

MEMBERSHIP No.

673

bíoblaíocht fíamháil bísíochas sóisialaí



comunn sloinntearach na gaidhealtachd

JOURNAL

ISSN 0262-6659

Published by
The Highland Family History Society
Comunn Sloinntearach na Gaidhealtachd

VOL. 7 NO. 1

1988 - 89

FAMILY HISTORY TO FAR HORIZONS

The following is the substance of a talk given to the Society by Mr Alan MacLeod, who was accompanied by his wife, Gwen. Mr and Mrs MacLeod are professional genealogists based in Edinburgh.

Tonight I want to share some of the experiences we have had over the past 25 years, following one particular line in my family, detailing some of the sources used, the sort of information we have been able to get from these sources, and relating some of the family anecdotes we have found. It started in Inverness and finished in Sydney, Australia, so it is literally "Family History to Far Horizons".

I would like to try and demonstrate a serious approach to genealogy. It is not just a case of looking up births, deaths, and marriages, consulting the Old Parochial Registers and the Census Records. These are good starting places, but if you are tackling the subject seriously you have to look at every source you can lay your hands on. I would also like to sound a note of warning - resist the temptation to make assumptions. When you see a name that looks right, the date is right, and it is the right place, there is a great temptation to make the assumption: "That must be him!" But that can be very misleading, and take you off down the wrong track. There may also be occasions when you feel the need to use a professional researcher. Some of the more obscure records are written in the old Scots hand, and can be difficult to read unless you have some experience of it.

I am an Invernessian myself. My family on both sides had long connections with the town and surrounding area. Our interest tonight is in the name BATCHEN. It is not a common name, which is perhaps one of the reasons why we have had a fair degree of success in pursuing the line. Our interest was awakened in 1957 when we moved from Inverness to Forres. Family lore spoke about the Batchens coming from Forres, and that is all we knew. We started to dig around, consulted the local Registrar, and it wasn't long before the line led us right back to Inverness. The first thing we proved was that this particular bit of family lore was correct. They did in fact come from Morayshire to Inverness.

There were limitations on the local genealogist at that time. There were no facilities like microfiche and microfilm, not even an index. It was frustrating in a way, but did give a thrill in that we were using the actual records themselves. The information we could get at that

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time was minimal. But a strong coincidence occurred. 'Auntie' might say fate was working on our side. We lived in a street in Inverness called Burdshaugh, and from one of the death registers we discovered that the family had lived there in the 1850s-60s. The house in which they lived was No. 10. And in 1957 we resided in No.10. We wondered whether someone was trying to tell us something, and it encouraged us to much greater efforts. But we had to look around for ways and means of sprouting our nest.

We got hold of every single telephone book we could lay our hands on, and combed them for the name Batchen. We found them in England and Ireland, as well as Scotland. We wrote to every single one of them, and the response we got was excellent. I would say to anyone who is possibly considering this as a line of approach, if you are a wee bit apprehensive - don't be. We got no rebuffs. We got an answer from every single one, and it was very encouraging indeed. But a lot of the information we got is completely wrong, as we subsequently proved. A lot of it was conflicting in the extreme. Be on your guard against stories, and half-stories, reported by other people. Unless you can prove them, don't believe them. Always be suspicious.

Another coincidence occurred about the same time. We heard from a family of Batchens in Southampton who were pursuing exactly the same line as ourselves. They had tracked us down through another branch of the family in Ireland and the Registrar in Inverness. Their perseverance led them to us, and we got a lot of information from them.

One of the replies we got to our letters threw up the first little family mystery. It told a story that a Batchen from Inverness had "disappeared" in a town near Glasgow. This was very intriguing. Had he drowned, or been murdered, or had he emigrated with some dreadful secret to the other side of the world? It was to be 20 years before we solved the mystery.

We started to acquire the first of a collection of old photographs. The beauty of these acquisitions was that they were all identified for us. If you are lucky enough to have, or to get, old photographs of individuals, try to find out who they are and put the names on the back, or in the album beside them.

A lady in Kent wrote us a letter which we regard as being the "Jewel in the Crown" of our collection as far as family information and anecdotes are concerned. These anecdotes bring to life those people who have gone before us, and tell us about the life and times of the people concerned. They are no longer names on a tree with a date tag attached to them. The letter told us of a tragedy that took place at Lochend in the 1860s

or 1870s. On a beautiful Sunday morning in May, the family were gathering for the Kirk, all in their "Sunday best". They were congregating around the centre-piece of the community, the local well. No one knows how it happened, but a young girl called Ann Mackenzie fell down the well and was killed. We have checked this in the records, and we know it happened just as this lady described it.

