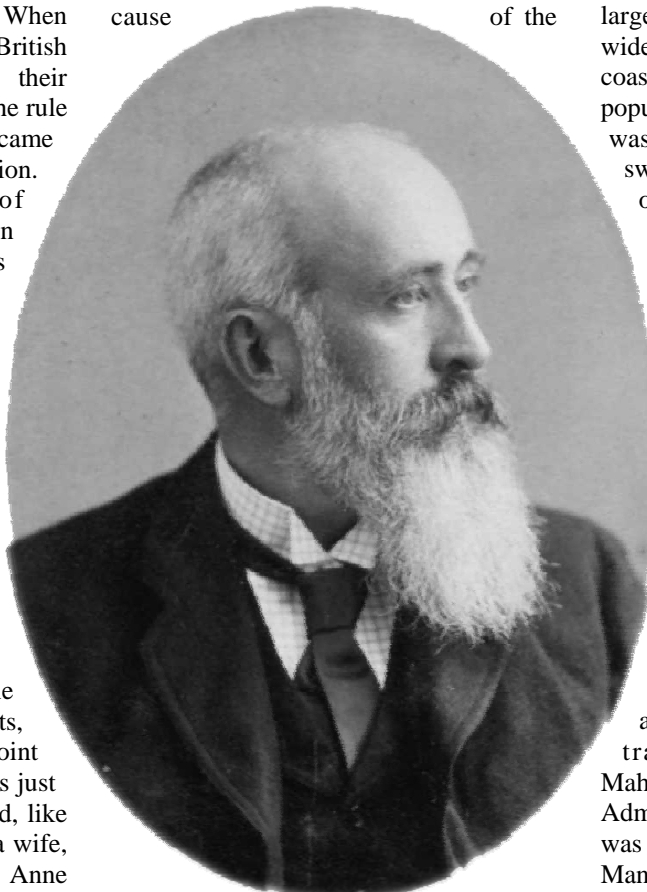
Young William took advantage of the opportunity this gave to bright but impecunious young men such as he and sat the new entrance exams for the MCS during his last year at university. He was successful and set off in 1862, at the tender age of 21, on the long passage to India as one of the first intake of 'competition wallahs' as their older colleagues snobbishly dubbed them.

In his first ten years in the service, he held a number of posts, becoming Sub-Collector and Joint Magistrate of Malabar when he was just 26. In 1872 he returned to Scotland, like many of his kind, to find himself a wife, which he duly did, marrying Miss Anne Selby Burrell Wallace, daughter of an Edinburgh banker, in the December of that year. The following year, they returned to India where he was appointed Acting District and Sessions Judge of North Malabar. His first child, my grandmother Mary Ord Logan, was born there, in Tellicherry, in October 1873. Within a year he was transferred to South Malabar and the family moved to Calicut. In 1875, he became Collector and Magistrate of Malabar, a post he was to hold, with some interruptions, until he resigned from the service and returned to

Scotland in 1888.

But why is William Logan fondly remembered to this day in the country in which he made his career? The answer lies in two things.

In 1881, he was appointed to head a Commission of Inquiry into disturbances among the Mappila people, Muslim cultivators in Malabar among whom there had been unrest for many years, culminating recently in the murder of a landlord. After a thorough investigation, Logan identified the cause of the



unrest as an unfair land tenure system that discriminated in favour of the landlords. He recommended fundamental changes in the law that would secure tenants' rights and render them less liable to suffer economically at the hands of the largely Hindu landlords. This, he felt, would remove the root cause of their unrest.

Logan's recommendations were too radical for the Government of his day and, in the words of a 1981 study entitled "William Logan – Agrarian Relations in

Malabar" by Dr K.K.N.Kurup of the University of Calicut, "His report was shelved and given a safe burial. It was a political mistake on the part of the government". Dr Kurup's study ends with the words: "William Logan was the pioneer to demand tenancy reform a century ago in Malabar society." The Government of Kerala finally enacted the changes to the law he recommended in 1882 in 1980.

The post of Collector was one of great responsibility, particularly in the larger Districts. Malabar in 1881 was a wide swathe of land on the southwest coast of India, 150 miles long with a population of 2.4 million. The Collector was the top-ranking administrator, with sweeping powers and responsibilities, one of which was to prepare a gazetteer or manual describing his district. The way in which this should be done was largely left to the Collector to decide. William Logan's response was to prepare a manual so comprehensive, so thorough and so carefully researched that it remains a fascinating document to this day. It was originally published in 1887 and has since been reprinted seven times. In 2000, a new edition with modern commentaries was published. You can find it easily on Google!

Back in 1996, the former administrator with whom I had been travelling that dusty road in Maharashtra had told me that the Indian Administrative Staff College in Delhi was still using William Logan's Malabar Manual as a textbook. So William Logan is known throughout India as the epitome of an enlightened administrator deeply concerned with the interests of the people for whom he was responsible.

I have a copy of the Malabar Manual lying on my desk as I write. On the fly leaf it says "Presented to Mr John Logan Marjoribanks by the Malabar Development Board and the Malabar Chamber of Commerce, Calicut, 14.5.96". But how that came to be given to me is another story...



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