She also gave us a very clear and lucid picture of my great-grandfather, George Batchen, who was a mason on the Highland Railway and lived in Innes Street for many years. He was a tall, impressive man, with a huge beard. He was correct and upright in every way - so much so that she christened him "Austere George". But his austerity and correctness was put to the test by his own son, also George, an errant lad who enjoyed the nightlife of Inverness 100 years ago, and would come in very late or very early in the morning. "Austere George" imposed a decree that the front door would be shut and locked by 10pm. So young George arrived home one night and was forced to stay on the doorstep all night. His mother took pity on him, and is said to have stayed up all night on the other side of the door, to keep him company, but too terrified to open it.

Another tragedy involved my great aunt Batchen, who was born in Munlochty. She became engaged in the 1870s and one day, while out in a pony and trap with her fiancé, something frightened the horse. It bolted, and he was thrown out of the trap. He was so severely injured he was paralysed for life. He never left his bed, but my great aunt Atta is reported to have remained faithful to him, and visited him every day for the next 40 years, until he died. She never married, and lived to be 91.

In 1962, fate took a hand again and moved us first to Aberdeen, and then to Edinburgh. Acquiring a couple of children en route, we had little or no time for genealogical research until the late 1970s, when Gwen found herself with a need for an interest and an occupation. At the same time, I acquired Austere George's family Bible, which contained a lot of dates, and re-awakened our interest in family history. At the same time, all the facilities were available at New Register House.

Again, we felt the need for background information, so we repeated our postal investigation. But this time we did it world-wide. We managed to get the names and addresses of people in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore and, once again, the response was remarkable. We had one non-reply, and no rebuffs. Everyone was very co-operative and, among the letters, was the answer to the 20 year old mystery of the Batchen from Inverness who "disappeared" in a town near Glasgow. The answer, when we got it, was very disappointing. He hadn't committed any crime.

There was nothing mysterious about him. Our original informant had simply lost touch with him. He was living quite happily in Ayrshire, and simply wanted to be left alone, without being pursued by his relations! One of the letters from America turned up a Batchen who went to the USA with Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone. I can only conclude that they had become friends in Morayshire. Another Batchen was a brassfounder in Edinburgh, and is reputed to have made the cast for the statue of "Greyfriars Bobby".

The origin of the name Batchen has proved particularly difficult to ascertain. We suspected it to be of European or Scandinavian origin, but we have asked people in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Holland, and, without exception, they say it means nothing to them. But while walking through Leith cemetery one day, I happened to notice the grave of a sailor from Antwerp, called Batjen, who had drowned in the Firth of Forth. I'm told that in Holland and Belgium this name would be pronounced in a way similar to Batchen. It's a mystery we hope to solve one day.

We've had a great deal of success from local authority records, and I'd like to highlight Moray District Libraries in Elgin and Forres. Their excellent records and indexing system are greatly to be recommended. It enabled us to spread the search eastwards into Banffshire and Aberdeenshire.

Local publications, such as the Annals of Forres and the Annals of Elgin, have been great sources of information. There is a Batchen Street in both Forres and Elgin, and it was interesting to learn how they were named. The Annals of Forres states: "How Batchen Wynd got its name is not clear. The name of Batchen was not unknown in Forres and someone of the name may have had property here, probably Alex Batchen, farmer at Blervie and afterwards at Leuchars". The volume for Elgin records: "Batchen Street in Elgin was named in this way from Mr John Batchen, auctioneer, who had business premises on the site. He was a brother of Alexander Batchen" [above]. We obtained much other family information, including births, marriages and deaths, some addresses, and the fact that many Batchens were stonemasons. The Annals of Elgin also gave us the story of Thunderton House, which until recently was an hotel. John Batchen, the auctioneer, bought it from Sir Archibald Dunbar, whose daughter Rebecca became Lady Arradoul. She was a staunch Jacobite and "much attached" to the Prince. She carefully preserved the sheets in which he slept, and was buried in them. The story was told by her female servant who married John Batchen the auctioneer and lived to the age of 106. After buying Thunderton House, Batchen gave away some of the land and a church was built on it. The lower part of the house was used as a preaching station, and on the batizan was a windmill. John Batchen

remarked at the time: "I've made my house into a kirk and a mill!"

Over the years we've had recourse to a large number of source documents, and I'd like to give you some examples.

In 1855 a Claim of Special Service relating to Alexander Batchen and referring to land negotiations, provides a fund of genealogical information in the first paragraph:- "Honorable Persons and Good Men of Inquest. I Alexander Batchen, Mason in Forres, eldest lawful son and nearest lawful Heir of the deceased Alexander Batchen, sometime farmer in Burgie, afterwards at Leuchars, and lately residing in Elgin (who was immediate Younger Brother german of the also deceased John batchen, sometime farmer in Elgin).

A lease document of January 1817 in which James Scott writes to Alexander Batchin: "Sir, I do hereby acknowledge that I have no right or title to that piece of ground at the West end of the town of Elgin called Croftcroy belonging to the Guildry of Elgin and Declare that you are at full liberty to set and dispose of it instantly and from and after this date as to you may see proper." Croftcroy was later recorded as being "under lease to Alexander Batchin".

The oldest document we have been able to lay our hands on is a contract of marriage dated 1587. It doesn't concern any of our family, but among the witnesses there is one "William Aleisone or Baichone". We think that might have been an early form of the name Batchen.

The map room at the National Library in Edinburgh contains 1,500,000 maps from earliest times to the present day. They are particularly useful for finding crofts and farms which have been absorbed by larger units.

Justiciary Court records are kept at West Register House, Edinburgh, and can make fascinating reading. They give an insight into conditions at the time, and very often give a physical description of the accused. Of related interest - but often overlooked - are the records of Remissions of Sentence. One of our clients had an ancestor, Alexander Stewart, from Glasgow, who was known to have died in Australia. But our client could not reconcile this with the fact that Stewart had been sentenced to death for theft. The records of remissions showed that, at the 11th hours, this man had been reprieved and his sentenced changed to transportation to Australia for 14 years.

Estate papers can be found in the Scottish Record office or the National Library. They take time to study but items like farm daybooks and tenants' rolls can contain a lot of genealogical information.

The International Genealogical Index (IGI) is regarded by many people as "gospel", but I'm sorry to say you can't rely on it. A lot of the information it contains comes from individual, unproven sources such as family Bibles, or people who have been researching their own

families. We have often found that the information is incorrect. Professionals use the IGI as a general guide, but any information we take from it has to be proved before we present it to a client.

Other sources include Sheriff Court records, death, wills, Kirk Session records, Hearth Tax and Poll Tax records from the 17th century, and valuation rolls (old ones cover parts of the 17th and 18th centuries, and the new ones run from 1855 onwards).

Letters are another good source. This one, dated December 8th, 1781, concerns John Batchen, a Town Officer of Elgin:- "My Lord Provost, My duty to my client John Batchin one of the Town Officers of Elgin, urges me to acquaint you that a false and malicious charge being lately raised against him for alleged adultery, he was cited to answer for his conduct before the Kirk Session. Upon the lamest of proof he was convicted of the charge and sentenced to stand three Lord's days in the Church of Elgin to make open profession of the sin and scandal he had committed. He appealed his cause to the Presbytery and the Kirk Session, sensible of their error and inability to support their sentence were under the necessity of employing an Agent. Here the cause was debated by the Clergy with candour and impartiality and with a degree of warmth which reflects little honour to the Session. One of the Honourable present acting Magistrates of Elgin who presided as an Elder at the Kirk Session had a negative put to his vote; by such conduct, the ecclesiastical judges meant and actually took the power from the Civil Magistrate, no instance of which (thank God) has been known in Britain since the suppression of the power of the Clergy, and their violent zeal in the times of Charles II and King William. In short, the Presbytery found no charge of adultery in this case proven and altered the Kirk Session's sentence but they found Batchin had acted imprudently and remitted to the Session to search the acts of Assembly for a mode of punishment for imprudence or indecency. What such punishment for these slips may be, I am ignorant of and I believe no man of commonsense knows what it may be. Meantime Batchin, poor fellow, has suffered greatly in his person and means. He has stood suspended as an officer by a Sentence of the Town Council for some months past, deprived of all the perquisites and emoluments belonging to it - and as he relies on the Justice of the Magistrates, he humbly, thro' my means, implores you to lay his case before them, in the hopes of his being immediately reinstated to his Office. He desires me to assure the Magistrates that his future life shall be devoted to their service, and the publics, and that he shall always behave himself with caution and prudence and make it his future study to behave himself in every respect as becometh."

Newspapers are also great sources, but unless you have a record of a particular event, or an index, it can be difficult to make use

of them. There are superb indexes and records in Morayshire, and we have had a fund of information from them. The "Forres Gazette" of March 7th, 1838, recorded the death of Mrs Batchen, wife of John Batchen the auctioneer, "at the very advanced age of 107". Their next issue apologised for reporting the death erroneously. "We are glad to understand that Mrs Batchen is still alive, and though 107 years old, is in the enjoyment of good health". In fact, she died the following year. The "Gazette" said it was impossible to state her age exactly, but they believed she had been born in 1731. The death of another ancestor, Evan MacMillan, was reported in the "Inverness Courier" of January 4th, 1837. He died, aged 100, on November 11th, 1836, at Stronenevis, near Fort William. The "Courier" told us: "This veteran, the oldest pensioner in Britain, entered the Army in 1758 and was severely wounded at the fatal Battle of Quebec under General Wolfe, in consequence of which he became an out pensioner of Chelsea Hospital and continued so for the period of 75 years. He retained all his faculties except his eyesight to the last. He used to give a distinct account of the seige of Fort William, by the army of Prince Charles, in 1745 and of other events of that interesting period, which he had witnessed." Newspapers can also be used obliquely to find events abroad not recorded elsewhere in the UK - for example, the marriage of my grandparents James Lyon and Netta Batchen in Madras in 1891, also recorded in the "Courier".

Photographs may seem useless for proving the identity of individuals, but here is one example which had a successful outcome. I had a picture of two soldiers in uniform in the Victorian era. I suspected they were Batchen uncles of my Mother's, and wanted to prove this. I knew that one uncle, George, had been in the Volunteers and had attended the "Met Review" in 1887 which celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. I sent the photo to the United Services Museum at Edinburgh Castle, and received this reply from the Assistant to the Keeper: "I can confirm that the men in the photograph are both members of the 1st Inverness (Highland) Volunteer Battalion of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in the uniform worn from 1880 to 1893. This would, of course, put them within your time scale." This is not 100% proof, but it is probably as near as I am likely to get to confirm what I had heard in my youth from George himself, especially when put beside the facial characteristics.

I must tell you that the greatest and best response we had to our overseas postal "shot" was a reply from David Batchen in Sydney, Australia, who turns out to be distant cousin of mine (we had a common great-great-grandfather). We exchanged a great deal of correspondence, and eventually he produced a magnificent family tree, which is nothing other than a work of art. He and his wife came over in 1981 and stayed with us. It was the most extraordinary experience because, right from the minute I

met him, I had the most magnificent rapport with him. It was as if we had known each other all the days of our lives yet, until the previous year or two, neither knew the other existed. They insisted we revisit them out there, and the opportunity came in 1985. I had the chance to take early retirement, and joined Gwen in her genealogical business, and the following year decided to combine business with pleasure by attending the Australasian Congress on Genealogy in Canberra. Of the 600 participants, only three were Scots, so were were real novelties! And despite the huge interest out there in Scottish genealogy, the programme made no reference to it. So we ended up addressing an audience of 200 at an impromptu evening meeting on Scottish genealogy, which lasted for four hours. We couldn't get them to stop asking questions!

There is still a great deal to do on our family tree. It's something that will never be finished until we ourselves are "finished", and hopefully someone would continue after that. But perhaps we will have more time to devote to it when we retire from our genealogy business.

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LARKMAN

The rare surname of LARKMAN originated in Norfolk, England, in the 16th century but has now spread round the English-speaking world. There now exists a LARKMAN INDEX containing over 2000 names. Information is free to anyone interested, but a s.a.e. would be appreciated. Contact:- Frank Randall, 69 First Avenue, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 1PH, England.

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BRUCE

Mrs Christine L. Grady, 147 Elmsfield Avenue, "The Spinney", Norden, Rochdale, Lancs OL11 5XA, is offering to try and help anyone researching the surname BRUCE in Caithness. All letters will be answered.

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MAPS

An attractive series of Parish Maps for the whole of Scotland is available from the Aberdeen & N-E Scotland FHS. Giving dates of commencement of pre-1855 baptisms, marriages & deaths, each map costs £1.30 (exc. postage) from Aberdeen Family History Shop, 152 King St., Aberdeen, AB2 3BD. Tel. 646323.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 1987-8

TREASURER'S REPORT

For Financial Year 1986/87

Although the Annual General Meeting of the Society is held in March, the financial year runs from 1 September to 31 August. When Dorothy Booth, who had been Treasurer since our creation in 198, resigned at the last AGM there were still five months of the year left to run.

This report therefore covers the reign of two Treasurers and let me say right away that there is no significance in the fact that Dorothy is at present in Australia!

Thanks to the hard work she put in during her reign, I can assure all members that the finances of our Society are, like those of the Nation, soundly based.

The revenue from annual subscriptions continues to rise each year as the number of members increase. The figures since the Society came into being are as follows:-

1981-82	£474
1982-83	£712
1983-84	£1414
1984-85	£1729
1985-86	£1798
1986-87	£1927

The figure for the current year is £1918 with some 65 members still to pay their subscriptions. They will be receiving a reminder with the next Journal which should be despatched this week.

The total membership at 31 August was 371 which was an increase of 39 over the previous year's figure. This continuing trend allows me to recommend that the current level of subscriptions remain unchanged for the next Financial Year..

During the year the following items were purchased by your committee on behalf of the Society:-

Microfiche binders and panels	£119.72
Orkney & Shetland O.P.R. Index	£20.70
Census Reels for 1861	£335.80
	<u>£476.22</u>

The cost of printing and postage for a single Journal is £265 and as we only produced three last year our surplus of £535 would have been reduced to £270 if we had produced a fourth Journal.

However, as you can see from the balance sheet, we had a healthy bank balance of £1979 which will allow us to produce five Journals next year and still be able to make further purchases on behalf of the members.

I would like to take this opportunity to say that although I have had no previous experience as Treasurer, I have had little or no difficulty in doing the job. This is entirely due to the way that Dorothy Booth set up and laid out the books and relevant documents. On behalf of the Society I would like to thank her yet again for the sterling work she did for us during the six years she held this post.

Finally, I would like to thank Alan Imlah, who is one of our local members, for once again auditing the accounts.

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The Secretary reported, inter alia, "Perhaps the most important thing that happened during the past year was the decision by all the Scottish Family History Societies to form our own Association and to leave the Birmingham-based Federation of Family History Societies. In many ways this was regretted, but financially it was vital to leave the Federation, which you will understand when I tell you that the Birmingham Society, which has about 10,000 or 12,000 members (and has the whole Federation library available to them any day) pays only £100 a year, about a quarter less than the combined Scottish societies, although our total Scottish membership is only about half that of Birmingham. Anyway, we are now independent and better off."

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It was further reported that the Society had purchased the 1871 Census Returns for the Highland counties, and a word processor. The existing committee were re-elected, with the addition of Mr and Mrs Neil Murray. A new category of long-term membership (15 years) was introduced, open to all except the under-21s. This will save overseas

members the cost of bank charges every year. A discussion about Society premises revealed no support for remaining in the Camera Club hall in Stephens Brae, and the committee were instructed to examine options [subsequently fixing upon the Dunbar Centre, Church Street, for meetings with speakers, and the Reference Library for workshop evenings].

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LORD LYON UP IN ARMS

The Secretary reported a letter from the Lord Lyon King of Arms, Malcolm Innes of Edingight, expressing grave concern at the implications of a Government White Paper entitled: "Human Fertilisation and Embryology: A Framework for Legislation". English law has already been changed so that a child conceived by artificial insemination by donor, or by embryo donation, may (with the appropriate consents) be registered as the offspring of its legal parents. There would be nothing on the Register to indicate the lack of a genetic or blood connection between the child and its mother and/or father. What had Lyon up in Arms was the Government's proposal to effect a similar change to the law of Scotland. Such a step, he said, would "make a mockery of genealogical research in a number of aspects", and render the Register of Births "virtually useless" for future generations of family historians. It was agreed to write to Highland Members of Parliament echoing Lyon's roar.

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NEW GROUP

The Largs & District Family History Group was formed after a very successful Family History Exhibition in the Largs Library. They hope to have monthly meetings during the winter, and also visit various libraries, Register House, and the Scottish Record Office. The Secretary is Mrs Marina Alexander, 3 Halkhill Drive, Largs, Ayrshire, KA30 9PD. She writes: "Should any members of your group wish research carried out on their behalf for the Cunninghame area, we would be pleased to be of assistance."

HIGHLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1987

INCOME and EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
£	451.18	£	1,927.00
	Journals: Production		Subscriptions
	Postage		Donations
	774.71		Profit on Sale of
	323.53		Publications:-
	22.62		opening stock
	752.09		362.76
	Less transfers to Sales A/c		175.11
	Depreciation on equipment, etc		537.87
	Postage		378.70
	Printing		159.17
	Stationery		361.20
	Advertising		sales
	Expenses of Meetings		Insertions in
	Other Expenses		Journal
	(Fees, Insurance, etc)		Bank Interest
	1,983.09		Tax Refund om
	535.43		covenanted subs
	Surplus to General Fund		2,518.52
	2,518.52		2,518.52
	=====		=====
	£	£	£
	1,893.03		1,587.87
	Balance as at 1:9:86		Less depreciation
	Surplus 1986/87		at cost
	380.77		Equipment, etc
	Subscriptions paid in		Stock at cost
	advance & Donations:		Cash at Bank:
	1987/88		Current A/c
	1988/89		Deposit A/c
	201.95		Cash in Hand
	108.00		7.56
	2,738.41		1,698.73
	=====		1,207.10
	2,738.41		378.70
	=====		1,978.94
	£	£	2,738.41
	=====		=====

BALANCE SHEET

(signed) Alan Imiah Auditor
 (signed) John H.R. Durham Hon. Treasurer

NOTES of EVERY THING: Kilmallie Parish Minister's Diary of c.1864. Edited by Janet Gallon. Kilmallie Parish Church (1987). Price £3.40 (inc P&P) from Mrs Gallon, "Glen Aln", Heathercroft, Fort William PH33 6EU.

Janet Gallon, the editor of the diary for 1864 of Dr Archibald Clerk, minister of the parish of Kilmallie from 25 January, 1844, to his death there on 7 February, 1877, has produced a little book which must be of great interest to those with links with Lochaber in the middle of the 19th century and earlier. She has introduced the Notes of Every Thing with an account of the minister's life, his family, his forebears and kin as well as his descendants.

Dr Clerk was interested in everything and everyone, whether in Lochaber, Inverness, America, New Zealand or in Japan, where the Japanese, trying to punish Prince Satsuma, 'burned down a city containing from 150,000 to 200,000 inhabitants, destroying many lives' - but his information about his parishioners is detailed, scattered as they were over 444 square miles with few roads but no less than 11 schools.

"Mrs McPhie - daughter of old Mr Fraser once Minister of this parish, died last week." "Widow Ewen Cameron - Eoghann Thearlaich - a canty smart old woman well supported by two sons who, though very slow in mind, are quiet and industrious lads." The people are spoken of as being "quite deranged", "neglected by her only son - a careless dissipated fellow", "a kindly, respectable tho' somewhat lighthearted man", and "terribly fond of gossip."

He received the Saturday Review and Good Words, was editor of the Gaelic Supplement of Life and Work, wrote the New Statistical Account of the Parish of Duirinish in Skye before he reached Kilmallie, and wrote articles for a number of newspapers. He also read what he called the 'Public News', perhaps the Oban Times, and recorded the bits that interested him in The Blue Book of the Census of 1861, for example that "1 in every 136 of the population" of Scotland was insane.

From all this reading he notes events in his diary, Parliamentary business, tales of Banquo and of the French gold, of the American war, and compares the small interest taken in the tercentenary of Calvin's birth, even by

those attending the General Assembly, compared with that taken in the tercentenary of "Shakespeare's supposed birthday." Unquestionably, he says, Shakespeare was a man of higher genius. "But which has done the greatest amount of good - intellectually, religiously and socially?" Of course, he backs Calvin, who is "the Father of all the Civil and religious liberty which the world this day enjoys."

Poor Mr McConochie, the Missionary in Urquhart, died leaving "a very numerous family, ill provided for. I believe there are 13 living and 11 dead - 24 in all, by the same mother." Dr Clerk did what he could to provide for his own large family, being busy cutting peats, despite the weather, having planted "5 Barrels of potatoes and sown 5 bolls of oats."

With all this, and an Index of everyone named in the text, the 74 pages of Notes of Every Thing is well worth its price.

L.M.

BOOKS IN BRIEF

The Scots Overseas. A selected bibliography by Donald Whyte. Federation of Family History Societies (1988). Price £1.80 (inc postage). Based on "Scottish Emigration: A Select Bibliography", which appeared in The Scottish Genealogist, vol.xxi, No.3, (Aug 1974), but embracing a greater number of titles. Shows how Scots contributed to the social, literary and administrative history of countries as diverse as Africa and Japan, Russia and Australia, or India and Canada.

Walter MacFarlane, Clan Chief and Antiquary. By Donald Whyte. Aberdeen and North-East Scotland FHS (1988). Quotations from MacFarlane's collections abound in the works of Scottish record scholars and family historians. But little has been written about him - until now. He was the 18th century equivalent of today's photocopier or microfilm camera, laboriously transcribing early charters, monastic records and other archives for the benefit of posterity.

Source Book. Tay Valley FHS (1987). Compiled by Iain Flett, Dundee City Archivist. Price £1.20 (inc UK postage) from Miss D.M. Henderson, 3 Lammerton Terrace, Dundee DD4 7BP. An alphabetical guide to reference sources in Clackmannan, Fife, Perthshire, Angus and the Mearns. Lots of headings, names, addresses & phone numbers. Well cross-referenced. Updates are planned.

By Loraine Maclean of Dochgarroch

ONE of my five-greats grandfathers was Charles Maclean of Drimmin, who led the Macleans at the Battle of Culloden. It occurred to me to wonder why he did so, for his was not one of the senior houses of the clan. I have had some entertaining hours working out the reason.

To start with, the Chief was Sir Hector Maclean of Duart, who was born in 1703 in France and had spent most of his life abroad. He was the only son of Sir John Maclean of Duart, who died in 1716. Sir Hector was put into the care of Maclean of Coll, who sent him to the University of Edinburgh in 1718, where he studied languages, philosophy and mathematics. He then returned to Paris to study civil law. Sir Hector, so the books say, was "low in stature, and lame in one leg. But he was sturdy and active, and capable of bearing fatigue. His complexion was fair, his eyes large and piercing, and his manners and address polite and agreeable. He was a good Latin scholar, and spoke Gaelic, English, French and Italian. He was well read and had a strong memory and clear judgment. The Ardgour M.S. tells us that he was rather too generous. This statement is only a half-truth; he was unfortunately a little too fond of strong drink. He was never married." Because Argyll had acquired Duart Castle and its lands in 1688, Sir Hector had no home.

He came over to Edinburgh on About 1st June, 1745, and lodged with a man called Blair. His landlord let the authorities know who was staying in his house and Sir Hector was arrested on 5th June. He was confined first in Edinburgh Castle, and later in London until May, 1747, when he was released as "a French prisoner". He returned to France and in 1750 was in Rome when he had a stroke in July and died the following November. So the Macleans had no Chief to lead them when they needed one.

The first line of the Chieftains is that of Lochbuie. Some say that this is the senior line, but Duart is now generally accepted by most Macleans as Chief. In 1744 Lachlanof Lochbuie died, having apparently handed over his estates to his son Hector two years before, which seems to have been the custom in this

family. The books say that Hector "took no part in the Rising of 1745".

The Macleans of Dochgarroch came north when Tearlach was appointed Constable of Urquhart Castle for the Lord of the Isles in 1392 and never returned to the west. The main line of the family moved from the Castle, via Glen Convinth, to Dochgarroch, arriving there in the mid-sixteenth century. They supported the Stuarts at Inverlochy, at Inverkeithing, at Sheriffmuir and at Killiecrankie, where two of them were killed, though the eldest son, Iain Og, survived and was outlawed until the amnesty of 1693. His son, Iain mac Iain Og, was out in 1715 and died in 1748, leaving two sons in the Black Watch, so there was no one from that family to follow the Prince. Whether their cousins who had stayed in the Glen, and whose descendants are still there, fought for the prince with their Grant neighbours under Shewglie and Corriemoney, I do not know.

Perhaps this is as good a place as any to tell the story of Inverkeithing, at least as far as it concerned the Clan Maclean. This was fought on behalf of Charles II on Sunday, 20th July, 1651. The Royal army was led by Holburn of Menstrie, with 1000 horse, and about 2500 infantry. Lambert, for Cromwell, had about 4000 men, half of whom were cavalry. Among the Royal troops was Sir Hector Roy Maclean of Duart with 800 men. Holburn, who was both a traitor and a coward, fled from the field almost before the battle had started. The Macleans and the Buchanans suffered severely from Lambert's artillery and moved forward as quickly as they could, but were soon surrounded and nearly all were killed.

During the battle, one of the Macleans, seeing his young Chief in danger, sprang to his defence, but was soon cut down. Immediately another Maclean took his place, shouting "Fear eile airson Eachainn", "Another for Hector". He was followed by another until no less than eight men had lost their lives in defence of Hector, but in vain, for he was killed in the long battle, which lasted for four hours. Of the famous 800 that Hector led to the field, 700 were Macleans, the others were Macquarries and other west coast Highlanders. Only about 35 returned home.

Among Macleans killed were Sir Hector of Duart,

Ewan and Lachlan Cattanach, sons of Torloisk; Donald and John Og, sons of Ardgour; Archibald, son of Boreray; Ewen of Treshnish; Charles, son of Inverscaddle; Murdoch, Allan, Lachlan, Ewen and Iain, sons of Ardchraoishnish; Ewen, son of Coll; and Ewen, son of Muck. Among the wounded were Donald of Brolas; Iain of Kinlochaline; Iain Diurach, of the Morvern family; Iain of Totranald; and Neil of Drimnacross.

From such a slaughter of the young men of the clan, it takes some time to recover.

Returning to 1745, Maclean of Kingierloch sent his brother Iain and his younger son, Lachlan, to follow the Prince. Iain was a lieutenant in the Black Watch in 1739 when he killed an officer called Mackenzie in a duel and had to leave the army. he was a captain in the Maclean regiment when he was killed at Culloden. His nephew, Lachlan, survived the battle and escaped to the Low Countries. After the general amnesty in 1748, Lachlan settled in Rochester in Kent.

The Macleans of Ardgour were represented by Ewen, who was born in 1736, his father having died in 1739. Ewen was brought up in Glasgow by Lachlan Maclean, a merchant there. So there was no one at Ardgour to lead the clan.

Hector Maclean of Coll, so the books say, was "richly endowed with good sense and managed his affairs with prudence. ... He used all his influence to keep his own followers and other members of his clan from joining Prince Charles in 1745."

And so we come to the Drimmin family. Drimmin, by the way, is on the mainland, more or less opposite Tobermory. This family descend in the male line from the second son of the Hector Mor of Duart who died in 1568. Charles was more fortunate than his predecessors, for his elder brother, his father and his grandfather all died at the age of 29. He was probably born in the 1690s, but the exact date is not known. A description of him says: "He was short in stature, but strongly built. He was hot-tempered and apt to commit rash acts. He struck the laird of Macleod with his fist, on the street in Edinburgh. He took hold of a schoolmaster, who was charged with lying by a mean shoemaker, put him across his knees, and thrashed him with the shoemaker's stran. ... He was kind

and manly, and brave to rashness." He had a natural son called Lachlan. Charles married Isobel, a daughter of Iain Cameron of Erracht, and had four sons and several daughters. His eldest lawful son, Allan, was born in 1724.

Presumably the clan was waiting for Sir Hector to raise them in 1745, but they waited in vain. It was not until after the Battle of Falkirk, which was fought and won by the Jacobites on 17th February, 1746, that the Macleans, who were rather given to backing the losing side, arrived on the scene. They had had to make their way through the country controlled by Argyll and the Government forces, and against the wishes of such of their chiefs as Coll.

According to a statement given to Bishop Robert Forbes for his collection, The Lyon in Mourning, Drimmin brought 182 men to Culloden, so he joined forces with the MacLachlans to make up a reasonable number of men. MacLachlan, their Chief, was Colonel of the Regiment, with Drimmin as his Lieutenant Colonel. Their position on 16th April was roughly in the centre of the front line, just north of the Mackintoshes.

AS you will know, the Jacobite army was tired and hungry after the abortive march towards Nairn and back to that impossible battlefield. The armies advanced until they were 400 yards apart, close enough to see the eyes of their opponents, before everything was covered with the black smoke from the first volley of the muskets. It was through this black cloud that the Highlanders charged, breaking the first line of scarlet-coated troops. But there was a second line, and more smoke and bullets, so that they could only recoil. Most of the officers, leading their men, were killed very early, and among them was Colonel Maclachlan.

Charles of Drimmin took charge and when forced to retire, and almost out of danger, he noticed that his son Lachlan was not beside him. He asked Allan whether he knew what had happened to Lachlan. Allan was himself wounded, but he told his father that Lachlan had been killed. Charles, who was famous for a very hot temper, said to Allan: "Allan, don't worry about me. If you value your life, take care of yourself." Then, "without bonnet or wig", he "rushed back into the fight, attacked two

